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May 10th
Commons Clean up

May 16-17th
Garage Sales

May 17th
How to take Better Photos

June 1st
Block Party 4 –6 pm

Commons Clean Up Day Announced—May 10th

The Westover Civic Association has scheduled a clean-up day in the Commons and you are invited to help. Best of all it is free!!! The special day is Saturday, May 10th, at 9:00 am for one hour only. This is a really fun event with light raking, trimming and having coffee, hot chocolate and gooey doughnuts with neighbors.

Kids have a fun time, too, and again we will play “pick up sticks” since there are plenty of sticks to go around this year.

No child will come away empty handed. The kid’s part is a great way to expose them to community service while having some fun.

All you need to do is show up with leaf rakes, and/or hedge trimmers, and gloves on May 10th at 9:00 am at the McCord Commons for your assignment. You can email us at westover@villageofwestover.org to let us know if you are able to help.



Westover Community Pride

Sunday, June 1st
4 to 6 PM
(rain date is June 8th)

McCord Commons will once again be the site for the Westover Summer Kick Off Block Party.

Here is what is on tap for your family:

- Free hot dogs with all the fixings
- Free juice and water for the kids
- A big ice cream truck with lots of goodies
- Free snacks from the Westover Women’s Club
- Live pop guitarist / vocalist
- Live Juggling Show
- Volleyball game
- Kick Ball games

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and your favorite beverage for the adults. Call Dave Baboian if you can volunteer to help and for more information at 891-5504

Block Party



Westover's Jamestown Square



Jamestown Square is a condo development and is the last area to be developed in the Village of Westover. It is located on the eastern edge of the Village on Westover Drive across from the east side of Devonshire Square. The original Jamestown Square development plans included a total of 38 condo units. Plans for Phase 1 of Jamestown Square called for two buildings each with 8 condo units. The first building was completed and two units were sold in 2008/2009. To

date, nine units have been completed and sold.

Last fall Bill Kelley agreed to partner with Classic Communities to complete the construction of Phase 1 of Jamestown Square.

Classic Communities is one of the top Private Companies of Central Pennsylvania. Classic maintains a corporate office on Linglestown Road in Harrisburg. Silver Creek, Heights at Beacon Hill, Trindle Springs, and Millfording Highlands are Classic Community developments that are located in the Mechanicsburg area.

Other developments built by Classic can be found throughout central Pennsylvania. Bill Kelley will continue to manage the Jamestown Square HOA until Phase 1 is completed. After that Classic Communities will buy the balance of the Jamestown Square property and Bill's involvement with Jamestown Square will



end.

Jamestown Square unit owners are considering the options of condo ownership vs. conversion to a planned community. A planned community offers the benefits of easier mortgage approvals for prospective buyers and lower cost of insurance for current unit owners. Completion of units 10, 11 and 12 are underway and a new model will open soon. Look for more construction activity as the weather improves.

Thanks to Trudy Hepner for this article.

Westover Special



FREE Photo Class

McCord Commons

Saturday May 17 ■ 10-11 am

How to Take Better Photos is a one hour class on how to capture better images no matter what kind of camera you have including a phone, point and shoot or a fancy DSLR camera. We will present easy and common sense tips to get better images just in time for sports and vacation shoots.



This session is geared for adults and we ask that you bring a lawn chair. We will be walking around McCord Commons taking shots and demonstrating techniques.

Session is taught by Joe Farrell the resident photography instructor at the Mechanicsburg Art Center School and Galleries.

If you have any questions email Joe at jfarrell@farrell-assoc.com.



WHAT WESTOVER DOES.....

We'll get the word out by placing ads and posting signs. (a project of the Westover Women's Club with funding provided by your dues to the Westover Civic Association).

WHAT WESTOVER RESIDENTS DO....

You clean out your closets and basement. On sale day, you throw open your garage door and get ready to make a deal.

WHAT WE ALL GET.....

Nothing beats a neighborhood garage sale for getting things cleaned out for spring! The public picks through your stuff, you get the money, and we all close



Detective Sergeant Shissler Update

FOR YOUR SAFETY....



This issues topics:

- Kids out playing
- Lock house and car doors
- Motorized carts

Kids out playing.

Detective Sergeant Shissler tells us that kids are out and about after a long winter and not always paying attention as they chase balls into the street. Be careful and look out for the kids.

Lock doors.

You may have read about some areas where vandals have broken into houses and cars. We recommend that you lock the doors to your cars even if in the driveway and that you lock the house doors, even if taking the dog for a walk.

While we in Hampden Township have not seen a rash of this activity, it exists and cutting off all temptation is a good start.

Plus if you see characters lingering around especially at night and look out of place, you may want to call the police to investigate. Do not approach them yourselves.

Motorized cars, scooter and carts.

One of the issues we receive complaints about include children riding kids motorized cars in the neighborhood including on sidewalks and on the township roads.

