

REGENT SQUARE

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

The voice of the Regent Square Civic Association, serving Regent Square's diverse residential and business community.

October 2004, Volume 26 Number 8

Join us next month at

The RSCA Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
Monday, 4-Oct-2004 at the Wilkins School Community Center located at the corner of Milton and Charleston Avenues.

Meeting Minutes

September RSCA Meeting Quick Recap

Monday, 13-Sept-2004

Committee reports and discussions.
Talk of upcoming Halloween party.
Discussion of poster sale.

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A Bird's-Eye View of Regent Square

Limited-edition, artist-signed mural posters available through the RSCA

Admire the vivid beauty of Regent Square's landmark mural indoors with a limited edition print signed by artist Kristin Williams. The composition, located on the Hutchinson Street side of the Braddock Avenue Express, is an aerial representation of birds flying over Regent Square and Frick Park. The detailed birds can be seen as a metaphor for the varied people and personalities that make up the Regent Square community.

A limited number will be printed, signed and numbered — only 250 — and there will not be any additional printings. The full-color print, suitable for framing, approximate size is will be 6½x18” produced from a professional color photograph taken by Jeff Swensen. Reservations are being taken on a first-come, first-served basis until Friday 5-Nov-2004, at the special pre-sale rate of \$28. (For orders requiring delivery outside of Regent Square, please include \$5 postage and handling per print.) Posters are expected to be printed and delivered by mid-December.

Proceeds will benefit the artist and the Regent Square Civic Association.

The artist (and many neighborhood volunteers) worked tirelessly to complete the site-specific mural as part of the Sprout Public Art Community Murals Project. Kristin specializes in ornithological art, which features extremely detailed scientific illustrations of birds for identification purposes. In addition to Regent Square, Kristin's work can be seen in the portrait identification labels at the National Aviary and in published portrait anthologies.

(Continued on page 6.)

Boo! Annual Halloween Party

Saturday, October 30 — Dress-Up Fun for Kids

The annual Children's Halloween Party will be held on Saturday 28-Oct-2002 from 2PM-4PM in the Wilkins School Community Center at the corner of Milton & Charleston. The party is designed for children 12 and under, although older children may participate as well. There will be refreshments and treats available. A costume judging for all children will start shortly after 3PM. Each winner will receive their very own pumpkin that he or she can decorate for the season. If you'd like to help organize or staff the event, volunteers are welcome! Please call Joan Reefer at 412-243-3411 or send an email to sjreefer1@msn.com. ■

New — Regent Square Classifieds

Do You Have a Skill or Service to Market? Get the Word Out Locally.

Child sitter? Dog walker? Writer? Organizer? Quite a few requests for information about local people who have skills or services to offer in the neighborhood have been received by the RSCA. In response, we're introducing the "Regent Square Classifieds" — a quarterly section in the Regent Square newsletter that will list services available from Regent Square residents, along with contact information.

List yourself and your skill or service in the monthly Regent Square newsletter for \$10 a quarter. To be listed, fill out the Classifieds Form and mail it in before the end of November, or contact Ann Gaul at communications@regent-square.org or 412-243-2012.

(See Classifieds Form on page 6.)

23rd Annual Three Rivers Film Festival

2004 Three Rivers Film Festival Opens November 4 – November 18

The 23rd Annual Three Rivers Film Festival, presented by Pittsburgh Filmmakers, remains a cultural highlight for Pittsburgh and all of Pennsylvania. The exciting 14-days feature over 45 films: independent American cinema, documentaries, critically acclaimed international films. This is also the second year for the competitive juried Shorts Program, with prize winners being announced during the festival. Check out opening and closing night events, visiting filmmakers, live bands and more.

