# FIGH COD MARCH 2008

## Paving Projects to Result in Permanent Improvements Throughout Borough

The borough is moving forward on several projects. First, we will be advertising for paving in the next couple of weeks with plans to pave Hawthorne Street from Locust to Walnut, Gordon Street from Edgewood Avenue to Chestnut Street and we will continue on our phased paving of Edgewood Avenue as we pave from Elm Street (where we ended last year) towards the bridge (we have \$35,000 allocated to Edgewood Avenue so we will make it about three quarters of the way to the bridge).

Part of this project will include improving the storm sewer system on Mifflin Avenue and paving that specific project area and we will be adding about 200 feet of storm sewer pipe on Railroad Alley and paving that project area as well. Railroad Alley has been sinking for quite some time so this is a much-needed improvement.



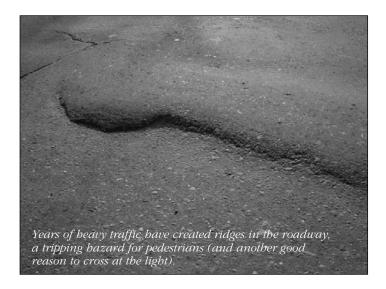
Edgewood residents enjoy the diversity and convenience of South Braddock Avenue businesses. Soon they will also enjoy a newly paved route to them.

South Braddock Avenue from Allenby Avenue all the way past the Regent Square Theatre and then to the Swissvale line will be paved in early April. PennDOT will be doing the actual paving. The direct cost to Edgewood taxpayers will be \$0. This road, shared by four communities, has been difficult over the years, because of the sheer cost, to maintain. This will be a major improvement.

PennDOT will be handling this paving as part of a negotiation between Edgewood and Swissvale with the Parkway ramp project. Last year

PennDOT asked for permission to detour traffic onto South Braddock Avenue and we said no. Through traffic studies we found that almost 90% of cars went on South Braddock Avenue anyway. Because of this we agreed to allow traffic to be detoured this year in return for paving the road and PennDOT agreed.

This will be inconvenient. It certainly was last year; however, the possibility of improving this road could not be ignored. This road is jointly owned by Swissvale, Edgewood, Pittsburgh, and Wilkinsburg. The prospects for a joint paving project that would have cost between \$400,000 - \$500,000 were not good.



The road will be paved in early April and will be done during the week and at night. Our hope is that, with at least the paving, we will have as little inconvenience as possible. It should take four nights to complete everything. We will then coordinate with Swissvale to immediately monitor traffic. I know there are concerns of speeding traffic and we will try and set a strong precedent regarding our tolerance of drivers not obeying the speed limit.

This paving and storm sewer improvements will continue Edgewood's commitment to maintaining and improving our infrastructure. The inconveniences are short-term while the benefits are certainly not.

By Kurt Ferguson Borough Manager



## EDGEWOOD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



## Library

#### Book Sale

The Annual Book Sale kicks off with a Preview Party for Edgewood residents and their guests on Friday, March 14 from 7-9 p.m. in the Edgewood Club ballroom. The cost is \$20 per couple or \$15 per person. Enjoy food and beverages while chatting with neighbors and getting the first choice of the sale.

Readers of all ages and interests will find lots to choose from among the thousands of items in the sale. The sale is much more than books; there are movies, books on tape and CD, magazines, and children's games. Everything is at bargain prices.

Hours for the sale are:

- Saturday, March 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Sunday, March 16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

During those days books will be priced at \$2 for hardbacks (5 for \$8), \$1 for paperbacks (5 for \$4), and \$.50 for kids books (5 for \$2).

On Monday and Tuesday it's bag sale days:

- Monday, March 17, 1-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 18, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

All bags are \$5, and the library will even supply the bags.

If you are able to volunteer at the sale, please call Sally Bogie at (412) 731-0909. We need help setting up before the sale, during the sale, and

#### **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 April issue. Please call **Niki Augustine** (412-371-1711) or e-mail niki.augustine@gmail.com to obtain rates and reserve ad space.

