



Swissvale NEWS

CHECK OUT THE BOROUGH'S NEW WEBSITE...

Announcements are being made in a timelier manner and quick links to other parts of the website are available. There is so much information and you can find detailed information in the section: Residents, Departments, Government, About.

Check out the updated site at: www.swissvaleborough.com.



NIGHT OF LIGHTS

Swissvale's annual Night of Lights celebration will be held Saturday, December 6, in the parking lot of Fire Department on Irvine Street.

Festivities start at 5:30 p.m. with crafts for the kids. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive shortly after and the tree lighting occurs at 6 p.m.



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- FREE Online Classes

GEPPERT'S GUARDIANS TAKING THE POLAR PLUNGE



2013 Geppert's Guardian before their Plunge! See article on page 2.

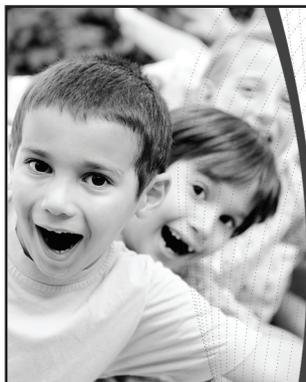
GEPPERT'S GUARDIANS TAKING THE POLAR PLUNGE

For the fourth consecutive year, the Swissvale Police Department and the Forest Hills Vol. Fire Dept. have teamed up to brave the icy waters of the Allegheny river on December 6 to raise awareness and money for Special Olympics Pennsylvania.

The team has been busy doing multiple fundraisers this fall but still need your help by making a donation on behalf of them taking the 2014 Polar Bear Plunge. Checks made payable to "Special Olympics Pennsylvania" can be mailed directly to the Swissvale Police Department at 7560 Roslyn Street, Swissvale, PA 15218. Please be sure to include the Team name (Geppert's Guardians) in the memo area so that the staff will know where to credit the contribution. Or if you prefer the web, visit www.plungepa.org and click sponsor a plunger

If you want to learn more about this spectacular winter event, visit www.specialolympicspa.org to find out all the chilly details

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SNOW REMOVAL AND WINTER SAFETY TIPS

Home owners, businesses and building owners are required to remove snow within 24 hours of a snowfall. Plus it's important for safety, liability and being a good neighbor.

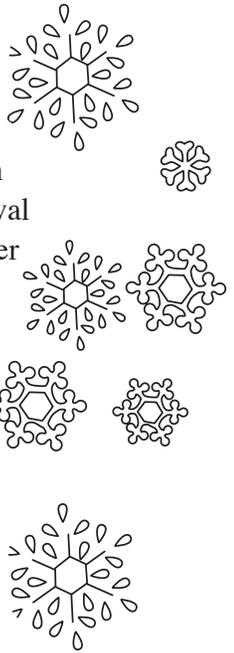
Please observe parking limitations and restrictions on streets and alleyways to simplify snow plowing and removal by Borough crews. The less you hold them up, the quicker they can clear the roads.

Be sure to drive slowly and carefully in areas where children and seniors are likely to be afoot, especially school zones, shopping districts, places of worship and playgrounds. Driving conditions can deteriorate quickly and so can your ability to see clearly and keep your vehicle under control.

Check your property for formation of icicles, ice dams and snow packs on the roof. These can fall and cause injury and also trigger expensive structural damage to your home.

Please check on those that are homebound or your elderly neighbors who may not be able to get out in harsh weather.

Be scrupulously careful with heating devices. They can be lethal. If home heating is a problem, help is available. Contact the Borough office for advice.



CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL SAUSAGE DAY DECEMBER 13

The Boomerang Bar is hosting its famous Sausage Day on December 13, starting at 11 a.m. until sold out. Fundraising has occurred all year long and culminates in this event with all proceeds going to Children's Hospital. The Boomerang Bar's (corner of Monongahela Avenue and Florence Street) owners, patrons and volunteers have raised over \$15,000 in more than 30 years of supporting Children's Annual Free Care Fund Telethon (www.givetochildrens.org). Come on out and support the kids!



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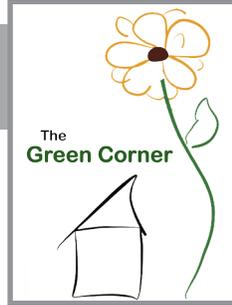
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412.759.5583 FREE Estimates

The Green Corner



As an advocate for sustainable stormwater infrastructure in the watershed, the Nine Mile Run Watershed Association (NMRWA) is ecstatic that we were able to plant 10 trees this fall in Swissvale.

Through a partnership with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's TreeVitalize Program, we planted 4 trees in the Regent Square portion of Swissvale on Saturday, October 25. We then partnered with the Borough to plant another 6 trees along Columbia and Union Streets on Saturday, November 8. Each planting saw over a dozen volunteers show up ready and willing to help our staff plant trees.

