



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.

Calling All RSCA Board Candidates

Your Community Needs You

If you are interested in being on the ballot for the next Board term (2009-2011) please contact any existing board member or log onto the RSCA website for more information (see "Board Members Info") Candidates must be a current member of the RSCA, and, if elected, serve three-year terms, attend monthly meetings, and be active on at least one committee.

The board does have some specific needs. Most importantly, a treasurer is needed. While professional accounting or financial background is most desirable, it is not required. We are also looking for a local business owner to provide a link between the RSCA and the business networking group.

This year there are six vacant seats on the board. Of these six seats, there are two members who are eligible for reelection and two seats being vacated by members who have already served two terms, the maximum allowed by the RSCA bylaws.

The deadline to submit nominations is Sunday, September 7, 2008. You may submit your nominations via e-mail through the RSCA website or U.S. mail to the RSCA (7604 Charleston Ave, Pgh. 15218). Simply fill out the nomination form on page 5 of this newsletter or online at www.regentsquare-rsca.org and return it to Carrie Webber, (nominations@regentsquare-RSCA.org). Voting ballots, including candidate profiles, will be available in the October newsletter and the RSCA website. If you have questions, call Carrie Webber at 412-371-2895. ■

26th Annual Run Around the Square

Race Gods Were Shining On August 23rd Run

The 26th anniversary of the Run Around The Square took place on Saturday August 23rd. Many were registered for the romp through the streets and trails of Regent Square and Frick Park for a morning of fun, sweat, laughter, competition, and community spirit. The 1.5 Fun Run/Walk sent about 400 runners, walkers, strollers, and over 30 dogs, all donned with their Run Around The Square t-shirts and dog scarves, through Regent Square. The 5K race was started by the mayor of Swissvale, Danine Swartzweller, and had over 1,300 registered runners.

*** Run Around the Square Winners ***

1.5 Fun Run / Walk			
Name	Sex	Age	Time
Alex Myers	M	17	8:24
Rachel Reynolds	F	14	11:43
Regent Square Firsts			
Caleb Mattson	M	10	10:30
Rachel Reynolds	F	14	11:43

5K Overall Winners			
Name	Sex	Age	Time
Charlie Ban	M	26	16:25
Kelly Knickelbein	F	27	19:40
5k Regent Square Winners			
Paul McCaffrey	M	26	17:04
Karin Byers	F	42	22:00

September 2008, Volume 28 Number 7

Join us in September

RSCA Board Meeting, Monday, September 8, 7 p.m. at the Wilkins School Community Center, 7604 Charleston Ave.

Aug Meeting Minutes

RSCA Board Meeting Recap
Monday, 4 August 2008, 7 PM

- Run Around the Square Update
- Committee Guidelines
- Charter School Update
- Feedback from municipalities on banners & trash cans

Check Out the RSCA Website for:

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

Club Doubles Tournament

Free Tennis Clinics Offered on September 6th and 7th

The next tennis tournament on the Frick Park red clay will be the Doc Greene and Bud Wechsler Doubles Tournament, to be held Saturday and Sunday September 6-7 to coincide with the finals of the US Open in New York. As with other club tournaments, entry is free for all current club members and new signups, and there will be doubles play for all levels including beginners and intermediates. A tennis party with free tennis clinics for both adults and children of all levels is planned for Saturday, September 6 at 4 p.m. In the event of rain, it will be held Sunday, September 7 at 4 p.m. Specially-sized rackets for kids sponsored by the USTA are available as loaners free of charge during this and other special club events.

Funded by player member dues, player and community member donations, as well as local business sponsors and donors, the new Frick Park Clay Court Tennis Club has been restoring and maintaining the Frick Park red clay tennis courts since June 2007. This past July the club co-presented with Citiparks and organized the 2008 Paul G. Sullivan Clay Court Tennis Championships, which attracted over 100 local players to the newly restored venue in Regent Square.

For more information, to take a lesson and get into tennis, and to sign up as a member and play in club tournaments, please visit the club's website at www.clayfricktennis.org or e-mail redclayfrick@gmail.com. ■

Pittsburgh Design Fair

Features of Green Living Highlighted

The 2nd annual Pittsburgh Design Fair for House and Garden is Sunday, September 28 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Grand Hall of The Priory on Pittsburgh's North Side. This year's Design Fair features the theme of Green Living, and highlights a range of eco-friendly services and products such as flooring, windows, kitchens and baths, and landscaping for a healthier, more energy-efficient home.

