MOON messenger

The Official Newsletter of Moon Township | moontwp.com

SUMMER 2014

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Farmers' Market Success

Police Chief's Special Delivery

MCA-TV's New Director

Parks and Recreation Programs & Summer Events

PAVING SEASON IS HERE...

MAKE THE SUMMER'S BEST BLUEBERRY STREUSEL PIE

Moon Public Works Laying Asphalt

Community Development | Public Works | Green Initiatives | Parks & Rec | Community Television | Police | Fire | Library

design by frank vieira

Moon Township Administration Office
1000 Beaver Grade Road
Moon Township, PA 15108
412.262.1700
moontwp.com

Moon Township Board of Supervisors
Jim Vitale, Chairman
Andrew Gribben, Vice Chairman
Marvin Eicher
John Hertzer
Joe Wise

Moon Township Staff
Jeanne Creese, Township Manager
Jeffrey Ziegler, Assistant Township Manager
Lisa Lapaglia, Finance Director
Jim Henkemeyer, Public Works Facilities Manager
John Scott, Public Works Operations Manager
Dave Meinert, Building Inspector
Lora Dombrowski, Code Administrator
Malcolm Petroccia, Township Engineer
Charlie Belgie Jr., Fire Marshal
Leo McCarthy, Police Chief
Greg Seamon, Police Captain
Lance Welliver, Parks and Recreation Director
Amy Ottaviani, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
James Koepfinger, Director of Communications and Technology
Jill Liberto, Communications Director
Rebecca Kiernan, Green Initiatives Coordinator

Other Moon Township Contact Information
Always Call 911 in an Emergency

Moon Township Police Department
412.262.5000

Moon Township Fire Department
412.262.5004 (non-emergency only)

Moon Parks and Recreation
412.262.1703

Moon Community Access Television
412.269.1191

Moon Township Municipal Authority
412.264.4300

Moon Township Public Library
412.269.0334

Elected Property Tax Collector: Catherine Tress
412.299.7446

Earned Income Tax Collector: Jordan Tax Service
724.731.2300

Moon Township welcomes feedback on the *Moon Township Messenger* at **moontwp@moontwp.com** or call **412.262.1700.**

Township offices will be closed in observance of the upcoming 2014 holidays:
Labor Day: Monday, September 1
Columbus Day: Monday, October 13

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The Cover

Road Paving Season is here. Moon Township Road crews hard at work this summer Details available on page 9.

The Moon Township Messenger was arranged by Communications Director Jill Liberto and Designed by Web & Graphic Designer Frank Vieira

Read the Summer 2014 *Moon Township Messenger* and past editions online at moontwp.com

Township Historical Room Renamed to Honor Dr. Robert A. Jockers

A special dedication took place at the June 4 Board of Supervisors meeting. The Dr. Robert A. Jockers Historical Research Repository Room was officially named in honor of the local historian. Dr. Jockers, a local dentist and township resident for over 50 years, died in May 2013. He was founder of the Olde Moon Township Historical Society, and authored *Forgotten Past – a History of Moon Township Pennsylvania*.

Dr. Jockers also wrote and produced the first historical video for MCA-TV, *Born American*. The show gives an intimate look at life and the early settlements in Moon Township.

The new historical records room, located in the township municipal building, provides a trove of township history. It provides a place for residents to share their memories and memorabilia, offering current residents a glimpse into the past and how Moon Township has evolved into the thriving community it is today.

Several members of Dr. Jockers' family were present at the supervisors meeting at which the Historical Room was officially named in his honor.

Township Residents Eligible to Apply For Vacant Property Recovery Program

For a limited time, Allegheny County will be accepting applications to acquire vacant properties at a reduced cost to applicants. Moon Township is one of 28 municipalities to which the program is being offered by the county.

The program is designed to acquire blighted, tax delinquent properties and resell them to applicants for a reuse outlined in their application and approved by the township.

Under the 2014 Side Yard and Blighted Structure Program, the county will waive the standard parcel fee of $3,000 for applicants for side yards to their primary residence and will discount it to $1,400 for applicants proposing to rehabilitate or demolish a blighted structure. All applicants will be responsible for the appraised value of the property, a good faith deposit of 10 percent of the appraised value, and closing costs.

Additionally, applicants must be current on taxes, water, sewage, and refuse bills, as well as have no outstanding code violations or municipal liens on all properties owned in Allegheny County.

Applications must be submitted no later than August 30. Don't delay, only a maximum of five applications per municipality will be accepted for consideration.

For information or to request an application, please contact the Allegheny County Economic Development department at (412) 350-1090.

facebook

Connect with Moon Township on Facebook

Let's be friends! Like us on Facebook. Stay in the know of all things Moon Township by connecting with our informational Facebook pages:

"Moon Township"
"Moon Community Access Television"
"Moon Parks & Recreation"
"Moon Township VFC"
"Moon Township Public Library"
"Moon Township Green Initiatives"

Volunteer Fire Company Car Cruise

Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company's Annual Car Cruise will be held on Sunday, August 24, at Moon Park from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Over 1,000 hot rods will be on display. The cruise is open to all classes of cars, trucks, motorcycles, and specialty vehicles. Arrive early for a good parking spot *(no space saving permitted)* and stay late to enjoy the DJ and live band.

Moon firefighters will be cooking up plenty of terrific food so come hungry! The cruise is one of the department's primary fundraisers. All proceeds from food and beverage sales benefit the Moon Township VFC.

Make plans now to cruise on out to Moon Park, support the firefighters, and show off your special vehicles!

Chief Leo McCarthy with Jodi Kutzner at her high school graduation party

Chief McCarthy's Intent to Deliver - A Baby!

