

Cranberry **TODAY**



WINTER 2019

COMMUNITY UPDATES

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**KEEPING
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SAFE**



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Cover Photo: Cranberry Township Police Chief Kevin Meyer

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SAFETY



KEEPING UP WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Private investment in new home and business construction in Cranberry continued at a vigorous pace during 2018. Just through October, the estimated construction value had already reached \$116 million – about half residential and half commercial – and on track to become one of the Township's biggest years ever.

Through its system of code reviews, Cranberry has taken care to manage that growth and steer it in the direction visualized by the Township's comprehensive plan. However, to keep up with its growth and the service demands that has led to, the Township has also been making significant investments in its transportation, recreation, and utility infrastructures.

Here are some highlights to watch for in the new year:



MSA Thruway. This underpass, designed to cross beneath busy Rt. 228, will carry northbound traffic exiting I-79 as well as traffic from Cranberry Woods, directly north to Cranberry Springs, Cranberry Crossing, and Cranberry Commons. Once completed, the Thruway is expected to open the way for improved traffic circulation along the Rt. 228 corridor. This year will see the relocation of utility lines at the start of the project; next year will see the installation of a modular precast con/span bridge.



UPMC-Cranberry Mall. A crash last year damaged the 35-year old traffic light at St. Francis Way and Rt. 19, prompting the Township to put in a temporary replacement. This year will see the installation of a permanent and more sophisticated signal including new poles, a pedestrian crossing, and a protected left turn arrangement for traffic leaving the Mall.



Turnpike bridge. Initially planned to have been built last year, this bridge project was postponed in order to resolve issues involving rights of way. Once completed, it will relieve a major Freedom Road chokepoint by adding more thru and turning lanes as well as a pedestrian sidewalk. Expect to see preliminary work involving utility lines this year and the installation of the bridge itself in 2020. The plan will allow traffic movement along Freedom at all times.



Burke Road. Burke Road's intersection with Franklin Road is an uphill grade that impedes sight lines and creates a safety hazard. This year, that part of Burke will be reconstructed to improve safety along the roadway. Burke Road serves as the primary access to Walden Pond, Lakeview Estates and Crystal Springs neighborhoods.



Rochester Road widening. Last year, a new lane was added to Rochester Road between Rt. 19 and the Municipal Center entrance. This year, as part of a traffic mitigation requirement connected to the Meeder development, the developer will extend the new lane as far west as Graham School Road.



I-79 Bridges over North Boundary Road. When I-79 was being repaved last year, inspectors discovered that the highway's bridges over North Boundary Road were structurally deficient. The remedy will involve replacing the permanent bridges, one this year and the other in 2020, while traffic is shifted to a temporary span. Installation of the temporary bridge will require the closing of North Boundary Road during three weekends this year.



Adaptive signals. Hardware and software for the final phase of Cranberry's transition to adaptive traffic signaling along its key arterial roads is now in place. Segment-by-segment testing and rollout of the system will occur throughout the year. Adaptive signals are designed to ease the flow of vehicles by being more responsive to changing traffic conditions.

TOWNSHIP'S 2019 BUDGET

HOLDS THE LINE ON

The General Fund portion of Cranberry's expense budget – the part that includes most of the services people associate with local government – is projected to come in at just under \$23.5 million for 2019, a six percent increase from 2018. Revenues are expected to rise approximately three percent, covering all operating expenses, but with a fund balance transfer of \$2.9 million to help finance budgeted capital expenses. No tax rate changes are included.

The annual budget priorities, which adhere to the vision articulated in Cranberry's updated comprehensive plan and provide the resources to implement the fire company's 2016 strategic plan, fully fund the state-mandated police pension program and continue the fiscal practices that earned the Township Moody's top credit rating in 2018.

A significant share of the budget is focused on maintaining assets that Cranberry already owns, particularly its more than 125 miles of roadway, its 187-mile fresh water distribution network, and its 198 miles of sanitary sewer collector and interceptor lines. Funding to create the new position of assistant public works director to oversee the Township's waterworks utilities is also included in the budget.



General Fund capital improvement projects in 2019 include money to help support CTCC's library upgrade, traffic signal enhancements, a reconstruction of the Burke Road-Franklin Road intersection, replacement of lighting at the Waterpark, and site preparation for newly acquired property adjacent to the Public Works building.

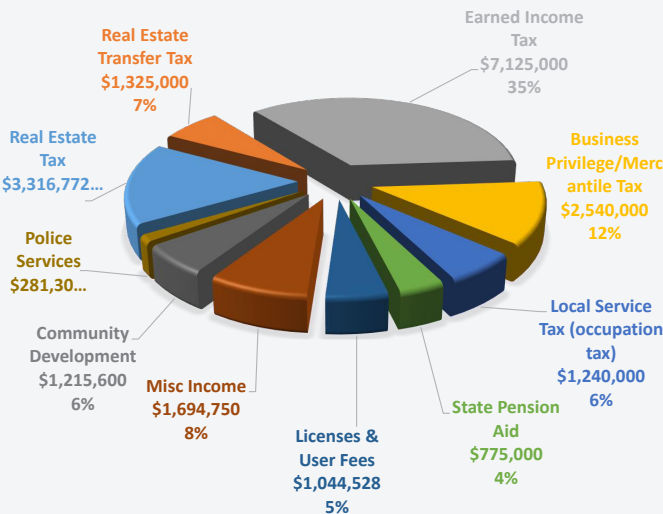
Field lights and possibly synthetic turf for North Boundary Park soccer fields, an upgrade of the Rt. 19 intersection at St. Francis and the Cranberry Mall, and funds for the MSA Thruway – an underpass that will ease the north-south flow of traffic beneath Rt. 288 – are also included, as are an upgrade to a wastewater pump station, a rehabilitation of Municipal Center parking areas, and a replacement of the Cranberry Highlands golf cart fleet.

The pie charts below break down the sources of General Fund revenue and categorize the fund's expenses. In addition, the Township operates five Enterprise Funds – sewer, water, trash, swimming and golf – which are financed by user fees rather than tax revenues. Their total expenses for 2019 are budgeted at \$45.6 million.

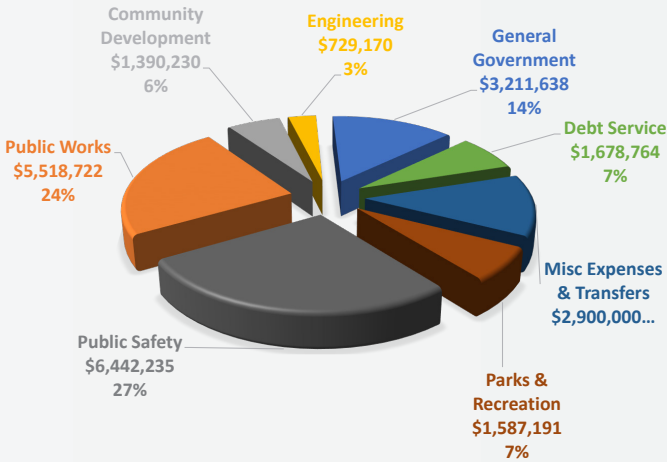


More information on the 2019 Cranberry Township Budget:
CranberryTownship.org/Budget

2019 BUDGET REVENUE



2019 BUDGET EXPENSE



RE-IGNITING THE FIRE COMPANY

By John Skorupan, Supervisor, Cranberry Township



Cranberry is about to launch a major initiative with its fire service – inviting volunteers to bunk-in overnight so they can respond immediately to 9-1-1 calls – and our Board is doing everything we can to make that a success.

It involves a lot of moving parts, and it's a direct result of the Fire Company's 2016 strategic plan, but here's the essence of why it's happening:

Volunteer fire companies all over the country are in trouble; they aren't getting the firefighters they need. Sixty years ago, when Cranberry's own volunteer fire company was formed, most people here lived and worked within earshot of the siren. Most of them weren't as busy with scheduled activities as people are today, so they were more likely to be available when the alarm went off. And besides, it didn't go off all that often, once or twice a month, tops.

