

# **ACT HAPPENINGS**

**Take Home and Share with Your Family!**

**SUMMER, 2000**

## **Kids' Summer Program Held in Roslyn**

An after-school homework program has just become a summer afternoon camp-style program for 50 boys and girls in Abington Township. Beginning June 19 and running through September 1 (except the week of August 21), this 10-week program will be held from 1:00-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Roslyn Boy's & Girl's Club and is open to upper elementary and junior high students. The cost is \$60; however, the Lions Club of Abington and Quality Plus Maintenance of Roslyn are providing scholarships as needed. C.A.P.T. (Citizens And Police Together) has committed a \$1,000 mini-grant, and additional funding from interested local businesses is being pursued.

Initiated by the Abington Police Department to meet children's educational and recreational needs, the current after-school homework club is run by the Abington Police Department, in partnership with the Office of Community Development in Abington and the Roslyn Boy's & Girl's Club. Funding is provided through a community development block grant. To meet homework needs, Abington Senior High School students serve as tutors who guide children through their assignments, supervise computer room activities, and serve as role models. Special activities include weekly visits from a 4H Club representative who discusses nutrition, typically making healthy snacks for everyone to sample; weekly arts and crafts sessions run by a volunteer; and chess instruction and tournaments provided by a volunteer father.

Community Service Officer Mel Rice monitors the program. Children must show him their completed homework before they can begin recreational activity. Mel also checks report cards and school progress and keeps in touch with parents about specific problems the children may be having. A retired canine handler with the Abington Police Department, Mel loves working with children and has invested time and effort to put these programs in place.

The clubhouse, rebuilt after the 1996 flood destroyed the former building, has six network computers with appropriate child-safe internet access to prevent children from exploring dangerous sites. There is also a meeting room, game room with video games, and a kitchen. The Club allows the program to use its facilities at no charge.

The clubhouse is located on Hammond Place in Roslyn. For more information and space availability for the summer program, contact Mel Rice at the Boy's & Girl's Club at 215-572-1520.

**Use Anonymous, 24-Hour Tip Line To Report Threats of Violence and Crime  
Call 1-877-APD-TIPS (1-877-273-8477).**