

CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER
'99

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Transportation Planning and Initiatives in Cranberry

Cranberry Township has recognized the need to plan for future transportation infrastructure and has aggressively planned for transportation improvements since the late 1980s. The Township adopted one of the first transportation impact fee programs in the state. Overall transportation initiatives have resulted in \$10.3 million in improvements on 28 projects throughout the Township in the last eight years alone. All of this funding has been through local sources, including Township revenue, impact fees, and developer contributions.

Transportation impact fees have only been legal in Pennsylvania since 1990. Cranberry, one of the first municipalities in the state to adopt such regulations championed the effort in the late 1980s. Transportation impact fees, sometimes referred to as development exactions, are rooted in the philosophy of "pay your own way." The theory behind impact fees is existing taxpayers should not pay for improvements necessary because of new development. New development should "pay its own way" for impacts to roads in the community. All new development in Cranberry whether residential or commercial pay transportation impact fees. The development community sometimes argues that this is an undue burden on their industry, however, it has not seemed to stem growth for the last 10 years in Cranberry. Other arguments include that impact fees are a way to accommodate or encourage growth – one has only to look at communities who have not used them, to see growth does not stop because of poor roads. If Cranberry stopped improving roads would the growth stop? If Cranberry stopped collecting impact fees whom would pay for the road improvements? The answer to these rhetorical questions clearly demonstrates that impact fees are a fiscally responsible way for local governments to pay for needed road improvements.

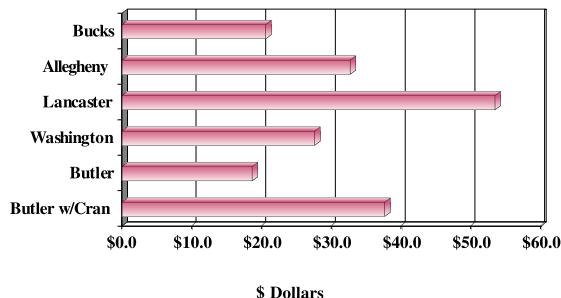
The traffic impact fee program requires the most comprehensive traffic planning imaginable. This process virtually requires every intersection and roadway in the community be studied and evaluated for future growth impacts. This assessment is built around a complex model that projects necessary road improvements 20 years into the future. The first such model was completed by the Township in the early 1990s.

Twenty-one of the 50 projects identified on the current Township impact fee program have been completed to date. We have collected nearly \$5 million for transportation improvements since the program inception. The Township is currently in the process of updating the transportation impact fee program including a review of the fee structure as well as proposed projects.

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Spending Comparisons Per Capita by County



Spending Comparisons Per Capita by Select Municipality



THIS IS YOUR FUTURE – DON’T LEAVE IT BLANK

Census Day is April 1, 2000 and will be the largest peacetime effort in the history of the United States.

Since 1790, the Census has occurred every ten years. Everyone residing in the United States is required to answer the confidential form. The form takes a few minutes to complete and your answers are the building blocks to meet the needs of your community.

In fact, the Census data is used to distribute approximately \$12 billion annually in federal funds to Pennsylvania’s state and local governments for education, health care, housing, transportation, senior citizens, veterans benefits, and other services. It is vital that everyone residing here be counted or these much needed funds will be distributed elsewhere.

Remember, a census is only as good as the people who participate in it.

Transportation planning was also included as a part of the Cranberry Township Community Development Plan adopted in 1995. This comprehensive plan document is the blueprint for future growth and development in the Township (the comprehensive plan will be featured in a future article). The transportation plan section identified the future transportation needs of the community and includes over 20 recommendations for road connections, improvements, and new corridors. Some of these recommendations have already been completed like the Executive/Thomson Drive connector and the alignment of Robinhood Drive with Commonwealth.

Performance measures are an important way to determine if our community is living up to its responsibility to provide an adequate transportation network. One way to measure our performance is to benchmark our efforts against other similar communities. In an effort to evaluate our efforts the Township recently investigated spending patterns of select similar municipalities across the state. The figures shown above indicate how Cranberry ranks comparatively to other municipalities. Cranberry Township spent \$143.59 per capita during the reporting year. It is interesting to note that three out of the four municipalities spending the most dollars per capita use transportation impact fees. Also included is a per capita spending comparison for select counties, including Butler County, with and without Cranberry Township.

