



## Is your street light out?

If you see, or know of, a street light that is out in our community, please contact me at 466-4864 or [jpriстов@roadrunner.com](mailto:jpriстов@roadrunner.com).

Information needed to correct the problem:

- 1) Location of the light.
  - 2) Address of the nearest home.
  - 3) Pole number, if possible.
  - 4) Closest cross street.
- The information will be submitted as a request to First Energy for repair to the light. *Jim Pristov, Township Trustee*



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

**HONOR VETS**

*Events 2022*

**March: NAD membership month**

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**FISH FRY**  
**March 4, 18**  
**April 1, 15, 29**

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**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**  
**May 30 11:30 AM**

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**Beef Roast**  
**July 15, 16**

### HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP GENERAL INFORMATION

Twp. Mailing Address: 4858 Cork Cold Springs Rd.

**TRUSTEES:**  
 Ed Spoor, Chairman Home 466-3661  
 Ray Gruber, Vice Chairman Home 361-3869  
 Jim Pristov Home 466-4864  
 Sharon Rohrbaugh Office 466-2242  
 Renée Hanyok Office 466-9292

**FISCAL OFFICER:** Sharon Rohrbaugh  
**Newsletter Editor:** Renée Hanyok  
**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:** 1481 Old Harpersfield Rd.

**TRUSTEES:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 7:00 PM

**ZONING COMMISSION:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 7:00 PM

**Zoning Commission Members:** Ken McLeod - Ed Pristov - Paula Pristov  
 Pete Hommel - Gary Somnitz

**Board of Zoning Appeals Members:** Angie Riffle - Don Bowling - Cliff Henry  
 Dave Snyder - Gabe Acord - Ashley Kirk

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

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

**Zoning Administrator:** Larry Lister - 466-4240 / 344-7165 (cell)

**Zoning Clerk:** Debbie Riffle - 466-4240

**Zoning email address:** [zoning@harpersfield.us](mailto:zoning@harpersfield.us)

### ROAD DEPARTMENT RUMBLES

With snow season upon us I would like to take a minute to remind everyone to slow down and give our plows time and room to work. Garbage cans should not be in the roadway as they cause a hazard to the road department and the public. They should be at least four feet from the edge of the roadway.

Mail boxes damaged by the snow coming off the plow is the responsibility of the home owner. If the snow plow or truck comes in contact with the mailbox, the road department will replace it. The full mailbox policy is listed on our web site at [www.harpersfield.us](http://www.harpersfield.us).  
*Cody Craine, Road Superintendent*

### Harpersfield Trail

We hope many of you have had the chance to utilize the trail. Larry Lister has made many landscaping improvements to beautify the pathway and maintain it. Soon we will have signage marking the pathway as Harpersfield Trail. Welcoming all who use it.

The township is taking donations for beautification projects and benches along the path. For donation contributions, please contact Sharon Rohrbaugh, the Township Fiscal Officer at (440) 466-2242.

*Ed Spoor, Township Trustee*

### Harpersfield Trail

**2021 Citizen of the Year**  
 Congratulations! Cliff Henry was awarded "Citizen of the Year" for 2021. He has retired from our township council, but continues to serve on the Zoning Board. Thank you for your many years of service to our community as trustee, Cliff.

*Renée Hanyok, Newsletter Editor*



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 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Geneva, Ohio  
 Permit No. 479



### NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT

Northwest Ambulance District, run by Administrator Vince Gildone and his well trained staff, had another good year with 3,269 ambulance calls. COVID-19 made it very difficult for the teams to make the calls. The ambulance had to be sanitized after each COVID call. The ambulance calls were for: 276 motor vehicles; 19 cardiac; 133 lift assists; 305 falls; 1,624 medical/general; 19 overdoses; 16 heroin overdoses; 111 fire; and 13 water rescue. Harpersfield Township had 323 calls for the year with an average response time of 5 minutes.

Northwest Ambulance continues to train their teams so they are well prepared to take care of our resident's needs.

The District's Meeting Room was used 115 times. CPR and other training classes are available to residents. For information for using the meeting room or available classes please call 466-4900.

