



APRIL 2011

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL

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Pittsburgh, PA 15235

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SPRING 2011 CHURCHILL RECREATION BOARD PROGRAMS (Mark your calendar now. Plan to attend.)

- APR. 23 (Sat.) BUNNY PARADE TO CHURCHILL NEIGHBORHOODS
- MAY 15 (Sun.) BULLOCK PENS PARK COMMUNITY FIX-UP DAY & PICNIC
- MAY 17 (Tues.) PRIMARY ELECTION
- JULY 10 (Sun.) CHURCHILL'S CIVIC LIGHT OPERA GROUP OUTING

ALL ABOARD FOR THE BUNNY EXPRESS!

On Saturday, April 23, the Bunny Parade will travel from neighborhood to neighborhood in Churchill delivering sweet treats to children ages 12 and under. This annual event is co-sponsored by the Churchill Recreation Board and the Churchill Volunteer Fire Company. The timetable listed below is our best estimate on arrival times at each location.



BUNNY SCHEDULE

TIME	STREET	TIME	STREET
10:00	McCRADY/SAYBROOK	12:10	GARRICK
10:10	FOREST	12:20	FENWICK
10:20	COLLINS	12:30	OLD BEULAH/BEULAH
10:30	HOLLYWOOD	12:40	WOODLAND HILLS
10:45	BARTON	12:50	KINGSDALE
10:55	MARBURY	1:00	HOMER
11:00	GREENSBURG PIKE	1:10	HAMPSTEAD
11:10	MARGATE	1:20	ROSE
11:20	GARDEN TERRACE	1:30	BRANNING
11:35	RURAL COURT	1:40	HOLLAND
11:45	HENLEY	1:50	HUNTINGDON
11:55	THORNBERRY	2:00	RIDGEWOOD
		2:15	NOTTINGHAM/SCATHELOCKE
		2:30	CHURCHILL

SUNDAY IN THE PARK --- OUR BULLOCK PENS PARK!

Experience "spring in bloom" at our Bullock Pens Park (BPP), on Sunday, May 15. The Churchill Recreation Board is hosting a picnic in the park from 1:00 to 3:00 pm that day. Perhaps you remember your children attending Day Camp at Bullock Pens but haven't been back there for many years. Perhaps you have moved to Churchill in recent years and are unaware that we even have a park, and if so where it might be located. [Travel East on McCrady Road, past Beulah Church, continuing until a sign warns you not to go the wrong way on an exit ramp by the Parkway. Turn left onto an unmarked road that is almost hidden next to a golf course. It dead ends at BPP.]

This outing will be a chance for youngsters to climb hills, explore valleys, and listen for bird calls. It will be a chance for adults to be outside and commune with nature and maybe even pull a few weeds to keep our park looking good. We will grill hot dogs and have a family picnic lunch for those attending between the hours of 1:00 and 3:00 pm. Drs. Joan & Milton Gottlieb have offered to lead a nature hike on the one mile trail in the woods to highlight our native plants and discuss invasive plants in our area. If, by chance, it is raining that day, we will just have an indoor picnic in the Yagle Room of the Churchill Borough Building, ---but let's think positive to a bright sunny spring day! If you plan to attend, please call the Churchill Borough Office at (412) 241-7113 so the CRB can prepare the right amount of food, without waste or want.

SUMMERTIME VACATION IN THE 'BURGH: A TRIP TO THE BENEDUM FOR A CLO MATINEE

CLO'S WORLD PREMIER OF LOVE CHANGES EVERYTHING will be the destination for Churchill's music lovers on Sunday afternoon, July 10. Love Changes Everything is a song and dance celebration of Andrew Lloyd Webber's music, featuring a magnificent orchestra and a full company of singers and dancers. Experience the entire spectrum of human emotion through the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber featuring some of the most successful theatrical works of our time, including: The Phantom of the Opera, Cats, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Evita and Variations, the breathtaking dance sequence featured in Song and Dance, and much, much more.

This 2 pm matinee at the Benedum Center is a perfect opportunity to appreciate great music, great staging, and the great company of your Churchill neighbors. Families, singles, widows, couples, --- everyone can enjoy a Broadway quality production without traveling to NY. Carpools can be arranged if you are interested.