One additional initiative that deserves special note is the I-79 ramp evaluation. The Board of Supervisors has requested a preliminary analysis of community support and feasibility of additional ramps to I-79. The initial concept of new ramps to I-79, located somewhere north of Rowan Road will be to provide alternative local access to the northern residential neighborhoods. This alternative access will allow residents in the northern portion of the Township to bypass congestion on the southern part of Rt. 19 during commutes to and from destinations outside the community. It would likewise help reduce congestion in the southern portion of the Township by reducing the number of vehicles forced to use Rt. 19. It must be stressed that this “concept” is in very preliminary stages and is anticipated to be a seven to ten year planning process.

Community members interested in looking at the transportation planning efforts of the Township in more detail are encouraged to review the Comprehensive Plan and transportation impact fee program or call Dan Santoro, Director of Planning and Engineering Services at 776-4806 ext.1106 or email santorod@twp.cranberry.pa.us.

Sewer and Water Authority

PREPARE FOR WINTER MONTHS

The frigid days of winter are nearly upon us, and now is the time to take steps to keep water pipes from freezing. Be sure that:

1. The water meter area is heated and well insulated;
2. All outside hose connections are turned off at the shut-off valve located inside the house;
3. Water pipes are not exposed to outside drafts that can “quick freeze” water pipes;
4. The curb box in your yard has its cap securely in place to keep cold air from blowing down the box and freezing your water service line.

Call the Authority office at 776-4171 for more information.



PLANT A NEW LAWN THIS YEAR?

If so, you may be entitled to a sewer credit. The Authority offers a one-time sewer credit to homeowners with newly planted lawns who water extensively to establish the lawn. Please contact the Authority office for additional information.

BE A LEAK SEEKER

Leaks, unseen or unrepaired, can drip hundreds, even thousands, of gallons of water down the drain. A little detective work several times a year can catch these water thieves in the act and put them out of circulation.

The most notorious water leaks can be found in the following:

1. Toilets...most leaks occur at the overflow pipe or at the plunger ball inside the tank.
2. Faucets...most leaks here result from worn washers in household faucets and showerheads.
3. Outside hose taps...a hose mistakenly left dribbling away in the grass or garden can waste thousands of gallons over time.

Do your part to help conserve water and lower your sewer and water bill at the same time by repairing water leaks and closely monitoring water usage. Watch for helpful hints in future bills, or contact the Authority office to learn more about finding and fixing leaks.

SEWER AND WATER AUTHORITY EMPLOYEES CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Lorin Meeder (left) and Jim McConnell (right) were each recently recognized for 25 years of service with the Authority. Lorin is Manager of Plant Operations, and Jim is an Advanced Operator at the Brush Creek Water Pollution Control Facility.

EMPLOYEE IN THE SPOTLIGHT: CHRIS BORDER



Most residents recognize Chris Border as the aquatics director for Cranberry Township. However, some residents may be surprised to know that she has a slightly more behind-the-scenes, administrative job as program coordinator for the Parks and Recreation Department. Chris joined the Township's Parks and Recreation Department in March 1997 – the year the pool opened. She oversees the staff and operations of the Cranberry Community Waterpark and organizes and coordinates Parks and Recreation programs.

Chris combines her expertise as a teacher – she has a degree in elementary education from Slippery Rock University – with her love for swimming. “I swam all my life,” she says. Chris worked as a life-guard and gave swim lessons since high school days. She also worked as the pool manager at the Seven Fields pool before taking the job with the Township.

Chris recently got married – in October of this year. She and her husband, Doug, live in Cranberry Township. Chris says she hopes to soon begin working on a master's degree in professional leadership.

If You See A Dead Animal Along the Roadway . . .

DEER OR BEAR CASUALTIES

Deer or bear casualties found on Cranberry Township roadways, or found on Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) roadways within Cranberry Township, should be reported directly to the Pennsylvania Game Commission at (814) 432-3189.

