



# SPRING HILL \* CITYVIEW TIMES

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Vol. 9 No. 67

November-December 2009

**Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.**

### FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT...

Considering that Thanksgiving is right around the corner, I thought it would be an appropriate time to say **thank you** to Dianne Burns. Dianne is leaving the board in December after giving many years of hard work and dedication to the community. She will truly be missed. This is not the only change to our board, as Joan Russell will become the new Vice President in January. If you would like to join our board, please let us know.

Also, **thank you** to the volunteers for our Halloween parade. It was a successful event for the children. It ended up being a nice day. We were fortunate that the rain stopped before the parade started. We had good attendance, with most of the registered children attending. Picking the best costumes must have been tough for our judges, because there were so many good costumes to pick from. I am already looking forward to next year.

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is already here. One of the things we are currently working on is preparations for our annual Christmas tree lighting on December 6<sup>th</sup>. I hope we will see you there. Please see the article on the Christmas tree lighting for more information.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

Jackie Hoffman  
President  
Spring Hill Civic League

### CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

**Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM**  
**Rockledge Street Lot**

The Spring Hill Civic League invites you and your family to welcome the Christmas season at our annual Christmas Tree Lighting December 6<sup>th</sup>. We will gather at the Rockledge Street lot at 7:00 PM. After a brief blessing and a short presentation to the Holy Wisdom Food Bank, we will sing Christmas carols and light the Christmas trees. After the ceremony cookies and hot chocolate will be served. By this time Santa will have arrived!



Santa will be driving all around Spring Hill that evening (weather permitting) distributing candy to the children. He usually arrives in our neighborhood around 5:30 PM and drives by all the houses with good little boys and girls. By the time the cookies are being served he should be arriving at the Rockledge Street lot. All the good little boys and girls are welcome to sit with Santa in his Santa Truck. Parents are welcome to bring their cameras.

**Please join us for a wonderful community event to celebrate our family values. Remember the Reason for the Season!**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meeting  
SHCL Board Elections  
**Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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, November 2, 2009
- Monday, March 1, 2010
- Monday, May 3, 2010

2010 Membership Drive:  
September 1<sup>st</sup> - December 31<sup>st</sup>



Christmas Tree Lighting:  
Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM  
Rockledge Street lot.



**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

Emergency	911
Mayor's Response Line	311
Allegheny County Health Department	412-687-2243
Allegheny General Hospital	412-359-3131
Animal Control	412-255-2036
City Council Dist. 1 Councilwoman Darlene Harris	412-255-2135
City Jobline	412-255-2388
Dog Licenses	412-255-2575
Duquesne Light Power Outages	1-888-393-7100 1-888-393-7000
Narcotics Division	412-323-7761
North Side Chamber of Commerce	412-231-6500
Northside Community Development Fund	412-322-0290
Northside Leadership Conference	412-330-2559
Parks & Recreation	412-255-2539
Pittsburgh Parking Authority	412-560-2511
Public Works Division 1	412-255-2790 412-323-7209
State Representative Rep. Don Walko	412-321-5523
State Senator Senator Jim Ferlo	412-621-3006

**COMMUNITY E-MAIL LIST**

The SHCL occasionally sends out e-mails for important information regarding our community. If you would like to be placed on the community e-mail list, please send your e-mail address to [bensoltesz@gmail.com](mailto:bensoltesz@gmail.com). This information is just for our community. Your address will not be given out or sold.

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION**

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

**NEWSLETTER DELIVERY**

Newsletters are distributed in the Spring Hill community by volunteer block workers. A yearly subscription by mail for those who are not residents of Spring Hill is available by sending \$8.00 to:

*Spring Hill/Cityview Times*  
c/o 2115 Rockledge Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

**CIVIC LEAGUE WEB SITE**

[www.shcl.org](http://www.shcl.org)

Past editions of the newsletter are available online.

