

# Franc Talk

Newsletter of Franconia Township • Summer 2006

## New Employee Jerry Rittenhouse

Jerry Rittenhouse joined the township administration on February 13, 2006. He was hired as the township's new Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer. His duties include plan review, issuance of building permits, on-site inspections, performing use and enforcing township codes. Jerry has worked in residential and commercial construction for the past 35 years, some of which in his own business. Jerry has been working very closely with our veteran inspector Roger Koffel to learn all the aspects of his position. He was recently approved as a Building Code Official of the Uniform Construction Code by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry.

Jerry has been married for 35 years to his wife Elaine. He has two daughters, Dawn and Wendy. He has lived in this area his whole life, graduating from Souderton Area High School and now residing in Towamencin Township.

The township is very excited and pleased to welcome Jerry. 🌹



## New Addition to Public Works Department

Joshua Worman is the newest addition to the township. He joined the Franconia Township Public Works Department on May 8th, 2006. He will be responsible for helping the department maintain our township roads and open space areas, snow removal, pump station maintenance among many other tasks. Josh previously worked for Montgomery Township's Public Works Department and prior to that he was employed by T.J. Wambold of Sellersville.

Josh was recently married and resides in Perkasio with his wife Jamie. Josh has lived in the area his whole life, growing up in East Rockhill Township and graduating from Pennridge High School. Josh enjoys spending time with family, playing softball and attending sporting events. The township is very excited and pleased to welcome Josh! 🌹



## 275th Anniversary Celebration

In honor of Franconia Township's 275th anniversary this year, a parade and community day is being planned for Saturday, September 23rd, 2006, and ending with a fireworks display at dusk. The committee has been hard at work organizing community participation in this upcoming event. The interest from the community groups, businesses, and individuals has been very promising.

The parade will begin at Indian Crest Junior High School, down Route 113 and end at the Franconia Community Park. The parade is scheduled to begin at 11:00AM. The community day event will be held at the community park on Allentown Road, beginning at 1:00PM. The community day festivities will include food vendors, crafters, antique farm displays, games and activities for children, hay rides, pumpkin painting and things of that nature. Please view the schedule included in this newsletter.

We would like to give your organization the opportunity to be involved in this event. You may be involved by participating in the parade, and, or as a vendor following the parade at the community day festivities. Vendor participation forms are available at the township office. Please contact Jamie P. Worman at 215-723-1137 for more information.

We are looking forward to having you join the celebration! 🌹

# What You Can Do to Prevent NPS Pollution

## URBAN STORMWATER RUNOFF

- Keep litter, pet wastes, leaves, and debris out of street gutters and storm drains—these outlets drain directly to lake, streams, rivers, and wetlands.
- Apply lawn and garden chemicals sparingly and according to directions.
- Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints, and other household chemicals properly, not in storm sewers or drains.
- Clean up spilled brake fluid, oil, grease, and antifreeze. Do not hose them into the street where they can eventually reach local streams and lakes.
- Control soil erosion on your property by planting ground cover and stabilizing erosion-prone areas.
- Have your septic system inspected and pumped, at a minimum, every 3-5 years so that it operates properly.
- Purchase household detergents and cleaners that are low in phosphorous to reduce the amount of nutrients discharged into our lakes, streams and coastal waters.

## AGRICULTURE

- Manage animal waste to minimize contamination of surface water and ground water.
- Protect drinking water by using less pesticides and fertilizers.
- Reduce soil erosion by using conservation practices and other applicable best management practices.
- Use planned grazing systems on pasture and rangeland.
- Dispose of pesticides, containers, and tank rinsate in an approved manner. 🌱

Last updated on Wednesday, February 22nd, 2006  
URL: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/whatudo.html>

# Franconia Sewer Authority Update

There has been a lot of activity in the Franconia Sewer Authority (FSA). The new Souderton Area High School requires the installation of sewer lines, a pump station, and a wastewater treatment plant. The new treatment plant will be built in the vicinity of Forman and Schoolhouse Roads, with discharge into the Skippack Creek. All of the agreements have been signed by the FSA and the Souderton Area School District.

