

Take me out to the ball game!



Quiet night in New Berlin with nothing to do?

Venture creekside to the New Berlin Recreation park and take in a ball game. The 2010 season kicks into high gear on April 26th with week night and Saturday morning games running through June 12th. Grab your ballpark frank and call it a night out on the town.

Re-HYDRATE after Re-CYCLING... Gather at *The Inn at New Berlin*

Schedule **Friday, April 30th at *The Inn* from 6:30pm** until you determine it's time to leave. After visiting Chub at the recycling center earlier this same evening, celebrate those unclogged spaces.

Join friends and neighbors; meet new friends and neighbors. It's a casual come-as-you-are time to indulge in a Dutch treat (drink) or appetizer or even dinner. Live piano music and sample tastings from *The Inn at New Berlin's* spring menu will be featured.

First time to *The Inn*? Hospitality reigns and you'll definitely feel welcome. An opportunity to meet and greet each other.

Memorial Day in New Berlin *Monday, May 31st*

Reserve merely an hour on your holiday calendar to pay respects to fallen soldiers who have served to protect and preserve our American freedom. The parade forms at the Legion at 1:30pm, moving down Market Street at 2pm with a service of commemoration culminating at the cemetery. Our Mifflinburg Area High School Marching Band will perform in the parade as well as at the cemetery. Let us honor this tradition.



The New Berlin Herald

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New Berlin Energy Independence Project update in this issue!

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New Berlin Community Calendar at a Glance

- **BINGO** is played every Tuesday evening at the New Berlin American Legion beginning at 6:30pm. Proceeds benefit New Berlin Little League Baseball and the New Berlin Recreational Park.
- **New Berlin Fire Company** meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Fire Hall.
- **New Berlin Borough Council** meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Community Center.
- **New Berlin Lions Club** meets the third Monday of the month at 6:00pm at the Community Center for dinner, business, and program.

April

Friday	April	30	UCC Yard & Rummage Sale, lunch stand (continues May 1)
Friday	April	30	Union County Recycling Event at the New Berlin Recycling Center (continues May 1)
Friday	April	30	New Berliners' Gathering at The Inn at New Berlin

May

Saturday	May	1	Community Yard Sales
Sunday	May	9	Mother's Day Ham & Turkey Dinner at the Firemen's Social Hall, serving from 10:30am until ?
Tuesday	May	18	Primary Election Day, voting at the New Berlin Community Center, 7am until 8pm
Monday	May	31	Memorial Day parade & service at the cemetery, parade forms at 1:30pm and moves at 2pm

June

Saturday	June	12	New Berlin Strawberry Festival at the creekside Recreation Park, 5pm until 8pm
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TMS: Too Much Stuff?

YARD SALES & COUNTY RECYCLING EVENT HIT NEW BERLIN

Purge your recyclable surplus on Water Street, then roam the town for others' treasures. Prepare now for displaying yard sale goods on **Saturday, May 1st beginning at 8am** and continuing until the afternoon when individual vendors declare their own sign-out times. Participants should note that a member of the New Berlin Activities Committee will circulate to collect the nominal \$3 per set-up contribution to cover marketing expenses benefiting all participants.

Definitely do not plan to prepare lunch on this day as the Methodist, UCC, and Lutheran Churches in town each plan to offer significant food fare. Menu selections include BBQ, hot dogs, soups, desserts (to eat on-the-spot as well as bake sale portions), and beverages. **Please note that the UCC will be open for yard and rummage sale business as well as lunch on both Friday, April 30th and Saturday, May 1st.**

P.S. In the spring, there will be no pick-up truck for collection of yard sale leftovers. This service is offered in the fall only.

UNION COUNTY-WIDE 2010 RECYCLING EVENT Closets, garages & basements rejoice!

