# FROM THE SUMMIT

FOURTH QUARTER 2014

SUMMIT

TOWNSHIP

814/868-9686

www.summittownship.com

**VOLUME 24, NUMBER 4** 



HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Summit Township will be closed on **November 27th and 28th** for Thanksgiving.

In observance of Christmas, municipal offices will be closed **December 24, 25** and 26th.

For the New Year holiday, our office will be closed **January 1st**.

The 2015 Summit Township Recycling Calendarwill be mailed out to all residents by January 1st.

### **MEET THE STAFF**

TOWNSHIP: 868-9686 Supervisor/Chairperson/ Asst. Roadmaster -Thomas Church, Jr. Supervisor/Treasurer/ Dir. Land Development -Nancy Agostine Supervisor/Roadmaster/ Dir. of Parks - Jack Lee, Jr. Christene Yeast -Sec/Asst. Treasurer Michelle Nesselhauf-Administrative Assistant Mari Hudak -Zoning Administrator Nate Miller -Asst. Zoning Administrator **Kip Hayford** - Code Enforcement Gina Erbin - Receptionist

THE ROAD CREW: Gary Haupt - Foreman Steve Skelly, Joe Passerotti,

Larry Hudacky, Jeff Matheis. Gary Pace, Mike Hanas & Andrew Fox WATER AUTHORITY: 864-2323 John Troutman - Manager Laura Taylor - Administrative Secretary Gretchen Havford - Secretary Water Authority Systems Operators -Brian Clark, Brian Hiles, **Bob Mitchell, Sean Miller** SEWER AUTHORITY: 868-4495 William Steff, P.E. - Manager Caitlyn Haener-Administrative Secretary Kathy Pfister - Clerical Assistant Marty McAtee - Operations

Foreman Chris Hodge - Operations Technician

### **PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Board of Supervisors:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m. 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m.

**Planning Commission:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

Sewer Authority: Last Thursday of each month, 9:00 a.m.

Water Authority: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, 6:00 p.m.

**Recreation Board:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 5:15 p.m.

**LeBoeuf Little League**: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at Waterford Boro Building

> Zoning Hearing Board: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. As needed and advertised only

Summit Township Industrial and Economic Development Authority (STIEDA):

4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. as needed.

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The next deadline for submission of newsletter articles is **January 26th**! Our next newsletter will be published in mid February.



# From The Office Of District Judge McGowan

### Duty of Driver in Emergency Response Area

Section 3327 of the Vehicle Code requires motorists when approaching or passing an emergency response area, unless otherwise directed, to:

\* Pass in a lane not adjacent to that of the emergency response area, if possible;

\* If passing in a nonadjacent lane is not possible, illegal or unsafe, pass the emergency response area at a careful and prudent reduced speed reasonable for safely passing the emergency response area;

In summary, if you are approaching a police vehicle, ambulance, tow truck or other emergency response vehicle that is pulled over on the shoulder of the road, move over to the adjacent lane if you can do so safely. If you can't switch lanes safely, then slow down as much as possible.

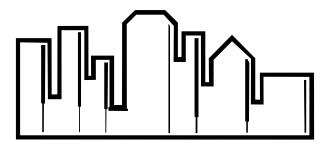
The penalty for violation is a fine up to \$250.00, court costs and a 90 day driver's license suspension. Due to safety concerns, the Pennsylvania State Police are making a concerted effort to enforce this section. Therefore, please slow down when approaching an emergency response area and proceed with caution, switching lanes if possible.

### SUMMIT TOWNSHIP INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (STIEDA)

STIEDA is excited to announce that it has voted to set aside \$500,000.00 for a revolving loan fund for Summit Township businesses. STIEDA anticipates that these funds will be in the form of low interest loans for purchasing real estate, equipment and other business tangible assets. The process and application are not in place yet, but STIEDA plans on moving forward as soon as possible. More details to follow!



How many hotels are located in Summit Township? Answer on Page 11.



