

Edited by Ollie Rieley & Lisa C. Williams

#### The President's Column

Bob Staresinic, 412-441-8972, bob.63@netzero.net

Hello Neighbors,

I have to say that the Holiday Party at David and Kelly Meade's house was a good time. It was great to see some members who I have not seen in a while. If you missed it this year, keep your eyes open for the next one.

The February meeting of the HPCC had representatives from the PWSA, City Parks, City Planning, and the Parks Conservancy, who came to speak about what is going on in our park. It sounds like there are going to be some great changes coming soon. The Entry Garden and Fountain should be ready by May, and there are thousands of bulbs getting ready to bloom.

The PWSA reported that they will be working on the southern end of the reservoir, which is the section that you see when you enter the Park. They plan to strip ALL of the vegetation from the bank up to the reservoir sidewalk and replace it with ground cover. They say that this is necessary to keep the leaves and branches from getting into the reservoir and messing with the water quality. I understand that, but I am concerned that they did not know what they are planting on the bank. The bank should be replanted by May, according to the representatives of the PWSA.

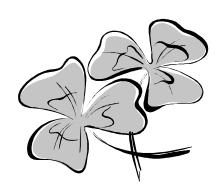
The Parks Conservancy is planning their Spring Hat Luncheon in Highland Park in May. Check out the Conservancy's website for more info. <a href="https://www.pittsburghparks.org">www.pittsburghparks.org</a>.

Also coming to our neighborhood in April is the Junior League's Designer Show House, which will be at 820 N. Highland Avenue. Check out <a href="https://www.junior-league.org">www.junior-league.org</a> for more information.

I hope you get out to observe and enjoy what is going on in your neighborhood. Come on out for the March HPCC meeting, which will feature a presentation from the Community Development Corp (HPCDC) on the Bryant Street development.

See you around.

HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY



THE NEXT HPCC MEETING IS 7:30 PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2005, AT ST. ANDREWS

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## THE PITTSBURGH CAMERATA PRESENTS

"A Language of Flowers"

Gail Luley

The Ensemble will be at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street, on <u>Saturday, March 19 at 8:00 PM</u>. The 24-voice professional chamber choir will perform *a cappella* pieces with a floral motif, from the Italian and English Renaissance, by Johannes Brahms, contemporary selections by Stephen Paulus and Eric Whitacre and a madrigal by Gustav Holst which best expresses the mood of this concert.

I sowed the seeds of love,
And I sowed them in the spring;
I gathered them up in morning so soon,
When small birds sweetly sing.
From "I Sowed the Seeds of Love,"
Hamshire folksong, arr. By G.T.
Holst

**Tickets are \$15 and \$6 for students. 412-421-5884.** For more information and a concert program listing, visit the Camerata's website at www.pittsburghcamerata.org.

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#### **Seminary Concert**

The next Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Afternoon Concert will be Saturday March 5 at 3:00 P.M. The concert features Yeeha Chiu, piano; Lilly Abreu, Soprano, and Richard Page, clarinet. Tickets are available at the door. Call 412 362-5610 ext. 2196 for more information.

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#### **HPCC Meeting Highlights February 17, 2005**

Bridget Nadler

Malted milk eggs

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm.

**Union Project:** Jessica King, from the Union Project, stated that after three years of planning. construction will soon begin. The Project's mission is to restore and preserve the Union Baptist Church, which is a meeting place for the community and artists. A zoning hearing will be held Thursday, Feb 24<sup>th.</sup> The only zoning change is to establish the Union Project as a community center. If you are interested in being on the mailing list to receive updates, either call 412-478-3105 or visit the website www.unionproject.org

