

September 2017

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP 2018 CALENDAR

The Harpersfield Township 2018 calendar featuring Harpersfield residents, businesses, and community organizations will be available by mid-October, 2017. The 5,500 calendars are paid for by over 60 advertisers and patrons. They will be available at most of the local businesses and organizations. The Township Trustees, Fiscal Officer, and Zoning Inspector's office will also have calendars available to distribute. The 2018 edition of the calendar will have 2 pages of "wedding bells"; featuring wedding pictures new and old. You probably know some of them so please check them out!!!!

I want to thank all the sponsors and patrons and a special thanks to the dedicated calendar crew for all of the hours donated to make "your" calendar possible.

Jim Pristov, Township Trustee



Harpersfield Township
4858 Cork Cold Springs Rd.
Geneva, OH 44041

ROAD DEPARTMENT RUMBLES

We had a little delay in our Annual Dust Control Program due



to more rain than we wanted this past Spring. I was, however, pleased with how our roads are holding up so we really did not have much of an issue with the dust. As you know by now, not all of our roads were treated this summer as we have used a better and more expensive product this year (CRS-2). The product costs us approximately \$30,000.00 - \$35,000.00 more than the product we have used in the past. In saying that, we cannot afford to treat all our roads in any one given year. Our plan is to rotate our roads so if your road was not treated this year it will definitely be treated next year. Because of the increase in cost it will take us a couple of years to get on a cycle that everyone will be pleased with. Also the additional cost includes for an outside company to apply the CRS-2 and distribute #8 limestone at an even application rate which gives us a better final product.

We will continue to keep our road sides mowed, continue to repair and replace all culverts that need attention, and keep our cemeteries looking their best at all times.

I have been recovering most of the summer from a full hip replacement due to past injuries. Cody Craine has done an outstanding job filling in for me as I recovered from this procedure.

Steven Opron, Road Superintendent



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2017-18 EVENTS

- 9/23 & 24 GRAPE JAMBOREE
- 10/15 RURITAN CLAMBAKE
- 10/29 HALLOWEEN PARTY & TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT
- 11/7 ELECTION DAY *Crafts*
- 11/18 CRAFT SHOW
- 12/2 WELCOME SANTA & TREE LIGHTING
- 12/5 HUNGRY HEARTS FREE PASTA DINNER @ FERRANTE'S
- 2/11/18 FRIENDS OF PARK PASTA DINNER
- 2/16, 3/2 HVFD FISH FRY

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP GENERAL INFORMATION

TRUSTEES: Cliff Henry, Chairman Home 466-5425
Ray Gruber, Vice Chairman Home 466-5341
Jim Pristov Home 466-4864

FISCAL OFFICER: Sharon Rohrbaugh Office 466-2242
Janie Sibell Home 361-4800

Newsletter Editor: Janie Sibell

Fire Station #1: 1481 Old Harpersfield Rd.

Fire Station #2: Cork Cold Springs Rd. west of State Route 534.

Community Center: Cork Cold Springs Rd. west of State Route 534.

Township website: <http://www.harpersfield.us/>

Meetings:
TRUSTEES: 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 PM
1481 Old Harpersfield Rd.

ZONING COMMISSION: 2nd Monday at 7:00 PM
1481 Old Harpersfield Rd.

Zoning Commission Members: Jeff Burkholder - Ron Gilbert - Ed Pristov
Pete Roper - Tom Swank

Board of Zoning Appeals Members: Janet Boland - Don Bowling - Matt Nousak
Angie Riffle - Dave Snyder - Ed Spoor - Ed Sulecki

ZONING OFFICE: 1481 Old Harpersfield Rd. - 466-4240

TOWNSHIP GARAGE: Rt. 307 west of Harpersfield Rd. - 466-7170

Zoning Administrator: Larry Lister - 466-4240

Zoning Clerk: Debbie Riffle - 466-4240

Zoning email address: zoning@harpersfield.us

21st ANNUAL RURITAN CLAMBAKE

The Harpersfield Ruritan Club will put on their 21st Annual Clambake on Sunday, October 15, 2017. It will be held at the Harpersfield Community Center located on Cork Cold Springs Road. Chowder (Manhattan) will be served at 1:30 p.m. and the meal at 2: p.m.

