

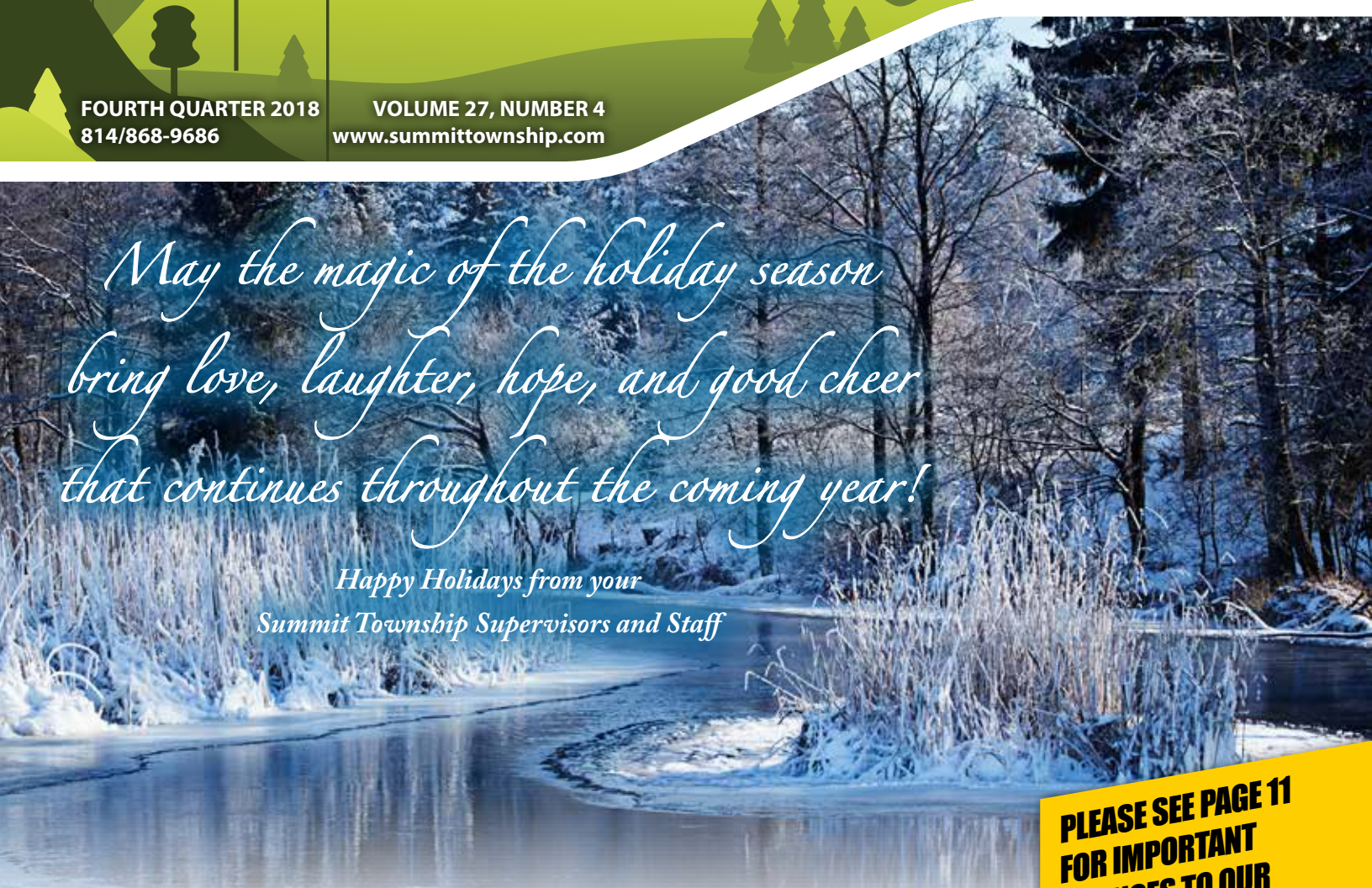


SUMMIT  
TOWNSHIP

FROM THE SUMMIT  
**News**

FOURTH QUARTER 2018  
814/868-9686

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 4  
www.summittownship.com



*May the magic of the holiday season  
bring love, laughter, hope, and good cheer  
that continues throughout the coming year!*

*Happy Holidays from your  
Summit Township Supervisors and Staff*

**PLEASE SEE PAGE 11  
FOR IMPORTANT  
CHANGES TO OUR  
RECYCLING PROGRAM!**



### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Summit Township will be closed on  
**November 22nd and 23rd** for Thanksgiving.

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

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

The 2019 Summit Township  
Recycling Calendar will be  
mailed out to all residents  
by **January 1st**.



## MEET THE STAFF

**TOWNSHIP:** 868-9686

**Jack Lee, Jr. -**

Supervisor/Chairperson/  
Dir. Land Development

**Mark A. Welka -**

Supervisor/Roadmaster

**Tony Davis -**

Supervisor/Director of Parks/  
Equipment Maint. Supervisor

**Christene Yeast -**

Secretary/Assistant Treasurer

**Michelle Nesselhauf -**

Administrative Assistant

**Nathan Miller -**

Zoning Administrator

**Tamara Cass -**

Administrative Assistant

**Kip Hayford -** Code Enforcement

**Matthew Jonas -**

Township Engineer

**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 Hayford -**

Administrative Assistant

**Brian Clark, Brian Hiles,**

**Sean Miller -** Water Authority

Systems Operators

**SEWER AUTHORITY:** 868-4495

**William Steff, P.E. -** Manager

**Caitlyn Haener-Schwab -**

Administrative Secretary

**Kathy Pfister -**

Clerical Assistant

**Marty McAtee -**

Operations Foreman

**Chris Hodge -**

Operations Technician

**Bryan Banko -**

Maintenance 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, 4:30 p.m.

### Planning Commission:

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, 7:00 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, 5:00 p.m.

### LeBoeuf Little League:

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at Waterford American Legion

### 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.

### Debra Cameron, Summit Township Tax Collector

1754 Townhall Rd. West, Erie, PA 16509

(814) 866-2653

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10AM-2PM | Monday evening 5-7PM

By appointment November 1 - March 1

Hello, all. Here we are, November already. I would like to bring up an issue that has plagued the whole state and probably the country. That is the lack of volunteer firefighters and EMS service. I know much of the problem is caused by busy life styles today and all the certifications that volunteer firefighters have to have to be qualified to do their job. Most volunteers have a full-time job, so being a volunteer firefighter is just like working a second full-time job. They spend much of their time in the classroom and hands-on training to earn certificates they are required to have. That doesn't even include all the calls they respond to.

