

# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

## December 2016

**From the Supervisors:** We would like to thank the many residents and elected officials that attended the ribbon cutting for Washington Township Boulevard. Opening this section of the Boulevard has been many years in the making.

We would like to especially thank Senator Rich Alloway, the Franklin County Commissioners David Keller, Bob Thomas, Bob Ziobrowski, and PennDOT's Multimodal Program for providing funding for this project. Phil Tarquino and Mike Ross for their planning assistance, all the contractors, and all of our Public Works Department for their outstanding work.

In the near future, we will start work on phase III of the Washington Township Boulevard project, which is the section from Gehr Road to Tomstown Road. If you have any questions on this project, please contact the Township Office at 762-3128.

**New Stop Signs on Country Club Road – at Washington Township Boulevard.** We would once again like to remind motorists that stop signs have been installed on Country Club Road at Washington Township Boulevard and motorists on Washington Township Boulevard do not stop at this intersection. Please stop and look both ways before continuing on Country Club Road. We would like to request that Motorists on Washington Township Boulevard use caution entering into this intersection, because some motorists have not adjusted to these new stop signs.

**Rezoning of Land Along Rt. 997:** The Washington Township Supervisors on November 21, 2016 voted to rezone 19.84 acres of land owned by the Diocese of Harrisburg along Rt. 997 to commercial. This land will abut both Rt. 997 and Washington Township Boulevard. If you have any questions on this rezoning, please contact the Township Office.

**Proposed No Parking on N. Welty Road Ordinance:** The Township Supervisors will be considering an ordinance at their December 5, 2016 meeting on prohibiting parking along N. Welty Road from Rt. 16 to the new roundabout. A traffic study has been completed by Grove-Miller Engineering, which supports the No Parking Ordinance: this ordinance may be reviewed on the Townships webpage <http://www.washtwp-franklin.org/ordinances/> or at the Township Office.

If you have questions or would like to offer comments on this proposed ordinance, please contact any of the Township Supervisors or the Township Office.

**Proposed Zoning, Subdivision, and Nuisance Ordinance Revisions:** During the Township Planning Commission meeting on December 12, 2016 and the Township Supervisor's meeting on December 19, 2016 comments will be taken on these proposed ordinance changes. In addition, the Township Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the zoning and subdivision ordinance changes on December 19, 2016.

These new ordinances may be reviewed on the Township webpage <http://www.washtwp-franklin.org/ordinances/> or at the Township Office.

If you have questions regarding these ordinances, please contact the Township's Planner Clint Rock at 717-762-3128.

**2017 Preliminary Budget:** The Washington Township Supervisors at their meeting on November 21, 2016 voted to approve the preliminary budget for year 2017.

There are no tax increases proposed in the 2017 budget. The Township did repeal the Per Capita Tax, which will save residents \$15.00/year. There will be a modest increase in disposal rates at the Transfer Station in 2017 to help offset the replacement of equipment at the Transfer Station. Recycling will continue to be single stream and free to our customers at the Transfer Station.

A copy of the preliminary budget has been posted on our webpage <http://www.washtwp-franklin.org/annual-reports/> for our residents to review.

The Township Supervisors will take comments on the preliminary budget at their next regular meeting, which is scheduled for December 5, 2016 starting at 7:00 PM. The final 2017 budget is scheduled to be approved at the Township's December 19, 2016 meeting.

If you are unable to attend these meetings and would like to offer comments, please feel free to make comments on the Township's webpage or by calling the Township Office at 762-3128. All comments are welcome.

### **Christmas Events on Saturday December 3, 2016**

**Train News -Free Ride with Santa.** The Red Run Express, weather permitting, will run on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided to keep everyone warm. Linda Fleagle will be coordinating this year's event again. Donations of cookies and candy canes would be most welcome. In addition, assistance with decorating and setting up for Santa's arrival is always needed. If interested in assisting or donating for this event, please contact Linda Fleagle at 762-3019. Stop by and bring your little ones, or not so little ones, to enjoy a winter train ride with Santa at Red Run Park!

**Breakfast with Santa:** Breakfast with Santa will be held from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Rouzerville Ruritan Club. There is a fee of \$5.00 for breakfast, children ages 10 years and under eat for free. There will be pictures with Santa. This year's breakfast is being hosted by the Rouzerville Lions Club.