Films are screened at: The Harris Theater, 809 Liberty Ave., Downtown; the Melwood Screening Room at 477 Melwood Ave., North Oakland; and the Regent Square Theater at 1035 S. Braddock Ave., Edgewood. For more information visit: www.3rff.com or www.pghfilmmakers.org

For film enthusiasts looking to support local film arts, Pittsburgh Filmmakers is seeking volunteers for the Three Rivers Film Festival at the Regent Square Theater and other Pittsburgh Filmmakers' venues. Help greet festival patrons, take tickets, sell passes, hand out surveys, announce films/speakers, put up posters, drive visiting artists around town, facilitate after-the-film discussions and, of course, watch films. Volunteers will receive free festival tickets.

To volunteer or for more info if you live in the Regent Square area: glennen@hotmail.com or contact: volunteer@pghfilmmakers.org or call Volunteer Coordinator at 412-681-5449, M-F/9-5. ■

WSCC: Holiday Shopping, Fall Classes

Community Center Offers Holiday Mart and Fall Classes

Fall is a busy time at the Wilkins School Community Center (WSCC)! The Center will hold its annual Holiday Mart on 29-Oct through 3-Nov. Hand-made crafts, artwork and baked goods will be for sale. There will also be a Chinese auction. The gala opening night is Friday, October 28th from 7PM – 9PM. All are welcome to attend this fun community event! Bring your holiday shopping list, have a snack, get acquainted with your neighbors and meet the members of the WSCC Board. If you would like to become a member, or volunteer to assist by donating a baked good for the gala opening night or assist at the sale, set-up or break down, please call the number below.

The Fall program begins the first week of November. Many interesting six-week courses are available as well as several mini-courses. Consider taking a class in watercolor, yoga, wine tasting, aerobics, dancing, portrait drawing, or Pilates, just to name a few. Classes often fill quickly so register early and send in your course fee to assure that you won't be shut out.

For more information about any of the above, to volunteer to help, or to register for classes, visit the Center website at www.wsccpgh.org, call 412-244-8458 or email wsccpgh@yahoo.com. ■

Contributions: This edition was edited by Ann H. Gaul with help from Jon J. Danzak. Thanks goes to contributing writers from the community or those who provided information for the newsletter. This includes:

- Pam Lieberman – Mural Poster
- Edgewood Club – Colleen Derda
- Joan Reefer – Halloween Party
- Deliverers Needed – Joy Goethert
- Filmmakers – Glenn Greer
- Neighbors Helping – Mary Kilgour
- WSCC items – Mary Louise Travers
- Lisa Price – Primping Your Pooch

Articles may be submitted for publication via post or email. Please visit the web site www.regent-square.org and see "Newsletter submission guidelines" under the "Newsletter" menu item for complete submission guidelines, or contact the editor to receive a hard-copy or email of the guidelines. Please see the last page for complete contact information regarding the Newsletter editor, email or post office address.

Events Calendar

2-Aug-2004 9AM–12PM

Food Donations

*Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church -
905 Mifflin Avenue, corner of Mifflin and
Whitney*

Nonperishable food donations collected for Wilkinsburg Comm. Ministries Food Bank. Collection on **first Sat. of every month**, drop off items at church.

Info: 412-731-2511 or www.mifflinave.org

4-Oct-2004 7PM

RSCA Meeting

*Wilkins School Community Center, between
South Braddock and Milton at Charleston*

Regular meeting.

Info: To request an agenda item. Call 412-243-0702 or president@regent-square.org

30-Oct-2004 2PM-4PM

Annual Halloween Party

*Wilkins School Community Center, between
South Braddock and Milton at Charleston*

(See page 1 for details.)

Info: 412-243-3411 or email sjreefer1@msn.com

29-Oct-2004

Holiday Mart Opens

*Wilkins School Community Center, between
South Braddock and Milton at Charleston*

(See left for details.)

Info: 412-244-8458 or email wsccpgh@yahoo.com

1-Nov-2004 7PM

RSCA Meeting

(See 4-Oct-2004 for information.)

