

THIRD QUARTER 2024
814/868-9686

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 3
www.summittownship.com

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- September 2 Labor Day (Township Offices closed)
- September 16 Picnicana 2025 Reservations
Open for **Residents Only**
(See page 19)
- November 5 Election Day
(Township Offices closed)
- November 11 Veteran's Day Observed
(Township Offices closed)



Honor a Veteran ★ ★

Veteran's Day is Monday, November 11. The Summit Township Veterans Memorial has plenty of bricks available! Summit families who wish to honor their veteran(s) can purchase an engraved brick for the memorial sidewalk at \$25 each. What a great way to show your veteran(s) the Respect, Honor, and Gratitude they deserve, not just on Veteran's Day, but every day! To purchase your brick(s), please visit the Summit Township Municipal Building.



GENERAL ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 5, 2024.

- Polls are open on election day from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.
- Last day to register to vote: October 21, 2024
- Last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot: October 29, 2024

ATTENTION RESIDENTS!



If you need an additional recycling toter, stop by the township office Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm; they are free of charge!!

MEET THE STAFF

TOWNSHIP: 814-868-9686

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

Matthew Jonas –

Township Engineer

Joe Whitmer – GIS/MS-4 Technician

Gina Erbin – Receptionist

THE ROAD CREW:

Mike Hanas – Road Foreman

Darrell Sayers – Garage Foreman

Joe Passerotti, Larry Hudacky,

Jeff Matheis, Andrew Fox,

Joe Malinowski, Dan Wilder

& Tim Eliason

WATER AUTHORITY: 814-864-2323

Brian Hiles – Manager

Sean Miller – Foreman

Gretchen Hayford – Office Manager

Kathy Hiles – Administrative

Secretary

Brian Clark, Lisa Culbertson,

Adam Wilps, Chad Miller –

Systems Operators

SEWER AUTHORITY: 814-868-4495

William Steff, P.E. – Manager

Wendy Burbules –

Administrative Supervisor

Amy McCaslin –

Billing Clerk

Chris Hodge –

GIS Specialist/Asst. Project Manager

Andrew Larson, Scott Snyder –

Maintenance Technicians

Hello Summit residents,

We have had a busy year paving and seal coating your roadways.

Hamot Road was paved from the roundabout to Marlee Way. We did not paint the double yellow lines down the center to create a calming effect on this busy section of the township. We have the traffic counter in place to record speeds and daily use and will be interested to see the results.

Old French Road, Johnson Road (West), and Old Perry Highway received a resurfacing of 19-millimeter binder asphalt.

Seal coating of Elk Creek Road, New Road, and Hamot Road south of Marlee Way was completed. Seal coating is done to lock in the emulsions of the pavement to slow the evaporation of the paved surface and extend the life of the roadways.

We hired a new road crew employee who will be starting August 5 as the countdown begins to the retirement of existing staff.

Enjoy the rest of your summer,

Supervisor Mark Welka

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, 6:30 p.m.

Sewer Authority:

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

Water Authority:

1st Tuesday of each month, 9:00 a.m.

Recreation Board:

1st Wednesday of each month, 4:30 p.m.

LeBoeuf Little League:

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

Zoning Hearing Board:

4th Tuesday of each month, 6:00 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: May, September, and November 1–March 1

Be sure to like and follow the official
Summit Township Facebook Page
for up-to-date news and information.

You can find us at
[www.facebook.com/
summittownshiperiecountypa](http://www.facebook.com/summittownshiperiecountypa)
or [@summittownshiperiecountypa](https://www.facebook.com/summittownshiperiecountypa)



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next deadline for submission of newsletter articles is **October 18**. Our next newsletter will be published in mid-November.



SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

Hello, I hope all is well.

I would like to talk about township zoning and communication in this newsletter. If you have a question or hear something you don't understand, please call the office and someone here may be able to give you answers or clarity. We try to help residents and businesses take care of problems, not make problems. The township is here to do the best it can for residents and businesses. Summit Township is far from a rural area with many opinions to work with.

We also receive many complaints about things that are out of our control or we know nothing about. Some people don't understand that supervisors and a township are not the law, but we will help where we can. We can and do enforce zoning regulations and try to maintain peace with the help of local government courts if they are needed.

We have a very busy township. Therefore, occasionally, you have residents who are upset with a neighbor or something else, like PA State Road projects. Working on a situation can be controversial, but we all must work through it. When residents have a personal dispute with another resident, it is usually a civil issue and must be handled one-on-one to resolve the problem or with the District Justice office by filing a complaint.

Municipal or township employees are not allowed on private property. However, most all of our zoning ordinances are complaint-driven by the public. No one just picked them out of the air and decided let's make this a law or an ordinance. Some ordinances are very important, like burning permits. We cannot smoke out our neighbors. Everyone must think

of others. We have too many homes and businesses for that. It can be a safety issue, too. If the fire department is called out on a false alarm, they may not be available for a real emergency.

This township is so busy that we deal with a huge amount of traffic at times. Summit has 15 multiple-lane traffic intersections. Try to plan your personal travel times to avoid the heavy congestion. We are also fortunate that the Pennsylvania State Police are building their new hub beside PHHC fire department on Oliver Road. That will give Summit much more exposure and the presence of PSP in our township. They are the law and do enforce traffic violations. Hopefully, this will be good for all of us and Summit Township State Road traffic.

