



# LOWER PROVIDENCE Township

FALL 2005

## Township Officials' Visit to Washington DC Secures Route 422 Funding

In April of 2005, Lower Providence Township Supervisors Chairman Doug Hager and Township Manager Joseph C. Dunbar visited with US Senator Rick Santorum and Congressman Curt Weldon at their offices in Washington DC. The visit was a cooperative effort between Lower Providence Township, West Norriton Township and Upper Merion Township with the purpose of presenting the facts about Route 422 traffic congestion.

The interchange is a bottleneck to commuters, residents and businesses in Lower Providence Township and the surrounding

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Senator Santorum presents a \$20 million check for Route 422/Route 363 improvements to Lower Providence Township, West Norriton and Upper Merion officials. With Senator Santorum from left to right is Lower Providence Finance Director Julie Dechnik; Upper Merion Township Manager Ronald G. Wagenmann; Lower Providence Public Works Director David Shaffer; West Norriton Township Manager Joseph J. Hein; Lower Providence Police Chief Francis Carroll; Senator Santorum; Lower Providence Township Supervisors Chairman Doug Hager; Lower Providence Township Manager Joseph C. Dunbar; Upper Merion Supervisors Chairman Ralph P. Volpe; Jack Smyth, Jr. of Boles Smyth Associates; Lower Providence Township Community Development Director Michael Siegel.

Check out the complete Parks & Recreation Fall program listing inside!

## Bocce Court – New Addition to Eagleville Park



Lower Providence Township employees Kelly Donohue and Sue Preston test their skills on the finished Bocce court during lunch, while other Lower Providence Township employees enjoy a lunch in the picnic grove.

Lower Providence Township Department of Parks and Recreation is excited to announce a new addition to our parks. The Township has constructed two 12' x 60' bocce courts located in Eagleville Park across from the Sewer Authority building. The court surface is a synthetic turf specifically designed for the game of bocce. A shaded picnic area complete with charcoal grills and picnic tables is available for all to enjoy.

These courts are open to the public for recreational play and an open clinic will be conducted as part of the Bicentennial Day celebration on September 10, 2005. The clinic will run from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

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## Bocce Court (Continued from page 1)

at the new bocce courts. Residents are welcome to try their bocce skill on the courts while getting instructional feedback from experienced bocce ball players. All equipment will be provided for your use. For more information about leagues or renting equipment, please contact Lower Providence Township at 610-539-8020 ext. 124.

For more information on the game of bocce and rules for the game, please visit the website, [www.bocce.com](http://www.bocce.com).

*Published by the Board of Supervisors:*



### LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP

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#### TOWNSHIP PHONE NUMBERS

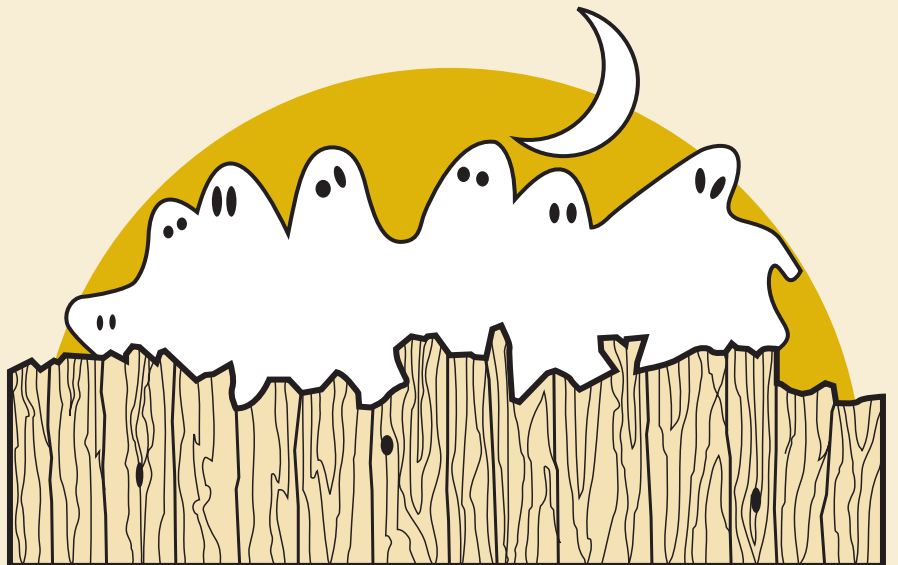
|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Police Emergencies.....                | 911               |
| Police Department.....                 | 610-539-5900      |
| Police Drug & Alcohol<br>Hotline ..... | 610-539-3195      |
| Code Enforcement .....                 | 610-539-8020 x128 |
| Community Library .....                | 610-666-6640      |
| Emergency<br>Management .....          | 610-539-5900 x146 |
| Finance Department.....                | 610-539-8020 x122 |
| Fire Marshal .....                     | 610-539-5900 x146 |
| Parks and Recreation .....             | 610-539-8020 x124 |
| Planning and Zoning .....              | 610-539-8020 x128 |
| Public Works .....                     | 610-539-8020 x125 |
| Sewer Authority .....                  | 610-539-6161      |
| Tax Office .....                       | 610-539-6423      |
| Township Administration .....          | 610-539-8020      |
| Township Manager .....                 | 610-539-8020 x126 |