In the early morning hours of August 20, 1996, then Sergeant Leo McCarthy responded to a unique emergency in the police station parking lot. A man, urgently pounding on the doors of the station, shouted that his wife was in labor and needed an ambulance. The young couple, John and Nancy Kutzner, was en route to the hospital but her labor was progressing quickly. Panicked, the soon-to-be first time father pulled into the police station in desperate search of assistance.

As Chief McCarthy went to aid Nancy and assure her that the paramedics were on their way, he no sooner got to her side when she informed him that the baby was arriving. Within four minutes, he was cradling Moon Township's newest resident – a baby girl named Jodi. The family, still grateful for the Chief's heroic efforts that night, recently invited him to celebrate another milestone in Jodi's life, her graduation from high school.

Suspect a Crime? Call the Hotline.

Contact the Moon Police Department's Crime Tips Hotline to leave an anonymous message regarding the suspicion of criminal activity or with information on a crime, person who committed a crime, or victim of a crime. Call the hotline at any time, day or night, at **412.264.5202** or email **crimetips@moonpolice.us.** Many times the assistance of others saves someone from becoming a victim or helps current victims of crimes.

STAY INFORMED

Sign up for Swift 911 at moonpolice.us

Stay informed with Moon Police Department's Swift Reach Program. Swift 911 is a system that calls registered home and cell phone numbers in the event of an emergency or when sharing important information.

Never Feel Alone with Home Alone Monitoring

Call 412.262.5000 to register

Moon Police Department's Home Alone Monitoring system automatically telephones a resident once or twice a day depending on their needs. If the resident does not answer the phone or responds that they are in need of assistance, an emergency contact is called.

EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency or to report an occurring crime or threat, always call Moon Township Police Department's Dispatch Center at **412.262.5000** or dial **911** for immediate assistance. Citizens may also call the Dispatch Center to speak with a Moon Police official regarding information related to a crime or victim of a crime and may choose to remain anonymous.

Moon Dispatch Center
412.262.5000

Emergency Services
911

Crime Tips Hotline
412.264.5202
Callers may remain anonymous.

VALLEY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY

Dedicated For Life!

3550 University Boulevard
412.262.2620 | valleyamb.org

Valley Ambulance Authority ("VAA") is proud to serve as the designated community provider of emergency medical services and medical transportation for Moon Township. VAA also provides EMS services to neighboring communities including Findlay Township, Crescent Township, Coraopolis, and Neville Island.

Moon Township residents in need of an emergency ambulance should call 9-1-1.

VAA's mobile intensive care units are staffed by dedicated, professional paramedics and EMTs which are stationed at our headquarters located on University Blvd. in Moon Township - 24 hours a day – 7 days week.

VAA has earned a reputation for providing prompt, professional emergency medical services. Last year, Valley Ambulance Authority responded to more than 2,300 emergency ambulance calls in Moon Township.

Total ambulance responses in all municipalities totaled more than 8,600 in 2013. VAA also provided more than 4,000 non-emergency ambulance and wheelchair van transports to patients within our service area.

Valley Ambulance Authority, a non-profit municipal authority, relies on community support and billing fees to fund its annual operating budget which totals more than $3 million. Residents are often surprised to learn that VAA receives no municipal tax revenue!

Moon Township residents can support VAA through participation in its annual subscription program. The subscription program provides residents with unlimited emergency medical services and an opportunity to save money by providing a 50% discount on any outstanding balances related to emergency services. The subscription program also provides access to certain types of non-emergency ambulance services and discounted rates for wheelchair van transports.

VAA subscription fees are $55.00 for a family or $35.00 for an individual. Paid subscriptions are effective from March 1, 2014, through February 28, 2015.

Moon Township residents in need of an emergency ambulance should call 911

To keep up with increasing expenses, Valley Ambulance Authority also conducts an annual capital fund raising campaign. Residents interested in contributing can submit a tax deductible donation by visiting VAA's web site at **www.valleyamb.org**

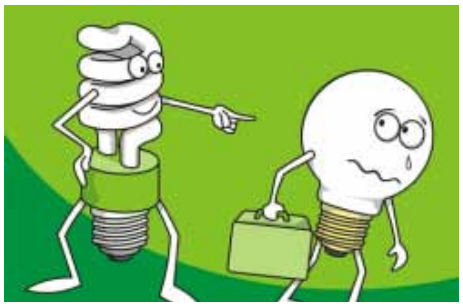
VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

1000 Beaver Grade Road
412.262.5004 | moontwpfire.com

Home Clean Up For New CFL Light Bulbs

As anyone knows when shopping for light bulbs, the old standard bulbs that have been lighting homes for years have been replaced with a new type of bulb. The new Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulb is more energy efficient and cost effective. They are recognizable by their spiral glass tubing. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that if a house has at least five of these bulbs in service, they will have a saving of $70.00 per year.

These bulbs have a very small amount of Mercury in them. As a point of reference, each bulb contains about four milligrams where as a household thermometer has about 500 milligrams. Although this is a very small amount of mercury, a special clean up procedure should be followed when a bulb breaks.



For more information on the CFL bulbs go to:
www.epe.gov/cfl.
For more information on the CFL bulb cleanup go to
www.epe.gov/cflcleanup.

CFL BULB CLEANUP PROCEDURES

BEFORE

1. Have people and pets leave the room.
2. Air out the room for 10 to 15 minutes by opening windows or doors to the outside.
3. Shut off the furnace or air conditioner.
4. Collet materials for cleanup. Dust pan, sticky tape, wet wipes or wet paper towels.

DURING

1. Be thorough in collecting broken glass and visible powder.
2. Place cleanup materials in sealable container. This container may be disposed in the normal trash pickup.

