

October 2016

Highland Park

Community Council Newsletter

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City of Pittsburgh's official trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, October 31

A Letter from the President

Hello Neighbors!

For those of you I haven't met, my name is Jake Pawlak, and I'm honored to have been chosen to serve as the new President of the Highland Park Community Council. Our organization and our neighborhood are among the best in the city, and I look forward to working with you to continue our success in building a vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming community in Highland Park.

In addition to myself, the HPCC has two other new Officers: Scott Dietrich, who has taken over for Dave Atkinson as Vice President, and Christine Adams, who succeeds Bob Staresinic as Secretary; Paul Miller is remaining as Treasurer. Monica's September President's letter paid well-deserved tribute to our departing Officers as well as Kelly Vitti, our departing Board Member, but I'd also like to take this opportunity, on behalf the HPCC Board and the community at large, to offer them all our heartfelt thanks for their dedication to, service of, and passion for our neighborhood. I'm confident that their commitment will remain strong even as they leave their previous roles, and I'm grateful that they all plan to remain involved in the HPCC in some capacity.

As a native of the Hilltop neighborhoods in south Pittsburgh, I first truly got to know Highland Park when my wife, Amber, and I were shopping for our first home almost four years ago. The reasons we fell in love with Highland Park will sound familiar: a diverse community of both new and long-time residents, great schools, a busy and growing business district, a world-class park, easy access to transit, beautiful architecture, and proximity to all of the great things that our city has to offer (Public Source recently found Highland Park to be one of the 4 "safest, most diverse and vibrant neighborhoods" in Pittsburgh). These attributes have been attracting newcomers here for decades, grounding families here for generations, and are the source of our neighborhood's growth and vitality.

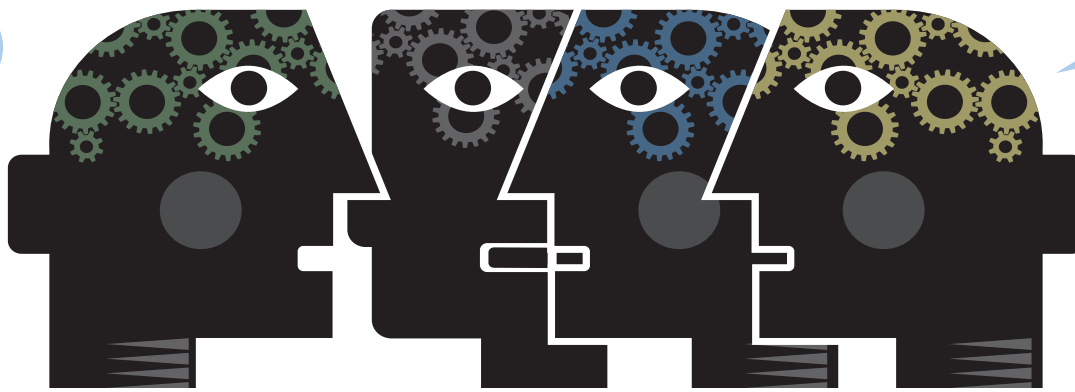
Like our neighborhood, our organization is growing. In recent years, we've revitalized our Zoning Committee to monitor and manage development activity in the neighborhood,

deepened our collaboration with Zone 5 on issues relating to public safety, brought back the Highland Park House Tour, worked with the City and Councilwoman Gross to open an off leash exercise area, and continued successful events like the Yard Sale, Bryant Street Festival, Marathon Party, and many more. Looking forward, we're poised to continue this success. In September, we amended our bylaws to update, improve, and formalize the way we do business, and are currently planning a number of initiatives to expand our communication and engagement with the community even further. We'll also continue to serve as a conduit for community input on the planning for the redevelopment of Heth's Run and other important projects in and around the park.

I'm excited about what the future holds for Highland Park and the HPCC, and hope that you are too. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to get involved in any of our activities, including joining our board (there is currently one vacancy), please email me at jacob.pawlak@gmail.com or call me at 412-478-7769.

