



COLLIER TOWNSHIP

www.colliertownship.net

COMMISSIONERS

George E. Macino, President • Wilson J. Durisko, Vice President • Wayne M. Chiurazzi, Esq. • Nichole M. Kauer • Jason C. Oskamp

For Immediate Release: 13 January 2016

Contact: Sal Sirabella, Township Manager, ssirabella@colliertwp.net

COLLIER TOWNSHIP BLIGHT REMOVAL EFFORTS SECURE ADDITIONAL GRANT SUPPORT

Collier Township, PA – the Collier Township Board of Commissioners report that through a strategic effort administered by the Township’s Code Enforcement Department, 28 blighted and dangerous buildings within the Township have been razed since 2011.

“This week, the Township has been given notice that our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application seeking \$5,950 to demolish the condemned structure at 19 West Noblestown Road has been awarded,” stated Township Manager Sal Sirabella. Demolition is expected to be underway this spring.

To review the process, Township Code Enforcement has identified 43 structures in the township that had significant property maintenance code, fire code and construction code violations that warranted them unsafe for human habitation. Since this effort began in 2011, through uniform and aggressive code enforcement, 28 of those structures identified have been razed by the respective property owners, three have been demolished by the Township with municipal liens filed against the property and four have been razed with \$29,050 in CDBG grant assistance.

“The Collier Commissioners have realized that the effects of blight, specifically caused by abandoned and dangerous buildings such as the 43 identified by Township Code Officials in 2011, can be a serious public safety risk, lead to a reduction in neighboring property values, and also invite an element of crime. By demolishing these 28 structures, many sections of Collier’s older neighborhoods, including Kirwan Heights, is a safer and more welcoming place to call home,” stated Board President George Macino.

Collier Township’s Building & Fire Code Official is Thomas Plietz.

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Pennsylvania Governor’s Award for Local Government Excellence - 2015
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Allegheny County Banner Community - 2015
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For Immediate Release: 10 February 2016

Contact: Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager
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COLLIER TOWNSHIP RECEIVES GRANT FROM PITTSBURGH PIRATES CHARITIES FOR NEW BASEBALL DUGOUTS AT SKAVARCA FIELD

Collier Township, PA – the Collier Township Board of Commissioners are proud to announce that the Township has been awarded a \$7,500 “Fields for Kids” grant from the Pittsburgh Pirates Charities that will help construct new baseball dugouts at Skavarca Field, replacing two existing dugouts that have bad roofs and that are in need of extensive repairs. The new dugouts will also be fully ADA accessible and will be a welcomed addition to the many ballplayers that use them each year.

“We are grateful for the support of the Pittsburgh Pirates to help make these necessary improvements at Skavarca Field possible. With this grant, sports played at this park will be much safer and enjoyable,” stated President of the Collier Township Board of Commissioners George Macino. Construction is anticipated to be completed by mid-summer.

In recent history, this is the second Pittsburgh Pirates Charities grant that has helped improve the baseball fields in Collier Township. In 2013, the Pirates awarded the community \$5,000 to help fund new bleachers at Webb Field.

Skavarca Field is located within Collier Township’s Cubage Hill Neighborhood .

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2016

CONTACT: Sal Sirabella, Manager
412 279-2525

Collier Township Honored as a 2016 Banner Community

Collier Township, Pennsylvania – has been named a 2016 Banner Community by the Allegheny League of Municipalities for providing effective, efficient and accountable services to its residents and businesses. The designation also acknowledges Collier Township's efforts to inform and engage citizens through frequent and open communication, public events and community activities. Collier Township has received this award for the past 4 years.

"The Banner Community Program recognizes municipalities that implement best practices in all aspects of their operations and that govern in an inclusive, collaborative manner," said Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, who is also chairman of the Allegheny League of Municipalities. "These are cities, boroughs and townships that understand fiscal accountability, customer service, and civic responsibility."

To be recognized as a Banner Community, a municipality must demonstrate its commitment to the following best practices each year:

- Training and education for its elected and/or appointed officials;
- Active participation in professional organizations, such as the Allegheny League of Municipalities, Allegheny County Boroughs Association, Allegheny County & Western Pennsylvania Association of Township Commissioners, and Allegheny County Association of Township Officials;
- Active participation in its Council of Governments, as well as intergovernmental cooperation, sharing of services, and other joint efforts with one or more municipalities;
- Sponsorship and/or promotion of community events and activities, such as a community day, parade, cleanup day, municipal open house, crime awareness effort, and benefits or fundraisers; and
- Routine communication with residents through a newsletter, website, email or other method, as well as active participation with local elementary, middle and high school students, such as speaking to classes, sponsoring special events, and offering internships and/or student shadow days.

"Collier Township is especially honored to be named a 2016 Banner Community for the fourth year in a row," said Sal Sirabella, Township Manager., "Residents and businesses rely on the various services we provide on a daily basis, and they expect and deserve us to be as efficient, effective and professional as possible. We take that responsibility very seriously. That's why we're always striving to improve our operations and to provide the highest quality of life for our community."

