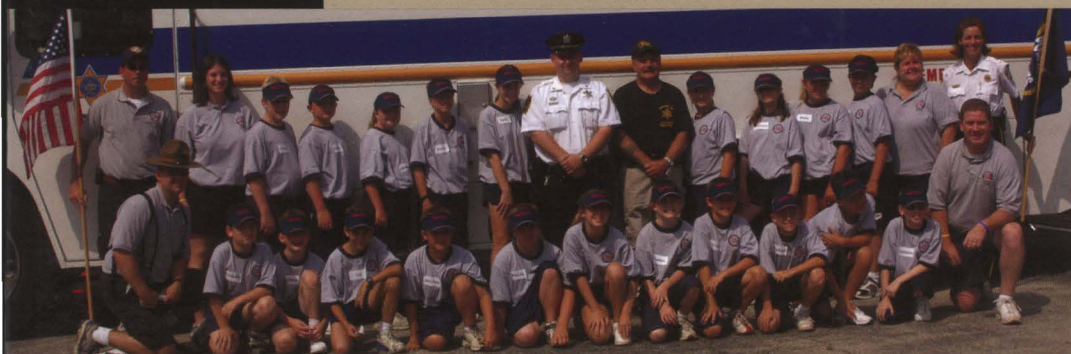


WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2005



WELCOME

To Our Friends and Neighbors:

The Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors is pleased to provide the Annual Report for 2005.

Whitemarsh ended 2005 in excellent condition. We have safe and thriving neighborhoods. Residential property values are high, and municipal taxes comparatively low. Township finances are sound, and we are able to continue delivering a high level of municipal services without the prospect of increased taxes. Whitemarsh has a talented and energetic workforce, as well as a large core of resident-volunteers.

Township services in 2005 were generally at or above historic levels, with improvements particularly evident in the area of customer service. In addition to handling daily Township business, the Board initiated or advanced special projects in virtually every area of municipal government: Comprehensive Traffic Management, Stormwater Management, Emergency Services, Park and Recreation Planning, Open Space Preservation, Commercial Revitalization, Zoning Code Revisions, Personnel and Administrative Initiatives, Property Maintenance, Sidewalk and Trail Initiatives, and Inter-Governmental Cooperation. Additionally, Whitemarsh obtained more than \$2 million in County, State, and Federal grant funding during 2005.

The strong performance in 2005 is significant in light of the changes going on within the Township staff including the departure of several senior staff. The Board of Supervisors hired Christopher van de Velde as Township Manager, Bruce Horrocks as Assistant Township Manager, and Jerry Breitmayer as Director of Public Works, and promoted Fire Marshal Calvin Bonenberger to Director of Building and Code Enforcement, Doug Knauss to Director of Parks and Recreation, and Elizabeth DeCordova to Zoning Officer.

An Annual Report can hardly begin to describe the complex job of providing for the needs of our residents and visitors. The pages that follow focus primarily on projects and initiatives that were completed or underway in 2005. We invite you to read and reflect on the many services we take for granted. We hope you share our appreciation for all of these people. We thank them, and wish them - and you - a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2006.

Respectfully Submitted,

The 2005 Board of Supervisors

Joseph P. Corcoran III, Chairman

Steven S. Brown, Vice Chairman

Peter B. Cornog

Jonathan D. Weiss

Frances A. Zeock



Germantown Pike Renaissance

Planning for Pedestrian and Traffic Improvements



Germantown Pike at Church Road as it looks today.



Here, a consulting firm's rendering of Germantown Pike and Church Road with sidewalks, trees, street lights, and a brick wall.

In 2005, the Board of Supervisors began addressing the often discussed community desire to improve the appearance, parking and pedestrian needs along Germantown Pike. Plans prepared 20 years ago, but never implemented, were reexamined. Township Supervisors held informal discussions with community residents and business owners about their ideas for upgrading and modernizing the Pike.

The Board of Supervisors held two public meetings in August to hear what the businesses and residents along Germantown Pike think are the highest priority problems and needed improvements. The Board then invited all Township residents to a Town Meeting in early October to review preliminary

concepts the Township's planning consultants suggested could be used to address the improvements.

An Advisory Committee is being formed to work with the planning consultants on specific improvement proposals for the Pike. These plans should be ready for review by the community-at-large in the spring or summer of 2006; and when approved by the Board of Supervisors, construction plans and timetables will be developed.

A grant of \$187,000 to build a sidewalk on the north side of Germantown Pike from Butler Pike to Plymouth Whitemarsh High

School was obtained, with assistance from Rep. Mike Gerber, from the State of Pennsylvania's Safe Streets to Schools program, and construction plans for the sidewalk are being prepared.

And most significantly, Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz earmarked \$1.8 million for Germantown Pike revitalization in the Federal Transportation Appropriation bill.

Some construction projects may be underway in 2006, but most work will probably not start until early 2007.

In other grant news ... An \$800,000 joint grant from the Federal government was awarded to Whitemarsh and Springfield Townships for revitalization efforts along Bethlehem Pike in Flourtown.



Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz presents Whitemarsh officials with \$1.8 million grant check.

Stormwater Task Force

Taking Action and Solving Problems

In the past year, the Township completed approximately \$500,000 of emergency repairs to Manor Road and the Scarlet Oak Road culverts and bridges made necessary by the storms of August and September 2004. Another \$500,000 was invested in stormwater improvements in four neighborhoods that have been increasingly affected by flooding. These areas include Fairway Road, 2nd and Center Streets, Whitmarsh Valley Farms (Jackson Drive & Juniper Swale), and Cedar and Evergreen.



The new drainage culvert being installed at Lorraine Run on West Valley Green Road in Fort Washington.

