



BRIGHTON HEIGHTS

VOLUME 56
ISSUE 2

CITIZENS REPORT

March 2026



Brighton Heights and Brightwood Spring Clean-up Day

WHEN: Saturday April 25, 2026

WHERE: Starts at All Saints Church; located at 3577 McClure Avenue

TIME: 9:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

AFTER PARTY: Free BBQ and drinks (parking lot of Young Brothers at intersection of McClure Avenue and Woods Run Road)

The Brighton Heights Citizens Federation and Brightwood Civic Group will be holding their 7th Annual Spring clean-up/BBQ event on Saturday, April 25, 2026. The goal is to pick up most of the trash and debris throughout both neighborhoods, so we need many volunteers to make this event a success!

If the weather is good, the Brighton Heights clean-up committee will have tables set up outside on McClure Avenue; if we have inclement weather, please sign-up in the fellowship hall (side) entrance of the church. Dirt Doctors Cleaning Services will provide gloves, trash bags, and vests. There will also be coffee, fruit, and donuts to jump-start your day. Everyone who signs up to volunteer that day will be eligible for a free prize!

The Brightwood group will be meeting at Young Brothers Parking lot at 9 a.m.

Be sure to mark your calendar for this annual collaborative Spring clean-up of our neighborhoods. Many hands make light work!

If you have any questions, please contact the event coordinators below.

CONTACT: Tim Maloney
PHONE: 412-726-0800
EMAIL: dirtdoctim@msn.com

CONTACT: Matt Gatto
EMAIL: mgatto22@gmail.com

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

on Thursday, March 12, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

John Morrow Auditorium

p. 2 President's Report	p. 4 In Memoriam: Pete Bellisario	p. 5 Neighbor Spotlight	p. 6 Li'l Bridgey 5k Run/Walk	p. 9 Gardens and Greenspaces	p. 11 Councilman Wilson	p. 12 Senator Fontana	p. 13 State Rep Emily Kinkead	p. 14 Review of Last General Meeting
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From the Federation President

BY NICK PETRILLO

As I am writing this, I can see snow everywhere out my window. It is my sincere hope that as you read this, the snow has gone and we are looking at a March that will be a lamb the whole way through. We've been through the ringer here this winter, but I wanted to take some time to thank each and every one of you that helped keep the sidewalks clear, cleaned off your cars, respected the parking chair (or cone), and helped each other. Let's all look forward to sunnier, warmer days going forward.

As our organization continues to grow, I am pleased to announce the creation of a number of committees that will help organize all the good work we do in the community. First, with the last of the properties we purchased in 2018 close to being sold, we are transitioning the Land Use Committee into the Economic Development Committee. This committee, led by Jen Shumar, will be focused on how to improve our business districts and attract companies to want to do work here in Brighton Heights. Next, we are starting a Policies and Procedures Committee to update and further develop our bylaws; this will be led by Parker Goolsby. Additionally, Susan Pesselato will lead a BH Land & Homes History Committee to document the history of Brighton Heights. Finally, we are in the process of standing up a Youth and Family Committee to help bridge the gaps between the Federation and the schools/youth activities in the neighborhood and a Service and Outreach Committee to organize our work in the community such as the FREEge and any other volunteer aspects. If any of these committees interest you, please reach out at bhcfpgh@gmail.com and I can connect you to the Committee chairs. The more neighbors we have helping, the more we can do and the easier it'll be. Thank you to all the Committee chairs for stepping up!

The Wilksboro Pedestrian Bridge was demolished on February 4 by the City. This bridge had been closed since 2007, before my time here but I know that many in the neighborhood have fond memories of it. Please allow for any additional work to clear the bridge remnants to continue unabated and feel free to reach out to Susan or myself if you have any history of the bridge you'd like to document.

On February 11, I was able to go to City Council and comment on short term rental legislation. I expressed the Board's support for the bills just days after a large party was broken up on Atkins Street. The legislation now goes to the planning commission but will make it so out-of-state LLCs can not buy houses in our neighborhood and rent them out like hotels, while preserving our ability as homeowners to rent out a room in our home if we would like. I will continue to follow this legislation and welcome any neighbor comments or concerns. Feel free to reach out to me at bhcfpgh@gmail.com.

