

HIGHLAND PARK

Community Club
Newsletter for
February 2003



Edited by Ollie Rieley

Party - Party, Come to the Party

Del Ziegler



- * *Sat. Feb. 22*
- * *5:30 to 8:30*
- * *927 N Sheridan Ave.*
- * *\$5/person*
- * *Bring a dish*
- * *Drinks provided*

HPCC members and guests are invited to a revival of a great tradition--

The Grand HPCC Holiday Party at the Grand Home of Elaine Herald and John Jordan.

**"Dressy casual"
Invite a neighbor!**

Call Kelly Vitti at 412-361-7669 for shared sitting arrangements.

RSVP TO 412-362-6331 OR 412-363-1252.

Baby sitting at St. Andrew's during party hours, \$2.00 per child. Call Kelly Vitti at 412-361-7669 by February 19 to reserve space for your kid(s).

Candidates Forum February 18

Rudy Maceyko & Ollie Rieley

The Highland Park Community Club and the East End Neighborhood Forum will sponsor a **Candidates' Forum at St. Andrew's on February 18 at 7:30 P.M.** Our own Michael Johnson will be the moderator of the forum..

This will be your opportunity to meet the candidates running for election to succeed Councilman Jim Ferlo. As you know, Jim was elected to the State Senate in November and has resigned his seat on Council to take up his new duties in Harrisburg. So we need to have a special election to fill out the remainder of his term, that is, nearly a year UNTIL January 2004. In the May primary, we will select candidates for the November 2003 General Election and the winner of that election, I believe, will serve a full term starting in January 2004.

I think the February 25 election is extremely important. There is no incumbent running, so somebody new and different is bound to win. Although there are endorsed candidates for the two major parties, it appears as though there will be a number of "independent" candidates too — so we don't just have to endorse our parties pick, we can select from a number of "outsiders". So I would encourage everyone who is eligible to get out and vote!!

(Article Continues on Page 8)

Important Dates

February 18	Candidates Forum, 7:30, St. Andrew's
February 20	HPCC Meeting, 7:30, St. Andrew's
February 22	HPCC Holiday Party, 5:30, 927 Sheridan Ave.
February 25	District 7 Special Election — VOTE!!!

Look up details of all these events in this newsletter and participate

THE NEXT HPCC MEETING IS 7:30 P.M., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2003, AT ST. ANDREWS

Treasurers Report

Kelly Vitti

	Actual <u>Year to Date</u>	Budget <u>Fiscal Year</u>
Income	\$10,904.10	\$28,850.00
Expenses	\$4,567.32	\$26,315.00

Current Balance \$17,209.16
All Accounts

Pittsburgh Camarata Concert

Gail Luley

The Pittsburgh Camerata presents "A Winter's Tale" at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street, on Saturday, March 1 at 8:00 PM. It is a tale of British Cathedral music, of Russian Church music and parlor music. Renowned actress and mezzo-soprano **Myrna Paris** joins the Camerata to read excerpts from Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*, Leo Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*, Joanna Trollope's *The Choir* and Anthony Trollope's *Barchester Towers*. The 26 voice chamber choir will sing music by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, Sergei Rachmaninov, Thomas Tallis, Thomas Greaves, William Byrd, Adrian Batten, Thomas Thomkins and Robert Parsons that is suggested and referred to in the texts.

Tickets are \$15 and \$6 for students and may be purchased at the box office or in advance by calling **412-421-5884** or **on-line at www.pittsburghcamerata.org**. For complete concert information visit the Camerata's website. A sherry-and-shortbread reception will follow the concert.



