



The Borough of East Pittsburgh and
 East Pittsburgh Economic Development Corporation Newsletter
 East Pittsburgh, PA 15112
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Winter 2016

We're on the Web!
www.eastpittsburghboro.com

The Shamrock



Mayor Lou Payne, Police Chief Lori Frunceck, Council President Denny Simon, Council Vice President Mary Carol Kennedy, Council Persons Paul Borkowski, Joe Esposto, and Renee Pekarcik, Tax Collector Eileen Navish, along with the Borough Secretaries Denise Hartford and Peg Huffman, and our Public Works Supervisor Jacob Dale wish all of you a very happy and safe holiday season!

Carol Kresik Memorial Service



December 6 marked the 30 year anniversary of the brutal murder of Carole Kresik on Ridge Avenue in East Pittsburgh. Her killer has never been identified. There was a candlelight service to remember Carole on Tuesday, December 6, at

7:00 p.m. in the park on Ridge Avenue at Grandview Avenue in East Pittsburgh. Anyone with any information regarding this crime is asked to call the East Pittsburgh Police Department, Chief Lori Frunceck, at 412-824-0447.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday!

George Harnagy, a lifelong resident of East Pittsburgh, celebrated his 99th birthday on November 4. George's family had a party for the

residents of Bessemer Terrace Manor where George resides.

EPEDC Kids' Christmas Party

The 2016 Kids' Christmas Party was held on Monday, December 5, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Santa arrived at 6:15 p.m. and conducted the tree lighting ceremony. There was a magician, cookie decorating, crafts, and a visit with Santa! A good time was had by all! When pictures are available, they will be published on our new and improved web site! www.eastpittsburghboro.com



EPEDC Volunteer of the Year

Samantha Ginsburg was honored as the 2016 EPEDC Volunteer of the Year and received an award to the Mon Valley Initiative Annual Banquet on October 20. She is a guardian angel to homeless, stray and feral cats and dogs in our area.

Samantha runs a family business in East Pittsburgh. She cares for several feral cat colonies. She had every cat spayed or neutered and makes sure they have shots and medical care as well as food and shelter. She volunteers her time for the East Pittsburgh Police Abused and Neglected Animal Fund by working the fundraising events, placing animals in need, and educating the public about animal welfare. She coordinates the mobile veterinary clinic, Frankie's Friends, to come to East Pittsburgh to provide low cost spay and neuter, hots, and medical care to animals in need.

Samantha volunteers for Kopy Kat Sanctuary. She

does their online advertising and outreach and volunteers for their fundraising events. In addition to dedicating her time, she often spends her own money to help those in need. She also volunteers for Homeless Cat Management Team. She spends many hours trapping cats so that they can receive medical care. She does outreach to educate the public on the importance of spaying and neutering their pets.

When she is caring for the cat colonies in East Pittsburgh she can often be found cleaning trash in the area. She makes animal shelters for the colonies that she cares for and for others in need of them. When she hears of an issue involving an animal she steps up and does everything she can to help the situation. This includes educating the public or pet owner about caring for animals, providing money for medical care, shelter, food, or anything that is needed to improve the situation.



Samantha has a soft spot for pit bulls. She works with The Proper Pitbull to educate the public about the breed. She has worked with the East Pittsburgh Police Chief to place many dogs into foster and forever homes. She also works with Humane Action Pittsburgh to fight for new legislation pertaining to animal welfare.

Samantha resides with her husband, Stephen, and their many furry kids. She is an asset to the community of East Pittsburgh and many other communities as she has been known to help whenever and wherever she is needed. She is a special person with a big heart who speaks for those who have no voice.

Food Bank

The Food Bank, sponsored by Pittsburgh Dream Center continues on the third Friday of each month from 1:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. The next Food Bank day is Friday, December 16, at the Bessemer Avenue



Community Center. 60-80 people benefit from this program each month.

Beloved Crossing Guard Retires



Norma Friez will be hanging up her stop sign and whistle after almost 40 years of being a crossing guard on Bessemer Avenue and crossing hundreds of kids through the years. She has truly loved being there and building relationships with the kids, parents, and even the bus drivers over the years. She has not only been the crossing guard for the kids but has been there to just give a hug, be a friend or just being a little bit of comfort for the kids when they needed it. Good luck, Norma!

Braddock VFD Has New Chaplain

Father Mike Singer has been named Fire Chaplain for the Braddock Volunteer Fire Department and Pat Singer has joined the fire department as a Fire Fighter. Father Mike and Pat are residents of East Pittsburgh and the first East Pittsburghers to join the BVFD. The Fire Department is looking for members from East Pittsburgh and would be happy to consider you! If interested, contact the BVFD at <http://braddockvfd113.org/contact.html>.



Knox Box



The Borough is requiring commercial properties and multi-unit apartments to have Knox Boxes installed. Information can be obtained through David Miller, Fire Marshal and Code Enforcement Officer (412-824-0447).

The Knox Box was developed to save property and lives.

The Knox-Box® Rapid Entry System is a secure emergency access program developed for property owners and first responders. First Responders across North America use the Knox-Box Rapid Entry System to prevent costly entry damage while protecting property and lives. When a fire breaks out or there is a medical emergency, Knox® products allow immediate entry into buildings and property without forced entry damage or delay. Property owners store entrance keys, access cards and floor plans in high-security Knox-Box key boxes mounted near building entrances. Each Knox-Box purchased by a property owner is keyed to a single master key controlled by the local responding department.

