

Castle Shannon est. 1919

Pennsylvania / Spring-Summer 2023

*Building a better
Castle Shannon!*

ALLEGHENY
LEAGUE OF
MUNICIPALITIES

BANNER
COMMUNITY PROGRAM

*Recognized as a 2023
Banner Community!*

Contact Us



Municipal Center
3310 McRoberts Road
Castle Shannon, PA 15234



Administrative Offices
412-885-9200
Hours: 8:30am-4:00pm



Police Department
Administration, Street Parking,
Shift Supervisor
412-885-9300



<http://csboro.org>



csboro@csboro.org



CastleShannonBorough

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Donald J. Baumgarten

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Jason Maloney, *Vice President*
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Nancy Kovach
William Oates
Marian Randazzo
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The Castle Shannon Newsletter is a periodic, official publication of Castle Shannon Borough.

The Castle Shannon Borough Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Please see the Borough webpage for details: <http://csboro.org>

The Castle Shannon Planning Commission meets the 3rd Monday of each month as needed. Please contact the Building & Zoning Department for more information.

From the Manager: Katie Stringent

Community Improvements & the Parks Plan

As we move into the spring season, Borough residents will notice big changes to the Borough's parks system. With Borough Council's adoption of the Six Parks "Plus" Master Plan in the spring of 2022, Borough staff began to lay out an extensive five-year plan for implementation of the elements identified within the plan including new park shelters, play equipment, and seating. While some changes are larger than others, over the next few years, residents will notice changes to all Borough owned parks.



When it was time to identify the order in which the improvements will be implemented, the Borough began with the parks that were receiving the most minor of upgrades. These parks were identified as Myrtle/Chestnut Park, Prospect Park, and the Borough Library. At Myrtle you will notice a new shelter and rubberized play surface along with additional trees for shaded spots to rest. At Prospect Park the

Borough is installing new play equipment, a larger shelter, additional trees, and resurfacing the basketball court. The library was also included in the improvement plan as the library serves as an asset for the entirety of the community. At the library you may notice that the gazebo has been removed to make room for a new outdoor classroom learning space, shade sails, new sidewalks, and seating area.

These improvements will be completed by late spring, early summer 2023.

Most notably for 2023, the Borough will begin intended improvements at Lower and Rear Hamilton Park.

Lower Hamilton improvements include the turfing of the field to allow for regulation soccer and baseball/softball play, the installation of a 2,400 square foot pavilion/stage, improved tennis court, the installation of pickle ball courts, and a multipurpose court to include necessary hook ups for food trucks. Beginning later this spring, you will notice contractors begin to mobilize within Hamilton Park. The Borough will post updates throughout the duration of the project and will be available for questions, comments, or concerns from residents. The scale of these improvements requires the complete closure of Hamilton Park for the 2023 season. It is intended that Lower Hamilton Park will reopen for the spring 2024 season.

As Lower Hamilton is completed, the Borough will embark on improvements to Upper Hamilton, Municipal Park, and Riehl Park. Further details regarding the Six Parks "Plus" Master Plan can be found on the Borough website at <https://borough.castle-shannon.pa.us/parks-recreation/>, with a hard copy of the plan available for inspection at the Borough Offices between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:00 pm M-F. Should you have any questions regarding the Parks Plan, the implementation, or the intended outcomes please do not hesitate to contact the Borough offices.



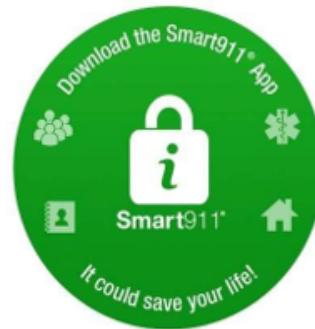
Lower Hamilton

Myrtle

Prospect

Public Safety Officials Encourage Residents to Sign Up for Local Emergency Notifications to be Better Prepared for an Emergency

Castle Shannon, PA - March 1, 2023 – Public safety officials in the Borough of Castle Shannon announced that **Smart911** is now available to all residents, replacing the previous SwiftReach system. **Smart911** is a free service that allows individuals to receive notifications sent from state and local authorities to stay informed on potentially hazardous situations involving weather, traffic, and other emergencies.



Subscribe to
Smart911
for Castle Shannon
Emergency Notifications

Text ShannonAlerts to 67283

The switch to **Smart911** allows residents to receive alerts via phone, text and email, and answer poll questions that will give Castle Shannon officials critical information during emergency situations. Individuals who are signed up for alerts will receive reliable information about emergencies, including tailored updates based on their specific needs and geographic location.

Individuals who were previously signed up for SwiftReach will need to enroll in and add additional and updated information to the new platform to ensure accuracy. Residents and travelers to Castle Shannon who were not previously signed up for SwiftReach should sign up for free at; <https://www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/reg.action?pa=csboropd> to receive timely and actionable emergency alerts via email, text, or voice message. They can also identify when and how they are alerted and communicated with before, during, and after emergencies.



Smart911 strengthens Castle Shannon officials' ability to communicate with residents when it matters most," said Ken Truver, CSPD Chief of Police and Borough Emergency Management Coordinator. "This service allows for critical communication with the public and provides individuals with the information needed to stay safe or take precautions during hazardous or emergency situations.

Smart911 is trusted by thousands of institutions including state and local authorities, business, and educational institutions. **Smart911** sends millions of messages daily and during critical situations such as severe weather.

Community members are encouraged to sign up for **Smart911** and input or update their information and notification preferences today at <https://www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/reg.action?pa=csboropd> or **Text ShannonAlerts** to **67283**.

There was an initial system wide test on Thursday March 2, 2023 at 12:00pm. Residents who missed the call to their phones may have seen a "missed call" from 412.885.9300.

We will be using contact information gleaned from utility customer information already in our database, but **residents should register** at the link provided and provide updated desired contact information.

If you get the alert when we test the system, we ask that you acknowledge it by email, if possible, to info@csboro.com. We anticipate testing the system at least once a year.

