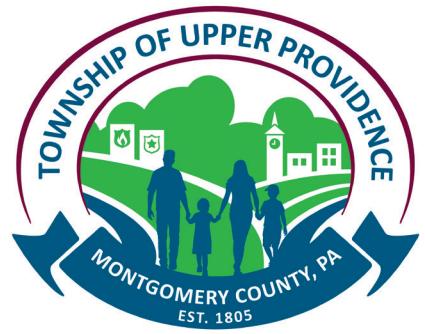


# TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PROVIDENCE

www.uprov-montco.org • Spring 2023 • Vol. 23, No. 2



## The Wall That Heals is coming to UPT

A large-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, featuring a wall covered in names of fallen soldiers. In front of the wall, there is a mobile education center with a sign that reads "THE WALL THAT HEALS VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL REPLICA &amp; MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER A PROGRAM OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND FOUNDERS OF THE WALL". A small American flag is on the grass in front. The background shows a flag and more names on the wall. The main title "THE WALL THAT HEALS" is overlaid in large, white, serif letters. Below it, the event details are listed: "October 26 - 29, 2023 Upper Providence Township, Montgomery County". The Township of Upper Providence logo is also visible in the bottom right corner of the image.

As the nation begins the yearlong recognition of the 50th anniversary of the close of the Vietnam War, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) has announced The Wall That Heals national tour schedule for 2023. The Wall That Heals exhibit includes a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial along with a mobile Education Center. The 28th season of The Wall That Heals began on March 16th, 2023, in San Luis Obispo, California and will visit 31 communities during the year, including Upper Providence Township. The traveling exhibit

honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the Vietnam War and it bears the names of the 58,281 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

Since the end of the Vietnam War, thousands of veterans have suffered due to Agent Orange exposure, PTSD and other illnesses as a result of their service. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund believes all those who served in Vietnam should be honored and remembered for their service. *(Continued on Page 3.)*



# Administration

Township Administration Hours:  
Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Phone: (610) 933-9179  
Email: [admin@uprov-montco.org](mailto:admin@uprov-montco.org)

## Battle of The Badges ends in a tie!



After a remarkable 56 donors participated in the Inaugural Battle of the Badges Blood Drive January 31st, the results are in... And the winner is.... A tie score! 28-28. The DFES and UPT Police Departments truly believe that the real winners of this drive were all of OUR donors who donated their blood and the people who will receive that blood!

What a fitting finish for such a great cause. Thank you to American Red Cross volunteers, the staff at Upper Providence Township, and of course, all who donated, who made this a successful blood drive. ♦

## Maintaining historic properties



Pictured at left are Lisa Minardi, Historic Trappe Executive Director (L) and UPT Supervisor, Laurie Higgins (R)

On February 9th, 2023, Upper Providence Township presented Historic Trappe with a check for \$5,000 to help support their efforts to preserve and maintain historic properties within our township.

Historic Trappe currently has three historic properties open for tours:

- The Center for Pennsylvania German Studies, located in the Dewees Tavern at 301 West Main Street, has five exhibition galleries featuring a wide variety of furniture, fraktur, textiles, and other objects as well as a research library and archives.
- The Henry Muhlenberg House, located at 201 West Main Street, is a fully-furnished museum interpreting the families of Lutheran pastor Henry Muhlenberg and his son General Peter Muhlenberg.
- The Speaker's House, located at 151 West Main Street, the home of Frederick Muhlenberg, is an ongoing restoration project and the site of our Pennsylvania German kitchen garden.

Historic Trappe is also the owner of the Muhlenberg parsonage, built in 1745 and currently undergoing architectural investigations in preparation for restoration. ♦





# Public Works

## 2023 Projects are underway

The Public Works Department has been off to a busy start this year with projects getting underway. The first project of the year involved a new, much larger 60" pipe being installed under Gumbes Road. The project cost was \$160,000.00.

The first of two paving projects in the Township has also been approved & awarded to Glasgow Inc. at a cost of \$702,940.00. The area to be paved includes 5th Avenue, 6th Avenue, Cha-mar Circle & Yeager Road from RTE 113 to Old State Road.

After the paving is complete a High Friction Surface Treatment (HFST) will be applied through the curves on Yeager Road to assist with traction.

