



16146

A privately-funded newsletter to the citizens of Sharon sponsored by Sharon Community and Economic Development Commission. 5th Edition - Spring/Summer 2013

WaterFire SharonPA! The region's newest and most creative arts event series

"That by everyone doing their small part we can completely transform a place, or a city, or a life, or a community. We're celebrating the glory that can be brought working all together." – Barnaby Evans



Imagine...

Over fifty sparkling bonfires on the Shenango River, the aroma of cedar and pine in the air, flickering firelight and silhouettes of firetenders passing by the flames as you stroll along the river and city streets enjoying enchanting music, ethnic food tastings and performers from around the globe. Imagine dancing to the sounds of a big band under the stars in an outdoor ballroom after participating in unique arts experiences throughout the day with the entire family. This is WaterFire Sharon.

Each day-long event will begin at 10:00 a.m. and offer music, food and interactive arts centered on a unique theme; all free of charge to the public. Actual WaterFire performances will begin at dusk. Attendees can take leisurely boat rides during lightings,

and experience the performance in a more intimate way. Fire performers and other entertainers will add to the experience on, and around, the river—all accompanied by an enchanting mix of live and recorded music. The day will end at the WaterFire Ballroom, part of the grand WaterFire installation, and will feature live music, dance lessons and demonstrations, and open dancing under the stars.

Although WaterFire Sharon is a seasonal production, it is being built on volunteerism. In order for it to be successful, volunteers are needed year-round to assist in all aspects of event production and special projects.

VOLUNTEER!

At any one WaterFire lighting, up to 150 volunteers will be needed!

Representing "everyman," the traditional Greek Chorus and our communal spirit, WaterFire volunteers will be dressed in black to create an unobtrusive, ceremonial presence.

In the off-season, volunteers will be needed to help with boat building and repairs, mechanical tasks, fundraising, preparations for the next season and the occasional special project. Diverse talents are needed to make WaterFire Sharon a reality.

The public is invited to discover just how much excitement and fun there is in producing such a unique and exciting event!

For information on WaterFire Sharon, visit www.WaterFireSharonPa.org or email us at info@waterfiresharonpa.org to join our email list.



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WATERFIRE, Sharon, PA



August 3: ArtBeat

The first event will begin with a **5K run/walk** in partnership with the Community Food Warehouse and Reyers. Throughout the day, enjoy an **arts festival and ethnic food booths**. You will be able to watch the day go by as artists trace the shadows of event happenings. At dusk, **the beats of world drums accompany the WaterFire lighting** as we celebrate the art of life. Drums represent the world's oldest and most ubiquitous musical instruments and are used in ritual ceremonies, communication, war, peace and celebration. End the day **swing dancing to the beats of Dr. Zoot** at the WaterFire Ballroom.

The Fourth Annual "Race to End Hunger" will benefit the Community Food Warehouse. Walkers/Runners who cross the finish line will have a chance to win \$1,000. Visit www.foodwarehouse.org for more information/application or call (724) 981-0353.

September 14: World Fire

The city will be sectioned into countries **exhibiting food, art, dance and music** from each culture. Using a passport to enter through elaborate doorways highlighted by sidewalk chalk paintings, spend the day exploring cultures of the world. Fire and humans have coevolved, like the bonded strands of a DNA molecule, providing social illumination and natural renewal. The two are inseparable, and together they have shaped the world landscape. World Fire celebrates the distinct differences of the cultures blended into the American melting pot and extracts them from the melting pot as individual shining flames during the **WaterFire lighting cultural parade** featuring spectacles from around the globe. Warm up with the fiery sounds of **Latin dance band Azucar** at the WaterFire Ballroom.

October 12: Up and Around

A more contemporary experience, this WaterFire will challenge everyone to view the extraordinary in unexpected places. Art has been described as the means of union among people, joining them together in the same feelings and the journey towards a collective humanity. Typically gazed upon at an individual's horizon, the expression of creative skill and imagination actually happens all around us. On October 12, look up and see **stunt kites, aerial performers and windsock artwork**. Look around for **public art displays throughout the day and during the WaterFire lighting ceremony** and performance. Close out your experience by snapping your fingers and tapping your toes at the WaterFire Ballroom with a **sock hop complete with a 50's doo wop band**.

Pictured Above: Sharon residents Jennifer and Rick Barborak light WaterFire in Providence, RI.

Community Food Warehouse wins \$45,000 for child hunger through the Walmart Facebook voting contest!

"It's official: we came in 7th place in the nation. We needed to be in the top 40 and we ended up in the top 10!"

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you for voting and supporting us this past month.

We are all winners...children are being fed. Our supporters won this for us...what an incredible community we have! They put Mercer County on the map (and for GOOD reasons). We are thrilled!"

- Mimi Prada, Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County



WATERFIRE
SHARON
PENNSYLVANIA

I ♥ LOCAL!

