

the Village of Westover

NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2010

www.villageofwestover.org

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 - 14 Monti Fletcher
 - 15 Fred Littmann
 - 16 Linda Dalton
 - 17 Carl Janes
 - 18 Ann Frankhouse
 - 19 Al Michelotti
 - 20 Dan Hooven
 - 21 Dave Patton
 - 22 Jim Kriebel

Important Dates

- September 6th
Labor Day
- September 8th
Westover Board Meeting
- September 12th
Westover Block Party
- October 11th
Columbus Day
- October 31th
Halloween

Hampden Township Police Blotter Now On-line

Want to know what the police are doing next door?

The Hampden Township Police Department has started posting on line a "Police Blotter" of police events that are happening in the township

and Westover. While you will see that the Village of Westover is quiet, it makes for interesting reading. Go to <http://www.hampdentownship.us/departments/police/policeblotter.htm>

Here is a sample of what is on line:



<p>POLICE BLOTTER</p> <p>If anyone has any information, please call Hampden Township Police at (717) 761-2609.</p> <p><u>May 31, 2010 3:56pm</u> Orr's Bridge Road/Prowell Drive for a report of trespassing.</p> <p>Commissions</p> <p><u>May 31, 2010 1:36am</u> 100 block of Salem Church Road traffic stop resulted in DUI charge(s) being filed. CLOSED</p> <p>Authority</p> <p><u>May 31, 2010 12:26am</u> 6300 block of Pennsboro Drive for a noise disturbance. Resulted in disorderly conduct citations being filed. CLOSED</p> <p><u>May 30, 2010 10:17pm</u> 3800 block of Pamay Drive for a report of kids in the area "garage hopping."</p> <p>Information</p> <p><u>May 30, 2010 9:26pm</u> 1600 block of Orr's Bridge road for a report of fireworks.</p> <p><u>May 30, 2010 6:45pm</u> 5200 block of Strathmore Drive for a report of kids entering a garage in an attempt to steal alcohol.</p>	<p>Home Page</p> <p>Police Blotter</p>
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Westover End of Summer Block Party

September 12 • 4:00—6:00 PM • McCord Commons

SEE PAGE 9 FOR DETAILS

Westover Start of Summer Block Party

(SPECIAL: *Block party review by Westover Willie*)



This is an unbiased review of the Westover Start of Summer Block Party by Westover Willie. He states "I have been asked to do this review because of my view from above and of course I am unbiased. So here goes."

The Westover Civic Association sponsored the first 2010 neighborhood Block Party this past June 13th. They had

pop pianist/vocalist Noel Gevers, magic show by Eddie Ray, Chilly Dilly's ice cream truck, free hot dogs & baked goods with the help of the Westover Women's Club chefs and bakers. *(All of this was really good particularly what was left behind for us birds)* This event was held in the McCord Commons (my neighborhood) and the sunny weather helped to draw over 150 attendees. Thanks to the many volunteers who made this event possible... including **David Baboian, Bill Carlisle, Kaitlin Carnovale, Sue Carnovale, Joe Farrell, John Coyne, Monti Fletcher, Jackie Garano, Greg Hartman, Carney Humphreys, Bill & Ros Jones, Madeline Killian, Audrey Newell, Nell Nickolas, Kay Ohrin, Joe & Melissa Washburn, Westover Women's Club,** and many more.

Please see Westover's web-site at www.villageofwestover.org for colorful photos from this event. And don't forget to mark your calendar for our end of summer 2010 Block Party... Sunday, September 12th, 4:00-6:00pm. See you there!

Willie continues to say "I give this party a solid 9.8 on a scale of 1 to 10. It looked like all had fun, kids were giggling and running around and the adults were chilling out. Why did I not give it a 10 you may ask? Well there was not really much left for the birds

and my furry friends on the ground to pick at after all the folks left. So I give it a 9.8."

Your loyal friend and observer, Westover Willie.

Lot more photos on page 3.



Westover Email Blasts to Residents

Westover Civic Association periodically sends out emails on issues of vital concern to the whole community. This past quarter we issued two emails to the 220 folks who have signed up for the service. These two emails concerned a remodeling scam and the other about a wandering or lost pet along with an alert regarding possible pet poisoning.

If you have not signed up, please do at www.villageofwestover.org We are reproducing the remodeling scam email for your information: as below:

Please Be Aware -- Westover Remodeling Scam

Recently a team of peddlers promoting window replacement and remodel-

ing services has been working in our neighborhood. There have been concerns with this group not being licensed and becoming quite nasty to deal with. Thanks to the help of concerned Westover residents, the police are following up on this most recent incident.