# Here We "Grow" Again

**CITTA PASTA**... is now open at 6660 Peach Street, in the Target/Erie Marketplace plaza. This new locally owned "fast" Italian restaurant operates under the same principle as that of a Chipotle restaurant; place your order at the counter, choosing your serving size and choice of fresh pasta, sauce, meat and added extras. Then watch as the pasta (never cooked ahead) is boiled right in front of you and served up within minutes steaming hot and fresh. The restaurants atmosphere is casual and quiet, with the option for takeout. So, when you feel like Italian food but you do not want to wait to be seated or factor in a tip to the waiter staff, you can satisfy your food craving by stopping into Citta Pasta and experiencing their 'fast' Italian Food concept. Open daily 11AM - 9PM. Website: www.cittapasta.com

**AUTO EXPRESS FIAT OF ERIE** . . . will be cutting the ribbon in late November on their brand new dealership building at 9030 Peach Street. This dealership is locally owned by the Askins family, having strong ties to the Erie area and involvement in the automobile industry for over 40 years. By now

we have all seen Joe's commercials touting the 'zero regrets per gallon 40 MPG Highway' and welcoming us into the 'La famiglia', but did you know that the Fiat 500 was born over fifty years ago, giving the Italians the ability to move around freely and with confidence as they recovered from World War II? That same concept is still applicable today in this small car that blends both form and function, now with expanded options in the high-performance Fiat 500 Abarth, Fiat 500C and Fiat 500 Turbo. So, for everything Fiat in Western Pa, stop into Auto Express Fiat of Erie's new one stop shop and allow them to show you everything FIAT and demonstrate their commitment for exceptional customer service! Open Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday- for family (famiglia) day. Website: www.autoexpressfiatoferie.com

**HEAD WEST OUTFITTERS** ... is expected to open their new boutique at 8931 Peach Street on November 15th. Head West Outfitters focuses on the sale of high quality cowboy and cowgirl boots, western apparel and western style accessories. Head West Outfitters even sells high quality truck parts and accessories so that you can properly saddle up your ride! To learn more about their products and services, visit their website at www.headwestoutfitters.com

# **IN THE WORKS:**

Land Development Plans are proceeding through the process for a **Best Western Hotel** and a **Sleep Inn & Suites Hotel**; proposed for 8035 Oliver Road and 8066 Old Oliver Road, respectively.

# **On the Roads Again!**

#### **IMPORTANT WINTER ROAD REMINDERS:**

• NO PARKING ON ANY TOWNSHIP ROAD FROM NOVEMBER 1ST TO APRIL 30TH. Keep in mind that roads can't be properly plowed when cars are parked on them. Violators will receive ONE warning; a second violation will result in the vehicle being towed and potential fines up to \$100. This applies to ALL vehicles – i.e. boats, trailers, campers – not just cars or trucks. Keep in mind: IF IT'S ON THE ROAD, IT WILL BE TOWED!! • DO NOT PLOW SNOW ACROSS ANY ROADWAY IN SUMMIT TOWNSHIP! It is unlawful; violations can cause serious traffic safety hazards and serious liability for the violator. Fines up to \$100 may be assessed.

• MAKE SURE YOUR MAILBOX IS PROPERLY INSTALLED. If your mailbox is not installed as required, and it is hit by a plow truck, it will NOT be replaced. Contact the Township if you need a copy of installation specifications.

Please drive slowly and carefully. It's also a good idea to slow down when you meet up with our plow trucks. Enjoy the holidays!

Gary – Steve – Bruno – Jeff – Larry - Joe – Mike and A.J.



Robison has had a great start to the 2014-2015 school year. It is hard to believe that we are finished with the first quarter already and moving into the holiday season.

As the holidays are quickly approaching, we at Robison are focusing our attention on giving back to the community. Mrs. Strasser and I are working with a group of fifth grade students that are volunteering their time to make the holiday season special for others. They will be staying after school to put together the Thanksgiving baskets for the Erie City Mission. This year, we will be collecting a variety of food items to make a complete Thanksgiving meal for families in need.

Our annual Christmas "Giving Tree" will be put up in the main lobby right after Thanksgiving break. We will be collecting new socks, gloves, mittens and hats. The Pay It Forward Club will decorate our tree with the donated items and before the holiday break these items will be delivered to the Summit Food pantry. If you are interested in giving to this project, you may drop off items in the school office starting December 2nd. Each child at Robison will be making handmade ornaments on Polar Express Day for the residents at Abington Crest. Our Pay It Forward Club will be delivering these handmade ornaments, along with their singing talents, to the residents.

On behalf of the teachers and staff, we would like to thank the parents and community for your ongoing support and we wish you a wonderful holiday season.

