



# SPRING HILL \* CITYVIEW TIMES

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Vol. 7 No. 54

September-October 2007

## Spring Hill Civic League Mission Statement

With the continuing goal of community strength and enrichment, and encouraging the participation of all community residents and business leaders, the Spring Hill Civic League accepts as its defining mission the responsibility to serve its neighborhood by assisting in the achievement of its many common goals.

### Board of Directors

President: Donna Allison  
Vice President: Dianne Burns  
Secretary: Vacant  
Treasurer: Ben Soltesz

### Directors

Stephen Brady

## Newsletter Articles

Please submit articles for the November/December edition by October 15<sup>th</sup> to:  
Joan Russell  
2115 Rockledge Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
412-322-9945  
[joanrussell@aol.com](mailto:joanrussell@aol.com)

## Mail Delivery

For a yearly subscription, send \$6.00 to:  
Spring Hill/Cityview Times at  
c/o 1149 Admiral Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

## Annual Membership Drive

Win

## STEELERS TICKETS

The Spring Hill Civic League runs on donations and volunteers. Thank you to all the great neighbors who help all year long. We ask *each adult* in the household to donate just \$2.00 per year as membership dues. This helps to fund the community activities all year long.

This years' membership drive has an added bonus thanks to Steve Brady from Brady's Memorial Home. Steve has donated 2 tickets to a Steelers home game as incentive to join our Civic League. Each member who sends in their dues before November 1, 2007 will be entered to win **2 Steelers Tickets**. The drawing will be held at our November 5<sup>th</sup> general membership meeting.

**As an added incentive, if you are present at the membership meeting when we pull the winning member, you will receive a gift certificate for Max's Allegheny Tavern to enjoy before the game.**

Please send in the form on the back of the newsletter along with your

donation. Forms and donations can also be given to block workers collecting for our Annual Children's Halloween Party. Make sure we receive your donation before November 1, 2007 to be entered to win!

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2007

**General Meetings** are scheduled at the Spring Hill Elementary School auditorium at 7:00 PM on the following dates:  
Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>  
Board Nominations  
Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>  
Board Elections  
Steelers Ticket Drawing

### **SHCL Board Information Meeting:**

September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Brady's Memorial Home

### **Halloween Collection:**

September 1<sup>st</sup> - September 30<sup>th</sup>

### **Flowergarden Fall Clean-Up:**

Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM  
Homer Street Firehouse

### **Halloween Parade:**

Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM, from Brady's Memorial Home to the Rockledge Street lot.

### **Christmas Tree Lighting:**

Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>,  
Rockledge Street lot

You can read the newsletter online by going to [www.shcl.org](http://www.shcl.org).

**IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION!**

To Diane Schmitt, recently of Yetta Avenue. Dianne served for many years on the Spring Hill Civic League board as President and more recently as Secretary. Dianne and her husband Denny have moved out of the neighborhood to be closer to family. We wish her good luck and thank her for all her hard work on behalf of the community. We'll miss you!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



**September/October Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to Irene Schaubacher who celebrates a September birthday. Happy Birthday to Wilma Lersch, Cookie Beatty, Joan Russell, and Alex and Charlotte Soltesz who celebrate October Birthdays.

**Belated Birthdays**

Happy Birthdays to the following residents of Shreve Street: Joseph Kammersell who was 86 in June, Betty Kraft who was 85 in July, and Henry Bauer who was 7 in August.

Happy Birthday to Bobbie Jean Kimble of Diana Street who was 50 in July.

**GET WELL WISHES**

To Eileen Weber of Rescue Street who is recuperating after a recent surgery.

*Our prayers are with you for a speedy recovery!*



**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY**

To the family and friends of Jean Piscitelli Vavrina who passed away July 16<sup>th</sup>... and John Dax, who passed away July 24<sup>th</sup>.

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of mourning.*

**HELP US SPREAD YOUR NEWS!**

**To the neighbors of the community...**

We are interested in announcing weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, special achievements, recipes, garden hints, church announcements, birth announcements, obituaries, new neighbors in the community, etc. Please send your input to

Joan Russell  
2115 Rockledge Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
412-322-9945  
[joanrussell@aol.com](mailto:joanrussell@aol.com)

**CAN YOU SERVE?**

The Spring Hill Civic League will be holding board elections on the evening of November 5<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for people who have a heart for the community. If you are interested in serving your neighbors and have talents that we can use, please contact Donna Allison at 412-337-0388 or [shclpres@comcast.net](mailto:shclpres@comcast.net) to submit your name for consideration, or attend the SHCL Board Informational meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup>. We welcome your involvement!

