

Franc Talk

Newsletter of Franconia Township • Spring 2011

Park & Recreation Grants

The Franconia Township Parks and Recreation Board recently put two grant awards to use at the Community Park. You may have noticed a few changes to the area. The most noticeable change is the updated playground equipment that was added to the main play area located on the Allentown Road side of the park. The new unit, complete with two slides and other play equipment was completed in October of 2010. The equipment was purchased with a combination of Township funds and grant funds. The grant was awarded through the GameTime Grant Program. The Franconia Township Public Works Department installed the unit.

The second grant was received through the Department of Community and Economic Development and Robert W. Godshall's Office. The single assistance grant awarded to the Township went toward the purchase and installation of a new fence around the main softball field at the Community Park. The field was closed during the fall and winter to complete this project. The project is complete and the fields will be available for use this season. 🌹



A local boy is the first one to try out the new slide at Franconia Community Park.

Township Recognized for Efforts in Farmland Preservation

Franconia Township has received recognition for its effort in farmland preservation. At the February 22nd, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Franconia Township Board of Supervisors, Elizabeth Emlen of the Montgomery County Planning Commission presented the Board with a plaque and citation congratulating and commending the group and Township for their involvement and success with the program. To date, there are approximately 760 acres of preserved farmland throughout the Township. Both local and county dollars have been used to purchase the development rights of these property owners. The farms remain active farms and a visual reminder of the agricultural heritage of Franconia Township. Chairman, Steven P. Barndt, accepted the citation on behalf of Franconia Township. 🌹



Elizabeth Emlen of the Montgomery County Planning Commission presents an award to Chairman, Steven P. Barndt on February 21st, 2011 recognizing Franconia Township's efforts in farmland preservation.

Chairman Selected by the Board of Supervisors

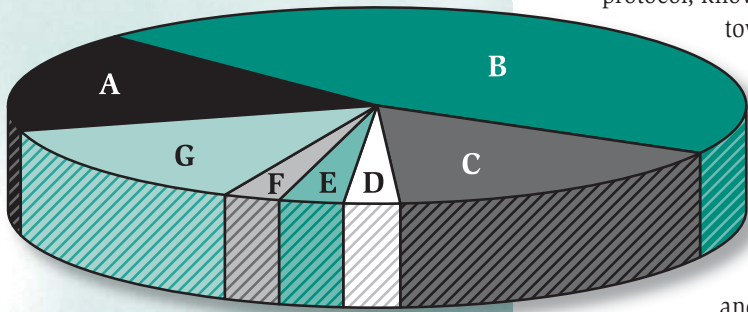
Supervisor Steven P. Barndt was re-elected Chairman of the Board at their annual organizational meeting on January 3, 2011. Grey R. Godshall was re-elected 1st Vice-Chairman and W. Keith Freed was re-elected 2nd Vice-Chairman with Supervisors Drew Darrah and Curtis N. Kratz completing the board's composition. 🌹

Freed Elected President of MCATO

2nd Vice Chairman of the Franconia Township Board of Supervisors, W. Keith Freed, was elected President of the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials (MCATO) in February 2010. Mr. Freed will serve as MCATO President until February 2012. MCATO is responsible for promoting legislative and policy agendas that are presented to the State Association for consideration and potential enactment. MCATO provides for membership for all Montgomery County Municipalities. 🌹

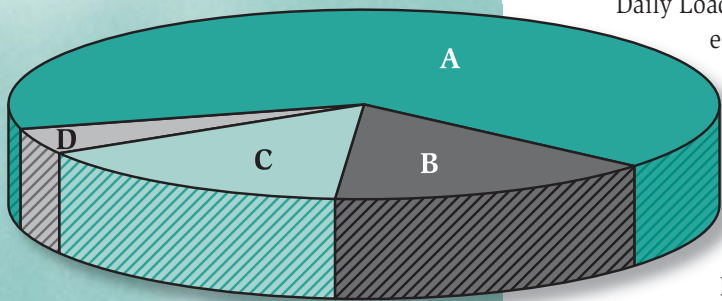
2011 Township Budget Approval

The Board of Supervisors approved a \$6.01 million 2011 General Fund Budget. The general purpose millage rate (.900) was increased from the previous year (.126). The fire (.125) and library (.165) support remained unchanged. The township 2011 millage rate was set at 1.190.



