BALLY BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

425 Chestnut Street * PO Box 217 * Bally, PA 19503
610-845-2351 * Fax 610-845-2023
Business Hours: 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Web Page: www.ballyboro.org
E-Mail: bally@comcast.net
Volume 37 Issue 1 Spring 2023

Mayor: David Schott

Borough Council
President: Glenn Mutter
Vice President: Michael Moll
Michael Bauman * Joshua Sloan
Joel Pilgert * Matthew Gehman
Paul Gehringer

Manager/Treas: Wendy Mutter
Secretary: Tammy Wood
Solicitor: Richard T. Curley
Tax Collector: Beth Spaid

Engineers
Systems Design Engineering

Code Enforcement
Kraft Code Services

Planning Commission
Keith Zimpfer * Stu Leavitt
Thomas Leister * Mike Mutter *
George Naylor

Zoning Hearing Board
Brad Ibach * Robert Heintz
Patrick Frank

Upcoming Events:
March 14-17: Bally Hotel Irish Wake
March 30: Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt 1pm Bally Park
March 31: Hometown Hero Banner order deadline
April 13: Bally Mennonite Church Pancake Breakfast fundraiser
May ???: Bally Community Yard Sale dates to be determined
May 25: Bally Community pool opens at Noon

Bally Borough Council

The Bally Borough Council meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Borough Council room. All residents are welcome to attend. If you wish to address the council, you must sign in on the sheet located in front of the council president seat.

POOL FILL CREDIT

Anyone requesting a sewer credit for filling their swimming pool **must** fill out the pool fill credit form included in this mailing. Pool fills occurring in May, June and July can be submitted on one form and returned to the Borough office no later than August 16th for credit on the September water/sewer bill. You must collect a meter reading before starting the fill and after you stop. If filling over multiple days, readings must be taken daily and water should not be left running overnight. Credits are given in 1000 gallon increments and total usage must exceed the 5000 gallon minimum usage. If you have questions concerning pool fill credits, please contact the Borough office.

Bally Park Playground

The Borough has ordered the new swings for the playground. The set will include 4 individuals swings, a "birdnest" swing and 2 "you and me" swings. We hope to have the swings installed prior to school break. We will also be installing the backboards and hoops on the new basketball court. The next playground item to purchase will be an embankment slide.



Bally Community Pool

The Bally Community Pool will open on Saturday, May 25th at noon to begin the 2024 pool season. The pool will be open daily from Noon to 7 pm. The pool will celebrate Memorial Day, May 27th with $5 admission price and $1 hot dogs available at the concession stand. Pool membership forms have been sent to previous membership purchasers. The form is also available by email, on the Borough website or in person at the Borough office. If your paid membership is received at the Borough office BEFORE May 1st, you may deduct 5% off the price of the membership fee.

BARDS NEWS…

Sadly, we've had to discontinue the Annual PA Dutch Pot Pie Fundraiser our largest annual fundraiser, which raised $4000 last year. However, we still need your support!

Donations can now be made online at www.ballyrec.org/donate . Donate once OR better yet, set up a small monthly contribution. Checks must be made out to "Bally Borough—BARDS" and mailed or dropped off at the Borough Office, 425 Chestnut St.

2024 Projects BARDS needs your help with…

Pool Fence Banner Sponsorships—To display your advertising banner on the pool fence for 1 year, please call 484-241-5490. There are 2 sizes and sponsorship levels.

Save the Pool Parking Lot—we've raised just $1500 of the anticipated $3000 sealcoating cost. If you give a little, it would help save the lot!

Community Park Tree Fund—the Bally Borough has set aside $200 annually for the future purchase of trees in the park. BARDS supporters have already agreed to match that, but here's where you come in! BARDS will match your donation to the Tree Fund up to $500 if you can get a check donation to the Borough office before May 1st. Just write '"Tree Fund" in the memo field. We hope to be able to build up this fund to $1500.

Bally CAN Recycling Campaign—BARDS is collecting aluminum cans! Please bag and drop your aluminum cans at the large blue receptacle in the pool parking lot OR call Joshua at 484-241-5490 for pick up when you have a number saved up! Aluminum beverage cans and pet food cans only.

2024 StoryWalk® – Spring will bring the return of the children's stories in the park. This is a partnership between BARDS and the Boyertown Community Library. The storybook will change monthly. Not only are StoryWalks a fun activity for children, but they offer literacy and health benefits.

Volunteers are always needed. Get Involved! Email: events@ballyrec.org or online at www.facebook.com/ballyrec or call 484-241-5490.

BALLY LIONS CLUB NEWS

Bally Easter Egg Hunt. Our local traditional Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for SATURDAY, MARCH 30th AT 1 PM in the Bally Community Park. Bring your kiddos and their Easter baskets. Egg hunting spaces will be divided by age groups. Park anywhere around the park and look for the Lions Club members around the covered Pavilions. Egg Hunt begins at 1PM, so come early and be ready.



