



# The Upper Pottsgrove Township HERALD

Volume II, Issue 3

July 2007

Office Hours Monday—Friday, 8AM—4:30PM

Web site [www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org](http://www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org)

Phone 610.323.8675

## Commissioner's Comments

Thank you for letting me serve as a Township Commissioner and achieving one of my life long goals. Being in public service is a high priority to me and I hope to continue in it for many years to come.

I moved to Upper Pottsgrove in 2001 after living in Pottstown Borough for six years. From the first time my wife and I drove through the area we knew it would be a great place to raise a family. We love the Borough's location, geography, diverse housing stock and great potential. We also love the Township's rural character and community involvement.

I was raised in Oreland, Springfield Township, Montgomery County. I joined the U.S. Air Force in 1988 and served four years as a military policeman with drug and bomb trained canines. I was stationed in South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Panama, Germany and Charleston, South Carolina. Although I served during Desert Storm, I was very fortunate not to see combat or lose any friends or family.

After the Air Force, I attended West Chester University where I met my wife, Susan, and graduated in 1994 with a degree in Political Science: Public Administration. I then worked for the Montgomery County Planning Commission as a Planning Technician from 1994 to 1996. Although brief, working at MCPC was one of my best and most valued jobs. I continue to have many strong relationships with the Planning Commission and I still heavily rely on its expertise for many issues facing the Township.

I started Temple Law School's evening program in 1996 and graduated in 1999. Following graduation, I began working for law firms emphasizing municipal law. In 2000, I became the solicitor for Upper Pottsgrove Township's Planning Commission. I served in that role until 2006 when I was elected to the Township's Board of Commissioners. I now have my own law firm on High Street, serving in Family Law, Real Estate, Corporate Law, and Estate Planning and Administration. I also have two great children, Theodore and Claudia, who will attend school at St. Aloysius in the Fall.

My municipal experience also includes serving as the Chairman of the Pottstown Borough Planning Commission and on the Pottstown Open Space Committee. I also served Upper Pottsgrove as a member of its Park and Recreation Committee and its Open Space Committee.

As a Commissioner, my emphasis is the preservation of open space and development of parks and recreation.

Again, thank you for letting me serve you. Please call or email me if you have any questions at 610-906-3147 or [pdolan@dolanlawoffice.com](mailto:pdolan@dolanlawoffice.com).



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### Board of Commissioners

- Elwood Taylor,  
President
- Russell Noll,  
Vice President
- Megan De Lena
- Peter Dolan
- Kenneth Iatesta

## Open Space Updates

I am pleased that the residents of the Township support these issues and recently approved an increase of their employment income tax for the preservation of open space.

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**From Chief Bryan D. Ross**

## Get to Know MEGAN'S LAW to Protect Your Children

The officers of the Upper Pottsgrove Township Police Department are continually looking at programs to protect our youth. One of the more complicated areas of protection is under Megan's Law.

Megan's Law protects our children from convicted Sexual Predators. Although Megan's Law provides community notification of Sexually Violent Predators, it does not provide community notification for all convicted sexual predators.

What is community notification?

Community notification can take place ONLY in two circumstances:

- In cases where the convicted sex offender is determined by a court to be a Sexually Violent Predator.
- When an out-of-state offender is required to submit to community notification in their state of origin, regardless of whether or not the offender is classified as a sexually violent predator.



The Pennsylvania State Police will provide community notification flyers to the police department having primary jurisdiction over the municipalities where the sexually violent predator/out-of-state offender resides. Included with the community notification flyers are instructions for the police departments on how to perform community notification.

As Chief of Police and a concerned parent, you need to have access to this type of information. There are two (2) websites which provide this type of information.

[www.pameganslaw.state.pa.us](http://www.pameganslaw.state.pa.us) (government site)

[www.familywatchdog.us](http://www.familywatchdog.us) (private site)

We all have a vested interest in our children and their safety. Please take time to visit the above referenced websites. If you have any questions on what you have learned or other concerns regarding community notification, please call Bryan D. Ross, Chief of Police, 610-326-8446 or email:

[chiefofpolice@upperpottsgrovetownship.org](mailto:chiefofpolice@upperpottsgrovetownship.org)

### Safety Tips

- Tell your children never to accept rides or gifts from someone they and you don't know well.
- Teach your children to go to a store clerk, security guard or police officer for help if lost in a mall, store or on the street.
- Take time to listen carefully to your children's fears and feelings about scary people or places. Tell them to trust their instincts.
- Encourage your children to walk and play with friends and to avoid places that could be dangerous—vacant buildings, alleys, and playgrounds or parks with broken equipment and litter.
- Make sure children know their address and phone number by heart and the location of their house—also know the name of their neighborhood.
- Teach your children that if they are being followed to keep walking to a public place, like a library or a store and ask for help from a grown-up at that location.
- Your children should know how to identify community people by badge and uniform.
- UPTPD has a program that provides fingerprinting, photographs and DNA packets. *The department, in conjunction with Fulton Bank, will be offering such a program September 8, 2007 10:00am—1:00p.m. @ Fulton Bank Rt. 100 & State Street.*
- Teach your children that no one should touch the parts of their body covered by a bathing suit.
- Check out daycare and after-school programs—look at certifications, qualifications and also check to make sure that background checks are done on their employees.

