

Cranberry



SPRING 2022

TODAY

KIDS CASTLE ROYAL REFRESH!

**+ COMMUNITY
UPDATES**



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• TOWNSHIP •



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• CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP •

June 11 - August 19
Levels 1 - 6

YARD WASTE COLLECTION MARCH 28 - DECEMBER 9

- ACCEPTED:**
- Leaves
 - Grass clippings
 - Branches and tree limbs under 4" diameter
 - Brush up to 4 ft. in length
 - Plants, flowers, and roots
 - Shrubby and prunings
 - Sawdust
- NOT ACCEPTED:**
- Loose soil or sod
 - Kitchen food waste
 - Garden or orchard food waste
 - Excrement, pet droppings, or kitty litter
 - Plastics or synthetics
 - Tree stumps or limbs over 4" thick
 - Non-compostable bags or boxes
 - Lumber or construction material

CranberryTownship.org/Collection



PUBLIC MEETINGS



Board of Supervisors

April 28; May 5, 26;
June 2, 30



Planning Advisory Commission

April 4, 25; May 2, 31;
June 6, 27



Environmental Advisory Committee

April 13; May 11;
June 8



sewer · water · trash
collection connection

BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Pay by mail
- Pay in person
- Township office drop box
- Pay online
- Electronic payment from your bank



Go Paperless to Save Time & Money!



EMAIL-BILL

Get your monthly bill by email. Pay it any way you choose.



EMAIL-BILL PLUS AUTOMATIC

Choose both and get a \$1 credit every month.



AUTOMATIC BILL PAYMENT

AutoPay makes automatic withdrawals from your bank account on the due date.

CranberryTownship.org/BillPay

SPRING CLEANING?



Scan to
learn about
extra trash
stickers!



2022 BUSINESS TAX DATES

EARNED INCOME TAX

- 1st Quarter: April 30
- 2nd Quarter: July 31
- 3rd Quarter: October 31
- 4th Quarter: January 31
- Year End Return: April 15

EARNED INCOME TAX

- 1st Quarter: April 30

SCAN FOR INFO!



CranberryTownship.org/Taxes

RECYCLING IN CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP



PAPER



GLASS JARS & BOTTLES



BOXES



PLASTIC BOTTLES & JARS



CANS

ALL
RECYCLABLES,
ONE CART



CONTENTS

CRANBERRY TODAY SPRING 2022



FEATURE

- 6 Processing Public Comment
- 7 CranFest Comes Back
- 18 Kids Castle Gets Royal Refresh

PERSPECTIVE

- 8 Nostalgia for the Present

UPDATES

- 9 Cranberry News
- 10 Fresh Ideas on Freshcorn
- 11 Name That Plow!
- 12 Pickleball Picking Up
- 14 CLICing Along
- 15 At Your Service 24/7
- 16 Oh Snap!

SAFETY


- 20 Move It On Over
- 21 EMS Chief Builds on Success
- 22 Fresh Ideas from Fire Leaders

BUSINESS

- 24 Diesel Sports Complex
- 25 Clean EatZ
- 26 Comcast Business Trailer
- 27 Business News

LIVING

- 28 Kids of Cranberry
- 29 Cranberry Cares
- 30 Faces of Cranberry
- 31 Seneca Valley Foundation
- 32 Golf Tour Tees Off
- 33 Upcoming Events

CONNECT     



12



21

Chief Builds on Success

Matt Nickl assumes the new role as the Cranberry Township EMS Chief.



28

ON THE COVER



Cranberry Township residents Leah & Ellie having a ball at the Kids Castle playground in Community Park. The playground will be refurbished this summer. Leah & Ellie are the daughters of Shane & Kristen Wokutch.



CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dick Hadley
Bruce Hezlep
Mike Manipole
Bruce Mazzoni
John Skorupan

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Dan Santoro

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

Online issues are available at CranberryTownship.org/CranberryToday

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FEEDBACK WELCOME!

CommunicationsTeam@CranberryTownship.org

POINT OF ORDER

Public Meeting Guidance for **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS**

A municipal government is only as strong as the people it represents.

That's why citizens are encouraged to attend public meetings, as they provide an opportunity to engage with elected officials in productive discussion, while increasing awareness of an issue or proposal. Before a resident attends a public meeting, it's highly recommended to become educated on the issues, by obtaining an agenda in advance, speaking with Township staff, and attending a Planning Commission meeting where projects are first presented. The Cranberry Township Board of Supervisors provide a communication platform at all public meetings for broad-based community input. Public participation affords stakeholders the opportunity to

contribute to decisions that shape their community. Scan the QR code to see how to best communicate and be involved in the government process.

By staying up to date on Township happenings and providing feedback from the beginning, citizens can have the most impact on these decisions and, ultimately, the future of the Township. 🏠





CRANFEST

Celebrates Again



We are excited to bring our community together and spotlight the amazing people from all cultures who call Cranberry Township home.



The value of cultural diversity in Cranberry Township is core to the community, even though CranFest hasn't taken place in several years.

In 2022, neither weather nor a pandemic will prevent the colorful festival from occurring.

The normally annual event was canceled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and an outdoor version was scrapped in 2021 due to inclement weather.

With a return of the popular indoor event imminent on Saturday, May 7, organizers are anticipating a celebration like no other.

"We are excited to bring our community together and spotlight the amazing people from all cultures who call Cranberry Township home," said Sonia Jaiswal, Coordinator of the Cranberry Area Diversity Network.

Staples of the event, which began in 2014, include live dance and musical performances, informational booths, vendors, and authentic cuisine from various cultures. Sponsored by CADN and the Township, the event runs from 11 a.m to 3 p.m. at the Township Municipal Center, 2525 Rochester Road.

"The community has been patiently waiting for CranFest, and we hope to brighten everyone's day with a wonderful event," Jaiswal said.

All are invited to celebrate our diversities together at this year's Cranfest. For a detailed schedule of events, visit cranberrydiversity.org.



NOSTALGIA FOR THE PRESENT



*By Dick Hadley
Board of Supervisors*

“I miss the way Cranberry used to be.”

The Board of Supervisors have heard or read that phrase quite a bit over the years. Most often, we hear it rumbling while we consider a proposed development. The insinuation is that such development will destroy what Cranberry is and has been to members of the community.

This type of sentiment has a ripple effect on our community. Not only does it come across as a not-so-thinly veiled shot at new members of the community, but it fails to dive deeper as to what, exactly, a person means when they say they miss the “old Cranberry.”

I would argue – and have - that Cranberry is still very much “what it used to be.”

Cranberry is still a community that cares.

There are dozens of non-profits that work tirelessly to serve any need that may exist. This includes our faith communities, which work together for the common good no matter their beliefs.

