

## Upcoming Community Events

By: Council Vice President John Duda

The Heidelberg Recreation Committee requests you to mark your calendars!!!! As part of the annual series of community events in town, the Recreation Committee is announcing what events still lay ahead in 2012.

**July 13, 2012** – 6:00PM-Dusk, Family Night in the Park, DJ / Karaoke, Games, Fun for All!

**July 15, 2012** - 2:00 PM – Dedication Ceremony for Heidelberg Raceway Historical Marker, Route 50 and Greentree Road

**August 11, 2012** – Heidelberg Fishing Tournament in Chartiers Creek, Registration at Hbg. Park

**August 17, 2012** – 6:00PM – Dusk, Family Night in the Park, Live Music, Games, Fun for All!

**September 8, 2012** – 7AM to 12PM – Neighborhood Garage Sale Day

**September 29, 2012** – 1PM to 7PM, 2012 Oktoberfest @ Heidelberg Park

**October, TBA** – Halloween Parade and Party

**December 1, 2012** - 6PM to 8PM, First Night of Lights @ Ellsworth Ave. Playground

Borough Council and Mayor are proud of the efforts put forth by the all-volunteer Recreation Committee; their tireless efforts truly make life in Heidelberg a special experience! The "Rec Committee" is always looking for new members and volunteers; if interested in joining, please attend one of our monthly meetings that are held at 6:15PM the third Tuesday of each month within the Borough Office Conference Room. This includes school students in need of community service hours!!!

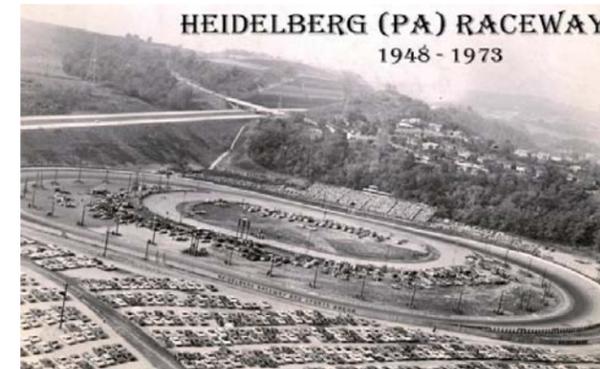
**OCTOBER 2012 Monthly Raffle to Benefit the Borough's Community Events Fund**— The Recreation Committee is selling \$10 tickets (two numbers on one ticket) for cash drawings the entire month of October. If interested in purchasing a ticket please visit the Borough Office or see a Committee Member. All proceeds benefit community events held in the Borough.

# Heidelberg Highlights

Volume No. 37

Summer 2012

## Heidelberg Raceway Historical Marker to be Dedicated on July 15<sup>th</sup>



Both the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission and the Heidelberg Borough Council and Mayor cordially invite all Heidelbergundians (past and present), racing and circus enthusiasts and those with ties to the old racetrack to be with us as we dedicate an official State Historical Marker to commemorate the former Heidelberg Raceway and Sports Arena and the last circus under the Big Top by the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

The marker will be installed on the Borough / Township line in the rock-garden already constructed for the monument between the Walgreen's and Kings Restaurant. There will be a ceremony at 2:00 PM on Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup> (close to the 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Circus on July 16, 1956) We encourage all to attend and be part of this historical day, light refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

## Borough Newsletter and Website Win State-wide Recognition

For the fifth year in a row, Heidelberg has received recognition from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) for our outstanding newsletter and website. This year, the Borough was recognized at the annual conference of Borough's by achieving the 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award for our newsletter and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place for our Borough Website, [www.HeidelbergBorough.com](http://www.HeidelbergBorough.com)

PSAB grades submitted publications based on their information quality, appearance, order and superiority in disseminating information. This year's plaques are on display in the Borough office. The Borough Council and Mayor would like to thank the many people who contribute to the success of our medias, and for Apple Printing's efforts in publishing this newsletter for the Citizenry.

## Oktoberfest scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup>!!!

The Second Annual Oktoberfest has been scheduled for Saturday, September 29, 2012, 1:00PM to 7:00PM at Heidelberg Park.

Many festivities are scheduled throughout the day including: live music featuring the Mansfield 5, the Don Wojtila Polka Band, Heidelberg's own Mrs. Helen Matlak, food, beer, crafters, children's activities and fun for all ages.