The Churchill Recreation Board has reserved a block of 20 tickets at a special group rate, giving you a discount on the ticket price, as well as eliminating the handling fee, which is usually added to the cost of each ticket. Because this is a very special rate, the firm deadline for ordering tickets is Wednesday, May 18th. Send your check for \$45.75 per person, made payable to The Borough of Churchill, to the Churchill Borough Office, 2300 Wm. Penn Hwy., Pittsburgh, PA 15235. Any tickets unsold after May 19th will be returned to the CLO for resale to the general public.



CHURCHILL BOOK CLUB

At the March meeting of the Churchill Book Club, members selected the following books for the rest of the spring schedule:

April 20 Wednesday *Sisters* by Meg Waite Clayton

May 18 *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo

June 15 *Back Roads* by Tawnie O'Dell

The Churchill Book Club usually meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm in the Yagle Room of the Churchill Borough Building. There will be no meetings, however, in July or August. The group will resume meeting on September 21st. All Churchill residents are welcome to join.



SPRING LEAF PICK UP will be held on Monday, April 25 and May 9.

LEAVES ONLY are to be placed in paper, biodegradable bags and placed at the curb Sunday evening. These are the only two dates scheduled for spring. Bags may be purchased at the Municipal Building at a cost of \$3.00/5 bags or at Tyke's Shell Station on the Greensburg Pike. If you have additional leaf bags after the May pick up, you will have to contact a landscaper to arrange for removal.



CHURCHILL GARDEN CLUB celebrates 60 Years at a special event on Wednesday, May 11 beginning at 9am at the Churchill Municipal Building. One of the club's current projects is helping to maintain the two community garden areas at the corner of Beulah & Churchill Road and at the Churchill Road entrance/exit ramps of the parkway. Anyone wishing to attend the celebration, please RSVP by April 30 to Pat Hauser at 412-243-0456.

An OCCUPANCY INSPECTION

is required for all homes whenever a sale occurs or there is a change in tenants. You must contact the Borough Office to arrange for the inspection to insure all safety measures are enforced. A letter will be mailed to all homeowners that have more than one property to gather information concerning tenants. Compliance is required under Ordinance No. 661, § 304-8.



*Notes from Mayor
McKenna...*

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please consider joining the Garden Brigade. This group meets on Saturday mornings at 9am at the Churchill Commons located on the corner of Beulah & Churchill Roads. Dates this year are: April 9, 23 - May 7, 21 - June 4, 18 - July 2, 16, 30 - August 13, 27 - September 10, 24 - and October 8, 22. We will be planting, weeding, and sharing garden stories. So please...get involved....give back to your community and help beautify our Borough!

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY – MAY 17, 2011

On Tuesday, May 17th the Pennsylvania primary election will be held to select candidates for the November general election. In Churchill we will be choosing people from each political party to run for: PA Superior Court and Commonwealth Court (one judicial position for each). Allegheny County Executive, Treasurer, District Attorney, Controller, and two judges on the Court of Common Pleas. District Justice (Magistrate) for Churchill. Woodland Hills School Board (three positions "at large" and one position in Region 1 - Churchill, Wilkins, Chalfant, Turtle Creek). NOTE: This is the first election under the new School Board reorganization. Churchill Borough Council (several re-election and open seats will be on the ballot)



Help maintain Churchill's excellent election turnout by voting in every election after learning all you can about the candidates seeking your vote.

The Borough Office has voter registration forms for anyone 18 years of age by Election Day and absentee ballot applications for those who are very elderly, incapacitated, or expect to be out of town or away at school on Election Day. The deadline for new registrations is April 18; absentee ballots must be submitted by May 13. Call the Borough Office (412-241-7113) or the Allegheny County Election Bureau (412-350-4500) if you have questions about the election or if you are uncertain about your polling location.

The Polls in Churchill will be open from

7 am until 8 pm on May 17. Polling locations are:

District 1 - Churchill Borough Building's Yagle Room,
2300 Wm. Penn Hwy.

