

# REGENT SQUARE

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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

April 2006, Volume 26 Number 3

Join us in May at  
the RSCA Community Meeting,  
7PM, Monday, May 1, 2006, at the  
Wilkins School Community Center,  
located at the corner of Milton and  
Charleston Avenues.

## Neighborhood Yard Sale 2006!

**Saturday, May 20, 8AM-1PM**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Regent Square Yard Sale is just around the corner. Last year we had over 100 participating households, and we plan to continue building on our outstanding success! We are planning a few changes this year, most notably the time change. In order to encourage patronage of the Regent Square Business District, we changed the time to 8AM-1PM. Once again, the Wilkins School Community Center will host an Herb and Used Book Sale (see p2), and refreshments will also be available. *(Continued on p3.)*

## Run Around the Square Is Getting Ready

**Saturday, August 26, 2006**

On a very cold day in February, the Run Around the Square Race committee was planning for sun-filled days in August. Even though the race is months away, the push to ensure that everything is in place and ready for the 24<sup>th</sup> running of this great race has begun. This year's race is scheduled for Saturday, August 26, 2006.

Letters detailing the sponsorship levels through which businesses or services may support the race and Regent Square community were sent out in February. Committee members Michele Megarry, Kirk Warner, Mike Pascal, Kathryn Griffin, and Chris Convery sent this year's sponsorship forms to all of last year's sponsors, as well as some new businesses.

Please be reminded that the logo deadline for sponsorship at the various levels is Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006. If you have not received a sponsor form and would like to support this year's race, please let us know by e-mailing [gconvery@aol.com](mailto:gconvery@aol.com).

If you would like to volunteer for any of the many jobs that need to be done prior to the race, the next race committee meeting is Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4PM. The main volunteers meeting will be held Monday, June 12th. The Race is always looking for new people and energy! Show your neighborhood pride: volunteer! ■

## Regent Square Business Directory

**Hot Off the Press for RSCA Members**

The new Welcome to Regent Square brochure, an updated directory of local businesses, non-profit organizations and government agencies, is a beauty! The "very square" listings are sure to be useful in finding what you need just around the corner from your home or place of work.

How do you get one? Become a 2006 RSCA resident or business member. Send in your membership form (found on page 4 of this newsletter), and a Welcome brochure will appear at your door along with this year's membership card!

To further support our local businesses and organizations, the RSCA invites you to visit the "new and improved" business listings at [www.regentsquare-RSCA.org](http://www.regentsquare-RSCA.org). There you will find detailed descriptions of and hotlinks to RSCA's Business Members.

The Welcome brochure is an initiative of the Welcome Booklet & Packet Committee of the RSCA Business Network Group. Volunteers Maureen States, Donna Tamres, and Lisa Turner of Neighborhood Realty and Nancy Thompson gathered information for it, while Joe Cooper-Silvis of The Think Tank designed it and had it printed. The improved RSCA website listings are a result of the hard work of volunteer webmaster Bob McLaren. For information, contact Cathy Brennan at [business@regentsquare-RSCA.org](mailto:business@regentsquare-RSCA.org) or 412-371-2010. ■

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# Parkway Litter Clean-Up 2006

**Sunday, April 2, 2006 at 9AM**

The first litter cleanup of the year of the Parkway Ramps is upon us. Meet at the parking lot below the Center for Creative Play. Work is usually done by 11am. People should dress for the weather ... and be prepared to get a little dirty. PennDOT supplies orange vests and garbage bags. Cookies and water will be provided as well! To participate, contact Babs Peterson at 412-371-2506. ■

# WSCC Herb and Used Book Sale

**May 20, 2006 / Book Sale Only, Sunday, May 21, 2006**

The Wilkins School Community Center is having a Used Book and Herb Sale on May 20, 2006, from 9AM–2PM. Please consider donating your used books. Donations are tax deductible. You may drop the books off at the center anytime, or call to arrange for the books to be picked up. If you need a letter regarding your donation, please include a note stating that and be sure to include your name and address. On Sunday, May 21, 2006 the Used Book Sale **only** will be operating from Noon–3PM and a bag of books will be offered for \$2.00.

If you will be canvassing the neighborhood looking for treasures during the RSCA's Neighborhood Flea Market, consider stopping at the Wilkins School Community Center to rest, relax, and grab a light bite to eat. Coffee, soda, water, muffins, and sandwiches will be available. Proceeds benefit the WSCC playground fund.

