

In the Picnicana Park article on the front page, the end of the first paragraph, a correction needs to be noted.

"No discount is offered during the months of May and October".

There is indeed a 50% discount for all Summit residents for all the months our park is open.

We apologize for the mistake.



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP

FROM THE SUMMIT News

THIRD QUARTER 2021
814/868-9686

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 3
www.summittownship.com



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- September 6th Labor Day (Township Offices closed)
- September 15th Picnicana 2022 Reservations
Open for **Residents Only**
- November 2nd Election Day
(Township Offices closed)
- November 11th Veteran's Day
(Township Offices closed)

GENERAL ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 2, 2021.

- Polls are open on election day from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.
- Last day to register to vote: October 18, 2021
- Last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot:
October 26, 2021

PICNICANA PARK 2022 SEASON RESERVATIONS

Picnicana Park is open from May 1st to October 15th, with fully equipped kitchens and pavilions available for rental. **Reservations for the 2022 Season will be taken beginning September 15th for Summit Township Residents and on October 1st for non-residents**, starting when the Municipal Building opens at 8:00 a.m. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be a number system placed at the front doors and all residents are asked to remain in their vehicles until their number is called. The Municipal Building will not be open prior to 8:00 a.m. These reservations are for Township resident picnics and do not include any company picnics or picnics being booked for non-resident relatives or friends. It should be noted that "walk-ins" at 8:00 a.m. are given priority over phone calls. There's a 50% discount for Summit Township Residents booking an event in the months of June, July, August, and September. Each Summit household is limited to one discounted reservation per season. No discount is offered during the months of May and October.

Note: The 50% discount for resident rates is based on a Summit Township resident hosting a personal function, i.e., Graduation Party, Family Reunion, etc. That resident must be the contact, provide the deposit, and will receive any refunded deposit at their place of residence. A person who is both a Summit Resident and Owner of a Summit Business may host a function for that Summit Business and is eligible for the 50% discount.

MEET THE STAFF

TOWNSHIP: 868-9686

Jack Lee, Jr. -

Supervisor/Chairman/Treasurer/
Dir. Land Development

Mark A. Welka -

Supervisor/Roadmaster

Tony Davis -

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

Lisa Vallimont -

Municipal Secretary

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

Joe Whitmer - GIS/MS-4 Technician

Gina Erbin - Receptionist

THE ROAD CREW:

Mike Hanas - Road Foreman

Darrell Sayers - Garage Foreman

Steve Skelly, Joe Passerotti,

**Larry Hudacky, Jeff Matheis,
Andrew Fox & Joe Malinowski**

WATER AUTHORITY: 864-2323

Bob Mitchell - Manager

Brian Hiles - Assistant Manager

Sean Miller - Foreman

Laura Taylor

Gretchen Hayford -

Office Manager

Kathy Hiles - Administrative
Secretary

Brian Clark, Lisa Culbertson, Zach

Lewis and Adam Wilps - Water
Authority Systems Operators

SEWER AUTHORITY: 868-4495

William Steff, P.E. - Manager

Caitlyn Haener-Schwab -

Administrative Supervisor

Amy McCaslin -

Billing Clerk

Marty McAtee -

Operations Foreman

Chris Hodge -

GIS Specialist/Asst. Project Manager

Andrew Larson, Scott Snyder -

Maintenance Technicians

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:

1st 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

From The Office Of District Judge McGowan

You Be the Judge

On Friday, May 28, 2021, I had the privilege of hosting some special guests. Ms. Vogt, Ms. Doult, and Ms. Hilburn brought the 4th and 5th-grade students from Erie First Christian Academy to our court. We reviewed the three branches of government and the function or purpose each branch has. The legislature passes laws, the executive branch enforces them, and the judicial branch interprets or applies the law to the facts of the cases brought before them.

After a brief overview of the role each branch plays in our system, I presented the class with a hypothetical municipality and a new law that council approved, and the mayor, through the police force, was in charge of enforcing. Simply put, the law stated: "No vehicles in the Park." The class was then broken up into small groups. Each group was presented with a different fact scenario and was to act as judge on the case to decide if the defendant should be found guilty of violating the law.

After discussing the scenarios in their small groups, we then presented the cases to the class as a whole. There were no right or wrong answers. Each scenario was designed to encourage discussion and there were facts favoring conviction as well as acquittal. What I believe the students took away from the lesson was how difficult but vitally important it is to write good laws. What seems clear and unambiguous at first glance may not necessarily be the case.

After going through the different scenarios, I had a question-and-answer period with the students. They were able to ask any questions about the lesson or the system in general.

I really enjoyed meeting and discussing these issues with the students, and I was pleasantly surprised at the insight they displayed and the questions they asked. I must compliment the parents and teachers at Erie First Christian Academy, specifically Ms. Vogt, Ms. Doult, and Ms. Hilburn.