Today, our fire company gets more than two calls a day on average, and they're for all sorts of things – auto wrecks, hazardous material spills, gas leaks, water line breaks, animals – sometimes even fires.

Back in the day, most of our volunteers didn't have much formal fire training, but they were determined and resourceful in carrying out their duties, most of which, as it turned out, involved raising money to support the enterprise. However by the early '80s, as the erosion of volunteers became a serious issue, the Township assumed the fire company's financial responsibilities so that its volunteers could focus on emergency work instead of fundraising.

The following decade, for the same reasons, the Township hired a full-time administrative assistant to handle the record keeping, grant seeking, and other paperwork associated with the fire service. More recently, the Township extended its support for the fire company to include a fire prevention administrator, a recruitment coordinator, and a risk reduction coordinator, as well as a Chief of fire and emergency services.

All of this has two main goals. The first is to become better in dealing with emergencies – to reduce their incidence, to respond more quickly, and to be more effective when they do occur. The other is to preserve our fire company as a volunteer organization – to have it remain an authentic reflection of our community and to save the very significant staffing cost of a full-time career firefighting service.

During the next few months, the Rt. 19 Park Fire Station expansion will be complete. It was built to make the fire service a more appealing element of its volunteers' lifestyle. It will have dorm-style sleeping rooms, a kitchen, a lounge, an exercise area and accommodations for those whose day jobs allow them to work remotely. And members of the fire brigade can now choose to stay overnight in the fire station instead of being summoned from their homes to respond to every incident.

Will the new system work? We're optimistic. The fire company did a small-scale beta test of the bunk-in concept at its Haine School Station late last year, and the results were encouraging. So we're hopeful. At the same time, we are well aware that the arc of history for America's fire service has increasingly bent toward full-time career firefighters, particularly in growing municipalities like our own. Even so, we are determined to do whatever we can, for as long as we can, to maintain the community character and volunteer backbone of Cranberry's exceptional fire company.

You can reach John Skorupan at john.skorupan@cranberrytownship.org.



Cranberry Township Police conduct Active Shooter Awareness training for local faith-based organizations.

WHEN THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS AREN'T ENOUGH

Houses of worship are generally regarded as sanctuaries – places of refuge from the tumult of daily life.

But recent events have made clear that churches, synagogues and mosques are not exempt. In fact, in the eyes of a deranged individual, they may actually be seen as targets of choice because they serve as gathering places for the sort of people the shooter hates and led by clergy whose views they despise. Consider the Emanuel church in Charleston or the Tree of Life synagogue in Squirrel Hill.

The vulnerability of faith communities to violent attack has been very much on the minds of religious leaders in Cranberry as well. The potential conflict between providing security, on the one hand, and welcoming strangers to a house of worship on the other, is an issue that Township's police department are actively working to resolve.

On two evenings in November, dozens of local clergy attended a 90-minute session on Active Shooter Awareness Training, specifically tailored to leaders, pastors, volunteers, ushers, greeters and employees of local churches. The mission of the seminar, which was held in Cranberry's Public Safety Training center, was to teach people how to react, survive and cope if a violent attack were to materialize.

One measure, for example, would be for clergy and lay leaders to carry cell phones to the pulpit, to the pews, to the classroom and anywhere else on church grounds; alerting



police to trouble at the earliest possible moment can be critical. Another would be for church-goers to familiarize themselves with all of their building's exits and to make certain that each of them can be opened quickly to allow for an escape. Finally, if someone does enter and opens fire, leaders should urge those assembled to run away if they can, to barricade themselves inside if they can't, and, if all else fails, to use anything they can get their hands on to fight off the assailant.

Police tactics for dealing with active shooters have continued to evolve as mass casualty incidents occur. "In Columbine, 20 years ago, students were locked down and told to cover their heads like it was a tornado drill," Police Chief Kevin Meyer pointed out. "Now it's a more SWAT-like response." ALICE is an acronym that security professionals currently use to capture the most recommended response steps: Alert authorities, Lockdown and hide; make Informed choices; Challenge the attacker; Escape the building.

Even before a hostile event takes place, however, the faithful should refer any threatening messages they receive online to police. And church leaders should use their congregation's bulletin, website, social media, classes and pulpit to keep worshippers informed of any security protocols that might apply to them.

Come Together
LET'S
UNDERSTAND
EACH OTHER'S
BELIEFS



SUNDAY JANUARY 27, 2019

EMAIL DIVERSITY@CRANBERRYTOWNSHIP.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Cheers!

DRUNKEN DRIVING IS FALLING OUT OF FAVOR

Surprise! America's long-running and heavily-promoted advice about the dangerous mix of drinking and driving has taken finally hold, at least according to a study conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA.

The study, published in 2015 and conducted at 60 different sites around the country during 2013 and 2014, followed similar studies held in 1973, 1986, 1996, and 2007. And, according to a separate 2017 report from PennDOT, that decline has continued in Pennsylvania.

The national study was particularly impressive. It found that 35.9 percent of drivers had some level of alcohol in 1973. But the corresponding number had dropped to just 8.3 percent by 2013-2014. Drivers with a blood alcohol content of .08 or greater, which is the nation's threshold for drunken driving, saw a whopping 80 percent decline.

Still, the numbers are sobering. In 2016, 10,497 Americans died in vehicle accidents involving drunk drivers, accounting for 28 percent of all U.S. traffic deaths. That same year, more than a million other motorists were arrested for driving under the influence. As a result, efforts to spread the word about avoiding



drunk driving, choosing a designated driver, and using taxis or ride-sharing services, will need to continue. But educational campaigns are not alone.

Law enforcement efforts have increased, including in Cranberry. Among them: the use of sobriety checkpoints along with DUI-targeted saturation patrols by local police. The Township has invested in specialized DUI training for its officers. And its toolkit for identifying driving impairment has been expanded and improved. Those efforts are being backed by tough state license revocation and suspension laws. And automotive technology, including ignition interlocks installed on vehicles owned by people convicted of drunken driving, have helped to reduce the incidence of repeat DUI offenses.

"I think we're making strides," Cranberry police corporal and DUI specialist Bill Och observed. "But in Pennsylvania, we have a per se violation. That means if your blood alcohol concentration is over .08, the Commonwealth automatically

determines that you're impaired. They don't listen to arguments saying you're not impaired after .08, even though the more-than-recreational drinker builds up a tolerance to the alcohol in their system."

Holidays, however, are typically the most dangerous times. That's when celebrations involving alcoholic beverages spike, and so do traffic fatalities. The statistics for this past holiday season are not yet available, but nationally, over the previous five years, an average of 300 Americans died in drunk driving crashes during the week between Christmas and New Year. Other holidays have also been marred.

If you're out drinking, NHTSA has developed a free app for Android and iPhones. It recognizes that if you're too drunk to drive, you're probably too drunk to use a complicated app. So its home screen has just three big buttons: Get a taxi, Call a Friend, and Where am I? With a little pre-programming, you can get home safely even if you're in no condition to drive.



DIAL 9-1-1 FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMS SERVICES IN CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP.

The Butler County 9-1-1 Center manages all requests for service and support.

Call 9-1-1:

- when you lock your keys in the car
- to report a suspicious vehicle or person
- if you witness a car accident
- if you wish to speak with an officer
- if you are a victim of, or witness a break-in
- to report a fire
- about a domestic dispute
- to report a missing person
- to report a drunk driver
- if you witness littering or loitering
- when you witness people yelling, screaming, or fighting
- in a medical emergency

BAD BOYS, BAD BOYS...

WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THEY COME FOR YOU?



Being a police officer is tough work. It's physically demanding. It's stressful. And it's the community's first line of defense against some really unsavory characters. Beyond that, TV news is always full of stories about how some officer's poor judgment somewhere led to a bad outcome, giving law enforcement everywhere a black eye.

Typically, most citizens don't have much contact with the police until something awful happens. So the associations they have with law enforcement are frequently tainted with fear. As a result, people may be less likely to call the police for help when it's needed, and less likely to share important information with them – all of which makes it more difficult for officers to keep people safe.

