



BRIGHTON HEIGHTS

VOLUME 54
ISSUE 1

CITIZENS REPORT

January 2024

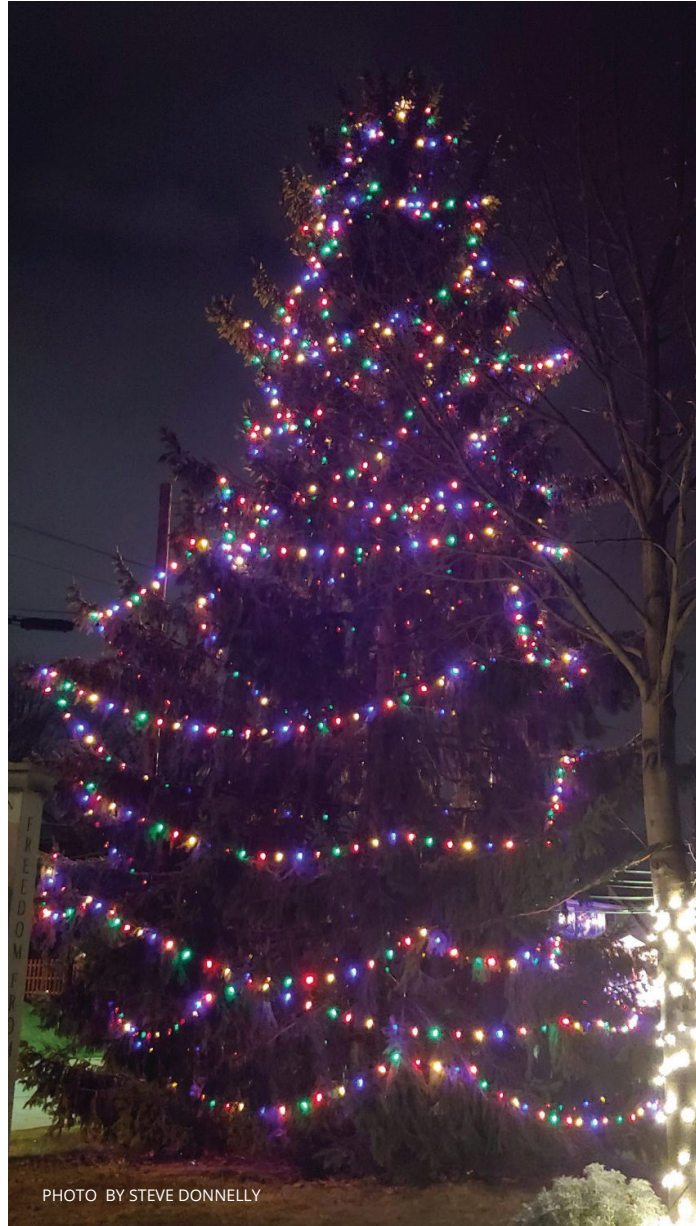


PHOTO BY STEVE DONNELLY

Bright the Night 2023 was a SUCCESS!

Brighton Heights' annual holiday "Bright the Night" made its return to Legion Park in a magical way on Saturday, December 2, 2023. After a three-year hiatus, over 500 neighbors across Brighton Heights and the Northside gathered with much anticipation for the lighting of the park and giant holiday tree!

The event kicked off at 4:00 p.m., offering a wide array of free holiday activities for the whole family, including cookie decorating, ornament making, holiday crafting, hot chocolate station and a holiday family photo booth with professional photography. Neighbors were delighted by a holiday parade spanning several blocks of the neighborhood and ending inside Legion Park. The parade included a police escort, the exciting sounds of General Eagleburger Band, giant puppets by Puppets for Pittsburgh followed by Santa's grand fire truck entrance! Neighbors gathered for an exciting countdown at sunset as our tree was lit with over 1,200 bulbs for all to enjoy!

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NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

on Thursday, January 11 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

John Morrow Auditorium

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From the Federation President

by Joseph Glassbrenner

Happy New Year Brighton Heights! The BHCF had the brightest Bright the Night on record last month with an event that brought so many residents, friends, and families together in one place. I want to recognize Stacey Slie and Ali Fischer for chairing the event. Thank you for making a memory for so many of us and all the activities we shared in.

