



# BRIGHTON HEIGHTS

VOLUME 53  
ISSUE 3

## CITIZENS REPORT

May 2023



### Memorial Day at Legion Park on Monday, May 29

by Cmdr. Pete Galinowski

Brighton Heights Memorial Day Observance takes place May 29 at Legion Park on the corner of Davis Avenue and Brighton Road. It starts at 10:00 a.m. As there is no seating, please bring a chair.

This is the 77th year that Brighton Heights will be observing Memorial Day. Please attend, honoring our local and American Veterans.



On May 26, the placing of flags will take place at Highwood Cemetery at 2900 Brighton Road, starting at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to help in this event to honor our veterans. Look for flag signs at the entrance.



PHOTO BY DANIEL FOSTER ON UNSPLASH

### NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.

John Morrow Auditorium

p.2 President's Report	p.3 BHCF Information List	p.8 Gardens & Greenspaces	p.9 House Tour Update	p.10 Build Your Wealth in the Trades	p.11 Senator Fontana	p.12 State Rep Kinkead	p.13 Councilman Wilson	p.14 Review of Last General Meeting
---------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------------	---	-------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	--

## From the Federation President

by Joseph Glassbrenner

Happy Spring everyone! Despite having a very mild winter, it has felt great to spend some time outdoors and enjoy the sunshine we've had in the month of April. I hope you have a great start to your spring and can enjoy some fun in the sun during Pittsburgh's 3 months of sun this summer.

Chair Tim Maloney decided to postpone the Earth Day Clean-up that was scheduled for April 22 due to inclement weather. It was postponed to the next Saturday, April 29, same time/ same place. Thanks Tim in advance for organizing our clean-ups and everyone who came out on Saturday.

Another event that was postponed was the BHCF House Tour. The decision was made to schedule the tour out into September due to the challenge of securing a minimum number of homes to be on the tour. It's giving our organization more time to recruit. If you or a neighbor has any interest in being on the tour, please contact Judy Flaherty whose article and contact info is in this newsletter. The house tour is a great showcase of our homes and the people who live here. We cannot do it without your help.

Besides a more active Facebook page in thanks to Communication Chair Stacy Berkebile, you may have noticed more content being updated at Brightonheights.org or began receiving some emails from the BHCF with events and news. This is thanks to new volunteers: Lia Milgram, Dan Blumenfeld, and Nicholas Petrillo. Stacy worked to recruit and activate the Communication Committee with this infusion of volunteers. Dan Blumenfeld handled the website domain renewal and refresh. Lia Milgram has the WordPress skills to update our website as content is provided to her. Nicholas Petrillo is proficient with our Mailchimp e-blast software and is able to send out updates, newsletters, and event info via the BHCF email. Long-standing volunteers, Erin Marie Yourd forwarded the backlog of e-newsletters and website designer Patrick Stout gave insight to Dan and granted user access to Lia. Great work from all. We hope you enjoy the new content and updates.

At the April BHCF Board meeting, we had one nomination for award and one new board member appointed. Regina Kolodziej was appointed to serve a 2-year term as a board member. Regina has been regularly attending both General Membership meetings and Board meetings. She has filled in many times as recording secretary to record our board minutes prior to Todd McCollum stepping into the role. She has provided great insight and is an employee of Allegheny Health Network. I invited Larry Ehrlich to present a nomination for the Northside Leadership Conference Scholarship Dinner "Neighbor Awardee". Each year the BHCF board nominates a business or individual for this annual award. Bill Kunz Scout Leader for Troop # 438, who meets here in Brighton Heights at Christ Our Savior, formerly St Cyril's Church, has dedicated decades to this troop. He will receive the award at the dinner on June 15.

At this time last year I reported of a proposed sale of 2051 Termon Ave (Old Three River Youth) and an introductory meeting with an architect about a development of this site. It is now one year later and we have hosted a detailed Development Activities Meetings between residents and the architect representing the Termon Ave. Gardens. I want to make it clear the developer himself was scheduled to connect virtually with everyone at this meeting but due to challenges with the internet at the HALC the night of the meeting, we were not successful in connecting with him. He was disappointed and expressed his group's willingness to work with the neighbors and consider our residents with all major developments of this project. I have an in-person site walk-thru in planning for May with him. As promised at the original development meeting, I will give updates on the project timeline and details at each General Membership meeting going forward. Should our in-person walk-thru take place after the May 11 meeting, I will still have an updated report on the timeline for you all.

