

HIGHLAND PARK

Community Club
Newsletter for
November 2000



Edited by Ollie Rieley

Preston's Report

State Rep. Joseph Preston Jr.

Providing a helping hand with winter heating bills: Living in Allegheny County, we all know what it's like to face a harsh winter. But imagine what it would be like to live in freezing temperatures and not be able to afford to heat your home.

We have a responsibility to make sure nobody has to choose between putting food on their table and paying their heating bill. That is why I support a legislative proposal that would improve the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The proposal, which I support, would allow people to apply for LIHEAP in mid-October, a month early, when fuel prices are cheaper. And while LIHEAP is a federally funded program, there's nothing that says Pennsylvania can't supplement it with state money. In fact, we did that during the Casey administration and now we are one of just 12 states that does not contribute to LIHEAP. To that end, a provision of this proposal would allocate 25 percent of unclaimed money from the state's \$100 property tax rebate program to a supplemental LIHEAP fund. Also under the plan, the LIHEAP income eligibility guidelines would be increased from 110 percent of the federal poverty level to 150 percent. This slight change would allow a family of four earning up to \$25,575 to qualify for assistance.

By no means is this a welfare program for the wealthy, but a helping hand for those who need it the most - middle-class families who often must choose which bills to pay in any given month. I don't think anyone is so cold hearted to think that is an OK way for any of their neighbors to live, but unfortunately, thousands of people in Allegheny County do it

every month.

Another provision would increase the maximum LIHEAP grants to \$400, up from \$250. This slight change would be a tremendous help to those who rely on this important program.

Finally, the legislation would re-establish the Pennsylvania Energy Office. By bringing this office back into existence, the state could do a better job of planning for future heating and energy crises. It also would allow the state to make bulk fuel purchases at lower prices, which could be passed on to consumers.

LIHEAP provides critical assistance to thousands of families each year. It's not asking too much to make sure that everyone who needs help can get it during the cold, winter months.

For more information about LIHEAP, contact my district office at 361-3692.

Preston is in his 18th year serving the 24th Legislative District, which comprises portions of Pittsburgh and Wilksburg. His district office is at 6203 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh. The phone number is 361-3692.

Special Meeting - Election

November 16, 7:30 P.M. at St. Andrew's - HPCC Meeting, Special Election of One Director and Treasurer

THE NEXT HPCC MEETING IS 7:30 P.M., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2000, AT ST. ANDREWS

Thanks, Mitch and Cynthia!

Caroline Graper

Mitch and Cynthia Kates invited me to have dinner with them on September 24, 2000, in honor of my 90th birthday. They live just across the street from me here on Heberton. After a delightful dinner, I started back home — but to my great surprise there were all my neighbor friends out on the street with a block party for me. There was a banner, many gifts of plants, highlights from the years to 2000 and a book of letters. I can't remember the last time I was so pleasantly surprised! It was thrilling. Thank you so much, Mitch, Cynthia and all my dear neighbors!

Special Election

There will be a special election at the November meeting to fill one director position and the treasurer's position. Bob Staresnic has accepted nomination as director. He is Chair of the Welcoming Committee and has just finished a term on the Board. Kelly Vitti has accepted nomination as treasurer. Kelly is a newcomer to Highland Park. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. All members of the club are eligible to vote — so come on out and support your new officers!

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President: Tania Grubbs (661-4054)

President Elect: Brandon Weber (665-2992)

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

Treasurer: Jill Boarls (661-1507)

Secretary: Paula Flaherty (361-2203)

Past President: Diane DeNardo (363-2092)

Directors

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 Stajianos 363-8208 (02)

Kevin Bivins

Debbie Harl (03)

Christine Langnese (03)

Kate Zober 661-9312 (03)

Commitees

Beautification: Dell Ziegler 363-1252

Block Watch: Jan Stajianos 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: Kate Zober 661-9312, Kate

House Tour: Dana Thomas 665-2992

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 Peltier 363-3978

Yard Sale: Judy Wolfe 441-7830

Voice Mail: Paula Flaherty 361-2203

Welcoming: Bob Staresinic 441-8972

Zoning: Brandon Weber 665-2992

Voice Mail 734-5261

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

HPCCD/HPCC Web: www.highlandparkpa.com

Around St. Andrew's

Bruce Robison

Our calendar of services and events at St. Andrew's for November begins at 8 p.m. on Thursday evening the 2nd, with a service of Choral Evensong, featuring St. Andrew's renowned choir, and a recital by baritone Liam Bonner, who will sing "Songs of Travel" by Ralph Vaughan Williams, one of the most interesting composers of both sacred and secular music in the 20th century. All are invited, and a festive reception follows in the Parish Hall.

