

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

March 2014

From the Supervisors: We would like to thank Congressman Bill Shuster, Senator Rich Alloway and PA Transportation Secretary Barry Schoch for taking time out of their busy schedules to meet with us to discuss transportation funding for the Township. We continue to turn over every stone possible to try to obtain grant funding to finish the construction of Washington Township Boulevard. With the new transportation funding law in PA and the hard work of Senator Alloway we are hopeful that funding will be available soon.

In addition, we would like to thank our Public Works department for the long and hard hours they have put in this winter to keep our roadways open. Thank you for a job well done.

Washington Township Police Department Facebook Page – Washington Township Police Department has created a Facebook page that is maintained by members of the Police Department. The page was created to help keep people who live, work or are interested in the Washington Township Police Department area stay up to date on current events, police activity, community notices, weather advisories, crime preventions tips, traffic codes, wanted persons, persons of interests, and community programs.

The page was made public on February 3, 2014. Since that time the page has gained over 800 “LIKES” from individuals that like the page and the information that is being posted (by “liking” the page, the individual is able to interact with the page, share the page information with other Facebook users and also follow the information that is put on the Police Department’s page). The Police Department encourages individuals to post comments to the page and also has the page set up so an individual may send a message in private to the Police Department. The Police Department is looking for interaction with the public and has had success so far with sharing information and requesting the public’s assistance in regards to “Friday Fugitives” and “Persons of Interest”. The Public has helped to positively ID subjects (who now have charges filed for their crimes) and also give the Police Department leads on where to locate wanted persons (who in turn were apprehended).

On February 13, 2014, Washington Township Supervisors declared a snow emergency within the Township. The police department posted this information to the Facebook page and that post was seen by over 3,500 Facebook users. This is information sharing at its best; we received comments thanking us for posting this information.

To view the Washington Township Police Department’s Facebook page and/or create a Facebook account, visit this link: www.facebook.com/washingtontownshippolicedepartment .

NIXLE – Don’t have Facebook but you still would like to receive information – then sign up for NIXLE.

The Police Department realizes not everyone has access to Facebook and wants to keep the public aware of what is going on in the Township, so Washington Township Police will continue to use NIXLE as an outlet to send notifications via TEXT & Email. Sign up for NIXLE alerts at: www.nixle.com .

Senator Alloway STAFF DAY in Washington Township – Chad Reichard, Legislative Assistant/Field Representative for Senator Alloway will be spending the day in the Washington Township Meeting room at 13013 Welty Road on Friday, March 21, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to hear area residents' concerns, questions or problems with state government.

This is the first day of Senator Alloway's new outreach program to help bring state government closer to the residents of his district.

If you have any concerns with state government, please plan on visiting with Mr. Reichard on March 21st.

Pennsylvania Yellow Dot Emergency Contact Information Program – Pennsylvania's Yellow Dot Program was created to assist citizens in the "golden hour" of emergency care following a traffic accident when they may not be able to communicate their needs themselves. Placing a yellow dot in your vehicle's rear window alerts first responders to check your glove compartment for vital information to ensure you receive the medical attention you need.

How does it work? Participants complete a personal information form, which includes the participant's name, contact information, emergency contact information, medical history and medications, allergies and the participant's doctors' names. A photo – showing only the participant's head and shoulders – is then taped to the front of the completed information sheet. The completed yellow dot folder is then placed in the glove box.

The yellow dot decal provided in the program kit is placed in the lower left corner of the participant's vehicle's rear windshield. The decal should be no higher than 3 inches from the bottom of the windshield. This decal alerts first responders that vital information can be found in the vehicle.

Yellow Dot folders and information can be obtained at the Washington Township Police Department, 13013 Welty Road or online at www.YellowDOT.pa.gov.

Memorial Bridge Replacement Public Information Meeting – On April 8, 2014 PennDOT will hold a public information meeting with displays at Waynesboro Borough Hall at 57 E. Main Street between 5:30 and 7:00 P.M. to provide information on the replacement of this bridge. More information and details of the public meeting will be provided in next month's newsletter and ads in the Record Herald.

Snow Removal Damage: When the snow finally melts, if you have yard damage in front of your property and you are located on a Township roadway, please call the Township office at 762-3128 during regular business hours to report the damage. The Township's Public Works department will then repair the damage as weather permits.

Pot Hole Repair: Please report any pot holes on Township maintained roadways to the office as well. We maintain over 80 miles of roadways so we are not always able to get over all the roadways in a timely manner. By reporting the pot hole to the office, we will be able to repair it faster avoiding damage to vehicles and the need to repair a larger pot hole. For pot holes on PennDOT roads please call Franklin County PennDOT directly at 264-4171.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Change Your Smoke Detector Batteries: It is recommended by fire companies that people change batteries in their battery-powered smoke detectors twice a year when the time changes.

Since the time changes on March 9th, we would like to once again remind individuals to change the batteries in their smoke detectors.

If you need help checking your batteries, or if you would like additional information, call your local fire company. Each fire company in our area is willing to come to your home to assist you with your smoke detector.

Lions Club Concert – Still Surfin’: On April 26 at 7:00 PM at the Waynesboro High School the Rouzerville Lions Club will host Still Surfin’ in a live concert. Advanced tickets are \$20.00 and are available at the Record Herald, Ronnie Martin Realty or online at rouzervillelionsclub.org.

If you love the sound of the Beach Boys you will love Still Surfin’!

Tax Collector News: The 2014 Franklin County/Washington Township real estate notices (bills) were mailed on February 28th. Anyone who has not received notice for his or her property by the end of the first week of March should contact the tax collector, Don Ambrose at 762-1760.

Please keep in mind that the tax collector’s office is in the gray administrative building directly behind the white building where the police officers are located on Welty Road. The tax office door is located on the south facing side of the gray building and is marked with a sign. There is a night deposit box by the door for after-hour drop offs. In March Mr. Ambrose’s office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until noon or by appointment, which can be set by calling the tax office at the above listed number.

Extended hours in **APRIL** are as follows:

Tuesday and Wednesday 9 am – 1 pm

Thursday 9 am - 1 pm and 5 - 7 pm

Saturday 9 am - noon.

March Dates to Remember

3 & 17: Supervisors Meetings, 7:00 p.m.

4 & 18: WTMA Meetings, 11102 BTE - 7:15 p.m.

10: Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

12: Supervisors Workshop Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

24: Zoning Hearing Board, if needed, 7:30 p.m.