



The Citizens Report

A bimonthly publication of the Brighton Heights Citizen's Federation

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May/June 2008

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Next General Membership Meeting

Thursday, May 8th
7:00 p.m.

Brighton-McClure
Presbyterian Church
Corner of Brighton Road
and Benton Ave

President's Message

by Pete Bellisario

Memorial Day, a Colorful Corner, By Laws and a New Sidewalk on McClure

The Veterans committee continues to plan for our Memorial Day ceremony at Legion Park. We are hoping for as large a crowd as we had last year. Many thanks to Father Bill Hausen of Christ Hope Church located at the corner of Shadeland and Davis Avenues for allowing the veterans to use his facilities to serve refreshments. At last year's ceremony there were several families present that had a family member currently serving in the armed forces. We would like to acknowledge these individuals as part of our ceremonies each year. Not all Brighton Heights residents are members of the Federation and I'm sure that some of these families have a member currently serving. We would need Federation members' help in identifying them so that we can acknowledge them at the ceremony. If you know of any family members currently serving, please call Tom Kaylor at 412-766-7330 and let him know.

Hopefully, you have noticed the REDD UP crew working on the City lot on the corner of Termon and Brighton Heights Boulevard. This effort is part of Mayor Ravenstahl's Green Up Pittsburgh program partnering with neighborhood organizations to turn vacant city-owned lots into environmental showplaces. We missed out on last year's program and were told we would be reevaluated for this year's cycle. As most of you know, the Federation has been working on those corners for at least 15 years. All that work has paid off in

having the City recognize that we are willing to cooperate with it to add an asset to our neighborhood. The partnership for these efforts includes the Office of the Mayor, City of Pittsburgh Public Works and Penn State Cooperative Extension. They will identify indigenous flowers, plants and grasses that require minimal effort to maintain. There will be new trees planted and we will have our traditional flower beds.

All members should have received a post card announcing a change in the bylaws of the Federation. We have had two members of the Board of Directors resign because of work requirements and we have one volunteer willing to join the Board. The only way we can expedite this process is by changing the bylaws. So come to the next general membership meeting on May 8th and vote on the proposal. Please read the article on the bylaws revision on the next page.

A contractor for the Urban Redevelopment Authority of the City of Pittsburgh has begun replacing the sidewalk on the Saint John's property. And trees will be added after the construction.

See you on May 8th! We will have an interesting agenda. We have invited representatives from the Mayor's office, the police department, and the Pittsburgh Housing Authority to get their input about scattered site housing in the city.

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation Man of the Year 2008

Each year the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation is asked to nominate a person who has been instrumental in the smooth operation of the Federation. The selectee is then recognized at the North Side Leadership Conference annual dinner. We alternate giving this award to individuals and businesses every other year. This year we are pleased to choose our board member Tom Kaylor as our Citizen of the Year.

Tom Kaylor has been a Pittsburgh resident for all of his 68 years. He attended Saint Peter's Grade School and North Catholic High School. He served in the US Army for two years following a brief period of working at the H.J. Heinz Company. Tom married his wife, Mary Ann, in 1965. In the same year he was employed with the US Postal Service as a letter carrier / parcel post driver. He retired from the Postal Service in 2001 with 36 years of service.

While living in Brighton Heights for the past 37 years, he and Mary Ann raised four children, all of whom attended Saint Cyril's Grade School. They have four grandchildren

(as well as six grand dogs.) Tom has been on the Board since 2003, recently serving as the Vice President. He enjoys working with other volunteers in their efforts to improve the Brighton Heights area.



Tom and Mary Ann are parishioners of Saint Cyril's Church where Tom has been a choir member for the past 30 years. Tom enjoys playing golf and listening to his favorite music on his XM radio. He also likes to visit his sons who live in Cincinnati, San Jose, California and Michigan. His daughter and two grandchildren live in the neighborhood, and he and Mary Ann are actively involved with them.

Tom is one of the most loyal volunteers in the neighborhood, showing up for every Federation activity and offering the services of his most needed pickup truck when the work gets heavy. He is a talented singer and provides his own lyrics for many songs to keep his companions entertained. It is a pleasure and a privilege to have Tom on the

board and as a neighbor, and we are happy to be able to honor his service to the community.

