



Crescent Hills

— Civic Association —

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Letter from the President



We hope you can join us again this year at our Martin Luther King, Jr. Day salad luncheon on Monday, January 21st. Scott Andrejchak, the new Penn Hills municipal manager, will be joining us and giving a talk about the municipality.

In municipal news, the council voted to raise the property taxes in response to the huge increases in waste service costs. Waste and recycling costs have gone up significantly everywhere. Having residents get billed directly by the waste management company was considered as an alternative to raising the property taxes. Most residents however, spoke out against the latter at the budget hearings.

The volunteers and I have been working on beautifying our neighborhood. The bus shelters have been looking great and this year we have a lot more on our agenda. It was suggested that we brighten up the Crescent Hills stone pillars. They are blackened and need a facelift. Power washing them should make them look a lot nicer and welcoming. Most of the old "CH" logo street sign toppers have gone missing over the years and we are looking at getting replacements made. Finally, we would like to add a small wooden, "Welcome to Crescent Hills" sign on

the corner of Frankstown and Earlwood in the flower planter.

We are planning on doing the Kids Carnival this summer and will need some help. The carnival was a very popular event pleasing the children, parents, and even the volunteers. If you'd like to assist, please contact me. We also need some workers to run the plant sale as our Plant Sale Chairperson has other commitments this year. Please let me know if you would like to chair or volunteer for either of these events. The proceeds are used to take care of the park.

It looks like we might have a crowded field of new candidates in the primary elections this year and that means we'll be putting out another voter guide in the next newsletter. Please email us at contact@ch-ca.org if you have any questions for candidates running for Mayor, Council Member or School Director (board members). As usual we'll decide at our next meeting what 3 objective questions to ask and submit them to the candidates. We are a non-partisan association and don't endorse candidates or choose favorites. Our goal is simply to help provide information from the candidates in their own words to help all Penn Hills' voters decide on their own.



CHCA meetings are open to all residents. Our next meeting is Wed, March 6th at 6:45 pm.

NEW LOCATION: Mt. Hope Church, 12106 Frankstown Rd.

We will be meeting in the conference room. You can get there by heading in the back door from the rear parking lot, climb the half flight of stairs then make 3 left hand turns to arrive in the room.



Events Calendar

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

Mon, Jan 21	MLK Day Luncheon
Wed, March 6	CHCA Meeting
Sat, April 27	Spring Litter Cleanup
Mon, April 29	CHCA Meeting
Sat, May 18	Plant Sale

Mon, May 27	Memorial Day Picnic
Sat, June 22	Litter Cleanup
Sat, August 17	Litter Cleanup
Sun, August 25	Kids' Carnival
Sat, October 19	Litter Cleanup



Meet Your Neighbors



**Jim and Andrea Getsy,
Crescent Hills Road**

This summer we will have lived in Crescent Hills 52 years. We have been very involved in CHCA. As a result, you have probably seen our names before. Over the years, both Jim and I have held various positions in CHCA including as president. We believe that this association keeps us connected to our neighbors and keeps our neighborhood strong.

We have two children, Michael and Annette, one son-in-law, Shane, and one (need I say precious) grandson, Jack. I retired from my job as a paralegal to help to raise Jack. Being with a youngster has connected me with our younger residents, as we attend readings in the park, visit playgrounds, and attend birthday parties. Besides CHCA, I have been a community activist since the late 80's when I advocated for "Just Say No" clubs in Penn Hills schools. This program brought a lot of volunteers into the schools. I am currently the Membership Chair and Newsletter Coordinator for CHCA and the secretary of the Penn Hills CDC. With the support of the community, I will coordinate the Anti-Litter Poster Campaign involving the Penn Hills School District this spring. Our new theme is "Penn Hills – Home of Champions – Keep it clean!"

The other family activist, Jim, retired years ago from his job as a Program Manager and Director of the Community Development Department for HUD. In addition to CHCA, Jim was a founding member of the Penn Hills CDC and Penn Hills Soccer Association. He is currently a volunteer with the Penn Hills Tree Commission and Penn Hills Service Association. You will find Jim picking up litter with various community organizations and driving around in his pick-up truck hauling items for neighbors, family, and friends. Jim is also known for his carvings. He has made and given away more than 130 birds, ducks and swans. The dollhouse he made for our daughter and other carvings have been on display in the Penn Hills Library and other places. Many of his birds have been raffled in local organizations

Jim is not done with his community efforts as he plans on running for Penn Hills Council in this year's primary election. Stay tuned!



Penn Hills Community Development Corporation (CDC)

This 10-year-old, all volunteer membership organization has done much to enhance the beauty and quality of life for Penn Hills. A major undertaking of the CDC is the community garden located on Jefferson Road. Here over 100 individual gardens are planted during the summer and some of the fruits of that labor are donated to area food banks. Over 1,000 lbs. of produce was donated in one year.

The CDC, through a grant from the Laurel Foundation, purchased and installed four Welcome to Penn Hills signs at the entrances to the community. Under those signs and at other roadside locations, flower beds are nurtured and weeded by volunteers. A garbage/recycle can was purchased and a bus bench refurbished to enhance the Frankstown and Coal Hollow Roads corridor. This bench sits across from the STAR garden at the intersection of Frankstown and Coal Hollow Roads. The garden was created and maintained by mainly one CDC volunteer. Another unique garden, a Monarch Butterfly Waystation, is being established at the intersection of Universal and Rodi Roads. The "Lamar" garden at the intersection of Sandy Creek and Allegheny River Boulevard is another fabulous perennial garden planted by CDC volunteers. The first and most inspiring sign is on Allegheny Boulevard which sits in front of Civilian Conservation Core's (CCC) stone wall and frames perennials and marigolds in spring and summer.