**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: Jackie Hoffman  
Vice President: Dianne Burns  
Secretary: Karen McLellan  
Treasurer: Ben Soltesz  
Directors: Eileen Back, Stephen Brady, Pete McQuillin, Mary O'Toole, and Joan Russell

**SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE CONTACT INFORMATION**

General email address  
[contact@shcl.org](mailto:contact@shcl.org)

President Jackie Hoffman  
412-605-9362  
[jackie@shcl.org](mailto:jackie@shcl.org)

Vice President Dianne Burns  
412-231-7718  
[dianne.burns@verizon.net](mailto:dianne.burns@verizon.net)

Treasurer Ben Soltesz  
412-231-0303  
[bensoltesz@gmail.com](mailto:bensoltesz@gmail.com)

Secretary Karen McLellan  
412-231-5697  
[kmm541@comcast.net](mailto:kmm541@comcast.net)

Newsletter Editor Joan Russell  
412-322-9945  
[joanrussell@aol.com](mailto:joanrussell@aol.com)



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



Happy birthday to Kailey Herman on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY...**

To the family and friends of Monsignor Donald W. Kraus, senior priest at Holy Wisdom Parish in Spring Hill. He passed away on October 5<sup>th</sup>... to the family and friends of Laverne E. (Eyerman) Rieger formerly of Spring Hill, wife of the late Charles A. Rieger, Sr. She passed away on August 30<sup>th</sup>... to the family and friends of Arlene I. Warrick of Spring Hill, wife of the late Raymond O. Short and Paul D. Warrick. She passed away on September 13<sup>th</sup>... to the family and friends of Peter P. J. Kirin of Spring Hill, husband of the late Rose (Woelfer) Kirin. He passed away on September 25<sup>th</sup>... to the family and friends of Margaret (Keil) Phillipps of Troy Hill, formerly of Spring Hill, wife of the late Albert Edward Phillipps, Sr. She passed away on October 1<sup>st</sup>... to the family and friends of Helen T. (Miklavic) Fortun formerly of Spring Hill, wife of the late Anthony F. Fortun. She passed away on October 7<sup>th</sup>... to the family and friends of Lois L. "Speedy" (Gottron) Vinski of Spring Hill, wife of Frank M. Vinski. She passed away on October 8<sup>th</sup>... and to the family and friends of Kieran M. "Kerry" Kissel of Spring Hill, beloved husband of Anna Marie. He passed away on October 10<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 the names of new neighbors who have moved into the community in the past year, as well as weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, special achievements, recipes, church announcements, birth announcements, obituaries, etc. We are also interested in the history of Spring Hill. See page 2 for how to submit your newsletter information.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO STEEL CITY BOXING**

Over the last year the Steel City Boxing Association has participated in many of our community events. They helped with set up for the summer flea markets which required some strong muscle to move the heavy tables that were used. They have been an integral part of all of our community clean-ups. And they are doing a wonderful job taking care of the community garden. Their many helpful hands greatly benefit our community. Thank You!

*The Steel City Boxing Association (SCBA) is a nonprofit organization located in the firehouse at the corner of Homer and Damas Streets in Spring Hill. SCBA is making a difference in Spring Hill by providing a stable environment for community youth to benefit from adult mentorship and the study, practice, and competitive participation in amateur boxing. Find out more about their mission, and make a contribution to SCBA at their website [www.steelcityboxing.com](http://www.steelcityboxing.com).*

**SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGE BOARD ELECTIONS**

At the October 5<sup>th</sup> Community Meeting of the Spring Hill Civic League the following individuals were nominated for positions on the Board of Directors for 2010:

- Joan Russell – Vice President
- Ben Soltesz – Treasurer
- Mary O’Toole – Board Member
- Beth Herzer – Board Member

Elections will be held at the November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. We hope you can join us.

**CIVIC LEAGUE COMMITTEES**

The SHCL is looking for volunteers to serve on several committees to help spread out the work. They are Public Safety, Clean Up, and Membership. If you are interested in working on one of these committees contact any Board member.

