

**From the Desk of  
Councilman  
Al Kosol:**

By the time our residents are reading this, lets hope that all but the residue of the snow is gone. What a memorable Winter we had; good for some and not so good for rest of us. I received many compliments for the great job of snow removal by Mark and John of the Borough's Public Works Department. Many residents also helped their neighbors with snow-blowing and shoveling. With such snow storms like these, patience was the order of the day and we do thank all the residents for this. Spring is on the horizon as now we can look forward to yard work and grass cutting. As weather permits, we will start filling the pot holes.

I would also like to ask a couple of questions regarding possibly having parking restrictions during snow emergencies. Please answer these questions and return it to the Borough Office.

**Snow Removal Questionnaire**

If on your street, parking is currently permitted on both sides of the roadway, would you support a plan to **prohibit parking on one side** of the street to facilitate a **more efficient snow removal operation** during a severe snow storm (more than 6 inches of snow)? YES or NO (circle one)

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you have any general complaints or comments about snow removal within Heidelberg?

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**Mayor LaSota and  
Borough Council  
Promote Dennis Dixon  
to Police Sergeant**

On March 16th, 2010, at the Heidelberg Borough Council Meeting, members of Borough Council by unanimous vote, appointed Patrolman / K-9 Handler Dennis Dixon to the rank of Sergeant within the Heidelberg Borough Police Department. This action was a multi-month and step process, where back in January Mayor LaSota made a request to Borough Council to seek the testing procedures of the Heidelberg Civil Service Commission to begin the necessary promotional examination process. On Monday, March 8th, Patrolman Dixon underwent the Civil Service Commission's written and oral examinations, he scored excellently, rendering him eligible for promotion. The Borough Council and Mayor would like to thank the members of the Heidelberg Civil Service Commission (Rick Jordan, Ray Losego, and Sharon Wicobroda) for their assistance and efforts during the testing.

Accordingly with the favorable test results, Council voted to promote Patrolman Dixon as Sergeant. At this same Council Meeting, Mayor LaSota swore Sgt. Dixon into office in his new capacity and presented him with his Sergeant's badge. The Mayor, Council, Chief Barkley, and fellow Officers congratulate Sgt. Dixon on his promotion and look forward to the many more years of service on his part with the Heidelberg Borough Police Department.

Sgt. Dixon has been part of the Heidelberg Borough Police Department since 2007, starting as a part-time Patrolman; he was hired full-time with civil service status in March 2008. He became the Department's K-9 Handler in December 2008 after graduation from the Pittsburgh Police K-9 Academy. Sergeant Dixon is a graduate of Duquesne University and the Mercyhurst College Municipal Police Training Academy.



**3rd Annual "Let's Redd Up Heidelberg"  
Saturday, April 17, 2010 8:30AM**

In efforts to keep the Borough of Heidelberg a beautiful place to live, work and play, the Borough will be conducting its third annual "Let's Redd Up Heidelberg". The event will take place on Saturday, April 17th, 2010 starting at 8:30 AM meeting at the Ellsworth Avenue Playground.



Earth Day - Every Day

The goal of this event is to pick up litter, repaint graffitied areas, plant trees and to do other small earth-friendly chores. Volunteers will be provided with bags, gloves, supplies, safety vests and refreshments. Interested individuals, groups, or students seeking volunteer hours are encouraged to register at the Heidelberg Borough Building by calling 412-276-0363.

Your assistance and time would be greatly appreciated and will yield an end result that beautifies the community, protects the wildlife, and increases civic pride.

Let's Redd Up Heidelberg is an effort of the Heidelberg Borough Council in conjunction with PA Cleanways, Citizens Against Litter and the state's Great PA Cleanup campaign. For additional information, please contact Joe Kauer, Borough Manager at 412-276-0363 or JKauer@HeidelbergBorough.com

Hope to see you on April 17th with your work clothes on!

**Landlords are subject to Borough's  
Business Privilege / Mercantile Tax**

The Borough would like to remind all Heidelberg Landlords that operation of a rental property within the Borough is viewed as a business transaction, thus subject to the Heidelberg Business Privilege / Mercantile Taxes. This is nothing new; these taxes went into effect in July 1980. Many landlords have paid this 1 mill tax on gross receipts since the inception of the tax, however this past quarter, the Borough's Act 511 Tax Collector, Berkheimer and Associates have began an aggressive campaign to make sure ALL landlords are aware of and pay this tax.

The tax is to be paid quarterly to Berkheimer and is 1 mill on gross receipts. That equates to \$1.00 for every \$1,000 received. For example for January - March 2010, your rental property grosses \$5,000 - the tax is \$5.00. Failure to file a Borough Business Privilege / Mercantile tax return can be subject to a \$600 fine, plus interest on the unpaid tax due.

Should you have any question regarding Business Privilege / Mercantile Tax please call Berkheimer at 1-800-360-3075.

PRSRRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Carnegie, PA  
Permit No. 808

**BOROUGH OF HEIDELBERG**  
1631 Railroad Street  
Heidelberg, PA 15106

# Being a Good Neighbor

Heidelberg would be a lot happier place if people just followed the rules. In densely developed Heidelberg, where neighbors are as close as 10 feet away, we have rules designed to keep the peace. Heidelberg's code enforcement, police department and Borough Council get a constant stream of complaints from neighbors about neighbors. Sometimes there's a clear-cut ordinance that can be clarified and solve the problem. Other times, the issue falls into the gray area of being neighborly. Regardless, if neighbors can solve the problem by following the law, using common sense or simply taking a minute to look at things from the other person's perspective, life could be much easier going.

Here are a few suggestions for keeping the peace in your neighborhood:

## Put away the Trash

In Heidelberg garbage is not allowed on the curb line until 5:00 PM the day before pickup, which is Tuesdays and the trash containers must be returned back from the curb line by 9:00 PM the day of trash collection. Trash containers are to be placed abutting the residence or within the residence and cannot be placed in front of the residence until 5:00 PM the day before pickup. Remember your neighbors, cover your trash cans when possible and do not block the sidewalks when you place your trash out for pickup.

## Keeping up on Grass and Weeds do good Deeds!

Don't let your grass and weeds grow onto your neighbors' lawn. According to the Borough's adopted property maintenance code, grass and weeds can't be any longer than 6 inches. If you plan on going away for a few weeks, make sure you have someone who will take care of your lawn.

## Safe and Sound

Do a safety check of your property from the perspective of neighbors, the paperboy, postal carrier or anyone who may be coming onto your property. Remove obstacles that could cause people to trip or fall. Remember, even if people trespass onto your property, if they get hurt you may be held liable.

If you see your neighbor's papers lying outside for a day or so, place the papers somewhere out of sight as a courtesy so it is not apparent that they're out of town.

## Senior Citizens

Please keep an eye out for our senior citizens. Be the better neighbor and help out if you can. This could include checking in on them occasionally, shoveling their walk when it snows or even doing an errand here and there. Your acts of kindness will go a long way!

## Keep the volume low!

Heidelberg's barking dog ordinance requires residents to bring in their pets inside if they bark for more than 15 minutes. If your dog starts barking, bring it inside right away, and please do not leave your dog unattended in your yard or on your porch while you are out; you have no idea how it may behave in your absence. Remember to register your pet and have tags on your pets at all times!

Let your neighbors know when you are planning a big party; this will prepare them for the noise and parking issues. Keep the music low, this includes in your backyard, in your teenager's room and in the car.

If you are making major changes to your property, consider it from your neighbor's point of view. You live there, but they have to look at it, and what you do can have an impact on their property value. To make life easier, contact the Borough Office, 412-276-0363, before starting any work, to make sure what you are planning is allowable under our Ordinances, and also to be sure you have the proper permits to do the work.

Considering your neighbors will yield a more attractive, valuable, peaceful, and close-knit community.



# Chartiers Creek Watershed Facts

As the majority of Heidelberg Borough is surrounded by Chartiers Creek, Councilman Bob DeBar would like to pass on some little-known facts about this natural resource.

- Chartiers Creek is a major stream in Western Pennsylvania. It has its headwaters in Washington County, flows northward through Allegheny County and discharges into the Ohio River in McKees Rocks.

- The stream's watershed encompasses 276 square miles that include forest, farmland, industrial development and abandoned minelands as well as urban and suburban residential communities.

- There are over 27 municipalities within the watershed in Allegheny County alone.

- The Chartiers Creek Watershed contains a total of 358 miles of streams.

- Over 200,000 people live within the watershed and over 1,000,000 live within 25 miles of its boundaries.

- The largest tributaries in the Chartiers Creek Watershed are: Little Chartiers Creek, Millers Run, Robinson Run, Brush Run, Georges Run and McLaughlin Run.

- The stream was very polluted 30 years ago with industrial and mine drainage and sewage. There has been much improvement in Chartiers Creek through inter-municipal cooperation with municipalities working together with ALCOSAN. Today, the creek is much cleaner than it has been with many native birds, ducks, and fish returning back to the creek.

Further information on the Chartiers Creek Watershed can be obtained from: [www.washjeff.edu/Chartiers](http://www.washjeff.edu/Chartiers) or by contacting the Chartiers Creek Watershed Coalition.

