**THE TRANSIT OF VENUS:**
Members of the DVAA (Delaware Valley Amateur Astronomers) and the Upper Merion Township Library invite you to join them for a "once-in-a-lifetime" occurrence:

*The June 5th, 2012, TRANSIT OF VENUS.*

The planet Venus will pass in front of the Sun - from our line of sight - on June 5th, 2012, starting at 6:11 p.m. This TRANSIT of Venus will NOT occur again until 2117 – one-hundred-five years from now. In Pennsylvania, the June 5th transit will be visible until the Sun sets, with the Transit in progress. Hawaii, and other locations in the Pacific region, will see the entire Transit. [www.dvaa.org](http://www.dvaa.org)

ALL TELESCOPES AND BINOCULARS MUST BE FITTED WITH SOLAR FILTERS. Solar filters will be required throughout the ENTIRE transit.

NO ONE SHOULD LOOK AT THE SUN DIRECTLY.

LOOKING AT THE SUN DIRECTLY CAUSES EYE DAMAGE AND POSSIBLE BLINDNESS!

DVAA and the U.M. Twp. Library are providing two locations where you can safely view this Transit

**FIRST LOCATION:  COLONIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL.**
Colonial Middle School – rear of school – near ball field.
716 Belvoir Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

**SECOND LOCATION:  UNITED ARTIST MOVIE THEATER IN KING OF PRUSSIA IMAX United Artist Movie Theater – PARKING LOT WEST OF THEATER.**
300 Goddard Blvd.
King of Prussia, PA 19406

SET UP TIME:  5 TO 6 P.M.  VIEWING TIME:  6:11 P.M. EDT TO 8:31 P.M. (SUNSET).

*This event will NOT be visible if it is raining or completely cloudy.*

Rachel Camarda - DVAA Publicity Chair
Marilyn Michalski – DVAA Program Chair
TRANSIT OF VENUS - INFORMATION

Some ballpark facts regarding the Tuesday June 5th transit of Venus:

- 1st contact approximately 18:11, Sun alt 24 degrees, az 280 degrees – 6:11 p.m. Philadelphia time.
- 2nd contact approximately 18:29, Sun alt 21 degrees, az 283 degrees – 6:29 p.m.
- Sun set approximately 20:31, Sun alt 0 degrees, az 301 degrees – 8:31 p.m.

Facts on Venus:
* Venus is the second planet from the Sun (Mercury is the first).
* Venus is closer to Earth than any other planet, including Mars.
* After the Sun and Moon, Venus is the brightest natural object in the sky.
* Venus is slightly smaller than Earth: Venus’ diameter is 12,104 km.; Earth’s is 12,756 km.
* Venus’ MASS is 80% that of Earth’s mass.
* Venus’ orbital period (year) is 224.7 days.
* Venus is the victim of a runaway Greenhouse Effect.
* The Magellan Spacecraft mapped the surface of Venus using radar.
* Inclination of orbit:
  Venus’ orbit is inclined 3.4 degrees from the ecliptic.
* The angular diameter of Venus, as seen during the Transit, will be almost one (1) arc minute, 1/60th of a degree.
* Following the June 5th Transit, Venus will appear in the morning sky.
* The Moon is not involved in any part of the Transit of Venus on 6/5/12.

Dates of Venusian Transits:
Dec. 7, 1631
Dec. 4, 1639 (first observed by humans)
June 6, 1761
June 3, 1769
Dec. 9, 1874
Dec. 6, 1882
June 8, 2004
June 5-6, 2012
December 11, 2117

Whereas Transits of Venus occur nearly twice a century (there were no transits of Venus in the 1900’s), Transits of Mercury occur about 13 times a century.