

Edited by Ollie Rieley

President's Message

Lisa Williams

Hello! As your newly elected President of the Highland Park Community Club (HPCC) at the end of the old and beginning of the new year, I wanted to touch on the HPCC goals and events for the New Year. There may be new members that may not know all that the Club has to offer or how they can help and existing members that just may need a refresher to get the idea juices going. I also want to encourage you to contact me or a committee chair with your ideas for the Club. Remember this is the Community's club and we would like to see all the Community Members actively participate.

The HPCC mission is to take a leading role in community activities that promote and enhance the quality of life in the Highland Park area.

The Club does this in many ways which include the following fun events throughout the year: Yard Sale, Day Camp, Children events (typically at Easter and Halloween), Marathon Party, Reservoir of Jazz, Super Playground Maintenance Day, House Tour, and Community Parties.

In addition, the monthly meetings are open to everyone in the Community. The Club meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at St. Andrews Church. We review not only club business and committee events, but also this year we are trying to schedule different programs of interest to kick off the meetings (See upcoming events in this newsletter). If you have a program idea, please let Bruce Robison know! The meetings start at 7:30 p. m., but please come a little earlier to socialize and meet your neighbors.

Our monthly newsletter contains information on what is happening in our area as well as reviews the club business and calendar of events. Anyone from the community is invited to write articles and send them to the Newsletter Editor, Ollie Rieley, to be included in the newsletter.

We also have a website! www.highlandparkpa.com The site promotes the events in our area with pictures and articles. Check it out for information on upcoming events as well.

The structure of the club consists of the Officers, Board of Directors, and many different Committees. We are always looking for volunteers to be a part of the Club. The second page of the newsletter includes a listing of the Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs. Feel free to call them to volunteer, to give suggestions or just to ask questions. Don't be shy!

So I encourage all of you to come to the meetings, enjoy yourself at the events, and bring your ideas. If you would like to send me an e-mail with your ideas or have a question about the club and how you might be able to help, my address is: l.c.williams@att.net.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Special Election

During the January 16, 2003 meeting, a special election will be held to elect an Executive Vice President. Bob Staresinic has been nominated. All members of the club are eligible to vote. Come out and vote for Bob!

Attention Directors, Officers

A proposed budget for fiscal year 2003 was presented at the November 21 meeting. The intent was to have it approved by the Board of Directors. Unfortunately, there was an insufficient number of directors in attendance, as required by the bylaws, to act on it. So the budget was tabled until the January 16 meeting when hopefully enough directors will show up to permit a vote. Eleven members of the Board are required to vote in favor to

THE NEXT HPCC MEETING IS 7:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2003, AT ST. ANDREWS

approve the budget. So all Directors and Officers should make a point to attend the January meeting. The proposed budget shows income of \$28,850 versus expenses of \$26,315 and was approved by the Finance Committee in a meeting November 18th.

Pittsburgh Camarata Christmas Concert

Gail Luley

The Pittsburgh Camerata PRESENTS "CAROL OF THE ANIMALS" at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street, on Saturday, December 14 at 8:00 PM. The 26-voice chamber choir celebrates the creatures of Christmas as portrayed in folk and poetic tradition. Folk songs from England, France, Germany, Italy and the Slavic countries illustrate this peaceable kingdom of the Nativity. Tickets are \$15 and \$6 for students. SPECIAL FAMILY PRICE for this concert only! Two adults with children can bring the whole family for \$20; one adult with children can attend for \$10 - the kids are free. (Children must be junior high or elementary age - high school students may take advantage of the \$6 student ticket price.) Call 412-421-5884 and order your family package now! For more information and a concert program listing, visit the Camerata's website at www.pittsburghcamerata.org

Seminary Concert

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be presented Tuesday, December 17, 2002 at 7:30 P.M. in the Hicks Memorial Chapel at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. The Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Choir will be performing under the direction of the Rev. George Tutwiler. The service is based on the service broadcast worldwide annually from King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England. Refreshments will follow. For further information call (412) 362-5610 x2196





