



# Crescent Hills

— Civic Association —

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## Letter from the President



*I'm back! That's what a group of Crescent Hills residents said in 2006 when the Civic Association started anew after a lull in activity. It's been seven years since I was last President, and this organization has come a long way with the help of new, young members. Since our renewal in 2006, consistent with the needs of the community, we have streamlined the organization, reduced the number of publications and committees, but retained those activities important for a connected neighborhood.*

*Our past president, Lyon Zeibak, brought us into the computer age with an updated website, dazzling Facebook page, professional directory, and new civic responsibilities (Election Guide and Candidates' Night). We are so grateful to him.*

*Our goals remain:*

- to maintain our park as our community center, where we take our children and grandchildren, walk our dogs or just ourselves, gather for socials or just take respite;
- to encourage volunteerism in the neighborhood and greater Penn Hills community;
- to make Crescent Hills a great place to live.

*While many of the group from 2006 remain the backbone of the organization, little by little we are gaining support from our newer residents and*

*even nonresidents. This year, we welcome to our CHCA board the following new officers and volunteers:*

1. Trisha O'Neill, Crescent Hills Rd. – Secretary
2. Samantha Moik, Spring Grove Rd. – Corresponding Secretary
3. Doris Mierwald, McCurdy – Welcome Committee Co-Chair
4. Mary Beth Phillips, Spring Grove Rd. – Assistant Editor
5. Josiah Leisher, Sycamore Dr. – Newsletter deliverer (one of 34 deliverers)
6. Lauren Javens, Rosedale – Reading in the Park

*What is missing from the list is a Vice President. I'm excited to start this Presidency with all this help. But while I step into the job again, someone else must be willing to follow. Will that be you?*

*In the next few pages you will read about a fabulous Holiday House Tour that surpassed all prior fundraisers and a holiday party at the Oakmont Yacht Club that was a grand affair. Our upcoming January luncheon promises to be the same.*

*Please note in the Calendar of Events that our March 3 meeting at Mt. Hope Church, 6:45 p.m., will be devoted to discussions about the park. All are welcome.*

*Please remember that CHCA meetings are open to all residents. Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:45 pm at Mt. Hope Church.*

**Important DATES!**

## Events Calendar

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

Mon, Jan 20	MLK Luncheon	Sat, April 11	Easter Egg Hunt
Tues, March 3	Park Meeting	Sat, April 25	Litter Clean Up
Tues, May 5	CHCA Meeting	Mon, May 25	Memorial Day Picnic



## Meet the New Mayor of Penn Hills!



Pauline Calabrese and her husband Nick met in law school. After graduation, she stayed in Pittsburgh, which was developing at a rapid pace, including I-279 opening the gateway to the North Hills and massive projects

popping up all over the region. With construction booming, she began her legal career practicing Construction Law. Nick began his legal career in the Judge Advocate General Corps as a Captain in the United States Army. After serving at Fort Meade, Maryland during the Gulf War, then the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command in Warren, Michigan, Nick returned to Pittsburgh to pursue Pauline, declining a lucrative job offer in Washington, D.C.

When they were first married, they lived in the North Hills, where they assumed they would buy a house. During their search, Pauline's mother-in-law saw their current house featured on the Howard Hanna Showcase of Homes television show, in some neighborhood called Crescent Hills. (She had never heard of it!) After she finished that crazy phone call, Pauline said to Nick, "I'm not moving to Penn Hills. But let's go look at this place so that we can honestly say we looked at it, but it's not going to work out".

As they drove down Spring Grove Road and circled onto Crescent Hills Road, Pauline said she was awestruck. "I had no idea that Penn Hills had a neighborhood like this. Or any neighborhoods, for that matter. The homes were charming, with mature trees and beautiful landscapes. One of the little things that I found endearing and took as a sign that neighbors cared about each other was that there was a "Crescent Hills Newsletter" inserted into the door of the house we came to see. I fell in love with the house! 5 bedrooms, 4 floors of true living space, a fireplace, loads of character and a fantastic back yard. We had one child at the time, but I was determined to fill the house with children and make it a home".

Mission accomplished, the Calabreses have five children. Tia, age 23, graduated from the University of Michigan last spring with a degree in Biomedical Engineering. She is now a doctoral student at Pitt pursuing her Ph.D. Nicholas, age 20, is in his third year at Penn State, majoring in Computer Science and Math. Michael, age 19, is in his first year at Penn State, having not yet declared a major but leaning toward going to law school. Christopher, age 18, is a senior in high school, having been accepted to Penn State. Elita, age 16, is a junior in high school, probably considering Penn State but maybe Pitt.

