



# Community Update

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### Featured Business

## HUDSON COMPANIES

### Enter Southwestern United States...

In an in depth look inside the Hudson Companies' Hermitage headquarters, locals would find more than meets the eye. While Hudson's construction trucks may be commonly seen around town, what isn't seen are the six separate companies that manage operations far outside their home base tucked among the trees on the Shenango Valley Freeway.

Throughout the years, Hudson Companies have been expanding beyond the borders of Pennsylvania to establish a presence in new markets including North Carolina, Florida, and Tennessee. Most recently, in a move certain to provide further strategic and geographic diversity, Hudson Companies have once again ventured into new territory with their latest acquisition of a 276-unit apartment community in Austin, Texas.



The resort community was developed by the nationally renowned real estate developer Trammell Crow Residential as part of their Alexan line specifically targeting the new affluent class of discriminating renters choosing apartment living as a lifestyle. After careful evaluation and consideration of numerous properties located on the east coast and in southern states, Hudson determined this property to be most in line with its current business model and core values. Situated in the southwest hills of Austin, home to the University of Texas, one of the largest universities in the country, this fast growing economic and cultural community is widely recognized as one of the premier places to live within the United States. The \$35 million acquisition financed by MassMutual Financial Group was completed in August.

With the exception of a modest apartment community in Tennessee acquired in the early 1990s, Hudson's real estate interests remained dominated by the commercial property development and acquisitions until 2002. Following the purchase of an off-campus medical facility of the Flagler Medical Center in St. Augustine, Florida, Hudson's management team quickly recognized they had entered a region with a real estate market poised to skyrocket.

*(HUDSON COMPANIES, continued on page 12)*



Department of Labor and Industry



Hudson Companies' Miramont

# SPECIAL CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

**Indian Run Stream Restoration Project** consists of the restoration of approximately 1,100 feet of Indian Run between Sunset Boulevard and the Shenango Valley Freeway. This project includes the creation of floodplains to assist in the reduction of flood waters, erosion prevention by stream bank stabilization, reduction in non-point source pollution and will also enhance aquatic habitat. The responsive low bidder for the project was Wallace and Pancher, Inc. of Hermitage, PA in the sum of \$108,185.04. The City has received a Growing Greener II Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in the sum of \$39,051.00 to be applied to the project construction. Construction activities are nearly complete with final restoration of the site to occur this spring.

**Hogback Roadway Improvements Project** – The City of Hermitage has partnered with Mercer County to make roadway improvements to Hogback Road in conjunction with the County Bridge Department’s Hogback Road Bridge Replacement Project. The project will reduce the grade and curvature of the roadway on the west side of Hogback Run. The responsive low bidder for the project is R.L. Johnson Construction of Gibsonia, PA in the sum of \$559,946.95. The City’s portion of this project will cost approximately \$91,000.

Should you have any questions or comments concerning these projects, please contact Ian Garfoli at the Municipal Building or by e-mail at [igarfoli@hermitage.net](mailto:igarfoli@hermitage.net).



**INDIAN RUN STREAM  
RESTORATION PROJECT**



**HOGBACK ROADWAY  
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

## SHENANGO VALLEY MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAM

In an effort to support our deployed troops, the City of Hermitage partnered with local businesses to provide a few of our soldiers with a Holiday Care Package in a show of support for their efforts and sacrifices to protect our freedom. The City staff packaged and mailed holiday treats contributed from Daffin’s Candies, Kraynak’s Santa’s ChristmasLand and Philadelphia Candies for 150 soldiers deployed in Iraq and around the world. George-White Properties of Hermitage provided assistance with the mailing.

**Each package contained a card wishing them a Safe and Happy Holiday from the Shenango Valley, Mercer County, Pennsylvania.**



## VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**William J. Moder, III**, Vice President  
Hermitage Board of Commissioners  
Immediate Past President

An invaluable complement to the City is the advisory role and contributions of the authorities, boards and commissions who assist the staff and Board of Commissioners. The time and efforts of these volunteers contribute informed opinions and multiple perspectives in the City's planning and decision-making processes. These groups bring additional ideas and energy to existing programs

as well as suggest future initiatives and innovations to consider.