Local exhibitors in the categories of *gardens and landscapes, interiors, remodeling and renovation, and new construction* will be on hand to demonstrate their products or services, answer your questions, and even sell some merchandise. New this year is an extended demonstration area at the outdoor Blumengarten.

Free parking is available on the street and at the Priory Lot. For more information or to purchase tickets in advance please visit www.pittsburghdesignfair.org. ■

Contributions - This edition was edited by Jared Delaney with articles collected 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:

- Run Update – Kathryn Griffin
- Lawn Bowling – Hank Luba
- Cub Scouts – Melita Carter
- Theater Updates – Ann Turiano
- Tennis Tournament – Jose Mieres
- Halloween Party – Pat DiRienzo
- Tree, Farm Stand & Dumpster – Darrell Rapp
- Board Elections – Carrie Webber

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 email newsletter@regentsquare-RSCA.org or call 371-2010 for a copy.

Events Calendar

Monday Sept. 8 | 7PM

RSCA Board Meeting

Location: WSCC, 7604 Charleston Ave., between S. Braddock and Milton Ave.

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

Thursday Sept. 11 | 6-7:30PM

Swissvale Farm Stand

Get your fresh, local produce and baked goods and breads from Sweetie Sweetie.

Location: Municipal Parking Lot off Washington St. on Center Ave. (next to T's restaurant).

Contact: JoEllen at 412-242-3906 or pafarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Sunday, Sept. 14 | 10AM-1PM

Getting Naked in the Woods

Short bike and interactive workshop on exposing your life purpose; \$40 for VO members; \$60 for non-members.

Location: Frick Park Environmental Center by Venture Outdoors.

Contact: 412-255-0564 x21.

Sunday Sept. 14

Barefoot Gen

The Sunday series for September will present a collaboration between Filmmakers and the Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Location: Regent Square Theater

Contact: Pittsburgh Filmmakers for more information and show times at www.pghfilmmakers.org or 412-682-4111.

Tuesday Sept. 16 | 5:30-6:30PM

RSCA Business Networking Group

Location: TBA

Contact: Cathy Brennan, 412-242-7785, or e-mail business@regentsquare-rsca.org.

Wed-Thus Sept. 24-25 | 7-8:30PM

Selling/Buying Houses Seminars

Neighborhood Realty Services will be conducting two seminars and they will be on "How to Sell in Today's Market" and "How to Buy in Today's Market."

Location: 1028 South Braddock Ave.

Contact: 412-241-4700x11.

Lawn Bowling Avoids Gutter Ball

Local Greens in Need of Your Support

If you are part of the Point Breeze neighborhood or a "Pittsburgher", the Frick Park Lawn Bowling Club hopes you would like to see the historic 70-year-old lawn bowling greens remain part of our city.

In 1989 the City proposed plowing up the Frick Park lawn bowling greens and closing the club to save money. The club offered to maintain the greens and an agreement was made to privatize. At that time, the club had 75 members and the Point Breeze bowlers accounted for 20 of them. They were told this level of neighborhood support was the most convincing argument for keeping the bowling greens and so they remained open.

In 2009 the club's contract to keep the greens is up for renewal. Today they have only 43 members with only 9 from the City of Pittsburgh, and 6 from the neighborhood. The club fears the City will look at these numbers, and once again decide to close the greens and plow them under. You can help demonstrate to the City that the bowling greens are an asset to the neighborhood and to "Pittsburghers".

Membership for the second half of the 2008 season is \$75. The membership entitles you to all the benefit of the greens, free lessons, equipment and use of the facilities. Please make your check to FPLBC and mail to FPLBC c/o H. J. LUBA, 427 Dorseyville Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15215. For more information, please contact Hank Luba at 412-782-0848 or e-mail hjluba@verizon.net. ■

Home Safe Home

City Police Provide Security Survey

While the large privacy fences are good from keeping prying eyes out, they also prevent your neighbors from being able to see if someone is breaking into your house. You have to decide if the added privacy is worth the added risk of an intruder going unnoticed. An alternative might be room darkening shade and curtains.

Also, remember to keep shrubs and trees trimmed so that they are unable to hide either intruders or property taken from you or other residences.