WHERE: New Berlin Recycling Center, 700 Water Street in New Berlin

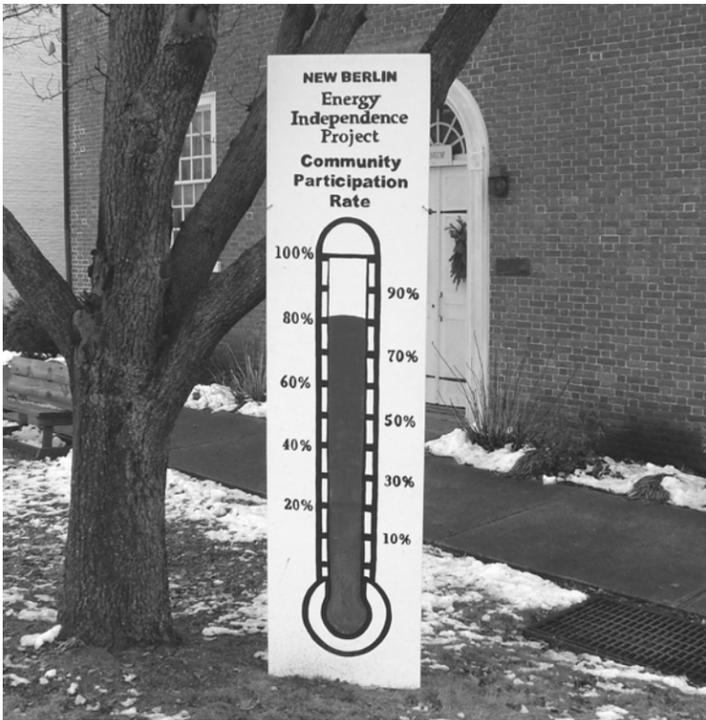
WHEN: **Friday, April 30 — 4pm to 7pm & Saturday, May 1 — 8am to 12noon**

WHAT: Appliances, metals, electronics, computers, clothing, textiles

COSTS: Basically free. Exceptions: \$5 fee for each air conditioner, dehumidifier, TV, freezer, refrigerator, and all items with freon; all doors must be removed from refrigerators and freezers

NOT ACCEPTED: Pillows, mattresses, carpets, rugs, large speakers, tires

MORE INFO: Recycling hotline at (570) 524-9300, UnionCountyPA.org, & info on our post office bulletin board



New Berlin Energy Independence Project Update

The New Berlin Energy Independence (NBEI) Committee would like to thank those of you who have completed project surveys for your participation in the NBEI Project to date. Much of the information collected through the surveys will inform the community-wide audit. SEDA-COG has been gathering additional information for the audit. Upon validation of the information gathered, the results of the audit will be shared. The audit will be used as a basis for the action plan which the committee is excited to develop and share with the community.

Additionally, SEDA-COG has been working on a website dedicated solely to the NBEI Project. The website will launch soon, and will feature project-related information as well as technical and financial resources. In the meantime, don't forget to bookmark www.seda-cog.org/energy - a comprehensive site about all things energy!

In response to concerns - and sometimes confusion - expressed by New Berlin about electric choice (the ability to purchase your electricity generation), the New Berlin Energy Independence Committee held a public meeting on March 3rd, at which PPL explained electric choice. Additionally, PPL provided residents with information about their Energy Efficiency & Conservation programs available to assist its customers to reduce their energy consumption. On behalf of the NBEI Committee, thank you to the 50 community members who turned out for the Town Meeting in March.

It's not too late to complete a project survey – if you haven't completed a survey and you'd like to participate in the NBEI project, contact SEDA-COG's Megan Epler at (570) 524-4491 or mepler@seda-cog.org.

Home Assessment & Weatherization Program

For those residents who don't qualify for free weatherization services...

PPL is expected to begin offering its \$50 walk-through energy surveys to residential customers within its 29-county service area, including New Berlin residents, in mid-April. PPL will also offer rebates toward the cost of obtaining more comprehensive, whole-house energy assessments from qualified private sector providers. To qualify for this program you must be a PPL customer that heats your home with electricity or has central air conditioning. The New Berlin Energy Independence Committee encourages New Berlin residents to learn about these programs being offered under Act 129 so that you can take advantage of opportunities to reduce your costs and move toward energy independence. More about the programs follows.

