

Cranberrytoday

SPRING 2014

Municipal Center Programs Grow Wings, Build Basics

A series of renovations to the Township's Municipal Center, now underway, will allow for greater instructional specialization, at least in the spaces programmed by the Parks & Recreation Department. The space enhancements, which correspond to the department's preschool, fitness, wellness and cultural arts program offerings, will be clustered into wings.

The preschool or Educational Wing will include child-friendly furniture, bathrooms, storage and decorative features. A new fitness room is being outfitted with high-impact aerobics flooring. An activity room toward the back of the building is being rebuilt with the department's cultural programs in mind. It includes a kitchenette, allowing for art classes as well as other uses. And a new Kids Care Room, designed to accommodate toddlers while their parents take part in aerobics and other adult programs, is also underway.

One key goal of the renovations is to relieve crowding in the Municipal Center gymnasium, which is heavily programmed, especially in the cold weather months. For example, fitness and wellness classes, which currently use the gym because of its impact-compliant flooring, will be soon able to



“Our programs are a launching pad, a great place to get the experience, the fundamentals and a little know-how to see if that’s something your child wants to continue with. People get their start here. It’s affordable.”

follow the same exercise regimen in a smaller room more conducive to those activities.

“All the renovations are program-specific; they’re being built to enhance our programs,” Parks & Recreation Director Pete Geis explained.

“Our programs are a launching pad, a great place to go for the experience, the fundamentals, and a little know-how to see if that’s something your child wants to continue with. People get their start here. It’s affordable. You come here to get your basics. The goal of our programs is to supplement and complement other opportunities available in Cranberry.

“We’re constantly researching other programs that are offered in the community. And we’re using our own comprehensive plan to help identify residents’ needs. If we find that another local organization offers an affordable programming option, we will educate people about it because we want to be a recreation-leisure-education-services resource for the entire community.

“So if something is needed that’s not now available, we’ll do our best offer it. That’s why we’re constantly soliciting public input. And if something needed is being offered elsewhere and people don’t know about it, we’ll say: ‘hey, there’s a great affordable program over there. You should check into it.’

“We constantly compare what we offer to everything else that’s out there.” ~

A Publication of

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CRANBERRY
TOWNSHIP

724-776-4806

www.cranberrytownship.org

Coming This Fall: Brand New Digs For Township Preschool

Cranberry Township's preschool programs for 3- and 4-year olds will be moving into brand new quarters this fall – half a year earlier than originally planned. The new classrooms, which are being built in the Municipal Center space formerly occupied by Cranberry's police department, will include all-new furniture, child-size bathrooms, plenty of natural lighting, top-notch security features, and a recently revised curriculum.

All teachers in both programs hold degrees in education, and the new classrooms are being designed and built in keeping with state preschool certification requirements. In addition to the classrooms, students enrolled in the two programs will have access to the Cranberry Public library, whose staff works closely with the preschool's teachers. New activity rooms and the Municipal Center's gymnasium, are nearby features that children will get to use as well – warm, roomy indoor

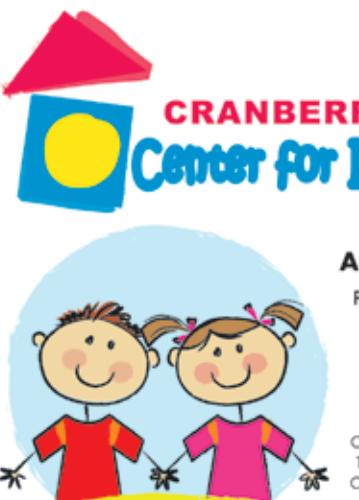
spaces which provide ideal places to play, particularly during bad weather.

The school's newly revised curriculum, introduced this past fall, will also be featured in both programs. Called "Handwriting without Tears" for the way it teaches letters and numbers – the easy-to-teach, easy-to-learn curriculum makes mastering handwriting fun for students as well as their teachers, according to its developers. Particularly with Pennsylvania's adoption of Common Core State Standards, the emphasis and expectations placed on classroom note-taking and expository writing in the earliest

grades are greater now than ever.

A public Grand Reopening, celebrating completion of the renovated preschool, will be held this fall. Its new classrooms will be slightly larger than the ones they replace, allowing for modest increases in class size. Registration for both programs is currently open. Details are available on the Township website or by calling 724-776-4806 x1129. ~

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CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP
Center for Early Education

MORNING AND AFTERNOON SESSIONS

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM, AGE 3 (TWO DAYS/WEEK)
PRE-KINDERGARTEN, AGE 4-5 (THREE DAYS/WEEK)
PRE-KINDERGARTEN, AGE 4-5 (FOUR DAYS/WEEK)

Our teachers use The Handwriting Without Tears Curriculum along with The Creative Curriculum for Preschool, for Ages 3-5. The Creative Curriculum is approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Early Learning Standards for Pre-Kindergarten.

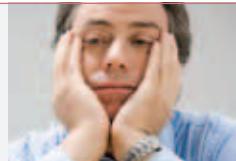
NOW ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS

Cranberry Township Parks and Recreation Department
724-776-4806 x 1129

www.CranberryTownship.org/Preschool

Call To Schedule A Tour!

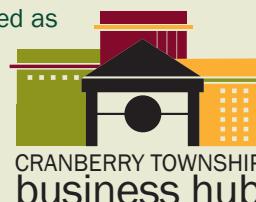
Up To Here With Taxes?



The County/Township real estate tax bill you received in March can still be paid at a two percent discount through the end of April. Those tax rates did not change from last year. But if you haven't gotten around to paying your 2013 Butler real estate taxes, you should call the Butler County Tax Claim Bureau at 724-284-5326 right away to make arrangements before the penalties become overwhelming. If you made any changes in your mortgage company or are no longer using an escrow account to pay your property taxes, stop by tax collector P. J. Lynd's office in the Municipal Center or call 724-776-1103. ~

Find Local Businesses Online

Cranberry's Business Hub, the Township center for business services and information, has published a comprehensive new online directory of companies doing business in Cranberry. Nearly 1,000 companies currently active in the Township are indexed, by business type, along with their contact information, web addresses, and map locations. The list data, which is easily searchable, is provided by the businesses themselves. Business owners can update that data as necessary and augment it with logos or other graphics by contacting the Township. Other types information provided by the businesses and used internally by various Township departments, are regarded as confidential. The list is part of a newly revamped Business Hub website that can be located under "Find a Business" at www.CranberryBusinessHub.org. ~



Putting Cranberry On The Map

Not long ago, when Tribune-Review reporter Bill Vidonic sent a message from Cranberry to his brother via Facebook, its location stamp read 'Fernway, PA.' "Where the heck is Fernway?" his brother demanded to know. It's a question lots of people have asked. So he wrote a story about it.

Cranberry, as everyone in the region already knows, has emerged as one of Western Pennsylvania's brightest stars. But if you go into Facebook, or look it up on most of the major online, GPS and smartphone mapping services, you might have trouble finding it. Instead, what you're likely to see in bold type are Fernway and Fox Run and Criders Corners – neighborhoods, historic sites, census tracts and cell towers located within Cranberry, but not necessarily the Township name itself.

Misidentifying Cranberry is a glitch that public officials, as well as local residents, would welcome seeing fixed, and Cranberry's IT department has

been methodically chipping away at it. But, according to Township GIS administrator Doug Cloutier, it's not an easy problem to remedy. For one thing, mobile devices use a constantly changing mix of satellites, cell towers and wi-fi hotspots to determine their location. Another is that the data most publishers base their maps on is actually licensed from third-parties which gather and own it. And each of those companies, in turn, has its own process for reviewing possible map corrections.

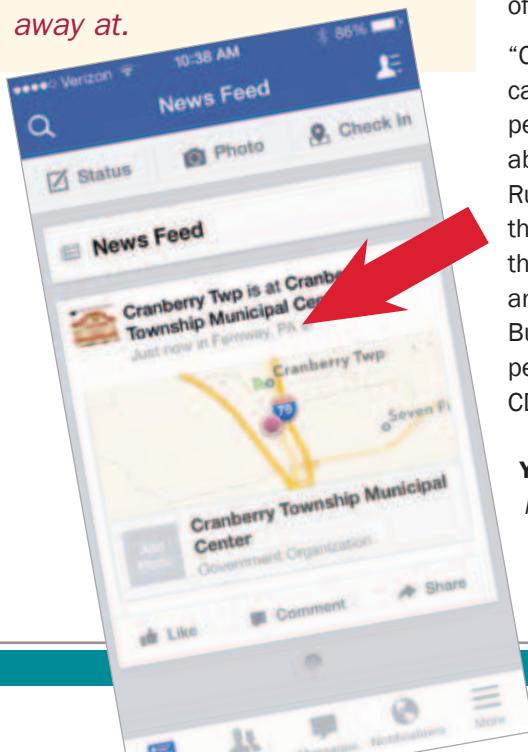
Even so, most of them at some point make use of data compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau – data which is organized by Census Designated Places, or CDPs. All CDPs have outlines and names, but they don't correspond to municipal boundaries, or school districts, or postal zones, or any other recognized territorial lines. Their names are typically borrowed from nearby landmarks, but their footprints don't match those of their namesakes, either. Fernway and Fox Run were among the Bureau's legacy of CDP names.

That gave Cloutier an idea: instead of trying to deal with the map publishers and their data leasing companies: why not go right to the source and take care of it there?

"Originally, I contacted Google, but you can never get in contact with an actual person there," he recalled. "So I wasn't able to eliminate the Fernway and Fox Run labels. Then I decided I'd try to get them changed at the Census Bureau; they provide data to Bing and Google and everyone else. So I contacted the Bureau and finally got in touch with the person who could help us change the CDPs.

You're where? Electronic maps, particularly on mobile devices, often identify Cranberry Township according to census areas, cell towers, neighborhoods and other unofficial landmarks.

Misidentifying Cranberry is a glitch that Cranberry's IT department has been methodically chipping away at.



Put your business on the map!

