



2016 Council Newsletter



November 2016

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Upcoming Council Meetings

December 20, 2016

*Please note that all meetings start at 5pm in the Gold Room of the Court House.

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Pittsburgh, PA 15219

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PROCLAMATIONS



On Wednesday, November 9, 2016, during the regular Council meeting, the members came together to show honor and thanks to all those who served and currently serving in the armed forces.

The Federation of War Veterans Societies, Inc., Women Veterans of World War II, and *Southwestern Pennsylvania Registered Nurses Club* 24th Annual Veterans Day Service were all acknowledged at that particular meeting for their courage and proudly doing their part to serve and protect the Commonwealth and nation.

The **Federation of War Veterans Societies, Inc.** was formed in 1919 in Allegheny County to provide a Veterans Day Parade in Downtown Pittsburgh. The organization helps educate county residents to properly recognize and care for veterans. By doing the parade for over 97 years, the organization has helped raise awareness of all veterans in our state.

Allegheny County remembers and salutes the **Women Veterans of World War II** who have courageously and honorably served in the military on behalf our nation. Women have been part of the United States Armed Forces since 1901, but have proudly served along side our nations military since the American Revolution. Women achieved full military status during WWII and tens of thousands served with distinctions as members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WACS), Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Services (WAVES), and the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP).

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Registered Nurses Club—24th annual Veterans Day Service. This annual event at South Park Nurses Memorial Monument honors the military and cadet nurses who served with distinction at home and on the battlefields. Nurses from the U.S. Air Force Nurse Corps, U.S. Army Nurse Corps and the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps were there to care for the United States soldiers, wherever those soldiers were fighting, thereby winning extraordinary distinction and respect for the nation. Military and Cadet Nurses have demonstrated great skill, sacrifice, and commitment to defending the principles upon which our nation was founded.



PROCLAMATIONS



Five million Americans, including 270,000 Pennsylvanian's are now living with Alzheimer's disease, a progressive degenerative disease of the brain causing memory loss and impaired thinking, judgement and behavior. Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death for older adults in the United States and is the most common form of dementia.

Alzheimer's Association Greater Pennsylvania Chapter is active in the battle to eliminate Alzheimer's disease by raising money for the advancement of research; providing care and support for all affected; and reducing the risk of dementia through their advocacy and promotion of brain health.

On Saturday, October 15, 2016 thousands gathered on Pittsburgh's North Shore at Heinz Field to raise awareness and funds through the 2016 Pittsburgh Walk to End Alzheimer's Event.

Allegheny County Council applauds the efforts of the Alzheimer's Association and its volunteers to raise funds and promote awareness in the fight against Alzheimer's.



PROCLAMATIONS



National Breast Cancer Awareness Month was founded in 1985 to promote mammography as a weapon in the fight against breast cancer. During this month, Allegheny County holds the health and safety of its citizens as a permanent concern. It is important to stand with mothers, daughters, sisters and friends and recognize all those who have joined their loved ones in their battle, as well as the advocates, researchers, and health care providers whose care and hard work gives hope to those living with breast cancer.

Susan G. Komen for the Cure is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists who fight to save lives, empower people, ensure quality of care for all, and energize science to find cures. Despite considerable progress made over the years, breast cancer is still the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women in our country.

A Glimmer of Hope Foundation, Pittsburgh—based non-profit, was established in 1994 by Diana Napper to honor her late friend who lost her battle to breast cancer. This organization has 50 volunteers committed to the fight against breast cancer through cancer research and programs, and studies in premenopausal breast cancer. The foundation has donated over 3 million dollars to breast cancer projects to local hospitals and cancer research in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Nationals Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP) - is a non-profit located in Pittsburgh that has been doing academic research for nearly 60 years. The founder, Dr. Bernard Fisher, was one of the first cancer researchers to realize the importance of randomized clinical trial in answering questions about development, progression, and treatment of breast and colorectal cancer.



PROCLAMATIONS



Allegheny County is home to more than 200 volunteer fire companies. Volunteer firefighters protect over 910,000 people and save the taxpayers of the county an estimated \$60 million dollars a year...

To ensure the safety and well-being of our communities, in 2008, the Allegheny County Fire Volunteer Education, Service & Training Scholarship Program (FireVEST) was established through a partnership between the Allegheny County Fire Academy and the Community College of Allegheny County (through the CCAC-Allegheny County Workforce Alliance). 200 FireVEST scholarships, covering tuition, fees and books, are offered each year – 150 for new recruits in exchange for 5 years of volunteer service and 50 for existing volunteer firefighters in exchange for an additional 5 years of service in Allegheny County. FireVEST scholarship recipients have majored in programs such as Fire Science Administration, Criminal Justice & Criminology, Business Management, Nursing, and more.

Allegheny County Council congratulates the graduates of the Allegheny County Fire Volunteer Education, Service & Training Scholarship Program and commend them for their dedication, service and sacrifice, in order to protect the lives and property of the citizens of Allegheny County.



