

April 2016 Newsletter



Upcoming Council Meetings

May 10, 2016 at 5pm
May 24, 2016 at 5pm
June 7, 2016 at 5pm
June 21, 2016 at 5pm

***Please note that all meetings begin at 5pm on the fourth floor in the Gold Room of the Allegheny County Courthouse.

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April is Autism Awareness Month, and during the April 19th Regular Meeting, all Members of Council came together in their finest blue attire in support of bringing public awareness to the growing diagnoses of Autism Spectrum Disorder, but also to highlight the need for more research, early intervention, timely diagnosis, and appropriate treatment.

Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States, currently affecting more than three million people across the country, and is an urgent public health crisis that demands a national response.

Allegheny County is honored to take part in the annual observance of **Autism Awareness Month** and **World Autism Awareness Day** in the hope that it will lead to a better understanding of the disorder in our community and beyond.

A recent government survey suggests that 1 in 45 children, ages 3 to 17, have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).



Allegheny County

119 Courthouse - 436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-350-6490

www.alleghenycounty.us/council
www.facebook.com/Allegheny-County-Council

https://twitter.com/AllCnty_Council



Proclamations



Fair Housing Month

The 1968 Fair Housing Act guarantees the right of all Americans, regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status, or disability, to live in the neighborhoods of their choice and is one of the most important components of our national civil rights policy.

Allegheny County has expanded the protected classes to additionally include ancestry or place of birth, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, use of a guide or support animal because of blindness or because the user is a handler or trainer of support of guide animals, or deafness or physical disability of any individual or independent contractor or because of the disability of an individual with whom the person is known to have an association.

The month of April is set aside to acknowledge the **Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act** and the work of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Human Relations Commission of the County of Allegheny, the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations, and the Fair Housing Partnership of Greater Pittsburgh, which ensure the protection of fair housing rights.



National Public Health Week

In April, the nation celebrates *National Public Health Week* to recognize the important role that health professionals play in creating a brighter tomorrow.

Since 1957, the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) has worked to ensure all residents have the opportunity to lead a healthy life, empowered communities with the tools, knowledge and resources to make a difference, and encouraged individuals to take charge of their health, by promoting prevention and health equity in the community.

This year's theme of National Public Health Week, *Healthiest Nation 2030*, reminds us all of the collective effort needed to make the United States healthier by improving our own health and safety as well as that of our neighbors.



“Your body is a temple, but only if you treat it as one.”

~Astrid Alauda

Proclamations

Kiwanis 100th Anniversary

Kiwanis International is one of the largest service organizations in the world with more than 600,000 members of all ages and abilities in more than 80 nations.

Pittsburgh Kiwanis has served our community in many ways, including through its donations of a book named, "Tear Soup: A Recipe for Healing After Loss" for the bereaved parents program at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and Magee Women's Hospital; hosting Children's Hospital Bingo Night; donations to the Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind; sponsoring the 'Circle K' youth service leadership program at Duquesne University, and providing more than \$40,000 in scholarships for 60 students to attend area colleges.

Allegheny County Council does hereby congratulate the Pittsburgh Kiwanis Club No. 3 upon the momentous occasion of its Centennial Anniversary, and we thank the Pittsburgh Kiwanis for its significant contributions benefiting the youth and community of the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.



"Service is at the heart of every Kiwanis club, no matter where in the world it's located. Members stage nearly 150,000 service projects and raise nearly US\$100 million every year for communities, families and projects."
(www.kiwanis.org)

2016 Banner Community Event

The Banner Community program was created to recognize communities across municipalities that display the "best practices" when it comes to governing at a local level.

This year, there were 44 municipalities selected as Banner Communities, 16 have received this recognition in each of the four years presented, 23 municipalities received re-designation, and five received the honor for the first time.

The five new Banner Communities for 2016 include Crescent Township, Dormont Borough, Fox Chapel Borough, Glassport Borough, and North Versailles Township.



Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Allegheny County Council Member Sue Means, right, present Commission President Kelly Fraasch with the Allegheny County League of Municipalities' Banner Community Award.

