

# The Pulse of Plum

Visit us on the web!  
[www.plumboro.com](http://www.plumboro.com)

Office:  
4575 New Texas Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15239

Phone:  
412-795-6800

Hours:  
Monday - Thursday  
8 am to 5 pm  
Friday  
8 am to 4 pm

Borough Council:  
Mike Doyle, President  
Keith Nowalk, Vice  
President  
John Anderson  
Mike Dell  
Don Knopfel  
Len Szarmach  
Steve "Skip" Taylor

Mayor:  
Richard Hrivnak

Borough Manager:  
Michael A. Thomas

*Council work sessions  
are held the 1st  
Monday of each month  
and Council Meetings  
are held the 2nd  
Monday, both at 7 pm*

## *From the desk of the Borough Manager:*

Starting next year, there will be major changes in Pennsylvania when it comes time to get rid of old computers, TV's and other electronic equipment. Because of a new law that was passed in 2010, Pennsylvania residents will no longer be able to simply discard broken or old electronic equipment at the curbside for pick-up by the garbage collectors. The new law prohibits the trash collectors from taking the equipment at the curbside. The law is intended to eliminate electronic equipment from our landfills and encourage recycling and reuse of this type of equipment. These items will have to be taken to an electronic equipment recycling center.

The average lifespan of a computer is about three to four years. Items that break are often not repaired due to the relatively low price of new equipment. When the equipment breaks or becomes obsolete, it is often discarded into the waste stream. Given the sheer volume, consumers are encouraged to seek environmentally safe recycling when their electronics reach the end of its use life.

PA Act 108 of 2010, states that beginning January 24, 2013, desktop computers, laptop computers, computer monitors, computer peripherals, televisions and any components of such devices may no longer to be disposed in Pennsylvania with municipal waste. All of these devices are required to be properly recycled.

As a result of this change, many companies have sprung up in our area to fill this need for electronic equipment recycling. The Borough's current trash hauler, Allied Waste, is not an electronic recycling entity and will not be able to accept this equipment. The following centers will be able to accept electronic waste: eLoop located at 625 Plum Industrial Court (724-519-7646) and GreenSpan in Monroeville (866-904-7726).

Michael A. Thomas  
Borough Manager



## ***HALLOWEEN HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED IN PLUM BOROUGH!***

Due to the adverse weather conditions that were expected from Hurricane Sandy and for the general public safety of the Borough, Trick or Treat in Plum Borough has been postponed until Saturday, November 3rd from 6 to 8 p.m.

## **ANNUAL YARD WASTE COLLECTION**

Fall is now upon us and many of you are probably thinking about sprucing up your yards.

In order to assist you, Plum Borough will be sponsoring its annual yard waste collection this Fall. The yard waste collection will allow you to dispose of shrubbery, chipped shrubbery, tree trimmings, garden residue and other vegetative materials at no cost. *No grass clippings or leaves will be collected with these special collections.*

**Collections will be held on October 27 and November 17, 2012.**

Allied Waste will come to your house to pick-up the yard waste as long as you have scheduled the pick-up with them.

Please contact Allied Waste at 877-788-9400 to schedule a pick-up of your yard waste.

You must call Allied by noon the day before the scheduled collection dates in order for your waste to be collected that day.

Please place all yard waste at the curb prior to 7:00 am the morning of the pick-up.

Trucks will only be dispatched to those homes that requested a yard waste pick-up and will not be canvassing the Borough looking for yard waste. If you don't register, your yard waste will not be collected!





## BOROUGH OF PLUM 2012 LEAF COLLECTION PROGRAM

### *A few things to keep in mind before you start the chore of raking leaves:*

- Do not rake leaves into flower bed and/or landscaped areas. Leaf-collecting equipment has a very powerful suction which may vacuum landscape and/or plants. Rather, rake to back of curb avoiding placement on the street as the leaves are scattered by traffic and accumulate in storm drains causing blocks.
- Bagged leaves are not accepted and will be left behind.
- The leaves are recycled into valuable compost. Please do not include anything other than leaves in your pile for collection.
- If your leaves are not on the curb on your collection day, they will not be collected until the next scheduled leaf removal day.
- Due to the rapid progression of the season caused by the change in weather, the need for leaf removal may come simultaneously. Please be patient as the scheduled pick-up may need to be adjusted to accommodate the extraordinary volume at the same time.
- During the end of the scheduled leaf removal season, winter storm events may require our leaf collecting equipment to be switched over to winter maintenance equipment. The leaf collecting season may be terminated without any advance notice and will not be reinstated until the following year.

