

MOON TOWNSHIP MESSENGER

The Official Newsletter of Moon Township

SUMMER 2011



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

September 11, Dedication

Memorial Garden Redesign

Parks and Recreation Programs

MCA-TV Upgrades

Township Planning Priorities

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MOON TOWNSHIP MESSENGER

MOON TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION

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www.moontwp.com

Jeanne Creese, Township Manager
Jeffrey Ziegler, Assistant Township Manager/Finance and Human Resources
Lisa Lapaglia, Finance Director
Jim Henkemeyer, Public Works Director
John Scott, Public Works Administrator
Dave Meinert, Building Inspector
Lora Dombrowski, Code Administrator
Charlie Belgie, Jr., Fire Marshal
Leo McCarthy, Police Chief
Greg Seamon, Police Captain
Dana Kasler, Parks and Recreation Director
Lance Welliver, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
James Koepfinger, MCA-TV Director
Ryan McAfee, MCA-TV Assistant Director
Meghan McNamara, Communications Director

MOON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jim Vitale, Chairman
Frank Sinatra, Vice Chairman
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OTHER MOON TOWNSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION:

Call 911 in an emergency

Moon Township Police Department – 412-262-5000
Moon Township Fire Department – 412-262-5004
Moon Parks and Recreation – 412-262-1703
Moon Community Access Television – 412-269-1191
Moon Township Municipal Authority – 412-264-4300
Moon Township Public Library – 412-269-0334
Elected Property Tax Collector, Catherine Tress – 412-299-7446
Earned Income Tax Collector, Keystone Municipal Collections – 724-978-0300

Communications Director Meghan McNamara welcomes your feedback on the “Moon Township Messenger” at mmcnamara@moontwp.com or 412-269-1191.

On the Cover: Acoustic artist John Puckett performs at Moon Parks and Recreation's first lunchtime concert of the summer at the Robin Hill Park Gazebo.

MOON TOWNSHIP IN BRIEF

Public Works Department Offers Fall Composting Program

Last year's Composting Program converted more than 120 tons of Moon Township yard waste into reusable composting material for township and resident landscaping projects. Below are two options to participate in the fall session of this annual recycling program:

Fall Curbside Pick-up Program

The Public Works Department will offer curbside brush pick-ups from Oct. 3, through Oct. 28, following residents' regular garbage collection schedule. To participate, place brush at the curb line by 7 a.m. on pick-up day. Brush shouldn't exceed six feet in length and four inches in diameter, and should not be bundled or tied. Leaves are not accepted for pick-up.

Drop off Brush, Pick Up Compost

The Public Works Department accepts yard waste drop-offs at the Downes Fire Station located at the intersection of Beaver Grade and Ewing roads. Residents can call the Public Works Department to make arrangements to drop off leaves and tree branches throughout the week. Residents also can reap the benefits of their composting efforts by arranging to pick up mature compost or wood chips for their own yards. Call 412-262-1700 to arrange a compost drop-off or pick-up.

Classic Car Cruise Rolls into Moon Park in August

Cruise by Moon Park from 10 a.m. to dusk Sunday, August 28, for classic cars, char-grilled burgers and a burn-out pit that will get engines revving and wheels spinning. Hosted by the Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company, the Car Cruise also will feature entertainment and food vendors throughout the day. Stop by early to support the MTVFC and local emergency response efforts.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Moon Township In Brief	p2-3
Public Safety	p4
Planning	p5-6
MCA-TV	p7-8
Parks and Recreation	p9-12
Tax Information	p13
Citizen Spotlight.....	p14-15
Moon Golf Club.....	p16
Library	p17

MOON TOWNSHIP IN BRIEF

Continued from pg. 2

MOON TOWNSHIP TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT

Moon Township's Trick-or-Treat Night is scheduled for
Monday, October 31 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Moon Township Recycling Day



With the help of more than 400 Moon residents, Moon Township Recycling Day diverted 91 appliances, 298 tires, 25,246 pounds of electronics and a truckload of reusable construction materials from the landfill. This is the sixth year that the Moon Township Environmental Advisory Council has sponsored the event, which focuses on items that can't simply be tossed into a curbside recycling bin. The EAC thanks all of the volunteers and eco-conscious attendees who made this event a success.

Corporate Hand-Me-Downs Furnish Moon Township Offices

Moon Township would rather spend money on services than office furniture. So instead of budgeting money for replacements, Moon Township relies on furniture donations from its corporate and business community. If you are getting rid of gently-used office furniture, please consider donating it to Moon Township.



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World Trade Center Steel to be Dedicated on Tenth Anniversary of Sept. 11

Steel Inspires Plans for Memorial Garden Redesign

In honor of the tenth anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001, Moon Township will dedicate a steel remnant from the World Trade Center as a public memorial to the nearly 3,000 people who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks.

Moon Township is inviting residents, active and retired military service members, emergency responders and members of the airline community to attend the dedication ceremony at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011 at the township Memorial Garden, located between the Municipal and Public Safety buildings at 1000 Beaver Grade Road.

The World Trade Center steel reached Moon Township in April from the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey following a nearly two-year request process spearheaded by Fire Marshal Charlie Belgie, a 63-year member of the Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company. The 898-pound steel remnant was part of a column in the World Trade Center's North Tower and will stand more than six feet tall when mounted.

With its long-awaited arrival, the World Trade Center steel also has galvanized a community project to redesign the memorial garden with new landscaping features, a memorial brick walkway, benches and other amenities.

"There is a lot of history behind this steel, and I think it's extremely important that we display it as a public remembrance of Sept. 11," Belgie said. "If we're able to get the support of the community behind us, I think we can build on this momentum to create a more welcoming place to visit, remember and reflect."



Fire Marshal Charlie Belgie stands with the 898-pound steel section of the World Trade Center's North Tower.



Three newly-developed rain gardens now circle Moon Township's memorial area.

Memorial Garden Redesign

Local collaborations already have laid the groundwork for the memorial garden redesign, which is revolving around an eco-friendly design concept.

Through a grant project led by Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, three rain gardens now circle the central flag and memorial area, which also is planned to feature a memorial brick walkway when complete.

