

# EDGEWOOD

NOVEMBER 2007



*HISTORY UPDATED: An old postcard view of East Swissvale Avenue shows the storefronts now owned by Lami Grubb Architects. The firm has just finished renovating the space formerly known as "The Druggie," including a restoration of the original tin ceiling. The drugstore served railroad patrons and sold penny candy to Edgewood Elementary students. Dick Lithgow was the last proprietor of The Druggie, and his daughter, Susan Lithgow says he served there as an unofficial counselor to the youth of Edgewood. Historical Society President David Grubb says that the building was built by Charles S. Johnston, who ran a meat market in what is now part of the architectural firm. Also in the space was Pete Nuzzo's Shoe Repair, now run by his grandson.*

## Foundation Planning Traditional Frigid Fete for February 9, 2008

As the newsletter goes to press, Edgewoodians are still preparing for Halloween, followed closely by Thanksgiving and Christmas events. Hard to imagine, then, that the Edgewood Foundation is already busily planning its annual frigid February fete, the Progressive Dinner.

The 2008 version of this tradition will be held on Feb. 9. There are several exciting changes this year. The dessert course is moving back into a home – how about yours? And the main course will be catered, so no one will have to make chicken this year. The meal will be delivered to the dinner hosts' homes

as before, early in the day.

The Foundation is hopeful that these changes will make this great event even better! Please read the sign-up form below to RSVP as soon as possible.

In the spirit of innovation, the Foundation encourages you to try something new and sign up for something you haven't done before – at least you won't have chicken!

If you are new to the event, here is how it works. First, you send in your RSVP (found on page three of this newsletter) with your choice of a responsibility you would like to take

on for the event. Next, someone will call you closer to the event date to give you more directions about your choice, where to go for appetizers and what time to show up. Start time will be approximately 5:30 p.m.

After cocktails, you will continue to a different house for dinner. This house is a surprise until you get your nametag at cocktails. Dinner lasts until about 9:30, when we all gather for desserts at yet another location. Please consider joining the Edgewood Foundation and your friends and neighbors for this fun fundraiser.

# EDGEWOOD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



## Library

### Arts and Crafts Fair

The Third Annual Arts and Crafts Fair will be held on Saturday, December 1 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Everything from glassware to woodcarvings, water color paintings to children's toys, and jewelry to weaving – all made by local artisans will be for sale.

An exciting opportunity for children ages six and up: make mosaic tiles with renowned mosaic artist Daviea Davis. There is a charge for this program that benefits the library.

There will also be a raffle of hand-made items from each of the participants. This is a fundraiser for the library, so mark your calendar and plan to attend.

### Save a Life

Heart Saver CPR/AED will again be offered at the library on Tuesday November 27 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. and again on Saturday, December 1 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. William Bake of Eastern Area Ambulance Service will be the instructor. Participants will learn CPR as well as receiving instruction on

the AED life saving device. The cost is \$15. Participants are asked to read the American Heart Association manual in advance. Copies are available at the library. Registration is required.

### Book Clubs

- Drop Dead Book Club, a mystery book club, meets on Wednesday November 14 at 7 p.m. in the boardroom. The book is *The Coroner's Lunch* by Colin Cotteril.
- Genius Book Club, which reads non-fiction, meets on Wednesday, November 28 at 6:30 p.m.

### Thanksgiving Hours

The library will close on Wednesday, November 21 at 5 p.m. and be closed Thanksgiving Day. There will be regular hours the rest of the weekend.

### Honor Books

The library has received a gift of children and adult books on coin collecting in honor of Edward Lowy.

Birthday books were added to the collection in honor of the first birthdays of Quentin Beckwith Lesko and Linden Grace Wallace.

### Gobble Up Some Prizes

Once again, turkeys are on the loose in the library. Find a turkey in a previously selected book and win a prize all month long. Hurry – the contest ends November 30.

### Flannel Jammies in November

Family jammie story hour returns on Wednesday November 7 at 6:30 p.m. Put your jammies on and join the fun.

### Discovery Club

Children in grades two through five are invited to the Discovery Club on Thursdays, November 8 and 15, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. You must sign up by the Wednesday before each session.

### Duct Tape Challenge

Teens are encouraged to find new uses for this old staple on Saturday, November 10 at 1 p.m. Teen programming encourages young people in grades 6-12 to participate in library programming and services.

### National Family Week

The library celebrates on Tuesday, November 13 at 6:30 p.m. We will play bingo and other family games. Register your crew by Saturday, November 10.

