

# Cranberry WINTER 2026 **TODAY**



**BEST IN  
SNOW**

# Wave Hello to Savings

PURCHASE A  
WATERPARK  
MEMBERSHIP  
BEFORE APRIL 1



[CRANBERRYTOWNSHIP.ORG/WATERPARK](http://CRANBERRYTOWNSHIP.ORG/WATERPARK)

## CLEAR THE WAY! *Become a Snow Angel!*

  
**CRANBERRY**  
TOWNSHIP



[CRANBERRYTOWNSHIP.ORG/SNOWANGELS](http://CRANBERRYTOWNSHIP.ORG/SNOWANGELS)

Volunteer  
to shovel  
snow for  
those in  
need, and  
have  
some fun  
along the  
way!

# 2026 CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP WASTE CALENDAR

IN THE KNOW



## JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			<b>1</b>	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

## MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	
28	29	30				

## JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	
27	28	29	30			

## OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



1 DAY DELAY  
(Due to weekday holiday)

### LIVE TREE COLLECTION

January 5 - 16

### YARD WASTE COLLECTION

March 30 - December 11



Scan the QR for more information on trash!

### 2026 E-Waste & Household Hazardous Waste Collection Dates - TBD

Fees apply - details at [CranberryTownship.org/Collection](http://CranberryTownship.org/Collection)

### PUBLIC MEETINGS

#### Cranberry Township Board of Supervisors

January 22; February 5, 26

March 5, 26; April 2, 30

Council Chambers

#### Planning Advisory Commission

January 26; February 2, 23

March 2, 30; April 6, 27

Council Chambers

#### Zoning Hearing Board

(as needed)

Third Monday of the Month

Municipal Center

#### Library Board

January 26; February 23

March 23; April 27

Library

[CranberryTownship.org/Calendar](http://CranberryTownship.org/Calendar)



Your feed needs  
a little more  
Cranberry

Stay in the loop -  
follow us on social!



[CranberryTownship.org/Social](http://CranberryTownship.org/Social)

# CONTENTS

CRANBERRY TODAY | WINTER 2026



26

## FEATURE

- 6 Cranberry Township: By the Numbers
- 9 Supervisor Commentary
- 17 Ask the Manager

## UPDATES

- 8 Budget 2026
- 10 Cranberry Briefs
- 12 Parks and Rec: By the Numbers
- 14 Freedom Road
- 16 Improvements at Brush Creek
- 18 Seasonal Workforce
- 19 Powell Farm
- 31 Feeding Seniors
- 33 Park Shelter Rentals

## CRANBERRY FOUNDATION

- 20 Celebrating 50 Years
- 21 Foundation Grant Program 2026

## SAFETY

- 22 Police Awards
- 23 Heroes and Helpers
- 24 SAFER Grant Awarded to CTVFC
- 25 EMS Adds to Fleet

## LIVING

- 26 Oh Snap!
- 28 Volunteer Cranberry
- 29 Mazzoni Spirit of Giving
- 30 Faces of Cranberry: David Grupp
- 32 Seneca Valley Tree Planting Blitz

## BUSINESS

- 34 Mission BBQ
- 36 SweatHouz
- 37 Cranberry Wealth & Burgess Law
- 38 Windrose Dentistry



**34**

**ON A MISSION**  
Mission BBQ brings heart,  
service, and tradition to  
every plate.



# ON THE COVER



*Siblings Piper, Payden, and Preston enjoy a snow day at North Boundary Park.*



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Anthony Bertolino  
Bruce Hezlep  
Bruce Mazzoni  
Karen Newpol  
John Skorupan

## TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Dan Santoro

Cranberry TODAY is published quarterly by the Communications Department. Online issues are available at [CranberryTownship.org/CranberryToday](http://CranberryTownship.org/CranberryToday)

## COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Tina Fedko, *Director*  
J.W. Johnson, *Manager*  
Anna Hezlep  
Jessie Hoffman  
Katelyn Kocis

FEEDBACK WELCOME!  
[CommunicationsTeam@CranberryTownship.org](mailto:CommunicationsTeam@CranberryTownship.org)

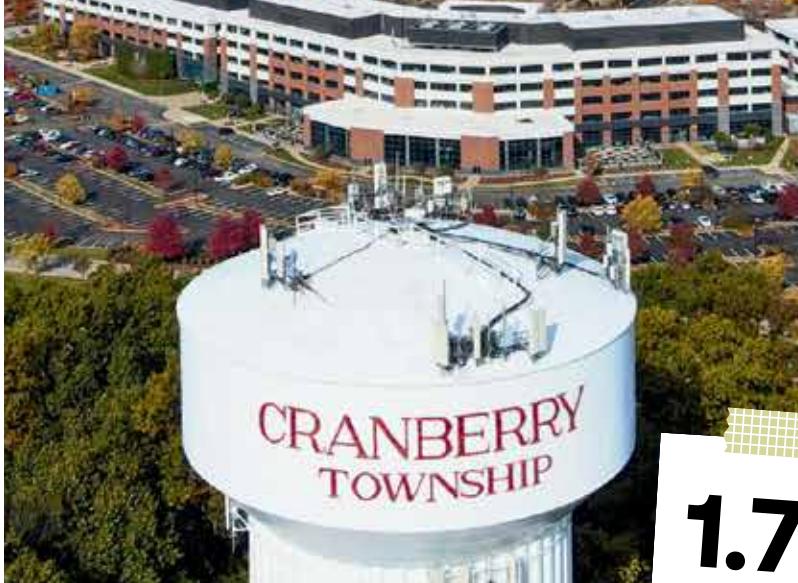
CONNECT  
in



CRANBERRY  
• TOWNSHIP •

# BY THE

# NUMBERS



The modern world is an endless barrage of facts, figures, and data – every screen, sign, billboard, and conversation chock full of fast facts and interesting information.

While this onslaught of info may help at trivia nights or as an ice-breaker, it can also be overwhelming.

That's why Cranberry Township is breaking it down – the data, that is. Here are some interesting bits about Cranberry: how we operate, serve, and support the community - no frills, just figures.

