



# East Buffalo Township Newsletter

589 Fairground Road, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania 17837 — 570-523-6320 — www.ebtwp.org

Spring 2009

## East Buffalo Township Begins to Move on Bike-Pedestrian Committee Recommendations

East Buffalo Township’s bike-pedestrian committee was formed in February, 2008, and after 7 months presented its recommendations to the supervisors at a very well attended public meeting. Since then, the township has moved ahead in at least a small way with several top priorities.

The township engineer met recently with representatives from Bucknell and with members of the bike-pedestrian committee and reviewed possible alignments for a proposed path connecting the Bucknell tunnel beneath Rt. 15 with the intersection of Stein Lane and Monroe Avenue.

This path could be viewed as a two-way street. It would serve township residents, particularly those in Linntown and Westlawn and West Acres who wish to bike or walk to and from jobs on campus or in the borough. It would also offer joggers,

many of whom are students, with an alternative to jogging out Smoketown Road and down Stein Lane.

There is more to the plan than just putting a path across the Bucknell practice fields. In the interests of providing bikers, walkers and joggers a safe alternative to Stein and Smoketown, stop signs and a crosswalk would be installed at the intersection of Stein and Monroe. And parts of Monroe, 15th St. and possibly other streets would be signed as a bike/jogging route.

Engineering studies have also been done for another connector path that would pass through the township’s park on Fairground Road, linking the eastern and western portions of St. Marys Street ... at least for non-motorized travelers. This project would also entail creating a cross walks on Fairground road at its intersection with

St. Marys Street and on Reitz Blvd at the library.

Finally, the township’s solicitor is reviewing several bike-ped committee recommendations, including an amendment to the township’s comprehensive plan that would clearly state that the township is committed to a long-term effort to make the community friendlier and safer for bikers, joggers and pedestrians. Also up for consideration by the supervisors will be an ordinance requiring new subdivisions to provide for bike-ped paths, especially those that would help link to a larger bike-ped system such as the proposed LARA rail-trail.

Happily, it looks like the developers of the former PA House site are already making sidewalks and pathways an integral part of their plan.

## Bicycles and Pedestrians – The Law

Spring is here, at least by the calendar, and traveling on foot and bicycles is popular in East Buffalo Township. Knowing the laws concerning all modes of travel is important for the safety of all roadway users.

The following are from the Pennsylvania Vehicle code:

1. Drivers must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in a marked or unmarked crosswalk, however the law also states that a pedestrian shall not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety into the path of a vehicle so close as to constitute a hazard.
2. If a sidewalk is available, it must be used. Absent a sidewalk, pedestrians

must walk facing traffic and walk on the shoulder. Absent a sidewalk or shoulder, they must walk on the outside edge of the roadway, facing traffic, and yield the right-of way to vehicular traffic on the roadway.

3. Pedacycles (bicycles) are granted the same rights as other vehicles on the roadway except those which, by their nature, are not applicable.
4. Bicyclists may ride no more than two abreast on a roadway.
5. Bicyclists must ride on the right side of the roadway.
6. Bicyclists must obey traffic control devices – one way streets, stop signs, speed limits.

7. Bicycle riders or passengers under age 12 must wear an approved, labeled pedacycle helmet.
8. Bicycles operating between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with a white light to the front that can be seen for at least 500 feet, a red reflector to the rear visible at 500 feet and amber reflectors on both sides.
9. Bicycles must be equipped with brakes.

Keeping these few points in mind will help all modes of transportation use the roadways in harmony and prevent a catastrophe.

### In this issue

William Cameron Engine Company Names New Chief.....2  
 Summer Road Work Slated.....2  
 New Internet Services for Our Community.....2

Township Now Offers Leaf Waste Recycling Options.....3  
 Lewisburg Area Recreation Authority Serving Our Community.....3  
 Miss Road Manners on Staying Safe on the Road.....4

## William Cameron Engine Company Names New Chief

We are happy to be able to get information about what is happening at William Cameron Engine Company (WCEC) to you in this newsletter! For those of you who do not know much about WCEC, we provide fire, rescue and emergency medical service to Lewisburg and the surrounding communities, including all of East Buffalo Township. We also have an active fire prevention program and make visits to the schools, pre-schools, community groups and service organizations all year long. If you are interested in having a presentation, please contact our business office at 524-2291 weekdays from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Tuesday evening beginning at 7 p.m. is the weekly training at WCEC. The training normally lasts between 2-3 hours. It may consist of in-house training or a state-certified class. We currently are hosting an Emergency Medical Technician class as well as an Essentials of Firefighting class in the classrooms of our Support Center. This is the building across 5th St. from the fire station which also houses our museum and administrative offices.

