# SPRING HILL \* CITYVIEW TIMES

#### **COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

Winter Edition December 2011, January-February 2012

YOUTH IS WHEN YOU ARE ALLOWED TO STAY UP LATE ON NEW YEAR'S EVE. MIDDLE AGE IS WHEN YOU'RE FORCED TO. BILL VAUGHAN.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**General Meeting** Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

2012 Membership Drive: December 1<sup>st</sup> – February 29<sup>th</sup>



**Christmas Tree Lighting:** Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM Rockledge Street lot.

#### SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE **ELECTION RESULTS**

At the November 7<sup>th</sup> Community Meeting of the Spring Hill Civic League the following individuals were elected for positions on the Board of Directors for 2012:

Ben Soltesz – Vice President Karen McLellan – Treasurer Dee Witsch – Board Member

We welcome back existing board members Steve Brady, Beth Herzer, Mary O'Toole, Joan Russell, and Tammy Waraks.

#### SHCL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

This year the SHCL membership drive begins in December and will last until February of next year. We hope you will consider becoming 2012 members and support the work of the Civic League.

Membership is only \$2 per person. The application is located on the last page of the newsletter and an envelope is attached for your convenience. Please consider giving us your email address if you would like to be notified about community events.

Thank you for your support. See you around the neighborhood!



#### THANK YOU **VOLUNTEERS!**

The SHCL board thanks all the block workers and other wonderful volunteers who contribute their time and donations to help make the Spring Hill Community a better place. They deliver the newsletters, clean up the community, make sure the children get a Halloween parade, and work

with us on community events. We could not do it without you!

#### **CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING**

#### Sunday, Dec. 4<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 4<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



### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency 911

Mayor's Response Line 311

Allegheny County 412-687-2243 Health Department

Allegheny General 412-359-3131

Hospital

Animal Control 412-255-2036

City Council Dist. 1 412-255-2135 Council President Darlene Harris

City Jobline 412-255-2388

Dog Licenses 412-255-2575

Duquesne Light 1-888-393-7100 Power Outages 1-888-393-7000

Narcotics Division 412-323-7761

North Side 412-231-6500

Chamber of Commerce

Northside 412-322-0290 Community Development Fund

Northside 412-330-2559 Leadership Conference

Parks & Recreation 412-255-2539

Pittsburgh Parking 412-560-2511

Authority

Public Works 412-255-2790 Division 1 412-323-7209

State Representative 412-321-5523 Rep. Adam Ravenstahl's Office

State Senator 412-621-3006

Senator Jim Ferlo

#### **CIVIC LEAGUE WEB SITE**

www.shcl.org
Past editions of the newsletter
are available online.

### HELP US SPREAD YOUR NEWS!

### To the neighbors of the community...

We are interested in announcing community events, 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 announcements, obituaries, etc. We are also interested in the history of Spring Hill.

### Newsletter article submission...

Please submit articles for the spring edition (March-April-May) by February 15<sup>th</sup>

by mail to:

Joan Russell 2115 Rockledge Street Pittsburgh, PA 15212-3533

by email to joanrussell@aol.com

or call:

412-322-9945.

#### **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 \$6.00 to:

Spring Hill/Cityview Times P.O. Box 100167 Pittsburgh, PA 15233

#### **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 2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Joan Russell Vice President: Ben Soltesz Treasurer: Karen McLellan Directors: Stephen Brady, Beth Herzer, Mary O'Toole, and Tammy Waraks, Dee Witsch.

#### SHCL 2012 CONTACT INFORMATION

General email address contact@shcl.org

President & Newsletter Editor Joan Russell 412-322-9945 joanrussell@aol.com

Vice President Ben Soltesz 412-231-0303 bensoltesz@gmail.com

Treasurer Karen McLellan 412-231-5697 kmm541@comcast.net

BE NOT SIMPLY GOOD; BE GOOD FOR SOMETHING. (HENRY DAVID THOREAU)



#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to board member Steve Brady on the wedding of his son Stephen F. Brady and Patricia in October.

#### **GET WELL SOON**

Get well soon to Dorothy Flore who was recently hospitalized.

