

Richmond Township

INFORMER

FALL 2015

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

Bonnie Bradish

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

Matt Halsaver

EMS COORDINATOR

Bill Taylor

PICNIC SHELTER/FACILITY

BOOKINGS:

David Crago - phone: 814-967-3551
Email: cragofullhouse@windstream.net

A WORD FROM YOUR SUPERVISORS

Hello everyone:

I hope all of you are doing well this fall and that you had a great summer. I am hopeful that we will be able to say we had an easy winter this year, unlike the last 2 winters we've seen!

The road crew has once again been busy this summer. Along with their regular work of grading, ditching, mowing and maintenance, the Township was awarded 2 grants for road projects, one on the west end of Jouver Road and the second for the south end of Mercer Road. Both were for much-needed improvements that should help immensely with drainage issues. Please take a ride to enjoy the Fall colors as well as check out the work done at these 2 locations. I think you'll be impressed.

I would like to encourage everyone to join the REC Board for their "Trunk or Treat" Halloween event in the REC Center parking lot on October 29th from 6-8 pm. I was unfamiliar with this idea until the REC Board members brought it to my attention. Trunk or Treat events bring Halloween to parking lots where kids can trick or treat from car to car. This should be safe for the kids and fun for the parents as well as the participants are encouraged to decorate their vehicles

and dress up in their best Halloween costumes! So come out and have some fun! For more information about Trunk or Treat events, please search "Trunk or Treat" on your computer or smart phone.

I want to thank all of our great volunteers who donate their time and effort to help make our township better for everyone - the REC Board, the Planning Commission, and our website coordinator. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Be sure to visit the Township website for information about upcoming events, building permits and more. That link is www.richmondtownshipcc.com

In closing, please do not forget to get out and vote on Tuesday, November 3rd. We have 2 great candidates running for Supervisor and 2 great candidates running for Auditor.

What a pleasure it is living and working for the people in Richmond Township.

Don James, Chairman
(814) 398-4214

Dear Township Residents:

It's hard to believe that another summer has come and gone. It's also hard to believe how cold last February was and how the snow never had a chance to melt. It's also hard to remember all the non-stop rain that we got until nearly the end of July, which meant getting a later start

on the road-grading. But thanks to Charlie and John for their hard work on the roads and Gene for his time spent on our ballfields, walking trail and picnic area. We have a township of which to be proud.

I would like to thank our volunteers on the Rec Board and Planning Commission and also those who volunteer to help on clean up days and special events. I would like to add a special thanks to all of the residents of Richmond Township for their support in the last eight years. I would like to thank Don and Glenn for all of their hard work in watching your tax dollars. Another special thanks to Charlie Hartman for all of his hard work on the grant projects that have helped improve our roads and save thousands of dollars.

Since I first took office, we have purchased a new 2011 International truck, a 2006 one-ton Ford truck in excellent condition, purchased in 2013, and a new John Deere grader purchased in 2014. All of these were needed purchases and done without any tax increases. We are presently in the process of setting aside money for a backhoe.

I have been a Richmond Township EMA officer and will remain in that position at no cost. Once again, thank you for your support. I feel our township is heading in the right direction and I hope everyone has a great year.

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

Hello fellow residents:

It's that time of year to start thinking about winter. Charlie and John have done a good job getting the roads in shape, so we have a good base to start. They will be starting to get plows and spreaders ready soon.

I have had an inquiry as to what size a storage shed needs to be before it becomes taxable. I spoke with the assessor and was told any building 100 square feet and over is taxable. For example, a 10' x 10' building is 100 square feet in size. If you are thinking about buying a building this size or bigger, it will be taxable. A building 1,000 square feet or bigger, you will need a building permit. All of the permit information is on the township website.

I would like to mention a couple of issues that we have been experiencing at the recreation complex. Please note that the recycling bins are not for TVs, computers, household appliances, tires, auto parts, and paint cans. Also, the dumpster next to the concession stand is not for public use, but is for the recreation area only. If caught dumping there, you will be prosecuted for littering. We are presently considering the use of cameras to help control this problem. Please do not abuse this service.

It has been a busy spring and summer season. I want to thank Charlie, John, Dan and Gene for all of their hard work. Be safe.

