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March 2010

Volume 22, Issue 3

# Mifflinburg



## NEWS & VIEWS

published monthly by the Mifflinburg Heritage and Revitalization Association

### Buy Local By Larry Mitchell, MHRA Vice President

With the present economic slump it is more important than ever to shop with local merchants. Our Commonwealth, as well as many of the other states, have a crisis on their hands that is brought on by decreased spending and worker layoffs that impact heavily on the tax base that the Commonwealth and local Government depends on to fund operations. By buying local you insure that the money stays in our communities and recycles for the good of all.

I first studied this problem with the Pennsylvania Rural Leadership team in better times and found the following results:

**Velocity of Money** – Let's say you spend a dollar for a meal at a locally owned restaurant or for produce from a local farmer. That dollar may be re-spent by that person to buy a book at a local bookstore, that person may then spend it to have her hair done at a local salon, etc. The dollar buys many things as it circulates through the local economy. With Big Box stores most of the money is taken and shipped to a corporate office far from the community where it was spent. This money will no longer help the community where it originated. It is spent once and gone. Many communities have fought back by issuing their own currencies. This local money can be bought at a discount and spent at local businesses. Ithaca, New York has been a leader in this strategy and has had great success with "Ithaca Dollars." The threat to local economies has become much greater with the advent of the Big Box "one stop shop" stores that offer everything from groceries to oil changes.

**When is a Bargain Not a Bargain** – Buyer beware. Most Big Box stores contract with National Brand companies to buy products that can be inferior. Recently there was an article about a Big Box store's contract with a famous blue jeans manufacturer. The Big Box would only pay a low amount for a pair of jeans so the manufacturer is going to produce their product with a lighter weight cloth for that seller. Can you buy the Brand Name jeans cheaper at that store? Yes. Is the quality the same? No! This practice has become especially common in Big Box stores selling building supplies. The Brand Name faucet you just bought for big savings at the Big Box may have been manufactured specifically for that company without the same reliable parts that it would have elsewhere. The Big Box store has special ordered the expensive shell with cheap insides. Will the Big Box store willingly tell you that the product is different from a similar unit at another store? No! But it is cheaper in price – and in quality.

**False Economy** – With gas prices fluctuating using a gallon of gas traveling to a Big Box store may be false economy. The present mileage reimbursement for the State of Pennsylvania is almost fifty-cents a mile. This is the amount that the State figures it costs to buy, maintain, and gas a vehicle. So a twenty-mile round trip costs about ten dollars. That is probably a whole lot more than going to a merchant three blocks away where you may be surprised to find a very competitive price too.

**Where Local Merchants Excel** – Local merchants very often have a much greater selection of merchandise than the Big Box. The Big Box stores may have all the books that are currently best sellers but they won't have much else. If you are a hunter with an odd caliber rifle don't waste your time with the big stores. They will only have the most common ammunition. Local merchants almost always beat the Box Stores with their service. You can actually get to know the owner and they will actually get to know you. If you need to get a hard to find item they will order it for you. Don't try that at a Big Box store. Local merchants will frequently service what they sell and will always try to ensure that you are happy with your purchase.

**Make A Difference** – We can all make a difference in our local community if we just think before we buy. Can you get the product or services locally? Spending your dollars at local merchants will help to keep them anchored in your community. It will help fill up the vacant downtown storefronts. It re-circulates the money in your community where it can do the most good. It will help make your town a vibrant and vital place where people are proud to live. ■

## Spring Open House March 5 thru 27

Experience the area's largest indoor flower show with thousands of flowers in full bloom!

### PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW BUS TOUR

Wed, March 3, 6am-10pm... \$93

### CRAFT FAIR

Date...Sat, March 13, 10am – 3pm

### GARDEN TEA PARTY

Date...Sat, March 20, 11am – 1pm  
Benefits Kelsey's Dream Chemo Duck Fund

### GARDENER'S SPRING FAIR

Sat, March 27, 9am-3pm...FREE  
Admission – please call to register  
Presented by the Master Gardeners of Union & Snyder Counties Featuring presentations on Soils, Gardening Tools, Starting Seeds, Creating a Garden Bed, Staking Plants and Small Fruit Varieties. Including Youth activities, Master Gardener Question & Answer, Exhibits and Vendors.