At our November general meeting, a representative from the City presented on greenways, a permanently conserved, public open space here in the City. If anyone is interested in getting more involved, there are volunteer applications and surveys available for a bit longer on <https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/greenways-expansion-planning>.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the neighborhood clean-up in April, our Summer Series events all summer, or our House Tour in the fall!

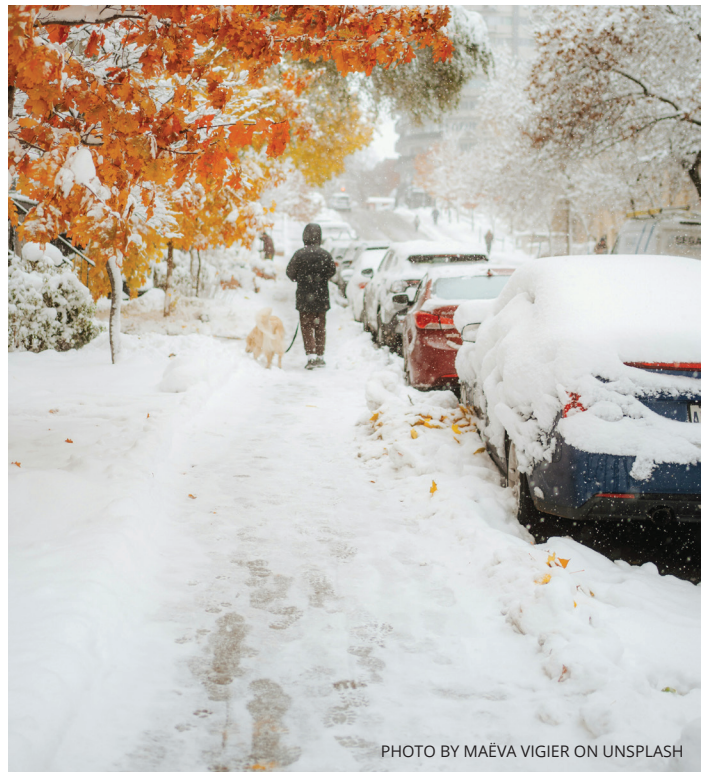


PHOTO BY MAËVA VIGIER ON UNSPLASH

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



In Memoriam Pete Bellisario

BY BRENDAN DELANEY & JOHN BELCH

The Brighton Heights community was sad to learn that Pete Bellisario, former President of the Brighton Heights Citizens Federation, had recently passed away. Pete, along with his beloved wife Joan, were longtime community stalwarts who served on the Board of the Citizens Federation from 1995–2013.

Pete grew up in Oakland, but loved living in Brighton Heights and being an active member of the community. As Pete himself put it in his “goodbye” newsletter message, “Although I am South Oakland born and raised, I have grown to appreciate my Brighton Heights neighbors.” He added that while they were no longer going to be on the Board of the Citizens Federation, “We are not going away and if called upon, we will help out.” Finally, he stated that “The only request we would have is if you are called or inclined to get involved, please do so.”

Calling the work that he and Joan did over the years of “getting involved” would be a massive understatement. They were involved in every aspect of the Citizens Federation’s operations, actually running the Citizens Federation out of their home for many years. Pete and Joan played a large role in numerous Brighton Heights activities and initiatives. This included running the Citizens Federation’s public meetings, creating the Citizens Federation’s website, helping to organize many activities (such as the Memorial Day Service, Halloween Parade, and House Tour), helping to clean up Brighton Heights (through litter clean-ups and flower plantings), and supporting development projects in the neighborhood (such as the efforts to rebuild the Davis Ave. Bridge, getting the neighborhood welcome sign placed on Route 65, and several housing projects).

Quite simply, the Citizens Federation would not be the organization that it is today, and Brighton Heights would not be the neighborhood it is today, without the efforts of Pete and Joan and we are all the beneficiaries of their hard work.