The FSA is working with Salford Township to share in a project to provide public sewer to Earlington and Tylersport residents, along with a proposed development in Salford Township. Because of simpler construction and shared use of facilities, this project would lower construction costs for both Franconia and Salford residents. This project is still in its preliminary stages, but both Franconia and Salford Township officials have recognized its merits and are moving it forward.

Elsewhere in the community, the FSA will be extending sewer into the Musselman Woods area. The FSA is also working with a developer to install public sewer in the Reliance and Cowpath Road areas. Additionally, public sewer is being pursued in the Mininger Road and Leslie Lane area, and preliminary work is being performed to determine the best course of action to assist

property owners in the Morwood area.

A note for existing FSA customers: you may have noticed a different style of invoice for your second quarter billing. FSA had been researching ways to provide a better invoice (one that does not get carbon smudging) that maintained the features of the existing invoice (sent in an envelope, with a return envelope provided). The new invoice is cleaner, easier to set up, and cheaper to develop! Please let us know if you see any problems with the new invoice. 🌱

## Sewer Management Plan

The second cycle of the Sewer Management Plan is well underway. Property owners with on lot disposal systems (OLDS) in Cycle II – basically southeast of Route 113 – were invited to an informational meeting in May of this year. At this time anyone in the Cycle II area can contact one of the registered pumper/ haulers to start the inspection process. A map of the three cycle areas as well as the list of pumper/haulers is available on the Township website – [www.franconiatownship.org](http://www.franconiatownship.org), or you can stop by or call to get the information. 🌱

## 275th Anniversary Activity List & Schedule

Community Day will offer the following activities as well as face painting, a hot air balloon, and music. These activities are subject to change, an updated schedule will be published in the Souderton Independent in September.

- 1) 3-legged Sack Race (Ages 6-15)**  
Location: Football Field  
Time: 2:00PM
- 2) 100-Yard Dash (Ages 6-15)**  
Location: Football Field  
Time: 2:30PM
- 3) 50-Yard Dash (Ages 6-15)**  
Location: Football Field  
Time: 3:00PM
- 4) Relay Race (Ages 6-15)**  
Location: Football Field  
Time: 3:30PM
- 5) Peanut Scramble (Ages - up to 7)**  
Location: Area beyond the playground (Allentown Road - Easter Egg Hunt)  
Time: 4:00PM
- 6) Pie Eating Contest (12 and up)**  
Location: Godshall Road Pavilion  
Time: 4:15PM
- 7) Tug of War (12 and up)**  
Location: Football Field  
Time: 5:00PM
- 8) Hay Ride (All ages)**  
Location: Allentown or Godshall Road Parking Lot  
Time: All day
- 9) Pumpkin Decorating (All ages)**  
Location: Godshall Road Pavilion  
Time: 1:00-4:00PM
- 10) Spin Art (All ages)**  
Location: Godshall Road Pavilion  
Time: 1:00-4:00PM 🌱

## Forrest Meadow Park Grants Received

On April 17th, 2006 Franconia Township received notification that the grant application submitted by Assistant Township Manager, Jamie P. Worman, and recommended by Representative Robert Godshall, had been selected for funding. The application submitted requested additional funding to construct a public walking trail in the Forrest Meadow Park located on Forrest Road & Fourth Street in Franconia Township. The trail was included in the 2001 master site plan of that park. The park and recreation committee have been eager to begin at least one portion of the development project at that location and requested that an application be submitted to try and obtain funding for the trail. The Board of Supervisors authorized Ms. Worman to submit the application and shortly after that they received notice that a grant in the amount of \$25,000.00 had been approved for the loop trail project from the Heritage and Other Parks Appropriation.

The proposed trail is approximately 1 mile in length and is designed in a figure-8 pattern to allow a person a choice of either one of the loops or the entire figure-8. The 8-foot wide trail will be constructed with asphalt and will provide access to all park amenities in the future. The trail will be open to all walkers, joggers and bicyclists with limited access to in-line skaters. The path will be developed to ADA standards. The township's public works department will install the trail along with a small parking area and any stormwater facilities necessary.

