

## **YMCA, The Phoenix unite to help local kids**

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PHOENIXVILLE — Phoenixville Newspapers presented the Daniel J. Detwiler Phoenixville branch of the Freedom Valley YMCA with a check for \$8,300 on Thursday to help the organization provide much-needed summer camp scholarships to local children.

The check presentation was the culmination of a fundraising partnership between the YMCA and Phoenixville Newspapers, which had secured matching donations that would effectively double the YMCA's fundraising power over the course of their campaign.

"We are proud to be able to provide whatever support of children in our community that we can," said Phoenixville Newspapers General Manager Alexander Gould. "Our primary concern is the long-term health and vibrancy of Phoenixville and the YMCA is one of the organizations on the vanguard of making that ideal a reality."

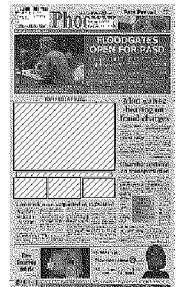
Money raised over the course of the campaign now goes toward scholarships

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for children participating in the YMCA's summer camps, which provide 10 weeks of great activities for local kids.

"The camp program has really become a big cross section of kids," said Jon Agnew, executive director of the Phoenixville YMCA branch. "The majority of campers really are kids with mom and dad both at work, so the camps have become more of a necessity than it was 20 years ago. We have an average of 550 kids a day, and the majority out those come out of necessity. Parents need somewhere safe for their kids to go, and we can not only provide that safe environment, but we can provide an educational experience, helping kids learn as well."

The check for \$8,300 in matching funds was presented Thursday inside the recently renovated Phoenixville YMCA branch. For more information on financial assistance for the YMCA summer camps, call Donna Burns, Director of Membership Services, at 610-933-5866.





Staff photo by Nick Danna/editor@TriCountyRecord.com

**Jon Agnew, executive director of the Daniel J. Detwiler Phoenixville branch of the Freedom Valley YMCA, accepts a check for \$8,300 in matching donated funds that will go toward the YMCA's summer camp scholarships from Phoenixville Newspapers' General Manager Alexander Gould.**