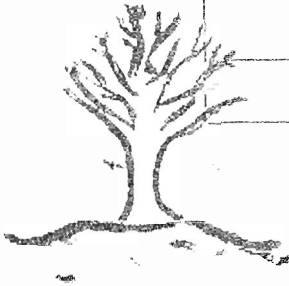


KINDRED SPIRIT

Southmont Borough, www.southmontborough.com

Volume 27, Fall/Winter 2005



Message from the Borough President, Kevin L. Pile

"It's that time again.....Yes, raking leaves and shoveling snow." Here are some reminders to help.

Fall Leaf Pick-up

By the time you receive this newsletter the leaf collection should be underway. Rake leaves to the curb (front of house); do not put leaves into the street (wet leaves can be dangerous for drivers); also



Please Be Patient. You do not need to call the Borough office to let us know your

leaves have been raked to the front of your house. Borough workers follow a schedule and make several trips through the Borough to collect leaves.

Snow Removal Season

The top priority of Southmont Borough is maintaining clear and safe roadways throughout the Borough during the snow removal season. However, our road crew personnel cannot perform this service successfully without your assistance. Please take the time to review our tips for the snow season.

• Avoid calling the municipal building during a storm unless it is an emergency. Personnel are extremely busy dealing with storm conditions. It is best to keep telephone lines open for emergencies.

• If possible, wait until the street has been plowed before cleaning out the end of your driveway. There is no practical way to plow the street without

depositing snow into your driveway. **DO NOT** throw snow back onto the street!

• Listen to the latest forecast and take necessary action if threatening weather is to occur.

• If a storm is anticipated, remove vehicles from the street to allow plows to clear the area the first time through, making return trips unnecessary.

• **Do Not** shovel snow onto the street or have your driveway plowed onto the roadway. This can cause a serious traffic hazard. If possible, it is best to place snow on the side of your driveway opposite the direction the plow is traveling. By implementing this technique, the plow will carry snow away from your driveway rather than back into it.

Attention Southmont Borough Residents & Businesses: Our Volunteer Fire Dept. needs your help to continue their largest fund raiser of the year (Jubilee). See fire dept. article inside or contact 255-2633.

Special points of interest:

- *Fall Brush Clean-up is scheduled for October 17th and October 18, 2005.*
- *Trick or Treat will be on Monday, October 31, 2005 from 6-8 PM.*
- *Leaf collection at curb side October thru November 30th.*
- *November 1, 2005 Recycling plastic only*
- *November 8, 2005 Municipal Election*

America's Urban Forest and You

Each morning millions of us wake up in a majestic forest. A forest in which we live our lives, which we leave to generations yet unborn.

America's Urban Forest. It includes the trees in your yard, and along the streets and highways around town. The trees in parks and playgrounds..by railroad tracks

and hiking trails..along rivers and streams..in golf courses and open spaces. And the woods at the edge of town where houses and apartments and offices are being developed.

As important as it is, America's urban forest is at risk. In many communities, the forest is in decline. Disease,

insects, salt, development, age and neglect have taken their toll. Planting has not kept up with removal. America's urban forest is not being managed as it should. We must do better, and that's where your efforts can make a difference.

Turn Yard Waste into Compost!

Autumn is fast approaching (already here) and the leaves will soon be falling. What will you do with all those leaves? Some residents bag the leaves and they end up in a landfill. Others rake them to the curb, where they may get blown or washed into storm sewers. The best alternative is composting. Composting has the ability to provide soil with the key nutrients needed for optimum plant growth. Leaves and grass clippings are great "ingredients" for a compost pile.

It is very easy to get started! All you need is an enclosed area of 3 cubic feet (it doesn't have to be enclosed, but this is the best method). It can be enclosed

with a fence, straw bales, wood or concrete blocks. Once you have the structure, start adding the grass and leaf mixture. By turning the pile every week, adding moisture, and shredding the "ingredients," you can speed up the decomposition process.

The compost is ready to use when the pile shrinks down and no longer generates heat. Spread about 1" over your garden each season to provide a fertile, well drained



What are you going to do with your leaves?

material. The composted material can be placed in the bottom of the holes you dig when planting and also in the pots you use.

Yard debris and food wastes make up 35% of all municipal waste. By composting you reduce the price of hauling material,

save landfill space and also provide your soil with the nutrients it needs to thrive.

Public Service Project—Community Information Guide

Southmont Borough is preparing a Community Information Guide with the help of a public relations firm as part of our ongoing public awareness campaign. The Community Information Guide is designed for current residents, new residents, visitors, and local businesses to become more acquainted with the benefits and assets of our community.

The Guide will include pertinent information on the history, activities, services, and general information of our Borough. The Guide will also include

an updated, full-color, detailed street map that will highlight and identify important points of interest, as well as supporting businesses in the community. The guide will be available in print and online.