State (PennDOT) maintained roadways within Cranberry Township include:

Callery Road	Insterstate 79
Route 19	Franklin Road
PA Turnpike	Route 228
Freedom Road	Plains Church Road
Rowan Road	Glen Eden Road
Rochester Road	

ALL DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC ANIMALS (EXCLUDING DEER & BEAR)

State Roadways. All deceased domestic or non-domestic animals, excluding deer and bear, found on a state-maintained roadway should be reported directly to the PennDOT Maintenance Shed, Butler PA, at (724) 284-8800.

Township Roadways. All deceased domestic or non-domestic animals, except deer and bear, found on a local Township roadway should be reported to the Cranberry Township Public Works Office at (724) 776-4806, ext. 1500.

Local Roads Still Available in Adopt-a-Road Program

Be a volunteer and help clean up unsightly litter! The following is a list of currently adopted Township roads, and those highlighted roads that are still available for adoption as of October 20, 1999.

Mile	Road Name	Adopted By	Mile	Road Name	Adopted By
0.5	Progress Ave	Cranberry Women's Club	1.4	Ehrman / Old Ehrman Rd	Vogelsang Family
0.8	Burke Rd	The Pindroh Family	1.4	Glen Rape Rd	I'm available!
0.8	Commonwealth Dr	McKeever Earthkeepers	1.4	Goehring Rd	The Graf Family
0.8	Darlington Rd	Oakwood Apt Management	1.4	Marshall Rd	Twp of Cranberry, Employees & Families
0.9	Old Route 19	Louis Zona, CPA	1.5	Peters Rd	Boy Scout Troop #404
1.0	Executive & Thomson Pk Dr.	BC3 – Cranberry Center	1.5	Unionville (Rt 19 to Aberdeen) & Ogleview	Ross & Lacher Construction
1.0	Powell Rd (Rochester to Freedom)	Girl Scout Troop # 736	1.6	Graham School Rd.	Dutilh UMC Youth Group
1.0	Unionville Rd (Aberdeen to Glen Eden Rd)	The Donatelli Family	1.7	Bear Run Rd	I'm available!
1.1	Haine School Rd	Ashford Manor Condo. Assoc.	1.7	North Boundary Rd.	Volunteer Ambulance Corp
1.1	Mars Rd	I'm available!	1.7	Powell Rd (Rochester to Glen Eden Rd)	Girl Scout Troop #509
1.3	Hope & Woodlawn Rd.	The Treese Family	1.9	Freshcorn Rd	The Davis Family
			2.0	Garvin Rd	Scott & Charlotte Wood

A two (2) year commitment is required to be an adopting organization, business or family, with a minimum of one (1) spring and one (1) fall organized clean-up each year. For information on participating in the program contact the Adopt-A-Roadway Coordinator, Barby Cheetham, at the Township Public Works Office, (724) 776-4806 ext. 1500, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

NEW SERVICE FOR CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP POST OFFICE CUSTOMERS

To let us know how we can help you, (redelivery of packages, certified letters, etc.,) or if you need to contact your "officer-in-charge," just e-mail us at pcranber@email.usps.gov.

Make sure you include your name, telephone number, and complete address in your e-mail.

Snow Removal and Plowing

1. Remove all vehicles from roadside shoulders. If a storm is anticipated, remove vehicles from the roadside shoulders. This allows plows to clear the area the first time through, making return trips due to parked vehicles, unnecessary.

2. Is it OK to shovel snow from my driveway into the road? Never shovel snow into the road or have your driveway plowed into the road. This can

cause a serious traffic hazard. Whenever possible it is best to place snow on the side of your driveway opposite the direction the plow is traveling. By implementing this technique, the plow will push snow away from your driveway rather than back into it.

3. Clean driveway entrance after road is plowed. If possible, wait until the road has been plowed before cleaning out the entrance to your driveway. There is no efficient way to plow the road without depositing a certain amount of snow into your driveway.