There is one volunteer fire department at the outer limits of Erie County that is actually closed from 6 a.m. till 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. That is because these volunteers work first shift jobs away from their homes, so Monday through Friday they are at work and not available to respond.

I have mentioned this before and I will do it again. In the late 1970's, Pennsylvania had 350,000 volunteer firefighters and now we are down to approximately 50,000. With that being said, many areas are very short of help.

There may come a day when we and many other communities may have to use a paid service. For now we are trying to avoid that by helping our volunteer fire department. They too, are very proud of their volunteer fire department and do not want to give that up.

Summit Township has come up with some practical solutions to help support our volunteers at Perry Hi-Way Hose Company (PHHC). A couple of years ago we started the LST tax where every employee in the township pays \$1 a week, \$52 per year, (\$5 of that to the school district). We earmarked the \$47 to go directly to PHHC so they can manage and support their own paid EMS service 24/7.

That was a great solution to our shortcomings, because we have approximately 6,500 residents and 12,000 employees in this Township. These employees travel the roads and work in buildings in the PHHC area. This means the 12,000 employees who spend much of their time in Summit, can help support the full-time 24/7 EMS service instead of putting all that on the backs of 6,500 residents.

Now we have another problem that arose. Because of the shortage in Erie County and the City of Erie, our Volunteer Fire Department has received an approximate average of 45 mutual calls monthly. Mutual Aid is summonsed by Erie County's 911 Center. When they answer an emergency call

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next deadline for submission of newsletter articles is **January 25th!** Our next newsletter will be published in mid to late February.



# SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

request, if the local or closest emergency responders are not available, they will call other area departments to fill the void.

I would consider mutual-aid being the surrounding townships, which for PHHC would be Greene, Millcreek, McKean, and Waterford. The mutual aid calls are a little out of control now, to whereas, PHHC has been asked to travel as far as Girard, Corry, Union City, and North East. When 911 dispatches, they call whoever is available, starting from the closest responders available, out to the farthest to cover the call. Just a few weekends ago, in less than 3 days, PHHC had 5 calls in the City of Erie. My question is...where is Emergency who is contracted by the City of Erie? It seems to be a steady diet now. PHHC gets called because they can.

I don't think it's fair for people living in those outline areas of the county to have to wait for an emergency vehicle to come from 3 or 4 townships away. If I felt I were having a heart attack, I would drive myself or ask my neighbor to drive me to the hospital before I would wait that long.

I am pleased to say I have been asked to be on a newly-formed recruitment and retention subcommittee with the Erie County public safety advisory committee, to try and come up with a solution for the shortcomings in Erie and Erie County. With all of that being said, please consider being a volunteer firefighter if you have the time and interest.

Another topic I would like to bring up is our Senior Center. If you have any interest, please join them. Our seniors have a luncheon at least once a week and it's a gathering place for camaraderie, arts and crafts, and just to spend some time with others. We have recently talked with Kiwanis Club. They too, are looking for volunteers of all ages to help make charitable items or just to get involved with community projects. If you are interested in either or both, call the Township office at 868-9686 for contact information.

Remember to keep your cars off the streets especially in the winter for snow plowing. Be careful, watch your speed, and get used to driving on slippery roads with winter conditions coming soon, especially when we get our first snowfall.

We have also posted an article in this newsletter about the Highmark Caring Place. If anyone's interested in volunteering or in need of counseling, please check it out.

Happy Holidays to all.

Thank You, *Jack Lee*

It is hard to believe that summer is gone and winter is upon us. It seems to me that the nice weather passes by quickly and the cold weather lasts forever. We had a very successful and enjoyable season at the parks this year. Many picnics, baseball games, soccer tournaments, and cross country events were held at both Picnicana and Community Park. We do our best to keep the buildings and grounds in good order and will continue to do so with more improvements next year. I am especially grateful for my summer guys, Tim Caulfield and Trevor Malinowski; couldn't have done it without them.

Hopefully everyone has a safe and happy holiday season and we will see you around the township in the meantime.

Best Regards, *Tony Davis*

Hello Summit Residents,

I hope this letter finds you well. With winter approaching I would like to remind you to spend some time safeguarding your mailboxes per our mailbox requirements which can be found on our website at [www.summittownship.com](http://www.summittownship.com). The Summit Township snow plow drivers do their best to keep our roads clear and free of snow and ice, but accidents do happen, so making sure your mailbox has been properly installed will benefit all. Also, please remember not to park along the sides of the streets or roads, especially during a snowstorm.

We have purchased a new Mack plow truck and are in the process of selling the oldest in our fleet which is over 15 years old. We have also purchased a new one ton plow truck to assist with snow clean up in areas where our large plow trucks cannot access. The former truck has already been sold to a neighboring municipality.

Renovations continue at the Township Garage with insulating the roof and wall panels as well as new windows.

Our new Salt Storage Building is under construction and should be operational for the 2018-2019 winter season. Once complete we will be able to stockpile a year's worth of salt under the roof.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

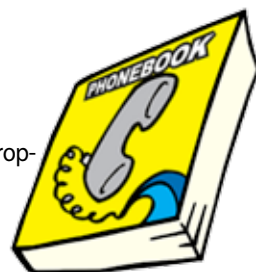
Sincerely, *Mark Welka*

## TOWNSHIP RECYCLING CALENDAR ATTENTION TOWNSHIP SNOWBIRDS

Before you fly south for the winter months, please call the township office at 868-9686 to be put on our snowbirds list. This way we can make sure you receive your township recycling calendar when you return. Thank You!

## 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) and Summit Senior Center (1450 Townhall Rd). **These bins will remain in place until January 30th.**



# Summit Lions Club News



It seems like I just finished submitting the past newsletter and I receive a notice that the news for the 4th quarter of 2018 is due.

