



# Ligonier Borough Newsletter

120 East Main Street Ligonier PA 15658

Fax 724-238-4536

www.ligonierboro.com

## A word from the Ligonier Borough Secretary-Treasurer,



Welcome to Ligonier Borough's Inaugural Newsletter!

We plan on reaching out to our residents twice a year to let you know what we're working on and what we are hoping to accomplish. When we started talking about our first issue, we obviously had no idea that we would be in the midst of a pandemic & all that it entails. We planned on discussing topics like our tennis court area & what you would like to see happen with it. We were going to give you a calendar of exciting events to be held in the Borough. Unfortunately, these things have been put on hold.

In the meantime, though, let me assure you that although Town Hall is closed to the public, we are doing our best to make sure Ligonier Borough is still up and running. The office is still open from 7:30am – 4:00pm. We can be reached at 724-238-9852, by email at [ligonierboro@comcast.net](mailto:ligonierboro@comcast.net), or you can also visit our website at [ligonierboro.com](http://ligonierboro.com).

The Public Works Department, Tax Collector & Zoning Officer are still hard at work. Borough Council is holding virtual meetings via Zoom. Please check our website for instructions on how to join these meetings and for important updates.

If you haven't already signed onto Savvy Citizen, please consider doing so. It's a free program that allows us to get information to you immediately through texts or emails. Go to [SavvyCitizenApp.com](http://SavvyCitizenApp.com) to register, Google Play, or the Apple App Store.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this crisis.

Stay safe and well,

Jan Shaw

## Public Works Department



Street Supervisor Ron Ross is happy to announce a new Loader & Chipper were purchased & fully funded by a DEP 902 Municipal Recycling Grant recently awarded to the Borough to help with brush pick up. Soon any individual in the Borough who wants woodchips may call and arrange for delivery. When available, notice will be placed on our website & Savvy.



## Brush Pick Up – Mondays

Brush pick up consists of logs no bigger than 6 inches in diameter, and no longer than 6 feet. Twigs should be in neat small piles. Loose materials like hedge trimmings, leaves, yard & garden waste needs to be put in paper lawn & leaf bags which are available at Agway, Giant Eagle, Lowes, and Walmart.

Ligonier Borough Public Works will pick up brush and yard bags on Mondays (weather permitting) Please place on curbside and NOT on the streets.



## Ligonier Borough Residents... Savvy Citizen® is now available!

Ligonier Borough would like to introduce Savvy Citizen. Savvy Citizen is a free notification system for Apple and Android users that will enable the municipality to send information about important news and events directly to residents' mobile devices. Residents may access Savvy Citizen by downloading the smartphone app or visiting the website below.



For more info:  
[SavvyCitizenApp.com](http://SavvyCitizenApp.com)

Register and become a savvy citizen!

Stay informed; download Savvy on your smartphone, tablet, or computer.

## Zoning Officer Rick Schwab...



reports that we often get questions about signs being placed between the sidewalk and the curb in the Borough.

Such signs are prohibited under the Ligonier Borough Zoning Ordinance.

### The ordinance says the following:

“No sign shall be placed, erected or located so that: a) It is pasted, stapled or otherwise attached to public utility poles or trees within the street right-of-way line. b) It is on a public lot or public right-of-way, unless approved or erected by the Borough.” Such signs are sometimes moved back to a legal location nearby and they are sometimes removed. Please refrain from placing any signs on the public right-of-way.

Waving signs are also prohibited under the zoning ordinance, no matter where they are placed.



## Ligonier Valley Citizens,

As you know we are in the throes of COVID-19 flu pandemic. It is imperative that we observe the social distancing until this crisis is over. It looks like we will be doing this for a while. When you go out for groceries, remember to wipe down the cart handles and maintain the safe distance between fellow shoppers.

Since we cannot go out to eat at the local restaurants, please remember to patronize the establishments that are offering curbside service and take out menus, as they are employing our friends, neighbors, or family members.

Also remember to wipe down gas pump handles & key pads when you gas up your vehicles as well as bank machines. We keep a container of sanitizing wipes in our car for that purpose.