Farewell to Kier Tinker

Again we must bid adieu to another board member. Kier Tinker has been on the BHCF Board of Directors for only a year, but he has been a valuable asset, and has supported his wife Jen in her efforts to establish and maintain our Brighton Heights website.

He and Jen moved to Brighton Heights about five years ago and now have two children, Liam, almost 5, and Lily, almost 3. Kier jumped right into the neighborhood activities by serving on the Portal Committee and helping with the Fun Run and the Great PA CleanUp for a couple years even before he agreed to be on the Board of Directors. Kier is an avid runner and enjoyed running in Riverview Park and cycling to work in Cranberry often.

They will miss shopping in our California Avenue business district, especially Friday's, Timeless Beauty and the Vault. Kier was recruited by Microsoft and could not pass up the opportunity to work in Boston for them as a senior software developer. We will miss having them as neighbors and having Kier on the Board.

Bylaws Revision

Unexpectedly, the Federation was faced with the resignation of two board members in the past two months. Our current bylaws do not allow a timely replacement of those members until our next election. In order to remedy that situation and bring new members onto the board before November, the Board of Directors is suggesting a change in the bylaws as follows:

From: "If an office becomes vacant, the Board with guidance from the Nominating Committee shall fill the unexpired term of office by roll call vote. Elected directorships that become vacant shall remain so until the expiration of the term of the vacated seat, at which time it will be filled by the election process of the general membership."

To: "If an office or Elected directorship becomes vacant, the Board with guidance from the Nominating Committee shall fill the unexpired term of office by roll call vote."

Please plan to attend the General Membership Meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2008 so that you can vote on this change.

Side Lot Improvement

Please spread the word about the following program:

If your house borders an overgrown, publicly-owned (or tax delinquent), vacant lot, you no longer have to look out your window and cringe. The City of Pittsburgh, in cooperation with City Source Associates, is introducing a low-cost minimum way for you to buy that lot and make it your own.

Go to: http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/finance/assets/sideyard_sale_program.pdf
(The spaces between the words sideyard_sale_program must have the “_” underline symbol in them.)

If you need help with this, email us at contactus@brightonheights.org or call the Answer Line at 412-734-0233

Coming Soon: a Colorful Corner

You may have noticed a lot of activity at the corner of Termon Avenue and Brighton Heights Boulevard in the past few weeks. Our neighborhood is privileged to be a part of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl’s Green Up Pittsburgh Project. This program aims to stabilize city-owned vacant lots with the goals of reducing blight, inspiring community pride and promoting environmental values. The innovative initiative converts city-owned vacant lots into community green spaces, thereby transforming the city’s liabilities into assets.

The City has partnered with the Penn State Cooperative Extension (PSCE), the Redd Up crew and numerous neighborhood organizations. BHCF will be coordinating volunteers and maintaining ongoing stewardship of this lot, which has been a part of our flower gardens for the past many years.

The Redd Up crew has graded the lot and removed debris, weeds and invasive trees. They have replaced the sidewalks, placed topsoil and fertilizer and planted low maintenance grass. At the beginning of April, the Redd Up crew, the Penn State Cooperative Extension and the BHCF flower planting committee met on the site to select a design and decide on plants.

A raised mound close to the sidewalk will be a part of the program when we meet to plant flowers on the portal corners on Saturday, May 10th. Please join us that morning at 9 AM, and bring your gloves, trowels and energies to help get the job done. Each year we get so many compliments on the flowers. Join the group and you can enjoy the flowers even more knowing you were a part of getting the panorama started.

Want Your Street Swept?

Submit a petition to Darlene Harris indicating a desire for street sweeping on a regular schedule. It must have the signatures of a majority of the residents of the street. Please be aware that cars parked on the side of the street to be cleaned on the designated day will receive parking tickets.

The schedule will be posted.



Spring!

Darlene Harris,
Councilwoman,
City of Pittsburgh

Spring is here! And with it comes flowers, sunshine, a little rain, a few hazards and a bit of clutter. Even as we are thankful for the sun and flowers, it’s important to prepare for the hazards and the clutter.

When the snow and ice clear, we often get potholes. I know that many of our neighborhood organizations have been encouraging members to report potholes to the Mayor’s 311 Response Line. While this is a good practice, if you have potholes which still are not getting fixed, please notify my office.

