

the Village of Westover



Newsletter June 2016

www.villageofwestover.org

Westover Picnic Fun

After being rescheduled due to rain, neighbors came out on June 12 to celebrate the annual Westover Picnic at McCord Commons on a beautiful, sunny afternoon.

Many thanks to Steve and Amanda Crosby who planned and coordinated the event with assistance from volunteers and Westover Women's Club. Talented face painters adorned the young and young at heart, the balloon artists were busy all afternoon with a long line, and the music carried over the Commons to enhance the event. The Westover Picnic is funded by Civic Association dues. Let us know if you have suggestions for next year's picnic to keep it fun for all!



Civic Association

President: Ken Lee
Vice President:
Dan Hooven
Secretary: Elaine Farrell
Treasurer: Chris Wise
Zone Directors:
Annette Crist
Sally Conley
Steve Crosby
Monti Fletcher
Ann Frankhouse
Jackie Garno
Greg Hartman
Carl Janes
Wanda Johnson
Eric Laws
Dave Baboian
Linda Lehman
Linda Lippert
Fred Littmann
Tommy Mullin
Ed Trador
Matt Treese
Joe Washburn
Laura Witte
Joe Farrell
Ann Marie Gover
Trudy Hepner

Important Dates

Spring Picnic

June 12, 2016

Flag Day

June 14, 2016

Independence Day

July 4, 2016

See Hampden Twp Recreation Calendar for additional family fun events this summer.

Survey Says...

Many thanks to Westover residents who took our survey. On the next pages, you will see some of the results. Ninety seven responses were received through the Survey Monkey tool which was advertised on the website and through email blasts. We received useful feedback and many helpful comments. The Board will continue to discuss the feedback and gather ideas. You are invited to continue to engage with us by attending a meeting or emailing us at

westover@villageofwestover.org.

Speeding and Stop Signs

School is out and speed limits are the same! Please use caution in Westover and also near Hampden Elementary and Good Hope Middle Schools. While the school zone is not active, there are still many children and adults who walk in that area, cross from Good Hope Farms, and meet at the schools for activities. Pedestrians also cross Skyport Rd at Stephens Crossing and Westover Drive, often with children or dogs in tow. Additionally, comments in the survey reflect concerns about adhering to stop signs. Keep in mind that some stop signs in our neighborhood were requested by Westover Civic Association to the township based on resident concerns and most frequent flyers are residents, not guests or visitors. If you see a driver who frequently disregards traffic signs, record the license number and description of the vehicle and contact Hampden Township Police.

Egg Hunt Success!



Many thanks to Kristin Lehman and the Westover Women's Club for organizing this fun event with over 60 children participating. Food donations were delivered to New Hope Ministries and Dennis Baker, our guest photographer, captured the spirit of the festivities. The pictures are available on the Village of Westover website!

Survey Comments

There were over 100 comments received in addition to survey answers. We hear you! A selection of comments is shared below:

"I've lived here a long time and things have gotten better every year. You forgot to mention the Santa Breakfast which was the best ever this Christmas."

*"These events establish a sense of community and togetherness
with our neighbors in Westover."*

"The timing of some of the events keeps those of us with two career families from participating."

"Since I live in a condo, I feel I get limited value from my membership, but I want to be a good neighbor and help retain the character of the community."

"I would likely pay more but would like to know why."

"Part of what makes our community nice is the trees, including in the Commons.
Can we plant more trees and fix the signs for them?"

"Speed and stop signs are a problem area."

*"I appreciate the work of the Civic Association to keep this a
friendly and connected neighborhood."*

*"Remember that your demographic is also comprised of older working folks
with adult children and more than a few retirees, not just young families
with children."*

How do you value these events that the Westover Civic Association in conjunction with the Westover Womens Club provides?

	High value	Medium value	No value	Total
Spring Community Picnic in the Commons	51.58% 49	33.68% 32	14.74% 14	95
Easter Egg Hunt	51.06% 48	25.53% 24	23.40% 22	94
Pumpkin Carving	45.74% 43	30.85% 29	23.40% 22	94
Holiday decorations on poles	71.13% 69	17.53% 17	11.34% 11	97
Garage sale advertising	54.26% 51	38.30% 36	7.45% 7	94

[Comments \(16\)](#)

