

TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PROVIDENCE

www.uprov-montco.org • Spring/Summer 2019 • Vol. 19, No. 1



Community Needs Survey



Community Needs Survey Meeting held on May 15, 2019 in the Township Meeting Hall.

Community Needs Survey

On May 15, 2019 the Board of Supervisors received the final report on the long awaited Community Needs Survey that was commissioned in late 2018.

While the Township had conducted several surveys in the past, this was the first statistically significant sample survey that it had undertaken community wide. The Board hired Camp Hill, PA based Field Goals.US, which prepared the survey instrument.

The genesis of the survey was the result of some public meetings early last year, at which time the Board had considered closing the fitness center because of the increasing competition from private fitness establishments. The Board was acting on a recommendation from the Township Administration to de-emphasize the fitness component in favor of more non-fitness programming options.

The early recommendation, however, was met with

stiff resistance from the Center's active members.
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Recreation Center Under New Management

At its May 20, 2019 regular meeting, the Board of Supervisors unanimously accepted the Township Administration's recommendation to contract out the management of the Center's operations to Integrated Fitness Partners (IFP). Based out of its corporate offices in Ambler, PA, IFP manages several area fitness centers throughout the Philadelphia region, including the municipal centers at Montgomery and Upper Merion Townships.

"After many false starts, we realized we did not have the required expertise to run the fitness center successfully and efficiently," stated Township Manager Timothy J. Tieperman. *(Continued on Page 7)*



Police

In case of emergency call 911 · Non-emergencies call 610-489-9332

Administrative Police questions call 610-933-7899

Police Officers Recognized for Years of Service



Congratulations are in order for Corporal Michael Swartz for his 20 dedicated years of service with the Upper Providence Township Police Department. Cpl. Swartz joined the Upper Providence Township Police Department in 1998 and since then served as a patrolman until joining the ranks of corporal in 2014. Cpl. Swartz has served on the Bike Patrol, Drug Taskforce and as Emergency Management Officer.

Also recognized for service were Sergeant Matthew Tobin and Detective Sergeant Patrick Haines. Both of these officers completed 21 years of service in 2019.



Sgt. Tobin is the Department's First Aid and CPR Instructor and he heads the UPT DUI Taskforce. Det. Sgt. Haines oversees all criminal investigations reported to the Department. He also leads and is coordinator for the Department's Drug Taskforce. Thank you for all that you do to



protect this Township. We wish all of you many more years of service. ♦

Body Worn Cameras



Upper Providence Township Police Department Officers are now outfitted with body worn cameras. The cameras will record both audio and video. This new policy will assist in providing transparency for the public with an accurate documentation of pertinent events. ♦



CRIMEWATCH



Since our last publication, the Upper Providence Township Police Department has joined the CRIMEWATCH Network. The CRIMEWATCH Network aligns our communication strategy with surrounding police agencies. This process means that we have switched to a new website and social media practice. Sign up for alerts online or download the app right to your phone. The new web address is www.UpperProvidencePolice.org. ♦

Fire and Emergency Services



Grilling Fire Safety

Stay fire safe this summer! Follow these grilling safety tips.

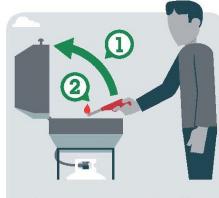
Stay fire safe this summer!
For more information and resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.



Only use your grill outside.
Keep it at least 3 feet from
siding, deck rails and eaves.



Keep a 3-foot safe zone
around your grill. This will
keep kids and pets safe.



Open your gas grill before
lighting.



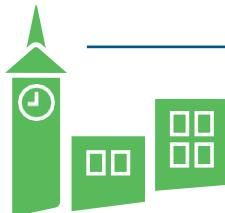
Keep an eye on your grill,
fire pit or patio torches.
Don't walk away from them
when they are lit.



Clean your grill after each
use. This will remove grease
that can start a fire.



Place the coals from your
grill in a metal can with a
lid once they have cooled.



In Development

The Planning Commission reviews development plans at public meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center. If you have questions about development, call the Township office at 610-933-9179, or stop by to review development plans or talk with a Township staff member. Learn more at www.uprov-montco.org/226/Planning-Commission.