Beyond improving the aesthetics of the site, the rain gardens will provide a natural storm water solution by absorbing excess runoff from Beaver Grade Road and surrounding parking areas.

Unlike regular landscaping islands, rain gardens are actually shallow basins planted with trees, shrubs and perennials native to the region. Rain gardens are designed to let rain water runoff filter through the vegetation and soak slowly into

the ground instead of overloading the storm water drainage system. Moon Township's rain gardens are now member gardens of the Three Rivers Rain Garden Alliance, which offers helpful information online at raingardenalliance.org.

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania received funding and volunteer support for the project through FedEx as part of a collaborative effort between FedEx Corp. and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to address environmental challenges and enhance community spaces in urban areas. Moon Township's memorial garden is one of 12 conservation projects across the U.S. to receive funding from FedEx and the NFWF this year.

As part of the FedEx EarthSmart Outreach project, Moon Township-based FedEx Ground's team members volunteered their time to mulch and plant the rain gardens on June 30. Now, Moon Township is looking for community support to pave the way for the next phase of the project.

Community Involvement

Moon Township is now inviting community members to add their own lasting message to the memorial garden by purchasing a commemorative brick, which will be placed in the pathway circling the central flag and memorial site. Engraved bricks are a meaningful way to remember a loved one, honor a friend or family member or recognize a milestone. Brick sponsorships include an engraved message on an 8x8 brick and are available for \$65 for the first brick and \$50 for additional brick purchases. Brick order forms will be available at the Moon Township Municipal Building and online at www.moontwp.com



Learn more about rain gardens at raingardenalliance.org

Sponsorship opportunities also are available for additional memorial garden features, including benches, trees and future development of a township memorial wall. For details about the variety of ways to contribute, please contact Jeanne Creese, Moon Township manager, at 412-262-1700 or Charlie Belgie, fire marshal, at 412-262-5004.

Moon Township Crafts Marcellus Shale Strategy

To date, Moon Township hasn't received any land use requests for Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling within township borders. But as the industry continues to grow across Pennsylvania, the Board of Supervisors has made it a top priority to bring its oil and gas ordinance up-to-speed with changing drilling practices and technologies.

At the April workshop meeting, the board voted to retain Tucker Arensberg, P.C. as special counsel for oil and gas development. The firm will work with the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to update the ordinance within the boundaries set by Pennsylvania's Oil and Gas Act.

Under Pennsylvania's Oil and Gas Act, local governments have limited authority to regulate Marcellus Shale natural gas activity. The Oil and Gas Act delegates the majority of authority to the state, which regulates well permitting, water supply protection, well restoration and other operational oversights.

Municipalities can, however, protect their best interests through reasonable regulations laid out in local zoning ordinances. But it's important to note that, just like any other land use, the township can't ban Marcellus Shale drilling outright, or ban it effectively with overly restrictive ordinances.

Moon Township's zoning ordinance currently defines oil and gas activities as a conditional use, which would require any application to go through a public hearing process. Approval would be contingent on requirements ranging from fencing, noise and light regulations to bond postings to cover wear and tear on township roadways.

In its current form, however, the ordinance does not designate specific zoning districts where drilling is a permitted use. This is an option that the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission will consider during the update process.

To prepare for the ordinance update, the Supervisors have been drawing from a variety of sources to research drilling practices and potential impacts. The board is also taking a first-hand look at drilling operations. In June and July, representatives from the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission toured Marcellus Shale well sites in Washington County.

"The more we know and understand about the Marcellus Natural Gas Industry, the more effective our oil and gas ordinance will be," said Jim Vitale, chairman of the Board of Supervisors. "We're also encouraging residents to participate in this discussion, share their input and ask questions throughout the process."

Moon Township's Environmental Advisory Council will also provide input, and any ordinance revision will be open for public comment before action is taken.

Marcellus Shale will be an ongoing discussion item at public meetings of the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission throughout the summer and fall. Residents are encouraged to follow the process by attending public meetings and finding regular updates at www.moontwp.com.

Public Safety Professionals Prepare for Marcellus Shale

If the Marcellus Shale industry does make its way to the area, Moon Township public safety professionals will be prepared.

In May, Moon Township Police Chief Leo McCarthy attended a conference hosted by the Department of Justice to hone in on the role of law enforcement in Marcellus Shale development. State and local law enforcement officers met at Penn State University – which hosts a robust Marcellus Shale research program – to discuss topics like population change and truck inspections that can affect local law enforcement operations. McCarthy currently is training a group of Moon Township officers to inspect the trucks that transport materials to drill sites.

The Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company is also trained and ready for Marcellus Shale. Fire Chief John Scott, Fire Marshal Charlie Belgie and a number of other volunteer firefighters have completed the Pennsylvania Fire Academy's training for emergency response to Marcellus Shale drilling incidents. The rest of the company is scheduled to receive training in coming months.

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Putting the Plan in Action: How the Comprehensive Plan Shapes Moon Township

At the conclusion of Moon Township’s 2011 Comprehensive Plan Update, the finished document will likely weigh in with several pounds of statistics, analyses and diagrams. It will embody more than a year of committee meetings and public input sessions and project community development goals and trends into the next 10 years.

But in its final chapter, the 2011 Comprehensive Plan will consolidate all of the data, analysis and objectives into a prioritized plan of action.

That chapter is where you’ll find the answer to the question, “What happens next?” Legally, the Comprehensive Plan can’t stand alone as an enforceable policy. Instead, it’s implemented through amendments to the township’s zoning, subdivision and land development ordinances, which makes the implementation strategy essential to the plan’s success.

Moon Township has a strong track record for plan implementation. Throughout the past decade, the Comprehensive Plan has guided Moon Township’s reinvention from an airport services community to a hub for corporate headquarters, business parks and higher education.

“From my past experience working with other municipalities, Moon Township has always been a model for effective planning, particularly for redevelopment and transportation,” said Moon Township Manager Jeanne Creese. “Although long-range planning goals don’t happen overnight, it’s important for citizens to understand the real impact that the Comprehensive Plan has on the community over time.”