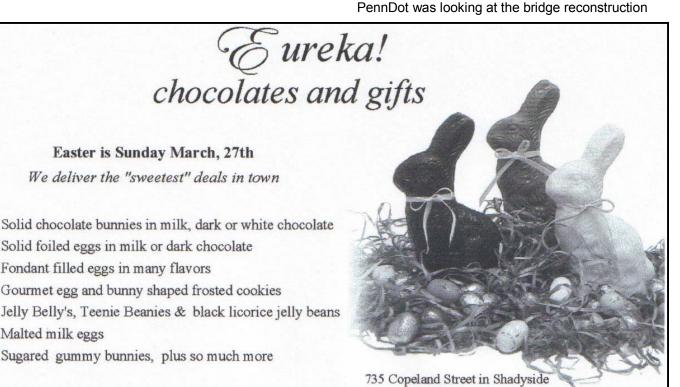
2005 Designer Show House: Scott Dietrich introduced himself as the owner of 820 North Highland Avenue. He and his wife, Diane, have graciously opened their home to the Junior League of Pittsburgh for the 17<sup>th</sup> Designers' Show House. There will be a zoning hearing March 3<sup>rd</sup> to hand over the house for the time of the show. There is one Pittsburgh Designer per room, as well as landscape designers addressing the grounds. The schedule is as follows, April 1-2, is the \$5 preview. The Opening Night Gala is April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The house will then be open for public viewing from Sat., April 23<sup>rd</sup>, through Sun., May 15<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

We also make Easter Baskets to your specifications

Community Development Corporation (CDC):

David Hance, President of CDC was joined by Rudy Maceyko, Highland Park Working Group, to introduce a series of presentations. Tonight's meeting concentrated on Park Projects, next month on Bryant Street development and the following month on the Southwest Quadrant. The CDC's upcoming projects will strengthen the architectural fabric of the neighborhood, revitalize the business district and solidify partnerships that have developed between the neighborhood, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and the City of Pittsburgh. All of these efforts will be recognized when Highland Park is placed on the National Historic Register. Rudy Maceyko stated that the Working Group, which involves the Zoo, Morningside, as well as others, is loosely patterned after the Frick Park Working Group.

**Park Projects:** Representatives from the Pittsburgh Sewer and Water Authority, City of Pittsburgh Planning, Public Works Department, and the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy each spoke on the current and upcoming Park projects. Heth's Run: The goal is to establish a river connection. Formerly the Zoo's parking lot, Heth's Run developed out of a need for more rectangular playing fields in the City. Additionally, the Zoo wanted to reconfigure their parking lot. The project began at the far end of the lot that was formerly used by Public Works, but studies showed that it is difficult to grow grass and remove that asphalt. The Zoo is swapping the lower portion for the upper area to "green up the entrance". At the same time,



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project. The space under the bridge will be excavated to create a trail to the river. Friends of the Riverfront, Allegheny Valley Railroad and City Council plan to provide trails along the river in both directions. A trail system will also continue past the field, through the valley and up to the playground above, tying in the neighborhood. Residents expressed concern about an increased level of foot traffic with developing trails. Timeframe for the project is driven by PennDot's restoration of the bridge. Funding is available for design drawings and engineering which will go out this year. Requests for proposals for local landscape architects have also gone out. Farmers Market: Parks Department is conducting a study to establish a new site. Both the Zoo and East Liberty sites will be lost after the 2005 season, and a new site will be determined. Zoo: The Polar Bears exhibit will be reestablished by replacing Niches of the World. An Animal Health Center will go in the vacant area at the former Hoof exhibit at the top of the Zoo property. A "Family Room" addition to the elephant house is also slated. Detailed plans will be left with Bob Staresinic and HPCC. Entry Fountain: Project is to be completed by the first week of May; just in time for the PPC Hat Luncheon scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>. Steps leading up to the reservoir will be repaired, paths are to be repaved and lights are in operation. HPCC was the impetus to restore the fountain, while the City and PPC put up the money. There was a question as to why a tiered fountain similar to the original was not installed. The costs would have been too great. The group reported 36,000 bulbs and 2,000 perennials, 11/2 miles of string and 700 nails all went into the design of the garden. Trellis' made of steel will flank the garden and provide a home for climbing plants. as well as, provide shade and create a design element. Reservoir Slopes: The southern slopes of the reservoir will drastically change. Just behind the entry garden, the slope facing the entrance of the park, all the trees will be removed for better water quality and slope stability by mid March. The plan developed by the represented groups states no harmful effects on water quality, erosion control for the slope, low or no maintenance, and aesthetically pleasing to the entry fountain, garden and rest of the park. This is the first of many phases. The groups hope to work closely with the community to find the best design, maintain control of the growth of the slope and maintenance. There was major concern about keeping legitimate decorative vegetation, and the work that the community has done over the vears with plantings. The group and residents came to an agreement to meet to identify the vegetation that was specifically planted and approved years ago and determine at that time whether certain plantings can be saved. **Babbling Brook:** The water