In September of 2005 Ms. Worman applied for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Community Partnership Grant for the Forrest Meadow Park Project, as well. This was the second time she had applied for grant funding to develop the park. On July 10th, 2006 the township was notified that this application had also been selected for funding. Governor, Ed Rendell, with the support

from Representative Robert Godshall, approved the Forrest Meadow Park-Phase 1 Development for a grant in the amount of \$121,000.00 from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program administered by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Funding for this project is from one of the several funding sources in the Growing Greener Bond, which helps fund projects like the Forrest Meadow Park Development.

Phase 1 development of the park will include the main entrance, parking area, associated stormwater facilities, and the installation of plant material especially in naturalized areas. In this phase the township will also begin developing the multi-use field and, if possible, install the pavilion. The project work should begin sometime over the next two years. The township would like to thank all the community groups who have partnered in this project and Representative Robert Godshall for his continued support. 🌸

## 15th Annual Easter Egg Hunt

On Saturday, April 15th, 2006 the Park and Recreation Committee held its 15th Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The hunt was held at the Franconia Community Park and was open to children from pre-school to first grade. The beautiful spring weather helped add to the success of the event as the largest crowd to date came out and participated in the hunt. Stuffed bunnies were awarded to all the participants and a basket of treats donated by Asher's Chocolates was raffled off. A special thanks to Sovereign Bank for sponsoring the event. 🌸

Danielle & Rylee Bernhauser and Janice & Breanna Froshour pose for a picture with the Easter Bunny at the 15th Annual Easter Egg Hunt held at Franconia Community Park.



## Discount Amusement Park Tickets

Franconia Township Park & Recreation Committee is again offering discount tickets this summer. Tickets can be purchased at the Franconia Township Administrative Office located at 671 Allentown Road, Franconia. The office hours are 8:00AM until 4:30PM, Monday through Friday. All sales must be paid for in cash or money order, no checks or credit cards accepted. The following is a list of discounted tickets the township carries:

- Baltimore Aquarium
- Adventure Aquarium
- Dorney Park
- Dutch Wonderland
- Hershey Park
- Knoebels Amusement Park
- PA Renaissance Faire/Festival
- Philadelphia Zoo
- Sesame Place
- Six Flags Great Adventure 🌸



## 15th Annual Fishing Derby

The 15th Annual Youth Fishing Derby was held on Saturday, May 6, 2006 at Branchwood Park. The beautiful spring day was the perfect atmosphere for fishing. Approximately 150 fishermen came out to compete. However, the fish weren't really biting that morning. The overall award winning fish was caught by twelve-year-old Josh Harwanko, and it was extremely large. All fish were weighed and measured and then converted to a point total. The trout he caught was weighed and measured then converted to a combined score of 87.

The contest was divided into two age groups, 9 through 12 and 8 or under. Justin Sell, age 5, won first place among the 8 and under age group. The converted weight and length of his trout gave him a score of 17.75. Josh Harwanko, as previously mentioned, won first place for the 9-12 age group with his score of 87. Caitlyn Young followed in second with her score of 22. Eddie Sowders finished in third for that age group with a score of 20.75. Representative Robert Godshall and Franconia Township sponsored the fishing derby. 🌹



**Representative Robert Godshall is pictured here with the 2006 Fishing Derby Overall 1st Place winner Josh Harwanko.**

## 5th Annual Mango Men Concert

The 5th Annual Mango Men Concert in the Park was held on Wednesday, July 12th, 2006 at the Franconia Community Park. The weather was questionable all day but cleared up in time for the concert. The festive night in the park was a success complete with the 5-piece band, island music, leis, dancing and food! The Line Brothers shot t-shirts into the crowd and all the children enjoyed participating in the limbo. There was a tremendous turnout for the event by the township residents. The Franconia Township Park and Recreation Board would like to thank Univest, MOPAC, Hagey Coach & Tours, and Leidy's for sponsoring the concert. They would also like to thank the Mango Men and their band for a terrific performance! 🌹