This spirit of serving one another was amplified during the toughest stretch of the COVID-19 pandemic, with volunteers coming together to help in any physical capacity those in need, or simply donating funds for supplies. We also see these qualities through our Snow and Leaf Angel programs, where dozens of residents volunteer their time to keep sidewalks, yards, and driveways clear for those who can't.

Cranberry is still beautiful place where nature is prominent and preserved.

Our beloved parks system continues to grow and thrive, offering expansive green space and nature areas to enjoy. These

offerings have expanded alongside and because of the growth of the past several decades. And in any new development, preservation of green space is a key and crucial requirement.

Cranberry is still a community that plans for the future.

During the rapid growth of the 1990s and early 2000s, new residents and businesses immediately contributed to the community through recreation and transportation impact fees. This ensured infrastructure and services could grow in step and didn't put the burden on our existing community.

We continue with that type of planning for whatever will come next. That includes investments in our roadways (the MSA Thruway and Freedom Road, most recently), our water and sewer capabilities at the Brush Creek Water Treatment Control Facility, and appropriate staffing to keep things moving.

Cranberry is still a place people want to be.

The 2020 Census confirmed what we already knew about the Township being a desirable destination – but it's always a good reminder. Because of the planning, parks, and – perhaps most importantly – our incredible community makeup, people want to call Cranberry home.

It's been said that nostalgia is a file that removes the rough edges from the good old days. That rings true in Cranberry, where the Board has fought hard to hold fast to our community's vision. There were growing pains, but they have helped shape the amazing community we have today.

So, sit back, relax, and enjoy the “good old days” while they're still happening.

Dick Hadley



CRANBERRY BRIEFS



Enhancement Projects on the Table

Efforts to enhance are expected soon at two Township venues. Upgrades at the Municipal Center, as well as the advancement of the Cranberry Highlands Golf Course Master Plan, were on the agenda during the Board of Supervisors meeting. The Board approved a contract with Herbert, Rowland & Grubic Inc. for supplemental and design services for a planned facelift at the Municipal Center. While the scope of work is not yet confirmed, a redesign and expansion of the parking lot is expected in 2022.

At Cranberry Highlands, the Board recently approved a Golf Course Master Plan study to identify potential improvements to the course itself. As part of that process, the Board also seeks to find potential areas of improvement for the Clubhouse area. Designstream LLC was awarded a contract to perform architectural services for that portion of the project.



Treatment Plant Getting Quieter

The Brush Creek Water Pollution Control Facility won't be unplugged any time soon, but it will go acoustic. Updates to the blower intakes at the facility on Powell Road near the Pennsylvania Turnpike will include acoustic air inlet silencers. The devices aim to further quiet the hum of the equipment during operations.

The Board of Supervisors approved a contract with JP Environmental LLC to perform the work.



Gaining 'Grrround' at New Dog Park

Township dogs will soon be barking up the right tree in Community Park. Ground was recently broken on the relocated Rotary Dog Park.

The new park will feature dedicated areas for large and small dogs to run off-leash and offers both open and wooded spaces. The wooded areas will border the Community Park trail, a portion of which will be reconfigured during construction.

Remaining phases of work will be completed during 2022. That work includes features such as a proposed pavilion, concrete work, and other site amenities.

Tails will be wagging with anticipation for a proper opening in spring 2022.



Ehrman Road Signal Progresses

Ehrman Road will soon be busier with the construction of Ehrman Crest Elementary School.

Keeping students and other commuters safe on that stretch of road is more important than ever, and that's why the Township will soon install a right turn lane from Ehrman Road onto Route 19. The new lane will help keep traffic flowing safely and help prevent backups. The Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Shields Paving to complete the work. The cost will be covered through Traffic Impact Fees, with work set to take place later this spring.



Stormwater Items Gain Approval

Ensuring the Township is doing all it can to keep houses and businesses above water continues to be a focus, as the Board approved a resolution offering continued support and participation in the Southwest Butler County Stormwater Planning Group. The group was formed following excessive flooding in 2019.

Adams, Cranberry, Forward, Jackson, Lancaster, and Penn townships, as well as Evans City, Harmony, Seven Fields, and Zelienople boroughs identified priority projects to be added to Butler County's Act 167 Stormwater Plan. Each community will contribute \$2,000 toward those efforts, with Cranberry serving as the contracting agent and administrator of the funds. The Board also approved a contract with PVE LLC to conduct a Southwest Region Stormwater Study which will look at the southern corner of the Township including the Woodlands, Sun Valley and Freedom Woods plans.



Township Approves HHW Contract

Junk won't have to sit in residents' trunks much longer.

Faced with the unexpected closure of its household hazardous waste collection partner, the Township needed a new trash teammate.

The Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Noble Environmental to become the HHW provider.



PROJECT INNOVATION SAVES \$250K

On time and on budget is the goal of any municipal government project.

For Cranberry Township's planned improvements to Freshcorn Road, those touchstones weren't good enough.

Instead, using innovative methods and in-house manpower, upgrades on the 2,800-foot stretch of road was completed a year ahead of time and nearly \$250,000 under the original budget.

The project addressed safety issues along the stretch of Freshcorn Road between Kingston and the Jackson Township line. With 1,000 vehicles traveling the road each day, it was identified as a project in need of repair and reconfiguration.

Crews removed an embankment, which improved site distances at the intersection of Glen Rape and Freshcorn Roads. They also widened the road and lowered the vertical curve to improve visibility.

More than 900 feet of new guiderail was installed, and though the road does not see many pedestrians, a widened shoulder was added to improve safety for those walking or biking in the area.

A large portion of work was completed by the Township's Department of Public Works Streets Division, including grading and embankment removal, as well as drainage improvements, sign installation, and seeding of the area.

The project benefitted greatly from the full depth reclamation process, which allowed for 1,200 tons of millings to serve as the base material for the new roadway.

The total project cost, originally anticipated to be roughly \$450,000, totaled just \$200,234 thanks to innovative practices and agreements with contracted companies and the work

of the Township Public Works team.

With the cost savings from the bulk of the project,

the Township was able to amend an existing paving contract and complete the final paving work – originally planned for summer 2022 – in the fall of 2021. This also eliminated the need to re-bid that work, saving both time and money.

The project is another example of the Township's commitment to innovative infrastructure improvements that are mindful of the taxpayer. 🏠





PLOW MONIKER CONTEST DRAWS FLURRY OF IDEAS

No two snowflakes are alike.

And while some of the names for the Township's inaugural *Name That Snowplow Contest* were duplicates, they were unique, nonetheless.

Nearly 1,000 names were entered over the two-week suggestion period. Each entry was carefully considered, and Cranberry Township staff, including members of the Public Works crews who will be working hands-on with the snowplow, helped narrow down the list.