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is not currently on, but will be in the spring. There was some work completed on the brook after Hurricane Ivan, mainly replacing rocks. Vegetation: Mary Beth Steisslinger, of the PPC, looks at the park project as a whole. Many of the invasive plants in the park are on the slopes, though native plants can be moved to the slopes from other areas of the park. Invasive trees, such as the Norway Maple, are scheduled to be removed since they suppress native plants. Urban EcoStewards are needed in Highland Park. Current maps of the park will soon be available. Elm Grove Trail reopened and others will soon. Steps will be repaired, the walkway addressed, and Duquesne Light has been made aware of the lighting problem in the lower park. A crew is in place to maintain the gardens. Pools will be maintained on a daily basis during the season. City Planning has a project underway called "Natural Area Study" to keep our natural areas healthy. A note of caution: During all of this activity, it is still a construction site and to be mindful of the orange fences.

**Budget:** The proposed budget was voted on by the Board of Directors and approved. Rep. Joe Preston offered funding for the Reservoir of Jazz and other community events. When the funding is received it will be included in the Treasurer's report, and then a new vote will be asked to approve the addition. The Budget Committee meets several times to review the budget. Detailed numbers in the report are available to any member.

**Local Government:** State Rep. Joe Preston spoke about liquor licenses. Recently, four state stores and a few nuisance bars and clubs have been closed. Transit system has been losing money, only one route, the 81 Lincoln, pays for itself. He would like to see funding go to cleaning up the pond in the lower part of the park. He also expressed encouragement and support to Patrick Dowd, Board of Education.

**Zoning:** Dell Zeigler, Zoning Committee Chair, reported on a zoning hearing for the property at the corner of Wellesley and Highland Avenues. There was a strong turnout from the neighbors. Dell is confident that the community will win. No decision has been made thus far.

**Holiday Party:** Kelly and David Meade opened their home on Feb 12<sup>th</sup> for a community gathering. It was a terrific party with over 100 neighbors in attendance. Heartfelt thanks go out to the Meade's for the hospitality, as well as to Kelly Vitti and Dell Zeigler, for helping out.

**Newsletter:** Lisa Williams has taken over the newsletter! Thank you Lisa for taking this responsibility, as well as Thank You to Ollie for all

#### HPCC NEWSLETTER

those years of hard work!!! The Mass Mailing is usually mailed in July, but there is consideration to mail it in May to announce the summer schedule before the Summer Events actually occur.

Other Activity News: Juanita Everett is organizing a neighborhood lunch to support Taj Mahal, one of our local Businesses on Bryant Street, on Saturday, Feb 18<sup>th</sup>. The Children's Committee is planning a Spring Party on March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Farmhouse. Block Watch: Jan Stayianos, Block Watch Committee Chair, made available the Crime Statistics. Friday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, from 1 – 9 PM, the Police Academy is using the firing range for the cadet training. It was reported that NO BOOMS have been called in since Jan 9th. Cmdr. Brackney asks the residents to understand that she is not able to respond to all the e-mails, but she does read them. A resident of the 900 Block of Mellon Street is requesting signatures for a petition to remove the local liquor license from Sandy's Deli. He is witness to drug trafficking, littering, and offensive behavior from their customers. A discussion followed on this

History Group: Rudy Maceyko, Coordinator of the History Group, announced the second meeting to be held March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Farmhouse at 7:30 PM. Two topics will be discussed, Organizational details of the group, and Interesting House History Information. He invites anyone to bring their own house history because they will be discussing how to investigate. **Next Meeting:** David Hance, CDC, discussed next months meeting topic being the future of Bryant Street, including the status of Terry Villa and absentee landlords. The next meeting will be Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM.

#### St. Andrew's Church

5801 Hampton Street \* Highland Park

#### **Sunday Morning Services – March**

9 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel 11 a.m. Choral Morning Worship Church School at 9:45 a.m. Nursery School at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

Visit our Homepage: www.forministry.com/15206saec

#### **Around St. Andrew's**

Bruce Robison

Well-known pianist, Highland Park resident and HPCC member, Betty Rieley, will be in recital at St. Andrew's on Thursday evening, March 3, at the 8 p.m. "First Thursday" Choral Evensong, and a reception follows. All are invited.