For questions, please email info@csboro.com or call the police station 412.885.9300.

Kenneth M. Truver, Chief of Police
Castle Shannon Borough ~ 3310 McRoberts Rd ~ Castle Shannon, Pa 15234
(412) 885-9300 x110 ~ (412) 885-9252 FAX
ken.truver@csboro.com



FBINA Session 225





From the Fire Department: Bob Sutton, President

Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

We all rely on batteries to help with our daily lives, from operating our TV remotes, flashlight, and clocks. The alkaline battery has been for years the battery of choice for consumers, designed to be used once and discarded. When discarding these batteries many of us do not give any thought to the potential danger these batteries contain.

The next step in battery technology in the last decade is the LITHIUM-ION BATTERY. Unlike the alkaline battery, the lithium-ion battery can be recharged to provide continued use. Lithium-ion batteries are designed to store a larger amount of energy in a small amount of space. Lithium-ion batteries supply power to devices including smart phones, laptops, e-bikes, toys, e-cigarettes, and power tools and even in the fast-growing field of electric vehicles.

While both types of batteries need to be handled in a safe matter, the lithium-ion battery with its ability to store a large amount of energy is prone to fire and explosions which can result in injuries and fires.

The following are just a few safety tips related to lithium-ion batteries.

- ALWAYS follow the manufacturer's instructions related to the battery, charger, and device being used with the battery.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Never keep lithium-ion batteries near heat sources or in high temperatures, such as direct sunlight, radiators.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the battery after it is fully charged.
- Purchase and use batteries that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: change of shape, leaking, odor, too much heat, change of color, or odd noises. If any of these conditions exist, and if it can be done in a safe matter, move the device away from anything that can catch fire.

E-BIKE CHARGING: These mobile devices are becoming very popular and the safety precautions concerning the care and charging of these devices is no different than any other device we use. One important thing the fire service has come to realize is that many times people will place their e-bike at the point of egress where there may be a convenient location to recharge the battery. This is most common when it comes to apartment buildings where the tenant does not have a basement or garage in which to place the e-bike for storage and charging. This is where the hazard lies, if you live in an area with only one way out of your living space such as an apartment and your e-bike develops a problem to the point you are not able to leave your space because of smoke, fire, or explosion then the possibility of being trapped in your residence greatly increases. DO NOT place your e-bike near your only emergency exit.

BATTERY DISPOSAL – Do not throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash. While your lithium-ion battery may not be able to serve you as it once did, or you don't have a need for it anymore placing it in the trash can create a fire hazard and injure the personnel that need to handle your waste. Recycling also prevents environmental pollution. Always recycle your batteries.

If you develop a problem with a lithium-ion battery, call 911.

These are only a few safety tips related to the lithium-ion battery. Again, the most important thing that can be done is to follow the manufacturer's instructions that accompany your device.

From The Fire Department: Bill Reffner, Fire Chief

Hello and Happy Spring Friends,



As the winter months begin to fade, we turn our attention to spring – a time of hope and promise, a time of renewal, a time for a new beginning. What better way to start anew, than with a SPRING CLEAN-UP in your home.

As part of your Spring Clean Up routine – removing dirt, debris and clutter from rooms, hallways, stairways, and your garage -- I challenge each of you to check, maintain, and/or replace the smoke detectors in your home. If you don't have smoke detectors throughout your home, now is the time to add them.

In the United States, an average of eight people die in house fires every day. Tragically, half of these deaths could have been prevented but nearly 75% of smoke detectors fail to operate due to missing, disconnected or dead batteries. In some cases, smoke detectors are more than 10 years old and beyond their useful life.

By properly installing and maintaining smoke detectors throughout your home, you can provide an early warning of a potentially deadly fire. Minutes matter. A smoke detector warning can be the difference between life and death for you and your family.

Lastly, the Castle Shannon Volunteer Fire Department is partnering with the NiSource Foundation and Columbia Gas to provide Smoke Detectors (and CO Detectors) to those in need. If you are a resident of Castle Shannon, we would be happy to provide a free smoke detector and install it along with any other detectors that you already have.

If you are interested in this free service, please call the fire department at 412-884-7913.

Tips for Installation of Smoke Detectors:

- Place one in every bedroom;
- Outside the sleeping area;
- On every level of your home, including basement;
- On levels without bedrooms: install in living room, den, or family room;
- Install near stairways leading to upper levels;
- Install smoke alarms 10 feet from cooking appliances to minimize false alarms;
- Mount smoke alarms high on walls or ceilings (remember, smoke rises).;
- Wall-mounted alarms should be installed not more than 12 inches away from the ceiling (to the top of the alarm);
- Use interconnected smoke alarms for additional safety and early warning;
- Do not install near windows, doors, or ducts;
- And never Paint Smoke Alarms.

Remember to:

1. Test smoke alarms monthly.
2. Change smoke alarm batteries yearly.
3. Replace smoke alarms every 10 years.



CSVFD Social Halls

The Castle Shannon Volunteer Fire Department has two halls available for rent that are suited for all types of events! You can access more information by visiting the fire department's website and clicking on the "HALL" link. To schedule a visit please call the office at **412-884-7913** and we will connect you with the hall rental agent.



Castle Shannon Community Day

Castle Shannon Borough is happy to announce that we will be partnering with the Castle Shannon Fire Department for Community Day 2023!

This new combined event will take place **July 26th-29th** and will have family friendly carnival rides, carnival games, food trucks, bands and fireworks along with other community related activities. More information will be posted soon!

Springtime Means Summer Is Right Around The Corner...



Residents are reminded to keep an eye out for their resident ticket packets. Packets will once again be mailed to residents via USPS. Packets should start arriving around June 1st.

One of the easiest ways to support our department is to purchase or sell your resident packet tickets, plus every resident that sells all their tickets is eligible to be entered into a special resident only raffle and a chance to win \$1,000.00.

Tickets will also be available soon in local businesses and sold daily in front of the firehouse by our members.

The past 3 years winners of the first prize have all been borough residents and won with a resident packet ticket!

