

# Cranberry

SUMMER 2018

# TODAY

## COMMUNITY DAYS

CRANBERRY'S LARGEST COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!

### SUMMERTIME FUN

FREE CONCERTS AND MOVIES IN THE PARK  
MIRACLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR WEEKEND

### UPDATES

CTCC PROJECT OF THE YEAR  
TRAFFIC DATA PROJECT



BUSINESS HUB NEWS INSIDE



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TOWNSHIP





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# Community Days

[CTCChest.org](http://CTCChest.org)

July 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>

- Cruisin' Cranberry
- Carnival Rides & Games
- Community Chase 5K
- Food Booths
- Pancake Breakfast
- Arts Festival
- Martinis with Monet
- Chainsaw Carving
- Battle of the Barrel
- Concerts
- Fireworks
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Three exciting days of family fun at Community Park!





*What's*  
**INSIDE**



*We welcome your feedback on this edition of CranberryTODAY! Send comments to: CommunicationsTeam@cranberrytownship.org*



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- CRANBERRYTODAY
- 4 Supervisor's Commentary**
  - 5 Community Days Celebration**
  - 6 2019 Project of the Year**
  - 7 Watch Your Step!**
  - 8 Sewer & Water Updates**
  - 9 New FEMA Flood Maps**
  - 10 Feeling Safer**
  - 11 Firefighter Profile**
  - 12 Traffic Stops**
  - 19 Resident Profile**
  - 20 Cranberry Briefs**
  - 22 CMU Project**
  - 23 Butler's Infrastructure Bank**
  - 24 Book Online Golf Lessons**
  - 25 Gift of Hope Classic**
  - 26 Summer Fun**

- BUSINESSTODAY
- 13 Omnicell**
  - 14 Mission Vision**
  - 16 Ice Box Creamery and Café**
  - 17 Now Open!**
  - 18 Bits of Business**



# #MakingADifference

## **What I did on my sabbatical**

**By Bruce Mazzoni, Supervisor, Cranberry Township**



I joke with people that I have been on sabbatical for 17 years, but that was never my intention. I fully expected to go back to work. The very first week of my sabbatical I was asked by the library director if I would be interested in joining Cranberry Library's Board of Trustees, and I said sure.

Well, one thing led to another, and after a few years of serving on that board, I was encouraged to run for the Board of Supervisors. And what I saw from that vantage point was truly eye-opening: although Cranberry was already a good municipality, it had all the elements in place to become a truly great one. It had a highly capable staff, a vibrant nonprofit sector, an energetic business community, a well-educated population, significant pockets of wealth, a growing mix of faith communities, and forward-looking public officials. What it needed was a way to connect those dots. So I made doing that my personal objective.

Cranberry Township Community Chest had been formed back in 1975 as a vehicle to help fund the Township's fire company, library, and other basic assets. Over the decades that followed, Community Chest continued to function, but the agencies it was created to finance had evolved and, in many cases, became taxpayer supported. But there remained a huge opportunity to engage, promote and finance the Township's many other civic and nonprofit organizations. So that became CTCC's new focus, and I was delighted to help lead that effort.

Over time, though, CTCC's mission itself evolved and grew to include a number of projects which have been spectacularly successful. Community Day became Community Days, a huge celebration generating lots of revenue while strengthening community ties. The Cranberry Legacy Endowment was started and now holds assets of well over a million dollars. CTCC helped launch

the Cranberry Artists Network. It has been the engine behind multiple Projects of the Year, ranging from the electronic community sign at Routes 19 and 228, to fire safety trailers, playgrounds, sports courts, fitness stations, and the Scouting Plaza, as well as a championship disc golf course. And it was instrumental in forming Cranberry Township's Pickleball Association.

But we never lost sight of our original mission: to support local nonprofit groups by encouraging residents and businesses to become involved in one of the 64 organizations under CTCC's umbrella. And it worked. Last year, more than 900 people volunteered 50 hours or more. More than 30 of them volunteered 1,000 hours, which is the equivalent of over 100 full-time people. And that doesn't even include many thousands more who volunteered less than 50 hours a year.

I truly believe that all these initiatives have helped make Cranberry a better place. But I am also convinced that we have only scratched the surface of what's possible. The capabilities I saw 15 years ago for turning Cranberry into an exemplary community have continued to grow. We have the resources to remain a model of what a municipality, blessed with powerful civic, business, social and educational sectors, is truly able to do. But it will take work.

Since my sabbatical began, I've had the pleasure of partnering with a number of outstanding individuals and organizations – people who have been indispensable in achieving what Cranberry has accomplished. I've been especially gratified by the growth of our signature projects, particularly including Community Days. In the process, I've worked harder than I ever did when I was employed. I love CTCC and hope to remain involved with it for years to come. But I'm also thinking that this may be the time for me to step back a bit and find someone with the time, energy and imagination to step up and carry those initiatives to even higher levels.

Could that be you?

**More info:**

**[www.CTCChest.org](http://www.CTCChest.org)**





# 2018 Community Days

July 12, 13 and 14



More info: [CTCChest.org](http://CTCChest.org)

## SQUEEZING EVEN MORE FUN INTO THE CELEBRATION!

Following a thoroughly non-scientific survey last year, Cranberry Community Days leaders determined that the most popular features of past Community Days weren't its concerts, its food, its carnival rides or its games. The most popular attractions, it turns out, were its booths – vendor booths, information booths, recruitment booths, art booths, booths with giveaways and booths without.

So, at CTCC's 2018 Community Days, from July 12 to 14, there will be 50 percent more booths than in any previous year. Not only that, their arrangement will be unlike those of any celebration in the past.

"We have a totally new layout for Community Days," Community Days Chairman Bruce Mazzoni explained. "The corridors have the name of local streets and they're labeled with house numbers. Before, directing people to the right booth made no logical sense. Now, when someone comes to Information, we can say: it's 101 Aberdine Road or whatever. We're

going to have street signs on each column, in alphabetical order, so they can go right to that booth location.

"It's like a little village. Certain streets would sell certain products. So you'll have similarities there, too."

Parking arrangements will have changed as well. Except for the Thursday afternoon car cruise, no vehicles will be allowed to park on the grassy area along Ernie Mashuda Drive or in the open field between Progress Avenue and Cranberry Park Road; that space will be reserved for vendor parking. Instead, visitors will be directed to the primary parking areas: Coventry Health Care and Unionville Road in adjacent Cranberry Business Park, as well as in Lindner practice field. \$5 donations will be collected at each parking area.

Other new features include a Chainsaw Village where a dozen accomplished chainsaw sculptors will join Butler artist Ken Tynan in creating works that will be available for sale on the spot, at

auction, or online. A \$10 Rotary golf ball drop, previously held at the YMCA, will take place at 6:00 on Saturday in Community Park. Released from a height of 40 feet, the numbered ball closest to the pin will earn its ticket holder \$1,000. And a kid-centric "Cranberry Rocks" event in the weeks leading up to the celebration will earn lucky participants a chance to win one of five weekly prizes, plus a grand prize.

Of course, many of the mainstay attractions of past Community Days will return. In addition to Wednesday evening's Martinis with Monet, they include the car cruise, a full carnival, musical stage entertainment, the Lions Pancake Breakfast, a 5k charity race, a demonstration of vehicle extrication technique, disc golf lessons, the fire company's Battle of the Barrel, a huge assortment of food vendors, and prizes awarded to the three successful Treasure Hunters. A fireworks spectacular will formally close the event starting at 9:45 Saturday evening.



# CTCC'S 2019 PROJECT OF THE YEAR IS TRANSFORMING CRANBERRY'S LIBRARY

FORGING AHEAD!

## New Chapter Begins

Makerspaces have become all the rage in America's schools over the past decade. Think of them as small workshops, outfitted with tools ranging from very high tech to no tech at all. What they share in common are work benches designed for collaboration and equipped for making things in a hands-on learning environment.

It's an idea which has spread beyond the classroom to include private subscription makerspaces, foundation supported shops, commercial prototyping studios, and now public libraries. By next summer, Cranberry's public library will be among them, thanks to its selection as CTCC's 2019 Project of the Year.

What, exactly, do people make in a makerspace? Practically anything. Projects typically include coding, 3-D printing, electronics, robotics, sewing, woodworking, and video along with much, much more. That mix can also change over time. But what is constant about makerspaces is that they create an environment for users of different ages to work either together, alone, or with outside experts to learn through experimentation and to have access to the tools they need for creative projects.

CTCC is currently working with library staff and outside consultants to define more precisely what Cranberry's makerspace will look like and how it will work. However, preliminary plans call for it to be built where the library's public computers are currently situated, near the front window, and to relocate those PCs to where the reference volumes are now shelved. Today, with so much information available online, the library's expensive collection of research books is largely unused.

But the library's user software will confirm which of those volumes remain and which get retired.

"We want to create a hub," Library Director Leslie Pallotta said, explaining her interest in the makerspace idea. "We want people to see it. We want people to use it. People will have their curiosity peaked right away as they walk in: 'Hey! What's going on over there? Is that something I can do?'"

While creating a library makerspace will be the signature component of CTCC's 2019 project, it is not the only one. Other library upgrades are also included. Among them: sliding doors to make the space more accessible, energy-efficient lighting, new carpeting, and an RFID system for tracking the library's circulating collection.

For its fundraising effort, the project's diverse elements are being bundled as "Forge Ahead: Library Makeover" – where the term 'forge' is both a tribute to the original use of the Municipal Center building as a metalworking factory, and a recognition of the library's upcoming renovation through CTCC's efforts.