More than 74 residents currently serve the City on 17 authorities, boards and commissions. Their commitment, dedication and the hundreds of hours given to improve the services and character of the City, demonstrate an impressive statement of community pride. Hermitage residents care about their city and are willing to act on that commitment. The Board recognizes and commends their efforts.

During a typical month, in addition to regularly scheduled monthly meetings of the Planning Commission, Municipal (Sewer) Authority, Community & Economic Development Commission, Zoning Hearing Board, and the Parks & Recreation Board many other meetings convene. Whether it is the Appeals Board, Hermitage Historical Society, Recreation Advisory Committee, Hermitage Business Association, Holiday Light Parade Committee, Arts Festival Committee or Community Court, on most days (and

evenings) some group is working in some facet of the community's behalf. The involvement and energy of these boards makes them strategic partners in assessing current performance and recommending programs or improvements.

Fresh ideas, flexibility and diverse perspectives ensure that the City and its culture remain receptive to innovation and will anticipate change. On behalf of the Board, we acknowledge the contributions of all who have served in these efforts. These groups comprise a core of informed advisors who provide sound and practical insight on issues to improve and enhance our community.

Any resident interested in becoming a part of an authority, board or commission is encouraged to send a letter of interest to the City Manager. Organizations are reviewed annually and as terms expire or vacancies occur, new members are needed. Your participation allows the opportunity to be an active participant in the City's processes and direction.

## I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU...

### ***State Representative Mark Longietti***

As your new State Representative, I want to invite Hermitage citizens to call on or visit my Constituent Service Office for issues concerning state government. The office is located in the upper level of the Valley Professional Building at 2213 Shenango Valley Freeway, Unit 2-E, Hermitage. There is driveway access westbound on the Freeway and an access road on Buhl Farm Drive just after the entrance to Reed & Reed accounting, if you are traveling eastbound on the Freeway. Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for holidays. The office can be reached by telephone at 724-981-4655.

I am pleased to have a seasoned and dedicated office staff to help citizens with their needs relating to state government. Brenda Tomko and Lori Bertolasio have over 37 years of combined experience in helping constituents with their needs and concerns. Our office can provide a myriad of services including assistance with property tax and rent rebate applications for qualified seniors, widows and widowers, and the disabled; applications for vehicle registration rebate for qualified retirees and the disabled; vehicle license and registration renewals and restorations; boat registration renewals; applications for birth and death certificates; status checks on state tax returns and workers' compensation and unemployment compensation claims; business licenses and professional license renewals; grant applications; unclaimed property applications; and state Capitol tours. Also, the office has information available for constituents concerning state-sponsored health, education and insurance programs.

In addition, I want citizens to know that my door is always open to listen to their concerns. I can be reached through my Constituent Service Office, or by e-mail at [mlongietti@pahouse.net](mailto:mlongietti@pahouse.net), and people may link to me on the web at [www.pahouse.com/longietti](http://www.pahouse.com/longietti). If you are traveling to Harrisburg, please stop in my office in the state Capitol located at Room 103 of the Irvis Office Building or contact my legislative assistant, Bob Brownawell at 717-772-4035. I look forward to hearing from you!

# GARDEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## Volunteers - Individuals, Families or Groups

are needed to assist in the maintenance of the Western PA Conservancy Gateway Garden, located at the intersection of the Shenango Valley Freeway and East State Street (near Citizen's Bank). Volunteers can assist the garden sponsors on planting day in late May, or help with weeding and maintenance throughout the summer and fall.



**Improvements to the original planting plan are scheduled for 2007.**

Anyone interested in helping should contact Marcia Hirschmann at 724-981-0800, or e-mail your name and contact information to mhirschmann@hermitage.net



# HERMITAGE RECEIVES FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FOR THREE CITY PROJECTS

In 2006, the City of Hermitage was awarded over one million dollars for three transportation projects within the City. The funding has been secured with the assistance of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the Mercer County Metropolitan Planning Organization. These projects will continue to help improve the transportation infrastructure within the City.

