



“Talk of the Township”

Township of Ligonier • One Municipal Park Drive • Ligonier, PA 15658
A Newsletter For Our Residents

January / February / March 2004

Help us find you!

It has been a very busy year for the Emergency Services in the Ligonier Township. With the severe amount of rain that has fallen, we've had numerous calls for flooding. Additionally, there was an unusually high number of automobile accidents. At a minimum, six of these accidents involved fatalities. The Township has also experienced an exceptionally high number of structure fires. This large number of calls combined with the address change implemented by 911 Operations for Ligonier Township has at times created confusion.

Callers should keep in mind, that, with all of the address changes, it is necessary to give the operators detailed directions as well as providing a nearby landmark to the location in need of help. We, as the public, need to take the responsibility of posting our house numbers in plain view to aid emergency personnel. If you live on a private drive, road signs need to be placed at the end of the road to minimize confusion.

I feel there are some “bumps in the road” with the new system, but that they can be resolved with a little help by everyone clearly posting their house numbers. Please keep in mind that these changes were made only to help the public when in need of emergency services.

For your convenience, the township fire companies have numbers for sale to aid in this identification process. Alternatively, you may wish to purchase them elsewhere or perhaps make your own signs.

On behalf of the emergency personnel of Ligonier Valley, we thank you for your cooperation.

John Beaufort, Emergency Management Coordinator

Supervisor Grover T. Binkey recommends to all residents to place their Lane Names Signs and House Numbers so emergency management units can find you. The Township really needs to have your cooperation with this project. If you're not sure of your new address change, please feel free to come to the Ligonier Township Office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. to look over the maps so we can locate your address. Thank you!

Please keep the Men
and Women of our Military
in your Prayers.

Just a brief comment on addressing. We are making progress with addressing but have a way to go. Remember, it is you who will call the Police, Ambulance or Fire Department, and finding you in an emergency situation in the fastest time is what it is all about. Displaying your address goes a long way in helping the different agencies.

The Ligonier Township Volunteer Fire Companies of Darlington, Waterford, and Wilpen are still selling reflective mailbox and house number signs. You can pick up a form at the Township Office to place an order.

When dispatching emergency services, time is very important. The faster the responders find you, the faster your emergency can get attention. Over eight months ago most residents of Ligonier Township received their new addresses. While this did not meet with acceptance with everyone, it was necessary for the responders to be able to find you when you need them. To date, only about 25% of Township residents have put their new numbers on their house or at the end of their driveway so that responders know where the house or business is located. Even a lesser percentage have put a sign at the end of their private lane. Without your help, valuable time could be lost.

For more information on where to purchase numbers or street signs, please contact your local fire department.

Help Us Find You! Properly number your location and sign your lane.

Daniel A. Stevens - Addressing Coordinator, Westmoreland County Department of Public Safety

Ligonier Postmaster Bob Nolan is requesting that area residents add upgrading to their mailboxes to their list of fall cleanup projects.

For safety and efficiency, the mailbox should be located so the mail carrier can serve it without leaving his or her vehicle, and, if possible, in a location where the carrier's vehicle is off the pavement when depositing or picking up mail.

TAX COLLECTOR

by Kaywin C. Shadron

If 2003 County and Township and 2003-04 School Taxes have not been paid to your local tax collector for Real Estate, they have been returned to the County Commissioners as delinquent. Payment must be made to the Tax Claim Bureau, Westmoreland County Courthouse, Greensburg, PA 15601.

2004 County and Township taxes will be mailed March 1st. Tax for Fire Hydrant and Street Light will be waived again for the year 2004.

Please report any changes of address to your local tax collector as soon as possible.

Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 Noon

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m. till 12 Noon - 1:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

by Chief Ron Dorazio

I would like to give thanks to those individuals who give their time freely day or night weekends and holidays in all type of weather conditions. These gentlemen, our volunteer firemen, deserve recognition from our community. On Monday 12-8-03 at approximately 2:00 a.m. there was a terrible accident on SR-30W, and volunteer firemen responded to the scene. Their actions at the accident scene were above and beyond the call of duty, due to the nature of the accident, and they remained at the accident scene for several hours. I believe as a community, the next time you see a volunteer fireman, thank him or her for their service.

The Township Police are giving out free gunlocks in an effort to promote child safety. The program was developed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation and supported by a U.S. Department of Justice Grant. The gun locks can be picked up at the Ligonier Township Municipal Building during normal business hours.