Trees play an important role in densely populated, urban areas like Swissvale. As the Borough developed, housing and infrastructure was constructed, leaving little room for open green spaces. Through the planting of trees along the street, we are able to assist nature in reclaiming some of the space that was paved over by previous generations. As we repopulate Swissvale with street trees, the result is a more healthy and complete urban forest tree canopy.

You may notice as you walk or drive through neighboring communities that they appear pleasant and calm as a result of mature rows of street trees. Trees provide shade in the summer, absorb pollutants in the air, soak up stormwater when it rains, and raise values of adjacent properties.

Just like any infrastructure however, street trees must be properly maintained. This is why the Borough appropriates funds every year for professional pruning of existing trees. The winter dormant season is a great time to prune since wound closure is maximized during the initial spring growth push. Typical pruning goals include providing clearance to overhead utility lines, structures, or other trees and shrubs; canopy clean to remove dead, diseased, or damaged branches; or thinning to reduce canopy thickness and favor strongly attached branches. A tree's pruning cycle can generally range from four to seven years depending on species and location.

An industry rejected, but commonly utilized, pruning practice that should be avoided is topping. Topping cuts rob a tree of its natural beauty as well as some important social and ecological benefits. Additionally, tree topping adds unnecessary plant stress, encourages decay within primary branches, and produces weakly attached new growth.

Swissvale has a dedicated Shade Tree Advisory Committee (STAC) that is responsible for advising the Borough Council on how to best spend the appropriated tree maintenance budget. If you are interested in joining the STAC or attending a meeting please contact the Borough. Thanks again to those volunteers who helped us plant new street trees in Swissvale!

For more information on pruning trees or urban forestry, please contact Jared Manzo, NMRWA GreenLinks Coordinator, ISA Certified Arborist at jared@ninemilerun.org or 412-371-8779 extention 116.

Swissvale
Farmers Market

Thanks to all that supported the Swissvale Farmers Market's inaugural year. The market was so successful it was voted the Best Farmers Market by A-List Pittsburgh. It was even extended 3 additional weeks in November. Look for us next year!

AVAILABLE FOR RENT
Large neutral space (65 x 30 feet) in Swissvale
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Swissvale Ministerium

SWISSVALE COMMUNITY CAROL FEST

The Swissvale Clergy Association will sponsor the 8th Annual Carol Fest. Each year a different church in the community hosts this program of holiday music and performances. This year Union Baptist Church (2117 Collingwood Avenue) will act as host for this event. Bring the family and enjoy this delightful celebration of the Christmas Season. All are welcome on Sunday, December 14 at 6 p.m.

SWISSVALE METHODIST CHURCH LIVING SPIRIT MINISTRY

7415 Irvine Street • Swissvale PA 15218 • 412-351-1802

Auction Time

Swissvale United Methodist Living Spirit Ministry will be conducting its annual fundraising auction on Saturday, December 6, doors opening at 9 a.m. Auction lots include new household items and electronics, gift cards, certificates for services and admission to events, collectibles and more. A low-pressure auction experience. A great source for seasonal shopping. Bargains can be expected. Always fun and interesting.

Recycle Gently Worn and Worn Out Clothing

The Swissvale United Methodist Church has two ways for you to recycle your used clothing that benefits those in need in our neighborhood through the food bank and other ministries.

First, gently worn cloths and accessories can be dropped off at their location during open hours. Gently worn clothing, including coats and outdoor wear, has minimal wear and is not in need of repair. Items in need of repair (button missing, hem needed, etc.) cannot be accepted. This type of clothing is distributed during Food Pantry bi-monthly pick-ups.

Second, worn out clothing can be dropped off in the blue bins located at the Busch Brothers Tire Service at the corner of Irvine Street and Monongahela Avenue. Worn out clothing has stains, holes or is torn and unrepairable. This also includes shoes, belts and clothing made of natural or synthetic materials. Mission Partners picks up these recyclables, they are grounded down and recycled for commercial fill and insulation. The church is reimbursed for materials which help to fund other projects in our community.

TUCKER ARENSBERG
Attorneys

Robert L. McTiernan
Swissvale Solicitor



1500 One PPG Place Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412.594.5528
rmctiernan@tuckerlaw.com www.tuckerlaw.com



www.RiverCityPGH.com • 412-501-3161

Churches Working Together

Every church has a beginning. It's something that most people, even those who attend church, don't think much about. It's exciting to witness the start of something brand new. A new home or a new baby can bring much joy into people's lives. It's why we are so excited that God is forming a new church in Swissvale called River City Church. The mission of the church is to help people know Christ, see them grow in faith, and show Christ to others in love and action.