Working for the government can be challenging. We hear from everyone at times, and they expect answers. Even people who have recently moved into the township, or travelers, school district, and PSP. Many do not realize that Summit is dissected with State roads. Some people feel that we should do favors for residents, businesses, and employees. We are not allowed to with a public money supported government. Remember, if we did for one, we would be expected to do for all. Even myself I do not expect any special treatment and have always taken care of myself and my personal finances. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Thank you,

Supervisor Jack Lee

Hello Summit residents,

It certainly has been a nice summer with just the right amount of rain to keep everything alive. We've been busy this year keeping the parks up to our standard, and I must say I do receive many compliments. Noticeable changes for the 2024 season have been the recently upgraded restrooms at Picnicana. That was just the right touch to complement the other buildings in the park.

Improvements were also made at Community Park. The three ball fields were cleaned up and leveled out. The road crew ran approximately 1800 feet of four-inch diameter perforated pipe to help with drainage around the fields. That should be a great improvement during the wet weather.

Resident's Day went off without a hitch on Saturday, July 27th. The Recreation Board did an awesome job of putting it together; everyone had a great time. The weather could

not have been better, and everyone knows that is always a concern around Erie. I would like to thank the Rec Board for all the hard work they put into the day and also Joe Kuzma for cooking the corn. Everyone enjoyed themselves, and I don't believe one piece of corn was left over.

We're waiting for a final decision on some grant applications for updates to the Picnicana playground and should get the final decision sometime this fall. If the grant is awarded to us, we will be able to replace the existing playground with a much more modern playground with a rubberized surface, eliminating the need for mulch, which needs to be replenished every year.

Until next time, enjoy the great weather and make time for the people who are important in your life.

Best Regards,

Supervisor Tony Davis

FROM YOUR SUMMIT TAX COLLECTOR:

Sweet Summertime!

I absolutely cannot believe how fast summer goes once July 4th is over! The 2024/2025 School tax bills were mailed July 3rd. If you have not received yours, please contact the office for a duplicate. Whatever address you have on file with Erie County Assessment is the address your tax bill will go to. If you need a mailing address change, contact Erie County Assessment at 814-451-6225. If you are planning on paying with the three equal installments, please read the back of your bill for information. Installments are based on three EQUAL INSTALLMENTS, which means all 3 are the same – DO NOT change the amounts even by a penny. The amount due for each installment is on the front of your tax bill. Each installment has a due date. You cannot pay two installments together. Paying all three installments by their due dates equates to the same amount you will pay if paying in full by end of Face, which is October 31. Any installment that is late is charged a 10% Penalty. Please do not send any payments certified for signature through the USPS. If the certified letter is not delivered during business hours, it will not get to me. Saturday, August 31, is the last day to pay the 2024/2025 School bill at 2% Discount. Payments must be postmarked through the USPS on that day or before to be paid at Discount. You can use the lockbox at any time. I suggest paying your bill in the office or using the lockbox. As you all know, the postal service lately has not been reliable. PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE NUMBER ON YOUR CHECK. If your payment is incorrect, I can contact you in enough time to correct before the end of Discount.

If you are selling or purchasing a mobile home, the following need to be presented to the notary at the time of transfer. If these are not presented, the notary

should not transfer. You must have paid receipts for the current tax year by the seller as well as a Tax Lien Certificate from Erie County Tax Claim showing no delinquent payments. This is to protect the buyer, as mobile homes are handled differently than “stick-built” homes. Any outstanding taxes are transferred to the new owner. Having a Tax Lien Certificate ensures that there is a “clear” title. Also, at the time of transfer, make sure the notary fills out and notarizes the County of Erie Manufactured/Mobile Home Change of Ownership Form. This is the ONLY way taxes are transferred. Title transfer does not change the tax roll. This should then be taken to Erie County Assessment, Room 104, at the Courthouse. If you are transferring property, any Homestead Exclusion on that property ends. You must re-apply for the Homestead Exclusion for your new property. You can obtain an application on the Erie County Website eriecountypa.gov.

Enjoy the rest of summer. Be safe, have fun!

Debra Cameron
Summit Twp. Tax Collector
1754 Townhall Rd., West
Erie, PA 16509
(814) 866-2653
Email: summittaxcollector@yahoo.com

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday, 10 am–2 pm
Monday evening 5–7 pm
By appointment May, September
November 1–March 1

Here We
Grow
Again

IN THE WORKS:

PILOT TRAVEL CENTERS has started the process of installing charging stations at their 8035 Perry Highway location.

FLAGSHIP FIREWORKS, LLC has started the process of constructing a new commercial building located at 8107 Perry Highway.

Summit Community Food Pantry

Welcome Lazy Days of Summer!

For most of us, this time of year is what we dream about all winter long. Fresh fruits and vegetables abound, whether from our home gardens or at stands from a farm. If you have any excess produce and would like to share, please take it to the next distribution day. Sign-ups are currently going on. You must sign up each year. Please bring ID and proof of residency to the next distribution day. Don't forget to check out our Facebook page under "Summit Community Food Pantry." You can connect with other people, sharing recipes, ideas, and much more. Remember to stop and smell the roses. There's always something to be grateful for.

