

HIGHLAND PARK

Community Club
Newsletter for
June 2000



Edited by Ollie Rieley

A Message from the President

Diane DeNardo

Greetings from Winterton Street. Historic designation for Highland Park? It may seem redundant to those who live here and know that our neighborhood is historic. The abundance of architectural styles, stone retaining walls, wrought iron gates, the remaining cobblestone streets, the statues at the entrances to the park, the design of the park, acres of one hundred year old trees--every day each of these things tell us that Highland Park is a historic district.

At the May meeting, Margot Cavalier, a board member of the HPCDC, introduced a program about the National Register of Historic Places and how Highland Park can become a national historic district. Margot introduced Elisa Cavalier from the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation and Mike Eversmeyer and Charlie Uhl, Highland Park residents, who outlined the procedure for historic designation as well as the benefits. While many of the benefits pertain directly to owners of income producing properties in the form of tax credits, there are many indirect benefits to homeowners within a national historic district. Some of these include benefits from marketing and public relations, which would indicate historic designation, for example, on house tour publicity. Historic designation also lends itself to increasing neighborhood pride and in turn, better maintenance of historic properties. All homeowners will benefit if commercial property owners take advantage of the tax incentives and improve both the interiors and exteriors of their businesses or rental properties in an appropriate historic style for the neighborhood.

As Margot and Elisa reiterated, owning a property within a national historic district does not limit in any way what kinds of improvements private property owners can make to their property. There were many thoughtful and wide-ranging questions from those in attendance about the impact that this

designation will have on specific properties and the neighborhood in general. The program was the first in what will be a series of public meetings for the purpose of education about the procedures for becoming a national historic district and what the designation means. Public input is important and welcomed.

Historical character cannot be easily replicated. In Highland Park, we are fortunate to have the real thing. Historic designation for Highland Park? It will be welcome to have national recognition for our unique, attractive and very special urban neighborhood.

Officer Nominations

The annual election of officers of the HPCC is scheduled for the September meeting. It is time to think about nominations for those offices that will need filling. They are: President, President Elect, and five directors for the class of 03. Here is your chance to assume a leadership role in the club - nominate yourself. Or nominate that friend who has all the good ideas and is eager to help but just too bashful to advance him/herself. Talk to Diane DeNardo with suggestions. She can be reached at 363-2092.

**SHOP TILL YOU DROP AT THE HPCC YARD SALES
SUNDAY, JUNE 4 - 9:00 A.M. - ?
GET MAPS & INFO AT HIGHLAND & STANTON,
HAMPTON & NEGLEY, OR ENTRANCE TO PARK**

THE NEXT HPCC MEETING IS 7:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2000, AT ST. ANDREWS

Around St. Andrew's

Bruce Robison

Featured Adult Education Forum Speaker Molly Rush, founder and executive director of the Thomas Merton Center of Pittsburgh, will discuss perspectives on Christian social action and peace and justice issues on Friday evening, June 9th, at 8 p.m. All are invited, and a dessert reception follows.

Two services of Choral Evensong are scheduled for the beginning of the month, with a service for the Feast of the Ascension on Thursday evening, June 1st, at 8 p.m., featuring St. Andrew's Choir and followed by a musical recital.

On Sunday, June 4th, at 4 p.m., a service of Choral Evensong will feature the combined choirs of St. Andrew's, Calvary Church, and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, to dedicate the new Fanfare Organ, which is presented as a memorial to long-time Highland Park resident Jane Pugh Heaton. Preaching at the service will be the Very Rev. George L.W. Werner, recently retired dean of Trinity Cathedral.

And on Sunday, June 11th, at 4 p.m., the Urban Sky Consort of Pittsburgh, a very fine chamber ensemble with repertoire of early music composed by women or for women's voices, will be in recital. Tickets will be available at the door, and a reception will follow.

Many times folks who are not members of any church find a situation--perhaps a death in the family, a birth, a planned marriage, etc.--when connection with a church community might be helpful. As the "neighborhood church" of Highland Park, we of St. Andrew's will try to be of assistance in any way that might be helpful. Please don't hesitate to give us a call at (412) 661-1245.

DOUBLEBEEES

Dog Grooming



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H. P. C. C.