Neighbor Spotlight

BY ANNIE PERRI COLE
(FOLLOW AT @HOUSESOFPITTSBURGH)

California Coffee Bar has been serving our community since 2017, giving the neighborhood a place to gather and connect. In this Neighborhood Spotlight, we're chatting with owner Karis Bowman. Karis began working at the shop in 2019 and went on to purchase the business in 2022. Her love for the neighborhood shines through in every coffee, every smoothie and every breakfast sandwich, making California Coffee Bar a place that nourishes not just our bodies, but the sense of community that keeps this neighborhood thriving.

How can the community support you?

I already feel very supported by this community, from the many regulars I see daily to the folks who just love to brag about our coffee shop. I've never done much advertising and yet the shop has continued to grow since I started working here in 2019; it's mostly just been by word of mouth. So keep talking about us and stopping in to visit when you can! Something else I'm not sure most folks know about though is that we do rent our space after hours for private events such as birthday parties, showers, and more. If you're looking for a space for your next event, consider working with us, we love to host parties!

What does it mean for you to live and work in the same community?

I grew up not very far away in Bellevue and have always had friends in Brighton Heights. I love being so close to my hometown and living in a community that is familiar to me.

The longer I've been here the more connected I've become to all of my customers and neighbors. Many of my baristas are locals as well, and I am so grateful to have such a dedicated team who also love to serve their neighbors.



What is your favorite thing about Brighton Heights?

My favorite thing is how kind all of my neighbors are. You always hear some terrible horror stories from people who work in food services and while we've seen our fair share, that is not the typical experience at California Coffee Bar. The majority of our customers are thoughtful and friendly, and it is truly a pleasure to serve in this community.

What do you want your neighbors to know?

I'm very grateful for how this community has allowed me and my coffee shop to expand and grow. I had no business background or food service experience when I started here, simply a love of serving my neighbors. This community has allowed me to build something truly special. Thank you for believing in me and in my mission.

Stop in for a coffee at California Coffee Bar on 3619 California Ave and give them a follow on social media @californiacoffee.pgh. If you have any ideas for who to spotlight next, please email me at annieperricole@gmail.com.



PHOTO BY MIKE KENNEALLY ON UNSPLASH

Li'l Bridgey 5K Run/Walk

BY BEN COLE

In a city of bridges . . .
. . . our community lost ours.

In 2009, our connection to our park was exploded. And we've felt (and seen) this yawning chasm in our hearts ever since.

But after 16 years of hard work begging, complaining, and cajoling, in 2025 our li'l bridgey was reborn, and with it the Brighton Heights Li'l Bridgey 5k!

Come join us on a run (or walk) into Riverview Park via what many are calling the "Wonder of Brighton Heights" and "neat": the new Davis Avenue Bridge (LI'L BRIDGEY)! The event is **May 16, 2026**, and begins at the Davis side of Li'l Bridgey, heads into Riverview park, around the Allegheny Observatory and back down to finish where it started.

Registration is open at <https://lilbridgey.com/5k>, with "early bird" pricing starting at \$20 until February 28. Pricing goes up to \$25 from March 1–May 9. The first 150 people that register will receive a t-shirt; all participants will go home with a painted rock (very similar to the rocks featured on the "Brighton Heights Rocks" Facebook group).

We are also looking for businesses that would be interested in sponsoring the 5k. Folks should contact Ben at benmcole@gmail.com or **412-901-5464**.





Memorial Day Service

BY BRENDAN DELANEY

WHEN: Monday, May 25, 2026

WHERE: Legion Park

TIME: 10 a.m.

Brighton Heights' annual Memorial Day Service will take place at Legion Park at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 25. Please bring your own chairs.

The placing of the flags on Veterans' graves will be at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 22 at Highwood Cemetery on Brighton Road. If you are interested in volunteering, please meet at the entrance to the cemetery.

Summer Series Is Coming Back!

