



ASTON TOWNSHIP
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TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 9 Issue 8 • August 2014



The Green Ridge and Aston Beechwood Volunteer Fire Companies celebrate the formation of the Aston Township Fire Department.

Fire Departments Combine to Form The Aston Township Fire Department #17

The Green Ridge Volunteer Fire Company and the Aston Beechwood Volunteer Fire Company have merged to form the Aston Township Fire Company #17 (ATFD). Many years of discussion and a year and half of intensive meetings and planning led to this point.

The ordinance was approved at the July Commissioners meeting and authorized the ATFD to offer its services for the protection from loss or damage by fire and to provide fire and emergency medical services (EMS) to the citizens in Aston Township.

The Aston Board of Commissioners recognizes the challenges that the volunteer fire and emergency medical services community faces today. The Board recognizes and supports the efforts of the Aston Fire and EMS Cooperative Partnership Steering Committee and pledges their support and assistance to the community's newly organized volunteer Fire and Emergency Medical Services organization, the ATFD. The ATFD is officially recognized as the primary Fire and Emergency Medical Services providers for the Township of Aston.

"I commend the fire companies for their perseverance in making this a reality," said Commissioner Graham.

Longtime Employee Dorothy Kornafel Retires



Commissioner Graham presents Dorothy Kornafel with a Proclamation recognizing her 24 years of service to the Township.

Dottie Kornafel, was honored at the July Commissioners meeting for her retirement after 24 years of service to Aston Township. Kornafel got her start as a full time clerk in the Aston Police Department in 1991, where she worked in many roles including office manager, over her ten years there.

She then moved to part-time assistant to the township finance manager and became a full-time employee with the township in 2007, in the administrative department. Kornafel handled all streetlight complaints and was secretary to

the Board of Health. She spent many hours dedicated to the Camp Rainbow program. "Dottie was a great person to work with. We are sad to see her go and thank her for her many years of service to the Township," said President Stigale.

Township offices will be closed on Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day. No recycling or trash will be collected. All Monday's recycling and trash will be collected on Tuesday, September 2.

Save the Date- Community Day

Community Day will be held on Saturday, October 4 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Aston Community Center. The rain date will be Sunday, October 5 from 1-6 p.m.

For volunteer or more information contact Maryann Bullen, Community Day Coordinator, at 610-494-2337 or mimibull@comcast.net or Nancy Bowden, Parade Coordinator, at 610-494-5490 or nbowden@comcast.net.

Hometown Concert August 4

Hometown Concerts are back this summer! Come out for a night of music at the Aston Community Center. The next performance will be held Monday, August 4 at 7 p.m. The Wilmington String Band will perform.

The Parks and Recreation Committee is always looking for talented local acts. If you or someone you know would like to perform at a concert series, contact the Township.

These concerts are free and open to the public, don't miss the fun for the entire family. Check www.astontownship.net for more information.

August's Tip for Community Stormwater Management

REDIRECT ROOF RUNOFF; INSTALL PERVIOUS SURFACES

Consider landscape modifications to help your yard retain excess rainwater and prevent runoff. Redirect all downspouts which drain onto paved surfaces and storm sewers to flow into a rain barrel, rain garden, mulched bed or grassy area, located downgrade from your house. Attend a rain barrel workshop hosted by your municipality, Master Gardeners, or local watershed association.

Minimize impervious surfaces such as asphalt and concrete on walks, patios, and driveways on your property. Replace them with gravel or pervious blocks or pavers that allow rain and excess water runoff to soak into the soil.

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

Check out Swarthmore College's sustainability web site: www.scottarboretum.org/sustainability/ourpractices.html

Second Week Trash Pickup

Second week trash pickup is scheduled to run through September 5.

StreetScape Initiative

Aston Township is planning to construct streetscape improvements along a 0.8-mile stretch of Pennell Road (SR 0452) between Concord Road (SR 3007) and Duttons Mill Road (SR 3020). The work will include sidewalk and curb ramp installation/improvements, pedestrian level lighting, landscaping, and landscaped center medians. The improvements will contribute to increased mass transit ridership and economic development by creating a pedestrian-friendly environment and connecting a variety of land uses including residential, commercial, office, institutional and recreational. The improvements implemented along Pennell Road will serve as guidelines

to implement similar improvements along Concord Road and Duttons Mill Road as future projects.

