

Our next meeting is  
Sept. 8th at Penn Hills  
Library. We value your  
input, so we hope you  
can make it.



**Summer  
2015**

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## ✧ LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ✧

As the CHCA winds up it's calendar year we still have some ongoing activities scheduled. As summer kicks off on Memorial Day, May 25th we will be sponsoring our annual Memorial Day Picnic following the parade. Cindy and Kevin Van Horn will again be chairing this event. On June 26th look forward to our "Simply Social" dinner. In July, we also have the Relay for Life lead by Jim and Andrea Getsy. Throughout the summer Remelle Adams will be scheduling litter cleanups, as well. We invite you to participate in many, if not all of these events.

On May 2nd we had a very successful plant sale and a really great weather day to boot! Thank you to Tina Sparano for doing a great job of organizing.

Just before this newsletter was delivered the CHCA sponsored a forum on May 11th for candidates vying for the position of District Magistrate Judge. An informed voter is what we were trying to promote. If you attended, hopefully we helped you put some background behind these candidates. You may view this taped event on our website: CH-CA.ORG. Congratulations to our VP, Lyon, for organizing this well attended event. We had standing room only!

In this newsletter you will find a donation form from the Park Committee. We hope that you will be generous in your contributions. It takes a lot of basic maintenance to keep a park that is attractive and safe for the residents. Recently the park experienced storm damage from downed trees resulting in bent fencing which will have to be replaced. Of course, this is an expense that we weren't expecting. If everyone would donate (online donations now at ch-ca.org) just a little more—and share the cost—it would be appreciated.

Our next CHCA meeting will be on Tuesday, September 8th, 6:45pm at the Penn Hills Library. Please know that these meetings are not exclusively for the board members, but open to all. This is your community and we invite you to join us to voice your opinions.

A special thank you goes out to all of the mail distributors who deliver your newsletter –no matter what the weather!

Have a wonderful spring and summer!

- Christine Miller,  
President

**Our Civic Association would like to express our sympathy to neighbors, families and friends who have recently lost loved ones.**

*Janet Masters, long-time resident of Garlow Drive recently passed.  
Our deep sympathy to her family.*

*Evelyn, mother of Kevin (Cindy) Van Horn passed away.  
Our sincere condolences to the Van Horns.*

*The father of Howard Davidson has passed away.  
Our condolences go out to Howard and his family.*

*The mother of Eileen (George) Scipione passed away this past October.  
We extend our sympathy to her family.*

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

THE SPARANO FAMILY



Phil & Tina Sparano have been happily residing in Crescent Hills since 1987. They are proud to be part of the community and consider Crescent Hills to be the best neighborhood in Penn Hills.

The Sparanos will be celebrating their 27th wedding anniversary this month and have one daughter, Emily and a Basset Hound named Elvis. Phil is employed at Matt Machine in Plum where he works in quality control. Tina is employed at McKinney Properties located in Churchill where she is an Administrative Assistant. Emily is in her senior year at Trinity Christian School and you may have seen her at Labriola's where she works part time. Emily will be attending Point Park University in the Fall, majoring in Broadcast Communications.

The Sparano family is currently hosting a student from China for the school year. Jiaqi (Carol) Shen attends Trinity Christian School and is in the 10th grade. The Sparano Family are members of Riverside Community Church in Oakmont.

### Mary Lois and her husband, Ed, moved to Springdale Drive on Dec. 23, 1964.

"I was determined to be in our new house for Christmas."

Her boys were just babies then. Now the family consists of Ed, 54; Ron, 52; Marlo, 47; and the celebrated dog, Jenny, 10. Jenny has become well known because Mary Lois paints her into many of her pictures so everyone looks for the dog in her work.

"Jenny loves our Crescent Hills Park. She never wants to leave when she's there and if you drive by the home, she's usually sitting in the window."

Mary Lois went back to her career after Marlo was 3 years old.

Named "The Lady Who Paints Pittsburgh" by the many admirers of her work, Mary Lois considers preserving the history of Pittsburgh with her art the legacy to her town.

Mary Lois grew up in the East Liberty section of Pittsburgh, better known as "Larimer Avenue (Little Italy)". She went to Westinghouse High School, then Art Institute of Pittsburgh and has been participated in the Three Rivers Arts Festival since 1973. She is on the Artist Advisory Board and was named Grand Marshall of the Columbus Day Parade celebrating "Italians in the Arts."

