

September 2013

Highland Park

Community Council Newsletter

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Back to School

A Letter from the President



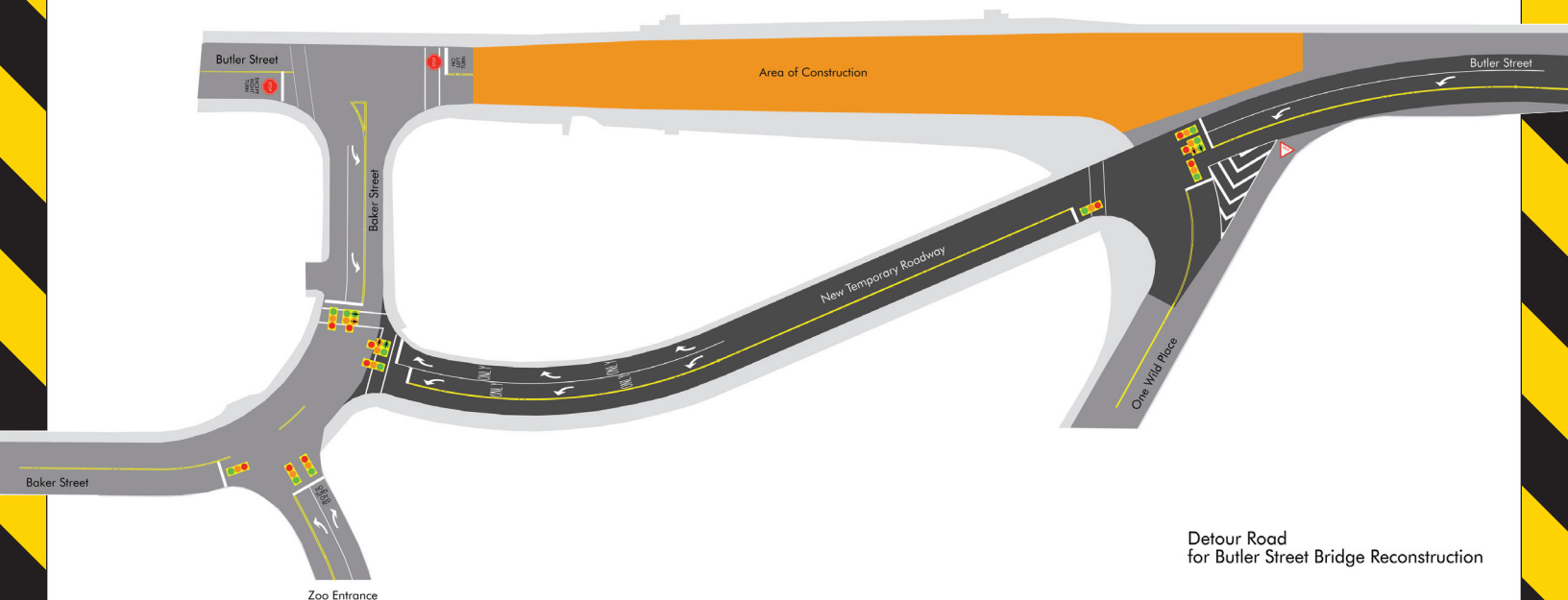
The beginning of September normally marks the end of our busiest season in Highland Park, but fall is lining-up to be almost as exciting as the summer.

First-up is the Heth's Run Bridge replacement project. PennDOT will begin construction on a temporary detour roadway through the lower Zoo parking lot at the end of September. This two lane roadway will divert traffic from the Highland Park side of the bridge, through the parking lot behind the gas station and out onto Baker Street, just below the Zoo entrance. PennDOT will close the

bridge around November 1st, when the temporary roadway is complete. The project will take a full year to complete.

This project will no doubt present challenges for Highland Park and Morningside residents, but it is a temporary and necessary inconvenience. For more information on the project including renderings of the bridge design and a detailed construction timetable, visit the HPCC website.

The diagram below demonstrates the detour well.



CITY OF PITTSBURGH



Next up on the calendar is the election of a new City Council person for District 7.