Products of past comprehensive plans can be physically seen throughout the township as well as noted throughout its ordinances. As Moon Township moves forward with its 2011 Comprehensive Plan Update, it’s worth revisiting several long-term 2000 Comprehensive objectives, several of which will carry into the next decade. Here are a few implementation highlights from the 2000 Comprehensive Plan Action Plan:

Ordinance Revisions: Township ordinances are the Comprehensive Plan’s primary implementation tools, so ordinance revisions are of prime importance. In the years following the 2000

The Comprehensive Plan Committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9 and Dec. 14. Residents are encouraged to attend these public meetings. Check www.moontwp.com for meeting recaps, plan documents and the most up-to-date meeting schedule. To provide your input to the plan, look for a community survey to be distributed this fall.

plan, the township strengthened its zoning and land development ordinances to incorporate transportation and community design improvements into new land development applications. The plan also gave rise to several recently-adopted ordinances, including two discussed below.

University Boulevard Redevelopment: University Boulevard traces the origins of its name change and evolving design to the 2000 Comprehensive Plan, which recommended a detailed redevelopment plan for the former Beers School/Narrows Run corridor. In 2005, the township adopted the University Boulevard Overlay District ordinance, which incorporates traffic and streetscape improvements, pedestrian amenities, and building façade standards into development plans. Millions of dollars of developments spanning the boulevard now reflect this urban design strategy, including Arby’s Restaurant, Sheetz and Walgreens.

The Carnot Village Overlay District: With its central location and historical significance, plan architects identified the Carnot Village as the ideal location for a walk-able town center. The Carnot Village Overlay District ordinance, which the board adopted in 2005, was the first step toward this concept. The overlay district was designed to encourage a pedestrian-friendly mix of retail and office development with a variety of streetscape upgrades. While all of the upgrades apply to new construction – like Turner Dental and West-Aircomm Federal Credit Union – many of the improvements also apply to building renovations in the district.

Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan: The township developed this plan in 2005, and since then, has made considerable strides on implementing it. Phase I of Moon Park renovations has added a full-sized baseball field, four new tennis courts, a new picnic pavilion and renovated pond to the township’s largest park. On the other side of the township, the newly-developed Olson Park has opened 137 acres of green space, and the township is now crafting a plan to further expand its park system with a Waterfront Park fronting the Ohio River. Continuing renovation projects are planned for the next several years.

Sidewalks and Trails Master Plan: In 2007, Moon Township followed up on a Comprehensive Plan priority to make walking and biking a practical and safe transportation option. The Airport Corridor Transportation Association awarded Moon Township its 2008 Improving Mobility Award in recognition of the plan, which creates a framework for prioritizing sidewalk and trail construction and connection projects in areas with high pedestrian potential. The plan also targets alternative funding sources, such as PennDOT’s Safe Routes to School program, which the township is in the process of implementing to connect neighborhoods with two area elementary schools.

Bridge Replacement Project to Incorporate Township Transportation Plans

In April, representatives from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation invited the public to check out plans for a proposed project to replace the bridge that carries Brodhead Road over Flaugherty Run. The plan calls for a widened bridge surface to accommodate two township transportation initiatives. Expanded surface area will allow space for the future development of a left turning lane from the bridge, which was recommended by a township planning report. It also makes room for pedestrian and bike access in accordance with Moon Township’s Sidewalks and Trails Master Plan. Construction is slated to start in spring 2012.

Survey Says: Moon Residents Want More Community-Produced Programming

Behind every locally-made MCA-TV program – and sometimes on-camera – is a Moon Township resident who took the initiative to turn an idea into a TV show. And in MCA-TV's 2011 Viewer Survey returns, these community producers got a positive shout-out from the 678 Moon Township residents who responded.

In a write-in question asking for respondents' favorite MCA-TV program, more than 50 percent of viewers listed specific programs produced by Moon Township residents. Overall, approximately 45 percent of respondents indicated that they, or someone in their household, have recently tuned in to a community-produced program, from health and fitness programs to youth sports.

In addition to the shows they're already watching, 45 percent of respondents said they would be interested in watching even more programs produced by community members, and a number of viewers wrote in specific program requests. Several viewers noted they would like to see more local event coverage, music and a Moon news program. Others would like to see a spotlight on local businesses, organizations and residents who are making a difference.

Although every MCA-TV program starts with an idea, it also starts with a Moon Township resident. As a community access television station, MCA-TV gives Moon Township residents the opportunity to create and air their own television programs. In fact, the majority of MCA-TV programming is produced by Moon Township residents with the help of volunteers from any community.

Take Moon resident Sue Vandertie, for example. This MCA-TV volunteer produces "Cooking Matters" and "Spotlight on Gardening," and currently is searching for a local crafter to host a scrapbooking how-to program. The Viewer Survey results revealed a number of fans of both of her programs, and other community producers – from healthcare professionals to fitness instructors – received similar feedback.



From left to right: MCA-TV volunteers Barb Karp, Pam Krug and Sue Vandertie on the set of MCA-TV's "Cooking Matters"



Community producer Judy Elias (center) hosts MCA-TV fitness program "Core Conditioning".

"I think there are a lot of really interesting people in our community with really interesting skills, and the best way I can think of to share this is to make it into a TV show," Vandertie said. "Having a community access television station, I think it's a wonderful asset."

MCA-TV is always looking for new community producers to expand its lineup of local programming. In turn, MCA-TV provides all of the training, equipment and staff support needed to get started.

To find out more about what it takes to produce a program for MCA-TV, visit www.mca-tv.org or call the studio at 412-269-1191. Also find the complete 2011 Viewer Survey results at www.mca-tv.org.

Visit MCA-TV's Redesigned Website



Check out MCA-TV's newly-redesigned website at www.mca-tv.org. While you're there, view the program schedule, watch a program online, or submit a community bulletin board message. Web intern and Robert Morris University student Deb Ostrander recently re-launched the site with a fresh look and user-friendly layout.

MCA-TV Viewer Survey: The Results Are In...

Out of the 678 Moon Township viewers who returned surveys . . .

- 67%watch Moon Township Board of Supervisors meetings
- 64%watch Moon Area Board of Education meetings
- 51%watch Moon Area sports and school events
- 45%would like to watch more community-produced programming
- 43%watch youth sports
- 19%watch programs online at www.mca-tv.org

MCA-TV Launches New Government Access Television Station



Moon Community Access Television is launching a sister station this summer dedicated exclusively to local government, leaving MCA-TV's schedule open for a full line-up of community-produced programs.