Brian M. McGowan, MDJ

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next deadline for submission of newsletter articles is **October 22nd!** Our next newsletter will be published in mid November.



SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

Veterans Memorial

As you know from the last newsletter, I have been working on a Veterans Memorial in Summit Township. It has been talked about for years, but no one has ever stepped up to push the issue. In the past, I have even offered people to start a committee to develop a Veterans Memorial.

Finding no takers, I asked for the support of my fellow supervisors and township engineer. They agreed and liked the idea. So, a year ago we started shopping and designing the memorial with some local vendors and received pricing. The year of Covid, 2020, had brought all of us, many other challenges too. Now we are well underway and very optimistic that we will have our Veterans Memorial done soon.

We also have a unique idea for personal recognition. We will make this honor available to all Summit residents and their family veterans, past and present (having served one term or more), who have given the ultimate sacrifice of life, or an honorable discharge served.

Summit families who wish to honor their veteran(s) can purchase an engraved brick for the memorial sidewalk at \$25 each. This gives everyone a sense of ownership, pride, and personal investment in the memorial. That also helps cover the cost of personalized engraving. We feel it will look very nice in the courtyard at the municipal building, along with the two flag poles. It will be here for many years to be appreciated by all.

This will be a wonderful addition to honor all Summit Township residents and their family Veterans. Their commitment and sacrifice to America is a huge part of why we appreciate our freedom in the United States and all the good things we can be thankful for.

We also have a photo of an example brick, so everyone can see what they look like. The brick face is 4 inches wide and 8 inches long.

On the engraving form, you can use up to three lines, with up to 13 digits per line (no punctuation). We can email the engraving form to a purchaser or we will have copies at the municipal building. That way, you fill in exactly what you want it to say. The engraved letters are ¾ inch tall.

Please, no personal bricks or business advertising; only Veterans because this is a Veterans Memorial. The brick should have the "veteran's name, armed forces served, possibly conflict served, and possibly date enlisted".

Once a form is filled out and you paid for your brick, our receptionist will date the form and put it in a folder. When we have 30 or more orders, we will drop off new bricks at the engraver with the order forms. We have plenty of extra bricks. When they are engraved, we will pull out solid bricks from the walk and replace them with the engraved bricks. That way the brick walk will always be complete, never incomplete with missing bricks.

Thank you for your time, *Supervisor Jack Lee*

Hello Summit Township Residents,

Hopefully, you are enjoying the wonderful summer weather we have been having and this doesn't mean our winter will be a bad one. We have been very busy this summer around the parks with many upgrades and additions that have already taken place with some yet to come.

Approximately 30 new parking spaces have been added at the west end of Community Park. This should help with some of the congestion during busy sporting events. Thanks to all the guys that helped out with this project, you did a fantastic job! Also, along Ballpark Road the ditch has been tubed and filled in to allow for safer passage in that area. Over the last few years, the erosion has undercut the edges which had become a little tricky to mow around and walk near.

The new ADA swing for Picnicana has been ordered and we are now awaiting its arrival. Hopefully, it will be here soon so we can get it installed with some nice weather left during the park season.

Erie Youth Soccer Association (EYSA) had a successful soccer season. We had to scramble to make a couple of extra areas for them to play due to new grass taking root near the new rain garden

which will add room for several smaller soccer fields next year. I have witnessed the rain garden in action during heavy rainfall and it works quite well which will curtail some of the floodings downstream and reduce pollutants which were its intended purpose.

If you get a chance, take a look at some changes that were made at the front of the Senior Center. After we removed a large mound, some unruly trees, and a large concrete base that was left behind years ago from a fire control antenna, Kim and Rabecca did an awesome job choosing rocks and plants for the landscape. This will also keep groundwater from finding its way under the wall into the building which had been happening in the past.

Lastly, we are looking into composite picnic tables for Picnicana to replace the old wooden tables that have seen better days. Hopefully, these will be ready for next year and will give us many years of service with very little upkeep.

Until next time, take care, enjoy the weather, and be safe.

Best regards, *Supervisor Tony Davis*

Hello Summit Residents,

We have now completed our 2021 sidewalk project connecting Valley View subdivision to Chelsie Drive making it safer for people to walk and ride bikes to neighboring subdivisions. The raised crosswalk was designed as a traffic calming structure to slow vehicles and make crossing Oliver Road safer. We have relocated our solar-powered speed sign back over to Oliver Road at the McKean Township line in an effort to slow vehicles down to the posted 25 mph speed limit. There are so many children that play and travel along this road so please abide by the speed limit and keep an eye out for them.

We will be finishing our paving season with an overlay of Ponderosa Drive and South Hill Road. We should have that finished up by the middle of August. South Hill Road is a shared road between Summit and Millcreek Township. Millcreek agreed to buy the blacktop and we would provide the equipment and labor.

The Elk Creek Road bridge replacement project is winding down and we should see the road open by August 20th. This is also a shared road between McKean Township and us and we share the cost with all major improvements. The bridge was long overdue for replacement and will make for a much safer road to travel.

