

## Child I.D. program draws huge response

On September 25, more than 900 children and their parents from communities throughout the region came to the Cranberry's Route 19 Fire Station to take part in a child ID project jointly sponsored by Cranberry Township and the KlaasKids Foundation. Its goal: drive home the importance of protecting children from abduction through documentation and safety education.

Children were photographed and then fingerprinted using an ink-free system originally developed for law enforcement agencies. The equipment allows for the fingerprinting of children as young as three months. The document, which is given to parents, includes their child's photo and fingerprints. Space is provided to add other information, such as height, eye color, and weight. In the event a child is missing, police

can scan the document to obtain that child's fingerprints.

"I was shocked by how many people came out," said Cranberry Police officer Rhonda Rearick. Paul Brown, a member of Cranberry Volunteer Fire Department, agreed: "I have been involved in many events in Cranberry, and I have never seen a turnout like this."

Marc Klaas, founder of the KlaasKids Foundation, was on hand to speak with parents about the importance of child safety. In a case which drew extensive national publicity, Klaas's own daughter, Polly, was kidnapped and murdered in 1993 at age 12.

The Cranberry event was underwritten by Guardian Protection Services and its parent company, Armstrong. "In the case of a

missing child, we know how important vital statistics are to law enforcement," Guardian Protection Services president Joseph Colosimo said.

"You never think your child could be taken," Officer Rearick noted. "Now the parents will have something to take to the police if the unthinkable happens."



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# Cranberrytoday

2004 Fall EDITION

## Township's Collection Connection waste service starts November 1

On July 29, 2004, following months of study, numerous public meetings, and several rounds of bidding, Cranberry Township approved a five-year contract with Vogel Disposal for a comprehensive menu of weekly residential collection and disposal services beginning November 1. This contract is a first for the Township.

### Ease the squeeze on landfill

The Township's decision to contract with a single hauler and expand its range of waste collection services was driven by a series of increasingly strin-

gent mandates, beginning at the federal level and cascading down to local government. Extending the lifespan of sanitary landfills by removing recyclable and compostable materials from the waste stream was a major goal of these directives. Altogether, according to state officials, materials which can be reprocessed or turned into compost make up more than half the waste currently disposed of in landfill operations. The new program greatly expands the range of materials eligible for recycling.

As part of Cranberry's contract agreement, Vogel is buying a new fleet of

trucks outfitted with mechanical lift arms, most of which will be dedicated to serving Cranberry residents. To accommodate their automated collection, the Township ordered 20,000 waste carts in three different sizes, specifically designed to be used with the trucks' hydraulic lift arms. Those carts, which were purchased in part through a grant from Butler County, will be distributed to Cranberry's 7,500 participating households by the end of October.

### Variable rates

The contract with Vogel provides a schedule of rates which vary according to the size of each household's garbage cart; the larger the cart, the higher the base rate, which is \$40.50 per quarter for homes using 96-gallon carts – less for those using smaller ones. Extra carts are also available for an additional fee, and a system of prepaid tags will be used for collecting items that can't fit into the carts. Over the five-year life of the contract, base rates will rise approximately two percent each year.

Vogel Disposal Services, Inc., based in nearby Mars, PA was awarded the contract at the conclusion of a rigorous, state-prescribed bidding process. The company operates in communities throughout Western Pennsylvania serving more than 5,000 commercial/industrial accounts as well as 70,000 residential customers. In addition to residential waste collection, Vogel provides



**Curbside automation.** Vogel Disposal of Mars has purchased a fleet of new trucks outfitted with hydraulic pickup arms to serve Cranberry customers. It is the first residential use of automated collection technology in Pennsylvania. The service is being provided to more than 7,000 households in the Township under a five-year contract that begins November 1.

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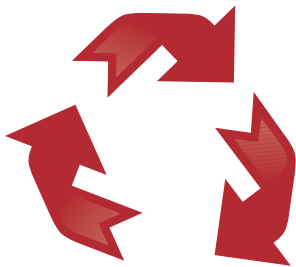
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(see *Collection Connection*, next page)

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(Collection Connection cont.)

various commercial and specialty services through its family of affiliated companies including Tri-County Recycling in Mars and Seneca Landfill in Jackson and Lancaster townships. As a direct outgrowth of the contract with the Township, Vogel is creating a new composting facility that will not only handle Cranberry's yard wastes, it will also be able to accommodate organic material from other communities in the region.



