



Communicator

News from the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors

August 2008

Board of Supervisors:
Jeffrey W. McDonnell, Chairman
Robert J. Birch, Vice-Chairman
Michael J. Fox
Stephen A. Prousi
William J. Sarosky
Township Manager: John B. Nagel

1001 Stump Road
Montgomeryville, PA 18936
Phone: 215-393-6900
Fax: 215-855-6656
www.montgomerytwp.org

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Board of Supervisors:
2nd & 4th Mondays at 8pm

Autumn Festival:
2nd Wednesday at 7pm

Business Development Partnership
(BDP):

3rd Tuesday at 12:30pm

Environmental Advisory
Committee:
4th Tuesday at 7pm

Finance Committee:
4th Thursday at 7:30pm

Open Space:
3rd Tuesday at 7pm

Park and Recreation Board:
2nd Wednesday at 8pm

Pension:
3rd Thurs. (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) at 7pm

Planning Commission:
1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:30pm

Public Safety:
3rd Wednesday at 7:30pm

Sewer Authority:
3rd Wednesday at 7:45pm

Shade Tree Commission:
3rd Wednesday at 7:30pm

Zoning Hearing Board:
1st Tuesday at 7:30pm

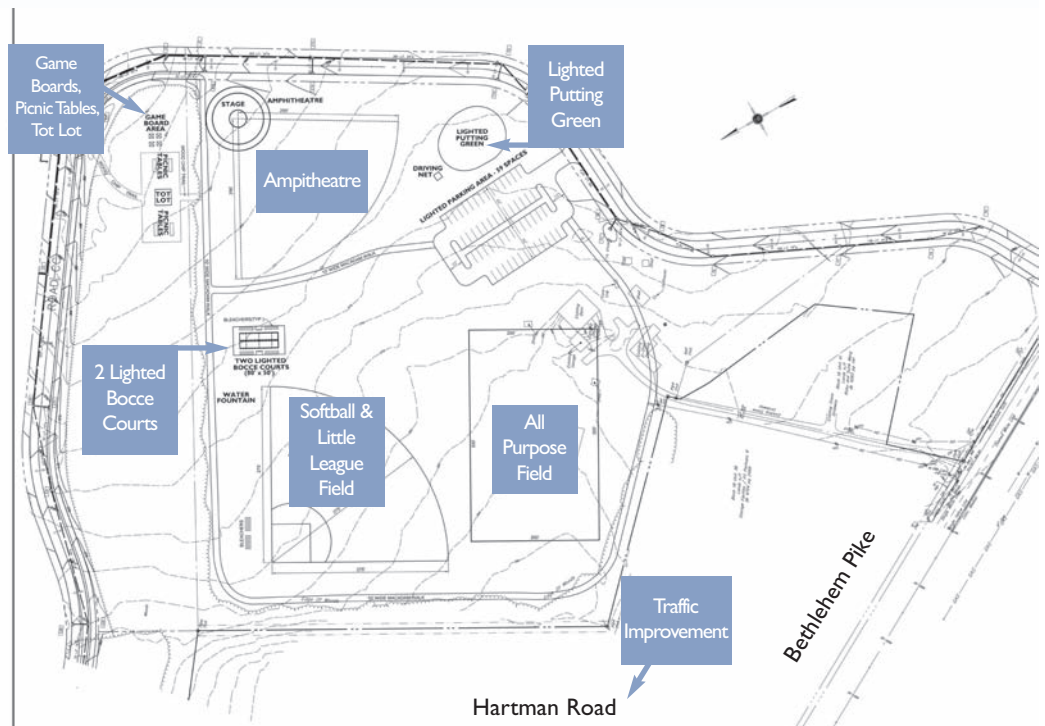
Township Gains Over \$1 Million in Improvements

In late 2005 the Cutler Group submitted plans to construct an Age Qualified Residential Community on lands located at Bethlehem Pike and Hartman Road formerly zoned Limited Industrial, which is adjacent to the Montgomery Oaks and Crossing Developments, and Glasgow Quarry.

During the land development review process, the Township was successful in negotiating the donation of 19 acres of land and the construction of a new park for the residents of the Township. The construction of this park, valued in excess of one million dollars, will be funded by the Cutler Group. The preliminary design includes such facilities as a softball field, multi-purpose field, bocce courts, amphitheater, tot lot, putting green and driving net, as well as walking trails.

