

WEST GOSHEN



Township Newsletter • Volume 18 No. 3

West Goshen Township Addresses Budget Concerns *Without Raising Taxes*

The recent collapse of the United States housing market, followed by significant stock market declines and job loss has put a strain on residents' budgets as well as those of the Township. West Goshen Township's sole purpose is to provide for the general safety, health and welfare of its residents. The Township does this exceedingly well, along with providing for significant positive amenities like parks and recreation, at an affordable price.

When an economic downturn hits, the Township's main sources of income begin to stagnate or decline. A majority of the Township's revenue comes from four sources: earned income tax (EIT), real estate property taxes, property transfer taxes and the local services tax. The only stable revenue source of the four is real estate property taxes. Earned income tax, property transfer taxes, and the local services tax are tied closely to the economy. As job losses mount, the Township collects less earned income tax and the associated local services tax. As the housing market declines, so

do property transfers, reducing the Township's revenue.

Although the Township's revenues are down for 2008 and will continue to slightly decline in 2009, the Township's finances are in excellent condition. This is due to the efforts of Township staff, including the department heads and Township Finance

Director Jeanne Denham, who budget effectively while carefully monitoring expenditures for 2009. Some cost-reduction measures have already been implemented, including switching to automated

trash collection and changing Township operating hours to four ten-hour workday (Mondays through Thursdays, 7:00 AM through 5:00 PM) to save on utilities. Most budget cuts will not significantly affect services to Township residents while some, such as the elimination of Community Day, are regrettably necessary due to the current economic climate. Fortunately the West Goshen Board of Supervisors was able to approve a 2009 budget which includes no real estate property tax increase.



Save a Life This Winter

The next blood drive at the West Goshen Township Administration Building will take place on Tuesday, February 3rd between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM at the West Goshen Township Administration Building. For more information or to make an appointment, contact Sandy Turley, Assistant to the Township Manager at 610-696-5266. ★

giving
BLOOD
saves lives

I commend the Township's Board of Supervisors and staff for their hard work in producing a cost effective 2009 budget while either maintaining or expanding services to residents.

According to economists, the current worldwide economic downturn is expected to continue at least into mid-2009. However, West Goshen Township is in a strong financial position and will continue to be so for the foreseeable future. This is due to West Goshen Township's business friendly environment, desirable location in central Chester County, and prudent planning by past and current Township Supervisors.

West Goshen Township will continue to provide outstanding service to our residents and visitors no matter the global economic conditions.

—Casey LaLonde
Township Manager

An overview of West Goshen Township's 2009 Budget can be seen on Page 4.

West Goshen Remembers Lewis Reid

— Long-Time Sewer Authority Member —

West Goshen Township lost the longest-serving public officer in its history in November.

Lewis H. Reid was a founding member of West Goshen's Sewer Authority on August 6, 1958, and served on it until his death at the age of 86 on November 1, 2008.

In the 1950's, West Goshen Township was a rural community growing into the suburban residential town it is today. The population grew by 132% percent during the course of the decade, from 3,542 residents in 1950 to 8,214 according to the 1960 census. With the growth in population and related development, a number of residents of West Goshen Township signed a



petition to establish a municipal sewer system. One of the people leading the petition drive was an army veteran and metallurgical engineer named Lewis Reid.

On August 6, 1958 the West Goshen Board of Supervisors formally established a Sewer Authority, naming Reid as one of its initial members.

"He was instrumental in getting the Supervisors of 1958 to build the Sewer Plant," says current West Goshen Supervisor Dr. Robert S. White.

Lew served as the long-time secretary to the Authority, keeping copious notes and, with the help of his wife Marge, typing and photocopying minutes until 2006.

Lewis Reid was recognized during a banquet celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Wastewater Treatment Plant in 2008

During his time on the Sewer Authority, Lew helped usher in the West Goshen Wastewater Treatment Plant in 1961 and multiple upgrades since then. To establish right-of-ways for sewer lines, Lew even went door-to-door, seeking permission from neighbors to run the lines under their properties. His diligence helped pave the way for future West Goshen growth.

Speaking of the early efforts of the Sewer Authority, Public Works Director and former West Goshen Supervisor Raymond H. Halvorsen points out, "If it wasn't for their forethought, West Goshen Township wouldn't be able to achieve over 95% sewer service like we have today."

Responsibilities of the Sewer Authority include funding capital improvements. According to John Scott, Manager of the West Goshen Wastewater Treatment Plant, one of the capital improvements demonstrating the forethought of the

township information

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

6 year elected term
Patricia B. McIlvaine, *Chairman*
Edward G. Meakim, Jr., *Vice-Chairman*
Dr. Robert S. White, *Member*

ADMINISTRATION

Casey LaLonde, *Township Manager*
Jeanne M. Denham, *Finance Director*
Richard J. Craig, *Township Engineer*

WEST GOSHEN POLICE

1025 Paoli Pike, W.C., 19380
Police 911 or 610.696.7400
Fax 610.696.3935
police@westgoshen.org
Michael J. Carroll, *Chief of Police*

SEWER TREATMENT PLANT

848 S. Concord Rd., W.C., 19382
610.696.0900
Fax 610.429.9360
John M. Scott, *Sewer Plant Manager*

PARK & RECREATION BOARD

Mary Lou Enoches, *Chairman*
Gerald L. Napiecek, *Vice-Chairman*
Edward T. Smith, *Secretary*
Robert M. Cifone
Kenneth W. Lehr

