



RSCA
REGENT SQUARE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The voice of the Regent Square Civic Association (RSCA),
a not-for-profit 501(c)4 volunteer-led community organization,
serving Regent Square's diverse residential and business community.

June/July 2008, Volume 28 Number 5

RSCA May Meeting Minutes

RSCA Board Meeting Recap
Monday, 5 April 2008, 7 p.m.

- "Greetings from Pittsburgh" Film
- Board Nominations
- Community/Activity Budgets
- Liaisons to Municipalities

Join us in July

RSCA Board Meeting, Monday, July 7,
7 p.m. at the Wilkins School Commu-
nity Center, 7604 Charleston Ave.

Check Out the RSCA Website for:

RSCA Board Members
Regent Sq. Business Listing
RSCA Board Minutes
Achieved Email Blasts
Calendar of Events
Community Resources

WWW.REGENTSQUARE-RSCA.ORG

Let Your Shoes Play On

Run Around The Square to Help Recycle Shoes

You can find out all about this summer's 26th annual 5K race and 1.5-mile fun run/walk at www.runaroundthesquare.com. The race is especially popular among children, who can vie for trophies based on their age groups. It is part of the Highmark Youth Challenge, a fitness program in which participants ages 6 to 12 who complete one community race and children 13 to 18 who complete two can receive free registration for the Richard Caliguiri City of Pittsburgh Great Race, held the last Saturday in September.

By early summer, race applications will be appearing at various businesses and other locations throughout the region. Those who have participated in the past should be receiving an application in the mail. For the first time, you can register your entire family or even your dogs on www.active.com.

With the tight economy, save money by registering early. Pre-register by Aug. 19 and save \$6 off the registration fee. Entry fee for the 1.5-mile fun run/walk is \$12 before Aug. 19 and \$15 thereafter. The 5K run fee is \$19 before Aug. 19 and then \$12. The walk also welcomes your four-legged friends. Dog entry fees are \$8 before Aug. 19 and then \$10.

We are asking the community to help the environment as well as a woman with a mission to recycle used tennis shoes. Lisa Ray, a Pittsburgh resident, will provide boxes for shoe collection at the event's packet pickup and registration (Aug. 21 and 22 and the morning of the race at the Wilkins Community Center on Charleston Avenue). After the shoes are collected, she will send them to the Nike Re-use Shoe Program. If you are interested in learning more about the Nike Program please see its website at www.letmeplay.com/reuseashoe. Lisa's goal is to collect 5,000 pairs of shoes at various city races. She collected 800 pairs in her first year.

The race committee would like to thank our 2008 sponsors for their generosity. Proceeds from the race help support the Frick Environmental Center, the Regent Square Civic Association, and Wilkins Community Center. For more information, call 412-422-6562 (press 5) or e-mail Runaroundthesquare@yahoo.com. ■

If Your Garden Grows, Let it Show

Edgewood Garden Walk

The Edgewood Garden Club continues its search within the Edgewood and Regent Square communities for generous, gracious and good-natured gardeners, who will join their group to commune with their neighbors, as well as Mother Nature, by participating in the 7th annual Edgewood Garden Walk on Sunday, July 13. If you are such a gardener, or know someone who is, please call their Garden Acquisition Chairperson Suzan Lami at 412-371-3602. Then, join them on Sunday, July 13, 1-5 p.m. for a lazy summer afternoon among fellow garden enthusiasts as you leisurely stroll through the fabulous variety of gardens found flourishing within the greater Regent Square neighborhoods. The annual Garden Walk has become a marvelous fundraising event, giving them the means to continue their many beautification endeavors throughout our community. Tickets of \$15 will be available beginning June 30 at the C.C. Mellor Memorial Library, One Pennwood Ave., or at Le Mix, 1115 1/2 South Braddock Ave., or by calling Chairperson Jim Burkett (412-241-0480), up to, and including, the day of the Garden Walk. ■

