

Edited by Ollie Rieley

# Won't You Be My Neighbor?

The "State of the Community" Address Mitch Kates

Hellooooo Highland Park! Happy Summer! To my faithful readers, an explanation: Last issue, as many of you were quick to point out, I was not to be heard from. You see, my family and I participated in a medical experiment documenting the effects of sun, sand, the ocean, dolphins and just plain fun on the stressed-out and over worked typical American family. The results were fascinating and should be published in the New England Journal of Medicine soon! I'd recommend it to everyone!! I am happy to be back in Pittsburgh, though I must admit, Cindy and I did leave a small piece of our hearts on the beaches of Captiva!!

It is officially that time of year for the kids to be home from school (yippee!?!), family vacations, iced tea, fireworks and of course, the *annual mass mailing of the community club newsletter*! I have been called upon once again to deliver a message to the people of Highland Park and whatever other fortunate souls have the pleasure of reading this fine journal.

My fellow Highland Parker's, I'm proud to report that the "State of the Community" is strong! We have seen quite a bit of growth and renewal in our fair neighborhood over the last year. Looking to our borders, East Liberty is flourishing like is hasn't in over 20 years. The artists are coming out of the woodwork ... further proof of that will come our way in July with Penn Avenue hosting an Arts Fair. The grand opening of Home Depot is only a few months away, and at the same time, other retailers are being pursued for the area. Another big win for the East End is the announcement concerning the long vacant Highland Building in the center of East Liberty. The site is currently under renovation through the guidance of ELDI and the URA. The building will be the future home of high tech start-up companies the likes of which are currently coming out of acclaimed institutions such as CMU.

At "home" in our neighborhood great things have been happening. By the time this letter reaches you, we will have seen the return of a beloved neighborhood restaurant, La Foret as well as the opening of an establishment which I predict will become the heart and soul of our community, Enrico's Tazza d'Oro. (Yes, we're finally getting our coffee shop, folks!) At the Park has put its kitchen back in and Café Baci, fresh off some great review, is presenting jazz on Thursday nights. In the residential sector, Mellon Street is now the main focus of the Highland Park Community Development Corporation (HPCDC) and East Liberty Development (ELDI.) This should help to strengthen the neighborhood by providing more properties for single family ownership, thus redefining an area presently troubled with blight and crime.

In regards to the community club, our numbers have swelled, closing to within sight of 500 members. This is a feat that has never been accomplished and surely surpasses our greatest expectations. Dare I say this club is beginning to look like an organization worthy of representing all of Highland Park.

And so neighbors, I leave you now to enjoy the rest of the summer. Don't forget about **Reservoir of Jazz** in August, take time to see a few new movies, drink some lemonade, stay out of the heat and hopefully we can all hook up for brunch on Sundays at that little café I've been talking about! Aloha!

## HPCC Activities for July & August

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No July Meeting!		
See you at August meeting		
No August Newsletter		

## Announcing: The Fifth Annual **Reservoir of Jazz Concert Series**

August 1	Walt Harper
August 8	Symphony Jazz Trio
August 15	Catch 22
August 22	The Real Silk Band
August 29	raindate

azz Trio Catch 22 lk Band raindate

An afternoon of music at the Highland Avenue entrance to Highland Park — All concerts begin at 1:30 PM.

#### **Sponsored by:**

Highland Park Community Club Gateway Health Plan Citiparks Music Performance Trust Fund, AFOM, Local 60-471 \*\*\*\*

## DAY CAMP

Janice Burgett

The Highland Park Community Club has been providing a summer program for children for over fifty years. If you are unfamiliar with H.P.C.C. Day Camp, you are really missing a neighborhood gem. Our program runs for six weeks each summer from 9:00 am to 12:00. This year we are in session from June 21 to July 30th. Parents are free to chose which weeks they are interested in and can sign up for one or all six weeks. The campers range in age from four through eight years of age. They spend their mornings in small, age-appropriate groups working on activities/ projects or engaged in gross motor activity. We take advantage of the park surroundings and hike to different pavilions for a change of pace and equipment. On Tuesdays and Thursdays we spend an hour swimming in the small Highland Park pool. We are swimming by permit so we are usually the only group in the pool at that time and the city does staff it with a lifeguard. The pool is only three feet deep at its deepest point so if your child does not know how to swim it's not a problem. Day camp costs \$55.00 a week for HPCC members and \$65.00/wk for non-members. A membership to the club is only \$20.00 and entitles you to the monthly newsletter for the whole year as well as the discounted day camp rate. If you are interested in camp or have any questions please contact Janice Burgett at 361-2195. \*\*\*\*

