



ASTON TOWNSHIP
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TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 9 Issue 2 • February 2014

Township Says Farewell to Dick Lehr after 47 Years

Richard Lehr was recognized for more than 45 years of service to Aston Township as he retired from the Township Manager role. Lehr moved to Aston Township and began his career in 1957. He and his wife Dot raised five children and became actively involved in Mt. Hope United Methodist Church. He briefly left for a short time and returned in 1971 and became Road Master of the Aston Township Public Works Department.

Lehr knew everyone in the Township and everyone knew him. He was appointed Aston Township Secretary/Manager in 1987. During his career, he served as secretary for Delaware County First Class Township Commissioners Association for 15 years and served three years on the convention committee, he also served as secretary for eight years for the Eastern Association of First Class Township Commissioners.

A member of the Aston Business Professional Association, he was named Businessperson of the Year in 2011 and received the Outstanding Citizen of the Year award from the Aston Township Commissioners in 1986. "An era has ended with his retirement," said James Stigale, President.

"There are no words to describe what he's meant to Aston Township," said Commissioner Fulginiti. Lehr has said after his family, he's most proud of the construction of the Aston Township Community Center and the dedication of the Veteran's Memorial at Five Points that happened during his time as Township Manager. While Lehr is looking forward to retirement, he is sure he'll miss working for the Township. Community members needn't worry though, Lehr will definitely be around town.

IceWorks to Host 2014 National Curling Championships

IceWorks Skating Complex will host the 2014 USA Curling National Championships March 1-8. It will once again partner with the Philadelphia Sports Congress and Brandywine Visitor's Bureau to host a top-notch event featuring the top 20 U.S. men's and women's curling teams.

USA Curling's site selection committee opted to return to Aston again in 2014. In 2012, the event saw sold-out crowds on the closing weekend as well as strong event marketing. The 2014 Nationals will take place just six days after the close of the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

"The 2012 Nationals organizing committee, led by IceWorks, significantly raised the bar for future championships, and I have no doubt they will ratchet it up even further come 2014," said Rick Patzke, USA Curling chief operating officer.



Surrounded by friends and family, Dick Lehr was recognized for 47 years of service to Aston Township upon his retirement.

Snow Removal Reminder

Residents are asked to remove vehicles off the street and park your car in your driveway during any snow fall. This allows the Township to plow back to the curb.

Township Closed for Presidents Day

Aston Township Offices and Public Works Departments will be CLOSED on Monday, February 17 for President's day. All Monday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, February 18.



IceWorks hosted the 2012 Curling Nationals as well.

February's Tip for Community Stormwater Management

TEST YOUR SOIL

Healthy soil grows healthy turf which can absorb more rain water. Purchase a soil test kit from Penn State and submit soil samples from your lawn to determine the nutrients that may be lacking. Go to <http://www.aasl.psu.edu>

Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCbO5a5JZpk>

Cut down stalks of ornamental and native warm season grasses left over the winter for bird habitat.

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

Check out Swarthmore College's sustainability web site: www.scotARBoretum.org/Sustainability/our-practices.html

CRC to Host Pest Management Consultant February 23

On Sunday, February 23, the Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association and Penn State Brandywine will jointly host with the CRC MS4 Education and Outreach Program municipalities Integrated Pest Management Consultant Mike Leventry.

"Protecting Our Water Resources and Our Environment through Reduced Chemical Use," will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Tomezsko Building Auditorium at the PSU Brandywine Campus in Middletown.

The program is free and open to the public but advance registration is recommended since space is limited. To register go to <http://crcwatersheds.org/resources/view/295>.

Mike Leventry has a degree in Biology- Integrated Pest Management from the University of Delaware and has worked as an IPM professional for ten years at Longwood Gardens, University of Delaware, and the Kennett Collection. Mike's talk will cover how homeowners can reduce the need for chemical pesticides by utilizing



Recycling Stays Strong Through the Holidays

The monthly recycling total for December was 166.73 tons. This bested November's total of 110.21 and December 2012's amount of 111.19.

Remember, there is no need to remove paper clips, stamps, address labels, staples, metal fasteners or rubber bands before recycling! The more you recycle the more we can work together to keep trash fees lower in Aston!

integrated pest management (IPM). His talk will cover physical controls, cultural practices, and conservation of natural predators. Pests to be addressed include weeds, insects, algae and some troublesome mammals.

