



# Swissvale NEWS

March, April & May

Community News for the Borough of Swissvale

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### FARMERS MARKET

[www.swissvalefarmersmarket.org](http://www.swissvalefarmersmarket.org)

The Swissvale Farmers Market will open for its 4<sup>th</sup> season on May 13 and run through October 28 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday.

Enjoy walking the comfortable, paved market space located behind Dickson School (7301 Schoyer Ave.) with an adjacent parking lot. Shop for fresh fruits, vegetables, plants, flowers, prepared foods and local crafts while listening to the sounds of local musicians. In addition to some exciting new vendors, most of the regular vendors will return.

The Market depends heavily on volunteers. If you are available to help or are a local food vendor or crafter interested in setting up at the market, please contact Dave Green, the market manager. Inquiries can be made by email at [swissvalefarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:swissvalefarmersmarket@gmail.com).



Photo by Porter Loves Photography

### EASTER EGG HUNT

The 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Easter Egg Hunt is at noon Saturday, April 15, at Memorial Park. Kids of all ages will hunt for eggs and receive prizes. There will be refreshments and a visit from the Easter Bunny!

Volunteers are welcome and needed. Please contact Mayor Swartzwelder for more information or questions at 412-271-3811 or [MayorSwissvale@aol.com](mailto:MayorSwissvale@aol.com).



ASH WED & EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT  
11AM TO 7PM - EAT IN OR TAKE OUT

### LENTEN FISH FRY FRIDAYS

The Volunteer FD will hold its annual Lenten Fish Fry starting Ash Wednesday (March 1) and every Friday in Lent. Menus are available on the FD and borough website. The food is so popular that it often sells out. Go early or call ahead!

412-271-8787 (phone)

412-271-1451 (fax)



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# BOROUGH UPDATE

Swissvale Borough Administrative Office  
7560 Roslyn Street, Swissvale • 412-271-7101  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
[www.swissvaleborough.com](http://www.swissvaleborough.com)

## A Message From the Borough Manager

Exciting things are happening in Swissvale! This is the first newsletter to be direct mailed to all of our residents. We hope that you enjoy the content and the improved communication that this change will bring. I would like to extend thanks to Mayor Swartzwelder and Tracey Crombie-Collins for their work over the past several years to maintain the newsletter and Sarah Ansell for taking over the challenge of getting this new issue compiled, organized, printed and direct mailed to our residents. In the interest of improved communication, we have focused new efforts on better maintaining and updating our website and Facebook page.



Mr. Clyde Wilhelm, Manager

The borough enjoyed another financially successful year in 2016. I am happy to report that we ended the year with a surplus in our General Operating Budget for the second consecutive year! The surplus funds will be added to our Operating Reserve Fund and to the Capital Projects Fund, which we use to pave streets, demolish dangerous vacant structures and for other capital improvements. Borough Council passed a balanced budget for 2017 with no increase in taxes. We continue to work toward making improvements in our community while maintaining fiscal responsibility so that these efforts may expand into the future.

Many public improvement efforts are planned for 2017-2018. We will be paving additional streets, which you can read more about in our Public Works report. Collingwood Playground renovations will begin this spring. The final stages of planning for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Project for South Braddock Avenue are underway and are also addressed in the Public Works section of the newsletter. A new development was approved for a Dollar General Store at the intersection of South Braddock Avenue and Woodstock Avenue. PennDOT is preparing the final designs for the replacement of the Kenmawr Bridge as well as intersection upgrades for South Braddock Avenue and Woodstock Avenue. The borough has also been working with Senator Jay Costa to obtain funding to demolish the Ladies GAR home on Woodstock Avenue. These are just a few of the many significant projects we are working on in 2017!

I want to briefly comment on recent discussions regarding adding a crosswalk at the South Braddock and Sanders intersection. This has become an emotional topic for some residents and misinformation has been spread throughout the community and across social media. The boroughs of Swissvale and Edgewood are committed to seeking a safe resolution to this proposal. To that end, we have retained the services of a traffic engineer to study the intersection and provide recommendations on the safest and most practical solutions to address the community's concerns. The engineer's recommendations should be completed by the time this newsletter is circulated. Once received, the recommendations will be posted on the borough's website.

Again, I would like to thank all of the borough's elected officials for their commitment and work, which continue to make Swissvale a better place.

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

7560 Roslyn Street, Swissvale, PA 15218  
412-271-0350

## PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS ABOUND IN 2017

### Road Paving and Reconstruction

Thanks to the leadership of Swissvale Borough Council and the Public Works Committee, public improvements are continuing throughout the borough in 2017. Last year, Council approved the largest paving project in recent history, resulting in 11 streets being paved. This year, seven additional streets will be paved including: Woodlawn Ave., Prospect Ave., Newmeyer St., Delaware Ave. Extension, Smokeywood Dr. and Westmoreland Ave. from Lacrosse St. to Lehigh St. As part of the project Lacrosse St. from Edgewood Ave. to Westmoreland Ave. will be completely reconstructed. This reconstruction will include removing all existing bricks and cobblestones, removing approximately 12 inches of sub-base below the bricks and cobblestones, replacing the two storm sewer lines under the road with one new larger line, replacing and installing new storm inlets, installing ADA compliant handicapped curb cuts at each intersection and paving the entire road.

Inter-municipal cooperation between Swissvale and Edgewood has allowed the reconstruction of Lacrosse St. and the paving of Westmoreland Ave. to be completed at an economical cost to both boroughs. The new level of cooperation being cultivated between Swissvale and surrounding municipalities is something for which both borough management and elected officials strive.



