



The Citizens Report

A bimonthly publication of the Brighton Heights Citizen's Federation

Volume 38, Issue 4

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Next General Membership Meeting

Thursday, Sept 11th
7:00 p.m.

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

September/October 2008

President's Message by Pete Bellisario

**The Beauty Near the California Avenue Business District;
The Saint John's Site; Rooney School; Security Cameras and More**

As we get ready for another year of Federation activities, there are a few people I want to thank for their volunteer efforts over the summer:

- First, Dan Keller, who volunteered to take care of two of the flowerbeds at the intersection of California Avenue, Termon Avenue and Brighton Heights Boulevard. Dan was very successful in getting neighbors to water and weed our beds. This was quite a relief for the Board who had this responsibility in the past, and the beds look great.
- Second, our local Girl Scouts, who are maintaining the flowerbed near the Nationwide office.
- Third, Cathy Kernan, who has been awesome in weeding and mowing the area in front of the wall on Brighton Heights Boulevard. We will do more to improve the appearance of this area in the near future, such as adding trees.

Our September General Membership Meeting will be the first chance we will have as a group to discuss the latest planning efforts for the former Saint John's property. The Urban Redevelopment Authority owns the property and has been working on plans for its development, and our Housing Committee has been participating in this process. The Board of Directors has approved the concept for presentation to those who attend our meeting.

We will also have the new principal of the Arthur J. Rooney Middle School, Jennifer Mikula, in attendance at the General Membership Meeting. She attended our Board Meeting and favorably impressed us with her discussion. She will be working very closely with us to improve the relationship between our two groups to benefit the students at Rooney.

Hopefully you might have heard that Councilwoman Darlene Harris provided funding to install a security system in our neighborhood, Brightwood and Troy Hill. "The Surveillance Group Inc." was selected to install the systems. Don Marchione, an owner of the group, presented an information briefing at the August Board Meeting on how the system works. He had a demonstration of the system in operation in the business district on Butler Street. We now have to work out some details of where to install the system.

Duquesne Light has provided a grant to the Federation to pay for the installation of a light on a pole near our BRIGHTON HEIGHTS sign on Ohio River Boulevard. We pay a monthly fee for the electricity. Hopefully, it will make the sign more visible at night. It is tied to the electric pole in front of the sign, so it should come on and off with the street lights. If you notice that it is malfunctioning, please let us know.

RENEW PITTSBURGH is an all-volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to sparking a sense of renewal in Pittsburgh neighborhoods. It wants to work with us on a clean-up effort. Kevin Acklin, Executive Director of RENEW PITTSBURGH, has contacted me to set up an area that we would like to improve together with a planned date of Sunday, September 7th. They have been working in many neighborhoods: they have been in West Park, the Mexican War Streets and Troy Hill. On August 9th, they worked with the Hill District in the August Wilson House on Bedford Avenue. If you have any ideas for this project, please come to our General Membership Meeting to present them for discussion.



Cleaning up Litter, Weeds, Code Violations, Graffiti and Vacant Lots in the Neighborhoods

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl

Dear Neighbors:

I hope you had a great Pittsburgh summer. The warm weather complimented the outdoor activities that our great city offers. I attended some of the many events coordinated by Citiparks, and got to know more residents

and neighborhoods by walking.

The third annual Central Oakland 'sweep' took place in July. We cited more than 140 building code and safety violations, ranging from overflowing trash cans to missing fire alarms. These sweeps are part of our effort to ensure that Oakland is a safe place for the more than 20,000 college students living there.

This summer we extended our sweeps: in Larimer, I had the opportunity to walk the neighborhood with 11 of the Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Program (PSYEP) high schoolers. They showed me the areas where they worked hard clearing away litter and weeds. We also had neighborhood sweeps in California-Kirkbride and Allentown. We will be continuing these sweeps in other neighborhoods throughout the year.

These sweeps help us determine the best ways to allocate City resources and to improve the quality of life for our residents. As part of our City Wide Demolition Plan, we doubled our demolition budget and use these sweeps as a tool for targeting the high priority, unsafe buildings. We also target City-owned, vacant lots as part of our Green Up Pittsburgh Program. We challenge residents to become community stewards and create community gardens to help turn blight into beauty.