While these emergency improvement projects were being completed, the Stormwater Task Force began developing long-term plans for stormwater improvement projects throughout the Township. The Task Force, made up of volunteers, Township staff and Township engineers, will present its initial report to the Board of Supervisors in early 2006. The report will propose stormwater control improvement projects to help alleviate some of the most serious problems identified throughout the Township. The report will also outline informational efforts the Township can take to help property owners reduce and control stormwater runoff.

The Board of Supervisors has identified stormwater management as an ongoing Township priority, and recognizes that making the necessary improvements will be no easy feat, particularly in regards to funding them. Solutions to the problems will require creative funding, including integration of stormwater management with open space planning and the implementation of "growing greener" ordinances, Parks and Recreation planning, and environmental stewardship.

"These stormwater improvement projects are working, and residents who live in these areas, including my neighborhood along Fairway Road, are extremely grateful to the Township for taking quick action.

"Stormwater management is a Township-wide issue that must be addressed to secure public safety and to preserve property values."

- Tom Doll, resident of Fairway Road

"Over the years, Jackson Drive has always been a problem area. Two "rivers" literally empty into Jackson Drive and ... form a lake in the yard, which then starts coming in our front door ... [then] pouring into our basement.

"[After the 2004 storms] My family spent a year worrying every time a major rain storm was forecast. It's hard to describe the helplessness you feel as you watch the water continue to rise and move closer toward your home.

The Township was very sympathetic to the situation. We now have numerous and much needed inlets ... to help handle the storm water. It has definitely been an improvement."

- Sue Swift, resident of Jackson Drive

Open Space Preservation

The Whitemarsh Township Open Space Committee expects to complete its Open Space Plan early in 2006. The Open Space Committee, comprising five representatives from other Township committees and five at-large members, has been working since 2004 to develop a plan that will address the particular challenges facing the Township, notably making better use of its open space, varied topography, and valuable land. The Committee has set an ambitious goal of preserving 75% of the Township's remaining open space. To do this, the projected Plan recommends a strategic mix of high-leveraging/low-cost approaches – including zoning, policy and administrative changes, partnerships, and public education – which are intended to realize many of the Township's preservation goals and reduce the reliance on traditional acquisition. The Plan will also propose ways to make better use of the Township's existing open space.

The Plan proposes dividing the Township into five Districts, in recognition of the differing characteristics and open space conditions within the Township. This approach will enable the Committee to develop a specific array of strategies to meet the particular open space needs of each District.

In early 2006, the Committee will host a second public information forum where residents will have an opportunity to review the Plan and its recommendations and provide feedback. After incorporating this final public feedback, the Plan will be presented for review and approval to the Township and the Montgomery County Planning Commission. This will enable the Township to receive a \$1.2 million grant from the County.



Please visit the new Township website
- www.whitemarshtwp.org -
for a complete listing of
Boards and Committees.

Residents are encouraged to serve
on Boards and Committees.
Please call the Township or
check the website for more
information or a schedule of
events or meetings.

DID YOU KNOW ...

*87% of voters supported
Montgomery County's most
recent open space bond
referendum.*

New Codes & Ordinances

Zoning Codes

The Planning Commission has been working on an amendment to the Zoning Code, establishing the Village Commercial District. This proposed amendment may be ready for consideration by the Board of Supervisors in Spring or Summer 2006. The VC zoning district provides for commercial uses that blend into a pedestrian-friendly environment, with the goal of encouraging and maintaining a quaint village atmosphere.

The Planning Commission also worked on "Growing Greener" amendments, which will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in Spring 2006, and will substantially strengthen the Township's zoning and land development ordinances.

Tree Ordinance

In June, the Board of Supervisors adopted new tree protection standards. The new Tree Ordinance is meant to encourage the protection of trees against development and clear-cutting, while reducing soil erosion, improving air and water quality, and enhancing the community and property values.

The Shade Tree Commission of Whitemarsh Township consists of five members appointed by the Board of Supervisors to serve five-year terms with administrative responsibility for the Tree Ordinance.

The Whitemarsh Township Supervisors, in conjunction with The Shade Tree Commission, have implemented a "Hazard Tree Abatement Program" throughout the township.

To be considered hazardous, a tree must have:

- Large dead wood in the canopy
- Severe structural decay
- Weak branch attachment in critical locations
- Compromised structural support roots
- A target — a sidewalk, public parking lot or roadway where it could cause property damage or hurt someone.

2005 Amendments to Ordinances included putting greater demands on developers and new construction, including mandatory standards for:

- Streets and roadways
- Landscaping, parking lots, curbs and sidewalks
- Paths and street trees

To date, 20 hazardous trees have been identified and targeted for removal.

Traffic Impact Planning

The Traffic Impact Fee Advisory Committee was busy in 2005, developing a Land Use Assumptions Report that was adopted by the Board of Supervisors.

A Roadway Sufficiency Analysis Report and a Transportation Capital Improvements Plan are under development, and will be forwarded to the Supervisors in early 2006 for consideration.

The final step in the process of allowing the Township to assess a Traffic Impact Fee to all developers of property for off-site roadway improvements is the adoption of a Traffic Impact Fee Ordinance, scheduled for consideration by the Board of Supervisors in February 2006.

Roadway improvements were made at Germantown Pike and Joshua Road with the addition of turning lanes and signal modification, as well as the installation of a sidewalk.

2006 will see further planning and budgeting for improvements to Ridge Pike. Engineers will be preparing plans to widen Ridge Pike from Church Road to the Philadelphia city line, while making intersection improvements.

Property Maintenance Code

The new International Property Maintenance Code was adopted by the Township in June to replace the Township's former Property Maintenance Code.

The more comprehensive nature of the new code will be a valuable tool for the Code Enforcement Department in its efforts to assure that owners observe the standards for maintaining their properties, and to protect the quality of properties throughout the Township.

