

# CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP

AUGUST  
'99

## NEWSLETTER

### *Planning At work in Cranberry*

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HAS WORKED DILIGENTLY TO AGGRESSIVELY IMPLEMENT ALL OF THE PLANNING TOOLS THE STATE GOVERNMENT PERMITS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.**

Planning issues at the local, regional, state, and national levels have come to the forefront in recent years as a pressing concern for all of our communities. Vice President Al Gore's livable communities initiative announced earlier this year and Pennsylvania's 21st Century Environment Commission are examples of our growing national concern about the built environment and its impacts on livability and sustainability. The Pennsylvania 21st Century Environment Commission Report cited land use as the most pressing environmental concern in the Commonwealth.

Central to this national debate is the concept of suburban sprawl, in what is considered by some as a reckless, irresponsible pattern. We have been growing in this suburban pattern only since post World War II and are now just beginning to understand and quantify the effects of our preferred living style.

**THE FACTS ARE – CRANBERRY IS A WELL-PLANNED, WELL-MANAGED COMMUNITY WITH A VISION TO DEAL WITH THE PRESSURES OF GROWTH AND CREATE A QUALITY, LIVABLE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY.**

We all know and experience Cranberry as a rapidly growing community. Cranberry is one of the fastest growing communities in Pennsylvania and in the country. Our population in 1990 was 14,816, the estimates show a growth of 55 percent to nearly 23,000 residents in 1999. Amidst this growth comes the inevitable allegation that we are growing too fast and not managing this growth properly, an example of a "suburban sprawling" community. By the definition of sprawl, Cranberry can not pretend to be anything other than what it is. The concept of suburban sprawl is one that suggests suburban growth outside of, or not directly adjacent to older urban areas is detrimental. In the context of a metropolitan area, such as Pittsburgh, which has seen a net decline in population, any growth in Cranberry and other outlying suburbs is sprawl.

Our image as a rapidly growing, sprawling community sometimes conjures false perceptions which misrepresents the facts. The Board of Supervisors has worked diligently to aggressively implement all of the planning tools the state government permits local governments.

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## COMMUNITY REMINDER

### BERKHEIMER ASSOCIATES TAX NOTICE REMINDER

The Seneca Valley School District's flat occupation tax notice for the 1999-2000 school year are due to be mailed August 2, 1999.

This occupation tax should not be confused with the Occupational Privilege Tax which is the \$10 that your employer withholds from your paycheck. This flat occupation tax, which was enacted by the Seneca Valley School Board on July 1, 1979, is billed the beginning of August each year and is applicable to persons residing in the Seneca Valley School District who are wage earners.

**Special Exemptions:** If you are retired, on disability, a homemaker, or a student under the age of 18, or if you have earnings less than \$3,200 per year, you are not liable for this tax. Applying for exemption requires the taxpayer to indicate the reason on the tax bill you receive that you are applying for exoneration and return to Berkheimer Associates for consideration.

(cont. from previous page)

The facts are – Cranberry is a well-planned, well-managed community with a vision to deal with the pressures of growth and create a quality, livable, and sustainable community. The majority of the false perceptions comes from outside the community unfamiliar with the reality of managing development under current state law. Overwhelmingly, the feedback received by the Township is positive but there are some concerns that revolve around growth challenges. As ambassadors of the community, residents and businesses have made a substantial investment in the community and repeatedly we have heard from our ambassadors that they want to be armed with the facts to dispel those misconceptions.

This article is the introduction to a series that will provide the facts about planning in Cranberry Township. The series will look at the "Vision" of the community and the Comprehensive/Strategic Plan developed to accomplish that vision. The series will look at transportation planning efforts and explore in depth the transportation impact fee program. Topics related to planning efforts such as comprehensive stormwater management, sewer and water, livability/sustainability and recreational planning efforts will all be explored. ●

## Maintaining a Volunteer Fire Company

In this issue of the Newsletter, you will find articles on pages 4 and 5 from the Volunteer Fire Company updating residents on their activities as well as an application for membership. This is part of an ongoing effort by both the Township and the Volunteer Fire Company to inform the community about fire fighting and prevention activities within the community.

