

ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP

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Allegheny Township Board of Supervisors

- Kathryn Starr, Chairperson
- Joseph Ferguson, Vice-Chairman
- Douglas Custer, Supervisor



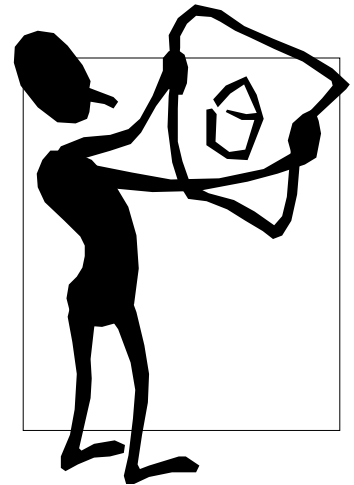
ALLEGHENY TOWNE CENTER DISTRICT—PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The Allegheny Township Board of Supervisors is coming to a conclusion of planning for a new zoning district in the Township under the planning efforts of the Economic Development Committee and consultant, Environmental Planning Design of Pittsburgh. The Board in concluding this effort want to ensure that the taxpayers of the Township are fully aware and knowledgeable about this land use application and have ample opportunity to ask questions and participate in this very public process.

Some background related to this plan includes a short history of the project. Over the past couple of years the Economic Development Committee, a sub-committee of the Long Range Plan initiative had been developing a Towne center concept zoning district within the Township. The idea behind a Towne Center district is to provide an area of the Township that will be business friendly as well as aesthetically pleasing to residents and visitors to the township. The area is also intended to be developed with environmentally

sound principals and an area where people can walk from one business to another through a series of side walks, street lights and access roads. This topic when initially brought up, met with some resistance from residents and the original plan was halted and the committee went back to the drawing board with EPD Consultants on board to advise the committee on how best to develop a plan that met the needs of the business community as well as the residents and property owners of Allegheny Township.

As of the writing of this article the final touches are being put on the document that would bring the Towne Center to reality. The intent of the Board of Supervisors in final adoption of the district would be to receive a final draft of the new ordinance at their April meeting for final review. The Board would then send the proposed ordinance to the Westmoreland County Planning Commission for a thirty (30) day review period at which time the document will also be on public display for YOUR input. A public hearing



would then be scheduled to present the public with the final document and in accordance with the Municipalities Planning Code of Pennsylvania; an opportunity for the public to discuss or ask additional questions before the board approves the new ordinance at a public meeting. The proposed timelines for implementation would appear at this point to have final adoption of the new district at the Board's June 8 meeting. The Board encourages and invites all residents and taxpayers to review the proposed ordinance and related plans prior to final adoption.

COMPUTER CLASSES FOR SENIORS

Since last fall, the Senior Center in the Community Building has been the location for basic computer classes for seniors. Over twenty five (25) seniors have attended these classes conducted by Township residents Phyllis and John Framel. Due to the demand, additional

classes will be held this summer starting in April. Each class will have three 1 1/2 hour sessions that begin at 1:00 p.m. These classes are hands-on sessions that utilize Apple computers. Class participants will learn the basics of the computer, how to get on and

use the internet, how to use e-mail and how to create documents. If you are interested in participating, please contact Phyllis or John Framel at 724-295-0427 or call the Township office at 724-842-4641.

“DCNR Warns Pennsylvania Communities about Danger in Forested Areas”

Preventing Wildfires

Township residents who live near state forests or other woodlands should be vigilant this

summer and fall as the wildfire threat increases due to hot, dry conditions and changing weather patterns.

“Though forests are a renewable resource, they can quickly become endangered by acts of

carelessness,” state Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources Michael DiBerardinis said

recently. “People cause 98 percent of wildfires.

A mere spark can touch off a devastating forest blaze during dry periods when conditions are especially ripe for wildfires.”