AFTER

1. For several hours, continue to air out the room where the bulb was broken.

When replacing regular bulbs with CFLs wear gloves and be careful not to tighten to much as the glass tubing is fragile.

Wednesdays through October 1 | 3 - 6 p.m.
Township Administration Building, 1000 Beaver Grade Road

Moon Township's first Farmers' Market season started on June 4 with an excellent turnout from the community. The crowd and the number of vendors continue to grow each week!

The benefits of buying local are plentiful. Buying local food strengthens the local economy and protects the environment by decreasing the amount of carbon dioxide emitted for transport and packaging. Plus, fresh produce lasts longer and our vendors use less or no preservatives.

Be sure to join us on July 30, and every last Wednesday of the month, when we'll be hosting art vendors in addition to our regular vendors.

"Like" Moon Township Green Initiatives on Facebook for farmers' market vendor information and special events, as well as other township green initiatives news.

Stop by and enjoy the amazing products from our vendors:

Simmons Farm
produce

Jodikinos Farm
produce

Glatz Wine Cellars
wine

6 Mile Cellars
wine and hard cider

Mediterra Bakehouse
artisan breads

Fur Angels Cookies and Designs
all natural dog treats and shampoos

Ridgemont Farms
fresh cut flowers

Betty's Baked Goods
baked goods such as pies doughnuts, nut rolls, apple strudel, and breads;

Martina's Authentic Italian Delicacies
hot food such as assorted stuffed rolls, lasagna, zucchini parmesan, and chicken cordon bleu

Callifonte Foods
fresh pastas, stuffed pastas, and sauces

Uncle Fester's Favorites
hot sauces, pickled vegetables, honey, jams and jellies

McElhaney Family Farm
beef and cheese

Event Cakes PGH and GG's Cookie Company - baked goods

Recycling Days

August 2 & October 4
Township Administration Building
1000 Beaver Grade Road

The Moon Township Environmental Advisory Council held its ninth annual Recycling Day at the Moon Township Municipal building on Saturday, June 7. Global Links collected medical supplies, Construction Junction collected reusable building materials, Liberty Tire collected used tires, and JVS Environmental collected electronics and appliances. With over 900 participants and the help of 14 volunteers, the event was very successful.

Over 76,390 pounds of electronic waste, 119 appliances, and 544 tires were collected. The township has scheduled additional electronics collections this year. The next two events are scheduled for August 2 and October 4. For information about properly disposing of hazardous waste, visit **zerowastepgh.org** or call **(412) 488-7490**.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), electronics are loaded with toxic chemicals and heavy metals which contaminate air and groundwater causing adverse health effects, increased cancer rates, and birth defects. While recycling properly disposes of such waste, these chemicals still exist in landfills.

What can we do?

- Reducing consumption and buying less are key.
- Buy quality products that will last longer and won't require frequent replacement.
- Find ways to reuse or repurpose, and if that's not an option, donate old items so that others may.
- "Reduce, reuse, recycle" and do so in that order.

For more information about the harm of our over-consumption, check out *The Story of Stuff Project* at **storyofstuff.org**.

Questions or ideas to make Moon more green?

Contact the township's Green Initiative Coodinator Rebecca Kiernan at **rkiernan@moontwp.com** or call **412-262-1700**

Moon Township Earns Gold Certification as a Sustainable Community in Pennsylvania

Moon Township recently became one of the first "Gold Certified" municipalities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The prestigious designation has been awarded to less than a dozen municipalities who meet the extensive requirements to achieve Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification.

The program, first initiated regionally by Sustainable Pittsburgh as the Sustainable Communities Essentials Certification, has recently been adopted by the Pennsylvania Municipal League (PML) and will be implemented statewide.

This an online certification system that provides a structure and performance platform for recognition of municipalities as they embrace sustainable policies and programs. Municipalities must complete an extensive questionnaire and provide validation of more than 130 certification criteria to be considered for certification. Over 25 municipalities in southwestern Pennsylvania have achieved certification, ranging in level from Associate to Gold, with a dozen more having pledged to complete the process. Moon Township first received Gold distinction in November 2013.

"This certification has been an excellent tool in our efforts to operate more efficiently, reduce our impacts on the environment and improve social welfare both in our facilities and community-wide. We are proud to be recognized for our accomplishments, and applaud the expansion of such an impactful program," said Moon Township Green Initiatives Coordinator Rebecca Kiernan.

Earning a level of certification acknowledges a municipality's progress in addressing such areas as: community engagement, education, energy efficiency, environmental stewardship, health and wellness, intergovernmental cooperation, land use and transportation mitigating blight, recycling and waste reduction, and other sustainability innovation.

CSA Season

CSA season is well underway. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a program where a community of individuals pledges to support a farm operation by becoming shareholders, covering anticipated costs and in return receiving a share of the bounty throughout the growing season. Typically there is a weekly cost, and the member receives a box of fresh goods each week.

Three CSA's are delivered to the Township Administration Building:
Kohser Farms (kohserfarms.wordpress.com/) every Thursday,
Clarion River Organics (clarionriverorganics.com/p/csa.html) delivers every Thursday,
Penn's Corner (http://www.pennscorner.com/) delivers every other Wednesday.

All three companies provide certified organic or organically grown products. Interested in joining? It's not too late to sign up for the season. Visit each organization's website for more information and to register.

Blueberry Streusel Pie - Recipe

Crust
2 Cups all-purpose flour
1 ½ teaspoons salt
½ Cup canola oil
5 Tablespoons water
Combine ingredients. Roll out into a circle and place in pie tin and set aside.