And we're continuing sweeps through Business Districts. My administration is focused on being proactive and responsive to our business districts' needs. With the Department of Public Works, we launched our Taking Care of Business (TCOB) program in Brookline on July 30th. City Public Works and safety crews 'swept' the area. And we brought back five full-time 'hokey'

patrols to clean up storefronts. Also, the TCOB crews, working from a list of action items delivered by businesses and callers to 311, cited properties, removed graffiti, painted road lines and responded to on-the-spot concerns from citizens. After the TCOB sweeps, business districts will begin to receive improvement hardware - items such as trees, street lights, bike racks or gateway signage, based on a March survey. This is part of our plan to provide our City's 50 major neighborhood business districts with clean sweeps, infrastructure improvements and long-term strategies to renew the neighborhood lifelines.

Although each neighborhood is different, they all share two common concerns - public safety and quality of life. We will be hosting a Public Safety Expo in the fall to ensure residents are aware of all the resources available to them. Residents must feel safe, and we want to do all that we can to ensure this.

One part of improving quality of life is fostering families. On August 10th, my wife Erin and I hosted our very first 'Family Night' on Flagstaff Hill, in conjunction with Citiparks Cinema in the Park. The evening was a combination of arts, crafts, storytellers and performers. Children got to climb aboard fire trucks, police cars and Public Works equipment. Parents learned about city neighborhoods and public safety. Although the film was cancelled due to weather, a great time was had by all, and we're looking forward to our next family event.

As summer is wrapping up, the first Pittsburgh Promise class is preparing to go to college. The Pittsburgh Promise encourages our students to continue their education by helping to eliminate some of the financial burden. I am excited to say that we anticipate more than 800 of the 970 eligible students will be attending school in Pennsylvania this fall and will receive an annual \$5000 scholarship. We are looking forward to hearing about their success and continuing the program for the class of 2009.

I look forward to seeing you during our upcoming neighborhood and business district sweeps.

For more information on Neighborhood Sweeps or the Taking Care of Business Program, please log on to www.pghgov.com, or call 412-255-4765

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation's Annual Halloween Parade

Saturday, October 25th

Registration: 11:30 am to 12:30 p.m. (Registration ends at 12:30 sharp)

Kunsak's Funeral Home parking lot (Davis and Massachusetts Avenues)

Parade will begin promptly at 1:00





State Rep. Don Walko Reports from Harrisburg:

New Laws Make Pennsylvania a Leader on Energy Independence

Don Walko, State Representative

The last time I wrote a column about energy independence, I said the high price of oil – then passing \$100 a barrel – was a major reason we needed to break our addiction to foreign oil. Since then, the price of oil has risen more than 30 percent in just four months.

Fortunately, I have good news: Pennsylvania isn't waiting on the Bush-Cheney administration to act. In July, pressure from the Democratic-majority State House paid off and the legislature passed major energy-independence initiatives that Governor Rendell signed into law.

Every year, Pennsylvania residents and businesses send \$30 billion out of state just to buy gas and other liquid fuels. That's about \$2400 per person. Now we will be keeping more of that money here, creating jobs and reining in energy prices.

Already, the state's current energy investment programs have created more than 2500 jobs. But funding has been limited and the state was only able to support 10 percent of requests, losing out on at least \$100 million in potential investments every year.

The new state budget package invests \$650 million in a mix of commercial and consumer efforts designed to help large companies, small businesses and homeowners take advantage of alternative energy technology. Also, the measure includes funding for the nation's first standards for harnessing cellulosic ethanol and biodiesel as motor fuels, with the potential to derive much of the fuel from non-food sources such as switch grass, agricultural wastes, waste grease and algae. And the high price of oil wasn't the only reason to act – electric rate caps are set to end in less than three years.

Projects under the new fund will range from investments in cutting-edge research to energy-saving weatherization efforts. Also included will be tax credits for alternative energy products and programs, including help for homeowners and small businesses to install solar panels. The Department of Environmental Protection has said applications should be available in the next two to three months. If you would like to be among the first to know when the forms are available, just call my office or sign up at my Web site – www.pahouse.com/Walko. I generally limit these alerts to two or three per month at most.

Instead of a "gold rush," there is a "green rush" in alternative energy because of high prices, and Pennsylvania is now in a great position to capitalize on it.

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 ninth 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.

Nursing homes: if you think one of your parents might have to move into one someday, give it some thought now instead of waiting.

A list of every nursing home in your county is on the Internet*. You can visit them. Ask the residents if they're satisfied. You can examine the home's most recent inspection (this is your right.) Look at the rights and responsibilities of the residents (another right.)