Jenna Hopkins, Robison Principal

## FROM YOUR SUMMIT TAX COLLECTOR:

#### Hello to Everyone!

All taxes are now in the 10% Penalty period. If you did not pay your taxes by October 31,2014, you were sent a Final Notice. If you do not pay your taxes by December 31, 2014, they are given to Erie County Tax Claim for collection. You will receive notice from Tax Claim on how much you owe and where to pay your taxes. This is done when I settle with Tax Claim for the year. This year, I have the very first settlement time and therefore, all tax payments **MUST BE IN MY POSSESSION ON DECEMBER 31, 2014**. I will not accept any payments after that date and payments will be sent back to you. **PAYMENTS AFTER DECEMBER 15th, MUST BE IN CERTIFIED FUNDS, MONEY ORDER OR CASH**. This is notated on the insert you received with the Final Notice bill and on the back of the Final Notice. Office hours are by appointment only after October 31st. **I WILL BE OPEN ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH FROM 9-NOON** for anyone paying with cash. Please bring exact change with you. As always, there is a locked mailbox to the right of the office door where you may put tax payments. Please leave a message if you need to speak with me and I will return your call.

For those of you who are new to Summit and have moved into a new home where you are the first owner and have or will be receiving an Interim tax bill: Please check with your mortgage company if you have forwarded to them for payment to see if they will be paying the Interim. Not all mortgage companies pay Interim tax bills and they do not notify you that they will hot be paying them. If your mortgage company has not paid your Interim tax bill and now you have to pay it at either Face or Penalty, I cannot accept payments in a pay period other than the current. Act 36 which went into effect June 17, 2014 amends Title 75, providing changes to definitions and updates to documentation required to title mobile homes and manufactured homes (through PennDOT). Basically what is now required when you transfer a title of a mobile home is a tax certification from the local tax collector showing current year payment status of a mobile home and also a tax certification from Erie County Tax Claim showing no delinquent taxes. These two certifications must be obtained before you go to a notary and transfer a title. Either at the notary when transferring the title or <u>afterwards at Erie County Assessment, you will need to fill out a</u> Manufactured/Mobile Home Change of Ownership Form. This form needs to be notarized and this is how the taxes get transferred into the new owners name. Simply transferring the title does not change the tax roll.

Anyone wishing to change a mailing address can either contact Erie County Assessment at 814-451-6225 or myself and I will provide a Property Record Correction card to be completed and mailed to .Assessment to change a mailing address. The local tax collector is prohibited by law to make any changes to the tax roll. The school per capita tax and the local 1% tax is managed by Berkheimer Tax Administrator. I am sorry, but I cannot help you with any issues regarding either of those two issues. Berkheimer can be reached locally at 814-838-0751 and their address is 3608 West 26th St., Suite 202 (in the Millcreek Township Building).

I wish all a safe and happy Holiday Season and look forward to seeing everyone again in March (dated March 1) when the next tax roll is issued for County-Township!

#### Debra Cameron, Summit Twp. Tax Collector

1754 Townhall Rd., West, Erie, PA 16509 • Phone & Fax 814-866-2653 • Office Hours by Appointment Nov. 1 - March 1

# SUPERVISOR'S CORNER.

I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving. Fall is nearly over but winter is already here! The road crew has all the plows and trucks prepped and ready for service this winter. They have also been replacing road signs, repairing lights, and crack sealing. The crack sealing is very important because it helps keep water out of the road which can freeze and do much damage like creating potholes.

The State has recently retimed our traffic lights and the traffic flow seems to be very good. They also painted the lines on the roads for us per our agility program with PENNDOT. The State construction work is completed at the intersection of Townhall West and Route 19. With the addition of turning lanes, it looks like it is working well and gives motorists a much better sight distance.

We've added a four way stop at Johnson Road and Frank Avenue to (hopefully) help slow down traffic in this busy residential neighborhood. Now that access to Route 97 is available via the traffic signal at Frank Avenue, motorists have a much safer route.

Our Parks have been closed and winterized and will re-open in the spring. We recently had LED lights installed in the picnic shelters at Picnicana and repaired a plugged yard drain near kitchen #3. Picnicana is posted "CLOSED, WALK INS WELCOME", so any one who would like to walk, run, or cross country ski on the trails are certainly welcome to do so. Because of Picnicana being a public park and with the well used trails, we have posted the perimeter, "NO HUNTING".

At Ball Park Road, we cleaned up the construction yard, excavated another field for possible future use, added a driveway and parking area to the south side of the fields, a drinking fountain at the concession stand, and fixed up the press box with new siding and stairs. The gate is closed to Ball Park Road for the season because thoughtless vandals were doing doughnuts on the field with their car. This park belongs to all of us, so please call the State Police to immediately report vandals.

We have done some maintenance work at the Senior Center and insulated restroom walls better than before to prevent freezing. Last winter's extreme cold had given us a little trouble with the restroom plumbing.

If you notice a problem in our township with roads, traffic lights, flooded ditches, etc. please call to make us aware. Communication is the best way to fix a problem. If we don't know, we cannot fix it.