**HOLY WISDOM FOODBANK**

The foodbank at Holy Wisdom (St. Ambrose School) is held every third Tuesday of the month, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. This vital ministry serves many in our community who are having hard times. The foodbank is not government-funded and depends upon donations and volunteers within Holy Wisdom parish and our community throughout the year.

To register for the foodbank or to volunteer, call 412-231-1116.

**UNITED WAY GIVING**

The Spring Hill Civic League has been a United Way's Contributor's Choice for the past several years. Your generosity has helped to fund community activities and defrays routine overhead expenses. **A grateful Thank You** to all who support the community through the United Way. The civic league's Contributor's Choice code number is 207.



# Spring Hill Needs YOU! Please Volunteer!

## **We're looking for good civic minded souls.**

Please join us in an informational meeting about the Spring Hill Civic League's Board of Directors. Then, if you're interested, please consider service to your community!

What do we do?

- Coordinate with the Northside Leadership Conference and liaison with City Council on community issues.
- Organize events such as the Halloween Parade and Christmas tree lighting.
- Communicate with the neighborhood through regular meetings, email, and the SHCL newsletter.

- Address community issues of interest.

•Plan for the future of the Spring Hill neighborhood.

**Help keep your neighborhood a safe and vibrant one. We need your help.**

*What:* SHCL Board Information Meeting

*When:* Thursday - September 13th

*Where:* Brady's Memorial Home  
1151 S Side Ave

*Time:* 7:00-8:00 PM

*Other:* Light refreshments will be provided.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN  
FALL CLEAN UP**



**Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 AM**

**Please Come Help Us Close  
Up Our Beautiful New Garden!**

We lost some plants due to lack of water this hot summer. The main pipe to the sprinkler system broke last winter and required attention from the conservancy. A BIG "Thank You" to the neighbors on Homer and Damas Streets who allowed us to drag hoses over to the garden to try our best to save our newly planted perennials. Thanks to Ben Soltesz and Dianne Burns for dragging that hose on more than one hot day!

Due to the lack of water, we were unable to accept any transplants from our neighbors. However, if you can donate any perennials from your garden for transplant this fall, please call Dianne Burns. We will be cleaning up the garden and doing our fall planting on Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup>. Any donations can be brought to the fire hall that morning. We will need volunteers to help clean up that day as well. We will start at 9:00 AM weather permitting.

Community Garden Contact:  
Dianne Burns at 412-231-7718.



**HALLOWEEN PARADE**

**Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**

The Spring Hill Civic League will hold its annual Halloween Parade for children, ages 1-12, on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Sign-in will start at 11:00 AM. The parade will start promptly at 11:30 AM. Please make sure you sign all **registered** children in before 11:20 AM.

The parade will assemble at Brady's Memorial Home and proceed to the Rockledge Street Lot where costumes will be judged and prizes awarded on the following categories: Prettiest, Cutest, Funniest, Scariest, and Most Original. Treat bags will be distributed after the judging takes place. Children must be registered and accompanied by a parent in order to participate.



Please fill out the registration form on the next page and return via mail or to your blockworker by October 1<sup>st</sup>. **NO REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT.** A \$5.00 donation is requested to help defray the cost of this event.

**Thank you for your support!**

**DEVIL'S NIGHT PATROL**

Devil's Night is October 30<sup>th</sup>. For the last several years, Spring Hill/ Cityview neighbors have formed a "Devil's Night Patrol" to discourage vandalism

in the community. The patrol will be on duty between the hours of 7:30 PM to 12:00 Midnight. *Every resident is considered part of the patrol.*

The key to the effectiveness of the patrol is VISIBILITY! Be **visible** that evening by walking with a friend, walking the dog, or simply spending time chatting outdoors with neighbors. Another component of preventing vandalism is to keep property lit up. Vandals are less prone to damage property when an area is brightly lit. Consider leaving outdoor lights on all night.

The last component of the Patrol is parental involvement. Parents, **YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW WHERE YOUR TEENS ARE THAT NIGHT.** Don't wait for the police to call and inform you that your teen is in custody for vandalizing your neighbors' properties. By working together, we can prevent the vandalism that so many of our neighboring communities experience.



