

Thursdays in the Park. . .

Cranberry Summer Concert Series continues thru August 4

The Pittsburgh folk music group 'New Morning' kicked off this year's seven-concert series at the Community Park Rotary Amphitheater on June 16 with a program featuring many of their own compositions. It was the first time an ensemble of its type had been featured in the free series, according to Jack Haubaugh, chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. A variety of musical styles are presented each summer based on what Cranberry residents say they like, Haubaugh said, and the audience grows for each concert.

The series is partially underwritten by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. All performances begin at 7 p.m.

Jazz guitarist Ken Karsh is slated to perform on July 7. A local musician, composer, and educator, he recently released a CD of his own compositions and jazz standards entitled "Ventana." The concert is sponsored by Friends of the Park and Community Chest.

The Dub Squad, a reggae band from

Pittsburgh, is scheduled to perform on July 14, courtesy of North Pittsburgh Telephone Company.

Local country singers Joe Patrick Band and Alli Gillis will perform on July 21. Patrick's new CD is scheduled to be released this year. Alli Gillis, a student in Pine Richland, has already performed extensively including at the David Lawrence Convention Center. The evening of country is being underwritten by the Friends of the Park and Community Chest.

Oldies Night on July 28 features The New Holidays along with a car cruise. The New Holidays, who revive early '60s sounds, recently released the CD "Keepin the Sound Alive." The concert is being sponsored by North Pittsburgh Telephone Company.

The final performance, on August 4, will feature Big Fat Jazz, a big band



Perfect weather set the stage for the kickoff of Cranberry's free Thursdays in the Park concert series on June 16 with the contemporary folk trio, New Morning.

ensemble. The group performs classic and contemporary jazz, swing, blues and Latin big band music.

In addition to the Thursdays in the Park concerts, Joe Negri and Speedy Delivery will bring the Mister Rogers Neighborhood magic back to the Amphitheater for a special performance for young children and their families on Tuesday night, July 12, sponsored by Wal-Mart.

For the most up-to-date information, visit us on-line at www.cranberrytownship.org



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724-776-4806
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Contributing Writer:

Jill Cueni-Cohen

Editor:

Pamela Williams

Director, Communications:

Peter Longini



Cranberrytoday

2005 Summer EDITION

We're open!

Cranberry's AE RIDE Skatepark built, dedicated, acclaimed

It took more than 150 volunteers the better part of a day to do it, but with help from spectacularly good weather and a handful of experienced project leaders, the region's newest skatepark opened for business behind the Cranberry Township Municipal Center on Saturday, June 18.

The skatepark, built on a newly constructed 120 x 80 foot pad of polished cement, helps to transform skateboarding into a respected athletic activity. "The important thing was to create a safe space for our kids," Cranberry Supervisor John Skorupan told an enthusiastic group of skaters and volunteers assembled for the park's dedication.

Cranberry's new skatepark was made possible by a grant from the American Eagle Outfitters Foundation, based in Thorn Hill Industrial Park. American Eagle, whose active wear clothing lines are directed toward teens and young adults, tries to target its charitable contributions toward that same demographic profile.

During the weeks leading up to the June 18 Community Build Day event, Cranberry Township's Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments prepared the site, which had originally been built as an impoundment area. ESKAL8, a national nonprofit organization that specializes in building skateparks, coordinated the effort.

Admission to the skatepark is free. Rules governing its use are posted, but apart from a surveillance camera, the facility is not supervised. The AE RIDE Skatepark is open every day, from dawn to dusk, except when it is wet or icy. In addition to skateboarders, the park welcomes in-line skaters and BMX bikers.



Altogether, nearly 200 volunteers helped to build the new skatepark on June 18.



They bolted the park's assortment of parts into performance components.



More than 70 enthusiastic volunteers from American Eagle Outfitters pitched in.



This airborne skateboarder decided to ride the rail rather than take the stairs.

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Garbage Radio: all trash, all day

Cranberry attaches inventory control tags to Collection Connection carts

A tiny piece of new technology is about to improve the efficiency of Cranberry's waste collection service. Starting in early June, the Township began attaching small passive radio-

frequency identification tags to the wheel wells on each of the 22,000 Collection Connection carts now in use. The

RFID tags, which use energy from truck-mounted receivers for power, have a maximum reading range of 10 feet. When they are queried by those readers, they signal back the serial number of the cart being emptied. That information will then be transferred to an administrative computer where it can be used to improve service and enhance accountability.

Radio-frequency tags, which provide the same types of information as bar codes, offer the advantage of being read quickly and accurately regardless of light conditions, dirt, viewing angle, or even physical damage.

Use of RFID technology is spreading quickly in such unrelated fields as airline baggage handling, ski lift operations, field testing, warehouse inventory control, and public libraries. Cranberry is at the leading edge of their application to municipal waste disposal. In addition to providing the state DEP with data required to document participation in its recycling programs, Cranberry's use of the tags is expected to offer the Township and residential customers a number of practical advantages.

Better tracking of Township assets.

Cranberry Township has close to \$1 million invested in the Collection Connection carts currently used by residents. The tags will enable the

Township to more efficiently keep track of its property for audit, management, and distribution purposes.

Better monitoring of contractor performance.

In addition to helping Vogel Disposal, the Township's contractor, to optimize its use of equipment, personnel, and routes, the tags will enable the Township to monitor waste pickups, reduce the incidence of missed collections, identify fraudulent claims of non-pickup, and in other ways verify that the company has met the terms of the Township's contract.

Better billing. Each cart number is associated with a specific address. If that cart has been moved to another address, particularly when the user has not paid for the corresponding level of service, the Township will be able to identify it, and to bill its customers more accurately.

Enabling newer technologies. In the near future, RFID tags, together with a family of emerging technologies related to waste handling and disposal, will allow Cranberry to further improve its environmental compliance, enhance its recycling efforts, reduce contamination incidents, and make sure its billing accurately reflects its customer's actual use of the service.

