



CAN YOU FIND THE ERROR? ANS: PG 3

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

The center continues to provide a variety of events that are fun, informative, and engaging. All Harpersfield seniors, age 60 and above, are invited to get involved.

The center's new director, Jodi, has some new, fun ideas that she is adding. By the time you get this, we will also have a new assistant director.

The center also provides free rides to doctor appointments and the grocery store if you are a member. (There is no fee to join.) The center is located next to the Geneva Community Center: 62 W. Main Street, Geneva. 440-466-3048.



If you have any questions or would like to receive a monthly calendar of events, please contact me at 440-812-4101.

Tonia Vachette, Geneva Area Senior Center Board Member



Harpersfield Township

1481 Harpersfield Rd.
Geneva, OH 44041

Website: harpersfield.us.

2025 EVENTS

Harpersfield Heritage Society

1st Wed each month • 7 PM

Clean-up Day

9-13 / 8 AM - Noon



Calendar Distrib. • early-October



Clambake

10-19 / 1:30 PM



Halloween

10-26 / 2-4 PM



Time Change

11-2 / 2:00 AM



Election Day • 11-4

* Craft Show *



Santa: Metro Park

12-6 / Noon - 2:00

HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP GENERAL INFORMATION

Twp. Mailing Address: 1481 Harpersfield Rd.

TRUSTEES:

Ed Spoor, Chairman	Home 466-3661
Lisa Linehan, Vice Chairman	Home 645-7357
Jim Pristov	Home 466-4864
Mickey Mihalick	Office 466-2242
Renée Hanyok	Office 466-9292

FISCAL OFFICER:

Newsletter Editor:

Fire Station #1

Fire Station #2

Community Center

Township website:

Meetings:

1481 Harpersfield Rd.

TRUSTEES:

2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:00 PM

ZONING COMMISSION:

1st Monday at 7:00 PM

Zoning Commission
Members:

Ken McLeod - Ed Pristov - Pete Hommel
Gary Somnitz - Ann Moses - Beth Henning

Board of Zoning

Appeals Members:

ZONING OFFICE:

TOWNSHIP GARAGE:

Zoning Administrator:

Zoning Clerk:

Zoning email address:

Dave Snyder - Ashley Kirk - Paula Pristov

1481 Harpersfield Rd. - 466-4240

Rt. 307 west of Harpersfield Rd. - 466-7170

Larry Lister - 466-4240 / 344-7165 (cell)

Debbie Riffle - 466-4240

zoning@harpersfield.us

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP

PART 14 - The Settlers continued...

Visit our website at: harpersfield.us.

Page 3 has "History of the Township - Part 16."

First Impressions as Kindness Abounds

"There is an inclination in human beings to support each other. Whether it's parenting, teaching, donating, or governing, part of our nature is to concern ourselves with the well-being of others."

- Andrew Hume

These words by Andrew Hume so eloquently describe my first months as a Township Trustee. I would like to thank all those who took the time to welcome, guide, encourage, and correct me as I settle into what is quickly becoming one of the more rewarding ways that I spend my time. I truly look forward to serving Harpersfield for years to come.

Lisa Linehan, Township Trustee

HARPERSFIELD'S NEWEST BUSINESSES

Please welcome and support these new businesses to our Harpersfield Township family...

1) The Corkscrew Taphouse, 1515 Rt. 534.

2) The Farmer Butcher Chef Bistro, 1752 Rt. 534.

3) FERAL Hot Glass, 6183 South River Road West.

Ed Spoor, Township Trustee



Pre-Sort Standard
U.S. Postage

PAID

Geneva, Ohio
Permit No. 479

FRIENDS of the METRO PARK

The friends of the Harpersfield Metro Park will be hosting their annual visit by Santa on Saturday, December 6, 2025 from noon to 2:00 pm. It will be held in the park on the north side of the bridge.

Santa will be on hand to meet and greet the children

as they drive through. There will be a raffle for the families, cookies and coloring books for the children.

