



TREE CITY TIMES

A newsletter for the community of Forest Hills

ATTENTION RESIDENTS

Important information about changes in the Earned Income Tax Collection System under Act 32 is found on pages 2 and 3 of this issue.

A letter explaining the change and what you can do to ensure that the borough receives your tax dollars is on page 2.

A form called the Certificate of Residence is on page 3. **This form should be completed and submitted to your employer.** Most employers have already had their employees complete this form. Additional copies may be made or you can find the form on the borough's website: www.foresthillspa.org.

Information on the new law may also be found at: www.newpa.com by selecting GetLocalGovSupport,>Act32-LocalEarnedIncomeTax.

PARKING PERMITS

How do you feel about purchasing overnight parking permits? We would like to hear from you. On page 9 is a survey we would like you to fill out and either mail, bring to the borough building, or you can send us an e-mail. Please find details inside.

WINTER 2011-12

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Borough ordinance—snow removal

Under borough ordinance (Chapter 21, Section 321) property owners are required to remove snow and ice from walkways within 10 hours following the end of a snowfall. The following is specific information from that borough ordinance:

- Owner, occupant or tenant of any property fronting borough streets must remove snow and ice in front of and alongside the property within 10 hours after snow has ceased to fall. If snow/ice ends after 6 p.m., it may be removed any time before 10 a.m. the next morning.
- The ordinance is applicable to all businesses, institutions and apartments.
- If the property owner fails to comply, the borough may proceed to clear all snow and/or ice from the sidewalk and collect expenses from the property owners plus 10 percent.
- If the property owner fails to comply, the owner may also be fined not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000 for each violation as specified in the ordinance. It is considered a separate offense for each day or portion of a day in which a violation exists.
- designees and to any other officer or agent that the borough manager or borough council deems appropriate.
- Under Chapter 1, Section 123 of the Borough Code of Ordinances, Forest Hills Borough Police Officers, chief of police, code enforcement officer and the borough manager are authorized to issue tickets for the violation of any provision of this code, except as specified. This ticket shall be in the form approved from time to time by resolution of borough council and shall, unless otherwise provided in this code, provide the violator with the option of pleading guilty to the violation prior to the issuance of a citation by paying a minimum fine of \$25. At the discretion of borough officials named in this section, a citation may be issued instead.
- Full and complete information is available on line or in the borough office.

Other requirements imposed by ordinance in handling snow and ice removal:

- It is illegal to place/shovel snow or ice on any borough street, road, alley or way.
- Property owners are required to keep the area of the street or highway located between one roadway and the right-of-way line in a safe and useable condition. This includes paved footpaths, sidewalk and unpaved grass plots.
- Under Chapter 1, Section 122 of the Borough Code of Ordinances, a violation of the code or other borough ordinance and the service of a notice of violation are delegated to the borough manager, the police chief, borough police officers, the code official/building inspector, the zoning officer, the code enforcement officer and their

Policy for handling violation of the snow removal ordinance as issued by the borough manager is as follows:

1. Following a snow and/or ice event within the timeframe specified in the ordinance (Chapter 21, Section 321), the borough's code enforcement officer and/or police officer will notify property owners of the borough's intent to issue a citation/ticket to those whose sidewalks/public walkways are impassable and/or unsafe due to accumulation of snow and/or ice as judged by the observing officer (Chapter 1, Section 123).
2. Within two hours of the notification outlined in Number 1, the officer will issue a formal citation/ticket to

Continued on page 4



Dear Forest Hills Resident:

Earned income tax collection procedures change for all Pennsylvania communities on January 1, 2012 under PA Act 32. At that time, all employers must begin withholding the 1% earned income tax from employee pay checks. Employers will forward the tax to a designated collection agent who will then forward the taxes collected to the appropriate municipality (Forest Hills) and school district (Woodland Hills) where the employee lives.

The intent is to streamline tax collection by regionalizing the process. The collection process is in the hands of an agent designated by a joint committee of area local governments. Forest Hills is represented by the Allegheny County Southeast Tax Collection Commission (ACSTCC) which has designated the Keystone Collection Group as the entity responsible for handling tax collection in this region.

Earned Income Tax amounts to 1% deducted from your paycheck with half of that tax returned to the borough and half to the school district. This represents a sizeable portion of revenue to both taxing bodies for use in maintaining parks, roads, public safety services and many amenities.

How will this change affect residents and taxpayers in Forest Hills? Employers will require workers to complete a Certificate of Residence to assist in determining where taxes collected are distributed. You can assist the borough and school district by ensuring that your information is collected and that it is correct. Only with correct information can your taxes be appropriately distributed to Forest Hills and Woodland Hills and thereby benefit the community and school district where you live.

How can you help? If you have already completed a form you can make sure that the correct information is included on it. A Political Subdivision Code must be included on each form. The code for Forest Hills is PSD 721007. If your employer has not provided such a form to you or if you feel something may have been entered incorrectly, we are providing a copy of that form on the adjacent page in this issue of the Tree City Times. You may copy this form and submit one form for each person employed in your household to the respective employer payroll department. The form is simple to complete. The top section of the form includes a space for your name, address, social security number and code number (we have completed the code section for you). You must sign the bottom of the form under the heading "Certification" and submit the form to your employer.

Ultimately, the employee is responsible for paying the earned income tax. Therefore, correct information benefits you and ensures that you will not be subject to any penalty or interest for late payment.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Morus
Borough Manager/Secretary



RESIDENCY CERTIFICATION FORM

Local Earned Income Tax Withholding

TO EMPLOYERS/TAXPAYERS:

This form is to be used by employers and/or taxpayers to report essential information for the collection and distribution of Local Earned Income Taxes. This form must be utilized by employers when a new employee is hired or when a current employee notifies employer of a name and/or address change.

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION - RESIDENCE LOCATION				
NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial)			SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 20px; display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> </div>	
STREET ADDRESS (No PO Box, RD or RR)				
SECOND LINE OF ADDRESS				
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER	
MUNICIPALITY (City, Borough or Township) Borough of Forest Hills				
COUNTY Allegheny	RESIDENT PSD CODE <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: flex; justify-content: space-around; width: 100%;"> 7 2 1 0 0 7 </div>		TOTAL RESIDENT EIT RATE 1%	

EMPLOYER INFORMATION - EMPLOYMENT LOCATION				
EMPLOYER BUSINESS NAME (Use Federal ID Name)			EMPLOYER FEIN <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 20px; display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> </div>	
STREET ADDRESS WHERE ABOVE EMPLOYEE REPORTS TO WORK (No PO Box, RD or RR)				
SECOND LINE OF ADDRESS				
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	PHONE NUMBER	
MUNICIPALITY (City, Borough or Township)				
COUNTY	WORK LOCATION PSD CODE <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: flex; justify-content: space-around; width: 100%;"> </div>		WORK LOCATION NON-RESIDENT EIT RATE	

