

SPRING HILL * CITYVIEW TIMES

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Vol. 8 No. 60

September-October 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2008

General Meeting
Forrest Hodges, Pittsburgh Police
Zone 1, Crime Prevention/
Community Relations Officer
Guest Speaker
Monday, September 8th
7:00 PM
Spring Hill Elementary School
auditorium

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

Monday, September 8th
Monday, October 6th
Board Nominations
Monday, November 3rd
Board Elections

Halloween Collection:
September 1st - October 6th

Membership Drive:
September 1st - November 3rd

**Fall Trash Pick Up and Flower
Garden Clean Up:** Saturday,
October 11th at 9:00 AM Homer
Street firehouse

Halloween Parade:
Saturday, October 18th, 11:30 AM -
1:00 PM, from Brady's Memorial
Home to the Rockledge Street lot.

Christmas Tree Lighting:
Sunday, December 7th, 7:00 PM
Rockledge Street lot.

FROM THE DESK OF... THE VICE PRESIDENT

Should We Continue? What Should We Focus On?

Donna Allison resigned from the Board of the Spring Hill Civic League on July 28th. Thanks to Donna for her service in leading the Board as President and helping the community. We wish her well!

There are several thousand people living in Spring Hill. In the past few years our membership has declined. The same 15 to 20 people show up at the general membership meetings. The Board and a few consistent volunteers do all the work for all the events.

This issue has brought a big question to the table. What does the community want? Are we focusing our efforts on the right activities? Do you **want** a Civic League to continue organizing events, giving the community a voice on City issues, maintaining your public lot, and promoting your community? Please tell us what you want!

I've put a brief questionnaire together on the second to last page (page 13) of the newsletter. Please take a few minutes and fill it out. You can return it by mail, e-mail, fax, or call a Board member, whatever works for you. But

please tell us how or even if we should continue.

I am open to ideas from our community. Please contact me, or anyone on this Board with your comments, questions, and suggestions. Thank you!

Dianne Burns
Vice President
Spring Hill Civic League

NEW SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE EMAIL ADDRESS contact@shcl.org

The Civic League has a new email address: contact@shcl.org. All members of the Board who are online are reachable through this common email address. We look forward to hearing from you!

SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE CONTACT INFORMATION

Vice President Dianne Burns
412-231-7718
contact@shcl.org or
dianne.burns@verizon.net

Treasurer Ben Soltesz
412-231-0303
contact@shcl.org or
bensoltesz@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor Joan Russell
412-322-9945
contact@shcl.org or
joanrussell@aol.com

**FROM THE DESK OF THE
FORMER PRESIDENT...
DONNA ALLISON**

I would like to thank the residents and businesses of Spring Hill and the Spring Hill Civic League Board of Directors for supporting me while serving as president of the Spring Hill Civic League. You are a wonderful community. God Bless,
Donna Allison

**PLEASE HELP YOUR
COMMUNITY**

We are actively canvassing for community members willing to serve on the Board, as well as help coordinate community events. Please help us. Volunteer. Come to the meetings. Join the Board. Give us your input. We all have busy lives. By spending only a few hours each month you can help better your community.

Wikipedia defines "Community" as: "a group of interacting people living in a common location". Do YOU want to be part of an "interacting People"? If so, than please **GET INVOLVED**.

**NEWSLETTER MAIL
DELIVERY**

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

**SHCL WEB SITE:
www.shcl.org**

Past editions of the newsletter are available online.

**FALL TRASH PICKUP AND
GARDEN CLEANUP**

**Saturday, October 11th
9:00 AM**



Please join us on Saturday for our community fall chores! The garden needs a bit of TLC to make it last through the winter. The streets need "red up". Bring the kids – it's time for them to learn civic duty. Bring your neighbor – they live here, too!

We will start at 9:00 AM at the Homer Street firehouse. Those with green thumbs can help clean up the garden. Those who just believe in this community can help keep it a beautiful neighborhood by picking up trash. You can have great conversations with the neighbors you know and new ones you meet while you get some exercise. Afterwards, you will be rewarded with a great lunch from one of our area restaurants.