If you are a vendor of plants or gardening items and would be interested in selling your wares at this event, call the WSCC at 412-244-8458; send an e-mail to [wscppgh@yahoo.com](mailto:wscppgh@yahoo.com); or visit [www.wscppgh.org](http://www.wscppgh.org). ■

# Wilkins School Community Center

## **Playground Moving Forward This Spring!**

The Wilkins School Community Center is working with Playworld Systems, the Borough of Swissvale, and members of the community to install a new ADA-compliant playground on the community center's grounds. The equipment should be ordered by March 31 with site preparation in early Spring.

Thank you to all who lent their support by attending the WSCC fundraisers, especially the Run Around the Square, for their very generous donation. Much thanks and appreciation are extended to the Mayor of Swissvale, Members of Council, as well as Carmine Russo, Director of Public Works, and Members of the Public Works Department for assisting with the site preparation.

The WSCC needs you to help install the equipment and spread the playground surface mulch. Playworld Systems will supply the supervisors, and community members will assist in completing the build. Community assistance will save the \$3,000.00 installation fee! Once the equipment arrives, a date will be set for the installation. If you would be interested in assisting with the installation, please contact the WSCC at 412-244-8458, [wscppgh@yahoo.com](mailto:wscppgh@yahoo.com), or [www.wscppgh.org](http://www.wscppgh.org). ■

**Contributions:** This edition was edited by Ann Hornak Gaul. Thanks goes to contributing writers from the community or those who provided information for the newsletter. This includes:

- Carrie Webber – 2006 Yard Sale
- Cathy Brennan – Tagline Contest
- Chris Convery – Race Update
- Fred Leff – Spring House Sales
- Alina Keebler – Welcome Booklet
- Rev. Ron Fleming – Mandolin Concert
- Barbara Peterson – Parkway Clean-Up
- Bob Studebaker – Jazz Benefit
- MaryLouise Turano – WSCC
- Joy Goethert – Flea Market & Meal Delivery

Articles may be submitted for publication via post or e-mail. Please visit the web site [www.regentsquare-RSCA.org](http://www.regentsquare-RSCA.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 post office address.

# April Events Calendar

**1-April-2006 | 9AM–12PM**

## **Food Drive**

Non-perishable food donations collected for the Wilkinsburg Food Pantry. Drop off items at church. Food collection first Saturday of every month.

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

**Info:** 412-731-2511 or [www.mifflinave.org](http://www.mifflinave.org)

**2-April-2006 | 9AM**

## **Parkway Clean-Up**

*Meet at the parking lot below the Center for Creative Play.*

**Info:** Call Babs Peterson at 412-371-2506

**3-April-2006 | 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@regentsquare-RSCA.org](mailto:president@regentsquare-RSCA.org)

**3-April-2006**

## **May Newsletter Submissions Due**

E-mail articles and information to  
[newsletter@regentsquare-RSCA.org](mailto:newsletter@regentsquare-RSCA.org)

**8-April-2006 | 10-11AM**

## **RSCA Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

Children under 10 are invited to search for candy- and prize-filled eggs. Small containers to hold your child's treasures will be provided (please leave larger baskets at home).

*Held at the Richmond/Sanders Lot*

**Info:** Call 412-371-2010 or [info@regentsquare-RSCA.org](mailto:info@regentsquare-RSCA.org)

**21-April-2006 | 5:30PM–6:30PM**

## **RSCA Business Network Meeting**

Business owners and non-profits working together for a better Regent Square business district  
*Meeting to be held at Drew Designs, Ltd.*

*1039 S. Braddock Ave.*

**Info:** Call 412-371-2010 or send an e-mail to [info@regentsquare-RSCA.org](mailto:info@regentsquare-RSCA.org)

**1-May-2006 | 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@regentsquare-RSCA.org](mailto:president@regentsquare-RSCA.org)

**6-May-2006 | 9AM–12PM**

## **Food Drive**

See information above under April 1

# Neighborhood Yard Sale 2006!

*Continued from p1.*

Register before the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to be listed on the 2006 Yard Sale Map.

To register, please do one of the following:

- Mail the attached registration form with your payment.
- Call the RSCA Yard Sale Hotline at 412-371-2010. Provide your name, address, phone number, and e-mail, then mail your payment separately.
- Send an e-mail to clwebber8@verizon.net. Provide your name, address, phone number, and e-mail, then mail your payment separately.

