



ASTON TOWNSHIP  
*Established 1688*

FREE

# TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

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## Winter Fun Festival and Don't Miss Santa Coming to Aston!

Aston Parks & Recreation Committee will host the 2016 Christmas Tree Lighting & Winter Fun Festival on Friday, December 2, at the Aston Township Community Center. The children will have an opportunity for free pictures with Santa. A magician, Aston and Pennell Elementary Schools Chorus, and Mt. Hope Youth Hand Bells will be performing. There will also be crafts and refreshments available.

The Aston Township Fire Department will be escorting Santa around to all of our township residents! Look for Santa on these dates: December 4 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; December 10 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.; December 17 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Look and listen for Santa in your neighborhoods!

## Library Has Banner Year

2016 has been one of the most productive years the Aston Library has ever had. This year, the library will have had 90,000 visitors and almost 100,000 items checked out.

The library also sponsored 50 programs for all ages and interests. There were 8 weekly, 2 monthly, 9 summer kids programs and 31 one time special offerings. More than 2,700 adults, 120 teenagers and 7,600 children participated in these programs for free.

"The library is so appreciative of the 2017 Township budget increase for the library. This support will enable us to add new innovations designed to allow more and more residents to enjoy their library," said Madelyn Bush, Vice President of the Aston Library Board of Trustees.

Bush brought more than 100 thank you notes written by the patrons of the library and presented them to the Commissioners. "These notes are a testament to how relevant our library is to Aston Township and the surrounding communities we serve," she said.

## Marie Momont Pierce Celebrates 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday



Marie Momont Pierce accepts her proclamation to celebrate her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday from Commissioner Osborn.

Marie Momont Pierce celebrated her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 19. She was born and grew up in Chester and graduated from Chester High School. Marie married Jack Pierce and moved to Aston in May of 1955. Marie and Jack had one daughter, Pamela.

Marie was a devoted member of Holy Ghost Ukrainian Byzantine Church in Chester for many years until it closed in 2015. She was involved with several activities within the Church where she had wonderful friendships throughout the years. These days, she keeps herself busy visiting her friends at Aston Township, where she is affectionately known as the "cake lady." She has two granddaughters, Allison and Christina and always looks forward to their visits.

## Aston Holiday Decorating Contest Returns!

The Aston Township Parks and Recreation Committee and Board of Commissioners are holding the second annual holiday decorating contest for businesses and residents.

The business category will be divided up into three categories- industrial, large business, and small business. For residents, it's open to residents of all seven wards.

First place business prizes include advertising the winner's business in the January Township Times, the Township website, and TV channels for the month of January and a paid 1-year membership to the Aston Business Association. Honorable mention winners will receive a paid 1-year ABA membership.

Residential winners (one winner, one honorable mention per ward) will receive a \$100 gift card to Giant. Honorable mention winners will receive a \$50 Wawa gift card.

Judging by non-partisan judges will be held on Sunday, December 18. Winners will be announced on the Aston Township website and TV channel Christmas Week as well as invited to the January Commissioners Meeting.

For further information or questions contact Commissioner Carol Graham at 610-459-8557.

**The Aston Township offices and Public Works Department will be closed Friday, December 23, and Monday, December 26 to observe Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Thursday and Friday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Thursday, December 22. Monday and Tuesday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, December 27. Also, the Township will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2017 in observance of New Year's Day. Monday and Tuesday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.**

### **Parks and Rec Committee & Rockdale Arts Center Team up for Vets**

This year Aston Parks and Recreation Committee have teamed up with the Rockdale Art Center to collect items for care packages for Veterans at the Caotesville, VA Hospital. There are approximately 500 residents at the facility at any time, whether for nursing home care or rehabilitation, and 50 of those residents are women. We all agreed that doing something selfless would go a long way in the hearts of our bravest patriots!

The following is a list of some of the items the Veterans are in need of:

**Personal Hygiene for Men & Women:** toothpaste, toothbrushes, shower gel, shampoo, brushes and combs, lotion, and deodorant.

**Cold Weather Items:** hat, scarves, and gloves.

**Packaged Snacks:** crackers, cookies, breakfast bars, Tastykakes, Little Debbie's, muffins, candy, and chocolate.

**Miscellaneous:** forever stamps, envelopes, pens and paper, and tissues.

We would ask that all of the above mentioned items be packaged individually making transporting and packaging easier. Anyone willing to donate gift bags to hold the needed items and tissue paper (can be gently used) would be greatly appreciated.