Mt. Lebanon High School has worked diligently over the years to provide a high quality and well-rounded education to its students, and embraced the message of total inclusion for all regardless of skills and abilities. This educational institution has many talented, intelligent, and dedicated students.

One such student is Robert Demsky. He has served as an inspiration to his classmates and teachers, positively impacting everyone who has had an opportunity to meet him. Robert, despite being diagnosed with Down syndrome, has and continues to surpass any obstacle that is set before him.

Allegheny County Council congratulates Robert Demsky for being crowned the 2016 Homecoming King of Mt. Lebanon High School, and recognize the students, teachers and administrators of Mt. Lebanon High School who have rallied to support Robert Demsky.





What's County Council Up To?

Council Members Participate in Senior Fairs across the County

In Allegheny County, the changing of the leaves signifies not only the end of summer, but also the beginning of fall and the Senior Resource Fair season. This year was a busy one for members of the Allegheny County Council, with events ranging across the County, from the north in Allison Park, to the south in South Park, and to the west in Moon Township, citizens from nearly every Council district were able to go out and see their elected officials in action.

With the amount of senior citizens, and those nearing their golden years, in Allegheny County, these public forums allowed members of Council, along with federal, state, and local elected officials, and numerous other organizations, to come together and distribute information that seniors, and their caretakers, can use to make their lives easier. Of this information, Council Members were able to handout Senior Resource Guides, County maps, information on events in Allegheny County Parks, as well as help their constituents with issues they may be experiencing, but aren't sure how to resolve.

Despite the serious nature of these events, there was fun to be had at each and every one of them. The comradery over coffee, the music enjoyed by all, and the invaluable insights and information offered by the seminar facilitators made the 2016 Senior Resource Fair season one of the best yet. While the end of the summer months can be a sad time, there is always solace knowing that each year we can look forward to the beautiful fall leaves and the coming together of our communities and organizations to benefit the seniors of Allegheny County.



Random photos from State Rep Dermody and State Senator Vulakovich's Senior fairs, to demonstrate the success and impact of these type of events on senior citizens.



Spotlight



Councilman DeWitt Walton, of District 10, was featured in the *New Pittsburgh Courier* when he got an early glimpse of progress on the construction of the Creative Youth Center during the “Better Together” Advocacy Tour of the Homewood YMCA.

The “Better Together” Advocacy Tour of the Homewood YMCA was part of the Pennsylvania State Alliance of YMCAs’ Advocacy Week. The YMCA marks advocacy week by inviting elected officials, local leaders and community members to tour YMCA buildings and activities to see how the YMCA’s programs support youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

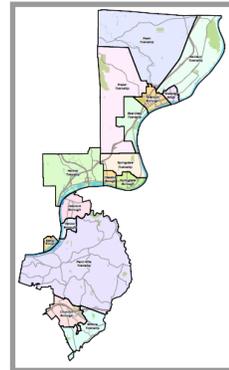
Allegheny County Council would like to acknowledge Councilman Walton for continuous effort to connect with the community, and for his commitment for supporting progressive youth programs.



Get to know your Councilmember



Nick Futules **County Council District 7, VP**



In November 2007, Nicholas Futules (D) was elected to the Allegheny County Council to represent District 7. Prior to his position as a county councilman, Nick, a resident of Verona, served on the Verona Council for eight years. During his time on the Verona Council, Nick was the chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, and was also a member of four additional committees. In 2006, Nick was elected to the Verona Democratic Committee. He is a former member of the Verona Zoning Board and the Greek Orthodox Church of Oakmont's Board of Directors, as well.

Nick attended the Community College of Allegheny County, Boyce Campus, where he majored in Business Management and Culinary Arts. His primary career is as the Corporate Business Manager, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Futules' Harmar House, a banquet facility and catering business that he co-owns with his brother, Tony. Nick is also a co-owner of A.K. Property's Corporation, and Futules Properties. Additionally, Nick spent more than 25 years as the co-owner of the former Futules' Restaurant in Verona, a business started by his grandparents in 1906.

Nick strongly believes in giving back to the community. Through his business, Nick provides support to a variety of non-profit and youth organizations, notably the Riverview Athletic Association, Toys for Tots, and the Relay for Life, for which Nick is a corporate sponsor. Nick is also a supporter of the Verner Elementary PTO and the Bike Derby in Verona, a youth program that provides free helmets for children and teaches about bicycle safety.

Nick, a lifelong resident of the Seventh District, is married to Michele. Nick also has three children: Nicholas, Zoe, and Billy.

Budget & Finance Hearings



On Tuesday (12-6-16) Allegheny County Council passed the 2017 Budget Plan of \$1.91 Billion. This was accomplished without an increase of property tax. The current millage rate is the same as 2016, 4.73 mills.

The Total Budget incorporates four elements: Operating, Capital, Grant, and Special Accounts.

