

## The Upper Pottsgrove Township HERALD

Volume VI, Issue I

April 2011

Office Hours Monday—Friday, 8AM—4:30PM New Email: administration@uptownship.org www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org Phone 610.323.8675

### 30% TAX INCREASE! (not)

Real estate tax rates in Upper Pottsgrove could have been increased 30% above what they actually were during each of the last 4 years, costing residents hundreds of more dollars annually. Instead, the Township aggressively searched out and funded its budget with non-tax revenue from several different sources. In fact, since 2008, over one million dollars (\$1,000.000.00) has been received from outside Upper Pottsgrove through public and private grants, developer contributions, commercial fees, and employee reimbursements. Examples of funding received for specific projects include, \$261,200.00 from PennDot for reconstruction of State St., \$65,000.00 from the Pottstown Health and Wellness Fund for trail planning and construction, a \$3,700.00 grant for emergency operations equipment, and a \$32,000.00 grant for police technology equipment. Funding that supported the general fund included \$34,000.00 in recycling grants, \$232,700.00 in cell tower revenues, \$5,200.00 for advertising, \$255,300.00 in payments for police services, and \$326,700.00 contributed by the Upland Square Shopping Center.

In addition, the Sewer Fund also benefited as costs for the DEP-mandated replacement of the Regal Oaks Treatment Plant were minimized when the Township won a very competitive State grant of \$389,221.00 and qualified for a low interest, 2.5% loan, to cover the balance of the project.

Over \$180,000.00 in recurring non-tax revenue is already budgeted for the current year. The Township will continue to seek out additional grants, project funding, and commercial opportunities to support vital government services while minimizing their cost to local residents.

#### DON'T BE GYPPED BY THE GYPSIES

As this is written the temperature outside is inching upwards towards 70 degrees and the window is cracked open just enough to enjoy a whiff of fresh air. Yet there remains the stark reminder of the frozen tundra that was created just a week or two ago. Could it be that Spring is just around the corner? And just what does that muster up in the form of images---gardening, home improvements, baseball spring training, going for walks or jogging and polishing those golf clubs?

Well springtime (and summer) is also time for the return of gypsies---and not the moth type. These are the ones who come knocking on your door offering to pave or repave your *(Continued on Page 4)* 

#### **Primary Election Day**

May 17, 2011 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.

### DOING LITTLE THINGS TO FIGHT LITTER

You may be contributing to the litter problem in our community without even knowing it. "Littering is what other inconsiderate people do", you say. Here are some small ways you can help keep our community litter-free.

On trash day, make sure that your trash and recycling containers are covered and secure. On windy days especially, unless it is covered or in tie-bags, loose trash at the top of your container could scatter around the neighborhood making an unsightly scene. You could also consider placing heavier cans and bottles at the top of your recycling bin to cover the lighter plastic items and keep them from blowing out onto the ground.

When you're on the road, especially if you are driving a pickup truck, be aware of loose items in the bed of the truck that may be caught up in the swirling wind and blown from your vehicle. If you drive with the windows of your car open, loose papers can be swept from your vehicle as well.

Even if you yourself are careful not to litter, the disappointing fact is, that there are many others who do not share your concern. Fast-food bags and cups, cigarette butts, as well as beer cans and bottles, are routinely thrown from vehicles and quickly deface the roadsides of our community. Municipal workers alone cannot keep up with this steady stream of refuse – so that duty falls to citizen volunteers. However, you do not need to wait to be asked to join a special, volunteer clean-up crew. Much of this unsightly litter can be removed by regularly picking up what comes to fall on your own property and neighborhood. One of the best "little things" you can do to keep unsightly litter at bay is to simply police up your own roadside frontage each week when you take your household trash to the curb.

#### **Board of Commissioners**

- Elwood Taylor, President
- Reneé Spaide, Vice President
- Peter Dolan
- Herbert C. Miller, Jr.
- Russell Noll

Please support our Newsletter sponsors and all businesses in the Township, both new and existing.