Many people don't realize state law restricts use of the small, two-cycle gasoline engine- or electric motor-and-battery-powered scooters, carts and cars to private property, which means driveways and lawns. They are not allowed on public roads or sidewalks even with adult supervision. They can be a safety hazard, also, when kids are too young to understand about pulling into driveways or onto roadways without being aware of traffic or people pulling out their driveways.

Contact the police department if you find someone violating this law so that their kids remain safe and are directed to other fun activities.

From the Westover Mailbag....



Q. My street light is out. What can I do? In the dark homeowner

A. Call PP&L at 1-800-342-5775 and give them the location and pole number (which is usually on the pole attached via an aluminum tag).

Q. I see dogs being walked not on a leash and it scares me sometimes. Scared Walker

A. It is a requirement of Hampden Township that all pets be under control at all times and that pets are not allowed to roam free without owner supervision and they must be under control. The key words are under control and not specifically a leash as there other means to control the animal. Please be aware that your pet may be the most gentle and loving thing, but other walkers do not see that. Please keep your pet under control and walk to the other side of the street if necessary.

Property Values in Westover Continue to Increase

The table below compares the value increases from 4/1/12 to 3/31/14. We thank Joe Washburn, a REALTOR here in Westover, for his compilation of this data from the Central Penn Multi List. If you have questions you can contact Joe at his office , CENTURY 21; joewashburn@century21.com.

Stay tuned in for the next 3-6 months. This period of time will give us a tell-tale indicator if, in fact, the real estate market is on its way to a healthy recovery.

Year	Average Selling \$	Average Square Feet	Average \$ Per Square Foot	Units Tracked
► Single Family Resale Homes (West of Skyport)				
4/1/12 to 3/31/13	\$279,000	2,520	\$110.96	3
4/1/13 to 3/31/14	\$306,400	2,466	\$123.55	8
► Single Family Resale Homes (East of Skyport)				
4/1/12 to 3/31/13	\$346,500	2,508	\$139.24	4
4/1/13 to 3/31/14	\$366,814	2,703	\$135.56	7
► Jamestown Square				
4/1/12 to 3/31/13	\$0	0	\$0.00	0
4/1/13 to 3/31/14	\$298,973	2,461	\$122.22	3
► Stanford Court Resale Homes				
4/1/12 to 3/31/13	\$121,750	1,140	\$106.80	2
4/1/13 to 3/31/14	\$125,500	1,288	\$98.20	3
► Kensington and Devonshire Resale Homes				
4/1/12 to 3/31/13	\$240,720	2,580	\$94.16	5
4/1/13 to 3/31/14	\$236,285	2,418	\$99.52	7
► Kings Arms and Stephens Court Resale Homes				
4/1/12 to 3/31/13	\$177,000	1,683	\$104.77	4
4/1/13 to 3/31/14	\$189,633	1,802	\$105.23	3



2014 Easter Egg Hunt

The Westover Women's Club sponsored Easter Egg Hunt was held on April 12 and, according to the kids, was a huge success! Over two thousand eggs were collected by fifty-three eager neighborhood children. As always the Easter Bunny made an appearance. A hoppy time was had by all. (partial funding provided by Village of Westover Civic Association.)



Scenes of Winter Past ... for good!



WESTOVER NEWSLETTER POLICY. This newsletter is published by the Westover Civic Association to inform its members of the many Village of Westover projects, activities and improvements that are relevant to the entire neighborhood. We are unable to accommodate personal requests and business solicitations or advertisements. All photos published in the newsletter are with permission or are in the public domain. We solicit your comments or concerns as well as ideas for newsletter articles by going to www.villageofwestover.org. If you find a photo offensive please email us at the Village of Westover Civic Association website.

Westover Upgrades and Repairs

Those Worn and Sad Looking Street Signs

The Westover Board of Directors has approved moving forward with the replacement of the street signs within Westover. The signs and posts will be replaced with government mandated signage and posts which will be installed by Hampden Township later this summer.

The signs and posts are in a state of disrepair and we were hoping that the federal regulations would be eased due to the extensive costs of replacement. That did not happen, however, and the June 2014 timeframe mandated is right around the corner.

We investigated numerous alternatives to keep our nice posts with both local and state agencies and all of the options would cost the Westover Community \$15,000 to \$30,000 for posts, with our Williamsburg motif. Even if we would be able to finance the posts; Westover would have to assume legal liability for the non-mandated posts and signs. All of those factors pushed us to let Hampden Township take full ownership and responsibility for the signs at no direct cost to the Westover Civic Association.

The emergency staff, fire, ambulance and police were all concerned that our signs could not be read especially at night due to the poor visibility and condition of them.



Present



To Come

Did You Notice? Front Entrance Cleaning

The front entrance was recently sealed and cleaned as part of Westover's contract to have the front entrance re-pointed with new mortar.

Lower Commons Improvements

Under the direction of John Reiersen and Nell Nickolas there has been quite an effort to get the Lower Commons area cleaned up. With numerous volunteers rolling up their sleeves, they trimmed some trees, removed tons of weeds, wild trees and vines, applied weed suppressant and did lots of planning for further enhancements.



