



# INFORMER

NEWS FOR RESIDENTS OF HATFIELD BOROUGH

[www.hatfieldborough.com](http://www.hatfieldborough.com)

Winter 2010



## Firefighters Awarded "Citizens of the Year"



In recognition of their 100 years of outstanding, dedicated, and loyal service to Hatfield Borough and the entire Hatfield community, Hatfield Borough Council, along with Mayor Robert L Kaler III, awarded the Hatfield Volunteer Firefighters the "Citizens of the Year" Award for 2009. The award and Resolution No. 2009-33 was recently presented to Fire Chief Bob Kaler IV.

The Hatfield Volunteer Fire Company was first founded on March 10, 1910 by a group of concerned Hatfield citizens. Their first piece of fire-fighting apparatus was purchased for \$1000 in August of that year and since then, the fire company has made every effort to provide its volunteers with the latest state-of-the-art firefighting, rescue, and safety equipment.

They will be celebrating their 100th anniversary in June 2010 with special events, a photo history book, and a parade tentatively scheduled. Check their website and signs outside the fire stations for information on upcoming events. [www.hatfieldfire.com](http://www.hatfieldfire.com)

### BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOHN H. WEIERMAN,  
PRESIDENT

KENNETH V. FARRALL,  
VICE PRESIDENT

LAWRENCE G. STEVENS

BRYAN MOYER

JOHN KROESSER

ROBERT KALER III,  
MAYOR

MICHAEL J. DEFINIS  
Borough Manager/Secretary  
[mdefinis@hatfieldborough.com](mailto:mdefinis@hatfieldborough.com)

LINDA L. WATTS,  
Assistant Secretary  
[lwatts@hatfieldborough.com](mailto:lwatts@hatfieldborough.com)

DIANE A. FARRALL,  
Borough Treasurer  
[dfarrall@hatfieldborough.com](mailto:dfarrall@hatfieldborough.com)

CHRISTINE A CALHOUN,  
Public Information Coordinator  
[ccalhoun@hatfieldborough.com](mailto:ccalhoun@hatfieldborough.com)

## New Banking Service

### ATTENTION RESIDENTS & BUSINESS OWNERS:

Hatfield Borough will no longer be using Harleysville National Bank as of January 1, 2010. The Borough has retained TD Bank for its banking services.

If you pay your electric and/or sewer bill in person, continue paying at:

Hatfield Borough Office  
401 S. Main Street  
Hatfield, PA 19440

If you pay your electric and/or sewer bill by mail, continue sending it to:

Borough of Hatfield  
PO Box 190  
Hatfield, PA 19440

If you pay your bill at the bank, please pay at:

TD Bank  
Cowpath and Orvilla Roads  
Hatfield, PA 19440

Should you have any questions concerning your payments, please do not hesitate to contact the Borough office at (215) 855-0781.

## 2010 Budget Highlights

Borough Council passed the 2010 Budget at their Regular Council Meeting held December 16, 2009. There will be no increases to the Borough's electric and sewer rates for the new year. The commitment to Economic Revitalization of the Borough will continue with staff searching for County, State and Federal grant opportunities and/or appropriations.

Council also asked for and received a Road Improvement Plan from Public Works Director Fred Leister. This road project will be funded by Liquid Fuels money received from the State. Due to the escalating cost of conducting business, the Borough has experienced increases in fuel, insurance premiums, law enforcement, etc., and as a result of these increases, the average homeowner can expect a \$30 to \$40 increase in their real estate tax for 2010. The millage for real estate will go from 0.5225 to 0.7976 as well as the fire safety tax rising from 0.176 to 0.2024 mills. Even with the increase, taxes in the Borough will remain lower than they have been since 1997 when taxes were cut by 50 percent.

Borough Council will continue to review all departments and programs to deliver the highest quality standard for the residents and business owners.

### Inside this issue:

Census	2
Save Our World	2
Volunteer Program	2
Fire Safety	3
Important Dates	3
H1N1 Information	3
Community Events	4



## Sewer Laterals to be Repaired in Borough

The Borough of Hatfield received an Appropriation for Sewer Repair under the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 Section 566. U.S. Representative Allison Schwartz (PA-13) appropriated the funds earmarked for this project which will improve the Borough's sewer system.