## 2nd Annual Haunted House Planned

Lower Providence Township Department of Parks and Recreation in conjunction with the Lower Providence Optimist Club will be holding the 2nd Haunted House on Friday, October 28, 2005 and Saturday, October 29, 2005 from 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

The haunted house will take place in the old farmhouse and barn next to the Lower Providence Library. A scary movie night in the park is also planned for the spooky Halloween night.

This year we will be adding a Storyteller Adventure, specifically targeted for ages 6 and under. This adventure will include a hayride along with Halloween fairytales for kids to enjoy. Check the Parks & Recreation brochure inside for more information.



## Senator Santorum Delivers Route 422 Funding

(Continued from page 1)

area. Traffic on local roads is affected when those bottlenecks force commuters to leave Route 422 and travel on Ridge Pike, Egypt Road, Audubon Road, Pawlings Road and other roads throughout the township. This has a ripple effect on our local traffic causing unnecessary delays for the residents of Lower Providence. For businesses located in the Valley Forge Corporate Center, the traffic backups and the limited access to Route 422 makes it a less desirable location for businesses.

The cooperative effort between the three

townships made a lasting impression and on August 4th at Valley Forge National Historical Park, U.S. Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA), Chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, delivered \$20 million in federal funding secured through the FY 2006 Transportation Reauthorization bill for the Route 422 River Crossing Improvement Project.

At this time Congressman Curt Weldon also has funding legislation pending in Congress. It is hoped that this will bring an additional \$5 million to the Route 422 River Crossing Improvement Project.

# Township Treasure Maintains Tradition of Excellence

The modest building on Hillside Avenue in Trooper houses one of the township's true treasures – the Lower Providence Community Center Ambulance (LPCCA). For nearly 50 years, the Center has been home to an emergency ambulance squad, maintaining an unbroken tradition of service to township residents.

The Center has steadily evolved with advances in medical technology and today, crews operate three fully-equipped advanced life support ambulances and provide round-the-clock service to Lower Providence and surrounding communities. A combination of volunteers and paid professionals, including 4 full-time paramedics and 5 full-time emergency medical technicians (EMTs), staff the Center. Two advanced life support squads are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition, volunteers remain a vital part of the Center team. The Hillside Avenue site serves as headquarters, while a substation is located at the Audubon Fire House on Lark Lane.

The Community Center also is a meeting place for Lower Providence senior adults, who gather there every Wednesday afternoon. Because of limited space, however, the Center cannot accommodate all interested seniors. A larger facility, to also include expanded ambulance crew quarters, is on the Center's wish list.

The demand placed on the LPCCA has increased as the township has grown. In June 2005 alone, crews were called on to transport 129 patients. In addition to responding to vehicle accidents, medical



The Lower Providence Community Center on Hillside Avenue.

emergencies, and industrial incidents, the squad assists with special events within the township and those of neighboring communities.

The Lower Providence crews are notified of emergency calls by radio and digital pagers. A print-out of all calls also is made at the ambulance station. The Montgomery County Emergency Management Center via a computer-aided dispatch system, coordinates the calls.

Dave Mazza, a LPCCA board member, reflected on the Center, its early years, and his long-time association with it. The LPCCA, he said, remains dedicated to serving township residents – a goal set forth in the Center's charter signed in 1955. Over the years, noted Mazza, the Center has kept pace with medical advances: It was one of the first area squads to be manned by trained paramedics and continues to maintain the highest standards in training and equipment.

Mazza's association with LPCCA began as a teenager. The Center offered programs for youngsters modeled after Explorer Posts, he remembered. For many of these youths, their days volunteering at the

Center have led to careers in community service. Mazza, now a Norristown detective, also completed training as an EMT and paramedic. Another "alumni" is Lower Providence Township Detective Charles DeFrancesco, who serves as the township's Emergency Management Coordinator. Other volunteers have gone on to become lawyers, nurses and doctors.

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*"People – volunteers – are needed. People are just as important as financial contributions."*

— Dave Mazza

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A non-profit organization, the LPCCA is not affiliated with Lower Providence Township and relies heavily on subscriptions and donations. The Center faces a growing financial challenge brought on by increased training, staffing and equipment costs and diminishing Medicare and insurance reimbursements.

