



**SANTA CLAUS COMES TO TOWN BY FIRE TRUCK AS PART OF THIS YEAR'S  
KESWICK VILLAGE HOLIDAY PROGRAM ON DECEMBER 11, 2011**

GLENSIDE — Santa Claus came to town on Dec. 11 to spread joy and cheer to all as part of the annual Keswick Village Holiday Program. Jolly Old St. Nicholas arrived on a shiny red Weldon Fire Company truck to the delight of children and families, who attended the event hosted by the Keswick Merchants and the Abington Economic Development Office.

The festive holiday celebration was a family-friendly affair, featuring a plethora of activities and seasonal treats, including free carriage rides, songs and carols, and cookies and doughnuts. For those looking to warm up from the December chill, hot chocolate and coffee were provided.

Opting for a fire truck over his old sleigh enabled Santa - and the Weldon Fire Company - to showcase one of its trucks, and to bring attention to the Abington Township Fire Department, an essential community resource comprised of Weldon and four other volunteer fire companies.

Community members in attendance lauded the groups for hosting the event, and were especially grateful that the fire department stepped forward again this year to bring Santa to the event for the delight of all in attendance.

“Santa has been coming in the fire truck to Glenside for years, for as long as I can remember,” Glenside resident Chris Gardner said. “I love it! I love it!”

Kristy Destefano of Glenside, who attended the holiday event with her daughter, Madison, said programs like these help strengthen the bond between organizations and those living inside the town. “Events sponsored like these bring the community together, and I get to see a lot of people that I have not seen in a while,” Destefano said.

The ATFD has been serving the community for more than 100 years and is made up of five separately chartered fire companies: Abington, McKinley, Weldon, Edge Hill and Roslyn. Approximately 235 volunteers belong to the department and dedicate their time and energy to keeping the community safe. Volunteer firefighters can regularly be found at community event such as the Keswick Village Holiday Program, in the schools, at senior centers, and at community education programs on fire safety and responsible decision-making. The ATFD headquarters is located at 1176 Old York Road in Abington. For more information, call 267-536-1055 or visit [www.abingtonfd.org](http://www.abingtonfd.org).