Friends of Donegal Newsletter February 2026

A HUGE THANK YOU TO 12 LOCAL BUSINESSES!

A dozen local Mount Joy businesses came together to host the 2nd Annual Chocolate Stroll in January 2026. 200 tickets were sold. Even though the weather was cold, people braved the elements!

Thank you to the following local businesses for your support of Friends of Donegal:

The Joy of Sweets and Treats. Dave's Toybox, Seymour's Little Shop of Books, The Dice Goblin, Succulents by ShelNe, LLC, Moon Raven Alley LLC, Beanies Bar and Grill, Mid Penn Bank, The Kock Garpstas Realty Group, The Astute Artisan, Mount Joy Chamber of Commerce, Memorable Occasions by Marcie and the At & T Store Mount Joy.

DONEGAL POWER PACKS

Friends of Donegal is pleased to announce that our biennial survey by Central Pennsylvania Food Bank was held on February 13, 2026. We received a letter informing us that the Donegal Power Packs agency is in compliance with the required regulations and policies as defined in our membership agreement.

There are 2 food local food drives going on right now to restock our shelves:

- St Marks Church is hosting a Lent collection through March 29 at the church
- Weis Markets is hosting a food drive at the Mount Joy store

Feel free to drop/purchase food at either location to benefit Donegal Power Packs.

Power Packs is currently serving 300 people every 2 weeks all year long, We added evening and Saturday hours, A choice pantry is also available for a limited number of families.

DONEGAL COMMUNITY GARDENS

The first garden meeting was held February 17th. Big things are happening in the garden. Seed planting is scheduled at the Mount Joy Senior Apartments in March. Last year 1,500 seedlings were planted and placed in the greenhouse to eventually get planted in the garden. This year for the 1st time we are going to plant and offer sweet corn. Additionally we are going to plant a perennial flower garden. If you have plants to share please reach out. So for 2026 all 3.5 acres of garden space will be planted. On March 4th a newly purchased 8 X 12 garden shed from Glicks will be installed. We also had gutters installed on the shed to capture rainwater. This will allow us to secure our tools and seeds as well as house the garden tractor. Thank you Mike Campbell for your help with this project. The date for plants in the ground is Saturday May 15, 2026. More specific information and how you can get involved will be included in the March and April newsletter. Our goal for pounds of fresh produce distributed is 3,000 pounds!! This produce is earmarked for distribution to the following organizations: Mount Joy Senior Apartments, Donegal Power Packs, Mount Joy Food Bank, Community Cupboard.

GETTING AHEAD

There is currently a Getting Ahead class going on. The next 16 week class starts in August, 2026. Sign up early to reserve a spot.

GETTING AHEAD

JOIN US FOR A 16-WEEK CLASS ON:

GETTING AHEAD IN A JUST GETTIN'-BY WORLD

The secret to getting ahead is getting started!

- Become an investigator of your life and your community
- Build your stability and resources
- Investigate how poverty impacts you and your community
- Rewrite your future story: create a plan based on your goals
- Participate in problem solving discussions

WEDNESDAYS 6-8:30 PM

JANUARY 14 - MAY 13 OR AUGUST 15 - DEC 19

WEEKLY DINNER, CHILDCARE, AND GIFT CARDS PROVIDED

TO ENROLL CALL: (223) 341-3592 OR EMAIL INFO@FRIENDSOFDONEGAL.ORG

THE DONEGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS NOT SPONSORING, OFFERING OR ENDORSING THIS ACTIVITY.

CLASSES HELD AT:
FLORIN CHURCH
815 BRUCE AVE.
MOUNT JOY, PA 17552

Where is Friends of Donegal in the community this month:

- Mount Joy Mennonite Church Mar 8, 2026 at 1030-speaking
- Mount Joy Senior Apartments Spring Seed Planting March 14 & 28, 2026 from 12-2PM
- St Marks Church March 15, 2026 at 0900 & 1030-speaking
- Mount Joy Chamber Luncheon Apr 8, 2026 at 1145-speaking

FRIENDS OF DONEGAL EXPRESSES SINCERE THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

Donegal Presbyterian Church
Marietta American Legion
Michele Emenheiser-Mount Joy
Ocean State Job Lots-Anna & Mark
Taste of Mount Joy Car Show
ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS FOR THE POWER PACKS, GETTING AHEAD,
AND DONEGAL COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAMS!!!!

For information contact us at info@friendsofdonegal.org