4. Mailboxes & posts. Help reduce the possibility of a broken mailbox or mailbox post. Plow operators are urged to take precautions to avoid hitting mailbox posts. Experience has shown that reduced visibility during a storm makes it very difficult for a driver to see a post in time to avoid striking it or pushing it over with plowed snow. Any installation within the right of way – including a mailbox – is placed there at the owner's risk. Therefore, owners are encouraged to install mailboxes at the maximum usable distance from the edge of the roadway. **Posts should always be checked for deterioration, pre-season, to reduce the possibility that the weight of the plowed snow may simply break a rotting or damaged post.**

5. Municipal trucks with plow raised may be:

- returning to the maintenance yard to fuel their vehicle;
- headed to another section of their assigned plowing area;
- returning to the maintenance yard to re-load road treatment material(s);
- answering a radio request for road treatment assistance by the local Police Department, Volunteer Fire Company, Volunteer Ambulance Corp, or the School District Transportation Office.

Also, the municipality may not be responsible for all roads in the area where you live. Some roads may be maintained by the state, some by the county, and some roads may be private (as in developments where roads have not been dedicated).

6. Whenever possible, avoid calling municipal offices during a storm, except in an emergency. Personnel are extremely busy dealing with storm conditions. It is best to keep telephone lines clear for emergencies. ●



**PUBLIC
WORKS**

PLOWING PRIORITY AREAS - LOCAL TOWNSHIP ROADS

1. Main arteries, linking development areas to main roads, have plowing priority.

2. Housing developments are next:

• **Plowing Districts** – The Township is broken up into plowing districts and there are individual drivers assigned to each district.

• **Drivers** – It is primarily the discretion of the driver to decide which development in each district is plowed first. To make that determination the driver shall utilize:

– His/her overall knowledge of the plowing area;

– Previous plowing experience and training;

– Current road condition information.

• **Steep Roads** – Housing plans with steep roads are generally given priority under severe conditions.

• **Cul-de-sacs** – Since cul-de-sacs in a housing plan are not thruways to the majority of motorists or school students within a development, customarily they are given last priority.

LEAF COLLECTION

Cranberry Township will provide for community leaf recycling – bagged leaves will be accepted....FREE OF CHARGE... and in unlimited quantities on Saturday, December 4 from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the rear parking lot of the Municipal Center.



**COMMUNITY
REMINDER**
**PROPERTY
TAX COLLECTOR**

The 1999 Butler County/Cranberry Township and 1999/2000 Seneca Valley School District real estate taxes were mailed March 1 and August 1, 1999 respectively. We had no property tax increases this year!! Both taxes are currently due at the penalty amount. All property taxes must be paid in full by December 31, 1999, due to the state legislature passing a bill making this date the final day to pay current year taxes. This is a change from last year when property taxes could be paid until February 1. After this date, all 1999 property taxes are turned over and are payable to the Butler County Tax Claim Bureau, 724/284-5326.

Office hours are Monday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments are always available. The office is located in the Municipal Center on Rochester Road in the front hallway with the other elected officials and the Chamber of Commerce.

Please stop in or mail payments to P.J. Lynd T/C, 2525 Rochester Road, Suite 402, Cranberry Township, PA 16066. If you should have any changes in your mortgage company or are no longer using an escrow account to pay your property taxes, please contact the tax collector's office by phone at 724/776-1103 or by fax at 724/776-3011.

BCCC in Cranberry to Offer Spring Classes

Butler County Community College has been in Cranberry Township since 1987. The Cranberry Center on Executive Drive is home to over one hundred credit and non-credit classes for the Spring 2000 semester.

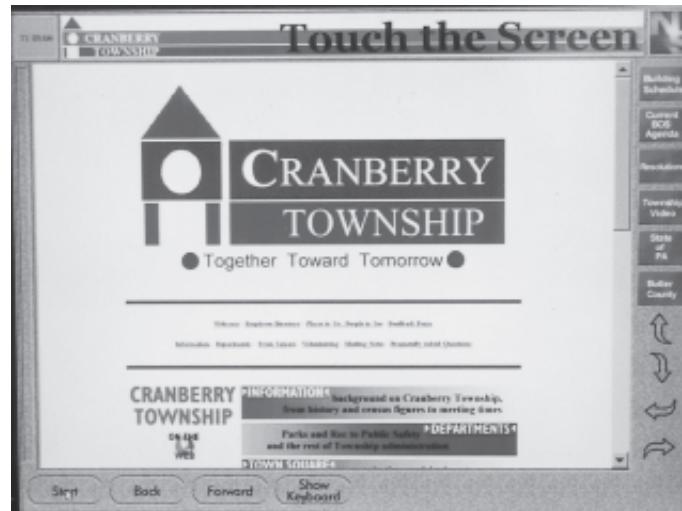
Students seeking degrees or intending to transfer to other schools have many choices. Courses toward degrees in business administration, business management, computers, education, and general studies may be taken at the Cranberry Center. In addition, the G.O.A.L.S. program allows a student to obtain an associate's degree in 27 months by attending classes on Saturdays plus one night each week.

