

# Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News



Spring Edition 2021



## Letter from the President

One thing I learned in the past year is how to pivot.

*Pivot. Verb—to turn or rotate, like a hinge. Noun—any thing or person on which something or someone functions or depends.*

In 2020 we realized the importance of being flexible, forgiving, innovative, and understanding. Faced with a global pandemic, we learned to pivot, finding new and innovative ways to promote our traditions. Our creativity allowed us to continue with so much of what we hold dear. It became a time to count blessings.

Today, my Facebook feed is filled with pictures of vaccinated grandparents hugging grandchildren for the first time! The sense of “normal” is beginning to return. Now, more than ever, it is important to remember the recommendations from Federal and State governments—they are in place for your safety, as well as the people around you.

We hope to return to the Tabernacle. Our community partners are actively engaged, collaborating to find common solutions that promote safety and awareness during our annual festivals and events. Scheduling is under way, and it is the intention of the MGCA Board of Managers to support these programs in conjunction with safe mitigation efforts.

Your safety is our number one priority. Help us to ensure this by wearing masks, practicing frequent, thorough hand washing, and using common sense—be good neighbors. After all, that is what makes the Campmeeting so special.

At the first sight of sunshine, and the nudge of a warm breeze, we are already thinking about readying our porch for the season. Hopefully, winter weather is behind us and the Easter season is budding. We are certainly ready to relax on those “Lazy Days.”

As a community of volunteers, we realize that work is scheduled too. Plans are being developed for infrastructure projects in our community—the water tower and First Street culverts are just a few. Please keep an eye on communications, as well as public meetings. We are always here to listen and to answer your questions.

See you on the porch!

Kevin Burd  
President, MGCA Board of Managers

## Nominations Sought for Board of Managers

Would you like to serve on the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Board of Managers? Nominations are now open and all Members are eligible. Four Board members will be elected or re-elected this summer to serve a three-year term which will begin on January 1, 2022. If you have a desire to serve on this hard-working board, please submit your name with your picture and a 100-word or less biography to [office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org](mailto:office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org) or to Mt. Gretna Campmeeting, P.O. Box 428, Mt. Gretna, PA 17064, in care of Esther Mefferd, by June 4. Your information will be printed in the summer newsletter for all to read.

Again, this year, all voting will take place by mail. Ballots will be sent out from the Campmeeting office June 29 and completed ballots must be received in the MGCA Post Office box by July 29. Counting of the ballots will take place on Saturday morning, July 31 with results of the voting made available in the afternoon of that day.

Members who have previously submitted bios are encouraged to do so again. Thank You!

Esther Mefferd  
Chair, Nominations Committee



## Memorial Day Weekend Annual Porch Sale

The Campmeeting Annual Porch Sale will be held on Saturday, May 29, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's a great opportunity to see what's been hiding in your neighbors' closets and it's always fun to make someone else's trash into your treasure! The sale is sponsored by the MGCA Community Activities Committee, and while it is open to the public, to prevent crowding we are not broadly advertising it.

Campmeeting cottage owners who would like their address to be included on the porch sale map should email [Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org](mailto:Office@MtGretnaCampmeeting.org) by May 8, 2021.

Due to COVID-19, we ask everyone to wear a mask and social distance.

Tammy Travitz  
Chair, Community Activities Committee



## Annual MGCA Membership Meeting, Election and Community Picnic

This is a reminder that the 2021 MGCA Annual Membership Meeting will be held at noon on Saturday, July 31. The meeting will include updates on a variety of Campmeeting issues and a membership vote to fill four Board of Managers positions. At this point we're taking a conservative approach and plan to conduct the meeting via Zoom but still hope to follow with an outdoor pot-luck style luncheon. We'll make a final decision on details closer to the meeting date.

## EARTH DAY - Celebrating 51 Years!

Earth Day was established in the United States in 1970 to **increase public awareness of environmental problems**. It is credited with **starting the environmental movement** in the United States and is now celebrated around the world. Earth Day is always on April 22, but many communities celebrate it the weekend before or after.

Due to COVID-19, we in the Campmeeting haven't been able to gather to celebrate this important day. Here are some things you can do around our community while social distancing:

- Pick up trash in the community, on the trail while walking, or along the roads. This will keep the trash out of our waterways.
- Plant a tree or shrub.
- Use lawn care products that are environmentally friendly.
- Build a birdhouse and hang it in your yard.