Securing new funds. Other units of government, including Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection, are keenly interested in seeing how new technologies can be used to improve the region's waste disposal practices. Cranberry's leading-edge use of RFID technology may make the Township eligible for future state demonstration grants in solid waste management.

For more information about the RFD tags, contact Lorin Meeder at 724-776-4806, ext. 1176.

Household Hazardous Waste drop-off: Butler County Fairgrounds, August 27

Most solid waste can either be thrown out with the trash or recycled. But not everything. A number of common

household supplies have hazardous properties that make them unsuitable for either recycling or disposing of with

ordinary garbage. Many of them are liquids. They include paints, solvents, automotive fluids, pesticides, insecticides, pool chemicals and household cleaners.

To help find a safe way to dispose of these wastes, a partnership of governmental, private, and public organizations has formed a task force to sponsor annual drop-off collections for these items in Allegheny, Cambria, Butler, Beaver, and Westmoreland counties. A cash fee of \$2 per gallon is charged for using the service.

This year, a collection will be held at the Butler County Fairgrounds on Saturday, August 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Two weeks later, on September 10, another collection will be held at Brady's Run Park in Beaver County, also from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more details about preparation, and for a list of items not accepted in the collection, call 412-488-7452 or go online to: www.supahhw.org.



Tiny passive radio tags, programmed with individual cart numbers, will help Cranberry manage its solid waste collection.

Senior Olympians teed off at Cranberry Highlands

It was an unexpected visit, but Cranberry Highlands operations director Jon Shuster was delighted when members of the national Senior Olympics Committee stopped by Cranberry Highlands to talk about using the par-70 course as one of three golf sites for this year's national Senior Olympics.

He was especially pleased since Cranberry Highlands was the only venue chosen outside of Allegheny County for the games in which more than 12,000 men and women, ages 50 or older, and coming from all over the country, competed in 18 athletic events. Of the 450 Senior Olympics golfers,



150 men competed at Cranberry Highlands from June 14 to 16. Other golfers competed at Deer Run and North Park courses.

"It's all positive PR for the course and the community," according to Shuster. "Golfers talk to their buddies," and Shuster expects that their praise will only help to enhance the status of Cranberry Highlands as a premier golf course in the area.

In addition to the golfers, Shuster noted that many of their family members, plus volunteers from around the area, also had the opportunity to see the golf course and visit the Township, some for the first time. TV coverage on Channel 11 throughout the Senior Olympics games helped draw attention as well.



Competitors in the men's age 50 to 55 Senior Olympics cohort play the third hole of Cranberry Highlands during the June games.

Forget about the kids.

In Cranberry, it's the grownups training for August's Cranberry CUP softball tournament

Five years ago, at a meeting of her local homeowners association, Cathy Cortazzo offered a modest suggestion to encourage her neighbors to get out and meet one another while having fun: hold a co-ed slow-pitch softball tournament with other nearby housing plans. She even offered to coordinate the effort, which she felt could also become a vehicle to raise money for a worthwhile cause.

That was the genesis of what has since grown into the Cranberry CUP Tournament, now a fully-accredited 501(c)3 charitable organization and a magnet for weekend summer warriors from neighborhoods and businesses throughout Cranberry Township. Back in 2000, the tournament included seven neighborhood teams and raised \$3,800 for the American Cancer Society. Last year, the competition raised almost \$55,000. And this year, the Cranberry CUP will include a golf tournament for the first time.

Cortazzo, who now serves as president of the Cranberry CUP organization, credits Cranberry Township Parks and

Recreation Director Mike Diehl with advice and assistance that helped to jump start the organization, especially during its second year. Each year since that time, volunteers begin working on the tournament in January, seeking sponsors and choosing the beneficiary. Last year 36 teams from local neighborhoods, as well as a dozen teams representing businesses, competed in the softball tournament. Cortazzo expects even more demand from those wanting to compete this year. "The only limit to the number of teams is the number of available playing fields," she said.

"The Cranberry CUP gives 'soccer parents' the opportunity to play on a softball team one weekend during the summer," Cortazzo explained, allowing them to reverse their typical roles as spectators for their children. Beyond that, it supports a worthy charitable cause.

This year's kickoff party begins on Saturday, August 5 at 7 p.m. at Cranberry Highlands Grill Room, and it will be the premier social event in



Cranberry, according to Cortazzo. The softball games will take place over the next two days, with the championship games at 6 p.m. on August 7. The golf tournament is scheduled for August 5 with a 1 p.m. start.

However the benefits of the Cranberry CUP go beyond providing a one-weekend summer outing for adults and raising money for a family in need. It also gives residents a neighborly feeling that is so often absent in conventional neighborhoods. As Cranberry Township Supervisor Dick Hadley describes it, "It brings the suburban back deck around to the front porch and makes people feel they can call on their neighbor to borrow a cup of sugar."

For information, see the Web site at www.cranberrycup.org or contact Cathy Cortazzo at softball@zbsoom.net.

BC3 welcomes new director

Butler County Community College's Cranberry campus Director Carole Demmy knew she was leaving her post in capable hands when she turned over the reigns to Alex Gladis on June 30.

"Alex has a calming presence," said Demmy. "He's experienced and has a good sense of humor. The students and staff will be very pleased. The bottom line is that Alex is a good person."

He's also an interesting one. A sociology and anthropology graduate of Geneva College, Gladis, 53, earned a master's degree from the University of Akron in educational sociology. In the mid-1970's he lived on an Indian reservation with the Hopi and Navajo tribes. He then went on to work at La Roche College for five years before serving as the Dean of Continuing Education at the Community College of Beaver County for the past 21 years.

"This is an opportunity for me professionally to do some creative things in the Cranberry area, and I'm looking forward to facing new challenges," said Gladis, whose other passion is paleontology – the science of studying ancient life forms through their fossil remains.

With Gladis on the job, Township residents will be invited to see Native



Outgoing director Carole Demmy stands in front of the BC3 Cranberry Center, where she helped to build programs and grow enrollments since 1996.

