MAYOR’S MESSAGE

Fiber to the Home

Last year, we conducted a survey to try and determine the level of interest West Point residents have in fiber-optic internet to the home. The results? A very large majority of the respondents would like to have that option for their internet service. Before I go any further, for those who don’t know what fiber-optic internet (“fiber”) is, let me give you a quick definition: fiber is an internet connection that transfers data fully or partially via fiber optic cables. “Fiber” refers to the thin glass wires inside the larger protective cable and “optic” refers to the way the type of data is transferred, which is through light signals. Basically, it is an internet connection in which data is delivered in light signals via small, flexible glass wire. Fiber optic cables are capable of carrying much more data at much faster speeds than through the copper telephone lines.

With such a favorable response to the survey, we decided to look into bringing this option of fiber internet to our City and have been discussing and researching the possibilities for several months. Let me give you a very general explanation of how all this would work: West Point City would sign an agreement with a company to install and make available a fiber connection to every home. This company would only act as the installer of the infrastructure and not as a service provider. Every resident would then, at their option, be able to pick from multiple internet service providers for their high-speed fiber internet. Those who do not wish to not sign up will not pay anything nor get taxed for the network; the infrastructure is paid for by those who subscribe. As a general idea, those who subscribe for just the basic fiber internet speed of 250 Mbps will pay roughly $65 per month.

This is obviously a brief summary, and there is a lot more information about bringing fiber internet to residents. The City Council is continuing to look at the options, gather input from those with experience on this type of project, and weighing the pros and cons. I have no doubt they will make the right decision as it relates to offering this service to our residents. Stay tuned for more information.

Spring Clean-Up

Did you know a few years ago we began a Spring and Fall Clean-Up program? The Spring Clean-Up was held on April 26th and 27th and dumpsters were placed at all three parks and continuously emptied throughout the two days so that residents could de-junk as needed. The program has become very popular and we hope that it is helpful to all of you that have taken advantage of it.

Take Pride In West Point Day

Depending on the time when you are reading this newsletter, you might have missed the 13th Annual Take Pride in West Point Day held on May 4th. This year’s project was to work on installing an irrigation system to reach all the trees along the trail by SR 193 from 2000 West to 3000 West. Many projects have been done throughout the past 13 years and all of them were made possible by great volunteers, willing to prove the saying that “many hands make light work” is true. If you missed this event, or want to know about all the other things happening in West Point, I encourage you to go to Facebook, search for West Point City, and “Like” our Page. For those of you that don’t like or use social media, the newsletter and website will still provide you with much of the same information, but Facebook is the place to go for up-to-date details and current info.

Movies in the Park

Back by popular demand is our summer Movies in the Park event. These nights provide a great opportunity spend time with your family, enjoy the warm weather, and visit with your friends and neighbors. Each movie is projected on a big screen with a great sound system, and we have some good food trucks scheduled to come. So, grab your phones or your planners and plug in the following dates: June 7th, July 19th, August 16th, and September 6th. The food trucks will arrive at 7 PM and the movies will begin at dusk, so come early and set out your blankets and chairs and enjoy a night at the Loy Blake Park.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns by calling and leaving a message at City Hall.

- Mayor Erik Craythorne
Each month West Point City holds a lunch for Seniors 55 and older. The cost is $2.00 per person and both residents and non-residents are welcome!

This month’s lunch will be on:

Monday, May 20th @ 11:30 AM
The menu for this month is:
Tacos with Chips and Salsa
Ice Cream for Dessert

YOU MUST RSVP TO RESERVE A SPOT
Please call City Hall by May 16th at (801) 776-0970

To view the 2019 Senior Lunch Calendar, visit the City Website under the Community Affairs Page.
MARCHING MUSKRATS
West Point City is currently seeking members for this year’s Community Marching Band! This group is one of the highlights of our Independence Day Celebration on July 4th. If you are interested please email Shelby at marchingmuskrats@westpointcity.org.

Please include the instrument you play, the years played, your name and phone number.

Be sure to share this info with all your friends and family who may be interested!

Party at the Point
Our Annual Independence Day Celebration held at Loy Blake Park on July 4th is quickly approaching!
If you are interested in being in the parade, vendor or volunteer please contact Shelby Sargent at ssargent@westpointcity.org.

