

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP

FROM THE SUMMIT News

SECOND QUARTER 2020
814/868-9686

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 2
www.summittownship.com

DID YOU KNOW...?

United States®
**Census
2020**

The 2020 Census is here! Have you participated yet? Make sure you're counted so your community receives all the population-driven funding it deserves and needs. Remember, responses to the census are kept confidential and secure. Visit **2020census.gov** or **pa.gov/census** to learn more about the census and how the U.S. Census Bureau protects your information.
#2020Census



Picnicana Park and Community Park

Due to the unfortunate circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Summit Township Board of Supervisors has elected to keep Picnicana Park and Community Park closed until further notice. This decision didn't come lightly, but it came with a duty and a responsibility on our part to keep our residents and guests safe to the best of our ability.

Dear Summit Township Residents,

Due to the global spread of COVID-19, the Summit Township Supervisors have had to make some very difficult decisions regarding our Township. Social distancing is a proven way to slow the spread of this pandemic, therefore, to protect the health and safety of our residents and staff it has been decided to cancel the Summer Recreation Program, Resident's Weekend, and Senior Picnic. The Township Spring Clean-Up scheduled for May 7th through May 9th has been rescheduled to September 11th and 12th. This is a difficult and stressful time for everyone but know that we are all in this together. Please take social distancing seriously to protect the lives of our friends and neighbors. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Your Summit Township Supervisors

To contain the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus and protect the health and safety of residents and office staff, the Summit Township Municipal Offices (including the Water Authority) will be temporarily closed to "foot traffic" and non-essential activities until further notice.

Staff will still be available to respond to emails, phone calls, and phone messages during this time. A drop-box is located on the east side of the front entrance of the Municipal Building. We will make arrangements to help with any problems related to municipal government. You are encouraged to visit the Summit Township website at summittownship.com for additional information and updates.

Township Phone # 814-868-9686

Township Supervisors:

Chairman – Tony Davis – 814-572-7459

Supervisor – Jack F. Lee, Jr. – 814-823-9940

Supervisor – Mark A. Welka – 814-450-3200

TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED:

May 25th – Memorial Day

July 3rd – Independence Day (observed)

MEET THE STAFF

TOWNSHIP: 868-9686

Jack Lee, Jr. -

Supervisor/Treasurer/
Dir. Land Development

Mark A. Welka -

Supervisor/Chariman/Roadmaster

Tony Davis -

Supervisor/Director of Parks/
Equipment Maint. Supervisor/
Assistant Roadmaster

Christene Yeast -

Secretary/Assistant Treasurer

Michelle Nesselhauf -

HR Director/Recycling
Coordinator/Newsletter Editor

Tamara Cass -

Zoning Administrator

Debra Jageman -

Zoning 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, Darrell Sayers

& Joe Malinowski

WATER AUTHORITY: 864-2323

Bob Mitchell - Manager

Laura Taylor -

Administrative Secretary

Gretchen Hayford -

Administrative Assistant

Brian Clark, Brian Hiles,

Sean Miller, Lisa Culbertson

and Adam Wilps - Water

Authority Systems Operators

SEWER AUTHORITY: 868-4495

William Steff, P.E. - Manager

Caitlyn Haener-Schwab -

Administrative Secretary

Amy McCaslin -

Clerical Assistant

Marty McAtee -

Operations Foreman

Chris Hodge -

Operations Technician

Bryan Banko -

Maintenance Technician

From The Office Of District Judge McGowan

The State of the Courts in the Midst of the Covid19 Crisis

During the current pandemic, both President Judge Trucilla of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has closed all courts to the general public until May 5, 2020. My staff and I are still in the office but working on a limited basis. We are not taking new filings for civil or landlord-tenant cases. All such hearings have been canceled and will be rescheduled. The public can't pay fines in person. If you need to make a payment, you can pay online or by mail or drop a check or money order in our drop box at the office.

The police are able to file new criminal cases and I am available to issue search and arrest warrants. Limited hearings are being held in certain criminal cases via video conference. We are only doing new arraignments and preliminary hearings for incarcerated defendants.

Please be safe and take extra precautions during this crisis. I hope we are able to return to normal in May.

Brian M. McGowan, MDJ

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Board of Supervisors:

1st Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m.

3rd Monday of each month, 4:30 p.m.