We are asking the communities to put together spring cleaning lists - items which can be attended to by the City. These items would include weeds needing to be cut, vacant houses which are becoming dangerous and other issues which involve City workers.

Unfortunately, when the sun comes out, sometimes folks we don’t want in our neighborhoods also appear. Across the City, we have seen an increase in thefts from automobiles. The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police is aware of, and are actively watching for, such criminals. You can do your part: thieves are looking to pawn things quickly, and electronic devices are particularly desirable. I urge you to take things out of your car when you are not in it: CD players, speakers, GPS devices, cell phones, wrapped packages or anything else that might be attractive to someone looking for quick cash. If it’s not nailed down or hidden and sometimes even if it is thieves will find a way to steal it.

Please also remember that kids are out playing and riding their bikes and skateboards. Be especially careful when you are driving. Working together, we can take care of spring’s negative elements (except maybe the always unpredictable spring weather!), and get out and enjoy all that springtime in Pittsburgh offers.

Let's Make the Most of the Urban Forest in which We Live



Mayor Luke Ravenstahl

Dear Neighbors and Concerned Residents:

Spring is here and the summer months are fast approaching. As you begin planning for your own gardens and lawns, my administration is thinking about the overall landscape of our City, and is focused on doing major spring cleaning and greening. We want to keep our vacant lots clean and green, and cre-

ate a healthy environment for Pittsburghers to enjoy this year and in the years to come.

With the tree planting season here, we are looking at the City as one large urban forest. Our city is full of shade trees. They line our streets and communities and bring a little green into our daily lives. Properly placed and cared for, trees can increase the value of our real estate and provide countless benefits to our quality of life. Our urban forest is a great resource, and we are investing in this resource. Unfortunately, we have inherited a forest that has been, for a long time, ignored and improperly cared for. We are, however, working to revitalize our urban forest.

We are planning to plant new trees throughout the City very soon. However, our plan must also include maintaining existing trees, a key factor in the overall management of this community asset. An independent street tree inventory was conducted in 2005 by the Davey Resource Group. They were hired by the city and the Pittsburgh Shade Tree Commission to catalogue the quantity and condition of all 31,524 street trees throughout Pittsburgh. Their findings were typical of inventories in other cities: fully 10% of our urban street trees were in serious condition and warranted removal. We are in year two of this removal effort. To make the streets and sidewalks safe, the City of Pittsburgh must remove unhealthy, hazardous trees.

The City of Pittsburgh Forestry Division is charged with the care of Pittsburgh's public tree stock. The Division takes great pride in maintaining trees so that they live long, beneficial lives. The City's Forestry Division does not remove trees based on inventory data alone. Each of the trees identified as unhealthy in the independent study is also visited by a Forestry investigator, who conducts a thorough inspection. By taking this extra step, we ensure that healthy trees are not unnecessarily removed. It is only after this second investigation that we decide whether a tree needs to be removed according to specific criteria.

We would not remove a healthy tree. Our Forestry Division is

committed to removing only hazardous trees for the public good.

In addition to a dedicated Forestry crew, the City of Pittsburgh is proud to have a team of "tree experts," and concerned citizens who keep watch over our urban forest. The Shade Tree Commission oversees and reviews our tree maintenance and removal processes.

In response to your concern of the recent tree removals throughout the City, we have made some changes in our notification and removal processes. We are also providing more information to our residents. They will be given more notice before removal, and we are working on the creation of an appeal process. And we are revamping the Forestry Department's* and the Shade Tree Commission's websites. The result will be the most up-to-date and accurate information regarding our trees. A database, "TreeKeeper," is also available online through the City website, which enables you to find a particular street tree with information on its current condition and any scheduled maintenance on it: http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/cp/html/shade_tree_commission.html

The tree removal currently underway is just one part of a comprehensive plan. The Seven-Year Management Plan that the City is following also calls for trees to be planted throughout the City. We will be replanting and re-growing Pittsburgh's urban forest. Currently, when a street tree is removed, adjacent property owners are provided a Tree Planting Request form by which they may register interest in receiving a new tree at a future date. The Forestry Division may also provide a no-cost permit for property owners who wish to plant a tree on City right of way at their own expense.

The state initiative, "TreeVitalize" will launch this spring and provide resources to plant more and more trees in our neighborhoods. The goal of "TreeVitalize" is to improve the quality of life in older neighborhoods through tree planting projects.