Patrick Dowd's resignation from City Council this summer was a surprise. I worked closely with Patrick on many projects and appreciated his service to Highland Park and the City. I wish him the best of luck in his new endeavor. Although Patrick is gone, you will see in this newsletter that his staff is still hard at work in District 7.

That said, it is now up to the District 7 communities to elect someone new to represent us in city government.

I am pleased to announce that all five candidates vying for the District 7 seat have agreed to attend the October HPCC meeting to present their platform to the neighborhood. This is the perfect opportunity for you to meet them and ask questions that are pertinent to Highland Park or one of the other neighborhoods in District 7: Lawrenceville, Morningside, Polish Hill, Stanton Heights, parts of Bloomfield, East Liberty and Garfield.

The meeting will be held October 17 at the Union Project at 7:00 p.m. All of the District 7 communities are invited to attend.

Candidates include:

Tony Ceoffe of Lawrenceville
Thomas Fallon of Morningside
Deb Gross of Highland Park
David Powell of Morningside
James Wudarczyk of Bloomfield

Our goal at the HPCC is to function in an unbiased and non-partisan manner for all of Highland Park. We strive to have good relationships with all candidates and elected officials so that we can ably serve the community. Per our bylaws, the HPCC will not be endorsing any candidate for any office in the City of Pittsburgh.

We instead prefer to provide a forum for our members and friends in the communities surrounding our neighborhood to meet all candidates and develop their own opinions.

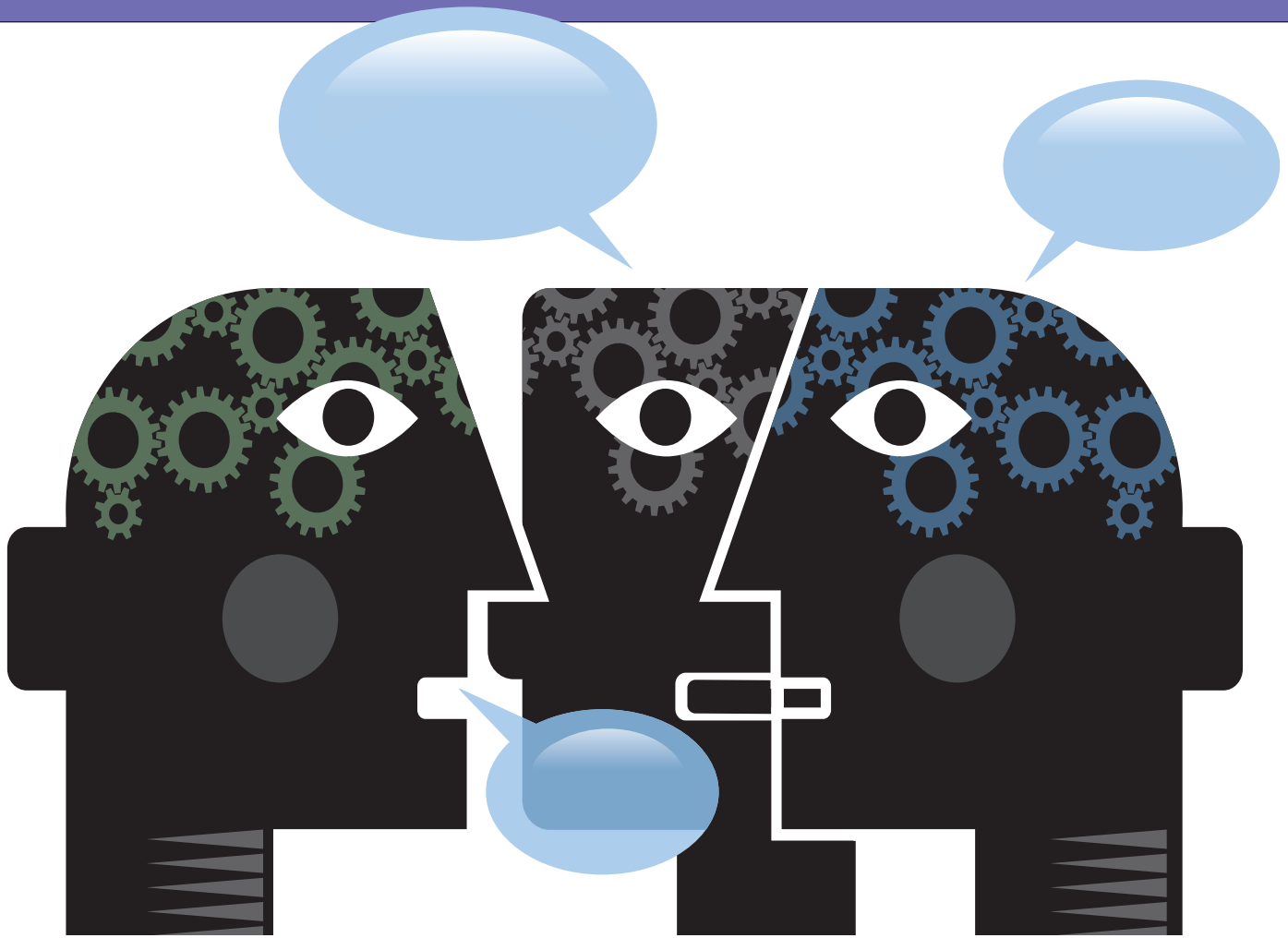
For those who are not familiar with City Council and may not understand the

