

# UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP *Update*

www.uprov-montco.org

SPRING 2008 ♦ VOL. 8, NO. 1

## Board Recognizes Marching Band Champs



*Members of the Spring-Ford High School Marching Band line the room at the Board of Supervisors meeting where they were recognized for their achievements.*

**S**pring-Ford High School Golden Rams Marching Band took Atlantic Coast Championships for the second year in a row.

The Township Board of Supervisors, at their December meeting, recognized the accomplished Golden Rams Marching Band members. “We’re

fortunate to have such tremendous talent in Upper Providence Township and we are proud to be able to honor these accomplished students,” says Township Supervisor Phil Barker.

For the first time in the school’s history, the band had an undefeated season in 2007. They went on to win the 2007 Tournament of Bands Atlantic Coast Championship for the second time in a row. Their Championship honors:

- ♦ Top Brass
- ♦ Top Woodwinds
- ♦ Top Visuals
- ♦ Tied for Top Music

Noting these impressive accomplishments, the Board passed a resolution recognizing the 110 band members and the director, Mr. John Eckstine, for “this fine achievement, gained through hard work, musical talent, marching ability, and group spirit.”

## Sewer Rate Increase in April Bill

**R**ising costs at the regional treatment plant, in addition to those for the operation and maintenance of the Township’s collection lines, prompted officials to raise residential and business sewer rates for 2008.

Residential rates will be \$45 per quarter, up from \$33 per quarter. This fee still compares favorably with other municipal rates in the area, which run approximately \$75 per quarter. The new rates will be reflected in the April 15, 2008 quarterly billing.

### Responding to Higher Costs

Upper Providence is a member of the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority (LPVRS), which increased the fee it charges its six member municipalities to \$135 from \$98 per year, per EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit), effective January 1, 2008. The LPVRS treats sewage for six municipalities at the Oaks Regional Sewer Plant.

In addition to LPVRS treatment fees, each member municipality is responsible for the ongoing maintenance and operation of its own collection system, including lines and pump stations. Costs for the collection system in Upper Providence have grown approximately four percent per year.

The chart on page 5 details the rate increases for Upper Providence residential and business properties.

*(continued on page 5)*

## Sign Up Now: Camp Black Rock

For ages 6 to 13

**DATE:** Monday through Friday,  
July 14 to August 8

**TIME:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Black Rock Park

**COST:** \$325 per child; \$250 each  
additional child (same household);  
\$400 per non-resident (no family  
discount)

This full day program, offered for the first time this summer, promises to keep your kids active and entertained for four weeks. In the morning, kids will participate in games, sports, and crafts. After lunch we board buses for a variety of activities including:

- ◆ Swimming
- ◆ Bowling
- ◆ Visiting an aquarium, amusement park, or zoo

In addition, we will have computer camp the week of July 28th. Trips are all included in the camp cost. Kids should bring their own lunch, but drinks will be provided.

For more information, or to register, visit the Recreation section on [www.uprov-montco.org](http://www.uprov-montco.org). You can also call the Recreation Department at 610-933-9179.

### Looking for more Summer activities?

Watch the mail for a special Summer Parks & Recreation edition of the Update, and even more activities online, [www.uprov-montco.org](http://www.uprov-montco.org).

## Go Beyond the Book at Your Libraries



*Katlyn Weber, age 4; Katie O'Callaghan, age 3; and Evan Riordan, age 3; act-out a mouse story with finger puppets at the Royersford Free Public Library.*

**T**ake advantage of the many resources offered by the Montgomery County Norristown Public Library (MC-NPL) and our local branch, the Royersford Free Public Library. Visit [www.mc-npl.org](http://www.mc-npl.org) or call 610-278-5100 for further information.

### Ask Here PA

Don't search...Find. That's the philosophy behind Ask Here PA, an online librarian-staffed reference source from Pennsylvania's public and academic libraries.

Ask Here PA is designed to provide fast answers to your questions, using information found on the Internet and in proprietary databases funded by libraries. In most cases, Ask Here PA librarians will provide an answer on line in 15 minutes or less!

