

# WEST PIKELAND NEWS

The Official Newsletter of West Pikeland Township – 1645 Art School Road, Chester Springs, PA 19425  
Spring 2007

## IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<b>Police and Fire Emergency</b> .....	911
<b>Township Police Dept</b> .....	610-827-5007
(Non- Emergencies)	
<b>Fire and Ambulance</b> .....	610-436-4702
(Non – Emergencies)	
<b>Township Office</b> .....	610-827-7660
<b>Township Tax Collector</b>	
EIT/Fire Hydrant/Real Estate –	
Berkheimer .....	800-360-8989
<b>School – Downingtown</b>	
Tax Office.....	610-873-0930
Administration.....	610-269-8460
<b>Chester County SPCA</b> .....	610-692-6113
<b>Hospitals</b>	
Brandywine.....	610-383-8000
Bryn Mawr.....	610-526-3000
Chester County.....	610-431-5000
Paoli Memorial.....	610-648-1000
Phoenixville .....	610-933-1000
<b>Hotlines</b>	
Angel Flight, PA.....	610-940-1717
Chester County Cares.....	610-436-4040
Child Abuse.....	800-692-1100
Children & Youth Services.....	610-344-5800
Crime Victim Center.....	610-692-7420
Domestic Violence Center.....	610-431-1430
Elder Abuse.....	800-564-7000
Governor’s Action Line.....	800-932-0784
MADD.....	610-692-9001
National Runaway.....	800-621-4000
Rape Crisis Council .....	610-692-7273

## SAVE THE DATES!

**Saturday, May 5, 2007** – Historic Yellow Springs - *Community Arts Day*

**Sunday, May 6, 2007** – *Open House* - The West Pikeland Township Board of Supervisors will host an Open House on Sunday, May 6, 2007 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Municipal Buildings and Cultural Center at 1645 Art School Road to dedicate the new municipal building and to welcome our new Township Manager, Jeri Diesinger.

The Pennsylvania Academy of Performing Arts (*PAPA*), the Chester Valley Dance Academy and the musical group “ECHO” will perform in our Cultural Center Theatre. Kids young and old can enjoy fun foods and soft drinks. Students from the Montgomery School will assist with a face-painting booth and Judy Tudy the clown will make a special appearance!

The Township would like to extend our thanks to Vinnie’s Pizza, Sam’s Club, and Wegman’s for donating food items for our open house, to Tom Oates for sponsoring Judy Tudy the Clown and to all the terrific residents who have helped the office staff coordinate a wonderful day.

**Saturday, May 12, 2007** - Binky Lee Preserve – *Community Picnic*

**Saturday, May 12, 2007** – Mill at Anselma – *7<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Open House, BBQ and First Grind of the Season*

**Sunday, June 3, 2007** – *Sundaes on Sunday* – HYS ice cream and puppet show event.



## **Township Manager's Corner** **by Jeri L. Diesinger, P.G.**

It has been an extremely fast-paced few months since becoming West Pikeland's new Township Manager in March. I have been able to meet so many of our wonderful residents and look forward to working with our talented staff for a long time to come. The Township is busy with many projects; some new, some on the books for a while, but now moving forward. I would like to tell you about some of them.

Website Changes - An immediate goal is to update our official West Pikeland Township website ([www.westpikeland.com](http://www.westpikeland.com)) with links to information of particular interest to the residents and businesses in the Township. I hope to make the website user friendly and something to visit on a regular basis to find new information about the workings of your Township. Right now, we are posting important links and announcements on our website's home page. Look for more changes coming soon!

Act 537 Sanitary Sewer Planning - A major Township project includes the design of a sanitary sewer system to provide public sewer service for neighborhoods in the southern end of the Township which currently are experiencing failed or failing on-lot sewer systems.

Street/Stop Sign Replacement Project - This summer the Township will begin replacing street and stop signs and will continue the project into 2008. Specifications have changed

to include additional safety for our residents and those who visit or drive through our Township.

Stormwater Drainage Project - We will be soliciting bids from contractors to correct a stormwater drainage problem along Horseshoe Trail Road from S.R. 113 east to Lower Pine Creek Road prior to repaving in 2008.

