



# BRIGHTON HEIGHTS

VOLUME 51  
ISSUE 3

## CITIZENS REPORT

May 2021



### Build Your Wealth in the Trades Event

**WHEN:** May 15, 2021

**WHERE:** Legion Memorial Park

**TIME:** 11:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

**FOR:** Students in grades 6-12 and young adults



**SCAN TO RSVP**



by Joseph Glassbrenner

I would like to outline and introduce a new event the BHCF has created to meet the needs of our young adults throughout the Northside of Pittsburgh by building a brighter future through the construction trades. The “Build Your Wealth in the Trades” event will be held on May 15, 2021, at Legion Memorial Park from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. I want to invite any student, grades 6 – 12 or young adult who is interested, to explore the opportunities to attend. You can learn about the opportunities available to you in our region of Southwestern PA. Participants can RSVP by scanning the QR code on the flyer and register via the Eventbrite link. You can also register by phone at **412-734-0233** or email at **BHCFpgh@gmail.com**

... CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

PHOTO BY JESHOOOTS.COM ON UNSPLASH

### NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 7:00 P.M.

Visit [brightonheights.org](http://brightonheights.org) for meeting details.

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## From the Federation President

by Joseph Glassbrenner

I'm glad to finally wish the Brighton Heights Community a happy spring season. I look to this spring and summer with much more optimism as

I did last year at this time, with temperatures remaining warm, outdoor activities taking place, and vaccination distributions hitting all-time highs, it's fair to say this summer should have more to offer than last year's.

The BHCF definitely has more to offer this spring given many restrictions have been reduced and we understand more about how to protect ourselves from the health risks presented to us. The first event of spring was held on April 24, 2021, and was the Brighton Heights/Brightwood Spring Clean-up Day. It was a productive and enjoyable way to spend time with each other, clean-up our neighborhoods, and share a meal together. I'd like to thank our coordinators Tim "The Clean Man" Maloney and Jamie Younger for all their hard work, as well as all volunteers who showed up to clean.

Please be on the lookout for the 2nd annual BH Plant Swap which will be held on May 8 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Legion Memorial Park. This event is organized by Legion Park Garden Steward Kim Larsen. Its goal is to share the goodness of gardening by bringing a plant or taking a plant to the park. The only requirement is to commit to planting and enjoy watching it grow. Thank you to Kim for setting up this day outside. I will see you there.

Our third spring event and first of its kind is outlined in this newsletter and is the "Build Your Wealth in the Trades" Building Trades Initiative. In October of 2020, my motion was approved by the Board of Directors to organize a new kind of event this spring for teens and young adults to explore

opportunities in the skilled trades. Please see the article and flyer contained in this Newsletter.

Our final event is the Garden and Greenspaces that come around each year. Please see the article outlining the events and dates as detailed by Chairman Ed Gergerich. The committee has had continued success not only by keeping Brighton Heights "blooming", but also managing a great spring flower sale. Thanks to Stacey Roa and Jena Simpson, we are once again providing residents with greenhouse-quality plants and helping the BHCF with fundraising too. On the subject of planting and growing, the City of Pittsburgh Christmas Tree Recycle Program has made pine chips available to residents at the lower entrance to Riverview Park. This is the Public Works area at the end of Grand Ave. The chips are available from April 10 – May 10. Please bring your own shovel, buckets, or bins. You will have to load the chips yourself.

Last, I share a message from the Board of Directors Meeting on March 3, 2021. Due to the reduced funding our organization has suffered over the past 2 years, the BHCF Board has made the recommendations to close the physical office located at 3629 California Ave. An exact date has not yet been determined. Without the support and resources the BHCF was accustomed to in previous years, it is just not possible to maintain the expense of rent and utilities along with our insurance costs. Please continue to follow our meetings and newsletters as we make final decisions in the coming months to consider the most effective way to serve the residents of Brighton Heights. If you are interested in sitting in on a Board of Directors Zoom meeting, please contact the office by email at BHCFpgh@gmail.com.

Our next General Membership Meeting will be held on May 13, 2021, at 7 p.m. It will again be held via Zoom. Please follow our Facebook page and check the website at Brightonheights.org for the Zoom link with details. I will finish by wishing everyone a Happy Memorial Day and remembering those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our Country.