Estimates of the project's overall cost are in the \$750,000 range. However, according to project leader Bruce Mazzoni, public libraries are considered grant-worthy institutions by a number of foundations and agencies with matching grants.

Mazzoni is optimistic about raising those matching funds. "The library is one of those things that a lot of people relate to – young and old," he said. "It's not like the SportCourts or Disc Golf Course – earlier CTCC projects which appeal to only a certain set of people. I think we could raise that money very easily."





# SIDEWALK DAMAGE GETS NEW ATTENTION

## WATCH YOUR STEP!

“The same code applies to business and residential sidewalks.”

There's supposed to be a difference between a sidewalk and a staircase: one is level, the other has vertical risers. But sometimes sidewalks take on the characteristics of stairs. Ground that settles above buried utility lines can cause sidewalk segments to sink. Tree roots expanding can cause them to heave upwards. In both cases, they result in a tripping hazard for pedestrians. And that can undermine the Township's goal of safeguarding public health, safety and welfare.

Of course, stipulations requiring the maintenance of sidewalks adjacent to your property have been part of Cranberry's Code of Ordinances for years. In practice, they have mostly applied to clearing snow and ice in the winter. But it wasn't until the Township's 2017 adoption of the ICC Property Maintenance Code that the other details of sidewalk upkeep became explicit.

At least for now, sidewalk problems don't seem widespread in Cranberry, where sidewalks and trails tend to be fairly new. And for the most part, according to Codes Manager Jeff Musher, sidewalks in the Township's business areas are already in excellent repair. When problems occur, they tend to be in residential neighborhoods.

“The same code applies to both business and residential sidewalks,” Musher explained. “But the issue isn't so much the deterioration of sidewalks as it is misalignment. The slabs become vertically offset, where you start getting a half inch, then inch and a half,

then two or three inches of vertical misalignment. By the time you get to four inches, you're up to what is legally considered a staircase step. And you don't want steps in your sidewalk.”

Last year, the property maintenance code was amended, using one written by International Codes Council, to include more detailed sidewalk specifications. Today in Cranberry, if a vertical misalignment reaches two inches or more, the property owner is required to fix it. But the Township is taking as friendly and sympathetic an approach as possible. That's especially important because there's a Catch-22 aspect to the Township's codes which makes working through sidewalk issues a delicate matter, often requiring creative solutions.

### The root cause

Here's why: most of the vertical alignment issues result from the growth of street trees adjacent to the sidewalks. However, you can't just cut them down. In many cases, the Township required the developer to plant those trees as a condition of building the neighborhood, so they need to remain.

That presents a conundrum: on the one hand, you are required by law to repair the sidewalk, on the other, you are prohibited by law from addressing its underlying cause. That's where diplomacy and collaborative problem-solving come in. For example, the solution could be to replace the tree with a smaller one, to replace it with a different kind of amenity, or to reroute

the sidewalk around the tree roots. It is a solution that requires close consultation between property owners and Township staff.

Like most legal ordinances, the Property Maintenance Code stipulates various sanctions for people who persistently violate its provisions. But Cranberry is not interested in collecting fines or in confronting residents. No sidewalk police will be sent out on patrols to find broken sections, and any Township attention to sidewalk issues will continue to be driven by complaints instead of patrols.

Cranberry will conduct an informal assessment of sidewalk conditions this summer to provide an overview of where attention to maintenance of Township sidewalks may be needed.





Cranberry Township partners with Haine Middle School each year by stenciling messages by catch basins to increase the awareness of proper stormwater management.



## Financing new state and federal stormwater requirements

Officials in Cranberry are giving serious thought to new ways of paying for increasingly costly mandates from state and federal authorities concerning the Township's stormwater management. It's an issue facing municipalities throughout the Commonwealth. Stormwater management practices have become a matter of urgency because of increasingly heavy rainfalls and, at least in Southwestern Pennsylvania, associated pollution, flooding, erosion and landslides.

This past March, the Township received a new five-year permit from the state Department of Environmental Protection. It allows Cranberry to discharge the stormwater it accumulates into "Waters of the Commonwealth." Those Commonwealth waters include streams like Brush Creek and Coal Run that flow through Cranberry's municipal boundaries. But one of the permit's new conditions was a requirement that the Township restore approximately a mile of stream bank along Brush Creek to reduce pollution from sedimentation.

Pollution reduction – which was recently added to DEP's permitting requirements – comes on top of other state-prescribed control measures, including the maintenance of Cranberry's already extensive network of publicly-owned catch basins, conduits, detention ponds and pipelines that protect state and local roads, as well as buildings, against flooding. Until now, the costs associated with that system's

upkeep were financed out of general tax revenues.

But as those costs grew – exacerbated by PennDOT's withdrawal from stormwater system maintenance along state roads – Township officials began seeing the need for a dedicated revenue stream as well as for greater clarity regarding the costs associated with its stormwater management practices. Although Pennsylvania has issued a variety of mandates for dealing with stormwater, it doesn't provide any funds for complying with them.

Details of how Cranberry plans to pay for these new and mounting costs are still being formulated. Most municipalities facing this issue have instituted stormwater fees – operating their stormwater systems much like their other public utilities where the more you use, the more you pay. Under that scenario, property owners with the greatest impact on the municipality's stormwater costs, such as large retail and office developments, would pay in proportion to their impervious surfaces. Those surfaces include things like parking lots, sidewalks, roofs, driveways and other solid features that collect stormwater, some of which drains into the municipal system.

Nothing has been decided yet, but detailed strategies will be developed over the next few months – using information learned through public outreach – as the Township continues exploring its options to address this costly new mandate.

## Sewer and water rate increases in the pipeline



Rates for the Township's sanitary sewer service were raised April 5 in response to increasing costs. Charges for the service are based on each customer's metered water use plus a monthly minimum charge that varies with the water meter's size. For homes served by 5/8-inch supply lines – the most frequent for residential use – that charge is currently \$7.00 plus consumption fees of \$8.48 per 1,000 gallons. The typical home uses 5,000 gallons of water per month. The new rate, which represents a 50¢ per 1,000-gallon increase as well as a \$2 per month increase in the base rate, went into effect with the June billing cycle. The combined monthly impact for an average home is \$4.50. In addition, West View Water Authority has indicated that it will be raising the price of providing fresh water to Cranberry effective September 1, which will be reflected in new rates for Township water service.



### The water's great

Cranberry's 2017 federal water quality report is available online. Check it out at [www.Cranberrytownship.org/waterqualityreport](http://www.Cranberrytownship.org/waterqualityreport) or call 724-776-4806 for a print version.



## New flood maps keep residents from drowning in debt

FEMA's 100-year and 500-year flood plain boundaries are defined by just a few lines on paper. But moving them only a short distance – which is what actually happened with the new set of flood maps issued by the federal agency and made final at the end of April – has had big consequences.

On Fernwood's Chadbourne Court, for example, one resident, whose home fell within the 1982 map's 100-year flood plain, had been required by his federally-insured mortgage issuer to buy flood insurance for a whopping \$3,200 a year. But, according to the 2018 map now in force, his property is actually outside the flood plain boundaries. The result: his flood insurance premium has plunged to just \$145 a year. Similar incidents also took place in Fox Run, where flood plain boundaries along the Coal Run stream have been narrowed.

Or take the case of Bellevue Park along Rochester Road. According to the 1982 map, even after a more detailed update was made in 2006, many of the homes planned for the site appeared to be situated in a flood plain. What those maps failed to show was that in

2008, a contractor had legally added fill adjacent to the flood boundary, raising its elevation from that shown on the 1982 map. The 2006 update was unable to catch that change, so an appeal was filed, the new contour lines were added in, and FEMA was able to determine that Bellevue was out of danger.

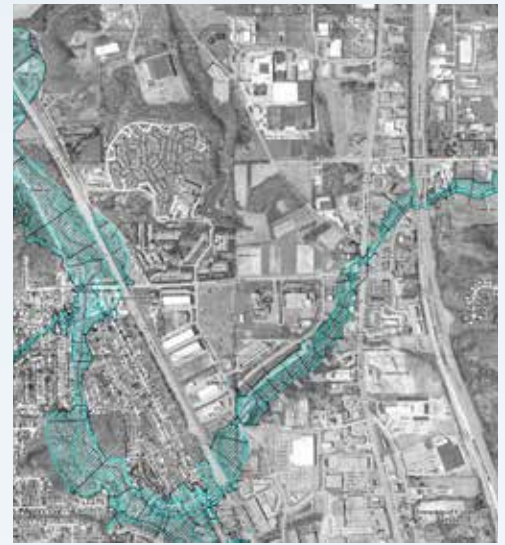
Altogether, the 1982 maps showed 252 Township homes inside the 100-year flood plain; the 2018 map has just 70.

FEMA's new topographic maps, which show contour lines at two-foot intervals instead of the twenty-foot intervals depicted on the 1982 maps, are far more detailed in other respects as well.

"This map is very clear for everybody," according to Township Waterworks Coordinator Tim Schutzman, who has worked closely with the project.

But will the 2018 FEMA maps change again and affect new construction as development continues in the Township? Schutzman doesn't think so.