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Comm. Dev. V.P.: Mitch Kates (661-4995)
Treasurer: Kelly Vitti (361-7669)
Secretary: Shannon Mischler (441-4976)
Past President: Brandon Weber (720-0906)

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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)

David DeLong (05)

Amy DeFoe (05)

Peter Hughes 363-4603 (05)

Ollie Rieley 661-1205 (05)

Bruce Robison 361-4862 (05)

Committees

Beautification: Dell Ziegler 363-1252

Block Watch: Jan Stayianos 363-8208

Children:

Commercial District: Muzz Meyers 661-2315

Day Camp: Janice Burgell 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 Playground: Kate Zober 661-9312

Yard Sale: Judy Wolfe 441-7830

Welcoming: Bob Staresinic 441-8972

Zoning: Del Ziegler 363-0742

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

January 16 Meeting Highlights

Shannon Mischler

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

Mary Beth Steisslinger, a Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy employee and a Highland Park resident, gave a presentation on Highland Park's Entry Gardens, Filtration Plant, Babbling Brook, and Volunteer Restoration Projects. The City expects the fountain at the Park's entrance gardens to be restored by mid-year. The gardens beside the fountain are still under consideration. The filtration plant is successfully filtering Pittsburgh's water, and there may be a spring tour of the plant. The Babbling Brook development, which connects the hillside down from the filtration plant to Carnegie Lake is currently being excavated and stabilized. There are historic trails below this area that need to be cleared after the devastating storm last May. The Volunteer Restoration Project is continuing to work on the forest, glade and meadow areas of the Park in clearing invasive plants and replacing native plants. Possibly, this summer a group of Americorps Volunteers will assist the City's Department of Works and Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy in their efforts in Highland Park.

Mary Beth introduced the new head of the City's Department of Public Works--Highland Park, Damon Blankenship. Damon has worked extensively in forestry and was involved in the redevelopment of other city parks. Damon spoke about his commitment to Highland Park, specifically the maintenance of the Fountain, the Babbling Brook, and historic trails. He presented all meeting attendees with a 1939 pictorial map of Frick Park. He is still on the lookout for any old maps of Highland Park.

David Hance, President of the HPCDC, stressed the importance of the Park's revitalization including efforts to return the entrance to its historic grandeur. The revitalization will work toward the betterment of Highland Park community and its ability to obtain National Historic District status. There will be an HPCDC presentation regarding this in the March HPCC meeting. The HPCDC is working closely with many city and state organizations to handle Heth's Run and its development.

A motion was made and by all Directors present to authorize Lisa Williams to support the CDC's insistence that the Heth's Run Bridge be reconstructed rather than filling in the ravine and just paving Butler St. on the fill. The bridge is important to permit a planned future path from the park to the future river front trail.

A motion was made and approved to pass the 2002-2003 HPCC Budget.

Bob Staresnic was elected HPCC Executive Vice President by the members in attendance.

The Club is in search of a new Children's Committee Chair. The Vintage Center at Highland Avenue and East Liberty Blvd. would like the HPCC to participate in their annual Vintage 5K Masters Race on April 19th with children's activities. The HPCC needs a

person to head this committee and work closely with the Vintage Center. Please call Lisa Williams (412-665-3933) if you are interested.

Bruce Robison announced a Neighborhood Forum at St. Andrews for all City Council District 7 nominees on Tuesday February 18 at 7:00 P.M. This is a time to meet the candidates entered in the Tuesday, February 25 special City Council election to fill the seat vacated by Jim Ferlo when he moved to the State Senate.

Dell Ziegler announced the HPCC Holiday Party on Saturday February 22 from 5:30-8:30 at 927 N. Sheridan. All invitees should bring an appetizer or dessert to share and a \$5/per person donation for drinks.

Dell also announced that at the February HPCC meeting there would be a guest speaker from the US Post Office to discuss mail scams directed toward the elderly population.

The Meeting adjourned at 9 PM.

February at St. Andrew's

Bruce Robison

The "First Thursday" Evensong and Recital at St. Andrew's will begin at 8 p.m. on the evening of February 6th with a very special program of the combined choirs of St. Andrew's Church, Peter J. Luley, Organist and Choirmaster, and the Oakmont Presbyterian Church, J. David Hart, Music Director. Following the service there will be a recital by well-known pianist Linda Morgan Ellison. All are invited!

