

HELP KEEP HARMONY TOWNSHIP A GREAT PLACE TO PLAY, LEARN, WORK, SHOP, WORSHIP AND LIVE!

News for Harmony Township from the Office of Bob Vilella, Township Manager

The Township Commissioners have restructured and refinanced existing bond issues to secure funds to perform capital improvement projects throughout the Township.



Summer Paving 2019. The Township Commissioners have accepted road paving bids for Rice Avenue and Woodland Road. In addition, the Commissioners awarded a bid for the 10th Street and Webb which is a concrete street. The Road Crew will be modifying storm sewers, catch basins and manhole as necessary.

Progress in the Making .

. . if you drive up to the Harmony Ridge Golf Course Clubhouse you will see progress being made with the side walls and the roof in place. The clubhouse appears to be on course for meeting the deadline of October 31, 2019.

Township Board of Commissioners*

- Glenn Angus, Chairman
- Paul Kokoski, Vice Chairman
- Bradley Payne
- Donald Gunther
- John Cermak
- Bob Vilella, Township Manager

*The Board of Commissioners meetings begin at 6:00 pm the third (3rd) Wednesday each month.

~ 2501 Woodland Road, Ambridge, PA 15003 ~

NEW RESIDENT CHECKLIST:

Register Information with The Following:

- Harmony Township Sewage Office at 2501 Woodland Road, Ambridge
- Ambridge Water Authority Office at 600 11th Street, Ambridge -In person
- Call Valley Waste Management for garbage account set-up at 724-843-9373



Community Events:

Summer is moving along and there are events to help celebrate community and neighborhood activity.

- ✚ **The 1st Annual Harmony Township Neighborhood Yard sale** will be held September 21st, 2019 from 9 Am to 2PM in the Mayfield, Roselawn, Sunset, Shadyside and Grandview Avenue area. Come and Enjoy!
- ✚ **Hot Rod Heaven Car Cruise** sponsored by the Harmony Township VFD, Ladies Auxiliary and Wright Automotive. Saturday, September 21, 2019 10:00Am to 4:00Pm. For more information visit Facebook, "Harmony Twp Hot Rod Heaven Car Cruise"
- ✚ There is still time for family and neighborhood fun . . .like a neighborhood picnic or block party with some old school driveway games for the kids and adults You can end the night with a neighborhood movie night.

School will start soon, and we always urge all residents to use caution driving and to be on the alert for school children walking to and from bus stops.



The Dumpster normally at the Public Works Barn has not been available. Our public works team has been busier than usual with the replacement of storm sewers and catch basins on Rice Avenue. We will be moving to Woodland Road shortly in preparation for paving.

We have had an unusual volume of materials left at the garage that our works crew and equipment are not able to address on a full-time basis. Private lawn care and tree services are doing jobs for residents and they were using our dumpster. That means the private company gets paid, drops their debris off at our dumpster and expects our crew to dispose of their cuttings. Some folks have left trees, limbs and root balls on the driveway, disregarding what's posted. These situations are not the norm; however, they require an unusual amount of time to address. With limited crew size time is a commodity we want to use effectively. The dumpster will be put back out in time. There will be cameras installed and policies established. The dumpster is for residents only and not contractors.

Some tips:

Yard waste includes leaves, limbs, grass clippings and mulch. We cannot accept dirt. Limbs and the like should be no greater than 4 to 6" maximum in diameter and placed in bundles with lengths no greater than 4 ft long. If you have a tree cut down by a service, they are responsible for the removal of the tree and debris. Some services are dumping their chippings and logs in Township areas. It is not reasonable to expect Township employees to dispose of the trees or debris caused by the removal service. Leaves and grass clippings can be placed in paper leaf bags. Chipper blades can be ruined by dirt or foreign objects in the limbs etc.

Thanks for your patience and understanding

[Call 724-266-1910 for Dumpster Appointment](tel:724-266-1910)

+ Beaver County Dept of Waste management has introduced a new program for recycling of glass, bottles and jars only. Many haulers are no longer collecting glass. Every Wednesday from 8:00am-11:00am the glass will be collected and transported directly to the bottling company, reducing the potential for contamination.

Any questions call Beaver County Waste Management @ 724-770-2068

“It was the Best of Times; It was the Worst of Times”

From the Desk of Bob Vilella

“It was the best of times; it was the worst of times”. Charles Dickens in A Tale of Two Cities spoke of contrast. The events of Saturday, June 29th accurately reflects what some in our community experienced, the worst of times, the best of times . . . how people pulled together demonstrates a spirit of community.

What we saw and experienced on the eve of our local 4th of July celebration, which was to be capped off by an evening of fireworks, was capped off instead by a display of wind, rain and mother nature’s force.

The fireworks never had the opportunity to debut. Mother nature made a statement and took center stage. Heavy rains, high winds, falling limbs, debris, roads closed off by falling trees and telephone poles sheared in two was the evidence left in her path. Some residents had trees uprooted and trees on roofs. Some experienced a loss of electricity for hours and others for days. There was a need to pull together and get back to normalcy as soon as we could.

Our volunteer fire department responded by doing what they do. Reacting to situations when the call is presented, assessing the situation and delivering . . . bringing calm and help. Some residents without power and using oxygen needed power. The VFD delivered help and generators. Just doing what they do, volunteer. Sometimes we just take it for granted and expect it to happen.

Our Police Department was there. Helping wherever it was needed, maintaining a presence and coordinating with other departments in neighboring communities. Our Police respond to incidents and emergencies of all types and nature. Incident response is not predictable. Police work with people and our actions sometimes are not all that predictable. I guess sometimes, it’s just their job, and they do it well.

