



BRIGHTON HEIGHTS

CITIZENS REPORT

Sept/Oct 2013

A Compass to Our Community

Volume 43 / Issue 4

Pittsburgh Morrow Intermediate is OPEN!

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Thursday, August 22, 2013 for the new Pittsburgh Morrow Intermediate School in the former Arthur J Rooney Middle School building. Acting Principal Jamie Kinzelnath welcomed the crowd of enthusiastic parents and children and introduced the teachers. The school, which opened on Monday, August 26th and will house the fifth, sixth, and seventh grades this coming year. Pre-School through fourth grades will remain in the Pittsburgh Morrow building.



Check Out Our New and Renewed Businesses on California Ave

Our business strip on California Avenue is getting new occupants – check these out. They have definitely livened up the neighborhood!

CJ's Barber Shop, which was located at 3631 California Ave a couple years ago, is back in business in the neighborhood. His new address is 3625 California Avenue, next to Chubby's Pizza.

Jessica Schubert has opened a Performing Arts Preschool which opened on Monday September 9th in Brighton Heights. The JP Gallery for Performing Arts, a Center for Dance, Theater and Music, is located at 3631 California Ave, right next to the Brighton Heights office. You can find more information on her website at www.jpgalleryforperformingart.com or by calling 724-462-4548.

Next to Jessica is Phil Greene's local Print Shop and more at 3633 California Ave. They are changing their name from Emprint to Expanding Minds Printing in an effort to reflect the full array of services offered. This move aligns their print division with their creative division in the market place, leveraging their brand competitively across both the creative and print business categories. Website is www.expandingminds.net/print or phone at 412-415-1159.

Continuing down the street, next to Phil at 3635 California Ave is the new California CyclePath, an indoor cycling center run by Larry Crouser and John Bratton. Their early morning sessions begin at 5 AM with a sunrise ride and jumpstart cycling at 6:15 AM. Then there is a Sunset Ride at 6 PM in the evening during the week. They are also open on Saturdays. Their phone number is 412-761-1671 or check their schedule out online at www.californiacyclepath.com.

In This Issue

Federation Board Elections
History and Landmarks Tour
California Markets
House Tour 2013
ALCOSAN Open House
Wes Banco Neighborhood Appreciation
Annual Fall Clean Up
Brighton Farm Stand
Great Pennsylvania Cleanup
Community Gardens

Vigilante Gardener
Flea market & Plant exchange
Halloween Parade
Junk in the Trunk sale
Christmas Tree Lighting
Life in the Slow Lane
New Businesses on California Ave
Representative Ravenstahl
Council President Darlene Harris
Minutes of the May 2013 GMM

President's Report, September 2013

Here we are looking at Fall. The summer has seen some changes to our neighborhood.

First off, the new street lights on the California Avenue business district have had an addition. In conjunction with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) the Federation purchased flower baskets to hang on the poles. We solicited donations from businesses, elected officials and residents. We received sufficient funds to pay for the baskets. The WPC waters and weeds the baskets daily and will remove and hold the baskets in October. We have received many compliments and we hope to do this every year.

Our Memorial Day Ceremony was a huge success, we had over 200 participants. We had beautiful weather and we couldn't have asked for a superb event. Once again the Perry High School Army JROTC cadets did a stellar job with the Honor Guard, and Flag raising. Lt. Colonel Casitori and Sergeant Major Eckard have retired and have led a great program for many years. Four cadets spoke to how these fine gentlemen have helped them the human level and they can look into the future with a positive outlook. On a personal level I have appreciated their efforts with the high school students and support for Brighton Heights activities.

Four store fronts on California Avenue are occupied and that is exciting to mention.

First, the store front next to Tom Friday's (3637 California Avenue) will house Tom's walk-in freezers and other refrigeration devices.

California Cycle Path has opened at 3635 California Avenue. Larry Kroser and John Bratton are the owners and their business is about bike spinning. The hours of operation are in the morning and after work. John and Larry live in our neighborhood and ran our House Tour for several years and have invested time and effort to improve our neighborhood. If you are into health and fitness there is an intro to spin on Saturday from 7:00 AM to 7:45 AM.

JP Gallery for Performing Arts, Center for Dance, Theater and Music, will open at 3631 California on September 1st. Jessica Schubert has a very extensive schedule from Monday through Friday with dance, ballet, singing, acting and even neighborhood dance night. Jessica brings energy and varied program that we hope you pass the word to friends and neighbors. If interested in registering please call (724) 462-4548 or at jpperformingarts@aol.com. As a point of interest, Jessica moved her business from Emsworth and she and her husband Brendan purchased a house in our neighborhood. This is just another example of a neighbor investing in Brighton Heights.

You may remember CJ's Barber Shop which was located at 3631 and opened in the store front next to Chubby's Pizza.

One of the continual issues that has perplexed me for years is vacant or abandoned properties. We could use a volunteer to help the Board of Directors identify properties and share information with the Board and track those properties with the city agencies that would take action. We do not have a strong program and we could use the help. The Board would be identified to the City as the action agency and our volunteer would be anonymous. If you have any question of the need to work this issue please drive down Brighton Road past Stanford and you can see one example of several properties in need of attention.

