



Gould Regime Hurting Chestnuthill

By J.J. Publius

Chestnuthill Supervisors put the Township in debt to tune of \$3-million, neglect potholes in the roads, and Gould shamefully chases away prime, beneficial commercial development. It's time for a change!

Chestnuthill Township Roads Neglected by Gould and Supervisors

When Claude Possinger was a Chestnuthill Township Supervisor and also the Township's Roadmaster, our Township roads were first rate. Now, many Chestnuthill Township roads are in a sorry state - *chuck* full of potholes, lots of eroded shoulders, and poor road surface quality. There's no pride in the Chestnuthill Township roads!

Before the Gould regime took over control of Chestnuthill Township, all the Township road-work was done. And it was done within the funds provided to the Township for road work (liquid fuels tax rebate). That liquids fuels tax rebate from the State will add up to nearly \$450,000 this year, nearly \$1/2-million. It was about \$430,000 last year.

The Chestnuthill Township roadwork is not getting done these days. Moreover, Gould and his regime apparently are not able to get the roadwork done within the liquid fuels tax rebate from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (State). Gould and his regime have put Chestnuthill Township in debt to the tune of \$3-million, ostensibly for roadwork and other infrastructure expenditures. Yet even with that extra \$3-million, many Chestnuthill Township roads are a disgrace.

Lake Mineola Road is a good example of a Chestnuthill

Township road where Gould and his regime are not getting the roadwork done. It goes from its intersection with Route 209 near the ESSA bank in downtown Brodheadsville to its intersection with Route 715 near the Chestnuthill Township building.

As you turn onto Lake Mineola Road from Route 209, you will notice a huge hole immediately to the North of 209 and to the East of Lake Mineola road. This pothole is downright dangerous and it is a disgrace. No pride in Chestnuthill Township there. See *Figure 1*.

But, you will notice more than just alligatoring as you drive along Lake Mineola Road. It's *chuck* full of potholes. Much of the shoulder is eroded, in disrepair, or destroyed. The road surface quality is poor, is eroded, and is in severe disrepair. No pride in Chestnuthill Township on the Lake Mineola Road! See *Figure 2*.

If you want to see an example of just how horribly some of the Chestnuthill Township roads are being maintained, take a ride on Lake Mineola Road. When you see the miserable condition of Lake Mineola Road, you will understand one of the reasons that we believe Chuck Gould and the Chestnuthill Supervisors are not doing their jobs and should be fired.

See the figures, get the full story, and lots more in the online version at **WestEndVoice.com**. Our article, *Gould's Grey Elephant AKA Firehouse Lane* is in the online version too. See ***Gould Causes Chestnuthill to Lose TV Studio -- What a Shame!*** on page 2.



Gould Causes Chestnuthill to Lose TV Studio -- What a Shame!

Back around 2000, Blue Ridge Communications (BRC), . . . wanted to build a new studio for its Channel 13. . . . at Pencor's facility in Gilbert But, Chuck Gould abused his position as a Chestnuthill Township Supervisor to kill the plan dead, what a shame!

Pencor Services, Inc., is the parent company of Blue Ridge Communications. . . . Pencor's Gilbert facility is that beautiful commercial complex that lies in between Route 209 and Fairgrounds Road between Brodheads ville's Weir Lake Road shopping complex and the Village of Gilbert. BRC's West End office is located at Pencor's Gilbert facility.

The Ye Olde Professional Building is on the Pencor property there now. The Channel 13 studio would have been a second major building on that site.

The Gilbert Channel 13 studio would have meant around 50 to 60 good jobs. And it would have added about \$1-million to \$1.5-million to the property tax roles for both Chestnuthill Township and the Pleasant Valley School District (PVSD). That's just the kind of commercial development we need and want in Chestnuthill Township and in the PVSD.

Good jobs and increasing the tax base are not the only benefits that would have accrued for Chestnuthill Township, the PVSD, and the West End. Having the Channel 13 studio right here in Chestnuthill Township would have made it so easy to take school children there for tours of the Channel 13 studio -- what a fantastic educational opportunity that Gould blew.

Think of the opportunities for the young people of our community to get part time jobs and even internships there that having the Channel 13 studio in Gilbert would have provided. Gould blew that too. . . .

Thanks to Chuck Gould, it is doubtful that Pencor will invest any more money in Chestnuthill Township. Way to go Gould - NOT!

The Channel 13 studio issue was raised at a recent Chestnuthill Township Supervisor meeting. Gould did not have the courage or honesty to admit that he had killed the Channel 13 studio project. Instead, he ducked around the issue claiming that Pencor had never applied to Chestnuthill Township for approval of its Channel 13 studio plans.

In the formal sense it is true that Pencor did not make a formal application for permission to build the Channel 13 studio in Gilbert. But Gould killed it before it ever got that far.

Pencor did present a preliminary plan to Chestnuthill Township.

Within about three-months of that, Gould and the Township Supervisors issued a building moratorium and then passed an unconstitutional ordinance that effectively stopped the Channel 13 project cold. The dirty trick that Gould used to do this prohibited construction in flood plains. Since the Pencor property in Gilbert is in the 100-year flood plain, Gould's dirty trick stopped the Channel 13 studio project.

The Pencor people discussed the matter with Gould. They wanted to get a variance or exemption that would have allowed the Channel 13 studio. Gould would not budge.

Since then the ordinance that Gould enacted that stopped the Channel 13 Studio from being built in Gilbert has been amended. Under the amended ordinance, the Channel 13 studio could have been built in Chestnuthill Township.

What other beneficial development has Gould killed? What other abusive and unconstitutional ordinances has Gould managed to get on the books in Chestnuthill Township?

Get the full story, and lots more in the online version at [WestEndVoice.com](http://www.westendvoice.com) .