The Code enables the Township to confirm that all property, buildings and structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupancy and use. It gives the Code Enforcement Department the power to condemn and demolish any existing structure that is deemed unsafe.



An example of the new Code at work: Four abandoned, neglected and dangerous buildings in the western and eastern sections of the Township were razed.

These properties had been considered eyesores and nuisances for years; by using the new Code, the Code Enforcement staff was able to get them removed from the landscape.

This abandoned property was demolished and the lot was cleared for sale and redevelopment as a single family home.

For more detailed information on Township Codes, Ordinances or Amendments, please visit www.whitemarshtwp.org.

Central Administration

Seeing to the Supervisors' Vision

The Township's administrative staff is responsible for the day-to-day management of all Township operations, and ensures that the Board of Supervisors' priorities – for more responsive government, and better long-range planning – are being met. Capital projects, citizen complaint responses, planning committee initiatives, special events and communication with Township residents all start here.

The most significant staff changes in 2005 were the hiring of a new Township Manager and Assistant Township Manager. The Township also hired a new Director of Public Works, a new Zoning Officer, an additional Building Inspector, and three new clerical personnel.

The Ombudsman Demonstration Project
Residents have long complained that the Township is not sufficiently responsive to their complaints. In 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved a demonstration project to see if a staff person, specifically devoted to addressing resident concerns, could improve this response. Called an "Ombudsman" (*a la* the

Swedish tradition of having a person dedicated to ensuring the government works for every member of a community), the demonstration project proved the value of having a person available to "bird dog" a problem.

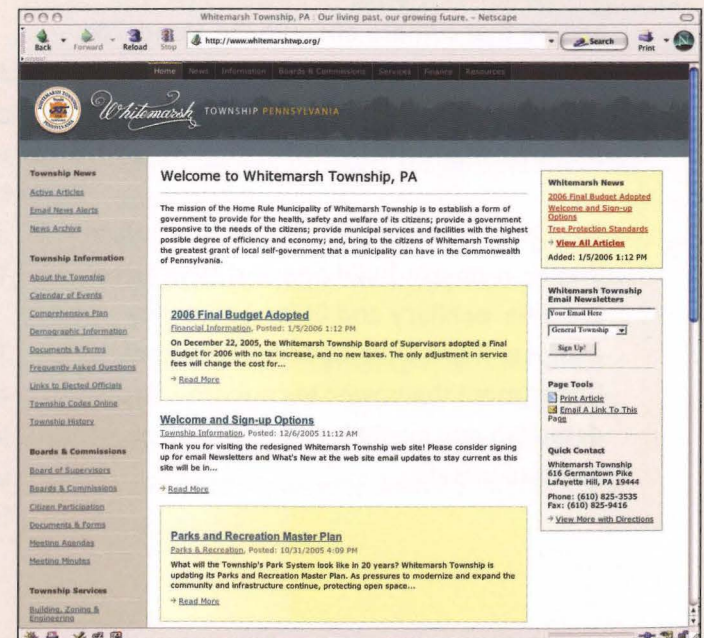
Further, it confirmed the Board's conviction that residents appreciate being kept informed about efforts to address their concerns. Even when it isn't possible to address everything, knowing that someone is trying to help assures citizens their government is responsive. With the successful completion of the six-month demonstration project, the Board of Supervisors decided to fund the position of Ombudsman on a permanent basis starting in 2006.

New Website and Software

The township website, www.whitemarshwp.com, was completely redesigned in 2005. The new site has many interactive user options, including a sign-up feature, for receiving e-mails from the Township on a variety of topics.

An online Township store will be activated in 2006, making it possible for residents to sign up and pay for recreation programs and events online.

Also, the Township's Administration and Departmental computers were installed with new up-to-date software. And many years of Township files were scanned and backed-up for security.



Emergency Services

Partnering for Safety

At the suggestion of Jack Field, the Township Fleet Manager, a used army transport truck was purchased, refurbished and outfitted for under \$5,000 to serve as a shallow water rescue vehicle.

In the past, expensive police and fire vehicles not designed for the water often were used to rescue stranded motorists when storms inundated Township roads. The truck was designed to go into water as high as four feet, and is now equipped with rescue lines and life preservers. It was an inexpensive solution to provide safe rescue assistance and support for police and fire personnel.



Reflecting the Board of Supervisors' emphasis on building a true partnership with the volunteer emergency services, the Emergency Services Board infrastructure was modified to include greater communication and involvement between the Township and its emergency service providers; and the Board of Supervisors voted to fund positions for full-time paid drivers for two of the volunteer fire companies for 2006.

On August 15, 2005, the steeple of the 151 year-old Cold Point Baptist Church was struck by lightning during a severe lightning storm. The resulting fire spread through the roof area of the church but was quickly extinguished by the fire department. The church plans to rebuild the steeple and is repairing the roof now.



Calvin Bonenberger

Whitemarsh Township Fire Marshal /
Director of Building Codes

Calvin has been a Township employee for 19 years. He has been involved with the fire service for over 40 years, starting as a firefighter in the Lincoln Fire Company, then moving into Barren Hill Fire Company's district. At Barren Hill he became Chief, a position he held for 13 years.

Prior to becoming Fire Marshal he was a local general contractor. His extensive background in building construction and fire-suppression has been an asset to him in fire investigations.

Cal is well respected in the fire community, and is often called on by other jurisdictions, both local and State, to assist them on fire cause and origin investigations. He holds many certifications in fire investigation, but the one he is most proud of is the National Certification as a Certified Fire Investigator (CFI).



Public Works

The Board of Supervisors completed a comprehensive review of the Public Works Department in 2005. The report identified a broad range of changes and improvements needed, most of which will be addressed in 2006.

From overhauling and relocating sewer system pumping stations to rebuilding closed pedestrian bridges, 2005 was a busy year for the staff of the Township's Public Works Department.