The Clambake consists of one dozen bagged clams, 1/2 chicken, Manhattan chowder, sweet potato or baked potato, corn-on-the-cob, coleslaw, roll & butter, and homemade dessert. Cost of the Clambake is \$21.00. There is also a delicious steak dinner with all the extras except clams for \$19.00 and a chicken dinner with all the extras except clams for \$12.00. We offer a child's meal for \$3.00. Extra dozen bagged clams are available for \$10.00 a dozen. Take-out orders will also be available.



There will be a 50/50 raffle and a Chinese

Auction with many prizes. All proceeds go towards the Ruritan Scholarship Fund...three \$750.00 scholarships last year.

Last year we served over 300 dinners... Get you tickets and bring your appetite... You will have a great time!!!!

For tickets call: Janie Sibell (440-361-4800) or Jim Pristov (440-466-4864).



Jim Pristov, Township Trustee



ROAD AND BRIDGE REPLACEMENT LEVY

The township operates off of two Road & Bridge Levy's. The first levy was graciously approved by the voters last year and the second levy will be in November. Your trustees voted to raise them from one mill to one and one-half. We all know how communities, including Harpersfield, are struggling more than ever with the decrease in funding that we have received in the past from the state. I want to share with you the cost incurred this year in maintaining your township: a) replace guardrail on County Line Road on Clyde Hill cost: \$8,115.00; b) radio for back-hoe cost: \$500.00; c) dust control bid was awarded to Frank Maruccio Asphalt & Paving for a cost of: \$103,500.00. Please note: for those who live on township roads, due to a breakdown of machinery of Maruccio Paving, dust control was not done until 2nd or 3rd week of July; d) one skid of crack seal cost: \$1,360.00; e) we have been saving funds every year to replace the Ford 550 pick-up truck for an approximate cost: \$80,000.00; f) wages and benefits for our two employees. This represents the first six months of 2017 expenses. All funds collected from both levies can only be used on Road & Bridges of the township and no other part of this operation. This is the first increase in both the Road & Bridge Levy's in thirty plus years. We would urge you to support the township by voting "yes" for the levy so we can continue to provide the level of service you, the residents, deserve.



Ray Gruber Jr., Township Trustee

SIGN GRANT FOR TOWNSHIP

The Township Safety Sign Grant Program for 2017 has begun. Each year the grant makes available one million dollars in funding up to 100 townships. This grant program provides up to \$50,000.00 per township in safety sign material (signs, post, and hardware). To qualify our township has been ranked as having a greater than average crash rating across the entire township based on law enforcement's accident and property damage reports over the last five years. Recently a law was passed dealing with retro reflectivity (brightness) of signs by the Federal Government. When our township was notified that we qualify for this grant I was happy, yet disturbed. Here is why: We had one fatal crash, two serious injury crashes, four visible injury crashes and 24 property damage crashes. I attended a pre-grant meeting in Columbus and filed for the grant. Our goal is to replace ALL signs (stop, left & right turn signs, curve signs, chevron, speed signs, along with many other types) within the township. I am pleased to announce that our township was successful in achieving this grant. It will generate \$31,090.73 to replace all the signs and this is quite a savings since we are required to upgrade them. There is no match to this grant.

Ray Gruber Jr., Township Trustee

FIRE DEPARTMENT FLICKERS

The members of the Harpersfield Volunteer Fire Department and Cinder-Ellas Auxiliary wish to thank everyone who supported our 43rd Annual Beef Roast in July. You may have noticed the concrete that was added to the entrance of the Community Center in June. The air conditioning system was repaired and new doors were installed on the storage building at the Center. Around \$15,000.00 was spent on these improvements to the Center. The money came from the Beef Roast and a \$5,000.00 donation from the Cinder-Ellas Auxiliary. Remember, the Community Center is owned and maintained by the firemen, not the township. No tax dollars are used for the operation or upkeep of the Center.



We recently replaced our self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) at a cost of \$154,000.00. Most of the funding for this project came in the form of a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The township's portion of the bill was approximately \$7,500.00, coming from the existing fire levy funds. We also have applied for a grant to replace our turn-out gear. We expect to receive notification of the disposition of that grant in the next few weeks.