## Nominations

Want a job? Know someone who would be a good worker for HPCC? Why not suggest yourself or your friend to Mitch Kates for nomination to be an officer or director of HPCC? Call Mitch at 661-4995 with your suggestions by early August for consideration in the slate to be announced at the August meeting.

H. P. C. C. Officers, Directors & Committees

President: Mitch Kates (661-4995) President Elect: Diane DeNardo(363-2092) Comm. Dev. V.P.: Debbie DeAngelis (363-4948) Treasurer: Norma Lipscomb (362-6562) Secretary: Paula Flaherty (361-2203) Past President: Bob O'Connor (362-1239)

#### Directors

Maura Brown 362-0534 (99) Paul Dougherty 362-9517 (99) Bruce Robison 361-4892 (99) Ed Sullivan 361-1101 (99) William Zlatos 661-6395 (99) Carol Dyas 661-1613 (00) Jay Gilmer 363-9100 (00) Kelly Meade 362-0331 (00) Mary Lee Snuffer 734-8477 (00) Bob Staresinic 441-8972 (00) Tom Burns 363-3654 (01) David Hance 361-4935 (01) M. Meyers 661-2315 (01) Ollie Rieley 661-1205 (01) Kathy Ziegler 363-1252 (01)

Committees Beautification: Dell Ziegler 363-1252 Block Watch: John Reinsel 361-7973 Children: Tania Grubbs 661-4054 Commercial District: Muzz Meyers 661-2315 Day Camp: Janice Burgett 361-2195 Education: Jay Gilmer 363-9100 Hospitality: Kelly Dougherty 362-9517 House Tour: Norma Lipscomb 362-6562 Membership: Kelly Meade 362-0331 Newsletter: Ollie Rieley 661-1205 Program: Bruce Robison 361-4892 Public Safety: John Di Pucci 361-1023

Recreation: Charlie Peterson 441-2766 Reservoir Covers: Dave Hance 361-4935 Restoration: Debbie DeAngelis 363-4948 Super Playground: Steve Pettler 363-3978 Vard Sale: Judy Wolfe 441-7830 Voice Mail: Paula Flaherty 361-2203 Welcoming: Bob Staresinic 441-8972 Zonina:

Voice Mail 734-5261 C. O. P. 665-3644 - Pager 690-6008

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# **Beautification**

Dell Ziegler

In 1990, a group of us decided that the Park should look better and that we would have to do the work. I had been impressed during a trip to southern England, where I was astounded to see every small and large town with gardens that were beautiful and appreciated. Why could they do it and we not do it? There wasn't a good answer, except it was more important to them. It <u>used</u> to be important to us as we could see in all the old park photos. Decades of budget cuts and different priorities had drastically changed the City parks. The question was whether we could bring back some color and beauty to the Park.

We designed, roto-tilled, planted, paid for and maintained four large beds, holding our breath for the vandalism and theft predicted by some. It never came. Instead, we got compliments from a wide cross-section of Park users. (We thought the gardens would go over with the little old ladies in fur coats; we weren't sure about the others.) The gardens flourished.

Then we began to get ideas. We accepted the sad fact that graffiti, trash, broken glass and other signs neglect have a downside effect on behavior and neighborhood improvement. But, was the opposite also true? Could we have a positive effect on the thousands of people who drive through Highland Park and have an impression of our neighborhood? Realtors had told us for years that, while our residents love the neighborhood, the impressions of others were a mixed bag. We had lots of room for improvement. So, we targeted the three major "entrances" to the neighborhood. We put up signs, welcoming people to "Highland Park (settled 1778)". We put in gardens on all the corners, with a mixture of flowering shrubs, decorative grass and lots of flowers.