Soon there will be a permanent location from where we can serve the community. In the meantime, Swissvale Presbyterian Church has graciously offered the use of their church building for River City Church to begin holding preview worship services. These take place from 6:00-7:15 p.m. on the first and third Sunday evenings of the month. Running concurrently with the worship service is River City Kids: a safe, fun, Bible-centered children's program for infants up to 5th grade. If you don't have a church family, we invite you to join us as we gather for meaningful worship, authentic fellowship, and relevant preaching from the Word of God.



Another way that River City Church has partnered with Swissvale Presbyterian Church to serve the families of Swissvale is through River City Preschool Co-op. The goal is to offer a local affordable option for parents to cooperate in providing a safe,

Christian educational environment through play-based programming. It takes place in the basement of the church building twice a month. For more information about the preschool co-op or River City Church please visit RiverCityPGH.com or call Pastor Eric Baldwin at 412-501-3161.

SWISSELM PARK PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH

241 Homestead Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

www.swisshelparkpmchurch.com

Celebrate Christmas by joining these special services:

- Sunday, December 7, 7 p.m.
The Kids Bible Club Christmas presentation and Church wide original Christmas Play "Don Not Open Until..."
- Sunday, December 14, 10:30 a.m.
The Church choir presents the Christmas Cantata "God Is With Us" during our Morning Worship Service.
- Wednesday, December 24, 7:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



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www.ezcb.org or call **412-371-6380**.



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We meet the 4th Monday of each month at

Living Spirit Ministry 6:30 p.m.

Hours 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Closed Sundays and Mondays

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SWISSVALE SENIOR CENTER

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Swissvale, PA 15218
412-731-6125**

Open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The center offers a variety of activities including monthly movies, trips, classes, presentations and parties. Listed below are the activities that are always happening at the center. For a full list of activities, stop at the center to pick up a monthly calendar. Lunch is a \$1.50 donation and must be ordered in advance. Check out the Center for other upcoming activities.

Monday Exercise 9:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:45 a.m.
Bingo 12:45 p.m.

Wednesday Exercise 9:30 a.m.
Nickel Bingo 10:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:45 a.m.
500 Bid 12:30 p.m.

Friday Exercise 9:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:45 a.m.
Bingo 12:45 p.m.

Living Spirit MINISTRY

Swissvale United Methodist Church
7415 Irvine Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15218
412-351-1802
www.swissvaleumc.org
swissvaleumc@verizon.net

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SWISSVALE LIBRARY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE December 12 - 13

For many neighborhood residents, the holidays wouldn't be the same without the Swissvale Library's annual Christmas Bake Sale. The two-day fundraising event will be held on December 12 and 13 and is sponsored by the 'Friends of the Library.' It is always a fun and festive way to stock up on holiday treats.

A new item being introduced is home-made dog treats in decorative bags! There is an array of home-baked treats—from classic Christmas cookies and old-fashioned boiled fudge to walnut-filled rolls and mini cherry cheesecake. Baked goods can be purchased individually, by the box, or as part of a customized tray ideal for holiday gatherings or gift giving. The reusable tray and gift-wrap are just \$1 more and the baked goods can be hand-selected. Shoppers will also find hand-knitted scarves, 'scrubbies,' stuffed animals, original art work and hand-made soap. All are ideal for gift giving.

A core group of volunteers do the baking and all are accomplished, covering their own expenses to ensure that 100% of the bake-sale proceeds benefit the library.

The Swissvale Library is located on 1800 Monongahela Avenue, Swissvale. For schedules of the weekly activities come to the library or check the events calendar on the front page of the library's website: www.swissvalelibrary.org or call 412-731-2300.



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In Swissvale**



Swissvale Rotary Club

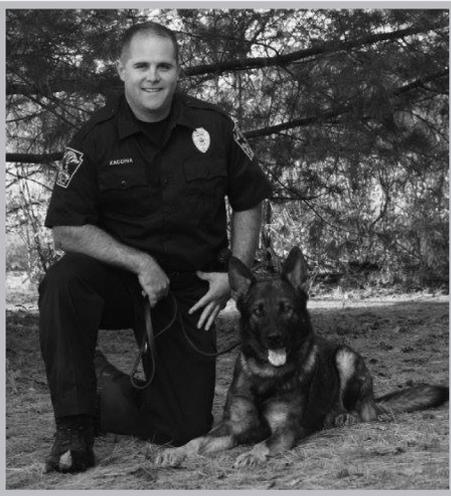
Meets Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m.
Living Spirit Ministry
on Irvine Street.

*Interested in joining
call 412-242-3906*

K9 OFFICER ECHO JOINS SWISSVALE POLICE

The Swissvale Police Department has added a second K-9 officer to the police force. Along with Officer Louis Sitzman, K-9 Officer Echo has finished 10 weeks of training and the pair is now on the streets of Swissvale patrolling. K-9 Echo is a 16-month old Belgian Malinois. Echo has completed certification in narcotics detection, tracking and apprehension. They join Officer David Zacchia and K9 Officer Brando to expand the K-9 force.