## Customer service

Welcome packets including detailed information about the program and collection tags worth more than \$17, are being mailed to every participating household. A new dedicated telephone service line, 724-COLLECT (724-265-5328), has been set up to direct callers to the appropriate customer service personnel during normal business hours. Commercial customers— which include a number of multiple-unit residences in the Township — are largely exempt from the program and will continue to be served by their current contractors.

***Business is picking up.** This new garbage truck, recently delivered to Vogel Disposal, is outfitted to lift and empty trash carts using a mechanical grab arm. Trucks equipped for automated waste handling will begin serving homes in Cranberry under a new community-wide collection program starting November 1. The automated equipment, together with the combined program for garbage, recycling, and yard waste collections, is unique in Pennsylvania.*

## Solid Waste Ordinance enacted

On August 26, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors codified the Township's new waste program by enacting an ordinance that regulates the collection, transportation, and disposal of solid waste in the Township. Although portions of it only apply to individuals, most provisions apply to commercial, industrial, and institutional establishments as well as to private homes.

Among the key requirements:

- Recyclables and yard wastes must be separated from other solid wastes
- Haulers may only dispose of recyclables at designated recycling facilities
- Creation of an educational program to increase participation
- Requires sanitary disposal of accumulated waste, whether on public or private property
- All residents of properties containing fewer than five living units must participate
- Prohibits scavenging or pilfering of waste
- Bars moving waste between addresses
- Bans waste dumping and littering in streams or on the ground
- Provides certain exemptions from the ordinance requirements
- Stipulates that the Township bill the property owner or occupant for waste service
- Provides penalties for violating provisions of the ordinance

If the collector finds that a customer is contaminating recyclables — mixing items that cannot be recycled along with those that can — the contractor may refuse to collect those recyclables. Likewise, if the collector finds that wastes are improperly contained, overweight, placed out of reach, or missing the prepaid tags, the company can decline to collect them. Other waste-related violations, including illegal dumping, will be addressed by either the state or Township, depending on the circumstances.





## 2004 Roadway Roundup

The road improvement season winds down as Public Works gears up for the winter plowing season. The 2004 improvements included a number of major projects:

### Road culverts replaced

- The Garvin Road culvert was replaced and the road raised between Pinehurst and Oakview to ensure safety and improve drainage. Plans for wetlands relocation are being finalized.
- Deteriorating culvert pipe was replaced under Goehring Road between The Preserve development and Franklin Road.
- Nine road crossing culverts were replaced in Fernway to facilitate storm water drainage. The work was completed before Fernway was resurfaced to ensure the longevity and appearance of the road surface.

### Improvement at Haine School Road to improve safe crossing

The crosswalk at Haine School Road at Haine School was relocated to provide a safer pedestrian crossing at the school. The new, extremely durable polymer material for the crosswalk was donated to the Township by Lafarge Industries.

### Rolling Road upgrading complete

Rolling Road from Joan Street to Freedom Road was widened and resurfaced and the storm sewer system upgraded. Township crews have been making final yard restorations this month.

### Hope Restored

A 1,000-foot portion of Hope Road, adjacent to the Shadow Creek housing plan, is near completion. The project included the relocation of the intersection with Plains Church Road to allow for improved sight distance and the upgrade of an existing culvert under Hope Road.

### New turn lanes to improve traffic flow at several intersections

A new signal at Rochester Road and Powell Road was initiated due to increased traffic at that intersection. Three turn lanes were also added: left turn lanes from westbound Rochester Road onto southbound Powell Road, a right turn lane from westbound Rochester Road onto northbound Powell Road. The project is nearly complete.

Wisconsin Avenue and the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue, Rt. 19, and Rochester Road improvements were completed this season. The project included the addition of two lanes – an exclusive right turn lane from westbound Wisconsin Avenue onto northbound Rt. 19, and an exclusive left turn lane from westbound Wisconsin Avenue to southbound Rt. 19, plus a left turn only lane from southbound Rt. 19 onto Wisconsin Avenue.

An additional approach lane from the south was constructed to the Kristoffer Drive/Rt. 228 intersection to allow for retail access to Rt. 228 from the Knockout development of restaurants and retail stores across the highway from Cranberry Commons. The project included the addition of a right turn lane from eastbound Rt. 228 onto southbound Kristoffer Drive and the complete addition of the southern approach to Kristoffer Drive. It also included signal upgrades and pedestrian access.

### Northwest Connector to begin construction late 2005

Plans are underway to construct the connection between Heights Drive and Rt. 19, as well as to add a traffic signal at Rt. 19. The current schedule calls for work to begin next fall.

