

Cranberry TODAY

FALL 2019



IT'S A DOG'S LIFE

DOG-FRIENDLY PLACES IN CRANBERRY

COMMUNITY UPDATES

EXPANDED FIRE STATION OPENS
MAINTAINING SAFE WATER
STORMWATER CLARITY

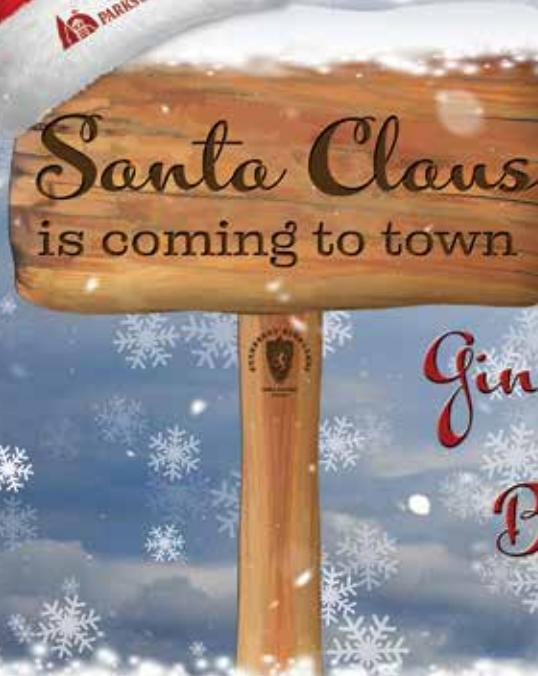


CRANBERRY
TOWNSHIP

Santa's First Stop

November 22 - 4:00P

Presented by:
**KARSKI &
SPOKANE
ORTHODONTICS**



Santa Claus
is coming to town

Milk & Cookies with Santa

December 7 - 11:30A, 12:45P or 2:00P
December 8 - 11:00A or 12:15P

Pet Photos with Santa

December 8 - 2:00P

Gingerbread House Making

December 13 - 7:30P

Brunch with Santa

December 14 - 10:00A or 12:30P
December 15 - 10:00A or 12:30P

Sign up at Cranberry4FUN.com/Register

JOIN US THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Cranberry Highlands



OUR CALENDAR IS FILLING UP QUICKLY.
BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY MEETING OR PARTY TODAY!

724-776-7372 x1214

OR COMPLETE THE ONLINE EVENT PLANNER AT
CRANBERRYHIGHLANDS.COM

**4****8****18**

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CranberryTODAY is published quarterly by the Cranberry Township Communications Team on behalf of the Board of Supervisors and the Township Manager.

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Congratulations to the Top Dog from our Facebook contest! Pictured on the cover is Astro, a beloved Great Dane who lives in Cranberry with owner Mike Hahnebohm. Astro is pictured with Mike's mother Gail Hahnebohm (Stonefield), and niece Madyson Corsaro.

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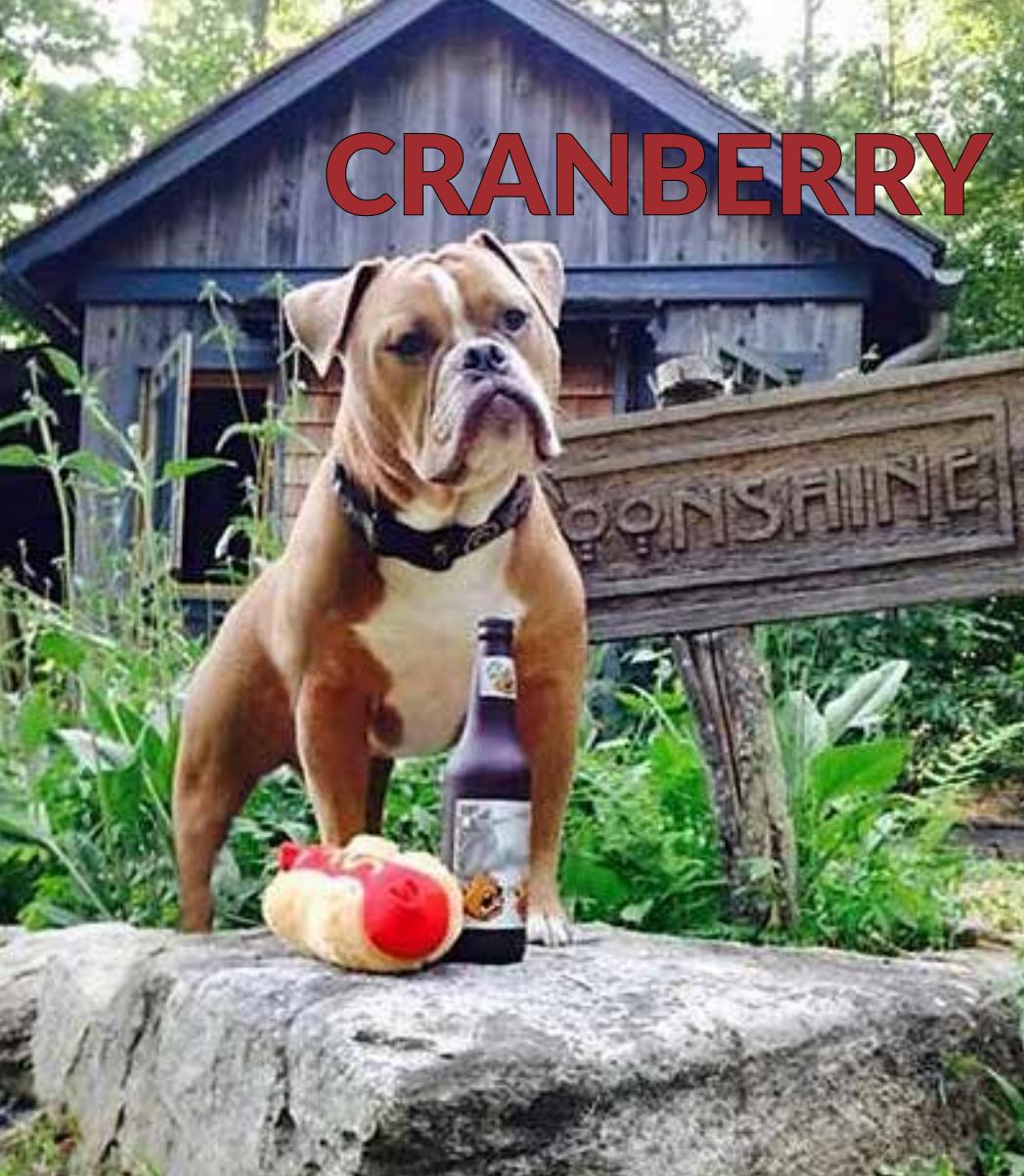


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Forty or fifty years ago, when someone was said to be in the dog house, it meant that they were in real trouble. Living a dog's life meant hardship. That was then.

Today, dogs have assumed an elevated status, sharing the amenities enjoyed by their human families as well as some others unique to canines. That transformation has not escaped the attention of Parks & Recreation Director Pete Geis, whose responsibilities now include providing recreational opportunities for dogs as well as for their owners. Nor has it escaped the attention of local businesses who understand the increasing importance that families attach to their dogs.

Dog business

"Businesses recognize how much dog ownership is increasing," Geis

observed. Thirty, forty years ago, dogs were pets. Now dogs are treated as part of the family and if you exclude the dog, you're also excluding a lot of businesses." So, the Township is taking a closer look at its own dog-friendly accommodations.

A Township committee of business owners and passionate dog owners – the Cranberry K9 Connection – has been meeting regularly, to test out ideas, solicit input, and secure help from the private sector in expanding dog access within the community.

One significant new project presented to the Board of Supervisors in September involved creating limited dog access to portions of North Boundary Park. The new disc golf and nature trail in North Boundary Park, in particular, could soon become dog-friendly. According to the Pittsburgh

DOGS

LIVE HIGH ON THE HOG

Flying Disc group, which has been instrumental in the development of the disc golf course, most players are also dog owners – people who appreciate being able to bring their dogs along with them.

Dogs and discs

The Cranberry K9 Connection came up with a three-pronged approach to make this a reality. First, erecting detailed signage at different entry points regarding where dogs are and are not allowed. Second, forming an all-volunteer Park Ambassador program to help educate dog owners entering the park about park rules, but doing so in a non-confrontational way. Third, police enforcement using \$35 citations for those who persistently violate those rules.

"People who want to go to parks and don't want to be around dogs should have that opportunity," Geis reflected. "And the people who have dogs should also have the opportunity to enjoy our parks. This is the compromise: they're both going to get their space and hopefully we can co-exist."