Planning Commission:

2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

Sewer Authority:

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

Water Authority:

1st Tuesday of each month, 6:00 p.m.

Recreation Board:

3rd Wednesday of each month, 4:30 p.m.

LeBoeuf Little League:

2nd Wednesday of each month, 6:00 p.m. at Waterford American Legion

Zoning Hearing Board:

4th Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

As needed and advertised only

Summit Township Industrial and Economic Development Authority (STIEDA):

4th 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

Senior News

Due to circumstances surrounding the coronavirus pandemic, the Summit Senior Center will remain closed until further notice. If you really need to reach someone from the senior center, please contact the Township Building at 868-9686 and Gina will take your information and relay it to the correct party.

In the meantime, wash your hands, practice social distancing and stay well.

Sue Seyboldt, President

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next deadline for submission of newsletter articles is **July 31st!** Our next newsletter will be published in early September.



SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

Hello Summit Township Residents,

First off, I hope this newsletter finds that you are well!

During this challenging time, I have had the road crew available for on-call services only. Not to fret, I have been out daily checking roads, traffic signals, flooding issues and any other event that may come up. This includes the last snow event (we hope) in which we called in the crews. Our main concern is keeping our crews and residents safe and healthy! We are following Governor Wolf's mandates and guidelines recommended by the CDC.

As of April 13th, we brought the crew back into work and will follow social distancing guidelines. That being said, our projects for the spring were very aggressive but due to unavoidable circumstances, they may not be attainable. We are working with our contractors and suppliers for a future scope of work! Needless to say, we will get our projects done but only time will tell when!

If you have any questions or concerns regarding roadways please feel free to reach out to me. I look forward to hearing from you and enjoy communication about our township.

Most of all, I would like to thank each and every one of you for keeping our community safe. Please continue to do your part and may we all enjoy a beautiful summer in Summit Township!

Mark Welka

Hello friends and neighbors; hope you are as well as can be. This is one of the toughest things the general population will go through in life. Please try to be patient and support one another. The Coronavirus has put a lot of mental and financial stress on families and businesses. It has caused a financial disaster for the world. Try to protect yourself, your family, and others by wearing a mask, washing your hands, and social distancing, mostly common sense.

Our office is still operating and so is the garage. We are an essential service and must be ready to serve the public, roads, signs, and traffic lights. So the same precautions go to all of our staff and employees. The garage and office are closed to the public, but still working. The supervisors answer their cell phones 24/7, as normal, or you can leave a message if you don't get through. Like anywhere else, we do not need the general public traffic visiting face to face in our buildings when we can still conduct business via phone or the internet.

Our zoning office is also working for anyone who has questions or needs direction. I am sorry for the inconvenience, but these are really trying times.

Schools are closed for the school year, which makes very good sense with this Coronavirus. Our country has heavily invested in beating this virus. It has caused many hardships in the past weeks, so we must continue to fight this thing by safeguarding everyone and being as practically smart as we can. It would be a horrible shame to see this Coronavirus rebound or explode after all the sacrifices everyone has made. We cannot let our guard down.

Please be strong and support one another. If you are having any type of mental, physical, or financial problems, please get on the phone or internet to utilize the many options available to

Dear Summit Residents,

Just when our country was most divided by politics, splitting us into either Democrat or Republican, a virus came along and taught us to appreciate each other. To appreciate truck drivers, nurses, doctors, other medical staff, grocery store and gas station clerks, and mail carriers. Certain stores have early hours exclusively for the elderly. During this time many of us have come to appreciate what we have and how much worse things can and could be. Please check up on elderly and disabled neighbors while implanting social distancing.

We also appreciate more our "non-essential" workers that we miss; teachers, hairdressers, sporting and social events. We all will be eager to have our lives back to "normal". Doing your part in social distancing and hand washing, etc. will save lives and prevent our hospitals from being overwhelmed.

To protect the safety of our residents, the Board of Supervisors has chosen to keep our parks closed until further notice. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the township office at 868-9686. Stay safe!

Tony Davis

the public. I know some lending agencies are waiving interest on monthly payments or maybe even delaying payments.

Another good source is 211. If you dial 211, they can give you direction and options on any problem you may have. This is a free service to the public. There are many online links from the county and state to aid businesses and unemployed. Please do not delay your request if you can help it, because some have limited resources.

