



**SARAH JACOBSON**  
AROUND PITTSBURG

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## Town aesthetic draws on history

**I**F YOU'VE BEEN around Pittsburgh for the past few weeks, then you've probably observed some of the festivities.

For a community of our size, we've had an awful lot going on around town — much more than many other communities can boast. There have been parades, decorating contests, a benefit car show, concerts, a tree-lighting event, Santa visits, the Victorian Holiday Fair and more. The point is, there are a lot of folks in town who work really hard to make sure that this is a great place to live.

A recent visit to City Hall reminded me that the effort to bring good things to Pittsburgh residents isn't just a holiday endeavor; it's present all year-round. It took nothing more than stepping into the lobby of City Hall to prompt this awareness. If you want a little dose of civic pride, stop in. First of all, the building is beautiful. With impressive architecture, glass and fountains, it feels more like a museum or gallery than someplace you would go to pay a water bill or pick up an application for a building permit.