Re-parking the barking

Meanwhile, in Community Park, plans are afoot to relocate the Rotary Dog Park a few hundred yards southwest to a flatter, more tree-shaded area of the park. The sloped terrain of the current dog park is not only exposed throughout its entire length, it also

suffers from drainage issues. When a parcel of land adjacent to the utility line was donated to the Township by developer Dominic Gigliotti, preliminary plans began emerging from the nearby Public Works and Public Safety Training campus to use the dog park's land for other purposes. That, in turn, presented the opportunity to relocate the dog park to a flatter, more shaded area.

"This plan is dependent on crossing the gas line which requires comprehensive engineering," Geis acknowledged. "It involves developing a driveway to a new parking lot." Most of the dog park's patrons are encouraged by the idea. But not all. "I had to convince some of the passionate small dog park users that we were going in a different, much better direction, that they were going to have to be patient with us as we made the improvements and that

their entranceway isn't going to be paved this year as we initially reported. They weren't so happy about it, but at least they're on board." And Rotary, which was instrumental in creating the original dog park, will retain its naming right.

Doggie treats

Other dog-centric programs and facilities are also planned or already in place. For example, Parks & Rec offers a dog training program. The popular Puppy Plunge at the end of the Waterpark's swimming season has continued, along with photo ops for pets with Santa. The K9 Connections Committee is developing a series of Yappy Hour fundraisers at local restaurants; several of which have expressed interest in hosting it.

Perhaps the most gratifying program is the exercise program Tails 2 Trails.

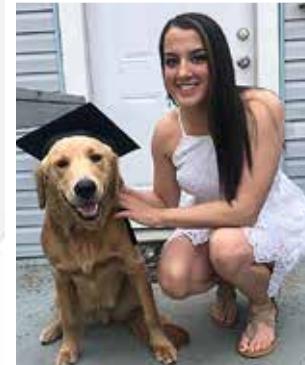
It takes place along the beautiful and shaded Brush Creek Trail segment parallel to Commonwealth Drive and Brush Creek. An assortment of fitness stations for people are positioned at intervals along the trail. Dogs may or may not be on leash; that part is up to each owner.

"People told us that they couldn't exercise because they had to go home to take care of their dog or take it for a walk," Geis explained. "So we started this Tails 2 Trails program, got Michelle Jones, one of our fitness instructors, certified, and she's passionately teaching this class which gets exercise for both of them – and it teaches the dog to deal with distractions." ☺

W.R. Purche once said, "Everyone thinks they have the best dog. And none of them are wrong." We invited our Facebook friends to submit photos of their furry best friends with the family. Here's a look at a few of Cranberry's BFFs! (More photos on page 7!)



Find us on  [Facebook.com/cranberrytwp](https://www.facebook.com/cranberrytwp)



ARE THERE ANY DOG-FRIENDLY TRAILS OR PARKS IN CRANBERRY?

Yes!

Enhanced Rotary Dog Park in Community Park

Brushcreek Trail Extension *off of Commonwealth Drive in the Thorn Hill Industrial Park*

50 acres and approximately 2 miles of trails at North Boundary Park on the new Nature Trail *(2018 Project of the Year)*



CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP LEASHED DOG AREA PILOT PROGRAM

Program to be coordinated and managed by Parks and Recreation with full support of the Cranberry K9 Connection Committee.

Directional signs will be posted at the designated areas of parks and trails, along with authorized parking locations.

Volunteer Park Ambassadors will help educate dog owners entering the parks about rules in a non-confrontational manner.

Township police will issue \$35 citations to owners of dogs in unauthorized areas or those who are unwilling to follow the rules and regulations.

**MORE INFORMATION ON
DOGS IN CRANBERRY:**

CranberryK9Connection.com



More photos of our Facebook friends!



DOG WALKS UP TO FOOD CART.

Clerk asks:

WANT A PUPSICLE?

The growing epidemic of food allergies that so many Americans experience has become a huge health problem over the past 30 years. Special diets of every kind – have been crafted in response to what some believe are the results of eating the highly processed foods which have become staples of the American diet.

Those same concerns apply to pets. Dogs are particularly susceptible to food-induced health issues, made worse by the extensive use of food byproducts unsuitable for public consumption. So two years ago, when three local women with a passion

for dogs and good health met at Ann Straub's then-new Holistic Pet Nutrition Center in Harmony, ideas for promoting better pet food began flying.

Rae McStay, owned a construction trailer modified as a food truck and Maureen Laniewski, owned a pet home care business, and together, Rollaway Dog Café – a health food cart for dogs – became a reality.

A popup store, featuring ready-to-eat versions of products from the store, include some containing CBD – are sold at dog-friendly weekend events. The business is fully licensed, with all food ingredients clearly posted. More information as well as the cart's setup schedule is available at RollAwayDogCafe.com. 



Find us on  Facebook.com/cranberrytwp



SANTA'S FIRST STOP

November 22: 4 PM
Municipal Center

Ice Sculptures,
Food Trucks,
Reindeer, Games,
& More

*Santa arrives at 7PM
to light the tree!*

Santa ON ICE

On Friday, November 22, the Municipal Center will be the destination for Santa's First Stop, sponsored by Karski Spokane Orthodontics.

At 7:00 PM, Santa will make his customary visit to the Municipal Center to light the Township tree and officially kick off the holiday season. This year, through a collaboration between the Township and the publisher of the Cranberry Eagle and Butler Eagle newspapers, Santa's First Stop is being paired with the new Eagle North Pole Ice Festival.

Starting Thursday, November 21, ice sculptors from the DiMartino Ice Company will work their magic on massive blocks of ice placed

throughout the Municipal Center grounds. Among their carvings will be a giant ice slide, an ice carriage, and sculptures to celebrate the different holiday seasons and traditions of the community. Their sculptures will be on display all day Friday and Saturday. Additional activities, including musical performances, crafts in the gym, a reindeer pen, and food trucks will also take place Friday evening.

The idea of combining the events was prompted by the highly successful Ice Festival hosted each winter by the AM Rotary Club of Butler. Proceeds from the celebration will be donated to benefit the Cranberry Township Community Chest 2020 Project of the Year. 





IDEA-BASED PARTNERSHIPS

By Bruce Mazzoni, Cranberry Township Supervisor



Back in the day, people used to say that ideas were "dime a dozen" and in many cases that's still true, even after accounting for inflation. But Cranberry Township encourages ideas and places real value on them. We love forming partnerships with people and organizations that can help us turn those ideas into realities.

The term we use is "shared vision."

Here's an example. Many years ago, we were looking at ways to mitigate traffic on Rt 228 and I-79, especially during peak traffic hours. Thousands of cars stream through Cranberry Woods and Cranberry Springs every day. MSA The Safety Company, based in Cranberry Woods, was keenly aware of the issue. So we formed a partnership around the shared vision of a tunnel going under Rt. 228, connecting the two business parks and I-79. MSA supported the idea with a gift of land valued at more than \$3 million. In the near future, construction on that tunnel will begin.

We love public-private ventures and we leverage them as much as we can, using naming rights, sponsorships, banners and other ways to create win-win situations. Recent examples include Highmark and Penguins helping us to build the dek hockey rink, and our partnership with the Pennsylvania Municipal League that built the playground in North Boundary Park.

In fact, a lot of park assets come from the Township partnership with CTCC – Cranberry Township Community

Chest. CTCC is a non-profit with links to hundreds of businesses and residents. It formulates a project each year to create public assets our community wouldn't have without that partnership. Recently, CTCC announced its tenth Project of the Year, the Renovation and Expansion of Rotary Amphitheatre. Altogether, those ten projects have raised over \$5 million.

Just as important are the partnerships we have with the Rotary, Lions, CTVFC, CTAA, SVSA, SVJFA, Miracle League and more than 50 other nonprofit and civic organizations that help build a sense of community and make Cranberry a great place to live. CTCC's Annual Report, listed close to 1,000 people who donated 50 hours or more in support of our nonprofit sector. Altogether, this translates to the equivalent of more than 100 full-time people, working for free, to benefit our community. That's about \$2.5 million worth of labor, and it doesn't even count the physical improvements that other organizations, like the South Butler County Garden Club, do for Cranberry. On top of that, several thousand other people also volunteer time to the library or sports associations, helping to make our community great.

We also enjoy a rich faith-based community with many institutions focused on giving back to the community with food banks, school supplies, clothing drives, counseling, and specialized forms of support for those with specific needs.

