



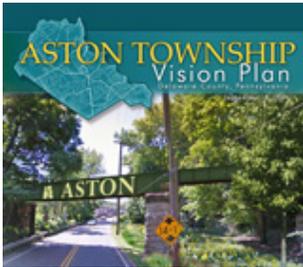
ASTON TOWNSHIP
Established 1688

FREE

TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 13 Issue 2 • February 2018



As the Township secures funding from the proceeds of the General Obligation

Notes, the bigger picture to build out and move the Township Vision Plan forward is beginning to take shape. The funding will invest money back into the resources that are important to the public officials and citizens of Aston Township. Earlier studies determined that the existing government, public safety and community facilities in Aston are functionally limited or have reached their useful life. As a result, they will require expansion, refurbishment, or reconstruction.

The funding will help cover the new Aston Township Department Fire Station which will be constructed on the site of the former Green Ridge Firehouse at 2900 Dutton Mill Road. The new fire station will be less expensive to operate than the two former separate houses and will provide state-of-the-art fire safety and protection to Township residents.

Additional funding will be earmarked

Vision Plan Begins to Take Shape

for the Community Center complex to replace aging infrastructure (HVAC systems), install a new roof and security systems, building expansion, and other improvements that will meet current and future meeting and activity space needs.

With the Municipal building having exceeded its useful life, funds will be used for planning, design, architectural work and engineering for a new building that will include the Police Station and Aston District Court. This will be more efficient and functional to better serve residents and governmental needs.

Funds will also be used for Public Works including demolition of the existing compound and the planning, design, architecture, engineering and construction of a new complex that will better serve the needs of our residents.

Funding will be further directed to the construction of a Special Needs Playground at the Community Center and the remaining Township match on the grants for the Valley View Park and Newsome's Pond improvements. Likewise, funding will be used for the completion of streetscaping between Lamp Post Lane and Springbrooke Boulevard

not previously completed and additional streetscaping not previously funded from Five Points to Springbrooke Boulevard. Streetscaping on Concord Road between Five Points and Dutton Mill Road and the proposed roundabout at Donnelly Road at the Community Center will be funded. The Chester Rail trail trestle over Pennell Road below Mount Road is being considered for rust removal and painting.

The remaining funds are proposed for a new security system and cameras outside the Municipal Building complex, new sound system for the Commissioners Meeting Room and updated computer software for Code Enforcement and Administration. Finally, funds will be used for a new 2018 Sanitation Truck for Public Works.

In addition to the 2018 Series, General Obligation Notes, these expenditures will be funded by available grants from the Commonwealth and current and future tax dollars.

The entire vision plan can be found at: <http://astontownship.net/community-news/community-initiatives/aston-township-vision-plan/>.

Bridgewater Farms Traffic Study

Recently a traffic calming study was conducted in the Bridgewater Farms section of Aston Township due to complaints of high traffic flow and cutting through of the developments.

From here, the information collected will be evaluated, solutions will be determined and the residents of the effected areas will be polled on which solution they see fit to remedy the issues.

All results are available on the Township website at: <http://astontownship.net/bridgewater-farms-traffic-calming-results>.

The Aston Township offices and Public Works Department will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of President's Day. Monday and Tuesday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, February 20.

PennDOT/Aqua Road Construction and Restrictions

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has begun construction to rehabilitate the culvert on Lungren Road between Lenni Road and Parkmount Road in Middletown Township, Delaware County. Lungren Road, which carries an average of 1,474 vehicles per day, has been closed since December 15 when damage was discovered to the structure.

During the rehabilitation project, Lungren Road traffic will continue to be directed over Lenni Road, Route 452 (Pennell Road) and Parkmount Road. Local access will be maintained for residents and businesses. Construction on the six-foot long culvert is expected to be completed in March.

In addition, Aqua Pennsylvania is planning lane restrictions and a long-term closure of Lenni Road in Middletown and Aston townships and Chester Heights Borough, for water main improvement. The work schedule is:

- Through Friday, February 2, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., lane restrictions with flagging are scheduled on Lenni Road between Hillcrest Lane and Sickles Drive; and
- Monday, February 5, through mid-May, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, Lenni Road will be closed and detoured between Route 452 (Pennell Road) and Llewelyn Road (Birney Highway).

During the closure, Lenni Road motorists will be directed to use Route 452 (Pennell Road), U.S. 1 (Baltimore Pike), Valleybrook Road and Llewelyn Road (Birney Highway). Local access will be maintained up to the construction zone.

Motorists are advised to allow extra time when traveling near the work areas. All scheduled activities are weather dependent. Aqua Pennsylvania will complete this project under a PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit.

For more information on projects occurring or being bid this year, those made possible by or accelerated by Act 89, or those on the department's Four and Twelve Year Plans, visit www.projects.pennidot.gov.

A list of weekly road restrictions and PennDOT maintenance operations in the five-county Philadelphia region is available by visiting the District 6 Traffic Bulletin at www.pennidot.gov/District6.

Motorists can check conditions on more than 40,000 roadway miles, including color-coded winter conditions on 2,900 miles, by visiting www.511PA.com. 511PA, which is free and available 24 hours a day, provides traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, traffic speed information, and access to more than 850 traffic cameras.

511PA is also available through a smartphone application for iPhone and Android devices, by calling 5-1-1, or by following regional twitter alerts accessible on the 511PA website.

For more PennDOT information, visit www.pennidot.gov. Follow local PennDOT information on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/511PAPhilly](https://twitter.com/511PAPhilly), and follow the department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pennsylvaniaDepartmentofTransportation and Instagram at www.instagram.com/pennsylvaniadot.