**Enjoy your summer and as always I'll see you in the Neighborhood.**

## Neighborhood Crime Information

If any member of the BHCF would like specific information regarding the criminal activity in or neighborhood, you have two sources at your disposal:

- You are invited to attend regular meetings at the Northside Public Safety Council held the first Thursday of each month. They are held at the Manchester Citizen's Corporation Building located 1319 Allegheny Avenue. You may also obtain this information by logging onto the Police website at <http://communitysafety.pittsburghpa.gov/>. The next meeting will be held in May.

- You are invited to attend the Federation General Membership Meetings every second Thursday usually located in the auditorium of John Morrow School but recently via Zoom. Police officers from Zone 1 provide a comprehensive list of every crime that occurs within our neighborhood. The next scheduled meeting will also be held in May.

**The best way to prevent crime in our neighborhood is to become involved.**

## Do You Have a New Neighbor?

If so, let us know, BHCF will give them a one year free membership and send them a newsletter for a year. And if you would like to write something about Brighton Heights, please feel free to send your article to:

BHCF Newsletter  
3629 California Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Or E-Mail it to Editor, Dave Lebec  
submissions@brightonheights.org

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

## Newsletter Committee:

Editor: Dave Lebec  
Copy Editor: Erin Marie Yourd  
Distribution: Joseph Glassbrenner

The opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the membership of the board.

## BHCF Board of Directors:

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Vice President: Brendan Delaney  
Treasurer: Gretchen Serra  
Corresponding Sec: Kate Kelley  
Recording Secretary: John Belch

### Directors

Stacy Berkebile, Alex Carrera, Monique Flowers, Elaine Gloeckner, Bill Goodrich, Janice Johns-Engelman, Donna Kramer, Tim Maloney, Raymond Robinson

## The United Way #188

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 children's activities such as the Halloween Parade.

Any member making a United Way donation receives free membership in the Federation. Usually paperwork does not catch up to us until the year after the donation.

## Membership Renewal

Check the date after your name on your mailing label and make sure your membership is up to date. If it is not, please renew your membership now, either by sending in a renewal with the form on the back of the newsletter, or by going to our website online and renewing it by PayPal.

BHCF Information List	
BHCF Answer Line:	412-734-0233
BHCF FAX:	412-734-0234
E-Mail:	bhcf@brightonheights.org
Web Site:	www.brightonheights.org
ALCOSAN (odor control)	412-766-9445
Allegheny Co Health Dept	412-578-8390
Animal Control	412-255-2036 (before 3 p.m.) 412-255-2935 (after 3 p.m.)
Building Inspection	412-255-2176
Building Permits:	412-255-2175
Burned Out Street Light	412-255-5483
City Council Office	412-255-2142
City Council Rep for BH	412-255-2135
City Planning	412-255-2200
Emergency	911
Environmental Services	412-255-2780
Graffiti in the neighborhood You are a direct victim Graffiti Busters (will remove it) Graffiti Watch	311 911 412-255-2872 412-255-2272
Litter Hot Line (PA State)	888-548-8372
Mayor's Office	412-255-2626
Mayor's Response Line	311
Organized Crime, Narcotics, and Intelligence Division (ONI)	412-665-4300
Parking Authority	412-560-7275
Pittsburgh School Police Police - Zone 1	412-622-3520 412-323-7201
Public Works	412-255-2790
Refuse/Recycling	412-255-2773
State Rep. - District 20	412-321-5523

## From Councilman Bobby Wilson

Hello everyone,

As we head into the warmer months of this year, I wanted to share information about making our streets safer and providing opportunities for young adults in our neighborhoods.

### OFF ROAD VEHICLES

Off road vehicles have always been a challenge in the district, but I know we all have noticed the uptick in usage since the start of the pandemic. Thank you to the residents that have taken the time to reach out to our office to express concerns and share information. I'm sure many of you saw or heard the noisy parades of ATVs and dirt bikes, ranging from 50 to 200 riders, that tore through our Northside neighborhoods last summer. These all-terrain vehicles are not designed to be driven on public roads and they pose a serious danger to the general public, law enforcement, and the illegal riders themselves. In January, I spoke out in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette about the need to find creative solutions to get these unlawful off-road vehicles off our streets and out of our neighborhoods. I am urging ATV riders to please find responsible places to use these vehicles, off of public streets, and I am especially asking families to please keep your kids from riding these vehicles in our public streets.