Then we moved on to Dilworth and Peabody schools. Fulton School was beautifully done by a group led by Donna Babir. Then we picked key spots along Bryant Street, Negley Ave., Highland Ave., Flynn Parklet and the pedestrian steps into the Park.

In total, we "take care of" 57 different beds; some large and some



small, totaling over 3,700 square feet. It is all done with volunteers, Dick Bickerstaff's truck and the financial help of Councilman Jim Ferlo, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, which puts in wonderful flower beds throughout the city and county and the HPCC, which covers about one-fifth of our costs.

Three years ago, I decided that we needed to do more to improve the appearance of East Liberty, using the same process of picking highly visible intersections, churches, businesses, etc. East Liberty had been slowly improving for a decade, and it was in our interest to help accelerate the progress. I found that the churches, ELDI, the Chamber of Commerce, and others were more than willing to work. We could provide some know-how, experience and organization. We have worked on over 36 beds at 17 different locations, affecting 3,000 square feet. This spring, we built, installed and planted 34 large flower boxes along Penn Avenue. So far; they look pretty good. The grand experiment continues.

We have had successes (defined as a beautiful bed completely taken over by the owner, school, etc.) and failures (beds not maintained, appearing to be abandoned). We still need volunteers willing to adopt a bed or two. Without them, our program collapses.

Here is a list of those volunteers who are currently making this work possible: Peter and Mary Faines, Pat Gurneck, Pat O'Kane, Terry Flati, Sheila Savits, Jan Stayianos, Diana and Dave Wood, Genevieve Mann, Jean and Bill Mischler, Bob Benke, Kathryn Burgwin, Sue Ryan and Tom Ferguson, Kelly Meade, Dennis Finseth, Arline Solomon, Todd Glotfelty, Kim Pettler, Sharon Hudak, Kandy Newell, Jeanne Marie Walnau and Paul Gaffney's family (we lost a very sweet lady, Jean, this year). If you see one of them working at a site, stop and tell them that you appreciate their work. Dozens of others have helped out over the years.

What's in the future? Peabody and Reizenstein Schools really need help to soften the harsh architectural style of tall, windowless brick walls, surrounded by open grass and nothing else. (I call it the "prison look.") The Park, especially Lake Carnegie, has great potential, especially after the Parks Conservancy gets up a head of steam to redo the four major parks in the City. The next 10 years will see more improvements to our Park than the last 75 years.

If you enjoy outdoor work and know flowers (or can stand 15 minutes of instruction) and think you would like to be part of this effort, please call Dell Ziegler at 363-1252. We need your help, and you (and all your neighbors) will enjoy the results.

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#### **An Open Letter**

Dear Friends of the Highland Park Community Club,

On behalf of all the people of St. Andrew's, I'd like to extend a very sincere word of thanks for your support and contributions--as friends in the neighborhood, and corporately as the HPCC--in our drive to repair and restore the historic Apostle Windows in the eastern and western aisles of our lovely church. It is very much our desire to be known as a place of beauty and gracious hospitality in (Cont'd on Pg, 4)

(Cont'd on Pg. 4)

#### (Cont'd from Pg. 3)

our neighborhood, and your many expressions of support in this project have been very important to us.

Later in the Fall, when the windows have been re-installed, we'll have a great service of rededication and celebration. You will be invited--and I'm so glad to know that our Highland Park Community Club will be included in the Dedicatory Bulletin as one of the sponsors of this very significant work.

Affectionately, Bruce Robison

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## Zone 5 Open House

The Zone 5 Police Station is holding an Open House on July 14 from 5:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. Bring the family and see what your police station has to offer. The open house will feature free refreshments, public safety exhibits, cops bike safety & engraving, children's fingerprinting and much more. A great opportunity to meet our police!

