

# Abington Township

## Newsletter

Fall 2015 Volume 19, Issue 3

### Recent Board Actions

- Land Development application of Penn State University approved to construct a multistory building for use as student apartment housing.
- PennDOT's Snow and Ice Agreement approved for the years 2015-2020.
- Approved Ord. No. 2093 amending Section 801. N of the Zoning Ord. for the purpose to regulate seasonal outdoor sales.
- Approved the Transfer of Liquor License for Bernie's Restaurant at 391 Highland Avenue.
- Approved the terms and conditions of the Agreement of Sale for 1004 Irvin Road.
- 2015 Robert W. Montgomery Award was awarded to Redeemer Valley Community Garden.
- Adopted Ord. No. 2097 enacting Chapter 126 "Real Estate Registry Vacant Properties,"

### Holiday Closings

#### **October 12- Columbus Day**

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

#### **November 11- Veterans' Day**

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

#### **November 26- Thanksgiving Day**

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

#### **December 25- Christmas Day**

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

#### **January 1- New Years Day**

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

#### **January 18- Martin Luther King Day**

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

#### **February 15- Presidents Day**

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

### Contact Your Township

7:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Telephone: 267-536-1000 Fax: 215-884-8271

[www.abington.org](http://www.abington.org)

Address: 1176 Old York Road Abington, PA 19001

Public Works/Trash 7:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Tax Office

Monday- Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

267-536-1025,1026,1027,1028

### READY MONTCO

Emergencies and disasters strike quickly and often without warning. They can disrupt our lives, force us to leave our homes, or even confine us for days without essential services like electricity, phones, or water. How ready are you and your family?

One of the first things you can do is sign up for the Ready Montco notification system.

-Receive emergency, community, weather and crime notifications

-Via text message, email, smart phone app and/or voice call to your mobile devices and land line phone

-Messages can be targeted by geographical area (such as residents living on snow emergency routes) or a person's special needs.

- This system will replace the Special Needs Registry. If you or a loved one have functional or access needs please register that person with this system so our first responders will have the information most critical to that person in a time of emergency.

Please take a minute to register yourself and family members for this important service at: [www.readymontco.org](http://www.readymontco.org)

For step by step registration instructions go to: <http://www.abingtonpd.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/7/MontcoReady-walkthru.pdf>

If you have any questions or are unable to register, please contact our Emergency Management Office at 267-536-1087 for assistance.

### Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular

The Bureau of Parks & Recreation will be traveling to New York City for some shopping/sight-seeing and the annual Christmas Show at the Radio City Music Hall featuring the Rockettes.

The bus will leave from the Alverthorpe Park main gate at 7:00 am and arrive in New York City at approximately 9:15 am.

The show will begin at 2:00 pm. Before the show you will be on your own to shop, sight see, etc. in the city.

The bus will leave New York promptly after the show from a location determined that morning. Our seats are confirmed to be in the 1st Mezzanine Section.

Registration will remain open until all of the seats are filled. All forms and fees must be received before you will be registered for this trip.

Depart/Return: Alverthorpe Park main parking lot

Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Time: 7:00 am to 9:00 pm

Cost: \$97 per person (Includes bus ticket to the show)

## Don't Miss the Wild Wild West Fest

Don your cowboy/cowgirl hats, rhinestones, and spurs and hoe down to the Abington Police Athletic League's Wild Wild West on Tuesday, October 13, 5:30-8:00 PM at Philmont Country Club in Huntingdon Valley. Tickets are on sale now for \$50- the price has NEVER increased in 13 years! Enjoy signature samplings from more than 35 area restaurants, caterers and beverage purveyors. New this year: local craft breweries. Bid on one-of-a-kind police opportunities: live & silent auctions. Win a raffle for a big screen smart TV. AND, if you dare, ride and mechanical bull!

Tickets for both the festival and the \$1 TV raffle can be purchased at the Abington Police Department Records' Window in the lobby of the Township Building (1166 Old York Road, Abington), Abington's two Park & Recreation offices (Alverthorpe Manor, 515 Meetinghouse Road, Jenkintown or Ardsley Community Center, 2828 Spear Avenue, Ardsley) or @www.abingtonpal.org. Questions: 267.536.1100x1509.

**Congratulations** to lifetime Briar Bush volunteer Henry Geyer on his recognition by ACT for his decades of work with area youth; and Briar Bush Senior Naturalist Mark Fallon for receiving The Garden Club of America's National Elizabeth Abernathy Hull Award, which recognizes the outstanding achievements of individuals furthering the early environmental education of children.

Briar Bush is pleased to report that we have received a good deal of input from neighbors and friends for creating a Master Site Plan. A contractor has been hired and work on the plan will soon be underway.

