

# WEST GOSHEN



1025 Paoli Pike • West Chester, PA 19380  
www.westgoshen.org

Summer 2002

Township Newsletter • Volume 12 No. 1

## Free Fun Day!

How much fun can your family have for FREE?

At West Goshen's Community Day, on September 22, all activities are FREE!

Pony Rides? **NO CHARGE.**

A home run contest for kids, and a Frisbee contest for kids and adults? **WITHOUT COST.**

A chance to have your children fingerprinted by the West Goshen Police Department or to meet the real-life heroes of the Goshen Fire Department while checking out the cool fire trucks? **PRICELESS.**

Sand art, spin art, face painting, and other arts and crafts for kids? **ZERO DOLLARS.**

Giant slide, funhouse, and moonbounce? **GRATIS.**

A concert by "Battle of the Bands" winner Braeden and a headline concert at 4:00 PM by The Fabulous Greaseband? **COMPLIMENTS OF COMMERCE BANK.**

Artisans' Row, featuring over fifty regional crafters? **YOU GET THE PICTURE.** (You will need your wallet for this portion of the day, because after viewing the varied and unique handmade crafts, you will be hard-pressed to walk away empty-handed.)

Community Day is an annual celebration of West Goshen Township at West Goshen Community Park (North Five Points and Fern Hill Roads). The festivities begin at noon, and activities continue until 5:00 PM.

In the event of rain, Community Day would be celebrated on Sunday, September 29, and the Greaseband would still perform at 4:00 PM on Sunday, September 22, with the venue changed to East High School. Call 610.696.5266 after 9:00 AM on Sunday, September 22, to find out if Community Day is postponed due to rain.

### Neighborhood University of Greater West Chester

West Goshen Township, in conjunction with area townships, is launching a citizen's education program, Neighborhood University of Greater West Chester, which will provide area residents with the necessary tools and knowledge to better advocate for their community.

Being planned are twelve, 2-hour, weekly sessions facilitated by local, county, and state government officials; area business professionals; and experienced leaders who will cover topics ranging from the structure of Pennsylvania local government, area history, to local government functions including fire, police, and emergency management. Tours of local public facilities will be provided to increase awareness of available municipal services and resources.

Neighborhood University will begin September 5 and is open to anyone 16 years of age or older who resides in one of the participating municipalities. Class size is limited to 25. Contact Sharon Lynn, Township Manager, at 610.696.5266 or at [twp@westgoshen.org](mailto:twp@westgoshen.org) for additional information. ★

Crafters interested in participating in Artisans' Row may leave a message with The Friends of West Goshen Parks at 610.692.2550. Applications for a space will be accepted until September 6. ★



# township information

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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## ADMINISTRATION

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## WEST GOSHEN POLICE

1025 Paoli Pike, W.C., 19380  
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*

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John L. Windle, *Treasurer*  
Robert L. Brown, *Member*  
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## THE FRIENDS OF WEST GOSHEN PARKS, INC.

*Non-profit group assisting the Park  
and Recreation Board*  
Patricia Ryan-Kelly, *President*  
Kelly Cifone, *Vice President*  
Megan Zug, *Treasurer*  
Richard Gore, *Secretary*

## AUDITORS

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Louis J. Mayer, *Secretary*  
Hugh J. Purnell, Jr., *Member*

## TAX COLLECTOR

William R. Keenan

## TOWNSHIP PARKS

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



## Water Restrictions Still ON

As of this writing (June 27), Chester County along with other southern counties in the state are still at a Drought Emergency status, which mean that activities involving water are still restricted. See last issue of newsletter on website or call Township at 610.696.5266 for details.