The top ten entries were put to a public vote, with campaigning and gamesmanship encouraged. The persons making the winning suggestion received a Township prize pack.

The winning name, *Ctrl+Salt+Delete*, will be emblazoned on a Township plow later this year. And while keeping Cranberry's streets clear isn't as easy as clicking a few buttons, the snow doesn't stand a chance when the flashy new shovel hits the road. 🏠





FIVE YEARS OF *Following Through*

MEET OUR MEMBERS



Pickleball is for all ages, and Cranberry has three generations of enthusiastic couples hitting the courts.

You get what you pay for.

And for the Cranberry Township Pickleball Association, that isn't just lip service.

Through four years of outdoor play, the organization has amassed 1,000 paying members and funded the expansion of the Graham Park courts. The organization hosted the 2021 regional USA Pickleball North Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship.

So why are players eager to pay CTPA membership fees when the Pittsburgh region offers many free municipal courts?

It boils down to structure, competitive play, and an accepting environment, which CTPA Co-Chair Bruce Mazzoni said has been the driving force of the organization's success.

"In many public play communities with informal clubs, pickleball players are very cliquish, where average players seek better competition, while exceptional players try to stay within their skill level and escape the average player," he said.

It's a concerning cycle that CTPA has eliminated by creating separate groups under the organizational umbrella. Players can either play casually for fun or seek a more challenging competitive play based on player ratings and skill level. Scheduling software ensures courts are open and ready for play with wait times to a minimum.

The structure has allowed members to take ownership of the program while also volunteering their time to ensure improvement. In 2021, members volunteered nearly 10,000 hours doing everything from coordinating sessions to maintaining the courts.

That's not to mention the physical and social benefits of the sport. Mazzoni said CTPA prides itself on offering a fun, welcoming environment that doesn't feel like exercise.

"Many of our players get anywhere from 5,000 to 10,000 steps in two hours of play, plus a dose of good cardio and not even realize it's great exercise and fun," he said.

What does the future hold for CTPA? With anticipated growth, more space is needed. That's why the organization will be expanding the UPMC Passavant Graham Park facility, adding lighting, noise suppression, and sun shades for the outdoor courts.

The centerpiece, though, is a five court, indoor/outdoor facility under consideration for construction. Funded by the organization, it will allow for more members to join and play.

"Having five dedicated indoor pickleball courts with a tennis acrylic surface is a big step for our club," said Barry Watkiss, co-director of CTPA.

Want to learn more about pickleball? Visit CTPApickleball.com to sign up for classes and get into the swing of Cranberry's most popular pastime. 🏓

CTPA prides itself on offering a fun, welcoming environment that doesn't feel like exercise.



Read their stories and learn more at www.CTPApickleball.com.





CITIZEN'S ACADEMY IS IN SESSION

The Township's new citizen's academy is clicking into place.

In collaboration with the Cranberry Township Community Chest, the Community Leadership Institute of Cranberry (CLIC) aims to foster community engagement, growth, and understanding by offering an in-depth look at how Cranberry Township functions on a day-to-day basis.

The program began in March and will run through the first week of May when the inaugural class will "graduate" from the Institute.

Over the course of seven sessions hosted at various Township facilities, participants are learning about the components of local government and how it works to provide high-quality service and bring value to residents and businesses. Sessions are also offering a firsthand look

at the exceptional collaboration between the township, county, and school district, and how important that integration is to sustain exceptional amenities throughout the region.

In the anticipated success of this pilot program, CLIC is expected to offer the next session in the near future. Visit cranberrytownship.org/clic for next session details. 🏠

KINGS OF CONVENIENCE

CRANBERRY AIMS FOR **24/7** CUSTOMER SERVICE

Round-the-clock residential engagement is the transformation for customer service – at least in Cranberry Township.

Nothing will ever replace the desire to speak with residents directly via phone or in-person, but overnight staffing isn't sustainable.

Enter two new digital tools that aim to improve the customer experience – no matter the time of day.

CranBot, named after the very Township from which it originates, is available 24/7 and has been trained to be a handy tool for residents. Over the past several months, CranBot has scanned over 450 Township webpages and memorized its content.

The bot icon appears at the bottom of the homepage in the ready state to help its guests. Simply type in the question and the bot goes to work scanning for the answer in all areas of the website including Cranberry Highlands Golf Course, Cranberry Public Library, and Parks & Recreation.

At the heart of every chat interaction, the bot continuously learns what information residents seek. This technology will



increase the positive experiences that visitors have with the Township's website, with the power of automation working for residents.

At the end of the chat, users will be asked if their answer was helpful. This feedback puts the bot back 'in school' to learn more about the information requested. A user still has the option to call customer service or complete the "Contact Us" form.

CranBot follows the successful rollout of the Township's Planning and Development Services department's OpenGov program. It streamlines the permit process, making it easier for both the public and the Township. Applications and any follow-up can be completed at any time virtually, eliminating trips to the Municipal Center.

The cloud-based program also improves the communication between departments and allows staff to have

instant access to files while in the field via tablets and phones.

That includes field work, where clipboards and project folders will be replaced by mobile devices. Inspection results will be posted in real time, allowing staff and the applicant to follow the process virtually.

Since rolling out in 2021, the Department has become quantifiably more efficient. But, most importantly, customers have seen a drop in wait times for permits, with standard items now taking one-to-two days compared to the previous 7-to-10 days.

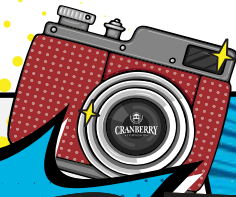
Creating convenient, seamless service to ease the customer experience continues to be a Township goal, with CranBot and OpenGov leading the way. It's another way that Cranberry is open for business. 🏠

SEWER, WATER & TRASH CUSTOMER NOTICE:

Annual water line flushing, April 18 - July 11. Check neighborhood dates at cranberrytownship.org/lineflush.



OH SNAP!



This is a feature that puts an exclamation point on a sampling of the wonderful sights and views that we see daily in the Township. Artistic beauty meets human interest in the collection of images captured by the Communications Department and residents. Enjoy the view!





We like to feature residents' best images which were captured from anywhere in the Township to show the beauty and joy of people, places or things!

Give us your best shots via email
CommunicationsTeam@CranberryTownship.org
 Photos must be submitted without copyright infringements.



Tucked next to a serene babbling brook, shaded by towering trees, the Kids Castle Playground in Community Park is straight from the pages of a storybook.

It's also a summation of the story and spirit of Cranberry Township, created with, for, and by the community.

And now, that community is being summoned to help the playground maintain the throne as a high- quality place to play for kids of all ages.

