

EDGEWOOD

January / February 2026

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF EDGEWOOD BOROUGH

2026 Budget Highlights

The general fund budget represents an important directive for the operations of the Borough for the coming year and beyond. The borough is required by law to pass a balanced budget on or before December 31 each year. For the first time in ten years, borough council approved a 1 mill property tax to balance the 2026 budget. One mill generates \$264,000 in revenue for the borough. This increase was necessary to cover the increasing costs of utilities, materials, wage agreements and to cover capital project costs. The approved and balanced general fund budget for 2026 is \$5,587,581.

Borough Council approved a balanced budget with a revised millage rate of 8.185 mills on December 15, 2025. Property taxes are the largest revenue source for the Borough and are projected to generate \$2,161,454 in 2026. The average assessed value of all properties in the borough is \$169,650 according to Allegheny County Department of Real Estate. Using that assessed value, a homeowner will pay \$1,389 in property taxes to the borough. This is an increase of \$170 from 2025. For comparison, a property with the same valuation will pay \$4,722 to Woodland Hills School District and \$1091 to Allegheny County.

The second largest revenue source is the Earned Income Tax. This is a 1% tax on gross wages, net profits and other income earned by Borough residents. The 1% tax is split between the Borough (0.5%) and the School District (0.5%). Combined, current and delinquent earned income tax collections are expected to generate almost \$900,000 in revenue for 2026.

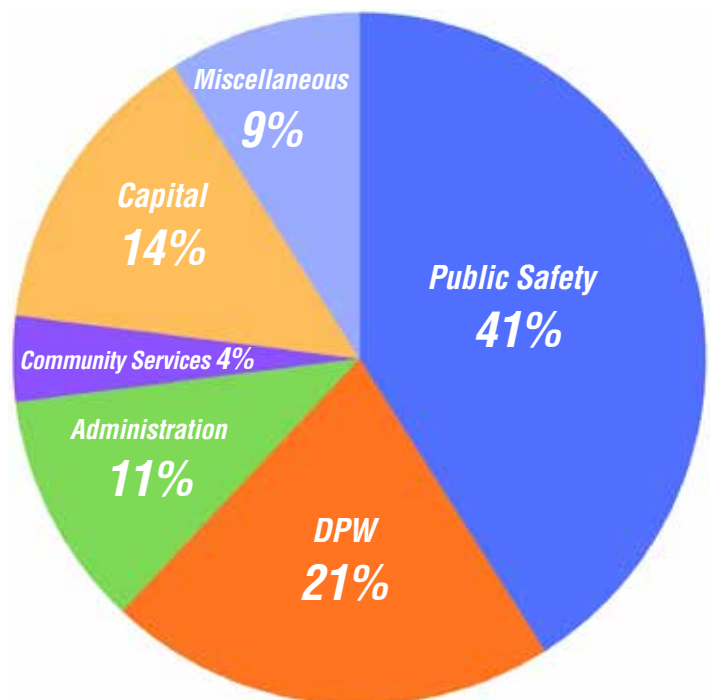
As with every year, Borough Council must make difficult spending decisions. Again, council is providing funding to CC Mellor Library in the amount of \$48,800. Funding for the library has steadily risen from \$38,500 in 2020.

Just under \$800,000 is being allocated to capital work in 2026 and 2027. Projects include routine street paving, replacing the steps from Horace Way to Monongahela Way, drainage and sewer work in Koenig Field and planning for a reconstruction of Monongahela Way in 2027.

The \$1.9 million police department accounts for 35% of total general fund expenditures. The 2026 budget covers wages and benefits for 11 full time police officers and police chief. Less than 1% of the budget is considered discretionary funding and those extra funds were applied towards additional officer training, technology upgrades, and future capital expenses. The department will receive a new police

Continued on page 2

2025 APPROVED GENERAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES



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2026 Budget Highlights *Continued from page 1*

vehicle in 2026. The oldest vehicle will be sold to offset purchase costs. A fully outfitted police vehicle costs approximately \$67,000 and has a service life of four to five years. The department maintains five vehicles.

The \$1,189,227 public works department accounts for 21% of total general fund expenditures. The 2026 allocation includes a \$350,000 set aside for repairs in 2027 to the retaining walls and road surface (Monongahela Alley) atop the Nine Mile Run culvert running parallel to Greendale Avenue. Council previously set aside \$350,000 in the 2025 budget for this project. A revised engineering estimate puts the cost to rehabilitate this structure at \$1,200,000. The borough has applied for three grants to offset some of those costs. Decisions on those applications are expected mid to late 2026. Additionally, \$400,000 was budgeted for street paving. The borough uses a road rating system to rank each road and determine a paving priority.

Remaining expenditures cover the wages and benefits for four employees and part-time workers, as well as a variety of consumables. The borough will purchase 250 tons of rock salt under a statewide cooperative purchasing contract totaling \$22,000. Council also approved a capital transfer of \$30,000 for equipment replacement.

The borough's 2026 general fund pension obligations amount to \$175,000. The Borough is required by state law to contribute this amount to its police and non-uniform pensions to maintain their long-term viability. Anticipated state pension aid in the amount of \$173,000 practically eliminates this liability.