We had another Eagle Scout Project completed by Boy Scout Troop #348. Robert Heflin completed a project with the help of his peers and other Scout leaders. BHCF presented the project site of the Food Fridge. The decision was made to add a new solar lit wooden handrail, an ADA compliant concrete ramp, and repair a wooden sign. Thanks again to Bill Kunz, the Scout Leader, Robert Heflin, and all other volunteers.

January starts a new two-year term for our Officers and Board who were up for re-election. As I start my 3rd term as President, I look back on the past 4 years and say: "Where did we start?" "Where have we gone?" and "Where are we going?"

Just less than 4 years ago, the world was scrambling to keep up with a rapidly spreading virus. Our operations were modified and we worked to continue services and provide information to residents effectively. BHCF was able to continue publication and the mailing of this Newsletter and not cancel one General Membership Meeting. The May 2020 newsletter was one of the largest newsletters, as it provided resources from many Federal, State, and City Officials. During the time of virtual meetings, some General Meetings logged over 100 attendees.

We worked on resolutions in response to the rise of gun violence, advocated for capital projects like the Davis Ave Bridge, which will start construction this year, and overcame financial hurdles. The question was asked: "Can we effectively operate without the California Ave office space overhead?" And the answer was "Yes." The BHCF leased space was not renewed, we operated from donated space by All Saints Episcopal Church, used a City-owned building for storage, and operated remotely. This freed up thousands of dollars to stabilize our operating accounts and put back into committees.

In the years to come, we grew our community engagement with the help of social media, pushed forward on projects like the St John's Greenspace planning, reactivated the committees that were halted in the interest of safety, added new initiatives from what we learned post-pandemic, and further diversified our Board.

Where are we going? This question is from you. In 2023, Nick Petrillo was named Land Use Chair. On top of managing real estate projects, he is organizing a Strategic Plan. This plan will guide investment and direction for BH. Please see the article by Nick on page 5 for more details.

In December I met with Councilman Wilson's Office on the subject of the 2024 Capital Budget. For the second year in a row, funding was allocated for the Healthy Active Living Center (HALC) on McClure Ave. This \$800K investment put the project to the Development Activities Meeting (DAM) phase. The DAM will have a presentation by the Department of Public Works (DPW) for plans to renovate the existing HALC. It will be on January 16 at 7:00 p.m. In addition, Council approved an amendment by Councilman Wilson to add a \$400K line item for Marmaduke Park Playground. The funds were made available through the Park Tax Fund. Both of these items will be final upon the Mayor's budget signature.

If you have not heard, Tom Friday retired from Tom Friday's Meat Market at the end of November. The business has sold and the intentions are for all operations to remain the same. Tom Friday is one of the most respected men in the City of Pittsburgh. Tom's dedication and willingness to serve was a shining light for us even during a global pandemic. We did not have to worry about food because of the business he ran. Tom Friday has known me as an infant and I can say I shed tears when I watched his retirement video. The apron and smile were always on. Enjoy a Healthy and Happy retirement Tom! You deserve it! The BHCF is drafting a Proclamation to name a day "Tom Friday Day" in the City of Pittsburgh and details will be out when complete.

Lastly, I'd like thank all the volunteers who volunteered their valuable time last year. We have had so many different hands, skills, and professions come forward to expand our capabilities. You are the engines that drive our success.

As a reminder our next General Membership Meeting will be on January 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the John Morrow School Auditorium. Have a great start to 2024 and never hesitate to contact us.

And as always, I'll see you in the neighborhood.

Elections of Board and Officers

At the November 9 General Membership Meeting, the membership voted to approve the following Board of Directors and Officer Positions unopposed. The following are for (1) two-year term, which began on January 1, 2024:

- President:** Joseph Glassbrenner
- Vice President:** Brendan Delaney
- Treasurer:** Robert Haller
- Corresponding Secretary:** Elaine Gloeckner
- Recording Secretary:** Todd McCollum
- Director:** Judy Bendtsen
- Director:** Tim Maloney
- Director:** Seth McClarey
- Director:** Ray Robinson

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
Manager: Regina Kolodziej
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, 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

CONTINUED FROM COVER PAGE . . .