### *Highland Road Sidewalks Project (Phase I)*

- ▶ Construction of sidewalks on both sides of Highland Road between Buhl Farm Drive and Kerrwood Drive.
- ▶ **\$184,000** (80% Federal, 20% Local) – This project is scheduled to begin construction in Spring 2007.

### *Highland Road Sidewalks Project (Phase II)*

- ▶ Construction of sidewalks on both sides of Highland Road between Kerrwood Drive and North Hermitage Road.
- ▶ **\$529,000** (80% Federal, 20% Local) – This project is scheduled to begin construction in conjunction with the widening of the 2nd phase of Highland Road, 2008-2009.

### *Maple Drive / Dutch Lane / East State Street Intersection Improvements Project*

- ▶ Construction of a left turn lane on Maple Drive, sidewalks and traffic signal improvements.
- ▶ **\$533,000** (80% Federal, 20% Local) – This project is scheduled to begin construction in Spring 2008.

## CITY OF HERMITAGE DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Clip this list and save it in your phone book.

### EMERGENCY 9-1-1

City Administration .....	981-0800	Police Dept. Administration .....	983-6780
Community Development .....	983-0900	Street Department .....	342-0210
Finance Department .....	981-0800	Treasurer's Office .....	347-4472
Fire Dept. Administration .....	342-0669	Water Pollution Control Plant .....	347-4941
Parks and Recreation .....	981-0800	Wage Tax Office .....	981-8132
Planning and Development .....	981-0800	Zoning and Inspection .....	981-0800

# HERMITAGE PARKS AND RECREATION

## CLEVELAND CAVALIERS vs. L.A. CLIPPERS

This is your chance to see LeBron James and the Cavaliers take on the L.A. Clippers!

**February 7, 2007 • 7:00 pm Tip Off • Leaving Hermitage City Building at 4:30 pm**

To order, mail this form to: City of Hermitage, Attn: Ed Chess, 800 North Hermitage Road, Hermitage, PA 16148

**Or purchase in person at Recreation Department**

**Package Price \$64.00 (includes \$49 Lower Level Game Ticket and Bus Transportation)**

CAVALIERS VS. CLIPPERS, FEBRUARY 7, 2007 • 7:00 PM	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE
# OF TICKETS _____ AT \$64.00 EACH	\$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	\$ _____

**CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:  
CITY OF HERMITAGE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## HERMITAGE PARKS & RECREATION AND HHS SKI & BOARD CLUB ARE TEAMING UP TO OFFER TWO SKI TRIPS:

### SEVEN SPRINGS SKI TRIP: SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2007

LEAVE FROM THE CITY BUILDING AT 10:00AM • RETURN AROUND 10:00PM • COSTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Students not in High School must be accompanied by an adult.

<input type="checkbox"/> BUS*	\$21.00	NAME: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> LIFT TICKET (8 HR.)	\$25.00	ADDRESS: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> SKI RENTAL	\$12.00	PHONE NUMBER: _____ GRADE: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> SNOWBOARD RENTAL	\$22.00	TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

\*MUST RIDE BUS IN ORDER TO PURCHASE LIFT TICKET AT GROUP RATE.

In case of emergency, I \_\_\_\_\_ authorize the director, instructor, aid or supervisor of the Parks & Recreation Program to seek medical treatment for \_\_\_\_\_. I voluntarily choose to participate in this athletic activity and I realize the risk that injury could occur. I release the City of Hermitage and the Hermitage School District from any liability regarding such injury or emergency.

PARENT OR PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Students under age of 18 must have parent or guardian sign here)

### PEAK 'n PEEK SKI TRIP: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2007

LEAVE FROM THE CITY BUILDING AT 6:30AM • RETURN AROUND 7:30PM • COSTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Students not in High School must be accompanied by an adult.

<input type="checkbox"/> BUS*	\$20.00	NAME: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> LIFT TICKET (8 HR.)	\$34.00	ADDRESS: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> SKI RENTAL	\$19.00	PHONE NUMBER: _____ GRADE: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> SNOWBOARD RENTAL	\$24.00	TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

\*MUST RIDE BUS IN ORDER TO PURCHASE LIFT TICKET AT GROUP RATE.