Deadline for the April issue is Friday, March 14. Please send all articles or correspondence to the attention of the editor, e-mail <a href="edgewoodnewsletter@yahoo.com">edgewoodnewsletter@yahoo.com</a>.

boxing things up after the sale.

We can also take donations of items up to the day of the sale.

#### **Lucky Charms**

The luck of the Irish awaits you at the library. Find a specially marked shamrock in a picture book and redeem it for a prize in the children's room. You must check the book out in order to qualify for the prize. Hurry before your luck runs out on March 31.

#### Explorer's Club

Explore West Africa with fellow explorers, aged six and up, on Saturday, March 8 at 1:30 p.m. Past explorers don't forget your passports. Newcomers will receive a passport at the program. Reserve your spot by Thursday, March 6.

#### Web Sights

Little Scientists concludes with Spinning Spiders on Monday, March 10 at 1 p.m. This program is for ages three through five and a caregiver.

#### Remember These?

These Ole School video games will be new to children 12 and under on Wednesdays, March 12-26, at 4 p.m.

#### Superhero Saturday

Come dressed as your favorite superhero on Saturday, March 15 at 1 p.m. Reserve your spot by Thursday, March 13.

#### Literacy Lingo

Help your child get ready to read on three Monday workshops beginning March 17 at 1 p.m. These 45-minute classes are designed to give you tips on the tools you need to help your child succeed. Literacy activities will be provided for your child while you attend the workshop. Topics covered first are print motivation and phonological awareness.

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717 South Trenton Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15221 Office: (412) 241-7144 Fax: (412) 241-7291 NICK G. KEFALOS, Broker Residence: (412) 244-9517 NICK C. KEFALOS, JR. Residence: (412) 241-503 CHRISTOPHER G. KEFALOS Residence: (412) 241-5433 ERIC G. KNOLLE Residence: (412) 977-4501 CHRISTINE G. HUDALE Residence: (412) 371-3133 On March 24, vocabulary and narrative skills will be addressed. The March 31 workshop covers print awareness and letter knowledge. Literacy activities will be provided for your child while you attend the workshops.

#### Let's Read Together

The Parent and Child Book Club for children ages 8-12 and a caregiver, meets on March 22 at 1:30 p.m. Copies of Patricia MacLachlan's book, *Journey*, are available at the library for the discussion.

#### **Pinkalicious Party**

This event is inspired by the book *Pinkalicious* by Elizabeth and Victoria Kan. Children five and up will enjoy this program the most. Register by March 27 for this Saturday, March 29, 1 p.m., party. And, of course, wear pink if you have it.

#### Wanted: Chess Instructor

We would like to offer chess classes for children, but we need an experienced and capable teacher. The library is looking for a volunteer chess instructor. If you have basic/advanced knowledge of the game and a desire and ability to share basic skills with young people, please call Andrea McNeill at the library (412) 731-0909.

#### **Chess Tournament Winners**

Congratulations to the winners and participants of the 35th Annual Library Chess Tournament:

Junior Division, K-fourth grade:

- First place: Jacob Boles, Oakview Avenue
- Second Place: Leo Lauble Senior Division:
- First Place: Stefany-Dymond ReNee Ray, Walnut Street
- Second Place: Aaron Scott

Jacob and Stefany will represent the library at the finals at Northland Public Library on Saturday, March 29. Good Luck!

> By Sally Bogie and Andrea McNeill Librarians

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Clean-up Day

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Earth Day Clean Up in Edgewood. Come down to Koenig Field at 9 a.m. on Saturday April 19 for a doughnut, coffee, or OJ. Then take a few trash bags and gloves, all provided to you at no charge, and help clean up Edgewood. It's that easy, if we all pitch in. We can assign you a street or you can choose one that you think has been in need of a good clean up. Please realize you do not have to stay out for any length of time – any that you are able to do is very helpful. We also have a built in rain date this year of April 26 at 9 a.m., so if you wake up to downpours just count on the following weekend. We hope to see you all there.