Exciting things are happening in “beautiful downtown Sharon.” Several property owners are making vast improvements in State Street store-front properties, while other new businesses are emerging downtown.

Artist cooperatives, boutiques, antique stores, coffee shops, brew-pubs and other eateries are in discussion or negotiation stages. Look for a follow-up article featuring some new downtown tenants in the Fall 16146 issue. Stay tuned and help create a vibrant downtown by supporting our locally-owned businesses! **I LOVE LOCAL!**



What's In A Name?

Ever wondered where your street got its name? While some traditional street names are used – Main, State, Jefferson, 1st, 2nd, etc., many of the names originated from our city's forefathers. Here is a list of some of the ones we came up with.

John ASHTON—Owner of Alexander, Ashton and Company

Benjamin BENTLEY—First settler on 400 acres on a site in Sharon

George BOYCE—Opened coal mines in Sharon—street renamed later to Silver St.

George BOYD—President of Thomas D. West Foundry Company

William BUDD—Settled on the west side of the Shenango River

Frank BUHL—Industrialist and philanthropist—Buhl Mansion, Buhl Park, Buhl Club

Joel B. CURTIS—Opened coal mines in the Shenango Valley

John CARLEY—Partner in Wallis and Carley Construction Company

S.H. HADLEY—Superintendent of Sharon Schools in 1902

Dr. S.A. HAZEN—Practicing physician in late 1800s

Charles HEINZ—Known as the father of North Sharon

R.J.M. IRVINE—A founder and Builder in Sharon

John S. LESLIE—Operated insurance and real estate business

Samuel H. MCCLURE—Operator of Stewart Iron Works

Alexander MCDOWELL—Founder of McDowell Bank

David STAMBAUGH—Developer of east side of city from State St. to Highland Ave.



LAFAYETTE

Budd—Son of William Budd – Developer of the West Hill

Of course, there are many more. Interestingly, many of these men have gravesites at Oakwood Cemetery.

Question: Do you know how CASE AVE. got its name? Respond to bkepple1@verizon.net

By William E. Cowan and Brian P. Kepple



Dig in the dirt!

Community Gardens is a dedicated group of volunteers who garden for the greater good. In 2013, Community Gardens plans to donate much of its produce to the Community Food Warehouse, McDowell Manor residents, and St. John's Free Saturday Lunch program.

Last year the group donated over 460 pounds of produce, and with three new beds and some TLC, it plans to increase that amount significantly in 2013. Babs Quincy, Community Gardens co-founder, along with her husband Tom Amundson, said, “If we each share a bit of our time and energy, we will create beautiful, bountiful gardens this year!”

Be sure to keep tabs on the garden via Facebook...new photos posted regularly: <http://www.facebook.com/ShenangoGarden>. Volunteers are always welcome.

Let Us Entertain You



The James E. Winner Jr. Arts & Culture Center has announced a banner calendar of events in the newly remodeled cabaret-style **Theater on 3**, including "My Way", a Frank Sinatra tribute; "Mid-Life! – the Crisis Musical"; "The Marvelous Wonderettes"; "A Pocketful of Rhymes" children's theater;

Beatlemania Magic, and many more!

Named after the late James E. Winner Jr., a Sharon businessman and philanthropist, the ACC hosts theatre space, art gallery space, a reception area, and a gift/supplies shop. With the intention of reaching audiences from a wide geographic area, the ACC's hope is to support and further tourism for the downtown area and larger region as well, while nurturing interests in the arts and stirring imaginations in everyone who walks through its doors.

Visit the website at www.accSharon.com for more information.

Calendar EVENTS

May 29 – August 28
Wednesdays at Noon

**Brown Bag
Lunchtime
Concert Series**



May 16 – September 19 • Thursdays from 4 to 9 p.m.
Artie Gras at Quaker Steak & Lube

June 12 – August 25 • Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
Sundays at 6:00 p.m.

Buhl Farm Park Summer Concert Series

June 15

**Mercer County Bike Tour
Begins at Quaker Steak & Lube**

June 28 – 30

Small Ships Revue Weekend

July 14

Evening in the Garden at Buhl Mansion
Fundraising event for Sharon Beautification
Commission • Advanced tickets required

August 3

WaterFire SharonPA
Fourth Annual 5K Run/2 Mile Fun Walk
"Race to End Hunger" to benefit the
Community Food Warehouse

August 30

Sharon Professional Firefighters Association
Pure Gold Concert

August 31

Sharon High School Hall of Fame Ceremony

August 31

Inter-Denominational Clergy Women's Alliance, Inc.
of the Shenango Valley Chapter and Penn State
Shenango

Presentation by two of the Survivors of the 16th Street Baptist
Church Bombing Birmingham, Alabama, and The Civil Rights
Movement in 1963 • Penn State Shenango Auditorium

September 11

Patriots Day • Events at Quaker Steak & Lube
Lucky Duck Race

September 14

WaterFire SharonPA

September 15

Rose of Sharon • Fraternal Order of Police
5K Walk/Race

October 12

WaterFire SharonPA

Save The Date...