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## COMMUNITY CLEANUP

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> volunteers gathered at the Homer Street firehouse to clean up the community. Thank you to Ben Soltesz, Joan Russell, Jill Shaheen, and the Steel City Boxing Association's Bob Sobocinski, Mike Morgan, and its members who supported this event.



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## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

We can be proud of our community; Spring Hill remains one of the safest neighborhoods in the North Side. Our crime rate remains extremely low. It is less than 5% of all reportable incidents and arrests that occur in the North Side.

This is a credit to each and every one of you. It shows that you taking an interest in your neighborhood pays off. It is the vigilance of all of you. You need to keep up the good work. Call 911 when you see something happening, you do not need to intervene. And remember, even if you are not sure the police are needed, calling 911 lets the police make the determination whether they are needed. That is what they are there for. Call 311 with chronic issues in the community, such as abandoned cars, garbage accumulating, pot holes, and nuisance properties.

If we work together we can keep our neighborhood a place of pride!

<b>September Crime Statistics</b>	Spring Hill	North Side
Reports	23	621
Arrests	8	168

***Steps that you can take to be safer: Lock your vehicle doors. Don't leave valuables in the car. Pay attention to your surroundings. Secure your home, lock doors and windows.***

SHCL is looking for people to be involved with the Public Safety Committee. For more information contact Karen McLellan at 412-231-5697.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I was very impressed with the article by Courtney Russo in the last newsletter about Saint John's Cemetery. It was of special interest to me.

When my grandfather, Frederick Bergman, came home from serving the Civil War, he and my grandmother moved to Spring Hill where they lived to raise their 8 children. They were members of the St. John's Lutheran Church, and he became caretaker of the cemetery. He was there until he became sick in 1898 and passed away the next year.

He and my grandmother had rather unique monuments, in the shape of large stone couches as shown in the enclosed picture.

Bee (Bergman) Fohl




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## YOUR POSTHUMOUS PLACE IN THE WORLD

**Leeann Sherman and Courtney Russo  
BRADY MEMORIAL HOME  
1151 Southside Avenue**

After a funeral you may have heard someone say, "Just put me in a garbage bag and set me out on the curb on pick-up day!" We hear that all the time at the funeral home. It seems that the value of life has diminished more and more over the years.

Unfortunately, our social attitudes have shifted by such subtle measures that we hardly give much

thought to the matter at all. In part this is a side effect of the vast improvements in technology. In keeping up with the world news, disaster and tragedy enter our private lives daily via the internet, television, and of course, movies. Often we find ourselves cheering or even laughing at the hokey ax murder in the movie theatre, or worse yet, just ignoring a disaster on the television. Even war has become a blasé subject. We are so desensitized to death and violence that daily life seems to have a reduced value in our fast paced world.

Often, material cost and value are words that become casually interchanged. Although a diamond necklace is beautiful as well as costly, a stone or some other object that brings back wonderful memories holds a higher place of value in our psyche. Likewise, the people in our life are ordinary people with ordinary lives. And yet, they are most dear to us and are of the most extraordinary value.

When we are called upon to take up the task of planning a final farewell to a dear one, let's remember the value of our bonds to that special someone. It is not about the money spent, it is about the uniqueness of our relationship with those who are most dear to us. Time, thought, and planning are the makeup of a satisfying farewell. So the next time you think about the garbage bag on the curb, remember, objects of value are rarely kept in garbage bags. Humble or grand, we always find a special place for them.

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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

“America’s Most Livable City”

## *Office of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl*

November 2009

Dear Residents,

More than one million American students drop out of high school every year. That’s one student every 26 seconds, nearly 7,000 students every school day. Dropping out of high school affects not only the student’s future but the future of our families and community as well. To those who drop-out of school, the range of employment or advancement in employment is limited. Most lack health insurance or affordable health insurance and, quite often, find themselves in need of public programs or social services.