This 19-acre park will be named Friendship Park thanks to a Bridle Path Elementary School Student, Erin Palm. Erin participated in the "Name that Park" contest sponsored by the Park and Recreation Board. As the winner, she received a \$100 American Express gift card and was recognized by the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors. "Friendship Park will be a great benefit to the Montgomery Township community because of the new amenities that will now be available for residents of all ages," said Stephen Prousi, member of the Board of Supervisors.

In addition to the park, traffic improvements will be made along Hartman Road extending back from Route 309. This will help avoid a backup of traffic from Route 309 during peak travel times.



Business Community Plays Big Role in Township

In 2002, Montgomery Township engaged the Pennsylvania Economy League (PEL) to perform a study regarding the level of essential services provided in relation to taxes and fees paid by our businesses and residents. The study also reviewed possible effects of implementing an Earned Income Tax, an across the board real estate tax rate reduction, and a homestead exemption for owner occupied residential properties. The study concluded that the three optional changes to the current tax structure would result in a redistribution of taxes paid closer to the allocation of tax-funded services. The Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors enacted the new tax structure changes in 2004, which included all three options studied.

The PEL study stated that the commercial and industrial sectors provide significant tax revenues for Montgomery Township. "The strong business base we have in the Township has contributed to the stable financial health of this community," said John Nagel, Township Manager. In 2007, approximately \$3.2 million was contributed to the Township through the business privilege and mercantile taxes paid from the commercial and industrial businesses in the Township; this does not include the real estate taxes that are collected from the businesses, which totals approximately \$1 million.

Recognizing the significant contributions by the business community to the financial health of the Township, the Board of

Supervisors established an eleven member Business Development Partnership (BDP) in 2004. This committee meets monthly with township staff and elected officials to discuss matters impacting the business community. The committee members include Cobham, Fast Signs, Lansdale Chrysler Jeep, Lizell Office Furniture, Mastroiemi and Sons Furniture, Montgomery Mall, Nappen Associates, Outback Steakhouse, Teva Pharmaceutical, and World Wide Stereo. "The BDP is an important committee to the Township. It allows the Township to receive feedback from the businesses and gives the business community a voice in their local government," said Nagel. In 2007, the BDP members worked hand in hand with the Planning and Zoning Department to draft a new special events and sign ordinance.

Montgomery Township greatly appreciates not only the members of the BDP who have and continue to volunteer their time, but the rest of the business community who have dedicated their time, provided monetary donations or sponsored many different Township activities such as the Autumn Festival and Holiday Lights Contest. "The business community has been very important to this Township and our residents. We appreciate their contribution towards making this community a better place to live and work," said William Sarosky, member of the Board of Supervisors and Board Liaison to the BDP.

202 Parkway Heads Toward Construction Start

Construction of the long-awaited Route 202 Parkway Project may finally begin construction by late 2008 or early 2009. The Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors has been very active in the design of the roadway and they continue to support this important transportation project.

"This road project is extremely important to Montgomery Township. Our hope is that in time it will help correct some traffic congestion problems that have plagued this area," said Jeffrey McDonnell, Board Chairman. The Route 202 Parkway from Welsh Road to Horsham Road will be four lanes (two lanes in each direction). The road will taper down to one lane in each direction from Horsham Road to County Line Road.

There will be two trail head parking lots for commuters to take advantage of the twelve foot shared use path that will run along the parkway. One parking lot will be located off of Route 309 between Upper State Road and Knapp Road, and the second one will be located off of Knapp Road near DeKalb Pike.

Currently, PennDOT is working with the Army Corp of Engineers to receive the necessary final environmental clearance. Once these permits are approved, PennDOT will go out to bid for construction of section 701 (Welsh Road to Horsham Road). If there are no problems with the permits, construction will begin no later than early next year. The completion of the 202 Project could come as soon as the end of 2010. Montgomery Township cautions residents to be patient while construction is beginning. Construction of the County Line Road and Horsham Road Widening projects will also be ongoing because these feeder roads are important to the success of the Route 202 Parkway. "It is going to be a bit difficult during the construction, however, once the improvements are made, it will be worth it," said McDonnell.

For more information on the Route 202 project, please visit www.us202.com or call 215-393-6900. Montgomery Township will be receiving updates from PennDOT throughout the process and keeping residents informed through our Government Access Channel and website.

Local Government Week



Montgomery Township celebrated Local Government Week April 7th -13th. Activities included a visit to the Township Building for elementary school students and the 2nd Annual Meet and Greet with your Elected Officials. The participants included Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz, State Senator Stewart Greenleaf, State Representative Rick Taylor, State Representative Kate Harper, Tax Collector Patricia Gallagher, and different Township departments including Fire, Police, and Administration.