CERTIFICATION	
Under penalties of perjury, I (we) declare that I (we) have examined this information, including all accompanying schedules and statements and to the best of my (our) belief, they are true, correct and complete.	
SIGNATURE OF EMPLOYEE	DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)
PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS

For information on obtaining the appropriate MUNICIPALITY (City, Borough, Township), PSD CODES and EIT (Earned Income Tax) RATES, please refer to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development website:

www.newPA.com

Neighbors helping neighbors

REMINDER

With the winter weather approaching, heavy snowfall puts the elderly and those with health conditions physically unable to handle the daunting task of keeping the snow off sidewalks and paths, thus leaving many stranded in their homes. To ease the situation, the borough asked volunteers or others to allow us to place their name on a list so that those in need of help know who they might call. The list is posted at the borough office. It is up to those in need of help to make arrangements with a volunteer or paid snow removal service on that list. The borough only compiled the list as a service and takes no responsibility beyond that, including making arrangements for help, for the quality of work done, etc. Others who may be interested in helping will be added to the list if they contact the borough office at 412-351-7330. Those who think they may need this type of service should review the list in advance of winter weather. Let's all try to be a good neighbor and help when help is needed.

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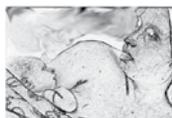


Borough ordinance—snow removal

Continued from page 1

- the offending property owner a copy of which shall be forwarded to the district justice office within five days of issuance.
3. Following the issuance of a citation/ticket, the officer shall contact the borough's public works foreman who will immediately either:
 - a. Arrange for one or more members of the public works crew to immediately clear the walkway as required in the ordinance, or:
 - b. Arrange for a separate contractor who is authorized by the borough to correct the situation as required by ordinance.
 4. The public works foreman shall be guided in the decision of which option in Number 3 to exercise based on the availability of crew members and will refrain from scheduling one or more crew members to perform this work if it requires overtime.
 5. In all cases, the foreman will only authorize necessary work required by ordinance on public portions of sidewalks/walkways used by pedestrians and will not clear driveways, walkways between the public sidewalk and the home, etc.
 6. Because this is considered emergency work to alleviate an immediate safety hazard, the foreman, in exercising Number 3b will engage the first available contractor who meets the following criteria:
 - a. Is immediately available within a length of time deemed reasonable by the foreman.
 - b. Has insurance including workman's compensation insurance.
 - c. Will accept payment after billing the borough for the cost of the work and equipment involved.
 7. Neither the borough nor the borough's contractor will be held responsible for any damage to property or for any accident due to slipping, falling, etc. subsequent to clearing the walkway.
 8. Within two weeks following the weather incident and any borough or borough contractor work, the public works foreman will present information to finance office staff and the officer issuing the citation/ticket concerning the full cost of work, equipment, etc., required to remedy the property owner's failure to act under the ordinance. Finance office staff will prepare and submit a bill to the property owner including any costs incurred by the borough and/or the 10 percent penalty set forth in the borough ordinance with the requirement that payment to the borough is required immediately upon receipt.
 9. Failure to make such payment in a timely manner may subject the property owner to further citations, fines and penalties as authorized by law and may result in a lien placed on the property for the full amount of the bill including any penalties, interest, court costs, filing costs or other cost that the borough may be required to pay.

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Sewer Fees and storm water management borough ordinances

Borough council passed several ordinances back in 2009. Most were procedural but two stand out as important to residents.

First, council approved ordinance #985 that establishes, formally and in writing, the purpose and use of the borough sewer fee dollars and procedures for delinquent collections. While the sewer fee has long been generated to handle corrective action work related to sanitary and storm sewers, council wished to place the policy into law so that there would be no misunderstanding as to the use of the fee.

Two sections, shown here, govern the use of the sewer fee:

§18-602—Sanitary Sewer Repairs and Corrective Action Work

The borough establishes a second capital fund known as the Corrective Action Fund or Capital 2 Fund for the express purpose of funding all needed and related repairs, corrections and additions to the sanitary sewer system in the borough especially those items that may be required by the consent order entered into with the Allegheny County Health Department.

1. Sanitary sewer work that may be funded through this fee will include but not be limited to:
 - a. All sanitary sewer consent order related work based on the consent order signed with the Allegheny County Health Department on January 14, 2004 via Resolution 1020.
 - b. Purchase of and repairs to all equipment and vehicles used for sewer repairs under this part.
 - c. Televising and cleaning
 - d. Repairs
 - e. Additions to lines not directly related to new construction of private buildings or homes which should be handled by a developer.
 - f. Engineering and legal costs directly related to consent order activities or other sanitary work.
 - g. All costs related to billing for service.
 - h. Personnel costs including any overtime.

§18-603—Storm Water Management and Storm Sewer Repairs

The borough's Corrective Action Fund as established here shall also fund all needed and related repairs, corrections and additions to the storm sewer system in the borough especially as relates to those items that may be required by the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) requirements established by the state of Pennsylvania. Storm water management and storm sewer items that may be funded through this fee will include but not be limited to:

2. Purchase of and repairs to all equipment and vehicles used for sewer repairs under this part.
 - a. Televising and cleaning
 - b. Repairs
 - c. Additions to lines not directly related to new construction of private buildings or homes which should be handled by a developer.
 - d. Engineering and legal costs directly related to storm sewer activities or storm sewer work.
 - e. Personnel costs including any overtime.

Information on the handling of delinquent sewer fee payments can be found in the ordinance on the borough's website (www.foresthillspa.org). Click the "information for residents" tab near the top of the page then click "code of ordinances and forms." The full ordinance will be found in the list of "ordinances adopted since last update."

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Although the hard work on the Ardmore median plots is complete for another year, there's something about the chill of the winter days that keeps **The Late Bloomers Garden Club** full of enthusiasm for the next planting season. This past season the plots once again blossomed with the color of annual plantings along with the beauty of the returning perennial plantings. The Late Bloomers hope that everyone who passed through the borough enjoyed the bursts of color and hope the plantings added some joy to your daily commutes. The meetings during the winter months will be full of ideas and plans for next year. The Late Bloomers, who also created and organize the Farmers' Market, will begin plans for the 10th year of that event which will open the first Friday of June 2012. The Market Task Group will be inviting back your current favorites and extending invitations to others to keep the market fresh and new each year.