**The crowd enjoys the sounds of the Mango Men in the park!**



## Boy Scout Frisbee Golf Project

Eric Strom, a local Boy Scout from Troop 401 recently completed a Frisbee golf project at Branchwood Park. Eric presented his idea and course design to the Joint Park Board. The board approved the proposal and Eric got right to work. He researched the materials and provided the order information to the township. Once the supplies came in he worked closely with the Public Works Director, Paul Nice, to layout the course. The course can be found in the open area beyond the tennis courts at Branchwood Park. Once he was ready for installation he organized volunteers and the work began. The course was completed in June and is now opened to the public. Eric is currently working with his father to obtain Frisbees and scorecards to add to the course.

It is a 9-hole course and is based off of the same concept as golf except you're using a Frisbee and not a club or golf ball. Each hole has a sign that shows a picture of the hole, the distance to the hole, and the par. It is an easy game that Eric is hoping everyone can enjoy. With the completion of this project, Eric will earn his Eagle Scout status. The Salford/Franconia Township Joint Park Board would like to commend Mr. Strom on a job well done. 🌹



**Boy Scout Eric Strom stands next to one of the holes of his Frisbee golf course located at Branchwood Park.**

# Land Development/Subdivisions

The following land developments/subdivisions have received final approval:

- **Potter & Hawley Minor Subdivision/Lot Line Adjustment:** *William & Jill Potter, Christopher & Suzanne Hawley, Lot line shift - 343 Heatherfield Drive & 70 Cherry Lane*
- **Smokepipe Road Minor Subdivision:** *Robert & Mary Alderfer, 2-lot subdivision - 429 Smokepipe Road*
- **Maloni Street Investors:** *Maloni Street Investors have been approved to create a residential development consisting of 9 single-family dwellings - Yoder Road & Indian Creek Road*
- **Peter Becker Community:** *Peter Becker Community has been approved to continue with the phase 2 portion of the Maplewood Estates development - 800 Maple Avenue*

The following land developments have received preliminary approval:

- **U.S. Stone Land Development:** *John Bragitikos, commercial building for the wholesale and storage of natural stone - Forman Road*

The following land developments/subdivisions are currently under review by the Planning Commission:

- **Hendricks Property Subdivision:** *Wilbur & Rebecca Hendricks, 8-lot subdivision - Godshall Road*
- **Reinford Subdivision:** *Clarence Reinford, 8-lot subdivision - Godshall Road*
- **Windy Heights Subdivision:** *William Mann, 5-lot subdivision - Keller Creamery Road*
- **Todd Walker Subdivision:** *Todd Walker, 5-lot subdivision - Mininger Road*
- **Donald & Linda Hagey Subdivision:** *Donald & Linda Hagey, 3-lot subdivision - Schoolhouse Road*
- **The Weimer Group Land Development:** *Dean Wimmer, Conversion of a residential dwelling to office space - Schoolhouse Road & Route 113*
- **J.I. Landis Welding & Mechanical Land Development:** *Jesse & Gina Landis, industrial building with office and shop space - Hagey Road*
- **Ken Taggart Subdivision:** *Ken Taggart, 7-lot subdivision - Cowpath Road*
- **Knittel Minor Subdivision:** *Patricia Knittel, 2-lot minor subdivision - Rising Sun Road*
- **Miriam Halteman Minor Subdivision:** *Miriam Halteman, 2-lot minor subdivision - Halteman Road*
- **Reformed Baptist Church Subdivision:** *Reformed Baptist, 3-lot subdivision - Allentown Road* 

## NOTICES

- **Any illicit discharge as defined in the newly adopted ordinance is a violation of the code, and those who dump will be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine.**
- **Please be sure to check out the new D.A.R.E. website prepared by Janice Froshour of the Franconia Township Police Department. D.A.R.E. website: [www.FranconiaDARE.org](http://www.FranconiaDARE.org).**