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

President: Brandon Weber (720-0906) President Elect: Lisa Williams (665-3933) Comm. Dev. V.P.: Mitch Kates (661-4995) Treasurer: Kelly Vitti (361-7669) Secretary: Shannon Mischler (441-4967) Past President: Tania Grubbs (661-4054) Directors Amy Enrico 362-2970 (02) Paula Flaherty 361-2203 (02) Karen Raffensberger 363-9750 (02) Bruce Robison 361-4892 (02) Jan Stayianos 363-8208 (02) Kevin Bivins Debbie Hart (03) Christina Lagnese 441-6696 (03) Kate Zober 661-9312 (03) Bob Staresinic 441-8972 (03) Suzanne Colvin (04) Rudy Maceyko (04) Mary Beth Steisslinger Ed Sullivan 361-1101 (04) Dana Thomas 665-2992 (04) Committees Beautification: Dell Ziegler 363-1252 Block Watch: Jan Stayianos 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 House Tour: Dana Thomas 720-0906 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: Dave Hance 361-4935 Super Playaround: Kate Zober 661-9312 Yard Sale: Judy Wolfe 441-7830 Voice Mail: Paula Flaherty 361-2203 Welcoming: Bob Staresinic 441-8972 Zoning: Del Zieglar 363-0742

Voice Mail 734-5261 C. O. P. 665-3644 - Zone 5 665-3605 HPCDC/HPCC Web: www.highlandparkpa.com Phone Numbers Area Code 412 unless Noted

Interesting Programs

The following programs have been lined-up by Program Chair Bruce Robison for our next meetings.

January 16 Meeting: Mary Beth Steisslinger — Improvements in the park including restoring the Entrance.

February 20 Meeting: Agency Representatives — How to Avoid Scams

At the November meeting there was interest expressed in programs featuring school issues and the upcoming special election for Councilman Ferlo's seat. Watch your newsletter for announcements of these events.

Have *You* Filled Out Your Highland Park Community Plan Survey?

Michael P. Johnson

Since January 2001, the Highland Park community and portions of Morningside, East Liberty and Larimer have participated in a community planning process. The Highland Park Community Plan is managed by the Highland Park Community Development Corporation, in partnership with the Highland Park Community Club and the East End Neighborhood Forum. This process will culminate in June 2003 with a document that will contain a variety of information about Highland Park residents, services and amenities, and will identify a specific set of strategies to address common concerns regarding our community.

An important part of this community planning process is a survey that was distributed to residents starting in August 2002. This survey is intended to help us better understand your perceptions of Highland Park's strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for

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

Sunday Morning Services - Dec. & Jan. 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.

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improvement. This survey was sent to the households of a scientifically-selected sample of residents of the study area. In addition, the survey has been publicly available for all residents: in paper form, at Enrico's Tazza D'Oro and Sandy's Deli, and electronically, at the Highland Park Community Plan website (www.highlandparkcommunity.com; click on "Highland Park Survey").

So far, results from the survey have been very encouraging. We have tabulated about 150 surveys from the "representative" sample of residents, and responses indicate that residents feel very passionately about Highland Park's good points (and not-so-good points). In particular, we have collected data that provide a framework for the "focus groups" the community plan is conducting in the areas of Housing, Public Safety, Education, Arts, Recreation and Youth Development, and Bryant St./Commercial District. Preliminary survey results are available on the Highland Park Community Plan website (click on "Town Meeting October 22, 2002 + Focus Groups" and select "Survey Results").

If you have already completed and returned the survey to us (through the mail, on-line, or at Tazza D'Oro or Sandy's Deli), please accept our sincere thanks. If you have not yet completed or returned the questionnaire, we ask you to consider doing so at your earliest convenience. Future town meetings will be especially useful if we can report findings from the survey we have conducted that represent the broadest diversity of our community.

We are especially grateful for your help because it is only by asking people like you to share your thoughts that we can better understand how to improve our community.