Every year, she paints the holiday Card for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and has been doing so since 1997. Her watercolors have been purchased by most of the corporations and foundations in Pittsburgh and she was honored with having three of her prints go to Japan with the Pittsburgh Steelers when they hosted a game there.

This year she will be at the Three Rivers Arts Festival June 5th – June 9 in Booth 69; at A Fair in the Park in September and Fort Ligonier Days in October. Or, you can drop by at 429 Springdale Drive and visit. She would love to take you to the back patio and have a beverage and enjoy the serenity of her garden.



### WWW.CH-CA.ORG

Check out the site! You can see what the rest of the world can view about our wonderful neighborhood, see upcoming events and, yes, pay dues and donate to the park fund via PayPal!

PLEASE VOTE FOR  
THE CANDIDATES  
OF YOUR CHOICE  
ON MAY 19TH.

Remember, Every Election Is Determined  
By The People Who Show Up.

### NAME IT

What should we call this paper? We have received several suggestions but, you have time to submit yours. Submit your suggestion to me (by email or phone or text) and we'll pick one soon. No formal rules.

- Laurie Pavone



## RELAY FOR LIFE 2015

### Relay for Life – Saturday July 11 – 10AM to 11PM Penn Hills High School

Jim and I will again lead the CHCA team at the Relay for Life. As it turns out we just couldn't talk anyone into taking over. But the fight against cancer is too important to ignore so we will walk again, make dog cookies again, set up games for children, appeal to our friends and neighbors again.



Pictured here are Andrea Getsy and Chris Miller at last year's event or maybe this was the year before. As in years past, we welcome your support. This year we don't have to walk all night but we'll raise the extra money by raising the stakes. Working for a common goal is fun and on July 11, the Penn Hills High School football field is the place to be.

Sign up with us (algetsy@verizon.net or call 412-795-2607) to walk an hour at \$15/hr. Make a contribution ahead of time at the Relay for Life website at [www.relayforlife.org/papgheast](http://www.relayforlife.org/papgheast) and find our Crescent Hills Civic Association team.

If you are a cancer survivor, the Relay serves you (a free dinner that is).

Sign up on the website or give me a call and I'll get you a form. You can also purchase luminaria which are lit in the evening in memory of or in support of a person with cancer. It is a memorable sight and occasion.

- Andrea Getsy

## A LITTLE TRASH TALK

I'd like to thank all the volunteers for April's clean-up! A Large turnout: 25 volunteers. A large amount of trash: 56 bags of trash plus tires, TVs, lumber and car parts. This was the State-wide clean up event on April 25th. Our three roads and all of Penn Hills looked so nice. You all really made a difference!!! Save these upcoming litter pick-up dates: June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12 and October 24.



If you'd like to receive litter pick-up day email alerts, e-mail me at [chcalitter@gmail.com](mailto:chcalitter@gmail.com). DON'T DELAY, GET ON THE LIST TODAY!

- Mel Adams

## SIMPLY SOCIAL DINNER

Join your friends and neighbors for an evening of good food and conversation on Friday, June 26th, 7:00 p.m. at PALMEIRI'S RESTAURANT, 951 Old Frankstown Road in Plum where we will have our own room. We have a choice of three entrées: a 6-ounce Filet, Chicken Parmesan or Baked Sole. Price of the meal is \$25.00 per person and includes salad, two sides, bread/rolls and butter, coffee/tea/soft drinks, tax and gratuity. Alcoholic beverages and dessert are extra.

Please respond to Linda Kornick by Monday, June 22nd if you plan to join us for this Simply Social Dinner. Call Linda at 412-793-2271 or email her at [linda9335@verizon.net](mailto:linda9335@verizon.net) with your choice of entrées. Payment of \$25.00 per meal plus any alcoholic beverages and dessert can be made at the dinner.

-Mary Beth Phillips

See you at Palmeiri's on Friday, June 26 at 7:00PM  
([www.palmierisrestaurant.com](http://www.palmierisrestaurant.com) 724-387-2444)

## NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE

The neighborhood yard sale will be held Saturday, June 27th from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Clean out those cupboards, garages and attics and plan to participate in the sale. This is a great time to make a little money and meet your neighbors. An ad will be printed in the Pennysaver, listed on Craig's List and signs will be posted at the entrances to the neighborhood. If anyone has other avenues to advertise the sale please feel free to do so. If you plan to participate in the sale please let Tina Sparano know at 412-793-2529 or email at [ptsparano@verizon.net](mailto:ptsparano@verizon.net).