Business owners who would like to be identified on Google Maps can go to "Report a Problem" at the bottom of each Google Map page and submit their request. It's even easier on Cranberry's own Business Hub website. Just complete and return the Business Survey form which was mailed out in February.

"Through our conversations, in 2012, we decided to eliminate the Fernway and Fox Run labels – which didn't even fit the Bureau's own definition. He told me those changes would show up in an October 2013 data release. So I checked in November and Fernway and Fox Run labels are no longer there. It took them a year to put that update out. We hope now those changes will be reflected whenever the mapping companies update their files."

Unlike NavTeq, Tom Tom and the other data collection services, Google owns its own map data. That confers an important advantage: the company has been able to use its ownership to leverage local knowledge by making its maps open source, meaning anyone could change the data, following a peer review protocol, using an open source application.

To date Cloutier, who is himself a designated Google map reviewer, has made approximately 1,200 edits to the company's maps and has reviewed another 400 edits submitted by others. They include adding new streets, fixing business locations, correcting the alignment of Brush Creek, and posting temporary road closings.

But the struggle to fix Cranberry's identity on the map is far from over. "All we're doing is removing the inaccuracies," Information Systems Manager Chad Julkowski pointed out. "Once the mapping providers apply these changes, we hope there will be less confusion." ~

It's alive! It's alive!

The Alchemy Of Growing Young Scientists

All across the country, a serious disconnect has emerged between the workforce skills now in demand and the educational preparation of young people looking for jobs. The need for workers trained in various scientific and technical fields is growing far faster than the pool of qualified job candidates, and that trend shows no signs of slowing down.

Educators in progressive school districts, however, recognize the

valuable – a community expert whose career involves the same sort of work as their own project to advise and mentor them. Last year's fair brought in 30 outside experts from an assortment of companies and nonprofit organizations throughout Western Pennsylvania.

Also last year, in a special effort to engage young women to consider careers in the STEM disciplines, Seneca Valley middle school teacher Julie Smith began an organization just for girls – STEM Fems. "There's a stigma in the public about women doing science or engineering," SV Science Department Head Dean Walker acknowledged. "She's trying to fight that off and get rid of the idea that it's all about white men in white lab coats swishing around vials." Her program, too, involves community partnerships with adults in STEM careers, including several Cranberry Township staff members.

Larissa Hoover is a laboratory technician at Cranberry's Brush Creek wastewater treatment plant. Rhonda Zellhart works in applied biology, focused on municipal wastewater collection, analysis and treatment. Both women were invited to participate as evaluators to the school's STEM fair earlier this year, and both enthusiastically accepted, along with plant manager Mike Sedon and GIS administrator Doug Cloutier.

"It encourages young girls to think about careers in the STEM fields," Zellhart explained. "Having been in it now for 20-plus years, I can say that girls are still sparse in our field. We're seeing more of them nowadays, but it's not unusual to go to a meeting of 100 or more people and be



You go girl! STEM disciplines are not just about white men in white lab coats swishing around vials.

one of the only females in the room. So Larissa and I shared our stories of how our career paths led us to where we are today. And we've also provided job shadowing for students at the treatment plant."

What Zellhart found particularly gratifying was that many of the projects entered at the fair were more than simply demonstrations of well-established principles. Instead, they used the scientific method to actually test hypotheses and address questions whose answers were not already known at the outset.

"Getting the next generation excited about science is wonderful thing," Zellhart said. "We've gone from an industrial nation to a technology-based one. We're making sure we get the next generation to keep ahead of that curve.

In my generation there was a bit of a gap; we were still waiting around for the steel mills to come back.

But now there's a shift toward technology, IT and medicine.

Those are the booming careers. And teaching the kids to think outside the box, regardless of what career they end up with, is a real asset."

Want to be a STEM mentor? Go to www.svsd.net/Page/8948 to learn more and sign up. ~

In Seneca Valley, they are hard at work making the STEM disciplines interesting and attractive to high school students, particularly to young women.

problem. In Seneca Valley, they are hard at work making the STEM disciplines – science, technology, engineering and mathematics – more interesting and attractive to high school students, particularly to young women, whose numbers remain woefully underrepresented in those fields. But it takes a whole village to raise a scientist.

Last year, for example, the district inaugurated a monthly STEM lecture series, featuring guest speakers from around the region with careers in different scientific and technical fields. It also launched an annual STEM Fair under the umbrella of the National Honor Society.

An extracurricular event, participating students can enter the fair with any independent research project, even their own senior project, so long as it involves one or more of the STEM disciplines. They don't get school credits for it. But they can get something even more



Everyone's Invited

Seneca Valley invites you to get your “Social” on

By Linda Andreassi, Seneca Valley School District Communications Director



“Seneca Social” is the third community-wide fundraising and spirit event hosted by the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF). This non-profit fundraising arm of the Seneca Valley School District is holding the event to continue raising money to benefit the students and student programs of the Seneca Valley School District.

Thanks to the generosity of those who donated and/or attended last year’s gala and golf outing, the SVF was able to assist with the purchase of literacy leveled libraries for the District’s elementary schools; direct much-needed funds toward the purchase of student materials for the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Fair; and to assist the Seneca Valley Marching Band in purchasing new uniforms.

This year’s event moves closer to home and will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 8, at Jergel’s Rhythm Grille in Warrendale.

A variety of silent auction items will be made available, including signed memorabilia from the Pittsburgh Pirates, Steelers and Penguins. Performing arts tickets to local events, one-of-a-kind jewelry, restaurant gift cards and theme baskets are just a few examples of the items that will be up for auction. A number of “experiences” will also be on the bidding block, including a “Fan of the Game” night at a future Pirates game where, in addition to four tickets, the winner will present the evening’s home game lineup to the umpires.

During the event, two groups will provide live entertainment:

- The Balcony Big Band - an 18-member modern jazz ensemble, this group has established itself as a Pittsburgh musical institution since its inception in 1988. The band, which includes several Seneca Valley graduates, performs the music of the modern jazz ensemble

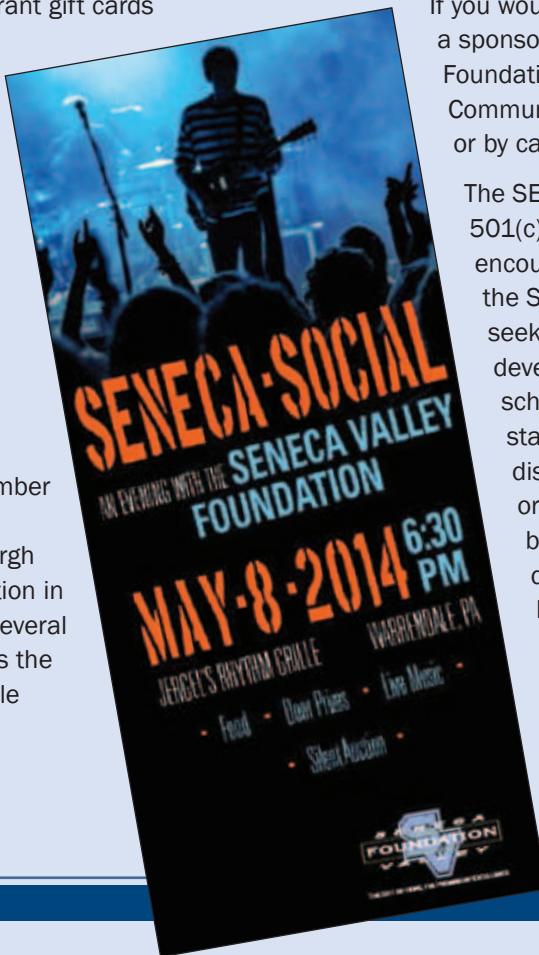
repertoire, including works by Quincy Jones, Charles Mingus, Bob Brookmeyer, Maria Schneider, and composer/arranger band members Ralph Guzzi, Raymond DeFade, and Steve McKnight.

- Nick Marzock – A graduate of Seneca Valley, Mr. Marzock delivers acoustic pop with a blues flavor and brings soulful grooves to indie rock. Inspired by an eclectic array of genres including blues, rock, soul, pop and jazz, Nick derives his sound and his approach from the foundation of his influences while adding his own touch and flavors to the mix of sounds. Heavily influenced by more modern artists such as The Dave Matthews Band and John Mayer, Nick also draws from the history of rock and soul from classic artists like Eric Clapton and Bill Withers.

Sponsorships are offered at the Premier, Gold, Silver, Bronze, Blue, Raider, Patron or Teacher levels. Donations of items or experiences for the silent auction are also being accepted. Tickets for the event are \$50 per person. For more information on sponsorships or to purchase a ticket, logon to www.svsd.net/SenecaSocial

If you would like to make a donation or become a sponsor of the Seneca Social/Seneca Valley Foundation, please contact Linda Andreassi, Communications Director, at andreassill@svsd.net or by calling (724) 452-6040, ext. 1612.

The SENECA VALLEY FOUNDATION is a private, 501(c)3 non-profit corporation dedicated to encouraging excellence and innovation in the Seneca Valley Schools. The Foundation seeks donations and patrons to facilitate the development of new projects, programs and scholarships. Its board members consist of stakeholders from the community, school district and local businesses. As a non-profit organization, the Foundation is also a vehicle by which memorial and other charitable donations may, ultimately, be made to benefit Seneca Valley School District students.



Worst case scenario...

Township Workshop Faces Down Active Shooter Situations

It's a recurring nightmare. A heavily armed man enters a school, workplace, mall or similarly crowded building, intent on shooting as many unarmed people as possible in a lethal and often suicidal show of retribution. It is a scene which has played out over and over again during the past decade.

In the U.S., attackers usually tend to be lone gunmen, responding to a perceived offense; overseas, they are more typically acts of political terrorism. While no two active shooter incidents are identical, there are a few grim similarities, as well as actions that can be taken to minimize the damage in many cases. They are measures that many local business owners, as well as those responsible for their security, are eager to find out.