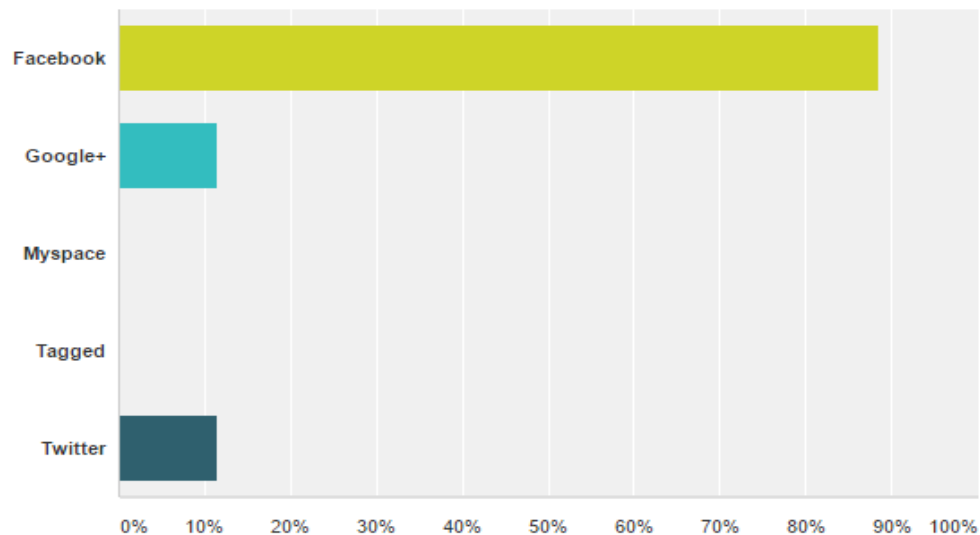
Q2

[Customize](#)

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Would you use social media to keep up with Westover activities?

Answered: 61 Skipped: 36



Answer Choices	Responses
Facebook	88.52% 54
Google+	11.48% 7
Myspace	0.00% 0
Tagged	0.00% 0
Twitter	11.48% 7
Total Respondents: 61	

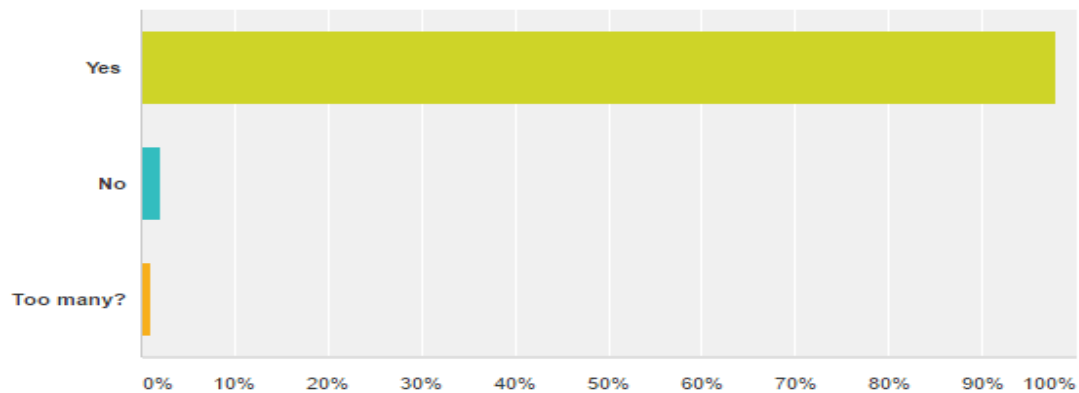
[Comments \(35\)](#)

Q3

[Customize](#)[Export](#) ▼

Are the email blasts valuable to you?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	97.89% 93
No	2.11% 2
Too many?	1.05% 1

Total Respondents: 95

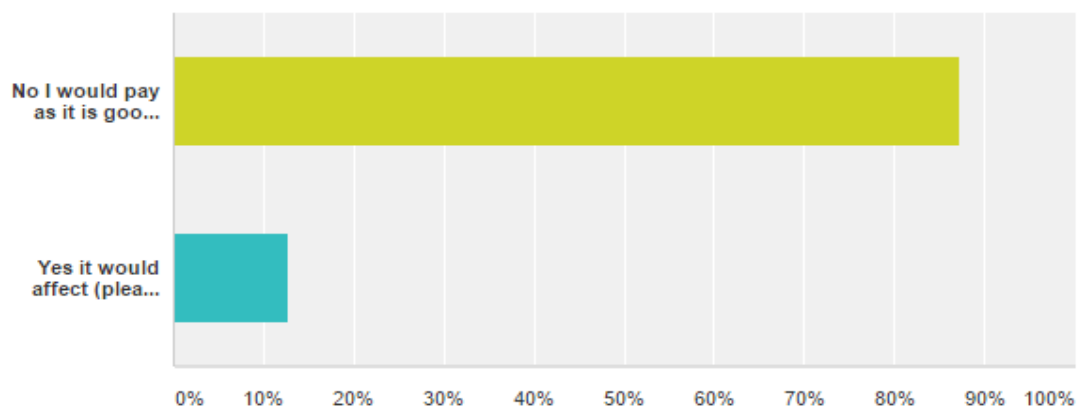
[Comments \(8\)](#)

Q5

[Customize](#)[Export](#) ▼

The Civic Association has kept dues at \$30 for many years and is considering raising them a modest amount. Would a modest increase affect your paying the dues?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
No I would pay as it is good value	87.23% 82
Yes it would affect (please tell us why below in the comment box)	12.77% 12

Total

94

[Comments \(21\)](#)

What's New In Westover

On the Website

From the homepage, you can access all the Westover photos (a fan favorite section), directly join the email list, and choose from the menu options. It has also been optimized for mobile device use as 60-73% of Westover emails are opened via a mobile device. You can use the contact form to directly email the Civic Association. Also, help us stay connected by informing us of contact information changes such as phone number or email address.

