



## WEST END ELLIOTT

# Notes

### CITIZENS COUNCIL

January 2009

#### SPECIAL ELECTION

A special election will be held on February 3 to fill the vacant seat on City Council that Dan Deasy held before replacing Tom Petrone in the State Legislator.

Four people are seeking the seat to complete the remaining term of Dan Deasy. They are Georgia Blotzner of Mt. Washington, Chris Metz of Sheraden, Brendan Schubert of Elliott and Theresa Smith of Westwood.

A Meet the Candidates Night will be held at the West End Elliott Citizens Council monthly meeting on Monday, January 26 at 7:00 PM at Emanuel Methodist Church the corner of Lorenz Avenue and Crucible Street.

Please plan to attend and bring a friend or neighbor.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF WEECC

The West End Elliott Citizens Council is a 501C non-profit organization and is not permitted to endorse any candidates for any political office.

WEECC is committed to the ideal that it is their responsibility to educate and make the community aware of events and actions that impact the community.

The council believes that Meet the Candidate Nights gives the community the opportunity to

educate themselves with regards to issues and those seeking public office. It is the council belief that an informed voter can make wiser decisions.

*At no time has or will the council endorse any candidate for public office.* That does not mean that members of the council acting as individual are not free to endorse or work for a candidate of their choice. However, directors and members of the council working or endorsing a candidate do so as individuals not as representatives of WEECC!

The person who represents our communities on City Council is very important to the well being and future of our communities. That is why I strongly urge you to attend the monthly meeting on Monday evening, January 26 to form your own opinion.

Elmer Clark, president

#### CITY PLANNING DENIES OPENING OF STRIP CLUB AT 1635 WEST CARSON STREET

At the conclusion of the hearing before the planning commission on November 18 the commission voted unanimously to **deny** the opening of the strip club. Over thirty people testified against the club. Their testimony was vital to the decision of the commission.

The battle is not over however, because the developer said he would go before City Council for a vote to override the decision of the

City Planning. As of the writing of this newsletter no date has been set. When a date is set for the hearing before City Council we will inform the community and once again ask for your support.

Standing together we can make a difference in our community, our city and our nation.

#### SIGNS OF SPRING ELLIOTT ATHLETIC ASSOC.

Sign ups for baseball/softball will be held at the candy stand at Herschel Field. January 31, 10 AM to 2 PM, February 7, 10 AM to 2 PM, February 11, 6 PM to 8 PM February 21, 10 AM to 2 PM

A Night at the Races will be held on April 4<sup>th</sup> at Guardian Angels. This is a very important fund raiser which enables the association to serve the youth of our communities.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS AT GUARDIAN ANGLE PARISH

The annual Lent fish fries will start on Ash Wednesday, February 25. There will not be any fish fry Friday, February 27 but every Friday there after during Lent.

Guardian Angels annual spaghetti dinner will be on Sunday, March 8. The St. Patrick's dance will be on Saturday, March 14. A breakfast with the Easter Bunny will be on Saturday, March 28 and cost \$7.00 a person.

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE DAN DEASY TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

Let me take a moment to introduce myself to you. I am Dan Deasy, your newly elected state representative from the 27<sup>th</sup> Legislative District in Allegheny County.

I want you to know that my local constituent service office opened on Monday, January 5 and my staff and I are available to assist you with all your state government needs.

The office is located at 436 S. Main Street in Pittsburgh's West End neighborhood. Office hours will be 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday, with extended hours until 6:00 PM on Thursdays. The office phone number is (412) 928-9514.

I also plan to hold constituent hours at the Avalon Borough Building at 640 California Avenue in Avalon. Satellite hours will be held in the Avalon Borough Building from 10:00 AM to 1 PM Tuesday and Thursday and by appointment. The phone number for the satellite office is (412) 761-5820, extension 15.

A wide variety of services are available at my office, including Penn Dot paperwork, applications for and assistance with state programs such as PACE/PACENET and the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, information on other state programs and services, and brochures and publications on a variety of topics important to local residents.

My office will also be offering assistance with state and federal income tax returns. Assistance will be offered by appointment on a limited basis, so residents are

encouraged to call early to make an appointment. To qualify for help, your income must be less than \$35,000 per year.

If I can help you in any way, please contact me at one of my offices or visit my Web site at [www.pahouse.com/deasy](http://www.pahouse.com/deasy). Thank you Dan Deasy.

## CITIZENS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

When the newsletter in November said the council would be at the West End Elliott Overlook on Light-Up Night giving hot chocolate, coffee and cookies to everyone a resident decided to help. Having been a past board member on the citizen's council she knew that in the past Jenny Lee Bakery had donated cookies for our community Holiday program at the overlook. But, Jenny Lee was gone and Eat'n Park has so many requests that it would be unlikely they would give cookies. She also knew the large number of children and people who visit the overlook.

She did not call the office or the president she simply showed up just before the evening with her large Tupperware containers filled with homemade cut out sugar cookies she had baked and decorated. She gave the cookies as her gift to the children and the community.