Equally important are our partnerships with schools at every level. They educate our children and grandchildren; plus, attract new residents to our community and build property values based on their success. A successful community goes hand in hand with a successful school system.

That's why Cranberry loves partnerships built on shared visions.

Your feedback is always appreciated
[at bruce.mazzoni@cranberrytownship.org.](mailto:bruce.mazzoni@cranberrytownship.org)

CMU HIGHWAY INCIDENT MONITOR PREDICTS IMPACT ON TOWNSHIP TRAFFIC

Let's say there's a wreck on I-79, but it's all the way down at Wexford. What does it matter if you live or work in Cranberry? Plenty, as it turns out.

Depending on the time of day and day of the week, traffic incidents that take place miles away can have a ripple effect on traffic all the way up and down the busy corridor. If that artery is either I-79 or the Turnpike, some of that traffic will likely be detoured through state and local roads in Cranberry – roads which are already very busy.

Changing the timing of the Township's traffic signals can help to ease unusual traffic flows. But if Cranberry's Traffic Operations Center, or TOC, waits until the detoured Interstate traffic actually hits local exit ramps before modifying its signal timing, it will be too late and the traffic could be snarled for hours.

Carnegie-Mellon Civil Engineering Professor Sean Qian had an idea, and the TOC team loved it. Using real-time traffic data from a variety of sources including the Waze app, commercial trucking networks, and the INRIX subscription traffic monitoring service, then comparing it with historical traffic data for each segment of highway, it would be possible to alert the Township a full 30 minutes before the effects hit Cranberry – enough



time to select one of nine alternative signal timing programs and have it in place by the time traffic reaches the Township.

However, digesting the massive volume of traffic data coming in 24/7 and making sense of it would be an overwhelming task for any individual. So the system uses artificial intelligence to detect unusual incidents and to ping the TOC staff with early notifications as well as recommended alternative signal plans when an incident occurs. Automated messages are then sent to all 5,000 people who subscribe to Cranberry's free text alerts. The system even predicts when the crunch will be over and when the signals should be returned to normal.

Of course, managing normal traffic in Cranberry is hard enough. Managing non-recurrent traffic incidents, such as highway wrecks, is even harder. But it's

not unusual. At a recent symposium on the CMU campus featuring Prof. Qian, Township traffic engineer Kelly Maurer and traffic operations manager Marty McKinney reported that the frequency of crashes and other anomalous events along the key arteries feeding into Cranberry – I-79, I-76, Rt. 19, Rt. 228 and Freedom Road – has averaged about one a day for quite a while now.

Not all of those incidents require a signal change, but the amount of traffic entering Cranberry – even on a normal day – is huge. About 75,000 vehicles a day pass through the intersection of Routes 19 and 228 – the highest volume of any intersection in Western Pennsylvania. Even a relatively minor interference with that flow can be seriously disruptive. As a result, the CMU system brings real value to the Township.

Real-Time Traffic Prediction and Management, as Prof. Qian's project is formally known, is only one of many projects on which Cranberry has collaborated with CMU. Their shared goal remains to create and implement new technology to help manage real municipal issues. Even when it's a highway wreck. ☭

Sign up for TRAFFIC ALERTS at CranberryTownship.org/Connect

**FIND THE
FIGHTER
IN YOU!**

A graphic for CTVFC21.org. It features a stylized fire helmet with the text 'Cranberry Township Fire Department' and '21'. Above the helmet is a large, dynamic graphic of fire and flames. To the right of the helmet, the text 'FIREFIGHTERS NEEDED - ALL TRAINING PROVIDED' is written in bold, capital letters. Below this, it says 'STATE-OF-THE-ART STATION RENOVATIONS:' followed by a bulleted list: '• BUNK-IN QUARTERS', '• WORK STATIONS WITH Wi-Fi CONNECTION', and '• WORKOUT ROOM WITH NEW EQUIPMENT'. At the bottom, the website 'CTVFC21.ORG • CONTACT@CTVFC21.ORG' is displayed.

NATE HEZLEP: GROWING UP WITH FIRE

Eighteen-year-old Nate Hezlep can't remember a time when the fire service wasn't part of his upbringing. After all, his father, Bruce Hezlep, had been involved in the fire company for the past 17 years, including an extended period as its president, and his mom had been a pillar of the organization's Ladies Auxiliary.

Nate knew, by the time he was 14, that being part of the fire company was something he wanted to do, although back then he didn't think much about making a career of it. After all, there was the camaraderie of hanging out at the fire station with friends, holding communal cookouts, and training together, even in his capacity as a Junior Firefighter limited to an observer's role during incidents. That alone would have been enough. But the deeper he got into it, the more appealing a career in the service became.

This fall, he began his studies at the University of Akron where he plans to major in emergency management and homeland security with minors in fire science and fire protection – a perfect fit for his work as a Cranberry volunteer. Having already completed all of his training in the Essentials of Firefighting, Nate is looking forward to taking the certification tests for both Firefighter I and II – credentials which would enable him to safely tackle most types of emergencies. Eventually, he hopes to qualify for certification as Instructor I and Fire Officer I – credentials which would be important to a career firefighter.



At the same time, Nate has already been certified as a Basic Vehicle Rescue Technician – a critical set of skills for a fire company like Cranberry's, whose primary business these days is responding to calls involving vehicle crashes. It is also the aspect of fire service that his dad has come to appreciate even more than the firefighting side of the Company's work.

A May graduate of Eden Christian Academy in the North Hills, Nate takes to heart the importance of what the fire service experience means. "A couple of calls come to mind where I look back and think: 'Wow! I was put there for a good reason,'" he reflected. "Being out there with everyone I trust helped me mature a lot quicker at a young age."

"One incident involved a neighbor," Nate recalled. "He passed away and I was very young at the time. After I talked with my dad and said: 'I don't know if I can do this; it doesn't get any worse than this.' But things like that have made me much more mature, especially as a driver, seeing all these accidents. I drive a lot more carefully now. I'm very aware of everything

that's going on around me."

"I wouldn't say that I'm an adrenalin junkie," he continued. "But my heart starts racing a little bit when I hear that something's on fire. But you have to keep those emotions in check because our job is to be there for someone on what could be their worst day. So keep calm - if you're calm, everyone else around you is calm. If you get all excited, everyone else will get excited. That's how problems are created."

“
Just watching my dad while growing up, I always felt like I needed to help other people too, and I think it's made me a better person.
”

"I was pretty selfish when I was younger. But then you see people lose pets, lose cars, lose family members, lose houses. It's such an awful feeling that you want to do everything in your power to prevent it. And I think it's given me a really special bond with my dad because we do this together." 

FIRE COMPANY

TWEAKS ITS RECRUITMENT STRATEGY



"Volunteerism is in crisis," Cranberry's Deputy Fire Chief Carl DeCarlo recently observed. "We are no different than any other volunteer entity across Pennsylvania. If we don't take action to try to stabilize it, that system could fail."

While the overall membership of the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company includes more than 100 men and women, most of them are not front-line firefighters. When you subtract the inactive Life Members, the members of the Auxiliary, the Junior division, and the members whose assignments are largely administrative, you end up with about 25 active firefighters. And during daylight hours, when many of those brigade members are at work, there might only be one or two available to respond to a 911 call.

Recruitment of new members and retention of current ones has been an evergreen issue for the fire company. Until early this summer, entering the organization happened all year long.

For most of the Fire Company's 60-year history, that approach worked. But the open-ended process also had some weaknesses. One was that the initial training course taught at BC3, The Essentials of Firefighting, was only offered twice a year with fixed start and ending dates. If someone's application was submitted out of phase with the BC3 calendar, that person usually ended up waiting around for months until the College's next semester before they could focus on the agency's emergency

mission. And by then, the applicant's enthusiasm had time to cool off.

Fire Administrative Assistant Amy Behun pointed out. "We want new people to go right into training programs – so they can become active and engaged participants in the fire company as quickly as possible. That's the efficiency we're looking for."

Take, for example, a recruit who joins in October. "We'll place them into our system," DeCarlo explained. "They'll do in-house training with us until the February start of the next Essentials program. So they'll get exposure to fire equipment before they go to the Academy.

"The issue for Cranberry is that the number of unrestricted responders is down. Our goal, and directive from the Township, is to stabilize and increase it. But we only have so much bandwidth. Amy has other duties beyond recruitment; my job as trainer is only half time," she said. "And we want to focus that on the immediate need. That doesn't mean we won't circle back and touch the other applicants who can't or don't want to be unrestricted emergency responders. But in this case, we're focused on the immediate need."

