

THE Harmony Township

FALL 2019 QUARTERLY



Township Recreation Grant. The Township Commissioners authorized the submission of a recreation grant to update three (3) Township Park facilities, Beaver Road Park, Anthony Wayne Park and the Valley Road Big Sewickley Creek Park. The DCED awarded \$62,158 to Harmony Township to purchase new play and fitness equipment - including climbers, spinner and rocker equipment, fitness equipment for adults and a picnic shelter. The total project cost is \$73,315. The township plans to use municipal labor to install some of the new equipment pieces and to limit the amount of the grant request.

Being recognized as a standout bedroom community requires providing recreational opportunities for our families. The Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) recognized the Townships desire to upgrade and expand these recreational opportunities for the youth and adults of our community.

Part Time Police Officer Openings

The Township Commissioners have authorized the testing of candidates for the position of part time police officer. The position has been advertised. Applicants must submit a complete application to the Township on or before October 16th, 2019. An Application package can be obtained at the Township Offices during the hours of 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Testing will be performed on the 19th of October.

Civil Service Commission. There will be openings for the Civil Service Commission. The Commissioners will be looking for candidates who may want to serve in these positions. The representatives of the Civil Service Commission must be a qualified voter in the Township.

Harmony Township Volunteer Fire Department . . . the Township Commissioners annually provide a budget line item to support the services of the VFD. Recently, the Commissioners authorized a four (4) year Agreement to help support the VFD so they can continue to be available and provide public safety services to our residents and support service agreements with neighboring communities. When the annual request for support is sent, whether you own property or rent, Please try to give what you can and attend or participate in fundraising efforts. Recently they held the Car Show and they will also be having the Halloween Cash Bash on October 26th. Only a small percentage of Township residents support the VFD. In fact, the response level is equal to 15%. If you ever need help, and we hope you never do, please remember they are there as a volunteer. Please help these volunteers so they can continue to help any resident who may need it.

Halloween will be held on October 31st
From 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm



Please be cautious of the ghosts, goblins, scary creatures and the Trick or Treaters



**From the desk of
Bob Vilella**

Sometimes you just cannot make this stuff up . . . Residents say the strangest things and sometimes share information with us on a wide range of topics. Most of what is shared can be qualified as a “complaint”. It can be an aid if we know what some of the concerns of fellow residents are, just in case modifying one’s behavior may be something that could be a consideration. Please note: the following is provided to gain insight into resident concerns.

Burning. Newsletters in the past have discussed restrictions on burning. Here’s a thought. The #1 response item from the Harmony Volunteer Fire Dept was to extinguish yard fires. A recreational fire is not one where a neighbor or resident takes garbage, plastic and construction material and burns the articles in a closed container. Bringing out a hot dog, hamburger or smores to cook with the heat and the noxious fumes pouring out from your fire, just “don’t make it right”. Here is another hint, there may be something wrong with the materials your burning when your neighbors are gagging from the smoke and fumes your “recreational fire” is omitting.

Here’s a good question that came up, “if there is a “No Dumping” sign on the empty lot across from my house, will anybody care if I throw stuff there?” The “No Dumping” sign means just that, the person who owns the property wants to keep the property free of debris and other peoples’ garbage, please do not place your discards there.

Cars, Boats and Trailers . . . (this is not a takeoff from the John Candy and Steve Martin film) but that old great car that you had, or just purchased with the intent to fix, does not belong on the street if it is unlicensed and unregistered. Putting a tarp on it, will not make it invisible. Please place the vehicle inside your garage but do not leave it on the street or, for that matter in your yard as they are subject to traffic and code violations. Neighbors will appreciate the view of the street and your yard a lot better.

Best thing about a boat is the day you buy it and the day you sell it. (Is that a boat or a swimming pool?) Some say a boat is a hole in the water that you throw money into. If you own watercraft you may have heard these quips, so we want you to enjoy your leisure craft. When the season is over, do not park it on the berm of the road or in front of your house. The Township Code requires that boats be parked in the rear of your building line.

Trailers are a means of transport that cannot be stored in front of your house or on an open piece of property you believe someone does not care about. According to the Township Zoning Ordinance trailers are to be placed behind the building line and off the street. Same thing applies to camping and recreational equipment storage.

Love thy neighbor? What can we do about those people? Here is what we are told: you know, they do not cut their grass, they park their cars on the front lawn, throw debris all over their yard just never seem to pick up after themselves. They place their trash on the street too early or generally do not seem to care about anyone but themselves? The Township responds to situations like those described. Sometimes we get good results, and some are a work in progress. Working for progress is a positive so that is a good thing.

It has been suggested that we should just let people live. The problem is that the person living next door to the person who just wants to live, wants to live too! One’s property rights can end when your property begins to affect your neighbor’s property’s value or the way they can enjoy the rights and privileges of property ownership. Please be considerate and keep others in mind and, if possible, lend a hand.

Man’s best friend sometimes is better seen and not heard. A constantly barking dog at the early hours of the morning or evening, whether maintained indoors or out is an aggravation and inconvenience to your neighbor. Be mindful of the weather conditions and keeping your pet tethered outdoors for extended periods. When taking your dog outside of your property it must always be under control and on a leash.



Dumpsters at 24th Street..... There is real enthusiasm about recycling in the Township. The dumpsters are located at this site as a convenience to Township residents. If you are a business, you should be using a commercial hauler... Just a few tips to think about . . . if the dumpsters are full do not throw your items to the side of the dumpster. Give a call to the Township Building and we can get the hauler to come up and empty the bins. All cardboard boxes and like materials must be broken down before being placed in the dumpster. Pizza boxes -once pizza has been placed inside it is no longer recyclable, it is garbage. Please dispose of properly. Thanks for your help and consideration.

