



ASTON TOWNSHIP
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TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

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Neumann University Celebrates 50 Years



President Stigale presents President Dr. Rosalie and Tony Mirenda with a proclamation celebrating Neumann University's 50 year anniversary.

Neumann University is celebrating 50 years this year. Our Lady of Angels College opened its doors in September, 1965 with a total enrollment of 115 female students and seven faculty members. The only building on campus at the time was the Bachmann Main Building, which only held 1,500 people, more than 13 times the student population.

The Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia opened their college debt free, by raising the money themselves. They even recorded an album of their favorite songs to sell for \$5. The enrollment grew from 1965 to 1980, when the name was changed to Neumann College in honor of St. John Neumann. It was also the year the college began to admit men and residence halls were built in 1997, 1999, and 2002.

The first graduate program, Pastoral Counseling, was approved in 1983 and led the way for new master's degree programs. In April 2009, the college received approval to operate as a University, the culmination of Neumann's transformation. Today Neumann has more than

12,000 living alumni, more than thirty academic clubs, and honor societies and its enrollment stands at more than 3,000 full and part-time students. In the words of Dr. Rosalie Mirenda, President of Neumann, "The Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, courageous and humble, set an example for us all 50 years ago. Neumann University moves forward as a work in progress and a labor of love for us all involved."

Gary Junkerman Recognized for 25 Years of Service to Aston



Commissioner Firlein recognizes Gary Junkerman for 25 years of service to Aston Township. Also pictured is Public Works Superintendent Russ Palmore.

Aston Township recognized Public Works employee Gary Junkerman at the February Commissioners meeting for his 25 years of service. Junkerman has worked in many different capacities as a Public Works and Sanitation employee.

"Gary has always been very helpful with any snow emergency that has befallen the township," said Commissioner Jon Firlein. "We thank you for your 25 years of service."



A young Easter Egg hunter tries to taste an egg a bit early at last year's Easter Egg Hunt.



Kindergarten Registration Open

Kindergarten registration for the 2015-2016 school year at St. Francis de Sales School is currently open to all families in the community.

St. Francis de Sales School is also accepting registrations for incoming grades 1-7 for the upcoming academic year. An open house is held every third Friday of the month from 9-10 a.m. for interested families.

Registration forms can be downloaded online at www.sfdaston.org.

New Gateway Sign Design Selected

You might notice new signs welcoming you to Aston soon! Twenty-one students from Adam Nancarrow's class at Sun Valley High School submitted potential designs for the new sign. David Dawson was selected as the winner and his sign will display at various entry points into Aston!

Easter Egg Hunt Slated for March 28

Come out for the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28 at 10 a.m. at the Aston Township Community Center. The hunt will feature areas for children for three age groups, 0-3; 4-7; and 8-12.

No registration is required and the Easter Bunny will be available for hugs and pictures after the hunt! Rain date for this event is Saturday, April 4 at 10 a.m.

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

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, OSE, 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.

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.

Aston Sports Hall of Fame Banquet March 11

The Aston Sports Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on Wednesday, March 11 at the King's Mill. Social hour will begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

This year's inductees are Claire Nuyannes, promoter; Bob "Soup" Campbell, multiple sports; Bob "Buck" Harron, softball; Kim McKee Hess, rodeo barrel rider; Jeff O'Flynn, coach; Brad Messick and Ryan Smith, football; Peg Swallow McLaughlin, softball/golf; Karen Hargadon Daly, basketball; Jim McCleafe, lacrosse; Ted Woolery Jr., swimming; Kirk McCullogh, official; and Nick Trainer and Bob Yurko, Lifetime Achievement Award Winners.

The 2015 Butch Ryan Scholar Athlete Award Winners are Joshua Lehrberger and Alexandra Viscusi.

For tickets please contact Rob Locklear at 610-675-6674 or rjlocklear@aol.com; Bob Harron at 610-485-7377 or buckharron@gmail.com; or Nancy Sipple at 610-494-1705 or siphoops56@hotmail.com.

Local Tax Return Due April 15

It's that time of year again. Your 2014 local earned income tax return is due on April 15.

Did you know the quickest way to get your refund is to file online? If you live and work in Pennsylvania, you can e-file on our tax administrator's secure website, which is available 24/7 at www.keystonecollects.com.

Keystone Collections Group's e-file is the easy, fast and secure way to file your 2014 tax return. It lets you file your tax return when it is most convenient for you. You will need your W-2, your Social Security Number and any other income documents that may apply (such as a PA-UE or a Schedule C).

Please note that the forms changed this year. If you will be claiming an out-of-state tax credit or if you work in Philadelphia, you may be eligible for a local earned income tax credit up to the amount you owe to your resident municipality. The worksheet on the back of the form will help you calculate your out-of-state tax credit (attach a copy of your out-of-state filing).

If you have questions regarding local tax filing, call Keystone's Taxpayer Helpline at 1-888-328-0565 to speak with a local, knowledgeable Taxpayer Service Agent. You can also email your questions to "Taxpayer Support" at www.keystonecollects.com.

Taxpayers with earned income in 2014 are required to file a tax return by Wednesday, April 15.

Juliano Brothers Return to St. Joseph's March 21

The Knights of Columbus, Fr. James A. Donnelly Council are bringing back The Juliano Brothers to St. Joseph's Parish in Aston on March 21.

The Juliano Brothers know how to party and their highly entertaining and energetic delivery of some of the

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

greatest songs ever written has kept the group on top for many years.