- Take the kids for a hike, teach them to identify trees, edible plants, bird sounds etc.
- Make a bee condo. [Bee Kind to Bees: Make a Bee Condo · Kix Cereal](#)
- Take stock of what you already have, and what you don't need more of. You might be surprised to find that those jeans you had crammed in the back of your closet are back in style. Knowing what you already have can prevent you from making impulse or unnecessary purchases, thus reducing your consumer footprint in the long run.
- [Scrape Lantern Fly eggs from our trees and other areas when you find them.](#)
- Color the picture at the end of this newsletter and make a pledge to help the earth.

Pat Wilmsen  
Tree Health and Maintenance Committee

### Emails or Texts Anyone?

Beginning in September, the MGCA will start making greater use of our electronic messaging capability to keep you “in the loop.” Included with your last General Assessment notice was a yellow form you could use to sign up to receive a variety of communications from the MGCA via email, text message, or both.

Many of you “opted in” to the service, but some of you indicated you didn't want to receive any electronic communications at all from the MGCA. Less and less information is being routinely sent to Members via the U.S. Mail. Consequently, we're concerned that those of you who “opted out” of all email and text communications may miss out on important information, or receive it on a less than timely basis.

To recap, here are the four categories of information you can choose to receive via email, text, or both.

**Alerts:** Notification of urgent matters such as water supply or sewer issues, downed trees or power lines, snow storms/plowing, etc.

**Publications:** Notification when the MGCA quarterly newsletter or other MGCA publications have been posted to our website.

**Minutes:** Notification when minutes and video from the monthly Board of Managers meetings have been posted to our website.

**General:** Reminders of things such as the leaf collection schedule, Quiet Season dates, Heritage Festival concerts, etc.

We don't want to bombard you with unwanted messages, and it will be easy to unsubscribe if you sign up but later decide you don't want to participate. And be assured, the contact information you provide will not be shared with any individual, organization, or business.

So, if you haven't signed up to receive MGCA info via email/text or want to change your preferences, please submit the yellow sign-up form or contact the MGCA office at 717.964.3040 or [office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org](mailto:office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org).

Hal Myers  
Communications Committee



# Summer Events in the Campmeeting

## Quoits in Campmeeting

Played for centuries in various forms worldwide, the game of quoits has a big following here in Pennsylvania. In fact, the national governing body for the sport, the US Quoit Association, was formed in 2003 by a group of Central PA enthusiasts. The USQA sponsors nearly 20 weekend competitions each year from April through November.

In American Quoits, contestants pitch 6" diameter, 3.5 lb. metal rings 21 feet and try to land them on, or as close as possible to, a 4" high metal post. The sport has rules similar to those used in pitching horseshoes and is enjoyed by many as a relaxing pastime on those warm summer days.

The Campmeeting has its own quoit court; it's the covered structure next to Rt. 117 between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets. And while there's no longer a formal quaiting club, a number of Mt. Gretna community members meet at 9 on Saturday mornings to play the game. Everyone is welcome, whether experienced or novice. For more information on quoits in the Campmeeting, or if you'd like to give it a try, contact Larry Bowman at BowmanL322@comcast.net.



## Library to Open Memorial Weekend

The Mt. Gretna Community Library will open for the 2021 season Memorial Day weekend. Our opening will be on Saturday, May 29, 2021 - the same day as the Campmeeting porch sale - and we will be open from 10 a.m. to noon that day. Please stop by to say hello and look over our book discards. Take what you want and leave a donation if you wish.

Joan Sherman is coordinating volunteers and book donations. You can contact her via email at [jmsherman01@comcast.net](mailto:jmsherman01@comcast.net) or text at 717-991-1781.

We will be following state guidelines for health and safety and limiting our hours and programs, but are so looking forward to the start of a new year! The magazine rack is on the porch and the Little Free Libraries are stocked. We will start the season with the following schedule:

- Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 10 a.m. to noon
- Wednesday: 6 to 8 p.m.

Watch for updates on the Library Facebook page: [\[mtgretnalibrary\]](https://www.facebook.com/mtgretnalibrary) and on our bulletin boards. Hope to see you soon!



## 2021 Heritage Festival, an MGCA-Sponsored event series – Music under the Trees

The Community Activities Committee volunteers are proud to present the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Heritage Music Festival. This family-friendly music festival is held at the Campmeeting Tabernacle. All performances are from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m., rain or shine. There is no charge for admission; all donations are welcomed with a \$10 donation appreciated. Come out and support local musicians. Information will be posted to the MGCA website, as well as the MTG Summer Calendar and [www.mtgretna.com](http://www.mtgretna.com). The Tabernacle is smoke-free; alcohol is strictly prohibited in this public area.