I want to wish those a Happy Mother's Day on May 14. Especially my own wife Taylor, who on March 22, blessed our family with another healthy baby boy, Felix Thomas. Thank you for the many congratulations I have received. I will also ask you to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our Country on Memorial Day, May 29. A great way would be to attend our Memorial Day Ceremony at Legion Park. As a reminder: our General Membership Meeting is May 11 at John Morrow School Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

**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.**

## 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:

### Officers

President: Joseph Glassbrenner  
Vice President: Brendan Delaney  
Treasurer: Robert Haller  
Corresponding Sec: Elaine Gloeckner  
Recording Secretary: Todd McCollum

### Directors

Judy Bendtsen, Stacy Berkebile, Bill Goodrich, Parker Goolsby, Janice Johns-Engelman (Emeritus), Regina Kolodziej, Donna Kramer, Tim Maloney, Seth McClarey, Raymond Robinson, Gretchen Serra, Soo Yi Thompson, Ryan Yesenchak

## 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



## Attend a Stormwater Conversation!

### PWSA HOSTS SERIES OF WORKSHOPS TO GATHER FEEDBACK AND ADDRESS STORMWATER CHALLENGES HEAD ON

This spring, the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) is hosting Stormwater Conversations – a series of six community workshops taking place across Pittsburgh to gather feedback about the stormwater strategic planning initiatives underway and hear firsthand how stormwater impacts you.

The first of the Stormwater Conversations will take place on **THURSDAY, APRIL 13**, in the West End. They'll continue through early June, ending with the final workshop on **TUESDAY, JUNE 6**, in the Hill District. Workshops are from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### THE CRITICAL TASK OF MANAGING STORMWATER IN PGH

Here in Pittsburgh, we have a stormwater management problem. In simple terms, our sewer system was not built to handle increasing amounts of rain. It was built for a different time, one where there was more greenspace and less of the city was paved over. Now, due to the impacts caused by climate change and more impervious surface area, there is nowhere for the water to go.

Many know what happens next: when rain falls quickly, it can overwhelm our sewer system, cause basements to backup, and pollute our rivers and streams.

That's why PWSA is addressing our region's stormwater challenges head on. Make no mistake that this is important work: the decisions we make today to manage stormwater will shape the future of our neighborhoods, protect our rivers, and help us better prepare for climate change.

### ABOUT THE STORMWATER STRATEGIC PLAN

Late last year, PWSA released the Stormwater Strategic Plan, the first phase of a long-term planning effort to address local stormwater challenges. The plan considers prevalent issues, such as neighborhood flooding and basement backups, while also looking through the lenses of equity and environmental justice.

Stormwater challenges impact many of our neighbors, and we understand those challenges look different depending on where the customer lives. Whether you know a little or a lot about this issue, your input is valuable. It will help guide us on our stormwater journey and ensure we're considering the unique needs of our communities.

### STORMWATER CONVERSATIONS: WHEN, WHERE, WHAT

We ask that you please join us for one of the six Stormwater Conversations we're hosting across Pittsburgh from mid-April through early June. Each session is geared toward specific neighborhoods in Pittsburgh, but feel free to join the session that works best for you.

Recognizing that everyone learns and receives information differently, we have designed these workshops to be engaging and interactive. We encourage you to take the time to explore, talk to your neighbors, and learn from our knowledgeable facilitators.

They are broken into three sections, giving participants time to learn at their own pace and participate in small group discussion with PWSA staff and our stormwater partners.

1. **Settle in and Explore** – Upon arrival, take your time to settle in and visit educational stations focusing on important information you should know about Pittsburgh's sewer system, tips to improve water quality, and key terminology. Stop at a digital map to enter your experiences with stormwater.
2. **Setting the Framework** – PWSA will provide a brief presentation about the Stormwater Strategic Plan and the concepts you should know.
3. **Facilitated Table Conversations** – This is the main event! Attendees will break into small groups and rotate to three tables each focusing on the strategic priorities identified in the Plan. PWSA representatives and community stormwater partners will guide the conversation, answer questions, and gather any feedback you would like to provide.

We are providing ASL interpreters at each workshop, but when you register, let us know what other needs you may have so we can make your experience as easy and accessible as possible. Finally, we are serving tomato soup and grilled cheese - the quintessential comfort food to go along with rainy days.

The Stormwater Conversations are the first part of a larger community conversation. We hope you'll join this important discussion! For more information, please visit: [www.pgh2o.com/events-meetings](http://www.pgh2o.com/events-meetings) or use the QR Code to register.





# Lithium-Ion Battery Safety



Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters and e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch on fire or explode.

## The problem

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Sometimes batteries are not used the right way; batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective. They can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

## Safety Tips

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Put batteries in the device the right way.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

## Signs of a Problem

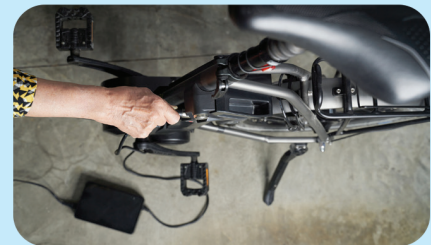
Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call **9-1-1**.

## Battery Disposal

- Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
- Recycling is always the best option.
- Take them to a battery recycling location or contact your community for disposal instructions.
- Do not put discarded batteries in piles.