The initial results seem promising. The first time through the Company's new process produced a class of eight solid prospects for firefighting. "For the first shot out of the gate, I'm happy with the results," DeCarlo said. 

The way it was...

In 1963, Cranberry volunteer firefighters worked to extinguish a blaze at the old Motel 6, which was at the time under construction.



THE CLASS OF 2020

This summer, the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company welcomed a class of eight new firefighting recruits into the fire service. They include:

Nouhoum Cisse. A Cranberry resident since moving from West Mifflin in 2012, Cisse was coaxed into signing up at Community Day by his 8-year old son whose mother's relatives include several firefighters in other communities. Cisse's day job as an IT consultant for My Computer Wiz brings him to customer locations for onsite computer repair service.

Stefan Bordeianu. A resident of Marshall Township where for the past five years he has served as a firefighter, Bordeianu heard how good Cranberry's fire company was and decided to join, even though he would need to forego his certification as an interior firefighter during a six-month probationary period. Currently a sophomore at Pitt majoring in politics and philosophy, Stefan is also a member of the Bradfordwoods fire company, where his fire service began.

Sean Mulraney. Sean moved to Cranberry three years ago from Murrysville, where he works in his family's machine component manufacturing company. This will be



his first exposure to the fire service – something he said he has always wanted to do.

Alex Hepler. A longtime Township resident, Alex currently works in security at nearby Callery Chemical, formerly BASF Inorganic Specialties.

Andrew Chambers. A resident of Cranberry for the past three years, Andrew initially planned to learn firefighting through the Air Force Reserves fire school. But a change of plans convinced him to learn it in Cranberry where he can give back to his adopted community. During the day, Andrew works with the Veterans Administration building artificial limbs and braces for amputees and disabled people.

Shweta Chakradeo. "Don't try pronouncing it," she cautions her neighbors when they try to say her name. A five-year resident of Cranberry, following an earlier stay in Virginia, Shweta's extended family in India has always been involved in community service, so volunteering for Cranberry's fire company came naturally to her.

Kevin Starkey. Kevin [Not Pictured] brought more than 20 years of fire experience to Cranberry from volunteer companies in Allegheny and Beaver counties when he moved here two years ago. He is a driver for FedEx and was at work making deliveries when the photo was taken.

Kyle Mannes featured below. ☺



A few years back, new fire company recruit Kyle Mannes – a 2013 Seneca Valley graduate – faced a choice. Either he could follow the career path of becoming a machinist, a trade for which he had spent two years training at VoTech, or he could work with United Parcel Service, where he had spent his weekday evenings since the time he was a junior in high school, loading tractor trailers.

Both career paths were promising, but in the end, UPS stood out as the more attractive alternative. At the same time, though, from the time he was 16, Kyle had wanted to join a fire company. But it took his move to Cranberry from Evans City two years ago to turn that

dream into a practical possibility. Then, when he became engaged to Katie Ahlgren, daughter of firefighter and police sergeant Bill Ahlgren, his dream became a reality.

Today, as a newlywed and provisional entry-level firefighter, Kyle is looking forward to taking his Essentials of Firefighting course at BC3 and to becoming certified as an interior firefighter for Cranberry. In the meantime, starting at 8:30 each Monday through Friday, he wheels his brown UPS van around the Wexford area making about 200 deliveries each day – and then keeping on the move until his truck is empty. ☺



FIT FOR DUTY

“I’m still going, and I’m getting in better shape every week.”

Cranberry Patrolman Mike Weleski is a big, strong guy. But late last year was a tough time for him. Although he had always considered himself to be athletic, by age 40 he had fallen out of shape and was piling on the pounds. By Christmas, his weight had hit an unhealthy 300 pounds. Nor was that the first time it had happened. But his earlier remedy of using a crash diet with vigorous exercise to shed 20 or 30 pounds turned out to be a fleeting solution.

This time, however, Weleski decided that a new and sustainable approach to food, fitness and life in general was required. Foremost in that new approach was a different attitude toward food. One important component of that attitude change

involved tracking the foods he ate, particularly their carbs, fats, proteins, and nutritional values. His resolve found support from the police department’s Elite Police FIT program that focuses on an officer’s physical fitness and wellness, tailored specifically for the needs of law enforcement. Weleski also received support from a Cranberry-based nutrition company, Performance Inspired, whose food supplements played an important role in his transformation – a makeover detailed in a blog on the company’s website.

“I developed a plan. I set a stretch goal: losing 70 pounds by August 2019. I knew that consistently losing ten pounds a month for seven months would be a huge challenge, but that’s

where I wanted to be,” he said. “Month after month I continued to lose weight. The more I lost, the more I wanted to lose. When I dropped 25 pounds; it felt great. Shedding 50 pounds felt even better. However, my mind was blown when I lost 75 pounds in less than six months. I had crushed my goal of losing 70 pounds in seven months, but I’m not stopping there. I’m still going, and I’m getting in better shape every week.”

Weleski is one of many police officers who have found success in the department’s Elite Police FIT program, as the department boasts over 90 percent volunteer participation in its wellness program. 

Elite Police FIT launched in 2016 in Cranberry Township. The program is designed to help the fast-growing Butler County community develop and maintain a healthier, more focused, more effective police force.



POLICE TO DEVELOP STRATEGIC PLAN

Two-phase study approved

A consulting firm has been retained to lead a two-phase strategic planning effort for the Cranberry Township Police Department. At its September 5 meeting, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors approved a proposal from Bartell & Bartell to examine at least eight areas, including recruitment, career development, and training, as the department continues to grow. A similar focus on the strategic needs of Cranberry's fire and EMS services began three years ago.



NEW HOPE FOR THE DEAD

Church gets approval for new mausoleum

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church on Rowan Road, which observed its centennial anniversary in Cranberry two years ago, has received conditional use approval to add several small mausoleum buildings to its property. The church does not currently operate a cemetery on site. Each of the proposed marble and granite mausoleums will be used for the interment of ashes from four deceased congregants. The structures will be built in a grassy area on the opposite side of the church from where homes are located. No graves or headstones are planned for the property.



FIRE COMPANY HONORED WITH TWO FIRST PLACE AWARDS

The Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company (CTVFC) was awarded first place in the region for its fire safety education programs by the Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association and first place state-wide by the

Firemen's Association for the State of Pennsylvania. Competition for these annual awards is based upon the programs' contents and population (10,000 or more). Bragging rights go along with the awards as well as

monetary considerations to assist in future programs.

Both awards recognized an extensive series of educational activities, many in place since 1993, which the Cranberry organization has in place to prevent or reduce the likelihood of fires that could cause death, injury, or property damage. While combating active fires remains a core function of CTVFC, the company's priority is to eliminate the risk by educating children, adults, businesses, civic organizations, schools, and church groups. The programs are interactive and stress not only fire safety but the dynamics of fire. Typically, the CTVFC conducts approximately 100 events annually, and has props and specialized equipment to train and educate the public.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ARE **GOING GANGBUSTERS** THROUGHOUT THE TOWNSHIP

Here's the roundup...



FREEDOM, AT LAST! This past spring, Cranberry faced a great opportunity, but one that came with major challenges attached. In 2018, Butler County's Commissioners applied for and received a multimillion-dollar federal construction grant for PennDOT to improve Freedom Road from Commonwealth Drive to Haine School Road. The money was part of a visionary project that saw an improved east-west corridor running from the Beaver County line all the way to Route 8.

To access that money, a set of complex agreements needed to be worked out between the County, PennDOT, SPC and Cranberry Township - and they had to be in place with final design ready for bid by the fall of 2020 – a full year earlier than normal for such complex, multi-party agreements. Jason Kratsas, the Township's Director of Engineering, was determined to pull it off, vowing to move heaven and earth if needed to get things in place. That move has now been accomplished.

In August, Kratsas reported that the project was in full swing, with each of the milestones reached and with construction expected to begin in the spring of 2021.



TURNPIKE BRIDGE. Scheduled construction for improvements to the Commonwealth Drive-Haine School segment of Freedom Road will follow the fall 2020 installation of the nearby bridge replacement over the Turnpike. That new five-lane bridge including a sidewalk and bike lane will initially be built as two narrower bridges and then tied together at the conclusion of the project. Abutments for the first bridge are under construction. Plans call for construction to be staged so that traffic can continue to flow throughout the 18-month project with only temporary closures to several driveways and streets accessing Freedom Road inside the construction zone.



ROCHESTER ROAD. A series of projects over the past few years have widened Rochester Road, most notably at the intersection with Rt. 19. This spring, that expansion will continue with widening planned for segments along both sides of the road, giving Rochester a five-lane footprint from Rt. 19 to Graham School Road, near the Turnpike underpass.