The Pittsburgh Promise was developed as a commitment to help City students and families plan, prepare and pay for higher education and keep them in school. By joining forces with the Pittsburgh schools, universities and foundations in implementing the Pittsburgh Promise, the City of Pittsburgh continues to remain invested in its student’s education beyond the limits of high school.

As part of the national America’s Promise Alliance *Dropout Prevention* campaign and in a continuing effort to develop a localized action plan to increase graduation rates and improve college readiness in our communities, the City of Pittsburgh is sponsoring a free one-day summit at the YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh on November 12, 2009. The summit will be an opportunity for both School Superintendent Mark Roosevelt and myself to discuss the progress of the Pittsburgh Promise and the importance of being Promise Ready. Together we will present a “Community-wide Strategy to Combat the Drop-out Crisis” featuring a dropout data presentation from the Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board

The summit is a starting point in the process of re-engaging dropouts and retaining youth through graduation. We can’t do it without you. To register for the Graduate Pittsburgh Summit, please call 412-225-2258/2637 or visit [www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/graduatepittsburgh](http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/graduatepittsburgh). I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Luke Ravenstahl  
Mayor, City of Pittsburgh



### THANKSGIVING JOKES

In what country is Thanksgiving ironically not celebrated?  
Turkey.

What do you call it when you drop a turkey from a helicopter?  
Dead weight.

If you call a large turkey a gobbler what do you call a small one?  
Goblet.

What kind of cars would pilgrims drive today?  
Plymouth.

What kind of tan did pilgrims get at the beach?  
Puritan.

If April showers bring May flowers, what do Mayflowers bring?  
Pilgrims and furniture.

Asked to write a composition entitled, "What I'm thankful for on Thanksgiving," little Timothy wrote, "I am thankful that I'm not a turkey."

Why did the turkey cross the road?  
It was the chicken's day off.

If the Pilgrims were alive today, what would they be most famous for?  
Their AGE.

### A CHRISTMAS POEM

Though He be Lord of all,  
The Christ Child is but very small.  
Kneel then, and at His cradle lay,  
Most gentle love this Christmas Day.

*Anonymous, 14th Century*

### CHRISTMAS FACTS

Christmas wasn't a holiday in early America – in fact Congress was in session on December 25, 1789, the country's first Christmas under the new constitution.

The first eggnog made in the United States was consumed in Captain John Smith's 1607 Jamestown settlement.

Rudolf, "the most famous reindeer of all," was the product of Robert L. May's imagination in 1939. The copywriter wrote a poem about the reindeer to help lure customers into the Montgomery Ward department store.

Each year, 30-35 million real Christmas trees are sold in the United States alone. There are 21,000 Christmas tree growers in the United States, and trees usually grow for about 15 years before they are sold.

Construction workers started the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree tradition in 1931.

### CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

According to legend, a kindly nobleman grew despondent over the death of his beloved wife and foolishly squandered his fortune. This left his three young daughters without dowries and thus facing a life of spinsterhood.

The generous St. Nicholas, hearing of the girls' plight, set forth to help. Wishing to remain anonymous, he rode his white horse by the nobleman's house and threw three small pouches of gold coins down the chimney where they were fortuitously captured by the stockings the young women had hung by the fireplace to dry.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT...

America's first recipe for Christmas cakes dates back to 1796.

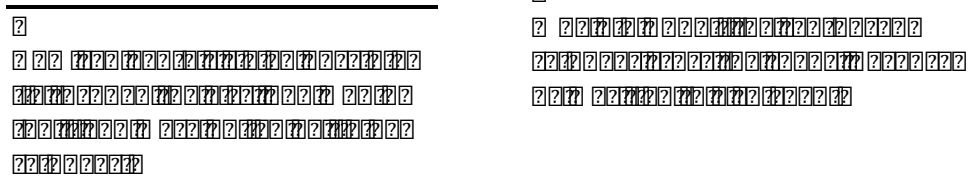
In Australia, the turkey is eaten cold.