The Township is requesting funding for this project through the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). The estimated cost for the project is \$960,000, which includes a 20% match from the Township (\$192,000).

Sun Center Concerts

Sun Center Summer Concerts are coming right here to Aston with some really great artists that they are proud to bring to Delaware County. All shows are outside under the stars with seats. Tickets are available on *ticketmaster.com*, by calling 1-800-745-3000 or at the venue box office on the day of the show. The venue will have wine, beer, soda, dinner and snacks for sale, so come hungry and ready to have a good time!

Each show will benefit a local volunteer fire company that will be onsite receiving well deserved recognition.

Aug 7	The Mavericks
Aug 8	Get the Led Out
Aug 12	Indigo Girls
Aug 13	The Beach Boys

Public Works Working Hard

The Public Works Department has picked up 527 tons of refuse and 87 tons of recycled material for June. They have also filled more than 1,000 potholes using more than 22 tons of asphalt to date.

Aston Township Vision Plan

At the March 19, 2014 Aston Township Board of Commissioners Meeting, the Board voted in favor of contracting Simone Collins, PC to develop a Vision Plan For Aston.

To submit an item to the newsletter, e-mail newsletter@astontownship.net.

The proposed Aston Township Vision Plan includes a market assessment of the opportunities that exist in the community; an assessment of the 2005 Comprehensive Plan goals – and which have been accomplished and which have not; and a development of a community vision for both tangible and intangible assets toward enhanced economic development and quality of life in the community.

The plan includes a series of community outreach events including multiple public meetings to solicit ideas from residents and business owners in the community.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the meetings so their voice is heard.

The next Vision Plan meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18 at 7 p.m.

Aston Recycling Making Big Gains

Rain, snow, sleet, or shine, Aston's dedicated sanitation team and environmentally conscientious citizens are making a difference in the environment and to Aston's bottom line.

Aston Township's weekly single stream recycling program is paying dividends for Township residents. While the amount of trash that has been collected and disposed at the landfill has declined, the amount of material recycled by residents has increased. Since the weekly recycling program began in 2011, Township residents have recycled more than 500 tons of trash!

Residents have increased recycling efforts each month since January 2011. The steady decline in the amount of trash collected clearly illustrates the impact that once a week, single stream recycling is having.

Boy Scouts of America to Hold September 11th Ceremony

The Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops of Aston Township will host a September 11 Memorial Ceremony on

Thursday, September 11 at 7 p.m. at the Aston Township Memorial Gardens. The ceremony will recognize the 13th anniversary of September 11. If there is rain, the event will be held at the Aston Community Center.

For more information, contact Barry Pinkowicz at 610-494-5294.

No Public Meeting in August

There will be no public meeting held in the month of August. Meetings will resume in September.

Aston Seniors to Meet Sept. 24, Trip October 15

Penn Delco Aston Seniors' memberships can now be renewed by sending a check for \$10, made out to Aston Senior Citizens. Please send checks to Mr. Stanley J. Wileczek, 123 Edgar Avenue, Aston, PA 19014. Your cancelled check will be your receipt.

Also, Penn Delco seniors, who wish to join, please call Stanley Wileczek at 610-494-5434 to obtain a membership application. The first meeting of the new season will be on Thursday, Sept. 24 at 10:45 a.m.

The Penn Delco Aston Seniors is sponsoring a trip to Penns Peak in the Pocono's to see the licensed Four Freshman on their world tour on October 15. The cost is \$83 for dinner, show and transportation. Reservation and money is due by Sept. 25. Call Alice at 610-494-3534 for any questions.

Aston seniors and non-members are always welcome to participate.

City Council puts Heat Plan in Place

While the 2014 summer forecast is calling for fewer scorching heat waves, the City Council wants residents to know that the county's Heat Plan is in place. Both the Office of Services for the Aging (COSA) and Office of Adult Services offer assistance to the elderly and vulnerable residents throughout the summer months.

County Council alerts residents to take extra precautions during a heat wave, and to check in with elderly and disabled family members and neighbors who are at greater risk for heat-related illnesses.

The National Weather Service describes a heat wave as three or more days when the temperature is 90 degrees or higher. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is predicting El Nino conditions this summer, which could signal more moderate summer temperatures and fewer damaging hurricanes.

The main thing is for people to be prepared, said County Council Chairman Tom McGarrigle.