SAGE(Seasoned Adults Growing Environmentally) sessions for senior adults in partnership with the Visiting Nurses Association were a great success last year and will continue through the winter of 2016.

Briar Bush's popular FREE seasonal family festivals, AutumnFest and WinterFest will take place October 25 and February 7 respectively.

This years marks the 25th anniversary of The Friends of Briar Bush's most important annual fundraiser, Feather Our Nest. The gala dinner and auction is Saturday, November 7 from 6-10pm at Keneseth Israel Synagogue. This years's theme is Nature Superheroes.

## New Go Green Rewards Card!

Get rewarded through discounts at local businesses or a green gift by taking "green actions" such as attending or volunteering for EAC or STC events, switching to green source electricity, donating a food item at a Township recycling event, or helping us "Rain Barrel the Town." Learn how to get your own Go Green Rewards Card at Facebook.com/Abington.EAC, EAC-Abington.org, or email Abington.EAC@gmail.com

## Energy \$aving EXPO

Thursday, October 29th at 7 PM

Abington Library~1030 Old York Rd.

Directions [HERE](#), Register [HERE](#)

or Sign up in the Library Office, or call 215-885-5180, ext.

15 or email [kmcinnis@mclinc.org](mailto:kmcinnis@mclinc.org). Learn about:

- Best Cost Energy Improvements
- Energy Audits
- Tax Credits
- Rebates
- Solar & Geothermal Energy
- ROI on Energy Installation Costs
- Zero Net Energy
- Door Prizes
- and much, much more



## Library

Abington Free Library Adult Programs  
USING YOUR DIGITAL CAMERA

Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 6:30-8 p.m.

Daytime Book Discussion Group- Every first  
Thursday, at 1 pm

Old York Road Genealogical Society- Every  
second Tuesday, from 7-8:45 pm

Abington Free Library Teen Programs

Game On! At Abington Free Library- Satur-  
day, Nov. 21. Ages 7-99- Do you love games?

Join us for a day of gaming, with a variety  
of video games and board games available  
to play in the library. Check our website for  
more info.

Teen Book Club & Movie Night-Wednesday,  
Dec. 2 at 6:30-8:30 pm. Ages 12-18. What's  
better-the book or the movie? Read Paper  
Towns by John Green then watch the movies  
at the library and share your thoughts.

Children's Programs at Abington Free Li-  
brary

Doggone Good Readers-Saturdays: Nov. 7,  
Dec. 5, Feb. 6 and March 5, 10:15-10:45 am  
OR 11-11:30 am Grades 1-5

Sign up now for Nov. and Dec. sessions.  
Registration for Feb. and March sessions  
starts Jan. 12. Children practice reading  
aloud in small groups to registered therapy  
dogs.

Toddler Story Times- Wednesdays: Nov. 4  
and 11, 10:30-11 am. Ages 12-23 months.

Children attend with parents/caregivers.  
Registration begins Oct. 12.

Programs at Roslyn Branch Library  
Trouble Navigating Computers?

Saturdays, 11 am-noon. Computer docents  
available to help you! Call 215-886-9818 to  
register.

Crazy Eights Club- Oct. 12, 19, Nov. 2, 9, 16,  
23, 30, and Dec. 7, from 7-7:45pm.

Friends of Abington and Roslyn Libraries

Mimi Zabel Jewelry Silent Auction -month  
of November. Donate jewelry now!

Bookmark Contest!- Look for flyers and on  
the website in January and February.



# Gear up. Get in the Action. VOLUNTEER.



What's  
keeping you  
from the  
experience  
of a lifetime?

## Abington Township Fire Department



[AbingtonFD.org](http://AbingtonFD.org)



# YOU

Can Join These  
Dedicated, Well-Trained  
Volunteers Serving  
Their Communities

Abington Township Fire Department (ATFD)  
volunteers:

- Serve in five companies –  
Abington, McKinley,  
Weldon, Edge Hill,  
and Roslyn
- Receive free training and  
equipment
- Belong to the only  
internationally  
accredited, all-volunteer  
fire department  
in Pennsylvania –  
a recognition of the  
quality of ATFD's  
services and programs



[AbingtonFD.org](http://AbingtonFD.org)



## **ACT Seeks Citizen Nominations**

The Nominating Committee of the Abington Community (ACT) is seeking the names and accomplishments of those individuals or organizations that have made positive contributions to the safety and well-being of Abington Township/Rockledge Borough youth and/or families. Nominees should serve as positive role models for children and or teens, provide healthy activities for young people to participate in, or provide youth educational or support programs. Nominees should serve as positive role models for children and or teens, provide healthy activities for young people to participate in, or provide youth educational or support programs. They should either be volunteers or their efforts should extend beyond the value of their monetary compensation.