In the old times, sugar was very expensive; therefore, Christmas cakes were a luxury.

In Denmark, they put hot porridge outside for the pixies on Christmas Eve.

The first gingerbread man is credited to the court of Queen Elizabeth I, who favored important visitors with charming gingerbread likenesses of themselves.

**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.





## A TRIBUTE TO LAVERNE EYERMAN RIEGER

Jan. 27, 1926 - Aug. 30, 2009

Colleen Rieger Frederking  
Spring Hill

My mother loved to receive the Spring Hill newsletter. She especially enjoyed reading news and memories of Spring Hill residents over the years. On many occasions, she suggested that I write an article about our family. Now, this brief article is a tribute to her.

Mom's parents were Emil and Josepha Eyeran Sr., married in 1918. They raised four children in their house at 1008 Haslage Avenue, which they built in 1928. My mom, LaVerne, was the second oldest. They were members of St. Ambrose Church, and if you are there you can see a beautiful stained glass window donated by her parents. Mom's father, Emil Sr., worked for Fischer Scientific. He died in 1968, and my grandmother, Josepha, lived on Haslage Avenue until age 94. She passed away at age 96.

In the past and present, many members of our extended family have made their homes on Spring Hill. My dear friend, Mrs. Gertrude Karolyi, a lifelong Spring Hill resident known to many, remembers working at the election polls alongside my grandmother many years ago. At that time they were held in the garage of the priest house on the corner of Haslage and Hunnell. Gertrude recalls that they worked by the light of a bare bulb.

LaVerne married my dad, Charles A. Rieger Sr. on Thanksgiving Day in 1947. They eventually moved to the North Hills to raise our family.

Mom had many fond memories of Spring Hill and had several stories that we children loved to hear. When LaVerne was young, she took Hawaiian guitar lessons on the North Side of Pittsburgh for a while. One day there was a big snow. She loved to see our eyes widen as she told us how she rode down the city steps on her guitar case. Mom told another story of her youth: one day when she was very little she got so angry (she didn't recall why) that she packed a suitcase and exclaimed that she was leaving home. She marched off down the front steps and went to the end of the block, only to return a short while later, suitcase in tow. To my awaiting grandmother she pouted, "I forgot my hankies." We all seem to share Mom's love for chocolate. As a young girl, Mom told us that one of her biggest wishes was to go to Brittner's candy store (later Boehm's on Solar Street) to buy a huge chunk of Blommer's chocolate. We imagined how happy that would make us, too! We loved hearing Mom repeat these and other stories which were all part of our family history.

In 1993, I had the good fortune of being able to move back into the city when I bought my grandparent's home on Haslage. My mom and I remained close and shared many memories together. Recently, some of our favorite days together were spent going to lunch, shopping

and sharing family visits. Mom was proud to hail from Spring Hill and attended the Spring Hill seniors picnic from time to time.

LaVerne enjoyed life, celebrating holidays and good times with family and friends and volunteering at Suburban General Hospital. She passed away suddenly yet peacefully on Sunday, August 30th and will be greatly missed.

### 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. This means that the donations you make go directly to your neighbor, not anywhere else in the city. Please help your neighbors in need.

ESB Bank has been collecting food and gift cards all year and will continue to do so. Non-perishable food items can be dropped off at the Bank during normal business hours. Checks or gift cards can be sent to Holy Wisdom Food Pantry, 1025 Haslage Avenue, 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.*





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

**News from District 1**

These past couple months have been – to say the least – interesting.

While the City has seen global interest brought by the G-20 and the protestors, our lives continue. I hope the net effect has been a positive image around the world, but as always I focus on our neighborhoods.