## THE COMMUNITY

**33,632** residents in Cranberry

**1.7%**

average  
yearly growth

**\$125,532** median household income



**13,326** total housing units

**40** median age

**\$62 million** invested in Rt. 228 and Freedom Rd. corridors over the past 5 years

**1,660** businesses registered in the Township



**25,000** number of jobs in Cranberry Township

**150,000** volunteer hours completed  
through the Cranberry Foundation





## TOWNSHIP OPERATIONS

**369** average number of seasonal employees hired each year

**540** average number of Code permits issued

**26,555** average number of yearly calls received

**98,964** average number of annual transactions processed

yearly social media impressions on Township platforms  
3.5 million

copies of 'Cranberry Today' magazines distributed each year - 64,000



## PUBLIC WORKS

**17** snow removal routes in the Township

**55** number of traffic signals

**7,956** number of street signs

**808,000** pounds of debris removed by street sweepers

**139** miles of road maintained

**330** cul-de-sacs maintained

**138** vehicles maintained

**325** acres of maintained green space

**17** facilities maintained



**25,844**  
miles of plowed and salted roads during Winter 2024/25

## PUBLIC SAFETY

**16,438** average annual Police calls for service

**1,183** total Fire Company incidents in 2024

**240** staff trained in CPR/First Aid

**80** fire safety and educational events provided

**6,500** hours of fire training completed

**3,647** annual EMS calls

**155** EMS car seat checks completed



## UTILITIES

**26,144** average number of trash stickers sold each year

**12,853** average monthly utility bills issued

**199** miles of water main in Township

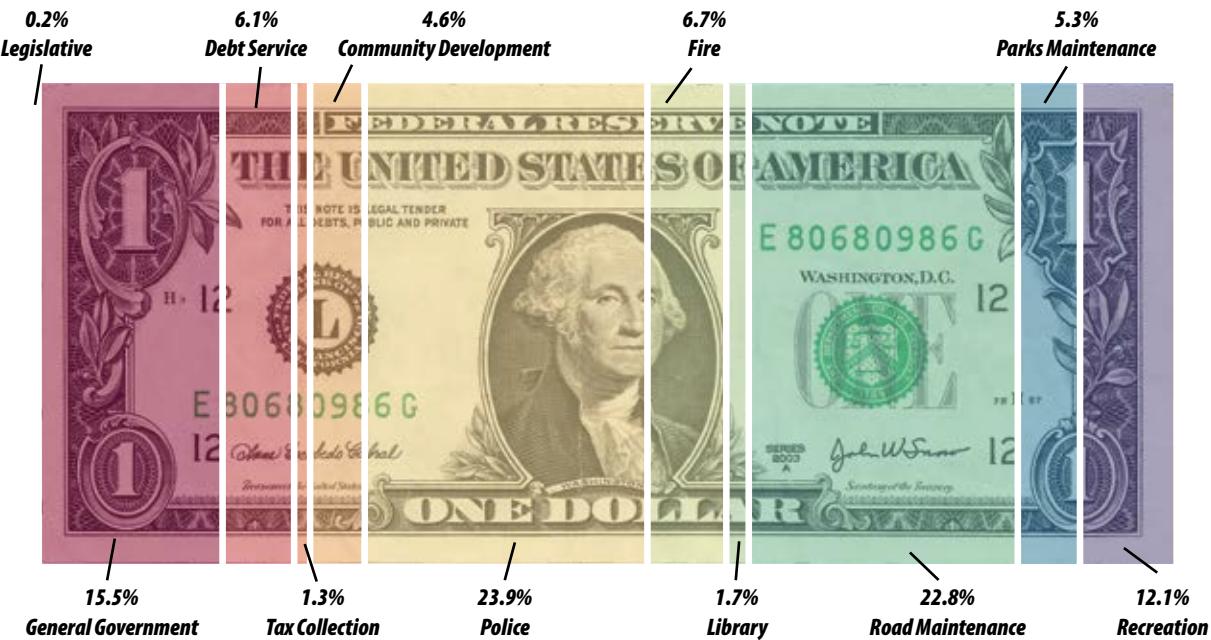
**1,301** number of fire hydrants

**5 million** gallons of water stored

**1.1 billion** average water usage



# A BALANCED APPROACH: 2026 BUDGET



For over three decades, Cranberry Township has been a destination for those seeking to live, work, and play in a vibrant, thriving community. The Board of Supervisors has led the charge not only to create a destination worth visiting but also to establish the infrastructure that ensures it is easily accessible.

Cranberry Township's 2026 budget continues this longstanding commitment, utilizing innovative funding strategies and careful planning to enhance and expand the level of services in both the short and long term without an increase to the General Tax millage.

The fiscally responsible budget coincides with a recent Moody's Aaa bond rating, reflecting the Township's robust financial position. The Township is one of only 14 municipalities in Pennsylvania—and the only one in Western Pennsylvania—to achieve an Aaa rating.

The \$109,533,744 budget focuses on preserving and enhancing the community's identity, character, and livability while ensuring that high-quality services meeting current and future needs are delivered seamlessly. This includes an ever-increasing demand on assets and infrastructure, which continue to age and require constant attention.

"We're pleased that the 2026 budget not only

continues improving our community, but that it does so by being conscious of taxpayer funds while providing exceptional value to our residents," said Bruce Hezlep, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. "For just over \$1,000 a year, the median household helps support an array of programs, services, and general operations that make Cranberry Township a place people want to live, work, and play."

That includes police, fire, and emergency services; park and facility maintenance; infrastructure maintenance through the Public Works Department; and the Township Library.

To ensure the Township remains situated to maintain and expand these resources, the 2026 budget includes the creation of a new fund: the Recreational Investment Fund. The fund will be supported by a 2.5 mil levy designed to reinvest in the Township's parks, recreational facilities, trails, greenways, and open space.

Current planned recreation investments include improvements to the baseball and soccer turf fields to expand capacity, as well as upgrades to equipment, irrigation, and planting at Powell Farm. Additionally, solar lighting will be installed at the UPMC Passavant Sportsplex at Graham Park, enhancing accessibility and extending program opportunities. Ongoing recreational improvements include the

## Other Budget Highlights:

- Expanded paving program allocating \$2.5 million - \$1 million more than in 2025.
- Continued improvements at the Brandt Drive intersection to improve safety & mobility.
- Conduct a study of the Coal Run watershed, as well as other stormwater improvements to protect property & water quality.
- Upgrades to the Brush Creek Water Pollution Control Facility's solids handling process.
- Improvements to Franklin Acres Pump Station.
- Phase 1 of the Route 19 Waterline Replacement Project.

addition of two new multipurpose recreation fields at Community Park North and the installation of fitness courts at Graham Park.

These items, along with several others, were outlined in the Greenways and Open Space Plan, adopted in 2025, and the Recreation, Park, and Open Space Plan, adopted in 2024.



**View the budget online.**  
[cranberrytownship.org/budget](http://cranberrytownship.org/budget)

# JOHN SKORUPAN CRANBERRY

## LET'S TALK



Texts, Teams messages, and emails are great ways to stay in touch. But in my 25 years as a Cranberry Township Supervisor, I've learned that nothing beats an in-person conversation.

So, let's talk – or rather, we want to listen.

As a Board, we understand that not everyone can attend a Board meeting, which is held on the first and last Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Dick Hadley Council Chambers. We're always thankful for those who attend, but we also recognize another issue at play: these Board meetings are not the best avenue for engaging in discussion.

The Public Comment period at the beginning of each meeting is intended to allow residents a chance to speak on a topic on or off the agenda. Often, agenda items are the topic of the day. However, the Board does not typically answer questions during these sessions, and that can leave speakers feeling frustrated and unheard.

We want to solve that.

In 2026, the Board of Supervisors and Township administration will embark on a "listening tour" in the community. Details are still being finalized, but the slate promises a variety of events at different times to accommodate the interests and schedules of as many community members as possible.

Potential meetings could include a return of the Coffee & Conversation series, in which the Board and staff address a specific topic; walks

with Board members through Township neighborhoods on a weekend morning; or Department-specific presentations that allow the community to learn about how the Township functions. Board members and administrators also intend to be present and visible at Township events to engage residents and hear their thoughts.

Wonder how your taxes are being spent? Irritated by rush hour traffic? Amazed at that new development going in down the road? Nothing is off limits. We want to take the pulse of the Township – the good and the bad.

During my tenure, and even before, the Board has long operated with transparency at the forefront. Each decision is discussed and dissected to ensure the community's best interest – both short and long-term – is in mind. We're proud of that record of transparency.

However, as is the case with many things in Cranberry, we're not happy to stay stagnant. We want to improve upon our great foundation and are excited to get out and listen in 2026.

See you out there – we'll bring the coffee.

# CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP BRIEFLY

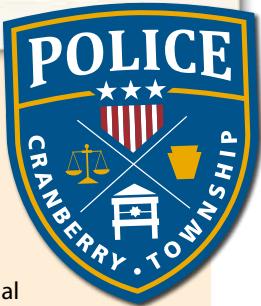


## NEW POLICE CHIEF HIRED

The Cranberry Township Board of Supervisors selected Kenneth Ruckel to serve as the Township's Chief of Police.

Ruckel replaces Kevin Meyer, who retired after serving as chief since 2015. Ruckel is a United States Air Force Reserve veteran, serving as an Air Transportation Specialist from 1994 to 2002. He possesses a Bachelor of Arts degree in Administration of Criminal Justice from LaRoche University and attended the FBI National Academy.

He began his law enforcement career as a Patrol Officer for the Hanover Township, Mount Oliver Borough, and Allegheny County Police Departments. He rose through the ranks of the Allegheny County Police Department, and most recently served as Division Commander for Administration/Patrol at the County headquarters. "From my early days as a patrol officer to my years leading investigations and supervising specialized units, each step has been shaped by leaders who invested in my growth and pushed me to be better," Ruckel said. "Now, it is my privilege to pay that forward – by mentoring the next generation of leaders and by working to attract dedicated, service-minded officers who want to grow, contribute, and build their careers here in Cranberry Township. Together, we will strengthen a department that exemplifies professionalism, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to serving our community with honor."