Americans hold an authentic pow wow on the college's Cranberry campus. They'll also have many opportunities to learn about prehistoric life, because Gladis plans to continue his 30-year tradition of speaking to community organizations on these topics and more.

"I often serve as a free public speaker to different organizations on a number of different subjects: continuing education, labor and job trends, American Indians, paleontology and fossils," said Gladis, who has built his own portable museum of fossils. "It gets me into the community," he said.

Ms. Demmy, on the other hand, has had her own special way of becoming a fixture in the Cranberry community. "Volunteering and helping people is what fulfills us as human beings," she told a Chamber of Commerce meeting last month, where she's served for two terms on the board of directors.

As a cheerleader for the community college system, Demmy has worked tirelessly to help students believe in themselves. "For so many people, this is the only place they could ever get started," she noted.

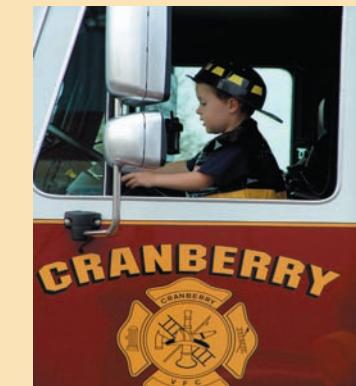
Demmy practically grew up at the college; having worked her way up from part-time and substitute teaching to full-time positions in Admissions and Public Relations until becoming the Director of Student Services in 1992. But her biggest challenge came in 1996, when she was appointed Director of the Cranberry Center and Armstrong County campus.

"I was new at this kind of thing and had no vision," recalled Demmy, who has been credited with bringing about a significant increase in enrollment over the past nine years and having instituted new associate's degrees, courses, and various service programs for the community.

Her advice to Gladis: "Make the people you supervise or work with know that they matter."



Alex Gladis took over as director of BC3's Cranberry Center on June 30.



In a hurry. During Local Government Day on May 7, one young resident decided to check out the Township's fire equipment for himself.



Hawkeye. This baby American Kestrel – North America's smallest falcon – is one of four chicks hatched this spring in a nest under the roof panel in one of Cranberry's public works buildings.

Battery disposal: What to do when the Bunny dies



About three billion batteries are sold in the United States every year. Eventually, they all get thrown away. Most common battery types – the general purpose batteries, including the alkaline batteries used for flashlights, portable radios, toys, and many other uses – can be safely disposed of as part of your normal garbage. In the past, many of these batteries contained mercury, a known health hazard. But today, most ordinary batteries use only non-hazardous materials.

However other types of batteries containing materials such as cadmium, lead-acid, and lithium, as well as mercury, are

still in widespread use and their improper disposal can create hazards including soil and water pollution, acid leaching, and burns resulting from human contact. Over time, even in a well-designed landfill, these materials can contaminate rainwater seeping into the ground.

Wet-cell are usually the worst offenders. The best way to get rid of them is to have the place where you bought your new battery take the old one for proper disposal. For other types of batteries, including rechargeable batteries, lithium batteries, and the button-type batteries used for watches, hearing aids, electronic greeting cards, and so forth, bring them to an appropriate disposal site instead of treating them as ordinary garbage.

A number of businesses in Cranberry will accept rechargeable, lead-acid, nickel-cadmium, nickel-iron, and nickel-metal hydride batteries for disposal.

Among them:

Best Buy
1000 Cranberry Sq. Dr.
Cranberry Twp.
724-778-8300

Lowe's
1717 Route 228
Cranberry Twp.
724-778-3232

Hobby Depot
20327 Perry Highway
Cranberry Twp.
724-776-3640

Home Depot
25 Dutilh Rd.
Cranberry Twp.
724-779-5180

Radio Shack
Cranberry Mall
Cranberry Twp.
724-776-1860

Getting rid of unwanted cardboard boxes

Cardboard and fiberboard can be recycled for free in Cranberry's Collection Connection program – but only when they are folded down and placed inside a blue-top recycling cart. However sometimes that may not be possible. For example, when a family moves into a new home in Cranberry, they may have more cartons than they can fit into their cart. What should they do?

Cardboard cartons that can't fit into the cart can be picked up and disposed of as ordinary trash – provided they have 65¢ tags attached to them. One tag is required for each carton. However you can fold down and insert as many cartons as you can fit inside the tagged box; that way they can all piggyback on one tag. Or you can fold boxes down and bundle them together with tape or rope. Again, only one 65¢ tag will be needed for pickup provided that the bundle weighs less than 25 lbs.

If you have a large amount of material to dispose of, as in the case of a basement cleanout or a move-in, it may be more convenient to use the \$15 volume tag. One tag allows you to dispose of an assortment of smaller items – **not** including furniture or appliances, which must be tagged separately – up to a maximum volume of two cubic yards. Two cubic yards corresponds to the capacity of a garbage truck's hopper.

One cubic yard is approximately the volume that a standard card table takes up when it's open.

Tags are available from the Township's Customer Service Desk during normal business hours or online anytime from the Cranberry Web site: www.cranberrytownship.org.



Acceptable alternatives for disposing of cardboard boxes: folded inside recycling cart (recommended and free), or tagged and either bundled, nested, or with individual 65¢ tags.

cran tech profile



Cranberry's Cannon USA – it's the thing of shapes to come

The next time your Canon fax machine or camera goes on the fritz, please refrain from stopping by the Cannon USA factory on Freedom Road to file a complaint. Although the confusion is understandable, Cannon USA is a completely different entity, part of the international Cannon Group of engineering industries, with 53 employees and its American headquarters in Cranberry Township.

Unlike its homonymous consumer electronics counterpart, you can easily go through your entire life without once seeing any of Cannon USA's products. But you probably couldn't go a single day without seeing a lot of the products its customers make using the sophisticated industrial equipment that the company designs and builds in Cranberry and at its sister operation in Zelienople. For example, most American refrigerators are built using Cannon equipment. Other familiar products include foam mattresses, steering wheels, furniture, picture frames, fashion mannequins, skis, insulation panels, and much more.

