

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Campaign Kicks Off for Sutersville Park Expansion

(August 9) Sutersville Borough and the Westmoreland County Land Bank (WCLB) are seeking local businesses and individuals to fund an expansion project for Sutersville's Community Park on First Avenue. The WCLB demolished an abandoned, blighted structure that was next door to the park to create an expansion area. Funding was provided by Westmoreland County and The Community Foundation's "Youth Voice in Philanthropy Program Fund" for the acquisition and removal of blighted structures in town. Two additional blighted structures located on First Avenue were also demolished with the grant dollars, improving the town's gateway to the Park.

Keeping with the town's history, the Play Train Set chosen for the expansion is a four piece train aimed toward the 2-5 year-old age group, making the park now inclusive to all ages. The WCLB will purchase the first piece of the continuing set and businesses and individuals who would like to donate toward the purchase of other sections of the train can visit the WCLB's Face Book page. Donors for entire pieces will receive an engraved plaque on the section of train sponsored. In addition to monetary donations, Sutersville is also seeking volunteer efforts to help clean the existing recreational area and potentially install the new equipment.

According to April Kopas, Executive Director of the WCLB, "It is always rewarding when we get to work with the communities to create healthier towns by removing blight and creating new recreational space for residents to gather and enjoy".

The revitalization and expansion project is scheduled to be complete in the fall of this year. "We are grateful for working with the Westmoreland County Land Bank to revitalize a lot that was in much need of attention", said Alaina Breakiron, Mayor of Sutersville. "We are excited to bring the community together to add a new train play set feature that captures our town's heritage while bringing fun to the park".

The mission of the Land Bank is to deter the spread of blight; to promote redevelopment and reuse of vacant, abandoned, and tax-delinquent properties; to support targeted efforts to stabilize neighborhoods; and to stimulate residential, commercial and industrial development while working with local government partners and other community stakeholders.

For more information on sponsoring please visit the WCLB Face Book page or contact 724-830-3085 or to smichale@co.westmoreland.pa.us

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