**LOOKING FOR TREATS...**

Do you work for a company that donates to non-profit groups such as a grocery or Department Store that might offer free or discounted treats? The civic league is seeking candy and snack donors for this year's Halloween treat bags. If you can help in this way, please call Donna Allison at 412-337-0388 or e-mail at [schlpres@comcast.net](mailto:schlpres@comcast.net).



### HALLOWEEN PARADE

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**HALLOWEEN PARADE REGISTRATION**  
**AGES 1 TO 12**  
**SIGN-IN 11 AM**  
**PARADE STARTS PROMPTLY AT 11:30**



(All children **MUST** be registered and be accompanied by a parent to receive a treat bag. Treat bags will only be available the day of the parade.)

PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN 'S NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

AGES \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return before October 1, 2007.**

Mail to: SHCL Halloween Registration  
 c/o 1149 Admiral St.  
 Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212

Forms and donations  
 can also be turned  
 into your blockworker.

**PRIME STAGE THEATRE PRESENTS**



**The 2007-08 Season**

Prime Stage Theatre invites families to experience live theatre with its 11<sup>th</sup> exciting new season of plays. Prime Stage Theatre's productions are selected to entertain, engage, and enrich audiences from middle school through senior citizens. All the selections are endorsed by the American Library Association, are on middle and high school reading lists, and designed to stimulate the imaginations and enjoyment of audiences.

The 2007-08 season has something for everyone, beginning with the classic *Inherit the Wind* which runs weekends from October 27 through November 4, 2007. Directed by Shirley Tannenbaum, *Inherit the Wind* is a fictionalized retelling of the famous 1925 Scopes "monkey trial." A Tennessee science teacher, John Scopes, was tried and convicted for teaching Darwin's theory of evolution, violating a state law that forbade teaching any theory that conflicted with the biblical view of creation. The roles of attorney Matthew Harrison Brady, which is based on William Jennings Bryan, and Henry Drummond, which was based on Clarence Darrow, are highly sought after roles. The popular 1960 movie version starred Frederic March and Spencer Tracy. *Inherit the Wind* has been presented on Broadway many times since 1955 and Prime Stage Theatre is proud to bring it to the New Hazlett Theater this season.

Prime Stage will also present the classic John Steinbeck tale, *Of Mice and Men*, weekends from February 23 through March 2, 2008, directed by Richard Keitel, head of graduate studies and associate professor with the Point Park University Conservatory. The season finale will be the popular coming of age story, *The Outsiders*, directed by Wayne Brinda, Prime Stage founder and artistic director. It will run weekends from May 3 through May 11, 2008.

Prime Stage is known for its Chat Sessions and we invite you to participate this year. After each performance we invited the audience to stay an extra 15 minutes to ask questions with members of the cast, directors, and technicians about the production, book, or theatre. This season a new program will be introduced, "Getting to know Prime Stage Better," an informal gathering offered to ticket holders who want to know more about Prime Stage and the productions. "Getting to know Prime Stage Better" will happen at 7:00 PM prior to our Friday evening performances.

*Friday and Saturday performances are 8:00 PM; Sunday performances are at 2:30 PM. Tickets \$20/Adults; \$15/Seniors(65 and over); \$10/College students; \$10/Youth 18 and younger are available through ProArts at 412-394-3353 or at [www.proarts.org](http://www.proarts.org) or [www.primestage.com](http://www.primestage.com). Prime Stage Theatre's productions are held at the New Hazlett Theater, 6 Allegheny Square on Pittsburgh's North Side.*

Browse the Prime Stage website ([www.primestage.com](http://www.primestage.com)) and learn about the many opportunities to enjoy theatre, volunteer, and support Prime Stage. Mark your calendars and plan to make theatre a family affair with Prime Stage Theatre's exciting new season.

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**CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH WINS AWARD FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE**

On July 20<sup>th</sup> the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh received the prestigious Gold Medal Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence. The museum was chosen from more than 100 nationwide entries for combining historic preservation, innovative architecture, and a unique collaboration among local agencies and organizations in its expansion completed in November 2004.

The LEED-certified "green" Children's Museum expanded in 2004 by connecting the Old Allegheny Post Office Building with the historic Buhl Building located next to it. The Museum has served as a catalyst for urban redevelopment by collaborating on the recent renovation of the Hazlett Theater, developing the Charm Bracelet project to create a North Side family district by connecting its cultural institutions, and launching a design competition for the renovation of Allegheny Public Square Park.