Michael A. Pillagalli
Nancy Pine
Kent Wise
Megan Zug
Leslie K. Bair, *Alternate*
Jennifer Dobbins, *Alternate*

PLANNING COMMISSION

Dean K. Diehl, Jr., *Chairman*
Paul D. Spiegel, *Vice-Chairman*
Monica Drewniany
Robert Holland
Jeffrey Laudenslager
Carrie Martin
Michael P. McKie
James J. O'Brien
Salvatore Triolo

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Peter C. Anderson, *Chairman*
Joseph DeFelippes, *Vice-Chairman*
Grant K. Middlestead, *Member*
Scott T. Cullinan, *Alternate*

SEWER AUTHORITY

Walter E. Hoover, Jr., *Chairman*
Michael T. Arnold, *Vice-Chairman*
Theresa Davis, *Secretary*
John L. Windle, *Treasurer*
Frank J. Biasi, *Member*

Kenneth W. Fuller, *Member*
Kevin M. Snoke, *Alternate*
Paul D. Spiegel, *Alternate*

THE FRIENDS OF WEST GOSHEN PARKS, INC.

Non-profit group assisting the Park and Recreation Board; meets quarterly
Lee McFadden, *President*
Ryan Kelly, *Vice-President*
(Vacant), *Secretary*
Jennifer Dobbins, *Treasurer*

AUDITORS

Hugh J. Purnell, Jr., *Chairman*
Louis J. Mayer, *Secretary*
William Gale, *Member*

TAX COLLECTOR

William R. Keenan

TOWNSHIP PARKS

Barker Park, *Falcon Lane by Westtown Way*
Coopersmith Park, *Spring Lane, off West Chester Pike*
Hallowell Park, *404 North Five Points Road*
Lambert Park, *1145 Pottstown Pike*
West Goshen Community Park,
Fern Hill & North Five Points Roads

Annual Meeting 2009

early Sewer Authority was extending sewer lines beyond Route 202 before the highway's construction. Originally, these lines stretched out to sparsely populated areas. However, if the Sewer Authority had waited until post-2002 construction to build those lines, the time and cost would have grown exponentially with the need to excavate under an existing highway. Because of the Sewer Authority's planning, new homes could be built with the infrastructure already in place.

"Lew was always a strong supporter for the modernization of West Goshen Township," said Dr. White.

In addition to his service on the Sewer Authority, Lew staffed the polls at the West Goshen Township Building each election day as Inspector of Elections for West Goshen Polling District M-1. For fifty years, Lew also lent his tenor voice to the choir at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. In his spare time, Lew and Marge liked to square dance and travel in their RV. In their 61 years of marriage, Lew and Marge raised four children and had nine grandchildren.

Those who worked with Lew in his role on the Sewer Authority remember him as a kind man who didn't hesitate to share his opinions.

"He was very pragmatic about what was right and what wasn't right," says Dr. White. "Lew's method of speaking was one of measured tolerance."

"He was one of the nicest men I ever met," says John Scott.

Those sentiments were echoed by Sewer Authority chairman Walter E. Hoover, who had known Reid since 1970:

"He was a good man." ★

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

There are no new plans for subdivision and land development review.

At the Annual Organization Meeting on Monday, January 5, 2008, the West Goshen Township Board of Supervisors made the following appointments:

- **PLANNING COMMISSION**
Carrie Martin (2nd term)
James J. O'Brien (4th term)
- **PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**
Edward T. Smith (4th term)
- **ZONING HEARING BOARD**
Joseph DeFelippes (14th term)
Scott T. Cullinan (3rd term)
- **SEWER AUTHORITY**
John L. Windle (6th term)
- **VACANCY BOARD**
Raymond H. Halvorsen (7th term)
- **PENSION COMMITTEE**
Peter C. Anderson (14th term)
Robert Holland (2nd term)
William Keenan (14th term)
Thomas A. Teneza (2nd term)
Walker C. Tompkins, Jr. (5th term)
John Trevisani (2nd term)

At the meeting, the Board of Supervisors announced that Patricia B. McIlvaine will continue to serve as Chairman, with Edward G. Meakim continuing as the vice-chairman and Dr. Robert S. White as a member.

The Annual Meeting is also when the West Goshen Board of Supervisors designates emergency service providers, names Township officers, announces depositories for Township funds, and determines Township holidays. Board of Supervisors meetings were set for the year at 4:00 PM on the following Wednesdays: January 21st, February 4th, February 18th, March 4th, March 18th, April 15th, May 6th, May 20th, June 17th, July 15th, August 19th, September 16th, October 7th, October 21st, November 18th, and December 16th.

If you are interested in serving West Goshen Township by joining a board or commission, contact Township Manager Casey LaLonde at 610-696-5266 for information. ★

Public Township Meetings

Board of Supervisors (4:00 PM, first and third Wednesday of each month, except where otherwise noted): January 21; February 4 and 18; March 4 and 18; April 15.

Park and Recreation Board (7:00 PM, third Wednesday of each month): January 21; February 18; March 18; April 15.

Planning Commission (7:00 PM third Tuesday of each month): January 20; February 17; March 17; April 21.

Sewer Authority (7:30 PM, first Wednesday of each month): January 7; February 4; March 4; April 1.

Zoning Hearing Board (7:00 PM, first Thursday after the second Wednesday each month, except where otherwise noted): January 15; February 12; March 12; April 9.