Come down to meet Santa and visit the park and the new presentation of the covered bridge!!

Jim Pristov, Township Trustee



ZONING DEPARTMENT NOTES

Thank you to all those who were able to attend the zoning and trustee meetings regarding the proposed storage container zoning amendment.

There was productive and informative discussion and we learned that the amendment needs some more work. The issue was tabled and sent back to the zoning board for further review. I was pleased to see this process in action, and it really works best when we hear the needs and wants of our community.

Please keep reaching out with your thoughts and concerns!

Lisa Linehan, Township Trustee



ROAD & CEMETERY REPORT

A HTAP grant has been applied for, through the state of Ohio, to review and update our current township Zoning text, in which the Township was awarded \$22,000.

A cemetery grant has also been applied for that will help in the repairs and maintenance to some of the older stones and foundations.

The Township Zoning Commission, BZA, Zoning Administrator and Trustees will be working with Verdantas, a consulting firm, to update and add to the current zoning text. The Township will have one year to complete this task.

Water Projects:
1) Phase II of Bishop Road is now complete. This project extends from Lafevre Road to Van Pelt Road at no front footage cost to the residents. As part of the improvements, fire hydrants have been installed throughout the area, significantly enhancing fire protection and safety for residents. The County does have a \$3,000 tap-in fee which covers all work within the right-of-way and the water meter. Many residents have already tapped in.

2) South River project is due to go out for bid next month. This project will extend into Lake County to service Debonne Winery and it will also proceed down Brant Road. The grant will include the Harpersfield Water Tower at I-90 and will go out to bid in the same time period proximity.

3) Whispering Willow Community extended the water main on State Route 307 from Laurello Winery to the east, terminating at the Harpersfield/Austinburg Township line. The footage was just under one mile. The waterline was paid for by the Whispering Willow Community giving fire hydrant protection to the Township on all of State Route 307 East.

Ed Spoor, Township Trustee

Farewell...
With a heavy heart, I am saying farewell as the Newsletter Editor, as I am retiring from my business, LaRae Prnting. I have been creating, editing and printing the Harpersfield newsletter, and more, for many years and it's brought great satisfaction. I've enjoyed watching this publication grow into what it is today. The first issue, in 2000, started without any clip art. I suggested adding artwork, Les Tinner, the originator, gave approval and it evolved from there. 25 years of "History in the Making!" and you're all a part of it. How timely to place the article in this issue. It's been a pleasure serving my home town. Thank you for your cooperation and support. Harpersfield township is a warm, family oriented, growing community. You will be left in capable hands.

Renée Hanyek, Newsletter Editor

GOD BLESS!

Wanted! New Members !!
Harpersfield Heritage Society
The Harpersfield Heritage Society is being resurrected and we are looking for new members! Harpersfield has a history worth preserving and there is currently a small group of people working toward that goal.
Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the old Town Hall building.
Coincidentally, all new windows have been installed in the old Town Hall and upkeep will continue each year as funds become available.
If you are interested in joining us, or would like more information, please contact Lisa Linehan at 440-645-7357.
Lisa Linehan, Township Trustee

HARPERSFIELD 2026 CALENDAR

The Harpersfield township 2026 calendar featuring residents, businesses, and community organizations will be available by early October, 2025. The Calendars are paid for by the advertisers and Harpersfield family sponsors. They will be available at most of the local businesses and organizational events. The Township Trustees, Fiscal Officer and Zoning Administrator's Office will also have calendars to distribute. This will be our 14th year edition.

Don't forget to check out the picture pages, as you might be in this years calendar. Would you like to participate in the next edition? Send your pictures to jpristov@roadrunner.com.

Thank you to all the sponsors and patrons and, as always, a special thanks to the dedicated calendar crew for all their hours donated to make your calendar possible.