### South Braddock Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Swissvale and Edgewood have jointly received a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant for the South Braddock Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project. The grant, totaling \$479,500, from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, is to improve the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians on South Braddock Ave. between McClure Ave. and West Hutchinson St. Types of improvements will include the construction of ADA-compliant handicapped curb cuts, installation of stamped and colored concrete crosswalks, replacement of existing pedestrian traffic signals, replacement of storm inlets with bicycle-safe grates and other minor alterations. Plans are currently being designed and submitted to PennDOT for review and approval. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2018.

Swissvale Borough was recently notified by PennDOT of being awarded a second TAP grant to continue safety improvements from McClure Ave. eastbound toward Woodstock Ave. The timeframe for completion of these improvements is not set.



### HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

#### Good Friday, April 14

Friday trash will be collected one day late on Saturday, April 15. Friday recycling will be collected a day early on April 13.

#### Memorial Day, May 29

All trash and recycling will be collected one day late with the exception of Friday recycling, which will be collected on schedule.

### Swissvale Sanitation a Huge Success!

In January 2016, Swissvale brought trash collection in-house after numerous problems with the previously contracted hauler. Two garbage trucks and one pick-up truck with a Parkan Dumpster in the bed were purchased, three new employees were hired and Swissvale Sanitation hit the streets. During 2016, Swissvale Borough trash collectors removed more than 3,500 tons of trash, improved the reliability of service, reduced the number of complaints received by almost 100% and improved customer service for residents. The few complaints received are usually able to be resolved the same day. In addition to the improved service, the borough also saved more than \$77,000 from the previous year's contract.

For 2017, Swissvale Sanitation is now offering hauling services to non-residential customers that it was not able to serve previously. Please contact the Swissvale Department of Public Works at 412-271-0350 for more information.

Swissvale Sanitation is also venturing outside of the borough to increase revenues and assist another municipality with its trash collection and hauling efforts. Beginning on January 6, 2017, Swissvale Sanitation began to collect trash in Chalfant. The combination of bringing trash collection in-house, collecting commercial accounts and contracting with Chalfant to collect their trash will help to avoid increases in the Swissvale trash collection fee.

# Clean-Up Day

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**rivercity church**

 Sundays  6 p.m.

 2037 Noble St | Swissvale, PA

 [rivercitypgh@gmail.com](mailto:rivercitypgh@gmail.com)

 [rivercitypgh.com](http://rivercitypgh.com)

Worship | Community | Service

## SWISSVALE CLEAN-UP DAY

Swissvale will hold its 16<sup>th</sup> annual Clean-Up Day on May 20. Activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of Public Works Garage at 7560 Roslyn Street and at Les Getz Memorial Park on Church Street. The clean-up events will occur simultaneously.

The first event will focus on the Downtown Swissvale Business District. Volunteers are needed to collect trash and debris from streets, sidewalks, parking lots and alleys in and around the business district. Rakes, shovels, gloves and trash bags will be provided to all volunteers along with a Swissvale Clean-Up T-Shirt.

The second event will be the collection of household waste and hard-to-recycle items such as electronics (TVs, VCRs, DVD players, computers, monitors, peripherals, etc.), household hazardous waste (paint, cleaning agents, oils, antifreeze and other household chemicals), tires, batteries and propane tanks. This collection is for Swissvale Borough residents only and will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Les Getz Memorial Park on Church Street. **Residents must bring proof of residency** when they drop off their trash and recyclables. Multiple dumpsters will be available for the dumping of bulky waste, non-freon containing appliances, house clean-outs and other items.

This is an excellent opportunity to rid your house of unwanted and hard-to-dispose-of items and there is no cost to participate. Lunch will be provided to volunteers after the event and all registered volunteers will be eligible to win prizes! Please contact the Swissvale Borough Department of Public Works at (412) 271-0350 with any questions.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

7560 Roslyn Street, Swissvale, PA 15218  
9-1-1

### PROJECT DUMP

The Swissvale Police Department in cooperation with the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office will host "Project DUMP" (Disposal of Unwanted Medications Properly) in conjunction with Clean-Up Day. This event aims to prevent addiction and overdoses in our community by providing safe disposal of medications. Residents are encouraged not to flush medications down the toilet or toss them into the trash because of the environmental impact.

This is an anonymous program. There are no questions asked or names involved.

Project DUMP will take place from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on May 20 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Borough Building in Council Chambers. The building is handicap accessible. Deputies from the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office and officers from the SPD will be on hand to receive the medications and answer questions.



### 2016 STATISTICS

Total Calls for Service	12,732
Total Cases	1,459
Total Arrests	423
DUI Arrests	18
Total Suspects	32
Total Victims	610
Traffic Citations	1,248
Non-Traffic Citations	184



## 2016 Review

### “Your Safety is Our Focus!”

The Fire Department ended the year with 1,472 emergency calls for service. Fortunately, major fires have remained low due to our proactive code enforcement. However, we cannot forget the 4-alarm fire that destroyed a three-story apartment building at Woodstock and Melrose, leaving more than 30 people homeless. Thankfully, there were no civilian injuries in the blaze. The FD was proud to play a role in helping those families by collecting and distributing nearly \$30,000 in donations as well as coordinating with other agencies to provide assistance to the victims. We would like to thank Pastor Eric Baldwin, the FD’s chaplain, for all his efforts in this matter.

The FD has remained busy with Code Enforcement activities. This remains a crucial and integral part of our public safety mission. We continued our community fire prevention training; visiting schools, day cares and other organizations. Our community CPR training remains free for residents.

The FD also took delivery of two new fire engines in December. The joint purchase between the borough and volunteer FD saved taxpayers nearly \$100,000. One of the new engines replaces a 14-year-old fire engine and the second replaces the volunteer FD’s 24-year-old engine. Our fleet is now in good shape for the next 15 to 20 years!