The cost can be several thousand dollars a month. Will this be covered by insurance, Medicare or Medical Assistance? Or will it have to be paid out of pocket?

Examine the admissions contract before you sign. Especially where it specifies who is responsible to pay. You may want to have an attorney examine it.

Additional help is available at 1-866-286-3636

*Go to www.health.state.pa.us

Then: On the left side, click "Health Topics A - Z"

"Nursing Home Information"

"Nursing Home Facility Locator"

"For a breakdown by county..."

"County Search" then, on the map, click the county of your choice



The City Council Tour; Neighbors Being Good Neighbors to their Neighbors

Darlene Harris,
Councilwoman, City of Pittsburgh

Thank you, residents of Council District 1.

On June 12th, City Council

launched a series of visits to the various council districts, geared toward giving the members of Council a better understanding of each part of the city, so that when budget time rolls around this fall we can better serve the City as a whole. We are calling it our "Road Show," and we began in District 1, the constituents of which I am honored to represent.

We started the afternoon by piling into a van to give Council members and their staff a tour of our neighborhoods, showing the high points and low points of District 1. I arranged a schedule which would include such problem spots as Brighton Heights' two closed bridges, flooding and landslide areas, dump sites, abandoned properties and maintenance issues such as weeds and steps. Also such potentials as the natural spring on Spring Hill, and positives like the views from all the different neighborhoods, the historic areas, neighborhood initiatives such as the sports programs and the Café 'N' Creamery in Brightwood (a former nuisance bar which has been "redeemed," where we stopped for coffee.) My Council colleagues will definitely remember the Davis Avenue Bridge – we saw it three different times in our tour, and many of them have mentioned it since.

At 6:00, I hosted the members of Council for a public meeting at Perry Traditional Academy. This was a special meeting, in that it was an official hearing of the full Council. The Director of City Planning, Noor Ismail, spoke in detail as to the makeup of District 1, demographically and in terms of issues. Council's Budget Director, Bill Urbanic, gave a presentation about how money is allocated by the City, and about Council's responsibility both fiscally and to the citizens of the city.

We had more than 100 individuals from the community in attendance. Many of them spoke to Council about issues and concerns important to the residents of District 1. We thank all of you once again.

In subsequent weeks, Council has been visiting the other eight districts, and each week I look forward to learning more about each of them. But I was proud to start with District 1 – we set the bar high for the other districts. I thank you all for your support and valuable input.

Meanwhile, in my office, we have recently received quite a few calls from constituents which basically concern neighbors not acting in a neighborly manner. "Folks are speeding on my street where senior citizens live," says one caller. "I just put in a new sidewalk, for several thousand dollars, and the neighbors think it is their right to park their cars on it," say three other callers.

"My neighbor's ivy is growing all over my garage, and there's poison ivy in the mess!"

These are issues of being neighborly.

There have been a few calls concerning more serious issues, such as the dogs that snarl and bite, and the collapsing home and the garbage which is out in the heat. "My neighbors put their garbage out six days ahead, and all the rats and bugs are all over the yards."

Of course, we attempt to help with all these issues, and in many cases there are city services which cover them – arresting speeders and citing those who park on sidewalks, for instance. But in general, most of these are matters which are addressed best by citizens practicing good, civil behavior.

And naturally I am not talking about the gun violence across the city, the restless youth issues, the thefts and burglaries and other crimes. We do discuss those matters in City Council, and especially when we visit the neighborhoods, and I would never minimize their seriousness.

No, I am talking about matters of common courtesy, about the way a community runs.

So, I shouldn't need to tell you that we do not park on sidewalks, that we only put out our trash on trash day, that speed limits are generally devised with some purpose. But I'm telling you anyway, because it's the neighborly thing to do.

**Councilwoman Darlene M. Harris
can be reached at 412-255-2135**

The Vault

Our environment has changed.

We don't look like a bank.
We don't feel like a bank.
We don't act like a bank.

We are The Vault. The Third Space For Your Day. The place between home and work.

Our motto is to be
"predictably unpredictable."

Every visit is going to be bringing new menu items, new events. You'll just never quite figure out exactly what to expect next!

Come check us out. We are new and revived, upbeat and updated!

Space for friends and family.

Professional hang out.

The neighborhood gathering spot.

Meet with clients before,
during or after work hours.
Private parties and functions.

Plan meetings and events in our casual and updated in-house "living room."

Free Wi-Fi.

Light breakfasts and lunches...
and of course our famous Orinoco Coffee to kick you into high gear for the day.