## Charging an E-bike

Charge your battery in a flat, dry area away from children, direct sunlight, liquids, tripping hazards, and in a location where the e-bike is not at risk of falling.



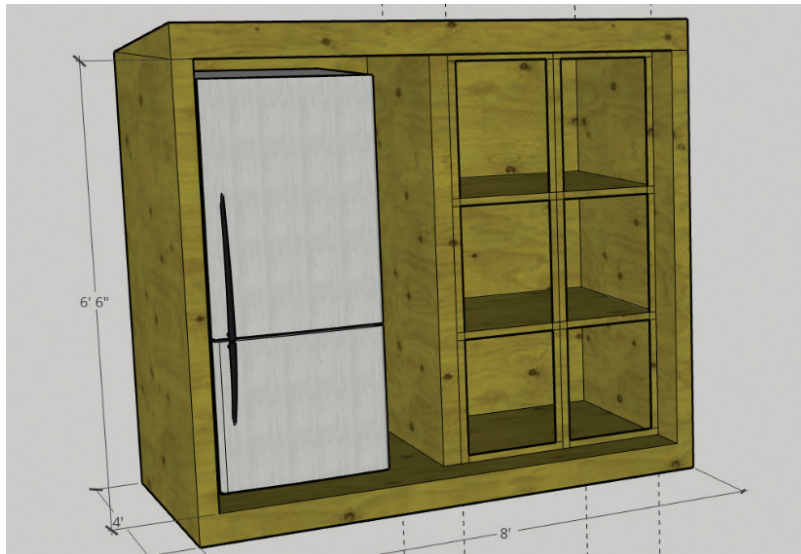
**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



## Food Fridge Initiative

We have a few updates regarding the Food Fridge initiative. On May 13, through another Federation-sponsored event, Build your Wealth through the Trades, they will be building the pantry and creating an enclosure for the refrigerator. Again, we'd like to thank Pastor James with the New Life Family Worship center on the corner of Shadeland and Davis, for donating the space. We are in the initial steps of reaching out to local businesses to obtain donations. We've also reached out to other local pantries and food non-profits to obtain advice and secure partnerships. Specifically, we are in initial talks with Trader Joe's,



412 Rescue, and other local businesses within Brighton Heights. While the refrigerator will be stocked with perishable items, we will be accepting items for the pantry as well. Some examples would be toilet paper, feminine products, toothpaste, diapers, etc. If you are interested in donating, you can bring the donation to any of the of our public Federation

meetings that happen every odd-numbered month (except July), on the second Thursday at 7:00 p.m. You can also mail a check to the Brighton Heights Citizen Federation address with "EMF Free Food Fridge" in the memo, the P.O. Box is 99602 Pittsburgh, PA 15233. We are starting a monetary fund to buy food for the project. If you'd like more information or would like to make a monetary donation, you can also email [BHCFPGH@gmail.com](mailto:BHCFPGH@gmail.com).

## Boy Scout Troop 348 Helps BHCF

Hello, I'm the Senior Patrol Leader of Boy Scout Troop 348 and I am a soon to be Eagle Scout. To become an Eagle Scout, you have to pass a series of requirements and one of the requirements is to plan and carry out an Eagle Scout Project that helps your community.

With that being said, my Eagle Scout Project was to help refurbish and clean up the garden that belongs to the Brighton Heights Citizen Federation. The garden is a beautiful area and it's also the gateway into the neighborhood. Over the months, the garden started to get dirty of debris and unnecessary weeds and plants. I asked if it was OK for my troop and I to carry out this project and I'm thankful I was able to.

What we did was cut down all of the ornamental grass, trim and prune any unwanted branches and plants, some edging and we also painted the signs a nice green color. The garden looks a whole lot better now that the project was a success.

The people involved in the project were Troop 348, Mr. William Kunz, Mr. Terry Conroy, Ms. Megan Fumich, Ezra Hardy, Aiden Russel, Mateo Godfrey, Mr. Derek Riley and myself, Eddie Adams. Outside of the troop, we had some friends and family help out: Mr. Christopher

Adams, Glenn Patton and Eric. This project took two full weekends to complete; it was totally worth it. I'd like to thank the Brighton Heights Citizen Federation, Mr. Joseph Glassbrenner and Mr. Edward Gergerich for letting me do this to help earn the highest rank in scouting.

