

"Talk of the Township"

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

A Newsletter For Our Residents

January • February • March 2013

TOWNSHIP NEWS

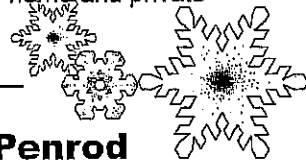
From the Desk of Chief Matronics

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 your 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 a wrong door 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.

The above message was printed in the June 2011 newsletter in hopes of Township citizens accepting my recommendation and marking their homes and private lanes. As a result of the recommendation I did receive a few positive phone calls asking for help in marking their homes. I was more than happy to help. I will do so even if I need to visit your home. I also upset a few people. These individuals told me that they did not want to be found. Regardless of their wishes we are still obligated in locating these homes in times of emergency.

With all that being said, many township residents have not complied and many more incidents have been encountered by emergency services by not being able to locate homes. A letter of support from all Township Fire Departments, Ligonier Valley Ambulance and this department was signed and submitted to the Township Supervisors to consider a local ordinance. This ordinance will require the proper marking of homes and private lanes. Failure to comply with the ordinance will result in a violation being filed with the magistrate and a fine imposed.

Please assist the emergency responders by marking your home and private lane.



From the Desk of Supervisor Carl Penrod

I want to thank the citizens of the township who have worked with me through the years. There were good and bad times, but mostly good. There were times I could help people and times I couldn't, but I tried as much as I could. I will truly miss everyone that I have worked with: the office staff, water department and the great group of guys that I have had the honor of working with over the years.

TAX COLLECTOR

By Sue R. Kinsey

Ligonier Township spring property taxes (county and township) will be mailed March 1, 2013. Discount amount will be honored through April 30, face amount through June 30 and penalty amount through December 31, 2013. Ligonier Township fall property taxes (school) will be mailed August 1, 2013. Discount amount will be honored through September 30, face amount through November 30 and penalty amount through December 31, 2013. All payments must be accompanied with a tax statement. If a receipt is requested, please include a self addressed, stamped return envelope. Tax statements are no longer mailed to the mortgage companies. Tax statements are mailed to the taxpayer. If applicable, please forward your statement to the mortgage company for prompt payment. Failure to receive a tax statement does not relieve the taxpayer of the responsibility of payment. If you do not receive a tax statement, please contact the tax office. Payments made December 1 through December 31 must be paid with a certified check, cashiers check or money order. A drop-off slot is available at the tax collectors office to accept payments before or after normal business hours. Please keep your addresses updated with the tax office.

OFFICE HOURS:

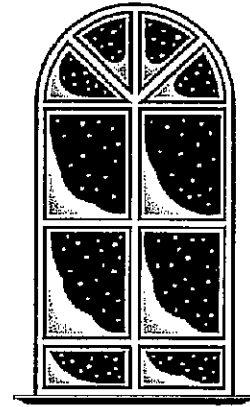
Tuesday thru Thursday
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

724-238-2300

TOWNSHIP NEWS

From the Desk of the Supervisors

As winter fast approaches we must remind residents once again that although some on-street parking is tolerated in the summer months, it can create difficulties when it comes to snow removal. Any campers, trailers, trucks, equipment, etc. parked within the township right-of-ways that impedes with snow removal may be cause for a ticket by the township police. Also, it is recommended that when removing snow from driveways and mail boxes, it is to your benefit to place snow on the side away from the direction that the snow plow comes from. This allows the plows to push the snow back without depositing it back into the already cleaned drive. Although the township is not legally responsible for damages to mail boxes and other items within the right-of-way, we will however look at these situations on a case by case basis as a courtesy to our residents. If you have any concerns, please contact our office at 724-238-2725.



Township Partners on Historic Swinging Bridge Repair

Since the late 1970's, Ligonier Township has worked cooperatively with the Loyalhanna Watershed Association and Ligonier Borough to establish and maintain the one-mile long Loyalhanna Nature Trail, a primitive trail that covers approximately 18 acres of floodplain between the Loyalhanna Creek and Mill Creek in Ligonier, PA. The Ligonier Valley Railroad once passed through a portion of the trail, which provides visitors an opportunity to walk, run, bike or cross country ski. The trail also allows fisherman to access the delayed harvest section of the Loyalhanna Creek, in addition to an attraction of sorts - the historic "Swinging Bridge."

This suspended footbridge has allowed residents and trail visitors to cross the Loyalhanna Creek safely since the early 1920s, and connects the Nicely Road side of the creek to the Route 30 East side. This bridge is the only suspension bridge that remains along the Loyalhanna Creek, and is one of very few that remains in Westmoreland County, and perhaps the State.

After a routine inspection by LWA earlier in 2012, it was determined that repairs needed to be made to the bridge to ensure the safety of the structure and allow it to remain open as a unique attraction to trail visitors, as well as local residents and recreationalists. In early December, Ligonier Township Supervisor, Tim Komar, and crewmen assisted in the repair efforts by lending a hand (and some heavy equipment) to remove the collapsing concrete steps on the Nicely Road entrance of the bridge, as well as construct a new pathway that would allow for safer access from the road. During the step removal, an important part of the bridge's history was found when a date and name was found imprinted in the concrete. It turns out that the steps were installed by M. Nicely on September 13, 1965.

LWA will continue to make repairs to the bridge footboards and cable supports as weather permits, and the restoration project should be completed just in time for the 2013 fishing season!



Municipal Authority

The Ligonier Township Municipal Authority would like to remind our customers that payments are due in our office **before** the due date. There is a slot in the front door for leaving payments after hours, but no cash please.

The Darlington sewer project is progressing on schedule. We realize this causes inconveniences and we thank you for your patience. A letter will be sent when you are required to pay the tap fee and connect to the main line. No one will be connected until the main line and plant are completed and operational. Because of the construction, water line breaks may occur. Please have water on hand for your use during these times.

The Ligonier Township
Municipal Building
will be closed on:

January 1 - New Year's Day

February 18 - President's Day

March 29 - Good Friday

The Township Building is open
Monday through Friday
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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724-238-9244

LAW OFFICE OF

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MEETINGS

JANUARY • FEBRUARY • MARCH

- Ligonier Township Municipal Building.....724-238-2725
- Ligonier Township Municipal Authority** 4:00 p.m.
January 2 • February 6 • March 6
- Ligonier Township Supervisors' Work Session**.. 8:00 a.m.
January 4 • February 8 • March 8
- Ligonier Township Supervisors' Meeting**..... 7:00 p.m.
January 8 • February 12 • March 12
- Ligonier Township Recreation Board**..... 7:00 p.m.
January 14 • February 11 • March 11
- Ligonier Township Planning Commission** 7:30 p.m.
January 15 • February 19 • March 19
- Ligonier Township Zoning Hearing Board** 7:30 p.m.
January 22 • February 26 • March 26

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 Supervisors**724-238-2725
Timothy R. Komar, Keith A. Whipkey, Grover T. Binkey
- Receptionist**
Barbara L. Hollick
- Ligonier Township Secretary / Treasurer**
Keith A. Whipkey
- Ligonier Township Zoning Officer/Assistant Secretary**
Cindy Angelo724-238-3640
- 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**724-238-5105
Chief of Police Michael W. Matrunics
- Ligonier Township Code Enforcement**724-875-2785
- Ligonier Township Web Site**..... www.ligoniertownship.com
- Ligonier Township Email Address** ligsec@comcast.net
- Ligonier Township Fax Number**724-238-3711
- Pennsylvania Municipal Service Co**412-828-2178
- Berkheimer Tax Administrator**866-701-7206

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