BY STACY BERKEBILE

We're excited to share that our Summer Series is returning to Legion Park for another great season! While full details are still in the works, we're tentatively planning to stick with our familiar schedule: the first Saturday of each month, from May through October.

This year, we've added a Vendor Chair and a Music & Entertainment Chair, so expect more information soon for anyone interested in participating or getting involved. Whether you're a maker, performer, or entertainer, opportunities are on the way.

We're also thrilled to be bring back our partnership with Allegheny City Brewing for the third year in a row — a Summer favorite we're happy to continue.

More details, dates, and announcements are coming soon. We can't wait to spend another Summer together in the park!



Garden Committee

BY CARIN MINCEMOYER

The committee has submitted our application to PWSA to have a water tap installed for free. We've also begun to raise funding, with Joe securing a commitment from SSB bank. **(Thanks, Joe!)**

The first round of support will be used to purchase concrete block to build long-lasting garden beds, and soil and compost to fill them up. At the time I'm writing this, the snow is melting, and soon we'll start work on the garden site.

In March and April, we'll be building the garden beds, and we'll need lots of hands to help move blocks and soil into place. If you like to build things, please join us! We aim to have beds ready for planting by the end of April, so if you'd like to rent a garden bed and you're not yet on the committee email list, please contact Carin Mincemoyer at carin.mincemoyer@gmail.com.



Benefits of Volunteering

BY TIM MALONEY

If you have lived in Brighton Heights for any length of time, you know that our neighborhood has many events. We have bi-annual trash pickups, numerous gardens to maintain, the Halloween parade, the House Tour, Summer Series at Legion Park and Bright the Night, to name just some of them. These events are only possible because someone said "YES!" to volunteering. Someone took time out of their busy schedule and invested in our community. If you are one of those people, I want to thank you for your time, energy, and creativity!

I have been a part of different committees, the facilitator of the Spring and Fall trash events and helped with other events throughout our 23 years of living in BH. I enjoy doing it and have met some wonderful people. Volunteering is one of the top 5 things you can do to live a better life! Without sounding like I am twisting your arm to become a helper, here are some benefits to volunteering that you may not have thought of:

Reduces stress and improves mental health

Volunteering lowers stress levels and helps combat anxiety and depression. Helping others shifts focus away from personal worries and creates a sense of meaning, which is strongly linked to better emotional well-being and happiness.

Combats loneliness and isolation

Regular volunteering increases social interaction and builds strong relationships. Feeling connected to others is one of the most important factors in maintaining good mental health, especially as people age.

Supports physical health and longevity

Studies show that people who volunteer regularly tend to have lower blood pressure, better mobility, and even longer life expectancy. Staying active and engaged keeps both the body and mind healthier.

So next time you see an opportunity to volunteer on a committee, help at an event or offer your creativity, please say "YES!" We need more folks in our neighborhood to step up, so we can continue to offer these wonderful amenities. These events are one of the reasons living in Brighton Heights is so special! **Won't you be a "helper" neighbor?**

Gardens and Greenspaces

BY ED GERGERICH

What a crazy winter! If you are reading this, I trust that you have survived the foot of snow and several overnight sub-zero temps in January and February. As you continue reading this in early March, it is still too early to set out your tomato plants and petunias since we most likely will get more snow and cold temperatures. Don't overdo it, but keep your AND your neighbor's sidewalks clear. It's good exercise and keeps you fit for when you turn over your garden soil. Don't forget to clear the bus stops and break through the ridges left by the snow plows at the corners where people cross. The many pedestrians, dog walkers, and joggers in the neighborhood appreciate it.

The most exciting garden happening this year is the new vegetable garden being developed on the St. John's site along McClure Avenue. I'm sure that there is another article about that development in this newsletter (so I don't have to dwell on that here) but I want to give a shoutout to Carin Mincemoyer and Sue Maloney for co-chairing this project.

On the flower front, the first big event will be planting the WPC garden at PA-65 and Brighton Heights Blvd. The Western PA Conservancy turns over the bed and provides the flowers and mulch. BHCF provides the planting and maintenance labor. There will be some prep work on nice days in April but the all-hands-on-deck callout for planting will be **Saturday, May 2**, starting at 9 a.m., rain or shine. Mark your calendars.