*Sign up for the  
Do Not Knock List:*

[cranberrytownship.org/  
solicitation](http://cranberrytownship.org/solicitation)



## KNOCK OUT UNWANTED SOLICITATION

Residents may register for the Do Not Knock List, which allows them to opt out of door-to-door sales of any goods, commodities, or services at their home. Individuals or businesses seeking to conduct door-to-door sales are required to obtain a license from the Township and wear an identification badge issued by the Cranberry Township Police Department.

The program does not restrict religious visits, surveys, or political canvassing, which is constitutionally protected. However, it does restrict soliciting to between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. and requires solicitors to follow all Township rules and regulations.



## CRANBERRY FIRE COMPANY EARNS NATIONAL AWARD

The Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company received the 2025 VFIS Firefighter & EMS William Jenaway Illness & Injury Prevention Award at the International Association of Fire Chiefs-Volunteer & Combination Officers Section (IAFC-VCOS) Symposium in the Sun in Clearwater, Florida. Scott Garing, Chief of Fire & Emergency Services, traveled to Florida to accept the award on behalf of the organization. The Illness & Injury Prevention Award recognizes success and excellence in developing and implementing an injury, illness, or vehicle safety prevention program. CTVFC was selected for:

- The focus on a culture of safety through proficiency. The Company has deviated from the norm of risk avoidance and ultimately delivered a product that enables a safer fireground.
- The 2023 completion of the strategic plan that was put in place in 2018, which modernized the organization on many fronts.
- Recognition for the Standard Actions for Emergency Response (SAFER) Joint Operating Agreements and everyone involved with their development, implementation, and execution.



## FRANKLIN ROAD PROJECT ENTERS THIRD YEAR

A project to reconstruct Franklin Road between Route 228 and Peters Road has passed the halfway point. Work began in 2024 to update the two-lane road to current design standards, including the addition of five-foot shoulders for improved pedestrian access and left-turn lanes at key intersections. Lines of sight will also be improved. The four-year project included the installation of erosion and sediment controls in 2024, as well as tree clearing and underground utility work in 2025. Beginning in 2026, crews will reconstruct and widen from Route 228 to just past Hazelwood Drive. The remaining portion to Peters Road will be completed in 2027.



## ROTARY GAZEBO GETS A LIFT

Thanks to the helping hands of local Rotarians, the Sunrise Rotary Gazebo at the Municipal Center is looking better than ever. The roof was replaced courtesy of D&K Roofing, with Rotary members power washing the inside, giving the gazebo a fresh, clean look. The Master Gardeners manage the garden surrounding the Gazebo through the Penn State Extension.

# THE RECR



*Athletics*



**S**wimming like a fish, jumping like a kangaroo, or running like a puma – Cranberry's Parks & Recreation Department is an animal unto itself.

The hundreds of acres of Township parks and facilities are frequently jam-packed with endless engaging programs for thousands of thrilled participants. The programs and participation continue climbing, with more people than ever looking to get moving and connect with the community. It's a challenge the Parks & Recreation Department is poised to manage.

In addition to improving and expanding existing offerings and facilities, the Township is currently completing the Community Park North project. Supported by a \$2.8 million Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the project will bring three new fields and associated facilities to a 10-acre parcel near the Rotary Dog Park.

Looking ahead, Township leaders are doing their due diligence to determine the feasibility, need, and composition of a new recreational facility.

That's why the Parks & Recreation data on the opposite page – much like the Department itself – is poised to move forward with fresh ideas and programs.

***Get in on the fun – see the full list of  
Parks & Recreation offerings here!  
[cranberrytownship.org/recreation](http://cranberrytownship.org/recreation)***





•CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP•  
**PARKS & RECREATION**

# REPORT



## PARKS BY THE NUMBERS – 2025

NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	205	ACRES AT THE POWELL FARM	71
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS	13,797	MILES OF TRAILS IN ALL PARKS	4.7
WATERPARK VISITORS EACH YEAR	40,000+	BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELDS, INCLUDING THE MIRACLE LEAGUE FIELD	12
SEASONAL STAFF HIRED FOR PARKS PROGRAMS	295	SOCCER FIELDS	7
AVERAGE ANNUAL SHELTER AND FACILITY RENTALS	758	FOOTBALL/LACROSSE FIELDS	3
AMOUNT OF TOWNSHIP LAND THAT WILL REMAIN GREEN AND UNDEVELOPED IN PERPETUITY	4 sq. mi.	TENNIS COURTS	6
ACRES IN PARKS: COMMUNITY, NORTH BOUNDARY, AND UPMC PASSAVANT SPORTSPLEX AT GRAHAM PARK	345	BASKETBALL COURTS	3
ACRES OF DISC GOLF COURSE LOCATED IN NORTH BOUNDARY PARK	30	PLAYGROUNDS	4
		RENTABLE SHELTERS	7
		RENTABLE WATERPARK SUN DECKS	2
		PICKLEBALL COURTS	21
		SQUARE FEET OF THE WATERPARK	17,500

# BUILD 2: FREEDOM ROAD

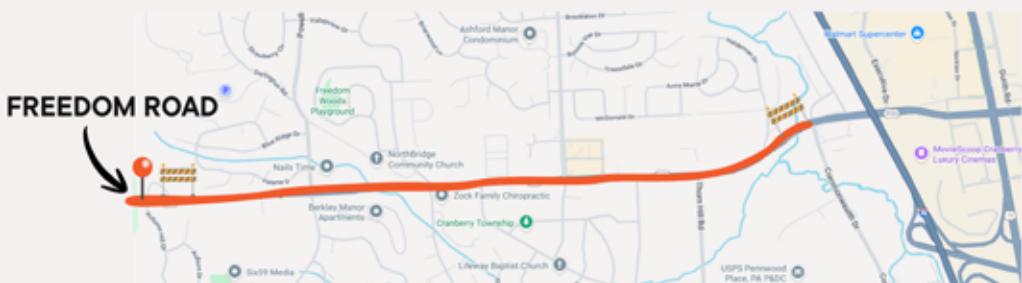
## SCOPE OF WORK:

- Roadway, intersection, and pedestrian improvements
- Powell Road to Haine School Road
- Lane widening and additional turning lanes
- Multi-use paths and ADA ramps
- Upgraded traffic signals and new pavement markings

## PROJECT STATUS:

Start of construction: December 2022

End of construction: November 2025



## PARTNER INVESTMENTS

**US DOT INVESTMENT \$25,000,000**

Municipal contributions - \$8,049,999  
County contributions - \$5,077,837  
State contributions - \$16,851,740  
Other federal funds - \$11,076,860

**Total leveraged funds: \$41,056,436**

## PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPACT

Cranberry Township  
Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company  
Cranberry Township Emergency Medical Service  
PennDOT  
Southwestern Planning Commission  
Butler County CDC  
Butler County Chamber of Commerce  
Butler County Council of Governments  
Butler County Community College  
Seneca Valley School District  
North Catholic High School  
MSA Safety Inc.  
Butler Transit Authority  
RLA Learning and Conference Center  
Westinghouse  
UPMC Lemieux Sports Complex

# FREEING UP TRAFFIC ON

# Freedom Rd

**M**ulti-partners, multi-years, and multi-millions of dollars are making Freedom Road a safer multi-modal corridor.

The Freedom Road series of projects wrapped up in the fall, marking one of the most significant transportation infrastructure investments in Cranberry's history. The work was supported by Township leaders working in tandem with the Butler County Commission and PennDOT – a partnership that has a track record of success.

The group secured a \$25 million U.S. Department of Transportation Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant in 2020 that funded new turning lanes, upgraded traffic signals, and an overall widening of the road between Haine School Road and Powell Road. This followed the first phase of the Freedom Road Improvement Project, which expanded the corridor from Commonwealth Drive to Haine School Road. It was supported by a

separate \$20 million BUILD grant.

Before the BUILD projects, the corridor underwent the replacement and expansion of the Freedom Road Turnpike Bridge, resulting in a continuous stretch of modernized infrastructure designed to enhance traffic flow and safety.

In addition to improving traffic flow, the projects enhance pedestrian and bicycle travel through expanded sidewalks, crosswalks, and bike lanes.