#### Volume VI, Issue I





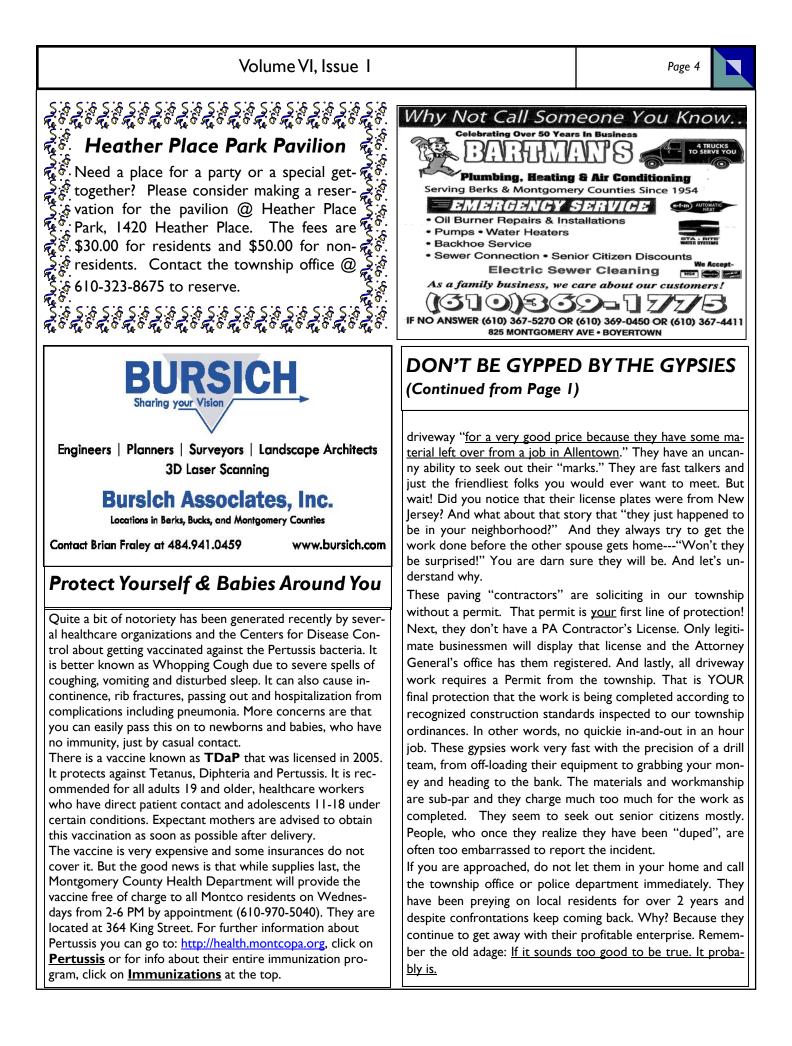
# Family Block Party

# Sat., June 11th Rain Date June 18)

# 11am-2pm @Heather Place Park

(@Upper Pottsgrove Municipal Bldg. on Rt. 100) Have fun and fellowship with your neighbors. There will be food, drinks, music, fire trucks, a moon bounce, pony rides, clowns, face painting & games for kids of all ages.

Everything is free. Hope you can make it! Sponsored by Hopewell Community Church – 610-326-8450. Contact: Diane Fillman



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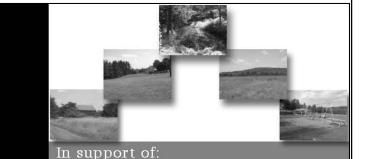
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ETHICS in ACTION—Equity, Transparency, Honor, Integrity, Commitment, Stewardship

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#### 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 **New E-mail:** administration@uptownship.org www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org

Trash pick-up is every Wednesday. If you see litter in the vicinity of your property, please pick it up and dispose of it properly. Beginning April I through December 15, Township Trash Hauler, J. P. MASCARO, will include weekly curbside collection of yard waste, grass and leaves in an unlimited amount. Yard waste may be placed in compostable bags, open containers or bundled, but in no event larger than 3 feet by 3 feet.



# Is It Time to

#### Retire your American Flag?

The Upper Pottsgrove Township Administration Building, 1409 Farmington Avenue, will once again be a collection center for tattered and soiled American Flags of any size from Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> through Friday, May 27th during normal business hours. These Flags will then be delivered to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, on the island in Pottstown's Memorial Park where the Veterans and Boy Scouts will retire the Flags at a very impressive and patriotic ceremony on Sunday, June 5th starting at I PM. The public is encouraged to attend and participate, especially the school-aged members of our community. Bring your cameras & favorite lawn chair.



## U.P.T.F.C. Auxiliary (Upcoming Events)



Upper Pottsgrove Auxiliary / Fire Company

#### Easter Flower Sale

The Auxiliary & Fire Company will once again be selling Easter Flowers at the firehouse. The dates are

**Friday, April 22nd & Saturday, <u>April 23rd</u> from 9 am to 7 pm. Shop early for the best selection. Some of the flowers we will be featuring are hyacinths, tulips, daffodils, azaleas, and mums. We appreciate your support in helping us to raise funds to purchase some of the necessary equipment to help save lives in our community.**