A best practice that Collier Township implements is enhanced communications with residents through newsletters, events mailings, email blasts, utilization of a new LED Message Board, cable channels, enhanced website which posts all agendas and meeting minutes of all Authorities, Boards and Commissions, implementation of an internet based complete Parks and Recreation management system called eTrak-plus that will allow residents desktop and online registration, scheduling, membership management, league scheduling and reporting.

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Sharon Pillar
spillar@smartpower.org
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Solarize Collier Township Launches on May 10 *Township's Leaders Hope to Inspire Residents to Go Solar*

May 2, 2016— Collier Twp.: *Solarize Collier Twp*, a community-supported solar campaign run by non-profit SmartPower, will officially launch with a workshop on Tuesday, May 10, from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Collier Township Community Center at 5 Pvt Lobaugh Dr, Oakdale. A brief presentation about the program will be offered along with refreshments. Attendees will meet the selected solar installers and can sign-up to get a free solar quote for their home or business. Registration for the workshop can be found at www.solarizeallegheny.org/Collier.

“Collier Township is leading the way with the installation of our own solar system on the public works building a couple of years ago” said Collier Township Manager Sal Sirabella. “Many homes in Collier Township are also perfectly situated for solar energy, and we hope through Solarize Collier, our residents will follow our example. With the dramatic drop in solar prices over the past several years solar is now a great investment and can save residents and business owners thousands of dollars for decades.”

Sharon Pillar, manager of the Solarize Allegheny program for SmartPower said, “The biggest misconception people have is that solar doesn’t work in cloudy western Pennsylvania, but we get more energy from the sun than Germany – the leading solar nation. A home in Collier Township can create as much solar electricity as a home in Arizona simply by adding an extra solar panel or two.”

Collier Township applied to participate in the Solarize Allegheny program, which aims to double the number of installations across the County in just two years. The robust on-the-ground outreach campaign helps homeowners and businesses connect directly to local, pre-screened, qualified solar installers who will offer competitive bids, guidance and help to go solar. Collier Township joins other communities for Phase 3 of the campaign, including the City of Pittsburgh neighborhoods of Lawrenceville, Bloomfield, Garfield, Oakland and Uptown and the borough of Forest Hills, which will hold its launch workshop on Monday, May 16.

Solarize Allegheny is made possible through support from the Heinz Endowments and the non-profit organization, SmartPower (www.smartpower.org), as well as from township officials and volunteers from Ross Township who are spearheading this effort in their community.

For more information about Solarize Allegheny visit www.SolarizeAllegheny.org or contact Sharon Pillar, SmartPower Vice President, at spillar@smartpower.org. Contact Sal Sirabella, Collier Township Manager at ssirabella@colliertwp.net or 412 279-2525

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About The Heinz Endowments: The Heinz Endowments supports efforts to make southwestern Pennsylvania a premier place to live and work, a center for learning and educational excellence and a region that embraces diversity and inclusion.

About SmartPower: SmartPower is the nation's leading non-profit dedicated to helping Americans make clean energy decisions. Named the nation's best non-profit marketing firm, SmartPower's exclusive focus on energy efficiency and clean energy results in high visibility, high impact on-the-ground community campaigns designed to transform how customers use, adopt and invest in clean energy and energy efficiency. (www.smartpower.org)



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For Immediate Release: 29 June 2016

Contact: Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager
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COLLIER TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS AWARDED \$4,387 GRANT TO DEVELOP COLLIER TOWNSHIP TRAIL NETWORK MAP AND GUIDE

Collier Township, PA – The Collier Township Board of Commissioners proudly announced that it was awarded a \$4,387 Active Allegheny grant with funding supported by the Richard King Mellon Foundation to develop the Collier Township Trail Network Map and Guide.

The Trail Network Map and Guide Project will create an attractive guide and map that will be distributed to residents and made available at the trail heads, new community center and other public facilities within Collier. The map stands as a bridge to bring new users to the trails and helps connect trail patrons to other trails that they might have not realized existed here in Collier.

"The production of this Map and Guide is at a pivotal moment for the trails within Collier Township in 2016. The Collier Discovery Path, is a pedestrian and bike trail that connects Route 50, the Neville House / Woodville Plantation, Hilltop Park, and Nevillewood communities to the Panhandle Trail to Settlers Cabin Park and the Botanical Gardens and ultimately to the Montour Trail. The Collier Discovery Path trail segments are approximately 70 percent completed," stated George Macino, President of the Board of Commissioners.

Live Well Allegheny efforts are funded by the Richard King Mellon Foundation through the Allegheny County Health Department. Live Well Allegheny was launched in January 2014 as a comprehensive, innovative strategy on wellness that embraces a broad concept of living well to include physical health, mental wellness, personal and community safety, prevention and preparedness and much more. Today, there are 24 Live Well Allegheny Communities including Collier Township.

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