With the Sun Comes Summer Camp

WSCC to Host Summer Camp

This summer, the Wilkins School Community Center will host the 9th annual American Kids Summer Camp (AKSC) for the second year. The camp, which began in 1997 by Maura McCool and Cara Marchione, will continue to provide summer fun for children ages five to twelve. Last year's program was a huge success as it hosted over 60 children and included visits from The We're Holden Puppets Company, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, The Swissvale Fire Department, The Edgewood Library, and Stuffy from the Children's Museum. Programs also included mini-classes on karate given by Kevin Terry, aerobics by Holly Mihm, dance lessons by Kim Curtin, and musical demonstrations by Amy Stubbs.

This year AKSC will again offer two unique sessions, and plans for the program are well underway to ensure that all of the new and returning campers have a fun-filled and educational experience. Activities will include arts and crafts, nature hikes, sports, special guests, and much more.

Session I: Monday, July 28–Thursday, July 31

Session II: Monday, August 4–Thursday, August 7

Time: 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Cost: \$60.00 per child [partial scholarships available upon request]

For more information, or to request a brochure, please contact Maura McCool at AKSummercamp@gmail.com or Kay Wetzel at 412-244-8458. ■

Website Help Needed.com

RSCA Website Needs Backup Support

For several years now, our volunteer webmaster, Bob McLaren, has been doing the job of updating and revising the website in response to community and RSCA needs. While we appreciate his help, from time to time he does need a vacation, so we hope that someone out there who is a little HTML savvy would be interested in offering backup support when needed. If you can help and want to discuss the details, please e-mail Bob McLaren (website@regentsquare-rsca.org). ■

Wi-Fi Comes to Edgewood

CC Mellor Memorial Library Begins Wireless Service

Thanks to State Senator Jay Costa for a DCED grant to create a wireless environment in the C.C. Mellor Memorial Library and Edgewood Community House. Patrons with an active library card can access the internet throughout the adult areas and Fred Rogers Children's Room making research easier for patrons with their own laptops. ■

Contributions: This edition was edited by Jared Delaney with help from Liz Kaplan and Alina Keebler, and layout by Alana Rykala Delaney. Thanks go to community members who contributed articles or information for the newsletter. This month, they include:

- Kathryn Griffin – Race Article
- James E. Burkett – Garden Walk
- Kay Wetzel – Summer Camp
- Nelson Chipman – Regent Square Film
- Greer Mulholland – WiFi Update
- MaryJo Breen – Yard Sale
- Joan Reefer – Volunteers
- Jose Mieres – Tennis Tournament

The RSCA welcomes the submission of articles and calendar events to this Newsletter. Deadline for submission is the first Monday of each month for the next month's issue. Submission does not guarantee publication. The RSCA reserves the right to decline any submission or to edit it for style, length and/or content. For detailed submission guidelines, visit www.regentsquare-RSCA.org, or e-mail newsletter@regentsquare-RSCA.org or call 371-2010 for a copy.

Events Calendar

Mon-Fri June 23-27 | 9AM-12PM

Vacation Bible School

Mifflin Avenue hosts a vacation bible school for local children.

Location: 905 Mifflin Ave.

Info: To register and for information, call the church office at 412-731-2511. Please call Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday June 29 | 9-11AM

Parkway Interchange Cleanup

Local residents meet to clean-up parkway interchange.

Location: Meet at CFCP Parking Lot

Info: To register, please e-mail Barb Peterson Babshiker@aol.com.

Monday July 7 | 7PM

RSCA Community Meeting

Regular monthly meeting of RSCA Board.

Location: Wilkins School Community Center, 7604 Charleston Ave.

Info: To request an agenda item, call 412-371-2010 or e-mail president@regentsquare-RSCA.org.

Sunday July 13 | 8-11:30AM

Nine Mile Run Stream Walk

Discuss the restoration and observe how the techniques are creating habitat for a variety of wildlife in and along the stream.

Location: Meet at the former Center for Creative Play parking lot.

Info: For more information or to register, call Lisa at 412-371-8779 or e-mail lisa@ninemilerun.org.