Recently, the Mayor assembled a task-force to devise a comprehensive operational plan to address this issue. The three-pronged response will focus on (1) education and community outreach, (2) law enforcement collaboration, and (3) investigation and enforcement. As part of the investigative process, the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police and its law enforcement partners will utilize any available technology to stop these unauthorized vehicles from driving on city streets. Residents can help by reporting any relevant tips or information. Please use the "Patrol" 311 ticket type on 311's online submission form, call 3-1-1, or tweet @311pgh. You may also submit tips directly to the police at 412\_TIPS@pittsburghpa.gov. In the event of an emergency, as always, please dial 911.

### PAID SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

If you are between the ages of 14-21 or a relative, teacher, or mentor to a teen or young adult who is looking for a job this summer, check out the Learn & Earn Summer Youth Employment Program! Learn & Earn is a six-week summer employment program for teens and young adults in Allegheny County. Participants could work up to 25 hours per week. If you participate in this program, you have the opportunity to earn money, gain valuable work experience, and develop soft skills to help you become college and career ready. Past participants have planted urban gardens, created websites and business plans, conducted research, and helped run businesses. For many young adults, Learn &

Earn is their first job experience; for others, it has become their consistent summer job. If you are looking for a job this summer, apply by May 31, 2021, at <https://www.partner4work.org/learn-and-earn/>. If you need any help with your application, please call (412) 932-2950 or email [summer@partner4work.org](mailto:summer@partner4work.org). You can also contact Desiree Johnson at 412-584-9679 or email her at [djohnson@youthplaces.org](mailto:djohnson@youthplaces.org). To get in-person help in completing your application, use this information to schedule an appointment at Youth Places, the Northside Application Support Center, at 711 West Commons Street.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of this information, or need any other assistance, please call my office, email my team, or find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

**CONTACT:** Bobby Wilson, Councilman, District 1

**PHONE:** 412-255-2135

**EMAIL:** [district1@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:district1@pittsburghpa.gov)

## Memorial Day

Due to the restrictions of COVID-19 still in effect, we the Committee feel it is not possible to host a large Memorial Day Service at Legion Park this year. Social distancing cannot be done at this time in this park. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause anyone. We look forward to doing a full program next year.

## Interested in Sharing a Story with Your Community?

Submit your story in less than 250 words using the submission link on the [brightonheights.org](http://brightonheights.org) homepage.

## Newsletter Submissions Deadline

This is a reminder that the deadline for your entry to the Brighton Heights Newsletter is approaching. Please submit your article to me as a Word doc attachment no later than August 1. Thank you for your cooperation.

**CONTACT:** Dave Lebec, Editor

**EMAIL:** [submissions@brightonheights.org](mailto:submissions@brightonheights.org)

Those in attendance will be guided by skilled trade's workers to construct wooden work stations and basic electrical wiring techniques, as well as become familiar with identifying the correct tools for the task and their use. The first half of the event will be hands-on learning. The second half of the event, participants will hear stories by those who became successful in the building trades. Hear from real community members about their path to success, the great pay, reliable benefits, and rewarding opportunities that await you. Apprenticeship opportunities will be presented. Literature will be distributed to those interested and representatives be available to discuss the careers available in our region.

The day will conclude with a free tool raffle, as well as pizza and a sandwich ring for lunch. Pizza will be from a local Pizzeria and sandwich rings from Tom Fridays. As a reminder, due to the current health situation we are facing, the BHCF will be following and strictly enforcing any and all guidance by the CDC, PA State, and City of Pittsburgh. Thank you for your continued adherence to these guidelines in advance.

