



BRIGHTON HEIGHTS

VOLUME 52
ISSUE 3

CITIZENS REPORT

May 2022



Memorial Day at Legion Park on Monday, May 30, 2022

It is again time to remember those who have gone before us and gave their lives serving to protect our freedoms with a memorial service at Legion Park in Brighton Heights.

Service starts at 10:00 a.m. SHARP. As no seating exists in Legion Park, please bring your own chair.

Unfortunately, we will not be having a picnic this year due to some COVID-19 restrictions. However, masks are optional.

Please join us to remember our fallen veterans and to see the freshly renovated memorials to their sacrifice in Legion Park.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (RAIN OR SHINE):

We will be placing flags on veterans' graves at Highwood Cemetery on Friday, May 27. The group will be meeting at 9:00 a.m. at the 2800 block of Brighton Road, across from A.S. Wee Care. Help is always welcome for this important task.



If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact the event coordinator below.

CONTACT: Donna Kramer
PHONE: 412-766-6546

PHOTO BY DANIEL FOSTER ON UNSPLASH

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at 7:00 P.M.

John Morrow Auditorium

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From the Federation President

by Joseph Glassbrenner

At last another spring season is here to enjoy time outdoors with neighbors, friends, and family. We can get back to walks in the park

or knock the dust off the bicycle for a spin around Riverview Park or a stroll on the Three Rivers River trail. One of my favorite spring activities is working and planting a vegetable garden in my backyard. Whatever it is you like about spring, I hope it can be a very enjoyable season for you this year.

Spring is one of the busiest times for the BHCF, hosting the majority of committee and events in April and May. A couple weeks ago on **April 23**, Tim Maloney and Jamie Younger hosted our annual **Spring Clean-up Event**. The amount of volunteers was overwhelming! It was a day that really made an impact on the eye appeal of our streets and neighborhood. Thank you to Tim for his efforts and Jamie for hosting a great **post-event BBQ**. But most importantly: a special thanks to those who came out and really cleaned up!

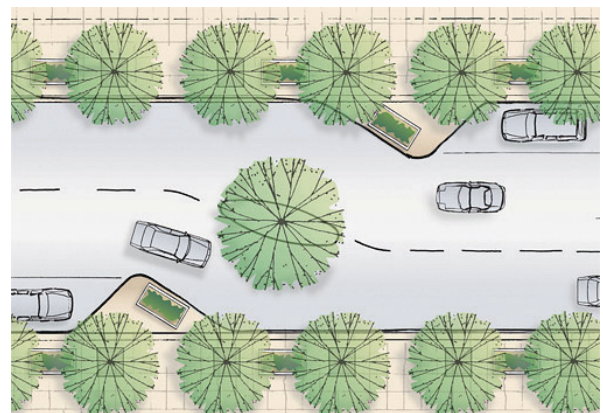
This May, the BHCF will host even more events and have more opportunities than 2021. First, our **Gardens and Greenspaces Committee** will meet on **May 7** and continue **each Saturday up until Memorial Day** weekend. Ed Gergerich and Kim Larsen do amazing work to coordinate beauty at the Termon/California gardens and Legion Memorial Park. In the middle of the month, on **Thursday, May 12, at 7:00 p.m.**, we will meet in the John Morrow School Auditorium for **our last General Membership Meeting before we break for summer**. The following **Thursday, May 19**, will be a public Zoom meeting for residents to hear a **proposal regarding 2051 Termon Ave** (formerly Three Rivers Youth). The property has recently sold to an investor. An architect representing the new owner will introduce themselves and share concepts of design for a proposed housing development.

Next, on **Saturday, May 21**, the **Annual Plant Swap** will be at Legion Memorial Park from **10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** and the 2nd annual **Build Your Wealth in the Trades** Event across the street at The New Life Family Worship Center from **11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Finally, I am pleased to announce the return of the **Memorial Day event at Legion Memorial Park**. The past 2 years, the event was cancelled over concerns of health and safety. Please welcome it back by supporting the event with your attendance to honor all those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

I realize this was A LOT of information and one the most run-on paragraphs to date published in this newsletter. Everything is outlined with an article or submission in this

newsletter and posted to the BHCF Facebook page. Please consider adding the BHCF on Facebook for an easy way to follow what's upcoming.

