



ASTON TOWNSHIP
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FREE!

TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 10 Issue 2 • February 2015

Aston Township Fire Department Sworn In



Board members and officers of the Township Fire Department was sworn in for the first time as a new unit at the January commissioners meeting. The newly created fire department was official as of January 1, 2015.

Aston Township Fire Department is a full service fire protection and emergency medical service public safety agency servicing the citizens of Aston. The merger took ten years of discussion and more than a year of meetings to complete. They are dedicated to the protection of the lives and property of the residents and community, and strive to deliver excellence in our commitment to quick and efficient Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Service response.

“The swearing in of the Aston Township Fire Department officers marked the newest milestone in the history of the fire and EMS service for Aston Township,” said ATFD President Kit Spayd. “We would like to thank the board of commissioners for allowing and supporting this event to take place. We would also like to express our appreciation to President Judge Chad Kenney for performing the swearing in ceremony. The officers, members and employees look forward to continuing the high level of care our residents have come to expect and know from the emergency service personnel of the Aston Township Fire Department Station 17.”

Thomas Massey House to Host Dinner and Lecture this Month

The Thomas Massey House will host a Colonial dinner at 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 14. Guests can enjoy a seasonal colonial style meal served by costumed servers.

On Tuesday, February 24 the Thomas Massey House will host a lecture on the Brandwine Battle by author Mike Davis at 7:30 p.m.

For dinner reservations email thomas.massey.dinners@gmail.com or call 610-353-3644.

Township to Work With Pennoni Associates on Several Initiatives

Aston Township will begin working with Pennoni Associates on several initiatives this year. Included in this are developing a township-wide park and recreation plan, as well as a feasibility analysis for a roundabout at Donnelly Avenue and MacIntyre Drive as part of the traffic calming initiative (see page three for more info); and an update to Aston Township Comprehensive Plan, zoning ordinance, and subdivision land development ordinance.

As part of the Parks and Rec and Amendments ordinances, the Township intends to appoint a citizens advisory committee to assist with development of a Parks and Recreation study. They also intend to appoint a Citizens advisory committee to assist with development of the amendments to the comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, and subdivision land development ordinance.

These are budgeted items and the investment Aston is making to develop the plans are less than the budgeted amount.

Aston Township Offices and Public Works Department will be closed on Monday, February 16. Regular trash collection will resume on Tuesday, February 16.

AARP looking for New Members

If you're looking for a way to use your experience, expertise, talent, and creativity to make your local community a better place to live, and meet some new friends along the way, join your local AARP Chapter.

The Aston Chichester AARP Chapter #3611 is the place. The group generally meets at 10:45 a.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at the Resurrection Episcopal Church at Rockdale located on Mount Rd. in Aston.

For more info, call Membership Chrm., Michael Scott at 267-259-2836.

Sister of St. Francis Open Doors to Public

A sparkling gold cross atop an orange/red dome has attracted many people from near and far to Our Lady of Angels Convent (OLAC), the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia (609 South Convent Rd, Aston, PA 19014-1207).

We know that there are many more people who drive past the convent every day and wonder who and what exist behind those giant doors in the big castle-like structure. Here is your chance to find out. The Sisters of St. Francis invite you to tour the OLAC facility and chapel beginning with the New Year 2015, on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m.

Join us for a short historical presentation and a tour of the first floor buildings and chapel, followed by light refreshments and time for questions and answers. Your hosts will be Sr. Kathleen Parisi, OSF, and several other sisters who live at the motherhouse.

In order to prepare for our guests, we ask that you call the receptionist at (610) 459-4125 to provide your name, phone number in case we have to cancel, and the number of family or friends who will attend. If this is not a good day for you, you can call Sr. Kathleen Parisi at (610) 558-7714 to select a date and time for a group

tour for at least six people. Tours may be scheduled Monday through Friday.

Substitute Crossing Guards Needed

Aston Township is looking for substitute crossing guards. Guards must be willing and able to work in all types of weather and high traffic areas. This position requires a criminal background check and Child Abuse Clearances. Salary is \$12.83 per hour and applications can be picked up at Aston Township Police Department, 5021 Pennell Road, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Pothole Patrol

Thank you for being a concerned citizen! Help us help you by reporting a roadway maintenance request at www.astontownship.net.

