



## Letter from the “Old” President

I am sorry to report that Susan Chikalla has resigned for personal reasons. While she has only been president for 3 months, she was Vice President for 12 months. During that time, she, and Vice President Pam Woods, organized a summer of activities in the park. Pam’s ice cream social was the hit of the season. Susan’s introduction to Music in the Park brought a new dimension

of social connectivity. Susan and Pam were a team and worked at every event last summer, but we unfortunately lost both officers. I am very sorry to lose their leadership. We welcome both to continue to share their talents with CHCA (aka civic association).

Since CHCA cannot exist without a president, I will act as Interim President. Because CHCA is the owner of Crescent Hills Park, the Park cannot function without the Civic Association. CHCA raises the funds and solicits the volunteers that support the park. These are two responsibilities that cannot be transferred to Jan Kukucka and Ed Blazina who have managed the park for 20 years. There would not be a beautiful park without them.

When you moved into Crescent Hills, one of the reasons may have been because it had a park and a civic association. When you sell your home, I’m sure you’ll be listing these two things as the reason this neighborhood is special. If houses cost more in this neighborhood, this could be why.

Over the next few months, we will work on restructuring CHCA to simplify the President’s responsibilities. That translates into breaking down the job into smaller parts and that means

that more volunteers are needed. But most importantly it means that you, who understands the value of the association, will assume a role in keeping this 97-year-old organization alive. If you forgot to pay your dues, a new form is attached. Please mail the check addressed to CHCA to P.O. Box 17055, Pittsburgh, PA 15235 or pay through Paypal.

### And now some good news:

The first members to respond to accepting new roles are Karen and Mark Lantz of Springdale Drive. They will take the new position of Event Coordinators and start with taking charge of the Memorial Day Picnic.

Grace Edwardo of McCurdy Drive and Karen Lantz of Springdale Drive will explore the possibility of sponsoring a Holiday House Tour this year. This event is a big fund raiser for CHCA and the Park. You can contribute by volunteering to work on the committee or by offering to present your home as part of the tour. Please respond to crescenthillscivicasociation@gmail.com if you can do either.

Cathy Fabry of Spring Grove Road has offered to upload photos to our Facebook page. If you are at any CHCA sponsored event and have taken photos, please send them to CHCA’s above listed email address. You are helping to support CHCA by being its eyes and ears.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4/27 – Rotary Spaghetti Dinner  
 5/6 – Park Work Day  
 5/13 – Front Yard Tree Planting  
 5/20 – Plant Sale  
 5/29 – Memorial Day Picnic  
 6/3 – Litter Pickup

6/3 – First Yoga in the Park  
 6/3 – Park Work Day  
 6/5 – First Adult Volleyball  
 6/10 – Yard Sale  
 6/17 – First Reading in the Park

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the following:  
The Boyer Family on the death of Leigh's father, Robert Grandizio on March 2nd.

Pam and Wes Nowlin, whose daughter Alexandria died in a car accident on March 13th.

Tim and Rose Mizerak on the recent passing of Tim's grandmother.

We send Best Wishes to Bill and Christine Miller as they continue to recover from separate falls. Chris is a board member and a past president of CHCA and both Bill and Chris are very generous through the many ways they support our neighborhood.

Warmest wishes for a long and happy marriage to Emma Boyer, daughter of Leigh and Ken Boyer, and Paul Schink who were married on March 4th.

Congratulations to CHCA past president, Lyon Zeibak who was recently elected Chairman of the Penn Hills Democratic Party.

## YARD SALE

Don't throw away that old lamp, rocking chair, music box yet. The Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale will be on Saturday, June 10, from 9 a.m. to noon. Civic Association will advertise in "The Progress." This is your chance to make some cash and save the planet.

## YOGA IN THE PARK

Tracey Salah

Hello Crescent Hills Neighbors!



I'm excited to let you know that Yoga in the Park is returning for the 3rd summer. We've changed the day to Saturday at 9 a.m. to allow more neighbors to join in. We meet right at Crescent Hills Park. All you need is a mat! Come by Crescent Hills Park on Saturday at 9 starting on June 3. Whether you are an experienced yogi or never tried yoga, I encourage you to come meet your neighbors, enjoy our beautiful park, and see what yoga can

do for you. If you have questions please email me at [tracey@salahfamily.org](mailto:tracey@salahfamily.org)

## FRONT YARD TREE PROJECT IN CRESCENT HILLS

Kathy Raborn, Penn Hills Shade Tree Commission

One of our regular tree planting projects is our bi-annual Front Yard Tree Project (FYTP). And so far we have had 7 of these free tree-planting events including planting 11 trees on Sycamore Drive. Because additional homeowners on Sycamore Drive asked for a tree, we decided to plant 10-15 more small flowering trees and include homeowners who live on adjoining Wisteria and McCurdy Drives. The Sycamore/Wisteria/McCurdy Drive FYTP will take place on Saturday May 13 @ 10 a.m. (rain date May 14). If you would like to help, please bring a shovel and meet us in the parking lot of Crescent Hills Park. We will provide snacks and water. If you live on one of these streets and want a tree, it may not be too late. Please reach out to us at [PennHillsSTC@gmail.com](mailto:PennHillsSTC@gmail.com).