The borough's \$1.4 million sewer fund contains allocations for improvements required under our administrative consent order and ongoing maintenance. Approximately \$130,000 in capital work is included in this amount. Ongoing maintenance costs will be paid for by surcharge revenue. Edgewood levies a surcharge of \$5.70 per every 1,000 gallons of water consumed. This revenue can only be applied to expenses incurred in the operation and maintenance of the borough's sanitary sewer system. Borough Council last raised the surcharge in 2021 from \$4.70 to \$5.70. ALCOSAN's 2026 treatment rate will increase 7% and that amount will be reflected in 2026 bills.

Overall, the 2026 budget addresses many of the borough's immediate and near-term needs. No council ever wants to raise taxes but, in the end, the choice was to either reduce spending and defer an increase or opt for a modest increase and maintain steady spending. After much debate, council felt the prudent decision was to proceed with a modest increase that funds needed improvements while avoiding costly borrowing. Continued deferral only degrades the quality of life in our neighborhood and ultimately, costs taxpayers more in the long run as small repairs become major, more expensive failures.



From The Manager's Desk

2025 Parking Permits

Permits are on sale now. On-street resident and visitor permits are \$35 each. Off-street borough parking lot permits cost \$100. All permits are valid for the calendar year and must be renewed annually. They can be purchased in person at the borough building or online at www.edgewood.pgh.pa.us/edgewood-parkingpermits.html.

Violators of the borough's overnight on-street parking ban can be fined up to \$35 for each occurrence.

Winter Weather Reminders

- Property owners are responsible for keeping their sidewalks free and clear of any ice and snow. Please clear your sidewalks within 12 hours of a snowfall.
- Please do not throw, cast, or plow snow into the public street. This creates a hazard for motorists and undermines the work of our public works department.
- When shoveling your driveway, stockpile the snow on the left side of your driveway opening when looking at your home from the street. This way the plow truck pushes the snow past your driveway rather than back into it.
- Do your part and be a good neighbor by checking in on the elderly and helping them keep their sidewalks clear.
- Property owners are responsible for maintaining their sidewalks and curb in a condition free of cracks, holes or other unsafe conditions like unevenness. As the temperature warms and spring nears, please take a moment to inspect your sidewalk and plan to have it repaired or replaced if it shows signs of deterioration.

Municipal Complex Parking Lot Update

Throughout the fall, Independent Enterprises installed new sidewalks, dumpster pads and storm sewers around the municipal building. Paving and restoration is the last phase of the project. Preparation for paving began on November 18 with a full depth milling; paving was to follow immediately thereafter. Unfortunately, an unusually cold fall combined with significant snowfall has prevented the contractor from finishing the asphalt work. Above freezing temperatures for several days with limited precipitation are needed to properly pave and avoid premature base failure. The weather has also idled all of the asphalt plants, so even if the temperature cooperates there is uncertainty around procuring materials.

Needless to say, the contractor and the borough remain committed to paving as soon as possible, recognizing the inconvenience caused by the current state of the parking lot. **The glass recycling bin is being returned to service in its new location immediately next to the public works garage.**

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PART I CRIMESSEP. OCT .. YTD			
Homicide.....	0	0	0
Rape.....	0	0	0
Robbery.....	0	0	3
Assaults (simple/aggravated).....	0	2	12
Burglary.....	0	2	3
Larceny/theft:.....			
Shoplifting.....	8	7	78
Other.....	1	4	16
Motor vehicle theft.....	0	0	6
Arson.....	0	0	0
TOTAL-PART I.....	9	15	118
PART II CRIMES			
Liquor laws.....	0	2	5
Vandalism/criminal mischief.....	0	3	16
Weapons offenses.....	0	0	1
Sex offenses.....	0	0	0
Narcotics offenses.....	1	0	11
DUI.....	5	4	31
Disorderly conduct.....	0	1	11
All other offenses.....	7	6	43
TOTAL-PART II.....	13	16	118
GRAND TOTAL (P1&P2).....	22	31	236
Adult arrests.....	14	18	137
Juvenile arrests.....	1	1	8
Total arrests.....	15	19	145
Incidents/calls.....	320	356	3315
Animal complaints.....	0	3	11
Agency assist (Police & Fire).....	14	13	91
PART I CRIMES.....	9	15	118
PART II CRIMES.....	13	16	118
Domestic complaints.....	1	2	17
Juvenile contacts/complaints.....	0	1	14
Miscellaneous reports.....	238	253	2394
Police reports filed.....	82	103	921
False alarms.....	5	4	43
Public nuisance/disturbances.....	2	4	43
Suspicious person/incidents.....	10	16	125
Missing person.....	1	0	1
Medical assists.....	6	10	91
Traffic related:.....			
Fatal accidents.....	0	0	0
Reportable accidents.....	1	2	15
Non-reportable accidents.....	7	8	93
Traffic stops conducted.....	93	67	653
Traffic citations.....	61	41	425
Non-traffic citations.....	3	3	25
Parking tags.....	145	115	1431
GRAND TOTAL-ALL CALLS. 1026 . 1051.10089			



Edgewood Borough Police Department

Edgewood Police Chief Retires, Welcomes New Chief

After 17 years with the department, Chief Robert Payne decided to retire at the end of 2025. Chief Payne started his career as a homicide detective with the Allegheny County Police Department in 1976 and spent 20 years chasing serial killers like Edward Surratt and Richard Henkel. After retiring from the county, he worked as a police chief in several local law enforcement agencies and universities. He came to Edgewood from Plum Borough and spent nearly two decades running a CALEA-accredited police department.