Hometown Hero Banners. The Bally Lions Club is continuing the Hometown Hero Banner program. Banners may be purchased at a cost of $250 and honor local military veterans and emergency responders from the area. Banners are hung along Main Street from May through November as long as the banner is in good condition. You may request a New or Replacement order form from the Borough office or by calling (484) 241-5490. Deadline for new banner applications is March 31st

Free Medical Lending Equipment Lending Program. The Bally Lions Club has wheelchairs, hospital beds, walkers, commodes and more. They are available for use to any Bally area resident in need. For more information, feel free to contact Rick Ingram at 484-358-6496.

Porta Potty in the Park. With the permission and help of the Borough, the Lions have once again sponsored a year-round handicap accessible porta potty in the Community Park. It is located near the side parking lot on North 4th Street.

Scott Moll Scholarship Fund. High School Seniors going to college who live in Bally and Washington Township should contact the Boyertown High School counselor for the scholarship application. Deadline is April 30th. The scholarship award will be a minimum of $1000.

Donations. Your donations are used to support our local community activities. If you would like to donate to the Lions Club, you may make a check payable to Bally Lions Club Charity and mail to:

Bally Lions Club
PO Box 285
Bally, PA 19503

Find the Bally Lions Club online at: Facebook.com/ballylions

2023 TAX COLLECTION DATES

County/Borough/School Tax Collector, Beth Spaid
Location: 204 S. 7th Street, Bally, PA 19503
Collection Hours: 5:00 PM to 7:00 pm weekdays
11:00 am to 1:00 pm weekends (4/27 & 8/24)
April 17,18,23,24,27,30
June 26
August 21,22,24,27,28,29
October 29 and December 26

Anyone in need of special concessions may call 610-845-9590 after 4:30 PM. The tax collector is willing to work with your special needs. Please remember to check the sitting hours above before arriving at the tax collectors residence.

*****If you have more than one bill, you may put all of the payments on one check.**
*****Requests for mailed receipts require a self addressed stamped envelope with payment**

A Message from Eastern Berks Fire Department:

We thank you for your support again in 2023 as we conclude another busy year at EBFD, both on the emergency side of what we do 24/7, and in our efforts to relocate to a central station to better serve our 5 municipalities. We responded to fires in structures, vehicles, woods & brush; for trees and wires down in the roadway; motor vehicle accidents and rescues; and traffic control. In all there were 471 emergency dispatches in 2023 – 47 of them in Bally, an average of 4 a month.

Over one quarter of our dispatches continue to be requests to assist local EMS units for cardiac arrests, lifting assistance, providing initial patient care when our local ambulance is out on another call, and providing a driver at times so both EMS crew members can tend to a critical patient.

We were able to buy 3 acres of land last year in an area along Rt 100 that we can effectively serve all five of our municipalities. Watch for more news in the coming year about the future & central fire station in that area.

A new Attack truck (mini-pumper) was ordered last year at a cost of $500,000 (half of what a full size pumper would cost) and will be delivered in early 2025.

Funding still continues to be the most critical long-term need for this department and most others in PA as you see and hear in the news daily. Our 100% volunteer fire personnel cannot continue to respond to the increasing number of needs, at this high level of care and still be expected to hold chicken barbecues, raffles, and boot drives, or fill swimming pools to fund the needs of a 21st Century fire/rescue department while still training, practicing, and preparing for the next 911 call.

We are working with all five of our municipalities to institute a fair and equitable fire tax in 2025 to provide that reliable funding, while having a minimal impact on each property owner. Historically only 25% of all our 9000 residents that we serve give anything towards the volunteer fire/rescue services that you expect to show up and help when they call 911.

Until that time, watch for our 2024 Fund Drive letter which should arrive in your mail shortly. Please be generous.



Borough Projects

The Borough hopes to complete a storm water and sewer lateral project along parts of North and South 7th streets, and Chestnut this year, in preparation for paving South 7th in 2025. The work is necessary to control rain water and to reduce the need to cut open the roadway after it has been paved. We are aware that many side streets could also use a new layer of macadam, and we will be looking to pave those streets in years to come.

The Borough continues to work on the park playground and storm water control in the area, all made possible through grant money received from the State. Swings should be in place by Summer and an embankment slide is planned with remaining funds.

BALLY COMMUNITY AMBULANCE

The 2023 Bally Community Ambulance membership forms have been mailed. 2024 membership dues may be dropped off at the Borough Hall or mailed to:

Bally Community Ambulance Association
PO Box 353
Bally, PA 19503



If you have not received a membership form, blank forms are available at the Borough Hall.

Bally Community Yard Sale Weekend



The Borough will host its second Community Yard Sale Weekend, in May. Watch for information on the date on our Facebook page and our web page. The dates will be determined at the March 5th Borough Council meeting.

Bally Mennonite Church Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Bally Mennonite Church, Route 100, Bally, will host a pancake breakfast on April 13, from 7:00 to 10:30 am. Pancakes & French toast, scrapple & sausage, eggs, juices, coffee and tea will all be available. Cost is a donation of any amount. Proceeds will benefit Bally Community Center. Come out to fill your belly and support a good cause.

