



The Upper Pottsgrove Township HERALD

Volume XI, Issue I

February 2016

Office Hrs Monday—Friday, 8AM—4:30PM 1409 Farmington Ave., Pottstown, PA 19464

www.uptownship.org

Phone 610.323.8675

MEETING DATES & TIMES

Board of Commissioners-3rd Mon., 7 PM;
1st Mon. as needed
Planning Commission-2nd Mon., 7 PM
Open Space & Recreation Board-2nd Tues., 7 PM
Sewer & Water Committee-4th Mon., Odd Mos., 5 PM
Fire Committee-2nd Thurs., 7 PM
Zoning & Hearing Board-Meets on Demand
Web Link to Calendar: www.uptownship.org

SIGN UP FOR EVENTS:

WWW.UPTOWNSHIP.ORG/INDEX.PHP/NEWSLETTERS

IT'S NOT A SECRET ANYMORE! POTTS GROVE RECREATION BOARD

This might be Pottsgrove's best kept secret, but it is time to get the word out. The Pottsgrove Recreation Board is the central recreational organization of the Pottsgroves. Its mission is to provide places and recreational activities for people to engage in opportunities that promote health, well-being, and community spirit. Funding is provided by the three townships and the school district.

The Pottsgrove Recreation Board is interested in having you come and enjoy some of the events they are offering this year. There are activities for all ages. If you need something for the kids to do this summer, there will be Summer Playground in the month of July. This is for kids who have finished Kindergarten through 8th grade. Playground is held at Ringing Rocks and West Pottsgrove Elementary. It allows the kids to interact with each other through sports, arts and crafts and an occasional field trip. Also at Summer Playground we have a summer library program. Kids can check out great summer reading books to keep their minds active. Pottsgrove Recreation also holds swim lessons available for children in grades 1 through 5. Classes are held in the Fall and Spring at the Pottstown YMCA.

There are also events for adults. For some extra fun and exercise, Adult Volleyball is being held in the Ringing Rocks gymnasium. It is on Tuesday nights, 7:30-9:30pm during the school year. Another special gem of Pottsgrove is our Community Band who has been entertaining the community for over 50 years. All musicians that are out of High School are welcome to join and share your talents. They practice in the High School band room Mondays at 7:00pm during the school year. The Community Band has put on some wonderful concerts at West Pottsgrove and Upper Pottsgrove Townships Community Days. They also perform at Lower Pottsgrove at the Sanatoga Park Band Shell. On top of keeping busy over the summer and fall months they find time to perform a Winter Schedule at local Senior Communities, Churches and the Veterans Center.

To uncover more and wonderful things going on with the Pottsgrove Recreation Board you may find us at www.pottsgroverec.com or on facebook at www.facebook.com/PottsgroveRecreation.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- Elwood Taylor, President - etaylor@upperpottsgrovetownship.org
- Herbert C. Miller, Jr., Vice President
- John Bealer
- France Krazalkovich—
fkrazalkovich@upperpottstrovetaownship.org
- Martin Schreiber - mschreiber@upperpottsgrovetownship.org



PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, April 26, 2016 is the date to vote. Please mark your calendar so that you remember to come out and vote at the Township Administration Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

ROAD REPAVING PROJECTS

This year the township will be paving N. Hanover Street (from Hollenbach Park to Maugers Mill Road) and selected areas of Needhammer Road.

We will also be patching and doing some stormwater work. Please watch for the road crew when on the road.

ALTHOUSE ARBORETUM EVENTS

1794 GILBERTSVILLE ROAD

althousearboretum.org

The Althouse Arboretum is ready to host a full season of family programming with events, activities, and summer camps for children and families throughout the region. Under the leadership of the nonprofit GreenAllies, a full schedule of programming and camps will be offered to residents of Upper Pottsgrove and beyond. Contact GreenAllies for more information at ken@green-allies.org. To see our full schedule of programs, go to www.althousearboretum.org



If you are just looking for a walk in the woods, park in the lot along Gilbertsville Road to access the beautiful 1.5 mile-long Sprogels Run Trail. It is open for public use from dawn to dusk.

TAX COLLECTOR

The township has a new tax collector, Diane DeLong, P.O. 3092, Stowe, PA 19464-0959; (610) 323-2157; Fax: (610) 200-1006; dianedelong2@gmail.com

Tax Collection Hours at Upper Pottsgrove Twp., 1409 Farmington Avenue ~

FEBRUARY through MAY
WED 3pm—6pm & THURSDAY 9am—1pm
APRIL 8th and 9th—9am—12pm
JUNE 6th and 8th—9am—12pm
DECEMBER 31st—9am—12pm
Other hours by appointment only, please call 610-323-2157

Pavilion Reservations

Need a place for a party or a special get-together? Please consider making a reservation for the pavilions ~ two locations: Heather Place Park, 1420 Heather Place and Sunset Park, 1401 N. Charlotte Street. The fees are \$30.00 for residents and \$50.00 for non-residents. There is a deposit of \$100.00 required which will be refunded upon a good-standing inspection. Horseshoe pit and kickball supplies are also available for a deposit. Contact the township office @ 610-323-8675 to reserve.