The Committee is asking that donations are received no later than December 9. Donations will be taken at the Aston Community Center on Concord Road and the Rockdale Art Center at 2551 Mount Road. They will be packaged on Sunday, December 11 with hopes to deliver the following week or the weekend before Christmas.

We hope to enlist the help of any resident interested, our local Scouts and other youth programs/organizations in town. Contact us!

Thursday, December 1 from 7-9 p.m. is our Cards to Vets event at the Rockdale Art Center, all supplies will be available for you. All you need to do is come by and create/write a card to a Veteran for this Holiday Season!

Questions regarding care packages please contact Kit Spayd at: [kitspayd@gmail.com](mailto:kitspayd@gmail.com). Questions regarding the card event contact Veronica Batter at: [director@rockdaleartcenter.com](mailto:director@rockdaleartcenter.com).

### **Breakfast with Santa at Neumann**

Neumann University's Knights for Education club is hosting Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 3, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Community Hall, located in the Mirenda Center for Sport, Spirituality and Character Development. Admission is a children's toy – unwrapped – for any age.

A hot breakfast of eggs, home fries, sausage and pastries will be served as the children tell Santa Claus their Christmas wishes. Please RVSP to [neumannsanta1@gmail.com](mailto:neumannsanta1@gmail.com) to reserve a specific time.

The gifts are donated to the Sacred Heart of Camden parish for its Christmas shopping event. Parents in the parish can shop for gifts priced from \$0.25 to \$5, making Christmas shopping possible for needy families.

### **Lions Christmas Children's Party Donations Needed**

For nearly seventy years the Aston Township Lions have been having a Children's Party. This is by invitation only as our funds are limited. If anyone would like to donate to this cause you may send a check or money order to: Lions Club of Aston Township Charitable Foundation, Inc. (short version Aston Lions C.F. Inc.) P. O. Box 2052, Aston, PA 19014-0052. Any assistance is appreciated.

### **Advent Classes at St. Joseph's**

St. Joseph's Parish to Host Advent Event this Advent, St. Joseph Parish Aston invites you to explore The Infancy Narratives of Jesus.

These 2 sessions will focus on the opening chapters of Matthew and Luke, the only gospels which describe the wondrous events surrounding the birth of the Messiah. It also explores the many significant connections these two gospels make between the Old Testament and the birth of the Savior. Rich insights will be made as these two gospels are opened to reveal the special contribution each makes to our understanding of Jesus' nativity. Deepen your longing for the Messiah's coming again and ask God to be Emmanuel, 'God with us.'

Cost is just \$10 for all materials! Sessions will be held in the Neumann Room on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m., December 13 and 20.

Contact: Cathy Maugeri at [c.maugeri@comcast.net](mailto:c.maugeri@comcast.net) or call 610-494-4358 for more information.

St. Joseph Parish is located at 3255 Concord Road, Aston. The Neumann Room is on the parking lot level of the Church and is handicapped accessible.

To submit an item to the newsletter, e-mail [newsletter@astontownship.net](mailto:newsletter@astontownship.net). Deadline for next issue is December 26.

### **Bulk Trash and Appliance Collection**

The Township Public Works Department provides curbside pickup service for residents seeking to dispose of bulk trash items or old appliances.

The fee for this service is \$20 per item and is due in advance of pickup. Residents must call the Township Building in advance to schedule pickup and arrange payment.

December bulk trash and appliance collection will be December 5-9. All items for bulk trash and appliance collection must be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. on the day of your regular trash collection.

### **Aston Seniors Christmas Luncheon**

Aston Senior Citizens Christmas luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 8, at noon, at the Ballrooms at Boothwyn.

### **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.

### **Advent Wine and Cheese Event**

St. Joseph's Parish will host a wine and cheese event on Thursday, December 1 from 7-8:15 p.m. in the Lower Church Hall. Advent is a season of waiting and preparation for the coming of Christ.

Join Father Thorne for an evening of prayer and reflection in this holy time of Advent.

Father Thorne currently serves as Chaplain at Neumann University and has been pastor of St. Martin dePorres Parish in North Philadelphia since 2011. He was formed for the Priesthood at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary where he also earned three academic degrees. Since his ordination, he has served as Assistant Pastor at Saint Katharine Drexel Church (Chester, Pa.), member of the faculty at Saint John Neumann High School, Executive Director for the Office for Black Catholic Ministry and Pastor at Saint Therese Catholic Church.

Contact [c.maugeri@comcast.net](mailto:c.maugeri@comcast.net) for more information.

### **Keep Recycling Strong Through the Holidays**

Public Works collected 105 tons of recycled material for the month of October.