# FIRE DEPARTMENT

7400 Irvine Street, Swissvale, PA 15218 • 412-271-0448  
www.swissvalefire.org

2016 STATISTICS	
RESPONSES	
Structure Fires & Calls	35
Vehicle Fires	9
Brush & Trash Fires	11
Electrical Conditions / Hazards	14
Gas Leaks & Odor Investigations	18
Carbon Monoxide Alarms / Incidents	21
Vehicle Accidents	43
Hazardous Materials / Containment	5
Public Service Details - Other	47
Assistance to Police	11
False Alarms & Good Intent Calls	80
Assistance to Other Fire Departments	73
Emergency Medical Calls	1,105
<b>Total Emergency Responses</b>	<b>1,472</b>
CODE ENFORCEMENT	
PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	
Occupancy Permits	731
Dye Test Certifications	249
Building Permits	155
Dumpster Permits	49
Mechanical Amusement Licenses	69
<b>Total Applications Processed</b>	<b>1,253</b>
INSPECTIONS & SITE VISITS	2,190
VIOLATION NOTICES ISSUED	371
CITATIONS FILED	71

## Community CPR Class be prepared to

# Save a Life

Swissvale Fire Department  
7400 Irvine Street  
Saturday, May 6th  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Learn Adult, Child, Infant CPR, First Aid, and how to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED)  
Call: Swissvale Fire Station for details: 412-271-0448

## CPR CLASSES

The FD regularly offers CPR training at the fire station. The next class is scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 6.

Teaching will include adult CPR, child CPR, first aid and how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED).

The class is free to residents. Nonresidents are also welcome for a nominal fee.

To sign up, contact the FD by May 1 at 412-271-0448. If you are not able to attend but are still interested, contact Assistant Chief Kip Deleonibus for future class dates.

## SMOKE DETECTORS

Remember to change your smoke detector batteries when you change your clock! SFD provides free smoke detectors and batteries to senior residents and residents who are physically challenged.

Looking to make  
*the best  
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choice*  
for your child?



 **PAcyber**  
The Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School

The Learning Never Stops  
**PAcyber.org**

# Community Spotlight

## WILKINS SCHOOL COMMUNITY CENTER

7604 Charleston Street, Swissvale, PA 15218 • www.wscpcphg.org • 412-244-8458

### International Cooking Classes

Come and learn how to prepare yummy meals and enjoy the final product at the end of class. Dave Green is offering a series of three international cooking classes. No experience is required. Each class will have an appetizer, entrée and simple dessert. Sign-up for the series is \$75 or for individual classes at \$30 per class.

**Moroccan Dinner—7 p.m. on March 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Baltic Dinner—7 p.m. on March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Indonesian Dinner—7 p.m. on April 6<sup>th</sup>**

### Annual Plant, Herb and Used Book Sale

**8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 20 -**

Shop for you flowering baskets, veggies and herbs at the expanded outside market in the front lot of the WSCC. Come inside and shop the carefully organized used book sale where just about every book is \$1!

**12 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 21 - Books only! \$5 for a bag of books.**



### REGENT SQ. YARD SALE

The annual Regent Square Yard Sale is 8 a.m. to 2 p.m, Saturday, May 20 (the weekend following Mother's Day). As one of the largest community yard sales in the city, there is something for everyone! From children's toys to custom furniture and more. The sale is not to be missed. As in previous years the sale map and all registration info can be found on the website. Registrations help cover the cost of advertising and gets your sale listed on the official map and hot list. The map is handed out on the day of the sale and published online. Please encourage your neighbors to register as well. The blocks with the most sales attract the most visitors! If you have any questions, email [yardsale@regentsquare-rsca.org](mailto:yardsale@regentsquare-rsca.org).

### PARKWAY PLANTING

Spring planting at the parkway site is 9 a.m on May 6. The hillside blooms from spring to summer and provides a beautiful scene exiting the parkway. The Western PA Conservancy sponsors the plants but volunteers are needed to supply the elbow grease. Contact Mayor Swartzwelder with questions.



### SUPPORT OUR SWISSVALE

Thanks to everyone who helped assemble and who purchased the luminary kits this holiday! The town was glowing on Christmas Eve! A special thanks to Mele Brothers for donating sand. Look for us again this year at the Farmers Market where we will be taking pre-orders!



### ADVERTISING AND PUBLISHING REQUESTS

The Newsletter is being direct mailed at no charge to residents for the first time in 2017! There are four editions this year and six editions in 2018. Advertising and publishing requests must be submitted by the first of the month prior to the issue in which it will appear.

#### 2017 Deadlines:

Summer (June/July/August) - May 1  
Fall (September/October) - Aug 1  
Winter (November/December) - Oct 1

Please submit all questions and materials to Sarah:  
[news@swissvaleborough.com](mailto:news@swissvaleborough.com)  
412-271-7101

Editor and Advertising Manager:  
Sarah Ansell  
Printer: Krohmaly's

## ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Eyes On Regent Square ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ SPRING SUN SALE

**SATURDAY  
MAY 20  
9AM - 2PM**

(Regent Square Yard Sale Day)



- ★ Sale on ALL Sunglasses
- ★ Outdoor Fun
- ★ Local Balloon Artist:



**40% OFF**  
rx sunglass frames

**30% OFF**  
non-rx frames  
some restrictions apply.

## SWISSVALE MILE

[www.swissvalemile.com](http://www.swissvalemile.com)  
[theswissvalemile@gmail.com](mailto:theswissvalemile@gmail.com)



The Swissvale Mile returns for the 4<sup>th</sup> year on June 24. Participants can choose from a 1-mile family-friendly

dog walk or timed race. This event has become a community favorite as part of the annual Community Days festivities.

Registration will open April 1 with a special Launch Party hosted by the Pub in the Park. Anyone who registers at the party will have a chance to win prizes! Watch our website and Facebook page for more details.