Officers, Directors & Commitees

President: Diane DeNardo (363-2092)

President Eled: _____

Comm. Dev. V.P.: Mitch Kales (661-4995)

Treasurer: Jill Boarls (661-1507)

Secretary: Paula Flaherty (361-2203)

Past President: Mitch Kales (661-4995)

Directors

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)

Jay Carson (02)

Amy Enrico 362-2970 (02)

Paula Flaherty 361-2203 (02)

Karen Raffensberger 363-9750 (02)

Jan Stajanos 363-8208 (02)

Commitees

Beaulification: Dell Ziegler 363-1252

Block Watch: Jan Stajanos 363-8208

Children: Tania Grubbs 661-4054

Commercial District: Muzz Meyers 661-2315

Day Camp: Janice Burgett 361-2195

Education: Jay Gilmer 363-9100

Hospitality: _____

House Tour: _____

Membership: Kelly Meade 362-0331

Newsletter: Ollie Rieley 661-1205

Program: Bruce Robison 361-4892

Public Safety: Mercine Nefores 661-5425

Recreation: Charlie Peterson 441-2766

Reservoir Covers: Dave Hance 361-4935

Restoration: Debbie DeAngelis 363-4948

Super Playground: Steve Peller 363-3978

Yard Sale: Judy Wolfe 441-7830

Voice Mail: Paula Flaherty 361-2203

Welcoming: Bob Staresinic 441-8972

Zoning: _____

Voice Mail 734-5261

C. O. P. 665-3644 - Pager 690-6008

Program for the June Meeting:

Bruce Robison

"Highland Park Is For Kids!" A conversation about resources --present and future-- for kids living in the Highland Park neighborhood, presented by Tanya Grubbs, our Children's Committee Chair.

St. Raphael Students win ARC Essay Contest

Drew McCardle of Highland Park and John DeFrancesco of Morningside won first and second places respectively in the ARC Allegheny Annual Essay contest. Both are students at St. Raphael's school in Morningside. The contest is open to sixth graders who write a 150 word essay answering the question: "How can I make my community a better place to live, work, learn, and play for children and adults with retardation?" Congratulations to Drew and John.

In the Future:

Plan on these exciting events this summer:

e-fest 2000 - East Liberty Arts Festival - July 22 and 23

Reservoir of Jazz - Sundays in August.

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St. Andrew's Church

5801 Hampton Street * Highland Park

Sunday Morning Services - June

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel

11:00 a.m. Choral Morning Worship

Nursery and Church School at 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Morning Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

Visit our Homepage:

www.forministry.com/15206saec

Highlights of May 18th Meeting

Paula Flaherty

Meeting opened with a report from Don Carlson & Associates regarding the renovation of the apartment building at Callowhill and N. St. Clair St.

The May program featured Elise Cavalier, legal council for Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, speaking about a possible designation on National Register of Historic Places for the neighborhood. She explained the designation does not require homeowners to abide by any restrictions regarding their homes. The main benefit will be to the business community who could take advantage of tax breaks on improvements to properties. There will be future public meetings before the application is submitted.

The *WEB site* is up and can be accessed at www.highlandparkpa.com (no spaces). Tom Dickson is overseeing the site and can be reached at 661-0897 for additions.

Reservoir of Jazz will be four Sundays in August.

Banners: Matching funds from Jim Ferlo are being requested by Mitch Kates.

Nominations for new board members, President and President-Elect are being sought. Please call Diane DeNardo with suggestions.

Treasurers Report: Submitted.

Day Camp: Scholarships are available - please contact Paula Flaherty at 361-2203 for information.

Newsletter: Subject to Board approval the July issue will be mailed to all addresses in Highland Park with about 2900 copies. Committee chairs are encouraged to submit information regarding their committees.

Welcoming Committee: Continuing to distribute "bags" to new neighbors as they move-in.

Yard Sale will be Sunday, June 4 from 9:00 a.m. to ???. Judy Wolfe has received about 40 registrations and expects 20-30 more.

Commercial District: Thanks to Muzz for Marathon Party.

Diane DeNardo will represent HPCC at the swearing-in ceremony for John Thompson, the new Pittsburgh Schools Superintendent.

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Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Frühling in Deutschland (Spring in Germany)

Ed. Note: Daniel Robison, son of Bruce and Susy Robison is nearing the end of a year in Germany. You may recall the article about his departure in the June 1999 Newsletter. The following is the text of an e-mail he recently sent to be shared with all who are interested.

Frühling 2000
Ahrenshoop, Deutschland

Dear Friends and Family,

Oh how time flies! If asked to in court, I would probably be able to swear that I got off the plane in Frankfurt am Mein last week. It's Impossible for me to believe that the last 9 months have flown by so fast. The last three-fourths of a year have been like taking hyper-condensed learning pills. To those of you who haven't experienced learning a new language from scratch in the country where that language is spoken, I highly recommend it. The last few months have been by far the busiest of my exchange, and the next two are looking to out-do the whole year to date.