I hope this finds all of you doing well. By now all students at Robison School should have received their invitation to our Christmas Party that we are holding in conjunction with the crew at Perry Hi-Way Hose Company. The party is being held on Saturday, December 8th. We are very busy getting things together for this great event, we hope to see you with your child at this event.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Our Annual Golf Outing that is scheduled for Friday, June 7th, 2019. More information will be sent out shortly.

We are busy planning things for 2019. Come and see what your Summit Lions are all about. We hold our Business meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Township building at 7PM and have our Dinner meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month, please contact me to make a reservation at (814) 450-6033 or contact any other Lion member you may know for more information.

Also, a reminder..... We recycle old eyeglasses and hearing aids, you can find out boxes at Summit Township building, Summit United Methodist church, Summit Senior Center or they can be given to any Summit Twp. Lion.

*Lion Dennis Franz*



## From the Water Authority. . . .

### Holiday Closings

Thanksgiving: November 22nd, 23rd & 26th

Christmas: December 24th & 25th

New Year's Day: January 1st

*Best wishes for a safe  
and happy holiday season.*



Highmark Caring Place is a center for grieving children, adolescents and their families. Grieving children and adults come to the Caring Place after a loved one dies, seeking the safety and comfort of being with others who understand because they are going through similar circumstances. The peer support group programs offered at the Caring Place are provided at no cost to families or the community.

If you or a friend/family member would benefit from the support offered by the Caring Place, please feel free to contact us at (814) 871-6868.

The Caring Place is looking for volunteers to help children and families in their darkest days. They are looking for people interested in greeting families, serving food and working in the grief support groups with the children and adults. No particular experience is needed, just an ability to truly listen to others and to support them through their healing.

A free training seminar for new volunteers is scheduled for February 2019 at the Highmark Caring Place location in Erie, PA at 510 Cranberry Street, just off of the Bayfront Highway. All prospective volunteers should contact **Kristen Huber, Volunteer Services Coordinator**, at (814) 528-0934 or kristen.huber@highmark.com to schedule a tour to learn more about what volunteers do to support grieving families.

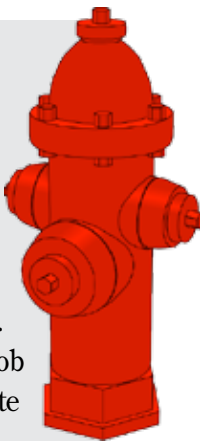
For more information, visit  
[www.highmarkcaringplace.com](http://www.highmarkcaringplace.com).

## 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. Winners will be selected for the fourth quarter of 2018 and the first quarter of 2019. 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.

*John Troutman*, Manager



## FROM ZONING.....

### Enforcement of the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) – Summit Township has become an Opt-In Municipality:

Effective on June 5, 2018, as a result of hard work by the Township Supervisors and Staff to draft and adopt an UCC Ordinance, Summit was granted approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry to begin enforcing the UCC as an opt-in municipality.

#### Who will be responsible for administering the UCC for the Township?

Pennsylvania Municipal Officials have the discretion to hire a certified individual or to contract with a certified third-party company to administer the UCC on their behalf. The Supervisors made this decision by researching who could provide the best services for our residents, business owners and community as a whole. Based upon a proven track record within Northwestern PA the Supervisors contracted with Building Inspection Underwriters (BIU) to administer and enforce the UCC on behalf of the Township.

#### How will residents, contractors and business owners be able to access BIU in order to ask UCC related questions, apply for Building Permits, pick up Building Permits and request UCC Inspections?

A Residential Inspector has a daily office hour from 8:00 – 9:00 AM at the Summit Township Municipal Building every Monday – Friday, excluding holidays. The Supervisors wanted to ensure that a BIU Inspector was easily accessible for residents, contractors and business owners to be able to meet with the Inspector to have their UCC questions answered or to apply for Building Permits.

BIU's Northwestern PA Office is located at 1805 W. 38th Street, Erie, PA 16508; and anyone who cannot make it to the Township Municipal Building during the inspectors' office hour is always welcome to stop into their Erie Office, which is open from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM every Monday – Friday, excluding holidays. BIU's Erie Office phone number is (814) 860-8044.

Commercial Plans will need to be submitted to BIU's Erie Office for plan review. All Commercial Inspectors will operate out of BIU's Erie Office and can be reached by calling BIU's Erie Office phone number (814) 860-8044.

#### What is the most important information to know about the UCC and its intent?

The goal of the UCC is to set minimum construction standards that must be met for the protection of life, health, property and environment and for the safety and welfare of the consumer, general public and the owners and occupants of buildings and structures.

The UCC also intends to encourage standardization and economy in construction by providing requirements for construction and construction materials consistent with nationally recognized standards.

## FROM YOUR SUMMIT TAX COLLECTOR:

Once again we are wrapping up another year. The time just seems to go faster and faster. At least the good weather months do!

If your taxes have not been paid by November 1, you will receive a second "Final Notice". Sometimes payments cross in the mail, so if you have paid, please contact me and I will check to see if I received your payment. Contact your escrow company if you are escrowed and taxes are unpaid, especially if you have an Interim tax bill that you received a Final Notice for.

**Office hours beginning November 1st are by appointment only.** This is stated on your tax bill. You can contact me either by phone or email. The locked mailbox is checked daily. Please do not leave cash. I will not be responsible for cash left in the locked mailbox. It's also helpful if you put your phone number on your payment so if there is an error, I can contact you immediately.

#### The following insert was in with your Final Notice. PLEASE READ!!!!!!!!!!!!

YOUR REAL ESTATE TAXES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID ON TIME, AND A PENALTY HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE AMOUNT YOU OWE. IF NOT PAID BY DECEMBER 31st YOUR REAL ESTATE TAXES WILL BE DELINQUENT. PLEASE READ THE BACK OF YOUR FINAL NOTICE BILL.

#### NOTE:

1) Payments after December 15th **MUST** be in certified funds-Cash, cashier's check or money order. Please put your phone number on checks and money orders. Non-certified payments will be returned.

2) Payments must be in my possession December 31, 2018. **Postmark is not accepted.**

3) Office hours Nov. 1 until March 1 are by appointment only as stated on your bill.

4) The office will be open Monday, December 31st 12:30pm-3pm for cash payments. Please have exact change.

5) You may use the locked mailbox to the right of the office door marked "Tax Payments" at any time up to and including December 31st. I check this mailbox daily.

HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

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

1754 Townhall Rd. West, Erie, PA 16509 | (814) 866-2653

Monday - Thursday, 10AM-2PM | Monday evening 5-7PM | By appointment November 1 - March 1

## PERRY HI-WAY NEWS...

### AMBULANCE BILLING REMINDER

I am reviewing the ambulance billing procedure for Perry Hi-Way Hose Company again in this issue to help clarify for some residents. If Perry Hi-Way Hose Company provides ambulance service to you or a family member, a bill is sent to your insurance company. We accept what the insurance companies pay for our service, even if it is much less than the fees charged. In some cases even less than the actual cost of providing the service. This is a benefit of living in Summit Township.

Some insurance companies (Highmark for sure) will send the patient the check and not send it to Perry Hi-Way or our billing agent – Quick Med Claims, Enhanced Management. If you get an insurance check sent to you for ambulance service please forward it on to Perry Hi-Way or our billing company ASAP so it can be credited to your account. At times, our billing company may need further information for billing your insurance company or a secondary insurance company. Please get the information back to them ASAP as well so we can get your claim paid and closed out.

With today's high deductible plans, many people fall into the situation where they have not met their deductible and are responsible to pay the bill. We can offer a discount to residents to help with this cost. If this is your situation, please contact the fire station (814-864-0680) with patient name and date of service and we can work with the billing company to offer this discount.

The cost to maintain the fire and ambulance service for the township is constantly on the rise. We rely on the ambulance billing income to keep our emergency services for the Township the best they can be. Just a reminder - the operational budget for this year was \$480,000 plus the cost of the paid staffing being an additional \$498,000. All total just under \$1 million per year to provide emergency services to the growing Summit Community. The LST tax provides only half that amount and casino monies were not received for 2017 or 2018.

*John Spaulding*

President, Perry Hi-Way Hose Company

### WINTER WEATHER REMINDERS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

It will not be long before the snow starts to fly. Please make sure when the snow does arrive that you make sure your address numbers are not covered with snow. Be it on the house, on the mailbox or some other means of displaying your house number, if covered with snow we will not be able to see them and get to you should an emergency occur.

Speaking of snow, please make sure your driveway is cleared to at least 8 ft in width to make sure our big trucks can get to your home should an emergency happen.

Now is a good time for residents that burn wood or coal for heat to have your chimney checked by a chimney sweep to be sure it is clean and ready to go for the upcoming season. Chimneys that are not well maintained can have a buildup of soot and can catch

on fire. The fire can get hot enough to cause the wood in the walls or roof of your home to catch fire and do significant damage.

Finally, we ask all residents to check their smoke alarms to be sure they are working and put in a fresh 9v battery to get thru the winter season. We have 9v batteries as well as replacement smoke alarms for any home in Summit Township that finds they need one. Stop in to the Oliver Road fire station M, T, W, F 9:30am-3:30pm or Th 12:00pm-6:00pm and speak with Ann to pick up a replacement.

From our family to yours; have a wonderful Thanksgiving, a Very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a blessed New Year!

### MARK YOUR CALENDER PERRY HI-WAY FUNDRAISERS Christmas Auctions

Friday November 23rd - doors open 4pm start 5pm  
Friday December 7th - doors open 5pm start 6pm  
(KITCHEN WILL BE OPEN WITH FULL MENU)

#### COMEDY SHOW

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2019  
DOORS OPEN 6:30PM  
SHOW BEGINS 8:00PM

Come out and have some laughs  
and chase away that cabin fever!

3 new hilarious new comedians  
(KITCHEN WILL BE OPEN WITH FULL MENU)  
Tickets will be available starting mid-December

### Summit Community Food Pantry

Another holiday season is coming up. What an exciting and busy year it has been for the Summit Community Food Pantry! We moved to our fabulous new location in the basement of the Summit Township Building and have a new Director and Assistant Director. All without an interruption of distribution! Thank you to ALL who made this possible. You know who you are and all of Summit thanks you.

If you are in need of assistance for your family and are a Summit resident, bring proof of residency to any regular distribution day – the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 2:30-4PM.

Distribution for Thanksgiving will be November 20th, 2-4pm, a **Tuesday** and Christmas will be December 18th, 2-4pm which is also a **Tuesday**. The Summit Community Food Pantry staff, board and volunteers want to wish all a Happy Holiday Season!

Summit Community Food Pantry (SCFP)  
1230 Townhall Rd., West, Basement  
Erie, PA 16509

# Halloween Spirit



From left to right: Nathan Miller, Tony Davis, Sam Bayuzick, Michelle Nesselhauf, Tammy Cass, Gretchen Hayford, Laura Taylor, Gina Erbin, Matt Jonas, Caitlyn Haener-Schwab, Kathy Pfister, Denise Lee, Jack Lee.

As you can see from the above photo, the staff at the Township, Water Authority, and Sewer Authority take Halloween very seriously!! At our annual luncheon this year Supervisor Jack Lee's wife Denise surprised the group with trophies for "Best Group Costume", "Funniest Costume" and "Best Costume".

**The big winners were:**



"Best Group Costume"  
Caitlyn Haener-Schwab & Kathy Pfister  
as Salt & Pepper Shakers



"Funniest Costume"  
Nathan Miller as Cousin Eddie



"Best Costume"  
Tammy Cass as an Amish Man

Congratulations to all of our winners and thank you Denise for the great awards!!

## FROM THE SEWER AUTHORITY...

### CITY OF ERIE SEWER AUTHORITY, WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

Sewer customers need to be aware that the Summit Township Sewer Authority, in order to avoid future capital upgrades and minimize current treatment costs, has initiated a program to investigate, identify and remove storm and ground water that unnecessarily enters the public sanitary sewer system. When clean storm and/or groundwater enters the sewer system through cracked pipes, leaky manholes, or improperly connected storm drains, down spouts and sump pumps we call it inflow and infiltration (I&I). This storm water increases treatment costs for all system users and takes away from capacity that would be available for other land owners to connect to the sewer system. Figure #1 shows the typical textbook sources of I&I. Figure #2 shows what most operators experience.

Most inflow comes from storm water runoff and most infiltration comes from groundwater. During large rain storms operators have measured more than five (5) times the annual average flow volume entering the sewer system. While these types of storms are intermittent they can cause overflows and backups. The Authority is working to minimize the storm water impact.

