

REGENT SQUARE

CIVIC ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

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

May 2005, Volume 25 Number 4

Join us next month at

The RSCA Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
Monday, 6-June-2005 at the
Wilkins School Community Center
located at the corner of Milton and
Charleston Avenues.

There will not be a community
meeting or Board Meeting in July.

All Easter Eggs Found!

Annual Easter Egg Hunt a Fun-Filled Success!

Under the watchful eye of the Easter Chick, the Richmond-Sanders lot was transformed into a colorful garden of eggs on Saturday, 19-March. With the sun shining above, more than 50 children gathered candy-filled eggs and their parents chatted with neighbors.

A big thank you to Betty and Kelly O'Brien for stuffing 500 eggs and putting them in cute gift bags. Joe Danko, Andrew, Ben and Lindsay Derda, Bubby Horner, and Tim Sismour did a fantastic job of hiding the eggs — they managed to come up with some really creative hiding places!

The day would not have been complete without a visit from the Swissvale Fire Department and they didn't disappoint us. Thank you also to Felicia Turano for letting the Easter Chick be a part of the day. Thank you to Brian Griffin and Bob Derda — without Brian's electricity and Bob's extension cord, the Easter Chick would not have been pumped up for the job! It was precious to watch the little ones sitting in front of him opening their eggs! Thank you also to Molly Thayer for helping to recruit volunteers and for offering to get involved and plan new, fun activities for the Easter Egg Hunt next year.

We look forward to seeing everyone in 2006 when we will have contests and games ... and, of course, candy-filled eggs! ■

Get In On This Year's Yard Sale

It's Not Too Late to Be a Part of This Neighborhood-Wide Event

With the great April weather, we're sure that you've started your spring cleaning and are looking for something to do with those gently used items that you have no room for in your super-organized house. There is still time to sign up officially for this year's Neighborhood Yard Sale being held on May 14th. Call now at 412-731-6260 or send an e-mail to yardsale@regent-square.org to let us know you want to be an official part of this neighborhood event.

With your donation of \$7.00 (\$5.00 for RSCA 2005 members) to cover expenses, you will get official Yard Sale signs, balloons, and other cool Yard Sale stuff. Contact us right now, and we will do our best get any May registrations included on the official Regent Square Neighborhood Yard Sale map that will be posted around the neighborhood, distributed to sellers and handed out to those shoppers who stop by the RSCA Neighborhood Yard Sale table at the Regent Square Theater the morning of the sale. (See the Yard Sale participation form on p.4 of this newsletter to register.)

Block Captains Needed

The Yard Sale committee is once again recruiting for block captains. Your role, which can be done with little effort, yields big results for our 6th annual Yard Sale. As a block captain you will be asked to distribute the completed participant packets to those houses registered on your street.

You will be asked to put balloons and signage up at the end of each of your blocks and, at the end of the sale day, remove those same signs. It's easy! Please contact the Yard Sale committee by calling 412-731-6260 or sending an e-mail to yardsale@regent-square.org. Your assistance is greatly needed — and greatly appreciated! ■

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Events for May

2-May-2005 | 7PM

RSCA Community Meeting

Regular monthly meeting.

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

Info: To request an agenda item. Call 412-371-2010 or president@regent-square.org

7-May-2005 | 9AM-12PM

Food Drive

Non-perishable food donations collected for the Wilksburg Food Pantry. Drop off items at church.

*Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church
905 Mifflin Ave., corner of Mifflin & Whitney*

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

14-May-2005 | 9AM-2PM

RSCA Neighborhood Yard Sale

Register asap to get: on the map, an info packet, and official materials.

Streets & alleys throughout Regent Square

Info: Call 412-371-2010 or yardsale@regent-square.org

14-May-2005 | 9AM-2PM

WSCC Used Book Sale

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

Info: 412-244-8458 or www.wscpcgh.org

14-May-2005 | 9AM-3PM

Rummage Sale/Bake Sale

Proceeds go to church improvement fund and missions.

*Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church
905 Mifflin Ave., corner of Mifflin & Whitney*

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

21-May-2005 | 5:30-8PM

Roast Beef Dinner

Proceeds go to church improvement fund.

\$8 per person, \$4 for children 10 and under.

*Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church
905 Mifflin Ave., corner of Mifflin & Whitney*

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

6-June-2005 7 PM

RSCA Community Meeting

Regular meeting.

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

Info: To request an agenda item. Call 412-371-2010 or president@regent-square.org

Pet Grooming Returns To The Square

Canine and Feline Grooming Salon Opens on S. Braddock

PAWS-itively Pets Canine and Feline Grooming Salon, located at 1124 Braddock Avenue (formerly Savvy on the Square), will have a grand opening and tour of its new facility during the Regent Square Neighborhood Yard Sale on 14-May.

Owners Sue Rosko and Marge Yackulics are both residents of Regent Square. Their love of animals encouraged them to embark on new careers in pet grooming. Sue is a retired educator and has owned and loved Irish Setters for the past 30 years. She is the PA rescue coordinator for that breed. Marge has spent her career in large recreational equipment sales. She is owned and loved by three rescued Airedale Terriers — Katie, Gracie and Stu — and can often be spotted in Frick Park. Both Sue and Marge are highly experienced in animal care and training and have graduated from the Pampered Pet School of Pet Grooming in Brentwood.

PAWS-itively Pets will offer a wide range of services, including dog and cat grooming, nail clipping, teeth brushing, and bathing. A unique feature of this salon is a "HydroSurge Bathing System." Pets really enjoy the therapeutic massaging action of this bathing system. PAWS-itively Pets will also carry a line of collars, harnesses, leashes, and flea products, as well as homemade treats. Stop by on 14-May to welcome PAWS-itively Pets to the neighborhood. ■

Spring Concert

Edgewood Symphony Orchestra (ESO) Performance

Join the Edgewood Symphony at their spring concert on 21-May-2005 at 7:30 PM at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood. The ESO welcomes Thomas Wesley Douglas as Guest Conductor for a concert including Mendelssohn's Hebrides Overture "Fingal's Cave," Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral," and Barber's Adagio for Strings. In addition, violinist Galina Istomin will be featured in Ravel's Tsigane for Violin and Orchestra.

Tickets are \$10 (\$5 for students) and are available at the door. Call 412-473-8880 or check out www.edgewoodsymphony.org. ■

Be Listed ...

Quarterly in the Regent Square Classifieds

This once-a-quarter section in the Regent Square Newsletter lists skills and services available from Regent Square residents, along with contact information. Fee for Regent Square residents is \$10 a quarter. Fee for individuals outside of Regent Square is \$20 a quarter. For more information, send an e-mail to newsletter@regent-square.org or call 412-371-2010. *The Regent Square Newsletter reserves the right to accept or reject any Classifieds request. Returned checks will be charged a \$25 fee.* ■

Submission Deadline

Friday, 13-May-2005

If you have news or an article for the June/July Regent Square Newsletter, deadline for submission is Friday, 13-May. We look forward to hearing from members of the community on issues or activities that may be of interest to the rest of the neighborhood! *The Newsletter reserves the right to edit or reject any submissions.* ■

Contributions: This edition was edited by Ann Gaul with help from Julie Crawford. Thanks goes to contributing writers from the community or those who provided information for the newsletter, including:

- Terri Rosen – Egg Hunt
- Julie Crawford – Yard Sale
- Randy Ober – Lawn Bowling
- Sue Rosko, Marge Yackulics – Pet Grooming
- Donna Bour – NUW
- Alina Keebler – House History

Articles may be submitted for publication via post or e-mail. 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 e-mail of the guidelines. Please see the last page for complete contact information regarding the Newsletter editor, e-mail or mailing address.