Expenses are allocated to the following departments:

- A) Administration: \$997,265
- B) Police/Fire Protection: \$2,749,293
- C) Public Works: \$959,731
- D) Code Enforcement: \$148,009
- E) Recreation: \$170,100
- F) Debt Service: \$150,000
- G) Interfund Transfers: \$848,300



Revenue is from the following sources:

- A) Taxes (Real Estate, EMST, EIT): \$3,930,467
- B) Intergovernmental Revenue: \$904,200
- C) General Government: \$906,592
- D) Operating Transfers: \$266,338

Stormwater & You Too!

Much has been happening on the Stormwater Management Front as the Federal and State Governments continue their dialogue to enhance Stormwater Management, not just in Pennsylvania, but across the nation. Since the Fall Frank-Talk, in which we reported on the DEP and the EPA discussions, they have again extended the current Stormwater Permit protocol, known as PAG-13 that the

township is required to observe. Although it is now extended until March of 2012, seemingly a long way off, much will need to be accomplished once the promised new, and much more stringent, runoff rules are finally published.

These new rules continue to be in negotiation between the EPA and DEP which is the reason for the now third delay. Once published in the PA Bulletin, it would start the compliance schedule for the township including the adoption of new Stormwater Management Ordinances and comprehensive Stormwater Management Plans for mitigation of excess sediments entering the Skippack, Indian Creek and Neshaminy in accordance with their approved TMDLs (Total Maximum

Daily Load – A Federal Standard for each impaired watershed under the Clean Water Act). Some of the differences in approach between the two agencies can be seen in the recently enacted Chesapeake Bay TMDL where

PA has been taken to task by the EPA in how non-point source storm water flows, that is runoff from farms, golf courses, school campus and commercial properties and other land uses, where runoff does not enter into a municipal Stormwater Separate Stormwater System to be treated. In the Chesapeake Bay the EPA has imposed a penalty to be assessed against municipalities as a punishment towards their perception of Pennsylvania's Program being inadequate, a point being

vigorously debated by the DEP, and also subject of a suit against the EPA by the Farm Bureau, a voluntary organization of Farmers that are also much affected by that TMLD, as are the many Municipal Separate Stormwater System permit holders (MS4s).

Stay tuned to Franc-Talk as we continue to report on what will eventually be required of us all to better improve our Stormwater Management, not just the physical improvements, but also the extensive reporting and monitoring programs that the Federal Program will require. Each and every township landowner will be impacted to some extent and each will be asked to support the Township's efforts to be in full compliance with what is being mandated. As we have noted before in Franc-Talk the 'YOU TOO' comes in is the recognition that this program is not just about the organized local representatives of your township, the PA Stormwater Coalition and other representatives working to improve the program for an efficient and cost effective results, it is also about how YOU TOO manage your own small part of storm water runoff through your own day to day activities. Working together, individual residents, the business community, our farmers and Franconia Township, are being called upon to do much to improve our watershed environment. Visit the Township's Website for links to learn more on what you can do! 🌱

2011 Township Road Construction Projects

The following is a list of scheduled road projects for the upcoming season.

- Shoulder widening and grading for realignment - **Elroy Road & Beck Road**
- Chip Seal Projects - **Church Road and Township Line Road**
- Microsurfacing Projects - **Turnberry Way, Hunsberger Lane, Harvard Court, and Yale Court** 🌱

Franconia Sewer Authority Update

RATE CHANGE: The Board of Franconia Sewer Authority (FSA) voted to increase the quarterly sewer rate to \$125 for residential customers, with an equivalent rate increase for commercial, industrial, and institutional customers. The reason for our rate increase is in response to rate increases we are charged by the treatment facilities that we use. This increase will be seen in your April billing.