The Borough is seeking Craft Vendors for the event. Registration fee is \$25 per table. There will be no electric service provided and the fee provides you with one 8' table and 2 chairs. Vendor Registration Forms are available in the Borough office or on the Borough website, [www.HeidelbergBorough.com](http://www.HeidelbergBorough.com) on the "Oktoberfest Page." For more information, please contact the Borough Manager at 412-276-0363.

As part of the event, the Recreation Committee is seeking volunteers for the day and to help organize the event. If interested, please attend the monthly Recreation Committee Meetings that are held the third Tuesday of each month at 6:15 PM at the Borough Building. The Borough is also accepting donations to help sponsor the bands and activities for Oktoberfest. If interested in contributing, donations can be made to the **Borough of Heidelberg** and sent to 1631 East Railroad Street, Heidelberg, PA 15106.

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BOROUGH OF HEIDELBERG  
1631 Railroad Street  
Heidelberg, PA 15106



### A MOMENT WITH THE MAYOR

I would like to take a few lines here to talk about something that I have written about in this Newsletter since 2003: The Route 50 or East Railroad Rehabilitation Project. In 2003, I sent letters to elected officials in Bridgeville, Carnegie, Collier, Heidelberg, Scott and South Fayette outlining a vision I had for a "grand urban boulevard" connecting our six communities. The proposed walkable and aesthetically appealing ribbon of concrete running through our six communities was to be a rebuilt, pedestrian friendly Route 50, turned into a common town square for our collective communities. Well now, some nine years later, within a few short weeks, the project is to start and shovels will finally be constructing this

urban boulevard within Carnegie, Heidelberg and Scott!

In the Heidelberg section of the project along East Railroad Street (Route 50) will be: For the first time ever, a new sidewalk running along the entire east side of Route 50 from First Street to Collier Avenue; Between Second and Fourth Streets, along both sides of Route 50, will be a new compact, town square business district for Heidelberg, complete with new decorative street lights, sign posts, street furniture, street trees, and concrete bump-outs extending the sidewalks at the intersections to protect the parked cars and make crossing Route 50 easier. The jewel of the new, compact, town square business district within Heidelberg will be the landscaping of the "Lamar" hillside, or the hillside along Route 50 that has all the billboards. Larmer has donated the land to the Borough and as part of this project, improvements will be made to the public steps at Third Street and decorative crosswalks will also be installed at Third Street. The new "monumental steps" will serve as a bridge to connect our residential areas above Route 50 to our revitalized business district within Route 50. Moreover, located adjacent to the new and enlarged steps will be formal gardens allowing the Third Street steps to serve as a focal point for people to gather and add a sense of community along Route 50. Also within and throughout the new hillside park will be a number of plantings and flowers to make for a long, linear garden, which coupled with the other elements of the project, represent a strategic effort by the project's engineer and architect to create a "town-center" along Route 50 at Third Street and East Railroad. In short, the Route 50 project will be transformational in the Borough's efforts to continue to be a livable and vibrant community to call home. After nine years of effort, I for one can not wait to see the changes as they take place.

The preliminary project schedule calls for construction to start this fall and be completed by August 2013. So the project will take the next two construction seasons to complete. Mostly sidewalk work will be done this year and the street lights, street trees and street furniture will be done next year. The cost for the three communities totals nearly three million dollars (\$3,000,000). Funding comes from U.S. Congressman Tim Murphy (\$2,400,000, a congressional earmark from four years ago), State Senator Wayne Fontana (\$250,000, Allegheny County Community, Infrastructure, Tourism Fund, money from gaming or the casinos in Pennsylvania from two years ago), and a 20% dollar match from all three communities or \$600,000 of local matching funds. The total dollar investment within Heidelberg is forecasted at \$981,042, including all design, engineering and construction costs, and is based on linear footage of the project within Heidelberg compared to Carnegie and Scott. Heidelberg's 20% dollar match, therefore, is to be around \$180,000. A staggering sum I know but still for every dollar the Borough is to spend on the project, the project itself spends an additional four dollars. By any measure, getting a four dollar return for every one dollar invested would in and of itself constitute a wise use of Borough funds, let alone on such a significant project in terms of the Borough's history, economic development, and quality of life. However, the news is even better than this! The monies that Senator Fontana obtained are such as to be applicable to each community's 20% dollar match requirement. Hence, Heidelberg's dollar match is reduced by \$83,000, or one third of the \$250,000 grant. Moreover, the donation of the Larmer land allows Heidelberg to apply 80% of the value of the land donation to its matching requirement as well. The value of the donated land was set by project assessors at \$76,000. Thus, what would have been a good investment in the Borough's future with a dollar match of around \$180,000 will realistically only cost around \$50,000. Imagine, a nearly million dollar investment in Heidelberg that will only cost around \$50,000! Council and the Borough manager are to be commended in their stewardship of Borough funds.