Carbon Monoxide Reminder

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

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 Township Historical Society to Meet Feb. 7

Aston Township Historical Society (ATHS) is having its quarterly meeting on Thursday, February 8 at 7 p.m. at the Aston Township Community Center.

ATHS is pleased to welcome Rachel McCullough who will be presenting her Traveling Women's History Walk Through by the Traveling Women's History Museum. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. to give the public a chance to enjoy Rachel's wonderful displays. After a brief ATHS meeting, Rachel will share interesting stories about influential women from the past. This is one event you don't want to miss.

While this event is free donations are always appreciated. ATHS will also be collecting 2018 dues at this time.

Please come early as seating is limited. For your safety in case of extreme weather, this event will be rescheduled.

Senior Citizens to Meet Feb. 22

Aston Senior Citizens will hold its next meeting on Thursday, February 22, at 10:45 a.m. at the Aston Community Center, with lunch served at 12 p.m. at the cost of \$10 for members. (Cost has been reduced). We will be playing bingo again this month.

Membership is open to Penn Delco residents (Aston, Parkside, Brookhaven.) that are 55 years of age or older, residing within the Penn Delco School District. You are welcome to come and join at the next meeting, or contact Stanley Wileczek, 123 Edgar Avenue. Aston, or call 619-494-5434.

Public Works, Working for You

Public Works repaired 57 potholes using a ton of asphalt last month. They also maintained and worked on Township and Police vehicles, collected bulk metal throughout the Township, mulched all parks, islands, and strips

To submit an item to the newsletter, e-mail newsletter@astontownship.net. Deadline for next issue is February 23.

throughout the Township, and completed pulling speed hump signs for all temporary speed humps.

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.

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.

- 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.

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 (LI-HEAP), call 1-866-857-7095.

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

Nominate Someone for the 40th 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 proj-

February Public Meetings and Special Events

Public Works Meeting

1 p.m. Tuesday, February 6

New Construction Committee

6:30 p.m. Monday, February 12

Work Session Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, February 14

Board of Commissioners Meeting

7 p.m. Wednesday, February 21

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

7 p.m. Tuesday, February 27

Work Session Meeting

2 p.m. Wednesday, February 28

Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m. Wednesday, February 28

ects 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 Beverlee Barnes at 610-891-5209 or BarnesB@co.delaware.pa.us. The deadline for nominations is February 28.

Bookmark Design Contest is Back! Book Club Continues

It is time again for the annual Aston Public Library Bookmark Design Contest for kids in grades K-8. An entry form can be picked up at the library or downloaded at www.astonlibrary.org. The deadline is February 28. The winners' work will be displayed at the Library.

Dr. Daisy Century will present a living biography of Harriet Tubman Wednesday, February 21 at 11:30 a.m. Dr. Century will embody the persona of the underground railroad conductor, who lead numerous slaves to freedom. A Union spy during the Civil War as well as a nurse, Ms. Tubman directed her considerable energies towards humanitarian causes that included women's suffrage after the war.

Dance Me a Story will visit the library on Thursday, February 8 at 10:30 a.m. "Dance Me a Story" integrates training kids in dance movement (with a professional dancer) with a fun story.

Free Chair Tai Chi will be Thursdays at 2 p.m. this month. This is a low-impact version of that relaxing system of movements.

The Kids Can Build Club is at the Library on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. Your child can learn to build things using the library's Lego collection and other materials as well. All ages are welcome.

New admission passes to the following cultural institutions are available for a FREE 7 day loan- Independence Sea-

port Museum - Penn Museum - Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art - Philadelphia's Magic Gardens. Reserve one through the Catalog at www.astonlibrary.org.

3D Printing Services Available. Ask Debbie or Stephen at the desk to find out how you can get your first small 3D printed item for free. Check out the designs the staff made in the display case for ideas.

Are you looking for a book club? There are several options at our library. The group meeting on Thursday, February 11 at 1:30 p.m. is discussing *The Round House*. The group meeting on Wednesday, February 17 at 7 p.m. is discussing *The Children's Blizzard*. Stop by and try one out!

Storytime! Your young child can learn basic literacy skills while having fun. The Aston Public Library offers story times every week, open to everyone! Join Ms. Debbie for toddler time (ages 2-3) on Tuesdays at 10:30, infant time (up to 24 months) on Wednesdays at 10:30, and preschool time (ages 3-5) on Thursdays at 10:30!

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-

Rockdale Arts Center Upcoming Events

Rockdale Arts Center will host "Piece of my Heart," Friday, February 9 from 7-9 p.m. Using puzzle pieces and a heart create a unique artwork of love. Choose your own colors and paint your canvas with guidance from our teaching artist.

A portion of the proceeds goes to Elwyn's After School and & T-Camp programs for children with Autism. Cost is \$30.

Lego Animation Spring Break Class is a three week course where students learn to script and animate a short movie using Legos. We provide the Legos and expert instruction while students work in teams using their own tablets or smart phones and a free animation app creating an entertaining stop motion movie. Students learn to create smooth animations and edit their movies. Creativity and teamwork are encouraged in a fun and supportive environment.

Requirement: Students must bring their own tablet or smart phone with the animation app. Spring Break, March 27-29, 1-3 p.m. (3 classes). Cost is \$55. To register or for more information, contact director@rockdaleartcenter.com or by calling or texting 1-484-843-1278.



Storytime kids with their snow globe crafts they made this month



Kids participating in our previous Dance Me a Story program

10 a.m. for e-book readers and 11 a.m. for laptops and tablets.

More information and registration for all our programs is available via the Calendar at www.astonlibrary.org.

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 will meet Tuesday, February 20 at 7 p.m. at the Library.

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.



Visit AstonBA.com

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