(Information source - Chartiers Creek Watershed fact sheet)

# Celebrate the Rain!

Heidelberg Borough Rain Barrel / Watershed Workshop

**WHO:** Presented by the Pennsylvania Resources Council

**WHAT:** Learn how to construct a rain barrel and protect the watershed and water quality

**WHERE and WHEN:** Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 6:30 PM – 8 PM at the Three Hierarchs Eastern Orthodox School - Gymnasium 1819 Ellsworth Avenue, Heidelberg, PA 15106

**COST:** \$35/person or \$45/couple – payable to the Pennsylvania Resources Council (Children are free when accompanied by a participating adult)

DETAILS: Spring is just around the corner and with its arrival comes the first harvest of the season - that most precious of resources - available for the taking right over our heads. That's right! You may be missing out on an abundant, free supply of the earth's most valuable resource—fresh, clean water! When you attend the Pennsylvania Resources Council's (PRC) workshop you will learn how to harvest rainwater from your roof, store it and use it in your landscape. While enjoying this free source of precious water, you will be contributing to improved water quality in our rivers and streams, and reducing your contribution to sewer overflows, flooding and polluted urban/suburban runoff.



Learn how to practice watershed protection and conservation in your own backyard. It's easier than you think!

PRC's Watershed Awareness/Rain Barrel Workshop will raise your awareness of watershed issues, demonstrate how to assemble and install a retrofitted 55-gallon drum/rain barrel, and offer other rainwater harvesting options. Participants will receive the necessary hardware (not the barrel) to assemble and install a rain barrel for rainwater harvesting and on-site usage.

For information and/or to register contact Nancy at (412) 431-4449 x247 or [nancym@ccicenter.org](mailto:nancym@ccicenter.org)

PRC leads and promotes individual and collective actions to preserve Pennsylvania's environmental resources for each generation. [www.prc.org](http://www.prc.org)

This seminar is being offered as joint effort by the Borough of Heidelberg, T.H.E.O.S. School and the Pennsylvania Resources Council.

# Heidelberg Service Reminders

In addition to the many services and programs made available to the Heidelberg citizens and business owners by the Mayor and Borough Council, the Borough would like to remind everyone about extraordinary and sometimes overlooked services the Borough makes available to its citizens.

## ACCESS Registration / Heidelberg WEEKLY Group Shopping Day

The Heidelberg Borough Office is a designated ACCESS 65 Plus Program Registration Center. ACCESS is door-to-door, advanced reservation, shared-ride transportation which is provided throughout Allegheny County, and is open to the general public. They provide service seven days per week, from 6:00AM to midnight. There are no restrictions on the purpose or number of trips which may be taken by ACCESS riders, except riders are required to share the vehicle with other riders who are traveling at the same time in the same direction. Ride sharing helps ACCESS to make the best use of available vehicles and keep costs down. If you are a senior citizen, 65 years old or greater, and interested in registering for this valuable program, please visit the Borough Office to register. Please bring proof of age with you at time of registration (i.e.: birth certificate, driver's license, state issued ID, passport, PACE card, etc.)

ACCESS has also organized a special Heidelberg Group Shopping day for our residents. It is every Thursday, between 10:00-12:30. They pick you up at your home and take you to Shop and Save in Raceway Plaza. The fare is 2 OPT tickets each way (\$0.50) - total of \$1.00 for round trip. Interested participants have to call the day in advance before 1:00 PM to schedule your ride.

## Police Services – Vacation Checks, Finger Printing, etc.

The Heidelberg Borough Police Department, upon request, offers special vacation checks of your home or business should you be out of town for an extended length of time. The request form is available at the Police Station. For additional information about the program, please contact Chief Barkley at 412-276-0513.

The Heidelberg Police also provide finger printing services to persons needing such for anything from job applications, custody papers, etc. Cost is \$10. to schedule finger printing, call the Police Station at 412-276-0513.

## Park Pavilion

The Heidelberg Park Pavilion is openly available to rent for your picnics, parties and get-togethers. Seating capacity is approximately 50 people and electric, water, and a barbecue grill are provided. The Borough also makes available a horseshoe pitch set and a bocce set when renting the pavilion. The rental fees are: \$75 for Borough Residents, \$100 for Non-Residents, \$25 for Alcohol Permits and there is a refundable Cleaning / Security / Key Deposit of \$50. Pavilion Rental Permits are given out on a first come, first serve basis for any date within the current calendar year, and are currently open for scheduling. Applications and additional details about renting the pavilion are available on the Borough website, [www.HeidelbergBorough.com](http://www.HeidelbergBorough.com) on the "permits page" or can be picked up in the Borough Office during normal business hours.

## Notary Services

The Borough Manager also services as a Notary Public, and his services are openly available. Feel free to frequent the Borough office if you are in need of Notary services. Please be advised the Borough will not do vehicle transfers or other vehicle related notarizations. Fees typically cost \$5 per notary signature / seal. If you would have any questions, feel free to contact Joe Kauer at 412-276-0363.

## Email Notifications

The Borough has a voluntary messaging program that is designed to help the Borough pass pertinent news flashes onto the residents/business owners via email. The goal of this program is to email our residents on an as-needed basis with important news flashes, dates, Council Meeting actions, reminders, etc. To enroll please visit the "Borough Updates by E-mail" page on the Borough website: [www.HeidelbergBorough.com](http://www.HeidelbergBorough.com)

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

From State Representative Nick Kotik

## STATE JOBS UPDATE

The Commonwealth has changed the way it accepts applications for non-civil service state jobs.