In addition, this developer-funded project will include a new signalized intersection between the shared Municipal Center/St. Ferdinand's Church driveway and the Meeder project's Main Street, across the road. A revised signal configuration at Thomson Park Road will be included in the projects as will pedestrian accommodations along its length. This year, expect to see utility line relocation work with roadway expansion construction beginning in the late winter, early spring of 2020 and completion by next fall.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT. In terms of dollars as well as duration of build time, the expansion and upgrade of the Brush Creek sewage treatment plant along Powell Road is the biggest capital project Cranberry has ever undertaken. The \$58 million upgrade, mostly paid for with bonds to be financed by customers who subscribe to the service, uses an advanced technology to treat the wastewater flowing in from Cranberry, Marshall, and New Sewickley. That process technology, which has actually been on line since early this year, relies on artificial membranes to replace the clarifiers and sand filters used to strain out contaminants in the previous system, allowing for higher flows within a smaller plant footprint. That, in turn, has enlarged the plant's treatment capacity, reflecting both the growing population of its service region and the need to more fully accommodate the heavy flows associated with major rain events.

The only parts of its construction remaining to be completed involve the installation of pumps at the intake end of the process. That work is expected to be finished this fall.



MSA THRUWAY. Informally referred to during its years of planning as the Flyunder, this short segment of roadway will actually tunnel below Rt. 228, connecting Cranberry Woods and I-79 to Cranberry Springs. Bidding for construction on the design, which calls for pre-fabricated concrete arches to be delivered in sections four-foot wide and joined together along the 168-foot length of the tunnel, is currently underway with a contract award expected later this fall. During construction, current traffic lane configurations along 228 will be maintained, but they will be narrowed and shifted as needed to accommodate the work.

The road approaching the underpass from the south will have two northbound lanes, one dedicated to traffic exiting I-79 northbound and another to local traffic coming from Cranberry Woods. It will include a highway loop ramp, or roundabout, as well as bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. Cranberry Springs' developer, Township Impact Fees, MSA land donations, and a variety of grants from public agencies are financing the project.



NEW STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FEE IN THE PIPELINE

Rain falls freely. But stormwater management does not. Cranberry currently spends more than \$1.7 million a year just to maintain its already extensive stormwater system, and that cost is about to go up, largely due to new regulations that affect municipalities throughout the country.

That updated set of requirements – which includes reducing stream sedimentation and pollution from various sources – takes full effect in 2023. Municipalities like Cranberry, with separate stormwater and sanitary sewer systems, are subject to those requirements. And they're serious. Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection and the federal Environmental Protection Agency plan to enforce them by imposing fines on violators.

As a relatively new community, Cranberry's stormwater infrastructure is in much better shape than in some of the region's older communities. But there is a lifecycle to certain assets, like underground buried pipes, and after 50 years, they typically approach the end of that cycle. Right now, several of Cranberry's pioneering

neighborhoods have reached the point where the failure of pipes and culverts is increasingly likely. And if they fail, the Township's compliance with the new regulations is put at risk.

When they were new, many of Cranberry's stormwater facilities had been built in conjunction with housing plans and commercial centers by private developers. But particularly in residential areas, those assets had long ago been transferred to the Township. The cost of cleaning, repairing and otherwise maintaining them has fallen onto local taxpayers. And that cost is growing.

Several years ago, Cranberry created a General Authority. Under Pennsylvania law, Authorities are better able to handle certain financial transactions than townships of the second class, including Cranberry. Earlier this year, the Authority was asked to study the financial implications of the Township's stormwater management requirements, and it came up with a plan to maintain and to upgrade Cranberry's extensive stormwater system as required.

Discussion of their plan is still underway.

However, to pay for managing the system, they proposed a fee, to be collected by the Township as part of its monthly water, sewer and trash bills, which the Authority would retain and then distribute back to the Township for implementation, consistent with its plan. The fee for private homes, which the Authority's plan visualizes starting with the January bill, would be \$3 a month during the first year, and \$6 a month in 2021. The fee for commercial and institutional properties would be determined based on the area of impervious surface – structures and pavement – which have been built on the site.

That proposed rate is substantially below the fees levied by other jurisdictions which have imposed their own fees, so it would require continuing contributions from the Township's General Fund, at least through next year.

Nobody – neither government buildings, churches, schools or hospitals – would be exempt from the stormwater fee. The rain falls on everyone, and so does the burden of managing it. ☂

*For more information, visit
CranberryTownship.org/Stormwater*

Stormwater Management

OPEN HOUSE

JOIN US!

**Wednesday, October 9: 4-7 PM
Council Chambers in the Municipal Center**

Information stations will be staffed to answer questions on the proposed stormwater management program, billing and customer portal, and the MS4 program.

WATER CUSTOMERS CAN TRACK, USE AND SET ALERTS WITH NEW WEB PORTAL

Water customers in Cranberry now have a way to monitor and control their water use more than ever before. The new Customer Portal feature is free and available on the Township website.

"The Customer Portal is designed to give residents a tool to manage their water consumption," Assistant Director of Public Works for Utility Operations Greg Hoover explained. "Until now, a resident could only know after the fact of how much water they've used. This is going to allow them to look at it on a daily basis to gain insight into their water usage habits."

"You'll be able to set up your account using your account ID and your customer number, from your bill" Hoover pointed out. "Then

you create a user name and password. It works the same way for both residential and commercial customers."

It shows consumption in increments of just one gallon, not in thousands

to their billing cycle," Hoover said. "For example, I can set a target for X amount of gallons to be used. When I hit 80 percent of that target, I can set it to send me an alert. Or I can set alerts for high usage on a daily basis or over a seven-day period. You can even set up vacation alerts. The customer might say 'I'm on vacation over the Thanksgiving holiday. During that time I'm going to set the alert threshold to a lower level because I'm not typically using water when I'm away. I want to know if there's a leak or something's happening that shows consumption.'



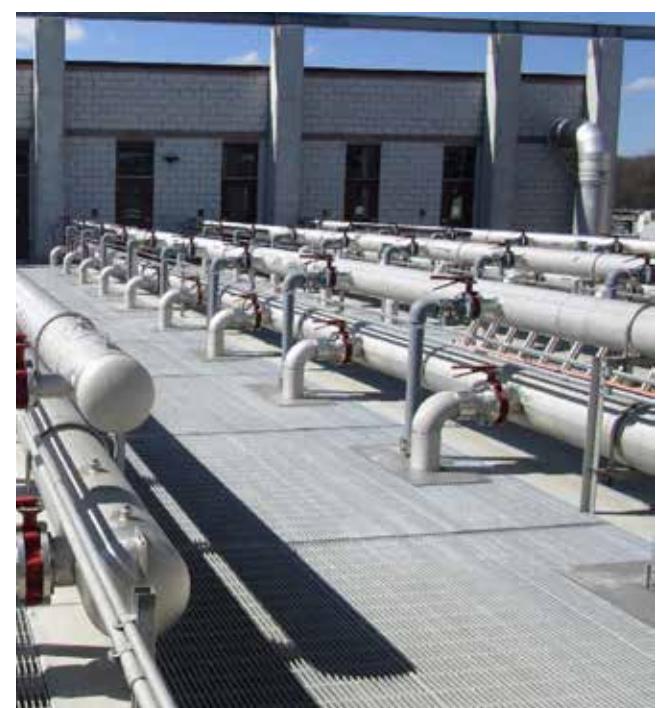
of gallons as in the previous system. But it offers more than just passive monitoring. "Customers can set limits

The website, which became live October 1, is not an app. However, it is phone friendly. ☎

SEWER RATES GO UP, WATER RATES GO DOWN, BILLING BY THE GALLON

With the conclusion of the \$58 million expansion and renovation of the wastewater treatment plant now in sight, the focus of the Township's efforts is about to turn toward increased rehabilitation work on its 170-plus mile collection system. Accordingly, in June, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors approved several adjustments in its water and sewer rates through December 1. Starting August 1, sewer rates will increase by 50¢ per 1,000 gallons while water rates will be reduced by 20¢ per 1,000.

Additionally, there will be an increase of 30¢ per 1,000 gallons starting November 27. Their combined net impact will be approximately \$1.50 a month for the average Cranberry customer. Customers will also notice that starting this fall, their utility bills will show charges per gallon rather than per thousand gallons. ☎





WHEN IT COMES TO RECYCLING,



CRANBERRY IS BUCKING THE SYSTEM

Pennsylvania's 1988 Act 101 requires larger communities to implement recycling programs that collect at least three from a menu of five materials capable of being recycled. Even so, communities all around the state are cutting back on recycling – largely a reflection of changes in the market for glass, paper, and certain other recycled materials.