Chief Payne devoted hours of time outside of work teaching other police officers about updates to criminal procedure, investigative techniques and conflict de-escalation as a Municipal Police Officer's Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) instructor. His most prominent work as a homicide detective has been the subject of two books; "There's More Bodies Out There," written by Rick Porrello.


In total, Chief Payne has spent 53 years in law enforcement and 55 if you count his time as a Military Police Officer during the Vietnam War. However, even the most storied of careers must eventually come to an end. Chief Payne will be handing over day to day operations of the department at the start of the new year to his replacement, Chief Sylvan Altieri.

Chief Altieri was hired from a group of applicants during several rounds of interviews held during the fall. After leaving the United States Army, he spent 25 years with the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia (Washington D.C.), retiring as an Assistant Chief. Much like Chief Payne, Chief Altieri brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position.

His goals are to ensure continuity of operations during the transition and to make sure public safety strategy aligns with community expectations. He is excited to learn about the community and interact with residents so please say hello if you happen to encounter him walking around the neighborhood.



(Left) Mayor O'Donnell congratulates Chief Payne for 17 years of service to the Borough of Edgewood. (Right) New Police Chief, Sylvan Altieri.



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PERSONAL INJURY & WORKERS' COMPENSATION

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



Welcome to Edgewood!

In October, the Edgewood Foundation erected a new sign at the off ramp from the outbound parkway as you approach the split to Greendale and Braddock Ave exits.

The old sign (pictured below) was originally funded and placed at that location in the early 1990's by the Edgewood Foundation. As the past 30 years of weather have weakened the wood structure of the sign, the Edgewood Foundation—with help from a donation by long-time Edgewood residents Lee and Robin Price—decided to design and erect a new welcome sign.

Our new sign was a collaboration between the Edgewood Foundation and Eisenwood Custom Wood and Design LLC. The materials and colors were chosen with longevity, welcoming and vibrancy in mind while keeping with a similar design as the Edgewood logo and previous sign.

In addition to the sign, solar lights were added to give life to the sign at night. The garden portion has been redesigned with perennial plants that will be added in the spring, while established perennials and trees were divided, pruned and mulched in an effort to make this entrance to Edgewood a more beautiful and inviting space.



Looking Back, Looking Forward

In late January, 2026, members of the Edgewood Foundation Board will meet for their annual retreat, where they reflect on the activities of 2025 and make plans for 2026. It will be a long meeting! Just to recap, here are some of the ways that the Foundation worked for Edgewood residents in 2025: Progressive Dinner, Senior Brunch, two cleanups at Brinton Road, a toy raffle at Community Day, Sleepover in the Park, Newcomers' Reception, a new Edgewood sign (see the full article in this newsletter for more details), Oktoberfest, Wine (and Bourbon!) and Chocolate Night, the Limpert Award and Light-Up Night, as well as providing support to the Edgewood Symphony, the Edgewood Fire Department, the CC Mellor Library and the Regent Square Civic Association. Phew! Each of those activities took hours and hours of planning and preparation, all in hopes of bringing neighbors together and fostering a strong sense of community here in Edgewood. How did we do? Do you have any feedback for the Foundation on activities that you especially enjoyed, things that you think could have gone better, or new ideas to help the Foundation help Edgewood? If so, PLEASE feel free to share—email us using this link <https://www.edgewoodfoundation.org/connect-1> or go to our website, EdgewoodFoundation.org and click on "Connect."

The first Edgewood Foundation event of 2026 is coming up quickly. On February, 28, we will once again host the Edgewood Progressive Dinner. If you have attended one or more of the previous 28 (we think) Progressive Dinners, you already know what a warm and convivial evening it is. If you haven't, maybe 2026 could be your introduction. Appetizers, main courses and desserts in three different Edgewood homes, with different groups at each home. It is a chance to catch up with old friends and to make new connections—a warm evening in the middle of the cold winter. This is an adults-only evening, with reservations due by February 15. You can find a printed registration form elsewhere in this newsletter, or you can sign up online at EdgewoodFoundation.org. We hope to see you there!

Save the DATE

ANNUAL SENIOR BRUNCH

May 3, 2026

BOARD OPENINGS

There are currently two open spots on the board, for anyone interested in applying.

