

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL

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October 2018



We lost our friend and colleague, Councilman Raymond G. Jurewicz, on August 7, 2018. He had been elected by the residents and began his official service to the Borough in January 2012. Ray was chairman of the garbage/recycling committee where he worked tirelessly to implement a “zero waste” policy and helped educate the residents by holding classes to familiarize them with the “do’s and don’ts” of single-stream recycling. He further served as chairman of the recreation and engineering services committee and also served on the general finance, health and welfare, insurance and pensions, roads and streets, and zoning committees. Ray dedicated his time, talents and considerable energy to the service of his fellow citizens and did so with dedication, distinction, honor and excellence. He is greatly missed.



DOOR-TO-DOOR TRICK OR TREAT

will take place between the hours of 6-8 pm on Wednesday, October 31, 2018. Please light the entrance to your home if you plan to participate by distributing goodies. Try to have your child wear something reflective. The Police and Fire Departments will be patrolling the streets.



FALL LEAF COLLECTION

Leaf pick up dates are on the following Tuesdays: Oct. 30, Nov. 13, 27 and Dec. 11. Please place leaves only in paper, biodegradable bags at the curb on Monday evening. Leaves in plastic bags will not be picked up. The leaves are composted and next June the “Black Gold” will be available as a rich fertilizer for your trees and shrubs. If you gather more leaves after the last date of pick up on Dec. 11, you will need to make special arrangements with a landscaper or other contractor to have them removed.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

We have a new officer, Jesse Lachimia. If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to address, please report any complaints to the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments – Code Enforcement Department @ 412-372-3831 or email him at JL@tcvcog.com. We all want our municipality maintained in the standard that most residents expect.

WOODLAND HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX INFORMATION

As a reminder, your tax payment is due at the face amount by October 31 or a 10% penalty will be assessed. If you choose the installment plan the dates are as follows: First installment is due October 31, 2018, second is January 31, 2019, last one is March 31, 2019. All checks are to be made payable to Daniel R. Duerring, Real Estate Tax Collector. As a reminder, if you paid off your mortgage please call the borough office to let us know.

GENERAL ELECTION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018

It's Time for the Midterm Elections!



The president and vice-president are elected every four years, but members of the House of Representatives are elected for only two years at a time. Thus, every presidential term is punctuated at the two-year mark by a “mid-term” election for **all 435 seats in the House**. Also, voters in many states will be choosing between candidates for seats in the U.S. Senate. The term of a U.S. senator is six years, which means that every other year—whether it is a full presidential election or a midterm election—**roughly a third of the seats in the Senate are in contention**. What do midterm elections mean for Pennsylvania? **Pa. voters will elect a governor, a U.S. senator, 18 members of Congress, 25 state senators and 203 state representatives. In short, control of both the U.S. Congress and state government are up for grabs.**

If you have questions about voting, call the Borough Office (412-241-7113), or the County Election Division (412-350-4500), or go to www.churchillborough.com and see items 5 and 6 under the FAQ tab.

THE LINE-UP FOR THE NOVEMBER 6 GENERAL ELECTION:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Governor

Lieutenant Governor

Representative in the General Assembly

Federal Government

U.S. Senator

U.S. Representative

Referendum

County of Allegheny

Proposed Home Rule Charter Amendment

Special Election Question

“Shall the Allegheny County Home Rule Charter be amended to establish the Allegheny County Children’s Fund, funded by Allegheny County levying and collecting an additional 0.25 mills, the equivalent of \$25 on each \$100,000 of assessed value, on all taxable real estate, beginning January 1, 2019 and thereafter, to be used to improve the well being of children through the provision of services throughout the County including early childhood learning, after school programs, and nutritious meals.

Churchill has a long-standing tradition of installing **candidate yard signs no earlier than two weeks prior**

to an election. For this election, that would be **Monday, October 22, 2018**. Also, please remove these signs promptly after the election is over. Let’s all vote on Tuesday, November 6th!

MAYOR’S LETTER FALL 2018

Some of the highlights of the past year have been the replacement of one of our police vehicles and acquiring body cameras for our officers. Our long time Police Chief, Roch Kujava has retired and we welcome new hire officer Christopher Shell. Officer Bill Pleins has taken over the duties of Officer In Charge. The department received training in the use of NARCAN (naloxone), a lifesaving drug that reverses the effect of an opioid overdose. Our Volunteer Fire Department, with help from the Borough, was able to purchase a new state-of-the-art fire truck. We saw a number of roads paved during the 2018 season and road repair remains a priority. We thank residents for their patience in this process.