Jim Pristov, Township Trustee

FIRE DEPARTMENT FLICKERS

The first half of 2025, our Harpersfield Volunteer Fire Department has responded to 107 calls – either in the township or mutual aid to neighboring departments. This makes it one of the busiest six months on record.

The used fire engine that was purchased with fundraising money will be in service shortly. The fire department is waiting for a few small items to have it meet the accreditation requirements. The truck has already passed all its physical tests required to be a first-out unit.

The fire department would like to thank the community for its support at our fish fries earlier this year. We sold 2,814 meals and netted \$19,660.50. This is what makes it possible to purchase fire trucks without taxpayers' money. More fundraising opportunities are on the horizon, including the annual golf outing, Grape Jamboree booth, and craft fair. If you would like to support any of our fundraisers or are interested in joining the fire department, please contact Frank Henry, Fire Chief, at 440-376-4816. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Frank Henry, Fire Chief

HARPERSFIELD 28TH ANNUAL CLAMBAKE

The Harpersfield Ruritans and the Harpersfield Volunteer Fire Department are collaborating on the 28th annual clambake for Sunday, October 19, 2025. The location is Harpersfield Community Center, on Cork-Cold Springs Road.

Manhattan Chowder will be served at 1:30 PM., and the meal served at 2:00 PM. The meal consists of one dozen bagged clams, one half chicken, manhattan chowder, sweet potato or baked potato, corn, coleslaw, roll & butter, and homemade dessert.

Cost of the clambake is \$25.00. There is also a delicious steak dinner with all the extras, except clams, for \$25.00. A chicken dinner with all the extras, except clams, for \$15.00. A childs meal for \$3.00. Extra bagged clams are \$10.00 a dozen. Take-out orders are available.

There will be a 50/50 raffle and a Chinese auction with many prizes. Half the proceeds will benefit the Ruritan Scholarship Fund and the other half will be used for needed fire equipment. Last year we served over 275 dinners.

For tickets, call Janie Sibell, 440-361-4800. Reservations are highly suggested and the tickets will be held at the door for pick up and pay.

Get your reservations and tickets. Bring your appetite for dinner, your lucky charms for the chinese auction, and come have a great time!!

Jim Pristov, Township Trustee

TOWNSHIP CLEAN-UP DAY 2025

The Free Clean-up Day for all Harpersfield residents is on September 13th from 8:00 A.M. - NOON.

RAIN or SHINE (PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED)
Location: Doherty Trash Transfer Station, 1439 Rt 534 South.

All vehicles please enter from Rt 307. ENTER from the eastbound lane to prevent a backup on the roundabout. You will still exit onto Rt 534. SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO HELP DIRECT ALL TRAFFIC.

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE OR WEBPAGE.

NO -- Commercial Businesses or Haulers PLEASE.
NO -- tires, paint, paint cans, batteries, petroleum products, chemicals, shingles, pesticides, automotive fluids, fuel, propane tanks, barrels or yard waste.

PLEASE SEPARATE ALL METAL ITEMS AS THE METAL IS RECYCLED AND USED TO OFFSET THE TOWNSHIP COST FOR THE DUMPSTERS.

Once again, this is a GREAT opportunity to dispose of unwanted items at no charge and KEEP HARPERSFIELD BEAUTIFUL!!!!

Ed Spoor, Township Trustee

Harpersfield Ruritans Scholarships for 2025

The Harpersfield Ruritans awarded five \$1,000.00 scholarships to the graduating seniors who reside in Harpersfield and will further their education by attending college. The following were recipients of the scholarships: Adrew Oros, Noah Peterson, Olivia Todd, Bridget Doherty, and Jamil Daghlaz. We would like to congratulate all seniors who graduated this year and wish them success in their future endeavors.

The Harpersfield Ruritans thank all those who have supported their fundraising events to make these scholarships possible. The Grape Juice Booth at the Grape Jamboree and the Harpersfield Clambake, Oct. 19th, sponsored by the Harpersfield Volunteer Fire Dept. and the Harpersfield Ruritans are the main fundraisers.