I have an update from a public meeting held on March 16 between the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI) and residents in regards to the Termon Ave Traffic Calming Study. This was the 2nd public meeting, with the first listening meeting held in November 2021. DOMI presented two different traffic measures aimed at reducing the speeding on Termon Ave between California Ave and Brighton Rd. The first will be a series of traffic chicanes between Fleming Ave and McClure Ave. Chicanes are a pilot program being testing for the first time in the City in Brighton Heights. They are a horizontal diversion method aimed at reducing the speed of traffic. Traffic will alternate from left to right with a series of bump outs to guide the flow of traffic. Parking will be limited to one alternating side of Termon through this area. The second measure will be a permanent concrete traffic circle installed at the intersection of Termon Ave and McClure Ave. The traffic circle will allow a continuous flow of traffic but reduces speed by traveling around the circle. Construction is set to begin by summer. Questions or more information can be obtained by contacting **DOMI** by phone at **(412) 255-8850**.



The last information I want to share is the name and location of **JE Mussig Nursery**. As stated in the March report, due to staffing shortages and supply chain issues JE Mussig were unable to supply the quantity of flowers to the BHCF for our flower sale fundraiser. After responding to many calls and emails asking about how residents could still buy these greenhouse-quality plants, I decided to contact the owners to be sure the store was open for retail sales and find out more information. Beginning in the middle of May, residents can purchase flowers directly from their store: **103 Evans Rd, Zelienople, PA 16063**. Please call **(724) 452-8579** to confirm hours and availability.

I will finish by wishing everyone a **Happy Mother's Day on May 8**. I hope to see you at the **next General Membership Meeting on May 12 at 7:00 p.m.** **Have a great summer and as always I'll see you in the Neighborhood.**

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
PO Box 99602, Pittsburgh, PA 15233
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.

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

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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:	412-690-0918
Address:	PO Box 99602, Pgh PA 15233
E-Mail:	BHCFpgh@gmail.com
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

Plant Swap or Adopt

Saturday, May 21

Legion Memorial Park

Triangle of Brighton Road, Davis Avenue and Shadeland Avenue

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Bring plants and things. Swap for other plants and things.

Or just take plants and things that need a new home.

You don't have to bring a plant to take one home with you.

*House plants • Landscape plants • Shrubbery • Tomato plants • Garden Tools • Seeds
Bulbs • Trees • Gloves • Buckets • Rocks • Groundcover • Herbs • Squash Plants
Hostas • Lillies • Vegetable Plants • Flowering Plants • Pots • Garden Art*

Basically bring anything plant-related that you have more than enough of.

SHARE THE LOVE OF GARDENING.



PHOTO BY JOYFUL ON UNSPLASH

Gardens and Greenspaces

If you haven't noticed, **SPRING HAS SPRUNG!** As I write this in early April, daffodils and hyacinths are in bloom, and trees and shrubs are budding. As you read this in early May, the early bloomers are done and later bloomers have taken their place. Isn't Mother Nature great!

May is a busy month for our gardens:

On **SATURDAY, MAY 7**, at the PA 65 Garden at Brighton Heights Blvd. opposite the McKees Rocks Bridge, volunteers are planting, thanks to the support, flowers and mulch from the Western PA Conservancy.

The other 3 Saturdays in May, volunteers will be working at Legion Park and at the 3 gardens at Termon and California Avenues starting at 9:00 a.m.

- **MAY 14** We will transplant and prep the flower beds for our annual infusion of annuals.
- **MAY 21** Annuals will be planted. We also host our third annual plant exchange at Legion Park, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can do both: help with the plantings and then pick up or donate some free starter plants, seeds, pots, or other garden stuff. For more details on the Legion Park activities, contact Kim Larsen.

- **MAY 28** We will be spreading mulch and catching up on whatever didn't get done on the previous Saturdays. There is always something. Monday, May 30, come and enjoy the fruits of your labor and honor those who served at the Memorial Day Program at Legion Park.

Stay safe, stay green.