The PWD keeps our machines and sewage treatment systems running. They also plow roads, pick up leaves, make emergency road and stormwater system repairs, paint the cross walks and care for the Township's buildings and parks.

Departmental highlights in 2005:

- Whitemarsh has a new Public Works Director. Jerry Breitmayer, formerly the Public Works Director in Nether Providence, joined the Township in October as the new Director.
- In June, both pumps at the Pump Station at 4000 Butler Pike were rebuilt, and temporary by-pass pumps were needed to keep the station on-line.
- In August, the sludge pump at Penn Valley was pulled and rebuilt.
- New dugout roofs, new backstops and fences, and new bleachers were installed at Miles Park.
- In March, June and July severe flooding in Whitemarsh meant the Sewer Division worked zealously to keep several pumping stations operational until the water receded.
- In October, the Pump Station at Spring Mill and River Roads was flooded out.



- In September, the wet well at the Morris Road Pump Station was relined, a wet well hatch was installed, and a new roof was constructed to protect the station.

- In October, the long-delayed construction of a sewer system for the Toland Drive / Militia Hill area got underway. The project is expected to be complete by Spring of 2006.

- The Pump Station at the Lafayette connector at Bethlehem Pike in Ft. Washington was relocated, and the new station was put in service in mid-December.

- A feasibility study is underway to determine the best alternative for sewer service in the Stenton Avenue / Sheaff Lane area.

- The PWD began working on two stormwater channel and pipe projects on Toland Drive and Hillcrest Lane in December. The work is being done by departmental staff to reduce costs.



Pedestrian Bridge

The Barren Hill / Spring Mill Roads pedestrian bridge was repaired and reopened in the beginning of December. The bridge had been closed for several years due to structural damage.

The repairs, originally estimated by an outside contractor to cost about \$100,000, were made by Public Works Department staff, under the supervision of the Township Engineer, at a cost of about \$4,000.



DID YOU KNOW ...

Regionally, Whitmarsh is well known as the home of Fort Washington State Park, Hope Lodge/Mathers Mill, The Highlands Mansion & Gardens, Germantown Academy, Plymouth Whitmarsh High School, and McNeil Consumer Healthcare, one of the largest private employers in Montgomery County.

Building Department

Permits and Projects

The Building Department processed over 1,500 permits in 2005. This was almost double the number processed the year before. The volume of work is confirmation that property owners are actively building and renovating their homes and businesses throughout the Township.

The increased permit volume, and the attendant inspections required by so many permits, necessitated the hiring of a new Building Inspector. Fortunately, building permit fees cover the cost of the inspection staff, so the increased permit volume generated sufficient revenue to pay for the cost of the added Inspector.

Building projects of note in 2005 include:

- Congregation Or Ami is occupying the new two-story addition built to improve and expand classroom facilities. They have begun renovations to the existing building.
- The R&S Imports Mercedes Dealership at 404 Pennsylvania Avenue was destroyed by a fire last winter. The replacement building's footings and foundations are in, and the new building is scheduled for completion in fall 2006.



UPDATE!

Have you noticed that the abandoned two-story steel skeleton structure at 29 Ridge Pike is gone? (above)

This community eyesore for over five years has been demolished. (see photo, left)

A six-foot stockade fence has been placed at the front of the property line to dress up the site, while the owner is pursuing the planning for a two-story age-restricted condo with underground parking.

The Hill at Whitemarsh

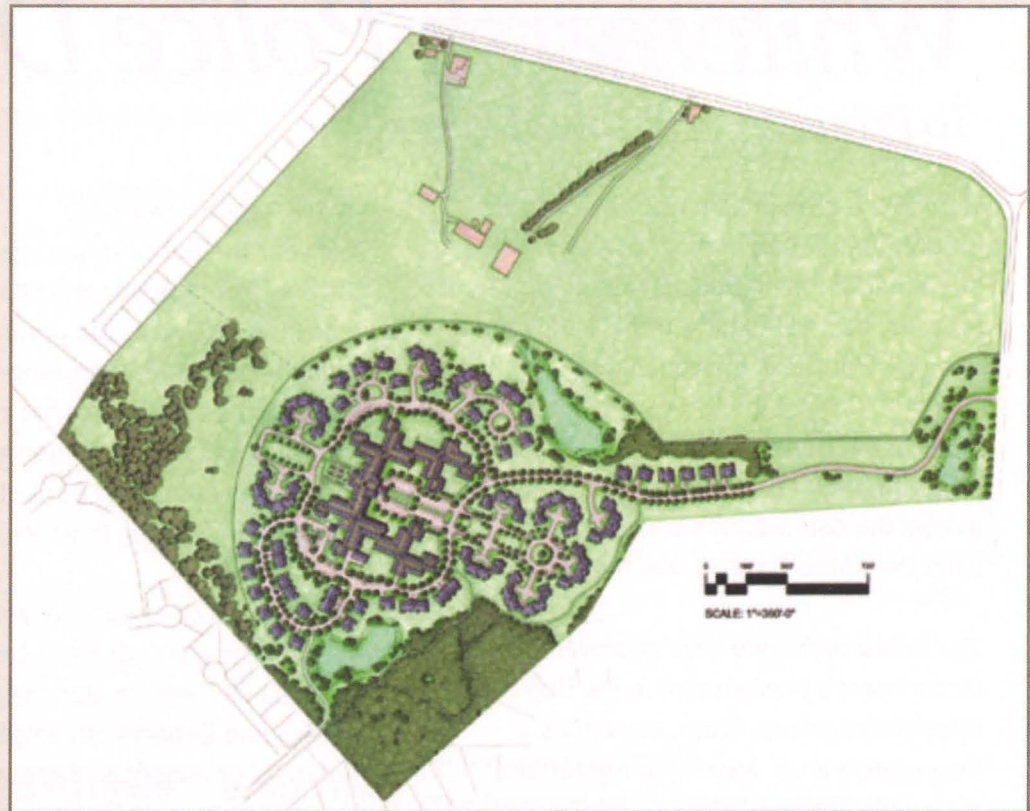
The long planning process came to an end when the former Eugenia Hospital building on Thomas and Flourtown Roads was demolished, and ground was broken for the "The Hill at Whitemarsh."