## **BOROUGH OF PLUM LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE 2012**

**Holiday Park:**

November 2, 5, 7, 9, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 28, 30

December 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14



**Saltsburg Road, Unity-Center Road & Old Leechburg Road (from Unity-Center Road to New Texas Road):**

November 5, 7, 14, 19, 21, 28

December 3, 5, 10, 12

**East Oakmont; Kellywood Estates; Ramparts; Peppertree; Cherry Springs; Logans Ferry Heights & Crystal Springs:**

November 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 27, 29

December 4, 6, 11, 13



**Wimbledon/Mark Haven; Edgemoad; Regency Park; Unity Area; Garlow; Greendale Village; Green Valley Estates; Boyce Park Village; Frankstown Acres; Briarwood Estates; Rockland Manor & Windy Oaks:**

November 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 27, 29

December 4, 6, 11, 13



**Leechburg Road; Elicker Road; Barnes Road; Ridgemoad Drive; Repp Road; Route 909; Brown-town Road & Sardis Road (from Lechburg Road to Westmoreland County line:**

November 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 27, 29

December 4, 6, 11, 13

**Rustic Ridge Estates; The Highlands; Renton; McAllister Drive; New Texas Road (from Leechburg Road to Saltsburg Road); Renton Road & Old Leechburg Road (from New Texas Road to SR366)**

November 7, 14, 21, 28

December 5, 12

**Whispering Pines & Woodlawn Estates: :**

November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

December 7, 14



## WHAT'S GOING ON IN PUBLIC WORKS?!?

Public Works crews were busy during the yearly construction season. The Borough Storm System due to its magnitude and age require the most attention. Storm sewer projects including new installations, replacements and repairs were done throughout the Borough. Projects were completed on Paree Drive, Holiday Park Drive, Mt. Hood Drive, Wedgewood Drive, Carlsbad Road, Hialeah Drive and Alcan Drive. Storm sewer inlet repairs were completed as well.

Other projects included asphalt repairs (pot holes and section repairs); rights-of-way mowing; buildings and grounds maintenance; repair and replacement of street and traffic control signs; storm facilities maintenance; and the mosquito control program.

In the area of parks maintenance, general maintenance to all parks facilities including mowing, landscaping, repairs to athletic fields, building maintenance and the construction of the bocce courts at Larry Mills Park.

Community support included the preparation and post event activities at Larry Mills Park for Community Days and the annual Soccer Tournament.

During summer storm events, Public Works forces were mobilized to address downed trees and other issues related to the storms.

With the end of the construction season approaching, department personnel are preparing the annual curbside Leaf Collection Program and shortly thereafter preparing for the winter storms.





## ***Selling or renting your home?...Don't forget an Occupancy Transfer Inspection***

As a reminder Plum Borough requires an Occupancy Transfer inspection before your home is sold or rented. The permit fee is \$100 and the permit is good for two years from the date of issuance.

If you are renting your home the inspection and all corrections must be completed prior to tenants moving in. If your tenant moves out after two years from the date of the original Occupancy Transfer inspection you must have your home inspected again. This is a safety inspection addressing general fire codes and property maintenance codes. For a complete list of the items that will be inspected please visit our website at [www.plumboro.com](http://www.plumboro.com) and click on doing business or you may pick up an application at the Borough Building located at 4575 New Texas Road.

Please note that the Occupancy Transfer inspection does not replace a home inspection that may be required by your realtor or the buyers' realtor. Plum Borough strongly recommends having a home inspection done since a home inspection is conducted in greater depth to the condition of your home. Should you have any additional questions on the Occupancy Transfer permit please contact Kevin Fields of the Building Inspection office at 412-795-6800 extension 248.

## ***Do I Need a Permit for a Fence?***

This is a frequent question the Borough receives. The answer is how high? The State Uniform Construction Code requires permits for fences only over six feet in height. Please note that fences are required for in-ground swimming pools and sometimes for above-ground pools if the pool is less than 48" in height. But if you plan on installing a four foot chain link fence or a six foot privacy fence then no you don't need a permit and Plum Borough doesn't have any additional fencing requirements.