According to DCNR’s Bureau of Forestry, nearly 10,000 acres of Pennsylvania’s forests are

burned by wildfires each year, and while nearly 85 percent of those fires occur between March

and May, the threat remains during the warm summer and



Wildfires can devastate a community and its natural resources, please use extreme caution when burning.

early fall months.

Wildfires are so named for their rapid spread through bare vegetation in dry, windy conditions. State forestry officials urge landowners to be extremely careful when

burning trash

and debris, one of the most common causes of wildfires, and obey local open-burning bans.

Many townships have such bans in place during the summer to minimize the risk of wildfires.

Education is still the best way to prevent wildfires, and the nation’s best-known fire

prevention symbol, Smokey Bear, is still going strong after more than 60 years.

For more information about wildfire prevention and education, call DCNR’s Bureau of

Forestry at (717) 787-2925 or log onto www.dcnr.state.pa.us and click on “Forestry.”

**ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP SPRING CLEANUP
MAY 19, 2009 8:00 A.M. TO NOON**

The environmental committee of Allegheny Township has arranged and is announcing a Spring Cleanup Day for Allegheny Township residents in partnership with McCutcheon Enterprises, 250 Park Road at 356 South (724) 568-3623.

There will be special pricing for this day only on numerous items that you may need to get rid of that has been laying around your property. Prices are as follows:

- *All tires (including rims) \$1.25/tire, \$3.00/truck tire
- *Refrigerator/Freezers \$10.00 each (\$30.00 additional to remove freon)
- *Televisions

- \$15.00 each
- *Microwave ovens \$7.00 each
- *Washer/Dryers \$5.00 each
- *General Debris & Trash \$15.00 per load up to 800 lbs. additional 2 cents/pound over 800
- *Lead acid Car Batteries \$4.00/battery
- *All other Batteries \$1.00 per pound
- *Latex Paints \$1.00 per gal. \$2.00 per gallon

up to 5 gallon container.

Other information to forward you from the Environmental Committee in regards to recycling, if you have materials to dispose of contact :

The Leechburg Recycling Center



Take pride in your community and be environmentally minded.

Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., they recycle Glass (clear, brown and green), Aluminum cans, Dry newspapers, #1 & #2 plastic as well as Cardboard.

VOLUNTARY WELL TESTING PROGRAM

The Allegheny Township Environmental Advisory Council has received a \$5000 grant for well testing in the Township, courtesy of the sponsorship of Representative John Pallone.

Pennsylvania does not regulate the testing of wells—it is up to individual homeowners to test and maintain their wells. Safe drinking water is critically important for health, especially children, and the elderly. With western Pennsylvania’s legacy of industrial use, safe drinking water is a major health issue.

This is a voluntary program. Residents can choose to have their wells tested or not. Additionally, they

can choose to take corrective measures if test results indicate a potential health risk. **Drinking Water Clinics** will be conducted on April 28, 2009 from 1:20 p.m.—3:30 p.m. and again from 7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. (see enclosed flyer) at the Community Building. Mr. Brian Swinstock, Extension Specialist, Penn State College of Ag Science will talk about water safety, health issues, types of testing and corrective measures if your well has problems. If you wish to get your well tested, you will be given a test kit at the Clinic to be returned the next morning. Mr. Swinstock will then



Don't take your well water for granted!

take all of the kits to the Penn State lab. Results will be sent to the local Extension agent, Dana Rizzo, and there will be an open house at the Township Building to get results and to discuss treatment options.

“You must pre-register for the Drinking Water Clinics. Register by phone at 724-837-1402 or by e-mail at: def18@psu.edu. We will only be able to test 100 wells; first come first serve”

SENIOR DISCUSSION GROUP FORUMS

The Senior Discussion Group has been a huge success. We are pleased to announce that these discussions will continue. They are held the fourth Wednesday of every month beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Township Community Building immediately following the Senior Luncheon. The next discussion will take place on April 22 at 1:00 p.m. The guest

speaker will be Megan Bilik Defazio, Esq. The subject will be “Identity Theft—How to Protect Yourself”. This is a subject that all senior citizens should know about. The guest speaker at the May discussion will be Larry Talmadge, Vice-President of Retirement Services, Concordia Lutheran Ministries. His subject will be “Senior Living Options-

Exploring the Choices”.