Within one week you will receive a confirmation call or e-mail.

How can you maximize your sale and help the neighborhood publicize the event?

- Host your sale in the same location as neighbors (front or back).
- If you have a small number of items to sell, combine your sale with neighbors.
- Tell friends, family, and co-workers about the event.
- Go to the RSCA website and download a poster to hang up at work.

As in past years, we will help you attract customers to the event. The RSCA will:

- List registered participants and their three "Hot Items" in the 2006 Yard Sale Map
- Provide each registered household with a Participant Packet, which includes signs, nametags, balloons and streamers, preparation and sale tips, post-sale ideas, and other useful information.
- Post signs and balloons at both ends of every participating block.
- Advertise in the major papers and publicize the event with more than 60 community organizations.
- Post signs and flyers around the neighborhood.
- Display a large, colorful banner advertising the RSCA Neighborhood Yard Sale across Braddock Avenue.
- On the day of the Yard Sale, flyers will direct customers to the Information Booth. Once there, customers will pick up Yard Sale Maps, promotional materials for our local businesses, RSCA literature, and other items.

If you have questions or suggestions, or would like to volunteer to help the Yard Sale Committee, please Carrie Webber at 412-371-2895 or clwebber8@verizon.net. ■

## When You Think of . . .

### ***What Sentence or Phrase Do You Think Best Describes Regent Square?***

The RSCA Business District Networking Group would like to know. So we're offering prizes to the top three responses. The entries will be judged by a group of marketing and advertising experts. And all Regent Square residents will have an opportunity to vote for the winner among the top three. The winning entry will be chosen as Regent Square's new tagline. The creator of the winning slogan will receive a top prize of items donated by various businesses in the Square. So brainstorm with your family around the dining room table over dinner tonight! Or in the car on your way to soccer practice! And send your entries by mail to RSCA, Attn: Tagline, 7604 Charleston Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265 or send an e-mail to business@regentsquare-RSCA.org attn: Cathy Brennan. Remember: No idea is a bad idea! ■

## Spring Heats Up House Sales

**by Fred Leff**

Although we are in the winter months, the Real Estate market is starting to brew! Buyers are just around the corner and the early listings seem to get better prices because there is little on the market for Buyers to choose.

The new 2006 market has yet to be really tested, and as you may have noticed, there are quite a few homes still on the market from last spring! A sign of either misguided or lack of marketing and/or overpricing. Homes in our neighborhood sell rather quickly if marketed and priced correctly.

***Fred Leff and his wife, Patti, moved to Regent Square in February of 1987. He has been active and successful in the real estate market ever since. You can find more information from Fred at [www.regentsquare.com](http://www.regentsquare.com) under Real Estate.*** ■

## Block Captains

### ***Yard Sale Block Captains Needed***

The Yard Sale committee still needs help to execute the sale. Please consider volunteering us create the participant map and assemble participant and/or block captain packets.

We also need Block Captain volunteers for each block — they are essential to the success of the yard sale so please help! Block captains distribute Participant Packets to houses registered on their street and hang up/ take down balloons and signs at their block ends. To help, call 412-317-2895 or send an e-mail to clwebber8@verizon.net. Your assistance is appreciated throughout the neighborhood. ■

## Pittsburgh Mandolin Orchestra

### ***Spring Concert April 29, 2006 at 8PM***

The Pittsburgh Mandolin Orchestra has presented a wide variety of music in its programs since its establishment in 2002. Selections may include tunes from the grand era of mandolin orchestras in the early 20th century, classical compositions from Vivaldi to Ravel, bluegrass or fiddle tunes, Beatles compositions, Italianate waltzes, fox trots, Celtic airs, or polkas.

Founded by mandolinist Alan Epstein in 2002, the orchestra has played in a variety of area venues, including the Calliope Legends Series at the Unitarian Church in Shadyside, Calliope's concert series at the Carnegie Lecture Hall in Oakland, appearing with Darol Anger and Mike Marshall, Duquesne University's PNC Recital Hall, appearing with Butch Baldassari and Van Manakas, as well as the Aspinwall Presbyterian Church, the Indiana PA New Growth Festival, and the bluegrass Ice Jam festival in Butler.