"This work not only symbolizes the tremendous partnerships, but also our ongoing commitment to improving our community," said Bruce Hezlep, Board of Supervisors Chairman. "All told, the Freedom Road corridor saw more than \$50 million in investments – all in the name of improving safety and upgrading infrastructure."

Not ones to rest on success, Township leaders continue looking for future projects to improve and secure Cranberry's infrastructure.



*See a highlight Reel of the ribbon-cutting ceremony!*





▲ Crews work to upgrade the Brush Creek Water Pollution Control Facility's solids handling capabilities

# THE SCIENCE OF SLUDGE

**M**aking waste work is the name of the game for a significant overhaul at the Brush Creek Water Pollution Control Facility.

Crews are amid an upgrade to the Facility's nutrient removal process on the solids handling side of the plant.

The existing system uses Autothermal Thermophilic Aerobic Digestion (ATAD), in which microorganisms break down organic matter with oxygen and at high temperatures, producing no biogas.

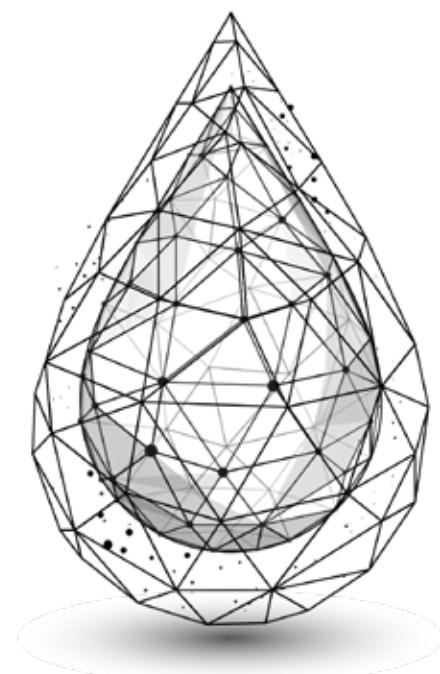
With the new Abearobic system, bacteria are broken down without oxygen, generating methane-rich biogas. The benefits are many, including reducing the organic matter in wastewater and greenhouse gas emissions. It also improves the quality of the sludge for composting or fertilizer production.

The generated methane will be used to

heat the sludge, rather than relying on the biological makeup to heat itself. It's a more efficient, sustainable process and is the next step in a series of upgrades to the facility over the last seven years. It not only modernizes the facility but also prepares the Township to address any future requirements from the Department of Environmental Protection or the Environmental Protection Agency.

The \$43 million project cost is supported by alternative funding, including \$5 million from a federal EPA grant and an additional \$1.75 million from the H2O PA program. Marshall Township, which the facility serves, also contributes a significant portion via an inter-municipal agreement, with the remaining costs covered by a low-interest loan from PENNVEST.

Work began in June 2025 and is expected to continue until 2027.



*from the desk of Dan Santoro*

# ASK THE MANAGER

**Q:**  
**A:**



## **Why do we continue to pay for new parks and facilities when the current facilities are good as is? Can't that money be used elsewhere?**

With many areas of the Township still under development, and due to the attention paid to maintaining our Township assets, it's easy to forget that not everything is "new" in Cranberry.

A prime example of this is the "new" Waterpark or the "new" Cranberry Highlands Golf Course – amenities that are reaching 30 years in age. That's in addition to the roads, storm sewers, and pump stations that keep Township operations humming. While there have been many upgrades over the years, there's always something else to be done.

Those items don't include "emergency" projects, such as fixing broken waterlines, which can easily escalate into the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The Board of Supervisors, recognizing that the bill for our existing infrastructure is coming due, made the decision long ago not to "kick the can" and hope for the best.

◀ **Dan Santoro,  
Township Manager**



For starters, the Board believes that what some may consider luxury items – such as parks, programs, and attractions – are essential to the community's health and well-being. They do so while acknowledging that these items and infrastructure needs can't be sacrificed for one another. The inability to provide these lifestyle amenities negatively impacts the quality of life, making the community less desirable. That's not a future the Board or community wants to see.

Secondly, each yearly budget isn't just a capsule of the immediate needs of the Township. Instead, it's a snapshot of both current and future financial demands, including measures to ensure those demands can be addressed efficiently.

In 2026, the Township budget includes the creation of a Recreational Investment Fund. In the past, infrastructure and quality of life projects were paid for out of the same pot of money. For example, this leads to park projects competing with road upgrades or new plow trucks for the same budget dollars.

In creating the Recreational Investment Fund, the Board has dedicated a single revenue source to ensure future investments in the resources and amenities that make Cranberry Township the active, vibrant community it has become. This fund not only supports these projects but also demonstrates to the community that reinvestment and continued improvement are vital, without compromising financial capacity for other essential needs.

The Township and Board will continue to find ways to ensure that the high expectations of the community are met and exceeded, all while maintaining a watchful and critical eye on how taxpayer dollars are spent.

◀ **Have a question? Scan the QR code or email  
[AskTheManager@cranberrytownship.org](mailto:AskTheManager@cranberrytownship.org)**

# SENSATIONAL SUMMER JOBS & INTERNSHIPS - APPLY TODAY!

As warmer weather approaches, Cranberry Township is gearing up for another busy and exciting summer season. To keep our parks, programs, and community spaces running smoothly, the Township will be hiring for various seasonal positions.

"Seasonal staff are essential to our Township in helping maintain our grounds, facilities, and infrastructure as well as deliver top-notch services for residents and visitors, but their impact goes far beyond operations," said Amie Courtney, JD, SHRM-CP, Director of Human Resources. "By supporting our facilities and programs, they help uphold the values that make our community strong—access, safety, connection, and pride in the place we call home."

The Township is seeking to fill nearly 200 positions, with hours ranging from 10 to 40 hours per week. In addition to seasonal positions, Cranberry Township also offers a competitive summer internship program to college students.

"Our internship program is incredibly important because it gives emerging professionals a real opportunity to see how communities are shaped from the inside out," Courtney said. The paid program runs from May 18 to August 7, and several Township departments offer internship opportunities. Postings will open on the Township's website from January 12 to February 8.



**A seasonal Job Fair is set for 1:30-3:30 p.m. Friday, January 16, 2026 at the Municipal Center. Unable to make it? Scan the QR code to see available jobs!**

[cranberrytownship.org/jobfair](http://cranberrytownship.org/jobfair)

## **Cranberry Highlands Golf Course**

- Golf Attendant
- Event Attendant
- Event Host/Hostess
- Pro Shop Attendant
- Long and Short Seasonal Groundskeeper

## **Waterpark**

- Operations Manager
- Coordinators, Assistant Coordinators, and Attendants with Maintenance, Guest Relations, and Concession operations
- Lifeguard Coordinator and Head Lifeguard
- Lifeguards
- Swim Lesson Coordinator

## **Public Works**

- Long and Short Seasonal positions in the following Divisions: Grounds, Streets, Fleet, and Traffic

## **Camp Cranberry**

- Lead and Camp Coordinators
- Camp Counselors

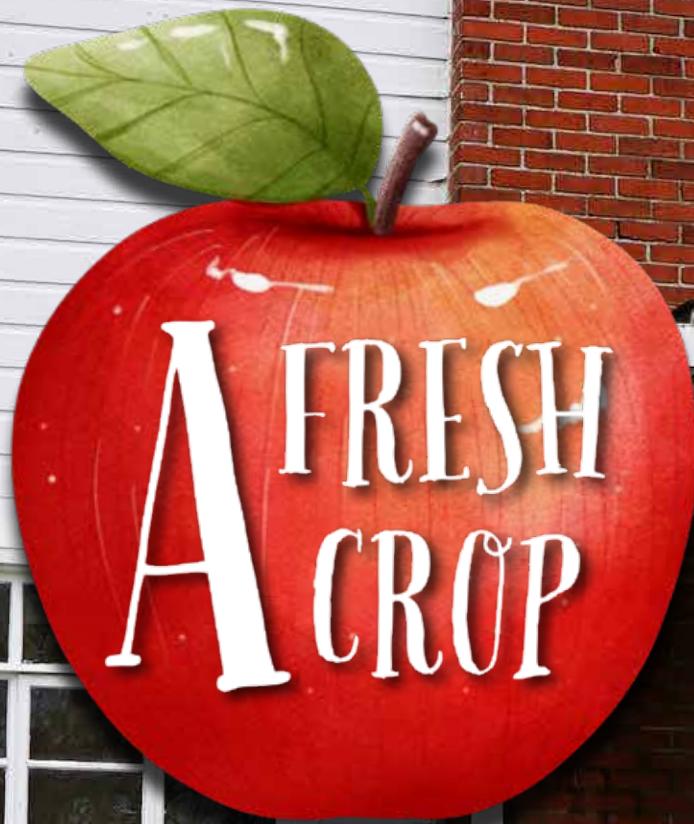
## **Powell Farm**

- Seasonal Farm Production Assistants

## **Utilities Department**

- Seasonal, Utilities Laborer (Long and Short)





## POWELL PLAN REVIVES FARMSTEAD

It's been a while since the word "new" could be used to describe the Powell Farm along Goehring Road.

