



ASTON TOWNSHIP  
*Established 1688*

FREE

# TOWNSHIP TIMES

Pride in our Community

Volume 13 Issue 11 • November 2018

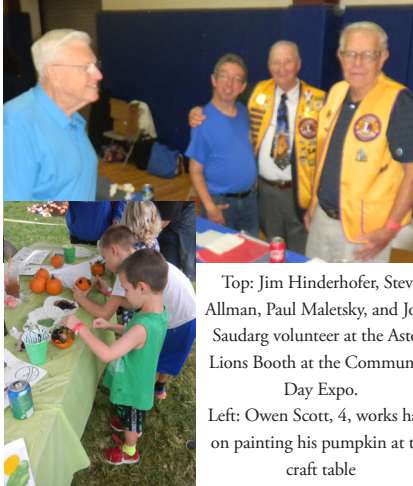
## Aston Holiday Decorating Contest Returns!



The Aston Township Parks and Recreation Committee and Board of Commissioners are holding the fourth 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.

Judging by non-partisan judges will be held December 13-16. Winners will be announced at the December Commissioners Meeting. Six lucky business winners will skip their next ABA dues payment, compliments of Aston Township and the Aston Parks & Rec Committee. For further information or questions contact Commissioner Carol Graham at 610-459-8557.



Top: Jim Hinderhofer, Steve Allman, Paul Maletsky, and John Saudarg volunteer at the Aston Lions Booth at the Community Day Expo.

Left: Owen Scott, 4, works hard on painting his pumpkin at the craft table

## Community Day a Success

Community Day 2018 brought an estimated 4,000 plus residents out to attend our Event! Sponsored by the Aston Business Association, the day's events began with a parade, which included a bike rodeo, and a best decorated bike contest. A business expo as well as various demonstrations, food court, local organizations and activities and rides for children.

The Wing Bowl was held again this year with Aston Police again facing off with the Aston Fire Department. Aston Fire Department won the contest this year. Thank you Cocco's Pizza for donating all the wings.

The parade, coordinated by Nancy Bowden, featured schools, organizations, local and state officials, decorated bicycles, fire and police apparatus. There was a special visitor, Delco Spiderman, plus many cartoon characters, live horses and the Sun Valley High School Band.

Aston Citizen of the Year was James (Jim) McGinn who was honored posthumously.

As residents feasted on hamburgers, cooked by our own Police Chief Danny Ruggieri and hot dogs cooked by Township Secretary Dick Lehr, Township Manager Bill McConville and Eileen Nelson! Water ice, cookies, soft pretzels, pizza, ice cream and specialty foods for

## Winter Fun Festival December 7

Aston Parks & Recreation Committee will host the 2018 Christmas Tree Lighting & Winter Fun Festival on Friday, December 7, at the Aston Township Community Center. The children will have an opportunity for free professional 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.

our Food Court were provided by local restaurants. Residents ventured into the Community Center where countless businesses and local organizations distributed information and free giveaways.

The children enjoyed themselves on our new ride this year Children's Ferris Wheel! They also had fun on our pony rides, we also had rock painting, face painting and much more!

This event could not have taken place without the help and commitment of many committee members, volunteers, members of the Community and various others. "I would like to thank everyone that helped to make Community Day possible. Additionally, I am most appreciative of the unparalleled support of our local businesses," said Maryann Bullen

"The food, rides, and events brought to you on Community Day would not have been possible without the generous financial donations and personal commitments of the businesses and community organizations of Aston Township. The combined effort of all shows the true strength of the Aston Township Community. Your support is greatly appreciated," Bullen said.

**The Township is closed on Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23. Monday and Tuesday's trash, recycling and leaf collection will be picked up on Monday, November 19; Wednesday and Thursday's trash, recycling and leaf collection will be picked up on Tuesday, November 20; Friday's trash, recycling and leaf collection will be picked up on Wednesday, November 22.**

### **Artist Studios Annual Open House in November**

The artist studios at 2 New Road, Heron Studios, and Heron Crest Studios will have their Annual Open House November 9-11 and 17-18. The artist studios are open to tour, and artwork and fine crafts will be available to purchase. It's a great opportunity for some holiday shopping. Opening reception is Friday, November 9 from 6-9 p.m., then the artist studios are open on Saturday, November 10 and Sunday, November 11 and again Saturday, November 17 and Sunday, November 18 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cards and Collection for Veterans in November**

The Aston Township Parks and Recreation Committee along with the Rockdale Art Center will be collecting care packages for veterans for the third year in a row. Donations will be accepted beginning November 1 through December 7. Drop-off locations are located at the Aston Township Building and The Rockdale Art Center, 2551 Mount Road. The care packages will be delivered to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Coatesville, Pennsylvania during the week of December 8.