If you did not receive a questionnaire, or if it was misplaced, please contact the Highland Park Community Plan at 412-665-3646 or via email at highlandparkcommunity@yahoo.com. We'll make sure that your opinions become part of this community planning process.

If you would like to help develop the community plan, we would welcome your participation as part of the Planning Team. Please contact us at the phone number or e-mail listed just above.



Have a happy holiday season!

November 21 Meeting Highlights

Shannon Mischler

President Lisa Williams called the meeting to order at 7:35 P. M.

Program

Peabody High School:

Bruce Robison introduced Melissa Perlman, Gifted Facilitator at Peabody High School. Melissa discussed the Centers for Advanced Studies (CAS) and the Advanced Placement (AP) programs. AP classes are available in a number of academic areas with about 12 students per class. Along with their AP classes, students work on independent projects, lasting as long as six months. The students are competitive for entry to selective colleges and universities. The CAS program features specialized training in three areas: Information Technologies, Public Safety, and Health Careers. All students participate in a full academic program that is enhanced by CAS courses and school-to-work activities. Upon graduation, students may continue with higher education or immediately enter the work force in their chosen field. Ms. Perlman has been making presentation at local Junior Highs and is very eager to meet with more Highland Park families to increase community awareness of the opportunities available at Peabody. She can be reached for additional information on the CAS and AP programs at melissaperIman@att.net, or Peabody Principal J. Reed Vaira can be contacted at (412) 665-2050.

Community Plan:

Michael Johnson spoke about the progress of the Community Plan. Community outreach has been expanded at Tazza d'Oro where a computer is being installed for access to the Plan's website www.highlandparkcommunity.com The survey of opinion about the community is available on the web or at local merchant's (Tazza d'Oro, Sandy's Deli, Mellon St Market, and Hendrix House of Hair).

Old Business:

Last month a request was received from the CDC for a grant of \$250 to help pay for High School students to enter Community Plan survey results into a computer database. The motion was tabled pending review and approval by the finance Committee. The Finance Committee has indicated that funds are available to support this request. A motion was made, seconded and approved by a majority of the directors present to grant \$250 to the CDC for this use.

New Business:

Budget: A proposed budget for fiscal year 2003 (September 2002 through August 2003) was announced. Unfortunately, there was not a sufficient number of directors present to take action, so the proposed budget is tabled until next meeting (January 16, 2003).

Executive Vice President Nomination: Bob Staresinic was nominated to the office of Executive Vice President. An election will be held at the next meeting (January 16, 2003). All members are invited to attend and vote. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Future Programs:

January Meeting: Mary Beth Steisslinger will describe the upcoming renovation to the Park entrance. Mary Beth is a resident of the Community and works for the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy.

February Meeting: Experts from various agencies will present a discussion on how to protect oneself from people trying to scam them. Although the program is stated to be for seniors, Bruce noted that baby boomers, generation Xer's or twenty somethings are also targets of scams so the program really is of general interest to our entire membership.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Holiday Shopping & Breakfast at St. Raphael

Tony LaRussa

St. Raphael Church, 1118 Chislett St., Morningside, will host a Holiday Craft Show and Santa's Workshop on Friday, Dec. 6, from 8 A.M.-3 P.M.; Saturday, Dec. 7, 8 A.M.- 1 P.M.; and Sunday, Dec. 8, 8 A.M.-2 P.M.

The event will feature more than 20 crafters displaying their holiday items, including many priced so children can buy gifts for family and friends.

The popular Breakfast with Santa will be on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. A family style breakfast including scrambled eggs, ham, sausage, potatoes and beverage costs \$4 for children and \$5 for adults. Tickets are 50 cents less if purchased in advance at St. Raphael School during school hours, after the 5 P.M. Mass on Saturday, or after the 11 A.M. Mass on Sunday.

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Children will be able to meet with Santa and have their photos taken..

For more details, call (412) 661-3100.

Union Project Update

Justin Rothshank

We are delighted to unveil the new www.unionproject.org website. The site has undergone a massive facelift thanks to the effort of longtime Union Project volunteer Zach Landis Lewis. Be sure to check out the new site and offer feedback at info@unionproject.org.