Local Pittsburgh Public School children from both Allegheny Traditional Academy and John Morrow Elementary warmed hearts with lively performances of holiday classics while local artist Lori Hepner engaged neighbors in light-based art which will be featured on the renovated Davis Avenue bridge due to be completed in 2024. This year's event also featured a bustling Holiday Market displaying a wide variety of handmade goods from local makers and artists as well as sponsored complimentary gift wrapping.

The community enjoyed the flavors of Revival Chili and El Chucho food trucks while Allegheny City Brewing offered frosty brews for adults in attendance. Neighbors remarked on the warm feeling of community and safety the event instilled, aided in by local Zone 1 police presence.

Bright the Night wrapped up at 7:00 p.m. as neighbors were treated to an exciting fireworks display provided by Zambelli's. Those in attendance agreed that the neighborhood truly felt magical for the evening, basking in the lights and good cheer with friends and family alike.

Through the generosity of our neighbors, Brighton Heights Citizen's Federation was able to raise over \$600 for the community food "FREEdge", located behind New Life Community Church at 1301 Davis Ave, which aims to battle food insecurity in the neighborhood, particularly during the holiday season.

Brighton Heights Citizen's Federation, along with Bright the Night co-chairs Stacey Slie and Ali Fischer, would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our sponsors, without whom this event would not have been possible. We are already looking forward to next year's event and welcome sponsors and volunteers alike to help us plan another magical evening for our deserving community!



PHOTOS BY STEVE DONNELLY



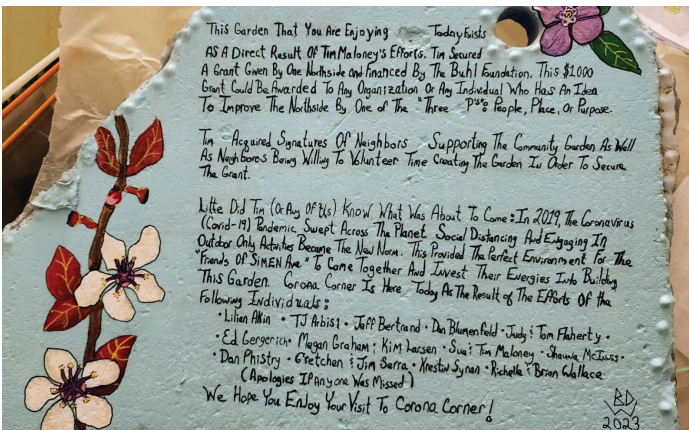
Gardens & Greenspaces

by Ed Gergerich

Happy New Year! As you read this, our gardens are in the season when we clean up litter and eliminate weeds before they go to seed. I usually write about the 3 gardens and volunteers at Termon and California and PA 65 since I am most familiar with these 4. However, we do have several other community gardens maintained by dedicated volunteers. Apologies in advance for any omissions or misspellings.

Our garden gem is Legion Park, the site of most of our BH outdoor activities. Kudos to stewards Kim Larsen, Megan Graham, Cherie Gartner, Patty Taylor, Suzi Smolin, Mike Cuccaro, and his son, Ralph.

Our Corona Corner Garden was established and is maintained by Tim and Sue Maloney, Judy and Tom Flaherty, Lilian Akin, TJ Arbis, Jeff Bertrand, Dan Blumenfeld, Shauna McInnis, Dan Phistry, Gretchen and Jim Serra, Krestin Syman, and Richelle and Brian Wallace.



A stone marker was created for our Corona Corner Garden.

The Allegheny Highlands Garden on California Avenue opposite Benton Avenue was established several years ago by Matt Yurkovich and is now maintained by Cas Olszewski. A unique feature of this garden is a small free-lending library. Borrow what you need and donate books if you can.

The Antrim Raingarden at Antrim Street where Fleming Avenue becomes Richardson Avenue is maintained by Cody Sembret, Joe Russio and Lauren DeMichiei.

And last, our smallest garden, the traffic island at Goe Avenue and Wapello Street is maintained by Susan Benn. Susan deserves a special shout-out since she works in many of our community gardens, was responsible for many of our plantings in the past, and is a continuing resource as a contact to other community garden groups.