This spring the Authority began with a study of the Route 97 corridor flow volume during wet weather. In order to locate the source of and eliminate the inflow and infiltration (I&I) of rain water that illegally enters into the sanitary sewer system 8 flow meters were placed into the Route 97 corridor. The meters helped to breakdown the larger area into manageable subsystems and were identified as follows: Glenmar Subdivision, Marchmont and Route 97 South, PIDI, Valley Sewer, Popp's MHP, Perry's Summit MHP and Lakeview Landfill.

Manmade connections of storm and ground water into the public sewer system are illegal and the property owner where these types of connections are found will be required to sever the illegal connection or face fines and costs. The Authority can impose a fine of \$1,000 per offense. In addition, home owners will be required to repair service pipes/laterals that are found to be leaking. Finally, leaks occurring in the main lines will of course be the responsibility of the Sewer Authority.

If you are the new owner of an existing home please look around your home for any suspicious piping. We recommend you try to determine for yourself where all of your connections go. Especially, downspouts and sump pumps, these should be traceable to daylight, meaning they should discharge on the grounds around the home, a storm catch-basin, swale or ditch. If a downspout goes directly underground it is generally suspicious. If you think you may have a problem, please call the Authority for assistance. If there is problem we will work with owner to come up with a mutually agreeable timeline in which to complete the repair.

If any sewer customer has any questions pertaining to the sewer system or billing 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. The Authority office 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.

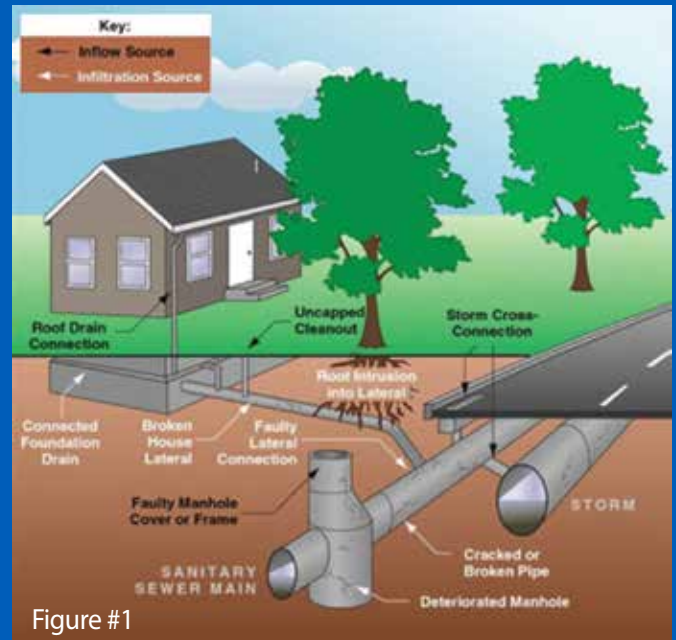


Figure #1



Figure #2

*William C. Steff, P.E., Manager*



# Hello from Robison Elementary School!

Be on the lookout for Robison signs in the community. I am so proud of our students here at Robison and I want to celebrate these students outside the walls of our school. Instilling the values of being READY, RESPECTFUL, and RESPONSIBLE is very important to us. So many students have stepped up to this challenge and have been showcasing these traits in all that they do. At the end of the first quarter, teachers will nominate the student in their class that is a role model in their classroom and is a BISON every day. Jo Askins, owner of Auto Express, will be providing us a stylish, sporty vehicle to drive as we surprise our deserving students. A Robison team will go out to place yard signs in those students' front yards to be proudly displayed. Each quarter we will honor a new set of exemplary Bison.



Being a BISON means giving back to our community, our next opportunity to give back and show our BISON spirit is the Thanksgiving basket donations 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. If you would like to contribute to our baskets we are collecting the following items up until November 12th:

- Box of Mashed Potatoes
- Cans of yams
- Box of Brownie Mix
- Box of Stuffing Mix
- Cans of Corn, Green Beans or Peas
- Box of Jello

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 1st.

On behalf of the teachers and staff, we wish you a wonderful holiday season. We are honored to be a part of our generous Summit Township Community.

*Mrs. Jenna Hopkins*, Robison Principal

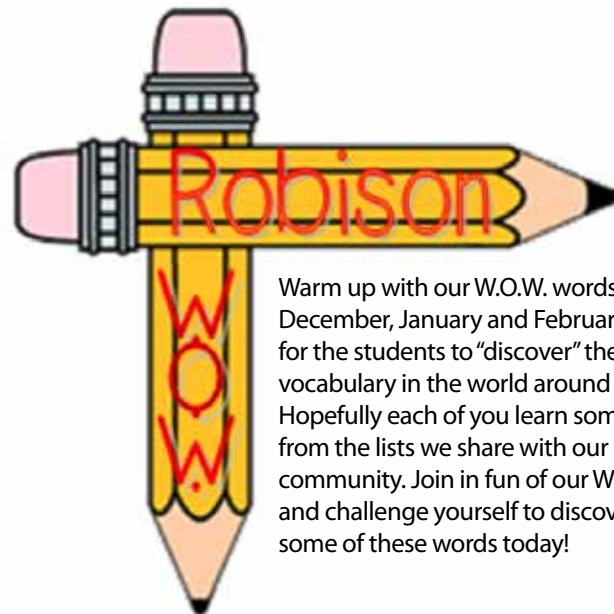


Also, join us for our first ever Blaze Pizza Fundraiser on Friday, November 16th. Bring in the attached flyer or take a picture of it and show it on your phone and Blaze Pizza will donate 20% of the proceeds back to Robison.

**Organization name:** Robison Elementary School  
**Date:** Friday November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
**Time:** 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM  
**Location:** Blaze Pizza – Erie  
 1930 Douglas Pkwy  
 Erie, PA 16509

**Bring in this flyer or show it on your phone before paying.** Blaze Pizza will donate 20% of proceeds back to our organization.

Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax and gift card purchases. Valid for dine-in and take-out only. Not valid for online orders. Alcoholic beverages excluded. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant.