## PENN HILLS ROTARY SPAGHETTI DINNER

To benefit Penn Hills Volunteer Fire Dept. Training Center Thursday April 27 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Mt. Hope Church, 12106 Frankstown Road. Dine In and Take Out available. Tickets: \$12 pre pay; \$13 at the door; \$6 children. Includes spaghetti, homemade meatballs, salad, bread, dessert & beverage. The Rotary will donate 100% of the proceeds to the PHVFD Training Center. Go to Penn Hills Rotary Facebook page to make advance purchases.

## LITTER

Tim and Rose Mizerak

Thank you everyone who came out for our first litter cleanup of the year! We had 12 volunteers from Crescent Hills and the Penn Hills Anti-Litter Group who picked up 47 bags of trash and a tire! Lime Hollow is looking much better than it was but there is plenty more cleanup to do there and on Frankstown Road for our next pick up on June 3! Meet at Crescent Hills Park at 7:45 a.m.



## PLANT SALE

**Saturday, May 20, 9 a.m. to Noon**

This year we are returning to the old style plant sale where folks come and pick their own plants. While many of you may have liked the pre-sale order, a lot of confusion was also associated with that model. Our sale is planned for the time of the month when it is safe to plant annuals. The plants from the greenhouse will also be in full bloom, sturdy and healthy at this time. There will be a bake sale also – donations accepted. If you want to work the plant sale, please let me know, [algetsy@verizon.net](mailto:algetsy@verizon.net). All proceeds benefit the park. If a rain date is necessary, we will post signs of a new date and put it on CH-CA.org.



### MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC Following The Parade 1:30 to 6 p.m.

**A neighborhood tradition**

Come and meet your neighbors. There will be hot dogs, hamburgers, snacks, soda and water. Cash donations are accepted. Cold beer also will be available. Bring a side dish or dessert to share, kids to set free in the park, and chairs for relaxation. Possibly music! More details to arrive by email or posted on CH-CA.org.

## FALLEN TREES OR LIMBS

Grace Edwardo

With the frequency of storms and high winds a tree or limb may fall on your property. Here are some guidelines for care and management. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain any tree on their property. You may be responsible for your dead or diseased trees that fall onto other properties. If branches from a neighbor's tree are hanging over your property you may trim tree limbs hanging over your property. The good neighbor approach is to let the tree owner know. If your neighbor's tree falls onto your property damaging anything on your property (house, car, fence etc.), check with your homeowners insurance as to responsibility for the damages. The Shade Tree Commission has recommended a few reliable and trustworthy arborists in the area. Please see our website or Facebook page for the list. Here you can also find information on how to handle certain diseases affecting our trees such as Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.

## READING IN THE PARK

This year it will be Saturday mornings at 11:00 starting June 17- July 29. Caitlin Huden and David DeJohn will take turns being the instructors.



Caitlin Huden resides in Crescent Hills along with her husband, Joseph Huden, and daughter, Copper Huden. She has lived in the neighborhood the past four years. Caitlin is a fourth grade Special Education Teacher at Knoch School District. She also has her Reading Specialist Certification.

Dave has lived in Penn Hills for 15 years and resides with his wife, Victoria, daughter, Cecilia (age 7), son, Jack (age 4), and three cats. He works as a Mechanical Engineer for Bechtel Plant Machinery, Inc. in Monroeville. Dave's wife has inspired him to start doing more for our community, and he became interested in Reading in the Park after attending with his family last year.



Please join Caitlin and Dave for this fun summertime program.

They will have books, songs, and crafts for children ages 3-7. Follow Crescent Hills Civic Association on Facebook or email [caitlinhuden@gmail.com](mailto:caitlinhuden@gmail.com) or [david.dejohn@gmail.com](mailto:david.dejohn@gmail.com) for more information.

## ADULT VOLLEYBALL

will begin on Monday, June 5 at 6:00 and will continue every Monday through August, weather permitting.