#### \*\*\*\*

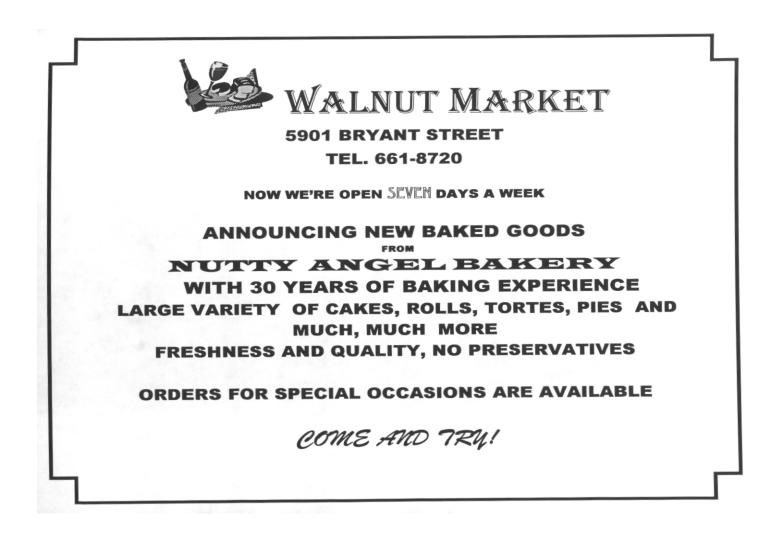
## The "Annual Mass Mailing"

Ollie Rieley

This issue of the HPCC Newsletter is being sent to all addresses in Highland Park, it is the *annual mass mailing* in which the club tries to recruit new members. Some of you who receive this will be unaware of our existence, others may be former members who quit in protest to some action of the club or who just let their membership expire. Whatever the case, look through this issue with some care noting the wide breadth of activities of the club; you may find an activity you'd like to support or join. Maybe you'd like to just join the club. See the application on Page 11, if you would. We need your support for these programs.

## East Liberty Arts Fair

Penn Avenue in East Liberty will be bustling with activities July 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> as the EECM sponsored Youth Business Initiative produced *e-fest* takes place. There will be art, sculpture, readings of original works, music and much more. Don't miss it.



# Highlights of June 17th Meeting

Paula Flaherty Call to order at 7:30

*C.O.P. Report:* There will be an open house at the Zone 5 Police Station on Wednesday, July 14, 1999 from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. with free refreshments, public safety exhibits, children's fingerprinting, games, prizes, story telling and lots more. The plain clothes detail made 35 arrests/citations in the park for drug and alcohol violations. There are still problems in the 700 - 900 blocks of Mellon Street. Abandoned vehicles are being tagged and towed. Additionally, silent complaint forms are available at the C.O.P. Station or at HPCC meetings. Thanks to Officer Christine Scalise.

An architect has been hired to come up with a schematic design for renovation of the properties at 807 and 817 Mellon Street. Work will be started within a year. ELDD and the HPCDC are working together on this project and will be announcing a meeting in the near future to discuss this project.

The Highland Building is being developed and will be used for incubation of high tech start-up companies.

**Tonight's program** features Nikki Monroe, head of the gifted program at Peabody High School, along with students Kristopher Branson and Andy Arty. They are working to promote a new image for Peabody. An average class size of 15, combined with various clubs and activities such as mock trial, writers workshops, sports, chess and the new Information Technology Academy featuring training in Microsoft software and Cisco Systems hardware are just some of the exciting things happening at Peabody. Anyone who is interested in talking to Nikki Monroe may reach her at 665-2059 or 363-2915. Some of the students will be reading their poetry on the WYEP (91.3 MHz FM) radio program "Prosity" which airs Tuesday, July 6 at 7:00 P.M. They also showed and sold copies of the Peabody literary magazine "Beyond". Congratulations to the talented students from Peabody!

#### General announcements and new business:

The Coffee Shop on Highland Ave. will open its doors on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to Amy Enrico!

St. Andrew's is restoring the small rectangular stained glass windows that line the East and West Aisles of the nave. There will be a benefit concert with several prominent musicians to support the effort. The Club will make a donation to be determined later to St. Andrew's in support of the project.