Those who are selected will be honored by ACT at the Citizens That Care Recognition Reception to be held in April 2016. At that time ACT also honors two graduating seniors with \$500 awards to recognize their outstanding community service contributions.

Please send your name and phone number and the suggested honoree's name, contact information, and reason for his/her nomination to The Abington Community Taskforce, 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001 by October 22. You may also submit this information through ACT'S web site at [www.abingtonact.org](http://www.abingtonact.org) under "Contact Us."

## **New Emblem Identifies Town Watchers**

Have you noticed this emblem on cars driving in your neighborhood at night? This is the new logo for Abington Town Watch. It began appearing on the vehicles of watchful citizen volunteers earlier this year to identify that they are in the act of driving the streets of their neighborhoods to keep an observant eye for suspicious activity that they report to the Abington Police.

This emblem has a magnetic backing so that it can be easily affixed to and removed from the side of a vehicle door. Having this uniform emblem for all Township Town Watchers was important because since the 1960s there have been numerous local Town Watch groups, and typically they each had their own sign. "This new emblem was designed to make a bold statement of who we are and what we are doing for the community," explains Abington Police Department's Community Service Officer Dave Rondinelli.

To learn more about Town Watch and how to participate, contact Dave @ 267.536.1074

## **We Need Tree Tenders!** (We need your help to plant 120 trees this November!)

Base of Operation: Grove Park, 1383 Easton Road, Roslyn PA 19001. Let us know you can lend a hand so that we can line up tools and lunch for you!

Volunteer Meet and Greet: Tuesday, October 27, 7:30 to 8:30 PM. -Get to know fellow volunteers- Learn about the tree planting projects- Refresh your tree planting skills

Planting Dates (you do not have to participate in the orientation in order to volunteer; we will pair you with an experienced volunteer): -Saturday, October 24, 9 AM to noon, Tree planting within Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary. -Date TBD- tree planting in the Glenside area- Hallowell Park and Parkdale Avenue street trees. -Thursday, November 12, 9 AM to 4 PM, planting within Grove Park. - Saturday, November 14, 9 AM to 4 PM, residential areas in the vicinity of Grove Park, with an additional base of operation at Living Word Lutheran Church

Other Scheduled Events: "Let's Talk Trees" Mondays, September 21 and October 5, 2015, 7:00 to 8:30 PM Co-sponsored by the Tookany/Taconty- Frankford Watership Partnership, Inc.

This fall we will continue our discussion with a focus on landscaping with native plants and caring for our forest. -On September 21, grow in your awareness of the benefits of native plants, and learn to select and combine them in your garden.. - On October 5, take a look at the state of local forests, learn how to identify forest health and habitats, and find out what you can do to nurture your local forest.

When: This series runs September 21 and October 5, 7 to 8:30 PM.

Where: Abington Free Library, 1030 Old York Road, Abington PA 19001

How to Register: Call Karen Burnham at 215-885-5181 x 15 or Email [kburnham@mclinc.org](mailto:kburnham@mclinc.org)

Forest Stewardship at Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary- In May 2015, the STC began a partnership with local groups, our DCNR Service Forester, the PA Game Commission and the PA National Heritage Program to develop a forest stewardship plan for the Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary. Join us as we begin to care for these woods. For the latest information, join the Friends of Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary Facebook group!

## **Shredding Event**

Abington Township's fall shredding event will take place on Saturday, October 17, 2015 from 9am-12:00 noon at the Public Works Facility, 2201 Florey Lane, Roslyn, PA 19001. Only residents of Abington Township (no commercial businesses) are encouraged to bring personal and confidential documents and files to the event.

### **Electronics Recycling**

Residents of Abington Township only can bring "Anything with a Plug to the Abington Township Public Works Facility, 2201 Florey Lane, Roslyn, PA 19001 on Saturday, November 7, 2015 and on February 27, 2016 from 9am-1pm. No batteries, light bulbs, smoke detectors, or large appliances. There will be a fee of \$20 per TV or computer monitor.

## **Yard Waste**

(March through January) which consists of grass clippings, leaves, etc. is accepted in 30- gallon brown biodegradable paper bags. Brush and tree limbs, which must be bundled and tied (maximum 3- foot lengths and 3 inches in Diameter and weigh no more than 30lbs.) are picked up on the same day as your regular trash day.

## **Vacuum Leaves**

Rake leaves curbside for vacuuming no earlier than one week prior to scheduled collection. If you are not sure which week your leaves are scheduled for collection you can use your browser and type in [http://www.abington.org/refuse/leaf\\_collection.htm](http://www.abington.org/refuse/leaf_collection.htm) and click on Leaf collection schedule by Individual Street for that information.