In closing, a nine year effort by Heidelberg's elected and appointed officials is nearing an end. The Route 50 rehabilitation project is to start in a few short weeks. I for one had my doubts over the nine years as to whether the project would become a reality. I'm sure many of you felt the same as you read my updates about the project over the years in this Newsletter. Well, now we Heidelbergians are to be part of Heidelberg's history as we transform Route 50 into a pedestrian friendly, urban space that will be a show piece for our community and an asset to our quality of life and livability.

Well enough for now. Rebecca and I wish everyone well and may God Bless. Everyone, enjoy the ride as we watch the changes along Route 50.

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

### Thank you Heidelberg Veterans for YOUR Service to our Country

On Monday, May 28, 2012, many residents participated, including some of our community's veterans, in our annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Heidelberg Park's Military Monuments. We are thankful for our veteran's service, and as a close-knit community; it was a privilege to recognize their sacrifice, duty and commitment to our Nation's cause. Additional photos from the event can be viewed at [www.HeidelbergBorough.com](http://www.HeidelbergBorough.com) at the bottom of the "Events" page.



*2012 Heidelberg Veterans Group Picture*



*Carnegie American Legion Raising the Flag*



*Councilmen Duda and Kosol place a Wreath at the Monuments*



*Residents partaking in the Service*



*Bagpiper Nichole Kauer play's "Amazing Grace"*

## NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM STATE REP. NICK KOTIK

### **PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE PROGRAM**

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program provides qualifying senior citizens and other Pennsylvania residents with rebates of as much as \$975 based on property taxes or rent paid the previous year.

The program is open to Pennsylvania residents 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people 18 or older who have a disability. The income limit to qualify is \$35,000 for homeowners and \$15,000 for renters; only half of Social Security and federal Tier 1 Railroad Retirement benefits need to be counted as income when applying. Residents who receive a rebate should automatically be sent an application in the mail the following year.



### **REDUCED AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS**

PennDOT offers retired Pennsylvanians earning less than \$19,200 annually a reduced automobile registration rate of \$10, compared to the normal \$36. Seniors older than 65 also may purchase a two-year license renewal for \$19. For motorcycles, a two-year license renewal is \$29. You can find more information and renew your registration and license online at [www.dot.state.pa.us](http://www.dot.state.pa.us) or call the agency's customer care center 1-800-932-4600 for further information.

### **NEW LAW HELPS KEEP BICYCLISTS SAFER**

I am pleased to announce that the legislature has gone to great lengths to ensure the safety of all cyclists in Pennsylvania. On April 3, a new bicycling law took effect, thus requiring all drivers to leave a 4-foot cushion of safety when passing a bicyclist. Drivers may cross roadway's center line when passing the bicycle on the left, but only when opposing traffic allows. Bicycle riders have the right of way at an intersection when they want to travel straight and a driver is making a right turn. For more information on bicycling safety, visit [www.DriveSafePA.org](http://www.DriveSafePA.org).

## TAX COLLECTOR'S DESK

**2012 CHARTIERS VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY TAXES WILL BE MAILED BY THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY 2012. PLEASE CONTACT MY OFFICE IMMEDIATELY IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVED YOUR STATEMENT, AND BELIEVE IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SENT TO YOUR RESIDENCE.**

**ALL STATEMENTS ARE MAILED TO THE ADDRESS OF RECORD (RESIDENCE OR MORTGAGE COMPANY) AS PROVIDED BY ALLEGHENY COUNTY.** EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO MAIL STATEMENTS TO THE PROPERTY OWNERS, BUT IF IT IS MAILED INCORRECTLY, IT IS STILL THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER TO PAY THE TAXES ON TIME.