In 1981, our community made the pledge to support the operating and capital needs of the volunteer fire company and asked residents to volunteer to become highly trained and professional firefighters. This was in recognition that it was simply too much to ask our residents to both volunteer to protect our community from fires, and at the same time ask them to raise their own money to purchase the equipment they need to do that task. That partnership has been a model for other communities across the state and Cranberry has benefitted significantly from that partnership with the volunteers. However, as with any volunteer organization, volunteers are becoming harder to find. In September 1998, a special Citizen's Committee established by the Board of Supervisors independently reviewed the Volunteer Fire Company and issued their report and recommendations. Both the Fire Company and the Township are actively implementing those recommendations, as reflected in the articles in this issue. The first major step was the creation by the Board of Supervisors of a fire administrator. This person was hired to assist in the overwhelming administrative duties associated with running a very busy volunteer fire company.

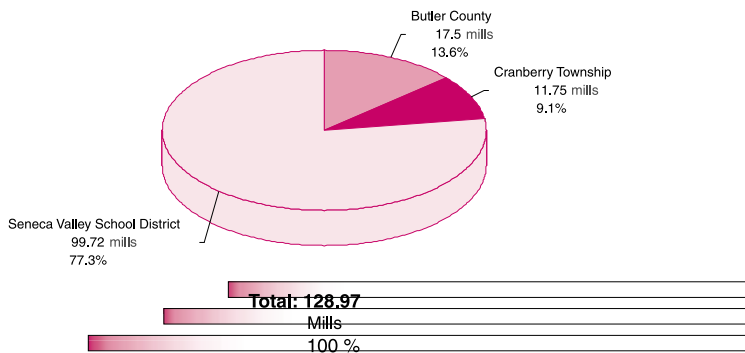
In 1981, the partnership was created with the Township levying one and one half mills of real estate tax to support the operating and capital needs of the Fire Company. Much has been accomplished at that level, and vigorous efforts are underway to sustain that level. Two major challenges are maintaining an effective and efficient fleet of fire fighting equipment and a strong level of volunteer support. Help is needed in both areas. If you are interested in volunteering your time to maintain our excellent volunteer fire company, please consider completing and returning the application or contacting either the Township or Fire Company offices.

# Your Local Tax Dollar:

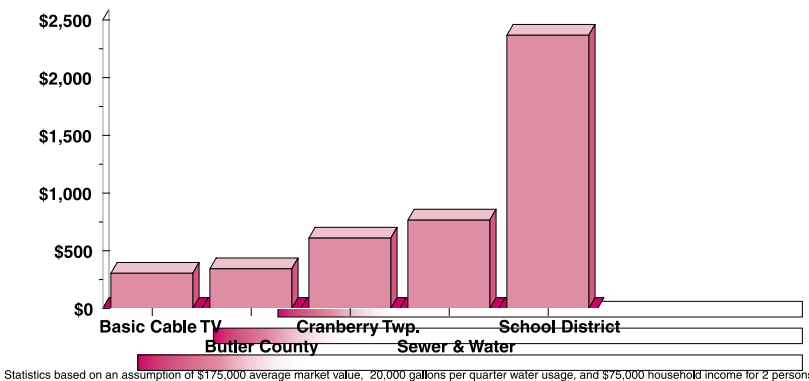
## PUTTING THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE

Pennsylvania is noted for its rather confusing set of laws governing tax revenue for local governments. Often, the Township is asked how are you funded and what do you do with that real estate tax I pay the township, often thinking the Township receives that entire amount. The Township is funded primarily through its residents by two taxes, the real estate tax, explained in another article in this issue, and the earned income tax, often referred to as the "wage tax." The earned income tax rate for the Township is 1/2 percent. An average household in the Township would pay \$610 in total taxes to Cranberry Township. What this supports are the basic services Cranberry Township provides, including 24-hour police and fire protection; parks; library; municipal center; public works, including roads, traffic signals and storm drainage improvements; planning; and administration. The following chart puts this in perspective. Consider that the average household is paying Cranberry Township \$275 more than that household is paying for basic cable television on an annual basis or \$260 more than is paid to Butler County. A more detailed explanation of the Township's revenue and expenditures can be found on the Township's website at [www.twp.cranberry.pa.us](http://www.twp.cranberry.pa.us).