We continue to have curbside pickup. Distribution days are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 2:30–4pm. **Please do not line up for the distribution until 2pm as the Municipal Building is open for business and leave space between cars so staff can get in and out of the parking lot. Thank you!**

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



Kiwanis[®] CLUB OF FORT LeBOEUF

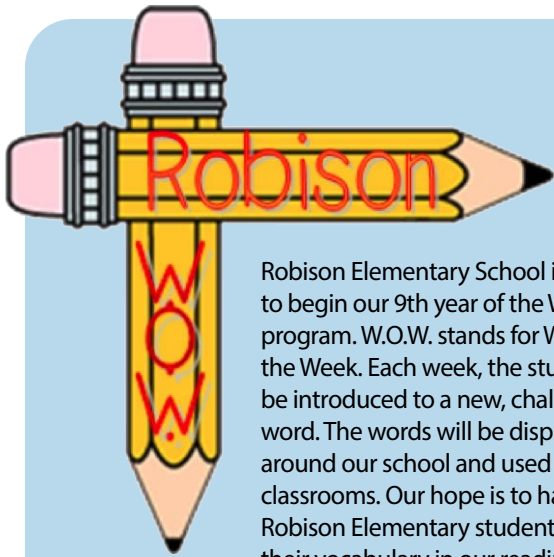
In June, we held our largest event, Spring Fling. Over 100 kids were able to use power tools to construct either a candy dispenser or squirrel picnic table. Attendees also got to pet Therapy Dogs, compete in a top spinning contest, run an obstacle course, shoot a large water balloon slingshot, make several craft items, and enjoy several other stations.

It will soon be Waterford Fair time, and our club is getting the paintbrushes and garden tools ready to spruce up a few areas. Kiwanians are repainting and sealing the gazebo and bleachers for the nightly concerts. We are also cleaning up the flower beds outside of the home shows. One of our favorite events happens on Wednesday during fair week. We escort all of the 3rd graders from all three FLB Schools on a field trip through the barns and exhibits. Fair representatives engage the students in discussions about animals and agriculture. The students then write essays about what they saw and we pick a winner from each school. Look for the poster with the picture of our 2023 winner, Adelle Kirner, from Robison Elementary, in the Home Show.

This Fall, we will also be working on packing placement bags for children entering the Foster Care system. Often, these children are moved with only the clothing on their backs. We will be tying up some blankets at All Saints Church on September 19 and packing up bags at a later date. If you would like to contribute new clothing, diapers, pajamas, or toiletries for a child, please reach out to our club via email at kiwanisflb@gmail.com. We are also collecting new or gently used children's books to distribute throughout the year. If you have any infant-teen, please contact us for pickup.



Stewart shows off his candy dispenser. You may notice District Justice Brian McGowan and son Liam assisting in the background.



Robison Elementary School is excited to begin our 9th year of the W.O.W. program. W.O.W. stands for Word of the Week. Each week, the students will be introduced to a new, challenging word. The words will be displayed around our school and used in our classrooms. Our hope is to have Robison Elementary students expand their vocabulary in our reading, writing, and class work. 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
perennial
sylvan
largesse
aplenty

October
splendiferous
expedite

November
magnificent
sleuth

Trick or Treating

Trick-or-treating will be on Halloween, Thursday, October 31, 2024, 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.

Happy Halloween!

Have a safe and fun Halloween!

Cut out and mail to:
Lion Janet Mitchell, 8530 Parson Road, Erie, PA 16509

Child(ren)'s name: _____

Adult's name: _____

Address to send tickets to: _____

Number of tickets needed _____
@ \$8.00 per ticket

Amount paid \$ _____

*Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Everyone needs a ticket to attend.*

Family Fun Event On September 15th
From 1 p.m. til 6 p.m. at Sunview Golf



The event includes the following:

- * 18-hole miniature golf course (1 time),
- * Hot dog, drink and cookie.

Cost per tickets is \$8.00 per person.
Adult golfer must accompany child(ren) golfers.
For more information call Lion Janet Mitchell, at 814-450-0018.





Summit Seniors Enjoy TO INFINITY AND BEYOND



August 8 marked the **26th Annual Summit Senior Citizens Picnic!** Everyone enjoyed the live music provided by Cherry Bomb and all the annual activities, including lunch, bingo, ice cream sundaes, and door prizes.

Lunch was catered by Serafin's, who provided a delicious buffet that the seniors absolutely loved.

Again, Presque Isle Downs and Casino was the primary business sponsor of this year's event. Thank you so much, Presque Isle Downs; we couldn't have done it without your help!



We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our **State Representative Bob Merski** for donating several gift card door prizes and providing information to our seniors throughout the day.

Thank you **Wasielewski Farms** for donating delicious corn on the cob, and **Joe Kuzma** for cooking the corn in his kettles. Thank you all so much for your generosity!



This year **Perry Hi-Way Hose Company** Fire Chief Kip Hayford came with his Medic and EMTs and provided free blood pressure screenings and "professional" bingo calling! Thank you so much for your service, it was very comforting knowing you guys were there.

Most of all, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Summit Township staff for working tirelessly to make this event a huge success.

*Michelle Nesselhauf,
Event Coordinator*





PROPER USE OF 911 / EMS SYSTEM

The EMS system (ambulance system) in Erie County and across the Commonwealth is experiencing problems with providing care in a timely manner.

With fewer people choosing to become EMTs and paramedics and declining volunteer members, the ambulance system can be overburdened quite easily. One of the reasons for this is the use of the ambulance and the 911 system for non-emergency type responses. Calls for stubbed toes, small cuts, dental pain, sore throats, colds, and chronic conditions do not need an ambulance to transport you to the hospital. Many of these ailments can be treated at an urgent care facility or by your family doctor / PCP. Last year in Erie County, there were over 10,000 calls for an ambulance for these types of non-emergent ailments. Use of the ambulance for these “non-emergency events” ties up the ambulance, so it is not available to respond to heart attacks, strokes, traumatic injuries (car/motorcycle crashes, stabbings, and shootings), or overdoses and respiratory/cardiac arrest—emergencies where time can mean the difference between life and death.