On Nextdoor

The survey informed us that there are still some questions about Nextdoor. Nextdoor is a voluntary social network that over 200 neighbors have joined since August 2015. Examples of things you can find on Nextdoor lately are recommendations for mulch delivery, other neighborhood yard sales, and contractor recommendations. As the Civic Association does not maintain lists of recommended businesses or services, this is a great way to get local feedback from Westover and other nearby neighbors. Visit www.nextdoor.com to see if this social network could be useful for you. You will need to verify your address to participate.

On Social Media

A little over half of survey respondents indicated they would use Facebook to keep up with Westover activities. There were also many comments indicating Nextdoor, the website, and emails are adequate and helpful. The Board is considering other ways we might be helpful in the future with using communication technology available to us. At this time, Westover Civic Association will continue to use the website, emails, and newsletters for communication. Residents are welcome to share photos and news on their own social network accounts. We also want to respect residents who value their privacy.

We Need Your Help

Volunteer organizations such as Civic Association benefit most from member involvement. Send us your ideas for newsletter articles! Do you know a neighbor who has celebrated a recent milestone or achievement? Have a special interest story? We welcome communication and feedback at westover@villageofwestover.org.

Public Safety



This update is brought to you courtesy of Lieutenant Shissler with the Hampden Twp Police Dept.

When school is out, kids are out! Watch your speed and obey stop signs in the neighborhood. Stop sign concerns were also noted in our survey feedback and this is a safety issue for children, walkers, and many in Westover.

An additional officer has completed bicycle school and the Dept now has 2 officers on bike. You may see them in the neighborhood so feel free to stop and say hello. This is also a reminder for children AND adults on bicycles to wear helmets and ride safely.

Follow the Hampden Township Police Department on Facebook! There you will see updates, community events, and police department news you can use.

Lt. Shissler also informed us of summer PennDOT funded traffic enforcement details for speeding and seatbelt use. You may notice this enforcement particularly on the Carlisle Pike. As always, residents are reminded to obey local speed limits and buckle up.

Westover Mailbag

Dear Westover Civic,

Q: What's up with all the runners in Westover?

A: There are many runners who live in Westover and use the regular routes ("Fitness Trails" as on the website) as they are convenient and safe. It is also an attractive running route because it is a mix of flat and hill terrain. The Fleet Feet store that opened last year also leads training and group runs from their store and Westover is a nearby neighborhood along with Hampden Commons, Silver Creek, and Good Hope Farms.

Runners are reminded to be alert for traffic, run on the side of the road facing opposing traffic (not down the center), and wear visible clothing. Drivers are reminded to be alert and share the road.

Running can be fun both solo and in a group! Talk to your neighbors or ask a passing runner if you are looking for a running buddy. Same is true for walkers. We have great fitness trails with easy distances here in Westover and fresh air is good for the body and spirit.

Westover Willie



Dear Westover Willie,

Q: You seem to write about dog waste every issue of the newsletter. Is the repetition necessary?

A: If it's repetitive it's because the problem persists! I saw some of the survey comments and residents agree: pick up after and curb your dog!

Q: Have you seen the fox in the neighborhood lately?

A: Yes indeed! I see it more often in the morning and have spotted one in both Westover and "Eastover." A fox's natural tendency is to flee rather than fight but there are exceptions. Make sure you don't leave garbage or food in your yard (including pet food). As a matter of practice, you should never leave your pet outside unattended. Walk outside and clap your hands a few times to alert wildlife to your presence. There is helpful information about foxes in residential areas on the Humane Society website.

the Village of Westover

Village Of Westover Contact List	
Name	Phone number
EMERGENCY – Fire, Police, Ambulance	911
Westover Civic Association	Villageofwestover.org
Comcast Cable	1-800-934-6489
Cumberland County Offices	240-6100
Cumberland Valley School District	697-8261
District Justice	697-2201
Fredricksen Library	761-3900
Hampden Township	761-0119
Hampden Pool	737-4219
Hampden Recreation Department	761-4951
Hampden Township Utility Department	909-7145
Humane Society	564-3320
PA American Water Co	1-800-565-7292
P A Dept. of Transportation	1-800-932-4600
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222
PPL Electric Utilities	1-800-342-5775
Township Tax Collector	737-4822
UGI Gas Utilities Inc	1-800-276-2722
United Water PA	564-3662
Verizon Communications	1-800-837-4966
York Waste Disposal (bulk pickup)	1-800-210-9675

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