All of them, and many others, are products made either partly or entirely of polyurethane – the remarkable lightweight plastic compound capable of being formed into just about anything. But making equipment that can reliably mold polyurethane's two component chemicals into products of every imaginable shape and texture requires precision engineering, durable designs, and round-the-clock technical support.

It also requires an integrated family of compatible production equipment that a manufacturing plant needs to

turn out products. In fact, a significant share of the Cannon Group's \$400 million in annual sales comes from building fully-equipped plants for such well-known customers as Maytag and General Motors.



It is something that this privately held corporation, with its world headquarters in Italy, has been doing from its start in the early 1960s, and from its North American headquarters in Cranberry since 1977, when it was originally housed in a much smaller building in Thorn Hill Industrial Park. Paolo Spinelli, who relocated from Milan to Cranberry in 2003, is now the company's president.

"Each customer has a different process, a different production rate, a different environment, different objectives. So we have to work with them to design the plant," he explained. One result is that the company invests a substantial portion of its revenues in research, development, and engineering in Cranberry to meet the constantly-changing demand for new consumer goods.

Twenty-some years ago, during an early visit to the facility he now runs, Spinelli recalled a smaller, simpler, more rural Cranberry – one which was



The scrollwork on this ornate picture frame is not the handiwork of an old world artisan. Instead, it is made of polyurethane, using equipment developed and manufactured by Cannon USA in Cranberry Township. At the company's Freedom Road plant, president Paolo Spinelli shows a small sample of the many products made from this remarkable plastic compound at factories like the one shown here, which are outfitted with his company's specialized equipment.

then known by the name of its nearest post office: Mars. The company chose that location because its U.S. agent, who was himself a resident of southern Butler County, had encouraged them to select a North American site convenient to his own home office. Today, after nearly 30 years in Cranberry, Cannon USA has become a fixture in the Township's industrial community. But confusion over its name persists.

"We sometimes have customers come in to complain that their photocopier isn't working, or that they aren't getting the service they need, or they haven't received their rebate," he recalled, shaking his head. "There must be other companies around named 'cannon' that have the same problem."

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

Sewer system survey started

A five-month evaluation of Cranberry's sanitary sewer and wastewater treatment infrastructure, which will help officials formulate a long-range plan for the Township's sewage system, is now underway. The goals of the plan, according to Township Manager Jerry Andree, are to assure adequate capacity for projected growth, to protect the health and safety of residents, to prolong the life of the Brush Creek treatment plant, and to reduce downtime resulting from unforeseen repairs and unscheduled maintenance requirements. An unexpected crack in the six-year old concrete support on one of the four Brush Creek plant clarifier tanks prompted the study's timing.

Results of the research, which is being jointly undertaken by Township staff and consulting engineers, are expected to be presented in five phases at regularly scheduled monthly business meetings of the Board of Supervisors, according to Public Works Director Duane McKee. Findings of the first phase, which will be presented July 7, concern odor control issues surrounding the Brush Creek plant. According to pilot studies, the addition of carbon "polishing" units to the plant's five existing scrubbers can sharply reduce the intensity of its odor emissions.

The study's initial phase will also examine the Brush Creek plant's use of electricity, particularly with respect to high-capacity electric motors. Last year, the

plant paid \$230,000 for electric power from Penn Power Company to operate its treatment machinery – one of the plant's biggest expenses. Improvements designed to increase the power factor of the facility – a measure of its electrical efficiency – could save the plant a significant amount in electric power consumption.

Phase II findings, due to be presented in August, will address the introduction of fats, oils, and grease into the system as will discharges of other materials harmful to the plant's biological processes. Data from a recent survey of Cranberry's commercial sewer and water customers will form an integral part of this study phase.

In September, Phase III will examine inflow and infiltration – known as I&I to industry insiders – which refers to extraneous water from sources such as illegal downspout connections and groundwater seepage that gets introduced into sanitary sewer lines. Both lead to using up the plant's waste-handling capacity on water that doesn't require treatment.

A new computer model of the sewer system, that combines its physical characteristics with hydraulic data taken from treatment plant flows and customer billing records, will also be presented in Phase III. That model is expected to calculate the system's performance under a range of condi-



Brush Creek sewage treatment facility manager Mike Sedon checks a valve position on the plant's main inflow line.

tions at different points throughout the Township. Potential problems can then be identified before they actually materialize.

Managing biosolids disposal costs, which add an estimated \$70 - \$80,000 a year to plant operations, is to be the focus of Phase IV, which will be presented in October. A summary of projected capital expenses related to the system maintenance and improvement will also be presented at that time.

The final phase, slated for presentation November 3, will examine the rate structure and schedule of tap-in fees for service in relation to the system's projected costs and cost savings over a five, ten, and 15-year planning horizon.

Property Tax Discounts and Penalties

If you haven't already paid your 2005 Butler County/Cranberry Township real estate taxes, the opportunity to pay them at face value has ended. The penalty rate started July 1 and continues through December 31.

Bills for your 2005/2006 Seneca Valley School District real estate taxes will be mailed August 1 and may be paid at a two percent discount until September 30. Taxes can be paid at face value from October 1 until November 30. Penalties apply beginning December 1.

The office of tax collector P.J. Lynd will be open daily, plus Monday and Friday evenings until 7 p.m. Office hours Tuesday through Thursday are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The office will also be open Saturday September 24 – the last Saturday in the discount period – from 9 a.m. to noon. Appointments are always available. The office is located in the Municipal Center on Rochester Road in the front hallway, across from the Chamber of Commerce.

Stop in or mail payments to: P.J. Lynd T/C, 2525 Rochester Road, Suite 402, Cranberry Township, PA 16066. If your mortgage company is making tax payments on your behalf, you don't have to do anything. But if you have refinanced and changed your mortgage company or are no longer using an escrow account to pay your property taxes, please contact the tax collector's office at lyndpj@cranberrytownship.org, by phone at 724-776-1103 or by fax at 724-776-3011.

