



# Crescent Hills

— Civic Association —

- OFFICERS**
- President**  
**Lyon Zeibak:** 412-250-7423  
 lzeibak@yahoo.com
- Treasurer**  
**Nick Kornick:** 412-793-2271  
 lindag9335@verizon.net
- Recording Secretary**  
**Jen Jackson:** 401-954-6332  
 jlackson78@hotmail.com
- Corresponding Secretary**  
**Samantha Moik:** 412-708-0683  
 samantha.moik@gmail.com
- Newsletter Editor**  
**Nandry Smith:** 419-230-7101  
 nandrysmith@gmail.com
- COMMITTEE CHAIRS**
- Code Enforcement**  
**Karen & Mark Lantz:**  
 412-798-8231  
 marklantz1@hotmail.com  
 karenlantz1@gmail.com
- Litter**  
**Mel (Oscar) Adams:**  
 412-704-7294  
 chcalitter@gmail.com
- Membership**  
**Andrea Getsy:** 412-795-2607  
 algetsy@verizon.net
- Park**  
**Jan Kukucka:** 412-793-2074  
 kukublaz@aol.com
- Park Rentals**  
**Linda Bluemle:** 412-795-4213  
 lindablue64@gmail.com
- Welcome**  
**Rosie Perer:** 412-421-0428  
 billandrosie@aol.com

## Letter from the President



Our Martin Luther King Day Salad Luncheon was a huge success this year and though I don't have room to thank everyone who helped special thanks go out to Cindy and Kevin Van Horn, Andrea and Jim Getsy, Mary Beth and Norm Phillips, Chris and Bill Miller, Nick and Linda Kornick, Sandy Bacasa, Ed Blazina and Jan Kakucka. We couldn't have done it without them.

The repairs on the entrance wall that was damaged should start soon. I'm hoping that by the time you read this newsletter the work will already have begun. Thanks to increased donations and some successful fund raising projects this past year we're looking at possibly making a few small improvements to the park this spring and summer. Please consider helping with our spring park clean up Saturday morning, April 8th. If you have ideas on how to improve the park let us know!

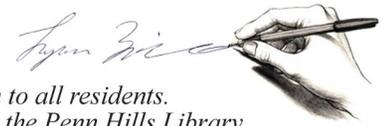
The CHCA never endorses candidates but as a civic organization we always encourage and promote voter education and awareness. When you vote in the primaries this May 16th we hope the voter guide we've put together is helpful. A lot of work went into contacting the candidates and getting their responses to 3 questions we

came up with that we hope will help guide you in making an informed decision.

An update on the Municipal building has been published recently in the Trib. A contract has been awarded to Walter Mucci Construction Co. of Perryopolis as general contractor for the project for \$7,871,020. The municipality has received its loan and is expected to be paid off by 2027 without raising taxes. The new building is expected to be completed by summer 2018. No decision about the building's future has been made for the original municipal building on Frankstown Road.

Our Penn Hills volunteer firefighters have sent out donation letters a few weeks ago and have gotten very little response. We ask that you consider helping them with anything you can. They risk their lives for our safety, the least we can do is kick in a few bucks to help them help us!

The directory project is progressing but we could use more volunteers to help speed up the process. Please contact me if you can help. I hope you will consider eating at John Anthony's on April 20th to benefit our park. We are having a casual community social there at 6pm but you can eat there anytime noon thru dinner, just be sure to cut out the coupon in here and give it to your server. Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Easter Egg Hunt April 15th and our Spring Plant Sale May 6th. See you there!



*Please remember that CHCA meetings are open to all residents. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 3rd at 6:45 pm in the Penn Hills Library.*



## Events Calendar

*Events are added and changed all the time. Check our website for the most up to date info!*

Sat, April 8	Park Cleanup	Sat, May 6	Plant Sale
Sat, April 15	Easter Egg Hunt	Sat, May 13	Park Cleanup
Thurs, April 20	Simply Social	Mon, May 29	Memorial Day Picnic
Sat, April 22	Statewide Litter Cleanup	Wed, May 31	Storytime in the Park Starts
Wed, May 3	CHCA Meeting	Sat, June 10	Neighborhood Yard Sale



## Park Highlights

### **Former Residents Revisit Crescent Hills Park:**

This past summer, former and present residents of Crescent Hills gathered at their favorite place in Crescent Hills -the park- to celebrate Peg Green's 90th birthday.

