

Adams Township News

Update on the Adams Township Community Park

The addition of two new athletic fields to our community park started in June of 2010 and has made steady progress throughout the summer. The work has included clearing and grading the land, cutting and filling in the fields with 50,000 cubic yards of dirt and laying numerous pipe lines to carry off the water to the new retention pond.

The new baseball field will be located towards the rear of the site near the wooded area. The rectangular field is located near Valencia Road. The new complex will include a paved driveway and parking lot between the two fields.

Other amenities include field irrigation, bleachers, full baseball backstop and fencing. Future plans include a concession stand with restrooms and a picnic pavilion. This facility will greatly enhance our community park and offer another recreation area.

The township anticipates that the work on the ballfields should be completed by April of 2011. Although the fields will not be available for use until 2012 as the grass needs time to mature.

Future plans for a concession stand and a pavilion are in the planning stages. The concession stand will have a kitchen and restrooms. The pavilion will be equipped with picnic benches, lighting and a sound system.



Adams Township's Snow Removal Policy

Our road crew makes every effort to keep the roads cleared during inclement weather. Main arteries linking development areas to main roads have plowing priority. Housing developments are next. Because cul-de-sacs in a housing plan are not thruways to the majority of motorists or school students within a development, customarily they are given last priority.

The following is a list of roads that are **not maintained by Adams Township**:

Myoma Rd. (from the intersection with Crider Rd. to Mars-Evans City Rd.)

Crider Rd. (from the intersection with Myoma Rd. to Rt. 228)

Callery Rd. (from Kline Ave. to the Cranberry Twp. line)

Mars-Valencia Rd.

Rt. 228

Mars-Evans City Rd.

Union Church Rd.

Three Degree Rd. (from the Allegheny Co. line to the Adams Township Community Park)

Valencia Rd.

West Rd.

Pittsburgh St.

Plains Church Rd.

Kline Ave.

Crowe Ave.

Warrendale Rd.

These roads are state maintained. PennDOT should be contacted at 724-284-8800.

When the snowflakes start flying, please keep in mind a few do's and don'ts:

- Do keep access to your mailbox cleared for postal service;
- Do not shovel snow onto the road;
- Try not to park on the street during snow removal time.

A truck with a raised plow does not necessarily mean your area has been completed. They may be returning to the garage for fuel, additional materials, assisting in an emergency, etc. The state and county are responsible for state and county roads. **Private roads and private lanes are not the township's responsibility.**

If you see a township road condition that needs attention, please call the Road Crew Building at 724-625-1826.

2010 Community Day- A Great Success

2010 Community Day was a huge success this year! We had a picture perfect day to start the day with a 5K race that had a total of 125 runners racing for the finish line. After the race was over, the Adams Area Fire District, which sponsors the race, announced winners and gave out prizes to winners in various age brackets. The annual girl's softball tournament was especially exciting this year, as it included girls from all age groups. Many residents came out to watch the game and enjoyed the other activities so much they ended up staying for the entire day! The horseshoe tournament brought out the best throwers trying to make ringers and win a trophy.

Girl Scout Troop 20667 led a flag retirement ceremony which drew a big crowd. As a resident commented "it was a nice ceremony that carried a lot of meaning." The girls retired a flag in a traditional ceremony and buried the ashes in the park.

All who attended enjoyed a variety of food provided by the township from Foodland, Dave's Meats and Marburger Dairy. Moe's, owned by township resident Mike Geiger, donated chips and salsa. Dairy Queen located in The Shoppes at Adams Ridge donated ice cream sandwiches.

There were numerous activities to entertain people of all ages. Children enjoyed playing in the Gymagic bus as well as jumping in inflated bouncers. The kids took pony rides and fed petting zoo animals. Bingo was an all day event that had plenty of prizes to go around. "I like that bingo is geared towards adults and the prizes are always something useful!" one bingo player said.

In the evening a group called American Pie set up in the Township pavilion and started playing some great oldies but goodies. They performed hits by legendary artists ranging from Elvis to The Beatles and of course closed with Don McLean's "American Pie." While the music was entertaining the older folks, Sadecky's Puppets performed "A Need to Read" in the Rotary pavilion for the children. It is the story of a boy who learns to love reading through his adventures in some favorite classic stories.

Unfortunately due to the windy weather condition Freedom Flights and its crew were unable to offer tethered hot air balloon rides. The tethered flights were such a hit last year but the pilot, Ginny Whipple, did not want to take any chances. So as not to disappoint the crowd, she inflated the balloon for the residents to look inside, answered all of the questions about ballooning and with the help of her crew holding the tether lines, she let it rise into the air for all so see.

As has become tradition, the day was wrapped up with an out of this world fireworks display accompanied by popular music. This year, fireworks were set off

from four different locations in the park giving the audience a fantastic panoramic show. "These fireworks rival Pittsburgh on New Year's Eve!" an awed spectator exclaimed.

The Township Supervisors and Parks and Recreation committee would like to thank everyone for coming out to share in the fun! It was certainly a great way to celebrate our community!