Saturday mornings between 10 a.m. and noon we gather for "work detail" at the fire station. We do apparatus, equipment and building and grounds maintenance at that time. In addition, members work on special projects.

The new chief of Department, Mark Carollo, took office on January 1, 2009. Mark appointed Barry Catherman as Deputy Chief and Mark Botts and Bill Hoban are serving as Assistant Chiefs. Steve Leauber and Richard Bennett are serving as Captains and Steve Hlavaty is serving as Lieutenant. Steve Hlavaty is the President for 2009. Steve Leauber is Vice-President, Debra Catherman is Treasurer and Barbara Leauber is Secretary. Katy Catherman was appointed to serve as Assistant Treasurer.

We currently have active members that are comprised of both local residents and students from Bucknell University. In addition, we have career staff on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to supplement the volunteers. The staff members are all EMT's and have additional fire and rescue training that allow them to further assist at WCEC.

We have a long-range planning committee that has been working for about two years on plans for the future of our department. Part of this project includes a possible building renovation project to make more efficient use of our space.

Our annual Ambulance Membership Drive will be out in the mail in May. This membership will provide coverage for you and your family for emergency ambulance service between June 1, 2009, and June 1, 2010. If you do not receive a membership by June 15, 2009, please call our business office weekdays between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 524-2295. This ambulance membership is one way to cover your family, but don't forget to also purchase your Medic 60-55 membership from Evangelical Community Hospital.

We are constantly accepting applications to become a volunteer at WCEC. We accept all types of volunteer members, not just active firefighters! We can use assistance with building and grounds maintenance, computer technology, administrative duties and various other activities.

**E-mail resource:** If you are interested in becoming a member of WCEC, please contact our office weekdays between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 524-2291 or e-mail us at [wcec@wcec-ldf.org](mailto:wcec@wcec-ldf.org)

We look forward to providing you with more information about WCEC in future newsletters. Thank you for all the support you continue to provide WCEC! It is truly appreciated by all the members and staff!

## Summer Road Work Slated

After a rather unremarkable '08-'09 snow season we have noticed the freeze/thaw cycle during the same period continuing to wreak havoc on our roads.

The 2009 road improvement program is anticipated to include the following:

Overlay & Edge/Base Repair or Reclamation;

1. Smoketown Road from Jean Blvd. to the western intersection with Sunnyside Drive
2. Hawthorne Drive, portions
3. Villa Vista, portions

Seal Coat (just like an asphalt driveway, roads require an occasional rejuvenating / healing coat of oil and chip);

1. Spruce Hills Development
2. Westridge Development
3. Lan Avon Drive
4. Hoffa Mill, north of SR45
5. Villa Vista

Final project allocation, scope of work and schedules will be determined after bids are reviewed. Any questions may be directed to the East Buffalo Township Roadmaster at 523-6320.

**E-mail resource:** Or e-mail us at [ebtwp@ptd.org](mailto:ebtwp@ptd.org)

## New Internet Services for Our Community

East Buffalo Township has signed up to be a provider of public information through the internet. Residents can sign up to receive these notifications through the internet, text messages on their cellular phones or to receive an email.

We will try to provide timely information such as alerts as well as community, traffic and advisory information through this method. Examples of information that we feel would be helpful to the community are: Road work, accidents or

other street related happenings that will cause travel delays, crime information where the police are seeking information on the actors or want you to be aware of criminal activity so you can take measures to prevent becoming a victim.