CONTACT: Ed Gergerich (*Gardens and Greenspaces*)

PHONE: 412-779-9222

CONTACT: Kim Larsen (*Legion Park Activities*)

PHONE: 412-818-8876

Build Your Wealth in the Trades Event

EVENT UPDATE: The "Build Your Wealth in the Trades" event will be held on **May 21, 2022, at The New Life Family Worship Center, 1301 Davis Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212** from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with lunch following. Due to conflicting events at Legion Park, the event was moved from Legion Park to New Life Family Worship, which is just across the street.

I want to invite any student grades 6 – 12 or young adult who is interested in exploring this opportunity to attend. You can learn about the opportunities available to you in our region of Southwestern PA. Participants can **RSVP by phone at (412) 690-0918 or email at BHCfpg@gmail.com.**

Those in attendance will be guided by skilled trades workers to construct wooden work tables, a picnic bench, and basic electrical wiring techniques, as well as become familiar with identifying the correct tools for the task and their use. The event will be hands-on learning. During the lunch portion of the event, participants will hear stories by those who became successful in the building trades. They can hear from real community members about their path to success, the great pay, reliable benefits, and rewarding opportunities that await.

Apprenticeship opportunities will also be presented. Literature will be distributed to those interested and representatives will be available to discuss the careers available in our region.

The day will conclude with a free tool raffle, as well as a pizza, pop, and a cold cut sandwich ring. As a reminder, due to the current health situation, the BHCf will be following any new guidances 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 again stepped in to support this initiative for a second year in a row. I also want to recognize Board Member Ray Robinson and Carpenter Lead Brent Sopko, who helped guide the direction of the event and make it possible. I'd like to call 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 for a lifetime.

Please join in this day of learning and fun and do not hesitate to email me with any questions or call the phone number listed above.

CONTACT: Joseph Glassbrenner

EMAIL: Joseph.Glassbrenner@gmail.com



MAY 21, 2022
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.

REGISTER NOW!
412-690-0918 or
BHCfpg@gmail.com

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 local restaurants.

BRIGHTON HEIGHTS
CITIZENS FEDERATION

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New Life Family Worship Center
1301 Davis Ave. | Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Brighton Heights Healthy Active Living (HAL) Center

WHO WE ARE: Healthy Active Living Center
City of Pittsburgh - Department of Parks and Recreation,
Allegheny County

WHAT WE DO: We offer a daily nutritious county lunch. Additionally, we provide opportunities for socialization, dining, arts, fitness, education and wellness. We have a pool table, a ping-pong table, shuffle board, and our very own miniature golf course! We provide daily fitness opportunities from bone builders, stretch, chair yoga, tai chi to walking. Additionally, members are more than welcome to use the elliptical, bicycle, treadmill and other exercise equipment in our fitness room. If Bingo or card playing is your thing, we have active groups to share in your interests. We also celebrate our friendships through socials and holiday parties.

SERVICES WE OFFER: In addition to providing a delicious, nutritious meal, we can also sign you up for Access and OPT (transportation service). With OPT, you can join your friends on some of our fun dining, shopping or theater events at a fraction of the cost of other transportation.

Membership is easy and free. Just stop by our center with your ID, complete the registration and you're done!

Welcome to our Family.


CONTACTS: Elizabeth Mitchell – *Center Director*
Vernon Lipscomb – *Recreation Leader*
Judy Sucola – *PT Recreation Leader*