### Freedom Road joint project with PennDOT

Paving for lane additions on Freedom Road is complete, and new signals will be in place by mid November. Lanes are being added to the Freedom Road/Rt. 19 intersection. In addition to roadway capacity improvements, a revised timing plan for the signals has been developed to improve traffic flow on the Rt. 19, Freedom Road, and Rt. 228 corridors.

Lane additions include: a left turn lane from northbound Rt. 19 onto Freedom Road, a right turn lane from eastbound Freedom Road on to southbound Rt. 19, an additional through-right lane on westbound Freedom Road between Rt. 19 and Executive Drive, an additional right turn lane from Freedom Road eastbound onto southbound Commonwealth Drive, and an additional left turn lane from westbound Freedom Road onto Commonwealth Drive.

### Franklin Road Bridge upgraded

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is upgrading the deteriorating bridge on Franklin Road between North Boundary Road and Garvin Road for safety reasons. Although the bridge is scheduled to reopen soon, PennDOT will revisit the project next spring to apply additional pavement to the area.



*Four hundred hungry guests attended the Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce annual "Taste of Cranberry" on September 8 in the Municipal Center gym. More than 20 local restaurants and beverage companies served up all-you-can-eat portions of their most popular specialties.*



## Township adds new Planning & Community Development Director

Community planner/project manager Michelle Mixell, AICP, joined Cranberry Township as Director of Planning and Community Development on July 26. But there wasn't much time for her to get used to the surroundings; instead, she was immediately thrown into overseeing the fast-moving plans for Park Place, an ambitious Traditional Neighborhood Development proposal, or TND, sited on a 200-acre parcel off Rochester Road, as well as a number of other current development projects.

"Michelle brings expertise in planning and ordinance writing from both the private and public sectors," according to Dan Santoro, Assistant Township Manager for Planning and Policy Development. Her experience in local government planning and project management includes work in developing zoning standards for a TND in Marshall Township, where she served as Planning Director, and in facilitating plans for innovative streetscapes and central business district designs in the villages of Warrendale and Wexford. She also worked as a manager and site acquisition specialist for Bechtel Corporation in California. Earlier, she served as Assistant Town Manager for a mainline suburb outside Philadelphia and as a professional associate with several private consulting firms. In her new post, Ms. Mixell has overall responsibility for the Township's planning, zoning, and code administration functions.

One of Ms. Mixell's first assignments in Cranberry was to draft an ordinance which would enable the Township to permit Park Place; current zoning ordinances do not recognize TNDs – an innovative housing concept which had

never before been proposed for Cranberry. Park Place is one of three major projects being developed as part of the so-called Brush Creek Smart Growth initiative, on approximately 1,000 acres near the center of the Township. The other two include Cranberry's 115-acre Graham Park and a Main Street-style retail and civic Town Center, situated on farmland across from the Municipal Center.

Cranberry has already held a number of public forums to review plans for the TND. According to Ms. Mixell, the overall response from participants indicates that Township residents are embracing the concept. With appropriate approvals, Park Place construction could begin as early as next year.

Another key assignment on the near horizon for Ms. Mixell will be to flesh out details for the mixed-use Town Center, which is currently in the concept stage. And beginning next year, she will lead Township efforts to update and refine the Township's Long-Term Comprehensive Plan, last revised in 1995.



*Michelle Mixell, AICP, recently was named Director of Planning and Community Development for the Township. She will play an important role in the development of ordinances that will make the Brush Creek Smart Growth initiative possible.*

## Cranberry wastewater treatment plant honored

Cranberry Township's Brush Creek Pollution Control Facility, which treats an average of three million gallons of wastewater a day, has been awarded the Plant Operations and Maintenance Excellence Award from the Pennsylvania Water Environment Association. The statewide competition recognizes outstanding performance in large (two million gallons and up) and small sewage treatment plant categories. Awards are made to publicly owned facilities that excel in a variety of operational areas. Winners are automatically qualified for consideration in regional and national EPA award programs.

The Brush Creek facility, which was originally built in 1973 and then expanded in 2000, has a treatment capacity of 4.5 million gallons a day.

In citing the plant's achievements, the Association said "The operating staff, in an effort to become 'best in class,' challenged themselves to excel in the areas of odor management; sewer system modeling; inflow and infiltration reduction; fats, oils and grease reduction; sludge volume reduction; energy management; and best management practices, including benchmarking."

A portion of the water treated at the Brush Creek plant is used to irrigate nearby Cranberry Highlands Golf Course.