Each of these community gardens requires different levels of effort and expertise, depending on the size and how simple or complex the steward and helpers want to make their garden. Also, we regularly exchange plants from one garden to another and accept donations from various sources so our plant inventory is constantly changing. At a minimum, volunteers pick up litter and keep the weeds in check. At a maximum, they do as much as time and weather allow. The common theme is that these folks make Brighton Heights a better place to live. If you are inspired to get involved, each of these groups can always use more volunteers, and we have several places where you can do your own thing. The McClure Avenue Garden opposite Young's Tavern is currently a mix of perennials on the slope and a rock garden near the entrance. If that's too much, there are 4 planter boxes at the Kaboom Playground near the Rooney School that would make a great teaching tool for someone with small children. Think about it.

Stay safe, stay green.

Land Use Committee Update

"What's Land Use?" Good question! Brighton Heights Citizens Federation has a Land Use Committee that helps with the urban planning of our neighborhood. This can include housing, streets, parks, and anything in between. The committee works with City government, nonprofits, local residents, and anyone else that can help Brighton Heights.

In 2018, BHCF purchased four properties in the neighborhood. Two are abandoned houses (3328 Fleming Avenue and 3829 California Avenue) and two are empty plots of land (3835 and 3837 California Avenue) with the goal to renovate and develop them into good houses for new neighbors. Unfortunately, in 2020 the market shifted considerably and the Federation still owns the properties. However, progress has been made. An agreement has been reached with the developer of the Termon Avenue Gardens project to purchase both empty plots on California Ave and build two new market-rate houses there. Furthermore, the Federation is exploring a partnership with

Rising Tide to facilitate the renovation of the two houses into affordable housing. The effort to close the sales and begin work on the properties will still take time, but this progress is exciting!

Additionally, the Land Use Committee has begun work on a "Strategic Plan" for Brighton Heights. This document's goal is to collect all the current and planned work in the neighborhood as well as create goals and improvement plans. Some examples of the planned work are the Davis Avenue Bridge and the Termon Ave Gardens. Some examples of goals are improving the California Avenue Business District and enhancing our parks. Once the plan is reviewed by the board, it will be made available to neighborhood residents to comment on before being approved. Look for this to happen later this year.

If you are interested in learning more or have ideas, please contact the Land Use chairperson below.

CONTACT: Nick Petrillo

EMAIL: npetrill@gmail.com.

FREEdge Project Update

by Lilian Akin

As most of you know, the BHCF runs a FREEdge that provides free food and pantry items to people in need. It is located at 1301 Davis Avenue at the back of the church on the corner of Davis and Shadeland. You enter from the driveway on Shadeland. Thus far, it has primarily been kept stocked by the generosity of residents in this amazing community. We have had some donations from Tom Friday's as well as from the Christ Our Savior Church's food pantry day. Bobby Wilson's office has offered us a \$500 grant as well. But primarily it has been stocked by our residents. We should all be proud of that! Thank you so much!

Recently it has been given an upgrade. A local Eagle Scout, Robert Heflin from Scout Troup 348, donated his time and materials making it accessible to people with mobility issues. There is a ramp now and a handrail. Also, the pantry door has been repaired.

Members of the committee working to keep the FREEdge running worked a table at Bright the Night. We were floored when we counted the donations at the end of the night. Not only did we receive some donations of pet food, peanut butter, and other pantry items, but we received \$610 in donations from our community. It allowed us to go out and purchase some staples for the FREEdge. And these donations will allow us to supplement what the community donates.

We are in the process of trying to seek some corporate donations as well as to get regular donations from 412 Food Rescue and the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank. We look forward to seeing what great things 2024 has in store for our FREEdge project.

Remember, we are always seeking donations. Keep the FREEdge in your mind when you go shopping. Things that seem to go fast are milk, juice, butter, eggs, cheese, frozen meats, frozen meals, frozen vegetables, and cereal. We

have received some creative donations lately, such as kits to make Christmas cookies. And, for Thanksgiving, many people donated frozen turkeys.

You can take the food directly to the pantry or bring it to the BHCF meetings. 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 or through the BHCF Paypal Account. If you want to be more involved, join the BH FREEdge Working Group – Big Freezy Facebook group. Or contact me through the Facebook group or the BHCF.

And, if you find yourself in need of some food or pantry items, please come and help yourself. The FREEdge is here for you, neighbor!