If you are approached by someone selling services or products, that does not have a license to do so, please contact the Hampden Township Police (761-2609) or (238-9676 after hours). If the peddler is aggressive and you feel threatened, call 911. While many of these folks are hard working and diligent, there are those that are not, and we caution you to be aware.

Hampden Township Ordinances

CHAPTER 13—LICENSES, PERMITS AND GENERAL BUSINESS REGULATIONS, PART 1 SOLICITING AND PEDDLING LICENSES

§108. LICENSE TO LIST PRODUCTS.

Such license when issued shall state, inter alia, the products to be sold or services to be rendered by the licensee. Every solicitor or peddler shall at all times, when engaged in soliciting or peddling in the Township of Hampden, carry such license upon his person and shall exhibit it upon request, to all police officers, Township officials and citizens. No solicitor or peddler shall engage in selling any product or service not mentioned on such license.

June 2010 Westover Beginning of Summer Block Party Photos



BLOCK PARTY

End of Summer—September 12

The Village of Westover End of Summer Block Party will be held on Sunday, September 12 from 4 to 6 pm. This will be an extra fun event due to new entertainment and Popcorn Players in the kids' tent. So mark your calendar, get your sun-tan lotion ready along with your favorite beverages and come on out. See the last





Sergeant Shissler Update

FOR YOUR SAFETY....

Chief Harry Clay meets with Westover Board

Chief Clay met with the Westover Board on June 9th to introduce himself to the community. Chief Clay has been active in the Township Police for 31 years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to serve all of the township residents. Some of the highlights of his visit were as follows:

The township has 23 officers on staff and two new police vehicles. The total vehicles are 6 marked cars, a criminal investigation van and some unmarked cars. Chief Clay asks your help by calling the police when you see things happening so they can deal with them immediately; they have four certified seat specialists who will help you install and properly fit a child seat (call 761-2609 for an appointment); he has started a police blotter to keep the public informed (see article on the front page of this issue) and they are actively working on aggressive stop sign runners.

Chief Clay told the board that garage door hoppers are very active (recently caught one group and have the lead on another right now). He requested all of us to **PLEASE** keep your garage doors down. This is an invitation to kids (especially if they see a refrigerator which may mean beer) and other thieves. So close your garage door.

These are just a few of the items he mentioned, and we are pleased that the Westover Civic Association and the Police Department have this open channel of communication.

Dear Westover Willie



Q. I keep banging my head on tree limbs so what are you going to do about it?

A. While I do not have this problem as I am way above you guys, I know what you mean. You see some folks do not trim their trees to the Hampden Township required 8 foot height. This is a real problem as it forces walkers and joggers onto the street which is not a safe place to walk. The problem is further aggravated in that branches stick down and can and have poked folks in the eye. **So trim the trees over the sidewalks to 8 feet.**

Q. Dog poop again?

A. Yes, I know and I am deep into this issue as always. Did you know that I got 1,876,712 requests in 2009 for folks to pick up poop? Yep, I did and this year is looking up to be a tight race. So please if you see a dog pooping and the owner not picking up, offer them a newspaper plastic bag. If it gets really stinky, then call the Hampden Township Police as they will help enforce the township law.

Q. Why grass is dying, what should I do?

Short answer is pray for rain. But most likely it is not dead, but just dormant and will come back. You should not fertilize it as that will hurt rather than help and if we get a few inches of rain then do not water it. If you do find a spot or two where the grass has actually died, then plant new seed in the middle of September but not before then. Wise Ole' Willie knows a lot

So What are the Electric Trucks Doing in Westover?



Recently there have been electrical trucks in Westover and you may be wondering what they are doing?

Westover is over 30 years old and PP&L, the neighborhood's electric company, is evaluating the health of the underground electrical feeds to the local transformers near the homes. Some of the cables can deteriorate over time, and if they detect this with their equipment they have marked them for replacement. For those lines that are tested AOK, they inject a fluid into the cables to disperse any water to better

protect them for the long term.

These transformers have 7,200 volts of electricity in them (you have 220 volts in your house), so they can be very dangerous if one were to tamper with them.

The workers pointed out why it is so important to keep shrubs and bushes away from the front of the units. They need unfettered access so that when they open them, they can get to the wires safely without limbs and leaves falling into the units, possibly causing a short.