To those of us who have known her for many years it was not a surprise it was just Dot. Dot Carter has lived all her life in Elliott. I met her first when we were den mothers with Cub Scout Pack 87. Dot is the mother of three sons and baseball was more their interest than scouts. So of course Dot became involved in the athletic association. When no one wanted to take charge of the concession stand Dot did in the late seventies.

It has only been a few years since she passed the duties onto the capable hands of others.

Dot because of the cold evening we had a few cookies left over so they were given to Meals on Wheels. The Citizens Council would like to first thank you for the cookies but more than that *thank you for being you!*

## GARDEN PROJECTS

The seed catalogs are arriving and the time to prepare the ground for seeds will soon be here. With the increasing cost of vegetables and food many more people may be thinking of starting vegetable gardens this year.

The City of Pittsburgh is encouraging residents to purchase vacant lots that the city owns adjacent to their property for a small sum of money. This is an effort to help in the renewal of our city.

The program is called the Side Yard Program. You can learn more about the program and properties for sale by visiting the city web site and clicking on the real estate section. There you will find a listing of all properties available for sale by the city and the price some as low as \$200.00.

These side lots can make a great space for a garden. Gardening is a great way to grow your own vegetables and to eat healthier, save money and create a nicer community. Perhaps you would like to share your space with a friend or family member so that you can work together and share the harvest.

The council is also exploring the idea of community gardens where people living in apartments can have a place to grow their own tomatoes, lettuce, etc. If you would

Garden Projects cont.

like more information for such a project please drop us a note at WEECC, 922 Chartiers Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15220 or call the office and leave a message at (412) 928-9424 and someone will call you.

### **MONTHLY MEETING OF WEECC**

The monthly meeting of the West End Elliott Citizens Council has been moved from Thaddeus Stevens School to Emanuel United Methodist Church at the corners of Lorenz Avenue and Crucible Street because of the security alarm system recently installed in the school. After six in the evening an alarm system is activated that blares an alarm every time a door is open and all the time that the door is open. The alarm can not be shut off for the coming and goings of our meetings and the noise is such we can not hear ourselves think. So regretfully we have moved to the church and thank them for their hospitality.

### **WEST END SENIOR CENTER**

Over sixty, have the winter blues, lonesome and looking for some fun considering visiting your local senior center? All Allegheny County residents over sixty can join their local senior center FREE. Just call our local senior center in the West End on Wabash Avenue at (412) 937-3068.

Lunch is served Monday through Friday for a 50 cent donation. Bingo on Mondays, craft classes, cards, pool table, computers and more are all there for you to enjoy with your friends.

Exercise classes instructed by an instructor from Community College of Allegheny will begin on January 14 at 10 AM and become

a weekly event. CCAC will offer a six week quilting course starting on February 10 and each Tuesday morning ending on March 17.

The Valentine Luncheon will be on February 12 and after lunch the entertainment will be Bob Morelli with his Dean Martin impersonation. The cost for this wonderful afternoon is a mere \$3.00.

### **CARNEGIE LIBRARY WEST END BRANCH**

The West End Branch of the Carnegie Library located at 47 Wabash Avenue is quietly waiting for your visit. The library is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM till 7 PM, Wednesday and Saturday from 10 AM till 4 PM and is closed on Monday Friday and Sunday.

Not only are their shelves filled with books for your reading pleasure there are also videos and tapes that you may borrow for your enjoyment. The library has computers that you may use free for research and enjoyment. The staff is always there to help you. If they do not have the particular book in the library they can order it for you from the main library.

You may visit the web site of the Carnegie Library at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. On the website you can order books, renew books from your home computer.

### **WINTER SESSION OF C.A.R.E**

Emanuel United Methodist Church winter session of CARE will begin on Monday; January 26. The CARE program will offer three programs for children ages eleven through eighteen. Cooking will teach the students eleven to eighteen to prepare a meal from start to finish. They will make

there own individual cookbook of the class recipes. At the conclusion of each session the students will eat the food they have prepared, clean up the dishes and kitchen. Cooking is a very important Life Skill that is often taken for granted. The class will be from 6 PM to 8 PM every Monday through March 30.

Arts & Craft will be offer starting on Saturday January 24 through March 28 from 10 AM to 11 AM for students ages eleven through eighteen. Each week the students will make a different art or craft project. This will enable children to experience different forms of art and crafts.

Healthy Rhythms Drumming will start on Saturday, January 24 through March 28 from 11 AM to 12 PM. Students eleven to eighteen will learn techniques to help them drum through problems and emotions. Experienced teachers will assist the students to teach them how music can help to relieve tension, stress and emotions.

Registration was held on January 10, 11, 17 and 18. Parents or a guardian were required to be present at the time of registration along with a refundable \$25.00 deposit. If you missed the registration and would like to inquire if there are any openings and if you could register late you may contact Ron Bernhardt the director of CARE at (412) 921-1432.

### **ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER**

If you or your organization have something that you would like in future newsletters please call us at (412) 928-9424 or drop us a note at 922 Chartiers Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15220 or email weeccorg@Gmail.com.

