



ASTON TOWNSHIP  
*Established 1688*

**FREE!**

# TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 9 Issue 4 • April 2014

## Library Week Recognized

Aston Township recognized April 8-14 as National Library Week.

Libraries are the heart of their communities and librarians work to meet the changing needs of their communities, including providing resources for everyone and bringing services outside of the library walls.

Libraries are recognized for bringing together community members to enrich and shape the community as well as address local issues. Libraries also offer programs to meet community needs, provide technology training and access to downloadable content like e-books.

Libraries also continuously grow and evolve in how they provide for the needs of every member of their community. Libraries, librarians, library workers and supporters across the country are celebrating National Library Week.

## Give Kids a Smile Day April 16 & 18

Free dental care will be provided for children on Give Kids a Smile Day, to be held on Wednesday, April 16 and Friday, April 18. Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY) is taking calls for appointments at 215-563-5848 x32.

Participating dentists will provide free screenings, cleanings and sealants and some will also fix problems like cavities.

## Bunny Lunch and Easter Egg Hunt April 6

Aston Township will sponsor a Bunny Lunch and Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 6. The Bunny Lunch will be held from noon-1:30 p.m. in the Aston Township Community Center. Hotdogs, pretzels and a drink will be on the menu. Parents can bring a camera to take pictures of their children with the Easter Bunny. This event is free to Aston Township residents only and children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held following the Bunny Lunch at 1:30 p.m. on fields outside of the Aston Township Community Center. This event is open to children zero to 12 and will be divided into three age groups. No registration is required and the Easter Bunny will be available for hugs and pictures. Raindate for this event is Saturday, April 19. For individual Ward egg hunt times, visit [www.astontownship.net](http://www.astontownship.net).



## New Police Officer Sworn In

Kevin Hall was sworn in as a new full-time police officer at the March Commissioners Meeting. Judge Diane Holefelder was on hand to swear Hall in. Hall's wife Katrina, daughter Markella, and Edna Malmstrom were also on hand.



## Detective David Berkyheiser Retires

Detective David Berkyheiser retired from the Aston Township Police Department in February and was recognized at the Commissioners meeting.

He began his law enforcement career with the Aston Township Police Department on February 15, 1989, serving in the patrol division for 10 years. He was assigned to the Detective Division in 1999, where he served until his retirement.

Detective Berkyheiser served the residents of Aston Township with professionalism, dignity and honor for the past 25 years, receiving countless letters of appreciation and thanks for his outstanding job performance. He has earned the respect of his peers for his high ethical and moral standards. His passion and dedication for his chosen profession is second to none and he is a shining example of what a police officer should be in today's society. Berkyheiser was truly an asset to the Aston Township Police Department, the law enforcement profession and to the residents of Aston Township.

## **April's Tip for Community Stormwater Management**

### **LEAVE GRASS CLIPPINGS;**

### **MULCH PROPERLY**

Cut grass at 2½ to 3 inches tall. Mow often enough so that clippings are not longer than one-third (1/3) of the grass blade, so they can decompose easily into the soil.

Excess nitrogen and phosphorus from lawn fertilization is frequently a pollutant to streams, fostering the growth of algae which deplete oxygen levels, harming fish. Spare your stream by avoiding spring fertilization, and leave your grass clippings on your lawn instead. Grass clippings supply between 25% and 50% of nitrogen and phosphorus needs.

Mulched beds trap and infiltrate more rainwater than lawn or bare soil. Spread out any excess mulch away from trees and shrubs, making sure the tree's "flare" is exposed, and allowing it to decompose. Top off with a thin layer of fresh mulch, making sure the mulch is no deeper than 3" and does not touch the tree bark. Never spread fresh woodchips around trees or shrubs; their decomposition will harm plants.

Learn more from downloading CRC's rain garden brochure: [www.crc-watersheds.org/resources/view/96](http://www.crc-watersheds.org/resources/view/96).