### **2012 CHARTIERS VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

- |                    |                                                                  |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. DUE AT DISCOUNT | 7/1/2012 TO 8/31/2012                                            |
| 2. DUE AT FACE     | 9/1/2012 TO 10/31/2012                                           |
| 3. DUE AT PENALTY  | AFTER 10/31/2012 A 10% PENALTY MUST BE ADDED TO THE FACE AMOUNT. |

**INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS** HAVE BEEN APPROVED AGAIN THIS YEAR AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM, **EACH PAYMENT MUST AMOUNT TO AT LEAST ¼<sup>th</sup> OF THE FACE AMOUNT** AND SUBMITTED AS FOLLOWS:

- |    |                                                 |            |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. | FIRST PAYMENT <u>MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO</u>  | 10/15/2012 |
| 2. | SECOND PAYMENT <u>MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO</u> | 12/15/2012 |
| 3. | THIRD PAYMENT <u>MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO</u>  | 02/15/2013 |
| 4. | FINAL PAYMENT <u>MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO</u>  | 04/15/2013 |

**\*\*\*INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS ARE ONLY PERMITTED ON ANY PARCEL VALUED AT \$100.00 OR MORE\*\*\***

**NO DISCOUNT IS PERMITTED IF YOU DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INSTALLMENT PROGRAM. ANY INSTALLMENT PAYMENT NOT RECEIVED BY THE DUE DATES ESTABLISHED, MUST HAVE A 10% PENALTY ADDED TO THAT PAYMENT.**

TED R. GAZDA, REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR

## Park Comfort Station Officially Open



*Heidelberg Park Comfort Station*

At the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 28<sup>th</sup>, the Heidelberg Park Comfort Station was officially opened to the public. This \$90,000 facility was made possible by a matching grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The Comfort Station includes amenities for both men and women and a concession area.

Much credit is to be given to the Heidelberg Borough Council for their insight to seek outside design professionals to prepare the necessary bidding documents rather than using a prebuilt restroom-only facility that was originally proposed within our project budget. The design of Integrity Design of Bridgeville, the same architect the Borough used for the Borough Building remodeling in 2006, allowed us to get a more attractive building that matched the design of the Park's pavilion and also provided for a much needed concession / field kitchen area. The concession area will be used during the many public events at Heidelberg Park including the family nights, movie nights, and Oktoberfest.

To help keep the project within budget, the facility's sanitary sewer tap and electric work was completed in house by our Public Works Department. This effort netted a savings of approximately \$10,000 by doing this work in-house with our own manpower and equipment. **A special thank you goes out to our Public Works Supervisor Mark Turnbull, Councilman John Duda and our DPW Laborer Ben Farrow for all of their efforts and hard work!**

The Park bathrooms are open during park hours, daily from dawn to dusk.

## 2012 Road Paving Program

By: Councilman Al Kosol

Through diligent efforts by the Council, Mayor and Administration, three roadways within Heidelberg are to be paved this year at the cost of only half of one!!! The 2012 Road Paving Program includes the reconstruction of the final phase of Ellsworth Avenue from Second Street to First Street, Peach Way and Coal Road.

Ellsworth Avenue is projected to cost \$49,000 to pave from Second Street to First Street, while also reconstructing the many artery roadway keyways that connect to this section of Ellsworth Avenue, including the many dips and potholes that are troublesome at First Street. Council and Mayor were able to get a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$24,199 to offset 50% of the costs of this paving project. Once this section is complete come Fall, all of Ellsworth Avenue would be reconstructed since the year 2000.

Peach Way (alley behind Madison Avenue from Short Street) and Coal Road are being reconstructed through the Borough's recently renewed PENNDOT Agility Program. This program and effort will basically amount to PENNDOT paving these two roads for us this Summer at no direct cash cost to the Borough, while over the next five years we provide services in-kind back to PENNDOT such as grass cutting, litter removal, street sweeping, etc.

Coal Road, which historically was the last remaining private roadway within the Borough, is now a public thoroughfare up to 1473 Collier Avenue, which terminates at the rear of the Walgreen's Pharmacy and Carnegie Motors Garage. The Council was successful in getting easement rights from these affected property owners for the purposes of opening this roadway and reconstructing such. We thank the Coal Road property owners for their support and cooperation in this substantial public works undertaking.



