



Crescent Hills — Civic Association —



Letter from the President

When my sister and I were little, we would make bouquets of dandelions and run to our family's church to give them to our pastor's wife. Dad would shovel snow for the lady who lived across the street. She in turn gave us her son's old basketball hoop for our driveway. My best friend lived next door to his grandma, and I thought that was so cool!

I have these distinct memories from my youth, mostly before my teens, of where I lived that every home was open to me. I need only knock and kindness would greet me.

Maybe you remember something similar. Maybe it wasn't people's homes but a place. There was a creek and us kids would swim there sometimes. There was a tree fort that someone's big brother built in the woods behind the cemetery and it was the perfect battleground for Nerf.

At some point these experiences became past tense - something from another time, another era. Life wasn't that anymore.

But why couldn't it be? Why not assume kindness behind every door?

I'll let you in on a little secret. If you live in this community, every house you pass is filled with interesting stories and people with talent, wisdom, and kindness to share.

And it isn't in the form of a social media follow, or even a funny meme. It's life!

I'm not here to tell you how to engage with your world. I'm a quiet, introverted person. I stockpile screentime with the best of them. But the reality is that, since I've been engaged with this organization, the 'connectedness' I now have feels like an extension of what I felt in my hometown growing up, back in an era where a computer wasn't in everyone's pocket and Mom would send us outside if we watched too much TV.

If you haven't yet, I encourage you to join us. Start small. Show up to some free activities. Attend a picnic. Play volleyball or do yoga. If able-bodied, pick up litter or clean up the park. Come to a meeting and listen. Keep it up and soon you'll realize everyone is connected.

We look forward to seeing you!

Tim Mizerak
CHCA President

Events calendar

- 5/9 - Final Day to Order Plants
- 5/23 - Plant Sale Order Pickup (10am-12pm @ the Park)
- 5/25 - Memorial Day Picnic (1pm-4pm @ the Park)
- 6/1 thru Aug - Monday Night Volleyball (6pm)
- 6/4 thru 7/30 - Thursday Night Yoga (6:30pm)
- 6/6 - Litter pickup (7:45am)
- 6/13 - Neighborhood Yard Sale (9am-Noon)
- 7/14 - Board Meeting (7pm @ the Park)
- 8/15 - Litter Pickup (7:45am)
- 10/17 - Litter Pickup (7:45am)

Crescent Hills Civic Association Announces Community Plant Sale

The Crescent Hills Civic Association (CHCA) invites residents to take part in its annual Community Plant Sale, a spring fundraiser benefiting neighborhood programs and park improvements. Pre-orders are now open, with plant pickup scheduled for May 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Crescent Hills Park, 141 Sycamore Drive.

Community members may preorder a variety of popular spring annuals to refresh gardens and outdoor spaces just in time for the growing season. In addition to preordered plants, a limited selection of homegrown perennials, herbs, and select vegetable plants cultivated by a Crescent Hills resident will be available for purchase during pickup while supplies last.

Proceeds from the plant sale directly support CHCA, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the neighborhood through community events, family activities, and ongoing park upkeep. Funds raised help maintain Crescent Hills Park and support programs that bring neighbors together throughout the year.

Plant selections, ordering details, and additional information about the Civic Association's mission can be found at <https://crescenthills.org>, where visitors will also find the secure Zeffy link to place orders. Residents are encouraged to order early and support this community-driven effort to keep Crescent Hills vibrant and welcoming. Share with everyone you know that loves to garden!

In Neighborhood News

Andrea Getsy

We extend condolences to the families of:

Irene "Nina" Seftick, 50-year- resident of Hathaway Court, who passed away on April 8 at the extraordinary age of 99. Irene lived with her husband of 64 years and 3 children and left behind many grand- and great-grandchildren. She was reportedly an amazing cook and gracious host, who at the age of 99 still retained her sharp wit and sharper memory. She was much loved by her Hathaway Court neighbors.



Charles "Chuck" McKelvey, long time resident of Earlwood Dr., died on March 26, 2026. Chuck was an architect and one of the advocates for keeping the Penn Hills Municipal Bldg. In his obit, Chuck asked that memorial donations be made to his favorite organization: Crescent Hills Civic Association.

James Fields, former resident of Spring Grove Road and teacher in Penn Hills School District for 30 years.

Angela Theofolis, mother of Peter (Lori) Theofolis and grandmother of the late Paramedic, Nicholas Theofolis of Crescent Hills Road on her recent passing.

Malcolm Brown of Bloomington, Indiana, beloved grandfather of Samantha Moik of Garlow Drive, CHCA's Corresponding Secretary on his recent passing.

Diana Lamoureux, of Jacksonville, FL, adored mother of our CHCA Treasurer Rose Lamoureux, of Glenfield Drive died at the age of 96.

And our congratulations to:

Kristin and Jim McCrory of Spring Grove Rd. on the birth of a baby girl Joanna, now five months old.