For children, however, the problem is frequently aggravated – often without the parent being fully aware of it – when a mom threatens her own child with arrest or worse at the hands of police unless the child's behavior improves.

"Each of us has had the experience where parents bring children into the lobby or stop you on the street or catch you in passing, then point to you and tell their child: 'See, he's coming here to take you away.' Or 'If you don't stop, they're going to arrest you,'" Police Chief Kevin Meyer recalled with a sigh of resignation.

"Or you're walking by Walmart in uniform and the parent will say 'See, if you don't be good, he's going to take you away!' And they're laughing. Most of the time they're joking. They're really good people, but they don't understand the ramifications of what they're saying.



"Two weeks ago, they dragged a 7-year old in here who was fighting with his brothers and sister so that we would yell at him and tell him he's bad," Meyer continued. "Then yesterday, someone called 9-1-1 for police assistance because her 16-year old son wouldn't get up for school."

"We will talk to your 16-year old about using drugs," Sgt. Chuck Mascellino pointed out. "But some people expect us to get their child out of bed so he won't miss school. Our message is to stop using the police to discipline your children. We're not the bad guys; we're the good guys. Don't portray us – especially to young kids – as bad guys."

"We don't want negative stuff that scares kids so they don't come to us for help. People usually see us on one of their worst days. We don't want them to think about us that way; we're here to help everybody.

"We're in the schools daily. We do visits. We do scout tours. We do all kinds of stuff to try to encourage that. And one little comment like 'they'll take you to jail,' destroys all that," Mascellino said. "When I was over at the preschool, there was a child in tears because the weekend before, an aunt at a party at one of the pavilions in the park saw the police drive by and said that. That's all it took. People need to be out there telling kids: 'hey, they're police; they're your friends.'"



"We don't want negative stuff that scares kids so they don't come to us for help."





FIRE COMPANY IS **RIGHTSIZING** ITS FLEET

How many fire engines does it take to protect a growing community like Cranberry? According to Fire and Emergency Services Chief Dave Gallagher, it takes one less than we have today.

At least that was the outcome of the fire company's decision to optimize its fleet by trading in four of its current fire trucks – two pumpers and two aerial towers, each of which firefighters insist on calling 'apparatus' – and buying two new engines and one tower ladder truck in return.

One key part of their decision was driven by the age of the current fleet, which includes a mix of newer and older trucks. While the service life of a new fire engine can be as long as 20 years, some of the company's vehicles are already approaching the end of their economic lives. At least they are for their first owners. However, once the dealer rebuilds and resells them to another fire company, their lives can extend many more years.

For Cranberry, however, there is more

than just the vehicles' age behind the replacement plan. "By implementing this fleet replacement plan now, we manage the life cycle of the fleet in a more controlled manner," explained Chief Gallagher. "One of our strategic plan recommendations highlighted the need for this type of fleet plan."

All three of the new trucks will be built by the same vendor, standardizing the fleet in a way which it does not now enjoy. "So when I get in a fire engine, it's the same as the other fire engines," CTVFC Chief Dave Mack said. "They all have the same layout. The controls are in the same place, which simplifies training and improves firefighter safety. Also, their driving characteristics will be similar because they're going to be identical."

Buying a fire engine is different than buying a car; you can't just walk into a showroom and drive home with a new vehicle. Fire trucks are largely made to order, and in some cases, an order can take as long as a year to fulfill. As a result, the trade-ins and

delivery of Cranberry's new engines are staggered to take place over the coming year and into 2020.

Technology is another factor in the replacement plan. "We have a 100-foot tower ladder that's 50 feet in overall length – it's a really long truck," Mack said. "There are places it just can't go – especially in some of the newer communities. So we bought a smaller truck that can go into those places. In the meantime, since we bought it, they now have fire trucks with the 100-foot reach we want, but they do it in 43 instead of 50 foot length. It will fit into areas where the larger truck would not. So we'll actually have one truck that gives us all the capabilities we have today with two. It's these design advances that allow us to reduce our fleet by one vehicle."

It's not cheap, of course. But after trading in the four trucks against the three new ones, the tab comes to \$1.3 million – about a million less than without the trade-ins.



THERE IS NO
GREATER *feeling*
THAN SAVING A **LIFE**



Volunteer with the Cranberry Township Fire Company
CTVFC21.org • Contact@CTVFC21.org

DOC WATKINS DRILLS DOWN ON RECRUITMENT

For more than 20 years, while serving as a volunteer firefighter, Dave Watkins maintained a solo dental practice in Cranberry – a practice he merged into a larger managed care group several years ago. But while general dentistry is important and gratifying work, it wasn't his dream job. That job, which also draws on expert dental knowledge, was to be part of a team doing forensic identification of bodies from their dental records.

"My motivation for doing that was the crash of the USAir flight down in Hopewell," Watkins recently recalled. "It's something I always wanted to get into, so I took a class in forensic dentistry with the Armed Forces Institute for Pathology. They were involved with the airline crash and the Murrah federal building that was bombed in Oklahoma City."

"I did some work for Cyril Wecht, doing forensic identifications when he was the Coroner of Allegheny County. I still do some work for him because he consults for some of the surrounding counties."

For a few years, Watkins actually held the position of Deputy Coroner in Butler County, a post which put him in touch with others in that esoteric specialty. "I got the chance to meet Thomas Noguchi, who was the LA County coroner for a long time. He was a pretty cool guy. I met a bunch of the big names in forensics at the time. But I never really got a solid footing into the niche because Western Pennsylvania didn't have a lot of forensic dentistry that had to be done."

Growing up in Bradford, where the rhythms and responsibilities of Small Town America still carry a strong

influence, Watkins had an exceptional role model – his dad. Not only was his father an accomplished surgeon, he was also pillar of the community, serving on the civil service commission, the school board, heading the McKean County EMS council, and more.

His example exerted a powerful impact on all four of his children, each of whom went on to lives and careers marked by a devotion to community service. But Bradford, with fewer than 10,000 residents, simply wasn't big enough to support their ambitions. For Dave, following graduation from Washington & Jefferson College, Pitt's School of Dentistry and then a year-long residency at the Erie County Medical Center, it involved finding a suitable place to establish his practice. In 1989, that led him to Cranberry.

Like his dad, Dave Watkins is a strong believer in giving back to the community that supports him. This past November marked his 20-year anniversary as a member of the fire company, which he joined in 1998 and served as a Safety Officer since 2001. Even before that, he joined a citizens'

committee which studied ways to increase fire company recruitment. Joining the company himself two years later, he made it his mission to implement the committee's recommendations, many of which are still in place.

But volunteer recruitment remains a pressing issue for fire companies, all across America. And Cranberry is taking major steps to ensure its fire protection, no matter what happens. "That's what I like about our strategic plan. I'm in support of what we're doing. I see the logic to it. Because what we did 20 years ago may not allow us to serve our community in the way we need to serve them now."



STOP THE BLEED!



During two in-service school days this past fall – Columbus Day and Veterans Day – Cranberry EMS partnered with Harmony EMS and UPMC to train nearly 600 Seneca Valley Teachers and staff members how to stop an injured person from bleeding to death. It's not hard to learn, and it takes only about 45 minutes of training, but can be a critical lifesaving skill.

That's because bleeding to death can happen quickly. If the hemorrhaging isn't stopped, a person can bleed to death in just five minutes. And, if their injuries are severe, that time may be even shorter. Worldwide, between 1 and 2 million people die each year from blood loss resulting from trauma and other causes.

However in many cases blood loss, or exsanguination as it is clinically known, can be stopped with the use of a tourniquet – essentially anything you can strap around the affected area to compress the blood vessels and staunch the blood flow to buy time for medical professionals to arrive with more aggressive treatment.

"This was the largest group of folks collaboratively that UPMC had trained," Cranberry EMS Director

Jeff Kelly explained. "Other school districts have done the teachers or the health professionals. We trained everybody who works for the District: clerical staff, administration, everybody."

During the Seneca Valley training, ten breakout stations were formed, allowing everyone to place a tourniquet on themselves for self-rescue, and to place a tourniquet on someone else. Then they were shown how to pack a wound – another important lifesaving skill.