## ST. AMBROSE SCHOOL GRADUATION EXERCISES – 1929

### Awarding of prizes to children having the highest general averages:

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
First	Alice Lutz
Second	Dorothy Krah
Third	Regina Nagran
Fourth	Dorothy Herzog
Fifth	Mary Wild
Sixth	Edith Herzog
Seventh	Angela Vitunic
Eighth	Joseph Hamm

### Honorable Mention. Two next highest averages:

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
First	Marie Sukits Mildred Graf
Second	Anna Marie Wild Mary Grundler
Third	Bernice Gratz Clara Marie Zang
Fourth	Anna Dolmovich Edmund Wehner
Fifth	Ralph Hamm George Richards
Sixth	Florence Wess Lillian Deutsch
Seventh	John Wehner Richard Goetz
Eighth	Mathilda Dolmovich Elizabeth Weider

### Awarding of Gold Medals:

GENERAL EXCELLENCE - Joseph Hamm

RELIGION - Bernadette Diehl (Medalist), William Bajzek, Norbert Joos, Frank Witsch, Florence Eichler, Virginia Hildenbrand, Teresa Platzer, Elizabeth Weider, Lena Windisch, Pearl Zang

ENGLISH - Vera Zang

MATHEMATICS - Mathilda Dolmovich

Submitted by Ms. Dorothy Fafata

## HEIRLOOM TOMATO AND ONION QUICHE

Prep: 25 minutes

Bake: 35 minutes

### Ingredients

- 1/2 of a 15-ounce package (1 crust) rolled refrigerated unbaked piecrust
- 12 ounces assorted garden heirloom tomatoes (Cherokee Purple and/or Brandywine) or regular tomatoes, cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/2 cup chopped onion (1 medium)
- 3 eggs
- 3/4 cup half-and-half, light cream or milk
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon snipped fresh basil or 1 teaspoon dried basil, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 cup shredded Swiss, cheddar, Monterey Jack, and/or Havarti cheese (4 ounces)
- Paprika

### Directions

1. Let piecrust stand at room temperature according to package directions. Unroll piecrust into a 9-inch pie plate. Crimp edge as desired. Line unpricked pastry with a double thickness of foil. Bake in a 425 degree F oven for 8 minutes. Remove foil. Bake for 4 to 5 minutes more or until pastry is set and dry. Remove from oven. Reduce oven temperature to 375 degrees F.
2. Meanwhile, place tomato slices on paper towels to absorb excess moisture. In a small skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Add onion. Cook until onion is tender but not brown, stirring occasionally.
3. In a medium bowl, whisk together eggs, half-and-half, flour, basil, salt, dry mustard and black pepper.
4. To assemble, sprinkle cheese onto bottom of the hot, baked pastry shell. Spoon onion mixture over cheese. Arrange a single layer of tomato slices over cheese, overlapping slightly. Slowly pour egg mixture over tomatoes. Sprinkle paprika over egg mixture.
5. Bake, uncovered, for 35 to 40 minutes or until egg mixture is set in center. If necessary, cover edge of pie with foil for the last 5 to 10 minutes of baking to prevent overbrowning. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Makes 6 servings.

Reprinted from Better Homes and Garden  
[recipes.bhg.com](http://recipes.bhg.com)

## WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HUMANE SOCIETY

The Western Pennsylvania Humane Society has an open door policy, which means we welcome every animal without a waiting list and without a fee. During the first 14 days of August we have had 807 animals come through our doors which averages 57.6 animals per day surrendered to the Western PA Humane Society.

Here is how you can help:

- 1.) Any donation (large or small will help us feed and care for the animals that have been brought to us already in August or will be arriving in the coming weeks.
- 2.) Become a foster parent
- 3.) Become a volunteer
- 4.) Tell your family, friends, and colleagues that when they are thinking about a new pet please come and adopt from the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society.

Adoptable animals are viewable online at [www.wpahumane.org](http://www.wpahumane.org).



## BURMA SHAVE

SHE KISSED THE  
HAIRBRUSH BY MISTAKE  
SHE THOUGHT IT WAS  
HER HUSBAND JAKE  
Burma Shave

DROVE TOO LONG  
DRIVER SNOOZING  
WHAT HAPPENED NEXT  
IS NOT AMUSING  
Burma Shave

Remember these? For those who never saw any of the Burma Shave signs, here is a quick lesson in our history of the 1930's, '40's, and '50's.