**Online resource:** Additional information and a link to sign up for this service can be found on the internet at [http://www.nixle.com/about\\_consumer.html](http://www.nixle.com/about_consumer.html)

## Township Now Offers Leaf Waste Recycling Options



For leaf waste, the traditional fall pick-up will now be supplemented with an additional spring pick-up and with one drop-off option.

Leaf waste is defined as leaves, brush, twigs & tree branches up to 4 inches in diameter and 6 feet in length and the portions of flowering plants that grow above ground. No soil, grass clippings or root balls.

Leaf waste materials should be separated and left at the curb for pick-up. For limbs/branches, the butt end should be facing the street (please, not in the street).

Leaves should be placed in piles or wind-rows along the street (please, not bagged or in the street) for pick-up by our vacuum truck. Please do not mix other types of waste (limbs, stones, metallic objects) with the leaves as this could damage the vacuum truck and/or injure township employees.

We often get questions about the exact schedule that the leaf truck runs on. Because this activity is dependent on the weather, it is not possible to determine what day the leaf truck will arrive at a specific neighborhood. However, it might be of help to know that the leaf truck will make its last pass through the township the week of Thanksgiving as well as

the second week of April.

The second full week of each month from May to October, the township will collect leaf waste on a call-in basis, weather permitting. Call 523-6320 prior to the 2nd full week of the month to notify the township of material to be collected.

The drop-off location is a permitted site referred to as Briarpatch Organic Farms, 583 Cannon Rd. Mifflinburg, Union County. (570) 966-3565.

**REQUIRES APPOINTMENT FOR DROP OFF**  
966-1658.

The township will annually advertise yard waste drop off site locations and hours of operations. There may be a charge for drop-off convenience.

Curbside pick-up of Christmas trees is performed every year between Jan. 3 and the end of the second full week of January, which in 2010 will be Friday, Jan. 15.

East Buffalo Township residents are required to recycle glass, aluminum and the most common types of plastic.

Curbside pick-up of recyclables takes place on the first Tuesday of each month, year round. If the first Tuesday is a holiday, then

the pick-up takes place the first Wednesday. Items accepted for curbside pick-up include glass, which should be separated by color, and aluminum cans. All items must be placed in an official township recycling container, which you can pick up for free at the township office at 589 Fairground Rd.

Township residents can recycle a wider variety of materials by dropping them off at the township recycling area between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. every Wednesday. In addition to glass and aluminum cans, the drop-off site is set up so you can recycle bi-metal cans, #1 and #2 plastic, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, office paper, shredded paper and magazines.

**Online resource:** If you have questions about the township's recycling program, please call 523-6320 or visit our website, [www.ebtwp.org](http://www.ebtwp.org).

## Lewisburg Area Recreation Authority Preparing for Summer Season

The Lewisburg Area Recreation Authority continues to look for ways to better serve the community. Accordingly, the price of pool passes for residents of East Buffalo Township and the Lewisburg Borough have been reduced by 10% from last year's levels, a reflection of the board's desire to make sure that this icon of summer remains accessible to youth and families.

Safety-minded upgrades to the drain systems of all public pools have been mandated by federal law, and LARA is working to make sure that all these new goals are met so the pool can open as scheduled on Sat., May 23. And don't forget, additional pool pass discounts are available to everyone who makes their purchase prior to May 15. For more details, please visit the LARA website at [www.golara.org](http://www.golara.org) or look for the Summer Leisure Guide in the May 10 edition of your local newspapers.

Note: LARA will again allow children as young as 10 admission to the pool without adult supervision. However, proper behavior and compliance with all pool rules is essential, and persistent bad behavior may result in the loss of pool privileges.

Following up on the success of last year's mini summer camp, LARA will be offering a summer-long day camp this year with 24 slots for children between the ages of 5 and 12. Participants can buy in for the entire summer or just for selected weeks. Day campers will participate in games, activities, crafts and outings, and they will have free access to the pool and gymnastics center during the time they are campers, not to mention the LARA Park.

Speaking of the park, a couple of additional improvements are being planned. First, the banks of Limestone Run will be stabilized and brought into line with the highest environmental standards. Most of the work will involve planting native grass and shrub that naturally thrive in such riparian areas and whose root systems help to stabilize the soil.