Moon Area Government Television, or MAG-TV for short, will air public meetings of the Moon Township Board of Supervisors, Moon Area School Board and neighboring local governments. The station will also offer an expanded slate of government education programs designed to give viewers an inside understanding of their local and state governments.

Beginning with the August 3, meeting of the Moon Township Board of Supervisors, all of MCA-TV's public meeting coverage - including Moon Township Board of Supervisors and Moon Area Board of Education meetings - will move to MAG-TV, Comcast channel 18 and Verizon FiOS channel 37.

Following the official August 3, program launch, MAG-TV will begin rolling out new government education programs throughout late summer and fall.

Meanwhile, on Comcast channel 14 and Verizon FiOS channel 35, MCA-TV will continue to air the community-produced fitness, health, hobby and history programs, which have distinguished the station since it opened its doors more than 25 years ago. Now, the program schedule will be completely open for programs produced by Moon Township residents and volunteers.

"With a dedicated government channel, we'll be able to produce more in-depth programming about the way local and state government works without cutting into airtime for community-produced programs," said Jim Koepfinger, executive director for MCA-TV. "Moon Township residents currently produce the majority of MCA-TV's programming, so the second channel will open up more time for these programs."

The government station is a product of a new 10-year cable television franchise agreement that the township signed in May with Comcast of Pennsylvania. Comcast will activate MAG-TV at no cost to the township, and the government station will share MCA-TV's staff, as well as its budget, which is funded by franchise fees paid to Moon Township by cable carriers Comcast and Verizon.

Some Moon Township cable customers may already be familiar with MAG-TV, which Verizon FiOS activated on channel 37 as part of its 2009 Moon Township franchise agreement. With its premiere on the Comcast network, MAG-TV will expand its viewership to the township's total cable customers. Now that MAG-TV will be reaching a wider township audience, the station is moving forward with a full-scale program launch on both cable networks.

For MAG-TV updates, visit the government station's new website at www.moongovtv.us. MAG-TV updates also will be aired on MCA-TV, Comcast channel 14 and Verizon FiOS channel 35.

Moon Community Access Television

Comcast channel 14 | Verizon FiOS channel 35

Moon Area Government Television

Comcast channel 18 | Verizon FiOS channel 37

September Unveiling Planned for New MCA-TV Production Trailer

For 16 years, the MCA-TV mobile production trailer has taken the station on-location to public meetings, community events and local sporting events.

Now the road-weary trailer is getting ready to retire as Moon Township prepares to unveil its 20-foot replacement. MCA-TV invites residents to attend the public unveiling of the new MCA-TV production trailer at **5:30 p.m. Sept. 7**, before the regular meeting of the Moon Township Board of Supervisors at the Moon Township Municipal Building.

MCA-TV's production trailer brings Moon Township residents live coverage of monthly Moon Township Board of Supervisors meetings, home and away Moon Area High School football games and a variety of Robert Morris University sports. It also serves as a mobile training ground for the volunteers and RMU students who work with station staff to produce sports coverage complete with slow-motion instant replay, high-quality graphics and play-by-play reporting.

"Since MCA-TV acquired its first production trailer in 1988, it has dramatically improved the quality and variety of our programming," said Jim Koepfinger, executive director of MCA-TV. "We are fortunate to be able to continue taking our coverage on the road, and invite community members to stop by the unveiling for a tour."

The new trailer will be pre-outfitted for television production with racks, counters, air conditioning and heating to protect the equipment stored inside. The trailer also will have more space for the equipment and volunteer crews who help out with local sports productions. Look for the new and improved MCA-TV production trailer at Moon sporting events this fall.

MCA-TV Offers Free Television Training Classes

Moon Community Access Television is offering a free training session this fall for anyone interested in learning the basics of television production and volunteering at the station.

These hands-on classes will provide an overview of camera operation, audio and lighting and an introduction to editing. The training session is open to residents of any community and consists of four evening classes held at the MCA-TV studio, 1700 Beaver Grade Road.

Upon completion, participants are ready to assist with any MCA-TV program. Interested participants must sign up in advance.

For details about the fall training class, please call 412-269-1191 or e-mail mca-tv@moontwp.com.

Clearview Federal Credit Union Pavilion Unveiled to the Community

Moon Township and Clearview Federal Credit Union unveiled Moon Park's newest picnic pavilion to the community on May 25. Representatives from the Moon Township Board of Supervisors and Clearview Federal Credit Union cut the ribbon on the Clearview Federal Credit Union Pavilion and welcomed residents to the new picnic area, which is now open for reservations.



The pavilion is part of a new ten-year partnership between Moon Township and Clearview Federal Credit Union, which will also continue its sponsorship of Moon Township's Annual Independence Day Celebration. "We would like to thank Clearview Federal Credit Union for their continued relationship with the township," said Jim Vitale, chairman of the Moon Township Board of Supervisors. "Clearview has been a tremendous partner."

Located next to Moon Park's newly-developed tennis courts, the picnic pavilion is the latest project in Moon Township's long-range parks improvement plan, which will continue to evolve in Moon Park throughout the next several years. The pavilion, which was constructed with eco-friendly building materials, can accommodate as many as 100 people and is furnished with new picnic tables, outdoor grills and water and electric service.

"Clearview Federal Credit Union has been a part of the community since 1965," said Ralph Canterbury, vice president, marketing and technology, for Clearview Federal Credit Union. "We found this was going to be a good opportunity to share with the community and hopefully make it a little easier for Moon Township and Moon Parks to improve their infrastructure. I hope in the future we're going to see more of this type of partnership in our community."



Moon Parks & Recreation: Summer & Fall Programs

Find more program and event details at www.moonparks.org. Register for any of the listed programs by calling the Moon Park office at 412-262-1703 or e-mailing info@moonparks.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Family Fun Nights

Bring your blankets and chairs to the Moon Park amphitheater for an evening of entertainment under the stars. Movies begin at dusk.

ADMISSION IS FREE.