If you would like to donate any perennials from your garden for transplant, please drop them off at the firehouse that morning.

Thanks for your support!

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Please submit articles for the November/December edition by October 15th to:
Joan Russell
2115 Rockledge Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212-3533
412-322-9945
joanrussell@aol.com

**SOUTHWESTERN PA
HOUSEHOLD HAZADOUS
WASTE COLLECTION**

Date: Saturday, September 27th
Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Location: Allegheny County, Station Square (former amphitheatre site)
See swpahhw.org for details.

ALCOSAN OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday, September 20th
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

Free to the public! There will be plant tours, hands-on activities, exhibits, games, food, and fun for all ages. Onsite parking is available.

3300 Preble Avenue, Pittsburgh
www.alcosan.org

**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:
Vice President: Dianne Burns
Secretary: Jackie Hoffman
Treasurer: Ben Soltesz
Directors: Stephen Brady
Joan Russell
Eileen Back

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

To Werner Krupp and Ingrid Nagin of 1353 Rescue Street.



Werner and Ingrid are close neighbors of mine. They bought an empty lot and built a modern new energy efficient home which they moved into in August. Let's all welcome them to the neighborhood!

If you would like to welcome a neighbor on your street, submit the announcement to joanrussell@aol.com.

New neighbors, if you would like to be informed of meetings and other community information via e-mail, please contact Ben Soltesz at contact@shcl.org or bensoltesz@gmail.com.

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.

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.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
October Birthdays**



Happy Birthday to Evelyn College and Elizabeth Berger whose birthdays are on October 20th... and to Joan Russell who celebrates an October birthday.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

To the family and friends of Jeff "Big Guy" Juratovic of Spring Hill, beloved husband of Cheryl Juratovic. He passed away on June 27th... to the family and friends of Charles Schultheis of Spring Hill, husband of the late Dorothy Schultheis. He passed away on July 13th... to the family and friends of Philip R. Gross, beloved husband of Johanna (Gray) Gross. He passed away on July 30th... to the family and friends of Helen Cecelio Holeczy of Spring Hill. She passed away on August 19th... and to the family and friends of James College who passed away. He was the former husband of Evelyn College.

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



**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.

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. Monetary gifts will be collected at all SHCL meetings. Checks or gift cards can also 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 AM to 12:00 Noon. *To register for the food bank or to volunteer call 412-231-1116.*

HALLOWEEN PARADE

Saturday, October 18th

The Spring Hill Civic League will hold its annual Halloween Parade for children, ages 1-12, on Saturday, October 18th. 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 block worker by October 6th. You can also drop it off at the community general meeting on October 6th. **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!



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 Dianne Burns at 412-231-7718 or e-mail at dianne.burns@verizon.net.

HALLOWEEN JOKES

Q. What do you call a goblin who gets too close to a bonfire?
A. A toasty ghosty.

Q. Why did the ghost go into the bar?
A. For the Boos.

Q. What is a Mummie's favorite type of music?
A. Wrap!!!!

Q. What's a monster's favorite bean?
A. A human bean.

Q. Why didn't the skeleton dance at the party?
A. He had no body to dance with.

Q. Why did the game warden arrest the ghost?
A. He didn't have a haunting license.

DEVIL'S NIGHT PATROL

Devil's Night is October 30th. The purpose of the "Devil's Night Patrol" is 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 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.

The last component of the patrol is parental involvement. Parents, you really need to know where your teens are that night. By working together, we can prevent the vandalism that so many of our neighboring communities experience.



THE PUMPKIN

**Written in 1850
by John Greenleaf Whittier**

Oh! – fruit loved of boyhood –
the old days recalling,

When wood-grapes were
purpling and brown nuts were
falling!

When wild, ugly faces we
carved in its skin,

Glaring out through the dark
with a candle within!



HALLOWEEN PARADE

The Spring Hill Civic League will hold its annual Halloween Parade for children, ages 1-12, on Saturday, October 18th. 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 below and return via mail or to your block worker by October 6th or at the general meeting on October 6th. **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.

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 6, 2008.

