

# POCONO RECORD

News & Information from Northeast Pennsylvania



At right, Chairman of the Pride in Chestnuthill Committee Dave Johnson with a group of his volunteers and committee members outside in Chestnuthill on Saturday.

## Clean-up group in need of helpers

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BRODHEADSVILLE — Neal Boyce voluntarily cleans up the roads in Chestnuthill Township hoping to be an example for those who litter in the town.

"I clean one road, and a few days or sometimes hours later it's full of trash again," Boyce said.

He's among a group of about 20 volunteers who religiously attend the monthly meetings of the Pride in Chestnuthill Committee, a group of residents who participate in street litter pick-up along the roads in the township, which starts in the spring and runs through the fall.

"It's a lot of work, but we do it with a smile," said Lynell Regisford, of Brodheadsville, a member of the committee. "We take pride in our town, that's why we do it."

The last five years, she along with her husband Anthony and their two daughters, Camille, 14, and Cemone, 12, consider the clean-up events as family time — the girls are the youngest members of the committee.

The group is starting its sixth year and is in need for more volunteers.

The next big project in the works is cleaning Mountain Road/Toll Road in the Sun Valley development, and at least 35 volunteers are needed for Monroe County Waste Management to close the road for safety reasons. The group has advertised for six months and only about six people have committed, said David Johnson, chairman of the PIC.

But even with a small committed staff, the committee managed to win the Save Our Planet Award in the volunteer category, which was presented by the Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau in 2006.

Besides picking up litter around the township, the group also grows plants, such as they did at the municipal building, set up split rail fencing, and recycle old stop signs.

They paint the stop signs green and white and place them around town with a message that reads, "Pride in Chestnuthill Township."

Saturday morning, the group handed out brochures informing township residents of the recycling center.

As they diligently work to keep the township "Clean and Green," PIC cooperates with the Litter Control and Beautification Program of Monroe County.

The group's efforts help the township from having to clean up the roads, since it's a tight-ship operation.

"They the township have enough to worry about," Johnson said. "And as residents, this is how we help them the township out."

PIC's efforts are supported by local businesses such as Mr. Z's, Kinsley's, Citizens Bank, Burger King and McDonald's, Johnson said, and PIC hopes to receive help from Wawa, which is a major source of roadside litter.