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The Edgewood Symphony Orchestra's first concert of 2026 will be performed on March 21st at the Katz Auditorium of the JCC in Squirrel Hill. Embark on a musical journey with Stravinsky's Pulcinella Suite, an enchanting masterpiece filled with nostalgic neoclassical charm and the pungent wit of 20th century modernism. Then discover Eric Sammut's Sugaria, a delightful concerto featuring ESO soloist Daniel Gostein on the marimba. The program concludes with Beethoven's radiant and uplifting Pastoral Symphony, evoking scenes of nature and the serene beauty of the countryside. Information and tickets are available on their website www.edgewoodsymphony.org.

Boy Scout Troop 23/ Cub Scout Pack 23

Thank you to everyone who came out to buy a tree to support Scouting in your neighborhood!

Boy Scout Troop 23 is open to boys ages 11 through 18. If you're interested in learning more, please stop by one of our meetings. We meet Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood.

Cub Scout Pack 23 is always welcoming new members to join the fun! Meetings are Monday nights at 6:30 during the school year. For more information, email edgewoodcubscoutpack23@gmail.com, call 412-223-7645, or check out Edgewood Cub Scout Pack 23 on Facebook. Cub Scouts is open to boys and girls in Kindergarten through 5th Grade.

Edgewood Foundation Progressive Dinner Saturday, February 28, 2026!

For nearly 30 years, The Edgewood Foundation Progressive Dinner has been a great way to meet new neighbors and spend time catching up with old friends. You start in one home for appetizers, switch to a smaller group at another house for dinner, and then all attendees gather for dessert and cocktails at the end of the evening. All guests must be over the age of 21.

Schedule

- 6 p.m. Appetizers with groups of approximately 50 people
- 7:30 p.m. Dinner with groups of 8-12 people
- 9 p.m. Dessert & Cocktails with the entire group

*We **always** need homes to host each part of the evening please consider hosting!*

Call if you have any questions: 412-897-4296



2026 EDGEWOOD FOUNDATION PROGRESSIVE DINNER Saturday, February 28, 6-11 p.m. \$45 per person RSVP by February 15.

Please choose your top 2 choices:
(Only one will be assigned for the event)

- ____ 1. Provide salad/bread for 12 guests
- ____ 2. Provide an appetizer to share among 30-40 guests
- ____ 3. Provide dessert to share among 30-40 guests
- ____ 4. Host an appetizer party for 45 guests
- ____ 5. Host dinner for 8-12 guests (no cooking required!)

We will contact you with your appetizer location and job verification 5-7 days in advance.

Guest 1: _____

Address: _____ Cell: _____

Guest 2: _____

Address: _____ Cell: _____

Email required for communication: _____

☐ Vegetarian (#) _____ ☐ Allergies? _____

(We will try to accommodate all requests)

Please pay online at Edgewoodfoundation.org or by check made out to **Edgewood Foundation** by February 15, 2026.

RETURN FORM/CHECK to 2 RACE STREET, Pittsburgh, PA 15218
(Borough Building).

All guests must be age 21 or over to attend.



EDGEWOOD RECREATION

Koenig Field- Off-Season Info

Reservations for the field and tennis/pickleball courts are accepted from April 1-November 15. The tennis/pickleball courts, restrooms and water fountains are closed to the public outside of the dates listed above. Other areas of the field may still be used for off-season personal and recreational use.

We can start accepting reservations on February 2 for spring activities.

Winter Futsal

Futsal is open to boys and girls, ages 7-13. The league will meet for a practice/scrimmage one day each week during the winter months in two age divided sessions (7-9 and 10-13). To al-

low for the best experience for all participating, registration will be limited to 20 players per division. The fee for this sport is \$25.

Registration will take place through Teamsnap, starting December 15, using this link: <https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/502301>

This information, along with any updates throughout the season, will also be available on our webpage, edgewood.pgh.pa.us, and Facebook page, Edgewood Borough Community Events. If you would like to help coach (Clearances are required), or for any questions about the league, please contact Abigail at office@edgewoodboro, or by phone at 412-242-4824, ext 217.

SPONSORSHIP: *If you're interested in becoming a sponsor of Edgewood Youth Sports, visit www.Edgewood.pgh.pa.us/BecomeASponsor. Edgewood Continues our tradition of offering youth sports leagues to children in our area, and we are dedicated to keeping registration costs for families low, while still maintaining our field and equipment. Our sponsors make it possible to maintain safe, new equipment for our players, and keep registration fees reasonable. Thank you for your support!*

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Winter concert opens renovated auditorium at Edgewood

The fifth grade orchestra, choir, and band had the special opportunity to play the first show in the newly renovated auditorium at Edgewood Elementary on Thursday, December 11 as they welcomed family members for their annual winter concert.

With new seating, new lights, fresh paint, and a nice, new look for the holidays, the fifth graders entertained with an impressive range of songs. The band and orchestra teamed up to open the show with a combined performance of “Hard Rock Blues.” The orchestra stayed on stage, and under the direction of Ms. Burgh, performed the spooky “Spiders in My Soup” and the toe-tapping “Jazzy Jingle.”

Mr. Benton and the choir took the stage next for a trio of songs, beginning with “The Man with the Bag.” Two seasonal tunes followed—“The Joy of Hanukkah” and “That's Christmas to Me.” The band returned to the stage to close the show under the direction of Mrs. Hertrick. They played the fun “St. Nick Salsa” and the energetic “Popcorn Prelude.”



