



# Regent Square Civic Association Newsletter

Happy Holiday!



Don't forget to become a  
Contributing Member of the  
Civic Association!

December 2000, Volume 20 Number 8 [www.realpittsburgh.com/community/groups/regentsquarecivassoc](http://www.realpittsburgh.com/community/groups/regentsquarecivassoc)  
Meets first Monday of each month at Wilkins School Community Center, 7PM. All Regent Square residents are welcome to attend.

## Going Places – Travel Consultants To Open In Regent Square!

Thinking about getting away this year? Been meaning to visit that distant relative? Want to plan early and get a good rate on a vacation? Usually doing any of these means either a trip to a travel agency, spending hours on hold with a reservations service, or trying to decipher the best bargain on an Internet travel service.

However you may have a local choice in January 2000! Edmunds Travel Consultants will be opening in Regent Square at 1139 South Braddock Avenue, right next to Food For Thought and Eyes On Regent Square!

Edmunds Travel Consultants bring over 20 years experience as a reputable and efficient full service travel agency. They can assist with every aspect of travel including:

- Airline, Rail, and Bus tickets
- Car and Hotel Reservations
- Cruises
- Meeting and Conference Planning
- Vacation travel planning

Edmunds can provide services to individuals, groups, business and corporations – making them a full service agency for a wide variety of travel and event services.

While the final arrangements for phone have not yet been made – you should watch the space at 1139 South Braddock Avenue in January for their opening. However, you may contact Edmunds Travel Consultants at their email address of [etctravel@aol.com](mailto:etctravel@aol.com) in the interim.

If you have travel in the new year, be sure to take a walk into the Business District of Regent Square and check out Edmunds Travel Consultants. They'll be happy to meet with you and work to service all of your travel needs.

### Editor's Definition

**Politics** – The conduct of public affairs for private advantage.

## Fall Membership Drive Continues

### – Annual Civic Association Appeal For 2001!

Since early November over 100 Regent Square households have responded to the Civic Association's annual membership drive with a \$5 donation to your Civic Association! A big 'thank-you' goes out to all residents who have decided to become contributing members of the Civic Association.

The Regent Square Civic Association is an inclusive organization and by definition all residents of Regent Square are members of the Civic Association. However residents whose households contribute an annual \$5 membership fee are considered 'contributing members' and entitled to vote for officers of the Civic Association each year. (Continued on page 3.)

## Community Meeting & Elections Planned – February 5<sup>th</sup> Target For Civic Association Elections & Meeting With City Of Pittsburgh- Community Input Sought!

The Regent Square Civic Association will hold elections of officers at its regular February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. At that time, all contributing members may vote for the officers of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer as well as board members at large.

The Civic Association is also hoping to use the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to host the City of Pittsburgh to discuss neighborhood issues with Regent Square. All residents of Regent Square – especially those in the Pittsburgh sections of the Square – are encouraged to participate!

Last year, the office of Councilman Bob O'Connor was very helpful in assuring that the various City of Pittsburgh departments were active representing the interest of Regent Square. In particular, when several issues arose with both traffic to/from Frick Park as well as noise in the area, the City of Pittsburgh hosted a meeting to address citizen concerns. (Continued on page 4.)

## Annual Holiday Lighting Contest - Four Awards To The Charity Of Your Choice On Sunday December 17th

The annual Regent Square holiday lighting contest is being offered this year with a new twist. In prior years, prize winners very frequently donated the winning to the Civic Association. Because of this and in keeping with the holiday spirit, the awards will be donated to a charity of the winner's choice! Note that the Civic Association does not count as a 'charity' for the purposes of this award. We truly want to keep this in the giving spirit!

It's a great and easy way to donate a bit of extra money to your favorite charity as well as have fun participating in a community event.

Entry is opened to anyone living in the boundaries of Regent Square as defined by the Civic Association. The first, second and third prizes will be \$75, \$40 and \$40 respectively. This year, as with last year, there will be an additional \$25 prize for 'most creative' use of lights. Judging will be on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December from 6PM-9PM.

It's easy to enter the contest. Simply call Terri Rosen at 412-731-0488 or Jon Danzak at 412-241-2345 between 9AM and 9PM. State that you want to enter your house in the contest and leave your name, address and phone number. You may also Email Terri at [txc415@aol.com](mailto:txc415@aol.com) or Jon at [danzak@sgi.net](mailto:danzak@sgi.net). Entry may be any time up until the evening of the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Judging will be by members of the Civic Association who either regularly participate in meetings. Winners will be notified within 2 days and checks to their favorite charity will be issued during the following week.

Join in the holiday merriment and earn a bit of extra cash for your favorite charity. It's a terrific way to brighten up the community with your creativity and spread some holiday cheer to a worthy cause!

