

HIGHLAND PARK

Community Club
Newsletter for
June 2001



Edited by Ollie Rieley

Oops I Did it Again!

Mitch Kates

Remember the old phrase "let sleeping dogs lie?" Well your time is up! For the past couple of years I've existed, relatively quietly in the greatest neighborhood in the city of Pittsburgh. I did my time as President and columnist for the Community Club and thought I would live in obscurity when my time in the sun ended...

Well, I'm baaaack, with pen (make that word processor) in hand. I'll begin my comeback by using this article as a quick refresher course for where we Highland Parkers have come from and where we are going. Hopefully the goodness we create in our own neighborhood can travel outward to those less fortunate (i.e., those who don't live in Highland Park.) For those of you who are first time readers...here we go!

Two and a half years ago I spoke at meetings and wrote articles in reference to the changes that I saw coming and predictions of what we in the East End were going to see. One of my strongest "out on a limb" predictions was a new and improved East Liberty within four to five years...I met with some skeptics who viewed those thoughts as pipe dreams and felt that East Liberty was "too far gone." Well don't look now kiddies but old E.L. is beginning to burst at the seams! What do you mean, you ask...Let's take a look...Home Depot is open and servicing the entire city and then some (when was the last time any of you had to go to the dreaded 'burbs to get home improvement material?), Whole Foods is building right now (let the Eagle beware), the "circle" is going bye-bye, a high-tech incubator is locating itself in the heart of East Liberty, brand new housing is rising at the borders and the infamous "towers" are going to come down! How about it, any other non-believers out there?

What about OUR neighborhood? Let's see, our reservoir and park are in the middle of a major change and refurbishment. The Farm House is getting a long over due facelift and playground remodel. We have, hands down the best coffee shop in the whole bloody city. And what about the property values? When I see how quickly

homes are turning over and the prices they are fetching...I want to put my head through a wall when I STILL here stories of Realtors telling would-be buyers such gems as "Oh, you don't want to buy in Highland Park!"

Then there is the ole Highland Park Community Club. For many years there was a strong negative stigma attached to the club as a result of a seemingly closed-door attitude...well I'm happy to report there has been great "growth" within the club as well during the past couple of years. Our membership has never been larger and our involvement within the neighborhood has, arguably, never been greater. It is because of the progress and growth that we have created that I come back to you now. It is NOW more important than ever to really seize the opportunities from the momentum that has been established and really go for it!

So what can we do, you ask? Our newsletter is a vital resource designed to maintain awareness of activities in and around the neighborhood. Ollie Rieley as the Editor, has been the invaluable resource we have needed to make it happen... How about we kick it up a notch and consider new possibilities that might include

(Continues next page)

Yard Sale Reminder

**Sunday June 3, 9 A.M. - ?
Maps at Highland & Stanton or
Hampton & Negley**

***Sellers: Remember to pick up signs &
Balloons Saturday June 1 at Judy's***

THE NEXT HPCC MEETING IS 7:00 P.M., THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2001, AT ST. ANDREWS

(Continued)

sections such as movie and restaurant reviews, recipes, advice & gossip columns, gardening/decorating tips, etc... Now is the time for input and volunteerism. Writers and idea people are a necessity... Ollie can't possibly do this alone and we shouldn't expect him to. I think a great deal of mirth and humor is required here...this should come as no surprise to many of you. With the "energy crisis" looming and the flames of the cold war being reignited overnight, it is imperative that we find the humor in our lives and fight back against the negativity hovering all around us.

We have a lot of new members in the club and new people in the neighborhood, but we still have the same small group of people who organize and run club and neighborhood events. It's time to change this tradition. This neighborhood belongs to all of us. Don't just think about the possibilities, help make them happen! Don't make me come bangin' on your doors! Get with it; get creative; get involved. OK, I'm done pontificating...let's get back to the fun stuff...

Last words...our neighborhood "identity" will be here soon. After spending a great deal of time and creative energy developing our neighborhood banners, the Banner Committee (Yes, there is a Banner Committee) is happy to report that they shall be unveiled soon! In an effort toward defraying the banner's production and installation costs, AND in the spirit of wearing your neighborhood pride "on your sleeve"...we have designed an incredibly cool, 100% heavyweight cotton T-shirt using the new Highland Park "identity" developed with the banner. We are taking orders now for these great T's (look for the ad in this and future issues.) Hey, they'll make great gifts for the whole family and keep in mind... Christmas is right around the corner!

