

Borough of

AMBLER

HOMETOWN NEWS

www.boroughofambler.com

FALL/WINTER 2014-15



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Dear Residents & Friends:

This past decade has seen our community reinvent itself as an attractive and charming place for families to live and for businesses to operate. Our success has been achieved by preserving and enhancing the valuable heritage of Ambler Borough.

This fall, we undertake the improvement of available public parking with repaving of the Lindenwold & Race Lot. We will begin renovation of the new Ambler Borough Municipal Building. Our efforts will ensure that Ambler continues to flourish as a small town with an abundance of wonderful benefits.

As fall & winter approach, we are delivering the latest issue of Hometown News. This publication is distributed twice yearly to provide residents with articles of interest and other relevant information. If there are other regular features you would like to see, please let me know.

Mary Aversa
Borough Manager



Main Street, Ambler – about 1940

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- Selected through client evaluation, as a Five Star Real Estate Agent in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, as seen in the Philadelphia Magazine.
- Member of BHHS Fox & Roach Technology Advisory Council.
- ABR (Accredited Buyer's Representative), GREEN, CNE (Certified Negotiation Expert).
- President of Ambler Main Street and enthusiastic volunteer responsible for organizing the Ambler Farmers' Market, Restaurant Week, and the Arts Festival.



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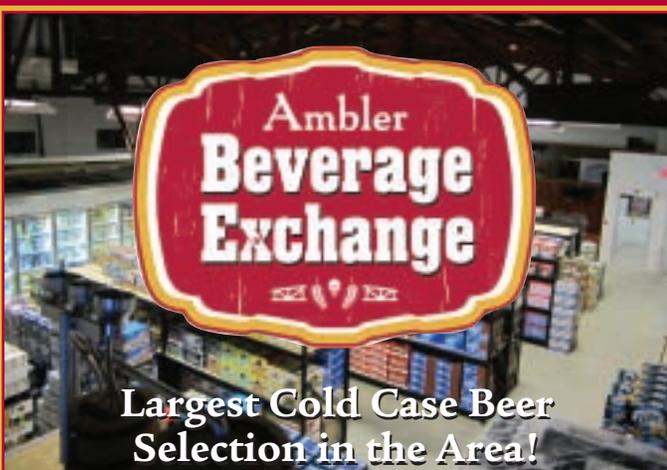
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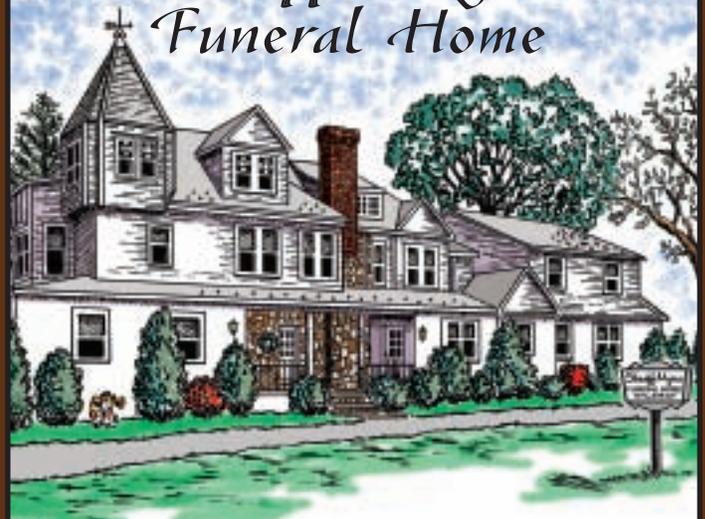
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ENVIRONMENTAL CORNER

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT –

Jim Dougherty, Gilmore & Associates

Storm Water – Good Housekeeping: Many Ambler residents and business owners may be aware that rain that drains from your roofs and runs off from your properties eventually makes its way to the Wissahickon Creek. The Tannery Run and Rose Valley and Stuart Farm Creeks are all tributary to the Wissahickon Creek. Runoff travels overland, and through pipes and channels to the streams and creeks.



As one can imagine a good deal of water falls on Ambler each year. In fact, as of the end of July almost 3 feet of precipitation has occurred in Ambler in 2014. That sounds like a lot but it is about average for the Borough. I'm sure everyone who witnessed some of the larger rain storms over the past year will not argue that runoff from a large storm can cause a great deal of damage and wash a lot of sediment, dirt, branches, trees and other debris in the storm drains and streams. While the effect of runoff is easily observed during heavy storms, the effects from light rainfall are equally important. Even a light rain washes dirt, oil and other surface pollutants into the streams. This is great for keeping the street clean but is a major problem for the Borough's creeks. All the dirt, oil, lawn fertilizer, road salt, leaves, grass clipping, pet waste, etc. that washes away with even a light rain ends up as pollution in the Wissahickon.

"Good housekeeping" can help minimize the amount of pollution that enters the Borough's creeks and streams. The Borough helps by regularly sweeping streets, cleaning leaves and trash from storm

inlets, providing trash cans for proper waste disposal throughout town, maintaining Borough vehicles and equipment and maintaining the Borough parks. Everyone in Ambler is responsible for keeping our water clean. There are many simple "housekeeping" items property and business owners can do to help with this effort. Some of these include the following:

- keeping properties clean,
- properly storing motor oil, paint, and household chemicals and cleaners,
- preventing oil, paint, chemicals, soap and wash water from entering the storm drains,
- limiting use of fertilizers,
- cleaning up after pets,
- installing rain barrels to collect roof runoff, and
- disposing of yard waste properly.

With cooperation and effort from everyone we can help keep Ambler's water clean. If you would like more information, Borough Staff and the Ambler Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) are great resources. The Borough website is a valuable resource (www.boroughofambler.com). A link to additional information regarding the Municipal Storm Water Management Program can be found under the "Other Web Resources" section of the website. All Ambler residents and businesses owners are encouraged to review this information and to help in Borough efforts to keep our water clean.

STORMWATER SENTRIES

STORMWATER SENTRIES, on Facebook: The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay has released an online stormwater game on Facebook entitled "Stormwater Sentries." The game promotes awareness of the environmental impact from stormwater runoff into nearby streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. Players take on challenges, complete missions, earn money and work to create a sustainable town designed to reduce stormwater runoff. The game is a fun and engaging experience that educates users on how to make wiser environmental decisions that improve water quality.