We are planning for our annual Halloween Parade to be held on Saturday October 26th. Registration is from 11:30 AM to 12:30 AM and judging of costumes will be done only during registration. The parade will start at 1:00 PM sharp. Registration will be at Kunsak's parking lot on Davis Avenue. Children, infants through 6th grade should be in costume. The parade route will be up Davis Avenue to Legion Park. Candy bags will be distributed and prizes will be given out. The top ten original costumes winners will have first pick of the prizes.

On September 21st ALCOSAN will have their annual open house from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, rain or Shine. This event is the region's largest watershed & environmental festival. It is free and open to the public. There is lots to see and learn about what they do. Among all the things going on is FOOD.

History and Landmarks Tour of Brighton Heights

We are happy to report that Karen Cahall, the Education Coordinator for the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, will be conducting a walking tour of historic Brighton Heights buildings in the business district on Friday, October 18, 2013 from noon to 1 pm. This is part of a series of local tours sponsored by the Foundation on Friday afternoons.

The tours are supported by the URA. There is no cost for the tour, but you must make a reservation by calling or emailing Mary Lu Denny of the Foundation at marylu@phlf.org to calling 412-471-5808. The tour is limited to 30 people, so reserve quickly. If you can't make the tour, you can still be a welcoming presence to our visitors when they are on the tour and in our neighborhood.

The California Markets on California Ave.

Brighton Heights

EVERY SECOND SATURDAY

June 8th | July 13th | August 10th | September 14th

Upcoming Events

Sept 4,11,18,25	Brighton Farm Stand – Every Wed from 2-6PM Lecky Avenue & Brighton Road
Sept 5	BHCF Board Meeting
Sept 12	BHCF General Membership Meeting
Sept 14	California Markets
Oct 2,9,16,23,30	Brighton Farm Stand
Oct 3	BHCF Board Meeting
Oct 12	Great PA Clean-Up Fall Flower Pull Up California Markets Second Saturday event
Oct 18	History & Landmarks Walking Tour of Brighton Heights
Oct 19	Possible Flea Market & Plant Exchange Legion Park – 8 AM to 3 PM
Oct 26	Halloween Parade
Nov 6,13,20	Brighton Farm Stand
Nov 7	BHCF Board Meeting
Nov 14	BHCF General Membership Meeting
Dec 5	BHCF Board Meeting
Dec 7	Christmas Light Up Night Legion Park

California Markets Final Event

Lauren Stauffer, the proprietor of the social venture PGHRetail, obtained a Biz-Buzz grant from the Urban Redevelopment Authority to bring more visibility to our business district on California Avenue. She came up with the idea of sponsoring a series of fun events on the second Saturdays of June, July, August, and September this year.

The final bout of activities will take place on September 14th. It will feature a family pageant sponsored by Chubby's Pizza and a Fashion Show sponsored by Timeless Beauty and City Tee Shirt Co. Previous Saturdays have featured events sponsored by the other stores in the neighborhood, Imprint, Kelly Beer, Java House, JP Gallery, and Tom Friday's Market. Cheryl Capezzuti and her puppets led a children's parade at the August event which also featured a special appearance by Steel Town Fire.

The events in September will continue to feature food, drink, arts, crafts, booths, vendor trucks, and community activities. There is still time to sign up for a vendor spot on the street at only \$5 each. Stop by the Brighton Heights office at 3629 California Ave or contact Lauren at pghretail@gmail.com or go to www.pghretail.com/california-markets to register.

Be sure to bring the children for a fun day any time between 11AM and 5 PM on the 14th. See what's happening in Brighton Heights!



Junk in the Trunk Sale

Enhancing our second Saturday events on California Avenue this summer, Emmanuel Christian Church has been sponsoring a Junk in the Trunk sale in their parking lot at 1427 Davis Ave in Jun, July, August, and September on the second Saturday.

They also have one remaining sale for the summer on Saturday, September 14th. Spaces are free, and you can shop or sell your flea market items, crafts, and arts, from the trunk of your car in their large urban parking lot in the rear of the church. Call/email the church office to reserve a space at 412-766-9243 or emmanuelcc@verizon.net.

From Council President Darlene Harris

Autumn is approaching and our senses are making us aware of the season's changing, the leaves are beginning to change color, our backyard gardens are ready for harvesting and the evenings are growing a bit shorter. As you may have noticed the new, recently installed lights are in place along California Avenue's business district. My office worked with many dedicated neighbors in Brighton Heights to bring the lighting improvement to fruition. It is satisfying to see the results of working together and I encourage more neighbors to step up and join the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation to find out how you can make a difference.

One young Brighton Heights woman, Stephanie Lauren, used her imagination and elbow grease to turn her idea into reality by creating an open air market on California Avenue this summer. On September 14 the 'California Market' is hosting a Fashion Show & Family Pageant, from 11 am – 5 pm on California Avenue between Termon and Davis Avenues.