Sensor lights, or photo-sensitive lights, are always recommended. A house with lights surrounding it, not to mention in the interior, is never a good target for a burglar as they provide too much of a chance of someone noticing them. They will move on to a house with no lights.

Remember, Pittsburgh Police provide a free of charge home security survey for all City residents. Any recommendations made are non binding and are only presented to the resident in an attempt to help make the home or apartment safer. ■

Halloween Party to Receive Boos

Committee Members Needed

The RSCA has sponsored a very successful Halloween party for neighborhood children for the past few years. Thanks to Maureen States and others, families have been able to have a fun afternoon.

Maureen is not able to coordinate this year's event, so we are looking for some Halloween-loving Regent Square residents to plan and run our 2008 Halloween party.

If you have great ideas and a willingness to volunteer some time for this event, please e-mail Pat DiRienzo (pmdirienzo@verizon.net). She will organize a planning meeting, share information with you, and get you started. Please RSVP no later than September 12. If we are not able to recruit a few volunteers, we will not hold the Halloween party this year. ■

Cub Scouts

Edgewood Recruiting

Cub Scout Pack 23, which meets in the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood, will be starting up again in September. Cub Scouts is for boys entering 1st through 5th grades. Registration will be on Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m. at the Edgewood Primary School, and will include an orientation for the parents. Parents who registered in May should also attend. The first pack meeting, which all scouts, leaders, and parents attend, will be the following Thursday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

If you miss the registration on the 10th, come on the 18th. The summer has been a fun time for scouts old and new, including an overnight campout, go cart races, and day camp.

If you have questions, please call Melita Carter 412-731-6097 or e-mail at osbornmp@westinghouse.com. ■

Run Around the Square (continued from cover story)

The 1.5 Fun Run/Walk had some special visitors: FROGGY's Dave Anthony gave out all of our 1.5 and 5k awards this year and was a great new addition. Rita's Italian Ice, FUZE, D's Dogz and Beer, and Eat n' Park Smiley cookies, Wise chips, Synder pretzels, and Giant Eagle Bagels were available for all finishers. This year's Del Monte Pet Dog Division provided treats to all the canine finishers. A special thanks to the Pivarota Family for the generous use of electricity and water for the Fun Run finish line. Check out the race www.runaroundthesquare.com to view all the fun activities.

All results can be found at www.runhigh.com who has reported that 99.9% of the "Champion Chips" were returned. As usual, the runners were greeted by the motivational sounds of steel drums, guitars, trumpets, saxophones, violins, tubas and even bagpipes to spur them on. Mike, the Balloon Guy, donned many of the runners in festive balloon hats. Five mystery runners voted for the best water stop. Our Water Stop sponsors this year were First Commonwealth Bank, Hamovitz-Allstate Insurance, USSD-United Studios of Self Defense and Club One. The winner was the Ballet group from First Commonwealth Bank, Hamovitz-Allstate Insurance.

Thanks for going above and beyond the call of duty to add some enjoyment to the day. All the effort, spirit and enthusiasm put forth by the water stop sponsors certainly inspired the runners and added spirit to the run and the local business community.

The Mystery Award went to the first person to register online. This year we had record on-line registration through Active at www.active.com. A special thanks goes out to volunteer Pat DiRienzo, who registered all of the runners, whether they mailed in their registration or completed it

on line. It was a huge job and a huge time commitment.

The proceeds from the race go to the Regent Square Civic Association, the Frick Environmental Center (FEC), and the Wilkins School Community Center. The race will contribute \$1 per runner to the FEC. Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so by writing a check to: Treasurer, City of Pittsburgh-FEC Restoration Fund. All the groups provide programs and activities that enhance the Regent Square neighborhood. If you would like to help the WSCC by donating to the handicapped access fund, please send you checks to WSCC Handicapped Access Fund, 7604 Charleston Ave. Swissvale, PA 15218.

The Race Committee would like to thank all of the very generous Major Ironman Sponsors – Kefalos and Associates, Dunning's Grill, Citi-parks, Rita's Italian Ice, D's Sweets and Treats Deli, Del Monte Pet Products, Elite Runners & Walkers, First Commonwealth Bank, Randi Hamovitz - Allstate, Neighborhood Realty Services, Allegheny General Hospital, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Comcast, Gymkhana, Consumer Produce, Wilkinsburg-Penn Joint Water Authority, Giant Eagle, Paul Gleason DMD, Green Mango, Eyes on Regent Square, NuGo Bars, Whole Foods, Froggy, Kathleen Schneider JD, CPA, West Penn Energy Audits, Clips Salon & Day Spa, McBroom's and D's Six Pax & Dogz, The Think Tank Group, and Snyder. There were many more sponsors that were listed on the 1,500 race packets. The race could not have happen without these very generous sponsors. Please show your appreciation by using their service or product.