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

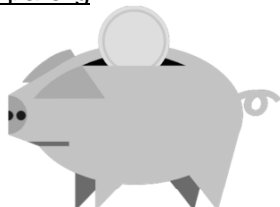
Forms and donations can also
 be turned in to your block
 worker or at the general meeting Oct. 6th.



NORTH SIDE AREA TEENS: EARN \$100 WHILE YOU LEARN ABOUT MONEY!

Join the “My Money, My Life” program in Spring Garden to learn about how to manage your money. These free classes will cover budgeting, bank accounts, loans, investing, credit cards, and much more. Students who attend all five classes will receive a savings account with \$100 already deposited in it by NeighborWorks Western Pennsylvania. Classes will begin in mid-September and will be held in a neighborhood location after school once a week. To register and for exact location, call Courtney at 412-281-1100 x121 – space is limited!

Courtney George
 Youth Financial Education Facilitator
 NeighborWorks®, Western Pennsylvania
 (Neighborhood Housing Services)
 710 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1000
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219
 Phone: 412-281-1100 x121
 Fax: 412-281-9987
cgeorge@nhsdpa.org



FREE HEALTH SEMINARS

Stop by Kings Family Restaurant in Wexford for FREE health seminars.

September Schedule:

- 9/9 – Live 25 years longer. Feel 25 years younger. Learn the truth about longevity.
- 9/22 –Cinch Weight Loss Café. Take control of your weight!
- 9/29 – Play Toxic Poker. Do you really know what’s in your cleaning products? What is the cause of your kid’s asthma?

All seminars are FREE, but you must register to receive all hand-outs. Please RSVP to Linda Berkheiser, RN at 724-443-4654, or lberk@nauticom.netstart.

All presentations start at 6:30 PM and last about one hour. A question and answer session follow for anyone interested. Call for an October schedule.



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**Considering a Law Enforcement Career with the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police?**

The Pittsburgh Civil Service will be administrating a competitive examination for the position of **Police Officer** on November 8, 2008. The deadline for applying is October 24, 2008. For more information on general and educational requirements please refer to [www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/employmentcenter](http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/employmentcenter).

If you have any questions after visiting our website, please contact The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Recruiting Officer Joe Seskey at 412-606-1071 or [joseph.seskey@city.pittsburgh.pa.us](mailto:joseph.seskey@city.pittsburgh.pa.us).

**SPRING HILL ARTIST  
LINDA WALLEN**

**EXHIBITION AT  
THE HOYT INSTITUTE**

**August 26<sup>th</sup> – September 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Reception September 7<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 – 4:00 PM**

Spring Hill artist Linda Wallen (Yetta Avenue Mosaics) will exhibit 30 of her paintings at the Hoyt Institute. The show opens August 26<sup>th</sup> and continues through September 26<sup>th</sup>. The opening reception is September 7<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 - 4:00 PM.

The exhibition contains panel paintings done in egg tempera and gold leaf, most of which concern memories from a childhood in South Bend, Indiana. Some of the paintings can be seen at the artist's website [lindawallenstudios.com](http://lindawallenstudios.com).

The Hoyt Institute is located at 124 East Leasure Avenue, New Castle, PA. Ms. Wallen shares this show with two other painters, Malcolm Christhilf and Jean Plough.



**Self Portrait  
"Looking Back"**

**PRIME STAGE THEATRE  
PRESENTS**



***The Hound of the  
Baskervilles***

**September 27<sup>th</sup> – October 5<sup>th</sup>**

Prime Stage Theatre, where literature comes to life, presents the classic *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, a play that challenges Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson's wits as they solve this Gothic mystery. The play will be presented weekends from September 27<sup>th</sup> through October 5<sup>th</sup> at the New Hazlett Theatre on the North Side.

*Browse the prime stage web site [www.primestage.com](http://www.primestage.com) and learn about the many opportunities to enjoy theatre and support Prime Stage.*

**PREDATORY LENDING  
WORKSHOP**

**Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 – 8:00 PM**

Since 1988, The Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG) has worked with Pittsburgh's major lending institutions and public agencies to develop innovative reinvestment programs targeted to Pittsburgh's low and moderate-income neighborhoods. PCRG's

programs focus on eradicating predatory lending in Allegheny County, revitalizing its communities, advocating for reinvestment in its' neighborhoods, and researching and analyzing its banks' practices.