### Real Estate Tax Rates - 1999



### Where Your Hard Earned Money Goes



### 1999 PROPERTY TAXES

The 1999/2000 Seneca Valley School District real estate taxes were mailed August 1, 1999 and are payable at a two percent discount until September 30, 1999. Taxes can be paid at face value from October 1, 1999 until November 30, 1999. The current millage rate, 99.72, remains unchanged from the 1998/99 school taxes. Currently, the 1999 Township and County taxes are due at the penalty amount. Last year, the state legislature passed a bill making all current year property taxes payable by December 31, 1999. This change means that the last day to pay property taxes is no longer February 1, as it has been in the past.

The office will continue to be open on a full-time basis, including Monday evenings and Fridays. Hours are Monday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Also, the office will be open Saturday, September 25, 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 with the other elected officials and the Chamber of Commerce.

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

## Reminder of Upcoming Events:

•Farmers Market every Friday,  
3:30 - 6:30 p.m. at Cranberry  
Municipal Center; every Satur-  
day, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at  
Community Park, Route 19

•Registration for Parks & Recre-  
ation Fall programs, August 23

•Last day for Cranberry  
Waterpark, September 6

•Halloween, October 31

•Light-Up Night, December 7

### ELECTION INFORMATION:

•Last day to register before the  
November Election, October 4

•Last day to apply for civilian  
absentee ballots, October 26

•Last day for county boards of  
elections to receive voted absentee  
ballots, October 29

•Municipal election, November 2

•First day to register after  
November election, November 3

Check the current events page on  
the Township website for addi-  
tional event dates  
<http://www.twp.cranberry.pa.us>.

## What if the Alarm Sounded.... and No One Came?

The Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company is one of the largest fire departments in Butler County. We provide fire and rescue services to the 23,000 residents and businesses in the township. Our volunteers respond from one of two stations with some of the most state-of-the-art equipment available.

Our fire company is a tax supported, all volunteer organization that attracts men and women from all walks of life. We all have one common goal and that is to provide the best service we can to our community with only the satisfaction of knowing we have done a good job in return.

This fire company's responsibilities have increased dramatically over the years. Our training provides continuous education to our own as well as other department's members. These programs are provided at no cost to our members.

As with all volunteer organizations we have minimum requirements to maintain membership. Meetings are scheduled on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 though other arrangements can be made if Tuesdays are not practical for you.

Please keep in mind that you do not have to stand in the flames to be a firefighter. There are many other jobs that are just as important. Some of these include:

- Instructors
- Driver/Pump Operators
- Administrative Support
- Emergency Scene Support
- Fire Prevention Programs
- Junior Fire Fighter

In return for your help there are certain benefits that are available to you. These include:

- Life Insurance
- Free use of fire halls
- Exercise equipment
- Free ambulance service
- State-of-art equipment
- Parades
- Christmas parties for family and kids
- Annual installation dinner
- Light Up Night Parade and Walk to Prevent Crime
- Self-fulfillment and gratitude from the community
- Lower taxes – we do not have to pay firefighters

If any of this appeals to you, please feel free to stop by any Tuesday night at the Haine School Road station and see what we do. If you would like to join us simply send the request for application, call us at 724-776-1196, FAX us at 724-776-9260, or e-mail us at [CTVFC@EXECNET.NET](mailto:CTVFC@EXECNET.NET).

### Request for Membership Application

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: CTVFC, 1629 Haine School Road, Cranberry Twp. PA 16066.  
Or E-mail to [CTVFC@EXECNET.NET](mailto:CTVFC@EXECNET.NET).