Groundwater levels and reservoirs are improving due to above normal rain precipitation in April, May and, June. However, at this time of the year, groundwater levels normally decrease due to the consumption of water by vegetation and evaporation by the hot weather conditions. Therefore, it would not take an especially long period of below-normal rainfall and above-normal temperatures for water shortages to develop later this summer and fall. ★

## WEEDS

*Township ordinance prohibits the growth of ragweed or other harmful weeds, plants, or growth to exceed 12". Present and absent landowners are responsible for maintaining proper levels and can be fined if they do not do so. Ragweed is identified as a harmful plant because it is the principal cause of hay fever in this region. During August and September, when it flowers, each flower produces huge quantities of very light pollen that, when caught by the wind, can travel in excess of 100 miles. ★*

# Public Township Meetings

	Board of Supervisors	Park and Recreation	Planning Commission	Sewer Authority	Zoning Hearing
	4:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
<b>August</b>	14 & 28	21	20	14	15
<b>September</b>	11 & 25	18	17	11	12
<b>October</b>	9 & 23	16	15	9	10

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.

## Household Hazardous Waste

**Make a date** for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) on your home calendar and take on the task of pulling out unwanted items from the cabinet under your sink and your workbench, and out of your garage and shed. Discard HHW items at the collections sites listed below. This disposal is offered at no charge to residents. Materials should be left in their original containers and not mixed with other substances. *Never dispose of HHW items in the trash, down the sink, in storm drains, or on the ground.*

### HHW Collection Dates & Sites

**September 7**

New Garden Township Building on Route 41 and Newark Road, off of south Route 1, near Toughkenamon

**October 5**

Government Services Building on Westtown Road

Sites are open, rain or shine, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM and close promptly at 3:00. Commercial and industrial businesses are excluded from the program.

### Acceptable Items

#### AUTOMOTIVE

Carburetor Cleaner  
Fuel Additives  
Transmission/Brake Fluids  
Antifreeze  
Gasoline  
Empty Motor Oil Bottles  
Grease/Rust Solvents

#### OUTDOOR

Driveway Sealer  
Caulking Compounds  
Roof Cements  
Joint Compounds  
Pool Chemicals  
Septic Tank Degreasers  
Weed Killer

#### PAINT PRODUCTS

Oil-Based Paint  
Paint Thinners/Stains  
Varnish/Shellac  
Stripper/Remover  
Adhesives/Solvents

#### HOUSEHOLD

Household Batteries  
Drain Openers  
Rug/Wood/Metal Cleaners  
Mothballs/Flakes  
Spot Remover  
Smoke Alarms  
Kerosene

#### OTHER

Acids/Caustics/Solvents  
Flammables/Oxidizers  
Lead/Mercury/Asbestos  
Pesticides/Poisons  
Organic Peroxide  
Reactive Metals  
Gas Cylinders max. 20#s

#### UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Tires  
Car Batteries  
Used Motor Oil  
Unidentified Waste  
Pressurized CFAs and HCFs  
Dioxin  
Latex (water based) Paint  
Explosives/Ammunition  
Infectious/Medical Waste  
Commercial/Industrial Waste

# Upcoming Events

## MUSIC

### Music in the Park

All shows start at 6:00 PM in the amphitheater at West Goshen Community Park located at the intersection of North Five Points and Fern Hill Roads.

In lieu of an admission price, donations of soap, diapers, toilet paper, toothpaste, shampoo, or feminine products are requested. These items will go to the Community Service Council of Chester County, Inc., that services area families.

In case of rain, call 610.696.5266 or visit [www.westgoshen.org](http://www.westgoshen.org) after 4:00 PM to see if concert will be moved to auditorium of East High School located on Ellis Lane.

Alcohol is not permitted.

#### Platinum Level Sponsors:

Commerce Bank, Goshen Manor/Goshen Terrace, Park Valley Associates, QVC.

#### Gold Level Sponsor:

Faulkner Auto of West Chester.

#### Silver Level Sponsors:

Comcast Advertising Sales, PECO Energy, West Goshen Sunoco.