*The final taste of summer. The Farmers Market in Cranberry will continue to operate through the end of October.*

## Residents get first glimpse of Graham Park plan

It was only about 18 months ago that Township officials announced they had acquired land for Cranberry's third major municipal park. The 115-acre site, formerly part of the Graham family farm, is situated in the west central area of the Township, along the Pennsylvania Turnpike's southwestern edge. Although the timeline for park planning and development was initially expected to take years, the tempo of nearby development prompted the park's preliminary planning to be accelerated.

That's because the proposed site for Park Place, a new residential development built in a traditional pre-World War II neighborhood pattern, lies immediately to the south of the parkland. Its construction could begin as soon as next spring, and the associated grading, drainage, wetlands, and access issues would affect both the park and the neighborhood.

To help pick up the pace, Cranberry retained the planning group LaQuatra Bonci Associates to help develop a master plan for Graham Park. Over a period of several months, 15 separate organizations, including Township planning staff, members of the Township's Parks & Recreation board, Township Supervisors, and an advisory group of residents representing different ages and interests, met with LaQuatra Bonci to shape that plan. Then on August 25, a public forum was held in Council Chambers to unveil the initial draft version.

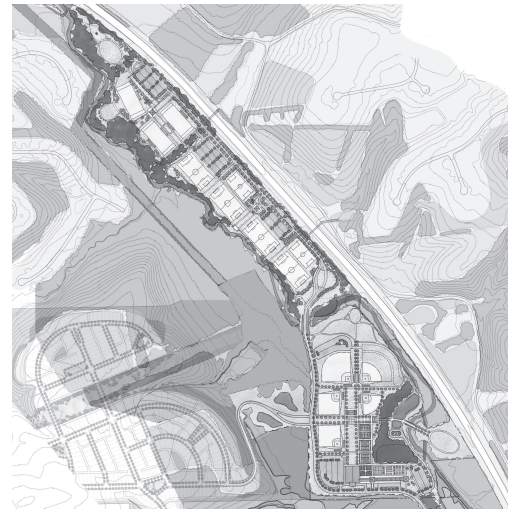
By following the site's existing topography, the preliminary plan calls for only minor grading. Its fields provide excellent bases on which to build, with nearly ideal drainage. Each of the three playing field clusters, referred to in the plan as 'campuses,' utilize roughly half their areas as active space. For the entire park, 47 percent would be open space, and 42 percent programmable. The

remaining 11 percent would be for streets and parking.

"The property is ideally suited for athletic fields, for passive open space, for walking and for biking," according to Township Parks & Recreation Director Mike Diehl. But the major portion of the new park will address the Township's acute need for more active sports space. Youth athletic program enrollment in Cranberry has more than doubled over the last eight years, Diehl said.

The master plan calls for five baseball fields, five soccer fields, and three football/lacrosse fields. Each campus includes a concession building along with other amenities. Plans also include provisions for basketball and tennis courts, as well as shuffleboard, horseshoes, bocce, and passive open space. There will also be an exhibit of American Indian artifacts found during environmental testing of the property. Roads and parking will be convenient to the various clusters.

The plan attempts to minimize the impact of vehicular traffic on patrons who want to use the open space to walk, ride bikes, have picnics, or simply relax in a natural park setting. Athletic fields will be separated from the walkways with split-rail fences, and a line of trees will buffer the road. Swales and plantings will further screen the park from the Turnpike, according to Diehl. A walking trail will run throughout the park with open greenways, benches, small shelters, and play areas along its course. Plans also call for walking and bike trails to connect with neighboring housing plans. Diehl has already received calls from potential homebuyers wanting to know if their housing plan will be tied to the trails linking Graham Park



*Plans for the park include athletic fields, trails, and open space.*

and Park Place to a proposed nearby Main Street-style commercial town center, to be built on farm land across Rochester Road from the Cranberry Municipal Center.

Final design plans for Graham Park could be ready sometime next year. After that, the Township will work with the various government agencies to secure permits. Diehl expects that process to take about a year before construction begins. If all goes well, portions of the new park could be open to the public by the fall of 2008. Renderings and additional detail about the preliminary plans can be seen on the Township's Web site at [cranberrytownship.org/GPark/2.htm](http://cranberrytownship.org/GPark/2.htm)



*Initial plans for the park were unveiled at a public forum.*



# crantech profile



## MSA Instrumental in creating Cranberry Woods business park Protecting workers, safeguarding the homeland, investing in Cranberry

Although it's certainly a well-established business, Mine Safety Appliances (MSA), one of Cranberry's largest employers, doesn't follow the established economic cycle. When times are good, MSA – which supplies personal safety equipment to builders, fire departments, hospitals, maintenance contractors, and industrial workers – benefits from a booming economy. When times are bad, MSA – which also supplies the armed forces, security agencies, and disaster relief teams with equipment designed to thwart enemy attackers – benefits even more.