Absolutely my primary concern is violence, especially gun violence. My heart goes out to Mone Parker on the loss of her grandson. Ms. Parker was able to muster the courage to speak so eloquently about this unspeakable tragedy, and we must listen to what she says. There is never a place for gun violence, really never a place for *any* violence, and the loss of our children – as victims and as perpetrators – is unconscionable.

I remain behind any and all efforts to curb violence. Council has passed a law stating that citizens must report lost or stolen guns. We instituted legislation creating a curfew center. We passed legislation funding the Pittsburgh Initiative to Reduce Crime. Council President Shields has just introduced legislation that would help make it possible for police officers to respond immediately to gunfire in our neighborhoods.

We do not have any children to spare. We cannot keep losing people to senseless violence.

\* \* \* \* \*

Meanwhile, the news of Allegheny Commons Park, specifically East Park, has been front and center. Duquesne Light Company has a vault under the ground, with manhole covers over it, near the entryway on Cedar Avenue. The company brought a plan to the neighborhood which has developed over the last few months into a project that would locate a metal monolith – 28 feet by 9 feet by 9 feet – directly in that gateway entrance to the park.

Allegheny Commons Park was granted to the City of Allegheny in the mid-1800s as “common grounds,” to be enjoyed and shared by all. On May 25, 1870, the select and common council of the City of Allegheny passed an ordinance which stated what actions would be impermissible in the Common Grounds. The Commons was hallowed territory, to be treated with respect and shared with pleasure and joy.

The City of Pittsburgh will be working through our law department and with the communities of the North Side to arrive at a satisfactory resolution to this matter.

\* \* \* \* \*

Also, Guy Costa, for ten years the Director of Public Works, has retired. My Council committee is Public Works, and I have worked very closely with him over the past few years. While I always remain optimistic for the future, I will be occasionally looking back at how much of a pleasure it has been to work with Mr. Costa.

*Councilwoman Darlene M. Harris can be reached at 412-255-2135, or by email through her city web page, <http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/district1/>.*

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**HISPLACE TURKEY TROT**

**Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 AM**



This Thanksgiving will you be counting your blessings...or counting your calories? Why not do both at the first annual His Place Turkey Trot! Join us for a fun 2 mile walk in one of Pittsburgh's beautiful city parks, and raise needed funds for the inner-city ministry of "HIS PLACE."

**DATE :** Saturday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>

**TIME :** 10:00 AM

**PLACE :** Riverview Park  
We will meet at the Allegheny Observatory located at 159 Riverview Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15214.

**ENTRY FEE :** \$ 30/person  
You can line up sponsors or sponsor yourself!

**Register by Nov. 20 and get a free Turkey-Trot T-Shirt!**

Learn more and register at [www.hisplaceecc.org](http://www.hisplaceecc.org).



## STATE REPRESENTATIVE DON WALKO REPORTS

### Preparing for Flu Season Even More Important This Year

Before winter arrives all of us need to prepare in case someone gets the flu. This year we have to plan for a new version of seasonal influenza, and another potentially serious strain, the 2009 H1N1 virus or swine flu.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate so far we've had more than 1 million cases of H1N1 in the United States. According to the state Department of Health as of early October Pennsylvania had 2,758 confirmed cases of swine flu, including 340 cases in Allegheny County.

Like seasonal flu, with H1N1 you'll get a fever, cough, sore throat, stuffy nose, achiness, headache, chills, and fatigue. It can cause diarrhea and vomiting. For some people it can be severe and potentially deadly.

H1N1 can be dangerous for a person with an underlying medical condition -- such as asthma or diabetes -- or if you're pregnant. So far, it's been most contagious among children and young adults age 6 months to 24 years. Health-care workers, emergency responders, and people caring for infants should be on guard.

So prepare yourself. Some precautions are simple: make it routine to wash your hands often with soap and water; cough into your elbow or into a tissue, not in your hands. Make

an effort to stay home if you're sick, and start planning now in the event that one of your kids gets the flu. And ask yourself these questions: If you work, have you made arrangements for child care? Have you talked with your employer about what to do in case you need to be out?