*You're gonna like us...
You can take that to the bank!*

In the California Avenue Business District,
near Brighton Heights Boulevard
and Termon Avenue.

Monday through Friday:
6:30 AM to 8:30 PM

Saturday:
9:00 AM to 8:30 PM

And coming soon (drum roll please):
Sunday 8 AM to 3 PM

And later Friday and Saturday hours
412-734-1935

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation Announces the 2008 **5K RUN/ WALK IN THE PARK**

Saturday

October 4, 2008

10:00 AM

**Corner of Brighton Road
& Davis Avenue**

Registration Fees

**\$12 until September 20th
\$16 after September 20th**

- Add \$1 for XXL T-Shirts

Early Bird Registration

Thursday, October 2nd

Corner of Brighton Road & Davis Avenue

Race Day Registration

8:00 AM - 9:45 AM

5K RUN/WALK IN THE PARK
Brighton Heights Citizens Federation
3920 Shoreham Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

5K RUN/WALK IN THE PARK
Brighthon Heights Citizens Federation
3920 Shoreham Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

WAIVER:

WAIVER:

In consideration of your accepting this entry, I the signee on the reverse side of the application, intending to be legally bound hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation, its sponsors and any contributor to the race, and any other sponsors and their representatives, successors and assigns, for any and all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event, even though this liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to my ability to safely complete the run/walk.

I assume all risks associated with running/walking the Brighton Heights 5K Fun Run/Walk, including, but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of weather, including high heat and/or humidity, traffic and the conditions of the roads, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. I attest and verify that I will participate in this event as a footrace or walking entrant, that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for the completion of this event, and my physical condition has been verified by a licensed Medical Doctor.

Further, I hereby grant the aforementioned parties to use my name, likeness and voice, as well as any photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings, or any other record of this event in which I may appear for any legitimate purpose, including television broadcast of this event, the reuse in any media of this broadcast, and in the advertising and promotion for such broadcast and the reuse in any media of this broadcast, and in the advertising and promotion for such broadcast and reuse.

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation

5K RUN/ WALK IN THE PARK



Saturday
October 4, 2008
10:00 AM

Brighton Rd. & Davis Ave.

For registration
and/or race information
www.brightonheights.org
Phone: 412-761-0760
Fax: 412-734-0233
or email at:
sumac@bellatlantic.net

FIRST CLASS

Pittsburgh, PA 15212
3920 Shoreham Street
Brighton Heights Citizens Federation
5K RUN/WALK IN THE PARK

2008 5K ENTRY FORM

Submit one form per participant or T-Shirt order.

Please Check Appropriate Block

Runner Walker T-Shirt Only

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

Last

First

ADDRESS _____ Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Are you a Brighton Heights Resident? Yes No TELEPHONE # _____

AGE ON 9/20/2008: _____ SEX: Male Female T-SHIRT SIZE: S M L XL XXL*
*Add \$1

SIGNATURE _____

Read waiver on reverse before signing form. Parents must sign for children under 18 years of age.

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: 'Brighton Heights Citizens Federation'

MAIL CHECK & SIGNED APPLICATION TO: A Run in the Park, 3920 Shoreham St., Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation Minutes of the General Membership Meeting of May 8, 2008

I. Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: approximately 30

Minutes approved as written in the news letter.

2. Report of Officers:

President's Report

Pete Bellisario

The neighborhood is receiving security cameras to try to pin down crime. We are grateful to Councilwoman Harris for her support in our endeavor to monitor criminal behavior.

Mayor Ravenstahl has chosen the lot at the corner of Brighton Heights Boulevard and Termon Avenue for his Green Up Program. We are now responsible for maintaining.

A special thanks to Dan Keller and his volunteers who are watering the flower beds and pulling weeds.

The trees on the sidewalk near the Saint John's Hospital site are in.

Treasurer's Report

Joan Bellisario

Account Balances	
Housing Account	0
Monument Account	\$ 1,616.45
Operating Account	9,624.79
State Grant Account.....	902.41
United Way Account.....	322.89
Total	\$ 12,466.54

The monument account is in a CD. The Federation can use our money for the latest monument in honor of those who have served since World War II and seek reimbursement if need be.

The state grant is dedicated to paying off the sign on Ohio River Boulevard, but it won't be paid until there is a completion of the work.

Treasurer's Report approved by the membership.

Corresponding Secretary's Report

Andy McLaren

Nothing to Report

3. Special Guests

There were multiple guests due to a number of concerns. The major purpose is to try to create a dialogue with the community and its residents on the subjects listed below.