2-Nov-2004

Election Day — **VOTE!**

2-Nov-2004

Election Day Bake Sale / Soup Sale

*Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church -
905 Mifflin Avenue, corner of Mifflin and
Whitney*

Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church is having a bake sale/soup sale. All proceeds go to Wilkinsburg Community Ministries.

Info: 412-731-2511 or www.mifflinave.org

Destination, Dinner!

"The Map Room" Is Slated to Open in Regent Square

Marjorie Landale arrived in Pittsburgh after college and has now lived in Regent Square for 12 years. She really likes the Regent Square area and thought it would be an ideal location for her concept of a small restaurant with a décor of classic maps.

She's presently renovating the site of the former "Regent Square Tavern" at 1126 South Braddock Avenue to transform it into "The Map Room" — a bistro-style restaurant and bar. The bar area is likely to remain much the same size, but the dining room is being revamped, rest rooms renovated and relocated, and the kitchen will be brought up to full service standards. Local contractor Walter Gorr is using his expertise to rework the space, along with architect John Goldcamp. She is collaborating with Chuck Kerber, from the Regent Square area, who will be the kitchen manager/chef and plans to be creative with fresh and seasonal ingredients.

Marjorie's father collected antique maps. The decor will center on antique maps from the Landale family collection, along with contributions from some good friends. The study of old maps and research fascinates her and has remained an avid hobby of hers thorough the years. The accuracy and precision of the earlier works fascinates her because early maps were done without the aid of modern technology to an amazing standard of precision. She also enjoys the artistic interpretations that add depth and character to the works.

The menu of The Map Room will offer a variety of signature items, including appetizers, soups, sandwiches and entrees. This will be enhanced by daily specialty and seasonal items. Items should range in price from \$3-\$8 for appetizers and sandwiches to \$9-\$16 for an entrée. The renovations started in early August, and The Map Room plans to open before it's time to say "Trick or Treat."

Manager Marjorie Landale is overwhelmed with the kindness from residents and businesses in Regent Square: "Opening a new business is stressful in our current economic state. The community interest and support has been of great encouragement."

Be sure to keep an eye on 1126 South Braddock and look for the opening of The Map Room over the next several weeks! ■

Community Survey

What would YOU do with the Regent Square Elementary School Building?

How would you like to see the Regent Square Elementary School building used? Without considering zoning or other usage requirements, what does the community think or wish or dream about when you think about Regent Square Elementary? Fill out this quick survey and mail it to RSCA re: Survey 7604 Charleston Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265; email your answer to communications@regent-square.org; or fill it out online at www.regent-square.org/rses-survey today.

100 Years of Edgewood Club

Hosts Upcoming Building Tour

Achieving 100 years is no small feat. So the Edgewood Club, founded in 1904 by Edgewood residents and now beloved by families throughout the East End, is celebrating this important birthday in style.

Join in the celebration with a historic building tour for the general public on Saturday 13-Nov-2004 from 1PM-3:30PM, sponsored by the Club and the Edgewood Historical Society in cooperation with Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF).

The event will feature lunch, catered by the Square Café, a talk on the history of the c. 1916 building by a PHLF

representative, a talk about recent renovations by Bob Grubb, of Lami Grubb Architects, and a tour. Club memorabilia will be available to view in a centennial exhibit. In addition, The Edgewood Historical Society will display photos, postcards and other materials. A copy of the book "The Edgewood Club: 100 Years of Memories" will be available for sale at a reduced price that afternoon.

The event will appeal to anyone interested in local history and all those curious to poke around the distinctive Spanish Mission-style building. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call 412-731-3443. ■

Deliverers Needed

Help For Shut-ins

Edgewood Home Delivered Meals is a cooperative project of the Edgewood Civic Association and the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood. Any Edgewood or Swissvale resident who is unable to shop for or prepare meals during a period of recuperation or for a longer term is eligible to receive this service. Volunteers pick up the meals at the Swissvale Senior Center Monday-Fridays and deliver them to shut-ins. If you or a member of your family needs this service, call 731-6125 and register with the director, Ginny Connolly Manhardt.