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### Computer Literate – Regent Square School Offering Basic Computer Classes Via Computer Club

The Regent Square School is operating a "Parent, Student and Community Computer Club". The club is offering computer training for parents, students, and community members this fall. Participation is free; however, because of the demand for classes and need to understand all of the concepts, a commitment to attend all classes in the session is required!

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Each session covers the same material. This includes basic computer operation, introduction to Microsoft word, computer research, Microsoft Powerpoint, use of the internet and a combined adult/child project.

While the classes are geared to student and parent participation, the classes are also opened to community members. Parents who are participating must participate with their child, and children participating must participate with an adult.

The classes are being held at the Regent Square Elementary School at 829 Milton Avenue. Session I has already occurred in November. Dates for the next sessions are:

- **Session II** – January 10, 17, 24 and 31<sup>st</sup>
- **Session III** – February 7, 14, 21, and 28<sup>th</sup>
- **Session IV** – March 7, 14, 21 and 28<sup>th</sup>

All sessions begin at 6:30PM sharp and end at 7:30PM.

Participation is on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you are interested in these sessions and need more information, please call the school at 412-247-7970.

And, if you need more information about the school in general, you may always contact Mrs. Vivian P. Wilson, the school principal at the same number. She is always happy to talk with community members about the exciting things happening at our local Regent Square School.

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### Community Action – Child Rescue

The long, lazy, hot days of summer are far behind us. Yet it wasn't so long ago when we were keeping our screen doors opened and windows wide in the hopes of catching a passing breeze to ease the heat wave of summer.

It was on one of those long and lazy summer afternoons when one Regent Square resident crossed the alley to pay a call on his neighbor. It was a good day for a chat.

His neighbor came over and met him in by her back gate. They exchanged the usual pleasantries and talked about the heat, the garden, and the general state of things.

Suddenly their casual banter was broken by a woman who was running up the alley. She was panic-stricken! She ran up to the neighbors and blurted out that her young daughter, who was autistic, had run out of the house and down the block. She had no clothes and never, ever, could go out alone and unsupervised because of her condition. The outside world was a total confusion to her. The woman was terrified that her daughter would come to harm! (Continued on page 4.)

## **Closed For Reseating — New Seats To Debut At Theater Following Current Run**

The Regent Square Theater will begin the 2001 season sporting new seats! The Theater should be closing for renovations shortly after the 17<sup>th</sup>. The renovations will include the installation of some very comfortable new seating!

However, up until the 17<sup>th</sup>, the Theater is showing "Goya In Bordeaux". This is a Spanish film about the life of the painter Goya and is subtitled in English. The work runs about 120 minutes and is tentatively showing at 7 & 9:15PM on Friday, 4:30, 7 and 9:15PM on Saturday, 4:30 and 7PM on Sunday and 8PM during the weekdays of Monday through Thursday.

There is also a tentative plan to schedule the film "Somewhere In Time" on December 15<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup>. This is a 'cult film' starring Christopher Reeve depicting a person who wishes themselves back in time to meet their true love.

Note that the schedule for both "Goya In Bordeaux" and "Somewhere In Time" may be subject to some adjustment. Please call the Theater at 412-244-7212 or the Pittsburgh Filmmakers information line at 412-682-4111. You may also check the Pittsburgh Filmmakers web site at [www.pghfilmmakers.org](http://www.pghfilmmakers.org).

## **Search Continues —New Regent Square Civic Association Board Members Sought!**

The Regent Square Civic Association will begin it's 2001 year with the nomination for new Board Members in January and a subsequent election of the board by the general membership and current board in February.

The Civic Association Board consists of the officers of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer as well as board members at large.

In general, board members are asked to come to the regular monthly meetings and, in the case of officers, assume leadership activities that may take a few hours of time a month.

Often people wonder how to make a difference. It often seems hopeless to try to make a change in 'the system'. The Civic Association offers an ideal community-oriented way for you to get in touch with many of the factors that shape the community of Regent Square that is a part of your life.

If you're interested in participating this year, give Terri Rosen (412-731-0488 [txv415@aol.com](mailto:txv415@aol.com)) or Jon J. Danzak

(412-241-2345 [danzak@sgi.net](mailto:danzak@sgi.net)). Be an active part of Regent Square in 2001!

## **Fall Membership** (Continued from page 1.)

The \$5 per household contribution helps in the \$1,500 per year needed to bring you the Civic Association Newsletter. More importantly, your contribution allows you to cast a vote for the leadership of the Civic Association.

The November Newsletter had an envelope enclosed for a contribution. However, if you've lost or misplaced it, you may send a membership contribution to the Civic Association treasurer, William Werner at 1120 Macon Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1253.

Consider showing your support for the Civic Association by contributing \$5 per household for the new year. It's a great way to support a community-based institution for the new year! Your support is greatly appreciated!