Take care, *Supervisor Mark Welka*

Paving the path to recovery

By State Rep. Bob Merski, D-Erie

When we return to Harrisburg this fall, continued economic recovery will top the agenda. Although there are more “open” signs lining Erie’s commercial district, our community’s families and small businesses are still clearly feeling the impacts of the pandemic.

To help speed recovery, I recently introduced bills that would:

- *Assist PA’s breweries, wineries, and distilleries.* These vital businesses employ thousands and contribute billions annually to PA’s economy, but many were not eligible for relief under the recently enacted hospitality industry relief program. My bill would create a grant program to provide a funding lifeline.
- *Pump new life into the fitness industry.* Some of our hardest-hit businesses included the local gyms, spas, and fitness/dance studios that were forced to close their doors during the pandemic. My bill would create a grant program to help them get back on their feet and moving again.
- *Help more seniors qualify for a Property Tax/Rent Rebate.* Cost-of-living adjustments can disqualify seniors and others living on fixed incomes who need assistance. To help them remain eligible, my bill would amend the definition of “income” under the Taxpayer Relief Act to exclude COLA increases.
- *Expand tax breaks for military families.* Our state tax code exempts service members from paying taxes on income earned for their service while on active duty inside or outside PA. But those exemptions don’t apply to non-military husbands and wives who live with their active-duty spouses while they are deployed outside the state. My legislation would extend the exemption to these non-military spouses who often face hardships during this time.
- *Help local police departments afford vehicles.* With the pandemic straining budgets and the price of new cruisers an obstacle for many departments, my bill would provide an affordable option by allowing them to purchase used police pursuit vehicles at fixed prices before the state sells them at public auction.



As I work to pass these measures (and others my colleagues have introduced to speed recovery), there is one critical step you can take to help: Make sure you and every eligible member of your family gets fully vaccinated. It’s the only way to ensure that those doors that have opened in our business community remain open.

As always, please remember that my staff is available to help with any state-related matters, from answering questions to assisting with applications for programs and services, including the Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program. Please call my office at 814-455-6319 with questions or to schedule an appointment.

State Rep. Bob Merski represents the 2nd Legislative District.

Summit Community Food Pantry

Hello Summer!

The Summit Community Food Pantry is currently doing yearly sign-ups. This is a requirement for everyone regardless of if you signed up last year and are receiving distributions, or if you are new to the SCFP. All you need is proof of residency in Summit. We continue to do curbside pickup which helps maintain contactless distributions.

Distribution days remain on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 2-4 pm. Late summer and fall are harvest times and if you have an excess of produce/fruit and would like to donate to the SCFP, please bring your items by noon on distribution days. Who doesn’t enjoy a fresh grown tomato, zucchini, or apple? As always, stay safe and well.



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

Here We Grow Again

R. H. RUTKOWSKI INSURANCE recently completed their tenant build-out and opened at 2900 Copperleaf Drive Suite 100. R. H. Rutkowski Insurance Inc. specializes in auto, home, business/commercial, and life insurance.

RISE DISPENSARY opened their new location at 1950 Rotunda Drive and is currently in the land development process with plans to add a drive-through window. Making you comfortable and helping you feel informed is the foundation of every RISE store experience.

U-HAUL recently opened their new location at 2255 Downs Drive. Since 1945, U-Haul has been serving do-it-yourself movers and their households. This location offers moving trucks, trailers & towing, trailer hitches, self-storage, U-Box containers, truck sales, and moving supplies.

NORTHWEST BANK located at 1945 Douglas Parkway recently completed interior and exterior renovations to their building. Northwest Bank started in Northwestern Pennsylvania more than 123 years ago and offers personal and business banking.

BIG WOODIE'S FIREWORKS recently relocated and opened their store at 7541 Peach Street. Big Woodie's offers a wide variety of fireworks, martial arts supplies, and weaponry.

XCLUSIVE WEAR recently opened their new location at 7200 Peach Street Suite 410 and will offer men's and women's fashion

IN THE WORKS:

A&J'S INC., a full-service tree nursery, has started work on their new 4,800 sq. ft. warehouse /office building that will be located at 8405 Old French Road

NEW REALTY, LP, also known as New Motors, has started through the land development process to add a 1,283 sq. ft. auto detail bay to their building located at 8680 Peach Street

THE TRAILS AT FIVE POINTS – PHASE 8 subdivision plan, the final phase of the trails, has started through the land development process and will include 6 new lots on Dorn Road

WALMART has started the process of interior and exterior renovations including the grocery area, pick up area, and restrooms

PERRY PET CLINIC has started the process of building an 840 sq. ft. addition to their veterinary clinic located at 9880 Perry Highway

SHEETZ has started the process of adding electric vehicle charging stations to their location at 8180 Perry Highway