## COMMUNITY ROOM TO BE OPEN BY THE END OF SUMMER

The new Heidelberg Community Room Facility is developing into what will be a great addition to the Borough and Citizenry. The building at 1639 East Railroad Street, three doors up from the Borough Building, is being broken out into three main sections: 1) the community room which will also house the Heidelberg Historical Society, 2) the Public Works Department and 3) second floor office space that will be leased out.

In regards to the public areas of the building, approximately 60% of the ground floor is dedicated to the Public Works Department as the new Borough Garage and workshop. This space is approximately 80% developed and should be complete within the next month. The DPW has already moved into the space and it has proven to already be a valuable asset to the Department and our community's needs.

As for the Community Room, the room is being built out in-house by the Public Works staff. Additions to this room call out for the construction of an ADA restroom, partition walls, a kitchenette and the actual community room. It is our goal to have the room complete and open to the public for August of this year.

The second floor of the facility is available office space for rent, and it includes a large spacious build-out-able floor plan, conference room, kitchen and private restrooms. If interested in touring the space, please contact the Borough Manager at 412-276-0363.

Lastly, in aim to ease the transition into the new facility, all Borough Meetings are going to be held at the new building rather than the Borough Office starting with the June Council Meetings. The meetings will be held upstairs until the Community Room is finished.



New Heidelberg Community Center / Public Works Building

## DOG, CAT AND OTHER ANIMAL LAWS IN HEIDELBERG

Heidelberg residents are reminded that we need to control our pets in order to continue to have a safe and healthy community. When walking your pets, it is prohibited to allow your animal to deposit waste and not pick up this waste on any private property or public grounds (streets, sidewalks, parks, etc.). If you walk your pet and do not pick up after them, your actions can be fined \$100 per occurrence. In order to rectify this problem, the Borough has a pet station at the corner of Ellsworth Avenue and Third Street, behind the community message board. The pet station has bags to pick up your pet's waste while on your walk around the Borough. The pet station is also a site to deposit the dog waste while on your walk. Also while out walking your pets, **residents are reminded that pets are prohibited from the four public parks in Heidelberg.**

Pet owners need also to be aware that your pet is prohibited from "running at large." **This includes cats!** When walking your pets or having the pets off of your property they need to be on a leash. Furthermore, Heidelberg Borough Code prohibits any dog, cat or any other pet from creating a disturbance as result of barking, howling or baying. If a pet is creating a nuisance in your neighborhood, please report the issue to the Police Department via the non-emergency number, 412-279-6911. If an animal continues to be a nuisance, the owner can be fined \$500 per occurrence.

Over that past six months, stray and feral cats have been a nuisance within the Borough. We urge residents to keep their cats indoors and to get Borough licenses for them. The Borough has been trapping for cats at various points within Heidelberg. All cats caught are immediately turned over to animal control.

Lastly, pet owners are reminded that the Borough has its own animal license program in addition to the County License. The license fee is a one time fee of \$5.00. Animal licenses can be obtained at Tax Collector, Ted Gazda's office. A picture of the animal and a veterinarian's certification that the animal has been vaccinated against rabies is required. Once given the Heidelberg Borough Animal Tag, a picture and contact information regarding your pet is kept on file with the Police Department and Tax Collector. This makes returning a lost pet within Heidelberg a lot easier and faster.



## Heidelberg Police Summertime Updates and Reminders

Now that school is out we once again are faced with the issue of what are our children are doing over the summer, or do you as a parent really know?

Over the past two months, with school not even out yet, there have been twelve incidents involving children between eleven and fifteen years of age being arrested or cited for everything from terroristic threats, criminal mischief in damaging borough property, retail thefts from local stores and defiant trespass on private property in areas that put themselves in serious danger of injury or possibly death.

