



# THE LONG HAUL

*the hand-delivered newsletter of the Upper Darby Democratic Committee*



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Darby-Cobbs 26th Annual Watershed Creek Clean-Up

Saturday, April 24, from 9am to 1pm.

There are 14 sites in Upper Darby Township alone: Upper Darby, Drexel Hill, Clifton Heights and Secane. Volunteers are needed to remove trash and debris. Instant gratification guaranteed!

For specifics, call Barbarann Keffer, 610-853-6334

<http://www.dcva.org/upcoming.html>.



### Farm Days at Collen Brook

Sunday, May 23, 2010, from 1 to 4

*Great Family Event*

Learn about Upper Darby's agrarian past: sheep shearing, black smithing, horse grooming, bee keeping, spinning, weaving, soap making, music, refreshments, farm house and grounds tours

Admission: children free, adults - donation

<http://www.udhistory.org/aboutcbrook.html>



## PARTICIPATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

Join the Upper Darby Democratic Committee. Be a part of a grassroots effort to make our community a better place to live.

For more information, call 610-284-3354 or visit

[www.upperdarbydems.com](http://www.upperdarbydems.com)

**Upper Darby Township Council** meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Township Building, 100 Garrett Road, 7:30. To speak at the Public Forum, arrive early to sign in.

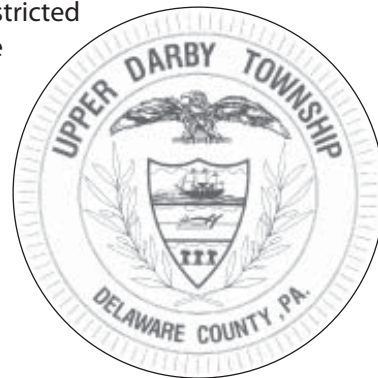
[www.upperdarby.org](http://www.upperdarby.org)

**Upper Darby School Board** meets the first Tuesday of the month at Upper Darby High School (through the main entrance) at 7:30. If you want to speak at the Public Forum, arrive early to sign in.

[www.udsd.k12.pa.us](http://www.udsd.k12.pa.us)

## CURRENT UPPER DARBY ISSUES

**Zoning:** The age-restricted overlay zones on the Mozino Tract (across from the Drexeline Apartments) and the Thompson Tract (on Providence Road) have been removed from the Zoning Ordinance thanks to successful lobbying against them by Democratic resident-activists this past summer. However, the revised Zoning Ordinance allows for parking lots to be located 25' from all creeks, streams and tributaries in our Township under the Riparian Overlay Corridor. It also permits the building of a Hotel and Conference Center at Drexelbrook. Please contact your Council representatives if you have any concerns about these proposals at 610-734-7635 or <http://www.upperdarby.org/council.html>.



**Township Taxes:** Did you know that your taxes cover comprehensive health care plans for members of Council and, in some cases, for their spouses and children, at a cost of over \$100,000 a year? Council is a part-time job with fewer than 30 public meetings a year, most of which don't last more than 15 minutes. To avert the 10% late fee, please pay your Township taxes, sewer/rubbish and garbage fees by May 31.

**POP QUIZ: When was the last time the Republican-controlled Township Council DID NOT increase your taxes?**

*(Think hard. The answer will be in the next newsletter)*

**Primary Elections May 18  
Polls Open from 7am-8pm**

*A resident shares  
her recent experience at  
Mario Civera's local office.*



## **Do We Have Representation in the 164th?**

I'm sure that I was one of many constituents in the 164th Legislative District that received an inviting Spring 2010 Legislative Report in the mail from the office of State Representative Mario J. Civera Jr. According to this update, State Rep. Civera's Barclay Square Office is open and available to provide services despite his dually elected positions of both County Councilman and State Representative. As a proud board member of Bywood Home & School's Association this was welcome news, since in the past our Home & School Association has looked to the support of this office and received assistance. However, to my dismay when I visited his office on a beautiful March day I was told by Civera's staff that they were unable to help Bywood's Home & School because they were outgoing staff and to check back after the November elections with the new State Representative. When I pressed that the concern was one that needed to be addressed now and not according to election cycles, I was again told to come once a new State Representative was elected for the next term. This inefficient reception left me disappointed that this highly important role of State Representative is going overlooked. I am also saddened that in the midst of this political posturing, constituents who reside in the area, vote, support their children's neighborhood schools, and pay taxes are left without an active voice that they so truly deserve.

*~Mrs. Sekela Coles*

## **Candidates' Night**

Monday, April 19

7 pm, at the Watkins Center,  
326 Watkins Avenue, Upper Darby, 19082.

Make an informed choice this Primary Day!

Candidates for the Senate, House, Governor and the State races have been invited to address the public and to field questions. This event is open to the public, so come join us and bring a friend or neighbor.

*Friends  
don't let friends  
vote blindly!*

A black five-pointed starburst graphic with white text inside.

*In 2008, Democrats gained a small but important registration advantage here in Upper Darby Township. There is much work to be done to get Democratic representation on Council and the School Board, and we're in it for the long haul. Let's work together to build a strong two-party system here in our community.*

★ **Tuesday, May 18, is Primary Day!** ★

*For more information on the  
Upper Darby Democratic  
Committee, and on 2010  
Democratic candidates, go to  
[www.upperdarbydems.com](http://www.upperdarbydems.com), or  
call 610-284-3354.*

**To help support, distribute, or make contributions to the next newsletter,  
please contact Barbarann Keffer, 610-853-6334 or [barbarannkeffer@yahoo.com](mailto:barbarannkeffer@yahoo.com)**