"People die every day because bleeding isn't controlled, either because they don't have the right equipment or the right knowledge about what to do," Kelly said. "It's not just about the guy that comes in and shoots up your school or stabs your kid; it's about your husband doing something stupid with a chainsaw and nicks his leg, or your kid gets impaled on a bike and has

a significant bleed. You could have a wood shop injury. You could have somebody fall through the glass in the cafeteria and is now bleeding all over the place. So this training is for everyday use."

"The goal of this program is to place a tourniquet on every police officer's belt in the country and to put Stop the Bleed kits everywhere where there's an AED cabinet," Kelly said. "In fact, Cranberry's police department was the first fully-trained department in Western PA. But lots of things can be fashioned into tourniquets. If you don't have a commercial tourniquet available, can you make your own. A week or two after we completed training our police department, we had a shooting on Marshall Road. The first arriving officer placed a tourniquet on that patient and saved their life."



Do Not Knock Registry Bars Door-to-Door Sales Calls

Online signup for 2019 is now available to Cranberry residents.

Unless your property is prominently posted with 'No Trespassing' or 'No Soliciting' signs, anyone is free to approach your house and knock on your door. Many such visitors, including delivery services, petitioners and candidates for public office, union organizers and religious groups are legitimate, constitutionally protected and frequently welcome. But others, although legal, are not always welcome – particularly if they're fundraising solicitations or sales calls for products, subscriptions, or home services.

Cranberry has placed restrictions on door-to-door sales calls for many years including the requirement that solicitors be licensed by the Township police department, that they display their license when making calls, and that they limit their solicitations to certain defined hours.

Starting last year, Cranberry extended those protections to residents as well as to licensed solicitors by maintaining a Do Not Knock registry. Residents who sign up for it are put on a list, which is updated at the beginning of each week and distributed to licensed solicitors. It directs them not to approach the addresses on that list or risk having their license revoked and face possible trespassing charges.

However, the registry is only valid for one year at a time. Anyone who signed up last year for the 2018 registry will need to re-register in order to extend their participation through 2019.



Uh, oh!

If you forgot to pay your 2018 Butler County/Cranberry Township or 2018/2019 Seneca Valley School District real estate taxes by December 31, you're going to have to deal with a higher authority. That's because delinquent tax accounts have been turned over to the Butler County Tax Claim Bureau at 724-284-5326. However, if your taxes have already been paid, you can help yourself to a discount when your next County/Township bill comes out in early March by paying it before April 30. Also, if your home is your primary residence and you fill out the Homestead application form you received from the County and send it back, it will save on your 2019/2020 school property taxes. Questions? If you have changed your mortgage company or no longer using an escrow account to pay your property taxes, contact the tax collector's office at pj.lynd@cranberrytownship.org or call 724-776-1103 to arrange payments.



Got Drugs?

A drive-thru collection of expired and unneeded drugs behind the Municipal Center this past fall yielded a whopping 230 pounds of medication in just four hours. And that doesn't count the additional volume deposited in the police department's lobby collection vault. The two programs, which share the objective of keeping potentially harmful drugs away from possible misuse, are actually run by separate agencies. The twice-yearly drive-thru is a project of the federal Drug Enforcement Agency, which is tasked with disposing of them. The inside collection – which is available any time during regular office hours – is run by the Butler County District Attorney's office. Neither program involves collecting any information from users.



Local Heroes

Thirteen-year old Alex Kovac was riding his bike in the Freedom Square shopping center one afternoon in October when he hit a curb, fell, and found his leg impaled on a bicycle part. The wound had penetrated a femoral artery, causing extensive bleeding. But a quick response by two bystanders – Crystal Bollinger and Nikki Lindberg, along with firefighters from the nearby Haine School Fire Station – was instrumental in staunching the blood flow and stabilizing Alex until EMS arrived to rush him to the hospital. At the November 15 Board of Supervisors meeting, Cranberry Township EMS, Cranberry Police, and the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company jointly presented their Hero Award to the two women for their outstanding lifesaving efforts.



LIBRARY MAKEOVER & INNOVATION



A MAKERSPACE & MORE WILL BE COMING TO THE CRANBERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY!

What is a Makerspace?

Makerspaces are small workshops, outfitted with tools ranging from very high tech to no tech at all. They are workstations designed for collaboration and equipped to build things in a hands-on learning environment.

This \$750,000 project will make our Cranberry Public Library among the best in Western Pennsylvania!

The project also includes the following improvements in the library:

ENVIRONMENTAL

New energy-efficient LED lighting, light enhanced painting, environmentally friendly carpeting and improved ergonomics layouts- including updating the staff areas – will be the final part of the project.

ACCESS

Adaptations for disabled patrons, including the installation of automatic sliding doors, will help make getting into and out of the library easier for all. In addition, specialized programming within the new makerspace will create an all-inclusive environment serving users of every ability.



The 2018 Project of the Year, an 18-hole disc golf course and nature trail in North Boundary Park, will open this spring!

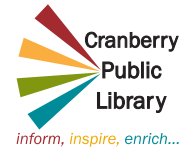
For more information and to make an online donation for the 2019 Project of the Year, visit:

www.CTCChest.org

SUPPORT RECOGNITION LEVELS

Recognition will be displayed on a printed film near or in the Cranberry Library Makerspace according to the donation level. All support will be recognized in the Project of the Year Dedication Booklet and in the 2019 CTCC Annual Report.

<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	½" x 3"	Name
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	1" x 3"	2 Lines
<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	2" x 3"	4 Lines
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	3" x 4"	6 Lines or Logo
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2500	6" x 4"	Message or Logo
<input type="checkbox"/> \$5000	7" x 7"	Message or Logo
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000	10" x 10"	Message or Logo
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000	24" x 24"	Message or Logo, and Legacy Endowment
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000	24" x 24"	Message or Logo, and Heritage Endowment
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000	24" x 24"	Message or Logo, and Pillar Endowment
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250,000	Makerspace Naming Rights and Legend Endowment	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Bronze	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Silver	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Gold



Donate online at
www.CTCChest.org

Library Makerspace Project Turns to



People already use the Internet for just about everything, so turning to the worldwide web for charitable fundraising seems only natural. GoFundMe, for example, has raised more than \$5 billion dollars from its community of 50 million donors since 2010. And that's not the only crowdfunding platform around. Kickstarter, which focuses on new business ideas, has also been a tremendous success. Others, including Indiegogo, Patreon, Crowdrise, and RocketHub, have collectively raised untold millions of dollars more.

Starting in late January, and continuing for the next 40 days, CTCC's Makerspace library project will be the subject of its own crowdraising campaign using a website called Ulule. However, its \$40,000 fund raising target is only part of the goal; just as important is sharing information and generating interest in the project.

Web developer Jessica Mazzoni is the niece of Cranberry Township Supervisor and CTCC project leader Bruce Mazzoni. With a recent background that includes two successful crowdfunding campaigns – one to benefit a clinic and another to benefit an orphanage, both in Zimbabwe – Jessica was a natural choice to lead the library's crowdfunding effort.

"This campaign isn't just to raise money, it's to engage the community in something new and exciting going on in the library," she said.

"Having a website that actually draws people in was important," she said. "We will have an exciting crowdfunding platform that will give us the freedom to add as much content as we want, to add videos, add pictures, allow people to comment, post updates, and include incentives."

Live, in-person activities will also be part of the campaign. "We're going to have a lot of events in that 40-day time frame to engage people in finding out what a makerspace is. We're trying to load up those 40 days with activities to generate as much interest as possible," Jessica noted.

While online crowdfunding mostly touches those who are already heavy social media and internet users, CTCC's library campaign is also targeting people whose internet use is limited to occasional email checks, together with a live invitational kickoff event and traditional media outreach.

To learn more about the project and to participate in crowdfunding, visit CranberryLibrary.org/Makerspace.

CRANBERRY SALT TRUCKS ARE HITTING THE ROAD VERY SELECTIVELY

WHO'S ROAD IS IT ANYWAY?

