May 2012

Highland Park
Community Council Newsletter

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Highland Park in Bloom
Hello, Highland Park! The Highland Park Community Council (HPCC), in operation since 1945, is the oldest neighborhood organization in the City of Pittsburgh.

We provide a venue for people who live, work or recreate in Highland Park to come together on issues of common interest. We meet 10 times per year (we skip July and December), on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., and we generally meet at St. Andrew’s Church on Hampton Street. The topics discussed by our speakers over the past year have included neighborhood public safety, the installation of a new cell phone tower at the zoo, the local police firing range and associated noise issues, conflict resolution, public schools, diversity, pedestrian/biker/traffic safety, and efforts to overhaul the region’s sewer system. We also regularly receive visits from local elected officials, school principals or school board members, and professionals from the police force; they give us updates on current issues and answer questions from the community.

This past year, we were also pleased to have our Highland Park neighborhood featured prominently in the Spring 2012 issue of Shady Ave magazine.

You may not realize it, but the HPCC coordinates many of the large events that take place in Highland Park. We help organize the annual Reservoir of Jazz concerts each August, the Bryant Street Festival and neighborhood Yard Sale each June, activities in conjunction with the annual Pittsburgh Marathon, a Children’s Parade at Halloween and the return of Cinema in the Park this summer. We built, and help maintain, the Super Playground in the park; we sponsor neighborhood tree plantings each year; we make sure that the neighborhood has attractive signs to welcome those who cross our borders and we reach out to new homeowners to welcome them. We also monitor zoning issues in our area. In years past, we have also sponsored activities like children’s summer day camps, holiday parties, and neighborhood house tours. We have liaisons to the police and the principals of nearby public schools. In addition to these efforts, we maintain a website at www.highlandparkcc.wordpress.com and a neighborhood e-mail ListServ that you can sign up for on the website. We also publish a community newsletter 10 times a year, including one (this one!) that is physically mailed to every address in the neighborhood each May; the remainder are distributed via our ListServ and website.

All of this is made possible by the proceeds raised through membership.

We offer a $5 First Year Introductory Membership, a $10 Annual Senior Citizen or Low Income Family Membership and a $25 Annual Membership. We encourage you to join us as we strive to make Highland Park the best neighborhood it can be - with all of its big-city appeal and small-community-feel!

Eric D. Randall, HPCC President
Paul Miller mentioned that he could use help from anyone who’s interested with jobs related to the upcoming neighborhood yard sale. He specifically mentioned data entries, picking up supplies, and getting out fliers as some of the available jobs.

Featured speakers were Dr. Monica Lamar, Principal of Dillworth, and Kevin Bivins, Principal of Fulton. Monica and Kevin spoke about their schools, the programs going on at the schools, and the successes they’ve been having in making strides in achieving proficiency in reading and math. They both talked about how critical parental and community engagement are in school success, and welcomed our neighborhood to get involved.

Ed Gainey, who is on the ballot in next week’s primary for State Representative in the 24th district, spoke for a few minutes about his candidacy and some of the more important issues he sees facing the state and how those issues affect our neighborhood.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Attendee list included Board members Laura, Glen and Nancy, Dave, Al, Paul, Sarah, Eric and Teri, plus Dell Ziegler, residents Janine Jelks-Seale and Valerie Monaco, Principals Lamar and Bivins, and Ed Gainey.
**Yard Sale**

The festivities begin the first Sunday in June (the 3rd) with our massive, multi-family Highland Park Community Council Yard Sale and Bryant Street Festival. Beginning at 9 a.m., over one-hundred Highland Park homes will set up tables and offer items for sale to more than one-thousand bargain hunters walking through the neighborhood. To make it easy for shoppers to find your yard sale, maps of the neighborhood with a listing of your items are distributed to everyone.

Do you have items to sell? It is easy to participate. Fill out the form below and send in the $15 fee to have your address and sale items included in the handout. Your form MUST be received by Saturday, May 26th to be included. Get them in early! Beginning May 13th we will post listings, without addresses, on the Highland Park website. Last year website traffic spiked in the days just before the sale as people began treasure hunting early.

For those of you living in an apartment or on a quiet side-street, consider the Highland Park Flea Market at the corner of Bryant Street and Highland Avenue. If interested, check the box below. There will be an option to rent tables and chairs for the flea market.

Once you sign up, don’t forget to pick-up your yard sale signs and balloons the Saturday before the yard sale (June 2nd) on the front porch of the mailing address provided below.