-Tina Sparano

## PLANT SALE SUCCESS

We couldn't have asked for a nicer day for the Plant Sale that was held Saturday, May 2nd. We had a beautiful selection of flowers in addition to herbs and vegetable plants. Many of the neighbors were in attendance to make their purchases and chat with other neighbors. Lyon Zeibak was the lucky winner of the raffle and took home a stunning red hydrangea. Thank you to all the volunteers that worked so hard to make this year's plant sale a success!

-Tina Sparano

### Fifth Annual Picnic Saturday, June 13, 11am - 4pm

Enjoy food, music,  
tours, and more!



Penn Forest  
Natural Burial Park

121 Colorado Street  
Verona, PA 15147  
(412) 265-4606

[PennForestCemetery.com](http://PennForestCemetery.com)

 PennForest

Leave a legacy by restoring a forest

## PARK NEWS



After such a tough winter, the park needed a lot of TLC to get back “in shape!” A cleanup day was held April 11th and many neighbors responded to the call. Mother Nature made things tougher by bringing a tree down in the basketball court area on Thursday, April 9th! **Tom Conroy** did a great job of cutting up the wood and bringing the majority of the tree down safely. Other neighbors helping with this inconvenient endeavor: **Ed Blazina, Chris Miller and Constantinos Panousis. Chad and Amy Manuele** sent 6 church members from their Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints to place mulch around garden areas and help with the general cleanup. **Judy Conroy, Jan Kukucka, Andrea & Jim Getsy, Tom & Debra Schuetz and Lyon Zeibak** were among the neighbors who helped rake leaves and sticks from all parts of the park. Apologies and thanks to any resident who helped but whose name is skipped in this account!

Special thanks to **Mike Hopf** of Glenfield Drive who donated new hockey nets and single-handedly replaced them.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held at the park on Saturday, April 4th. About 50 neighborhood children visited with the Easter Bunny after playing games and gathering plastic eggs. A special thank you to **The Crescent Hills Easter Bunny, Alexandra Newby**, who took time out from her studies at Carnegie Mellon University to hand out treats to youngsters. Thanks also to **Amy Manuele and Lyon Zeibak** who supervised game activities.

### SUMMER ACTIVITIES AT THE PARK

-The CH park is available for rental for a party by contacting Heather Romanelli at 412-915-8412. The cost of renting the facility is \$50 with a security deposit of \$25. The renter must be a CH resident, sign a contract and be aware of the responsibilities (for instance, take your garbage/recycles home, be cleaning up before dark and don't park on the basketball court). When a resident reserves the park for a picnic, signs are posted at the park entrances alerting the neighborhood that the renter has sole use of the parking lot and facilities.

-There will be adult volleyball in the park on Mondays 6-8 pm. Come join your neighbors for laughs and friendly exercise (no pressure)!

-No one is to be in the park after dark. The front of the parking lot has a chain that will be “locked” at dusk each night May to November. Police will be called for trespassers.

-While using any of the park facilities, please contact police if you see equipment being damaged or there is fighting or any illegal activity. It's safer not to approach the offender yourself!

-While dog-walkers are welcome in the park, animals should be on a leash, as per Penn Hills ordinance. Signs saying this will be posted at the park entrances. Please clean up after your pet, as the fields are used by people for picnics and sports!

**Spring is park donation time!** Crescent Hills residents are asked to donate at least \$25 to the park for maintenance, landscaping and upkeep. It takes \$3,500 a year to pay taxes, cut grass, pay insurance, buy landscaping materials and get new equipment. This season the park committee is having the swing set evaluated to determine if it needs to be replaced or “strengthened.” This will cost several thousand dollars. Won't you help keep our park safe, clean and fun to play in?

Please fill out the form below, and donate \$25 or more (checks to “Crescent Hills Civic Association” and mail in the envelope provided.

- Jan Kukucka

### PARK DONATION DRIVE

Please help keep the park in good condition (it costs \$3,500 a year to pay taxes & insurance, maintain equipment, landscape and cut grass). A donation of \$25 qualifies you to rent the park. Please fill out the form below and mail check to “Crescent Hills Civic Association.”

### CRESCENT HILLS PARK FUND 2015 --

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Send Park Fund Donations to:

CHCA

P.O. Box 17055 Penn Hills Branch

Pittsburgh, PA 15235

*Thank You  
for your support!*

Or, donate online at [ch-ca.org](http://ch-ca.org)