To say that the first six months of my exchange were difficult would be a huge understatement. As would be to say that they were perhaps the best six months of my life. As some of you perhaps know, I didn't speak more than a word of German before I set off on this little adventure-o-mine last July (and that word was "danke," and I was spelling it wrong). It was during these first six months, that I struggled with everything. For the first few months I was helped by the fact that the majority of students my age have already had four to six years of English in school. (It's required from the 5th grade on and to graduate the "Gymnasium" they must exercise a strong proficiency in speaking, writing, and reading.) But, around November or so, I was really lagging behind in my learning of the language. During November and December, I was basically trying to think of ways to get myself back on my feet. That led to the first New Year's Resolution I've ever kept.

In early January I sat down and said to myself, "Yo, Dan, this just isn't getting the job done. If you go back to America and can't pull practical jokes on your friends who don't speak German, because you lack of fluency, I'm going to really beat the...." and so on. Anyway, I really sat down and decided that now was the time. I enlisted a tutor, and really put myself to work. In three weeks I had learned more than I had in the first five months.

February offered up a two week winter vacation for us (Christmas holidays, which are about as long as ours in Pittsburgh, are not considered the winter holiday), and we (we being my host brother Jan and myself) took two trips during this time. The first was to Bonn (the former German capital, and

still the seat of the upper house of Parliament, the "Bundesrat," until 2001 or so when it will follow the "Bundestag" to Berlin) where my exchange organization (Youth for Understanding) hosted a "half-way seminar." I found that I had learned enough German in the prior weeks to hold my ground, and was that I was pretty much on the same footing as the other students I had met, who hadn't had any German before they came. (I now feel roughly equal to just about everybody but the guys that had five to seven years of German before they came.) Anyway, getting together with the other exchange students was really great, and I made a few good friends during the five days we were there. Bonn isn't the greatest city I've ever seen (it looks a lot like Boston minus the businesses, and is really expensive), but it was a lot of fun to walk around with my friends.

The second week of our two week winter vacation was spent mostly in Leipzig (where Jan's grandmother lives), which I enjoyed a lot. In Leipzig there is a huge monument dedicated to the city's militia which held off Napoleon all those years back. It is a huge memorial, about 90m high (well over 270 feet), made of stone. It is decorated with stone carvings, with a huge open space in the center. It took us a while to scale it from the stairway inside, but from the top we could see the whole city. It was definitely the highlight of the trip to Leipzig.

Then we were back, and a real "new era" of sorts began in my exchange. I guess I could categorize my exchange in to two parts, the exchange before February, and the exchange after. After we returned from the winter vacation everything changed. I felt comfortable enough to talk with people, and I began to make the real connections and friends that I had been missing for a good deal of my time here (I made friends, but, except for one, I don't feel that any of those friendships were really personality based).

Easter was a great vacation indeed. Unlike the measly three or four days we get in the Pittsburgh Public Schools, schools in my state have 11 days. I spent the first five of those days visiting a friend who I met in Bonn. His placement was just outside of the Bavarian city of Passau, just a stones throw away from Austria, and also a city of three rivers (the Danube, the Inn, and the Ilz)

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• Hot trays from \$ 9.50

similar to Pittsburgh. My friend then came up with me to
(Continues next pg.)

(Continued from previous pg.)

Ahrenschoop so that he could check out the beautiful landscape and have a relaxing Easter. Easter weekend was my first time in the Baltic this year, and the water was really cold! It was 9° C, which according to my calculations is somewhere around 48° F. Not the sort of water you'd want to stay in for a whole long time, unless you're into that sort of stuff. Ryan, my friend, left on Wednesday the 26th, which is when I went back to school.

That leads me to the here and now. Today is May 6th. This is a very important day for me, as far as looking forward into the future, and back at the past year. Exactly two months from today, on July 6th, I will fly out of Frankfurt am Mein in a westerly direction, hopefully arriving safe and sound in Washington D.C. some seven plus hours later. Another reason why today is important is because I have to do a lot of packing today! On Monday I will be going to Prague for five days (two of which are effectively travel days) on a class trip organized through my school here. I'm looking forward to it quite a bit. I'll then be home here in Ahrenschoop for another three days (the weekend and Monday) before leaving for Berlin on Tuesday. I'll be there for six days, and will hopefully have a chance to meet the member of the German Parliament who has been assigned as my "Patin" during this year. There will be a few other organized events, and enough free time for us to talk amongst ourselves.