Also of interest musically this month is a "St. Andrew's Presents" performance, on Saturday evening, February 22, at 8 p.m. of Pittsburgh soprano Charlene Canty. A reception will follow.

The regular "Second Saturday" evening Cinema St. Andrew's program will begin at 7 p.m. on the evening of February 8, with the showing of Alfred Hitchcock's 1937 classic film, "Young and Innocent." The event is free, and we are invited to bring snack items and refreshments to share.

Our monthly "Interest in Writing" workshops for writers from the parish and the wider neighborhood has its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 12, beginning at 7 p.m. upstairs in the Parish Hall. Visitors and Newcomers are always welcome. Bring about a dozen copies of a poem or brief prose excerpt to share with the group.

St. Andrew's Church has been a part of our Highland Park neighborhood for nearly a century, and everyone in the neighborhood--whether you attend services here or not--is considered a part of the "extended family." If there is a pastoral concern we can help with--a baby to be baptized, a marriage to be celebrated, an ill or shut-in friend or neighbor to be visited, a family

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to be served at the time of a death--or if you simply need to borrow a table or find a "rain location" for a family reunion, please don't hesitate to call the Church Office at 412 661-1245. That's why we're here. Services are Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. (Chapel) and 11 a.m. (Choral), Wednesday mornings (Chapel) at 10:30 a.m., and on the First Thursday evenings of each month, October - June, with Choral Evensong at 8 p.m.

Union Project Update

Justin Rothshank

At the Union Project's first board meeting of 2003 we welcomed Greg Mims as our 13th and newest board member. Greg currently works as the Director of Public Relations for the Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council. We also welcomed Toye Sarver onto the newly created Program Visioning Committee and the Events Review Committee. Toye currently works with the East Liberty Arts Council.

The Union Project Board of Directors is proactively addressing its plans for vision and programming with extensive work over the next two months on organizational AIMS and outcomes, including a March board retreat with consultant Arden Shank from Miami, FL.

The Union Project has concluded its architectural feasibility study and we invite you to look at the final drawings on our website, www.unionproject.org. Initial cost estimates for the restoration project fall between 1.7 and 2 million dollars. The staff and board of the Union Project are now exploring how to take steps forward in the preparation of construction drawings.

We are excited to be hosting a work group from Western Ontario University on February 25 and 26. The students from Western will be helping to implement our new database system from Carnegie Mellon's Heinz school, as well as continuing to clean up parts of the church building.

We have recently set up an account with www.igive.com. The next time you consider shopping online consider shopping through igive.com and designating a small percentage of your purchases to the Union Project.

Spring and summer will be upon us before we know it, and the Union Project is already thinking ahead. We will again be hosting a summer market. The 2003 market will be held once a week on Thursday afternoons. If you are interested in a booth contact us for more information.

With her "determination to serve the public," Renee Farrow "would do an impressive job" Pittsburgh Post-Gazette 5/11/1997



Renee Farrow

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"Worthy presence" whose neighborhood commitment is a "distinguishing characteristic" Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The News from Peabody

Anne Franks

We send belated wishes for a happy new year to our neighbors in Highland Park. The first semester is drawing to a close and our lack of correspondence throughout the fall has been due to our efforts to open the new **Health Careers Academy** in time for the second semester. The Academy has accepted 30 ninth and tenth grade students who will begin their preparation to enter careers in direct patient care or in health related business. Our partner in this venture is West Penn Hospital, which has helped to develop the program and will serve as the primary clinical site for the students. West Penn Hospital has a longstanding relationship with Peabody which includes staffing and operating a full service Adolescent Health and Wellness Center, free of charge for all students at Peabody. We are thrilled to have the **Health Careers Academy** become the third option for educational opportunities, with the Public Safety and Information Technologies Academies. Please feel free to stop in for a tour!

