

## Family Grateful for YMCA Forging Ahead

To the Editor,

My family and I are extremely pleased with the new Upper Perk YMCA Annex. We have a family membership and we are there on a daily basis using the fitness center and we attend various classes and programs. The facility is state of the art and the staff is very friendly and eager to help.

There are many costs involved with building and operating a YMCA facility. Businesses, municipalities, and individuals have donated a lot of money, but the rest has to come from user fees. The YMCA opened a mere four weeks ago and in my opinion, they are doing an excellent job.

My family and I are very grateful that we finally have a YMCA in our Valley and I commend all the volunteers, the Board of Directors, the capital campaign committee, the hardworking staff, and all the people who donated their time, money and resources to bring the Upper Perkiomen Valley YMCA Annex to fruition. Area schools, churches and municipalities also graciously

donated their buildings and property for the YMCA to use for their programs while the YMCA did not have a home of their own. It is much easier for people to criticize than to see the positive affect that the YMCA is having on our community. If you have any issues or concerns, speak to those at the YMCA; they will work with you. The more people that support the YMCA, the sooner the new larger facility (with an indoor pool) can be built, hopefully starting in 2009. Our community has really pulled together to make the Upper Perk YMCA a reality.

The YMCA's mission is "to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all while stressing the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility." I believe that is something we can all agree with.

Sincerely,  
Becky A. Supplee  
Green Lane