March is membership month for Northwest Ambulance. For \$15.00 your family can become a member. For \$10.00 Northwest Ambulance will make

**8675309** you an address sign for your mailbox, which makes it easier to locate your home for a call. Please take time to renew your membership for 2022 by calling 466-4900.

*Thank You* for all your continued support and efforts to help us make NAD a success.

*Jim Pristov, Township Trustee*



# ROAD & CEMETERY REPORT

"Thank you" to the Harpersfield voters for supporting our Road & Bridge Levy. We are committed to using those funds wisely.

It's been a very busy year for our Road Crew and Cemetery Sexton. Here are some of the projects since our last newsletter: applied dust control; tree removal and grinding by a new wood chipper purchase; a large portion of ditching is completed; summer and fall township road sides were mowed; winter months start plowing.

Results will be in by January or February, on an ODOT grant to build a 300' sidewalk from Beringer Road, west leading to the Harpersfield Trail on Clay Street. The state had \$8,000,000 allotted to all townships in the state. A total of \$187,000,000 was requested after all townships applied. If we receive the grant, it will cover 100% of the \$48,495.00 project.

We succeeded in securing matching funds through Ohio Public Works Commission on a paving project with our equipment and man hours in 2021.

We also received a grant from the NOPEC Community Grant Program in the amount of \$1,000.00 that will go to the annual Clean Up Day or the annual Fish Fry that the firemen hold during the season of Lent.

The township was awarded a grant through Ashtabula County Solid Waste District in amount of \$2,625.00, and was applied to Clean Up Day in 2021.

ODOT has begun construction on the roundabout at the intersection of Rt. 534 and Rt. 307. Trees are being cut on Rt. 307, with plans to bring in fill dirt as they ready their start. Full closure of that intersection will happen sometime in 2023. Detours will be clearly marked, and construction will begin when the Cover Bridge restoration has been completed by the County. This will start in 2022 and be completed in 2023.

The township created a series of three videos through Fraser Video Production. The first video shows lodging facilities; the second video tours the wineries; and the third video presents places of interest within the township. You may view these videos on YouTube. Type in: Harpersfield Township and all three video can be viewed. Enjoy!

A wooden pavilion will be built at the Harpersfield Cemetery to keep families from weather element during a burial.

A \$1,000.00 grant was filed and received from the Ohio Department of Commerce, and matched by the township. With these funds we will again be repairing the footers under the headstones that had shifted in the Harpersfield and Unionville Cemeteries. Last year we repaired a total of thirty-two headstones, and we hope to repair another thirty-two this year.

Please remember, SNOWMOBILES are NOT allowed within any Harpersfield Cemetery.

If you need to speak to our Road Supervisor, Cody Crain, he may be reached at the township garage: 466-7170.

*Ray Gruber Jr., Township Trustee*

## ZONING DEPARTMENT NOTES

Zoning, once again, had a very busy year with quite a few new homes being built, and some new businesses.

A new Business, Black Door Tavern, has just opened at 6202 South River Road.

The Township Trustees welcome Gary Somnitz to the Zoning Commission. He is replacing Sara Ackerman. The Township Trustees Welcome! thank Sara for her time on the Zoning Commission. She will be missed.

*Ed Spoor, Township Trustee*

## HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP PART 10 - VETERANS

As we begin a new year, we should reflect and thank the veterans who have given so much for our country. When you drive across the I-90 Bridge and see all the flags that go up every year, they are dedicated to our veterans from Harpersfield, along with surrounding communities.

Every Memorial Day we have an event at the Harpersfield Cemetery located on Rt. 307 west. At this event, we recognize all the veterans from Harpersfield Township who have served in the military.

Did you know that Harpersfield Township sent more men to fight in the Civil War than any other township in Ashtabula County?

I recently came across a copy of the Geneva Free Press dated August 14, 1945. There was an article about those who had died in the Pacific War Theater from the Geneva area. There was a total of 19 servicemen listed and 2 POW's. I went through all the names and found several who were from Harpersfield. They are: Charles Krizic, died January 1945; Lt. Howard Hulbert, died December 1942; and Joseph Gramc, died December 1942.

Many men who served in the European & Atlantic Theater also died during the war. If you walk through the old section of the Harpersfield Cemetery you will find old headstones of men who had fought during the Revolutionary War.