WATER AND SEWAGE

Some of our customers are concerned about when they should receive their water and/or sewage bill from the Authority. When you are billed depends upon where the property is located in the township.

Waterford and Wilpen are billed March, June, September and December.

Gravel Hill Road, Route 711 from the Wilpen Road to the edge of town, Oakwood Hills, Valley Heights, Forbes Drive, Laurel Drive and Settler Road are billed January, April, July and October.

Gregg Avenue, Hillside Avenue, Park Plan, Carey School Road, Springer Road, Old Route 30 West of Ligonier and Darlington are billed February, May, August and November.

In all cases, if you do not receive your bill by the 15th of the month shown above, please give me a call at 724-238-7464.

All payments are due to be RECEIVED by us on or before the 15th of the following month. This gives you 4 to 5 weeks to pay the bill. Remember that postmarked on the 15th is NOT received by us on the 15th, so be sure to allow a few days for delivery by the post office if you mail your payments.

Nancy Crowe, Ligonier Township Municipal Authority

66th Senior PGA Championship in Ligonier, Pennsylvania

May 23 - 29, 2005

For information about volunteer opportunities, tickets and sponsorships visit John and Jeromy in Town Hall from

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday- Friday or call 724-238-4400

ZONING DEPARTMENT

by Cindy Turley

Q. What is a no impact home-based business, and do I need an occupancy permit to have one in my home?

A. Yes, Occupancy Permits are required for these businesses.

A no-impact home-based business is: a business or commercial activity administered or conducted as an accessory use which is clearly secondary to the use as a residential dwelling and which involves no customer, client or patient traffic, whether vehicular or pedestrian, pickup, delivery or removal functions to or from the premises, in excess of those normally associated with residential use. The business or commercial activity must satisfy the following requirements:

(1) The business activity shall be compatible with the residential use of the property and surrounding residential uses.

(2) The business shall employ no employees other than family members residing in the dwelling.

(3) There shall be no display or sale of retail goods and no stockpiling or inventory of a substantial nature.

(4) There shall be no outside appearance of a business use, including, but not limited to, parking, signs or lights.

(5) The business activity may not use any equipment or process which creates noise, vibration, glare, fumes, odors or electrical or electronic interference, including interference with radio or television reception, which is detectable in the neighborhood.

(6) The business activity may not generate any solid waste or sewage discharge, in volume or type, which is not normally associated with residential use in the neighborhood.

(7) The business activity shall be conducted only within the dwelling and may not occupy more than 25% of the habitable floor area.

(8) The business may not involve any illegal activity.

MEETINGS
JANUARY • FEBRUARY • MARCH

- Ligonier Township Municipal Building... 724-238-2725**
- Ligonier Township Municipal Authority..... 7:00 p.m.**
 January 7 • February 4 • March 3
- Ligonier Township Supervisors' Work Session 8:00 a.m.**
 January 9 • February 6 • March 5
- Ligonier Township Supervisors' Meeting..... 7:00 p.m.**
 January 13 • February 10 • March 9
- Ligonier Township Planning Commission..... 7:30 p.m.**
 January 20 • February 17 • March 16
- Ligonier Township Zoning Hearing Board 7:30 p.m.**
 January 27 • February 24 • March 24
- Ligonier Township Recreation Board 7:00 p.m.**
 January 7 • February 4 • March 3

LIGONIER TOWNSHIP
DIRECTORY

- Ligonier Township Supervisors 724-238-2725**
 William C. Penrod, Jr., Keith A. Whipkey,
 Grover T. Binkey
- Receptionist**
 Sue R. Kinsey
- Ligonier Township Secretary / Treasurer**
 Keith Whipkey
- Assistant Secretary**
 Cindy Turley
- Ligonier Township Zoning Officer 724-238-3640**
 Cindy Turley
- Ligonier Township Municipal Authority 724-238-7464**
 Manager Paul Knupp
 Secretary Nancy Crowe
- Ligonier Township Tax Collector 724-238-2300**
 Kaywin Shadon
- Ligonier Township Police 724-238-5105**
 Chief Ronald Dorazio
 Lieutenant John Berger
- Ligonier Township Web Site www.ligoniertwp.com**
- Ligonier Township Email Address ligsec@adelphia.net**