As we look forward to autumn and holiday events, please remember that these events are organized and produced by volunteers. I encourage Brighton Heights residents to work together to bring a warm holiday season to the neighborhood. By being an active neighbor with the BHCF you will help to improve the quality of life for everyone in the district.

Please feel free to call my office if I can be of any assistance: 412.255.2135.

Brighton Farm Stand

The Brightwood Civic Group and the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation are jointly sponsoring a Farm Stand this year at the corner of Brighton Road and Lecky Avenue, just around the corner from AJ's Market on Brighton Road. The Farm Stand is happening every Wednesday from 2 – 6 PM from June through November 20th.

The stand features fresh fruits and vegetables and accepts cash, EBT, and Senior FMNP certificates. Anyone can shop at the farm stands throughout the City. Stop by our conveniently located stand and get some wholesome and affordable locally grown produce.

The produce is fresh off the farms, and our stand is manned by volunteers from both communities. If you would be able to lend some time to this project, contact us at 412-734-0233 or brightonheights@yahoo.com. The Farm stand Project is a program of the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.

Aug. 25-30 and Sept. 2-6 are Back to School Weeks in Pa.

From Representative Adam Ravenstahl Pennsylvania House of Representatives

As summer vacations come to a close for our school students, the House has recognized the weeks of Aug. 25-30 and Sept. 2-6 as Back to School Weeks in Pennsylvania.

More than 1.7 million students will be starting their school year. It is our duty to keep them safe in school as well as on their way to and from the schools.

Remember, you **MUST** stop for any school bus which has its red light flashing while loading or unloading students, regardless of which side of the street the bus is on, unless it is on the other side of a divided highway.

Violations of this law can lead to a 60-day loss of license, five points on your driving record and a \$250 fine. Each year, approximately 1,000 drivers are convicted of this violation.

School bus safety is always a concern for those traveling on the buses as well. Students should never cross behind the bus. Bus drivers and vehicle drivers will be looking at the front, not the rear of the bus. Students should stay away from traffic while waiting for the bus or walking toward the bus stop or their home. Walking to and from school can also be dangerous

Keep our children safe and have a great school year.

Halloween Parade Information

Date: Saturday, October 26, 2013

Place: Registration, Kunsak Parking Lot
Corner of Davis and Massachusetts Avenues

Time: Registration 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Start: 1 PM sharp

Parade Route: Up Davis Avenue to Legion Park

Participants: Children- Infants through Sixth Grade
Must be in costume

First pick of prizes for top ten ORIGINAL costumes

Judging will be done only during registration

Candy bags for all registered children

SCA Garden Volunteers for the Summer of 2013

We hope you have enjoyed watching the flowers bloom and grow throughout the summer in our 5 gardens. It doesn't happen without a lot of effort, and we want to thank one of the groups that are responsible for the lovely views.

Our gardens are:

- 1.The 3 Corners of California and Termon Ave/Brighton Heights Blvd.
- 2.The Great Wall along Brighton Heights Boulevard off 65
- 3.The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy Garden on Rt. 65 across from the McKees Rocks Bridge
- 4.The mini Garden under the Brighton Heights Tree Sign on 65
- 5.The Rain Garden on Antrim and McClure

Josh Nard, of Brighton Heights, a long-time BHCF garden volunteer has been coordinating the Student Conservation Association's employees in the Green Workforce Development Program for young people to weed and water our gardens. They did that from 9:30am to 3:30pm every Friday in July and the first Friday in August. They had to pull out strings and strings of vines that grow fast and cover plants and look awful. They also pulled out huge amounts of fast growing weeds. It's amazing how a 2 foot weed can pop up in a week! Our last day of work together was at the Antrim Rain Garden, and it was very hot, but we filled up 5 huge bags with weeds. It looks great.

The Green Workforce Development Program is a part time job with a heavy emphasis on the environment and work readiness education. Josh Nard, the coordinator, says the reason they like working with the BHCF is that they are providing real life ornamental plant care while interacting with the Garden Steward – the interaction/conversation/plant knowledge and the sense of how important community volunteerism is it is for every community. Josh calculated the dollar value of the work his crew did for our gardens and it came to \$5000.

The crew leaders were
Veronica Malencia and
Carl Southers.

The crew members are below:

- Ja'von Key-White,
- Jayonne Walker,
- Tyrice Taylor,
- Cameron Duncan,
- Trevon Woodson,
- Rontay Grayson,
- Sabrina Yellets,
- Joseph Rainey
- Jeremalle Johns Jr
- Karrine Drewery

We are grateful for their interest in working with us this and are glad they are interested in environmental jobs and future community volunteerism.



Neighborhood Appreciation Day Friday, September 6th

Corner of Brighton Road & Woods Run
412.734.2675 • 1.800.328.3369
www.wesbanco.com



Please join us!

