



ASTON TOWNSHIP
Established 1688

FREE

TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 11 Issue 7 • July 2016



Jax stands with partner Mikell Jones and Chief Ruggieri to accept his proclamation from Commissioner McGinn.

Independence Day Celebration

Aston Township Board of Commissioners is happy to announce that they will be hosting the 2016 Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks display on Monday, July 4 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!

Farmers Market Every Tuesday

Come out to the new Aston Township Farmers Market at the Valley View Shopping Center every Tuesday, from 3-7 p.m. through September.

The Farmers Market features fruit, vegetables, baked goods, BBQ and more!

Police K-9 Jax Retires after Eight Years of Service to Community

Many groups from Aston were on hand to celebrate the retirement of Aston Police K-9 Jax. He has been a part of the community for eight years and was well loved.

Jax was born in Slovakia in 2007 and began his service with the Aston Police Department on May 15, 2008. He completed extensive training in patrol duty, narcotics detection, and tracking skills. Jax has put his life on the line to protect his fellow officers and the community. Over the last 8 years of service with his partner, Officer Mikell Jones, he has assisted many law enforcement agencies at the local, state, and federal level.

During his career, Jax has detected and located more than 50 pounds of marijuana, 8 kilos of heroin, 5 kilos of cocaine, 9 firearms and more than \$550,000 in illegal drug money. He prevented assaults on fellow officers and deterred criminal behavior.

Jax has also endeared himself to the community. He was a regular guest in schools, local events, and area canine demonstrations where his easy manner and friendliness were appreciated by all.

"I appreciate everyone's help and support. It's going to be difficult to go to work without him," said Officer Jones. "He's made a huge difference in my life and this police department."



Commissioner McGinn presents Officer Joseph Hart with a proclamation recognizing his Officer of the Year Award.

Joseph Hart Named Officer of the Year

Officer Joseph Hart was named Officer of the Year by his fellow officers and honored by the Aston Township Lions Club at the Liberty Baptist Church on May 5.

Hart was nominated by his fellow officers, not for one specific event, but for the many contributions and sacrifices he makes on a daily basis. Hart's high ethical and moral principles, along with his exemplary job performance are just many of the reasons why he was chosen for this honor and why he is respected among his peers. He is

a shining example of what a Police Officer should be in today's society and why he is truly an asset to the Aston Township Police Department. Hart received a donation of \$250 to the Aston Police Department in his name.

Summer Concert Series Continues July 11 & 25

The Hometown Concert Series is rocking Aston this Summer! The Rockdale Boys continue the fun on July 11, July 25 features Tim Carroll, and August 8 features Archie Lane/Big Band.

There is no rain date for the outdoor concert and residents are welcome to bring lawn chairs. All concert events are dollar dog



nights!

St. Francis de Sales School Closes Doors after 121 Years



Students, faculty and staff bid farewell to their "little school on the hill."

This week marked the end of an era of Franciscan elementary education in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia at St. Francis de Sales in southern Delaware County. The last school bell rang at noon on Thursday, June 16.

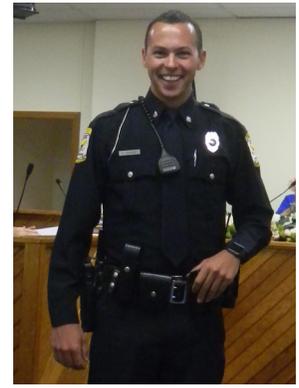
The school was founded in 1895 when three Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia arrived via horse and buggy to a small church on New Road in Aston, PA. For 121 years, the Sisters and faculty of St. Francis strived to instill the Franciscan ideals of excellence, building relationships and service in each child who passed through the halls of the "little school on the hill."

Since receiving the news that their school would be closing, the faculty, staff and parent volunteers continued to work together to make the last few months a nurturing

and loving environment for all the children. The students were able to showcase their academic talents in the Delaware County Science Fair, Pennsylvania Middle School Computer Fair, and the Archdiocesan Arts Festival. Such support also inspired the children to sing and dance into the hearts of the St. Francis families during their Annual Spring Concert at Neumann University.

The closing events began the second week in June to honor the memory of St. Francis de Sales School as the students and teachers gathered on Tuesday, June 14 on the grounds of the school to bury a time capsule. Kindergarten through eighth grade each chose an item representative of a story of St. Francis de Sales School. Items such as a Franciscan cross, No Uniform Today "NUT" passes, a year book, the school mission statement and class photos were placed in a box to be buried at the foot of the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the school landscape. It was the students' hope that future generations may find the artifacts and appreciate the school that was known as the "heart of the community."

On the final day the school had a prayer service to express their thanks for their school and academic year and ask for blessings for the summer. The children received their final report cards and those students that were awarded academic honors were recognized. The administrator, teachers, students and families had hugs and tears for each other as they wished each other well in their transition. Although the students were being redirected to other schools, St. Francis de Sales School would forever be in their hearts. As the doors closed, the principal, sisters, and teachers were comforted that their students would always remember and live the creed of St. Francis de Sales who said, "Be who you are and be that well."



Piraino Named Probation Officer

Thomas Piraino was appointed as a full-time probationary officer at the June Commissioners Meeting. He begins his new position July 2 and is subject to a one year probationary period.

Summer Movie Nights

Sponsored by the Aston Township Parks and Recreation Committee, Family Movie Night will be held on Wednesday, July 27 at the Aston Township Community Center.

