

BOROUGH OF BEN AVON

7101 Church Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202

www.benavon.com

Fall 2007

Ken Opipery, Sr.
Mayor

Ken Opipery, Jr.
Council President

Members of Council
Mark Colenbrander
Lloyd Corder
Scott Ellis
Gloria Hamilton
Karl Kunkle
Todd Smith

Charles Perego
Borough Solicitor

Carmella Hallstein
Borough Secretary
Real Estate Tax
Collector

Sarah Snively
Bookkeeper
Assistant Secretary

Dale Regrut
Public Works Foreman

Building Inspection
Underwriters of
PA, Inc.
Building Inspection
Code Enforcement

Ed McGee
Roy Rudolph
Borough Engineers

Ben Avon Website Improvements

Ben Avon has a redesigned website (www.benavon.com) that includes a new layout, dropdown menus and other features. The photos, artwork and layout were all volunteered by local residents. The site includes current weather and forecasts, community announcements, a calendar of events, and driving directions to Ben Avon. It has a lot of interesting information about borough services, area schools, history (provided by the Ben Avon Area Historical Association), houses of worship, current real estate listings and much more. You can also sign up to receive free email updates about local events and activities.

Resident Spotlight: Dancing to the Oldies



Over 30 years ago, Charlie Apple appeared on the TV game show, *To Tell the Truth* as a “minister, teacher and DJ”—and he wasn’t making it up. He served as an ordained minister for over 25 years before he retired. He taught middle school students at St. Edmund’s Academy for 37 years. He has spent over 50 years as a DJ, appearing on many local radio stations. You can still listen to his oldies show on 103.9 FM (Music Power 104) or at local dance parties. A few years ago he founded a successful nonprofit organization, the Tide Center/Services for Older Adults where his staff works with Alzheimer’s, assisted living and other older adults spinning the oldies, telling humorous stories and even performing a little magic—all designed to give them a strong sense of who they are and help connect them to their past. Charlie and his wife, Shane, have five children and three grandchildren.

Shade Tree Survey

Volunteer neighbors have begun working on a shade tree inventory to better understand the current tree population in Ben Avon. This inventory will be used to make recommendations on where new trees could be planted, and to provide recommendations for the long-term upkeep and maintenance of existing trees. Preliminary results of the tree survey can be viewed online at Ben Avon’s website, www.benavon.com.



BOROUGH BULLETIN BOARD

LEAF COLLECTION

The street crew will collect leaves raked to the curb. Please keep the piles free of branches, rocks, and other debris that could damage the machine or hurt our crewman. They will make their final pass for the season during the week of November 26-30. Once they have picked up in front of your home that week, please do not put anymore leaves onto the street. Leaves will be picked up on the Ohio River Boulevard during the week of December 3-7. After that week, the equipment on the trucks will be converted to address snow and ice removal.

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

The Borough of Ben Avon is reminding residents that they are required to keep sidewalks clear of all snow and ice. Ben Avon Borough Ordinance No. 666 requires that all sidewalks must be maintained free from accumulations of snow and ice and prohibits the disposal of snow from sidewalks into the public streets of the Borough. The tenant, occupant or owner of all properties in the Borough must remove snow and ice from sidewalks within twenty-four hours after the end of the weather event.

EARNED INCOME TAX

Please mail all earned income tax payments, quarterly returns, final returns, and any other documents relating to earned income tax directly to Berkheimer Associates. Make checks payable to HAB-EIT and mail to Berkheimer Associates, P.O. Box 902, Bangor, PA 18013-0902. Please do not mail payments to the Borough Hall or deposit payments in the Borough Hall drop box. Berkheimer's Pittsburgh office can be reached at 412-881-3075 or toll free at 1-800-242-1222, www.hab-inc.com.

AVONWORTH COMMUNITY PARK

Park rentals and information.....412-766-1700

Website.....www.avonworthcommunitypark.org

2008 COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday (except November and December, which are held on the 2nd Tuesday) of the month at 7 PM at the Borough Hall.

AVON PARK / WALKING TRAIL

Please make a point to visit our park. The park can be accessed from either Perrysville Avenue or Walnut Road. A new merry-go-round has been installed and other improvements have been made. A walking trail was created from Spruce Run Road to the park. The safest routes to walk to the park are either via the walking trail or Walnut Road. Car access to the park is available via Perrysville Ave.