Please drive careful this winter and watch the roads. Leave early so you don't have to hurry to get somewhere. I live on Route 97 and it amazes me when people speed past me just to pull in front of me and then slam on the brakes to stop at the traffic light in front of me. It is senseless. Hopefully our winter will be a little milder than last year.

Enjoy the holidays and spend time with family and friends - Jack Lee

Happy Holidays -

As I write this before Thanksgiving, Summit looks like a winter postcard. To me, the holidays are all about what we do for other people to show kindness, love and compassion. Each of us, as individuals, can make a big difference. But when local businesses step-up (even with all of the many requests they receive for donations) and prove that it's not just about profit, it's about the people they serve, I find myself humbled. I'd like to share two examples.

A couple months ago, I got a call from Scott Enterprises to participate in the largest Ice Bucket Challenge in the nation to raise money for ALS. They had seen the sweeping trend and realized that they had a 1000 gallon bucket at Splash Lagoon that could be used for a great cause. About 50 people participated, raising over \$5000. The Scotts generously matched all donations, raising over \$10,000 for this worthy cause.

My second example hits even closer to home. Jane Dennington, mother of Gretchen Hayford (past PHHC Chief and Water Authority employee) was diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer. Jane and her husband, Bud, had been serving as missionaries in Haiti for a few years when she received the diagnosis. Jane lives to serve others and is a true inspiration, but with no income and expensive treatments she needed help. When her family planned a fundraiser, I sent a donation request to Michael Patel of Chase Hospitality (LaQuinta, Country Inn & Suites, Home2) hoping to receive a one night hotel stay, but Michael had much more in mind. Knowing Jane's selfless dedication as one of Erie County's first female firefighters and now a missionary, he truly wanted to ease her burden. The Chase Hospitality group presented Jane with a check for \$5000 to pay her entire Cleveland Clinic deductible for 2014. Because of them Jane was able to have extensive surgery without worrying about the bill and is now cancer free! What a tremendous gift.

As you celebrate the holiday season, I hope each and every one of you is able to pay it forward and give just a little to someone in need. The happiness you feel is the most wonderful gift of all!

Have a Happy, Healthy Holiday - Nancy Agostine



# LeBoeuf Little League

LeBoeuf Little League Meetings are typically held on the second Wednesday of every month at the Waterford Boro Building at 8:00 PM.

League Sign-ups dates for the 2015 season will be February 17th from 6pm- 8 pm; February 20th from 6pm - 9pm; and February 21st from 9am - 1 pm at Fort LeBoeuf Middle School. They will also be posted on the League website. Please look for the finalized dates as well as other pertinent League information by visiting the website at www.flbll.com.

Little League Picture Day - scheduled for May 2, 2015 at Fort LeBoeuf Middle School.

# Summit United Methodist Church

"To serve and share, making disciples of Christ"

Rev. Tom Hoeke, Pastor 1510 Townhall Road W. Erie, PA 16509 Phone: 864-3271 / Fax: 864-3413 E-mail: sumc-office@verizon.net Website: www.summitumc.net

The Methodist Faith Community of Summit Church invites you to join us.

Sunday Worship Service 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. / Sunday School (children & adults) 9:30 a.m.

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP November 23 - In Gathering November 30 - 1st Sunday of Advent December 7 - 2nd Sunday of Advent, Communion December 14 - 3rd Sunday of Advent Advent Worship at 8:15 AM Children's Musical at 10:45 AM December 21 - 4th Sunday of Advent Choir Cantata at 8:15 & 10:45 AM December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship at 7 PM

### Soup and Sandwich Luncheon

Sunday, December 14th after the Children's Christmas Musical to benefit the WonbyOne mission trip.

We will be sending six members to Jamaica to work with the WonbyOne organization.

### YOUTH HAPPENINGS!

Babysitting and Gift Wrapping in time for your holiday

shopping, on Sat. Nov. 29th from 9AM - 1PM and on Sat. Dec. 6th from 1-6 PM, the youth will offer their services for a donation to fund the ASP mission trip. Give yourself a break!

You deserve it. Join us for a midweek Advent Worship Experience.

In midst of the season of Advent that competes with the busy holiday season why not take a midweek break and allow yourself to be in the presence of God. Our midweek Advent worship will take place on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 to 6:45 on December 3, 10, and 17. Worship will include music, time for quiet reflection, prayer, Scripture, a meditation, and the celebration of Communion.

Join us in the sanctuary and give yourself the gift of being in God's presence.