Aston Seniors to Meet Feb. 27

The February meeting of the Aston Seniors will take place on Thursday, February 27 at 10:45 a.m., in the Aston Community Center.

Entertainment will be singer Tom Zebley. Tickets for the March 27 luncheon will be sold at this 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.

General Federation Women's Club to Hold Fashion Show March 8

General Federation Woman's Club will hold their 47th Annual Fashion Show on Saturday, March 8 at the Springhaven Club, Springhaven, Pa

Fashion are by Zinni's of Philadelphia and tickets are \$35. Please call 610-497-5234 for more information.

Congratulations to Patricia Savoy!

The Aston Township Lioness Ladies recently sold tickets for an iPad. The winner was Patricia Savoy. For more information, please contact Florence Fisher.

Softball Registration Ongoing

Registration for Aston AA Girls Softball will be held at the Community Center on Thursdays and Saturdays through February 15 at the following times.

Saturday Jan. 25	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thursday Jan. 30	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Saturday Feb. 1	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thursday Feb 6	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Saturday Feb. 8	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Thursday Feb. 13	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Saturday Feb. 15	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Appointments

Cathy Jones and Joseph McColgan were appointed to the Aston Township Planning Commission for a four-year term.

Harry Hill, Gina Ruggierri, and Marianne Leagans were appointed to the Aston Free Library Board of Trustees for a three year term.

Robert Naef was reappointed to the Southwest Delaware County Municipal Authority Board for a five year term.

Wayne Callaway and Kathryn Spayd were appointed to the Aston Township Memorial Foundation for a three year term.

Sean Joyce and Nick Spayd were ap-

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

pointed as assistant fire marshals.

New Part-Time Officers Sworn In

Patrick Fuhr and William Mack were sworn in as new part-time Aston Police Officers at the January Commissioners Meeting.

Fuhr is a Sun Valley High School graduate and holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in criminal justice from Widener University. He graduated from the Delaware County Municipal Police Academy in 2011 and completed an internship with the Aston Township Police Department as well.

Mack is also a graduate of Sun Valley High School and attended Bloomsburg University. He graduated from the Delaware County Municipal Police Academy in August 2012.

Free Flu Clinic February 1

The Delaware County Council is partnering with the Pennsylvania Department of Health to offer a free, walk-in flu shot clinic from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Penn State Brandywine campus in Middletown Township.

This clinic is open to all residents age six months and older who have not gotten a flu shot this season. For more information visit www.co.delaware.pa.us or call 610-891-5311.

Mt. Hope Church to Host Walk Through Bible Live Event

Mt. Hope Church will host an interactive, fun walk through the Old Testament. The walk through will be held on Friday, March 28 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 29 from 9 am to noon. Cost is \$10/person or \$25/family.

Intermediate Unit Info Meeting

The public is invited to a neighborhood informational meeting to hear about the Delaware County Intermediate Unit expansion plans at their school building located at 100 Crozer-ville Road. The meeting will be held on

Tuesday, February 4 at 7 p.m. at the school.

A Message From Road Foreman Russ Palmore

As we get deeper into the winter months the removal of snow from our sidewalks and streets become more and more of a priority. Aston Township has prided itself for many years in having a top notch dedicated Public Works Department that go out no matter what conditions are thrown in front of them. They are out working hard while most of us are sleeping.

It is during those waking hours, however, that we must do our part. It is imperative that individuals remove the snow and create a safe walkway on all sidewalks not later than thirty hours after snow or sleet has ceased to fall.

For best results individuals should shovel often and not let the snow pile up too high. If you live in a cul-de-sac please make sure your vehicles are not blocking the ability of the plow trucks to turn around. During a storm it is also important that you stay off of the road unless necessary.

Unnecessary road traffic creates a hazard for our drivers and you. Finally we ask that you please work together with your neighbors to assist the elderly and individuals who are not capable of shoveling.

Author to Read Children's Curling Book February 22

On February 22 at 10 a.m., author Kim Perkins, will be conducting a live reading and book signing of her book, *The Adventures of Trefor the Curling Rock* at IceWorks in Aston.