Meet our Community Partners from
Brightwood Civic Group & Brighton Heights Citizens Federation
and our New WesBanco Team from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Learn about Neighborhood Initiatives, Events and Special Loan
Products for Home Buyers and Homeowners

Prize Drawing, Gifts and
Refreshments served from 8:45 am to 7:00 pm

First 100 WesBanco Customers or Neighborhood Guests will
receive a Farm Stand Bag and a \$5.00 Farm Stand Gift Certificate

Sponsored by:

WesBanco Bank • Brightwood Civic Group • Brighton Heights Citizens Federation

BHCF Garden Club/Committee Starting By Susan Benn

I have been a lone ranger Board Member in charge of our BHCF gardens. I have picked out annual and perennial flowers for most of our gardens. I have had the Board's assistance in organizing both the pre-planting day, and planting day with about 15-20 great volunteers each time as well as the fall clean-up day where we divide perennials and clean up the flower beds. It's time we have a real committee to plan and organize and expand our presence and knowledge together.

As a club/committee we could be doing so much more! We have five-plus gardens and requests are always coming in for potential plantings on vacant lots and rain gardens. I would like to strengthen our existing connections with the Audubon Society (native plants), Storm Works (Rain Barrels and Rain Gardens), Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and Phipps. We need to increase our numbers and our vision. I would like to meet maybe every other month or a few consecutive months in the late winter/early spring, and maybe July, August, September. Schedule would depend on participants. I would also like to invite guest speakers to help educate us to the latest trends in planting for the good of the environment and to save storm water runoff. Not to say we won't continue to choose beautiful annuals to plant in our gardens!

I met a man at our spring planting who came from another neighborhood to help. He became an associate member that day but left no contact information. He said he looks at the newspapers to find opportunities to work with community garden volunteers. He was very helpful planting flowers.

He said he was a reporter and also taught horticulture at a community college. I asked him a million questions because he was such a visionary and was also so knowledgeable about obscure things.

One unforgettable story he told me was about Japanese Knotweed, which we have problems controlling in our BHCF gardens. It is an invasive plant that is taking over our native roadside vegetation almost everywhere you look. Government workers spray it during certain months in an effort to hold it back. You can see above the wall on Route 65 across from the McKees Rocks Bridge behind where the man sells his flowers. It is a very large dark reddish plant.

For one thing, he said, it is edible (not since it keeps getting sprayed) but that isn't a practical solution, just an interesting one. His solution, and he may have gotten this from research, is temporarily fencing in the area, and adding a small herd of goats. Japanese Knot Weed gone! Happy goats!

But the big vision came and now haunts me to achieve, when we walked down Brighton Heights Boulevard. He exclaimed how with our cobblestone and gardens and the river right there and our connection to many environmental /plant groups, this whole area could be made into a tremendous rain garden demonstration project. He also said it would take years and lots of money, but it is extremely timely. I'm not dead yet, so I want this to happen so badly!!!!

So that is now my vision. And I will find him to help if anyone else is interested in taking on such a long range project.

2013 Brighton Heights House Tour By Kristen Priestley, Co-Chair

The 2013 Brighton Heights House Tour was held on June 9, and was fun. We estimate that approximately 400 tour participants enjoyed the fun. New for this year was the addition of artists in each stop, and by all accounts it was a popular feature (maybe second to the chocolate - maybe not!).

We want to thank these generous sponsors who purchased ads as well as provided chocolate: Acorn Hill Garden Club, ALCOSAN, Jessica Backer, Curves of Bellevue, Dirt Doctors Cleaning Service, Emmanuel Christian Church, Emprint, EX Properties, Giant eagle, Goodrich & Geist, Chris & Mike Hoss, Kelly's Beer Distributor, Gus & Stella Kalaris, Kristoff Agency, M.R. Lawnscape, Candace Rymniak, NS Community development Fund, NS Leadership Conference, Popular Pittsburgh Tom Pollard, Stout Street Designs Patrick Sanders, State rep Adam Ravenstahl, Steel City Dental, Larry Crouser, Schatzman's Handyman Solutions, Slovak savings Bank, Tom Friday's Market, Peggy & Rene Urzua, and Wes Banco.

We also need to thank these artists who volunteered to help us kick off this new great feature: Nick & Celeste Parrendo, Kent Noble, Bill Weiner, Jeff Brunner, Chuck Crawford, and Cheryl Capezutti. I think we will plan to have this added bonus again. We would like to thank all of the helpers who worked on the committee and also did anything and everything on the day of the tour (and even cleaning up the day before) to make the tour a great success.

We especially have to thank these homeowners, who did a wonderful job despite the fact that every single home was a 'first time' on the tour: Lori Bower, Suzy Meyer, Colleen Mahoney, Gary & Tanya Walsh, Meghan & Brendan Delaney, Dennis Krisanda, and Dr Mary Ann Davis. They handled it like pros! This was a great area to feature, and I heard from many people who didn't know about this 'hidden gem' up on top of the hill. We are grateful for every bit of help and stay tuned for details about next year!