The Army Corps of Engineers will oversee the \$400,000 Sewer Lateral Repair Project (\$300,000 appropriation in conjunction with \$100,000 matching Borough funds) which will identify and repair sewer laterals connected to the Borough's sanitary sewer

system. This project is the next phase in the Borough's efforts to evaluate and reduce the inflow and infiltration into the system and treatment plant.

The bidding of the project will be in early 2010 with implementation to start in the spring. It is expected to be totally completed by late Fall 2010.

Future information to affected property and business owners will be sent via direct mail.

### Save Our World



#### Deicing Tips for Residents

Excess salt and other deicing chemicals can harm aquatic life in our streams and impact drinking water supplies. This winter, you can help by following these environmentally friendly snow removal practices:

- **Shovel snow before it turns to ice to limit the need for deicing chemicals like rock salt.**
- **Shovel snow onto permeable surfaces including grassy areas so as the snow melts it will soak into the ground.**

If you must use deicing chemicals, follow these suggestions:

- **Avoid over application of chemical deicers.**
- **Limit applications near springs, streams, and water supply areas.**
- **Sand & sawdust can be used as an alternative to salt products.**
- **Sweep up residues after the snow melts to prevent it from washing into storm drains & streams.**

Questions?

Water Management Program  
DEP's Southeast regional office  
484-250-5970 or online @  
[www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us)

Source: PADEP



## Census 2010 - "It's In Our Hands"



Be on the lookout for the 2010 Census questionnaires which will be mailed or delivered to your house in March. This "short form" census will collect only basic information such as age, sex, race, household relationships and whether your home is owned or rented. The questions ask you to provide information that is accurate for your household.

**Your participation in the census is mandatory & required by law.**

The census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and has been conducted every 10 years since 1790. The data collected is used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute over \$400 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year for

such things as hospitals, schools, public works projects, and emergency services.

It only takes a few minutes to answer the questions and your responses are strictly confidential and protected by law.

Every household in the United States will receive their form by March and any household that does not respond will be called or visited by a Census worker. (They will be identified by a census badge and bag.) Each questionnaire must be completely filled out and sent back in the postage page envelope enclosed with each form. Online filing of the census is not available at this time.

More information can be found online at [www.2010.census.gov](http://www.2010.census.gov). And remember....

***We can't move forward until you mail it back!***

### Personnel Update

Below are the new office hours as of January 1, 2010 for the Borough's Zoning Officer, Code Enforcement Officer, and the Fire Safety Inspector:

**Mike Hartey**  
Borough Zoning Officer  
Tuesdays 10 am to 1 pm  
215-855-0781 ext. 3

**Randy Yardumian**  
Code Enforcement Officer  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 9 am to Noon  
Fire Safety Inspector  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 1 pm to 4 pm  
215-855-0781 ext. 8

Please Note:

The Borough's Open Records Officer can be reached at 215-855-0781 ext. 9 or emailed at [cchaloun@hatfieldborough.com](mailto:cchaloun@hatfieldborough.com).

### Volunteer Corner

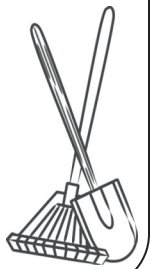
#### Pool Advisory Board

The Borough is seeking residents interested in serving on the Pool Advisory Board. The Board recommends rules, regulations, and policies for the community pool to the Board of Supervisors and the Park & Rec. Dept.

#### "Earth Day 40"

Sign up now to join the fun & inspire others with your personal "Act of Green" on this 40th Anniversary of Earth Day. It's our chance to join together to create a global green economy. Our coordinated efforts now will be recognized by future generations.

If you are interested in being a part of Hatfield's **Green Generation**, call or stop by the Borough for information and sign-up forms.





### Reminders from The Fire Safety Inspector

#### 2010 Inspections

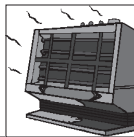
The Fire and Safety Inspection Program for 2010 will begin in the next few weeks. All Borough businesses, industries, and multi-family residential properties will be inspected. Single family homes that are currently being rented are excluded.



In tenant occupied residencies, the inspector will check for properly located, working smoke detectors. The fire protection system of every business will be inspected and all onsite flammable materials will be checked for proper storage and handling. Sprinkler systems and paths of egress will also be checked.