Districts - 2 & 3 Woodland Hills Administration Building,
2430 Greensburg Pike

District 4 - Pace School, located behind the WH Admin. Bldg,
2432 Greensburg Pike

Although the "odd year" local elections do not receive the attention that the "even year" elections do, in many ways the decisions of your local officials have a greater impact on your quality of life. You may not be in the military, but it is your patriotic duty to march to the polls on May 17th and cast your vote that our military is fighting to protect.

Churchill has a long-standing tradition of installing candidate yard signs no sooner than two weeks prior to an election (May 3rd for the primary this year). Please remove signs promptly.

CHURCHILL REPUBLICAN

COMMITTEE is sponsoring an informational seminar to learn about the Republican candidates running for County Executive this year. Mr. Chuck McCullough and Mr. D. Raja are expected to attend and present their views on issues facing Allegheny County. In addition, new Republican candidates for Churchill Borough Council, Jim DiPerna and Scott Morley, will also be available to discuss your Churchill Borough issues and concerns after the seminar. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13 at 7:30pm in the Yagle Room in the Churchill Borough Building. We hope to see you at the meeting.



IT'S SPRING AT LAST

LITTER. On Fridays, when putting out your weekly garbage and trash, check the street area in front of and across from your property. Remove litter to your trash container and accept everyone's appreciation for keeping Churchill attractive and safe. Carry a plastic bag for cleanups when walking your dog or out for exercise.

OAK WILT ALERT

Churchill Borough is home to a large number of mature oak (*Quercus*) trees, particularly in the aptly named Royal Oak section off Beulah Road.

With homeowner help, these oaks survived the gypsy moth surge of 1990, but the trees are threatened now by an aggressive fungal disease called oak wilt. The fungus (*Ceratocystis fagacearum*) appears to be an eastern U.S. native, unlike the chestnut blight that was introduced from Asia. However, oak wilt has the potential to be equally lethal, especially to black, red, and pin oaks, all of which can die of wilt infections in a matter of weeks or months. White oaks die more slowly, one branch at a time, over several years.

Infection occurs when the fungus moves underground across the connected roots of closely planted oaks. It can also be carried considerable distances from tree to tree by sap beetles and other insects that feed on the fruity-smelling spore mats breaking through the bark of newly killed trees. Symptoms of oak wilt infection vary somewhat, but include rapid leaf discoloration, wilting, leaf drop, and death. The top of the tree crown is the first to be affected, suddenly undergoing an off-green to bronze color shift in early summer followed by severe wilting, leaf drop, and death. There are other afflictions suffered by oaks (e.g. anthracnose, "oak decline," borer insects, and the gypsy moth defoliations mentioned earlier), so accurate diagnosis of oak wilt by a licensed arborist is important before control measures are considered. The city of Pittsburgh recently cleared several acres of infected oaks in Frick Park in a "fingers crossed" effort to block the spread of oak wilt.

If you have an oak tree on your property be aware that its life may be abruptly ended if it becomes infected. There are no known "cures," but fungicides like propiconazole can prevent oak wilt if injected into healthy, non-symptomatic trees. The treatment is expensive and creates injection wounds that may themselves



become infection sites. Oaks have some natural resistance to fungal infections but it varies genetically in individual trees, as do all traits. Probably the best thing is to help your tree stay healthy throughout its natural life span.

Never prune an oak tree between April and November. This is good advice for most tree species. Late fall through winter is the best time to do trimming because trees are dormant, their sap is quiescent, and the spread of disease through fresh cuts is minimized.

Avoid injuring healthy trees. Keep mowers and other equipment from hitting tree trunks. If injury occurs accidentally or from a severe storm treat the wounds with wound dressing or tree "paint." Such treatments are not advised for general use since they seal in water along with infections, but they may protect against oak wilt during the vulnerable growing season. They should not be used during

the dormant months.

Irrigate your oak tree during prolonged droughts to minimize water stress. One inch of water per week is the general rule and drip methods are best. Water early in the day for maximum effectiveness, allowing time for surfaces to dry before the evening cool that encourages fungal growth and slug foraging.

Feed your tree in early spring and again in early summer when the need for minerals and water is especially high. Use an all-purpose garden fertilizer with no added herbicides or insecticides, following package directions carefully.

