



# INFORMER

NEWS FOR RESIDENTS OF HATFIELD BOROUGH

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

Spring/Summer 2009



## Revitalization Draft Plan Complete

The Hatfield Economic Revitalization Task Force has been working since January with its consultants, Simone Collins Landscape Architecture and Urban Partners Economic Planners, to develop a plan to build on the success of the Borough's past revitalization efforts. Its focus has been on four specific goals and objectives:

1. Retention and expansion of existing businesses by exploring ways that the Borough could assist them with their concerns and needs.
2. Explore ways that the Borough could be more "business friendly" in those areas of the town where it would like to see business growth. This could include changes to the zoning ordinance as well as some zoning district changes.
3. Marketing the Borough as a great place to operate a business, focusing on the town's unique character, low property taxes, and very competitive electric

rates. The task Force has completed a business market analysis study to determine what types of businesses would most likely thrive in the Borough. A strategy will be developed to recruit these types of businesses and to find them a place in the Borough.

4. Explore funding possibilities to expand the Borough's Streetscape Enhancement program.

In addition, the Task Force is looking at providing additional parking in the Core Commercial area, enhancing the pedestrian environment by minimizing the impact of truck traffic and improving building facades, increasing home ownership, and the de-conversion of multi-family units to single-family units.

**Final Public Meeting for the Plan**  
**Wednesday May 13, 2009**  
**7:30 PM Hatfield Fire House**

### BOROUGH COUNCIL

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## Traffic Calming Study: Slower Cars, Safer Hatfield

The Borough's roadways may be posted at 25 mph, but studies show—and residents know—speeds on our roads are often closer to 35 to 45 mph.

So far, measures to slow traffic and increase pedestrian safety have included speed enforcement, speed limits painted on the roadway, and decorative crosswalks on Main Street to help increase the visibility of pedestrians.

With the completion of a borough-wide traffic calming feasibility study by McMahon Associates Inc. early in 2009, Hatfield Borough now has a three-phase traffic calming plan and a new review process to implement more traffic calming measure throughout the borough.

McMahon Associates provided the plan outlined here based on research and resident feedback. It serves as a starting point for the borough to make the most effective and cost-efficient improvements quickly, which improve several sections of the borough.

### Phase 1

#### Gateways Alert Drivers

Curbed median islands, welcome signs, & decorative crosswalk.

### Phase 2

#### Narrow Lanes to Slow Traffic

Pavement markings, painted shoulders, Curb extensions, & extended medians.

### Phase 3

#### Deter Cut-through Traffic

Intersection realignment @ Wayne Ave., Lambert St., & Towamencin Ave. to create a 4-way stop sign.

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## Borough Appoints New Manager & Council Member



### Michael J. DeFinis

Hatfield Borough Council appointed Michael J. DeFinis as Borough Manager/Secretary at the February 18, 2009 Council Meeting. Mike has served the Borough of Hatfield for the past 14 years as a member of Council and is currently a member of the Hatfield Chamber of Commerce, the Penn Suburban Chamber, and the Hatfield Museum & Historical Society. He was previously employed with Acme Markets where he worked for 30 years. A resident of the Borough since 1987, Mike and his wife Nancy have raised 3 grown children, Candace, Michael, & Alicia. Mike can be reached at the Borough at 215-855-0781, ext 1, or email him at [mdefinis@hatfieldborough.com](mailto:mdefinis@hatfieldborough.com).



### John Kroesser

Long time Borough resident John Kroesser was recently appointed to the Hatfield Borough Council, filling the unexpired term of outgoing Councilman Mike DeFinis. John owns and operates "Partners Automotive" and has been an active member of the community. Along with his duties on Council where he is a member of several committees including P&E and Public Works, he also serves on the Borough's Planning Commission. An avid car buff, John enjoys concerts, vintage Sinatra, and vacationing down the shore with his family. He and his wife Lorraine have lived in the Borough since 1988 and have raised 4 children, Michele, John, Adrienne, and Mackenzie.

## Liberty Bell Trail Plaza Shaping Up

Work on the Liberty Bell Trail Plaza and Parking Lot has begun and should be completed by the end of July, according to Mark Mattucci, the Borough's engineer. Renovations to the parking lot will include 10 new LED lights, 49 lined spaces in three segments, and the removal of a utility pole and phone tower near Crystal Rose catering. The plaza will be home to a new Borough clock and a decorative brick planter, along with an imprinted asphalt trail signifying the Liberty Bell Trail. The Dial Howard Post four-faced clock will have a chime and will be cast in aluminum at the top of an ornate pole. The improvements to the parking lot include improvements to the drainage, lighting, landscaping, and signage. According to Borough Manager Mike DeFinis, 80% of the work is funded through a Montgomery County Revitalization Grant.

A dedication ceremony will be scheduled after completion of the work.

