

"Talk of the Township"

Township of Ligonier • One Municipal Park Drive • Ligonier, PA 15658

A Newsletter For Our Residents

April/May/June 2011

TOWNSHIP NEWS

From the desk of Chief Matrunics

I would like to discuss my concern of Township residents who do not properly mark their home with house numbers or place a name at the end of their private lane. I have been a police officer here in Ligonier Township since January 1994. Since then it has become increasingly difficult for emergency responders to locate homes. This is very frustrating for those of us attempting to assist someone who calls 911 and is in desperate need of help. So many times I have knocked on wrong doors in the middle of the night waking up innocent people and probably scaring them to death. I am requesting that, if you currently do not have your house and/or driveway properly marked with your house number, please consider it. This simple step could easily be the difference between life or death. This is an item that will, in the future, be voted upon to be established as a Ligonier Township ordinance and non-compliance could subject the homeowner to penalties.

Also, many of us now carry cell phones. Unfortunately, we often respond to emergencies and have no way of contacting family members. This could be an automobile accident or a medical emergency. We suggest that, if you carry a cell phone, please enter the contact: "ICE". This is an acronym for "In Case of Emergency". This contact number should be for a friend or family member who is usually available at that number and who has access to transportation if it becomes necessary.

From the desk of Supervisor Timothy Komar

As you have seen, the street sweeper and trucks are running back and forth, because we are in the process of reclaiming anti-skid. This will be put on a stock pile and used again next winter. Last year we reclaimed over 1,200 tons with a value of over \$18,000.00. This allowed us to not have to buy any anti-skid for winter maintenance until January, 2011. This year we anticipate reclaiming an increased amount for additional savings. This is made possible by changing the way we deal with leaves and debris in our ditches. In prior years the accumulation of leaves and debris made the anti-skid unsuitable for reuse.

Free Fill, Dirt and Woodchips

The Township is again offering Ligonier Residents the opportunity to sign up for free fill, dirt and woodchips. While we cannot guarantee delivery to everyone, if work is being done in your area and you have filled out a request form, we will try to fill your request. Anyone who signed up last year and is still interested should contact us at the office, 724-238-2725, and let us know. If you haven't signed up, please stop in at the Township Building to sign a request form and your name will be added to the list.

Blood Bank

The Ligonier Township Supervisors will be holding a blood drive at the Ligonier Township Municipal Building on Monday, May 9 between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. The blood drive is being held through the Central Blood Bank. All blood donated through the Central Blood Bank stays in the Pittsburgh and outlying areas, including Westmoreland County. If you would like to sign up to donate, please contact Barbara Hollick at the Township Building, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., 724-238-2725. You may also sign up online at www.centralbloodbank.org.

TAX COLLECTOR

By Sue R. Kinsey

Ligonier Township spring property taxes (County and Township) were mailed March 1, 2011. If you do not receive a tax statement, please contact the Ligonier Township tax office. Failure to receive a statement does not relieve the taxpayer of the responsibility of payment. Tax statements are no longer mailed to the mortgage companies for payment. Taxpayers are responsible for sending the tax statement to the mortgage companies. Ligonier Township Supervisors have suspended collection of Street Light and Fire Hydrant Taxes for 2011. A dropoff slot is available at the township tax office to accept payment before or after normal business hours.

> OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday thru Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Last Saturday of the month April and September 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

724-238-2300

Ligonier Township Municipal Authority Customers

We plan to flush the water lines April 11th through the 15th, 2011. Expect low pressure and cloudy water. This will be done between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

ATTN: LANDLORDS For emergency purposes, the Authority needs to know the name and phone number of your tenant. Please give us this information when tenants change.

TOWNSHIP NEWS

Dumpster Day - April 16, 2011

There will be NO Fall Dumpster Day this year!

Old Lincoln Highway West from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

ID's will be checked by the Ligonier Township Police Department. Event is for Ligonier Township, Ligonier Borough and Laurel Mountain Borough residents ONLY. Fees:

\$10.00 per truckload, \$5.00 per carload

\$2.00 per regular-sized tires - tires on rims \$4.00

\$5.00 per large sized tires - tires on rims \$10.00

\$15.00 per freon containing appliances \$10.00 per other appliance

Tires on rims require extra labor to remove rims. Our Tire Disposal Service will not accept tires on rims. For a small number of pieces, no charge will be made, but donations are always accepted and appreciated.

The following items will not be accepted:

Paint, pressurized paint cans, hazardous materials, items containing dirt, concrete block, plaster, fiberglass insulation, shingles, household garbage, broken glass and grass clippings.

Upgraded Website Coming Soon

The Supervisors expect an upgraded website to be in place as of May 1st. The intent is to provide new information and updates on a much more current basis. One great advantage of this new site will be to save costs by providing this newsletter to you on the internet. If you have access, we can save production and mailing costs. We ask that you begin to check the website at: www.ligoniertwp.com beginning May 1. When you see the option provided there for you to receive the newsletter via this route, simply fill in the information, and you will be notified by automatic email each quarter when the newsletter becomes available.