They are desperately in need of drivers and runners to deliver the meals — especially on Fridays; please call Joy Goethert at 731-1640 if you can spare two hours once or twice a month. ■

I think the Regent Square Elementary School Building should ... (please check one)

remain a school of some sort

become a community building

be turned into residential living space

be turned into commercial space

be demolished and the land used for something else

other _____

Name & Address/email (Optional)

Please respond by Friday, October 29. Results will be posted in an upcoming Regent Square Newsletter and on www.regent-square.org. ■

Resident In Print

History Penned and Published

Resident Lance Kurke, PhD, has recently written a book titled "The Wisdom of Alexander the Great." Primarily about how people can learn from Alexander as a role model for modern business leaders, there is something for everyone in this book, which relates 34 riveting episodes from Alexander's expansion through Asia Minor, Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Middle East, the Persian Empire, and India. Each example, tied to a modern-day counterpart, imparts valuable lessons from the timeless legend of one of the greatest leaders in history.

Lance has lived in Regent Square a little over a year and is Chair of the Leadership and Change Management division and an Associate Professor of Management at Duquesne University. He is also president of Kurke & Associates, Inc., a consulting firm providing strategic planning, customized training, executive coaching, and leadership development. ■

Star Struck

Neighborhood Teacher Wins Contest

Who says you can't win things online? Regent Square Resident and teacher, Karen M. Howard, of East End Avenue will quickly dispute that. She was the recipient of a scholarship and trip to La Jolla, California, for her submission to the Starfall institute.

Karen has taught for 27 years in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. During her long career she has served as a reading coach at Chatham Elementary, worked as an early childhood specialist, been a resource for multicultural education and done work with the gifted child program — an impressive list of experience and credentials.

While doing some online research, she came across the Starfall Institute. The institute focuses on teaching children good reading skills and offered a writing contest for teachers. Karen submitted a piece of writing that was targeted to a first grade audience. Her winning piece, "Sometimes on Tuesdays," deals with divorce and separation.

This summer, she had the opportunity to spend three weeks collaborating remotely with the staff of the institute and then join them at their California facility for one week of work there.

Never one to sit still, she's currently pursuing her Masters degree at Point Park University, focusing on curriculum, instruction and leadership. On the home front, her daughter, Aimee, is attending CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) high school where she majors in dance.

In spite of these accolades for Karen and her daughter, Aimee, her dutiful dog Missy remains unimpressed by the family achievements. Missy is spending the last dregs of summer lounging in the back yard where she only takes an occasional break from these duties to bark furiously at a taunting squirrel or approaching stranger.

Congratulations to our Regent Square winner and the proud family! ■

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Ongoing Food Drive Makes Local Impact

The Outreach Committee of Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church — located at 905 Mifflin Avenue, on the corner of Mifflin and Whitney Avenues — sponsors an on-going food drive of nonperishable items to benefit the Wilkinsburg Community Ministry on the first Saturday of every month from 9AM-12PM. The program was started in October 2003 and did very well during Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

They would like to see this program grow and do very well each and every month to help those in our community in need.

How do you get neighbors to get involved in a worthwhile project and spread the word on the importance of helping those in need? Make a

commitment, even a small one, and get involved! Neighbors helping neighbors within our neighborhood and outside our neighborhood is a wonderful and worthwhile thing that we all can do in some way.

There is much more to the Wilkinsburg Community Ministry besides the food bank. The mission statement of the Wilkinsburg Community Ministry is: "Acting as the cooperative body of the member congregations, WCM develops, facilitates and delivers programs and services geared to meet the physical, social, economic and spiritual needs of Wilkinsburg families and individuals." It consists of many programs, including programs geared toward seniors and youth.

A "thank you" goes out to those who participate in the food drive. A "thank you" goes out to those who help in the Regent Square community and in other communities in ways that may go unnoticed.