All Movie Night Events are free and will begin at dusk. There will also be food and soft drinks available for purchase. Anyone wishing to make a donation to help fund future movie nights may do so at the event or by contacting the Parks and Rec Committee Chairperson, Commissioner Carol Graham cgraham@astontownship.net

Public Hearing July 20

There will be a public hearing on the proposed zoning amendments at the Wednesday, July 20 Commissioners Meeting.

Second Day Trash Pick Up

Corresponding Days:

Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday

To submit an item to the newsletter, e-mail newsletter@astontownship.net.
Deadline for next issue is July 20.

All garbage and trash must be properly wrapped or bagged for collection.

All cans or bags shall be placed at the curb prior to 6 a.m. on your scheduled day.

All shrubbery and clippings must be tied in bundles and no longer than three feet (3') in length.

Trash and Single Stream Recycling will be collected EVERY WEEK on your normal trash day as indicated in the "Daily Trash & Single Stream Recycling Collection Route."

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 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.

Summer Classes at Rockdale Arts Center

Rockdale Arts Center is offering classes for youth classes, adult classes, and bottle and brush adult paint nights. Visit www.rockdaleartcenter.com/ for more information.

Delaware County Sheriff's Reserve Unit Golf Tournament

The 2016 Delaware County Sheriff's Reserve Unit Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, September 16 with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

The tournament will be held at the Concord County Club and feature awards for the longest drive, closest to pin, and three top teams. The event starts off with a boxed lunch and dinner will be served immediately after the end of play. For more information, contact Jeff Stang at 302-750-9380 or Brad Feldman at 610-299-7834.

Chadds Ford Days 2016

Chadds Ford Days began as a way to commemorate the Battle of Brandywine that was fought on September 11, 1777. Although the battle was lost, it helped improve military tactics that resulted in winning the War for Independence and saving America.

As the years went by, the Chadds Ford Days festival grew to include over

July Public Meetings and Special Events

Public Works Meeting
12:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 12

Work Session Meeting
2 p.m. Wednesday, July 13

Commissioners Meeting
7 p.m. Wednesday, July 20

Ordinance Committee Meeting
2 p.m. Monday, July 25

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting
7 p.m. Tuesday, July 26

Planning Commission Meeting
7 p.m. Wednesday, July 27

60 of the region's finest craftsmen and colonial demonstrators, Revolutionary War reenactors, an array of culinary fare from local restaurants, brewers and vintners, antique cars, children's activities, live music, special exhibits, historic tours of the John Chadds House and so much more.

Chadds Ford Days will be held September 10-11 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. respectively. Admission is \$10 for adults 18 and older; free for children under 17. CFHS members are free with membership card. Dogs are welcome too!

Aston Township Offices and Public Works Department will be closed Monday, July 4. Monday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, July 5

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

Checkout WiFi; Summer Reading Program Continues

You can now check out free library internet access and take it home! The Aston Public Library is offering 4G internet hotspots for free checkout with your library card!

Our summer reading club "ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, READ!" 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.

The Wednesdays at 1 p.m. programs continue throughout the summer-

July 6: Mr. Malcolm will involve the kids in exciting, dramatic stories!

July 13: David Darwin will demonstrate the wonders of juggling!

July 20: Ed Schmitt will do an exciting and humorous magic show!

July 27: Robin Bady will tell the kids some fun stories!

Aug 3: Hampstead Stage will do a live-action play of *Aladdin*!

Tuesday, July 12 at 3 p.m., the Winterthur Museum presents Get in the Game: Sporting at an American Country Estate at Aston Public Library. Experience a taste of sports and games that once entertained the family and staff who lived and worked at Winterthur in the 1930s and 40s. During this hour-long program, kids ages 5-10 will learn all about the games of the past.

Tuesday, August 2 at 3 p.m. Colonial Plantation Presents: Colonial Toys and Games. During this program, children will learn about the history of toys and games in America AND will be able to play with toys like Jacob's ladders, whizzers and Graces.

On Tuesdays at 3 p.m. this summer, we will have a Lego, Blocks and Marbles Club. The library will provide Legos, wooden unit blocks and a marble master (to teach us all how to play)!

Have you ever wanted to learn how to play Mahjongg? Now is your chance. Join Ms. Debbie Wednesdays at 6 p.m. to learn the Chinese game of skill, strategy, and calculation and with a degree of chance!

The Friends of the Library are raffling a

great Summer Fun Basket to enjoy or gift to a friend. You can get one ticket for \$2, three for \$5, or seven for \$10! The prize will be drawn in August.

Family Story Time with Ms. Linda and her puppet Lucy! Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. ending July 21, Ms. Linda and Lucy will delight young children with humorous picture books, unique felt board stories, finger plays and songs.

Saturday, July 23 at 11 a.m., teens can learn to quilt a basic rag quilt with Ms. Debbie. All materials will be supplied by the library.

Need help with an e-book reader, laptop or tablet computer? Stop by for our drop-in help time on Friday mornings. 10 a.m. for ebook readers and 11 a.m. for laptops and tablets.

Stop by Tuesdays at 11 a.m. to learn the art of Crochet with our diverse group with many levels of experience. Stop by Thursdays at 6 p.m. to participate in a wide variety of crafts.

More information and registration for all our programs is available via 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 information. The Aston Public Library Board of Trustees will meet at the Library on Tuesday, July 19 at 7 p.m.



Musician Peter Moses dancing with the kids at his recent performance here



The new summer reading program logo



Visit AstonBA.com

Community Day 2016: Save the Date!

Community Day 2016 will be held Saturday, October 1 at the Community Center. Rain date is Saturday, October 8. Look for more details in the August Township Times!