I want to thank our sponsors, who at the time of this writing are still coming forward and continuing to grow each day. I also want to recognize Board Members Ray Robinson and Monique Flowers who stepped up to help guide the direction of the event and make it possible. A special thanks to Committee persons Jamie Younger (resident and business owner), Charles Linhart (Perry High School Teacher and Coach), and Sabreena Miller (Board Member, Bona Fide Bellevue). I am calling on all teachers, parents, guardians, grandparents, friends, pastors, and community

members to help us get the word of this initiative out to a teen or young adult who could benefit. I am passionate about the opportunities a career in the building trades has provided me. I want to share this message and need your help. Like many other young adults the opportunity to attend a four year college just wasn't available to me. Many students are not cut out for a college education or simply cannot afford it. With a career as an electrician in the IBEW Local Union No. 5, I have been able to have a reliable income, health benefits, retirement benefits, and learn a skill that is serving my family and I a lifetime. Please join in this day of learning and fun and do not hesitate to email me with any questions at Joseph.Glassbrenner@gmail.com



**MAY 15, 2021**  
**11 AM – 1 PM**

# BUILD YOUR WEALTH IN THE TRADES

**YOUTH EXPLORATION OF THE SKILLED TRADES**

**EVENT OVERVIEW**  
Pittsburgh youth will spend the afternoon immersed in a well-rounded, hands-on experience during the exploration of skilled trades.

**Mission**  
To meet the needs of our young adults throughout the Northside of Pittsburgh by building a brighter future through careers in the construction trades.

**TOOL GIVEAWAY!**  
Participants are eligible to enter our raffle to win select hand-tools!

**4 SESSIONS**

- 1 Carpentry**  
Attendees will begin at the carpentry station. Guided by skilled carpenters, they will become familiar with the tools necessary to construct their own wooden workstations. Following this, the participants will head to the electrical station.
- 2 Electrical**  
Wiring skills will be performed on the workstations built-in during the carpentry session. Attendees will have the opportunity to construct simple electrical systems such as wiring a switch, light, and the basic residential outlet.
- 3 Speaker Series**
- 4 Apprenticeship Opportunities**

*Lunch will be provided to participants by TBD local restaurants.*

  
**BRIGHTON HEIGHTS**  
CITIZENS FEDERATION

**Legion Memorial Park | 3600 Shadeland Ave. | Pittsburgh, PA 15212**

## Gardens and Greenspaces

by Ed Gergerich

In case you haven't noticed, **SPRING HAS SPRUNG!** And blooms dispel glooms!

Thanks to everyone who ordered flowers through our BHCF flower sale. Your purchases, even for your own yard, will make the entire neighborhood bloom!

May is a busy month in the community gardens. Two events are occurring on **SATURDAY, MAY 8** (and yes, you can do both!) The PA 65 Garden at Brighton Heights Blvd opposite the McKees Rocks Bridge will be planted starting at 9 a.m. WPC provides the flowers and mulch for our gateway garden. This year, we will have 19 flats of vincas, celosia, and rudbeckia to plant and mulch. Also on **SATURDAY, MAY 8** is our 2nd annual Plant Exchange at Legion Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pick up or donate plants, surplus garden tools, pots, or seeds. If you have questions about the exchange or want to join the Legion Park Garden team, contact Kim Larsen at **412-818-8876**.

**SATURDAY, MAY 15**, is prep day at Legion Park and our three gardens at Termon and California Avenues. We will be transplanting perennials and ornamental grasses, trimming shrubs, and getting a head start on weeds before we plant our annuals on **SATURDAY, MAY 22**. A catch-up day will be **SATURDAY, MAY 29**, to work on anything that we didn't get done on the previous two Saturdays (usually mulching). These events start at 9 a.m. but latecomers are always welcome. We will go until about noon or until fatigue sets in.

We will have major tools available for these Saturdays but bring your favorite hand tool if you can. At this time, we don't know what our region's COVID status is going to be, but safety is always our primary concern. Bring your face mask although you may not need it as most tasks will be socially-distanced and I can guarantee that they will all be outdoors.

One event that is not on a Saturday is our flower delivery, taking place on **THURSDAY, MAY 20**. Mussigs will deliver our order to my house, 1632 Termon Avenue about 10 a.m. If you can help unload, sort orders, or deliver orders, even for a short time, it would be greatly appreciated. Last year we had over 100 flats plus pots and baskets that were sorted and delivered on the first day thanks to about a dozen helpers.

