October 2017
Highland Park
Community Council Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. A Letter from the President
2. September Meeting Minutes
3. HPCC Halloween Parade
4. Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy: Bump in the Night
5. Ouch! I Got A Cut! Book for Kids
6. Spider Infested Chocolate Chip Cookie Recipe
7. Destination Highland Park
   Now Open: LaScola’s Italian Ice and Custard
8. Ask the Editor
9. Around St. Andrew’s

Trick or Treat is planned for Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Hello Neighbors!

It’s that time of year again - time to become an HPCC member! By the time you read this newsletter, our annual membership campaign mailing will likely be on its way to your mailbox. When you receive it, I’d like to ask that you please consider joining or renewing your membership, which you can do by either filling out the response card on the mailing or visiting our website, hpccpgh.org.

As a volunteer-led, community-based non-profit organization, the HPCC depends on the financial support of its members to support our programs, events, and initiatives. Your tax-deductible contribution enables us to:

Organize events like the Highland Park House Tour, Highland Park Yard Sale, Bryant Street Festival, Reservoir of Jazz, 4th of July Bike Parade, and Halloween Costume Parade.

Host community conversations on topics that are important to you and our neighborhood. In 2017, we heard directly from the Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald on the proposed Bus Rapid Transit project, Robert Weimar, the Acting Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Sewer and Water Authority, on numerous subjects involving our public drinking water system, and from the Department of City planning on important projects in and around our neighborhood, to name just a few.

Advocate for neighborhood issues to our elected leaders and public agencies. In 2017, we launched our first ever Capital Budget Survey to gather direct input from the community on neighborhood priorities for inclusion in the City’s Capital Budget, spoke on our community’s behalf at meetings of the Zoning Board, Planning Commission, Art Commission, and other public bodies, and worked alongside the City Parks and Public Works departments to keep the Park, Bryant Street Business District, and our residential streets clean, welcoming, and safe.

All of this work is only made possible by your support. If you haven’t already, please consider joining, renewing, or making an additional gift to the HPCC to help us continue our success in building a vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming community in Highland Park.

Best,

Jake Pawlak
HPCC President
Meeting Called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Jake Pawlak

Police Zone 5 Update - Commander Jason Lando
Residents are reminded that the Zone 5 Weekly Crime Report is available via email, with 5,000 current subscribers. Sign up by sending an email to Commander Lando or editor@highlandparkpa.com.

The commander answered questions and introduced Community Outreach Officers and a Zone 5 detective who were in attendance. He announced that each City police zone has selected three neighborhoods for a new neighborhood-based program, which uses three embedded officers in the community. Zone 5 selected Homewood, East Hills, and Lincoln-Lemington based on need. It is hoped that the program will eventually expand to add other neighborhoods.

A resident reported speed issues on Farmhouse Rd. Commander Lando indicated that residents should call 311 for ongoing issues such as speed enforcement, sidewalk blocking by basketball hoops and cars. The more neighbors calling, the better the response and results. Call 911 for crimes in progress.

Residents can help out Zone 5 by providing donations that will be used to purchase food specific to police/community events organized for youth outreach and community building.

Citizen’s Climate Lobby - Ray Roberts, Pittsburgh Chapter Founder
Ray Roberts started the Pittsburgh chapter of the national organization. The mission of Citizen’s Climate Lobby (CCL) is to create the political will to address climate change. The group believes a policy solution is needed to address this issue. They favor a non-partisan approach, and they practice a non-violent approach of interacting with both sides of the aisle. The CCL has participated in Bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus to develop a policy that taxes fossil fuels at the source, places a fee on carbon emissions, enacts a border tax adjustment, and pays a dividend to all U.S. citizens on a monthly basis. The Pittsburgh City Council agreed unanimously to endorse policy last year.

Meetings of the Pittsburgh chapter of the CCL take place the 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at St. Andrews Church in Highland Park. All are welcome at the meetings. Information about the organization can be found at www.citizensclimatelobby.org.

Let’s Go Fishing! - Deacon Edward Caldwell, Jr.
Deacon Caldwell shared the history of a ministry called Pancakes and Jesus that works to enrich the lives of urban youth in the region. What began as breakfast for urban youth, expanded to include fishing derby/lessons at the Conway Sportman’s Club in Zelienople. Eventually the initiative grew to include children from the East Liberty area. The group began seeking a local lake to allow the kids to continue fishing. All nearby neighborhoods use Highland Park, and Lake Carnegie was identified as a good prospect. Volunteers, in partnership with PWSA, installed aerators in the lake to allow fish to populate. There are still many issues with the lake including a crack in the foundation, and the area around lake is damaged and dangerous with cracked concrete and broken stairs. Deacon Caldwell requested neighbors support his efforts by talking to politicians requesting improvements to Lake Carnegie so that the passion of fishing to be shared with youth of the community.