Perry Hi-Way News

RESIDENTIAL FUND DRIVE 2021 UNDERWAY

Just a reminder that the 2021 residential fund drive is still in progress. **To date, we have received contributions from just 31% of our residents.** For those who have given, we thank you. For those who have not yet sent in their donation, we ask you to please send that donation today. We ask for just \$75 per home for an entire year of emergency service protection or less than \$0.21 per day. For those who have a tighter budget please send in what you can afford and for those with a little more generous budget, we say **THANK YOU!** Your donations are used to help meet our operational expenses as listed in last quarter's newsletter. Checks can be made out to Perry Hi-Way Hose Company and sent to the Oliver Road Fire station at 8281 Oliver Road, Erie PA 16509. By working together, we can make emergency services in Summit Township second to None!

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Fall Indoor Flea Market

Sunday, September 26th

At the social hall & truck bays Oliver Road Station

Load in 7:30 am – 9 am

Sales 9 am – 2 pm

Call 814-864-0680 to register for table space

PURSE BINGO

Sunday, November 14th

Doors open at 12 noon

BINGO starts @ 2 pm

TICKETS TO GO ON SALE AUGUST 1st

(Tickets will be on Facebook or in person at the Oliver Road Station)

Watch for updates on our website www.perryhiway.org or follow us on Facebook at Perry Hi-Way Hose Company.

PERRY HI-WAY HOSE COMPANY ACHIEVES RECOGNITION FOR PEDIATRIC CARE READINESS

Perry Hi-Way Hose Company has become a Pennsylvania Emergency Medical Service that has been recognized as meeting the requirements for the advanced level in the Pennsylvania Pediatric Voluntary Recognition Program. This program was developed by the state as a way to ensure all children in the state receive the best possible pre-hospital emergency medical care. The advanced level of recognition requires our EMS service to have all the required pediatric-specific equipment, as listed by the state, carried on all of our licensed EMS vehicles... be it the ambulances, the paramedic truck, or our QRS trucks. In addition, we must also complete and keep on file child abuse background checks on each member who responds to emergency calls. There is also an annual continuing education element that every member who responds to emergency calls is required to have 4 hours of training in pediatric-specific education. Both the paid staff and the volunteers have worked to reach this level of recognition to be sure that we are providing the best possible care to the children we encounter each year. This serves as another benchmark we are using to ensure we are providing excellent emergency services to the Summit Community.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

As we are in the thick of this year's construction season, it is time to start considering projects for 2022. Below are projects that we are currently working on that are slated for construction in 2022.

Walnut Creek Pollution Reduction Plan:

This project is being undertaken for the Township to comply with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit. The permit requirement is to reduce the amount of sediment entering Walnut Creek by 15%. Two existing detention basins have been selected to meet this goal. The first is the detention basin behind Target, and the second is the detention basin behind Advance Auto Parts.

The plan is to retrofit the two existing detention basins to retain more stormwater from the more frequent lower intensity storms. Then after the storm, the retained stormwater will be discharged at the slowest practicable rate to allow for the sediment to settle out of the stormwater. To meet the permit requirement, the construction needs to be complete by March of 2023.

Hamot Road Sidewalk Project Phase 2:

Phase 1 of the Hamot Road Sidewalk project was completed in 2019. Phase 2 will continue where Phase 1 ended. The sidewalk on the north side of Laurie Drive will be extended west to Hamot Road, and the sidewalk on the west side of Hamot Road will be extended south to Marlee Way.

Upon completion of this project, the Township will have met its goal of providing safer pedestrian connectivity between the residential subdivisions in the Five Points area.

Hello from Robison Elementary School!

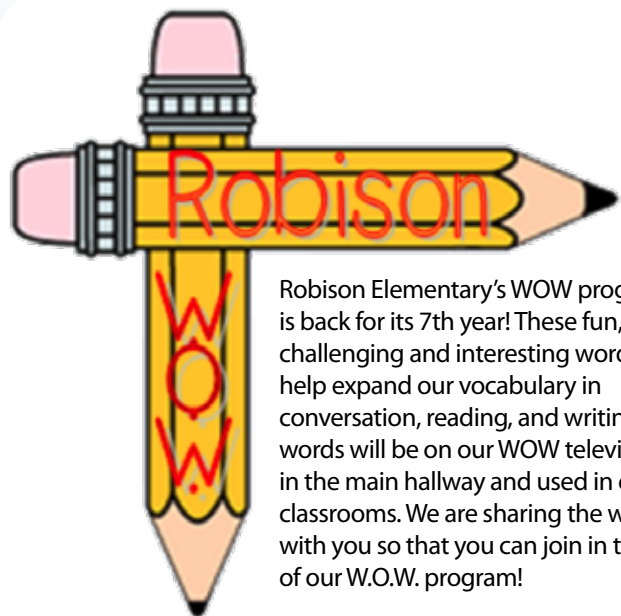
Dear Robison Families,

I continue to be honored to serve as principal of Robison Elementary. As we look ahead to the 2021-2022 school year we are again committed to connection, education, health, and safety.