This year alone in Western Pennsylvania, Mt. Lebanon and other South Hills communities are eliminating glass and mixed plastics collections. Penn Hills, Shaler and Wilkins have discontinued glass and mixed plastics collection. Lawrence and Mercer counties now only accept cardboard and paper products.

And the list goes on.

But Cranberry is different. "We're bucking the system," according to Environmental Coordinator Lorin Meeder, "We're counting on those markets coming back. If there's a resource out there, someone is going to figure out a way to use it."

"We need to take care of our environment, and part of that is recycling so we can conserve natural resources, because we're not going to stop using them," Meeder explained. "It takes decades to change people's behavior and attitudes about waste," he said, and stopping the collection of materials whenever market conditions change disrupts recently formed habits

and attitudes.

So Cranberry is doubling down. Educational efforts to help residents do a better job of recycling and to keep their recycling clean enough for resale, are being enhanced. Key messages include warnings that items like hoses, Christmas lights and larger plastic toys should be treated as garbage, not as recyclables. It means keeping food products and items contaminated with food waste out of recycling bins. It means keeping baby diapers in the garbage, not the recycling cart. And it means avoiding the use of plastic bags in recycling carts – bags that gum up recycling machinery and end up being treated as garbage. 

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE TACKLES BROAD AGENDA

This past April, a plan to expand the Forest Edge PRD from 60 to 101 homes using an adjacent 36-acre parcel of wooded land purchased from the Russian Orthodox Church on Peters Road, led to a chorus of concern among residents living near the proposed development site. Those concerns varied, but many centered on the environmental impact of that plan.

Ultimately, the Forest Edge plans were approved. But in response to the

residents' concerns they heard, the Board of Supervisors created an Ad Hoc Environmental Advisory Committee, to examine a wide range of issues with environmental impact together with staff, to offer recommendations, and then report their conclusions to the Board next January, at which point the ad hoc committee disbands.

The group's agenda is ambitious. "We began with an educational component," Planning and Development Services Director Ron Henshaw explained. "Staff provides information to the members on topics such as The Cranberry Plan, Cranberry Plan Update, Zoning Ordinance,

and Subdivision Land Development ordinances. Then we give them the parameters of the PA Municipalities Planning Code - which tells us what we can and cannot do.

The group includes 12 residents, several members of the Township's planning staff and a Board member. The monthly meeting themes were set out in advance to help members stay on point. Topics include building density, open spaces, tree preservation, floodplains, wetlands, and carbon emissions, among many others. Meeting schedules are posted on the Township's website. 

October is

National School Principal Month



It's time to recognize our principals and remember how important their work is in every school and with every student. It is clear to us that our successful building leaders know that they set the academic tenor for their schools. This is done by working collaboratively with teachers to develop and maintain high curriculum standards, utilizing vision and mission statements, and setting performance goals and objectives. Through their unwavering dedication and determination, our principals provide the mobilizing force for achieving student success. We are thankful for their work on behalf of our students! We encourage you to join us in this celebration by sharing your appreciation with all Seneca Valley principals!

Connoquenessing Valley Elem. School

Principal: Mrs. DeeAnn Graham

Assistant Principal: Ms. Tina Francis

Evans City Elementary School

Principal: Ms. Lauri Pendred

Assistant Principal: Mr. Andrew Teti

Evans City Middle School

Principal: Mr. Timothy Eiler

Assistant Principal: Ms. Bridget Miller

Haine Elementary School

Principal: Ms. Kristen White

Assistant Principal: Mr. Jeremy Womer

Haine Middle School

Principal: Ms. Cassandra Doggrell

Assistant Principal: Ms. Megan Lizewski

Rowan Elementary School

Principal: Ms. Nannette Farmar

Ryan Gloyer Middle School

Principal: Mr. Anthony Babusci

Assistant Principal: Mr. Robert Raso

Acting Assistant Principal: Ms. Trisha Butschle

Seneca Valley Intermediate High School

Principal: Dr. Matthew Delp

Assistant Principal: Ms. Erin Mazer

Assistant Principal: Mr. Kyle Leggett

Seneca Valley Senior High School

Principal: Mr. Robert Ceh

Assistant Principal: Ms. Amanda Mallin

Acting Assistant Principal: Mr. Daniel Guerra

Seneca Valley Academy of Choice

Principal: Ms. Denise Manganello

Assistant Principal: Mr. Ashley Porter

Acting Assistant Principal: Mr. Matthew Pournaras

Mrs. Graham

Ms. Pendred

Mr. Eiler

Ms. White

Ms. Doggrell

Ms. Farmer

Mr. Babusci

Mr. Delp

Mr. Ceh

Ms. Manganello

AT HOME WITH

Grace and Charles Hawkins



When Charles and Grace Hawkins first moved to Cranberry from Ohio 45 years ago, they were somewhat apprehensive. For good reason - diversity was scarce in Butler County. Their arrival was greeted with threats that left them fearful in their own home. They were afraid to leave their children unattended in the family's Fox Run home when they went to meetings, and often experienced both subtle and not-so-subtle indignities. That was then. Times change.

Today, after retiring from distinguished careers in teaching and government administration, and with both of their grown children now living elsewhere, the Hawkins have come to love Cranberry and hope to find a suitable retirement community in the Township they have both grown to feel is their true hometown. However, in the process of changing their own attitudes, they also brought welcome change to the community itself.

In 1974, when the post office first opened its bulk mail center in Warrendale, USPS knew it needed experienced professionals to help manage the giant facility. Charles had worked with the Metropolitan Planning Commission of Steubenville and as an adjunct professor at WVU, Pitt and Case Western Reserve, eventually leaving to create New Life Incorporated, a nonprofit focused on housing and family issues. That's when he was recruited to be the postal center's Supervisor of Planning and Transportation - responsible

for contracting the host of services required to move mail in and out of the Pittsburgh area.

As a new resident of Cranberry, he was also determined to give back to his adopted community. He joined the local Rotary and served on the Municipal Sewer and Water Authority Board for 18 years. He became a member of the Township's Zoning Hearing Board. He joined with Cranberry police Sergeant Dave Lewis on school visits to talk about the DARE program.

Immediately following the infamous 1991 Rodney King incident in Los Angeles, he partnered with the late Gary Winterhalter to form the Cranberry Advocacy Network - a group of distinguished public officials convened to identify and address community problems before they could fester into turmoil. And when a local restaurateur posted a sign widely which was interpreted as hostile to Muslims, the two men reunited, with Township support, to form the Cranberry Area Diversity Network.

Grace, who Charles had met as a Wilberforce University classmate in an early morning advanced math class, went on to a career as a science teacher. When the couple moved to Cranberry after 8½ years of teaching in Steubenville, she applied to what was then the Southwest Butler School District, today's Seneca Valley. Then as now, the school district was overwhelmingly white. Grace became its first full-time African-American

teacher. Dale Smith, the district's Superintendent at the time, was tremendously supportive, and apart from parents occasionally dropping their jaws upon seeing her at Open House, Grace's tenure there was a satisfying one.

She served on Butler County Community College's Board of Trustees for 18 years and as a trustee on the board of Slippery Rock University for another four years. Applying her advanced degrees, she became an adjunct professor in the Slippery Rock University's education department, training other teachers. It was an assignment that took her to a variety of sites, including Cape Canaveral, where she learned about teaching teachers how to instruct their students in aerospace science. Back at home, both she and her husband are active in the programs at Victory Family Church as well as in occasional foreign travel.

"There can be challenges to living in any community," Charles observed, reflecting on the couple's long tenure in the Township. "But Cranberry, on the whole, is a very welcoming, loving community. The people who are running the Township want to make it as inclusive as possible. People here can be accepted and do the things they need to have a fulfilled and wholesome life."

"I love it," Grace added. "Just teach your kids to love everybody and they'll end up loving everybody - color doesn't matter." ☺

PRESENTED BY:

CADN CRANBERRY AREA DIVERSITY NETWORK

MENTAL HEALTH AND SPECIAL NEEDS COALITIONS

Pathway to Empowerment

Coming Spring 2020!

CranberryTownship.org/CADN

LOCAL FIRM

HELPS **WOMEN** ACHIEVE FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE

“
We realized that it was absolutely imperative to start teaching women to become involved with their finances...
”

Dave and Sue Hickey's independent financial services firm is called "Your Own Retirement." CranberryToday recently spoke with Sue about their business.