The farm, owned and operated by Denton Powell and his family since 1945, is beautifully maintained and preserved, yet it remains a poignant reminder of another era. The original barns and home offer a glimpse into life in Cranberry Township before the development boom.

Now, there's plenty of "new" ahead for the Powell Farm, all of which will continue its preserved mission of operating as a working, active farmstead.

After taking the helm as Powell Farm Supervisor in 2025, Noah Petronic began preparing the 71-acre plot for the year ahead in 2026. That includes new equipment, added irrigation, and plantings, with the first of several apple orchards set to take root in the spring.

These items help take a purposeful step toward the Township's goal of making Powell Farm an agricultural education epicenter in the region. It also sows the seeds for the potential of a public farming program.

Powell Farm's vision was on display in late 2025 as farmers from around the region joined Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding, State Sen. Elder Vogel, and representatives from Governor Josh Shapiro's Office of Transformation & Opportunity to discuss the future of farming and how to promote sustainability, preservation, and participation.

The farm provided the perfect backdrop for the session, with many remarking that Powell could be the blueprint for the future of farming: a community-based initiative honors the industry's history while keeping an eye on sustainable, modern practices.

Suffice to say, it isn't just crops growing at Powell Farm – it's an agricultural movement.



**Noah Petronic, Powell Farm Supervisor, and his dog Annie** ▲



# Cranberry FOUNDATION: 50 and Thriving

In 2026, the Cranberry Foundation marks a milestone - 50 years of service, support, and community spirit. What began in 1976 as the Cranberry Township Community Chest (CTCC), a grassroots effort to strengthen Cranberry Township's volunteer fire company, library, and ambulance service, has grown into a unified foundation dedicated to building a stronger, more connected community.

The idea was simple but powerful: rather than competing for donations, local organizations could accomplish more together. That spirit of collaboration, first championed by community leaders like Frank Petrone and the Cranberry Rotary, became the foundation of an enduring tradition of partnership and civic pride.

As the Township grew and public services became more sustainable, the organization evolved to meet new needs, supporting community projects, volunteer initiatives, and partnerships that enhance life in Cranberry every day.

Among its signature initiatives, the Project of the Year continues to bring residents, businesses, nonprofits, and civic groups together to create visible, lasting improvements across the community. These projects reflect the Foundation's belief in shared action and local pride.

In 2025, the organization entered its next chapter with a new name and renewed purpose: The Cranberry Foundation.

"The Cranberry Foundation represents more than a rebrand; it's a renewed commitment to the community we've proudly served since 1976," said Jerry Andree, President. "While our name has changed, our purpose has not. We remain rooted in community, service, and partnership; values that continue to guide our work."

Fifty years after those first seeds were planted, the Cranberry Foundation continues to grow and evolve, investing in people and projects that make Cranberry Township a vibrant place to live, work, and thrive.



**Find out how you can  
celebrate with the  
Cranberry Foundation!  
[cranberryfoundation.org](http://cranberryfoundation.org)**

# wish GRANTED!

## CRANBERRY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS COMMUNITY



▲ **Nonprofits and initiatives supported by the Cranberry Foundation (clockwise): Haine Middle School Rain Barrel Program, Glade Run Lutheran Services, Southern Butler County Garden Club**

The Cranberry Foundation is taking a new approach to supporting the people and projects that make Cranberry Township thrive.

As part of the Foundation's renewed focus on local impact, the Annual Community Grant Program will provide funding for nonprofit and civic initiatives that directly serve the residents of Cranberry. The program is designed to strengthen community connections, promote sustainability, and enhance the overall vitality of the Township.

"This new grant program allows us to invest more intentionally in projects that benefit our residents and improve the quality of life here in Cranberry," said Jerry Andree, President. "It's about keeping our support close to home."

Unlike past funding structures, the Annual Community Grant Program prioritizes initiatives that occur within the Township or directly benefit its residents. The goal is to ensure that every grant dollar supports meaningful, measurable improvements right here in the community.

Preference will be given to projects that demonstrate collaboration among local organizations, show measurable results or community benefit, and/or contribute to long-term sustainability or vitality.

Applications for the 2026 grant cycle open January 2, 2026, and must be submitted by March 31, 2026. Funding recipients will be announced by July 1.

Eligible nonprofits and civic groups interested in applying are encouraged to review the program guidelines and eligibility requirements on the Cranberry Foundation's website at [cranberryfoundation.org](http://cranberryfoundation.org).



**Review program information online.**  
**[cranberryfoundation.org](http://cranberryfoundation.org)**

# BADGES OF HONOR

## Officers Recognized for Outstanding Service

**W**hen moments of crisis arise, and when compassion is needed most, the Cranberry Township Police Department's officers are there – not just to protect, but to serve with heart.

Whether it's responding to an emergency or guiding others through the challenges of mental health, their actions reflect a deep commitment to the people who call Cranberry home. That commitment was recently recognized when Officers Ed Steinmetz and Michael Weleski were honored with prestigious regional awards celebrating courage, leadership, and service.

### **Courage Under Fire**

Steinmetz was recognized with two awards for his response to an active threat incident in 2024 near Cranberry Highlands Golf Course. U.S. Representative Mike Kelly presented Steinmetz with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition. During the 24th Annual Amen Corner Senator John Heinz Law Enforcement Awards Luncheon, Steinmetz, along with Pittsburgh Police Officer Kevin Merkel, received the *In the Line of Fire* award. Their decisive actions and professionalism were instrumental in safely resolving a life-threatening situation and protecting residents.

"I was honored and proud to be considered for an award from a prestigious organization," Steinmetz said. "I was also a little apprehensive and unsure I was deserving enough to receive this award. To be in a room with fellow officers receiving awards for their heroic and selfless acts in performance of their duties was very humbling."

Steinmetz, an 11-year veteran with the Department, is currently assigned to the patrol division and contributes to the drone and forensics units. He said the best part of working in Cranberry is the support from the community. "I rarely go a shift without

being stopped by someone wanting to show appreciation for the work we do," he said.

### **Compassion in Action**

Weleski, who's been with the department since 2008, was recognized as one of two recipients of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Police Officer of the Year Award. This honor highlights his leadership and innovation in improving law enforcement responses to mental health crises.

"It is an astounding honor to have been selected as CIT Police Officer of the Year," Weleski said. "I've always tried to do whatever I could to help continue to improve the effectiveness of the CIT program we have here in Butler County, as well as the surrounding area. For that effort to get statewide recognition has been an overwhelming affirmation of what I get to do in partnership with so many others."

As a CIT coordinator, trainer, and mentor, Weleski has played an instrumental role in expanding crisis-intervention efforts across Butler and neighboring counties. From developing a behavioral health database to launching officer wellness initiatives, his work has strengthened community trust and enhanced the resources available to both officers and residents.

"Many times, I have witnessed how CIT can not only change lives, but save them as well. Playing my small part is rewarding beyond measure," he said.

Recently retired Police Chief Kevin Meyer commended both officers for representing the department's values through their courage, compassion, and professionalism.