HISTORY

The royal plan for Kids Castle started with a need to replace the former Playtime Palace Playground. A longtime staple in Community Park, the wooden play area had experienced significant wear and tear over the years and was no longer up to safety and accessibility standards.

In 2011, the project was chosen as the Cranberry Township Community Chest Project of the year for 2013. It received

a sizable initial boost via the Cranberry CUP (Community Uniting People).

A committee was formed to explore what Kids Castle would become. From amenities to design, every detail was explored, and feedback from the community – including the children who would use it most – was sought.

A theme of Past, Present, Today was chosen, containing elements that harkened to the Playtime Palace. More than 3,500 local students provided input

Kids Castle Timeline

September 30, 1990

Playtime Palace opens for play.

1990 - Over three days more than 800 people helped construct the playground.

1988 - The Cranberry Women's Club pledges to build Playtime Palace, a signature playground.



2007 - Playtime Palace replacement cited as need in The Cranberry Plan.

2004 - Parks & Recreation Board deems Playtime Palace in need of replacement.

July 4, 1991
Formal dedication on Community Day.

June 2011 - CTCC selects new playground as 2013 Project of the Year. and accepts pledge from the Cranberry CUP.





COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

That support wasn't just in dollars and cents. It also came in the form of hundreds of volunteer hours.

In the fall of 2013, more than 300 individuals over the course of five 12-hour days turned out to build the Today portion of the new playground piece by piece.

"It created a sense of pride and ownership in the project," Mazzoni said. "People know what pieces they helped create, and every time they see the playground, they're reminded of it."

In September 2013, hundreds were on hand as the playground was officially unveiled with one final nod to the future: the installation of a 25-year time capsule to be opened in 2038.

THE FUTURE

While the items in that capsule may highlight the changing times, it serves as a reminder that the community spirit and support for Kids Castle remains.

And after nine years of heavy use, Kids Castle is in need of some royal treatment from the community.

As 2022 CTCC Fun-Raising Project, renovations include the addition of new play elements, as well as a refresh of the

play surface, making it safer for parents and children. The work also coincides with stream restoration work that will improve the entire area.

It's a step to ensure Kids Castle remains a valuable community asset for years to come. And, ultimately, it shows that the community is committed not only to adding new and exciting features to Cranberry, but to maintaining them as well.

"The original Kids Castle project was such a meaningful community event, and we want to make sure we do everything we can to ensure its legacy," said Audrey Rattay, the Township's Community Engagement Specialist.

The fundraising campaign is underway, with work expected to be completed later this summer.

For more information and to donate, visit yourctcc.org/castle.

Our Kids Castle needs your help for its "Royal Refresh". Please kindly use the enclosed envelop to donate what you can to support construction efforts. Thank you!



July 31-August 4, 2013
Hundreds of volunteers participate in Community Build.

2020 - Kids Castle upgrades are identified as area of need.

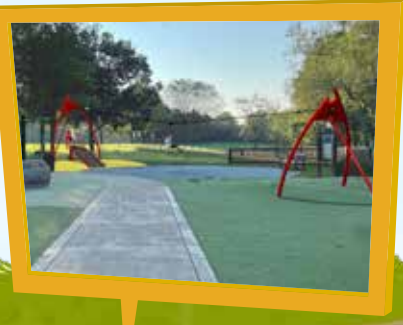
Summer 2022
Upgrades & additions expected to be complete.

April 22-27, 2013
Playtime Palace is disassembled.

April 20, 2013
Official groundbreaking is held.



September 26, 2013
Kids Castle is officially dedicated.



MOVE IT ON OVER

State Law DICTATES Lane Change

An alert to be alert: The flashing lights are there for a reason.

Whether it's an emergency vehicle, construction crew, or disabled car being placed on a tow truck, the signals are often clear that caution is needed.

That caution is the focus of Pennsylvania's Move Over Law, which took effect in 2021.

Under the law, drivers are required to move over to a lane further away when approaching an emergency response area where first responders are working. This goes for all responders – police, fire, or ambulances – as well as stopped tow trucks, maintenance

vehicles, and sanitary trucks.

Drivers who are unable to safely merge into a lane further away from the emergency response area are required to slow to no more than 20 mph below the posted speed limit.

Failure to do so could mean a \$500 fine for a first offense, and a potential loss of license for multiple offenses. Additionally, points can be added to a driver's license, and penalties are even steeper if a person is injured or killed as a result.

The goal is simple: to keep everyone – including first responders and drivers – safe.

Cranberry Police Chief Kevin Meyer said following the law is crucial no matter the location. While state roads like Routes 19 and 228 and Freedom Road are most likely to see these types of stoppages, the law applies to any vehicle on any road.

"Even if it's a residential area where the speed limits are already low and traffic is minimal, drivers still need to use caution and pay attention for emergency responders," he said.

When in doubt, move over, slow down, and use caution. It's the law. 🚓

DOUBLE NICKL

After 10 Years, New Chief Takes Over

Matt Nickl knows the fine points of Cranberry Township EMS, like the particulars of the worth of a valuable coin.

Having started as a part-time paramedic in 2011, he's climbed the organizational ladder, becoming a full-time paramedic, crew chief, and eventually deputy chief.

A decade in, Nickl assumes the role of Chief/Executive Director of a renowned organization that in 2020 was named EMS Agency of the Year by the state Department of Health. Nickl is a Nationally Registered Paramedic and earned a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety and Health from Columbia Southern University.

Having served in a variety of positions and helping to claim such accolades has made for a smooth transition for Nickl, a Mars native.

"I've been with the organization for 11 years and I know how committed our team is to delivering the highest quality medical and transport services to residents of Cranberry," he said.

Being ready is Nickl's goal as he aims to be more proactive in all aspects of



"We're not just taking people to the hospital, we want to make a safe community for everyone."

emergency response.

"Traditionally, EMS is in a response role," he said. "We want to expand our current programs such as citizen CPR and first aid training classes, home safety evaluations for new parents, infant and child car safety seat installations, and other non-ambulance services through our outreach staff."

Those programs and planning are important, Nickl said, as it leads to a change in mindset in how EMS is perceived.

"We're not just taking people to the hospital," he said. "We want to make a

safe community for everyone."

Internally, Nickl wants Cranberry Township EMS to continue as a regional EMS training source by expanding the annual Training Blitz program. He also remains committed to providing the highest level of care to those in Cranberry and surrounding communities.

It's a continuation of commitment to sustaining a healthy Cranberry, while valuing the worth of the agency's investment in their community.

