

THE PENN TOWNSHIP PIPELINE

WINTER 2009

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 4

COMMUNITY NEWS

Police Department Announces New Web Site

The Penn Township Police Department is pleased to announce the launching of their new web site, www.penntownshippolice.org.

The web site provides information on various activities within the department. The sections of the site include: Administration, Records, Patrol, Traffic, K-9, Detective, Community Relations, DARE & SRO, Tactical Response Team, and Accreditation. Local Westmoreland County news and links can also be found.

The site was developed to guide you through the workings of the department's various crime enforcement units including the traffic and K-9 divisions and the pro-active activities like SRO and DARE and the Citizen's Police Academy that teaches residents about the department and police officers. The public can choose from other pages to learn about the officers and how the department's efforts have been effective in fighting crime.

The Penn Township Police Department hopes to serve and to communicate better with the community through these web pages. Working together much can be done to make our township safer and improve the quality of life on every street and in every neighborhood.



Let It Snow

The township staff would like you to remember to keep these items in mind as we head through another winter snow season.

Snow can cause problems for firefighters when the hydrants become difficult to access. Please help by pitching in and removing snow from around area fire hydrants.

Second, please do not shovel snow into the roadways. It is a violation to do so.

Third, remember to keep roads accessible to snow plows. When snow is predicted, please park your vehicles in your garage or driveway. An unobstructed road means a clearer road.

Fourth, please make sure your mailbox post is secure. A secure post helps avoid delays in mail delivery caused by hidden mailboxes.



Keep Those Pipeline Contributions Coming

The Penn Township Pipeline is entering its 15th year! Even though costs dictated that it could no longer mailed to residents, it remains available each quarter via the township web site (www.penntwp.org) and via email with an ever-growing mailing list. Keep in touch with the community with your contributions that can be either e-mailed to pipeline@penntwp.org or mailed/dropped off to The Penn Township Pipeline, P.O. Box 452, Harrison City, PA 15636.



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From the Township Tax Collector

2009 School Real Estate Taxes

All real estate taxes for the current tax year 2009 were required to be paid by 12/31/2009.

All payments made after 12/31/2009 must be made at the Westmoreland County Courthouse's Tax Claim Bureau.

2009 Local Services Taxes

The fourth quarter payments for the Local Services Tax (LST) for the year 2009 are due by 1/31/2010. All persons who are employed or self-employed, including both resident and non-resident individuals, eighteen years of age or older as of January 1, 2009, engaging in an occupation within Penn Township are liable for this tax.

A refund can be given at the end of the year if the employed has income from all sources less than \$12,000.

Self employed individuals that have not received their Local Services tax form should contact the tax office at 724-744-1414.

Important Note: If you have a business and have not paid your LST, you are required by township ordinance to pay this \$52 tax. This includes all self-employed individuals!

2010 Westmoreland County/ Penn Township Real Estate Taxes

The Westmoreland County and Penn Township real estate tax statements and street light assessment statements for the year 2010 are scheduled to be mailed by 3/1/2010.

Property owners who don't receive their tax statements within 7 days of this date should call the Penn Township real estate tax office, 724-744-1414.

Also, call if you believe that you received a tax statement in error (e.g., it should have been sent to your mortgage company).

Tax Office Contact Information

The office of Larry Wojcik, the Penn Township Tax Collector and Treasurer, is located in the municipal building, 2001 Municipal Court, Harrison City, PA 15636. His phone number is 724-744-1414.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ALSO SEE the Club and
Organization News section for
information about other events.

JANUARY 2010

December 26 - January 10 – Christmas Tree Recycling

The Community Women's Club of Level Green will accept live Christmas trees at the parking lot next to the PTARC ballfield at the intersection of Route 130 and Murrysville Road in Level Green, December 26 through January 10, 2010.

This is an open drop-off (unmanned with no set hours). Ornaments and lights must be removed.

LIVE TREES ONLY!

If you have questions, contact
Sue Rometo at 412-493-0957.

January 2009 - PTARC Winter/Spring Class Registration

The Winter/Spring Activity Guide from PTARC (Penn-Trafford Area Recreation Commission) was mailed to all residents in the Penn-Trafford school district and is now available on PTARC's web site (ptarc.org) during the week of December 29.