**JULY 28**

**The Motown Sounds of Special Blendz**

**AUGUST 11**

**Commodores Jazz Ensemble of the U.S. Navy Band**

**AUGUST 25**

**Country Western Sound of Southern Edge**

**SEPTEMBER 22**

**The Fabulous Greaseband sponsored by Commerce Bank, 4:00 PM show time**

## Art Shows

### Artists & Artisans

Do you like to photograph, paint, sculpt, carve, draw, etc.? Would you like the opportunity to exhibit your work in a public setting?

The Galleries at West Goshen Township will host the annual West Goshen Township Resident exhibit in September 2002. Last year this exhibit featured 72 works from 34 different artists!

Artwork submissions must be accompanied by an entry form and be turned in no later than **3:00 PM, August 30, 2002**. The exhibit will run September 3 - 30. (Only original works of art, which have not been previously exhibited at the Township Administration Building, please.) Exhibit entry forms may be obtained from the Township website at [www.westgoshen.org](http://www.westgoshen.org) or by calling 610.696.5266, ext. 4104.

#### Township Galleries Exhibits



**July**

Young artists studying at the Chester County Art Center

**August**

Works by members of the West Chester Area Senior Center

**September**

West Goshen Resident Exhibit

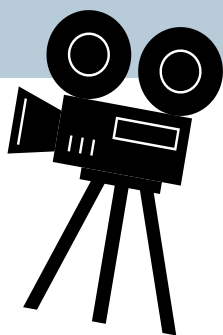
**October**

Faculty members from the West Chester University Department of Fine Arts



# Something for Everyone!

## Movies



### Fall Flicks

West Goshen Township's Community Park will once again be the region's best place to watch free outdoor movies this fall!

On Saturday, October 12, the summer blockbuster "Spiderman" comes to the Community Park. Note: this movie is rated PG-13, which means that some material may be inappropriate for children under the age of 13.

Then, get into the Halloween spirit with the children's favorite, "Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone" on October 26.

All films start at 7:00 PM at the J. Leon Hagerty Amphitheater at West Goshen Community Park (N. Five Points and Fern Hill Roads). In the event of rain, the movies would be moved to the public meeting room of the West Goshen Township Administration Building (Paoli Pike and N. Five Points Road). Seating at the Administration Building is limited—we cannot guarantee that everyone will be accommodated.

As always, the Park and Recreation Department will collect donations of personal care goods (i.e., soap, toilet paper, deodorant, diapers, laundry detergent, feminine products, shampoo, or toothpaste) for the Community Service Council of Chester County.

## Sports

### Yankees vs. Texas Rangers

#### Start Spreading the News...

The West Goshen Township Park and Recreation Department will host a bus trip to Yankee Stadium to see the Yankees play Alex Rodriguez and the Texas Rangers on Saturday, August 24, 2002.

Cost is \$49 per person and includes round-trip transportation and a lower-level ticket to the game. Game time is 4:05 – bus will depart the area at noon and return around 10:00 PM. To participate in this trip to see the House that Ruth Built, call the West Goshen Township Park and Recreation Office at 610.696.5266, ext. 4104 or visit [www.westgoshen.org](http://www.westgoshen.org).



# False Automated Fire Alarms

## Checklist to Reduce False Alarms

✓ Once a month in industrial settings and once a year in residential settings, the detectors should be cleaned. After receiving instructions from your alarm agent, this cleaning can often be completed by maintenance workers or household members. Turn the system off prior to cleaning and back on when done.

Non-automated smoke detectors also benefit from periodic cleaning: Open detector's case and gently vacuum with a soft brush attachment. If the detector does not open, vacuum over the sensing slots.

✓ Smoke detectors have a life of about 10 years, even those connected to electrical systems. Replacement of old detectors will decrease the likelihood of alarm being activated due to false readings.

✓ When planning structural alteration or major construction work, contact your fire alarm agent to receive instructions before work commences. Make sure maintenance workers or contractors know where fire alarm panel and cabling are located.