To learn more about CTEMS and the programs, call 724-776-4480 or email Chief Nickl at matt.nickl@ctems51.org. 📧

CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM

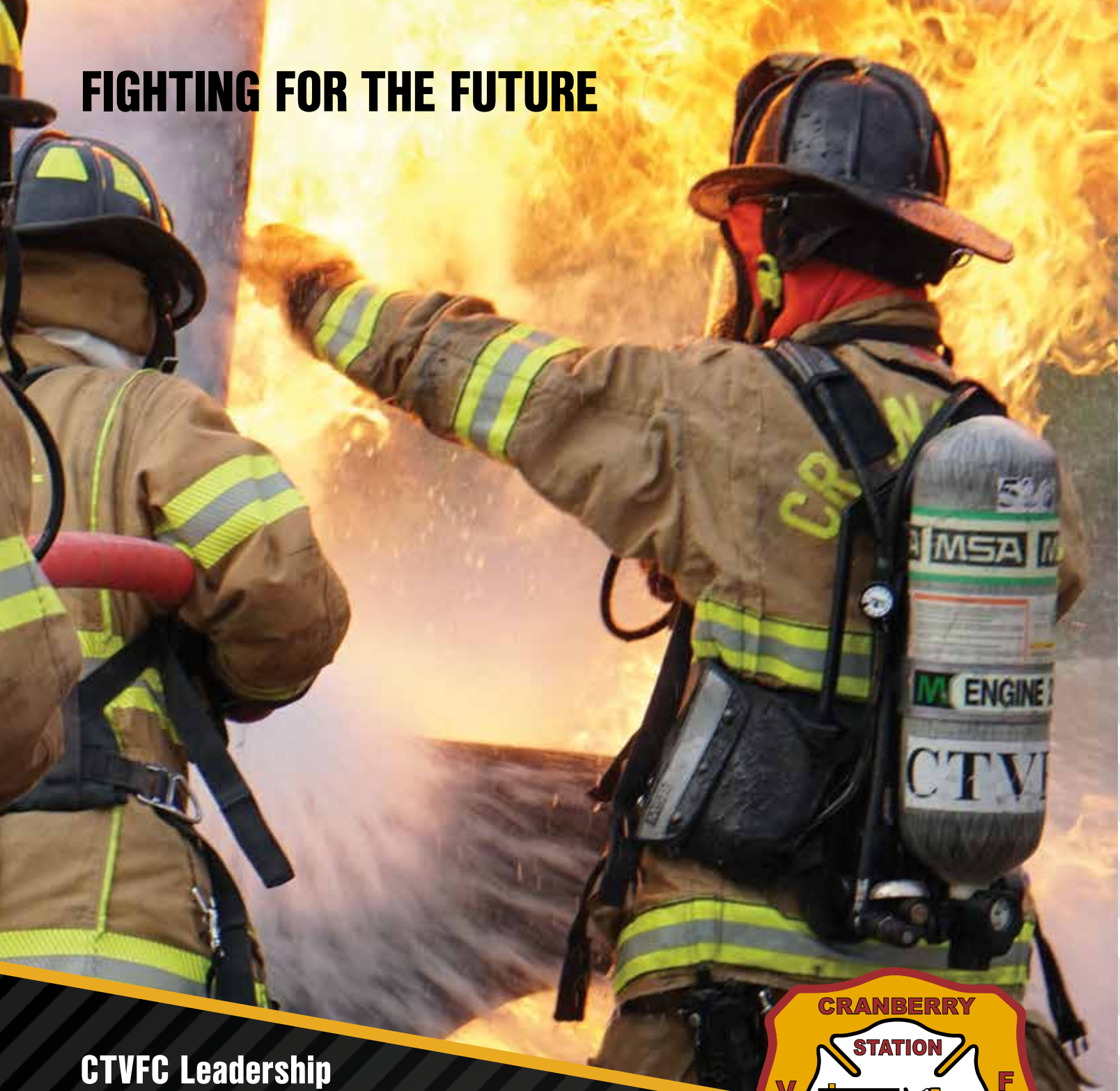
A Safety Net for You and Your Family

CTEMS51.org | 724-776-4480



Scan for 2022
Subscription Program

FIGHTING FOR THE FUTURE



CTVFC Leadership LOOKS FORWARD

Good leaders take a vision and make it a reality.

And for the leadership of the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company, that vision includes building on recent success and growing the organization even larger. It's all part of ensuring there are men and women available when a call comes in – and that those same firefighters are spending their off-time training and perfecting their skills. 🚒





Michael Hanks

Fire Chief

**Past Director-at-Large,
Lieutenant, Captain**

15 years with CTVFC

Resides in Fernway

Why did you join and what keeps you involved? The power of the words "thank you" are an incredible thing to hear from someone who needs help. The members of the fire department are my family. We all share a common goal and that is to help the community when in need. I couldn't imagine my life without them.

Company initiative that

makes you most proud? The exceptional training grounds that so many members have worked tirelessly to make it a state-of-the-art training facility. We are truly blessed with what we can offer to firefighters from all over the Commonwealth.

What are your goals for the next few years? I want to continue to deliver professional fire service personnel to our community as well as the surrounding areas with highly trained, highly skilled, and well-equipped first responders. We are professional volunteers with an attitude of "playing to win, every time."



John Pristas

Assistant Fire Chief

**Past Board of Directors
member, Lieutenant, and
Captain**

19 years with CTVFC

Resides in Ehrman Farms

Why did you join and what keeps you involved? My older brother got me involved while I was in high school. I wanted to help others in their time of need and to give back to my community. I wanted to set an example to my kids and younger firefighters and pass along knowledge to this next generation of firefighters.

Company initiative that makes you most proud? Establishment of full physicals for brigade members in accordance with the national standard for comprehensive occupational medical programs for firefighters.

What are your goals for the next few years? In the age of decreasing volunteerism across the country, I would like to increase our membership of both regular and associate members by providing first class training, facilities, and equipment.



Steve Dancisin

Vice President/ Incident Safety Officer

**Past Training Officer, Rescue
Officer, Director**

21 years with CTVFC

Resides in Hunters Creek

Why did you join and what keeps you involved? I was looking for an activity that was different from my day job, and it was an activity to give back to the community. Over the years, there are quite a few members of the fire department who have become family to me.

Company initiative that makes you most proud? I

have been involved in the specification, purchase and putting into service many of the fire trucks that we have today. This was a great way to leverage my detail-oriented skills that I have developed over the years from my day job.



Dan Kane

President

**Past Lieutenant, Parks
Station Quartermaster**

8 years with CTVFC

Resides in Cranberry Heights

Why did you join and what keeps you involved? The idea of serving the community as a first responder piqued my interest. There is a sense of duty to do my part in keeping the fire company operating at a professional level providing outstanding service.

Company initiative that makes you most proud?