For finance professionals only:

Cranberry's depreciated deed declaration doesn't deflate debentures



Discount debt distribution is depressing.
Cranberry Finance Director Vanessa Gleason pours over the books as new financial reporting requirements kick in.

Be careful how you read Cranberry's 2004 financial statements.

A major change in the way municipalities report their finances, patterned after the approach that publicly traded corporations are required to use in their own government filings, is dramatically changing the appearance as well as the complexity of Cranberry Township's financial statements, according to its director of finance, Vanessa Gleason. But despite their increased complexity, these accounting changes, which were adopted in 2003 by the influential Governmental Accounting Standards Board, GASB, confirm that the Township's finances are strong, she said.

Among the new standards' most important changes: accounting for the value of fixed assets, like roads and sewer and water lines, which were not previously reported on municipal balance sheets. Many of those assets will appear for the first time in the Township's 2005 report, although some are included in the 2004 statement as well. Even so, an apples-to-apples comparison of Cranberry's finances from 2003 to 2004 reflects an increase of \$2.5 million in its total net assets, largely attributable to the new public safety expansion of the Municipal Center and to increased business privilege/mercantile and earned income tax collections.

"Most municipalities would definitely want to see that," Gleason observed. "It's when your net assets are decreasing that you start having problems. Why? If you look at a lot of the smaller and older communities in the region, they are not going to see an increase in their assets. They don't have the cash, they don't have the borrowing ability. They can't do the kinds of things we can do. Looking at us, with our net assets increasing and our capital assets increasing, shows that we are a developing community, a growing community. That's what we want to see."

Another key accounting change involves depreciation. "People in the business world understand about having your capital assets on the books," she said.

"But to most people, it's very foreign. Depreciating your assets? Who would ever have thought to do that? It's even more difficult to explain depreciation as an expense."

The disconnect between an asset's book value and its market value, a gap which grows wider every year, is particularly hard to explain. "This building will be depreciated," she said, pointing to the newly expanded Municipal Center. "We assign a useful life to it, and we do straight line depreciation where you take the value and divide it by the useful life. If it's 40 years, you depreciate it 1/40 per year. But eventually, even though its book value is zero, its market value could be absolutely huge. But the way we're supposed to keep this, based on GASB rules, is historical cost – not market value."

"If you look at the pool, it had a depreciation expense for the water," she pointed out. "The sewer had a depreciation of expense of \$1.3 million. So when you see that on your books, it really pumps up your operating expenses, because we don't budget for it. But why budget for it? Because it's not cash that we've sent out the door. We haven't written a check for that depreciation."

Cranberry's full financial report for 2004, which is now in its final stages of preparation, will be posted on the Township's Web site by the end of July, according to Ms. Gleason.

Cranberry Township 2004 Cash Flow

Where it came from . . .

Income Tax	3,661,579
Real Estate Transfer, Business Privilege/ Mercantile, & Occupational Privilege Taxes	2,964,351
Real Estate Tax	3,610,106
Interest/Rent	176,144
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,307,168
User Fees	2,068,268
Sewer Operating Revenue	5,660,682
Water Operating Revenue	3,312,373
Golf Course Operating Revenue	1,706,755
Bond Proceeds	1,854,591
Miscellaneous	546,352

Where it went . . .

Road Maintenance	3,818,313
Facilities & Equipment	3,712,495
Public Safety	3,777,549
Debt Service	3,457,350
General Government	2,489,915
Recreation/Library/Pool	1,786,021
Insurance/Pensions	550,720
Sewer Operations	3,093,500
Water Operations	2,650,285
Golf Course Operations	1,283,542
Miscellaneous	248,699

Pet Rock

Pop Star donates pet recovery scanners to local police

Having vets implant pets with identification microchips has become the cat's meow in communities all over the North Hills. This past May, pop music star and Wexford native Christina



Christina Aguilera

attention to the scanner company's high-tech pet recovery system.

"The typical scenario is that a resident will pick up a dog, and we'll get it or Triangle Pet Control Services will get it," said Cranberry's Public Safety Director Steve Mannell. Triangle has a contract with the Township to respond to complaints involving animals.

Mannell pointed out that dogs which are not claimed by their owners are typically euthanized, but the presence of a microchip eliminates that danger.

"Having the scanners is great," said Mannell. "Officers can scan the animal with a wand, and if it has a chip, the pet will be returned to its owner sooner."

Aguilera donated 40 hand-held scanners to six local police departments including Cranberry's. Aguilera's move, prompted by her own experience as a dog owner, has also brought new

"I have lost animals in the past," said Aguilera's mother, Shelly Kearns, of Wexford. "We had a collar on them, but when a dog gets out, anything can happen to that collar."

Between the two of them, Kearns and Aguilera have six dogs and two cats; all of which have been implanted with microchips by Dr. James Krewatch of Bradford Hills Veterinary Hospital in Wexford.

In fact, it was after a conversation Kearns had with the veterinarian that Aguilera decided to purchase the scanners, valued at over \$15,000, for the police departments.

"Dr. Krewatch's dream was to try to get scanners in all of the police cars, because he'd noticed that a huge number of their calls are animal-related," said Kearns. "But with scanners costing \$400 each, this was a very expensive thing to do, so he turned to me to ask Christina for her help. She agreed without a moment's hesitation."

Impressed by Aguilera's generosity, AVID Identification Systems discounted the cost of the scanners and matched her donation by giving free microchips to local animal shelters. They will be implanted in adoptable animals and include free registration with PETtrac™, the company's database.

According to Debbie Paterson, office

manager of Bradford Woods Veterinary Clinic, AVID technology has been around for the past twenty years, but it hasn't really been popular until now.

"People are becoming more aware of it, because it's such an easy way to find your pet if it gets lost," said Paterson, noting that the clinic now performs between 50 to 75 implants each month.