Lots of people think that taking the ambulance to the hospital will get them into an ER room and cared for faster. **This is not true today.** All ambulances arriving at the Emergency Room are screened by the complaint and vital signs provided by the EMS crew. Many times, people will be directed to the triage room for the nurse to see them and then into the waiting room until it is their turn to be seen. This can be a long or short wait, depending on the types of ailments and numbers of people being treated in the Emergency department. The hospital will triage all people presenting to the ER, and the sickest people with the most urgent conditions/problems will go first.

Before calling 911 for the ambulance for a minor problem, please ask yourself if the problem can be cared for at your doctor’s office or an urgent care center. Ask yourself if a family member, neighbor, or an Uber or Taxi can get you to where you need to go for your minor problem. Ambulances only transport to hospital Emergency Departments. If the ambulance is being used for a non-emergency event, it will not be able to respond to a more serious emergency. Let’s try not to overtax our emergency system with non-emergency type calls.

Help us help you. Use 911 responsibly.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

PURSE BINGO

Sunday, November 10

Doors open 12 noon | BINGO starts @ 2 pm

TICKETS TO GO ON SALE AUGUST 19

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

FALL CRAFT FAIR

Saturday & Sunday December 7 & 8

Load in 7:30 am – 9 am

Open to public for sales 9 am – 4 pm

Kitchen will be open for food

Call 814-864-0680 to sign up for a table to sell

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

2024 RESIDENTIAL FUND DRIVE IN PROGRESS

Just a reminder, the 2024 Residential Fund Drive is in progress. As of the writing of this article, we have received contributions from just 29% of our residents. The cost for emergency services should be shared by all residents and not just the few residents that have donated. There is currently no fire or EMS tax levied in Summit Township. For those who have given, we thank you.

For those who have not yet sent in their donation, we ask you to consider sending a 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. If you have not made your donation for 2024, PLEASE send your donation today. Checks can be made out to Perry Hi-Way Hose Company and sent to the **Oliver Road Fire station, 8281 Oliver Road, Erie, PA 16509.**

By working together, we can make sure emergency services in Summit Township are available when needed!

PERRY HI-WAY HOSE COMPANY

Celebrating 75 Years of Service to the Summit Community

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, September 22, 2024

12 noon till 5pm

Oliver Road Station

- Fire equipment displays, fire trucks, ambulances
- Smokey Bear, Freddy the Fire Truck, Bounce House, and fire safety trailer
- Other local agencies will be on hand to provide information
- Come out to see your fire department, meet the members, and have some refreshments (Hot dogs, chips, and a piece of cake)

Hope to see you there!

PERRY HI-WAY HOSE CO. COST OF EQUIPMENT

TO OUTFIT FIREFIGHTERS

Most people do not realize the cost associated with providing a member (paid or volunteer) with the protective equipment to keep them safe when responding to emergency alarms. The costs today are much higher than just 5 years ago.

Protective Fire Equipment	Protective Rescue Equipment
Fire coat \$1900.00	Rescue coat \$1600.00
Fire pants \$1500.00	Rescue pants \$1300.00
Fire helmet \$420.00	Rescue helmet \$175.00
Fire boots \$395.00	Rescue boots \$275.00
Fire gloves \$110.00	Rescue gloves \$65.00
Fire hood \$185.00	
Total cost per Firefighter - \$ 4,510	Total cost per Member - \$3,415
Total cost to outfit 1 member in complete safety gear for fire & rescue - \$7925.00	

We currently have a total of 26 members (16 paid staff and 10 volunteers) who provide fire and rescue services at Perry Hi-Way. We have another 4 members who provide fire police duties. As you can see, the cost to outfit our members is quite costly, over \$200,000.00. Luckily, the fire gear will last 10 to 12 years, and the rescue gear will provide service for 15 to 17 years, depending on the use and abuse the gear receives.

FOR TOOLS / EQUIPMENT

Once the personnel are in their protective clothing, they need equipment to perform their duties, be it fire, rescue, or EMS (ambulance) these tools also come with a hefty bill.

Fire	Rescue	EMS
SCBA (air pack) \$7,800 each	HURST JAWS of Life \$85,000 set	Med bag & supplies \$900 each
Hose 1.75" \$3,500 per truck	Air Bags for lifting \$32,000 set	Cardiac monitor \$35,000each
Hose 3" \$4,000 per truck	Rope Rescue \$6,500 set	LUCAS device \$32,000 each
Hose 5" \$9,500 per truck	Air Cart air tools \$3,200	Power cot \$26,000 each
Nozzles (8 per truck) \$8000	Air chisel \$1600	AED \$1600 (x5) in department
Haligan bars (2) \$300 each	Haligan bars (3) \$300 each	Portable suction \$1,400 each
Axes (2 flat 2 pick) \$400	Rescue Struts (x6) \$1,900 each	Splints/license \$1,500 each
Vent Fans (4) \$4,000 each	Portable generator \$2,100	Supplies \$2,000 per ambulance

These are just a few of the tools and equipment we use in the performance of our duties in protecting Summit Township.

