

# Supervisors OK parkland purchase

## Parcel to be a joint project with L. Gwynedd, Ambler

By **CHRISTIAN KLUSMAN**  
Correspondent

**LOWER GWYNEDD** — The township Board of Supervisors approved a resolution Tuesday night to jointly purchase an open space parcel with Ambler Borough that had been set for condemnation.

The 18.5-acre COGNIS Corp. property, between Pen-Ambler and Mather roads, would be purchased by the two municipalities for recreational uses.

The partnership was made possible with funding from the Montgomery County Open Space program, which helps to preserve land for such uses.

The purchase of the land is considered by committee members to be a perfect opportunity for both communities. While the land technically lies in Lower Gwynedd, it is close

enough to Ambler to be beneficial for people of that borough, as well, officials said.

The approximate purchase price of the property was \$925,000. The county gave the two municipalities a grant of \$753,000, and the balance of \$172,000 was provided by Lower Gwynedd.

The land initially belonged to the Henkel Corp., an industrial chemical manufacturer. Part of the reason for the delay in obtaining the property — the municipalities first agreed to the joint purchase in January 2000 — was because of the purchase of Henkel by COGNIS.

Lower Gwynedd has applied for a \$25,000 Keystone grant to contribute to the cost of the design and development of the property.