The Borough does advise that if the fence is to be placed in the front yard that you place the fence back several feet from the curb so it does not become a sight distance obstruction for your neighbors pulling out of their driveways or for traffic driving down the road. The Borough also advises that you place the fence a foot or two in from your own property line so if you need to do any maintenance to the fence you can stay on your own property to do so. Lastly, if you don't have a survey of your property we recommend you obtain one so you can find your property lines before you build the fence.

## School Related Traffic Laws



With the arrival of fall and children returning to school, now is a good time to refresh your understanding of the various traffic laws that have been enacted to keep our children safe during their commutes to and from school.

**Parking Regulations** - Borough Ordinance 72.04 establishes prohibited parking on Borough streets during designated hours; specifically, between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 am and between the hours of 2:30 pm and 4:00 pm on school days as established by the Plum School District. Streets are designated "Parking Prohibited during certain hours" through the posting of signage on all effected streets. The lack of a white line painted on the side of the roadway does not signify that parking during school hours on these streets is permitted; rather, it is the signage that determines where parking is regulated. A violation of this ordinance will result in a \$25 parking ticket payable to the Borough within 72 hours of the violation. Failure to pay the parking ticket within that time frame will result in the issuance of a traffic citation through the District Magistrate's office. Although the actual fine amount remains the same, additional costs and fees are added to the state traffic citation which makes it more expensive than the original Borough parking ticket.

**Meeting or Overtaking a School Bus** – Section 3345 (a) of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code states that the driver of a vehicle meeting or overtaking a school bus shall stop at least 10 feet before reaching the school bus when the red lights are flashing and the side signal stop arm is activated. The driver shall not proceed until the red lights are no longer flashing and all children have reached a place of safety. The driver of a vehicle approaching any type of intersection where a school bus is stopped with its red lights flashing and the side signal stop arm activated is under the same obligation to stop until the red lights are no longer flashing and all children have reached a place of safety. A violation of this subsection will result in the issuance of a traffic citation which carries a penalty of a \$250 fine, 5 points on your driver's license, and a 60-day license suspension.

**Speeding in a School Zone** – Section 3365 (b) of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code establishes special speed limitations on vehicles traveling through school zones. School zones are stretches of roadway near or adjacent to schools where vehicle speeds, during applicable hours, must be at or below 15 miles per hour. An official traffic control device, such as a sign or signal, shall indicate the beginning and end of each school zone to traffic approaching in each direction. An added significance of this subsection is that it establishes additional penalties for drivers found to be exceeding the speed limit in these areas. Violations of this nature may result in the issuance of a traffic citation which carries a \$35 fine, plus an additional \$2 for each mph in excess of 5 mph over the 15 mph speed limit the vehicle was traveling. A fine of "not more than \$500" applies when the driver exceeds a school zone speed limit by more than 11 mph. In addition to the fine, drivers will receive 3 points assessed to their license and a second or subsequent offense will result in a 60 day license suspension.

These are only a few of the traffic related issues the police department addresses each school year. Other negligent driving behaviors such as aggressive driving, failure to stop at posted stop signs, and careless driving can have an equally negative effect on our school age children's commute environment. Please keep the safety of the children and yourself in mind when making your own commute to and from work, or to wherever your travels take you. If you have any questions regarding these or any other traffic safety issues, please feel to contact the police department at (412) 793-7400, or visit the Borough web site at [www.plumboro.com](http://www.plumboro.com)



Plum Borough is on NIXLE. Receive up-to-date information affecting your neighborhood by email and text message. To register:

- Visit [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)
- Click "Register Now"
- Create an account by choosing a user name and password
- Enter an email address and cell phone number where you would like to receive messages
- Enter your address (or nearby intersection)
- Click "Sign Me Up"

Plum Borough also offers "PLUM TV", which is Comcast Channel 19 or Verizon Channel 23. These channels runs 24/7 with slides of pertinent Borough information and happenings. You can also watch the Plum Council meetings live on the first Monday of every month, with re-broadcasts daily.