In this day and age where both parents work during the day and off shifts, it's difficult to keep track of exactly what our children are doing or who they may be hanging out with. As we all know what they tell us as parents and what they are actually doing or whom they are associating with can sometimes be two very different things. Parents as do the police need to take a more proactive approach during the summer vacation. The police fully understand that a lack of activities for local children is an issue and they make every effort to keep track of what goes on in the borough on all three shifts, as well as children coming into the borough from other communities to cause trouble. Parents need to keep in mind the curfew times under the Borough Ordinances' and make sure their children are in the house at those specified time frames and not wondering the streets or getting into trouble. Parents who allow their children to sleep over their friend's house at times during the summer need to make sure they are where they say they are and talk to the other parents to make sure of proper supervision.

Parents need to make their children aware that when riding their bikes on the streets, they are required to stop at stop signs and obey the same laws as any motor vehicle on the highway. We have had numerous complaints of children just flying through intersections, jumping off curbs or homemade ramps into the streets and alleys. One big area of concern is the bridge from Scott Township (Rte 50) to First St. where kids simply are going to fast down the bridge on their bikes to negotiate that turn or stop in time before running into vehicles or vehicles running into them. Drivers need to be more observant and slow down during the summer months while traveling through the borough.

Those residents going on vacation need to stop in at the police station and fill out a vacation house watch request so the police can do extra checks on your residence while you are gone and have access to emergency contact telephone numbers in case of an emergency. Everyone should have house lights setup on timers, someone picking up your mail and newspapers, a family member checking on your house and or if you can afford it at least a basic alarm system.

On a lighter note the Heidelberg Police Department, Borough Council and Mayor along with the Heidelberg Volunteer Fire Department will be sponsoring a Fishing Derby August 11<sup>th</sup> in Chartiers Creek for children sixteen and under. Additional and specific information will be posted after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. Let's have a safe and fun filled summer.

Vernon Barkley, Chief of Police

## Council and Mayor Recognize Mayer Family for Donation of Tools

At their May meeting, the Borough Council and Mayor recognized Mrs. Julia Mayer of Hayes Street for her donation of tools, hardware and equipment that completely outfitted the workshop within the new Public Works garage. "This equipment will make the job of our Public Works crew much easier and truly brings our DPW into the 21<sup>st</sup> century," stated Councilman Al Kosol, who chairs the Council's Road Committee.

In gratitude of her generosity a plaque is displayed in the workshop commemorating her late husband, Mr. Walter Mayer. The plaque reads: "This workshop is dedicated to the memory of longtime Heidelberg resident Walter Mayer. May his creative spirit live long, and through the donation of his tools build a brighter future for our community."

The members of Borough Council, Mayor LaSota and the Public Works Department thank the Mayer family for their generosity and commitment to the community.

## **Making Safe Prescription Drugs More Affordable and Accessible**

By Congressman Tim Murphy

For many of us, a pharmaceutical regimen is part of daily life. From controlling blood pressure to keeping cholesterol in check, life-saving medicines have transformed healthcare to the point where medical problems are manageable with prescription drugs. But pharmaceutical advancements come with a big price tag. Prescription drugs account for a whopping \$307 billion in annual healthcare expenses, an amount expected to rise as new therapies come on the market. It's clear that a key component to building an affordable healthcare system is access to safe, cost effective medications like generic drugs.



*Congressman Tim Murphy*

"Generics" offer a safe alternative to brand-name medications. Today, four out of every five prescriptions are filled with generics, which are 75% less expensive than the brand counterparts yet identical in composition. But so many more of these generic drugs — 2,800 to be precise — are stuck in the "pipeline" because the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) lacks the resources to inspect the factories where they are made and approve their usage.

Today's drug supply chain is global in nature, and many of these medications include ingredients produced in foreign countries. But under current law, overseas facilities are not routinely visited by the FDA, delaying the approval process and slowing down the generic medicines introduced in the marketplace.

To break down these obstacles and ensure a safe and swift FDA process, I introduced the Generic Drug and Biosimilar User Fee Act (H.R. 3988). In addition to putting foreign factories under the same rigorous inspection regime as domestic plants, my bill establishes the first-ever generic drug user fee program so that generic drug companies — not taxpayers or consumers— bear the \$300 million annual cost of application review and foreign factory inspections.

My bill was approved by the House of Representatives as part of an FDA reform package in May and it is on track to be signed into law as soon as this summer. This will go a long way towards bringing down healthcare costs by lowering your pharmacy bills while ensuring your medications are of the highest quality.