Summit UM Church is happy to welcome **Mercy's** Well back on Saturday November 29th at 6 PM!' Listen to a preview of their music at www.mercyswell. com and mark your calendars!' Admission to the concert is FREE.'

An offering will be taken at the event.

#### SUMMIT COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY Distribution: November 13th and 25th December 11th and 16th Times: 2:30 - 4:00 PM

As we look forward to the Thanksgiving holiday, remember the patrons of the food pantry. All food boxes are filled through the generosity of individuals. Government subsidies are not provided for holiday distribution. If you would like to shop now for items on sale we will be needing canned vegetables & fruit, sweet potatoes, pie crust mix, stuffing mix, cake mix, frosting, stick butter, canned pumpkin, pie filling, evaporated milk,

butter, canned pumpkin, pie filling, evaporated milk, cranberry sauce, jello, pudding, cereal, gravy mix, and pancake syrup. Donations can be left with the church office weekday mornings or Sunday during worship.

## From the Water Authority....

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Thanksgiving: November 27th, 28th & December 1st Christmas: December 24th, 25th & 26th New Year: January 1st & 2nd *Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.* 

## ADOPT -A-HYDRANT CONTEST REMINDER

It's getting to be that time of year again. With winter just around the corner, we would like to remind residents of the Authority's Adopt-A-Hydrant contest. If you know of somebody that does an exceptional job of keeping hydrants clear of snow, you may nominate that person by calling our office at 864-2323.

Winners receive a \$50 gift certificate to any Summit Township business of their choice.

## NEW WATER RATE SCHEDULED ADOPTED

Customers will note a separate "service charge" listed on their quarterly bill.

The charge was adopted by the Water Authority Board on September 3, 2014 and will go into effect October 1, 2014. This charge is the same one used by both Erie Water Works and Millcreek Township Water Authority and represents

the cost of meter reading, meter maintenance and replacement, billing, mailing and payment collection/ processing. While metering is designed to reduce water bills, it is important to note that no matter how much water a customer does or does not use, the cost of processing the bill remains the same to us.

Please note that customers will be billed for their exact usage in addition to the service charge which is based on meter size. Customers using 2,000 gallons or less will only pay a service charge.

Although we understand that any increase in your water bill is not a popular choice, it is necessary for continuing to provide good service and quality to our customers.

### **Approved Water Rates**

MĒTĒR SIZE	QUARTERLY SERVICE CHARGE
5/8"	\$17.45
3⁄4"	\$17.45
1"	\$35.62

John Troutman, Manager

## WINTER TIPS FROM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Before we start with the winter tips, has everyone checked/ changed the batteries in your smoke alarms?!!!!

Winter is coming and there are a few things we can all do to help make our winter go a little easier. To minimize slips, trips and falls, make sure all of your outside lights are working, you can get your shovels out of storage and make sure you have a good supply of salt on hand. Just to protect your back a little, when you are shoveling, don't rush - take your time and make sure you stay hydrated and take breaks especially if you start to become winded.

For your vehicles: make sure that you have both good and the appropriate type of tires on the vehicle. Have a blanket or two on hand, you can also place a few garbage bags in your car - they are light-weight, don't take up much space, cheap and can be used for many things....one being a poncho. Check and make sure your snow brush and scraper are in your vehicle and or course, completely clean off all of your windows before driving. Remember.....try to leave a little early as it will usually take a little extra time to get anywhere.

# COMING SOON ... A BRAND NEW SUMMIT TOWNSHIP WEBSITE!

Our old website had certainly been in need of a makeover for quite some time. With the help of Cyberink, Summit Township staffers have all been busy over the past year creating a new website to compliment our ever-growing community. We anticipate the new site will be up and running for 2015 so be sure to check it out at www.summittownship.com.





## PERRY HI-WAY HOSE COMPANY UPDATE

Perry Hi-Way Hose Co. members have been recognized by the Pennsylvania State Fire Commissioner's office for obtaining 100% Certification. The National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications issues certification to those who pass both a written and practical skills test for each discipline.

Perry Hi-Way members have passed several Pro-Boards including Firefighter 1 and 2, Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations, Vehicle and Machinery, Rope Rescue 1, Trench Rescue 1 &2, Confined Space Rescue, Driver Operator Pumper, Tender, Aerial, Incident Safety Officer, Fire Officer 1, Fire Service Instructor 1&2, and Fire Inspector 1,2,3.

