



ASTON TOWNSHIP
Established 1688

FREE

TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 12 Issue 2 • February 2017



Commissioner Graham, Fire Marshal Tom Morgan, and Assistant Fire Marshal Bob Herre present Jeff Jones and Dave Hale with a proclamation recognizing their quick action in the Linda Lane fire.

Medical Marijuana Hearing

The Township will host a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners on Wednesday, Feb 8 at the Township Municipal Building at 7 p.m.

At this meeting, Change in Zoning request is being heard from J. Grace Co. to rezone 10.4 acres of property located at 104-106 Pennell Rd from Townhouse District to Apartment. The Commissioners will also consider adopting a Ordinance for Medical Marijuana and consider no parking amendments.

The Township Offices and Public Works Department are closed on Monday, February 20 for Presidents' Day. Monday and Tuesday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, February 21.

Local Heroes Recognized for Assisting in Fire

Jeff Jones and Dave Hale were recognized for their assistance in helping two Aston residents escape a house fire on Linda Lane. The residents were settled in for the night on the second floor of their home when their smoke detector went off. They followed their home evacuation plan but their primary exit, the front door, was blocked by the fire. They went out their secondary exit, the rear door, and onto the deck. Unfortunately the deck had no egress, leaving them trapped.

Jones and Hale came into the backyard and found the trapped women. They broke off some of the deck's railing spindles and helped the women through the new hole in the railing and off the deck to safety.

This incident shows the importance of having a fire safety plan and knowing multiple ways to get out, feel the closed door for heat, crawl low in smoke, don't try to save personal items, have a meeting place, get out and stay out. Practice your plan at least twice a year, especially with your kids.

"Remember to always take care of each other. Take care of your family. Take care of your friends. Take care of your neighbors. We are a community, and together our strength is incredible. Even the most devastating events can be overcome if we take it on together. Next time you see that sign when you come into Aston know that it's more than just a public relations jingle, it's real, we live it everyday," said Tom Morgan, Aston Fire Marshal.

ATFD Looks Back on a Busy Year; New Leadership Elected

The Aston Township Fire Department had more than 1,800 calls in 2016. There were a total of 537 fire calls, with an average of 11 firefighters per call. Fire alarms and building fires were two of the main causes. There were 1,324 EMS calls with 1,255 primary ambulance calls and 69 second ambulance calls. A majority of the calls were ALS or BLS transport.

The ATFD elected new Tactical and Administrative leadership for 2017. Elected Officers include: Fire Chief: Mike Evans; Deputy Chief: Kenny Dawson Jr.; 1st Asst. Chief: Dave M. Durbano; 2nd Asst. Chief: Dave Evans Jr.

Fire Captains: Matt McCormick 17-12 and Frank Pizzi 17-12A, Fire Lieutenants: Rich Lynch 17-13, Conner Hughes 17-13A, and CJ Craft 17-13B. MS Captains: Justin Robbins 17-11 and John Moleteri 17-11A. Health & Safety Officers: Chris Schmid 17-10 and Doug Watkins 17-10A

Chief Engineer: Gordon Pippin Sr 17-14; Assistant Engineers: Shaun Guthrie 17-14A, Mark Dundon 17-14B, and Jeffrey Stewart Jr 17-14C.

President: Sean Joyce; Secretary: Rob Denney Jr.; Treasurer: Linda McCall; Chairman: Mike Lucy Sr.; and Vice Chairman: Shaun Guthrie.

Directors: Tom Morgan Sr., Wayne Stewart, Jim Long Sr., and Chris Durbano.

For more information about the Aston Township Fire Department, visit <http://atfd17.com/>.

British Invasion at Knights of Columbus March 25

The Knights of Columbus, Fr. James A. Donnelly Council, are bringing back the "British Invasion Years" to St. Joseph's Parish in Aston on Saturday, March 25 at 8 p.m. The performance is three shows in one!

First, you may hear classic songs by iconic British Groups such as the Zombies, the Moody Blues, Dave Clark Five, and Herman's Hermits. The American musical "responses" will follow with memorable hits by The Monkees, The Turtles, the Mamas and the Papas, and Tommy James and the Shondells to name a few!

This retrospective concludes with an extraordinary finale paying tribute to the four lads from Liverpool who started it all, The Beatles.