Gaining the financial support of township

Continued on page 7

# Lower Providence Community Library

## Upcoming Fall Programs

For more info on any programs please call the Library at 610 666-6640 or check our website [www.lowerprovidencelibrary.org](http://www.lowerprovidencelibrary.org).

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

#### Children's Storytimes September 12 – December 17

Mondays & Tuesdays:

10:30 a.m., Infants – 2 years old

11:15 a.m., Older 2's and 3

Thursdays:

10:30 a.m., 4 years and older

1:30 p.m., 4 years and older

Saturdays:

10:30 a.m., Infants – 3 years

11:15 a.m., 4 years and older

#### Strings & Stories September 13th at 7:00 p.m.

A one-hour concert by Linda Rosenthal (violin) & Bill Blush (actor) commissioned by the Kennedy Center, Washington, DC that combines classical music, fairytales, and theatre. This concert is presented by the Piatigorsky foundation, a national arts service organization whose mission is to bring live classical music to individuals.

#### Book Discussion Group September 20th at 6:00 p.m.

An organizational meeting for a book discussion group for ages 11-13. Decide on the books to read and the meeting day.

#### Book Discussion Group September 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

An organizational meeting for a book discussion group for ages 8-10. Decide on the books to read and the meeting day.

#### Storytime Visitor September 23rd at 11:00 a.m.

Storytime and a visit from the MOUSE of "If you give a mouse a cookie". Sponsored by the "Barnes & Noble of Devon".

#### Cecil Martin Visits September 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Former Philadelphia Eagle Cecil Martin visits the Library to give a motivational speech for youth. The NFL presented its Unsung Heroes Award to Martin in 2001 and 2002 and the Ed Block Courage Award in 2000. Autographs available afterwards. Sponsored by Sovereign Bank. Tickets are available at the Library.

#### Halloween Safety Program October 11th at 7:00 p.m.

A program for pre-school to 2nd grade. Presented by the Montgomery County Health Department Highway Safety Program. Pre-Registration required.

#### Fall Craft Night October 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Ages 7 and up. Pre-Registration required.

#### Thanksgiving Craft Night November 15th at 6:30 p.m.

Ages 5 and up. Pre-Registration required.

#### Neill Hartley Visits November 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate Children's Book Week with Renowned Actor Neill Hartley presenting his program, The Spirit of Lindbergh. Experience first hand the incredible journey that riveted the world and transformed aviation forever. See "Lucky Lindy" planning his trip, navigating in the cockpit, and arriving in Paris.

#### Puppet Show December 6th at 7:00 p.m.

"Puppets Pizzazz" presents a wonderful Holiday program.

#### Holiday Craft Night December 7th at 6:30 p.m.

Ages 5 and up. Pre-Registration Required.

### ADULT PROGRAMS

#### Seminar on Top Scams in PA September 13th at 6:30 pm

A Pennsylvania Securities Commission speaker will be here at the Lower Providence Community Library talking about the "Top Scams in PA".

#### Earth-friendly Living Course Wednesdays September 7th — November 2nd at 7 p.m.

A course on "Choices on Sustainable Living" will be held at the Lower Providence Community Library. This is a nine-week course from the Northwest Earth Institute that explores the meaning of sustainability, asks you to consider the ties between lifestyle choices and their impact on the earth, and helps you learn about steps that can be taken to move toward ecologically sustainable organizations, lifestyles, and communities. Registration is limited. Signups at the Library.



# Young Readers Earn "Dragon Dollars" at The Library Summer Reading Club

It was a busy successful summer at the library. Over 700 children signed up for the Summer Reading Club, "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds". This was an all-time high! The program rewarded children for reading. The Children earned "Dragon Dollars" for reading a certain amount. The children used the "Dragon Dollars" to "purchase" prizes in the Dragon Store. Events that took place included, a Harry Potter party, craft nights, a magician, a ventriloquist, storytellers and marionettes.

Without our summertime student volunteers we would not have been able to provide this wonderful program. Methacton Senior Wendy Shi created a remarkable banner for the club and

special thanks are owed to Lauren Dahl, Krissy Dahl, and Laura Kratz for all of their hard work in decorating and running the Dragon Store. Thank you to the "Friends of the Lower Providence Community Library" who generously sponsored our entire summer program this year.

Also, this summer was another successful session of "Science in the Summer" sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline. This year 60 children learned about 'Simple Machines' like the inclined plane, pulleys and more.