## **School Activities —Students Remember Veteran's Day — Also Seeking Business Partners**

The students in the first and second grade at Regent Square School participated in a Veteran's Day service on Memorial Day at the Veteran's Memorial adjacent to the school in Frick Park. The children spent time sprucing up the monument and also participated in some activities to help them understand the meaning of the day.

Additionally the Parent School Community Council (PSCC) is looking for organizations and businesses to participate in programs with the school that will enhance the learning experience of the students. This could mean speaking to the children about a topic, inviting them to visit a business, or permitting the children to display items in a business.

If your organization or group may be interested in working with the local Regent Square School, please call Mrs. Vivian P. Wilson, school principal, at 412-247-7970 during school hours.

## **Avoiding Junk Mail And Calls — Register To Get Your Name Off The List**

It's that time of the year when your mailbox often overflows with 'junk mail'. Here's a reprint of an article from last year that tells you how to get your name off the lists!

You may register with the Direct Marketing Association to have your name removed from solicitation lists. (Continued on page 4.)

## Meeting Change – Holiday Schedule Adjustment For Regent Square Meeting

During December and January, the regular meeting of the Regent Square Civic Association will be at 7pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of December and January. This change was made to accommodate holiday schedules. Meetings will resume on the first Monday at 7PM at the Wilkins School Community Center. As always, all members of the community are welcome to attend.

## Community Meeting (Continued on page 3.)

The Civic Association would like to develop an agenda for the February meeting with the City of Pittsburgh.

In prior meetings, there was concern about the use of Frick Park, paving of streets, traffic, and neighborhood security. These items could be revisited, in particular the plans for the upcoming season in Frick Park (possible additional noise control for the lower area as well as traffic control), setup of block watches or community safety events, and overall traffic on South Braddock Avenue corridor.

Other issues such as Frick Park, Summerset at Frick, and the Mon-Fayette expressway also will impact our area and has a heavy participation by City of Pittsburgh officials.

If you have particular issues around these areas, or if you have additional areas of interest which you would like to see addressed at a February resident's meeting with the City of Pittsburgh, please call or email either Terri Rosen (412-731-0488 [txv415@aol.com](mailto:txv415@aol.com)) or Jon J. Danzak (412-241-2345 [danzak@sgi.net](mailto:danzak@sgi.net)).

And, please mark your calendar for the Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Regent Square Civic Association at 7PM at the Wilkins School Community Center. The meeting with the City of Pittsburgh will immediately follow a brief business meeting and election of officers. And, remember, if you're a contributing member – you can vote for officers of the Civic Association at the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting!

## Community Action (Continued from page 2.)

The two neighbors immediately helped with the search. One started out the front of the block and the other up the alley. Eventually they came to Forbes Avenue and went up to South Braddock.

And they found the child!

She had wandered right into the very middle of the Forbes and Braddock intersection - perhaps the busiest intersection in Regent Square. She was standing there, confused and oblivious to all of the danger that was zooming toward her.

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But two alert patrons who were going into the Junction Pharmacy there noticed her. Also a bicyclist who was across the street at Frick Park saw her. And another man who was passing by also saw the small child.

Immediately, without pausing to think, four people ran to her aid. Their only thoughts seemed to be of helping the child and making the situation right.

They protectively surrounded the girl, warding off traffic and ignoring any danger to themselves. The group of four had just escorted her over to the corner pay phone and were about to call the police when the other neighbors ran up to them.

And, within a few minutes, one of the parents of the child joined the group for a grateful reunion with the frightened and confused child. Tears of joy flowed freely at the corner of Forbes and South Braddock. Four rescuers smiled and went about their business. And two neighbors looked at each other, smiled, and walked back down the block, back to their yards to resume their chat.

This holiday season one special child will be with her family because of the action of strangers in Regent Square. Action that helps make Regent Square a very special community that we can all be proud to be a part of.

## Avoiding Junk Mail (Continued from page 3.)

The addresses to write to for removal are:

Mailing	Telephone
Mail Preference Service	Telephone Preference Service
Direct Marketing Association	Direct Marketing Association
P.O. Box 9008	P.O. Box 9014
Farmingdale, NY 11735-9008	Farmingdale, NY 11735-9014

Simply send a letter with your name, address and phone to the addresses above and request that you be removed from their lists. Your volume of unwanted mail and calls should decrease. Your request remains active for 5 years.

Because many smaller and local organizations are not members of the marketing association, this may not help with some types of calls and mail. It should help put a dent in the volume of unwanted solicitation that you receive.

If you receive a phone solicitation, politely request that you be removed from the caller's list. 'Hanging up' will only keep you on their list for a repeated call at a later date!

**Newsletter Input/Output** - The Regent Square Civic Association Newsletter is edited by Jon J. Danzak. If you have a comment please call Jon at 241-2345 or write to him at 629 South Braddock Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15221. You may also send Email to the editor at [danzak@sgi.net](mailto:danzak@sgi.net). Comments are always welcome!  
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