BOOKMOBILE

The Bookmobile is at the Ben Avon Borough Hall every Saturday from 10 AM to 11 AM. You can check out books, videos and music CDs. For further information regarding service and scheduling, contact the Allegheny County Library Association Bookmobile Center at 412-921-2521.

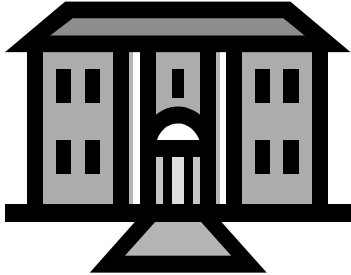
NEWSPAPER RECYCLING

As an alternative to placing newspaper and other recycled items at your curb for recycling pickup, the Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Department collects newspapers, magazines and mail circulars to be recycled. Telephone books, plastic or metal items will not be accepted. You can drop off your materials behind the fire department in the special bin. For more information, please contact 412-761-7566.

Free Email Update About Events in Ben Avon:

Go to www.benavon.com and click the link on the home page.

PROJECT UPDATES



Updated Zoning Ordinance

Ben Avon, Bellevue, and Avalon continue to work on a shared zoning ordinance. It is a regional approach to guiding land use and protecting our property values. Doing it together gives each community much more flexibility than doing it individually. It also insures that the region will develop properly and consistently. We are receiving state grants that offset the majority of the cost because it is a multi-municipal project.

Veterans Memorial Monument

Ben Avon received two state grants with the help of our state representative Tom Petrone. Those grants will offset most of the cost of a new war memorial that will be erected in front of the fire station. The granite structure will hold the three existing plaques from previous conflicts that used to hang inside the Borough Hall. It will prominently feature the six branches of the military. There will also be space for future plaques.

Street Repairs Completed

We continue to focus on maintaining and improving our streets and sewers. Last year Forest Avenue was repaved between Church and Brighton. Due to a compression problem the pavement began to deteriorate. This year the contractor replaced the bad asphalt at no cost to the Borough. Perrysville Avenue was repaved from the Borough line to Dickson Avenue. Sewer improvement and repairs were also completed as a part of that project. An inspector was hired for that project to avoid the problems we faced with Forest Avenue. We are working with the contractor to resolve curb exposure problems.

New Borough Garage (Spruce Run Road)

The D.P.W. garage was in need of major repairs and was not big enough to store and protect all of our equipment. A new steel garage is being built at the same location. The new garage will allow us to protect our investment in equipment and give our crew a single safe place to stage their workday.

RAIN WATER REMINDER

Please remember the rain water on our streets ends up in the Ohio River. Please refrain from dumping chemicals, pet waste and all other toxic waste onto the streets or into the catch basins.

PRESORT STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PITTSBURGH, PA

**** ECR-WSS**
POSTAL PATRON LOCAL

BEN AVON BOROUGH INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS

Borough Secretary	T & TH	8 AM – 4 PM
	Wednesday	8 AM – Noon

Real Estate Tax Office: Office Hours By Appointment

Occasionally, borough business takes the staff out of the office necessitating closing the Borough Hall or changing office hours. If it is necessary to see someone at the office, we recommend you phone ahead or make an appointment.

**BUILDING INSPECTION/
CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Building Inspection Underwriters of PA, Inc.
317 South Home Avenue, Avalon, PA 15202
Telephone 412-766-2565; Fax 412-766-2711
Website: www.biupa.com
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4 PM

BOROUGH DIRECTORY

Borough Secretary	412-766-7704
Borough Hall Fax	412-766-7311
Public Works Department	412-761-5311
Real Estate Tax Office	412-766-7704
Jordan Tax Service	412-835-5243
Waste Management	1-800-866-4460
Berkheimer Associates	1-800-242-1222
Building Inspection / Code Enforcement	412-766-2565
Avonworth School District Admin. Office	412-369-8738
Avonworth Community Park (ACORD)	412-766-1700
Ohio Twp. Police Admin. Office	412-364-4338

**Police, Fire and Ambulance
Emergencies 9-1-1
Non-Emergencies 412-473-3056**

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