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED: After receiving numerous requests from residents Franconia Sewer Authority (FSA) will begin accepting credit cards for payment of quarterly sewer bills. When the system is ready for use there will be instructions and a link on the FSA website – www.franconiasewer.org. A computer terminal is being set up at the Township building for those customers desiring to pay their bill with a credit card but who have no access to a computer. FSA is using a third party to manage credit card payments. They will collect a convenience charge from customers using a credit card (about \$3.00) for each transaction.

SKIPPACK TREATMENT PLANT:

The new treatment plant on the Skippack Creek is going through its final shakedown and should be operational by the time you read this article. This new facility is truly state-of-the-art, using membrane filtration to remove micronutrients and ultraviolet light for disinfection. It is designed to treat up to 250,000 gallons per day, and will service the Lower Skippack Basin of Franconia Township.

Construction Updates

The final unit of the **Earlington Sewer District** is under construction on Allentown Road near Green Hill Road. This will be a shared facility with North Penn Water Authority (NPWA). The building will house a booster station for NPWA, and electric controls for FSA's Earlington pump station. The bulk of the FSA facilities are located outside the building and in the ground. Some prepaid residents have been invited to connect already. Those not prepaid will be receiving their connec-

tion notice when the pump station is complete (by the end of April).

The Township has advertised the revised 537 Plan for the Lower Skippack Basin. Following final approval FSA will begin work on the interceptor that will provide sewer service to residents on **Allentown, Delp, and Halteman Roads**.

All of the permits and easements are now in place for **Godshall Road near Reliance**. This system will be completed as soon as the weather breaks. Thanks to everyone for their patience.

The **Morwood Area** sewers are being engineered at this time. Preliminary drawings have been developed and are undergoing review. When the documentation is complete our engineer will put together a 537 Plan update for the Morwood area. It will be advertised and then be sent to PADEP for approval. Timing on construction is probably still at least two years out. If you are having a problem with your on-lot system in the meantime, contact FSA to see if there is anything we can do to help. 🌱

Township Selected National Award Winner

The Franconia Township Police Department is proud to announce that we have been selected as a National Award Winner for our 2010 National Night Out Against Crime celebration for the second year in a row. The department was recognized under the "Category 5: under 15,000 population" category. Please visit www.FranconiaPolice.org for more information, a list of participants, and photos of our 2010 celebration.

National Night Out is an annual worldwide event in which law enforcement agencies, local officials, local businesses, and citizens get together to increase anti-crime awareness and strengthen community partnerships. Turn your porch lights on and join us at the park to give crime a going away party!

Our 15th Annual Night Out event

will be held on **Tuesday, August 2, 2011 from 6:00PM - 9:00PM** at the Franconia Twp. Community Park on Allentown Road. (*Rain Date: Wed., Aug. 3*) **FREE:** admission, parking, activities, KIDS FUN ZONE, give-aways, & MORE. There will be MANY things to see and do, including public safety equipment demonstrations, officer and dignitary meet and greet, information midway, kid's area, entertainment, food, and much more family fun. Bring your entire family and don't forget your camera.

We will again be collecting non-perishable food donations in exchange for FREE raffle tickets. EACH can of food = ONE FREE ticket! All funds raised from the basket raffle will benefit local food banks.

Be sure to visit the custom car show where Elvis will be performing

live on stage, sponsored by Rayco Productions.

Parking: Due to fantastic attendance, we have changed our parking location. Spectator parking will be just off Allentown Road between the park and Rt 113 – WATCH FOR THE SIGNS. There will be transportation to the event from there. Only handicap parking will be permitted at the park on the Allentown Road side. Godshall Road side will only be for custom vehicles registered for the car show.