## SPRING SPORTS

Swissvale Baseball and Softball sign ups are open through April 1. Registration forms can be picked up at the Borough Building at 7560 Roslyn St. Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. or Saturday and Sunday 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Registration fees vary by sport and age group. **Coaches are also needed for both baseball and softball teams!** For more info on age divisions, fees or coaching please contact John at 412-224-9831 or via email at [swissvalebasell2017@gmail.com](mailto:swissvalebasell2017@gmail.com).



## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

### March

- 1 Swissvale Borough Council Meeting  
Ash Wednesday  
SFD & Madonna del Castello Fish Fry
- 3 SFD & Madonna del Castello Fish Fry
- 7 40 Days of Purpose Study—CityReach
- 9 Moroccan Cooking Class—WSSC
- 10 SFD & Madonna del Castello Fish Fry
- 11 Carnegie Library Birthday Party  
Community Garden Pub Crawl
- 12 Daylight Saving Time
- 17 SFD & Madonna del Castello Fish Fry
- 20 First day of spring
- 22 Beer and Rain Barrels Happy Hour
- 23 Baltic Cooking Class—WSSC
- 24 SFD & Madonna del Castello Fish Fry
- 28 Kindergarten Reg.—Edgewood Primary
- 29 Council Agenda Setting Meeting
- 31 SFD & Madonna del Castello Fish Fry

### April

- 1 Swissvale Mile Launch Party
- 5 Swissvale Borough Council Meeting
- 6 Library Book & Bake Sale (4-8)  
Indonesian Cooking Class—WSSC

### April cont.

- 7 Library Book & Bake Sale (10-4)  
Evening in Edgewood Event  
SFD & Madonna del Castello Fish Fry
- 8 Library Book & Bake Sale (10-2)
- 10 Passover
- 14 Good Friday—Admin office closed  
Lenten Pilgrimage—Via Dolorosa Walk
- 15 Easter Egg Hunt
- 16 Easter Sunday
- 26 Council Agenda Setting Meeting
- 30 Garbage Fee Due

### May

- 1 Deadline for Summer Newsletter
- 3 Swissvale Borough Council Meeting
- 4 Rotary Spaghetti Dinner
- 6 Community CPR Class  
Parkway Flower Planting
- 13 Farmers Market Opens
- 16 Primary Elections
- 20 Clean-Up Day/Project DUMP  
Regent Square Yard Sale  
Plant, Herb and Book Sale—WSSC
- 29 Memorial Day—Admin office closed
- 31 Council Agenda Setting Meeting

## SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL BUSINESS: AS YOU TELL IT

**As You Tell It** is a new business launched by Swissvale residents Janet Ingram and Barry Alfonso that helps people capture their stories in printed and audio recording form. As personal historians, Janet and Barry work with individuals, families, businesses and organizations to preserve memories and legacies. Many people find it difficult to write their own life stories. **As You Tell It** makes the process simple, easy and fun.

Personal history projects can take many forms, from simple printed transcripts of interviews to fine-quality bound memoir books and CDs. Whatever the project, Barry and Janet always prepare individualized questions, listen closely and work with clients to create something to share with family and friends.

Janet has a degree in Communications Arts and has worked as a radio talk show host and research interviewer. Barry has spent decades as a journalist and received a Grammy Award nomination for music writing. Together, they have years of experience working on personal history projects. They help clients find the right book or audio project to match their vision and budget. *Find out more at [www.asyoutellit.com](http://www.asyoutellit.com) • 412-641-9364 • [asyoutellitph@gmail.com](mailto:asyoutellitph@gmail.com)*

# Swissvale Ministerium

## CITYREACH CHURCH

7327 McClure Avenue  
412-326-9212

cansell@cityreachnetwork.org  
www.swissvale.cityreachnetwork.org

**Regular Worship Schedule:**  
10:30 a.m., Sundays

CityReach Church—Swissvale is a **worshipping** community which seeks to create an environment where people can **belong** to something greater, **grow** in their relationship with Jesus Christ, and **engage** the neighborhood in which we are rooted.

### Special Events:

The most basic question everyone faces in life is, “Why am I here?” During the season of Lent, we invite you to join us as we explore this question. The “40 Days of Purpose” study helps participants discover God’s incredible plan for their lives.

**Group Meetings:** Tuesdays from March 7 to April 11 at the church from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Childcare will be available and shared between attendees.



CityReach Swissvale  
7327 McClure Ave

**40 DAYS OF PURPOSE**

What on earth am I here for?  
A CHURCHWIDE SPIRITUAL GROWTH CAMPAIGN  
Tuesdays, March 7 - April 11  
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

## RIVER CITY CHURCH

2037 Noble Street  
412-501-3161

rivercitypgh@gmail.com  
www.rivercitypgh.com

**Regular Worship Schedule:**  
6 p.m., Sundays



## MADONNA DEL CASTELLO & WORD OF GOD PARISH

Madonna: 2021 S. Braddock Avenue • 412-271-5666  
WOG: 7446 McClure Avenue • 412-241-1372

wordofgodpa@gmail.com  
www.madonnadelcastello.org

- **Lenten Fish Fry:** Ash Wednesday (March 1) and all Fridays in Lent (March 3 through April 7) from noon to 7 p.m. at Madonna’s Dattilo Hall.
- **Ash Wednesday (March 1):**  
8 a.m.—Mass at Madonna  
noon—Service with ashes at Word of God  
7 p.m.—Mass at Madonna
- **Stations of the Cross:** Fridays (March 3 through April 7) at noon at Word of God and during Holy Hour at 7 p.m. at Madonna.
- **Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper and Seven Church Walk (April 13):** 7 p.m. at Madonna. The walk will depart following Mass.
- **Good Friday Services (April 14) at Word of God:**  
Noon—Stations of the Cross  
12:30 p.m.—Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
- **Holy Saturday (April 15):**  
11:30 a.m.—Blessing of Baskets, Word of God  
Noon—Confessions, Word of God  
7 p.m.—Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, Word of God
- **Easter Sunday (April 16):**  
9 a.m.—Mass, Word of God  
11 a.m.—Mass, Madonna
- **Adoration, Sermon on a Lenten Theme, Rosary and Benediction:** Tuesdays, March 7 through April 11, 7 p.m., Madonna.
- **“Lights are Still on for You” Sacrament of Confession:** Wednesday, March 15, 5:30 p.m., Madonna and Word of God.
- **St. Anthony Novena:** Tuesdays, April 18 to June 13, 7 p.m., Madonna.