Volunteers will be working on the other community gardens during nice days in May. The goal is to have everything planted and ready by May 25, Memorial Day. I try to not schedule too many general callouts so we don't conflict with other Saturday events and to allow folks to help on their own schedules. In planting season and beyond, there is always something to do and people with all levels of experience are valued. I am the steward for the 3 gardens at Termon and California Avenues. Call me at **412-779-9222** if you're interested in helping at the T&C3 or at PA-65. If you're interested in helping at the gardens at Legion Park, Corona Corner, or the Allegheny Highlands Garden on California Avenue opposite Benton Avenue, I'll be happy to put you in touch with the stewards for those gardens.

Stay safe, stay green.



Spring Plant Sale

BY JENN SKERTICH

Thank you to everyone who supported the BHCF and ordered from our Spring and Fall plant fundraisers in 2025. Not only did your support help make our neighborhood beautiful, many neighbors also contributed an extra donation to the BHCF! **THANK YOU** for your generosity!

Building off our success, we will be using Gumto Greenhouses again this year. One big change this year: we will **not** have a pick-up and will go back to delivering all the orders locally. Please know if your family and friends would like to place an order, we are happy to drop them off at your home with your order.

With the delivery change this year, we will be receiving our order Thursday, May 7, and will be delivering all your orders in time for Mother's Day on Sunday, May 10. To make this year's fundraiser more successful and raise more funds to make all the BHCF activities even better this year, we will be offering more variety of baskets; please do not hesitate to purchase a few extras for the moms in your life.

Once we receive the order forms, we will be posting them. We will be looking for volunteers to help with distributing order forms, organizing orders, and delivering orders. Keep an eye out for updates on social media. Any questions, or if you would like to volunteer, please reach out to jenskertich@gmail.com. Thank you again for supporting BHCF!





SAINT CYRIL *of* ALEXANDRIA ACADEMY

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Serving Students in Preschool - Eighth Grade

Register Here:



Register Now for 2026-2027 at <https://oncourseconnect.com/registration/23090>

CATHOLIC

The curriculum of Saint Cyril of Alexandria Academy (SCAA) is grounded in the teaching of Jesus Christ. The truth, beauty, and goodness of the Divine are explored by students in their spiritual and academic lives.



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Saint Cyril of Alexandria Academy

3854 Brighton Road | Pittsburgh, PA 15212 | StCyrilAcademy.com

For More Information, Please Visit Our Website or

Contact Principal, Mrs. Harmony Stewart, at hstewart@shcacademy.com



From Councilman Bobby Wilson

Hello Brighton Heights! As you may know, there was a shooting at an Airbnb in the East Deutschtown neighborhood on New Year's Eve. This incident comes nearly 4 years after the tragic shooting at an Airbnb in the same

neighborhood on Easter Sunday. The legislation to register short-term rentals that Council passed in 2022 was a good first step, one that is still stuck in the Court of Common Pleas. Many neighborhoods in District 1 and throughout the City, are fed up with the lack of regulations and accountability for these poorly run STRs.

That's why I co-sponsored Councilwoman Gross' bills, along with Councilman Anthony Coghill, to regulate these businesses and to hold the operators accountable when problems arise. Bill 2026-0008 requires a non-transferable short-term rental (STR) license for each property and zoning approval to operate. Bill 2026-0009 adds short-term rentals to the Zoning Code. The bill limits the number of units per building and requires a special exception from the Zoning Administrator to be permitted. At the time of writing this article, these two bills are currently held in Standing Committee. These bills are necessary steps toward stronger oversight, accountability, and protecting residents from the very real safety and quality-of-life impacts that result when these properties are misused.

I was grateful for the conversation at the community group meeting I attended in January where I heard from residents looking for immediate action to help address nuisance short-term rentals. One thing the community wanted was a better way to report incidents in 311. I've been working the Mayor's Office to review the system and implement ways to report issues at short-term rentals. The system has to work for residents so they can see results. Similar to reporting a pothole, people need to understand what happens next, who reviews the issue, and what kind of follow-up or enforcement is realistic. This is one small, but important step we can take right now that can have immediate impact.