The Late Bloomers hope that everyone has had the opportunity to check out the Farmers' Market and club websites. Don't forget to 'like' us when you are "facebooking." If you would like to join The Late Bloomers Garden Club please email them at latebloomersgardenclub@gmail.com for the location of the next meeting. Each second Thursday of the month you'll find the group at one of the members' homes enjoying friendships and sharing ideas. Everyone is welcome

The Late Bloomers Garden Club wish to thank the Forest Hills Community for another successful year at the Friday night **Farmers' Market**. The ninth season welcomed back familiar vendors who have joined them year after year as well as some new faces offering a variety of items. The community supported their venture through heavy rain, overwhelming heat and some chilly evenings towards the end of October. But support the market you did and they are so grateful that their brainchild has been so popular with the borough. The Late Bloomers are busy planning year 10, opening next June and look forward to seeing everyone at the Presbyterian Church Parking Lot at that time. Once again, thank you Forest Hills!

Three water tanks and collection gutters are in the final stages at the Urukundo Orphanage, school, and village in Rwanda. This is an overture to the **Forest Hills Rotary Club's** donated solar-powered pumping system to bring water from a spring at the bottom of the mountain to the top, which will mean the transport of 8,800 gallons of clean water per day to about 2,500 citizens of Rwanda.

See the website of the orphanage and school at www.hopemadereal.org. (contributions to this wonderful effort of Arlene Brown can be made via the website). They particularly need goats, which cost \$30, so let them get your goat (mark contribution for goats). It will be the herd shot across Africa. Arlene sold her home and her belongings at age 72 and went to Rwanda to start the orphanage and school. Eight years later, there are 44 orphans under her care and 390 students at the school. She is taking abandoned orphans and not only giving them security and the necessities of life, she will turn them into some of the most educated citizens of Rwanda.

The water tanks are installed at the guest house, the barn (to water the livestock) and the gutters are being put in for the third tank at the nursery and girl's residence. These will be additional devices to complement the solar powered pumping system, which were started back in October.



Water tanks installed at a girl's residence in Rwanda.

Sullivan Super Service, a local plumbing, heating, and cooling company, has been donating \$500 to local non-profit organizations each month as part of their Sullivan Shares program. This program, which began November 2010, allows one local non-profit organization each month the opportunity to receive the donation to use toward funding as they see fit. Back in July, Sullivan donated to the Forest Hills Senior Center.



Sullivan Super Center donating \$500 to the Forest Hills Senior Center (from left): Marion Clair, the Forest Hills Senior Center Manager; Kathy Gaberson and John Sullivan, owner of Sullivan Super Service.

Boy Scout Troop 90 meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church (FHPC). It is open to all boys ages 11-18. Cub Scout Pack 90 meets Thursdays at 7 pm at FHPC. It is open to all boys ages 6-11. For more information contact Beth Brucker at bruckerfamily@verizon.net. For more information, visit the scout website: www.foresthillspack90.us.

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Whether you're a seasoned pro or a novice just looking for an opportunity to meet new neighbors, now's the time to join the **Forest Hills Manor Bowling League**. The league extends an invitation to all Forest Hills residents (individuals and couples) to bowl on Tuesday evenings at the New Great Valley Lanes in North Versailles. For more information, call Larry or Sandy, evenings at 412-271-6319

The Forest Hills Community Service operates a free bus service within the Borough of Forest Hills for senior citizens. **The Flivver** service was started over 30 years ago by the Forest Hills Lions Club and Forest Hills Rotary. It is free because of donations made by the citizens, the donations in the box on the Flivver and the volunteer drivers.

The bus is a 10-passenger vehicle (but does not have handicapped lifts) and takes eligible senior citizens (55 and older) who live in the borough to the senior citizens center, doctors appointments, the hairdresser, banks, drug stores, etc. The Flivver makes daily trips to Giant Eagle; and on Sundays, the Flivver takes seniors to church.

The Flivver operates Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and on Sunday mornings.

Riders can call the Flivver number—412-519-3955 and be picked up usually within 5-10 minutes after the call. This is a great and well needed service for our seniors.

The Flivver is in urgent need of new drivers to replace those who move away or who can no longer drive. You can be trained in a matter of a few hours. There are so many of

our seniors who would be grateful for any help offered to them. Those interested in volunteering for three hours a day, twice each month, can call Don Newcomer at 412-708-0511.

For over 50 years, the **Forest Hills Lions Club** has served the communities less fortunate. They supply glasses to the needy, and collect your used glasses for distribution to third-world countries. The collection boxes are found in Bob's Barber Shop in Chalfant, Churchill Vision Center, Beulah Church, Cost Building-Optical Shop (second floor), Jodi-B's Restaurant, Lanigan Funeral Homes, Peter Paul's Hair Salon, Forest Hills Senior Center and Toby's Pub in Chalfant.

Their fund-raisers include White Cane Days, Sight Seal Mailing and Holiday Nut Sale. Over the years, the club has provided seeing-eye dogs; a Braille writer and an eye implant operation for a child. They help to support Beacon Lodge, a summer camp for the blind. They also constructed a War Memorial and assisted some needy war veterans.

The club recently elected officers for 2011; President Jeff Van Dyke, First Vice President Linda Mallick, Secretary Sam Cappuccio and Treasurer Henry Van Dyke.

Men and women interested in becoming a member should call 412-829-7888.

Are you or someone you know caring for a loved one with memory loss, dementia or Alzheimer's disease? Gain support and education at **Juniper Village at Forest Hills'** free Monthly Caregiver Support Group Meetings. The meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at

Juniper Village at Forest Hills. For more information or to RSVP to attend, contact Juniper Village at 412-244-9901. Everyone is welcome!

Celebration of Trees—Looking for something unique to do this holiday season? Why not visit Juniper Village at Forest Hills Fourth Annual Celebration of Trees Holiday Display. Tour over 25 trees decorated by local businesses in a variety of themes and styles. Vote for your favorite tree and support a variety of local charities. The display runs December 4 to January 4 and is free and open to the public daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Juniper Village is located at 107 Fall Run Road in Forest Hills, just off of Ardmore Boulevard. For more information call 412-244-9901.



Juniper Village Celebration of Trees' Display

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Municipal News



Safe driving enforced in Forest Hills

by Councilman Steve Karas, Police Chief Chuck Williams and WHSD Transportation Director Jerry Chessman



The draw of our community has always been its many amenities appealing to families. The pool, our parks, the recreation programs, and the convenience to schools, public transportation and employment, are all things that attract people to Forest Hills. Our residents also appreciate the work of our police force and specifically their presence and visibility controlling traffic, and making the streets safe for school children on their way to the bus stop, people out for a walk, and children and adults riding their bikes in their neighborhoods.

Since becoming police chief, Chuck Williams has worked with members of council and community members to identify streets which have a history of safety issues and implement cost-effective solutions. You may have noticed the yellow street signs with a parent and child walking.

These have been placed at highly active bus stops and were mutually purchased by Forest Hills and the Woodland Hills School District to increase awareness of bus stop activity and slow traffic. Remember to slow down when you see these signs, be aware that children are near, stop when the flashing lights are on, and respect all crossing guards. The guards are an important part of the overall safety of our children and are to be given the same respect as any of our police officers. If you choose to drive your children to school, please leave a few minutes early and drive safely. Being a few minutes late is better than risking an accident.