Peg and Allen Green lived next to the park at 145 Sycamore Drive from the late 1950's to 1992. Peg now lives in Florida (unfortunately, Allen passed away in December, 2015) but still has children who live in this area. She was visiting them when she contacted former Crescent Hills friends to "get together." Combining a lavish picnic with a landmark birthday party was the brainchild of Oakmont resident Barbara Davis (also 90!). Barbara had lived across from the Green's at 136 Sycamore Drive.

Amid laughter and re-telling of jokes, the friends reminisced about life in Crescent Hills through the 1980's. They recalled that the Civic association:

- had a close association with the Mt. Hope Church community, especially the nursery-preschool.
- lobbied for bus service and the shelters and sidewalks around them.
- had committees that had input into municipal ordinances
- afforded both men and women opportunities to use their skills to improve life in the neighborhood.

The women preferred to meet at the park because "this is where we spent most of our time". They related funny stories of the neighborly chaos created by hundreds of pets, children and adults at community picnics, especially the Memorial Day picnic.

Some of their memories include:

- a park summer program paid for by the CHCA and attended by hundreds of children
- constant baseball and basketball league play (CH kids were territorial - making sure others didn't damage the park or equipment)
- a tennis program that was so popular with adults that you had to have an appointment to play
- freezing the tennis court in the winter for ice-skating (The Greens would provide hot chocolate and snacks from their nearby garage and considered the effort worthwhile as long as everybody had fun)



Left to right - Peg Green, Kay (Reese) Tooley, Barbara Davis, Jean Riley, Carol Green, Peg Malpede. Not pictured: Marion Limegrover and Nancy Schram.

The ladies noted that there is updated equipment in the park (most notably swings) and sympathized with the difficulties in obtaining the money to buy and install this. They complimented current resident's attempts at landscaping and said Mr. Green would be proud, as he volunteered to cut the grass himself on his riding mower.

The common theme weaving through all their memories of the park was an appreciation for the park that provided safe play and neighborhood interaction. We current residents thank them for creating and nurturing the park that still provides a space for neighbors to gather. Come back and visit anytime!!

### **Mark your calendars!**

There will be a meeting of the park committee on Wed, March 29 at 7pm at the Kukucka-Blazina residence, 145 Sycamore Drive. Anyone who would like to have input into the park activities is welcome to attend. Residents are encouraged to help with a park cleanup on Sat, April 8, 9A-11am. There will be an annual Memorial Day picnic on May 29th, Annual Easter Egg Hunt Sat, April 15th, 10am. There will be a second park cleanup on Sat. May 13, 9am to 12 noon. Help us keep our park beautiful!

## Join us for Storytime in the Park!

Volunteers plan to hold Storytime in the Park again this spring and summer for our smaller residents of Crescent Hills. Storytimes include free play at the park, storytime, music, craft and snacks. It is a great way for neighborhood kids (and their parents!) to meet and form lasting friendships. Themes anticipated include activities such as bubbles, bug hunts, ABC's, counting, flying kites, playing Zoo, monsters, face painting, water play, robots, & more! A big Thank You to several donations made anonymously and especially to Kristen Nese of Earlwood Rd for her generous donation (BOXES FULL) of art and craft supplies which will go towards this year's Storytime in the Park. Thanks to these donations, there are going to be some GREAT THEMES THIS SUMMER! With the help of lots of new volunteers this program will be starting up again Wed,

May 31st and will run every Wed until the end of August (Back to School!). Most events are targeted towards ages 2-5 however older and younger kids are welcome and the group will add on older activities if participation of older kids increases. If interested in being added to the Storytime email list for weekly updates and themes, email [nandrysmith@gmail.com](mailto:nandrysmith@gmail.com).



## Our Warmest Welcome

Our Civic Association would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new residents of the Crescent Hills neighborhood! *Dinnesse and Chay Tyler, Lindsay Potts, Jacob Head, Ellen and Daniel Cook, Kacy Northrop, Andrew Hurdle, Jennifer and Dewitt Latimer, Martin and Elizabeth Swartz, David Captain, Kelli and Jacob Head.*

## Our Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to *Lee and George Vurgich* on the loss of their beloved brother and brother-in-law, *Carlson Harold J., Jr.* Of Glenshaw. He passed away Friday, March 10th.