Jake Pawlak
HPCC President





HPCC September Meeting Minutes

Monica Watt, President of HPCC for the last 4 years, announced that she is not going to seek a 5th term. Jake Pawlak, a current board member, will be the new HPCC President. David Atkinson, Vice-President of HPCC, announced that he is also not seeking reelection and Scott Dietrich, a current board member, was elected to that position. Monica Watt and Dave Atkinson will become board members for the next few years and help with the transition. Bob Staresinic, Secretary of HPCC, also announced his stepping aside, ending a 20+ year run on the board. Current board member Christine Adams will step into the position of secretary. Paul Miller remains as Treasurer.

Monica Watt has been an integral part of HPCC for many years, serving as a director, vice-president, president, the editor of the HPCC newsletter, co-chair of the Highland Park House Tour, co-chair of the Playground Committee and a member of the Beautification Committee. Monica has dedicated herself to making Highland Park a destination for people around the city to come to.

David Atkinson has been an integral part of HPCC serving as a board member and vice-president. He is chair of the Educational Committee and has worked closely with the Pittsburgh Public Schools to promote public education in Highland Park.

Bob Staresinic has been a part of the HPCC board for 20+ years. You have probably met Bob at many of the HPCC events as he is usually under the HPCC tent offering assistance. He has held every position in the HPCC at one time and serves on the Bryant Street Festival Committee and is involved in so many aspects of HPCC.

We will truly miss Monica, Dave and Bob in the upcoming months and years. They are wonderful people who have helped Highland Park become a place where everyone wants to live. Thank you for your years of service.

Zone 5 police officers updated the community about recent burglaries and break-ins that have been happening in the neighborhood. They reminded everyone to lock the doors of your cars and homes. They also mentioned that car keys should be placed out of view in the home. During many of the break-ins, the culprit has taken the car keys and has also stolen the homeowner's car. Zone 5 police, said that they are increasing patrols in the area.

PWSA held their first public meeting on water quality in the city at the HPCC meeting. Gina Cyrpych, Acting Director of Water Quality, Michael Scheer, ACHD Environmental Health Compliance Officer, and Rachel Rampa, Assistant Communications Manager talked about water quality in Highland Park, including where the lead comes from and how they test for it. Many people had questions about the lead lines leading to houses in the area. PWSA is offering free testing of your water. To order your free testing kit, please email servicelines@pgh2o.com.

The new HPCC Bylaws that were distributed to the neighborhood on the ListServ were approved and are now in effect.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next HPCC meeting is November 17th at St. Andrew's church.

HOW DOES HIGHLAND PARK RANK IN PITTSBURGH'S MOST AND LEAST DIVERSE NEIGHBORHOODS?

Courtesy of PublicSource.org

Diversity is a new buzzword in Pittsburgh. And its 90 neighborhoods are often the city's claim to it — that they are strong and diverse and together create a welcoming, multifaceted city.

But how diverse is Pittsburgh, really, if we look at it on the neighborhood level?

To answer that question, we used the USA Today Diversity Index and then we — equipped with notebooks and smartphones — went to some neighborhoods to check whether those data points matched perceptions of residents. We asked people what diversity means to them, how diverse and economically stable their neighborhood is and how it has changed over the years.

You can check your own perceptions against data for the neighborhood you live in and find out how racially diverse your neighborhood is and which Pittsburgh neighborhoods are more segregated.

The Index measures the chance that two random people from a neighborhood would be from different races. When a neighborhood has a higher diversity score, there is more diversity in that area and the lower the score means less diversity.

For instance, Shadyside has a diversity score of 50. That means if we picked two random people from Shadyside, there is a 50 percent chance that they would be of different races.

But, we're not Los Angeles or New York City when it comes to diversity. So when you're looking at the map, the diversity you see is relative to other Pittsburgh neighborhoods, not other cities.

More diverse places like Philadelphia or New York City score around 70 on the diversity scale. Pittsburgh scores 54 and areas like Westmoreland and Butler counties score around 10.