The recent paving of Braddock Road between Ardmore and Brinton features a wider shoulder to accommodate walkers. While this road is maintained by the county, and a sidewalk was deemed not to be within the budget, the borough's engineer and public works foreman worked with the county for an affordable solution. Since placing sidewalks on every street is neither affordable nor feasible in our community, we have added several stop signs and reduced speed on several streets throughout the borough. Our police will also be enforcing the speed on streets that carry a higher volume of traffic or are among those that have received a high number of complaints. These streets include: Ardmore, Braddock, Sherwood, Fairfax, Filmore, Greensburg Pike, and Cascade. Our police have adopted a zero tolerance policy on all of these streets. Residents are asked to respect the exact speed limit, be patient, watch for children and pedestrians and inform the police of any vehicles which continually disregard our traffic safety laws.

Other enforcement mechanisms are speed humps, lines for measuring vehicle speed, the large speed trailer and speed detectors displayed in various areas. Keep in mind that pedestrians always have the right of way. Take a few seconds to slow down for cyclists and give them at least six feet when you pass them. It is also important not to pass a cyclist and then turn right in front of them. New groups such as Share the Road East, have been formed to educate drivers on the importance of being aware of cyclists as well as encouraging cyclists to obey the rules of the road. Remember to slow down even below the posted speed when turning corners or coming to the top of the hill. Not all streets have sidewalks and children and walkers can be difficult to see in these areas. This is a fact of living in the eastern suburbs.

While it is not economically feasible to modify all of our streets for maximum pedestrian safety, install sidewalks everywhere and continuously patrol for traffic safety, it is possible for all of us to be very aware of our driving habits. Please slow down, be aware of pedestrians, children, and bikes and help our police keep us safe.

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chuck Williams, Chief of Police

I am happy to report that several cases, a burglary and numerous thefts from vehicles, have been solved with the arrest of several juvenile suspects, and recovered items have been returned to their owners. The juveniles involved are now dealing with the justice system.

The winter season always comes with additional concerns; fewer daylight hours, and holidays create opportunities for criminals to take advantage of unsuspecting victims. When shopping, cover purchased items left in your vehicle so they will not be easily seen, or place them in the trunk. Always remember to lock your cars doors. Walk to your car with others if possible and keep your cell phone handy should you need it in a hurry.

If you see suspicious vehicles or persons in your neighborhood, please call 911 immediately and if possible get a description and license plate if it can be done safely. I have mentioned this in previous articles and it has been helpful in making arrests. Thank you for your continued help and support.



RESIDENT SURVEY

How do you feel about the possibility of purchasing Forest Hills Borough Overnight Street Parking Permits?

2071 Ardmore Boulevard • Pittsburgh, PA 15221-4644

Recently, the borough office has received requests from residents asking to have the opportunity to purchase overnight street parking permits to allow parking between the hours of 2 to 6 a.m. only.

Before this request would be considered and made available, borough council would like to know how the residents feel about purchasing these permits.

Please fill out the form below and either mail or bring it in to the borough office by December 31, 2011. You may also provide this information by e-mail via our survey e-mail at: foresthillspa@aol.com. Thank you for your cooperation.

Are you in favor of purchasing overnight street parking permits (2 to 6 a.m.)?

Yes No If not, why? _____

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Electricity Generation Customer Choice and Competition Act

More and more people in our area are receiving mail and seeing advertisements from companies trying to get them to switch their electricity provider. While Pennsylvanians have been allowed to choose their electricity provider since the 1990s, it is only recently that competition in the industry has really heated up. So can consumers really save money by switching? Are there any risks involved? Let's review the facts.

In 1996 the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed the Electricity Generation Customer Choice and Competition Act, which separated the generation of electricity from its distribution. While regulated electric utilities continue to be responsible for distribution, consumers may choose an alternative generation company. This is similar to switching long distance companies while keeping the same local phone company. In our area, Duquesne Light is responsible for all distribution, but consumers in Forest Hills currently have a selection of nine alternative generation suppliers, according to the papowerswitch.com website maintained by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. For comparison sake, the website lists the basic rate per kilowatt hour charged by the nine alternative suppliers, along with Duquesne Light's default rate of 9.33 cents for standard customers who do not switch. Currently (as of September 28, 2011), all of the alternative suppliers are offering rates below Duquesne's, so there is certainly the potential to save money on electric bills—as much as \$15 per bill for a consumer using 700 kilowatt hours each month. Some alternative suppliers may also have rates that are not listed on the papowerswitch.com website for different contract lengths, additional renewable energy content, or special offers, so consumers may want to visit the websites of different providers or call them on the phone before making a decision.

In order to save money, you may need to consider more than just today's listed price rates. Some companies offer contracts that fix the rate for a specific period of time, while others allow your rate to float up or down each month depending on market conditions. Some contracts include a cancellation fee if the consumer decides to switch to another supplier before the end of the contract period. And there are factors other than price to consider. Some alternative suppliers offer products with up to 100% renewable energy content. One supplier offers airline miles and other incentives. Another permits people to get involved in its sales via an Amway-style direct marketing arrangement in order to earn money or help a charity. So there is certainly much to think about when making a decision.

As for the potential downsides, diminished reliability is not one of them. No matter which supplier you choose, Duquesne Light delivers the electricity to your house and is the company you call if there are any problems with your service. Duquesne Light will continue to send you your bill. In fact, selecting an alternative supplier does not in any way change the electricity that you use. Physically, there is no way to determine where that electricity actually comes from. All that your electric meter can say is how much power you take from the grid. You have to pay someone to put that electricity into the grid, and in Pennsylvania you can choose which supplier to pay. However, if you are on an assistance program like CAP that helps you pay your electric bill, you will no longer receive assistance if you switch to an alternative supplier, so you would be better off staying with Duquesne Light. Otherwise, as long as you know whether you have a variable rate or fixed rate and whether or not there is a cancellation fee, and also keep in mind that it can take up to two billing cycles for a supplier switch to be processed, there should be no unforeseen surprises. So happy shopping everyone! *Information provided by Citizen Power, Inc.*

The Borough Bulletin Board

CURB THOSE LEAVES

Residents are reminded that raking their leaves into the streets and catch basins or sewer grates may seriously clog and damage the borough's sewer system, resulting in sewage backup into homes and streets. Leaf collection signs are posted in various neighborhoods letting residents know when the Public Works Department will be collecting leaves in the area. Residents may rake leaves to the curb only during leaf collection—beginning of October through mid-December, weather permitting.