Though we faced many challenges last school year, the reality is that it has made our school community stronger than ever. Our teachers, staff, students and families have learned to utilize technology that we never could have imagined was even possible. This technology has enhanced our lessons and widened our opportunities for learning. Our school family came together to support and care for each other in a way that strengthened our relationships.

I couldn't be more proud of the way that our Robison family tackled the 2020-2021 school year. When we open the doors to this school year, we will continue our commitment to helping our students grow, learn and succeed in a school that makes them feel safe and loved. Though the world around us feels uncertain, our mission and commitment to you for this upcoming year remains the same.

Mrs. Hopkins, Principal Robison Elementary



Robison Elementary's WOW program is back for its 7th year! These fun, challenging and interesting words help expand our vocabulary in conversation, reading, and writing. The words will be on our WOW television in the main hallway and used in our classrooms. We are sharing the words with you so that you can join in the fun of our W.O.W. program!

Our words are:

September
wordsmith
optimistic

October
confident
resemble

November
sterling
hebdomad

Trick or Treating



Trick-or-treating will be on Halloween, Sunday, October 31, 2021, from 6:00-8:00 pm. If you wish to pass out treats, please have your home's front lights on. Please drive slowly and use extra caution to ensure the safety of our children and their families. Have a safe and fun Halloween!

From the Water Authority. . . .

It's been a hot summer and the month of July has been a wet one. This rainfall has brought up our rain totals so we should be out of the drought stage soon.

The new water line portion of the great five points roundabout has been finished and everything should be back to normal with respect to the water. During the final tie-in, several of our customers had to be notified of service interruptions lasting several hours. I want to thank these customers for their understanding and flexibility during this time.

While I am at it, I need to thank all of our employees for the great job they have done this year. Our office personnel has been busy updating our Rules and Regulations, Employee Handbook, and many other projects to make the office run more efficiently. Many of the annual DEP reports and updates have also been completed. Our field crew has done an outstanding job keeping up with the work that gets put in front of them in addition to all of the required testing and maintenance to keep our system, buildings, and equipment operating smoothly. Add to this, long hours with the waterline relocation and adding everything to the GIS system, our employees have really shined.

One of these projects has been to update our phone system. Now when customers call our office, they have the option of choosing which person they would like to talk to. Emergencies after hours are also handled more efficiently as the call goes directly to the employee on-call rather than through a messaging system.

One item I wanted to have our customers read about are concerns that we're having with access to our water meters.

When your home was built, one of our personnel installed your water meter. At that time, the basement was likely empty giving unlimited access to the meter. As time goes on, many customers have finished their basements, adding walls and dividing rooms. This poses a real problem if the plan doesn't give adequate space to make repairs, check for leaks, or change the meter or pressure reducer should the need arise.

Any time the meter or pressure reducer is removed, a small amount of water drains from the line. We do our best to catch the water using a drain pan or bucket, however sometimes

access is so limited, there isn't enough space to do so.

Please keep in mind that over time, all meters will need to be replaced. When doing so, we need to have access to the side of the meter (not reaching down from the top) with enough clearance for our pipe wrenches and to place a pan or bucket underneath.

If you're planning a remodel or have any questions about what type of clearance is needed, give us a call, we'd be happy to help.

Lastly, I am pleased to announce that we have consulted with a new engineering company. CT Consultants has been a great addition to our team and brings a wealth of knowledge and advice for many of the issues we're experiencing.

Their first assignment has been to address the fire line testing requirements of Parker LORD while having no impact on our residential customers. I'm happy to report that LORD has been receptive to our request for changing the way they test their lines. During the past two quarterly tests, there has only been 1 report of discolored water and 1 report of low pressure. While this is a big improvement, even 1 complaint is not acceptable.

I want to apologize to the customers who did not receive a door knocker alerting them of the July 15th test. I made the decision to announce the test online taking advantage of the Water Authority's Facebook page and the Township's website. Our format of posting door knockers on every home was taking a crew of 3, 2 full days to deliver which is both time and cost-prohibitive. I have taken into consideration all of your comments and concerns. In addition to posting notices where previously mentioned, we will also notify each of the Home Owner's Associations so that additional notices can be forwarded to each homeowner.

Please accept my assurance that the Water Authority is sincerely doing its best to alleviate the situation. I know I can't please everyone, but we are trying and two quarters with a total of only 2 complaints should show that we are making progress.

Have a good end of summer and the start of fall.

H. Robert (Bob) Mitchell, Manager

Prevalence of Ticks in Pennsylvania Is High

The state Department of Environmental Protection has collected twice the number of black-legged tick nymphs as compared to this time last year. This is especially concerning considering the extremely small, poppy seed-like size of the nymphs.