When finished, this development will consist of five attached three-story buildings with underground service halls and parking. The buildings will house 200 independent living apartment units, eight assisted living units with 24 beds, and a skilled nursing facility with 60 beds.

Surrounding this large structure will be 126 two-story cottages with ground level basements and garages.

The "Hill" is scheduled to be complete in March 2007.

As reported last year, "The Hill at Whitemarsh" will provide the Township with valuable tax revenue that will be used to purchase and preserve portions of Erdenheim Farm.



DID YOU KNOW ...

As of the 2000 Census, in Whitemarsh Township there were:

- 3865 residents between the ages of 55 and 84.*
- 1557 households with members age 65 and over.*
- 700 people 65 years of age and over with a disability.*

Whitemarsh Police Department

To Protect, Serve, and Defend

2005 was a time of continuation for many programs pursued in recent years by the Whitemarsh Police Department – Cop Camp for Kids, seat belt safety, traffic safety and driving awareness education, etc.

In 2005, the Department introduced a new program, the Citizen's Police Academy, to extend the community's understanding of what the police do, and how they do it.

The Board of Supervisors approved the Department's involvement in the Regional Special Operations Team, as well as a Cooperative Multi-Municipal Agreement for a Joint Tactical Team.

Citizen's Police Academy

This year the Police Department launched a Citizens' Police Academy (*photo below*), and in its inaugural year the program hosted 15 Township residents. The nine-week course was designed to educate the residents on various aspects of law enforcement, in a classroom setting and through participation in hands-on training in police operations.

The program covered all aspects of police work. There were scenario-based training sessions like vehicle stops where police officers and Department employees acted as motorists or suspects; there were training sessions to provide firearms familiarization

and crime scene processing. Plymouth Township Police assisted with a K-9 demonstration, and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Bomb Squad gave a demonstration. In the final session, there was a "ride-a-long" with on-duty patrol officers.

The Department believes programs like the Citizens Academy will provide residents with a better appreciation of police officers and an understanding of their role in the community. The objective is a greater sense of partnership that will help identify issues and problems in the community, and encourage the police and the residents to expand their work together to develop solutions to issues of concern.



Cop Camp for Kids

The seventh annual Cop Camp took place in June. 25 youngsters ages 9 to 11 participated in the week-long program. Campers got an inside look at how a police department operates, and the special skills police officers possess.

Games and picnics were included along with the learning moments. Cop Camp Cadets attended a Camden River Sharks

Inaugural Citizens' Police Academy Class

game, and acted as the Color Guard during the singing of the National Anthem.

Another highlight during the past two years has been a sports competition between the Cadets and the Miles Park Camp Kids. The Cadets won last year and the Park Campers won this year. The Cadets (and the Police Department) are looking forward to taking back the trophy from the Park Campers.

The Department will begin accepting applications for the 2006 program in the spring; Camp for 2006 will be the week of June 19th.

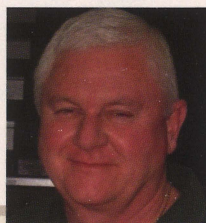
Retirements / Promotions / New Officers

Officer Joseph McLenigan served for 28 years, and was one of the original members of the Tactical Response Team.

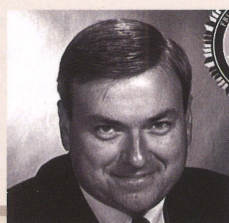
Lt. Jesse R. Stemple served for over 34 years, rising from patrol officer to Lieutenant.

Officer Terry Sztubinski served for over 31 years. In addition to his work as a patrol officer, he served as a negotiator with the Tactical Response Team.

Three officers retired from the Department in 2005:



Officer Joseph McLenigan



Lt. Jesse R. Stemple



Officer Terry Sztubinski

Promotions

Christopher Ward was promoted from the Detective division to Patrol Sergeant.

Dominic Venezia was promoted to Detective, to serve in the Juvenile Division.

Michael O'Doherty was appointed to the Traffic Safety Unit

New Officers

Andrew Oreo was sworn in as a Patrol Officer. A native of the Norristown area, Officer Oreo is a member of the PA Air National Guard 111th Security Forces. Shortly after taking his oath of office, Officer Oreo and his Guard unit were deployed to Louisiana to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina for a month.

Officer Robert Roth was sworn in as an officer in February. Prior to his employment with the Whitmarsh Police, Officer Roth worked for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department. He is married with three children, and is a graduate of Bloomsburg University with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, and master's degree in Criminal Justice from West Chester University.



Officer Tyrone Tate

D.A.R.E.

Officer Tyrone Tate became the first Whitmarsh police officer to complete the intensive two-week training program required to become a D.A.R.E. officer.

D.A.R.E. is the national

drug and alcohol education program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice. In the past, members of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department have taught the program in our schools; now Officer Tate can provide the School District with certified drug and alcohol training.