The Pennsylvania Health Department will continue to keep Pennsylvanians updated on state response efforts and have made available different resources and emergency planning guidance. These are available at [Health.PA.Gov](https://www.health.pa.gov), by calling (1-877-PA-HEALTH) or by following their social media pages. Additional information and resources can be found at [CDC.Gov](https://www.cdc.gov)/Coronavirus.

If you are healthy, feel safe, and want to help the public, there are some charities that you could volunteer with like the Second Harvest Food Bank and Meals on Wheels, who deliver food to the elderly. They too are taking safeguards with social distancing, washing hands, and wearing masks.

Lastly, I would like to say, be patient with vendors and employees of any kind. They are dealing with the same precautions and fears of picking up the virus or carrying it home to their families. Also give a big thanks to First Responders, Policemen, and all medical personnel, who are out on the job every day, as if nothing has changed. They too are working as smart as they can.

Thank you, be safe, and we will beat this thing together.

Jack Lee

PREPARING FOR THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

HOW DO I PREPARE?

CREATE A HOME EMERGENCY KIT



NON-PERISHABLE
FOOD



BOTTLED
WATER



MEDICATIONS



FLASHLIGHT +
EXTRA BATTERIES



FIRST AID KIT



WARM
CLOTHING



BABY
SUPPLIES



PET
SUPPLIES

KNOW THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19



FEVER



COUGH



SHORTNESS OF BREATH

SPREADS
THROUGH
CLOSE
CONTACT

TAKE EVERYDAY PRECAUTIONS



WASH YOUR HANDS



DON'T TOUCH FACE



AVOID SICK PEOPLE

INFORMATION + UPDATES:
HEALTH.PA.GOV



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Created 02/25/2020

PERRY HI-WAY RESPONDS TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Perry Hi-Way Hose Company stands ready to continue providing services during this pandemic with the COVID-19 virus. All our crews are continuing to report to work or respond in their volunteer capacities to make sure Summit Township has the emergency services they need. There are some changes in how we respond and the information requested by the 911 operator when calling for an emergency ambulance.

The 911 call taker will be asking several questions about travel history or contact with anyone known to be positive for COVID-19. This is to help gauge the need for full Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) or not. Those people with low risk for potential COVID-19 infection will help save the PPE for use on people who are at higher risk. While we currently have a stock of PPE for our responders we cannot know how long we will be needing to use this equipment nor how many cases we may get called to where it is needed. As many are aware it has become difficult to get these items restocked as many of the suppliers we use to purchase supplies are out of stock. It is important to answer the 911 center questions as accurately as possible.

The way we approach ambulance calls has also changed some with this pandemic. Crews will now start with a single provider entering your home and will try to maintain a 6 ft. buffer space while asking questions and assessing the situation for possible COVID-19. Many times we will be placing a mask on the patient to help control respiratory droplets as a precautionary measure. Once the initial emergency medical person has assessed the patient and applied the mask on the patient (if needed), the other crew will come and assist with removal from the home. If possible we are asking people to walk out of their home to the stretcher outside and limit the number

of responders that need to come into the home. Now if the patient's condition is such that they cannot walk out then crew members will enter the home and help the patient out for transport to the ER. Also, our crew members may show up at your home wearing masks, face shields, disposable gowns or other PPE as deemed necessary from the info gathered by the 911 operator.

After the transport is complete the ambulance is then cleaned and prepared for the next use. Many times this is being completed at the ER ambulance parking areas. In cases where a positive or potentially positive COVID-19 patient has been transported, the ambulance is fully decontaminated and removed from service for 30 min to allow complete ventilation of the patient compartment. We try to keep the ambulance interior as clean as possible to minimize any risk of COVID-19 virus being in the patient compartment area.

The past few weeks have been a difficult time. We have had to brush up on our use of PPE and review our responses to these types of responses. While all of our members have been trained to respond to these types of incidents, they happen infrequently. Now with the arrival of the COVID-19 virus, we have had to dust off the policy and procedures manuals and put them into play. But rest assured we are ready to respond to your need for emergency medical treatment while hoping we do not need to come to your home or business.

One final item to mention is the Residential Fund drive campaign which starts May 1, 2020. We need your support again this year and even more support from those who have not donated in the past. The response to this pandemic has resulted in more costs with the PPE and disinfection supplies needed. We ask all households to donate to our annual fund drive campaign. While we are looking to recover some costs from state and federal governmental agencies, there is no guarantee we will get any additional funding. Because there is not a dedicated fire tax in Summit Township for operational costs of the fire and ambulance service, **we need EVERY RESIDENCE to donate for the services we stand ready to provide 24/7/365.** Thank You.