# Summer Events in the Campmeeting

## June 05 – Don Johnson

Albert King, Buddy Guy, BB King and Jimi Hendrix have influenced Don Johnson's musical style. He has played in many bands over the years including "The Don Johnson Project," which participated in the 2008 and 2009 International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee. Don also performed with "The Playboys," a Virginia-based band and several other local bands including "Rupa Dupa" and "B Block Blues." He has been playing guitar since the age of six and has been entertaining for nearly 50 years. Born in Virginia, he now resides in the Harrisburg area, and can often be found jamming at the Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania's weekly gathering. In 2008, his soulful vocals and creative guitar stylings were featured in the original blues musical, "The Tear Jar."

## June 19 – Nicole Roberts

Nicole Roberts is thrilled to be in her hometown of Mount Gretna celebrating the legacy of one of her life-long artistic muses, the fabulous Judy Garland. As a performer, Garland was intelligent, sincere, and enormously empathetic - traits that Nicole constantly strives to bring to her own music. Through original arrangements by Nicole and her dad, Andy Roberts, you will hear many familiar songs, which played an essential role in the story of Judy Garland's life. As a graduate of the Music Business Department at Berklee College of Music, Nicole has been working as a freelance Music Industry Consultant, designing marketing collateral for a variety of musicians. Last year, she was honored to serve as Manager for the New York Voices Vocal Jazz Camp at Western Michigan University. Nicole is also currently pursuing a Certificate in Graphic Design from Rhode Island School of Design.

## July 03 – Colebrook Road

Colebrook road is excited to be returning to the Tabernacle this summer to entertain us with their unique style.

This Harrisburg, PA outfit has a real synergy, both vocally and instrumentally, between its five talented and consistently complimentary members; an abundance of exciting original

material; and a refreshing contemporary grass sound that stays very much in the traditional bluegrass mode.

Guitarist, lead vocalist, and main songwriter Jesse Eisenbise lends his great vocal range and racing guitar picking to each song, while banjoist, dobroist, and bass vocalist Mark Rast hammers out blinding right-hand rhythms blended with just enough left-hand virtuosity. Mandolinist Wade Yankey's gargantuan rhythm chop and inventive breaks play off of fiddler and baritone vocalist Joe McAnulty's searing, syncopated fiddle work. Bassist and tenor vocalist Jeff Campbell holds down the bottom end with a notably percussive drive.

## August 14 – Angry Young Band: The Billy Joel Tribute

Angry Young Band: The Billy Joel Tribute recreates the energy and intimacy of Billy's classic touring band. The group performs career-spanning smash hits and fan favorites, drawing from every album from 1971's Cold Spring Harbor to 1993's River of Dreams. Based in Philadelphia, the city helped put Joel on the map when a live performance of Captain Jack became the most-requested song on radio station WMMR. The lineup includes lifelong Billy Joel fans Matt DiMarino and Jack Firreno on piano and drums, respectively, along with Matt Frankl on guitar, bassist David Trum, Colin Taber on guitar and keyboards, and backup vocalist and percussionist Alexis Parente. Over the past year, they have expanded to the Lehigh Valley, where Joel toured heavily early in his career.



## Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church

Online Zoom church services, Prayer Zoom, and other meetings continue virtually. Contact the church for further information at [mgumc@verizon.net](mailto:mgumc@verizon.net) or 717-964-3241. Follow their Facebook page [Mount Gretna United Methodist Church] for up-to-date information.

# Summer Events in the Campmeeting

## 2021 Bible Festival, a Tabernacle Association-Sponsored event series – Christian Spiritual Renewal in a Unique Victorian Setting

### **Ecumenical Worship Services – Fridays in June, 7 p.m. at the MGCA Tabernacle**

The 8<sup>th</sup> season for The Mt. Gretna Tabernacle Ecumenical Program begins on Friday, June 4, at 7 p.m. “God’s Presence” is the theme for this year’s Friday evening programs.

“Why should I attend another service during the week?” We have found that each denomination brings a unique presentation and challenges us to examine our own beliefs, as we try to understand their approach to religion. A new style and format can create a renewed interest, which heightens our awareness and stimulates our thoughts. Worshipping in a different format other than that of our usual weekly service may be exciting and serve to refresh our relationship to our God.

Participating in worship in the outdoor setting of the Tabernacle, gathering with different communities of faith, and attending services at a different time may stimulate our thoughts and invigorate our faith. Please join us; there will be a free will offering.

- June 4 “The Benefit of God’s Presence.” Rev. Bryan S. McAllister, Bethel A.M.E. Church, Camden, New Jersey.
- June 11 “God’s Presence Transforms.” Rev. Jeffrey Schell, Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church, Manheim, Pennsylvania.
- June 18 “God’s Presence in His Word.” Fr. James E. Lease. St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.
- June 25 “God’s Presence...on Low and High Power.” Rev. Len Knighton, Chaplain, Lebanon Valley Home, Jonestown, Pennsylvania.

