IN THIS ISSUE:

2 A Letter from the President

3 Upcoming Events

4 Super Playground Reborn

#LastSlide: A Tribute to the Original Super Playground

6 HPCC and Neighborhood Updates

Pittsburgh Stands with Ukraine

Welcome to New Bryant St. Businesses

From the Garden Club: For the Love of Neighbors and Gardening
Hello Neighbors!

It’s been a remarkable year. We somehow made it through a second full year of a pandemic doing our best to stay safe, keep sane and support one another. I’d like to thank the HPCC board and volunteers who, in the midst of it all, worked hard for our community in countless ways. Here are some of the highlights of how the HPCC served residents this year:

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
• New Super Playground design meetings and Hidden Mosaics project
• Historic Stone Bridge Restoration project meetings
• Meetings with two artists creating new public art installations for the park
• PWSA updates on the city’s Water Reliability Plan and Stormwater Plan, and on neighborhood projects

COMMUNITY BUILDING
• Welcomed special guest speakers at community meetings
  - Neighbor Mike Staresinic discussed Ukraine
  - 10.27 Healing Partnership discussed how to support one another in the wake of hate crimes and how to build a more inclusive community
  - Magistrate Judge Mik Pappas provided a virtual tour and explanation of his new office
• Provided HPCC Welcome Bags to new neighbors
• Applied for grants for new special programs
• Advocated for the community in meetings with the Mayor’s Office, Councilwoman Gross, Zone 5 Public Safety Community Committee, the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI), the Department of Public Safety, ALCOSAN, PWSA, the Zoo, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, the Negley Run Watershed Task Force and more!

BEHIND THE SCENES
• Welcomed new newsletter editor Nancy Gohring who updated the HPCC monthly newsletter format
• Provided HPCC Welcome Bags to new neighbors
• Applied for grants for new special programs
• Advocated for the community in meetings with the Mayor’s Office, Councilwoman Gross, Zone 5 Public Safety Community Committee, the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI), the Department of Public Safety, ALCOSAN, PWSA, the Zoo, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, the Negley Run Watershed Task Force and more!

EVENTS
• July 2021: Sponsor, Highland Park Garden Club’s first Garden Tour
• August & September 2021: Co-coordinator, Reservoir of Jazz
• September 2021: Neighborhood Yard Sale
• October 2021: 2nd Annual Pumpkin Patch
• November 2021: Thanksgiving Food Drive for Vintage seniors
• December 2021: Annual Light-up Night
• April/May 2022: Healthy Ride Bike Raffle
• May 2022: First in-person community meeting since 2020

BEAUTIFICATION
• Bryant St. parklet
• New neighborhood welcome signs

EVENTS
• May 2022:
• April/May 2022:
• December 2021:
• November 2021:

COMMUNITY BUILDING
• Welcomed special guest speakers at community meetings
  - Neighbor Mike Staresinic discussed Ukraine
  - 10.27 Healing Partnership discussed how to support one another in the wake of hate crimes and how to build a more inclusive community
  - Magistrate Judge Mik Pappas provided a virtual tour and explanation of his new office

BEHIND THE SCENES
• Welcomed new newsletter editor Nancy Gohring who updated the HPCC monthly newsletter format
• Applied for grants for new special programs
• Advocated for the community in meetings with the Mayor’s Office, Councilwoman Gross, Zone 5 Public Safety Community Committee, the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI), the Department of Public Safety, ALCOSAN, PWSA, the Zoo, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, the Negley Run Watershed Task Force and more!

“ The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”
— Mahatma Gandhi

Join us and find yourself in Highland Park this year.

Stephanie Walsh
President, Highland Park Community Council

Highland Park Community Yard Sale
Sunday, June 5 • 9 a.m.

Sign-up now for the city’s largest yard sale. HPCC members who register online will receive $5 off the $15 registration fee! Go to http://hpccpgh.org/yardsale. Not an HPCC member yet? You can join when you register.

Listings will be made available the day of the event both online and in hard copy (limited). Registrants will also receive a special yard sign to advertise their sale.

Highland Park Yard Sale Registration Form - Due May 30

Name __________________________ Street Address __________________________
Phone Number __________________________ Email Address __________________________
List Items For Sale (200 character limit) ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Please drop off or send in this form and a check made out to the HPCC for $15 to: Jason Griess, 827 Farragut St, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 Or save $5 by joining the HPCC and registering online at http://hpccpgh.org/yardsale

Stephanie Walsh
President, Highland Park Community Council

Highland Park Community Yard Sale
Sunday, June 5 • 9 a.m.

