

# THE *Hatfield* Connection

A Publication of The Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners

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## New Municipal Building Emphasizes Customer Service



*From information to community rooms, residents will find what they need at the new Municipal Building.*

The new Hatfield Township Municipal Building is officially open for business. During a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, June 30, the Board of Commissioners dedicated the new building to the service of the township.

"This new building fulfills a goal we have had for many years," says Commissioner President

Gerald Andris. "This building was constructed for the benefit of all who live in, work in, serve in, and visit Hatfield Township."

### Many Services Just in the Lobby

The Hatfield Township Municipal Building is built for customer service. Through the main

entrance of the building, you will find a spacious lobby and a friendly receptionist waiting to assist you. If you need to register for a recreation program, pick up a building permit, or inquire about general township business, all can be done from the lobby.

Also in the lobby, you can have a seat at the computer kiosk and surf the Hatfield Township website. Download and print forms, research demographical information, and find out more about the township departments, all with the click of a mouse. And don't forget to bring your tax bill — Tax Collector Christina Murphy holds office hours in her lobby-front office for your convenience.

### Enough Room for Township Business and Community Functions

Come and visit the new municipal building on second or fourth Wednesday nights to watch the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners in action. The new public meeting room seats up to 130 people and boasts state-of-the-art audio and video equipment. Is there a proposed development that you are interested in learning more about? You will be able to see exactly what the Board of Commissioners see, as the

*(continued on page 4)*

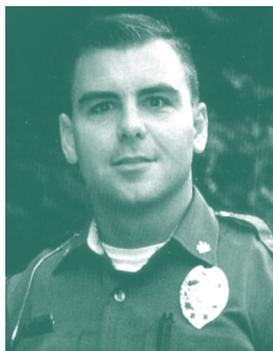
## Officer Remembered as Community Advocate

Hatfield Township lost a devoted public servant when Police Officer Bill Chapman, 37, passed away on May 10 of pneumonia.

"Bill Chapman was the model officer for the Hatfield Township Police Department," says Hatfield Police Chief Mark Toomey. "He knew how to talk to the public, he was a caring officer. He was the consummate professional and will be sorely missed."

Officer Chapman became a patrol officer with Hatfield in 1990, after working as a dispatcher for the department since 1986. As a community policing officer, he worked with neighborhood watch programs and was an integral part of

Hatfield's annual holiday visit from Santa Claus. He also was involved with planning Hatfield's National Night Out Against Crime event and was excellent with the public. Officer Chapman served as a field training officer for new recruits, and was a negotiator with the North Penn Area Tactical Response Team.



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# New Hatfield Pool Moves into Design Phase

Hatfield's proposed new pool facility has officially entered the Schematic Design Phase, when features and amenities that best serve the community are identified, detailed, and sketched out in a drawing people can see.

The design phase will be guided by Councilman/Hunsaker & Associates, a professional aquatics design firm with clients nationwide. The firm is a partner with MKSD of Oreland, the architectural and engineering firm — called the A & E team — hired by Hatfield Township in June to lead the design and bid phases of the project.

## Many Minds Contribute to Design

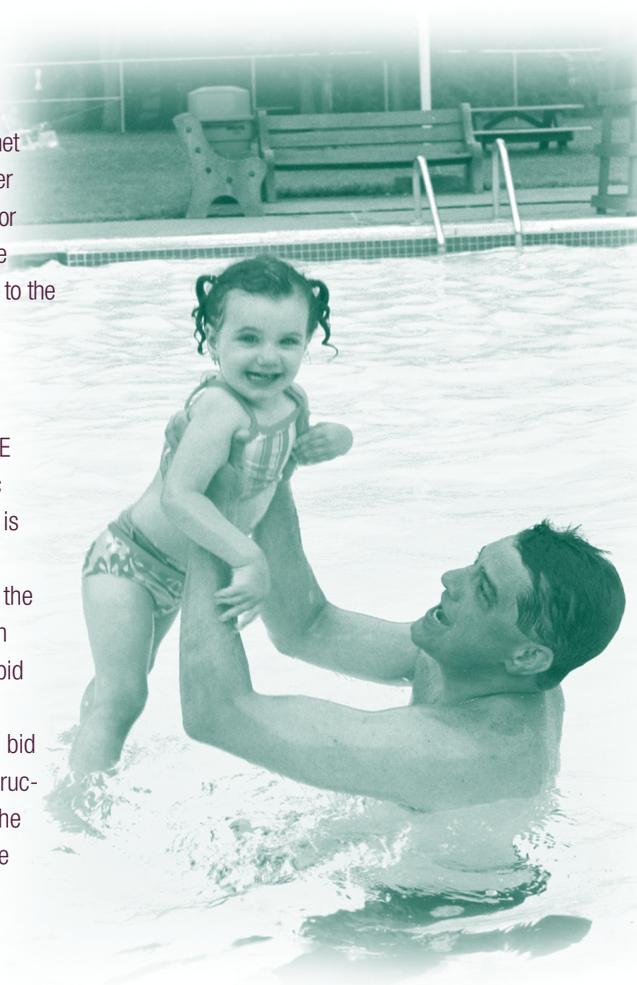
Councilman/Hunsaker provided the listening ear to gain an understanding of the features that Hatfield citizens value in an outdoor pool. For one person, a deck of pliable material, gentle on bare feet, is important. For another, submerged bench seating, where one can sit in the water along the wall, chat with others, and watch the kids, is high on the wish list.