Eddie Adams,  
Senior Patrol Leader of BSA Troop 348



*Eddie Adams, Ed Gergerich, and Joseph Glassbrenner stand with the refurbished Green Up Pittsburgh sign at the completion of the Termon/California gardens project.*

# OPEN HOUSE

*Celebrating Older Americans Month!*



## BRIGHTON HEIGHTS

3515 McClure Avenue, 15212

**FRIDAY, MAY 12th**

**NOON to 4 PM**

**CITIPARKS**

**HEALTHY ACTIVE LIVING**

**12 — 12:30 PM**

**Meet the Staff & Advisory Council Members  
Tour the Senior Center**

**2:30 — Craft**

### MEET LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

**District 1 Councilman Bobby Wilson**

**Zone 1 Police Officers**

**City of Pittsburgh Recycling**

**Utility Assistance Program—Allegheny County Controller's Office**

**Rent Rebate/Bus Passes—Bridget Barrett, State Rep. Emily Kinkead's Office**

**President of the Western PA Genealogical Society**

**Northside Partnership Project**

**PA Medi—Coordinator, Allegheny County**

**Age Friendly Pittsburgh—Randi Vegas**

**Just Harvest—Amanda Stone**

**City of Pittsburgh Park Rangers**

**Discover Organizing—Safe Move For Seniors**

**Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank**

***Door Prizes, Raffles & Refreshments***



**Aging  
UNBOUND**



## Gardens & Greenspaces

from Ed Gergrich

**HAPPY SPRING!** Lots of good stuff has already occurred in our community gardens. In February, members of Boy Scout Troop 348, based at St. Cyril's and led by Eagle Scout candidate Eddie Adams, started on the Green-up and Adams Lots at Termon and California Avenues. The troop trimmed shrubs and ornamental grasses, cleared overgrowth from the sidewalks, and repainted the garden signs and rails. This got us a much earlier start than ever. In addition to Eddie the Eagle Scouts, the super troopers and adults included Glenn Patton, Derek Riley, Christopher Adams and Bill Kunz. Check out the great new look to the garden signs.

Don't worry, there is still a lot of things you can help with:

**SATURDAY, MAY 6:** starting at 9:00 a.m., we will be planting and mulching the Western PA Conservancy Garden at PA 65 and Brighton Heights Blvd. WPC supplies the flowers and mulch and tills the bed. We have 24 flats of Vinca, Celosia and Rudbeckia to plant and mulch. As with all of our work days, if you can't be there at 9:00 a.m., come later. We can always use as many volunteers as possible. If you drive, park at the top of the Great Wall and use the steps at Davis Avenue to get to the garden. I'll have tools and safety vests available, but if you have a favorite hand trowel, please bring it.

**SATURDAY, MAY 13:** will be prep day at Legion Park and the Termon and California 3 starting at 9:00 a.m. We will be transplanting perennials and preparing the flower beds for our annual infusion of annuals the following week.

Saturday, May 13 is also our third annual Plant Exchange at Legion Park from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You can donate extra plants, seeds, tools, and garden equipment or pick up those items for free. *Did I mention everything is free?* You won't get a better deal.

**SATURDAY, MAY 20:** starting at 9:00 a.m., we will be planting and mulching annuals at Legion Park and the T&C 3.

**SATURDAY, MAY 27:** will be a catch-up day when we will be finishing up anything that didn't get done in the previous weeks, so all of the gardens will be in excellent shape for Memorial Day Monday.

**Stay safe, stay green.**

## Plant Swap or Adopt

It's happening again this Spring: this year's Annual Plant Swap or Adopt will be held at Legion Memorial Park, **SATURDAY, MAY 13**, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Who doesn't love free plants! Come and adopt some pops of color for your yard, some green for your living room or some veggie starters for your garden. If your yard, living room or garden is overrun with plants, then bring them to share with others. If it's a plant or plant-related, bring it to the park on the Saturday and spread the joy of gardening.

Some of the highlights that I saw pass through the park last year were a grape vine, a tree of some sort (it arrived and was adopted before I even saw what kind), macramé plant holders, irises, lilies, lambs ears, tomato, pepper, squash and herb plants, seeds, lots and lots of sunflower seeds, tools, pots and even a garden gnome found a new garden to watch over.

Come join us! Whatever you bring will bring joy to someone and I'm sure that you'll find something that will bring you joy. One last thing, I can't say this enough; it is a Plant Swap but it's also a Plant Adopt – you don't have to bring anything to take something home. This is a free event, the only payment requested is that we see the smile on your face before you take your new plants home.

## Brighton Heights Adopt-A-Block Program

Here is an easy way to make a big difference in our neighborhood. It doesn't take a lot of time, will help you with your "step" count and gives you a feeling of instant gratification! *Who doesn't love that?*

**PURPOSE OF ADOPT-A-BLOCK PROGRAM:** To organize individuals and organizations to keep sidewalks, curbs, parking lots and greenspaces free of litter and debris. We are looking for volunteers to clean-up one or more blocks or a section of a street on a weekly or bi-weekly basis from April through November.

We need the most volunteers for the main entry points to Brighton Heights: McClure Ave, Brighton Road, California Avenue, Benton Avenue and Brighton Heights Blvd. You can also choose to do areas near where you live. If you can sign up for weekly or bi-weekly pick-up, that would be a tremendous help! The Brighton Heights Citizens Federation will provide trash and recycle bags if requested. We can also provide orange vests and gloves.

Your participation in this litter pick-up initiative will improve the beauty and livability of our wonderful neighborhood. Thank you for helping to make Brighton Heights shine!