Remember these simple ways to reduce your chances of being bitten by ticks.

- Cover exposed skin with lightweight and light-colored clothing.
- Avoid tick-infested habitats such as areas dense with shrubbery or tall grass.
- Use an EPA-approved insect repellent.
- Once returning home, immediately check yourself, children, and pets for ticks.
- Take a shower immediately to remove ticks that may be crawling on your skin.
- When possible, dry clothing and gear in a dryer to kill any ticks.

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY NEW HIRES



The Summit Township Sewer Authority is pleased to welcome Andrew Larsen to the Authority staff to serve as a Maintenance Technician. Andy was hired as part of the succession planning for when senior operators enter retirement. Andy comes to the Authority with 7 years of experience with Waste Management where he compiled an incredibly detailed transcript of industrial training. It was also with Waste Management where he became proficient in electrical and mechanical troubleshooting, programming industrial computers and variable frequency drives that are integral components at key lift stations here at the STSA. In addition, he has experience in installation and maintenance flowmeters and float level controls as well as Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection requirements for monitoring and reporting at the landfill. Andy graduated from Iroquois High School in 2007, enjoys playing hockey on select and travel teams, and now he and his wife enjoy raising their son. The Authority is happy to have Andy on board!



The Summit Township Sewer Authority is also delighted to welcome Scott Snyder to the Authority staff. This hire was needed to fill the vacancy left by the previous Maintenance Technician. Scott comes to the Authority with a variety of construction experience: sewer and water line installation, repairs to manholes, lateral tie-ins, water retention systems, live connections into water and sewer lines, concrete placement, geographical positioning system, and total robot stationing equipment. His experience with data acquisition, GPS location, and computer aid design are skills needed in maintaining the Authority's Geographic Information System (GIS - This is the system that locates and catalogs every asset in the sanitary sewer system). Scott graduated from General McLane High School in 2009 where he participated in several sports but really enjoyed baseball. In addition, he attended Edinboro University where he was enrolled in environmental studies with a focus on geography and geology. Scott is married and he and his wife are raising their son. The Authority is glad to have Scott join our team!

NOTICE OF RATE INCREASE

At the June Regular Business Meeting, the Sewer Authority Board voted to approve a rate increase of 3.0% or \$1.00 per month for residential customers. The residential sewer rate will increase from \$90.00 per quarter to \$93.00 per quarter. For low-flow commercial customers, the rate increases from \$5.14/1,000 gallons to \$5.31/1,000 gallons. For high flow (>800 gallons per day) commercial customers, the rate increases from \$5.83/1,000 gallons to \$6.02/1,000 gallons. The new rate will be reflected in the September 2021 billing.

Management is implementing rate increases to cover costs associated with ongoing capital improvements on Oliver Road, future capacity projects, City of Erie Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades, and well as inflationary impacts.

PENALTY, INTEREST AND WATER SHUT-OFF REINSTATED

At the May Regular Business Meeting of the Summit Township Sewer Authority, the Board agreed to reinstate posting penalty and interest on delinquent accounts as well as implementing the existing water shut-off policy for non-payment of the sewer bill with the July billing. Previously, the Authority suspended the application of penalty, interest, and the water-termination policy during the initial Covid crisis. Penalty and interest will be applied to delinquent accounts beginning in July.

If any sewer customer has any questions pertaining to the sewer system or billing concerns, please feel free to call the Authority at 814-868-4495 or attend our monthly meeting. Check your Township calendar for Sewer Authority meeting dates and times. If you plan to attend a meeting, please, call and let us know. We will be happy to add you to the agenda. The Authority office hours are currently 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

William C. Steff, P.E., Manager

Senior News

Great news! It's been a long year-plus of COVID and we know how eager many seniors were wanting the Senior Center to open. After much deliberation, it has been decided that the Senior Center will open on July 6, 2021, with certain restrictions in place. We ask that you abide by the rules being implemented to keep everyone safe (to the best of our ability), so we can continue to meet in a safe environment and get back to some sort of normalcy.

President Sue Seyboldt

MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 10, 2021

CONTACT:

Breanna Adams
Director, Environmental Health Services
badams@eriecountypa.gov
(814) 451-6770

Erie County Mosquitoes Test Positive for West Nile Virus

Erie, PA — The Erie County Department of Health confirms that a mosquito group collected in Harborcreek Township on July 28, 2021 has tested positive for West Nile virus. This is the second mosquito group to test positive in Erie County in 2021. This mosquito group was collected at a different site than the previously reported positive mosquito group. At this time no human cases have been reported in Erie County.

Additional monitoring for mosquitoes will be done in the area where this mosquito group was collected. Appropriate control work will be conducted, depending on the number and types of mosquitoes that are found.

Certain species of mosquitoes carry West Nile virus. When transmitted to people, this virus can cause West Nile encephalitis, an infection that can result in an inflammation of the brain. Anyone can get the virus, but older adults and people with compromised immune systems have the highest risk of developing severe illness because their bodies have a harder time fighting off disease.