...And Summer Means The Return Of The Annual CSVFD Car Raffle!

Keep up to date on all event details via the Borough's website and Facebook page or our website, www.csvfd.org or the Car Raffle Facebook page @Castle Shannon VFD Annual Car Raffle.

From State Representative Dan Miller

Rep. Dan Miller's 10th Anniversary Disability and Mental Health Summit



This spring, we will be marking the 10th year of our annual Disability and Mental Health Summit. This year's Summit will feature a special legislative event on May 11th at Beth El Congregation in Scott Township. The day will center around two legislative panels, one in the morning focused on mental health and another in the afternoon dedicated to disability, with each panel made up of members of the State House and State Senate from both parties. The Legislative Panel has been a highlight of our yearly Summit over the last decade and is an important opportunity to further raise the visibility of issues related to disability and mental health across Pennsylvania.

The morning's programming will begin with an hourlong look at the state of mental health services in Pennsylvania. I will be joined by Dr. Dale Adair, the state's Chief Psychiatric Officer, for a conversation about the challenges we are facing with our mental health system and the opportunities there are for improvement.

Following that, our mental health legislative panel will take a closer look at two specific areas. We will hear about the recommendations of the Behavioral Health Commission for allocating funding intended to improve adult behavioral health supports, including their recommendations for addressing the shortage of providers and for enhancing the ability of our criminal justice and public safety systems to address the needs of those with mental health issues. This will be followed by a discussion of the challenges our K-12 schools face in meeting the mental health needs of students they serve.

In the afternoon, our focus will switch to disability issues. Department of Human Services Secretary Val Arkoosh will join me to talk about many of the issues uppermost on the minds of those with disabilities and those who support them.

After that, we will hold our second legislative panel of the day. Here, we will be addressing the state of employment for people with disabilities in Pennsylvania. We will hear from members of the state's Employment First Oversight Commission and other experts who will discuss the challenges and possible paths forward in this critical area. We will also be talking about the college experience for those with disabilities, whether those students are in degree-seeking or certificate programs. We will take a look at the supports that may be available, talk about what is needed, and discuss how the state can do a better job of ensuring that parents and students have the information they need to make the best decisions possible.

The Summit will also feature our always-popular Resource Fair, featuring dozens of groups serving and supporting those with disabilities or mental health needs. The Resource Fair is a great place to seek out information, network with providers, and connect with organizations that are looking to help.

The Disability and Mental Health Summit on May 11th is free to attend and open to the public.

For more information, please visit repdanmiller.com. I hope to see you there!

From State Senator Jim Brewster



Senator Jim Brewster will be holding Castle Shannon Office Hours on the Third Monday of every month from 10:00am-2:00pm. Senator Brewster looks forward to representing Castle Shannon and its residents!



Seeking Seasonal Employees: Public Works

Part-time employment opportunities are available with the Public Works Department for the summer of 2023. Applicants must be 18 or older, full-time college students, or high school seniors who will enter their first year of college.

For a full job description please see <http://csboro.org>. Applications are available at the Municipal Center from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

WILL YOU ANSWER THE CALL? *Members Needed Now, All Ages, All Backgrounds!*

• Accountants • Mechanics • Electricians • Retail Workers • Truck Drivers • Cooks • Retirees • Students*

No Experience Needed

We Offer Several Different Membership Levels

- Firefighter (*Interior or Exterior*)
- Associate
- Special Service

Benefits of Membership

- Free Training
- Free Life Insurance
- Hall Rental Discounts
- Use of Fitness Center
- Free Uniforms/Apparel
- Free Parking at LRT lot

**Free tuition through CCAC'S FireVest Program*

**Contact Us Today to Learn
More About Becoming a Member of
your Volunteer Fire Department**

**412-884-7913
csvfdmembership@gmail.com
www.csvfd.org/join**



From the Library

What's New at Your Library?

Quite typically, as I trek along my neighborhood walking route, I stream a sports talk show or a Pittsburgh professional sports team, stop to chat with a passing neighbor I encounter along the way, or observe quietly the sights and sounds of my neighborhood. I believe that as an active community volunteer over the years I have learned so much from walking the loop around town in Castle Shannon. I have discovered and reported water main breaks in the wee hours of the morning, noticed and offered assistance to a dear neighbor friend that could use some help with moving those stubborn trash cans, and more and more have encountered pleasant, long awaited sights along the way – parked cars lining Castle Shannon Boulevard, parking spots utilized by customers patronizing the new Greek Bakery, beautiful, shiny benches dotting the neat, brick sidewalk pavers, and coffee drinkers congregating outside the much welcomed coffee shop located in the Downtown part of town. I believe that, if one just takes the time to stop, pay attention, and take in the sights often times it tells a story.

Recently, while tackling the sidewalk up towards the library, I noticed the numerous mounds of dirt against the library building as well as the dirt pile where the gazebo once stood. I recall feeling a sense of elation and gratitude realizing that these seemingly insignificant mounds of dirt mean so much more to me, our Borough Council and Officials, and my colleagues on our Library Board who have worked committedly toward bringing about positive improvements to our library and parks. These mounds of dirt mark the start of upcoming improvements to the library grounds, sidewalks, and lighting. Soon Adirondack chairs for outdoor seating, colorful shade sails, and newly landscaped plants and trees will start to appear. Phase I of the Parks Plus Plan is now underway!

To further emphasize the committed work of borough and library colleagues to bring about these exciting improvements, I feel the need to introduce my colleagues on the Community of Castle Shannon Library Board. Did you know that seven community residents make up our Library Board of Trustees? The following individuals graciously agreed to volunteer their time and energy for a three year time commitment, to offer their talents in their areas of expertise, and to advocate positively for your library.