Conrad Seamon from St. Andrew's Outreach and Vestry is working with the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf to bring the National Theater for the Deaf to perform a program featuring signing, dancing, and speaking actors and singers. This Tony award winning group has performed all over the world. St. Andrew's would like to hold a program for children on their lawn in conjunction with the group's visit. The primary performance is planned for the School for the Deaf auditorium on Swissvale Avenue in Edgewood. Mr. Seamen asked for a letter of support to be used in grant applications and a future \$250 donation for publicity and related expenses. The vote was unanimous to give the \$250 and the letter of support.

A unanimous vote authorized the continuation of the first time only membership fee of \$5.00. It was noted that LaForet has reopened in its former location on Bryant Street.

Thank you to Norma Lipscomb on the success of this year's House Tour.

There will be no July meeting and no August Newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

## National Theater of the Deaf

Conrad Seamon

Mark your calendars for a major event for Highland Park and East End children. On April 25, 2000, the National Theater of the Deaf will perform a play written and produced for elementary school children in a theater tent on the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church lawn.

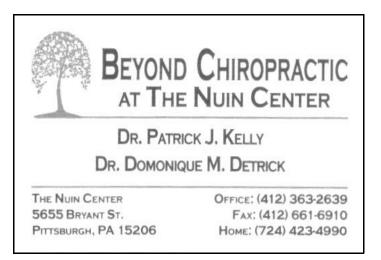
The play, "Where in the World", is an unique production featuring both speaking and signing actors. The inclusiveness of the National Theater of the Deaf's style makes it possible for hearing and deaf children to sit side by side and enjoy the same show.

# Around St. Andrew's . . .

Bruce Robison

Summer Sunday morning services at St. Andrew's move in July and August to an earlier time, with Holy Communion in the Chapel at 8:30 a.m. and Morning Prayer in the Church at 10 a.m. (and Holy Communion at both services on the first Sunday of each month).

An all-grades children's program takes place during the later worship hour on these Sundays. Part of each Sunday for the kids will include the creation of "Crafts Packets" to be shared with



#### patients at Children's Hospital.

(Cont'd on Pg. 6) (Cont'd from Pg. 5)

Informal activities and "programs" are always sprouting over these summer months. There's sure to be a St. Andrew's Outing to the Ballpark (or two), a family movie night in Brooks Hall, and a picnic or two in the Churchyard--so stop by or give us a call to see what's up!

Looking ahead to August, a summer "Cottage Meeting for Book Discussion" will be held on Tuesday evening, August 4th. The book to be discussed is Susan Howatch's "Glamorous Powers", and interested folks are invited to call the church office for information about time and location (661-1245).

Also in August (following a break in July) our community writers' workshop, "Interest in Writing," will meet in the Parish Hall on Wednesday evening, August 18th.

And looking ahead to the Fall, all are reminded that St. Andrew's traditional "Round Up Sunday" Picnic in the Church Yard will take place at noon on Sunday morning, September 12th--to inaugurate a new season of Church School, Adult Education, and Choir--and that services return to their regular times in September, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. All are invited!

St. Andrew's Church is a place of magnificent traditional worship and music, challenging and creative education, meaningful and compassionate service--and an ever-expanding circle of great friends. We've been on the corner of Hampton Street and North Euclid for nearly a century, and while our members come from all over the city, we are always mindful of our special role as the "community church" of this wonderful Highland Park neighborhood.

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# SUNNY YARD SALE DAY

**MEANT BONANZA FOR HIGHLAND PARKERS** by Beth Saxon

Community Club Yard Sale Chairperson Judi Wolfe ordered up a warm and sunny day for the Sunday, June 6 annual Yard Sale. What she got was a hot day with ample sunshine and not a drop of rain to be had. This meant that boatloads of people from all over the place made their way to Highland Park, in search of wares from simple to sublime.

1999's Yard Sale boasted the participation of 78 families which is on par with last year's sale. And as for customers, there were plenty; Judi reports that over 600 maps were handed out at two prime intersections within the neighborhood. If you consider that most folks had a yard sale companion or two along for the ride, it's reasonable to assume that well over one thousand people visited our lovely neighborhood that day. Good exposure!