Paper applications are being phased out, and applications and information – including salaries and benefits – are now available online at [www.employment.pa.gov](http://www.employment.pa.gov).

The process takes about 30 minutes. Applicants must provide contact information and work history, and select the type of job being sought. Applicants can return at any time to update information or apply for additional jobs.

Applications for civil service jobs should be made online at [www.scsc.state.pa.us](http://www.scsc.state.pa.us).

Job seekers lacking Internet access may find computers at most public libraries and CareerLink sites.

## HOUSING TAX CREDIT

The housing tax credit program offered by the federal government has been extended until April 30.

The program has already breathed new life into the housing market. It has given people who otherwise wouldn't have been able to afford it their chance to buy a home for the first time.

The program was expanded to include homeowners, not just first-time buyers. Current homeowners who buy a new home could be eligible for a tax credit up to \$6,500 if they owned their home for at least five years and first-time buyers will still be eligible for the maximum \$8,000 credit.

Income eligibility also changed. The new limit for single filers is \$125,000, and the limit for married filers increases to \$225,000.

## HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development's 504 Housing Repair & Rehabilitation program offers health and safety hazard repair assistance through loans, grants and combination grants/loans to rural, very-low-income homeowners.

Eligible homeowners may receive a 1 percent loan for 20 years, and applicants 62 and older may be eligible for grant assistance or a combination grant/loan.

Home repairs include new or upgraded heating and electrical systems, insulation, repair or replacement of roofs, windows, doors and disability accessibility.

More information about the repair program and other Rural Development programs is available at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/pa](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/pa).

## CONSERVATION AND RECREATION GRANTS

The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources offers grant opportunities for local recreation, conservation and tourism projects.

Grants through the Community Conservation Partnerships Program are open to municipalities, recreation and park

directors and boards, county and regional planning commissions, pre-qualified land trusts, and authorized nonprofit river, trail and other organizations.

This is a great resource for programs like Rails-to-Trails, land and water conservation, and similar programs.

Applications are available at [www.dcnr.state.pa.us/grants](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/grants). The deadline to apply for 2010 grants is April 21 and grant recipients are expected to be named in September.

## EMERGENCY ALERTS

Pennsylvania has launched an emergency notification system – AlertPA– to provide citizens with emergency and weather alerts, health notifications and updates to email accounts, cell phones, pagers and other devices.

Individuals can register for AlertPA by going to [www.pa.gov](http://www.pa.gov) and clicking on Alerts & Advisories. Users can choose the method of notification and select what type of information they would like to receive.

The state Department of Corrections is enhancing its notification system by using AlertPA. Residents may contact the state correctional institution's critical incident manager to have their names and phone numbers added to the AlertPA to receive voice messages.

Another way to verify a prison emergency is by calling the Correction Department's emergency message line toll free at (1) 888 316-8950.

## 511PA

The state Department of Transportation is offering a service that allows motorists to access weather, accident and construction information on Pennsylvania's interstates and other major highways.

The service, called "511PA," is designed to help travelers plan ways to avoid traffic backups, accidents and bad weather, and to get to their destination faster and more safely. Travelers can access the system by calling 511 on their phone, or by visiting [www.511PA.com](http://www.511PA.com) online.

Calling 511 will take motorists to an automated system with a number of prompts to find the information motorists need. There is no fee for using the phone service.

Visiting the Internet site provides motorists with the same accident, weather and construction information as dialing 511; however, the Internet site also features traffic cameras and speed-limit markings, as well as links to statewide mass transit, tourism and other travel-related information.

## HELP US HELP YOU

Contact Rep. Kotik's Coraopolis office at 412-264-4260 or his Carnegie office at 412-429-5091.

## Borough Meetings Now at Borough Bldg.

Starting in January 2010, all Heidelberg Borough Meetings, may they be meetings of Borough Council, Civil Service Commission, Zoning Hearing Board, or the Planning Commission will be conducted at the Heidelberg Borough Building located at 1631 East Railroad Street (PA Route 50).

Any person with a disability requiring a special accommodation to attend a meeting of the Borough of Heidelberg should notify the Borough Manager at 412-276-0363 as early as possible, but not later than three working days prior to the respective meeting. The Borough will make every effort to provide a reasonable accommodation.

## Borough to Provide Drop-off Location for Household Waste on Earth Day Weekend

On Saturday, April 17, 2010, the Borough will make available and provide two 30-yard dumpsters for residents to dispose of various household waste that they couldn't otherwise dispose of during weekly pick-up. We hope that you take this opportunity to clean up your yards and property.

The dumpsters will be located on Third Street next to the Ellsworth Avenue Playground. There is no fee for the disposal of your waste during this program. We ask that you compact the waste so that we can maximize the dumpster space. The program is for residential waste only – NO COMMERCIAL WASTE or DUMPING. The dumpsters are limited in size, therefore, once they are full, the program is over and we ask that you do not leave any waste on the street, right-of-ways, neighboring lots or on park property.