Marian Randazzo, Vice President of the Castle Shannon Library Board of Trustees



Donna Phillips – President CS Library Board of Trustees,
5 years of service on the Library Board,
Castle Shannon Resident for 10 years,
Educator in the Upper St. Clair School District at the Middle School Level,
Former Summertime Tutor



Marian Randazzo – Vice President CS Library Board of Trustees,
8 years of service on the Library Board,
Castle Shannon Resident for 45 years,
Castle Shannon Borough Councilperson and Liaison to Library Board of Trustees,
Retired, Former Library Assistant at Duquesne University, Gumberg Library in the
Cataloging/Technical Services Department,
Former President of the Keystone Board of School Directors,
Former Library Assistant in the Keystone Oaks School District,
Former Myrtle School PFO President, Former KOSD Coordinating Council President,
Former Castle Shannon Youth Association Coach



Diane Fabry – Secretary/Treasurer CS Library Board of Trustees,
2nd year of service on the Library Board,
Castle Shannon Resident for 17-1/2 years,
UPMC Health Plan Analyst,
Former Myrtle School PFO Secretary,
Former Keystone Oaks Middle School PFO Secretary and President,
Volunteer at Our Lady of Hope Parish as a Eucharistic Minister and Wedding Coordinator



Jennifer Shushnar – CS Library Board of Trustees,
2nd year of service on the Library Board, Castle Shannon Borough Business Owner for 14 years, Castle Shannon Resident for 7 years, SEC Analyst at FHLBank Pittsburgh

From the Library



Donece Janiak – Former Secretary CS Library Board of Trustees,
20 years of service on the Library Board,
Castle Shannon Resident for 60 years,
Retired Nurse



Laura Heckmann – CS Library Board of Trustees,
1st year of service on the Library Board,
Castle Shannon Resident for 8 years,
Lead Clinical Dietitian at St. Clair Hospital,
Volunteer, Friends of Community Library of
Castle Shannon,
Volunteer, 412 Food Rescue



Mary Craig – CS Library Board of Trustees,
1st year of service on the Library Board,
Castle Shannon Resident for 40 years,
Retired, Chief Compliance Officer Quick Med
Claims,
Experience in Health Care Operations and
Regulatory Compliance,
Current Consultant, Leadership Mentor



In summary, this dynamic group of talented individuals pledges to focus their efforts on bolstering library services for our community residents. This relatively “new” Board of Trustees overwhelmingly approved and initiated adding Library Board Meeting Minutes to both the Borough and the Library Websites with the mindset of inviting and welcoming resident feedback and involvement, approved a significant monetary expenditure from their budget for costs associated with the outdoor improvements to the library grounds in order show “skin in the game,” and implemented a “Little Free Pantry” at the back of the Library for beginning the task of helping neighbors in need. By the way, thanks to our Library Director, Heather Myrah, for coordinating the Little Free Pantry Project and to the Castle Shannon Department of Public Works for the installation of it!

Further, the Library Board approved the budget expenditure for the hiring of our new part-time Adult Program Coordinator, Karen Lizon. Also, on behalf of the Board I extend a warm welcome to new library staff member, Yasmine Gromek, and a special thanks to our entire library staff for the stellar job they do every day.

In conclusion, due to the forward thinking vision, hard work, and efforts of elected Borough officials, Borough Manager and staff, and Library Director, signs of upcoming community improvements will become more and more evident. I’m pleased to report that this Library Board continues working diligently to follow their example and lead. We pledge to work steadily toward bolstering library programming inside the building, outside the library grounds and beyond, to partner with community stakeholders for implementing worthwhile initiatives, and to update and strengthen our Castle Shannon Library Board Mission Statement, i.e., “To be the Center for Information and Discovery by providing resources for life-long education and enjoyment for our Community.” I’m proud to report that it’s a new era in our hometown!

Yours in Service,
Marian Randazzo

Library Satisfaction Survey

Your feedback matters!

Do you have an idea of what the Castle Shannon Library can do to engage patrons and strengthen the community? Don’t miss this opportunity to make your voice heard!

The Castle Shannon Library Board of Trustees is inviting community members to complete this 3-minute Library Satisfaction Survey to learn more about your values and interests.

By participating in this survey, you can directly impact the quality and availability of library services and new programs.



Visit: rebrand.ly/WebSurvey414474



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Library Programs and Events for...

Kids, Tweens & Teens

Weekly Programs



BOOKWORM BABIES
Mondays at 11:00AM
April 3rd - May 15th

Bounce, sing, and hear a story all while working on the earliest skills of literacy at this storytime!

Specially designed for caregivers and their children 6-18 months. Registration is not required.



TIME FOR TOTS
Wednesdays at 11:00AM
April 5th - May 17th

A storytime that is specially designed for toddlers and their grown-up! We will hear stories, sing songs, and may have a special activity! This program is designed to promote early literacy skills for ages 18-36 months with an accompanying adult. Registration is not required.



PRESCHOOL STORYTIME
Thursdays at 11:00AM
April 6th - May 18th

Join us every Thursday for Preschool Storytime at the library. We will listen to stories, sing songs, and sometimes have a craft! This program is designed to promote early literacy skills for ages 3-5. Registration is not required.



CRAFTERSCHOOL
Mondays at 3:30PM
April 3rd - May 22nd
Ages 5 - 12

Join us after school for a free craft! Registration is not required.



SPRING STEM PROGRAM
Tuesdays at 3:30PM
April 4th - May 30th
Ages 8 - 12

Explore different experiments at this afterschool STEM program! Registration is not required.



GAME ON!
Thursdays at 3:30PM
April 20th - May 25th
Ages 8 - 14

Join us afterschool for a mixture of board games, card games, and videogames! We have a wide variety of games to offer! Registration is not required.

Special Programs



OPEN PLAY
11:00AM
April 10th & 12th
May 22nd, 24th, and 25th
Ages 0 - 5

Join us as we open up our children's programming room for an hour of play time! Come explore all the fun toys and activities we have to offer! Registration is not required.



LEGO CLUB
First Friday of the month at 3:30PM
May 5th & June 2nd
Ages 5 - 12

Visit the library for a chance to create something awesome! Lego bricks will be provided and there will be a free hour to build whatever you'd like! All creations built must be deconstructed and put away at the end of the event. Registration is not required.