The PCRG is hosting a predatory lender workshop on Wednesday, September 24, 2008. It's at the Pittsburgh Project located at 2801 North Charles Street from 6:30 to 8:00 PM.

*Contact the PCRG at 412-391-6732 for more information or visit their website at [www.pittsburghproject.org](http://www.pittsburghproject.org).*

**ST. MICHAEL'S  
120<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**

**Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 PM**

Members of the community are invited to join the congregation in the celebration of 120 years of ministry in the Spring Garden and surrounding North Side communities. It will be held on St. Michael and All Angels' Day, Monday September 29<sup>th</sup>. The festival Worship Service will begin at 7:00 PM with a reception following in the fellowship hall. Bishop Kurt Kusserow will preside at the service.

*St. Michael and All Angels'  
Lutheran Church  
1308 Spring Garden Ave.  
412-231-2183  
Rev. Patricia Bonds, Pastor*



**CITY OF PITTSBURGH  
MAYOR  
LUKE RAVENSTAHL**

Dear Neighbors,

I hope all of you had a great Pittsburgh summer. I took advantage of the warm weather by attending some of the many events coordinated by Citiparks, as well as getting to know more residents and neighborhoods by visiting and walking the streets of our City neighborhoods.

In July we hit the streets with the third annual central Oakland "sweep." We cited more than 140 building code and safety violations ranging from overflowing trash cans to absent fire alarms. These sweeps are part of our effort to ensure that our Oakland community is a safe place to live, work, study, and play for the more than 20,000 college students who live in the area.

This summer we began extending our sweeps. In Larimer I had the opportunity to walk through the neighborhood with 11 of the Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Program high school students. They showed me the areas where they had worked hard clearing away litter and weeds. We also had neighborhood sweeps in California-Kirkbride and Allentown. We will be continuing the sweeps in other neighborhoods throughout the next year.

These sweeps help us to determine the best ways to allocate City resources and to improve the quality of life for our residents. As part of our city-

wide demolition plan we use the sweeps as a tool to target high priority, unsafe neighborhood houses and buildings. We also target City-owned vacant lots as part of our Green Up Pittsburgh program, where we challenge residents to become community stewards and create a community garden to help turn blight into beauty.

In addition to the neighborhoods, we're also conducting business district sweeps. Together with the Department of Public Works, we launched our Taking Care of Business (TCOB) program in Brookline on July 30, 2008. As part of the program we brought back five full-time "hokey patrols" to clean up storefronts. In addition to the hokey patrols, working from a list of action items delivered by 311 callers and businesses the TCOB crews cited properties, removed graffiti, painted road lines, and responded to on-the-spot concerns from citizens. After the TCOB sweeps business districts will begin to receive improvement hardware - items such as trees, street lights, bike racks, or gateway signage, based on a survey sent to the districts in March. This is part of our plan to provide our City's 50 major neighborhood business districts with clean sweeps, infrastructure improvements, and long-term strategies to renew the neighborhood.

Although each neighborhood is different, they all shared two common concerns - public safety and quality of life. We will be hosting a Public Safety Expo in the fall to ensure residents are aware of all the resources available to them.

One part of improving quality of life is fostering families. On August 10<sup>th</sup> my wife Erin and I hosted our very first "Family Night" on Flagstaff Hill, in conjunction with Citiparks Cinema in the Park. The evening was a combination of arts, crafts, storytellers, and performers. Children got to climb aboard fire trucks, police cars, and Public Works equipment. Parents got to learn about city neighborhoods and public safety. Although the film that night was cancelled due to weather, a great time was had by all and we're looking forward to our next Family event.

As summer is wrapping up, the first Pittsburgh Promise class of 2008 is preparing to go to college. The Pittsburgh Promise encourages our students to continue their education by helping to eliminate some of the financial burden. I am excited to say that we anticipate more than 800 of the 970 eligible students will be attending school in Pennsylvania this fall, and will receive an annual \$5,000 scholarship towards their college tuition. We are looking forward to hearing about their future success and continuing the program for the class of 2009.