My office continues to receive numerous calls during Pittsburgh Water's construction and the confusing "No Parking" signs that are posted along streets. There are often no permit numbers and the timeline can span multiple months. I'm meeting with Pittsburgh Water and the Department of Mobility & Infrastructure to review the

process of issuing these signs so that we can minimize disruptions for residents and provide clear expectations during construction projects.

I'd like to highlight Mayor O'Connor's new Main on Main Initiative, which he formally announced in early January. This initiative promotes revitalization and investment in neighborhood business districts. Main and Main will focus on a wide variety of programs that support business districts, such as small business loans, facade renovations, housing development incentives, zoning reform, permitting improvements, gap funding and more to cut through exhausting processes to move projects forward. My office can connect anyone who is interested in learning more with the Mayor's Office by sending an email to district1@pittsburghpa.gov.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact us at a method 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

X (FORMERLY TWITTER): @Dist1Pgh

FACEBOOK: Office of Councilman Bobby Wilson

INSTAGRAM: @councilmanbobbywilson

NEWSLETTER SIGNUP: pittsburghpa.gov/City-Government/City-Council/Districts/Bobby-Wilson-District-1



PHOTO BY KARINA G ON UNSPLASH

Parental and Employee Notification of Weapon Incidents Act Has Gone into Effect at Pennsylvania Schools

If you have a child in a K-12 school, you probably have received a notice about a new law that went into effect earlier this year. Act 44 of 2025 requires Pennsylvania schools to notify parents, guardians, and school employees within 24 hours of any incidents involving a weapon on school property, transportation or at a school-sponsored activity, even if it was held off school premises. Prior to passage of this act, schools were only mandated to report such incidents to law enforcement and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Schools that fall under Act 44 include K-12 public and private schools, charter and cyber charter schools, and career and technical schools. Though the new law does not define the term “weapon,” it references other laws that define weapons to include, but not limited to, “any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nun-chuck stick, firearm, shotgun, rifle and any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.”

To ensure the information reaches the intended recipients, notifications can be sent in various formats, including text messages, emails, and through the school system’s online portal.

If an incident involving the possession of a weapon occurs at a school building, the notification can be limited to parents or guardians of students enrolled in that building, and the school employees assigned to it. If the incident is on a shared campus, the notice must be sent to parents and staff with a connection to any building on the property. Only basic details, such as the date and general location, need to be included, but nothing that would identify the student involved in the incident. Act 44 also increases the legal liability for schools that fail to send an alert.

The Parental and Employees Notification of Weapon Incident law helps parents stay informed about issues related to school safety, and provides a clear, consistent framework for communication across all schools. However, it is important that the notices do not create unnecessary alarm, particularly for incidents that do not pose an active threat. Families are encouraged to help prevent accidental situations by checking their student’s backpack, jacket, and sports bag and remind students that prohibited items are not permitted on school grounds, buses, or at activities.

I supported this legislation last year because it presents another tool to help keep parents informed our children are safe in school. Going forward, I will continue working to ensure our schools and parents have the resources they

need to provide a safe learning environment. I’m proud that more than \$1.2 million in school safety grants were awarded last year in the 42nd Senatorial District that helps achieve that goal and I will continue my advocacy throughout 2026.

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

PHONE: 412-344-2551

EMAIL: fontana@pasenate.com

WEBSITE: www.senatorfontana.com

TWITTER: @WayneDFontana

NEWSLETTER SIGNUP: www.senatorfontana.com



PHOTO BY CALEB WALLEY ON UNSPLASH



From State Rep. Emily Kinkead

APPLY NOW FOR A REBATE ON RENT OR PROPERTY TAXES

Last year, my team helped deliver more than \$265,000 to local residents through the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. If you're a senior, a widow or widower, or living with

a disability, you may be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 back on rent or property taxes you already paid. Thanks to recent expansions to the program I helped deliver, more Pennsylvanians are eligible than ever before.