In addition to key boxes and vaults, Knox padlocks and key switches operate with the same master key. There are so many gated communities today that fire and police departments are delayed when responding to emergency calls. Increased property damage and even total loss is a threat when property is not accessible.

If you would like to learn more about these products, or to purchase a Knox Box, visit their web site and select East Pittsburgh. <http://www.knoxbox.com/store/lit.cfm>

Project Lifesaver

Do you have a loved one who wanders away from your residence?

Have you had to call 911 when a loved one cannot be found?

Do you know a loved one who often "escapes" from home?

If you answer "yes" to one or more of these questions, you may wish to enroll in PROJECT LIFESAVER.

WHAT IS PROJECT LIFESAVER?

PROJECT LIFESAVER is a program offered by law enforcement and other emergency responders in 41 states, using proven radio technology and specially trained search and rescue teams, to find citizens enrolled in the program when they become lost.

HOW MUCH DOES PROJECT LIFESAVER COST?

Allegheny County District Attorney Stephen Zappala is sponsoring PROJECT LIFESAVER FREE to Allegheny County residents.

HOW DOES PROJECT LIFESAVER WORK?

Persons enrolled in the program wear a small transmitter, about the size of a wristwatch, which emits a unique tracking signal. If a person goes missing, search teams use their signal receiving equipment to track and locate the missing person.



WHO CAN ENROLL?

Any Allegheny County resident who is a caregiver can enroll on behalf of a person* with Alzheimer's, or other form of dementia, Down's syndrome, autism spectrum disorder or other disability, as well as veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder who have a tendency to wander, run or escape from their residences. All participants must receive uninterrupted supervised care from a caregiver or caregivers, twenty-four hours a day.

**Persons residing in group homes or who operate motor vehicles are NOT permitted to be enrolled.*

HOW CAN I ENROLL?

If you are a caregiver for someone you think is eligible to enroll in this program, or would like more information about PROJECT LIFESAVER, contact East Pittsburgh Police Chief Lori Frunceck at 412-824-0447 and leave a message.

What Did YOU Do This Spring, Summer and Fall?

The EPEDC was very busy with many fantastic events! Here are some of the highlights:

Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Was held on Saturday, March 26, at Quarry Field. The event was attended by about 35 children. The children hunted for candy filled eggs. Everyone had a great time!

Pitt Make a Difference Day—Another successful Pitt Make a Difference Day took place on Saturday, October 22, 2016. Over 42 students from the

University of Pittsburgh came to East Pittsburgh to help us clean up public areas. The students pulled the Tri-Boro garden, painted the shelters in Quarry Field, and the old stone house on Linden Avenue. A lunch was provided by the EPEDC for all the volunteers.



Free Summer Lunch Program for Kids—EPEDC along with five churches sponsored a summer lunch program for children. It was held daily from noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Community Center. The children were fed a healthy lunch every day through August 12, 2016. The turnout was great!

Community Unity Festival—This event, which took place on August 16 and was sponsored by East Pittsburgh Economic Development Corporation; Mayor's Office; East Pittsburgh Police Department; Pittsburgh



Dream Center; Holy Trinity Church; New Day Ministries; Manna From On High Ministries; and Lanigan Funeral Home.

Even though the weather did not cooperate, everyone had a wonderful time! Everyone received a hot dog, chips, ice cream and drinks. The activities included games, music, crafts and prizes.

The EPEDC hopes to make this an annual event.

Prayer Walk—On September 25, the EPEDC joined with local churches and participated in a prayer walk around town. All churches in the Borough participated as well as the police and community members. Eighty-three people participated. The group stopped at the various churches and the Community Center and VFW then back to New Day Ministries for refreshments.



Hometown Hoops Basketball Mini-Camps—On August 1 and 2 a basketball mini-camp was

conducted at the hoops in Quarry Field. The boys and girls learned basketball skills from local coaches and players with experience in the NBA, NCAA, and WIPIAL. In addition to learning basketball skills, a lunch was provided for the attendees.



We Need You!

East Pittsburgh is seeking volunteers to participate in events such as Community Unity Day, the Kids' Christmas Party, flower planting, animal welfare, fundraisers, etc.... Please contact Mayor Lou Payne (mayor@eastpittsburghboro.com or 412-823-7124) if interested in helping East Pittsburgh be a better place to live and play!

Open Position

We are still looking to fill the open position of Crossing Guard. If interested, please contact the Borough Office for an application (412-823-7124). *Must be able to work in all weather and obtain child clearances.*

They're Ba-a-a-ck!

Sarris \$1.00 candy bars are back! They can be purchased at the Borough Office Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. A Sarris candy bar for \$1.00? Now that's a real bargain!

And the Winner is . . .

The winner of the 2016 Pittsburgh Sports Basket was Rich Holleran. The basket contained two Steelers Tickets to the January 1, 2017 game and two tickets to the Pirate's Home Opener against the Atlanta Braves on April 7, 2017.

Comments, questions, and suggestions for articles should be sent to the editor at 412-824-8313 or kbk535@verizon.net