However, we need to ensure that the trees that are planted will be properly cared for; we do not want to create another situation similar to the one we are experiencing now. So we will be focusing tree plantings with groups and individuals who are trained to care for the trees. If you are interested in receiving tree tender training, you can contact Lisa Ceoffe, our Urban Forester and "TreeVitalize" Coordinator, at 412-393-0154. By doing so, you won't miss the opportunity of having trees planted in your neighborhood. You may also contact my office at 412-255-2566, or our Urban Forester at 412-393-0154 for information on any changes related to tree removals, appeals and plantings.

With your help, we can make Pittsburgh the city of black, gold and green.

* Go to the City's site: www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us and click Departments. Under "Public Works" you'll find "Forestry."



State Rep. Don Walko Reports from Harrisburg:

Walko Votes for Major Energy-Independence Bill

Don Walko, State Representative

The price of oil has climbed past \$100 a barrel, and some experts are now predicting \$4 gasoline later this spring. Pennsylvania is one of the states where diesel fuel has already passed \$4 a gallon. We need to make a major step forward on energy independence. I and a majority of the state House recently voted for Pennsylvania to do just that.

Our economy is at risk, and we need to break our addiction to oil from the Middle East and start using more of our energy dollars to create jobs here.

The House passed Special Session H.B. 1, which would establish an \$850 million bond fund paid for by tapping into existing gross receipts taxes on electric bills. The funding would be used to promote low-pollution, in-state energy generation and investment. It would also attract private-sector funds to reduce Pennsylvania's dependence on Middle Eastern oil and other foreign energy sources.

The state's current energy investment programs have created more than 2500 jobs. But funding is limited and the state is only able to support 10 percent of requests, losing out on at least \$100 million in potential investments every year. The \$850 million energy fund would provide:

1. **\$244 million** — Rebates for energy-efficient household appliances and grants to incentivize the use of solar power;

2. **\$106 million** — Venture capital, grants and loans for the expansion of alternative-energy companies in Pennsylvania;

3. **\$500 million** — Clean-energy projects and development or equipment costs for specific alternative-energy economic development projects.

The state House has taken a major step forward by passing this energy independence policy. By establishing our own homegrown energy resources based on alternative fuel sources, we would cut down on the \$30 billion that Pennsylvania families and businesses currently ship overseas to buy energy each year.

The House also recently passed "green building" legislation that would promote environmentally friendly construction and renovation in Pennsylvania. Conserving energy is another way to reduce our dependence on foreign energy and to cut down on pollution.

The "green buildings" bill, along with the newly passed Special Session H.B. 1 and other components of the state's Energy Independence Strategy, await consideration in the Senate.

If you have questions on a state-related issue or subject, please call my office at 412-321-5523

Crimes Against the Elderly

This is the eighth in a series on How We Can Protect Ourselves from Being Swindled. It is based on the booklet *A Consumer Reference Guide for Seniors*, published by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General and provided by State Representative Don Walko.

If you bought shoes and found that they didn't fit, it would mean less than \$50 down the drain. If you bought a hearing aid that didn't fit, it might mean that you wasted \$2000. A wise first step, then, is to visit your doctor, who can determine if your hearing problem is caused by an underlying condition. Your doctor can then refer you to a seller who will correctly fit your new hearing aid.

There are aggressive hearing aid salesmen among us. But Pennsylvania law is on our side. It requires them to tell you right off the bat that, even if they're a registered hearing aid dealer or fitter, their examination is not the same as a doctor's examination or diagnoses.

Before you buy, the hearing aid seller must disclose all fees that you will or might have to pay.

The hearing aid seller is required to give you a written, detailed description of the hearing aid.

And a hearing aid purchase must allow you to return it for a full refund within 30 days.

Brighton Heights 2008 House Tour

The 2008 Brighton Heights Chocolate House Tour will be held on Sunday, May 18, 2008 from 1 to 5 PM. We are happy to showcase our neighborhood which boasts an exciting mix of architectural styles and attractive landscaping designs. This year's tour will begin at St Cyril's Church on Brighton Road and cover the area West and North of the church.