If you are in search of ways to improve your skills for work, there are various professional courses and computer opportunities right here in Cranberry. Real estate, child care, business, public relations, fundamentals through advanced computer classes, and much more. In addition, the Butler County Community College Business and Industry Institute can help you set up programs tailored to your business needs.

For fun or self-improvement, you will find Italian, American Sign Language, cross stitch, quilting, gardening, study skills, career planning, basic massage, Autoracing 101, and so much more.

For more information call us at 776-5520 or look forward to the arrival of the spring schedule in your home. Many opportunities await you as you enroll in higher education. The possibilities are limitless . . . and Butler County Community College is a great place to start! ●

Computer Kiosk Available for Residents in Municipal Center



Residents who may not have their own home access to the Township's web site now can use the Computer Kiosk, located near the library in the Municipal Center. The computer, which will access the Township web site as well as several other government-related links, is operated by a touch screen panel. The Computer Kiosk will be available anytime that the Municipal Center is open.

Cranberry Public Library

YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Registration for the January, 2000, classes of **Daytime Storytime** for 3, 4, & 5 year olds will begin on Monday, December 6 at 10 a.m. These 45-minute classes of 20 children each are held on Tuesdays or Thursdays at 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. from January 11 and 13 through February 15 and 17. All children must be potty-trained and must be three years old and no older than five by the first class meeting. No telephone registrations are accepted. All children must be registered in order to attend.



Family Pajama Storytime, a half-hour for children of all ages and their parents, will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. from January 12 through February 16. There is no registration nor class-size limits.

Infant Nursery Rhyme Time, a half hour for babies birth through 23 months and their caregivers, will be held on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. from March 7 through March 28. There is no registration nor class size limits. No children older than 23 months are allowed.

Two-Year-Old Storytime, a class exclusively for two-year-olds and their caregivers, will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. or Thursday mornings at 11 a.m. from March 8 and 9 through March 29 and 30. There is no registration nor class size limit. To keep this a quality one-on-one experience, no children older nor younger than two are allowed.

All classes are held in the library meeting room.

To listen to a recorded story for younger children and a book review for older youngsters, each of which is changed weekly, dial 776-5099.

If you have questions about children's material or children's programs, call 776-9100, ext. 1124.

BELLEVUE PEDIATRICS CLASSES AT THE CRANBERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Cranberry Public Library will be sponsoring a series of parenting lectures presented by the staff of the Bellevue Pediatric Associates. The lectures will be held on the fourth Tuesday of January through May at 7 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room. It is not necessary to attend all of the sessions. Interested persons should contact the Library (724) 776-9100, ext. 1126 for the individual topics to be discussed. In order to plan seating, it is recommended that you also pre-register for the lectures which interest you.

January 25, 2000 – Dr. Gregory Hoyson, Toilet Training

February 22, 2000 – Dr. Thomas Lundquist, The Moral Development of Children

March 28, 2000 – Dr. Leslie Frank, Sibling Rivalry

April 25, 2000 – Dr. Helen O'Hallaron, Solve Your Child's Sleep Problem

May 23, 2000 – Dr. James Rodrigues, Tough Toddlers

EXPLORE THESE WEB SITES WHEN YOU SURF THE INTERNET:

- <http://infospace.com> – A telephone directory which includes government agencies & officials and other unusual features, such as a criss-cross directory.
- <http://www.m-w.com> – Crossword Puzzles dictionaries Merriam-Webster Online.
- <http://www.rfdesk.com/facts.html> – A virtual reference desk, encyclopedia, facts, homework helper.