In other news, Senior Allie Brownell is a National Merit Finalist - Congratulations to Allie. Casey Artz recently donated eighteen inches of her beautiful hair (grown over four years specifically for this donation) to Locks of Love, an organization that provides human hair wigs to cancer patients. Casey's hair is still very

beautiful (and yes, it will grow again!) and her generous gift will surely brighten some one's life. We are very proud of Casey.

Judge Cynthia Baldwin recently conducted a swearing-in ceremony for 12 trained student mediators who are now mediating conflicts with their peers, and we are developing a mediation partnership with the local elementary schools. These students completed a semester long mediation training class conducted by Ms Drago, a Social Studies teacher at Peabody. Kudos and thanks to these students for their commitment to seeking peaceful solutions to conflict.

Finally, Peabody is in the final stages of compiling an **alumni directory**. If you would like to be included or would like to purchase a directory, please call 1-800-325-8664 or contact lmileskey@alumniresearch.com. There will be both hard copy and on line versions of the directory. If you need additional information about this project or other concerns, please feel free to contact me at Peabody at 412-665-2294.

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St. Andrew's Church
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Sunday Morning Services - April
 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.hows.net/15206saec

Learn the History of the East End

Judith Bobenage,

The University of Pittsburgh's Center for Lifetime Learning is offering the course, "A Brief History of the East End/East Liberty Areas," on Thursday, Feb 13 from 7-9pm on the Oakland Campus. Taught by Charles Honeywell, business service coordinator for East Liberty Quarter Chamber of Commerce, the course traces the area's pre-Civil War roots to its later boom to what's being done today. The course fee is \$18, and a \$6 materials fee is payable to the instructor at the class. Preregistration is required. To register or for more information call 412-383-8600 or register on line at <<http://www.pitt.edu/~cgs/lifetime>>.

The Center for Lifetime Learning is a division of the University of Pittsburgh's College of General Studies. The center offers noncredit classes geared toward the ongoing personal and professional needs of adults.

Ed Note: Mr. Honeywell presented a very interesting program at the October 2002, HPCC meeting.

Coming Programs:

FEBRUARY PROGRAM --- "SCAMS: What We All Need to Know" hosted by Dell Ziegler

The February program on telemarketing and mail fraud will feature an 18 minute video (excellent) and a speaker from the Postal Inspector's Office. The local bar association, U.S. Attorney, and the Postal Inspectors have put together a program which has received national attention. I have seen the video and it was a real eye-opener on the extent and success of telemarketing and mail fraud, much of which is aimed at the elderly. For your own sake and especially if you have elderly loved ones, don't miss this program.

MARCH PROGRAM — "The Highland Park Historic District Designation,"

The program for the March 20th meeting will be, "The Highland Park Historic District Designation," to be led by Dave Hanse and Mike Eversmeyer.

Come on out and hear these interesting and important presentations. All members are welcome!!



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COP's

Mitch Kates

"Bad boys bad boys what ya gonna do when they come for you..." hah, tricked you. No this isn't an article about one of America's favorite pastimes, watching the trials and tribulations of some of our favorite bumbling criminals on the T.V. show "COP's," instead I'd like to take a moment or two to talk about our own C.O.P.'s otherwise known as our Community Oriented Police officers.

How many of you reading this article were aware of the fact that as of January 1st 2003 we lost our C.O.P.?

I first became aware of the impending change a few months ago while I was attending a block-watch meeting in an adjacent neighborhood. The question of "why" was raised and police cited the number of complaints collected through the years. because of negative feedback received, apparently the police department felt that the community didn't like the program or think it was effective.

I should note that after the decision had been reached to drop the C.O.P. program and people became aware of the impending changes, the compliments for the program and concerns about these changes began to fly.

For those that are interested here are my two cents on the issue...

Penny 1- Our C.O.P. was Officer Christine Scalise, but most of us know her as Christine.

Christine has been in our neighborhood for the better part of 5 1/2 years. She not only "works the beat" but also attends every one of our community club meetings. She goes to neighborhood events and functions...even when she's off duty. This summer she gave my girls, along with hundreds of kids, bike helmets at the E-Fest event in East Liberty.