To most residents, it doesn't really matter. However, to those charged with maintaining the growing network of roads serving Cranberry, it's a big deal. In Cranberry, for example, 46 miles of the community's most heavily-used roads, including Routes 19 and 228, as well as Freedom, Franklin, Rochester, Rowan, Callery, Glen Eden and Plains Church roads, plus the Turnpike and Interstate 79, are all state-owned and maintained. But the Township isn't allowed to plow, salt or sweep them unless there's a specific advance agreement in place with the state. Because if it did, PennDOT would withdraw its own maintenance, turning full responsibility for their roads' upkeep over to Cranberry, leading to unacceptable additional costs for local taxpayers.

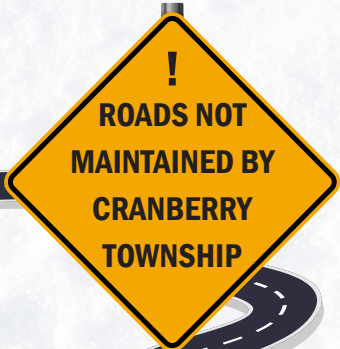
As a result, between mid-December of 2017 and March of 2018, 16 plow trucks operated by crews from Cranberry Township's Public Works Department spread 6,120 tons of salt on 126 miles of Township-owned residential and collector roads including more than 300 cul-de-sacs.

Cranberry's road network also includes 50 private streets totaling 32 miles. The responsibility for maintaining them – which is typically assigned to commercial contractors – belongs to the property owners along those roads, just as the responsibility for interior access roads and parking lots in local shopping centers, office parks and malls belongs to their owners.

But no matter who applies it, road salt is getting expensive. Even with the state's formidable buying power, the Township paid \$72 a ton last winter. A decade ago it was \$38 a ton. In response, the Township has calibrated its use of salt to better match road conditions – more is applied on hills and curves, less on straightaways, none at all when the truck is standing still. Cranberry also reserves some of the salt in its 6,500-ton storage shed to produce brine for pre-treating roads ahead of expected snowstorms, and last fall, it enhanced its ability to speed the refill of brine tanks on its fleet. Granular anti-skid material and liquid magnesium chloride are sometimes added to the mix when temperatures drop below 20 degrees.

Even though the plowing, salting and related maintenance on Township roads is performed by Public Works personnel, the responsibility for effective snow clearing is shared by local residents. For example, street parking is prohibited during snow or ice events. Snow shoveled from driveways must not be tossed onto the roadway. A ten-foot buffer between the pavement and any basketball hoops, snow forts, fencing or seasonal decorations has to be maintained. And tree branches extending beyond the curb need to be trimmed back to create 14 feet of clearance above the roadway so snow plows can make their rounds without striking low-hanging limbs.

For more information on the Township's winter maintenance strategy, visit CranberryTownship.org/SnowPlan.



STATE ROADS*

- Callery Road
- Franklin Road
- Freedom Road
- Glen Eden Road
- Interstate 79
- Pennsylvania Turnpike
- Rochester Road
- Route 19
- Route 228
- Rowan Road
- Plains Church Road

**PennDOT Engineering District 10*

PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL ROADS

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| American Way | David Hill Drive | Manor Road |
| Anderson Road | Flamingo Drive | Jackson Development |
| Andrews Road | Florida Blvd | Oak Springs Mobile Home Park |
| Ashford Manor | Forest Park Mobile Home Park | Pioneer Drive |
| Brandt Road | Friendship Lane | Ridgeview Estates |
| Central Drive (plowed to Ten Pointe Lane) | Harvest Drive | Sherwood Oaks (plowed to entrance gate) |
| Commerce Park Drive | Hillcrest Terrace | Weigand Road |
| Cranberry Pointe Lane | Holiday Drive | Victory Drive |
| Cranberry Village Mobile Home Park | Landis Avenue | |
| | Laurelwood Apartment Complex | |



CRANBERRY'S PHILLY PRETZEL FACTORY *Gets a New Twist*

There's nothing soft about the mean streets of Philadelphia where fictional boxer Rocky Balboa rose to fame after pounding his opponents into the ground. But for young Dan Dizio, an enterprising 11-year old, there was one exception: soft pretzels. Building on his success selling pretzels at a busy intersection in the city's downtown, Dan organized kids from his neighborhood to work for him in other areas of the city.

Dan's business idea grew and in 1998, together with a college roommate, he opened the first Philly Pretzel Factory. It was a huge success which today boasts more than 160 stores in 19 states, including one in Cranberry

Commons. Since last July, the owners of that franchise have been the husband-wife team of Joseph and Jessica Wuenschell.

The couple, who are themselves Cranberry residents, have made their Factory store a family enterprise with several other relatives who also work there including the Wuenschell's nieces, sister, father, and sons Anthony, 22, and Christopher, 20, who come in during college breaks.

The Factory's menu is filled with different varieties of "Philly-Style" soft pretzels – hand twisted and freshly baked. An array of specialty drinks and dipping sauces enhance the pretzel taste, while monogrammed

merchandise including "Get Twisted" tee shirts, beach towels, baby bibs, water bottles and mustard dips speak to the company's public persona.

But Cranberry isn't Philadelphia, and the family knows it. "We give to the community as much as we possibly can," Jessica said. "Donating to the Elks, our school district, and other non-profit organizations is vitally important to us. It's who we are."

The Philly Pretzel Factory, which is open seven days a week, also offers party trays as well as specialty items that are perfect for special events. Trays can be ordered online or by calling 724-776-5850.

== PRETZEL FACTS ==

- Philly Pretzel Factory serves more "Philly Style" pretzels than any other company in the world, serving over 125 million "Philly Style" pretzels each year!
- Philly Pretzel Factory hand twists every pretzel served, using a proprietary blend of high-quality flour.
- Pretzels are a high source of protein with 14g in each.
- Philly Pretzel Factory gives away 1 free pretzel to every visitor on National Pretzel Day-April 26.
- Philly Pretzels contain 0 Fat, 0 Cholesterol & 0 Trans Fat



Rendering of The Crossroads at Meeder

Cranberry's NEW HOUSING PIPELINE

2019 is poised to become a banner year for housing in the Township. Here are some of the highlights to watch for:

Meeder. Charter Homes' ambitious development on the 57.3-acre Meeder farm property at the corner of Rt. 19 and Rochester Road is a complex project that includes just about everything: retail stores, restaurants, office space, detached single-family homes, several types of townhouse units and apartments as well as an internal road network, modifications to several Township roads, and open recreational spaces. Cranberry's Board of Supervisors gave the developer's application for conditional use and land development their approval. The overall project will include eleven phases with 635 living units in place by final build-out. The site's high-profile barn and farmhouse will be preserved.

Forest Edge. A planned residential development in the northeastern quadrant of Cranberry now under construction, Forest Edge originally visualized 60 single family homes. But the developer's acquisition late last year of 36 acres from an adjacent church retreat is expected to significantly expand the project's scope in a future phase.

Reserve at Eagle Hill. Already under construction, this townhome community on Florida Boulevard, between the Rose E. Schneider YMCA and the Township's north water tower, will include 93 living units with construction expected to continue throughout the year.

Traditions of America. Once completed, this 55+ active senior community along Rochester Road at the Township's westernmost edge will include 102 living units. It is already well along in its construction with final work expected this year.

Laurel Pointe. Between its two phases, this 155-unit residential development, just east of Cranberry Woods, will feature a combination of villa style and single family homes. Although no timetable for construction has been presented, it is likely to begin this year.

Park Meadows. This residential development of 67 single family homes immediately to the east of North Boundary Park, will have access from Goehring Road. Infinity homes will be its builder, and construction is expected to start this year.

Village of Cranberry Woods. A major mixed development fronting on Franklin Road, parts of the Village of Cranberry Woods are already complete and in operation; construction on others will continue this year. They include apartments, an event center, a dentistry, an office building and a 183-unit senior living facility.

Other residential projects already underway, many of which are expected to finish construction this year, include Park Place, Madison Heights, Carriage Manor, Wakefield Estates, Ehrman Farms, and Franklin Crossing. Still more are in the planning and approval pipeline.