#### Space Heater Safety

1. Use space heaters only in well ventilated rooms.
2. Space heater should be equipped with thermostatic controls and automatic shut-off features.
3. Do not use heaters to dry clothing or other items.
4. Keep heaters at a safe distance from curtains, furniture & all combustibles
5. Plug heaters directly into the wall socket and not into extension cords.
6. Place heaters on a flat level surface.
7. Unplug when not in use.
8. Equip your residence with working smoke detectors.



#### Hatfield Borough Office

401 S. Main St., Hatfield PA 19440

Telephone.....215-855-0781

Fax.....215-855-2075

Web address.....www.hatfieldborough.com

#### Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

#### Borough Meeting Schedules

##### Borough Council

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month at the Borough Hall.....7:30 p.m.

##### Planning Commission

Monday before 1st Council meeting of each month.....7 p.m.

##### HERC

4th Wednesday of each month.....8 a.m.

## Are You Ready for the Ice and Snow?

The Borough's Public Works crew is prepared for the snow and ice season. Are you?? According to most weather forecasts, this winter will bring more snow and ice than we have seen in several years. The following information may keep you safe in the snow:

- Always drive at a speed that matches the existing visibility, traffic, and road conditions.
- Wear your seat belt and clothing that makes it easy to move about in the car as well as provide warmth.
- Make sure you have a winter driving kit in your car that includes a bag of abrasive material, a small snow shovel, a flashlight, blanket, ice scraper, warning flares, and window washing solvent.
- If you are at work and it starts to snow, stay there. By waiting, it allows the road crews to plow and salt the roads.
- Before you start off, clean your windows, wipe your windshield wipers clean and replace them if necessary, fill your washer reservoir and clean all the snow off your car.
- Best of all, if the weather is bad, stay home and cuddle up with a cup of hot cocoa!



## Mark Your Calendars for 2010

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Sunday, March 14

Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, April 17

Curbside Chipping

Monday, May 3

Primary Election Day

Tuesday, May 18

Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 31

Founder's Day

Monday, June 28

## H1N1 Precautions

Novel H1N1 is a new strain of influenza that spreads from person to person just as the seasonal flu does, and is expected to be widespread this flu season.

**The power to slow the spread of H1N1 is in your hands - literally.**

Remember to use a tissue or your sleeve to cover your cough or sneeze, avoid touching your face and eyes, wash your hands often, keep surfaces clean, and stay home if you get sick. People infected with H1N1 are contagious 1 day before getting sick, and up to 7 days after that.

The Department of Health offers a full range of H1N1 prevention tips at [www.H1N1inPA.com](http://www.H1N1inPA.com).

# Community Events

## Ham & Roast Beef Public Supper

Hatfield Firehouse  
75 Market Street

Saturday, January 16th &  
Saturday, March 20th

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm



Benefits the Hatfield Fire Company  
Ladies Auxiliary



## WinterBlast

Saturday, January 30  
11 am—4 pm

Montgomery Mall  
lower level courts



Stage acts, roving acts, and artists doing art about you or on you. Make “n” take crafts, entertainment, and light refreshments are also offered at no cost to people of all ages through sponsor donations. Info: 215-855-0900.

## Artisan & Heritage Fair

Saturday,  
March 6  
Hatfield Township  
Municipal Building



Artisans at work and guest speakers will present a variety of crafts, skills, trades and talents, reminiscent of the old ways. Historical reenactment units, live music, festival food, and activities for children of all ages are also part of the event.

## Hatfield Baseball 2010 Spring Season Registration

Registration information found online at:  
[www.hatfieldbaseball.com](http://www.hatfieldbaseball.com)



## North Penn Valley Girls Softball Assoc. Spring Season Registration



Monday, January 18 6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Saturday, February 6 9:00 - 11:00 am  
Lansdale Parks & Rec. Bldg., 7th & Lansdale Avenue  
[www.eteamz.com/northpenn](http://www.eteamz.com/northpenn)

## Hatfield Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 27  
10 am @ School Road  
Park

For Hatfield area children  
ages 1 through 10 years,  
accompanied by an adult.

Rain  
or  
Shine



Hatfield Borough  
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