#### SKI AND SNOWBOARD LESSONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AT AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE.

In case of emergency, I \_\_\_\_\_ authorize the director, instructor, aid or supervisor of the Parks & Recreation Program to seek medical treatment for \_\_\_\_\_. I voluntarily choose to participate in this athletic activity and I realize the risk that injury could occur. I release the City of Hermitage and the Hermitage School District from any liability regarding such injury or emergency.

PARENT OR PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Students under age of 18 must have parent or guardian sign here)

# HERMITAGE PARKS AND RECREATION



## “The Light in the Piazza”

AT THE BENEDEUM CENTER | PITTSBURGH

Sunday, February 25th, 2007

“The Light in the Piazza” takes place in Florence, Italy, in the summer of 1953. A beautiful and innocent young tourist loses her hat in a gust of wind. It lands at the feet of a handsome young Florentine. They fall in love. As their relationship develops the girl’s mother must reveal the truth that will surely test that love. It’s Broadway’s newest love story with a thrilling score filled with honest emotion



and soaring romantic melodies. This new musical features music and lyrics by Adam Guettel winner of the 2005 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Music, and a book by Craig Lucas. Bartlett Sher directs. “The Light in the Piazza” received 6 Tony Awards including Best Score (Adam Guettel) and Best Leading Actress in a musical (Victoria Clark). **Cost - \$92.00 per person - This trip includes orchestra level seating tickets and deluxe Motor coach transportation.** • **Departure time 10:45 a.m.** from the behind the Hermitage Municipal Building • 800 N. Hermitage Rd., Hermitage, PA 16148 • *For more information, call 724-981-0800.*

## Adult Workshops and Classes

## Adult Educational Activities

### HERMITAGE CRAFTERS CLUB

This group meets monthly to share ideas and learn new crafting techniques. During each session the members work on different crafts.

- Dates:** First Wednesday of each month, next meeting February 7
- Time:** 10:00 am
- Cost:** Membership is free (participants pay per session for supplies)
- Location:** Hermitage Municipal Building, Room 301  
800 N. Hermitage Road  
Hermitage, PA

### MICROSOFT WORD

This class will work in the features of Microsoft Word. Topics to be covered will be: creating a document, formatting text, creating a table, inserting a picture, and addressing letters and envelopes.

- Dates:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 30, February 1, 6, and 8, 2007
- Time:** 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- Instructor:** Elma Anschutz
- Cost:** \$30 ea. Resident, \$35 Non-Resident, \$15 Hermitage Senior
- Location:** Hickory High School Library

### MICROSOFT PUBLISHER

Microsoft Publisher 2000 helps you easily create, customize, and publish materials such as newsletters, brochures, flyers, catalogs, and websites. Publish easily on your desktop printer.

- Dates:** February 20, 22, 27, and March 1, 2007
- Time:** 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- Instructor:** Elma Anschutz
- Cost:** \$30 ea. Resident, \$35 Non-Resident, \$15 Hermitage Senior
- Location:** Hickory High School Library

### GET A FREE LIBRARY CARD

All Hermitage residents, upon proof of residency, can get a free library card at the Shenango Valley Community Library. Over 40% of the registered borrowers at the Library are Hermitage residents. Hermitage has contributed over \$85,000 to the Library in 2006.

# Adult Educational Activities

## MICROSOFT POWER POINT

Power Point is a complete presentation graphics package. It gives you everything you need to produce a professional-looking presentation. Power Point offers word processing, outlining, drawing, graphing and presentation management tools. All designed to be easy to use and easy to learn.

- Dates:** March 20, 22, 27 and 29, 2007  
**Time:** 6:00pm - 8:00pm  
**Instructor:** Elma Anschutz  
**Cost:** \$30 ea. Resident, \$35 Non-Resident, \$15 Hermitage Senior  
**Location:** Hickory High School Library

## MICROSOFT EXCEL

Learning Microsoft Excel is designed to introduce you to the basic operation and functions of Microsoft Excel for Windows. The lessons include practice exercises to work through as well as examples for using spreadsheets in your work.