# Township Dedicated to Support CTVFC

*In 1959, when Dwight David Eisenhower was president, steak was \$1.07 a pound and Ben Hur was the Best Picture of the Year, the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company (CTVFC) began its all volunteer fire service for its neighbors, the citizens of Cranberry. The Township has been growing ever since.*

*The Founding Fathers viewed the volunteer service to the community as necessary for the safety and protection of their neighbors. We don't know if they envisioned the modern operation that safeguards us today, but they realized that volunteerism was the cornerstone of progress.*

*Thank you for the support we have received and enjoyed for 40 years from the entire Cranberry Community – private citizens, corporations, businesses, and the Township Supervisors and employees.*

*This year's "Night Out" festivities on August 2 were dedicated to the recognition of the CTVFC'S 40TH Anniversary.*

*On behalf of the Members of the CTVFC, Sincerely,  
Chris De Cree, President*

Seventy-five percent of all the fire companies in the United States are volunteer companies. In 1998, it is estimated that these volunteer fire companies saved U.S. taxpayers \$36.8 billion. In Pennsylvania, taxpayers saved an estimated \$4.5 billion.

Working closely with the Cranberry Township Board of Supervisors, Township Officials and employees, the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company (CTVFC) has managed to stay on the technical edge of progress. Through the dedication of our members, we have obtained modern firefighting equipment to maintain a safe environment for you and your families.

At no cost to the community, we have revised our life-sustaining Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus System (SCBA) and purchased more than \$160,000 worth of equipment at a cost of \$90,000 paid for by the CTVFC Relief Association. This savings was achieved through the cooperation and generosity of Mine Safety Appliances Co. (MSA), one of Cranberry's many good corporate neighbors. This SCBA equipment will take us safely into the 21st Century.

In addition to the SCBA equipment, the Township and the CTVFC is constantly researching the future needs of Cranberry. Fire apparatus and equipment is being maintained, purchased, and kept "Fire Ready" to respond to, and to prevent, emergencies. The Fire Company maintains the equipment, apparatus and fire stations on Haine School Road and at the Community Park.

Fire prevention is as important as fighting fires, if not more so. The CTVFC has a proactive fire prevention awareness program, the centerpiece of which is the Fire Safety House, used to educate children, adolescents, and adults in fire safety. From January through June 1999, our fire prevention program has reached more than 1,100 Cranberry residents through school programs, social events and in various housing plans.

If you would like to discuss a fire safety presentation for your organization or business, please contact the fire prevention officer at 776-1196.

Year to date, here are some of the statistics of which we are extremely proud:

- Number of emergency calls responded to. . . . .306
- Number of fire prevention programs conducted. . . . .38
- Number of people educated in fire safety. . . . . 1,100
- Number of non-emergency hours given by CTVFC members. . 3,000

Of course, all of this effort is achieved through volunteers, your neighbors, with the understanding and support of our families. Our members sacrifice their evenings and weekends to train and maintain this high standard of community service. However, we can always use some assistance. You don't have to fight fires! We have plenty to do to keep "Fire Ready," and to prevent fires. If you are interested, please contact Lee Nanna, Chairperson, Recruitment and Retention, at 776-1196. ●