It's all in getting the word out. That's just what Judi and her team did. Prior to the Sale, Judi placed ads in The Post Gazette; Tribune

Review; Penny Saver; and Advanced Leader. In addition, 200 flyers were placed in surrounding area store windows, and on light poles and bulletin boards.

If it sounds like a lot of work -- it is, but Judi reports that the bulk of the work takes place in the week leading up to the Yard Sale. "It's the single best volunteer experience...it's a real community thing," said Judi. When asked about feedback she receives, she added, "People are impressed, they think it's a wonderful thing that our neighborhood organizes such an event, and they wish their neighborhood did."

The Yard Sale has proved to be a positive and successful way to bring people into our neighborhood. Once here, visitors, who might otherwise only drive through on Negley or Highland Avenues, are able to see the beautiful and distinctive homes and tree-lined streets which define Highland Park.

As for our yard sale at 5542 Hampton, we didn't do too badly. My eight-year-old daughter proved that success is indeed in the preparation... and Zip Lock bags. Her theory held that if you packaged toys with many parts in plastic bags, they would be much more attractive to potential buyers. Unfortunately, she was right. She hit pay-dirt! (She would hear nothing of my argument that the cost of resealable plastic bags might cut into overall profits, not to mention the ensuing environmental degradation from <u>all that plastic</u>!) --- She can't wait for next year!

JULY, 1999

# Welcoming Committee

The Welcoming Committee is trying to let all new people in Highland Park know that they are part of the neighborhood, and let them know what is going on around their new home. The Welcoming Committee plans to have few meetings at Bob Staresinic's house at 931 Mellon Street (between Wellesley and Jackson Streets). All are welcome to join the committee.

If you are interested in being part of this committee or have any ideas about welcoming new neighbors to Highland Park, please let me know. I am looking to try to welcome people as soon as they arrive. We have canvas bags to stuff with various bits of information, including voter registration, bus schedules, local menus and the garbage schedule. I would like to know before someone moves into their new home, so we can get information to them as quick as possible.

Although I have started with menus from local food establishments, it would be good to have information or items from all of the businesses in Highland Park. If you have something you would like to include in the Welcome information and haven't talked to me, please give me a call. I have received calls and mail from current residents to assist with welcoming by notifying me when they have a new neighbor. I can then bring a bag to the current neighbor, who can drop it off, or a committee member can deliver the bag.

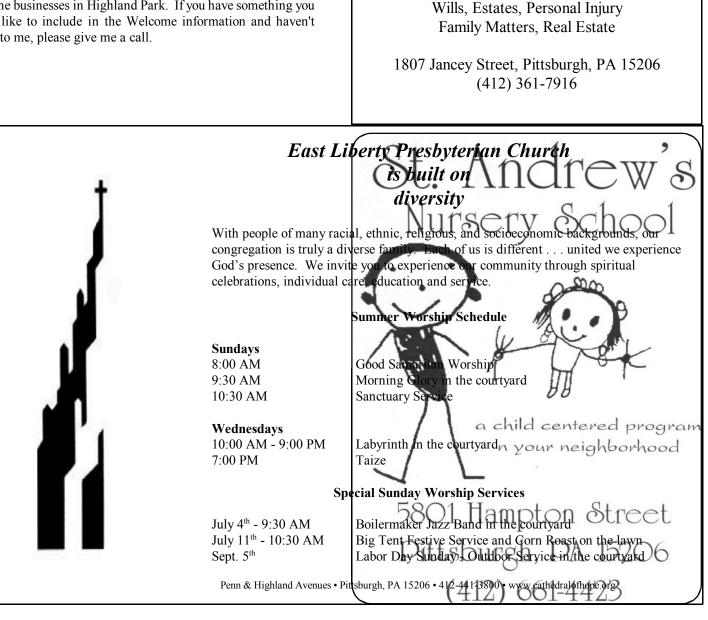
Please continue to call me at 441-8972 or drop me a note about new people or ideas.