Check it out at <https://apps.facebook.com/stormwatersentries/>



continued on page 3



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E-mail:
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Turning Leaves, Grass Clippings & Kitchen Scraps into Soil



Turning Leaves, Grass Clippings & Kitchen Scraps into Soil.... Want to make rich soil for your vegetable garden while doing another small part for the environment? If so, come learn how to compost! The Ambler Environment Advisory Council is sponsoring a composting seminar, to be held on October 8th at Borough Hall, 122 E. Butler Ave, Ambler. The seminar will begin at 7:00 p.m. right after the regular monthly EAC meeting. Guest speaker, Diane Diffendiffer, will discuss how to get started, different kinds of composting, what can (and cannot) be composted, and more. All are invited.

- \$10 suggested donation. Each attendee will receive a "How to Compost Manual"
- The EAC will raffle one free Earth Machine Compost Bin
- Any attendees may cost-share with the EAC to purchase an Earth Machine Compost Bin for \$25. The bin can be transported home in a car. Seminar pre-registration required.
- RSVP: amblereac@gmail.com

BATTERIES AND BULBS CAMPAIGN WRAP-UP:

The Ambler EAC sponsored a battery and CFL bulb recycling campaign during the month of May. Over 75 pounds of used batteries and another 25 pounds of used bulbs were collected at Borough Hall, taken to proper recycling locations and subsequently recycled. This included several tubular bulbs and rechargeable batteries. Thanks to all who contributed!



PET WASTE AND WATER QUALITY

Cleaning up after your pet can be as simple as taking a plastic bag or pooper scooper along on your next walk. What should you do with the waste you pick up? No solution is perfect, but here are two recommendations: **Flush it down the toilet.** The water in your toilet goes to a sewage treatment plant that removes most pollutants before the water reaches a river or stream. To prevent plumbing problems, don't flush debris or litter or cat litter. Cat feces may be flushed but used litter should be put in a securely closed bag in the trash. **Put it in the trash.** This is probably the easiest but may not be the best solution. Put waste in a securely closed bag and deposit in trash. Because pet waste may carry diseases, you should not bury it or put it in a vegetable garden. Do not put wastes in a compost pile. The pile won't get hot enough to kill disease organisms in the waste.



Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County ReStore



ReStore: Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County ReStore sells new and used building materials to the public at discounted prices. You can shop the ReStore or donate your cabinets and extra tiles when you remodel. Shoppers find appliances, furniture, lighting, flooring, cabinets, tile, carpet, lumber, doors, and more—all in 8,000 sq. ft. of retail space. ReStore collects new and used building materials and remodeling supplies from corporate, individual and small-business donors. These items are kept out of the waste stream and put to new use, saving landfill space and disposal fees. All ReStore proceeds support the construction of more Habitat homes in Montgomery County. ReStore is located at 533 Foundry Road, West Norriton, PA. ReStore 610-631-3149. Office 610-278-7710.

ReStore Benefits for Donors:

- Saves on disposal fees
- Provides a tax-deduction for the donation of usable building supplies

Benefits for the Community:

- Conserves landfill space
- Reduces the cost of home remodeling and repairs
- Provides more low-income housing



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RAIN GARDENS OF AMBLER

Progress Report



More than fifteen homeowners have voluntarily cooperated with the Borough and its Ambler Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) to install rain gardens on their properties in the past two years. The Borough is gratified that these homeowners are doing their part to decrease downstream erosion, pollution and flooding. The homeowners are pleased to have an added landscape feature that is equally attractive to their neighbors and to birds and butterflies.

Rain gardens are designed to capture the first inch of rain that falls on roofs or driveways, and hold it for a day, or two at the most, to allow it to infiltrate instead of running off. A selected list of long-rooted native plants are planted to help with the infiltration process.

Fifteen homes registered their gardens with Rain Gardens for the Bays and each can display a moderately small sign. Ambler's gardens range in size from 20 sq. ft. to 525 sq. ft. In combination, they will hold back more than a million and a half gallons of water every year!



The initial two-year phase of the project where the Ambler EAC provided both technical assistance guidance to homeowners and coordinated the volunteer labor is being replaced with an assisted Do-It-Yourself model. Energetic youths from two Wissahickon High School community service organizations, the Key Club and Interact Club, have provided most of the labor to dig, mulch and plant during this phase.

Starting this Fall, new homeowners who are interested in having a rain garden will continue to get free plants, soil, mulch and guidance, but will need to build it themselves, organize their own volunteer team, or hire landscapers to install the gardens. Rain Gardens are an appropriate project for Eagle Scout candidates. Resource lists and a How To Manual will be available along with continued guidance and technical assistance upon request to amblereac@gmail.com.

PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES



STAY SAFE DURING AN OUTAGE: Advice from PECO

What to do when the lights go out - Key steps to take...

- Check the fuse or circuit breaker box to see if a fuse tripped inside the home.
- Check with the neighbors to see if their power is out.
- Call PECO at 1-800-841-4141 as soon as possible. Outages can also be reported on-line.
- Be sure to request a customer service representative if you can describe damage that has occurred, such as a downed pole or wires, etc.
- Once the cause of the outage is known, PECO will do our best to provide you with updates on power restoration and when you can expect service to be restored. In most cases, outages are restored in less than two hours, longer during storms.
- Turn off and unplug most appliances to prevent an electrical overload when power is restored, and keep a couple of lights on so you'll know when service is back.
- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible.



Resist the urge to frequently check on foods. Move meats, cheese, milk etc. into the freezer compartment since it will stay colder longer. If the freezer is partially full, it can keep meat frozen for up to 24 hours and up to 48 hours when full. Fill the freezer and refrigerator with bottles filled with water to occupy more space. Wrap the refrigerator/freezer in a blanket to keep it insulated and preserve foods longer.

• Dry ice, available at some retail stores, can be used to preserve frozen foods for longer than 24 hours but presents safety concerns. Dry ice is hazardous material and must be handled with care because it can cause severe burns. Food that directly touches dry ice can get freezer burns. Dry ice should not be used in a smaller cooler with food or medicines that are needed and could become frozen.

• PECO will not supply dry ice during weather-related events, so that the company can focus its resources on power restoration activities.