- The Operating Budget of \$880,300,000 is the day to day budget. Most of these expenditures are for Health and Welfare (41%) and Public Safety (27%).
- The Capital Budget of \$105,952,541 is used mostly for Bridges (40%), Roads (17%) and Buildings (16%). The Chief Executive, Rich Fitzgerald and Council have increased this budget from 50 million to 106 million in the last three years. This demonstrates our major commitment to upgrade the County's infrastructure.
- The Grant Budget of \$809,795,909 employs most funds for Human Services (83%). Much of the funding for the Grants Budget is received from the state and federal government.
- The Special Accounts Budget of \$111,714,611 is mostly funds for the Court of Common Pleas (31%), Emergency Services (29%) and Health (16%).

The Budget process is a team effort, And I would like to thank the Executives Budget Department under the direction of Mary Soroka and William McKain, the County Manager. Also, I would like to thank our Budget Director, Walt Szymanski and all of Allegheny County Council. The process was both cooperative and collaborative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Finnerty".

Michael Finnerty
Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee.



Holiday Happenings



Full Moon Snowshoeing

When: Dec 13, 7-9pm

Where: Four Seasons Activity Center Upper Parking Lot

Instructor: Allegheny County Park Rangers

Cost: \$10 for ages 11 and up. Pre-registration is required at www.alleghenycounty.us/parkprograms.



Holiday Musical Tea & Tour

Want to have a fun-filled afternoon while sipping tea, exploring the Hartwood Mansion, and listening to festive music? Then this is just the thing for you!

When: Dec 10, 11am-3pm

Where: Hartwood Acres Mansion

Cost: \$33 per resident, \$41 per non-resident

Nature Walk

When: Dec 14, 10-12 noon

Where: Deer Lakes Park Veterans 2 Parking Lot

Instructor: Allegheny County Naturalist Meg Scanlon

Cost: Free! Pre-registration is recommended

CANDLELIGHT MANSION TOURS

When: Dec 12, 13, & 14 at 4pm, 5pm, 6pm or 7pm.

Where: Hartwood Acres Mansion

Cost: \$6 per person. Paid reservation required by calling 412-767-9200 up to three months in advance.



Give Hockey a Shot (Thursdays)

Allegheny County and the Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation will provide children the opportunity to learn basics of skating and hockey.

When: Thursdays, December 8-29, 6-7:30pm

Where: North Park Ice Rink

Cost: Pre-registration required at www.alleghenycounty.us/parksprogram

Skate with Santa

When: Dec 11, 11am-4pm

Where: South Park Ice Rink

Cost: Ice Rink Admission Fee

*pre-registration is required.



Season Ski Passes are now on SALE!

Enjoy UNLIMITED skiing and snowboarding all season long for one LOW PRICE.

Prices are \$85-\$250 for individuals and \$600 for a family of four.

*Purchase by Dec 1 for extra savings.

Buy yours today at

www.alleghenycounty.us/parkpasses



North Park & South Park

Season Ice Skating Passes on Sale Now!!

Enjoy Unlimited ice skating all season long for one low price. Passes are \$50 for ages 18-59 and \$25 for ages 60 & older.

- Buy yours today at www.alleghenycounty.us/parkpasses
- Or for more information call the Parks Dept. at 412-350-2455

Information Center



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.

Allegheny
County
Information
Line:
412-350-4636



Winter is right around the corner, make sure you are prepared. To report a street in Allegheny County that needs snow or ice removal, please call 412-350-2513 or in the City of Pittsburgh, please call 412-255-2526.

Want to keep up with the latest County news?

Sign up for Allegheny Alerts, a FREE service that sends you information you want the want it.

You can be contacted with specific alerts via email, text, voice, work, home, mobile—any or all of them.

For more information go to:
alleghenycounty.us/Alerts

Allegheny
County
Council
Main Line:
412-350-6490

Hunting License

Current year hunting licenses are available July 1 and are valid through June 30 of the following year.

License costs include a \$1.00 issuing fee. All replacement licenses cost \$6.70.

For specific costs and more info, go to:

<http://alleghenycounty.us/treasurers-office/general-hunting-license-fees.aspx>

Interested in holding your next event at a national historic landmark?

Look no further! The Allegheny County Courthouse is sure to have all that you're looking for in a venue.

For more information, visit here:

www.alleghenycounty.us/special-events/venue-rentals.aspx

49th Annual Holiday Choral Program

From Nov. 30 to December 21, 32 local choirs, orchestras and bands will be performing during the week-day on the Grand Staircase in the Allegheny County Courthouse. Each performance will be broadcasted on Grant St. for shoppers and walkers to enjoy.

To find out who is performing, go to: <http://www.alleghenycounty.us/news/index.aspx>

Questions or Comments?

We would love to hear from you! Contact us at

412-350-6490 or via email at

CouncilNews@AlleghenyCounty.us

Allegheny County Row Offices

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412-350-4660

District Attorney Stephen Zappala
412-350-4400

Sheriff William P. Mullen
412-350-4700

Treasurer John Weinstein

