



Crescent Hills

— Civic Association —

Join us!
Crescent Hills Townhall Meeting
 The Penn Hills Library
 Wednesday, October 26th 6:45PM.
 "5 Year Strategic Plan Review"
 "Q&A" "Suggestions & Feedback"

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Letter from the President



What a summer! The Kids Carnival was definitely the highlight of the year. We had more volunteers on hand for that than any CHCA event I can recall. We really owe a debt of gratitude to Nandry Smith for all her hard work organizing it!

And we also owe our thanks to Nan for the Storytimes in the Park. It's great seeing so many kids enjoying our beautiful park together. I'd like to thank everyone who helped create wonderful experiences for our kids this year. I'd also like to thank Marty & Anita Choma for another great movie in the park.

We were initially a bit short this year on collecting much needed funds for our park but after our second request I'm proud to announce we've reached our goal! We also realized it may be confusing to receive requests for membership fees and park donations nearly year round. The problem is we typically never receive enough after the first ask, and we make up the differences only after asking the second time, when the rest of our donors remember to chip in. To avoid confusion we are going to clarify when membership fees and park donations are due. If we need to

make a second request we will clarify that it is a second request. We also encourage you to contact our treasurer by phone or email if you are unsure whether you have already paid. He can let you know.

It's been a while since we released a neighborhood directory. We're planning on publishing a new one early next year. That means we need help updating our records. Obtaining the correct phone numbers and addresses for 600 homes is a huge project. Please contact me if you can help. It's just a matter of checking yellow pages and the county records online. If you can help with checking homes or more please contact me.

This is my first message as president. I'm thankful for all the help and support of our past president, Chris Miller. Many of you already know me and know how happy I am to be a part of this community, I hope to meet the rest of you over the course of my service and take into account all your opinions and suggestions. Please consider joining our Town Hall meeting at the Library on Wednesday, October 26th at 6:45PM. We'll discuss our new CHCA 5 Year Strategic Plan, have a Q&A, listen to your suggestions and feedback and envision how we can make this an even greater place to live!



Please remember that CHCA meetings are open to all residents. Our next meeting is Wednesday, Nov 2nd at 6:45 pm in the Penn Hills Library. Also NEW is a Town Hall style meeting to discuss vision for Crescent Hills. This is open to ALL Crescent Hills residents. Join us! We encourage your input.



Events Calendar

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

Sat, Oct 22	Road & Park Cleanup	Wed, Jan 4	CHCA Meeting
Wed, Oct 26	Town Hall Meeting	Mon, Jan 16	MLK Day Salad Luncheon
Wed, Nov 2	CHCA Meeting	Wed, Mar 8	CHCA Meeting
Sat, Dec 3	Holiday Simply Social	Mon, May 29	Memorial Day Picnic



Meet your new president

The Zeibak Family moved into their home on Frankstown Rd in 2011 just 2 months before Rosslyn was born. Originally from Erie, PA, Lyon and Bridgette went to Edinboro University. Lyon moved to the state of California after graduation and Bridgette eventually joined him. They decided to move back to Pennsylvania before their daughter was born in order to live closer to family. They chose their home due to it's close proximity to amenities and the parkway.

"We weren't really involved with the association at first, though I did appreciate the litter committee trash cleanups along Frankstown and thought about volunteering from time to time." Lyon said. "When I started frequenting the park with Rosslyn, I met park chair, Jan Kukucka, and one thing lead to another. These days I guess you could say I'm pretty involved!"

Rosslyn has made a lot of great memories in our wonderful community. She has made a lot of friends in the neighborhood, most of whom don't live on the same streets; but the park has always tied many families together throughout our 600 home area and beyond. When she fell off the playground jungle gym and broke her arm early this summer, she received gifts and visits from her playmates. She also ended up being featured on the front page of the Penn Hills Progress in a photo that highlighted our Kids Carnival. She is 4 years old and goes to preschool at Riverview Children's Center.