On January 13, a one-hour Public Safety workshop sponsored by Cranberry Township's Business Hub, focused on steps to avoid or, failing that, measures responding to the nightmare of an active shooter in their workplace. It was attended by representatives of more than 90 local business and nonprofit organizations. Bob Winters, a security advisor with a military background who works with the Department of Homeland Security's Pittsburgh District, outlined a typical scenario for shooting attacks

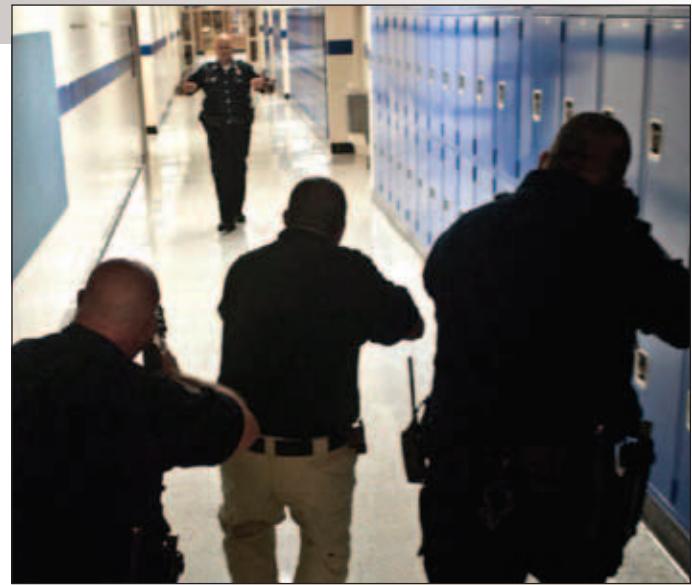
against unarmed civilians.

According to DHS, 37 percent of the country's active shooter incidents occur in the workplace, many of which involve current or former employees.

There are also early indicators which are characteristic of potential shooter profiles; recognizing those factors can facilitate timely intervention by a company's HR or safety personnel. But vigilance for signs of unstable behavior isn't enough; an emergency action plan is also needed.

The fundamentals for a credible action plan are available on a number of websites, including the Homeland Security Department's own: www.dhs.gov/activeshooter. Establishing communication protocols and locating every building exit are fundamental to all of them. But even a well-crafted plan is useless unless it is made widely available throughout the organization and exercised through practice drills, Winters emphasized.

Planning and advance preparation is especially important because attacks



Even a well-crafted plan is useless unless it is made widely available throughout the organization and exercised through practice drills.

are never announced ahead of time and the need for an immediate and effective response is essential in every shooting incident. One of the keys to advance planning is making local first responders aware of the building's layout and of any resources on hand which could be useful in dealing with the emergency. Preparing a "go bag" for first responders that includes access badges, keys and floor plans was high among Winters' recommendations.

At the same time, there is a surge of new technology on the market to help building managers screen those who enter and to identify trouble at an early stage. But, Winters emphasized, while high-tech security equipment is always welcome and frequently helpful, the most important measures to save lives are typically low-cost and no-cost common sense procedures, particularly including advance planning, regular practice, and constant vigilance. ~

Think fast! If you encounter an active shooter, which of these responses might be a good idea?

1. Play dead	7. Go on Facebook
2. Hide in place	8. Surrender
3. Get out	9. Help others escape
4. Attack the shooter	10. Remain silent
5. Call 911	11. Scream loudly
6. Return fire	12. Ignore shooter



Free Workshop On Protection From Cybercrime

Cybercrime – fueled by data theft and online fraud – is a huge issue for national, personal, and business security. On Monday, April 21, Pittsburgh-based Secret Service agent Bryan Chomiki will present a free, 90-minute workshop on trends cybercrime, how to protect yourself, and what to do if you are hacked. The workshop will be held in the Cranberry Municipal Center starting at 9:00 AM. It is sponsored by the Cranberry Township Police Department and the Cranberry Business Hub. Advance registration is required at BusinessHub@CranberryTownship.org.



Advances In The Art Of Credit Theft

There are people who stay up all night thinking of new and improved ways to steal from you. Some of their more recent schemes involving credit cards have been implemented here in Cranberry, according to Township police. And due to the high cost involved in prosecuting cases that cross jurisdictional lines, some of the most accomplished thieves are still at large, practicing their art on unsuspecting local victims.

Take, for example, the Distraction Ploy. It typically involves one or two perpetrators and it works something like this: a lady is pushing her cart down the grocery store aisle, her purse on the cart's child seat shelf. Someone bumps her with their own cart, distracting her – sometimes even offering copious apologies. At the same time, the thief, or their accomplice, reaches into the lady's purse, grabs the wallet, disappears, and quickly runs up debt on the stolen credit cards.



A related maneuver is typically used in movie theatres. Only there, the movie itself provides the distraction. It is made possible by the fact that many women rest their purses on the floor below their seat or on an empty seat beside them. As the movie action builds, a thief in the row behind the victim reaches below the seat holding her purse, slides it out, takes what he wants, and then slides it back in. The missing cards might not be noticed for days.

A more tech-savvy method involves the use of skimmers – small portable electronic devices which can read and store the data encoded on a credit card's magnetic strip. A dishonest waiter or clerk who takes your card to pay for a transaction can discretely skim it, and the resulting data can be used to create a clone card which works exactly like yours, and at your expense.

“Be aware of your surroundings and where your belongings are,” Public Safety Director Jeff Schueler advises.

“Ask yourself if you really need to take that purse into a store or whether you can

carry what you need in your pocket. If you really do need it, keep your purse strapped around your shoulder and make sure to keep it zipped so no one can easily reach inside and grab

Ask yourself if you really need to take that purse into a store, or whether you can carry what you need in your pocket. If you really do need it, keep your purse strapped around your shoulder and make sure to keep it zipped.

things. And don't walk away from a cart that's holding your purse. It only takes a moment for a thief to grab it and vanish.”

“At the same time, though, I can't understand why the credit card companies don't include photos on their cards,” Schueler observed. “It would make them a lot harder for a thief to use. I guess they must see fraud as just another cost of doing business.” ~

You don't need to get mugged to get robbed. Theft of credit cards, immediately followed by their fraudulent use – sometimes before the victim even learns they had been robbed – is a rapidly growing form of 21st century crime. Sometimes just stealing data from a card's magnetic strip is enough to loot your account.

Drug Vault Overdoses, Enters Rehab

It seemed like a great idea: Pennsylvania's district attorneys would place drug collection containers at secure locations in every county of the Commonwealth. People who wanted to get rid of expired or unneeded medicines could discretely drop them into the boxes. Then, once every three months, someone from their County Detective Bureau would come around, empty the boxes, and hand the collected drugs off to the DEA for disposal.

Butler County, with help from District Attorney Richard Goldinger and a grant from the state's Department of Drug and Alcohol, got seven of the medicine collection chests, including one which was placed in the lobby of Cranberry's police department. The demand among local residents for drug disposal had already been made clear by a series of highly successful drive-through collections held bi-annually behind the Municipal Center.

As soon as word of the new collection box got out onto the street, people streamed into the PD lobby, bags of pills in hand, to rid themselves of old prescriptions and OTC medicines.

But shortly after the box was placed in December, its promoters realized they had made a serious miscalculation. As soon as word of the new collection box got out onto the street, people streamed into the PD lobby, bags of pills in hand, to rid themselves of old prescriptions and OTC medicines. In just three days, the drug container – about the size of a regulation mailbox – began to overflow.

The D.A.'s office, which held the only keys to the chest, had visualized a much slower collection rate. In response, Cranberry police quickly posted a sign informing people that the drug drop-offs had been suspended. And the D.A.'s office was urged to speed up its collection cycle.

The worldwide spread of prescription medications over the past decade has been astonishing. And it has had some unpleasant side effects. One is that the increase of pharmaceuticals in rivers and streams has begun to affect aquatic life and, potentially, humans as well. Another is that it has made addictive drugs far too easily available, at least at the outset. A well designed collection program, it was believed, could help address both issues.

"Some of the drug problem was coming straight out of our homes with legally prescribed medication," D.A. Goldinger said. "A lot of the prescriptions are of opioid descent. When people use them



and then lose access to them, they can turn to heroin, which gives them the same sort of high. It goes from the prescription drugs where people get addicted, to where they seek out heroin."

Following several anxious days of cold turkey withdrawal, Cranberry's drug collection resumed with agents from the District Attorney's office clearing out the accumulated medicines on a greatly accelerated schedule. And it worked. In February, the DA himself recorded a radio announcement to make even more people aware of the program. Posters promoting it were hung along corridors in Cranberry's Municipal Center. And on April 26, from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM, the Township will hold a drive-through collection for those who would prefer to remain in their car while, at the same time, ditching unwanted drugs. ~



Leave Your Mark On The Park

CTCC's 2014 Project of the Year – three park-based fitness stations outfitted with a variety of exercise equipment – will be up and running in time for Community Days. If you have wanted to leave your mark as a donor for the project, there is still time left – but not a lot. Each station will include a cluster of up to 12 pieces of exercise equipment on a cement pad. Each piece is designed to support workouts by either 1, 2, 3 or 4 adults at a time, and several are accessible to people using wheelchairs. Units include a vertical press, a lateral pull-down, a rower, a leg press, an elliptical, a butterfly, a twisting station, a stair climber, and various machines focused on building back, biceps, triceps, abs, and lower body strength. To register your donation and see the donor recognition items available, go to the CTCC website at: www.ctcchest.org. ~

Can I Put My Old TV Out At The Curb?

Until last year, you could leave old TVs, laptops, monitors, computers and computer peripherals out for pickup on your trash collection day. Now you can't. It's against state law. Hazardous materials they contain can percolate out of landfill, spreading toxins into the environment.