DON'T BLOCK THE SNOW PLOWS

The Public Works Crew asks that residents not park cars in the street or in cul-de-sacs when it snows. Plowing equipment cannot operate safely or efficiently. Another reminder—do not shovel snow from sidewalks or driveways into the street. This is a violation of Pennsylvania Law. Check the borough's website for winter weather tips.

Clip and Save REAL ESTATE TAX DATES TO REMEMBER

Borough real estate tax bills are mailed **March 1**.

Due at discount by **April 30** or due at face by **June 30**.

School real estate tax bills are mailed **July 1**.

Due at discount by **August 31** or due at face by **October 31**.

TAX TIME

All unpaid 2011 Forest Hills Borough real estate tax bills are currently due at the penalty amount indicated on the tax bill. These taxes will be collected by the tax collector, until December 16. After this date, any unpaid 2011 borough real estate tax bills will be forwarded to the delinquent tax collector for collection and additional penalties will apply.

If you have chosen to pay your 2011 Woodland Hills School taxes in installments, the third and final installment payment is due by February 28.

If you have recently refinanced, paid off your mortgage or have an address change, please contact the tax collector as soon as possible to update this information for the upcoming real estate tax billing in 2012.

For questions regarding real estate taxes, please call Janet Sullivan, Tax Collector at 412-351-7348.

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December 23, 26, 31, January 2

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Administration: x200

Arborist: Ted Gilbert x205

Building Inspector and Zoning Officer:

Bill McChesney x204

Code Enforcement Officer: Don Branzel x211

Public Works Foreman: Jim Theilacker x207

Marketing Director: Cindy M. Simm x220

Assistant Recreation Director: Lynn Cassidy x206

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor: Marty O'Malley x240 or 412-351-7349

Tax Collector: Janet Sullivan x203 or 412-351-7348

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Vice President / Public Safety Chair:

William Tomasic x242

Public Works Chair: Mike Belmonte x244

Finance Chair: Markus Erbeltinger x246

Operations & Policy Chair: Devon Wood x243

Planning & Zoning Chair: William Burleigh x247

Borough Property Chair: Steve Karas x245

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Borough Council Meetings:

7 p.m. in council chambers, borough building, 2nd floor

Third Wednesday of each month, December 21

Committee Meetings:

Meet in council chambers, borough building, 2nd floor

Borough Property, Public Works, Public Safety Operations & Policy: December 6

Finance, Planning & Zoning, Committee of the Whole: December 1

Shade Tree & Shrub Committee: TBD

Planning Commission: TBD

Recreation Board Meetings: First Monday of each month, TBD

Borough Council has not established meeting dates for the new year.

*Meeting dates are tentative until approved, and are subject to change.

Call the borough office for more information.

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Relay For Life—Pittsburgh East



American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Pittsburgh East July 14-15, 2012 Location: Penn Hills High School Stadium 10 a.m. to 10 a.m. www.relayforlife.org/papgheast.

Relay for Life is like a carnival to fight all types of cancer. It is a 24-hour walkathon because cancer never sleeps so neither do we. It has a carnival-type atmosphere with food, fun and games with the proceeds benefiting cancer research, cancer education, advocacy and patient services. Teams of 10-15 friends, family, co-workers or group members split up the time each taking a turn walking. During the event, we celebrate survivors with a survivor reception, remember those who lost their battle with a luminaria ceremony and fight back against the disease by encouraging people to take preventative measures against it.

The Relay for Life of Pittsburgh East includes the following communities: Forest Hills, Pitcairn, Plum, Monroeville, Penn Hills, Churchill, Swissvale, Edgewood, East Pittsburgh, Turtle Creek, Wilkins Township, Wilkinsburg, Braddock, Rankin, Chalfant, North Braddock and Braddock Hills.

The survivor dinner is free for any cancer survivor and one guest to attend. It is at 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 14. Please register at www.relayforlife.org/papgheast or contact Jennifer Jones. The luminaria ceremony is scheduled for 9 p.m. on Saturday, July 14.

Ways to get involved:

- Join the planning committee
- Form a team
- Donate for a luminaria to honor a survivor or to remember a lost loved one
- Invite a survivor to attend the survivor reception or attend as a survivor
- Attend the event and enjoy the food, fun and entertainment

For questions, please contact Jennifer Jones at 412-919-1054 or jenn.jones@cancer.org.

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School news

This year at **Christ Lutheran Church and School**, the theme has been Psalm 133:1 "How good and pleasant it is when God's people work together in unity."

The students, staff and families of Christ Lutheran are working together to make a difference in the lives of some people in third-world countries. They are using an "Ark" Theme which also stands for Acts of Random Kindness. Their monthly offerings are being used to purchase a fishing boat through an organization called Samaritan's Purse for a family somewhere in Asia. They then will be purchasing animals (two by two) to send to third-world countries. In addition, they have a bulletin board with a tree, whose adornments change monthly. This tree notes students and staff who are caught performing acts of random kindness. Some upcoming events to note will be their

Annual Cookie Walk which will take place on December 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event allows the participant(s) to purchase a container of their choice and to fill the container with as many cookies as it will hold (but the lid must close).

The students will participate in the Live Nativity which takes place on December 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. There will be singing, and afterwards, they will be serving hot chocolate and cookies. This event is free and all are welcome.

If you like chili, their annual chili cook-off will take place on Sunday, February 26, after the 11 a.m. service. Come and try all the different kinds of chili, and vote for your favorite. For those interested in entering, call the church office. They hope to see you at one or all of these events, and you are also welcome to attend any and all of their church services throughout the holiday season and the New Year. Come and visit the school, and see their new interactive technology at work.

The theme is Catholic Schools: Faith, Academics, and Service. The St. Maurice School community has planned this schedule:

- A noon mass in St. Maurice Church on Sunday, January 29, will be followed by an open house in the school. The entire Forest Hills area is welcome to attend.
- Monday, January 30, the students will show their appreciation to various community groups such as the police, firefighters and senior citizen centers in Forest Hills.
- Wednesday, February 3, is their day to say 'thank you' to all those who volunteer in the school or do special things to benefit the school. A prayer service will be held in the church at 1 p.m., and will be followed by a reception in the cafeteria.
- Thursday, February 2, the younger students will shadow the older students in their classes.
- Friday, February 3, for the closing of the week, Father Kris Stubna, Secretary for Education in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, will celebrate the closing Liturgy for the students at 9 a.m.

St. Maurice Middle School Science Teacher, Mr. Angelo Lamanti is very excited and pleased to announce that the University of Pittsburgh Mobile Science Lab came to



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St. Maurice School – Each year catholic schools in the United States celebrate their schools and students. Typically, Catholic School's Week will include masses, open houses and activities for students, families, parishioners and the community at large. This year, Catholic School's Week will be held from January 29 until February 3.