Founded 90 years ago by two Penn State engineering graduates distressed over the high levels of injury among local coal miners, MSA today employs approximately 4,400 at more than 40 locations worldwide. With global sales that approached \$700 million in 2003 and prospects for an even better 2004, the company began trading on the New York Stock Exchange this past summer as part of a corporate effort to attract more investors.

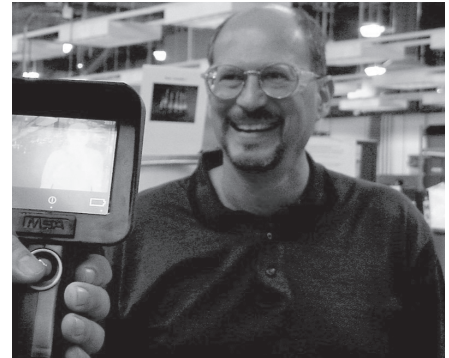
For years, MSA's personal protective equipment – including hard hats, safety glasses, respirators, and fall protection equipment – formed the backbone of its business. But starting in the 1980s, that began to change. Sensitive, software-driven instruments that could detect trace amounts of dangerous gases, precisely regulate

patient oxygen flow, and clearly discern images through smoke and darkness, began to emerge from commercial and academic laboratories. As a leader in its field, MSA invested heavily in applying those technologies to enhance and expand its own safety product lines.

One of those investments was the purchase of a 321-acre parcel of undeveloped land in Cranberry Township, where the company had decided to locate its new Instrument Division. Opened in 1985 in a contemporary-style building which houses the full range of activities related to the company's instrument business, MSA today produces a wide assortment of detection devices at the site.

In a smaller building next door, opened one year later, 90 MSA associates work to enhance the company's more traditional product safety lines in a facility known as the John T. Ryan Memorial Laboratory, named for the company's co-founder and grandfather of its current CEO, John T. Ryan III. Altogether, more than 500 company employees work at MSA's Cranberry site.

For the moment, at least, that does not include the company's corporate staff, which is based in the O'Hara Township RIDC Industrial Park. But that could change. A 'for sale' sign has been posted on their headquarters



*Ghostly image. Where smoke or darkness obscure normal vision, a thermal imaging camera, like this one showing the image of MSA Instruments Division Operations Director Alan DiGiovanni, would help guide fire fighters in a rescue situation.*

building's front lawn, and when it sells, most of its staff will join their colleagues in Cranberry, according to MSA's chief financial officer, Dennis Zeitler. But they won't be alone.

"Five or six years ago, we decided to further develop Cranberry Woods rather than just have it as an MSA location, and sell off parcels for Class A office space," he said. "Since we didn't know anything about developing real estate, we brought in Trammel Crow to do the development work. We simply sell the ground to build buildings on. That's why Cranberry Woods is now a multi-company office park. When it's fully built out, there will be 12 to 15 buildings altogether."

*Although widely known for its retail businesses, Cranberry is also becoming an important high technology center. Each issue of Cranberry Today will feature the profile of a different local technology company and offer a glimpse into the Township's emerging knowledge-based economy.*



## Public Works Department prepares to dig out of winter's worst

If the past two winters are any indication, Cranberry Township's Public Works Department could be a busy place this winter. To help, the department has developed a snow and ice removal plan that takes into account the Township's natural terrain, its available equipment, the volume of supplies on



hand, and the number of personnel available, as well as other essential resources. Its goal: to maintain a safe and efficient transportation system so Township residents can get to work, to school – or anywhere else they have to go.

Cranberry has divided its 95 miles of roadway into 12 plowing routes. Within each route are priority roads. Those priorities are set by the volume of traffic and the road's classification, as well as by its physical characteristics. In general, collector roads are plowed first, then residential roads. Cul-de-sacs are last.

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"A road on a steep hill would most likely get priority treatment," according to Walter Beighy, who manages road maintenance for the Township. "And, yes, a truck may pass your road on its way to a higher priority road," he said. Most road clearing takes place between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m.

According to Beighy, residents can take a number of steps to expedite their winter road maintenance and avoid frustration over damaged personal property. First, before plowing season starts, residents can protect their driveways from salt damage by applying a driveway sealer or protector. In addition, Beighy encourages residents to check their mailboxes for proper height and location; if it's too close to the plow's path, it could become buried, or worse. Mailbox posts should also be checked for deterioration and proper mounting.