Property values seem to be on everyone’s mind and this is the responsibility of the home owner. Simple fixes could resolve many problems. Keeping the grass cut, pulling weeds, picking up dead tree branches, and painting would go a long way to improve the aesthetics. Please clear sidewalks and front street of your grass clippings. Unsightly conditions, such as crumbling walkways or falling walls, should be addressed. Please be reminded that snow removal from public sidewalks is the responsibility of the homeowner and should be cleared in a timely manner. We are asking residents to also adhere to placing refuse out for pickup no earlier than 6 p.m. the night before and to remove containers as soon as possible. We also urge residents to keep refuse containers out of sight from street view. Keeping them in the garage or building a fence to hide them is reasonable.

The Borough, in cooperation with both the Churchill and Blackridge Garden Clubs, continues to maintain common garden areas and organize groups to pick up litter along roadways and parkway exits. I urge you to join us in these efforts by contacting me at the Borough Office to be added to our work force. Our volunteer work crew is slowly increasing.

I would like to remind residents that Council holds

its regular monthly meeting the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in council Chambers at the Borough Building. I would invite you to attend and let Council hear your concerns. We were elected to serve you and we need to hear from you. Please check the Borough website for more information on the meetings. Visit us at www.churchillborough.com.

"Beautify the Bioswale" Project

Two recent infrastructure projects have dramatically changed the horticultural landscape of the Churchill Borough Building. Both the new ADA accessible ramp and concurrent bioswale installation necessitated the removal of mature foundation plantings. Churchill Council President Jay Dworin recently requested input from residents to help beautify these areas. A small committee has been formed (The Rain Garden Advisory Group) to help assist Borough Management in selecting plants for installation in the bioswale. It is our goal to improve water quality via enhanced infiltration and to improve the appearance of this public space.

The bioswale is a shallow, open channel that reduces rain water run-off during a storm. Churchill's new bioswale collects water from the small parking lot on the west side of the borough building and directs it in to a retention ditch recently constructed directly outside of the Yagle Room. Water diverted into the swale is slowly absorbed into the soil and/or discharged back into the storm sewer within 24-48 hours after a storm. While effective, its current appearance is an eyesore that detracts from the architectural beauty of our Borough Building. A well designed rain garden should help improve ground water infiltration and provide wildlife habitat while enhancing the beauty of the site.

The committee is currently reviewing the landscape drawings created by the Borough engineers together with plans for appropriate rain garden design for western Pennsylvania per recommendations from the Cornell University Horticulture program, the Penn State Extension program, and the Rain Garden Alliance. We plan to incorporate the existing memorial garden, created in honor of former Borough Manager Louis Bruwelheide, into the design for the new rain garden. The plant selections will feature native and deer resistant trees, shrubs, and perennials.

Residents who have experience with growing native plants and/or rain garden design are welcome to join the new Rain Garden Advisory Group. Please contact April Kline by email at ahkline@comcast.net if you are inter-

ested in helping to make this project a success.

by April H. Kline

A Garden Club... "and so much more!"

Churchill Garden Club's tagline, "...and so much more" has never been more apt as it is this year. In August, Garden Club volunteers were delightful by the many children (and adults) who stopped by the CGC Flowerpot Painting booth to decorate flowerpots filled with marigolds to take home as beautiful souvenirs of Churchill's 1st Annual Community Day.



Churchill Garden Club members at Churchill Community Day in August included (L-R) Pattie Gamrat, Eileen Kisloff, Christianne Corey, Shirley Golden and Eileen Gelet

Continuing in our "...and so much more" fashion, a jammed-packed year of great activities and field trips has been planned, beginning with our September visit to the "Garden with Sound and Music" at Phipps.

Coming up:

- October** - a tour of Kentuck Knob
- November** - holiday floral designs with Polly Bergin
- December** - trading laughs and gifts at our annual CGC holiday brunch
- January** - no meetings
- /February**
- March** - paper-making with pressed flowers from our gardens
- April** - terrarium workshop at Penn Hills Lawn and Garden Center
- May** - a cooking demo with the Traveling Chef,
- June** - tour of Clayton's mansion, gardens and antique cars.

For specific dates, please go to: <http://www.churchillborough.com/around-town/churchill-area-garden-club.aspx> At each meeting, April Kline's detailed horticultural reports help us keep our yards, gardens, and community in good health and beautiful shape.

CGC members, who continually volunteer their time keeping the Churchill Commons (at the intersection of Beulah and Churchill Roads), the parkway entrance/exit, and intersection planters blooming, weed-free and rid of trash, will be easier to spot from now on. With our brightly colored CGC t-shirts, you can't miss us!