"Back in the '90s, Cranberry established a release rate map for the whole Township," he said. "They determined that it would be beneficial for the



*Butler County Flood Insurance Rate Maps will be considered to be 'Final' on August 2, 2018. Maps may be viewed in the Customer Service Center in the Municipal Center.*

Township to have more water held back on major project sites. Developers were required to make their ponds a little larger and their outlet structures a little smaller to hold more water back on their site than before development. We have systems in place so that when new development comes through, in most cases we're improving our situation, not making it worse. So we don't have the flooding issues that other areas have developed."

## Sewage backups are totally gross. Here's what you can do about them.

Of all the videos Cranberry has placed on YouTube over the past ten years, one stands out for its huge number of views. And it's not one about people having fun in the park. Instead, it's called "Backwater Valve Maintenance," and it deals with preventing one of the most disgusting problems a homeowner can face: sewer backup.

In essence, under certain circumstances, the sanitary sewer line from a home can become a channel for wastewater to flow back into the house through its floor drains, sink drains and toilets, flooding its lower floors with filthy, untreated waste, creating a health hazard and potentially ruining any flooring, plasterboard, furnaces, water heaters, or other appliances affected by the flow. Cleaning it up is

not only gross, it can be very expensive. One restoration company in Akron reports that the cost to clean up and restore a basement damaged by sewage backup ranges from \$7,500 to \$30,000. The same applies here.

When a backup occurs, it is typically confined to the property owner's private plumbing rather than the municipal system it drains into. It can come from invasive tree roots, from grease buildup, from improperly disposing of paper products, illegal connections like sump pumps, or as a result of heavy rains. When one happens, it's up to the owner to pay the repair costs, as the municipality is only responsible if it failed to act upon a known problem in the sewer system. And, adding insult to injury,



most homeowner insurance policies don't cover sewer backups unless the homeowner buys an additional rider for \$40-160 a year, depending on your deductible and level of coverage.

For more info, check out the video at [www.CranberryTownship.org/BackwaterValve](http://www.CranberryTownship.org/BackwaterValve).





FEELING  
**SAFER**

## NEIGHBORHOOD FIRE COMPANIES MAKE AID PACT

Despite repeated applications seeking support for its recruitment and other initiatives, Cranberry's Volunteer Fire Company never received financial aid from FEMA's Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response program, known as a SAFER grant. But that hasn't stopped the fire company and its mutual aid partners from bootstrapping their way forward with improvements similar to the ones the federal agency had declined to support.

For years, five nearby fire companies, including Cranberry's, have maintained a mutual aid pact in which each offers its services to the others as determined by the Butler 911 dispatcher. A system of "run cards" is also in place to help the departments coordinate the matrix of resources and personnel available to respond to an incident. Harmony, Evans City, Adams and Callery, together with Cranberry, form that unit.

However the local program, which operates under the SAFER acronym but with its letters standing for Standard Actions for Emergency Response, goes even further. Each of the fire companies has its own station number

and its own distinctive radio tone pattern that precedes every 911 service call. When an incident is reported to Butler 911, those companies are 'toned out' and dispatched sequentially. The problem is, by calling each of the five companies individually in addition to the EMS, it adds precious minutes to their response time. But now, the system includes a new tone, called Station 90, which summons all five companies at once when, in the judgment of the dispatcher, there is reason to believe that a higher level of response is appropriate.

"The premise behind it is to provide our best service on someone's worst day," according to Fire Company Administrative Assistant Amy Behun, herself a member of the Company's first response fire brigade. "Even when we have minimal response, we can still be assured we're going to have enough apparatus and people respond. It's not designed for all five companies to bring every truck they have. But if you have a Station 90 structure fire call in Cranberry, you'll know which piece of apparatus is coming from each of those other four companies."

During the first three months of 2018, roughly half the Station 90 calls were for incidents in Cranberry Township.

In addition to Station 90, the local SAFER program has focused on joint recruitment efforts with an emphasis on high-school age prospects. In January, representatives of the fire companies took part in a Seneca Valley recruitment event and anticipate going back.

"The reason we target high school is to get members in young and then keep them," Amy said. "It's a lot easier to get a young person through the necessary training where they can become certified as a Firefighter One when they turn 18. It's a lot more challenging when you get a married individual who has a job and kids and other obligations."

But recruitment is never easy. "It's the typical sales model: you talk to 1,000 people to get 100 calls, to get 10 appointments, to get one person who buys something," she said. "If we get one person in the door, it's a win for us."

Interested? Email [amy.behun@cranberrytownship.org](mailto:amy.behun@cranberrytownship.org).



**NOW HEAR THIS...**

# JOCELYN DEMME IS **STARTING** TO FEEL THE HEAT

There's one thing you need to understand about Cranberry volunteer firefighter Jocelyn Demme: It's that she does NOT consider herself to be hearing impaired. Nor does she identify as being hard of hearing. She is deaf. She can't hear you, and that, in turn, has limited her own ability to speak.

Deafness from birth has had a major impact on her life. But it hasn't done a thing to dampen the petite, Township native's dreams of becoming a firefighter – dreams which are currently being fulfilled by Cranberry's Volunteer Fire Company.

It is a dream fueled by the experience of her cousin, who is currently Chief of the Adams Area Fire District. But it's one that was initially inspired by her sister's best friend – a man who is also deaf but nevertheless managed to become a firefighter in Yukon, a small town near New Stanton. Speaking through an interpreter, here's how Jocelyn saw it: "It was like: I want to do that too! I became very excited and very motivated to make that dream come true for myself."

Of course, dreaming alone isn't enough to become a firefighter; a significant amount of training is also required. So, starting last year and with the help of an interpreter, Jocelyn completed three of the four modules in the Essentials of Firefighting curriculum at Butler County Community College. Arrangements for the remaining module are currently under review with the College. Until then, her assignments with the Fire Company Brigade are limited to vehicle wrecks and exterior support for



structure fires. Yet even with a certificate, deafness could still restrict her interior work. But not necessarily.

"I'd like to learn more so that I can be more involved," she said. "I would like to eventually learn to go into a burning building. But right now, I want to put in the work and learn as much as possible. It really is my desire to stay in the fire department. I take this very seriously."

Still, in the rush to answer urgent 9-1-1 calls, things can get bewildering. "People talk so fast because of the situation, I can get very confused," she said. It would be helpful if some of other firefighters knew basic sign language, she explained. But there hasn't been enough time."

That may be changing, according to Fire Company President Ed Hestin. "Jocelyn was kind enough to participate in a video of her doing some basic signs; it will be ready soon," he said. "Also, many of our members

have downloaded apps which have helped us learn certain basic signs. We have dry erase boards on the trucks that enable us to write messages back and forth. And we're considering picture cards we could show Jocelyn when we need her to get something from the truck compartments. It's just going to take a little time."

Jocelyn's search for a full-time day job is also taking time. But while firefighting is her lifelong ambition, being outdoors is her greatest love. "My favorite thing is to do wakeboarding. I love to snowboard. And I love being around a Jet Ski," she said. "I also love being on a dirt bike and being on our boat. Growing up, we always went to camp at East Brady. That's my favorite place in the world. I enjoy fishing and I like to hunt for deer. I have so much fun being outside. I hate staying at home, being stuck indoors. I love being outside, to get fresh air and just to be outdoors."





## WHEN A TRAFFIC STOP GOES WRONG

Nobody likes getting pulled over by the police. But it's almost certain that during your lifetime, even if you're a good driver, you'll get stopped more than once.

"We make hundreds of traffic stops a month here, and you probably don't hear about any of them," according to Cranberry patrolman Joshua Shimko. "Most of them are uneventful. We don't like to say 'routine' because every one of them is different. But with most of them, you make contact, you issue a warning or whatever, and then you're both on your way. That's 99.99 percent of them.

"Most of us know how to do a normal traffic stop," he said. "So you don't need to train for that beyond what you learned at the academy or in your field training. But low-probability, high-risk stops aren't something we do all the time. They're not an everyday thing. So we train for that .001 percent where it isn't good and where we have to defend our lives or somebody else's life."

This past spring, Shimko and other Cranberry police officers, along with their counterparts in five neighboring police departments, participated in a training exercise where those low probability trouble stops became much more common. Each half-hour training session makes use of videos depicting a vehicle which had just been pulled over. The officer trainee approaches

the vehicle and attempts to interact with its occupants. Other scenarios among the approximately 300 available in the system include responding to a domestic violence situation and dealing with an unbalanced individual wielding a knife.

However, the program's instructor, seated at a nearby control panel, can quietly change the way the incident unfolds by selecting from a menu of prerecorded video segments that the trainee doesn't know ahead of time. Some of those outcomes are cooperative, others are non-compliant, a few are even worse. Where things do go wrong, the officer has to determine – often in a split second – whether the situation justifies the use of weapons, potentially including deadly force.

"Some officers go their whole career without having to deal with a deadly force situation, which is great," Shimko said. "Hopefully that's how most people's careers are. But we have to train for that because when it happens, you have to be prepared. That's the nature of our work.

