

# SPRING HILL \* CITYVIEW TIMES

Independence Day

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Vol. 8 No. 59



July-August 2008

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2008

Spring Hill Charity Flea Market

**Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Brady Memorial Home  
1151 South Side Avenue

General Meeting

Forrest Hodges, Pittsburgh Police

Zone 1, Crime Prevention/  
Community Relations Officer

Guest Speaker

**Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 p.m.**

Spring Hill Elementary School  
auditorium

General Meetings are scheduled  
at the Spring Hill Elementary  
School auditorium at 7:00 p.m. on  
the following dates:

**Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

## SPRING HILL EMAIL LIST



If you would like to be informed of meetings and other community information via e-mail, please contact Ben Soltesz at [bensoltesz@gmail.com](mailto:bensoltesz@gmail.com) to have your name added to the community email list. We look forward to hearing from you!

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Fun in the sun time! This summer on August 3<sup>rd</sup> we are having our first flea market. We hope you will participate. Many thanks to Steve Brady and the staff of Brady Memorial Home for sponsoring this event.

While we have our summer fun, please put the important date of Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, on your calendar. On that date the community will meet at 7:00 p.m. at Spring Hill Elementary School. Speakers are scheduled for every community meeting and you don't want to miss hearing those things that affect Spring Hill and the Northside.

Following the summer months the Spring Hill Civic League starts planning for two very special events to the neighborhood. They are the children's Halloween parade and the lighting of the holiday trees with a visit from Santa. Both of these events are enjoyed by many families.

As the second half of the year begins I am asking two very simple things of you. First, please send in your membership donation. For a nominal donation of two dollars, and more is gratefully accepted, you are helping the Spring Hill Civic League carry out its mission of strengthening the community. Second, please volunteer. The board members are strained to

carry out the activities and events for the community and should not bear the burden.

If your child or grandchild is enjoying the activities planned for children and you are getting enjoyment from that time with them, then please call to volunteer to help with the planning and implementation. More volunteers will result in an even more enjoyable day that you will be proud to be a part of.

I hope to hear from you and see you in September.

Donna Allison  
President  
Spring Hill Civic League

## SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE CONTACT INFORMATION

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**SHCL WEB SITE:** [www.shcl.org](http://www.shcl.org)  
Past editions of the newsletter are available online.

...A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL FOR PRINTING OUR NEWSLETTER...

**KEEP THOSE 2008 CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIPS COMING!**

Your annual membership is important to us. Without them we would not be able to operate as your advocate for neighborhood issues. We will be having a membership drive this fall and would also like to thank the following for sending their dues by mail recently:

Geraldine Everetts, William Griffiths, Dieter and Ingrid Hillenbrandt, William and Michelle Kauffman, Ralph and Marguerite Kress, Albert and Doloris Kreuzer, Anne Marie Kropf, Alice Leister, Dorothy Lorenz, George and Shirley Radick, Anna Schad, Mary Ann Stamos, Anna Wentz, Ann Weston and ESB Bank.

Remember, you can submit your dues by mail using the form on the last page of the newsletter. Keep them coming!

**NEWSLETTER MAIL DELIVERY**

For a yearly subscription, send \$8.00 to:  
*Spring Hill/Cityview Times* at  
 c/o 1149 Admiral Street  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15212

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Please submit articles for the September/October edition by August 15<sup>th</sup> to:  
 Joan Russell  
 2115 Rockledge Street  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15212-3533  
 412-322-9945  
[joanrussell@aol.com](mailto:joanrussell@aol.com)

**SPRING HILL CHARITY FLEA MARKET**

**Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**



**One Man's  
 Trash is  
 Another  
 Man's  
 Treasure!**

The staff members at Brady Memorial Home, Inc. along with the Spring Hill Civic League are teaming up to present the **First Annual Spring Hill Charity Flea Market..** It will be held Sunday August 3, 2008 from the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. come rain or shine.

Table space will be available in the parking lot of Brady Memorial Home Inc. for a \$20.00 donation fee to help the Light of Life Missionaries. Everyone is invited to sell unwanted household items for some extra summer cash. Community participation is important and together we can make a difference in our City.

*To register email your name, address, and phone number to [Bradyfuneralhomes@nidhog.net](mailto:Bradyfuneralhomes@nidhog.net) or call us at 412-321-1500. If you have any questions or concerns let us know.*

Thank you for helping those in need. We hope to see you there!!!