CONTACT: Lilian Akin

EMAIL: laakin@verizon.net



Breakfast with Santa Review

Brighton Heights first "Breakfast with Santa" was a hit. The children enjoyed breakfast and making crafts. After crafts, they enjoyed a cup of hot cocoa with marshmallows and Christmas cookies. The best part for the children was giving Santa their wish list. Santa said all the children were good, gave them a candy bag and wished them a "Merry Christmas."



2024 CALENDAR

JANUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jan. 1 New Year's Day
 Jan. 4 Board of Directors Meeting
 Jan. 11 General Membership Meeting
 Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

FEBRUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Feb. 1 Board of Directors Meeting
 Feb. 2 Groundhog Day
 Feb. 10 Chinese New Year
 Feb. 14 Valentine's Day
 Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday
 Feb. 19 President's Day

MARCH						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Mar. 7 Board of Directors Meeting
 Mar. 10 Daylight Savings/Ramadan Begins
 Mar. 14 General Membership Meeting
 Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day
 Mar. 19 First Day of Spring
 Mar. 23 Purim
 Mar. 24 Palm Sunday
 Mar. 28 Maundy Thursday
 Mar. 29 Good Friday
 Mar. 31 Easter Sunday

APRIL						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Apr. 4 Board of Directors Meeting
 Apr. 20 Spring Clean-up
 Apr. 22 Earth Day
 Apr. 22 Passover Begins

MAY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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May 2 Board of Directors Meeting
 May 3 Orthodox Good Friday
 May 4 Orthodox Holy Saturday
 May 4 Rt 65 WPA Conserv Planting
 May 5 Orthodox Easter
 May 9 General Membership Meeting
 May 11 Spring Flower Prep Day
 May 11 Build Your Wealth in the Trades
 May 12 Mother's Day
 May 18 Spring Flower Planting Day
 May 24 Flag Planting Highwood Cem.
 May 25 Spring Flower Catch Up Day
 May 27 Memorial Day

JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

Jun. 6 Board of Directors Meeting
 Jun. 6 D-Day Remembrance Day
 Jun. 16 Father's Day
 Jun. 19 Juneteenth
 Jun. 20 First Day of Summer

JULY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Jul. 4 Independence Day
 * NO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING *

AUGUST						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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Aug. 1 Board of Directors Meeting

SEPTEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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29	30					

Sep. 2 Labor Day
 Sep. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
 Sep. 12 General Membership Meeting
 Sep. 21 Fall Clean-up/Garbage Olympics
 Sep. 22 First Day of Autumn

OCTOBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Oct. 2 Rosh Hashanah
 Oct. 3 Board of Directors Meeting
 Oct. 11 Yom Kippur
 Oct. 14 Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day
 Oct. 19 BHCf Halloween Parade
 Oct. 31 Halloween

NOVEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Nov. 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends
 Nov. 6 Board of Directors Meeting
 Nov. 7 Election Day
 Nov. 11 Veteran's Day
 Nov. 14 Gen. Membership Meeting/Election
 Nov. 28 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Dec. 5 Board of Directors Meeting
 Dec. 7 Bright the Night with Santa
 Dec. 21 First Day of Winter
 Dec. 25 Christmas/Hanukkah Begins
 Dec. 26 Kwanzaa Begins
 Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

Thanks to Joan Bellisario, we have a new activities calendar for 2024.

If you have any events that you would like to include on the 2025 calendar, please send them to us by the end of this year.

All BHCf events noted here are subject to cancellation or change.



BRIGHTON HEIGHTS
CITIZENS FEDERATION



**HEALTHY
ACTIVE LIVING
CENTER**

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES MEETING NOTICE!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16 @ 7 PM

Healthy Active Living Center | 3515 McClure Ave. | Pittsburgh, PA 15212
(Please enter the door to the left lower sidewalk.)



The City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Works will present plans to renovate the existing Healthy Active Living Center (HALC). Renovations to the facility will aim to highlight historic character, increase energy efficiency, and to improve the interior/exterior for residents use. If you would like more information about this project, please scan the QR code to the left.