The Outreach Committee extends an invitation to stop by and visit on the first Saturday of the month to make a donation or learn more about their ongoing work. If you'd like more information about the church, please call 412-731-2511 or visit the web site www.mifflinave.org ■

A Kind Touch

United Way "Day of Caring" Touches Regent Square

Kaye Wetzel, Wilkins School Community Center (WSCC) director, was amazed. "I never saw so many people come with so many tools in my life!" That was her initial reaction to the team of 20 volunteers from the Union Switch and Signal Company that showed up for the United Way "Day of Caring." This event matches non-profit organizations with companies that allow their employees a day off of work to help an institution in need.

This small army of volunteers arrived at the center early in the morning ready to work. Kaye noted "I don't think I saw one of them ever sit down. They got here and worked straight through the entire day!"

Several Herculean tasks were done for the WSCC. Two large rooms with 15-foot-high ceilings got a through and much-needed paint job. Outside, the army gave the grounds one of the best grooming jobs that it had ever received.

Kaye needed to place a hasty call to Swissvale Public Works Director Carmine Russo and to ask him to send a dump truck to pick up debris. As usual, Carmine responded promptly to the call for help. But one truck was quickly filled and needed to make several more trips to get all of the refuse and cuttings that the busy crew cleared.

A very big "thank you" goes from the WSCC and Regent Square community to the employees of Union Switch and Signal for their help with the Day of Caring. As a small token of thanks, the Center is offering them each a free "mini course." And a large "thank you" goes to the Borough of Swissvale for its continued kindness and support of this community institution. ■

Space Available

Open For Fall Occupancy

The Wilkins School Community Center (WSCC) is looking for new tenants for the second floor space. The space is approximately 3,200 square feet available either all or in part, depending on tenant needs and leasing arrangements. The space is available for occupancy on 1-Sept-2004. Wilkins School Community Center is a brick structure located at the corner of Charleston and South Braddock Avenues, with convenient access to I-376 (Parkway) at the Edgewood/Swissvale exit. Please call 412-244-8458 or email wscppgh@yahoo.com for further information. ■

Primping Your Pooch

Nearby Dog Grooming Service Delights Local Resident

Having a dog in Regent Square means neighborhood walks and playing in Frick Park. But what do you do when it's time to bring the dog home, muddy paws and all? Take heart! Regent Square resident Lisa Price reports that Andrew Jannot has opened Dirty Hairy's Self-Serve Dog Wash and Grooming a few blocks away in Point Breeze. Dirty Hairy's has everything you need, including, most importantly, all the cleanup.

She says: "Before my parents came to town recently, I took in my two dogs there. Andrew, the owner, led us into one of several spacious, well-supplied, private bathing rooms and explained how to use everything. I donned a rubber apron and invited my first dog into the tub. My dog stepped up and into the non-skid tub to my height, and I used the supplied short tether to keep him in position. The water heated immediately to a safe warm temperature and came only when I wanted it from a hand-held shower sprayer. I used the puppy (regular) shampoo, but also had flea or berry-scented options at tub side. After a lather and rinse, I blew excess water away with the high-powered blow dryer on the wall and let him wander the room while I bathed

the other dog, drying them both more fully with fluffy towels when I finished. I didn't care about the mess because, as Andrew cheerfully reminded me, all of the cleanup was on them!"

Dirty Hairy's also supplies professional ear wipes, brushes and conditioner on every tub-side stand, and has a complete array of grooming shears, stands and supplies in a separate room in back for people with dogs requiring more tending. You can even buy a toothbrush for your pooch. He also plans to offer instruction and seminars in topics ranging from grooming to massage.

"This is not just another big-city fad passing through Pittsburgh." Lisa goes on to say, "Though you need not bathe your dog as often as the human members of your household, routine bathing and grooming of dogs on a schedule that makes sense for your dog's breed and for family is important for human and canine health and happiness. Ungroomed fur can mat enough to impair movement, dirty ears can become infected and uncut nails can grow into the skin."