Mayor’s Office - Corey Buckner, City of Pittsburgh
Corey Buckner announced that tomorrow is Citizenship Day at City Hall with new Americans being naturalized. Legal assistance is also available for potential citizens at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

The Pittsburgh Civic Leadership Academy is currently underway. At the end of February, applications for next year’s eleven-week course will be available. The class meets from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, and participants must be 18 year old or older.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m. by Jake Pawlak.
Calling all ghosts, goblins, princess and pirates for the Highland Park Community Council’s Annual Halloween Parade. We will gather at the fountain, decorate pumpkin cookies and parade around the fountain.

**what:** HPCC Halloween Costume Parade  
**when:** Saturday, Oct. 28, 10:30 a.m. to Noon  
**where:** The Fountain in Highland Park

Hope to see you all scare!

By Teri, HPCC Kids’ Committee Chair
A must for parents, caretakers and educators, *Ouch! I Got A Cut!*, is a read-along book for young children emphasizing the three “C’s” of wound care.

When you get a Cut: Clean and Cover! Follow Sebastian, Jilly and Nelson through a fun-filled day at the park when the inevitable happens: one of the children gets a cut, but doesn’t know exactly what to do. The simple, three-pronged approach, ‘Cut, Clean and Cover’, prevents infection and saves lives.

The book was written by Orlaith & Kathleen Staunton, the mother and sister of Rory Staunton, who died at 12 years old from sepsis (the body’s life threatening response to an infection) because a scrape during a regular gym class at his school was noticed, but not treated.

With education and prevention as its mission, Orlaith & Ciaran Staunton founded The Rory Staunton Foundation for the Prevention of Sepsis. Sepsis kills over 250,000 Americans every year, and is the biggest killer of children in the world. Brilliantly illustrated by fine artist Cecilia Mandrile, *Ouch! I Got a Cut!*, is whimsical, welcoming and entertaining, and will forever cement the importance of wound care for young children.
Making these Halloween cookies is easy – and you can use your favorite chocolate chip cookie recipe too! For those of you who don’t have a favorite, try this one. Maybe you will from now on…

Ingredients

1 cup of butter or margarine softened
¾ cup of white sugar
¾ cup of brown sugar
1 tsp of vanilla
½ tsp of water
2 eggs
2¼ cup of flour
1 tsp of baking soda
1 tsp of salt
1 cup of chocolate chips
½ cup of chocolate chips for decorating

Instructions

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Mix butter, sugar, vanilla and water until creamy. Beat in eggs. Add flour, baking soda and salt. Stir in chocolate chips.

Drop a rounded teaspoon of dough onto a greased or lined baking sheet. Make sure there are a few chocolate chips on the top of each cookie to make your spider after.

You can just place a few on top if necessary. Bake for 10-12 minutes or until they start to brown.

Transfer to a wire rack to cool.

While the cookies are cooling place the extra chocolate chips in a small microwavable bowl. Heat for 30 seconds at a time, taking out and stirring each time, until they are melted and smooth.

Place the melted chocolate in a piping bag with a small, plain tip. You can also use a small decorating squeeze bottle or even a sandwich bag with the corner cut out.

Pipe a head and legs onto some of the chocolate chips. That’s it! Allow the chocolate to set completely before storing, if they last that long.

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Friday the 13th marked a lucky day for Highland Park with the long awaited formal opening of LaScola’s Italian Ice and Custard.

Costumed patrons received a discount as they lined up to enjoy both creamy frozen custard and LaScola’s legendary Italian ice at the new eatery at 1218 N. Euclid Avenue, just steps north of Bryant Street.

Tom LaScola has been operating the family mobile Italian ice cart for ten years. Many Highland Park residents have sampled his ices at Reservoir of Jazz, the Bryant Street Festival, and local farmers markets. Known at these and other events as the “Ice Man”, LaScola has added homemade frozen custard to his menu and has renovated a commercial space behind Smiling Banana Leaf for the new store.

“We fell in love with the area. The people of Highland Park have been good to us over the years,” offers Tom when asked why he chose Highland Park.

The LaScola family has used special family recipes to create Italian ice for 30 years. Tom joined his cousin in the business and eventually became the sole operator. Family members, including wife Tish and daughter Carly LaScola, will run the brick and mortar shop.
In addition to Italian ice and custard, LaScola’s also offers pour-over coffee, cookies, milkshakes, floats, and cream ices. Plans for made-to-order custard/cookie sandwiches are in the works as well as future blizzard/mixer custard dishes, pies, and custard cakes.

The LaScola’s believe in supporting local charities and work closely with the American Heart Association and the Children’s Institute of Pittsburgh. They plan an indoor mural of a wishing tree for customers to participate by placing wishing leaves on the tree.

The mobile cart will still make appearances at local events, but Highland Park residents can now enjoy the sweet treats five days a week in the neighborhood.

“Italian ice is made just like ice cream but with water replacing the dairy in the recipes,” explains Tom. “It is flavored and then turned and frozen.” The store will offer up to six flavors of both ices and custards at any given time, changing periodically. Popular ice flavors such as lemon, mango, cherry, blue raspberry, and banana are expected to be seen often. Custard favorites like coffee cookie butter, red velvet, butter pecan, and seasonal flavors (pumpkin) are planned.