"Officer Steinmetz and Officer Weleski embody the highest ideals of public service," Meyer said. "Their actions reflect the values that make Cranberry Township a safe and compassionate community."



OFFICER ED STEINMETZ



OFFICER MICHAEL WELESKI



# HOLLY JOLLY HELPERS

Several students were given a special police escort during the holiday season, dashing and dancing their way through the aisles of Target in preparation and celebration of the holiday season.

The annual Heroes & Helpers event brings together the Township's Police Department, Target, and MSA Safety to make the holidays brighter for area families. Students in the Seneca Valley School District were given an allowance to complete their holiday shopping.

More than two dozen students were paired with an officer to sweep through the aisles at Target, picking up gifts for siblings, parents, and other family members. They also added a few gifts for themselves.

Members of the Department said they look forward to this yearly event as it allows them to meet with and learn more about the community. The camaraderie and smiles make the shopping spree a seasonal highlight for students and officers alike.

***The Cranberry Township Police Department thanks partners Target - Cranberry, MSA, and the counselors at Haine Middle School for supporting this initiative.***



Every Tuesday evening, Cranberry's Public Safety Training Center is abuzz with activity, with dozens of Volunteer Fire Company members practicing to make perfect.

A long-term commitment to training has real benefits when an emergency strikes, and a recent Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant ensures a prepared, fully staffed team answers the call.

CTVFC received a \$583,000 SAFER Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The funds supplement an \$836,046 SAFER Grant awarded initially in June 2023.

The grant program was established to provide funding that helps firefighting organizations increase or maintain the number of trained, frontline firefighters available in their communities. It also helps organizations meet industry standards and work toward achieving 24-hour staffing to keep communities safe.



**Become a member!**  
[ctvfc21.org](http://ctvfc21.org)

# FIRED UP!

*Grants Spark Growth at CTVFC*



CTVFC's grants can be used for reimbursement of qualifying expenditures until June 6, 2027, including the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE), tuition and training assistance, stipend staffing, and marketing.

Scott Garing, Chief of Fire & Emergency Services, said the \$150,000 will be spent on training, \$120,000 on junior firefighter training, and \$88,000 on member wellness.

The most significant expenditure - \$225,000 - will be used for secondary education for CTVFC members. Members are eligible for up to \$10,000 per year, split into two \$5,000 awards. Tuition reimbursement covers the cost of tuition, fees, room and board, and other expenses.

"Our organization has grown tremendously over the past several years, and we want to continue that momentum," Garing said. "These grants significantly support our mission to provide excellent service to the community."



### ***Why should I subscribe?***

*Your subscription eliminates the unexpected emergency (911) ambulance care costs when you're transported to the hospital. Your insurance may not completely cover the lifesaving care that EMS provides during a medical emergency. By becoming a subscriber, you can limit your out-of-pocket expense to just a \$50 service fee after your insurance claim.*

## **EMS FORTIFIES ITS FLEET**

New ambulance to improve emergency response

**W**ith call volumes rising year-over-year and demand expected to continue increasing, Cranberry Township EMS isn't just spinning its wheels.

Instead, the organization recently rolled out a third ambulance into service, strategically stationed in the Township's southwest corner to improve response times for calls in neighboring Beaver County. The new unit primarily operates during peak hours on weekdays, but its schedule can be adjusted as needs change, ensuring maximum efficiency.

Matt Nickl, EMS Executive Director, said calls have steadily increased over the past five years. After months of study, the organization created a strategic plan to ensure the new unit is used efficiently and effectively.

Adding a third ambulance also meant bringing more hands on deck, leading Cranberry EMS to hire a variety of full- and part-time staff, including EMTs and paramedics to safely and reliably operate the fleet.

The proactive move ensures the Cranberry EMS sustains fast response times and continues providing life-saving service to the community—because when emergencies strike, every minute counts.



### **Senior - \$49 per year**

Covers an individual or couple, 62 years of age or older, and other permanent household residents

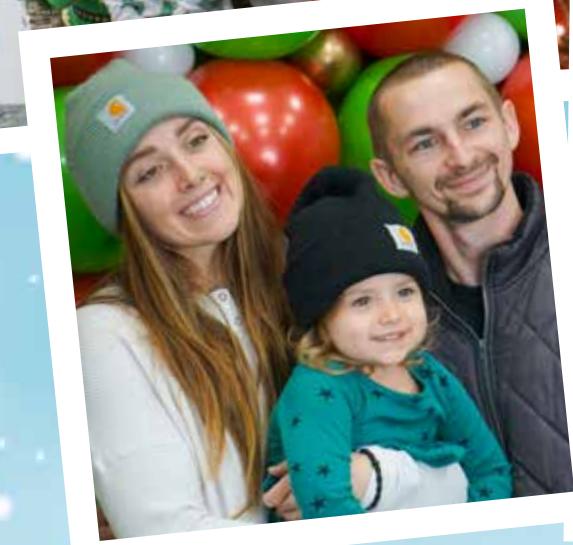
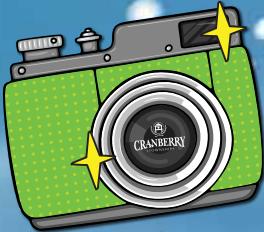
**Family  
\$69 per year**  
Covers all permanent residents of your home



**Individual  
\$59 per year**  
Covers only the subscribed individual



# OH SNAP!







# ANGELS FOR ALL SEASONS

While winter snow flurries may look magical from the window, for some residents, those little flurries signal a long and challenging season ahead. Clearing driveways and sidewalks is no easy task, especially for seniors and those who are physically unable.

Enter Volunteer Cranberry.

Managed by Township employees, Volunteer Cranberry oversees several volunteer programs, including Snow Angels – a program that pairs residents in need with local volunteers to assist with snow removal. Launched in 2016, Snow Angels was joined the following year by its sister program, Leaf Angels, which provides fall leaf removal support.

Since then, Volunteer Cranberry has seen an overwhelming response from community members eager to help.

"We often have more volunteers than requests, including people from outside the Township who want to help," said Kaylee Eyth, Project Manager with Public Works and manager of Volunteer Cranberry.

Eyth oversees the entire matching process. So how does the magic happen?

It begins with two online forms – one for volunteers and one for residents requesting assistance. After collecting dozens of submissions, Eyth begins the meticulous process of pairing volunteers with residents. "The matching process can definitely

be a bit tedious – but it's worth it!" Eyth said.

Proximity is a priority. Volunteers are matched with residents who live within about 10 minutes – or sometimes right next door. "Once the matches are made, I send personalized emails to introduce each volunteer to their match. That's when the magic really begins!" said Eyth.

This past year, Leaf Angels kicked off November 1 and continued through the end of yard waste collection. The Snow Angels program began December 15 and will run through the final snowfall of the season.

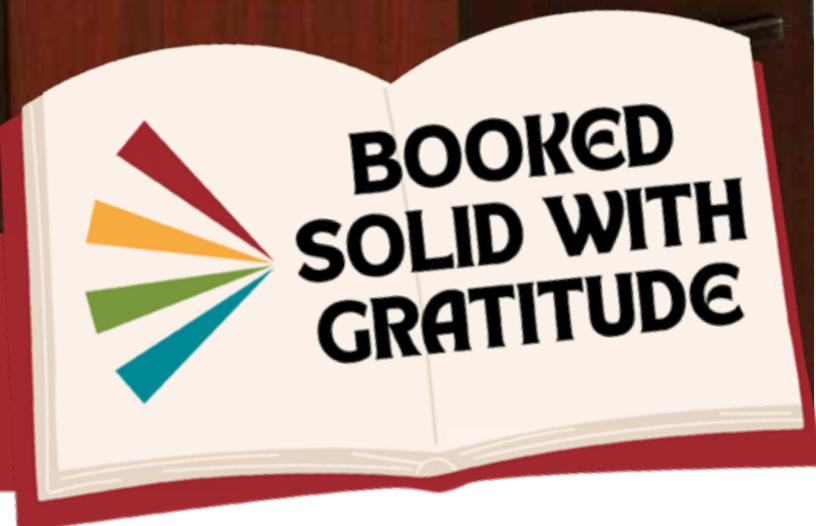
Snow and Leaf Angels represent a wide range of helpers including employee teams, school clubs, families, and individuals. They may come from different parts of the community, but they all share a mission: helping neighbors stay safe and mobile, while building meaningful connections and lasting memories. And often, it only takes a single afternoon to make a difference.