Kristin Szuch & LeeAnn Sherman  
 Brady Memorial Home

**NORTHSIDE 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 p.m.

**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 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: Jackie Hoffman  
 Treasurer: Ben Soltesz  
 Directors: Stephen Brady  
 Joan Russell  
 Eileen Back

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



**July Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to Nick Namisnak of Homer Street whose birthday is on July 30<sup>th</sup>... to Helen Gerst of Homer Street who turns 80 years young in July... and to Catherine Wilson whose birthday is on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

**August Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to Mary Ann Stamos of St. Ambrose Manor whose birthday is on August 11<sup>th</sup>. She is the grandmother of 12 grandchildren and the great grandmother of 22!

**Belated Birthdays**

Happy belated Birthday to Chris Namisnack of Homer Street whose birthday was on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

**HELP US SPREAD YOUR NEWS!**

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

We are interested in announcing the names of new neighbors who have moved into the community in the past year, as well as weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, special achievements, recipes, garden hints, household hints, church announcements, birth announcement, obituaries, etc. See page 2 for how to submit your newsletter information.

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Happy 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary to Bill and Terry Gerst of Homer Street on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Bill and Terry are the proud grandparents for the second time of a baby boy, Joseph Raymond Sole, born on May 30<sup>th</sup> to their daughter Nicole and her husband Mark.

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY**

To the family and friends of Virginia (Wojciechowski) Alberts, wife of the late Edward W. Alberts. She passed away on April 22<sup>nd</sup>... to the family and friends of Ada Long of Spring Hill. She passed on April 23<sup>rd</sup>... to the family and friends of Hilda (Munch) "Grannie" Aubrecht of Spring Hill, wife of the late Andrew Aubrecht. She passed away on April 28<sup>th</sup>... to the family and friends of Dolores M. "Dee" Russ of City View. She passed away on May 11<sup>th</sup>... to the family and friends of Rose Marie (Schmidt) Winberg formerly of Spring Hill, wife of the late Carl A. Winberg, Jr. She passed away May 19<sup>th</sup>... and to the family and friends of Linda R. (Blaich) Dick of Spring Hill. She passed away on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

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



**LOOK WHO'S**



**DIANE LOBER!**  
**Happy Birthday**  
 (NICE HAT)

### ST. MICHAEL'S EVENTS Church Carnival

St. Michael's Church Carnival will be held August 7<sup>th</sup> through August 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the church on Spring Garden Avenue. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Church's Youth Group, which is open to all children in the Spring Garden, Spring Hill, Troy Hill, and Deutschtown areas. Fundraisers support the Youth Group to keep it cost free for families.

*Anyone interested in helping with the carnival or who would like to set up a booth or sponsor a booth should contact Brian Woodrick at 412-231-2183.*

### Youth Group Meetings

St. Michaels holds Youth Group Meetings the first and third Fridays of every month at the church located at 1308 Spring Garden Avenue from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The kids will enjoy activities, snacks, field trips to PNC Park, bowling, etc. Every kid gets to have positive fun and a chance to make new friends.

*Call the church office at 412-231-2183 or just show up at a meeting to register.*

### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is the week of July 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> at Grace Lutheran Church of Troy Hill and the week of July 21<sup>st</sup>-July 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Michael's on Spring Garden. Times are from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. There is no cost to attend.

*Call the church office at 412-231-2183 or just show up to register.*

### THE 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL "HIS PLACE" BIKE-A-THON

**Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 a.m.**

Join us for a day of fun, fitness, and fellowship to raise funds for "His Place."

Everyone who raises at least \$100 will receive a free T-Shirt. You can sign up to ride online, and create an online profile to help collect sponsorships.



Rain Date: September 6<sup>th</sup>.

*For more information check out [www.hisplacecc.org](http://www.hisplacecc.org) and click "Bike-A-Thon."*

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### HOLY WISDOM FOOD BANK

This vital ministry serves many in our community who are having hard times. The food bank is **not government-funded** and depends upon donations and volunteers within Holy Wisdom parish and our community. Please help your neighbors in need. Checks or gift cards can be sent to: Holy Wisdom Food Pantry, 1025 Haslage Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212.

The food bank at Holy Wisdom (St. Ambrose School) is held every third Tuesday of the month, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. *To register for the food bank or to volunteer call 412-231-1116.*

### HOLY WISDOM PARISH PRESENTS NORTHSIDE SUMMER CELEBRATION

**August 20<sup>th</sup> – August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Holy Wisdom Parish presents **Northside Summer Celebration** at 2208 East Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, from Wednesday August 20<sup>th</sup> to Saturday August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Special events are scheduled for each night!