Lawn Bowling in the Park

Frick Park Lawn Bowling Club starts new season

The weather is getting better and it is time to start thinking about Lawn Bowling. The bowling greens are located at the northern edge of Frick Park on Reynolds Street diagonally across from the Frick Museum and thus in easy reach of Regent Square.

Lawn Bowling is played on grass with bowls that are not completely round. This may sound daunting, but the bowls have a running surface. They go straight as long as they have enough speed. Once they slow down, they curve either to the right or the left. The object of the game is to get as close to the target ball as possible. The game can be played by anybody, young or old, male or female. If you are able to roll a bowl, you can be part of this exciting game. The game is played with four bowls for each player (singles or doubles) or with three bowls for each player (triples teams).

Since 1938, the Frick Park Lawn Bowling Club has been an active club organizing league games and informal bowling, as well as different sorts of club tournaments. We have an informal tournament on the three major summer holidays with a potluck dinner following the games. Last summer we hosted the North East Division Open Championships with bowlers from all over the United States participating. New this year will be "Silly Saturday," which will be an afternoon of fun.

Anybody interested in trying this centuries-old game should contact Hank Luba at 412-782-0848 or Regent Square resident Randy Ober at 412-247-4491. The first lesson is free. If you're not ready to become a member after this introduction, arrangements can be made to try it again for \$10 dollars per person.

Come and try out lawn bowling. Whether you are a "laid back, this-is-only-for-fun type" or a "cut-throat, out-for-blood competitor," you will find your level of play. Everyone is welcome and can find his/her niche. ■

Neighbors Unite Wilkesburg

(NUW)

Working Towards New Leadership for the Borough

A growing organization of residents frustrated with current leadership in Wilkesburg are working to change the future of the borough for the better. NUW stands for Neighbors Unite Wilkesburg, a grassroots organization formed by residents of Wilkesburg who want to make a difference in the community.

Neighbors began meeting informally over a year ago to brainstorm ways to find candidates to run for office and how to get residents involved in local government. This process included lengthy discussions on what issues should be addressed and what should be required of candidates.

Some concerns raised include high taxes, intermittent services, high turnover of management personnel, and leadership. NUW is dedicated to supporting candidates who insist on responsible fiscal management, encourage economic redevelopment, provide sound organizational management, work with county and state governments, and uphold professional ethics.

Over the winter, the NUW board voted to endorse candidates who have an extensive history of community service in block clubs and neighborhood associations and serve the borough on various boards and committees. You can read more about NUW's candidates on their website — www.nuw.wilkesburg.org. On 19-March all of NUW's candidates were overwhelmingly endorsed by the Wilkesburg Democratic Committee.

If you would like to get involved, call Rick Hawkinberry, Volunteer Director, at 412-243-6194. The organization needs help passing out literature and distributing and posting yard signs. NUW is also looking for volunteers to help work the polls. If you can work part of the day contact Barbara Thompson at 412-244-9519. ■

Your House's History

Have you any idea how old (or young) your house is?

Do you know what architectural style it was built in? This information is not only interesting but also helpful — knowing when and how your house was constructed can help in knowing what to update or how to do it well. Fortunately, there are many sources of information on houses in the Pittsburgh area.

You might begin your search into your house's genealogy by doing a deed search. At the City-County Building on Ross Street, you will be able to go back in time by starting with your current property title and using the references to previous deeds and property descriptions. Two deed transactions with a large increase in value within a few months (sometimes with a newly listed house number) will surely point to your home's construction date.

Also at the City-County Building, as well as at the Carnegie Library in Oakland, you can find plans of lots and Hopkins Atlases. Those who have Internet access can also search the University of Pittsburgh's Digital Library (<http://digital.library.pitt.edu/maps/>) for historic maps that will narrow down when your house was built. Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, found in the Pennsylvania Room of the Oakland Library, will also help you date your house while providing details on the original materials used.