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St. Maurice School on November 1 and 2, 2011 and will return on February 3. The seventh and eighth grade students will be welcomed aboard the University of Pittsburgh Mobile Lab to be part of the world-class research of the university for their Middle School Science Department. The Mobile Lab is a self-contained traveling laboratory that allows students to use current high-end equipment to perform laboratory investigations. It is the latest exciting addition to a very active K-12 science education outreach effort sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh Department of Biological Sciences. When the mobile lab arrives, the student's will be rolling up their sleeves and working one-on-one with real scientists in the lab. They will conduct experiments using high-tech equipment to discover the ways everyday science impacts their day-to-day life. Prior to the lab, on October 19 every student in grades 6, 7 and 8 took part in an ethics course, so they are able to participate in the animal program, "Zebra Fish Caffeine" on the mobile lab beginning February 3. The presentation of the Ethics of Animal Research will allow the students to participate in subsequent mobile lab visits involving zebra fish embryos for three years.

The Pittsburgh Show Offs is a club organized to offer variety entertainers a place to practice, amateurs a place to learn, and those interested in circus skills and vaudeville arts a place to explore how much fun it can be to *show off*. Children of all ages are welcome. Come one, come all! Ever thought about running away and joining the circus? Here's your ticket!

Before the doldrums of winter take hold, join them every Thursday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. at Union Project, 801 N. Negley Avenue—a \$5 donation is requested. This community center is housed in a restored church, replete with magnificently restored stained glass windows and a vaulted ceiling. The setting is heavenly, the experience vaudevillian. Adult supervision is required, but web access is available, so bring your lap top and enjoy a cup of coffee, or you, your son, or daughter can become a 'show off.' Learn to juggle, unicycle, yo-yo, flip hats or spin tops.

Run away and join us. Show up and show off. Circus skills and tricks abound. Bring your friends and observe, play, learn, and enjoy. It's great fun, and with a little practice—you'll soon be showing off. PittsburghShowOffs@groups.facebook.com. See you there!

Trinity Christian School, located at 299 Ridge Avenue in Forest Hills, has been providing an outstanding Christian education for Kindergarten through grade 12 for more than 50 years. The public is invited to the following events at Trinity:

On Friday, December 2, at 7 p.m., the Elementary Christmas Musical Program will be held in the school auditorium. Before and after the program, the Christmas Shoppe will be open in the school library, featuring quality hand-crafted items and baked goods. Proceeds benefit the school. On Thursday, December 15, at 7 p.m., the Band and Choir Concert will be presented in the school auditorium.

On Saturday, February 25, Trinity will host an Open House from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for interested families wishing to learn more about the school. Trinity follows a classical approach to learning, combining knowledge, reasoning and communication across the spectrum of subjects. The school also offers extra-curricular activities such as drama, band, choir and sports.

Trinity is accepting applications for Kindergarten through grade 12. For more information or to schedule an appointment to visit, call the school at 412-242-8886. You can also visit the website at www.trinitychristian.net to learn more about the school and its mission, faculty, curriculum and programs.

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Neighbors celebrate Bryn Mawr Farms welcome wall

Residents of Bryn Mawr Farms inaugurated the Gateway Project welcome wall on Sherwood Road with a block party on August 21. The event—which celebrated the completion of the stone-veneered, 100-foot-long planter box and mosaic sign—was attended by more than 100 neighbors and business sponsors. Also in attendance were State Senator Jay Costa, Jr., Mayor Marty O'Malley, and Frank Porco and Devon Wood from Forest Hills Borough Council.



The completed Bryn Mawr Wall

A \$5,000 grant was received from the Department of Community and Economic Development, and Forest Hills Borough contributed \$5,000 in matching funds. An additional \$2,000 came from the Steel Valley Authority through a community revitalization grant.

The project was coordinated by Bryn Mawr Farms Organization and co-chaired by Jane Freund and Jeanne Premozic. They would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their generous contributions:

Juniper Village has been a wonderful neighbor for this project, helping them raise more than \$2,000 by hosting both a pancake breakfast and a holiday arts festival. They also contributed \$250 to purchase decorative grasses for the planter boxes.

Paul Kimicata Landscaping planted the grasses and contributed flowers—and has pledged to plant annuals and keep the boxes watered each summer.

Major donors of \$250+ are: Forest Hills Rotary Club, AquaGuard Systems, Richard Dodaro Plumbing, Patrick Lanigan Funeral Home and Pearce Orthodontics.

Donors of \$100+ are: APR Associates; Bryn Mawr Women's Club; Cathy Addressi/ReMax Heritage; Allegheny Chesapeake Physical Therapy; Bell Supply; Consolidated Clinical Trials; Bob Cowan Tax & Financial Services; Evashavik, DiLucente & Tetlow; Foli's Bar & Grill; Handelsman Family Practice; Hunan's Palace; Late Bloomer's Garden Club; Medical and Surgical Eye Associates; and Premier Medical Associates.

We greatly appreciate the in-kind donations of Heaven's Scent Pastries, Notion Potion Web Design, Construction Junction and Standard Ceramics. Volunteers Mike Burke and Kevin Connelly were instrumental in helping our contractor, Nicholas Ridge, with the wall construction.

There are many individuals who contributed to the success of this project, and everyone is listed on the Bryn Mawr Farms Organization website. Friends and neighbors have purchased more than 80 commemorative tiles that will be permanently installed at the site. As of this writing, there are still spaces available for anyone who wishes to purchase a tile at \$100. Each 6" x 6" clay tile is handmade by a local artist and inscribed with a name or personal message. For more information, please go to www.brynmaurfarms.org or call 412-241-4043.

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Students Create Green Club to Promote Recycling, Saving the Earth

by Stephanie Rex, Editor, ForestHills-RegentSquarePatch
www.foresthills-regentsquare.patch.com

Students from Edgewood and Forest Hills started a club at Sacred Heart Elementary in Shadyside to encourage others to recycle every day.

Two students at Sacred Heart Elementary School are determined to make a difference through a recycling club they initiated in an effort to help save the planet.

“We started a green club last April and we are continuing it this year,” said Jordan Schmitt, 11, of Edgewood. Schmitt and her friend, Sophia Salvi, 11, of Forest Hills, decided to start the club after the school principal held an assembly voicing her concerns about students who were not recycling water bottles in the cafeteria. “We



By recycling paper using the ABITIBI Bin, Forest Hills residents have collected over 24 tons of paper and saved over 400 trees in 2010; while at the same time raising money for the Forest Hills Volunteer Fire Department. Another example of how going green can get us some green! Please use the bins at the municipal building and the Forest Hills Pool Parking Lot to recycle your paper. Remember we also have a corrugated cardboard bin at the municipal building.

decided to make a green club because the problem came up,” Salvi said.