To find our more or to get on the volunteer list, please contact our coordinator below.

**CONTACT:** Tim Maloney

**PHONE:** 412-726-0800

**EMAIL:** dirtdoctim@msn.com

## Good Friday Stations Walk

by Jan Greca and Mary Byrnes, Christ Our Savior Parish

Christ Our Savior Parish, composed of the former St. Peter, St. Boniface, St. Francis/Risen Lord, and St. Cyril churches hosted a Stations of the Cross walk on Good Friday, April 7, 2023, through the Brighton Heights neighborhood. Area churches and citizens in the community were invited to join in the walk starting at noon at Brighton Heights Lutheran Church with Pastor Parker Kantos leading the first station. People in attendance took turns carrying the 8-foot high cross. People and families took part by volunteering to either carry the cross and/or lead the prayer at each stop. We stopped 14 times, corresponding with the 14 stops Jesus walked on his journey to Calvary. Reverend Gary Paladin from Bridge City Church, Vicar Bruce Robison from All Saints Episcopal Church, and Reverend Brenda Gregg from Destiny of Faith Church led prayer devotions and reflections outside of their respective churches. Residents of the Lynn Williams Senior Apartments on Brighton Road were invited to join in prayer, as they were one of the stops along the route. The final stop, the fourteenth station, concluded at Christ Our Savior Parish, St. Cyril's site with Reverend Larry DiNardo (Vicar General, Diocese of Pittsburgh) leading the devotion. Fr. Dam Nguyen, Parochial Vicar and Fr. Ferdinand Okafor, in residence from Christ Our Savior Parish, took part in this event and all were invited to attend the 1:30 p.m. solemn Good Friday service at Christ Our Savior Church/St. Cyril site.

We are grateful for our Pittsburgh Police, who showed up in full force as we walked California Avenue to Davis Avenue, Legion Park and down Brighton Road. There were at least ten police officers on motorcycles, as well as multiple officers in SUVs who took part in this community event and kept us safe during the walk. We are thankful for Joe Glassbrenner, President of Brighton Heights Citizens Federation who

advertised this event at a recent BHCF meeting. We are most grateful to all our church leaders and neighbors who took part in this event. It was refreshing to see diversity and unity in our community, and especially so many young people and families. This Good Friday walk was powerful and inspiring!

Next year, we hope to have more people and churches in Northside community take part in this walk on Good Friday. Since Christ Our Savior parish has three worship sites, we rotate events at each site every year. Next year's 2024 Good Friday walk may be from St. Boniface to St. Peters, through West Park depending on the Pittsburgh Pirates schedule. We encourage anyone and everyone in our Northside and Pittsburgh community to attend this event next year. Stay tuned; we promise to advertise better!



*Rev. Brenda Gregg, Sr. Pastor of Destiny of Faith Church, receives a tulip from a young participant at one of fourteen stops of the Good Friday Stations walk on April 7.*

## 2023 Brighton Heights House and Garden Tour Changes Its Date to September 16

The new date for the BHCF House and Garden Tour will be Saturday, September 16. Due to a few house cancellations and a lack of response to invitations, our committee has decided to select the September date. If you received an invitation or if you think your home would be a good addition to the tour, contact me at the information below. The money raised at the tour funds our Halloween and Holiday events and contributes to the maintenance of neighborhood gardens.

Do you have a fond memory from living in Brighton Heights? This year's tour booklet will include short excerpts describing memories of people and places that are no longer here.

Like last year, Legion Park will be central to the tour as the location for ticket sales, an artist market, music, and food trucks. The artist market is free to artists. Last year's participating artists were interested in coming back this year, but if you know any artists who would like to set up a display, spread the word.

If you think you would like to purchase an ad for your business in the tour book, or become a volunteer, send a message to the email below. Volunteers will be needed as docents, house greeters, ticket sellers, and other helpers. Be a part of the tour, Brighton Heights' largest fundraiser. It is a lot of fun and a great way to meet your neighbors!

**CONTACT:** Judy Flaherty  
Chairperson, Brighton Heights House and Garden Tour  
**EMAIL:** BHtour23@gmail.com



# Build Your Wealth in the Trades

by Joseph Glassbrenner

**EVENT UPDATE:** The “Build Your Wealth in the Trades” event will be held on May 13, 2023, at The New Life Family Worship Center at 1301 Davis Ave., Pittsburgh, PA, 15212, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with lunch following. I want to invite any student grades 6 – 12 or any young adult who is interested in exploring the trades 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, the Eventbrite QR code, or email at [BHCFpgh@gmail.com](mailto:BHCFpgh@gmail.com).

Those in attendance will be guided by skilled trades workers to construct a wooden structure for the Food Fridge Initiative, an outdoor outlet, exterior lighting, 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 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, lunch, and an opportunity for networking.