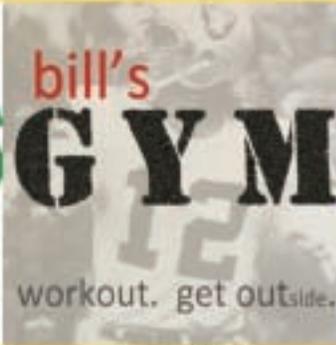
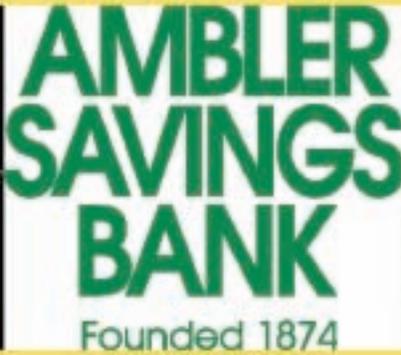
During colder weather...

- Turn off all appliances including your furnace, water heater and water pump.

• If the indoor temperature drops to 55 degrees Fahrenheit or below, open your faucets slightly so that they constantly drip to prevent pipes from freezing.

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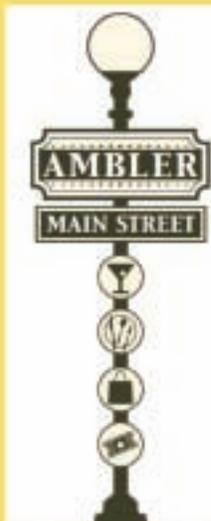
Thank you to our wonderful Ambler Main Street members!



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 Berne Siergiej, Esq.
 Massa
 Preventadent Associates, Inc.
 State Farm - Jeff Boyer
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 Urban Funeral Home
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 Costa Deli
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 Civarelli Family Funeral Home
 El Jefe
 Jackets n' Things

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 Jude Organic Salon
 Manely For You Beauty Salon
 Edward Jones Investments



Visit the business directory at AmblerMainStreet.org for detailed information on each of these fabulous businesses!

Ambler Main Street is able to bring you wonderful events due to the support of our business members and also by generous donations from members of the community, folks who attend and enjoy the events, like you! Please show your support and consider a donation to Ambler Main Street today!

www.DonateAMS.org

PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES... *continued from page 4*

- During the day, open your blinds to allow sun to warm the space.
- At night, cover your windows with drapes or blankets to minimize heat loss.
- If you have a fireplace, never use gasoline or other flammable liquids to start or quicken a fire. Always keep a screen around an open flame, and don't close the damper while ashes are still hot.
- Never use a gas range for room heating. This can be dangerous. Seek shelter at a warming center, friend or family if home temperatures fall too low.
- Wear extra layers of clothing and a hat to prevent the loss of body heat.



Safe use of generators...

- Don't connect your generator directly to your home's wiring. Connecting a portable electric generator directly to your household wiring can be deadly to you and others. A generator that is directly connected to your home's wiring can "backfeed" onto the power lines connected to your home. Utility transformers can then "step-up" or increase this backfeed to thousands of volts - enough to kill a utility lineman making outage repairs a long way from your house.
- Never use a generator indoors or in an attached garage. Just like your automobile, a portable generator uses an internal combustion engine that emits deadly carbon monoxide. Be sure to place the generator where exhaust fumes will not enter the house. Only operate it outdoors in a well-ventilated, dry area, away from air intakes to the home, and protected from direct exposure to rain and snow, preferably under a canopy, open shed or carport.
- Never plug a portable electric generator into a regular household



outlet. Plugging a generator into a regular household outlet can energize "dead" power lines and injure neighbors or utility workers.

- Don't overload the generator. Do not operate more appliances and equipment than the output rating of the generator. Overloading your generator can seriously damage your valuable appliances and electronics.
- Use the proper power cords. Plug individual appliances into the generator using heavy-duty, outdoor-rated cords with a wire gauge adequate for the appliance load. Overloaded cords can cause fires or equipment damage. Don't use extension cords with exposed wires or worn shielding.
- Read and adhere to the manufacturer's instructions for safe operation. Don't cut corners when it comes to safety. Carefully read and observe all instructions in your portable electric generator's owner manual.
- Turn off all equipment powered by the generator before shutting down your generator.

When power is restored...

- Wait a few minutes and plug appliances back in one at a time.
- Make a list of items you wish you had
- and restock for the next emergency.

WISSAHICKON FIRE COMPANY



245 E. Race Street

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Chief John Leadbeater • www.Station7.org

REMEMBER: EMERGENCY DIAL 9-1-1 • NON-EMERGENCY DIAL 215-646-1266



The Wissahickon Fire Company protects the residents of Ambler Borough and Lower Gwynedd Township operating out of two fire stations with an all volunteer department. In the first 6 months of 2014, the fire company responded to 363 fire and rescue emergencies. With the dedication of 80 volunteers, our communities are assured the best protection available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

EMERGENCY DIAL 9-1-1

Smoke detectors can make a life-saving difference in a fire, but they



need to be working. Unfortunately, many home fire deaths result from fires where a smoke alarm is present but does not operate. This year's Fire Prevention Week theme focuses on motivating people to test their smoke alarms each month to make sure they're working properly.

Water rescue emergencies in our area are on the rise and every citizen must remember to stay clear of moving water during and after a storm. Only six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. Do not drive onto a flooded street as you do not know how deep the water may be or if the roadway is washed away. Be safe and develop a storm evacuation plan with your family.

NOTES FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT - Chief William Foley

BURGLARY – UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM:

While some burglars are professionals, the average homeowner will most often be dealing with amateurs such as teenagers, pranksters and drug addicts – people in need of quick cash.

Burglars select their targets carefully, looking for homes and apartments that they can enter and leave quickly while avoiding detection. If, when looking at your residence, a burglar sees that it is well-lit, has a security system and solid doors with good quality deadbolt locks, your home will be uninviting to the burglar and will help reduce its chances of being burglarized.

After determining the target, the average burglar spends just a few minutes burglarizing it. Open invitations to a burglar include:



- Unlocked windows
- Unkempt or unmowed lawn
- Garage door left open
- Patio door open or unlocked
- Mail and newspaper deliveries not cancelled when away
- Obstructed views which allow for hiding

Make sure your home doesn't attract burglars! You can reduce the chances of burglary. Learn more about home protection and use common sense.

NOTES FROM COMMUNITY AMBULANCE

1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler • 215.643.6517 • www.amblerambulance.org

Executive Director David L. Fleming



CAAAA has served Ambler Borough and Lower Gwynedd & Upper Dublin Townships since 1941. We respond to over 3,000 medical emergencies each year, including 534 dispatched calls in 2013 for Ambler Borough.

We have four ambulances, each equipped with state-of-the-art emergency equipment. Each ambulance is staffed with at least one Paramedic and one Emergency Medical Technician. The average cost of emergency ambulance service is \$800-\$1,200, with the cost varying for basic or advanced life support.