Speaking of help, we can always use more if you have the time and motivation to get some exercise, fresh air, and sunshine. You can join a "green team" or work on your own schedule. Most folks are motivated to work on a garden in their corner of the neighborhood, so here is a listing of the community gardens other than the five mentioned above:

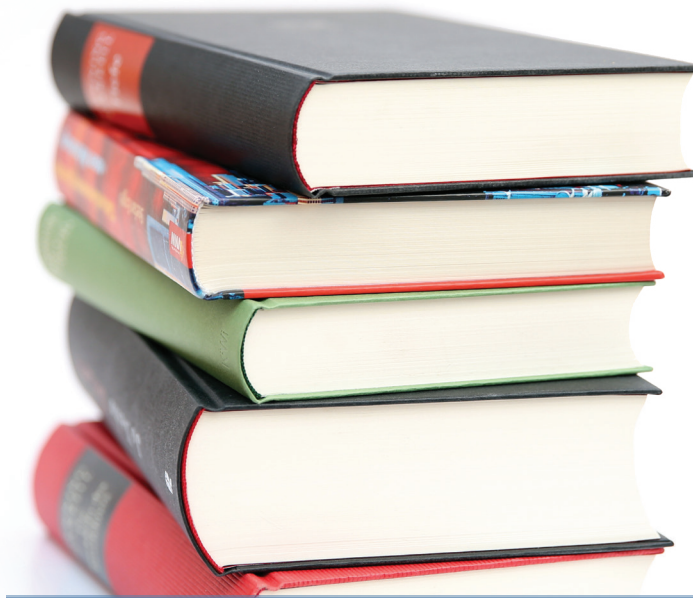
- The Great Wall along Brighton Heights Boulevard
- Allegheny Highlands on California Avenue opposite Benton Avenue
- Goe Garden at the intersection of Goe Avenue and Wapello Street
- Corona Corner at Brighton Road, Corona Street and Simen Avenue
- Antrim Rain Garden at Antrim Street and Richardson and Fleming Avenues
- McClure Garden at McClure and Woods Run Avenues
- Harvard Circle Plantings opposite Goe Avenue plus around the Circle

If you're interested in any of our "Dirt Dozen", let me know (**412-779-9222**) and I can get you in touch with the garden steward or set you up with transplants or seeds. Thanks.

**Stay safe, stay green.**

PHOTO BY SIORA PHOTOGRAPHY ON UNSPLASH





## From the Carnegie Library

### *Finding Answers to Your Questions with Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh*

Dear Neighbors,

Do you have questions about COVID-19 resources or need help with tax preparation? Check out Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

We keep up-to-date information to help answer questions such as:

- Where can I get tax preparation help this year?
- Where can I get a Coronavirus (COVID-19) test?
- How and when can I get a COVID-19 vaccine?
- Where can I find mental health resources during COVID-19?
- How do I navigate the health.pa.gov site to schedule an appointment?

Visit [carnegielibrary.libanswers.com/info](http://carnegielibrary.libanswers.com/info) and search "covid" or "tax" for up-to-date information or contact us via the many options below.

Best Wishes,  
Your Friends at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

**FACEBOOK:** @CarnegieLibraryOfPittsburgh

**INSTAGRAM:** @carnegielibrary

**TWITTER:** @carnegielibrary

**PHONE:** 412-622-3114

**TEXT:** 412-775-3900 (*standard message rates apply*)

**EMAIL:** [info@carnegielibrary.org](mailto:info@carnegielibrary.org)

**WEBSITE:** [www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org)

**CHAT:** [carnegielibrary.org](http://carnegielibrary.org) (*click on the "How can we help?" icon*)

## Spring Clean Up Day Results and Adopt-a-Block

by Tim Maloney

By the time you read this we will have had another successful spring clean-up day! I want to thank every person who gave of their time and volunteered to help beautify our neighborhood!

Thank you to Councilman Bobby Wilson's office for their donation. Also, thank you to all of those who donated to the BBQ event!