1. Caster Binion - Chief Operating Officer, Housing Authority of Pittsburgh:

The Authority has purchased 34 houses citywide to house displaced residents from the Broadhead Manor area flooding. The Housing Authority received a federal grant to change the residents' status so that they can be in permanent housing.

They work with communities if there are problems with Section 8 housing or if there are any problems with Authority-owned homes. The Authority feels that their residents should be able to come into the community and blend in. If they violate the rules of the community, commit crimes, et cetera, Mr. Binion is the one who would evict them if need be.

He addressed such problems and wants to promote the Authority as a responsible landlord. If there are problems, the Authority is accountable and will address them.

If residents from Broadhead have moved out of the HUD houses, only people who have worked a minimum of 24 months or are handicapped can move in.

2. Commander McNealy:

There is adequate police presence throughout the neighborhood, including plainclothes presence every day. There may be calls in a different neighborhood that pulls manpower to that spot, but as soon as it's over, manpower is back in the neighborhood.

Zone One polices differently now than in the past: a strong use of "park and walk". This gives the feel of the beat, but keeps officers available for quick mobilization, if need be.

There are 80+ officers at this station, and for the month of April, officers did 548 park and walks.

3. Chief Fadzen of School Police with Miss Murphy, Rooney Middle School Principal:

They are appalled at how things have been handled with the middle school students.

The School Police have patrolled the streets, an interim principle has been assigned and Zone 1 Police are assisting.

The School Police are a small unit, but they are working to solve problems.

A court ruling declares they have no jurisdiction as police off school grounds. But they know and keep track of these kids.

If you have concerns please call 412-622-3520

and School Police will be dispatched.

There will be changes made that will start in September.

All available units are out there.

Ms. Murphy: she is well aware of the situation and is working very hard to provide guidance and discipline to her students. For example, kids are not released from buses until staff is there to monitor them.

Staff is trying to follow them off the campus, but don't have enough people to follow them through the neighborhood.

Results won't be overnight, it's a process, but they are trying to build cases against those acting out.

If you hear names, write them down, and call Ms. Murphy.

4. Report of Committees:

Crime and Safety Committee

Donna Kramer

Meeting is the first Thursday in June - some complaints with calling 911 - Chief Harper is coming to public safety meeting, Allegheny Center, 5 PM. Everyone is welcome. During April, year to date, crime is down 40%.

If you see commercial vehicles after 7 PM, call 911. Also, ice cream trucks have a permit to be out only until 10 PM, so watch out and report if they are out later.

House Tour Committee

Jeff Worsinger

Sunday, May 18th, 1 to 5 PM. Starts at Saint Cyril's School. Volunteers meet 9 AM Saturday at Saint Cyril's. Guides meet at 12 noon. (Get assignment at noon on Saturday at the Vault.) Good publicity. Tickets \$15 at the door, \$10 in if purchased in advance.

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.

Let's dwell for a moment on these memories of the past with BHCF Board member Dan Klobucar:

Memories of Woods Run

The next time you're driving along Beaver Avenue (near the penitentiary), think about the fact that, before World War II, in a five by five-block area, there were small grocery stores (Wowk's, Beck's, Kreptich's, Steel City Market and others.) Not only that, but there were Rudy's and Vince's barber shops. The Ohio Valley Bank, Tasy's Restaurant and Leftkowitz's Drug Store. There was a fire station, the Crescent Soft Drink Company and, of course, the penitentiary. There were ten saloons (Steel City, Big Dan's, Orphan Annie's and others) and two clubs (the Ukrainian and Sapp's.) And there was the Woods Run Settlement House.

So the folks of Woods Run had their vice (the bars), their constant reminder to not stray from the straight and narrow (the penitentiary) and the churches and Settlement House to keep their morals intact.

And Woods Run had its colorful characters: Cof feesacks, Sumbum, Psycho, Porkchops, Bughouse and others.

During World War II, it felt like everyone was in the same boat. And there was someone in the military from nearly every family. Trains carrying troops and war goods passed through constantly. Victory Gardens were everywhere. And the many factories in and around Woods Run cranked out war materiels 24 hours a day.

Recreation was furnished by the Woods Run Settlement House and the Ohio River. The latter made fishing, boating and swimming available. And the Settlement House had a gym, swimming pool (for the less adventurous), a football field, billiards, ping pong, tables for board and card games, dances, movies. There was also a public shower room.