Pie Filling
1 Cup sour cream
¾ Cup sugar
1 egg
2 Tablespoons flour
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 ½ Cups fresh blueberries
Combine first five ingredients in large bowl. Beat until smooth and then fold in blueberries. Spoon into pie shell, and bake at 400° for 25 minutes.

Topping
6 Tablespoons flour
5 Tablespoons margarine
4 Tablespoons sugar
Mix together until coarse and then stir in ½ Cup chopped nuts. When pie has baked for 25 minutes, sprinkle topping evenly over pie.
Bake for another 15 minutes at 400°.

Fresh Blueberry Tips:

Refrigerate the blueberries soon after picking to increase the shelf life. If refrigerated, fresh-picked blueberries will keep 10 to 14 days.

Do not wash the blueberries until just before eating or using in your recipes to prevent berries from becoming mushy. Unwashed blueberries will stay fresh for up to two weeks in the refrigerator if kept dry.

Berries abound at Moon Township's Farmers' Market this summer. Pick up a pint of fresh blueberries and try this scrumptious pie recipe for a perfect summertime dessert.

The Farmers' Market takes place every Wednesday from 3 - 6 p.m. in the parking lot of the Township Administration Building at 1000 Beaver Grade Road.

CITIZEN SPOTLIGHT

Scoutmaster Fred Geldmaker

As a follow up to the Spring Messenger, our Citizen Spotlight features the former Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 310, Fred Geldmaker.

As a boy, Fred Geldmaker participated in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, ultimately earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Originally from New Jersey, he and his wife, Kathy, along with their three children Timothy, William, and Laura moved to Moon Township 11 years ago. He is a Senior Manager with Bayer Corporation. With no relatives in the area, Geldmaker became involved with scouting as a way for him and his young family to integrate into the community and make new friends.

After serving in various leadership roles in Scouts over the years, Geldmaker became Scoutmaster of Troop 310 in October 2009. The Scoutmaster is the adult leader responsible for overseeing the program and image of the troop. According to Geldmaker, the Scoutmaster's job is crucial because the quality of the Scoutmaster's guidance will affect every youth and adult involved in the troop.

He believes Scouting offers young people the opportunity to try new things, provide service to others, build self-confidence, and reinforce ethical standards. "These experiences and qualities not only help them as young people but will carry forward with them into their adult lives. I believe what we as leaders are doing is paying it forward so these young people will in turn pay forward for the next generation," said Geldmaker.

With over 90 scouts achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, it's evident that Boy Scout Troop 310 has been very successful in supporting the scouts as they work to balance all of their activities while they progress toward the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout.

Geldmaker credits both the scouts and the support of the adult leaders with the success of their troop. The Scoutmaster is supported by over 30 trained adult leaders and committee members of the troop. Each one of these generous individuals contributes to administering a successful and fun troop program.

"Troop 310 is a scout-run troop. This is a difficult concept for many people to grasp but the scouts plan their activities and execute those plans. The adult leadership serves as a safety net or authority figure as necessary. However, the scouts are given the opportunity to lead and advance at their own pace. They are encouraged, reminded, and mentored as necessary by the leadership. In many respects, being a scout leader is somewhat like being a teacher. As leaders, we can only do so much. It is up to the boys to earn that rank. A teacher cannot do the student's work. A scout leader cannot earn the rank advancements. Since joining Troop 310 in 2006, I have watched 29 young men earn their Eagle Scout rank. That is amazing. What is more amazing to me is that so many of them draw on each other for motivation and inspiration to advance. "

As Scoutmaster, Geldmaker stressed the importance of the collaboration of Troop 310 with Sharon Community Presbyterian Church. "The troop could not provide the program it provides without the generous support we receive from the church. They have been our sponsor and home since 1956. The congregation backs the troop in so many ways and for their enthusiastic support, we are grateful."

Although admittedly biased, Geldmaker thinks Troop 310 is a great troop but is quick to follow that Moon Township is extremely fortunate to have three active Boy Scout troops in town. Combined, these troops have over 100 young men as members. Scoutmaster Geldmaker's message to scouts: "If one troop is not right for you, try another. But whatever you do, stay in scouting. Earning the rank of Eagle and having all of the leadership experience you obtain as a scout on your resume will make a difference. Once an Eagle, always an Eagle!"

Troop 310 is part of the Frontier District of the Laurel Highlands Council of the Boys Scouts of America. For information to get involved: **lhc-bsa.org**

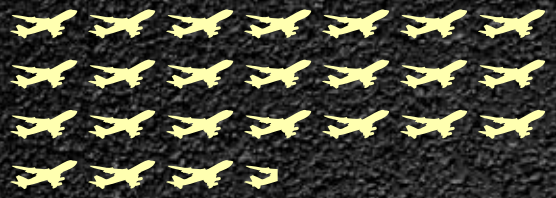
PAVING **SEASON** IS HERE...

The township Public Works Department road improvements are well underway for the summer paving season. In addition to the 20 township streets that are in the process of being resurfaced, the paving of the drive around the amphitheater in Moon Park and the parking lot of Carnot Fire Station have been completed.

Weather conditions permitting, road paving is expected to be complete by the end of September. Line painting crews are working their way through the township, giving a fresh coat of paint to crosswalks, stop bars, and intersection arrows.

Keep our crews safe! Please remember to slow down and use caution when driving in these areas.

HOW MANY TONS OF ASPHALT?



The road department will use 9,146 tons of asphalt to complete this season's road programs. That's the equivalent of 24 1/2 Boeing 747 Jumbo Jets!