Before there were interstates, when everyone drove the old 2 lane roads, Burma Shave signs would be posted all over the countryside in farmers' fields. They were small red signs with white letters. Five signs, about 100 feet apart, each containing 1 line of a 4 line couplet ... and the obligatory 5th sign advertising Burma Shave, a popular shaving cream.

Here are more of the actual signs:

CAUTIOUS RIDER  
TO HER RECKLESS DEAR  
LET'S HAVE LESS BULL  
AND MORE STEER  
Burma Shave

SPEED WAS HIGH  
WEATHER WAS NOT  
TIRES WERE THIN  
X MARKS THE SPOT  
Burma Shave

AROUND THE CURVE  
LICKETY-SPLIT  
BEAUTIFUL CAR  
WASN'T IT?  
Burma Shave

NO MATTER THE PRICE  
NO MATTER HOW NEW  
THE BEST SAFETY DEVICE  
IN THE CAR IS YOU  
Burma Shave

A GUY WHO DRIVES  
A CAR WIDE OPEN  
IS NOT THINKIN'  
HE'S JUST HOPIN'  
Burma Shave

AT INTERSECTIONS  
LOOK EACH WAY  
A HARP SOUNDS NICE  
BUT IT'S HARD TO PLAY  
Burma Shave

BOTH HANDS ON THE  
WHEEL  
EYES ON THE ROAD  
THAT'S THE SKILLFUL  
DRIVER'S CODE  
Burma Shave

CAR IN THE DITCH  
DRIVER IN THE TREE  
THE MOON WAS FULL  
AND SO WAS HE  
Burma Shave

PASSING SCHOOL ZONE  
TAKE IT SLOW  
LET OUR LITTLE  
SHAVERS GROW  
Burma Shave

Do these bring back any old memories? If not, you're merely a child. If they do - then you're old as dirt!

DON'T STICK YOUR ELBOW  
OUT SO FAR  
IT MAY GO HOME  
IN ANOTHER CAR  
Burma Shave

DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD  
TO GAIN A MINUTE  
YOU NEED YOUR HEAD  
YOUR BRAINS ARE IN IT  
Burma Shave





**CITY COUNCILWOMAN  
DARLENE M. HARRIS**

**Garden Theater**

For over thirty years I have been working hard to make the North Side a better place to live. Recently, with Mayor Ravensthal and Councilwoman Payne, I was able to celebrate a victory for the central North Side.

The Garden Theater has been a landmark for the North Side for many years. I can remember attending the matinees as a child on many Saturdays, a perfect family outing. However, over the last decade the Garden Theater has been a long fought battle, a barricade in the development of the Federal and North project, and an eyesore for the North Side with its exterior condition, the debris and litter scattered about, not to mention the XXX rated adult films.

Now all of that will change. Along with the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), the City of Pittsburgh has purchased the Garden Theater and they have plans for its future. These plans include developing a family oriented theater or an art related facility. The URA has already received 11 plans from potential developers.

I have a vision better things are coming for the North Side and with this victory a part of that vision is now a reality. I intend to continue to work hard for you and our collective futures to see the realization of my vision for a better, safer, and once more a successful North Side. Working together it will happen.

Towards that end I have been involved in various North Side Block Watch programs for years. I am working hard to have more police stationed on the North Side and I have listed abandoned and neglected houses that affect the safety of our neighborhoods. I have been in the Brighton Heights neighborhood identifying problems such as streets that require repair or repaving.

With this in mind, I invite and encourage you to become an active part of the government process. After all, your concerns are my concerns and your problems are my problems. It is through continual communication that there are no limits to what we can accomplish when we work together.

*As your elected City Council person I remain accessible to you. Please feel free to contact the office at 412-255-2135. You can also communicate with me via email at: [darlene.harris@city.pittsburgh.pa.us](mailto:darlene.harris@city.pittsburgh.pa.us).*

**Community Involvement  
Does Work**

Last month morning graffiti vandals attacked the Troy Hill neighborhood. Quick thinking Troy Hill residents called the police and two graffiti bandits were arrested. The Troy Hill Block Watch notified my office, and I made arrangements to have the graffiti removed quickly. This time, the bill of several thousand dollars will be paid by the vandals and not tax payers.

Neighbors working together to safeguard their communities make a difference. This is not an isolated example. Recently two vandals were apprehended in Spring Hill with help from concerned residents. Block Watches and community involvement work.