Our Road Crew was out. Their presence on the roads, clearing debris from the streets and making roads blocked by fallen trees and other debris passable. We are also helping our neighbors; our chipper continues to be a presence in the neighborhoods. We will continue to help and respond and do what we can as the need arises.

The real story is neighbors just helping neighbors. As soon as calm came after the storm, neighbors jumped in to help each other, to provide comfort and support wherever needed. Clean up may have been the first thoughts after people assessed their situations and then they moved on to help others assess their situations as well. The young and the old, the abled and not so abled came to help their neighbors clean up yards, remove trees and debris, and in some places chain saws became the background music. Neighbors helping neighbors, stepping in to see how and where they could help. Tools, food, generators, tarps and hugs . . . neighbors helping neighbors. A community that pulls together.

“the best of times, the worst of times”. In times like this we get to experience the gamut of human emotion, reaction and spirit. Sometimes we get to see the best a bad situation can produce and sometimes the other side of the spectrum. Mostly, we get to see the good side of the human character, where a need or situation causes one to put their interests aside so they can just lend a hand to another.



Theodore Roosevelt is credited for saying: “What a man does for himself, dies with him. What a man does for his community lives long after he’s gone.” On behalf of the Board of Commissioners I would like to thank all those who have given to their neighbors and to the community.

Outside Maintenance Projects

Penn Dot Tar and Chip will begin in the next few weeks on 24th Street Hill (Rt 989). The project start date has yet to be announced but they have indicated they expect to begin in the next few weeks.



Columbia Gas is planning to do main line installation and maintenance in the area of 11th and Spruce Street. They will be notifying the residents of their activities. Columbia Gas will also be doing the “Oak Avenue Project” and will be on Cedar St., Oak Ave., Norwood Ave. and Ridge Road. Any resident in the Project area will receive information from Columbia Gas regarding the project.



Outdoor Salt Storage Facility is scheduled to begin in August. This facility will hold all the road salt we purchase thru out the year for winter road maintenance. The Township participates in the state CoStar purchasing program to obtain the best price available. This year’s CoStar rate is \$80.59 per ton which is a \$10.00 per ton reduction from last year.

Harmony . . . Real Estate Hot Spot

One sign of a bedroom community is the number of homes that sale. Harmony has great turn around with home sales. I have been told by realtors we are a “hot spot” and homes move quickly here. From January 2019 to June 30th, there have been 47 transfers of real property recorded at the Beaver County Recorder of Deeds. Sales have ranged from \$12,00 to over \$500,000.

Our community has stable housing costs and the housing inventory is good. A young family who wants to purchase a home with a yard can do that in Harmony. They may even have some money left over to make improvements. Many young families are moving to our community and instinct tells me that many are college educated or have a professional skill and trade. Many may be double income, and some were never from the area. They, like many others, add to the diversity and the unique makeup of our community.

Just a few of our attributes include a solid housing stock and good pricing. Accessibility, to Cranberry corridor with jobs and interstate and turnpike travel and North Hills area shopping. Accessibility to the City of Pittsburgh and employment centers, the arts, culture and entertainment districts. World class hospital facilities are nearby in Pittsburgh, Heritage Valley Sewickley and Beaver, which was recently recognized by UPMC as a Hip and Knee Joint Replacement Program Center of Excellence. “Across the river” we have access to the Greater Pittsburgh International Airport which is going through a major expansion as well as shopping in Robinson. Again, we have access to I- 376 and the Pa Turnpike.

As an industrial community our mills and industry centers in this area helped to build America, we are transitioning and building on our community and this great history.



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Stars in our Midst . . . In past newsletters we have recognized Individuals and their Deeds. “Deeds not Words” and people who make a difference in the Township. Dymphna Gergerich is one, starting September 2nd she will be taking the leap to the Corps de Ballet for classical Ballet in South Carolina. Being placed in a corps position in a ballet is a rare opportunity for a high school graduate. She has jumped over the trainee or apprentice positions right into a starting position. This did not come by mistake, she trained at the West Point Ballet in Coraopolis under the direction of teachers who were former dancers with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater and the National Ballet of Cuba. Dymphna also trained with her idol Gelsey Kirkland who was the dance partner of Mikhail Baryshnikov at the American Ballet. This summer she trained with Valentina Kozlova who was a principal dancer at the Bolshoi Ballet before defecting to the United States from Russia. She became a principal dancer with the New York City Ballet.

Hard work. . .Determination . . . Vision . . . and Dreams Can Come True!

Good Luck Dymphna we wish you all the Best!

If you know of someone we should recognize please let us know at the Township email:

admn2harmonytwp@gmail.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

Township Office: (724) 266-1910
 Township Fax: (724) 266-7330
 Township Email: harmonytwp@gmail.com
 Township Web Address: www.harmonytwp.com
 Sewage Office: (724) 266-1910 Ext. 101
 Email: admn2harmonytwp@gmail.com
 Code Enforcement: (724) 266-1910 ext. 102
 Police ~ Non-Emergency: (724) 266-2321

Tax Collector, Paula Winne: (724) 266-5890
 Ambridge Water Authority: (724) 266-4847
 Valley Waste Service: (724) 843-9373
 Duquesne Light Company: (412) 393-7100
 Columbia Gas Company: (888) 460-4332
 Comcast Cable: 1 (800) 934-6489
 To Report IRS Scam Calls: 1 (855) 303-9470

For Emergencies: DIAL 911

OUTDOOR BURNING PROHIBITED

Ordinance# 413 Section 100: Except as otherwise provided herein, it shall be unlawful to engage in any outdoor burning activity in the Township of Harmony. The following outdoor burning shall be permitted:

**Cooking food for immediate consumption in a device with fire generated by gas wood or charcoal-type material which is confined to the interior dimensions of the grilling device which is designed for the exclusive use of food preparation*