## **Sunday Evening Worship Services & Concerts – 7 p.m. at the MGCA Tabernacle**

Please join us; there will be a free will offering. Most programs will be simulcast on the Bible Festival’s website and Facebook: [MtGretnaTabernacle].

- June 6 Mennonite Children’s Choir of Lancaster – training children and youth to glorify Jesus Christ through excellent choral singing.
- June 20 Andy Roberts Jazz Quartet—Mt. Gretna Campmeeting’s own Andy Roberts will praise God with his original jazz song stylings. Sponsored by JoAnn Thomas Show.
- June 27 New Holland Band—Patriotic and spiritual concert, directed by Kenneth Laudermilch.
- July 4 TBA.



- July 11 Darryl Strawberry, former Major League Baseball player, will be welcomed to Mt. Gretna Campmeeting. Darryl’s passion is serving the Lord Jesus Christ by speaking a message of hope and helping others to transform their lives through the power of the gospel. The presentation will be simulcast to additional locations. Music starts at 6:30 p.m.
- July 18 Rev. Dr. Stephen McKinney-Whitaker from Derry Presbyterian Church, Hershey, PA. will speak. “Checking our Blind Spots,” text from Mark 10:46-52.
- July 25 Alden Keynotes Chorus, led by Darrell Woomeer—voices from Alden Place.

# Summer Events in the Campmeeting

- August 1 Lancaster British Band, under the direction of Dr. Stephen Arthur Allen. Twenty-eight instrumentalists from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey play brass, winds and percussion instruments. They are accomplished, professional performers and teachers.
- August 4 (Wednesday) Music of the Gaithers—hymn sing led by Rev. Bob Kettering and Dr. Rod Shearer.
- August 8 National Christian Choir, directed by Kathy Bowman, was founded in 1984. The choir is called to glorify God through a unique ministry of music which draws people into a new and deeper relationship with Him.
- August 15 Men in Harmony, directed by Nathan Minnich. Men in Harmony is an all-volunteer men's chorus of 20+ voices. Their musical repertoire includes sacred, classical, gospel, spirituals, hymn tunes, and patriotic songs.
- August 22 Susquehanna Chorale—a premier choral group in the nation, directed by Linda Teford, presents its traditional late summer performance at the Tabernacle
- August 29 QuintEssentially Brass—a quintet with engaging personalities and sparkling instrumental performances closes another Bible Festival summer season.
- October 2 Massed Choir – Composer Lloyd Larson will direct local voices in a joyous Sunday afternoon concert. Sponsored by Losers Music and Cornwall Manor.



## Mt. Gretna Summer Concerts

Preparations are underway for Larry McKenna's family-friendly Mt. Gretna Summer Concerts to return to the Tabernacle. Larry and his talented performers have been rehearsing all of your favorite numbers for the 2021 season. Performances are on Saturday nights from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m., rain or shine. Concerts are "pay-what-you-want" and all contributions are appreciated.

This concert series is sponsored by Your Financial Community of PA, Inc. We're hopeful that restrictions related to Covid-19 will be relaxed somewhat by the first concert, but we do intend to comply with federal, state, and local guidance regarding Covid-19 precautions. Updated information will be posted to the MGCA website Calendar of Events, as well as the MTG Summer Calendar and [www.mtgretna.com](http://www.mtgretna.com).

### **The concert series event listing includes:**

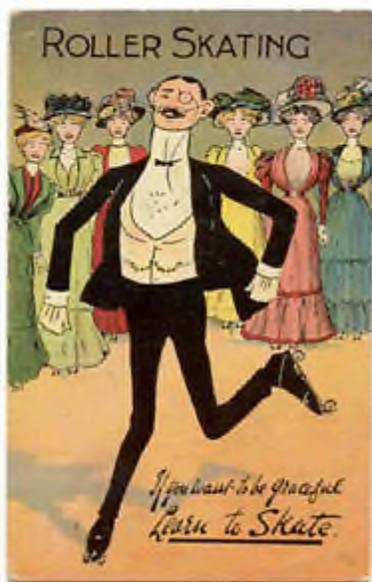
- June 26 The music of the Top 20 Female Singers of all time—from Ella to Whitney
- July 10 The music of Cher
- July 17 Parrothead Party: The music of Jimmy Buffet—wear your Hawaiian shirts!
- July 24 The music of the Beatles
- July 31 Broadway's greatest hits
- August 21 The music of Carly Simon
- August 28 The music of Carole King
- September 4 The music of the Beach Boys & the Four Seasons



## Mt. Gretna Area Historical Society – Community Events

Go to the Historical Society's website for details on upcoming events. Consider becoming a member or a volunteer. Also, looking for a unique Mt. Gretna gift? Feel free to browse the online store at [www.mtgretnahistory.org/shop](http://www.mtgretnahistory.org/shop).

