

PAL Centers: A Place for Kids to Hang

Many times young people want a place to hang out that is not home. To meet that need, the Abington Police Department has opened its first Police Athletic League (PAL) center in the Glenside-Weldon Elementary School gymnasium. Open every Friday and Saturday night from 7:00-11:00 p.m., the center offers video and board games, basketball, volleyball, and outdoor activities. The center for those age 12 and up is adult supervised but teen directed. This means that the input of the participants guides the choice of weekly activities.

The Abington PAL organization, now part of the national PAL organization, was funded by a grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and donations from community members. This grant has also provided for a juvenile task force of seven additional police officers and a supervisor dedicated to youth related issues in the community on rotating evenings throughout spring, summer, and fall.

A second PAL center opens October 5 at Willow Hill Elementary School. Volunteers are needed. For more information, contact the Community Policing Division at 267-536-1071.

Abington YMCA Presents Fall Teen/Tween Activities

Students in grades 7-12 can check out the following fall opportunities at the Abington YMCA:

- ◆ **Black Achievers** An enrichment and mentoring program for African-American teens.
- ◆ **Teen Leaders Club** A leadership program for teens in the Abington area.
- ◆ **Youth and Government** A program for youth interested in policy and politics. Youth meet elected officials and lobbyists.
- ◆ **Cheer Gems** A comprehensive cheerleading squad hosted by the Abington YMCA.

Also for grades 7-12, **Teen Nights** are held Fridays from 7:00-10:00 p.m. Kids can swim, play pool and basketball, work out in the fitness center, listen to music, and socialize. There is a \$3 fee for non-members. **Tween Nights** offer the same activities for students in grades 5-6 two Saturdays a month from 7:00-9:00 p.m. For more information about these programs, contact Kenyette Barnes, Director of Adolescent Services, at 215-884-9622.

Nominate Community Members for Recognition

The Abington Community Taskforce (ACT) is planning a spring recognition reception to honor special people who have made positive contributions to the safety and wellbeing of the Abington community as it relates to ACT's mission. Please consider submitting for consideration the name and accomplishment(s) of anyone you know who has given of his/her time and talents to make Abington a safe, caring, responsible community. Fill out the form below (please print) and mail it before October 5 to the Abington Community Taskforce, c/o Sheldon Erwine, 1927 Corinthian Ave., Abington, PA 19001.

Nominee's Name _____

Explain this person's contribution to the community. _____

Your Name _____ Phone # _____