We will **need to replace one of our ambulances this year**. New ambulances cost approximately \$156,000 each, and totally equipping them can often double that figure. We must constantly replace and/or upgrade equipment on our ambulances in order to meet our mission of "providing excellence in pre-hospital care." We thank the citizens of Ambler for their continued and generous support. Please contact us at 215.643.6517, visit us at www.amblerambulance.org or like us on Facebook.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Wissahickon Valley Public Library Ambler Branch

209 Race Street, Ambler. Mon-Thur 10 am – 9 pm & Fri-Sat 10 am – 5 pm.

Miss Michelle's Guitar Story Time – Tues. @ 10:30 AM & Thurs. @ 4:30 PM

Art with Benita – 2nd Sat. @ 10:30 AM (Preschool)

Art with Laura – 4th Sat. @ 10:30 AM (all ages)

Beading – 1st & 3rd Mon. @ 1 PM

Movies with Meaning – 1st Mon. @ 6:30 PM

Blood Pressure Screening – Wed. Nov. 12, 10-11 AM

Book Discussions – 2nd Thurs. @ 1:30 PM

Oct. 9 – *The Last Letter from Your Lover* – Jo Jo Moyes

Nov. 13 – *Summerland* – Elin Hilderbrand

Dec. 11 – *The House Girl* – Tara Conklin

Jan. 8 – *The Light in the Ruins* – Chris Bohjalian

Feb. 12 – *Fin and Lady* – Cathleen Schine

Mar. 12 – *Me Before You* – Jo Jo Moyes

Tea & Scones Series

XVIII – Refreshments

@ 6:30, Program @ 7:00

Tues. Sept. 30 – William Penn & the Holy Experiment – The Founding of Pennsylvania

Tues. Oct. 14 – An Evening with Mark Twain

Tues. Nov. 11 – What is the Statue Wearing? A History of Medieval Dress

Tues. Nov. 18 – Elegance in an Age of Crisis: Fashions of the 30's

Tues. Dec. 9 – A Trip to Oxford, Bath, and the Cotswold's

Call the Ambler Branch or stop by to register for programs: 215-643-7775. Please visit us at www.wvpl.org.



IN OUR COMMUNITY

MATTIE DIXON COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

Christine Bouley, Executive Director

150 N. Main St., Ambler • 215-628-3002 • www.community-cupboard.org

The Community Cupboard has been busy expanding and improving our facility. Our food program has been upgraded to provide healthy options and fresh produce from the community. We are able to provide more resources than ever to an ever growing low-income population in our area. We have also been doing more outreach and hosting events to spread the word about our services and to raise needed money for our programs and to meet client needs.

We recently expanded into Upper Dublin Township with the re-opening of the North Hills Food Cupboard, renamed the “Mattie N. Dixon North Hills Cupboard” in July. This cupboard is operated with the help of all volunteers from Jarretstown United Methodist Church in Upper Dublin. It is an exciting endeavor with the potential for more community connections and partnerships in the Upper Dublin community.

In June we hosted our first-ever Car Wash in our parking lot. Mercedes of Ft. Washington generously contributed money to cover the cost of all needed car wash supplies. Over \$650 was raised in a 3 hour period. There were parents and kids from our community that worked very hard scrubbing and rinsing cars for a very worthy cause. We also had an Alex’s Lemonade Stand for the little kids to work, which raised money to help wipe out childhood cancer. We hope to have another car wash in the future and hope for a great turnout!



No matter what holiday we celebrate, it is always important to remember the importance of “giving back”. The Cupboard provides meal packages for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter and needs the help of volunteers to make these programs a success. We are also preparing for our Holiday Gift Drive, which takes place from mid-October through Christmas. Gifts are distributed to clients in late December. In the past we have provided over 130 clients with gifts, stocking stuffers and wrapping supplies to make the holidays more festive. We are looking for volunteers, churches and businesses to “adopt a family”. This amazing program couldn’t be done without the generosity of our community. If you’d like to adopt a family or donate toys, clothes, wrapping supplies or be of help in any way, please email us at info@community-cupboard.org. All donations are tax deductible.

The Community Cupboard is so grateful for all of our supporters and are excited to foster new relationships. If you, your child’s school or other organization would like to find ways to help families in need, we are happy to provide you with a list of needed items. If preferred we can provide a guest speaker and guidance to educate the group about what we do. Don’t forget to visit our website for updates on needed supplies and upcoming community events. Please visit www.community-cupboard.org to see what is going on at the Cupboard and how your and your organization can help. You may also call 215-628-3002 and ask for Christine Bouley, Executive Director.

SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITIES CENTER (SAAC)

45 Forest Avenue, Ambler • 215-619-8863 • www.montcosaac.com

Mayor of Ambler, Jeanne Sorg, stopped by the local Meals On Wheels center over the summer to help Paula Mayewski, Meals On Wheels Supervisor, pack the coolers going out to homes of home bound Seniors. The local Meals On Wheels program services much of Eastern Montgomery County through distribution centers in Ambler, Glenside and Norristown. From these sites, Meals On Wheels delivers over 160,000 meals each year to people in the surrounding communities, including Abington, East and West Norriton, Hatboro, Horsham, Huntington Valley, Jenkintown, Lower Gwynedd, a portion of Lower Providence Township, Springfield, Upper Dublin, Upper Moreland, and Whitpain. With the food comes a wellness check to be sure that the senior is not in a compromised situation. Plus, the older adult can look forward to a friendly face, saying hello every weekday.



Wheels Supervisor
215-619-8663.

The AARP finds that nearly 9 million Americans 50+ are at risk for hunger every day. “I’m a big advocate of people being able to stay in their homes,” said Sorg. “I know people generally are happier when they can, and it’s good for the taxpayers too. So this program is a win-win.”

To benefit to the Meals On Wheels program, the 4th Annual Outrunning Senior Hunger 5k Run / 3k Walk was held September 20th at Montgomery County Community College. MontcoSAAC is a 501©3 organization and donations are tax deductible. For more information on how you can volunteer with the MOW program in the communities listed above, contact Paula Mayewski, Meals On

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AMBLER CHORAL SOCIETY

The Ambler Choral Society season includes two concerts each year, a holiday and spring concert along with various public charitable appearances. Selections include classical pieces, musical theater and Americana favorites. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings from September through April, excluding December. Anyone wishing to join may contact the choir at www.amblerchoralsociety.org or Ambler Choral Society, PO Box 134, Ambler, PA 19002. Mark Daugherty, Artistic Director.