The public can reduce the number of mosquitoes around their home and neighborhood by eliminating standing water, in which mosquitoes can breed, by following these guidelines:

- Dispose of any refuse that can hold water — such as tin cans, containers, and in particular used tires. Tires have become a prominent place for mosquitoes to breed.
- Drill holes in the bottoms of recycling containers and check uncovered junk piles.
- Clean clogged roof gutters every year, and check storm drains, leaky faucets and window wells.
- Empty accumulated water from wheelbarrows, boats, cargo trailers, toys and ceramic pots. If possible, turn them over when not using them.
- Do not allow water to stagnate in birdbaths, ornamental pools, water gardens, and swimming pools or their covers. Ornamental pools can be aerated or stocked with fish. Swimming pools should be cleaned and chlorinated when not in use.
- Products such as “mosquito dunks” can be obtained from garden centers.
- Make sure window and door screens are “bug tight.”
- Use the proper type of light outside: incandescent lights attract mosquitoes, while florescent lights neither attract nor repel mosquitoes.
- Stay indoors at dawn, dusk, and in the early evening when mosquitoes are most active. If you must go outdoors, wear a long-sleeved shirt and long pants.
- Insect repellants with DEET can be applied (sparingly) to exposed skin and will deter mosquitoes from biting. Spray thin clothing with repellent since mosquitoes can bite through it. Be sure to follow all directions on product labels.
- Mosquitoes are repelled by high winds, so electric fans may provide some relief at outdoor events.

More information is available on the website www.westnile.state.pa.us.

Homegrown Meadows

You may have noticed in recent years less and less singing crickets, chirping birds, and other wildlife as a result of decreasing quality habitat in the northwest PA region. You may have also noticed that, as a consequence of changing climate, irregular weather patterns and increasingly intense storm events are becoming more common. But what can you do to help out?

Pennsylvania is home to more than 2 million acres of lawn, typically comprised of turf grass—shallow-rooted plants that are ecologically of little use. Turf grass takes the place of native grasses, flowers, and other native plants that are better adapted to the local climate and provide an appropriate habitat for the region's wildlife. The way we manage our lawns, too, creates issues, particularly when it comes to stormwater. Turf grass is not equipped to infiltrate water, filter pollutants, or stabilize soil like native plants.

Here are some additional benefits to backyard meadows:

- Reduces stormwater runoff by better infiltration than turf grass, thus recharging groundwater and mitigating flooding
- Filters pollution by slowing stormwater, allowing pollutants to filter out into the meadow's soil substrate
- Provides habitat for pollinators (butterflies, bats, birds, etc.) and other wildlife and increases biodiversity, further strengthening its stability
- Requires less maintenance at lower costs than a traditional lawn

Even greater benefits can be experienced by backyard forests:

- Planting native trees and shrubs provide further water quality and habitat improvement, and doing so along the periphery of your lawn—along fences and other boundaries—reduces mowing space, saving you time and money.

Interested in reimagining your lawn? Check out the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources' Lawn Conversion program (dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/Water/LawnConversion) for planning assistance and potential reimbursement. Reach out to ReLeaf Erie (releaferie.org; ReLeafErie@gmail.com; (814) 453-5323) to participate in their mission to plant one tree for every citizen in Erie County!

For more information and resources on stormwater, please visit the Erie County Stormwater Information webpage (<https://eriecountypa.gov/departments/planning-and-community-development/resources/stormwater-information/>) or the Erie County Planning Department's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ErieCountyPlanning/>).

FROM YOUR SUMMIT TAX COLLECTOR:

Happy Summer!

At the time of this writing, all should have received their 2021/2022 School bill. Discount ends on August 31st. Face has NOT been extended on the school bill and ends October 31st. Penalty of 10% begins November 1. If you have not received your school tax bill, please contact me for another copy.

Any unpaid 2021 County/Township, Interim, and School bills as of November 1st, will receive a reminder bill that they are unpaid. Therefore, all Interim payments after November 1 will be in penalty as will School. The face period is extended to December 31, 2021, for the County/Township bills. Any bills not paid by December 31st will be turned over to Erie County Tax Claim on January 1, 2022, for collection.

Regardless of the circumstance, I cannot accept payment for any other payment period other than the period payment is in. If you are waiting until the last day of a pay period or the last day of the year to pay your tax bills, and your payment is incorrect, it will be returned and then due at the next payment period or be turned over to Tax Claim if the last day of the year. Please double-check your payments for accuracy. If you put a phone number on your check or money order, I can call you to correct your payment. The tax collector has no authority to override the dictates of the Local Tax Collection Law or any State mandates. Payments are always payable to "Summit Twp. Tax Collector" for both CT, School, and Interims, if applicable. My name does not need to be put on also. This information is in the upper left-hand corner of your bill above the bar code. Under the bar code is your parcel ID number. It starts with "40" which signifies the parcel is in Summit Township. This number is the only number you need to identify your property – the Page number is not used. Please send a copy of your bill with your payment. The bar code is used to scan the bill for payment.