And there were crafts: wood craft, model airplane building, garden club, photography, leather, art, cooking classes and sewing.

The Settlement House published a newspaper, The Tattler.

When many Woods Run families moved elsewhere in the late 40s and early 50s, most of the retail businesses ceased to exist. And so did the togetherness of Woods Run.

Memories of Camp Bonsall

In the great woods of Pennsylvania, about 80 years ago, Camp Bonsall was developed.

It was located near Clarion, about 60 miles from Pittsburgh. It was owned by the Woods Run Settlement House.

Boys from Woods Run would typically spend two weeks there during summer. Girls would go there during another two-week period. There was a mess hall, rec hall and cabins. They were all in a very remote area surrounded by dense woods. There was swimming (the river was clear as a bell), boating, hiking and a competition played in the pine forest called Capture the Flag. On Sundays, most campers went to church in Clarion and were free to remain in the town afterwards. (Some of them traveled to town by boat, then hiked the rest of the way.)

The cabins were named Honeymoon, Slab 1-2-3, Log Cabin, McKnight, Hemlock, Question Mark and Devil's Club. Campers' days were organized by a bugle that could be heard throughout the camp: reveille (that is, "Rise 'n' shine"), retreat (lowering of the flag at sunset), mess call and taps (bedtime.)

More recently, Camp Bonsall was visited by three people who had spent time there as children. It's not Camp Bonsall anymore. The mess hall is now a boat club. The rec hall is a lodge. The cabins are abandoned and gone to ruin.

5. Old Business

Andy McLaren, Nomination Committee:

Change in the bylaws: Board faced by loss of two board members. Current bylaws do not allow the filling of vacancies until the term expires - up to two years. Sent out flyer to change bylaws so that we can fill vacancy. Proposed change: if office or elected directorship becomes vacant, Board shall fill vacancy by roll call vote. Motion and second to accept change. Motion passed unopposed.

Jill McGlothlin was nominated for one of the open positions. She has been active with the Federation for several years. She designs the newsletter and various print materials for the federation. She also updates the website and takes photographs at federation events.

Carrie Richards also volunteered to fill one of the vacancies.

The Board is appreciative of their volunteering and welcomes them as our new Board members.

Pirates Night: Friday, May 23rd. Tickets: \$17. See Andy if interested.

Our annual Memorial Day service will be held on May 26th at Legion Park. The ceremony will start at 10 AM. There will be live music, singing, taps and food. Please come and recognize those who have served.

6. New Business

Houses that are vacant and are eyesores: what can we do? Nothing, if the taxes are paid. Please call 311 and report the address and concern. The Mayor's staff will notify the Bureau of Building Inspections. If a case is warranted the owner will be cited and go before Magistrate Ravenstahl.

How many animals are allowed in a home? No more than five.

Hosanna Church tried to buy the empty lot on Orchlee. They were not allowed to purchase that lot because they are not side lot owners. However, Councilwoman Harris asked the church representative to call her office to see if the church can qualify in another manner.

Minutes respectively submitted by Andrew McLaren for Becky Spevack.

7. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM.

2008 Walkers' Festival

September 20th at the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium

"I always wanted to help others" JoAnn Kline, President of Lifecycle Unlimited, said. "I could only imagine how one individual could have an effect by community involvement. Now I know I am fulfilling the purpose for which I was created! I always tried to help others. At first, it felt awkward to write about myself. But, what you are about to read are the facts without embellishment."

I needed to add activity to my schedule, so I started indoor walking. I enjoyed doing the workout alone, but soon wanted to share it with others. Now, Lifecycles Unlimited is hosting a Zoo-wide festival centered on healthy lifestyles and breaking unhealthy life cycles. The 2008 Walkers' Festival, partially funded by Pittsburgh 250 Community Connections and The Sprout Fund, will take place at the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium on September 20, 2008 from 11 AM to 3 PM. The objectives are to organize and encourage the community walkers' base and to raise awareness of the numerous walking activities available to us.

Also at the festival will be an area where the food preparation task becomes creative, healthy and fun. The prize: the individuals' snack creation. The following ingredients are called for: rice cakes, peanut butter, sunflower seeds, raisins, carrots, celery sticks and oranges. (And we will provide an alternative to peanut butter.) What would you make with those ingredients? Do you know anyone that can supply the ingredients for the event? If so, let me know! Planning for the festival is nearing completion. Now we need you:

* Community Leaders: we need you to represent your neighborhood. And if you know of any businesses interested in participating, have them contact us.