As successful as these clean-up events can be, they are just the start to keeping Brighton Heights free of trash and debris. To keep our neighborhood looking good throughout the year, we have an Adopt-a-Block program which many of you are already a member. However, we need to grow this membership to make a bigger impact. If you love seeing our sidewalks and green spaces cleaned up, please consider adopting a street or block and committing to keeping it clean. It's a great way to get some outdoor time and exercise as well. If each of us does a little bit, we can keep our neighborhood looking beautiful all year long! Contact Tim Maloney for further details.

And see you in 2022 on the Saturday nearest to Earth Day in April; mark it in your calendar now!

**CONTACT:** Tim Maloney

**PHONE:** 412-726-0800

**EMAIL:** [dirtdoctim@msn.com](mailto:dirtdoctim@msn.com)



# Pittsburgh Police Community Engagement Walk

by Joseph Glassbrenner

On Saturday February 27, 2021, the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police held an impromptu community walk. The details came together quickly but its purpose was clear. Members of the Bureau had organized a walk in Brighton Heights to engage with the community in the areas they police. Approximately 15 officers showed up this day, including Chief Scott Schubert, who in March completed his initiative to walk all 90 Neighborhoods in Pittsburgh.

The event started on the California Ave Business District with a prayer by Revered Marla Roebuck of Destiny of Faith Church. During a briefing by Sgt Michael Burford, he named the new Neighborhood Resource Officer Eric DeFeo. The walk consisted of meeting residents, listening to concerns, and learning the Neighborhood. Officers engaged with over 30 residents and received thanks from those they encountered. A future walk was discussed with the intention of advanced planning and a welcoming of more residents to take part. Details will be provided in advance of another walk.



PHOTO BY JOSEPH GLASSBRENNER

*Rev. Marla Roebuck prepares for a prayer with officers and community leaders on February 27, 2021.*



PHOTO BY LT. WILLIAM FLESKE

*Pittsburgh Police partake in a post-event discussion with community members on February 27, 2021, on California Ave.*

## Neighborhood Safety

Hello Neighbors! I'm excited to have this opportunity to reach out and offer some options to help make our neighborhood a safer place: Donna Kramer and I would like to reinvigorate our Public Safety Committee! There has been a lull in interest for a while, but I really believe we're ready to get back down to business.

Did you know we have a neighborhood watch page on Facebook? It's a great place to pass on safety tips, find out what's going on in the neighborhood, and connect with neighbors who are concerned about our safety. You'll find that information at the bottom as well.

The last thing I want to talk about is a new initiative that I'm hoping will gain ground quickly. This is the brainchild of Joe Glassbrenner (Board President) and I, and we think it is a fantastic idea! I will be collecting information from as many neighbors as I can regarding surveillance available in the neighborhood. I will be compiling a list of security cameras. In this way, we can

help our police force quickly when there is criminal activity in the area. If you have security cameras, please use any of the contact information below to provide me with the following:

- Your Name
- Address
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Type of surveillance you have.

Your information will be stored securely and only be given to police if your cameras are on a street where they may be helpful with criminal activity. If you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to contact me!

**CONTACT:** Richelle C. Ferree

**PHONE:** 412-403-1468

**EMAIL:** [Richelleferree@gmail.com](mailto:Richelleferree@gmail.com)

**FACEBOOK:** Brighton Heights Watch



Join us for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual

# BRIGHTON HEIGHTS Plant Swap or Adopt



Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

## Legion Memorial Park

The Triangle of Brighton Road, Davis and Shadeland Avenues

### HELP SPREAD THE GREEN IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Come with a plant, or nothing at all and leave with a plant or nothing at all.

Do whatever works for you.

Leave your wallet at home. This is a free event.

PHOTO BY JOYFUL ON UNSPLASH

## Brighton Heights Plant Swap-or-Adopt

by Kim Larsen

It's Spring, the birds are singing, the grass is growing and it's time to think about gardening. Kim and Megan Larsen-Graham want to help everyone enjoy gardening as much as they do. What started out last March by putting some baby houseplants on the sidewalk with a sign that said "Free Quarantine Companion", has bloomed to a full plant exchange at their home last May. The response was so amazing. So many people brought plants and decided to take a plant home to start a garden. They are doing it again this year. They are proud to announce the second (hopefully annual) Brighton Heights Plant Swap-or-Adopt.