- Dates:** April 10, 12, 17 and 19, 2007  
**Time:** 6:00pm - 8:00pm  
**Instructor:** Elma Anschutz  
**Cost:** \$30 ea. Resident, \$35 Non-Resident, \$15 Hermitage Senior  
**Location:** Hickory High School Library

# Community Bulletin Board

## ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Parks and Recreation Department will once again be hiring summer help for our program. Looking for the following:

- Playground Counselors**
- Arts and Crafts Instructors**
- Tennis**
- Cheerleading Instructors**

If you are interested stop in at the City Building, 800 North Hermitage Road to pick up an application.

# Youth Sports Programs

## 7TH AND 8TH GRADE INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL

This league for boys and girls is scheduled to begin in late February or early March. Contact Bruce Bittler at the Middle School or Ed Chess at the City Building to register. **Only academically eligible students can participate.**

## PARKS AND REC. INFO LINE: 724-347-7600

Use this line anytime to access information on upcoming programs, current activities, cancellations and changes.

[www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net)

### REGISTRATION FORM

Detach and mail or drop off with check to Hermitage Municipal Building, 800 N. Hermitage Road, Hermitage, PA 16148. Make checks payable to City of Hermitage. Call Ed Chess, Parks and Recreation Director, at 724-981-0800 for more information.

Participant 1		
Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone (home)	(work)	
Date of Birth		
Activity	Session/Week	
Participant's Signature		

Participant 2		
Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone (home)	(work)	
Date of Birth		
Activity	Session/Week	
Participant's Signature		

#### Registration Information

- It is important to register before the first scheduled class meeting.
- We will notify you only if programs are cancelled, full, or for time or location changes.
- Most classes are limited in size. Registration will be accepted on a first come first serve basis. Payment is due at the time of registration.
- The Parks and Recreation Department has the right to cancel any classes due to insufficient registration. Classes begin as scheduled unless otherwise notified.
- When school is cancelled due to inclement weather, any Parks and Recreation activities will also be cancelled. You will be notified regarding makeup dates.

#### Refund Policy

- Full refunds will be issued when the class is cancelled due to lack of participation.
  - No refunds made after class begins.
- In case of medical emergency I \_\_\_\_\_ authorize the director, instructor, aide or supervisor of the Parks and Recreation Program to seek medical treatment for \_\_\_\_\_ I voluntarily choose to participate in this athletic activity and I realize the risk that injury could occur. I release the City of Hermitage and the Hermitage School District from any liability regarding such injury or emergency.
- SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## FROM THE CHIEF



By Chief of Police Patrick B. McElhinny

The Police Department, working in partnership with Hermitage citizens and business people, wants to continue to ensure that the City is a safe place to live and work. The Police Department encourages all Hermitage residents to protect their homes from criminals. Some guidelines to remember to help protect your home from burglary include the following suggestions.

1. Keep all doors and windows closed and securely fastened. An open window or door is an open invitation for burglars. Doors should have deadbolt locks with a one inch throw and reinforced strike plate with three inch screws. All windows should have window locks.
2. Secure sliding glass doors. Place a metal rod or piece of plywood in the track and install vertical bolts. These will help prevent burglars from forcing the door open or lifting it off the track.
3. Always lock the door to an attached garage. Don't rely on your automatic garage door opener for security.
4. Create the illusion that you are home by using timers on lights, radios and TVs. Making your residence appear occupied, even when no one is home, will deter criminals.
5. Keep the perimeter of your home well lighted.
6. Never leave clues that you are away on a trip. Have a trusted neighbor collect mail and newspapers while you are away so delivered items do not accumulate.
7. Never leave a message on your telephone answering machine telling people that you are away from home. A message that you will return at a certain time leaves your home vulnerable in the interim.
8. Keep shrubbery trimmed away from entrances and walkways. The hedges or trees create hiding places for burglars.
9. Always lock your vehicles that are parked in the driveway.

