

# AKRON BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

## NEW PA LAW REQUIRES CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

Did you know that Pennsylvania leads the nation in carbon monoxide poisonings and deaths? Currently, the Pennsylvania building code (UCC) only requires carbon monoxide alarms in newly constructed homes. Now, Pennsylvania has a new law that requires each unit in a multi-family building with a fossil fuel burning heater or fireplace, or an attached garage, to have carbon monoxide alarms. The alarm(s) must be installed near the heater, fireplace and bedroom(s) by June 18, 2015. The owner/landlord of a multi-family dwelling used for rental purposes must install the alarm(s) in the required locations, and repair or replace any that are removed or inoperable before a new occupancy. During occupancy, the renter is responsible for repair and replacement of the alarm(s). Upon vacancy of the dwelling, responsibility for repair and replacement reverts back to the owner/landlord.

It is unclear whether the new law applies to a condominium association as an "owner" of a multi-family dwelling. However, the requirements were intended to be similar to those for smoke detectors. Therefore, we believe it will apply to condominium associations, and we recommend that associations now at least notify unit owners of these new requirements. Hopefully, before the 2015 compliance date, the legal obligation of condominium associations under this law will be clarified. Since this is a life-safety issue, regardless of this uncertainty, condominium associations may now decide to assume the responsibility to install and maintain carbon monoxide alarm(s) in individual units, rather than expect it to be done by the unit owners.

## TALL GRASS AND WEEDS

No person, owning or occupying any property within the Borough shall permit any grass or weeds or any vegetation whatsoever, not edible or planted, to grow or remain upon such premises so as to exceed a height of 10 inches, or to throw off any unpleasant or noxious odor. Ninety percent of home owners and renters take pride in their homes and keep their properties in compliance with the Borough's tall grass and weed ordinance. The other ten percent are encouraged to take the extra step and maintain their lawn to standard and everyone should be more conscious of their curb line. Tall grass and weeds allowed to grow in the curb line is unsightly and gives the appearance of an unkempt property that ultimately affects neighboring property values.

***Vegetation growing between the road surface and the sidewalk curbing is the responsibility of the owner/occupier for removal.***  
**PROPERTIES WILL BE CITED FOR THIS VIOLATION.**

## FROM OUR POLICE

From the Vehicle Code:

Right-of-way of pedestrians in crosswalks.

(a) General rule-When traffic-control signals are not in place, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within any marked crosswalk or within any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection.

(b) Exercise of care by pedestrian-No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close as to constitute a hazard.

## FIRE COMPANY

Vera/Coach Bingo – Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 1:00. \$20 in advance, \$25.00 at the door. Call Karen Leisey at 717-215-8800 for tickets and/or info.

## RAIL - TRAIL UPDATE

As you are now reading your newsletter it is hoped that the Akron portion of the Ephrata to Warwick Rail –Trail is completed from Akron Main Street to Ephrata Main Street. In the very near future the final phase for Akron will be completed and at that time residents and visitors will be able to travel from the southern border of the Akron Borough/Ephrata Township line along Bomberger Road to Downtown Ephrata covering a distance of approximately 3 miles. A portion of the trail from Fulton Street to Ephrata opened in December and has been enjoyed by many. The trail is fully paved and illuminated and includes benches along the way. Individuals who are interested in sponsoring a bench should contact Borough Manager Dan Guers for details. The trail is also pet friendly with several plastic bag dispensers along the path and we ask all pet owners to be responsible and please clean-up and dispose of pet waste appropriately. Violators will be prosecuted with possible fines of up to \$1000. Any comments or questions regarding the trail can be directed to any office staff employee.

## AKRON SENIOR CENTER

The Akron Center is looking for new people to play pinochle. The group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at the Lions Lodge in Roland Park. Current members can quickly teach those who have never played the game. Come on out and have some fun playing cards, socializing with local Seniors and partaking of home-made refreshments. Any questions, call Al Hewing at 733-2944.

### **TIS THE SEASON – FOR SWIMMING POOLS**

Residents who are planning to have swimming pools installed on their property are reminded that permits are required for any pool needing a power supply to any circulation pump. In addition all above ground pools with walls less than 4 feet require a 4 foot fence to be installed around the pool. The typical BLUE POOL IN THE BOX from WALMART requires a permit that will probably cost more than the pool.