The highlight of the month, though, comes for us on Sunday morning, November 19th, when the well-known Syria Highlanders Pipe and Drum Band join us for our always exciting and extravagant observance of our patron saint, Saint Andrew's. It all begins around 10:30 a.m. in the Churchyard, with a pre-service recital. The service is at 11 a.m., and music and food and fun follow in the Parish Hall and Churchyard. Follow the sounds of the bagpipes and know that you are most welcome to join us on this special day.

Although St. Andrew's has been on the corner of Hampton Street and North Euclid Avenue now for almost a century (with our first services here on Easter Day in 1906), the congregation and parish have been in existence in Pittsburgh since 1837. On Friday evening, the 10th of November, at 8 p.m., historian and archivist Marilyn Evert will be offering a program entitled, "Looking Back: St. Andrew's in the 19th Century." Members of the congregation and folks with a wider historical interest in the heritage of our community are all invited -- and we're invited also, if convenient, to bring an item of "dessert" to share.

St. Andrew's celebrates the holiday of Thanksgiving with a "Thanksgiving Eve" service at 8 p.m. on Wednesday evening, November 22nd, with the traditional hymns and readings for the day and with a "thankful Thanksgiving In-Gathering" of contributions for the East End Food Bank. Please bring an item of canned or other non-perishable food as a part of your "offering" this evening.

For more information about worship, education, youth ministry, community outreach, or with any pastoral concern, please call the Church Office at (412) 661-1245. We'll be glad to hear from you!

November is Free Kids Month at the Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium

Children ages 2 to 13 can visit thousands of exotic animals for free during the entire month of November, during the Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium's Free Kids Month.

"We believe it's an important contribution for the Zoo to make to the community," says Dr. Barbara Baker, President and CEO of the Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium. "We at the Zoo know that the future of the earth's environment lies largely in the hands of our

children."

With the number of schools and groups that flock to the Zoo to take advantage of this unique opportunity every fall, the normal \$5 per child admission fee that the Zoo is waiving for an entire month adds up — especially considering that so many kids are already on their way to visit the Male African elephant calf born in September who is now on exhibit daily.

Since its privatization in 1994, Baker says the Zoo has made it a priority to educate and entertain the young people of the region. In the spirit of this mission, the Zoo continues to offer *Free Kids Month* to encourage children to learn about the earth and its creatures through naturalistic habitats, interactive animal exhibits and play stations.

"This is also a great time for kids to explore the mysteries of the deep at our brand new Aquarium," says Baker. The Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium houses the only public aquarium in the state of Pennsylvania and is one of only six zoos in the country to include an aquarium.

Schools and other large groups of children planning a visit to the Zoo in November should call the Group Sales Department in advance at (412) 365-2536. **One adult chaperone must be present for every 10 children in a group.**

St. Andrew's Church

5801 Hampton Street * Highland Park

Sunday Morning Services - November

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

Entrance to Park - Post Card - 1907, Courtesy of Officer Scalise

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy News

Editor's Note: The HPCC received a copy of The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy News for Fall 2000. The following excerpts are reprinted for the information of our members:

“Master Plan Released for Comment “New Recreational Uses and Historic Preservation Proposed

“The City of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy have released the long-awaited Pittsburgh Regional Parks Master Plan draft for Frick, Highland, Riverview and Schenley parks, a blueprint for restoring the four parks over the next 20 years. After more than two years of planning with citizen task forces for each park, the draft calls for a network connecting all four parks, the preservation of the parks’ ecology and history and new ideas for recreational uses. . . .

“The final plan document will be available in the fall. Below is a digest (*of the Highland Park part*) of the plan. For more details or a copy of the draft, contact the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy at



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682-PARK or the Department of City Planning at 255-2473.

“Highland Park Goals

“Improve the park’s pedestrian walkways, gardens and views of the river and reservoirs to create a more unified park. One goal is to connect the Highland Park Zoo and Aquarium with the rest of the park by restoring landscapes, replanting tree lines and reinforcing pedestrian connections. There are draft plans to create a hillside walk and watercourse from the filtration plant to Lake Carnegie, restore the reservoir promenade and bridge and entry gardens. Roads along the Zoo’s edges would be upgraded and entrances to the Zoo would be built on Heth’s Run and Butler Street and at the intersection of Hill Road and Butler Street. Other proposals include:

- The PPC’s showcase project - restoration of formal entrance including fountain and pool at Highland Avenue.
- Replace the historic causeway bridge across the middle of the reservoir.
- Restore the pool and pool house and replace the Allegheny slopes dump with a multi-use performance stage.
- Improve Lake Carnegie
- Uncover the Stone Arch Bridge.
- Consider relocation of the Homewood Cemetery greenhouse to this park
- Restore the cabin at Lake Carnegie as a fishing and boating concession pavilion, removing most of the concrete piers
- Restore the farmhouse as a community resource
- Develop the Washington Boulevard recreation trail”

Highlights of October 19th Meeting

Paula Flaherty

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

C.O.P. Report: Officer Scalise reported that the crime statistics for the latest period were not available yet. She reported that the kids that smashed car windows on Mellon and N. St. Clair streets had been apprehended. She suggested that anyone wishing to speak with her about a special matter arrive for the meeting a few minutes early.

