



"Talk of the Township"

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

A Newsletter For Our Residents

July/August/September 2012

TOWNSHIP NEWS

From the desk of Chief Matronics

Well, it's summer again. As we all know it is the time for vacations and traveling. With that being said I would like to remind all motorists that there are new seat belt laws within Pennsylvania, and even stricter laws in other states. Specifically Pennsylvania's primary seat belt law requires all drivers and passengers under 18 to wear a seat belt. Drivers and front seat passengers who are 18 or older will receive a second ticket if found unbelted. Currently a seat belt ticket with costs and fines is \$60.00 or more. For more information on the seat belt law please type in the search engine "buckle up PA" and this web page will provide additional information about the seat belt laws.

Currently the Ligonier Township Police Department is enrolled in the Buckle Up PA Program that provides the Township with funding to allow officers to enforce such traffic violations. These officers will provide active patrol in search of traffic violations, specifically seat belt violation. During the summer, you may see one or more of our patrol cars doing just that. So please be safe and buckle up - and have a safe summer!

From the desk of Supervisor Timothy Komar

It has recently been brought to my attention that many of our residents do not really know how small of a portion of their annual property tax actually goes to the Township. With an average assessment of \$20,000, 3.5 mills or \$70.00 goes to the Township, 20.99 mills or \$419.80 goes to the County and 73 mills or \$1460.00 goes to the School Board. So with an average annual property tax bill of \$1,949.80 the average resident only pays a mere \$70 to the Township. Although there are other tax sources that make up the Township budget it seems that the property tax is the one that is always blamed on the Township. The Township millage has not changed for approximately 10 years while the cost for fuel and materials has nearly doubled. Some residents claim that they reap no benefit from the Township but forget that they have the luxury of 24 hour police protection as well as the protection of three top notch fire departments that are partially subsidized with their tax dollars. The main point of this letter is to educate the tax payers of Ligonier Township as to how much of their tax bill actually goes to road repair, snow removal and public safety.

Save the Date!

You won't want to miss participating in this year's Memorial Walk for Ando scheduled for September 15, 2012! Past participants have enjoyed the doggie games, raffle prizes, refreshments and just participating in the Walk as it travels from Holy Trinity Church Parking lot to St. Clair Grove and back again. Watch for the registration forms in the Ligonier area locations and ask your friends to join in the fun as we support the Ligonier Township Police Department K9 Fund. *All proceeds* go directly to the fund to support the K9 program. This year's event is sponsored by Beaufort Services Inc. To receive more information, call 724-238-3471.

Road Sealing

Road sealing in the Township is tentatively scheduled to begin on August 27, 2012. The roads that are scheduled to be done are: Jacob Miller Road, Old Linn Run Road, Byers Lane, Weaver Mill Road, Nicely Road, Peters Road, Edgemont Drive, Crossmead Drive, Presidents Drive, Freeman Road, Zion Church Road, Fairview School Road, Slater Road, Ross Road, Giesey Road, Dickey Road, Clifford Estates, Robb Road, Ramsey Road, Muir Road, Murphy Road, Autumn Leaves Road, Mill Road, Kissell Springs Road and Kissell Springs Extension.

TAX COLLECTOR

By Sue R. Kinsey

Ligonier Township Fall taxes (school) will be mailed out on August 1, 2012. If you do not receive your statement, please contact the Ligonier Township Tax Office. Failure to receive a tax 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. The last day to pay your 1st School Installment payment is September 30; last day to pay your 2nd Installment payment is October 30; the last day to pay your 3rd Installment payment is November 30. If you pay after these dates on your installment payment there will be a 10% penalty added. The last day to pay school taxes (fall) at discount is September 30, 2012. If paying by mail or through the door slot, make sure to enclose the statement and a self-addressed stamped envelope with the payment if you wish to receive a receipt. Ligonier Township Spring taxes (county and township) are at Penalty until December 31, 2012. The tax office will be closed July 2 through the 6th. After hour, drop-off slot is available at the tax collectors office to accept payments 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 September
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

724-238-2300

TOWNSHIP NEWS

From the Desk of John Beaufort Director 51, Ligonier Township Emergency Management Coordinator