### "Make & Take" Classes

FLIP FLOP PLANTER ...\$50  
Tuesday, April 27, 7pm  
PATIO PLANTER ...\$50  
Tuesday, May 4, 7pm  
SIDE PLANT HANGING GARDEN PLANTER ...\$50  
Tuesday, May 11, 7pm  
BUTTERFLY GARDEN LANTERN ...\$50  
Tuesday, May 18, 7pm

**COUNTRY FARM & HOME Gift and Garden Center**  
Rt 45 Mifflinburg 570.966.4030

- ### MARCH Calendar of Events
- Every Wed. . . . . Club 39-Senior Center  
2 - 4pm Union Co. Gov. Bldg.
  - Tues., Mar. 2 . . . . . MHRA Board Meeting  
7pm 300 Chestnut
  - Thurs., Mar. 4. . . . . Christkindl Committee  
7pm 300 Chestnut
  - Fri., Mar. 5 . . . . . Spring Open House  
thru Sat., Mar. 27 Country Farm & Home
  - Sat., Mar. 6 . . . . . Home Gardeners' School  
8:30am- 3:50pm HS Auditorium
  - Sat., Mar. 6 . . . . . Recycling  
8am-11am Industrial Parkway
  - Tues., Mar. 9 . . . . . Garden Club  
7pm 300 Chestnut
  - Wed., Mar. 10 . . . . . PMI  
7pm Ranney's on Saratoga
  - Sun., Mar. 14. . . . . Daylight Savings begins
  - Mon., Mar. 15 . . . . . No School (Snow Make up Day)
  - Mon., Mar. 15 . . . . . Shade Tree Commission  
7pm Borough Hall
  - Tues., Mar. 16 . . . . . Planning Commission  
4:30pm Borough Hall
  - Tues., Mar. 16 . . . . . Borough Council  
7pm Borough Hall
  - Tues., Mar. 16 . . . . . Garden Club  
7pm 300 Chestnut
  - Wed., Mar. 17 . . . . . St. Patrick's Day
  - Thurs., Mar. 18 . . . . . Cancer Society Daffodil Sale  
- Sat., Mar. 20 locations (see inside)
  - Sat., Mar. 20 . . . . . Recycling  
8am-11am Industrial Parkway
  - Wed., Mar. 24 . . . . . Blood Drive  
1 - 7pm Carriage Corner
  - Sat., Mar. 27 . . . . . Easter Egg Hunt  
10am VFW
  - Sat., Mar. 27 . . . . . Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt  
1pm Laurelton Fairgrounds
  - Thurs., April 1 . . . . . No School (Snow Make up Day)
  - Fri., April 2 . . . . . Good Friday Breakfast  
8am Methodist Church

Save the dates: Spring Musical — West Side Story  
Thurs., April 8, Fri., Apr 9 & Sat., Apr. 10  
MAHS Auditorium • 7:30pm



Current Resident or:

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Mifflinburg, PA 17844

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Steve Benner, Project Manager  
Borough 966-1013  
Police 966-1027 or 911

**MISSION STATEMENT**

MHRA exists to help promote and maintain a supportive environment where business, community and government work together to foster growth and development, while preserving Mifflinburg's historic past.

Email: [mhra@dejazzd.com](mailto:mhra@dejazzd.com)



Preserve the Past — Prepare for the Future

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Mifflinburg News & Views  
is published monthly

**BOROUGH BUSINESS...**

be in the know

by Steve Benner & Margaret Metzger

**Regular Street Sweeping to Resume**

With spring just around the corner, it is time to get rid of the grunge and grime of winter. Street sweeping has resumed and all residents are reminded to follow the posted parking schedules along Borough streets. Weather permitting, we will be following the regular schedule. Residents can also help out with spring beautification by taking time to sweep sidewalks and by removing the remnants of old man winter: left over leaf debris, sticks, and anti-skid material. ■

**Early Warning**

The Borough has been informed that PennDOT has set a tentative bid date of March 2012 for the complete reconstruction of Route 45 between Forest Hill Road and 8th Street. Why is this being planned so far in advance, you might ask?

The project is huge. A complete road reconstruction will entail the removal of the parabolic concrete that is under the existing pavement and was installed between 1920-1930 and used as road surface for many years. This concrete, which is now under many layers of pavement, has deteriorated and cracked. The cracks in this underlying concrete are what cause the existing pavement to deteriorate so quickly.

The Borough will be pursuing a cooperative project with PennDOT to replace/relocate water lines, sewer lines, storm water facilities, curbs and sidewalks as part of this state road improvement. And, I must mention shade trees; many are overgrown (beyond the curbline) and will have to be replaced. Prepare your minds for a different looking Chestnut Street! There is no doubt that the mess in our downtown will be large for quite some time during this project. However, the potential for improvement is also quite large.

There is a lot of analysis to do before the construction. The Borough will be determining the viability of existing infrastructure, budgeting, planning, and designing. It is our intent to keep you updated as the scope of this big project progresses. ■

**Recycling Center: A Volunteer Community Service**

Diligent volunteers braved freezing weather to help residents off-load and deposit recyclables. The recycling center is manned by volunteers on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month from 8 to 11am. You can help make this operation efficient by having your recyclables sorted before you arrive.