Traditions of America Clubhouse Rendering

BUSINESS IS BOOMING

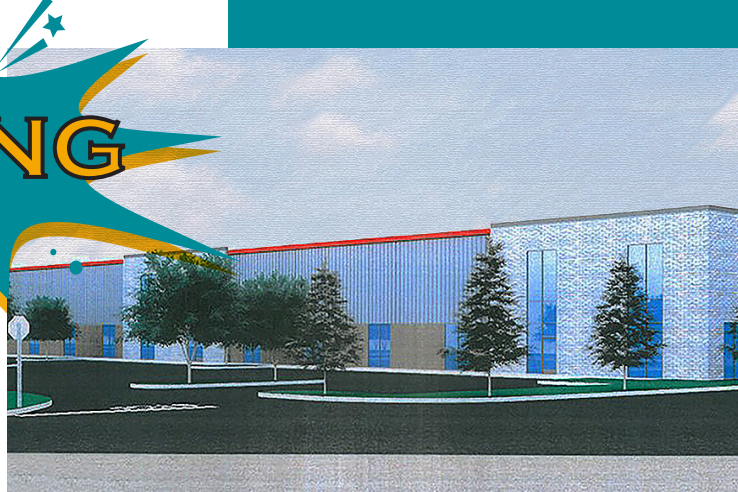
New and expanding businesses of every sort are now underway in Cranberry. Among them:

Commerce Park. Two new buildings are in the works for this flex office/warehouse business park behind the Township Municipal Center. One may be built this year on the site of a private preschool play area. The other – which is still awaiting approval from the Township – will eventually be built in a wetland area which requires a special state permit.

Ron Lewis Automotive Group. The Ron Lewis Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram-Fiat dealership on Rt. 19, across from the Victory Family Church, is adding a 21,000 square foot building to accommodate the service needs of its growing business. The single-story building will face Old Route 19, directly behind the current facility, although access to the service shop will be by staff only, operating from the upper level showroom location. Cranberry's Board of Supervisors recently approved the dealership's conditional use application, it also approved a related request to consolidate two lots totaling 5.3 acres at the dealership's address.

Fresenius Kabi. Fresenius Kabi, best known here for its network of more than 2,400 kidney dialysis centers in the U.S., is actually a \$33 billion health care company based in Germany that specializes in medicines and in a variety of technologies for infusion, transfusion and clinical nutrition. Its plant in Thorn Hill Industrial Park assembles a number of the company's medical devices. Last June it received approval for a 6,600 square foot expansion which was never built. But in November, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors gave its approval for an even larger expansion of 12,250 square feet to augment its light manufacturing operations on Commonwealth Drive.

Elmhurst Development. This downtown Pittsburgh developer has made a series of investments in Cranberry, most recently including an office building in Cranberry



Rendering of Commerce Park Expansion

Crossing and a pair of buildings on Commonwealth Drive in Thorn Hill Industrial Park. This year, the company will be building a flex office/distribution warehouse on several undeveloped parcels on Thorn Hill Road near Freedom Road.

Cranberry Square Annex. This outparcel of the Cranberry Square shopping center, which currently includes an Einstein's Bagels, Total Hockey and Pier One, will have its internal roadway system and parking arrangement reconfigured along with the addition of an entirely new building facing Nicklas Drive – an internal roadway parallel to Rt. 19.

The Healing Center. Medical Marijuana will be available by prescription from this new stand-alone store, to be built along Executive Drive, close to the point where Brandt Drive will eventually intersect the roadway.

O'Reilly Auto Parts. Construction of this 8,000 square foot store actually began last year on the 1.7 acre site of a former Gulf gas station along the west side of Rt. 19.

Fresh Thyme. This fast-growing chain of fresh, organic food stores, based in the Midwest, is opening for business in the space formerly occupied by H.H. Gregg in the Cranberry Commons Mall.

Ziegler Tire & Supply

39 Progress Avenue

Fresh Thyme

1717 Route 228
www.freshthyme.com

Edward Jones

20820 Route 19
edwardjones.com

Sri Desi House

8035 Rowan Road
alltheragehairstudio.com

Service Express

230 Executive Dr.
serviceexpress.com

Kleinfelder

51 Dutilh Road
kleinfelder.com

True Commerce

210 W. Kensinger
truecommerce.com

All About Smiles

8050 Rowan Road
allaboutsmilesinc.com

WE ARE
OPEN!

Hampton Inn & Suites

10015 Pendleton Way
hamptoninn3.hilton.com

The Pendleton, Cranberry Woods, Phase 3

thependleton.com

BITS OF BUSINESS

New car wash coming to Old Freedom Road

A Wexford-based entrepreneur has received conditional use approval to build a car wash on Old Freedom Road where Gary's Automotive Maintenance Center is currently located. The 1.1-acre location, situated next to a Goodyear Auto Service store, is on a dead-end segment of the road. No traffic-related changes will be required to accommodate the business. The proposed Premier Car Wash business will be a largely automated, brushless drive-thru operation with only a handful of employees. Cranberry's Board of Supervisors recently approved the developer's conditional use and land development applications for the 5,226 square foot facility.

Authorization to borrow from new bank

The Butler County Infrastructure Bank was created in 2017 to help communities in the County support economic development by financing transportation and water system improvements at below-market borrowing rates, subsidized by County income from Marcellus Shale gas fees. Last April, Cranberry submitted two funding applications to the bank, both of which were approved. One of them underwrites the costs of reinforcing the Township's aging sewer lines. At its December 6 meeting, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance that would permit the Township to borrow up to \$7.6 million from the bank for use in rebuilding the Franklin Acres sewage pump station as well as sewer Interceptors 1 and 7, plus the MSA Thruway project.

Zoning ordinance undergoes housekeeping

Cranberry's Board of Supervisors approved a handful of amendments to the Township's zoning ordinance at its November business meeting. Among them: a separate flood plain ordinance, adopted earlier this year, overrides language concerning flood plains previously included in the zoning law. As a result, that language was removed. Certain sign ordinance language in the code had likewise been eclipsed by a separate ordinance which was previously adopted. And a revision to the table of allowable uses will no longer permit new vehicle sales, service or rental businesses in Cranberry's SU-1 zoning district which covers Rt. 19 from the Allegheny County line to North Boundary Road, as well as a portion of Rt. 228.

Orthodox Archdiocese to sell property

The Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania – a unit of the Russian Orthodox Church in America – has for many years maintained a retreat on Peters Road, surrounded by woodlands. In November, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors approved the Singer company's plan to combine and acquire two adjacent parcels owned by the Diocese totaling 36.9 acres. The company eventually plans to create streets and homes on the property as an extension of its Forest Edge Planned Residential Development.

Vogel seeks five-year extension

Cranberry's contract with Vogel Disposal includes the provision for extending it another five years, through October of 2024, upon approval from the Township's Board of Supervisors. The company's current contract doesn't run out until next fall. However, extending it would require Vogel's purchase of new specialty equipment which would need to be ordered well in advance of delivery. Accordingly, the Board agreed to give early consideration to the company's contract extension request at its December 13 meeting.



DQE's Fiber Backbone

Businesses in Cranberry, who have a choice of communication suppliers, may already be customers of DQE Communications without even knowing it. That's because, in addition to its own Metro Ethernet service, DQE supplies the fiber that other companies, like Consolidated, rent and rebrand as part of their own communication service packages. Here's why:

Back in the mid-'90s, as Duquesne Light Company was building out a network of substations to distribute electrical power to customers in Allegheny and Beaver Counties, it also started building fiber optic lines to connect those substations and help manage its power distribution system.

But just as Duquesne Light needed that communications capability to control its own remote facilities, so did a lot of other companies whose business operations fell into the power company's service area. The demand was there, the company responded, and a new type of business was born.