### Fire Marshall's Safety Corner....

## Pool/Water Safety



- Learn to swim!
- Never leave a child unobserved around water. Adult supervision is recommended and **NEVER SWIM ALONE!**
- Install a phone by the pool & know how to prevent, react, and respond to emergencies.
- Learn CPR and post instructions in the pool area.
- Enclose the pool completely with a self-locking, self-closing fence with vertical bars. Fence openings should be no more than 4 inches wide.
- Always keep basic lifesaving equipment by the pool & know how to use it. Pole, rope, and personal flotation devices (PDFs) are recommended.
- Watch out for the dangerous "too's" - too tired, too cold, too far from safety, too much sun.
- Never mix alcohol with swimming or diving. It impairs your judgment, balance & coordination.

## Memorial Day Parade

The Hatfield American Legion Post 933 will be hosting the Memorial Day Parade this year on Monday, May 25, 2009. The wreath laying ceremony at the Veteran's Memorial (Market & Broad St.) will be at 9 am with the parade to start following the ceremony. The revelers will march west on Broad Street to Koffel Road and culminate at the American Legion Post for the ceremonial events. This year's events include a 21 Gun Salute by Civil War Re-enactors, a POW/MIA ceremony by AFJROTC, a guest speaker, a "Show Your Colors" Decoration Contest, Retirement of Colors, and free food & soft drinks for everyone!

*Honor the sacrifices of our Nation's Veterans and meet our local Heroes who have served their country through WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War, Panama, Desert Storm, Iraq & Afghanistan.*

**Call for information: 215-362-3848**





## Façade Improvement Grants Awarded

The Hatfield Economic Revitalization Committee recently approved the façade improvement grant projects of two Borough businesses. Schlosser Steel Buildings, located at 153 Penn St., completed the conversion of a house into office space. Façade improvements included the replacement of windows and doors, new siding, a new walkway, and new signage. Crystal Rose Catering & Special Events, in the former firehouse building at 56 E. Broad St., will soon begin work on their project which will include the construction of a vestibule at the banquet hall entrance. Borough businesses are invited and encouraged to take advantage of façade improvement grant funds while they are still available. Funding up to \$8,000 is available depending on the project size.



Grant recipient Schlosser Steel Buildings

Contact the Borough office for full details. 215-855-0781

### 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 Thursday of each month.....8 a.m.

## Founder's Day Set for June 22, 2009

Hatfield Borough will be celebrating Founder's Day on Monday, June 22nd from 5 pm to 8 pm at Centennial Park on Cherry Street. This year's festivities include clowns, games, food, refreshments, and TWO inflatables!! Music by Mike Schuler & Band, along with a unique break dancing performance by Il Style & Peace, will be the featured entertainment for the evening.

**Be sure & Mark the Date!**



## William Seasholtz "Fire Fighter of the Year"

Council President John Weierman and Mayor Bob Kaler recently presented William Seasholtz with the Proclamation honoring him as Fire Fighter of the Year. A Resolution was also passed honoring Mr. Seasholtz on his receiving the Walter F. Hutt Memorial Award from the Hatfield Volunteer Fire Company. Bill first joined the Fire Company in 1970 and has served as Assistant Chief for many years. He is a life-member and has consistently been one of the top 10 responders to calls in the department annually. As a recipient of the Walter F. Hutt Award, Bill has shown his ability to work well with, and have respect for his fellow firefighters, knowledge of the fire service, and the ability & willingness to adapt to new ideas and procedures in the firefighting field. **Congratulations Bill!**

## Fix That Leak

A "running" toilet can waste two gallons of water per minute. A faucet leaking a slow steady drip wastes 350 gallons per month. These increase your water & sewer fees over time. Minor repairs such as replacing the toilet flapper and the washers in your faucets will usually stop the leaks. A call to the plumber will be cheaper in the long run than a wasted water bill.

## Don't Get Bit

West Nile Virus is transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito. By eliminating sources of standing water in your yard, you lessen the chance of breeding.

- Get rid of old buckets & tires
- Clear debris from drains/gutters
- Change water in birdbaths weekly
- Keep grass cut & bushes trimmed
- Fix your screens -Keep Them Out!!



## Important Dates to Remember

### PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, May 19  
7 am - 8 pm

Hatfield Fire House

Information can be found online at  
[www.voterservices.montcopa.org](http://www.voterservices.montcopa.org)  
or by calling 610-278-3280.

### FOUNDER'S DAY

Monday, June 22 5 pm - 8 pm

Stay tuned to HTV & Hatfield  
Borough's website for more updates  
and information. This will be a  
***fantastic celebration!***  
You won't want to miss it!!

### MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Monday, May 25 9:30 am

Starts at The Veterans Memorial  
Market & Broad Street  
Ends at American Legion Post 933  
Koffel Road  
Info: 215-362-3848

### Pool Registration

May 18 through 21  
3 pm—6 pm

*More information  
mailed separately.*

### DIGITAL TRANSITION

June 12, 2009



If your TV uses an antenna, you will  
need to obtain a set-top converter  
box. Cable & satellite subscribers  
will be unaffected. [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov)  
or call: 1-888-DTV-2009

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

Saturday, June 13 9 am - 3 pm

Montgomery County Community College, Blue Bell PA



Hatfield Borough  
P.O. Box 190  
Hatfield, PA 19440  
[www.hatfieldborough.com](http://www.hatfieldborough.com)

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