What exactly is a chocolate house tour? We have been asked if we have a chocolate house here. Well, no, none of the houses are actually made of chocolate, but each home will have some form of chocolate treat for the visitors. You will get a double bonus – great homes and tasty treats. And as a special bonus, the raffle prize this year (one ticket is given to each tour goer) is a night's stay at The Priory Hotel!

This tour is a must! We have ten great homes open to the tour goers. With a mix of architectural designs and decorating tastes, each house is distinctively different. But they all do have one thing in common – their owners take great pride in them and work hard to make them exactly the kind of homes that they want. For people thinking of moving to Brighton Heights, for residents and for house tour and history buffs, there will be plenty to marvel at. It's also a great place to get decorating ideas for your own home.

Committee chair Jeff Worsinger and his team, Ray Meyer, Peggy Urzua, Joan Bellisario, Jan Bendtsen, Daren D'Ippolito, John Canning, Debbie Meyer, Tim College, and Jesse Belfast have worked on this event all year. You'll see the results when you take the tour! Each year they identify and recruit a new group of residents who have exceptional houses to book for the tour. The committee researches the history of each house, and creates a comprehensive tour book. The house tour owners spend a lot of time preparing for this day to present their homes at their very best.

Volunteers line the tour route to guide tour walkers to each destination. Tour tickets can be purchased by mailing in the registration form below, on-line at www.brightonheights.org using PayPal, or at the door. Reservations are also taken on the Brighton Heights answer line at 412-734-0233, entitling you to pay the reduced rate at the door.

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation 2008 House Tour Reservation Form

Date: Sunday, May 18, 2008 **Time:** 1 to 5 PM

Cost: \$10 (non-refundable) if received before May 19, 2007, \$15 day of tour

Start: St. Cyril of Alexandria Church, 3854 Brighton Rd

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Would you like to receive our free "E-Newsletter"? Y N

Number of tickets: _____ **Amount enclosed:** _____

What exactly is a chocolate house tour? We have been asked if we have a chocolate house here. Well, no, none of the houses are actually made of chocolate, but each home will have some form of chocolate treat for the visitors. You will get a double bonus – great homes and tasty treats.

No cash, please – send check to:

BHCF, Inc.

2008 House Tour

PO Box 99696 • Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Starts at St. Cyril of Alexandria Church
3854 Brighton Road, 15212

\$15 at door • \$10 before 5:17:08

PAYPAL available on our website at: www.brightonheights.org

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting of March 13, 2008

I. Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: about 45

Minutes approved as written in the newsletter.

2. Report of Officers:

President's Report

Pete Bellisario

Housing Committee met with Urban Re-development Authority and Northside Leadership Conference to discuss the Saint John's site. Threefold agenda:

- o Install sidewalks - contractor approved and work will begin April 1st. Sidewalks will be installed from the corner of Antrim and McClure up McClure to the first house. Trees will also be planted along the sidewalk.

- o House to be built. But the first one will be on Fleming because there will be houses on both sides of the street. The Federation will continue to seek to have homes built on McClure.

- o Between Fleming and McClure Avenues there is a significant slope. A "green" company, La Quatra Bonci Associates, Landscape Architecture, has been selected to evaluate what types of foliage that can be planted in this space. The target of plants would be low maintenance. The property owners will have responsibility for the upkeep as it will be part of their property.

A volunteer (a couple) in the community has stepped forward to take on the role of housing czar(s) and work with the Board of Directors on problem properties.

Pete is working with our councilperson, Darlene Harris, to fix all potholes in the community. Pete asked the audience to report streets where there are potholes to Andy McLaren following conclusion of the meeting. Pete will report back to Darlene on any additional streets where there are potholes. Complaints received regarding street paving issues have been forwarded to Darlene Harris as well.

Vacant lots in neighborhood:

- o Consider side yard program, whereby a neighbor can purchase the ground at a reasonable price.

- o Garden waiver is another avenue.

- o Contact Jenny Watson in the Mayor's office for more information on both of these programs: 412-255-4765 or jennifer.watson@city.pittsburgh.pa.us

Pete reported that there is a concert at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center on May 4th. Tickets are \$8.

There is a meeting planned for March 17th at 6:00 PM at the Epiphany Church (across from the Mellon Arena) to discuss the casino and parking garage issues.

The Lutheran Church located at the intersection of Shadeland, Davis Avenue and Brighton Road has a new name: Christ Hope Church. New clergy in attendance. Father Bill Housen introduced.