### Toddler Time

This program for children 2-5 and a parent will be held Saturday, November 17 at 10:30 a.m. Toddlers will hear stories, sing songs, and do rhymes and a small art project. Reserve your spot before Thursday, November 15.

### Storybook Art

This program, to be held Saturday, November 17 at 1:00 p.m., uses picture books to explore art techniques. Register by Thursday, November 15.

### 'Tis the Season

Children who enjoy the holidays and want to learn more about them are invited to a special program on Saturday, December 8 at 1 p.m. Reserve your spot by Thursday, December 6.

*By Sally Bogie and Andrea McNeill  
Librarians*

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## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The Borough of Edgewood does not specifically endorse any community organization, but welcomes and publishes newsletter announcements from all community groups in the borough. The editor reserves the right to edit announcements for length, content, or to meet editorial policies of the borough. For information on how to submit your news, see the box below.

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EDGEWOOD is mailed at no charge to every household in Edgewood and to EDGEWOOD advertisers. Subscriptions are available to former residents and other interested parties at \$10/yr.

Advertising will be accepted for the December/January issue. Please call **Niki Augustine** (412-371-1711) or e-mail [niki.augustine@gmail.com](mailto:niki.augustine@gmail.com) to obtain rates and reserve ad space.

Deadline for the December/January issue is Thursday, November 15. Please send all articles or correspondence to the attention of the editor, e-mail [edgewoodnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:edgewoodnewsletter@yahoo.com).

## Say goodbye to the 10 minute consult...



# TIME TO TALK

- \* Hospital births
- \* Pap smears
- \* Birth control

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# EDGEWOOD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



## Edgewood Foundation

### The Foundation and the Arts

The Arts Committee is looking for a few good residents to join us in our efforts to enhance the arts in Edgewood. This is not a time-consuming role, but one where you can supply us with your valuable ideas and input.

The Arts Committee is also looking for local artists who are interested in displaying/selling their artwork during our Wine and Chocolate Affair next year.

If you are interested in either of these opportunities please contact Angel Lehrian at angel@lehrian.com or (412) 915-1120.

### Vacancy on the Board

We are still looking for applicants for the open board position. If you are interested please drop a letter of interest at the borough building in care of The Edgewood Foundation. We plan to start our interviews this month and want to make sure we have everyone

who is interested. We look forward to hearing from you.

### Progressive Dinner 2008

All the details on this annual February fling appear on page one of this newsletter. Please fill out your reservation form (below) as soon as possible to help the planning committee and to ensure that you get to make your choice of contribution. The Foundation looks forward to meeting our neighbors at this great party.

### The Foundation is Appealing

The Edgewood Foundation will be soon be conducting its annual fundraising campaign and you should be receiving our appeal letter by early November. Last year, your tax deductible contributions accounted for more than two thirds of our income that we reinvested in our community in support of such traditions as Light-Up Night, Newcomer's Reception, Senior Brunch, Town Hall Meeting and Community Day. For our loyal supporters, we thank you in advance and hope we can count on your continued

support. For those new to the community or the Edgewood Foundation, we hope you will consider a contribution to support our mission to promote and enhance the cultural, social and educational environment in our borough.

### Light-Up Night

Light up night is a child's favorite Edgewood tradition. Join us at Memorial Park on Friday, December 7 at 7 p.m. to see Santa arrive on his fire truck to light up the beautifully decorated tree.

Afterward take a winter walk to the Edgewood Club where you can warm up with some hot cocoa, crafts, and possibly carols. Santa will also be on hand to make sure that he knows exactly what you want for Christmas, so bring your list! If you would like to volunteer for this event please contact Niki Augustine via email niki.augustine@gmail.com

### Upcoming Events

- Light Up Night, December 7, 7 p.m.
- Progressive Dinner, February 9

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## Edgewood Progressive Dinner—Saturday, February 9, 2008 \$25 per person

Guest Names: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Entrée Choice: Chicken Vegetarian** (Circle one choice per couple.)

Please **number the order** of your preferences for the evening. Each couple is assigned only one job. Every effort is made to give you your first choice; however, the closer it is to the month of the dinner the harder that becomes. Please volunteer for a job you did not do last year. RSVP early.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Host a cocktail party for 30-50 and case of beer. | <input type="checkbox"/> Make an appetizer for 30.       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Host a dinner for 10-12 and 2 bottles of wine.    | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a side for dinner 10-12.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Host a dessert.                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a salad & bread for 10-12. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provide wine during cocktails for 20.             | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a dessert for 25-50.       |

Return this form with checks payable to the **Edgewood Foundation**, c/o Amy Hooks, 327 Locust Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15218, before January 26, 2008.