These discussions are free and are open to Allegheny Township seniors as well as seniors from surrounding areas. If you have any questions about these discussions, call John Framel, Senior Discussion Group Coordinator at 724-842-4641.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE-SUMMER 2009

The road construction season is rapidly approaching and the Public Works Department would like to ask for your patience and caution when entering posted work zones. There are times when traffic must be stopped for short periods of time due to the nature of the projects we are trying to complete.

The Public Works Department planned work schedule for this season include the installation of pipes and

inlets at various locations throughout the Township as well as grading road shoulders on as many roads as possible throughout the season.

We have identified numerous locations throughout the Township where the Public Works Department will be



Use extreme caution upon entering work zones!

contacting landowners of low hanging trees and branches that are causing damage to vehicular traffic as well as creating dangerous driving conditions, such as obstruction to sight distance. The goal in these situations will be to remove the obstruction that interferes with the safe travel of the roadway.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW TOWNSHIP MANAGER

On February 2, 2009 our new township manager, Mr. Gregory Primm, took his place on our administrative staff. Mr. Primm had been the Township Manager for Penn Township in Butler County for 18 years. Prior to Penn Township, he served as Borough



Leadership and Vision

Manager for the Borough of Falls Creek, Jefferson County for 2 years. He serves as a municipal training instructor for the Dept. of Community and Economic Development teaching many courses through the Governor's Center for Local Government Services. In addition to teaching classes for elected officials, Mr. Primm assists various communities with technical assistance on staffing levels, with land use department effectiveness, IT effectiveness and new employee training. A dedicated public servant, Greg currently serves as president of the Apollo-Ridge School Board as well as immediate past chair-

man of the Apollo Area Recreation Authority.

Greg's many hats include husband and father to his wife Beth and two children, Kirsten and Jared. He is an outstanding example of the old cliché, "when you really want something done, ask a busy person!" In two short months he has moved the township ahead on important projects, found ways to find hidden tax dollars and will soon implement ideas to streamline our office for both cost savings and efficiency. Please stop by and say "hello" to Greg, but make sure you are in a hurry, because that's how he gets it all done!

Allegheny Township is sensitive to property owner's rights and working with property owner's as partners in addressing right of way clearing issues. As such we always want to give you thirty (30) day notice that we need to perform clearing in the right of way in order for you to communicate with the public works department about the work to be performed, perform the work yourself, or to simply discuss what is to be done with the debris after the work is done. The work to be performed is in compliance with the Second Class Township Code, Article 23

CLEARING TOWNSHIP RIGHT OF WAYS

The Township takes great pride in providing a road system that is well-maintained and safe to the motoring public. It takes a great deal of work to keep the road system up to those standards. Part of that maintenance is ensuring that within the Township Right of Way, trees, brush and shrubbery do not impede on the Township roadway for various reasons that

include:

Ensuring clearance for traveling motorists that brush, trees limbs and like debris does not make contact or damage a vehicle thus making the roadway safer for travel.

Ensuring that underbrush, trees and debris do not allow water to lay on the roadway or impede the ditch-line where if not cleared will accel-

erate deterioration of the roadway or icing of the roadway thus making the roadway safer for travel.

Ensuring that the tree canopy is eliminated as much as possible to allow the sun to melt treated roads quicker during the winter season thus making the roadway safer for travel.

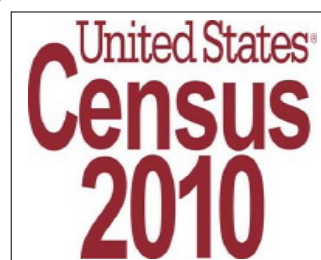
THE CENSUS IS COMING TO TOWN

Count me in.