HIGHLAND PARK

RANKING.....	13 out of 88 Pittsburgh neighborhoods
DIVERSITY SCORE.....	55
TOTAL POPULATION.....	6928
WHITE.....	4356
BLACK.....	1844
HISPANIC OR LATINO.....	167
TWO OR MORE RACES.....	151
ASIAN.....	382

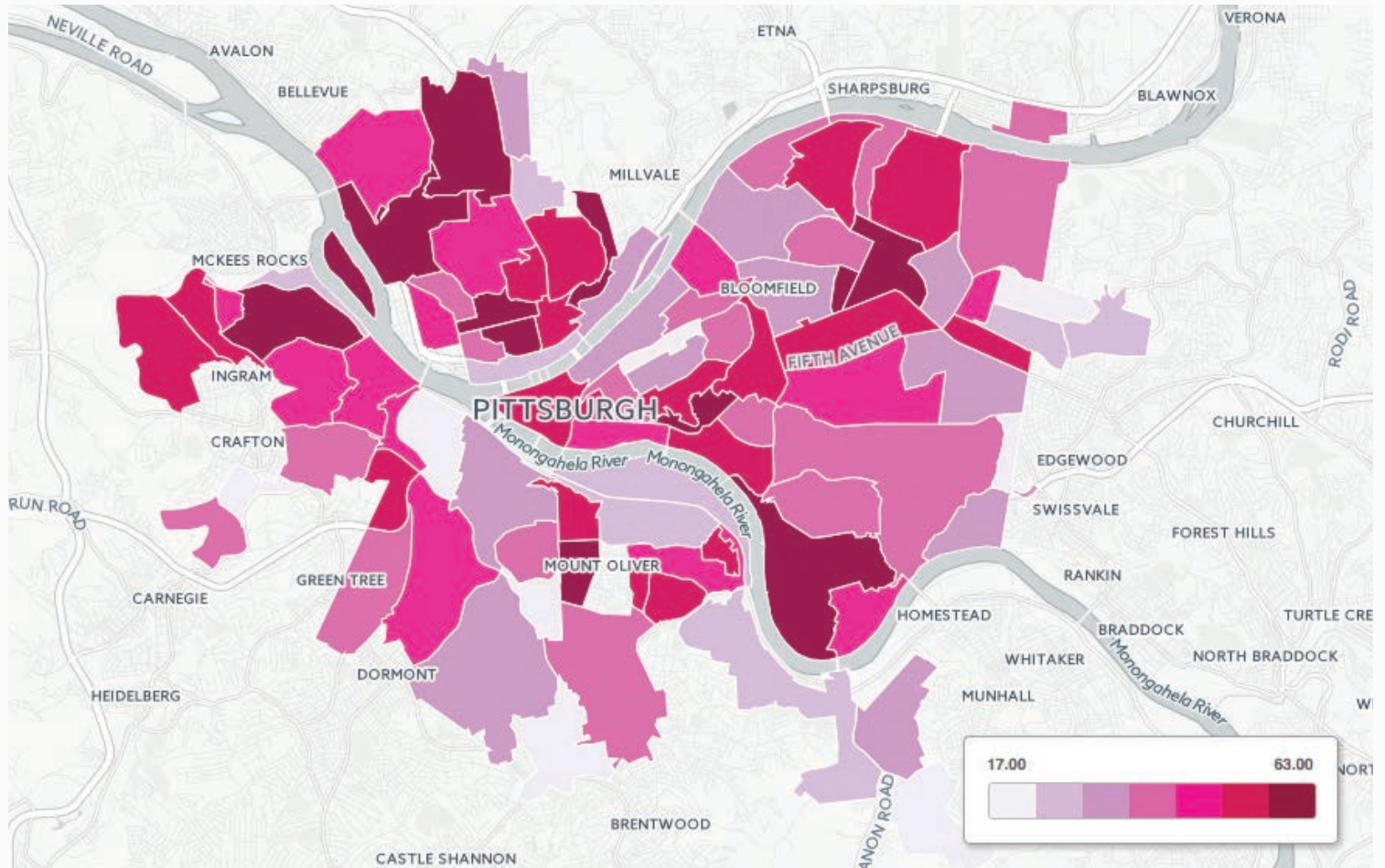
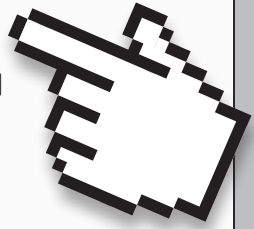
MORNINGSIDE