A year in Germany is a really impressive thing to me, and after more than nine months I'm still having a really hard time trying to figure out where all that time went. Most of the time now I feel like the clock is really running out, and I'm trying to cram as much into my days and weeks left as possible. From the two months I have left, I'll be spending three weeks on trips. It's really crazy, and I hope I don't leave feeling like I missed too much. But, I am very hopeful and looking forward to the next two months. I'm having a great time, and I'll be back in July.

Much Love,

Dan "der Mann" Robison



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From the Pittsburgh Post Gazette Letters to the Editor, May 8, 2000

Highland Park, a safe neighborhood, is thriving and on the move

I am writing in response to the April 21 front page article "Neighborhood on the Edge" (about Highland Park where the Rev. Sam Brunsvold was killed three years ago). The article so grossly misrepresented Highland Park. Like so many of my neighbors, I was shocked at the sensationalism and the lack of depth to the story.

Yes, Highland Park has its problems, but don't all neighborhoods? Statistically Highland Park is one of the city's safest neighborhoods. Highland Park's biggest challenge, just like Pittsburgh's, is to change perceptions. Residents and those people that care to do their homework know what a wonderful place Highland Park is. As an example, I know of four families that have moved from one house to another only a few blocks away because they love the neighborhood.

I would encourage you to report on the positives happening in Highland Park. The homes in Highland Park feature one-of-a-kind architecture and artistry. For the price, it is hard to match the unique, spacious and beautiful homes found here. In fact, real estate agents report that Highland Park is a "hot market" as bidding wars have developed and homes are often being sold before being listed.

Over 600 families are members of the Highland Park Community Club. The Club deals with everything from managing a popular summer camp for kids to battling absentee landlords. The Highland Park Community Development Corporation is leading the redevelopment of the residential areas in need as well as the business district. The main residential area targeted is the one generally referenced in the article. It is noteworthy that the Community Development Corporation and the Community Club are 100 percent volunteer organizations. (See the Highland Park web site at www.highlandparkpa.com)

The park is one of the city's hidden treasures—and it is soon to be polished. Its trails and green space attract folks from all over the city. Highland Park features some of the city's best restaurants (Laforet) and cafes (Enrico's Tazza d'Oro) with plans for more underway. Renovation of a 16-unit luxury apartment building has just started.

Take a look in depth at our neighborhood along with all city neighborhoods under the auspices of a "city on the rise". I personally believe that Highland Park is representative of Pittsburgh, as it has the third highest per capita income, trailing only Shadyside and Squirrel Hill.

As Highland Park goes, so goes Pittsburgh. And we are going just fine.

Tom Dickson, Highland Park

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Five Students from St. Raphael School Honored by Disney & McDonald's for Community Service

St. Raphael School in the Morningside section of Pittsburgh might be small compared to some other city or suburban schools, but the capacity of its students to help others is big. Five students from St. Raphael School -- the most from any school in western Pennsylvania -- recently were named "Millennium Dreamers" by the Walt Disney and McDonald's corporations. The honor, which was bestowed upon only 2,000 children worldwide, recognizes community service and volunteerism. Winners were selected from throughout the United States and 40 other countries. The names of Millennium Dreamers were announced in a full-page advertisement in the March 21st edition of USA Today.

The students received expense paid trips to the Walt Disney World Resort from May 8 to 10, where they participated in a global children's summit.

Recipients of the Millennium Dreamer Award from St. Raphael were: Ronalee Balog, Colleen Conneely, Nicole Dubis, Patrick Hirst-Novick and Sara Starr. All of the students are 13 and attend eighth grade. "It is no surprise to anybody who knows these children that they were selected," said sixth-grade teacher Renee Lange, who nominated the students from St. Raphael. "From the earliest grades, we stress the importance of living our faith by helping others. We don't do this to be honored; we do it because it's the right thing to do. But it is nice for these young people to be recognized."

The five students recognized as Millennium Dreamers were involved in a number of projects including collecting for the neighborhood food bank, helping children by serving as youth coaches for various sport teams, visiting senior citizens at local nursing homes, volunteering with the American Cancer Society and working at community day camps. For additional information, comments or to make arrangements to take photographs, please contact Sr. Margaret Wade at (412) 661 0288.

New Aquarium at the Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium to Open

The Grand Opening for the new Aquarium at the Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium will be the second weekend in June. The Aquarium's Grand Opening will begin the evening of Saturday June 10, with the Aquarium Gala black-tie fundraiser followed by Grand Opening festivities for the public on Sunday, June 11, at 10 am. A Just Ducky Tours vehicle will begin the Grand Opening celebration festivities by leading a parade through the Zoo for a ribbon cutting ceremony

In addition, a school of aquatic events to promote the new Aquarium are scheduled throughout the summer, including a visiting 20-foot salmon on May 20, Summer Late Nights on Sundays and Mondays beginning June 4, a Festival of Water event on June 26, free scuba diving lessons in a special pool sponsored by Splash Water Sports July 8 through 11, and a visit from the Magic School Bus' popular Ms Frizzle sharing stories about the ocean floor on July 23.