Prefer letting someone else doing all the work? Dirty Hairy's will do full-service grooming, too, or you can do it yourself for about half the price of traditional drop-off grooming salons.

Dirty Hairy's (www.pghdogwash.com) is at 415 Gettysburg Street and can be phoned at 412-362-8878. ■

Cleanup Thanks

Volunteer Intersection Cleanup

Thanks to Alan Baum, Lauren Broyles, Michele Megarry, Barb Peterson, Steve Revilak, Peg Schmidt and Teri Supowitz for participating in the cleanup of the Parkway (I-376) intersection at South Braddock. It was a very intense cleanup.

The last date for this year is November 21st at 9AM. This will be the final one before the 2005 late Spring cleaning.

Join the cleanup team today by contacting Barb Peterson via email at babs@libcom.com or contact the Civic Association at 412-243-0702 for more information. ■

Classifieds Form

To include your skill or service in the Regent Square Classifieds, fill out and mail the form below with your check.

Service/Skill: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Enclosed is my check for:

_____ \$10.00 — 1st quarter 2005
_____ \$10.00 — 2nd quarter 2005
_____ \$10.00 — 3rd quarter 2005
_____ \$10.00 — 4th quarter 2005
= _____
_____ \$ _____ Total

Please make checks payable to RSCA and mail to Regent Square Civic Association (re: Classifieds), 7604 Charleston Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265.

Please note: The Regent Square Classifieds is for individuals with skills or services or offers and no formal business frontage.

Businesses are advertised in the Regent Square Welcome Booklet that is distributed to every resident. Become a Business Member of the RSCA to make your Welcome Booklet listing stand out!

Mural Order Form

Limited-Edition Regent Square Mural Poster

Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____
Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Enclosed is my check for:

\$ _____ = _____ qty x \$28.00/poster (before 5-Nov-2004)
\$ _____ = _____ qty x \$5.00 shipping
(per location outside Regent Square)
= _____
\$ _____ Total

Please make checks payable to RSCA and mail to Regent Square Civic Association (re: Mural Poster/Pre-Sale), 7604 Charleston Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265.

Please note: Orders for the Regent Square Mural Posters will be taken until Friday 5-Nov-2004. Orders will be fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis, based on mailed-in order forms and checks received, until all 250 prints have been sold. We regret that any orders over 250 will not be filled. You will be notified by phone, mail or email and your check will be destroyed. ■

Board Members Needed

Wilkins School Community Center Seeks to Expand Board

Are you new to the neighborhood and looking for a way to contribute to the community? Have you lived in Regent Square for years and enjoyed the events and classes offered at the Wilkins School Community Center? Do you appreciate the volunteer-maintained gardens as you pass by on your walk or run? Would you like to continue to have a neighborhood play area for you and your kids to enjoy? The Wilkins School Community Center Board of Directors is looking for new Board Members and Volunteers for upcoming events and building projects. You too can contribute to keeping WSCC as a neighborhood treasure.

Contact the Center at 412-244-8458 or email wscppgh@yahoo.com to find out more about this exciting opportunity to help a neighborhood institution. ■



To contact the RSCA Newsletter:

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Vintage Value

"2003 Run Around The Square"

If you're proud of Regent Square and could use a nice long-sleeve T-shirt to lounge around in, Michele Megarry, lead organizer of the Run Around the Square, has a deal for you! Due to an ordering error in 2003, she has a large quantity of extra-large Run Around The Square long sleeve T-shirts for sale still hanging around from last year. At \$2 each or 3 for \$5, they are a terrific bargain! They're great for doing outside yard work or lounging around the house on a cool evening. The 2003 T-shirt sports the Regent Square logo, as well as logos of those great sponsors of the run. Call the Civic Association at 412-243-0702 or contact Michele via email at mmmegarry@verizon.net to take advantage of this great value. ■