

# Richmond Township

## INFORMER

SPRING 2015

[richmondtpw@windstream.net](mailto:richmondtpw@windstream.net)

### Richmond Township Building

30348 State Hwy 408  
Townville, PA 16360  
Phone: 814-967-3822  
Fax: 814-967-2942  
Meetings: 1st Thursday, 6:00 pm,  
at the Township Office Building)

### SUPERVISORS

Don James, Chairman  
Bill Taylor  
Glenn Sharpe

### SECRETARY

Rhonda Phillips

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Nancy Lokuta

### TAX COLLECTOR

Kathleen Wheelock  
814-967-4319  
Office hours may vary.  
Please call for times.

### AUDITORS

Rebecca Schreffler  
Gina DeFrancesco-Hayden  
Mary Worley

### PLANNING COMMISSION

John Lawrence - Chairman  
Gary Coburn  
Luigi DeFrancesco  
Mike Lokuta  
Tom Morgan  
Don Myers

### RECREATION BOARD

Scott Wheelock - President  
Phyllis Humes - Secretary/Treasurer  
Patti Capron  
David Crago  
Bryan Morton  
Matt Capron

### ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Bob Worley

### EMS COORDINATOR

Bill Taylor

### PICNIC SHELTER/FACILITY

#### BOOKINGS:

David Crago - phone: 814-967-3551  
Email: [cragofullhouse@windstream.net](mailto:cragofullhouse@windstream.net)

### A WORD FROM YOUR SUPERVISORS

#### *Friends and Neighbors,*

This has been one of the coldest winters I remember. We have had a lot of ice on the roads. I would like to thank the residents of our township for their patience and understanding. I know Charlie and John have put many hours into plowing and spreading anti-skid to keep the roads safe and clear.

We have spring and summer coming. The upcoming Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 4th, and I have been told that the Easter Bunny will make an appearance!

This year, we are hoping to get two grants for road projects, and I know Charlie and John are anxious to get going. Once again, please have patience because when the frost comes out of the roads, the roads are going to suffer. The road crew will get to your road as soon as possible.

Also, with spring and summer, and hopefully better weather in the forecast, please come out and support our boys and girls in softball and baseball at our Rec complex. Enjoy the walking trail, park, and picnic shelters.

Have a great summer.

**Bill Taylor, Supervisor**  
**(814) 967-4642**

#### *Greetings Fellow Residents,*

We've survived another cold winter, this one with temperatures for the record books! Over all, I felt that Charlie and John did a great job of keeping up with the snow. However, it's difficult to prepare for the ice storms which are always tough to deal with. I thank the crew for doing a good job. With spring fast approaching, please bear with us as the winter frost begins to come out of the roads. We all know from past experience that the deep frost will cause problems. We will get to your road as soon as we can.

I want to remind everyone of upcoming events in our township. The annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. at the Township Rec Building. This is always a popular and fun event for the entire family.

Next on the schedule is the Township Clean Up Day on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Township Building. Donations of aluminum, copper and brass will be recycled and proceeds will go to the REC Board. Please help support your REC Center.

The REC Center Clean Up Day is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8 a.m. We welcome past and new volunteers to paint, spread mulch, plant flowers, trim and clean up brush and do

whatever else might be needed to spit-shine the area. If you use the walking trail or have kids that play ball there, or use the recycle bins, the picnic shelters or go there just to relax, please consider joining in the effort to keep our REC area looking great! An added bonus...we have a good time working together!

The annual Memorial Day Service is scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at the Rec Building. This is a wonderful tribute to our service men and women, followed by refreshments and time to visit with friends and neighbors.

I want to mention that we now have a new building inspector from BIU. His name is Tom Sonntag and he can be reached by calling BIU at (814) 860-8044 or by cell at (814) 460-0251.

And last but not least, I want to take a moment to thank Becky Schreffler. For those of you who do not know Becky, she has been an elected auditor for Richmond Township for over 30 years. She will be retiring from that position at the end of this year. We all need to thank her for her many years of service and a job well done. Thank you Becky!! That being said, we need someone with the right experience to run for Auditor in the next election. If you or someone you know is qualified and interested, please feel free to contact me or Glenn Sharpe.