✓ Do not run equipment that emits dust or fumes near a detector. If this work cannot be done elsewhere, place a plastic bag over the detector during the activity and promptly remove it when done.

✓ Relocate smoke detectors from where smoke or steam is regularly present (near toasters or showers).

✓ Educate household members or employees.

Approximately 90% of the automated fire alarms that are activated in West Goshen Township are false. With an annual average of 41 automated fire alarms in the Township, this rate translates into 37 fire truck and personnel responses that could have been avoided.

Fortunately the cause of most fire alarms is not fire, but are accidental (*somebody bumping into a fire alarm device, a worker spray-painting, sawing/sanding wood, or welding too close to a detector*), incidental (*dust, insects, or water in the detector*), or mechanical (*installation of a new system, an electrical storm, or faulty wiring*).

### How Do Smoke Detectors Work?

An ionization alarm monitors the electrical charge of particles. When particles enter the sensing chamber, they change the electrical balance of the air. When the charge reaches a certain level, the alarm horn sounds. Whereas, photoelectric detectors have a beam of light and a light sensor in its sensing chamber. When the intensity of light diminishes to a certain level, the alarms sounds.



The following activities have activated automated smoke alarms: build up of dust, insects, and spider webs in the detector; dust generated by floor buffers and concrete saws; vapors from cutting torch and soldering; burning incense and food; hair and air freshener sprays; water from ceiling leak; and steam from opened bag of popcorn and over-cooked microwaved food.

### Consequences of Fire Alarms

#### Delays in Evacuation –

Repeated false alarms tend to reduce occupants' reaction time, which is critical during a genuine fire emergency.

#### Community Impact –

A call to a false alarm will jeopardize the response time to a second alarm, because equipment and personnel from a station further away will be used to respond to the second alarm.

**Volunteer Firefighter Impact –** In the case of a false fire alarm, a volunteer firefighter loses at least one hour of work, sleep, or family/personal time responding to such a call. In addition, there is no requirement that employers pay volunteer firefighters for time taken off to respond to a call.

Smoke detectors do save lives – please use them responsibly. ★

## Senior Citizen Trash Rebate Program

To qualify for this Township program, you must meet the following requirements:

1. Have been age 65 or older on December 31, 2001;
2. Received a PA Property Tax/Rent Rebate check in the year 2002 and have a photocopy of such check; and
3. Submit a completed Township Trash Rebate Program application by **October 31, 2002**.

Applications for the Township Trash Rebate Program may be obtained by calling the Township at 610.696.5266, ext. 4107. ★

# Cigarettes: Part II

In the last issue of the Township newsletter, we asked smokers to take one small step towards environmentally friendly smoking by tamping out cigarettes prior to tossing them. In this issue, we are raising the bar and asking smokers to take the next step: **PLACE** the cigarette in a container.

## Litter

Smokers who litter give a bad name to all smokers and make non-smoking activists even more dedicated to (and successful in) increasing smoking bans and raising taxes. Several universities have recently banned smoking on campuses not because of health issues, but because of litter issues. They argued that the number of hours spent by grounds maintenance and landscape staff picking up cigarette butts was not cost-effective use of their staff. In these scenarios, considerate smokers lost out because of their littering counterparts.

## The Filter

The cigarette filter is a plastic (cellulose acetate) that some claim degrades in a year, other studies indicate 12 years, and still others state never. Regardless of the time frame, it is a source of trash. In a recent nationwide coastal clean-up project, cigarette butts were 20% of the material collected. The next most frequently collected category of trash made up less than 7% of the trash.

Do these results indicate that smokers are more inclined to take vacations at the ocean or on the bays? No, they confirm what environmentalists have been cautioning: what gets thrown onto an urban/suburban street or parking lot is carried by rainwater or wind into a stormwater system, which releases its contents, into streams and creeks that flow to oceans and bays.