# Summer Events in the Campmeeting



## Mt. Gretna Roller Rink – Now Open

The Roller Rink is open and the new season featuring skating to live organ music is underway. Come on out for a night of fun rolling with the crowd, or just listening to the organ music on the Hammond B3. Check their website at [www.mtgretnarollerrink.com](http://www.mtgretnarollerrink.com) or call 717-964-3631 for days/hours of operation, special events, and any safety precautions related to COVID-19.



## Mount Gretna Fire Department – Station 38

Follow their Facebook page [MtGretnaFireCompany] for up-to-date events information.

Looking to volunteer? Contact 717-964-3511.

Reflective house number signs are still available for purchase from the fire company. Ensure that emergency personnel can find you

quickly. If interested, contact the fire company for further details.

## Support Mount Gretna Businesses

The following local businesses remain open and continue to follow state/federal guidelines regarding safety:

- Gretna Timbers [www.gretnatimbers.com](http://www.gretnatimbers.com). Follow Facebook [GretnaTimbers] to support upcoming events. Tentatively planning to reopen in late April for in-house dining. Planning to offer a Mother's Day menu available for take-out on May 9th from 11:30am to 2:30pm. Call 717-964-3601 for details. Take-out is by pre-order only.
- La Cigale [www.lacigale-usa.com](http://www.lacigale-usa.com). Shop online, or in the local gallery. Several local artists are featured—contact 717-964-3313 for more information. Follow on Facebook [LaCigaleUSA].
- Mt. Gretna Hide-A-Way [www.mtgretnahideaway.com](http://www.mtgretnahideaway.com). Indoor and deck seating is available. Indoor reservations are not required but can be made by calling 717-675-7987. Takeout orders can be placed by phone or on their website. Follow Facebook [mtghideaway] for up-to-date events, information, and their partner restaurants.
- Mt. Gretna Pizzeria. Open Wednesday and Thursday from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m., Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Cinco de Mayo Special – **May 5 only!** – 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. – Beef nachos, chicken enchiladas, chorizo, chicken, steak tacos, plus sides. Call 717-964-1853 for information or takeout. Follow on Facebook [MtGretnaPizza]
- Porch & Pantry [www.porchandpantry.com](http://www.porchandpantry.com). Open for indoor dining Tuesday through Sunday 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Seating is first-come, first-served. Sorry, no reservations. Follow on Facebook [PorchandPantry] for up-to-date information or go to their website to order from the online store.

# Buildings and Grounds



## Water Supply Project Moves Forward

In a vote concluded on March 13, 2021, MGCA Members authorized the Board of Managers to secure financing to fund the Campmeeting water supply project. The project will include improvements to our water treatment system and replacement of our 75-year-old water storage tank.

On March 16, after reviewing bids from three different companies, the Board selected Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic, Inc. (HRG) to develop plans, conduct bids, and oversee execution of the project. HRG is a full-service, employee-owned civil engineering firm established in 1962 with offices in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia. HRG's proposal includes a replacement tank which, like our current tank, will be of durable, welded-steel construction and should provide many years of service.

MGCA representatives have met with several banks and credit unions and recently met with representatives from the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST), a Commonwealth funding organization, to discuss available funding options. HRG also participated in the April 9 meeting with PENNVEST. We will provide additional project details in future communications.

## Culvert Project Update

We previously told you of plans to replace two of the Campmeeting's large stormwater drainage culverts, one under Kauffman Avenue and another under 1<sup>st</sup> Street at the Carter parking lot. This is an update on what has been accomplished to date and what remains to be done. The work outlined below is being performed by Harbor Engineering, a firm contracted by the MGCA for their expertise in this area.

- Initial site survey and evaluation completed.
- Design drawings and specifications for the project completed.
- Required construction/environmental permit applications completed.
- Permit applications and design drawings/specifications submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for approval.

The DEP will either approve our plan and permit applications or return them with guidance on any necessary revisions. This process could take as little as 2 to 3 months but due to the pandemic has recently been taking as long as 6 to 8 months.

After the DEP approves our plan and issues the required permits the project will be put out for bid to qualified contractors. When a contractor is selected and a contract is signed the actual work can begin. Depending on the speed of the approval process and contractor availability, we hope to break ground this fall or in the spring of 2022.

