



ASTON TOWNSHIP
Established 1688

FREE!

TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 9 Issue 11 • November 2014



Alexis Burns, 7, gets her face painted during Community Day.



Members of the Rose Valley Chorus & Orchestra participated in this year's parade including Aston residents Wayne Jones and Bill DeFeo. Front row: Sonja Allen, Kristin Mitchell and Cathy Wakefield. Back row: Rob Knowlton, Jones, Chris Rubino, and DeFeo.

Aston Township Offices and Public Works Department will be closed Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday: Monday and Tuesdays Trash will be picked up on Monday, November 24 and Wednesday and Thursdays trash will be picked up on Tuesday, November 25. All Fridays Trash will be picked up on Wednesday, November 26.

Aston photos are on the web! Visit our www.astontownship.net to check out our photostream!

Rain Holds off, More Than 4,000 Turn Out for Community Day

Mother Nature cooperated to produce beautiful weather for Community Day 2014. More than 4,000 residents and their families came out to celebrate, enjoy the rides and performances and food during the day.

Fifth Ward resident Lt. Colonel Eric Delellis was recognized as the 2014 Aston Township Citizen of the Year and James McKelvey, World War II French Medal of Honor Recipient, served as Grand Marshall of the parade. More than 65 groups participated in the parade.

Bike contest winners included: Division I 0-3 Year Olds: first place, Elijah Burke, Cowardly Lion; second place Dylan Marcovitz, Americana; third place, Ritika Rathinam, Belle. Division II 4-7 Year Olds: first place, Anthony Frei, Eagles; second place, Roslyn Burke, Dorothy; third place, Sophia Marcovitz, USA. Division III 8-12 Year Olds: first place, Grace Stewart, Big Book of Animals; second place, Rylee McElwee, Nightmare before Christmas; third place, Samantha Frei, Party in Paradise.

A total of 28 businesses donated items and services and Giant Food Stores donated all the hamburgers and hotdogs. More than ten food court vendors and thirty nonprofit organizations participated in the event.

Aston Middletown Little League Team Wins State Title



Commissioner McGinn presents the team with their Proclamation.

The 9-10 year old player team from the Aston Middletown Little League became the first team in the history of the league to win the Pennsylvania State Title.

The team won the AMLL tournament of Champions game which would only be the start to its exciting summer. They rolled through District 19 undefeated to take the title and won four games. In sectionals, they went undefeated and competed for the state title in Perkasie. The team won on June 28 with a 9-7 victory!

Township Awarded \$1 Million StreetScape Grant



President Stigale accepts the grant check from Kevin Andrews.

Aston Township was pleased to accept a \$1 million grant to be used for streetscape improvements in the township. Kevin Andrews, chief of staff for Pa. State Representative Joe Hackett, was on hand to deliver the check. The improvements will create a pedestrian friendly environment and connect a variety of land.

November's Tip for Community Stormwater Management

HARVEST FALLEN LEAVES

Start a compost pile with fallen leaves. Mix in non-meat kitchen scraps or other "green" organic matter. Compost can be used next year to condition your soil so that it can absorb more rain water.

Purchase a compost bin and attend a composting workshop hosted by your County Solid Waste Authority, Master Gardeners, or Pennsylvania Resources Council. Mow last, light leaf fall with a mulching mower and leave the fragments in the lawn as mulch for grass plants. Fertilize late fall with a slow-release, organic fertilizer to encourage root development, which will create a healthier, more resilient lawn next year.

Leave faded blossoms on perennials to mature into seedheads to support birds and other wildlife over the winter. Spread lime if the soil test indicates soil is too acidic for turf grass.

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/our-practices.html

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:

Nov. 13 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Dec. 11 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.

Lions Club Pancake Breakfast Nov. 2

The Aston Township Lions Club will host a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 2 from 7:30 a.m. until noon at the Aston Community Center at 3270 Concord Road. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under and children under 2 years are free.