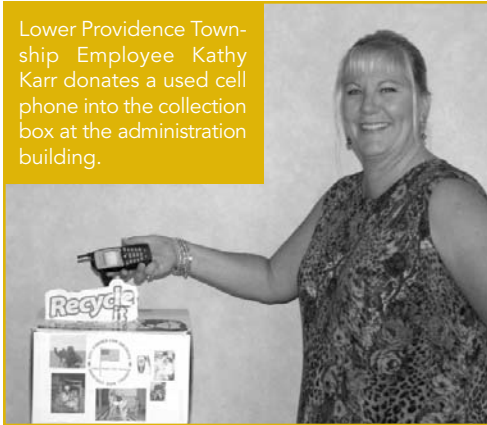
Actor Brian Belge directs the joust in Marshall Laww's Knight Games at the Library for the 2005 Summer Reading Club, "Dragons, Dreams, and Daring Deeds".



Throughout the summer parents and children marveled at the beautiful banner created by Wendy Shi for the library's Summer Reading Club, "Dragons, Dreams, and Daring Deeds".

# Lower Providence Township Helps Cell Phones For Soldiers Program

Lower Providence Township Employee Kathy Karr donates a used cell phone into the collection box at the administration building.



Cell Phones For Soldiers is a non-profit organization that was started by two Massachusetts teenagers to help buy calling cards to send to our soldiers serving in the Middle East. Started in April of 2004, Cell Phones For Soldiers has raised more than \$250,000.00 and has sent more than 9,000 prepaid calling cards to our troops. Cell phones and ink jet cartridges are recycled for cash to purchase the calling cards. The program will accept any make or model cell phone or

ink jet cartridge. Please drop off the cell phone with the attached battery only.

Lower Providence Township has joined the Cell Phones for Soldiers program as an official cell phone and ink jet cartridge collection center. Cell phones and ink jet cartridges may be dropped off at the Township Building at 100 Parklane Drive, Eagleville during normal business hours.

Please feel free to visit their website at [www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com](http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com), or call them at 781-659-7789 for more information.

# Amateur Radio Club Holds Annual Event in Lower Providence Township

The Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club (MARC) recently took part in Field Day, the world's largest emergency preparedness drill for amateur radio operators. The club members met – as they have since 1982 – on the Verizon training field on Egypt Road adjacent to Shannondell, testing their skills and socializing with fellow radio enthusiasts.

Over 35,000 operators across the country, including Lower Providence Supervisor Piero Sassu, participated in the annual event, continuing a tradition that started with the first Field Day in 1933. Sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, the event tests radio operator's skills during a crisis: Power is out, telephone service has been cut, and amateur radio is the only means of communication. During Field Day, power is only provided by battery, generator or other source that would be used in an emergency.

The first Field Day was held at the height of the Great Depression when many radio schools were forced to shut down or curtail their activities. At the time, other countries were already conducting similar events and the Radio League used Field Day to raise public awareness about the vital role amateur radio operators play in emergency situations.

Today, in addition to showcasing the skills of participants, Field Day continues to serve as an informational event. By observing and talking with the operators, the public and local officials can get a real taste of amateur radio: It can be much more than a hobby, providing a critical service in emergency situations. Field Day is also a social event, allowing club members the opportunity to meet and get to know the fellow operators they've talked to on the air.

MARC first conducted its Field Day exercises in 1977 at a site in Lionville, Chester County. For the first few years,



Pictured from left-to-right at MARC Field Day are Dennis DeMarco – KA3QOT, Bob Weiss – KB3FSQ, Dick Stewart – K3ITH, and Lower Providence Supervisor, Piero Sassu – N3FVG.

Field Day was held at members' homes. In 1982, through the generosity of one of its members, MARC moved its Field Day to the field on Egypt Road in Audubon used for the training of Verizon lineman.

This year marked the end of an era, of sorts, as it was the final time MARC will hold its Field Day at the Audubon Verizon field because of construction. Sassu is helping in the search for a new Field Day home in the township.

More information about the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club can be found at its website, [www.marc-radio.org](http://www.marc-radio.org). To learn more about amateur radio, visit the ARRL website, [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

# Business Survey Updates Businesses Emergency Contact Listings

Lower Providence Township Emergency Management Coordinator and the Director of Special Projects have been working together to complete a Township wide Business Census. A Business Census Representative was tasked with a door-to-door visit of all businesses in the Township with a role of updating Emergency Contact Listings for each business. With updated Emergency Contact Listings, emergency responders can minimize the amount of time it takes to contact a business owner during an emergency.

The businesses were also provided copies of relevant ordinances of concern to the emergency responders. They include Alarms, Display of Street Numbers and Key Lock Boxes, all of which increase the safety of our emergency responders. They were also supplied a copy of the Township's recycling ordinance.

The Business Community has been openly receptive of the census. For more information on the census or relevant ordinances, please feel free to contact the Emergency Management Coordinator.