## Concession Stand Now Open

The concession stand at Franconia Community Park is now open and ready for business. The concession stand was installed as part of the new public restroom that was constructed and completed earlier this summer. The concession stand is complete with a refrigerator and microwave and a large amount of cabinet and counter space. A small ribbon cutting ceremony was performed on Monday, May 15th, 2006. Supervisors Grey Godshall and Keith Freed, Township Manager Kevin D. Baver, Assistant Township Manager Jamie P. Worman, Park and Recreation Committee Chairman Elaine Feiss and member Kevin Nice, and Public Works Director Paul R. Nice and Jay Koffel and John Mininger of the department were all on hand for the ribbon cutting. Community groups, sports organizations and individuals are welcomed to use the facility. Reservation forms are available at the township office, Monday through Friday from 8:00AM until 4:30PM. Time can be reserved in 4 hour increments for a fee of \$25.00.

# EventsCalendar

Wednesday, August 16, 2006

## Movie Night In The Park / Magician In The Park

WHEN: 7:30PM - Magic Show

Dark - Movie Begins

WHERE: Franconia Community Park  
(Rain Date: Thursday, August 17, 2006)

The Franconia Township Park & Recreation Board will be holding their 2nd Annual Movie Night in the Park again this summer. In addition to the movie, a magic show will be held before the main feature begins.

Saturday, September 23, 2006

## 275th Anniversary Parade

WHEN: 11:00AM - 1:00PM

(APPROXIMATE)

WHERE: Route 113

In celebration of the 275th Anniversary of Franconia Township, the anniversary committee has organized a parade. The parade will begin at Indian Crest Junior High, down Route 113 and end at the community park. Please come out and enjoy the parade.

Saturday, September 23, 2006

## 275th Anniversary Community Day

WHEN: 1:00PM - 7:00PM

(SCHEDULE ON PG. 2 OF NEWSLETTER)

WHERE: Franconia Community Park

In celebration of the 275th Anniversary of Franconia Township, the anniversary committee has organized a community day event. The community day will be held at the community park. There will be food vendors, crafts, antique farm displays, activities for children, hay rides etc. Please come out and enjoy the fun.

Saturday, September 23, 2006

## 275th Anniversary Fireworks Display

WHEN: 8:30PM (APPROXIMATE)

WHERE: Allentown Road Area

In celebration of the 275th Anniversary of Franconia Township, the anniversary committee has organized a fireworks display. The display can be viewed in various locations. They will be set off from a private property but can be seen from the community park, Franconia Heritage Restaurant, Franconia Mennonite Church and anywhere in that vicinity. It will be a complete aerial display, no ground show. Please come out and enjoy the fireworks.

FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP  
671 Allentown Road, P.O. Box 128  
Franconia PA 18924  
(215) 723-1137  
[www.franconiatownship.org](http://www.franconiatownship.org)

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Steven P. Barndt, *Chairman*  
Grey R. Godshall, *1st Vice Chairman*  
W. Keith Freed, *2nd Vice Chairman*  
Drew Darrah  
Curtis N. Kratz

### TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Kevin D. Bayer

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Administration (215) 723-6778  
Emergency 9-1-1 or (215) 723-6777

Joseph S. Kozeniewski, *Chief*  
Jeffrey C. Gower, *Sergeant / Patrol*  
David A. Klepfer, *D.A.R.E. / School Resource Officer*

### BUILDING / PLUMBING INSPECTION

(215) 723-1137

Roger M. Koffel, *Code Enforcement Officer*  
Jerry Rittenhouse, *Building Inspector*

*/Code Enforcement Officer*

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

(215) 723-1153

Paul R. Nice, *Public Works Director*

Friday, October 13, 2006

## 275th Anniversary Closing Dinner

WHEN: 6:30PM - Cocktails

7:30PM - Dinner

WHERE: Indian Valley Country Club  
650 Bergey Road

In celebration of the 275th Anniversary of Franconia Township, the anniversary committee has organized a closing dinner. The dinner will be held at the Indian Valley Country Club. Tickets will be available at the township building. Please purchase your ticket in advance of the dinner. If you have old photos you would like entered into the slideshow presentation please submit them to the township, attention: Jamie Worman.

Franconia Township  
671 Allentown Road  
P.O. Box 128  
Franconia PA 18924



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