We are committed to be very well trained in all aspects of the Fire Service to serve our residential community as well as the businesses of Summit Township who support us and our mission. We would like to thank Bucks County Community College for providing all the necessary training

### PERRY HI-WAY MEMBERS RECEIVE CERTIFICATIONS & RECOGNITION

It has been a very busy fall for many of the members of Perry Hi-Way Hose Company. Several members have been attending classes and studying for multiple national certifications. Certifications for the fire service are the same for both paid and volunteer members. Certification testing includes both a written test of knowledge as well as a practical skills test to make sure the candidates can perform the skills correctly and in a safe manner. A big congratulations goes out to the following members on passing their certifications:

**Firefighter 1:** Amy Grappy, Chris Grappy, Evan Helsley

Firefighter 2: Sarah Dougan, Mike Kenworthy

Haz-Mat operations: Chris Grappy, Evan Helsley, Chris Pace

**Rope Rescue Level 1:** Sarah Doughan, Gretchen Hayford, Kip Hayford, Mike Menditto, Josh Sadowy and Brian Tobin

**Trench Rescue level 1 & 2:** John Bosley, Sarah Doughan, Gretchen Hayford, Kip Hayford, Josh Sadowy, and John Spaulding

With the addition of these certifications our small group of 19 volunteers hold over 115 national certifications in fire service training!

and certification testing that was held at our training grounds, now officially named the "George Gauthier Training Grounds". We would also like to thank our Supervisors and the businesses that have contributed to help upgrade our training grounds. These donations have resulted in a top notch facility where we can train to the best of our ability and obtain professional certification.

We will continue to train and obtain certifications with all of our members to better serve Summit Township. We have 19 current members who have answered the call when it comes to training and certification. We can always use more help, if you would like to join please contact a Chief or visit either firehouse at 6 p.m. on Monday evenings. College students can qualify for free housing and financial aid up to \$6,000 per year!

As the Chief of Perry Hi-Way Hose Co. I am very proud of our membership and what they have obtained. I also sincerely appreciate all those who have served in previous years to help the Hose Company stay open.

Sincerely,

Kip Hayford, Fire Chief

### PERRY HI-WAY HOSE COMPANY FUNDRAISERS

#### **2014 CHRISTMAS AUCTIONS**

Also, Perry Hi-Way's fund drive is still under way.....

Please submit your donation.

HELP THEM SO THEY CAN HELP YOU!!

### **SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY** Sanitary Sewer Extension Project 2010: Proctor, Merle, Melvin, Dorn and New Roads

All of the construction is complete and the number of homeowners that have yet to connect their private laterals is winding down. The Summit Township Sewer Authority is pleased with the work of McLallen Construction Inc. and Amendola Development Company. It is hard to believe that a few months ago much of the front in the project area was torn up. Once the last customer connects it will be even harder to remember the mess during construction. We again want to thank the Summit Township residents in the project areas for their cooperation and support with making this project successful especially those who granted easements for the project construction.

#### Home Insurance Review

All sewer customers should review their home insurance policy. Typically, standard homeowner policies do *not* cover damages due to a sanitary sewer backup whether it is a public system or a private on-lot disposal system. On the public side, the Summit Township Sewer Authority operates under a special kind of "immunity" from claims. The Political Subdivision Tort Claim Act (PSTCA) protects a Pennsylvania municipal authority from suits for damages unless the authority had actual or constructive notice of a dangerous condition and the notice was received at a sufficient time prior to the event to have taken measures to protect against the hazardous condition.

We at the STSA work diligently to prevent conditions from occurring that would lead to the type of that would cause a backup. The situation we are referring to here is not a common issue. However, nothing is guaranteed not to break or malfunction. Sometimes things do go wrong. When they do, we want our customers to be aware. Please note our system is not notorious for malfunctions that cause backup, it is more common in older systems. That being said, our system is adding new customers and the system is getting older, so the customers need to be made aware.

*How could a sewer backup happen*? Sometimes the problem originates in your home. Improperly disposing of cooking grease or flushing inappropriate objects down your toilet – such as diapers, wet wipes, feminine hygiene products or paper towels – can cause a blockage in your private lateral and you may end up flooding your own home. A good rule of thumb to help prevent backups is; don't put anything in the sewer you would not put into your septic tank. There also many other things that cause obstructions you would not normally think that can cause problems. Did you know tree roots can enter the system and overtime cause blockages? While we could list more causes that we have seen already, the important thing for the customer to know is that these issues do arise from time to time. In general the sanitary sewer system is more likely to become overloaded during severe wet weather. In particular, we at the authority are "on our toes" when it is raining on top of a heavy snow pack in the spring. We have staff on call and each lift station is equipped with many alarms. Then too, the authority owns backup generators and a backup mobile pump if the situation gets serious. We do everything we can to protect the homes and keep the system running but things can and do go wrong.