## SWISSELM PARK PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH

241 Homestead Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218 • 412-751-0930  
www.swisshelmparkpmchurch.com

**Regular Worship Schedule:**  
10:30 a.m., Sundays

**Special Events:** April 16—Easter sunrise service at 7:00 a.m. followed by breakfast. Worship service at 10:30 a.m. will feature a musical presentation by the church choir.



**SWISSVALE LENTEN PILGRIMAGE**

The Lenten Pilgrimage is a Swissvale tradition that has been maintained for more than 50 years. This meaningful tradition is a coordinated effort of the various and diverse churches that make up the Swissvale Ministerium.

On Wednesday evenings leading up to Easter, churches in the community take turns hosting a worship service. A pastor from a different church will deliver a message on the theme of "Words from Holy Week"—following Jesus' last week in Jerusalem. A light reception follows each service. These services are a beautiful opportunity for residents to experience the joy of the Easter season with other believers and is appropriate for all Christian traditions. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Services begin at 7 p.m.

Date	Speaker	Church	Address
March 8	Eric Baldwin	Swisshelm Park Primitive Methodist Church	241 Homestead St.
March 15	Dave Swanson	CityReach Church	7327 McClure Ave.
March 22	Chris Ansell	Swissvale Pres. Church	1825 Monongahela Ave.
March 29	Dai Morgan	Pgh Mennonite Church	2018 S. Braddock Ave.
April 5	Melissa Morris	Union Baptist Church	2117 Collingwood Ave.

On Good Friday, April 14, the Lenten Pilgrimage concludes with the Via Dolorosa walk. This event is a walk through the business district, carrying a cross and commemorating the road Jesus walked on his way to the Crucifixion. Gather with others at 11:30 a.m. in front of Word of God Parish.

**SWISSVALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

1825 Monongahela Avenue • 412-351-0900  
thesower@verizon.net

**Regular Worship Schedule:**

Sundays  
10 a.m.—Adult Bible Study  
11 a.m.—Worship Service  
11:15 a.m.—Children's Sunday School

**Special Events:**

April 2—last day to order Battleship Subs (6") from Swissvale's famous Triangle Bar & Grill. Contact the church office for details.

**SWISSVALE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY**

Serving Swissvale and Rankin at Swissvale United Methodist Living Spirit Ministry  
2011 Noble Street, Swissvale  
412-351-1802

Food Pantry distributions are on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Volunteers needed.  
We are waiting for your call.

**SWISSVALE SENIOR CENTER**

7350 McClure Avenue  
412-731-6125

Open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays  
2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A variety of activities are offered so stop by the center to get the complete schedule and information about the lunch program. Don't forget to check out the new bingo machine the Borough Council generously donated to the Center.

**ROTARY CLUB**



4 p.m.—7 p.m., Thursday, May 4  
Swissvale Presbyterian Church  
1825 Monongahela Ave  
Eat in or take out.

The Rotary Club is a service organization. Weekly meetings are held at GoodFellas on Wednesday. Lunch meetings are 12:15 p.m. the 1<sup>st</sup> and last Wednesday and evening meetings are 6:15 p.m. the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday.

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## THE GREEN CORNER

### COMMUNITY GARDEN

[www.swissvalegarden.com](http://www.swissvalegarden.com)

The Garden Committee is excited to announce that we are moving into our 3<sup>rd</sup> year! We look forward to another successful season growing fresh fruits and vegetables for the community. As always, we will be looking for volunteers who are willing to get their hands dirty to help us achieve our goals. We are also asking anyone who has extra planters or pots that are not needed to please donate them to the Swissvale Community Garden.

To raise money to keep the garden growing we plan to sell seedlings and SCG T-shirts at this year's Farmers Market. The SCAC is also hosting a pub crawl in March. Check out our website or follow on Facebook for updates.

*Thanks for your continued support!*



### SAVE THE DATE!

7 p.m.—10 p.m., March 11

*Swissvale Community Action Committee is planning a bar crawl to foster community engagement, support our local businesses and raise money for the garden.*

## NINE MILE RUN WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

[www.ninemilerun.org](http://www.ninemilerun.org) • 412-371-8779

The Nine Mile Run Watershed Association just celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the restoration of the Nine Mile Run stream. NMRWA formed in 2001 to restore and protect the Nine Mile Run stream in Frick Park. By July 2006, the \$7.7 million Nine Mile Run Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, the largest urban restoration project of its kind in the U.S., was completed after three years of construction work. Sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the restoration project included stream channel reconfiguration, wetland reconstruction, native wildlife habitat enhancement, invasive species removal and native tree, shrub, and wildflower planting. It made a tremendous difference in the quality of the stream, transforming that section of Frick Park from a dangerous, polluted eyesore into a significant regional attraction. Ten years later, we continue to steward the watershed ecosystem, of which Swissvale borough is a part, while also working regionally to support and implement resilient solutions for a healthy urban environment.

