

Willis Towne Crier

In Willistown, nearly everybody reads the Crier!



VOLUME 46 • FEBRUARY 2009

OKEHOCKING PRESERVE

Dam Removed and 1,400 Trees and Shrubs Planted!

Some big changes are happening to the landscape at our 180-acre Okehocking Preserve—check it out! The main stem of Ridley Creek now runs free thanks to a grant to the township from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). In addition, 1,400 trees and shrubs have been planted along the creek (the riparian area) and its Delchester Run tributary through funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The first step in the process was a tough battle against a dense, seven-acre stand of multiflora rose, the weedy rose that seems to pop up everywhere and is a formidable opponent to native plants (those plants that belong here!). After more than a year of rose management, the site was ready for the introduction of the native trees and shrubs. Visit Okehocking and watch the trees and shrubs grow—in about 15 years you will see lush woodland as opposed to the sticks in the landscape that they are now.

The dam removal provides the direct watershed benefit of improving water quality through the elimination of accumulated sediments behind the dam and the stabilization of significantly eroded stream banks associated with the dam. The cooling of the water temperature as the

stream is released to unrestricted flow conditions—and as the riparian buffer matures and provides shade—will also improve the water quality and ecology of the stream. The end result will be a much improved aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat and food supply, and an improved drinking water resource.

In addition to providing the direct ecological benefits, the project will function as a living classroom. As a publicly accessible property, it can serve as tool for educating people about the environmental benefits and as a model for land-owners with stream reaches on their properties.

Removing the dam is a continuation of the mission to free the main stem of Ridley Creek from impediments in order to restore the stream's natural dynamics, improve stream ecology, and permit anadromous fish passage. To date, two dams have been removed from Ridley Creek, with funding provided by the PA DEP, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, American Rivers, and the William Penn Foundation under the leadership of the Delco Anglers fishing group, with assistance from the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association. A third dam at Upper Banks Nursery has been altered to permit water flow and passage.



A photo taken after the riparian buffer planting at Okehocking. Close to 1,400 trees and shrubs were planted on 11 acres of the 180 acre property.

Our special thanks go to URS Corporation (the engineering consultant on the project), and Flyway Excavating, Inc. (the guys with the backhoe and the drill attachment), and All Seasons Landscaping, Inc. (the plant people), who did outstanding work and provided in-kind donations of time and expertise in order to make this project possible. Many thanks also go to the PA DEP and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for funding environmental stewardship projects like this that not only benefit the environment and its critters, but us humans as well!

Check in with willistownparks.org to see how this project grows and visit Okehocking to witness it first-hand!

1. The Okehocking Preserve Dam in the Ridley Creek, January 2006. Note the overgrowth of weedy multiflora rose on the far bank of the stream.
2. The Okehocking Dam at high water stage in December 2006. Note the overgrowth of multiflora rose on the far bank has been battled back in preparation for the dam removal and riparian buffer planting.
3. The dam removal began in August of 2008.
4. Here you see the water level settling out once the dam was breached. It will take about one year for the Ridley Creek to stop adjusting and settle in to its natural course.
5. Compare this photo of the completed project taken in January 2009 to photo 2 taken in December 2006—what a difference! Note the two solitary trees, the new streambanks around them, and the new channel width of the Ridley.

Before **After**



Willistown Parks and Recreation Calendar of Events

Visit willistownparks.org for further information and updates as events approach!

THRILLING THIRD THURSDAYS

May 21, June 18,
July 16, August 20

5:30 - 7 pm

Greentree Park
21 Grubb Road, Malvern

We are pleased to announce our 2009 Thrilling Third Thursdays series of events to be held at Greentree Park, located in northern Willistown at the corner of Woodland Avenue and Grubb Road in Malvern. On the third Thursday in each month from May through August, we will be celebrating community and Greentree Park with events including free food and entertainment. Join your friends and neighbors for these fun evenings at this wonderful community park.