Through the green club, which now has more than 20 members, gardens have been planted at the school while the students also sort recycling materials at lunch and pick up litter. While some students leave caps on the water bottles, preventing them from being able to be recycled, Salvi and Schmitt stay after to take them off. “It’s not all about picking up trash—last year, we did a fundraiser where we painted faces to raise money for the Jane Goodall Foundation,” Schmitt said.

It’s also been a source of fun for the two friends, while at the same time, making them feel good. The club meets twice a month. “We are going to carve pumpkins and use the pumpkin seeds to make more pumpkins and start a garden at the school,” Salvi said.

The pair also are determined to make Sacred Heart an official green school, and are already working towards completing the checklist needed to gain that recognition. Some of the requirements include installing all LED light bulbs, hanging up posters about reducing water and electricity use and other awareness activities.

“It’s important to make a difference in the world because people aren’t really doing their jobs to not litter and do stuff like that, so we want to try and do that,” Salvi said. Schmitt also said their efforts always go back to the bigger picture of helping the environment. “We don’t want things to be polluted,” she said. “If you don’t recycle, it will all just be wasted and sit in the earth in a landfill for years and years and that’s not good for the earth.”



Jordan Schmitt and Sophia Salvi

The girls also enjoy meeting like-minded students through the green club they helped to create. “We want to make a difference in the world and so do those people, and I like that,” Salvi said.

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C.C. Mellor Memorial Library

C. C. Mellor Memorial has something for everyone. Here's a sampling of their offerings. Visit their website for more details: www.ccmellorlibrary.org.

For Kids Story Hours

Join Branch Manager Brenda Joyce-May for weekly Preschool Story Hours at the Forest Hills Branch at 10:30 a.m. every Monday. There will be plenty of stories, finger plays, songs, games and a craft. No sign up is necessary. If you can't make this program, there are story hours at:

- C.C. Mellor Edgewood, Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 10:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.
- Churchill Borough Building, 2400 William Penn Highway, Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
- Wilkins Community Center, 110 Pepper Rd, Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

Evenings programs will be held the third Wednesday of the month. School age children can join us for stories, crafts, games and a snack. This is a great opportunity for children who cannot attend daytime programs. Programs run from 5 to 6 p.m., and you can sign up in advance at the library or call 412-824-3567. Registration is required by the Monday previous to the scheduled date.

Special Programs

Join Children's Librarian Miss Lauren for a Valentine's Party at the library in Edgewood on Saturday, February 11 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. There will be plenty of stories, crafts and a snack. Children in grades kindergarten to grade 5 must register by February 4 at 412-731-0909.

Income Tax Preparation

Once again volunteers will be helping senior citizens and those with low incomes with their Federal and State Income Taxes at no charge. Tax preparation assistance is done by appointment only, with morning, afternoon and evening slots available. Space is limited so call the library in Edgewood, 412-731-0909, after January 2, to make an appointment.

C. C. Mellor Annual Appeal 2011

Please consider a gift to the library during the 2012 Annual Appeal. Your gift makes it possible to operate a branch in Forest Hills and to provide the materials and services that residents depend upon.

Make your contribution by check or by credit card through PayPal. Check contributions should be sent to C.C. Mellor Library, 1 Pennwood Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15218. Go to www.ccmellorlibrary.org, then click on donate. If you are designating your gift for the Forest Hills Branch, please make a note. Your gift is welcomed throughout the year.

Save the date—CCM Annual Book Sale - March 18-22

Mark your calendars for this big event, one of the best book sales around!

They'll kick off the weekend with a Preview Party on Friday, March 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. for area residents. Cost is \$20 a person. No dealers please. Main sale days are Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The bag sale runs on Monday, March 26 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Tuesday, March 27 from 9 a.m. to noon. The library is accepting donations for the sale and needs volunteers to help. Contact Sally Bogie if you can lend a hand.

Book Clubs for Adults

Join one of their many book clubs. The Forest Hills Branch hosts the PALS Book Club on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. Join them for great discussions of contemporary fiction and non-fiction.

Drop Dead Mystery Book Club meets on the second Wednesday at 7 p.m. of each month in the board room at the library in Edgewood. There is always lively discussion of books by popular mystery writers.

The History Book Club each month discusses non-fiction works on U.S. history, world history and contemporary events. This group meets in the board room at the library in Edgewood on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

A complete list of upcoming titles is available on the library's web page www.ccmellorlibrary.org. Copies of books are available for checkout at the circulation desks. No advance registration required.

Volunteering

The library could always use volunteers to join their great team. Thanks always to Ron, Hank, Eileen, Gwen, Paul, Norm, Ester and Connie. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, call the library to find out when you are needed.

LIBRARY LOCATION AND HOURS

C. C. MELLOR MEMORIAL LIBRARY: 412-731-0909

Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FOREST HILLS BRANCH: 412-824-3567

Monday, Friday, Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday 4 to 8 p.m.

Visit their website at, www.ccmellorlibrary.org

And now for the older adults...

Forest Hills Senior Center operated by the Eastern Area Adult Services is a comfortable and friendly place to socialize, volunteer or join in the group activities.

They serve a daily lunch, Monday through Friday with advanced reservations. Stop in and get the latest information on programs and services offered from Marion Clair, center manager—Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Forest Hills Senior Center is located on Avenue D and provides a variety of programs and services to persons over the age of 60.

For more information, call Eastern Area Adult Services at 412-824-5610 or visit their agency website at: www.EAAS.net.

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Forest Hills

Forest Hills Swim Team News

The Forest Hills Swim Team capped another great summer swim season in 2011. Led by head coach Graham Bodner and assistant coaches Andrew Finlay and Nick Ricci, the team finished in second place in ESA Division II, compiling a season best 5-1 record in regular dual meets. The team finished in third place in the Division II Championship meet, hosted at the Forest Hills Pool on Saturday, July 23. The team comprised 85 individual swimmers from 52 families in the borough.

We'd especially like to recognize "Beast of the Meet" winners: Fiona Connolly, Eric Sciulli, Greg Sorek, JD Galloway, Shea Shovlin, Heidi Schmidt, Erin Huang, Nathan Huang, Sarah Letson, Ashley Azzarello, Colin Blaney, Caden Allaire, and Sara Kennedy.

Congratulations to Greg Sorek for winning the Brendan Foley Award. This award is given out by the coaches annually to a swimmer who shows unique passion and energy for the Stingrays.

Congratulations to Ashley Azzarello and James Premozic for winning the Justine Clougherty Award. The coaches give this award to a boy and girl whose dedication and desire shine through, allowing not just that individual but the entire team to benefit from their drive.

Congratulations to Shea Shovlin and Eric Sciulli, repeat winners of the Joseph A. Gabella Award. This award stands as the oldest award bestowed upon a girl and boy swimmer; it is the only award voted upon by the swimmers. It was created to commemorate Mr. Gabella's spirit and dedication as the "father" of the swim team.