Pancake breakfast at All Saints Church on April 12th from 10 to 1.

Spaghetti dinner at the Brighton Heights Lutheran Church on April 18th from 3 to 7. Also, the church's Meals on Wheels program would very much appreciate any donations.

Treasurer's Report

Joan Bellisario

Account Balances	
Housing Account.....	0
Monument Account.....	\$ 1,570.57
Operating Account	8883.79
State Grant Account.....	902.04
United Way Account.....	322.89
Total	\$11,629.29

A \$20,000, four-year grant was submitted along with the required receipts to the City for approval. However, a few details are still needed.

Treasurer's Report approved by the membership.

Corresponding Secretary's Report

Andy McLaren

Nothing to Report

3. Special Guest:

Amy Matilla - Intelligence arm of the Pittsburgh Police

There are seven detectives assigned to her department that do crime analysis - one per zone. Eighty percent of their work is devoted to street gangs and the crimes associated with their activities - drugs, gang violence and graffiti. There are seven identified gangs in Pittsburgh. Brighton Heights is a neighborhood in flux. This means that there is gang activity from gangs that roam into the neighborhood. The majority of the gang activity occurs in Manchester and Northview Heights. The average gang member is between 16 and 23 with an average gang size of 15 to 35. She identified these gangs and their characteristics.

4. Report of Committees:

Crime and Safety Committee

Donna Kramer

Donna stated that Brighton Heights is a crossroads with major street arteries: California Avenue, Brighton Road and Route 65.

Donna reminded the community that no commercial vehicle should be parked on the street after 7 PM. Report all violations.

Crime Watch meetings will resume April 24th.

Weed and Seed meeting scheduled for April 3rd at 4:30 PM at 4 Allegheny Center, Suite 600. The public is welcome.

House Tour Committee

Jeff Worsinger

The Brighton Heights House Tour is scheduled for May 18th from 1 until 5 PM, starting at Saint Cyril's Church. This year's theme will be chocolate. Nine homes on Brighton Road, Kleber Street, Brandon Road and Shoreham Street will be featured.

Jeff thanked all committee members: Ray Meyer, Joan Bellisario, Judy Bentdsen, Jessie Belfast, Tim Collins and Peggy Urzua. Volunteers are still needed for both May 17th and 18th. Sign up sheets are at the table. All volunteers are entitled to a free tour and pass to the after-tour party at the Vault. Jeff reminded the group that the primary purpose of the House Tour was to promote the neighborhood.

Community Night Committee

Andy McLaren

This year's community night is scheduled for Friday, May 23rd when the Pirates host the Chicago Cubs at 7:05 PM. Tickets are \$17, a discount of \$7 from the gate price. This is also fireworks night, and all who sign up will also receive a free ball cap. If you plan on one game this year, this should be the one.

5. Old Business

Earth Day is April 19th and this is the day we clean up the community. We start on Brighton Heights Boulevard and work our way up to the five corner intersection. We then work our way up California to Termon. If we have enough volunteers, we also hit Antrim, Richardson and Fleming.

Flower planting is scheduled for May 10th. Pete reported that State Senator Jim Ferlo and State Representative Don Walko were working together to try to find funding to fix the wall on Brighton Heights Boulevard.

The Roundabout is still alive. The package is at the Harrisburg level for approval.

Joan reported that Brighton Heights Citizens Federation has a new updated website: brightonheights.org and all of the upcoming events are posted on it.

George Lichauer reported on the upcoming Memorial Day celebration in Legion Park. It will be held May 26th at 10:00 AM. On May 23rd, new flags will be placed at the graves of all veterans in Highland Cemetery. The Boy Scouts have been recruited for this worthwhile endeavor.

Pete reported that Dan Keller, former president of BHCf, has volunteered his time to organize and schedule maintenance of the

BHCf gardens at the five corner intersection.

The Northside Leadership Conference banquet is scheduled for May 22nd at the Greek Church on the north side beginning at 5:30 PM. Tickets are \$40. The NSLC comprises 14 communities. This year's Brighton Heights Man of the Year is Tom Kaylor, who always comes through for this organization and the community.

6. New Business

Liz Stiles from the Mayor's office reminded the audience to call 311 if there are any complaints. If there is no response call back with the complaint number. She reported back on an issue from the last meeting: the Pittsburgh Promise Program is an initiative of the Pittsburgh Public School system and that is why it is not open to parochial or private schools.