FEBRUARY 2009

February 2009 – PTAE Spring Class Registration Begins

Spring classes offered by Penn-Trafford Adult Education (PTAE) will start in mid-March. Registration will begin in February. Class schedules will be included in the February issue of the Penn-Trafford Prospectus (school district newsletter mailed to households in the Penn-Trafford School District) and posted on the group's web site, www.ptae.org, near the middle of February. Beat the winter blues by getting out and learning something new!



MARCH 2010**March 7 – Bag and Basket Bingo**

Community Women's Club of Level Green has brought back by popular demand the Basket Bingo with a twist! It will be the Bag (purse) and Basket Bingo! Come and join the club on Sunday, March 7 at noon at the Level Green Firehall for this fundraising event! Tickets are \$25.00 with lunch included and a \$10.00 gift handed to you at the door! There will also be a specials table along with a 50/50 raffle. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Lanita Myers at 412-380-6852.

CLUB AND ORGANIZATION NEWS

Recreation Groups**Community Women's Club of Level Green**

On Thursday, January 21, the Community Women's Club of Level Green will hold their general meeting at the new restaurant in the Giant Eagle Plaza on Penny Lane. D Best Sandwich Shop, which specializes in hot, fresh breakfasts, an Italian Bakery, homemade



lunches and dinners, will open their doors and welcome the Women's Club at 7:30 pm. The members of the club will be renting the restaurant's banquet room and will learn how to decorate snowman sugar cookies! D Best at 724-744-0011 provides catering, event space and holiday cookie trays.

On Thursday, March 18, the Community Women's Club of Level Green will hold their annual President's Night by welcoming back and honoring past presidents. The Greenhouse Winery (www.greenhousewinery.com), located at 10828 Rillton-Guffey Road in Rillton, will host a wine tasting event at the Level Green Community Building.

On Thursday, April 15, instructor Laurie Sweeney from the Norwin Art League located on Main Street in Irwin, will teach members of the Community Women's Club of Level Green a lesson in clay. It's not everyday that adults get to work and play with clay, so this evening will prove to be lots of fun. Mrs. Sweeney will teach the members how to construct a Spring Bunny out of sculpty clay. The Norwin Art League hosts adult painting classes and children's classes. Email

luv2craft4u@verizon.net to register for classes today!

Penn Area Library***2009 State Budget Woes Affect the Library***

The year 2009 began on a promising note for all libraries, but as the summer grew hot, the State budget grew cold. As July turned into August, the library learned that the State was planning to cut library funding by as much as 55%.

All libraries began a vigorous campaign to let the State officials know how important libraries are for their communities. It was an uphill battle and despite all of its efforts, library funding was cut 21%. That in itself wouldn't have been so bad, but the library was already on a downturn from the State in terms of funding since 1993.

What that means for the Penn Area Library is that the library tightens its already tight budget. Fortunately the library does not foresee any layoffs or cuts in hours of operation. But it means that the library cannot replace a staff member who retired and that the materials budget will be cut.

**The Penn Township PIPELINE**

is published quarterly by the township. Your comments and contributions are always welcome.

Mail, e-mail, or drop off your information to:

The Penn Township Pipeline
P.O. Box 452
Harrison City, PA 15636
pipeline@penntwp.org

Thank you to Annette Blonar of Level Green for volunteering her time to edit *The Penn Township Pipeline* and to everyone who contributed information to this issue.

The Penn Area Library hopes that their patrons will keep being generous with donations of materials and funds. Every effort will be made to keep new best sellers, reference, children's materials, DVDs, audios and the like on the library's shelves.

Story Time Resumes in January

In January, story time will resume. There will be two toddler, two pre-school and one baby lap sit each week. Check the library web site, and please come in or phone the library in mid-January to sign up your children. Storytimes are very popular and every effort is made to accommodate as many children as possible.

Computer Classes Successful but Another Instructor is Needed

The library's computer classes are extremely successful. But, unfortunately, the current volunteer instructor has some challenges at her work and cannot continue the classes.



If you can volunteer to teach computer classes, please call or e-mail the library. Even if the current instructor returns, having another instructor to teach on a different day or time would be wonderful. There are several students waiting for these classes.

While the Penn Area Library has a small computer lab, if they can find a grant to help with equipment, the lab will move to the multi-purpose room where they will be able to offer classes to more patrons.

Free Databases Available to Library Patrons

There are several databases on the Penn Area Library web site (www.pennlib.org) that patrons can use either at the library or from their homes.

All four Grolier databases are great for students or adults. The articles even have citations for your convenience if you are writing a paper report. These databases are expensive and must be used by you the patron or the library will have to stop subscribing to them.