Remember to mark your calendar for Saturday, March 25 in Degnan Hall, Church of St. Joseph, 3255 Concord Rd.

Doors Open at 7 p.m. and the band starts playing at 8 p.m. Cover charge is \$20 per person and there will be a cash bar as well as bar food available for purchase. For reservations, please contact Joe Zack at 610-888-4767 or email jaz1030@aol.com. This program benefits the Fr. James A. Donnelly Council Knights of Columbus Charities.

Nominate Someone for the 39th Annual Preservation Award

Help us honor someone who is preserving our heritage by...

- Restoring or rehabilitating a building or site
- Publishing an article, book, or any written material about history or our heritage
- Contributing to the general public knowledge and awareness of Delaware County history
- Creating a special program or project highlighting a facet of community history

We want to know about these projects and consider them for a Preservation Award. By helping us recognize these individuals, groups, organizations, businesses, or institutions, you will be helping to encourage the continued preservation of our County's heritage. Coordinated by the Heritage Commission, these awards are presented annually by County Council at a regular Council meeting held during National Preservation Week in May.

Any group or person may make nominations for any category. The Award Categories and a nomination form is available online at www.co.delaware.pa.us/. We strongly encourage you to thoroughly complete the form and to include all of the necessary materials requested. We look forward to receiving your nominations.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Proctor at 610-891-5329 or ProctorL@co.delaware.pa.us. The deadline for nominations is March 6.

Aston Lioness' Fashion Show

Aston Lioness' present "Fashion Fun" on Sunday, April 2 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. See it; charge it; cash; carry. The fashions being displayed are by Taylor Marie. Join them at the Aston Community Center, 3270 Concord Road. The cost is \$10 per person and light refreshments will be included. Please contact Lovada Marino at 610-476-0584 for tickets.

Festival of Multicultural Dance

Neumann will host a Festival of Multicultural Dance on Saturday, February 25 at 2 p.m.

Guests will have the opportunity to enjoy the many different classical and character dance forms celebrated around the world. In addition to International Ballet Theater's Russian, Ukrainian, and Flamenco dance, the audience will also be treated to Chinese classical dance and those dance forms that are part of North and South India's cultures.

General admission is \$25 and \$15 for students, seniors and children. For tickets, call 610-883-0878 or visit www.ibtcompany.org.

Aston Township Historical Society to Meet February 9

The Aston Historical Society Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 9, from 7-9 p.m. The February presentation is on Dr. Crawford, a man from Aston who took a bullet for Abe Lincoln, and will be presented by Anthony and Barbara Seletti.

New Business

Brian Matteo was appointed to a four year term on the Aston Township Planning Committee.

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

Senior Citizens to Meet Feb. 23

The Aston Senior Citizens meeting will be held on Thursday, February 23 at 10:45 a.m. in the Aston Community Center. Membership is open to Penn Delco residents (Aston, Parkside, Brookhaven) and dues are \$10. You are welcome to come and join at our next meeting or contact Stanley Wilczek, 123 Edgar Avenue or call 610-494-5434.

Carbon Monoxide Reminder

The Aston Township Fire Department reminds you as the colder months approach, please have your heaters and fire places cleaned and serviced. Chimney fires and carbon monoxide incidents increase during this time of year.

Aston Lions Looking for Medical Equipment

The Aston Township Lions need good wheelchairs with foot rests and shower chairs. If you have any of these items and are willing to donate them, call Anthony at 610-368-3435.

If you have need for medical equipment, we may be able to loan them to you. Check with Anthony at the above phone number.

Meals on Wheels Needs Your Help!

Aston Meals on Wheels needs your help for just an hour or two, twice a month to assist with delivery of meals to our home bound seniors in Aston and Brookhaven.

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

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.

Recycling Reminder!

Remember! Recycling is single stream, you can include clear glass, aluminum cans, all plastic containers, green glass, bi-metal cans, newspaper (placed next to recycling can), brown glass, cardboard boxes, cardboard containers.

Assistance Available in Cold Weather

Agencies that assist people year-round and during extreme weather conditions include:

- The **Delaware County Division of Adult and Family Services** of the Office of Behavioral Health partners with various agencies to offer additional services through the Homeless Services Coalition of Delaware County. They also provide a winter shelter directory that is distributed to police, municipalities, school districts and other officials.