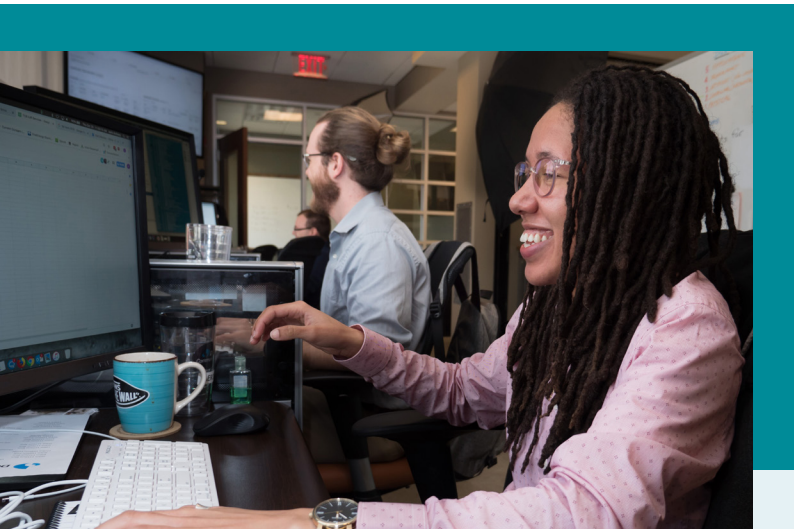
Today, DQE – the unregulated arm of parent company Duquesne Light – provides two broad categories of fiber service to business customers in 16 counties of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia: dark fiber

ARMSTRONG®

Poised to Bring Mega-speed Fiber to Residents

People and businesses push the limits of the law all the time; that's just the way it is in a free society. But there is one set of laws they can't break: the laws of physics. And those are precisely the laws that Armstrong Utilities and its customers have found themselves bumping up against with the company's 30-year old copper cables.

"We've leveraged the coaxial network to the greatest extent we can to get as much out of it as we can," Armstrong's long-time Vice President and General Manager Joe Taylor explained. "We can't get any more out of it. When I



– essentially the plumbing used to carry digital data from place to place – and lit fiber, which starts with dark fiber but attaches equipment and service packages to it that transform glass fibers into useful managed services like Internet, video, email, and voice. The specific mix of services used varies significantly from one customer to the next.

Of the company's 3,300-plus route miles of fiber currently in service, approximately 50 miles are in Cranberry where its customer mix includes banking, education, healthcare, hospitality, manufacturing, and professional services. Although some of those customers use DQE's fiber to carry phone calls using VOIP – Voice Over Internet Protocol packages supplied by other vendors – conventional telephone service, which is heavily regulated, is not an area that the company is eager to enter, nor are residential customers currently in its marketing crosshairs.

But the company is expanding its network at a rapid pace, offering a system architecture that is among the most reliable existing today – which may be the reason why some of its business competitors are also among its biggest customers. Joe McGuinness, DQE's Director of Enterprise Sales, will be happy to provide more detail at 412-315-0934.

started, we had a 500k business service, called Zoom 500, and the residential standard was just 55k per second. Look how far we've come in 20 years. Now we're talking about symmetrical gigabit service – more than a million times faster – and the demand is growing by at least 40 percent a year."

What to do? After several years spent studying its options, the family-owned company decided to invest \$200 million and replace its entire coaxial network with one capable of carrying the data traffic expected over the next 20-plus years. That new network uses optical fibers instead of copper to deliver just about any service its customers demand: TV and phone, of course, but those are both in decline. The real growth is in Internet data service which is not only eclipsing conventional TV and telephones, it is also at the heart of a fast-growing family of wireless devices collectively known as the Internet of Things, or IoT for short.

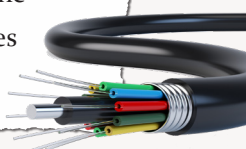
Installation of the new system, which follows the same aerial and underground rights-of-way as its old coaxial network, began late last year in Thorn Hill Industrial Park and in the residential tier of northern Marshall Township. This spring, the replacement will begin in southern Cranberry Township, gradually working its way north along Rt. 19 and the Turnpike, with a view to making the switchover without interrupting service.

Part of the process requires the installer to access the subscriber's home or office building for up to two hours. A series of communications have been developed to notify those customers and help to schedule the installations. For the time being, however, nobody is quite sure how long it will take to reach every customer in Cranberry; Armstrong is still on a learning curve of how many homes can be switched in a day. But Taylor expects to have a reasonably good estimate of the buildout by mid-summer based on the company's experience in Marshall.

Whatever the pace of installation turns out to be, Armstrong isn't going anywhere. "This is our bread and butter; this is where our corporate office is," Taylor said. "We've been in the business in Butler County for 55 years now, and we're going to build and provide the best possible services here."

WHY FIBER?

- Fiber has more capacity and speed than cable
- Fiber supports economic development
- Fiber supports advanced telemedicine
- Fiber supports educational initiatives
- Fiber supports telecommuting



A photograph of Heather Clark, a woman with shoulder-length brown hair, smiling and sitting at a wooden kitchen island. She is wearing a grey and white textured turtleneck sweater. In the background, a modern kitchen is visible with white cabinets, a stainless steel refrigerator, a stove with a red kettle, and a sink with a black faucet.

At Home With... **HEATHER CLARK**

Fifteen years ago, when her oldest daughter was still a pupil in Haine Elementary School, Heather Clark became a volunteer coach for its Girls in the Run program – an athletic program that also includes an annual community service project. That year, the girls decided they would collect canned goods for Gleaners Food Bank as their community project. However, as a result of school policy, they were told the collection couldn't be extended to the entire student body.

Some of the runners became concerned that their own contributions couldn't possibly make much difference to the food bank. By the end, however, after each of them had made their personal donations, it filled two cars with canned goods. For Heather, the lesson was clear: when enough small contributions are aggregated, they can have a major impact.

Fast-forward to 2016 when she began hearing about a Pittsburgh-based group called *100 Women Who Care* and then attended one of the group's meetings to learn more about it. She was impressed. It works very simply. Groups of as many as 100 women – sometimes more – get together four times a year to hear three of the women give brief presentations about worthy local nonprofit groups they would like to support. Then everyone votes. When the votes are tallied, all of the women write out checks for \$100 to whichever organization got the most votes. With all 100 women participating, that amounts to \$10,000. At the Pittsburgh meeting, it came to \$17,000.

That experience proved to be the genesis of Cranberry's chapter which began with 15 of Heather's friends and currently includes about 60 women. Of course, not

everyone is in a position to cut four \$100 checks a year, so the group also includes a provision for those 35 and younger to make checks out for \$35. Still, the idea of pooling a number of modest contributions into significant gifts remains central to the organization's philosophy – one which is shared today by more than 600 chapters for women, men, people, businesses, and kids worldwide.

While the desire to help others in need was always part of Heather's upbringing, the ability to follow through financially wasn't always there. Growing up in a modest neighborhood near Reading, where people struggled to make ends meet and where her high school sweetheart, now her husband, also lived, simply didn't allow it. Nor did it when the two moved to Pittsburgh for college and later to graduate school – she in education, husband Matt in law – with a new baby on the way.

Today, however, the family recognizes how fortunate they are and supporting worthwhile causes is important to the entire family, including their daughters. "We're blessed; we're fortunate," she said. "So it's important to us to acknowledge how lucky we are..." and to give back to the community even if in a small and modest way.

The Cranberry chapter of *100 Women Who Care* meets for an hour starting at 7:00 PM on the third Wednesday of September, December, March and June each year in the Spring Street Café, 205 S. Main Street in Zelienople. It currently includes women from Beaver County, Butler County, and the North Hills of Allegheny County and there is plenty of room for new members. Anyone interested in learning more is invited to contact Heather by email at: 100womencbt@gmail.com.

They need you. **We need you.**



Join the Seneca Valley team and make a difference!
We are looking for the following positions to be filled immediately:

Teacher Aides (Special and Regular Ed. Paraprofessionals)
Building Aides (Paraprofessionals)
Substitute Teachers
Substitute Cafeteria Personnel
Substitute Clerical Personnel
Substitute Maintenance Personnel
Substitute Certified School Nurse

Strong communication and interpersonal skills required.
To learn more, visit www.svsd.net/Employment

Seneca Valley School District provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, or handicap/disability in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.