The "Cinema St. Andrew" Second Saturday Movie of the Month will be the 1960's film classic, "Butterflies are Free." The free showing begins at 7 p.m., March 12, and all are invited to bring a contribution to the refreshment table if possible.

For music lovers, the Eastern Pittsburgh Youth Orchestra will be in concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, March 13. On Saturday evening, March 19, at 8 p.m., we will host the performance of the Pittsburgh Camerata, our region's premier professional chamber choir. Tickets for both musical programs will be on sale at the door.

Holy Week services at St. Andrew's include the Blessing of Palms on Palm Sunday, March 20, at both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services, a Parish Communion and Potluck Supper shared "around the family dinner table" in the Parish Hall on Holy Thursday, March 24th, beginning promptly at 6:30 p.m., and the Great Three Hours of Good Friday, beginning at 12 Noon on Friday the 25th with Stations of the Cross, then continuing with the Good Friday liturgy at 1 p.m. and a Musical Offering by St. Andrew's Choir at 2 p.m.

Through Lent and Easter there are seasonally appropriate activities for our children and youth each Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m., under the direction of our Church School Coordinator (and Highland Park neighbor) Liz Buchanan. We're always delighted to welcome new kids to the mix!

Easter services are at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday, March 27, with festive brass ensemble and choral music at the later service, and a Champagne Reception and fun Easter Egg Hunt will be held in the Churchyard (or inside, if the weather doesn't cooperate) immediately following the 11 a.m. service.

At the corner of Hampton Street and North Euclid Avenue, St. Andrew's is at the heart of the Highland Park neighborhood. All are welcome to enjoy the life and activities of the parish. If there are pastoral concerns we can help with--a baby to be baptized, a marriage to celebrate, a sick or shut-in relative, friend/neighbor to be visited, a family to be supported at the time of a death--we hope you will call on us. Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9-Noon and 1-3 pm, Phone Number: 412-661-1245.

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#### **Union Project Update**

Justin Rothshank

Ongoing Stained Glass Restoration Classes

The registration deadline for April classes is April 1. Many of the April classes will begin working on the sanctuary windows of the Union Project. These beautiful windows are some of the most visible stained glass windows in the building, and will be seen by thousands of people for many years to come. Saturday morning classes and Thursday evening classes are being offered. Also, new in April, will be our weekend stained glass intensive. Class members will work from Friday evening thru Sunday afternoon to completely restore their windows. Lunch will be included on 2 days, and a smaller class will allow for more student/teacher interaction. If you are interested in stained glass classes at the Union Project please call 412-478-3105 or email Justin@unionproject.org.

Planning Team Volunteers Needed

The Union Project Board of Directors is planning an event to showcase and celebrate our progress. The

Groundbreaking Event Committee is looking for volunteers interested in brainstorming what the event could include and pulling together sponsors and volunteers to make it happen. The event itself is tentatively scheduled for May 14; the first planning committee meeting is scheduled for March 3 at the Starbuck's in the Omni William Penn, at 5:45 p.m. Please RSVP to Abby Sandel at <a href="mailto:abbysandel@earthlink.net">abbysandel@earthlink.net</a> if you plan to attend.

Volunteers for Old House Fair Needed

Union Project will be having a booth at the Old House Fair at the Pittsburgh Home & Garden Show on March 12 and 13. Volunteers are needed to help staff the Union Project booth. Volunteers who have previously volunteered at the Union Project or who have taken a stained glass class would be preferred, as the primary job for this event will be answering questions about Union Project and its programs. If you are interested in helping to staff the table at the Old House Fair please contact Justin@unionproject.org or call 412-478-3105.