The CDC has adopted Rodi Road as its highway to keep clear of litter. To promote business in Penn Hills, the CDC sponsors a yearly Shop Local Program. If you like what you hear and see about this dynamic organization, go to their website www.pennhillscdc.org or Facebook page and volunteer to join, help, rent a garden space or just make a financial contribution.



Photo by Lillian DeDomenic, Photographer

Keeping Penn Hills Beautiful

An impromptu clean up was undertaken on January 5th after our January 2nd Board meeting. Thank you to Karen Lantz for the great suggestion and the support of CHCA Board members and neighbors for making this a very successful event. We decided to take advantage of the great weather and get a jump on our spring cleaning. Over 25 bags were collected on Lime Hollow and Frankstown along with lots of tires and various other car parts.

Looking ahead at Spring Cleaning: the tentative clean up dates for 2019 are as follows:

April 27 | June 22 | August 17 | October 19

If you would like to be added to the Litter email list for activity updates, please contact me at conroycape@gmail.com.
- Judy Conroy

Neighbors on JEOPARDY!

Carrie Blazina, a former Sycamore Drive resident and 2010 graduate of Penn Hills High School, had her 22 minutes of fame in a Dec. 20 appearance on the TV game show Jeopardy! Carrie, the daughter of Jan Kukucka and Ed Blazina, had a strong start answering questions from host Alex Trebek but ended up second to Andrew Kung. Carrie said the overall experience was extremely positive and just getting on the show was an accomplishment since more than 80,000 take the screening test to qualify every year. And she said she felt the overwhelming support from her family, friends and community.

"I had a wonderful time appearing on Jeopardy!" she said. "I felt the support of Crescent Hills and Penn Hills neighbors and I appreciate that."

Jan and Ed attended the taping in early November at Sony Studios in Culver City, Cal., along with Jan's sister Beth, who has attended many neighborhood events and recently moved to Los Angeles.

Carrie, 26, is a graduate of Kent State University and lives in Cambridge, Mass. She works as a web editor for the Boston Globe.



2019

PARK FUNDED & MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

For a mere \$15 per household you can be a member of an active and vital civic association and the oldest in Penn Hills.

At this same time, please also support our park. Annual cost to maintain the park (maintenance, taxes, grass cutting & leaf removal) is **\$4,000**. The park belongs to the Crescent Hills and is run by volunteers. We all benefit from having a community park!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

No more confusion! We are combining our fund raising efforts to a **once a year** fund drive. Please indicate your contribution below.

Membership: _____ \$15

Park Donation: _____ \$25; _____ \$35; _____ Other

Total (Membership + Park Donation): _____

Make one check payable to Crescent Hills Civic Association and mail to Crescent Hills Civic Association
P.O. Box 17055, Penn Hills Branch, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

Thanks for your support!

Lyon Zeibak, President CHCA & Jan Kukucka, Chairperson, Park Committee



I want to help!

- Park Committee
- Welcome Committee
- Bus Shelter and Corner Maintenance
- Newsletter Assembly
- Newsletter Distribution
- Litter Committee

Martin Luther King Day Salad Luncheon

CHCA 2018



Bring the kiddos!
Playroom available onsite
with sitters. Children must be
walking age to stay in
playroom without parents.

ADMISSION: Bring a Salad for Eight + \$2.00
We'll Provide the Entertainment, Hot Soup and Dessert!

WHEN: Monday, January 21, 2019
(Martin Luther King Day)
Noon to 3:00 p.m.

WHERE:
Mt. Hope Community Presbyterian Church
12106 Frankstown Rd.

All the Details

Salad luncheon time is here. This is one of our community's favorite events and you are invited. Bring a salad to serve 8 and pay \$2 (yep, still only 2) to have one of the best lunches in town. There will be a banquet of salads, desserts, coffee and beverages, as well as arts, crafts and business card baskets to raffle, and table centerpieces to win. Piano music will be provided by our own Crescent Hills neighbor, Ken Bott. Babysitting is available and the price is only \$5 for one child (a total of \$10 for two or more.)

This year we have two exciting guest speakers. One is a senior from Penn Hills High School, Marshall

McArthur. Marshall is a 4.5 GPA student and a varsity basketball player. Thanks to his Advanced Placement Chemistry teacher's recommendation, Marshall applied and received a scholarship from the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh that allowed him to spend one month this summer in Tokyo, Japan. Marshall will share the highlights of that trip with us.

We will also have the opportunity to meet Penn Hills' new Municipal Manager, Scott Andrejchak. We will learn about his background and vision for our community. Mr. Andrejchak has a law degree and years of experience in financial and municipal management. Join us to welcome Mr. Andrejchak.

New Municipal Contact Info

Administration	412-342-1086	Planning Dept.	412-342-1172
Citizen Service	412-798-2131	Controller	412-342-0367
Code Enforcement	412-342-1192	Municipal Trash Collector	1-877-788-9400
Fire Marshall	412-342-1095		