#### **COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP**



On October 22<sup>nd</sup> volunteers gathered at the Homer Street firehouse to clean up the community. This year Citizens Against Litter helped us in obtaining 10 student volunteers from Carnegie Mellon's Tepper School of Business. Thank you to Ben Soltesz who coordinated the event. And thanks to community volunteers Robin Ptacek and children, Colleen Frederking, James Rizzo, David and Cynthia Russell, Shawn and Dustin Felsing of Steel City Boxing, Shawn and Beth Herzer, Joan Russell, and Jim Hurray our photographer.



#### 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. The food bank serves the entire Spring Hill community, not just members of Holy Wisdom parish. 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.

### UPDATE ON THE MOSAIC MURAL PROJECT

The license and maintenance agreement is still under review by the City of Pittsburgh lawyers. The agreement was submitted at the beginning of September. We have been told by Morton Brown, Public Art Manager in the Department of City Planning that the lawyers are working on it. Our revised plan is to be ready to install in the Spring. Thank you for your patience and support.

#### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



Happy birthday to Lou Flore who had a birthday on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Happy birthday to Kailey Herman on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Happy January birthday to Spring Hill Civic League board member Steve Brady.

### OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY...

To the family and friends of Lorraine Proie of Spring Hill, wife of the late Charles Proie. She passed away on September 8<sup>th</sup> ... to the family and friends of Richard W. Filbert of Spring Hill, brother of James Filbert, Evelyn May, and the late Dorothy Stokes. He passed away on October 3<sup>rd</sup> ... to the family and friends of Kathleen Mayer of Spring Hill, sister of William Mayer, John Mayer, Margaret Hilty, Norbert Mayer, Hugh Mayer, the late Regis Mayer, Anna Mae Hooder, Sheila Mayer, George Mayer, and Marie Mayer. She passed away on October 4<sup>th</sup> ... to the family and friends of Lillian M. (Thomson) Marous formerly of Spring Hill, wife of the late Norbert Marous. She passed away on October 16<sup>th</sup> ... and to the family and friends of Frank Moran, Sr. of Spring Hill, husband of the late Marie (Zurik) Moran. He passed away on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

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





#### CIVIC LEAGUE BLOCK-WORKERS

The Spring Hill Civic League block-workers are the wonderful volunteers who give their time to deliver the newsletter to your home. Please make sure you thank them next time you see them making the rounds in your part of our neighborhood. If you have been wondering who your block-worker is they are listed below.

Name Delivery Area
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BUCHMAN, Gail HARBOR St., MANDLIN Way, SCHRAUDER Rd., Odanah St.

BURNS, Dianne NOSTER St.

FREDERKING, Colleen Block-worker distribution.

HERZER, Beth ROCKLEDGE St. HERZER, Kim WOESSNER Ave.

HILTY, Marge ST. AMBROSE MANOR

HURRAY, Lois DAMAS St., FALL Way, SERENE St., ZOLLER St.

JEFFERSON, Barb LAMAR Ave.

JURACKO, Dorothy RHINE St. (upper)
JURATOVIC, Bobby Jo OVERBECK St.

KRUPP, Werner DONORA St., BECKFIELD St., RESCUE St., VARLEY St.,

MANDLIN Way

KUFNER, Jan BADER St.
LEICHER, Karen HOMER St.
LEONARD, Johanna ADMIRAL St.

MACEY, Ilene SOLAR St., BRAHM St.

McNULTY, Carol NORRIS St., HOBBS St., SHIRLS St., SHREVE St.

McQUILLIN, Pete YETTA Ave.(upper), KAISER Ave., LEISTER St., WILT St.,

HASLAGE Ave. (upper even addresses), HUNNELL St., FRONTIER

St., TANK St., SOPHIA

MORRISEY, Rose HETZEL St., DORSCH St., FALL

MURPHEY, Melissa ITIN St.

OLDENSKI, Rob LAPPE Lane, BUENTE St. (off Rhine), HESPEN St., LIST St.,

MATHIAS St., SCHNUTTGEN St.

RUSSELL, Cynthia HASLAGE Ave. (lower, and upper odd addresses)

RUSSELL, Joan Block-worker distribution.

SCHLOER, Len LUELLA St., BESSIE Ave., HEIM, MINA St., NETTIE St., SHANK St.

SOLTESZ, Ben WALZ St., DIANA Place, IONA St., IVES Way

STRAHLER, Bernice GOEHRING St., VISTA St.

