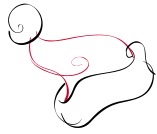




Office of Councilman Patrick Dowd — December 2011



NEWS AND UPDATES

Local Senior Centers Help Our Seniors All Year Round

Monday through Friday, at 15 senior centers throughout the City, those ages 60+ can enjoy a nutritious and satisfying meal with Citiparks while socializing with neighbors, friends and volunteers. District 7 boasts four senior centers: two related to Citiparks and two sponsored by the Catholic Youth Association. They are located in Lawrenceville (two centers – one at 4600 Butler Street and another at the Stephen Foster Center), Morningside (6944 Presidents Way) and Polish Hill (West Penn Rec Center).

Every year at the holidays, the senior centers sponsor parties to celebrate the season. Councilman Dowd enjoys attending the parties and contributing cookies to help spread some holiday cheer. Please contact your local center for times of special parties and activities for the holiday season. And if you have some free time, please volunteer to share some time with these valuable programs.

The Senior Community Centers are open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for major holidays. To find out information about specific programs and centers, call the one [nearest you](#) or call the City's information line at (412) 422-6401.

Recently Presented Proclamations

11/10/11 – Stanton Heights native **Gene A. Pietragallo, Jr**, lead actor in and co-producer of the independent film *The Encore of Tony Duran* was presented with a proclamation declaring “*Tony Duran Day*” in the City of Pittsburgh. The film was winner of “Best Feature Film” at the Santa Fe Independent Film Festival, winner of “Audience Favorite” at the Tallgrass Film Festival, and winner of the Jury Prize for “Best Feature Film” at the Las Vegas Film Festival. Although Tony Duran is a fictional character; the name pays homage to Gene's late father, Gene A. Pietragallo, Sr., who appeared under the stage name “Tony Duran” throughout his professional singing career.

11/21/11 - Initially funded by the City's Weed & Seed program, **Unity Art** is a partnership between Lawrenceville United and local artist Donnie Freyer among various other community partners. The Unity Art program ran six weeks on Sunday evenings and instructed 55 students in the various aspects of beginning photography and framing, along with stretching a canvas and painting with acrylics, oils, and aerosols. At the end of the six weeks of instruction, children who participated in the program took part in a community art show on October 22 at the Stephen Foster Center.

If you are aware of a milestone, event or person in your community that deserves special recognition, please email us and we'll try to accommodate your suggestion.

PLEASE NOTE: Help District 7 Go Green!

We are currently preparing the **2011 Annual Report** for distribution early in the new year. If you would like to receive only an electronic copy (not a mailed hard copy), please email Jennifer at jennifer.thoma@pittsburghpa.gov and provide your address so we can remove you from our “snail mail” list.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Council to Go

Join **Councilman Patrick Dowd at Council to Go**, his mobile district office, to voice your concerns, ideas, and questions about local government and services.

Bloomfield — (RESCHEDULED from November) Tuesday, December 6, 7pm-8pm – Crazy Mocha, 4525 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15224

Lawrenceville – Friday, December 16, 7:30am-9am – Perk Me Up, 4407 Butler Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Holiday Hours

Monday, December 26, Christmas Holiday observed – District 7 Office Closed

Monday, January 2, New Year's Holiday observed – District 7 Office Closed

Community Events

Thursday, December 8 – Holiday Networking Mixer – Highland Park, Union Project, 801 N. Negley Avenue, 5:30pm. Free. Sponsored by *Classic Events!*

Friday, December 9 – [BGC Annual Family Holiday Party](#) – Garfield, BGC Community Activity Center, 113 N. Pacific Avenue, 6pm-8pm. Free.

Saturday, December 10 – [Holiday Pottery Tour](#) – Highland Park, all-day, self-guided tour. Celebration at the Union Project Studio, 7pm-11pm. Free. For more information and a map, please go to www.HighlandParkPotteryTour.wordpress.com

Sunday, December 11 – [Merry Morningside](#) – Morningside, Rep. Dom Costa's Office, 6808 Greenwood Street, Caroling at 5pm; party at 6pm. Free.

If you know of any community-oriented events in your District 7 neighborhood that we should publicize through our monthly newsletter and [District 7 website](#), please email jennifer.thoma@pittsburghpa.gov by the 1st of each month.

DID YOU KNOW?

There is a wide range of non-profit organizations that work hard to turn what is often the loneliest time of the year for some in our community into a happy holiday. You can help them help the needy with your gifts of time, money or donations of goods and/or services. Here is just a brief list of those organizations that need your help not only this holiday season, but all year round.

[Community Human Services Holiday Gift Drive](#)

[Holiday Menorah Mitzvah](#)

[East End Cooperative Ministries Christmas Gift Program](#)

[Light of Life Ministries](#)

[Goodfellows Toy Fund](#)

[Presents for Patients](#)

[Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank](#)

[Toys for Tots](#)

[Treasures for Children](#)

To unsubscribe from Council District 7 updates, please notify Jennifer Thoma at jennifer.thoma@pittsburghpa.gov and you or your organization will be removed from our contact list.

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[District 7 Schedule of Events Google Calendar](#) | [2010 Annual Report](#) [pdf]