What is the focus of your business?

We do a lot of couples work. But three or four years ago, I realized that most of the women we deal with didn't want to get involved. I would see widows and divorcees coming into my office who had no idea about their finances. If you don't know how to read a financial statement, how do you know if you're being ripped off? Or if you're being charged too much? Or what you could lose if something happened? So for us, a big part of our business is trying to get women involved.

How did the business come about?

Twenty-six years ago, Dave left the company he was working for to start his

own. His business is what led to this business. People would call Dave and say: "I'm getting ready to retire. Are there any of your products that can help me?" We realized there was no one teaching about retirement or how you could create your own pension. We had friends and acquaintances who were going to retire but they couldn't because of the 2008-'09 financial crisis. That's when we created 'Your Own Retirement' to help people understand their options.

Most financial advisers work with 20, 30, 40-year olds. But once you hit 50, you need to start taking some risk off the table. That's where we came into play. We realized that it was absolutely imperative to start teaching women to become involved with their finances



**Susan L. Hickey,
Insurance and Financial Retirement Professional**

because divorce happens. And so does widowhood. It's uncanny how much you don't know and how much people can take advantage of you. So we've been hitting the women's market, trying to get women to come in to listen and understand their investments.

You can reach "Your Own Retirement" at www.yourretirement.com or call 412-872-2151. 

*Would you like your business to be featured in CranberryToday? Tell us your story!
Email CommunicationsTeam@cranberrytownship.org
or call 724-776-4806 x2200.*



Eric Schindler, Director of Leasing

ELMHURST IS BULLISH ON CRANBERRY

Downtown Pittsburgh-based Elmhurst Group – a 40-year old real estate company which owns and manages an impressive three million square feet of commercial space – has the skills as well as the assets to build just about anywhere. Yet all of its projects are focused on Western Pennsylvania, and a number of them are right in Cranberry.

Eric Schindler, a veteran of Pittsburgh's real estate market and currently Elmhurst's Director of Leasing, explained it this way: "Pittsburgh is a very consistent real estate market. We don't experience the highs that some other markets do, nor do we experience the lows. From a long-term speculative developer's perspective, that's not all bad. If you work hard and have a good network of people, there are opportunities to be had, and you can do okay."

Within the Pittsburgh market, however, some districts present more opportunities than others. "In real estate there are trends," Schindler explained. "Certain markets become hot." For example, he noted, there's The Strip and East Liberty and Oakland – all of which are hot locations for

office space today. And then there's Cranberry.

In 2012, the company built a 48,000 square foot flex building in Thorn Hill Industrial Park, followed by a twin building the following year. "They were built on speculation; we didn't have any tenants in our pocket," Schindler recalled. "That's how bullish we were of the Cranberry market, and we still are." Shortly thereafter, the company built Cranberry Crossroads – a traditional three-story office building next to Dick's.

"But then Westinghouse had their little hiccup," he continued. "The timing probably couldn't have been any worse for us to build a spec building. Westinghouse put a large block of space on the market for sublease. So it was a competitive environment, and it resulted in us getting a more diverse group of tenants than we had anticipated. But it's probably better for us in the long run. That building is now full."

However, Elmhurst's Cranberry Crossroads office building won't be the company's last venture in Cranberry. This summer, it completed a 60,000 square foot flex space building at the

Heights of Thorn Hill, and it owns a pad adjacent to it that could eventually house either a flex space clone or even someone's tailor-made headquarters office building.

Years ago, the company also had a hand in residential real estate, including the Winchester Farms PRD in Cranberry. Today though, the company's sole focus is on building, leasing and maintaining commercial properties. But the amenities that attract residents to the Township also attract businesses to locate here.

"There's the whole live-work-play tag line you hear a lot," Schindler acknowledged. "But it's true. People spend so much time working these days you want to be comfortable. You want to be in a nice working environment. Cranberry offers that. There's great access. There's all kinds of entertainment, restaurants, shopping, and green spaces that are either there or just a few minutes away. Cranberry has a lot to offer which is why we, as developers, feel that it's a good place to plant our flag and develop commercial properties. Companies want to be there." 



Tom Panei, Artist/Musician

WITH A LITTLE ENTERPRISE, YOU CAN MAKE IT AS AN ARTIST IN BUTLER COUNTY

Artist/musician Tom Panei holds onto everything. At age 50, his studio in Butler not only houses some of his more recent paintings rendered on canvas, wood and other surfaces, it also includes his first car – a 1975 Fiat Spider restored to exquisite condition – as well as church statuary he has restored, several '60s vintage motorcycles, and a working collection of vinyl LPs whose rhythms help to animate the curiously retro atmosphere of his studio.

This past May a Panei painting, titled *On a High Note*, was selected as one of a handful of works to be rendered onto vinyl and wrapped around a traffic signal control box at a high-profile intersection in Cranberry. It was chosen through a competition that drew 91 applications for just five box art awards. The painting, which evokes his lifelong passion for music, has a distinctively 1930s art deco style. But Panei, who is self-taught in art as well as in music, sculpture and – with the benefit of formal instruction and state certification – in creating hand-built dentures for dental patients, doesn't model his art work after anything other than his own imagination.

Between commissioned art projects, frequent music gigs, and his unlikely practice of building dentures for the

patients of a local dental clinic – a craft that came about through the urging of his own former dentist – Panei has managed to cobble together a livelihood for himself, his 4-year old son, and his wife – a special education teacher in the Shenango school district. But his working life wasn't always that of a free-spirited artist.

For 15 years, he labored at the local Armco steel plant – a choice job for people in the Butler area and one that few employees had ever chosen to leave before clocking in their 30 years. But Panei found the routine deadening. So, with his growing interest in art and a portfolio of paintings he had created in his free time, he broke with local custom, leaving the security of the steel company to forge his own career path.

Today, in his newly renovated Spring Street studio building near downtown Butler, Panei not only has room to store the treasures of his past, but also to take on projects that frequently involve oversize artworks, such as his 30-foot cubist style interpretation of *The Last Supper*, commissioned to be displayed in the corridors of his eclectic group of commercial and institutional clients – and now at a prominent intersection in Cranberry as well. ☎



Fresenius Kabi meets Goldilocks

September was not the first time the German-based medical device maker in has come to the Township with plans for expanding its Thorn Hill Industrial Park manufacturing facility. The first time, Fresenius Kabi applied for and received a permit to expand its plant on Commonwealth Drive by 6,000 square feet. A few months later, the company realized that it actually needed more space, so it applied for and was granted conditional use approval to make it a 12,000 square foot expansion. That still wasn't big enough. At its April 25 meeting, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors heard testimony on the company's proposal to make the addition even bigger – this time 18,500 square feet. But that time, they overshot the target. At its September 5 meeting, the Board heard and approved the company's most recent proposal – this time for a just right 14,900 square foot expansion. The would look exactly the same, but with a slightly smaller size. A separate 2,000 square foot utility building on the site was also approved.

Park Place says 'no' to new apartments

The housing market has changed, and business arrangements have evolved since Park Place was originally proposed. One consequence is that there will be fewer people living there than first visualized. That's because the apartment buildings which were planned for Phase 8 of the massive project will not be built. In their place, the developer will be adding new townhomes but, as a result, the project's residential density will be lower than first planned, with a net reduction of 87 units on the 195-acre site.



Dentistry braces for move

Cranberry Family Dentistry, currently located in a shopping plaza at the corner of Freedom Road and Rt. 19, is planning to move into its own quarters. At its September 5 meeting, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors gave land development approval for a new 5,200 square foot office building at the corner of Marshall/Rowan Roads for the dental practice as well as an unnamed office tenant. A decaying red brick house currently on the site will be extracted and replaced by the new building as well as required parking spaces.



Ron Lewis moves into No Man's Land

Several years ago, the intersection of Old Rt. 19 and the current Rt. 19 was realigned for safety. One byproduct was the creation of a vacant .93-acre lot where part of the old road had been. As a result, the Township retained the property's right of way. But earlier this year, Cranberry vacated that right. The Ron Lewis auto dealership, which is just down the street, expressed an interest in using that vacant wedge of land, which at one time had housed a QuickFill gas station, for an open air display of as many as 50 vehicles at a time from his inventory. At its September 5 meeting, the Township's Board of Supervisors approved the dealership's plan which will include adding sidewalk around the perimeter of the site along with brick piers, fencing, street lights, streetscape enhancements and street trees.