We invite residents to get involved:

1. Become a member! Along with supporting our efforts in the watershed communities, your membership allows you to attend walks and special tours in the restoration area free of charge.
2. Join us for regular stewardship events such as stream sweeps and tree planting and care.
3. Invite our StormWorks team for a consultation and learn how to sustainably manage storm water on your property.
4. Learn more about storm water, urban forestry and other environmental issues at Water Talks, our new event series. The first, Beer and Rain Barrels Happy Hour, will be held at our office at 321 Pennwood Avenue on World Water Day, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. March 22. Beer provided by the Green Flash Brewing Co.

### SWISSVALE SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[www.swissvaleborough.com/about/shade-tree-committee.aspx](http://www.swissvaleborough.com/about/shade-tree-committee.aspx)

Fourteen trees were planted along Harrison Avenue and Michigan Street in late October. The trees were funded by a grant from TreeVitalize Pgh. Nine Mile Run Watershed Association applied for the grant on behalf of Swissvale. They and other non-profit organizations coordinated the tree planting with some follow-up tree care. Swissvale residents volunteered with SSTAC members to help with the digging and mulching.

Another committee priority in 2016 was applying for "Tree City USA" status. Being designated as a Tree City by the Arbor Day Foundation will help SSTAC get future grant awards.

SSTAC has a web page, linked to the borough home page. Use the link to the Tree Request Form to request a street tree planting in front of your house. Please be prepared to provide care after the planting, such as watering and mulching. The Arbor Day Foundation website provides tips on caring for trees.

Looking ahead to spring, SSTAC is in the process of applying for another grant from TreeVitalize. SSTAC chair Gib Miller will serve on the steering committee for the new NMRWA Forest Master Plan. The urban forest provides residents with so many benefits, from summer shade to storm water management during heavy rains. NMRWA, TreeVitalize and the Western PA Conservancy are great local resources to help us maintain our valuable canopy.



# CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY OF SWISSVALE

1800 Monongahela Avenue, Swissvale, PA 15218 • 412-731-2300 • [www.swissvalelibrary.org](http://www.swissvalelibrary.org)  
10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays • 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturdays



The “Friends of the Library” invite you to celebrate **100 years** of the Swissvale Library! This is such a big occasion that we’re hosting events throughout the entire year, from March 2017 to February 2018.

## **LIBRARY HISTORY:**

The Swissvale Library was built in 1916 and 1917. Local architect Andrew Isles delivered the library into the hands of the Board of Trustees on March 20, 1917. Since the grant from Andrew Carnegie for the library only included the building, several community leaders raised funds to furnish and equip the building. The library opened to the public on February 4, 1918.

## **LIBRARY BIRTHDAY PARTY!**

*1 p.m. to 4 p.m., March 11.*

The party will include displays of library and Swissvale history, games and activities for kids and adults, live music, an appearance by Andrew Carnegie and birthday cake. Come join the celebration!

*Watch the library’s website for additional 100th anniversary events.*

## **SPRING BOOK & BAKE SALE**

April 6-8. Nothing priced over \$1. There will be plenty of cookies and cakes. The always popular knitted items by Pam & Donna will be available. Hours of the sale are 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, April 7, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 8. Books are \$2/bag all day Saturday. Book donations are always welcome!

## **FUNDRAISING SUCCESS**

Last fall’s Penny Auction netted more than \$140 (in pennies!) for the Friends to purchase materials for the children’s library. You should have seen our busy penny rollers!

September’s “Love Your Library” Campaign earned \$1,000 in matching funds as well as \$2,400 from the Friends book and bake sale and other individual donations. These funds will be used to purchase materials and support programming throughout the library. Mark your calendar for the next county-wide “Love Your Library” Campaign in September 2017.

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## **MORE WAYS TO LOVE YOUR LIBRARY:**

- Make a cash contribution to help defray expenses.
- Help to plan and publicize this year’s events.
- Lend us any library or Swissvale historic photos to display.
- Come to the celebration events!

## **LIBRARY PROGRAMS:**

### **For Kids**

**Lego Robots**—Middle school kids build robots using Legos, learn stuff and make new friends all at the same time. Sign up at the library in early March for classes that begin mid-March.

**Preschool Classes**—For kids age 3-5 years. Play, learn and hear stories. 11 a.m. on Mondays.

**Afterschool Games**—For school-aged children. Board games, card games, bingo and more! 4 p.m. on Mondays.

**Saturday Fun**—For school-aged children. Kids learn and have fun with a variety of craft, cooking and game classes at 1 p.m.

## **LIBRARY PROGRAMS (CONT)**

### **For Adults**

**Computer Tutoring**—Free for adults of all ages. Close the gaps in what you’ve picked up on your own or start from scratch and be amazed at what you can do. The library provides half-hour computer tutoring sessions 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Call the library to sign up for your first session.

**Book Discussion Groups**—Who doesn’t love to read, snack and talk about a good book? Book clubs are always open to new members and meet monthly:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday—7 p.m. in the main library.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday—3 p.m. in the senior center.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Monday—Mysteries! 2 p.m. in the main library.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Monday—Mysteries! 7 p.m. in the senior center.

**Better Choices, Better Health**—Free six-session workshop for seniors living with any chronic health conditions. Learn simple exercises, ideas for healthier eating and other ways to feel your best all the time. 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. starting Thursday, April 27.

Register by calling the Swissvale Library at 412-731-2300 or Union Baptist Church at 412-271-3900.

### **For Families and Everyone**

**Wizard Tournaments**—The ever-popular tournament returns at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 11. Participants ages 10 to adult are welcome!

**Book Bucks**—Track your reading from now through mid-May on the Book Bucks form, win prizes in the auction in May. All independent readers, including adults, are welcome to participate.