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## Nonprofit Summit 2005 – Nonprofits as Agents of Change

Union Project Update continued

"Never doubt that a small group of citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead's words are serving as the basis for a conference sponsored by Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania and six other organizations, including the Union Project, which is expected to attract 1,000 attendees. "Nonprofits as Agents of Change: Leading Our Region's Next Renaissance" is the theme of the 2005 Nonprofit Summit, which will be held on April 26 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh. The conference will focus on leadership, change and transformation. It will feature two concurrent sessions that include 13 workshops on all aspects of change – planning, leading, crafting, facilitating, raising money for, advocating for, marketing for and more. It will also include five "town hall" meetings that focus on community issues such as healthy children, youth, and families; thriving neighborhoods, civic engagement, viable economies, and creative communities. The Union Project will be helping to organize the "town hall" session about creative communities. The registration fee is \$75 for the first member of the organization and \$65 for each additional member. Scholarships are available. For information on the conference, visit www.pittsburghnonprofitsummit.org

or call 412-471-6488 to be placed on the mailing list to receive conference information.

www.unionproject.org

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#### **New Editor**

Ollie Rieley

Lisa Williams is the new editor of the HPCC Newsletter. I am helping her with this issue, then she's basically on her own. Lisa was president of the HPCC from September 2002 to September 2003. Lisa has been a resident in Highland Park since 2000. When she's not busy on HPCC business, she is a realtor with Howard Hanna. Lisa and her husband, Chad, live on Jackson Street. I encourage all of you to give her the same support you gave me.

On a personal note: I have mixed feelings on leaving the editor's job. I will miss the interactions with all you authors but will be relieved not having to put the newsletter together ten times a year. I thank all you authors whether you contributed only once during my tenure or you contributed every month. Without you, there could not be a newsletter. I also thank the advertisers; your support of the newsletter and the Club are very important in helping us make a better neighborhood.

24 HOUR TOWING



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#### **PLACE NAMES**

Pat Miller

In grade school we all learned that Pennsylvania meant "Penn's woods" but what about place names like Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and East Liberty? Where did they come from?

The British captured Fort Duquesne from the French in 1759 and renamed it Fort Pitt after England's William Pitt. Pittsburgh didn't exist then. In 1761 there were just 163 men, 45 women, and 25 children living in 160 houses outside of Fort Pitt. Presumably they settled near the fort because it was safer in the event of attack. In November 1782, following Great Britain's defeat in the Revolutionary War, the Penn family, having sided with the British, prudently decided to sell all their land from Fort Pitt to the Allegheny River. They did and the town was formally laid out with lots offered for sale in 1784. Towns in the United States were often named "burg" or "burgh" meaning "town" so "Pittsburgh" was an obvious name for the new town. In 1794 it became a borough with a population of approximately 1,500 and in 1816 it was incorporated as a city with a population of approximately 7,000.

In 1891 Pittsburgh lost its "h" when the US Board of Geographic Names ordered the removal of "h" from all town and city names ending in "burgh". After a long struggle we got the "h" restored in 1911 and may well be the only "burgh" in the United States today.

Allegheny County was formed in 1788 from parts of Washington and Westmoreland counties. The name comes from the river, which got its name from an early Indian tribe, the Allegewi. When it was first formed, Allegheny County went all the way to Erie and included all of northwestern Pennsylvania. It shrunk to its current size in 1800.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century in Ireland and England land was set aside for the grazing of cows and this land was known as a "liberty". Pittsburgh once had three liberties. North Liberty is now the strip district, West Liberty survives as a street, and in 1790 Jacob Negley named our area East Liberty, perhaps because he was too modest to have it named after himself. But maybe it just wasn't worth much back then. In 1795 Samuel Dilworth, who came here from the east that year, was offered "all of East Liberty" for "a bull calf and a salt pan". He declined and bought land in what is now Bellevue.

## Lisa Solomon

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TIME VALUE

MARCH 2005 CALENDAR March 3 "First Thursday" Choral Evensong, St. Andrew's March 5 Afternoon Concerts at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 3PM March 12 "Cinema St. Andrew" March 13 Eastern Pittsburgh Youth Orchestra, St. Andrew's, 3 PM March 17 HPCC Meeting, St. Andrew's, 7:30 PM March 17 Articles for the Newsletter due! Email to I.c.williams@att.net March 19 Children's Committee, Spring Party, (Call Rachel to Volunteer) March 19 Pittsburgh Camerata presents "A Language of Flowers", St. Andrew's, 8 PM

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