This season's Winter Concert, *Prelude to the Holidays*, will be presented on November 30, 2014 at 3:00PM at Church of the Open Door, 1260 Fort Washington Avenue, Fort Washington, PA. The program will feature Barber's *Adagio*, Mozart's *Veperae Solemnes de Dominica*, other seasonal favorites, songs for Hanukkah and more. As always, there will be a sing-along of Christmas Carols and the *Hallelujah Chorus*. Tickets are \$15.00/adult - \$5.00/children under 13 and may be purchased at the door.

AMBLER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Ambler Symphony Orchestra is already busy preparing for our 64th Season of Music. Our first concert is **November 14th** (7:30 pm) at **Wissahickon High School**. This concert will feature Violinist Madison Marcucci performing Mendelssohn's *Concerto in E minor* with the Orchestra.

December is always a busy month with numerous community events including our traditional Holiday Sing-A-Long & Movie to be held at the **Ambler Theatre** on **December 10th**. Please mark your calendars now for our Children's Concert at the **Ambler Theatre** on **January 17th**. After the great reception for this event last year, we have decided to have a repeat performance, introducing the youth in our community to the orchestra instrumentation and music.

We will be present at **Oktoberfest** in Ambler and you might even see us at the **Ambler Farmer's Market** one Saturday! For more details, to join our mailing list, view our full schedule, make season ticket purchases or for information on joining the Orchestra, please visit us at www.amblersymphony.org.



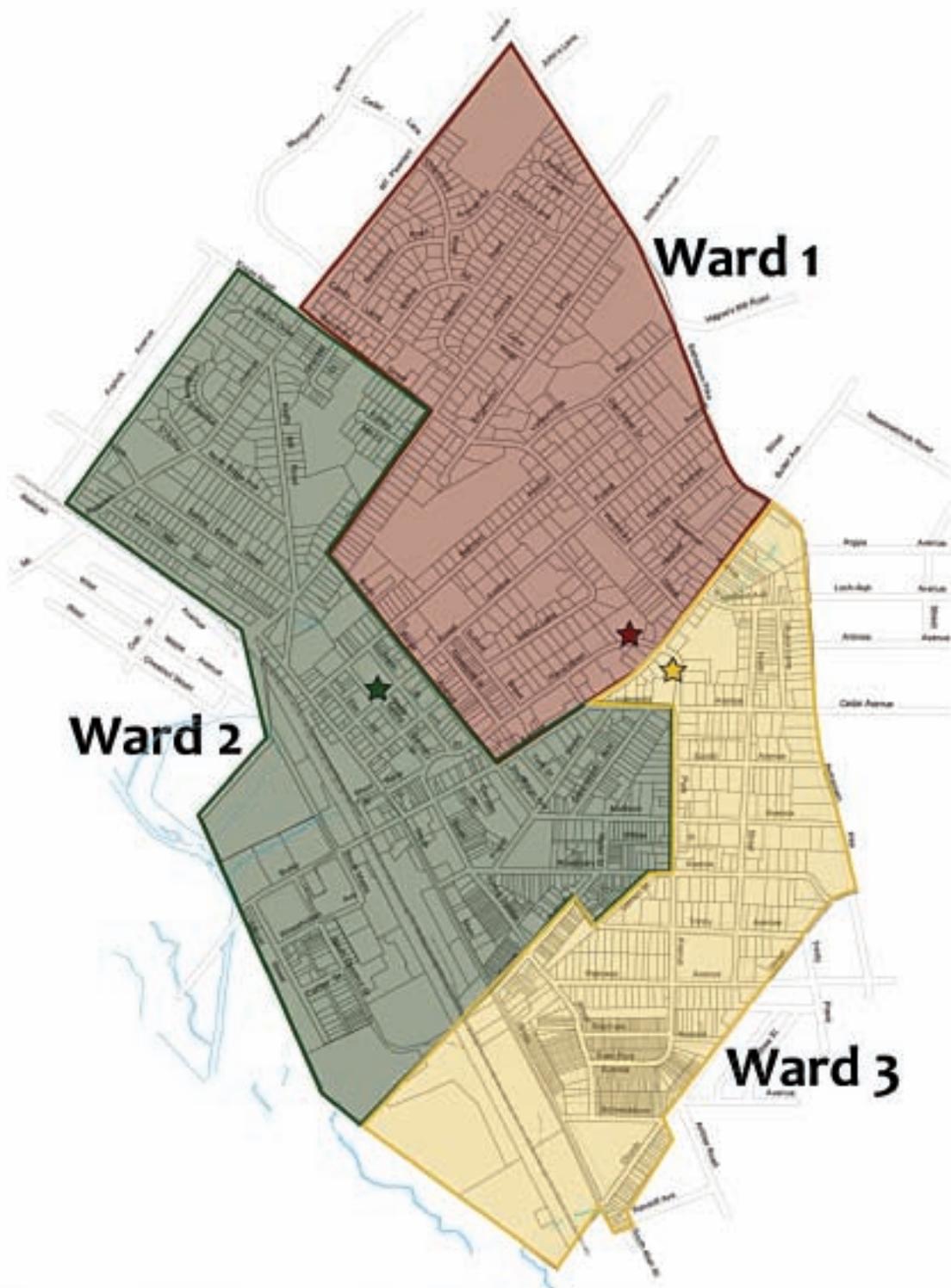
AMBLER FARMER'S MARKET

Market is open through October – Every Saturday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

SEPTA Parking Lot

Butler Avenue & Maple Street

AmblerFarmersMarket.com • facebook.com/AmblerFarmersMarket



POLLS – Ambler Borough Voting Locations

Ward 1 – Wissahickon Fire Company, 45 Race Street

Ward 2 – SAAC Center, 45 Forest Avenue

Ward 3 – Calvary Methodist Church, 16 East Park Avenue

BOROUGH DEPARTMENT NEWS

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS – Philip Benigno, Water Supervisor

SAVING WATER, ONE DRIP AT A TIME:

For most of us, where we live is where we consume the most water. To care for our basic living needs, we each use about 80-100 gallons of water each day. Because many of us pay for our water, cutting down on our usage not only saves the resource, it saves us money. When it comes to conserving water, small adjustments can have a big impact. Countless resources — from products to simple ideas — can help you use less water. Does your toilet leak? A simple dye test can perhaps save up to 1,000 gallons a month. If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model. More than 100 ways to save water are found on the Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources “Water Use It Wisely” webpage at <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to- conserve/>.