Through **PPL Electric Utilities' (PPLEU) Home Assessment and Weatherization Program**, trained energy surveyors and energy auditors help you to identify effective ways to reduce energy usage, improve efficiency and save money. This program offers two home energy assessment options at reduced prices. In both cases, energy experts will install several free energy-saving measures as part of the survey or audit, and provide you with recommendations and rebate information to help make your home more energy efficient.

With the **Walk-Through Survey**, an energy auditor will install a limited amount of free energy saving measures including CFLs, smart power strips, faucet aerators and water heater pipe insulation. You'll also get advice on ways to improve your home's energy efficiency. In materials alone, the value of this walk-through survey exceeds the \$50 cost of the program.

A **Certified Energy Audit** includes diagnostic testing of your home performed by auditors certified by the Building Performance Institute (BPI), as well as all the measures performed and recommendations provided by the **Walk-Through Survey**. The customer pays for the full cost of the audit, which will vary by individual auditor. This program reimburses you \$250 if you have both electric heat and central air conditioning or \$150 if you only have central air conditioning (non-electric heat).

Visit www.pplelectric.com/e-power for additional program details, to schedule a walk-through and to obtain a list of certified BPI auditors. Additional information about these and other energy efficiency and conservation programs will be provided by PPL through inserts in customers' bills, in the next issue of The Herald, and through public meetings arranged by the New Berlin Energy Independence Committee in early summer.

PPL E-PowerWise

PPL Electric Utilities residential customers with income at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty level can take advantage of the **E-PowerWise program**, provided by PPL Electric Utilities at NO COST to eligible customers. The E-PowerWise Program helps families help themselves by learning about and adopting energy savings tips and by self-installing energy saving products in their homes.

Qualifying households can attend an energy savings workshop in Mifflinburg or Selinsgrove and receive an Easy Savings Kit. The Kit includes a Quick Start Guide and FREE high-quality, energy-efficient products for your home.

Each Kits includes:

- 1 – 15 Watt CFL
- 1 – 20 Watt CFL
- 1 – Kitchen Faucet Aerator
- 1 – Bathroom Faucet Aerator
- 1 – High-Efficiency Showerhead
- 1 – Digital Thermometer (to measure water temperature & the temperature of your refrigerator & freezer)
- 1 – LimeLite[®] Night Light
- 1 – Reminder Stickers/Magnet

Workshops are being held at the SUM Child Development Head Start Center in Mifflinburg & at the Union-Snyder Community Action Center in Selinsgrove on the following dates:

SUM Child Development Early Head Start Center in Mifflinburg

Thursday, May 20 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Union-Snyder Community Action Center in Selinsgrove

Monday, April 26 from 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Monday, May 10 from 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Monday, May 24 from 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Monday, June 7 from 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Thursday, June 17 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Saturday, June 19 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Visit PPL's website at www.ppleasysavings.com for program details and to view a complete list of upcoming workshops.



New Berlin energy independence isn't a new idea. Pictured above is the old grist mill and dam on Penns Creek. For a period, the dam was also a source of hydro-electric power.

Free Energy-Related Services

No fooling - Several state, federal and utility programs offer FREE energy-related services to households with qualifying incomes.

Many New Berlin residents who completed New Berlin Energy Independence Project survey forms in November and December of 2009 qualify for FREE energy-related services. If you have received an application from SEDA-COG's Weatherization department, it means that your household qualifies for free weatherization services. In order to take advantage of these services, however, you must complete the application and return it in order to begin the process of having a Weatherization technician come to your home to perform an energy assessment and then perform the energy conservation measures as indicated by the energy assessment.