For those who want to be more actively engaged in community public safety issues I have requested that the Police Department schedule the next Citizen Police Academy here on the North Side. It will start on Sept 4<sup>th</sup> and run for 15 weeks in the evening.

*If you would like additional information on this please call my office at 412-255-2135.*

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**NORTH SIDE FARMER'S  
MARKET**

The North Side farmer's market is held in East Park (East Ohio Street and Cedar Avenue). The hours are Fridays, from 3:30 until 7:30 PM.

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**AMANI INTERNATIONAL  
COFFEEHOUSE & CAFE**

Stop by Amani at 507 Foreland Street between Middle Street and Cedar Avenue in the East Allegheny neighborhood. Enjoy a great cup of coffee, tea, or your favorite beverage, also wraps, salads, and soups, while celebrating a great new neighborhood business.

For more information see [www.amaniinternational.com](http://www.amaniinternational.com)



**State Representative Don Walko Reports from Harrisburg:**

**NEW PENNSYLVANIA BUDGET: WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?**

While it was difficult reaching agreement with the Republican-controlled Senate on the state budget package, I think the end result is good for Pennsylvania. The 2007-08 budget does not increase existing taxes or add any new state taxes. Here is a breakdown on some of the key funding increases and changes.

**EDUCATION**

- We increased Pennsylvania's investment in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade by a total of \$566.6 million.
- We targeted early childhood education with \$75 million to launch the "Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts" initiative that opens pre-kindergarten programs up to 11,000 children and provides \$25 million so schools can continue to establish, expand, and maintain full-day kindergarten.
- We expanded the "Science: It's Elementary" program with an additional \$3.5 million in funding that will allow about 35,000 more children to participate.
- We continued the "Classrooms for the Future" funding, which means 250 more high schools will get 83,000 laptop computers and expanded dual-enrollment opportunities for 3,000 students so they can earn college credit while in high school.

**HUMAN SERVICES**

- We included \$71.5 million to fund a 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for human services programs including those that serve children, the elderly, rape victims, those struggling with drug or alcohol addiction, and people with mental and physical disabilities. This represents the largest COLA in more than 15 years.
- We made historic reductions in the mental retardation waiting list by providing \$25 million to expand community mental retardation services for 3,428 people, including 2,555 people who are on county waiting lists.
- We provided \$28 million to expand community-based services for an additional 1,300 Pennsylvanians, including people with physical disabilities, mental illness, and adults with autism.

**HEALTH CARE**

- PACE Plus Medicare got a shot in the arm with over \$276 million in second-year funding for a comprehensive state prescription-drug benefits program that supplements Medicare Part D, and ensures that PACE enrollees will not incur an increase in out-of-pocket costs. Funding will enable an additional 32,000 people to be served by PACE, for a total of more than 357,000.
- We maintained the voluntary managed care program in 26 counties, allowing 71,000 people to stay with their health plan, and kept the pharmacy benefit in the managed care program.
- We restored the Community Access Fund and

the uncompensated care payments to hospitals that care for uninsured people.

- We established a new obstetrics and neonatal payment to hospitals to help prevent more hospitals from closing obstetrics units.
- We provided a 3 percent increase for nursing home funding.

**PRESCRIPTION FOR PENNSYLVANIA**

- Over 2,500 people died in 2006 as a result of infections they contracted while in the hospital. Caring for patients who get infections while being treated in a hospital cost \$3.5 billion. New health-care initiatives ultimately will save Pennsylvanians millions of dollars and improve the delivery of health services.
- We passed legislation that expands the duties of certified nurse practitioners, allows nurse-midwives to write prescriptions, promotes the use of physician assistants, and reduces hospital-acquired infections.

**(Continued on page 11)**

**SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE SECRETARY NEEDED!**

The Spring Hill Civic League is looking for a volunteer to fill the position of Secretary for the remainder of the year. This would be a great opportunity to serve your community. If you are interested please contact Donna Allison at [shclpres@comcast.net](mailto:shclpres@comcast.net).

## MAYOR PUTS MORE POLICE ON THE STREETS

### Technology Upgrade Increases Efficiencies, Highlights Public Safety Push

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl has announced an aggressive timetable to fully implement the Automated Police Reporting System (A.P.R.S.) to put more cops on the streets and increase efficiencies in government. Starting August 1<sup>st</sup> and ending September 1<sup>st</sup>, police officers will be required to submit all police reports via the A.P.R.S. This one month trial will solidify the software design in preparation for full implementation in the fall. Said Mayor Ravenstahl, "I am working hard to find creative ways to increase the number of foot patrols in our neighborhoods. Mandating the use of A.P.R.S. technology achieves both goals without costing taxpayer dollars in overtime or new hires."