WILLISTOWN SUMMER CAMPS

June – July

General Wayne School
20 Devon Road, Malvern

Willistown Summer Camp programs are available for township and nonresident children. Programs include an elementary school-age camp for children who have completed kindergarten through fifth grades; a preschool-age camp for four- and five-year-olds; and a cheerleading clinic for girls who have completed kindergarten through fourth grade. Children will have loads of fun in an affordable camp close to home. See willistownparks.org after April 1 for further information.



GROWING GREENER SUMMER CAMPS

July 20-24 and 27-31
August 3-7 and 10-14

Sugartown Preserve
Off of Spring Road, 150' from the intersection
of Spring and Sugartown Roads in
Historic Sugartown, Malvern

We are planning now for our township's Growing Greener Summer Camps for preschool and elementary school-age children to be held at Sugartown Preserve in the middle of Willistown. Developed in partnership with Greener Partners (greenerpartners.org), these camps will utilize the organic garden at Sugartown Preserve. Go to willistownparks.org in mid-February to sign up—openings will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The camps will run from 9 am to noon.

Week One: Farming Fun!



Experience the joys and wonders of organic gardening at Sugartown Preserve! Enjoy a fun-filled week of outdoor discovery in the garden. We will start our day with yoga, stretching and songs followed by garden related crafts and activities. These activities will all lead to a Farmers Feast at the end of week. Mid-morning we will refuel with a yummy nutritious snack and then dig our hands into the soil! We will finish with a sharing circle and story.

Fairy Gnome Week

Enjoy a magical week of outdoor discovery and creativity at Sugartown Preserve! We will collect natural materials to make our own gnome and fairy homes. We will start our day with yoga, stretching and songs followed by fairy and gnome related crafts and activities in the garden. These activities will all lead to a Magic Garden Party at the end of the week. Mid-morning we will refuel with a yummy nutritious snack and then dig our hands into the soil! We will finish with a sharing circle and a fairy story.



SUMMER SENDOFF

August 26

Okehocking Preserve
5316 West Chester Pike
Newtown Square

Last year over 150 kids and adults attended the Summer Sendoff and enjoyed beautiful views, live music, and hayrides at Willistown's Okehocking Preserve. A big hit were the hayrides through Okehocking that offered guided tours describing the diversity of plants and animals in the preserve, a touch of the history, and the land management projects taking place there. Join us in August as the Willistown Parks and Recreation Department and the Okehocking Nature Center Board again co-host this outdoor sendoff to summer!



Willistown Resident Recognized for Environmental Stewardship

Willistown resident Bernard Cooker has been a volunteer and leader in environmental conservation for over 20 years. Employed as a Consulting Researcher at Lyondell Basell's Newtown Square Technology Center, Bernard has been active in many stewardship and land preservation efforts in our township. He was a proponent of the 1999 Open Space Referendum and is a member of Willistown's Open Space Review Board and one of the founders of the Willistown Friends Meeting Environmental Festival.

For three years in a row, Bernard was co-chair of the Lyondell Global Day of Caring, whose project was tree planting at Okehocking Preserve in partnership with the Chester- Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association (CRC) for two years. Bernard and his wife

Susan have been active with the Willistown Conservation Trust, conducting plantings at Kirkwood Preserve, and have been recognized by Audubon and Willistown Conservation Trust for the use of extensive green technology and the establishment of wildlife habitat at their Willistown property. Most recently, Bernard was recognized for his environmental efforts by the CRC with their Environmental Stewardship Award. (For more information about the good works of CRC, visit their website at crcwatersheds.org. For more about Willistown Conservation Trust, visit their website at wctrust.org.)

We salute Bernard and Susan Cooker for their tremendous ongoing service to our township and the environment!



Pictured at the Annual CRC Awards Dinner are Anne Murphy, CRC Executive Director; Mare McLoughlin, Willistown Township Director of Parks and Recreation; Bernard Cooker, award recipient; Gary Snyder, CRC president; and Susan Cooker.

RECYCLING Q & A

From the recycling bin of Jim Tate, Willistown Township Recycling Committee Chairman:

Throughout a year, I receive many questions about recycling various items. Here are some of the most common ones.

Q When will the next household hazardous waste drop-off event occur? Where will it be? Will computers and small TVs be accepted?