ONE **ROAD** AT A **TIME**

Completed Roads

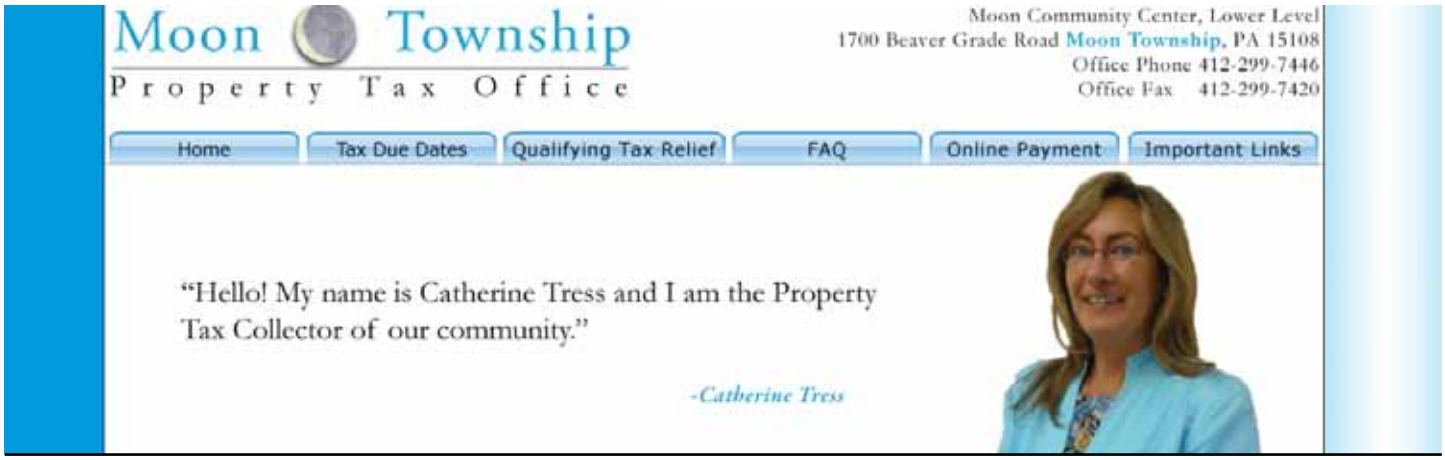
Black Friar Drive
Key Garden Drive
Lansdowne Drive
Cranston Drive
Mooncrest Drive
N. Flaugherty Run Road
Old Narrows Run Road
Moon Park
Carnot Fire Station

In Progress

FedEx Drive
Timberyoke Road
Nyetimber Parkway
Great Oaks Drive
Vanita Drive
Gilshire Drive
Bertley Ridge Drive
Centerdale Drive
Meadowbrook Drive
Beagle Court
Beagle Drive
Hunters Run Drive
Christler Court

PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

1700 Beaver Grade Road, Suite 300 | 412.299.7446 | moontaxoffice.us
(Located on the lower level of the Community Service Center, next to the MCA-TV studio.)



School Tax Information

Residents should have received their 2014 Moon Area School District (MASD) property tax statement in the mail. The district's new tax year began on July 1.

Discount - 2%

Residents who pay their taxes in full by August 31* will received a 2% discount off their bill

Face (Full) Amount

Payments for the face amount of the tax statement (no discount or penalty) will be accepted September 1* through October 31.

Penalty - 10%

For all payments received November 1 through December 31, a 10% penalty will be added to the full amount of the tax statement.

Installments

The first Installment payment MUST be in the property tax office by August 31* to indicate the property owner will be making installments. Coupons will be mailed to taxpayers paying installments shortly after their first payment is received.

The second installment deadline will be September 30, the remaining two deadlines are October 31 and November 30.

The full amount is due in four monthly installments with the first payment for the exact amount as listed on the tax statement. No tax discount is permitted for taxes paid under the installment option. Installment payments must be received by the due dates or a 10% penalty will be added to any remaining installment payments.

Postmarked payments are accepted for all pay periods

Please note the office is open on Saturday, August 30 from 10 a.m. to noon.

**This year, August 31 falls on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, so payments will be accepted at discount through Tuesday, September 2.*

Township Property Tax 10% penalty period began August 1

PAY ONLINE

Online Payments are available at: moontaxoffice.us

You will need your block/lot information (included on your bill).Two online payment options are available; electronic checks at $1.50 & credit cards at 2.95% processing fee (Visa, MasterCard, Discover accepted).

MASD Tax Numbers

The 2014 MASD property tax millage, approved by the school board on June 30, 2014, is now **18.8461 mills**

ACT 1 Property Tax Relief (Homestead)
Assessment reduction: $6,953.00
Tax reduction: $131.04

IMPORTANT

Property tax collection law states that a property owner is responsible for the tax regardless if they receive a bill.

If you have a change to your mailing address for any reason, please contact my office at **412.299.7446**.

Do not rely on your closing or mortgage company to notify my office.

The Moon property tax office will be closed on:
Labor Day:
Monday, September 1
Columbus Day:
Monday, October 13

Always visit my website for office hours, holiday closings, and other useful information.

HOLLOW OAK Land Trust

949 Thorn Run Road | 412.264.5354
hollowoak.org

Land Stewardship for Volunteers

Do you enjoy the outdoors and wish there were more trails and places to get outside nearby? If so, then check out Hollow Oak Land Trust!

Hollow Oak has protected greenspace in the Airport Corridor for over 20 years. The organization is currently developing a network of greenways in Moon Township that will link conservation areas to parks, trails and other greenspace within the community providing residents with an area to hike, bike, hunt, run and enjoy nature. Trails and parks will go throughout and connect Boggs Run, Flaugherty Run, Thorn Run, Meeks Run and Montour Run.

Membership is only $20 and volunteers can choose titles such as Trail Tender, Critterologist, Plant Manager, Streamkeeper, Dumpbuster, Conservation Curator, Ranger, Marshal, Surveyor, Bridge Architect, Interpreter, Photo Journalist, Data Guru and Traffic Controller. Email info@hollowoak.org to get involved today.