I want to thank our sponsors who again stepped in to support this initiative for a second year in a row. Volunteers from the IBEW Local No. 5 and Carpenters Local 432 make the skills session possible. Thank you! I also want to recognize Carpenter Lead Brent Sopko, who helped guide the direction of the event. 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,

## TOOL GIVEAWAY!

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

### 4 SESSIONS

**1 Carpentry & Electrical**  
Attendees will have the ability to choose to explore electrical construction tools and techniques or carpentry tools and building techniques. Both skills will be guided by trained professionals.

**2 Construction Career Opportunities**

**3 Lunch & Networking**

### REGISTER NOW!

412-690-0918 or [BHCFpgh@gmail.com](mailto:BHCFpgh@gmail.com)



SIGN UP



**BRIGHTON HEIGHTS**  
CITIZENS FEDERATION

**MAY 13, 2023**  
**10AM – 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. Join us as we build a shed for our food fridge project and install the exterior plug and lights.

**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.

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



## Keeping our Community Safe

If it seems a week doesn't go by where we learn of a mass shooting somewhere in the country, that's because unfortunately, it doesn't. So far in 2023, there have been more mass shootings in the United States than days of the year. Sadly, in light of this data, many are becoming numb to this out-of-control epidemic of violence and feel helpless.

As everyone knows, in October, the Brighton Heights community experienced a mass shooting in the middle of the day, outside of the Destiny of Faith Church, during a funeral service. Official reports indicated that five individuals were wounded and subsequently two arrests were made.

What the reports don't show is the trauma inflicted on the congregation, all their partners, and the entire Brighton Heights community. Destiny of Faith is a church, a faith-based ministry that addresses the needs of the entire family and community through education, outreach, service and stewardship. The church hosts a wide range of events and programs, including weekly services, support groups, and volunteer opportunities. It is supposed to be a safe space, a place where all are welcome and the community can come together to pray, practice their faith, receive services, and enjoy each other's company.

Shortly after this horrific incident, my office worked with Project Destiny, an affiliate of Destiny of Faith, to apply for a Nonprofit Security Grant offered through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. This program was established by the Pennsylvania General Assembly following the Tree of Life synagogue shooting in Squirrel Hill in 2018. Nonprofit Security Grants are intended to fund security enhancements for nonprofit organizations who principally serve individuals, groups, or institutions that could be targeted for hate crimes, as identified by the FBI's Hate Crime Statistics Publication.

I am pleased that Destiny of Faith was awarded nearly \$50,000 in funding to make a series of security enhancements. This was an extremely competitive round of funding with only 32 of 444 applications statewide being funded. I am proud I was able to help Destiny of Faith and commend them on their efforts in pursuing these funds to help ensure the safety of everyone who attends programming at the church.

While this is great news for Destiny of Faith and the community at large, it alone will not solve the challenges we face in making our communities safe. There are too many people with access to guns who should not have them, people with mental health issues and a preoccupation with violence. There are too many children with access to guns and as a result, firearms have now become the leading cause of death for children under the age of 19.

We need to invest in our children. We need to invest in their education. And we need to invest in their communities. No child should have an easier time getting their hands on a gun than on a book, a toy or a ball.

We undoubtedly need common sense gun safety reform. Nothing is more common sense than implementing Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs). That is why I have once again introduced legislation, Senate Bill 204, that would enact ERPOs in Pennsylvania.

Also known as "Red Flag Laws," ERPOs grant family members and law enforcement the ability to petition a court to temporarily suspend an individual's access to firearms if there is documented evidence that an individual is a threatening harm to themselves or others. The person subject to that order must surrender their guns to police and will not be able to buy, sell, or possess other firearms with a judge determining the time frame of this suspension not to exceed one year.

ERPOs are modeled after Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Protection Orders which gives due process and standards for evidence. After a family member files a petition, the court holds a hearing and determines whether the person poses a serious threat of violence to themselves or others. A judge can then issue an ERPO and can also refer the person in crisis for evaluation to ensure they get the help they need.

Today, 19 states and Washington D.C. have ERPO laws. Polling shows that a majority of Americans across party lines support red flag laws.

As the legislative session continues in Harrisburg, I will continue advocating for this common-sense law and any other measure that makes our communities safer.

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

**PHONE:** 412-344-2551

**EMAIL:** fontana@pasenate.com

**WEBSITE:** www.senatorfontana.com

**TWITTER:** @WayneDFontana

## From State Rep Emily Kinkead

**HAPPY SPRING NEIGHBORS!** I am grateful for this new season and want to share some of the successes and summer plans that are about to be in full bloom!

First, my staff and I are officially firmly planted in our new office and are excited to be in a much easier location to navigate for so many of our Brighton Heights constituents! We hope you find the convenient off-street parking and nearby amenities to be helpful to you when you plan a visit to my office or seek assistance from my staff. It is truly our pleasure to serve you with all your state-related needs!