A The first one will be on April 4 at the Center for the Arts and Technology (CAT) Pickering Campus, 1580 Charlestown Road, Phoenixville, 19460. Computers and small TVs will be accepted along with household hazardous chemicals, oil-based paint, etc. This is a county-organized event. Willistown Township plays no role in organizing, problem solving, approving items that will be accepted/refused, selecting drop-off location or change of date. We are just the messenger for the county for this April 4 recycling event. For information on the county's recycling program and event dates, visit chestercountyswa.org.

Q When will Willistown Township hold its annual drop-off event of metal, tires, auto batteries, computers, TVs, and other items powered by electricity/batteries?

A The date will be a Saturday in late April. Residents will be provided specific details in the next issue of the Towne Crier. This is a Willistown event organized by the township's volunteer recycling committee. One major difference from the county event scheduled for April 4 is that neither paint nor chemicals will be accepted.

Q How do I dispose of paint if I am unable to attend one of the county's household hazardous waste events?

A Solidify water-based paint. One way to do this is to purchase a waste-paint hardener (granules) at Home Depot or Lowe's. It is sold in small pouch-like bags. Pour the hardener into the paint and stir. Leave the lid off the can.

After the paint hardens, place the can without the lid applied in your trash container. Another method is to mix new or used cat litter into the paint and allow the paint to harden in the can with the lid removed. Dispose of as per the above. A can of water-based paint about 25% full can be hardened on its own by leaving the lid off and letting the paint "air-harden." There will be three opportunities to dispose of oil-based paint in the Chester and Delaware Counties' scheduled household hazardous waste disposal events. April 4 is the first opportunity. Additional dates will be supplied in the next issue of the Towne Crier. Note: Willistown will not accept any paint or hazardous chemicals at any time.

Q Compact fluorescent bulbs (CFBs) contain small amounts of mercury. How do I dispose of them?

A Home Depot has established a no-charge program at each of its outlets. A container with a plastic bag dispenser is usually located near the returns desk. Just drop your CFBs into a plastic bag and place the bag in the upright container.

Q What should I do with prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs that I no longer use and are just sitting on a shelf in my medicine chest?

A Don't toss them in the toilet or pour the liquids down any kind of a drain! There is no perfect solution to this problem; however, the most recommended method is as follows. Pills/capsules/tablets: Scratch your name and Rx number off the prescription container. Drizzle a few drops of water into the container and reapply the lid to form a solid seal. Place the container in a plastic bag and the plastic bag in a paper bag. Dispose of with your trash. Liquid products: Drizzle some flour in the bottle to help solidify the liquid. Reapply the lid. Place the container in a plastic bag and the plastic bag in a paper bag. Dispose of with your trash. Pre-treating the products before they are placed with your trash helps to break down the tablets and "gumify" the liquids. All landfills

used by waste haulers for Willistown residents are required to be lined. The thick lining helps prevent the leaching of products into our streams, rivers and lakes from which our water supplies come.

Q Is there a way to recycle videotapes, audiotapes, computer disks, and compact disks?

A Yes! Willistown Township has positioned a large green recycling box in front of the township building at 688 Sugartown Road, Malvern. These items may be deposited in that box at any time of the day or night, seven days a week. Periodically, members of the recycling committee empty the box, pack up the materials and ship them to a company that specializes in cleaning all information from the tapes and disks and repackages and sells them. In 2008 almost one ton of these items was recycled.

Q What is single-stream recycling?

A Single-stream, as opposed to dual-stream, recycling is a new method of recycling that enables residents to place all items that are collected as recyclables into the same container. Plastics, glass bottles, newspapers, flattened cardboard, aluminum and bi-metal cans, and all mixed paper no longer need to be separated. All may go in one container. In addition, plastics with #1 through #7 may now be recycled. Previously, only #1 and #2 plastics could be recycled. Styrofoam, however, is NOT accepted.

Currently, you must be an Allied Waste or Suburban Waste customer in order to take advantage of single-stream recycling and the expanded list of acceptable plastics. If you are not, continue to separate your recyclables and place them in separate containers as per your hauler's instructions.