Meal includes scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes, potato puffs, coffee, juice, and milk for children. Ask for seconds.

This is a very important fund raiser for the club. The Lions recently donated excess medical equipment to those in desperate need in Africa. The club provides medical equipment (at no charge) to members of the public, scholarships, supports local teams, and provides numerous eye exams each year.

There are other donations to Beacon Lodge Blind Camp and Camp Kirby for the Deaf.

If anyone in the community has light weight wheel chairs in operating condition, that they are willing to donate to the Lions Club, please call Anthony at 610-368-3435.

Historical Society to Host Event Nov. 13

An early start to the Holiday Season can be found in Aston Township Historical Society's closing of their 2014 season with two very special guests from Concord Township Historical Society on Thursday, November 13!

Al Eelman and Ed Keane will present a talk on "When The Railway Came To Concord". Al and Ed will share their information and pictures on the railways between 1857-1972. This local railway even transported troops during WWII and was also used to ship mushrooms from this area to Philadelphia.

Please join Aston Historical for a fun and interesting "train ride" to history on Thursday November 13 at 7 p.m. at the Aston Township Municipal Build-

ing located on Pennell Road, just south of 5 Points, next to TD Bank, rear entrance. The event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. The Society welcomes old photos, donations and volunteers.

Bagged Leaf Collection Program

The Public Works Department will begin picking up bagged leaves in October and through December 19.

Pick up will be on normal trash days and leaves must be placed in biodegradable bags or in cans and placed at the curb. The Township will provide seniors with five biodegradable bags at no cost. Bags will be available for purchase in the Township building from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Cost is \$1.50 for five bags.

Penn Delco Seniors Trip

There will be a trip on Dec. 17 to Bristle Riverside Theater for the Christmas show, Christmas light tour and time to shop. Cost is \$86 and is due by Nov. 20.

For more information and reservations, please call Alice at 610-494-3534. Penn Delco Aston Seniors and non-members are always welcome to participate.

Sun Valley Bag Bingo Nov. 5

Sun Valley Class of 2017 will host Coach Bag Bingo at the Aston Community Center on Wednesday, November 5, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Doors open at 6. Cost is \$30/pp in advance \$35/pp at door (if available).

Ticket includes 10 games, door prizes by Vera Bradley, 50/50, raffle baskets, and concession stand. Extra game cards will also be available for purchase. Contact Kirsten Connolly 610-485-5950 for advance tickets.

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

Home for the Holidays Nov. 2

Home for the Holidays begins in Aston on November 2, noon to 2 p.m., when Aston Township Historical Society welcomes the public to its annual Holiday Tea, Tour, and Tree Trimming event at the Village Green School House.

This charming one room school house offers a step back in time. Help decorate the Christmas Tree, ring the school bell, enjoy the antique toy display, sit in a replica outhouse, sit at an old fashion desk and put your head through the story board to take pictures, plus free goodies.

Village Green School House is located on Old Pennell Road, just off Pennell Road north of 5 Points next to Aston Veterinary Hospital. The event is free and open to the public. Aston Historical welcomes old photos, donations and volunteers.

Cavalry Church Guided Tours

Cavalry Episcopal Church is conducting free guided tours of their historic cemetery on November 2 from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. The cemetery dates back to the early 1800s. Take a leisurely stroll to meet and learn about our interesting and noted "neighbors." There will be actors depicting the notable "guests" to enhance the guided tour.

The cemetery is located behind this quaint and treasured church on Mount Road just off Pennell Road across from Kings Mill.

This event is free and open to the public. Donations are also welcomed.

This also is a great opportunity for Passport to History students to get their passports stamped.

Dine Out in Aston Nov. 13

The ABA invites you to visit any of the local restaurants/eateries listed on November 13. Proceeds from your meal will help fund activities that help needy families throughout the holiday season. Please support this worthy cause.