By next year, according to the U.S.Census Bureau, there will be an estimated 310 million people residing in the United States. According to Census estimates of 2007 - 8,153 of them will live in Allegheny Township. Counting each person is one of the federal government's largest operations, so the Bureau will be hiring about 1.4 million

temporary employees to undertake the decennial project. This fall, recruitment will begin for censustakers to work during the peak period in 2010. Achieving a full count is a key priority for Allegheny Township Officials. The numbers need to

be as accurate as possible. Many residents and taxpayers are unaware that the numbers they determine for Allegheny Township have critical meaning to how we receive federal funding and highway dollars. It is of the utmost importance that you are counted so we can get our fair share.



Everyone needs to be counted!

HOUSE AND BUSINESS NUMBERS REQUIRED TO BE DISPLAYED

In October of 2005 the Allegheny Township Board of Supervisors passed Ordinance #05-2005. The purposes of this ordinance is to require the clear display of authorized and assigned house or building numbers on every dwelling or business in Allegheny Township in order to assist the general public and emergency services, public and private, in identifying any property in case of emergency or otherwise.

The owner, occupant, or lessee of each and every structure which now fronts or which may hereafter front upon any public or pri-

vate street or highway within Allegheny Township who has been assigned a number prior to the effective date of this chapter shall, at his own expense, within ninety (90) days after the effective date of this chapter, cause the authorized and assigned number of such structure to be permanently and conspicuously placed in accordance with the specifications set forth within the ordinance.

Since the adoption of this ordinance we still have many homeowners and business not in compliance. The Police are currently address-



The life you save may be your own!

ing violations in this regard and we encourage you to come into compliance without enforcement. You can do so by displaying address numbers in accordance with the ordinance. A copy of the ordinance can be obtained at the municipal building.

*“Both Allegheny Twp
Fire Departments are
selling address numbers for
residents and businesses as
a fundraiser and
applications for purchase
can be obtained at the
Community Building”*

Watch out!

Ignore These State Traffic Laws And Find Yourself in Trouble!

A series of tweaks to Pennsylvania’s traffic laws during the past few years have changed the rules of the road and they have teeth. Here’s a summary of some new and established laws you should be aware of:

1. Wipe 'n light. Drivers are now required to have their headlights on anytime their windshield wipers are operating – regardless of the time of day.

2. Steer clear. Drivers are now required to shift left a lane when they come upon a police traffic stop or tow truck pickup. If that isn’t possible, they need to slow way down. Reports of violations by road workers as well as emergency personnel can trigger citations. Fine: up to \$500 and a 90-day license suspension.

3. Move over. If an emergency vehicle approaches you from behind with its lights and siren on, you have to yield immediately, moving to the right side of the road until that vehicle has passed.

4. Clear ear. The Code prohibits drivers from

wearing headphones, earbuds, or other hearing impairment devices while driving. Single-ear Bluetooth devices and hearing aids are okay.

5. Litter free. The Code prohibits littering or depositing waste on any highways, waters, or properties in Pennsylvania. That includes cigarette butts.

6. No tint. The Code prohibits sun screening or non-factory tinting of window glass anywhere on a passenger vehicle.

7. No TV. Television sets and DVD players are only allowed in the back seats. If they’re visible to the driver, there’s a fine of \$108.



Be Aware Behind the Wheel! The Laws are made to protect you as a driver as well as a pedestrian.