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**Bryant Street Festival**

After a healthy morning of walking our tree-lined streets in search of your favorite yard sale find, we invite you to join us on Bryant Street, the heart of our business district, for live musical performances, delicious foods from our local businesses and neighbors, and artists selling their jewelry, ceramics, stationery and much more. There will be activities for kids including face painting, the Union Project spinning their clay wheel, and of course, hula hooping!

The Festival runs from 12 Noon - 5 p.m. and is located between N. St. Clair and Highland Ave. on Bryant St.

If you are an artist from Highland Park who would like to participate by selling or showing your work, please respond to: festival@highlandparkpa.us. We are also in need of volunteers to help with set up and take down of the event.

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**Yard Sale Participation Form**

Name _________________________________________   Street Address ________________________________________________

Phone Number ___________________________________   Email Address _______________________________________________

If you are interested in the Bryant Street Flea Market option, check here: ☐ Yes

Items For Sale _________________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please be concise: No more than 200 characters. List best items first. There is no limitation on what can be sold, only what is in placed in the map handout.

Please mail (or drop off) the form and a check (made out to the HPCC) for $15 to Paul Miller, 5714 Elgin Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206. For questions, please call (412) 365-0675 or email YardSale@highlandparkpa.com.
At long last, site preparation for a mixed use retail and residential development, Bryant Street Phase II, is expected to break ground this summer. The project incorporates roughly 3,500 square feet of retail space facing Bryant Street, and a combination of rental and for sale housing options. The project will add critical building mass to the Bryant Street corridor, and go a long way towards realizing the vision of a vibrant and diverse neighborhood commercial district.

The Bryant Street Phase II project comes on the heels of the addition of several new dining establishments including the much anticipated Park Bruges restaurant located in a modernized historic building that sits adjacent to the new development site. Additional private investment has been made by other business and building owners who have recognized the value of re-investing in the community and in their own assets. We can see the benefits positively impacting the quality of life for area residents and attracting regional visitors to Highland Park and the Pittsburgh Zoo. Lastly, the job creation and real estate development initiatives benefit the city and the school district by increasing tax revenues helping to improve basic municipal services.

With support from dedicated partners throughout the community, State Senator Jim Ferlo continues to spearhead economic development projects throughout the 38th Senatorial District. The continued revitalization and re-investment taking place on Bryant Street is the outcome of successful public and private partnerships. As Board Treasurer of Pittsburgh’s Urban Redevelopment Authority, Senator Ferlo has worked with Mayor Ravenstahl, the Highland Park Community Council, the Highland Park Development Corporation, and others to leverage financial resources to support new development on Bryant Street.

Please visit www.senatorferlo.com for more information about this and other exciting projects happening around the 38th Senate District and to sign up for a monthly newsletter highlighting important issues and events throughout Pennsylvania.
The Kelso Bible Lands Museum allows visitors to step into the past—right here in Highland Park! On the campus of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, the Museum is rooted in the Seminary’s program of archaeological field work in the Near East dating back to 1924. Artifacts in the collection include ceramic items, worked metal and stone objects, and organic materials from prehistoric times to the early Islamic period.

Exhibits explore continuity and change in many aspects of daily life: settlement patterns, agriculture, technologies and crafts, trade and writing systems and practices. Current exhibits include “Towns and Tombs: The Dead Sea Plain in the Early Bronze Age,” “Every Day in the Land Between, 2000 BCE - 1000 CE,” “Worlds Made Visible,” and “A Photographic Memory: Ninety Years of Archaeology at PTS.”

Visitors of all ages are welcome to browse the exhibits or to arrange a tour. Admission and parking are FREE, and the Museum is accessible to guests with disabilities. Bring your community or church group, Scout Troop, family, and friends! The collection and associated archives are also available to scholars and students for research. Hours are Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (September - May) and Wednesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (June - August).

Pittsburgh Seminary’s commitment to archaeology continues today with the work of Ron Tappy, who is currently excavating at Tel Zayit (Arabic “Zeitah”) in the foothills an hour southwest of Jerusalem. It was there during the 2005 season that Dr. Tappy and his team discovered a Hebrew alphabet incised in a boulder embedded in an ancient wall—the earliest such alphabet ever recovered in situ and subsequently dated to the 10th century BCE, the time of the Old Testament’s King Solomon. This find, called an “abecedary,” was featured in the Nova documentary “The Bible’s Buried Secrets.” The discovery is also highlighted in the “Worlds Made Visible” exhibit at the Bible Lands Museum.