All meetings are held in the Township Administration building except the Sewer Authority, which is conducted at the Sewer Treatment Plant at 848 South Concord Road. There is a public comment period at each meeting. Additional Zoning Hearing Board Meetings may be added as needed. Check www.westgoshen.org for updates.

The West Goshen Board of Supervisors approved the 2009 General Fund Budget, Sewer Fund Budget, and Waste and Recycling Fund Budget at their December 10, 2008 meeting.

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
2009 GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

REVENUES

Taxes	\$ 9,643,000
Licenses	303,500
Fines & Forfeits	201,535
Interest & Rents	202,790
Intergovernmental Revenue	512,756
Departmental Earnings	459,653
Miscellaneous Revenue	22,000
Transfers	2,300,000
Fund Equity & Other	8,522,129
Total Revenues	\$22,167,363

EXPENDITURES

General Government	\$ 1,988,182
Public Safety	5,761,060
Highways	3,403,452
Parks & Recreation	1,339,884
Debt Service & Capital Projects	1,322,566
Misc.	-
Other Financing Uses	117,640
Reserved for Future Year's Expenses	8,234,579
Total Expenditures	\$22,167,363

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
2009 SEWER FUND BUDGET**

REVENUES

Interest Earnings	\$ 80,000
State Aid Employee Pension	72,419
Connection Fees	6,000
Sewer Rents	3,876,140
Misc. Revenue & IWP	44,765
Fund Equity & Other	1,989,229

Total Revenues \$6,068,553

EXPENDITURES

Administrative Expenses	\$ 473,706
Rent to Authority	1,161,399
Collection	883,873
Treatment Plant	1,952,009
Transfers	41,564
Reserved for Future Year's Expense	1,556,002

Total Expenditures \$6,068,553

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
2009 WASTE AND
RECYCLING BUDGET**

REVENUES

Interest Earnings	\$ 12,925
Grants	57,799
Waste & Recycling Income	1,930,950
Miscellaneous Revenue	4,000
Fund Equity & Other	517,706

Total Revenues \$2,523,380

EXPENDITURES

Administrative Expenses	\$ 91,344
Professional Services	6,181
Contracted & Other Services	1,877,627
Reserved for Future Year's Expenses	548,228

Total Expenditures \$2,523,380

When Winter Storms Strike, The Streets Department Responds

During this time of year, winter storms can strike at any time of the day. When they do, West Goshen's Streets Department is responsible for removing the snow from over 93 miles of Township roads.

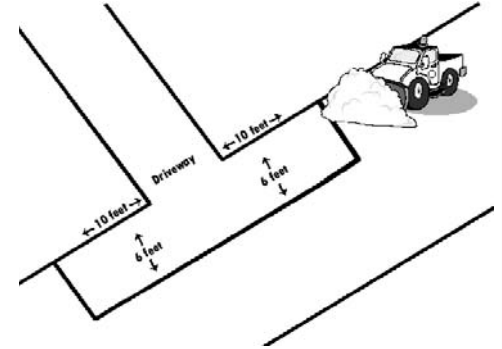
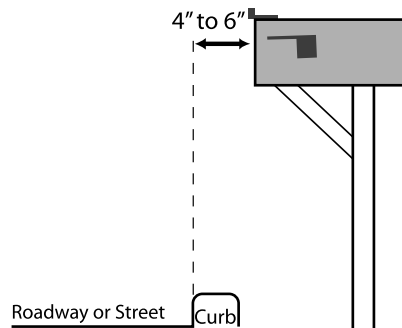
As snow or ice begins to accumulate, the Township's Director of Public Works keeps in contact with the West Goshen Police Department to determine the condition of the roads. When conditions warrant, he sends trucks out to make sure the roads are safe for the traveling public.

Each driver has an assigned area to salt and plow. Hills, intersections, and curves receive salt first due to the potential traffic hazards they present. Then all other areas are salted and plowed. Remember that salt needs the movement of traffic to make it effective, so if it appears that your street has not yet been salted, it may be that there has not been a sufficient amount of traffic to make it effective.

Drivers will make one pass in each direction on streets and one pass into and out of cul-de-sacs. Once an initial clearance is made on each roadway, drivers begin the process of pushing snow back to the road's edge and cleaning out cul-de-sacs. If the roads crew has been working extensive hours plowing and salting, this phase of the snow clearance may not begin until the next day so that the drivers may be sent home to rest.

You can help facilitate efficient, safe snow removal by observing the following simple steps:

- Make sure to park your vehicle in your driveway when the snow begins to fall. In the case of steep driveways, park at the mouth of the drive, but off the road. Cul-de-sacs should also be free of vehicles. If a car is parked on a roadside or cul-de-sac, we may not finish plowing that street, but return several hours or even the next day to complete the work.
- A mailbox within a foot of the pavement and/or mounted at a height of less than four feet is most likely to be damaged by the weight of snow being pushed from a plow. Take time to make sure your mailbox is sturdy enough to withstand the weight of snow being pushed into it and keep the front of your mailbox four to six inches behind the curb line to avoid it getting knocked over. Make sure to clear snow from all walkways, stairs, and paths to mailboxes.



- When shoveling your driveway, leave the last six feet of your drive unshoveled until the plowing has ceased. This unshoveled part will allow the snow being pushed by the plow to remain on the plow and not dumped into your drive. If you must shovel out your drive, clear a six foot area of the road that is directly in front of the mouth of your drive. In addition clear an area ten feet before and after the mouth of your drive, so that when the plow comes through, it will unload snow that it is pushing in the cleared area and not in the mouth of your drive.

