



# *Lower Providence Township*

100 PARKLANE DRIVE • EAGLEVILLE, PA 19403

Phone: (610) 539-8020 Fax: (610) 539-6347

E-mail: [admin@lowerprovidence.org](mailto:admin@lowerprovidence.org)

[www.lowerprovidence.org](http://www.lowerprovidence.org)



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## **American Revolution Center Leaving Lower Providence Township**

Lower Providence Township was notified July 1, 2009 that the American Revolution Center has ended its efforts to build a museum in Lower Providence Township and plans to locate the museum in Philadelphia's historic district, near Third and Chestnut streets. Facing mounting costs and time delays as a result of protracted litigation brought by the National Parks Conservation Association, the ARC's board made a business decision to move forward and relocate.

The American Revolution Center project represented a fantastic opportunity to host a venue of national and international significance and was also seen as a much-needed economic engine for the Township and the School District. The move is a tremendous loss for Lower Providence Township, Valley Forge National Historical Park and Montgomery County.

Since its introduction in 2006, the proposed museum had been a major project in the Township. It was to be built on a 78-acre, privately-owned parcel on Pawlings Road and would have told the story of the American Revolution, showcasing a local collection of previously unseen artifacts. With the support the Board of Supervisors, the Township staff worked professionally and tirelessly, not allowing the project to slip away easily. As late as two weeks ago, the Township, via the Manager, attempted to broker a compromise that would salvage this outstanding venture.

Although a great loss for the immediate region, there is some satisfaction that the museum will be located in historic Philadelphia and will remain in the Commonwealth.