FROM YOUR SUMMIT TAX COLLECTOR:

In an effort of Coronavirus Preparedness, effective Monday, March 16, 2020, the Summit Twp. Tax Collector office will be closed to the public until further notice.

Due to the close proximity in the office, the 6 – 10 feet social distance that is recommended by the CDC cannot be obtained. The safety and well being of all taxpayers must be the number one priority.

No services will change other than counter service. Payments may be mailed or left in the secure lock box located to the right of the office door at any time. If you need a receipt, please enclose a S.A.S.E. or provide your email address and I can email you a receipt.

I will be answering phone calls, emails and other services you may require during this time. The only service that will not be accessible will be face-to-face counter service. If you need to speak with me or if paying with cash, please leave a message and I will return your call ASAP. As of this date, no extensions on the discount period have occurred.

As soon as the Coronavirus Pandemic is resolved, counter service will be reinstated. Please do your part and social distance and stay at home whenever possible. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

Debra Cameron, Summit Twp. Tax Collector

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

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

Summit Lions Club News



Welcome all, I hope everyone is feeling better and waiting for summer to get here.

Due to the coronavirus and the shutting down of most businesses and services, there is not much to report this quarter. We are still receiving plastic and planning on getting benches to be placed around our township with the plastic we recycle. The boxes are at the senior center, Boyer RV center, and the township building.

All our other projects are on hold until the world gets back to normal.

On a sad note, the Summit Lions have lost a great member. Lion Audrey Dick passed away a couple of weeks ago and we will all miss her. We usually do a Lions service at the funeral service for a deceased member, but with the order of no funerals open to the public PDG Janet Mitchell wrote the service on the Summit Lions Facebook page for everyone to read.

Have a good summer and we will see you around when we can leave our houses.

Past District Governor Bob Mitchell

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS: 2021 CALENDAR PHOTOS NEEDED!

I think with everything that is happening in our world right now it only seems fitting to title our 2021 Calendar "Quarantined Days". With everyone stuck in their homes for weeks I'm sure there are some crazy things that have been happening. Maybe pictures of your pets that are just going crazy because they don't know what to do with you home all day, or your kids that eat nonstop or sleep all day or play video games all day. How about that bunny that went around Townhall Village? Anything that shows you made the most of your days in quarantine. Submit your photos on a CD or USB to Summit Township, Attn: Michelle Nesselhauf, 1230 Townhall Rd. W., Suite 100, Erie, PA 16509. You can also email your photos in .jpeg format only to mness@summitpa.us. Please make sure to include photographer's name and contact information. Submission deadline is November 13th, 2020. Go crazy Summit!



Following the lead of other recycling service providers across the nation, the Bayfront Glass public drop-off service will remain closed until further notice.

Placed outside the building at 1310 East Ave are three collection containers. Please follow the use instructions and DO NOT leave glass on the ground outside the building. Thank you!



Flattening the curve, smoothing the path

By State Rep. Bob Merski, D-Erie

COVID-19 may have changed our lives profoundly, but it hasn't weakened our resolve as Pennsylvanians to overcome the challenges created by this pandemic.

I have been so proud of our Erie community, knowing residents are working together to flatten the curve of new cases by following Gov. Tom Wolf's stay-at-home order and practicing social distancing when it's necessary to leave home.

As we continue to work to stop the spread of COVID-19, my colleagues and I are also developing legislative solutions. In late March, we passed a series of bills – later signed into law – to help residents navigate this “new normal.”

Some of those new laws –

- relieved schools of the 180-day education requirement for this year while keeping state funding flowing to school districts. The funding allows students to continue learning remotely and ensures that meal preparation and pick-up is still available for students who need it.
- eliminated the one-week waiting period for unemployment compensation and suspended certain UC requirements to facilitate benefits for workers whose jobs are impacted by COVID-19.
- extended the deadlines for paying and filing state income tax returns to **July 15**, to follow federal deadlines.
- allowed for the transfer of up to \$50 million in state funds to be used to help hospitals, nursing facilities, and EMS providers to purchase medical equipment and supplies to address COVID-19.
- postponed the state primary election to **June 2**, to give counties extra time to adjust and allow for polling places to be consolidated and moved out of high-risk areas. Voting by mail – which allows residents to vote from the safety of their own homes – is also a good option.