While orchestra members come from as far away as Somerset, Butler, Bridgeville, Johnstown, and Canonsburg, half dozen members of the orchestra live in Regent Square, Edgewood, and Swissvale so the concert at Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church will have the feel of a homecoming event for the orchestra.

For concert information, please contact Rev. Ron Fleming at 412-731-2511 or [refleming@verizon.net](mailto:refleming@verizon.net). To contact the orchestra, call Dave Agnew at 412.369.8717 or [dfagnew@earthlink.net](mailto:dfagnew@earthlink.net). ■

# Become a 2006 Member of the RSCA!

Support the efforts of the RSCA through your dues and/or a donation of your choice. Please send in this form with your check (*payable to RSCA*) to: RSCA Membership, 7604 Charleston Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218

**Resident(s) (# adults per household) @ \$10 each**      **1 Business @ \$25 ea.**      **\_\_\_\_\_ Donation**  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Owner \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Rep. \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Website \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Municipality, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact me to discuss or volunteer for: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Contact information is not shared with other organizations  
- 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 as a charitable contribution; however, they may be deductible as an expense incurred in connection with a trade or business  
- For membership info: 412-371-2010 or membership@regent-square.org

## Jazz Concert Benefit

**April 29, 6-9:30PM, Mulberry Presbyterian Church**

Bob Studebaker, a jazz disc jockey at WDUQ-FM and a life-long resident of the East End, invites you to a Jazz Concert he is hosting on April 29<sup>th</sup>. It's a fundraiser for a very worthwhile organization: Mulberry Center in Wilksburg. Mulberry Center serves the East End with a senior citizen's center, food pantry, clothes pantry, and counseling services. It houses a Children's Hospital Family Care center and operates a Meals on Wheels program. The concert will help sustain the center's efforts. It's also a good way for neighbors to help out neighbors while having a very good time.

The event will be a celebration of the history of jazz and the band will be led by Chuck Austin, a man who has been prominent in Pittsburgh's jazz community for more than 50 years. He is also president of the African American Jazz Preservation Society of Pittsburgh.

The evening will begin at 6PM with refreshments and with Bob Studebaker leading a discussion of the history of jazz. The band will begin at 7PM and will wrap up around 9:30PM. The venue is Mulberry Presbyterian Church 740 South Avenue in Wilksburg. Tickets are \$10 at the door (\$7 for seniors or students).

Please consider enjoying an evening of jazz for a very good cause. Come have fun! ■

## Annual Flea Market

**Saturday, April 8, 10AM-2PM**

Clean out your attics and bring your unwanted treasures in good condition down to the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood (School St. door), or, for pickup, call Joy Goethert at 731-1640. No clothes, tires or large furniture, please.

If any of folks in the community would like to help sort or set up the week before the sale, they would love to have your help (you'd also get first choice on purchases). Call Joy or Judy at the church (412-241-4613) for info. ■

## Edgewood Home Delivered Meals

**Sponsored by 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 through 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, Jodi Trovato.

Once again we are in need of drivers and runners to deliver the meals; please call Joy Goethert at 731-1640 or Jodi at the center if you can spare two hours once or twice a month. ■

## King Cakes Raise Needed Funds

**Fundraiser Sends Donation to Katrina-Hit Areas**

Sweetie Sweetie Bakery whipped up delicious King Cakes for Mardi Gras and those who bought them knew they were not only getting a sweet treat, but making a donation to help Katrina-hit areas. Each King Cake cost \$10, and \$7 from each cake went to the Swissvale Rotary to help where help is needed. \$1,740.00 was raised! ■



To contact the RSCA Newsletter:

Newsletter Committee  
Regent Square Civic Association  
7604 Charleston Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265  
412-371-2010 E-mail: newsletter@regentsquare-RSCA.org  
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***RSCA Neighborhood Yard Sale – Registration Form***

***Saturday, May 20, 8AM-1PM***

Register before the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to be listed on the 2006 Yard Sale Map.

Name:		Phone Number	
Address		E-mail	
		RSCA Member (Y/N)	
3 Hot Items	1		
	2		
	3		
For mapping purposes, will your sale be in the front or back of your home? _____			
Can you be a Block Captain? _____		Already Registered by Phone/ E-mail? _____	
Payment enclosed:	\$7 RSCA non-member _____ \$5 RSCA '06 Member _____ (make checks payable to RSCA)	Please mail form with registration fee to: Carrie Webber RSCA Yard Sale Registration 1305 Lancaster Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15218	