The Aston Township Public Works Department is committed to providing a timely response to your request. Our goal is to remedy the situation within 24 to 48 hours then follow up with an email when the repair has been completed.

Please note that following certain weather events and extended periods of extreme temperature, reporting volume is likely to be very high. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Please complete the form online and enter as much detail as possible, especially for the location.

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.

Smoke Detectors Available

The Aston Township Fire Department has smoke detectors available, just call the station. Fire Department members will come out and ensure proper installation of the smoke detector.

Meals on Wheels Looking for Volunteers

Aston Meals on Wheels, serves Aston, Brookhaven and Parkside five days a week. Meals on Wheels needs your help for just 1-2 hours a month or a week to assist with delivery of meals to our home bound seniors.

If you are interested in this worthy cause, please call Joan Hanlon at 610-485-2729.

Sun Valley Craft Fair

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for Sun Valley High School Spring Craft Fair! This is a great event to do some spring shopping and support our Parent Teacher League as well as local crafters and vendors. All profits go towards scholarships for our students as well as student events and donations.

There will be raffles and refreshments and admission is free.

Enjoy a wide variety of crafts including Easter treats, glitter wine glasses, woodworking, gift baskets, salsas, vinyl decorations, photography, personalized blankets, tutus, bows, jewelry, cake pops, fudge, and so much more.

New Business

Eileen Bailey was promoted to a full-time employee in the Code Department; John Marchlik was appointed to a four year term on the Aston Planning Commission; Jennifer Mancini was appointed to a five year term on the Aston Board of Health; Bernadette Zeleznick was appointed to a three year term on the Aston Public Library Board of Trustees; Lester Berry was appointed to a four year term on the Aston Veterans Memorial Garden; Tom Agnew was appointed to a four year term on the Southwest Delaware County Municipal Authority; Donald Miller was appointed to the Zoning

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

Hearing Board for a five year term; and Sister Corrine Wright was appointed to a four year term on the Aston Planning Commission.

Delaware County Symphony Chamber Concert February 8

The Delaware County Symphony will host a Chamber Concert on Sunday, February 8 at Neumann University.

The concert will include Johann Sebastian Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 4 in G major, BWV 1049*, Bohuslav Martinu's *Trio for flute, cello, and piano* and Darius Millhaud's *La Cheminee du Roi*.

For tickets or more information, please call 610-879-7059 or visit www.dcsmusic.org.

Traffic Calming Policy

The Traffic Calming Policy reflects the commitment of Aston Township to address a wide range of community goals and objectives, which include transportation mobility, efficiency and safety. While our community strives to be more sustainable and livable, a comprehensive traffic calming program will help harmonize transportation mobility with other community values.

Aston Township's Traffic Calming Policy is designed to address traffic concerns in residential areas of the Township, such as speeding or cut-through traffic. The Township's traffic calming program, working in cooperation with neighborhoods, promotes the preservation of the residential character of the Township's neighborhoods and helps to improve the overall quality of life.

The Traffic Calming Program incorporates the following goals:

- Create safe and attractive streets;
- Reduce the negative effects of motor vehicles on the environment; and
- Increase the quality of life in the Township.

Traffic calming goals should be developed with specific objectives planned on an area-wide basis. These traffic calming goals are achieved by including the following objectives:

- Achieve safe, slow speeds for motor vehicles;
- Reduce transient traffic;
- Improve the safety and the perception of safety on the street;
- Reduce and redirect the need for traffic police enforcement; and
- Reduce crash frequency and severity.

The Township's traffic calming goals and objectives are achieved by meeting minimum criteria in established principles and planning concepts to ensure proper implementation. The traffic calming principles are therefore achieved by adopting the following:

Traffic calming planning and development process must be community-based and supported;

- Traffic calmed streets must incorporate a degree of self-enforcement of motor vehicle speeds through the design of physical features;
- Traffic calming must directly affect driver behavior; and
- Traffic calming must improve the safety of the street for all roadway users, including pedestrians and bicyclists.