FBLA students pick up awards at regional conference

Congratulations to the Woodland Hills High School Future Business Leaders of America members, who won several awards at the FBLA Regional Conference at St. Vincent College on Tuesday, December 16.

Loraine Mendoza earned first place in Data Science & AI; Max Duvall earned first place in Introduction to Marketing Concepts; Emma Parsons earned first place in Visual Design; and Mariah Fields and Shreela Godhanian-Kendrick earned second place in Business Management.

All five students have qualified to represent Woodland Hills at the FBLA state competition in Hershey in April. Congratulations!

A round of applause is also deserved for Zoe Tanz, who placed third in the Job Interview category while representing Forbes Road Career and Technology Center. The WHHS FBLA team is also awaiting results in the video competition category, which featured Simon Mroz, Delaney Cass, and Maggie Stahl.

VEX Robotics IQ Teams Win Five Awards, Two Qualify For States

Elementary and middle school students who are part of Woodland Hills VEX IQ Robotics teams took part in the first competition of the school year on Friday, December 12 at Woodland Hills High School.

The VEX IQ Robotics Competition theme this year is Mix & Match, which challenges two randomly paired teams to work together to navigate their robots across a specially designed game board and score as many points as possible in 60 seconds. Points are awarded based on set criteria of completing challenges, such as stacking pieces and placing them in scoring areas.

Teams are also able to enter a separate skills challenge, and judges evaluate the teams on a variety of criteria for additional awards. Eleven Woodland Hills teams participated and five of them earned awards as part of the competition, with two of them earning qualification for the Western Pennsylvania VIQRC Championships.



The two teams who qualified for states are Team 15104F “No Name,” which won the Excellence Award for being among the top teams throughout the competition. Team 4183E “Robotic Wolverines” won the Design Award, which recognizes their robot design process, game strategy, and attention to detail.

Performing Arts Class Presents “Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits”

The Performing Arts Class at Woodland Hills High School recently presented “Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits,” a hilarious send-up of Broadway's biggest musical numbers. This cabaret-style revue features creative parodies of some of the most popular musicals, performers, and writers to ever appear on stage.

The show affectionately skewers the emotional performances of heavy hitters like “Wicked” and “Phantom of the Opera,” lampoons the intense drama of “Les Miserables” and “Rent,” and lovingly pokes fun at the careers of Broadway luminaries like Stephen Sondheim, Liza Minnelli, Carol Channing, and more. The show was entirely produced by the high school performing arts classes, with students handling costumes, props, stage directions, and more. The revue has no set roles, and performers appear off and on throughout the show.

The cast included several students who were making their on-stage debut—Keonna Cupid, Mariah Floyd, and D’Naya Louis. It also included seniors Alexia Abernathy, Leo Alfieri, Nevaeh Cauley, Calise Cowans, Hayden Crum, Summer Curtright, Olivia Davidson, Isaac Lott, Mackenzie McPherson, Aubrie Moon, Livia Rocco, Zuri Rue, TT Sallie-Nelson, and Adam Steiner.

Underclassmen performers included Elizabeth Ansell, Cayden Bristow, Noelle Brubaker, Ty’Azia Burton, Makhia Dawkins, Luke DeVore, Caroline Elston, William Ferguson, Samyra Fodop, Richard Master, Adore McFadden, Olivia Safran, Jae Saunders, Cora Spear, and Eleanor Willson.



Next up for the Woodland Hills Performing Arts Department is its junior musical production of “Guys and Dolls” January 15 through January 17.

WPSD is thrilled to announce a new project planned for our youngest learners.

Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2026 on a large play and recreation space including two new playgrounds especially designed for our Children’s Center and Elementary School students. The current playground has been loved by our students for many years. The new space will ensure our students continue to grow emotionally, physically, and socially.

To discover more about the importance of this project, just scan the QR code. Our students share how much this new space will mean to them.

Please consider a donation today to allow WPSD to continue to help our students get the most out of their childhood. Just visit wpsd.org for more information. We appreciate your kindness and generosity!!



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THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2025



Tree Management Seminar

Join us on February 26 at 6 p.m. at the CC Mellor Memorial Library for a free educational seminar on tree management. Assess your property tree's vulnerability before the next storm.

Our presenter, Archie Autenreith, is a board-certified master arborist and owner of Northwood Tree Care LLC. with numerous qualified credentials. He has developed many new techniques for mitigating potential storm damage as well as promoting healthy growth. He will discuss this and answer questions afterward. Sponsored by 4 Corners Garden Club

SAVE THE DATE Gardening Lecture March 26, 2026

Are you interested in learning how to create a sanctuary in your garden for birds, pollinators, and wildlife?

The Four Corners Garden Club is sponsoring a program at the C.C. Mellor Memorial Library of Edgewood on March 26, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. Nick Stahlman, Community Conservation Coordinator at the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, will be discussing how people can help birds and pollinators across Southwestern Pennsylvania. Topics discussed will include: native plants, addressing threats, wildlife stewardship, clean water, and education and engagement. All are welcome to come and learn how to create a mini-nature reserve in your garden.