Pictured (L-R): Supervisor Michael Fox, Montgomery County Commissioner James Matthews, Supervisor Robert Birch, Tax Collector Patricia Gallagher, North Penn School Board Members Joseph Walsh and Rick Miniscalco, and Supervisor Jeffrey McDonnell.

Arbor Day/Memorial Grove Dedication



The Annual Tree Give-A-Way Event was held at Memorial Grove on Saturday, April 28th. The Shade Tree Commission has worked hard to make this project a reality and held the official dedication ceremony on the same day as the Arbor Day celebration. Memorial Grove was developed when a former Shade Tree Committee Member's son was killed in the 9-11 terrorist attacks. The committee wanted to create a quiet and reflective area for all residents to visit and remember their loved ones. Residents can purchase a memorial plaque to be displayed at Memorial Grove. The cost is \$155 per plaque. For more information, please visit www.montgomerytwp.org or contact Marianne McConnell at 215-393-6900.

(Pictured (L-R): Supervisor Michael Fox, Landscape Engineer Judith Stern Goldstein, Shade Tree Committee Member Bob McConnell, Shade Tree Chairman Roy Rodriguez, Supervisor Jeffrey McDonnell, Supervisor Stephen Prousi, and Shade Tree Committee Member John Antonucci

Recycle Leaves At Drop-Off

Residents, who want to dispose of leaves before or after the two yearly collections in the fall and spring, must bag them in biodegradable paper bags and drop them off at the main section of Windlestrae Park, located off of Kenas Road between 8AM and Noon on the 3rd Saturday of each month (see schedule below). Drop offs are prohibited outside the scheduled times.

- August 16, 2008
- September 20, 2008
- October 18, 2008
- November 15, 2008
- December 20, 2008
- January 17, 2009

Mark your calendars for the fall curbside leaf waste pick-up which is scheduled for Saturday, December 6th from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Upcoming Community Events!

Sat. Sept 6th- Community Shred Day at the Montgomery Mall

Mon. Sept. 8th- The New and Improved Citizens' University starts!

Sat. Oct 11th from 10AM-5PM- Autumn Festival

For more details about these events, please visit www.montgomerytwp.org!



1001 Stump Road
Montgomeryville, PA 18936

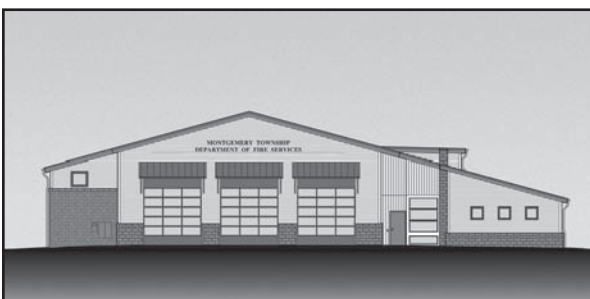
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PA
18936

Your Award-Winning Communications Community

Fire House Renovations Update

Construction started at the Stump Road Fire Station and is slated for completion in early Fall. The renovated fire house will keep the original engineer bays to reduce construction costs. The complete renovation will add about 6,400 square feet to the fire house, which will make the total square footage approximately 10,400 square feet. The design of the Fire House will resemble the Substation on Doylestown Road. Some of the new amenities added to the facility will be:

- Office Space for Both Career and Volunteer Staff
- Meeting Room/Polling Station
- Fitness Room
- Sleeping Quarters
- Kitchen Amenities
- Modern Communication Room



The architect's image of the completed Fire House.

Seniors Group Forming, Committee Openings

The Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors is working to create a new advisory committee that will be dedicated to the needs of seniors. The committee's goals include providing senior citizens with information and connections to local resources, distributing accurate information and developing open communications to create an awareness of security, health and wellness. The committee will promote improved services for seniors by placing an emphasis on independence, self-sufficiency and by identifying their needs. The new Senior Committee will give a voice to the growing senior citizen population in our Township.

Besides the Senior Committee, positions are available on the following existing advisory committees:

- Business Development Partnership (BDP): Business Owners
- Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)
- Finance Committee: Need Business Representative
- Planning Commission
- Shade Tree Commission

If you are interested in volunteering for the any of the above committee positions or the new Senior Group and are a Montgomery Township resident, please forward a letter of introduction and/or resume to:

Montgomery Township
1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA 18963
Attention: Senior Volunteer Committee
Fax: 215-855-6656, E-mail: pguralbear@montgomerytwp.org

Letters of introduction will be accepted through Friday, August 15, 2008. For more information, please contact the Community Services Office at (215) 393-6900.