Ranging in price from \$25 to \$40, microchip implants are an inexpensive way to keep pets safe, according to Kearns: "No matter how careful you are with your pets, anything can happen."



Mary Metzner, Director of Shelter Operation of AVID, shows Sgt. Edward Savka, Richland Township Police Department, and Dorothy Brown Wagner, Practice Manager of Bradford Hills Veterinary Hospital, how the ID system works. Bowser belongs to Shelly Kearns, Aguilera's mother.

Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce: Upcoming Events

Thorn Hill Race gives participants a run for their money

The 16th Annual Thorn Hill County Line 5K Run/Walk, sponsored by



the Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for Sunday, July 24 at 8 a.m. The race

runs through Thorn Hill Industrial Park. Early registration fee is \$15 through July 20 for runners and wheelchair racers. Registration after July 20 is

\$17. Walkers registration fee is \$8. Proceeds from the race help to fund the Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce Scholarship program. Each May, three outstanding high school seniors from Seneca Valley, Mars Area, and North Allegheny high schools, are awarded \$1,000 scholarships. This year's winners were Scott Golmic, Seneca Valley; Amanda Sporrer, North Allegheny; and Mark Stenner, Mars Area. Registration forms are available at the Cranberry Township Municipal Center. Additional information is available at the Chamber office.

'A Taste of Cranberry' risks descent into gluttony

The Annual Cranberry Area Chamber of commerce Taste of Cranberry is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14 at the Municipal Center beginning at 4:30 p.m. The savory extravaganza will feature a sampler of specialties from 30 to 40 area restaurants, confectioners, specialty food and beverage suppliers, as well as entertainment for \$12 per person. For more information, call the Chamber office at 724-776-4949.

Cranberry Township Manager Jerry Andree honored by state association of Township Supervisors

Jerry A. Andree, manager of Cranberry Township since 1992, was presented with the President's Leadership Award at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township



Jerry Andree

Supervisors on April 18. He was the first official from Butler County to be so honored in the award program's 16-year history.

The prestigious award, which

is presented to just one Pennsylvania township secretary or manager each year, is given by the association to honor the recipient's dedication, creativity and leadership. PSATS, which represents 1,456 townships of the second class with a combined population of 5.1 million, was formed in 1921 to preserve and strengthen the township form of government and to advance its members' interests at the state and federal levels.

In presenting the award to Andree, PSATS president Donna Mindek said: "he has been responsible for several

initiatives in his township, including a comprehensive overhaul of the Township's zoning, building, and maintenance codes; development of a 'pay-as-you-go' financing option requiring developers to pay for public improvements associated with their projects; introduction of the Township's first municipal solid waste collection program; construction of a \$9 million 18-hole golf course; a state-of-the-art waterpark and two community parks; expansion of the municipal building into a civic center; construction of a full-service public works center; creation of a community-wide stormwater management system; and completion of numerous road improvements."

"But it's this man's managerial skills, combined with what they describe as his 'great character' that have impressed his colleagues," she continued. "Faced with limited public financing options in his township, he has taken an entrepreneurial approach to managing by forming partnerships with the private sector, recruiting volunteers, soliciting outside grants, and encouraging innovation."

Andree, a native of Hempfield Township in Westmoreland County, is a graduate of Penn State University, where he earned a Bachelors degree

as well as a Masters degree in Public Administration. In addition to his position with Cranberry Township, Andree serves on the boards of directors for the Local Government Academy, the Butler County Community Development Corporation, the state Department of Transportation's Local Transportation Assistance Program, and the Keystone Municipal Insurance Trust.



Donna Mindek, second from left, president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, presented the 16th Annual President's Leadership Award to Jerry Andree, Manager of Cranberry Township, at PSATS' annual convention in Hershey. Also in the photo are, from left: Township Supervisors Bill Ambrass, Richard Hadley, and Chuck Caputy; Jan Andree; and Supervisor John Milius.

Old Rt. 19 to close for reconstruction of intersection at New Rt. 19

A segment of Old Route 19 in northern Cranberry Township is expected to be closed for construction for six to eight weeks. The northernmost section of that road, which currently approaches the west side of Rt. 19 at an acute angle, is being reconstructed as a perpendicular intersection which will include a new traffic signal. Immediately across Rt. 19 from that intersection, where the Victory Christian Fellowship Park is now under construction, a new access road to the VCF site will connect to the highway. The major goal of the road project is to create a safer intersection and to add a lane for left turns from

Old Route 19 to Route 19 northbound at the new traffic light. The intersection improvement is being coordinated with construction of the new VCF Park, which includes both a worship center and a commercial development site. Paradise Realty of Tampa, Florida is developing the commercial area in the northern portion of VCF Park.

Construction on the rebuilt intersection, which will depend to a certain extent on weather conditions, is expected to conclude in mid- to late August. Construction signs will direct traffic through Township-approved detours. Access to the Oak Springs Mobile

Home Park will be maintained from the southern approach on Old Route 19.



Vision emerges for Township's long-range community development plan

Becoming a better-connected place



If the hundreds of local residents who responded to a survey and attended public meetings earlier this year were to have their way, Cranberry Township would grow up to become a more walkable, better-connected community, anchored by a central year-round gathering point where adults as well as children could safely participate in a range of activities – eating, shopping, studying, exercising, concert going, and more.

These oft-repeated themes, as well as others expressed by residents during Phase I of the Township's long-range comprehensive planning process, provide the basis for formulating the plan's

goals and for articulating the vision behind them, according to Michelle Mixell, Cranberry's Director of Planning & Community Development. The comprehensive plan, which will provide policy direction for Township officials over a ten-year period, updates one last adopted in 1995.

"The purpose of Phase I was to gather as much information as possible from all sectors of the community to understand our current needs and issues," Mixell said. "We know what they were from 1995. Our idea was to take this information and ask: where are we now?"

"We had two regional input meetings, we held meetings for the business community, the developer community, commission and committee members. We had several nonprofit groups come in to provide input. We received hundreds of cards from residents, as well as e-mails," she said. "We looked for themes and for

consensus among the different avenues of input. Ultimately, we'll develop a vision statement which will describe what we've heard; the vision statement will be the umbrella for the whole plan."