Under Construction

Founders Reserve – WB Homes is currently building 31 single family detached homes near Valley View and Borough Line Road.

Global Packaging – A 225,000 square foot manufacturing / warehouse building on Hollow Road east of the Meadows Condominiums is currently under construction.

Morgan Tract – A combination of 89 residential units (single homes and townhouses) on the east side of Route 29 south of Black Rock Road.

Jeb Group – 60,000 square feet of self-storage buildings at Ridge Pike and Kline Road.

Cellco Partnership – Applicant is currently constructing a monopole on property owned by Glaxo-SmithKline on Ashenfelter Road adjacent to Route 422.

SEI – A new building and associated parking on their North Campus site on Upper Indian Head Road.

Plans in Final Review

615 Egypt Road – Applicant proposes 49 townhouses on the southeast corner of Egypt Road and Hollow Road.

Ridgewood Phase II – Applicant proposes 235 residential townhouses on Linfield-Trappe Road at Pennapacker Road.

Plans Requesting Preliminary Review

Providence Business Park/BWR – Applicant has submitted updated plans for a rehabilitation center in the Providence Business Park.

Providence Business Park/HB Frazer – Applicant has submitted updated plans for an office in the Providence Business Park.

Residences at Providence Town Center – Applicant is proposing 585 apartments and a 110-room hotel on Arcola Road (west of Providence Town Center).

Sheppard Distribution Center – Applicant is proposing a 180,000 square foot distribution center and a 9,600 square foot storage facility on Hollow Road.

Pierce Minor Subdivision – Applicant is proposing a minor lot line adjustment on Old State Road.

Windbiel Subdivision – Applicant proposes a three lot subdivision on Pennapacker Road, south of Ridge Pike/Main Street.

Plans Requesting Tentative Review

Silver Rhino / Yerkes Station – Applicant is proposing 185 apartments and a day care facility at Route 29/Collegeville Road and Hopwood Road.

Zoning Hearing Board applications
(currently none)

Keep Your Dog Safe This Summer

Inside temperatures of a car heat very quickly. When it's 85 degrees out, inside temperatures can reach 102 degrees in just 10 minutes! Keep your best friend safe by not leaving him or her in the car—even just for a minute. For more information visit: www.MyDogIsCool.com

Is
Your
Dog Cool?





Public Works and Finance

Skate Park Open!

Our Skate Park is now open again. Thank you to our amazing Public Works Crew for all of your hard work on reopening the Park. A grand reopening was held on April 15th. The Skate Park is a unique feature to Upper Providence Township and is very well utilized by the community. ♦♦

Sewer Rate Adjustment

The Township has received numerous inquiries from residents regarding the recent sewer bill increase as well as inquiries about the Township's newly contracted billing service.

The Township's 2019 Budget includes a \$26.50 quarterly rate adjustment, a portion of which covers recent increases enacted by the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority. This local Authority receives and processes all effluent from the Township's sanitary sewer collection system.

Another portion of the rate adjustment is earmarked to stabilize Upper Providence's sewer capital reserves to help properly maintain the Township's aging sewer collection system infrastructure.

In an effort to streamline costs, in 2019 the Township privatized its sewer billing and contracted with Berkheimer Associates. "The timing of this adjustment in addition to this new privatized billing service unfortunately confused many residents," stated Township Manager Tim Tieperman, "and we sincerely apologize for this confusion. We will certainly make an effort to more effectively communicate changes in the future."

"While we understand that this adjustment surprised many people, the Township still has among the lowest sewer rates in the region," stated Tieperman.

To further help defray the cost of collecting sewer rates, the Township is looking to transition to semi annual billing in 2020. ♦♦



Upper Providence Township Skate Park

Wash Your Car Properly

It is vital to keep our waterways clean. Protective measures should also be taken when washing a car. The best action is to take your vehicle to a commercial car wash so those chemicals do not end up in your drinking water.