The initiation of the staffing program, which keeps trained and qualified volunteer firefighters at the station for most of the daylight and overnight hours. It allows us to respond to incidents in exceptionally short time frames.

What are your goals for the next few years? Retaining the trained and effective firefighters and support staff we currently have on the rolls. Along with retention is the need to recruit new members to maintain our success. The key is to foster a firefighter family culture at our stations in addition to supplying the latest equipment, apparatus, and training to maintain proficiency.

CTVFC LEADERSHIP



TRUCKING ALONG



Diesel Sports Complex TRAINING ALL LEVELS

In the unassuming warehouse where sheet metal was once forged, Matt Diesel is helping young athletes iron out the rough edges of their game, test their mettle, and shape their futures.

But it's inside the walls of Diesel Sports Complex on Marshall Road where Diesel hopes to remind players and parents alike that love of the game is the most important reason to pick up a bat or glove.

It's that love that gave Diesel the idea to start the training facility in 2009. He had just graduated from Duquesne University, where he also played baseball. Reflecting on his own experiences, he wanted to offer a positive atmosphere where players were supported and encouraged.

"I felt unprepared for college baseball," he said, adding that he also took up coaching during his time at Duquesne. That venture led him to understand the importance of coaching and relationships in developing quality players.

He spent three years operating Diesel Sports in Mars before spending eight years in Warrendale. In October 2020, he found himself inside the aforementioned sheet metal contractor building.

"I remember standing in there for the first time like 'I've got a vision, but there's a lot to do,'" he recalled.

That included new lighting and an entirely new HVAC system, as well as an overall revamp of the space, which had been left dormant for several years.

Opened in late 2021, Diesel Sports Complex is now a meticulously crafted space for athletic training, with field turf covering the floor and movable netting ascending from the ceiling. It's equipped with technology to provide real-time feedback, as well as state-of-the-art workout equipment.

Currently, Diesel and his staff of eight focus on baseball and softball training, hitting every aspect of the game – including the mental side.

"This isn't just for one kid looking to get to the next level," he said of his program. "This is about long-term development, and we want every kid to love the game and have a good experience."

Though the current focus is on teams with players aged 8 to 18, Diesel hopes to expand to offer training for additional sports. He'll be aided by an outdoor turf facility which should be installed before summer.

In addition to team programs, Diesel Sports Complex also offers individual and group training. Get in gear and visit dieselsportscomplex.com for more information. 🏠

“This is about long-term development, and we want every kid to love the game and have a good experience.”





CLEANING UP

Clean EatZ Comes to Cranberry

Healthy eating is now just a 'street' away thanks to the arrival of Clean EatZ.

The casual fast dining establishment in the Streets of Cranberry focuses on delivering a "lifestyle approach" to eating healthy.

The café opened in mid-February and is one of five locations under development in the Greater Pittsburgh area. The menu includes a variety of bowls, salads, flatbreads, wraps, and smoothies, as well as healthy burgers, pizzas, and snacks that customers can enjoy in the restaurant or ordered to-go.

A centerpiece feature is the convenient online meal plan service. Each week, customers can design a meal plan

based on their dietary restrictions, lifestyle, or fitness goals. Every meal – whether included in the weekly meal plan, picked up from one of the Grab-N'-Go coolers, or ordered at the counter – is prepared with a balance of protein, carbs, and fats in mind. Many of the meals are also customizable for customers seeking a low carb or vegetarian diet, or those looking to gain muscle through extra protein.

The man bringing Clean EatZ to the area is franchise owner Darryl Duncan.

"My goal in bringing this concept to Pittsburgh was to make a difference in people's lives – that can come in the form of healthy eating options, but also in the context of being affordable

and convenient," Duncan said. "We offer a well-balanced meal that is more affordable than most fast food."

The aspiration to change lives is a founding principle behind Clean EatZ. The company held its fifth annual We Change Livez Challenge earlier this year, encouraging participants to share their improvement stories via social media and within their café communities. A lucky winner from each Clean EatZ community won 12 weeks of meals and was entered into a drawing to win the grand prize of \$25,000.

It's just one more way Clean EatZ is working to improve the health and wellness of Cranberry Township. 🏠

GET DOWN TO BUSINESS WITH Cranberry's Business Trailer

Business is booming in Cranberry Township, and that's cause for celebration.

Cranberry Township and Comcast Business have partnered and want to help get that party started.

The Township's Business Concierge Trailer, sponsored by Comcast Business, is available for grand openings, special events and promotions, and any other celebratory occasion.

Like the Township's Block Party Trailer for residents, the Comcast Business Trailer contains everything a business would need to throw a top-tier event.

It includes a loudspeaker with microphone and auxiliary cord for music, display boards, tents, tables, tablecloths, chairs, batteries, road barriers, and much more.

And did an event really happen if a ribbon wasn't cut? The trailer has ceremonial ribbons, large and small scissors for photo-ops and everything needed to mark the occasion.

Additionally, the Trailer contains Cranberry Township and Comcast Business swag items for giveaways, and two sets of beanbag toss boards to keep the fun flowing.

"We're proud to have the Comcast Business Trailer on hand to help celebrate Cranberry Township's newest businesses," said Aaron Mimran, Regional Vice President for Comcast Business. "Not only does our local team understand the needs of businesses in the Route 19 corridor, but they know how to assess a local network's strengths and weaknesses to help implement the right combination of tools that work best for specific needs."

To get your celebration started and reserve the Comcast Business Trailer, visit cranberrytownship.org/business trailer. 🏠



BUSINESS BRIEFS



Something to Taco-bout

Liquor transfer approved

A new restaurant isn't under wraps any longer.

Candado Tacos will take over an open space in the Streets of Cranberry, 20430 Route 19. In addition to hundreds of taco combinations, the new location will offer a full-service bar.

A public hearing was held on the inter-municipal transfer of a liquor license to the location from a Seven Fields business. According to the resolution approved by the Board, the "family-style restaurant" must not generate more than 45% of its gross sales via alcohol.



Development Gains Approval

Though it won't have the jutting mountains and ski slopes of its namesake, a proposed townhouse development could bring a lift to Cranberry's housing market.

The Breckenridge development will bring 112 townhouse units to an 18-acre space along Freedom Road. The space currently consists of five separate lots which would be consolidated. Existing homes would be razed. The development exceeds the Township's open space requirements and is significantly under the density and impervious surface requirements. Standard streetscape enhancements, including sidewalks, street trees, and pedestrian pockets, are expected to add neighborhood value.



New Direction for Cranberry Woods

New amenities are on their way to the bustling Village of Cranberry Woods development.

A Revised Preliminary Land Development Plan and Final Land Development Plan opens the Village of Cranberry Woods to new business opportunities.