Even more important, vehicles should never be left parked on Township streets. And in the winter, Cranberry's ordinance against on-street parking is aggressively enforced. During snow and ice storms, that ordinance becomes

especially important. A car parked along a street during a snow storm can delay snow plowing – or in some instances, become damaged – as the plow passes.

Although it may be hard finding a good place to dump the snow from your driveway or sidewalk, particularly after a major storm, residents should never shovel snow onto the streets. It is a violation, according to Beighy, and it could cause hazardous street conditions. He recommends that snow be piled on whichever side of the driveway or walkway ensures greatest visibility of oncoming traffic.

Other tips for residents include: keeping trash carts at least two feet from the edge of the pavement and removing them as soon as possible after trash has been picked up, and keeping basketball nets, fences, and any non-permanent seasonal items – including "snow forts" – at least 10 feet from the edge of the pavement.

For more complete details about snow and ice removal, see the Cranberry Township Web site.

## Cranberry salts away salt storage award

Cranberry Township's winter maintenance materials storage program was recently honored for environmental excellence by the Salt Institute. The Institute's award program, which promotes environmentally sensitive storage practices by units of government throughout North America, selected Cranberry as one of only eight communities to be so recognized in 2004.

In a letter informing the Township about its award, Institute President Richard Hanneman told Cranberry Public Works Director Duane McKee, "your program – both the excellent physical facility and your policies and commitment to environmentally conscious operations – is a model for your neighbors and throughout the Snow Belt regions of the world."

The Salt Institute, a non-profit association of salt producers founded in 1914, describes itself as the world's foremost source of authoritative information about salt and its uses.

In 2002, Cranberry Township replaced its 2,000-ton salt shed with a new 7,000-ton facility. The new structure strikes a careful balance between worker safety, environmental protection, cost improvement, and operating efficiencies in maintaining Cranberry's roads. Its construction was part of a comprehensive Snow and Ice Control Plan created jointly by Township operators, administrators, and residents. The new storage building simultaneously provides a series of advantages including: quicker loading with more maneuverable high-capacity loading equipment,

allowing the Township's 14-truck fleet to spend more time on the roads, less in line for refills; greater protection against supply disruption, which

had been a constant threat with the capacity constraints of the older shed; faster re-supply times with large, tri-axle trucks now able to quickly enter and discharge their loads; improved procurement resulting from economies of scale and better timing of deliveries; increased accuracy of billing and usage tracking with an integral truck scale that verifies the weight of each delivery.



Community Calendar **DECEMBER**

WED

**1** **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.

THU

**2** **Board of Supervisors Meeting**, Council Chambers at 7 p.m..

WED

**8** **Planning Commission Meeting**, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.

MON

**13** **Zoning Hearing Board**, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.

TUE

**14** **Board of Supervisors Meeting**, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.  
**Library Program**, Causes & Natural Cures of Fibromyalgia at 7 p.m.

FRI

**24** **Christmas Eve**, Township Offices and Library closed.

FRI

**31** **New Years Eve**, Township Offices and Library closed**BCCC Cranberry Classes set to begin January 13**

Registration for spring classes will begin in November for current students. New student registration begins in December. Schedules are being mailed to new students in late fall. Flyers from the college will be mailed to area residents in early January. For more information, call 724-772-5520 or on the Web [www.bc3.edu](http://www.bc3.edu)

**Mark your calendar! Transfer Day** will be Wednesday, April 6, 2005, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Sixteen area colleges and universities will be available to assist students in the transfer process from BCCC to a bachelor's degree program.

# library



## Library offers voter information

Project Vote Smart information is available at the Cranberry Public Library during regular business hours. Project Vote Smart is a nonpartisan citizens' organization dedicated to serving all Americans with unbiased information for electoral decision making. Its policies, procedures, and structure are designed to ensure impartiality. Project Vote Smart provides information in the following categories: biographical information, campaign finances, interest group ratings, issue positions, voting records, and public statements. You can also access Project Vote Smart information at [www.vote-smart.org](http://www.vote-smart.org) or call 1-888-VOTE-SMART.

The 2004 AARP Voters' Guide is also available at the library or check out the Web site at [www.aarp.org/elections](http://www.aarp.org/elections).

Cranberry Library has Voter Registration applications available. To register, you must be a citizen of the United States for at least one month before the election; be a resident of Pennsylvania and your voting district for at least 30 days before the next election; be at least 18 years of age of the day of the next election.

## Library serves as drop-off point for empty printer cartridges

A collection container for the Cartridges for the Community, a community-based printer recycling program is located inside the library. It will serve as a central drop off point for empty inkjet and laser printer cartridges. There is no special requirement for packaging of empty cartridges. Funds raised through this program will be used to purchase new library materials.