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

FROM YOUR ROAD CREW

Hello everyone:

It's hard to believe it's fall already! This year has gone by so fast. John and I have had a busy summer with grant projects to regular road maintenance. I guess time goes by quickly when you are getting things done. The Jouver Road grant project was completed this year. With extra additions to the project and weather not being so kind, we still came in around \$7,000 under budget with the project. The Mercer Road project is underway, however, it doesn't look to be completed this year due to permit issues. We have also had a productive year with berming and in some areas, hogging to create water shed. Even though we haven't had a lot of rain this year, this will help in the future as well as the spring thaw time.

Grading, mowing, and trimming of the trees will be the goal for the fall. We hope to get some of the trees cut back out of the roadway, including yard trees.

September 9th makes six years that I have been here. Hopefully, you can all see the difference in the township from the grant projects totaling over \$400,000 to date and to the road maintenance itself. My partners and I are proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to continuing our service to the people of this township.

Drive safe and slow down!

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

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE

Hello, neighbors:

The Planning Commission holds their meetings at the township meeting room on the last Monday of the month at 6 pm. Our members include Luigi DeFrancisco, Gary Coburn, Mike Lokuta, Don Meyer, Tom Morgan, and John Lawrence.

We are waiting to receive the tree planting outline that the County Conservation Office is drawing up for us and we can present it to the Supervisors for their review and comments.

We will soon be working on a long range plan for the township Rec building. This will be a collaboration with the Supervisors and the Rec Board. Hopefully, we can come up with a detailed plan that would allow us to apply for CDBG grant money in 2016 through the County Planning Office.

Some ideas of updates would be improved handicap parking places, a new entry door, ramp and canopy, and whatever else can be thought of to improve the use of this facility for all residents.

If the Planning Commission can be of help in anyway, please contact us.

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

FROM THE REC BOARD

Happy Fall, Everyone!

This Spring season started with our annual Easter Egg Hunt for the kids on April 4. Approximately 100 children found eggs and had treats provided by the Rec Board. We also gave away a girl's and a boy's youth bicycle, donated by Brian's Store in Little Cooley. Several gift certificates for ice cream and drinks were also donated by Dave's Place. In addition, we sold tickets for gift baskets of goodies that were donated by Matt and Patty Capron. Hay for hiding the eggs was provided by Stanford Farms. We would like to thank everyone who donated or helped in any way. We couldn't have provided this fun experience without everyone's help, especially our Easter Bunny.

Rec Center clean-up day was held on May 16. Many volunteers came to cut trees, rake and weed flower beds. Thanks to everyone who helped and gave of their time. And thank you to Martin's Mulch for donating mulch and sand for the playground.

The Memorial Day service was held May 25. What a great turnout for support of our veterans! Thanks to Ray Crocker and Ruth and Alan Amy for doing such a great job organizing this special event. We want to thank all who participated and helped in this great service.

For Halloween this year, the Rec Board will be hosting a "Trunk or Treat" for Township residents in the Rec Center parking lot. It will take place Thursday, October 29 from

6-8 pm, the same night as Township Trick or Treat. This will provide a safe, fun event where kids can go from vehicle to vehicle – from trunk to trunk – to get their Halloween candy. Participants are encouraged to dress up and to decorate their vehicles. It will be fun for the adults as well as the kids.

Thanks to all of the Township Supervisors, Rec Board members and community residents that help in so many ways with our recreation facility.

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

WCJ Ranch Gears Up for Hunting Season

WCJ Ranch is a non-profit, regulated hunting reserve in Richmond Township, Crawford County that offers disabled hunters opportunities to enjoy the sport. Volunteers also do outreach work when needed.

This past year, we've planted food plots. We've repaired deer stands in preparation for the upcoming hunting season. We also built three 5 x 5 bridges and put gravel on our wheel chair trails to provide easier access. We have also started a fishing program at local ponds in our area, courtesy of the landowners.

Fall and winter plans are to take disabled veterans out to hunt from October through January. Assistance is available, as needed, to track and retrieve game.

Please call (814) 724-1930 for additional information.

***Charles Schmidt
President, WCJ Ranch***

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Halloween Trunk or Treat
Thursday, October 29th
Township REC Building
30031 State Hwy. 408
6 pm until 8 pm
RAIN OR SHINE
Fun for all ages!!**

**Trick or Treat Night
Thursday, October 29th
6 pm until 7:30 pm**

**Election Day
Tuesday, November 3rd
Township REC Building
30031 State Hwy. 408
Polls open 7 am until 8 pm**