## New Business Openings in Lower Providence

Residents should be aware of several new businesses that opened up in our community in the past three months. Walgreens, Pizza Hut Delivery and Super Cuts at Ridge Pike and Park Avenue, Retail and restaurants in Evansburg Village at Germantown Pike and Evansburg Road and Team-Children at 960 Rittenhouse Road in the Valley Forge Corporate Center.

## Township Treasure Maintains Tradition of Excellence

(Continued from page 3)

residents and the business community, said Mazza, is a top priority for the Center. Subscriptions entitle residents and employees of participating businesses to emergency medical services through LPCCA. With these subscriptions, there may be no out-of-pocket costs for ambulance service.

Subscription rates for residents are broken down as follows: Single (18 and over) - \$30; senior citizen single (65 and over) - \$20; family - \$50; and senior citizen family - \$35. Business subscriptions are: Gold - \$25 per employee; Silver - \$15 per employee, and Bronze - \$10 per employee.

As an added benefit to residents and businesses, LPCCA members conduct classes at the Center in Advanced First Aid, CPR, and AED training.

To help the LPCCA continue to serve the community, volunteers are also needed. "People - volunteers - are needed," said Mazza. "People are just as important as



A vintage Cadillac Ambulance used by the Center in the earlier days is now just a memory to some of the long time volunteers.

financial contributions," he said. The Center hopes to recruit residents from varied backgrounds to bring fresh ideas and business savvy to help sustain the valuable township resource.

The Center also is seeking EMTs and student EMTs, paramedics, and first responders. Volunteers, who must be 15 year or older, are asked to call,

610-539-6744 or e-mail Mark Murmello, [mmurmello@LPEMS.com](mailto:mmurmello@LPEMS.com).

In addition, educational presentations on 911 emergencies/safety/first aid, including tours of its ambulances, are presented by the LPCCA for school children. For more information about these presentations or training classes held at the Center, call the business office, 610-539-8465.

# Internet Fraud – Preventive Measures

In an earlier edition of the Lower Providence Township Newsletter (Summer 2002) we discussed the increase in the reported incidents of Identity Theft. This trend continues today, not just locally, but nationally as well. In addition to Identity Theft, there are many other ways in which individuals and organizations can become victims of fraud. One of these ways is through the use of the Internet.

In this article we will take a look at some of the different types of fraudulent activities that are taking place on the Internet, and what preventive measures you can take so that you do not become a victim.

## Phishing

This is the practice of sending fraudulent e-mail messages that appear to be legitimate. They often carry the guise of being from an Internet Service Provider (ISP), a bank, or other financial institution, and ask the receiver to update his or her personal and financial account information on a bogus Web site. That information is then captured by the phisher, and the receiver is subject to identity theft, bank account, or credit card fraud.

If you receive an e-mail message requesting this information, **do not** provide it. If you have any questions, call your ISP or your bank.

## Nigerian Letter Scam

This scam is often initiated through an Internet Auction site (e.g. e-bay). An individual from Nigeria will contact a seller and offer to buy an item listed for sale. Once a price has been agreed upon, the buyer will send a check for an amount that is considerably higher than the purchase price. They will state that they are out of the country, and will request that the seller wire the excess funds back to them by Western Union. The seller deposits the original check into his account, and then wires the money to the buyer. The seller then discovers

that the check was counterfeit, and that he or she has been victimized for the amount that was wired. Often times, this amounts to several thousand dollars.

There are other variations of this scam, including the shipping of merchandise overseas and then discovering that the check was counterfeit. There are also incidents of Nigerian females initiating romantic relationships with American men, and requesting that funds be wired to them so that they can travel to this country. Once the money is sent, the Internet relationships are terminated.

**Do not** enter into any financial agreement or send any funds to anyone involved in the above listed activities. You are sure to get burnt. Because these individuals are overseas, they will not be prosecuted and you will not be reimbursed for your losses. Several Township residents have already been victimized in this way.

## Internet Auction Fraud

Many individuals are lulled into a false sense of security when becoming involved in an Internet auction. They believe that they will not be victimized because they are using e-bay or some other recognized auction site. This is not the case. Many times, what the buyer thinks he or she is purchasing, is not what they get. They either receive an item of far lesser value, or they receive nothing at all. In many cases, these individuals are not

prosecuted because they live in other states and extradition is not authorized.

In order to protect yourself from this type of fraud, understand as much as possible about how the auction works, and what your obligations are as a buyer. Learn as much as possible about the seller, and if it is a business, check the Better Business Bureau where it is located. Inquire about shipping costs, delivery dates, warranties, and exchange policies. Do not give out your social security number, date of birth, or driver's license number to the seller.