MOON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

1700 Beaver Grade Road | 412.269.0334 | moonlibrary.org

Annual Used Book Sale September 18 - 27

September marks the start of the autumn season, the changing of leaves from green to gold, and, of course, the return of the Moon Township Public Library's book sale!

The Friends of the Moon Township Public Library will once again be hosting their annual used book sale, featuring gently used or new paperback books, hardcover books, DVDs, children's books, and more.

The sale takes place at the Moon Township Municipal Building September 18 – 27 and is open to shoppers of all ages.

The much-anticipated annual event kicks off with a special preview night on Thursday, September 18, and the sale continues through September 27. Please note that preview night has a $10 entrance fee. A list of all book sale dates and times can be found on the library's web site at www.moonlibrary.org.

In addition to our once-a-year sale, the library is now selling used books on a daily basis. Browse our inventory of popular paperbacks, bestsellers, nonfiction titles, and favorite authors all for lower prices than any book or retail store around.

Paperbacks are$.25 a book and 2014 releases are 75% off of the retail price. Older titles are priced according to demand. All purchases include sales tax. Cash or check only.

Gather up those spares dollars and raid your cushions for some change because you won't be able to resist! Ask at the Circulation Desk for more details or answers to questions.

MCA-TV

WATCH. VOLUNTEER. PRODUCE.
1700 Beaver Grade Road | 412.269.1191 | mca-tv.org

Meet MCA'S New Director

The future of MCA-TV is in good hands with the new Director of Community Programming, Liz Barentine. The station created the position to address the growing demand for community access programing and to enhance communication with volunteers.

> **"...our volunteers are coming up with some exciting new show ideas that I am excited to be a part of. "**

Liz started with MCA-TV in May and her schedule has been busy with both programming and volunteers already. "Working in Moon Township has been great so far! People in the township have been very friendly and our volunteers are coming up with some exciting new show ideas that I am excited to be a part of. "

The native Pittsburgher has lived in multiple cities around the globe but is glad to be back, living close to family and friends. "I grew up as a Navy brat so I moved around quite a bit when I was young, but I have spent most of my life in Pittsburgh. I studied in Europe for four years and had the opportunity to do a lot of traveling. Before coming back to Pittsburgh I was living in New York City. My parents and Grandma live here, as well as my older brother. We also have one awesome dog named Charlie who likes to sing when I play piano."

Getting to know and work with the many volunteers at MCA-TV has been immediately rewarding for Liz: "Teaching our volunteers video production skills and seeing them

MCA-TV Training Courses

Do you want to learn about video production? MCA-TV is now offering FREE Television Production Training Courses, starting on Wednesday evenings in September.

The fun, four-week course will get you in studio and familiar with the equipment that makes the "magic" of TV happen.

Classes take place at the MCA-TV studio located at **1700 Beaver Grade Road, Suite 140.**

Email Director of Community Programing Liz Barentine at **lbarentine@moontwp.com** if you are interested!

MCA-TV
Moon Community Access Television
Comcast channel 14
Verizon FiOs channel 35

MAG-TV
Moon Area Government Television
Comcast channel 18
Verizon FiOs channel 37

MCA-TV **VISIT OUR NEWLY RE-DESIGNED WEBSITE: MCA-TV.org**

Desiree's Determination

Desiree Griffith may not be Moon Township's most famous resident but her strength, resilience, and grace at overcoming life's challenges certainly make her an everyday inspiration to us all.

She was born and raised in Guyana – a small, tropical country located near Brazil and Venezuela. As a result of British rule, it is the only country in South America where English is the official language.

Desiree's mother, determined that her children would have greater opportunities in the United States, worked to move her family to the U.S. and secure their citizenship. Desiree became a permanent resident just shy of her 21st birthday.

Not long thereafter, Desiree met and married Monte Griffith. They have two children, a son and daughter. Over the years, Monte's career resulted in the family relocating several times. Desiree went to nursing school during the time they lived in Brooklyn, New York. They also spent time in Charlotte, North Carolina and traveled around the country exploring the areas where Monte was working.

In 1980, the family chose to move to Pittsburgh. The city was selected by the family in large part due to their love of the Steelers and Pirates. Once here, they settled in Moon Township and knew it was a place they wanted to call home. Desiree worked as a registered nurse at Sewickley Valley Hospital for 30 years before retiring in 2011. Both of Desiree's children have followed in the mother's footsteps and work as health care professionals. Her son is a nurse anesthetist at the University of Virginia Health System, and her daughter works a registered nurse at the Johns Hopkins Department of Emergency Medicine.

Throughout much of 2012, Desiree regularly traveled to her daughter's home in Maryland to help care for her grandson as her daughter finished up her master's degree in nursing at the University of Maryland. At the conclusion of one weekend, Desiree felt, in her words "a pain that she couldn't identify. As you get older, you start to recognize your aches and pains. This was one I hadn't felt before." It felt like a knife going up her chest, but it was on the right and as she described "not on her heart side." Her daughter wanted to take her straight to the emergency room. With her flight home approaching, and the pain subsiding, Desiree declined but promised her daughter that she would go if the pain returned.

Once back in Pittsburgh, the pain did indeed return two days later just as she was sitting down to enjoy a day of March Madness basketball. She was tempted to dismiss it, but the pain did not subside and she held to the promise she had made her daughter. Through her experience as a nurse, she knew they'd probably think she was having a heart attack and that the hospital trip would involve a battery of tests. She hoped that it was something simple, such as a reoccurring ulcer. Just to be safe, she and Monte made their way to the hospital. After some initial testing, the urgency in the doctor's tone and demeanor became obvious. Desiree had a life threatening aortic tear that needed to be repaired immediately. Fearing that she may not see them again, she asked to call her children.