To fuel creativity, Councilman/Hunsaker met with numerous stakeholders and toured other public facilities in the area. Parents and senior adults, competitive swimmers, and kids were some of the interest groups that contributed to the evolution of the design.

## Drawings on Display This Fall

Hatfield Township staff will work with the A&E team during the fall to finalize the schematic design. A public meeting to view the design is scheduled for the November Board of Commissioners meeting. Once approved, the design will be converted into the precision architectural design drawings needed to bid the construction.

The project timetable places the public bid process in the spring of 2006, with construction beginning in late summer of 2006. The new facility is scheduled to be open to the public in time for the 2007 swim season.



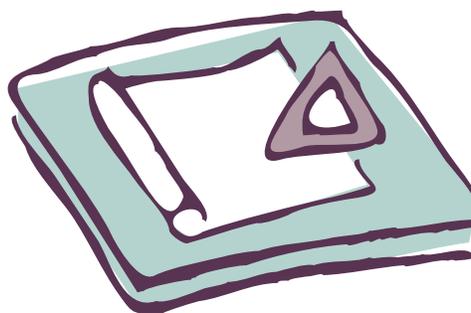
# Do You Have a Permit for That?

Before beginning any type of alteration or renovation to your home, be sure to contact the Hatfield Township Building and Code Enforcement Department to assess what permits are required for your particular home improvement project.

Permit applications must be complete and accompanied by the required plans and payment in order for the approval process to begin. For all permit applications that require more than one permit, all permits must be completed and submitted together with payment. The Building Department staff is happy to assist you with any questions pertaining to the permit application process.

All contractors must be registered and licensed to do work in Hatfield Township. However, any homeowners who do the work themselves are not required to have a contractor's license.

All permit and registration applications may



be obtained online at [www.hatfieldtownship.org](http://www.hatfieldtownship.org) or at the Hatfield Township Municipal Building, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The permit fee schedule is on the website under the Building, Zoning and Planning Development Department link.

All construction must follow the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, which incorporates the International Construction Codes. These codes are available online, in a public library, or at the township building for review.

## Permits are Required for the Following Improvements:

- Residential/non-residential electrical alterations
- Plumbing alterations/renovations
- Mechanical alterations/renovations
- Interior/exterior building alterations/renovations
- Basements
- Decks/patios
- Demolition
- Driveways/sidewalks/curbs
- Fences
- Sheds
- Swimming pools (above ground or inground)
- Roofing/siding
- Signs
- Street openings
- Tents
- Fire protection
- Use & occupancy

# PARKS AND RECREATION UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### 2nd Annual Rhythm & Rides

Saturday, Sept. 24 - noon to 5 p.m.

School Road Park

Fans of both teen bands and sport compact cars should find their niche at Hatfield Township's 2nd Annual Rhythm & Rides where local teen bands will jam and compact sport cars and other attractions will be presented. The event is sponsored by North Penn Imports and Car Wash America in Hatfield. For more information, call 215-855-0900.

### 6th Annual Rocktoberfest Fall Fun Fest

Saturday, Oct. 29 - 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

School Road Park

Hatfield Township will mark the sixth year of its Rocktoberfest Fall Fun Fest with live music by the local rock and roll band "Treason," an antique car show, and a wide variety of activities, exhibits, and presentations by community groups. Hatfield Township welcomes community groups, crafters, businesses, flea marketers, and church groups to host food and game booths or sell their wares. For details, call the township at 215-855-0900.