With the acquisition of SCBA and turn-out gear from grant money our budget is more flexible for maintenance on our trucks and any emergency repairs we may encounter. Our stations are in good repair. Within the next couple of years, we will need to consider replacing a pumper truck. That will take much research and planning. As always, we strive to make the best use of your tax dollars.



Everett C. Henry, Fire Chief

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP

"THE DAM" - PART 5

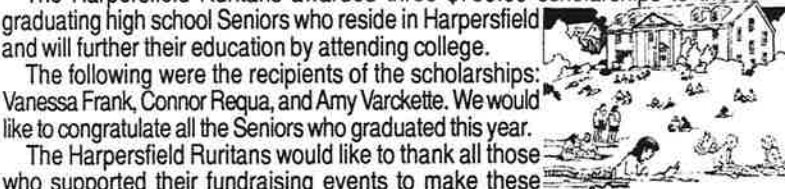
A lot of folks have asked where I get my information on the history of our township. I utilize eBay, antique shops, flea markets, books and individuals who want to donate some history. There has been much discussion about the dam at the Covered Bridge. As you may be aware, they plan on rebuilding it in the near future. I came across an article from the Geneva Free Press Times, dated September 26, 1913, about the building of the dam. It states: "At a quarter before twelve this noon the last bit of concrete on the waterworks was completed, and the job begun on June 16th last was finished, the time occupied being three months and ten days. The cofferdam around the last fifteen feet of the dam where the spillway was located, will be allowed to remain for about ten days so as to allow the concrete to harden before the water is permitted to touch it. The water in the river is being kept as low as possible and is three and half feet below the top of the dam on a perpendicular line. Contractor Hewitt has succeeded in completing the construction successfully, after being troubled with freshet and hit water several times during the spring and early summer. The work on the bridge foundation is proceeding steadily. The forms for the concrete pier and north end of the old covered wooden bridge, will be ready to receive the concrete by the first of the week."



Ray Gruber Jr., Township Trustee

Harpersfield Ruritan Scholarships for 2017

The Harpersfield Ruritans awarded three \$750.00 scholarships to the graduating high school Seniors who reside in Harpersfield and will further their education by attending college. The following were the recipients of the scholarships: Vanessa Frank, Connor Requa, and Amy Varockette. We would like to congratulate all the Seniors who graduated this year. The Harpersfield Ruritans would like to thank all those who supported their fundraising events to make these scholarships possible.



Jim Pristor, Township Trustee

FRIENDS OF THE HARPERSFIELD COVERED BRIDGE METRO PARK

Friends of the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metro Park are holding their final event of the year: "The Covered Bridge Christmas" on Saturday, December 2nd at 4:00 p.m. It will take place on the South side of the river. There will be 2 raffles: a fifty-fifty raffle and a Chinese auction. Santa will join us to light the Christmas tree, visit with the children, and share cookies and refreshments with all that attend. If you would like to donate a prize for the Chinese auction, please contact event chair person, Sue Cheney at 645-3514. The refreshments are free; donations only are accepted. Please join the "Friends" at the park to celebrate this festive occasion and remember to bring your cameras for pictures with Santa!!!



Jim Pristor, Township Trustee

ZONING INSPECTOR

The Zoning Inspector for Harpersfield Township is Larry Lister. Larry began the job in February of this year and has been working diligently to learn the many facets associated with the job of Zoning Inspector. Larry was born in Geneva and has lived most of his life in the Geneva area. He currently lives with his daughter (Allison) on Beringer Place in Harpersfield Township. Larry is a graduate of Geneva High School and Lakeland Community College. He retired from the construction business after 42 years which gives him a very good background for the job. Larry loves being involved in the community and spends time working with the fire department, the Ruritans, the school, and many other worthwhile projects around the community. Larry has been spending a great deal of time with updating the zoning map, the zoning text, and traveling to Jefferson to meet with the county personnel to better learn and perform the job. He is emphasizing cleaning up the township by trying to remove junk autos, yard trash, and making Harpersfield a better place to live. Larry has regular office hours at the Zoning Office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and can be reached at 440-466-4240 for appointments at any other time. When calling, leave a message and he will return your call. Please join me in welcoming Larry as our Zoning Administrator and wishing him many years of success in the position.



Cliff Henry, Township Trustee