PEMA DIRECTIVE SUGGESTS IDENTIFYING SPECIAL NEEDS

According to Dan Stevens, Public Information Office, Westmoreland County Department of Public Safety, municipalities throughout the County should be taking time to identify those individuals that live in our Township that may have special needs in any emergency situation that may arise, from power outages to natural disasters and any other situation that may dictate evacuation from residential situations. **Special Needs Populations** according to the Pennsylvania Evacuation Planning & Implementation Guidebook dictate that Emergency managers charged with planning an evacuation should determine what "Special Needs Populations" are located in the area so that the proper amount

and type of transportation resources are available at the time the evacuation order is given. The jurisdiction's EOP and Hazard Vulnerability Analysis should provide some information about special populations that may need to be evacuated. **Special needs populations include people who for any**

reason would require assistance evacuating once an order was issued. As an example, identifying these individuals also serve as a precursor to determine whether power is needed to recharge wheelchairs and to operate oxygen machines to sustain health needs and other related requirements. We ask that if you fit this criteria that you take time to fill out the short questionnaire below in order for the Township to begin building this data base in order for us to plan the best preparedness plan that we can and allowing us to incorporate better response to meet these needs. Please mail the responses as indicated below.



Please Take Time to Help us Find You!



SPECIAL NEEDS

Special needs populations include people who for any reason would require assistance evacuating once an order was issued or has immediate needs related to equipment usage during power outages.

This needs assessment may lead to additional information needed in the future and is assisting us in developing our database. You may also e-mail your responses to :

primm@twp.allegheny.pa.us

Needs Assessment –Allegheny Township Special Needs Households

Please take a moment to answer the following questions to help us prepare a response protocol for those individuals living within Allegheny Township that would have special needs to be addressed in a disaster situation.

Do you have physical limitations that would prohibit you from leaving your home in a disaster?

- Yes
- No

Do you use other equipment dependant on electricity for mobility such as a wheelchair?

- Yes
- No

Do you use life support equipment that would require electricity in case of a power outage? (eq. oxygen)

- Yes
- No

Would you like to be included in our data base of residents identified with special needs

- Yes
- No

Comments:

Please use this space to leave any additional comments relating to your special needs if unrelated to the questions listed:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