In partnership with the gymnastics parents association, LARA will purchase and install a new floor covering for the gymnastics center, replacing the worn blue carpet. The gymnastics team will put on its spring show June 6.

Finally, the rail trail project continues to move ahead. It is anticipated that salvage work started May 9th and that the steel

rails and wooden cross-ties will be gone by the end of May, but it will be many months at best before the necessary design and construction work can be completed so that the trail can be opened for public use. For that reason, all common access points to the trail will be blocked and signs will be posted warning people away. The rail bed will be in a very rough and unsafe condition. Also of concern will be the fact that the rail bed crosses a number of bridges with large gaps in the decking and no handrails. LARA would appreciate the public's cooperation in observing a no-use policy until the trail is officially opened. LARA has sought funding from a number of grant programs to help with the cost of the trail. Tax-deductible contributions to the rail-trail can be made to LARA Rail-trail. They will be held in a separate account and used exclusively for the Rail-trail Project.

**Online resource:** You can register and pay on-line for most LARA programs at [www.golara.org](http://www.golara.org). Purchase of pool passes must be done in person at the LARA office at 629 Fairground Road. For additional information, please visit our website or call the office at 524-4774.



## Miss Road Manners on Staying Safe on the Road *By Freddi Carlip (aka Miss Road Manners)*

We're blessed to live in East Buffalo Township. The beauty of our area makes it a delight to run or walk its roads. Miss Road Manners has been running the roads of EBT for over thirty years. She's seen our area grow and become more developed. Roads that were mostly rural have become heavily traveled. And with a growing population, and the desire to become more physically active, our roads are much busier. And that means we must be even more mindful of not only where we run and walk, but also how.

In 1999, Miss Road Manners' alter ego, Freddi Carlip, was asked by the president of the Road Runners Club of America, Olympian Don Kardong, to write guidelines to make runners safer. Freddi was happy to comply and thus Miss Road Manners was "born." As Miss RM says, "Road Manners Matter." Please pay attention and read on...

Running and walking safely on the roads requires common sense. Miss RM continues to be baffled by runners and walkers who leave common sense at home when they hit the road.

And the "I am Runner; Hear Me Roar" method doesn't work. If it's runner/walker vs. vehicle, the runner/walker rarely wins. It's not about winning anyway. It's about being safe and being courteous. It's time once again for Miss Road Manners

to remind runners and walkers exactly what common sense is.

It's time for Miss Road Manners' Rules of the Road

1. Runners and walkers need to be seen by drivers. Run/walk against traffic and watch the oncoming traffic. If you're running/walking in a group, run/walk in single file as cars approach and do it quickly. We do not, let me repeat that DO NOT RUN OR WALK WITH TRAFFIC! We need to be seen by oncoming cars. Why does Miss RM see way too many runners and walkers running or walking with traffic? Common sense tells Miss RM (but apparently not the aforementioned people) to run and walk so you can see oncoming cars...and they can see you.
2. Night running/walking requires wearing reflective, light-colored clothing. And that means at dusk and dawn, too.
3. No headphones...period. The only safe place to wear them is on a treadmill. Worried about being bored? Then tune in to your surroundings. You never know what you'll hear.
4. Be extra mindful at intersections. Drivers are looking for oncoming cars, and may not realize you want to cross the street. Stopping

for a light or traffic isn't going to hurt your running or walking. Being hit by a car, though, will certainly cause bodily harm and zero miles.

5. Cell phones? Talking on the phone when running or walking? Why? Miss RM has seen way too many walkers and some runners chattering away as they make their way on our township roads. Miss Road Manners understands that emergencies do arise. But...giving your attention to the phone means your attention isn't on your surroundings. Cell phones are for emergencies only when pounding the pavement.
6. Muffy, Fluffy, Fido, or Bruiser the Bowser belong on a leash, as close to you as possible. Retractable leashes are fine...for parks and open spaces, not for the roads. Dogs love to run or walk. Keep them safe, and away from other runners, walkers, or cars.
7. Have ID with you. Be prepared for the unexpected.

Miss Road Manners is on the roads of East Buffalo Township and beyond and she is confident you'll run safe and run smart.