Stop by Rouzerville on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> for a great day of entertainment with Santa.

**Renfrew Park & Museum - Christmas on the Farm Event:** Renfrew Museum and Park is pleased to announce that their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas on the Farm will be held December 2-4, 2016. Join them on December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30-8:30 pm, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00-8:00 pm, and December 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-5:00 pm. Walk back in time as they celebrate Christmas in the 1800's. The Museum House will be beautifully decorated and interpreted by actors in period clothing. The stories of the "The Belsnickeler" & "Miracle in the Wilderness" will be told in the Wagon Shed. Cookies and cider will be provided in the Visitors Center. The event is free to members. The cost is \$8 for Adults, \$7 for Seniors, \$5 for ages 7-18, and Kids 6 and under are free. [www.renfrewmuseum.org](http://www.renfrewmuseum.org)

**Blue Ridge Mountain Christmas Celebration:** The 11th Annual Blue Ridge Mountain Christmas Celebration will be held on Saturday, December 17, 2016 from 4 PM to 7 PM at the Blue Ridge Summit Plaza, located at the intersection of Monterey Lane and Sabillasville Rd. There is something for everyone at this year's activities - and IT'S ALL FREE!

From 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. - Songs of the season by Rich Fehle; fire truck rides; horse-drawn sleigh rides; s'mores on the plaza; refreshments will be served from the library porch, craft making for the kids; and the historic Blue Ridge Summit Free Library will open its doors for the annual Holiday Open House. Santa will be here with treats for the kids and the young at heart.

At 6:30 p.m. the memorial tree lighting ceremony will take place.

Any questions regarding the event, please call library board members, Duke and Lynn Martin at 717-642-5645.

**Tax Deductible Donations Welcome!** If you are looking for year-end tax deductible donations to help lower your liability to the IRS, please consider donating to one or both of the Township's major initiatives before the end of the year. Tax deductible donations are being accepted by the Township for 1) the Friends of the Monterey Pass Battlefield which will use the money to preserve and protect the Monterey Pass Battlefield site and museum in Blue Ridge Summit, 2) The Rouzerville Business Association for improvements at Red Run Park.

Tax deductible checks made payable to the Friends of Monterey Pass Battlefield or the Rouzerville Business Association for Red Run Park, should be mailed or delivered to the Township Office at 13013 Welty Road, Waynesboro, PA 17268.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Tax Collector News:** Deadlines, deadlines... the last day for paying the 2016 Franklin County Real Estate and the 2016-17 Waynesboro Area School District Real Estate tax bills is December 31, 2016. After that time both taxes will have to be paid to Franklin County Tax Claim. The last day for paying the 2016 Per Capita/Occupation tax bills is December 31, 2016.

Questions on these deadlines or other tax-related items should be directed to the tax collector at 762-1760. Mr. Ambrose's office, located at 13013 Welty Road, is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. until noon during the month of December, except for the days closed as noted below.

**Pavilion Rentals for 2017:** The Township will accept reservations at the Township meeting room for the pavilions at Red Run and Pine Hill parks beginning on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, on a first come, first served basis, as we have done in the past. If you have any questions, please contact the Township office.

**Transfer Station Holiday Schedule:** The Township's Transfer Station will be closed at noon on Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and all day on the day after Christmas Day, December 26, 2016. For New Year's – the Transfer Station will close at noon on Saturday, December 31, 2016 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

### **December Dates to Remember**

- 3: Santa Train Ride at Red Run Park – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**
- 5 & 19: Supervisors meetings – 7:00 p.m.
- 6 & 20: WTMA meetings – 7:15 p.m.
- 12: Planning Commission meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 14 & 29: Supervisors workshop – 7:00 p.m.
- 17: Blue Ridge Mountain Christmas Celebration
- 23, 26 & Jan 2: Township Office and Tax Collector CLOSED
- 24 Noon & 26: Transfer Station Closed**
- 31 Noon & Jan 2: Transfer Station Closed**
- Jan. 3: Transfer Station - Open
- Jan. 3: Pavilion Reservation Day