If you are fully vaccinated, you do not need a mask. If you are unvaccinated, please wear a mask. As COVID and the new variant are making a comeback, if office hours or procedures need to be adjusted, the information will be posted on the office door and on the answering machine. If you email me at the email listed below, I can answer you even if I am not in the office. I will return your calls outside of office hours as soon as I can. As always, the lockbox may be used at any time. Stay safe and I am looking forward to seeing everyone.

Debra Cameron, *Summit Twp. Tax Collector*

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

Email: summittwptaxcollector@yahoo.com

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

By appointment November 1 - March 1

Summit Lions Club News



Thank you to all those that have donated plastic bags for our recycling program to convert old plastic bags into benches. Our first bench has arrived, it is green and is now sitting in the lobby of the Summit Township Municipal Building waiting to find a home at Picnicana Park. We also assisted the Fort LeBoeuf Leos Club in sending for a bench, which has arrived to be used at the High School. In the meantime, we have submitted an additional 500 pounds of plastic and another bench has been ordered in a slate gray color to be used in the Veteran's Memorial being constructed outside the Township Building. So, at the present time, we have recycled over 1,500 pounds of plastic bags between the Summit Lions and the Fort LeBoeuf Leos Club. We would like to give a shout-out and a big "THANK YOU" to Lion Chris Lynch for organizing the plastic bags, weighing them, and then recycling them so that these benches can be ordered. We are continuing

to collect plastic and recycling it, so in six months we can apply for another new bench for the FLB Leos Club and for the Summit Lions.

This bench project is an example of people coming together and doing a little to accomplish a lot. Each of you are contributing a small amount of plastic and our organization takes that and applies some more work to it and we are rewarded with a bench. This philosophy was behind the organization of the Association of Lions when it got organized back in 1917 by Melvin Jones, who was a Chicago Insurance businessman. Melvin was a member of a luncheon Club called the Business Circle. World War I was close to ending and Melvin saw a need for SERVICE to members of the community. Melvin Jones with the aid of his wife, Rose Amanda Freeman, who was a championship golfer, wrote letters to clubs nationwide. These businessmen converged into Chicago, Illinois on June 7, 1917, and laid the groundwork for the beginning of what is now known as The Association of Lions Clubs International. The name Lions was chosen and it stands for **Loving Individuals Offering Needed Services**. The International Status came into effect in 1920 when the first Lions Club was established in Canada. To this day, a yearly forum is held for training and idea exchanging at the USA/Canadian Forum in September of each year.

So, if you would like to get involved with an "International" organization where each small contribution made within a club makes a difference around the world, contact Lion Janet Mitchell 814-864-9194 or Lion Mary Lou Dubowski 814-796-2167 for details on our Meet and Greet Night being planned for this fall. Follow us on Facebook at Summit Lions Club, Erie PA

Trivia question: Was the Association of Lions Clubs International part of the formation of the United Nations?

Sincerely,

Lion Janet Mitchell, President



SENATOR DAN LAUGHLIN'S POP - UP OFFICE

 **Summit Township Building**
September 14, 10a.m. - Noon
1230 Townhall Road West



community check-in.





1230 Townhall Road West
Erie, PA 16509

Supervisors:

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

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GLASS RECYCLING IN SUMMIT

Summit Township has partnered with Bayfront Glass, LLC to provide glass recycling to Summit Township residents. Bins are placed next to the Township Garage on Old French Road where the old Municipal Building used to be. Please follow the attached use instructions which are also posted on the bins.



Accepted	Not Accepted
Food & Beverage Perfume & Cologne Canning & Candle (remove wax)	Ceramics, Porcelain, China Crystal glass & Stoneware Mirrors & Flat glass Heat-resistant & laboratory glass Trophies & Ashtrays Light bulbs & Tubes
<p>PLEASE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rinse out food and drink Remove caps and lids Labels can stay on 	<p>NO</p> Plastic Bags Plastic Bottles Garbage/Trash Aluminum Cans

Once Upon A Time...

We are holding the Railroad display over for one more quarter to allow more people to see the history of the railroad in Summit.

The display is courtesy of Dennis Mead, Al Notarione, and Ron Stafford who have graciously loaned the Summit History Room these items. The main line was completed to Erie in October 1864. Langdon Station, Sampson Station, and Jackson Station were all railroad stops in Summit.

Next quarter we will feature Summit residents who served in the military past and present, this will be in conjunction with Summit creating a Veteran's Memorial this summer.

Volunteers are in the Summit History room on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 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. Other times and days are only available by appointment.

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



B-class Switching Engine



BRAHEMAN'S LANTERN



RR SPIKE

Switch Lock & Key

DATE SPIKES