PENNSYLVANIA ONLINE WORLD OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE

An exciting new resource, The Pennsylvania Online World of Electronic Resources is now available from your home computer as well as the Cranberry Public Library computers stations. Close to 2,000 full-text periodical titles, Sirs Discoverer on-line product with encyclopedia for kindergarten through grades eight and the Access Pennsylvania database for libraries throughout the state are all able to be accessed now from your home computer. Simply type in: <http://cranberry.library-online.org/> to access Cranberry Public Library's web site. Scroll to the bottom of the Cranberry Public Library web site. Click on the "Access PA Power Library" icon. You must have a valid library card from a Butler County Public Library. Type in the barcode number, which is on your library card. Click on "submit" and you are in! This is possible through a Pennsylvania Commonwealth Libraries state-funded program.

LIBRARY DAY AT BARNES & NOBLE

Cranberry Library Day at Barnes & Noble was a great success on October 2. At Miss Jeanne's storytime the character Corduroy showed up to help her read, and Mother Goose also made an appearance during the day. A clown and balloons added to the fun-filled cooperative event for the library, the store and the community. Over \$800 was raised to benefit Cranberry Library's children's department.

DOG LICENSES

The year 2000 county dog licenses can be purchased at the library during December.



The Newsletter is published quarterly for the residents of Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania by the Board of Supervisors.
Vol. 8 #4 December 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Bill Ambrass, Chairman
Richard Hadley, Vice Chairman
Roy Hurd
John Milius
Bob Price
Vicki Beatty, Solicitor
Campbell, Durrant & Beatty, P.C.

The Board meets on the first and last Thursday of every month in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center at 7:00 p.m.

Comments or suggestions concerning the newsletter are welcome and may be directed to the Municipal Center.

Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce

PARTNERING FOR GROWTH 2000 WOMEN'S SUMMIT

The Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Carlow College and St. Francis Hospital Cranberry, will hold its fourth annual Women's Summit on Friday, February 18, 2000 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sheraton Inn Pittsburgh North. This informative seminar offers multiple sessions on topics related to all aspects of women's lives, including diet and fitness, dealing with stress, investing, using the Internet to simplify life, coping with aging parents and more. Women's Summit speakers include health and educational professionals from Carlow College and St. Francis Health System, nationally known speaker Jeffry Tobe, and KDKA financial guru Bill Flanagan. Luncheon keynote speaker is Linda Dickerson, widely acclaimed expert on community and government affairs, business columnist for the Pittsburgh Post Gazette and principal in Dickerson & Mangus, Ink.

Cost for the day, including breakfast and lunch, is \$55. A portion of each registration fee will be donated to the Volunteers Against Abuse Shelter. For more information or to register, call the Chamber office at 724/776-4949.

LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE CAR RAFFLE TICKETS

Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce car raffle tickets are still available at the Chamber office located in the Municipal Center. Tickets are \$50 each. Only 800 tickets are being sold. The drawing will be held on December 16 and the winner need not be present.

The winner will have the choice of any car sold by the Baierl Family of Dealerships up to \$25,000 in value. If the value of the new auto is less than \$25,000, the cash balance will be paid to the winner. In the event that less than 600 tickets are sold, the winner will receive 75 percent of the net proceeds.

Proceeds from this raffle benefit the community programs supported by the Chamber including the renovation of Sample School and the Cranberry Township Parks and Recreation Department.

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION

Jerry Andree,
Township Manager
Bettelou Bertoncello,
Assistant Manager
Steve Mannell, Director,
Public Safety
Dan Santoro, Director,
Planning & Engineering Services
Vanessa W. Gleason, Director,
Finance
Ed Mazur, Director,
Public Works
Daniel C. Baker, Jr.,
Consulting Township Engineer
P.J. Lynd,
Property Tax Collector
Berkheimer Associates,
Township Wage Tax & Mercantile/
Business Privilege/Occupational Tax
Collectors

DECEMBER 1999

Cranberry Township
Suite 400, 2525 Rochester Rd.
Cranberry Township, PA 16066
(e-mail) admin@twp.cranberry.pa.us
(web) <http://www.twp.cranberry.pa.us>
The Municipal Center Office hours
are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday
through Friday. Phone: 724/776-4806
Fax: 724/776-5488

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CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP, PENNSYLVANIA

DATED MATERIAL—PLEASE DELIVER