The race could never have happened without the help of over 200 cooperative volunteers. This year's community spirit was again, in full force. The Race Committee is to be commended, for yet again, another job

well done. Their generous time commitment starts in January and continues until race day to plan a race of this magnitude. An extraordinary, thanks goes out to Donna Bour and Pat DiRienzo, Nicole and Mitch Patterline, Cari Marty, Chris Powell, Virginia Lynn, Amy Girska, Kip Kilpack, Barb Peterson, Elizabeth Mullagh, Todd Green, Brenda and Jackie Laffey and Neal Harrison – they all have special jobs and the race would not happen without them. Special thanks go to my husband Brian Griffin and the RS playgroup moms who helped me with the kids when I needed it. Thank you. If you would like to be involved with the next race, e-mail Kathryn Griffin at runaroundthesquare@yahoo.com. It will not be long before planning starts for next year's race on August 22.

We could not do the race without the services of the following tow groups. Special thanks goes to Phil Costanz of the Frick Environmental Center who is the liaison between the Citi-parks services and the race. We also want to thank Dick Wolford and the Frick Park Maintenance crew. The trails, and especially Fern Hollow this year, required many hours of care. Many thanks for the jewel that Frick Park is because of your efforts.

A very special note of thanks goes to Dunning's Grill and Wilkins School Community Center for being such a runner friendly, neighborhood restaurant. They are very generous in many ways to the success of the race. Since 1982, people have been coming from all over for this race because of its distinctiveness. This is in no small measure due to the spirit of the community that makes it so. Thanks to all the sponsors, volunteers and residents that made the 26th anniversary of the Run Around the Square and Regent Square itself, something out of the ordinary. ■

RSCA Board Nomination Form

Deadline to Submit Nomination: Sunday, September 7, 2008

Is the nominee a member of the RSCA? yes no unknown

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's Preferred Phone: _____

Nominee's Address: _____

Nominee's E-mail Address: _____

Nominee's Municipality: Edgewood Pittsburgh Swissvale Wilkinsburg

Nominee is (check all that apply): Yourself Friend or Neighbor Regent Square Business Owner

Number of years in Regent Square: _____

Please write a short paragraph detailing the Nominee's relevant experience and/or interests, how the nominee would make a positive addition to the RSCA Board, what the nominee hopes to gain by participating on the board. This profile will be included in the newsletter.

Family Friendly

Regent Square Offers Family Films

Pittsburgh Filmmakers is pleased to announce this fun and family-friendly monthly film series. Programmed to coincide with the school year, the third Saturday of each month will bring a new or classic kid's movie to the theater. The Children's Museum will be partnering with Filmmakers to provide creative on-site activities before each event. Tickets will be \$5 for children, \$8 for adults. Below are the first two titles of the series. Make sure to mark your calendars.

The Wizard of Oz will be shown on Sept. 20, at 2 p.m. Bring the family and enjoy an old-fashioned afternoon matinee. Then it's off to see the wizard, scarecrow, the tin man, the cowardly lion, Dorothy and Toto, too. This beloved Technicolor classic is even more charming on the big screen.

Handmade Puppet Dreams will be presented in association with the Black Sheep Puppet Festival on Oct. 18 at 1 p.m. This is a selection of puppet film shorts by independent artists exploring their handmade craft specifically for the camera. Stylistically, the films run the gamut from marionettes to finger puppets to paper cutouts; each artist articulating their own unique approach to animation and film. ■

Greetings From Pittsburgh, PA

Short Film Celebrating Regent Square in Theater Soon

Greetings from Pittsburgh: Neighborhood Narratives is a collection of short films celebrating the neighborhoods and residents of the city. Nine short films produced by filmmakers with a special connection to the neighborhood have been compiled to create this feature length project. The following neighborhoods will be highlighted: Regent Square, Oakland, Downtown, Southside, Strip District, Hill District, Bloomfield, Lawrenceville, and Homestead. The Regent Square film will be shown on Thursday, Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. For prices and tickets, please contact the Regent Square Theater.