The Police Department needs the eyes and ears of the Hermitage residents to protect the City from criminals. When you see or hear something that is suspicious we encourage you to call the police department. No one knows the neighborhood you live in better than you do. When something doesn't look right report it and let the police officers investigate. The police department has had great success in solving crimes because people get involved and are willing to make that phone call. Sometimes the smallest bit of information is all we need to lead us to the criminal.

*Please continue to help the Police Department make the City of Hermitage a safe place to live and work.*

## City of Hermitage

### 2007 SCHEDULE FOR BULK TRASH PICKUP, TIRE AND APPLIANCE RECYCLING

#### Bulk Trash - Spring Pickup

<u>Service Day</u>	-	<u>Cleanup Day</u>
Monday	-	Saturday, April 21, 2007
Tuesday	-	Saturday, April 28, 2007
Wednesday	-	Saturday, May 5, 2007
Thursday	-	Saturday, May 12, 2007
Friday	-	Saturday, May 19, 2007

#### Bulk Trash - Fall Pickup

<u>Service Day</u>	-	<u>Cleanup Day</u>
Monday	-	Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007
Tuesday	-	Saturday, Oct. 6, 2007
Wednesday	-	Saturday, Oct. 13, 2007
Thursday	-	Saturday, Oct. 20, 2007
Friday	-	Saturday, Oct. 27, 2007

The bulk trash pick up is for refuse and rubbish that is not normally serviced. All garbage placed in bags must be in Tri-County trash bags or they will not be picked up. All brush, wood and other similar materials must be bundled and tied or in boxes.

For additional information, call Tri-County Industries at 724-662-2510, ext. 1 or 724-748-4705, ext. 1.

#### Tire Recycling and Household Appliance Recycling

**Day #1 Monday, June 4, 2007 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Day #2 Monday, June 11, 2007 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Day #3 Monday, June 18, 2007 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Day #4 Monday, June 25, 2007 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

This tire and household appliance drop-off program is for Hermitage residents only. Proof of residency will be required upon disposal. The number of tires per visit will be limited. No tires with rims or tires with dirt inside the casings will be accepted. All household appliances will be accepted. For additional information, call the Hermitage Municipal Building at 724-981-0800.

## TEAM UP FOR FIRE SAFETY



By Fire Marshal Robert Goeltz

As we enter 2007 several fire and life safety topics need reinforced, particularly reminders to prevent accidental fire occurrence. Because fires determined to be of accidental cause usually result from human error or energized equipment failure, the key to prevention is education. Education regarding accidental fires is a challenge to every fire department in the United States. Part of the challenge is to remove the apathy and lack of understanding as to how easily fire can start, its economic damage to both the victim and community, and the potential for life threatening injury. Educational awareness to accidental fire causes in Hermitage is an on-going mission of your fire department.

Each year the Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department selects a fire education and prevention theme established from national fire cause statistics. This selected theme and other safety topics are publicized annually by mailing a fire safety newsletter along with a contribution fund raising request to all residents by the Hermitage –Patagonia Volunteer Fire

Department. Started in the 1980s, this dual-purpose direct mail educational and fund raising program provides every residence in the city with “hot topic” fire education material and safety tips. Support of this annual educational and fund raising project has been overwhelming. We have been able to reduce our accidental fire causes in the city and the contributions received have provided the financial resources to continue fire education efforts and to purchase major fire equipment.

For the year 2007, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommended that the nation’s fire service use the theme **‘WATCH WHAT YOU HEAT’**. The reason for the theme selection is that the place in the home where accidental fire is most likely to occur is in the kitchen. The leading cause – not watching what is cooking on the stove or cooking appliance.

Other accidental home fire causes on the front burner are candles. **“WHEN YOU GO OUT – PUT THEM OUT”**. All open flaming devices used in the home, specifically candles, increase the probability of an accidental fire to occur. Remember to place all candles away from readily ignitable materials, place them on non-combustible and stable surfaces, in secure containers, and where they cannot be accidentally knocked over by family, friends or pets.

We must also be aware of other sources for accidental fire causes in our homes.