Items that are prohibited from disposing within the dumpsters include tires, freon, liquid paint, car parts and hazardous materials.

This service is provided by the Heidelberg Borough Council and Mayor in conjunction with their 3rd Annual Let's Redd Up Heidelberg / Earth Day efforts to clean up and beautify Heidelberg; making our town a safe, clean and pleasurable place to live, work and play.

## Paper Recycling Available at Heidelberg Park to benefit Borough's Recreation Fund

Back in December 2009, the Borough Council and Mayor discontinued the previous recycling program due to growing costs associated with the program. In order to keep some of the progress made with the previous recycling program, the Borough has reinstated paper recycling at the drop off green and gold dumpster in front of Heidelberg Park on Industry Way. The Borough receives a contribution from the paper recycling company, Abitibi, for the amount of paper we collect. All funds generated go towards recreational activities within the Borough.

Forms of paper that are acceptable include: newspapers, magazines, office paper, school paper, catalogs, and mail. Please do not include: cardboard, plastic, glass, metals, trash or phone and hardback books.

Your help and participation with this paper recycling campaign not only benefits you and your fellow Heidelberg residents through additional revenue for the Recreation Fund, but also helps save the earth – one tree at a time.

## New Technology Helps Heidelberg Police Department Fight Crime

By Congressman Tim Murphy

Nothing provides the community with the comfort of knowing the police are keeping residents safe at all times. Thanks to new technology funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Heidelberg's police department now has the ability to be in more than one place at a time, better ensuring the safety of our neighbors.



This year, Heidelberg will install three security cameras in public locations throughout the community including the town's parks. The cameras allow police officers to monitor these areas and ensure no crimes are being committed through a secure internet connection in patrol cars and at the station.

With access to the cameras' feeds, police are able to expand their beats to more neighborhoods. The ultimate goal is that the new cameras will act as a deterrent. Criminals are less likely to commit crimes in areas monitored by video surveillance.

If a crime does occur, officers are able to view the location on camera and have the advantage of knowing if there are any dangers before responding. The police can then reach the scene quickly with an improved chance of apprehending the criminals and assisting victims. If the criminals are not immediately caught, the video provides valuable investigative leads and evidence that can be used in prosecution.

Most importantly, the cameras provide parents with the peace of mind knowing that when children are playing outside, the Heidelberg Police Department's keen eye is keeping the streets safe.

The \$10,000 to purchase the cameras was funding by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Law Enforcement Technology program. I look forward to continuing to work with Police Chief Vernon Barkley, members of the Heidelberg Council, and Mayor Ken LaSota on additional ways to reduce crime.



# A Moment with the Mayor

Rebecca and I hope these few words find everyone well and recovered from the biggest snow storm in living memory. I would just like to talk about five things:

First, there has been much interest in the process that is leading to the installation of a second "War Memorial" in the Heidelberg Park. It is Councilmen Al Kosol and Bob DeBar who have taken this project to heart and they are near the point where the memorial is almost ready for installation. I have been asked on several occasions if the memorial will include a list of veterans, names and the process by which names may be offered for inscription. This memorial will not include individual names but will honor all Heidelbergundians who have served Our Country. The inscription will read: "Dedicated to those from the Borough of Heidelberg who served in all wars and sacrificed themselves to assure our freedom, liberty and the preservation of our Union."

Secondly, I trust we have all seen the new homes being constructed at the corner of Grant Avenue and Hayes Street. These two new homes are filling in a lot that has been vacant since I was a kid! The Borough is working in conjunction with Allegheny County to build these two homes. These two houses and the two houses recently built at the corner of Grant Avenue and Jackson Street make a total of four houses built by the County and the Borough and represent nearly a \$700,000 investment by the County in Heidelberg. Council is to be commended on bringing this kind of investment into the Borough.

Thirdly, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I mention that Acting Sergeant Dennis Dixon has been promoted to the position of full-time Sergeant within the Heidelberg Police Department. Because of staffing and other issues within the Police Department, I added the duties and responsibilities of Acting Sergeant to Dennis on January 1st. Recently, the Heidelberg Civil Service Commission tested for the sergeant position and Dennis ranked number one with scores of over 95%. With his performance on the Civil Service test and upon the recommendation of Chief Barkley and I, Borough Council moved to promote Dennis. I am particularly pleased as I first

hired Dennis nearly four years ago as a Patrolman and have watch him develop into a wonderful Police Officer. Sergeant Dixon will continue to serve as the handler of our Borough's K-9 Unit as well. Well done, Sergeant Dixon.