# EDGEWOOD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

## ESO

### Kick off the Holidays with the ESO

The Edgewood Symphony Orchestra continues its season of Magical Nights with A Night Before Christmas on Saturday, December 8 at 7:30 pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood. Featuring holiday favorites and local soloists and choirs, this concert has become an Edgewood tradition that serves as a great start to the holiday season.

### Great Expectations

Be sure to save the date for A Night of Great Expectations on March 15, 2008 at 7:30 pm at the JCC Katz Auditorium in Squirrel Hill. Walter Morales, the ESO's Music Director, will

be wearing two hats in this concert. He'll conduct the orchestra as usual and will also be featured as piano soloist in Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. The ESO will also take on the powerful Symphony Number 1 by Brahms.

Visit [www.edgewoodsymphony.org](http://www.edgewoodsymphony.org) or call (412) 473-8880 for more information.



## Historical Society

### Historical Christmas

Mark your calendars for 7 p.m. Monday December 9, at the Edgewood Club. Our annual Christmas party will feature Joan Mancuso who could not

do her Braddock Road Program last year because of a death in her family. Joan is an avid historian and has followed all the paths of anniversaries of Lewis and Clark and the Braddock Road. She will present a pictorial program of the various events that have celebrated the Braddock Road campaigns that occurred during the French and Indian War.

She has taken her photographs of Braddock Road and published two quality calendars for the Braddock Road Museum. They will be available for sale at the meeting and all proceeds go to the Braddock Road Museum. The Museum has taken over the operation of the Braddock Library building in Braddock saving it from an uncertain fate. Ongoing restoration is still in progress. This Library was one that Andrew Carnegie built before sponsoring libraries worldwide. It was for the betterment of workers in the steel mills and had bathing facilities for their use.

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# EDGEWOOD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



## Garden Club

### Greens and Things

Have yourself a merry little Christmas and make your yuletide gay with Greens and Christmas Things that you will find at the Annual Edgewood Garden Club Greens Sale on Wednesday, December 5, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Edgewood Club. This traditional holiday occurrence continues to be one of the Garden Club's major fundraising events thanks to the generous support of all our friends and neighbors in the greater Edgewood communities. The proceeds sustain such programs as the beautification of Edgewood Memorial Park and the gardens at the C.C. Mellor Memorial Library and the Edgewood Club.

Various sizes of evergreen wreaths, pine, boxwood, or cedar roping, swags, and bows and ribbons for all of

your holiday decorating needs are available for pre-order (see enclosed order form) or for purchase the day of the event. Likewise, topiaries and red or white poinsettias will also be for sale to enhance your foyer, mantel-piece, or holiday table.

Once again, this year's fundraiser will feature a wonderful variety of vendors whose products will fulfill all of your "wish list" needs. There will be everything from holiday cards, candles, jewelry, and candies to antiques and decorative accessories. Beverages and goodies will also be available to eat in or to take home. So, make those lists and check them twice for all of your Greens and Christmas Things needs.

For the best selection, please place pre-orders for greens by Saturday, November 17. For more information consult the enclosed pre-order form or contact Chairperson Suzan Lami at (412) 371-3602.



## Council Notes

### Won't You Be My Neighbor . . .

Council President Pat Schaefer writes: As the leaves and snow fall on our little borough, and we prepare for holidays of good will, it makes the world of difference when we take time to care of our neighbors.

If your neighbor needs help with a shovel or a rake, lend a hand. When young people come by to rake or shovel, reward their efforts. If your neighbor clears your walk, give thanks. Remind each other to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide monitors. Support the Neighborhood Watch efforts on your street. These actions neighbor to neighbor make Edgewood as special as it is.



## Newsletter

### Scary Mistake

Several sharp-eyed Edgewoodians caught what three proofreaders could not or did not: Trick or Treat night in the Borough of Edgewood was held on Wednesday, October 31, not Wednesday, October 19 as erroneously reported in the newsletter. The sharpest readers noted that there was no Wednesday, October 19 this year.

The newsletter apologizes for its error and any inconvenience it may have caused.

Thanks to the borough staff for posting the correction on the message board and the web site, and to helpful citizens who spread the word through their e-mail lists.