There will be a sign commemoration event for the new sign at the Brighton Heights Boulevard, date as yet to be determined. The date hinges on the Mayor's schedule. And another sign is in the works for the McClure Avenue portal.

Minutes respectively submitted by Andrew McLaren for Becky Spevack.



**Brighton Heights
Sign Dedication**

**April 21, 2008
4 PM**

Pirate Community Night

The Brighton Heights Citizens Federation will once again sponsor a neighborhood Community Night at PNC Park. Tickets are available for Friday evening, May 23 for a 7:05 game with the Chicago Cubs. Along with fireworks after the game, each game ticket entitles the guest to a free Pirate hat! Tickets are \$17 each, and reservations should be made by May 8, 2008. Fill out the ticket reservation form below, or go online at www.brightonheights.org and pay with PayPal. There is \$1 handling fee for each ticket. Get a group of neighbors together and cheer on the Pirates.



BRIGHTON HEIGHTS CITIZENS FEDERATION PRESENTS:

COMMUNITY NIGHT 2008 AT PNC Park

Pirates versus the Chicago Cubs on Friday, May 23rd at 7:05
pm
Fireworks night and free ball cap with each ticket

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

_____ tickets x \$17/ticket \$ _____
+ \$1 handling /order = \$ _____ enclosed

Make checks (no cash, please) payable to:

BHCF

c/o Andy McLaren • PO Box 99696 • Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Or go on the website www.brightonheights.org and pay with PayPal

Reservation Deadline: May 8, 2008

Questions: Call (412) 761-0760

Great PA Cleanup



Memorial Day 2008

Remember to attend the Memorial Day ceremony at Legion Park on Monday, May 26th at 10 AM. It is sponsored by the American Legion, the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation and the Brightwood Civic Group.

Volunteers are needed ahead of time to help place thousands of American flags in local cemeteries on veterans' graves to honor their service to our country.

Events at Your Local Library!

Summer Reading

The library offers summer reading programs for children, teens and adults. The Woods Run Library will kick off the program on Monday, June 9th from 4 to 5 PM. You can register for Summer Reading at the library or on our website: www.carnegielibrary.org

How does the program work? Read books and win prizes! Incentives are given to those who spend time reading. And the best incentive is research that indicates that children who read during the summer do better when they start the new school year than children who don't.

Special Summer Programs

Summer Scrapbooking for Kids

Kids ages 7 and up are invited to come to the library and create their very own scrapbook that will include photos, writings, pictures and more. Mondays, June 16th to August 11th from 4 to 5 PM.

Bug Patrol: For Bug Lovers Everywhere

Investigate and explore the lives of ants, ladybugs, mealworms and more at these exciting, interactive, buggy programs. Tuesdays, June 10th to August 12th from 5 to 6 PM.

Kids Knit!

Kids ages 7 and up are invited to come to the library to learn how to knit. Needles and yarn will be provided. Wednesdays, June 11th to August 13th from 4 to 5 PM.

Preschool Bingo

Children will learn about colors, numbers and shapes by playing the family favorite game of BINGO. Saturdays, June 14th and 28th, July 12th and 26th and August 9th. From 11:00 to 11:30 AM.

Nature Detectives

Come explore bugs in nature through stories, games and bug-related activities. For kids ages 7 and up. Saturdays, June 21st, July 5th and 19th and August 2nd. From 2:00 to 2:45 PM.

Summer Reading Party

Summer Reading ends with Magician T. J. Hill presenting Buggin' Bookworms. Refreshments will be provided. Saturday, August 16th at 2 PM.

Year-round Programs

Book Discussion for Adults

The Woods Run Library offers a book discussion group for adults. The discussion group meets the second Tuesday of every month at 11:30 AM.

Toddler Storytime

Stories, songs and rhymes will engage and delight toddlers and caregivers at this fun storytime. Storytimes are Tuesdays at 11:30 AM. (There is no storytime the second Tuesday of the month.)

Family Storytime

Every Thursday at 11:30 AM the library offers a Family Storytime. Early reading skills will be enhanced through stories, songs and crafts at this fun storytime.

Get Your Game On!