We welcome and encourage your feedback. Comments and suggestions in regards to Community Day can be sent to adamsrecept@zoominternet.net.



Thunder Over Adams

Adams Township Community Day is always a highlight of the year for our residents as the Thunder over Adams fireworks show is one of the most anticipated events of the day. The fireworks show originally started at the first Community Day 5 years ago and every year it gets bigger and more complex. By the numbers, the first year there were only 4 certified shooters firing 850 shells at the show. This past year there were a dozen certified shooters and a crew of about 30 men and women that made the magic happen. 850 shells were shot in the final 38 seconds of the show this past year, where nearly 2,700 shells exploded in the sky above Adams Township Park the evening of September 11th 2010.

The show has appreciated donations from many area businesses like Austin's and Mars National Bank, as well as donated giant sound system from Steed Audio and power generation by Penn Power systems. The show, which is choreographed to music, is a half hour

long which is longer than any fireworks show in Western Pennsylvania and always features a few surprises. What makes the show so unique is that it is not a "box" show like many of the big names you might recognize in fireworks. It is orchestrated and run mostly by the residents of Adams Township and Mars that volunteer their time to put on a show for the community. One reason for why it is unique is the location. The topography and layout of the park can allow thousands to easily see both ground and aerial effects.

But the real difference is found in the people that shoot the show. Jim Merkel of Adams Township, Gary McCormick and Greg Norton, both residents of Mars, are the lead shooters of the show. Greg has commented that "The big firework companies are like the Olive Garden restaurant, they are consistent from one restaurant to another. We are like the mom and pop Italian restaurant that makes the homemade lasagna. It's unique and can't be replicated. Every year is different; we started planning for 2011 when the 2010 show was over. Who knows what we will try next year. In fact, next year I say we shoot a shell filled with our homemade lasagna into the air".

Maybe he's secretly telling us what they are up to next year at Community Day 2011.

Crack Sealing Township Roads

The township roads endure enormous stress and strain. Vehicle tires continually push and pull at paved surfaces. The faster or heavier the vehicle, the more the pavement is compressed and then tensioned. Temperature changes, even those within a 24-hour day, expand and contract the pavement sheet. Traffic and temperature create small surface cracks. Water seeps through the cracks to the base materials and weakens the roadway. More cracks will form and become wider if not repaired.

Crack sealing is an inexpensive routine maintenance treatment that will significantly delay roadway deterioration. The road crew has been applying the sealing material directly into cracks before cracks become too large or before the roadway is subject to the freeze-thaw cycles of our Pennsylvania winters. Flexible rubberized asphalt sealants bond to crack walls and move with the pavement, preventing water from entering the road base. The life of the road is extended and maintenance costs are greatly reduced over time. This treatment also saves money for motorists by reducing vehicle repairs and provides a smoother, safer road.



Police Department News

The Township welcomed two new full-time additions to its police force in July of 2010. Officer Tim Waibel, a 13 year veteran and former police sergeant, has been working as a part-time officer for Adams Township over the last 3 ½ years. Officer Waibel is a certified Computer Forensic Expert through the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) and brings a beneficial skill set to our police department. If you feel you are a victim of a cyber crime, please call 724-625-2040 Ext. 239.

Officer Ed Lenz, now a 1 year veteran, has been working as a part-time officer since July 2009 within the township, as well as Ohio Township. Officer Lenz graduated from the Allegheny County Police Training Academy in July 2009 and is also a CPR/First Aid Instructor. Both officers bring with them EMT experience to further serve the emergency needs of our community.

The addition of both officers brings the current staffing level to 6 full-time officers and 5 part-time officers.

The police department has also ordered a new 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe PPV. This 4WD unit is expected to arrive early this winter and is specifically designed for law enforcement use. The addition of this new unit will ensure the members of our community are safe, secure, and able to receive emergency aid regardless of conditions. All officers within the department possess varying degrees of emergency medical training and look forward to utilizing this tool in the future.

Ask the Township

The township newsletter will be implementing a "Ask the Township" section in the next next quarterly edition.




E-mail a general question to this address:

adamstwp@zoominternet.net and the question will be answered in a future newsletter.

Toys for Tots

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to all of the kindhearted people who donated toys to this wonderful cause

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2	3 Supervisors Organizational Meeting - 7:00	4 Park & Recreation 7:00 P.M.	5 Planning Commission Organizational Meeting & Scheduled Meeting 7:00 P.M.	6	7	8
9	10 Supervisors 8:00 P.M.	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Supervisors 8:00 P.M.	25 BCRA 5:00 P.M. MWAAT 5:45 P.M.	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Park & Recreation 7:00 P.M.	2 Planning Commission 7:00 P.M.  Ground Hog Day	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Supervisors 8:00 P.M.  Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21  President's Day	22 BCRA 5:00 P.M. MAWAAT 5:45 P.M.	23	24	25	26
27	28 Supervisors 8:00 P.M.					