The results of Phase I will be posted on the Township's Web site later this summer, and an open meeting will be scheduled to determine whether the goals and vision statements derived from the public input actually match the community's real values and objectives.

Phase II will involve professional assessments of Cranberry's current situation and developing concepts for the Township's built environment. Results of that phase will also be open to public review and comment. The entire process is expected to conclude when the Board of Supervisors adopts a revised plan in mid-2006.

Emerging plan themes

From February through May, Cranberry residents and business leaders articulated where they wanted to see their community go in the coming decade. Here are some key themes Township planners heard.

•Pedestrian Friendly: Need safe, interconnected sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails throughout the community to connect neighborhoods, community facilities, shopping, and places of employment.

•Street Connection: Need improved north/south street connections as alternatives to Route 19, additional access points to I-79, and additional east/west connections to Route 19. In general, creating a network of interconnected streets in a grid system.

•Open Space & Natural Environment: Need a balance between open space and developed land as well as incentives to preserve slopes, existing mature tree stands, and other natural resources.

•Destination Point – Town Center: Need a defined and compact area where

people of all ages can safely gather, shop, play, work and visit without driving to different locations.

•Enhanced Shopping Options: Need for more upscale shopping with higher-end stores and an indoor mall.

•Rural Character: Need to preserve the rural character of the northwest and northeast corners of Cranberry and to sustain natural areas.

•Public Transit: Need a variety of public transportation options in, out, and around the community, as well as to key regional destinations and to major employment sites.

•Additional Access to Route I-79: Need to provide additional access points to I-79 to relieve congestion on Route 19.

•Expand Recreational/Cultural Offerings: Need to enhance cultural amenities/offerings and activities geared toward adults such as theater, concerts, public art, dancing, comedy clubs, etc.

•Diversify Park Facilities/Offerings: Need areas for more life-time fitness

activities such as Frisbee, cross-country skiing, wall climbing, and opportunities for pick-up games.

•Year-Round Indoor Recreation: Need for indoor recreation opportunities such as swimming, skating, and a place for people under 21 to get together and socialize.

•Pet-Friendly Places: Need for pet-friendly places such as dog parks and fenced-in area for animals to run.

•Aesthetics of Commercial Development: Need to enhance architectural and landscaping standards to create a community identity.

•Commercial/Industrial Development: Need to better define areas appropriate for commercial and industrial development and to focus that development on main corridors.

•Taxes: Need to retain low taxes.

•School District: Need school district facilities to keep pace with population growth in Cranberry and associated service area.

CRANBERRY TODAY

Community Calendar **SEPTEMBER**

1 <small>THU</small> Board of Supervisors Meeting , Council Chambers at 7 p.m.	17 <small>SAT</small> Farmers Market , Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	18 <small>SUN</small> Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open , 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
2 <small>FRI</small> Farmers Market open , Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.		
3 <small>SAT</small> Farmers Market , Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	19 <small>MON</small> Farmers Market , Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	
4 <small>SUN</small> Farmers Market open , Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.	20 <small>TUE</small> Labor Day Township Offices closed Last Day for Cranberry Waterpark	21 <small>WED</small> Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open , 12:30 - 3 p.m. Book Discussion, Library at 10 a.m.
5 <small>MON</small> Township Offices closed Last Day for Cranberry Waterpark	22 <small>THU</small> Library Program , Saving for your Child's Education, John O'Rourke at 7 p.m.	23 <small>FRI</small> Library Program , Weight Loss, Dr. Uhler at 7 p.m.
6 <small>WED</small> Parks & Recreation Advisory Board , Council Chambers at 7 p.m.	24 <small>SAT</small> Farmers Market , Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	25 <small>SUN</small> Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open , 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
7 <small>THU</small> Planning Commission Meeting , Council Chambers at 7 p.m.	26 <small>MON</small> Library Program , Natural Solutions to Everyday Problems, Trapper John Coluno at 7 p.m.	27 <small>TUE</small> Bellevue Pediatric Program , Library at 7 p.m.
8 <small>FRI</small> Farmers Market open , Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.	28 <small>WED</small> Farmers Market , Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	29 <small>THU</small> Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open , 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
9 <small>SAT</small> Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open , 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	26 <small>SUN</small> Sunday Library Hours Resume , 1 - 4 p.m.	30 <small>FRI</small> Farmers Market open , Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.
10 <small>SAT</small> Sunday Library Hours Resume , 1 - 4 p.m.	11 <small>SUN</small> Book Discussion , Library at 7 p.m.	12 <small>TUE</small> Book Discussion , Library at 7 p.m.
11 <small>FRI</small> Taste of Cranberry , Municipal Building, 4:30 - 7 p.m.	13 <small>TUE</small> Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open , 12:30 - 3 p.m.	13 <small>WED</small> Library Program , Long Term Care Insurance, Mary Jo Young at 7 p.m.
12 <small>THU</small> Library Program , Long Term Care Insurance, Mary Jo Young at 7 p.m.	14 <small>WED</small> Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open , 12:30 - 3 p.m.	15 <small>THU</small> Farmers Market open , Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.
13 <small>FRI</small> Farmers Market open , Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.		

library



Planning a trip with your mouse

Free Library computer classes offer beginners, as well as experienced users, a different kind of weekend

Most Cranberry residents spend their Saturdays running errands and doing chores around the house. But at Cranberry's Public Library, more and more of them are finding an escape from dreary household routines: they're learning how to get started on the computer, sharpening their current computer skills, even planning dream vacations online through the Library's computer lab along with the expertise of several library staff members and volunteers.

The Library's Saturday morning computer classes are offered during the Fall and Spring. They include one-day courses on basic computer skills, on using the Internet and on computer security, as well as classes in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Access. With 12 computer terminals in the library's computer lab, every participant has the opportunity for hands-on experience.