Remember to mark your calendar for March 21! The Juliano Brothers will perform in Degnan Hall at the Church of Saint Joseph, 3255 Concord Road, Aston. Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the band will start playing at 8 p.m. Cover charge is \$18 per person and there will be a cash bar and bar food available for purchase.

For reservations, please contact Joe Zack at 610-888-4767 or jazl030@aol.com or contact Gary Robinson at 610-476-9907. Must be 21 or older to attend.

Public Works, Working for You

Spring is on the way, and the Public Works department has started cleaning up local parks in preparation.

In addition to this, it has also picked up 367 tons of refuse and 141 tons of recycled material in January. It also filled 150 potholes and used 2.7 tons of asphalt.

Recycling Helps Keep Sanitation Fees Static

Recycling is working in Aston Township. Since single stream recycling began in 2012, the amount of recycling tonnage has increased by 62.9% to 1,549 tons in 2014. The revenue from the sale of the recycled waste, along with the cost avoidance of not disposing of recycled waste in the landfill, has saved Aston residents more than \$176,950 over the past three years. This has also helped to keep the sanitation fee the same in 2014 and 2015.

New Business

Mike Panco was appointed to a four year term to the Aston Planning Commission; Kristen Evans and John Zwiercan were each appointed to a five year term on the Aston Board of Health; and Madelyn Bush was appointed to a three year term to the Aston Library Board.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Committee Formed

Aston has formed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan Committee that will work with the administration and the Township Engineer, Pennoni Associates, to assess the recreation and park needs of Aston and develop a plan to meet these needs.

The master plan will be the basis for improving Aston's park system and recreation programming. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 4 at 7 p.m. in the Municipal Building. Any resident who is interested in service on the committee is invited to attend the meeting.

Afternoon of Irish Dancing March 5

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with traditional Irish dancing and music at Neumann University on Thursday, March 5. The McDade Cara School of Irish Dance will perform in the Meagher Theater at 1:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be served after the program. General admission \$8 and free for Neumann students and staff with ID, and Cultural Arts Forum members.

Sun Valley High School to Perform *The Music Man*

Sun Valley Theater will present Meredith Wilson's *The Music Man* Thursday, March 12 through Saturday, March 14. Performances will be every evening at 7 p.m. with a 2 p.m. matinee showing on Saturday. For more information visit svhstheater.org.

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.

March Public Meetings and Special Events

Strategic Plan Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, March 4

Parks and Rec Committee Meeting

7 p.m. Thursday, March 5

New Construction Meeting

2 p.m. Monday, March 9

Work Session Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, March 11

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

7 p.m., Tuesday, March 17

Board of Commissioners Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, March 18

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

7 p.m., Tuesday, March 24

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, March 25

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.

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.

Aston Library BINGO Event March 21!

Mark your calendar for a big BINGO event at the Library on Saturday, March 21! Doors will open at 5 p.m. and admission is only \$20 with all cash prizes. The event will be operated by our Friends of the Library volunteers and proceeds will support the Library.

Tyler Arboretum will be visiting the Library on Thursday, March 12 for two programs:

-At 10:30 a.m. there will be a special nature discovery storytime for preschool kids. The program will feature props, interactive hands-on activities, group participation and more.

-At 3:45 p.m. there will be a hands-on nature program for school aged kids. The kids will learn about local Kapok trees—the mighty Oaks. Explore the amazing amount of wildlife that it supports in our forests – everything from butterflies and moths to squirrels and birds. Also featuring other reasons why trees are important!

Register for children's programs at <http://tinyurl.com/astonkidsevents>.

Come check out the Friends of the Library's amazing Easter raffle basket in the Library display case. Chances are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

The next FREE Senior Community Services Book Club with Dianne C. is Wednesday March 18 at 11:30 a.m. at the Library. The book for March will be *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. Please read the book before the discussion. New members are welcome.

Free chair yoga will be back on Saturday mornings starting in April. Space is limited, so register through the events calendar at www.astonlibrary.org if you would like to attend!

The Library is collecting entries for the Young Poets Of Delaware County Poetry Competition! The deadline is **March 27**. Prizes will include publication in a booklet for all first, second, and third place winners. Entries must be original poems typed or neatly written on 8 1/2" by 11" paper; no odd size or construction paper, please. Each entry must include student's name, address, home phone number, grade, school and school district. No entries will be returned. Only one poem per student may be entered. Poems will be judged by grade level and students in grades K-12 may enter.

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.

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 the 17th.

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



Second grader Trevor Smith's winning entry from the Library's coloring contest.

Dine Out In Aston March 19

Dine out in Aston on Thursday, March 19 to benefit Sun Valley High School Post Prom. The Post Prom provides a safe environment for students after the prom.

Dine Out or Take Out at one of the Aston Business Association participating sponsors and they will donate a portion of your bill to the Post Prom Committee. Participating members include Aston Dairy Queen, Aston Bruster's, Aston Cocco's, IceWorks Pub & Grill, IceWorks Café, Just Ice Cream, Pretzel Boys, Pet-Kraze (pets eat too!). This year Dynamic Physical Therapy is offering Fall Risk and Functional Movement assessments.

Be sure to tell your server that you are there to support SVHS Post Prom. These businesses are showing their dedication and loyalty to the community. Reward them with your patronage while helping our young people at the same time.

For more information, visit Astonba.com, pdsd.org and astontownship.net.