

# Worcester Erier



VOLUME 15, NUMBER 3

FALL 2010

## Center for Loss & Bereavement serves those in need

When Worcester resident Christine Smith met Shirley Elrod over ten years ago, through a mutual acquaintance, each found a perfect partner in the other to achieve a desire to serve a quiet and suffering segment of the population.

Fast forward to 2010, and The Center for Loss and Bereavement in Skippack is celebrating its tenth anniversary.

When faced with the loss of her sister and nephew in an auto accident, Christine knew firsthand of the unique grief experienced with such an event. What Christine and Shirley both envisioned was a place that would "offer a warm and safe atmosphere" that would allow others a place to "express and explore their thoughts and emotions while grieving."

In 2000, the center began with short-term support groups and some counseling services. Through a focused vision to become a comprehensive resource, the Center now offers a broad and diverse complement of services including but not limited to grief counseling for all ages, specialized support groups, Clara, a Golden Retriever therapy dog, and professional trainings that offer CEU and ACT 48 credits.

With the generous support of a family foundation, Nello's Corner was implemented in 2003. This program is a child-specific bereavement support program. In 2005, Camp Millie, named after Christine's mother, was launched as a summer program for children. The camp is held at Worcester's Variety Club.

Co-founder Shirley Elrod emphasizes that The Center is an approachable community resource. No physician referrals are required, please, just call.

For more information on The Center for Loss and Bereavement, its services, or how to support Shirley and Christine in continuing to fulfill their mission, please contact them directly:

The Center for Loss & Bereavement, 3847 Skippack Pike, PO Box 1299, Skippack, PA 19474.  
610-222-4110, [www.bereavementcenter.org](http://www.bereavementcenter.org)

## Worcester Welcomes New Manager

Worcester Township's new manager, David Burman, arrived at the end of April. Dave brings over twenty years of experience to Worcester, having worked in both private industry and the public sector. Dave holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and Human Resource Administration, as well as an MBA from the Fox School of Business at Temple University. Dave is a certified Building Code Official and a member of the Association for Pennsylvania Municipal Management, the International City County Managers Association and the Government Finance Officers Association of Pennsylvania. Previously, Dave served as a volunteer firefighter in Cheltenham Township and as a member of the Chester County Incident Management Team. Dave and his family live in Media, Delaware County. We welcome Dave to Worcester, and hope that you will, too.

## 2010 Road Improvements – Completed

Mill Road between Valley Forge & Merrybrook Roads: Pavement repairs/underdrain/swale; milling of curb lines/intersections/driveway entrances; bituminous seal coat; level and overlay.

Kriebel Mill Road between Heebner and Fawn Roads: Remove & replace existing pipe crossing; selective pavement repairs.

Green Hill Road between Anders Road and Skippack Pike: Selective milling and overlay.

Berks Road between Skippack Pike and Morris Road: Pavement repairs/underdrain/swale; milling of curb lines/intersections/driveway entrances; bituminous seal coat; level & overlay.

Quarry Hall Road between Dell and Water Street Roads: Remove and replace existing pipe crossing.



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Arthur C. Bustard, Chairman  
Susan G. Caughlan, Vice Chair  
Stephen C. Quigley, Member

INCORPORATED AS A  
TOWNSHIP  
1733

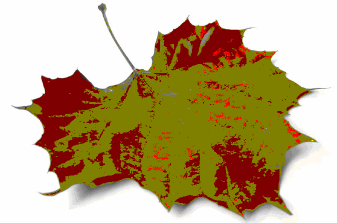
David R. Burman  
*Township Manager*  
Administration Building  
(610) 584-1410  
[www.worcestertwp.com](http://www.worcestertwp.com)

## Dos & Don'ts of Leaf Collection

With fall upon us, leaf raking is here as well. This can be a peaceful afternoon activity or a family tradition.

Here is our top ten list of things to do (and not do) with your fall leaves.