2010 Westover Clean Up Campaign



The Westover Civic Association hosted our annual Spring Clean Up Party in the Common areas on Saturday, May 14th. We had 28 volunteers helping with laying tan bark, trimming bushes and doing general clean up. It took about an hour, but not counting coffee drinking and doughnut dipping time! We went through two boxes of coffee, hot chocolate and lots of gooey doughnuts. This year we did not put tan bark around all

the trees due to a shortage of manpower by the township for delivery.

It looks great and we thank all who helped for this event.





From the Westover Mailbag....

The Westover Civic Association will start to publish some of the

many emails we receive from residents which will give you an idea of how active our community is.

Spraying in yard and pets

Dear Civic Association,

Getting information by email pleases me to no end. No waste paper and delivered in a timely fashion. Also colorful and to the point.

If you could add a reminder to people in the next issue to post their yards when they put weed killer on them, it would be much appreciated. My dog cleans her paws fastidiously after strolling and I worry when she steps on private grass. We, of course, are equally fastidious about leaving no trace. Use my name if you wish.

Folks poisoning animals

My sister forwarded the information about animals to me since I have a dog and live in Stanford Court. I remember in the early 1950s we had a dog get sick and the police said there had been a rash of sick dogs they attributed to burglars trying to clear the way. Just a thought.... and that was over 60 years ago.

Thank You

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Thank you for being concerned about animals. (Name Withheld)...Stanford Court

House with insects

Hello,

I'm not sure if this is the correct email address for this type of request. I went on the Westover website but the link for "Contact Us" does not seem to work.

There is a white house on (Address withheld) which seems to be under construction and/or there is no one living there right now. There is a swarm of very large insects (they look like wasps or hornets) in the front yard. One cannot walk along the sidewalk in front of this house. I have to cross (withheld) every time and walk on the other side. If someone were living in this house I am sure they would call an exterminator, but instead it is going unchecked. I am now noticing the insects across the street and also in the park behind the

house.

If possible, the owner of this house should be contacted and asked to please have an exterminator come and take care of this before it becomes a larger problem. I do not know if contacting the owner is something the association can do, but I wanted to find out. Thank you,

Trim trees

What a great way to distribute our newsletter !!

In the next newsletter, can there be a reminder for residents to trim their trees, fir trees and shrubs that block one's ability to walk on the sidewalks without having to duck or walk on the grass. If not, we will just continue to duck.

Aggressive Dogs

I would like to report that certain "Breeds" of aggressive dogs have attacked a little "Pompooodle" while being walked on Whitehill Drive.

Can we send out a reminder that aggressive dogs must be kept under control while in the owners custody...Thanks You...

Various thanks for the newsletter and email blasts. The electronic newsletter is great. Thank you.

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Thank you,

We enjoy reading the newsletter on line. Thank you to all who continue to make this a great development.

OTHER NEWS FOR WESTOVER RESIDENTS

Checking and Monitoring the Oak Trees in Westover

The Westover Civic Association has asked the Pa Department of Forestry Services to check and monitor the oak trees in Westover due to the weakening condition. Mr. Zack Roeder, a forester with DCNR, reviewed the trees in 2009 and again in 2010. His report is below. His final analysis is that the trees are getting aged and will start to show signs of distress when in an urban environment with paved streets, sidewalks and houses. There is not much that can be done other than keeping a lookout for disease as he mentions.

Here is his report:

I didn't find anything new or suspicious. I asked the Forest Pest Management Division for input and they agreed. There were no insect or disease causing problems. Landscape trees have to deal with a lot of stress, and those oaks are no exception. The insects and disease in those situations are typically opportunistic, taking advantage of a weakened tree. However, it is important to monitor for new infestations, gypsy moth in particular. Drought is out of anyone's control but mulch would be preferable to turf, and deep watering is helpful when it does get exceptionally dry. Watering small amounts frequently might do more harm than good. While iron injections can help chlorotic trees, it is only a temporary fix, and arguably more of an aesthetic concern than anything else. Pruning to remove dead or disease branches and thinning as needed can be beneficial. As the trees age they become less and less resilient. Dead trees and trees that are severely declining should be removed. Planting site appropriate species with diversity in mind makes community forests much less insect and disease prone and more resilient.

I noticed some sad looking ash trees in the area as well. I inspected them for Emerald Ash Borer and found none. Ash trees are often affected by Anthracnose, and native borers, and some of those ash had mechanical damage, so sad looking Ash trees are fairly common. EAB is currently in Bedford and Juniata Counties, so you should not plant ash trees and you should continue monitoring for EAB. Zachary Roeder DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Service Forester

That house cost what?