Questions about recycling may be directed to Jim Tate, Chairman of Willistown Township's Recycling Committee: 610-647-7361.



Stormwater Corner

Willistown Township is conducting a comprehensive stormwater management program mandated by the federal Environmental Protection Agency and monitored by the state Department of Environmental Protection. A major component of the program requires an effort by the township to increase citizen stormwater awareness and participation in stormwater protection—hence the Crier’s “Stormwater Corner.”

Stormwater pollution is a challenging water quality problem. It is caused by the daily activities of people everywhere. Rainwater and snowmelt run off streets, lawns, farms, and construction and industrial sites. The water picks up fertilizers, dirt, pesticides, oil and grease, and many other pollutants on the way to our streams, rivers, lakes, and coastal waters.

Stormwater runoff is the most common cause of water pollution. And as we all know, water is essential to life, so let’s all do our part in protecting this precious resource!

For further information about stormwater, please visit willistownparks.org, go to “Environmental Stewardship,” and click on “Stormwater Awareness.”

Canines for Clean Creeks “SCOOP THE POOP!”

Dogs are great companions for fresh air and exercise and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural surroundings. However, everyone has experienced the frustration of scraping dog poop off of a favorite pair of shoes. Most of us have never stopped to think about the impact canine waste has on the environment. Many people think that, since a dog’s excrement is a normal part of nature, it isn’t a big deal to leave it wherever the dog chooses to put it. You may be surprised to know that the droppings our furry friends leave behind have a negative impact on streams, walking trails, and natural areas.

Dog feces contain the same bacteria that human waste contains. Humans use toilets and have sewers and sewage treatment plants to protect the environment and drinking water. But when we don’t pick up after our dogs we are depositing sewage on the fields where we play, trails where we walk, and on areas that feed into our drinking water systems. Feces left in yards, fields and trails runs off into streams, rivers and even into groundwater. Dog waste is estimated to cause between 20-30% of stream pollution.

Recent studies by the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Villanova University have documented that our local creeks frequently have levels of fecal coliform bacteria three or more times the state recommended maximums for safe water contact. Studies by the Center for Watershed Protection have found that a significant portion of fecal coliform bacteria in residential stormwater

originates from dog waste. These levels escalate when stormwater washes contamination from pet droppings into storm drains and creeks. Even pet waste deposited far from a stream can still end up in our waterways.



Dog waste is estimated to cause between 20-30% of stream pollution.



One average-size dog dropping contains 3 billion fecal coliform bacteria. Multiply that by the fact that 40% of households have a dog, and you can see how this problem “piles up” and adds to the challenge of treating much of our creek water for drinking water. Dog waste also contains nitrogen and phosphorus. These nutrients promote algae growth in lakes, ponds, and streams. This limits light available to aquatic plants. As the algae decays it uses up oxygen that is needed by fish and other aquatic life. The ecology of the water body becomes impaired.

At Willistown Township’s Okehocking Preserve, dogs are welcome—however their waste is not! Pet owners who do not properly clean up after their dogs and dispose of the waste are jeopardizing the privilege of having dogs at Okehocking. The reasons to scoop the poop are simple: 1. to protect local water quality, 2. to protect people from disease, and 3. to respect our community and the visitor experience.

Do your part to make your dog a friend of our creeks, fellow walkers, and our natural environment:

- Scoop up after your pet and dispose the waste properly—in a trash can or toilet
- Keep your pet on a leash and on trails in natural areas and avoid contact with wildlife (at Okehocking, the only off leash areas are off of Delchester Road around the fenced-in field and in the leash-free field.)





- Remain within off-leash areas when pet is not leashed
- Leash your dog when people and other animals approach
- Encourage your friends and family to do the same!

Sources include: Center for Watershed Protection, www.cwp.org. This message is brought to you by Willistown Township in partnership with Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association, www.crcwatersheds.org. Special thanks to Willistown resident Kelly DeCurtis for contributing to this article.

Rabbit Food for Fido!

We love our furry, four-footed friends... but enough to bake him or her a homemade *vegetarian* treat? Let's carry that same appreciation to our community and our environment by picking up after our dogs—wherever we are—and properly disposing of the waste.