## BUS TRIPS

### Yuletide Spirit

Longwood Gardens & Brandywine River Museum

Saturday, Dec. 17

A trip by Hagey Coach begins with a Christmas exhibit at the Brandywine River Museum, moves to a Yuletide dinner buffet, and ends with an evening stroll on the grounds of Longwood Gardens to enjoy Christmas lights and musical performances. The bus will depart from School Road Park at 1 p.m. and return at approximately 10 p.m. The fee is \$70 and includes round-trip mini-motor coach fare, all admissions, full buffet, tax, and server and driver tips.



Passersbys check out some of the sport cars during last years Rhythm and Rides.

### West Side Story

Three Little Bakers Dinner Theatre

Wilmington, Delaware

Sunday, Oct. 23

Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet is transported to modern-day New York City as two young idealistic lovers find themselves caught between warring street gangs. The bus will depart from Upper Gwynedd Township Building at 11 a.m. and return at approximately 6:15 p.m. The fee is \$72 and includes round-trip motor coach fare and dinner theater reservation. Server and driver tips not included.

### Culinary Institute of America Lunch and Tour

Hyde Park, New York

Thursday, Nov. 10

Enjoy a French cuisine lunch at the beautiful Escoffier Restaurant and find out what the Culinary Institute of America is all about through a comprehensive tour of their facilities. The bus departs from the Lower Gwynedd Township Building at 7:45 a.m. and returns at approximately 7:15 p.m. The fee is \$75 and includes round-trip motor coach fare, lunch, and tour admission. Server and driver tips not included.

## SPORTS REMINDER!

### Petite Soccer Fall Day Camp

School Road Park

Six Thursdays, Sept. 15 to Oct. 20

UK Elite Soccer introduces soccer skills and strategies to kids ages 3 to 5 through fun and games. The fee is \$62 and includes a Reebok ball and a T-shirt. There is a \$5 sibling discount.

- Session 1: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- Session 2: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

NEW!

### Learn Scrapbooking Techniques

KIDS, AGES 7 AND UP

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, Sept. 17 and/or

Thursday, Oct. 13 (NPSD day off)

ADULTS

7-10 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 21 and/or

Tuesday, Oct. 11

Community Room

Hatfield Township Administration Building

These workshops are a hands-on opportunity for practicing scrapbookers and newcomers, children and adults, to organize their photo memories into attractive keepsakes, complete with captions and creative design. Instructor Wendy Nowicki will show new techniques and offer support and motivation to keep everyone on task. All participants should bring 30 to 40 photographs. A two-tier program fee is set to accommodate those who have their own materials.

FEE: \$50, for beginners, includes all materials to create a 7 x 7 album; \$15, for practicing scrapbookers, which includes supplies to complete a new technique. For everyone, the workshop guarantees ample table space, the company of others, and coaching from the instructor.

# Leaf and Branch Collection Program Begins in October

## Fall for Our Leaf Collection Program

The Hatfield Township Leaf Recycling Program is slated to begin in October and is available to residents of single family, twin, and townhouses.

Leaf waste may include:

- leaves
- garden residue
- minor tree trimmings,

excluding grass clippings.

Your leaf collection day will depend on where you live. Please refer to the back of this page for your area and collection dates.

To participate in the leaf collection program, you must purchase special biodegradable paper leaf bags at a cost of 4 for \$1 at the following locations:

- **Acme Supermarket, Rt. 63, Lansdale (near Valley Forge Road)**
- **Clemens Market, W. Main St. & Forty Foot Road (Ralph's Corner)**
- **Hatfield Township Municipal Building, 1950 School Road, Hatfield**

Leaf bags will be collected at curbside by the township's contracted hauler. All bags must be at curbside prior to 6 a.m. on the day of collection.

## Curbside Tree Branch Pick Up

Residents must call the township building at 215-855-0900 and put their name on a list for one of the available dates to have their branches picked up.

Tree Branch Collection will take place the first Wednesday in October, November, April and May. These dates are:

- **Oct. 5, 2005**
- **Nov. 2, 2005**
- **April 5, 2006**
- **May 3, 2006**

Tree branches should be cut into lengths as long as possible with a maximum diameter of 5 inches. NO FIRE WOOD. All branches should be placed at the curb line or edge of the driveway. Please keep in mind that this program is for disposal of tree branches. Root balls, hedges, or grass clippings should be collected by arrangement with your private trash service.

# Vote in the General Election, Nov. 8

Are you ready to vote? The polling places in Hatfield Township are:

- **Ward 1: Colmar Fire House**
- **Ward 2: AM Kulp Elementary School**
- **Ward 3: Hatfield Township Building**
- **Ward 4: Pennfield Middle School**
- **Ward 5: Oak Park School**

The wards are indicated on the leaf collection map.