Commuters Rejoice!

NOW YOU HAVE A CHOICE OF BUSES TO WORK

Yes, you can get there from here! Weekday bus service to Pittsburgh for Cranberry residents is now available from three separate agencies. But you'll have to scout around the perimeters of the Township because none of them actually make stops in Cranberry proper. And, unless enough commuters find and use those services, they'll eventually go away. They're all part of a lingering desire to re-introduce scheduled transit service to Cranberry following the collapse of the Harmony Short Line trolley all the way back in 1931.

For Cranberry commuters, most of today's transit services begin at a 330-space Park'n Ride just a little north of the Township on Rt. 528, by the Evans City entrance to I-79. Parking there is free, and two public transit agencies – Butler Transit Authority and New Castle Area Transit Authority – each offer express service from there into the city. There's also a commercial service, operated by Lenzner, that leaves from both the Baierl Ice Complex, formerly Blade Runners in Thorn Hill Industrial Park, and from the Park'n Ride lot at Warrendale Road and Brush Creek Road in Marshall. Travel times for all three services are each about 30 minutes.

There was a brief interval, longtime residents here will recall, when people from Cranberry who worked in Pittsburgh could take a Port Authority bus downtown and back each weekday. Scheduled runs weren't all that frequent, and they never really served the heart of Cranberry. But it was a



popular service. However, over the years, Allegheny County decided to limit its transit routes to those communities closer to the city center, as a cost-saving measure. Today, the farthest north that Port Authority goes is McCandless.

Today, though, between the three current services – Lenzner, Butler and New Castle Transit – local commuters have a viable alternative to driving. New Castle Transit, for example, has four inbound morning runs starting at 5:30 for a fare of \$4. Lenzner has six runs, also beginning at 5:30, for \$5.00 or \$5.75 depending on where you catch the bus. And Butler Transit Authority has two from the Evans City Park'n Ride, departing at 5:40 and 6:40, for a cash fare of \$5. Stops within the city vary by carrier.

That's not all. The ten-county nonprofit Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission operates an online service called CommuteInfo.com which offers a free ride-matching service to commuters interested in carpooling or vanpooling. Currently active pools in the Township include one from Cranberry to Oakland and another from Cranberry to downtown Pittsburgh. More could be added if demand increases.

Detailed information about all the services, including their fees and schedules, is available at their respective websites.

It's time for a little **TRASH TALK.** All Recyclables, One Blue-Top Cart.

LIVE CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

January 7 - 18

(Regular collection days only)

- Please cut taller trees into 4 ft. sections
- Remove ornaments and lights
- No artificial trees

CARDBOARD RECYCLING

Cardboard compactor available in the rear parking lot at the Municipal Center

PURCHASE EXTRA COLLECTION TAGS

Tags available during business hours in Customer Service, Parks & Recreation or Cranberry Highlands Golf Course.



sewer · water · trash
collection connection

CranberryTownship.org/Trash



The Art of Traffic Control

Traffic control cabinets – the stainless-steel boxes next to traffic light poles at most signalized intersections – are usually undistinguished pieces of municipal infrastructure that people rarely notice. But in Cranberry, that's about to change.

A joint pilot project by the Township and the Cranberry Artists Network starting this year will be looking at a select group of utility boxes in high traffic intersections as the canvas for original artwork. And if the pilot program is deemed successful, it will expand to other locations. Here's how it works:

The Township and the Artists Network solicit ideas from artists for images which could be turned into vinyl sheets and wrapped around a utility box. A committee would be formed to screen the applicants' ideas. Those artists whose work is chosen will receive a licensing fee of \$400; an artist may submit as many as five different images. The name of the artist as well as title of their work will appear on the box. Location and duration of the artist's display will be determined by the Township.

Artwork for the project must be original, high quality, high resolution images. They may not be promotional in nature or used in a way that would fall under the Township's sign ordinance. The wraps will be installed in a way that allows cabinet doors, vents, and outlets to be operated normally.



Applications must be received by April 2. Questions? Contact communicationsteam@cranberrytownship.org.

Details of cabinet dimensions and submission requirements are available online at **CranberryTownship.org/ArtBox**.

Utility box artwork is new to Western Pennsylvania, but art projects involving traffic cabinets have been tried successfully in California, Washington state, and Wisconsin. They are sometimes used as an antidote to problems with graffiti, although that form of vandalism has not been an issue here.

WORK IT OUT!

"I guess you don't miss a good workout until it's taken away." Cranberry Group Fitness Coordinator Nancy Triscuit recently reflected. "People don't always realize what a good thing they have."

The value of exercise to people's lives and health remains substantial, whether or not they're incarcerated. Benefits include cardiovascular fitness, muscle tone, stamina, strength conditioning and stress reduction. The details of those needs



will change as a person ages, particularly when they're dealing with recovery from an injury, an illness, or even childbirth. But no matter what may have prompted that need, keeping active has value for every person.

Cranberry's Parks & Recreation department offers a variety of programs to meet those needs, particularly for women and retirees who are available to work out during normal business hours. Anywhere from eight to ten instructors – most with their own specialties – offer classes in the Township's Municipal Center. They include multiple flavors of Yoga as well as Zumba, Les Mills Body Pump, TRX and more.

Unlike many of the area's machine-based fitness centers featuring treadmills, stepmills, ellipticals, and spinners, most of Cranberry's classes focus on low-impact, body-centric exercises using simpler, lighter equipment under the guidance of certified instructors. Class sizes are limited to maximize interaction between participants and instructors.

"Our classes are intimate and welcoming," Triscuit noted. "Our focus is personalized, and we even maintain a supervised PlayCenter for young children while their moms are working out."

Adult group fitness memberships are month-to-month, without long-term commitments. Members are free to attend as many or as few of the classes offered that month as they care to. Residents pay \$37 a month, or just \$30 for those 55 or older. One-time drop-in classes are also available for \$8 and open to anyone who wants to check them out. Details are available online and in the Parks & Recreation Program Guide.

Instant Park!

Crocodile Cove

Gets Built in a Day



Meet Crocodile Cove, the Township's newest playground, next to the North Boundary Community Waterpark. With three separate play areas, it provides features specifically tailored to toddlers, to little tykes, and to children as old as 12. A grant associated with a Cranberry-hosted meeting of the Pennsylvania Municipal League on October 4-6 helped to finance the project. Altogether, 200 volunteers from the League, from Seneca Valley, and from throughout the Township, joined under the direction of KaBOOM! to assemble the playground – themed after Waterpark mascot CT – in a single day.



What's HAPPENING

As Needed:

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Council Chambers, 7:30 PM
Third Monday

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Council Chambers, 6:30 PM

January 7, 31

February 7, 28

March 7, 28

PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION

Council Chambers, 6:00 PM

January 8, 28

February 4, 25

March 7, 28

2019

More events & details: CranberryTownship.org/Calendar

JANUARY

7-14 - Live Tree Collection

7 - Shelter Reservations Open

14 - HOA Forum, 6:30 PM

15 - Mental Health in
Emergency Services, 6:30 PM

27 - CADN-Understanding
Different Beliefs, 1:00 PM

FEBRUARY

2 - Butler Co. Sheriff's
Office: Gun Licensing,
9AM-2 PM

16- CPR and First Aid
Training, Contact EMS

MARCH

1-Butler Co./Township
Property Tax Notices
Mailed

10- Daylight Savings
Time Ends

Follow Us!



Don't get caught off guard! Be the first to know about weather delays, traffic alerts, construction updates, travel advisories & much more! Subscribe to Cranberry Connect to receive your alerts via text or email.

Sign up for Alerts!

CranberryTownship.org/Connect

AVOID COSTLY CO-PAYMENTS! GET YOUR EMS SUBSCRIPTION TODAY!

You never know when you'll need to call 9-1-1. This small annual fee will drastically reduce out-of-pocket costs in the event of a medical emergency.



Convenient online registration

www.cranberrytownshipems.org



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GROUP FITNESS
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