## Children's programs offered

**Family Pajama Storytime** is offered each Wednesday at 7 p.m. through the middle of November. No registration is required.

**3-5 Year Old Storytime** is scheduled to run through the first two weeks in November. Pre-registration is required for this program.

## Coupon books available from the library

Save money during the coming year – while helping the Cranberry Public Library. The Enjoy Coupon Book 2005 edition is now available from the library for \$25. The coupon book offers "two-for-one" and discounts on dining, recreation, theaters, and services in the Pittsburgh region.

## Donor Choice option

Cranberry Public Library's United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania Donor Choice Option number is 2569. The United Way of Butler County Donor Choice option number is 6022.

## Lions loose in Cranberry

It may not be among the stately stone lions that grace the courtyards and formal gardens of Europe. But the playful Community Park fiberglass lion, whose oversize mouth holds a child-size drinking fountain, is slated to have a companion this coming spring.

Both fountains – as well as countless others like them in public places throughout the country – have become signature projects of local Lions Clubs, whose gifts to their communities reflect the namesake of the international service organization, founded in Chicago nearly 90 years ago.

Ever since North Boundary Park opened in 1997, the Cranberry Lions Club, which presented the Township with its Community Park lion fountain in 1992, had hoped to donate a second fountain. However it was having trouble contacting the company that made them, according to Club president Tim Roscoe. But during a family vacation several years ago, local Lion Larry Duncan and his wife spotted an old lion fountain, sitting unused and unap-

preciated in the backyard of a home in Dallas Center, Iowa.

It was not in good shape. Its front feet were missing, its paint had worn away, and there were cracks all over its body. But because the Club had experienced such difficulty finding new ones, Duncan made the owner an offer: \$50, contingent on the lion fitting into the family car for its trip back to Cranberry.

“It fit, but just barely,” Roscoe said. “They made it home safely and turned the lion fountain over to the Club.”

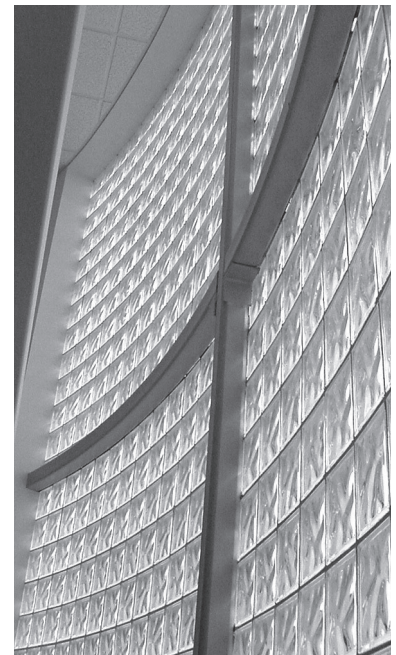
That was when local auto body specialist Kent McGill and his father, Rick Bach, were approached about repairing the lion. Using castings made from the first lion, together with their own donated labor, the two men were able to reconstruct the missing parts and then paint the lions in matching colors.



**Pride of Lions.** Members of the Cranberry Lions Club surround the Community Park drinking fountain donated by the Club in 1992. Next spring, the Club will present a companion lion to be installed in North Boundary Park.

Today, with the Community Park fountain back in place and its companion waiting for installation next spring, lions will once again roam the savannahs of Cranberry Township, meting out refreshments, and reminding park patrons of their civic benefactors.

**Town House.** An open house to celebrate completion of the Municipal Center's new expansion will be held from 4 until 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 4. The 18,000 square foot two-story expansion houses the Township's Public Safety Department, as well as its finance offices. All residents are welcome to attend.





## Cranberry weathers Ivan's wrath, but just barely

More than five inches of rain fell on Cranberry September 17 as the remains of hurricane Ivan inundated the Eastern seaboard. It was an amount that shattered the Township's previous record for rain in a 24-hour period – a record of



3.7 inches, which had been set only a week earlier. Ivan's rain, and downstream runoff resulting from it, devastated a

number of river-front communities in the region. It also caused significant damage to neighboring communities in Harmony, Zelienople, and Mars. But despite a number of temporary road closings and scattered reports of water in homes, Cranberry was largely spared serious damage. But it was more than simply good luck.

Just two years ago, Cranberry approved a communitywide storm water management system. Its goals were to deal with flooding, filtration, retention and other storm water drainage concerns resulting from the Township's rapid development. It was also designed to satisfy state and federal mandates intended to

protect the environment against pollution from rainwater runoff. Before that, storm water control issues affecting each construction project had been addressed separately.