ADDRESS: 315 McClure Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

PHONE: 412-766-4656

HOURS OF OPERATIONS: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MAY CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
02 Welcome Back - HOT FOOD! 10:30 Walk & Talk 10-11 Chair Exercise Line Dancing 12-1 Bag Lunch Board Games	03 Chit-Chat Current Events Bean Bag Toss Lunch Movie Time	04 9:00 Meet & Greet 10-11 Chair Exercise 11-12 Cards Lunch Board Games	05 9:30 Walk & Talk 10 Open Pool 12-1 Lunch 1-4 Card Players	06 10-11 Chair Exercise Highmark Blood Pressure Check 11-12 Lunch BINGO
09 9-10 Meet & Greet Walk & Talk 10-11 Chair Exercise Computer Tech 12-1 Lunch Board Games	10 Chit-Chat Current Events Bean Bag Toss Lunch Movie Time	11 9:00 Meet & Greet 10-11 Chair Exercise Arts & Crafts 11-12 Lunch Cards & Board Games	12 9:30 Walk & Talk Crocheting 12-1 Lunch Card Players	13 10-11 Chair Exercise Blood Pressure Check 11-12 Lunch 12-2 BINGO
16 9-10 Meet & Greet Line Dancing Medicare Fraud Prevention 11-12 Lunch Board Games	17 Chit-Chat Current Events Bean Bag Toss Lunch Movie Time	18 9:00 Meet & Greet 10-11 Chair Exercise Arden Court Memory Class 11-12 Lunch/Cards & Board Games	19 9:30 Walk & Talk 10 Darts Lunch 1-4 Card Players	20 10-11 Chair Exercise/ Stretch Blood Pressure Check 11-12 Lunch 12-2 BINGO
23 9-10 Walk & Talk Computer Tech 11 Lunch Board Games	24 Chit-Chat Current Events Bean Bag Toss Lunch Movie Time	25 9:00 Meet & Greet 10-11 Chair Exercise Arts & Crafts 11-12 Lunch Cards & Board Games	26 9:30 Walk & Talk Crocheting 12 Lunch 1-4 Card Players	27 10-11 Chair Exercise/ Stretch Blood Pressure Check 11-12 Lunch 12-2 BINGO
 MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBER AND HONOR	31 Chit-Chat Current Events Bean Bag Toss Lunch Movie Time			

Spring Clean-Up Day Results

by Tim Maloney, Clean-up Coordinator

We had excellent weather from start to finish, which I believe is a first for the Spring Clean-Up Event! There were over 50 volunteers which is also a record! (Woot!) I want to express my gratitude for each person who took time out of their Saturday morning to help pick up the neighborhood.

Thank you, Rick Weiss and crew from Emmanuel Christian church, Eric Newman and his Cub Scout Troop, and the many families who came out together! We also had a lot of new people to this event, which is so good to see. We were able to cover all the main streets, greenspaces and most side streets. Altogether, we picked up around 50 large trash bags along with tires, pipes, tables, and other various finds.



A special thanks to California Coffee Bar for supplying the coffee and Father and Son Donuts for morning treats and Beth and Scott Smith for bringing bagels and Bloody Marys! (LOL!)

A shout out to the volunteers who helped set up and tear down – Michele Hubert, Donna Kramer, Judy Bendtsen, John Belch, and Tom Flaherty. Thank you, Judy Flaherty, for making the Clean-Up sign. And a HUGE THANK YOU to All Saints Episcopal Church for allowing us to use their space!

There was an after-party with the Brightwood Civic Group volunteers in the parking lot for Young Bros Bar. It was a tremendous turnout and a fun time had by all. Thank you, Jamie and Keith, for hosting! Thank you, burger-meister man!

Finally, thank you Keith Younger and DPW guys for picking up trash bags throughout the neighborhood!

I would like to encourage everyone who lives in Brighton Heights to do their part by picking up trash as you see it. Contact Tim Maloney if interested in Adopt-A-Block by email at dirtdoctim@msn.com. If each of us does a little bit, we can keep our neighborhood looking beautiful throughout the year!

See you next year on the Saturday closet to Earth Day in April. Mark it on your calendar now so you don't forget!



House Tour Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the Brighton Heights House Tour. The planning is underway for the Sixteenth Annual Brighton Heights House Tour. The date will be Sunday, July 31, 2022.

A few neighbors have committed their homes to be on the House Tour, but we are hoping to have at least ten to showcase. The Brighton Heights neighborhood is special because it is walkable with a diversity of home styles from Victorian to Four Square to Craftsman styles. We want to feature a variety of homes on the tour, so if you would like to add your home, please let us know.

Legion Park will be central to the tour as the location for an artisan market, flea market, food trucks, and music entertainment. We are looking for people to participate in these areas and to be volunteers for set-up at Legion Park and to be docents in the homes.

If you are interested in helping with the house tour, Brighton Heights largest fundraiser, we want to hear from you!

CONTACT: Danny Phistry at 4helpp@gmail.com
Judy Flaherty at jakflaher1908@gmail.com

From Senator Fontana

Land banks and organizations like the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh revitalize neighborhoods by transitioning blighted properties to beneficial reuses including single family homes, stabilization of standing structures supporting neighborhood commercial districts, and transforming vacant land into uses for community needs.