## Spring Stormwater Pollution Prevention Tips

Spring is here and with it comes warmer weather, rain and lots of yard work! Before you head outside to tackle your latest project, remember that what you do to your yard has a direct impact on the local environment.

Consider these tips to help you reduce stormwater pollution and provide valuable habitat for local wildlife on your property.

## The Wall That Heals continued...

This Vietnam Veterans Memorial Replica Wall and Mobile Education Center spreads the healing legacy of The Wall and educates about the impact of the Vietnam War.

The exhibit is free to the public and will be on display in Upper Providence Township. The Wall That Heals will be open 24 hours a day beginning Thursday, October 26, 2023 until closing Sunday, October 29, 2023.

Community support is essential to help us successfully bring The Wall That Heals to Upper Providence Township. No contribution is too small. Every dollar counts in our effort to offset the hosting costs. UPT is currently offering three different levels of sponsorship for local businesses.

You can also sign up on our website to be a volunteer at The Wall. Be an Ambassador for our

1286 Black Rock Road, Phoenixville, PA  
Compost Site: 1094 Longford Road, Phoenixville, PA

- **CLEAN-UP**

Collect and dispose of any trash that might have blown into your yard over the winter. Mulch or compost leaves and garden cuttings from the fall so that they don't get washed into local streams.

- **FERTILIZE CAREFULLY**

Look for slow release nitrogen fertilizer since it is less likely to harm water quality. Several small fertilizer applications spread out over the growing season is better than one large application. Never apply fertilizer before it rains!

- **PLANT NATIVES**

Spring is a great time to plant native trees, shrubs and perennials! Native PA species require less maintenance, are more beneficial for wildlife and absorb more stormwater than non-natives.

- **MOW SHARP AND HIGH**

A sharp mower blade cuts grass cleanly which improves turf health. Set your mower deck to 2.5 inches or more to help reduce stormwater runoff and shade out weeds. Where possible, consider converting a section of your lawn to a native garden. ♦

community, providing a friendly face and ensuring each visitor feels welcome, assisting them as they visit this sacred memorial. Final volunteer schedules will be drafted a few months prior to the event, and there will be a required volunteer orientation & training scheduled prior to October, 2023.

For more information, to sign up to be a volunteer, or to sponsor this event, you can visit our website; [www.uprov-montco.org/423/The-Wall-That-Heals](http://www.uprov-montco.org/423/The-Wall-That-Heals) ♦





# Recreation

Visit [uprov.recdesk.com](http://uprov.recdesk.com) or call 610-933-9179 for more details!



**MUSIC FEST 2023**  
— UPT PARKS & REC —

**JUNE 3RD • SAVE THE DATE!**  
1-8:30PM AT ANDERSON FARM PARK

**SUMMER CONCERT LINE-UP**

<b>MAY 24</b>	Concert: Perkiomen Valley High School 6:00pm
<b>MAY 25</b>	Concert: Spring-Ford High School 5:30pm
<b>JUNE 7</b>	Audubon Orchestra 6:00pm
<b>JUNE 14</b>	Kids Concert: Two of a Kind 6:00pm
<b>JULY 12</b>	Concert: Smooth Riders 6:00pm
<b>JULY 26</b>	Kids Concert: Making Music Gilbertsville 6:00pm
<b>AUG 9</b>	Kids Dance Party: DJ Ben 6:00pm
<b>AUG 23</b>	Concert: Billy Joel Tribute 6:00pm

**SPECIALTY CAMPS**

**Bricks 4 Kidz:** July 12 - 21; August 7 - 11

**Jump Start:** June 12 - 16; June 26 - 30

**Mad Science:** June 12 - 16; July 10 - 14; August 14-18

**Skate The Foundry:** July 24 - 28; August 14 - 18

Please note that ALL camp information, dates, and options are subject to change.