The Bible Lands Museum was also recently featured on WQED’s Pittsburgh 360’. The weekly program provides a dynamic, interactive look at the people and places, issues and stories that shape the fabric of Pittsburgh and its surrounding communities. You can watch the Bible Lands Museum episode online at www.pts.edu/Museum.

Call 412-924-1394 or visit www.pts.edu/Museum to learn more or to arrange a visit.
Bike Pittsburgh and Allegheny County Public Health were brought together to develop public safety recommendations. HPCC Board Member Glen Schultz lent his professional experience to help refine the recommendations which were then presented to Councilmen Burgess and Dowd and Representative Holley. Elected officials are working with City and District administrators to balance school and community needs. Everyone involved recognizes the importance of creating outstanding educational opportunities and a safe environment for Pittsburgh students.

Obama 6-12 features a fully accredited International Baccalaureate program that offers a demanding academic curriculum and a wide variety of extracurricular activities for grades 6-12. 800 students come from every corner of the School District to attend this magnet school, but enrollment is expected to reach 1,000 students at the new location. All students must apply to the school and participate in the IB curriculum where they can earn college credit recognized by universities in 75 counties. Since students can also earn up to $40,000 in Pittsburgh Promise scholarship money for in state tuition, Obama 6-12 graduates can be ready for a successful and less expensive college career - just a few steps away from Highland Park.

The School District is also working to prepare the building for students. Though the Peabody facility is the oldest in the city, it has a number of desirable features including newly remodeled computer labs, Wi-Fi, a staffed library and dedicated rooms for IB testing. The auditorium holds over 1,000 people. The athletic facilities include the largest gym in the District and a swimming pool. Despite its brick façade, 69% of the rooms have at least one window.

Highland Park residents can get a sneak peak of the facility this fall during the open house - be sure to check out the original stained glass in the auditorium. Visit the school’s newspaper at www.obamaeagle.org to learn more about the students and the school or visit the District website at www.pghboe.net for more details.
On the Third Sunday of the month, May 20, we’ll continue in Eastertide with a service of Choral Evensong, sung by the St. Andrew’s Schola Cantorum, and with Guest Preacher the Rt. Rev. Kenneth L. Price, Jr., Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. This will be Bishop Price’s last formal participation at St. Andrew’s before his retirement later this summer. All are welcome.

Sunday services at St. Andrew’s will continue with the regular schedule - a simpler service at 9 a.m., a choral service at 11 a.m. - through the end of June. During July and August the service times shift to the “summer schedule,” with services at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Our highly regarded Godly Play Children’s Program will continue through the 20th of May at the 9:45-10:45 Sunday morning hour. During June, July, and August the children’s programs are scheduled during a portion of the later service hour on selected Sundays.

Also of interest for families, St. Andrew’s will be conducting a “Choristers Camp” during a week this summer, for elementary/ Middle School aged children who may be interested in beginning or continuing in our exceptionally rich children’s music program. Please contact the Organist and Choirmaster (and Highland Park neighbor) Peter Luley for more information via the St. Andrew’s Church Office.

St. Andrew’s has been on the corner of Hampton Street and North Euclid Avenue, at the heart of the Highland Park neighborhood, for more than a century. If there is a pastoral need that we can help with—a baby to be baptized, a wedding to celebrate, a sick or shut-in friend or neighbor to be visited, a family to support at the time of a death—please feel free to be in touch. Or if you need to find some space for a meeting or family gathering, or to borrow a few chairs: we’ll be glad to help if we can. Call us at 412 661-1245, or check us out on the web at www.standrewspgh.org.
It was cold in February, but HPCC Board Members Sarah Trbovic, Teri Rucker and Dave Atkinson were busy planning neighborhood activities for the summer. With the help of Councilman Dowd, the three met with a representative from Citiparks and persuaded the City to bring Cinema in the Park back to Highland Park this summer. So grab your lawn chair and join your neighbors for a free family film under the stars. Shows start at dusk and will be held third Mondays including June 18th, July 16th and August 20th. Films will be shown on the hill behind the reservoir at the north end of Reservoir Drive. Visit [www.citiparks.net](http://www.citiparks.net) and click on Events/Summer/Cinema in the Park for the complete schedule, an interactive map and more details.
Street cleaning in the City runs from April 1st - November 30. Check the signage on your street for specific dates.
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Join the HPCC Today!

The Highland Park Community Council has over 500 members who represent families, individuals and businesses within our community. The organization is an all-volunteer effort.

To join the HPCC, please go to our website and download an HPCC Membership Form. www.highlandparkcc.wordpress.com

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