As co-chair of the Doctors Caucus, I'm focused on healthcare reforms like the generic drug legislation because it will save lives and put money back into your pocket. For more information, visit my web site at [Murphy.House.Gov](http://Murphy.House.Gov). On a related note, I know many Medicare recipients find that the maze of plans and options to be quite challenging. Should you have any questions, please contact my office in Mt. Lebanon at 412-344-5583 or Greensburg at 724-850-7312.



## **Your Invite to FontanaFest!**

By: State Senator Wayne Fontana

If you have never attended FontanaFest before, then what are you waiting for? Mark your calendars now and plan to join me on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at South Side's Riverfront Park (bottom of 18<sup>th</sup> Street at the river) for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual event! Best of all, it's FREE!

I began this event shortly after my election as a way to celebrate our rivers and riverfront parks and to highlight all of the things that children and families can do on and near the rivers, and in our region, as a family. Our attendance over the past few years has exceeded 1,000 people, and we expect even more this September to enjoy activities on the river, music and entertainment, children's activities, games, prizes, crafts, food, drink, and fun.

This family-friendly event features dozens of community organizations from around the region who offer activities and provide information at their booths. Come out and see what these wonderful groups have to offer. You can get updates on participants and sponsors through the summer by logging onto [www.fontanafest.com](http://www.fontanafest.com). I hope to see you there!

Senator Wayne D. Fontana, 42<sup>nd</sup> Senatorial District

## **Western Pennsylvania's First Passive-Designed House for Sale here in Heidelberg**



*The New 1606 West Railroad Street*

Through a partnership between the Borough of Heidelberg, Allegheny County Department of Economic Development and Action Housing, there is a new single family home at 1606 West Railroad Street for sale. The house is being built in the lot across from Target Cleaners.

Designed by Thoughtful Balance Architects, this new 3-bedroom, 1-1/2 bath home includes all new appliances and a detached, two-car garage. Finishes include strand bamboo flooring, tile bathrooms, and carpeted bedrooms. The house is designed to meet Passive House building standards that will result in significant reductions in energy costs through excellent building envelope design which provides substantial insulation and elimination of leaks, passive solar gain and triple glazed windows. It is estimated that annual heating and cooling costs will be 80% less than a traditional home. ([www.passivehouse.us](http://www.passivehouse.us)) ([www.thoughtfulbalance.com](http://www.thoughtfulbalance.com))

Additional information about the project, including income eligibility guidelines, is available in the Borough office. Application forms are available by contacting Ron Ciotti at Action Housing at 412-281-2102 x2021 or [rciotti@actionhousing.org](mailto:rciotti@actionhousing.org). All applications will be reviewed and processed in the order in which they are received. The project also has its own Facebook page: "Passive House Prototype". Please "like-it" to receive status updates and to view photos of the progress being made on West Railroad Street.

## **EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER SEWAGE WILL BE BILLED SEPARATELY**

Effective this September, water users will receive a separate Heidelberg Borough Sewage Bill rather than the historic combined bill from Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC). This action was initiated by PAWC's desire to get out of the third party billing business, and subsequently this meant Heidelberg as well as 54 other municipalities in Pennsylvania have to find another way to collect this much needed sewer system operating revenue.

The Borough Council and Mayor decided to contract sewer billing services with Diversified Technology, a Bloomsburg based company that has many years of experience dealing with municipal billing programs. Diversified will calculate each account's bill based on PAWC water usage, print and mail the bills and collect current sewage accounts; similar to the current manner done by PAWC for the Borough. Delinquent sewage and customer service issues will still be managed in house by Borough staff.

The sewer rates and charges will remain unchanged throughout the fiscal year. We encourage everyone to pay special attention to their August PAWC bills as it will close out your sewer account before the information gets transferred to Diversified for September's collection. It is planned that the only inconvenience to the customers is that come September you will get a separate bill from the Borough of Heidelberg for sewage. More information is to come as we get closer to the transition date.

## **Heidelberg's Marathon Runner**

By: Councilman Bob DeBar

The Borough Council and Mayor would like to recognize Heidelberg resident, Carey Anne Zucca for finishing the 2012 Pittsburgh Marathon. Carey completed the 26.2 mile course that spanned majority of Pittsburgh's neighborhoods on May 6<sup>th</sup> with a time of 4 hours, 33 minutes, and 56 seconds.



Congrats Carey!