Never transport "found wood" from other areas for use at your home. If not properly dried and treated, it may harbor the spores of pathogens, including oak wilt. Chestnut blight was probably brought to this country in imported lumber around 1900, and by 1940 all mature American chestnut trees were wiped out.

Oak wilt has been known in the U.S. since 1944 but its impact has been felt only since the 1980's. Its increasing effect may be related to genetic changes in the fungus, aging of oak trees, increased development and construction wounding in oak woodlands, weather extremes and climate shifts, or other factors. Much more research is needed but our magnificent oaks may be running out of time.

ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL NEWS

The Churchill Area Environmental Council is working on an advisory for residents on Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling. It will aim to present background information, with emphasis on state and local issues and web sources for factual updates. Look for this new advisory on the information rack in the lobby of the Borough Building in early June.

A monetary, environmental graduation award is made each year to a qualified Woodland Hills High School senior. If you know a student who will be a senior next September urge him/her to select an environmental project (within the school or in the community) and carry it out before the next deadline (March 31, 2012). Teachers and scout leaders can help students select a project and supervise its completion. Application forms are available at the Borough Building, at the high school, or on line at the CAEC web site: www.cpeg-inc.com/caec

ELIMINATE STANDING WATER

Empty any containers of standing water on your property. If spring is as wet as winter has been, a bumper crop of disease-

bearing mosquitoes can be expected soon. They can lay eggs and hatch a whole new generation every two weeks in small amounts of stagnant water. If you have an outdoor pond or water feature use a pump to keep the water in motion, or get a few larvae-eating fish at a store like Elmer's Aquarium. When used regularly, Bt pellets like "Dunks" (available at most hardware stores) will kill mosquito larvae, but are safe for birds, cats or dogs drinking the water.



Spring CLEANING

Clear your property of any unwanted items that have accumulated outside. A Churchill Ordinance prohibits throwing any items over a hill if that portion of the slope is part of your property. Call the Borough Office for advice on proper disposal of large items.



Make sure your smoke alarm has a fresh battery if needed, and you replace your carbon monoxide detector if it is past its printed expiration date.

BUS CHANGES IN CHURCHILL

A Churchill Transportation Committee is meeting with Port Authorities officials to try to restore some of our bus service scheduled to be cut on March 27th. As of this newsletter's deadline, we don't know whether that meeting will result in any success. If additional or continued service is achieved, we will put that information on the Churchill website ([HYPERLINK "http://www.churchillborough.com/"](http://www.churchillborough.com/) www.churchillborough.com) and also include it in the summer newsletter.



RECYCLE



Take glass jars/bottles and crushed aluminum/steel cans to the Volunteer Center on the parking lot of the Woodland Hills Administration Building (Greensburg Pike) on the first Sunday of each month from 10AM – 1PM.

Newspaper, junk mail and magazines may be inserted into the Abitibi container on the lower parking lot at the Borough Building.

There are several locations in the area where residents can take their unwanted televisions, computer monitors, laptops and CPU towers to be recycled for free. They are: eLoop, llc, Construction Junction, ATM Laser and The Computer Café. Each of these businesses has a website that you can visit for the address, hours of operations, phone number, etc.

There are bins for nearly all recyclable items on the parking lot of Construction Junction (N. Lexington St. off Penn Ave. in Pt. Breeze) during daylight hours every day. Plastic items (#s1-5), corrugated cardboard, paperboard, phone books, hard-cover books, newspaper, cans, glass, and more can be recycled in one trip.

Allegheny County residents can still call the Appliance Warehouse to schedule a free curb-side pick up of unwanted refrigerators, freezer, air conditioners, water coolers and dehumidifiers. The telephone number is 1-888-463-7366.

Fluorescent light bulbs contain small amounts of mercury. The compact types can be recycled at Home Depot (in a bin near the service desk). Other fluorescent lamps should be well wrapped in airtight, sealable bags dusted inside with sulphur powder (available at garden supply centers or on-line) to bind the mercury in case of breakage. Place the prepared package in the trash. Ask for the 2009 CAEC advisory "The State of Recycling" at the Borough Building for more recycling options.

The Borough of Churchill
2300 William Penn Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

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