***Scan to learn more about serving  
with Volunteer Cranberry!  
[cranberrytownship.org/  
volunteer](http://cranberrytownship.org/volunteer)***



*Mazzoni* HONORING AWARD  
*Spirit of Giving* WINNERS



The Cranberry Public Library continues to book big wins thanks to the service, compassion, and community spirit that keep it the creative and educational heart of Cranberry Township.

Each year, the Library honors those who exemplify those qualities with the Mazzoni Spirit of Giving Awards. Established in 2013, the honor acknowledges supporters who selflessly share their time, talents, and resources; exhibit a creative vision for the Library's future; and advocate on the Library's behalf. The 2025 honorees include:

- Ruthanne Bluemling, a long-time Library volunteer whose dedication is truly selfless.
- Dutilh Church, recognized for its unwavering support and outreach to the community. Dutilh has provided financial support for The Forge Makerspace and the Armstrong Great Lawn Story Walk. Additionally, Pastor Tom Parkinson was a long-serving member of the Library Board.

The efforts of these and past Spirit of Giving honorees ensure the Library remains a crucial part of Cranberry Township's story.



**Learn more about the Mazzoni  
Spirit of Giving Award.**  
[cranberrylibrary.org/  
givingawards](http://cranberrylibrary.org/givingawards)



# Faces of Cranberry: The Grupp Family

**W**hether they know it or not, a sizable portion of the Cranberry community has been impacted by David Grupp and his family.

Perhaps they've played youth sports, where Grupp has coached for several years. They may have served in Boy Scout Troop 403, where Grupp is the Assistant Scout Master. Maybe they've learned from his vast knowledge of energy markets and renewables, gained via more than 20 years of experience in the field.

Or, most likely, they've gathered on Christmas morning to share gifts and memories with family around a Grupp's Christmas tree. The names Grupp and Christmas are synonymous in Butler County, with Grupp's Christmas Tree Farm in Harmony serving the community since 1982. Founded by David's

parents, Jack and Nancy, the entire family continues to work to bring holiday joy to countless families.

That includes David, his wife, Milan, and their sons Maddox, 17, and Camden, 16. Though he grew up north of Cranberry, David spent a lot of time each winter selling trees at the corner of Rowan Road with his brother, John. After graduating from Penn State University with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, there was no question where he wanted to start – or rather, continue – his life.

"For 55 years, I've lived in Butler County," he said, adding there was no hesitation in returning to the area after school. "People here are amazing, and I've always appreciated the area for what it is: beautiful, affordable, safe, and with amenities. Plus, in five minutes, you can be in the middle of nature."

Milan herself grew up in Butler County and met David while they were working out at a gym in Seven Fields. The two married in 2003.

After college, David spent more than 15 years working for Robinson Industries, an industrial fan manufacturer providing pollution control solutions for heavy industry. He then worked for Direct Energy Business, overseeing a range of responsibilities that included marketing, sales leadership, and business strategy. Along the way, he graduated with honors with an MBA from Duquesne University with concentrations in Finance and Sustainability.

Armed with a wealth of knowledge and a passion for renewable energy, Grupp set out on his own to create Green Climate Energy Consulting. He helps customers use energy more efficiently, responsibly, and sustainably. That includes partnering with the Butler County Chamber of Commerce on its Energy Program, offering solutions to businesses and municipalities in Butler County, such as Cranberry Township.

With offices in Cranberry and Zelienople, Grupp can also be found working inside the Butler County Chamber of Commerce office in the Cranberry Municipal Center. He said he continues to be motivated and fulfilled by his work. "Whether its saving clients' money on electricity and natural gas supply, reducing their impact on the environment, or exploring emerging technologies, every single thing we do makes a difference, and I hope I can be a role model to my sons," he said.

It's certainly working so far, as Maddox fulfilled his Eagle Scout Service requirement by planting 34 Canaan fir trees as part of a stream restoration project in the Glen Brook neighborhood along with members of Troop 403. That's not to mention the work ethic and commitment to family that's been on display at Grupp's Tree Farm, where David's parents are in their 80s and still work each day. Now, they're doing so alongside their four children and 12 grandchildren. It's a full circle moment for David.

"My mom and dad will tell you, when I was a kid, I wanted nothing more than to get off the farm," he said. "Now, as I get older, there's nowhere else I'd rather be with my family other than Cranberry Township."



▲ The Grupp Family with tree donated by Grupp Farms





# MEALS ON A MISSION

Despite several years of reduced service due to the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and state funding shortfalls, Cranberry Township's seniors are still finding connection and comfort through shared meals thanks to the dedication of local churches, volunteers, and Township leadership.

Before the pandemic, the Butler County Agency on Aging operated the Cranberry Senior Center at the Township Municipal Center five days a week. Like many senior centers, it closed during the pandemic. When it reopened, it did so only four days a week, with no service on Thursdays. In fall 2024, further reductions in state funds necessitated another scale back of the program to just three days a week, resulting in the elimination of Friday services.

For many of the Township's older residents, this loss was more than an inconvenience - it meant fewer opportunities for companionship, routine, and access to a nutritious meal. Recognizing the impact, Township Supervisor Karen Newpol met with seniors and listened to their concerns. Newpol reached out to the Council of Churches to seek a local solution.

After several meetings, the churches were invited to design a Senior Community Meal Pilot Program, created in cooperation with the Agency on Aging. What began as an idea soon became an organized and heartfelt community effort.



Several churches quickly stepped forward to support the program, including Hope Lutheran Church, Dutilh Church, Cranberry Community United Presbyterian Church, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. At 11 a.m. each Friday, volunteers arrive to prepare and serve meals to seniors. The program is now entering its second year, and participation continues to grow, with St. Ferdinand Church and the Sunset Rotary

Club joining the effort. Newpol hopes to restore the Thursday meal service, and Dutilh Church has volunteered to take it on temporarily one Thursday each month.

Newpol expressed her gratitude for all involved. "Thank you to our churches for your dedication to this project and for fostering such a strong sense of community to support our seniors," she said. "Let's keep the momentum going!"



▲ Township Supervisor Karen Newpol (center) and service volunteers from Cranberry Community United Presbyterian Church

# ROOTING FOR THE FUTURE



A partnership among the Township, Seneca Valley School District, Penn Power, and FirstEnergy continues to flourish. The 3rd Annual Tree Planting Blitz saw dozens of Ryan Gloyer Middle School students plant 300 tree saplings across the community. Part of the ongoing "Community Grown" initiative, the day of service benefits not only the community but also fosters teamwork, mentorship, and community involvement among students, administrators, and Township staff.

The plantings took place in neighborhoods and along Brush Creek, where recent efforts to meet Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) requirements were recently completed. In addition to removing more than 300,000 pounds of sediment from the creek, the efforts realigned the channel and improved the stream's biology.

Trees were planted in these areas to enhance the aesthetic qualities and promote and sustain wildlife. School district officials said the project exemplifies how students are empowered to give back to communities that support their education, creating a legacy of service and connection.



# CLAIM YOUR COVER!



*Don't wait – book your  
shelter now!*  
[cranberrytownship.org/  
shelters](http://cranberrytownship.org/shelters)

## SHELTER RENTALS OPEN IN JANUARY

From birthday bashes to family reunions, Cranberry Township's park shelters are the perfect spot to make memories in the great outdoors. Each shelter offers the ideal mix of comfort and convenience, featuring electrical outlets, a charcoal grill, picnic tables, and nearby restrooms with running water. Plus, thanks to Armstrong, free Wi-Fi is available.

Shelter rentals for 2026 open on January 20, and popular dates fill up quickly – especially on weekends! Reservations can be made easily online, so plan and lock in your celebration space before it's gone.

Full payment is required at the time of booking, and refunds are not available after May 1. Visit [cranberrytownship.org/shelters](http://cranberrytownship.org/shelters) for details and to reserve your perfect party spot.