- Wednesday features include entertainment by William Dell and the Wee Jams.
- Thursday features include the Classic Car Cruise and entertainment by Chuck Blasko and the Vogues.
- Friday features include a chicken dinner served from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the Skydiver Lottery, and entertainment by Johnny Angel and the Halos.
- Saturday features include a 4:00 p.m. festival Mass, spaghetti dinner served from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., and entertainment by the Corbin/Hanner Band.

There is an ATM on site, "no smoking" bingo, games, amusement rides by C & L Shows, a great variety of food, a bakery, and a DJ nightly. Check out this year's 1999 torch red Classic Corvette Convertible. There is something for everyone! Come and enjoy "the biggest thing to come through the East Street Valley since I-279!"

*For more information on this event call 412-231-1116 or visit our website at [www.holywisdomparish.org](http://www.holywisdomparish.org).*

## NORTH SIDE 2008 CELEBRATION IN THE PARK

Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>

This year marks the Sixth Annual **North Side Celebration in the Park** on Saturday, July 26, 2008. The North Side/ North Shore Chamber of Commerce is happy to announce that Jack “Johnny Angel” Hunt (of Johnny Angel and the Halos) is Chairperson of the event. Jack, a lifelong North Side resident, is ecstatic to be part of our celebration because it represents the best of what our neighborhood has to offer.

Each year the event offers a new creative theme. Jack is an active member in a number of car cruise groups. Because of that involvement he planned the “Celebrating the North Side Car Cruise” as part of the festivities this year. Commitments from two local groups have already been secured, translating into over 200 classic cars to be on display that day. With his history in the music community, he has invited the Manchester Craftsmen’s Guild to feature musical talent from their outstanding music program.



We are very excited about Comcast as one of our media sponsors. They are promoting another addition to this year’s event, “Canine Idol”, which encourages animal lovers to send video clips of their dogs to Comcast to be judged. Canine finalists and their owners will be invited to **Celebration in the Park** for a talent show with celebrity judges. As in previous years, we will work with a local artist, Cheryl Capezzuti, to create giant puppets that will be used to tell stories about the North Side. There is also a plan to tie into the City of Pittsburgh’s 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration through some of our event programming.

There will be food vendors, local artists, and artists from Handmade Arcade in the park to sell their wares. A special promotion is being planned with local businesses. Allegheny General will host a health activity tent. Members from the region’s public safety organizations are also invited to bring their latest in technology to the event.

*For additional information or to find out how you can participate contact the North Side/North Shore Chamber of Commerce at 412-231-6500.*

## SUMMER SAFETY

Now that the summer months have finally arrived it is important for people of all ages to stay safe in the summer sun. At Brady Memorial Home, Inc. we recognize the dangers of the humid heat and would like to provide some “chilly tips” to have a “cool summer”.

- Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated. Most commonly people choose to drink soft drinks and cold teas on hot days. Unfortunately, although they might quench temporary thirst, the caffeine contained in these beverages can be very dehydrating to your body.
- Apply sun block. Using sun block not only protects the skin from sunburn but also provides the skin with moisture to help keep you looking refreshed and vibrant.
- Wear light colored loose fitting clothes. Sun glasses are very beneficial as well.
- Do not leave children or pets unattended in a car.
- As a caring community member, check on your local neighbors.
- And last, if you don’t have reason to leave your house, stay inside and relax, unless you’re going somewhere cool.

We hope everyone has a wonderful summer and more importantly a safe one!

Kristin Szuch  
Brady Memorial Home

## COMMUNITY GARDEN

Our garden is just like our community – vibrant, beautiful, and growing! Despite overcast sky and chilly weather, a wonderful group of neighbors got together to ensure another year of bright blooms at the top of Homer Street, a great “Welcome” to everyone who comes to Spring Hill.

Our new neighbor, Lakesha Lowry, brought her three young children Shacora, John, and Brooklynne. She readily admitted she knew nothing about gardening but was willing to learn. What an asset to our community to have a parent willing to teach her children community commitment.