All these tools and equipment will be on display at the open house to celebrate 75 years of service on Sunday, September 22, 2024, from noon until 5pm at the Oliver Road Station, 8281 Oliver Road.

At Robison,



We believe in the power of connection. When students have a strong sense of belonging to their school, it can significantly impact their motivation, engagement, and overall success.

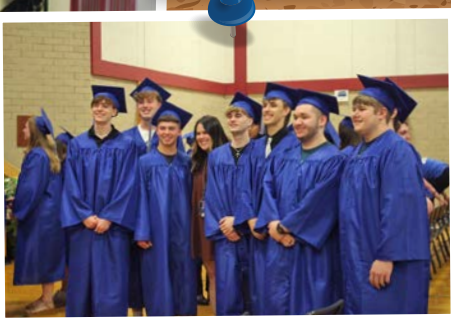
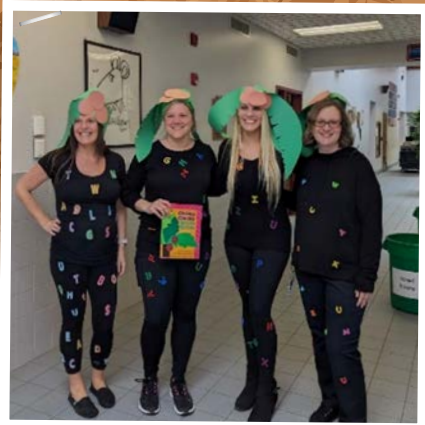
Throughout the year we celebrated and acknowledged successes and growth at our quarterly assemblies. Students were able to shine when they took to the stage at our Disney Musical, RES Talent Show, Thanksgiving play, and Alphabet Fashion Show. We were able to celebrate with our families at our Family Color Dance, Halloween Runway Show, Pizza Bingo, Breakfast with Santa, and Trunk-or-Treat events. Many theme days throughout the year bring joy to our students and staff and keep us smiling and laughing.

We keep this strong connection for years to come as our graduating seniors come walk the halls of Robison one last time. At the 2024 Senior Walk, we shared many hugs, pictures, tears, laughs, smiles, and stories as our seniors visited their Robison family one final time before graduating.

I am proud of the growth we have seen this year from our Robison students, those here in our building as well as our FLB seniors.

Your Proud RES Principal,
Mrs. Hopkins





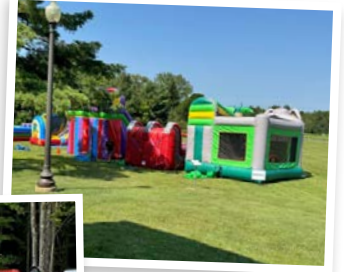
Resident's Day

What a beautiful day for Resident's Day this year! Hot dogs, nachos, corn on the cob, slushies, pretzels, s'mores, and popcorn made for a tasty night of food and snacks. There are many people to thank that make this day possible, but it would take up too much space to individually thank them all. So, to everyone that helped, from planning to set up, to serving, to tear down, we thank you so very much!

The bounce houses were a hit again this year, with five different ones for children of all ages. Residents had the opportunity to win prizes playing Bingo run by our seniors, as well as the opportunity to learn disc golf and compete in a corn hole tournament. The residents were also able to learn from our Perry Highway Hose Company folks and see the ambulance and fire truck up close. We ended the evening with the newer movie "If" under the stars. We look forward to another fun resident's day next year and hope to see you all!

The Parks and Recreation Board has a Facebook page, and we would love for you to join to know what's happening. This page is strictly for informational purposes to keep you up to date on the many things going on in our parks and the many improvements being made. If you have concerns or questions specific to the parks, we suggest you join us in a meeting. We would love to have you!

The Parks and Recreation Board



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY

Moore Road Well #4 Receives DEP Permit

On June 13, 2024, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued a Public Water Supply Permit for the operation of our newest well on Moore Road. This is the final step in a project that began over 4 years ago and increases our production capacity by an additional 360,000 gallons per day. More importantly, it enables us to supply portions of the township that lie outside of the Great Lakes Watershed with municipal water and improve safety by adding fire hydrants.

Old Hershey Road Pump Station Upgrades

Our main booster pump station, located on Old Hershey Road, was placed into service in the early 1990s, and after 30+ years of continuous operation, the time has come for some major upgrades. Beginning this fall, a small addition will be constructed to allow for an upgraded electrical service and the replacement of the pumps to new, more energy-efficient models.

We'd especially like to thank U.S. Representative Mike Kelly for supporting our 2024 Community Project Funding request.

Fire Hydrant Maintenance

Do you know of a fire hydrant that needs maintenance or a fresh coat of paint? If so, give us a call at 814-864-2323 and let us know.

Go Green. Go Paperless.

Customers who would like to receive their water bill via e-mail rather than through the mail can do so by calling our office at 814-864-2323 to sign up.

There is no charge for paperless billing, and you are not required to pay online. Payments can still be made with cash, check, or card through the online portal, first-class mail, or in person.

Reminders of upcoming due dates will be sent to your email.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Brian Hiles, Manager

A year of progress and promise for Pennsylvania

By State Rep. Bob Merski, D-Erie

As we continue to enjoy the warm embrace of summer and making lifelong memories with family and friends, I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on several forward-thinking initiatives we have been working on both at home and in Harrisburg.