Warm up with our W.O.W. words for December, January and February. It is so fun for the students to "discover" their expanding vocabulary in the world around them. Hopefully each of you learn something new from the lists we share with our amazing community. Join in fun of our W.O.W. program and challenge yourself to discover and use some of these words today!

**Our words are:**

**December**  
 largesse  
 magnificent

**January**  
 steadfast  
 rhetoric  
 yonder  
 utmost

**February**  
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# NEWS FROM FORT LEOBOEUF HIGH SCHOOL



## FBLA Seniors Get Ninth in the Nation

By Samuel Garvey

Tensions are high. Adrenaline rushes in intense anticipation as seniors Isaac Barringer and Cassidy Dinsmore listen for their names in the closing ceremony of the FBLA competition, hoping desperately that their months of hard work and dedication have paid off. Then, after what seems like an eternity of waiting, their group is revealed to be within the top ten in the nation.

FBLA, short for Future Business Leaders of America, is a competition based, national career and technical student organization that helps students on the middle school, high school and collegiate level learn more about the free enterprise system. The high school division, currently overseen by our very own Mrs. Seher, brought home ninth place in the nation during early July, all thanks to Barringer and Dinsmore.

"Hearing we got ninth in the nation was surreal," said Barringer. "Especially because we worked tirelessly for so long." And when Barringer says he and Dinsmore had to work hard, he means it. For both the regional, state and national level, each competitor was given a one hundred point exam for them to take, as well as a subjective test where the



competitors would cover a specific case such as 'why franchising is better than starting from the ground up' in a presentation.

As they moved up in the competition, the parameters for who would win at each level began to restrict. "In order to get into nationals, we had to place at least fifteenth in an objective test, and then tenth in the subjective test," said Dinsmore. "They wouldn't let out who got within the top fifteen until 5:00 am, and then they wouldn't reveal who was in the top ten until the closing ceremony, so anticipation was really high."

However, the FBLA competition was not completely full of stressful excitement. Those competing on the national level were gifted with a dinner cruise sponsored by the Pennsylvania State chapter of FBLA, as well as an Orioles game in Baltimore where the competition was located.

"Overall, the entire experience of the competition was really enlightening" said Barringer and Dinsmore. "It really pays testimony to the fact that hard work pays off. You've just got to give it all you've got."

## Niche Ranking Results

By Ivy Laffan

The Fort LeBoeuf School District received top level Niche scores for the 2017-2018 school year, based on each school's academics, teachers, diversity, parent and student surveys, health and safety, resources and facilities, clubs and sports.



Niche is a website system that ranks school districts and individual schools based on their overall performance and community opinion. FLB ranked 57 out of 500 total school districts in the state of Pennsylvania and second best in the Erie Area.

The high school individually ranked 91 out of 952 public high schools, receiving an A- grade overall. FLBHS is one of three high schools in the top 100 from Erie County, and is part of the top ten percent of public schools in PA. When told these scorings, Mr. Rimpa, principal, said, "[These rankings] tell me that people believe in our teachers, people believe in us as leaders in the direction we're headed, and that's important to me that they have faith in us in the direction we're going."

Niche gave the high school an A+ for food and health and safety, an A for teachers, clubs, administration and resources and facilities. Academics received a B+, college prep a B, sports a B-, and diversity a C+.

"The results are we must be doing a decent job of celebrating our successes... we want to continue to celebrate our students in general, whether it's athletics, arts, academics, and continue to promote them," said Mr. Rimpa.

## ENGINEER'S REPORT

Our storm sewer mapping project has reached a milestone. This October we have finished collecting data of stormwater conveyance on every public road within the Township's MS4 permitted area. Over the winter, this data will be incorporated into the Township's mapping software to be used for maintenance and improvement of the system. Also, in the event of a spill, this mapping will greatly reduce the impact to the streams within the Township.

Recently the Township installed a speed hump on Frank Avenue as a result of chronic speeding issues on that section of road. A speed hump is an elongated speed bump which is intended to slow traffic down to about 15mph-20mph at the hump. This is the first speed hump installed within Summit, and we are monitoring its effectiveness for any future consideration. The Township does not intend to install speed humps everywhere and there are no other locations currently being looked at. There are certain areas where speed humps make sense, and those areas are very few in the Township. In addition, speed humps by nature are inconvenient to the motoring public and the residents where the hump is placed. So, a speed hump will not be placed on a road without a serious investigation to determine that it is truly necessary.

The best way to reduce speeding is not to speed. Drive down the road like you would if you were driving past your own house. On Township roads you really are not getting anywhere faster by speeding. The traffic lights and intersections are where you make or lose time. Also, if you drive at or below the speed limit, you do not have to worry about where the State Trooper is sitting. We do look into speeding complaints by performing speed studies to determine the number of cars speeding and times that they go through and we share that information with the State Police.

Over the winter, we will be finalizing the design for the replacement of the Old French Road Bridge over LeBoeuf Creek between Townhall Road and Picnicana. The bridge, though structurally sound, is past its useful life, is narrow and is deteriorating. The intent is to replace the bridge with a longer span arch culvert that will get the bridge beyond the banks of the stream and to widen the bridge to allow for shoulders on the sides of Old French Road. The anticipated construction will take place during the summer when the stream flows are at the lowest. As a result, the road will need to be closed for a period of time as the existing bridge is removed and the new bridge is erected. As the project gets closer, look for updates in the future newsletters.



## SUMMIT TOWNSHIP RECYCLING PROGRAM

There will be a few changes with the Summit Township Recycling Program in 2019. The biggest change is Raccoon Refuse will be our new recycling contractor beginning the first week of January. The second biggest change is Raccoon will be picking up your recyclables weekly rather than bi-weekly. The schedule will remain the same which means if you were regularly scheduled to have your recyclables picked up every other Thursday they will now be picked up every Thursday. No more asking yourself, "Is this week a recycling week?". You will still use the same recycling containers you have always used PLUS Raccoon allows recyclables to be placed in clear plastic bags. Something we've all been struggling with these past few months.

Other changes are items that will no longer be accepted which include glass, shredded paper, junk mail and plastics #3 through 7. The cost to recycle these items has increased and they also contaminate other recyclable materials, therefore, most recycling haulers have chosen to no longer accept them.

The Township will be mailing out the Recycling Calendar by the first of the year and all of this important information will be included. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Michelle Nesselhauf at the Township Office at 868-9686.