USGS WATER SCIENCE SCHOOL:

How much water does it take to grow a head of lettuce, or to ‘grow a hamburger?’ When the creek behind your house floods, how is the

amount of water flowing measured? Do you want to review the water cycle in 6 languages? For answers to these and other questions, check out the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Water Science School website <http://water.usgs.gov/droplet/>.

WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS:

Every year the Water Department publishes its Annual Drinking Water Quality Report designed to inform customers about the quality of the water we deliver to you each day. The 2013 Consumer Confidence Report is available on the Borough’s website.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION FOR WATER ISSUES:

In the event of a water quality emergency we need to get in touch with our customers. We do this through our phone dial notification system Swift911®. Please maintain updated contact information by visiting their icon located on the Borough’s website homepage or simply call the Borough or send an email to erussell@borough.ambler.pa.us.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

On-line credit card and E-check payments are now accepted for payment of water bills. Visit the Borough’s homepage at www.boroughofambler.com and click on “Pay Your Water Bill”. A convenience fee will be charged to customers using credit cards. Or, you may pay in person with personal check, cash or credit card (no debit cards requiring pin number). You may drop off water payments (checks only) in the 24/7 Water Payment Lock Box located on the left-hand side of York Street just a few feet beyond the Borough Hall parking lot.



WATER LINE PROTECTION PROGRAM

Ambler Borough now offers a lateral water line protection plan to our Ambler Borough Water residential customers.

Did you know that the pipe that carries water from the curb to your house is on your property – and the pipe is owned by you? If a leak or break in this line occurs you are responsible for the cost of the repair.

With coverage from the **Water Line Protection Plan**, if anything happens to your water service line from the point at which it crosses the outer vertical wall of the residence to the point at which it reaches the property boundary, we’ll take care of it. The Plan is offered to residential customers, specifically single family dwelling and residential properties with four or fewer units on the same water meter with 5/8” to 1” water service lines.

The cost is \$100 for a one year’s protection and covers repair or replace costs for up to **two repairs per year,**

\$3,500 per break maximum, capped at \$7,000 per year. The offering date is effective one month from enrollment in the plan with your verification/acceptance by Ambler Borough as a qualifying water customer. A one year contract will be issued upon your acceptance.

Water Line Protection Plan Application

Name: _____

Water Service Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Phone: _____ Check No. _____

Signature: _____

Mail completed application with check for \$100 payable to “Ambler Borough” to:

Ambler Borough
Attn: Water Line Protection Plan
122 E. Butler Avenue, Ambler PA 19002

CODE ENFORCEMENT NEWS – Ron Myers, Sr., Code Officer

CLEAR WALKWAYS OF SNOW AND ICE:

Be sure to clear sidewalks of snow and ice within 24 hours after snow stops. Please clear fire hydrants and street corners. Do not blow snow into the streets.

RESIDENTIAL RESALE REQUIREMENTS:

Owners of properties being sold must submit a letter to the Borough prior to resale stating the following items have been installed: **U-L Approved Smoke Detectors** are located one on each level and one in each bedroom (battery-operated detectors are allowed in single family dwellings only); **water backflow preventor** is installed on the public water service; carbon monoxide detector is installed in the basement near the heater. Additionally, **house numbers** at least three inches tall must be visible from the street. No U&O permit is needed, no fees are assessed and no walk-thru is required.



PUBLIC WORKS NEWS – Bob Rocco, Public Works Supervisor

STREET SWEEPING – Street sweeping will end for the season on Friday, December 5th

HOLIDAY TREES – Holiday trees will be collected Tuesday, January 13th. Place tree curbside. Do not wrap tree in plastic. Trees will be collected along with other yard waste during this regularly- scheduled monthly pickup.

TRAFFIC & STREET LIGHT OUTAGES – If you notice a traffic light or streetlight out in the Borough, please contact the Borough's receptionist, Tara Jones, at 215-646-1000 ext. '0' or send an email to receptionist@borough.ambler.pa.us. For streetlight outages try to obtain the pole number. This helps us to more quickly relay the information to schedule a repair.

HOURS OF OPERATION – 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Answering machine: 215-628-9409. You may contact the Borough Garage or the Borough Receptionist to report a pothole, broken playground equipment or damaged signage.



LET'S TALK SCHOOL TAXES...

The school tax bill is sent out July 1st and as usual tax payers are given two months to pay the bill and receive a 2% discount and then two more months to pay at the face/flat rate. After October 31st you will be charged a 10% penalty.

If you look at your school tax bill you will see the words "Homestead Reduction". This is a reduction paid by the State through gaming revenues to the School Districts to reduce the school tax. Every homeowner who owns and lives in their primary residence is offered this reduction but you must apply for it. If you look at your school tax bill and do not see a Homestead reduction, please go to the Montgomery County Document Center site at <http://www.montcopa.org/DocumentCenter/View/1162>, download the form and send it in. You only have to do it once to save hundreds of dollars annually! This year the reduction was for \$310.50.

Also on your school tax bill you will see three coupons on the bottom. Again in order to try and help folks pay the school tax, you are offered the option of paying in three installments. If you choose this option you return coupon 1 by July 31st, coupon 2 by September 15th and coupon 3 by October 31. The total amount that you pay through the coupon option totals the face/flat amount of your bill. If you decide to pay by coupons you must start with coupon 1. You cannot decide after July 31st that you want to use the coupons. And if you are late in paying the coupon payments you will be charged a 10% penalty. Think long and hard before choosing this option. You must be disciplined to remember to pay three payments on time.

If you are using online banking to send a tax payment please make sure your property's parcel identification number is included somewhere on your payment description. That number is located in the upper right hand corner of your tax bill and begins with the numbers 01-00-.

And the last thing is concerning the PA Property Tax Rebate Program. Basically if you are 65 or older (or 18 or older and disabled) earn less than \$35,000 a year and are paying rent or paying property taxes you may be eligible for a \$250 or more rebate from the State. Check out... http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/property_tax___rent_rebate_program/11410 or call 1-888-222-9190.

Any questions or concerns with regard to your property taxes please feel free to call me at 215-643-3255.

