Dear Residents:

The City of Westminster conducted a biennial municipal election on May 9 and Dr. Robert Wack was re-elected to a second term on the Westminster Common Council. Two new Council Members were also elected: Dennis Frazier and Paul Whitson.

Dennis Frazier works for the Carroll County Public School System as a teacher and wrestling coach. He is an Iron Man World Wrestling Champion and lives in the Furnace Hills area.

Paul Whitson graduated from South Carroll High School in 1974 and worked as a music teacher until 1987. He has been self-employed teaching music lessons since that time. He is a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Westminster.

We welcome Dr. Wack’s return to the Council and greet the two newest members as we continue to work on the challenges presented by the national and state economies, the increased environmental standards for water, sewer and storm water and the impact of increasing costs for supplies and equipment.

CARROLL COUNTY RESTAURANT WEEK

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, Carroll County Tourism Department and the City of Westminster have joined together to feature a Carroll County Restaurant Week. This event will take place the week of August 21-28, featuring special fixed price menus at local restaurants.

Participating restaurants will provide menus during the week-long promotion, with prices ranging from $10.11 to $35.11. Each restaurant will feature a menu with selections of their choice, including either lunch and dinner menus, or both. The following Downtown Westminster restaurants are participating:

- Birdie’s Café – 233 E. Main Street
- Giulianova Groceria – 11 E. Main Street
- Harry’s Main Street Grille – 65 W. Main Street
- Johanssons Dining House – 4 W. Main Street
- Maggie’s Restaurant – 310 E. Green Street
- O’Lordans Irish Pub – 14 Liberty Street
- Paradiso Ristorante – 20 Distillery Drive
- Rafael’s Restaurant – 32 W. Main Street

For menus and more information, visit: http://www.carrollcountyrestaurantweek.com. Please support this inaugural Restaurant Week event by visiting one or more of these restaurants between August 21-28.

NEW WEBSITE

The new City website launched on July 1st with a fresh look and exciting new features. Read more information below.

Beginning July 1, 2011, you will be able to pay your water/sewer bill over the Internet. To use the Online Bill Pay service, residents with water/sewer billing accounts can register for an online bill pay account through a secure website. After registering, users can view current water/sewer billing information and make a one-time payment via Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit cards. As part of a security feature, credit card information is NOT saved, so users will be required to enter their credit card information for each payment. Instructions to use the Online Bill Pay Service can be found on the next page.
Instructions for Online Bill Pay:

1. Go to the City homepage at www.westminstermd.gov.
2. Under “Quicklinks” menu, choose ONLINE BILL PAY SERVICES.
3. Choose which type of bill you’d like to pay.
4. Click NEW USERS to open a new online bill pay account.
5. Enter required account set-up information.
6. Once you register for an online user ID, enter your billing account information.
7. If you only have one account, choose CLICK HERE TO ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNTS; or if you have multiple accounts, enter them as necessary.
8. Follow steps on the following pages to make your payment online.

CLIENT SERVICES REQUEST SYSTEM

In addition to this new payment service, Westminster City residents are still able to report maintenance issues to City officials via the Client Services Request System on the City’s website. Citizens can complete the simple request for service form to report things like a code violation, darkened streetlight or a pothole in need of repair at any time. Other examples of problems which could be reported might include signage problems, street issues, water and sewer line problems, etc. For those residents who would like to receive a follow-up status report, giving an email address will ensure they receive updates on the resolution of the problem.

Citizens are encouraged to utilize the web request system in order to streamline the repair process. Please visit our website and click on the Client Services Request Form under “Online Services” and fill in the blanks. You can be assured your alertness will be addressed and appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mayor Utz

From the Code Enforcement Office

Summer is here! Remember to keep your property maintained by keeping all grass/weeds under 6” in height. Also, remember that all exterior property areas must be free of rubbish and garbage accumulation. If you have a pool, keep it clean and properly maintained to deter insect harborage.

Help keep our city beautiful!

100th Anniversary Celebration

In celebration of our 100th Anniversary we will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, October 8th from 10am to 2pm at the Carroll County Times, located at 201 Railroad Avenue. **Free admission, tours, games, food and entertainment!** Two 100th anniversary displays will also be available to the public. Currently there is a display in the storefront of the original “Times” building. From late August through September there will be a display at the Historical Society.

Rain date is Sunday, October 9 from 12pm to 3pm.

Downtown Westminster Farmer’s Market

Located on the Conaway Parking Lot at the corner of Railroad Avenue (MD27) and Emerald Hill Lane, the Downtown Westminster Farmers Market is the oldest “Producer Only” open air market operating in Carroll County. Vendor offerings typically include: fresh vegetables of all kinds, fruits, eggs, honey, salsa, homemade baked goods, herb & vegetable plants, annuals & perennials, cut flowers, wool, hand-made soap products, organically-raised meats and certified organic produce.

The farmers market is open from 8am until noon on Saturdays, from the last Saturday in May until the Saturday before Thanksgiving in November. It is held rain or shine. The market site is handicap accessible, with ample free parking.

To find out what is happening at the Downtown Westminster Farmers Market, or its sister market at the Westminster Antique Mall on Hahn Road, visit www.westminsterfarmfresh.com.
Saturday, August 6, 2011, 7:30pm: Oh Boy: Buddy Holly Tribute. This 4-piece tribute band celebrates the music of the late, great Rock & Roller Buddy Holly and his back-up band, the Crickets. This fabulous "blast from the past" authentically recreates Holly's music as well as other rockabilly classics by Richie Vallens, the Big Bopper and Johnny Cash. Tickets are $18 for Adults and $15 CCAC Members, Students under 18 and Seniors 60+.