However, those same devices – as well as most other electronics which can still be treated as ordinary garbage – also contain high-value materials which can be recycled. So a number of companies in and around Cranberry are accepting discarded electronics, usually without charge, for that purpose. Their rules vary, so contact the company for details about what they will accept. They include:

Battery Giant of Cranberry
724-741-6200

Best Buy
888 229-3770

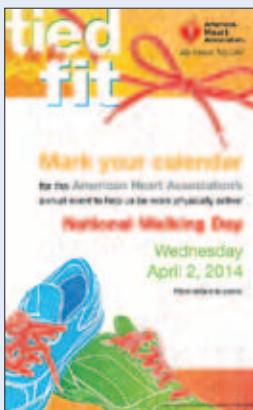
ECS&R (fees apply)
866-815-0016

E-Cycling Recycling
412-367-0831

Evolution E-Cycling
724-602-0025

Staples
724 778-3300

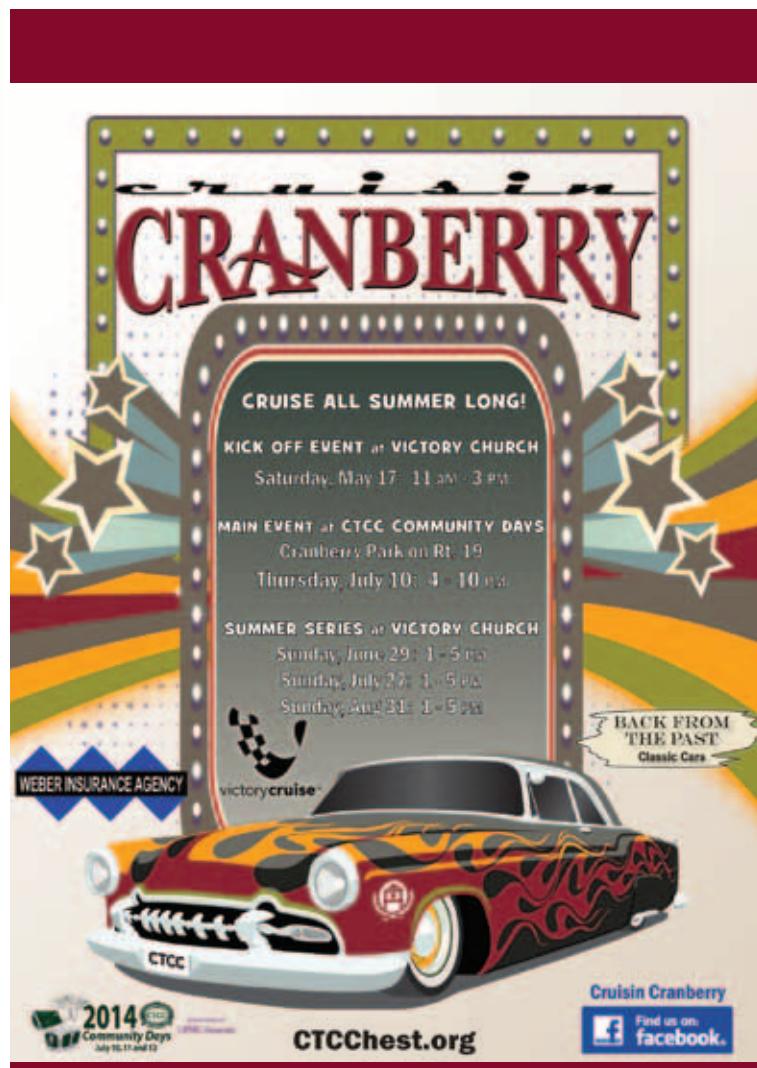
Cranberry Township is holding a free electronics collection at its public works building on Saturday, May 3 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Sorry, no TV sets accepted. ~



Take A Hike

Cranberry's three parks open for the season on April 1. After a long and cold winter, it's finally time to get outdoors. Celebrate National Heart Association's National Walking Day April 2 with a brisk stroll through the Nature Trail in Community Park, the 1.1 mile NextTier

Bank Trail in North Boundary Park, or the 2.8 mile paved loop in Graham Park. Even when it rains, the one-eighth mile carpeted line in the Municipal Center is always available. And keep an eye out for the Parks & Recreation Department's summer program guide, arriving at your mailbox in mid-April, filled with great activities for little kids, big kids, and grown ups. ~



Cruise In Cranberry

Five free car cruises are in the works for Cranberry this year. Both exhibitors and spectators can enter the events without a fee. Each of the car buff conclaves will feature food vendors, raffles, and sponsors to generate funds. Those funds will be used to support CTCC projects of the year as well as Gift Pack – a Victory Church program to buy school backpacks for needy kids. Victory Church will also be the site for four of the five cruises. Weber/Erie Insurance Agency will sponsor all five events, with the first scheduled for Saturday, May 17 at Victory Family Church between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM. On Thursday, July 10 from 4:00 PM until 10:00 PM, the cruise will be held in Community Park as part of the 2014 Community Days kickoff. The remaining three will take place on Sunday afternoons, from 1:00 to 5:00, at Victory Church on June 29, July 27, and August 31. ~

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APR

Registration may be required for some programs. For more information, call:

↳ Cranberry Library 724-776-9100
 ★ Cranberry Customer Service 724-776-4806
 † Parks and Recreation 724-776-4806 ext. 1129

⌚ Cranberry EMS 724-776-4480
 ✓ Cranberry Highlands 724-776-7372
 ‡ Butler Housing Authority 1-800-433-6327

TUES 1	Yard Waste Collection resumed March 31 Board of Supervisors Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6:30pm Preschool Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		WED 2	Toddler Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Grade 1-3 Book Club Library, 7pm		THURS 3	Adult Discussion Group Library, 10am Home School Crafternoon Library, 1-2pm Teen Art Club Library, 4pm Pajama Storytime ↳ Library, 7pm		
SAT 5	SUN 6	Hippy Hop Egg Hunt Municipal Ctr, 10:30am-2:30pm		MON 7	Infant Storytime ↳ Library, 10:45am Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6pm First Edition Book Discussion Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		TUES 8	Preschool Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	
WED 9	Toddler Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Grade 1-3 Book Club Library, 7pm		THURS 10	Pajama Storytime ↳ Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (30+) 8-10pm		FRI 11	SAT 12	Dicks Baseball/Softball Experience Graham Park Ask The Organizer Library, 1pm	
MON 14	Infant Storytime ↳ Library, 10:45am Teen Advisory Board (TAB) ↳ Library, 4-5pm Library Board Mtg Library, 6:30pm River Cruising Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (30+) 8-10pm		TUES 15	TAX DAY Preschool Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		WED 16	Books & Bagels Library, 10am Toddler Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Passavant Hospital Foundation Weight Management Senior/Teen Ctr, 12:30pm Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Grade 1-3 Book Club Library, 7pm		
THURS 17	Pajama Storytime ↳ Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (30+) 8-10pm	FRI 18	GOOD FRIDAY Twp Offices, Library, Municipal Ctr Closed	SAT 19	Learn CPR ★ Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 8:30am Learn First Aid ★ Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 12pm		SUN 20	EASTER Library Closed	
TUES 22	EARTH DAY Preschool Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am	WED 23	Toddler Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Grade 1-3 Book Club Library, 7pm	THURS 24	Board of Supervisors Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6:30pm Essential Oils For Health ↳ Library, 6:30pm Pajama Storytime ↳ Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (30+) 8-10pm		FRI 25		
SAT 26	Take Back Drug Collection Municipal Ctr, 10am-2pm Let's Dance † Municipal Ctr Gym, 7-10:30pm	SUN 27	MON 28	Infant Storytime ↳ Library, 10:45am Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 5:30pm Teen Advisory Board (TAB) ↳ Library, 4-5pm 20 & 30 Something Book Club Library, 7-8pm Open Gym Basketball (30+) 8-10pm		TUES 29	Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	WED 30	Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY

Registration may be required for some programs. For more information, call:

↳ Cranberry Library 724-776-9100
 ★ Cranberry Customer Service 724-776-4806
 ‡ Parks and Recreation 724-776-4806 ext. 1129

⊕ Cranberry EMS 724-776-4480
 ✓ ECS&R 1-866-815-0016
 ‡ Butler Housing Authority 1-800-433-6327

THURS 1	Adult Discussion Group Library, 10am Home School Crafternoon Library, 1-2pm Teen Art Club ↳ Library, 4pm Children's Storytime Library, 4-5pm Board of Supervisors Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (30+) 8-10pm				FRI 2	SAT 3	Household Hazardous Waste Collection ✓ by Appt Free Electronics Recycling Collection Public Works Facility, 10am-2pm			
MON 5	Infant Storytime ↳ Library, 10:45am Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6pm First Edition Book Discussion Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm			TUES 6	Preschool Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		WED 7	Toddler Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm		
FRI 9	SAT 10	SUN 11 MOTHER'S DAY		MON 12	Infant Storytime ↳ Library, 10:45am Teen Advisory Board (TAB) ↳ Library, 4-5pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		TUES 13	Preschool Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Indian Cooking Demo Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		
WED 14	Toddler Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm		THURS 15	Pajama Storytime ↳ Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (30+) 8-10pm		FRI 16	Senior Citizens Prom Library, 6pm		SAT 17	
							Household Hazardous Waste Collection ✓ by Appt Sheriff's Office Gun Licensing Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 9am-2pm Free Car Seat Check ⊕ by appt., Cranberry EMS Bldg, 10am-2pm			
MON 19	Infant Storytime ↳ Library, 10:45am Library Board Mtg Library, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		TUES 20	Election Day Preschool Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		WED 21	Toddler Storytime ↳ Library, 10am & 11am Books & Bagels Library, 10am Passavant Hospital Foundation Stay Vibrant As You Age Senior/Teen Ctr, 12:30pm Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm		THURS 22	
FRI 23	SAT 24 Cranberry Waterpark Opening Day 11:30am	SUN 25	MON 26	MEMORIAL DAY Twp Offices, Library, Municipal Ctr Closed		TUES 27	Waste collection delayed by one day Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 5:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		SAT 31	
WED 28	Waste collection delayed by one day		THURS 29	Waste collection delayed by one day Board of Supervisors Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6:30pm		FRI 30	Waste collection delayed by one day Noodle Night Waterpark, 6-8pm			

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE

Registration may be required for some programs. For more information, call:

↳ Cranberry Library 724-776-9100

★ Cranberry Customer Service 724-776-4806

† Parks and Recreation 724-776-4806 ext. 1129

✿ Cranberry EMS 724-776-4480

✓ ECS&R 1-866-815-0016

‡ Butler Housing Authority 1-800-433-6327

SUN 1	MON 2	Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6pm First Edition Book Discussion Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	TUES 3	Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	WED 4	Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm	THURS 5	Adult Discussion Group Library, 10am Board of Supervisors Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm
FRI 6	Noodle Night Waterpark, 6-8pm	SAT 7	Summer Reading Kick-Off Party Library, 1-3pm Household Hazardous Waste Collection ✓ by Appt	SUN 8	MON 9	Teen Advisory Board (TAB) ↲ Library, 4-5pm Summer Reading Program Starts Library Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	TUES 10	Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm
WED 11	Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm	THURS 12	Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	FRI 13	Farmers' Market Municipal Ctr, 3:30-6pm Noodle Night Waterpark, 6-8pm	SAT 14	FLAG DAY Farmers' Market Rt 19 Fire Station parking lot, 10am-1pm	
SUN 15	FATHER'S DAY	MON 16	Library Board Mtg Library, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	TUES 17	Totally Tubular Tuesdays Night Swim Waterpark, 9pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	WED 18	Books & Bagels Library, 10am Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm	
THURS 19	Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	FRI 20	Farmers' Market Municipal Ctr, 3:30-6pm Noodle Night Waterpark, 6-8pm Movie Night: <i>Frozen</i> Admission \$2 Waterpark, 9pm	SAT 21	Learn CPR ✎ Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 8:30am Learn First Aid ✎ Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 12pm Farmers' Market Rt 19 Fire Station parking lot, 10am-1pm	SUN 22		
MON 23	Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	TUES 24	Board of Supervisors Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm Totally Tubular Tuesdays Night Swim Waterpark, 9pm Family Movie Night: <i>Despicable Me 2</i> Free, Community Park/Rotary Amphitheater, 9pm	WED 25	Free Housing Counseling ‡ Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm	THURS 26	Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm	
FRI 27	Farmers' Market Municipal Ctr, 3:30-6pm Noodle Night Waterpark, 6-8pm	SAT 28	Household Hazardous Waste Collection ✓ by Appt Farmers' Market Rt 19 Fire Station parking lot, 10am-1pm	SUN 29	MON 30	County & Township Taxes Last Day of Face Value Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 5:30pm 20 & 30 Something Book Club Library, 7-8pm Open Gym Basketball (18+) 8-10pm		



Idiot-Proofing The Brush Creek Treatment Plan

by **Richard Hadley, Cranberry Township Supervisor**

For most public officials, and especially those of us on Cranberry's Board of

Supervisors, the greatest worry is not losing an election; it's leaving office and then, five or ten years later, overhearing people say about a decision you made: *what were those idiots thinking?* And the bigger that decision, the greater the risk.

Cranberry's Board just made a big decision. It had to do with the design of the Brush Creek wastewater treatment plant upgrade and expansion that we will be doing over the next few years. It was not only a big financial decision, it was also a very big technical one – something akin to rocket science. Unlike, for example, installing a water main or adding a lane to a road, where construction methods are fairly standardized, no two wastewater treatment plants are alike. In fact, there are major differences in the way they work and the way they're built.

There are reasons for that. Many of them have to do with differences in local geography, the populations they serve, the waters they discharge into, their industrial customer types, and so forth. Others have to do with continuing advances in engineering and sewage treatment. But settling on the right technology at the lowest cost – one that satisfies state requirements

as well as the community's unique circumstances – is hard. And it's particularly difficult since state regulations keep changing.

So while I can boast that I now know more about sewage than I ever thought possible – something which can quickly clear the room at a cocktail party – I am far from being an expert. And the same is true for my fellow Supervisors.

The danger, for many public agencies, is that lack of technical expertise creates a risk of officials being wined and dined into making costly decisions based on a supplier's amiability rather than on good science. That's why we chose a very methodical process for helping us get to that decision. We hired an independent and highly respected engineering firm to help us go through the process of choosing the right design engineers and technologies for expanding the plant – a firm that was unbiased and had no financial stake in the final decision. Then those engineers, in tandem with our own staff, narrowed the field to seven possible approaches. And in March, we made our final design selection.

The approach we chose is a staged one. The first phase will allow us to satisfy DEP requirements and serve our growing community for the next 15 years or so. The second phase would extend that service period indefinitely. It would mean a lower cash outlay at the front end, and a higher level of certainty about what the second phase would involve, going forward.

That said, however, it won't be cheap. The final cost of the project, and its impact on sewer rates, won't be known until the bids come in on the detailed design, sometime next year. Even so, compared to communities



served by ALCOSAN, where entire plants and collection networks have to be rebuilt to comply with a constantly growing body of regulations, it will be comparatively less expensive.

Let me make clear that Cranberry wants to be a good steward of the environment. And we are. But to say that regulatory agencies have no concern with costs is an understatement. The fact is, our Brush Creek plant already does a great job, and our Public Works people have been vigilant about keeping stormwater out of the sanitary sewer system, so it can remain focused on treating wastewater instead of rain.

That's important because a major component of the upgrade involves the way we handle high flow events resulting from major storms and snow melts. Our current process meets all permit requirements. But now we're not going to be allowed to use that process – a decision which, I should respectfully point out, will have little benefit to the environment and a lot of benefit to the builders of treatment plants. We just hope, by the time Phase Two rolls around, they won't have raised the regulatory bar even further. ~

Settling on the right technology at the lowest cost is hard. And it's particularly difficult since state regulations keep changing.

Dark Rain: Behind The Brush Creek Plant Expansion

Rain, at least in moderation, is almost always welcome in Western Pennsylvania, especially when you consider the alternative. Earlier this year, for example, a prolonged drought in California led to major problems affecting agriculture, homes and recreational water users.

We're more fortunate. With proper stewardship, Pennsylvania's water resources will remain central to the region's economy and quality of life for generations to come. So its public agencies have been tasked with caring for the state's rivers, lakes and streams.

But there's a problem, at least for municipalities like Cranberry and other public authorities that treat wastewater. It's that rainwater can get into the community's sanitary sewer lines – a collection system which, at least in Cranberry's case, is designed to be completely separate from the community's stormwater collection network. And treating rainwater creates a needless expense.

It's referred to as Inflow and Infiltration, or I&I. When that happens, all of the water collected – rainwater, groundwater and wastewater alike – is delivered to the treatment plant. There, through a series of steps lasting approximately 10 hours, debris, sediment, and organic wastes are removed before the water is released back into the environment. In Cranberry's case, on average, 10 percent of the water coming into the plant is I&I – naturally occurring water which has found its way into the system. That's actually a very low rate of I&I; most communities in the area are much higher.

On a normal sunny day, Cranberry consumes about 3.5 million gallons of fresh water. Most of it ends up in sanitary sewers and from there, it

goes through the treatment plant. Cranberry's Brush Creek plant is designed to handle that volume and more – as much as 11.25 million gallons a day. However, as leaders of a growing community, Township officials years ago recognized the need to eventually expand that capacity to serve the new residents and businesses expected to arrive over the coming decades.

But the 10 percent average of Cranberry's wastewater resulting from I&I can be misleading. That's because very few days are average. On a dry day, it's near zero. But in a heavy rainstorm, that percentage can reach 400, 500, or even more. Those peaks are infrequent. But when they happen, Cranberry's practice had been to remove the debris, grit and sludge coming in, bypass the biological phase of the treatment process, blend the partially treated wastewater with the surging I&I waters, chlorinate all of it, and release it into Brush Creek. That chlorination, combined with the dilution, kept the quality of the water released into Brush Creek compliant with the plant's discharge permits.

But the state Department of Environmental Protection is now taking a different view. As a result, the plant upgrade which had long been anticipated will now have to be expanded far beyond what's needed just to serve its growing customer base. All the water coming into the plant – including rainwater and ground water – will now be required to receive the same full treatment. Only a formal

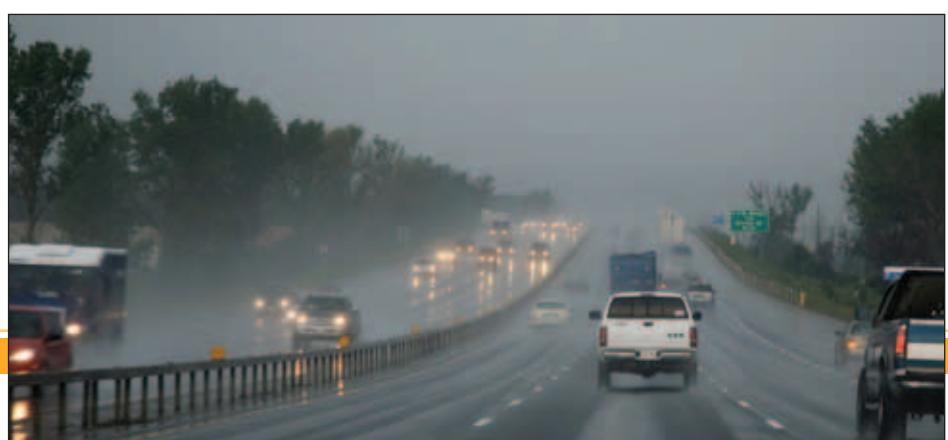
declaration of emergency by the Governor would exempt the Township

Only a formal declaration of emergency by the Governor would exempt the Township from treating the surge of water associated with a major storm or snow melt the same way it normally treats residential wastewater.

from treating the surge of water associated with a major storm or snow melt the same way it normally treats residential wastewater.

The practical result of DEP's conclusion is that the Brush Creek plant upgrade will cost two to three times as much as it would have simply to expand with the population. The exact cost won't be known until construction bids are received next spring. But it is estimated to be in the \$40-60 million range – an amount that will need to be raised through bond issues and financed by higher customer sewer fees over a 30-year period.