In 2013, an analysis conducted by Steel Rivers Council of Governments and Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments determined that blighted structures cost municipalities \$19.3 million per year in direct costs and resulted in property value losses between \$218 million and \$247 million. In the City of Pittsburgh alone, there is an inventory of more than 125,000 total parcels of taxable property with nearly 20 percent or just under 24,000 being considered vacant, which contributes to an annual loss of \$4.8 million in property tax revenue.

Blight also has the indirect cost of negatively affecting the values of surrounding properties known as the “spillover effect.” This continuous devaluation of neighborhoods creates a vicious cycle; as blight spreads, residents leave and municipalities struggle to produce enough tax revenue to maintain current infrastructure, making it difficult to attract new residents and businesses. In fact, the spillover effect has impacted the City of Pittsburgh with an estimated \$266 million in annual loss of property value for residential structures located within five hundred feet of vacant property.

The Pennsylvania Land Bank Act (PLBA) provides special abilities that makes it easier for land bank communities to gain access to abandoned properties and determine their outcome through a Sheriff Sale process, but not tax sales like Pittsburgh’s Treasurer’s Sale. Unfortunately, tax sales are cumbersome and do not produce a clean and insurable title until a separate court action to quiet a title takes place. To complicate matters more, this slow process can take three or more years to play out and even then, there is no guarantee that the city will own the tax delinquent properties because anyone can bid to buy them.

The City of Pittsburgh Land Bank was created in 2014. While many land banks around Pennsylvania are thriving, as many know, our Land Bank here in Pittsburgh is struggling because of the difficulty in acquiring properties. To that end, I wrote legislation Senate Bill 811, which would extend the more efficient and inexpensive means of foreclosing municipal claims and tax lien powers of the Municipal Claims and Tax Lien Law (MCTLL), which governs Sheriff Sales, to the City of Pittsburgh and the surrounding municipalities and their land banks.

By placing Pittsburgh into MCTLL, we would have the ability to use the priority bid process which in turn would get properties to Sheriff’s Sales faster (usually about a year to

a year and a half) and ultimately make it easier to insure title post-sale. Currently, these powers are only available to Philadelphia. Additionally, SB 811 would reduce the period for redemption of property from nine months to three months after acknowledgment of a Sheriff’s deed.

Last month, the Senate Urban Affairs and Housing Committee unanimously passed my Senate Bill 811. The legislation enjoys broad support around the state and locally is supported by Mayor Ed Gainey, the URA, Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group, the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, and Allegheny County Economic Development.

As a board member of the Pittsburgh Land Bank, I support the organization’s mission and strongly believe that my bill would accelerate and enhance the Land Bank’s ability to return vacant, abandoned, and tax delinquent property to productive use in a timelier manner.

With such broad support, I am hopeful that the bill will be advanced through the General Assembly quickly, so that our Land Bank is able to better fulfill its mission and serve communities throughout the City of Pittsburgh.

CONTACT: Senator Wayne D. Fontana,
42nd Senatorial District

PHONE: 412-344-2551

EMAIL: fontana@pasenate.com

WEBSITE: www.senatorfontana.com

TWITTER: @WayneDFontana



PHOTO BY NAREETA MARTIN ON UNSPLASH

From State Representative Emily Kinkead

Greetings Brighton Heights! As an elected official, I'm aware that many people wonder what we DO, and whether our work is actually money well spent. There is so much distrust for people who you should be able to trust, and that is something that I truly take to heart. It is my sincere commitment that the advocacy, leadership, and work I do in Harrisburg, and directly in the district, is representative of your needs as my constituents. With that in mind, I invite you to take a look at these helpful graphics that show what I have been able to accomplish, with my team, in service of you and our district. A lot of this work happens behind the scenes, but we have a lot to celebrate here! In addition to the graphics, I also want to keep you up to date on the various projects that I have fought hard to fund! We are truly in this together, so please continue to utilize our office so we can continue to meet your needs!