Bernadette Dougherty
Your Property Tax Collector



RESIDENTIAL TRASH, RECYCLING & YARD WASTE

COLLECTION SCHEDULE 2014-2015

September 2014						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	H	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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28	29	30				

October						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
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30						

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March						
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29	30	31				

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May						
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31						

June						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

■ Trash
 ■ Recycle
 ■ Yard Waste
 ■ Holiday

REFUSE AND SOLID WASTE COLLECTION: All solid waste, recyclables & yard waste should be placed curb side no later than 6 A.M. the day of your scheduled pickup. Refuse/solid waste is to be placed in cans with lids provided by the resident. Litter and debris can attract unwanted pests. Also, litter and debris can clog storm drains. Keep trash and recyclables covered. **DO NOT LITTER.**

RECYCLABLES ♻️ COLLECTION: Recyclables are to be placed in the blue roll cart provided by the Borough. All recyclables can be mixed together and placed in this cart **NO SORTING NEEDED.** Recycle newspapers, inserts & junk mail, magazines, catalogs & envelopes, paper back books & phone books, cardboard & clean pizza boxes, office & school papers (colored paper), box board (cereal, cake & cracker boxes); paper egg cartons, paper bags, aluminum cans & clean foil; tin & empty steel aerosol cans, empty glass jars & bottles, and all plastic containers labeled #1-#7.

DO NOT PUT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN THIS CART: NO garbage, NO plastic bags, NO food waste, NO polystyrene cups or plates, NO motor oil or hazardous chemical containers, NO plastic toys or sporting goods, NO electronics or batteries, NO compact discs or DVDs, NO foam egg cartons or ice cream containers, NO light bulbs, hangers or yard waste.

BULK COLLECTION: One bulk item (mattress, desk, etc.) per household is permitted per week. **No Tires, No TVs or Computers.** Call J.P. Mascaro & Sons at 1-800-432-1616 for "white" item pickup. For items containing Freon (refrigerators, etc) visit Montgomery County's website www.montgomerycountymd.gov or 610-278-3618 for a list of companies that will remove Freon and dispose of the appliance for a fee. At no cost to you, call PECO Smart Ideas (1-888-573-2672) for collection of working frigs & freezers (10-30 cuft). Please note, resident must be on site at time of scheduled pick-up.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION: (Christmas trees in January) yard waste is to be stored on your property until scheduled pickup. Yard waste shall be placed in paper bags or unlined trash cans or may be bundled with twine. No plastic bags. Yard waste includes leaves, branches & branch materials, twig material, vine & hedge trimmings. No grass clippings. Residents may also bring yard waste to Barnside Farm Compost Facility, 430 Dieber Rd., Schwenksville, contact at 610-287-8880.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIALS & E-WASTE COLLECTION: WE DO NOT ACCEPT hazardous waste materials. **NO DUMPING ALLOWED.** Please refer to the Montgomery County's website, www.montgomerycountymd.gov for a list of hazardous waste and electronic waste collection sites and other County related recycling news.



OK TO BER FEST



Ambler Main Street Fall & Winter Events



Ambler Farmers' Market: Saturdays, 9am – 1pm, through the end of October.

Nov. 29th: Small Business Saturday

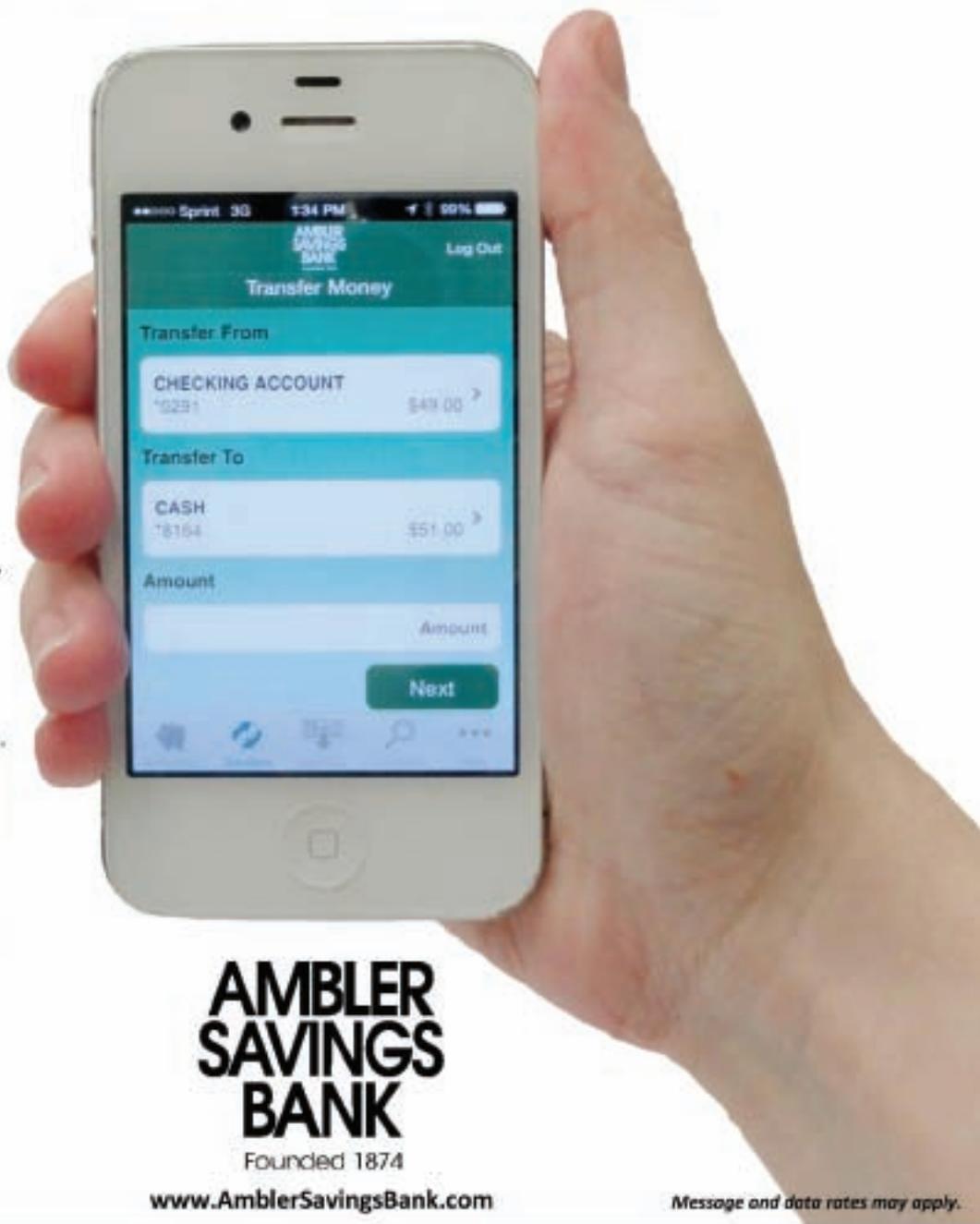
Dec 6th: Christmas Parade

January: Ambler Restaurant Week

AmblerMainStreet.org

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395 Main Street
610-287-8301

Limerick
438 W Ridge Pike
610-495-2265

Fairview Village
3009 W Germantown Pike
610-650-9517

 **FDIC**
NML54504403

Get Ahead of the Winter Freeze

It's not too early to begin preparing for the heating season. Check these 10 tips off your list and get ahead of the winter freeze.