#### Spring is in the Air

As the warmer weather approaches, keep your eyes open for the thousands of daffodils and tulips that will be popping their heads from the thawed ground in our community. The Edgewood Foundation, Garden Club, and volunteers from the community worked tirelessly last fall to bring smiles of wonder to our community members this spring through the joy of spring blooms. Particularly pay attention to the around the Edgewood Library/Club, Memorial Park, and the newly named area, The Edgewood Avenue Garden (the area along bus







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way) for bright displays of spring blossoms. Take the time this spring to slow down and appreciate the spring flowers, and remember, we could use your help in the fall, as we continue to make our community burst into spring bloom.

#### **Progressive Dinner**

The Edgewood Foundation would like to thank all who participated in the Progressive Dinner and a special Thank you to the Wallaces for hosting dessert. It was a wonderful evening attended by 137 neighbors. The chicken was catered by The Chef is In, Crystal Baldwin. (Find her ad in the newest Edgewood directory.) She is available for local catering jobs—big or small. Foundation President Amy Andrews has enjoyed organizing this event for many years and is very excited to help next year's organizer, Gary Mulholland. If you are interested in helping with this great event please contact us via our website.

#### Senior Brunch

Every year the Edgewood Foundation sponsors a tribute to our graduating seniors and this year we would like to ask for your help in identifying all Edgewood residents who are graduating from high school. The date is set for May 18 at the Edgewood Club. The time will be announced in an upcoming newsletter. Also, if you would like to volunteer for this wonderful event, please a call or send an e-mail.

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## **I** Historical Society

More on Railroad Crossings

Continuing from last month's O.B. Craig's 1934 narrative titled Edgewood's Safe Railroad Crossings and How They Were Obtained: "To partially eliminate this menace (Swissvale Avenue crossings) or maybe it was for the purpose of strengthening its defense in damage suits, the Railroad Company erected at the station in 1894 an overhead foot bridge which had been part of its exhibit at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. It was reached by long flights of steep and dangerous steps at either end and naturally was seldom used except for getting over an occasional freight train blockage. Some of our youngsters, however, did delight to loiter on the bridge and spit down on trains rushing beneath them. This rather ornamental structure was afterwards removed and relocated over the tracks at Lincoln Avenue and later replaced by the heavy plate girder bridge now in use."

#### April Program

Since 2008 will mark the 250th anniversary of the founding of Pittsburgh, the program in April will be post cards and memorabilia of the 1958 and 1908 celebrations. The date will be appear in the April issue of this newsletters and on posters on bulletin boards in the library and municipal building.

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## EDGEWOOD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



**ESO** 

#### **Another Magical Night**

The Edgewood Symphony continues its season of Magical Nights with an exciting concert on Saturday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Katz Performing Arts Theater at the JCC Pittsburgh in Squirrel Hill.

This concert will feature Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue with Music Director Walter Morales as piano soloist. The Edgewood Symphony will also tackle Brahms' powerful First Symphony and will play Walton's Crown Imperial Coronation March. Tickets are \$12 and are available at the door.

#### **May Concert**

Mark your calendar for the last Magical Night of the season, which will be on Saturday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. at East Allegheny High School in North

Versailles. Featuring music from the theater, the stage as well as the big screen, this concert will be a great culmination for a season of nights to remember.



## **WPSD**

#### National Theater at WPSD

National Theater of the Deaf will be performing in the WPSD auditorium on Sunday April 13 at 6:30 p.m. The performance of "The Brindle Beast and Other Stories" is open to the public. Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$10 each. Contact Vicki Cherney at (412) 244-4207 or vcherneyatwpsd.org if you have any questions.

#### **Community Outreach Center**

CORES (Community Outreach. Resource & Educational Support), the

community outreach center at WPSD, provides community audiological and speech services, sign language classes, interpreting services, technical assistance for teachers and staff as well as training, workshops and seminars.

CORES services are available to children, youth and adults in school settings business or in the community. For more information contact Jennifer Famularo at (412) 244-4224 or jfamularoatwpsd.org.