Sign-up now for the city’s largest yard sale. HPCC members who register online will receive $5 off the $15 registration fee! Go to http://hpccpgh.org/yardsale. Not an HPCC member yet? You can join when you register.

Listings will be made available the day of the event both online and in hard copy (limited). Registrants will also receive a special yard sign to advertise their sale.

Highland Park Yard Sale Registration Form - Due May 30

Name __________________________ Street Address __________________________
Phone Number __________________________ Email Address __________________________
List Items For Sale (200 character limit) ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Please drop off or send in this form and a check made out to the HPCC for $15 to: Jason Griess, 827 Farragut St, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 Or save $5 by joining the HPCC and registering online at http://hpccpgh.org/yardsale
A Super Duper Playground Transformation is UNDERWAY!

After many years of effort from community members and the City of Pittsburgh, the Highland Park Super Playground is undergoing its long-awaited transformation. At the time of this newsletter’s printing, the old playground has been demolished, and a new Super Playground is being built. The new playground has been designed with input from the community and promises to renew the Super Playground experience for the next generation. It keeps the wooden castle-peaked motif of the original Super Playground and extends the adventurous theme to include boats and sea creatures. The back of the new playground includes a “scramble” hill with natural features for kids to play on, while the main area of the playground has a new, multi-colored safety-surface ground good for running, pushing strollers or using wheelchairs. The new playground is slated to open summer 2022, so keep an eye out for an announcement for the grand re-opening celebration!

Mosaics coming to the new Super Playground!

The new Super Playground will have a mosaic mural sign at the entrance, created by the Pittsburgh Glass Center and featuring flowers made by community members at several public mosaic-making events hosted this spring. In addition, last fall the Highland Park Community Council invited community members to share ideas for “hidden” mosaics to be installed at the new Super Playground. We had many wonderful, creative entries. We want to thank and celebrate all the artists who contributed a concept. You can see all the entries on the next page. Twelve submissions have been selected as inspiration for small mosaics that will be installed in locations around the playground. These “hidden mosaics” will be brought to life by artists at the Pittsburgh Glass Center.

Visit http://hpccpgh.org/playground to learn more about the Super DUPER Playground transformation, see the full size images of each mosaic concept and view the 12 selected hidden mosaics.
Fun Memories!
- from Adrienne

"One last romp"
- from Adrienne

from Oregon to meet her new cousin Emma. While she was here, she experienced the thrill of exploring the new playground structure, through the above-ground tunnel built by her Uncle Dave.

"One more slide..."
- from S. Culyba

"Willy’s #LastSlide"
- from Stephanie

Built by community volunteers in 1991, the Super Playground has long been a place of joy for Pittsburghers. A whole generation grew up on this incredible wooden playground. Many who spent their childhood hours sliding, swinging, and racing among its castle peaks now have children of their own. With 31 years of memories, it is bittersweet to say goodbye to the original playground structure, though it has well exceeded its expected lifespan. While the new playground promises to renew the Super Playground experience for the next generation, we won’t soon forget the original! We asked community members to share memories from the Super Playground. Here are a few.

"During the summer of 1991 when the playground opened, our niece Jill came to visit us. I moved to Pittsburgh in 1992 at the age of nine years old. The Super Playground was a joyous part of my childhood for many years. That ground is sacred to many of us ‘90s kids who spent hours there on those long summer days. What began as a place to play, run and jump, morphed into a getaway for friends to share secrets, hopes and dreams. I cherish the memories made here and if that wood could talk, it would be filled with stories of joy, sadness, love, hope, despair and nearly every other emotion you could fathom. I look forward to the many memories that will be created for generations to come with the new plans. The playground may be leaving but our memories will never die.
- J. Weiss

"Fun Memories!"
- from the Volpe Family

#LastSlide
Celebrating Memories at the Super Playground

"One last romp"
- from Adrienne

"One more slide..."
- from S. Culyba

"Willy’s #LastSlide"
- from Stephanie

"Jill in 1991"
- from J. Weiss

"2012 & 2022"
- from Dany

PWSA
The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) is upgrading infrastructure and bringing more resilience to our water distribution system with several projects in the Highland Park neighborhood. In March, work kicked off to replace aging water mains and lead service lines in the southern portion of Highland Park. More information is found on PWSA’s website by searching “2022 Water Main Replacement - Highland Park”. As part of the Water Reliability Plan and the Rising Main Rehabilitation project, work has also begun on the covered reservoir near Bunker Hill Street. That work will also occur in the wooded area near the Pittsburgh Zoo in the park parallel to Bunkerhill Street. To learn more about these and other Water Reliability Plan projects, visit pgh2o.com/water.