Here is a not-exhaustive list of the funds that I have worked, along with my fellow electeds, to bring back to our area: \$45 million for lead water line replacements for PWSA, \$6.6 million for lead line replacement for West View Water Authority, \$125,000 for St. John's Hospital rain gardens, \$266,000 for traffic signal improvements, \$500,000 for Davis Avenue Pedestrian Bridge, \$61,000 for Bellevue housing remediation project, and \$1.5 million in safety grants for local nonprofits. I also worked with Senator Wayne Fontana and Councilman Bobby Wilson to secure state funding and grants from GEDTF and Essential Utilities Foundation totaling \$250,000 for buses to transport youth from Northview Heights and other isolated neighborhoods to Boys and Girls Clubs of Western PA. These are life changing investments for our region, and I am beyond excited to witness the fruits of this labor!

CONTACT: Emily Kinkead, State Representative, District 20

PHONE: 412-321-5523

EMAIL: RepKinkead@pahouse.net

WEBSITE: <https://www.pahouse.com/kinkead>

TWITTER: @RepKinkead

FACEBOOK: Rep. Emily Kinkead

INSTAGRAM: @repkinkead

From Eric Williams

The Office of Community Health & Safety was established to address longstanding health, safety, and justice issues in the City of Pittsburgh. The office is tasked with redirecting city resources to better address community needs through housing, social services, public health, and social work experts who can assist community members and first responders in situations that require longer-term support, harm reduction approaches, and other services.

COMMUNITY HEALTH & SAFETY CONTACT FORM BUDGET

The Office of Community Health & Safety's feedback form is a way for us to hear your concerns, address your questions, share our expertise, or learn from your experiences. The goal is to gain a better understanding of the overall experience of City residents, help in addressing community health concerns with City departments, and identify areas for improvement. Contact us today here:

<https://pittsburghpa.gov/ochs/ochs-contact-form>.

BIGBURGH.COM HIGHLIGHTS

The Office of Community Health & Safety is highlighting the Pittsburgh's Financial Empowerment Center, VITA Free Tax Prep, and SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) on BigBurgh.com this month. BigBurgh.com is a web app that connects Pittsburgh residents to free, low-barrier services, events and programs. It is a run by OCH&S to ensure that needed resources can be identified quickly and privately. Click here to find resources on BigBurgh.com:

<https://www.bigburgh.com/>.

PITTSBURGH FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Pittsburgh's Financial Empowerment Center (FEC) is offering professional financial counseling as a free public service. The FEC helps clients build their savings, establish and improve their credit, take control of their debt, and connect to safe and affordable financial. Schedule an appointment today:

<https://pittsburghpa.gov/fec/>

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program provides free income tax return preparation to those who qualify. If your 2021 household income was \$66,000 or less, you can have your taxes prepared FOR FREE by an IRS-certified VITA volunteer. The VITA volunteers can help you claim available tax credits and electronically file your taxes. By taking advantage of this free service, you can avoid paying fees, claim the tax credits you're eligible for, and receive the largest refund possible.

CONTACT: Eric Williams, *Community Engagement Coordinator at the Office of Community Health and Safety*

WEBSITE: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/ochs/>

From Councilman Bobby Wilson

Hello everyone! This month, I would like to discuss two bills that I passed at Pittsburgh City Council earlier this year, an update on the Termon Avenue traffic calming project, and details about some help my office provided for the Brighton Heights Community Gardens and Legion Park.

My first bill made permanent changes to the Outdoor Retail and Dining program that allows businesses to apply for a license to use the public right-of-way for restaurant seating, retail displays, and other approved business purposes. Recognizing how important this program was to keeping restaurants and other small businesses open during the pandemic, and how much livelier it made our Main Streets, I passed a bill to make outdoor dining and retail a mainstay feature of street life in our City. My colleagues in Council were deeply supportive of this bill not just because it supports restaurants and small businesses, but also because it reflects a shift towards more pedestrian-friendly streets here on the Northside and across Pittsburgh. Now, for the first time, businesses have the option of permanently expanding into parking spaces and installing protective barriers that are both safer and more attractive. The updated ordinance also clarifies and increases business accountability for maintaining these public spaces.

If you are a business owner interested in applying for an Outdoor Dining and Retail License, please visit <https://pittsburghpa.gov/domi/outdoor-dining>. This spring, look for an announcement about the roll-out of a \$1 million fund at the Urban Redevelopment Authority that will provide grants to businesses for setting up barriers for streets and sidewalks that clearly mark dining and retail spaces and improve public safety.