Community Programs

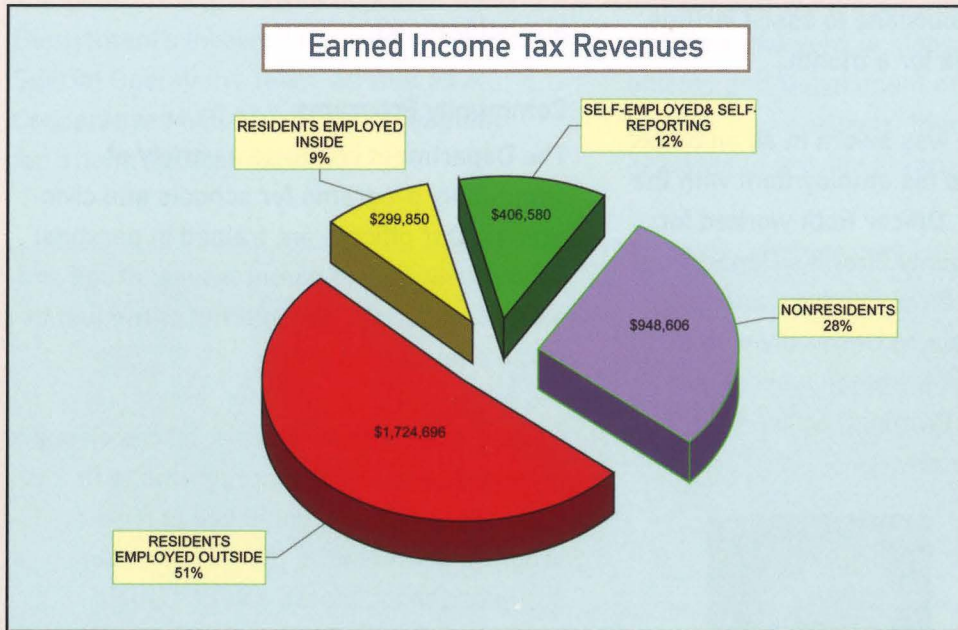
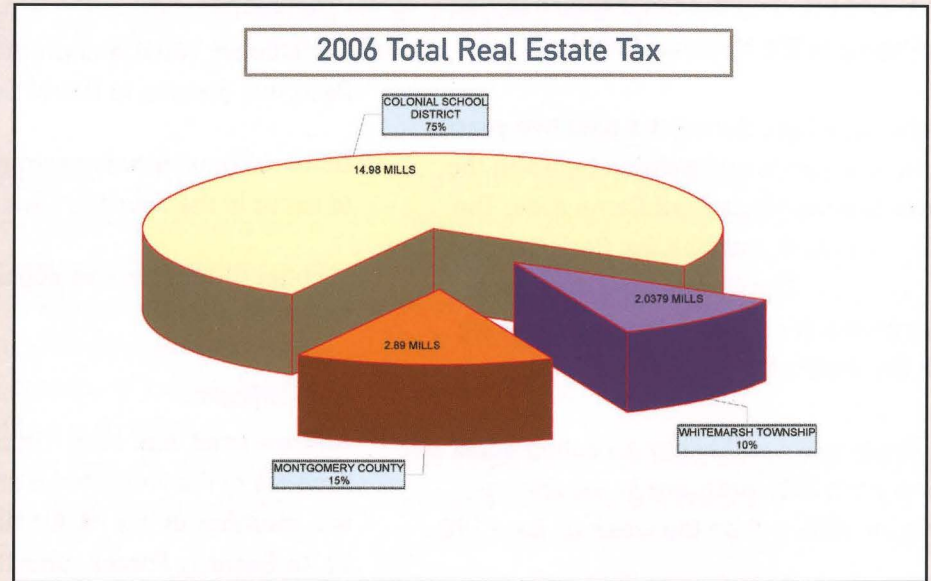
The Department conducts a variety of community programs for schools and civic groups. Our officers are trained in personal safety, juvenile and parent issues, drugs and alcohol, terrorism and internet crime just to name a few.

Officers will come to schools, offices or public meetings, and will tailor programs to fit various scenarios. If you'd like to have a program presented to your organization, group or school, please call Lt. Donald Bowers or Sgt. Fran Wheatley.

Finances/Budgets

In 2005, the Township raised the quality of its service, began budgeting for the repair and upgrading of Township facilities and infrastructure, and further pursued efforts to contain seemingly ever-rising costs.