Our Giant Eagle now has senior shopping from 6-7AM every morning to allow our senior citizens to shop without the worry of too many people to contend with. I have used this service that Matt Faccenda & his hard working staff have provided. **Mayor “Butch” Bellas**

**Tax Collector  
Robin Roberts  
724-238-5700**

**1<sup>st</sup> Floor in Town Hall  
Office Hours  
Tuesday & Thursday  
9 am – 4 pm**



The discount period for the Borough/County Real Estate Taxes ends April 30, 2020. The face period will end June 30, 2020. It is currently preferable to mail your taxes to 120 E. Main Street Ligonier PA 15658. I will maintain office hours, as long as permitted, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9AM -12PM & 1PM -4PM. However, with the Town Hall closed to the public, please use the yellow drop off box outside the handicap entrance during those hours and I will mail you a receipt. Thank you for your cooperation.

**\*Council is considering extending the deadline for Real Estate Taxes & will vote on this at the May 14, 2020 meeting.**

## Ligonier Valley Police Department

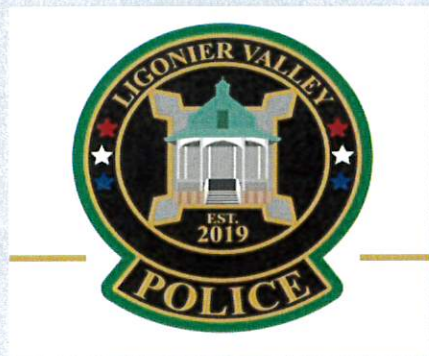
Chief John Berger



### The Ligonier Valley Police Department is Temporarily modifying its operations as described below:

1. Emergency calls where a person's personal safety or property is in immediate danger, officers will promptly respond to the scene & handle in the appropriate manner. If you do have face to face communication with an officer at your residence or place of business, please immediately advise the officer if you or someone at your residence or business have been affected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
2. When an officer receives a non-emergency call (theft, property damage, etc.), the officer will use discretion whether to respond in person or handle by telephone.
3. The doors at both the township municipal building and the Town Hall will be locked until further notice. To assist with inquiries, you can make contact with a police officer at 724-238-5105. If you cannot reach an officer, please leave a voicemail.
4. There will be a temporary suspension of the following: fingerprinting at the station, & written traffic warnings should be mailed to LVPD#1 Municipal Park Drive, Ligonier PA 15658.
5. Pennsylvania State Reportable Crash Reports completed by the Ligonier Valley Police Department can be obtained by going to [www.crashdocs.com](http://www.crashdocs.com). You can provide the accident information to your insurance company or go to the website yourself and pay the mandated fee to obtain a copy of a reportable accident report.

*"Please follow Governor Wolf's orders the best that you can and stay safe. We will get through this together."*



## Ligonier Hose Co. #1 Fire Chief Corey Blystone

Would like to remind everyone that **DETECTORS SAVE LIVES**. Everyone is encouraged to check their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and to change their batteries.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is a serious risk, but fortunately, it is very preventable.

Check ...Change...Practice. It's that simple.

**Check your alarms monthly. Change the batteries yearly. Practice a fire escape plan.**

A smoke alarm should be on every level of your home, inside each bedroom, and outside sleeping areas. CO alarms should also be placed on every level of your home, and outside sleeping areas. Batteries should be replaced in alarms, unless the alarms have sealed 10-year batteries. Replace your smoke alarms if they are more than 10 years old.

When you "change the time," take the time to ensure your alarms for smoke and carbon monoxide are working.



You may see our Public Works crew out and about planting a few new shade trees this spring. A few dead or hazardous trees have been removed and many will be replaced. All homeowners have been contacted and plantings will begin when the trees are available.

As new life begins to show on the shade trees and they stretch their limbs, this is a good time to remind everyone that a permit is required to trim or remove a shade tree. There is no cost for this permit, it just allows us to keep track of our trees. Please contact the borough office to apply for your permit.



Ligonier Borough Street Supervisor Ron Ross and public works crew have restored one of the original Diamond Park benches with the nameplates from contributors of past. Be sure to stop in Town Hall and view once the building is again open to the public.