Free energy-related services can include the following:

- Seal air leaks
- Repair and adjust heating systems
- Seal and insulate distribution system
- Insulate and increase efficiency of hot water distribution system
- Install insulation where needed and practical
- Install high-efficiency lighting where appropriate
- Install programmable thermostats
- Test for indoor air quality, and take corrective action if necessary

SEDA-COG's Weatherization department is making follow up phone calls to assist in the completion of Weatherization applications. If you have any questions, feel free to call SEDA-COG at (570) 524.4491 and ask for Faye Miklosi.

Additional funding for this program has been provided through the federal economic recovery act in order to assist more qualifying households to receive this free energy-reduction service. These services will help you to reduce energy consumption which will ultimately lower your energy bills. Please help yourself and support New Berlin to reduce its energy consumption by participating in these programs!



No Rope Left Behind Revisited

This year's wooden miniature block offered by the New Berlin Heritage Association as a fundraiser on New Berlin Day will feature the former bridge across Penns Creek...depicting its recreational as well as transportation functions. This 150 piece limited edition will sell for \$17 and will be available through a form in the summer edition of THE HERALD.

Get a preview below of the text on the back of the block:

"On September 3, 2007, more than 70 years of tradition were commemorated as the town's swimming hole rope was officially retired from the old metal bridge, soon to be dismantled and replaced by a third more modern span. For generations, New Berlin's youth had gathered at the bridge, jumping from the top metal rail and taking running rope jumps off the center pier ledge that had remained from the original covered bridge (1876-1936).

Today we can only reminisce: the covered bridge pier, the singing metal bridge, and a hot summer rope plunge into the cooling waters of Penns Creek. As part of our New Berlin heritage, the Penns Creek swinging rope swimming ritual lives on in memories as we cross the newest bridge dedicated in 2008."



Colbey Russell Earns Eagle Award

New Berlin Boy Scout Colbey Russell recently attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Family, friends, and fellow Scouts gathered Sunday, April 18th at the New Berlin American Legion for the presentation of the award and the dedication of Colbey's Eagle project to the legion.

For his Eagle project, Colbey created a flag crematorium as a final disposal for retired American flags. 26 Scouts joined Colbey in performing 220 hours of work in building the crematorium. Colbey's father, Marty Russell, accepted the gift on behalf of the Benfer-Miller Post.

Flags ready for retirement may be deposited at a drop box at the front entrance of the New Berlin Legion.

New Berlin on Facebook On-line Community Bulletin Board

New Berliners live in a quaint historical village, but are, in reality, quite modern in their approach to life. Amazingly, New Berlin itself has a FACEBOOK page with over 200 fans (members) who search the site for the latest scoop on what's new (and what's news) in this small burg. There are friends who live in New Berlin, those who have relatives here, and those who have other connections to this Penns Creek community. FACEBOOK is a source for connecting to a web of people who cross (or have crossed) your path and a source for general information such as the recent cable installation and the one-day gathering at Sonbucks Coffee House at the town's Lutheran Church.

You can join **FACEBOOK.com** at no cost; the only prerequisite is an email account. It's like having a community bulletin board, accessible in your own home and at any hour.

CORRECTION. For our detailed readers: our last issue was incorrectly numbered as #9 instead of #10, therefore #11 is correct for this issue.



Lawyers Again Inhabit 408 Market

"What goes around comes around", they say. The site of Hackenberg & Potter's current offices served as Union County's first State House which was home to the Register & Recorder, Prothonotary, Treasurer, and law offices. The last session held in the Court House right next door was in September 1855 with all public buildings being sold on December 30, 1859.

More recently, New Berliners can remember Edith Solomon's role in keeping this State House (her home until she passed away several years ago) a community icon by serving locals coffee, cookies, and rich conversation in her living room after they fetched the mail. Lori and Ken invite you, too, to visit this stately house as their neighbors and friends; step inside during office hours and view their restoration and renovations. Specifically note the painted fraktur-style frame around the 1831 signature of George Lehman on the original horse-hair plaster on the building's dining room wall. (Artwork by Donna Spangler.) This legal duo is firm in their invitation to take a peek.