Government Review Commission

The Government Review Commission (GRC), is established every ten years to study and provide recommendations on the Home Rule Charter and County government, including the organization, practices and responsibilities of all County departments and agencies.

The GRC consists of registered voters of Allegheny County, five appointed by County Council and four appointed by the County Executive. Political party affiliation, racial, geographic location, age and gender diversity are considered in the appointment process.

On Tuesday, April 5, 2016, the Government Review Commission presented the Final Report to Allegheny County Council. It was comprised of 22 recommendations to help improve the effectiveness, efficiency and equity of the government and the Charter.

The 22 recommendations are as follows:

1. Investigations of the Accountability, Conduct, and Ethics Commission,
2. Restructuring of County Council Compensation
3. Amending Restrictions on Members of County Council or the Chief Executive Running for Another Public Office
4. Term Extension for Commission Members
5. Mandatory Public Hearings on Findings and Recommendations
6. Investigations of the Accountability, Conduct and Ethics Commission through amending the Code
7. Powers and Duties of Allegheny County Ethics Commission (“ACE”)
8. Staggered Sunset Review of each County Department
9. Reappointment Commission
10. Procedures for Adjusting Compensation of the Chief Executive
11. Employment Restrictions
12. County Departments Self-Reporting Diversity Reports
13. Sheriff’s Department’s Costs Associated with Deputy Training
14. Government Involvement with Allegheny County Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (“MWDBE”)
15. Centralization of Monies Coming into the County
16. Creation of County Bond Board
17. County Economic Development Office Completing Affordable and Accessible Housing List
18. Increase Allotted Amount Stipends
19. Improving Communications between County Branches of Government
20. Committee to Review Proposed Merger of County Police and Sheriff’s Office
21. Salary of the Chief Executive
22. Voluntary Public Hearings on Findings and Recommendations



What is County Council up to?

On Tuesday, April 5, 2016, Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh went head to head for the second year in a row for the annual Free Throw Contest in support of the Kane Foundation. The event was held at the Courthouse Courtyard, and for the first time had County Council vs. City Council face off with Councilman Tom Baker representing County Council's team, and Councilman Dan Gilman representing City Council's team.

County Council's team encompassed DeWitt Walton, Paul Klein, Cindy Kirk and Mike Finnerty. It was a great event that allowed for some friendly competition between local politicians, but at the end of the day, County Council claimed bragging rights with their sweet victory over the City.

Free Throw Contest County vs. City



ALOM

April 8 thru April 10 the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM) Spring Conference took place at Seven Springs Mountain Resort. The Educational Conference allows all forms of government in Allegheny County to come together to learn about bettering, growing and making local government more effective.

Councilmembers Baker, DeFazio, DeMarco, Finnerty, Futules, Kirk, Klein, and Means represented Allegheny County Council at the 43rd ALOM. The Members made a presentation that was given to the ALOM attendees .

This year, it was Councilman Klein's first time attending the Spring Conference, and he stated "The conference provided a great opportunity to view our county and its operations and leadership through the eyes of those representing the many communities that make up this county. I was impressed with the commitment and the sense of purpose that so many of the participants bring to a job that does have its rewards, but can be very challenging and requires a significant time commitment. I learned a great deal and as a newly elected official had the chance to meet with many good people who care so much about their communities."



What is County Council up to?

Visit Pittsburgh



Council Members Baker, Kirk and Futules attended the annual Visit Pittsburgh Event at the Convention Center. It gave them an opportunity to learn about events occurring, tourist statistics, and how Visit Pittsburgh is working to bring more people into the area.

FUN FACT: Did you know that VISIT PITTSBURGH booked 272,852 rooms last year through conventions?

Millvale Job Fair

On Thursday, May 5, 2016 at the Millvale Community Center Councilman Ed Kress and President John DeFazio are planning to hold their third Job Fair.

Roughly 30 vendors and approximately many job seekers are expected to be attendance.

It is a great opportunity for the community, individuals, and employers alike to interact and discuss personal and professional growth.