## **Hazardous Waste Collection Program**

Each year the Waste Authority of Montgomery County has six different dates at six different sites in the county to drop off hazardous waste materials. The final one for this year will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2015 at the Lower Merion Township Public Works, 1300 N. Woodbine Avenue, Penn Valley, PA 19072 from 9am-3pm. For more information and directions call 610-278-3618.

## **Township Holiday and Refuse/Recycling Collection Schedule**

If your scheduled collection day falls on a holiday your trash and recycling will be collected on the township's next working day. On the collection day after a holiday, all commingle and paper recycling carts will be collected by one truck. Yard waste in both areas will not be collected until their next regular collection day. NO other collection day will be affected.

**Holiday Trees** - Discard holiday trees on your trash days in January. Please do not put trees in plastic bags.

## **Township Wide Clean-Up**

The Bi-Annual Township-Wide Clean-Up dates are October 5 through October 9. During this week, on your normal trash day we will take only your regular trash cart plus any additional normal trash placed in store purchased refuse bags. Bags can weigh no more than 30 lbs. However, no electronics, hazardous waste, construction material or large item pickups will be accepted. For a list of large item pickups refer to our website at [www.abington.org/refuse/largeitem\\_pickuplist.htm](http://www.abington.org/refuse/largeitem_pickuplist.htm). For additional information please telephone 267-536-1038 or 267-536-1034.

## **Abington Community Taskforce**

Learn about community offerings and opportunities for children, teens, and families in Abington Township. Visit [www.abingtonact.org](http://www.abingtonact.org) and "Like" us (Abington Community Taskforce) on Facebook!

## Responsible and Safe Use of Sewers

### Article 1-2

We have been experiencing increased frequency of sanitary sewer pipe blockages caused by foreign objects such as handy wipes, rags, paper towels and plastic items that are flushed down the toilet. These items **MUST** be disposed in the trash. The resulting sewer backups caused by these foreign objects result in backflow into basements. **PLEASE NEVER** flush any of these objects. Remember, the water may flow away from your property, but there are always properties upstream from you which could cause a blockage and backflow into your basement. Please respect your neighbors by not flushing these objects and never draining oils into the sink to prevent blockages. The Township's sewer contractor will be cutting roots and cleaning laterals over the next several months. The high pressure cleaning may create bubbling in sink traps and toilets which could remove the water in the trap. If you hear this bubbling or have an odor simply run water to refill the trap.

## Household Hazardous Waste Events

Each year the Waste Authority of Montgomery County has six different dates at six different sites in the county to drop off hazardous waste materials. The final one for this year will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2015 at the Lower Merion Township Public Works, 1300 N. Woodbine Avenue, PennValley, PA 19072 from 9am-3pm. For more information and directions call 610-278-3618.

## Board of Commissioners

Ward 1	Vice Pres., Steven N. Kline	kline4ward1@comcast.net
Ward 2	Michael Markman	mmarkman88@gmail.com
Ward 3	Lawrence F. Jones, Jr.	larryjonesward3@gmail.com
Ward 4	Jimmy DiPlacido	jimmydiplacido@gmail.com
Ward 5	President, Wayne C. Luker	wayneluker@aol.com
Ward 6	Stephen Kalinoski	skward6@yahoo.com
Ward 7	Benjamin V. Sanchez	bensanchez.ward7@gmail.com
Ward 8	Peggy Myers	meg40@aol.com
Ward 9	Dennis C. Zappone	dczapp1@verizon.net
Ward 10	Thomas Hecker	info@hecker4ward10.com
Ward 11	John L. Spiegelman	spiegs@spiegs.net
Ward 12	Thomas J. Farren, Sr.	tafarren@gmail.com
Ward 13	Carol E. Gillespie	cgil3@verizon.net
Ward 14	Lori A. Schreiber	loriforroslyn@hotmail.com
Ward 15	Thomas Bowman	tbowman1999@aol.com

### Traffic Safety Reminders

1. On October 21, The Abington Police Department (APD) and the Abington School District will participate in the state-sponsored OPERATION SAFE STOP. Motorists committing violations pertaining to passing school buses will be targeted. The APD will have additional personnel on school bus routes during that day. Check in with the APD website, Facebook page, Channel 43, and other media for information in advance of this event.
2. The Fall season brings leaves on the roadways and darkness earlier in the evening. Motorists should exercise caution both for slippery driving conditions and awareness of pedestrians as daylight ebbs.
3. Motorists, please be extra alert in rain, snow, and ice. Remember, if the wipers are on, headlights must also be turned on. Be sure to clear the windshield and the vehicle of snow, ice and frost before driving. Don't forget to remove snow from the vehicle's roof.