# ON A MISSION:

## BBQ SPOT SERVES THOSE WHO SERVED

Delicious, slow-cooked BBQ with a side of patriotism? Mission accomplished!

Mission BBQ recently opened its doors at 20229 Route 19, bringing a commitment to support and salute America's heroes — from active-duty military to hometown first responders.

The first Mission BBQ was opened on September 11, 2011, by Bill Kraus and Steve Newton, who were passionate about BBQ and their country. Believing there is nothing more American than BBQ, they opened a restaurant dedicated to promoting patriotism and community through shared meals.

And the meals are certainly worth celebrating. The menu features slow-cooked and smoked brisket, pulled pork, pulled chicken, turkey, ribs, and salmon. If these masterful meats aren't enough, the made-from-scratch sides are more than enough to fill stomachs, including

macaroni and cheese, baked beans, collard greens, and coleslaw.

There's no reason to debate which type of BBQ is the best, as Mission BBQ offers several sauces to complement the meal: Memphis Belle, Blue Ridge Smoky Mountain, Tupelo Honey Heat, KC Classic, Texas Twang, Bay-B-Que, Alabama White, Carolina Vinegar, Georgia Mustard, and more.

While the food is the main event, honoring heroes is always top of mind. Each day at noon, the restaurant pauses for a Salute to the Stars and Stripes featuring the playing of the National Anthem. The restaurant itself is adorned with items honoring military, police, fire, and first responders, and the company is heavily involved with charities that support veterans and their families.

Mouth-watering meals and supporting service — the cornerstones of Mission BBQ and a new way for the Cranberry community to gather.

**SIDES**

Made from Scratch

4.99	Maggie's Mac-N-Cheese	3.59
2.99	Fresh Cut Fries Not Frozen	3.49
2.99	Baked Beans with Brisket	3.39
2.99	Cold Slaw Crisp & Creamy	3.34
3.84	XL Combo Add One Side & a fountain drink	6.00
7.99	XXL Combo Add Two Sides & a fountain drink	8.75

Serving  
3.34

Kickin' Collard Greens	3.44
Green Beans & Bacon	3.54
Garden Greens Entree/Side	5.54/3.64
Seasonal Side & Sweet	3.64

3.44  
3.54  
5.54/3.64  
3.64

Brisket Sandwich Sliced to Order
Chopped Brisket Saucy with a Kick
Pulled Pork Traditional or NC Style
Pulled Chicken Tasty & Tender
Turkey Barn Good



See a recap of Mission BBQ's  
opening week!



# SWTHZ turns up the heat

**A** new era of wellness is beginning in Cranberry Township, marked by the opening of SweatHouz's first studio in the Pittsburgh area.

Transforming an ancient practice into the modern era, the 60-minute SweatHouz experience utilizes infrared saunas and cold plunge tubs to take the body through a process known as "contrast therapy".

Clients begin in a private infrared sauna, where light—not air—heats the body directly. Temperatures climb as high as 170 degrees, helping relax muscles, reduce pain, and support recovery. After breaking a sweat, users rinse off in a vitamin C-infused

shower designed to boost skin hydration and enhance hair shine.

Then it's time to take the plunge.

SweatHouz cold plunge tubs maintain water temperatures between 48 and 55 degrees. The water fully filters every six minutes and is refreshed between sessions. The sudden drop in temperature activates brown adipose tissue, or brown fat, which burns glucose and stored fat to create heat—a metabolic process called thermogenesis.

Activating brown fat can help increase metabolism, improve insulin sensitivity, and support fat-burning. The cold exposure also aids muscle recovery, reduces inflammation,

strengthens immune function, and—thanks to short bursts of "hormetic stress"—may enhance mental resilience and stress tolerance.

All of this takes place in one of SweatHouz's private suites equipped with adjustable lighting, ambient sound, and entertainment options, allowing visitors to completely tailor the experience to their comfort level.

Since opening its doors last September, SweatHouz has received an enthusiastic welcome from the community and is already eyeing further expansion in the Pittsburgh area.





Kelton Burgess loves when a plan comes together. As the head of Cranberry Wealth and The Burgess Law Firm, Burgess is committed to helping individuals build and protect their financial futures. That mission got an upgrade as both businesses recently moved to a new location at 20206 Route 19, Suite 300.

Cranberry Wealth is a financial advisory firm offering personalized wealth management rooted in transparency, education, and long-term planning. Services include tax-efficient planning, retirement and investment planning, annuity strategies, and asset management.

Meanwhile, The Burgess Law Firm focuses on estate planning, helping clients preserve wealth and pass assets to heirs with minimal tax burden. Burgess designs comprehensive plans tailored to each client's needs and

priorities.

Burgess holds a law degree from the Thomas R. Kline School of Law at Duquesne University and a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He is licensed to practice law in both Pennsylvania and California and holds a Series 65 securities license as well as an insurance producer license.

Education is central to Burgess's approach. He regularly engages the community through seminars on estate planning, probate, and related legal and financial topics. He also shares his expertise through media, hosting the weekly radio show "Estates and Trusts Insights" on WORD 101.5 FM at 1 p.m. Saturdays and the podcast "A Slice of Advice with Kelton Burgess."

For more information, visit [cranberrywealth.com](http://cranberrywealth.com) and [burgessfirm.com](http://burgessfirm.com).

# MONEY TALKS

AND SO DOES KELTON BURGESS

▼ Dr. Raja (center) is joined by office staff and Denise Martin (far right), President of Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber, for the dental practice's ribbon cutting



## POLISHED TO PERFECTION

WINDROSE FAMILY DENTISTRY REBRANDS FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW



▲ Dr. Nabila Raja

There's never been a better time to smile in Cranberry Township thanks to the newly refreshed Windrose Family Dentistry.

After opening their doors in January 2025 as Cranberry Township Family Dentistry, the practice underwent a rebrand to reintroduce itself to the community as Windrose Family Dentistry. While they have a new name and fresh look, their core mission remains the same – offering care that is reliable, high-quality, and easily accessible to the growing Cranberry community.

"Just as a windrose guides travelers, our team is dedicated to guiding each patient through a dental experience that feels comfortable, individualized and rooted in long-term wellness," said office manager Jennifer Hickey.

As part of the refresh, Windrose now offers expanded scheduling to meet the demand for timely dental services. Patients can now choose from early morning and late afternoon appointments to fit around even the busiest of schedules.

Windrose also provides a comprehensive range of services to support complete oral health. From routine and preventive care to cosmetic and restorative treatments, including whitening, bonding, crowns, and fillings – all using newly installed, state-of-the-art equipment. The practice offers individualized plans tailored to each patient and a calm, welcoming environment to ensure everyone leaves the office with a smile on their face.

Leading the team is Dr. Nabila Raja, who is committed to building strong, long-standing relationships with her patients, both new and returning. Dr. Raja completed a residency in Advanced Education in General and Cosmetic Dentistry at the University of Pittsburgh and has been practicing since 2006.

Dr. Raja and her team welcomed the community to celebrate this next chapter in their practice's history with a ribbon cutting and open house last November. The brand-new office space was filled with plenty of bright smiles for Windrose Family Dentistry's even brighter future in Cranberry Township.



SV Emcees  
Janellise Dykstra &  
Emily Harmanos

# CRANFEST 2026

*Cultural Festival*



SATURDAY, APRIL 11  
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
MUNICIPAL CENTER



Your neighbor doesn't  
want to see your rash.

**But there are people all over  
your community who do!**

They are primary care providers (PCPs) — who treat injuries and illnesses, chronic conditions, and do preventive care from testing to vaccines. Show them your rash ... or anything else that comes up.



Scan the code or visit [UPMC.com/PCP](https://UPMC.com/PCP)  
to find your PCP and schedule online.

**UPMC | PRIMARY  
CARE**



CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP  
2525 ROCHESTER ROAD, SUITE 400  
CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP, PA 16066-6499

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #25  
CRANBERRY TWP, PA

**POSTAL PATRON  
CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP, PA 16066**

# SEASONAL HIRING!

golf course  
waterpark  
camp cranberry  
powell farm

public works  
parks  
internships

Seasonal Job Fair  
Jan. 16, 2026