**UPT Second Annual**

**CAR SHOW**

**SUNDAY**  
**JUNE 18, 2023**  
**10:00A - 2:00P**

**\*RAIN OR SHINE\***  
Pre-registration \$15  
Day of Registration \$20  
Sponsored Trophies  
Live DJ

**LOCATION: 1286 BLACK ROCK ROAD, PHOENIXVILLE, PA 19460**

Food Truck  
Indoor facilities  
Trailer Parking  
Ice Cream  
Donuts/Coffee

For more info use QR Code or our website: [www.uprov.recdesk.com](http://www.uprov.recdesk.com)

UPT will not be held responsible or liable, whether directly or indirectly, for any damages or loss caused or sustained by the attendees



**COMMUNITY CENTER SUMMER HOURS**

**OPEN HOURS**

<b>MON</b>	8:00am - 8:00pm
<b>TUE</b>	8:00am - 8:00pm
<b>WED</b>	8:00am - 8:00pm
<b>THU</b>	8:00am - 8:00pm
<b>*FRI</b>	8:00am - 4:00pm
<b>SAT</b>	8:00am - 12:00pm
<b>SUN</b>	CLOSED

\*Summer hours begin June 1st.





# Police

## Veterans Response Team Training



The Upper Providence Township Police Department was proud to host the 21 new members of the Montgomery County Veterans Response Team.(VRT) Launched in January 2022, the VRT connects specialized training for law enforcement officers and first responders, who are Veterans themselves, with the highest priority connections to mental health crisis responders, Veterans service organizations, and Veterans Treatment Court.

VRT is a collaboration between Montco Health and Human Services, Coatesville VA, and the Montco Sheriff's Office, with key partners from the Norristown Vet Center, Montco Department of Public Safety, and Access Mobile Crisis.

Twenty Montgomery County police departments have served over 40 local Veterans in crisis over the last year. If you are interested in learning more about the operations of the VRT, please email: [VeteransResponseTeamMontcoPA@gmail.com](mailto:VeteransResponseTeamMontcoPA@gmail.com). ♦

## Autism and the First Responder



The UPT Police Department welcomed Alex Mann back to provide his Autism and the First Responder presentation on March 13, 2023. Alex is a huge supporter of law enforcement and is on the Autism spectrum.

Alex loves going to any police department where he feels comfortable driving to visit the agency, meet the officers, and pass along helpful information about Autism and how members of law enforcement can improve communications with persons with Autism. ♦

## Officer Accomplishments

- Sgt. Rob Solorio received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from Honorable Madeleine Dean for serving our community for 30 years.
- Sgt. Rob Solorio and Officer Andrew Parkins received their Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Certification. (CPTED)
- Police Specialist Arielle Simmons obtained her Professional Certification as an Evidence Specialist from the International Association for Property and Evidence, Inc. (I.A.P.E.).
- Anthony Krolkowski was appointed to the Detective division on February 25, 2023. ♦

## PET OF THE MONTH

Submit your pet to be featured in our monthly eNews and on our social media sites!



Head to [www.uprov-montco.org](http://www.uprov-montco.org) to submit your pet for pet of the month & subscribe to our NEW monthly eNewsletter!



# Fire and Emergency Services

## UPT - Trappe Consolidation

On January 24, 2023, Trappe Fire Company joined Black Rock Fire Company and Upper Providence Department of Fire and Emergency Services in an operational consolidation. Over the past year, the three organizations have been working towards the culmination of this project. Black Rock and Upper Providence operationally consolidated in 2021.

With the decline in volunteerism, and increased demands for services, the benefit of regionalization is a very logical path to follow. We will continue to standardize our procedures, reduce equipment redundancy, coordinate training, and support each other with response capabilities. As we strive to maintain the highest level of service, the residents of both Trappe Borough and Upper Providence Township will benefit from this endeavor.

This is an exciting time in the evolution of the fire service within Upper Providence Township and Trappe Borough. This partnership serves to streamline operations by blending the career and volunteer staff from all three stations, under one operational umbrella to increase the level of cooperation between the organizations. As

we move forward, careful considerations of operational efficiencies will be made to support our mission of delivering the highest level of service.

We are excited for this new venture and look forward to working closely with our in-township and neighboring mutual aid partners. ♦

## Apartment Pack Upgrades

UPTDFES received a \$13,089 grant from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner for upgrades to apartment and hi-rise firefighting equipment.

Apartment packs are bundles of hose and equipment used to connect to standpipe systems in multistory buildings, allowing firefighters to more efficiently extinguish fires by using the in-building piping as a water source. This approach reduces the amount of hose and personnel needed to extinguish fires by eliminating the need to connect directly to the fire department pumper outside of the building.

The grant includes funding for new fire hose, adapters, and gauges that will be used in the department's apartment packs. ♦





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**Spring 2023**

Township of Upper Providence  
1286 Black Rock Road  
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