**CRANBERRY  
PHONE LINE**

**INFORMATION LINE DIRECTORY, DIAL:  
776-4806  
THEN DIAL CODE BELOW**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Category</b>
<b>82010</b>	<b>General Cranberry Twp. Information</b>	<b>82200</b>	<b>Public Safety</b>
82011	Municipal Office Hours and Location	82201	Police Protection
82246	Election Day Polling Place Information	82202	Street Parking
82012	Board of Supervisors	82203	Vacation Homes
82013	Township Administration	82204	Vacation Home Cancellations
82014	Boards and Commissions	82205	False Alarm Information
82015	Federal and State Legislators	82215	Fire Protection
82016	Seneca Valley School District	82223	Cranberry Ambulance Corps
82017	S.V. School Closing Information	82224	Subscription Information
82021	Local College Information	82225	Volunteer Information
82022	Volunteer Information Line	82226	Info/Class Registration
82050	Township Meeting Schedule	82227	Ambulance Billing Questions
		82228	Requests for Demos./Lectures
<b>82075</b>	<b>Taxes in Cranberry Township</b>	<b>82250</b>	<b>Recycling Information</b>
82076	Assessed Value	82251	Garbage Collection Information
82077	Tax Millage Information	82252	Recycling Collection
82080	Earned Income Tax	82253	Leaf Collection
82081	Real Estate Tax Collection Information		
<b>82100</b>	<b>Community Planning and Codes</b>	<b>82300</b>	<b>Parks and Recreation</b>
82101	Building Codes	82301	Route 19 Community Park, Overview
82102	Building Permits (Residential)	82302	New Community Park Overview
82103	Fire Prevention	82303	Community Center
82104	On Lot Septic System	82304	Program/Facility Reservations/Pool Memberships
82105	Inspection of Construction	82305	Calendar of Special Events
82106	Code Violations	82310	Weather Cancellations
82120	Township Burning Regulations		
82121	Community Planning and Codes	<b>82350</b>	<b>Cranberry Library</b>
82122	Zoning Classifications	82351	Hours of Operation
82123	Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances	82352	Library Cards
82124	Zoning Violations	82353	Circulation Time
		82354	Overdue Materials
		82355	Dog Licenses
		82401	Tri-County Youth

## “Cops in Shops” to Combat Underage Drinking

Starting this summer, Butler County underage drinkers are going to find it tougher to buy alcoholic beverages because of the new “Cops in Shops” program that will be starting soon.



Police officers of the Butler County DUI Task Force will go to establishments serving alcoholic beverages and pose as employees of the establishment. Police officers inside the businesses will concentrate on people under the age of 21 attempting to purchase alcohol. Outside, officers will watch for adults passing alcohol to minors after they have purchased it for them.

In addition to these violations, officers will enforce any other violations that occur including the use of false identifications.

The “Cops in Shops” program is a cooperative and voluntary effort between local alcohol retailers and law enforcement, an effort that is strongly supported by the alcoholic beverage industry.

The program is funded by the Century Council which is funded by America’s leading distillers who promote responsible drinking and focus on drunk driving and underage drinking problems.

The success of this effort hinges on effective enforcement, penalties for violators, and a plan to make sure the program is properly implemented and widely publicized. The program was first used in California in 1991 and is now successfully operating in 39 states. Pennsylvania first became involved in 1997.

The participating establishments are encouraged to display signs on their front windows and throughout their establishments with the message “WARNING: Police Officer May Be Posing As Store Employee.”

In Butler County the program is being conducted as part of the Sobriety Checkpoint Program directed by District Attorney Tim McCune and is being led by Officer Dan Hahn of the Cranberry Township Police Department who will coordinate law enforcement efforts and alcohol establishment efforts in addressing this issue throughout Butler County.

Attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages by a minor or providing alcoholic beverages to a minor is an extremely serious offense that will not be tolerated in this community. People are dying in automobile accidents caused by young people who obtained and consumed alcoholic beverages illegally. The Cranberry Township Police Department is committed to doing something about this problem.

The “Cops in Shops” program will continue indefinitely. ●

## Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce

### YOU'RE INVITED TO BUSINESS EXPO '99!

The Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a Business Expo on Monday, November 1, 1999 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Sheraton Inn Pittsburgh North. Over 80 area businesses will showcase their products and services. Hourly door prizes and an Expo Grand Prize will be awarded. All Cranberry Township residents are invited to attend: Admission is free. Additional sponsors of this event are the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, Sheraton Inn Pittsburgh North, Baierl Chevrolet and Prudential Preferred Realty.