I look forward to seeing you out in your neighborhood during our upcoming neighborhood and business district sweeps.

*For more information on Neighborhood Sweeps or the Taking Care of Business Program, please log on to [www.pgh.gov.com](http://www.pgh.gov.com), or call 412-255-4765.*





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

**“Think Also of the Rights  
and Comforts of Others”**

Those of you who know me and my connection to the public schools might laugh, because the above quote is the school motto of Winchester Thurston School, a private school. The intent of that statement, “think also of the rights and comforts of others,” is the soul of a community, the very substance of a great neighborhood.

We have recently received quite a few calls in my office from constituents concerning neighbors not acting in a neighborly manner. “Folks are speeding on my street where senior citizens live,” says one caller. “I just put in a new sidewalk for several thousand dollars and the neighbors think it is their right to park their cars on it,” say three callers. “My neighbor’s ivy is growing all over my garage and there’s poison ivy in the mess!”

These are issues of being neighborly. Someone is not “thinking also of the rights and comforts of others.”

There have been a few calls concerning more serious issues such as the dogs that snarl and bite, the collapsing home, and the garbage which is out in the heat. “My neighbors put their garbage out six days ahead and rats and bugs are all over the yards.”

Of course we attempt to help with all these issues, and in many cases there are City services that cover them – arresting speeders and citing those who park on sidewalks,

for instance – but in general, these are matters which are addressed best by citizens practicing good, civil behavior.

So, I shouldn’t need to tell you that we do not park on sidewalks, that we only put out our trash on trash day, and that speed limits are generally devised with some purpose. But I’m telling you anyway, because it’s the neighborly thing to do.

“Think also of the rights and comforts of others.”

*Please feel free to contact the office at 412-255-2135. You can send email to: [darlene.harris@city.pittsburgh.pa.us](mailto:darlene.harris@city.pittsburgh.pa.us).*

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**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DON WALKO REPORTS**

**New Laws Make  
Pennsylvania a Leader on  
Energy Independence**

The last time I wrote a column about energy independence, I said the high price of oil – then passing \$100 a barrel – was a major reason we needed to break our addiction to foreign oil. Since then, the price of oil has risen more than 30 percent in just four months. Fortunately, I have good news. In July the legislature passed major energy independence initiatives that Gov. Rendell signed into law.

Every year Pennsylvania residents and businesses send \$30 billion out of the state just to buy gas and other liquid fuels. That’s about \$2,400 per person. Now we will be keeping more of that money here, creating jobs and reining in energy prices.

Already, the state’s current energy investment programs have created more than 2,500

jobs. But funding has been limited and the state was only able to support 10% of requests, losing out on at least \$100 million in potential investments every year.

The new state budget package invests \$650 million in a mix of commercial and consumer efforts designed to help large companies, small businesses, and homeowners take advantage of alternative energy technology. Also, the measure includes funding for the nation’s first standards for harnessing cellulosic ethanol and bio-diesel as motor fuels, with the potential to derive much of the fuel from non-food sources such as switchgrass, agricultural wastes, waste grease, and algae. And the high price of oil wasn’t the only reason to act – electric rate caps are set to end in less than three years.

Projects under the new fund will range from investments in cutting-edge research to energy-saving weatherization efforts and tax credits for alternative energy products and programs, including help for homeowners and small businesses to install solar panels. The Department of Environmental Protection has said applications should be available in the next two to three months. If you would like to be among the first to know when the forms are available, just call my office or sign up at my web site [www.pahouse.com/Walko](http://www.pahouse.com/Walko).

Instead of a "gold rush," there is a "green rush" in alternative energy because of high prices. Pennsylvania is now in a great position to capitalize on it.

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



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM SENATOR JIM FERLO

### Looking Forward to Green Innovation and Consumer Savings

In tough economic times, it becomes a greater challenge to craft a responsible budget that helps Pennsylvanians thrive and provides new opportunities; we must ensure that we are tackling the problems of today and also looking towards the future. Many of us feel the pinch at the gas pump and in paying our bills, and I'm happy to tell you the legislature recently passed Governor Rendell's Energy Independence Strategy, which will create a \$650 million fund for environmental programs. The goal is two-fold— to take steps to enable consumers to conserve energy and to put Pennsylvania at the forefront of emerging alternative energy production.