~ Essay Contest Winners ~
Topic: "What does MemorialDay mean to me?" WINNERS: Ellie Brown, Morgan Bowman, Sam Accord, and Keare Allen. ~ Great Job!!

Jim Pristov, Township Trustee

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP

PART 16 - The Settlers • Part 14 continued...



It was the spring of 1803 when Joseph Bartholomew and his family arrived. Their two sons had built them a cabin. It's unknown when Samuel Bartholomew and his family moved to Harpersfield. A previous article mentioned Samuel being murdered by his wife, Elizabeth in the early 1800's. During supper she put an axe in the back of his head. She was found innocent by reason of insanity. Robert Harper defended her to the amazement of the family since Samuel Bartholomew was his cousin.



In 1804 and 1805 we saw the largest influx of new residents coming to our township. It may be hard to understand why so many people wanted to travel from the east coast to Harpersfield. What was it that drove the people here? Maybe they wanted to come here because this was new territory, or they would be the first settlers.



Schools: The first school house was built in 1802 and the teacher was Elizabeth Harper. Our township has the honor of having the first official school house in Ashtabula County. The first framed school house was built in 1817 and was located in Unionville. It was a two story building. The top floor is where the Masonic Hall was located. The first floor was the school house and was also used for church purposes. A school teacher back then made \$1,358 per year.

Churches: The first sermon given in our township was in 1800 and it was given by Rev. Joseph Bader, a traveling missionary pastor. Where the sermon was given is unknown but most likely in a pioneer dwelling. The first hewn log church was built in 1804. The first frame church was erected in 1830 and was known as the Baptist Meeting House. The Union Church was built in 1836 and the exact location is unknown. The church of South Harpersfield was in the home of G. H. Cheverell, where many of the residents attended. The Episcopal Church was built around 1831 and was located in Unionville, as was the Congregational Church.



Post Offices: The first Post Office was formed in 1820. Ezra Gregory was commissioned as the first postmaster and he worked out of his house. In 1830 another post office was added in South Harpersfield.

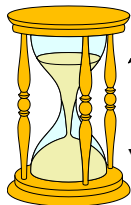
Stay tuned for more information in the next newsletter.

Respectfully submitted, *Ray Gruber Jr.*



If someone gives you a gift that you don't like, just say, "I'll treasure it forever" and then bury it in the woods like a pirate.

Don't be an ECHO, echo, echo.
Be a VOICE.



Time...

is the only currency you spend without ever knowing your balance.
Use it wisely.



DID YOU FIND THE ERROR?

ANS: The Sept. calendar clipart only has 28 days in it.

9/25

Four things you can't recover:



The stone.....after it's thrown.

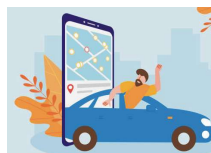


The WORD.....after it's said.



The time.....after it's gone.

The occasion.....after it's missed.



You know you're a bad driver when Siri says:
"In 400 feet, stop and let me OUT!"



How does Moses make his tea?
Hebrews it.

Seriously, that Israeli how he does it.

A bottle of water can be 50¢ at the supermarket, \$2.00 at the gym, \$3.00 at the movies and \$6.00 on an airplane.

Same water. The only thing that changed its value was the place.

So the next time you feel your worth is nothing, maybe you're in the wrong place.



As a child,
you make funny faces at the mirror.
When you become an adult,
the mirror gets even.



ANYTHING LOST BY SPEAKING TRUTH, ISN'T A LOSS.
IT'S AN ALIGNMENT.



Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything down and cleaned thoroughly. Today I'm putting the cockroach in the bathroom.

My wife asked me to pass her
By mistake, I gave her
She's still not talking to me.



Instead of worrying about
what's under the tree,
be grateful for
who's around it.



Merry Christmas!

Think about it ...
The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

The older you get,
the tougher it is to lose weight
because by then,
your body and your fat
have gotten to be really good friends.