### ON THE INTERNET

The Township has its own World Wide Web site. Check it out for information on Township administration, zoning and planning, public safety, and more. Here’s where to find it – <http://www.twp.cranberry.pa.us>.



### COMMUNITY REMINDER

The Cranberry Township Newsletter is available on the web – <http://www.twp.cranberry.pa.us>.

# Carlow College

We hope you will join us in welcoming Jodi Bredel who has recently joined the staff of Carlow College as the Northern Tier coordinator. Jodi has her office at Carlow's Cranberry Education Center, located in the Cranberry Professional Park, and works with the bachelor's degree and master's degree programs offered by Carlow in the Cranberry and Beaver area. Please call her at 724/772-1720 for information about the reduced tuition rates available for employees of Cranberry Chamber of Commerce members. Carlow's innovative programs for working adults, offered in accelerated evening and weekend formats in Cranberry, include bachelor's degrees in business management, business/communication, information systems management and nursing (BSN completion for the registered nurse only), and master's degrees in professional leadership and educational leadership. Carlow also offers online classes in accounting and information systems management. Students can take online classes at their own convenience from their home or office.



**POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

**Remember:** For ALL police services and for any emergency, Dial 911.

# Butler County Community College

Is this the time in your life to get into college? Do you have work and family responsibilities, too? Butler County Community College has the G.O.A.L.S. (Go On A Learning Spree) program to help you get an associate degree in 27 months. The courses are on Saturdays and one night a week. Call us for details about these associate degrees in business administration or general studies. The tuition is \$57 per credit for in-county students. (Call us for out-of-county rates).

The fall schedule at the Cranberry Center of BCCC has courses for everyone. There are classes leading to associate degrees. There are classes for self-improvement or for moving up the ladder at work. There are courses for college credits and non-credit, as well. Courses for majors in graphic design, business administration, general studies, and business management, among others, are available at the Cranberry Center.

New this fall will be a series of seminars held at the BCCC Cranberry Center in conjunction with the Cranberry Area Chamber of Commerce. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. for each seminar. Seminar topics include:

•**Business Success Stories – They Did It and So Can You** Tuesday, September 21, 9 -11 a.m.

•**Continuous Quality Initiative – Is It Really Boring?** Tuesday, October 19, 9 -11 a.m.

•**Employment and Labor Issues in the Workplace** Tuesday, November 16, 9 -11 a.m.

Chamber members pay \$10 per seminar. Others pay \$15. Refreshments will be provided.

**NEW AT THE CRANBERRY CENTER** - Microsoft Certified System Engineer (MCSE) Training and Lotus Notes beginning in the fall. Call 724/287-8711, ext. 390, for more information.

In addition to our traditional list of non-credit courses, we will be offering the following NEW Classes:

Advanced Italian	Wild Bird Sanctuary	Autoracing 101
Intro to Gift Baskets	Family Pleasing Pasta	Chocolate, Chocolate, Chocolate
Holiday Desserts	The Land of the Bible	Quick Back to School Dinners
Volunteerism	Intro to Acting	Watershed Awareness & Conservation
Hiking/Backpacking	Dealing With Adolescents	
Beginning IITML	Unleash Your Creativity	

Butler County Community College has much to offer you. Look for our Fall Mailer – it will come to your home. Or call us for further information at 772-5520.

Think Education and remember that BCCC is a great place to start! ●



## Local Government Week Celebrations April 1999



On Wednesday, April 21, students from Seneca Valley High School shadowed Township officials throughout the day and then conducted a mock Board of Supervisors meeting where they faced scenarios closely related to issues facing the Township.

(Left to right) Students pictured include: Matthew Buckwald, Lauren Reinmiller, Jason Maynard, Stephen Mick and Emily Arnold.



On Saturday, April 24, the second part of Local Government Week showcased the Public Works and Public Safety departments. Interested visitors inspected fire trucks, ambulances, fire engines, police cars, dump trucks, and all the specialized Township equipment. Paul, Jimmy and Shawn Sandherr inspect the public works loader.

