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News from the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors

May 2005

Township Fights for Traffic Relief

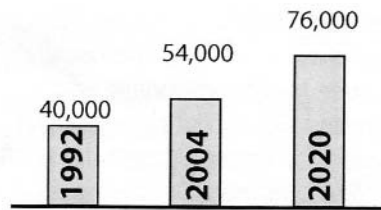
Township officials will meet with PennDOT and neighboring communities over the next few months to continue to work on bringing traffic relief to the area. The meetings are part of the effort to review PennDOT's proposed two-lane parkway for

the area while developing the best solution for improving traffic conditions.

The meetings will address issues such as the location of the lanes of the parkway within the proposed area of the Route 202 Bypass, access points to the parkway, the design of intersections and upgrades to other local highways and connector roads. The meetings will include Township and county officials, engineers and local legislators.

The goal of the meetings is to reach agreement on the design of a road that would replace the long-planned Route 202 Bypass. PennDOT has said funding is not available to

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North-South daily vehicle trips on Route 202, Lower State and Upper State Road.

Source: PennDOT

Work Starts on New Fire Substation

The Township recently broke ground on a new fire substation at Route 202 and Montgomery Avenue. The substation will provide another home for the Fire Department of Montgomery Township (FDMT).

"The elected officials, staff and volunteers have worked hard to get to this point," Supervisor Stephen A. Prousi said. "The substation is an important step for Montgomery Township and is part of our obligation to continue to provide first-rate fire protection services for the families and businesses in our community."

Since taking over as fire services provider

to the Township in December 2002, the combination fire department has decreased average response times from seven minutes to approximately four minutes.

In late 2004, the supervisors rejected the first round of bids for the substation. After revising project specifications, the Board awarded contracts that saved the Township nearly \$240,000 as compared to original estimates. The substation will be funded from the Township's Capital Reserve Fund, with money having been set aside since the founding of the department.

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Manager's Message

202 Project Remains Top Priority

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build the full four-lane bypass and has proposed a two-lane parkway as an alternative.

"While disappointed that the full Bypass may not be constructed immediately, we are committed to finding some relief for residents and businesses," said Supervisor Robert Kuhn. "These meetings are the first step in that direction."

The Township is developing a plan to update residents on the project and to listen to comments. Details on the plan will be available at www.montgomerytp.org and on Cable Channel 22.



Montgomery Elementary School student Alex Hayashi takes a peek from the inside of a breathing apparatus used by the Fire Department of Montgomery Township. Alex and his classmates visited the Township during Local Government Week in April. Students talked with staff about the workings of the Township and met with police and fire officials to learn about the great work of emergency services personnel.

Bookmobile Visits Township

The Montgomery County Library Bookmobile visits the Township Building every other Thursday. The theme for the children and youth summer reading program is Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds. A special selection of books on this theme will be available on the bookmobile throughout the summer. The summer reading program details are:



- ♦ Children birth to 18 are eligible (with a special program just for teens)
- ♦ Register in late May or early June (see Bookmobile staff)
- ♦ For every 10 books a child reads, their names is entered into a drawing to win a prize book
- ♦ Every child that registers will be entered into a special drawing
- ♦ Children of all abilities are welcome

Visit www.mc-npl.org or call the library at (610) 278-5100 for more information.

In an April 14 meeting with representatives of municipalities in Montgomery and Bucks counties, state Transportation Secretary Allen Biehler estimated that it could take about six months to develop the concept for the parkway, which would be constructed along the same route that has been preserved for the Route 202 Bypass. If a concept is agreed to, environmental and right of way design was estimated at 18 to 36 months. Construction could not begin until the right of way and environmental stage was completed.

A Message from the Manager



The Board of Supervisors and Township staff care strongly about your views on the Township. We hope to learn more about those opinions in a survey that will arrive soon in your mail. We ask that you take a few minutes to complete the survey. The results will help the Board and staff as we work together to serve you and others who live and work in our community.

The survey also includes an opportunity for you to indicate your interest in serving on one of the Township's volunteer citizen boards and commissions. The willingness of our residents to volunteer their expertise helps make the Township a great place. I hope you'll consider joining us.

In recent years, many of you have told us your concerns about traffic in the area. The Board is working hard to resolve the issue. The supervisors have dedicated significant time and resources to the Route 202 Bypass project (see story pg. 1) and will continue to do so. I am pleased to report that construction will begin this spring on improvements to Horsham Road. When work is completed, the road will be able to accommodate two travel lanes in each direction along with a center/left turn lane.

Thank you for your interest in our Township.

John Nagel
Township Manager



Does your sewer vent look like this?

If so, your chance of having a sewer back-up is likely on the rise. And the additional water entering the sewer system contributes to an increase in treatment cost.

If your house is connected to the Township wastewater system, you likely have a vent stack on your property. It may be a PVC cap that looks like a mushroom or an iron cap. If your vent stack is missing or damaged, please replace the cap to avoid sewer backups and increases in treatment costs. You can find a replacement cap at your local home improvement store. Call the Sewer Authority at (215) 393-6930 with questions.

Mark Calendars for Household Waste Days

Montgomery County has scheduled four Household Hazardous Waste collection days to give residents an opportunity to do a little extra cleanup around the house. It's very important to make sure that all Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is removed from the waste stream so that it does not contaminate groundwater, injure waste management workers or damage equipment.

Collection dates are:

Saturday, May 14, 2005
Green Lane Park
Deep Creek - Lake Tennis Court
Parking Lot
Green Lane Road (off Rt. 29)
Upper Frederick Township

Saturday, June 25, 2005
Norristown Area High School
Rear Student Parking Lot
Eagle Drive (off Whitehall
Road)
West Norriton Township

Saturday, August 20, 2005
Temple University -
Ambler Campus
Butler Pike Entrance ONLY
Upper Dublin Township

Saturday, October 22, 2005
Lower Merion Transfer Station
Hazardous Waste Only (No
Computers)
1300 Woodbine Avenue
Lower Merion Township

Locations open from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Hazardous waste items accepted include:

- ♦Automotive Products (including car batteries, motor oil, transmission fluid, brake fluid, antifreeze, kerosene and gasoline)
- ♦Pesticides/Herbicides
- ♦Household Products (including drain and oven cleaners, spot remover, dry cleaning fluid, rug cleaners)
- ♦Paint Products (paint thinner or turpentine, paint remover, oil based paint, furniture stripper and refinisher)
- ♦Miscellaneous Products (dyes, lighter fluids, concrete or asphalt sealers and swimming pool chemicals)

For more information and directions, call (610) 278-3618 or visit www.wsaemc.org.



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Montgomeryville, PA 18936

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Your Award-Winning Communications Community

"Field of Dreams" Is Tops In State

The Township's Connie Mack Field at Windelstrae Park has earned the Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization's 2004 Field of Distinction honors. The award identifies Connie Mack Field as one of the top athletic fields in the state.

Connie Mack Field is one of 11 fields managed by the Township's four-person Public Works Department crew. The team is responsible for grooming, fertilizing, mowing, renovations and spraying the fields, all on a modest budget. The crew is also responsible for 72 basins throughout the Township and soccer, baseball, street hockey, basketball and tennis playing areas. Ray Barndt, Public Works Foreman, is quick to praise his crew and vendors who give him support to allow him to do a job he loves.

The award was presented in February to Mr. Barndt at the Field Managers conference. Field of Distinction



Public Works Foreman Ray Barndt (left) accepts the Field of Distinction award for Connie Mack Field.

honors are awarded annually by the organization to facilities that have demonstrated a dedication to provide safe and playable conditions for their users regardless of the level of play.