If you still want to wash your car at home, do so on gravel, grass or other permeable surface. Use soap sparingly and rinse your vehicle quickly. Instead of dumping the bucket of soapy water down the street, empty the bucket into the sink. It is also recommended by the Philadelphia Water Department that if having a charity car wash event, block off the storm drain and/or insert a vacuum pump to catch the water. This water too should be emptied into a sink. ♦♦

Mailbox Policy

A new policy was adopted by the Board of Supervisors to replace mailboxes damaged from municipal snowplowing activities or other Township-sponsored road maintenance. Individuals whose mailbox was damaged as verified by UPT, can now receive a payment of \$85 to cover the cost of replacement. ♦♦





Address Change

Starting January 1, 2020, Upper Providence will be changing its address from 1286 Black Rock Road. The new addresses will include: 100 Upper Providence Boulevard for the Township Administration Building, 300 Upper Providence Boulevard for the Police Station, and 700 Upper Providence Boulevard for the Public Works Building. All buildings will be addressed by Phoenixville, PA 19460. Please follow us on our website, www.uprov-montco.org, and Facebook page for updates regarding this change. ♦

Rain Barrel Workshop

The Public Works Department will be hosting a Rain Barrel Workshop on August 7, 2019 with the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy! Since the water collected from the rain barrel is not treated, it is better for watering your plants, lawn, and car. The rain barrel also reduces flooding in your yard as well as stormwater runoff from your property. The best part is that collecting rainwater is free!

Please visit our website www.uprov-montco.org for updates and registration information. ♦

Sign up for updates and reminders on our website at uprov-montco.org!

Community Day 2019!

It is time to mark your calendars for Upper Providence Township Community Day 2019! This year's Community celebration will be held on **Saturday, September 21st**. Join us for a fun-filled day of children's activities, live music, food vendors, crafters and local business expo. The day ends with a fireworks display you do not want to miss. Follow our website and Facebook page so you do not miss any details. See you there! ♦

Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/upperprovidence

Recycling Day Anything with a Plug™

#GetUPT



July 13, 2019
1286 Black Rock Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Upper Providence Township
is proud to offer local residents the opportunity
to responsibly recycle obsolete electronics on Saturday,
July 13, 2019.

This service is available to all residents and
small businesses with fewer than 50 employees.

Electronics will be recycled by eForce Compliance,
Philadelphia's first Certified Responsible Recycler.

We will accept all electronic devices with a plug. NO
SMOKE DETECTORS OR LARGE APPLIANCES
will be accepted.

ACCEPTED ITEMS INCLUDE:

Laptops
Peripherals
Typewriters
Telephones
Microwaves
Cameras
Cell Phones
Calculators
Dehumidifiers
Computers
Mice
Small Appliances
Fax Machines
Keyboards
Printers
Air Conditioners

\$30 fee per TV
or computer monitor
\$100 fee per wooden console
or projection TV
\$10 fee per air conditioner,
dehumidifier, microwave

All Data Media Will Be
Destroyed or Wiped!



Coupon of equal or
greater value issued for all
TVs or monitors charged





Recreation



#GetUP!

Community Needs Survey



(Continued from Page 1)
 “We did not anticipate such a vociferous reaction from our members,” stated Township Manager Timothy J. Tieperman. “We underestimated their passion for preserving the health and wellness component of the Center. And quite frankly,” stated Tieperman, “we did not have definitive information on the types of alternative programs that would be offered. This is exactly why we decided to invest our resources to conduct a true random sample survey of our residents, not only to ascertain residents’ desires for the Recreation Center but also the Township’s entire park and open space system.”

The final survey analysis included four key recommendations: (1) improve community awareness of the Recreation Center and its programs; (2) include a library programming component; (3) prepare better maps and guides of the Township’s existing trail networks; and (4) include more playground improvements to meet the needs of a growing population.