Visitors who visit the new Aquarium can welcome back North America's only Amazon River dolphin to his new rainforest habitat, and the popular king and rock hopper penguins, which they'll be able to view in fabulous naturalistic habitats. Salt and freshwater animals also will be on exhibit. The new Aquarium features the world's first rotating aquarium and terrarium tanks, exhibiting live coral and poison arrow dart frogs respectively. A special stingray touch tank where visitors can interact with the elegant animals as they glide by will be open. The touch tank includes unique crawl through glass tunnels to view the stingrays underwater.

Similar to when Kids Kingdom opened in 1995 (which has since been rated among the nation's top three children's zoos), visitors will not have to pay a separate fee to visit the new Aquarium. The Zoo, Kids Kingdom and the new Aquarium all are included in one general admission price, which ranges from \$8 to \$5 depending on age and day of week. According to Jim Pappas, curator of aquatic life, this price continues to be a great deal compared to most stand-alone aquarium facilities throughout the country whose admission prices can range from \$10 to \$15 per person.

For more information about the new Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium, directions, hours, special events or ticket information, call (412) 665-3640 or visit its web site at www.zoo.pgh.pa.us.

Thank You

We would like to thank you for your assistance and hardwork on our school's 112th Birthday Celebration. We couldn't have done it without you. Thank you for such a great job.

Parent Members of the:

Historic Committee s/ Elaine Banks

PSGG s/Kathy Westbrook

PTO s/ Molly S. Abdalla

DAY CAMP

Highland Park Day Camp Registration Form

(For Campers 4 through 8 years old)

1.) _____ birthdate _____
(camper's last name) (camper's first name)

2.) _____ birthdate _____

3.) _____ birthdate _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____

Please register my child(ren) for the following weeks:

6/19 ___ 6/26 ___ 7/3 ___ 7/10 ___ 7/17 ___ 7/24 ___

Enclose:

\$55.00 per week for each camper (member of HPCC)

\$65.00 per week for each camper (non-member of HPCC). (Membership is \$20.00.)

You must include one week's payment for each child registered with the registration form.

*Please round your check up if you would like to help defray
cost of supplies lost in fire.*

Make checks payable to **HPCC** and send
with a self addressed stamped envelope to:

Janice Burgett
1017 King Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

MEDICAL: In case my child needs medical care, I hereby give permission for my child to be transported to any appropriate hospital or medical facility, and I grant permission for any qualified medical personnel, including EMS, to render necessary emergency medical care until I can be contacted.

SWIMMING: I hereby give my permission for my child to attend all swimming activities.

LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of the HPCC's allowing my child to participate in Day Camp, I hereby release the HPCC and its directors, officers and staff from any and all liability for injury to my child not due to intentional or gross misconduct.

(Parent signature and date) **Fulton Academy Family Funfair**

Please list any allergies, injuries or recent illnesses: *Where: Fulton Academy 5799 Hampton St.*
When: Friday June 2, 2000, 5:00 - 8:00 PM

Please list names and phone numbers of three people who can be reached in an emergency: *Cost Tickets: 4/\$1.00*

1.) _____	Moonwalk	FOOD
2.) _____	Cotton Candy	MAGIC SHOW
3.) _____	Face Painting	BALLOON CLOWN

Family Physician: _____

Phone: _____



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The Next HPCC meeting is 7:30 p.m., Thursday, June 15, 2000, at St. Andrew's

JUNE CALENDAR	
JUNE 2	FULTON ACADEMY FAMILY FUN FAIR, 5:00 - 8:00 P.M., ADMISSION
JUNE 4	HPCC NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALES - AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD - STARTS AT 9:00 A.M.
JUNE 9	MOLLY RUSH, CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION, PEACE & JUSTICE, ST. ANDREW'S, 8:00 P.M.
JUNE 10, 11	GRAND OPENING OF NEW AQUARIUM, PITTSBURGH ZOO & AQUARIUM, ADMISSION
JUNE 11	URBAN SKY CONSORT CONCERT, ST. ANDREW'S, 4:00 P.M., ADMISSION
JUNE 15	HPCC MEETING, ST. ANDREW'S, 7:30 P.M.