As always, it is truly an honor to be one of your Richmond Township Supervisors.

**Don James, Chairman**  
**(814) 398-4214**

### ***Hello Richmond Township Residents:***

Spring is sure a welcome sight. After such a brutally cold winter, I hope everyone made it through without too much trouble. I think this winter we saw more ice than ever before. Charlie and John had a very busy season keeping roads open. They had a few issues with the spreaders freezing up, but they overall did a good job despite the problems. We had quite a few comments on how good the roads were. We also had a few negative comments, and those are the things we will be working to improve.

Now that spring is around the corner, we all know the gravel roads will be a muddy mess. Please remember, the guys can't do much to the roads until the frost comes out.

So, we are all going to have to be patient and hope for a spring that will keep the rains in check and allow us the time to get the road work done.

We have two roadwork grants in the works this year thanks to Charlie and a number of upcoming Township events listed in the newsletter.

I hope you will all break out of the winter season and come to join us for a great spring and summer in Richmond Township.

Just a reminder, if you are planning to build in the Township, please obtain the proper permits. We strive to make Richmond Township the best possible place to live. If you have questions, please feel free to call me.

**Glenn Sharpe, Supervisor**  
**(814) 720-5741**

### **FROM YOUR ROAD CREW:**

#### ***Hello everyone:***

We have had another tough winter this year with a very long cold spell that has taken a toll on everyone and everything. Your patience and caution due to road conditions has been greatly appreciated by the road crew, and we ask for your continued patience during the spring thaw. We will do our best to get the roads in shape, especially where trouble spots appear.

This has been John's first winter working the roads and he's learned quickly and done a good job. He is a good person to work with and I feel will be a true asset to the Township.

Obviously, our first goal this year will be to repair frost damage as Mother Nature allows us to get to the roads. Trouble spots will be first. Please call the Township building at (814) 967-3822 and leave a message to let us know of major problems on your road. We'll get to them as soon as we can.

Other goals will be berming, ditching and general maintenance. We will receive help, as needed from our surrounding townships while doing so. We also have applied for 2 grants – one for work on Jouver Road and one for Mercer Road. We have received word from the Conservation Office that we will receive funding for both grants totaling around \$180,000. Again, thank you for all your patience.

**Charlie Hartman**  
**(814) 967-3822**

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
UPDATE**

***Fellow Residents:***

The planning Board members are: Luigi DeFrancesco, Gary Coburn, Don Meyers, Tom Morgan, Mike Lokuta and John Lawrence. If there is anything we can help you with, please contact us at the Township Building.

Our meetings are held the last Monday of each month at 6 pm at the Township building.

We have been helping the supervisors with suggestions on updating and/or revising some of the township ordinances. We have reviewed all existing ordinances and come up with suggested updates.

We recently met with representatives of the County Conservation Office to discuss possible tree plantings projects on township property that would be done in conjunction with Maplewood Elementary, the Township, and the Conservation Office.

Another project will be exploring costs and grant possibilities that could help to further update the Rec Bldg.

And finally, we hope that all residents will take advantage of the Township Cleanup Day on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you

***John Lawrence, Chairman  
(814) 398-8101***

**FROM THE REC BOARD**

***Happy Spring, Everyone!***

Current members of the Rec Board include Scott Wheelock,

Dave Crago, Phyllis Humes, Matt Capron, Patty Capron, and Bryan Morton.

This past winter has been a long and tough one. We started the fall season with our annual Halloween Haunted Building and party for kids of all ages. It ran for two nights, and over 200 people went through and attended. We had games and treats for younger children inside. It again was a successful, fun event. Always a big thanks to the Supervisors and all of the volunteers who help and give of their time and talents.