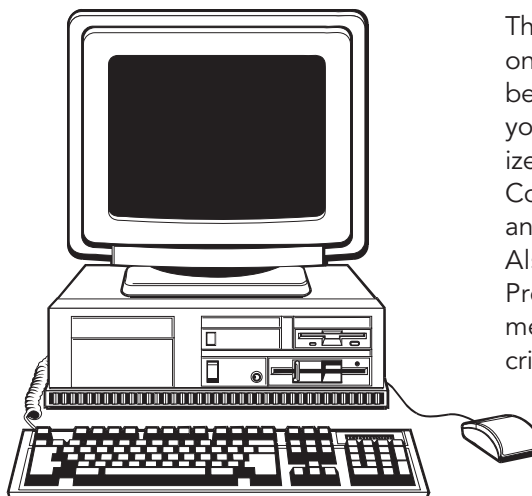
## Credit Card Fraud

When making purchases by credit card on-line, make sure that the site is secure and reputable. If your credit card account number falls into the wrong hands, it can ruin your credit rating, and take years to repair it. In addition to unauthorized charges on that credit card, other accounts can be opened in your name. Many times the cardholder is not even aware that this has happened. It is a good practice to check your credit report on a regular basis

It is best to purchase merchandise from a reputable source. Do your homework on the individual or company to ensure that they are legitimate. Don't judge an individual or company by their web site. Check with the Better Business Bureau if you are not sure.

## Conclusion

The scams that are described above are only a few of the ways in which you can be a victim of fraud on the Internet. If you believe that you have been victimized, report it to the Internet Crime Complaint Center at <http://www.ic3.gov>, and go to the "File a Complaint" link. Also, file a report with the Lower Providence Township Police Department. We cannot always guarantee that criminal charges will be filed, but a Police report can help you in your efforts to clear your credit record.



# Fire Prevention Week – Use Candles with Care

Fall is here and with it comes Fire Prevention Week (this year it is October 9th-15th). Each year the National Fire Protection Association has a theme, which it uses to educate the public. This year the theme is “Use candles with care – when you go out, blow out”.

In 2003 there were 388,500 reported home fires in the US resulting in 3,145 deaths, 13,650 injuries and \$5.9 billion in direct property damage. In the US, someone dies from a home fire roughly every three hours. Candles are responsible for a growing percentage of home fires – in 2001 candles were responsible for an estimated 18,000 home fires, resulting in 190 deaths, 1,450 injuries and a property loss of \$265 million. Forty-one percent of the US home candle fires begin in the bedroom, causing 24% of the deaths resulting from these fires.

Another important fact to keep in mind – December has almost twice the number of home candle fires of an average month. Candles may be pretty to look at but remember – a candle is an open flame that can easily ignite any combustible material nearby. It's essential that you have working smoke detectors in your home. Remember to test the smoke detector monthly and change the batteries twice a year (change you clock, change your smoke detector battery). It's also very important to have a home fire escape plan and practice it on a regular basis.

There are some things to remember which can reduce the risk of burning candles. The first is to never leave a burning candle unattended – especially if you

have small children or pets in the house. Remember the NFPA theme this year – when you go out (leave the room), blow out the candle. Another important tip is to keep candles at least one foot away from anything that can burn – including curtains, blinds, wallpaper, or furniture. It is suggested that you don't place lit candles in windows where drafts could bring combustibles (i.e. curtains, etc) in contact with the open flame.

When burning candles, use holders that are sturdy, won't tip over easily, are made from a material that can't burn and are large enough to collect the dripping wax. Another suggestion is to place the candleholder on a sturdy, uncluttered surface – away from combustibles or edges where they can be knocked over. Before lighting a candle, trim the wick to 1/4 inch to keep the flame lower. It's also suggested that candles be extinguished when they burn down to within two inches of their holder. When extinguishing the candle, be careful not to splatter the wax on anyone or anything – this can cause severe burns. You should not leave the room until the wick has stopped glowing. A good recommendation is to avoid

Candles are responsible for a growing percentage of home fires – in 2001 candles were responsible for an estimated 18,000 home fires, resulting in 190 deaths, 1,450 injuries and a property loss of \$265 million.



Below, Lower Providence Fire Department Chief Bryan McFarland helps a child try on some fire equipment at EMS day in May 2005.

using candles during a power outage – keep flashlights and battery-powered lighting on hand for emergency lighting.

For further information on this topic, please visit the NFPA website at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org). Also, please mark October 14th on your calendars. This is the date of the Fire Prevention Week Open House at the Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company. The event is held at the firehouse at 3199 Ridge Pike from 7-9 p.m. There will be lots of equipment to see and plenty of information on fire safety and candle safety. You can also check out the fire company website at [www.lpfire.com](http://www.lpfire.com). There are lots of pictures of our area fire – fighters in action and safety tips. The fire company also offers fire safety lectures to community groups – see the fire company website for further information.