For a little more elbow room and to promote social distancing, the event will be at Legion Memorial Park this year. For those not familiar with the park, it is located at the intersection of Brighton Road, Davis Ave and Shadeland Ave. This location offers space to spread some plants for swapping. The Plant Swap-or-Adopt will be held on Saturday, May 8th, starting 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. or until all the plants find good homes.

The avid gardeners in our neighborhood have already combated the winter doldrums by starting vegetable seeds indoors. A great thing to do, but often once they start to grow, we realize that we have more plants than we have room for in the garden. If this has happened to you, bring your extra seedlings to the swap. If you are dividing the plants in your yard and have nowhere to put them, bring them to the swap. If your ivy has taken over your patio, dig it up and bring it to the swap. If you have too much of anything garden-related (seeds, tools, pots, other supplies), bring them to the swap.

The phrase "or adopt" has been added to the name, because it can't be said enough: You don't have to bring anything to take something. The plants are in need of homes. If you are thinking about starting to garden, come and get some free plants; but fair warning: it might lead to you planting seeds in the middle of winter for the next year's hopeful plant swap.

# MINUTES

## Review of Previous General Membership Meeting

Due to the restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held online using the Zoom platform. The public was invited to participate via computer or phone by a notice in the newsletter, website and social media accounts.

### March 11, 2021

The meeting was brought to order at 7:05 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Minutes from the January 14, 2021, General Membership meeting were approved without corrections.

### Special Guests:

**Pittsburgh Police Commander Linda Barone, Commander William Fleske, Sgt. Mike Burford, Officer Eric DeFeo, Officer Derrick Payton**

The meeting started with a 20-minute presentation and resident Q&A on crime and safety in the neighborhood. Police presented current statistics and outlined the additional arrests they are making to work against these issues. Police were positive in their comments about the involvement of neighborhood residents during a community walk held last month and another is to be scheduled. Our new Neighborhood Resource Officer Eric DeFeo was introduced and he gave members and the public his cell phone number (412-551-4976) for citizens to call or text with information or concerns.

**City Councilman Bobby Wilson  
Mohammed Burney**

Chief of Staff Burney detailed the Councilman's column in the Chronicle spotlighting the current utility and rent assistance programs. He also reported on the replacement of windows at the Senior Center on McClure Avenue. This is part of the rehabilitation of the

building, which will cost a total of \$2.5 million. Grants and other funding are being sought with a design process hopefully starting later this year and BHCF will be a part of the process. Construction is still a year or so off. Money is also being sought in various phases for the design and construction of the Davis Avenue pedestrian bridge, which also has a several year timeline.

**PA Representative Emily Kinhead  
Bridget Barrett**

Bridget introduced herself as chief of staff for Representative Kinhead. She detailed efforts the office is making concerning property tax rebate applications and a new rent assistance program that is starting next week. The phone number for the office is the same: 412-321-5523.

**Public Safety  
John Tokarski**

John reported on both the Citizen Police Academy and Student Police Academy programs which will be held starting June 22. He is coordinating efforts for this year's National Night Out in August and has been assisting member Richelle Ferree in forming a new block watch group.

**Allegheny Land Trust**

**Alyson Fearon and Damon Weiss**

Alyson and Damon made a presentation of construction drawings concerning the greenspace project at the St John's site as reported in the newsletter. Community input will be sought via a survey mailer for some areas of the site that are still to be determined, but with this design ALT can start fundraising through grants and foundations. They plan to fundraise throughout 2021 for the approximate \$1 million cost. They hope to start construction in 2022.

### Report of Officers and Others:

**President's Report**

**Joseph Glassbrenner**

Joe reported on the Build Your Wealth Through Trades initiative. This event will occur on May 15 in order to give students, young adults and minorities an introduction to the employment possibilities of the building trades. A work order for the repair of the corner clock at Rite-Aid has been made by management. Joe detailed the possibility of the Federation moving out of our office due to the lack of previously dedicated funds and our own fundraising events stymied by the pandemic. When the community center on McClure is finished, we plan to have space there, but in the meantime we may have several sites for storage and board meetings.

**Vice President**

**Brendan Delaney**

Brendan had no report.