We have two big events to share that we hope you take advantage of. First, and back by popular demand, we'll be hosting our very popular Paper Shredding Event this month! This event is a great way to prevent identity theft that can result from discarded mail, work related paperwork, or medical information getting into the wrong hands. Each household is encouraged to bring no more than a large box of documents to shred that is void of paper clips, staples, and other foreign materials that are not paper. The truck has finite capacity, so arrive close to the start time to be guaranteed a spot! The shred event is a first come/first serve endeavor. You do not even have to get out of your car! We'll pop the trunk for you and will gladly put your paper items in the huge shredding truck! **(See image for details!)**

The second event will be our 2nd Annual Women's Resource Event! We are still in the planning stage, but have picked a date! Mark your calendars for July 15 from 10 a.m. — 2 p.m. Stay tuned for more details on that!

Starting June 7, 2023, my team will staff a table at the Bellevue Farmer's market every Wednesday (weather permitting) until October 25, 2023. You can grab fresh produce, baked goods, food from a local food truck, AND get helpful information about state-related services. We are also able to help Seniors over 65 apply for FREE Senior ConnectCards so you can ride Pittsburgh Regional Transit at no cost!

Lastly, we are still helping constituents fill out their property tax/rent rebate applications. It is not too late to apply, so if you are a Senior who isn't sure if you qualify, give our office a call!

Don't forget to visit my website and sign up for my newsletter which has an extensive amount of information about the work I'm doing on your behalf here and in Harrisburg.

Have a safe, healthy, and joy-filled summer!

**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



For updates on what I am doing in Harrisburg, please scan the QR code and sign up for my weekly e-blast. It is the best way to stay informed!

Please join  
Representative **EMILY KINKEAD** and the Senator **LINDSEY WILLIAMS**  
and the  
Ross Township Department of Public Works  
for a  
**Shredding Event**  
Saturday, May 20, 2023 • 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Ross Township Department of Public Works  
225 Cemetery Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15237



## From Councilman Bobby Wilson

Hello everyone! In this month's column, I wanted to share some major updates on projects in Brighton Heights and City-wide initiatives that affect us all.

I wanted to begin by sharing some great news on two infrastructure projects that I know are very important to Brighton Heights residents. First, construction bids will be sought for the Davis Avenue Bridge starting this month. The City's Department of Mobility & Infrastructure (DOMI) is anticipating that a contract with a construction company will be in place by this summer, with construction itself to begin in the latter half of this year. We are estimating that construction will conclude next year, with a tentative opening of this long-awaited bike-pedestrian bridge in early 2024. Second, I recently passed legislation to allocate \$200,000 for new fences and additional improvements to the baseball fields at Jack Stack Park in Brighton Heights. My office worked with the Northside Baseball and Softball Association to identify this need for investment in these ballfields. It is vital to the Brighton Heights and Northside community to upgrade these ballfields so that the youth baseball leagues that operate at these fields can continue to thrive and succeed.

I also wanted to share that the City of Pittsburgh recently announced a delay in the enforcement of the single-use plastic bag ban. The new date that this ban will go into effect is October 14, 2023. As a result, the City is also shifting the date when businesses would be required to post visible notices of the upcoming single-use plastic bag ban to 90 days before October 14. Council recently passed amendments to the legislation authorizing the ban on plastic bags that will also do the following:

- Add a requirement that the City launch and maintain a webpage dedicated to providing public information on the policy;
- Direct the Department of Public Works to cultivate and share lists of distributors for both compliant paper bags and reusable bags;
- Create a three-step sanctions framework whereby inspectors can issue written warnings for initial violations which would then be followed by escalating fines.

Council approved these amendments in order to ensure that businesses and consumers have ample time and sufficient resources to make this transition from using plastic bags to sustainable and renewable forms of bags.

Finally, as summer draws near, I want to make sure all of you know that CitiParks is currently recruiting lifeguards for the 2023 Summer Season. Lifeguards are hired to work

at CitiParks Aquatic Facility locations from June through Labor Day. CitiParks offers Lifeguard Certification Training courses prior to the season as well as recertification for experienced lifeguards. Candidates must have a Red Cross Lifeguard Certification valid through September 4, 2023, and additionally are required to submit criminal background clearances and pass a medical exam. Hourly pay rates have increased from last year and will range from \$16.48 - \$19.05 per hour, based on experience. Lifeguards must be City of Pittsburgh residents, at least 16 years old by September 5, 2023, and willing to work at any CitiParks Outdoor Pool. For anyone who is thinking about becoming a CitiParks Lifeguard, you can "pre-apply" by visiting this website, <https://pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks/lifeguard-info>. CitiParks Aquatics Office will then get in touch when applications open and the training classes/recertification classes are scheduled. We really need lifeguards at all the City pools this summer, and I encourage you to apply if you're interested!

If you have any questions or concerns about any of the items discussed in this column or any other City issues, please contact us by using the information below. My staff and I look forward to hearing from you!