Full realization of the plan, which is designed to accommodate a hundred-year flood – an event with just a one percent probability of occurring in any given year, or once in a hundred years – will be governed by the pace of new development. It is a partnership between the Township, developers, and homeowners built on the recognition that as development takes place and the natural contours of Cranberry's land become altered, drainage patterns and groundwater absorption rates change along with them. The central concept of the plan is that these changes in water flow are not just confined to individual parcels of property; they cascade downstream as well.

One of the most visible components of Cranberry's storm water system is the network of private detention ponds associated with most new housing plans and commercial projects. Detention ponds capture and temporarily detain storm water runoff diverted from streets, driveways, parking lots, roofs and other impervious surfaces resulting

from development. With overflow outlets set at different levels, these ponds are able to regulate their release of storm water into nearby streams at rates those streams can handle without overflowing. They also help remove sediment and pollution through settling and biological absorption.

As a result, new construction in the Township can calibrate its release of storm water to protect properties and communities miles downstream from the original site.

However, not all protective measures against storm water flooding are highly engineered. Driveway pipes, open backyard swales, and other low-tech means of channeling the storm water flow on private property are also integral to the Township's system. When homeowners fill in those waterways with dirt or grass, the system fails to operate and water flows into homes and yards instead of away from them. During the storm, a significant share of the local flooding Cranberry experienced resulted from blocked water pathways. As Ivan made clear, keeping those channels open is essential to safeguard homes against flood damage.

## Before the deluge; tips to prevent home flooding

- Find out if your home is in a flood plain. Although exact determination may require a surveyor, a map of Cranberry's hydrology is on the Township's Web site, under Property Finder. Check to see if you are likely to be affected by rising water.
- If you are in or near a flood plain, consider investing in flood insurance.
- Find out whether your household drain line is equipped with a backflow preventor – a simple flap inside the main drain line that allows water to exit

the house but keeps it from entering through the sewer. If you don't have one, call a plumber.

- If high water or flooding seems likely, close off the vent pipe opening on the sewage line outside your house; otherwise it could turn into a conduit for storm water to enter your home through the sewer line. Figure out a way to seal it off before the need arises.
- When water is at flood levels around the house, don't run sinks or flush toilets; pressure from the outside could

cause contaminated water to surge into your home through the drain lines.

- If you are planning to re-landscape your yard, be sure to grade it so that rainwater runs away from the house and into suitable drainage areas.
- Clean out any debris that may have accumulated in the swales that drain your property; if they're clogged with dirt, debris, or yard waste, they may not work when they are needed.

**MON 1** Cranberry Collection Connection residential waste service begins  
**Book Discussion**, Library at 7 p.m.

**TUE 2** Election Day

**WED 3** Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting,  
Council Chambers at 7 p.m.

**THU 4** Open House, Public Safety at 4 - 7 p.m.  
**Board of Supervisors**, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.

**FRI 5**

**SAT 6** Computer Class: E-mail Basics, Library at 9 a.m.

**SUN 7**

**MON 8** Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce Business Expo With a Community Flair, Four Points by Sheraton Pittsburgh North, 3-7 p.m..  
**Library Program**, Review of Women's Health Internet Sites at 7 p.m. **Zoning Hearing Board**, Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m.

**TUE 9**

**WED 10**

**THU 11** Veterans Day  
Library Closed

**FRI 12**

**SAT 13** Computer Class: Home Networking & Wireless Connections, Library at 9 a.m.

**SUN 14**

**MON 15**

**TUE 16** "Songs and Stories of Southwestern PA,"  
Pennsylvania Humanities Program cosponsored by Opus I Music Society, Library at 10:30 a.m.

**WED 17** Book Discussion, Library at 10 a.m.

**THU 18**

**FRI 19** Light-Up Night with Holiday Train Ride,  
sponsored by PJ Lynd, Tax Collector, Municipal Center

**SAT 20** Computer Class: Genealogy Online, Library at 9 a.m.

**SUN 21**

**MON 22**

**TUE 23** Board of Supervisors Meeting, Agenda Preparation Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.  
**Library Program**, Your Baby's First Year: What to Expect, by Bellevue Pediatrics at 7 p.m.  
**Library Program** "Cars, Curfews, and Courtship, by N.H. Youth Ministry at 7 p.m.

**WED 24**

**THU 25** Thanksgiving Day, Township Offices and Library Closed

**FRI 26** Township Offices Closed  
Library Open

**SAT 27**

**SUN 28**

**MON 29**

**TUE 30**