Law Office

**CREO & SHELLY** 

Robert A. Creo Carl Hudson Shelly

Thanks, Bob Staresinic



## HPCC Newsletter

# Community Portrait - Maureen Cato

# She Brings Music to Our Ears

Diane DeNardo

Maureen Cato has always been a fan of jazz. Over the years she has enjoyed listening to it in Shadyside and in the Hill District and, thanks to her, we can all enjoy it every Sunday in August in Highland Park. The *Reservoir of Jazz* is celebrating its 5th Anniversary this year and Maureen Cato is the person to thank. For those who remember the "Highland Fling" of years long past, she missed the excitement and camaraderie of the event as neighborhood people went to the park and enjoyed art work, vendors, art carts, all-day music and a hot air balloon. In addition, she enjoys spending Sunday mornings in July at the *Bach, Beethoven and Brunch* series in Mellon Park. Once again, an idea and positive action led to something that has already become a neighborhood tradition--the *Reservoir of Jazz*.

Five years ago, Maureen approached Citiparks with her idea of continuing music in the East End for the entire summer. The two constant sponsors have been the Highland Park Community Club and Citiparks. According to Maureen, Charlie Peterson and the Highland Park Community Development Corporation were instrumental in getting the event started the first year. Other early sponsors included the East Liberty Arts Council, National City, WDUQ and WJJJ. This year, Gateway Health Plan and the Music Performance Trust Fund, AFOM Local 60-471, are supporting the event.

When I asked Maureen what she feels the benefits of the *Reservoir* of Jazz are to Highland Park beyond the great music it provides, she mentioned "the diversity of the crowd that gathers to attend the event." It's multi-generational and all of the other multi's that make up a dynamic and heart-warming audience. "It's nice that the audience happens to be a reflection of Highland Park and its residents." She also feels that the event offers great exposure to Highland Park for those who come from outside the neighborhood. And lastly, it demonstrates how a neighborhood can partner with the City of Pittsburgh in a long-lasting positive relationship

Proof of the *Reservoir of Jazz's* success can be seen in the attendance. The first year saw spotty audiences of around 100. During last year's four concerts, there were 250-300 people at each performance. You know you are a success when people start to complain about the parking! The jazz artists (who are under contract with the City for other events during the year) are chosen by Citiparks and their names are passed by Maureen for approval. She is proud that Walt Harper calls each year to ask to be included in the lineup.

According to Mary Lee Snuffer, "Maureen Cato has dedicated countless hours of community service to Highland Park." Much of it is in the area of public safety. She has worked with the Block Watch program and the U-Can patrols on Bryant Street. Maureen is proud that those patrols, "led to continuing positive business development after the sense of safety and control were brought back to the community." She currently serves as President of the Zone 5 Citizen Public Safety Council, a volunteer position.

Maureen served two terms as President of the HPCC, in 1989 and 1994. I was delighted to hear that after she was the first woman elected to preside over the neighborhood organization, the people who resigned in protest over a female president (in 1989?!) later came back to tell her what a good job she was doing.

Other volunteer activities have included work on house tours, neighborhood dinner dances, and HPCC nights at WQED telethons. During her presidency, Highland Park began the first city neighborhood clean-up project (later the Glad Bag-A-Thon). When asked about her volunteer efforts on behalf of Highland Park and the East End, Maureen responded that each time she helps to organize an event, stuff envelopes, chair a committee, or preside over meetings, the rewards come back to her multi-fold.

Maureen and Wibb have lived in Highland Park for 29 years, 28 of those years in their home on Wellesley Avenue. They raised three sons who attended Fulton, Reizenstein and Peabody. "We are still renovating our home," says Maureen. "Volunteerism only confirms your investment in the property you purchase."

Maureen works part-time at the Combustion Institute preparing the technical program for its bi-annual International Symposium. After each symposium, she organizes the proceedings for publication. When not working or volunteering, she enjoys seeing her Highland Park neighbors many of whom she says she never would have met if not for volunteering. Some of her favorite things about Highland Park are the wide array of activities that occur each year, the efforts by so many people to ensure a stable neighborhood, and the way that Highland Park welcomes everyone who wants to become involved. "I look forward to each new neighborhood development," she says and "eagerly anticipate the opening of our first coffee shop." Whether at Tazza d'Oro or at the *Reservoir of Jazz*, look for Maureen Cato--she is a neighbor to be proud of. Thanks for the jazz...!