I'm baaaaack!

Cheers!!!

Potluck at June Meeting

(Note time change)

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Comm. Dev. V.P.: Mitch Kates (661-4995)
Treasurer: Kelly Villi (361-7669)
Secretary: Paula Flaherty (361-2203)
Past President: Diane DeNardo (363-2092)

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----- (01)

Ollie Rieley 661-1205 (01)

Kathy Ziegler 363-1252 (01)

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Amy Enrico 362-2970 (02)

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Karen Raffensberger 363-9750 (02)

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Kevin Bivins

Debbie Hart (03)

Christina Lagnese 441-6696 (03)

Kate Zober 661-9312 (03)

Bob Staresinic 441-8972 (03)

Committees

Beautification: 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: Kevin Bivins

Hospitality: Kate Zober 661-9312, Kate Maurin 363-2145

House Tour: Dana Thomas 665-2992

Membership: Kelly Meade 362-0331

Newsletter: Ollie Rieley 661-1205

Program: Bruce Robison 361-4892

Public Safety: Mercine Nieves 661-5425

Recreation: Gladie Davis 441-2766

Rescue: Covers: Dave Hance 361-4935

Restoration: Dave Hance 361-4935

Super Playground: Steve Villi 363-3978

Yard: Carl Hudson 361-330

Voice Mail: Paula Flaherty 361-2203

Wills, Estates, Personal Injury

Family Matters, Real Estate

Voice Mail 734-5261

1807 Jancey Street Pittsburgh, PA 15206

C. C. P. 665-3644 - Zone 5-665-3603

HPCCD/HPCC Web: www.hiandparkpa.com

The June meeting will start with a potluck supper. To accomodate the meal, the meeting will **start at 7:00 P.M.** with super.

Of course you must bring a dish to share with eight people.
Last names starting with A through G, bring a cassarole.
Last names starting with H through N, bring a salad.
Last names starting with O through R, bring bread and a spread.
Last names starting with S through Z, bring deserts.

The club will provide beverages, plates, flatware, etc.

Good Food / Good Neighbors!

Around St. Andrew's

Bruce Robison

Choral Evensong at 8 p.m. on the First Thursday of June (June 7th) will conclude with a "change of pace" standards-and-contemporary musical recital presented by the a capella ensemble "Black Tie Optional." A festive reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

Other highlights of June include the beginning of our Summer Church School program (Sunday mornings during the later service) and a Sunday morning, June 10, Coffee Hour Reception to honor David Stangebye Houk, Meghan, and their children. David, who served as Seminarian and Lay Assistant at St. Andrew's, will be ordained as a deacon in the Episcopal Church on Saturday, June 9, and will begin service as Assistant at St. Matthias Church, Dallas, Texas, later in June. "Interest in Writing," our on-going parish and community writers' workshop, will meet upstairs in the Parish Hall on Wednesday evening, June 20, at 7:30 p.m., and a celebration honoring St. Andrew's Choir and Music Staff will follow the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, June 24.

St. Andrew's has been a vital member of the Highland Park neighborhood for nearly a century. Our June/July/August "Summer Office Hours" are Tuesday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sunday services in June continue at the regular hours, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., with "summer services" in July and August only at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Our office phone is (412) 661-1245, and members of our neighborhood and wider community are warmly invited to call in case of any need--or simply to say "hi!"

Correction to Contractors Directory

I have been advised that the person listed as a reference for Rick Bucks, R.B. Contracting has long since left the community. Please pencil-in Susan McGeorge at 661-6374 as the reference in your copy. Rick is listed under "Interior Remodeling" and "Roofing, Siding". I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. Feel free to advise me of any other errors.

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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

May 17, 2001 Meeting Highlights

Diane DeNardo

President Tania Grubbs called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

C.O.P (Community Oriented Police) Officer Christine Scalise reported that was no major crime in the neighborhood in the last month. Her hours are Monday – Friday, 3PM – 11PM. The C.O.P. office is next to Peppi's on Bryant St. Officer Scalise reported on a brush fire that was set on the Hampton paper street off of Pinkerton Way. The Mayor's Service Center is investigating and will place "No Dumping" signs and has been asked to clear the lot of accumulated debris. Residents can call the city to get a "No Dumping Area" sign. Building Inspection will investigate and approve the signage. The Mayor's Service Center can also be reached at #255-2621 to request street lighting, speed signs, and other improvements.