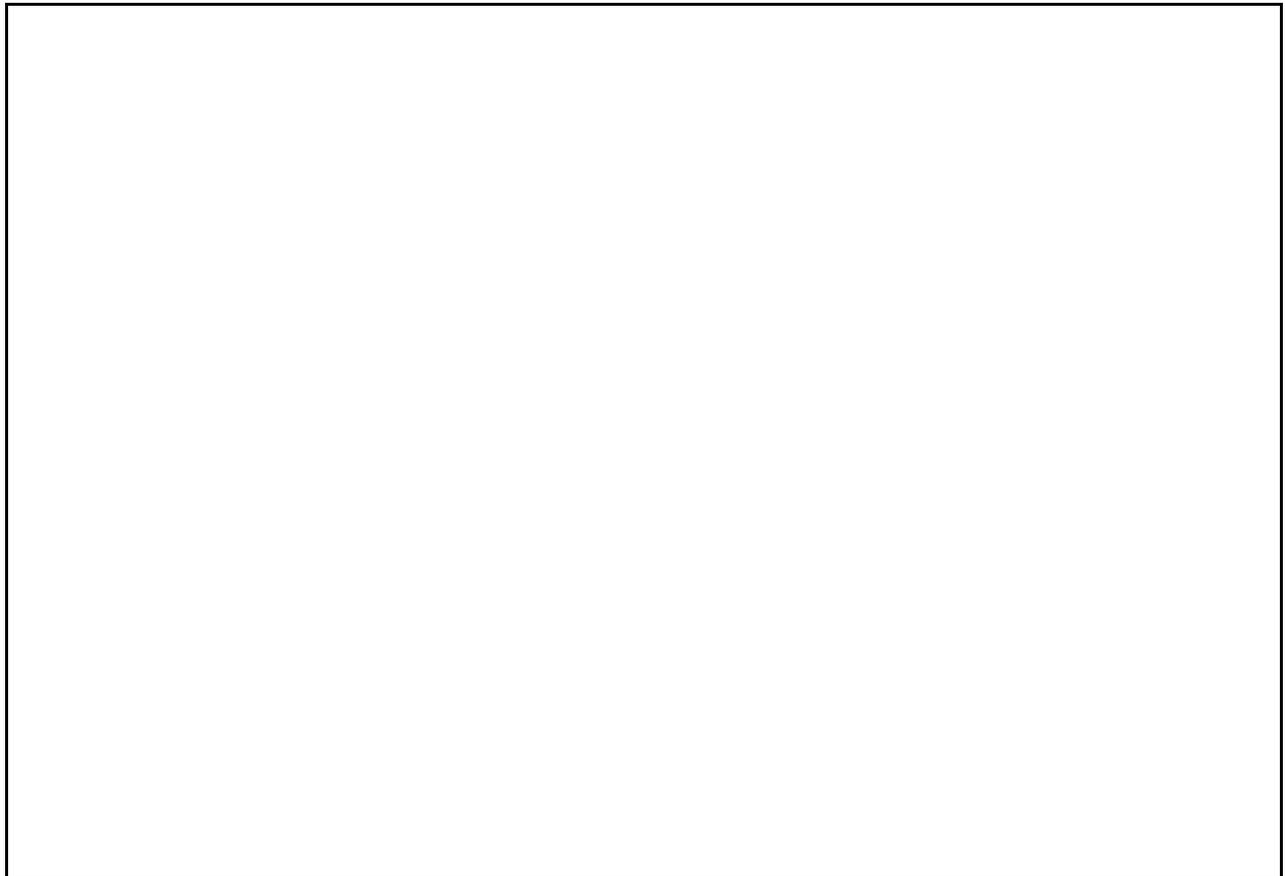
During the powerful storm that hit us this past Spring, Christine was on top of the hill (around Heberton Street) to make sure no one got too close to downed power lines. She biked over here from Morningside in the pitch dark to get there. Oh yeah, she did all this on her day off.