"We just love our home and community. This is such a great place to raise a family," Bridgette added. "It's the neighbors though that we love the most. They really make this a great place to live."



Lyon(left), Bridgette(Right) and Rosslyn(middle)

Meet your new neighbors

My family moved to Pittsburgh at the end of last year because my husband Sean received a promotion within the company he works for, American Eagle Outfitters. We were given one month to find a home, close, and move in, before his job began. We lived in Boston Massachusetts at the time and wanted to avoid moving into something temporary. Therefore, we had one weekend to find our home. Of course, the very last house we looked at was "the one", and we couldn't be happier here. We love the neighborhood and the entire community. My husband and I, as well as our two children (2 1/2 year old girl Kinley and 6 month baby boy Colton) have loved all the activities put on through the Crescent Hills community, how friendly everyone is, and the peacefulness of the neighborhood. Pittsburgh outshines Boston by a landslide!



Kari Patterson (left) with husband Sean and two children: Colton and Kinley. (Above) At Storytime in the Park with firefighter Lauren.

Crestview Community Gardens

Bob Ellsler lives at 205 Crestview Rd, which is just on the outskirts of the border of our Crescent Hills neighborhood. He started Crestview Community Gardens in his large backyard space in order to provide fresh produce for his family, neighbors and community. He donates some of the produce to the Lincoln Park Community Center food pantry.

"I'd like to encourage more people to volunteer because that way we can grow more food to donate." Bob explained. "Anyone who would like to volunteer is welcome to some of the produce in the garden. We donate some, and we take some for our families. It's a win-win." Bob can be reached at (412) 498-3444 or crestviewcommunitygardens@gmail.com Crestview Community Gardens can also be found on facebook.



Park Highlights

What a busy summer! The Crescent Hills park was used by many Crescent Hills and Penn Hills neighbors this past spring/summer season for picnics, walks, sports and leisure activities.

Two summer activities that enjoyed a consistent following were: Monday night Adult Volleyball (lots of laughs, encouragement and exercise, coordinated by Bob Macbeth) and Wednesday afternoon Storytime in the Park (stories, crafts and games for kids 2 to 6 years of age, coordinated by Nandry Smith). Some highlights from this year's storytimes include guest appearances such as getting to meet firefighter Lauren Fitzroy of Penn Hills 224, being taught multicultural dance moves by Adeshewa Metzger, making an ABC tree with teachers Jess Meising and Kristen Nese and finally being taught that litter is bad by our own Litter chairperson, Mel Adams. Check out our Facebook page for all the great pictures!

A project headed by Nandry Smith converted the former basketball court into a "peaceful playground" with painted roadways and games on the asphalt. A big thank you goes out to the MANY wonderful residents who donated their time with this project including Suzanne Hendrix for her help on the rocket ship and Ray Dwyer who painted the ABC caterpillar. Thank you for lending your talents to creating this space! Another resident, Mike Hopf of Glenfield Drive, donated and installed new hockey nets for the sports court.



Events that provided both fun and great exposure for the Crescent Hills Civic Association were the Kids' Carnival on August 20th and the Movie in the Park on August 27th. Both these events were open to all Penn Hills residents.

In fact, at the August 22 meeting, Mayor Sara Kuhn commended Crescent Hills as a real tribute to the community, naming specifically our Children's Carnival and Movies in the park. Hooray! The mayor attended the carnival and was pleasantly surprised to find folks from all over Penn Hills. The Kids' Carnival, conceived by Nandry Smith, was a huge hit. It was well attended and enjoyed by both volunteers and attendees alike. The Movie in the Park was a wonderful end to summer. It was coordinated by Lyon Zeibak and Marty and Anita Choma, whose equipment made it possible.