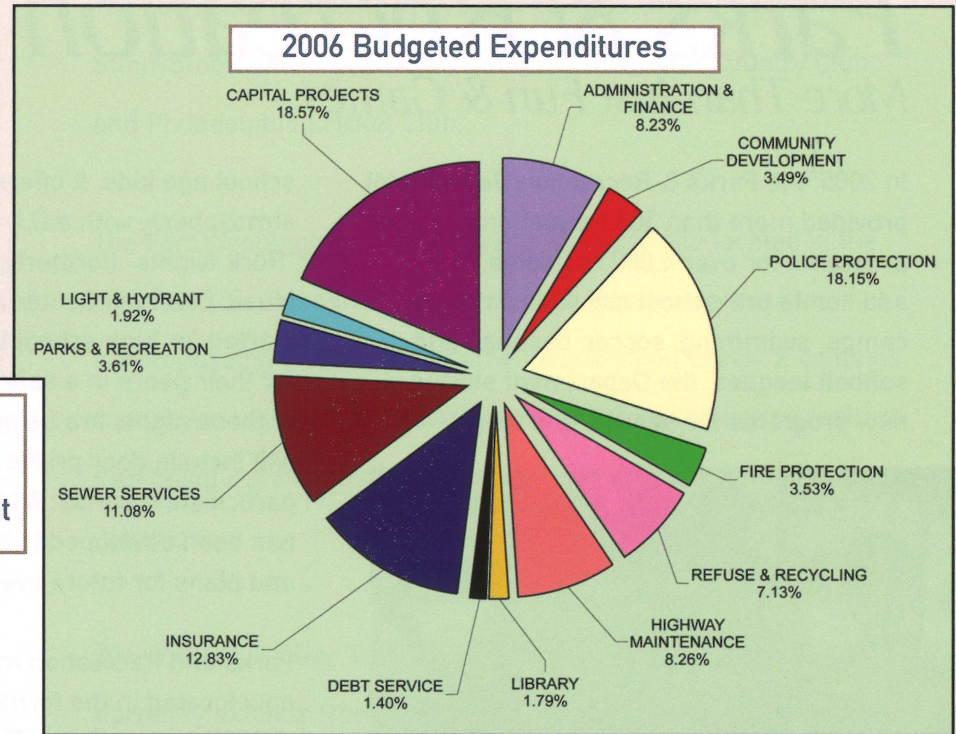
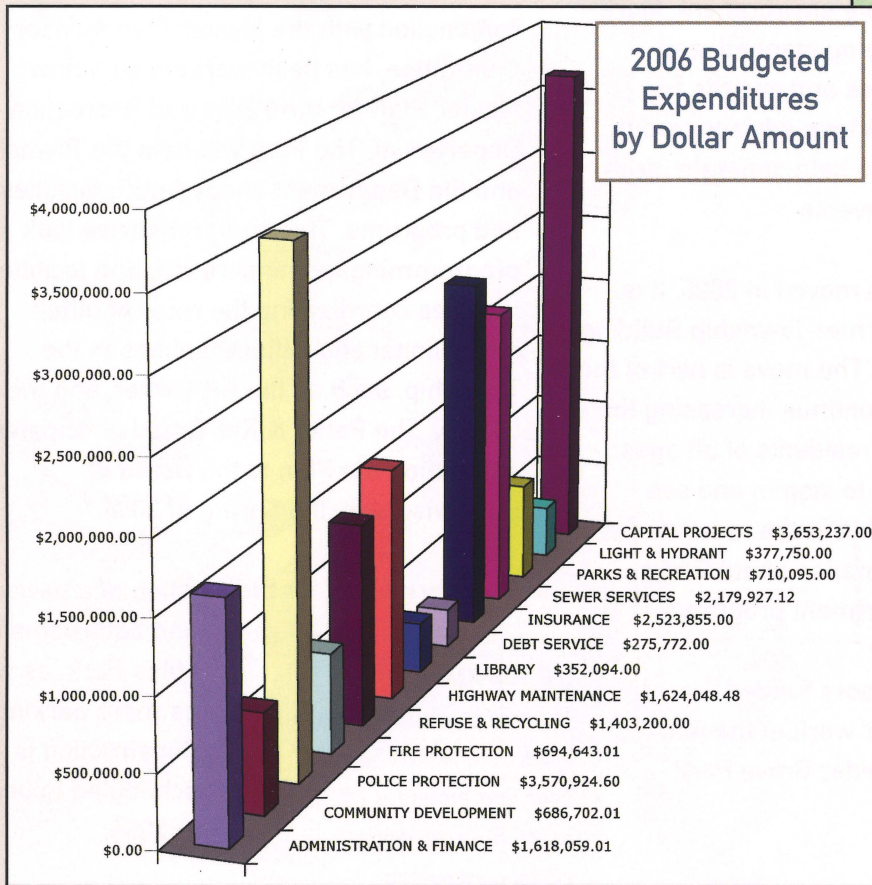
The Township finished 2005 in a strong financial condition, and expects to continue providing steadily improving services in 2006.



The Total Real Estate Tax rate break-down: 75% goes to the Colonial School District, 15% to Montgomery County, and 10% to Whitemarsh Township.

In 2005, the Finance Department finished modifying its financial reporting and auditing practices to incorporate all of the changes in municipal accounting required by the Government Accounting and Standards Board (GASB).

In its Statement #34, GASB issued guidelines to make traditional short-term government financial reporting include a more long-term perspective. In keeping with this requirement, the new



accounting model includes capitalization and depreciation for publicly-owned infrastructure such as street lights and traffic lights, sewage treatment plants and pumping stations, and buildings.

The new accounting model also requires municipal governments provide a narrative overview and analysis of their operations. The changes mandated by GASB Statement #34 now make government accounting much more similar to the accounting model followed by most businesses.

Parks & Recreation

More Than Just Fun & Games

In 2005, the Parks & Recreation Department provided more than 300 recreational programs for over 4,000 residents. In addition to pre-school activities, summer camps, swimming, soccer, baseball and softball leagues, the Department started new programs for seniors and teens.

school age kids. It offers a "night club" atmosphere, with a DJ, activities and food. "Rock Nights" (formerly "Java Jam"), with the Music Learning Center as a venue, was started for high school bands to perform for their peers in a safe environment. More of these nights are being planned, and will include door prizes and awards for participating bands. A teen advisory group has been developed to help generate ideas and plans for future events.

Parks and Recreation moved in 2005. It is now located in the former Township Building at 4021 Joshua Road. The move is part of the Township's effort to continue increasing the programs it offers to residents of all ages. Residents are invited to stop in and see the new space available in the renovated building, or get information about Parks and Recreation Department programs.

The Board of Supervisors funded restoration and repair work at the Art Center and Barn at Cedar Grove Park.

New senior programs included socials, bingo and art classes. Future programs will include trips and workshops. The Department has also developed a Senior Newsletter so seniors will get updates and reminders about the programs being offered.