Curbside Leaf Collection. The Harmony Township Road Department will offer a curbside collection of leaves starting November 1, 2019 through November 27th, 2019. We are asking your cooperation by placing gathered leaves in biodegradable paper bags (no plastic) or gather the loose leaves in a pile and place curbside.



STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE. THE ROAD DEPARTMENT WILL BE SWEEPING THE STREETS OF THE TOWNSHIP FROM NOVEMBER 18TH THRU THE 27TH.



The Median Household Income prepared by the US Census Bureau for the School District and component taxing district are as follows:

AMBRIDGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	
Taxing District	Median Income
Ambridge Borough	\$30,266.00
Baden Borough	\$38,585.00
Economy Borough	\$69,882.00
Harmony Township	\$45,172.00
South Heights Borough	\$43,214.00



According to Berkheimer Associates, the local earned income tax collector for Harmony Township and Beaver County communities, the total earned income and net profits earnings for the residents of harmony township in 2018 was equal to \$72,271,624. There were 2272 people who filed Final Earned Income Tax Returns for this year and there were 243 residents who filed zero (0) earnings. The average earned income/net profits for 2018 with the inclusion of the zero (0) filers is \$34,450.54. the average earned income /net profits for the Township, excluding zero earners is \$38,576.45.

AUTUMN YARD WASTE DAY!!

Autumn Yard Waste Day will be held Monday, October 28th from 7:30 Am to 3:00Pm. Yard waste should include only tree limbs and brush, which should be bundled and cut into 4' lengths and nothing greater than 6" in diameter. Leaves and grass clippings will be accepted if placed into biodegradable paper bags. Residents are asked not to place dirt in the bags for pick up. Dirt will harm the machinery. Place yard waste items at the curb by 7:00Am for pick up.



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Previously printed in Beaver County Times October 9th 2019. We have included this article to ensure the community is informed of the upcoming Columbia Gas Project. This information has also been posted in previous Newsletters.

Columbia Gas Begins Pipeline Upgrade Project in Harmony Township, Pa. - Natural gas customers in Harmony Township, Beaver County, will soon benefit from a Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania gas pipeline replacement project that will ensure the delivery of safe, reliable, and efficient natural gas to them for years to come.

Columbia Gas is replacing nearly 3,900 feet of underground pipe impacting customers along portions of Cedar Avenue, Elmer Street, Norwood Avenue, Oak Street and Ridge Road. Work is expected to last through early next year, weather permitting, and will take place Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., with temporary lane restrictions possible during working hours.

The construction work will require a temporary interruption of natural gas service for affected customers while their service is transferred to the new pipe. Columbia Gas will personally contact these customers prior to shutting off service and to schedule service restoration. Customers with indoor meters will also have their meters relocated to the outside of the premises. This, and other work on existing outside meters, will be completed at no additional cost to the customer. All company and contract employees carry photo ID badges identifying them as Columbia Gas employees or contractors. Customers are encouraged to ask for ID before allowing anyone into their home, or they can call **1-888-460-4332** for Columbia Gas employee verification.

Motorists traveling through Columbia Gas work zones should exercise caution and be prepared for slowed or temporarily stopped traffic during working hours. Motorists should keep a safe distance between vehicles, reduce speed in work zones, and obey flaggers and all posted signs, including detours and parking restrictions.

The holiday season is a time for giving and **Project Holiday Dreams** is looking for support from local communities, vendors, and individuals to help fuel the spirit of Christmas and bring it to needy families throughout the community. Beginning in 2008 with a mere thirteen (13) families Project Holiday Dreams has blossomed in the past 12 years to delivering baskets, stuffed with food and toys for the children, to over one hundred and forty (140) deserving families. These families are selected through local school districts and are unaware of the gifts until the volunteers, who give countless hours of their time and money from their pockets to make this possible, greet them at the door.

We can assure you will personally be providing a magical wish to these needy families and for that, the entire Angus family and Harmony Township Board of Commissioners thanks you from the bottom of our hearts. Drop offs can be made at **Glat Auto Detailing or at the Harmony Twp. Borough Building**. For any questions or to arrange a pickup, please feel free to contact Jeremy Angus ta anytime at (724) 561-7798.

So, give a little bit of your love. . . to those who are in need this Holiday season.



A Joyful Christmas

**Project Holiday Dreams Headquarters
1053 Norwood Avenue, Ambridge, PA. 15003**

Or

**Glat Auto Detailing
c/o Project Holiday Dreams
725 25th Street, Rear
Ambridge, PA. 15003**



“TOWNSHIP OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED NOVEMBER 5TH 2019 FOR ELECTION DAY”

CONTACT INFORMATION

Township Office: (724) 266-1910

Township Fax: (724) 266-7330

Township Email: harmonytwp@gmail.com

Township Web Address: www.harmonytwp.com

Ambridge Water Authority: (724) 266-4847

To Report IRS Scam Calls: 1 (855) 303-9470

Valley Waste Service: (724) 843-9373

Duquesne Light Company: (412) 393-7100

Columbia Gas Company: (888) 460-4332

Comcast Cable: 1 (800) 934-6489

Sewage Office: (724) 266-1910 Ext. 101

Code Enforcement: (724) 266-1910 ext. 102

Tax Collector, Paula Winne: (724) 266-5890

Police ~ Non-Emergency: (724) 266-2321

For Emergencies: DIAL 911