Aston collects single stream recycling once a week. Single stream means you don't have to sort it. Single Stream Recycling means we collect all of the following items at the same time: clear glass; aluminum cans; plastic #1, #2, #4, #5, & #7; green glass; bi-metal cans; newspaper\*; brown glass; cardboard boxes; and cardboard containers.

\* Please place the newspapers along side the Recycling Can – not in it.

The Township Public Works Department has a recycling collection area in the rear of the Aston Township Municipal Building for the following items: newspaper, clear glass, brown glass, green glass (no plate glass please), aluminum cans only, used motor oil (please place in tank – used motor oil only). No antifreeze and no plastics please.

### **Christmas with the Dolls at Brandywine**

Bring your favorite doll to the museum for a morning of creative crafts

## **December Public Meetings and Special Events**

### **Board of Health Meeting**

7 p.m. Wednesday, December 7

### **Public Works Meeting**

12:30 p.m. Monday, December 12

### **New Construction Committee Meeting**

6:30 p.m. Monday, December 12

### **Work Session Meeting**

2 p.m. Wednesday, December 14

### **Board of Commissioners Meeting**

7 p.m. Wednesday, December 21

### **Planning Commission Meeting**

7 p.m. Wednesday, December 28

and light refreshments on Saturday, December 17 from 11 a.m.-noon at the Brandywine River Museum of Art. Participants will cut and color paper dolls based on Brandywine's Ann Wyeth McCoy doll collection, make matching bracelets for themselves and their dolls, and enjoy an informal tea party. Best for ages 3 and older accompanied by an adult. Tickets are limited and will sell out quickly. Reserve online or by calling 610-388-8326.

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

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.

## Rockin Rythms Holiday Concert December 21; Holiday Toy Box Raffle

The Library will be hosting a free Makin' Music Rockin' Rhythms Holiday Concert on Wednesday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. Their program will be designed to get the kids singing and dancing along. This is a FREE show for pre-school fans of fun, laughter and music.

Through Christmas, the Library is hosting a display of antique toy trains donated by local collector Ron Vance. Come see some of these remarkable specimens, at the entry of our children's area.

Did you know you can print, copy and fax at the library. Faxing is only \$1 per page. Printing and copying is 15c per page black and white and 25c per page color. Our new copier will do color copies, and also provides free scanning to your flash drive.

On Tuesdays at 4 p.m., we have Kids' Lego Club. Your child can learn to build things using the library's Lego collection.

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. Reserve yours by going to <http://www.tinyurl.com/aston4g16>.

## Neumann Concert Chorale Christmas Performance

Come and enjoy the sounds of Christmas with traditional and contemporary musical songs on Friday, December 2 at 8 p.m. The program will feature Christmas Cantata, *Let There Be Christmas* by Joseph Martin, Yukiko Ishida's *Pace e Bene*, a traditional rendition of Larry Shackley's *God Rest You Merry Gentleman*, and an all-time favorite spiritual, *Go, Tell It On the Mountain* arranged by David Angerman. Many other Christmas carols will round out the evening's program.

Admission is General \$8; Seniors/Students \$5; FREE for Neumann students with ID and children under 12. Reservations advised.

The Friends of the Library are raffling a great Holiday Toy Box. The prize is a great assortment of toys and books for all ages. You can get one ticket for \$2, three for \$5, or seven for \$10! The prize will be drawn in December.

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. 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](http://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.

The Aston Public Library Board of Trustees' December meeting will be held at a special location, 9 Montgomery Lane. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday December 20. Join the Friends of the Library. Go to [www.astonlibrary.org](http://www.astonlibrary.org) and click on "Join Our Friends" to send in your information.



One of the trains on display at the Aston Library.




Makin' Music performs at the Library.

**ASTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**  
**ABA Holiday Party**  
**Monday, Jan. 9th - 6pm - 9pm**

**Cost Per Person: \$35**  
Includes:  
Dinner & 2 hour Wine & Beer bar

**IceWorks**  
Banquet Room



For more information contact:  
Lis Shaw (IceWorks) at 610-467-2200 ext. 117

## A Note from Aston Township Fire Marshal Tom Morgan

As we begin this busy holiday season allow me to remind everyone of two valuable fire safety rules that were proven effective during a recent tragic event:

**SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES!** Have one on every floor, at sleeping areas and any other areas where fire can ignite. Check the batteries once a month, and change the batteries when we change the clocks.

**MAKE A HOME EVACUATION PLAN!** Know 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.