"As nice as Cranberry is, we sometimes feel like we're in a bubble," he continued. "But bad people come into that bubble every day. Our job is to keep us safe and hopefully we can keep it that way by doing this training. It helps us keep the citizens safe. We got into this job to protect people. Our

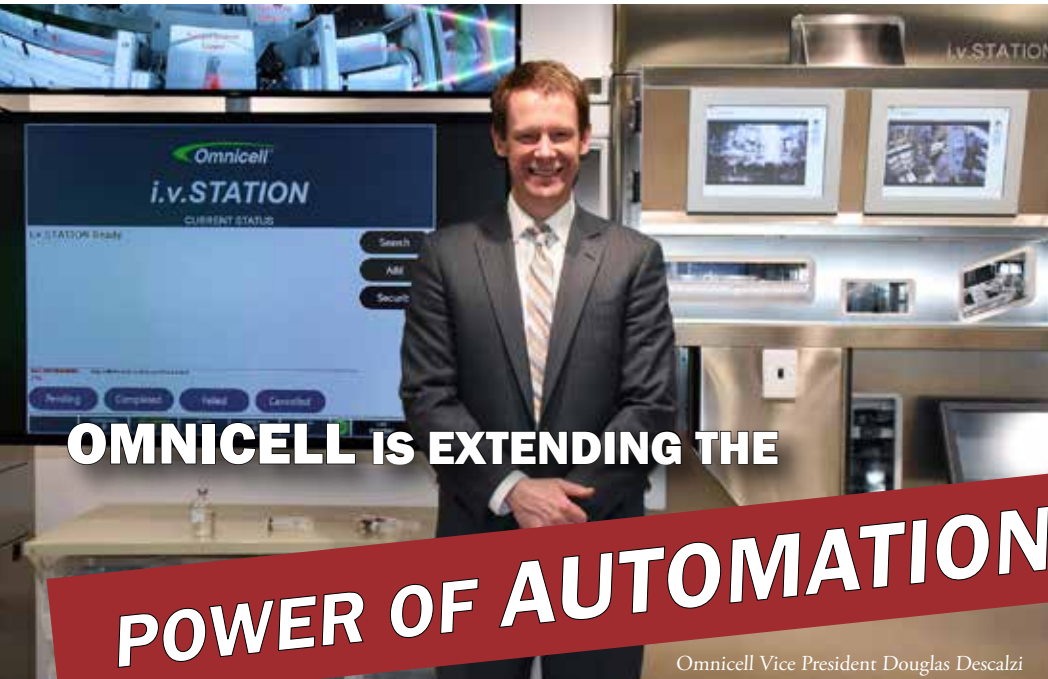
task is to be the peacekeepers and keep everybody safe."

To help, there's a procedure that motorists should follow when being pulled over, according to Shimko. Slow down. Turn on your flashers to acknowledge the officer. Find a safe place to pull over. Keep your hands where the officer can see them. Stay in your car unless the officer asks you to step out. Wait for the officer to approach you before reaching for your documents, then announce where you keep them. The more communication, the better.

The video training program, called Simtac, was developed, owned and operated by retired state trooper Jeff Seeley. It is the latest addition to the arsenal of training tools police officers have available to hone their skills at reading ambiguous situations under stress and then responding appropriately.

The cost of the training was paid by a charitable grant from the Pittsburgh Indian Community and Friends organization to the Western Pennsylvania Chiefs Association, the FBI National Academy Associates, and the Allegheny County Chiefs of Police Association. Another Simtac training event will be held this fall.





**OMNICELL IS EXTENDING THE**

**POWER OF AUTOMATION**

Omnicell Vice President Douglas Descalzi

Hospitals and all sorts of other healthcare providers around the country are consolidating like crazy. And it's not just regional organizations like UPMC. Right now, for example, Walmart wants to acquire Humana. CVS wants to buy Aetna. And Amazon is poised to do something big in the pharmacy arena that will almost certainly shake up the experience and delivery of healthcare.

For America's healthcare providers, what's behind that consolidation are economies of scale. Spreading an organization's overhead expenses across more units helps to mitigate the already intense cost pressures on the industry. Something similar also applies to their suppliers who, in addition to minimizing overhead, want to furnish their shrinking base of giant healthcare customers with a comprehensive array of products.

#### **Chain of succession**

Long-time residents may recall Automated Healthcare, a company

in Cranberry Woods during the '90s, which made robots for hospital pharmacies. In 1996, it was acquired by McKesson and renamed McKesson Automation. Seven years later, it was spun off and became known as Aesynt. And in 2016, it was bought by a California company named Omnicell which had similar business interests.

But while Automated Healthcare's products were focused on assembling packets of pills in hospital pharmacies, Omnicell has taken that capability and added it to the company's already robust portfolio of medical products – products that span the continuum of care from retail drugstores, to nursing homes, to distributed dispensaries as well as to centralized hospital pharmacies. And now, the company is applying its technology chops to the task of compounding individualized patient medications and moving them step by step through to intravenous delivery. That initiative, called IV Automation, is

still at an early stage, but it's a potential blockbuster.

Here's how company Vice President Douglas Descalzi, the leader of Omnicell's twin sites in Cranberry Woods and Thorn Hill Industrial Park, describes it. "What we're trying to do is bring that technology into mainstream," he said. "It's sort of a startup company that we're trying to place services around. We're trying to add data. We're trying to provide better support models. We're trying to make it more scalable. And now we're starting to see traction.

"As hospitals look for ways to save money, to be safer, to make therapy more effective, and to be more compliant with rules, we believe our technology can accomplish all of that," he said. "It's a win across all four dimensions – safety, therapy, cost and compliance. If you achieve all those things and convince the provider that this is what technology can do for you and that we're a worthy partner, it almost turns into a no-brainer."

#### **The Cranberry connection**

If it hadn't been for its acquisition of Aesynt, Omnicell – which is based in Silicon Valley – might never have discovered Cranberry, according to Descalzi, himself a Pittsburgh native. But with the area's available space, lower costs, technology talent and rich history of automation, Cranberry became a great opportunity for the company. Today, Cranberry is Omnicell's largest site, housing 500 employees and has the capacity to add a considerable number of new employees. Descalzi believes the future is very positive for Omnicell here in Cranberry.



# MISSION VISION BRINGS

# GLASSES

# TO THE NEEDIEST

You're not allowed to sell, or even to give away, prescription medicines you no longer need. It's illegal. They have to be put in the trash. But there's an important exception: prescription eyeglasses. You are free to donate them to organizations, like Lions Clubs, for use by someone else, and you can do it without violating anybody's laws.

Over the past 18 years, Mission Vision, a Cranberry-based nonprofit that shares office space on Brandt Drive with its founder, ophthalmologist William Christie, has impacted thousands of lives by screening needy patients

and distributing donated eyeglasses, sunglasses and reading glasses to people in some of the world's poorest and most troubled locations. Its international missions read like the itinerary of a danger-loving adventurer: Haiti, Kenya, Nigeria, Guatemala, Syria, Uganda and Zimbabwe are among the 13 countries visited in 2016 alone. Just last month, they went to Malawi.

Typically working with a partner church or agency in the host country, volunteers

from Mission Vision and affiliated organizations set up temporary clinics in places often marked by illiteracy, lack of electricity and the heavy influence of local witch doctors. Using town criers and giveaways like balloons to attract people, the agency's clinics frequently draw thousands. But many of its stops are also marked by rough justice for anyone deemed to pose a threat. Stonings, stabbings and other fatal encounters have abruptly ended several previous church missions.

## Close encounters

Retired airline pilot Terry Snider is the organization's part-time Executive Director. In his half dozen trips abroad for Mission Vision, he has experienced several close encounters with death, his faith strengthened each time his life was spared. But it's hazardous work, and while volunteers do their best to extend the hand of friendship, they also know when it's time to withdraw.

Still, the work can be tremendously gratifying. Snider tells the story of a man who came to a Mission Vision clinic with terrible eyesight. "We gave him a pair of glasses, and then he came back the next day. He said 'here they are; I'm turning them back in.' When





we asked why, he said ‘Well, I’ve seen the world and it’s beautiful, so I want somebody else to be able to see it.’ We told him to keep the glasses; we’ve got other pairs. But they’re very appreciative; people are really touched.”

A few years after his organization began its missions overseas – largely inspired by a medical school classmate from Ghana – Dr. Christie was approached by someone asking whether Mission Vision could do the same for students in low-income American communities, as well as for prisoners and residents of transient shelters. As it turns out, it could, and it did, although the long list of clearances required to provide services in schools here is an impediment not found in third-world countries.

While most of the glasses presented to patients overseas have been used and then given away by their original owners, the readers and sunglasses Mission Vision distributes in the United States are new because, according to Snider, people in America won’t accept used readers. As a result, some of the glasses the organization distributes are new, although at 70¢ apiece, they seem like quite a bargain. Still, when you multiply 70¢ by the many thousands given away, it adds up quickly. So raising funds is a constant need.

In response, an informal network of other organizations – including churches, charities, individual volunteers and several companies in the optical business – has gradually formed, allowing the work of Mission Vision to continue, helping tens of thousands around the world to receive the precious gift of sight.



### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Donate old prescription glasses
- Volunteer your time
- Donate monetary gift

[www.Mission-Vision.org/how-can-you-help](http://www.Mission-Vision.org/how-can-you-help)

*In the past year, the Cranberry Township Lions Club collected more than 4,000 pairs of glasses from local optometrist’s offices and stores. Thank you - Cranberry residents for donating your used glasses - now you know that your donation has a local and global impact. The Lions Club is one of many non-profit members of Cranberry Township Community Chest.*



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## CHEERS FOR CRANBERRY'S ICE BOX CREAMERY AND CAFÉ



It must be nice that “everyone knows your name” - thanks in part to a loyal customer base of the IceBox Creamery and Café. The eatery has attracted its followers who often compare it to the TV classic ‘Cheers’. With the store front tucked away between Walmart and the PNC bank on Old Freedom Road, it has kept a low profile but its loyal customer base makes sure that others are finding out about their secret!

