



RELEASE
May 17, 2016

Contact: Sarah Alessio Shea
Chair, Clean Pittsburgh Commission
Phone: (412) 773.7156
Info@cleanpittsburgh.org

Clean Pittsburgh Commission Presents Bob Award Winners

A number of volunteers, community groups and neighborhoods will be honored at the May 19th Clean Pittsburgh Commission's (CPC) Meet and Greet Mixer at the 26th Street Market & Deli with the annual "Bob Awards" for their efforts to beautify city neighborhoods. The Awards, a tribute to the late Mayor Bob O'Connor and his dedication to cleaning up the city, were created to recognize local efforts to clean-up, prevent and eliminate litter in City neighborhoods and will be presented by Councilman Corey O'Connor and Judy O'Connor.

Awards to be presented at the event included Volunteer of the Year, which is given to one volunteer each year whose service is exemplary in cleaning and greening. It encompasses not only the actual work done, but also the volunteer's ability to mobilize their community, incorporate city resources, and in general raise the profile of clean and green work done in their community. The winner of this year's Volunteer of the Year is Ed Gergerich.

Ed is a long time resident of Brighton Heights who volunteers up to 20 hours per week to keep this neighborhood clean and its gardens looking beautiful. His fellow neighbors had the following to say about Ed:

"Ed is a person who makes his community his first priority"

"Ed has been an influencing and positive volunteer for the neighborhood of Brighton Heights"

"Ed exemplifies former Mayor O'Connor's dedication to and passion for inspiring all of Pittsburgh neighbors. He is someone who has done so much to make Brighton Heights a cleaner more beautiful neighborhood."

The Clean Pittsburgh Commission is proud to acknowledge such a dedicated volunteer and residents as Ed.

The CPC will present the Bob Award for Neighborhood of the Year to Carrick. This award is given to a neighborhood that routinely works on clean and green initiatives. For this award, the commission looks at collaboration among community organizations and residents, active clean and green initiatives in the community, and work with other local environmental organizations. Carrick is committed to keeping it's neighborhood clean. In addition to a large scale clean up in October with students from the University of Pittsburgh, clean ups are organized and carried out the last Wednesday of every month. During these cleanups, community members gather to tackle locations deemed by the residents as the dirtiest spots. Carrick also holds a large-scale Earth Day clean-up effort and hits every street located in Carrick.

The "Bob Awards" are a highlight of the CPC's annual event honoring local neighborhood leaders who go above and beyond to make their neighborhoods a better place to live.

The event is also a time for the Commission to highlight their work over the past year first through presenting of the Commission's 2015 Annual Report which details the activities involving litter prevention, illegal dumping, graffiti, and recycling from the previous year. The report will be accessible online at <http://pittsburghpa.gov/cpc/>. The CPC will also highlight their efforts in the Commission's current Neighborhoods of Focus Beltzhoover, Allentown, and Knoxville.

###