*Written by Karen Slotterback, Firefighter/Paramedic, Lower Providence Fire Department*





Volunteers at the TeamChildren facility consists of both retirees and Methacton School students. Pictures from left to right are Joe Piazza retired volunteer from Plymouth Meeting, Shane Dennic Methacton School Student, Jerry Grover retired volunteer from Audubon, Warren Stetler Methacton School Student, Tyler Sterler Methacton School Student, Leslie Sees Project Technology Administrator, and Ethan Ball retired volunteer from Flourtown.

## TeamChildren Distributes Computers to the Economically Disadvantaged

TeamChildren has for the last twelve years been collecting, repairing and distributing older donated computers to economically disadvantaged individuals and charitable organizations. This organization has just recently moved into the Valley Forge Corporate Center at 960 W Rittenhouse Road. Robert Tuporek, President of TeamChildren started in North Philadelphia distributing computers to families on 9th and Indiana, to use in the comfort and safety of their homes.

Today, TeamChildren, has collected, repaired and distributed over 5,000 computers. Some of the organizations that have been helped by TeamChildren are the Philadelphia School District, Upper Merion School District, Audubon

YMCA and the Norristown Public Library.

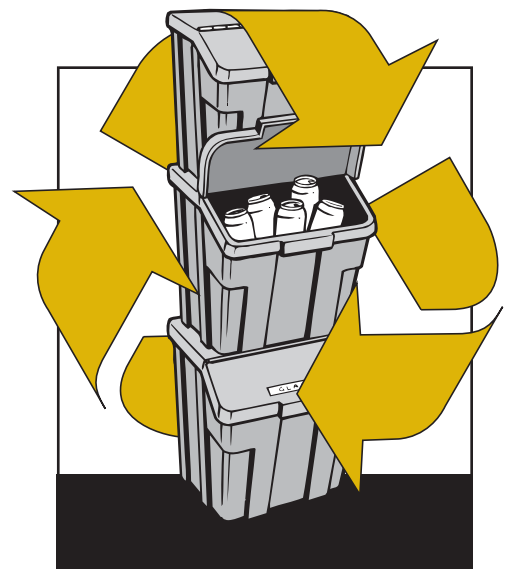
Many college bound students and senior citizens volunteer their time to help every Monday and Wednesday along with students from the Pathway school every Wednesday.

If you are interested in volunteering your time contact TeamChildren at 610-666-1795 or send an email to [TeamChildren@aol.com](mailto:TeamChildren@aol.com) or visit their website at [www.TeamChildren.com](http://www.TeamChildren.com). TeamChildren requests a \$25 donation from anyone who wishes to donate an older computer to help cover some of the administrative costs. If you are interested in obtaining an older computer, contact TeamChildren at the above number. The typical cost depending on model ranges from \$50 to \$185.

## Recycling – Good for the Environment and Lower Providence

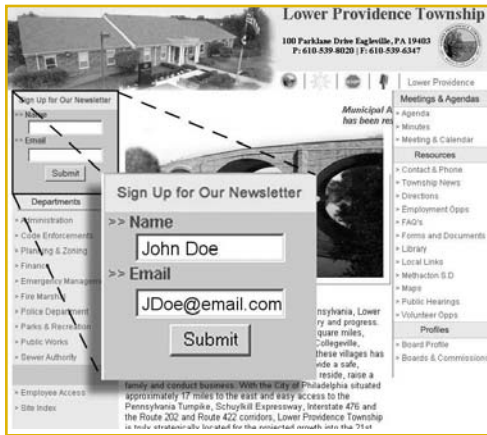
Lower Providence Township has been an active participant in the Pennsylvania State Act 101 Section 904 Recycling Performance Grant program. For the past three years Lower Providence Township has received \$210,748.00 in recycling grant awards.

The Lower Providence Township Supervisors and staff commend residents on their recycling efforts this is not only good for the environment, it is also good for Lower Providence Township. In addition to the residential recycling efforts, the township has been in contact with commercial businesses and their contracted trash haulers to document the full recycling effort. Lower Providence Township ordinance #346 requires all residential and nonresidential businesses to recycle.



# Website Newsletter Signup and Contact Form

The Lower Providence Township Website, [www.lowerprovidence.org](http://www.lowerprovidence.org) has a Newsletter Signup form. The Newsletter Signup Form is a method for residents, who have email capability, to request to be added to the township newsletter email list. The form requests your name and email address.