RANKING.....	54 out of 88 Pittsburgh neighborhoods
DIVERSITY SCORE.....	36
TOTAL POPULATION.....	3326
WHITE.....	2738
BLACK.....	391
TOTAL HISPANIC OR LATINO.....	127
TWO OR MORE RACES.....	31
ASIAN.....	39

EAST LIBERTY

RANKING.....	9 out of 88 Pittsburgh neighborhoods
DIVERSITY SCORE.....	59
TOTAL POPULATION.....	5553
WHITE.....	1497
BLACK.....	3273
TOTAL HISPANIC OR LATINO.....	158
TWO OR MORE RACES.....	66
ASIAN.....	520
AMERICAN INDIAN/ ALASKA NATIVE.....	5

You can explore the interactive map by clicking **HERE** and then on a specific neighborhood to check out what people have to say about living in the most diverse and least diverse neighborhoods of Pittsburgh.



ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE

What: Halloween Costume Parade

When: 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 29

Where: The Fountain in Highland Park

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.

Hosted by the HPCC Children's Committee



Scary Halloween Pancakes

Courtesy of MarthaStewart.com

Make these fabulous Halloween pancakes at a home! The trick behind this treats is a squeeze bottle. Snip its tip to make the opening slightly larger; then fill it with batter, making sure there are no lumps. To create a web, form an asterisk with the batter on a hot griddle, and connect the points and arms of the stars in two rows. For the spider, squirt two connected circles, and add eight legs. The bottle can also be used to easily create letters and faces too.



Buttermilk Pancake Recipe

Makes nine, 6" pancakes

INGREDIENTS

2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons sugar
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
3 cups buttermilk
4 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted, plus 1/2 teaspoon for griddle

DIRECTIONS

Heat griddle to 375 degrees. Whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and sugar in a medium bowl. Add eggs, buttermilk, and 4 tablespoons butter; whisk to combine. Normally you would not want to over mix the batter, but for the scary pancakes, you don't want any lumps.

Heat oven to 175 degrees. Test griddle by sprinkling a few drops of water on it. If water bounces and spatters off griddle, it is hot enough. Using a pastry brush, brush remaining 1/2 teaspoon of butter or reserved bacon fat onto griddle. Wipe off excess.

When pancakes have bubbles on top and are slightly dry around edges, flip them over. Cook until golden on bottom.



City's New "BUILDINGEYE" Site Unveiled

On October 10, Mayor William Peduto and the City's Departments of City Planning and Permits, Licenses, & Inspections unveiled "buildingeye", a groundbreaking new website designed to make building permit, license, and code enforcement actions more accessible to Pittsburgh residents.

This tool allows residents to track items like building permits, building inspections, zoning applications, and business licenses. These items are searchable by address, neighborhood, zip code, or council district. Residents can even set alerts for their home neighborhoods. The tool will also allow residents to track violations and steps taken to address problem properties.

Mayor Peduto praised buildingeye at the announcement, saying "we have been committed to improving the way the public interacts with local government and buildingeye is the latest example of this innovative work. This tool will provide residents better transparency on city permits and neighborhood development."

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT WEBSITE.](#)



When Stephanie Sun and her colleagues at the Union Project were setting up an online store for the arts-focused East Liberty community center, they recognized an opportunity to help local emerging artists.

“We realized this is a process that every artist who wants to reach an online audience goes through,” says Sun, who works as a marketing and customer relationship management consultant for the Union Project.

They decided to launch the *Artist Spotlight*, a project designed to provide retail and professional development opportunities to candidates interested in becoming full-time artists. The program showcases a chosen artist’s work for one to two months on the Union Project website and social media channels. During that

time, the artist learns how to price, brand, market, and process shipping and handling fees for an online business. They can also gain other valuable skills, such as learning

how to communicate their artistic process when interviewed. “Most artists go to workshops and learn new techniques, but they don’t really have a venue to learn how to establish themselves in the market,” says Sun.

The Union Project has provided a space for artists to gather since the Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation bought the property—then an abandoned former church—in 2001.