Two new teen programs were started in 2005 as well. Club Hot was developed for middle-



Planning for the Future

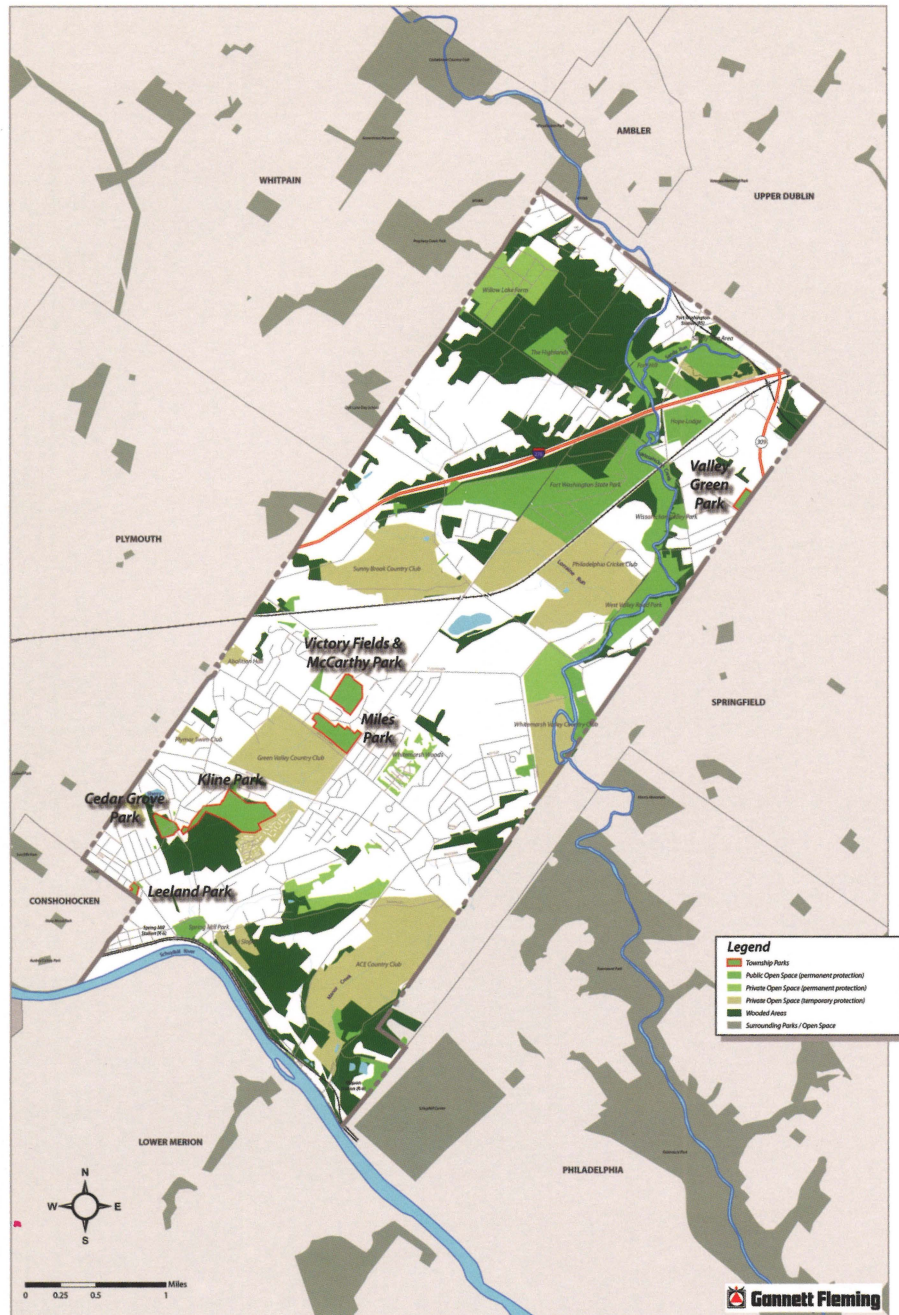
The Parks and Recreation Board, in conjunction with the Master Plan Advisory Committee, has been working on a new Master Plan for the Parks and Recreation Department. The Plan will help the Township and the Department shape future facilities and programs. This comprehensive look at programming, administration, and facilities includes coordinating the roles of other recreational and cultural entities in the Township, such as the Art Center, and the Library. The Parks & Rec Board anticipates submitting the Plan to the Board of Supervisors by the Spring of 2006.

There are plans for the addition of a pavilion and bathrooms in Miles Park, as well as more parking. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2006.

DID YOU KNOW ...

The walking/jogging path in Miles Park is 5/8 of a mile. Four laps around is 2.5 miles. Rollerblading, skateboarding and bicycling are prohibited on the track.

Whitemarsh Parks & Recreation Master Plan



The Township is the site of five golf courses: Whitemarsh Valley, Sunnybrook and Green Valley Country Clubs; ACE Country Club; and Philadelphia Cricket Club.

The Fort Washington State Park is a 483-acre site located in the middle of the Township. It is primarily a passive open space, encompassing woodlands and the Wissahickon Creek. It contains a segment of the Green Ribbon Trail, a regional biking/pedestrian trail being developed by the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association.

The Schuylkill River Trail is a biking and pedestrian trail that currently extends from Center City to Valley Forge National Park. The Schuylkill River Trail was developed by Montgomery County as the first trail in an envisioned trail system that would connect much of the Philadelphia region. In Whitemarsh, the trail extends along the river and has numerous connections to Township roads.

The Township received a \$27,500 grant from the DCNR to augment Open Space planning for "greenways," flood protection, and to produce a comprehensive map of conservation features, as well as a conservation management plan for Township property.

Whitemarsh Township

Main : 610-825-3535

Board of Supervisors (2006)

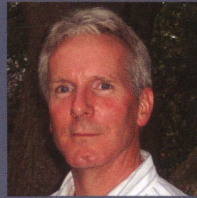
Joseph P. Corcoran III, *Chairman*

Steven S. Brown, *Vice Chairman*

Jean K. McLenigan

Kelly C. Wall

Jonathan D. Weiss



Joseph Corcoran



Steven Brown



Jean McLenigan



Kelly Wall



Jonathan Weiss

Township Manager

Christopher R. van de Velde

Chief of Police

Eileen W. Behr

Police, Fire or Ambulance

911

Police Emergency Direct

610-828-8000

www.whitemarshtwp.org

Whitemarsh Township
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