Super Playground Trees
The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy is currently accepting donations to support tree planting at the Super Playground. Your donation will help fund trees, tree care and tree maintenance. Visit www.pittsburghparks.org/superplayground.

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and Commonplace Coffee have launched the Highland Park Blend, the fourth of five limited releases celebrating Pittsburgh’s regional parks. The Highland Park blend is 50% Mapendo, a coffee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and 50% Duomina, a coffee from Ethiopia. This vibrant and jazzy, 100% organically-produced blend is available for a limited time. To purchase a bag, visit commonplacecoffee.com/coffees, a Commonplace Coffee location or the Bryant Street Market. A quarter of the proceeds benefit the PPC.

Hello POGOH!
Welcome to the city’s new bike share program: POGOH (think “PGH” with “OO” for wheels). International shipping delays pushed back the launch but many of the initial 38 stations opened on May 2. Initially, half the fleet will be traditional pedal bikes and half e-assist bikes. During phase two, the plan is to add 27 more stations. Although no stations are currently planned for Highland Park, the HPCC is lobbying to change that! For more info, visit healthyridepgh.com.

UPDATES

Meeting Minutes
Join us each month to find out the latest and greatest happenings in the neighborhood.
Meetings are the third Thursday of the month (except July and December) at 7 p.m. Most meetings are held on Zoom and the agenda and registration info is posted on our website, our Facebook page (Highland Park Community Council Pittsburgh) and shared on the Highland Park Listserv. Past meeting minutes are available on the HPCC website at HPCCpgh.org/minutes. Our May meeting was a social event to kick-off the summer, and we also raffled off retired Healthy Ride bikes.

Rehabilitation project, work has also begun on the covered reservoir near Bunker Hill Street. That work will also occur in the wooded area near the Pittsburgh Zoo in the park parallel to Bunkerhill Street. To learn more about these and other Water Reliability Plan projects, visit pgh2o.com/water.

Highland Park Blend Coffee
The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and Commonplace Coffee have launched the Highland Park Blend, the fourth of five limited releases celebrating Pittsburgh’s regional parks. The Highland Park blend is 50% Mapendo, a coffee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and 50% Duomina, a coffee from Ethiopia. This vibrant and jazzy, 100% organically-produced blend is available for a limited time. To purchase a bag, visit commonplacecoffee.com/coffees, a Commonplace Coffee location or the Bryant Street Market. A quarter of the proceeds benefit the PPC.

Meetings are the third Thursday of the month (except July and December) at 7 p.m. Most meetings are held on Zoom and the agenda and registration info is posted on our website, our Facebook page (Highland Park Community Council Pittsburgh) and shared on the Highland Park Listserv. Past meeting minutes are available on the HPCC website at HPCCpgh.org/minutes. Our May meeting was a social event to kick-off the summer, and we also raffled off retired Healthy Ride bikes.

UPDATES

Meetings are the third Thursday of the month (except July and December) at 7 p.m. Most meetings are held on Zoom and the agenda and registration info is posted on our website, our Facebook page (Highland Park Community Council Pittsburgh) and shared on the Highland Park Listserv. Past meeting minutes are available on the HPCC website at HPCCpgh.org/minutes. Our May meeting was a social event to kick-off the summer, and we also raffled off retired Healthy Ride bikes.
While the Ukrainian refugee journey will be long and difficult, there are ways our community can get involved. All support, both direct and indirect, can help Hello Neighbor with their mission:

- Volunteer as mentors or tutors, or help with housing set ups
- Make a financial contribution
- Sponsor fundraisers
- Apply for a job (HN is hiring!)
- Sign up for the Hello Neighbor newsletter
- Follow their social media accounts
- Find ways to be kind to your neighbors
- Start by saying hello

For more information, visit www.helloneighbor.io.