importance of this seat to the neighborhood, the following from the city's website might be helpful:

Pittsburgh's City Council is composed of nine members. Each member represents one council district, and is appointed to be the chairperson of a committee which corresponds to a city department. A one council representative per district system has not always been the electoral procedure for this legislative body. Formerly members were elected to Pittsburgh's City Council by way of at large elections where no particular member represented any specific district, but instead the entire council represented the whole City of Pittsburgh. In 1989, this form of representation was changed in order to insure that all Pittsburghers receive adequate representation that they could choose individually.

City Council is the legislative branch of government. It carries out duties in accordance with the Home Rule Charter and the laws of the state, and is primarily responsible for making laws which govern the City of Pittsburgh. City Council proposes, debates, and votes on legislation governing and/or affecting the city. This body also approves appointments as provided by the Charter, regulates revenues and expenditures, incurs debt, and approves the final operating and capital budgets for the city. Council is responsible for the introduction of legislation generated by the administrative branch of city government. Council may also introduce legislation generated by individual Council Members or Council as a body.

Monica Watt
HPCC President



HPCC July Meeting Minutes

Monica Watt, HPCC President, called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm with a quorum present.

Monica spoke about the House Tour, which is being planned in conjunction with the Junior League on Mother's Day weekend next year. The Junior League has agreed to partner with the HPCC in doing a house tour where the planning of the event and the proceeds will be split between the two organizations. Volunteers will be needed to assist with this event.

A walking tour of the area bounded by Portland, Wellesley, Jackson and N. Euclid was held in early August, where representatives from the Police, Building Inspection, Council District 7 and the Mayor's Office took note of issues in the area. Council District 7 office organized the walk to alert City officials of problems/issues, and for the Police and BBI to report on current efforts to remedy the issues.

The pedestrian safety study has been reviewed by the City, but there are no dates on when/if the suggestions will be implemented.

Nominations are needed for the 2013-2014 year Officers and Board members. The current Officers, Monica Watt (President), David Atkinson (Vice President), Paul Miller (Treasurer) and Bob Staresinic (Secretary) were nominated for another term. Three Board positions are open for the coming year, and elections are held at the September meeting.

Carol Spencer Royall, Director of Quality Experience at the Union Project, spoke about recent upcoming events, as how the small staff continues to encourage community in the East End.

A meeting to discuss the Heth's Run Bridge project will be held on August 27th at St Raphael School on Chislett street.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. The next meeting will be Thursday, September 19th, at the Union Project, 801 N. Negley Avenue, starting at 7:00 pm.