For more information or if your business would like to help, visit us online at www.franconiapolice.org or www.facebook.com/franconiapolice, or by calling the station at 215-723-6777.

Please note: The Township Park will be CLOSED during the day of the event for set-up. 🌱

Franc Talk Notes

SPRING LEAF COLLECTION – Curbside leaf collection will be provided through J.P. Mascaro & Son again this Spring. Section 1 of the township will be collected on Thursday, April 14th, 2011 and Section 2 on Friday, April 15th, 2011. Leaves must be placed in the biodegradable bags available free to township residents at the administrative offices located on Allentown Road. Please verify your section when you pick up your leaf bags.

COMPOSTING AGREEMENT – The Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission is contracted with the Barnside Composting Facility to provide a drop-off location for residents to dispose of yard and leaf waste. Please visit the township website at www.franconia-township.org for more information on hours of operation and location.

Please visit our website to learn about other recycling opportunities and information through the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission at www.franconiatownship.org.

REMEMBER TO VOTE – Election Day is just around the corner! The Township reminds all eligible residents to vote on Tuesday, May 17, 2011. Voter registration forms are available at the township building as are absentee ballots. Listed below are the polling places within Franconia Township. If you are unsure at which polling location you should be voting or you would like additional information pertaining to the election please contact Voter's Registration at 610-278-3280.

POLLING PLACES

Precinct 1

Franconia Township Building
671 Allentown Road, Franconia

Precinct 2

Christ Reformed Church
Church & Cowpath Roads, Telford

Precinct 3

Christ Reformed Church
Church & Cowpath Roads, Telford

Precinct 4

Franconia Township Building
671 Allentown Road, Franconia

Precinct 5

Immanuel Leidy's Church
276 W. Cherry Lane, Souderton

Precinct 6

Peter Becker Community
800 Maple Avenue, Harleysville

Precinct 7

Peter Becker Community
800 Maple Avenue, Harleysville

Precinct 8

Immanuel Leidy's Church
276 W. Cherry Lane, Souderton

DISCOUNT AMUSEMENT PARK

TICKETS – The Park & Recreation Board will be selling discount amusement park tickets again this summer. The tickets usually arrive around Memorial Day and can be purchased at the Township office located on Allentown Road during normal business hours (M-F 8:00AM-4:30PM). Tickets must be purchased with cash or money order, no checks please!

VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

– Residents of Franconia Township that have an interest in serving on a committee or other volunteer commission should submit a Volunteer Application form to the Township Manager. The township retains applications for a two-year period to fill vacancies as they occur. The township relies on volunteer residents to be part of the legislative committees that assist the Board of Supervisors in their decision making process. Support your township by being a volunteer!

NOTICE – Any illicit discharge as defined in the Franconia Township Stormwater Ordinance is a violation of the code, and those who dump will be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine.

CLEAN-UP AFTER YOUR PETS – Please remember to clean up after your pets. Whether you're walking your dog down your street or in the community park, you are responsible to clean up after your pet. The leash law is in effect at within our parks and clean-up bags are available for your use in various locations. Do not leave bags along the trail, deposit them in the trash receptacle. 🌸

Citizen's Police Academy: Partners in Public Safety

The Indian Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Community Leadership Program along with the Franconia Township Police Department is organizing a six week program designed to give the public a working knowledge of the department and how it operates. The sessions will be led by police officers and staff members possessing a wide variety of skills, training, and experience. Interested residents must be 18 years of age and must live or work within the Indian Valley and have no felony convictions. Please visit the Franconia Township Police Department to pick up an application or request one by email to: Franconiapolicecpa@yahoo.com on or before May 13, 2011. A background check will be completed on the candidates selected for the course. Accepted applicants will be notified prior to the start date. 🌸

Land Development/ Subdivisions

The following land developments/subdivisions have received final approval:

- **The Lomas Tract Minor Subdivision:** *Rob & Shirley Lomas, minor 2 lot subdivision - 57 Church Road*
- **The Pizza Box Land Development:** *Joe Genova, village commercial redevelopment of a residential building into a restaurant use - Morwood Road*

The following land developments have received preliminary approval:

- **Leidy's Church Land Development:** *Leidy's Church, new church and recreational areas - Leidy Road and W. Cherry Lane* 🌸

Events Calendar

April 19 - May 15, 2011

NPWA Fire Hydrant Inspection & Flushing

**WHEN: 8:00PM - 4:00AM
& 8:00AM - 3:00PM**

WHERE: Various area throughout entire Township

Annual inspection and flushing of fire hydrants will be conducted from April 19th through May 15th, 2011. Flushing may result in the minor discoloration in the water and/or lower than normal water pressure. If the discoloration occurs, run the cold water for a few minutes. If the water does not clear up, turn off the water for 10 to 20 minutes and try the procedure again. Questions please contact the authority office at 215-855-3617.

Saturday, May 7, 2011

Fishing Derby

WHEN: 9:00AM - 11:30AM

WHERE: Branchwood Park, Camp Road (Morwood, PA)

State Representative Robert W. Godshall and the Franconia Park & Recreation Commission will be sponsoring the 19th Annual Youth Fishing Derby this spring. All youths up to age 12 may come out and join the fishing contest. There will be refreshments and prizes!

Saturday, May 21, 2011

Franconia Township Clean-Up Day

WHEN: 7:00AM - 12:00PM

WHERE: J.P. Mascaro & Sons Transfer Station Lower & Wile Roads

Franconia Township has designated Saturday, May 15th, 2010 as Clean Up Day. Any Franconia resident may dispose of normal household trash at the J.P. Mascaro and Sons Inc. Transfer Station located on Lower and Wile Roads. Prior registration is required and can be done beginning May 1st in person at the Franconia

Township Municipal Building located at 671 Allentown Road between the hours of 8:00AM to 4:30PM.

Registration is first come first served and spaces will be limited. Normal household trash may include:

- Old appliances and "white goods" (i.e. old dishwasher, washing machine)
- Refrigerators or freezers (only with condenser and coils removed)

Construction debris, grass clippings, motor oil, tires, paint and hazardous materials and car parts will not be accepted!

July 11-14, 2011 (rain date July 15)

July 25-28, 2011 (rain date July 29)

Youth Tennis Clinic

WHEN: 9:00AM - 12:00PM

WHERE: Franconia Community Park Tennis Court

The Franconia Park & Recreation Board will be providing a youth tennis clinic this summer! The clinic will be for children age 6-12 years old. Skilled instruction will be provided by Monica Bach. The cost of the clinic is \$85.00 per person. If you are interested in developing your tennis skills this is the clinic for you! Just bring a tennis racket and join in on the fun! Please check in with the township or the website to get an updated status on this program along with the dates and time of the clinic.

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Mango Men

WHEN: 7:00PM - 9:00PM

WHERE: Franconia Community Park

(Rain Date: Mon., July 25, 2011)

The Franconia Park & Recreation Board is please to announce that the Mango Men will be back for their 9th annual concert in the park this summer. Please come out and join us on the lawn of the Franconia Community Park. There will be plenty of music, food, and fun!

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

National Night Out Against Crime

WHEN: 6:00PM - 9:00PM

WHERE: Franconia Community Park

(Rain Date: Wed., August 3, 2011)

The Franconia Township Police Department will be hosting its 15th Annual Night Out Against Crime celebration. This is an annual worldwide event in which law enforcement agencies, local officials, local businesses, and citizens get together to increase anti-crime awareness and strengthen community partnerships. It will be a fun filled family night with emergency equipment demonstrations, car show, give-aways, basket raffle, food and refreshments. For more information visit the police website. If your organization would like to participate, please contact Janice Froshour at 215-723-6777.