Cumberland County has a database that you can access that will tell you just what a house sold for in Westover. You can point your web browser to <http://taxdb.ccpa.net/default.asp> to get the scoop. Here is what it looks like:

Cumberland County Tax Assessment Database

DISCLAIMER

The data contained in this database is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. This information should be used for informational use only and does not constitute a legal document for the description of these properties. Every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of this data, however, this material may be slightly dated which would have an impact on its accuracy. The Cumberland County Assessor's Office disclaims any responsibility or liability for any direct or indirect damages resulting from the use of this data.

* 2004 Tax Assessment Database (Updated 8/8/2010 11:45:41 AM)

Sort Order

Parcel ID	Begins with	▼	⊙
House Number	Begins with	▼	⊙
Street Name	Begins with	▼	⊙

Submit

Website Updates and Resources

We encourage all residents to visit Westover's official web-site and sign up for our email blasts. We already have over 220 residents signed up and they receive timely information about our community via email. These periodic emails will keep you informed about events, emergency alerts like lost items or pets or the recently updated stop signs in Westover. We also have lots of pictures and an archive of all of our newsletters. Visit the web-site at www.villageofwestover.org where you can sign-up for the email blasts.

Please note that none of the email addresses that register for email blasts will be used for any other purpose.

We have also archived previous issues of the newsletters along with photos of all Westover Events. You will be pleasantly surprised how active the community residents are with events that benefit all residents.

Westover BIG Thank You's

Thanks to the following residents for their contributions:

John Coyne who has served as a zone director for the past few years. John is relinquishing his zone director duties to concentrate his efforts on the Westover Website. Thanks, John, for your continuing efforts.

Thanks to **Audrey Newell** who is leading the efforts for our email blasts. Audrey has a marketing communications background and does an excellent job of getting the word out on a timely basis and making it look good too.

Thanks to **Dan Hooven** who is our new zone director taking over from John Coyne's zone. Dan and his family have been very active in Westover and we look forward to his continued support. Dan is active in the Boy Scouts and other organizations in the community.

Thanks to **Carl Janes** our new Zone Director for units 1 to 19 in Devonshire Square. Thanks Carl and welcome aboard.

Update on Stop and Street Signs in Westover

Westover board member John Reiersen has met with Hampden Township regarding the updates to our street and stop signs in the township.

While this issue is not resolved Westover is actively involved as it affects all our beautiful signs. The process is taking place due to mandated requirements from the Federal Government which filters down to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and then to the township.

You will notice that the posts are new (breakaway design), signs now include a reflective strip and the signs are new. We will keep you posted on the impact of these government mandated changes on our street signs and associated costs.

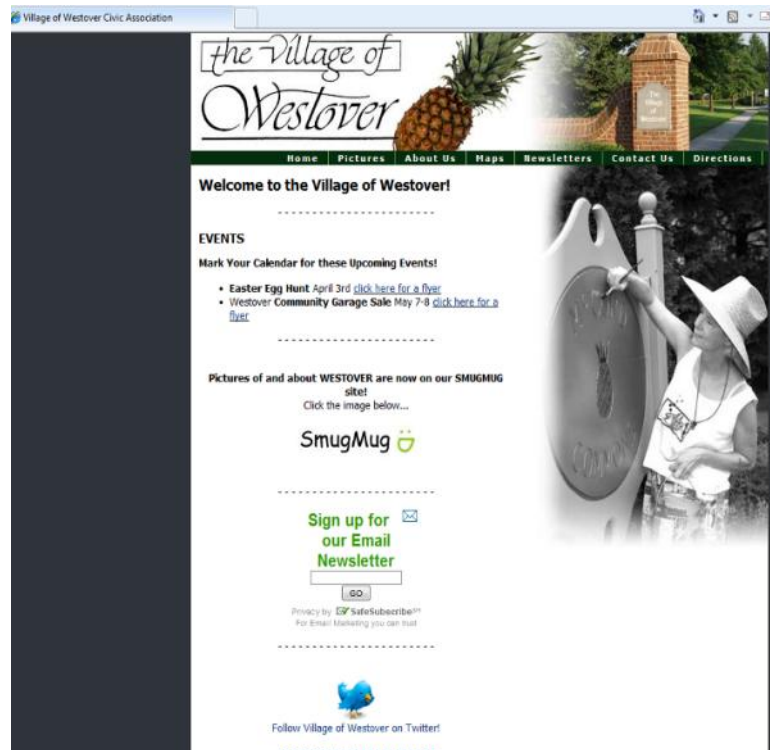
★ Help Wanted ★

In Need of a Zone Director for Kensington Square

The Westover Civic Association is looking for a Zone Director to represent the residents of Kensington Square units 23-44. This is a great way to give back to the community with very little effort. We have four board meetings a year, deliver newsletters four times a year and collect dues once a year. You get to interact with a great group of people, get the inside scoop on happenings in Westover and, if so inclined, participate on some committees like Summer Block Party, Holiday Decorations, Clean up campaign, and other fun things.