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Park & Recreation 7:00 P.M.	2 Planning Commission 7:00 P.M.	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13  Daylight Savings	14 Supervisors 8:00 P.M.	15	16	17  Happy St. Patricks Day	18	19
20  First Day of Spring	21	22 BCRA 5:00 P.M. MWAAT 5:45 P.M.	23	24	25	26 
27	28 Supervisors 8:00 P.M.	29	30	31		

Adams Area Fire District Welcomes New Equipment

With the significant growth and development occurring within Adams Township and the surrounding areas, the Adams Area Fire District has been determined to keep up with these changes. Starting in early 2010, the Board of Director, as well as, the Fire District's operational leadership set out to develop a plan for the future, with regard to the challenges they expect to face. After the consolidation of the former Mars Volunteer Fire Department and the Valencia Volunteer Fire Department, the new Adams Area Fire District faced the challenge of ensuring the fire and rescue needs of the community were handled in a "cost-effective", as well as, resource driven manner. This plan called for the review of all of the existing vehicles and equipment, in addition, a review of the operational staff's location and current building locations. The outcome of these discussions provided the leadership a better understanding of the needs and resources that are currently available along with those that will be needed for the future.

Adams Area Fire District has learned from their recent emergency responses that the wave of new construction occurring within their response district shows the need for a change in their tactics. The use of "pre-engineered" building materials and "lightweight" construction techniques continue to be a challenge for Adams Area Firefighters. In light of these changes it was determined that the existing 75' aerial apparatus would not be suitable for use on fires on these type of buildings. A committee of firefighters and Board members set out to determine the best course of action. This group determined that a "heavy-duty" aerial platform would be best suited for their needs.

In October of this year the Adams Area Fire District was able to secure funding and take delivery of a new Seagrave Aerialscope Tower Ladder. This "extreme-duty" vehicle features a 75' steel and aluminum aerial platform capable of holding 1000 pounds while flowing 1,500 gallons of water per minute. The stainless steel body will be able to ensure many years of service to the fire district. The custom cab will allow the safe transportation of six specially trained firefighters to the emergency scene. Once they arrive, these members will be able to perform necessary roof and elevated procedures safely from a secure and strong rescue basket. Interestingly, while this is a "fire-service" vehicle the boom and platform can be utilized to perform elevated and below grade rescues.

In closing, the members of the Adams Area Fire District are extremely proud of the new tower ladder and are thankful to the members of the community, elected officials and businesses of the areas that they serve for providing the much needed funding to allow such a purchase. The new vehicle is stored at the fire station at 109 Irvine Street in Mars Borough. Please stop by and say hello to the members who will be happy to give you a tour.



What's new in "Construction Corner"?

Times are tough, but fortunately in our area we have not felt the economic downturn as bad as other parts of the state or country. Construction projects in Adams Township are still taking place in both residential and commercial.

On the residential side, Kaufmann Run Estates, a Ryan Homes Plan near Adams Ridge has been very busy. Also there are two custom built home developments in the township under construction. One of them is Indian Meadows which is located off of Myoma Road and the other one is The Village of Camp Trees, located at the end of Camp Trees Road. We also have some new housing developments that will be starting new home construction in the very near future. Wickerham Heights, located along Myoma Road has been clearing land and grading and should begin construction soon. Far View Farms (located along the Mars-Evans City Road) will most likely start grading and construction is 2011.

On the commercial side of construction we have Luciano's Italian Restaurant which is located in the Shoppes at Heritage Creek that will open within the next few months. There will also be a new restaurant in the Shoppes of Adams Ridge called the Double Wide Grill. Construction should start by the end of the 2010.

In early 2011 we will also have a new CVS Pharmacy that will begin construction. This new store will be located at the intersection of Route 228 and Pittsburgh Street where the Christian Community Church was located.

Also in same general area to the east, is the St. John Specialty Care Center expansion project. The current building under construction is located in Mars Borough and will house Alzheimer patients and in the near future a three story independent living building will be built and will be in both Mars Borough and Adams Township.

**Adams Township
690 Valencia Road
Mars, PA 16046**

**PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Mars, PA
Permit # 62**

**Adams Township Municipal Building: 724/625-2221
Adams Township Police: 724/625-2040**

**Road Crew Building: 724/625-1826
Adams Township Web Site: www.adamstwp.org**

Board of Supervisors

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Sergeant

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Road Crew Foreman

John Hock

Assistant Road Crew Foreman

Rhett Stobert

Receptionist/Parks

Corry Harley

**Scheduled Meetings at Adams
Township Municipal Building**

Board of Supervisors

2nd & 4th Monday of each month at 8:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Park and Recreation Board

1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board

3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (as needed)

Planning Commission Work Session

3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. (as needed)

Scheduled Meetings at Breakneck Creek

Regional Authority Building

1166 Mars-Evans City Road

Breakneck Creek Regional Authority

4th Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

Municipal Water Authority of Adams Township

4th Tuesday of each month at 5:45 p.m.

The Adams Township News is published for the residents of Adams Township. All comments/questions should be sent to: The Adams Township News, c/o Adams Township, 690 Valencia Rd., Mars, PA 16046.