In the meantime, Cranberry's Public Works Department will continue its battle against I&I, repairing cracked sewer pipes, identifying illegal connections to the system, and diverting rainwater away from the Township's sanitary sewer lines. ~



Cranberry Township 2014 Water System Flushing Schedule

Cranberry Township's annual fire hydrant and distribution system flushing program gets underway on Monday, April 7. It is a routine maintenance operation designed to flush sediment from the water system, check fire hydrant operation, and test chlorine levels in the water lines throughout the Township.

Flushing is conducted Monday through Friday between 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM. A week-by-week schedule is provided here; for detailed information on the date for your own street, call the Township's Customer Service Center at 724-776-4806. Here are the water line areas to be flushed during the weeks beginning:

April 7: Pennwood Place, McKinney Warehouse, Keystone Drive, Gateway Building, Commonwealth Drive, Residence Inn, Freedom Road and Old Freedom Road from Commonwealth Drive to Route 19, Marriot Complex, Knockout Development – Longtree Way and Garden View, Westinghouse, Cranberry Woods – MSA Complex, Cranberry Mall, Old Mars Road between Route 19 and McElroy Drive, UPMC Medical Center, Fairfield Inn, Norberry Court, Dutilh Road south of Route 228, Dutilh Road between Freeport Road and Cul-de-Sac at Turnpike, Candlewood Suites, Route 19 South of PA Turnpike to Bravo's Restaurant, Hyatt Hotel, Old Mars Road between McElroy Drive and Franklin Road, Cranberry Crossroads, Cranberry Commons Mall, Grandshire, Spring Meadows, Franklin Road between Old Mars Road and Beacon Drive, Hazelwood.

April 14: Thompson Park Drive, Executive Drive, Costco, Brandt Drive, Commerce Park Drive, Cranberry Corporate Center, Rochester Road from Route 19 to Powell Road, Forest Park, Hampton Inn, Laurelwood, Sherwood Oaks, Fernway.

April 21: Route 19 between Freedom Road and Rochester Road, Cranberry Shoppes, Walmart, Cranberry Square, Streets of Cranberry, Route 19 from Smith Drive North to Goehring Road, Goehring Road from Route 19 to Marshall Road, Wisconsin Avenue, Doyle Equipment, Ogle Station, Boston Market, Jerry's Car Wash, Home Depot, Smith Drive, Walgreens, Ogle View Road, Alcoa/TRACO, Progress Avenue, Park

Road, Ernie Mashuda Drive, Route 19 from Butler Auto Auction north to Kenny Ross, Route 19 from Butler Auto Auction south to Dodge Used Vehicle Dealership, Wiegand Drive, Marshall Road, Goehring Road, Preserve East and West, North Boundary Road, Marshall Woods, Marshall Heights, Pinebrook Manor, Cranberry Water Park.

April 28: McElroy Road, Fox Run, Canterbury Heights – Buckingham Trail, Rowan Road between Marshall Road and Old Farm Road, La Grande Drive, Rowan School, Rowan Towers, Leonberg Road, Franklin Road, Peace Street, Franklin Ridge, Franklin Crossing, Shadow Creek, Bristol Creek, Washington Farms, St. Leonard's Woods, Timberline, Peters Road between Franklin Road and Old Farm Road, Redmond Place, Old Towne Apartments, Scenic Ridge, Peters Road between Franklin Road and Burke Road, Forest Knoll, Lakeview Estates, Windwood Heights, Crystal Springs, Walden Pond, Burke Road.

May 5: Pinehurst Estates, Ehrman Road, Garvin Road, Grace Estates, Mystic Ridge, Foxmoor, Ehrman Farms, Oakview Estates, Unionville Road, Springfield Manor, Cranberry Business Park, Winchester Lakes, Winchester Farms, Old Route 19, Settlers Village, Glen Eden Road, Glen Eden Phase 1, Settlers Grove, Antler Ridge.

May 12: Acer Court, Greenspire Court, Windsor Court, Cedarbrook, Glenbrook, Glen Eden Townhouses, Manor Creek, Freshcorn Road, Glen Eden Road west



of Powell Road, Briar Creek, Cranberry Heights, Kingsbrook, Madison Heights, Glen Rape Road, Wakefield Estates.

May 19: Freedom Road from Commonwealth Drive to Thorn Hill Road (RIDC) & WESCO, Rolling Road Regency Apartments, Iron Mountain, Freedom Road, Freedom Square, Freedom Road Car Wash, Haine Fire Station, Freedom Road from Georgetown Square to Parkwood Drive, Parkside Place, Carriage Drive, Kira Circle, Haine School Road, Haine School, Pine Ridge, Rochester Village, Bellevue Park, Graham Park, Valleybrook, Deer Run, Sun Valley, Cranbrook, Kirkwood Drive.

May 27: Woodlands Townhouses, Swift Homes, Woodlands Houses, Clearbrook, Cranberry Estates, Ashford Manor, Cranberry Pointe, Cranberry West, Kimberwicke, Harvest Drive, Holiday Drive, Powell Road from Rochester Road to Blue Ridge Drive, Creekwood Commons, Creekwood, Orchard Park, Freedom Woods.

June 2: The Crossings, Mystic Pine Trail, Blue Ridge Estates, Berkley Manor, Hampshire Woods, Autumn Hill.

June 9: Powell Road between Rochester Road and Glen Eden Road, Park Place, Chatham Commons, Highland Village, Havenwood, Hunters Creek, Stonefield & Farmview, Greenfield Estates, Avery's Field, Woodbine Estates, St. Killian's School & North Catholic High School.

Bitter Cold Batters Water Crews

When it gets really, really cold, and all you want to do is stay in bed, that's when things can go really, really wrong.

Around 2:00 AM on Tuesday, January 7, when Polar Vortex I slammed the region with a once-in-a-generation deep freeze, Township police noticed an unusual amount of water and steam at the Rt. 19 entrance to Cranberry Commons. They alerted Sewer and Water Field Operations Manager Joe Leavens.

Leavens then summoned his ten-man crew, whose shift normally starts at 7:00 AM.

As the men assembled at the Public Works center, they discovered some of their essential repair tools frozen solidly into place. It was only after the tools were retrieved and the crew had reached the site, that they saw the problem: a 12-inch water main, five feet beneath the surface, had broken. At the same time, the line's shutoff valves had frozen wide open but the lids that access those valves had frozen shut. That meant repair work couldn't begin until stubborn shrouds of ice had been chipped away from the obstinate valves.

Removing a damaged six-foot segment of 40-year old cast iron pipe and replacing it with a new section of ductile

steel isn't unusual for an experienced crew; it's an operation that normally takes a few hours. But in sub-zero temperatures, nothing goes quickly, so it wasn't until 6:00 PM that the exhausted crew could finally call it a day.

With an air temperature of 12 below zero and wind chills even colder, it doesn't take long to lose sensation in your fingertips or to bring on frostbite. So crew members had to rotate frequently between the dig itself and the vehicles, including a city bus from the Butler Transit Authority, which had been

brought in to serve as portable warming stations. That meant staying out as long as they possibly could, and then retreating for a time to the heated bus, which the exhausted men likened to a comfortable sauna.

Among the weary crew members: Brian Belsterling, Rick Cook, Justin Haefner, Mike Karner, Mike Irwin, Frank Houser, Doug Foeks, Ray Fernandez, and Brett Lester.

"It's hard to breathe in those types of conditions, and you're exerting yourself," Curt Rape, a 28-year veteran field operations crew member recalled. "Everything is harder in the wintertime." ~

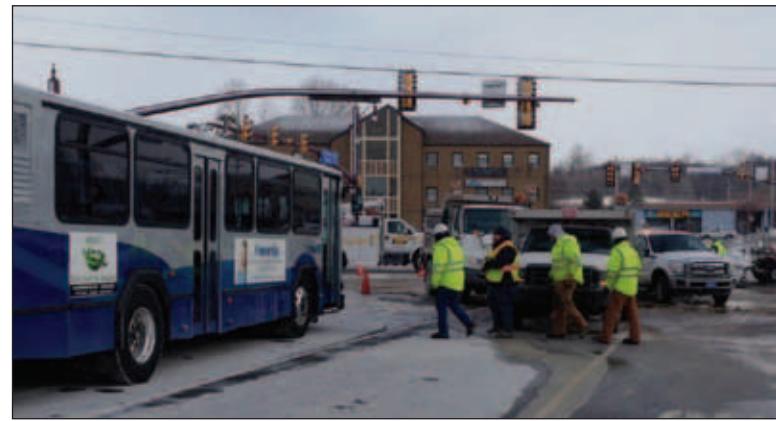
- *With an air temperature of 12 below zero and wind chills even colder, it doesn't take long to lose sensation in your fingertips or to bring on frostbite.*



Brain Drain: Pupils Urge Residents To Think Before Using Storm Drains

Students from Haine Middle School, led by environmental science teacher Alice Stebbins, will be stenciling messages at catch basins and stormwater inlets throughout Cranberry alerting people to the connection between dumping and the water quality of local streams. Stormwater, unlike wastewater, enters nearby streams untreated; contaminated stormwater can create significant damage to a community's aquatic life and compromise its drinking water sources. In February, approximately

20 students speaking at a meeting of Cranberry's Board of Supervisors made the case for raising public awareness about the dangers of pollution entering the environment through stormwater inlets. The class proposed, and the Board adopted, a proposal to have students stencil alerts at various stormwater inlets around the Township. ~



Bob Howland Puts Cranberry On Low-Salt Diet, Seeks Cure For Crack

Salty roads, like salty foods, have certain drawbacks. In humans, they contribute to high blood pressure and heart disease. On roads, they can degrade the environment and, during particularly bad winters, aggravate budget woes.

This past winter was especially bad. That's why Cranberry Streets and Fleets Manager Bob Howland has been hard at work finding ways to reduce the amount of rock salt applied during the winter months to the 117 lane miles of road that the Township maintains. At the same time, he is looking to heal the cracks which emerge in pavement, letting water seep in, creating potholes.