If you're an employer, now is the time to plan to meet your objectives with a reduced staff. You do not want an employee who is ill to spread flu in the workplace.

If you would like to learn more, please visit my Web site -- [www.pahouse.com/Walko](http://www.pahouse.com/Walko) -- which has a link to frequently updated information from the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

*For questions about other state-related issues, please visit my Web site or call my office at 412-321-5523.*

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## SKY VUE TERRACE RECEIVES STRONG SURVEY RESULTS

SkyVue Terrace is pleased to announce that the recent state survey was passed with only minor deficiencies. SkyVue Terrace will celebrate their survey results with a barbeque to congratulate all of their residents, employees and support staff for a job well done.

"I applaud the positive attitude and commitment to caring which ensures our residents and patients live with the greatest dignity, comfort, and enjoyment possible," said Jennifer Baron. "A strong survey just reaffirms that the staff at SkyVue Terrace are caring, dedicated

professionals -- I am very proud of my team."

Every nursing center must be inspected annually by the State Department of Health. This survey is a detailed process where the center is expected to adhere to an extensive list of rules and regulations designed to ensure the safety, well-being and dignity of each resident. Citations for not meeting a regulation are called deficiencies. Because of the intensity of the survey process, a center must truly excel to receive few deficiencies.

"Our success is reflective of the commitment to excellence and caring on the part of every employee to the team effort. We are proud of our accomplishments and of our contribution to the community," said Amanda Skerlak-Laporte, Regional Director of Operations for HCR ManorCare, SkyVue Terrace's parent company.

"SkyVue Terrace really shined in this intensive survey process. They truly are committed to customer service and care. The nursing home industry is highly regulated and the job can be extremely demanding and sometimes you can become overwhelmed with all of the day-to-day responsibilities that need to get done. Our company focuses on being committed to service and care every day. SkyVue Terrace certainly lives this philosophy," states Amanda Skerlak-Laporte, Regional Director of Operations for SkyVue Terrace.

Contact: Amy Trevino,  
412-323-0420

*SkyVue Terrace, located at 2170 Rhine Street Pittsburgh, PA 15212 is part of the HCR ManorCare family.*



## CHILDREN'S MUSEUM EVENTS INFORMATION

### EXHIBITS

#### **Tough Art**

October 10, 2009 – January 10, 2010

Tough Art is the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh's annual exhibit where artists develop exhibits that are tough enough to withstand the endless enthusiasm of kids. This year's featured Tough Artists and their projects are:

**Drop Ceiling No. 2 (Dark Store) by Anneka Herre** - Taking its inspiration from the fields of perceptual and social psychology, Anneka Herre's installation presents a room within a room with a surprising way to see, and be seen, from within the ceiling.

**Nutnutkin-Kinnutkin by Ian Ingram** - Ian has made a megaphone for squirrels in the form of a robotic squirrel tail machine that amplifies the messages of some of their best understood tail-flick signals. The machine reacts to the interaction with visitors, and tapes of its brief forays into urban parks where it interacts with live squirrels can be viewed.

**Ferrous Wheel by Matt Mets** - This experimental musical instrument is played by placing magnetic shapes on a rotating wheel. Visitors can explore music structure and composition as the wheel continuously translates these shapes into a sequence of sounds.

**the eXpedition by Jennifer Van Winkle** - Come take a tactile journey in a series of tunnels made of wood and fabric that you can crawl, scoot, and walk through to explore space, colors, and textures. This sculptural installation features a rag rug constructed from long braids made by Museum visitors in August 2009.

*Tough Art is supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.*

### EVENTS

#### **Giant Spice Mural**

Through December 12, 2009

See the making of a giant 25' floor mural in the center of our Studio made of spices! It's a new work by F.I.N.E. Artist in Residence, James Maszle. Join the fun with mini-rangoli making activities, too. *Supported by a grant from the Fine Foundation.*

#### **KnotDance Performance**

Friday, November 27, 1:30 &amp; 2:30 PM

Don't miss a live performance by the dancers, aerialists and overall mayhem makers of KnotDance. Last year's shows wowed packed audiences and erupted into a spontaneous limbo party!