Be A Middle School Mentor at the Obama Academy this Fall

By David Atkinson

Share your knowledge, time and work experience with a child and you'll both gain something important along the way. Join the biggest mentoring project in the region's history and show our local kids that anything's possible when they know the education and career opportunities that await.

Be a mentor at the Obama Academy for an hour a week and not only will a child gain critical real-world experience, you'll see the joy that comes with making a difference. Meetings will be held Thursdays during the students' lunch hour (12:35-1:26) from October until May. The Obama Academy of International Studies is located at the intersection of N. Highland Ave. and East Liberty Boulevard in the former Peabody High School.

Middle school students are at a crossroads, so this program is designed to help those in Pittsburgh Public Schools understand how many options they have when they stay in school and stay involved. No longer "little kids", middle school students are faced with a world of decisions. Research proves that mentors can influence good choices such as staying focused in school and making plans for the future - including college and a career.

Many middle school students view the world through a lens the size of their daily lives. By exposing students to people and careers beyond their everyday experiences, they're open to a broader range of opportunities for their own futures.

This program is run by the United Way of Allegheny County. Call 412-456-6770 or go to www.beamiddleschoolmentor.org to fill out an online application.



be a
middle school
mentor.org

Taking a Closer



at the Southwest Quadrant of Highland Park

By Moira Egler

On a beautiful August day, community stakeholders met with City officials for a walk-through organized by the District 7 staff of an area of Highland Park currently going through a substantial transition. Known as the Southwest Quadrant, the focus area of the walk was contained within the 800 and 900 blocks of Portland, Mellon, North St. Clair, and North Euclid, as well as the 5600-5800 blocks of Wellesley and Jackson streets. Representatives from Pittsburgh Police, the Bureau of Building Inspection (BBI), Mayor Luke Ravenstahl's office, and the City Council District 7 office staff joined representatives from the Highland Park Community Development Corporation (HPCDC) and Highland Park Community Council (HPCC) to review the area on foot.

for criminal activity. Specifically, Pittsburgh Police Zone 5 Commander Timothy O'Connor noted a large number of arrests made in the 900 block of a particular street this year. He also arranged to have 2 cars towed that were identified during the walk.

One primary goal of the tour was to open dialogue regarding this transitional area of Highland Park between representatives from the City of Pittsburgh and the neighborhood. Many participants agreed that the walk was a success, noting that the tour brought varied stakeholders together to work toward improving the quality of life for residents of the area.

The District 7 office looks forward to witnessing the further growth and transformation of this beautiful and historic section of Highland Park.

Participants followed a pre-determined route through the Southwest Quadrant. Focusing mainly on property conditions and maintenance issues, City representatives listened to comments and answered questions from residents regarding neglected properties and hot-spots



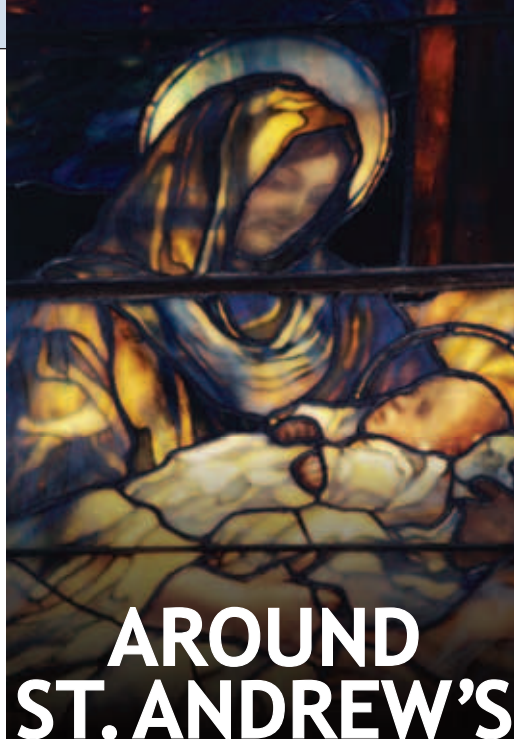
There's a lot a-jumble around Old St. Andrew's this fall, as our construction and renovations continue to provide enhanced accessibility and expanded resources for the parish and the neighborhood. Nonetheless, still a lot going on!