The following list of items are what is being requested for the care packages (please note 25% of infirmed veterans are women):

**Personal Hygiene:** Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Shower Gel, Shampoo, Brush/Comb, Lotion, Deodorant.

**Cold Weather Items:** Hat, Scarves and Gloves.

**Miscellaneous Items:** Forever Stamps, Pens, Paper, Envelopes, Tissues and Individually Wrapped Snacks.

There will also be a Card Writing Campaign held at the Rockdale Art Center, those dates and times are as follows: Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Wednesday, November 21, 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. and Saturday, December 8, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact Kit Spayd at [kitspayd@gmail.com](mailto:kitspayd@gmail.com) or Veronica Batter at [director@rockdaleartcenter.com](mailto:director@rockdaleartcenter.com).

### **Neighbors Helping Neighbors Toy Drive Underway**

Keep your eyes open for toy donation bins popping up in key locations within Aston! Neighbors Helping Neighbors has placed bins at the Township Building and the Community Center for its annual toy drive through December 15. Each year, this very successful toy drive helps Aston residents with children who have fallen on hard times.

Please help by donating a new, unwrapped toy at any of the above locations that will then be distributed to children in need. This is one of the many programs that NHN has in place to assist our residents. NHN is a unique organization that is solely supported by the businesses, organizations, and residents of Aston. It is neighbors helping neighbors in the truest sense because of community involvement.

NHN will also be working very hard to provide Christmas meals to the families that participate in the Pantry Program throughout the year. Haven't heard about the Pantry Program? Each month, NHN distributes perishables, canned goods, and staples to families who qualify. If you or someone you know is an Aston resident and can use assistance with food, contact Maggie Berry at 610-459-2122 or email [astonNHN@aol.com](mailto:astonNHN@aol.com) for an application.

### **ATFD Volunteers Needed**

Aston Township Fire Department is looking for volunteers! Volunteer today, Aston Township lives depend on it! To join the team, contact:

[recruitment\[atfd17.com](mailto:recruitment[atfd17.com).

### **Public Works, Working for You**

The Aston Public Works Department completed replacing pipe at Northley Townhomes, prepared an inlet for install on Caroline Drive, and patched 10 potholes using 4 bags of asphalt. Public works saved the Township more than \$10k by completing the Townhome Pipe Project and the Caroline Drive Inlet project themselves.

### **Aston Senior Citizens to Meet Nov. 22**

Aston Senior Citizens will meet on Thursday, November 22, at 10:45 a.m. at the Aston Community Center, with lunch served at noon.

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 Wilczek, 123 Edgar Avenue, Aston, Pa. or call 619-494-5434.

### **Pancake Breakfast November 4**

The Aston Township Lions Club will be holding their Fall Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 4 from 7:30 a.m. to noon at the Aston Community Center. Cost for Adults is \$8, \$4 for children 3-12 and children 2 and under eat free. The menu includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, tater tots, chocolate milk, coffee, tea and orange juice. Where can you beat this all you can eat breakfast?

### **Free Vision Screening Nov. 3**

Aston Lions Club in partnership with Mt. Hope UMC will host free vision

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

screening for the community on Saturday, November 3, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Community Center. Presented by professional screener Candy Bantum of the Chester Blind Center. Walk-in, no appointment necessary.

### **Danger of Vaping Presentation**

Aston Lions Club in partnership with Mt. Hope Church will host a discussion on the dangerous addiction of vaping and E-cigarettes on Saturday, November 3 from 9-10:30 a.m. at the Aston Community Center. The presentation will go over the serious short-term and long-term consequences of vaping to our children?

Presented by Bridget Marley, Tobacco specialist Holcomb Behavioral Services.

### **ATHS Quarterly Meeting Nov. 8**

Aston Township Historical Society (ATHS) welcomes popular local historian, Nancy Webster, and Aston's own Carla Figorski to their November 8 quarterly meeting at 7 p.m. at the Aston Community Center.

Figorski will be sharing all the exciting adventures of restoring the beautiful Carter-Weir House. The Carter-Weir is an original William Penn Land Grant and it is reported that the land the house sits on originally stretched all the way to the Delaware River! It is a true Aston Township jewel of a historic house!