Ace Estates Roofing & Exteriors

2618 Rochester Road

Rajbhog Market Cafe

20111 Route 19
(Cranberry Mall)

The Big Salad

20012 Route 19 (Oak Tree Place)

David Bridge Jr Agency (Farmer's Insurance)

318 Thomson Park Drive

Ron Lewis Service Center

21147 Route 19

Penn Power Group Sales

21260 Route 19

Redzone Robotics

195 Thorn Hill Road

Niko's Diner (formerly known as Nicks on 19)

20273 Route 19

Sophos

3159 Unionville Road, Suite 400

O'Reilly Auto Parts

20541 Route 19

IN CRANBERRY!

J Jill

20418 Route 19

Fine Wine & Good Spirits

New location in the
Cranberry Mall

Peterson Cartridge Company

17 Leonberg Road



PROJECT OF THE 2020 YEAR

ROTARY AMPHITHEATER RENOVATION & EXPANSION

"Our Community Treasure"



The Rotary Amphitheater isn't just a building. It's a place for friends, laughter, music, and memories. Each year thousands of families enjoy free movies in the park, listen to their favorite bands, or proudly watch their child's performance on stage.

If you've enjoyed distinctive performances during Community Days, Summer Concert Series, or Summer Movie Nights, all these memories were made possible by a simple building. The amphitheater provides a friendly gathering place for our close-knit community to come together.

That's why Cranberry Township Community Chest, CTCC, selected this "Community Treasure" as our 2020 Project of the Year. Renovating this space brings a plethora of opportunities for entertainment. Plus, a renewed amphitheater attracts additional performances like ballet, the symphony, comedy or opera.

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS,
BUT WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT
TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.

Together, we will renew the Rotary Amphitheater and make this cherished space the heart of our community.



ABOUT THE 2020 PROJECT OF THE YEAR

The Rotary Amphitheater in Community Park has been the premier venue for outdoor music, dance, and drama in Cranberry Township since its first performance seventeen years ago. After assessing the need of art expression in our community, Cranberry Township Community Chest, CTCC, has decided to undertake a series of improvements to greatly increase the family atmosphere and experience at the amphitheater.

Details of the upgrade were still being finalized at press time, and various components of the project may be phased in beyond 2020. Among the features being assessed include: extending the roofline, expanding the stage, increased connectivity, ADA accessibility, façade improvements, and improved seating.

You can invest in a better tomorrow as a supporter of our Community Treasure by completing the form below.



*Rendering of the Rotary Amphitheater in Community Park
courtesy of Designstream LLC.*

STAY TUNED FOR EXCITING PROJECT FEATURES THIS FALL!

Detach and return with your donation

.....

YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY TREASURE.

- \$250
- \$150
- \$50
- \$25
- Other \$ _____

Giving is easy:

Online: CranberryTownship.org/2020POY

Mail: Check payable to "CTCC"

2525 Rochester Road, Ste 450
Cranberry Township, PA 16066

Phone: (724) 776-4806 x1175

Name

Public Listing*

Address

City

State

Zip

Email

Phone

**All donations will be publicly recognized in the project dedication booklet and the 2020 CTCC Annual Report.*

Interested in making a major gift or corporate sponsorship?

Contact Harmony Hodges at Harmony.Hodges@CranberryTownship.org or (724) 776-4806 x1175 for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS



FIRE PREVENTION MONTH
Change batteries in all smoke detectors!
Farmers' Market, Fridays 3-6 PM, through end of October, rear lot of Municipal Ctr.

- 1** Cranberry Artists Network Open Studio, 10 AM, Muni Ctr
- 2** Environmental Advisory Committee 6:30 PM, Muni Ctr
- 3** Board of Supervisors, 6:30PM, Muni Ctr
- 5** HHW Collection, ECS&R by appt.
Sheriff's Gun Licensing, 9AM, Muni Ctr
- 7** Planning Advisory Committee, 6 PM, Muni Ctr
- 8** Cranberry K9 Connection, 6:30 PM, Muni Ctr
- 9** Stormwater Fee Open House, 4-7 PM, Muni Ctr
- 14** HOA Forum, 6:30 PM, Muni Ctr
- 17** Manager's Coffee: "When You See Something, Say Something", 6:30 PM
Public Safety Training Ctr
- 18** Great Pumpkin Festival, 6 PM, Muni Ctr; Pre-registration required
- 19** HHW Collection, ECSR by appt.
Public Safety Blood Drive & Open House, 9 AM-2 PM, Park Station on Rt. 19
Community CPR (9 AM) & First Aid Training (12:30 PM), Muni Ctr
- 21** Zoning Hearing Board, 7:30 PM (as needed)
- 28** Planning Advisory Commission, 6 PM, Muni Ctr
- 30** Board of Supervisors, 6:30PM, Muni Ctr
- 31** Halloween Trick or Treat in Cranberry, 6-8 PM



WASTE COLLECTION DELAY THIS MONTH:
Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule:
Trash collection delayed by one day, Thurs. and Fri. (November 28 & 29).

- 2** Farkleberry Craft Show, Cranberry Women's Club, 9 AM-3 PM, Muni Ctr
- 5** General Election Day. 7 AM – 8 PM
- 6** Environmental Advisory Committee 6:30 PM, Muni Ctr
- 7** Board of Supervisors, 6:30PM, Muni Ctr
- 9** EMS Save A Life Saturday, 9 AM – 3 PM, Free - hands-only CPR, Muni Ctr
CTVFC Ladies Auxiliary Spaghetti Dinner, 4-7 PM, Park Fire Station on Rt 19
- 12** Cranberry Artists Network Open Studio, 10 AM, Muni Ctr
- 13** Board of Supervisors Budget Meeting, 6:30 PM
- 14** Board of Supervisors Budget Meeting, 6:30 PM (if needed)
- 16** HHW Collection, ECSR by appt.
- 18** Early Learning Ctr Open House, 4-7 PM, Muni Ctr
Zoning Hearing Board, 7:30 PM (as needed)
- 21** Board of Supervisors, 6:30PM, Muni Ctr
- 22** Santa's First Stop, 4-9 PM, Muni Ctr
- 25** Planning Advisory Committee, 6 PM, Muni Ctr
- 28** Township Offices & Library closed
- 29** Township Offices & Library closed
- 30** Last Day to Pay School Property Taxes at Face Value



WASTE COLLECTION DELAY THIS MONTH:
Christmas Holiday Schedule:
Trash collection delayed by one day, Weds.-Fri (December 25-27).

- 4** Environmental Advisory Committee 6:30 PM, Muni Ctr
- 7** Milk & Cookies with Santa, 11:30 AM, 12:45 PM, or 2 PM, Muni Ctr; Pre-registration required
- 8** Milk & Cookies with Santa, 11 AM or 12:15 PM, Muni Ctr; Pre-registration required
- 9** Pet Photos with Santa, 2 PM, Muni Ctr; Pre-registration required
- 12** Board of Supervisors, 6:30PM, Muni Ctr
- 13** Yard waste collections end
Gingerbread House Making, 7:30 PM, Muni Ctr; Pre-registration required
- 14** HHW Collection, ECSR by appt.
Brunch with Santa at Cranberry Highlands, 10 AM or 12:30 PM; Pre-registration required
- 15** Brunch with Santa at Cranberry Highlands, 10 AM or 12:30 PM; Pre-registration required
- 16** Zoning Hearing Board, 7:30 PM (as needed)
- 21** Community CPR (9 AM) & First Aid Training (12:30 PM), Muni Ctr
- 25** Township Offices & Library closed

HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE CO. LADIES AUXILIARY

Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, November 9: 3-7 PM

Park Station on Rt. 19



Spaghetti Dinner - Eat-in or Take-out

NEW Bake Sale with Homemade Desserts

Adults: \$8; Children (3-12 yrs.): \$5; Children 3 & Under: FREE
Chinese Auction & 50/50; Purchase Tickets at the Door!

www.CTVFC21.org



YARD WASTE

COLLECTIONS END
DECEMBER 13

ACCEPTED

Leaves
Grass clippings
Branches and tree limbs
under 4" thick
Brush up to 4 ft. in length
Plants, flowers, and roots
Shrubbery and prunings
Sawdust

NOT ACCEPTED

Loose soil or sod
Kitchen food waste
Garden or orchard food waste
Pet excrement, droppings
Kitty litter
Plastics or synthetics
Tree stumps / limbs over 4" thick
Non-compostable bags / boxes
Lumber / construction material

Place items curbside in your GREEN TOP CART
or BIODEGRADABLE YARD WASTE BAG.

Bags are available for sale in the Customer Service Office.

CranberryTownship.org/Collection

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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