

# Regent Square Civic Association Newsletter

August 1995, Volume 15, Number 3



26-August

**Annual Run Around  
The Square Is Here!**

## Mayor Murphy Meets With Residents - Late May Meeting Tracked Neighborhood Task Force Progress

On May 23rd Pittsburgh Mayor Tom Murphy met with Regent Square and other East-End community residents to summarize the progress and issues raised during his initial neighborhood meetings. The meeting was well attended with both Regent Square residents as well as Squirrel Hill, Park Place, and Swisshelm Park residents.

The meeting began by forming three working groups on neighborhood maintenance, parks, and youth - public safety. Each working group discussed the major successes and disappointments of the past year. These were then ordered in a list. The groups then met in a general review session with the Mayor who then commented on the items and, where appropriate, assigned additional actions for follow up.

Some areas reported very little progress and were dissatisfied with the City's responses. Notably the Regent Square area had several major accomplishments. This included repair and replacement of brick streets, major improvements in both parking and traffic signaling at the Forbes & Braddock intersections, improved Frick Park safety by coordinating with city 911 services, improved signs and security in Frick park.

(continued on page 3)

## Dunning's Grill - New Name For Neighborhood Favorite

"Dunning McNair's Ale House" has now changed its name to "Dunning's Grill". The name change reflects a change in ownership. For the past twelve years the Grill had been owned by both George Smith and Gerry Totten. However Gerry has decided to move into a new career. With that move comes the change in name. But be assured that the unique and pleasant character of this neighborhood institution will remain.

## Run Around The Square

**Saturday August 26th - come run, volunteer or just watch and have a good time - many prizes to be awarded to participants or volunteers!**

The 13th Annual Run Around The Square will be held on Saturday August 26th. The 2-mile fun run and walk begins at 8:15AM and the 5-mile event starts at 9:00AM. This year the race is being organized by Mary Smith, Carol Cusick Leslie Kennedy and Michelle Megarry. They've worked hard to organize logistics, provide prizes and are offering over \$1,000 worth of musical entertainment for the event.

A map of the 5-mile run and map of the 2-mile fun run/walk is in the middle section of this newsletter. Both courses will traverse Trevanion, Richmond, Lancaster, Macon, LaClair and Milton streets. This will give residents of those areas a chance to sit out on their front porch and enjoy the fun.

*Residents of the Square are reminded that on the morning of the race there will be some traffic disruption and parking restrictions along the race route.* Traffic and parking will be restricted from Trevanion down to Milton Streets during the morning hours from about 7:30AM until about 9:30AM. Please see the race article in the middle section of this Newsletter for the specific route of the race.

As in years past there will be special awards and prizes. Once again the grand prize this year will be a Bell Atlantic mobile phone.