My second bill directs the City's Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI) to reduce the speed limit on Pittsburgh park roads to 15 mph (miles per hour). Many of the roads that go through our City's parks lack sidewalks and are shared by both vehicles and pedestrians. The default speed limit on these roads is currently 25 mph. This creates potentially unsafe conditions on park roads shared by cars, bicyclists, and pedestrians, and discourages residents and visitors from enjoying our City's beautiful parks. During this pandemic, we have all come to appreciate the importance of our parks in staying healthy and active. Reducing the speed limit on park roads is a major step towards ensuring our safety in these green spaces. Now that City Council passed my bill to lower the speed limit on City park roads to 15 mph, I am looking forward to working with DOMI to bring a lower speed limit on major park roads on the Northside – such as Riverview Avenue, the loop in Riverview Park – and across the City.

In mid-March, DOMI hosted a second public meeting at the Brighton Heights Healthy Active Living Center for Termon Avenue residents. There, it presented its traffic calming plans for Termon Avenue between Brighton Road and California Avenue. The need for this project was demonstrated by the speeding data that DOMI collected last year, which showed that on average, 3,000 cars travel through this section of Termon Avenue daily, and 95% of these cars are driving over the speed limit. Moreover, there have been at least 27 recorded crashes on this section of Termon Avenue in the last five years. As a result, DOMI committed to re-striping this section of Termon Avenue and installing chicanes. Chicanes are a series of bump-outs on alternating sides of a road that induce lower speeds by creating an S-shaped roadway. The chicanes on Termon Avenue will be a pilot project and include self-watering planters as well as flex posts to create sight lines for drivers and delineate the new movement of cars on this section of the street. Additionally, DOMI will install a permanent traffic circle at the intersection of Termon and McClure Avenues as part of this traffic calming project. A traffic circle is a raised island in the middle of an intersection that requires all cars entering the intersection to yield to those already in the circle. Aside from also reducing speeds, traffic circles are especially effective at eliminating dangerous angle crashes. DOMI announced that construction of the chicanes and the traffic circle will happen in May or June of this year.

Finally, working with President Joe Glassbrenner, I was happy to commit to a financial contribution to the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation for flowers for the Community Gardens. I was also happy to work with Garden Steward Kim Larsen to ensure that mulch will be delivered to Legion Park by Memorial Day.

If you have any thoughts regarding any of these updates, or need assistance with anything at the City of Pittsburgh, please contact my office via phone, email or find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We look forward to hearing from you.

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MINUTES

Review of Previous General Membership Meeting

No minutes were recorded. Approximately 35 persons attended.

March 10, 2022

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
 2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Minutes from January General Membership Meeting
 4. Pittsburgh Police
 5. Elected Officials
 6. John Morrow School Principal –
Anthony Pipkin
 7. Woods Run Watershed Task Force / Brightwood Civic –
Matt Gatto
 8. Report of Officers
 - a. President –
Joseph Glassbrenner
 - b. Vice President –
Brendan Delaney
 - c. Corresponding Secretary –
Elaine Gloeckner
 - d. Treasurer’s Report –
Bob Haller
 7. Report of Committees
 - a. NSLC –
Brendan Delaney
 - b. Land Use –
Brendan Delaney
 - c. Build Your Wealth in the Trades –
Joseph Glassbrenner
 1. May 21, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 - d. Welcome –
Elaine Gloeckner
 - e. Communications –
Stacy Berkebile
 - f. Neighborhood Safety –
Donna Kramer
 - g. Gardens & Greenspaces –
Ed Gergerich
 - h. Memorial Day –
Commander Pete Galinowski
 - i. Clean-up –
Tim Maloney
 1. April 23, 9:30 a.m.
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Anything for the Good of the Federation
11. Motion to Adjourn

Last Page Laugh

by Tom Kaylor

It never fails: every time Eddie takes money out of the bank to pay some bills, he feels withdrawn.



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

PO BOX 99602

PITTSBURGH, PA 15233

Your cancelled 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

THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022
MEETING WILL BE LOCATED IN JOHN MORROW AUDITORIUM. VISIT WWW.BRIGHTONHEIGHTS.ORG FOR DETAILS.

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

Address Service Requested



Brighton Heights Citizens Federation
PO Box 99602
Pittsburgh, PA 15233