Moving forward, we'll be working to pass additional legislation to help residents get through this pandemic.

Among other things, we'll be working to pass measures to better support and protect our front-line workers, from the health care and emergency rescue workers saving lives to the cashiers, stockers and delivery people ensuring we continue receiving access to essential supplies. It's hard to imagine what life would be like without their tireless efforts.

We Pennsylvanians are strong, and those of us in the Erie community are especially resilient. Separated physically but one in spirit, we **will** get through this together.



Summit Community Food Pantry

Good Day to All –

In these very unusual and trying times due to the coronavirus, we are all seeking normalcy and encouragement. Know that the Summit Community Food Pantry is here to help you. Our regular distributions on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 2 pm–4 pm will continue. Because of social distancing and to protect both our staff, volunteers and recipients, **please stay in your car**. Our volunteers will bring your boxes to you. If you have a mask, please wear it.

The Summit Municipal building remains closed to the public, but we are still able to access our area and will continue distributions. Hopefully, with everyone's help doing their part, we will make it through this pandemic. Keep in touch with your loved ones and neighbors through phone, texts, and emails. Be thankful for every day. We look forward to the time when we can greet each other face to face again.

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



From the Water Authority. . . .

This quarter's winner of our Adopt-a-Hydrant Contest is Robert McGarry, nominated by Audrey MacArthur. Thank you, Robert, for a great job on clearing the snow away from the fire hydrants. Please call our office at 864-2323 to receive your award.

Last quarter's winner, Robert Swain, donated his winnings to Perry Hi-Way Hose Company. A big thank you to Robert for his generosity.

This will end our hydrant contest for this season. Let's hope the snow stays away in April and all we see is green grass.

As spring is now here and summer is around the bend, we will be seeing more water being used by our customers. Please remember to turn off outdoor faucets and drain your garden hose after each use. If it is full of water and laying out in the hot sun, it will increase the pressure of the water and could bust the hose without you knowing it. If this happens your meter will be running as you are using water, thus giving you a higher water bill.

This spring our crew will be flushing hydrants throughout the Township. Please slow down when you see the sign "Hydrant Flushing". We want them to be safe as well as you.

The Water Authority has purchased a Vacuum Trailer which will be used to clean out the valve boxes. This machine also lets us dig around the valves without using a backhoe. We will also be exercising the valves after we clean them.

The other project we have going for this year is our G.I.S. System. We will be finding all the valves and curb boxes along with the location of the water lines which will be uploaded to iPads and cell phones. This will allow us to find the valves faster if there is a leak.

As I am writing this, everyone else is at home due to the shut down because of the COVID-19, except for the Water Authority. Please monitor the Township's website (www.summittownship.com) for updates.

We cannot close our doors and send everyone home as our customers depend on receiving water service. We are not going into homes currently except in an emergency, so our staff stays safe. I would like to thank our staff for staying on the job and making sure your water is safe.

The office staff is available to take calls and we are asking everyone to make their payments using the dropbox outside the Township building.

Enjoy your spring and summer!

Bob Mitchell, Manager



PRIMARY ELECTION DAY IS NOW JUNE 2, 2020.

- Polls are open on election day from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.
- Last day to register to vote: May 18, 2020
- The deadline to register to vote is now 15 days prior to an election, rather than 30 days.

Something to do while stuck at home!

Now that the nice weather has arrived and the dirt has been washed away, it's easy to see all of the trash that has accumulated along the roadways in Summit Township. A lot of what accumulates along the roads and in the ditches is a result of recyclables blowing out of containers. If each of us picks up what is in front of our own property, all of Summit will be litter free in no time. Recycle what you can, throw away the trash, and we will all enjoy the nice, clean scenery!

IMPORTANT RECYCLING INFORMATION

Raccoon Refuse is requesting that any recycling customers that have clear or blue bags to please bag all of your recyclables until further notice. If you don't have clear or blue bags you can continue to use your bin as usual. If you have any cardboard that cannot be broken down and put into a bag or your bin, please bundle it.