The revisions allow for a Sheetz gas station and canopy near Route 228, as well as a drive-thru bank in that area. A proposed daycare facility with a fenced-in yard and play area will also be added, as will additional restaurant and retail space. The development also includes a new Cenci's Restaurant along Fairport Lane that would total 8,750 square feet in size and include ample parking.

WHAT'S
NEW?



Find Out What's Coming! CranberryTownship.org/Biz411

JUST OPENED:

- Yankee Candle - moved within The Streets of Cranberry
- Diesel Edge Training Academy - 9043 Marshall Road
- Phoenix Salon - 20111 Route 19 (Cranberry Mall)
- Dogtopia - 802 Thomson Park Drive
- PLS Logistics - 2000 Westinghouse Drive, Suite 201
- Sola Salon 2 - 10020 Pendleton Way
- Capital Healthcare Services - 2000 Westinghouse Drive, Suite 100
- Henry Schein, Inc. - 100 Century Boulevard
- ADT Cranberry Township - 9155 Marshall Road
- Solich Piano - 1686 Route 228
- Valley Pool & Spa - 20267 Route 19
- Indoor Dog Park - 2714 Rochester Road
- Play2Wear - 20636 Route 19
- IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center - 230 Executive Drive
- Farmer Brothers Co. - 202 Commerce Park Drive
- Motocruit - 322 Thomson Park Drive
- The Skin Center - 1656 Route 228, Suite 101
- Meeder Flats Apartment Building 1 - 1000 Strand Road
- UBREAKIFIX - 1713 Route 228, Suite B
- Advanced Rheumatology - 144 Emeryville Drive, Suite 220
- Marine Corps Recruiting Center - 20215 Route 19, Suite 102
- Drayer Physical Therapy - 20397 Route 19, Suite 220
- Loughren, Loughren & Loughren P.C. - 8050 Rowan Road, Suite 601

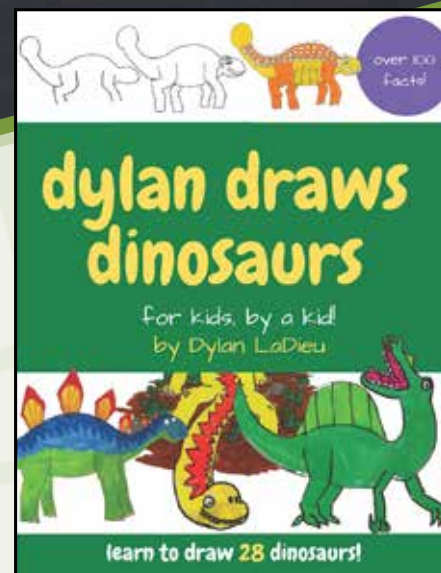


Pushing Boundaries

Dwelling complex gains approval

A new residential complex aims to expand residential living options at the intersection of Route 19 and North Boundary Road. The one-phase, two-building complex will bring 68 apartment-style units to a 7.36-acre space on the corner of Route 19 and North Boundary Road. In addition to maintaining a large portion of green space, the development adds streetscape enhancements to North Boundary Road.

Kids of Cranberry



Ancient Animals

ALIVE AND WELL IN 2022

Seneca Valley fifth grader Dylan LaDieu is a walking dinosaur encyclopedia.

And now the son of Nicholas and Juliet LaDieu can add his own publication to his list of works to cite.

Before becoming the author of *Dylan Draws Dinosaurs* – a drawing instruction and dinosaur fact book, Dylan created a YouTube channel with his dad. On the “Dylan Draws” channel, Dylan teaches his dad and viewers at home how to draw some of his favorite dinosaurs.

While looking through books for inspiration for the channel, the talented young artist felt that his drawings were good enough to fill the pages of a book. He asked his dad if creating a book was possible, and the two quickly realized

just how achievable Dylan’s goal was.

Dylan and his parents created a timeline with the goal of publishing the book before Christmas 2021, and the project got underway. Dylan, a self-taught artist, took to the drawing board to sketch out over 28 detailed and full-color dinosaurs, plus skull diagrams and scenes of the prehistoric reptiles in their habitats.

The book also includes over 100 facts and statistics, making *Dylan Draws Dinosaurs* not only a resource for kids interested in ancient animals, but also a fun activity for artists of all skill types.

Dylan doesn’t plan to stop sharing information or his love for dinosaurs, either.

“We have an entire series of dinosaur

books planned, as well as books on different prehistoric time periods,” Dylan said.

And publishing his first book has already paid off.

In February, Dylan and his classmates at Haine Elementary School received a special visit from Jurassic Quest – North America’s largest traveling dinosaur exhibit. The group was in Pittsburgh for an event, and after hearing about Dylan’s book, decided that he and his classmates deserved a roaring good time.

The Jurassic Quest trainers brought miniature dinosaur animatronics to show the fifth-grade class, and even called Dylan on stage to talk about his book and his favorite topic: dinosaurs! 🦖



CUP Runneth Over

Cranberry residents facing life's toughest challenges are never alone.

In fact, for over 20 years they've had a community's worth of support and hope via the Cranberry CUP.

Short for Community Uniting People, the Cranberry CUP was formed in 2000 to take on projects that better the community, including scholarships. Over time, it evolved to focus on supporting and encouraging individuals and families facing hardship.

Since then, the organization has raised more than \$2 million for those families, with one selected each year based on their need. The money comes from raffle ticket sales, individual and business contributions, and other agency support.

But the major fundraising initiatives involve fun – yet fierce – competition.

Each spring, the annual Good Friday Golf Outing kicks off the season. Golf remains the theme in August, as the Cranberry CUP Golf Classic is held at Cranberry Highlands Golf Course.

It's the appetizer for the main course – the annual community softball tournament pitting neighborhoods against each other in a day-long tournament. Hundreds of players come together to help raise funds for the beneficiary before battling it out on the fields in Community Park.

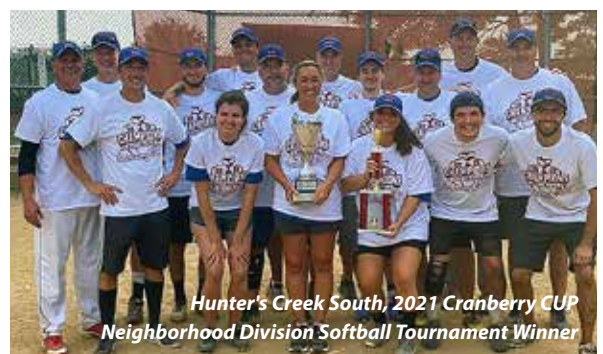
And while the quest for the traveling Cranberry CUP trophy is important to those competing, it's the opening ceremony that drives home the point of the weekend.