I want to be sure anyone who may be eligible knows about this program and that my office is here to help with determining eligibility and applying. Contact my office today to learn more – many people are surprised to learn that they qualify.

Who Is Eligible?

Homeowners and renters with a total household income of \$48,110 or less that are age 65 or older; age 50 or older if you are a widow or widower; or age 18 or older if you have a permanent disability may be eligible for a rebate. Only half of Social Security income counts toward household income total, and some other forms of income may be excluded.

To qualify, you must also have lived in Pennsylvania for at least half of the year for which you are applying, and paid property taxes or rent during that year. Even if you didn't qualify in the past, it's worth checking again, as the income limits now adjust annually and more people become eligible every year.

What Do You Need to Apply?

- Proof of all income received in 2025
- A valid state ID or driver's license to prove date of birth
- Homeowners – Property tax receipts for 2025
- Renters – Completed Rent Certificate (available at my office)

The Rent Certificate requires a landlord's signature. If your landlord is difficult to reach, my office can assist you using rent receipts and our in-house notary.

How to Apply?

You can apply online, by paper application, or with **free, in-person assistance from my office staff**. We strongly recommend filing online because your application will be processed faster and it allows us to track your application if any issues arise. If you would like to schedule an appointment, give us a call at **412-321-5523**.

Applications for rebates must be submitted by June 30, 2026.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is one of the most effective tools the state currently has to help people stay in their homes and keep more of their money. My staff and I are committed to making sure every resident who is eligible receives a rebate.

If you have questions about this program, or any state-related issue, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office.

CONTACT: Emily Kinkead, State Representative, District 20

PHONE: 412-321-5523

EMAIL: RepKinkead@pahouse.net

ADDRESS: 658 Lincoln Avenue, Bellevue

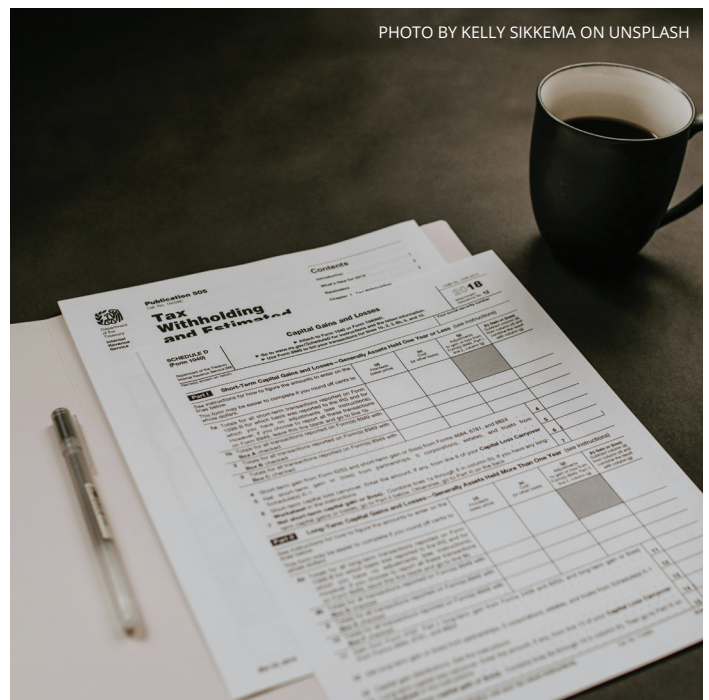
WEBSITE: <https://www.pahouse.com/kinkead>

TWITTER: @RepKinkead

FACEBOOK: Rep. Emily Kinkead

INSTAGRAM: @repkinkead

BLUESKY: @repemilykinkead.com



MINUTES (Review of Previous General Membership Meeting)

JANUARY 8, 2026

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. with 46 in attendance.
- Minutes taken by the Recording Secretary.

