

PRICE TOWNSHIP

Even local residents find Orchard Park a tranquil getaway

By Rocco Papa
Pike & Monroe Life

The citizens of Price Township have wanted a place to walk safely with a nice view of the tranquil landscape, a quiet place excluding even playground noise, and got that natural retreat when Orchard Park opened last spring in Price Township.

The land was originally an apple orchard, which the township purchased from Kathy Mosher. The orchard originally had cattle, apples that were harvested and apple cider. Mosher maintained the field up until the property went on sale.

“We were able to put this thing together through some grant money from the county,” said Donald Cramer, chairman of Price Township’s Board of Supervisors. “We made it a nice park. We put cone paths around it, a few benches, a bird house, and that’s how it become Orchard Park.”

Due to the fact that the land was originally an apple orchard, the park’s name is intended to maintain the property’s original identity. Cramer prepared the park along with his road crew of Bob Bellman and Jeff Singer.

The township received \$15,844 for the park in total: \$6,500 from the Monroe County Open Space Development Program and \$9,344 from taxpayers’ money.

The park’s location is ideal for the convenience of the township’s citizens and board members.

“There are a lot of people who walk their dogs and have no place else to go here,” said Cramer, who places no restrictions on the animals allowed in the park. “So it’s centrally located. It’s



Price Township supervisor Donald Cramer proudly surveys the grounds of Orchard Park, funded by the county’s Open Space Development Program and taxpayers’ money. PHOTOS BY ROCCO PAPA/FOR POCONO RECORD



The sign to the entrance of Orchard Park in Price Township keeps in the name the identity of what once was an apple orchard.

close to the township building, so it’s easier for us to manage and maintain.”

The park entry sign in front was made by Stroud Township. There still are some apple trees and even a miniature library, built and donated by Bob Wilson along with his wife, Susan.

“It’s a give-and-take library.

You go by the parking lot and there’s a giant birdhouse there,” Cramer said. “You take a book, put in a book. And that seems to get used a lot.”

While the park still has a few minor additions planned, like more benches and apple trees, Cramer says there won’t be any slides or merry-go-rounds.



A miniature library resembling a birdhouse where people can remove a book that interests them or leave a book was built and donated by Bob Wilson and his wife, Susan, at Orchard Park that opened in Price Township last year.



The welcoming countryside of Orchard Park, which opened last year in Price Township.

“We have no intent on putting in any slides and making it a playground. We have it as a nature park where people can go and walk,” Cramer said. “There are benches where they can sit and look at the scenery.”

With the park opened for only a year, Cramer says he hopes more people come down to enjoy the

area’s beauty.

“Everybody that we talk to says they love the park,” he said. “We haven’t had one person complain about the park. They all thank us for it. They keep it clean. We don’t have a bunch of debris in there and we check it daily. Everybody seems to be happy and they’re taking care of it for us.”