If you are not registered to cast your ballot, fill out a form available at libraries, township buildings, most post offices, and state liquor stores by Oct. 12. The Online Pennsylvania Voter Registration Form is now available at [www.montcopa.org](http://www.montcopa.org). You can complete the form online, print, sign, and mail it to the county's Voter Services Office at:

**County of Montgomery, PA  
Office of Voter Services  
PO BOX 311  
Norristown, PA 19404-0311**

## Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board

1950 School Road, Hatfield PA 19440-1992

Telephone .....215-855-0900

Fax .....215-855-0243

Web address **[www.hatfieldtownship.org](http://www.hatfieldtownship.org)**

Township Manager:

**Stephanie Teoli Shafkowitz**

**Office Hours:**

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday

## Township Meeting Schedules

### Board of Commissioners

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month at the Township Administration Building...7:30 p.m.

### Parks and Recreation Board

1st Monday of each month at the Township Administration Building.....7 p.m.

### Hatfield Park Commission

2nd Monday of each month at the Borough Hall .....7:30 p.m.

# Your Guide to Helping Stormwater Management

Rain is important for replenishing drinking water supplies, providing recreation activities, and maintaining healthy wildlife habitats. It only becomes a problem when pollutants from activities such as car maintenance, lawn care, construction, and dog walking are left on the ground for rain to wash away and carry to our local streams.

What can you do to protect surface and ground waters from this type of pollution? Begin by taking a close look at practices around your home or business that might be contributing to polluted runoff. The following are some specific tips to help you become part of the solution rather than part of the problem:

- Use fertilizers sparingly
- Never dump anything down storm drains
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard
- Compost your yard waste
- Avoid pesticides by learning about Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway
- Check your car for leaks and recycle motor oil
- Pick up after your pet
- Inspect and pump your septic tank regularly



The Hatfield Connection is edited and designed by Word Work Communications [www.wordwork.com](http://www.wordwork.com)



# DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Stay on top of the latest development projects in our area. Below is a listing of projects in various stages of the land development process.

## Recently approved projects include:

- **Hancock and North Wales roads.** Pennfield Middle School expansion of the cafeteria, gymnasium, and office areas by the North Penn School District.
- **Township Line Road.** A 40,000 square-foot industrial building by EST Group.
- **Cowpath Road.** Phases 2, 3, and 5 of the Snyder's Square Shopping Center, which includes a CVS store and two additional pad sites, by Site Development, Inc.

## Projects Under Review:

- **Unionville Pike.** A 70,000 square-foot industrial building by Unionville Pike Associates, between North Penn Road and Bethlehem Pike.
- **Derstine and Elroy roads.** An 86-unit residential subdivision by Westport Farms.
- **Walnut Street.** Montella's Crossing III - Professional Office Complex.
- **North Penn Road.** A 60,000 square foot industrial building in the Line Lexington Industrial Park by Saligman.

## Projects Under Construction:

- **Medical Campus Drive.** Central Montgomery Medical Center is building a 60,000 square-foot medical office building.
- **Cowpath Road.** Phases 1 and 4 of the Snyder's Square Shopping Center, which includes Commerce Bank and the reconstruction of the existing parking lot by Site Development, Inc.
- **Bethlehem Pike** at Broad Street. The Arbors, an 87-unit townhouse development.
- **North Broad Street.** Hidden Meadows will be a 36-unit age-qualified development.
- **Maple Avenue.** An 18-unit residential subdivision called Maplevew.

## New Municipal Building Emphasizes Customer Service *(continued from page 1)*

developers' plans are projected on an automated drop-down 8-by-10 foot screen.

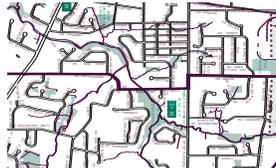
Can't find a space to hold your next club meeting, workshop, or other function? Check out the municipal building's community room. Furnished with movable tables and chairs, the community room will comfortably hold one larger group, or

can divide with a movable wall to accommodate two smaller groups. Call the municipal building anytime Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., to schedule your group meeting. A \$50 returnable security deposit is required.

"This building is a true reflection of how we have grown as a community. The building not only

acknowledges our past but gives consideration to our future," says Commissioner Andris.

Careful planning went into the project so the building could remain at 1950 School Road, on the same property that served the township so well for many decades. This new building will serve Hatfield Township for the next 50 years.



1950 School Road  
Hatfield PA 19440-1992  
www.hatfieldtownship.org  
**Hatfield Township**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
Gerald S. Andris *President*  
Jim O'Byrne *Vice President*  
James A. Bleakley, Jr.  
Scott Brown  
John F. Norman  
Stephanie Teoli Shafrkowitz *Township Manager*