The County Office of Services of the Aging (COSA) has a Heat Plan for the county that includes a Heat Information Line, extended hours at Senior Centers, and educational information on heat safety tips, dehydration, and safe use of fans.

The Heat Information Line at (610) 872-1558 is a recorded 24-hour phone service that typically runs June 1 through Sept. 30, providing residents with heat advisory updates and information. People who need additional assistance can contact a COSA staff member by calling the Information and Assistance service at (610) 490-1300.

"When the weather service issues an excessive heat warning, it's important for our elderly and vulnerable residents to take precautions to avoid heat-related illnesses," said Chairman McGarrigle. "People who are 65 and older are vulnerable to heat-related illnesses and we ask that residents check on their elderly family members and neighbors."

McGarrigle said the Delaware County Heat Plan calls for senior centers and adult day care centers to extend their hours, to offer water and non-caffeinated beverages throughout the day, and to reinforce with service-provider drivers to check on consumers.

COSA has a limited number of fans

August Public Meetings and Special Events

New Construction Committee Meeting

3 p.m. Monday, August 4

Parks and Recreation Meeting

7 p.m. Thursday, August 7

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

No August Meeting

Board of Commissioners Meeting

No August Meeting

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

7 p.m. Tuesday, August 26

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m. Wednesday, August 27

available for senior residents in need of assistance.

Care managers are asked to identify "at risk" consumers who are homebound, living alone or have a prior history of inadequate cooling in their home. When the elderly and chronically ill don't have protection from the heat, such as air-conditioning and plenty of fluids, they can develop serious health effects.

Delaware County Senior Medical Advisor Dr. George Avetian said it is particularly important for seniors and those with health problems to drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration. Common symptoms of dehydration are headache, dry skin, lightheadedness, nausea and fast heartbeat.

On any day when temperatures reach 90 degrees, it is especially impor-

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

**Wednesday Performances Continue in August;
Summer Reading Books Still Available**

Our summer reading club "FIZZ BOOM READ!" is continuing! You can register your child online through our website www.astonlibrary.org or at the desk at the library. If you bring the log of books your child reads to the library each week, you can collect their weekly prize.

The free 1 p.m. Wednesday kids shows will continue this month:

- August 6 Mr. Don from Classroom Adventures will involve the kids in an exciting adventure!
- August 13 Makin' Music will play some great songs for the kids to sing along with!
- August 19 We will have a special party, just for kids who read books this summer!

There are many other programs coming up as well- Infant Storytime with Ms. Dee is continuing. The popular lapsit storytime for babies up to 2 years old is on Mondays at 10 a.m.

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 September 8. 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>. The Pals for Reading program is sponsored by Glen Riddle Rotary Club!

Free Chair Yoga is returning for six Tuesdays from August 26 to September 3 at 2 p.m. each day. Chair Yoga is a gentle form of yoga, using a chair for support.

Go to the Calendar at www.astonlibrary.org to sign up and get more information about these and the other activities offered at the library!

Get your child's Penn-Delco required summer reading books for free this summer at the library! Stop by today to request the books!

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 not meet in the month of August. 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.

Summer Heat Safety Continued..

tant for young children and older adults, as well as people who have heart and breathing problems or are on certain medications, to pay close attention to what they are doing and how they feel during hot and humid weather.

COSA offers the following heat safety tips: drink plenty of fluids (in consultation with your physician regarding medication and fluids); wear lightweight clothing; stay indoors or seek relief at a senior center, mall or friend's house who has air-conditioning; and avoid strenuous activity. People should limit alcohol or beverages containing caffeine.

The Delaware County Department of Human Services also expands its outreach to vulnerable populations. Chris Seibert, Division Coordinator with the Division of Adult and Family Services, said staff expands its outreach to homeless and vulnerable adults during a heat wave and implements overflow bed procedures at the shelters.



Makin' Music performs at their last show at our library. They are performing August 13.



A shot from the July Jitterbugs Music and Movement show!



Mr. Don from Classroom Adventures, who is performing on August 6.

A Friendly Reminder from:

SWDCMA

(Southwest Delaware County
Municipal Authority)

Quarterly sewer service invoices
are in the mail as of **July 31**
and are due by **August 31**.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2466, Aston, PA 19014

Office Address: 1 Gamble Lane, Aston, PA 19014

Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Office Phone: 610-494-1335