### **COMMUNITY PRIDE**

We ask that all residents catch that COMMUNITY PRIDE SPIRIT in keeping your lawns cut, bushes and trees trimmed; front porches clear of clutter and curb lines weeded.

### **YARD SALES**

Residents who are planning to have these sales are reminded they must first obtain a permit at the Borough Office and obtain Borough issued signs. These signs may be put up no more than 48 hours before the sale and must be taken down no more than 24 hours after the sale. No other sign is permitted. No nail, staple or other similar object may be used when attaching a sign to a utility pole.

### **HISTORICAL MOMENT**

Ephrata Review,  
Friday, May 27, 1910

The Akron Y.M.C.A. will on Saturday evening, June 4 hold a grand open air festival in the lot adjoining Hotel Akron. H.E.Romig proprietor. Music by M.S.R. Band of Ephrata.

### **AKRON DAY IN THE PARK**

The Akron Day in the Park will take place this year on Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup>. The Akron Day in the Park Committee is planning a full day of fun, food and Family entertainment. (see enclosed flyer for more information)

### **WEBSITES WORTH SEEING**

Akron - [www.akron-pa.com](http://www.akron-pa.com)  
Lancaster Co Solid Waste  
[www.lcswma.org](http://www.lcswma.org)  
Library –  
[www.ephrapubliclibrary.org](http://www.ephrapubliclibrary.org)

### **BOROUGH OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Office phone number is 859-1600. Lobby is open 24 hours a day with a night drop for bills, parking tickets, etc. Also a phone for police which dials directly to County Radio.

### **WATER & SEWER**

#### **BILLING NEWS**

*You need to use PO Box 130 when mailing items to the Borough Hall.*

Also, for non-payment of a water and sewer bill, a second notice is sent 15 days after the due date giving the resident an additional 10 days to pay the bill before service is terminated. Please pay attention to your notices to avoid this happening.

### **POLICE DEPT. PHONE**

#### **NUMBERS**

For fire, ambulance calls, or police emergencies dial 911. If you would like to talk to a Police Officer concerning a non-emergency complaint or situation, please dial 859-6600.

This number is answered by Lancaster County Wide communications dispatchers and they will take the information and relay it to the Officer. This number is answered 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. An Officer will respond or call you back as soon as he or she is able.

### **COUNCIL MEETINGS-**

Akron Borough Council meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Municipal Building, 117 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **HOLIDAYS:**

The office will be closed: Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day and Friday July 3<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day.

### **BOROUGH ADDRESS**

117 South Seventh Street  
PO Box 130  
Akron PA 17501

### **BOROUGH DIRECTORY**

**John McBeth-Mayor**  
859-2655

### **COUNCIL**

**Thomas Murray-President**  
859-3191

**Perry Lorah-Vice-Pres./**  
Finance - 859-4376

**Daniel McCormac**  
Ordinance/Safety  
859-1600

**Justin Gehman-Streets**  
859-2757

**John Taylor-Parks/Personnel**  
859-2168

**Earl Shirk- Property & Planning**  
859-1600

**Jeff Shirk – Water & Sewer**  
413-8236

### **BOROUGH MANAGER**

**Dan Guers** 859-1600

### **BOROUGH SECRETARY**

**Susan Davidson** 859-1600

### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

**Thomas Zell** 859-6600

### **TREASURER**

**Robert Ober**

### **TAX COLLECTOR**

**Ann S. Nolt** 859-1600

### **SOLICITORS**

**Shirk & Mejia** 733-7997

### **ENGINEERS**

**Arro Consultants** 569-7021

### **EMERGENCY**

### **MANAGEMENT**

### **COORDINATOR**

**Greg Leisey** 859-4163

### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Jim Martin

Robert Rollman

John Williamson

Sam Baughman, II

### **ZONING HEARING BOARD**

Christine Burkholder –

Chairperson

Thomas Bender

Kay McEllhenney

Annette Swartz

### **BOROUGH AUTHORITY**

Terry Reber

Jeff Shirk

Pam Musser

Robert Stauffer

Susan Davidson,

Secretary/Treasurer

### **CIVIL SERVICE**

### **COMMISSION**

Kirby Smith

Joseph Mikos

Donald Reese