**For more information about the City of Pittsburgh's
Development Meetings visit:**

<https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/dev-activities-meeting>



**To learn more about the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation,
all things Brighton Heights, or to become a member visit:**

brightonheights.org



CONNECT WITH US

412-690-0918
BHCFpgh@gmail.com

 brightonheights.org
 [brightonheights](https://www.facebook.com/brightonheights)



Welcome New Neighbors

The Welcome Committee hopes you all had Happy holidays and a Happy New Year! I have enjoyed meeting some of you while delivering the welcome bags, and I hope to meet several more new and old neighbors alike in the coming year – just like I did at Bright the Night; it was an awesome event!

If you know of someone new in the neighborhood, please email me and I will deliver a welcome bag.

Also, please check your membership date on your newsletter as our subscription year ends in December! It may be time to renew.

CONTACT: Elaine Gloeckner

EMAIL: elainegloeckner@gmail.com

From Senator Wayne D. Fontana

EXPANSION OF PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE PROGRAM

Last year, the General Assembly passed and Governor Shapiro signed into law, House Bill 1100, which expands the very successful Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. The expansion of this program goes into effect in 2024 when residents can apply for their 2023 calendar year rebates.

HB 1100 expands the Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program for the first time in more than 16 years by raising the qualifying household income limits to \$45,000 for both homeowners and renters. The previous income limit was \$35,000 for homeowners and \$15,000 for renters. Half of Social Security income is excluded. Pennsylvania homeowners age 65 and over, widows and widowers age 50 and over, and people living with a disability 18 and over can apply.

The largest basic rebate is increased to \$1,000. Future increases in the income limit will be tied to inflation under HB 1100.

Qualified applicants can apply online at <https://mypath.pa.gov/>. If you need assistance applying, please call my Brookline office at 412-344-2551 or my Kennedy office at 412-331-1208 to set up an appointment and my staff will be happy to help.

I'd also like to remind everyone that I publish an online newsletter each Tuesday. My ENews focuses on state issues, legislation and happenings within the district. You can receive these weekly News & Views editions by signing up at www.senatorfontana.com.

CONTACT: Senator Wayne D. Fontana,

42nd Senatorial District

PHONE: 412-344-2551

EMAIL: fontana@pasenate.com

WEBSITE: www.senatorfontana.com

TWITTER: @WayneDFontana

From Councilman Bobby Wilson

Happy New Year Brighton Heights! I hope you and your family had a healthy and happy holiday season. I want to thank everyone for supporting my re-election campaign on November 7, 2023, and helping me secure another four-year term on City Council. I look forward to continuing the work of representing and advocating for everyone who lives in Brighton Heights and District 1.

I'd like to share an exciting update on the status of the Davis Avenue Bridge Reconstruction project. The City of Pittsburgh's Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI) has contracted with Gregori Construction Inc. for the construction of the bridge. Over the winter months, DOMI will be working with the contractor on material procurement and off-site fabrication of the bridge truss. On-site construction will begin in Spring 2024 and is expected to continue through the summer into early Fall 2024. I look forward to seeing this bridge reopen and to its reconnection of the Brighton Heights neighborhood to Riverview Park.

I'm also thrilled to share that City Council passed a resolution to increase the funding for the Davis Avenue Bridge Public Art project by an additional \$24K for total of \$54K. More details on the public art can be found here: <https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/davis-avenue-bridge/davis-avenue-bridge-public-art>.

I want to thank the community for their patience with this project and for all the feedback they provided to the project manager. Full details can be found here: <https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/davis-avenue-bridge>.

At the time of writing this article, Council is considering about \$12 million in proposals for capital projects within District 1, which is double the amount from 2023. Numerous capital budget projects that impact the Brighton Heights community that I want to highlight include over \$550,000 for improvements throughout Riverview Park, \$800,000 for renovations at the Brighton Heights Healthy Active Living Center (HALC), and \$800,000 for reconstruction of Fire Station 35 located on Orchlee Street. I look forward to sharing more information about the projects that were allocated money in the final versions of 2024's Capital Budget for the City of Pittsburgh in my next column.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me below. My staff and I look forward to working together to make 2024 a great year for Brighton Heights!

CONTACT: Bobby Wilson, Councilman, District 1

PHONE: 412-255-2135

EMAIL: district1@pittsburghpa.gov

X (FORMERLY TWITTER): @Dist1Pgh

FACEBOOK: Office of Councilman Bobby Wilson

INSTAGRAM: @councilmanbobbywilson

MINUTES (Review of Previous General Membership Meeting)

November 9, 2023

- Approximately 58 persons attended.
- Meeting called to order 7:02 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Recognition of Veterans; each given a BH coffee mug.
- Minutes from September General Membership Meeting.