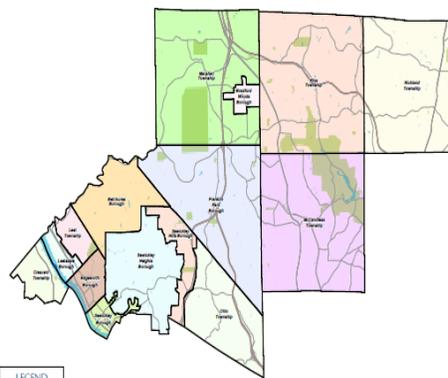


Get to know your Councilmember.



District 2

Cindy Kirk



Cindy Kirk was elected to the Allegheny County Council in November 2015 to represent District 2, which encompasses Bell Acres, Bradford Woods, Crescent, Edgeworth, Franklin Park, Leet, Leetsdale, Marshall, McCandless, Ohio, Pine, Richland, Sewickley, Sewickley Heights and Sewickley Hills.

Holding a master's degree in Nursing Administration from the University of Pittsburgh, Cindy is a nurse administrator at UPMC, Oakland Campus. Throughout her nursing career, Cindy worked in a number of nursing specialties. She began her career on a transplant unit and as a dialysis nurse. She later worked as a nurse researcher and in nursing informatics.

Cindy has been a lifelong community volunteer and activist. Cindy has served as a school PTA volunteer and president, a Boy Scouts of America volunteer and a Girl Scouts of America leader, Jubilee Kitchen volunteer, and president of the SWPA U. S. Air Force Academy Parents Association. She also served on the Northland Library Foundation Board. As a grass-roots political activist, Cindy was elected and continues to serve on her party's local and State Committee.

As a 31 year resident of the district, Cindy lives in McCandless with her husband of 36 years, Bill. They are parents of two adult children, Chip and Kim. Chip is an active duty US Air Force pilot and graduate of the US Air Force Academy. Kim, after graduating from the University of Notre Dame, is pursuing a career in fashion in Manhattan. **You can reach Councilwoman Kirk at Cynthia.Kirk@alleghenycounty.us or by phone at 412-350-6530.**



INFORMATION CENTER

Shelter and Facility Rentals

You can now reserve a shelter or facility at any of the nine county parks from the comfort of your home.

Reservations can be made up to year in advance.

For more information, visit here:

https://apm.activecommunities.com/alleghenyparks/Reserve_Options

**Allegheny County
Information Line:
412-350-4636**

Department of Public Works

412-350-2513

**ROADS &
POTHOLE
HOTLINE**

Allegheny County Row Offices

Controller Chelsa Wagner
412-350-4660

District Attorney Stephen Zappala
412-350-4400

Sheriff William P. Mullen
412-350-4700

Treasurer John Weinstein
412-350-4100

Speak at Council Meetings

Allegheny County citizens may address Council at Regular meetings. Visit Council's website at:

<http://www.allegHENYcounty.us/county-council/request-to-comment.aspx>

To download the request form, or call 412-350-6490 for more information.

*Request must be received no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

April 16, 2016 is Statewide Opening Day of Trout Season!

For assistance with obtaining a fishing license or information on pricing, contact the Treasurers' Office at 412-350-4100.

Mother's Day Mansion Tour

Treat Mom to a free tour on her special day!

Where: Hartwood Acres Mansion

When: May 8, 2016

Time: 12pm to 3pm.

COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY—MARBLE PROGRAM

The program is FREE to all kids ages 14 and under.

For more information visit here:

<http://www.allegHENYcounty.us/parks/about/programs/marbles-program.aspx>

**All winner qualify for a Championship at the Courthouse from June 2-4

Down on the Farm Day! At Round Hill Park you can get a chance to explore the farm, meet the animals, and sing along with Old McDonald. Will take place May 14, 2016 from 11am to 2pm.

Want to enjoy a movie with friends or family in the refreshing outdoors? Then **Movie in the Park** is the perfect thing for you!! It will begin June 18th at Deer Lakes Park and Admission is free!

For more information visit here:

<http://www.allegHENYcounty.us/special-events/movies-in-the-parks.aspx>