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## Borough Manager

Kurt Ferguson . . . . . (412) 242-4824  
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## Code Enforcement

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# EVFD

## Fund Drive

At the time you receive this newsletter you should have also received a fund drive notice in the mail from the EVFD. The yearly fund drive is necessary for us to continue to purchase equipment needed to provide the best fire and rescue protection possible. Although the borough does maintain the vehicles it's the EVFD that equips the vehicles with the tools needed to perform our job and provide protective clothing to the members. Unlike other departments in the area, we do not have bingos, sell monthly raffle tickets or have fish fries. We really rely on our funding from the community day dinner, luminaria and the fund drive. Trust me - we do not sell enough dinners or luminaria to sustain the department. Fire equipment is expensive. Recently a gate that is used to connect the hose to the pump was found to be leaking due to wear. To replace this gate the cost is \$3000. Unlike other departments we have recently experienced a growth spurt of four new members. With growth comes expense: bunker gear. A helmet alone cost us \$200. I am

well aware of how often we are asked to send support to one organization or another but I ask that you please make a donation so that we can continue to provide the best service to the citizens of Edgewood.

## Three New Faces

The EVFD welcome three new faces to the department: Eric Silverman, Tom Dzambo, and Eben Teisher. Tom and Eben are new borough residents and have fire-fighting experience. Eric is certified as an EMT but wanted to learn the fire-fighting end of public safety. Eben and Tom are both firefighters from other departments and are now Edgewood residents. This brings a total of four new members in a month, a new Edgewood record!

## Junior Firefighters

The EVFD is now accepting applications for junior firefighters. If you are between the ages of 14-17, male or female, you may now join the fire department. This is a great way to serve the community. Applications are available in the borough office. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at [firechief@edgewoodboro.com](mailto:firechief@edgewoodboro.com).

*By Dave Andrews  
Fire Chief*

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# Police Report

## Community Day

Community Day 2007 is now complete and the weather was picture perfect for the event. The race and parade went off without any complications. Thanks to school guard captain, Leigh Sciuilli, and the other Edgewood school guards, and Larry Guerriero and the DPW staff for making these two events successful. Thanks also to all the Edgewood police officers for the very long day they put in every year to make Community Day a safe place for everyone to enjoy.

## Police Raffle

The annual Edgewood Police children's raffle was held at approximately 6 p.m. We would like to announce and congratulate the winners of the raffle: Mike Bair won a bicycle from K-Mart; Alexis Kinson, Jessie Bair and Stephen Robinson each received gift cards from K-Mart; Eliza Savage and Eden Petri each received gift cards from Applebee's Restaurant; Isabella Mangretta and Donovan Petri each

## Police Tip of the Month

It is very important to lock your car doors when leaving your vehicle unattended. Thefts from vehicles typically increase during the holiday season, which is rapidly approaching. Some thieves target vehicles with unlocked doors, randomly checking vehicle doors.

Don't leave any items of value in your vehicle. This includes your credit cards, cell phones, and cash. These types of thefts commonly occur overnight, but can happen at any time of the day. Please help us curb this type of activity throughout the borough by locking your vehicle doors and calling 911 with any suspicious activity that you may observe.

won a back pack donated by First Commonwealth Bank; Erin McShane won two tickets to a Pittsburgh Pirate game; Darius Irani won a Pittsburgh Penguin's gift basket; and John Freedline won an autographed picture of Hines Ward.

I would like to extend thanks to Kmart, Applebee's Restaurant, First Commonwealth Bank, The Pittsburgh Pirates, The Pittsburgh Penguins, and The Pittsburgh Steelers. Without these generous sponsors, this raffle could not have been held. This day could not take place for the residents of Edgewood without everyone working together.

## Block Party

On Saturday, October 6 The Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf held a block party celebrating the communities of Edgewood and Wilkinsburg. Events included a classic car cruise, Ben & Jerry's ice cream, feathered friends from the National Aviary, free hearing screenings, and much more. Wilkinsburg and Edgewood public safety personnel were on hand. A good time was had by all in attendance.

## Buckle Up PA

Edgewood officers participated in Buckle Up Pennsylvania's Click It or Ticket Program from September 23 through September 30. During this time officers conducted seat belt checks throughout the borough. A minicade checkpoint was set up on Maple Avenue at the Edgewood Primary School. Cars were checked for seatbelt usage while going through the school zone before and after school. During the program contact was made with 9,556 vehicles. The purpose of this program is to boost awareness on the importance of wearing seatbelts.