Life in the Slow Lane
By Mary Richards Kendall
(former resident of Fleming Avenue)

So much is said and written about traffic problems that it is rather difficult to recall a time when it was not this way. But believe me, in the 1920s and 1930s, and even before that, life was so serene. Fear of being stomped on by a horse and wagon were the only dangers. All of the wagons on Brighton heights streets were in sales. Sales of fruits, vegetables, ice cream and ice balls, tea, coffee, needles, thread and knife sharpeners. Even the pony, complete with photographer who sold a photo to almost any family with children. But very few cars flowed in the way of these vendors. When the Great Depression came in the 1930s, these very well-employed vendors had a lot of completion, as full time work was nil--many a longtime job went down the drain. But ice balls were still in demand, and cars were not required for many of these jobs. So the slow lane became profitable, while many went hungry.

With so many good books available in both school libraries and Carnegie Library (which was on Brighton Road where Cahill's Hardware was located more recently), these were the places to be. The long, slow walk along Woods Run Avenue, up McClure, to Antrim and Fleming could offer a reader lots of safe time to indulge and vanish into the pages of their beloved books. No automobile caused one to pause and look right, left, or even assume he was jaywalking. It was S-A-F-E to cross almost without taking your eyes off the book!

Summer afternoons were spent on city porches with scrapbooks of movie stars. And song sheets put out by the various music companies, namely Hit Parade, where you could read all the words to the most popular songs. Mornings spent in church Bible schools, or summer schools run by the Board of Education, gave lots of stimulating crafts or sports to keep us in the slow lane, and we loved it. Tennis, roller skating and swimming excelled. Long walks on Davis Avenue to Riverview Park for rides on the merry-go-round helped fulfill these summer activities.

The Ehrler family bakery on Fleming avenue offered such

delicious rolls, bread, cakes, pies, sugar buns and taffy apples, enticing people on foot, wagons and autos and to line up very early in the morning for their wonderful baked goods. Lindsay's store next to John Morrow School on Fleming had the best penny candy. And in the proprietor's dining room next to the room where the candy, et cetera was sold, the teachers from the school were served home-cooked lunches for a good price on white linen tablecloths. Who could ask for anything more? Older students hung out on Lindsay's steps to enjoy after-lunch gossip.

It was a time when no one worried whether our aches and pains were covered by health insurance. As for a bump on the head--sometimes complete with blood--a piece of gauze was held tightly there while the swelling went down. For sprains, we sat many weeks with liniment wrapped on wet rags (torn from no longer useful sheets) and applied to the sprain. Lots of holding on adults' laps, love and caring were applied. Mercurochrome was used widely on scratches and cuts.

Nothing was a big problem that the family could not deal with. Life to children was quiet and full of unanswered questions, as adults did not speak of unwanted pregnancies, cancer, or romances stopped because of religion. But death was never covered up as everyone went to the cemeteries, and graves were well kept up. That let us know that adults respected children, and children did respect their parents and all adults.

Were we not street-wise? Maybe, but it was lazy days on porch swings, without relentless screeching tires and fear of crime. We enjoyed less stress and lots of peace of mind most of the time. How did we ever get into such an unsafe world? Love and faith in mankind will eventually work its way among us again...WATCH AND SEE!

This article appeared in the March 2001 newsletter. Mary is in her 90's now and wanted to share her thoughts again in this issue.

NOTICE!!! Annual Fall cleanup

We will hold the annual fall clean-up and flower pull up on Saturday, October 12, 2013. This will help keep the streets litter-less for the History and Landmarks Walking Tour taking place in our business district on Friday, October 18th. Please come and help us clean up!

Please Note:

Notice that we now have a tagline accompanying our LOGO:

“A Compass to Our Community”

This gives new meaning to our LOGO, and we thank the Teen Librarian from our Woods Run Carnegie Library, Lauren Zabelsky, for this thoughtful addition.

Dekhockey by Pete Bellisario

John Belch and I met with Don Gregory on Saturday, August 17th. Don is the president of Team Pittsburgh, Dekhockey. This group was successful in obtaining the funds for the construction of the Dekhockey site in Legion Park and a concession stand. The program has been very successful and so much so that they are looking to add another field.

Don has met with City of Pittsburgh officials, Darlene Harris, Duane Ashley and Rob Kaczorowski of Public Works. Their working plan is to add the new field next to the existing site at some time in the future. They have discussed building the site and adding lighting plus a parking lot on the field down the hill from the main park, where softball was played years ago. They have an offer of a donation to build the field, which would cost approximately \$500,000.

Don is concerned that there is opposition to the additional field such as traffic, parking and noise. The parking problem would be resolved if they could build a parking lot on the field earlier mentioned. The traffic issue needs a survey of all streets that surround Marmaduke Park to determine the best way to improve pedestrian safety. Perrot Street in particular needs to be addressed, since both parking at the auto repair

and Miller's business has over the years reduced the width of this street. Lighting in Legion Park is a needed upgrade. We seem to have young folks roaming around the park and the rink and causing concerns for bullying and attempted thefts.