Check out Swarthmore College's sustainability web site: [www.scottarboretum.org/sustainability/ourpractices.html](http://www.scottarboretum.org/sustainability/ourpractices.html)

### **Aston Seniors to Meet April 24**

The April meeting of the Aston Seniors will take place on Thursday, April 24 at 10:45 a.m. in the Aston Community Center.

Entertainment will be: Last Chance - Jack & Ingrid, a contemporary and traditional folk-roots fusion and bluegrass duo. Tickets for the May 22 luncheon will be sold at the meeting.

Seniors in the Penn Delco School District, age 55 and older are welcome to join the Aston Seniors anytime throughout the year.

New members must submit an application, which can be obtained by calling Diane at 610-447-1599. Membership dues are \$10 a year.

Several trips are planned in the next few months. Aston seniors and non-members are always welcome to join us. For trip information call Alice at 610-494-3534

### **Lions Club to Host Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser April 27**

The Lions Club of Aston Township will host a Pancake Breakfast for needy local families Sunday, April 27 at 7:30 a.m. at the Aston Township Community Center at 3270 Concord Road in Aston. Adults: \$7; children 12 & under: \$4; and children under 2 years: FREE

Meal includes: eggs, sausage, pancakes, coffee, juice and milk for children.

This is one of our most important fundraisers of the year. The Lions furnish medical equipment (at no charge) to members of the public, support local teams, provide scholarships, and provide for numerous eye exams each year. There are additional groups we support.

### **Low or No Cost Vaccinations Available**

If you are uninsured or underinsured the Department of Health can help you receive all of your vaccinations!

The Department of Health offers LOW or NO COST vaccines. (\$5 cost for those above WIC income guidelines – payable by check or money order).

Vaccinations will be given:

April 17 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

May 15 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Vaccinations will be given at Anna's Place, 248 Long Lane, Upper Darby, PA 19082.

Please call the Pa. Dept. of Health at 610-447-3250 if you have questions or to schedule an appointment.

To submit an item to the newsletter, e-mail [newsletter@astontownship.net](mailto:newsletter@astontownship.net).

### **Free Health Fair April 5**

Representative Barrar's Annual Health & Safety Fair will be held on Saturday, April 5. This FREE, family-friendly event is your opportunity to take advantage of health screenings and gather information from area government and non-profit organizations.

### **West Knowlton Road Closure**

PennDOT has announced that the bridge on W. Knowlton Road will be closed for repairs on or about March 24 through May 30, 2014.

### **Eagle Scout to Host Community Health Fair/Blood Drive**

Casey Berardi of Troop 225 in Aston will host a free Aston Community Health Fair for all ages on Saturday, April 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Aston Community Center gymnasium.

Organizations will distribute information, teach skills, and give presentations that focus on living a healthy lifestyle. The health fair will include information on medication and drug safety, a presentation from the Riddle Sleep Center, blood pressure screenings that include vouchers for free cholesterol screenings and stroke risk assessments, diabetes awareness, emergency first aid response, and more.

The health fair will also consist of a Red Cross blood drive. For more information about donating blood, contact Casey Berardi at [caseyleeluke@gmail.com](mailto:caseyleeluke@gmail.com) or go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code: Aston Community.

### **Red Hill Farm to Host Bee Lecture**

Red Hill Farm will host *Protecting our Pollinators*, a lecture from Warren Graham, on Tuesday, April 22 at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Convent.

Warren is a master beekeeper, and a third generation beekeeper from Edgemont Township in Delaware County. Pollinators are an important part of

our environment and crucial for our food supply. We have lost many of our pollinators and others are on the decline. Join Graham to discuss the possible causes and easy steps that we can all take to protect pollinators and make our environment healthier.

This lecture is free and open to the public. For more information contact Joanne at 610-558-5396.

### **Green Ridge Spring Carnival**

The Greenridge spring carnival will be held Tuesday, April 8 through Saturday, April 13 from 6-10 p.m. each night. Mega passes are \$40 and good for all nights, family nights are Tuesday and Wednesday, passes are \$20.