Municipal Parking Lot - This summer the Township plans to construct a paved municipal parking lot to be located next to the Municipal Offices and Cultural Center. The Township will appear before the Zoning Hearing Board on May 2, 2007 to request a variance of the 5 percent slope requirement. The Township's plan is designed with a 7 percent slope; however, depending on the outcome of the hearing, the parking lot can be built at a 5 percent slope with a retaining wall if necessary.

Sale of Old Municipal Building - The Township would like to sell the old school house municipal building located on S. R. 113. The Township Code requires that public property be sold through a sealed bid process or by public auction. However, before we sell, we need to find an alternate area to store winter supplies of salt and that has proven to be a challenging task! We are looking at several parcels within the Township which can meet several criteria, including: 1) sufficient area to include a salt shed and garage area; 2) access onto a major roadway; and, 3) proximity to neighboring residences. We will keep you posted on this project through our website.

I am delighted to be part of this wonderful community and promise to do my utmost to keep the lines of communication open. Don't hesitate to stop by and say hello.



## NOTES FROM ~ THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Spring is here and summer is right around the corner. With April showers come May flowers; unfortunately, we also will be visited by the door-to-door con-artist. These unwelcome visitors to your home will offer a variety of services, all designed to save you time and money. Beware of the con-artist who offers to spray your roof, repave or blacktop your driveway, fertilize your lawn, repair your windows, screens, television, or other services at an unbelievably low price. With no written estimate to fall back on, you are often forced to pay a much higher price for inferior materials and unnecessary repairs. All door-to-door solicitors are required to apply for and be in possession of a solicitation permit that has been issued by the West Pikeland Township Police Department.

Protect yourself and your property by requesting a written estimate on all home improvement offers and compare the prices. Do not be rushed into a "bargain". DO NOT pay for anything until all services are completed. Remember to report all suspicious offers and persons to the West Pikeland Township Police Department immediately. Beware of the con-artists that:

- Reach out using the U.S. Postal Service.
- Scams are conducted by individuals claiming to be from the Social Security Administration stating that in order for them to deposit a check in your account you need to supply them with your account number.

- With chain letters you are expected to introduce other participants to the chain in the hope of being paid at a later date. This seldom pays off as you would expect. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!
- Fake contests, most recently the Canadian and Australian Lotteries, where you are notified that you have won a prize in a contest are a typical scam. In fact, there was no contest. It is a fraud to get you involved in a transaction in which you are parted with your money for no return.
- You may receive what appears to be a cashier's check payable to you for a significant sum of money. All you will be asked to do is deposit the check in your checking account and pay a small service fee. Within a few days your bank account may be depleted by these con-artists.
- Beware of "prizes" that cost you money before you receive them!
- Medical fraud mail scams occur when you receive a letter offering free medical diagnosis or miracle cures and hearing aid advertisements. Check the legitimacy of any company that wants to sell you additional medical insurance.
- Beware of the "work at home" scams. You will see an ad to earn money by addressing envelopes, knitting, or performing some other tasks. You are only required to send a sample of your work and a small registration fee to the company. Chances are your sample will not qualify, your money will not be refunded, and you will never hear from the company again. Do not send money by mail for work-at-home projects. If you suspect that you are a victim of mail order

fraud, contact the West Pikeland Police Department at 610-827-5007.

NOTES FROM THE POLICE DEPT. (Cont'd)

Here are some simple rules to follow to protect your family and your assets.

1. Always investigate before investing money or signing a contract.
2. Do not believe promises of high or unusual monetary returns, or a “bargain” no one else can match.
3. Do not discuss your personal finances or give cash to strangers.
4. Contact the West Pikeland Township Police Department if you think you are a victim of a scam or fraud.

For more crime prevention tips, please visit the official website for West Pikeland Township at [www.westpikeland.com](http://www.westpikeland.com) and navigate to the police page. You may visit the police page at [www.westpikeland.com/pages/police.htm](http://www.westpikeland.com/pages/police.htm). As always, feel free to call upon your police department for any questions you may have, especially those questions that concern the safety and security of you and your family. We can be reached at 610-827-5007. If you need police assistance, please dial 911.

**Spring is here and West Pikeland Township needs volunteers for the Park and Recreation Board. Call the office at 610-827-7660 if you would like to volunteer!**

West Pikeland Township  
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Chester Springs, Pa. 19425

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