TINY ART SHOW
April 25th at 6:30PM
All Ages Welcome

National Library Week means it's time again for our Tiny Art Show! Canvas kits can be picked up at the library starting March 6th. Call or email us to reserve a kit. Kits include canvas, easel, paint, and paintbrush. Please return your canvas and easel to us by April 21st so we can display it at our April 25th exhibit! Join us for an evening of tiny art, refreshments, and games!



BOARD IN THE LIBRARY
May 30th at 6:00PM
All Ages

Drop in the library for an evening of board games! We have a large collection of games to choose from, or you are welcome to bring a favorite from home. Bring the whole family for a chance to experience good times and new games! Registration is not required.

Library Programs and Events for...

Adults & Seniors



MUNCH & LEARN

Kaufmann's: The Family that Built
Pittsburgh's Famed Department Store

Tuesday May 2nd at 12:30PM

Journalists Marilynne Pitz and Laura Malt
Schneiderman will be with us to discuss the
story of one of Pittsburgh's most beloved
department stores.

Copies of the book can be purchased that day.

Light refreshments will be provided.



CRAFTERNOON & CRAFTERDARK

For Adults 18 and older

Third Wednesday of the Month

1:30PM-3:30PM & 6:30PM-8:30PM

Join us for fun crafting with friends!

A \$3 donation and registration is appreciated.

Please sign up at the front desk, by calling the
Library at 412-563-4552, by emailing the Library at
castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org or
messaging us on our Facebook page!



EVENING WRITERS CAFE

Third Thursday of the Month

6:30PM-8:00PM

A group for creative writers, whether beginner or
seasoned.

Each session will open with a discussion on an element
of the craft of writing followed by time for sharing, and
time for writing. Coffee and tea provided.

Upcoming Dates:

April 20th - May 18th - June 15th - July 20th - August
17th - September 21st



BINGO FOR ADULTS

Fourth Friday of the Month

1:00PM

Stop by the Library to play 10 games of Bingo and
win prizes! FREE to play.

Doors Open 15 Minutes Early—Games Start at 1pm

Registration is required. Please sign up at the front
desk, by calling the Library at 412-563-4552, by
emailing the Library at

castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org or
messaging us on our Facebook page!

Upcoming Dates:

April 28th - May 26th - June 23rd - July 28th -
August 25th - September 22nd - October 27th



SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION

Second Monday of the Month

6:30PM

Join our Monthly Book Discussion Group!

Request a copy of the book through the online catalog:
<https://librarycatalog.einetwork.net/>

Download an electronic version through the Libby app from
Overdrive: <https://www.overdrive.com/apps/libby/>

Copies of the book are available at the Library.

Upcoming Dates:

May 8th: The Glass Hotel by Emily St. John Mandel

June 12th: The Womens' March by Jennifer Chiaverini

July 10th: The Sun Does Shine by Anthony Ray Hinton

August 14th: Just As I Am by Cicely Tyson

September 11th: Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

October 9th: If I Die Tonight by Alison Gaylin

November 13th: The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

December 11th: Mr. Dickens and His Carol by Samantha Silva



DRESS FOR SUCCESS EVENT FOR WOMEN

Monday, June 5th from 4:00PM-6:00PM

Dress for Success is coming to the Library and
bringing their mobile unit filled with clothing and
accessories suitable for women who need interview,
business or training attire. There is no cost for this
service.

Location: Back parking lot. In case of inclement
weather, the event will be held inside.

No registration required.



LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Last Thursday of the Month at 7:00PM

Join our Monthly Book Discussion Group!

Request a copy of your book through the online catalog:

<https://librarycatalog.einetwork.net/>

Download an electronic version through the Libby app from
Overdrive: <https://www.overdrive.com/apps/libby/>

Copies of the book are available at the Library.

Upcoming Dates:

April 27th: Once There Were Wolves by Charlotte McConaghy

May 25th: The Dinner List by Rebecca Serle

June 29th: Reader's Choice-You Pick What You Want to Read!

July 27th: The Death of Vivek Oji by Akwaeke Emezi

August 31st: Tell Me More: Stories about the 12 Hardest Things

I'm Learning to Say by Kelly Corrigan

September 28th: News of the World by Paulette Jiles

October 26th: The Stranger in the Woods: the Extraordinary

Story of the Last True Hermit by Michael Finkel

November 30th: And Every Morning the Way Home Gets

Longer and Longer by Fredrik Backman

*December 21st: Reader's Choice-You Pick What You Want to
Read!

*Earlier Date due to the Holidays



COOK THE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

For Adults 18 and Over

Last Wednesday of Every Other Month at 6:00PM

Do you love reading cookbooks and making new recipes?

If so, then this is the club for you!! We pick the cookbook

or theme, you select and make a recipe from that

cookbook or theme.

Please register by emailing

castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org.

Books are available at the library.

Pick a recipe from the book, make it for Cook the Book so
everyone can enjoy!

Upcoming Dates:

May 31st: From Crook to Cook by Snoop Dogg

July 26th: Smitten Kitchen Keepers by Deb Perelman



MADE INTO MOVIES/BOOK CLUB

Quarterly on the First Tuesday

of the Month at 1:00PM

A movie club for individuals interested in answering
the question, "Was the book really better than the
movie?" A short discussion period will follow the
showing of the film. Books will be available to check
out at the library. Light refreshments will be provided.

Upcoming Dates:

June 6th: Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly

September 5th: Death on the Nile by Agatha Christie

December 5th: My Policeman by Bethan Roberts



VEGETABLE GARDENING

Tuesday, June 13th at 7:00PM

Barb Kline from the Penn State Master Gardener

Program will be at the Library to talk about

Vegetable Gardening!

This class will cover the basics of planning your
vegetable garden, preparing the soil selecting plant
and seed varieties (including hybrids and heirlooms),
starting plants from seed, planting, tending your
plants, troubleshooting problems, harvesting,
extending the season, getting the most out of small
plots, and putting the garden to bed for the winter.