Mellor Memorial Library at CCM Edgewood branch (E) and CCM Forest Hills branch (FH)

It's almost time for C.C. Mellor Memorial Library's annual book sale. Join us for the biggest event of the year, shop our collection of over 15,000 donated items and show your support for the library. This year's sale takes place March 6-9 at the Edgewood Club.

Kids & Family Programs:

Family Blanket Fort Night (E) Friday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m. Gather your family, grab your pillows and blankets, and visit the library after hours for Family Fort Night! We'll have the whole building to ourselves as we construct our blanket forts. Make sure your fort is structurally sound before the lights go off at 6:45, when you can read and enjoy a popcorn snack with your family. Best for kids 3-8 and caregivers. *Please register.*

Forest Hills Creation Station—Hibernation (F) Saturday, January 17 at 10:30 a.m. Stop by to learn about animals in winter. Cozy up for Storytime at 10:30 or drop by anytime to the all-day drop-in craft stations. All ages are welcome but best for ages 4-8.

Family Blanket Fort Night at CCM (F) Friday, January 30 at 6:30 p.m. Gather your family, grab your pillows and blankets, and visit the library after hours! We'll have the whole building to ourselves as we construct our blanket forts. Make sure your fort is structurally sound before the lights go off at 6:45, when you can read and enjoy a popcorn snack with your family. Best for kids 3-8 and caregivers. *Please register.*

Tape Town at (E) Saturday, February 7 at 9 a.m. Beep! Beep! Time to play with cars! Come see the library transformed into a make-believe mini-town with roads and areas to visit. We have plenty of cars to share or you can bring your own. One day only!

Forest Hills Creation Station—Paper-crafts Day (F) Saturday, February 14 at 10:30 a.m. Stop by to learn about fun ways to create with paper. Try your hand at a variety of paper folding and stamping techniques. Storytime at 10:30, all-day drop-in craft station. All ages are welcome but best for ages 4-8. Come celebrate and create!

Tape Town (F) Saturday, February 28 at 10 a.m. Beep! Beep! Time to play with cars! Come see the library transformed into a make-believe mini-town with roads and areas to visit. We have plenty of cars to share or you can bring your own. One day only!

Teen Programs:

Teen NYT Game Night (E) Tuesday, January 20 at 4:30 p.m. Do you like Wordle, Connections, and Strands? Join us for the New York Times Game Night! We'll be solving word puzzles, having snacks, and having a great time! The winner of our game night tournament will receive a trophy and a \$20 gift card.

Teen DIY Pizza Night (E) Tuesday, January 27 at 4:30 p.m. Ever made a toaster oven pizza? Wanna try? Come make a pizza with us!

Teen Trivia Tournament (E) Tuesday, February 17 and Tuesday, February 24 at 4:30 p.m. Calling all teens! We're looking for teams of teens to compete in our trivia tournament. Teams need to be in groups of at least 3. The winning team will be awarded a trophy and gift cards!

Tween Programs:

AV Club (E) Wednesdays in January and February at 5 p.m. Calling all tweens! We're learning the ins and outs of video production, editing, and recording. In January we'll start off with creating your own news broadcast, and in February you'll pick a project of your own to work on. Ages 8-12

Adult Programs:

Native Plant Winter Sowing Workshop (E) Thursday, January 8 at 6 p.m. Learn all about native planting in the southwestern PA region, as well as take some winter seeds to start your garden with!

Silent Book Club (E) Thursday, January 15 at 6 p.m. Do you remember the serene silence of study hall? Do you love the ambiance of a quiet library? Join us for our Silent Book Club! Bring a book you've been meaning to read, hang out in our beautiful Fiction Room and enjoy a cup of tea with bookish people.

Craft Supply Swap (E) Saturday, January 17 at 10 a.m. New Year = New Crafting Projects! Come bring your crafting supplies and swap for supplies for your upcoming year. Supplies in good condition only, please

Death Cafe (E) Tuesday, January 20 at 5 p.m. Join us for a group directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or themes.

Return of the River Otter with Char Ross (E) Thursday, January 22 at 6 p.m. Once nearly wiped out by unregulated trapping and habitat loss, the playful river otter has made a remarkable return to Pennsylvania's waterways. Dive into the hidden world of these intelligent carnivores to understand how their recovery marks a turning point in our state's conservation history. Join us to uncover the ecological importance of otters, what their presence tells us about waterway health, and how Pennsylvania's rivers are rewilding.

Weird Recipe Potluck (E) Monday, January 26 at 5:30 p.m. Remember Aspic? Where you the kid in the cafeteria making weird

concoctions? Bring your favorite (or least favorite) weird recipe to our potluck! Sponsored by the CCM Crafting Circle! You're welcome to join us and also bring your own! Registrations is limited to 10 people, first come first served.

Author Reading (E) Saturday, January 31 at 1 p.m. Join local poet Charlie Brice in celebrating his new book.