The business was started by Linda Chahine, a former practicing attorney, who was born and raised in Ohio, but moved to Cranberry to realize her lifelong dream of opening her own homemade ice cream shop. As a business owner, Chahine knows the

importance of offering an exceptional product while providing a home-away-from-home atmosphere for her customers to feel cozy in – just like ‘Cheers’ did.

IceBox has been fortunate to rely on word-of-mouth advertising to keep the customer base growing. Lines sometimes get long but regular customers assure those who are new that it is well worth the wait. The menu is filled with unique ice cream flavors that are made on-site in a gelato machine using premium ingredients including high butterfat cream, natural fruits and nuts, as well as high quality chocolate. Some of the most popular and unique flavors include Lemon with Wild Blueberries, Orange

Cranberry, Key Lime Pie, Brown Sugar Cinnamon and Bananas Foster. When fresh fruits are in season, such as peaches, apples or cranberries, those flavors appear on the menu. Seasonal and holiday favorites include Pumpkin Pie, Rum Raisin, Winter Chocolate and Peppermint Stick. Linda avoids use of artificial ingredients or high fructose corn syrup and reluctantly gave in to using Oreos and cookie dough pieces as mix-ins due customer demand.

The Creamery also caters to special dietary needs. It operates in an allergy-friendly environment; it offers dairy-free vegan options; and it pays particular attention to avoiding cross-contamination of ingredients with its separated cabinets, dedicated scoops, and constant use of gloves. The

IceBox Creamery’s devoted band of customers is growing daily according to Linda, and she couldn’t have hoped for a better experience in building a new business. She’s also glad you know the name and always glad you came. Cheers!



## Tractors are out, shopping is in

For years, the front lawn of Doyle Equipment Company’s 16.5 acre site at the intersection of Dutilh and Rt. 19 had been used to showcase heavy construction equipment. But now it’s gone. Its buildings have been demolished and the rubble moved offsite. In their place, the owner, David Smail, approached the Township seeking approval for creating a neighborhood shopping center. At its meeting on May 3, Cranberry’s Board of Supervisors gave their thumbs up to the project’s preliminary land development and conditional use applications. Although no lease agreements are currently in place for the store spaces, the plan presented would include 81,600 square feet of retail space, plus an 8,050 square foot restaurant and a 2,800 square foot bank with a drive-thru window. The shopping plaza would also connect via American Way with the adjacent Home Depot site – which Smail also owns – as well as with The Streets of Cranberry shopping center.



**Best Western Plus  
Cranberry - Pittsburgh North**  
5001 Cranberry Springs Drive

**Orient Spa**  
66 Progress Avenue

**Nick's on 19**  
20273 Route 19  
nickson19.menufy.com

**DoALL Co., Inc**  
9018 Marshall Road

**EduLink**  
8050 Rowan Road  
edulinksolutions.com

**Capital A Financial & Insurance  
Associates**  
4000 Creekview Circle  
capitalainvestments.com

**Blaze Pizza**  
20111 Route 19  
blazepizza.com

**Real Thai**  
20455 Route 19

**Tollgrade Communications**  
260 Executive Drive  
tollgrade.com

**OmniCell**  
500 Cranberry Woods Drive  
omnicell.com

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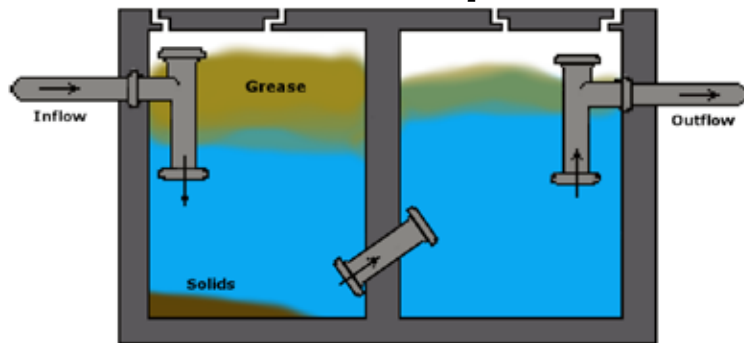


**WHAT** are THEY **BUILDING ?** Get the latest info on what's coming soon, recently opened or under construction: [CranberryTownship.org/Biz411](http://CranberryTownship.org/Biz411)

## How business owners can lose 100 pounds of ugly fat in just one month!

Thick layers of fat are not only unhealthy and unappealing, they can also result in serious collateral damage. Just ask Mason Miller, Cranberry's Pretreatment Coordinator. His job is to make sure that restaurants, automobile service businesses and institutional kitchens in Cranberry trap and dispose of FOG – industry shorthand for the fats, oils and grease in wastewater – before it gets into the Township's sanitary sewer lines and treatment plant.

### Grease Trap



There are good reasons for him to do so. One is that fat can congeal and clog the customer's drain lines as well as the Township's own sanitary sewer network. That can lead to unpleasant and expensive cleanup projects. The

other reason is that FOG which gets through to the Brush Creek plant can degrade the treatment process and add to the cost of cleaning up wastewater.

However, the mechanism for separating FOG from the rest of the wastewater in a drain line is actually quite simple. In most cases, it involves installing a specialized underground container, usually outside the building. It's called an interceptor and it's fed by the building's drain line. Interceptors typically hold 1,000 gallons or more.

FOG in the wastewater that empties into the interceptor floats to the top. Solids that weren't screened out at the kitchen's drain opening, sink to the bottom. The relatively clear water in the middle is what ultimately flows into the Brush Creek wastewater treatment plant.

But it requires periodic attention from the facility's manager. That typically involves having a specialized service come in to siphon out any FOG trapped inside the interceptor. The frequency of cleanout service will vary

with the intensity of use. It can be as frequent as monthly or as seldom as once a year. But if left unattended, FOG can clog the drain line, creating an unpleasant backup situation.

That sometimes happens as a byproduct of staff turnover. Frequently, according to Miller, a new restaurant manager may come on the scene without being aware that an interceptor even exists. It's Miller's job to contact each of the organizations with a waste line interceptor and help them comply with the Township's guidelines concerning FOG in wastewater. Part of his work involves issuing the annual permits that Cranberry requires for those non-residential sewer and water customers outfitted with interceptors. There are currently 133 permit holders in Cranberry.

Over the course of the year, Miller plans to be in touch with each of them. His goal is to confirm that their FOG equipment is properly sized, adequately serviced, and currently licensed.





### Major new retirement community coming

An independent, assisted and continuing care community for senior citizens featuring an assortment of amenities and a unit for dementia care will be included in the mix of uses at the Village of Cranberry Woods, the 57-acre development along Franklin Road. Last summer, Cranberry’s Board of Supervisors approved the conditional use application for a 235,000 square foot, 183-unit, four-story facility to be known as Solana at Cranberry. In November, it was given final land development approval. The facility, which includes 141 interior parking spaces, is part of an extensive group of properties around the country owned by Formation Development Group that includes more than 1,121 retirement communities offering a variety of programs and services. The Solana community network, employs approximately 82,000 workers. The developer operates more than a dozen other senior living communities at locations across the country.

### Cranberry Springs fine-tunes plans

Original master plans for the 300,000-plus square foot Cranberry Springs development included provisions for a large restaurant on a plot of land near the front of the site. That’s been changed. Instead, the developer now visualizes two multi-tenant buildings housing a mix of retail and restaurant operations – one of approximately 10,224 square feet, the other 4,003 square feet – to anchor two corners of the site on Mackenzie Way. At its May 3 meeting, Cranberry’s Board of Supervisors gave its approval to the project’s conditional use and preliminary land development applications.

### Fresenius Kabi to add manufacturing space

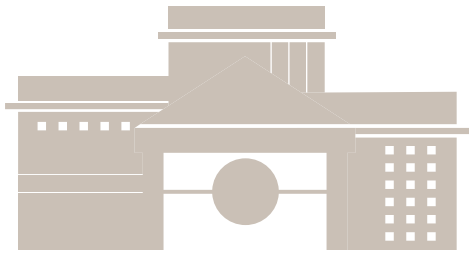
Fresenius Kabi, best known in Western Pennsylvania for its dialysis clinics, is expanding in Cranberry. The company, which is actually a German-based healthcare business with roots going back more than 550 years, specializes in medicines and technologies for infusion, transfusion and clinical nutrition used to care for critically and chronically ill patients. At its June 7 meeting, Cranberry’s Board of Supervisors approved the company’s conditional use application to expand its current Commonwealth Drive facility by 6,600 square feet to accommodate additional light manufacturing of medical devices.



### The greening of Cranberry Square Annex

Gigliotti Properties’ plans to enhance Cranberry Square Annex – the outparcels bundled along Rt. 19 which currently include Pier One, Einstein’s Bagels, Jiffy Lube and Total Hockey – were approved by Cranberry’s Board of Supervisors last year. Now, however, the company has proposed modifications to those plans. A new building addition next to Total Hockey is no longer part of the concept. And a proposed new road connection to Theatre Extreme is gone. However, a new 4,000 square foot restaurant and personal services building along Nicklas Drive – the shopping center’s internal access road – remains, as do various streetscape enhancements along Rt. 19. The Board gave its approval to the revised plans on April 5.

# BITS OF



# BUSINESS

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### A Knockout Development

For years, Knockout Development – the working name that Don Rogers’ Creative Real Estate Company uses for its restaurant row on Longtree Way near the Westinghouse site – included one last parcel of undeveloped land. Situated between the Patron’s and Olive Garden restaurants, the unused site mostly fronts on Longtree Way, but it also includes narrow frontage on Rt. 228, which would become its official address. At its June 7 meeting, Cranberry’s Board of Supervisors approved the developer’s plan to construct a 7,680 square foot building which could become the home to as many as four separate retail tenants.