If you have a problem, call the Township between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM on Mondays through Thursdays. Please leave your name, address, phone number, and the nature of problem. Calls received after 3:00 PM may not be acted upon until the next business day. On Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays or after 5:00 PM, emergencies may be reported to the Police Department at 610-696-7400. Above all, be patient. ★

PennDOT clears the following streets: Boot Road, Fern Hill Road, Greenhill Road, S. High Street (Business Route 322), E. Marshall Street, Montgomery Avenue, Paoli Pike, Phoenixville Pike, Pottstown Pike, Strasburg Road, West Chester Pike (Route 3), Westtown Road, and Routes 100, 202, and 322. Derry Lane, Sorber Drive, and Cold Springs Drive are cleared by the developers.

Thanks!

The following businesses supported West Goshen's Park and Recreation programs during the year 2008 by sponsoring events and donating prizes to The Friends of West Goshen Parks:

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Platinum Level Sponsors:

Park Valley Associates; TD Bank.

Gold Level Sponsor:

Faulkner Auto of West Chester.

Silver Level Sponsor:

First National Bank of Chester County; Krapf's Coaches; PECO Energy; West Goshen Automotive and Fleet Services.

Supporting Sponsor:

Francis Hall Insurance.

COMMUNITY DAY

Corporate sponsorship provided by:

TD Bank.

Prizes provided by:

Acme of West Goshen; Applebee's; Avalon Restaurant; Colonial Village Meat Market; Crawdaddy's Bayou Bar and Grill; D-K Diner; Fairman's; General Recreation; Goshen Manor/Goshen Terrace; Gramm's Kitchen; The Greenery; The Ice Cream Company; Ice Line; Jane Chalfont; Joey's Pizza; Kildare's; La Difference Salon and Day Spa; Norman's Hallmark Shop; The Painted Plate; The Palace Bowling and Entertainment Center; Parkway Hardware; Peter's Salon and European Spa; Piatto Pizza; Ryan's Pub; Scott's Cakes; Shop-Rite of West Goshen; Skatewave; Stadium Grille; Starbucks Coffee; Stuart Jewelers; Thompson's Meat Market; Tommy's Original Pizza; The West Chester Diner.

Additional Support Provided by:

Sovereign Bank. ★



ROONIE SAYS...

Dog waste is more than a nuisance to the senses of sight and smell. Feces from dogs can carry dangerous bacteria for dogs and humans that come into contact with them. Bacteria from sitting dog waste can also wash into our streams and wetlands. Recent studies by Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Villanova University have documented that our local creeks frequently have levels of fecal coliform bacteria three or more times the state recommended maximums for safe water contact. Studies by the Center for Watershed Protection have found that a significant portion of fecal coliform bacteria in residential storm-water originates from dog waste.

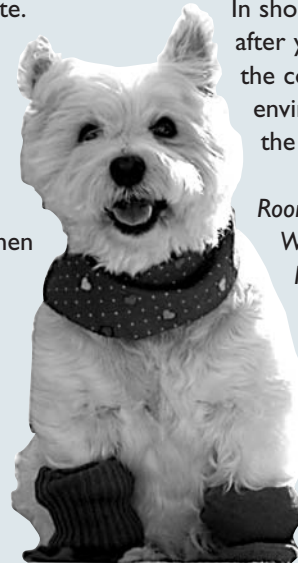
Dog owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to clean up after their dogs.

Section 36-2 of the West Goshen Township Code states: "No person shall permit a dog which is under his or her custody or control, either by leash, restraint, verbal command or otherwise, to

deposit feces upon any public property, including but not limited to sidewalks, pathways, streets, parking lots, parks, waters or other public property of any kind. All persons exercising custody or control of dogs shall be required to immediately cleanup and properly dispose of any animal feces resulting from the dog's presence on any such public property." First-time violators face a fine of \$50 to \$200 plus court costs. Subsequent violations carry fines of \$200 to \$600.

According to Section 57-4, failure to clean up and dispose of pet waste in Township parks would result in a \$200 to \$600 fine, even for first offenses.

In short, make sure to pick up after your pet every time to keep the community healthier and our environment safer, and to avoid the risk of being fined.



Roonie, the West Goshen Township Westie and namesake of Roonie's Canine Corner at Robert E. Lambert Park, offers advice for dog owners and users of the dogpark in each issue of the Township Newsletter. ★

4th Annual Chester Creek Earth Day Cleanup

West Goshen Township is proud to team up with the Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association for the 4th Annual Chester Creek Earth Day Cleanup on Saturday, April 18, 2009 from 9:00 until 11:00 AM. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association at 610-892-8731 or via email at info@crcwatersheds.org. ★

A MESSAGE FROM THE EASTER BUNNY!



Someone looking vaguely like the large rabbit in this photo left this note at the Township Building.

I need your help. Each year, my bunnies and I make more candy-filled, toy-filled, and money-filled eggs than we need for Easter. We bring some of these to West Goshen Community

Park at Fern Hill and N. Five Points Roads for kids age two through nine to find at the annual Egg Hunt and Decorated Hat Parade.

Please let the children of West Goshen Township know that this year I'll be

coming on Saturday, April 4th at 10:30 AM. Because I need to keep my fur nice and clean for my big day, I'll come on April 11th at 10:30 AM if it rains on the 4th. I'd appreciate it if you could keep people posted on rain information at www.westgoshen.org or at the Township phone number, 610-696-5266.