By Bill Reier

Ukrainian refugees are fleeing their homes and their country by the millions. Currently, the Biden administration has committed to resettling 100,000 Ukrainians in the U.S. With Pennsylvania having the second highest number of Ukrainian-Americans of any state, we’ll likely see many of these refugees resettled in our region.

Hello Neighbor is no stranger to helping refugees start a new life in the Pittsburgh region. For the past five years, the non-profit located in nearby Larimer has been helping families get to a place of self-sufficiency. The organization, founded by Highland Park resident Sloane Davidson, began with matching refugee and immigrant families with neighbors as mentors, providing tutoring support for students, and supporting new and expectant mothers. After receiving federal funding last year however, the organization has grown to include resettlement services.

Most recently, Hello Neighbor has been instrumental in welcoming nearly 700 Afghan refugees to the Pittsburgh area. Community support is crucial to helping families get settled. “Hello Neighbor was born in a neighborhood that wants to help,” Davidson said. For a prime example, look no further than St. Andrew’s church on Hampton St. “They have gone above and beyond,” she said, “providing meeting spaces, volunteers, supply drives and more.”

For more information, visit www.helloneighbor.io.
The pandemic has been tough on many small businesses but Bryant St. is bustling, including with a few new storefronts that opened in the past year and a half. Three of them – Anna Skin Care, Bryant Street Barbershop, and Midland Architecture – were established elsewhere and moved to the neighborhood, in most cases because they needed more space.

**BSB Brings Haircuts – and Comedy – to Bryant St.**

By Bill Reier

Long hair, man-buns and at-home buzz cuts were fads that we didn’t see coming when this decade started. Spurned by safety concerns, joblessness and cost-cutting, people everywhere took to new low-maintenance hairstyles. This put pressure on those in the neighborhood, including Redd’s in Brentwood.

With business down and their lease ending, this group of shearers started looking for a new spot to hang their aprons. As luck would have it, one of them – Anna Skin Care, owner of Anna Lambert, decided to move her shop closer to Bryant St. – was complete, Lambert signed the lease. And then COVID hit. She was able to delay the move, opening in the new space this past December. Lambert now has four rooms instead of just one and has been able to hire two facialists.

Worried at first about whether her customers would follow her to the new location, Lambert hasn’t seen a downturn in business and reports that her customers are happy with easier parking in Highland Park. “The space is nice. It’s pretty, peaceful and more spa-like,” Lambert said.

Anna Skin Care specializes in holistic facials and a popular anti-acne program. If passersby see Lambert or one of her facialists in the reception area, pop in to browse the holistic and organic skin care products for sale.

**Bryant St. Gets a Spa Treatment**

By Nancy Gohring

Anna Lambert, owner of Anna Skin Care, lived in Morningside for about ten years and was in Highland Park often, walking her dogs in the park or meeting friends at Park Bruges. During those visits to the neighborhood she watched as the building on the corner of Bryant St. and N. Saint Clair St. was updated. After running her shop in Shadyside for 15 years, Lambert was “overwhelmingly busy” and wanted to hire help to expand the business but didn’t have the space at her former location.

Once the renovation of the corner building – 5802 Bryant St. – was complete, Lambert signed the lease. The next BSB comedy night will be June 16, with doors open at 7:30 p.m. and tickets $10.

**The HGTV Bryant St. Connection**

By Nancy Gohring

Fans of HGTV star Leanne Ford may be pleased to know that architect Greg Dutton, who appears in the first couple seasons of Ford’s show, is one of the founders of Midland Architecture, the firm that has taken up residence next to the magistrate court. Dutton is based in Columbus, Ohio, while co-founder Matt Dierson is located in the new Highland Park office.

Dierso, who lives in Morningside, has been riding out the pandemic working from home but previously had an office in the converted former St. Mary of the Assumption church on 5th St. in Lawrenceville. “It was really nice to be there... but then in March 2020 it went from very affordable to an expensive storage space,” Dierson said.

He heard about the space on Bryant St. via a contact at the Highland Park Community Development Corp. and soon remembered that long before the building was constructed he helped develop the design. While working for Moss Architects, Dierson and his co-workers are still setting up the space but he’s happy to chat with anyone who might need the help of an architect. The firm has done a number of projects in Highland Park and primarily takes on residential work with some commercial jobs mixed in.