### April is Family Reading Month at the Royersford Branch

April at the Royersford Free Public Library will be bursting with bushels of ways for families to love reading together. It all starts Saturday, March 29, at 11 a.m., when children's performer Dave Perry kicks-off April is Family Reading Month with puppets, music, doodles, and his usual brand of a crazy-good time.

### Veggie Garden Theme for April's One Book Campaign

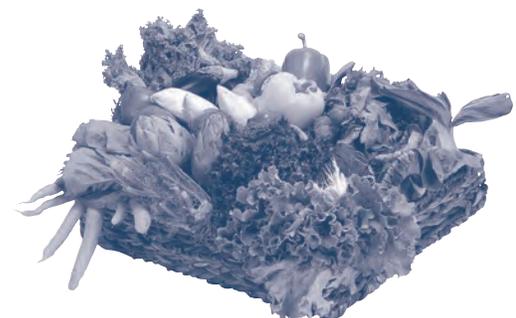
Pennsylvania's third annual One Book, Every Young Child campaign launches at the Royersford Library in April. By highlighting one book, libraries, educators, and child welfare advocates hope to show how important early

literacy development is for children. This year's one book is a veggie garden-inspired story, "Up, Down, and Around," by Katherine Ayres.

Royersford Library will offer vegetable story times with activities and vegetable tastings, a vegetable sculpting contest, a kid-friendly vegetable recipe contest for moms only, gardening discussions for adults, family entertainment, and weekly prize drawings for families who read together.

During National Library Week, April 14 to 19, children who visit will be able to plant a vegetable seed and take it home to grow. You can even meet the author of "Up, Down, and Around" when she visits the MC-NPL on April 25 at 10 a.m. Learn more at [www.paonebook.org](http://www.paonebook.org).

Royersford Free Public Library is located at 200 South Fourth Avenue, Royersford, 610-948-7277. View more events at [www.mc-npl.org](http://www.mc-npl.org) and choose the Royersford branch.



# Watching New Development

The Planning Commission reviews development plans at public meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m. at the township building. If you have questions about development in our area, call the township office at 610-933-9179, or stop by to review development plans or talk with a township staff member.

## Plans in Final Review

### Residential:

- ◆ **Bechtel Road.** Seven lots just west of Route 113 by Robert Fieo.
- ◆ **773 Black Rock Road, south side between Hollow and Longford roads.** 105 Age-restricted units on 54 acres by Toll Brothers.
- ◆ **223 East Linfield Trappe Road.** A proposed subdivision of 6.48 acres into 12 residential lots by Henry/Kirkner.
- ◆ **Township Line and Rittenhouse roads, northeast corner.** A proposal for 188 residential lots on 120.44 acres by TH Properties.

### Commercial:

- ◆ **Black Rock and Egypt Road, northwest corner.** Pad sites for Wawa and a Chili's restaurant at the Oaks Shopping Center by Audubon Land Development.
- ◆ **Campus Drive, between Troutman Road and Route 29.** Three additional buildings for 289,300 square feet by the Berwind Group. This project has received preliminary approval.
- ◆ **200 Cresson Boulevard.** Comcast requests approval of its parking lot to accommodate overflow parking on the existing site. No expansion of use is planned as part of this application.
- ◆ **Egypt Road, south side, just west of Hollow Road.** Nine flex buildings located on 42 acres by Gambone Brothers.
- ◆ **Greenwood Avenue and Ridge Pike, southwest corner.** The Providence Center Daycare is requesting a daycare use for the property.
- ◆ **Hollow Road.** Two additional flex buildings in front of the current Volpe Trucking site.
- ◆ **585 Hollow Road.** Development of 11.8 acres into a self-storage facility by Gracia/Providence Storage.

- ◆ **122 Mill Road.** Audubon Land Development is proposing an additional 83,000 square feet of retail space and parking and traffic improvements to the 422 Business Center.
- ◆ **106 Montgomery Avenue.** Audubon Land Development proposes creating leaseholds within the existing Gen Oaks industrial building.
- ◆ **The 422 Business Center.** Audubon Land Development requests approval for traffic and parking improvements to be made to areas surrounding the recreational uses.