TESTER, Shari ROMANHOFF St. WALLEN, Linda YETTA Ave. (lower)

WATKINS, Germaine SOUTHSIDE Ave., FABYAN St., EAST LANE, HESPEN

WELSH, Barb ZANG Way, RHINE St. (lower), KENZIG Ave.

WITSCH, Dee BUENTE St. (off Rockledge)









#### CITY OF PITTSBURGH COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARLENE M. HARRIS

As we approach the holiday season, I'm certainly filled with gratitude. The constituents of Council District 1 of the City of Pittsburgh are some of the best, most community-minded, hard-working citizens anywhere. I especially appreciate the opportunity to represent Spring Hill and the families and individuals who reside in the neighborhood where we all live.

Every holiday season we all try to spend as much time as possible with our families and those closest to us. This is the time of year when we should truly cherish the wonderful people we have in our lives.

Over the next few months I will continue to be hard at work as legislation continues to move through City Council and as we work towards a budget that will ensure the financial security of our city. I am confident that Council will pass a budget that will guide our city to financial stability for upcoming years.

During the holidays I am sure I will see you at community Christmas events. I look forward to meeting new neighbors, and continuing to strengthen the already strong bonds the North Side enjoys.

As always, you can call my office with problems, questions, or to notify me about an upcoming neighborhood event. Again, enjoy this Holiday season! Happy Thanksgiving, Blessed Christmas, Happy Chanukah,

Happy Kwanzaa, and a Happy New Year!

God bless us, everyone.

Councilwoman Harris may be reached at 412-255-2135.

#### Ahh, NORTH SIDE!

The North Side has been on my mind a lot this past week. Normally, this wouldn't command any notice at all. However, recently I was on vacation and the neighborhood that I work in, one would think, should have been far, far from my mind. Not so!.....

I was in Germany. I have returned with a great appreciation for our dear neighborhood. Ahh, North Side! Everywhere I went, around every corner, looking at all the architecture of the old buildings, I found myself secretly enjoying what we have right here at home. But that didn't last. I could only contain myself for so long. Before I knew it, I was telling everyone about the marvels of the "little Germany" in Pittsburgh USA where I am proud to say that I work.

So much of our neighborhood has not only maintained its' European like appearance, but many of our ways seem to hearken back to the German roots in our city. One of my guides in the city of Mainz told me that he loves it when Pittsburgh people come to visit. He explained that although many German people don't enjoy a reputation for being open and gregarious, the people of Mainz are in his words "lovey und touchey".

He was convinced that many Pittsburghers originally hailed from his city area because he is always greeted with such open and warm regards. I had to wonder how much of this behavior is because like Mainz, we are a river city, our town is at a confluence of rivers, and because of this we are a great melting pot. I like to think that as Pittsburghers we are by all heritages a welcoming and friendly bunch.

In conclusion, I can say that although I will not be traveling any time in the near future, I just need to look around me and enjoy our little piece of Germany. We have so much right here... Ahh, North Side!

Submitted by: Courtney Russo, Supervisor Brady Memorial Home 1151 South Side Avenue



### There is no Frigate like a Book

Emily Dickinson, 1873

There is no Frigate like a Book To take us Lands away Nor any Coursers like a Page Of prancing Poetry – This Traverse may the poorest take Without oppress of Toll – How frugal is the Chariot That bears the Human soul.





### CITY OF PITTSBURGH

"America's Most Livable City"

#### Office of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl

December 2011

Dear Neighbors,

As the days become shorter and the temperatures continue to drop, it is clear that winter is fast approaching. There are many joys that come along with the winter season - the holidays and the excitement of the first snow – yet winter can also be one of the most difficult times for many Pittsburgh residents. It is a time when our City's culture of neighbors-helping-neighbors is most important to assist residents to overcome its hardships and enjoy the best that winter in our City has to offer.

Snow removal can be one of the most challenging aspects of winter and snow covered sidewalks can be hazardous for everyone. With Snow Angels, I aim to make snow removal less daunting for our elderly and physically-disabled residents. Along with fostering stronger community relationships, and relieving the elderly of the stress that comes from a snow storm, the Snow Angels initiative will also make our sidewalks safer for those who continue to serve despite the winter weather – such as postal service workers, firemen and police officers.

With this in mind, I am proud to announce a new program, Snow Angels, which will match willing volunteers with neighbors-in-need to shovel and de-ice their walks this winter season. The Snow Angels program will be launching this November. For applications to volunteer or receive assistance, please visit <a href="mailto:snowangels.pittsburghpa.gov">snowangels.pittsburghpa.gov</a>.