Any questions can be addressed by contacting Bob MacBeth @ 412-877-8714.

## CODE VIOLATIONS

Grace Edwardo

The municipality no longer accepts code violation complaints online. To report a violation or register a complaint, please email the Code Enforcement Officer assigned to Crescent Hills, Justin Fentress at [jfentress@pennhills.org](mailto:jfentress@pennhills.org). Your complaint is anonymous, your name will not be known to the violator. Please include the address of the complaint and what the complaint is as well as your name, address, and phone number. A form may also be filled out online that will be sent to our CHCA Code Co-Chair, Grace Edwardo. To fill in a form online please go to the CHCA website or our Facebook page or enter this link <https://forms.gle/Gm6bCGF8D11wGxM68>

# PARK NEWS

Jan Kukucka

First and foremost: the CH Civic Association did receive the \$50,000 in Stimulus Funds in early March! This was federal money distributed by the Penn Hills municipality.

The CHCA has decided to use this money to improve the sports court on Sycamore Drive. While this court needs to be repaved and sealed, it also needs to have a better rain drainage system installed. Initial analysis of the sports court shows that more study is needed to determine how the drainage system can be improved. To do that, the CHCA will take some months to gather professional opinions on this matter.

For the past 20 years, the court has been used as half tennis and half hockey. Residents are encouraged to consider what they'd like to see on the "non-tennis" side of the court: Hockey? Pickle ball? Or another tennis court? The neighborhood will be notified when there is a plan in place.



On Saturday, April 8, the CHCA held its annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Crescent Hills Park. 50 children participated in group games and limbo-ed under the bunny stick before gathering eggs from the park grounds. They then visited with the Easter Bunny who handed out treat bags and prizes. Thanks to volunteers Karla Yoney, Andrea Getsy, Susan Chikalla, Ashley and Myla Madera, and Ed Blazina who guided participants and wrangled eggs!

A special "Thank You" to Spring Grove Road neighbor Alexandra Newby, a doctorate student at CMU, who has generously acted as Easter Bunny for about 12 Egg Hunts. If Alexandra reprises her role in 2024, she will have to be addressed as "Dr. Easter Bunny"! It's heartening to see former participants return as older children or adults to help keep the Easter Egg Hunt a nice neighborhood event!

### Expected spring park improvements:

- Replace: playground mulch, walking trail limestone dust and parking lot railroad ties (that mark parking spaces).
- Repair: Natural wood fence on left side of walking trail.

### Spring park "work" events:

- Thursday May 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.: students from Trinity Christian School have volunteered to rake leaves and sticks, weed, sweep and clean play equipment in CH Park.
- Saturday May 6 (rain date May 13) from 9 a.m. - 12 noon: volunteer neighbors will place mulch in the play areas and garden spots. (Calling all able-bodied residents! Bring an iron rake, a shovel or a wheelbarrow)
- Saturday June 3 (tentative date) from 9 a.m. - 12 noon): volunteer neighbors will add limestone dust to the walking trail. (same tools needed as above)

### CH Park Reminders:

- The park is not officially rented for picnics or parties due to restrictions in space, parking, noise levels and clean up abilities. If you do have a picnic or group activity at the park and more than a can full of garbage is accumulated, please take it home with you!
- No fireworks use on the grounds, not even "sparklers".
- The parking lot will be chained at dusk from May to October. There's no park or lot use after dark, not even to walk the dog. (You'd have to fight the deer off anyway!)
- Call 911 if you see illegal activities, fighting or equipment being damaged. It's best not to confront offenders yourself!

Neighbors like Dave Fraser from Glenfield Drive, who used his wood shredder to mulch woodpiles of sticks from the park, help make the CH park a clean, safe and pleasant green space to enjoy. Thanks to Dave and all those who use the park respectfully!

### OFFICERS

**Interim President**

**Andrea Getsy:** 412.795.2607  
algetsy@verizon.net

**Treasurer**

**Rebecca Williams**

**Recording Secretary**

**Yvette Logan**

**Corresponding Secretary**

**Samantha Moik**

**Newsletter Editors**

**Megan McDonald &  
Rob Jones**

**Associate Editor**

**Mary Beth Phillips**

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Code Enforcement**

**Pam Woods and John Kratsas**

**Litter**

**Tim and Rose Mizerak**

**Membership/Website/Facebook**

**Lyon Zeibak**

**Event Coordinators**

**Karen and Mark Lantz**

**Park**

**Jan Kukuchka**

**Welcome**

**Juleen Madera**

**CrescentHillsCivicAssociation@gmail.com**