## Beautiful Blooms!

Cranberry Township is pleased to be the recipient of a trial garden offered by Penn State University. All of the contents of the garden were donated by the university. . .but the hard work and maintenance of the garden is through the work of Dee Graham, a master gardener who lives in the Township, along with her faithful friends. Her talents have created a beautiful area on the side of the Municipal Building. Come on out and take a look . . .they have labeled all of the contents for curious growers! Dee will also be teaching adult and children's gardening classes this fall for the Parks and Recreation Department. She will be using the trial garden as a teaching tool for some of the curriculum. If you have any questions regarding the garden or gardening classes, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 776-4806, ext. 1129.



### COMMUNITY REMINDER

Don't forget to vote –  
General Election is Tuesday,  
November 2.



**SEWER & WATER  
AUTHORITY**

**MSWACT ONLINE**

Visit the Authority's new website – just log on to [www.mswact.com](http://www.mswact.com) to view our home page. The site presents an historical perspective of the Authority, describes the existing water and wastewater systems, discusses the rate structure, offers water conservation advice, and updates the progress of the wastewater treatment plant expansion project.

Our website also provides a link to the Cranberry Township website.

**BEFORE YOU DIG,  
THERE'S "ONE CALL" YOU  
SHOULD MAKE!**

Before you start your spring home improvement or landscaping project, you should know about Pennsylvania One Call. Many utility companies bury their service lines underground – including electric, telephone, cable television, natural gas, sewage, water, and fiber optics.

Call Pennsylvania One Call at least three working days before you start your project to find out about any nearby underground utility lines.

Pennsylvania One Call System's computer will identify and alert any affected member utility company. The utility companies identify their lines on the project site and notify you or your contractor of any lines located in the proposed area. There is a small annual service fee to contractors and businesses but no fee for private owners. Call Pennsylvania One Call at 1-800-248-1786.

## *Employee in the Spotlight: Mary Lou Laslavic Retires*



Mary Lou Laslavic was Cranberry Township's first full-time employee. Hired in March 1972, Mary Lou took over the responsibility of Township secretary and worked at the original Township building, located in the former Sample School. Among her duties, she was the recording secretary for the Township. Except for a brief stint with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), she spent her career with Cranberry Township. She officially retired on July 9.

Over the years, Mary Lou said she has performed duties in every area of Township business. As the Township continued to grow, areas of her job description expanded into additional full-time positions and entire departments. When the Sample School building was no longer adequate to serve Township needs, Mary Lou remembers well the move to their next office on Rochester Road in the current Penn Telecom building. She recalls how the library was first located in a closet next to her office, and how the Township building expanded for increased police and road department employees and the creation of parks and recreation and planning departments to meet the ever-growing needs of the community. She says that even in the 1970s and earlier, Township officials were anticipating continuous growth and changes in the municipality.

When the Board of Supervisors increased from three to five members in 1975, Mary Lou even served as an elected official – and to this day has been the only female supervisor.

Mary Lou was busy in her personal life over the years as well. She and her husband of 43 years, have been involved in the community since they moved to their home in Fernway in 1958. They have been a part of the local Republican committee for close to 20 years, and raised five children.

"So far the hardest part of retirement is getting used to not having to worry what am I going to wear today. I've been busy all my life, and now I don't **HAVE** to do anything," she says. As Mary Lou adjusts to her retirement, she looks forward to spending time with her children and ten grandchildren and hopes to spend time traveling with her husband. ●

# Cranberry Public Library

The following schedule has been announced for the monthly book discussion group which meets at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room.

- September 13, 1999, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, by Thomas Hardy
- October 4, 1999, *A Day No Pigs Would Die*, by Robert Newton Peck
- November 1, 1999, *A Widow for a Year*, by John Irving
- December 6, 1999, *Slapstick*, by Kurt Vonnegut

Any interested adult is welcome to attend any of the discussions. Check at the check out desk for any available copies of the book to be discussed each month.