Snow Angels is one of my signature servePGH programs, which promote citizen service to impact local challenges. For more information, email <a href="mailto:servepgh@city.pittsburgh.pa.us">servepgh@city.pittsburgh.pa.us</a> or call the 311 hotline and ask about the program. If you are calling from outside the City of Pittsburgh, please call 412-255-2621.

Thank you to the countless Snow Angels who *already* assist their neighbors with snow removal. I appreciate the precedent that you have set for local residents, and I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to join a Pittsburgh-wide effort to keep our sidewalks clear after winter storms and provide your neighbors with the reassurance that their community cares.

Together, we can make this winter an enjoyable season for everyone!

Sincerely,

Luke Ravenstahl

Mayor, City of Pittsburgh



### HAPPENINGS AT THE NATIONAL AVIARY



Fleury the Snowy Owl makes His Public Debut in *Wings!* November 25<sup>th</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Breakfast with Santa**Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>
and Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>
8:30 AM

Photo Safari Saturday -Tropical Rainforest Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Penguins Camp - Ages 6-8 Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

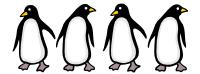
Penguins Camp - Ages 9-12 Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

## Photo Safari Saturday - Grasslands and Lories Saturday, January 7th 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Find out more by contacting:

The National Aviary Allegheny Commons West 700 Arch Street Pittsburgh, PA 15212

412-323-7235 www.aviary.org



#### THE ELLIS SCHOOL

The Ellis School is a preK-12 grade private girls school located at 6425 Fifth Avenue in Shadyside. At Ellis, we have a full slate of programs designed to help parents and early childhood educators understand every aspect of young girls! Our Fun Fridays offer an opportunity for parents and their 3 – 5 year old daughters to learn together, and our speakers provide insights that are geared specifically to parents and educators of this age group.

### **FUN FRIDAYS** - for parents and daughters

A sculptor, a yogini, a scientist, a dancer, and a chef. From this broad range of experience and expertise, Ellis Fun Fridays are packed with not only fun but also real, handson learning. Remember, each program is free, and registration is limited, so sign up today! All programs are for girls ages 3 – 5 and their parents.

### <u>PARENT PROGRAMS</u> - for parents only

Knowing just the right way to approach every aspect of your daughter's life can be confusing. At Ellis, we've been educating young girls for nearly 100 years, and we're eager to share our learning with you. Please join us in welcoming three renowned speakers to campus this year. We know that you'll find great value in what they have to share!

For details, call 412-661-5992 or email: admissions@TheEllisSchool.

org

### NEW HAZLETT THEATRE PRESENTS



Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train barebones productions

January 12th - January 29th

Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train is an emotionally devastating search for morality and grace within the cynicism and harsh reality of the American prison system.

### The Elephant Man Presented by Prime Stage Theater

February 24th - March 4th

Set in 19th Century Victorian England, the play tells the true story of John Merrick, treated first as a fairground freak.

For more information go to www.newhazletttheater.org.

### CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER FAVORITES

Miniature Railroad & Village®
Laser Nights – New laser show
Holiday Magic
New Omnimax film, Rocky
Mountain Express
Highmark SportsWorks®
USS Requin Submarine
Buhl Digital Dome
Science Stage
Observatory SkyWatch
Works Theater

For more information, call 412-237-3400 or go to www.carnegiesciencecenter. org.



#### **SPRING HILL STREETS**

Submitted by: Norb Nathanson

Maybe there are still some of you old time Spring Hillers around who might remember "those days." Long before there was a bus on the hill. there was a red and cream streamlined electric trolley that had a small turnaround track at the end of Rhine Street where it meets Buente Street. There was a double ended, orange trolley that stopped at the end of the line, exactly opposite Suckett's saloon. The men returning from work would step off the bus and in four steps would be in the saloon. Sometimes, a group of us boys would count cadence as the men walked, "One, two, three, four, he's in," and sometimes one of the men would get angry and there would be a chase, but no one ever was caught.