### **Fifth Annual Lenni Athletic Club Fishing Derby April 26**

The fifth annual Lenni Athletic Club Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday, April 26 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Louis Fisher Park on Mount Road in Aston. This event will be held rain or shine.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. This event is open to children 12 and under and they must be accompanied by an adult. No lures will be allowed.

### **New Park to Be Constructed**

Aston Township has purchased the Newsom property on Weir Road and plans to turn it into a passive park using a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. This project will complement the stream stabilization work that will be done in Weir Park later this year.

The draft plan, along with photos of the existing conditions at Weir Park will be presented on the Township website and possibly the public access TV channel.

### **Pothole Patrol**

Aston Township is on pothole alert! Residents will soon be able to e-mail the Township about any potholes or

streetlights that may be out.

To report a streetlight issue, check for a little yellow tag on the light. These tags have a number starting with AT on them. This will help the road crews pinpoint the streetlight, enabling them to fix it faster.

Just a reminder- PennDot is responsible for state roads including Aston Mills Road, Birney Highway, Bodley Road, Bridgewater Road, Concord Road, Dutton Mill Road, Knowlton Road, Lenni Road and Pennell Road. State roads go from one town to another. For issues with state roads, you can contact PennDot at 610-566-0972.

Residents can also call Russ Palmore, Road Foreman at 610-494-8005 to report a pothole or streetlight issue. For potholes, be sure to mention the street address.

### **Hazardous Waste Collection May 3**

There will be a household hazardous waste collection event on Saturday, May 3 at the Emergency Training Center in Sharon Hill, PA. Visit <https://www.delcoestc.org> for more details.

### **AARP to Meet April 28**

The Aston Chichester Chapter 3614 of AARP Inc., will meet for it's next meeting on Monday, April 28 at 10:45 a.m. at the Cavalry Episcopal Church, located on Mount Road, in Aston.

For more info, call President Ruth Bruster at 610-566-2632.

### **Red Hill Farm**

#### **2014 Memberships Available**

Red Hill Farm, located at the corner of Red Hill and Legion roads, is a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm offering freshly harvested organic produce to its members.

Once each week for 24 weeks, members pick up their share of vegetables at the farm. Members of Red Hill Farm are also given access to the farms large 'You-Pick' section which includes cut flowers, herbs, cherry tomatoes and beans.

A variety of payment plans are avail-

## **April Public Meetings and Special Events**

### **Strategic Plan Meeting**

3:05 p.m. Wednesday, April 2

### **Recreation Committee Meeting**

7 p.m. Thursday, April 3

### **New Construction Committee Meeting**

6:30 p.m. Monday, April 7

### **Work Session Meeting**

3 p.m. Wednesday, April 9

### **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**

7 p.m. Tuesday, April 15

### **Board of Commissioners Meeting**

7 p.m. Wednesday, April 16

### **Zoning Hearing Board Meeting**

7 p.m. Tuesday, April 22

### **Planning Commission Meeting**

7 p.m. Wednesday, April 23

### **Fire Committee Meeting**

7 p.m. Thursday, April 24

### **Public Aston Vision Plan Study Meeting**

7 p.m. Tuesday, April 29

able. Call 610-558-6799, e-mail [redhillfarm@osfpbphil.org](mailto:redhillfarm@osfpbphil.org), or visit [www.redhillfarm.org](http://www.redhillfarm.org) for more information.

Support your local farm, and experience the joy of eating with the seasons!

### **Friends of the Library to Host Book Sale April 25 & 26**

The Friends of the Library will host a book sale from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Community Center on Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26.

Engraved Memorial Garden bricks make great birthday or remembrance gifts. Call Maryann Bullen at 610-494-2337.



Kids enjoy Dr. Seuss story time in March.

This Easter Basket is being raffled off. Stop by the Library to check it out and purchase raffle tickets!