Most of the perennials survived the winter very well. The Conservancy left us a few flats of annuals that Heather McDonald planted in the planter. The rest of our little group, Linda Wallen, Joan Russell, Dianne Burns, Ben Soltesz with Charlotte, and Bob and Colleen Frederking spent several hours discussing world events while feverishly pulling weeds. Our volunteer photographer, Jim Hurray, photographed the event.

Thanks to Mr. & Mrs. McAllister we had new weed block to keep the weeds under control under the mulch. Lou Flores brought all the volunteers delicious cookies from Dudt's – the best bakery around! He also offered some Lilies from his garden. There just were not enough volunteers to plant them. Our neighbor, Tammy Leistner, donated enough pop and water to keep our volunteers going. She is the owner of Tammy's Place on Goettman Street in Troy Hill, just a few doors away from North Catholic. Tammy's serves the best breakfast you will find anywhere around here. Lunch is very good too! Mrs. Kaufman donated several bags of Stella Dora's from her beautiful yard. Dianne Burns spent a few hours adding those to the garden toward the end of May.

We must thank everyone else who offered perennials from their garden. Although we would love to have them to complete our garden, we just do not have enough hands to get it all done. We are hoping to have more help for the fall clean up and we will be happy to take them at that time. Clean up is scheduled for October 4<sup>th</sup>. **I hope we will see you all then!**

*Our beautiful community flower garden is made possible through funding provided by ESB Bank and the City of Pittsburgh, as well as Western PA Conservancy and the efforts of Spring Hill volunteers!*



COMMUNITY GARDEN (Continued)



**CHILDREN'S MUSEUM EVENTS INFORMATION  
July/August 2008**

**LEMURtron**

**Through September 7<sup>th</sup>**

Witness a modern musical extravaganza, combining musical instruments with robotic technology to create an ensemble with GuitarBot, ModBots, and the infamous ill-tempered Clangier. From July 11<sup>th</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup> special activities for Robot 250 include BigBot - Green Roof Roller Coaster, a Robotic Flower Garden where you can create custom petals, and Canary Safari Tours using a "Canary" environmental sensor to measure temperature, humidity, light, and pollution.

**Solar Concert Series**

**July and August, Wednesdays at Noon**

Check out Pittsburgh's first green concert series, featuring live acoustic performances by local musicians using a solar-powered sound system. Performers include Hallie Pritts of Boca Chica, Buddy Nutt & UkuLizzy, and Greg Dutton of Lohio.

*Check the calendar on [www.pittsburghkids.org](http://www.pittsburghkids.org) for the lineup. Co-presented by the Children's Museum, the Saturday Light Brigade, and the New Hazlett Theater.*

**Where is Allegheny City? Treasure Hunt**

**Launches July 26<sup>th</sup>**

Uncover the mysteries and treasures of your Northside neighborhood and beyond in this fun family scavenger hunt. A special Kick-Off Extravaganza will occur at the **North Side Celebration in the Park** on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. All you need to play is a cell phone, a Treasure Hunt map, and a sense of adventure! Answer questions and solve puzzles right on your cell phone to earn points for passes to Northside museums, coupons for local eateries, and the ultimate grand prize. Get your free Treasure Hunt map and start the Treasure Hunt at **Celebration in the Park**, and participating institutions such as the Children's Museum, the Andy Warhol Museum, and the National Aviary starting July 26<sup>th</sup>.

*For more information please contact Jocelyn Horner at 412-586-6026 or [jhorner@pittsburghkids.org](mailto:jhorner@pittsburghkids.org).*

**Kindergarten... Here I Come!**

**Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Join us for our fourth annual celebration of your child's entrance to kindergarten! Activities include exploring a real school bus, meeting a crossing guard and other community helpers, art projects, performances and storytelling, free vision screenings, and a visit from Mr. McFeely from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Parents and caregivers can ask health and immunization questions, meet local child development experts, and receive valuable information on easing their child's transition to kindergarten.

*Free to all children entering kindergarten and one accompanying adult per child. No registration is required.*





### FOURTH OF JULY



Independence Day honors the birthday of the United States of America and the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. An excerpt...

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”

### CONCORD HYMN

**By Ralph Waldo Emerson**

*Sung at the completion of the Battle Monument, July 4, 1837*

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
 Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,  
 Here once the embattled farmers stood  
 And fired the shot heard round the world.

The foe long since in silence slept;  
 Alike the conqueror silent sleeps;  
 And Time the ruined bridge has swept  
 Down the dark stream which seaward creeps.