Fitness instructor Linda Francis with Desiree Griffith (seated)

Desiree was considered lucky to have made it to the hospital in time; many people who experience an aortic tear do not live to undergo surgery. She beat the odds, the first of many times that she would. The surgery was successful at repairing Desiree's heart. In the days following, however, additional complications would arise that would change her life forever.

During her post-surgical recovery, Desiree experienced a severe reaction to the anti-coagulant heparin that resulted in heparin-induced thrombocytopenia. The reaction actually caused clots to quickly form in her extremities and progress to gangrene. As a result, doctors were forced to amputate three of Desiree's fingertips and both of her legs below the knees.

Although lucky to be alive, Desiree's life would never be as it was before. Following more than a month in the hospital, she was transferred to a rehabilitation facility where she learned to walk again with the use of prosthetics. Grappling with recovery, both physically and mentally, Desiree has risen to every challenge along her journey to heal. She has mostly good days and does at times question why this happened to her as she strives to lead a good life. A friend reminded her that things just happen, that people aren't chosen as a result of their actions. She calls upon that advice often.

Prior to her life-altering surgery, Desiree was an active participant in the "Senior Workout" show on MCA-TV. As she continued her rehab, she was determined to get back to the activities and people she enjoyed. In March 2014, less than a year after her amputation, Desiree took part in her first class. She was welcomed warmly by her fellow classmates who have marveled at her progress and are humbled by her determination.

Fitness instructor Linda Francis' pride in Desiree's achievement is evident "This is my 40th year teaching and I have never seen anyone with such motivation. She gives us all such inspiration. I always tell the class if Desiree can be here then you have no excuse!"

Desiree continues to get stronger. When she first returned to class, she participated with the aid of a walker. Now, she pushes it to the side and moves right along on her own will and perseverance. Her presence serves as motivation to everyone in the room. In a reflective moment of what she's learned and would like to share from her ordeal, Desiree stresses not to wait or put things off as you don't know what the future holds "If there's something in life that you want to do, go do it." If Desiree can do it, so can you!

Thank You to Our Volunteers

St. Philips Youth Camp Spring Clean at Robin Hill

On June 17, a team of 150 Campers ages 8-12 from St. Phillips Church Youth Group camp along with 15 Junior Counselors, and several parents gathered at Robin Hill Park to volunteer to pick up litter, clear the trails and clean out the log cabin.

The Moon Parks Staff provided the group with a historical overview of the park and the nature programs at Robin Hill. It was a great opportunity to educate a young, interested audience about our many parks and services.

Comacast Cares Day

by Amber Hopkins

On April 26, Comcast and Moon PTarks & Recreation hosted Comcast Cares Day at Olson Park on Flaugherty Run. Comcast Cares Day is the nation's largest single-day corporate volunteer effort that has taken place for the past 13 years. During that time, more than 500,000 volunteers have donated more than 3 million hours of service on over 5,000 projects. Comcast Foundation has awarded more than $14 million in grants to partner organizations to match the volunteer efforts of volunteers. About 80 volunteers from Comcast, Robert Morris University, and the local area spruced up Olson Park in April by doing such things as landscaping, mulching, trail clean-up, bulb planting, and bridge staining. They did a wonderful job and their efforts are much appreciated!

FedEx Ground Sewickley Volunteers

by Amber Hopkins

On April 29, about 15 volunteers from FedEx Ground Sewickley came out to Robin Hill Park to volunteer. The crew worked hard and had a blast landscaping a hillside and working in the herb garden with Moon Garden Club. Moon Parks thanks FedEx Ground Sewickley for an amazing job well done!

New Habitat for Chimney Swifts

As part of the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania's' (ASWP) 100th year Anniversary Celebration, Moon Parks has partnered with the ASWP to build three towers in all three Moon Parks: Robin Hill, Moon Park and Olson Park.

Eagle Scout candidate Ryan Finnegan has built and installed the first of three Chimney Swift towers. The ASWP has generously donated most of the funds necessary to build these structures. Through Ryan's efforts along with Boy Scout Troop 905, the first tower is now finished and two new informational panels have been installed.

According to ASWP, the trend in migratory bird populations in North America is not a positive one. Breeding-bird surveys continue to indicate that the numbers of many Neotropical migrants are in decline, and Chimney Swifts are no exception.

Chimney Swifts are very small, insect eating birds with slender bodies and very long, narrow, curved wings. They have round heads, short necks, and short, tapered tails. Chimney Swifts are birds that historically nested in old, hollow trees. In North America they have long migrated from the Amazon River Basin each spring to breed and raise their young. Over the past few centuries, they nested and roosted in chimneys. By the late 1980's, changes in chimney construction and homeowner attitudes had contributed to a major decline in the numbers of Chimney Swifts. Moon Parks is proud to be partnering with Eagle Scouts and other groups to build three towers towards this conservation effort and also to provide an interpretive outdoor education experience for area residents.

We are actively seeking skilled volunteers to assist with these projects. Please contact Moon Parks Assistant Parks Director, Amy Ottaviani, for more information. Visit our website **www.moonparks.org**, Check out the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania at aswp.org for information about Chimney Swifts and other wildlife.

RMU BLACK MALE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

VISITS ROBIN HILL PARK

On Thursday, June 19 after dodging rain and the threat of thunderstorms, Robert Morris University (RMU) Recreation Director Armand Buzzelli brought a group of more than 70 young men and 15 RMU student counselors to Robin Hill Park for an informational program and trail hike. Many of the youth in attendance had never experienced an outdoor trail hike or spent much time outdoors.