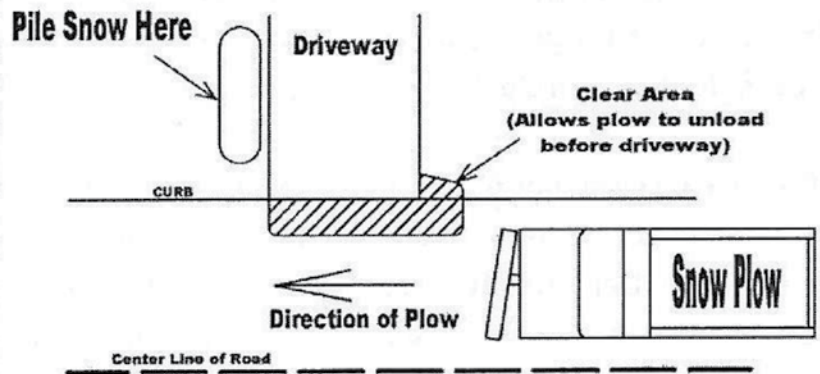
## SNOWPLOW SURVIVAL: How To Keep Your Driveway Clear

Have you ever felt like the snowplow driver is hiding around the corner just waiting for you to finish clearing that last bit of snow from your driveway? Try this simple method to prevent from having to shovel again and again.

Because the front of a plow will unload snow wherever there is a cleared area, clear an area to the right side of your driveway (as seen in the diagram) so when the plow comes down your street it will push the snow into that area instead of your driveway. Just make sure it's at least five feet long and 3 feet wide to accommodate the snow. Plus, remember not to push snow into or across the roadway as this creates a safety hazard for motorists.



## Driveway Plowing Policies



## FREE INCOME TAX SERVICE FOR ALL RESIDENTS - Ages 12 to 120 Are Welcome - FEBRUARY 4th to APRIL 15th, 2019

Volunteers are once again available to assist ALL Summit Township & Erie County Residents (NOT just seniors) in preparing their 2018 Federal, State and Berkheimer Taxes Returns, and your PA-1000 Property Tax/

Rent Rebate. Property Tax/Rent rebate **UP TO \$650** for eligible owners & renters. You **DO NOT** need to be a Senior, low income nor an AARP member to use our free service. **Everyone of All Ages are Welcome!**

**REGISTRATION:** Appointment Scheduling begins Monday, January 14th, 2019 call 814-866-5802 after this date and leave your Name and Phone Number on our Tax Hotline 814-866-5802, allow 48 hrs for call backs (Multiple calls delay process, please only call once in 72 hrs). All return calls are made from our volunteers home and **DO NOT SHOW AARP** on your caller ID. Past clients may receive a call prior to this date to schedule your appointment.

**DATES & TIMES:** Appointments available in Summit Twp, Mondays & Fridays 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and Monday through Friday at other Erie County Locations (subject to availability).

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

**WHAT TO BRING:** IRS requires Photo ID & Social Security Cards for you, (your spouse, if a joint return) and all dependents. Please bring your 2017 tax return and all 2018 tax documents. You must bring your **STAMPED "PAID" BY TAX COLLECTOR 2018** Property Tax Receipts if applying for Tax/Rent Rebate. You will be rescheduled if you're missing Documents or ID at your appointment. All Clients must complete a new 2018 4 page IRS Tax Intake Interview form upon arrival, so don't forget your reading glasses.

For Replacement stamped "PAID" 2018 Property Tax Receipts call Summit Tax Collector 7 to 10 days prior to your appointment at 866-2653. PA Dept of Revenue restricts completion of rebate forms without stamped paid receipts.

## AARP TAX AIDE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteer Facilitators and Tax Counselors are needed to check people in or prepare tax returns for all Erie County Residents at numerous AARP Tax locations in Erie County. Free Training, literature and equipment are provided. Volunteers are reimbursed for mileage at end of season. Please consider volunteering by leaving a message anytime at 814-866-5802.

# Senior News

The colder weather is here and soon the white flakes will appear. I hope everyone had a great summer and didn't complain too much that it was too hot.

Now that summer work is done, I hope the Summit Township seniors can join us on Tuesdays.

We will have an open house in February at the senior center on a Tuesday from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. Date to be determined. Lunch will be served at noon, and we will have games and socialization.

The officers for 2018/2019 are as follows:

President - Sue Seyboldt

Vice President - Dot Panitzke

Secretary - Barb Schlosser

Treasurer - Al Platz

We are so saddened by the loss of one of our longtime active members, Jean Curley who passed away in August. She was such a lovely lady who will be missed so much!

Also, our President Sue Seyboldt is having some major health issues. Prayers and thoughts are with you, Sue. Hurry back; we love you.

May everyone have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas.

*Dot Panitzke*, Vice President

# Here We Grow Again

**Taco Bell....** located at 6935 Peach Street is excited about their recently completed \$430,000.00 interior and exterior renovation. This Taco Bell restaurant has been overhauled with sleek seating, pendant lighting and other elements that may help the chain appear more like a chic loft than a fast-food taco place. The Taco Bell owners also installed new signage to match their newly renovated exterior.

## IN THE WORKS:

**U-PICK 6....** has completed the land development process for their proposed expansion of the existing bar/restaurant use into the adjoining retail unit within the plaza. As part of their project U-Pick 6 is also proposing a 9 ft. diameter x 33 ft. high grain silo to be constructed and utilized as part of their newly proposed craft beer brewing operation.

**McDonalds....** has completed the land development process for the proposed \$450,000.00 interior and exterior renovations to their existing restaurant located at 7855 Perry Highway. The owners of the McDonalds restaurant have also purchased the old BP Gas Station property located directly in front of their restaurant, and the demolition of the old BP Gas Station is part of their proposed renovation project. The demolition permit for the removal of the old BP Gas Station was issued on September 27, 2018 and should be completed by the time you are reading this article.