Until now, officers had to return to the station to write reports. The A.P.R.S. software application enables officers to submit reports from their vehicle's Mobile Data Terminals (MDT), saving countless hours of administrative work. "This will allow our officers to spend more time patrolling our neighborhoods and keeping our streets safe," said the Mayor.

The amount of time saved is expected to be exponential because officers spend approximately 10 percent of their work day filing reports at the police station. Carnegie Mellon University will be

conducting a study to analyze time saved with A.P.R.S. Said Chief Harper, "By decreasing the amount of time police officers expend writing reports we expand their ability to interact with the public, thereby increasing productivity."

In addition to increasing police visibility A.P.R.S. technology is saving taxpayer dollars. Last year the Bureau of Police generated over 277,000 police reports, an administrative feat achieved with overtime pay and by hiring a part time Telephone Reporting Unit to assist with report writing.

With this initiative Mayor Ravenstahl brings Pittsburgh into the forefront of police technology. Less than 2 percent of cities have this technology, and those that do paid upwards of \$1 million to design, implement, and upgrade the software. The City developed the A.P.R.S. software in-house by working with a team of specialists, B Three Solutions, Inc., for \$150,000. "By opting to do more with less we saved taxpayers more than three quarters of a million dollars," said the Mayor.

Michael Walton, President of B Three Solutions, stated, "Being a local firm, it's gratifying to see this project have such a positive impact for the residents of Pittsburgh. Building upon our long-term working relationship with the professionals in City Information Systems (CIS), it was a pleasure to work with the City to develop this software. Our teamwork with CIS on this project produced a cost-effective solution and a

substantial savings for the taxpayers."

In February 2007 Mayor Ravenstahl and Chief Harper increased the number of MDTs in police vehicles by 40 percent. Currently, 90 percent of police vehicles have MDTs and the Mayor hopes to bring this number to 100% as older vehicles are replaced.

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- Certified nurse practitioners now will be able to order in-home health and hospice care and medical equipment, as well as refer patients to physical therapists, dietitians, and respiratory and occupational therapists. Nurse practitioners also will have a greater ability to determine if disabled patients qualify for state or federal assistance.
- Certified nurse midwives now are authorized to prescribe medication and order medical devices and laboratory tests for patients under their care.
- Doctors are now allowed to supervise up to four physician assistants, instead of two.

*For more information on this or other state-related concerns, please visit my Web site -- [www.pahouse.com/walko](http://www.pahouse.com/walko) -- or call my office at 412-321-5523.*





## CHILDREN'S MUSEUM EVENTS INFORMATION

### EXHIBITS

#### **Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog™**

**Through September 23, 2007**

Board the Birdwell Island ferry and journey to the world of Clifford™, America's beloved big red dog with a heart to match. Meet his owner Emily Elizabeth™ and many of the residents of Birdwell Island including Clifford's canine friends Cleo, T-Bone and Mac. You can slide down the tail of a nine-foot high Clifford, find "bone"-ifide treasures at T-Bone's Beach, dress up as Cleo, T-Bone, Clifford or Mac, and much more!

Inspired by the top-rated TV show Clifford The Big Red Dog on PBS KIDS, the exhibit offers numerous immersive "paws-on" adventures that reinforce "Clifford's Big Ideas"—ten simple tangible life lessons designed to help young children navigate their world, including Share, Play Fair, Believe in Yourself, Be a Good Friend and Help Others.

#### **ToonSeum**

**October 1 - December 31, 2007**

Don't miss the opening of ToonSeum, a new exhibit gallery in the Museum, and its first exhibit, *From Illustration to Animation: Books Come Alive Through the Art of Animation*. The exhibit features original art from classic books, editorial cartoons, and well-loved comic books and comic strips spanning over 100 years. You can also see original cels, backgrounds, and sketches from the animated versions of *The Cat in the Hat*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Madeline*, *Horton Hears a Who*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Babar The Elephant* and much more.