## New Website Launched

### [upperpottsgrovetownship.org](http://upperpottsgrovetownship.org)

Upper Pottsgrove Township has a brand new site up and running. It is much cleaner than the old site and contains valuable information for all residents. We hope that you will let us know your comments and any additions you believe should be made. You can send these to [upperpottsgrovetownship@comcast.net](mailto:upperpottsgrovetownship@comcast.net). I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Megan De Lena

Commissioner for Administrative Coordination



### MEETING DATES & TIMES

- Board of Commissioners-1st & 3rd Mon., 7 PM
- Planning Commission-2nd Mon., 6 PM
- Parks & Recreation Board-2nd Wed., 7 PM
- Sewer & Water Committee-4th Mon., 7 PM
- Open Space Committee-2nd Tues., 7 PM
- Fire Committee-3rd Thurs., 7 PM
- Zoning & Hearing Board-Meets on Demand

### Mark Your Calendar

#### Community Day

October 6, 2007 @

Heather Place Park

Enjoy the New Playground Equipment  
and have some Family Fun: Face

Painting, Games, Food & Music

Rain Date: October 13, 2007

### 2007 Tax Collection Hours

Aug. 20 & 31 (9-11 AM) @ Twp. Bldg.

Aug. 22 & 29 (9-11 AM) @ Fulton Bank, 799 State St., Pottstown

Aug. 23 & 31 (5-7 PM) @ Twp. Bldg.

Other hours available by appointment. Call 610-323-8675 x203.

## Open Space Updates

Cont'd. from Page 1

Currently, the Township has an agreement of sale for a 20-acre tract off Maugers Mill Road which includes a large pond previously know as "Sure-Catch". This parcel joins another 10 acre parcel that Turnberry Farms conveyed to the Township in early 2007. Additionally, the Township will soon be entering an agreement of sale for a 23-acre wooded tract off Snyder Road. These two purchases will be made utilizing the \$715,000 open space grant that Montgomery County has set aside for our Township.

The Township is also in the process of developing the Goose Run Trail and Sprogels Run Trail. The Goose Run Trail is largely funded by a contribution from Rouse/Chamberlain and will follow the recently acquired Goose Run Greenway through the Summer Grove Development. The Sprogels Run Trail is in its beginning stages with the development of a concept plan produced by Montgomery County Lands Trust. It is funded in part through a grant from Montgomery County as a condition of the Mocharniuk Meadows acquisition. When completed, the Sprogels Run Trail will traverse the Township starting at Turnberry Farms and ending at Stewart pond in the upper west corner of the Township.

Stewart pond is a 39-acre tract which the Department of Conservation of Natural Resources recently approved for a \$100,000 grant for the purchase of a conservation easement. With that grant, Natural Lands Trust will seek a matching grant from Montgomery County to nearly fund the full easement acquisition. This will permanently protect the headwaters of Sprogels Run.

Regarding recreation, I hope that you have noticed the attractive and uniform signs at the entrances to our Township parks: Hollenbach Park, Mocharniuk Meadows, Kulp Field and Heather Place Park. With the installation of these signs, utilizing the Dogwood Flower as its center piece, the Township hopes to 'brand' its many assets. This 'branding' will soon be used to identify the Township's historical structures as well. I also hope that you take the kids and visit Heather Place Park to see and play on its new equipment.

These many gains for open space and recreation would not be possible without the support of the Park and Recreation Committee, Open Space Committee and the Board of Commissioners. I particularly would like to thank ELWOOD TAYLOR, HERB MILLER, DENNIS ELLIOTT and STEPHEN AILES for their support and the countless hours they have volunteered to the Township.

Pete Dolan, Commissioner for Parks, Recreation & Open Space

## Amateur Radio

Township Manager and Emergency Management Coordinator, Jack Layne, recently attended and participated in the 74th annual Amateur Radio Field Day exercises conducted at the Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center in Eagleville. Upper Pottsgrove Twp. Civil Service Commissioner, Reginald Leister, who is the Public Information Officer for the Montco Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) who hosted the activity, stated that Mr. Layne will be featured prominently in the September issue of CQ Magazine (a national publication for amateur radio). "Mr. Layne was a quick study and

*cont'd. on Page 5*

# People With Special Needs

The information gathered by this survey is CONFIDENTIAL. Your county emergency management agency (EMA) and emergency services personnel utilize this information for emergency response planning.

Those with impaired sight, hearing or mobility might have difficulty responding to an emergency.

