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Important Dates

November 27, 2013 Last day for Leaf pickup

November 28, 2013 Thanksgiving

December 7, 2013 Westover Holiday decorations go up

December 7, 2013 Santa's Breakfast

December 25, 2013 Christmas day

January 11, 2014 Westover holiday Decorations come down



Westover Dues Collection Underway

The Westover Civic Association asks for your continued financial support for 2013-14 year by renewing your membership. The Civic Association is an all volunteer organization assisting with events, decorations, newsletter, dues, billing, etc. Your household membership is also voluntary. Dues are only \$30 per year for a household.

So why should you join and pay your dues?

- The summer block parties.
- The **web-site** located at <u>www.villageofwestover.org</u> with a

great deal of helpful information.

- The informative newsletter.
- Financial support to help with several Women's Club projects such as the Garage Sales, Pumpkin Carving, Santa's Breakfast and Egg Hunt.
- **Email Blast** system for timely and quick updates.
- Holiday decorations throughout Westover in keeping with the original Williamsburg tradition.
- Mowing and maintenance in the beautiful **Common areas**.
- Maintenance and upgrades for the tree id signs, benches and entrance neighborhood lighting.

- · Maintenance of the street signs.
- Working with the Township on the Federally mandated replacement of the **street signs**.
- Maintenance of the front entrance of Westover.

UPDATE: Westover is receiving a record number of dues renewals! Thank you for your generous support!

Westover Holiday Decorations Family Time

The Westover Civic Association will continue the tradition

in 2013 of providing fresh garland and red bows for the street signs in the neighborhood. To help put them up, you all are invited to help! Decorations go up on Saturday, December 7th at 1:00 pm and come down on Saturday, January 11^h at 9:00 am.

We look forward to your assistance with this fun and easy project. It is also a great way to meet your neighbors. We form teams, and each team does two or three posts. It is fun and only takes a maximum of 45 minutes. Refreshments of hot chocolate, coffee and cookies are provided. Grab your gloves, hat, a warm coat and join us in **McCord Commons**.

MAKE IT A FAMILY PROJECT

This project has evolved to be a very fun-family project to adopt and trim a sign. It is really easy and all you need is a ladder or a tall family member! We provide the bows, the gar-

land, the ties, the minimal instructions and most importantly the hot chocolate and cookies! It takes about 5 minutes for each post. If you would like to reserve a post, please email **Joe Farrell at**

jfarrell@farrell-assoc.com or call him at 790-0421. If you volunteer to help, please email him or call as it will help us in the planning process. Hope to see you at McCord Commons on December 7th at 1:00 pm.





Lower Commons Improvements

Under the direction of John Reiersen and Nell Nickolas there has been quite an effort to get the Lower Commons area cleaned up. With numerous volunteers rolling up their sleeves, they have trimmed some trees, removed tons of weeds, wild trees and vines, weed suppressant applied and lots of planning for further enhancements.

Two sewer coverings that extended about six inches above the ground were real safety hazards. Working with the Township Sewer Authority, John had the township replace the elevated sewer cap, with ones that are now flush with the grass. It was a real problem with kids playing in this area.

Thanks to John Reiersen, Nell Nickolas and Susan Skender for the guidance and help on this project.

The sewer drains before and after:







Breakfast with Santa Claus Saturday, December 7, 2013

Friends and neighbors, please join us at the annual Westover Womens' Club Santa Breakfast. For the second year in a row, Jolly Old Saint Nicholas, aka Śanta, will be greeting our little ones after enjoying a sumptuous breakfast buffet at the Navy Officers' Club. Each child will have ample time to share their wish list and talk with Santa.

Our resident photographer, Joe Farrell, will be taking photos at no charge, and posting them online for you to access. This year, Santa will be giving each child a treat; personalized gifts from you are not necessary. This is a lovely event, open to everyone in the neighborhood (no children required). You are encouraged to invite family and friends to join you this year, as we do have a minimum guest list to fill, and the facility is just grand!