#### Monster Yard Sale Returns

WPSD's annual vard sale is scheduled for April 26 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and is open to the community.

Reserve a space for \$10. Rent a table for \$5. For questions or to reserve your space, contact vcherneyatwpsd.org.

Proceeds from space and table rentals benefit Student Enrichment.





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## New Mel Douglass Scholarship to be Awarded at Senior Brunch

This spring a new scholarship will be awarded to a student with an outstanding record of community service. This scholarship honors the memory of Mel Douglass, who provided exceptional leadership and volunteer service to numerous Edgewood organizations. The Mel Douglass Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior who lives in Edgewood, who has demonstrated Mel's spirit of volunteerism and who is planning to pursue a degree.

The scholarship will be awarded at the annual Edgewood Foundation brunch in May for the borough's graduating seniors. The scholarship will be in the amount of \$1000 and will be renewed each year the student remains in undergraduate school, subject to minor stipulations.

Douglass grew Edgewood, graduated from Edgewood High School in 1970 and from the University of Pittsburgh. He married

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his high school sweetheart, raised two wonderful children in Edgewood and launched a successful career in business. Mel actively volunteered in multiple community service roles in Edgewood ranging from volunteer fireman to Little League coach to church deacon.

A group of Mel's friends established this scholarship to sustain Mel's legacy while helping Edgewood students. If you would like to apply for this scholarship, please send the following information by April 23 to Dallas Frey at 193 West Hutchinson Avenue, Edgewood PA 15218 freyatverizonmail.com:

- Your name and address (email address optional)
- Your high school and month you will graduate in 2008
- A summary of your community service efforts, including your perspective on why you should be considered for the Mel Douglass

Scholarship (there is no limit on length, but please target 200 to 600 words)

- The names and telephone numbers of two references who can verify at least some of your community service efforts
- The college or university you plan to attend.

If you would prefer to apply for the scholarship using a paper application, forms are available at the C.C. Mellor Memorial Library. If you have quesabout the Mel Douglass Scholarship or would like information about contributing to the scholarship fund, please contact Dallas Frey at (412) 371-0278 or freyatverizonmail. com.



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## **Borough Directory**

#### **Borough Office Information**

#### Borough Manager

#### **Code Enforcement**

#### Tax Office

Maureen Smith . . . . . . . . (412) 731-0200 Mon., Wed. and Thurs. . . . . . 9 a.m. - noon

#### Wage Taxes

Pennsylvania Municipal Services . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (412) 829-0567

#### **Recreation Office**

E-mail: recreation@edgewoodboro.com

#### Police and Fire

#### Police Chief

Crime Watch .....(412) 242-4824, ext. 700 E-mail: policechief@edgewoodboro.com

#### Fire Chief

David Andrews ......(412) 242-4824 E-mail: firechief@edgewoodboro.com

#### **Overnight Vehicle Call-ins**

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## **Tax Time**

#### **Borough Taxes**

The 2008 Edgewood Borough Real Estate tax bill will be mailed out the last week of March. If you haven't received your bill by April 15, call my office. Please remember that as a homeowner you are responsible for paying your taxes even if you don't get your bill. I do my best to make sure the addresses are correct and to get them to you in a timely fashion. I have not control over the post office.

#### **WHSD Taxes**

The third Woodland Hills installment was due by February 28 (if you are paying in installments). If you have not paid it yet, get it to me ASAP. I will be turning them over to the school district around March 15. You must add 10% penalty to any amount that is unpaid after February 28. My office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

By Maureen Smith Tax Collector



## **School**

#### Graphiti Café

The staff of the Woodland Hills High School arts and literary magazine, *Graphiti*, will be holding its annual Graphiti Cafe on Thursday, March 13. This evening of entertainment is held each year in the high school cafeteria from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The cafeteria is transformed into a coffee house environment with examples of student art, live entertainment, children's activities and prizes. There will be free beverages and food available.

The event is open to the public at no charge, but donations to underwrite some of the magazine's expenses are gratefully accepted.