Funding for the design and bidding phase of the project was included in the 2021 budget, and the Board continues to investigate availability of grants and low-interest loans to defray or amortize the cost of project completion. You can find additional information on the culvert project under the "News and Information" tab on the MGCA website.

# Buildings and Grounds

## Spring Leaf and Stick Collection

Regular leaf collection will resume later this month, continue until mid-June, then start again in the fall.

Collection of sticks and other “green waste,” (sticks, branches, pinecones, root-balls from potted plants, etc.) will also resume this month but will continue periodically through the summer months.

**Leaf piles may contain leaves and pine needles ONLY!**

Sticks and green waste **MUST** be placed in a separate pile!

Both piles must be free of pet waste and foreign objects.

**Piles that do not meet these requirements will NOT be collected but will be left in place and marked with an explanatory note.**

## New Leaf Vacuums

With our extensive tree canopy, leaf collection is an important service for all of us here in the Campmeeting. And it’s not just important; it’s expensive. One reason for that is we’ve been using a small “skid loader” to scoop up leaves, load them into a truck, and dump them behind the garages at the bottom of 1st Street.\* This is very inefficient and takes many man-hours of labor.

To address this issue, the Board recently authorized the purchase of a large, truck-mountable vacuum/shredder and a smaller walk-behind vacuum/shredder. This equipment will make short work of those mountains of fall leaves and is expected to pay for itself within two to three years. After that we’ll realize ongoing cost savings from its use.

Another benefit of these machines is that they shred leaves into a fine mulch that can be used around trees and in our common garden areas and will be made available to Members at no cost. Using this leaf mulch will return valuable nutrients to the soil and may reduce the need for chemical treatment of our trees. A downside of the vacuums is that they are noisy compared to the tools currently used for leaf collection.

However, they will dramatically speed up the leaf collection process, so the noise should be of short duration and we will strive to avoid early morning use.

The shredders are able to process small sticks and twigs (pencil size and smaller). However, Members will still need to place larger sticks/branches and other clippings in a separate pile for pickup and keep foreign objects out of leaf piles, since these items can damage the machinery. The new equipment should be in service this fall.

*\* West Cornwall Township periodically collects the leaves for use as fertilizer on farm fields.*



## Pinch Road Drainage Ditch

The Campmeeting’s founders built a simple but effective system of shallow, flat-bottomed ditches that capture stormwater as it runs downhill from Bell Avenue. These ditches redirect the water laterally to the east (to a stream that runs between the Campmeeting and the Heights) and to the west (to a stone-lined ditch on the east side of Pinch Road).

To keep it working properly, it’s important to keep all parts of the drainage system clear of leaves and debris. The Pinch Road ditch can be a particular problem in this regard. Leaves and debris can clog the culverts that pass beneath Bell Avenue, Mills Avenue, and Boehm Avenue, causing the ditch to overflow. When this has happened in the past, the area around the Mt. Gretna Post Office and Borough office has been flooded.

# Buildings and Grounds

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Clearing the clogged culverts is more complicated and costlier than you might think, so the best solution is to prevent the clogs in the first place. With that in mind, we're asking you to do your part to prevent leaves and debris from your cottage from finding their way into the Pinch Road ditch. And by all means, please don't intentionally dispose of your leaves or green waste there. The old saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" certainly applies here, and we appreciate your assistance in this matter.

The MGCA Building & Grounds Committee has been analyzing our stormwater management situation to identify areas that need improvement. We'll have details on their findings in future communications.

## **Campmeeting is in the Zone!**

The Campmeeting is unique in many ways, among them our small property lots and closely spaced cottages. These things add to the character of our community, but when it comes to compliance with local zoning regulations for construction and renovations, they can present quite a challenge.

West Cornwall Township handles municipal zoning and building permit issues for work in the Campmeeting\* and is currently reviewing their zoning regulations and procedures. As part of that process, representatives from the zoning office have asked the MGCA to work with them to develop a set of zoning regulations tailored to the special needs of the Campmeeting. Much to their credit, they recognized that our unique community may be best served by an equally unique set of regulations!

The Building and Grounds Committee is seeking volunteers to be part of a small group that will focus on this project. Volunteers would ideally have some background, familiarity or interest in zoning and construction issues. For more information, contact B&G chairman Don Dale at [DonDaleDesigns@comcast.net](mailto:DonDaleDesigns@comcast.net), with the subject "Zoning Committee".