The presentation is 45 minutes long and there will be
time after for questions.

Registration is required.

Please call the Library at 412-563-4552, email the
Library at castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org
or drop us a message through Facebook.

Friends of the Castle Shannon Library

Fall Used Book Sale

Thursday, September 14th

2 pm – 7:30 pm

Friday, September 15th

11 am – 4:00 pm

Saturday, September 16th

10:30 am – 3:30 pm (Bag Day)

Library Highlights



Did You Know? Some Interesting Facts about the Library from 2022...

Registered Patrons in 2022: 2,353

Total Circulation in 2022: 53,135

13 Total Circulation of Electronic Materials in 2022: 16,431

The library's collection totals 31,936 cataloged items.

80,409 people visited the library in 2022.

282 In-Person Programs were held.

Total attendance at these programs was 3,117.

Our **VISION** at the Community Library of Castle Shannon is...

"...to be the center for information and discovery by providing resources for life-long education and enjoyment for our community."

As we maneuver through 2023, we are delighted to see patrons returning to the Library like they did pre-COVID. We love seeing familiar faces and new ones. Computers are filled with patrons reading through their emails and printing resumes while the kids are having fun playing Roblox with their friends. Families are drawing pictures at our Makerspace area or playing one of the many board games we have available. The newest books by popular authors such as James Patterson, Danielle Steel and Colleen Hoover are being checked out by our patrons. TV Series are being binge watched because the new season is coming back. Our small and large programming rooms are being used throughout the week with programs such as Story Time, Crafterschool, Game On!, a variety of Book Discussions, Bingo, Author Visits and Crafternoon/Crafterdark just to name a few.



We are pleased to announce that as of April 23rd, our Library will be **fine free!**



Why is this important?

Get ready to play!



FRIDAY May 12 AT 1pm

**CASTLE SHANNON LIBRARY
3677 MYRTLE AVE, PITTSBURGH PA 15234**

Prizes and light refreshments will be available! Join us for an afternoon of fun!

Even though library materials and services are free to the community, overdue fines can keep people away from the library and inequitably restrict access to library resources. Going fine free will remove barriers for our patrons, so more people can enjoy the Library!

We know library patrons are busy and sometimes an item comes back a few days late, and we want to make sure that using the library is easy and inclusive for all patrons. Now patrons do not have to worry about their items accruing overdue fines, but the item still must be returned.



Items that are not returned will be billed, but don't worry, you will receive many reminder notices before that happens!



Did you know that digital resources are available through the Library 24 hours a day, 7 days a week? Download the Libby and Hoopla apps to your digital device for access to eBooks, eAudio, magazines, music and movies. All you need is your Library card! Don't have a Library card? Apply for one online through our website or stop in the library. There is even an app for your library card and account. Search Allegheny County Libraries in your devices app store along with Libby and Hoopla.



Heather Myrah
Library Director

We are excited for the Summer Reading Program that will officially kick off on Friday, June 9th with a party on our front lawn! The theme is All Together Now. Everyone, no matter what age you are, is encouraged to participate this summer!

As mentioned, the outside of the Library is getting renovations done. We are thrilled about the outdoor seating area and the digital sign. We are looking forward to the changes!

The staff of the Community Library of Castle Shannon is here for you... stop in and check us out!

Make sure to visit our website, LIKE our Facebook page and follow us on Instagram and Twitter to find out what is happening & new at the Library!



Gifts and Memorials



The library is pleased to receive gifts of money designated for the purchase of library materials, equipment, or furnishings. You can also make a monetary contribution to the library for a book memorial to honor a friend or give a gift of a book in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, graduation or any other special occasion.

Recommendations for books and other library materials are welcome. Contributions begin at \$10.00 and you may suggest a specific book or general subject. A personalized bookplate is placed in each material with the name of the honored person and the name of the donor.

On receipt of your contribution, a letter will be sent to the family or individual and an acknowledgement will be sent to you.



Friends of the Community Library of Castle Shannon Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: (Please include city & zip code)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: _____ Phone _____ Text Msg _____ Email

Are you interested in volunteering for any of these events? (Please check)

- ☐ Flea Markets
- ☐ Book Sales
- ☐ Baking for Misc. Events

In addition to/in lieu of volunteering, please accept the following donation: Amount: \$ _____

Please return this form with payment to the Community Library of Castle Shannon.

Who are the Friends?

The Friends of the Community Library of Castle Shannon support and fund the library. The Friends support the library through fund-raising and volunteer activities throughout the year.

How do I become a Friend?

You can help support programming at the library and become a member by donating \$5 for a Regular Membership, \$15 for a Family Membership or \$25 for a Patron Membership. We are also looking for volunteers to help out a few hours a year at our annual fund-raising events.

Please visit <https://castleshannonlibrary.org/friends-of-the-library/> for the 2023 Calendar of Events.

Friends of the Community Library of Castle Shannon and the United Way

Please designate the Friends of the Community Library of Castle Shannon for your United Way contribution. Please use the code number 10319077 when making your contribution.

Thank you!

Follow Us!



@library_cs



@library_cs



@castleshannonlibrary

For updates on events, fundraisers, and other library-related news!

Stay Up to Date on Library Information, Programs & Events

Make sure to like our Facebook page, follow us on Twitter and Instagram, check out our website www.castleshannonlibrary.org, or ask to be put on our email list by emailing us at castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org so you always know what is going on with the Library and it's programs and events!

Accepted Library Donations

The library accepts donations of gently-used newer books, audio books, DVDs, music CDs, puzzles, board games and video games. Please place items in our RED DONATION BIN near the front door. Donations are either added to the library's collection or sold at the Friends of the Library Book Sales to support the library.



YES! I would I love to DONATE to the Community Library of Castle Shannon.