We discussed getting together the folks who live in houses that surround the park at the bleachers by the Dekhockey site to discuss this proposal. We would petition them to sign and submit it to the City. They could sign either for or against it. Part of the petition would include the need for the city's authorities to evaluate how to improve traffic flow and parking. Team Pittsburgh has scheduled a huge fundraiser around the 1st of September and would like to have the meeting afterwards.

I would hope to discuss this with the Board prior to the meeting with the neighbors. In the interim, please take the time to visit Marmaduke Park and the streets that surround the park to get a feel for the impact this additional site will have on our neighbors. Another fact to keep in mind is that the Dekhockey rink is in a city park and not on private property. I mention this because some feel that the hockey folks have interfered with their quality of life.

Flea Market and Plant Exchange

Did you miss the August 24th Flea Market in Legion Park? Never fear, you have another chance to sell your treasures and buy some new ones. Mark your calendar for a second Flea Market in Legion Park this year. If there is enough interest, it will take place on Saturday, October 19th

In conjunction with the flea market this year we are adding a PLANT EXCHANGE. Dig up some of those multiplying plants, tubers, and bulbs (hostas, daffodils, daisies, etc) and bring them to Legion Park on the day of the Flea Market to exchange for other beautiful plants. You do not have to register or pay to participate in the plant exchange. More information will be posted on the website www.brightonheights.org, and be sure you have signed up for our E-Blast emails to keep up to date on the latest news. Send an email requesting to be on the e-blast mailings a brightonheights@yahoo.com. If you would like to help with the plant exchange please email susan.benn@yahoo.com.

Return the registration form below for a space at the Flea Market.

Registration for the October 19, 2013 Flea Market in Legion Park

Name: _____
E-Mail: _____
Phone Number: _____

of 6' x 10' spaces at \$10 each _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Send to:
Brighton Height's October 2013 Flea Market
3629 California Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Or Make a reservation Online at:
www.brightonheights.org and pay with PayPal
or email brightonheights@yahoo.com and make a
reservation with the above information

Vigilante Gardener
On the smaller scale of life's little pleasures
By Susan Benn

I live on Goe Avenue where there used to be a green mail storage mailbox in the middle of the street. I saw two men with an unmarked pickup truck hauling it away and took pictures and called the police. A few minutes later I was driving past Little Sisters of the Poor and the same guys were hauling of that big hunk of metal mailbox there too. I called the police back and said it looked like it was a plan.

So I looked out my front window and saw this circle of grass with a concrete crescent and began to imagine a garden. Then I began to plant flowers in a little patch right before the House Tour. Soon I was digging it up. I tore up all the dirt. I felt like a garden vigilante, but no one stopped me! I added five small evergreen green shrubs, cotoneasters, which get nice little red berries, then a few orange butterfly weed plants, then some red stonecrop, and then a miniature Russian Sage for the center. I worked by, day, by evening, in the dark, in the rain, for hours and hours (digging up the grass, planting, mulching, watering over the past few weeks. It still looks a little puny, but that's how low budget gardens start out! I received plenty of thanks for people as they drove by. I think one person asked if I was "okay" when I was out in the rain in the dark. My whole being loves plants, planting, designing; being in the dirt, finding earthworms, and watching everything grow and change.

Federation Elections at the November Meeting

We will be holding our annual Federation election at the November General Membership meeting on Thursday, November 14th at 7 PM. Please make sure that your dues are up to date, as you must be a current member in order to vote. We mention this a couple months early to give you a chance to think about participating more fully in the neighborhood activities.

You can call us for a description of the duties of those offices. We hope to get those descriptions online shortly, so you might be able to check there also. We are especially looking for new board members who have participated in Federation activities in the past and who are willing to faithfully attend meetings and help out with events.

Have you been to our office on California Avenue yet? We are open on Fridays from 10-2. We would like to extend our hours and are looking for office stewards who would like to volunteer one day a week to help us be open more office as a community resource. We have wi-fi access.

Contact us:

Phone: 412-734-9434

Email: brightonheights@yahoo.com

WebSite: www.brightonheights.org

To Be ... or Not To Be ... a Member!
By Joan Bellisario

A friend asked me to explain the benefits of belonging to the Federation, or just what do they get for their \$7.50, \$5, or \$3 a year? All I could come up with is a printed newsletter in the mail five times a year, and the privilege of running for a seat on the board and voting on any matters that are presented at a general membership meeting.

I was at a loss for a better reply. I guess I hadn't really looked at membership in that light before. But as I gave the subject more thought, I envisioned a paraphrase of President Kennedy's dictum: "Ask not what your [Federation] can do for you, but ask what you can do for your [neighborhood]." To me membership in the Federation is an opportunity to contribute in a positive way to our immediate environment - help keep it clean - keep it pretty - keep it safe - keep improving on all fronts - keep people informed. It's the chance to work with wonderful, energetic, talented people who have a vision for our community and who want to work to make it better. It's a chance to be a good neighbor, to welcome new residents, to communicate with each other,

to fix at least some problems, and to work as needed to accomplish improvements.