On this green bank, by this soft stream,  
 We set to-day a votive stone;  
 That memory may their deed redeem,  
 When, like our sires, our sons are gone.

Spirit, that made those heroes dare  
 To die, and leave their children free,  
 Bid Time and Nature gently spare  
 The shaft we raise to them and thee.

### SOUTHWESTERN LAYERED DIP

Ingredients:

- 2 cans (10 ½ oz. each) jalapeno flavored bean dip
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2/3 cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 1 pkg. (1.25 oz.) taco seasoning mix
- 2 (4 oz.) cans chopped green chilies
- 4 medium size ripe avocados
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- 8 oz. (2 cups) sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 2 cups sliced green onions
- 2 cups chopped tomatoes
- 6 oz. can pitted ripe olives, chopped
- Tortilla chips

Directions:

On a 15x10 inch or larger shallow serving platter, thinly spread bean dip. In small bowl, combine sour cream, mayonnaise, and taco seasoning mix; spread over bean dip. Sprinkle with chilies. Peel, pit, and mash avocados; combine with lime juice, salt, and garlic powder. Spread over chilies. Sprinkle with cheese, onions, tomatoes, and olives. Serve with tortilla chips.

Makes 11 cups.

### SUMMER COLESLAW

Ingredients:

- 12 cups chopped cabbage
- ½ cup onion chopped
- ½ cup green pepper
- ½ cup red pimento
- 2 ½ cups sugar
- 2 ¼ cups white vinegar
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 tablespoon mustard seed
- 1 tablespoon celery seed



Directions:

In large bowl combine cabbage, green pepper, onion, and pimento. In a separate bowl combine remaining ingredients and stir until sugar dissolves. Pour over cabbage mixture and toss well. Chill 24 hours before serving.

Serves 12.

## 2008 MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

The community turned out on a beautiful Memorial Day at Brady's Memorial Home on Southside Avenue to commemorate our veterans. This year we presented retired Army National Guard Specialist Douglas Kocian of Vista Street, with a special commendation for his dedicated service to our country.

Thank you to the many volunteers who assisted with set-up, food, and clean-up that day. Especially responsible for the day's success were Steve Brady, and the staff of Brady's Memorial Home Fred Weber, Mary O'Toole, LeAnn Sherman, and Kristin Szuch. A special thanks to Jim Hurray who photographed the event. A very special Thank You to Bob Lynch and the men and women of American Legion Post 565 and VFW post 7090 for their faithful participation in our annual commemoration. They truly make our ceremony special and go to each of the war monuments in our community every Memorial Day to properly commemorate their fallen comrades.



2008 MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION (Continued)





**CITY OF PITTSBURGH  
MAYOR  
LUKE RAVENSTAHL**

Dear Neighbors,

The summer is here in the City of Pittsburgh. As the weather increases in temperature so do my efforts to improve and protect the streets of Pittsburgh. We will focus on families and on enriching the lives of our youth this summer, in addition to our continued efforts in renovating and restoring the land and buildings throughout our city.

The Pittsburgh Promise™ is off to a successful first year with over 950 applications received. The scholarships will go towards the academic year 2008-2009. The City of Pittsburgh and UPMC are collaborating on providing approved applicants with aid to be distributed over four years, and it is with great pride that we recognize their accomplishments and send them off to achieve even more!

We are also committed to providing service-learning, work, and career education programs through the Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Program (PSYEP). Last year's program had 197 students from ages fourteen to eighteen participating in city-wide projects. In celebration of Pittsburgh 250 and in light of the success of PSYEP 2007, this year we have expanded the size of the program to hire 250 students. The students will work on the Department of Public Works projects under the management and supervision of the Student Conservation Association (SCA). This year's program has a stronger

emphasis on education, with additional time spent on conservation service-learning projects. Students will focus their work with training from SCA on career exploration, environmental concerns, and stewardship of public lands throughout the summer.

I have made a commitment to a safer summer in Pittsburgh through increasing the number of cops on the streets during the summer months. The Beat Cop Program deploys three more beat officers in each City police zone bringing the total number of beat officers to approximately five for each zone from May 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>. The police force of Pittsburgh is focusing on ensuring safety of business districts and city parks, and targeting high risk areas for closer surveillance.

The warm summer months are also the perfect time to take advantage of all the renovation efforts that have taken place during the year. Bike lanes and trails have been transformed and expanded and we now have 22 miles of riverfront trails for your biking and walking enjoyment! Through Green Up Pittsburgh projects, the city is moving toward a greener footprint.