Name: _____

Address: (Please include city & zip code)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I wish to donate: (check one)

___\$5 ___\$10 ___\$25 ___\$ Other Amount

PLEASE SEND OR DROP OFF YOUR DONATION TO:
Community Library of Castle Shannon
3677 Myrtle Avenue
Castle Shannon, PA 15234

Donations are accepted online at <https://aclalibraries.org/library-finder/community-library-of-castle-shannon>



EXPERIENCE KITS

Thanks to our partnership with the Heinz Center Affiliates Program and other Allegheny County libraries, we are offering FREE ADMISSION for up to four people to a number of museums and historical sites around Pittsburgh! Plus, each pass comes with virtual access to educational information, itinerary ideas, and other fun content.

Our kits this year include:

- Duncan & Miller Glass Museum
- Heinz History Center (includes admission to Fort Pitt Museum and Meadowcroft Rockshelter)
- Historic Fort Steuben
- Merrick Art Gallery*
- Old Economy Village
- Somerset Historical Center
- West Overton Village Museum & Distillery

*Pass used in lieu of suggested donation;
check with the site about ticketed events.



What is RAD Pass?

RAD Pass is an online ticket lending system that allows Allegheny County library cardholders ages 18+ to access free or discounted tickets to regional attractions. RAD Pass helps make our region's cultural resources available and accessible to everyone.
<https://radpass.org/>



Our Little Free Pantry is Available!
Give What You Can...
Take What You Need...

- Personal Care Items
- Paper Products
- Nonperishable Food

Located in the Back of the Library.



You can help make our wishes come true! A donation to the library benefits the whole community. Purchasing an item from our Amazon wishlist is a meaningful way for you to shop and donate items directly to the library.
View our wishlist here: <https://a.co/8rwG2kw>



Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 10:30am-7:30pm
Wednesday and Friday: 10:30am-4:30pm
Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm
Sunday: CLOSED

311 App: Castle Shannon Cares

Get Connected. Get Involved. Get Results!

Did you know that Castle Shannon has an app for reporting community issues? It's called Castle Shannon Cares, and it's here to make sure our residents have a direct line to the Borough!

Castle Shannon Cares is the fastest, easiest way for you to submit non-emergency requests to your community, stay updated, and initiate change in your community.

How to use the App:

- 1) Download the Castle Shannon Cares app via the Apple or Google Play store.
- 2) Take a picture of an issue: For example, potholes, tree limbs in the road, or any issues with sidewalks.
- 3) Add the location of the problem.
- 4) Submit!



Construction Updates

PA American Water and Columbia Gas will both be performing repairs around Castle Shannon throughout the summer and into the fall.

PA American Water will be installing new water mains in order to improve service reliability, public health, and safety of residents. Affected areas include:

- Glen Shannon Dr. between Riehl Dr. & Highview Rd.
- Kerry Hill Dr. between Glen Shannon Dr. & Waterford Dr.
- Hoodridge Dr. from Rockwood Ave.
- James St. between Willow Ave. & dead end
- Willow Ave. between Rockwood Ave. & Baldwin St.
- Willow Ave. between Castle Shannon Blvd. & Canal St.
- Corbett Dr. between Baldwin St. & Frank St.

Columbia Gas will be repairing and replacing gas lines beginning in April. Affected areas include:

- Willow Ave. from Connor Rd. to Bockstoce Ave.
- Bockstoce Ave. from Willow Ave. to 959 Bockstoce Ave.
- James St.

This work will include block by block road closures as the work progresses. Road closures will only be in effect during working hours. To keep up to date with the project and how it may affect you, check the Borough website for the most up to date information.

*Castle Shannon Revitalization
Corporation presents...*

**STARS & STRIPES
OVER SHANNON**



CSRC will place a flag in your yard for the following 2023 patriotic holidays:

Presidents' Day - February 20th
Memorial Day - May 29th
Flag Day - June 14th
Independence Day - July 4th
Labor Day - September 4th
Veterans Day - November 11th

\$60 Annual subscription

To sign up scan the QR code or visit the Castle Shannon Revitalization Facebook Page

**VETERANS
BANNER
PROGRAM**

The Castle Shannon Military Banner Tribute Program is administered by the Castle Shannon Revitalization Corporation. Every year, the banners are displayed from Memorial Day until Veterans Day throughout Castle Shannon. Some of the banners currently require replacement. If you currently have a banner that needs replacement, you will be contacted by email or postcard. If you would like to honor a veteran with a new banner, replace a banner, or donate to the Military Banner Tribute Program scan the QR code below, or visit the Castle Shannon Revitalization Facebook page.



For additional information, email csrc15234@gmail.com

Summer Recreation Registration

Summer Recreation will have in-person registration on Saturday, May 13th from 10:00am-12:00pm.



There will be two registration locations:



The Castle Shannon Library and the Municipal Center.

Stop in to sign your kids up for a fun summer activity!



Youth Association

The Castle Shannon Youth Association season is in full swing! We are excited to see that registration numbers have continued to grow the last few years, having reached 120 youth baseball and softball players.

April 29th will be a busy day at Municipal Field!

The 29th of April will be the CSYA picture day as well as an opening day full of games consisting of tee ball, baseball and fast pitch softball. We hope to see you at the field to watch our boys and girls!



Scheduled Administration Office Closures

Borough Administration Offices are scheduled to be closed on the following days:

- Friday, April 7th - Good Friday
- Monday, May 29th - Memorial Day
- Tuesday, July 4th - Fourth of July
- Monday, September 4th - Labor Day
- Friday, November 10th - Veterans' Day
- Thursday & Friday, November 23rd-24th - Thanksgiving
- Friday-Monday, December 22nd-25th - Christmas



Spring Cleaning: Permits, Yard Waste

Pool Permits and Safety

Since the Covid-19 Pandemic, portable above ground pools have become a nightmare for Code Officials everywhere. There are a lot of different shapes and sizes being sold in the big box stores, home improvement stores, and Amazon, all of which are offering reasonable inexpensive prices and access. This is where the problem arises: when purchasing one of these pools, there is no mention of the codes and zoning that is involved in installing your pool at your home.