What about my homeowner insurance policy? Years ago some homeowner policies included sewer backup coverage. Then there were almost no homes with finished basements. Today's insurance companies offer separate or sometimes bundled endorsements that will add \$5,000 or \$10,000 or up to the personnel property limit in coverage depending on the company and policy. Please note, this is not flood insurance, it is specific to sanitary sewer damages.

When is this important? I can think of two specific cases. First, if you have a finished basement. Carpets, furniture and walls may be soiled, possibly beyond repair. Second, if you store valuables in the basement. How about your Halloween or Christmas decorations? Even items common in most basements are at risk, like the furnaces, hot water tank, washer and dryer. These big ticket items might need serviced or replaced. Family photos sitting in a box on the floor may be lost forever with no compensation.

What should you do? Read your policy or call your agent and ask them to explain your coverage. Then you can decide how to protect what is important to you. Elevate, relocate and/or insure your valuables.

If any sewer customer has any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the Authority at 868-4495 or attend a monthly meeting. Check your Township calendar for Sewer Authority meeting dates, (generally the last Thursday of the month, except November and December are one week earlier). The Authority hours are 8:00 AM - Noon and 12:30 - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. If you plan to attend a meeting, please call and let us know we will be glad to put you on the agenda.

William C. Steff, P.E., Manager

# Summit Lions Club News

Welcome to Summit Township everyone!

The Summit Lions want to welcome all our neighbors that have just moved into the township and hope you find this township filled with many things to do. It will only be a few weeks when we will see our lawns turning to white, what a beautiful picture the snow paints on that first snow fall, but after 100 inches of snow we will all be looking for that green grass.



Summit Lions Olub

During the winter months when you are wishing you had something to do, instead of watching

the snow fall, how about joining the Summit Lions Club? At this time of year we are preparing for our book give away to the Robinson school students, where we spend the day reading to the students. We are also collecting eye glasses to be sent in and given out to the needy, after they are repaired and made ready for that person that needs a pair of glasses but cannot afford them. Our new project is collecting and repairing hearing aids to be distributed to people in need. We are also helping the Summit Food Pantry with their holiday meals and shopping for a family or families that need help around the holidays.

The Summit Lions are just a small group of Lions (men and women) from 209 countries whose Motto is "We Serve" anyone who is in need. Along with our sight projects, we also give and help Diabetes Awareness, Leader Dogs, and Eye Surgery for the needy, Hearing Research, Literacy projects, Environment projects, and many more projects, not only in the United States, but around the World. Right now Lions Club International Foundation is having a Measles campaign to stop measles around the world. Measles are not around the United States because we give our children vaccinations, but in other countries 1 in 5 children will die from measles. One hundred percent of the profits from our fundraisers go to help fund these projects such as our recent fundraiser at Bob Evans Restaurant, which we would like to thank those that supported us from the community. Our leaders receive no money that has been collected from the people it goes back to the people.

If you have any questions please call me, Bob Mitchell 864-9194, and I will try to answer your questions, if I don't have an answer I will try and get one for you. If you would like to see firsthand what we do please call me, so that I can invite you to a meeting. But don't be surprised if I ask you to join!!

The winner of our Boat Full of Beer raffle was our Summit neighbor Dennis Melquist. We hope you enjoy the boat!

Holiday Wishes to all - Lion Bob Mitchell

## DO YOU WANT TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN YOUR TOWNSHIP?!!

There are a variety of boards and authorities that play a very important role in guiding the growth and development of our Township. Quite often vacancies come up suddenly and the Board of Supervisors must find new volunteers to fill them. We are always interested in hearing from anyone who might be interested in being appointed to a board or authority. If you care enough about Summit Township to want to play a bigger part in your community, send us an email or letter with your contact information, a description of your background/experience and availability.

Following is a list of our Boards and Authorities, along with the names of the kind folks who generously give of their time and talent to serve on them:

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP
WATER AUTHORITY
Tim Haaf
Jack Lacey
Arthur Kurtz
James Kupetz
Ann Whipple

S

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY Chris Fette Cloyd Rose Mark Welka Laban Marsh

Michael Rose

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

John Troutman Brian McGowan, Esq. Nancy A. Agostine Anita Lemmon Martin S. McAtee, Jr. Anthony Krasinski Jack F. Lee, Sr.

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP ZONING HEARING BOARD Gerald Rohan David Zamierowski Duane J. Hudak SUMMIT TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

James Andrus Tim Will Gary Pace Robert Perry Sandra Zawistoski Charles Knight Christian Green

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD Steve Skelly Jeff Jones Sean Earley Debi Wargo-Cameron Kelly Ford

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each and every one of these volunteers who have helped shape Summit Township into the thriving community we enjoy living in today. THANK YOU!