As you know, I also care deeply about families in Chester County that are having a hard time during Easter. So, if you could, please remind anyone who comes to the Egg Hunt and Decorated Hat Parade to bring a dry good donation

that I can take to Chester County Cares. Dry good donations can be soap, toilet paper, shampoo, diapers, laundry detergent, deodorant, or other personal care items.

Finally, please encourage the kids of West Goshen Township to wear their beautiful decorated hats. After the Egg Hunt, I will lead the Decorated Hat Parade. I enjoy this so much, I'll give medals to everyone who participates and special prizes for my favorite hats!

**Thanks,
E. Bunny**

P.S. Please share this information with the residents of West Goshen Township in your Township Newsletter and at www.westgoshen.org/Departments/Events/Egg_Hunt/egg_hunt.html.

2009 Spring Yard Waste Pick-up

Saturday, April 11
Saturday, April 25

Yard waste can be placed in biodegradable paper bags or trash cans. If using plastic bags, provide a container in which the bags may be left so they can be used again. Branches not exceeding four feet in length may be bundled together. There is no limit to the number of bags or bundles to be collected. ★

How to Make Your Garden into a Wildlife Sanctuary

The Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association (CRC) and Habitat Resource Network (HRN) of Southeastern Pennsylvania will host "Creating a Sanctuary for Wildlife in Your Garden" on Saturday, February 9th at Penn State Brandywine campus on Route 352 in Middletown.

Dr. Douglas Tallamy, Professor and Chair of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware and author of the best-selling "Bringing Nature Home," will be the featured speaker. In addition to outlining the methods and benefits of attracting wildlife to your garden, Professor Tallamy will discuss the many ways native plants can be used to control stormwater on your property. The workshop will start at 2:00 PM and end at 3:30 PM. Admission is \$5 per person, but is free for residents of West Goshen Township.

Anyone interested in preregistering may email CRC at info@crcwatersheds.org or call 610-892-8731. More details are available at www.crcwatersheds.org and at www.habitatresourcenetwork.org. ★



Think Spring

WITH THESE EXCITING BUS TRIPS

Don't let winter get you down—Spring is just around the corner! The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department is offering four bus trips to celebrate the arrival of spring.

Philadelphia Flower Show

The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department continues its popular annual trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show with the East Goshen and West Chester Park and Recreation Departments. This year's trip will take place on Monday, March 2nd. Celebrate the beauty of Italian gardens with this year's theme "Bella Italia." The bus will depart the West Goshen Municipal Complex at 9 AM and drop participants off at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Lunch will be available on your own at the show or at one of the dozens of nearby eateries. The motorcoach will depart from the show at 4 PM and arrive back in West Goshen by dinnertime. The cost of this trip is only \$49 dollars and includes a ticket to the Flower Show, round-trip transportation, a snack and beverage for the ride, and bus driver tip.

Washington, DC Cherry Blossom Festival

Washington's Cherry Blossom Festival begins on Saturday, March 28th, and you can join in the celebration. Depart from West Goshen Community Park to spend the day at the National Mall, where you can welcome the first famous blooms of the season. Visit the dozens of monuments and museums, all within walking distance (and most of which are free!). The cost of this trip is \$35 per person, and includes round-trip transportation, a snack and beverage for the ride, and bus driver tip.

Gettysburg

On Saturday, April 18th, leave from West Goshen Community Park on a trip to history Gettysburg, the most famous small town in America. Check out the new Visitors Center and museum, including the freshly restored world-famous cyclorama, giving a 360° view of Pickett's Charge. Tour the Battlefield with a Civil War expert. Have lunch with a world-renowned Abraham Lincoln re-enactor featured on A&E and The History

Channel. Cost of this trip is \$95 per person and includes round-trip transportation, admission to the Visitor Center and Museum, a guided tour of the Battlefield, Lunch with Lincoln, free time, and guide, driver, and server tips.

Liberty and Ellis Islands

Travel by motorcoach from West Goshen Community Park to Liberty State Park. Then, take a ferry to Ellis and Liberty Islands. The coach departs from West Goshen Community Park on Saturday, May 2nd at 7:00 AM. After a full day of visiting the two historic and iconic islands, return to West Goshen Township at 8:00 PM. Cost of this trip is \$50 per adult, \$45 per senior 62 or over, or \$40 per child 12 or under. Seniors and children must register by Monday, February 2nd to be eligible for the discount. Fee includes round-trip motorcoach and ferry transportation, admission to Liberty and Ellis Islands, and driver tip.



REGISTRATION FOR ALL WEST GOSHEN BUS TRIPS are on a first-come, first-served basis.

To find out more about any of these trips, visit www.westgoshe.org/Departments/Events/events.html or contact the Park and Recreation Office at 610-696-5266. ★

County Announces 2009 Master Composter Classes

The Chester County Board of Commissioners and the Chester County Solid Waste Authority have announced the schedule for the 2009 Master Composter Classes. Learn how to turn your kitchen and yard waste into nutrient-rich compost while reducing the solid waste stream. Classes are free of charge, and meet from 7:00 through 9:00 PM.

Monday nights at the Chester County Solid Waste Authority in Narvon: March 9th, March 16th, and March 23rd, with a snow date of March 30th.

Tuesday nights at the Chester County Government Services Center in West Goshen: March 3rd, March 10th, and March 17th, with a snow date of March 24th.