OUTDOOR SOLID FUEL BURNING FURNACES



In order to protect the general health, safety and welfare of residents, the Board of Commissioners enacted an Ordinance regulating the use of outdoor solid fuel burning furnaces. No person shall operate or use any outdoor solid fuel burning furnace between April 15th and October 15th of each year. Also, any outdoor solid fuel burning furnace shall have a permanent attached stack with a minimum stack height of 10 feet above the ground that also extends at least two feet above the highest peak or highest point of the roof of any occupied building located less than 150 feet from the outdoor solid fuel burning furnace. Please take steps to comply with these new regulations.



CALL THE COPS!!! (610-326-8446)

Once again we are in the season where everyone wants to fix up their homes after a cold and destructive winter. It is also that season where the scammers are sprouting up faster than the daffodils.

Invariably, we receive calls from residents who have become victims of pavers, roofers, chimney sweeps and just about any other persons offering household services which prove to be scams or outright rip-offs. We have some real horror stories from victims.

They offer to re-do your driveway or roof or sweep your chimney cheaply because they are "in the area doing other jobs and have extra material or extra time to do your job at deep discount". Beware of these solicitors! To solicit any type business or service in Upper Pottsgrove, a vendor MUST have a solicitor permit issued by the Township and present it upon request.

No permit, close the door and call the cops! Please!

WIND BLOWING TRASH ALL AROUND



March is a month of strong winds. By the time waste haulers make their rounds within our township, plastic milk containers and trash in general are blown along our roadways and on to neighbors' properties. Suggestion is to bag your recyclables and place that bag into your recyclable container. By doing that, you will be helping to keep our township looking good. Thanks to all our residents who are already doing this.

TOWNSHIP ROAD CLEANUP



Saturday, April 16, 2016 is the day scheduled for our semi-annual road cleanup. Please call the township office to sign up to volunteer.

WHEN IT RAINS, IT DRAINS ~

Understanding Storm Water and How It Can Affect Your Money, Safety, Health and the Environment

What happens when it rains? Rain is an important part of nature's water cycle, but there are times it can do more damage than good. Problems related to storm water runoff can include:

- Flooding caused by too much storm water flowing over hardened surfaces such as roads and parking lots, instead of soaking into the ground
- Increases in spending on maintaining storm drains and the storm sewer system that become clogged with excessive amounts of dirt and debris
- Decreases in sportfish populations because storm water carries sediment and pollutants that degrade important fish habitat
- More expensive treatment technologies to remove harmful pollutants carried by storm water into our drinking water supplies
- Closed beaches due to high levels of bacteria carried by storm water that make swimming unsafe

We can help rain restore its good reputation while protecting our health and environment while saving money for ourselves and our community.

What Everyone Can do to Help ~

Rain by nature is important for replenishing drinking water supplies, recreation, and healthy wildlife habitats. It only becomes a problem when pollutants from our activities like car maintenance, lawn care, and dog walking are left on the ground for rain to wash away. Here are some of the most important ways to prevent storm water pollution:

- Properly dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies and paint - never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system and report anyone who does.
- Use pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
- Look for signs of soil and other pollutants, such as debris and chemicals, leaving construction sites in storm water runoff or tracked into roads by construction vehicles. Report poorly managed construction sites that could impact storm water runoff to your community.
- Install innovative storm water practices on residential property, such as rain barrels or rain gardens, that capture storm water and keep it on site instead of letting it drain away into the storm sewer system.
- Report any discharges from storm water outfalls during times of dry weather - a sign that there could be a problem with the storm sewer system.
- Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess - in a backyard or at the park - storm water runoff can carry pet waste from the land to the storm sewer system to a stream.
- Store materials that could pollute storm water indoors and use containers for outdoor storage that do not rust or leak to eliminate exposure of materials to storm water.

For more information, please contact the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
www.dep.state.pa.us

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE TOWNSHIP

To file a complaint with the Township, please contact the administrative office at (610) 323-8675 or at administration@uptownship.org and:

- Give a brief description of the problem.
- Give your name, address and phone number.

The administrative staff will then relay your complaint to the appropriate entity, either the Public Works Department, the Police Department, the Township Manager or the Township Engineer. All personal information provided is kept strictly confidential, however, the Township will do nothing with anonymous complaints.