



ASTON TOWNSHIP
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TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

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Commissioner McGinn Recognized for 36 Years of Service

The Delaware County Association of Township Commissioners honored a number of commissioners with service awards for long-time service and Aston Township Commissioner James McGinn was presented with a service award. For McGinn, 2015 marks 36 years of service to the Aston Community, and in particular, the Fifth Ward. He first ran for office in 1979, and has served nine terms since.

McGinn was also honored at the June Commissioners Meeting. He has been a representative of all the people of the Fifth Ward, children, adults, and seniors alike, available and accessible to their needs. President Stigale presented him with a plaque honoring his accomplishments.

Over his years as a Commissioner, McGinn has been a loyal promotor of sports programs in Aston, and during times of distress, has mustered community support to ensure their survival. He has chaired or served on far too many Township Committees to even mention during his long tenure and has worked hard to make life better for all Township residents.

Outside of the Township, he is a past President and Executive Committee member of the Delaware County, Eastern Pennsylvania, and Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners. Currently, he serves as Chairman of the U-Comp Unemployment Compensation Trust, as well as Chairman of the Aston Township Police and Non-Uniform Employee Pension Plan.



President Stigale presents Commissioner McGinn with a plaque recognizing him for 36 years of service to the Fifth Ward and Aston Township.

Hockey Team Coming to Aston

The North American Hockey League Board of Governors recently approved the relocation of Rio Grande Killer Bees to Aston! The team will be known as the Aston Rebels starting with the 2015-2016 season.

The Rebels, a part of the NAHL's new Eastern Division, will play their home games at Ice Works. The NAHL is one of the top junior ice hockey leagues in the United States and features amateur players between the ages of 16-20.

Independence Day Celebration

Aston Township Board of Commissioners is happy to announce they will be hosting the 2015 Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks display on Saturday, July 4th behind Sun Valley High School.

The party will start at 7 p.m. with a DJ, so if you would like to get there early and get a good seat, there will be entertainment. The fireworks show will begin at dusk, around 9:15 p.m. and refreshments will be served in the Green Ridge Fire Company's parking lot.

Please bring lawn chairs due to the wet conditions of the Sun Valley fields. Come out and join the Aston community in celebrating the 4th of July and the beautiful firework display that comes with it!

Summer Concerts Continue!

The Aston Township Parks & Recreation Committee Hometown Concert Series continues through August! Last years program was a great success and we have even bigger plans this year.

All Hometown Summer Concert Series events will be held at the Aston Township Community Center starting at 7 p.m. (no rainedates). Most concerts will be outdoor concert events, so lawn chairs are welcome.

July 13 will feature the South Philly Spring Band; July 27: Archie Lane's Big Band (indoor concert); and August 10: Tim Carroll.



Aston Township Offices and Public Works Department will be closed on Friday, July 3. All trash and recycling will be picked up Thursday, July 2.

Sister of St. Francis Open Doors to Public

The Sisters of St. Francis invite you to tour the OLAC facility and chapel 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 and 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.

Public Works, Working for You

The Public Works department is close to filling all of the potholes leftover from this winter. In May, they filled 56 potholes with one ton of asphalt.

In addition to this, they have also picked up 545 tons of refuse and 134 tons of recycled material. They are also working on installing the new Township signs!

Together Again... Danny Murtaugh & Mickey Vernon

A museum exhibit will be held in the Delaware County Historical Society Museum and Research Library, 408 Avenue of The States, Chester, PA. Open Wednesday through Saturday, call for times, 610-872-0502. The exhibit runs through October 31. Additional information can be found on the Mickey Vernon Museum's website www.mickeyvernonmuseum.com. Exhibit curator Jim Vankoski, vankoski21@comcast.net or 610-909-4919.

Rockdale Art Center Now Open In Aston

Rockdale Arts Center in Aston is now open for classes. They will offer a variety of youth, adult and BYOB classes. For more information visit: www.rockdaleartcenter.com/.

Aston residents get a 10% discount on classes with the code ASTON10 when they register online.