# **Senior News**

As I write this for the winter newsletter, It is October 28th, the last day of Indian Summer. Beautiful, sunny, breezy day; temperature 76 degrees, matched the record for this date. We had our Halloween lunch at the Senior Center. Today the people who chose to dress up had some great costumes. We had a great lunch with barbeque sauce over meatballs & many delicious tureen side dishes.

All senior citizens of Summit Township are invited to join us. We have a tureen lunch every Tuesday at noon. We have a selection of activities you might enjoy – pool tables, ping pong, a ceramics class on Wednesday. Some folks stay after lunch & play cards or build puzzles. In the summer we have a horseshoe court which was built by one of our local boy scouts to help earn his Eagle Scout status.

In September we hosted a flu shot clinic done by Lifeworks. Over 50 people attended. Folks then stayed to enjoy coffee & cookies and visit with their neighbors. In November we look forward to having a bake sale at the township building on election day. We will also be having our annual Thanksgiving dinner which will be catered.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season. See you again next year!

Evelyn Senger,

Summit Township Senior Citizens President



## PHONEBOOK RECYCLING FOR SECOND HARVEST

Bins are now in place to recycle your phonebooks and help raise money for the Second Harvest Food Bank. The drop-off bins are located at the Municipal Office (1230 Townhall Road West), Municipal Garage (8890 Old French Road) and Summit Senior Center (Townhall Road). **These bins will remain in place until January 30th.** 



#### **ANSUER TO SUMMIT TRIVIA:** There are currently 18 hotels in Summit Township; 7 are on/ near Route 97 and 11 are on/near Route 19. Two additional hotels are proposed near Route 19.



## FREE TAX SERVICE FEBRUARY 4th through APRIL 15th, 2015

A.A.R.P. volunteers will once again assist Senior Citizens and low income individuals in preparing their 2013 Federal, State and Local income tax returns as well as PA Tax Rebate applications. The volunteers will also be on hand to answer questions.

**REGISTRATION:** Scheduling for appointments will begin Monday, January 12, 2015. Make an appointment by calling the Summit Township Office at 868-9686 Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**DATES & TIMES:** Appointments will be made on Wednesdays and scheduled hourly from 9:00 – 11:00 A.M. and 12:30 – 2:30 P.M. (subject to availability).

**LOCATION:** Summit Township Municipal Building located at 1230 Townhall Road, West.

WHATTO BRING: For your scheduled appointment, bring 2014 tax returns, your 2015 tax forms/booklets and your "PAID" Property tax bill as well as photo ID of you (and your spouse, if filing a joint return).

## AARP TAX AIDE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed to prepare tax returns and property tax/rent rebate forms for low income individuals and senior citizens at AARP locations in Erie County.. We currently have two Tax Aides scheduled to prepare returns at the Summit Township Municipal Bldg, If we are successful in obtaining additional tax preparers we could increase the number of returns prepared. Training and equipment is provided. Volunteers are reimbursed for qualified program-related expenses. Please consider volunteering and call Gina at the Township office 868-9686 or Lifeworks Erie at 453-5072 and a representative will contact you.



1230 Townhall Road West Erie, PA 16509

#### Supervisors:

Thomas H. Church, Jr., *Chairperson* Nancy A. Agostine Jack F. Lee, Jr.

# **Once Upon A Time...**

This gentleman is Dr. Carlyle Bruce Cleland, a resident of Summit Township who served as Justice of the Peace and had been a member of the Summit School Board. He was a prominent dentist and ex-president of the Lion's Club. We had two correct responses to this challenge: Mary Havican and Betty Alexa.

### **NEXT CHALLENGE!**

Our next challenge is to identify by name and location this Summit one room school. If so, give Gina a call at 868-9686. All those with the correct responses will be entered into our yearly drawing for a \$50 Gift Certificate from a Summit business.

Do you have an old photo for our Once Upon A Time series? Please call Gina at Summit Township (814-868-9686) or bring your photo to the township building during regular business hours. Thank you!

Our Summit History Room is coming together. We have volunteers in the History Room on Thursday mornings from 9 to 11:30 am. We are accepting donations of photos, family histories and genealogies of Summit Township.

We also have a quest: we are looking for information on a church and cemetery that was located near Five Points. It was erected about 1848 and disbanded around 1911 after going through multiple name changes. Please leave a message with Gina at Summit Township if you have any information.