Please see the enclosed Water Quality Report for important information regarding our drinking water!
WEST POINT MILITARY MEMORIAL

Loy Blake Park
3500 W 550 N

West Point Military Memorial Committee
Howard, Chair
801-825-7221
Marv, Co-Chair
801-825-5321

May is a busy month for remembering. First, and foremost, is Mother’s Day on the 12th, followed by Armed Forces Day on the 18th, and ending with Memorial on Monday the 27th. Each is an important day, and consistent with past messages from the Committee, a little history of each and their significance follows.

Traditional celebrations of mothers have existed throughout the world for thousands of years; the Greeks honored the Goddess Cybele, the Romans Hilaria, and Mothering Sunday celebrated by Christians. In 1908, an Anna Reeves Jarvis celebrated a day for mothers at the St. Andrews Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. By 1910, it was declared officially by the state of West Virginia and the rest of the states quickly followed. Though Congress initially rejected the idea of designating Mother’s Day as an official holiday, it was declared an official U.S. holiday in 1914.

On August 31, 1949 Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of Armed Forces Day, designed to replace the separate Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Force Days. This followed the 1947 unification of the armed forces under the single agency of the Department of Defense.

When many of us were young pups, what is now called Memorial Day was known as Decoration Day and from 1868 to 1970, was always on the 30th of May. Although many states claim to have held the first memorial organization, it is said that it originated in the South, starting on June 3, 1869 in Warren, VA, the first known dedication of a Civil War soldier’s grave was held, followed in 1862 by women in Savannah, GA decorating Confederate soldiers’ graves. With its 1863 dedication at Gettysburg, Abraham Lincoln has caused some to claim that he was the originator of creating a ceremony of commemoration at the graves of fallen soldiers. Many other separate commemorations existed from 1863 to 1867, both in the South and in the North, when General John A. Logan (a Union Civil War veteran) called for a nationwide day of decoration of the graves of the Union war dead for the 30th of May, 1868. On that first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at the Arlington National Cemetery wherein 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there. By 1870, the remains of nearly 300,000 Union dead had been reinterred in 73 national cemeteries, all of which held commemorations. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, though it is still often called Decoration Day. It was then also placed on the last Monday in May, as were some other federal holidays.

Memorial Day is the only holiday wherein specific instructions exist for the use of the National Emblem as part of the commemoration. With the rise of other federal holidays.

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Thank you to Flint’s Garden Center for donating all the flowers for the City flower beds!

Flint’s Garden Center
Where the flowers are grown

RECREATION

FOOTBALL CAMP - CO-ED - MAY 14th, 15th, & 16th 5:30 - 7 PM
REGISTRATION: APRIL 1st TO MAY 13th
COST: $40  AGES: 1st - 8th Grade
Playing football in the fall IS REQUIRED to sign-up for football camp. This camp is designed to develop your child’s overall athletic ability and create a positive environment where your child can learn and have fun.

BASKETBALL CAMP
REGISTRATION DATES: MAY 6th - CAMP START
AGES: 1st-5th Grade
COST: $20.00
DATES: GIRLS JUNE 11th - 13th / BOYS JUNE 18th - 20th

JR GOLF - JUNE SESSION
REGISTRATION DATES: MAY 6th - MAY 30th
AGES: 7-17 COST: $50.00
DATES: JUNE 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th

GOLF - JULY SESSION
REGISTRATION DATES: MAY 6th - TBD
AGES: 7-17 COST: $40.00
DATES: JUN 16th, 17th, 24th & 31st
*Pre-requisites to this session include the June session, previous Jr Golf lessons, or basic knowledge of swing and golf.

SCHOOL AGE SUMMER CAMP
REGISTRATION DATES: JUNE 17th - JULY 15th
COST: $60.00

SWIMMING LESSONS
REGISTRATION DATES: MAY 17th - TBD
AGES: 8-15
COST: $34.00
DATES: TBD
@ CLEARFIELD AQUATIC CENTER

FOOTBALL
REGISTRATION DATES: JUNE 17th - JULY 15th
COST: $130.00