Gaming @ CLP-Woods Run: Featuring PS2 and Wii

Kids age 10 to 18 are invited to the library once a month to demonstrate their PS2 and Wii gaming skills. The second Thursday of the month from 4 to 6 PM.

Movie Night for Tweens/Teens

Thursdays beginning May 1st at 5 PM.

Coming Soon

Graphic Novel Book Clubs for tweens and teens.

 Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Woods Run Branch

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Woods Run Branch
1201 Woods Run Avenue • 412-761-3730
<http://www.carnegielibrary.org/locations/woodsrun/>

Do You Have a New Neighbor?

If so, let us know and we'll add them for one year as a free "New Resident." And if you'd like to write something about Brighton Heights, please feel free to send your article to:

**BHCF Newsletter, Box 99696,
Pittsburgh, PA 15233**

Or e-mail it to Ron Lindow:
rlindow45@comcast.net

Please include "Brighton Heights" in the subject line.

This newsletter is printed for us by Allegheny General Hospital and we appreciate their generosity!

Newsletter Committee

Irene Jakubowski

Gert Long

Tom Kaylor

Jill McGlothlin

Ron Lindow, Editor

The opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the membership or the:

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Brighton Heights Citizens Federation Info Quick List

Answer Line	(412) 734-0233
Website	www.brightonheights.org
E-mail	brightonheights@yahoo.com
Building permits (Bureau of Building Inspection)	(412) 255-2175
City Council Office	(412) 255-2136
State Representative Don Walko	(412) 321-5523
City Council Representative	(412) 255-2135
Mayor's Office	(412) 255-2626
Mayor's Service Center	(412) 255-2621
Report a burned-out street light (Seven days a week, 24 hours a day) If you can, provide the closest address, side of the street, and SL number located on the pole.	(412) 255-5483
ALCOSAN (Odor Control Hotline)	(412) 766-9445
Organized Crime, Narcotics and Intelligence Division (ONI)	(412) 665-4300
Police, Zone One Station	(412) 323-7201
Mayor's Response Line <i>Non-emergency services and government information</i> Monday through Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm	311
Police	
Fire	911
Ambulance	
Emergencies	

UNITED WAY # 188

Did you now that the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation is a United Way agency? You can make a donation to the Federation by choosing # 188 on your donation form. All United Way donations are used exclusively for our children's activities such as the Halloween Parade. For the past few years, the donations have not covered the costs involved for these activities. Any member making a United Way donation receives a one year extension on their membership. Usually the paperwork does not catch up with us until the year following the donation.

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation

PO Box 99696 • Pittsburgh, PA
15233 • Phone/Fax: 412-734-0233

NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLAINT FORM

You may call the Mayor's Service Center at 412-255-2621 to report a problem you see in your neighborhood. You may also provide the Public Service Committee with this information by using this form. The Public Service Committee will send your complaint to the Mayor's Service Center on your behalf, or in addition to your complaint. You may drop this form off at the General Membership Meeting, or send it to the above address.

Description of the Problem	Address of problem location _____	
	Name of Property owner (if known) _____	
	Please circle one or more	Details: _____
	Health Concern	_____
	Safety Concern	_____
	Eyesore (Graffiti, etc.)	_____
	Other	_____
	How long has this problem persisted? _____	
Dealings with the City	Has this problem been previously reported to the Mayor's service Center, a specific city department or any other agency?	If "Yes," which department? When? How frequently? _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Complaint Submitted by	You may submit this form anonymously, or if you want a response from the Public Service Committee about your complaint, please fill in this box.	Name _____
		Address _____
	Phone Numbers:	Day _____
		Evening _____
	E-mail address (optional)	_____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City and State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

ANNUAL DUES	DUES AMOUNT	TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> New Membership
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$7.50	Family	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	Individual (Unmarried)		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2	Social (Non-resident)	Additional Donation _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	Corporate/Group		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$3	Individual over 65		

Please make your check payable to "BHCF, Inc." and send to:
BHCF Treasurer

Box 99696
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
Please don't send cash.
Thank you!!

Your cancelled check will be your receipt. Your membership renewal date will be reflected on your mailing label. For example, "12/07" means your membership expires in December 2007.

Next General Membership Meeting **Thursday, May 8th 7:00 PM**

Brighton-McClure Presbyterian Church
Corner of Brighton and Benton