For more information about any of the following, call (412) 661-7744 or email Jess@unionproject.org.

The Union Project is moving forward with a feasibility study in conjunction with Desmone and Associates architects. Two community meetings have been planned to reveal initial design ideas and gather input regarding the Union Project restoration. The first meeting took place on November 19 and the second will be December 16. These meetings are from 7-9pm and are open to the public. The meetings are at the Peabody High School Auditorium, on the corner of Highland Ave and East Liberty Boulevard in East Liberty.

A Friends of The Union Project Holiday Art Sale has been planned for December 13 through December 21. This is the first show featuring works by past and present board members, past and present staff members, and the community of artists that surround The Union Project. The opening for the show will be on December 13 from 7 pm until 10 pm. The show will take place at the Spinning Plate Gallery, 5720 Friendship Avenue. The show will feature the works of James Eash, Keith Hershberger, Heather Kropf, Angie Lehman, Chad Martin, Becky Peifer, Jen Rohrer, Milonica Stahl-Wert, Brooke Rothshank, and Justin Rothshank. Media shown will include ceramics, photography, prints, paintings, jewelry, and more.

The Union Project still has several 12-ounce bags of regular and decaffeinated coffee available for \$10 a bag. Proceeds from your purchase go to support the Union Project as well as to support at-risk children in coffee-growing regions of the world. Call or email to make arrangements to pickup coffee or prepay for large orders.

FOR SALE: August B. Felgemaker Opus 1280 organ, installed in 1904. This is the last extant example of this company's work. The following pipe work is available, the console no longer exists, and the chests are available if there is interest. GREAT: 8' Diapason (badly damaged); 8' Diapason II; 8' Gross Flute (wood); 8' Dulciana; 8' Unda Maris; 4' Harmonic Flute (wood); 8' Tuba; 8' Clarinet. SWELL: 8' Violin Diapason; 8' Stopped Diapason; 8' Salicional; 8' Voix Celeste; 8' Aeoline; 4' Chimney Flute (metal); 8' Cornopean; 8' Oboe; 8' Vox Humana. PEDAL: 16' Open Wood; 16' Bourdon. FADE PIPES. The organ is being removed due to a change in the intended purpose of the building. The Union Project would like to have the pipe work removed as a unit. Asking \$5,000 for everything.

FOR SALE: The Union Project has acquired 18 church pews that are NOT original to The Union Project building. There are 17 solid oak church pews with a natural polyurethane finish measuring 15 feet in length and 1 matching pew measuring 9 feet in length. The pews have very little decoration, a simple cross at either end. Asking \$200 per pew.

And The Winners Are

Tania Grubbs

The results are in for the 2002 Scarecrow Contest:

First Place-The Lawsons -- Ms.Clare Crowe

Second Place-Maddigan & MaryBeth Steisslinger -- Funniest

Third Place-Nancy Sullivan, Tereasa Washington and Sheaila Jackson -- Patriotic

Child Category Winner -Meghan Raffensperger& Marua Saxon -Scariest

Honorable Mention

Dickson Family Linda Ricci Melissa Sellner Carolyn Buongiorno Adam and Eric Spence

Thanks to all who participated in the Scarecrow Festival and to all the volunteers who helped arrange the party at the Farmhouse.

Membership Report

Kelly Meade

Based on a recent update of our membership files, we have a current membership of 557. Of this number, 50 are currently "comp" members (mayor, city council, etc.). The members whom have paid their 2002/3 dues number 448 and of those 23 pay the reduced rate of \$10 per year. We have also received donations in the amounts of \$2 to \$27 from 20 of our current members and 49 have not yet paid for 2002/2003.

A note of special thanks for those who have given the community club donations, we will see that these monies are put to good use.