When called upon, our fellow residents have always answered the call to serve their country. We thank you and salute you!

*Ray Gruber Jr., Township Trustee*

# FIRE DEPARTMENT FLICKERS

Harpersfield residents, hopefully you had a wonderful holiday season. Harpersfield Fire Department responded to a total of 177 fire calls in 2021. The calls included motor vehicle accidents, service calls, fire calls and mutual aid calls to neighboring communities.

The fire department added a thermal image camera to the station 2 engine so there is now one on each engine. We also added 4 handheld thermal cameras to the station 1 engine, these cameras are smaller and allow multiple firefighters to have a camera on them for structural firefighting. Cordless tool sets were added to the engines, consisting of a drill, chainsaw, and leaf blower that will be used for accidents and fire scenes.

The fire department will have fish fries this year. The dates for the fish fries are March 4, 18, April 1, 15, 29.

Please remember to check your smoke and CO detectors when we change our clocks in the spring.

*Frank Henry, Fire Chief*

## Water Tower

A New 300,000 gallon water tower will be erected just north of the SPIRE Complex on Rt. 534. It will service from Rt.84 south to South River Road. This new tower will provide much needed storage for both domestic water service and fire protection. It will also enhance future growth for the area.

*Ed Spoor, Township Trustee*

## Harpersfield Ruritans

The Harpersfield Ruritans thank all those who supported their fund raisers throughout the year.

This years funds will be used toward awarding two \$1000.00 scholarships to graduating High School Seniors that reside in Harpersfield Township. We urge all High School Seniors who meet the requirements to apply. Applications must be submitted by early April. Please check with your guidance counselor for information.

The Easter Bunny will be making an early stop, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at Cork Elementary School to share some Easter candy with the students.

At the end of April the Ruritans will give Red Buckeye seedlings to the Cork Elementary School students and teachers to celebrate Earth Day.

On Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, the Ruritans and the Harpersfield Volunteer Fire Department will host the Memorial Day Parade and Program. The parade will begin at 11:30 AM from the Harpersfield Administration Building and end at Harpersfield Cemetery on State Route 307. The program will begin at noon. Free hot dogs and beverages will be served by the Ruritans after the service.

Please join us that day to remember those that gave so much. Again, Thank You for your support.

*Jim Pristor, Township Trustee*

## Swift911 - FREE Emergency Notifications

Sign up to receive messages by text, voice or email from Ashtabula County's Official Emergency Alert System at [www.ashtabulacounty.us](http://www.ashtabulacounty.us) and click on:

Swift911 Emergency Notification link at the bottom of the page.

Phone sign up: 440-546-9148 at Ashtabula County EMA.

## SENIOR CENTER NEWS

An update for 2021. The Center provides services for those 60 years and older to: City of Geneva, Geneva-on-the-Lake, Geneva, Harpersfield, Trumbull and Austinburg. This past year, we celebrated 22 years in the respective communities. Our mission is to provide Wellness, Education, Recreation and Socialization.

The pandemic has had a big effect on us, as attendance is down by 50%. This downsize of seniors is being felt county wide at all the centers.

We were able to reopen transportation in April. We modified the buses to make them Covid safe and reduced the number of passengers we would carry on a single trip. From eight to three on our large bus and five to one on the van. If you need a ride to the doctors or shopping, just call us at 466-3048 and make sure you call two to three days ahead of time so that we can arrange a driver for you.

We still provide activities, prescription assistance, free transportation, medical assessment, regular blood pressure screens, free emergency cell phones, smoke alarms and emergency lights, along with medical lending of equipment and informational forums.

Bingo is held on Tuesday & Thursday and crafts on Friday. Lunch bunch meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

We have started virtual engagement with the seniors using MySeniorCenter software. Our first hybrid event was a success with a collaborative effort from County Neighbors. We live streamed interviews with Producer, Miranda Donato from National Geographic Channel. Our second event was held by the State of Ohio. They talked about the different scams that are happening to our seniors.

If you need a ride or fellowship with your fellow seniors, stop by the Senior Center or just call us and check us out.

*Ray Gruber Jr., Township Trustee*