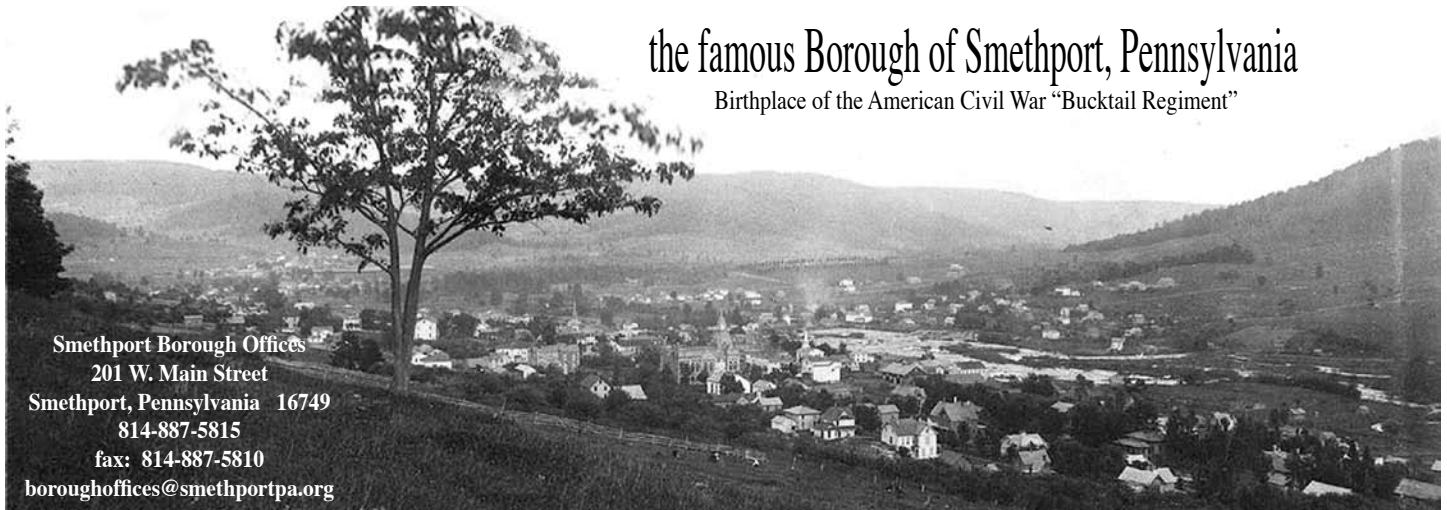


the famous Borough of Smethport, Pennsylvania

Birthplace of the American Civil War "Bucktail Regiment"



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The spectacular Smethport Valley: selected in 1807 as northwestern Pennsylvania's most perfect townsite by Dutch land investors.

State of the Borough of Smethport, Pennsylvania 2008

A Message from Mayor Ross Porter - Organizational Meeting Monday, January 7, 2008

One of the Mayoral duties spelled out in the Pennsylvania Borough Code is to update the Borough Council & the Citizens from time to time as necessary as to the State of the Borough. As we swear in the new council it is the time to take a reflective look at where we are as a Borough, where we need to go as a Borough, what are some of the challenges are facing us and where we can look for solutions.

Part I. Recent Borough Projects and Successes:

A) Switch to AMP-Ohio:

On June 1, 2007 at 12AM the Borough made the switch from Select Energy, a Hess Oil Company owned subsidiary, to AMP-Ohio, a municipal, nonprofit cooperative electric provider. This switch has redefined our present economic condition for now. This will be discussed more fully under Part II below.

B) Opening of Nelson Street-German Street Foot Bridge:

During August of 2007 the Borough opened the Nelson Street-German Street Foot Bridge so that pedestrian traffic could cross at this former important intersection. Now school children, shoppers and walkers have a new route.

C) Recent new Smethport businesses: We are pleased to welcome a number of new Smethport businesses during the last few years: Olson & Tenglund Auto Parts, Inc.; Keppel Stone Works; Everyday Happenings Florist & Gift Shop; Food King Chinese Restaurant; new owners of Cottage House Restaurant. I am probably missing some other new or recent enterprises in this summary.

D) Public involvement and ownership of Borough government:

A community is only as vibrant as its citizens. Citizen involvement in Borough activities is critical. We need to encourage citizen "ownership" through involvement in Borough projects. We need to invite the Smethport citizens to participate in committee work. We need to build teams of citizens to accomplish our goals. To this end I would like to mention several citizen committees currently participating in municipal government:

Smethport Borough Operations Efficiency Committee: One shining example of community involvement this past year has been the development of the "Smethport Borough Operations Efficiency Committee". This is a