## No Throw

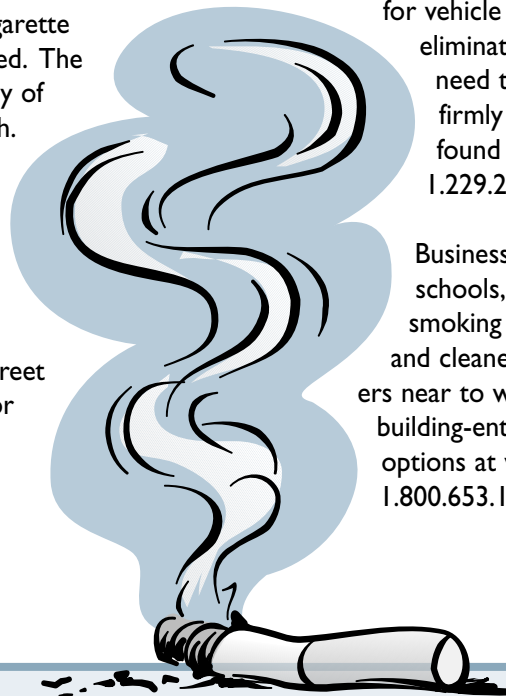
You are having a smoke, and it's time to enter the apartment building, restaurant, vehicle, building, etc. You are tamping out the cigarette (good!) and (new behavior) reaching into your purse, shirt pocket, or pants pocket and pulling out an empty plastic film container, a cigarette tube, or portable ashtray and **PLACING** the cigarette in it.

Or, you are in your car and done with the cig' and let's face it, vehicle ashtrays are a no-win design. They do not hold much and are snapped in so tightly that it is impossible to disengage the tray without the contents spraying out all over. Do not toss cigarette, instead **PLACE** it in a container (see below).

## Container Options

A "cigarette tube" looks like a pen with a clip. This device fits one cigarette and extinguishes it in seconds by shutting out oxygen. Information can be found at [www.thecigarettetube.com](http://www.thecigarettetube.com) or 1.203.483.7148. RJ Reynolds Tobacco Company will send free portable ashtrays for the asking. Contact them at 1.800.243.1213 or [www.CigaretteLitter.org/FreeAshtrays.doc](http://www.CigaretteLitter.org/FreeAshtrays.doc). And for vehicle or boat, there is a container that eliminates the need to tamp out and the need to throw out. The container sits firmly in a cup holder and can be found on [www.splashtray.com](http://www.splashtray.com) or 1.229.227.0870.

Businesses, apartment complexes, schools, and buildings that ban indoor smoking can help out by placing user- and cleaner- friendly cigarette butt containers near to where smokers gather or at building-entry points. Check out the options at [www.buttstop.com](http://www.buttstop.com) or call 1.800.653.1222. ★



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1025 Paoli Pike  
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8:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
610.696.5266  
(fax) 610.429.0616  
twp@westgoshen.org  
www.westgoshen.org

Presort Std.  
U.S. Postage PAID  
West Chester, PA  
Permit #79

**Township offices will  
be closed on Monday,  
September 2, 2002.**

**No recycle pick-up  
that week.**

**No trash pick-up on  
September 2.**

**Bulk Trash pick-up  
dates are August 1,  
September 5, and  
October 3.**

Bulk trash, as well as  
trash and recycling, may be  
placed at curbside *the  
evening before* pick-up day.  
Placing items at curbside  
any earlier could be consid-  
ered a nuisance under the  
Township's Nuisance  
Ordinance.

## WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP OPEN HOUSE

The West Goshen Township Municipal Complex will hold an Open House on Saturday, October 12 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. This event will coincide with National Fire Prevention Week, so not only will the Township Buildings be open for public view, but fire equipment from the local Fire Stations will be on display as well. We invite you to come see what goes on behind the scenes. Refreshments will be served.