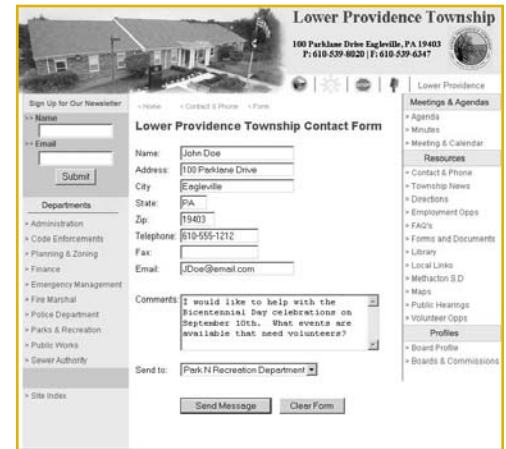


We request you enter your full name and complete email address before selecting the "SUBMIT" button.

The email addresses and names are stored

in a database at the township and used only for township emails. The township plans to utilize this email list in the future to communicate important township and community events, publicize the availability of electronic documents on our website and communicate various other topics of interest to the community. Currently we have approximately 200 residents on the email list.

In addition to the Newsletter Signup Form, there is also a Contact Form for residents to submit inquiries via email to specific township departments. The Contact Form is located on the township contact webpage, [www.lowerprovidence.org/contact.htm](http://www.lowerprovidence.org/contact.htm) at the bottom of this webpage, select the "Email us" link and this will display the Contact Form. The Contact Form consists of a "Comments" field for your questions and informational fields for your Name, Address, Phone, Fax, and Email. The "Send To" field at the bottom can be used to select the department the contact information should be sent. If you're unsure which



department to select, you can select "Administration" and it will be forwarded to the appropriate department.

Complete all the fields before selecting the "SEND MESSAGE" button. You should hear shortly from the township department. As is the case with all emails, if a request remains unanswered or not completely answered to your satisfaction, please make a follow-up phone call to the township 610-539-8020 and we will be glad to speak to you personally.

## Public Works – Recycling Autumn Leaves

With autumn soon approaching, falling leaves aren't far behind. As most of you already know, leaves can no longer be taken to landfills. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources and Lower Providence Township Department of Emergency Management prohibit the open burning of leaves in Lower Providence Township. Therefore, leaves should be recycled in one of the following manners:

- **Composting**

Rake your leaves and place them into biodegradable bags or trash containers and place them at curbside for Wednesday pickup, which is for com-

postable materials. The biodegradable bags or trash containers may not exceed 40 pounds each. NOTE: Plastic bags are not accepted, since they are not biodegradable. (Biodegradable bags are available at the Township Administration Building at a cost of 30¢ each or 50 for \$14, office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday).

- **Leaf Vacuuming**

The vacuum option was added in 1993 because of residents who have trees that produce a large volume of leaves. Any resident who hasn't already arranged for leaf vacuum service may make arrangements with J. P. Mascaro.

The cost for this service is \$300.00. For those who elect to have leaves vacuumed, they will not need to purchase the biodegradable bags. Leaves must be raked to the curbside or edge of the roadway where J. P. Mascaro vacuums them up. Reminder: Leaves only.

Those residents that have arranged for vacuum leaf collection will receive two collections. Residents need to arrange for collection dates with J. P. Mascaro if they want this service.

The Lower Providence Township leaf collection has always gone very well and the Township thanks all residents for their recycling efforts.



Lower Providence Township  
100 Parklane Drive  
Eagleville, PA 19403  
[www.lowerprovidence.org](http://www.lowerprovidence.org)

PRESORT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Permit 286  
SEPA 19399

## Fall 2005 Bicentennial Events

### BICENTENNIAL DAY

**Saturday, September 10th**

**Starting at 12 p.m. to Dusk  
Finishing with Fireworks!**

(Rain date, September 11th)

**At Eagleville Park**

Bicentennial Day will include several activities for the community. Games, refreshments, vendors, clowns, a stilt walker, a bungee run, moon bounce, fun slide, and reptile shows.

There will be music all day long featuring "The Grease Band", "Heart and Soul" a karaoke contest, and DJ Dale Sherry.

For more details or to request a table, contact 610-539-8020 ext. 108.

**Hope to see you there!**

### BICENTENNIAL PARADE

**Saturday, September 17th**

**Starting at 10 a.m.**

Staging takes place between 8 & 9:30 a.m. at the Visitation BVM School, 109 North Trooper Road, Norristown.

The route will follow south on Trooper Road, West onto Ridge Pike, and end at the Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company, 3199 Ridge Pike, Eagleville.

**Your participation is requested!**

The parade is non-judged and there is no entry fee. However, you must register your entry.

Any questions or to request an entry form, please contact the parade committee at 610-539-5900 ext. 146 or email [parade@lowerprovidence.org](mailto:parade@lowerprovidence.org).