Across the street was Josie Eichelman's ice cream and candy store where Josie would put Mars Bars, Powerhouses and Milky Ways into her freezer so that they'd last a long time when you ate them. Sodas, candy, and ice cream cones were a nickel each. Josie's husband John was blind, but always made correct change on any purchase, and nobody ever thought about trying to trick him with paper money. Next to Josie's was the beer distributor in the double garage. A few houses from the saloon was the butcher shop. "Those days" were the days of the middle to late 30s, at the end of the Depression.

The WPA removed the Belgian blocks from Itin Street and replaced them with concrete. repaved Buente, removed and then re-laid the Belgian blocks on Woessner Avenue, and widened the street between Yetta and Haslage. The City Steps between Rhine Street and the firehouse on Homer were constructed of wood. A number of the neighborhood men were thankful to be on the payroll of the WPA and working in their own neighborhood.

In our early teens a number of us boys spent a lot of time at the end of the line, changing the trolleys and switching the seat backs on the old double ender trolleys, and in return getting free rides to and from downtown for a movie. There was always one motorman who couldn't get along with kids and he was the one whose trolley, at night, might on occasion slip off the wire (three or four times) between the end of the line and the City Steps, with no one around to see how it could happen. Once in a while, after someone discovered that old 35mm film was highly inflammable and stunk horribly when smoldering, we'd wrap some tightly in newspaper, light the end, and when it began to flame stomp it so it smoldered. and throw it into the saloon and disappear. The yelling and swearing would echo in the empty street.

In retrospect, there was considerable mischief, but never actual theft or destruction of property. Whether Spring Hill's streets were better or worse then than now is anybody's guess.

### PITTSBURGH GHOST STORIES

Submitted by: Jim Hurray

I received an interesting response to my article in the last issue about a ghost in my in-laws house on Beckfield Street.

Jim

I get the Spring Hill newsletter mailed to me here in Jacksonville Florida and read. with great interest, your article on the old house. Louie and I were best friends when we went into the Air Force, and partied together when we got out. But I later opted to go back in and Louie stayed in Pittsburgh. I was in that house many, many times and used to marvel at Wally's train set-up at Xmas time. I was stationed in Hawaii when I learned of Louie's death, but it was after the funeral... my mother didn't want to upset me.

Louie and I talked a lot about ghosts and life after death and he actually saw his dead grandmother when he slept over at his Aunt Marie's house on Harbor Street... just down the street from where I lived. In fact both Marie and her brother Joe both saw the grandmother frequently.

I don't know which girl you are married to... I went to Saint Ambrose with Margie and Dolores. I think of Louie often and say a prayer when I can. Thanks again for the article.

Don Wojciechowski

Do you have a Ghost Story you would like to share? Please email me at jhurray@verizon.net.



#### **CHRISTMAS FACTS**



Telesphorus, the second Bishop of Rome (125-136 AD) declared that public Church services should be held to celebrate "The Nativity of our Lord and Saviour." In 320 AD, Pope Julius I and other religious leaders specified 25 December as the official date of the birth of Jesus Christ.

26 December was traditionally known as St Stephen's Day, but is more commonly known as Boxing Day. This expression came about because money was collected in alms-boxes placed in churches during the festive season. This money was then distributed during to the poor and needy after Christmas.

Oliver Cromwell, in England banned Christmas Carols between 1649 and 1660. Cromwell thought that Christmas should be a very solemn day so he banned carols and parties. The only celebration was by a sermon and a prayer service.

Silent Night was written in 1818, by an Austrian priest Joseph Mohr. He was told the day before Christmas that the church organ was broken and would not be prepared in time for Christmas Eve. He was saddened by this and wanted to write a carol that could be sung by choir to guitar music. He sat down and wrote three stanzas. Later that night the people in the little Austrian Church sang "Stille Nacht" for the first time.

#### **CHRISTMAS JOKES**

Q: How can a sleigh possibly fly through the air?
A: If you were being pulled by eight flying reindeer, wouldn't

Q: Why do reindeer have red noses?

you fly too?

A: They are not equipped with ABS and thus tend to bump into things on slippery surfaces. This is why Santa is often seen with a red nose (the sleigh doesn't have an airbag, either).

Q: Why do we wish people a "Merry Christmas" instead of a "Happy Christmas"?

A: The two are about the same, but with "Merry Christmas" an extra twinkle is seen in the eyes.

Q: Why is a Christmas tree that has been chopped down called a "live Christmas tree?"
A: It's dead but doesn't know it, and yet it's having the time of its life.