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY

TEMPORARY CHANGES DURING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

For the safety of the STSA staff and the public, our building is closed to the public. However, if you have a question about your account, we are available over the phone or to respond to emails during temporarily reduced office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please continue to pay your sewer bill by mail, use the dropbox, or pay electronically. Instructions on how to make an electronic payment are available on the Township website, on the sewer authority page. These changes will remain in effect until further notice.

At the March Regular Business Meeting, the Board passed a motion to waive penalty and interest posting for the April billing cycle and continue to waive penalty and interest for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency. The Board has also temporarily suspended the water termination policy for non-payment of sewer bills.

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY HOLDS ITS FIRST REMOTE MEETING

The STSA held our first virtual Regular Business Meeting on March 26, 2020, utilizing "Zoom" technology, as advertised in the Erie Times, on the Township website, and posted on the door at the Sewer Authority Building. Our Zoom meetings are open to the public and free to attend. Zoom meetings enable virtual attendance either by telephone, smartphone or computer connections. In addition, the Authority will accommodate interested persons to participate in the meeting using the speakerphone isolated in the meeting room. Please call the office if you would like to be placed on the agenda at the next regular business meeting. The STSA will continue to use virtual meetings until further notice.

OPERATIONS IMPACTED BY PANDEMIC

On April 1, 2020, Governor Wolf announced a statewide stay-at-home order beginning at 8:00 PM. At the same time, the governor issued an order restricting utility construction projects which included water and sewer lines in any related structures. Only emergency repairs may continue under this order. The STSA has and will continue to do maintenance to ensure the system remains functional during this pandemic. If you need to contact the Authority to report a sewer issue, please call the Authority office at (814) 868-4495 and press 6 for more detailed instructions.

Residents may wish to know that larger projects have been interrupted from proceeding as normal, including our Oliver Road projects. However, engineering, permitting, and planning are proceeding.

THANK-YOU STSA EMPLOYEES

The STSA Board and management want to thank the employees for their diligence and commitment during this crisis. For maintaining this essential service during a time where there are many unknowns and certainly more pressures to remain with family. Their commitment over the years is certainly recognized but even more so during this pandemic. We are taking every step possible to maintain the health and safety of both the Summit Township residents and the Authority employees.

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. As a reminder, the Authority offices are closed to the public until further notice. Please call the office if you would like some guidance regarding how to virtually attend future meetings. Be aware that while every effort is being made to maintain "business as usual" this is a period where it is not business as usual. Work is more complicated and time of completion for almost everything is greatly extended. Please consider giving as much advance notice as possible when contacting the Authority. We hope everyone can stay well and this crisis ends soon.

William C. Steff, P.E., Manager

UPDATES TO OUR BURNING PERMITS

A burning permit is required if you are planning on burning tree limbs, vegetative matter, leaves, and brush. This means no burning of garbage, or construction waste, or recyclable materials. Please note that the fire can be no larger than 100 sq. ft. in area and must be contained at least 10 ft. from any property lines and 30 ft. from any structure. The fire must be attended at all times and you must have the means to control or extinguish if need be. Please continue to follow the hours permitted for burning as well as contacting Emergency operations at 814-451-7911 before you burn. Our most recent update to the burning permits is that you only need to update and sign the permit **annually**, not every month. If you have not signed a burn permit recently in 2020 then please stop in the zoning office or email us for an updated permit.

On another note: If you are having a small gathering around a small campfire, a burning permit is not required.

Hello from Robison Elementary School!

Our little world was turned upside down one Friday afternoon. With Governor Wolf's announcement of a two-week closure, it felt as though we were hitting pause on the school year with the intentions of pressing play and resuming our normal path and pace once this short interruption was over. As I watched the last student climb up onto the steps of the school bus that Friday afternoon, I really had no idea that would be the last day that we had all of our students under one roof.

We are a school that is built around connection; our close relationships with our families, students, and community being such a force in our school. How can we remain close to our students when we are no longer able to be close? How can we let them know that we are here for them? Will they have enough food to eat? Will they be able to continue to learn and grow? These were my initial fears, but thanks to the faculty and staff at Robison and FLB, these fears were short-lived.

Our food service department quickly made sure our students had meals provided for them each and every day. Not only has our team worked tirelessly to feed our families, but we have also served and continue to serve any child no matter where they reside. At the end of March, we distributed 1,747 breakfasts and 1,747 lunches at Robison, and district-wide we have distributed 4,360 breakfasts and 4,360 lunches. April is tracking much higher numbers than March and we are seeing a consistent increase each day. Along with meals, many students continue to receive our weekly backpack program providing extra food for the weekends, thanks to the Second Harvest Food Bank and volunteers from Summit United Methodist Church.