*Cranberry Business Owners:  
Submit news and updates about your business:  
CommunicationsTeam@cranberrytownship.org.*



# At Home With... **ALAN BACHMANN**

As a Scout growing up in Erie, Alan Bachmann had always been bothered by the volume of trash in the city's Asbury Woods Park. So he decided to make fixing the problem his signature Eagle Scout project.

But picking up trash wasn't the way he chose to go about it. Instead, he organized a troop of scouts to build and install a volunteer draftsman's design for a series of recycling receptacles, using donated material, so that old soda cans and bottles wouldn't have the chance to accumulate in the first place. Five years later, the city itself replaced the Scouts' containers with permanent new ones, extending the project's benefit into the present and beyond.

Addressing long-term problems strategically rather than focusing on their immediate symptoms is also a hallmark of the way Bachmann approaches his current work as a Cranberry-based Aetna IT systems architect, evaluating emerging technologies to help the company formulate enterprise-wide strategies. But it is also a quality of his community involvement, which today includes the post of Committee Chair for Cub Scout Pack 406 in the Moraine Trails Scout Council. And it is a philosophy that he and his wife Selena strive to instill

in their own four children as well as the 49 Cub Scouts under Alan's direct supervision.

As a boy, Alan's own father had been active with Erie area scouts. His dad would block off time on his calendar just to be with his son doing scout activities. "That was a really good memory," Alan reflected recently. And yet the scouts of his boyhood, as with many scout units today, seem mired in a mindset of the distant past.

"If I only gave you wood and basic hand tools using 1950s technology, you would only think about solving things with those resources," he explained. "I want you to think about the root issue and how you can get at it. But you don't have to be stuck with '50s technology. If there are improvements in technology, let's think about it that way."

As an example, Alan cited his membership in Hack Pittsburgh, a maker space with more than \$100,000 of shop equipment that anyone can use for a \$50 monthly fee. One of its tools is a computer numeric control machine, or CNC, used for cutting, carving, machining and milling all sorts of materials. When his son Luke followed the Scout tradition of building a race car from a block of pine, he

loaded the CNC with the software to create a perfect car. Alan is sensitive to the fact that not every scout has access to that level of resource.

At the same time, however, advances in technology are inevitable. "Show me a job today that doesn't interact with computers or technology," he challenges listeners. "We don't do things in the Amish way anymore. It's not our way of living. Hand tools are great. But you also have to be good at the calculator. And calculators brought us Excel spreadsheets, and Excel spreadsheets brought us intelligence tools, and now machine learning. I want kids to understand that."

Although keeping an open mind toward new technology is essential, even more important to Bachmann are the character development and community engagement which are integral to the culture of scouting. "It's up to you to think about the community you want to live in and to be part of what makes it a great place," he said. "Scouts are honored to be given the opportunity to do something for their community. That's what it's all about."

*Cranberry Residents:  
Do you have an interesting story to tell? Contact us!  
CommunicationsTeam@cranberrytownship.org.*



# CRANBERRY BRIEFS



## Great Garden Tour, July 14

“Art in Bloom” will be the theme of Southern Butler County Garden Club’s July 14 tour of select private gardens in and around Cranberry. The fine art component doesn’t just apply to the landscaping itself; one or two plein air artists from the Cranberry Artists Network will be stationed at each of the selected gardens and assigned to capture its spirit on the medium of their choice. Advance sale tickets for the self-guided garden tour, which runs from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, are available for \$20 per person with a self-addressed stamped envelope and check payable to Southern Butler County Garden Club sent to P.O. Box 2446, Cranberry Township, PA 16066. Tickets will also be available on the day of the tour for \$25 between 9:00 AM and 10:00 AM in the Municipal Center Town Square. All ticket holders will report to the Municipal Center that morning to pick up their individualized itineraries and driving directions. Door prizes will be awarded. Direct any questions to Rose at 724-272-0501.



## Miracle League All-Star weekend

From July 26 to 29, Miracle League of Southwestern PA will be partnering with the Township and the Butler County Tourism agency to host its first All-Star game weekend. Players will be drawn from all seven Miracle League teams in Southwestern Pennsylvania plus the team from a suburb of Bradenton, Florida – the home of Pittsburgh Pirate’s spring training camp. Events over the weekend include a golf outing at Cranberry Highlands on July 26, Meet & Greet/ Player Registration and Mascot Dance Party at Fun Fore All on July 27, Exhibition and All-Star games at the Pirates Charities Miracle League Field in Graham Park on July 28, and a Pirate’s game at PNC Park preceded by a tailgate party on July 29. More details are available at [mlswpa.org](http://mlswpa.org).



## Butler Transit offers new service to Pittsburgh

The Butler Transit Authority has offered bus service between Butler and Pittsburgh for years, but it’s been along the Rt. 8 corridor, quite a distance from Cranberry. However, starting July 1, the agency is adding service to Pittsburgh along I-79 and I-279 with a stop at the Rt. 528 Park & Ride in Jackson Township. The T station at PNC Park on Pittsburgh’s North Side is the route’s downtown terminus. Two runs in each direction are planned every weekday using the Authority’s compressed natural gas buses equipped with coach seating, wi-fi and USB chargers. Cash fare is \$5 each way; multiple-ride passes are also available. More info: [www.butlertransitauthority.com](http://www.butlertransitauthority.com).

## Small world

Most Cranberry firefighters get to know one another intimately through their training, station work, family events and emergency calls. But Ethan Revelle and Sean Howley never met. The reason: both are in the armed forces, stationed overseas, and their tours of duty never coincided. This year, however, both men were stationed in Europe, just an hour apart. So, this past Memorial Day, the two finally met – in Belgium, where they spent the holiday weekend getting acquainted and making up for lost time at the fire station.



## Lyme Disease is rampant here

Last year the CDC estimates that there were 300,000 cases of Lyme Disease – a debilitating tick-borne illness – across America. Of those, nearly a third were in Pennsylvania. An online map representing each case with a small blue dot largely blankets the Commonwealth in blue, with Western Pennsylvania completely obliterated. And Butler County is Ground Zero for the infection. CDC has suggestions to avoid becoming a tick-bite victim at [www.cdc.gov/lyme/prev/on\\_people.html](http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/prev/on_people.html). However, if you or a family member have experienced the symptoms associated with Lyme – a bullseye shaped rash, fatigue, joint and muscle aches, fever and headache – a support group is forming at the Mars Public Library which meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00 PM featuring presentations by specialists from the PA Lyme Resource Network. For more info, call Karen at 724-487-1248 or visit [www.palyme.org](http://www.palyme.org).





### Move over!

Cranberry’s EMS is responding to more calls than ever. But fewer and fewer of them involve the use of lights and sirens along the way because, according to Executive Director Jeff Kelly, there is no definitive research showing their use actually makes a difference. But in heavy traffic, it can help by alerting other drivers to move over. Problem is, some motorists don’t yield the right of way. Whether it’s out of ignorance, or stubbornness, or confusion, no one is sure. But in Pennsylvania, and in most other parts of the country, yielding to emergency vehicles is the law. No matter where an emergency vehicle is coming from or where it’s going, when you hear sirens and see lights, pull over to the right side of the road on both sides of the roadway unless the lanes are separated by concrete or grassy median.

### 9-1-1 calls for drug overdose cases have fallen sharply

The incidence of opiate drug use has reached epic proportions in Pennsylvania. At the same time, however, the number of drug overdose 9-1-1 calls to Cranberry EMS, as well as to many of its counterparts in the region, has fallen off sharply in the last six months. Cranberry EMS Executive Director Jeff Kelly isn’t sure exactly why, but he has a theory: the ready availability of Narcan – a powerful antidote to opiate-induced overdoses – which was accelerated earlier this year when the state’s Bureau of Emergency Medical Services authorized EMS agencies to leave doses of Narcan behind with drug abusers whom they have just treated, for use with possible future incidents. The program, which is optional with each EMS, has had great success in Pittsburgh Kelly reported. It is also consistent with other practices related to drug addiction currently in use by Cranberry EMS.



### Can you dig it?

Ground was broken for two major Township projects this spring. On the left, groundbreaking for an expansion of the Rt. 19 Park Fire Station which will include overnight accommodations for volunteer firefighters. To the right, the CTCC 2018 Project of the Year, a championship disc golf course that will wind two miles through a previously unused portion of North Boundary Park. Both projects are expected to be complete and ready for use later this year.



### National Night Out is Baaaack!

It’s been more than a decade since the annual National Night Out parade of emergency vehicles on Haine School Road was quietly retired. The once-popular event, which included fire companies and emergency service vehicles from agencies throughout the area, was part of a nationwide campaign to strengthen partnerships between neighborhood residents and first responders. Now it’s coming back, and Cranberry’s first responders will be there in force. The Target store in Cranberry Commons has been tapped by its regional management to host this year’s National Night Out on its front parking lot, Tuesday evening, August 7. Everyone is welcome to attend this free event, to greet their local emergency service workers, and to learn about keeping their community safe.