* Schools: you have firsthand knowledge of the health programs that are successful. And those programs could get the attention they deserve at the Zoo on September 20th. Contact us to learn how you can participate.

* Volunteers needed: prior to and after the event to assist with paperwork, accounting, research findings and grant reporting.

Information and planning meeting: Friday, September 12th, 5:00 to 7:00 PM, Saint Matthew's Church, 53rd and Carnegie Streets in Lawrenceville.

We can be contacted at 412-654-5476 or by e-mail at jkline.kline@gmail.com or go to our website: www.lifecyclesunlimited.org to view our health program information.

2008 Fun Run

The BHCF 5K Run/Walk around Riverview Park will be held on Saturday, October 4th rain or shine. The run/walk will begin at 10:00 AM. As usual, there will be a late registration and T-shirt pick-up from 8:00 to 9:45 that morning on the Brighton and Davis corner of Legion Park.



For anyone who would like to pick-up a T-shirt and competition number in advance or pre-register for the race, we will be stationed at the same site between 5:30 and 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 2nd. This alleviates the waiting time during pick-up and late registration on race day. It will also solve the problem of what to do with that extra T-shirt during the run/walk.

Please note that all walkers and runners will be issued a number in order to qualify for the post-event prize raffle. Since many people who volunteer to help with the Fun Run are unable to participate in the Run, registration forms of non-participants are held for a separate raffle at the end of the awards ceremony.

So bring a friend, your dad, your daughter, your grandma or push your baby in a stroller. It's always a wonderful time to enjoy a pleasant autumn morning whether you walk at a leisurely pace or cross the finish line first. Fill out the Run in the Park registration form included in this newsletter and don't forget to read and sign the form before sending it in.

If you are interested in volunteering a small amount of time to help with this event, please contact the Fun Run co-chairs at 412-761-0760 or sumac@verizon.net

We hope to see you there!

Andy McLaren, Director

Brighton Heights House Tour

The 2008 Brighton Heights Chocolate House Tour was held on Sunday, May 18th. Held annually in May since 2005, this year's tour featured 10 homes near Saint Cyril's Church. Despite having some iffy weather that morning, the sun came out for the tour and we had a large turnout. And each home featured a different chocolate flavored treat.

The ten homeowners who graciously opened their homes were Frank & Carley Conger, Daren & Rene D'Ippolito, the Fehl Family, Susan Fierstos & Elizabeth Mulligan, Andy & Sue McLaren, Craig & Patty Oleszewski, the Reiser Family, Sam & Angela Ricci, James Scott & Michele Suber, and David & Lisa Stoeckle.

Special thanks to the people at Saint Cyril's who opened their doors and allowed us to start the tour there. Also thanks to everyone at Emmanuel Christian Church who welcomed us when we needed a place to hold our after-tour party that evening.

Many of our neighbors volunteered their time to assist tour-goers with directions, in answering questions about the homes on the tour and the neighborhood in general. Although too numerous to list individually, their contributions helped the tour run as smoothly as it did. Thanks for all your help.

We could not have operated this tour without the help of a lot of people. Everyone on the house tour committee pitched in to make the tour come off. They are: Joan Bellisario, Jesse Belfast, Judy Bendsten, Tim College, Darren D'Ippolito, Debbie Meyer, Ray Meyer, Peggy Urzua and Jeff Worsinger.

Meals on Wheels: Opportunities for You to Help in Two Ways

First, a BIG Thank You for those of you who have helped us since our last plea...the drivers, runners and cookie bakers. We need all that we can get right in our own neighborhood. Please consider donations of money, cookies, ideas, time, old socks...just kidding...wanted to see if you were paying attention. We can use any donation no matter how small it may seem. If you have a lead on food donations from any source, please let me know. Even if a store is having a sellout of items you think we could use, we would appreciate the lead.

And we will be having SOUPER Friday fund raisers. Watch for information throughout the neighborhood. We will hold a lunchtime "Soup of the Month" sale starting the first Friday in October at the Brighton Heights Lutheran Church. This is where we make, assemble and dispatch our deliveries. Cost is still being determined but there will be family-size takeouts available.

Please support our efforts to continue to provide nourishment to our residents. Money raised stays with our kitchen. We will have Souper Fridays over the winter months.

Questions about donations or volunteering? Please call Rosemary Miklos at 412-766-6330. An hour of your time can make a big difference.