#### Swim-A-Thon Fundraiser

The Woodland Hills Aquatic Team will be holding a swim-a-thon fundraiser on March 15 at the Woodland Hills High School pool. Proceeds raised will benefit four non-profit organizations. More information is available on the WHAT website: www.whatswimming.org.

WHHS swim team members are also participating in this event. Each individual swimmer is seeking sponsor support. A sponsor sheet can also be downloaded at the WHAT website to begin collecting your donations. If you cannot access the website, then a sponsor sheet can be picked up at high school pool. Sponsor sheets and money collected should be brought to the Swim-a-thon on March 15. Please feel free to email Bob Mermelstein at rsmermel@aol.com with any questions you may have.



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#### **False Alarms**

Beginning January 1, Edgewood residents and businesses have a clean slate for false alarms, permitting one false alarm for the year without any penalty. There will be a \$30 fee accessed for a second false alarm. If you have additional false alarms, the third through seventh occurrence will be fined at \$50 per occurrence. If you continue to have false alarms, the eighth occurrence or higher will be fined at \$100 per occurrence.

Delinquent false alarm bills are aggressively pursued, so don't disregard the notices, as they will not go away. If you are late paying the fine, a late fee will be added to your total or it may be turned over to the magistrate for prosecution. Even if a request for the police is cancelled by the alarm company, Edgewood Police have a policy to check the address anyway to ensure that there are no problems. We do this for the safety of businesses and residents of the borough.



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#### Police Tip of the Month

Always, always lock your vehicle doors whenever leaving your vehicle unattended. Unfortunately, theft from vehicles is a popular crime that only takes a few minutes to occur.

#### Crime Hotline

A reminder to current residents and as information to new residents, a Crime Hotline was established several years ago by Edgewood Borough to keep residents updated on any significant occurrences. The Crime Hotline can be accessed by dialing (412) 242-4824 and punching extension 700. During normal business hours, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., the borough secretary will connect you to the extension where a recorded message is updated Monday through Friday. The Crime Hotline is available to make our residents aware of important incidents and to help them remember to take precautions against crime, such as locking vehicle doors. We hope that everyone takes a few minutes to take advantage of the Crime Hotline.

#### **Activity Report**

The Edgewood Police Department responded to and handled 1,481 calls for service in January 2008. There were 344 incidents reported, 207 complaints received and seven accidents investigated, all of which resulted in property damage but no personal injury.

Part I Crimes are the more serious crimes of homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson. Of the 22 Part I Crimes committed in the borough, two were robbery, one was motor vehicle theft, one was burglary, 13 were shoplifting, and five were other crimes. There were no aggravated assaults.

There were 10 adult and no juvenile arrests made for felony and misdemeanor violations.

Edgewood officers wrote a total of 94 traffic citations and 472 parking citations. There were no arrests made for driving under the influence. There was vandalism/criminal mischief complaint and one narcotics offense.

Officers also responded to 10 false alarm calls, took 137 reports, responded to 16 public nuisance complaints, wrote 10 non-traffic citations and responded to 17 calls for medical assistance.



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#### **Good Citizens**

To all the residents who voted the Edgewood VFD Citizens of the Year in the Woodland Hills Progress, thank you. At the February council meeting it was announced to President/Assistant Chief Halle that this award was bestowed on the department.

It is great to be recognized for the job we do, but awards are the furthest from our minds when we do the job. What we do worry about is are we providing the best service possible to the people we serve, and if not what can we do to provide the best service. As Vince Lombardi said, "Gentlemen, we are going to relentlessly chase perfection, knowing full well we will not catch it, because nothing is perfect. But we are going to relentlessly chase it, because in the process we will catch excellence. I am not remotely interested in just being good." Sums up the attitude of the EVFD.

#### New Member

The EVFD has a new member, Martha Compton. Martha lives on Ivy Street and works for Eastern Area Pre-Hospital Service. She wants to serve



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her community and explore the fire department end of emergency services. There's still room for more members.