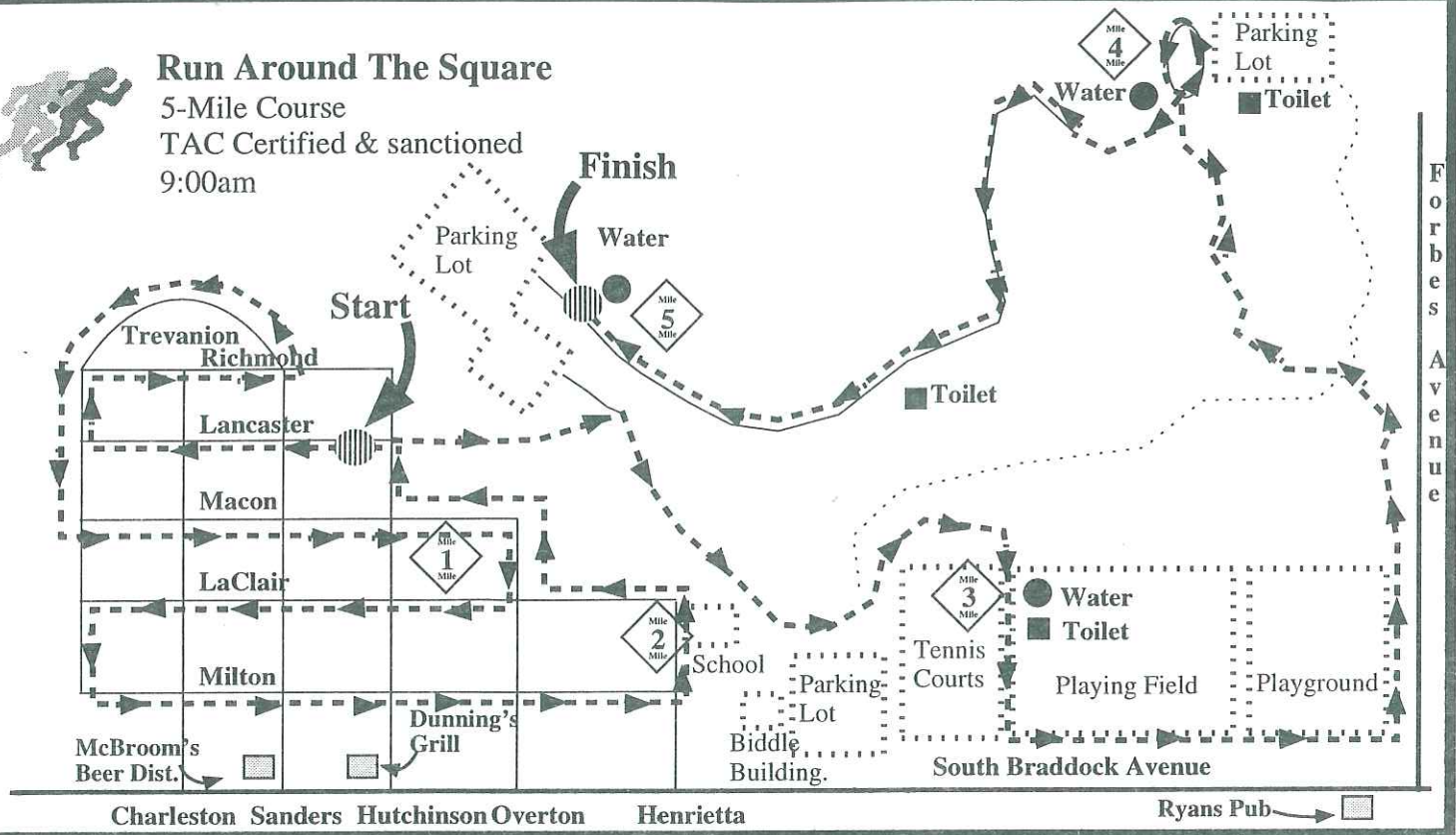
**Enclosed as a flier in this newsletter is a race insert with a form for registration. If that's missing or if you need additional information you may call Carol (412-241-8343), Mary (412-731-8854), Leslie (412-242-8701) or Michelle (412-241-0913). Alternately you may register at Dunning's Grill at Forbes and South Braddock - phone 412-243-3900.**

Be sure to plan to come, volunteer, run or just watch and have fun on the day of the race! See page 2 for the course layout and more information!



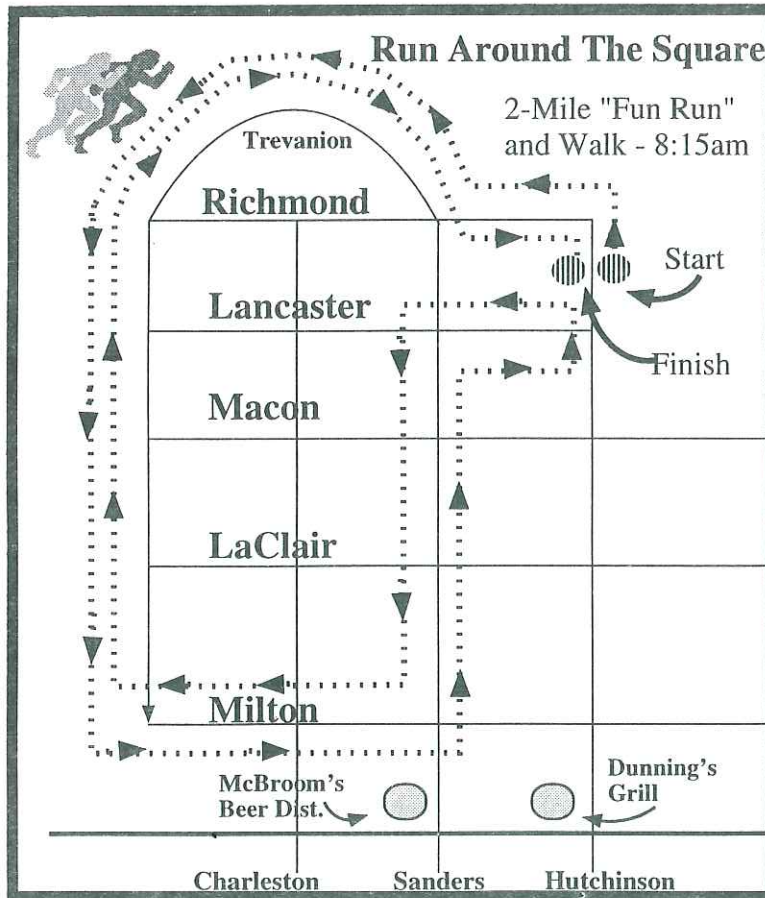
## Run Around The Square

5-Mile Course  
TAC Certified & sanctioned  
9:00am



## Run Around The Square

2-Mile "Fun Run"  
and Walk - 8:15am



**Run Around The Square** - You can participate, even if you don't run!

The maps above and opposite show the Run Around The Square course for both the 5 and 2 mile events. Even if you're not up for a run, you can still participate, have fun, and enjoy watching the activities. You can:

- Be a volunteer on the day of the race - free long-sleeved T-shirts for those who really help
- Bring out your hoses and offer showers to runners
- Be an enthusiastic spectator, come out of your house and cheer on the runners or go down to the finish line and cheer!

The *phantom runner* will pick out the most enthusiastic cheering group and T-shirts will be awarded.

If you would like to order an official long-sleeved race t-shirt, please fill out your name, address, phone number and t-shirt size on the enclosed race registration form along with a check for \$8.00 payable to "Run Around The Square". You may drop off or mail the form to Dunning's Grill, 1100 S. Braddock Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218. Shirts may be picked up at the Grill Wednesday, August 23rd through Friday August 25th from 6pm through 8pm and on the morning of the race beginning at 7am. Race packets and shirts are **only** available at these times!

The race committee would love to have your help! Please call Dunning's Grill at 412-243-3900 or one of the race organizers listed on page 1 of this paper.

## Mayor Murphy - (Continued from page 1)

There were, however, issues still on the table for this area. They include a major traffic study of South Braddock Avenue, the severe pollution issues of the Nine Mile Run stream in the park, and some continuing park safety issues.

On the balance, Regent Square found that the City employees were extremely responsive, dedicated and committed to addressing the issues and concerns of the area. This is also a reflection on the citizens of The Square who took time to work with the City to resolve issues! A thanks goes to all of the City staff who helped out our community as well as the residents who took time to bring the issues to the table and work through them with the City.

Members of the Regent Square Civic Association had been participating in the neighborhood task force meetings and at this meeting members attended each of the breakout sessions. The Civic Association will continue to monitor the progress on the issues which are still outstanding in the community.

## Rat Cafeteria - Your Trash Can Be Fine Dining For Neighborhood Night Life!

Your back yard could be the scene of wild night life for a thriving rodent population. When you simply use large plastic bags to dispose of food stuffs it offers easy gift-wrapped entrees for furry pests. And, with Frick Park nearby, other wildlife such as raccoons may make the trek to your back yard for evening snacks.

Rats, mice and raccoons as well as dogs and cats are well equipped with claws and teeth that can zip right through the toughest trash bag on the market. It's virtually no effort at all for them to quickly slit your trashbag and get in to rummage through for tidbits.

Although this may seem only an annoyance, it can create a severe health hazard. Wildlife, such as raccoons, which lose their fear of humans can become aggressive and possibly attack humans when you startle them by making a midnight trash run. And furry creatures like rats carry disease.

Can that trash in a container and protect the neighborhood from vagrant varmints dining in your back yard. Use an appropriate trash container that tightly closes to help keep the neighborhood free of unwanted varmints late night dining.

### Editors Definition:

Bank - A place where they will lend you an umbrella in fair weather and then ask for it back when it begins to rain.

## Civic Association Membership -

### Would You Like To Be An Active Member?

The Regent Square Civic Association (RSCA) considers all residents of "The Square" members. The Association asks for a minimal \$5 yearly membership from area residents to sustain the publication of the newsletter and sponsorship of community events.

Currently the RSCA is doing a membership drive to assure that more area residents are actively taking part in the community, that the community-at-large's needs are being met and that the RSCA has enough money to continue newsletter publication and sponsor community events.

By virtue of living in Regent Square you are a member! But you can extend your membership in several ways. One of the most important ways would be to come to a regular monthly meeting! The Association meets regularly on the first Monday of each month at the Wilkins School Community Center at 7:30pm to discuss neighborhood issues. If you are about The Square, are interested in meeting other folks who are concerned about the neighborhood, have particular issues that need a venue for discussion, or would like to get some special project done, the RSCA is there to help!

Each meeting lasts approximately an hour to an hour and a half with eight to twelve persons present. The meeting format follows an agenda outlined by the Association president based on action items from the prior meeting as well as items brought to his or her attention over the past month. Currently Joseph George, Jr. is serving as the association president.