Monday August 4 | 7PM

RSCA Community Meeting

Regular monthly meeting of RSCA Board.

Location: Wilkins School Community Center, 7604 Charleston Ave.

Info: To request an agenda item, call 412-371-2010 or e-mail president@regentsquare-RSCA.org.

Filming the Square

Filmmakers Honor Regent Square

Regent Square is set to hit the big screen later this year. Two neighborhood filmmakers, Jeremy Braverman and Nelson Chipman, are currently in pre-production with their short film on Regent Square. The film was selected as part of Greetings from Pittsburgh: Neighborhood Narratives, in which local filmmakers produce films that portray the character and stories of the diverse neighborhoods of Pittsburgh. These residents of Regent Square are excited to start shooting during the last week of June. Jeremy Braverman, a Point Park University cinema professor, said, "We are honored to be able to pay tribute to the neighborhood and city we live in." Nelson Chipman, also a cinema professor at Point Park and a new resident, said, "I have lived in many cities and neighborhoods and I have found Regent Square to be the most open and friendly – bar none. I feel very lucky to have ended up here with my wife and two boys."

The film will be shot in Regent Square and takes advantage of the uniqueness of the neighborhood. Locations will

include Hully homes, Westinghouse executive homes, the Regent Square business district, the mural at Braddock and Hutchinson and, of course, Frick Park. The film will be part of a 90-minute program to screen throughout the city as part of the 250th anniversary celebration activities. It will also hit the film festival circuit and be entered into national and international festivals.

Currently, the two filmmakers are working on script rewrites, scouting locations and casting lead roles. The team also hopes to put out a neighborhood casting call as they get closer to shooting. For more information on Greetings from Pittsburgh: Neighborhood Narratives and the filmmakers, visit www.pghneighborhoodnarratives.com. ■

Legume Honored

Local Restaurant Top Ranked

Congratulations go out to Legume for being among Pittsburgh Magazine's 25 Best Restaurants for 2008 and to its executive chef and owner Trevett Hooper for being named this year's Rising Star Chef. ■

Yard Sale Recap

Great Weather, Great Finds

The Yard Sale was very successful. We saw well over 200 shoppers enter our quaint neighborhood. Close to 100 people registered and while our webmaster was out of state and unable to post this on the website, shoppers used maps and lists handed out in front of the Regent Square Theatre to navigate the neighborhood. Multi-colored balloons all over the Square led buyers to all the active corners and into the neighborhood proper. We look forward to next year. ■

Screenie Deals

Regent Square Theater

Becoming a Screenie remains the best deal in town – 12 admissions and 12 popcorns for \$60. Become one soon since prices will be going up on July 1. To find out more about Filmmakers and exhibitions at the Regent Square Theater, check www.pghfilmmakers.org or you can sign up for e-mail updates at www.pghfilmmakers.org/email. ■

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: West Penn Energy Audits, LLC

Home Performance Testing and Retrofits

When Michael Merck started West Penn Energy Audits in 2007, he had two important goals in mind – to help homeowners reduce energy costs and, in effect, to live a more balanced life with the environment. Living in Regent Square, he is reminded daily of the importance the environment and community play in our lives. "Regent Square is the best kept secret in Allegheny County, you will not find a more beautiful and friendly neighborhood with so much to offer", says Merck, "we are proud to be a part of the RSCA."

The 30-year-old Merck, who received his master's degree from Duquesne University in 2005, wants to educate people on the many simple steps they can take to improve the "energy well-

ness" of their homes.

"Every one of these important steps can not only improve your home's energy efficiency," says Merck, "but they can also have a profoundly positive impact on the environment. We want to inspire others to dial-up their energy consciousness. By understanding how we're all part of a much bigger picture, we can work together to build something precious."

Through its comprehensive Home Performance Tests, West Penn Energy Audits aspires to make homes more "livable" while promoting a healthier environment, which, in turn, will help create a more sustainable planet. These tests, which aim at improving the safety, durability, comfort and energy efficiency of the home, cover every-

thing from combustion safety to window and door weatherization to heating and cooling efficiency.