Each community has different zoning setbacks, but all communities follow the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code. All swimming pools that are four (4) feet or greater in height act as their own barrier until you have a ladder or deck to enter the pool. All pools that hold between two (2) feet and four (4) feet of water are required to meet all barrier codes.

These barrier codes will vary depending on the route used to enter the pool. In Castle Shannon, our ordinances dictate that you must show on a property survey that your pool is placed ten (10) feet in from your property line. You must also fill out a zoning permit application. These ordinances and permits aren't to keep you from having a pool; they are made to keep yourself, children, and animals safe.

There are too many drownings in home pools and spas, with hundreds of children each year dying. 73% of all reported fatal drownings involved children under the age of 5. On average, children under 5 represent 80% of youngsters treated in U.S. emergency departments for pool or hot tub related non-fatal injuries. Two-thirds of fatal pool or spa drownings occurred at a home, and drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death among 1-4 year olds. All statistics come from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CSPSC) reporting.



Before investing in a pool, make sure you're aware of and complying by your community codes and zoning guidelines. There is a much greater expense than just purchasing an inexpensive pool, and you'll want to know the requirements before jumping in.

Instead of purchasing a home pool, consider looking into Castle Shannon's partnership with Dormont Pool! Castle Shannon pays 50% of the season passes for our residents.

This is the cheapest, and safest, alternative to a home pool or spa.

Current resident season passes with the discount are priced at:

Child: \$42.50

Adult: \$52.50

Family: \$92.50

Senior \$35.00



Let's all have a safe and healthy summer!

Paul Vietmeier

Codes Official

To register for a season pass at the Dormont Pool, please contact the Borough of Dormont at 412-561-8900x1 or email Beth Bachman at bbachman@boro.dormont.pa.us



PRC Hard to Recycle Collections Schedule 2023

- **June 3rd** - Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills, Frazer Township
- **August 26th** - Next Tier Connect at Pittsburgh East, Monroeville
- **October 7th** - Settlers Cabin Park

ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED

HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL COLLECTIONS 2023

Saturdays, 9 am - 1 pm

April 15 ALLEGHENY COUNTY
PPG Paints Arena surface parking lots

May 6 ALLEGHENY COUNTY
North Park Swimming Pool parking lot

May 20 CAMBRIA COUNTY
Concurrent Technologies Corp. ETF Facility

June 17 FAYETTE COUNTY
Fayette County Recycling Convenience Center

June 24 WASHINGTON COUNTY
Wild Things Park parking lot

Aug. 19 ALLEGHENY COUNTY
Boyce Park Ski Lodge parking lot

Sept. 9 ALLEGHENY COUNTY
South Park Wave Pool parking lot

\$20 fee covers disposal of up to 10 gallons/50 pounds of the following materials:

- aerosol cans
- automotive fluids: motor oil, transmission fluid, antifreeze, brake fluid
- batteries
- camp fuel / small propane bottles
- chemistry sets
- compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs)
- electronic cigarettes
- gasoline and kerosene
- household cleaners
- mercury thermometers
- paint and paint products
- pesticides/herbicides
- photo chemicals
- pool chemicals
- smoke detectors

Oversized loads will be subject to additional charges at the discretion of on-site staff.
ADDITIONAL FEES: \$12 per fire extinguisher; \$15 per pound of liquid mercury.

NO E-WASTE collected at these events!

Sponsored by Pennsylvania Resources Council in partnership with Allegheny County Health Department, Allegheny County Parks Department, Cambria County Solid Waste Authority, Fayette County Commissioners, Fayette County Conservation District, Washington County Planning Commission, Colcom Foundation, LANXESS, PA Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania American Water, PPG and Pittsburgh Penguins, UPMC, Concurrent Technologies Corporation, Fayette County Recycling Convenience Center, PPG Paints Arena, Washington Wild Things, Washington County Family Entertainment, 100.1 FM and AM 1020 KDKA



**Pennsylvania
Resources
Council**

For details/registration
prc.org/CollectionEvents
412-488-7490 x1

ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED

HARD TO RECYCLE COLLECTIONS 2023

Saturdays, 9 am - 1 pm

June 3 Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills
590 Pittsburgh Mills Blvd., Tarentum, PA 15084

Aug. 26 Next Tier Connect @ Pittsburgh East
4350 Northern Pike, Monroeville, PA 15146

Oct. 7 Settlers Cabin Park
Ridge Road, Robinson Township, PA 15205

NO CHEMICALS collected at these events!

FEE CHARGED

- fluorescent tubes _____ \$2 for 4' / \$4 for 8'
- printers _____ \$5
- small Freon appliances _____ \$10
- tires _____ \$5 / with rim \$12
- computer monitor _____ \$20
- television _____ \$30
- projection or console TV _____ \$40

\$5 PARTICIPANT FEE*

unlimited disposal of cell and home phones • computer towers and peripherals (keyboards, laptops, mice, etc.)
expanded polystyrene packaging material • microwave ovens
• stereo equipment • VCRs, DVD players, cable boxes

***\$5 participant fee waived if individual pays for disposal of TV, tires or other materials listed in the FEE section above**

Sponsored by Pennsylvania Resources Council in partnership with Allegheny County Health Department, Colcom Foundation, Frazer Township, Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills, LANXESS, Pennsylvania American Water, 100.1 FM and AM 1020 KDKA



**Pennsylvania
Resources
Council**

For details/registration
prc.org/CollectionEvents
412-488-7490 x1

WEEKDAY E-WASTE COLLECTIONS IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Visit prc.org/CollectionEvents for complete details.
Participants must register online in advance
or call 412-488-7490 x1.



Municipal Center
3310 McRoberts Road
Castle Shannon, PA 15234

(412) 885-9200 Fax: (412) 885-9251
<http://csboro.org>

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA
Permit No. 2401

Castle Shannon Borough

2023 Recycling Collection Calendar



April						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29*	30	31				

June						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
					1	2
3	4*	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
				1	2	3
4*	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23*	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December						
M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25*	26	27	28	29	30	31

Recycle Week Holiday