Intro to Zentangle (E) Thursday, February 5 at 6 p.m. Zentangle® is a simple technique for pattern drawing that is relaxing, meditative, intriguing, and FUN! If you can print the alphabet, you can do Zentangle—just 5 easy strokes! You will amaze yourself. Excite your creativity!

Beavers – Ecological Engineers with Char Ross (E) Thursday, February 19 at 6 p.m. Before Pennsylvania's forests echoed with saws and steam, the beaver was already reshaping the landscape—one dam at a time. Trapped to near extirpation by 1900, beavers are now recognized as master engineers who create and sustain vital wetland habitats. The beaver's remarkable comeback

will be discussed in depth at this program celebrating wildlife conservation and coexistence along our creeks and rivers.

Chinese Tea Ceremony (F) Thursday, February 26 at 2 p.m. The Forest Hills Social Hour is honored to host visiting scholars from China who studying at the University of Pittsburgh. Join us for good company and to learn about the traditions of the Chinese tea ceremony.

FCGC Presents Tree Management (E) Thursday, February 26 at 6 p.m. Join the Four Corners Garden Club and expert Archie Autenreith for a free educational seminar on tree management. Our full slate of regular programs will continue through the fall including Baby Talk, Family Storytime, Music and Movement Storytime, Makerspace Monday, The Wanderers, Forest Hills Social Hour, Knitting Group, Conversation Salon, Fourth Tuesday Book Club, Drop Dead Book Club, Great Outdoors Book Club, Mahjong and Crafting Circle.

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State Rep. Abigail Salisbury
Pennsylvania’s 34th Legislative District

New PA budget boosts schools, delivers a new tax credit for workers

Arriving at a new state budget took a lot longer than it should have this year, as the state Senate failed to vote on multiple proposals we sent over from the House. When our Senate colleagues finally came to the table in November, we passed—and the governor signed—a new spending plan to get critical dollars flowing.

The \$50.1 billion budget isn’t perfect, but it has the right priorities, delivering strong investments in our public schools and in programs to fight hunger, improve access to health care, and strengthen the network of reliable, affordable child care.

The budget invests more than \$600 million to meet our constitutional mandate to level the playing field for students in less affluent districts, and it distributes back to our public schools more than \$178 million in savings generated from cyber charter reform.

Here in the district, our public schools will see across-the-board increases, including nearly \$3 million more to the Woodland Hills School District.

A new state tax credit for workers

Beginning this year, Pennsylvania workers who qualify for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit will also be able to claim a state tax credit. The new budget provides for the first-ever Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit, which is equal to 10% of the federal EITC and can provide up to \$805 back, depending on income and number of dependents.

To learn more, visit the state Department of Revenue at www.pa.gov/agencies/revenue and scroll down to the link titled “Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit.” On the landing page, you’ll also find a tool that can help you calculate the amount you may get back.

In addition to the new tax credit for workers, the 2025-26 state budget continues the state child care tax credit, which is available to Pennsylvanians who qualify for the federal child care tax credit and is equal to 100% of the federal credit. In some cases, families may qualify for up to \$2,100 back.

To learn more, visit www.pa.gov/agencies/revenue and scroll down to the link titled “Incentives, Credits, Programs.” On the landing page, visit the link titled “Child and Dependent Care Enhancement Tax Credit.”

Keeping prescription drugs affordable for seniors

Around the same time that we passed the new state budget, I was proud to support another important piece of legislation for older Pennsylvanians. The bill—later signed by the governor—will protect seniors from losing eligibility for the PACE/PACENET affordable prescription program simply because they received an annual Social Security cost-of-living adjustment. The new law extends the prior COLA exemption, which was set to expire at the end of 2025, for another two years.

If you have questions about state tax credits, the PACE/PACENET programs, or any other state-related matter, please remember that my office is here to help. Our staff can help you apply for state programs and benefits, obtain a senior ConnectCard or handicap placard, or solve problems involving different state agencies. Give us a call at 412-273-3400 to find out all the ways we can help!

Please note, the updates provided by our elected officials are intended to inform constituents of what’s happening now in PA State government, including currently proposed legislation. Edgewood Borough does not endorse any political party, candidate, or policy.

Seeking Applicants for
2026 Mel Douglass Scholarships

Edgewood’s own Mel Douglass Scholarships, that recognize our high school seniors for outstanding volunteer service, will be awarded again this spring. Two Mel Douglass Scholarships, worth \$12,000 each in 2026 (up from \$10,000 last year!), are available. In addition, a number of \$1,500 honorable mention scholarships are available. This unique program, available only to Edgewood residents, has become a tradition that helps make our Borough a special place.

The mission of this scholarship program is to benefit Edgewood students while honoring the considerable legacy of Mel Douglass. Mel grew up here, graduated from Edgewood High School in 1970 and the University of Pittsburgh. He married his high school sweetheart, raised two wonderful children, and established a successful career in business. Before Mel passed in a 1994 airplane accident, he served Edgewood in multiple leadership roles ranging from volunteer fireman to Little League coach to church deacon. Mel will always be remembered for the wide circle of lives he enriched with his larger-than-life personality and his deep commitment to community service.