Township Mourns Death of Former Commissioner

The Aston Township Board of Commissioners and the residents of the township are saddened to learn of the death of former 4th ward Commissioner Robert S. Willoughby.

Our condolences go out to Bob's wife Jacquelyn, his daughters Wendy and Jodi, and son-in law, David.

Bob was appointed Commissioner of the 4th ward in October 1999 when he filled the unexpired term of Commissioner Bill Welch. He was then elected and served as 4th ward commissioner until 2006.

Over the years, Bob served Aston

February Public Meetings and Special Events

Strategic Plan Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, February 4

Parks and Rec Committee Meeting

7 p.m. Thursday, February 5

Work Session Meeting

3 p.m. Wednesday, February 11

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

7 p.m., Tuesday, February 17

Board of Commissioners Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, February 18

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

7 p.m., Tuesday, February 24

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, February 25

Township in many capacities, including as a member of the Penn-Delco School Board, on the Aston Township Lions Club, where he was past president; the Aston Township Memorial Garden Fund Raising Committee; and most recently, as a member of the Township Zoning Hearing Board.

Bob played a key role in modernizing the concession stand, which bears his name, as well as rest room facilities at the Sun Valley High School athletic field.

He played an active role in the construction of the Aston Lions Club headquarters on Gamble Lane and continued his service with the organization until his passing.

In addition, Bob was an active member of the Delaware County Field and Stream Association. Bob was a very kind man who gave back to the community in many ways. We are very grateful for his service and celebrate his life.

Free Kids Concert Feb. 25; Special Friends Book Sale Feb. 28

Makin' Music will be visiting for a special FREE concert for the kids at the Library on Wednesday, February 25 at 6:30 p.m. Their live performances are interactive and lively. The performers develop a rapport with the audience with their mix of high-spirited, catchy tunes that have everyone clapping and dancing.

The Friends of the Library will be holding a special book sale on Saturday, February 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most items \$2 or less and all proceeds to Friends of the Library.

Do you have a child who is too young for school? Come to one of Ms. Nancy's storytimes at the library. The storytime for toddlers and preschoolers is Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. The storytime for babies up to 24 months is on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. Register through the calendar at www.astonlibrary.org.

The library thanks the Penn-Delco School District for its generous gift of books for young people this year!

Kids in grades K-8 can enter our Annual Bookmark Design Contest. An entry form can be picked up at the library service desk. Winners in each grade get prizes and the honor of having their bookmarks displayed and distributed at the library. Entries must be turned in to the library service desk by February 16.

You have until February 23 to enter the raffle for a football signed by LeSean McCoy. You can get one ticket for \$2, three for \$5, or seven for \$10. Come see the prize in our display case and pick up a ticket at the service desk.

Free Chair Yoga is returning to the library on Tuesday afternoons starting February 24. Go to the calendar at www.astonlibrary.org for more information and a schedule.

You can now purchase Friends of the Library T-shirts and bags at the service desk in the library to show your support of the library!

Join the Friends of the Library. Go to 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 February 17.

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.

Historical Society to Meet This Month

The Aston Township Historical Society meets in February, May, September and November with an interesting speaker each time. Meetings are held on the second Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Aston Township Municipal Building, 5021 Pennell Road.

The Aston Township Historical Society has a Museum Display Room in the Aston Community Center/Library on Concord Road. It is open on Monday and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. It is filled with old photos from floor to ceiling, and has many other great nostalgia items.

Membership dues are: \$10 individual; \$25 family; or \$50 per business. For further information, call Pat Smith at 610-494-4707.



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



Ms. Nancy, the Children's Program Coordinator, at work.

CRC To Host Stream Clean up April 25

The 18th Annual CRC Stream Clean up will be held on Saturday, April 25. Last year 574 volunteers removed 31,335 pounds of trash along the Chester, Ridley and Crum Creeks.

This year, CRC hopes to surpass 600,000 pounds of debris removed from our natural areas with the hard work of thousands of volunteers and strong support from our sponsors.

For more information, visit www.crcwatersheds.org.

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.