Membership Renewal

It's time to check the expiration of your subscription. We hesitate to remove names from our mailing list, but we have many members whose membership expired at the end of 2007. Please check the date next to your name on the label of the newsletter and renew if you are due. It would be a good time to renew even if your newsletter date is the end of 2008, also.

What else do you get for your membership besides the newsletter? Our dues income helps fund our various activities such as the flower planting, House Tour, Fun Run, Halloween Parade and any other activities that are undertaken. The House Tour and the Fun Run hold their own in the long run, but the treasury gets the event started from the permits to the advertising.

Be sure to let us know your e-mail address if you have one, so that we can send you updated and current information about neighborhood happenings in between newsletters. We do not share our roster with anyone, so you need not worry about your name getting on some other list.

Girl Scout Troops Forming

Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania is looking for girls and adults to form new troops in Brighton Heights. We are also looking for community partners who can offer meeting space.

Girl Scouts encourage girls to discover themselves, connect with others and take action to make the world a better place. Girl Scouts can participate in troops, special interest groups, camping and travel pathways. Any girl or adult interested in Girl Scouts should contact Amy Smith at 724-774-3553 or asmith@gswpa.org

To learn about the many fun options available for you and your girl visit our web site: www.gswpa.org

Considering a Career with the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police?

The Pittsburgh Civil Service will be administering a competitive examination for the position of Police Officer on November 8, 2008 (Deadline for submitting application is October 24, 2008.) For more information on general and educational requirements please refer to <https://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/employmentcenter/> If you have any questions after visiting our website, please

call the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Recruiting Officer Joe Seskey at: (412) 606-1071 or joseph.seskey@city.pittsburgh.pa.us

Welcoming Committee

After a wonderful start, the Welcoming Committee has not met for a while. We are looking for someone to chair this committee so that we can continue to welcome new neighbors. We have the mugs and lots of information for new residents. Please call Joan Bellisario (412-734-9434) if you have any interest in this committee, as a member or as the chairperson.

And please continue to call the answer line (412-734-0233) or email us (contactus@brightonheights.org) if you know of a new resident who needs a welcome from us.

Fall Flower Planting and Cleanup

The Federation will plant more perennials at the gardens bordering Brighton Heights Boulevard with lilies, daffodils, irises, and more ornamental grasses. A tentative date of Saturday, September 13th has been set for the planting. Saturday, October 11th is the tentative date for removal of the summer annuals from the corner gardens. We will be discussing this and setting firm dates at the general membership meeting. We would like to have more perennials donated, so if you are thinning out your bulbs or plants, the federation would be glad to feature them in the BH public gardens. Call 412-734-0233 if you have plants to donate.

ALCOSAN Open House

ALCOSAN, the City sewage treatment plant and our close neighbor, will be sponsoring its annual open house on Saturday, September 20, 2008 from 9 AM to 4 PM. If you have never taken part in this event, you might want to consider it. The employees of the plant go all out to provide a fun filled day meant to educate the people of the area about the operation and mission of this vital civic service.

It is especially aimed at school children, but the day is informative and entertaining for everyone. It is free to the public and includes plant tours, hand-on activities (about but not involving the sewage!!!), exhibits, and games. The staff provides a great picnic lunch at no charge and the parking is also free!

For more information, contact (412) 734-8733.

Memorial

The Board of Directors has been discussing a memorial for Matthew Kunsak, our three year old neighbor who died tragically in June. We will be collecting donations for planting a tree with a marker. Please contribute to the discussion at the general membership meeting if you have ideas about how to make this tribute a reality.

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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Gert Long
Helen Wehner

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
Pittsburgh School Police	(412) 622-3520
Police, Zone One Station	(412) 323-7201
Mayor's Response Line <i>Non-emergency services and government information Monday through Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm</i>	311
Police Fire Ambulance Emergencies	911

UNITED WAY # 188

Did you know 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	Health Concern	Details:
	Safety Concern	
	Eyesore (Graffiti, etc.)	
	Other	
How long has this problem persisted?		
Dealing 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"/> \$7.50	Family	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> New Membership
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	Individual (Unmarried)	Enclosed Membership Dues are for ____ years
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2	Social (Non-resident)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	Corporate/Group	Additional
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$3	Individual over 65	Donation _____

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, "12/08" means your membership expires in December 2008.

Next General Membership Meeting Thursday, Sept 11th 7:00 PM

Brighton-McClure Presbyterian Church
Corner of Brighton and Benton