November 30 • Beautiful Downtown Sharon

Small Business Saturday with all-day activities and
entertainment, highlighted by the annual **Night of Lights**
celebration featuring fireworks and the lighting of the Christmas
Tree and Torch!



Sharon Fence Completes New Distribution Center and Manufacturing Facility in Sharon, PA



In February of 2013, Sharon Fence, a wholesaler and manufacturer of fencing materials, completed construction on a new 40,000-square foot facility located

at 1 Miller Court in Sharon. The location features an office, warehouse, light manufacturing plant with a seven-ton overhead crane, and over six acres of outdoor storage for inventory.

The new Sharon facility marks a reunion of sorts between the company and its namesake city.

Sharon Fence had been located in Wheatland, Pennsylvania, since the mid-1970s, but the company kept the name because it was so well-known

by customers and vendors. So, when asked why he chose to build the new facility in Sharon, as opposed to all of the other cities, boroughs, and townships in the surrounding area, president David Smith said with a smile, "With a name like Sharon Fence, actually locating our business back into Sharon just seemed like the logical move."

In addition to the new headquarters in Sharon, the company also operates branches in Columbus, Ohio, and Buffalo, New York.

City's Housing Rehabilitation Program Continues to Gain Momentum

You may not realize it, but each year the US Department of Housing and Urban Development grants the City of Sharon federal dollars to make ADA public improvements, demolish unsafe structures, and rehabilitate residential housing where there are low to moderate income residents. The program has improved thousands of homes during its thirty year existence and helped to improve neighborhoods in Sharon.

Annually, the city rehabilitates approximately 28 houses. Rehabilitation projects include lead paint control, making energy efficient improvements,

and bringing properties up to code standards. Director of Community Development Janet Thomas says, "The housing rehabilitation program has helped to stabilize several neighborhoods in Sharon. Because we continue to experience reductions in our entitlement, the city really has to maximize its use of financial resources in order to fund housing rehab and address blight issues in Sharon."

The City of Sharon also uses its block grant funding in a variety of ways to tackle blighted vacant properties. "Demolition is only one answer to the

blighted properties, and it isn't always the best one," said director of Code Bob Fiscus. "Once a house is demolished, it's off the tax rolls forever. We try to encourage private rehabilitation, or use of Community Development funds when we can, and reserve demolition for the worst cases."

For more information about the City of Sharon's Housing Rehabilitation program or for an application, call (724) 983-3230 or stop at the city's Community Development office.

Meet Janet Thomas

Executive Director of Community Development
She administers Housing and Urban Development funds as well as state grants.

Birthday: January 14

Family: Husband Brian, son Shane Beesley 33, daughter Candace Turpack 28, and two grandchildren Rhyloh Emmaline Turpack and Zadie-Rae Grace Turpack

Length of Employment with City of Sharon: 16 years

Favorite Place to Vacation: South Carolina

Hobbies: Spending time with family, rescuing animals, making crafts

Favorite Food: Pasta with greens, corn bread

Best Advice You Have Ever Been Given: Every morning your eyes open, say "thank you!"

Favorite Thing About Sharon, PA: The people



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SHARON REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM



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SCP GROUP

Sharon Regional Health System open heart surgery program earns national quality recognition

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) has awarded an overall 3-Star Composite Quality Rating (the highest category of quality) to the open heart bypass surgery program at Sharon Regional Health System for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. The STS developed a comprehensive rating system for the quality of cardiac surgery among hospitals across the country and Sharon Regional's 3-Star rating places it among the top 12-15 percent open heart surgery programs nationwide.

The STS open heart bypass surgery composite score is calculated using a combination of 11 measures of quality divided into four broad categories. These categories include risk-adjusted mortality, risk-adjusted major morbidity

(the percentage of patients who leave the hospital with none of the five most serious complications of open heart bypass surgery), the percentage of open heart bypass procedures that include the use of at least one of the arteries from the underside of the chest wall (shown to function much longer than vein grafts), and how often all of the four medications believed to improve a patient's immediate and long-term outcomes were prescribed.

"Hospitals like Sharon Regional that earn a STS 3-Star open heart surgery quality rating have demonstrated their commitment to their patients and their community," said Gary Marrone, M.D., board certified cardiothoracic surgeon and medical director of the open heart surgery program at Sharon Regional.

"I'm extremely proud of our entire open heart surgery team for their efforts in ensuring our patients receive the highest quality of care."

To view Sharon Regional's open heart surgery quality scores along with other information about the STS, visit their website at www.sts.org/hospital/1184672214.

Founded in 1964, the Society of Thoracic Surgeons is an international not-for-profit organization representing more than 6,600 cardiothoracic surgeons, researchers, and other health care professionals who are part of the cardiothoracic surgery team. The STS National Database was established in 1989 as an initiative for quality improvement and patient safety among cardiothoracic surgeons.