*\*Remember, an approved MGCA Building Permit is also required for many projects!*

Don Dale  
Chair, Buildings & Grounds Committee

## **Building Permits Required for Exterior Renovations**

Spring is just around the corner, so MGCA Members are reminded that building permit applications are required for exterior renovations. Examples include:

- Construction or renovation work which alters the external boundaries of an existing structure;
- Installation of a driveway, parking area, or hardscaping of impervious material;
- Remodeling of a porch or deck;
- Relocation, upgrade, or addition to household waste and/or water lines;
- New chimney construction or reconstruction of an existing chimney;
- Foundation improvement;
- Relocation and/or upgrade to electrical, water, sewer or HVAC systems;
- Installation of fences, patios or landscape.

Before starting any of the above projects, Members must submit an MGCA building permit application to the MGCA Board of Managers for review and approval, a process delineated in the most recent Rules & Regulations handbook. In addition to an approved MGCA building permit, a separate building permit may be required from West Cornwall Township. Additional information is available in the "MGCA Building Permit Information" document available on the MGCA website.

The Board of Managers recommends that before starting any renovations to their property, Campmeeting members discuss the project with a member of the Buildings & Grounds Committee.

# Buildings and Grounds

## Another Trashy Article

Lately, my wife Tammy has been complaining about my watching trashy videos on the Internet. Most of the time I watch them on my iPad, my phone, or lately even on my big-screen TV. Yep, the new video system for monitoring the Campmeeting dumpsters really works great! The clarity is amazing and I can even connect my voice to the cameras through the iPad. Imagine the looks I get when I thank Members for using the dumpsters! You just gotta' love technology! We've had very few dumpster usage violations since we installed the surveillance video system and additional signs.

Our two 8-yard dumpsters with side-access doors are working well and have become very popular. And while it's true that these dumpsters give weekend visitors a place to discard their trash during Saturday or Sunday turnovers, most of the use has been by our regular Members (permanent and part-time residents) who really like the convenience of 24/7 trash disposal. Members who use their cottages on weekends particularly like not having to worry about having someone relocate their trash cans after a Monday morning trash pickup.

Enjoy the dumpsters and remember, we have a "Double Your Trash Back" guarantee if not satisfied!

Bob Travitz  
Building & Grounds Committee



## From the Tool Shed – Doug Cheyney, Cheyney Property Maintenance

On behalf of the Cheyney Property Maintenance team we would like to thank the Members of Campmeeting for your ongoing compliance in separating sticks from green waste.

For many, this is a quiet time in Mt. Gretna. For us, it is a time to prepare for the coming season.

As we enter this new season, we wish you good health. Thank you for allowing us to serve this community.



Consider calling us for your personal landscaping needs!

Doug Cheyney  
Cheyney Property Maintenance



## From the Office of the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting

### Welcome new Members!

Stacey & Leslie Kato – 105 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Jeff & Wendy Thompson – 207 Glossbrenner Avenue

### Office Hours, MGCA President

Because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, office hours are on-hold. If you have questions, please contact Kevin Burd, MGCA Board of Managers, President at [president@mtgretnacampmeeting.org](mailto:president@mtgretnacampmeeting.org). He will address your questions, comments and/or concerns.

### Volunteers Needed

Community members are invited to volunteer on committees of the MGCA Board of Managers. Choose your area of expertise. Meet your neighbors and make new friendships while making the Campmeeting a desirable place to live. A full committee roster is located within this newsletter. Contact the office (717-964-3040) for more information—or to volunteer.

### Board of Managers Meetings

The MGCA Board of Managers meets monthly via Zoom™ on the third Tuesday of the month. Members will receive an email invitation (sent to the primary email address on file at the MGCA office) to join these Zoom™ meetings. Additional individuals interested in attending should request the meeting link from the office in advance of the meeting dates. The recorded session is posted to the MGCA website within 24-hours of the meeting. The video is located within the “Board of Managers” ribbon, by clicking on the “Board Meeting Minutes” drop-down menu. Members are encouraged to view these meetings and to submit questions/comments to

[office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org](mailto:office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org) within ten days of the video’s posting. All questions/comments are addressed at the next Board meeting and included with the official meeting record. Meeting minutes are the official record for the MGCA archives; the ZOOM™ video is deleted once the minutes are approved by the Board.