**Corresponding Secretary**

**Kate Kelley**

Kate had no report.

**Treasurer's Report**

**Gretchen Serra**

Net Worth Report – As of 2/28/201

Assets — Cash and Bank Accounts	
Monument	1,637.63
Pay Pal On Line	0
Wesbanco OP Acct	12,899.99
SSB OP Acct	11,921.53
State Grant Acct	915.81
United Way	1,033.32
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$28,408.28</b>

A motion to accept was approved.

Gretchen detailed our office space costs for members, furthering President Glassbrenner's report on a possible move.

## Report of Committees:

### NSLC

#### **John Belch and Monique Flowers**

John reported on the Conference's planning session for the next Neighborhood Partnership Program 6-year plan. Also that Lauren DeDomenic, the AHN liaison, is assisting seniors without internet access in getting COVID-19 vaccine appointments. Monique reported on the college scholarship opportunity for City high school seniors. Even without the annual dinner, the NSLC will endeavor to award them as in 2020.

### Cleanup

#### **Tim Maloney**

Tim reported that the spring clean-up event will be a joint effort with Brightwood as was done in 2019. It will be held on April 24 and will have a cookout afterward. He is hoping to also have an E-waste recycling effort that day as well.

### Neighborhood Safety

#### **Donna Kramer and Ray Robinson**

Donna let new crime watch leader Richelle Ferree report her efforts to create a database of private security cameras in the neighborhood so the police can call on certain residents when crime occurs. Her plan and contact info were detailed in an article in the newsletter.

### Gardens and Greenspaces

#### **Ed Gergerich**

Ed reported on the spring flower sale with orders due by April 7. Every Saturday in May will be a work day for the community gardens. There will be a plant swap at Legion Park on May 8.

### Land Use

#### **Brendan Delaney**

Joe reported that Alex Carrera had to step down as chair and Brendan Delaney volunteered. Brendan stated that construction drawings for our rehab houses have been okayed by the committee and are awaiting City approval. The construction bid process should start soon.

## Communications

Open.

### Families, Youth & Children

Open.

Joe stated both of these important committees have open chairs and asked members to consider their involvement.

### Memorial Day

#### **Donna Kramer**

Donna reported that due to the still uncertain protocols for the pandemic and the space required for safety, there will not be a public commemoration at Legion Park for Memorial Day. Volunteers are still being sought to place flags on graves at Highwood Cemetery on the Saturday before the holiday.

### Old Business

None.

### New Business

Joe Glassbrenner made a motion and it was approved to offer copies of the book "Architecture of Janssen Benno" by Donald Miller that were gifted by the Post-Gazette to all Board and General members for free.

## Anything for the Good of the Federation

A "Happy Birthday" was wished to President Joe Glassbrenner and he announced to members that he and his wife welcomed the birth of their second son, Leo Francis, on January 31.

The next General Membership meeting will be May 13, 2021.

Approximately 45 persons attended.

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

### Respectfully submitted

**John Belch**

## Last Page Laugh

by Tom Kaylor

*Where did daddy bunny meet  
mommy bunny?*

*At the Hop!*



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME(S)

DATE

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE

ZIP CODE + 4

PHONE

EMAIL

New Member     Renewal  
Membership for \_\_\_\_\_ years

MULTIPLE YEAR BONUS:

Pay 3 years >>> get 4 years!

Pay 5 years >>> get 7 years!

Family (\$10)  
 Individual (\$7.50)  
 Senior Citizen (\$5)  
 Social (\$5)  
 Corporate (\$20)

Additional Donation  
(optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
for: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.

Make checks payable to BHCF, INC.  
Send to: BHCF TREASURER  
3629 CALIFORNIA AVENUE  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

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

Membership is also available online at [www.brightonheights.org](http://www.brightonheights.org)

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021**

MEETING WILL BE BROADCAST VIA ZOOM. VISIT [WWW.BRIGHTONHEIGHTS.ORG](http://WWW.BRIGHTONHEIGHTS.ORG) FOR DETAILS.

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED FOR US BY ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL AND WE APPRECIATE THEIR GENEROSITY!**

Address Service Requested



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Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212