To access them simply go to Online Resources on the web site www.pennlib.org. Click on the Grolier Online link, then on the Click Here to Use link. Enter your in your library card barcode number and then click Enter. Your library card number starts with PPAL and then has ten digits.

Enter it with no spaces, and you will be into the databases.

Three other databases are available to library patrons from the library system. They are Mango Language, Learning Express and Heritage Quest. To access these simply go to the same Online Resources page as for the Grolier databases. With these resources, you can learn a new language, take a practice test for the SAT, police officer exam, postal worker exam and more plus be able to find links to your family tree. All databases can be used in the library or from your home. And they are completely free to you.

Use My Millenium to Manage Your Reading

Also accessed from the Penn Area Library web site is My Millenium. If you set up a My Millenium account, you can keep a history of the materials you have read or want to read, reserve books, renew books, and more.

To access My Millenium, from the library home page (www.pennlib.org), click on the New Search button for the card catalog (labeled Search the Collection at Penn Area Library). Near the bottom of the page is a link for My Millenium. Enter your name, your library card barcode, and PIN. The barcode number begins with PPAL and then has ten digits; don't leave any spaces. The PIN is just another word for password. When entering a password, make it something you will remember because the library will not have access to it. If you forget your password, the library must reset the system for you to enter a new password, and your library history will be lost.

My Millenium is well worth the few minutes it takes to set up.

Thank You from the Library

As the year closes, the Penn Area Library would like to thank their great staff. Pat Cappeta-Children's Coordinator; Dawn Corall-Ask Here PA, interlibrary loan, and reference; Donna Orange-secretary, bookkeeper; Janet Ruschak-interlibrary loan, Ask Here PA, library clerk; Sandy Thorp-library clerk; Dee Sutton-library clerk; Amy Lysle-book processor and repair; George Bolkovac-janitor; Donna Graham-library clerk; Loretta McLaughlin, Dorothy Zevchak,

and Carol Lizotte-WCCC trainees; and all the fabulous volunteers.

The library would like to thank their wonderful Friends Group and Marie Burns, president, for all the profitable book sales. The Friends have purchased numerous items for the library including scanners, a train table, programs, and so much more.

Q-Pals quilting have also been very generous by donating their dues to the library.

Thank you also to all the generous patrons for their donations of funds, materials, and time.

Looking Forward to 2010

The Penn Area Library is looking forward to 2010! Please be assured that they will make very effort to keep their service to you, the patron, their number one priority.

Please watch their web site (pennlib.org) for news items and for any cancellations or closings as winter sets in. If you have questions or comments please either e-mail mfulmer@pennlib.org or call 724-744-4414.

See you in the library!

Penn-Trafford Adult Education (PTAE)

Spring Brochure of Classes Coming in February: The brochure containing the spring classes organized by Penn-Trafford Adult Education (PTAE) will be included in the February issue of the school district's newsletter, *The Prospectus*, to be mailed to all residents of the Penn-Trafford school district.

Registrations are accepted up until one week before the class begins.

About Penn-Trafford Adult Education: Penn-Trafford Adult Education is an all-volunteer organization that has been providing educational opportunities for adults since 1962. For more information on the group and its programs, contact Devra Cherrone, chairperson, at 724-744-2303.

Penn-Trafford Adult Education is always looking for new volunteers to help organize and run classes for the community and instructors for new classes. Contact them if you are interested.

Penn-Trafford Area Recreation Commission (PTARC)

Winter/Spring Activity Guide Mailed:

PTARC's Winter/Spring Activity Guide was mailed to residents of the Penn-Trafford School District during the week of December 28.

Classes for all ages from tots through seniors, trips, discount tickets to area ski resorts, and many special events are offered.

The activity guide was also posted online at www.ptarc.org. Extra copies of the guide may also be obtained at the PTARC office in the Penn Township Municipal Building.

PTARC Fundraisers: Friends of PTARC will be holding their annual FACE Gala on April 24, 2010. Nominations for the FACE award are being accepted until March 1. For details, visit the PTARC web site at www.ptarc.org.

About PTARC: PTARC is a nonprofit, intergovernmental organization formed between the boroughs of Penn, Trafford, and Manor, Penn Township, and the Penn-Trafford School District.

PTARC's mission is to provide the opportunity for life-long learning, fitness and fun through wholesome, affordable, recreational activities and safe, appealing facilities. They can be reached at 724-744-2171, ext. 204 or 205.