"Most of our energy solutions are very easy to implement," says Merck. "It can be as simple as sealing air leaks throughout the basement and attic or updating your home's heating source. Best of all, besides helping to protect and preserve the environment, these simple changes can even improve the value of your home."

If you'd like more information on West Penn Energy Audits, visit their website at www.westpennenergyaudits.com, or call them at 412-352-3245. ■

West Penn Energy Audits is located at 1121 Savannah Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218.

Red Socks, Red Shoes for Tennis

Local Red Clay Court Host Summer Tournament

The Paul G. Sullivan Tennis Championships will be held at the Frick Park Clay Courts on July 12-20, 2008. This year the tourney will be co-presented by Citiparks and by the new Frick Park Clay Court Tennis Club.

Under the leadership of Paul Sullivan, a Duquesne tennis player, coach and law graduate, the city-sanctioned Pittsburgh Parks Championships were first held at the Frick Park rectangles in 1930. Mr. Sullivan directed the competition until 2001, after which it was renamed in his honor.

The 2008 tournament is open to all amateur players in the Western Pennsylvania area 16 years of age and older; the entry deadline is Tuesday, July 8. Public seeding and draw will be held on Thursday, July 10. For online and courtside registration and more information please visit www.clayfricktennis.org. ■

Volunteerism and the Square

Keep the Square's Appeal Going by Volunteering

If you are reading this article, you most likely live in Regent Square. Most residents live here or have moved here for the unique qualities of this neighborhood. It is comprised of parts of four different municipalities: Edgewood, Swissvale, City of Pittsburgh, and Wilksburg. However, the residents prefer to state that they live in Regent Square and are proud of this gem of a place that has that small town neighborhood quality where people know who lives next door and where folks look out for each other's houses, kids and pets. This special place also has a plethora of community activities such as a monthly newsletter, the huge Regent Square Yard Sale, the Easter Egg Hunt, a children's Halloween party, the Christmas Toy Drive, and the Holiday Lighting Contest, to name only a few.

Well, this place is pretty special and we would like to keep it that way. In order to do that, your help is needed. Yes, you. Each of the events requires people hours to plan and implement. Volunteers are needed to keep these activities going to maintain the sense of strong community you like so much. The RSCA board and those who currently volunteer are comprised of a dedicated and loyal group of residents. However, they all have jobs and families too, just like you, and they cannot continue to do all this work by themselves. So this article is to inform you that if you like activities, which make the community a neighborhood instead of just a few streets in the larger city, then it is essential that you step up to the plate and volunteer for the activities which make this place a neighborhood.

You can contact any of the board members listed in the newsletter or call Joan Reefer at 412-243-3411 to tell us what activities you are willing to participate in making this happen. You all know what volunteering means, so let's work together to keep Regent Square the unique place in which you choose to live. ■



To contact the RSCA:

Regent Square Civic Association
7604 Charleston Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1265
412-371-2010 Email: info@regentsquare-RSCA.org

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PAUL SULLIVAN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS JULY 12-20, 2008 FRICK PARK CLAY COURTS REGISTRATION FORM

Singles Events

(please check one):

- Men Open Singles
- Men Senior Singles (50+)
- Women Open Singles
- Women Senior Singles (50+)

Doubles Events

(please check doubles, mixed, or both):

- Men Open Doubles
- Women Open Doubles
- Mixed Open Doubles

Total Entry Fees (please add total):

Singles (\$8)	\$ _____
Doubles (\$12/team)	\$ _____
Mixed Doubles (\$12)	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature _____

Date _____

NAME OF DOUBLES PARTNER(S): _____

Please mail this form along with check
or money order payable to
'Frick Park Clay Court Tennis Club'

Frick Park Clay Court Tennis Club
P.O. Box 81805, Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

Entry Deadline is July 8, 2008.
www.clayfricktennis.org