- The **County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA)** extends outreach to senior citizens, including having case managers check on seniors who may be vulnerable. Tips on how to stay warm and safe during winter's cold weather are available on COSA's informational weatherline at (610) 872-1558.

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.

February Public Meetings and Special Events

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

12:30 Wednesday, February 1

Work Session Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, February 8

Special Meeting Board of Commissioners

7 p.m. Wednesday, February 8

New Construction Committee Meeting

6:30 p.m. Thursday, February 9

Board of Commissioners Meeting

7 p.m. Wednesday, February 15

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m. Wednesday, February 22

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

7 p.m. Tuesday, February 28

- The **County Department of Intercommunity Health** provides information to help people avoid medical emergencies, such as hypothermia and frost bite, during Code Blue conditions.
- **Community Action Agency of Delaware County (CAADC)** is the county's anti-poverty agency that can assist economically disadvantaged households.

Elderly residents are also vulnerable during winter storms. People who are over age 60 and need assistance can contact the County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA) at 610 490-1300. COSA Director Denise Stewart said COSA's case managers look in on elderly residents who might be vulnerable during extreme weather conditions.

Residents are encouraged to register for the DelcoAlert notification system that sends messages to people's mobile devices to alert them of weather emergencies, road closures and other extreme weather situations.

Continued..

Home School Help Available; Chair Yoga Returns Feb. 25

Explore some of the Delaware Valley's most exciting places by checking out museum passes for free from the Library! Admission passes to these places are available for a free 7 day loan: Academy of Natural Sciences, Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation, Elmwood Park Zoo, and Morris Arboretum.

Are you Home schooling your child and would like a little help, or would just like some socialization opportunities for your home-schooled child? Visit us on Wednesday, February 8 at 11 a.m. to meet with Ms. Debbie and discuss what we can do. Light refreshments will be served.

Do you need help finding directions? Planning a vacation? New in the area and just getting familiar with the terrain? Check out a GPS device from the Aston Public Library for free. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/GPSReserve17> to reserve the device. It checks out for one week at a time and comes with newly updated nationwide maps. It gives verbal turn-by-turn instructions as well as a detailed color display.

Thursday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m. Mad Science will be visiting the library! Kids of all ages will be blown away by their creative science experiments. Learning is really fun with these mad scientists.

Join us Monday, February 13 at 5 p.m. for Free Kids Bingo for ages 6-12. There will be small prizes and light refreshments.

Cold Weather Assistance (continued)

For information or to obtain a copy of the current Emergency Shelter Directory and Survival Guide, contact Adult and Family Services at 610-713-2571 or 610-713-2365.

Resources include: Salvation Army: 151 W. 15th St., Chester. Call 610-874-0423

Connect: 7200 Chestnut St., Upper Darby. Call 267-507-3970.

Community Action Agency: Call 610-874-8451.

For information on the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), call 1-866-857-7095.

For information on PECO energy assistance programs call 1-800-774-7040.

Free Chair Yoga classes will be back on Saturdays at 11 a.m. starting February 25. Space is limited, so please register if you would like to attend.

You can now look back on the old days of Sun Valley High School just by going online. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/SVHS-Yearbooks17> to see scans of the Sun Valley Yearbooks from 1963 to the present day. Not only can you see your old friends, but it is also an amazing snapshot of times gone by in Aston and Delco. This Aston Public Library project was made possible by the free services of Oklahoma Correctional Industries.

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 with an even more diverse group.

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 e-book readers and 11 a.m. is the time for laptops and tablets.

More information and registration for all our programs is available via the Calendar at www.astonlibrary.org. The Friends of the Library are holding a 50/50 raffle for a cash prize. You can get one ticket for \$2, three for \$5, or seven for \$10.

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 Aston Public Library Board of Trustees' meeting will be held at the library on Tuesday, February 21 at 7 p.m.

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> and "like" us! Join the Friends of the Library. Go to www.astonlibrary.org and click on "Join Our Friends" to send in your information.



Ms. Debbie with the new GPS that's available for checkout at the Library.



The Mad Science-tists that will perform at the library on Thursday, February 23.



Visit AstonBA.com

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