> By Dave Andrews Fire Chief



#### Walnut Street Ambassador

Airi Bentley, daughter of Tani and Andre Bentley of Walnut Street, has been selected by the "People to People Student Ambassador Program," to travel to Europe this summer. In June, Airi will visit France, Italy and Greece for twenty nine days. While there she will visit some of the world's most well know attractions such as the Eiffel Tower, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Roman Coliseum, visit Mt. Olympus, enjoy a gondola ride through the beautiful city of Venice and rappel a castle

Airi is a 16 year old junior visual arts major at CAPA High School. She is a former Woodland Hills student who transferred to CAPA in the ninth grade to enhance her ability to draw. Airi has continued to excel not only in her visual arts major, but has maintained a 3.4 or higher GPA. She was selected for

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People to People the Student Ambassador program based on her achievement on the PSAT.

#### Retired Reader

Helen McCaffery of East End Avenue recently retired volunteering after 30 years of reading to the blind on the Radio Information Service, where she also produced the Green Thumb program, which she read. RIS is for the blind and handicapped people who are unable to hold a book. All readers are volunteers. The station is on the air seven days a week from 8 a.m. to midnight.

Helen's husband, Paul, volunteers at the Miniature Railroad and Village at the Carnegie Science Center.

#### Wagner Walks to Work

Barb Wagner of Edgewood Avenue is among the lucky few who can walk to work. She was recently named a manager at CrawfordEllenbogen, LLC, where she will oversee business bookkeeping services and will provide litigation support and traditional tax, accounting and advisory services for firm clients.







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3		23		16			21.1	9		2 MARCH		Sunday	March/April
<u>a</u>	1 Literacy Lingo, CCML 7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE	24	1 Literacy Lingo, CCML 7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE 7:30 Borough Council, BB	17	Ailidai Dook Sale, CCIVIL	Applied Book Cale COM	1 Literacy Lingo, CCML 7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE	10	1 Little Scientists, CCML 7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE	ω	7:30 Boy Scouts, FPCE 7:30 Borough Council, BB	Monday	
1 NPRILL	10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML	25	10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML	18			10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML	11	10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML	4	10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Toastmasters, CCML	Tuesday	COMMUNITY
N	10:30 & 1:30 Story Hour, CCML	26	10:30 & 1:30 Story Hour, CCML 4 Ole School Video Games, CCML	19		Cames, Come	10:30 & 1:30 Story Hour, CCML 4 Ole School Video	12	10:30 & 1:30 Story Hour, CCML 4 Ole School Video Games, CCML	Ŋ	10:30 & 1:30 Story Hour, CCML	Wednesday	JNITY CALEN
<b>3</b> Refuse Pickup	10:30 Story Hour, CCML	27 Refuse & Recycling	10:30 Story Hour, CCML	20 Refuse Pickup			10:30 Story Hour, CCML	<b>13</b> Refuse & Recycling Pickup	10:30 Story Hour, CCML 6:30 Graphiti Café, WHHS	Refuse Pickup	10:30 Story Hour, CCML	Thursday	ENDAR
4		28		21				14	7 Booksale Party, CCML NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	7		Friday	
Ŋ		29	1 Pinkalicious Party, CCML	22			1:30 Parent and Child Bookclub, CCML	15	Beware the Ides of March Swimathon, WHHS 7:30 ESO, JCC Annual Book Sale, CCML	œ	1:30 Explorer's Club, CCML	Saturday	2008

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 Bidg://Greensburg Pike BB-Borough Building CCML-Mellor Memorial Library DS-Dickson Intermediate School EPS-Edgewood Primary School ETC-Edgewood Towne Centre EC-Edgewood Club FI-Fairless Intermediate FPCE-First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood KF-Koenig Field MP-Memorial Park WHHS-Woodland Hills High School WJrH-West Jr. High School

# THE SCOOP

## **MUSICAL MAGIC**

with the Edgewood Symphony *Page 3* 





#### THE BEAT GOES ON

at Graphiti Café *Page 6* 

## Billions of Books

at the annual library sale *Page 2* 





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