Making sure that our students felt loved and supported through this unprecedented time was our next focus. Within those first few days, a YouTube channel was created with new videos being posted each day with messages of inspiration, words of wisdom, science experiments, crafts, yoga sessions, chicken raising tutorials, happy birthday videos, teacher olympics and even a Robison music video for the kids to enjoy. #RESBisonAdventures was created as a way for students and staff to share their bison learning adventures at home; over 100 photos have been shared on our school's Instagram account. Teachers wrote personalized cards and letters, made phone calls, created videos and sent emails in an effort to connect with their students. "Bison to Brag About" signs were delivered early one Sunday morning to surprise our students and let them know we are still celebrating their efforts. Now moving to the virtual platform, teachers are recognizing one student each week for their Google Classroom efforts. A personalized "Principal's Shout Out" video will appear in their individual Google Classroom at the start of the following week.

In an effort to keep our students growing academically, a comprehensive enrichment resource document was created for all grade levels and subjects to assist students in maintaining their academic skills. Teachers quickly learned how to utilize technology and adapted these activities to be presented online. More structured activities were being developed and soon Google Classrooms were launched for all students. To make sure that all students have an opportunity to participate in our online platforms, our technology department has worked to distribute 147 Wi-Fi hotspots and 480 Chromebooks and counting.

We never imagined that our 2019-2020 school year would end this way, but we have already created more than a year's worth of amazing memories. We will continue to celebrate our students' accomplishments, support our families through these uncertain times, and provide instruction to continue to see growth in our students. And though our platform for learning has changed and our vision for this school year shifted, our passion for our profession and our love for our students has only grown. Please know that you are so very missed and so very loved Robison.

Love, *Mrs. Hopkins*, Principal Robison Elementary



PA Unemployment Compensation Questionnaire

Has the 1 week waiting period to receive unemployment benefits been waived?

Yes, it has been waived for the length of Governor's Wolf emergency declaration.

How long will unemployment benefits be paid out through the state?

The length of benefits depends upon each claimant. FPUC is not payable for any week of unemployment ending after July 31, 2020, i.e., the last payable Calendar Week Ending (CWE) is July 25, 2020.

Do I need to apply separately for the \$600 federal payment for unemployment compensation laid out from the stimulus bill?

No. Benefits will be paid with your regular bi-weekly payment.

Is the new 600 weekly federal benefit subjects to state or federal income taxes?

Yes, FPUC is taxable and therefore will be subject to 10% Federal Withholding Tax, if you elected to have taxes withheld from your regular UC or PUA benefits.

Will the \$600 federal payment be paid retroactively to those that have been collecting unemployment compensation since the passage of the bill? When will that Date of retroactivity start from?

FPUC is payable for weeks of unemployment beginning on or after the date on which the state enters into an agreement with the Department. The first week for which FPUC is payable in Pennsylvania is the week ending April 4, 2020. The money will be retroactive to CWE ending April 4, 2020. FPUC is not payable for any week of unemployment ending after July 31, 2020. The last payable CWE is July 25, 2020.

In the event of overpayment to an applicant due to either user or system error, Will this affect the federal payment of \$600

According to DOL, if an individual is deemed ineligible for regular compensation in a week and the denial creates an overpayment for the entire weekly benefit amount, the FPUC payment for the week will also be denied. States may waive repayments of FPUC if the payment was without fault on the part of the individual and such repayment would be contrary to equity and good conscience.



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Supervisors:

Tony Davis, *Chairperson*

Jack F. Lee, Jr.

Mark A. Welka

The Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Supervisors scheduled for Friday, May 1st at 6:00 pm will be held remotely using the Zoom Meeting App. Anyone wanting to offer online public comment must pre-register by email to cyeast@summitpa.us no later than 3:00 pm on May 1st.

Once Upon A Time...

This display is on loan from the VanDyke family of Summit Township. We are grateful for their willingness to share their collection with us.

We need a display for the third quarter of 2020, is there a Summit person, family, organization or business interested? Our goal is to display Summit history for everyone.

Please contact the Summit Township office at 868-9686 if you are willing to loan or donate any items.

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.