SPECIAL GUESTS: Pittsburgh Police

- Present is Acting Assistant Chief of Operations Vanasky.
- Stats: 2 burglaries, 32 reports, 6 arrests.
- Question on social workers program.
- Officers can request a social worker over the radio; currently there is not a Co response model.
- Questions on abandoned vehicles.

Department of Public Works Andrea

- Applied for \$500,000 for improvements to Marmaduke Park.
- Survey on the Engage page.
- Presented an explanation of upgrades with a handout.
- Looking to confirm design so that work can begin.

ELECTED OFFICIALS: Representative Kinkead

- Funding for new low-income rent program.

Councilman Wilson

- Jack Stack Pool will get \$250,000 for a new roof .
- Jack Stack Playground: \$300,000 construction of Phase 2 will happen in the summer of 2026.
- There's a question on the deer management program; the Councilman will get more information to us .
- The new administration is having talks with PWSA and DOMI .
- Question about removed curbs and residual hazards.
- Question about HALC.
- Questions on short-term rental legislation.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND OTHERS:

Executive:

President's Report

Nicholas Petrillo

- New emphasis on committees
 - Creating a Service and Philanthropy Committee
 - History Committee
 - Policy and Procedures Committee
 - Youth and Family Committee
- Pittsburgh Public Schools voted down the closing of schools.
- Our Fleming Ave. property is on the market.
- Termon Gardens is looking for new lenders.
- Jack Stack Park is a location for Christmas tree drop-offs.
- President will be involved with PWSA work .
- Comment: St. Cyril is the last Catholic school on the North Side.

Vice President's Report

Brendan Delaney

- No report.

Finance:

Treasurer's Report

- \$29,712 is total cash on hand.
- Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Donna Kramer; second by Stacy Berkebile; motion passes.

Communications:

Recording Secretary

- Motion to approve the November meeting minutes as published in the newsletter by Ben; second by Stacy; motion passes.

Corresponding Secretary

- Welcome bags are up-to-date.
- Most recent newsletter went out.

Communications Chair

- Facebook events are up.
- Continuing to investigate updating the website; we will be doing a Board survey.

Public Safety

- No report.

Economic Development

- Change in committee name from Land Use Committee.
- The property of 3328 Fleming is up for sale; and we have offers in hand.
- Will be working with Northside Leadership Conference economic development and the Bellevue Civic groups.

St. John's Garden Site

- Committee is having regular meetings.
- Planning is ongoing with Allegheny Land Trust.

NSLC

- No report.

New Committees: Service and Outreach

- No report; more information to follow.

History

- Brief introduction by the chair, Susan.

Policies and Procedures

- Brief introduction by the chair, Parker.

Events:

Bright the Night

- The event went well and the chair wants to thank everyone for their help.

5K Race

- Will occur on May 16.
- Early bird registration is \$20.
- More registration information forthcoming.
- Will be dog friendly.
- Proceeds will benefit the FREEdge.

Memorial Day

- The commander recently passed away; Donna will take the lead in scheduling the events of the weekend.
- Sign-up sheet for those that can help.
- Note: Legion Park is the only park in the City with three monuments.

Plant Sale

- Same vendor as last year.
- Delivery will be in time for Mother's Day.

New Business:

- Discussion on art for the Riverview Park wall.

Old Business:

- Discussion on artwork for Davis Ave. Bridge

Anything for the Good of the Federation

- 50/50 for \$31 won by Ray.
- Motion to Adjourn by Donna Kramer; second by Tim Maloney; meeting adjourned.

Adjournment.

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary Todd McCollum



Last Page Laugh

by Tom Kaylor

What did the happy man, whose wife was a gym instructor, tell her on their 10th anniversary?

*"My Dear, you were worth **weighten** for."*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME(S) _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY, STATE _____

ZIP CODE + 4 _____ PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
Membership for _____ years

MULTIPLE YEAR BONUS:
Pay 3 years >>> get 4 years!
Pay 5 years >>> get 7 years! | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (\$10)
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$7.50)
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (\$5)
<input type="checkbox"/> Social (\$5)
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate (\$20) | <input type="checkbox"/> 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, MARCH 12, 2026.

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