If you, someone in your household or someone you know who lives in the emergency planning zone will need special assistance in an emergency, please notify your county EMA today. Simply fill out and mail the attached reply card. It is postage-paid, so you don't even need a stamp.

This information is updated annually. Please return this survey even if you have previously responded. If you prefer, you may contact your local EMA directly. Area agencies are listed elsewhere in this pamphlet.

Fold Here



### Emergency Planning for the Limerick Area



### Important Safety Information For Your Community 2007/2008

Please read the entire brochure or have someone translate it for you. Discuss this information with members of your family, and then keep the brochure in a convenient place for future use.

**ESTA INFORMACIÓN ES IMPORTANTE**  
Por favor lea este panfleto o encuentre alguien que se lo lea. Discuta esta información con su familia y mantenga este panfleto en un lugar conveniente para un uso futuro.

Please read this entire brochure which was sent to your house in June 2007. If necessary, complete the Special Needs form, cut it out and send it to Exelon. There is no need to fill this out if you already have done so for 2007. Thank you.

Please check "yes" or "no" for the following questions:

- 1 Do you have a hearing impairment that would make it difficult to hear outdoor warning sirens or other emergency notifications?  Yes  No
- 2 Do you have a medical or physical condition that would make it difficult to evacuate in an emergency?  Yes  No
- 3 Are you without any personal means of transportation, such as a car or truck, to evacuate in an emergency?  Yes  No  
Number of people needing transportation? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Do you have a radio or television?  Yes  No

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Township \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

State and ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_



EXELON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS  
298 LONGVIEW RD  
ROYERSFORD PA 19468-9912

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 735 ROYERSFORD, PA



NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



Please TAPE closed here. DO NOT STAPLE.

**CHILD FINGERPRINING PROGRAM**  
SPONSORED BY

UPPER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
&  
FULTON BANK

Location FULTON BANK  
Rt100 & State Sts  
(Giant Shopping Center)

September 8, 2007  
10:00 am-1:00 p.m.

PARENTS WILL RECEIVE A LAMINATED CARD CONTAINING PERSONAL DATA ALONG WITH A FINGERPRINT AND PHOTOGRAPH OF THEIR CHILD




### Police Bulletin

Citizens of Upper Pottsgrove Township: Police need your help in preventing crime in our community. A recent rash of theft from vehicles has victimized many local residents. Please consider the following steps and make them part of your daily routine:

- Always remove valuables from your vehicle - including loose change.
- Park your vehicle in the garage.
- \*LOCK\* your vehicle.
- If the vehicle is alarmed, turn it on.
- Close and lock your garage door. Immediately dial 9 - 1 - 1 when you notice any:



- o Suspicious person
- o Suspicious vehicle
- o Unusual activity

Emergency Dial: 9 - 1 - 1  
Non-Emergency: 610-327-1441  
Office: 610-326-8446

### Amateur Radio

*cont'd. from Page 4*  
obviously enjoyed the experience as he communicated with other ham radio stations set up under similar emergency field conditions," Leister reported.

**Upper Pottsgrove Township**  
**1409 Farmington Avenue**  
**Pottstown, PA 19464**

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 140  
Pottstown, PA 19464

*Upper Pottsgrove Township*

ETHICS in ACTION—Equity, Transparency, Honor, Integrity, Commitment, Stewardship

**Upper Pottsgrove Township**

1409 Farmington Avenue  
Pottstown, PA 19464

Administration Building 610.323.8675

Fax: 610-327.1967

Emergency: 911

Police Administration 610.326.8446

Montgomery County Dispatch 610.327.1441

Fire Dept. (Non-emergency) 610.323.2424

E-mail: [upperpottsgrovetownship@comcast.net](mailto:upperpottsgrovetownship@comcast.net)

[www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org](http://www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org)

**We're on the Web!**

**[upperpottsgrovetownship.org](http://upperpottsgrovetownship.org)**

***Library News [www.ppl.mclinc.org](http://www.ppl.mclinc.org)***

We're having a spectacular summer at the Pottstown Public Library with the Get a Clue @ Your Library Children's Summer Reading Program and the You Never Know @ Your Library Teen Summer Reading Program. It's not too late to get in on the fun!

**Children's Programs**

Storytime for all ages August 14 at 4:30

**Adult Programs**

Tai Chi Mondays & Tuesdays, 6:00 & Saturdays, 9:10. This class meets in the library & sometimes the park. Check our website for location. Funded by a grant from the Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation

**Mystery Readers**

A book discussion group meeting monthly at 10:30, fourth Tuesday.

**Explore a Craft:** Knitting, August 22, 7:00 p.m.

**Job Search Strategies & Effective Interviewing Skills**, August 15 at 7:00 p.m.

For recent college graduates and anyone who may be seeking employment. Presented by Michael Robinson, PA Higher Education Assistance agency (PHEAA).

For further information on any of these programs, call the Library at 610-970-6551 or visit our website at **[ppl.mclinc.org](http://ppl.mclinc.org)**.