Friday, August 12, 2011, 7:30pm: “All About Eve”, 1950, 138 mins, Not Rated. The award-winning film is based on the story “The Wisdom of Eve” by Mary Orr. The backstage story revolves around aspiring actress Eve Harrington, played by Anne Baxter as she shows up in the dressing room of mega-star Margo Channing played by Bette Davis. The tattered and forlorn Eve weaves her way into Margo’s life and circle of friends. Taking pity on the girl, Margo takes Eve as her personal assistant. Before long it is apparent that naïve Eve is a Machiavellian connoisseur who cold-bloodedly uses Margo and her circle to rise to the top of the theatrical heap. Certainly the film is known for its iconic line “Fasten your seat belts, it’s going to be a bumpy night,” but undoubtedly it has many more riveting moments that helped it earned six Academy Awards including Best Picture. Tickets are $6 for adults and $5 for CCAC Members, Students and Seniors 60+.

Sunday, September 18, 2011, 3pm: National Players to perform “The Taming of the Shrew” by William Shakespeare. “Shrew” is known as one of the best-loved ‘battle of the sexes’ and the National Players have retro-fitted the comedy with a Wild West flare! Cowboy boots, whips, and lassos give a biting punch to this classic tale. Sparring lovers Kate and Petruchio duke it out on the Western frontier. Will they ride off into the sunset or die tryin’? The verbal duel never stops during this marvelously updated adaptation of Shakespeare’s masterpiece.

The National Players, America’s longest running classical touring company, has now reached its 63rd consecutive season of touring. They have earned a distinctive place in American theatre and maintain a strong commitment to the formation of emerging theatrical talent and new audiences. They continually celebrate the experience of theatergoing by presenting the world’s greatest dramatic literature performed by a professional repertory company.

Tickets for “The Taming of the Shrew” are $20 for Adults and $15 for CCAC Members, Students & Seniors.

For more information on any of these events, contact the Carroll Arts Center at 410-848-7272 or visit www.CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org
Recreation and Parks Department Events: August, September

National Night Out: Tuesday, August 2nd residents can run crime out of neighborhoods! Joined by the Westminster City Police, a night of block parties is a great way to meet and mingle with your neighbors. City officials and Police Officers visit each site. Call Sgt. Keith Benfer at 410-848-4646 for more information.

Westminster Municipal Band Concert: Sunday, August 28th at 6pm. This concert is held at Belle Grove Park on the corner of Green and Bond Street. Bring a lawn chair. For more info call Greg Wantz at 410-848-8852

FALLFEST Returns in September!

Westminster Fallfest Parade September 22nd at 7pm. The parade will start at Dutterer Family Park on Monroe Street to Pennsylvania Avenue and will continue down Main Street ending on Longwell Avenue. Parade participants must register in advance! Call 410-857-9072 for more information.

Westminster Fallfest September 22nd-25th, this annual event benefits Access Carroll, Carroll County Youth Services Bureau, the Carroll Hospice and the Boys and Girls Club of Westminster. Enjoy carnival rides, live entertainment, and great food. On Saturday and Sunday enjoy over 100 crafters and commercial vendors gathered for your shopping pleasure. NO PETS PLEASE. Visit www.westminsterfallfest.com for more information.

Westminster Fallfest Midnight Madness Held September 23rd from 6pm to Midnight. Experience the sights, scents, and sounds of an autumn evening in downtown Historic Westminster. A variety of businesses will be open for your shopping pleasure. Live entertainment, antique cars, and much more will be available. Parking is FREE. NO PETS PLEASE!

Summer Camps Available

Summer Day Camps: $115/week, June 20—August 26, Monday—Friday from 9am—4pm. Day camp is held at the Longwell Municipal Center and is designed for children 6-12 years. Campers will have loads of fun playing games and sports, making crafts, going on field trips and swimming at the Westminster Municipal Pool. Each Camper will receive a Camp T-shirt and Water Bottle each week they are registered! AM and PM care is also available at an additional charge.

Tot Camp: Offering 8 weeks! $60/week, June 21-August 13, Monday–Friday from 9-11:30am. Tot Camp is held at the Community Building at the Westminster Municipal Pool and is designed for children ages 3-5 (must be potty trained).

A $20.00 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT IS DUE AT TIME OF REGISTRATION FOR EACH CHILD AND SESSION THAT IS ENROLLED.

Westminster Municipal Pool

Memorial Day-Labor Day, 325 Royer Road
Open to the public

2011 Member Fees
City Residents: $200/Family membership
$128/Individual membership
County Residents: $260/Family membership
$146/Individual membership
Gate Fees: $7.00 or Punch Cards: $50 for 10 visits

Pool Hours
Daily 12 noon to 7pm
T, W, F – Adult Lap Swim 7-8pm
T & TH – Water Aerobics (August only) 7-8pm

Swim Lesson Registration
Sign up for the Stingrays Learn to Swim Program.
$45 per child
Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced classes available.
Registration: May 18th & June 1st 5:30-7:30 at the Community Building at the pool.
Parent or Legal Guardian must complete registration in person.

Contact Sarah Bratman, Swim Lesson Coordinator, wstswimlessons@gmail.com
Join the Westminster Stingrays Competitive Swim Team!
For more information go to www.westminsterswimteam.com