Fourthly, on February 6th 2010, I had the responsibility to declare the second state of emergency within the Borough during my 12 years as mayor. February 6th found the Borough covered in over two feet of snow and many Heidelbergundians without power, with downed trees and broken branches in their yards and streets, and impassible roads. As such my declaration allowed the Borough to contract for additional assistance from the County, State and private contractors. You may have noticed the tri-axel truck and front end loader that ferried over 400 truckloads of snow off our streets to a dumping site on Borough property on Industry Way. The emergency declaration of 2/6/10 helped immensely with the removal of snow. As to my first declared emergency, it was on September 17th, 2004 when Hurricane Ivan inundated our town. I must say that both disasters presented severe problems and challenges to Heidelberg. But of the two disasters, the beautiful and sparkling white blanket of snow that covered the landscape of Heidelberg during the most recent disaster was infinitely more pleasant to the eye and nose than the inches of smelly mud that carpeted the town during the earlier disaster. All in all, Heidelbergundians have fought back from both disasters and our town still moves forward.

Lastly, I would like to mention a new development in the Route 50 streetscape project that I have talked about in this Newsletter and elsewhere since 2003. The three communities that are part of the project, Heidelberg, Carnegie and Scott, recently received a \$250,000 grant from the Allegheny County Redevelopment Authority's Community Infrastructure and Tourism Fund to help advance the project. Coupled with the 2.4 million dollars that Congressman Tim Murphy provided last year, the new money brings the dollars in hand to 2.65 million to advance the streetscape project. The remainder of 2010 unfortunately will still be devoted to engineers designing and developing the project. Very little digging or earthmoving will occur until 2011. However, with a significant amount of money already in hand and additional monies that the three communities are still trying to acquire, the Route 50 streetscape project should serve as a transformational event in the history of Heidelberg. I venture to say that the Borough will be markedly different after the project, a Borough whose business district will be safer, more easy to negotiate by car or by foot, more esthetically appealing, and certainly a more economically vibrant part of the community

Well, enough for now. Take care and may God Bless.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kenneth A. LaSota, Ph.D.

# Heidelberg Police Information Spring 2010



As we roll out of winters frigid grasp and into the spring and summer season, it's time to begin thinking about home repairs, vacations, and what the kids will be doing while you and the wife are at work.

Let's look at home repairs first: For those of you seeking professional help in repairs, landscaping or remodeling, remember to use a licensed and qualified company or individual. In these hard financial times, be aware of scams and unlicensed construction people who are required to be licensed through the Attorney General's Office. Never leave construction or repair persons alone or unattended while in your home. Keep in mind that identity fraud is bigger than ever. Never sign a contract for work until you have all the facts and cost estimates in writing and you understand them. Make sure you have a time of completion for a project in writing, as well as the final cost.

Now, the well deserved vacation: When traveling anywhere, make sure to use travelers checks, keep your credit card use limited and make sure you have the 1-800 telephone numbers for lost or stolen credit cards and the credit card numbers themselves written down and locked away just in case you lose them or they are stolen. Be aware of your surroundings and who is watching you at the ATMs and make sure you use the safes available in motels and resorts. Make sure you fill out a vacation notice at the police station for dates you will be gone, names and numbers of alarm companies, key holder information and cell phone contacts in emergencies. Set light timers, have your mail and newspaper either stopped or picked up by family or friends. Leave a car in the driveway if you can and leave a radio in the kitchen playing just loud enough to hear if someone is listening at the back door.

Now the kids: Summer's almost here and they soon will be out of school, which means... who is watching them and keeping them out of trouble? Heidelberg's Police try to keep an eye your children, especially over the summer months when there are more activities taking place in the Borough. We are hoping to have new cameras installed at both the Heidelberg Park and the Ellsworth Playground before summer takes off. This will allow police to watch these areas via their laptop computers in their police vehicles and also from the police station, making our community safer for the children and everyone in the parks. Thanks to various grants, the police during the summer will now have an extra patrol unit out on random nights to increase visibility and police presence. The police have already made numerous arrests for DUIs and narcotics such as heroin and crack cocaine within the Borough over the last few months. The police are increasing their traffic enforcement for speeding and yes, there is a school zone in Heidelberg which many seem to forget and overlook. The area between 3rd Street and 4th Street in the 1800 block of Ellsworth has been posted for three years now as a school zone between specific hours and is being monitor and strictly enforced for the safety of all of the children who get their bus there and are dropped off daily.

Please be a good neighbor and report any suspicious activities or people you observe, even if they just make you feel uncomfortable. CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY, do not call the Police office or Borough office, call 911. Your police are out where they need to be patrolling, answering calls and keeping an eye on this community.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Chief Vernon M. Barkley  
Heidelberg Borough Police

# Working Together With You

By now you have heard that Heidelberg, Carnegie and Scott were awarded \$250,000 in Community Infrastructure and Tourism Fund (CITF) grant monies last month for a streetscape project that will include safety improvements, sidewalk installation, and reconstruction to benefit all three communities. I was happy to have helped to secure the funding request and am proud that this example of multi-municipal cooperation was in my district.