Webster is a descendant of one of the first families of Aston, the Duttons. She will share stories about Aston's founding fathers and mothers. Webster is a fascinating and very knowledgeable speaker whose roots run deep in Aston and Delaware County!

This event is free and open to public. Doors open at 6:30. There are lots of interesting artifacts to see in the displays cases, too. Please bring copies of your old Santa pictures for ATHS' Holiday display. ATHS welcomes volunteers and donations!

### **Aston Lionesses to Host Holiday Craft Fair November 10**

The Aston Lionesses will host a holiday craft and gift show on Saturday, November 10 from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. at the Aston Community Center. There will be food, crafts, gifts, bake tables, and raffles. Come out and start your Christmas shopping early!

### **God Jul och Gott Nytt Ar**

Come celebrate the holidays Swedish Style at the Trim-A-Swedish-Christmas-Tree Party.

The event takes place at the historic Swedish Cabin located at 9 Creek Road, Drexel Hill, PA on Sunday, December 2 from 2 - 4 p.m. Admission is free but donations are always appreciated.

The Friends of the Swedish Cabin invite you to attend a real special event of this holiday season. They will have Swedish holiday food from their Julbord, beverages, decorations, and Swedish Christmas music! Help decorate the Christmas tree, Julgran, with apples, heart baskets and straw ornaments. Tour the cabin and warm yourself by a roaring fire. Toast marshmallows over the fire! And shop for gifts at our Butiken, too!

It's fun for all ages! Start your Christmas Season by stepping back in time with this very special event!

### **2018 Leaf Collection Program**

The Public Works Department has begun picking up bagged leaves. Leaf bags available for purchase on the second floor of the municipal building. The bags are being sold for \$1.50 for a bundle of five bags. Senior citizens receive their first five bags free.

### **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.

## **November Public Meetings and Special Events**

### **Parks and Rec Committee Meeting**

11:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 7

### **Work Session Meeting**

2 p.m. Wednesday, November 14

### **Board of Commissioners Meeting**

7 p.m. Tuesday, November 20

### **Zoning Hearing Board Meeting**

7 p.m. Tuesday, November 27

### **Work Session Meeting**

2 p.m. Wednesday, November 28

### **Planning Commission Meeting**

7 p.m. Wednesday, November 28

### **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.

## Puppet Show Nov. 27; Join a Movie Discussion Group!

Ken Kaplan will present "Unlocking the Secrets of Your Dreams" Saturday, November 3 at 11 a.m. Ken Kaplan is a Dream Facilitator who has an extraordinary gift in assisting people to understand their dreams.

Your child can enjoy the Segal Puppets show, "North Pole Fun" on Tuesday, November 27 at 6:30 p.m. This is a diversity show about the sharing and caring of the season. Songs and routines about Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa are explored with two North Pole Elves.

We will be hosting "A Matter Of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls," every Monday through December 10 from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Presented by COSA, this program assists older adults with managing falls safely and increasing their activity levels.

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!

Are you looking for a book club? There are several options at our library. The group meeting on Thursday, November 8 at 1 p.m. is discussing *Gold*. The group meeting on Wednesday the 21 at 7 p.m. is discussing *Kitchen House*. Stop by and try one out!

Join the Library Movie Discussion Group to view and discuss *I, Tonya* on Monday, November 26 at 11 a.m. Light lunch will be provided.

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.

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 display case for designs the staff made for ideas.

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 a.m.

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. for laptops and tablets.

More information and registration for all of our programs is available via the



A previous Segal Puppets performance at our library



One of the Lego creations from the Kids Can Build group

Calendar at [www.astonlibrary.org](http://www.astonlibrary.org).

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 info. The Aston Public Library Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, November 20th 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.

## 2018 Aston Dine & Buy

The Aston Business Association's fall Dine & Buy event will be held on Thursday November 15th, 2018. Proceeds from the Dine and Buy event will help support the Aston Township Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Neighbors Helping Neighbors helps Aston residents experiencing hard financial times with meals at Thanksgiving and Christmas as well as some Christmas gifts for homes with small children who would otherwise have none. We hope to see our Aston residents, along with their family and friends out there on November 15.

**ASTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**DINE & BUY IN ASTON**

**Thursday, November 15, 2018**

**ALL DAY EVENT!**

Present this coupon to a participating establishment and a portion of your patronage will be donated to Aston Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Visit [AstonBA.com](http://AstonBA.com) for a list of participating establishments

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.

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