Richard and Susan Brok on the birth of a new grandson Emmett.

Penn Hills High School senior and Crescent Hills resident Ka'Miyrah Robinson will attend Robert Morris University in fall 2026 on a full scholarship, where she plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in computer science. Her dedication and hard work has led to this outstanding achievement, and her family and community are incredibly proud as she takes this exciting next step toward a bright future.



Litter Committee

Jim DiMunno, CHCA Litter Chair

Hello, all you intrepid Litter Warriors!

Well, Spring certainly did uncover a Winter bonanza of garbage discarded along the byways about our neighborhood, and our faithful band of concerned neighbors came out to dispatch the task!

Eight of us (including two folks from outside the neighborhood) came on a bright and chilly Saturday morning of March 28th, where we collected a total of 25 bags of refuse to be disposed of by PennDOT. Good times! It was us doing our little bit to assist in the Pittsburgh-wide "redd up" initiative undertaken by the city in preparation for the vaunted NFL Draft event. We on the Board want to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone that came out to pitch in and do the tough work of caring for our environment! We are very much appreciative for the willingness these folks demonstrate every time they show up to help. We hope that more people will continue to combat the seemingly incessant flow of litter that sullies our streets. Streets we call home.

We have three more collection events coming up for the remainder of the year:

Saturday, June 6th, 8-10am
Saturday, August 15th, 8-10am
Saturday, October 17th, 8-10am

We meet at the Community Park, on Sycamore Dr., at about 7:45am

Thank-you, everyone involved: Rose & Tim Mizerak, Dennis O'Malley, Judy Conroy, Susan Chikalla, Cathy Fabry, and Mary Overtan!

MLK Salad Luncheon

Andrea Getsy

The frigid weather did not deter 55 people from attending our traditional luncheon that featured Brendan Becker, curator of the newly opened Bloop Museum. Brendan gave a 45- minute presentation of his electronic entertainment museum that features computers, games, media and gadgets. The museum is located at the former municipal building and is open to walk-ins on Wednesdays from 10am to 6pm. Private tours too can be scheduled.

Also at this year's luncheon, our State Representative Joe McAndrew and Mayor Calabrese announced a \$63,052 grant from the PA State Local Share Account. These funds are targeted at the renovation of our park's tennis court. Look for the renovations to start later this summer or even fall. Please be patient - it will happen.

Twenty area businesses contributed coupons, gift cards, and gift items to create 17 raffle baskets including such favorites as a golf package for four from Three Lakes. Crescent Hills residents donated their own crafts, raffle baskets or items to enhance the business baskets. All of this provided the ability to hold a swell party plus raise almost \$500 in profit. Thank you to everyone who braved the cold and especially thank you to the Crescent Hills residents who generously shared their talents and gifts to add additional baskets: Wendy Redington, Sheila Frobuccino, Mimi Marko Eberle and Linda Bluemle of Spring Grove Rd; Susan Chikalla of Hathaway Court; Chris Miller formerly of Garlow Drive; Julie Madera of Glenfield Drive; Andrea Getsy of Crescent Hills Rd.; and Rose and Tim Mizerak of Springdale Drive. In addition to all this, six residents gathered the raffles items, eleven residents volunteered to create the baskets, make and serve the soup and refreshments, sell tickets and membership. The January Luncheon looks like a seamless event, but it is a result of teamwork.

MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC 2026

Free food, great music, and lots of fun! You are invited to the Crescent Hills Memorial Day picnic on Monday, May 25, immediately following the Penn Hills parade, approximately 1:30 p.m. Our picnic is a neighborhood tradition and the best way to start the summer! Join us at 3pm to review the work that's been done at the park this past year (much of which was made possible by our members and donors).

Are you a grill boss? Volunteer to take a one-hour slot grilling! Food and grill provided, just e-mail us to get in the grill game. Hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks, lemonade, water and chips will be available. Donations are accepted but not required. Attendees are encouraged to bring a dish to share (one that is not affected by the heat). BYOB is fine too.

Challenge a friend to a corn hole game. Bring balls, trikes, scooters for children to play on the painted playground. This event is happening at Crescent Hills Park, 141 Sycamore Drive. Members can renew and pick up their new Crescent Hills directory.



MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC



Monday May 25

1:30pm-6pm, after the parade!

Food, Games, & Music

Local Business Showcase

It is important that we support our local businesses. As space allows, we want to include mentions of neighbors or neighboring businesses you may like to support. Submit your business to crescenthillscivicasociation@gmail.com



Cluttered? Moving? Inherited a lot? Just relocated? Be Clear Now can help.

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Learn more at: Belearnow.truthdancer.com – Thriving for all your spaces.

Bus Line Changes Impacting Service in Crescent Hills



Bus Line Redesign Refresh

Your Bus Network: Familiar Routes, Stronger Connections

We heard you!