Volunteer Fire Departments

Grandview VFD

Grandview VFD meetings: Third Wednesday of each month beginning at 8:00 pm.

Grandview Auxiliary meetings: First Tuesday of each month from September through June. Meetings begin at 7:30 pm. New members are always welcome.

Bingo: Weekly bingo on Monday night beginning at 7:00 pm with 50/50 early bird games beginning at 6:15 pm. As well as regular games, specials and quickies, there is a 600 point progressive jackpot. It is always a pleasure to see new players on Mondays. The kitchen opens at 5:30 pm with a variety of food.

Hall rentals: For weddings, anniversaries, graduations, birthdays, etc. Call 724-523-8251 for information about hall rentals.



Harrison City VFD

Unless otherwise noted, for more information on HCVFD events, visit their web site www.hcvfd.org.

Harrison City VFD's Pavilion Rental: Perfect place for your family gathering, graduation party and any other outdoor celebration. On January 30, 2010, the department will be booking the pavilion for the summer of 2010 at the truck garage from 10 am - 12 pm.

Harrison Room Banquet Hall: Seats up to 450 people comfortably. Perfect facility to make your day special. Please call to set up an appointment to view the room with their rental agent.

Tours: If you would like to tour the station or see any of their fire equipment, please feel free to stop by any Monday night after 6:00 pm.

Level Green VFD

Unless otherwise noted, for more information on LGVFD events, call 412-372-9669 or visit their web site, www.levelgreenvfd.org.

Weekly Bingo: Mondays. Doors open at 4:30 pm. Bingo starts at 6:30 pm. For more info, call 412-372-9669 or 412-372-9625.

Fire Department Meetings: First Tuesday of every month. Always looking for new members.

Fireman's Auxiliary Meetings: First Wednesday of the month. New members always welcome.

Kitchen: Open Mondays from 5-9 pm and Thursday 6-10 pm. Thursday is Wing Night, eat-in special. Run by the Auxiliary.

Social Club: Membership is \$5.00 per year.

Banquet Hall: Available for all occasions. For more information, please call Chris at 412-380-6168.

Paintertown VFD

Fire Department: Meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. Always looking for new members. Need community service for high school credit? Contact Chief Brian Lee at 724-863-7769. Web site: www.pvfc7.us.

Ladies Auxiliary: Meets on the second Wednesday of every month. President Tracy Pany is welcoming new members – call 724-864-0334.

Social Club / Kitchen: Accepting social members for only \$5.00 per year. Come in and try their famous wings, fish sandwiches, salads, and more. The kitchen is open every Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Call the club for hours – 724-863-7769.

Social Hall: Accommodates 200. Great for showers, small weddings, graduation parties, and holiday events.

Claridge VFD

For more information on the Claridge Volunteer Fire Department, call 724-744-2400.

Colton Social Hall: Perfect place to hold any event, especially your wedding reception. They offer several caterers for you to choose, ample parking, and comfortable seating for up to 500 guests. Please call today to set up a tour of the facility.

Weekly Bingo: Wednesdays. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Warm-ups start at 6:25 pm.

Community Meetings

Get involved with YOUR community! Attend community meetings to learn what's happening and voice your opinion! A complete description of each of Penn Township's boards and commissions and their meeting dates can be found on the Penn Township web site.

Penn Township Commissioners Business Meetings - 3rd Monday of each month, 7:30 pm, Penn Township Municipal Building.

Penn Township Commissioner Caucus Meetings - Wednesday preceding the third Monday of the month, 7:30 pm, Penn Township Municipal Building.

Penn Township Zoning Hearing Board - 2nd Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm, Penn Township Municipal Building.

Penn Township Planning and Zoning Commission - 1st Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm, Penn Township Municipal Building.

Penn Township Recreation Board - 4th Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm, Penn Township Municipal Building.

Penn Area Library Board - 2nd Tuesday of alternate months beginning in January, 7:30 pm, Penn Area Library.

Penn Township Sewage Authority Business Meetings - 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm, Sewage Authority building at 1032 Nike Site Road.

Penn Township Sewage Authority Workshop

Meetings - 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm,
Sewage Authority building at 1032 Nike Site Road.

Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority - 3rd

Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm, Sewage treatment
facility on Route 993.

Penn Township Business Association - For meeting

dates visit www.penntownship.biz.

PTARC (Penn-Trafford Area Recreation

Commission) - 1st Monday of each month, 3:00 pm,
Warrior Center.