Next summer the Forest Hills Swim Team will compete again in ESA Division II and will likely host the Championship meet. Come join the FUN!

2011 Synchronized Swim Show



The Forest Hills Junior Tennis Program once again enjoyed a successful season in 2011. The tennis team won the regular-season championship of the 10-team Western Pennsylvania League, and reached the championship match of the first-ever end-of year tournament.

APPLY NOW FOR SUMMER RECREATION POSITIONS

The Forest Hills Recreation Department will be accepting applications for next summer. Available positions are:

- ✓ **Pool** – Manager, assistant manager, lifeguards, concession-stand workers, cashiers, maintenance and utility workers, swim team coach, assistant swim team coach, synchronized swim team coach and assistant synchronized swim team coach. Applicants must be at least 15-years-old and have required certification. Positions run from Memorial Weekend through Labor Day Weekend.
- ✓ **Tennis** – Head coach and assistant coach. Both positions involve lessons and coaching of a youth team.

Applications will be available at the borough building on and after December 5. Applications will also be available on the borough's website: www.foresthillspa.org. Applicants must fill out the borough application and the recreation application to be considered. **Also, the borough requires all part-time and full-time applicants to have a background check done. The borough will pay any fees associated with the background checks. However, any individuals seeking full- or part-time employment or a current employee seeking a promotion which involves regular contact with children must obtain an Act 33/34 clearance at his or her own expense.**

Completed applications must be returned to the borough office by December 30. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

For more information on any of these positions, please call Cindy Simm, marketing & recreation director at 412-351-7330 x220.

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(Winter session is currently underway and will end January 30)

Spring Session – 12 weeks

Dates: Mondays, February 6 to April 23

Time: 6 to 8 p.m.

Location: Pool Lodge

Fee: \$40

Deadline for pre-registration: January 23

Guts and Butts – Feel the burn!

Bust those guts and butts doing a 60-minute workout with Instructor Miriam Messick who will lead you in a program of squats, leg lifts and overall toning of the lower body and core.

Spring session – 12 weeks

Dates: Wednesdays, February 15 to May 2

Times: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Pool Lodge

Fee: \$40

Deadline for pre-registration: January 23

Scrap-booking

Organize your photographs with this intuitive program taught by Creative Memories Consultant Fran Vislay. This class is geared towards beginners and intermediate participants who want to learn how to preserve their most cherished photographs. Please bring two to three photos to the first class, and learn how to create a Short Story card using simple,

quick tools. The completed story card can be displayed or added to an album. Learn tips on simple card making, specialty pages, traditional and digital organizing and cropping techniques. Vislay will help you to start a memory album with those old photos in need of some well-deserved attention. Each class includes: free idea sheets and attendance gifts, free use of cropping tools and ideas books. Workshop supplies and variety scrap-booking sets are available for purchase. For more information or questions about the class, call Fran at 412-824-7197.

Spring Session – 12 weeks

Dates: Tuesdays, March 6 to May 22

Time: 6 to 10 p.m.

Location: Forest Hills Senior Center (Avenue D)

Fee: \$55

Deadline for pre-registration: February 15

Dog Obedience

This class is open to dogs of all ages and tailored to cover all stages of training. Arlene Halloran, certified dog trainer and breeder, will give a basic introduction to obedience commands, teach basic disciplines such as house breaking and chewing, and show you how to develop an enjoyable relationship with your new puppy. Class size is limited to 10 dogs; if necessary, a second class will be added.

Spring Session – 12 weeks

Dates: Thursdays, March 8 to May 24

Time: 7 to 8 p.m.

Location: Pool Lodge

Fee: \$40

Deadline for pre-registration: February 15

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The borough no longer accepts cash transactions for any recreation classes. We will only accept checks or money orders.

Please make sure to send in your payment before the last day of pre-registration. If the borough does not receive the minimum of five participants by the registration deadline, a class may have to be canceled.

Send registration form with your check or money order made payable to:

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Attention: Recreation Department

If registering for more than one class, please submit separate checks or money orders for each registration. Please also identify the class name on your payment.

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For Your Information

Garden Club of Forest Hills

The Garden Club of Forest Hills has been in existence for over 89 years and still going strong. Their mission today is the same as it was in the beginning—to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening in our community, to aid in the protection of native plants, trees and birds and to encourage civic plantings.

As we approach 2012, the club will start off the year with a new president plus exciting ideas for educational programs at their monthly meetings. Topics are varied and have included programs on herbs, bees, landscaping, rain barrel and water conservation, Japanese flower arranging, proper techniques in taking pictures of your gardens and so much more. The club also takes field trips to gardens and horticultural centers.

The club also does fundraising to support their ongoing projects such as their May Auction, Perennial Plant Sale, selling Palm Flex Gloves, Fall and Spring Bulb Sales and Poinsettia Sales for the holidays. They also have their Ways and Means Table which includes door prizes at their monthly meetings that also earn money for their philanthropic budgets and community beautification.

Over one thousand bulbs have been planted along Braddock Road and neighboring parks and every spring, our community will get to see the explosion of color from all of these daffodils. The club's most recent project is a Butterfly Garden in Forest Hills Park—plants and bushes with a concrete bench where you can sit and relax. The club will still maintain the grass and lily beds on Ardmore Boulevard along with the Hillside Garden.

Editor's Note: I wish to thank Stephanie Rex and Chief Williams for their contributions to the newsletter.

The club is always looking for potential new members. They meet the first Thursday of every month (except January and February) at 10 a.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 353 Ridge Avenue. For more information, please call Membership Chairperson Kathy Koroskenyi at 412-818-7877, or email k.koroskenyi@gmail.com.

Forest Hills AARP

The Forest Hills AARP #2556 meets on the second Monday of every month at the Forest Hills Pool Lodge. There will be no meeting in January. On Monday, February 13, members and friends will gather for a special Valentine Party meeting. Polito the Magician will be present to entertain the group. Monday, March 14, there will be a presentation from the Juniper Village representatives. At every meeting, the Tours Committee will have news of up-coming tour opportunities and sign-up sheets for those who are interested to make their reservations.

Saturday, March 24, will be the Texas Tenors at Westminster College. There will be a stop for dinner and other amenities. For further information call Betty Palermo at 412-351-0760

In May a trip is planned to see the Pirate game at PNC Park. To learn more about this outing, call Nina Stahlberg at 412-242-5360.

Members are encouraged to be present for every meeting; guests and prospective members are always welcome. The meetings are convened at noon when Marge Yogadzinski and her committee serve coffee and cookies. The meeting is then called to order at 12:30 p.m. by the president; reports are received and the Tour Committee announces news of the tours. There is a 50-50 drawing which concludes the meeting.

For further information, call Mary Smith at 412-273-1943, or Frank and Mary Carretta at 412-823-0577.

Check out the Forest Hills Borough Website: www.foresthillspa.org