The following items are accepted if they are clean, sorted, and dumped in the correct roll-off dumpsters without the plastic bag: #1 Plastic Bottles; #2 Plastic Bottles (no tubs, plates, cat litter containers, yogurt cups, lids etc.); Glass Bottles; Clear, Blue-green, and Brown (no plate glass or dishes); Corrugated Cardboard (no paste board or cereal-type boxes); Aluminum Cans; Magazines; Office paper; Newspaper; and Bi-metal cans (clean and separated from aluminum cans).

Again, do not put plastic bags in the recycling roll-off containers. The volunteers have the right and the authority to reject any/all materials if these rules are not followed. If you have any questions or need more explanation on the operation of the recycling center, please contact the Borough office. ■

**Thanks to the generosity of Mifflinburg Bank & Trust for the use of their brand new community room, the Union County Chapter of the American Red Cross is pleased to offer training in Adult CPR and AED (Automated External Defibrillator) from 9am to 1pm on Sat., March 27. The cost is \$35. The register, please call 524-0400.**

**Around Town**

The Eye Center of Central PA, currently located along Route 45 in the Buffalo Valley Shopping Center, will be moving its Mifflinburg eye clinic to a new office in the Borough. Renovations at the future site, located at 88 Hardees Drive, are scheduled to be completed by spring this year. The new office will be home to Eye Center optometrists, Drs. Breezy Moyer and William Orren, as well as some administrative departments which will be moved from the Lewisburg headquarters. The office will employ 12, with hopes to add more staff as The Eye Center continues to expand in Mifflinburg.



Dr. William Orren Dr. Breezy Moyer

The Mifflinburg Heritage & Revitalization Association (MHRA) held a coffee for its business members recently at Carriage Corner Restaurant. Betsy Robertson of Robertson Public Relations spoke to the group of business owners about the value of PR to your business and how to use it to your advantage. Afterwards the group enjoyed time to network.



Pictured are a few of the MHRA coffee attendees (l. to r.) Many Pena of MDJL Computers, Jason Neidig of M&T Bank in Mifflinburg, and Sharon (Shiatsu) Brown and Lisa Harvey of Mifflinburg Massage.

Dianne Shuck has expanded NU LOOK driveway black top sealer to include notary service. The phone number is 966-2230.

Trudy's Special Occasions has moved its location from New Berlin to Mifflinburg. They have chosen storefront location at the corner of 4th and Chestnut. The phone is 966-4422.

Mature Workers Needed. If you are 55 or older with a limited income, Experience Works may have training and employment opportunities for you. Call Gordie Klingman at 966-2843 to get more information. ■

**Important Words from Chief Bickhart**

**BURGLARY PREVENTION (Part 2)**

Tips to protect your home — LATCHES AND LOCKS

**Spring Lock**

Some homes come equipped with this lock. It offers very little protection since the bolt can be slopped with a credit card or knife.

**Deadbolt Locks**

A deadbolt lock can provide good protection. When you turn the key, the lock mechanism slides a strong metal bolt from the door into the frame. When you buy a deadbolt lock, make sure that the bolt extends at least one inch from the edge of the door, the connecting screws that hold the lock together are on the inside of the door, the strike plate is attached to the door frame with the screws that measure at least three inches in length and that the cylinder has a steel guard around the key section. The cylinder guard should be tapered or rotated freely around the key section to prevent wrenching if it is twisted.

**Single Cylinder Deadbolt**

A solid bolt activated by a key from the outside or a knob on the inside slides into the doorframe. The lock can not be slipped or easily pried. Deadbolt locks are only as good as the door and frame they are installed in.

**Double Cylinder Deadbolt**

This lock is basically the same as the single cylinder deadbolt, except that it requires a key to be used from either side to function.

**Rim Lock**

This lock has either horizontal or vertical deadbolts. It cannot be easily slipped, pried or forced with a wrench. This lock, like all others, requires a strong mounting surface and hardware to be affective.

**Padlocks**

When selecting padlocks to secure your garage door, storage shed, fence gate or toolbox, do not economize. Low-priced locks are made from low quality materials and easily pried open or cut with bolt cutters. Look for these features when purchasing a padlock: Double locking shackle at the toe and heel; Hardened steel shackle, the larger the diameter the better; Five pin tumbler; Key retaining feature (prevents removal of the key when unlocked); and a Strong steel hasp used with the padlock. ■

Part #3 will advise on how to protect your home's windows.