You should realize that every event and every activity we sponsor gives one countless opportunities to make new friends, learn something, and be there when your help is needed. It a great feeling to help out and see your talents benefit others. Besides, we all win when our surroundings are improved.

So renew that expiring membership and jump right in there and get involved. Encourage your neighbors to join you in just one of the many projects the Federation undertakes each year. You'll be pleasantly surprised if you do!

P.S. Why not forward the E-Blasts of the BHCF activities to your neighbors and friends?

BHCF General Membership Meeting Minutes - May 9, 2013

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 pm by Vince Pallus, corresponding secretary, in Pete's absence.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Minutes from the March 14, 2013 General Membership meeting were accepted without changes.

Special Guests:

Emmanuel Christian Church – Tom Fodi

Tom reported that the Church will again sponsor the picnic following the Memorial Day service. All are welcome. A "Junk in the Trunk" sale will be held on the 2nd Saturday of June, July, August, and September in conjunction with the California Markets initiative. Parking lot spaces are free and a reserved on a first come-first served basis. As part of BHCF's community outreach the Brighton Heights Writers at Work (BHWAW), a new writing group will meet at the BHCF office space on the 3rd Monday of every month from 7-9pm. It will be led by award winning writer Hana Haatainen Caye starting June 17.

Report of Officers and Others:

Treasurer's Report – Joan Bellisario

Net Worth Report – As of 5/9/2013

Assets

Cash and Bank Accounts

Monument	1,741.40
Operating Account	1,123.72
SSB OP Account	23,289.72
State Grant Account	906.26
United Way	4,034.26
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	\$ 31,095.36

The Treasurer's report was accepted without changes.

Corresponding Secretary's Report – Vince Pallus

Vince reported that the Brighton Heights Deck Hockey league will have a fundraiser for tournament travel on May 17 and the 27th Ward Democratic Committee will have a "Night At The Races" on 5/18 6:30pm at the Riverview Park Activities Building.

Web Site – Joe Shields absent

Vince also reported that the new web site is being well received and that more content from the community is welcome. Susan Benn asked for anyone interested

in reporting local stories for the web or newsletter to volunteer as well as any social media or tech savvy persons who could help with computer issues that crop up from time to time.

At this point Vince and Susan had Board members and offices introduce themselves, and called for more community participation in membership and leadership roles for the Federation.

Housing Committee – Jessica Mooney absent

Vince reported that progress is being made on the St. Johns property project and official news could come soon. We are also working on the 3800 block of California Avenue.

Flower Planting/ Gallery Opening – Susan Benn

On May 4, we had 45 volunteers to clean up, mulch and divide perennials in our gardens. On May 25 at 8:30 am, we are asking for help in planting the annuals at our gardens and at the WPC beds on Rt. 65. Also, through the WPC, we are having 14 flower baskets installed on the new light posts on California Avenue. Each of the baskets cost \$250 for the season and we are looking for individual or business sponsors.

The Gallery Opening at our office on May 9 went very well and is a positive addition to our neighborhood. Volunteers are still being sought to help staff the space during open hours through June 9. Hours are available on Tuesday, Wednesday Friday and Saturday.

House Tour- Kristen Priestly

This year's tour was on June 9, 1-5pm and focused on the Cornell, Harvard Circle and Wickshire areas of the neighborhood. We featured chocolate and local artists at each home. They started at St. Cyril's church with a shuttle bus for the tour-goers. Volunteers were encouraged to help with the cleanup the day before as well as on the day of the tour. Chocolate sponsors were still needed.

Committee Crime and Safety – Donna Kramer

Donna reported on a presentation at the NSPSC that heroin is very prevalent on the North Side with crack and the new "molly". Drug activity is being witnessed in the 3100 block of California Avenue. Questions on suspicious activity led to a list of crime fighting tips from Donna. Susan suggested that she write a tips column

for the web site or newsletter. This year's National Night Out will be August 6 and the Zone 1 Appreciation Day is August 7. Volunteers are appreciated for clean up on the 7th.

Welcome Committee - Janice Johns-Engelman

Janice and Susan encouraged community members to contact us to enable our welcome packages to be delivered. These include a free year's membership in the BHCF. Susan emphasized that we need to help neighbors learn about us.

Old Business

Pete G. of Legion Post 681 reminded us of the Memorial Day commemoration at Legion Park on May 27 at 10 am. This would be the 65th annual service. Volunteers are requested to help with placing flags on veteran graves in our local cemeteries.

Lauren Stauffer reported that her BizBuzz grant had been accepted and plans are underway for the California Markets at California Avenue this summer. They will be held the 2nd Saturday for June through September. These events will have a theme and include all kinds of local businesses, crafters and artists. The themes are June-Art and Wine Walk, July – Tom Friday's Barbeque Contest, August – Java House Drum contest, and September – Timeless Beauty Fashion Show and Beauty Pageant. More information is at pghretail.com and our website.