The K-9 program is funded through grants and donations. If you would like to contribute to the K-9 fund please send a check in care of the Borough of Swissvale, 7560 Roslyn Street, Pittsburgh Pa. 15218. Please write K-9 in the memo on the check



(Left) Officer Dave Zacchia and K9 Officer Brando (Right) Officer Louis Sitzman and K9 Officer Echo

FREE ONLINE COURSES!

Registration is still open for the Pennsylvania Online Broadband & Technology Training (OBTT) Program, which offers FREE online courses available anytime, anywhere!

For those registered by December 31, these courses will be available through the support of the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) through January 31, 2015. Continuation of this program depends on a future decision at DCED.

The PA OBTT course library was designed with small businesses, local governments and nonprofits in mind, but anyone is eligible. With more than 100 FREE courses to choose from, there is something new for nearly everyone to explore. Course topics include Online Marketing; Website Development; Cloud Computing; Quickbooks; Microsoft Applications like Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint and Access; Business Skills; Project Management; and more.

A complete course listing and registration information are available at www.paobtt.com. For more information or to register, contact Abigail Stark at: 412-391-5590 extension 343, astark@spcregion.org.

SWISSVALE MOOSE SUPPORT BOROUGH K9 EFFORTS

At the November 5, 2014, Council Meeting members of the Swissvale Moose Lodge 416 presented the Police Department with a \$355 contribution to support the K9 officers. Thanks to the club for their fundraising efforts!

The Loyal Order of Moose is an international organization of men and women, dedicated to caring for young and old, bringing communities closer together and celebrating life. Find out more at www.mooseintl.org.



Pictured accepting the Moose donation is Assistant Police Chief Ellis Watson and Mayor Deneen Swartzwelder from Moose member Denise Scott.



At River City Church, we want people to know Christ, grow in Him, and show Christ to others. We are a gospel-centered church that is community-focused.

Services:

December 7, 6-7:15 p.m.

December 21, 6-7:15 p.m.

At Swissvale Presbyterian Church

For more information, call us at 412-501-3161 or visit RiverCityPGH.com.

Swissvale Borough DIRECTORY

PLEASE KEEP THESE IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS HANDY.
They may not necessarily be in future editions of the Swissvale News.

BOROUGH BUILDING 412-271-7101

Clyde Wilhelm, Borough Manager (interim)
7560 Roslyn Street, Swissvale, PA 15218
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
www.swissvaleborough.com

TAX OFFICE 412-351-3342 • fax 412-351-2707

Thomas S. Barr, Jr., Tax Collector
7447 Washington Street, Swissvale, PA 15218
Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday by appointment
Borough Garbage Fee due by April 30
Borough Real Estate Tax due by June 30 • School Real Estate Tax due by August 31

POLICE DEPARTMENT Emergencies 911

Chief Greg Geppert 412-271-8777
Police Station 412-271-6666
Police non-emergency 412-473-3056

FIRE DEPARTMENT Emergencies 911

Chief Clyde Wilhelm 412-271-3940
7400 Irvine Street, Swissvale, PA 15218
Fire non-emergency 412-271-0448
Building, Zoning and Code Enforcement 412-271-0448

PUBLIC WORKS 412-271-0350 • fax 412-271-5441

Robert Wiswell, Director (interim)

MAYOR 412-271-3811

Deneen Swartzwelder

Council Meetings in the Council Chambers of the Borough Building
General Session (voting) – First Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Agenda Setting – Last Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)

Borough Building • Third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Swissvale Economic Development Corporation (SEDCO)

Living Spirit Ministry • Fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

Borough Building • Last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

Swissvale Senior Center 412-731-6125

7350 McClure Avenue, Swissvale • Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Swissvale Rotary

Living Spirit Ministry • Every Wednesday at 12:15 p.m.

Crime Watch

Living Spirit Ministry • Second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

www.swissvaleborough.com

Your Community
Newspaper

Swissvale

WINTER 2014-15

*Let us hear
from you!*

Swissvale residents, businesses and organizations wishing to publish information about community news and events in the Swissvale News, or to place advertising, should contact:

Deneen Swartzwelder

Call 412-271-3811 or

e-mail mayorswissvale@aol.com

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7425 Washington Avenue

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412-271-4234 • kroprint@aol.com.

SWISSVALE COUNCIL DECEMBER MEETINGS

The December meeting is Wednesday, December 3. Due to New Year's Eve, the Agenda meeting will be held Monday, December 29 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Borough Building. The 2015 Budget is expected to be voted on at that time. The draft budget will be available for review at the Borough Building and Library in December.



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9.1.1

NON-EMERGENCY

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