In a huge victory for the city and for you, we have received a \$1.35 million dollar grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the construction of recreational docks at the planned South Side Shore Riverfront Park at South Side Works. We endeavor to strengthen our city's ties to the water as well as enhance opportunities for the economy to

grow through an additional point of entry into South Side Works.

It is residents like you that are at the heart of Pittsburgh, making each summer better and better. We are providing the services and opportunities for a safe, fun, and educational summer to you, but it is through your support and engagement that we are successful. I encourage you to take advantage of all of these programs and enjoy the summer to the fullest.

*For additional information on any of these initiatives, go to <http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/pghgov.com> or call 412-255-2566.*

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**SPRING HILL/CITYVIEW  
YAHOO CHAT GROUP**

If you're not already a member, you might like to join the Spring Hill/CityView Yahoo chat group. This is a place for neighbors to share information about and of interest to Spring Hill and CityView residents. This includes names and contact information for contractors and other service providers you've had good experiences with, job postings, local community event announcements, lost pets, items for sale, local clubs, or any items of interest to residents.

*To join go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/spring-hill/>.*

*If you have any trouble signing up call Pete McQuillin at 412-977-2207 while at your computer and he'll walk you through the sign up.*



**CITY OF PITTSBURGH,  
COUNCILWOMAN  
DARLENE M. HARRIS**

Thank you, residents of Council District 1.

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, City Council launched a series of visits to the various council districts, geared toward giving the members of Council a better understanding of each part of the city, so that when budget time rolls around this fall we can better serve the City as a whole. We are calling it our "Road Show" and we began in District 1, the constituents of which I am honored to represent.

We started the afternoon by piling into a van, to give Council members and their staff a tour of the high points and low points of District 1. I arranged to include such problem spots as the hills and weeds, city steps, landslides, garbage, illegal dumping, and abandoned properties, and such potentials as the natural spring.

At 6:00 p.m. I hosted the members of Council for a public meeting at Perry Traditional Academy. This was a special meeting because it was an official hearing of the full Council. The Director of City Planning, Noor Ismail, spoke in detail as to the makeup of District 1 demographically and in terms of issues. Council's Budget Director, Bill Urbanic, gave a presentation about how money is allocated by the City, and about Council's responsibility both fiscally and to the citizens of the city.

We had approximately 90 individuals from the community

in attendance, many of whom spoke to council about issues and concerns important to the residents of District 1.

In subsequent weeks Council will be visiting the other eight districts, and I look forward to learning more about each of them. But I was proud to start with District 1 – we set the bar high for the other districts, and I thank you all for your support and valuable input.

*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).*

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**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DON WALKO REPORTS  
FROM HARRISBURG**

**A year later, Pennsylvania patients, nurses wait for Senate action on mandatory overtime ban**

Countless health-care workers and nurses in Pennsylvania are working stressful 16-hour days and 80-hour weeks. This drives up error rates and accidents, harming patients and raising health-care costs for everyone. It also forces many nurses into other lines of work and discourages many people from becoming nurses.

That's why I strongly supported and voted for a bill that would ban mandatory overtime for nurses and other health-care workers. House Bill 834 would block hospitals and other health-care facilities from routinely requiring nurses and other

employees who provide direct patient care, besides doctors, to work beyond a regular shift that has already been agreed upon. While nurses and other employees could volunteer for extra shifts or overtime, it could not be required by the hospital. Nurses and other employees who refuse overtime could not be disciplined, discharged, or discriminated against for that reason.

This bill passed the House 166-31 in May 2007. Since then, however, the Republican-controlled Senate has refused to even move this bill out of committee.

Meanwhile, Pennsylvania nurses are still being disciplined and even fired when they won't or can't work multiple shifts – even at a moment's notice. Mandatory overtime is unfair to nurses and their families, and it's dangerous for the patients they care for.

Pennsylvania hospitals can be staffed without relying on mandatory overtime. Other states have banned the practice, and it is already prohibited in some Pennsylvania hospitals and health-care systems. In these places, hospitals are still open and patients are receiving quality care.

If you would like to help in the fight to ban mandatory overtime for nurses, please use my Web site – [www.pahouse.com/Walko](http://www.pahouse.com/Walko) – to send a message to your senator.

*If you have any questions on a state-related issue or subject, please call my office at 412-321-5523.*