10. DO -- Get the family together and rake a big leaf pile at the edge of your lawn. When the kids are done jumping in it, rake it off the lawn into a pile that will shrink and compost over the winter. In the spring, use it for mulch in the garden.
9. DO -- Run the lawn mower over your leaves and mow them into the lawn, giving the grass instant protection from winter weather plus a slow-release fertilizer next spring.
8. DO -- If you have too many leaves to mow them in place, run the lawnmower over them and collect the shredded leaves in one spot. This do-it-yourself compost pile will turn into wonderful black organic matter for vegetable and flower beds.
7. DO -- If you can't use leaf compost on your property, maybe a neighbor can. See if your neighbor wants to haul away your bagged leaves or shredded leaf mulch.
6. DO -- Collect your leaves for your trash hauler. Pennsylvania's Act 101 requires that leaf waste be separated from your regular trash. As a result of this State Law, your hauler is required to have a designated day for leaf collection every fall. You should receive a notice from your hauler telling you when that collection will take place, and directing you how to prepare your leaf waste for collection.
5. DO -- Take your unwanted leaves to Worcester's drop-off facility in between designated leaf collection days. Barnside Farm Compost Facility is located at 991 Halderman Road, Schwenksville, 19473. 610-287-8880.
4. DON'T -- Residents in the five southeastern counties of Pennsylvania are not allowed to burn leaves. Because leaves burn at a low temperature, they create a lot of smoke. The air becomes loaded with particles that are small enough to travel inside your house, even with windows closed. For those who suffer from asthma and allergies, the smoke from burning leaves can be uncomfortable and even dangerous.
3. DON'T -- Besides being illegal, burning leaves is a fire risk. A quick change in the wind is all it takes for an outdoor fire to get out of control and cause a disaster.
2. DON'T -- Burning leaves creates a neighborhood nuisance. It's not appealing to smell heavy smoke on your clean laundry. When thermal inversions trap all the pollutants at ground level, burning leaves add plumes of thick smoke to the air, making air pollution even worse.
1. DON'T -- Throwing leaves in the trash wastes a valuable resource and is also illegal. Pennsylvania law requires communities like Worcester to reduce household waste and recycle valuable material. Leaves must be sent to an approved recycling facility if they are not composted on your property. Your trash hauler will take your leaves to a recycling facility on your leaf collection day.



### Loose Pets & Leash Laws

Leash laws apply to all pets. When your pet is off your property, it must be on a leash. Pets are not allowed to run loose in Worcester Township or in any Montgomery County municipality. If your pet is outside on your property, you must have some type of system in place to ensure it does not leave your property. If your pet is found running loose, especially in Township parks, it may be picked up and taken to the Montgomery County SPCA as a stray. All fines are assessed to the owner. If your pet escapes and you are unable to find it, call the Montgomery County Animal Control office at 610-287-1426. You can also file a Lost & Found Pet Form with the Animal Control office.

#### LINKS:

Pennsylvania Dog Laws: [www.doglaw.state.pa.us/doglaw/site/default.asp](http://www.doglaw.state.pa.us/doglaw/site/default.asp)

Montgomery County SPCA: [www.montgomerycountyspca.org/](http://www.montgomerycountyspca.org/)

### Trespassing

In the event an individual is trespassing on your property without permission, please contact the Pennsylvania State Police to report the incident immediately. It is of the utmost importance to Worcester Township that your safety and well being are protected.

The administrative number for the Skippack State Police Barracks is 610-584-1250. For emergencies, dial 911.



## Winter Bus Trips in 2010 and Early Glimpse at 2011!

To register for all trips, please call Worcester Township at 610-584-1410. Space is limited!

**For details on ALL trips, please visit [www.worcestertwp.com/bus\\_trips.htm](http://www.worcestertwp.com/bus_trips.htm)**

### **NEW YORK CITY ON YOUR OWN**

**Saturday, December 11**

Depart Worcester Area: 8am

Depart NYC: 6pm

\$45 per person

Spend a day in NYC and leave the driving to us! Our luxury motor coach will drop you off in Times Square, near the Visitors' Center where discounted tickets are available to both on and off-Broadway shows. Plan for shopping at American Girl Place, stop into the Visitors Center to book a ride on a double-decker bus for a tour of the city or simply take advantage of the bargain price and design your own itinerary for a day in the Big Apple.

### **RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR**

**Tuesday, December 14**

Depart Worcester Area: 9am

Depart NYC: 7:30pm

5pm show tickets

\$105 per person

Price includes transportation and ticket in orchestra section. Approximately 4 hours free time before the show.



### **MAMMA MIA ON BROADWAY**

**Wednesday, March 30, 2011**

Depart Worcester Area: 8am

Depart NYC: 6pm

\$90 per person

We have tickets for one of the hottest shows in Broadway history at an UNBELIEVABLE price! The fee for this trip includes transportation and orchestra or 1st mezzanine seating.