The recent tornado in Ligonier Valley necessitated the activation of all of the area Emergency Services in Ligonier and many from surrounding areas. Although this was a very sudden and dangerous event, the Ligonier area came through this with surprisingly less damages and personal injuries than might have been expected. All the local Fire Companies, Police Departments, Ambulance Services and local government agencies worked in unison along with the Red Cross and Salvation Army and other emergency departments from as far away as Murrysville coming to our aid. There were approximately 250 emergency workers (volunteers) at our disposal to assist with anything from traffic control, rescue, salvage and damage assessment during this crisis. We are grateful to everyone for their quick response and meaningful support!

The greatest danger to the public after the tornado passed came from all of the power lines and telephone lines entangled in the numerous trees that had fallen both on structures as well as the ground. Although West Penn Power worked with the Township throughout the night, some of the lines and power was not restored until Sunday.

The public must remember that all downed lines must be considered electrified until cleared by the power company and that hazardous warning tape is not to be ignored! It is put there for the public's protection! People were seen lifting the tape and walking over a downed power line to get to a home in a neighborhood that was affected. They were very lucky not to have been electrocuted!

It was also our observation that many friends and neighbors came out to assist those whose homes had been damaged by the high winds. This has always been an outstanding quality of our community!

In light of this emergency, which required the Ligonier Township Emergency Management Services to be deployed, we currently are short staffed and are seeking any interested parties to fill vacancies. There are no specific requirements to fill these positions. Training will be offered and is not limited to Ligonier Township residents.

You can reach the Emergency Management Director by calling the Ligonier Township Municipal Building at 724-238-2725 or by email at jbeaufort@ligoniertownship.com should you have any questions or concerns.

Annual Campaign

The annual fund drive of the Ligonier Valley Fire Companies is currently underway. This direct mail campaign is conducted entirely by our local volunteer firefighters and 95 cents of every dollar that is donated goes to the support of the fire companies. These volunteer fire companies offer a tremendous value for township residents and we encourage all Ligonier Township residents and businesses to show your support and contribute to this campaign.

Ligonier Valley Fire Companies

P.O. Box FIRE

Ligonier, PA 15658

Municipal Building Closings

The Ligonier Township Municipal Building will be closed on:

Wednesday, July 4,
for Independence Day

Monday, September 3
for Labor Day

Normal business hours are:

Monday through Friday
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Printed by Bethlen Printing
724-238-9244

Making Safe Prescription Drugs more affordable and accessible

By Congressman Tim Murphy

For many of us, a pharmaceutical regimen is part of daily life. From controlling blood pressure to keeping cholesterol in check, life-saving medicines have transformed healthcare to the point where medical problems are manageable with prescription drugs. But pharmaceutical advancements come with a big price tag. Prescription drugs account for a whopping \$307 billion in annual healthcare expenses, an amount expected to rise as new therapies come on the market.

It's clear that a key component to building an affordable healthcare system is access to safe, cost effective medications like generic drugs.

"Generics" offer a safe alternative to brand-name medications. Today, four out of every five prescriptions are filled with generics, which are 75% less expensive than the brand counterparts yet identical in composition. But so many more of these generic drugs - 2,800 to be precise - are stuck in the "pipeline" because the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) lacks the resources to inspect the factories where they are made and approve their usage.

Today's drug supply chain is global in nature, and many of these medications include ingredients produced in foreign countries. But under current law, overseas facilities are not routinely visited by the FDA, delaying the approval process

and slowing down the generic medicines introduced in the marketplace.

To break down these obstacles and ensure a safe and swift FDA process, I introduced the Generic Drug and Biosimilar User Fee Act (H.R. 3988). In addition to putting foreign factories under the same rigorous inspection regime as domestic plants, my bill establishes the first ever generic drug user fee program so that generic drug companies - not taxpayers or consumers - bear the \$300 million annual cost of application review and foreign factory inspections.

My bill was approved by the House of Representatives as part of an FDA reform package in May and it is on track to be signed into law as soon as this summer. This will go a long way towards bringing down healthcare costs by lowering your pharmacy bills while ensuring your medications are of the highest quality.