Special Guests:

Pittsburgh Police

Officer Peyton

- 100 reports since 9/14/2023
14 arrests, 2 narcotic overdoses, 2 warrants, 1 homicide, 1 assault, 4 burglaries, 1 robbery and 12 incidents of theft.
- "Stuffed with Love" Program: call Zone 1 if you know of a needy family for Thanksgiving meal.
- He reminded us not to leave Christmas presents inside your vehicle.

PWSA

Jennifer Proshanty and Rebecca Zito

- There are 118 employees of PWSA who work on preventive maintenance and emergency response. Said the average repair time is 6 hours. The pipes that haven't been replaced are 75-100 years old.
- October's main water line break located at Woods Run/Brighton. It happened at a cross-section of pipe, which is a complicated repair. Replaced cross-section pipe with new T-section pipe, which gives them more control of water flow; they also replaced 30 feet of pipe.
- In 2024, they will be replacing 4.5 miles of 12 inch or smaller pipes in Brighton Heights.

Elected Officials:

Mayor's Office

Represented by Jessica Farrell

- She said they received our letter regarding Marmaduke Park improvements.

City Councilman

Represented by Jordan

- Davis Avenue walking bridge is slated to begin construction in Spring 2024!
- Request has been made to get a crossing guard at California and Davis.

Director of HALC

Ellie

- Breakfast with Santa on December 9 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Elections

Bill Goodrich

- The slate of board members, Joe, Brendan, Bob, Elaine, Todd, Judy, Tim, Seth, and Ray was motioned by Donna Kramer and seconded by Tim Maloney for approval. It was passed unanimously.

Report of Officers and Others:

President's Report

Joseph Glassbrenner

- New Life Family Worship is having a glove/scarf drive.
- Free turkey sign ups at Christ Our Savior Parish.
- Gift card donation from BHCF will go to Engine no. 35 this year
- The improvements for Marmaduke Park are being introduced into the 2024 capital budget.

Vice President's Report

Brendan Delaney

- No report.

Corresponding Secretary

Elaine Gloeckner

- No report.

Treasurer's Report

- Not in attendance.

Report of Committees:

Bright the Night

- Ryan reported on behalf of Ali Fischer and Stacey Slie; the event will take place on December 2 from 4-7 p.m. There will be a parade, Santa on a firetruck, arts and crafts, beer and food trucks and fireworks. On November 18, Legion Park will be getting Christmas decorations and we need volunteers to help.

NSLC

Brendan Delaney

- No report.

Halloween Parade

- Jess Marecic reported it was rainy and cool, but well attended and fun was had by all.

Land Use Committee

Nick Petrillo

- Reported that the 2 vacant lot properties that we own are being sold to New Sun Rising. We may have a developer interested in the house we own on California Avenue as well.
- Nick is also working on a strategic plan for the neighborhood.

Welcome Committee

Elaine Gloeckner

- Reported 12 residents to Brighton Heights received a welcome packet since Sept.

Clean-up Committee

Tim Maloney

- No report.

Old Business:

- Michelle Smith, owner of property at 3810 California Avenue, is pursuing a 501-C3 to turn home into community center and is looking for someone to develop the property and use the other half for a Bed and Breakfast. She has done some clean-up on the outside of the property.
- Free Food Fridge is located in the parking lot of New Life Church off of Shadeland Avenue; reminder of need to keep it stocked as people are using it. Post on Instagram with #brightonheightsfreedge

New Business:

- Owner approved mural on side of apartment building at intersection of California and Benton.

Adjournment:

- By Donna Kramer
- Second: Elaine Gloeckner
- Motion carries.

Anything for the Good of the Federation

- 50/50 winner of \$25 dollars was Charise.
- The next General Membership Meeting will be January 11, 2024.

Minutes submitted by Tim Maloney.



Last Page Laugh

by Tom Kaylor

*In the House of Representatives,
what position could a mouse
hold?*

Squeaker of the House!

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, JANUARY 11, 2024
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