In a normal winter, Cranberry uses an average 4,500 tons of road salt. Even before the end of February, however, the Township had already gone through more than 7,100 tons. But if it weren't for a series of salt conservation measures that Howland and the Public Works Department have been putting into practice over the past few years, that number would have easily been over 8,000 tons. And at \$64 a ton, that would have been a significant overrun.

Howland's salt conservation campaign touches every aspect of winter road maintenance. For example, during February, the salt was mixed with sand as an anti-skid agent. That not only improved traction in freezing rain, it also

reduced the proportion of salt put down. A related conservation measure involved setting priorities since not all roads or road segments require the same treatment.

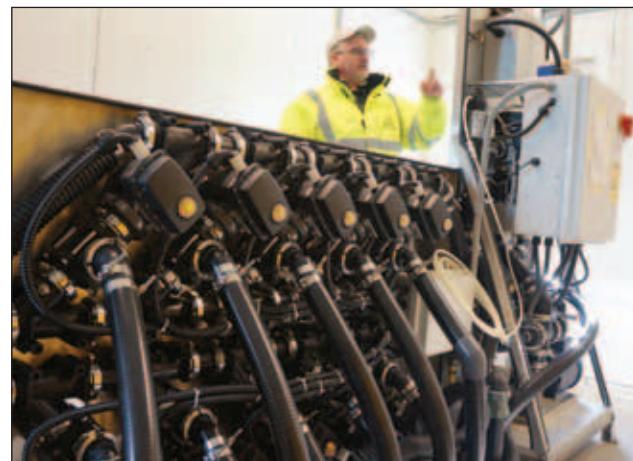
"Salt conservation is always our Number One goal," Howland explained, citing communities throughout the region which had exhausted their own salt supplies.

"We have only been treating priority roads – main collector roads, anywhere there's a hill or curve or stop sign. If it's a flat plan with no hills, no curves, no indication where somebody could slide off the road, we've been reducing the amount of material put down. That's really helped to conserve our supply."

Technology also plays an important role, particularly the recent construction of a brine-making plant on the Public Works site which went into full production this past season. Using the same rock salt that trucks would otherwise spread on roads, the plant's highly automated equipment dissolves the salt into a precisely calibrated saline solution. That brine can then be used in several road treatment procedures, including wetting the rock salt just as it exits the spreader.

When brine moistens salt, the salt becomes much more effective. It sticks to the pavement instead of bouncing off. It activates immediately on contact. And it significantly reduces the volume of salt needed to treat each mile of roadway.

Three new truck-mounted spreaders holding nearly five times the volume of liquids as the ones they replaced, complement the brine distribution system. At just eight cents a gallon to



Now here's the solution... Cranberry Streets and Fleet Manager Bob Howland monitors the production of saline solution in the Township's highly automated brine-making plant. Brine use has significantly reduced the volume of salt needed for winter road maintenance.

produce, brine can stretch the coverage per ton of rock salt by around 30 percent. "We're putting down less salt and more liquid," Howland confirmed.

"It's really helping us conserve. I compared one of our older spreaders to one of the new ones and it's put down around 200 tons less salt than the older style spreaders. If you do the math; it's going to save us \$12-15,000 a year in material alone, so it doesn't take long to pay for itself. Not only that, it's friendlier to the environment because you're throwing 30 percent less salt."

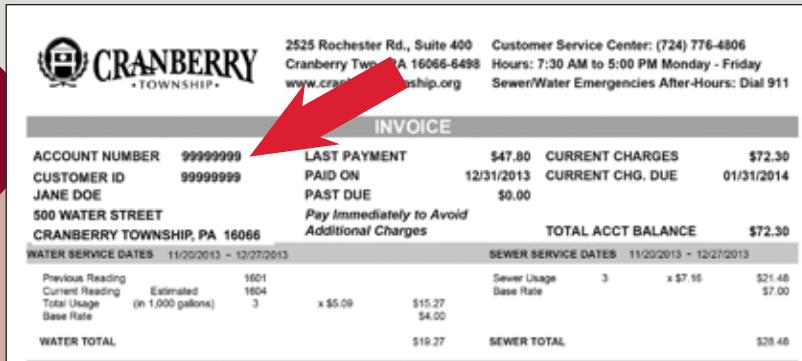
But then there are the potholes. "Roads all around the region are taking a hit," he admitted. "We've been making pothole repairs as soon as they are reported. Every day, weather permitting, we assign several employees to patch potholes. Our crack sealing program is important because it enables us to seal cracks in the roadway with a rubber/fiber mix and keep the water from getting into the road base. If you can keep the water out, you'll have fewer potholes. We're hiring some seasonal employees who will be assigned to our crack sealing program. It's a good program; it's preventative maintenance, and it's key to keeping our roads in good shape." ~

"We have emphasized putting material down on priority roads – main collector roads, anywhere there's a hill or curve or stop sign. That's really helped to conserve our supply."

Get Your Water/Sewer/Trash Bill History Online

Need a record of your water/sewer/trash bill payments for tax purposes? Here's how to find it:

1



CRANBERRY
TOWNSHIP

2525 Rochester Rd., Suite 400 Customer Service Center: (724) 776-4806
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066-5498 Hours: 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday
www.cranberrytownship.org Sewer/Water Emergencies After-Hours: Dial 911

INVOICE

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 99999999 LAST PAYMENT \$47.80 CURRENT CHARGES \$72.30
CUSTOMER ID 99999999 PAID ON 12/31/2013 CURRENT CHG. DUE 01/31/2014
JANE DOE PAST DUE \$0.00

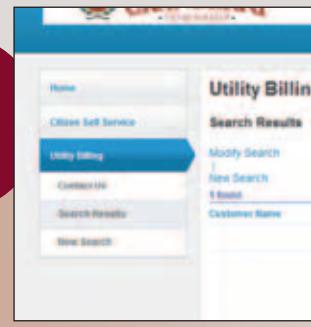
Pay Immediately to Avoid Additional Charges

TOTAL ACCT BALANCE \$72.30

WATER SERVICE DATES 11/05/2013 - 12/27/2013 SEWER SERVICE DATES 11/20/2013 - 12/27/2013

Previous Reading	1601	Sewer Usage	3	x \$7.16	\$21.48
Current Reading	1604	Base Rate			\$7.00
Total Usage (in 1,000 gallons)	3				
Base Rate					
WATER TOTAL	\$19.27	SEWER TOTAL			\$28.48

4



Utility Billing

Search Results

1 Result

Customer Name

New Search

2



CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP built for you.

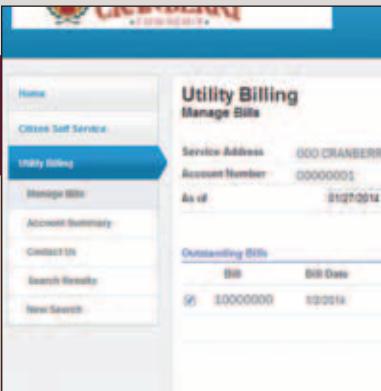
Self-Service View My Bills

News Briefs: Cranberry Township

Events: Cranberry Township

Bill Pay Options: Water / Sewer / Trash

5



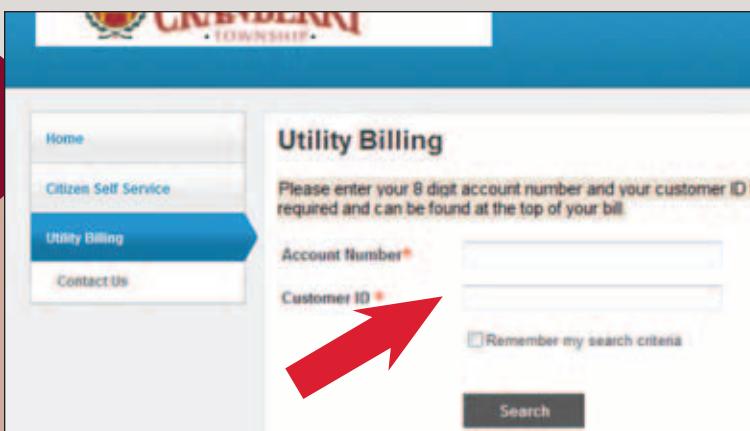
Utility Billing Manage Bills

Service Address: 000 CRANBERRY
Account Number: 00000000
As of: 01/27/2014

Outstanding Bills

Bill: Bill Date: 01/20/2014
10000000 01/20/2014

3



Utility Billing

Please enter your 8 digit account number and your customer ID to required and can be found at the top of your bill.

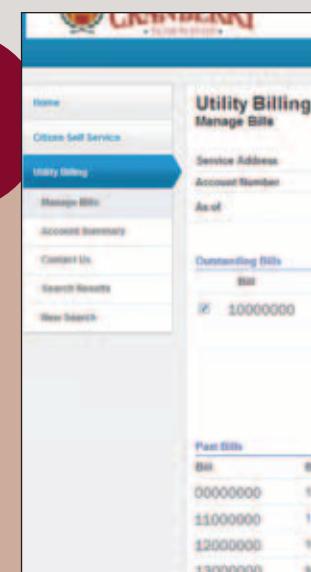
Account Number*

Customer ID*

Remember my search criteria

Search

6



Utility Billing Manage Bills

Service Address: 000 CRANBERRY
Account Number: 00000000
As of: 01/27/2014

Outstanding Bills

Bill: Bill Date: 01/20/2014
10000000 01/20/2014
11000000 01/20/2014
12000000 01/20/2014
13000000 01/20/2014