The availability of modern day electronic devices, electrical gadgetry, and

household chemical products when not properly used, create similar potential fire hazards. One of the reasons for the potential hazard is the failure to read and understand product use directions or label warnings. Understanding the proper use and application of the product, material, or appliance is of utmost safety importance to you. There is a reason, even though in small print at times, that the words Caution, Warning, or Danger appear on a product or product packaging. Product use directions should always be read and followed carefully.

In closing we have two additional important concerns relating to the delivery of public safety services to our citizens. First is the frequency of false fire alarm activations. Accidental false fire alarms will occur, but the department is receiving an abnormal number of them for a community of our size. It is extremely important to emergency responders that should your alarm activate you immediately call 911 and advise them of the nature, reason, or cause for the alarm activation. Your emergency services can then respond accordingly. If your home is equipped with a monitored fire protection system, make sure you have a designated key holder available 24/7 to respond to the residence allowing your public safety forces entry. The second concern is visible street addressing. Visible address street numbers are, many times, missing in various areas of our city. Please **POST YOUR STREET NUMBER** so that it is visible from the Street. On behalf of your fire department – have a happy and safe new year!

## 2007 SCHEDULE FOR LEAF PICKUP AND HOLIDAY TRASH PICKUP

### Leaves

**Week #1 Saturday, April 14, 2007 | Week #2 Saturday, November 3, 2007 | Week #3 Saturday, December 8, 2007**

All leaves must be in plastic bags (any type) and placed at curbside. **Burning of leaves is prohibited.** Leaves will be collected on Saturdays only. For additional information, call Tri-County Industries at 724-662-2510, ext. 1 or 724-748-4705, ext. 1.

### Holiday Trash Pickup

Memorial Day: **Mon., May 28 - No Collection on Mon.; One Day Late all week** | Independence Day: **Wed, July 4 - No Collection on Wed; One Day Late Thurs.- Fri. - Sat.**  
Labor Day: **Mon., Sept. 3 - No Collection on Mon.; One Day Late all week** | Thanksgiving Day: **Thurs., Nov. 22 - No Collection on Thursday; One Day Late Fri. & Sat.**  
Christmas Day: **Tues, Dec. 25 - No Collection on Tues.; One Day Late Wed.- Thurs. - Fri. - Sat.**

# HERMITAGE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP



The Hermitage Business Association (H.B.A.) is pleased to announce our Third Annual H.B.A. Scholarship Award. One college bound High School Senior who resides in Hermitage will receive an award of \$500.00. Successful candidates will have achieved at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average; have volunteered within the community beyond scholastic requirements; and plan on attending a post secondary or continuing education program in business. Ideal candidates will possess the character and motivation of a business leader.

Students who wish to be considered must submit a letter to the H.B.A., to the care of Mrs. Bonnie Graven, 711 Audubon Drive, Hermitage, PA 16148. Letters should outline the candidates qualifications, their school activities, the reason for their interest in business, and if given the opportunity to start a business in Hermitage, what would it be and why. Submissions must be received by April 1, 2007 to be considered.

All applicants will be notified of the winner by mail and the winner will receive their award at the annual H.B.A. Mixer, to be held May 2007.



## SENIOR HOUSING COMMUNITY OPENS

*Resident Services Coordinator Stephanie Marugg*

The Mercer County Housing Authority (MCHA) with assistance from the City of Hermitage has constructed a new 40-unit Senior Citizen Complex, the Carol S. Guerrera Village located on Lamor and North Keel Ridge Roads in Hermitage. The Housing Authority provides quality affordable housing, a property manager and implementation of resident

programs for each community to enhance the tenant's quality of life. A property manager will be present in the new office to offer assistance to each resident and perform management duties. A resident services staff person will be available to educate residents on services available to enable them to maintain self-sufficiency, perform routine duties of case management, and coordinate referrals to link residents with services to promote independence.

The handicap accessible clubhouse is approximately 3,000 square feet with an accordion door allowing the division of the largest room when needed. One section is complete with a computer lab and tables and chairs for convenience when educational speakers are scheduled while the other is a social room with comfortable upholstered chairs and an entertainment center. A fully equipped kitchen and laundry rooms are provided for residents' daily use.