This project, from start to finish, is an example of what can be accomplished when individual egos, partisan interests and private issues are put aside for the greater good. One of the reasons that I advocated so hard for the funding is that all three communities were able to make this work. While I am sure that each person involved may have their own interests and concerns, the ability to compromise and work together to reach a common and collective goal is progressive and laudable.

I hope that I, as one of your elected officials, have also shown that same commitment. The ability to work in a regional manner benefits all of our communities – and our region. Securing the funding for this project required your state and federal officials to put aside our own interests, to recognize the importance of these funds to the communities we represent, and to make good on our promises to work together with you for a better community. I am proud to have accomplished that with my colleagues for the benefit of Heidelberg, Carnegie and Scott.

I look forward to continuing to work together with you to move the borough forward in its vision for the future and its openness to working with others to accomplish great things. A quote from an unknown source speaks to the opportunity: "If you want to be incrementally better: Be competitive. If you want to be exponentially better: Be cooperative." Heidelberg is exponentially better for its efforts and I applaud all of you on your success.

Senator Wayne D. Fontana  
42nd Senatorial District  
www.senatorfontana.com

## COMMUNITY TIRE COLLECTION

Saturday, April 17, 2010 - 9 AM to 12 Noon

at Heidelberg Park

600 Industry Way, Heidelberg, PA 15106

NEED TO GET RID OF TIRES OR WHEELS  
FROM YOUR CAR OR LIGHT TRUCK?

Bring them to the Heidelberg-Carnegie  
Tire Round-up!



Size:	Your cost to dispose:
Up to 17" off rim	\$2 each
Up to 17" on rim	\$4 each
Tractor trailer up to 22.5" (no rims please)	\$20 each
Farm tractor rear (no rims please)	\$20 each

Proof of residency not required. Individuals and businesses welcome. Checks accepted with ID. Sponsored by the Independence Conservancy and the Boroughs of Heidelberg and Carnegie.

# TAX COLLECTOR'S DESK

THE 2010 HEIDELBERG BOROUGH REAL ESTATE TAX STATEMENTS WERE MAILED AND SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 1, 2010.

THE TAX MILLAGE RATE FOR 2010 (8.5 MILLS) IS THE SAME AS 2009.

PLEASE CONTACT MY OFFICE IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE YOUR STATEMENT, AND BELIEVE IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SENT TO YOUR RESIDENCE. I DO NOT KNOW IF YOUR STATEMENT IS MISSING UNLESS YOU CONTACT MY OFFICE

ALL STATEMENTS ARE SENT TO THE ADDRESS OF RECORD (RESIDENCE OR MORTGAGE COMPANY) AS PROVIDED BY ALLEGHENY COUNTY. HOWEVER, IT IS STILL THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER TO OBTAIN AND PAY THE TAXES ON TIME. I DO NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO WAIVE PENALTY OR INTEREST CHARGES THAT OCCUR AFTER THE DUE DATES.

## 2010 HEIDELBERG BOROUGH REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. DUE AT DISCOUNT | ON OR BEFORE 5/31/2010   |
| 2. DUE AT FACE     | 6/1/2010 TO 7/31/2010  |
| 3. DUE AT PENALTY  | AFTER 7/31/2010, A 10% PENALTY MUST BE ADDED TO THE FACE AMOUNT. |

My office is continuing to work on delinquent accounts to bring them up to date and eliminate the need to pursue legal action with the Magistrate. This program has been successful and continues to save our residents the additional burden of court costs by settling delinquent tax years with my office.

We understand that many are facing difficulties. The Borough and Tax Collector are willing to work with these accounts to not only collect delinquent taxes but eliminate additional costs. Our goal is to bring delinquent accounts up-to-date before the property must be lien-ed. If you are behind, please contact me immediately to review your Borough Tax Account and establish a reasonable payment schedule.

## 2010 ALLEGHENY COUNTY SENIOR CITIZEN TAX RELIEF (ACT-77)

If you are a Senior Citizen and have not participated in this program which gives a flat 30% discount off your gross County Real Estate you have until JUNE 30, 2010 to apply.

Forms are available in my office or you can contact Allegheny County Treasurer John Weinstein, s office directly at (412) 350-5901.

To qualify:

1. Applicants or their spouse must be 60 years of age or older.
2. Have a combined total household annual income of \$30,000.00 using 50% of Social Security to determine that amount .
3. Must be the owner/occupant of the property seeking relief.
4. Owned and occupied a primary residence in Allegheny County for the Previous (10) years or more .

SHOULD YOU HAVE A QUESTION ON YOUR CURRENT TAX STATEMENT, PRIOR YEARS STATEMENTS OR RELATED MATTERS, PLEASE CONTACT MY OFFICE AT (412) 276-5413.