### Be Respectful of Quiet Hours

Traditional quiet hours are from 10 p.m. until 7 a.m. Monday through Saturday and all day on Sunday year-round—**please no leaf blowers on Sundays!**

### Rules & Regulations

In an ongoing effort to enforce Campmeeting Rules, in the first quarter of 2021 (January-March):

**No warnings** were issued for Noise (Rule No. 17); **no fines** were issued.

**No warnings** were issued for Trash (Rule No. 4); **no fines** were issued.

**No warnings** were issued for Parking (Rule No. 8); **no fines** were issued.

### Dumpsters

In an ongoing effort to enforce legal disposal of refuse, in the first quarter of 2021 (January – March):

**No warnings** were issued.

**No fines** were issued.

**No referrals** were made to Cornwall Borough Police Department.

### Campmeeting Rental Opportunities

Heritage Park pavilion is available for rental on a first-come, first-served basis. The pavilion is available from April through October. The rental fee is \$50 along with a \$25 security deposit. Be advised, rental is for the pavilion-only. The surrounding park area, playground and restrooms remain available to the public. Additional rental opportunities that exist for Members include: Tabernacle rental, garage/shed rental (First Street), parking space rental (Boehm Avenue), large parking space rental (First Street, behind garages) and raised planting bed rental (Bell Avenue). Contact [office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org](mailto:office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org) for additional details or to request a rental application.

COMMITTEE ROSTER (Names in italics are MGCA committee members who do not serve on the Board of Managers)

**Executive**

Kevin Burd, Chair  
Sally Marisic  
Barb Myers  
Pat Wilmsen

**Buildings & Grounds**

Don Dale—Chair  
Joe Lamont  
*Doug Lorenzen*  
*Katcha Neale*  
*Kevin Skovina*  
*Bob Travitz*  
Pat Wilmsen  
Kevin Burd, Ex Officio  
*Deborah Erb*, Staff  
*Doug Cheyney*, Cheyney  
Property Maintenance

**Communications**

Kevin Burd—Chair  
Sally Marisic  
*Hal Myers*  
*Christine Slotznick*  
*Deborah Erb*, Staff

**Community Activities/Recreation**

Tammy Travitz—Chair  
Jennifer Kantmann  
Esther Mefferd  
Kevin Burd, Ex Officio

**Finance/Audit**

Sally Marisic—Chair  
Kevin Burd  
Ted Martin  
Barb Myers  
Pat Wilmsen

**Nominations/Election**

Esther Mefferd—Chair  
Ted Martin  
Barb Myers  
Tammy Travitz  
Kevin Burd, Ex Officio

**Property Ownership**

Barb Myers—Chair  
Pat Brosious  
Susan Hoyt  
Pat Wilmsen  
Kevin Burd, Ex Officio

**Ad Hoc Archives**

*Don Miller* – Chair  
*Carole Miller*  
Barb Myers  
Kevin Burd, Ex Officio  
*Deborah Erb*, Staff  
Note: This is a sub-committee of the Executive Committee

**Ad-Hoc Grants & Funding Sources**

Sally Marisic, Chair  
Ted Martin  
*Deborah Erb*, Staff  
Note: This is a sub-committee of the Finance Committee

**Ad Hoc Library**

Sally Marisic, Chair  
*Margaret Hopkins*  
*Marcie Lloyd*  
Kevin Burd, Ex-Officio  
*Joan Sherman* – Community Rep  
*Michelle Shay* – Community Rep  
Note: This is a sub-committee of the Community Activities Committee

**Ad Hoc Policy**

*Hal Myers*, Chair  
Jennifer Kantmann  
Sally Marisic  
Ted Martin  
*Katcha Neale*  
Kevin Burd, Ex Officio  
*Deborah Erb*, Staff  
Note: This is a sub-committee of the Executive Committee

**Ad Hoc Tree Health & Maintenance**

Pat Wilmsen – Chair  
*Ann Bering*  
*Deborah Griffith*  
*Chet Johns*  
*Emily Johns*  
*Kathleen McKenna*  
*Katcha Neale*  
Kevin Burd, Ex Officio  
Note: This is a sub-committee of the Buildings & Grounds Committee

**Board of Trustees, Mt. Gretna Tabernacle Association\***

Ted Martin, President (Representing MGCA)  
Esther Mefferd, Vice-President  
*David Pierce*, Treasurer  
*Tom Heberling*, Secretary  
Kevin Burd (Representing MGCA)  
Don Dale (Representing MGCA)  
*Bob Kettering*  
Sally Marisic (Representing MGCA)  
Barb Myers (Representing MGCA)  
Pat Wilmsen (Representing MGCA)  
Bylaws state the majority of Trustees represent the MGCA Board of Managers

**The Board of Managers**  
**and the year through which they serve**

Kevin Burd, President (2023)  
Barb Myers, Vice-President (2021)  
Sally Marisic, Treasurer (2021)  
Pat Wilmsen, Secretary (2022)  
Don Dale (2022)  
Jenn Kantmann (2023)  
Joe Lamont (2021)  
Ted Martin (2023)  
Esther Mefferd – Tabernacle Assoc. Rep.  
Tammy Travitz (2022)  
Open Seat (2021)

HAPPY  
EARTH DAY



FUN