We're making fewer changes and focusing on improving today's system.

Learn more about the second draft and give your input at: BusLineRefresh.com

Learn more and share your thoughts on route additions/changes in our neighborhood:

<https://engage.rideprt.org/buslineredesign/BLR-route72>

<https://engage.rideprt.org/buslineredesign/BLR-route77>

Membership

Jan Yanko

Dear Crescent Hills Neighbor,

The Crescent Hills Civic Association is an active community organization involved with updating and maintaining a park and bus shelters, hosting neighborhood activities such as holiday picnics and children's reading sessions, networking with other civic organizations and the municipal services. Our revenue for these activities is mainly dependent on Crescent Hills residents' annual membership dues and park funding.

We are now beginning our membership drive for 2026. Please consider joining/renewing your Crescent Hills Civic Association donations for the 2026 year to help our to continue and expand activities and programs and also donating to the park. Also, you can share your input regarding current Civic Association activities and suggestions for new activities by contacting any board member listed in the quarterly newsletter.

Checks for both membership fee, which is \$20, and park donations can be sent to:

Crescent Hills Civic Association P.O. Bo 17055 Pittsburgh, PA 15235

or you can donate using Zeffy at tinyurl.com/CHCADonate2026

PARK NEWS

Jan K

Easter Egg Hunt

For almost 40 years, this annual event on Easter Saturday has showcased the best of Crescent Hills: energetic children, helpful volunteers and a pleasant green space. On April 4, 60-70 children enjoyed playing games and limbo-ing under the bunny stick. Then they gathered eggs and visited the Easter Bunny, who distributed treat bags.

Thanks to volunteers Julie and Alaina Madera, Andrea Getsy, Linda Bluemle, Ed Blazina, Rosie Perer, Susan Chikalla, Beth and Jan Kukucka and Mayor Pauline Calabrese. Thanks also to our two limbo pros, Ozzie Zeibak and Jack Marshall. And a special thanks to Alexandra Newby, who is married, has a doctorate and a job but still found time to be our community-minded Easter Bunny for the 17th year.

Sports court project

The court drainage system was created in 2004 and improved/updated in 2024 by Folino Construction through a federal stimulus grant. This engineer-directed system led to the creation of a rain garden in the mostly clay field below the court to help absorb the drainage.

The garden is designed to be several feet below the surface of the field and is lined with limestone and mulch to absorb the water and allow flowers to grow. For safety, a fence was built around the garden to prevent people and animals from falling into the garden. Unfortunately, a rough winter took its toll on the first attempt at a solid fence because of the clay soil around the garden. Now that spring has arrived, more work will be done to provide a stronger fence.

The CHCA has secured a state grant of \$62,052 that will be used to resurface the court. Once the state notifies Penn Hills the money is available, the CHCA will seek bids and follow all grant rules to complete the resurfacing. The intention is to seal cracks and add asphalt or another specialized playing surface material. Then we will decide which sports will be played on the court. Stay tuned!

Other park projects

Replacing the cover on the tan "fort."

Laying more limestone dust on the walking trail.

Replacing shingles on the storage shed roof.

Clean-up days

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, May 7

For the fifth year, students from Trinity Christian School will volunteer to clean up the park

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 16

We're seeking neighborhood volunteers to help rake leaves, pick up sticks and lay mulch in play areas and gardens. We also will be relocating a large pile of sawdust left behind from Duquesne Light Co.'s tree removal in October. Please bring rakes and wheelbarrows if you have them.

Park reminders

Crescent Hills Park is not available for rental. If you want to use the grounds for a picnic/event, know that the park will still be open for others. Also, be aware that there are parking and noise limitations. No one gets paid to clean up after a gathering, so please be considerate of your neighbors and take garbage and recyclables home with you.

Call 911 if you see illegal activities like pot smoking, underage drinking, fighting or equipment being damaged.

No fireworks or open flames in the park.

No dumping of garbage or yard waste anywhere on park grounds.

Dog walkers, please keep your pet leashed. Other dogs, people and deer can suddenly appear and provoke an unwanted reaction from your dog. And all dogs must be on a leash according to a Penn Hills municipal ordinance.

The park closes at dusk and a chain is placed across the entrance beginning in the spring. Violators could cause neighbors to call the police.

The park is owned by the neighborhood and the cost of maintaining it is about \$7,500 a year. This amount includes grass cutting, equipment repairs, storm damage, porta potty rental, insurance, taxes, material for events, and landscaping supplies like limestone and mulch. If you haven't donated to the park this year, please consider a donation to help cover these costs.

OFFICERS

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Tim Mizerak

timothymizerak@gmail.com

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Vacant

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Rose Lamoureux

Recording Secretary

Vacant

Corresponding Secretary

Samantha Moik

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Vacant

Immediate Past President

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Jan Yanko

Park

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