Sunday, October 16, 2011

The Souderton 5-Miler

WHEN: 9:00AM

**WHERE: Souderton High School
625 Lower Road,
Souderton**

A 5 mile run around the beautiful country roads of Franconia Township is planned for Sunday October 16th, 2011. The run will begin and end at the new Souderton Area High School located on Lower Road. Proceeds for the event will go toward the Tracy Hottenstein Memorial Scholarship Fund, benefiting a Souderton graduate to further their education, and the Luekemia/Lymphoma Association. There will also be a 1-mile walk and a kids fun run. Registration is now open at www.actssportsmanagement.com. Forms are also available at the Township building located on Allentown Road.

Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission News

MONTGOMERY COUNTY TIRE RECYCLING

Saturday April 30, 2011

Montgomery County Parking Lot
(Between Markley & Barbadoes Streets)
Enter near 405 Barbadoes Street
Norristown, PA

Saturday September 10, 2011

Montgomery Mall
Enter near 630 North Wales Road
Montgomeryville, PA

Tire recycling is for Montgomery County residents only. Four tire maximum allowed per vehicle. Tires with rims accepted. No businesses or commercial institutions.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & ELECTRONICS COLLECTION

9:00AM to 3:00PM

Info 1-610-278-3618 or

www.montgomerycountyclecycling.org

Saturday April 16, 2011

Upper Perkiomen Valley High School
2 Walt Road, Pennsburg, PA

Saturday June 25, 2011

Montgomery County Community College

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & ELECTRONICS COLLECTION PROGRAM ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Paint Products: Oil-based paint, paint thinner, turpentine, shellac, stains and varnish, furniture stripper and finisher and wallpaper cement.

Outdoor Products: Swimming pool chemicals, weed killers, septic tank degreasers, asphalt sealers, caulking compounds, joint compound, roof cement and rodent poison.

Automotive Products: Grease and rust solvents, fuel additives, motor oil, antifreeze, gasoline, carburetor cleaners, transmission/brake fluid, and lead acid batteries.

Household Products: Drain/oven cleaners, rug cleaners, kerosene, toilet bowl cleaners, adhesives/solvents, mothballs/flakes, spot removers, dry cleaning fluid and wood and metal cleaners.

Electronic Equipment: CRT Monitors, CPU's, cameras, cell phones, fax machines, scanners/printers, televisions (30 inches and smaller), and computer peripherals.

Miscellaneous: Acids, caustics, solvents, flammables, oxidizers, organic peroxide, reactives, lead, pesticides, mercury bearing items, propane cylinders (20lb or less) and rechargeable batteries.

**This program is a community service to the residents of Montgomery County and Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia Counties ONLY and is NOT open to businesses, institutions or industry.*

WHAT AND HOW TO RECYCLE FOR CURBSIDE COLLECTION

Aluminum, Steel & Bimetal Cans

All metal food, beverage and aerosol cans are recyclable.

FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP
671 Allentown Road
Telford PA 18969-2205
(215) 723-1137
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) 723-6777
Emergency 9-1-1

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*

All other metal items such as pots and pans, wire hangers are not recyclable. No lids or covers, just cans. Rinse out and crush aluminum cans if possible.

Plastics Number 1 & 2 (HDPE & PETE)

Look for the number in the triangle on the bottom of plastic items. No lids, rinse out containers.

Glass - Clear, Amber and Green Glass

All glass food, beverage bottles and jars are recyclable. No lids or covers.

Newspapers, Magazines & Junk Mail

Tie in a bundle or place in a paper bag. (Not in Plastic Bags).

If you would like to receive your newsletter via email or view it on the township website rather than receive a paper copy please contact the township office to sign-up and remove your name from the mailing list.

Franconia Township
671 Allentown Road
Telford PA 18969-2205



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