## WRITE A LETTER TO SANTA AND HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Anyone who lives in Townhall Village probably recognizes this red letterbox. It's usually located at 8620 Honeysuckle Drive at the Lee residence. This year Denise Lee contacted the Township Office and asked if it would be possible to put the Santa Mail letterbox in the lobby of the Township Office to help promote the Macy's 2018 Annual Believe Campaign which benefits Make-A-Wish. Adults and children of all ages are encouraged to write a letter to Santa, address it to "Santa at the North Pole" then drop it off in the letterbox. For each letter collected, Macy's will donate \$1, up to \$1 million, to Make-A-Wish to help grant the wishes of children with critical illnesses. The Santa Mail letterbox will be in the Township Lobby from November 7th through December 24th.

*"Sometimes believing in something can truly be magical!"*

# FALL LEAVES MAKE GREAT COMPOST!

Composting occurs naturally everywhere in nature. Leaves drop from trees, plants die and grass left on the lawn breaks down over time. As these materials decompose, the dark nutrient rich soil-like material that results is called compost.

By composting yard, garden and vegetable waste from home, you can reduce the amount of garbage disposed in landfills. Organic materials like leaves, grass and vegetable wastes comprise almost 20% of the residential waste stream - that's 330 pounds per person per year!

Composting is easy and there's no wrong way. No matter what you do, things will eventually decay. You can compost anything from A to Z: apples, bread, newspapers and vacuum dust to zucchini. Don't compost meat, poultry, fish, diseased plants, dairy products, pet waste, cooking oil or invasive weeds because they attract rodents, spread unpleasant odors, or release disease agents and weeds through your garden. Pick a convenient place near your garden. Pile the waste or use wire mesh, snow fencing, wood, bricks or even garbage cans with holes punched in them to enclose the compost pile.

**The key is layering brown and green materials; three parts brown to one part green.**

**GREEN MATERIALS INCLUDE:** Fresh grass clippings, vegetable and fruit peelings, coffee grounds, egg shells, moldy bread, coffee filters, etc.

**BROWN MATERIALS INCLUDE:** Leaves, bark and twigs, wood chips, saw dust, paper towel/toilet paper tubes, shredded newsprint or paper, straw, etc.

**DO NOT COMPOST:** Butter, lard, oils, bones, cat/dog feces, dairy products, peanut butter, diseased plants or leaves, mayonnaise or salad dressing.

## HELPFUL HINTS:

- Mix with a shovel or pitchfork for faster composting.
- Shred the materials and make sure that the pile is as moist as a squeezed sponge.
- Turning the pile every three days will make it compost faster, but you can turn it weekly, monthly or not at all, though the more it's turned, the faster materials will break down!



# On the Roads Again!



Throughout the winter, the crews plow snow, apply salt and anti-skid to the Township roads to make winter travel safe for township residents and visitors. Summit township has six excellent snow removal trucks that can be used to clear the roads. Residents are required to help the crew's work by obeying the law and removing their cars from public streets from November 15th to March 15th. This allows the Road crew to do a nice job of cleaning the roads. If a vehicle is left parked in the road, we do have the right to tow it away at the owners expense, for everybody's safety. Summit Township has enough equipment to be able to keep up with the weather better than most anyone and, in our busy community, people have come to expect that.

Roads are a public right-of-way. Township standards are to clear the road from edge to edge or curb to curb to provide safe travel conditions and provide storage space for subsequent snowfalls. To do this sometimes requires multiple passes. We move the snow from the centerline to the edge of the road. This means that, until the street is completely clear, the plow will come back again. The plows are not lifted at driveways because this would leave snow on the street; creating a hazard for drivers. Residents should be advised to wait as long as possible to shovel or clear at the end of their driveway. Also, when removing your snow, deposit the snow to the right of your driveway as you face your driveway from the street. By doing this, when the plow returns, it will carry the snow you moved away from the driveway. Snow placed on the left side will probably end up back in your driveway the next time the plow makes a pass. Not all of the streets or roads in the township are public. Some are private drives that are maintained by owners, homeowners associations, or developers. We also have many state roads in our Township which are maintained by PennDOT. We are not supposed to plow any part of the state roads, even if we think we are doing a favor. If we plowed a portion of a state road and then turned off onto one of our township roads, a motorist could be driving down the road on that plowed portion (thinking the road has just been plowed) then suddenly hit deep snow, causing them to have an accident where we turned off and did not finish.

Property owners and/or occupants are responsible for clearing snow and ice from adjacent sidewalks within 24 hours after the end of a snowfall. Owners or occupants failing to clear sidewalks may receive a citation, be fined and/or be responsible to reimburse the township for the cost of clearing the sidewalk. Please drive safely, slow down, and allow extra time to reach your destination during winter weather events. This is the most effective way to prevent an accident. Thank you for your cooperation and happy holidays!

*The Road Crew*

# **SUMMIT TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

## **ARE YOU READY?**

### **Winter Safety**

#### **Home:**

Get started now, find your snow shovel & have salt for icy stairways and walkways. Slip and fall hazards are greatly increased during the winter months.

Wood stoves & Fireplaces need to be inspected and cleaned if creosote has built up.

Have a 3 day or more supply of food, water and necessities on hand in the event of a power outage or storm that keeps you homebound.

#### **Car:**

Install snow tires and have a snow brush/scrapper ready to keep windows clear for 360-degree vision. Be sure to clear off the headlights and tail lights so others can see you.

Leave a little early so you are not rushed. Have an extra blanket, winter coat & gloves in the car just in case you become stranded.

#### **Shoveling Snow:**

Don't rush, take your time, drink water and take breaks often. Use a smaller shovel when the snow is wet.

Stop if you feel out of breath, strained or sore.



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**Supervisors:**

Jack F. Lee, Jr., *Chairperson*  
Mark A. Welka  
Tony Davis

## Once Upon A Time...

We would like to create a display featuring Summit farms and dairies. Please contact the Summit Township office at 868-9686 if you are willing to loan or donate any items about your family farm. Our goal is to display Summit history for everyone.

Summit farmers made up a majority of the population from the beginning.

We were able to have a very nice display for Perry Hi-Way Hose Company's 70th anniversary. We are looking for suggestions for future displays, what would you like to see?

We have been looking for information on a United Presbyterian Church at one time called Elk Creek Church and later called McKean Church. It was formed about 1840 and was there until about 1910 and located near Five Points on Oliver Road, there also may have been a cemetery there.

Volunteers are in the Summit History room on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. If anyone is interested in researching their Summit history or creating a family tree please stop in, we would like to help you if possible.