For more information please contact Andrew Halasz or Kristen Shaeffer at greetings@pghneighborhoodnarratives.com or visit www.pghneighborhoodnarratives.com for more information. ■

Toot Your Own Horn

Donated Instruments Needed

The Imagine Environmental Charter School at Frick Park is seeking donations of musical instruments for use in the classroom and in performance. Good quality, sturdy instruments that will endure frequent use by young children would be most welcome. The school especially needs a small upright, console piano that can hold its intonation and is free of major flaws, and also hand drums and other percussion instruments made of natural materials.

If you are willing to donate any of the instruments listed above, please contact the school at 412-247-7970 or via e-mail at Jon.McCann@imagineschools.com. Potential donors can also visit the school's website at www.environmentalcharterschool.org for more information. ■

Party Requests

Party Needs Advance Notice

For a street to be blocked for a block party in Swissvale, a letter to the borough manager is required at least 30 days in advance of the planned party date. The Borough Council will then need to approve the request at their regular board meeting on the first Wednesday of the month. There are also requirements that must be met (e.g., ending time, cleanup). Please contact the borough at 412-271-7101 for more information. ■

Square Planting

Plans for Tree Planting

The planning for the planting of trees this fall in the Swissvale and Wilkinsburg portions of the Square is beginning. The Nine Mile Run Watershed Association is working with the Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Committee and the Wilkinsburg Shade Tree Committee. The current estimate of the planting will be on a weekend in October or November.

More information will be available in the RSCA newsletter and on the web site in the months ahead. If you are interested in being contacted as more information becomes available, please contact Darrell Rapp at 412-247-7676 or rappd99@aol.com.

In the very early stages of planning is a planting in the Pittsburgh portions of the Square for Spring 2009. If you live in this area of the Square and would like more information about receiving a tree for planting in front of your house, please contact Darrell (see contact info above). ■

Farm Stand

Local Fruit Stops Near

Fresh, local produce and baked goods will be available at a Farm Stand in Swissvale starting Thursday, August 14 and running every other Thursday through September 25 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. If these four evenings are successful, the community will work for a full farmers market to start next spring.

This is a joint effort of the Swissvale Borough and the Farmer's Market Alliance. The two community groups who have provided support are the Swissvale Rotary and the Swissvale Economic Development Corp. (SEDCO). And further thanks go to Town Center Associates for helping to facilitate.

The location of the Farm Stand will be the Municipal Parking lot off Washington Street on Center Ave (also accessible from Dickson Street off of Noble Street).

For more information, please contact JoEllen at 412-242-3906 or pafarmersmarket@gmail.com. ■

Dumpster News

Ordinance Required

The Borough of Swissvale has established an ordinance requiring a permit for placement of a dumpster on borough streets. So if you have a remodeling/construction project, make sure you contact the borough before blocking parking or risk getting fined. Contact the borough at 412-271-7101 for more information. ■

Website Calendar

Click to Keep Updated

Have you visited the RSCA website's Calendar of Events lately? If you haven't, you are missing out on a great list of things going on in and around Regent Square. Make sure to be in the loop by visiting <http://regentsquare-rsca.org/calendar.htm>. A special thanks goes out to Regent Square resident Eli Silk who is doing a great job entering the information. And, if you have any events to be considered for the calendar, please send them with at least a week's notice to info@regentsquare-RSCA.org or call 412-371-2010. ■

Book Worms

Help Local School Collect Books

The Environmental Charter School will proudly open its doors this fall. The community is being asked to help build the library by donating children's books, magazines, educational DVDs, books on tape/CDs, tape players, individual CD players, and outdated, unmarked nature and animal calendars. The types of books that are requested include children's picture books, nonfiction, and reference books (atlases, almanacs, dictionaries, thesauri, post 2002 encyclopedias). There is a great need for children's first chapter books and fiction. At this time Disney books or television character books are not being collected, with the exception of 'Berenstain Bears' books.

Drop off for items will be in the front school lobby at 829 Milton Street. Please fill out a donation form so that they know who to thank. The contact person for this book drive is Marla Ferency. Marla's phone number is 412-247-0539. Her e-mail is book-drive@marla.ferency.com. Thank you for helping to build a vibrant school. ■



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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