## GENEALOGY CLUB MEETS

The Cranberry Genealogy Club meets on the third Saturday of each month (except December) at 1 p.m. in the library meeting room. Any person who is interested in tracing his or her family history is welcome to attend. The group usually has a speaker or special program on some aspect of genealogy research.

The Cranberry Genealogy Club is also working toward publishing a list of tombstone inscriptions in Cranberry Township. Any helpers or related information for this project are appreciated.

The contact person for both of these groups is Sheila Brown, Adult Services Librarian at the Cranberry Public Library. The phone number is 724/ 776-9100 ext. 1126.

## INCREASE IN STATE LIBRARY FUNDING APPROVED

On June 26, 1999, Governor Tom Ridge signed into law Act 37 that increases the state appropriation to Pennsylvania public libraries. There will be a \$17 million boost in state aid from \$32 million this year to \$49 million in 1999-2000. The increase in funding will be reflected beginning January 2000. In return for greater state support, new service standards are now in effect. The new standards are designed to give local communities a greater return from their investment in public library service. Library patrons can expect better access to materials, stronger collections, and higher standards of performance through additional hours of operation, expanded resources, and continuing education for library staff.

## LIBRARY'S REFERENCE CENTER NETWORK UPGRADED

The library recently upgraded all of its hardware and software at the Reference Center Network. The network operates on Windows NT and has five cable Internet Access computer stations. New software includes Office '97 with Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and PowerPoint.

## POWER ACCESS NOW AVAILABLE AT CRANBERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Pennsylvania Online World of Electronic Resources Library is now available at the Cranberry Public Library. An unprecedented number of information resources is now being offered to the community close to 2,000 full-text periodical titles, a newspaper file, an encyclopedia, and an archive of over half a million current and historical photographs. This is possible through a Pennsylvania Commonwealth Libraries state-funded program.

# Youth Services Department

Registration for the October session of **Daytime Storytime for 3, 4, & 5 year olds** will begin on Monday, September 13, at 10 a.m. Four 45-minute classes will be offered: Tuesdays or Thursdays — 11 a.m. or 1 p.m. beginning October 5 or 7 through November 9 or 11. All children must be registered in order to attend. No telephone registration will be accepted.

**Family Pajama Storytime**, a half-hour storytime for children of all ages and their parents, will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. from October 6 through November 10. No registration is required. Parents must accompany children. Pj's, blankets and pillows are encouraged.

**Infant Nursery Rhyme Time**, for babies birth through 23 months and their parents, will be held on Tuesdays, September 7 through September 28. No registration is required. No children older than 23 months are allowed.

**Two-Year-Old Storytime**, for two-year-old tots and their parents, will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. or Thursday mornings at 11 a.m. from September 8 or 9 through September 29 or 30. No registration is required. No children older or younger than two are allowed.

All children's programs are held in the Library Meeting Room.

To listen to a recorded story for younger children or a book review for older children, dial 776-5009. These items are changed weekly.

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

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

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

**TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION**

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**AUGUST 1999**

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

*Historic Sample School  
House Preserved*

Cranberry Township's first Municipal Building, originally the one-room Sample School House, has been moved from Rowan Road to the site of the present Municipal Center on Rochester Road. The Cranberry Township Historical Society, along with Township officials, joined together in an effort to preserve this 125-year-old structure. The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development provided a \$10,000 grant to assist in the cost of the relocation. The move took place on Saturday, July 17, from the building's site on Rowan Road to the Municipal Center. Historical Structure Relocation Service owned by Jeff Pleta of Washington County handled the move. Ground was broken in May for the foundation for the school house.

The Sample School is one of two one-room schools left in Cranberry Township. Helen DeWald, a member of the Cranberry Historical Society, attended this one-room school house for all eight years of her elementary schooling. The Historical Society will be raising funds and looking for community volunteers to assist in the restoration of the building. If you are interested in helping in some way, please call the Township Manager's office at 776-4806, ext. 1103. Once the building is refurbished, it will be open to the public.



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