- August 5.....Toy Story 3 (G)
- August 12.....Casablanca
- August 19.....Oceans (G)
- August 26.....How to Train Your Dragon (PG)
special concert featuring Sarah Marince at 7 p.m.

Robin Hill Lunchtime Concerts

Bring along a lunch, blanket or chair and enjoy an afternoon concert in beautiful Robin Hill Park. **ADMISSION IS FREE.**

DATES: Third Wednesday of each month through September

- August 17.....Neil Diamond Tribute
- Sept. 21.....Anne Murray Tribute

TIME: 12-1 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Park Gazebo, 949 Thorn Run Road



Halloween Event

Saturday, October 29, 2011

Details coming soon! Check www.moonparks.org for updates.

Vacation Travel Program/Collette Vacations

DATE: August 29, 2011

TIME: 6:30-8 p.m.

LOCATION: Moon Township Municipal Building Auditorium, 1000 Beaver Grade Road

FREE: Free – Attendees must register by Aug. 24, by phone at 412-262-1703 or e-mail at info@moonparks.org.

Moon Parks and Recreation partners with Collette Vacations to offer fantastic vacation opportunities at affordable prices. Join Collette vacations and Moon Parks and Recreation for a presentation of the latest vacation opportunities. Visit www.moonparks.org for details on current vacations offerings, such as Hawaiian Adventures, Resorts of the Rockies, National Parks and more.

SPRING EVENT RECAPS



Earth Day

More than 400 visitors enjoyed eco-friendly exhibits, games and prizes at Moon Parks and Recreation's annual Earth Day event at Robin Hill Park on Sunday, April 17. Congratulations to Andrew Despot, who created the winning T-shirt design. A special thank-you also goes out to all of the event sponsors, including Moon Township Municipal Authority, Walgreens and Moon Township Giant Eagle.



Father's Day Fun Fair

A crowd of dads and kids celebrated Father's Day at Moon Park with a picnic lunch, games and activities, including the Rainbow Express Train and a ventriloquist show.

2011 West Hills Art Show

This year's West Hills Art Show at Robin Hill Park displayed an eclectic mix of local artwork at the most well-attended art show since the event's inception. The West Hills Art League and Moon Parks and Recreation thank Ron Thurston, this year's juror, as well as the members and volunteers who staffed the exhibit.



Bunny Trail

The Easter Bunny joined Moon Parks and Recreation in celebrating spring at this year's Moon Park Bunny Trail on Saturday, April 23. Attendees enjoyed prizes, game stations and free photos with the Easter Bunny, courtesy of the Moon Township Walgreens. Moon Township Parks and Recreation thanks the volunteers and sponsors who made this event a success.

Robin Hill Park Clean-up

When the sun finally broke through May's rainfall, a group of Impact Christian Church members headed to Robin Hill Park for a landscaping and clean-up project. The group worked together to weed and mulch the hillside behind the Robin Hill Center and several members also helped the Moon Township Garden Club dig and weed the herb garden. Moon Parks and Recreation sincerely appreciates their hard work. Find more information about volunteering with Moon Parks at www.moonparks.org.



PROGRAMS

TENNIS at Moon Park: Fall Sessions

DATES: August 29 – September 30, 2011 (Five-week session)

LOCATION: New Moon Park Tennis Courts

INSTRUCTOR: Kent Johnson Tennis Academy

PEE WEE/QUICKSTART Clinics (Ages 5-6)

Tuesday and/or Thursday, 4:15 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Focuses on developing hand-eye coordination, basic stroke instruction and fun

JUNIOR BEGINNER/ADVANCED CLINICS (Ages 7-10 and 11-14)

Tuesday and/or Thursday, 5 - 6 p.m.

Stresses correct form, basic rules, court etiquette, fun drill and games

HIGH PERFORMANCE TENNIS ACADEMY (Ages 10-17)

Tuesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Incorporates advanced stroke analysis, footwork, strategy, drills, games and match play

ADULT BEGINNER/ADVANCED BEGINNER CLINICS

Thursday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

A fun and social introduction to tennis that focuses on basic stroke instruction, developing correct form and learning the rules

Youth Recreation Basketball League 2011-2012

DATES: Registration begins in mid-October.

The MP&R Recreational basketball league will return for another season. This is a co-ed league designed with a focus on skill development, including passing, shooting and dribbling. The league is open to all skill levels. For more information, check www.moonparks.org in October.

Continued on pg. 11

Reservations are open for Moon Park picnic pavilions and the Robin Hill Center. Call 412-262-1703, or visit www.moonparks.org, for more information.

Moon Parks & Recreation: Summer & Fall Programs *(Continued from pg. 10)*

FITNESS PROGRAMS

Zumba Kids (Ages 8-12)

DATES: August 9 – September 13, 2011

TIME: 5:15-6:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$45/Moon residents, \$50/non-residents

This is a six-week class designed for younger participants to have fun while learning good fitness habits early. Zumba fitness is a combination of Latin-based dance moves, including salsa, cumbia, soca, flamenco, samba, hip-hop and more, that will really get you moving. Dance experience is not required. Please bring water.

Zumba Fitness

DATES: Tuesdays and Thursdays – ongoing through 2011 *(Find complete 2011 session dates at www.moonparks.org)*

FEE: \$45/Moon residents, \$50/non-residents (six-week sessions)

**\$15 discount available for both Tuesday and Thursday sessions*

TUESDAYS – AGES 13+

DATES: August 16 - September 20

TIME: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

THURSDAYS- AGES 13+

DATES: August 18 – September 22

TIME: 6:30- 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Moon Township Municipal Building, 1000 Beaver Grade Road

Moon Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a six-week Zumba class designed to have fun while you burn calories. Zumba Fitness is a combination of Latin-based dance moves; including salsa, cumbia, soca, flamenco, samba, hip-hop and more, that will really make you sweat! Dance experience is not required.

Pilates (Ages 15+)

DATES: September 8 – October 13, 2011 (Thursdays – six-week session)

TIME: 9 – 10 a.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$45/Moon residents, \$50/non-residents

Join certified instructor Judy Elias for Pilates! The exciting benefits of this class are improved posture, weight loss from exercise, a renewed positive sense of self and much more. This class is designed for all fitness levels. Please bring a towel or mat to class.