The beneficiary and their family are ushered into Community Park via fire truck – or, sometimes, helicopter – where they are greeted by hundreds of players, local officials, volunteers, and spectators. The celebration includes music, uplifting speeches, and often joyful tears as the beneficiary gets the opportunity to engage with the community who is standing behind them.

It makes for a weekend of

togetherness and community unlike any other, and one Cranberry Township is fortunate to have.

The Cranberry CUP weekend is scheduled for August 5 and 6, 2022. To learn more or get involved, visit cranberrycup.org. 🏠



Hunter's Creek South, 2021 Cranberry CUP Neighborhood Division Softball Tournament Winner

Faces of Cranberry

Linda Lee Blakemore

A local author is facing her past and raising her voice for the betterment of women and children everywhere. Linda Lee Blakemore, a Cranberry resident since 2016, is a licensed realtor and a passionate speaker, author, advocate, and volunteer.

She penned the top-selling non-fiction book *Kids Helping Kids: Break the Silence of Sexual Abuse* and an acclaimed memoir *Entrenched: A Memoir of Holding on and Letting Go*.

In *Entrenched*, which hit stands February 2022, Blakemore shares her journey as a survivor, what she's learned from past experiences, and how she plans to grow.

Blakemore is no stranger to advocating on the national stage, as she published articles in magazines like America's Family Resource, Seventeen, and Teen Voices. Her advocacy footprint doesn't end in print, as she has appeared on local, national, and international radio and television shows including The Montel Williams Show.

As a volunteer at Pittsburgh Child Advocacy, she was better able to understand her situation, and used that experience to successfully advocate for and educate women and children everywhere.

After volunteering, she realized that her best route to advocate was through writing.

"If sharing my story can help someone, or spare someone some of the pain and heartache that I endured, it will be worth it," Blakemore added.

Entrenched: A Memoir of Holding on and Letting Go is available wherever books are sold.

Linda is scheduled to speak at the Cranberry Public Library on Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30PM. 🏠

Seneca Valley Foundation NAMED CHAMPION



THE GIFT OF HOPE. THE PROMISE OF EXCELLENCE



A surprise visit earlier this year brought quite the honor to the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF) as it was named a 2022 Community Champion Distinguished Honoree – a title reserved for only three of the Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber's Community Champion nominees.

The distinction was given because of the incredible things done for Seneca Valley School District like connecting community resources, hosting a gift card drive for families in need, and even providing childcare stipends while schools were in remote learning.

The chamber's Director of Marketing and Events, Annie Cairns, stated, "The Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber

is proud to choose the Seneca Valley Foundation as our Nonprofit Community Champion Distinguished Honoree. The recognition is well-deserved as the Seneca Valley Foundation has been committed to our region's families, children, and students throughout the COVID pandemic."

"The efforts by SVF to ensure that its student body and staff's needs were met over the past two years do not go unnoticed," Cairns added. "We are grateful to have them as a part of our community and admire their perseverance for the families they serve."

Under the leadership of SVF's Development Director Annie Mersing and its 12-member Board of Trustees,

SVF amplified its response to the needs of Seneca Valley since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and is grateful for this recognition.

"It's so rewarding to be seen by such a prestigious organization," Mersing said. "Our mission had become so much more than just academics – it became about humanity. Now, as we trend back to excellence in academics and continue to grow, we do so with a much greater sense of community and togetherness."

Additional information about SVF can be found at www.svsd.net/SVF.



Virtual Tour Highlights **CRANBERRY HIGHLANDS**

Demanding doglegs and furious fescues on Cranberry Highlands Golf Course's 18 pristine holes may get a little easier thanks to a new project.

Golf course administrators are in the process of creating a birds-eye-view course tour of the 186-acre course to help even the most experienced golfers improve their games. Enter the drone.

Via the aerial video from a staffed flying drone and narration, golfers will be able to see every hazard and bunker with the click of a button. The video will also highlight distance from tee to pin and highlight changes in direction and angles of greens.

Jesse Horner, Cranberry Highlands' PGA Professional and Director of Golf Operations, said the video tour will improve upon the written course descriptions on the course's website. It's another step in improving the player experience before, during, and after teeing off.

"We pride ourselves on offering a championship-caliber course and giving our guests every 'club in the bag' to play the best game possible," he said.

The video is set to release in summer 2022. Fly by cranberryhighlands.com for the new aerial views. 🛩



UPCOMING



Drive through, drop off.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30
10 AM - 2 PM**

Municipal Center Rear Parking Lot



Cranberry Lions will be accepting donations of used eyeglasses for Mission-Vision



events



SAVE THE DATE



Cranberry EMS
CPR and First Aid Class
April 16 and June 18
cranberrytownshipems.org



Last Day to Pay Co/Twp Taxes
at Discount, April 30
Last Day to Pay Co/Twp
Taxes at Face, June 30



Butler County Sheriff
Gun Licensing,
May 14, 9 AM - 2 PM
Municipal Center



Martinis with Monet
CTCC-CAN Art Show Kickoff
Wednesday, July 13, 7 PM
Municipal Center



more EVENTS



CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP FARMERS MARKET
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JUNE 3RD- SEPTEMBER 30TH

Vendor Registration Now Open!

HOT SUMMER, COOL SHOWS!
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Cranberry4FUN.com

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MOVIE NIGHTS

CONCERTS



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CranberryTownship.org/Sponsor

FIRE & FOOD TRUCKS
 Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company


PARK STATION
 MAY 14, 9AM-12PM
 Pittsburgh Crepes
 Mobile Brunch Box
 Le Petite Tour de France
 B's Sips of Summer

HAINE STATION
 JUNE 15, 5 - 8PM
 Ash & Kris (Greek)
 Taquerio Acosta
 Sweets for the Streets

Station Tours

Family Fun

www.ctvfc21.org



Oceans of Possibilities

Cranberry Public Library
inform, inspire, enrich...

SUMMER READING STARTS JUNE 6!

CranberryLibrary.org



CranFest 2022
 A Celebration of Diverse Cultures
 Saturday, May 7 11am - 3pm
 Cranberry Township Municipal Center
 Contact CADN: cadn@cranberrydiversity.org

CRANBERRY AREA DIVERSITY NETWORK

Cranberry Public Library

Butler County FirstEnergy DUTILH CHURCH UPMC PASSAVANT PITTSBURGH CARES Mars Bank




Be the Match for Jax: Swabbing Event
 Senior Center in Municipal Center
 CranFest ~ 11am - 3pm
 Ages 18-40

Ancestry is an important factor when finding a donor match. Let's help find a match for Jax!
 Want to swab but can't attend?
 Text "JAX" to 61474 or scan the QR to register for an at-home swab kit



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Save The Date

JULY 14-16 **YourCTCC.org/CommunityDays**