Children's Committee

Tania Grubbs is taking "early" retirement as Chair of the Children's Committee. She says she is just too busy in other areas of her life right now to continue. Tania has done a marvelous job with this committee for the last several years. The annual Easter Egg Hunt and the annual Halloween event, whether it be a parade or a Scarecrow Festival, have been outstanding activities for neighborhood children. Tania recruited excellent and numerous people to help them run smoothly and with joy for the kids. THANK YOU, TANIA.

So who wants to continue the traditions of the children's committee? The is a vital part of the Community and needs a strong leader. Why don't you call Lisa and sign-up to be Chair of this group?



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Around St. Andrew's

Bruce Robison

On behalf of all of the wider St. Andrew's congregation I would extend our best wishes and affection in this season of so many holidays and holy days -- and in the New Year ahead--to all our good friends here in our neighborhood of Highland Park.

Christmas at St. Andrew's is always a wonderful and meaningful time. Services on Christmas Eve begin on Tuesday the 24th with an afternoon "Family Service" at 4:30 p.m., including the Blessing of the Creche, familiar carols, and the rector's traditional Children's Homily. At 10:30 p.m. the St. Andrew's Choir, under the direction of Peter J. Luley, will offer a service of music, featuring Charpentier's "Messe de minuit pour Noél", immediately followed at 11 p.m. by the traditional candlelight Midnight Service and Christ Mass. On Christmas morning a service of Holy Communion is offered in the St. Andrew's Chapel at 10 a.m.

Other highlights of the season at St. Andrew's include a service of Choral Evensong for Advent on Thursday, December 5, at 8 p.m. with a recital following featuring baritone Thomas Dean and chamber ensemble, conducted by Dr. Charles H. Heaton, performing the J.S. Bach work, "Ich Habe Genug." All are invited to enjoy a festive holiday reception in the Parish Hall after the recital program.

On Saturday, December 14, at 8 p.m., the Pittsburgh Camerata is in concert at St. Andrew's, with a program entitled "The Carol of the Animals" (tickets available \$15 at the door or by subscription, with a special "family rate" available at this performance).

On Sunday evening, December 15, at 7:30 p.m., the Choir of St. Andrew's Church and the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra will present the Poulenc "Gloria" and other seasonal music, with proceeds of the concert (patrons \$50; regular \$15) contributed to the seasonal outreach services of the East End Cooperative Ministry.

On Tuesday evening, December 17, at 7 p.m., St. Andrew's hosts the annual "Carols around the Bonfire" evening in the St. Andrew's Churchyard--always great fun for the whole family--with cookies, hot cocoa, and other refreshments in the Parish Hall following, and on Sunday morning, December 22, at 11 a.m., the congregation will enjoy the annual service, "A Children's Pageant of Christmas," presented by the St. Andrew's Church School.

New Year's Eve is a special evening at St. Andrew's as well, with a brief music recital presented at 11 p.m., a simple service of Holy Communion at 11:30 p.m., and then climb into the belltower to "Ring in 2003" at midnight. All in attendance are invited to the Rectory afterwards for refreshments and to "toast" the New Year.

St. Andrew's is committed to a ministry of friendship and service in this neighborhood. If you or a friend, family member, or neighbor have a concern or pastoral need that we may be able to help with, we hope you will give us a call (412 661-1245). And, again, Happy New Year!

Super Playground Maintenance Day Kate Zober

Many thanks to the volunteers who made the September Super Playground Maintenance Day such a great success! These volunteers gave up most or all of their Saturday to make significant and lasting improvements to the playground that the neighborhood and the city will enjoy. It looks great!

The morning was spent sanding rough spots on the wood, repairing or removing broken play equipment, building new play equipment, painting, picking up litter, weeding, raking mulch, and hammering in loose nails. The afternoon involved the enormous and exhausting job of spraying the entire playground with sealant. A children's project, managed by Jean Siegel and Amy Poettinger, involved decorating trash bins with the younger volunteer's hand prints.

Several neighbors worked especially hard--Dave Sufrin (not really a neighbor anymore, but still a tremendous friend to the park!), David DeLong, and Peter Hughes. These folks put in many extra hours at the park and at Home Depot in addition to working all day. The playground and the community have truly benefitted from their time, energy, and immense talent. Thank you!