The Mel Douglass Fund, started by a group of Mel’s Edgewood High School friends, has awarded scholarships annually since 2008. During our 18-year history, 114 Edgewood students have earned 22 Mel Douglass Scholarships and 92 honorable mention scholarships. Most of these recipients have graduated from college, are leading rewarding lives, and continuing to serve others. Several are even back in Edgewood!

The scholarships are presented each spring at the Edgewood Foundation’s Senior Brunch. All college-bound seniors living in Edgewood are eligible and encouraged to apply. Historically, more than 75% of all applicants have been awarded scholarships. To apply, please send the following information by March 31, 2026 to Dallas Frey at 193 West Hutchinson Avenue, Pittsburgh PA, 15218 or to frejdk@gmail.com:

- Your name, address, email address, and telephone number.
- Your high school plus the college or university you plan to attend.
- A summary of your volunteer community service achievements and your perspective on why you should be considered for a Mel Douglass Scholarship (please target 200 to 600 words). Your community service does not need to take place in Edgewood.
- The names and telephone numbers of two references who can verify at least some of your community service experience.

Please do not miss the opportunity to apply. You can also find an application form on our website meldouglassfund.org. If you have questions or would like to donate to the Mel Douglass Fund, please contact Dallas Frey at frejdk@gmail.com or 412-726-1286.

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A note from the real estate tax collector...

Any unpaid 2025 Edgewood Borough real estate tax is due at penalty and will be turned over to the delinquent tax collector at the end of December. Please send your payments to Jordan Tax Service, Inc. by December 31 to avoid any additional penalties. Checks should be made out to the Borough of Edgewood.

The 2025 Woodland Hills School tax is also due at penalty unless you are paying in installments. The first installment was due October 31. The second installment is due January 31, 2026 and the final installment due March 31, 2026. Checks should be made out to Woodland Hills School District.

All Real Estate payments should be mailed to Jordan Tax Service, Inc., 102 Rahway Road, McMurray, PA 15317. Please call 724-731-2300 with any questions.

CALENDAR at a glance...

January	February
Council Meetings: 6* & 20* 7:30 pm; at Borough Building	Council Meetings: 2 & 17* 7:30 pm; at Borough Building
Refuse: 2*, 8, 16, 22, 29	Refuse: 5, 12, 19, 25
Recycling: 8, 22	Recycling: 5, 19
Borough Office Closed: 1, 16	Borough Office Closed: 16
	Progressive Dinner: 28

*Delayed due to holiday



SHARE YOUR NEWS...

Proud of your new baby? Enjoyed a great vacation? Got a promotion or attended a convention? Please clip this coupon, stick it on the fridge and fill it out when you have some news to share in the Edgewood Newsletter. Photos welcome.

Mail to: **Edgewood Newsletter**
2 Race Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15218

OR....drop off at the borough building.
Email: newsletter@edgewoodboro.com
If you have any questions call: 412-242-4824.



Borough Directory

Borough Office Information

Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Phone 412-242-4824

Fax..... 412-242-4027

Website:..... www.edgewood.pgh.pa.us

Mailing address: Two Race Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15218

Borough Manager

Rob Zahorchak..... 412-242-4824

Email:..... manager@edgewoodboro.com

PublicWorks

Mike Meager..... 412-242-8424, ext. 220

Code Enforcement

Steven Stegner..... 412-242-4824, ext. 219

Email:..... inspections@edgewoodboro.com

Tuesday/Thursday

Recreation

Abigail Ault..... 412-242-4824, ext. 217

Tax Office

Jordan Tax Service 724-731-2311

Wage Taxes

Keystone Collections..... 724-978-0300

Police and Fire

Emergency 911

Police Chief

Sylvan Altieri..... 412-242-4824, ext. 221

Email:..... policechief@edgewoodboro.com

Fire Chief

Ben Reynolds 412-242-9994

Email:..... firechief@edgewoodboro.com

Garbage Collection & Recycling Collection

BIG's Sanitation..... 724-379-4331

Newsletter Editor 412-242-4824

Email:..... newsletter@edgewoodboro.com

Resident News...

Laurie Carmack created Auri Sculpt, located at 107 Maple Avenue, across from the coffee shop.

Advertising and Publishing Requests

THE EDGEWOOD NEWSLETTER is published six times per year by the Borough of Edgewood, Two Race Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15218. Editor and Advertising Manager: Edgewood Borough; Printer: LionWorks.

THE EDGEWOOD NEWSLETTER is mailed at no charge to every household in Edgewood and to Edgewood advertisers.

Advertising and publishing requests must be submitted by the first of the month prior to the newsletter issue in which your ad or article will appear. Submissions are due as follows: January/February due December 1, March/April due February 1, May/June due April 1, July/August due June 1, September/October due August 1, November/December due October 1. Please send all articles, advertisements and correspondence to the attention of the editor, email: newsletter@edgewoodboro.com or call 412-242-4824.





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2026 TRASH AND RECYCLING SCHEDULE

LEGEND



Trash



Recycling



Holiday

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Contact: Big's Sanitation (724) 379-4331 service@bigssanitation.com