**Clair St. was updated. After running her shop in**

1218 North Euclid Avenue Highland Park
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
LaSolasPGH.com
The club’s reach extends well beyond the gardens of our own beautiful neighborhood. One of our charter members became a Master Gardener, pledging to share gardening knowledge learned through a rigorous training program. Another member was featured on the website of Wild Ones Native Plants, a group supporting the growing of native plants, for her efforts to transform her property in Allison Park into a native plant and wildlife oasis. Two other garden club members from Morningside are hosting a summer celebration potluck at their recently established memorial garden in a spirited and wooded hillside of Millvale.

We have also welcomed so many new members in recent years, each adding new skills, talents and personalities to the group. The first three Zoom programs of 2022 are presented by new member and owner of Wild Child Native Nursery, whose knowledge of urban gardening and soil health is a great resource to educate our members and our community.

For more information about the Highland Park Garden Club, including upcoming programs, articles, news and events, please visit our website at www.hpgcphg.org, or Facebook page “Highland Park Garden Club Pittsburgh.” Anyone is invited to join the HPGC. We hope to see you out in the gardens soon!
The mission of the Highland Park Community Council is to take a leading role in community activities that address issues of common interest and concern and that promote a safe and healthy neighborhood for the diverse residents of Highland Park.

**Officers**
- **President:** Stephanie Walsh
- **Vice President:** Sabrina Culyba
- **Treasurer:** Howard Degenholtz
- **Secretary:** Judy Beck

**Board of Directors**
- Justin Bhagat
- Jim Blakley
- Jim Holtzman

**HPCC Contact Info**
- **Email:** HPCCPgh@gmail.com
- **Facebook:** Highland Park Community Council Pittsburgh
- **Mailing address:** PO Box 5036, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Visit our website – hpccpgh.org – to sign up for the HPCC e-newsletter and blog, subscribe to the Highland Park Listserv and become an HPCC member. Your membership makes our work possible!

---

**CITY OF PITTSBURGH**

**Emergency**
- 9-1-1
- Police, fire, EMS
- Duquesne Light
- 412-393-7000
- Outage or emergency
- Duquesne Light
- 412-393-7100
- Non-emergency

**City Response Center**
- 3-1-1 or myBurgh app
- for Android and iOS
- Non-emergency
city issues

**PWSA**
- 412-255-2423
- Water or sewer issues & emergencies

**Duquesne Light**
- 412-393-7000
- Outage or emergency
- 412-393-7100
- Non-emergency

**Councilwoman Deb Gross**
- 412-255-2140
- Email: district7@pittsburghpa.gov

**CitiParks**
- 412-255-2539
- https://pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks

**What is 3-1-1?** Want the city to do something about graffiti or derelict properties? Wildlife problems? Trash or litter? Potholes, parking or traffic issues? Use the City’s 3-1-1 Response Center to inform the city about these and other non-emergency issues. Call 3-1-1 from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday - Friday and speak to a live operator or use the myBurgh app for Android and iOS 24/7.

**OPEN HAND MINISTRIES**

We make it possible for families to purchase their first home. Workdays every 1st Saturday of the month. Join us.

COME MAKE THE DREAM A REALITY IN YOUR BACKYARD! WE HAVE ROOM FOR YOU!

---

**Resources & References**

---

**VINTAGE FURNITURE WITH A TWIST.**

At GALLERY AMA we believe in resoring quality vintage furniture and adding an artistic flair. All of our pieces are creatively made by hand & can bring any room to life!

**UNIQUE HOME FURNISHINGS**

GALLERY AMA

1221 Milbrae Way, Highland Park Business District

412-841-5725
The HPCC needs you:

JOIN TODAY!
Visit HPCCPgh.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HPCC SPRING &amp; SUMMER SPECIAL EVENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>JUNE 3 - 5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidewalk Chalk-a-Palooza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhoodwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JUNE 5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yard Sale &amp; Bryant Street Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhoodwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m. - 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JUNE 5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryant Street Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryant St. from Highland Ave. to N. St. Clair St., noon - 4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JUNE 23</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland Park Hullabaloo - Neighborhood Picnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhododendron Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 p.m. - 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUG. 7 - SEPT. 4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sundays</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reservoir of Jazz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland Park, main entrance, 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MONTHLY (except July)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd Thursday</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPCC Community Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoom, 7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>