ToonSeum's Grand Opening Weekend will be celebrated on October 13-14, starting on Saturday with a ribbon cutting at noon, followed by live performances, cartooning demonstrations, and autographs from professional cartoonists. On Sunday, join Joe Wos (the ToonSeum curator) for his Once Upon a Toon® storytelling with cartoon illustration and sit in on a Toon® workshop. And take a special Curator's Tour of the exhibit on either day at 4:00 PM. Check [www.pittsburghkids.org](http://www.pittsburghkids.org) for times and details.

#### **Circus for Social Change: A Project of the Zany Umbrella Circus**

**October 6 - December 21, 2007**

Take a journey with Ben Sota, ringleader of Zany Umbrella Circus, who traveled to Katrina-damaged areas of Mississippi and Louisiana, Afghanistan and, most recently, Jordan, to teach children circus skills and spread a message of good will.

You can try learning a few circus tricks of your own, such as walking a tight rope, balancing on a giant ball, walking on tin-can stilts, and spinning plates, all in circus costume. Memorabilia and gifts from Ben's travels including musical instruments, toys, costumes, and fabric will give visitors a glimpse of the different cultures he visited. Throughout the run of the exhibit, activities will be offered in making tin-can stilts, masks and hats, and Ben and other guests will provide special circus-arts programs.

#### **Tough Art - Ready for Anything**

**October 6, 2007 – January 6, 2008**

The Children's Museum kicks-off Tough Art, a new exhibit featuring the interactive art works of four emerging artists who got the chance to make their art "tough" enough to withstand kid handling during a three-month summer residency at the Museum.

Matt Barton's "cause and effect room" has areas to stomp your feet and pull/push levers that activate drums and other percussion. Eileen Maxson's piece provides a podium, props, and costumes for kids to let their voices be heard while staging speeches and press conferences. Kids can use their own energy to demonstrate how renewable energy (such as wind power) provides electricity in an exhibit by Joey Hayes. Gregory Witt's robotic table allows kids to "program" a movement sequence that makes the table bend at the knees.

Supported by a grant from the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Tough Art program will bring new artists to toughen up their work at the Museum for the next three years.

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**Fairy Tales of the World**

**October 20 - November 26, 2007**

Told by children who are innocent victims of warfare

See a collection of beautifully illustrated, traditional folk tales from across the globe as told by children from areas such as Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Sudan, and Cambodia. You can even learn a few words of the language of each country. This exhibit is presented by Emergency, a non-profit organization that has provided free, quality medical and surgical care for civilians in war-torn regions since 1994.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

**Design-a-Puppet Workshop**

**Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>; Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>**

Learn the art of puppetry with experts We're Holden Puppets during this in-depth, 2-day workshop. Explore the rich history of handmade puppetry and build your own character to perform in a mini performance at the Museum on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> or Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>! For children 6 and up, \$8 fee per child includes materials. Museum admission not included.

**Generation Celebration**

**Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 - 8:30 PM**

Bring your family – mom, dad, kids, grandma, grandpa, aunts, uncles, cousins, even second cousin Melvin - to celebrate all the generations of your family at this special event. Together you can explore local history, share your own family stories and history, make crafts, create a family tree, and enjoy refreshments. A grand prize will be awarded to the largest family in attendance!

Members, \$15 per person; Nonmembers, \$18 per person

Family of Four Discount (any four family members): Members, \$55; Nonmembers, \$65

For more details or to reserve tickets, please call 412-586-6032.

**National Career in Construction**

**October 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 PM**

Celebrate National Career in Construction Week by trying your own hand at constructing special projects from the Constructors Association of Western Pennsylvania. Free with Museum admission.

**Fall Festival of Books**

**Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM**

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh invites you to a day-long celebration of children's literature featuring children's book authors and artists Katherine Ayres, Sharon G. Flake and Brian Pinkney.

The event includes a light breakfast, author talks, book sales and signings and author workshops, and Act 48 hours are provided. Tickets are \$15 or \$25 with lunch. Register online at [www.pittsburghkids.org](http://www.pittsburghkids.org) or call 412-322-5058, ext. 240. Registration is required by October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Down Under Day**

**Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

Celebrate the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's Australia Festival with **Down Under Day** at the Children's Museum! Enjoy didgeridoo making and performances, Australian storytelling and songs, Aboriginal face painting, and more. Free with Museum admission.

*The Children's Museum is located at 10 Children's Way, Allegheny Square, North Side - just one block from the National Aviary and 3 blocks from PNC Park. For more information, please call 412-322-5058 or visit [www.pittsburghkids.org](http://www.pittsburghkids.org).*