Through this information you will be able to determine your home's first owners. A little detective work through U.S. Census records and other biographical information at the Carnegie Library in Oakland will give you insight into who the previous owners were and how they might have lived in your very own house!

Once that you know when your house was built, it will much easier to determine its architectural style. But for information on how to do that you will have to stay tuned to future issues of this newsletter — or continue the detective work on your own! ■

Volunteer Brief Time for Big Results

Give just an hour or so monthly, but make a big impact

The RSCA is looking for someone to volunteer an hour or so of time each month to help ensure that the newsletter gets out. All you need is a computer, Excel, and Internet access to be the Newsletter Distribution Coordinator. Responsibilities are straightforward and already mapped out (though we're always looking for suggestions on how to make things better). Your help is needed!

For more details, please leave a message for Alina at 412-371-2010 or send an e-mail to newsletter@regent-square.org as soon as possible. ■

YES, I want to participate in the 2005 Regent Square Neighborhood Yard Sale

Name:		Phone #:	
Address:		E-mail	
		RSCA Member	Yes or No
3 Hot Items	1		
	2		
	3		

For mapping purposes, my sale will be in the front or back of my home: _____

Payment enclosed: \$7 (\$5 if a 2005 RSCA Member) _____

After completing this form, send it with your check (payable to the RSCA) to: Regent Square Civic Association, Attn: 2005 Yard Sale, 7604 Charleston Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265

_____ I would like to volunteer as block captain for my street.
 _____ Contact me for other yard sale volunteer tasks.

Order Your Mural Poster Today!

Admire the vivid beauty of Regent Square's landmark mural with a limited-edition print signed by artist Kristin Williams.

To purchase a 10"x19" print, please mail in the information below. Proceeds benefit the artist and the RSCA's community activities.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/Boro: _____
 Zip: _____ Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____

RSCA MEMBERS

\$ _____ = _____ qty x \$33.00 / poster
 \$ _____ = _____ qty x \$5.00 shipping/location
 outside Regent Square
 \$ _____ = Total

NON-MEMBERS

\$ _____ = _____ qty x \$38.00 / poster
 \$ _____ = _____ qty x \$5.00 shipping/location
 outside Regent Square
 \$ _____ = Total

Make checks payable to RSCA and MAIL to: Regent Square Civic Association (re: Mural Poster), 7604 Charleston Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265

Orders will be fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis, based on mailed-in order forms and checks received. We regret that any orders over 250 will not be filled. You will be notified by phone, mail or e-mail and your check will be destroyed. ■

Become a 2005 Member of the RSCA!

Support the efforts of the RSCA through you membership dues and/or a donation of your choice.

Please send in this form with your check (*payable to RSCA*) to: RSCA Treasurer, 7604 Charleston Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218

_____ **Residents (adults per household) @ \$10 each;**

or _____ **1 Business @ \$25 ea.**

Name _____
 Name _____
 Name _____
 Street Address _____
 Municipality, State, Zip _____
 E-mail _____

Business Name _____
 Business Owner _____
 Alternate Rep. _____
 Business Website _____

- Notes:**
- Membership year runs Jan. 1st - Dec. 31st - dues received after Oct. 1st will be attributed to the following year.
 - Membership dues are not tax-deductible
 - Contact information is not shared with other organizations
 - For further information, contact the RSCA Membership Chair at 412-371-2010 or membership@regent-square.org

Please contact me to discuss the following activities, ideas, or issues: _____



To contact the RSCA Newsletter:

Newsletter Committee
 Regent Square Civic Association
 7604 Charleston Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265
 412-371-2010 E-mail: newsletter@regent-square.org
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Regent Square Classified

SPANISH TEACHER/TUTOR

State certified; child and adult; 1:1, small groups, home-schoolers
 Elementary tutoring, reading, math
 Cindy Hayko 412-242-5695 or cindyhayko@hotmail.com