#### **Cracow Castles Weekend**

Saturday November 13, &amp; Sunday November 14, 12:30- 4:00 PM

Back by popular demand! Bring the whole family for an afternoon building ornate miniature architectural constructions, Cracow Castles, or Szopkas (pronounced "shop-kah"), taught by America's leading expert in this unique folk tradition, David Motak. His szopkas reside in private collections and have been commissioned by the prestigious Gagosian Gallery in New York. Colorful Cracow Castles transform simple materials like wood, paper and foil into whimsical folk sculpture, a technique dating back to the Middle Ages and still a revered holiday tradition in Polish culture. Mr. Motak's Szopka Workshop is the only project of its kind in the United States! Workshops are free with Museum Admission but pre-registration is required. Call 412-322-5058 x201 for your family's reservations. Last years' workshops sold out and carried waiting lists, so reserve your slots now!

#### **Baby Yoga**

Fridays through November 20, 12:15-12:45 PM

Stretch and breathe in a collaborative yoga practice designed to increase health and connection with your baby, taught by yoga instructor Bridgett Javid. All experience levels welcome! Mats available.

*The Children's Museum is located at 10 Children's Way, Allegheny Square, North Side – Visit [www.pittsburghkids.org](http://www.pittsburghkids.org) for more information on upcoming events and ticket information or call 412-322-5058.*

## 2009 HALLOWEEN PARADE

Once again we had a successful Halloween Parade! It turned out to be a nice day, as the rain stopped just in time for our parade. 70 children registered for the event with the vast majority of them attending.

There were many colorful and creative costumes. The winners were Lene Pietrusza for “prettiest”, Kai Sachon for “cutest”, Madison Lorenz for “funniest”, Ricky Anesin for “scariest”, and Jacob Gorham for “most original”. Congratulations to the winners and to all who attended! Great job on the costumes!

Thanks to our judges Beth Miller, Pete McQuillin, Ryan Deloplaine, Ben Soltesz, and Maria from Councilwoman Darlene Harris’ office. As always, a big THANKS to our photographer, Jim Hurray. Thanks to our volunteers’ help it was a nice, fun event for the children.

The SHCL Board would also like to thank all of our corporate sponsors. We could not have this event without the help of:

- ESB BANK – packed the bags.
- Sky View Terrace –coloring books and crayons.
- Balesteire Produce – donated the delicious apples.
- Waltmire Pharmacy – donated chips.
- The Pittsburgh Steelers, Carnegie Science Center, National Aviary, Pittsburgh Zoo, and Pittsburgh Children’s Museum – donated prizes for the costume contest.
- Brady Memorial Home – Steve Brady donated chips and drinks. He and his staff donated their time, energy, and building for this event.
- Hamm’s Market – donated chips.
- Wendy’s – donated free frosty coupons.

Your generosity of money, goods, and services provided a wonderful Halloween event for the children of our community. This event takes many hours of preparation and many volunteers. So we would like to say a big “Thank You” to all.



Scariest



Prettiest Funniest Most Original



Cutest

(Continued on page 13)

2009 HALLOWEEN PARADE  
(Continued from page 12)





**2010 SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE  
September 1 – December 31, 2009**

Please join the Spring Hill Civic League (SHCL)! 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.

You may turn in your form with your dues to your block worker or to any SHCL Board member. In some, but not all neighborhoods block workers will be collecting. You may also bring your membership form and dues to one of the general meetings. Or you may mail your form and dues to:

**Spring Hill Civic League Membership  
c/o 2115 Rockledge St.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212**

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

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.

Sincerely,  
Jackie Hoffman  
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.)