RECIPE FOR VEGETARIAN DOG BISCUITS

- 2-1/2 cups flour
- 3/4 cup dry milk powder
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 2 tbsp. brown sugar
- 2 vegetable bouillon cubes, dissolved in 3/4 cup boiling water
- 1/2 cup carrots (optional)
- 1 egg



Preheat oven to 300° F. Mix all ingredients into a ball and roll out to about 1/4" thick. Cut with bone-shaped cookie cutter or into strips or a shape of your choice. Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake 30 minutes at 300° F.



YARD WASTE

CAR WASH SOAP

LITTER

SEDIMENT

Thirsty?

STORMWATER POLLUTANTS FIND THEIR WAY INTO WHERE WE FISH, WHERE WE SWIM AND WHAT WE DRINK. Everything that goes into our storm drains—grass clippings, soap, pesticides, pet waste—makes its way straight to our streams. Stormwater pollution is our biggest source of water pollution. It all adds up.

DO YOUR PART TO PROMOTE CLEAN STREAMS AND SAFE DRINKING WATER

- Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste.
- Use a commercial car wash.
- Pick up litter and compost yard waste.
- Maintain your vehicle so it does not leak oil.
- Redirect your downspouts to grassy areas or a rain barrel to lessen the amount of stormwater leaving your property and eroding nearby streambanks.

For more information, view or download: "[Homeowner's Guide to Stormwater Management](#)," Philadelphia Water Department, from www.crcwatersheds.org/resources

This message is brought to you by Willistown Township in partnership with Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association (CRC), www.crcwatersheds.org.

Graphic courtesy of North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources.





Coat Collection a Big Success!

Willistown Coat Collection in December Sets New Record!



Pictured back row from left are Kevin Babb, Robert Dowd and Andy Schenck. Front row from left are Jacob Elliott, Jack Brogan, Dylan Giandonato, Ryan Giandonato, and Jack Lunblad. Kevin and Jacob are scouts in Pack 71 and the rest of the scouts are in Pack 98. Andy is a Webelos II Den Leader with Pack 98.

Thanks to all those who donated coats. It was a record breaking year with 531 coats collected!

Many thanks to General Wayne Elementary

School, Sugartown Elementary School, Paoli Library, Malvern Library, and Willistown Township for allowing us to place collection boxes at their locations, and thanks to the scouts and parents of Cub Scout Packs 71 and 98 for collecting the coats. And special thanks to those who sorted, counted, and delivered the coats: Cheryl, Michele, Rob, Ali, Robert, and Molly. The coats were given to The Bethesda Project (a men's shelter in Philadelphia) and the Methodist Home for Women and Children.

Historic Sugartown Day

Watch History Come Alive!

Saturday, April 25, from 10 am - 4:30 pm

Imagine living in the quaint 19th-century village of Sugartown. On any typical Saturday this bustling Willistown Township town was the center of commerce and family life. On Saturday, April 25, from 11 am to 4:30 pm, this crossroads village magically comes alive to celebrate spring's reappearance with a grand festival called Historic Sugartown Day, hosted by Historic Sugartown Inc. Historic Sugartown Inc. is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to historic preservation.

Located in Malvern, in the middle of Willistown Township, Historic Sugartown Day visitors will enjoy a Juried Fine Arts Show, hay

rides, dog agility shows, and retriever trial demonstrations in the pond at Sugartown Strawberries. As always, this family-fun event includes self-guided tours through the renovated buildings, restoration demonstrations, great food, Americana music, and the ever popular Children's Tent which is full of period dress-up clothes and games to play!

Visit historicsugartown.org for directions and to find out more about this wonderful place; and, contact Jeannie McGinn at 484-343-4577 for more information on Historic Sugartown Day.

Hollywood in Willistown

Editor's note: In October 2007 Hollywood came to Willistown's Bryan Avenue neighborhood to film portions of *The Lovely Bones*, an adaptation of the Alice Sebold best-selling novel. In the January 2008 *Towne Crier*, we announced that we would be publishing an article from interviews and submissions of Willistown residents cast as extras and those whose homes were used as sets. Because the movie release date was bumped from March 13 of this year until December, and at the request of the movie's publicist, we will hold off on the article until our fall edition of the *Towne Crier*. Stay tuned!