### Oh no! Just missed it.

Butler County’s and Cranberry Township’s 2018 real estate taxes were due at face value until the end of June. That’s when penalties kicked in. Boo hoo. On the other hand, Seneca Valley School District’s 2018-2019 real estate tax bill won’t even be mailed until the beginning of August and it can be paid at a two percent discount until the end of September. If your real estate taxes are rolled in with your regular mortgage payment, you’re in good shape. But if you no longer make mortgage payments or you’ve made changes in your mortgage company or no longer use an escrow account to pay your property taxes, call the tax collector’s Municipal Center office at 724-776-1103 to make payment arrangements.





# CMU PROJECT TO HELP MANAGE CRANBERRY'S TRAFFIC

## There's Big Data, and then there's Really, Really Big Data.

Inrix, a privately held company in Washington State, is a poster child for the latter. As recently as 2016, the company was collecting and processing trillions of bytes of information about roadway speeds and vehicle densities – in real time – from a combination of 300 million mobile phones, state-installed road sensors, and fleet vehicles equipped with GPS locators in more than 4,000 cities worldwide. Its data is a key source of traffic information for the Federal Highway Administration as well as for FHWA's research arm, NPMRDS.

In addition to powering phone apps, including the popular WAZE – which suggests alternative routes to drivers when their primary ones are choking in traffic – commercial users of NPMRDS include business site selectors, shippers, and vehicle designers. Non-commercial users such as urban planners and academic researchers use its data to solve mobility issues and enhance traffic safety.

One of the most sophisticated users is the Mobility Data Analytics Center at Carnegie-Mellon University. Combining NPMRDS data with an assortment of mobility information including weather conditions, traffic counts, incident reports, crowdsourced and real-time data, a centralized processing unit at the Center, under the direction of Professor Sean Qian, integrates and translates it all into actionable information. In Philadelphia, for example, their research is being used to predict the traffic impact of road closures and

plan alternative routes to reduce congestion and emissions. In Pittsburgh, it is helping city officials predict traffic impacts and make the city more bike-friendly.

Now, thanks to a \$55,000 grant that the Township received from CMU's Mobility 21 institute, those big data benefits are about to roll out in Cranberry. One of the first ways will involve crashes or other problems that occur along the Interstate and arterial roads located in and around Cranberry. In anticipation of traffic problems, Cranberry has developed contingency plans to re-route traffic around incident scenes, sometimes making use of local roads. With the Center's help, depending on the details of the wreck, the Township can quickly learn which of its contingency plans to implement and how to modify its traffic signals accordingly.

Beyond that, the system can predict the ripple effects on local traffic of incidents which occur some distance away. It allows the regional impacts of traffic problems on arterial roads over a wide area to be modeled, communicated, and acted on by local personnel, just at the time they're most needed. And other applications of the Center's data engine are likely to follow.

However, this is not the first transportation partnership between CMU and Cranberry. The Township has worked with the University ever since 2013 when it installed the region's first set of specialty radios to assist in the University's autonomous vehicle program.



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[CRANBERRY4FUN.COM/REGISTER](http://CRANBERRY4FUN.COM/REGISTER)

Each weekly camp program has its own imaginative theme which shapes the crafts, activities, and special events for that week! Time travel! Visit outer space! Take a jurassic journey, and more!

Ages 3-15

**CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP**  
**CAMP CRANBERRY**  
 A Parks & Recreation Program



# YOU CAN'T ROB THIS BANK

Butler County has a new boutique bank. But you can't make deposits into it, you can't borrow money from it, and it doesn't hold any cash, either.

The Butler County Infrastructure Bank, or BCIB, was created last fall to help communities in the County finance transportation and water system improvements to



support economic development. But to use its services, you have to be either a Butler County municipality or municipal authority. And Cranberry was one of the bank's first customers.

Here's how it works: The County solicits proposals for

construction, reconstruction or non-routine maintenance of transportation and water infrastructure from eligible local governments. Then it borrows the money from commercial sources and re-lends it to the municipality, using some of the fees it receives from Marcellus Shale gas producers to subsidize the loan's interest. The municipality will still pay for its project, but the subsidy helps make it more affordable.

In April, Cranberry submitted two funding applications to BCIB, both of which were approved in June. But there's more to the Township's involvement with the bank than simply borrowing. While working for the engineering firm Herbert, Rowland & Grubic before becoming Cranberry's Assistant Township Manager, Dan Santoro was closely involved with the bank's formation.

"We brought the idea to Butler County's Commissioners because of HRG's involvement in Pennsylvania's first Infrastructure Bank, in Dauphin County," Santoro said. "So BCIB is now Pennsylvania's second infrastructure bank. I was involved because they hired HRG to help set it up."

Cranberry's most recent transaction with BCIB was purely financial, underwriting ten years of contractor costs for reinforcing the Township's aging sewer lines. However, the bank also offers a full-service package for smaller communities that don't have the staff resources Cranberry does. So, for example, a borough could borrow not only the cost of a project's construction, but also the expenses associated with its design, engineering, and construction management – all at subsidized interest rates.

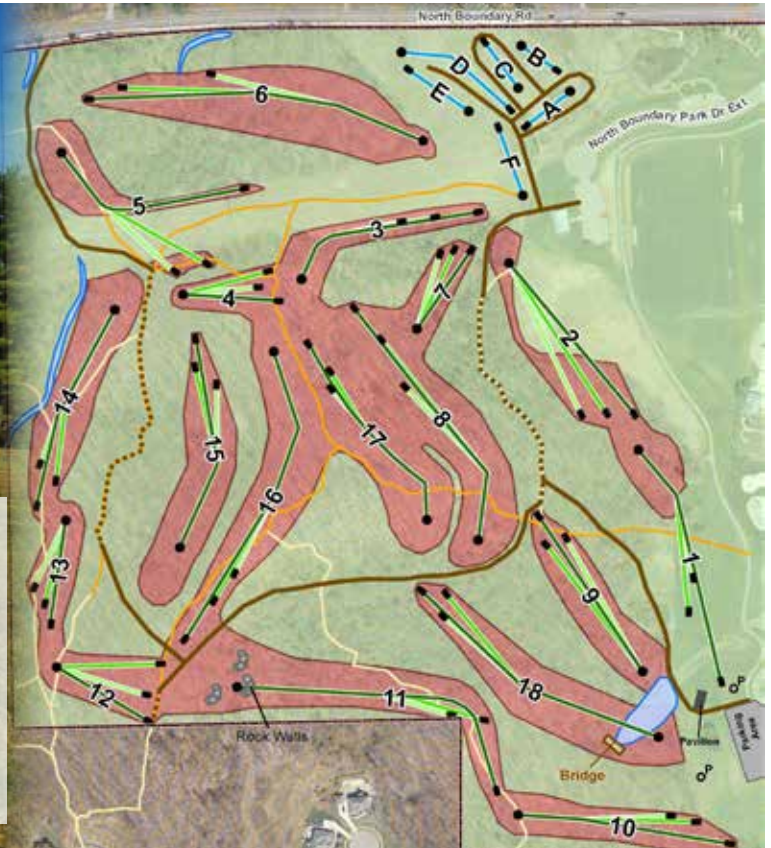
"Cranberry has an excellent bond rating," Santoro reflected. "We get favorable rates that attract a lot of attention. But the BCIB even gives us an even better rate, due to the subsidy, than we would on our own."



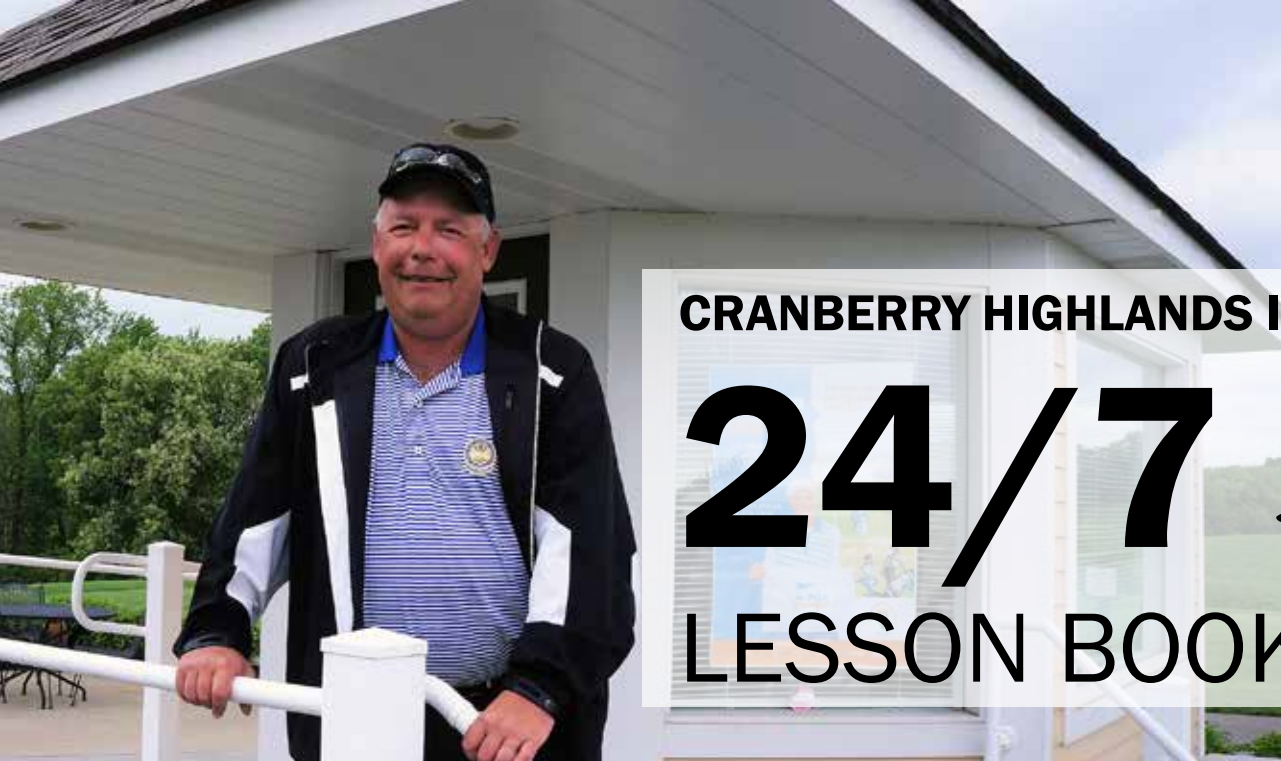
## FLYING DISCS LAND IN CRANBERRY

CTCC's 2018 Project of the Year is a championship-length Disc Golf course and two-mile nature trail currently under construction in North Boundary Park with plans to be open and ready for free public use by this fall. A separate six-hole learning course is also included in the project. The Pittsburgh Flying Disc Society is a teaching partner.