- Our **furnace has been inspected and serviced** by a qualified professional during the last 12 months. *(A furnace should be serviced at least once a year.)*
- Our **chimneys and vents have been cleaned and inspected** by a qualified professional. I have checked for creosote build-up. *(Not cleaning your chimney is the leading cause of chimney fires from built up creosote. This service needs to be done at least once a year.)*
- Our wood for our fireplace or wood stove is **dry, seasoned wood**.
- Our **fireplace screen is metal or heat-tempered glass**, in good condition and secure in its position in front of the fireplace.
- We have a **covered metal container** ready to use to dispose cooled ashes. *(The ash container should be kept at least 10 feet from the home and any nearby buildings.)*
- Our children know to stay at least **3 feet away** from the fireplace, wood/pellet stove, oil stove or other space heaters.
- Our portable space heaters have an **automatic shut-off**.
- Our portable space heaters will be **plugged directly into an outlet** *(not an extension cord)* and placed at least three feet from anything that can burn; like bedding, paper, walls, and even people. *(Place notes throughout your home to remind you to turn-off portable heaters when you leave a room or go to bed.)*
- We have **tested our smoke alarms** and made sure they are working. *(You need a smoke alarm on every level of the home, inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area. For the best protection, the smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.)*
- We have **tested our carbon monoxide alarms** and made sure they are working. *(Carbon monoxide alarms should be located outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.)*



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Borough of Ambler Directory



Ambler Borough Hall
122 East Butler Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002-4476
215-646-1000 • Fax: Administration 215-641-1355 • Water 215-641-1921
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm (closed Federal holidays)
Website: www.boroughofambler.com

Mayor Jeanne Sorg [jsorg@borough.ambler.pa.us] • **Borough Manager Mary Aversa** [manager@borough.ambler.pa.us]

2014 AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL

WARD 1

Peter A. Amento, Vice President
 Nancy Deininger
 Sharon McCormick

WARD 2

Richard Palumbo
 Jonathon Sheward
 Claudio Zaccone

WARD 3

Ed Curtis
 Frank DeRuosi
 Salvatore Pasceri, President

2014 AMBLER COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Public Safety Committee:	Mr. Curtis (Chairperson), Mrs. McCormick & Mr. Sheward
Parks & Recreation Committee:	Mr. DeRuosi (Chairperson), Mrs. Deininger, Mr. Palumbo, Mrs. McCormick
Public Utilities Committee:	Mr. Amento (Chairperson), Mr. Zaccone & Mr. Curtis
Finance & Planning Committee:	Mr. Sheward (Chairperson), Mr. DeRuosi & Mrs. Deininger
Salary & Personnel Committee:	Mr. Zaccone (Chairperson), Mr. Amento, Mr. Curtis & Mr. Palumbo

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

1st Tuesday.....Borough Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm (November meeting Wed., Nov. 5) – Borough Hall
 1st Thursday.....Zoning Hearing Board (call for specific times) – Borough Hall
 2nd Wednesday.....Environmental Advisory Council – 7:00 pm - Borough Hall
 3rd Tuesday.....Borough Council Meeting – 7:00 pm – Borough Hall (except May meeting Wed., May 21)
 3rd Thursday.....Ambler Junior Baseball – 7:30 pm – Borough Hall
 4th Tuesday.....Planning Commission – 7:00 pm (except Nov/Dec held December 10) – Borough Hall
 Last Monday.....NAACP – 7:30 pm – Borough Hall
 Last Tuesday.....Ambler Main Street – 5:30 pm – Borough Hall

EMERGENCY NUMBERS – Police, Fire, Rescue, Ambulance 9 – 1 – 1

NON-EMERGENCY & DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Ambler Police (Chief William Foley) 215-646-1000 (8:00-4:30pm); 610-635-4304 after hours
 Wissahickon Fire Co. 215-635-4343 Fire Marshall Rick Lockhart 215-646-1000 ext 122
 Community Ambulance 610-635-4341
 Water Department Supervisor Philip Benigno 215-646-1000 x124 [pbenigno@borough.ambler.pa.us]
 Water Billing – 215-646-1000 (Cheryl x 110 or Ruth x 111) Water Emergency – 215-646-1000 follow prompts
 Waste Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Bruce Jones 215-628-9457 [bjones@borough.ambler.pa.us]
 Code Enforcement Officer Ron Myers 215-646-1000 ext 112 [rmyers@borough.ambler.pa.us]
 Public Works Supervisor Bob Rocco 215-628-9409 (leave message or call 215-646-1000 '0' Receptionist)
 Finance Manager Gail Gordon 215-646-1000 ext 107 [ggordon@borough.ambler.pa.us]
 Manager's Assistant Elizabeth Russell 215-646-1000 ext 114 [erussell@borough.ambler.pa.us]
 Borough Receptionist Tara Jones 215-646-1000 dial "0" [receptionist@borough.ambler.pa.us]

VOTER INFORMATION

Last Day to Register to Vote in November General Elections	October 6, 2014
Deadline to Request an Absentee Ballot	October 28, 2014
Deadline to Return Absentee Ballots	October 31, 2014
November General Election Day	November 4, 2014

Please see Ward Map on page 10 to determine where you will vote or go to www.montcopa.org/voterservices

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www.saintanthonyparish.org

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jeff.boyer.g1d3@statefarm.com

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 Fax: 215-628-3910
 Email: ebnersauto@juno.com

*"Come near to God and He will
 come near to you" James 4:8*

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- FREE Group Exercise Classes
- FREE Consultations with a Wellness Coach
- FREE Child Watch (Babysitting) Services
- And much more!



AMBLER AREA YMCA

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Ambler, PA 19002

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