Trefor the curling rock spends his nights staring through a crack in the

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

February Public Meetings and Special Events

Work Session Meeting

3 p.m. Wednesday, February 12

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

7 p.m. Tuesday, February 18

Board of Commissioners Meeting

7 p.m. Wednesday, February 19

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

7 p.m. Tuesday, February 25

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m. Wednesday, February 26

door whispering, "I wish and I wonder about things I can't see, I long for adventure to know what else I could be. Am I simply a rock destined only to curl? I know there's more out there, I want to see the world." Eventually curiosity gets the better of him and he sets off on an adventure to try his hand at tennis, hockey, and diving.

Will Trefor leave curling behind forever or will he realize it's the only sport for him?

The Brandywine Conference & Visitors Bureau will be flying Perkins into Philly International and coordinating the event with the Delaware County Council, Delaware County Library System, Aston Business Association and the IceWorks event staff as part of a media blitz during the run-up to the 2014 USA Curling National Championship which will be held at IceWorks March 1 through 8.

Kim Perkins was born and raised in Yellowknife N.W.T., Canada and began curling at the age of nine. She curled competitively as a junior in the N.W.T. and in Alberta after her family relocated to Calgary in 1995. She began to teach curling at age 12 and currently works part time running junior

Continued.

Aston Public Library to Host Curling Book Reading Feb. 22

On Saturday, February 22 at 10 a.m., the Aston Public Library and Ice Works will present a reading and signing of the book *Trefor: The Curling Rock* with author Kim Perkins for area children to promote reading and celebrate the U.S. Curling Nationals in Aston.

The book is the story of a rock searching for a sport he can play. Activities and refreshments will also be offered for the children at the event. The program will be held at Ice Works, 3100 Dutton Mill Road in Aston. For more information, see the related article in this newsletter or go to www.astonlibrary.org.

The Library is offering free State and Federal Tax Prep again through Pathway-sPA on Monday, March 17 **by appointment only**. Call Stephen at 610-494-5877 to set up an appointment.

We plan to continue free chair yoga classes. Find updated information at www.astonlibrary.org.

We will be expanding our selection of music CDs greatly over the next month. Come by to check out the new rock, pop, jazz, classical and children's music on the shelving donated by the Marple Public Library.

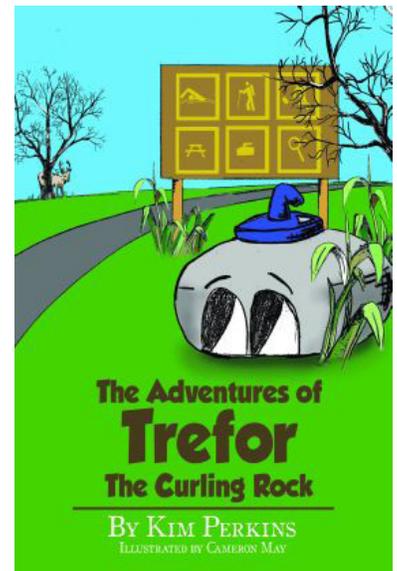
The deadline is February 10 for the annual Bookmark Design Contest for kids in grade K-8. Check www.astonlibrary.org for the form, more information, and full rules.

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! Visit our website 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, February 18.

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.



The cover of *The Adventures of Trefor the Curling Rock*. The author will read her book February 22.



Children decorate gingerbread men during an event at the Aston Library.

To stay informed during emergencies, residents should check cable TV's public access channels for updated postings on Comcast channel 10 and Verizon channel 45, as well as the township website.

programs and teaching curling.

Kim has loved to read and write ever since she was a child. She graduated from the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1999 with a Journalism Diploma. This is her first novel.

Snow Driving Safety Tips

Drive only if it is absolutely necessary.

If you must drive, drive cautiously and maintain safe speeds and distances from other vehicles.

Keep a safe distance from emergency and snow vehicles and please use caution when attempting to pass a snowplow. Give the drivers plenty of room to safely do their jobs.

Be aware of hazardous road conditions, particularly black ice which can be deceptive in appearance and give the driver a false sense of security on the road.

A Friendly Reminder from:

SWDCMA

(Southwest Delaware County
Municipal Authority)

Quarterly sewer service invoices
are in the mail as of **January 31**
and are due by **February 28**.

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