An added advantage of this method of getting your news as quickly as possible is that we will archive the older issues so that you do not need to search for old newsletters when looking for articles written in a previous edition.

PennPRIME Peak Performer's Award

Ligonier Township is one of only 14 recipients of the PennPRIME Peak Performer's Award. PennPRIME is a member-driven, self-insurance trust that works with and is owned exclusively by Pennsylvania municipal entity members.

Each year PennPRIME recognizes members of the Workers' Compensation Trust with Peak Performer Awards for those entities that excel. The awards are granted based on 3 main criteria. The member must have a 5 year loss ratio (\$Losses/\$Contributions) of less than or equal to 30%, a functioning State-certified Safety Committee and must be a member of the Trust for 3 years. Additional criteria include annual self-assessments, providing safety training to all employees and developing written safety procedures.

Improved employee safety can translate into savings for the entity and the entire community. The employees who serve on the safety committee, leading the effort, deserve congratulations for their hard work.

The entities recognized for their outstanding workplace safety are: Berwick Borough, Derry Borough, East Stroudsburg Borough, Edinboro Borough, Ferguson Township, Findlay Township (Agh), the City of Greensburg, Ligonier Township, the City of Meadville, Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority, Punxsutawney Borough, the City of Titusville, Uwchlan Township and White Township.

The award winners are recognized at PennPRIME's Annual Membership Meeting and Risk Management Conference with a distinctive statuette. In addition, the recipients are also awarded a financial benefit of \$1,000 to be used to further improve employee safety.

PennPRIME's uniqueness stems from the fact that they continually deliver added value through their specialized products and services including custom coverage, solutions that reduce their members' risk, and build member equity. The benefits of trust membership include broad coverages, personal service, input into trust operations, and a package of services that is much more specialized than those available from a commercial insurance company. Over time, trust members can expect stable rates, new services, and even the potential for dividends.

Municipal Building Closings

The Ligonier Township Municipal Building will be closed on Friday, April 22 for Good Friday and Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. Regular business hours are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

What to do when you have problems with your septic system.

The first thing to do is contact the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO). The SEO will work with you to determine what the problem is, what is causing the problem, if a repair will have a reasonable chance of functioning for long term and if a permit is required. It has come to our attention that people are attempting to complete repairs without contacting the SEO and in most cases these repairs are costing a lot of money and they are only working for a short period of time. In some cases there are other things that can be done that are less expensive than replacing a septic system.

The following are examples of repairs that require a permit.

- Replacement or enlargement of treatment tanks.
- · Replacement of pumps.
- Repairs to a distribution box and distribution (leach) field.
- Replacing piping between house, treatment tanks and distribution field.

When you contact the SEO you will be working with someone who deals with these issues and knows about the options available. The SEO will also oversee the repairs to make sure the contractor is completing them correctly. The Township SEO is Mike D'Arrigo. You can reach him at 814-255-6901.



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www.ligonierlawyer.com

MEETINGS APRIL • MAY • JUNE

Ligonier Township Municipal Building724-238-2725
Ligonier Township Municipal Authority
Ligonier Township Supervisors' Work Session 8:00 a.m. April 8 • May 6 • June 10
Ligonier Township Supervisors' Meeting 7:00 p.m. April 12 • May 10 • June 14
Ligonier Township Recreation Board 6:30 p.m. April 14 • May 12 • June 9
Ligonier Township Planning Commission 7:30 p.m. April 19 • May 17 • June 21
Ligonier Township Zoning Hearing Board 7:30 p.m. April 26 • May 24 • June 28
Volunteer Fire Departments Directory Waterford Volunteer Fire Department724-238-0471 Chief Robert Beaufort
Darlington Volunteer Fire Department724-238-4820 Chief Robert McDowell Cell814-242-3785
Wilpen Volunteer Fire Department724-238-6585 Chief Michael DiRinaldo

LIGONIER TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Ligonier Township Supervisors 724-238-2725 William C. Penrod, Jr., Keith A. Whipkey, Timothy R. Komar
Receptionist Barbara L. Hollick
Ligonier Township Secretary / Treasurer Keith A. Whipkey
Ligonier Township Zoning Officer/Assistant Secretary Cindy Turley724-238-3640
Ligonier Township Municipal Authority 724-238-7464 Manager - Paul Knupp Secretary - Anna Bills
Ligonier Township Tax Collector 724-238-2300 Sue R. Kinsey
Ligonier Township Police
Ligonier Township Code Enforcement724-875-2785
Ligonier Township Web Sitewww.ligoniertwp.com
Ligonier Township Email Addressligsec@comcast.net
Ligonier Township Fax Number724-238-3711
Pennsylvania Municipal Service Co724-238-9450

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