## Plans Requesting Preliminary Review

The projects listed below have received tentative approval and are awaiting preliminary review in the 2008 calendar year:

- ◆ **Black Rock Road, between Route 29 and Hollow Road.** A request for 40 residential lots on 35 acres by Troutman/Bentley.
- ◆ **500 Cresson Boulevard.** Audubon Land Development proposes demolishing the current structure and replacing it with a Hilton Garden hotel.
- ◆ **1021 Egypt Road.** Corrado Properties proposes building a 320 square foot addition to an existing building, a new 10,500 square foot office building, and a 4,500 square foot day care center.
- ◆ **357 Greenwood Avenue.** Wagner Tract proposes a subdivision into three residential building lots.
- ◆ **1080 South Collegeville Road.** Toll Brothers proposes to create 34 residential lots on 62 acres.
- ◆ **1560 Yeager Road.** Christ Church of the Valley proposes another building on their site to support their congregation.

## Plans Requesting Tentative Approval

- ◆ **Arcola Road near Mennonite Road, between Routes 113 and 29, White Springs Farm.** A proposal for 341 age-restricted and age-targeted units on 85 acres.
- ◆ **Black Rock and Egypt roads, northeast corner.** The Bock Group proposes to build either a bank or a Chicago Grill.
- ◆ **Black Rock Road and Route 29, southwest corner.** Brandywine Senior Care proposes a 120-bed assisted living facility.
- ◆ **Rittenhouse and Township Line roads, southeast corner.** The Archdiocese of Philadelphia proposes to build a new high school.

## UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP

1286 Black Rock Road, PO Box 406  
Oaks PA 19456  
610-933-9179  
[www.uprov-montco.org](http://www.uprov-montco.org)

### Township Supervisors

- ◆ Robert A. Fieo, *Chairman*
- ◆ Philip A. Barker, *Vice Chairman*
- ◆ Edward Murphy

### Township Manager

- ◆ George Waterman



Update is written and designed by  
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# Open Space Corner

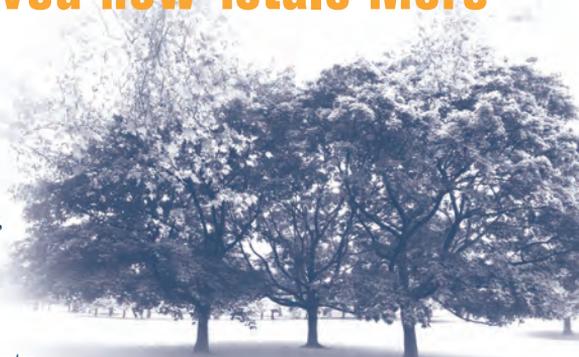
## Open Space Preserved now Totals More than 1,011 Acres

**U**pper Providence added 16 acres located along Route 29 to its open space portfolio in December, bringing the total of township-owned open space to 541.2 acres. Eighty percent of our purchase price was covered through the Montgomery County Green Fields/Green Towns program.

An additional 12 acres on Hollow Road will be purchased for preservation in March 2008. As with other purchases, Upper Providence will apply for grant assistance from the county.

### Moving Forward

Upper Providence recently sent a revised Open Space plan to the county for approval. This revision includes additional properties along Black Rock Road, which could help expand Black Rock Park. Including these properties in the plan will help when applying for county funds toward purchase.



Acquiring property for preservation continues to be a major part of our Open Space work. In many cases, the township must acquire property before other elements of the Open Space Plan, such as trail connections, can begin. We continue to work with landowners in the hopes of preserving more land.

In addition, the Board of Supervisors has worked with private owners to preserve more than 470 acres of land throughout Upper Providence.

Track our Open Space Plan progress in each newsletter and on our website, [www.uprov-montco.org](http://www.uprov-montco.org), under the recreation section.

## 2008 Road Work Plans

**S**even roadways are on the books for improvements in 2008. Watch our website, [www.uprov-montco.org](http://www.uprov-montco.org), for details on road closings or delays.