9:00 - 11:00 am

Officers' Club, Naval Support Activity (behind Lowe's)

Adults \$15, Children 5-10 years \$10, 2-4 years \$5 (Checks payable to Westover Women's Club)

Full buffet includes eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, waffles, French Toast stix, fruit bowl, coffee and juice

RSVP with payment by November 24th

(include names of all attending for Navy Security purposes)

Jill Laws (6216 Westover Drive) Email: WestoverWomen@gmail.com







Haunted House in Westover! 20th year of Trick-or-Treat Night Fun

David and Doris Baboian of 6350 Pennsboro Drive hosted their 20th annual Halloween "Haunted Chamber" on Trick-or-Treat night. This was a wonderful and fun-filled night that all residents won't want to miss in the future. Approximately 150 brave children explored this year's haunted house display. The Haunted Chamber featured dropping spiders, skeletons, zombies, mad scientists and more with the help of 12 behind the scene volunteers. There were treats for all who made it out for this special and safe Westover tradition. See more pictures of this event at www.villageofwestover.org



2013 Westover Pumpkin Carving Party



WESTOVER NEWSLETTER POLICY. This newsletter is published by the Westover Civic Association to inform its members of the many Village of Westover projects, activities and improvements that are relevant to the entire neighborhood. We are unable to accommodate personal requests and business solicitations or advertisements. All photos published in the newsletter are with permission or are in the public domain. We solicit your comments or concerns as well as ideas for newsletter articles by going to www.villageofwestover.org

Westover Upgrades and Repairs Continue

Front Entrance Lights The lights are Back ON!!

The Westover Civic Association has found an economical solution to repair the front entrance lighting which has been disconnected for several years. The work has been completed, looks great, and is an environmentally friendly light using high luminance fluorescent bulbs which will lower the elec-



tric bills. It also enables us to keep the lights on throughout the nighttime.



The lights will be nice for the holiday season with the garland and maybe some snow. Plus it will be easier for Santa to find Westover now that the lights are on.

Paid for by your dues of only \$30.00 per years!

Front Entrance Brick Repairs



The Board of the Westover Civic Association authorized funds to repair the brick entrance way into Westover. Over the years the entrance way mortar deteriorates and is in need of repointing. This is a big expense but one that is necessary to avoid further damage. We hope

for the contractor to complete this work in the next month or so. This is paid for with your \$30.00 per year dues Here is a photo of the damage:

Those Sad looking Street Signs



The Westover Civic Association is fully aware of the sad state of affairs with the street signs. There is a federal mandate to replace all of the street sings to meet new government regulations and many communities and cities throughout the US are faced with this very expensive task. While Hampden Township will replace the signs there has been a process at Westover to delay in the hopes that the federal government may back off some the mandated requirements. If Westover were to replace all our street signs with equivalent ones to what we have now, it is guessed that the costs would be in the \$30,000 range.

We are in contact with the township to follow up and bring the sign replacement process to an end. We are making very minor repairs to hold us through the period when the new signs will go up. A few of them have been replaced and are the skinny metal ones.

The Dreaded Euschistus Servus, aka The Stink Bug

The good news is that stick bugs have not been invasive



"yet" inside the houses in our area but the bad news is that it is still early in the season! Experts says that stink bugs are around but have not felt the time is right to "bug" us yet.

Experts also say the best way to get rid of stink bugs is to seal openings where they come in. The problem is finding out where these openings are located. There are chemicals that you can use but

most experts do not suggest this as you will be using them in a closed environment, mainly your house. Instead they recommend a trap with a light which attracts the stink bugs and of course traps them. The goal is to put these traps high in the house, even in the attic. Local suppliers such as Agway in Mechanicsburg, as well as others, are knowledgeable about these methods and have the

devices in stock. A vacuum cleaner works well, but it will stink, so the best thing, according to experts, is either to seal openings or trap them with the light/trap method. And, no, they will not bite, but please do not crush or stamp on them for they truly do stink.