Two benches were recently added and will be permanently installed pending final designs for the Lower Commons. Benches were provided by Hampden Township Parks Department.

Speed Checker

The Westover Civic Association has requested the Township speed checker to be placed on Westover Drive to help slow down the fast drivers. Note that fast drivers do not only occur on Westover, but that nice long stretch makes them seem to go faster there.

It has been ordered and should be in place within the next month.



Dear Westover Willie



Dear Willie:

Q. *Dogs have been pooping in my yard. What can I do?*

(Editor's note : We removed the supplied photo from this submission)

A. You hit on the #1 question to cross my tree. Yep, there has been an increase in the unsightly habit of owners not picking up their pet's poop. It is both a shame and breaking the law. We can only suggest that you pick it up. If you see the offending owners, let them know and maybe hand them a newspaper bag to pick it up with. Maybe they will get the hint!

Q. *Can I put a fence around my back yard?*

A. Yes, you can BUT you need to consult with Hampden Township regarding requirements such as set back from property line and height of fence. You can get this information by going to Hampden Township's website and look for codified ordinances.

Q. *When I mow my grass is it OK to throw the grass clippings on to the street?*

A. No, no no... You see grass clippings can be slippery when wet and kids on bikes can slip on them. Also the grass clippings will wash down the sewer system and end up in the Chesapeake Bay where they cause extra nitrogen and starve the fish. Plus it looks really ugly. So if you see a contractor or someone throwing grass on the street, gently remind them of the unsightly mess they are making.

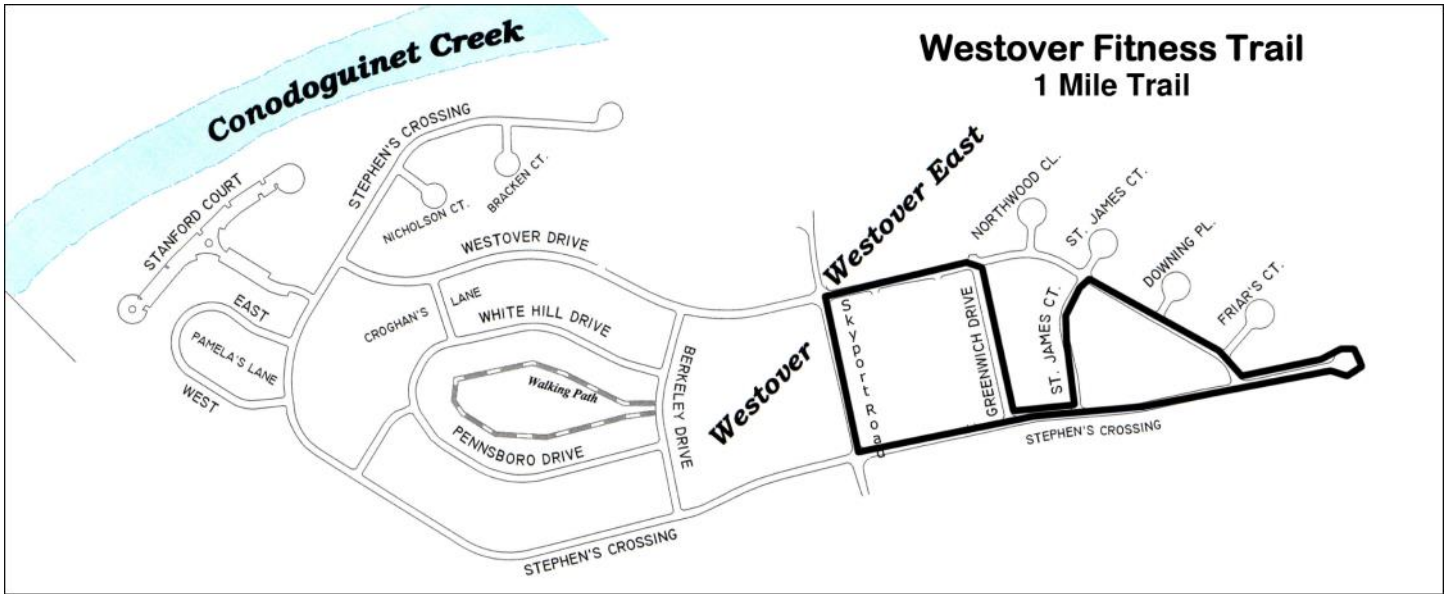
Q. *Is it OK to feed the birds?*

A. *Now really! You are asking Westover Willie if it's OK to give him some nice bird seed! YES! Of course it is OK and remember it is Bird seed and not squirrel food. Those darn cute squirrels get into our feed all the time. But you can get squirrel proof feeders at the Agway Store in Mechanicsburg (they have tons of them).*

Full Disclosure: I, Westover Willie, am on the Agway Fly by Night advisory board providing advice on feeders and bird seed but there are many other suppliers and this is not an endorsement of any particular supplier. But I get asked all the time.

2013 Santa Breakfast





the Village of
Westover

Fitness Trails