On June 5th will be a Clean Sweep in Highland Park. Report abandoned vehicles to be removed. The Pittsburgh Zoo conducted a Safety Day on May 18th. Non-uniformed police are patrolling the park and making arrests for illegal activity including drinking alcohol without a permit.

Committee Reports:

House Tour: The House Tour Committee has 5 confirmed houses for the Fall Harvest House Tour but still needs more houses/apartments/condos. Please call Chair Dana Thomas at 655-2992 to volunteer your home or to join the committee.

Children's Activities: Chair Tania Grubbs reported that there would be children's activities at the neighborhood Salsa Party including instrument making, a pinata and supervised recreation. Snacks and drinks provided.

Commercial District: Tania reported that the Marathon Party was a huge success again this year. Runners comment on the band and festivities and how important it is as they are about to "hit the wall." Muzz Meyers was thanked for putting together another festive, well-attended event that shows off the neighborhood in a very positive way.

Day Camp: Chair Janice Burgett reported that plans are progressing. She is hoping that the pool fees will remain the same for this year. There is still some concern about the Farmhouse being completed in time for the first week of camp due to the exterior painting.

Newsletter: Editor Ollie Rieley reported that July will be the annual mass mailing to all Highland Park households and will once again include a membership offer for new members at the introductory rate of \$5.00. The annual mass mailing serves as a way to publicize the work of the HPCC and HPCDC to Highland Park residents who are not members. Many new members enroll as a result of getting the July newsletter.

Committee chairs are encouraged to submit an article briefly detailing the work and activities of their committee, when meetings take place and volunteer opportunities.

There will be no July HPCC meeting and there will be no August HPCC newsletter. There will be an August meeting to prepare for the September meeting which is the Annual Meeting of the HPCC and includes the election of new officers.

Super Playground: Tania Grubbs reported that she had been to the

Super Playground several times in the last week and it looked clean. Please set a positive example while you are there and pick up trash.

Yard Sale. Tania reported that the Yard Sale will take place on Sunday, June 3rd. Once again, Judy Wolfe is organizing this huge neighborhood event which brings hundreds of people to Highland Park who want to buy your treasures. Clean out your closets so you can visit your neighbor's yard sale.

Banners: Tania reported that Mitch Kates is organizing a t-shirt sale featuring the banner logo to help offset the cost of the banner installations. Call Mitch to put in an order for T-shirts, children's through adult sizes are available. It was suggested that the HPCC sell the T-shirts at the Reservoir of Jazz series.

Reservoir of Jazz: Tania reported that everything is in place for the Reservoir of Jazz which will take place on the four Sundays of August. Joe Negri will lead off this year's jazz series with a concert for all ages. Buffalo Blues will be selling GOOD food for picnic goers. Please note new time: concerts will begin at 5:00 PM.

Volunteers needed: The HPCC will be selling soda and water at the concerts to offset the cost of this free neighborhood event. Please call Tania to volunteer to help at the booth on one or more of the Sundays.

Operation Clean-Sweep: Bob Starsenic gave an up-date on Operation Clean-Sweep. Everyone should have received a yellow postcard which contains space for requesting clean up activities: pot holes, street lines painted. Give specific details about the work needed and the location of the repair. Bob reported that students from Fulton Elem. were seen collecting trash in the neighborhood for Earth Day.

New Business/Old Business/Announcements:

The Salsa Party will take place on Sunday, May 20. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up and clean-up. Dance instruction from 3:30 to 4:30 and then the 10-piece band, Latin Impulse. Bring a picnic and money for the Silent Auction. Diane reported that donations have been generous and include items from LaForet, the Pittsburgh Symphony, Club One, Pittsburgh Public Theater, City Theater.

Todd Van Horn, Principal of Fulton Academy detailed recent events taking place for Pittsburgh Public School Week. There was

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- Hot trays from \$ 9.50

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a Scholastic Book Fair to promote summer time literacy. Residents were invited to Junior Achievement Day. The school's Orchestra performed at Vintage. Gayle Hockenberry, visual art teacher, organized the 5th grade "Medieval Festival" that was the culmination of three month's of work and celebrated the students' great efforts.

Fulton is organizing a Science Bowl for students from all of the eastern schools. It will take place at Arsensal. The 800 participants will all receive a t-shirt with a logo created by a Fulton Acad. student. Mr. Van Horn requested donations to off-set the cost of the t-shirts. Checks can be sent to Fulton Acad.