Pennsylvanians are exporting \$30 billion per year out of state to buy fuel in the forms of petroleum and natural gas instead of keeping those dollars at home. The Independence Strategy will take crucial steps to build infrastructure here at home for clean energy production, reducing our dependence on foreign oil, creating jobs in new fields, and giving residents, businesses, and municipalities opportunities to "green up" through a multitude of venues and opportunities.

\$237.5 million will be targeted specifically toward helping

consumers conserve electricity and manage higher energy prices. Residential consumers and small businesses will be eligible for \$92.5 million in loans, grants, reimbursements and rebates to support energy conservation and weatherization projects that can ultimately reduce energy bills. The fund also provides additional support for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and for the establishment of an Energy Efficiency Loan Fund through the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, which will build upon the Renovate and Repair Program.

These programs will afford low-income and elderly Pennsylvanians the opportunity to reduce energy costs and increase comfort while safeguarding health and safety. Funds will be available towards home repairs (roofing; installation of energy-efficient furnaces, water heaters, and heat pumps; insulation, ductwork, and sealing) and on-site energy audits can be used to identify the most pressing needs and plan for cost-effective measures to correct the situations.

Act 78 of 2008 provides a market for bio-diesel and cellulosic ethanol requiring retailers to sell their fuel with an increasing percentage of bio material as target levels of production are being made. Special Session Act 2 of 2008 creates a 75 cents a gallon rebate for in state bio-diesel production up to 7 million gallons for the next three years, assisting companies to meet

production demands and encouraging them to set up business in Pennsylvania.

As you may have seen in the news, Pennsylvania customers face the possibility of double-digit rate increases in their electric bills due to the approaching expiration of utility rate caps. I will continue to advocate to hold utilities to the highest standards for rate making and to ensure customer protections; in the face of these pressures, it is all the more crucial that we invest in new forms of clean energy production.

The Independence Strategy will establish Pennsylvania as a leader in the clean energy sector and provide relief to strained citizens. It is estimated that the plan for energy conservation and green alternative energy production will save the residents and businesses of Pennsylvania almost \$10 billion over the next 10 years. The sun is shining on Pennsylvania and we'll enable more citizens to reap its' benefits, literally and figuratively.

The need for efficiency and innovation is clear. Further details can be found at [www.NewPa.com](http://www.NewPa.com) as these programs are developed or through the Budget links on my website, [www.senatorferlo.com](http://www.senatorferlo.com).

*If I can be of any assistance to you in these or any other state-related issues, please contact me at my office at 412-621-3006.*



## CHILDREN'S MUSEUM EVENTS INFORMATION September/October 2008

### EXHIBITS

**Tough Art** – Opens Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

The Children's Museum presents its second year of this exhibit series showcasing interactive art works by four artists, who got the chance to make their art "tough" enough to withstand kid handling during a three month summer residency. Featured artists are Wendy Osher, David Butts, Rick Gribenas and Ben Bigelow. *Tough Art is supported by a grant from the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services.*

**Drawn to the Hive: Cartooning Pittsburgh's Mayors** – In the ToonSeum through October 13<sup>th</sup>

See a history of Pittsburgh's mayors as drawn over the past 50 years, featuring original art by top editorial cartoonists Rob Rogers and Tim Menees (*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*), Randy Bish (*Pittsburgh Tribune Review*), Tim Hartman (*North Hills New Record*), and Cy Hungerford (*Pittsburgh Sun and Press*).

**Mother Goose and Grimm: The Art of Mike Peters** – Opens October 17<sup>th</sup> in the ToonSeum

Featuring original art by cartoonist Mike Peters including comic strips, editorial cartoons, and production art from the animated series based on his popular comic strip, "Mother Goose and Grimm." On Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> don't miss a special presentation by Mike Peters and a meet-and-greet with Grimmy at 1:00 PM.