Newsletter and Website

The Westover Civic Association board voted to restart the

printed newsletter (this newsletter) and to distribute it both in black and white paper as well electronic with full color photos via our email blast system.

One of the key roles of our Association is communication with the membership so we are all part of the community.

We also are adding back to the website - photos, newsletter archives, fitness walking maps and a history of Westover. Those items will be added in the coming weeks and may not be available currently.

Note that if you did not receive this newsletter via our email system that is because we have not inputted all the email addresses from the dues collection process. Give us a few weeks to have these inputted.

This is funded by your \$30 yearly dues.

Westover Elections

We are pleased to announce that all of the Westover Civic Association zone directors were re-elected! David Baboian was reelected as Treasurer and Joe Farrell was elected president replacing outgoing President Patti Bucek. Congratulations and thanks to all of the folks who help make Westover what it is today.



Detective Sergeant Shissler Update

FOR YOUR SAFETY....





- Wet Leaves
- Emergency Calls
- Kids Cars

Wet Leaves.

Detective Sergeant Shissler reports that, knock on wood, things have been quiet in our neighborhood. He does caution that we need to be aware of leaves on the roadways since stopping distances are greatly diminished on wet leaves.

Emergency Calls and Street Signs.

Detective Shissler reported that a neighbor recently placed an emergency call and indicated that they were located at the intersection of Westover Drive and Stephens Crossing, the emer-



gency vehicle promptly went to the wrong intersection! How did this happen? There are two Westover Drive and Stephens Crossing intersections; one in the newer east section of Westover and one in the older west section. You can see the two signs here. He asked that when we call for police, ambulance or fire dispatch that we identify by street and **house number** to enable them to get to the location quickly.



Motorized cars, scooter and carts.

One of the issues we receive complaints on includes children riding kids cars in the neighborhood including on sidewalks and on the township roads.

Many people don't realize state law restricts use of the small, two-cycle gasoline engine- or electric motor-and-battery-powered scooters, carts and cars to private property, which means drive-ways and lawns. They are not allowed on public roads or sidewalks even with adult supervision.



From the Westover Mailbag....

Hello Westover Civic,

Thank you Westover Civic Association for cleaning up the Commons (McCord and the Lower Commons); they both look wonderful. Thanks,

Happy Homeowner

Concerned resident,

The only thing I actually care about is having the light fixed at the front entrance. Hope they can take care of that eventually. (Editor: Done. See article in this newsletter)

Dear Westover Willie

Dear Willie:



Dogs have been pooping in my yard. What can I do?

(Editor's note: We removed the supplied photo from this submission.)

You hit on the #1 question to cross my tree. Yep, there has been an increase in this habit of the owners not picking up the poop of their pet; it is both a shame and breaking the law. We can only suggest that you pick it up, and if you see the offending owners, let them know and maybe hand them a newspaper bag to pick it up with. Maybe they will get the hint!

P.S. I am so happy to be back providing my wisdom to Westover residents. Thanks for the opportunity!

Suggestions or questions for Westover Willie or the Westover Civic Association can be emailed to: jfarrellpa@gmail.com

Thanks to Patti Bucek Past President of the Westover Civic Association

Thanks to Patti who was the Westover Civic Association President for the past two years. Her efforts were appreciated by all of Westover and particularly her crowning achievement of the dues by mail program. This has been a big success and has resulted in record breaking dues income. Thank you Patti!

Hampden Twp. Leaf Pick Up at Westover

Hampden Township officially ends leaf collection on Wednesday November 27th.



If there are any extensions, we will keep you posted via the email blast system. Place the leaves a bit away from the curb and do not put in sticks, stones, garden trash or other such items that can gum up the leaf machine.

2013 Halloween Haunted House