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## Activity Report

The Edgewood Police Department responded to and handled 2,027 calls for service in September 2007. There were 668 incidents reported, 271 complaints received and four accidents investigated, one of which resulted in personal injury, and three of which resulted in property damage.

Part I Crimes are the more serious crimes of homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson. Of the 19 Part I Crimes committed in the borough, one was burglary, 10 were shoplifting, and eight were other crimes.

There were 13 adult and three juvenile arrests made for felony and misdemeanor violations.

Edgewood officers wrote a total of 121 traffic citations, 281 parking citations and made three arrests for driving under the influence. There were two vandalism/criminal mischief complaints and one narcotics offense.

Officers also responded to 13 false alarm calls, took 397 reports, responded to 22 public nuisance complaints, wrote one non-traffic citation and responded to 18 calls for medical assistance.

*By Paul Wood  
Chief of Police*

## Maple Avenue Fire Leaves Residents Homeless

Residents of the apartment building at 111 Maple Avenue were left homeless after a tragic fire late this September.

The apartment building, which once was a hotel, was gutted. Seven neighboring fire companies assisted the Edgewood Volunteer Fire Company in fighting the blaze.

Two tenants and one firefighter were reported to have been treated for minor injuries.

The county fire marshal concluded that the fire was a smoking-related accident.

According to Edgewood Fire Chief Dave Andrews, street cleaning on Hawthorne is temporarily suspended. Two parking lots had to be closed for safety reasons, including those used by teachers at Edgewood Elementary, the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood, and area residents. The suspension of

street sweeping will allow space for those displaced parkers. Leaf collection will continue on schedule.



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# November/December

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE 7:30 Borough Council, BB	10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML	10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Jammie Story Hour 7 Drop Dead Book Club, CCML	10:30 Story Hour, CCML 3:30 Discovery Club, CCML		1 Duct Tape Event, CCML
<b>4 NOVEMBER</b>	<b>5</b> 7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE	<b>6</b> 10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML 6:30 Family Night, CCML	<b>7</b> 10:30 & 6:30 Story Hour, CCML 7 Drop Dead Book Club, CCML	<b>8</b> Refuse & Recycling Pickup 10:30 Story Hour, CCML 3:30 Discovery Club, CCML NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 1 Storybook Art, CCML
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE 7:30 Borough Council, BB	<b>13</b> 10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML	<b>14</b> 10:30 & 6:30 Story Hour, CCML	<b>15</b> Refuse Pickup HAPPY THANKSGIVING! NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10:30 Toddler Time, CCML
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE	<b>20</b> 10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML	<b>21</b> Recycling Pickup 10:30 & 6:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Genius Book Club, CCML	<b>22</b> 10:30 Story Hour, CCML	<b>23</b> Refuse Pickup	<b>24</b> 10-4 Arts & Crafts Fair, EC 10 CPR Training, CCML
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE 7:30 Borough Council, BB	<b>27</b> 10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML 6:30 CPR Training, CCML	<b>28</b> 10:30 & 6:30 Story Hour, CCML 10-7 Garden Club Greens Sale, EC	<b>29</b> Refuse Pickup 10:30 Story Hour, CCML	<b>30</b> 7 Light Up Night, MP	<b>1 DECEMBER</b> 1 'Tis the Season, CCML 7:30 ESO, FPCE
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Refuse & Recycling Pickup	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b>

To list your Edgewood event in the community calendar, please contact Marjie Stewart at (412) 242-5345 or edgewoodnewsletter@yahoo.com.  
 FOOTNOTES:AM/GP-Administrative Bldg./Greensburg Pike BB-Borough Building CCML-Mellor Memorial Library DS-Dickson Intermediate School EPS-Edgewood Primary School ETC-Edgewood Toune Centre  
 EC-Edgewood Club FI-Fairless Intermediate FPCE-First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood KP-Koenig Field MP-Memorial Park WHHS-Woodland Hills High School WJH-West Jr High School

# THE SCOOP

## ARTS AND CRAFTS AT THE LIBRARY

Visit the library's third annual fund raising event on December 1

*Page 2*



## DECK THE HALLS

The Edgewood Garden Club has its annual Greens and Things sale on December 5

*Page 4 and Insert*

## LIGHT UP NIGHT

Santa arrives (already!) on December 7

*Page 3*



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