City Council President Darlene Harris reported on several issues. The Davis Avenue Bridge is now on the TIP and has actually been assigned an engineering firm (A&A Engineering) and engineer for design. Election Day was May 21 and she attended the Troy Hill Memorial Day service this year (alternates with BH every other year). She has the use of juveniles needing community service, to help in placing cemetery flags. The Spay and Neuter program for cats is free to city residents. The Wilksboro Walking Bridge has \$600 K earmarked for repair and she will check on the status of that project.

This year's Community Day at PNC Park was held on June 16 with the Pirates versus the Dodgers. Tickets were \$25 and will include commemorative jersey. We had buses to transport us to the game and a picnic followed.

Janice reported that she will be staffing a table for BH at the Riverview Park Heritage Day on June 8. Any other volunteers are welcome.

New Business

Jamie Kinzelnath, principal of Pittsburgh Morrow reported that the school garden club is looking for volunteers to help take care of the garden at Morrow during the summer months. Additional planting will be done at Morrow Intermediate (formerly Rooney) when remodeling allows.

Vince and Susan led a discussion on the upcoming BHCF November elections in which 11 of 22 Board members and all Officers are up for election. Pete Bellisario has made it known that he will not run again as President. We have 382 members

and 708 email blast recipients. The Board will hold a planning retreat in August to help work out our plans for the future. Our outreach to the community must increase and we need to help find those who would like to join us to volunteer and help hold leadership positions on the Board and in Committees. Everyone that loves their community and wants to be involved are welcome.

Anything for the Good of the Federation

The next General Membership meeting will be September 12, 2013.

The 50/50 Raffle prize was \$19.00 by Audrey Quaquareucci

Approximately 40 persons attended.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Respectfully submitted

John Belch

Christmas Tree Lighting

The date for our Christmas tree lighting in Legion Park is on Saturday, December 7th at 6:30 PM in Legion Park. Look for more complete information in the November newsletter.

REGION'S ONLY WATERSHED FESTIVAL

Pittsburgh – The region's only watershed festival will take place as the ALCOSAN Open House on Saturday, September 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. rain or shine.

Free and open to the public, the national award winning event highlights include hands-on environmental activities and exhibits for all ages. New this year is mini-workshops and Ask the Plumber booth where attendees can ask members of Plumbers Local Union No. 27 plumbing questions free of charge. The event also includes examining plants and reptiles that depend on a clean watershed, fish in a virtual stream, Environmental Jeopardy, bike bowling, pollution prevention and microbiology booths, tour a virtual sewer line, and much more.

In addition, bus tours of the 56 acre wastewater treatment plant will be offered as well tours of the environmental laboratory.

As the festival is an environmental event, waste generated at the event will be recycled and also composted. Last year, ALCOSAN received the second platinum award from Zero Waste Pittsburgh in recognition of waste minimization and recycling at the event - a feat no other organization has achieved!

There is plenty of free parking. The event is handicapped accessible. For more information about activities and directions, visit www.alcosan.org or call the event hotline at (412) 732-8002.

ALCOSAN is located one mile from the West End Bridge on Pittsburgh's Northside along the Ohio River. ALCOSAN treats up to 250 million gallons of wastewater daily representing treatment service from 320,000 customers in 83

communities including the City of Pittsburgh. ALCOSAN is not a county agency but a joint city-county authority operating under state guidelines receiving no tax monies with revenues generated solely by rates.



ALCOSAN's Award-Winning OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, September 21, 2013
9am to 4pm, Rain or Shine!

The region's largest watershed and environmental festival returns for 2013 with **NEW** exhibitors and **NEW** activities, including **FREE** environmental workshops throughout the day!

- Guided tours of the ALCOSAN Treatment Plant and Laboratory
- Microbiology & watershed life presentations
- Hands-on environmental activities & exhibits
- Games, food & fun for all ages
- Located at 3300 Preble Avenue on Pittsburgh's North Side, just 1.5 miles from the West End Bridge via Chateau St. **FREE** parking and admission!

FREE and Open to the Public!

For more information, please visit www.alcosan.org or call our Open House hotline at 412-732-8002. To receive real-time event updates, "like" the official ALCOSAN Facebook page or follow us on Twitter @alcosanWWTP

Printed on 100% PCW Paper

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name (s): _____ Date: _____
Address: _____ City & State _____
Zip Code + four _____ Phone: _____ Email _____

New Member Membership \$7.50 Family Additional Donation
 Renewal for _____ years \$5 Individual (optional) \$ _____
Multiple year bonus: \$3 Senior Citizen for: _____
 Pay 3yrs – get 4 yrs \$2 Social Member
 Pay 5 yrs – get 7 yrs \$10 Corporate/Group

Please do not send cash and make checks payable to: "BHCF, Inc"

Your cancelled check is your receipt. Your membership
Renewal date will be printed after your name on your mailing label.

Send to: **BHCF Treasurer
3629 California Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212**

Membership is also available on-line at www.brightonheights.org

The next Membership Meeting will be held at 7:00 Thursday, September 12, 2013
at the John Morrow auditorium on the corner of Davis and Fleming Avenues.

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

Address Service Requested



**Brighton Heights Citizens Federation
3629 California Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212**