# WOODLAND HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Administrative Office  
531 Jones Avenue, North Braddock, PA 15104 • 412-731-1300 • [www.whsd.net](http://www.whsd.net)



## H.U.G.S VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

(Helping Unconditionally  
by Giving Support)



The H.U.G.S. Volunteer Program was developed to embrace the strengths of enthusiastic family members, community leaders and neighborhood partners who are committed to serving the Woodland Hills School District. Opportunities will be created for volunteers to provide assistance in classrooms, within schools and at the district office.

An application to volunteer can be found on the district website:  
[www.whsd.net/Content/hugs](http://www.whsd.net/Content/hugs)



## WHSD EARNS RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Woodland Hills High School on earning its third straight Bronze Medal by U.S. News & World Report.

The U.S. News rankings include data on more than 21,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Schools were awarded gold, silver, or bronze medals based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college.

Other local Bronze Medal area schools include North Allegheny and Penn-Trafford.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Children must be 5 years of age by September 1 to start school.

### Dates & Times

- **Tuesday, March 28—Edgewood Primary 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.**

*Residents of Swissvale attend Edgewood Primary  
241 Maple Street, Edgewood, PA 15218*

- **Thursday, March 30—WH Academy 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.**

*Kindergarten slots at the Academy are chosen by a lottery tentatively to be held at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 3, in the Academy Auditorium.*

*For more information contact the Academy at 412-824-2450.*

*(Lottery postcards available at each Kindergarten Registration location).*

### What to bring:

- Parent or guardian's photo ID (only a parent or legal guardian may register a child).
- Current deed or lease.
- Additional proof of residency (ex. current utility bill, pay stub with name and address, or some type of mail of an official nature).
- Your child's birth certificate (or baptismal certificate with birth date).
- Your child's immunization records.

Registration staff will make copies for our records and return your originals.

## WHHS MUSICAL

Join King Arthur and the Knights of the Roundtable on their quest for the Holy Grail this spring!

**April 27-29 and May 4-6**  
**Box Office opens March 7**  
**Show Times: 8:00 p.m. and**  
**1:00 p.m. Saturday matinees**

This parody of the medieval legend will remind you to "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life..."

The WH Department of Performing Arts is consistently awarded the prestigious Gene Kelly Award for its high-quality productions.



# MAKE SWISSVALE HOME



More than 70 people attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Make Swissvale Home" event September 11, 2016. Sponsored by the Swissvale Economic Development Corporation (SEDCO), PrimeLending and Mon Valley Initiative (MVI), the free event was designed to both match potential owners with houses in the borough as well as explain programs that allow buyers to turn an older structure into their dream home.

Six houses were on the tour. Participants began the day at 2 p.m. at GoodFellas Restaurant on McCague Street, where they were greeted by SEDCO volunteers, Mayor Deneen Swartzwelder and MVI employees.

Following an introduction by Mayor Swartzwelder, Jeff Philibin and Michel Wright of PrimeLending gave a presentation on the Federal Housing Administration's 203(k) loan program, which allows homebuyers to finance up to 110% of the cost of purchasing and renovating an older home. Older houses may have problems such as wet basements, leaky plumbing, outdated wiring or cracked foundations. A 203(k) loan may be used to remedy those kinds of problems, and others, including roof repair or replacement, new heating and cooling systems, landscaping and drainage improvements and kitchen and bath remodeling.

Philibin called fixing up an older house an "adventure" — and not as easy as cable television home renovation shows may make it appear.

But the trade-off, he said, is that renovating an older house is a great way for a homebuyer to get a much larger house than they could otherwise afford. By renovating an older

house, they are also able to customize the house to fit their exact needs and make it their own.

"Life is too short not to live in a house that you really, really love," Philibin said.

As part of the "Make Swissvale Home" event, SEDCO is offering grants of \$1,000 in closing cost and down payment assistance to the first 10 buyers who purchase a house through September 11, 2017.



For more information, call 412-464-4000, ext. 4024 or email [seson@monvalleyinitiative.com](mailto:seson@monvalleyinitiative.com)

*SEDCO is a nonprofit group of individuals living and working in Swissvale who are dedicated to the revitalization of the borough. It is one of the community development corps., or CDCs, that make up the Homestead-based Mon Valley Initiative.*

*Article originally appeared on MVI's blog: <http://monvalleyinitiative.com/70-people-attend-make-swissvale-home/>*

"Working together to unite the communities and restore the economic vitality of the Mon Valley."



## MON VALLEY INITIATIVE

305 East 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, Homestead, PA 15120  
412-464-4000  
[www.monvalleyinitiative.com](http://www.monvalleyinitiative.com)

MVI is a non-profit community and economic development coalition that currently comprises 10 Community Development Corporations (CDCs). They work together to unite communities and restore the economic vitality of the Mon Valley.

Some of the services they provide include:

- Renovating and constructing high-quality, affordable housing.
- Assisting communities to develop and maintain their main street districts.
- Supplying individuals with the tools they need to enter into the workforce.
- Providing one-on-one housing counseling services to put people on the path to successful home ownership.
- Enabling CDCs to become efficient and effective organizations.

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## WHAT IS “IN THE ZONE”?

“In the Zone” is a *NEW* community branch evolving from The Enterprise Zone Corp of Braddock (EZCB) whose message to all is to: **Live, Work and Play “In the Zone”!**

The EZCB is an I.R.S. designated 501(C)(3) non-profit economic development organization comprised of 11 public and private sector board members and approximately 40 general members. Established in 1986, the corporation secures Enterprise Zone grant funding from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to attract new businesses and assist existing businesses to expand. EZCB represents the county’s designated connected communities of Braddock, North Braddock, Rankin and Swissvale.

In June 2015 a Business Roundtable was held at the Grand View Golf Club in North Braddock. A panel of business representatives and economic development professionals discussed their challenges and successes. It was an interactive session that led to the creation of a Public Relations Committee. The committee has been meeting since September 2015 and has worked with other organizations to form an official branch called “In the Zone” with a vision to restore the legacy of hard work and business innovation in a historically diverse, value-based community consisting of these four boroughs.