### **Borough Officials**

**Mayor:**  
Ormond "Butch" Bellas  
724-238-3360

**Secretary / Treasurer**  
Janette Shaw  
724-238-9852  
[ligonierboro@comcast.net](mailto:ligonierboro@comcast.net)

**Councilmembers:**  
James St. Clair / President  
Matt Smith / V.P. / Planning  
Judy Hoffer / Town Hall  
Mariah Fisher / Parks  
Jeff Craig / Public Safety  
Nate Sylvester / Finance  
Robert Barron / Public Works

**Street Supervisor**  
Ron Ross  
724-238-7426  
[ligonierborodpw@comcast.net](mailto:ligonierborodpw@comcast.net)

### **Ligonier Borough Council and Planning Commission Meeting Schedules for Year 2020.**

The Council of the Borough of Ligonier will hold their regular monthly meetings for the calendar year 2020 in Council Chambers at Ligonier Town Hall located at 120 East Main Street, Ligonier, PA 15658.

The regular monthly meetings of the Ligonier Borough Council will be held at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month: Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, Aug 13, Sept 10, with the exception of Fort Ligonier Days; the meeting will be held on Monday October 5, November 12 & December 10. Please check our website for special meetings and updates at [www.ligonierboro.com](http://www.ligonierboro.com)

The Ligonier Borough Planning Commission will conduct business on the fourth Tuesday of the month with the exception of November and December, which they will meet on the third Tuesday at Town Hall @ 7:00 PM.

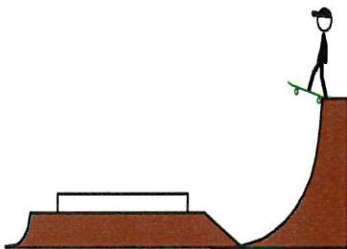
# Parks and Recreation



Parks & Recreation Chair Mariah Fisher announced that new signs have been installed at Friendship Park designating different areas for play based on children's age and the color of the surface at the park.

Unfortunately due to the Coronavirus, Friendship Park was closed on March 14<sup>th</sup> and will remain closed for the foreseeable future. While Friendship Park is the only park officially closed at this time, all residents are encouraged to keep in mind the Stay At Home order issued by the Governor and stay home as much as possible and follow the guidelines for social distancing and remain at least 6 feet apart when visiting any of our other parks.

The P&R Committee was also scheduled to hold a public forum on April 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss possible renovations to the tennis courts beside Friendship Park, however, the meeting was postponed. Until there can be further discussions and a public forum, the project will be on hold. In the meantime, anyone wishing to send letters of support and feedback on the proposed competitive tennis courts or skate/bike park in this area, please feel free to do so.



## NEWS BITS

Did you know that our newly renovated Diamond Park was awarded as being 1 of 3 best public spaces to visit in PA by the Westmoreland County Dept. of Planning & Development in September of 2019?



The EADS Group, Inc., engineers for Ligonier Borough recently were named as the 2020 Special Project winner for the completion of the Diamond Park Renaissance Project at the annual ACEC/PA Diamond Awards for Engineering Excellence gala.



The filing deadline for tax returns has been extended from April 15 to July 15, 2020. The IRS urges taxpayers who are owed a refund to file as quickly as possible.

Property tax/Rent Rebate Program filing deadline HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 31, 2020.

Go to [revenue.pa.gov](http://revenue.pa.gov) for more information



Primary Election date has been pushed back to

June 2, 2020

## 2020 Primary Election information....

The 2020 election season is bringing unprecedented changes for Pennsylvania voters. Governor Wolf is now encouraging voters to apply for a Mail-in Ballot for the June 2, 2020 primary election. The new deadline to register to vote or update a voter registration for the primary is May 18, 2020. Registered voters have until 5 pm May 26 to sign up to vote by mail ballot and until 8 pm on Election Day to return their voted ballot. Voters who applied for a ballot before the change of election date DO NOT need to apply again, but voters whose address may have changed should contact the county election office @ 724-830-3150.

Registered voters can apply online for a Mail-in or absentee ballot at [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com) or download and print the application and mail it to Westmoreland County Election Office at 2 N. Main St. Greensburg PA 15601.

In the coming weeks, voters should pay special attention to the county's announcements regarding any relocation of polling places if you cannot or do not wish to vote by mail.

Ligonier Borough  
120 East Main Street  
Ligonier PA 15658

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

Local  
Postal Customer