TED R. GAZDA, REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR

# Why We Have a War Memorial

By Councilman Al Kosol and Mrs. Dolly Kosol

Why would we spend our time searching and asking residents for the information regarding the war plaques that have the names of the men and women from our town? Why should we care about the past and current generations serving in the Armed Forces? Why does it matter? Why do most people care? BECAUSE – those are the names of the men and women who gave their lives so that we may enjoy the freedoms we have today!

Ask any of the mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, and relatives of the people who are listed on our memorial. From the time our grandchildren were little, we explained to them about the differences in our country and the freedoms that we share that children from other places cannot.

We can worship wherever and whenever we please. We can travel from state to state, country to country, vote, drive a car, and express our personal views. So in gratitude, and with reverence, we display our American Flag, venerate our war memorials, and thank God that we live where we do and have the right to express these words.

Please join us when we add another monument to our park, and honor these brave men and women and thank them for their service by giving their lives.

# Homes for Sale!

Through a partnership between the Borough of Heidelberg, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development and Action Housing, there are two new single family homes at the corner of Grant Avenue and Hayes Street for sale.

Both houses will have three bedrooms, 1 and ½ baths, integral garage, whole house air conditioning, wall-to-wall carpeting, all new appliances, gas heat and meets all energy efficiency requirements. The estimated sales price is \$100,000 with a deferred second mortgage. There are income eligibility guidelines to meet to be qualified. Additional information about the program and pre-application forms are available at the Borough Office. Construction is anticipated to be complete by mid-summer.



# Install. Inspect. Protect.



The Install. Inspect. Protect. Campaign is part of the U.S. Fire Administration's effort to reduce fire deaths and injuries across the nation by urging residents to not only install smoke alarms in their homes, but also inspect and maintain them on a regular basis. Time and time again, it has been shown that working smoke alarms save lives.

A working smoke alarm can allow you and your family to safely escape a deadly home fire. They also serve as the first line of defense for firefighters, helping ensure that residents are alerted to the fire and can exit the home before the fire worsens. A properly installed and functioning smoke detector is constantly vigilant for fire; 24/7/365.

Heidelberg Volunteer Fire Department is encouraging you to practice fire safety, and more importantly, help you exit your home before fire fighters have to come in.

Thanks to a recent federal grant, HVFD has smoke detectors available for installation in your home. Any resident who currently does not have a properly installed and working smoke detector is eligible to receive one of the free detectors. The safety of borough residents is our number one concern. With that, we are happy to come to your home to install a new smoke detector or inspect the ones you currently have installed. Scheduling an appointment is easy, simply call the station at (412) 276-5955, or fill out the request form on our website, <http://heidelbergfire.com>.

Please check our website often, as we constantly update it with the latest happenings in the department, and also post relevant fire safety information. We would also like to take a moment to update you on happenings in the department over the next few months:

- During the winter storm that struck Western PA on Feb 5-6, 2010, HVFD members answered over 20 calls for assistance and put in over 300 man hours of work.
- Our annual fish fry and peirogi sale is being held on April 2, 2010 from 11am-7pm at the Hall at Heidelberg. For more information, please see our website or call the station.
- Bingo is held every Wednesday beginning at 7:00pm. If you are looking for a fun and relaxing activity on Wednesday nights, stop down to support your local fire department.
- Have a special event coming up? The Hall at Heidelberg is a great location to host your event! For more information, contact our Hall Manager, Nancy Wissel, at (412) 722-6314.

# Tentative Schedule of Community Events

The Heidelberg Recreation Committee would like to announce the following planned community events for the upcoming months within Heidelberg:

- Saturday, April 17, 2010 – 8:30 PM – Community Cleanup Day / Tire Shredding Event
- Saturday, April 24, 2010 – 12:00 PM – Heidelberg Park Grand Opening / Community Picnic
- Thursday, April 29, 2010 – 6:30 PM – Rain Barrel Workshop at THEOS School
- Monday, May 31, 2010 – 11:00 AM – War Monument Dedication / Memorial Day Ceremony at Heidelberg Park
- Friday, June 1, 2010 – Dusk – Movie in the Park at Heidelberg Park
- Saturday, June 5, 2010 – Neighborhood Garage Sale Day
- Friday, June 25, 2010 – Dusk – Movie in the Park at Heidelberg Park
- Friday, July 9, 2010 – Dusk – Movie in the Park at Heidelberg Park
- Friday, July 23, 2010 – Car Cruise / Movie in the Park at Ellsworth Playground
- Friday, August 6, 2010 – Movie in the Park at Heidelberg Park
- Friday, August 20, 2010 – Movie in the Park at Heidelberg Park
- T.B.A. – Light up Night – Late November / December

Should a Friday night movie be rained out, it will be held the next day on Saturday. The Borough's Recreation Committee is also working on a Concert in the Park in place of one of the August movies, details will follow. Refreshments at the movies will be a nominal fee to help cover supplies to keep the schedule of events progressing. Keep an eye on the message boards and [www.heidelbergborough.com](http://www.heidelbergborough.com) for updates.

John Duda, Councilman