Wednesday nights at Owen J. Roberts Middle School in Pottstown: March 11th, March 18th, and March 25th, with a snow date of April 1st.

To register or for more information, contact the Chester County Solid Waste Authority at 610-273-3771, ext. 228. For the sessions at Owen J. Roberts, contact the school directly at 610-469-5830. ★

Develop Leadership Skills and Have Some Fun This Summer

“Being a Summer Counselor is a truly rewarding experience that demands a unique balance of fun and responsibility.”

—Matthew Krykew, Head Counselor, Coopersmith Park

Do you or someone you know enjoy leading and participating in outdoor activities for children or teenagers? Are you looking to gain valuable and rewarding experience for a future career such as in the field of education? The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department is seeking qualified applicants for the positions of counselor and junior counselor for their 2009 summer programs. Counselors work directly with 5 - 12 year old children in the Summer Recreation Program, and with 13 - 15 year old participants in the Summer Teen Program. Both eight-week programs begin Monday, June 22nd and continue through Friday, August 14th. Counselors are responsible for supervising participants while facilitating group activities such as sports, arts and crafts, games, and field trips. Counselor applicants must be at least eighteen years old and have a high school diploma by June 22, 2009. Junior counselors assist with daily activities. Candidates must be sixteen years old by June 22, 2009. The application deadline is Monday, March 30, 2009 for counselor applicants, and Thursday, April 30th, 2009 for junior counselor applicants. Applications for Employment are available online at www.westgoshen.org/News/Employment_Application.pdf, or may be picked up at the West Goshen Township Administration Building Mondays through Thursdays between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM. For more information contact Summer Program Coordinator Tom Steines at 610-696-5266. West Goshen Township is an Equal Opportunity Employer. ★

Take the Opportunity to Help Your Community by Joining The Friends of West Goshen Parks

The Friends of West Goshen Parks help support the Township's parks and events. You can help by becoming involved.

The Friends of West Goshen Parks is seeking Township residents to serve as officers on the Board of Directors. Make a difference in a local nonprofit and help make your hometown a special place to live, visit, and do business. The Board of Directors meets on the first Thursdays in January, March, May, July, September, and November at 7:00 PM to discuss fundraising strategies, volunteer projects, and membership recruitment.

If you're not able to join the Board of Directors, The Friends of West Goshen Parks also has plenty of opportunities to volunteer at events, help with fundraising, or helping with publicity. Or, you and your family can show your support by joining The Friends of West Goshen Parks and keeping up to date on the latest happenings in your parks.

Call 610-692-2550 for more information about becoming involved in The Friends of West Goshen Parks, or join by completing and returning the form below:

The Friends of West Goshen Parks, Inc. Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Indicate email address if you would like to receive information about upcoming events:

Please check if you would like to receive information about:

- Joining the Board of Directors as an Officer
- Volunteering at events
- Helping with publicity
- Helping with fundraising

Make your \$10.00 check payable to: “The Friends of West Goshen Parks, Inc.”, P.O. Box 441, West Chester, PA 19381.

Take time to **Focus on Fitness** this winter!

The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department offers the following programs designed to keep Township residents fit and active this winter:

Yoga/Pilates

West Goshen's program featuring two of the most popular forms of exercise continues again this winter and spring. Registrants can sign up for sessions taught by Ageless Exercise on the following evenings:

Session 1: Tuesday, January 13
Tuesday, January 20
Tuesday, January 27
Tuesday, February 3
Tuesday, February 10

Session 2: Tuesday, February 17
Tuesday, February 24
Tuesday, March 3
Tuesday, March 10
Tuesday, March 17

Session 3: Tuesday, April 14
Tuesday, April 21
Tuesday, April 28
Tuesday, May 5
Tuesday, May 12

Cost for each session of five lessons is \$50 for West Goshen residents or \$60 for non-residents.

If you would like to see a fitness program offered by the West Goshen Park and Recreation Department, please let us know by emailing Park and Recreation Director Ken Lehr at klehr@westgoshen.org.

Senior Water Walking

Space is still available for the following winter/spring sessions of Water Walking. Sessions meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 through 1:45 PM at the ACAC Fitness and Wellness Center.

March Sessions

Tuesday, March 3	Thursday, March 5
Tuesday, March 10	Thursday, March 12
Tuesday, March 17	Thursday, March 19
Tuesday, March 24	Thursday, March 26

April Sessions

Tuesday, April 7	Thursday, April 9
Tuesday, April 14	Thursday, April 16
Tuesday, April 21	Thursday, April 23
Tuesday, April 28	Thursday, April 30

May Sessions

Tuesday, May 5	Thursday, May 7
Tuesday, May 12	Thursday, May 14
Tuesday, May 19	Thursday, May 21
Tuesday, May 26	Thursday, May 28

Cost is \$25 for eight sessions in either March, April, or May. Participants must reside in West Goshen Township.



Registration forms for exercise programs are available at www.westgoshen.org, or may be requested from the Park and Recreation Department at 610-696-5266. Please note that space for each program is limited, and registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. If minimum enrollment is not met, programs may be cancelled and refund checks would be mailed to registrants.

Adventure Boot Camp for Women

The popular women's fitness program returns to West Goshen Community Park from March 23rd through April 17th. Sessions take place from 5:30 AM through 6:30 AM and cost \$300 for West Goshen residents or \$320 for non-residents.