## Knights of Columbus to Host Fundraiser April 12

The Fr. James A. Donnelly Council Knights of Columbus will host a fundraiser featuring the sounds of the Juliano Brothers on Saturday, April 12 from 8 p.m.-midnight in Degan Hall at St. Joseph's Church, 3255 Concord Rd, Aston.

All proceeds from the fundraiser will help in the continuation of the Knights of Columbus' charitable activities. Admission is \$15 per person and all guests must be 21 or over to attend. A cash bar serving wine and beer will be available.

For more information, please contact Joe Zakorchemny at 610-888-4767 or [jaz1030@aol.com](mailto:jaz1030@aol.com)

## Aston Seniors 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon

The Aston Senior Citizens 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary luncheon will be held on Thursday, June 12 at noon at the Ballrooms at Boothwyn. Cost for members is \$25 and \$32 for guests.

For more information, please contact Liz Anderson at 610-565-5650 or Anne Sweeny at 610-494-0677.

## Annual Penny Party April 7

The St. Francis de Sales Ladies Club is hosting its annual Penny Party on Monday, April 7, from 6-10 p.m. at the St. Francis de Sales Field House located at 35 New Road in Aston.

The Penny Party will feature more than 100 baskets filled with wonderful gifts and gift certificates for the whole family. Admission for the event is \$3.00 per person and includes coffee and cake at intermission. Dinner specials, refreshments and food will also be available for sale.

For additional information call Judy Mills (610) 547-8514.

## Easter Basket Raffle and Pals for Life are Back at the Library!

Your child can expand his or her confidence reading by practicing with a trained therapy dog. Pals for Life will be visiting the Aston Library again on Wednesday evenings starting April 30! Reading to animals helps shy children and children having trouble learning to read build confidence in their literacy skills. Register now at <http://www.tinyurl.com/AstonPals2014>.

Free chair yoga classes are returning to the library for six Saturdays at 11 a.m. starting April 5, skipping April 26, and ending May 17. Find out more and sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/astonadultevents> today if you would like to attend. Chair Yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is practiced sitting in a chair or standing, using a chair for support. It is appropriate for adults of all shapes, sizes, ages and genders.

The Friends of the Library are raffling an Easter Basket, with candy, toys and a big stuffed bunny. You can get one ticket for \$2, three for \$5, or seven for \$10. The raffle goes off on April 15. Be sure to stop by the Library and have a look at the basket at the library!

The Friends will also be having a big book sale on April 25 and 26. Watch [www.astonlibrary.org](http://www.astonlibrary.org) for more info.

Magician Ed Schmitt will be doing an Easter Kids Magic Show at the Library on April 14 at 6:30 p.m. Sign up through the calendar at [www.astonlibrary.org](http://www.astonlibrary.org).

At Storytime on April 6 and 8, the kids will be reading *Stripes of All Types* by Susan Stockdale, which is this year's One Book, Every Young Child book, which libraries and schools are trying to read to every young child in PA. Aston Library storytimes are Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

We still have many State and Federal Tax Forms available for free in our Reference area for you last-minute filers.

THANKS SO MUCH to all the donors who have already responded to our annual fund drive. If you did not receive a letter, you can get a donation form at the library service desk. Aston Public Library raises a larger percentage of its budget than all but one of the 25 other libraries in our county system, so this is very important for us. The Friends of the Library are looking for members who can attend monthly meetings and participate in fundraising activities. People who love the library and are ready to work hard for it are needed. Join up! Go to [www.astonlibrary.org](http://www.astonlibrary.org) and click on "Join Our Friends" to send in your info.

The library is still looking for volunteers to help with work like calling patrons, putting books in order, and delivering flyers and posters. Pick up an application at the library or go to: <http://tinyurl.com/APLVolApp> to submit one online.

The Aston Public Library Board of Trustees will meet at the Library at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 15.

You can access books for your Kindle, Nook, or other e-book reader with your library card! Go to <http://digitallibrary.delcolibraries.org/> to see what is available! Are you on Facebook? Follow the Aston Library there! Go to <http://www.facebook.com/astonlibrary> to become a fan.