*Right: 2018 Project of the Year schematic.*







## CRANBERRY HIGHLANDS INTRODUCES

# 24/7

YES,  
THAT'S RIGHT!

# LESSON BOOKING

You can't learn to golf online, at least not yet. But beginning this past May, anyone interested in learning golf or in improving their game has been able to reserve a 45-minute golf lesson with one of Cranberry Highlands' two PGA teaching pros online, using the Cranberry Highlands website. That capability is also expected to become available on the phone app next year. And it can be used at any time, day or night, regardless of whether the Pro Shop is open, with lesson times reserved as far as three weeks in advance.

But what if bad weather gets in the way of a planned lesson? "If we know that rain is imminent, I'll reach out to them and see if they've got another day available," head teaching professional Jody Barrett explained. "Some people don't mind getting a little wet, and other people are fair weather golfers. So, if you're not going to play in the rain, why take a lesson in the rain? Here in Western Pennsylvania, we have a small window of playing golf; we have a small window of good weather. I want to be there when the people need it."

### e-Golf?

Especially now, with the steadily growing intrusion of technology into the otherwise staid world of golf, holding onto the intimacy of face-to-face contact between players, instructors and staff is more important than ever. As a result, the option of phoning in a reservation or stopping by the

clubhouse pro shop to book lessons and tee times during normal business hours will always be available. "I try to reach out to as many people as I can just because I prefer that it be person-to-person," Barrett said. "People still want that one-on-one contact."

One other way that direct contact is being maintained involves the newly re-Christened Lesson Hut – a small structure formerly situated at the driving range, which was refurbished and then relocated to the side of the Clubhouse, near the practice putting green, in 2016. It is a central point where the instructors are stationed and where those seeking lessons can check in. But it offers more than a meeting place.

"We can re-grip people's clubs right there," Barrett said. "We can change cleats for people. We have golf balls there. It's almost like a mini-pro shop. We always say hi to folks and walk out onto the putting green and watch people putt. If we see something, we might say 'hey, you might want to try this.' Not to be intrusive, but just to help them out and make them feel they're wanted and that we appreciate their being here. It's the idea of being more engaged than someone behind the counter saying 'Okay. Thank you. Bye.'"

[CranberryHighlands.com/  
OnlineGolfLessons](http://CranberryHighlands.com/OnlineGolfLessons)



### Baseball's second season

It's only the middle of summer, but CTAA is already gearing up for fall baseball and softball. Children ages 7 through 18 are eligible to be registered, starting in mid-July, for a season that runs from late August through late October. Teams are grouped by age and registration fees vary accordingly. Each participant should provide their own play and safety gear. Registration and details are available at [www.ctaaonline.com](http://www.ctaaonline.com).





Seneca Valley Foundation's

# *Gift* of *Hope* Golf Classic

Join Us!

**August 9, 2018**

Cranberry Highlands Golf Course

Cranberry Township, PA



Photo credit: Bill Paterson

To learn more or register visit: [www.svsd.net/GolfClassic](http://www.svsd.net/GolfClassic).





# MUSIC, MOVIES AND MORE!

Cranberry's summer concert series is already underway. But more performances will follow before the season is over. A series of blockbuster family films, each in a different Township location, is also on the way. And every event is free of charge.

## COMMUNITY PARK AMPHITHEATER

**Thursday, July 12. The Jakobs Ferry Stragglers.** 7:30 PM. This four-piece Appalachian band draws freely from old-time bluegrass, rockabilly and swing to create their own high-energy mountain music.

**Friday, July 13. Harmony Hot Haus.** 7:30 PM. Using fiddle, guitar, bass and percussion, this group fuses regional music traditions including early jazz, Celtic, country and more into its own original sounds.

**Saturday, July 14. KardaZ.** 5:30 PM. A six member pop/rock band with the look and sound of the '60s and '70s. **Uptown Rhythm & Brass.** 8:00 PM. This Pittsburgh band combines horns, rhythm and vocals into compelling blues, funk, jazz, rock and soul.

**Thursday, July 19. The Belaires.** 7:00 PM. Specializing in hits of the '50s and '60s, this six-member Doo-Wop quintet, named for a Chevy of that era, has performed oldies throughout the region since 1995.

**Thursday, July 26. The Rick Purcell Band featuring Shari Richards.** 7:00 PM. Keyboardist Rick Purcell and vocalist/guitarist Shari Richards perform selections ranging from the Big Band to the present.

**Thursday, August 2. The Collisions Band.** 7:00 PM. A high-energy rock group based in Pittsburgh, covering classic rock and roll music from the '70s and '80s.

## MUNICIPAL CENTER GAZEBO:

**Friday, August 3. Rock Jazz Trio.** Noon. Guitar, bass and violin are at the core of this group's rendering of jazz, gypsy jazz, classic rock and folk standards.

**Friday, August 10. The Win/Win Duo.** Noon. Keyboard artist Rick Purcell pairs up with musician Jackie Hooper for an eclectic concert program.

**Friday, August 17. Keystone State Musical Theatre.** Noon. Performers offer a selection of classical Broadway songs.

## FAVORITE FAMILY FILMS (8:30 PM)

**Wednesday, June 27. North Boundary Park. Moana.** In this 2016, Walt Disney release, based on stories from Polynesian mythology, Moana Waioliki, the daughter of a chief in a long line of navigators, learns the reason behind her island's blight

**Wednesday, July 18. Community Park. Lion King.** In this 1994 Walt Disney classic, a young lion prince is cast out of his pride by a cruel uncle, who claims he killed his father.

**Wednesday, August 8. Graham Park. Coco.** In this 2017 Pixar film, 12-year old Miguel dreams of becoming a musician despite his family's ban on music.

**Wednesday, August 22. Municipal Center lawn. Despicable Me.** Beneath a happy suburban neighborhood and surrounded by an army of minions, Gru, who delights in all things wicked, is planning to steal the moon using his arsenal of shrink rays, freeze rays, and battle-ready vehicles.

*Guests are welcome to bring their own food and lawn chairs to concerts & movies.*

*Members of Rotary will have food available for sale each Thursday at the concert site.*

*Cranberry Library will offer a \$3 hot dog/chips/drink lunch on Fridays.*

Bring your own bike and helmet. Helmets MUST be worn!  
 Bike Safety Course & Safety Inspection  
 Giveaways and Prizes  
 Free Refreshments  
 Helmet Fitting



Community Park  
**BIKE RODEO**  
 July 21, 10AM - 2PM  
 Sponsored by Cranberry Elks, AAA East Central, Cranberry Township POLICE & EMS

Hoverboards & Scooters are welcome!



Cranberry Township  
**POLICE**  
 DEPARTMENT



# What's HAPPENING

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Council Chambers  
6:30 PM

July 5- CANCELLED  
July 26  
August 2  
August 30  
September 6  
September 27

## PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION

Council Chambers  
6:00 PM

July 30  
August 6  
August 27  
September 4  
September 24

## BUTLER CO. SHERIFF, LICENSE TO CARRY

MUNICIPAL CENTER  
Aug. 4: 9 AM - 2 PM

## CRANBERRY EMS- LIFE SAVING

Municipal Ctr., August 18  
CPR: 9 AM - 12 PM  
First Aid: 12:30 - 3 PM

## FREE CONCERTS & MOVIES

See page 26

## PUPPY PLUNGE

Cranberry Waterpark  
Saturday, September 8  
9 - 10:30 AM &  
11 AM - 12:30 PM  
Register: Cranberry4FUN.com

## ZONING HEARING BOARD

Council Chambers-3rd Mon.  
7:30pm (as needed)

## FARMERS' MARKET

Municipal Ctr.- Rear Lot  
Fridays through Oct. 26  
3:00 - 6:00 PM

## CTCC COMMUNITY DAYS

June 12-14  
Community Park on Rt. 19

## LABOR DAY- SEPTEMBER 3

Township offices and  
Library closed  
Trash collections delayed 1 day

Import events to your calendar with  
iCalendar on our website!



# GOLF LESSONS

Contact us today for:

- Group Lessons
- Private Lessons
- Adult & Junior Clinics
- Men's & Ladies' Clinics
- Lesson Packages

724-776-7372

5601 Freshcorn Road, Cranberry Township, PA 16066



#PlayLikeAPro



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*Splash into Summer!*