✂ CLIP OUT AND SAVE ✂

The deadline for material for the **Spring 2010** issue of The Penn Township Pipeline, which will include information for **April, May, and June 2010**, is **Tuesday, March 9, 2010**.

When submitting information on events, please be as specific as possible. Please include what the event is, who is sponsoring it, where it will be held, and when it is (the date and time).

For all submissions, please include a **contact person and telephone number for additional information**.

As always, please get your material in early. Late submissions may not be able to be published

DIRECTORY (All area codes are 724 unless otherwise noted)

EMERGENCY CALLS 911

PENN TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS

Ward 1 – Kenneth Darragh 523-5355

E-MAIL: None AREA: Grandview, Oakford Heights, Pheasant Run, Shanty Town, Burrell Hill, Boquet, Mt. Manor (south side), Observatory, Penn Heights mobile home park, Walton Crossings

POLLING: 1-1 Grandview Fire Hall; 1-2 Westmoreland County Community College - Bushy Run Campus

Ward 2 – George S. Dunbar 724-433-9703

E-MAIL: gdunbar@penntwp.org AREA: Harrison City, Harrison Park, Harrison Estates, McCullough, Skyview, Penn Glade, portions of Deerfield plan, Mt. Manor, (north side) Stoney Creek, Lorrie (south side), Bushy Run Fields, Johnstown

POLLING: 2-1 Warrior Center (High School Stadium); 2-2 Harrison City Fire Hall

Ward 3 – Paul Wersing 744-4887

E-MAIL: compw3@aol.com AREA: Claridge, St. Barbara, Boxcartown, Country Farms, one-half of Prosperity Farms (divided by Seanor Rd), Penn Highlands, Oak Farms Estates, Blackthorne, Deerfield north of Waugaman Rd., Bella Victoria, Campbell Farms

POLLING: 3-1 Colton Hall in Claridge; 3-2 Township Municipal Building (Library); 3-3 New Life Church on Raymaley Road

Ward 4 – Charles Horvat 744-2607

E-MAIL: chcom4@penntwp.org AREA: East side of Paintertown Road, Sunrise, Rose Acres, The Villa, Meadow Wood, Penn Towne, Country View area, The Willows, one-half of Prosperity Farms, Cortina Marie, Mull High Acres (west portion)

POLLING: 4-1 Sunrise Estates Elementary School; 4-2 Rescue 6 on Sandy Hill Road

Ward 5 – Michael Ginsburg 412-372-6289

E-MAIL: comfive@comcast.net AREA: Level Green, Deer Run, portions of Baker School Rd, west side of Paintertown Road

POLLING: 5-1, 5-2, and 5-3 Level Green Community Building

WESTMORELAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tom Balya (Chairman) 830-3101

Thomas Ceraso 830-3102

Charles W. Anderson 830-3104

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE

Helen M. Kistler 744-3031

U.S. CONGRESS

Tim Murphy 412-344-5583

U.S. SENATE

Bob Casey, Jr. 866-802-2833

Arlen Specter 412-644-3400

PA STATE SENATOR

Kim Ward 600-7002

PA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

James E. Casorio, Jr. 861-0247

PENN TOWNSHIP

Base number for the extensions 744-2171

Township Manager/Secretary-Bruce Light ext. 201

Director of Finance-Linda Iams ext. 202

Community Development Director-Dallas Leonard ext. 207

Chief Building Inspector/Zoning Officer-Mike Stack ext. 208

Sewage Enforcement/Occupancy Inspection ext. 208

Landfill ext. 207

Community Dev. Secretary-Jean Ann Greer ext. 210

Police-Chief Paul Ronca 863-1119

Road Department-Tom Lamacz 863-5710

Library-Mary Anne Fulmer, Director 744-4414

Sewer Authority-Stan Caroline, Authority Manager 744-4333

Emergency Management-George Adamson ext. 213

PENN-TRAFFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent-Dr. Deborah Kolonay 744-4496

Business Office 744-2121

Transportation Office-Matt Harris 744-4496

TOWNSHIP AND SCHOOL TAX COLLECTORS

Township-Larry Wojcik 744-1414

School-Centax Corp. 744-0104

TOWNSHIP WEB SITES

Penn Township (official site) www.penntwp.org

Penn-Trafford Area Recreation Commission www.ptarc.org

Penn-Trafford School District www.penntrafford.org

Penn Area Library www.pennlib.org

The Penn Township

PIPELINE

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