Recreation Board activities for the upcoming season include the Easter Egg Hunt on April 4, Township Clean-up Day April 25, Rec. Board Clean-up Day May 16, and Memorial Day Service May 25. We are always looking for new volunteers to help with any of these events. Remember to bring a flower(s) for veterans to be planted for Memorial Day. This has always been a special service in our Township in honor of our Vets both past and present. Rec. Board clean-up involves cleaning flower beds, trimming trees, painting inside and out, and general cleaning and maintenance. Please come join us for a day of work along with fun and food.

Also keep in mind the picnic shelters, walking trail, park, and Rec Building available for rentals and use throughout the summer. Contact Dave Crago 814-967-3551 for all rental details. We hope you all have a safe and enjoyable spring/summer season.

***Scott Wheelock, President  
(814) 967-4319***

**FROM BECKY SCHREFFLER**

The audit of the 2014 Richmond Township records was completed in January.

The three reports were timely filed with the appropriate offices and the financial statement was published in the Meadville Tribune. Since Rhonda Phillips has resigned as auditor to become township secretary, Mary Worley joined Gina DeFrancesco-Hayden and me for the audit this year.

As my term of auditor ends this year and I have chosen not to run again, this means there will be two auditors to be elected in this year's election.

There have been many changes in the 30 years I have been an auditor for Richmond Township. The first few years, there was no office. The records were at the secretary's house, and all bookkeeping was done by hand. Now, we have a very nice office in the Township building and the records are all done on computer.

I have enjoyed working with all of the other auditors and secretaries who also served during the years. It has been very interesting learning about all the financial aspects that are required in operating a township.

Thank you to all those who voted for me in prior years. It has been an enjoyable and interesting experience being a township auditor.

***Rebecca M. Schreffler  
Chairman, Board of Auditors***

richmondtpw@windstream.net

richmondtownshipcc.com

**WCJ RANCH**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

WCJ Ranch is a non-profit organization that works with combat-disabled veterans and children who want to hunt. We have nine wheelchair stands with top off stands for anyone able to climb. There is no charge to hunt. If interested, contact needs to be made by August for the upcoming season.

During the 2014 season, we had 92 visits with 11 hunters participating in 49 hunts. We also had 2 successful youth hunts. They harvested a total of one buck, four doe and one turkey.

Projects that we proudly completed in 2014 include:

1. Various trails and parking area reinforced with gravel.
2. Gravel added to 50 ft. wheelchair bridge approach.
3. Repaired Holt's Trail deer stand.
4. 75 foot ramp added to Gary's Camp.
5. New 20 x 24 storage building for tractors, wheel chairs, etc.
6. 2 beds added to main house for overnight accommodations.
7. Outreach to a Marine Corp Veteran from Cochran, PA to assist with veteran's bills.
8. Planning, installation and maintenance for seven food plots.

**Charles Schmitz**  
**President, Field Guide**  
*1,369 volunteer hours for 2014*

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
**Saturday, APRIL 4, 2015**

2 PM until 4 PM  
Richmond Township Rec Bldg.  
30031 State Hwy 408  
*Rain or shine!*  
*All ages welcome!*

**TOWNSHIP CLEAN-UP DAY**  
**Saturday, April 25, 2015**

8 AM until 3 PM  
Township Building/Garage  
30348 State Hwy 408  
*No tires, paint, garbage, TVs*  
*computers or monitors.*

**REC CENTER CLEAN-UP DAY**  
**Saturday, May 16, 2015**

8 AM until????  
Richmond Township Rec Bldg.  
30031 State Hwy 408  
*Volunteers with rakes, shovels*  
*and paint brushes are*  
*WELCOME!!*

**PRIMARY ELECTION DAY**  
**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

7 a.m. until 8 p.m.  
Richmond Township Rec Bldg.  
30031 State Hwy 408

**MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM**  
**Monday, May 25, 2015**

10 AM  
Richmond Township Rec Bldg.  
30031 State Hwy 408  
*Please bring a plant or flower*  
*to be planted around the flag*  
*pole*

**NEW BUILDING INSPECTOR**

Tom Sonntag  
BIU  
Office: (814) 860-8044  
Cell: (814) 460-0251