Salsa/Latin Dance (Ages 15+)

DATES: September 12 – October 17, 2011 (Mondays)

TIME: 7:30-8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$50 Residents/ \$55 Non- Residents

This four-week session is designed for beginners, but is open to all skill levels. The instructors, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Dunlap, will be teaching a variety of dances throughout the course. The class is open to singles as well as couples. Let's Dance! Dance experience is not required.

Zumba Gold (Adults 50+/Seniors)

DATES: September 13 – October 18, 2011 (Tuesdays)

TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Moon Township Municipal Building, 1000 Beaver Grade Road

FEE: \$18/Moon residents, \$22/non-residents, \$5 drop-in fee per class

Zumba fitness is a combination of Latin-based dance moves, including salsa, cumbia, soca, flamenco, samba, hip-hop and more, that will really make you sweat. Dance experience is not required. Please bring water.

Yoga Basics (Ages 15+)

DATES: September 13 – October 4 (Tuesdays)

TIME: 7:30- 8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$40/Moon residents, \$45/non-residents

Meet our newest instructor, Jen Stratakis, for yoga basics. If you have ever wanted to try yoga, this is the course for you. Hatha Yoga includes poses, breath work, and guided relaxation. Participants should bring a yoga mat or towel and water to class.

Senior Workout with Linda Francis (Adults/Seniors)

DATES: September 14 - October 26, 2011 (Wednesdays – six-week session)

TIME: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Moon Township Municipal Building, 1000 Beaver Grade Road

FEE: \$18/Moon residents, \$22/non-residents, \$5 drop-in fee per class

Come out and meet our newest instructor, Linda Francis! This class will help you maintain a fitness level to stay mobile. It is a low-impact aerobics class that will work on balance and strengthening while having fun and meeting new people.

Karate (Adults/Children Ages 6+)

DATES: Mondays and Wednesdays beginning in October 2011

TIME: 6 p.m. (beginners) and 7 p.m. (advanced)

LOCATION: Moon High School Wrestling Room

This is a unique karate system covering all ranges of self-defense. The classes are led by Ken Wolf along with experienced instructors who hold black belts in Okinawan Kenpo & Wa Shu Mudokwan, as well as law enforcement and tournament experience.

Kardio Hip Hop (Ages 15+)

DATES: September 7 - October 12, 2011 (Wednesdays – six-week session)

TIME: 6-7 p.m.

LOCATION: Rhema Christian School, 1301 Coraopolis Heights Road

FEE: \$40/Moon residents/\$45 non-residents, \$8 drop-in fee per class

Let our instructor's energy and enthusiasm take your workout to the next level. Our instructor uses today's hottest music to design a jam-packed hour of High-Intensity Interval training. You'll be sweating and smiling!

***Moon Parks and Recreation also offers a variety of Vacation Getaway packages.
Call 412-262-1703 for details.***

CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Snapology's Lego Awesome Adventure Robotics Camp (Ages 6-12)

DATES: August 1-4, 2011 (Monday-Thursday)

TIME: 9-11:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$115/Moon residents, \$125/non-residents

Come build awesome robotic models featuring working motors and sensors. Campers will create their own soccer team complete with a moving goalie, kicking feet and cheering fans. Campers will let their imaginations soar as they create a robotic airplane and boat. Children should be able to build with instructions to attend this camp.

MUSIC CAMP: Fiddle and Rock Strings with Steven Vance (Ages 10-18)

DATES: Monday, August 1, 2011

TIME: 1-4 p.m.

LOCATION: Moon Township Municipal Building, 1000 Beaver Grade Road

FEE: \$30/Moon residents, \$35/non-residents

Steven Vance introduces campers to fiddle styles by teaching shuffle bowing, double stopping and 1-2 tunes. Campers also will cover rock classic tunes with Yamaha with Yamaha Electric Violins and learn Viola and Cello plus sound effects and looping station. Experience is required – participant must have at least two years of experience on their instrument.

ART – Drawing For True Beginners (Ages 15+)

DATES: September 13 – October 18, 2011 (Tuesdays – six-week session)

TIME: 1-3 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$85/Moon residents, \$95/non-residents

REQUIRED MATERIALS: 9x12 or larger sketchbook, drawing pencils and erasers

INSTRUCTOR: Deborah McLaren

This class introduces the elements of drawing with a focus on line, value, composition, perspective, proportion, materials and more.

Watercolor Painting (Ages 16+)

DATES: September 14- October 19, 2011 (Wednesdays – six-week session)

TIME: 6-8 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$110/Moon residents, \$120/non-residents

INSTRUCTOR: Doug Brown

Each class begins with a brief demonstration of watercolor painting in the controlled realism style of the subject of the week. Students then choose that subject or any other they prefer to paint from reference photos. All levels of experience are welcome.

Snapology's Amazing Animals Lego Robotics Class (Ages 6-12)

DATES: September 21- October 26, 2011 (Wednesdays – six-week session)

TIME: 6-7 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$75/Moon residents, \$80/non-resident

If you like to build with Legos – you'll love this class! Come and build awesome models and program working motors and sensors. Work in teams under guided instruction to build a new model in each class.

Mad Science – Crazy Chem Works (Ages 5-12)

DATES: September 21 – October 26 (Tuesdays)

TIME: 6-7 p.m.

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$75/Moon residents, \$80/non-residents

Moon Parks and Recreation is proud to offer a Mad Science class. Shake up a flask of fun in the lab as a junior chemist! This hands-on and interactive chemistry program is packed solid with cool reactions.

“Splash” – Water/Mixed Media Art Classes (Ages 18+)

DATES: September 22 – November 10, 2011 (Thursdays – eight-week session)

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: \$74/Moon residents, \$79/non-residents (Fee does not include supplies)

“SPLASH SOME MORE”

TIME: 10 a.m. – 12p.m. – *Advanced/returning students*

This class is designed for “returning” or “new” students with some previous experience in water-media

“JUMP” in with a “SPLASH”

TIME: 1-3 p.m. – *Beginners*

This is an eight-week course designed to introduce a beginning student to the fun and excitement of painting and experimenting with a variety of water-based materials. No previous experience is required – just a desire to have fun.