In addition to asking for community membership, the RSCA is also conducting a contributing membership drive. Judy Nozling, a long time member, has individually addressed letters to every member of The Square (as per the phone book), asking for a minimal contribution of \$5 to help sustain newsletter publication and sponsor community events. You'll see this distributed in the August Newsletter to your home. And a special thanks to Judy for her extra work as well as to you for considering a contribution to the Civic Association!

But most importantly the RSCA values your active participation! If you're interested in coming to a meeting and participating, please stop by the Wilkins School Community Center on the first Monday of the month at 7:30pm. And if you'd like an issue put on the agenda, give Joe a call at 241-7954 and bring it to his attention!

## **Intersection Cleaned Again! - Ten Folks Comb Intersection For Debris**

Once again Barbara Peterson lead the charge to keep up the I-376 (Parkway) interchange at South Braddock. Sunday June 26th from 8-11AM ten folks assembled to clean the south side of the intersection.

In spite of the record hot and humid weather over 24 bags of trash were collected. (Note that this is half of what was collected at the prior event!) Barb does think that enough spare auto parts (hubcaps and the like) were collected to start assembly of a new car. And unfortunately only a few of the wildflowers planted from the first cleanup survived to bloom!

The crew that braved the hot weather included Ping Pirrung, Josie Hatalla, Andy Takas, Kathy Takas, Bill & Jonathan Lenaghen, Alina & Dan Keebler, Terry Gossard (imported from Perry Hilltop) and Barb Peterson.

The next cleanup for Sunday November 5th from 8-11am, rain, snow or shine the cleanup will go on. Give Barb a call at 371-2506 if you're interested in giving a helping hand. And thanks to everybody who took time to work on that hot, humid Sunday!

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## **House Tour Canceled - Just A Few Short For Event**

The RSCA's planned house tour this fall will unfortunately be canceled. In order to provide a quality event it was not possible to schedule the number of homes needed for viewing. The RSCA does still hope to be able to offer one in the future as there are many beautiful homes in the area. If you have some ideas for next year, call Nevin Rodes at 243-3922.

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## **Christmas Party Planned - Holiday Festival Planned For Regent Square**

For the third year in a row the Regent Square Holidays Festival will take place in the business district of The Square. Co-Sponsored by the Regent Square Civic Association and the Regent Square Business Association the festivities are being planned for the week of December 11th.

As before, the daily events will include musicians, carolers, clowns and a surprise entertainment; plus, gifts for children.

Nevin Rodes, vice president of the RSCA, is chairing the event. Merchants and professionals in the Square are being asked to sponsor one of the entertaining specialties, contribute edibles, or contribute money for the final party on Friday Evening.

Dorothy Floro of "Clippis" salon and George Smith of "Dunning's Grill" are organizing the Regent Square businesses for the event.

Last years week of festivities concluded with a gala party that offered entertainment, food and gifts for children in The Square. It was enjoyed by everybody who attended - even folks working at the event had a great time. Thanks to local business participation, it's likely that this year's event will have a lot to offer for the Square's residents at the holiday season!

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## **Regent Square School - Getting Ready For New Year - Encourages Community Support**

The Regent Square School will be having a potluck social event on Thursday September 14th at 2:30 in the school auditorium. This is opened to all to meet and greet new parents as well as anybody in the community who has an interest in the school. The school has an active Community Council which encourages community participation.

Additionally the school would like to thank the community for the support over the past year. This includes the merchants of the business district who participated in many displays with the children as well as the grant from Ron Cowell which will enable the school to get two new computers.

If you're new to the area or want more information about the school, you can call Fran Juran, principal, at , 247-7970 during business hours.

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## **Your Own Park Bench - You Can Buy One In The Park!**

The City of Pittsburgh's "Partners In Parks" program is repopulating City Parks with new tables and benches. Many of our parks, such as our local Frick Park, were made possible by the generous contributions of local individuals. Continuing in this tradition of community giving, Partners In Parks is offering program which will have benches and tables donated by individuals along the way.

Each item may have an inscribed message of up to 27 characters in length. The cost for the donation of a bench is \$375 while a table is \$425. The items are made out of a durable material (TREX) composed of recycled products with a natural color and texture.

If you're interested in sharing in the tradition of giving to the community, consider this program! You can call Partners In Parks at 255-2576 for more information!

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**Newsletter - Input/Output** - The Regent Square Civic Association Newsletter is edited by Jon Danzak. Special thanks to Ed Wells for editorial assistance and Joe George, Jr. for logistics support! If you have a comment or would like to see something included in the newsletter, please call Jon at 241-2345 or write to him at 629 South Braddock Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15221. Comments are always welcome.