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JULY, 1999

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## **Two Poems**

Kristopher Branson

#### There Is No Normal

If everyone were the same, what would one have to claim? Is it right for me to say you're wrong? Is it right for you to say I'm wrong? The world has led us to believe that conformity is what we should achieve. But who is the world to set a basis for a land in which there are different faces? Is a standard the goal that should be wanted, when by our own individuality we are constantly haunted? So what right do you have to call someone abnormal, when in all truth and actuality, there is no normal?

#### <u>I am</u>

I am he who consists of the mind. I am he who consists of the body. I am he who is different from all kind. I am he who consists of the soul. I am he whom only God can find.

The mind which was formed by Him; filled with thoughts of generosity and kindness yet overflowing with sinful desires of lust wanting to honor and praise Him yet taunted to reluctantly betray His trust.

The body which was molded by Him; From that which mankind has spat upon the wild flowers have bloomed from this vessel wanting and willing to commit the next sin the most vile and dangerous enemy of them all.

The soul which is desired by Him; trapped in a powerless state wanting and reaching just to be with Him forced to endure what the body may decide trying to reach that everlasting goal.

Not inadvertently have I fallen here, but with purpose and intent my path was made clear. Made of the mind, body, and soul which coexist together heavy as the heaviest burden, light as the fluffiest feather O, I am he whom only God can find.

Editor's Note: Kristopher Branson is a senior at Peabody High School and is participating in the EECM Youth Business Initiative which is being guided by Muzz Meyers (See May 1999 Newsletter). He will be participating in the Arts Festival in East Liberty July 10 and 11. He was a guest at the May HPCC meeting.

# A Special Offer to New Members

Join the Highland Park Community Club as a new member for only \$5.00. This is a one-year membership. (Regular membership dues are \$20.00.) This only applies to those who have never before been a member of the HPCC.

**Continuing Members Please Note:** <u>Do not</u> use this form to renew your membership. If you are currently a member or a lapsed member, you will receive a separate renewal card in the mail in August.

# New Member Application Form Name: Address: Address: Home Phone #: Your check #: Amount Enclosed: \$5.00 Mail this form with your check to: Kelly Meade, HPCC Membership Chair, 1217 Heberton Street Pittsburgh PA 15206.



**St. Andrew's Church** 5801 Hampton Street \* Highland Park

Sunday Morning Services - July & August 8:30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel 10:00 a.m. Choral Morning Worship Nursery and Church School at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

Visit our Homepage: www.hows.net/15206saec



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# HIGHLAND PARK Community Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 5036 Pittsburgh, PA 15206

TIME VALUE

Voicemail: 734-5261

The Next HPCC meeting is 7:15 p.m., Thursday, August 19th at St. Andrew's

	JULY/AUGUST CALENDAR
JULY 10 & 11	EAST LIBERTY ARTS FAIR — "E-FEST"
JULY 14	ZONE 5 POLICE STATION OPEN HOUSE, 5:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
AUGUST 1	RESERVOIR OF JAZZ, WALT HARPER, 1:30 P.M., HIGHLAND AVE. ENTRANCE TO PARK
AUGUST 8	RESERVOIR OF JAZZ, SYMPHONY JAZZ TRIO, 1:30 P.M., HIGHLAND AVE. ENTRANCE TO PARK
AUGUST 15	RESERVOIR OF JAZZ, CATCH 22, 1:30 P.M., HIGHLAND AVE. ENTRANCE TO PARK
AUGUST 19	HPCC MEETING, 7:15 P.M., ST. ANDREW'S
AUGUST 22	RESERVOIR OF JAZZ, THE REAL SILK BAND, 1:30 P.M., HIGHLAND AVE. ENTRANCE TO PARK
AUGUST 24	"TAKIN IT TO THE STREETS" MOVIE "GODZILLA", DUSK, HIGHLAND AVE ENTRANCE TO PARK,
AUGUST 29	RESERVOIR OF JAZZ — RAIN DATE

JULY, 1999