Nick is a partner at the health care law firm of Horthy, Springer and Mattern. Pauline is a partner at Notaro, Calabrese & Epstein. "Ironically, my family is now being featured in the very newsletter that captured my attention, in the neighborhood that captured my heart over twenty years ago," Pauline said. "And I am now the mayor of a place where I had no intention of moving to, yet have completely fallen in love with."

## Holiday House Tour

December's Holiday House Tour was a rousing success thanks to our many friends and neighbors in Crescent Hills who supported the fundraiser by volunteering, donating, and attending with their families and friends. Because of their efforts we will be able to make some improvements to our Park. Roberta (Bobbie) Moore served as chair for the event along with Andrea Getsy, Linda Kornick, Christine Miller, Rosie Perer, Mary Beth Phillips and Eileen Scipione and the support of Beth Davies and Lyon Zeibak.

The featured homes were truly exceptional: Rod & Rebecca Williams, 109 Earlwood Road; Kevin & Brenda McDevitt, 190 Spring Grove Road; John Kratsas & Pamela Woods, 305 Earlwood Road; Mark Yates & Doug McAnlis, 176 Crescent Hills Road; Diana Corbett, 105 Glenfield Road; Greg Madura, 126 Glenfield Drive; Bobbie Moore, 63 Hathaway Court; and Eileen & George Scipione, 203 Glenfield Road, who opened their home for refreshments and sales. Thanks to all of them for their hard work, they did a fabulous job!

A special Thank You to our cookie bakers who provided the many dozens of cookies that were made into cookie trays for sale and were also served as refreshments: Linda Bluemle, Mary Colaianne, Judy Conroy, Deb Digby, Linda Kornick, Jan Kukucka, Elaine Mazzocoli, Bobbie Moore, Wendy Redington, Deb Schuetz, Jessica Wallis, Bridgette Zeibak and to Andrea Getsy for her nut rolls!

The raffle prizes were exceptional and we thank Sylvia Lynch for her trio of gourmet balsamic vinegars, Chris & Bill Miller for the basket of food items from Labriola's and Wendy Redington for her beautiful framed cross-stitch. Thanks also to Karen & Mark Lantz for donating the door prize of a basket of holiday items. Doris Mierwald donated her beautiful, Polish hand-folded paper Moravian Star and Porcupine ornaments, and Beth Davies donated dozens of beautiful bows.

To see pictures of the Holiday House Tour and the Holiday Party, see Crescent Hills Civic Association on Facebook.



\*\*\* Sidenote: One of our Holiday House Tour hosts, George Scipione, has suffered a dramatic loss of health and is now at home in palliative care. Please put his family in your prayers. If you know the family and wish to get further updates, see [www.caringbridge.org](http://www.caringbridge.org). \*\*\*

# Holiday Party

– Oakmont Yacht Club –

The holiday party on December 13 was attended by 54 smiling Crescent Hills residents. All agreed the environment was perfect, allowing us space and opportunity to mingle. The affair lasted 4 hours. We used our new ION speaker for the music. No complaints from anyone about the food and, in fact, the only description heard was “delicious.” If you missed this event, you’ll have another opportunity next December as we left our deposit to secure our spot. Once the reservation is made, we’ll publish the date and you can mark your calendar. - Andrea Getsy



# 2020

## PARK FUND & 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!

Andrea Getsy, 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 2020

*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 + \$5.00**  
**We'll Provide the Entertainment, Hot Soup and Dessert!**

**WHEN: Monday, January 20, 2020**  
**(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 \$5 to have one of the best lunches in town. The increased cost is due to rising expenses. You will still get your money's worth with the wide selection 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.)

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Nancy Hines, Superintendent of Penn Hills Schools. Before becoming the

superintendent in 2015, she started her career as a biology teacher, followed by high school principal and assistant superintendent. Dr. Hines has lived in Penn Hills 20 years. Three of her children are Penn Hills graduates. She will talk about our students' many achievements, whether in sports or academics. There are many champions in our schools, and Dr. Hines is one of them.

Please bring a neighbor and join us in welcoming both these extraordinary women. It is a wonderful place to be on a cold day in January.

Call Andrea if you have a donation for the arts and crafts table! 412-795-2607.