Little Linguists – Spanish and French - Two separate classes (Grades K-6)

DATES: September 20 – November 15, 2011 (Tuesdays)

TIME: 5:45-6:45pm

LOCATION: Robin Hill Center, 949 Thorn Run Road

FEE: Please call 412-262-1703 for information.

This fall, Little Linguists will help your child explore the world! Our theme is “The Amazing Race” where we will be racing from a variety of locations in the target language by playing games and learning about each region.

Driver's Education (Teens)

DATES: October 4 – November 3, 2011 (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

TIME: 6-9 p.m.

LOCATION: Moon Township Municipal Building, 1000 Beaver Grade Road

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25/Moon residents, \$30/non-residents

COURSE FEE: \$325

INSTRUCTOR: Kennedy School of Driving

After successfully completing the 30 hours of theory and six hours of in-car training, participants will receive a certificate that is accepted by most insurance companies. Participants must be 16 and have a learners permit for the on-the-road portion of the program.

Puppy Training (Puppies 3 months+)

DATES: September 14 - October 19 (Wednesdays - six week session)

TIME: 7-8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Moon Park

FEE: \$90/Moon residents, \$95/non-residents

Participants will learn basic obedience commands, proper leash handling, home safety and understanding of dog body language and behavior.

Earned Income Tax Collector visits Moon Township

Keystone Collections Group of Irwin, Pa., collects earned income tax for Moon Township. Keystone representatives will be on-site at the Moon Township Municipal Building to answer questions on October 31, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. For more information about Keystone Collections Group, visit www.keystonecollects.com or call 724-978-0300.

Reminders from the Moon Township Property Tax Office

Catherine Tress, Moon Township's property tax collector, reminds property owners that 2011 Moon Area School District property tax statements were mailed on July 1, 2011.

If you have recently refinanced, paid off your mortgage or did not receive your 2011 tax statement, you must contact the property tax office at 412-299-7446 to correct your mailing records. According to state law, property owners are responsible for their property taxes even if they do not receive a bill.

Remember to mark your calendar for the following due date information:

Moon Area School District's 2011 tax rate remains unchanged at 21.3 mills.

July 1-August 31:2% Discount amount due
 September 1-October 31:Face amount due
 October 1-December 31:10% penalty amount added

Act I 2011 Property Tax Relief

Homestead or Farmstead Exclusion: Total Tax Reduction: \$132.89; Assessment Reduction: \$6,239

Tax Installment Option: Property owners who receive the Homestead or Farmstead Exclusion have the option of paying off their full tax statement in four monthly installments. Please note that the tax discount does not apply to the installment option. The first installment must be made by Sept. 30, with remaining installments due by Oct. 31, Nov. 30 and Dec. 31.

After December 31: Please note that the Moon Township Property Tax Office is only permitted to handle the current tax year, per a 2009 Moon Area School Board resolution. After December 31, all unpaid Moon Township property taxes will be turned over to the delinquent collector.

Property tax payments can be made in-person or mailed to the Moon Township Property Tax Office, 1700 Beaver Grade Road, Suite 300, Moon Township, PA 15108. Online payment options also are available at www.moontaxoffice.us in addition to other useful tax information.



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CITIZEN SPOTLIGHT

WORLD WAR II VETERAN HONORED FOR NAVY SERVICE



The Moon Township Board of Supervisors and Col. Jeffrey Pennington, commander of the 911th Airlift Wing, with World War II veteran Nickolas Steri, Sr.

More than 60 years after serving aboard the USS LSM 32, World War II veteran Nickolas M. Steri, has received several awards for his service from the United States Navy. While serving as Yeoman Second Class aboard the USS LSM 32, Mr. Steri and his crew members engaged in five invasions in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater. Mr. Steri is now the recipient of several U.S. Navy awards, including an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three bronze stars. In recognition of his honorable service, the Board of Supervisors presented Mr. Steri with a proclamation at its June 1, meeting.

911TH AIRLIFT COMMANDER UPDATES COMMUNITY ON AIR SHOW



Colonel Jeffrey Pennington, commander of the 911th Airlift Wing, attended the June Supervisors meeting to update the community on plans for the 2011 Wings Over Pittsburgh Air Show. The Air Show, which will be Col. Pennington's first since assuming command, is scheduled for Sept. 10 and Sept. 11, 2011. Col. Pennington assumed the position of commander in October 2010, and is now the senior officer responsible for the wing organization. For more information about the Wings Over Pittsburgh Air Show, visit www.wingsoverpittsburgh.com.

Do you know someone who has made an exemplary contribution to the Moon Township community?

The Board of Supervisors accepts nominations from Moon Township residents for its **Citizen Spotlight** program. Nomination forms are available online at www.moontwp.com or at the Moon Township Municipal Building. Selection is based on the discretion of the Board of Supervisors.

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Local Scouts Achieve Eagle Scout Rank

Three members of Moon Township's Boy Scout Troop 905 attained the Eagle Scout Rank in March. The Board of Supervisors recognized Neil Frick, Nicholas Mannella and John McCurry for their accomplishment at the April 6, meeting. All three scouts held a variety of troop leadership positions and went above and beyond the total merit badges required for the rank. For their Eagle projects, Frick constructed an information center at Raccoon Creek State Park, Mannella planted ornamental shrubbery around the Canonsburg General Hospital helipad and McCurry refurbished the hospital's helipad.



Creativity Carries MASD Students to Odyssey of the Mind World Finals

Creativity and team work carried two teams of Moon Area School District students to the top ten of the 2011 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals competition.

A middle school and elementary team joined 858 competing teams representing 14 countries and 34 states at the final round of this academic problem-solving competition.

Middle school students Ally Bardusch, Emily Bolen, Beth Eberts, Jenna Foster, Natalie Melton, Rachael Melton and Angela Priola competed against 62 teams to tie for tenth place in the Division II "Full Circle" problem.

Elementary students Leah Eberts, Sarah Ellis, Zach Gribben, R.J. Kanith, Shannon Melton, Julia Puhalla and Nick Ulven competed against 68 teams to earn second place in their Division I problem, "Le Tour Guide." The elementary school team also earned the prestigious Odyssey of the Mind Ranatra Fusca Award, which encourages risk-taking in problem-solving and was awarded to only five teams out of the more than 800 competing. The Board of Supervisors congratulated the teams on their leadership and teamwork.