Check it Out! (At the Library)

Malvern Public Library

1 East First Avenue, Malvern, PA

Hours: Monday - Saturday: 9 am - 9 pm
Thursday: 9 am - 8 pm
Friday: 9 am - 5 pm
Saturday: 9 am - 4 pm
Sunday: Closed

If the winter blahs have you down, stop in the library and check out a book, DVD, or audio book. The newest addition to our audio collection is playaway books. The audio books are contained in a small player that is very portable and easy to use. The selection is growing, so try out this new type of audio book.

We are looking for volunteers to work at our annual "Phonathon" in March. If you would be interested in helping with our one major fundraising event of the year, please call the library for details.

To find a current listing of events at the Malvern Public Library, go to the Chester County Library System home page (www.ccls.org), click on *Find an Event*, then limit your search to Malvern and the month you are interested in. You can print out a calendar of upcoming events. If you have any questions, give us a call 610-644-7259.

Paoli Library

18 Darby Road, Paoli
(behind the Wachovia Bank)
Phone: 610-296-7996

Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:30 am - 8 pm
Friday: 9:30 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 9:30 am - 4 pm

The Paoli Library offers weekly story times for your infant, toddler, or preschooler. We have programs for children, teens, and adults. Please check our website for dates and times: www.tredyffrinlibraries.org.

Books, books, and more books, hot off the press, arrive every week. You can reserve books by going to www.ccls.org and viewing the catalog. Call us and we will be happy to assist you: 610-296-7996.



ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Public Works New Hire

Willistown welcomes George Thompson to the Public Works Department crew as equipment operator. George worked with the East Goshen Public Works Department for five years prior to joining Willistown. He is a resident of East Whiteland Township.



New Building Inspector Hired



A note from Edward J. Tiernan:

I am the Building Code Official hired to replace the position formerly held by John D. DiMascio. John retired after many years of service to Willistown Township.

My background includes a variety of management positions in the construction industry both in public and private work; with a majority in commercial work. Included in my formal training is a degree, in Construction Management, from Drexel University.

Previously, I was the Building Code and Zoning Officer in the Borough of Malvern for nearly five years. Currently I am certified for both commercial & residential construction inspection as well as Property Maintenance Inspection.

Willistown is a beautiful area in which to work. I will continue the excellent service from the building department to all residents of Willistown.



POLICE UPDATE

From the Chief



As 2009 begins, I hope that you all had a very enjoyable holiday season. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of a few safety issues that should be a priority for every homeowner.

Home Safety Checks

This time of year is ideal for checking a few things in your home that are important to the safety of you and your family. Change the battery and test your smoke detectors—and don't forget to also check your carbon monoxide detectors. The 911 Center of Chester County encourages you to make sure that your house number is prominently displayed on your mailbox, so that all law enforcement and fire personnel can locate you in an emergency! Taking a few minutes now to check on these issues could be a lifesaver down the road.

Snow Emergencies

During the winter months, if you hire a contractor to plow your driveway, please make sure they are aware that it is illegal to push your snow into the roadway. This practice is not only unacceptable, it is the cause of many unnecessary calls to our department at a time when keeping our manpower available for emergencies is imperative. Along those same lines, operating your vehicle without fully clearing it of snow and ice is an extremely dangerous practice and causes accidents, when the frozen snow and ice dislodges from your vehicle. Be responsible—and help us keep our roadways safe for everyone.

School Bus Laws

An issue that is sometimes confusing to drivers is "if I'm traveling in the opposite direction on a four-lane highway, do I need to stop for a school bus with the lights flashing?" The law states that the only time you *don't* need to stop is if there is a *physical barrier* between the lanes. Examples of physical barriers are a raised curb, a metal guardrail, or a grassy median. If the only division between the lanes is "painted lines" (similar to those along Rt. 30 near Woodview Apartments and Paoli Memorial Hospital), you must stop. Obviously, if you're traveling in the same direction as a school bus, you always need to stop when their flashing lights are on. If you ever have any questions regarding confusing traffic laws, our officers are always here to answer your questions. All you have to do is call.