I am ecstatic to share the significant strides we've made in enhancing the overall quality of life for every resident of Erie County. Our collective efforts have culminated in the passage of the 2024–25 Pennsylvania state budget, a testament to bipartisan cooperation and a commitment to the well-being of all Pennsylvanians.

This budget, signed into law by Gov. Josh Shapiro on July 11, 2024, marks a historic investment in our state's future, including a \$1 billion+ investment in our Commonwealth's education system. It includes substantial funding for economic development, K–12 and higher education, public safety, and workforce development. These investments are designed to create more opportunities and enhance the quality of life for every resident of our Commonwealth.

In addition to the budget, we've made significant progress in other areas. We secured nearly \$700,000 to increase the availability of safe, affordable housing and \$200,000 in grants to promote digital literacy. Our efforts to improve public safety and mental health resources in Erie schools have also been bolstered by nearly \$1.4 million in funding.

We also received some welcome news at the federal level. In late July, the U.S. Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office approved a conditional loan worth up to \$186.2 million to fund the establishment of a plastics recycling plant in Erie. This facility is projected to convert approximately 160,000 tons of post-consumer plastic waste per year into about 100,000 tons of recycled plastic, which will replace virgin plastics. The project is expected to generate 334 construction jobs, with 304

State Rep. Bob Merski, D-Erie,
represents the 2nd Legislative District



of these positions located at the Erie facility.

Moreover, I am proud of the measures we've adopted to analyze and regulate artificial intelligence, ensuring that this technology benefits our community while safeguarding our values. These initiatives reflect our commitment to addressing both current needs and future challenges.

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program application deadline extended through end of 2024

Early in 2024, the Pennsylvania General Assembly and Gov. Shapiro collaborated in a bipartisan effort to expand the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. This expansion increased the maximum rebate to \$1,000 and raised the income eligibility cap, allowing more seniors to take advantage of the program. The deadline to apply for a rebate on rent or property taxes paid in 2023 has been extended to Dec. 31, 2024, giving eligible Pennsylvanians plenty of time to apply.

The initial batch of payments from the expanded Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program was issued on July 1, with approximately 442,000 payments totaling about \$266 million. The state Department of Revenue will continue to process and distribute payments as applications are approved.

Our office is prepared to assist with the application process for the enhanced Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program and other state-related services. For assistance, answers to your questions, or guidance, please contact us at 814-455-6319.

As we move forward, I remain dedicated to working with my colleagues across the aisle to deliver results that matter to you. Together, we can continue to build a brighter, more prosperous future for Pennsylvania.

Senior News

It has been a great summer! Many of our members are sharing their fun time with their grandkids. We will once again be having hamburgers and hot dogs off the grill on the first Tuesday in September. We will also be back to chair exercise twice a week and Bingo starting in September.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

President Jan Birkner



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

As of June 30 this year, the US had been hit by 1,282 tornadoes. (We average 1,194 tornadoes per year.) And to help you, here are a few tips on how to stay ready for — and survive — a tornado.

1. Know where to take shelter

The safest place in any home is the interior part of a basement. If there is no basement, go to a room in the center of the house, with no windows, on the lowest floor. This could be a center hallway, bathroom, or closet.

Choose the safest place in your house, and make sure everyone knows to go there as soon as they hear a tornado warning.

2. Get away from windows

Regardless of where you're hunkering down, at home or not, stay as far away from windows as possible. Even if a tornado doesn't hit you directly, wind or hail could shatter windows, and if you're nearby, you could get hurt.

3. Put on your shoes – and a helmet

If a tornado is bearing down, prepare for the worst. Put your shoes on, because if there's damage, you could end up walking through shards of broken glass, nails, splintered wood, and more.

And if you own a bike helmet, put it on. When a tornado sends everything swirling, your helmet could save you from life-threatening head trauma. In fact, it's a good idea to keep a helmet in your car, in case a tornado hits while you're on the road.

4. Don't try to outrun a tornado in your car

Sometimes people hear a tornado is coming, and they try to drive away from the area. Don't do that.

The worst place to be during a tornado is in a motor vehicle. Cars, buses, and trucks are easily tossed around by tornado winds.

5. If a tornado hits when you're already in your car...

If you get caught in your car, NEVER hide under a highway overpass. They can act as a wind tunnel, actually increasing the speed of the wind. Plus, they can become a "debris deposition zone." So you could be slammed by tons of debris (including other cars).

If you see a tornado, stop your vehicle and get out. Don't get under your vehicle.

If there's a building, get in it. If there aren't any buildings around, follow these directions for seeking shelter outdoors:

- Avoid vehicles.
- Avoid areas with lots of trees.
- Lie down flat in a gully, ditch, or low spot on the ground. (It helps you avoid getting hit by flying debris.)
- Protect your head with an object or with your arms.

6. Keep your pets on a leash or in a carrier, and bring them with you

They're a part of the family, so plan on them joining you while you shelter. Make sure their collar is on for identification purposes, and keep them leashed if they're not in a crate.

If your home is damaged by a tornado, it might not be familiar to them anymore, and they might get loose. Be sure to get them to a safe place or put them in a crate while performing clean-up.

7. Know your tornado weather terms

When crazy weather hits, it really helps to know WHAT the weather service is trying to warn us about. Here's a quick explanation of the terms they use... and what they mean for you:

- **Tornado watch:** Conditions could lead to severe thunderstorms and multiple tornadoes in and around the watch area.
People in the affected areas are encouraged to be ready for severe weather.
- **Tornado warning:** Spotters have sighted a tornado or one has been indicated on radar, and it's hitting the warning area (or is about to).