MOON GOLF CLUB

NEWS FROM MOON GOLF CLUB



Moon Golf Club will be hosting our **5th annual club championship** on **August 6th and 7th**. The Moon Open has become our signature event for each golf season. The tournament is 36 holes of handicap stroke play. Participants establish a handicap at Moon Golf Club. Each participant must complete at least eight, nine-hole rounds or four 18-hole rounds at Moon Golf Club.

In 2010, we had our first playoff, which required playing extra holes. At the end of 36 holes, Jim Littler and Dan Kestner were tied and needed to go to a playoff. It is every golfer's dream scenario. All of the tournament participants gathered around #18 green (pictured left) to watch the playoff. We had a gallery of over 50 people watching the playoff! Jim and Dan played #18, a 284-yard par 4, for the first playoff hole. Each of them had a putt to win the tournament, and they both narrowly missed. The playoff continued to #10, a 175- yard par 3. Jim missed the green to the right and was forced to take a drop. Dan Kestner two-putted his way to victory and became the 2010 Moon Open Champion. Ellen Bolton was the 2010 Moon Open Women's Champion.

Each year the Moon Open crowns 3 champions – Men's, Women's and Junior's. The participants each receive a sleeve of Moon Open golf balls, a Moon Open golf shirt, and a cookout is held each day after golf. Moon Golf Club staff puts a lot of time and effort into the event. The golf course is prepared to give our golfers a stern test of their skills. A large group of volunteers helps Clubhouse Manager Jeff Wright coordinate the event. Each group has a volunteer scorekeeper. The event has grown each year, and we hope to make the 2011 Moon Open our best yet.

The Moon Junior League has been playing each Monday morning this summer. Thirty five junior golfers come out early Monday and play nine holes. We have seen a lot of improving swings this summer! Our Junior League starts at the beginning of June and runs through the middle of August.



Moon Golf Club has a great weekend special for August. Kids play free after 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Any golfer under 17 (accompanied by a paying adult) can play for free. Come out and play a round at Moon Golf Club this August!

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CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Storytimes return!

Little Listeners for birth thru age 3

Stories and Songs ages 2 to 3

Book Buddies ages 4,5,6

Family Bedtime Stories

Look at www.moonlibrary.org for more information about the dates of these programs.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Craft Night: Candy Sushi

Wednesday, September 7 from 6 - 7 PM

Digital Book Trailers

Thursday, Sept. 15 from 6:00-7:30 PM

Ice Cream Dreams

Thursday, Sept. 22 from 6:00-7:30 PM

Teen Craft Night: Steampunk T-Shirt

Thursday, Oct. 6 from 6:00-7:00 PM

Teen Craft Night: Pumpkin Painting and Candy Making

Wednesday, Oct. 19 from 6:00-7:30 PM

ZomProm 2011

Friday, Oct. 28 from 8:00-10:00 PM.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Destinations: Shore Excursions

Monday, August 1 at 6:30 PM

North, South, East and West Armchair Travels: Yellowstone

Friday, August 5 at 2:00 PM

AARP Safe Drive 4-Hour Refresher Course

Tuesday, August 9 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

From the Page to the Big Screen: Snow Flower and the Secret Fan

Saturday, August 20 at 10:30 AM

From the Page to the Big Screen: The Help

Saturday, September 17 at 10:30 AM

FRIENDS OF MOON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE

September 15 through September 24

Moon Township Municipal Building

Look on our website, call or visit the library for more information.

Moon Township Public Library welcomes your donated books, audio books, movies and music. Your donation will be added to the Library's collection or sold at the Friends of the Moon Township Public Library annual book sale to help enhance our programs and services.

BOOK DONATION GUIDELINES

We will accept:

- Hardcover and paperback books in good condition. We cannot use damaged books (e.g., broken bindings, missing pages, soiled, musty or moldy, excessive writing in the text) or clearly outdated materials.
- Commercially published media (e.g., CDs, DVDs)

We cannot accept:

- Damaged books with broken bindings, missing pages, soiled, musty, moldy, or with excessive writing in the text
- Clearly outdated materials (see below for guidelines)
- Toys, games, puzzles, artwork
- Magazines (bound or unbound)
- Condensed books
- Encyclopedias
- VHS Tapes
- Workbooks or study guides that are partially or wholly filled in
- Computer programs

We accept certain materials within specified limits:

- Price guides and almanacs (current only)
- Medical and financial advice books (less than 5 years old)
- Travel guidebooks (less than 5 years old)
- Computer manuals (less than 5 years old)
- Textbooks (less than 10 years old)
- Test preparation guides (less than 5 years old)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where do I go to donate my books and other items? Donations should be brought to the Circulation desk. We cannot pick up donations.

How much can I claim as a charitable donation? We do not determine the value of the donation. Receipts can be provided at the time of donation.

I have a lot of items to donate. Should I just bring them in? We will accept large donations. If you are donating 5 or more boxes of books, we would prefer that arrangements be made in advance so we can make sure to have space and volunteers to process them.

What happens to the items I donate? Depending on the quality and condition of the donated items, they will be put into our annual book sale; put into the general collection of the library; or given away.



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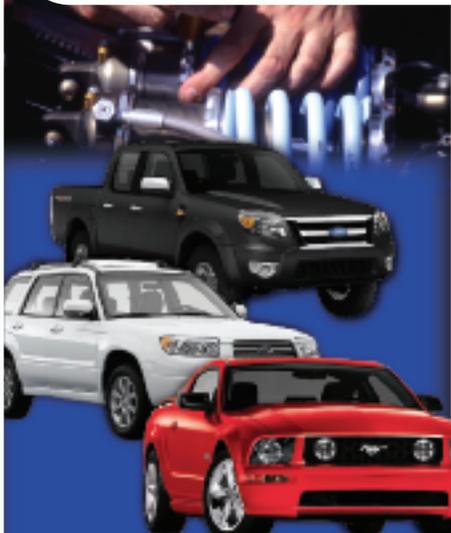
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