One of the most popular Saturday morning computer courses, targeting travel lovers, is taught by librarian Ginnie Zajac. The two-hour seminar is focused on how to use the Internet to access web sites where they can find travel information and arrange for airline, hotel, car rental, train, bus, or cruise line and fares.

Zajac says most of the people in the class are looking for travel bargains on the Internet. While some of her class participants already know the places they want to visit, others need assistance in seeking out information about how to find vacation spots, she said.

According to Lynn Henkel, who coordinates the computer curriculum and also teaches several classes, as many as 24 people can enroll in any given course. Some participants in the classes have never used a computer; the only type of mouse in their home is the kind with four legs. "They take the computer classes because they know they are missing something," she said.

The free classes will resume in September. For more information about registering for computer classes, contact the Cranberry Public Library at 724-776-9100 or see the Web site at www.bclfsl.org



Instructor Milt Rodgers teaching a free course in Microsoft Access database software to a weekend class at the Cranberry Public Library.

Library launches online book club

Finding a book to read just got easier

So many books, so little time. For all those busy people, Cranberry Public Library has a new service: an Online Book Club that delivers books electronically. Each day, Monday through Friday, the library e-mails subscribers a portion of a book that takes about five minutes to read. Subscribers are able to read two or three chapters during the week. If they like a book, they can check it out of the library. Each week new books are featured.

With 11 book clubs to choose from, there's something for everyone. Patrons can choose Fiction, Non-Fiction, Romance, Business, Good News, Teen and Mystery. They can also listen to Audio Books in their e-mail and there's even a Pre-Publication Club. Subscribers can also begin reading books online before they're even published.

According to Library Director Carol Troese, "This new service makes it easy for people to get back into the habit of reading. It only takes five minutes a day, and it's fun."

To sign up for the online service, see the library's Web site: www.bclfsl.org/cranberry. Subscribers can also forward the e-mails to friends, which is a great way to stay in touch with friends and relatives that live in other parts of the

Wireless Internet Access available

Cranberry Public Library has joined over 560 libraries in the United States in offering Internet access via a Wireless hotspot. Any laptop or other portable device equipped with wireless technology will now have access to Internet resources anywhere in the library. This service is provided at no cost to the patron. Patrons need only bring in their wireless enabled devices and log on.

1	FRI	Farmers Market, Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.
2	SAT	Farmers Market, Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
3	SUN	Township Offices closed
4	MON	Independence Day Cranberry Twp. Community Day Celebration
5	TUE	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m.
6	WED	Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.
7	THU	Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.
8	FRI	Board of Supervisors Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.
9	SAT	Thursdays in the Park concert, Ken Karsh, Rotary Amphitheater at 7 p.m.
10	SUN	Farmers Market, Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.
11	MON	Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.
12	TUE	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 10 - 12:30 p.m.
13	WED	Music on the Lawn, Sample One-Room Schoohouse at 7 p.m.
14	THU	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m.
15	FRI	Book Discussion, Library at 7 p.m.
16	SAT	Night Swim, Cranberry Waterpark from 9 - 11 p.m.
17	SUN	Music on the Lawn, Sample One-Room Schoohouse at 7 p.m.
18	MON	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m.
19	TUE	Book Discussion, Library at 10 a.m.
20	WED	Night Swim, Cranberry Waterpark from 9 - 11 p.m.
21	THU	Thursdays in the Park concert, Joe Patrick Band/Alli Gillis, Rotary Amphitheater at 7 p.m.
22	FRI	Farmers Market, Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m..
23	SAT	Farmers Market, Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
24	SUN	American Cancer Society Relay for Life, begins at 11 a.m.; call 724-4806, ext. 1120 or borderc@cranberrytownship.org for information
25	MON	American Cancer Society Relay for Life, ends at 11 a.m.
26	TUE	Thorn Hill County Line/5K Run/Walk, begins at 8 a.m.; sponsored by Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce; call 724-776-4949 for information
27	WED	Music on the Lawn, Sample One-Room Schoohouse at 7 p.m.
28	THU	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m.
29	FRI	Board of Supervisors Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.
30	SAT	Thursdays in the Park concert, The New Holidays/Car Cruise, Rotary Amphitheater at 7 p.m.
31	SUN	Farmers Market, Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.

CRANBERRY TODAY

Community Calendar AUGUST

MON	1	Book Discussion, Library at 7 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.	WED	17	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m. Book Discussion, Library at 7 p.m.
TUE	2	Night Out Parade, Haine School Road at 7 p.m.	THU	18	
WED	3	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Council Chambers at 7 p.m.	FRI	19	Farmers Market, Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.
THU	4	Board of Supervisors Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Park concert, Big Fat Jazz, Rotary Amphitheater, 7 p.m.	SAT	20	Farmers Market, Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
FRI	5	Cranberry CUP Golf Tournament, Cranberry Highlands at 11 a.m. Farmers Market, Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.	SUN	21	
SAT	6	Farmers Market, Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Cranberry CUP Charity Softball Tournament, Contact Cathy Cortazzo at 724-772-0058 or softball@zbbzoom.net	MON	22	Classes begin at BCCC Cranberry Center
SUN	7	Cranberry CUP Charity Softball Tournament, Contact Cathy Cortazzo at 724-772-0058 or softball@zbbzoom.net	TUE	23	
MON	8		WED	24	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m.
TUE	9		THU	25	Board of Supervisors Meeting, Council Chambers at 7 p.m. Library Program, "Backpack Safety," Dr. Vactor at 7 p.m.
WED	10	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m.	FRI	26	Farmers Market, Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.
THU	11		SAT	27	Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, Butler Co. Fairgrounds, 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
FRI	12	Farmers Market, Behind Municipal Center, 3:30 - 6 p.m.	SUN	28	Farmers Market, Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
SAT	13	Farmers Market, Behind Rt. 19 Firehall, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	MON	29	
SUN	14		TUE	30	
MON	15		TUE	31	Sample One-Room Schoolhouse open, 12:30 - 3 p.m.
TUE	16				