Participating restaurants include:

Bruster's, Barnaby's, Capriotti's, Cocco's Pizzeria and Pub, Dairy Queen, Just Ice Cream, Ice Works Café, Ice Works Pub and Grill, Pretzel Boys, and Slow Down Grill Pub.

Thanksgiving Safety Tips

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.

-Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.

-Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.

-Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.

-Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.

-Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.

-Keep knives out of the reach of children.

-Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.

-Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.

-Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.

-Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

Save the Date-

Winter Fun Festival Dec. 5

Save the date for the Winter Fun Festival and Christmas Tree Lighting on Friday, December 5 from 6:30-9 p.m. at the Aston Township Community Center.

November Public Meetings and Special Events

Strategic Plan Meeting

3 p.m. Wednesday, November 5

Parks and Rec Committee Meeting

3 p.m. Thursday, November 6

Work Session Meeting

3 p.m. Wednesday, November 12

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

7 p.m., Tuesday, November 18

Board of Commissioners Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, November 19

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m. Monday, November 24

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

7 p.m. Tuesday, November 25

I Need My Mummy At Neumann

On Thursday, November 6 at 1:30 p.m., Dr. Stephen Phillips will present "I Need My Mummy!" Come explore the science behind ancient Egyptians mummies, how the mummification process developed through time, and how mummies are actually made with Dr. Phillips.

He will explain why they hold such a fascination in popular culture and provide numerous images of actual ancient Egyptian mummies collected during his research. As the research assistant to the curator-in-charge of the Egyptian section of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Dr. Phillips has participated in archaeological excavations in Jordan, France and Egypt specializing in Egyptian mummification techniques and Old Kingdom archaeology of the Giza plateau.

Writing Workshop Nov. 15; Daytime Book Club Nov. 19

Do you have a child who is too young for school? Come to Storytime each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Each week is a different theme, books, activities, movement and music.

Get your baby ready to read! Infant Storytime for babies up to 24 months old is on Mondays at 10 a.m. The program contains stories and other activities such as fingerplays, music, parachute play, and bubbles, followed by 15 minutes of play time.

Support the library and get a chance to win with our new raffle with prizes a variety of items related to the movie "Frozen." Proceeds from the raffle go to the Friends of the Library. Tickets are one for \$2, three for \$5, or seven for \$10. The drawing for the winner will be December 18.

Free Chair Yoga is continuing. Go to the Calendar at www.astonlibrary.org for more information and a schedule.

The Friends of the Aston Public Library are holding a special writing workshop for teens with author Joyce Magnin on Saturday, November 15. The event is for middle and high school students. The fee for the event is only \$5 and a parental permission form is required. Go to www.astonlibrary.org for more information.

Join in the daytime book club, sponsored by Senior Community Services. The next meeting is Wednesday, November 19 at 11:30 a.m. featuring the book *Unbroken* by Elin Hilderbrand. This is a relaxed discussion of a book chosen by the group, please be sure to read the book before the discussion.

You can now purchase Friends of the Library T-shirts and bags to show your support of the library. These are available at the service desk at the library.

Go to the calendar at www.astonlibrary.org to get more information about activities offered at the library this Fall or to Join the Friends of the Library! 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 the 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.

Bamboo Ordinance Passed

The Township passed an ordinance regulating the planting and growing of bamboo to preserve and protect private and public property from the damaging spread of certain bamboo grasses. This ordinance also protects indigenous plant materials from the invasive spread of running bamboo and maintains the general welfare of the residents of Aston Township.

The ordinance will be effective thirty days from its adoption on October 15. Upon the effective date, the planting or growing of bamboo shall be prohibited within the Township. For more information about this ordinance, visit www.astontownship.net.



Magician Ed Schmitt performing at his show at our library this month.



Marianne Leagans helps shoppers at the Friends of the Library Book Sale this month.



The Friends of the Library are selling t-shirts! Stop by the Library so you can show your love of reading to everyone!

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

To stay informed during emergencies, residents should check cable TV's public access channels for updated postings on Comcast channel 5 and Verizon channel 45, as well as the township website.