Christina Lagnese reported on the Pittsburgh Toy Lending Library's Silent Auction/Swing Band fundraiser. Many Highland Park residents are members of the Toy Lending Library. Christy will present a program about the organization at an upcoming HPCC meeting.

Representative Joe Preston reported that the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Spring Luncheon was very successful and well attended. Attendees were impressed with Highland Park as they came to our neighborhood for the fundraiser. Some of the proceeds will help with the restoration of Highland Park.

Tania suggested that the HPCC have a brick sale with the proceeds from the engraved bricks going to the park restoration. She will discuss this with the Parks Conservancy.

Bruce Robison invited attendees to take part in the annual book sale. Proceeds benefit the annual St. Andrew's Lecture. George

Miles, General Manager of WQED, will be the speaker on November 9th.

The June HPCC meeting will begin with a pot luck dinner. Please bring a dish to share. The meeting will begin at 7:00 to accommodate the potluck.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Vintage Jazz


This summer brings a new venue for jazz lovers of all ages. Vintage on North Highland Avenue in the East End (across from The Home Depot) will host some of Pittsburgh's favorite jazz artists such as Marty Ashby, Dwayne Dolphin, Roger Humphries, Mike Tomaro, and John Wilson. The Friday evening Vintage Jazz concerts are from 7 to 9 p.m. on June 29, July 27 and August 24. Admission is \$10 at the door.

Vintage hopes baby boomers who love jazz will come out to its beautiful facility for these lively concerts. Vintage senior community center was established in the 1970s for the World War

II generation. Baby boomers are the emerging older adults and Vintage realizes that boomers have different needs and interests such as jazz entertainment. Another Vintage program that has been attractive to boomers are "Computer Studio at Vintage"

classes.

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Highland Park Summer 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 25 to August 3rd. Parents are free to choose 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.

We will be based at the Farmhouse this year, the building is close to completion and I'm told it will be ready for camp. The cost for campers will be \$60.00 a week for HPCC members and \$70.00/wk for non-members. **This year we are instituting a late registration policy, if you register your child for day camp after the 1st of June it will cost you an additional \$5.00 / week (for each child).** 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.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU LOSE YOUR PURSE OR WALLET

(Editor's Note: We received the following via one of those chain e-mails, normally reserved for jokes, or "feel-good" stories. Neither Betty nor I have experienced a "loss-of-wallet-accident" for years, but it was traumatic when it happened even years ago and must be worse now. We do know two people who were robbed of their purses in Europe last year and we know that in both cases they had a difficult time recovering. This sounds like good advice and I checked the phone numbers at the end and they are valid. It's written first person and the name is in the original; I chose to remove the name. Read and beware!)

We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed using your name, address, Social Security Number, credit, etc.

Unfortunately I have firsthand knowledge, because my wallet was stolen last month and within a week the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information online, and more.

But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know. As everyone always advises, cancel your credit cards immediately, but the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know who to call. Keep those where you can find them easily (having to hunt for them is additional stress you WON'T need at that point)! On a personal note, I remember losing a Master Card and until I got the toll free number from information and called, I was a wreck.

File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

But here's what is perhaps most important: I never ever thought to do this. Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security Number. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

By the time I was advised to do this, almost two weeks after the theft, the damage had been done (there are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert). Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks.

The numbers are:

Equifax 1-800 525-6285

Experian (formerly TRW) 1-888-397-3742

Trans Union 1-800-680-7289

Social Security Administration also has a fraud line at 1-800-269-0271

We pass along jokes, we pass along just about everything....do think about passing this information along it could help someone else.

3.)

Family

#

Physician:

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August 19th... Roger Humphries Quintet
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The Next HPCC meeting is 7:00 p.m., Thursday, June 21, 2001, at St. Andrew's

<i>JUNE CALENDAR</i>	
<i>JUNE 3</i>	<i>YARD SALE: AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD, 9A.M. - ? GET MAPS AT HIGHLAND & STANTON OR AT HAMPTON & NEGLEY</i>
<i>JUNE 21</i>	<i>HPCC MEETING THURSDAY 7:00 P.M. — BEGINS WITH POTLUCK SUPER, ST ANDREW'S</i>
<i>JUNE 29</i>	<i>VINTAGE JAZZ AT VINTAGE, 7:00 TO 9:00 P.M., ADMISSION</i>