Thanks also to Tazzo d'Oro, for providing our volunteers with excellent coffee and fresh donuts. Thanks to Councilman Jim Ferlo's office for providing the mailings that so effectively inspired over 30 volunteers to donate their time.

Did you miss the September Maintenance Day? Then plan to join us in the spring for Mulch Madness, when we will need volunteers to spread fresh mulch in preparation for spring and summer fun at the Super Playground! Check out the February newsletter for further details!

Remember The next HPCC meeting is January 16, 2003 There will be no newsletter for January Happy Holidays!

Random Thoughts from the Editor

Ollie Rieley

1. This issue has too much material for eight pages, not enough for ten. Nine would be about right but I don't know how to split a sheet thickness-wise. Thus, you get this column and perhaps an unusual amount of white space. In the spirit of the season, consider the white space SNOW.

2. You may notice the border and caption at the bottom of the address space on the back page has been deleted starting with this issue. I did that in response to a suggestion from a postal clerk. The newsletters are being machine sorted and the border and caption almost infringed on space reserved for machine use to recognize address information and imprint bar codes. The date and time of the next meeting always appears at least two other places in a typical newsletter so I won't accept any complaints that notice is not properly given!

3. I'm excited about the energy and enthusiasm in the Community Planning process. Congratulations to Michael Johnson and all his teams for their good work to date. Won't you please heed Michael's call for the return of outstanding survey forms? If you have one, take a moment and fill it out and mail it now. If you didn't receive one, go to the web site or one of the designated distribution points and fill it out. It's painless and can be anonymous.

4. I'm also excited about a renewal of emphasis on programs for



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Therapy, Deep Tissue, Swedish, Shiatsu, Pregnancy, Labor, Post-Partum & Infant Instruction

HOLISTIC HEALTH PRACTITIONERS CONFERENCE & MEETING SPACE our monthly meetings. The January and February programs have been identified and are listed on page 3. Plan to attend and learn about these issues.

5. As noted in the Meeting Highlights, Ms Melissa Perlman told us about the Gifted Program and the Centers for Advanced Study at Peabody High School. I thought the description of the opportunities available in these programs was thrilling. Imagine being MicroSoft qualified on high school graduation or imagine entering college and skipping first semester calculus because of your experience in an Advanced Placement math class in high school. I didn't have either of these opportunities, did you? The point is Peabody seems to have excellent opportunities for the students. Do we discount their quality and automatically turn to other high schools like Schenley or Taylor Alderdice without giving Peabody a chance? Think about it!

6. Remember: There will be no December meeting and there will be no January newsletter. I'll expect your articles for the February 2003 issue!

7. I wish all members and readers an especially happy Holiday Season!!

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DECEMBER/JANUARY CALENDAR	
DECEMBER 6-8	HOLIDAY SHOPPING AND BREAKFAST (ON 8^{TH}) AT ST. RAPHEAL, TIMES ON PG. 4
DECEMBER 13 - 21	UNION PROJECT HOLIDAY ART SALE, SPINNG PLATE GALLERY, SEE ARTICLE PG. 5
DECEMBER 14	PITTSBURGH CAMARATA CHRISTMAS CONCERT, ST. ANDREW'S, 8:00 P.M., ADMISSION
DECEMBER 15	CHRISTMAS CONCERT BENEFITING EECM, ST. ANDREW'S, 7:30 P.M., ADMISSION
DECEMBER 16	OPEN MEETING, UNION PROJECT RESTORATION, PEABODY AUDITORIUM, 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 17	CAROLS AROUND THE BONFIRE, ST. ANDREW'S YARD, 7:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 17	A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS, PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, 7:30 P.M.
DECEMBER 31	NEW YEAR'S EVE AT ST. ANDREW'S, 11:00 P.M.
JANUARY 16	HPCC MEETING, ST. ANDREW'S, PARK ENTRANCE RENOVATION, SPECIAL ELECTION, BUDGET, 7:30 P.M.