Your Police Department

During the upcoming year, we will be using this newsletter to highlight the different divisions and some of the specially trained officers within your police department. This month we would like to introduce the four Willistown officers who are also members of the West Chester Regional Emergency Response Team. Pictured here, those officers are Andrew Wahn, Luis Bills, Jeff Heim, and

Zach Bullock. This special tactical operations team is made up of officers from the following police departments: West Chester Borough, West Goshen Township, Westtown-East Goshen Township, Easttown Township and Willistown Township, and Uwchlan Township.

The team responds to high-risk incidents such as hostage situations, barricaded persons, high-risk arrest and search warrants, armed suicidal subjects, and search operations. Their mission is to provide support services of the highest quality to any law enforcement agency that requests them. As members of this team, officers must successfully complete highly specialized tactical training to be accepted into the squad. This instruction can also include specific areas of expertise such as negotiation and sniper unit training.

I feel that our officers being a part of this team is a tremendous benefit to our township residents. It gives us the flexibility to respond to critical incidents that may occur in our township. Obviously, we hope that these unfortunate incidents never reach Willistown; however, we are all aware of these uncertain times that we live in. Our department is very proud of these officers and their dedication and commitment to this team.

In closing, I would like to wish all of our residents a bright and prosperous New Year. Our officers are here to serve and support our community, and we thank you for the relationship that we share with our citizens.

John M. Narcise

Chief of Police





Willis Towne Crier



THE NEWSLETTER OF WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP

VOLUME 46 • FEBRUARY 2009

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 26

*Willistown Residents –
Public Meeting
General Wayne Elementary School
7 pm*

March 9

Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 20

First Day of Spring

March 24

*Last day to Register to Vote,
Change Party Registration,
or Change Address*

April 4

*Hazardous Materials Recycling
Hosted by Chester County
Details: chestercountyswa.org*

April 10

*Good Friday
Township Administration Closed*

April 25

*Historic Sugartown Day
10 am - 4:30 pm*

*For
Willistown
Residents*

Public Meeting February 26!

Topics: Willistown's Open Space Program
Willistown's Parks and Recreation
Location: General Wayne Elementary School
20 Devon Road, Malvern
Time: 7 pm

The purpose of this public meeting is threefold: 1) to fill Willistown residents in on Willistown's Open Space Program, 2) to review Willistown's parks and recreation assets and future planning, and 3) to answer resident questions and receive input.

You will learn about our Open Space Program, including the state-regulated permitted fund expenditures, purchases to date, and the future focus of the fund.

We are currently updating our parks and recreation plan for the first time since 1993. Learn about Willistown's parks and recreation assets and what they have to offer. Take this opportunity to voice your opinion on what you and your family would like to see in the future. We are looking forward to seeing you!

2009 Township Holiday Closings

GOOD FRIDAY
Friday, April 10, 2009

LABOR DAY
Monday, September 7, 2009

DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING
Friday, November 27, 2009

MEMORIAL DAY
Monday, May 25, 2009

COLUMBUS DAY
Monday, October 12, 2009

DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS
Thursday, December 24, 2009

**DAY BEFORE
INDEPENDENCE DAY**
Friday, July 3, 2009

THANKSGIVING
Thursday, November 26, 2009

CHRISTMAS
Friday, December 25, 2009



Willis Towne Crier



THE NEWSLETTER OF
WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP

WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Norman S. MacQueen, III
William R. Shoemaker
Robert T. Lange

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Hugh J. Murray, Sr.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief John M. Narcise

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 am - 12:00 noon, 1pm - 4pm
Monday through Friday

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: 688 Sugartown Road
Malvern, PA 19355
Telephone: (610) 647-5300
Fax: (610) 647-8156
www.willistown.pa.us

THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor.....Mary McLoughlin

Contributing Editor.....Jim Tate

Design.....Watson Design Inc.