When a tornado warning has been issued, people in the affected area are strongly encouraged to take cover immediately.

- **Tornado emergency:** A tornado warning that carries with it a "tornado emergency" is the rarest and is reserved for the most dangerous situations.

The National Weather Service says this is only issued "when there is a severe threat to human life and catastrophic damage from an imminent or ongoing tornado."

When you hear this: GET READY right away.

These will help you and your family develop a "tornado survival" plan. You can never be too prepared!

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF RATE INCREASE

At the June Regular Business Meeting, the Summit Township Sewer Authority (STSA) Board voted to approve a rate increase of 3.2%. For residential customers, the increase is \$1.00 per month. The residential sewer rate will increase from \$93.00 per quarter to \$96.00 per quarter. Accordingly, commercial customer rates will also increase. For low-flow commercial customers, the rate increases from \$5.31/1,000 gallons to \$5.48/1,000 gallons. For high-flow commercial customers (those using more than 800 gallons per day), the rate increases from \$6.02/1,000 gallons to \$6.21/1,000 gallons. The new rate will be reflected in the September 2024 billing. The last rate increase was 3.3% in 2021.

Management recommended the rate increase in anticipation of the loan payment to Pennvest for the Oliver Road Project. Currently, the project is approximately 50% complete. When finished, the STSA will be paying \$65,218 per year to Pennvest for 20 years to retire the \$2,264,000 loan. In addition, the STSA will be faced with future payment to Millcreek Township for the proposed Kearsarge Force Main Replacement Project. The payments to Millcreek Township have not yet been calculated. As information becomes available on future borrowing, we will continue to keep the customers informed via the quarterly Township Newsletter.

ENNIS SUBDIVISION SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT

After examining the entire Ennis Subdivision collection system in 2021, the Summit Township Sewer Authority (STSA) has identified 4 locations on Laurel Drive and 6 locations on Greentree Drive that require replacement. The remaining system was found to be in excellent service condition.

After receiving a \$70,000 grant through the COVID-19 ARPA PA Small Water and Sewer Program in January 2024, the STSA prepared and issued contract documents for a public bid. At the May Regular Business Meeting, the STSA awarded Mansfield Sanitation Services, LLC, the lowest of 5 bidders, a \$232,500 contract to repair fractured and failing pipes at the various locations in the Ennis subdivision. This is strictly a maintenance project, and there will be no additional cost to the sewer users.

The contractor expects to begin work on or about August 5, 2024, and intends on working from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The contractor has until November 1, 2024, to complete the work. Please exercise caution in and around the construction site as work progresses.

STSA RULES AND REGULATIONS REVISIONS

Revisions to the Rules and Regulations were approved by the Board at the April 2023 Regular Business Meeting. The revisions focused on financial security for anyone working on the public sewer and bars any unqualified individuals or contractors from performing any work on the public sanitary sewer. The exact language is available at (<https://summittownship.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Sanitary-Sewer-System-Rules-and-Regulations-2024.pdf>). The following sections were modified as follows:

- a. Section 811 - Financial security for restoration was expanded upon.
- b. Section 812.1 - Establishes qualifications for contractors intending to do the connection to private and public sewer mains, i.e., installation of the wye.
- c. Section 812.2 - Establishes qualifications for contractors intending to construct private laterals.
- d. Section 812.3 - Establishes qualifications for contractors intending to construct public sewer extensions.

William C. Steff
P.E., Manager

DOGS

Now that we're in the summer months, my office is getting more citations regarding dogs. As a reminder, it is the obligation of the owner and/or keeper of any dog to always keep the dog in the following manner: 1) confined within the premises; 2) firmly secured by a collar and chain or other device so that the dog cannot stray beyond the premises; or 3) under the control of some person. Essentially, the dog must be kept within the premises. No exceptions, defenses, or excuses.

Any person who has been attacked by a dog, any person whose domestic animal has been killed or injured by a dog, the State dog warden, or local police officer may file a complaint at the Magisterial District Court accusing the owner of harboring a dangerous dog. If the dog has either:



1) inflicted severe injury on a human being without provocation on public or private land; 2) killed or inflicted severe injury on a domestic animal while off the owner's property; 3) attacked a human being without provocation AND the dog has either: 1) a history of attacking human beings and/or domestic animals without provocation or 2) a propensity to attack human beings and/or domestic animals, then the Magisterial District Judge shall find the owner guilty of harboring a dangerous dog. The propensity to attack may be proven by a single incident.

Upon finding an owner guilty of harboring a dangerous dog, the dog shall be considered dangerous, requiring the owner to register the dog as dangerous. Thereafter, the dog shall be kept in an enclosure. If not in the enclosure, the dog must be muzzled and restrained.

One-year dog licenses are good from January 1 through December 31. You can obtain them at the Summit Township office. Please be a considerate dog owner.

Brian M. McGowan, MDJ



Engineer's Report

Waste Management has completed the culverts on Zwilling Road, Footmill Road, and Benjamin Road. With any construction project, there were unforeseen obstacles and some inevitable delays. However, the end result turned out great. Thanks to all the residents in the area for their patience and understanding throughout the project. The culverts that were replaced will serve the Township well for the next 30-plus years.