We would like to offer a warm welcome to our newest

members - we are very glad to have you in CGC! - as well as extend an invitation to everyone who shares our interest in gardening...and so much more, to join Churchill Garden Club. Please contact Carolyn Hankinson at ckhcapemay@verizon.net if you are interested in joining.

Churchill Community Day 2018

The gray clouds blew away and a perfect sunny day made our 1st annual Churchill Borough Community Day the place to be on August 11. Pace School generously allowed us to use their lawn on Greensburg Pike where we enjoyed music, food truck fare, and getting to know our neighbors. Kids enjoyed lawn games, face painting, and spin art and went home with Frosty certificates, balloon animal creations, and quite a few Smiley Cookies.

The Churchill Recreation Board thanks the businesses that made donations to our awesome gift basket raffle, the clubs and organizations that made everyone feel welcome, and the Churchill residents who stopped by—it wouldn't have been a party without you!



Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 6, 2018

1-3 pm

at Braddock's Battlefield History Center
609 Sixth St.

Braddock, PA 15104

(light refreshments provided)



Sunday, October 28, 2018 2-4 pm Yagle Room, Churchill Borough Building Children's Halloween Party "MasquerMake: Costume Accessories" with Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse, games, prizes, treats, and refreshments

Thursday, November 8, 2018 Recreation Board Fund-raiser at Anthony's Coal Fire Pizza 2740 Stroschein Road 412-373-0700. Mention Churchill Borough Recreation Board and 20% of all tracked dine in and take out sales will be donated to Churchill Borough Recreation Board.



Borough Council Welcomes Adam P. McDowell

A special meeting was held on Tuesday, September 4th to fill the vacant Council seat due to the passing of Raymond G. Jurewicz. Adam P. McDowell was appointed. He resides on Henley Drive with his wife since July 2017. He is a graduate of Duquesne University and Duquesne Law School. He is employed by the University of Pittsburgh in the Office of Research. We welcome his experiences and background. We look forward to working with him.



CHURCHILL AREA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL (CAEC) NEWS

NEW ADVISORY

The CAEC has issued a new community advisory -“**ADDRESSING COMMON CONTAMINANTS -ASBESTOS, LEAD, RADON**” to inform residents about potential health dangers from exposure to three common contaminants that may be in our homes and the local environment. Known risks are reviewed along with recommendations on how to avoid and/or mitigate personal exposure.

This advisory is **FREE** and available at the Municipal Building during regular business hours. Or, you can download a copy anytime from the CAEC website hosted at churchillborough.com. Simply click “Around Town” on the menu bar, scroll down to “Churchill Area Environmental Council,” and go to “Advisories.” Be sure to check for other recent advisories of interest to you, e.g. “The State of Recycling, 2017 Update,” “Marcellus Shale Update -2016,” “Sewage Overload Solutions -2015” and many more.

The emphasis in all CAEC advisories is on **local news** pertaining to these topics.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRADUATION AWARD



The CAEC and its member municipalities (Chalfant, Churchill, Forest Hills, Wilkins) will sponsor a 2019 Graduation Award for a qualifying environmental project.

Any senior graduating from Woodland Hills High School in 2019 is eligible to apply, although the project may be completed during any high school year.

The deadline for receiving applications is March 31,

2019. The project cannot be an essay on some environmental topic or issue, but must represent “hands-on” activity initiated by the applicant in a leadership role. It must be carried out within the schools or municipalities of the WHSD.

For more information, examples of project topics and types, and a copy of the application form, go to the CAEC website (see above), the Guidance Office, or most department chairpersons at WHHS. A variety of new topics suggested this year should appeal to students in the arts, including environmental messaging (videos, public service announcements and/or commercials, poster displays, yearbook cartoons, and the like).



DOES MONEY GROW ON TREES?

[The Tree Committee of Churchill is an official ad hoc committee of Churchill Borough Council’s Zoning Committee. It was formed at the request of concerned and dedicated residents who wanted to act to preserve the beautiful trees throughout our borough. The Committee has had two productive meetings, and as a result of their discussions and research, they have written an informative report, “Does Money Grow on Trees?” for the benefit of our citizens.]

Trees give us the necessities of life itself: clean air and clean drinking water. Can you put a price tag on these benefits? Yes, if you sell timber for making paper and other products or for giving us food and medicine. Yes, if you consider the financial sum of environmental and aesthetic benefits. However, when you add up all the benefits that trees provide, the price becomes incalculable. Trees are one of the greatest resources on earth.