Residents may access the full survey report at the Township’s website or watch the YouTube video of the meeting by using the link below and selecting the May 15, 2019 Meeting. ♦

<https://www.municipalmeeting.com/upper-providence>

Special Guest Story Time



Every month the Recreation Center hosts story time with a different guest reader. On April 11, 2019, the special guest speaker was the Township’s very own Corporal Reynolds! Which special guest do you think will visit next? ♦

Signup for updates at: Please visit us at www.uprov-montco.org

Community Golf Outing



Upper Providence Township hosted its 2019 Annual Community Golf Outing on May 20, 2019 at Spring Ford Country Club. Participants enjoyed a buffet lunch as well as

18 holes of golf followed by an awards reception dinner. In case you missed out this year, keep an eye out for this annual event in 2020! ♦

Summer Discount Tickets



Looking for something to do this summer? Do not forget Upper Providence Parks and Recreation!! Not only does our Township have beautiful parks, but we also offer tickets to several area attractions, as well as local movie theaters at a discounted price. Attractions include amusement parks, zoos, aquariums, museums and more! Contact the Recreation Center at 484-391-2390 for more information. You do not want to miss out! ♦

UP! Music Fest

This year’s very first UP! Music Fest was well attended on Saturday, May 4, 2019. The event is a free, family-friendly live music festival that was hosted at the Recreation Center.

Attendees reported that they were “having a blast!” and that they “really hope it becomes an annual thing.” In total there were nine bands that performed. Other attractions included raffles, food trucks and a beer garden. The proceeds benefited the Team Bamit foundation. See our YouTube Channel for a quick video! ♦



Recreation

Visit www.uptrc.com or call 484-391-2390 for more details!



Recreation Center Under New Management

(Continued from Page 1) “With the proliferation of niche fitness establishments popping up all over the area, including discount places like Planet Fitness and numerous 24/7 establishments, we decided to enlist the assistance of skilled fitness professionals to help manage the facility more efficiently and market it more effectively,” said Tieperman.

Mr. David Rambo, one of IFP’s managing partners, is overseeing the transition of operations which should be fully complete by June 30, 2019.

Stated Rambo, “IFP is thrilled and grateful to partner with the Township to build upon its rich history of community-centered service. We’re excited to bring our specific industry expertise in the health and wellness field and of equal importance, experience working successfully with other municipal recreation centers to deliver an engaging, family friendly experience to the entire Upper Providence region.”

With these planned management changes, there will be no interruption in service, nor will there be any reduction in service hours. IFP’s new Center team will comprise one full-time program manager and two full-time program assistants.

With this new professional team, members should expect new fitness offerings in the near future as well as more health and wellness clinics for community residents. ♦



Earth Day Event

Parks and Recreation hosted our first Earth Day Event at Anderson Farm Park. Around 75 children planted flowers and learned how to take care of the earth. Ott’s Exotic Plants donated the flowers, True Value in Trappe donated the soil and the Parks and Recreation Department provided the biodegradable pots. The event was well received and enjoyed by all. ♦



UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

Summer Concerts 2019

July 17th at 7 pm: Little Red Rooster Band

August 1st at 7 pm: The Dueling Pianos

August 15th at 7 pm: The Monkeephiles

September 21st: UPT Community Day

3-5 pm: Tim Williams Band

6-8 pm: Idol Kings

All Concerts will be held at Anderson Farm Park
499 Hopwood Road, Collegeville, PA 19426

For more information please visit our website
www.uprov-montco.org or our Facebook page
UPT Parks and Rec



Have you seen our new sunshades at Anderson Farm Park?



July is National Parks and Rec Month!

Have a favorite Township Park? Enjoy our special programs? Stay tuned and follow us online to find out what awesome things the Parks and Recreation Department has planned!! ♦

Please visit us at www.uprov-montco.org

UPPER PROVIDENCE POLLING LOCATIONS

ALL MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM
7:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

MINGO-1

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR POST 6341
730 S. FOURTH AVENUE
ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

OAKS

UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
1286 BLACK ROCK ROAD
PHOENIXVILLE, PA 19460

MONT CLARE

VALLEY FORGE BAPTIST TEMPLE
616 S. TRAPPE ROAD
COLLEGEVILLE, PA 19426



MINGO-2

ROYERSFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
452 S. LEWIS ROAD
ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

TRAPPE

SPRING-FORD MIDDLE SCHOOL
7TH GRADE CENTER
833 S. LEWIS ROAD
ROYERSFORD, PA 19468

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❖ Community Needs Survey on pages 1 and 6.

What's Inside:

Spring/Summer 2019

Oaks PA 19456

PO Box 406

1286 Black Rock Road

Township of Upper Providence