Can't commit to attend every morning? Participants can sign up for partial sessions and attend three mornings per week. The cost for partial sessions is \$200 for West Goshen residents or \$210 for non-residents. For more information about Adventure Boot Camp for Women, visit www.greatvalleybootcamp.com.

Stretch, Strength, and S'myelin' with M.S.

Offered on the second, third, and fourth Tuesday of each month (and sometimes the fifth Tuesday, too!) between 7:00 and 7:45 PM at the West Goshen Township Administration Building, this class is brought to you by the Greater Delaware Valley M.S. Society, the West Goshen Township Park and Recreation Department, and Ageless Exercise. Have multiple sclerosis? Myelin in your body not working as it should? Stretch and smile as you learn to relax, breathe, and learn the latest exercise techniques adapted to your own ability. Learn special exercises designed specifically for people with MS. This fitness program costs \$25 per year to attend as many or as few sessions as you would like!

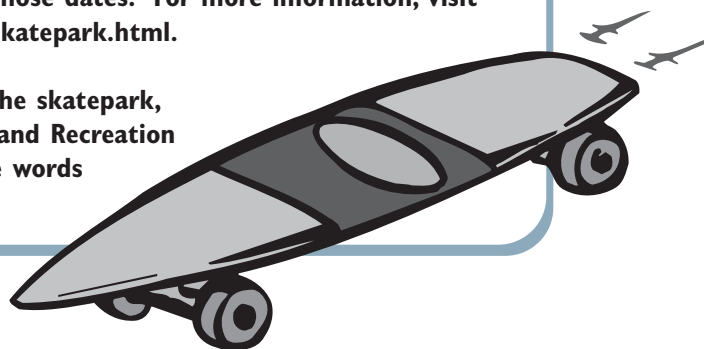
Please note that anyone who signed up in 2008 needs to reregister for 2009.★

Winter & Spring Skatepark Schedule

The skatepark at Robert E. Lambert Park will be open from 3:00 PM through sunset on weekdays, and from 10:00 AM through sunset on weekends and school holidays. This schedule will be in effect through the remainder of the school year. The skatepark will not be open on Easter Sunday, April 12th. The skatepark may close in the event of inclement weather, wet surface, or if temperatures are below freezing. Call the West Goshen Township Administrative Offices to find out if the skatepark is open. A message will be left on the skatepark information line if the park is closed.

Fairman's Team Riders will return to Lambert Park in 2009. This year, they will be on hand on the second Tuesday of each month. Meet and get pointers from professional skateboarders and staff members from 6:00 PM through sunset beginning on March 10th and continuing on the second Tuesday of each month through October. There will be no additional charge beyond standard skatepark admission (\$5 for daily use) on those dates. For more information, visit www.westgoshen.org/Departments/Events/Skatepark/skatepark.html.

Did you know you can receive email updates about the skatepark, including special events and hours? Just email Park and Recreation Director Ken Lehr at klehr@westgoshen.org with the words "Skatepark Updates" in the subject field. ★



“Part of Our Community” highlights local businesses, organizations, and people who make a difference in the community. To submit ideas for future columns, please email Newsletter Editor Ken Lehr at klehr@westgoshen.org.



Part of Our Community

As infantryman Brett Klein was nearing the top of a 3,000 foot cliff he was scaling in Vietnam, he started to feel lightheaded. A medic confirmed that the symptoms pointed to malaria. Klein needed medical care and he needed it fast. Unable to scale back down the cliff to the base, and with no roadways or runways to navigate from his perilous position, Klein had limited prospects of reaching safety and receiving the attention he needed. Thanks to a radio call to the U.S.S. Forrestal, a helicopter was deployed. A basket was lowered from a hoist, and infantryman Klein, the son of a Boeing helicopter mechanic, was airlifted to the ship's infirmary.

Klein's story is one of many we have learned to take for granted of soldiers lifted from harm's way, stranded bayou residents rescued from their homes after Hurricane Katrina, or pilots flying right into the heart of western forest fires to dump loads of water or lower firefighters and supplies into remote areas. On a daily basis, helicopters

provide traffic updates, offer emergency medical transport, and transport military troops.

To tell the story of helicopters and the role they play in our lives, the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center opened in West Goshen Township in October 1996. The museum was the brainchild of Peter Wright of the Flying Tigers and founder of Keystone Helicopter. A nonprofit organization was begun in 1993 to make the vision a reality thanks to the support of local helicopter manufacturers Agusta, Boeing, and Piasecki Aircraft. Due to the proximity of these companies, southeastern Pennsylvania was a natural location for such a museum. With space available at West Goshen's Brandywine Airport, the museum quickly found itself a home.

Today, the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center welcomes over 40,000 visitors per year. In addition to regular museum hours (Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM and Sunday from noon through 5:00 PM), the museum welcomes groups for special tours, education sessions, or events. On the third Saturday of each month, the museum also hosts special public events. The largest of these is the annual RotorFest, featuring children's

rides, food, parachute jumpers, educational programs, and military, rescue, medevac, and news helicopters. Last October's RotorFest drew 8,300 visitors. Other events throughout the year include special exhibits and programs about African Americans in Aviation for Black History Month in February, May Day in May, and Father Fest in June.

“The proximity to the airport allows us to put on the largest helicopter airshow in the world,” explains President of Museum Operations Sean Saunders. “We have a wonderful working relationship with the airport and with the Township.”

Saunders makes sure to emphasize that the proper name for the museum is “The American Helicopter Museum and Education Center.” This name reflects the institution's emphasis on education.