Take a drive through Churchill and one of the first things you will notice is the abundance of trees. These trees are

an important contributor to our community image, inspiring a sense of beauty and a welcoming atmosphere for both residents and visitors alike. If you ask borough residents why they chose to live in Churchill, many of them will say it was the trees that influenced their decision. It is important to preserve this strong tie between people and trees in our community to enhance our own quality of life and to continue projecting an image of Churchill as being a desirable place to live.

In recent years, numerous trees in our community have been cut down for various reasons. Removing a tree on your property affects not only you, but also your neighbors and the beauty of the entire community. Obviously, if a tree is decayed, diseased, or poses a safety hazard, it is prudent to remove the tree. However, before removing a tree just for personal preference or to make yard maintenance easier, consider the benefits that trees provide and consider the consequences to your neighbors and community. Consider your neighbor's privacy, view, and especially, stormwater run-off. Tree removal disrupts the absorption of rain water and alters the flow of storm water run-off. Several homes in our borough have flooded for the first time in recent years, some of which can be traced to tree removal on nearby properties. Removing a tree that is a little inconvenient to you could result in a lot of inconvenience for your neighbors. If it does become necessary to remove a tree on your property, consider planting another tree in its place to preserve the balance of the ecosystem and the beauty of our community.

The entire article containing information on the benefits of trees (personal/social, community, and environmental), planting new trees, how to care for trees, insects and diseases (particularly to prevent oak wilt), and local and website resources can be accessed on the borough website www.churchillborough.com.



REMINDERS

- When cutting grass, blowing leaves, or removing snow from your sidewalk never throw it onto the street. Snow needs to be removed within 24 hours. During snow events do not park on the street so the snow trucks/plows can maneuver in an efficient manner.
- If you would like to be on the no-solicitation list please call the Borough office.
- Keep your doors and cars locked and don't leave valuables such as cell phones, money, computers, etc. in visible sight.
- Check regularly with your elderly neighbors, not only during winter months, but all year long.
- Daylight savings ends on Saturday, November 3, 2018. Don't forget to replace the batteries in your smoke detector when you turn your clocks back one hour.
- Churchill Borough Ordinance No. 645 states that dogs need to be on a leash at all times. They also need to stay in the confines of their yard.

THE COMMON GARDENS

The Common Gardens located at the top of Beulah and Churchill roads is going to have a major facelift. With generous donations from the Churchill Garden club and Churchill - Wilkins Rotary, we have contracted Sylvan Gardens landscape contractors to reduce the size of the gardens making it more manageable for the volunteers who put many hours of work into maintaining the area.

NEW BUS SHELTER

The new bus shelter at Beulah and McCrady roads is scheduled for installation on October 11, 2018.

ADA RAMP

The final details for the ADA ramp at the Borough building are near completion. We were able to get Community Development Block Grant funding in the amount of \$43,000.00.





CHURCHILL BOROUGH – SWIFTREACH PROGRAM

In an effort to provide more reliable communication with residents and businesses within the borough, we have implemented the Swiftreach Networks, Inc., as our Emergency Notification Service Provider.

Swift 911 in its simplest form is a system that will prompt alerts to specific people or areas in the event of an emergency or to share important information. This system can alert the customer through phone calls, text messages, or email. Any message received from the Swiftreach System will have a caller I.D. of Churchill Borough or email from office@churchillborough.com.

In order to be added to the system, please complete the form below and return it to our office via email to: office@churchillborough.com or send to:

Borough of Churchill
2300 William Penn Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Borough Office at 412-241-7113.

*******PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY*******

Property Address: _____

Contact Name: _____
Last Name
First Name
Middle Initial

Email: _____

Please Circle to Identify

Phone #1: _____ HOME CELL WORK

Optional Phone #2: _____ HOME CELL WORK

Optional Phone #3: _____ HOME CELL WORK



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

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Save the Date!

Wine Pairing & Dinner

*An evening of fine wine,
excellent food and music...*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2018
5:30 PM

GRANDVIEW GOLF CLUB
1000 CLUBHOUSE DR, NORTH BRADDOCK, PA 15104

\$100 PER PERSON

INCLUDES:

- MULTIPLE COURSE MEAL, PAIRED WITH
- APPROPRIATE WINES**
- ENTERTAINMENT
- SILENT AUCTION

Reservations for this event are limited, and must be made by **October 25, 2018**

To purchase tickets or for more information please contact:

Mary Halechko

Email: halechko@comcast.net

Phone: (412) 824-2556

All net proceeds are used to benefit local community programs, such as Scholarships, School Lunches, Summer Camps, Food Pantries, Meals on Wheels, and Special Needs Projects



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