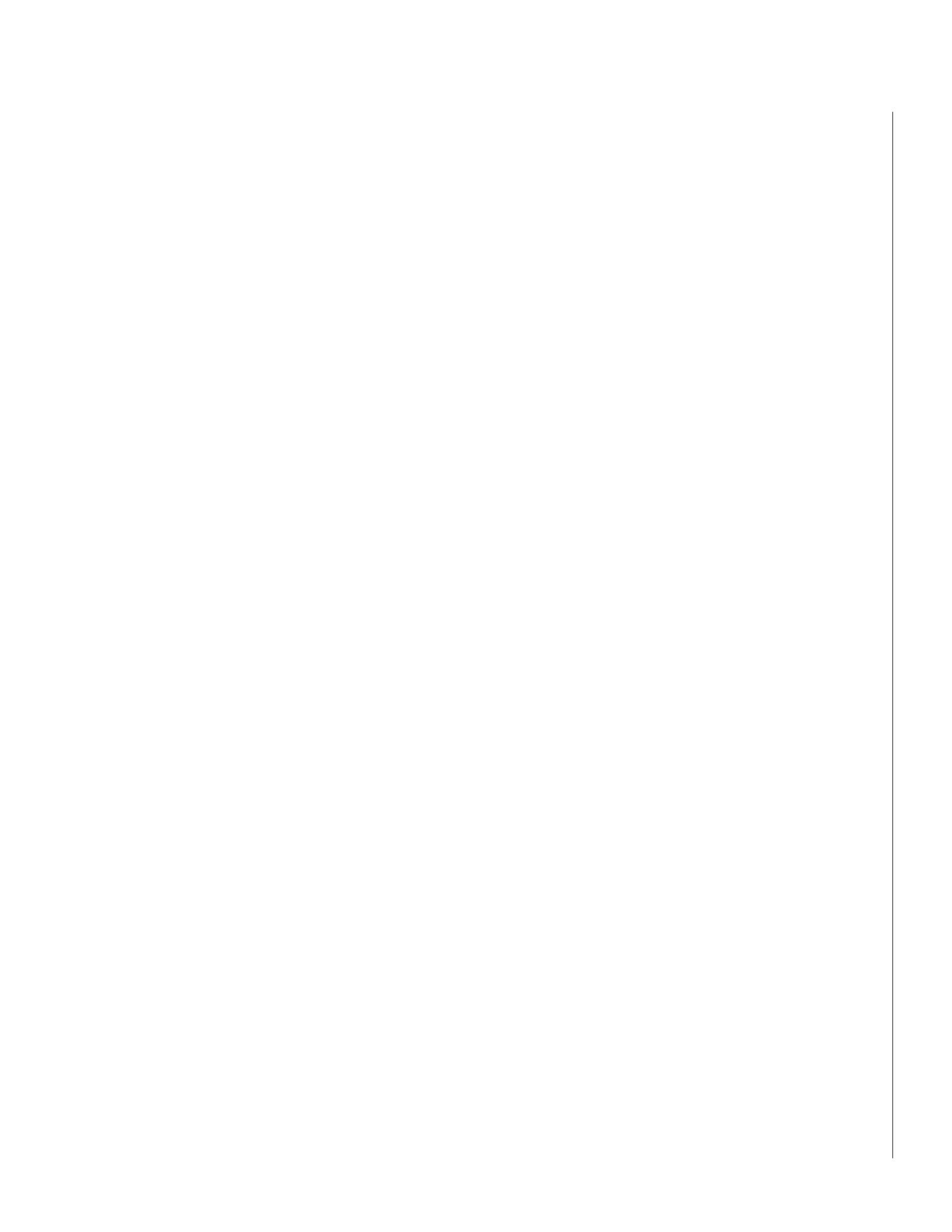
E-Mail _____



Growing Our Way!

Allegheny Township Municipal Offices
136 Community Building Road
Leechburg, PA 15656

Phone: (724) 842-4641
Fax: (724) 845-9290



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Phone: (724) 842-4641
Fax: (724) 845-9290

Gregory A. Primm, Township Manager
Susan Teagarden, Administrative Assistant and Zoning Officer

Steven Kanas, Director of Public Works



Police Chief, John Fontaine
Police Clerk, Tracey Zourelis

Presorted Standard
PRSTRT.STD

**PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
LEECHBURG PA
PERMIT NO. 219**

ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP POLICE PARTICIPATE IN SAFETY INITIATIVES

The Township Police Department has been participating with Drive Safe PA (formerly known as PA Smooth Operator and PA Buckle Up) since 2007. Drive Safe PA provides funding to have extra Police Officers on the streets monitoring traffic for aggressive drivers.

Part of the enhanced efforts is to have year round enforcement and provide the Police Department with an ENRADD unit (Electronic Non-Radar Device). This is the latest in PennDOT approved technology in vehicle speed detection. The unit works by placing two non-contact road switches across the highway. The speed of the vehicle traveling through the beams is sent via wireless transmitter to a



ENRADD is the newest tool in the war on aggressive drivers.

nearby Police Officer. The Officer can then use the indicated speed for a traffic citation. The unit is compact and is invisible to radar detectors. ENRADD is designed to be used in areas where manual speed detection by conventional means such as Accutrak can not be done.

The Police Depart-

ment will be using the unit on a regular basis as well as during Drive Safe PA details throughout the year. More information on this program can be seen at www.stopaggressivedriving.org.

The Allegheny Township Police want residents to know that ensuring safe travel to all of the motoring public is a priority this summer and the motor vehicle laws will be strictly enforced to achieve that goal.

The Police Department would also like residents to take notice of several grants that were successfully applied for and received in recent weeks. A \$5,000 grant from Senator Ferlo was received for the purchase of equipment. A \$6,700 grant was received through Representative Pallone for an AED and car camera. and finally a \$9,800 grant was received from U.S. Representative Murtha which will be used for a speed trailer and scheduling software.