**Kiwanis Club  
Crocks on Sale**

This year the Mifflinburg Kiwanis Club is selling a lidded canister crock with the Mifflinburg Borough Building on the front. This is the 5th crock in the series. Crocks are \$40. For detailed information contact: Nicci Bailey (570) 412-1872. ■



**Good Friday Breakfast**

The annual Good Friday Breakfast takes place at the Mifflinburg Methodist Church at 8am on Friday April 2. There is no cost beyond a good will offering. The menu includes pancakes, bacon & eggs, fruit, and beverages. Breakfast is prepared and served by the Mifflinburg Kiwanis Club. Businesses are encouraged to order take-out for their employees by calling Chuck Hagenbaugh at 966-3873. ■

**Taxes, Taxes, Taxes!!!**

Here comes tax time! It always seems just when you think you understand those forms, the I.R.S. goes and changes thing! If the frustration has got you down, maybe having your taxes

done for you is the right move. It is not expensive and often a qualified professional will find ways to save you money that you would never have thought of. Here are some Mifflinburg neighbors you can count on to help you out at tax time: H&R Block, 966-4211; Gingrich, 374-4956; and Mathison, 966-0612. ■

**MIFFLINBURG SERVICE CLUBS  
JOIN TOGETHER TO FIGHT  
CANCER SELLING DAFFODILS**

Available will be cut bunches of flowers (\$10), mini potted daffodils (\$12), flowers in a vase (\$15) and flowers with a collectible Boyd's Bear named "Celebrating Hope" (\$25). Volunteers from the Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary clubs, with community help, will be selling Thurs., March 18- Sat., March 20. Sale sites are as follows: Green Ridge Market Sat. only 9am-noon, CVS 8am-6pm on Thurs. and Fri. and 8am-noon on Sat. Mifflinburg's Post Office from 8:30am-4pm on Thurs. and Fri. and 8:30am-noon on Sat. Mifflinburg Bank and Trust 8:30am-5pm on Thurs., 8:30am-6pm on Fri. and 8:30-11:30am on Sat. ■



**YMCA Plans Youth Programs—** The YMCA is planning a program for Mifflinburg High School students on Fri., March 5, from 7-10pm. This event will include a DJ, snack bar, volleyball, basketball, ping pong, Wii games, an art area and the opportunity for fellowship. The YMCA is partnering with the school district to offer this program. They plan to offer similar programs monthly. If you are interested in volunteering to help with this event, please contact Angela Haines, YMCA Union County Program Coordinator at 966-4434.

The YMCA continues to offer after school art classes for elementary aged students. Students in K-2 meet on Mondays from 4-5pm. Second through fifth grades meets on Thursdays from 4-5pm. Classes are held at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 404 Market St. For more info. or to register for a class, call 286-0818. ■

**THANK YOU,  
MAYOR DALE WALIZE**

Mifflinburg thanks Dale Walize for having served as Mayor in Mifflinburg, while managing both the Lewisburg Hotel and the Mifflinburg Hotel, both of which are hotels with restaurants. ■



Dale Walize

**Senior Center Calendar**

Club 39 has elected Eleanor Grabsky president. Club 39, Mifflinburg's Sr. Center, will meet every Wed. from 2 to 4pm on the 2nd floor of the Union County Gov't Bldg. All seniors are welcome. Wed. programs: Business Meeting & TBA (Ambulance) (3/3), Bingo (3/10), Program: Jewelry Party (3/17), Fun & Games (3/24) and Fun & Games (3/31). Other events: Breakfast Out at Turnpike Restaurant, 8:30am (Thurs. 3/11); Book Club, Herr Library, 11am (Thurs. 3/18); Dinner Out, Barnyard, 2pm (Thurs. 3/18); and Bus Trip to Dutch Apple Theater (Thurs. 3/25, call for departure information Glenn 966-0197). For more information call Glenn or Ruth Zimmerman at 966-0197. ■

**CHRISTKINDL DATES, THEME,  
VENDOR APPLICATIONS**

The 2010 Christkindl Market is at the starting gate. This year's Market is Thursday through Sat., Dec. 9th through 11th.

Critiquing the past Market and adjusting policy decision is an ongoing task of the Committee along with new ideas mixed into the tradition of the event.

Although there were suggestions to extend hours to Sunday, it was decided not to do so at present. This year's theme is "Winter Wonderland." Visitors will be treated to glittering displays and a roving polar bear in addition to the outstanding foods, crafts and entertainment.

Vendor applications may be obtained via our website, [www.mifflinburgchristkindlmarket.com](http://www.mifflinburgchristkindlmarket.com). They must be returned by June 1st. Due to the restricted size of the Market, new applications cannot be accepted after October 1st for the current year's Market. Emphasis will be put on new craft vendors, restricting the number of food vendors to those presently in the Market.

The Christkindl Committee meets the first Thursday of every month at 7pm at the MHRA office, 300 Chestnut St. New members are always most welcome. ■