October is traditionally the month of the St. Andrew's Lecture, and this month, on Friday the 18th of October at 8 p.m. we'll welcome Jim Cunningham of WQED-FM as our Lecturer--and with a view to celebrating our city and region as a national and

global leader in

the areas of music and the arts. Please join us to meet and hear from a gifted communicator with a unique perspective.

Two services of Choral Evensong are on our schedule in October as well. On Thursday evening the 3rd the



AROUND ST. ANDREW'S

By Bruce Robison, Rector

service, at 8 p.m., will be sung by the St. Andrew's Parish Choir, and then following the service we'll have much fun with a recital presented by our good friends of the Bloomfield Liedertafel. On Sunday afternoon, October 20, at 4:30 p.m., the service will be sung by the St. Andrew's Schola Cantorum. Our Guest Preacher for that service will be the Rev. Dr. David Gleason, recently retired Senior Pastor of the First Lutheran Church in downtown Pittsburgh and one of the long-time leaders in our downtown community.

Sunday mornings at St. Andrew's during this season are a bit of a scramble as our Nursery, Church School classes, Youth and Adult Education groups are all finding ways to meet in unfamiliar rooms and offices in the Old Rectory. Our services continue at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays, with midweek service at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays, and there is of course a great spirit of enthusiasm about the new resources emerging. It's going to be a very exciting spring indeed!





St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
5801 Hampton Street
Highland Park
Pittsburgh
412-661-1245
www.standrewspgh.org

The Rev. Dr. Bruce Monroe Robison, Rector
The Rev. Jean D. Chess, Deacon
Peter J. Luley, Organist & Choirmaster

Sunday Morning Services

9 a.m. Holy Communion, in the Chapel
11 a.m. Choral Holy Communion
(Choral Morning Prayer on the 2nd Sunday of the month)
Nursery Care, 8:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Adult Bible Study, Church School and Youth Programs, Sunday Mornings, 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Morning Service

Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.
Rector's Bible Study 11:15 a.m. - Noon

Choral Evensong

First Thursday of the Month, 8 p.m.
Third Sunday of the Month, 4:30 p.m.

HPCC Officers

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Monica Watt (412) 980-4208

Vice President

Dave Atkinson

Treasurer

Paul Miller (412) 365-0675

Secretary

Bob Staresinic (412) 441-8972

HPCC Directors

Eric Randall

Lynn Banker-Burns (412) 361-8863

Teri Rucker (412) 482-2533

Nancy Schultz

Glen Schultz

Laura Smith

Vernon Simmons

Janine Seale

Christine Adams

HPCC Committees

Beautification -

Nancy Levine-Arnold

Children's Events -

Teri Rucker (412) 482-2533

Education - Dave Atkinson

House Tour - OPEN

Finance - Glen Schultz

Membership - Kelly Meade (412) 362-0331
membership@highlandparkpa.com

Newsletter - Monica Watt (412) 980-4208
editor@highlandparkpa.com

Nominating - Bob Staresinic (412) 441-8972

Public Safety -

Lynn Banker-Burns (412) 361-8863
public-safety@highlandparkpa.com

Reservoir of Jazz - Tania Grubbs

Super Playground -

Monica Watt (412) 361-7902 &
Vernon Simmons (412) 661-1366

Yard Sale - Paul Miller (412) 365-0675

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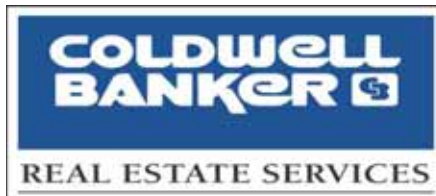
**Lou Iezzi &
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5703 Bryant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-362-7022 • louiezzijr@aol.com



412-363-4000 ext 205

lisa.solomon@pittsburghmoves.com



5996 Penn Circle South
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