As the seasons change so do personal recreational desires. A gazebo is positioned north of the Community Center and a concrete walking path surrounds the large village green space that will be complete with benches for enjoying the out doors.

At this time the apartments are being leased. While driving through the complex clearly the new apartments have easily and quickly become homes. Interested individuals may call the Occupancy Department at 724-342-4000 for details and information.





*The Hermitage Holiday Light Parade Committee would like to thank the following for helping to make the 9th annual Holiday Parade a tremendous success:*

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*A special thanks to the following trucking companies and their drivers. Without their support in lending the trucks, trailers and time, this highly anticipated annual community event would not be possible. So again...Thank You*

**B-Line Enterprises, Inc. • PI&I Motor Express • Strimbu Trucking, Inc. Fredonia Tire • Yourga Trucking, Inc. • Kevin's Trucking • Dave's Towing**



***(HUDSON COMPANIES, continued from page 1)***

Coupled with their desire for further diversification, a 312-unit apartment complex in St. Petersburg launched Hudson into a new frontier – residential leasing in a community of size and value to allow head-to-head competition against public and private national institutional investors. With financing provided by Goldman Sachs, the \$40 million property bordered by a wildlife preserve sits strategically on Tampa Bay.

Founded in 1977 by John M. Hudson, current president and managing partner, Hudson Companies began in residential construction but soon became established as a commercial contractor. Soon after securing the construction arm of the company, Hudson realized the volatility of the construction industry could not provide stability for the company or the growing family of employees that relied on them for their livelihood. Though development projects would allow Hudson's to in effect generate their own construction projects while providing a long-term income base, it soon became apparent that significant growth could only be realized by seeking opportunities outside of the Shenango Valley. Since 1986, Hudson has developed and leased over 850,000 square feet of office space valued at over \$80 million to state and federal

government agencies in facilities throughout Pennsylvania. They are currently in the process of developing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's largest Department of Labor & Industry facility second only to their Harrisburg headquarters. This prestigious and highly competitive project was ultimately awarded to Hudson Companies after a lengthy screening process that involved 24 competing regional and national firms. Upon completion, the downtown Greensburg facility valued at \$14 million will be the city's largest privately owned office building, with over 100,000 square feet in the 8 story Class A office facility.

While Hudson's development operations expand commercial holdings through development and acquisition, Hudson Group, the construction division, continues to operate throughout western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio. As the area's largest contractor and the most locally visible of Hudson's companies, they have completed in excess of \$25 million in contracts during 2006. Hudson Group is a proud, union affiliated company employing 7 superintendents and approximately 50 union carpenters and laborers in their field operations. Hudson Group is proud to have completed projects for many area schools and businesses that include Hermitage School District, City

of Hermitage, Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department, Sharon Regional Health System, Sharon City School District, Mercer Area School District, Sharpsville Area School District, West Middlesex Area School District, Lakeview Area School District, Conneaut Valley Ohio School System, Girard School District, Clarion University, Sharon American Legion, Diocese of Erie – Catholic Charities Division, Andover Ohio School District, West Forest School District, Pennsylvania Department of General Services, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the United States Government Department of Veteran Affairs.

Throughout the years, partners John M. Hudson, Mark J. Voytik, Eric J. Hunter, and Susan D. Hunter have developed a specialization in providing housing solutions via elderly housing projects and luxury apartment leasing, the commercial and institutional construction and development of federal, state, and local government facilities, public and private school and university construction, hospital and medical specialty construction and development, and the acquisition or construction, development, and leasing of professional, medical, retail and restaurant space.

*A "Featured Business" section is included in the Community Update subject to space availability, edition content and publication deadline. Inquiries and comments may be forwarded to [echess@hermitage.net](mailto:echess@hermitage.net).*



## **HERMITAGE ELECTED OFFICIALS**

*(Left–Right)*

### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

William J. Moder, III, *Vice President*

Larry Gurrera

Rita L. Ferringer

Duane Piccirilli, *President*

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## **City of Hermitage**

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