The Township has submitted a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for the Multimodal Transportation Fund. The application is to enhance safety and pedestrian flow in the Upper Peach Street area by filling sidewalk gaps. We have been collaborating with the Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority (EMTA) to find bus stops to upgrade with shelters. The primary goal of the grant application is to enable people to walk safely to their destinations—whether they arrive at a bus stop, stay at a hotel, or choose to walk instead of driving between parking lots. We hope to find out if this project, as well as the other projects I have discussed in the past (Old Zuck Road culvert, Downs Drive paving, and Picnicana Playground), gets funded around November.

Zwilling Road Culvert. Top before construction. Bottom after construction.



SAVE THE DATE!
2024 Native Tree & Shrub Fundraiser

When: Launches early Aug.
 Orders taken until Aug. 27

What: Plant native trees and shrubs to improve local stream health and turn your yard into a wildlife wonderland.

Plants are sold in 1, 2, or 3 gallon pots.

Proceeds from the sale support watershed improvement efforts in the community.

Shrubs

- bottlebrush buckeye - 2 gallon
- sweet pepperbush - 2 gallon
- Northern bayberry- 1 gallon
- black chokeberry - 2 gallon
- purple raspberry- 1 gallon
- elderberry - 2 gallon
- snowberry - 2 gallon
- lowbush blueberry - 1 gallon
- nannyberry - 2 gallon

Trees

- red buckeye - 2 gallon
- river birch - 2 gallon
- honey locust - 2 gallon
- American sweetgum - 3 gallon
- hop hornbeam - 3 gallon
- American plum - 2 gallon
- swamp white oak - 3 gallon
- silky willow - 2 gallon
- bald cypress - 2 gallon

Costs

- 1 gallon pots: \$20
- 2 gallon pots: \$30
- 3 gallon pots: \$40

For more information:

nkm5342@psu.edu
 #717-240-6500

**Master Watershed
 Steward Program**





2024 Household Hazardous & Electronic Waste

Collection Days

Starting at 9:00am

March 23	9333 Tate Rd, Erie, PA 16503
May 25	1001 Atkins St, Erie, PA 16503
June 15	36 Bessemer St, Albion, PA 16401
August 17	9333 Tate Road, Erie, PA 16503
October 19	1230 Townhall Rd. Erie, PA 16509
November 16	9333 Tate Road, Erie, PA 16503

ACCEPTED CHEMICALS



- Paint/workshop products
- Automotive products
- Cleaning products
- Lawn & garden products
- Pesticides
- Every type of battery
- Every type of light bulb/tube
- Flammables
- Pool chemicals
- Mostly any other chemical under your sink or in your garage

ACCEPTED ELECTRONICS / FREON



- TVs
- Computers, & Laptops
- Printers
- Phones
- Window AC Units
- Dehumidifiers
- Mini Fridges
- Microwaves
- Gaming Devices
- Any device with a cord, screen or circuit board

\$0.50/LB FOR ALL ELECTRONICS AND CHEMICALS
\$5.00/LB FOR PROPANE CYLINDERS

REGISTER

www.nobleenviro.com

Call: 412-567-6566



PICNICANA PARK 2025 SEASON RESERVATIONS

Picnicana Park is open from May 1 to October 15, with fully equipped kitchens and pavilions available for rental. **Reservations for the 2025 Season will be taken beginning September 16 for Summit Township Residents and on October 1 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 on the rent for Summit Township Residents booking an event. Each Summit household is limited to one discounted reservation per season.

Note: The 50% off resident discount is offered to 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% off discount.



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP RECREATION FACILITY

Contact: (814) 868-9686 or gerbin@summitpa.us

RATES - RULES & REGULATIONS - GENERAL INFORMATION

	WEEKDAY				WEEKEND				
	REGULAR KITCHEN		UPGRADED KITCHEN #3		REGULAR KITCHEN		UPGRADED KITCHEN #3		
	ONE Pavilion & Regular Kitchen	TWO Pavilions & Regular Kitchen	ONE Pavilion & Upgraded Kitchen #3	TWO Pavilions & Upgraded Kitchen #3	ONE Pavilion & ONE Regular Kitchen	TWO Pavilions & Regular Kitchen	ONE Pavilion & Upgraded Kitchen #3	TWO Pavilions & Upgraded Kitchen #3	TWO Pavilions & Kitchen #1 & Kitchen #3
Rental Rate	\$375.00	\$525.00	\$475.00	\$625.00	\$525.00	\$725.00	\$625.00	\$825.00	\$875.00
Security Deposit	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Total	\$525.00	\$675.00	\$625.00	\$775.00	\$675.00	\$875.00	\$775.00	\$975.00	\$1025.00

Note: Two Pavilions and Three Kitchens Rental Amount = \$1300.00 Rent with \$200.00 deposit



1230 Townhall Road West
Erie, PA 16509

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Erie, PA
Permit No.279

Supervisors:

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

Once Upon A Time...

We are celebrating Perry Hi-Way Hose Company's 75th Anniversary this quarter.

Perry Hi-Way Hose Co. was started by a group of Summit residents. They worried about the length of time it was taking for emergency services to come from Erie and neighboring communities when there was a fire, accident, or medical emergency. So, they got together to solve the problem and formed PHHC.

Besides the display, we have more information and photos in the History Room.

The Summit History room is open Thursdays 9 am to 11 am. Other times and days are available by appointment.

Is your Summit group interested in using the display case? Also, we are accepting donations or loans of items for display. We welcome new volunteers. Please contact the Summit Township office at 814-868-9686, and we will return your call.