### EVENTS

**Remembering Hiroshima/Imagining Peace Project**

Children's Museum presents these activities as part of this city-wide campaign of art, education, and activism to increase awareness about the dangers of nuclear weapons and encourage reflection about creating a more peaceful world. All events are free with Museum admission unless noted:

**Family Yoga** – Saturdays in September, 11:30 AM

Explore yoga in a relaxed 1/2 hour class for the whole family. Taught by Schoolhouse Yoga on September 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, and Myrna Patterson on September 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Space is limited.

**Origami Peace Cranes** – Saturdays in September, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Learn the ancient Japanese art of origami with artist Emily Laychak.

**Peace and Practical Self Defense** – September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 PM

Learn the fundamentals of resolving conflict and staying safe with Ryer Martial Arts Academy.

**Popoki Peace Project with Dr. Ronni Alexander** – September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 and 2:00 PM

Enjoy story readings and art activities about the children's book "*Popoki, What Color is Peace?*" with author Dr. Ronni Alexander, visiting from Kobe University, Japan.

**ToonSeum Celebrates Pittsburgh's Mayors – A Historic Gathering** – Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>

Enjoy campaign button making and cartooning demonstrations by Rob Rogers, Tim Menees, and other cartoonists at Noon, 1:00, and 2:00 PM. For the big kids and adults, don't miss a free panel on cartoons and politics featuring **former mayors Tom Murphy, Sophie Masloff**, and other special guests. Presented by ToonSeum, located in the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. *Free with Museum admission.*

**Tickets for Kids Treasure Hunt Day** – Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

Join Tickets for Kids Charities to celebrate *I'm One in a Million...Thanks a Million*, its celebration of having given one million tickets to deserving children since 1994. Play a special edition of the Where Is Allegheny City? Treasure Hunt with special guests, enjoy cake, and more. *Cell phones are not provided. Free with Museum admission.*

**The Black Sheep Puppet Festival Takes Over the Children's Museum!**

**Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>:**

1:00 PM - Puppet Show by We're Holden Puppets

(Continued on page 12)



## CHILDREN'S MUSEUM EVENTS INFORMATION (Continued from page 11)

2:00 & 3:00 PM - Tours of the Museum's Puppet Collection  
2:30 & 3:30 PM - Puppet Shows by acts from the Black Sheep Puppet Festival

### **Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup>:**

1:00 - 4:00 PM - Puppet-making Workshop with BSPF in the Studio  
3:00 - 3:45 PM - Puppet Performance Workshop with acts from the Black Sheep Puppet Festival

### **Family Workshops**

With Visiting Artists Franz Spohn, children's book illustrator and creator of the world's largest gumball murals, and Fran Mason, illustrator and elementary school art teacher.

**Family Dioramas** – Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Through the magic of digital photography, cool art materials, and an easy-to-use foam cutter, create the crazy 3D landscape for you and your family to inhabit!

**Family Board Games** – Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 - 4:30 PM

Bored of the same video games? Invent the zaniest, most unique game your family has ever played, with your own game board and pieces using foam cutting techniques.

*Presented with support from Faber-Castell USA.*

### **Fall Festival of Children's Books**

**Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM:**

Educators, librarians, and folks keen on children's books in general, can celebrate children's literature at this day-long celebration featuring children's book authors and artists Leonard S. Marcus, Pat Cummings, and T. A. Barron. The event includes a light breakfast, author talks, book sales and signings, and author workshops; Act 48 hours are provided. Tickets are \$15 or \$25 with lunch. Learn more at [www.fallfestivalofchildrensbooks.org](http://www.fallfestivalofchildrensbooks.org).

**Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>:**

Enjoy story times and book signings with these authors and artists from the Pittsburgh children's literature scene. Free; Museum admission not included.

Author Sally Alexander, (*Taking Hold: My Journey into Blindness, She Touched the World*) – Story time at 11:30 AM, book signing from Noon - 1:00 PM.

Illustrator John Manders (*Henry and the Buccaneer Bunnies, Humphrey, Albert, and the Flying Machine*) – Story time at 12:30 PM, book signing from 1:00 - 2:00 PM.

Author Rebecca O'Connell (*The Baby Goes Beep, Penina Levine Is A Hard-Boiled Egg*) – Story time at 1:30 PM, Book signing at 2:00 - 3:00 PM.