Penny 2- Continuity is a critical part of crime prevention.

Pittsburgh's crime rate has been traditionally lower than the national average for a city its size. Recently, however crime rates have increased as convicted felons are put back on the streets. With more convicts on the streets and a stagnant economy staring us in the face, now is not the time to experiment with policing strategies.

I consider myself a reformer, Lord knows I like to look at doing things differently and think "out of the box," but let's not stop an effective program without fully examining the impact on the community-both negative and positive. Decisions like this deserve community input-before the die is cast.

Happy New Year!



(Continued from first page)

Now who should you vote for? Attend the candidates forum on February 18 and meet most of the candidates. Listen to what they have to say about the issues raised and decide for yourself who will best serve us. Then go on February 25 and vote for that person. This is an unusually open election; let's be informed voters and pick the best person!

There was a forum in Lawrenceville a couple of weeks ago with nine candidates present. The forum was extremely well run, each candidate made a one minute opening comment. After that a series of questions were asked, each candidate having one minute to answer each question. There was a timekeeper who was very diligent in enforcing the one minute limit. So the entire event was over in less than two hours.

You can read about all of the candidates for the District 7 council seat at the "Lawrenceville Votes" site <<http://www.lawrencevillevotes.org/>>. There are a total of nine candidates as of January 25 and three of the nine current candidates are from Highland Park: Bruce Brantley (endorsed by the District 7 Republican Committee, <<mailto:kingbee007@juno.com>>), Mitch Kates <<http://www.mitchkates.com/>> Bob Stumpp <<http://www.bobstumpp.com/>> The Democratic Committee for City Council District 7 has endorsed Leonard Bodack Jr. of Stanton Heights as the party candidate.

Editor's Thoughts

Ollie Rieley

There are several things I need to say this month:

In the manner of being nice to my fellow members of HPCC:

1. I'm sorry that for the December issue, somehow, I reverted to the officers from before the October elections. I apologize for that goof. I was in a hurry to issue the newsletter before Thanksgiving and in my haste did not recognize that my *computer* picked an obsolete version of the template (it's all the computers fault, don't you agree?).
2. Congratulations to Bob Staresenic, who was elected to be vice president during the January meeting. Congratulations!!!
3. We should all be sorry to learn that Tania Grubbs is retiring from her position as chair of the Children's Committee. I'm not a kid but I'll remember the Easter and Halloween events she put on for the rest of my life. Thanks Tania!!!

In the matter of important business:

1. Who is going to volunteer to be Children's Chair now that Tania has moved on? I hope one of you will call Lisa Williams and volunteer.
2. We have an extraordinary opportunity on February 25 to elect a new councilman in district 7. Jim Ferlo was our Councilman as long as I can remember. We wish him well as he takes up his duties in Harrisburg. But we must face up to the responsibility to elect a replacement. My sense is that this is an open election, anyone entered can win if they convince enough voters to choose them. I don't think the parties will have enough time to crush the opponents to their chosen candidates. All the candidates in my opinion are viable. So come out to the forum February 18, listen, make an informed choice and vote February 25.

<h1>THE NUIN CENTER</h1>	
	
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FEBRUARY CALENDAR	
FEBRUARY 13	"A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE EAST END", PITT CENTER FOR LIFETIME LEARNING, PREREGISTRATION & FEES
FEBRUARY 18	VOTER'S FORUM, ST. ANDREW'S, 7:30 P.M.
FEBRUARY 20	HPCC MEETING, ST. ANDREW'S, 7:30 P.M.
FEBRUARY 22	HPCC HOLIDAY PARTY, 927 N. SHERIDAN, 5:30 P.M. RSVP REQUIRED
FEBRUARY 22	"ST. ANDREW'S PRESENTS", SOPRANO CHARLENE CANTY, ST. ANDREW'S, 8:00 P.M.
FEBRUARY 25	SPECIAL DISTRICT 7 ELECTION DAY — GO OUT AND VOTE!