“We're here to inform and educate the value of helicopters and how they interact with everyone on a daily basis,” says Saunders. “We want to preserve the history of helicopters in Philadelphia, educate young people on the rotorcraft industry, and inspire the innovators, engineers, and pilots of tomorrow.”

The American Helicopter Museum and Education Center offers educational programs aimed at age groups from pre-kindergarten through high school. Scout troops and other groups may also participate in educational programs at the museum. The museum is currently partnering with the Pennsylvania State University Vertical Lift Research Center to develop college level courses in rotorcraft for high schools.

“I like to tell students ‘We're 10,000 years away from the Flintstones, but one generation from the Jetsons,’” says Saunders. “Students in this room will be designing and building



helicopters that your children will be commuting in.”

Educational programs, special events, and daily operations are made possible through the efforts of three full-time and two part-time staff members, and by the contributions of 150 volunteers whose responsibilities include acting as docents and tour guides, staffing the gift shop, library, and archives, participating in education programs, or restoring helicopters for display. Volunteers come from as far away as Reading, Lancaster, and Bucks County in Pennsylvania, as well as Delaware, New Jersey, and New York. Most of the volunteers, including Brett Klein, have personal connections with helicopters by working in the helicopter industry, serving in the military and having flown or been rescued by helicopters, or by being a pilot or aviation enthusiast.

The museum does not purchase any helicopters, but relies on donations from the military, manufacturers, and individuals. Most prominent among the displays is the V22 Osprey visible outside the building at the airport. It is the only Osprey on public display in the world. Other helicopters are restored in an on-site shop for future display. Visitors can climb into the cockpits of six helicopters in the museum. Thanks to the generosity of local helicopter manufacturers whose warehouse aircraft not being displayed, exhibits periodically change to showcase different models highlighting developments in rotorcraft history.

Sean Saunders emphasizes that that history is still being written with new rotorcraft technology in our own backyard.

“It’s the vehicle of the future, and you can see and get in one today at the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center.” ★

ROAD RULES

In each issue of the Township Newsletter, the West Goshen Police Traffic Safety Unit will provide information on sections of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code that may inform readers on the requirements of these sections and the penalties for violating these sections.

As we approach the season of inclement winter weather conditions, the West Goshen Police Department would like to remind you to be sure to clear your vehicles of snow and ice before taking to the roads.



According to Section 3720 of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, “When snow or ice is dislodged or falls from a moving vehicle and strikes another vehicle or pedestrian causing death or serious bodily injury as defined in Section 3742 (relating to accidents involving death or personal injury), the operator of the vehicle from which the snow or ice is dislodged or falls shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$200 nor more than \$1,000 for each offense.”

Drive carefully and please allow for extra time when driving in inclement weather conditions.★

To prevent accidents, don't forget to clear your entire car or truck of snow and ice!

Help Prevent Vandalism

This fall, some West Goshen neighborhoods experienced a rash of vandalism. To help fight destruction of property, remember to notify the West Goshen Police Department by calling 911 **immediately**, no matter how small the act of vandalism. This will help the detectives to discern patterns that may lead to the identification and capture of perpetrators.

Do not allow any minors (anyone under 18) out unattended late at night. Section 34-1 of the West Goshen Township Code specifies that it is unlawful for a minor “to remain

in or upon any street, public place, or any establishment” unattended by an adult 21 or over between 10:00 PM and 5:00 AM, or between 11:00 PM and 5:00 AM on Fridays and Saturdays between June 15th and September 15th. Minors working or returning from work during these hours or performing errands for parents or guardians are exempt from this law, but must carry “identification and evidence in writing to this effect.” Section 34-2 of the Township Code specifies that parents may be held responsible for their children’s violation of curfew. ★

WEST GOSHEN



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1025 Paoli Pike
West Chester, PA 19380
Mondays - Thursdays
7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
610.696.5266
(fax) 610.429.0616
twp@westgoshen.org
www.westgoshen.org

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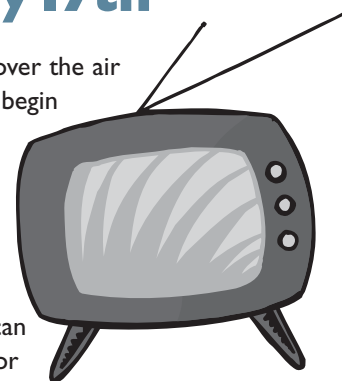
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Make Sure You're Ready to Make the Switch on February 17th

In 1996, the United State Congress mandated that all over the air stations must cease broadcasting in analog format and begin broadcasting exclusively in digital format beginning on February 17, 2009. This move will free up bandwidth currently used for analog television broadcasts so it could be used for other communications.

Older analog televisions are not set up to receive the digital signals through antennae. However, these TV's can still be used if connected to cable or satellite service, or if attached to a digital converter box.



The federal government is offering two free \$40 vouchers per household for the purchase of digital converter boxes. To take advantage of this offer, call **1-888-DTV-2009** or visit **www.dtv2009.gov**.

Additional information is available at the following websites:

- The Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration: **www.ntiadtv.gov**
- The Federal Communications Commission: **www.fcc.gov**
- The Digital Transition Coalition: **www.dtvtransition.org**
- The National Association of Broadcasters: **www.nab.org**
- The National Cable and Telecommunications Association: **www.getreadyfordigitaltv.com** ★