Carly LaScola is credited with an idea for a special treat and has named it “Twisted Italian”. Customers can enjoy a twist of custard mixed with Italian ice. Carly, who is handling marketing and communications for the business, came up with a new logo vision for La Scola’s and recruited Highland Park resident (and boyfriend) Nate Mirizio to design it.

A colorful new mural “A Free Bird Over Paradise” on the storefront has become a backdrop for selfies. Tish LaScola found artist David Connelly drawing pictures outside Starbucks at Market Square while she was working at the farmers market. She was impressed with his work and recruited him to paint the mural on their building, which is a tribute to deceased son Andrew. A special mural reveal party was held on October 13th as part of the grand opening.
Ask the editor is a new column in the newsletter. If you have a question about something in the neighborhood, email it to editor@higlandparkpa.com and I will try to find the answer for you.

I recently received an email about a postcard that was sent out from Nextdoor. The person emailing me thought that Nextdoor was replacing the HPCC ListServ. That is NOT the case.

The Nextdoor participation numbers in Highland Park are lower because we have our own, strong ListServ in place and there is not necessarily a need to join both. They are sending postcards to our community to encourage more participation.

For example, the HPCC ListServ has 2200 people participating compared to Nextdoor’s 940 people (758 actual households) in Highland Park.

The HPCC ListServ is alive and well and available to everyone in the neighborhood. If you would like to join, simply go to hpccpgh.org and look for the sign-up link on the left side of the page.

SIGN UP FOR THE HP LISTSERV
Learn how to sign up for the Highland Park ListServ or go directly to the ListServ site.
Summer has moved along into Fall with something of a sense of disturbance in the wider world. Wars and rumors of war. The horrors of the mass murder in Las Vegas, the losses following hurricanes in Texas and the Gulf states, Florida, Puerto Rico and throughout the Caribbean, storms in Asia, earthquake in Mexico, wildfires in California and the West.

Through it all it has been encouraging both in the parish and the wider neighborhood to see such an immediate and abundant outpouring of prayer and concern and heartfelt generosity to support those whose lives have been turned upside down in so many ways. A reminder of what a very great blessing it is to live in a community of compassionate friends and neighbors—men and women, boys and girls, of all sorts and conditions, faith backgrounds, and stations of life. In a time of so much pain, also a reason for gratitude day by day.

Families and all of us in the neighborhood are reminded that we all are invited to the monthly St. Andrew’s Family Movie Night. On Friday evening, November 3rd, our feature film will be the 2014 animated hit, The Boxtrolls! See theboxtrolls.com for a preview. The movie gets rolling at about 6 p.m. in Barley Hall. Some refreshments are provided, but all are welcome to bring treats to share!

On the wider church calendar, the highlight of this season comes in the observance of the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls in early November. At St. Andrew’s this year, we remember the heroes of Christian life and our own loved ones with a special choral service of Lessons and Anthems on Tuesday, November 2, at 8 p.m., and on the Sunday after All Saints Day, November 5, at our 11 a.m. choral and orchestral service of the Holy Communion, with the Mozart Missa Brevis in G Major, under the direction of Guest Conductor Tom Octave. Always a beautiful and very meaningful service.

On the local scene our own Patronal Festival, the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, is observed each year on the Sunday morning before the Thanksgiving Holiday—so, November 19. Joining us at the 11 a.m. service that day once again will be our good friends of the Syria Highlanders Bagpipe and Drum Corps. Weather permitting, we’ll gather on the Hampton Street sidewalk a little before 11 a.m. to share the Highlanders with our Highland Park friends and neighbors!

Finally, looking just a bit further down the calendar page, we would note that on Thursday evening, December 7, at 8 p.m., the Parish Choir will be singing Choral Evensong for Advent, and with a recital following by our good friend Ethan LaPlaca, former Associate Organist here at St. Andrew’s and now Organist and Choirmaster at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Squirrel Hill. A seasonal dessert reception will follow.

St. Andrew’s has been on the corner of Hampton Street and North Euclid Avenue and at the heart of our Highland Park neighborhood for over 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 just need to find some space for a meeting or a family gathering, or to borrow a few chairs, we’ll be glad to help if we can. Call us at 412.661.1245, e-mail office@standrewspgh.org, visit our website www.standrewspgh.org, and “Like” our Facebook Page. We’re always glad to hear from you!
KITCHEN NOW OPEN!

5308 BUTLER ST. PITTSBURGH, PA
MONDAY-THURSDAY 4-11PM, FRIDAY 4-12PM,
SATURDAY 12AM-12PM
SHORT FILM ABOUT HIGHLAND PARK

View it here.

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Staging Tips:
CURB APPEAL
MAKE NEEDED REPAIRS - cosmetic & other
DE-CLUTTER
DE-PERSONALIZE
NEUTRALIZE with warm paint colors
GET NATURAL LIGHT in
SCALE DOWN furniture
City of Pittsburgh Trick or Treat
Tuesday, October 31st: 5:30pm-7:30pm

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