Moon Parks partnered with Hollow Oak Land Trust (HOLT) to provide a fun and informative evening outdoors on the beautiful Robin Hill trails.

"If one or two students from that group become ambassadors in their communities for parks and recreation it was time well spent. I am really thankful for the partnership that Moon Parks and HOLT have developed with RMU and I hope it continues to grow!" said Buzzelli.

The Black Male Leadership Development Institute (BMLDI) offers a year-round experience for African American males in grades 9-12 through activities to challenge the young men to strive for academic excellence, civic responsibility and personal integrity and leadership.

ROBIN HILL LUNCH CONCERTS

3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

AUG 20 Clem Rolin & The Pittsburgh Jazz Band

SEPT 17 Dan Hanczar (Blues)

SUMMER MOVIES

AUGUST 8
THE LEGO MOVIE
(PG)

AUGUST 13
DESPICABLE ME 2
(PG)

AUGUST 22
FROZEN SING-A-LONG
(PG)

Pavilion and Robin Hill Rentals Pavilions

Pavilion reservations are now open for Moon Park for May-September dates. All reservations must be made in person at the Moon Parks office. All pavilions and fees are listed on our website at **moonparks.org**

Robin Hill reservations can be made up to one year in advance. Reservations must be made in person. To receive Moon resident rate the contract must be signed by and payments made by Moon Township resident. All fees are listed on our website www.moonparks.org

To schedule at tour of Robin Hill please call Amy at the Moon Parks office: **412-262-1703** or email info@moonparks.org

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Totally Toned (Adult/Teens 15+)

Mondays | 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.
Moon High School Fitness Room
July 7 - August 11
$45 Residents/$50 Non-Residents, per 6-week session
Instructor: Karla Tobias

This class is designed for all fitness levels to help tone the entire body including abs, thighs, back, arms and glutes. Bring hand weights, a mat and water.

Senior Workout (Seniors/Adults)

Wednesdays | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Township Administration Building
August 13 - September 3 - October 8
$21 Residents/$25 Non-Residents, per 6-week session

Instructor: Linda Francis
Senior Workout helps seniors maintain a fitness level to stay mobile. This is a low impact aerobics class that will work on balance and strength while having fun and meeting new people.

Mountain Pie Ramble

Sunday August 24 | 10 - 12:30 p.m.
Robin Hill Log Cabin

Stroll at an easy pace and explore the hilly terrain of a local park on this family-friendly adventure. Afterward, gather at the Robin Hill Log Cabin and make some tasty mountain pies over an open fire.

Driver's Education/Kennedy School of Driving (Teens)

Monday - Friday, August 4 – 15 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Township Administration Building
$25 Residents/$30 Non-Residents, Course Fee $350

The Driver's Education course is instructed by the Kennedy School of Driving. Upon successful completion of the 30 hours of theory and six hours of behind the wheel training, a certificate will be given that is accepted by most insurance companies. Participants must be 16 and have a learners permit for the on-the-road portion of the program. The balance of $350 is paid to Kennedy School of Driving at the first class.

Ultimate Minecraft Map Creation (Kids 9-13)

Monday - Friday, August 11 – 15 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Robin Hill
$160 Residents/$165 Non-Residents

Calling talented Minecraft fans who want to push their map making skills to the next level! Instead of just playing the game you love, create completely customized worlds that will challenge you and others. Learn how to best use Minecraft and special editing tools to make original puzzles, adventures, mini-games and more. Your friends will be begging to try your maps again and again! Students will be able to access the maps they create at home following the camp.

Mobile Game Design (Ages 9-13)

Monday - Friday, August 11 – 15 | 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Robin Hill
$160 Residents/$165 Non-Residents

This is your chance to create and publish a game you and your friends can play on any mobile device. Students will use special software (GameSalad) designed to allow the creation of complex games using a visual, drag and drop interface. Once students finish their games, they will have the ability to publish them in HTML 5 so they are available for play on iPhone, iPad, Android Devices, Kindle and Nook.

Contact Moon Parks at **412.262.1703** for more information.

Online Registration is available for programs at moonparks.org

All events and times are subject to change. Please refer to moonparks.org for an updated list of times and dates

STAY **CONNECTED** TO **MOON TOWNSHIP**

moontwp.com

Visit moontwp.com for the latest township news and events. Your community is one click away.

Sign Up for Moon's E-newsletter

Receive monthly updates on news and events going on in the Township with Moon's free monthly email newsletter, *Moon Township Monthly.* Sign up today at **moontwp.com** under Quick Links.

Submit a Question or Concern Online

Submit a question, comment or concern to township officials through the Citizen Request System. This feature allows residents to submit a concern and track its resolution through ongoing updates ensuring a timely response from Moon Township staff. A link can be found at **moontwp.com** under Quick Links.

Tune in to Local Government

Watch Moon Township Board of Supervisors and Moon Area School Board public meetings on MAG-TV, Comcast channel 18 and Verizon channel 37. Schedule information is available at **moongovtv.us**. View the meetings and MCA-TV's community produced programming online at **mca-tv.org**.

Visit Moon Parks and Recreation

Get involved in the many events and programs offered by Moon Parks and Recreation. Use a computer or smartphone to find the most current schedule information at **moonparks.org.**

Stay Informed with Swift 911

Sign up for Swift 911 at moonpolice.us. This system will call registered phone or cell phone numbers in the event of an emergency or to share important community information.

Like Us on Facebook

Stay in the know of all things Moon Township by connecting with our informational Facebook pages:

"Moon Township"
"Moon Community Access Television"
"Moon Parks & Recreation"
"Moon Township VFC"
"Moon Township Public Library"
"Moon Township Green Initiatives"