As co-chair of the Doctors Caucus, I'm focused on healthcare reforms like the generic drug legislation because it will save lives and put money back into your pocket. For more information, visit my web site at Murphy.House.Gov. On a related note, I know many Medicare recipients find that the maze of plans and options to be quite challenging. Should you have any questions, please contact my office in Mt. Lebanon at 412-344-5583 or Greensburg at 724-850-7312.

LAW OFFICE OF

RICHARD F. FLICKINGER

Continuing legal services for the citizens of Ligonier Valley since 1951.

300 North Market Street
Ligonier, PA 15658-1233

Telephone: 724-238-0300
Fax: 724-238-1300

www.ligonierlaw.com



TIBERI'S

- LAWN CARE
- SNOW REMOVAL
- DRIVEWAY SEALING
- LEAF REMOVAL

Insured

All Services for Residential or Commercial

724-238-3685



McInchok Sanitation

Commercial - Residential

ROLL OFF SERVICE • WE RECYCLE

724-238-4537

104 Jackson Lane

Ligonier, PA 15658

WALL COVERING SPECIALIST

JIM TOROCK

Painting and Wall Covering

P.O. Box 297 • Laughlintown, PA 15655
Res: 724-238-5279

Forgot Something? We've Got It...

WATKINS' MARKET

GROCERIES and DELI

Homemade Baked Goods

427 ROUTE 271, LIGONIER, PA 15658

724-238-9714

Lynn & Hazel Watkins, *Owners*

DARLINGTON INN

Transylvanian - Hungarian Cuisine

724-238-7831

Catering for all occasions

Leslie & Elizabeth Kastal - *Owners*
1473 Darlington Road
Ligonier, PA 15658



BEAUFORT SERVICES, INC.

Plumbing, Heating and Electrical



- Furnace Maintenance
- Sewer-Water Lines
- Backhoe Service
- Electric Eel Service



HEATING **LENNOX** COOLING

3731 Route 711, Ligonier, PA 15658

724-238-3471

W&W

WELTY & WELTY LLP

GEORGE V. WELTY
DOUGLAS J. WELTY
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

244 WEST MAIN STREET
LIGONIER, PENNSYLVANIA

(724) 238-5877

www.ligonierlawyer.com

MEETINGS

JULY • AUGUST • SEPTEMBER

- Ligonier Township Municipal Building.....724-238-2725
- Ligonier Township Municipal Authority 7:00 p.m.
July 5 • August 1 • September 5
- Ligonier Township Supervisors' Work Session.. 8:00 a.m.
July 6 • August 10 • September 7
- Ligonier Township Supervisors' Meeting..... 7:00 p.m.
July 10 • August 14 • September 11
- Ligonier Township Recreation Board..... 7:00 p.m.
July 9 • August 13 • September 10
- Ligonier Township Planning Commission 7:30 p.m.
July 17 • August 21 • September 18
- Ligonier Township Zoning Hearing Board 7:30 p.m.
July 24 • August 28 • September 25

Volunteer Fire Departments Directory

- Waterford Volunteer Fire Department.....724-238-0471
Chief Robert Beaufort
- Darlington Volunteer Fire Department.....724-238-4820
Chief Robert McDowell Cell.....814-242-3785
- Wilpen Volunteer Fire Department724-238-6585
Chief Michael DiRinaldo

LIGONIER TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

- Ligonier Township Supervisors724-238-2725
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 Turley.....724-238-3640
- Ligonier Township Municipal Authority724-238-7464
Manager - Paul Knupp
Secretary - Anna Bills
- Ligonier Township Tax Collector724-238-2300
Sue R. Kinsey
- Ligonier Township Police724-238-5105
Chief of Police Michael W. Matronics
- Ligonier Township Code Enforcement724-875-2785
- Ligonier Township Web Site..... www.ligoniertownship.com
- Ligonier Township Email Address ligsec@comcast.net
- Ligonier Township Fax Number724-238-3711
- Pennsylvania Municipal Service Co724-238-9450

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Greensburg, PA
Permit No 88

Township of Ligonier
One Municipal Park Drive
Ligonier, PA 15658