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

**PHONE:** 412-255-2135

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

**TWITTER:** @Dist1Pgh

**FACEBOOK:** Office of Councilman Bobby Wilson

**INSTAGRAM:** @councilmanbobbywilson





# MINUTES (Review of Previous General Membership Meeting)

## March 9, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

January General Membership Meeting Minutes were approved. Donna Kramer motion, 2nd by Stacy Berkebile to approve the General Minutes.

Termon Avenue Development Activity Meeting Minutes were approved from January 17. Motion by Mike Perry, 2nd by Ed Gergerich to approve the Termon Development activity meeting minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence for the passing of Ricky Quigley on March 7.

## Special Guests:

### Pittsburgh Police

- Zone 1 report with Q&A session.
- April 20 will be coffee with cops at the Urban Strategic Building from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Social workers are riding along with police officers as part of training.

### Mayor's Office

- Traffic calming on Termon Avenue will begin soon.
- Discussion on the California Avenue properties

### Bobby Wilson's Office

- Shadeland Avenue property that was spilling water has been rectified with PWSA help.
- California Avenue Bridge not in his district anymore; being handled by Councilman Lavelle.
- Traffic-calming requests are being evaluated.
- Answered questions about the Medic 4 building.

## English Burton

- Received the grant from Councilman Wilson for a Stop the Violence initiative.
- Has "See Something, Say Something" signs.
- Signs are to signify unity and make a neighborhood connection.

## Ellie Mitchell

- From the Brighton Heights Senior Center.
- Talked about Events calendar.
- Membership is available.

## Report of Officers and Others:

### President's Report

#### *Joseph Glassbrenner*

- Scholarship applications are available for high school Seniors. Scholarship is worth \$1000.
- State DEP has awarded a grant for \$282,953 for a Growing Greener for the St. John's green site
- Date to be set for fall groundbreaking
- Green lot signs have been repainted by the Eagle Scouts.

### Vice President's Report

- No report .

### Corresponding Secretary

- \$500 went to the Brighton Heights fire victims.
- Welcome bags are all caught up.

## Treasurer's Report

- Federal and State taxes are completed.
- Shopping for insurance.
- Operating budget in 2023 is approximately \$15,000 .
- Operating budget in 2022 was approximately \$21,000.
- Land budget in 2023 is \$4,332.
- Land budget in 2022 was approximately \$9,700.
- Motion to accept the treasurer's report: John Belin; second: Elaine Gloeckner. Motion carries.

## Report of Committees:

### Garden & Greenspaces Committee

- The Boy Scouts will help with paint.
- Tentative work day of May 6 is scheduled for 65 & McKees Rocks Bridge at 9:00 a.m.
- Flowers and mulch will be supplied.
- There will be no flower sale this year.

### Memorial Day Committee

- Committee had a meeting this month.
- Next meeting is scheduled for April 3.
- Weekend of May 26, will be planting flags in Highwood Cemetery .
- Memorial Day is May 29.
- 10:00 a.m. with chairs.
- Any assistance is welcome.

### Neighborhood Safety Committee

- Adult CPR training will be held in either April or May.
- 16 people are committed to attend.
- Stop the Bleeding training at AHN being scheduled.
- Block watch signs are free.

### Neighborhood Watch Committee

- Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday on March 13 at the Health and Living Center (HALC)
- 200 LED light bulbs are coming from Duquesne Light .
- Safety tip handouts.
- Trying to create and maintain a list of AirBnB's in the neighborhood.

### House Tour Committee

- 9-member committee.
- Six houses on the tour.
- Next meeting on March 19.
- Looking for suggestions for food trucks.
- June 17 planned for tour.

### Clean-up Committee

- April 22, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. meeting at All Saints Church on the floor.

### Build Your Wealth Committee

- Work day on May 13 at 10:00 a.m.

### Free Food Fridge Committee

- They are looking for donations.
- Will be coordinating with the Build Your Wealth Committee.

### Old Business:

- Discussion on the May meeting.
- Check newsletter for membership expiration.
- Question on whether there will be more traffic meetings.
- Emily Kinkead will have a shredding event on May 20 at the Ross Township Municipal Building.
- The BHCF website is getting updated.

### New Business:

- Concerns about the new housing development, its traffic pattern and water runoff.
- Smoke detectors can be obtained through the Red Cross for county residents; check their website.
- The Walk With The Cross church walk will be April 7.

### Anything for the Good of the Federation

The next General Membership Meeting will be September 14, 2023.

### Adjournment

Stacy Berkebile

Second: Nick Petrillo

Motion carries.

47 in attendance. 41 members.

*Minutes by Todd McCollum*

## Last Page Laugh

by Tom Kaylor

*Nick, an expert tailor,  
repaired many pairs of trousers.*

*He's the first to admit that it's not  
as easy as it SEAMS.*



# 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](http://www.brightonheights.org)

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M. THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023**  
MEETING WILL BE LOCATED IN JOHN MORROW AUDITORIUM. 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



Brighton Heights Citizens Federation  
PO Box 99602  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233