We need a voice from this section of Kensington Square and you are invited to email Joe Farrell at jfarrell@farrell-assoc.com with interest or if you know someone that we can contact please let us know too.

Westover Website Villageofwestover.org





First Meeting of the Year

Please join us, your neighbors, at the first Westover Women's Club gathering of the year. A light dinner, celebratory cocktail and plenty of friendship will be served. Not only will you find great food and drink at our gatherings, but you'll get to know your neighbors better and get a night out! We look forward to seeing you!

Thursday, September 16th
 7:00 pm
 6224 Stephen's Crossing
 Hostess: Nell Nickolas
 RSVP: Audrey Newell - audreys@familynewell.org
 Ph: (717) 691-1816

Women's Club Survey

The Women's Club has posted a survey online to gather information from current, past and prospective members. Please take five minutes and share your thoughts. No personal information is being collected...we just want to know what you would like from your club.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/D8PW2ZC>

\$ 1,921 raised from Spring Yard Sale

The Women's Club raised \$1,921 with the two-day spring charity sale in May for the Women's Club Care & Share Program. Thanks to many generous donations and a lot of hard work, we are already using the money to help our community.

The yard sale would not have been such a huge success without the help of Lowell and Diana Latshaw, Nell and Les Nickolas, Paige Burry, Ros Jones, Audrey & Geneva Newell, Maureen & Kate Cassel, Bette Gottwald, Beth Bender and others who worked the two-day event.

You'll be pleased to know that the funds have already been put to good use, helping local families with urgent requests. Most of the funds requests last year came from counselors and teachers in our local schools. We've funded necessary dental work, bedding, eye glasses, medical transportation, food, clothing and school supplies to help kids and families in our local area.

The Women's Club Care & Share funds flow quickly, reaching those in need when they need it most.

Annual Report Police Activity

The Hampden Police Department has also posted on line a report of activity during 2009 and you may find it interesting as to the types of crimes and issues that our community faces. The link is here:

<http://www.hampdentownship.us/departments/police/reports/2009PDAnnualReport.pdf>

Here are some sample pages of the report:

2009 Arrests/Citations

❖ Traffic Citations	1196
❖ Non Traffic Citations	249
❖ Criminal Arrests	262
❖ Juvenile Referrals	15
Total	1722

2009 - Traffic Accidents

🚗 Non Reportable Accidents	374
🚗 Reportable Accidents	266
🚗 Injuries	98
🚗 Fatalities	1

2009 Group B Offenses

	Reported	Arrests
Bad Checks	29	14
Curfew Violations	7	7
Loitering	1	1
Disorderly Conduct	16	14
D.U.I.	79	79
Liquor Laws	3	3
Drunkness	27	27

2009 Other Investigations

Parking Complaints	195	Assist other Agency	350
Driving Complaint	225	Suspicious Person(s)	421
Domestic Disputes	354	Suspicious Circumstances	197
Neighbor Disputes	50	Alarms	673
Fight Calls	21	Missing Persons	15
Noise Disturbance	118	Abandoned Vehicle	36
Animal Complaints	251	911 Hang-ups	265
Mischief Calls	55	Other Services	236
Assist other Police	192		



End of Summer . . .

Westover Block Party !

You Are Invited . . .

- **Free Hot Dogs !!!**
- **Free Kids' Juice and Water**
- **Ice Cream Truck with Free Ice Cream Treats (additional items for purchase)**
- **Free Snacks from the Westover Women's Club**
- **Live Pop Guitar/ Vocalist in Entertainment Tent**
- **Popcorn Hat Players in Children's Tent**

Sunday Sept 12th at 4 PM!!

What: End of Summer Block Party

When: Sunday, Sept 12th (rain date Sept 19th)

Where: McCord Commons on Berkeley Drive

Time: 4 pm to 6 pm

Other: Bring lawn chair, blankets to sit on, snacks and your favorite beverage (please no glass)

the Village of
Westover

For the adults: Pop guitarist/vocalist "Rhyné McCormick" Don't forget to bring your favorite beverage

For the kids: Popcorn Hat Players, ice cream and snacks and juice

Brought to you by the Village of Westover Civic Association