### Mill, Patch, Overlay:

*These projects involve milling off the wearing surface, doing any necessary base repair, and then overlaying it.*

- ◆ N. Boro Line Road – partial
- ◆ Cider Mill Road – from Egypt Road to Upper Indianhead Road
- ◆ Gay Street – entire length
- ◆ Green Tree Road – from 233 Green Tree to School Lane

- ◆ S. Mennonite Road – partial, with widening and curbing

### Reconstruction:

*These projects involve removing and fully reconstructing the road and adding curbs and drainage.*

- ◆ Fruit Farm – from Mennonite to Iroquois Drive
- ◆ Hollow Road – from Black Rock Road to Jasper Lane

### Storm Water Pipe Replacement:

- ◆ Pennapacker Road

## Sewer Rate Increase in April Bill *(continued from page 1)*

SEWER RATE INCREASE	Old Rate (Per Quater)	April 1 Rate (Per Quater)
Residential	\$33	\$45
Non-Residential		
<b>First 18,250 gallons</b>	\$45.50	\$64
<b>Additional cost over 18,250 gallons</b>	\$2.50 per 1,000 gallons	\$3.50 per 1,000 gallons
<b>Purchased but unconnected EDUs</b>	\$24.50 per EDU	\$35 per EDU

### Monitoring Costs

The township will continue to monitor cost projections in order to insure that future rate increases will be gradual, so as not to place an undue burden on sewer customers, while providing for effective sewage collection and treatment service.

## Emergency Contact Sign-Up

**D**id you get the call? Upper Providence Township recently launched Connect-CTY, an emergency contact system that allows township officials to contact residents and businesses quickly via landline, cell phone, e-mail, and text message.

A community-wide test call was sent on our launch date, November 30, 2007. If you did not receive a test call, you can logon to Connect-CTY through the township website, [www.uprov-mont-co.org](http://www.uprov-mont-co.org), to confirm and update your contact information with secondary lines, cell phones, and e-mail addresses. If you do not have computer access, please fill out the following form and mail it to the township or drop it off during business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.



### News You Will Use

In the event of an evacuation, nearby road closing, snow emergency, or other major event, being on the list ensures you'll get the information you need quickly.

With a single phone call, township administrators can reach everyone in the township, individuals in a geographic region, or predefined groups. The system is similar to notification systems used by schools, and sometimes referred to as reverse 911.

If you do not wish to receive notifications from the township, you may also opt-out.

If you have additional questions, please call the township at 610-933-9179.

## Upper Providence Township Connect-CTY Sign-Up emergency contact system

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Primary E-mail Address (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary E-mail Address (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Upper Providence Township,  
1286 Black Rock Road, PO Box 406, Oaks, PA 19456

# Mark Your Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

## Home Buyers Fair

Get answers to your questions about credit, financing, grant programs, home inspections, and home repairs! If you're navigating the housing market for the first time, just bought a home, or just want to learn more, come to the 2008 Home Buyers Fair on Saturday, March 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Montgomery County Community College, College Hall. For more information visit the Montgomery County Partners for Home Ownership website, [www.mcpho.org](http://www.mcpho.org). You can also call Genesis Housing Corporation at 610-275-4357, or the Department of Housing & Community Development at 610-278-3540.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

## Red Cross Blood Drive

More than 38,000 blood donations are needed every day, according to The American Red Cross. You can make a difference by attending the American Red Cross blood drive hosted by Upper Providence Township on Thursday, April 17 from 1 to 7 p.m. Appointments are preferred.

To schedule an appointment, please call the township at 610-933-9179, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

For more information visit, [www.pleasegiveblood.org](http://www.pleasegiveblood.org).

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

## Remember to Vote!



Be sure to register by March 24 to vote in the April 22 primary. Remember, you must be enrolled in a political party to vote in that party's primary. Won't

be in town? Apply for an absentee ballot by April 15 and return it by April 18.

Visit [voterservices.montcopa.org](http://voterservices.montcopa.org) to download a voter registration form, absentee ballot application, and find your polling location. You can also call Voter Registration at 610-278-3280.

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

POSTAL CUSTOMER

◆ Sewer rate increase to be effective April 1, see page 1.  
◆ Update your contact information to be notified by the township in an emergency. See page 5 for a form.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Township of Upper Providence  
1286 Black Rock Road  
PO Box 406, Oaks PA 19456



Standard Mail  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Oaks PA 19456  
Permit #5