### **JERSEY BOYS ON BROADWAY**

**Wednesday, May 11, 2011**

Depart Worcester Area: 8am

Depart NYC: 6pm

\$145 per person

We have tickets for the hottest show on Broadway! Join us to see how the Four Seasons got their start and became one of the most successful groups of the 60's. The fee for this trip includes transportation and orchestra seating.

## Proposed Zoning Amendments

The Worcester Township Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and Administrative Staff have been diligently working on various changes and additions to the current Worcester Township Zoning Ordinance to better protect and aid in the daily life of our residents.

The proposed zoning amendments would revise the definition of "agriculture," revise the usages allowed in the Limited Industrial District to include research, establish setbacks for tennis and private sports courts, and increase the height of fences allowed in side and rear yards to provide more privacy options for residents.

The public hearing to consider these zoning amendments is scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, 2010 at 7:30pm at the Worcester Township Community Hall (1031 Valley Forge Road). The proposed amendments may be viewed at the township office (1721 Valley Forge Road) or on our web site ([www.worcestertwp.com](http://www.worcestertwp.com)). You can sign up at our web site to be notified of when meeting agendas are posted. Please visit [www.worcestertwp.com](http://www.worcestertwp.com).

## Help Us Help You This Winter

When it comes to clearing the snow and ice from township roads, it is a joint effort involving the Worcester Township Public Works Department, PennDOT and private contractors. You can help make the process go as smoothly as possible by observing these simple guidelines:

- Please keep parked vehicles off the street before, during and after a snowfall, and do not throw snow onto the roadway when shoveling.
- Remove snow from the end of your driveway and from around your mailbox. Shovel snow to the right of your driveway to avoid having the plows push the snow back into your driveway.
- If you believe your mailbox has been struck and destroyed by a snow plow, please contact the Roadmaster (610-584-1410) within one week of the damage for an inspection to determine the cause. If the Roadmaster determines that the damage was caused by a "direct hit" by a snow plow, the Township may compensate a property owner in an amount not to exceed \$75. The Township will not compensate property owners for damages resulting from snow spraying from plow trucks, or for any cause other than a "direct hit" by a snow plow.
- Shovel an area for trash and recycling containers on your curb or driveway. Please do not place them in the street.
- Parents, remember to keep an eye on your children when playing in the snow. It is extremely dangerous to play or stand in or near the street when plows are working.

Township of Worcester  
1721 Valley Forge Road  
P.O. Box 767  
Worcester, PA 19490-0767

THIRD CLASS BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LANSDALE, PA 19446  
PERMIT NO. 458

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Visit our New Web Site!  
[www.worcestertwp.com](http://www.worcestertwp.com)

### TOWNSHIP MONTHLY MEETING TIMES

#### **Board of Supervisors**

1st Monday at 8:00am  
3rd Wednesday at 7:30pm

#### **Planning Commission**

4th Thursday at 7:30pm

#### **Planning Commission Work Sessions**

2nd Thursday at 7:30pm

#### **Zoning Hearing Board**

4th Tuesday at 6:30pm

*All Public Meetings are held in the  
Worcester Township Community Hall  
1031 Valley Forge Road  
Fairview Village*

### News from the Montgomery County Library

The library now offers free eBooks available to download from the library's website. Users may browse the library's digital collection, check out items with a valid library card and download to a PC or MAC computer. Titles can be enjoyed immediately or transferred to a variety of devices. The collection is vast and includes popular fiction and non-fiction books.

The newest database added for patron use is Mango Languages, an online language learning system for libraries. With an easy-to-follow interface, practical conversations, and audio from native speakers, it's the easiest way for patrons to learn a foreign language! The list of languages is long, with ESL available as well. Try a new language today and expand your world.

The Books-Go-Round department took a sabbatical during September to revamp the way the program works. They have come up with fresh and new ideas to educate preschool children, reinforcing teaching concepts and interacting in innovative directions. Give the Extension and Outreach Department a call and see what they can do for your childcare facility. As an added reminder, the following are **closed dates** for the rest of the year for the Montgomery County Norristown Public Library, bookmobiles, and branches:

November 25, December 24 and 25

As always, please visit our website at [www.mc-npl.org](http://www.mc-npl.org), or on Facebook at Bookmobile & Outreach Services @MC-NPL or call us at 610-278-5100 for your information services.

Lower Providence Community Library  
50 Parklane Dr. Eagleville, PA 19403 - 610-666-6640