Beautification: No report. Tania Grubbs will contact someone to remove the planters at D & L Cleaners.

Block Watch: A few people showed up for the meeting scheduled in early October.

Halloween Parade: The Halloween Parade will take place Saturday, October 28 from 1 to 3 p.m. The Peabody High School band will lead the parade. The parade will begin at N. St. Clair and Hampton street intersection, go to Bryant St., N. Highland o Bryant Court where there will be games and refreshments for the children. Children will be fingerprinted and treat bags will be given to them.

Day Camp: Thank you to Janice Burgett for all the work running another successful camp and thanks for having the flexibility to bring it off after the loss of the farm house as the site.

Hospitality: Excellent refreshments were available during the meeting. Thanks to Kate Zober and Kate Maurin for resuming this tradition.

House Tour: Chair Dana Thomas welcomes ideas and house suggestions.

Zoning: Brandon Weber met with Del Ziegler. Old zoning related material will be donated to the Hillman Library. Brandon will contact the Mayor’s office to be placed on the mailing list for zoning related information.

It was suggested that Highland Park start a program similar to the one in Bloomfield/Garfield that publically targets bad landlords and praises good landlords.

Sign Committee: Diane DeNardo is looking for help for this committee.

Banners: Mitch Kates reported that funds have been allocated for banners.

New Business:

Community Plan: Michael Johnson, Ph.D., a board member of the HPCDC, has prepared a proposal for a comprehensive community plan. This plan, covering all of Highland Park, covers issues such as education, property, business, etc., identifying goals in each area. Development of the finished plan will involve the entire community collaborating and reaching agreement on covered issues. When finished, the plan becomes a “blueprint” of where Highland Park would like to be and how to get there. Of course, as things develop toward achieving the objectives, changes can be expected because of changes in the neighborhood. Some other neighborhoods in Pittsburgh already have community plans of this type. Dr. Johnson requested a letter from the HPCC endorsing the development of the plan. After discussion in which a favorable attitude developed, Tania agreed to write the letter.

Election: Brandon Weber was elected President Elect. Bob Starsenic was nominated to the vacant position on the Board of Directors and Kelly Vitti was nominated to be Treasurer. A special Election of those two officers will take place at the November meeting.

Budgets: Budgets are due to the Treasurer as soon as possible.

Program:

Todd Van Horn, the new principal of Fulton Academy, reported on the exciting changes that are taking place at Fulton.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

November at the Cathedral of Hope, East Liberty Presbyterian Church:

Heidi Thomas-Pená

All Saints Procession & Taizé Sung Prayers: Follow the salvation story, from creation to resurrection, with scripture, sung prayer and a candlelit procession through the cathedral. 7p.m., All Saints Day, Wed., Nov. 1.

2000 Covenant Conference - "Biblical Authority and the Church": More than 500 guests from across the country will gather at ELPC for a three-day conference on building an inclusive church. November 2-4. Call 441-3800 extension 34 for details.

Syria Highlanders Bagpipe Band at Sanctuary Worship: Experience the beautiful and unique sound of bagpipes. 11 a.m., Sunday, November 12.

Family Fun Night - "Holiday Celebrations from Other Cultures": This event is especially for families with kids! 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.. Thursday, November 16. Dinner donation and reservations requested. Call 441-3800 extension 30.

Thanksgiving Sunday with the Abbey Brass: The Abbey Brass joins the 11 a.m. worship, followed by a community Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. 11 a.m., Sunday, November 19.

Taizé Youth & Young Adult Night: Young people under 30 are

featured guests at Taizé Sung Prayers. Pizza and discussion afterwards. 7 p.m., Wednesday, November 22.

East Liberty Presbyterian Church warmly invites you to worship every week: Sundays at 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Wednesdays at 7 p.m.. We are located at Penn & Highland; for information, call 441-3800.

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The Next HPCC meeting is 7:30 p.m., Thursday, November 16, 2000, at St. Andrew's

NOVEMBER CALENDAR	
ALL MONTH	KIDS 2 - 13 FREE AT PITTSBURGH ZOO & AQUARIUM
NOVEMBER 16	HPCC MEETING, SPECIAL ELECTION, ONE DIRECTOR, TREASURER, ST. ANDREW'S, 7:30 P.M.