## A Message from a Neighbor

### Is Crescent Hills a Quality Neighborhood?

I would like to share a few reasons why I believe that it is! There is a sense of neighborhood pride. Residents are friendly and often helpful to neighbors. Crescent Hills is a safe neighborhood. Most homes in this neighborhood are well maintained and adhere to code expectations. Home values are stable and even increasing. Crescent Hills has its own park available to all of its residents. We have a successful civic minded organization (CHCA) that actively pursues ways to maintain and enhance the quality of its resident's lives. Crescent Hills is recognized by local government officials as a neighborhood whose residents are willing to contribute to maintaining a good quality of life.

**Will Crescent Hills remain a quality neighborhood in the future?** I am optimistic that it will. However we can not assume that it won't deteriorate as has occurred in some other communities. Crescent Hills, as well as other Penn Hills neighborhoods faces future challenges. What can you do? Vote at every opportunity for qualified candidates, attend school board meetings, attend council meetings, adhere to



building and property codes, maintain your home and property, and attend CHCA meetings.

I guess the bottom line is that all CH residents should do something! Get involved in some manner or other. Each resident is important and can make a difference. **YOU**, can make a difference. If we want CH to remain a quality neighborhood, all residents need to work together to do so.  
- George Vurgich



## Litter Report by yours truly, Mel Adams!

Hello all, hope EVERYONE had a nice holiday season... well it's that time again... Our Statewide Litter/Clean-Up is Saturday April 22nd 7:45 am at Crescent Hills Park. We will concentrate on cleaning just Lime Hollow Road. It is a mess. Hope to see everyone there!!! If we have more than twenty volunteers we might do Frankstown Road as well. Thanks all and see you soon. With your help, we can keep our neighborhood clean! If you are interested in joining the email list to be notified in advance, please contact Mel Adams at [CHCALITTER@gmail.com](mailto:CHCALITTER@gmail.com).

It really makes a difference. Don't forget: you can put it on your resume that you volunteer for your community!

*Eat dinner on April 20th with your neighbors!*

*John Anthony's*

ITALIAN RESTAURANT  
LOUNGE & BANQUETS

Help Benefit Crescent Hills Park by eating at John Anthony's, 115 Center-New Texas Rd., Plum, PA 15239

**Thurs, April 20th, 6pm Simply Social or anytime noon thru dinner.**

Cut out this coupon and present it to your server to tell them you are with Crescent Hills.

**20% of everything you spend will go towards our park!**



# SPRING Events

## Easter Egg Hunt!

**Saturday, April 15, 10:00 AM**

An **Easter Egg Hunt** at the Crescent Hills Park (141 Sycamore Drive) will be held on Easter Saturday, April 15th at 10:00 AM. Neighborhood children, 12 and under, are invited to this free event to play games, gather plastic eggs and receive prizes from the Easter Bunny. Any neighbor who would be willing to help with "setup," contact Jan at 412-793-2074.



**SATURDAY, MAY 6TH  
8 A.M. – 1 P.M.  
Crescent Hills Park**

Be sure to join in on the fun and visit the plant sale. We will have a lovely assortment of flowers, vegetables and herbs.

**\*New this Year -- homemade gifts and baked goods\***  
We certainly could use volunteers to make baked goods and help at the sale. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Tina Sparano at [ptsparano@verizon.net](mailto:ptsparano@verizon.net) or call 412-793-2529.

## Memorial Day Picnic

**Monday, May 29, 1PM**

Bring the family and a dish to the Crescent Hills Park to celebrate Memorial Day with all your neighbors.



## Neighborhood Yard Sale

**Sat, June 10, 2017, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.**  
(rain date June 17)

This is the time to clean out the cupboards, attic and garage and plan to participate in our neighborhood yard sale. This is also a great time to get out and see your neighbors! We would like to get an idea of how many neighbors are able to participate. Please contact Tina Sparano at 412-793-2529 or [ptsparano@verizon.net](mailto:ptsparano@verizon.net) if you are planning to set-up for the sale. We will run an ad in the Pennysaver and also on Craigslist. Signs will be posted at the entrance to the neighborhood the week before the yard sale. If you have other free advertising ideas please use them!

*Let's get social together! It's a Simply Social.*



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