Attorneys Lori Hackenberg and Kenneth Potter are both graduates of Widener University School of Law where they accumulated honors and positions while matriculating there. Their landing in New Berlin as Hackenberg & Potter LLC now ranks as an asset for our small community. With focus on a team approach to protecting your legacy--incorporating individuals' professionals such as financial advisors and accountants--they provide specific recommendations on guarding assets against long-term care costs.

Addressing issues of nursing home care plans, the standard of living for the spouse at home, decreasing burdens on children, and protecting homes from Medicaid liens after death, Attorneys Hackenberg and Potter have scheduled several Medicaid informational sessions. Please call 966-1098 to reserve space at their next free session on May 11th at 6:30pm at their 408 Market Street office in New Berlin.



THE GARDEN OF GOOD & PLENTY

According to the U.N. Food & Agriculture Organization, in 2009 world hunger reached a historic high with 1.02 billion people going hungry every day. Every day.

And some of this need is in our very own community. New Berlin's ministers are well aware of this situation as they disperse food through the town's food pantry.

The current director of the World Hunger Program purports, however, that "the earth has enough resources to provide adequate nutrition for all." Hunger is neither inevitable nor hopeless. We can make a difference.

The difference begins now with **THE GARDEN OF GOOD & PLENTY** as a community project orchestrated by Messiah Lutheran Church. (Emphasis is placed on the term community project.) Bobbi Pardi has offered a small plot of tilled land in her backyard for the planting and harvesting of vegetables and herbs with the anticipation of sharing this season's harvest at a table to be set up on Messiah's "front porch" every Saturday and Sunday mornings during the weeks that "field yields" are available. This table will be a sequel to the successful **Harvest Table** that was set up in the post office lot two years ago for the purpose of sharing the community's surplus produce, herbs, and flowers with all neighbors.

All New Berliners are invited to contribute surplus garden harvest (even zucchinis) to the table and then to take whatever they can use from others' contributions.

This is a venue for sharing the bounty. Simply stated, it's free food that would otherwise spoil: "Waste not, want not" our ancestors used to say.

Look for this table in the months to come. Please bring your own bags or market basket...and your contribution if you have a surplus.

P.S. In planning and planting your garden this spring, please consider planting a sharable harvest for The Garden of Good & Plenty.



**New Berlin Fire Company
Annual Mother's Day Dinner
Sunday, May 9th, serving from 10:30am until ?
Firemen's Social Hall, Ham & Turkey**

**Limb & Brush Clean-Up
Saturday, May 8th
Have limbs and brush curb-side by 9:30am for
borough pick-up. Tree limbs and branches greater than
7 inches in diameter will not be taken.**



New Berlin's Big Dig 2010



A report on New Berlin's sewer project: "IT'S A FLUID OPERATION."

The quote above by Kurt Zimmerman, New Berlin Municipal Authority (N.B.M.A.) Chairman, allows him to talk more freely about the wastewater project, knowing that the status could change as construction progresses. "Everything is moving along smoothly and on schedule at this time; however, with a project this size, anything can happen. The Authority is closely monitoring the work," Kurt reports. The bottom line is that our current treatment plant is over 40 years old and when the current plant was built in 1968, it had a life expectancy of 20-25 years. In the past few decades, it's been band-aided to safely comply with DEP regulations.

In 2001, a study was done (Act 537 study) to determine the future growth of New Berlin and surrounding area and to pinpoint problem areas in the affected study area. Coordination of efforts between New Berlin Borough, Limestone Township, and their respective Municipal Authorities were paramount and took time. The Department of Environmental Protection had to review the study and agree to the final plan. It wasn't until June of 2005 that DEP finally approved the Act 537 plan which allowed N.B.M.A. to proceed with applying for funding and moving forward with the project. The final approved version of the Act 537 plan included extension of sewer services north and west of the Borough as well as complete replacement of the current creekside plant. Funding was no small project of its own for the \$6 million + project. Relief came last year through the PennVest Program with a very fortunate guarantee of a 1% loan for 20 years. In addition, state and federal grants totaling \$4.5 million have been awarded to the N.B.M.A.