We would also like to ask you to encourage one person to sign up for The Pulse of Plum, this electronic newsletter. Tell your friends to visit: [www.plumboro.com](http://www.plumboro.com) and look for the electronic newsletter link, you will be prompted for your email address to subscribe. *It's that simple!*

**PLUM SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER HAPPENINGS  
OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2012**

**Daily/Weekly Activities...**

Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 am					Tai Chi	
9:15 am	Low-Impact Aerobics		Silver Sneakers Cardio Circuit		Low-Impact Aerobics	
10-11:30 am			Blood Pressure Testing & Craft Group	Blood Pressure Testing & Line Dancing		
10:30 am	Silver Sneakers MSROM	Yoga Stretch	Silver Sneakers MSROM		Silver Sneakers MSROM	Zumba
11:30 am	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch Stroke Survivors Group Meeting	Lunch	
12:30 pm			Country Western Band			
12:45 pm	Bingo	500 Cards	Euchre & Poker	Bingo		
1:00 pm		Dominoes				
6:30 pm	Zumba		Tai Chi Advanced			
7:30 pm			Tai Chi Beginner			

*MSROM—Muscle Strength Range of Motion*

Home delivered meals are available if you are recuperating from an illness, accident or surgery. To be eligible you must be 60 years of age, live in Plum Borough and need assistance. Call 412-795-2330 and ask for Toni.



**Have lunch at the Center!**  
**Hot lunches served daily 11:30 am to 12:15 pm**  
**Reservations are required by Noon the day**  
**before your desired lunch date to reserve your**  
**hot lunch. Suggested donation is \$3.00.**  
**Discount cards available!**



**Monthly Activities at the Plum Senior Center ...**

Program	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Poetry Café	1:00 pm			1st Thursday 1 to 2 pm	
Advisory Group Meeting				2nd Thursday 10 am	
Caregivers' Group				3rd Thursday 6:30 to 8:30 pm	
Book Club				4th Thursday 6:30 to 8:30 pm	
Birthday Party			3rd Wednesday 11:30 to 12:15 pm Cake, gifts & games		
Dinner Club Call for details!					

*Activity Schedule is subject to change! Please contact the Center for details 412-795-2330*

***PLUM CAFÉ***



*Introducing...  
**CAFÉ PLUM**  
 Beginning October 3rd,  
 Lunches will be available  
 Hours of Operation:  
 11 am to 2 pm  
 Sample Menu:  
 Tomato Bisque Soup  
 Grilled Cheese Sandwich  
 w/pickle  
 Bag of Chips for \$4.00  
 Beverage \$1.00*

**Upcoming Events at the Plum Senior Community Center...**



**MONTHLY 50/50  
RAFFLE**  
Tickets \$1.00 each



**Steel City Harmonizers  
Barbershop Quartet**  
**Saturday, November 3rd**  
**Register & make payment  
by October 19th**

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
LIFE ENRICHMENT COURSES:**



- ◆ Healthy Cooking the Gourmet Weight Wise Way for Allegheny County Residents. October 19 and October 26th and November 2nd from 12:30 to 2:30 at the Center
- ◆ Mental Aerobics November 1st, 8th and 15th from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Center



***Doo Wop Holiday Reunion Show  
Consol Energy Center,  
Friday, December 7th.  
Showtime at 7pm (opt available)  
Tickets \$10  
Register and make payment by  
October 19th at the Center!!***

**Continue to check with the Center for trips to “Dixie’s Tupperware Party”, a hilarious and entertaining show for all at the Pittsburgh Cabaret Theatre. Also Mary Poppins and Les Miserable scheduled at the Benedum. If interested, please call and reserve a space! Dates and time to be determined.**

**Looking for a trip to a casino or show? Contact Jane Gira Bus Trips/Tours at 412-793-7225 or email at [guidedbyangels@verizon.net](mailto:guidedbyangels@verizon.net)**

*More from the Plum Senior Community Center..*

**Important Notice to Seniors:**

Many seniors are missing out on at least one benefit to which they are entitled. Earlene Wolfe, Information and Assistance Specialist at the Center, can help you make the right choice regarding supplemental insurance and tell you about other programs that may be available to you.

For example: Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15 – December 7, 2012. If you want or need to change your present coverage or switch to another carrier it must be done by December 7, 2012 deadline. Earlene will answer your questions!



The Plum Senior Community Center is available to rent for your next special occasion! Contact Earlene Wolfe for details – 412-795-2339.



**ELECTION DAY MENU**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012**

Come warm up at  
Plum Senior Community Center  
With “Soup & Sandwich Day”!

11:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Soup:** Tomato Bisque

**Sandwich:** Toasted Cheese on Crusty Bread  
Served with pickle & bag of chips  
Beverages sold separately

**BAKE SALE STARTS AT 8:00 AM**

**We hope you enjoyed “The Pulse of Plum”....Plum Borough’s first electronic newsletter!**

**Email your comments/suggestions to [mcostanza@plumboro.com](mailto:mcostanza@plumboro.com)**