This project offers an excellent opportunity for our businesses and community leaders to work together with our local government in providing a public service and gaining valuable business exposure at the same time. Christine M. Peterman will be contacting local business and community leaders in the near future with further de-

"Thank you in advance for your support and taking pride in our community."

tails on becoming a supporter of this project. Chris can be contacted at 1-877-369-1541 x 228 or emailed at cp@communityinfoguide.com

Recycling Trailer Reopens

The recycling trailer will reopen for PLASTIC ONLY on November 1st.

Good News! Consensus is that many of the Borough residents have missed the opportunity to recycle. Beginning November 1, 2005 for a six month trial, the Borough recycling trailer will reopen for **plastic recycling only!** Since only plastic will be accepted there will be no need for the Borough person-

nel to have to sort items.

The Borough will be hauling the plastics to Pandya, Inc., a company in Davidsville, which grounds up the plastic and mixes it with sawdust to manufacture plastic/wood composite (decks, rails, etc).

If everyone cooperates the Borough will be able to do its part to help our environment. Remember—PLASTICS ONLY!!

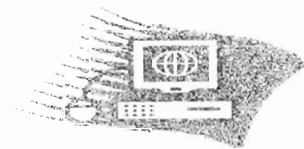


See Our Webpage

Don't forget to check the borough web site often.....

www.southmontborough.com

We are adding new features all the time, including a site search, new links, and downloadable ordinances along with important news and event bulletins for Southmont's residents.



Trees Make Our Homes More Valuable

When trees surround your home, bird songs fill the air, adding delight to daily routine. Trees cast their sheltering shade as they moderate the temperature, quiet the noise, and clean the air.

In summer, shade trees can save up to 50% of air conditioning costs. In winter, windbreak trees can reduce heating bills as much as 30%.



Life is just better when you're surrounded by trees. You can enjoy the special taste of fruit picked from trees you have grown. Watch colorful birds and frisky squirrels outside your kitchen window. And feel the sense of comfort and belonging that comes from living among trees.

Trees add to the quality of life which, in turn, increases your property value..... up to 15% in

areas with well-tended trees!



Trees make our homes more beautiful and valuable and life there

more bountiful.

Southmont Volunteer Fire Company

The Southmont Volunteer Fire Company had a successful Jubilee this year. ***We Thank all of you who supported us.*** The Jubilee requires numerous man-hours to conduct. Unfortunately, with the work demands on our members, we found ourselves short of help on many occasions. Without additional help, the future of our Jubilees are in jeopardy. The Jubilee is our biggest fund raising event and relied on for operating funds throughout the year. We expressed our concerns to Borough Council and they have agreed to work with us to obtain outside help for next year's jubilee. If you would like to donate your time, please contact any firefighter or councilman. We will appreciate

any help you can give us. It is a great way to meet your neighbors, firefighters and serve your community. Our Holiday Cash Raffle will be held Dec. 2nd. In talking with you, the residents, we found that you would rather win money than turkeys. So, we have discontinued our turkey raffles and now hold a Cash Raffle instead. The Jubilee and Holiday Cash Raffle are the only fund raising events we now conduct.

With the winter heating season upon us, we remind you to have your chimney, furnace and any other heating sources cleaned and checked. With the rising costs of fuel sources, firefighters across the country are expecting a rise

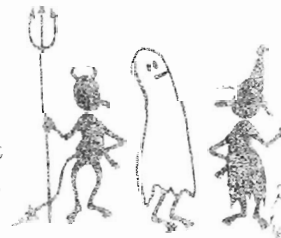
"Please donate your time to help with the Jubilee.....work a booth, help with the kitchen, etc."

in fires this winter due to alternative heating sources. Please be careful and safe when heating your home. Follow manufacturer's recommendations. If you have a situation that may possibly lead to a fire, do not hesitate to dial 911. It is always better to be safe than sorry.

Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission

The Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission (WHRC) would like to thank all of those who participated in our summer programs in making it a memorable 2005 summer. The WHRC is now gearing up for another Fall/Winter season here on the hilltop. Some of the activities, leagues and events include: preschool activities, youth activities, adult activities and yoga classes, youth and adult basket-

ball leagues, after school drop-in basketball program for grades 4-12. Also, this winter we will be selling discount ski lift tickets for Seven Springs, Hidden Valley and Blue Knob. For more information or to register for programs, please contact WHRC at 539-



Trick or Treat will be on Monday, Oct. 31st from 6—8 PM

1877. The recreation building (The Grove) is located at 1000 Edgehill Drive and houses the recreation office, gymnasium, Hilltop Area Senior Citizens Center and a multi-purpose room with kitchen facilities which can be rented out for special events.