The Park Fund Drive that was started in the May newsletter and continued with an additional flyer in August yielded donations totaling \$3,522.00. It's heartening that all kinds of neighbors contribute to the park, those that use it on a daily basis and those who haven't visited it for years. It shows that many residents recognize that the park's a community asset requiring attention and maintenance. These donations supported the events and projects mentioned above. They also pay for taxes, insurance, mulch, limestone and other landscaping materials, plus grasscutting. So, a big thank-you to all who contributed to the park fund drive!

CH neighbors are encouraged to continue using the park "respectfully" (meaning, put garbage including dog waste in containers, keep dogs on leash, don't damage equipment and do report illegal activity to police) through the fall and winter.



With Autumn beginning, we still have our Statewide cleanup event on Saturday, October 22. We'll meet at Crescent Hills Park at 7:45AM, on Sycamore Dr. This is the last cleanup for 2016, so please join us. In June we had eight volunteers. They collected 27 bags total on Frankstown and Lime Hollow Roads. On the August cleanup we only had five volunteers but still collected 27 bags full of trash plus a TV, toilet and a tire.

If you are interested in joining the email list to be notified in advance, please contact Mel Adams at CHCALITTER@gmail.com. It really makes a difference. **SEE EVERY ONE ON OCTOBER 22 FOR THE STATEWIDE CLEANUP!!!**

Pitt students are also scheduled to help with leaf-raking, limestone and mulch-laying in the park on the state-wide "Clean-up Day" October 22nd. This is part of Pitt's "Make a Difference Day". Come join us and help us make a difference!

Thanks, Mel (Litter committee) and Jan (Park committee)

Municipality Report

Roads

This year the municipality will be spending \$1.3 million on repaving roads. Because the bids came in lower than expected, the municipality was able to add additional roads for paving in this year's plan. While still approximately half of what was recommended in their road study of 2009, it is a vast improvement over the recent years when only \$200,000 or less was budgeted for Penn Hills' 134 miles of roads. At a council meeting this August, the Mayor said that whatever is budgeted for roads, will be spent for roads. We shall continue to advocate for increased spending on this important asset.

New Buildings

The municipality is moving forward with its plans to build a new municipal complex on Duff Road. This complex will include two new one story buildings. The first and largest will house the police and municipal administrators. The large building will have council chambers and offices and training rooms used by both the police and administrators. The police will have room for a firing range but it will not be completed in this phase of work. The second building will be for the emergency medical people. The firemen will have a concrete slab for a training area. Everyone will have plenty of parking. The basketball courts and existing field and walking paths at the Duff Road site will remain. The drawings for the buildings were presented at the August 22 Council meeting and you can see these at thisispennhills.com. Council was hopeful that ground breaking would occur before the end of this year and the building completed in 2018.

Financing options for the complex, estimated to cost between \$11 and \$12 million, were presented at that meeting. Funding for the construction will come from a bond issue that will add \$600,000 to the existing debt service in the first two years and \$450,000 in subse-

quent years until 2028. The municipality can refinance at any time and the rate is presently very low.

Also shown at that council meeting was a plan for converting the current municipal building site into a memorial park/community center with a gazebo and small looped trail. Mayor Sara Kuhn had asked the architects to draft a rendition of this idea. That drawing is shown below. The Mayor pointed out that Penn Hills does not have a community center such as other neighborhoods like Oakmont and Verona. This plan and the demolition of the current building were not included in the financial plans.



Crescent Hills Civic Association 2016-2017 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. Sign up below. Please offer to help. Send your check made out to Crescent Hills Civic Association to P.O. Box 17055, Penn Hills Branch, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Deadline: October 31, 2016

Updating our Directory

We need your Directory Contact Information! We're working on publishing a new neighborhood directory. Please let us know what phone number you would or wouldn't like listed in it. Just email us at contact@ch-ca.org

I want to help!

- Welcome Committee
- Park Committee
- Bus Shelter and Corner Maintenance
- Newsletter Committee
- Newsletter Distribution
- Code Enforcement Committee
- Litter Committee
- Directory
- Other