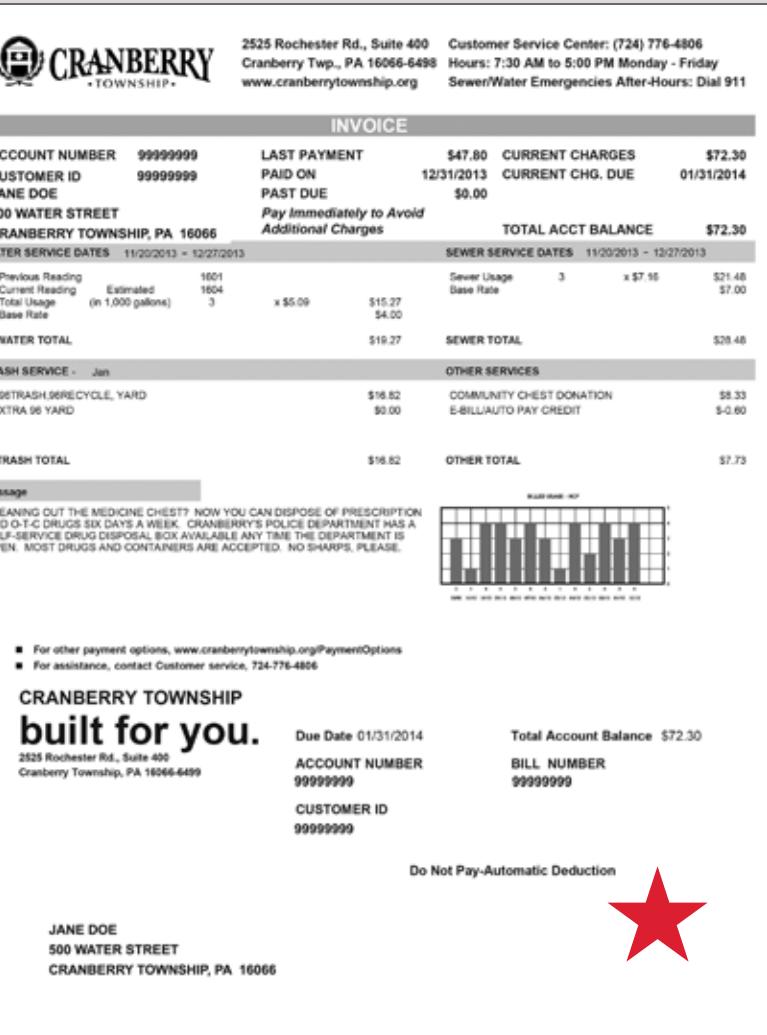
Enter your account number and customer ID.

7



View selected bill details. To see your actual bill, click on "View bill image."

8



See an image of your actual bill for the selected month.

View totals paid by month.
For more data, click on "Bill Details."



Firefighter Profile:

Looking Out For Danger: Cranberry's Fire Safety Officers

Firefighting, by definition, is dangerous work. Deaths and injuries among the nation's 1.15 million career and volunteer firefighters remain a stubbornly frequent occurrence. But there are ways of making it safer.

Understandably, personal safety is part of everyone's job, especially in fighting fires. However looking out for the safety of other firefighters is the primary responsibility of a fire company's Incident Safety Officer, or ISO, provided of course, that they have one. But many volunteer companies, including most of those in the communities surrounding Cranberry, don't – at least not ones certified to perform that role.

Cranberry, however, is fortunate; its firefighter ranks include four designated ISOs, two of whom currently have

national credentials. As a result, when the company responds to incidents in nearby communities, it is often a Cranberry volunteer who steps in to serve as the scene's ISO.

To become a Fire Safety Officer, candidates are required to undertake training beyond what is normally required of Cranberry's firefighters. Through it, they learn to read the danger signs embedded in smoke, to watch for early indications of structure instability, and to look out for other scene safety issues. Their certification needs to be renewed every five years, and it empowers the ISO to direct the incident's scene commander to order an immediate evacuation of the premises if necessary.

But, as in any volunteer fire company, the number of people able to respond

to an alarm will vary unpredictably – particularly during thinly staffed daylight hours. So while the fire service includes many specialties, it is not uncommon for an ISO to have responsibilities on the scene of an incident that go beyond watching the backs of brigade members.

Volunteer Steve Dancisin, a database administrator by day and a Cranberry ISO who simultaneously holds certifications in a number of other specialty areas, puts it this way: "Even though we're the safety officers, we are also firefighters. We can't stay back and say 'we only do safety; we don't do whatever.' Sometimes we have to drive. Sometimes we have to do vehicle extrication. Sometimes we assist in a fire attack. We're volunteers, so we do whatever we can. We try to be the safety officers if we're able. But we may need to assume other positions on the scene."

Veteran firefighter and Safety Officer Jim Cole shares that view. "A volunteer fire company is like the army," he said. "Everybody has certain skills, but everyone in the army is infantry. Everybody in the fire service is a firefighter. You have other jobs you are trained to do. But everybody's a firefighter."

Civil engineer Carolyn Nelson, whose expertise in structural design made her a natural for the role of Safety Officer, never joined the Fire Company with the thought of becoming a brigade firefighter – although she has followed much the same training protocol as those who do. Instead, becoming a Safety Officer offered a path of service

Continued on page 21



Watching out for others. The primary role of Cranberry Fire Safety Officers Jim Cole, Carolyn Nelson, Steve Dancisin and Dave Watkins is to safeguard their fellow volunteers during building fires, wrecks, training, station work, brush fires, and more.

Cranberry welcomes new Fire Company volunteers throughout the year. To learn more, call 724-776-1196.

which provided a perfect fit for her background, temperament and stamina.

For dentist Dave Watkins, however, the link between his professional work and

"A volunteer fire company is like the army. Everybody has certain skills, but everyone in the army is infantry. Everybody in the fire service is a firefighter."

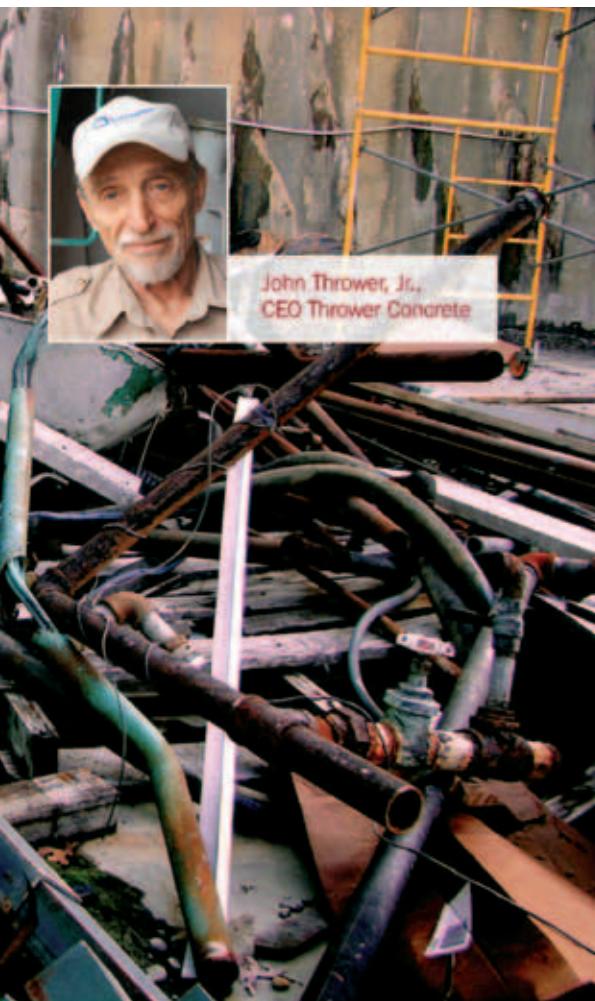
his role in the Fire Company offered much less of a match. "Jimmy has the most time in on us," Watkins noted, referring to fellow Safety Officer Jim Cole. "He knows what's going on based on experience. Mine was based on training. I've learned on the job and taken a lot of training.

"We take classes so we know how things are supposed to be done. Even though we're not primarily interior firefighters, we might take a structural burn class to or a vehicle rescue class to know what's going on and know how things are done. So when we look

at everyone else doing it, we know if they're doing it right and we can correct them or stop the operation." ~



Bad practice. A Safety Officer's job is to recognize conditions and practices which create hazards for firefighters and immediately direct them away from danger.



I was amazed at their response.

"Around 1:05 a.m. on January 20, I got a call from the Cranberry Fire Company that there was a fire at my cement plant. An electric heater had caught the office on fire, and it spread through the rest of the building. Someone had seen it from the highway and called 911."

"They had it pretty well out by the time I got there. However, the control room building had been completely destroyed. We were out of business there for most of the year. Fortunately, we had two other plants, but it took us a lot longer to make deliveries."

"Now we're back on line, but I'm still amazed at the amount of equipment and manpower the Cranberry Township Fire Company had on the scene for the middle of a cold winter night. I'm really happy to be back in business here in Cranberry."

Every year, the men and women of the Cranberry Township's Volunteer Fire Company answer over 600 calls, from reassuring residents to taking decisive action. They do it all without hesitation, without complaint, and without pay. And they do it with the thanks of a grateful community.

If you'd like to be part of something truly special, the members of Cranberry's Fire Company invite you to join them.



The Cranberry Township
Volunteer Fire Company



CRANBERRY

TOWNSHIP

724-776-4806

www.cranberrytownship.org

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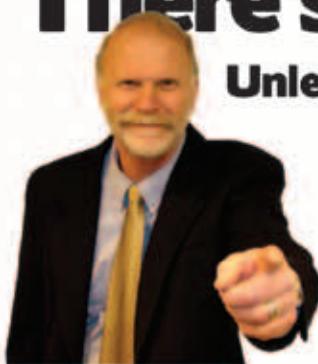


There's never a fee...

Unless we get garbage from you!

Recycling is free in Cranberry Township

Cranberry's Collection Connection customers pay only for their garbage collection. And the bigger their gray-top garbage cart, the more they pay. But there's no charge for recycling – no matter how many or what size blue-top carts you use. And in Cranberry, you can recycle a long list of household discards, in the same cart at the same time, without separation. Need a bigger recycling cart? No problem. Just call; once a year cart exchanges are free too.



Cranberry Environmental Projects Coordinator
Lorin Meader

Recycle. It's clean. It's green. It's easy.



paper



boxes



cans



jars



bottles



724-776-4806 . www.cranberrytownship.org/collection



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built for you.



Free Electronics Collection

Public Works building, Saturday, May 3, 10:00 to 2:00.
Sorry, no TVs accepted.