**The vision of “In the Zone” is to promote our area as a one-stop shop: Live, Work, Play “In the Zone”!** To rebrand Braddock, North Braddock, Rankin and Swissvale as the #1 destination to work, live and play.

The Zone has gained popularity over the past few years, due to media exposure such as:

- The final of “American Ninja Warrior” filmed at Carrie Furnace.
- Netflix filmed several series In the Zone.
- Trival Innovation (an annual concert event at Carrie Furnace).
- Carrie Furnace with 138 acres of ready-to-develop land with 60 acres “shovel ready” **RIGHT ON THE WATER.**

The Zone will continue to grow as a prime spot for filming over the coming years. Our “In the Zone” hub has been tagged “Hollywood on the Mon.” Our commitment to making the Zone a prime spot for the community will also allow us to gain the notoriety through film projects as aforementioned.

The future is looking bright for our communities “In the Zone”! The zone is the #1 alternative for Allegheny County residents wanting to live outside the city of Pittsburgh. A safe, affordable and prosperous community that enables its citizens and businesses of diverse backgrounds to live, play and grow.

Shown above is a SNEAK PEEK into the website being finalized for our connected neighborhoods. We look forward to communicating more about the developments and new community initiatives. We welcome ideas! Email us at [enterprisezonecorp@gmail.com](mailto:enterprisezonecorp@gmail.com) with great ideas and suggestions. Be sure to let us know if you are interested in being on the team!



## AN EVENING IN EDGEWOOD

Join the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf for a fun, informal evening at the Edgewood Club from 6 p.m.— 8 p.m. on April 7. Enjoy a night of good food, drinks and entertainment. Spend some time with your neighbors while supporting early education programs for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. Sponsorship opportunities and tickets can be found at [www.wpsd.org](http://www.wpsd.org) under the “Support Us” tab.

For additional information, contact Sarah Bartlebaugh at 412-244-4207 or [sbartlebaugh@wpsd.org](mailto:sbartlebaugh@wpsd.org).





**ALCOSAN CLEAN WATER ASSISTANCE FUND**

[www.alcosan.org](http://www.alcosan.org)

ALCOSAN's Clean Water Assistance Fund is now available for eligible residential customers.

This vital customer assistance program is provided for low-income individuals and families. The fund will provide a \$30 credit every three months to qualifying low-income homeowners and to tenants who have accounts in their own names for water or sewage service.

To be eligible, applicants must be served by ALCOSAN and meet the following family income limits set by the federal government:

Household Size	Monthly Income	Yearly Income
1	\$1,508	\$18,090
2	\$2,030	\$24,360
3	\$2,553	\$30,630
4	\$3,078	\$36,900
5	\$3,598	\$43,170
6	\$4,120	\$49,440
7	\$4,643	\$55,710
8	\$5,165	\$61,980

*Individuals must provide a copy of their water/sewage bill, Social Security numbers for all members of their household and proof of household's monthly income with application.*

*For more details on how to apply, please visit [www.alcosan.org](http://www.alcosan.org).*

**TAX OFFICE INFORMATION**

The Borough of Swissvale has a Senior Citizens Tax Relief Program. Those who qualify will receive a 10% property tax reduction. To qualify, you must register in the Allegheny County Senior Citizen Tax Relief Program (Act 77) by June 30, 2017. To apply call the Allegheny County Treasurer's Office at 412-350-4100.

**IMPORTANT TAX DATES FOR 2017:**

Tax/Fee	Billing Date	Due at discounted rate	Due at full rate
<b>Garbage Fee</b>	February 1, 2017	_____	April 30, 2017
<b>Borough Tax</b>	May 1, 2017	June 30, 2017	August 31, 2017
<b>School Tax</b>	July 1, 2017	August 31, 2017	October 31, 2017

It is the responsibility of the owners to obtain and pay taxes and fees on time. If you have recently sold, purchased or transferred property, or changed your tax or fee billing address, please contact the Borough Tax Office at 412-351-3342.

The Borough of Swissvale has changed its delinquent tax collection agency to:

**Keystone Collections Group**  
**546 Wendel Road**  
**Irwin, PA 15642**  
**724-978-0300**

*Thanks to the Borough Council and Administration for being good fiscal stewards as our tax rate of 8.0 mils and garbage fee of \$150 has remained the same for 2017.*

Free tax preparation help is available across the region to those who qualify.

Dial 2-1-1 or visit [swpafreetaxes.org](http://swpafreetaxes.org) to learn more.



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 Swissvale Solicitor



1500 One PPG Place Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
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[rmctiernan@tuckerlaw.com](mailto:rmctiernan@tuckerlaw.com) [www.tuckerlaw.com](http://www.tuckerlaw.com)

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# 2016 Snap Shot

- (1) Triangle Bar and Grill was featured on the Cooking Channels show "Cheap Eats."
- (2) The Thrival Concert came to Swissvale featuring Grammy award winners The Chain Smokers and Daya drawing crowds of more than 10,000 people.
- (3) Swissvale Mile winner Dave Spell finished in just 5 minutes, 24 seconds. Dave is pictured with platinum sponsor Adnan Pehlivan, owner of Istanbul Sofra.
- (4) Netflix transformed Noble Street into 1970s Altoona, Pa., for its original show "Mind Hunter."
- (5) Swissvale was spotted on the NBC hit TV drama "This Is Us."
- (6) A record number of residents came out to enjoy food, games and the music of Dr. Zoot at Community Days.
- (7) The Annual Car Cruise and Corn Roast sponsored by Busch Brothers Tires and the Swissvale Fire Department showcased more cars than in previous years.
- (8) The Orioles girls' softball team won the U15 league championship for the second year in a row.