Aston Township Acquires Three Properties from County Repository

The Township has acquired three properties located in the second ward from the Delaware County repository for the sum of \$122.50 each, which includes the sale price of \$1 and filing fees.

The properties located on Mount Road, Lenni Road and Aston Mills/Mount Road have been abandoned by their previous owners with no bids being received at the judicial upset sale.

The properties were recently transferred to 2nd Ward Commissioner Carol Graham on behalf of the township from County Council.

"It is the belief of the board of commissioners that when possible, acquiring land to remain as open space is very important," Graham said. "In addition, it helps the township to eliminate abandoned properties."

Pictured is Commissioner Graham with members of Delaware County Council.

Grants Helping to Beautify Aston

The Township is applying for several grants to offset, or cover the cost of improving public areas around Aston.

A grant application was submitted to

the DCED for the Newsom Pond Park project.

A grant application was submitted to the DEP for repairs/improvements to storm water basins in the township.

Another grant application was submitted to PENNDOT for the construction of roundabouts at Concord Road and Donnelly Ave and Concord Road and McIntyre Drive.

If these grant applications are approved, these projects will begin construction in 2016.

Recent Business

There were recent promotions for the hard working employees in the Public Works Department. Russ Palmore was promoted to the position of Director of Public Works; William Sarosy was promoted to the position of Public Works Foreman; and Bud Kolanchy was promoted to the position of Public Works Assistant. These positions are all effective July 1.



Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts Hold Flag Retirement Ceremony

The Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts along with American Legion Post 926 of Aston Township conducted a flag retirement ceremony at the Green Ridge Firehouse on Saturday, June 13. Many families throughout the township attended and brought their old flags for a proper retirement. At this ceremony the American Legion Post 926 also honored the Missing POW's with a small ceremony as well. Pictured above is Commissioner and Veteran Jon A.

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

Firlein assisting the scouts with the proper retirement of the flags.

Penn-Delco School District Unites to Support #TeamCameron

When Cameron McCarthy, 7, was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer in May, her school district and local community rallied around her in support.

McCarthy was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer where cancerous tumors grow in the bones, or the tissue surrounding the bones.

In addition to the local community, the police and fire departments have joined #TeamCameron. They have hosted fundraising events, and offered support to her family.

Bracelets are being sold and car decals are available featuring Cameron's team logos, #TeamCameron and "Fight Like a Girl."

To learn more about Cameron's journey, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/teamcameron111>. There are numerous events scheduled in the coming weeks.

Stormwater Basin Restoration

Over the years, stormwater management basins have been constructed throughout the Township as neighborhood developments occurred. In the intervening years, little, if any maintenance on the basins has been done. As engineers, planners and environmentalists studied the impact that stormwater basins had on the environment, a body of knowledge developed. This work has led to a better understanding of the functioning of these basins and the water courses they flow into.

The Board of Commissioners believes that the residents of Aston would best be served if the stormwater basins could be enhanced to take advantage of this knowledge and directed the Township Engineer to prepare a study of each basin to determine what type

of work would be required to enhance each basin. The engineer completed the report and presented it to the Board of Commissioners. The stormwater basin report is available on the Aston website.

The enhancements will improve the quality of the basins in order to sustain suitable control of stormwater runoff. The improvements will reduce future flooding and mitigate potential pollutants from impervious and altered land surfaces from entering water courses. Properly functioning basins will help sustain stream base flow and prevent increased frequency of streambank erosion.

The Board of Commissioners authorized a Growing Greener grant application administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to implement all of the proposed improvements to the stormwater management basins within the Township. The grant application will be in the amount of \$750,000. If the grant is funded by DEP, the work will be designed and implemented in 2016.

Stay Safe this Fourth of July Recommended Safety Tips

- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult SHOULD supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks OUTDOORS in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Never carry fireworks in your POCKET or shoot them into METAL or GLASS

July Public Meetings and Special Events

Strategic Planning Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, July 1

Parks and Rec Committee Meeting

7 p.m. Thursday, July 2

Work Session Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, July 8

New Construction Committee Meeting

6:30 p.m. Monday, July 13

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

7 p.m., Tuesday, July 16

Board of Commissioners Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, July 15

Vision/Comprehensive Plan Meeting

7 p.m. Monday, July 20

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, July 22

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

7 p.m., Tuesday, July 28

containers.

- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- FAA regulations PROHIBIT the possession and transportation of fireworks in your checked baggage or carry-on luggage.
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the fire or police department.

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

Summer Reading Continues; Classes Start; and a New Superhero Contest

Our summer reading club "EVERY HERO HAS A STORY." 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. More than 50 kids attended our kickoff program with Megan Hicks, Origami Swami, on June 17.

The free 1 p.m. Wednesday kids shows will continue throughout the summer:

July 8: Sciencetellers featuring exciting stories using science experiments.

July 15: Dave from Segal Puppets with a puppet drama for the kids.

July 22: Magician Ed Schmitt will enchant the kids.

July 29: Storyteller Vicky Town will spin fun and educational tales.

August 5: Mr. Don from Classroom Adventures will feature the kids in his exciting stories, including special effects.

The Library is holding a Design Your Own Superhero contest for its young patrons. Kids of all ages are eligible. An entry form can be obtained at the Library or at www.astonlibrary.org on the web. Just bring your child's entry (with the child's information on the back) to the library's service desk by August 10th to be considered. Winners of the contest will have their entries displayed at the Library.

Library Quest -- Get to know your local libraries better by going on a quest. This program involves traveling to various Delaware County libraries to participate in fun activities and is suitable for all ages. Our activities are about the power of air. Various items will be used to showcase how air creates power. Depending on the week you visit our library, you may use air to keep cool (make a fan), fly (paper helicopters), spin (pinwheels), test wind direction (wind sock), play a game (bubbles or balloons) or bounce (inflate a beach ball).

Our Library Quest Station is located in the northeast corner of the library. Each family uses one booklet to take around to other libraries to do their activities. Each time an activity is finished at a library, the team booklet is stamped to show completion. Booklets should be returned to the library where the game was started by 5 p.m. on Friday, July 31. If you complete the quest, your family can win a prize.

On Tuesday, July 21 at 1 p.m. at the Library, Colonial Plantation Presents: George Washington's Time featuring the book, *John, Paul, George & Ben* by Lane Smith. Your children can learn the story of five of the Founding Fathers of American independence: John Hancock, Paul Revere, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson from an expert on the time period.

Free Basic Crochet Class for ages 12 and up on Tuesday, July 21 at 11 a.m. Linda Sivilich will teach a free beginning class in Crochet. Yarn and crochet hooks will be provided as you learn to crochet a scarf. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/astonadultevents>.

Jewelry Making Class starts July 28 at 6:30 p.m. Linda Sivilich will teach us to make a beautiful pair of earrings. Cost of the program is \$15 for supplies. Bring your friends and make it a girl's night out. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/astonadultevents>.

Come check out the Friends of the Library's Crayola Raffle. The prize is a variety of coloring items for your child. Chances are only \$2 each or 3 for \$5. All proceeds benefit the library. The winner will be drawn August 27. 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.

Join the Friends of the Library. Go to www.astonlibrary.org and click on "Join Our Friends" to send in your info.

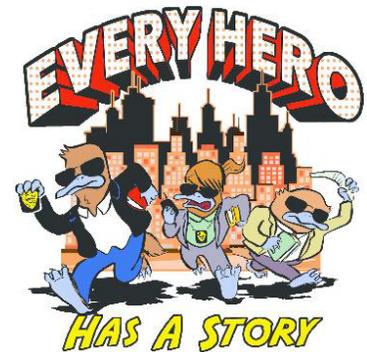
The library is still looking for volunteers to help with work like calling patrons, putting books in order, and delivering flyers and posters. Pick up an application at the library or go to: <http://tinyurl.com/APLVolApp> to submit one online.

The Aston Public Library Board of Trustees will meet at the library at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21.

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 Sciencetellers at work!



The logo for this year's Summer Reading Theme; Every Hero Has a Story!



Coloring contest winner Emily Burns, age 7, and her winning entry.