With design, funding and bidding completed, construction of the new wastewater treatment plant and line extension has begun and is progressing well with nearly 30% completion to date. The contractors predict that in less than a year the treatment plant and the extensive trunk lines should be completed. It may take a little longer for individual connections to be completed.



New Berlin is STRUNG OUT.

The Mississippi company North Eastern ITS is the private investor running underground cable from Cleveland through New Berlin and now extending to New Jersey. Rumor has it that this cable may continue along the eastern seaboard to Florida and even westward to Seattle. Only rumors at this point as the panoply of funding and interstate permits provide layers of complications.

The main cable which runs a "straight" line from Ohio to New Jersey has three conduits: one for the soon-to-be-installed fiber-optic cable, one for reserve, and one for future local hook-ups if other carriers such as hospitals and schools want to get involved. The entire underground cable is being laid before threading the fiber-optic portion; this latter phase has already begun in Ohio with crews forecast in New Berlin in about a month.

The goal of this project is to service rural areas through traversing backroads rather than focusing on an I-80 route. Because this project reflects a public entity, it can use public rights-of-way, working with Penn-DOT and navigating all necessary permits.

This project reflects the newest and most esteemed high-tech, high-capacity system---ahead of Verizon and ATT---in providing faster and more efficient phone, TV, computer, and other media services. And it's happening in little 'ole New Berlin.



USE IT (PROPERLY) OR LOSE IT.

If New Berlin's entire recycling area could talk, it'd probably bellow Rodney Dangerfield's mantra, "I don't get no respect!" And as a community, we are in danger of losing these valuable services of recycling, leaf collection, etc. due to non-compliance.

RECYCLING. Every Monday, Chub Hummel---our borough's "makin'-it-happen" person---spends hours adjusting the contents of the recycling bins to delete forbidden items. Note that NO pizza boxes means NO pizza boxes. Please read the straightforward signs in front of each recycling trailer.

LEAF & GRASS COLLECTION AREA. It seems that a new leaf species is emerging in this area, perhaps labeled "homo sapiens litterus"? Leaves, grass, and a major clump of garbage and paper litter were recently evident in this section.

TREE LIMBS. Rather than taking tree limbs to the dump above the reservoir, please call Chub@966-2677. He will come to you with his chipper rather than deal with unwieldy limbs on the mountain.

COAL & WOOD ASH. Goodness sake...please do not dump this refuse in the borough's salt pile!

Taking services for granted is easy; complying and then remembering to extend a word of thanks and appreciation might take an extra minute or two. **Thanks now to Chub, borough council, staff, and community volunteers.**

TEAM PHOTO SEARCH



The New Berlin Giants around 1950, top row left to right: Bob Wittes, Coach Ellsworth Snook, Sr., Jay Smith, Orville Spangler, Henry Walter, Larry Miller, Coach Archie Miller, and Ray Mincemoyer. Bottom row left to right: Dale Smith, Don Eaton, Garth Miller, and Ken Solomon.

Before memories fade, Cub Snook plans to compile a photo history of New Berlin baseball from its inception in 1949 until the present. He is soliciting team photos (not photos of individual players) to add to his current collection of four teams from the 1970s and three from the 1980s and the treasured 1949 team photo representing the original ball program envisioned by Grandpa Ellsworth Snook and Archie Miller.

PLEASE search drawers and albums for any photos in your collection. Cub will make copies and promptly return originals. Cub can be reached at 966-6328 or cubasnook@hotmail.com. **There is no time left to procrastinate on this one as Cub would prefer to have the photos by May 15th.**



The New Berlin Red Sox around 1950, top row left to right: Frank Reichard, Coach Ellsworth Snook, Sr., Marvin Miller, Dan Dervin, Jim Wittes, Victor Dervin, and Tim Spangler. Bottom row left to right: Robert DeVett, Fred Derr, Bill Dalius, Bill Musser, Robert Seebold, and Dave Hummel.