Q: How many angels can dance on the head of a pin?
A: Nowadays, only four angels can dance there. Formerly there was no limit, but OSHA passed the Angel Safety Law recently, which also requires that the pin must be inspected twice each year for structural defects.

Q: Why do we hear so many bells at Christmas time? A: Because so many people ring them.

Q: Why do so many people ring bells at Christmas time?
A: For the poor, for the joy, and because a bell can say what words can't say.

#### **CHRISTMAS TREE FACTS**



The use of evergreen trees to celebrate the winter season occurred before the birth of Christ.

The first decorated Christmas tree was in Riga, Latvia in 1510.

Using small candles to light a Christmas tree dates back to the middle of the 17th century.

Christmas trees have been sold commercially in the United States since about 1850.

Until fairly recently, all Christmas trees came from the forest.

President Coolidge started the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on the White House lawn in 1923.

In 1963, the National Christmas Tree was not lit until December 22nd because of a national 30day period of mourning following the assassination of President Kennedy.

You should not burn your Christmas tree in the fireplace; it can contribute to creosote buildup.

Real Christmas trees are involved in less than one-tenth of one percent of residential fires and only when ignited by an external ignition source.

An acre of Christmas trees provides for the daily oxygen requirements of 18 people.



#### **2011 HALLOWEEN PARADE**

It was a cold blustery October day, perfect for the princesses, ghosts, goblins, and other costumed children of the community to march in our annual Halloween parade. 66 children registered for the event this year. There were many wonderful costumes and the treat bags were overflowing!

Many people helped make this a successful event. Thanks to board members Ben Soltesz, Karen McLellan, Jill Shaheen, Beth Herzer, Mary O'Toole, Steve Brady, and Joan Russell. Thanks to community volunteers Eileen Back, Shawn Herzer, Mark Schreibes, Lois Hurray, Rose Morrisey, Kim Herzer and Phil. As always, a big THANKS to our photographer, Jim Hurray. Because of our volunteers' help and your donations it was a nice, fun event for the children.

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

Brady Memorial Home – Steve Brady donated chips and drinks. He and his staff donated their time, energy, and building for this event.

Waltmire Pharmacy – donated chips.

The Tobacco Outlet – donated drinks.

Darlene Harris – donated crackers.

The Children's Museum – donated prizes for the costume contest.

Billy's Troy Hill Bistro – donated a gift certificate for the raffle.

ESB BANK – packed the Halloween treat bags.

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.









#### **2011 HALLOWEEN PARADE**

(Continued from page 10)















#### 2012 SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

Throughout the years, one thing that has remained constant is the care and concern that the Spring Hill Civic League gives the community. Some of the same issues that the current board addresses are the same issues that people cared about 35 years ago. The preservation of the community's integrity, the improvement of the community, providing annual events for neighbors to attend, all of these are goals to which the League aspires. As set forth in its Charter, "the Spring Hill Civic League exists to serve the people and businesses of the Spring Hill community".

#### WHAT DO WE DO?

The Spring Hill Civic League interacts with city government to maintain the community and organizes year-round activities for the families of the community. We

- coordinate with the Northside Leadership Conference and liaison with City Council on community issues such as public safety;
- organize events such as community clean-ups, the Memorial Day celebration, community flea markets, National Night Out, the Halloween parade, and Christmas tree lighting;
- maintain the Rockledge Street lot and Homer Street firehouse;
- communicate with the neighborhood through regular meetings, email, and the community newsletter;
- · address community issues of interest;
- and plan for the future of the Spring Hill neighborhood.

#### PLEASE JOIN IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO

Thank You to those of you who have become 2012 members! If you have not yet joined for 2012 please consider doing so. The annual dues are only two dollars (\$2.00) per adult in the household. Residents of Spring Hill/Cityview who are 18 years or older are eligible for membership. Checks should be made payable to the Spring Hill Civic League. Fill out the application below and turn in your form with your dues to any SHCL Board member, or mail your form and dues in the envelope attached to this newsletter, or to the following address:

Spring Hill Civic League Membership P.O. Box 100167 Pittsburgh, PA 15233

SPRING HILL CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION		
NAME(s)	DATE	
ADDRESS		
PHONE(PLEASE NOTE IF UNLISTED)  AMOUNT ENCLOSED	E-MAIL_ (IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE NOTIFIED OF COMMUNITY ISSUES & EVENTS)  COMMENTS	