Author Karen Lynn Williams (*Painted Dreams, When Africa Was Home*) – Story time at 2:30 PM, book signing from 3:00 - 4:00 PM.

### **Real Stuff Events**

Get behind the scenes and learn how people make, fix and play with real stuff at these live demonstrations:

**Glass Torching** – Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

With the Pittsburgh Glass Center.

**Celebrate Fire Safety Month** – Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

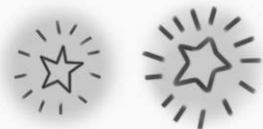
With Inspector Skip McCrae to learn about fire safety and get up close with a real fire truck!

**Careers in Construction Week** – October 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>

With the Constructors Association of Western PA. Explore the design and construction of skyscrapers and bridges in hands-on workshops from 10:30 AM - Noon. Then learn about the equipment and people that make city building possible from 1:30 - 3:30 PM.

**September Discount:** Museum admission is half price on WEEKDAYS from September 3<sup>rd</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh is CLOSED on Monday September 1<sup>st</sup>, and Tuesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>.



### MEMBERSHIP SURVEY



Please tell us what you want. We would like to sponsor activities that the community will participate in and attend. The results of the survey will help to determine what is budgeted for next year. If we need to cancel some events to add others, it will be the community's choice. E-mail, fax, mail or even call. Please remember, this is your community and these are your events.

**Let's KEEP:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Halloween Parade      \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Day Celebration      \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas Nativity & Community Tree Lighting

**Let's ADD:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yearly Flea Market      \_\_\_\_\_ Pot-Luck      \_\_\_\_\_ Fund Raising Events  
\_\_\_\_\_ Concerts in the Park      \_\_\_\_\_ Community Picnic  
\_\_\_\_\_ Family Game Night at the Firehouse      \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly Farmers Market

**YOUR SUGGESTIONS:**

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Are you willing to chair an event? \_\_\_\_\_ Are you willing to be on a committee for 1 event? \_\_\_\_\_

**SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GENERAL MEETINGS THAT WILL INCREASE ATTENDENCE:**

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Would you like a Board member to contact you with further information? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return ASAP to Dianne Burns at any of the following:

Email: [contact@shcl.org](mailto:contact@shcl.org) or [dianne.burns@verizon.net](mailto:dianne.burns@verizon.net)  
FAX: 412-321-0827,  
Phone: 421-231-7718 (6:00 PM to 10:00 PM or leave a message)  
Mail: 27 Noster Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Or you may send it in with your membership application on the reverse side of this page.

ANY INFORMATION SUBMITTED IS CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL NOT BE USED OR SOLD FOR THIRD PARTY INTERESTS.



## 2009 SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE September 1 – November 3, 2008

Please join the Spring Hill Civic League! Your membership helps to fund the activities that benefit families in the community throughout the year. If you are interested in renewing your membership or joining the league, please fill out the membership application below. And if possible, please fill out the membership survey on the back side of this form to help us sponsor activities that you would like to participate in.

You may turn in your form with your dues to your block worker. In some, but not all neighborhoods block workers will be collecting. You can turn them into any Board member, you can bring them to one of the general meetings in September, October or November, or mail it to:

**Spring Hill Civic League  
c/o 1149 Admiral St.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212**

Checks should be made payable to the Spring Hill Civic League.

Be advised that the annual dues for the Spring Hill Civic League are two dollars (\$2.00) per adult in the household. Residents of Spring Hill/Cityview who are 18 years or older are eligible for membership.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of the community. Call 412-231-7718 or e-mail [contact@shcl.org](mailto:contact@shcl.org) or [Dianne.burns@verizon.net](mailto:Dianne.burns@verizon.net) with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Dianne Burns  
Vice President

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### SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*(PLEASE NOTE IF UNLISTED)*

**CHILDREN (PLEASE LIST NAMES AND AGES)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ANY INFORMATION SUBMITTED IS CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL NOT BE USED OR SOLD TO THIRD PARTY INTERESTS. CHILDREN'S INFORMATION IS USED SOLELY TO HELP PLAN COMMUNITY EVENTS (CANDY, PRIZES, ETC.)