The Artist Spotlight signals a shift in the staff’s objective after years of working on restoring and establishing the venue, including replacing its signature stained glass windows.

NEW ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Courtesy of Amanda Waltz, NEXTpittsburgh



Mugs by Carina Kooiman

"We're moving away from restoring the building because the restoration is mostly complete," says Sun. "Right now we're focusing our energy on using the power of the arts to connect the community with artists. [The Artist Spotlight] is one of the new programs that is expanding artist services."

The first Artist Spotlight will showcase work by ceramics artist and arts educator, Carina Kooiman.

The young artist started working in ceramics during her time at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she earned degrees in studio art and French in 2009.

“Something about the tactile earthiness of the material really struck me and I’ve been working with clay ever since,”

says Kooiman, who teaches as a member of the Union Project’s Ceramics Cooperative and as the art studio coordinator at Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh.

Though Kooiman has shown and sold her pottery at events such as the Highland Park Pottery Tour, the Union Project’s Mother of all Pottery Sales, and Three Rivers Arts Festival, she admits there are hurdles to overcome in becoming a professional artist.

"There's nothing more discouraging than to realize you have a basement full of art that no one has ever seen," she says. "Marketing something as personal as my art does not feel natural. I have to make a really conscious effort to be continually putting my work out into the world." While Kooiman does promote her handcrafted stoneware and porcelain pieces on a website, the Union Project will provide guidance on how to expand and maintain her social media presence. She also wants to learn how to set realistic deadlines on prototyping and producing her work.

"[Kooiman] produces high-quality work and she's really eager to jump into the online sales area," says Sun.

After Kooiman, Sun says they plan on featuring Abbie Adams, a former Union Project staff member who has gone on to pursue a career as a freelance illustrator.

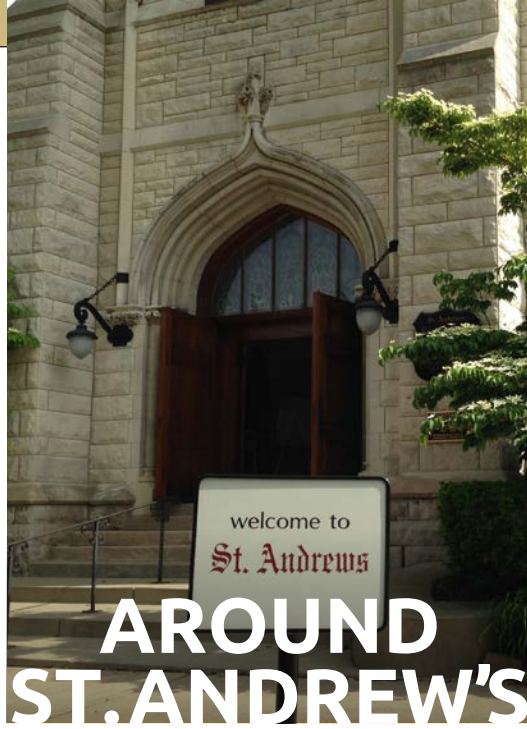
While Artist Spotlight is currently invitation-only, Sun foresees opening the program up to the public. As part of Artist Spotlight, Kooiman will sell limited quantities of her work on the Union Project’s online store from November 21, 2016 to January 5, 2017.



Mugs by Carina Kooiman

Ah, lovely Fall in
Western Pennsylvania!
In so many ways a
wonderful season
here--and with that a word
of friendship to all in the
neighborhood.

November opens with two great services with musical highlights to commemorate the Feast of All Saints. On the Tuesday evening of All Saints Day, November 1, a choral service of the Holy Communion will feature the St. Andrew's Parish Choir and Schola Cantorum singing the well-known Requiem Mass Setting of Maurice Durufle. Then on Sunday morning, November 6, observed as "All Saints Sunday" in the Episcopal Church, the St. Andrew's Parish Choir and the Pittsburgh Festival Orchestra, under the direction of Tom Octave of St. Vincent College, will offer the Missa in Angustiis, the "Lord Nelson Mass," by Franz Josef Haydn. A week of great music and meaningful worship, indeed!

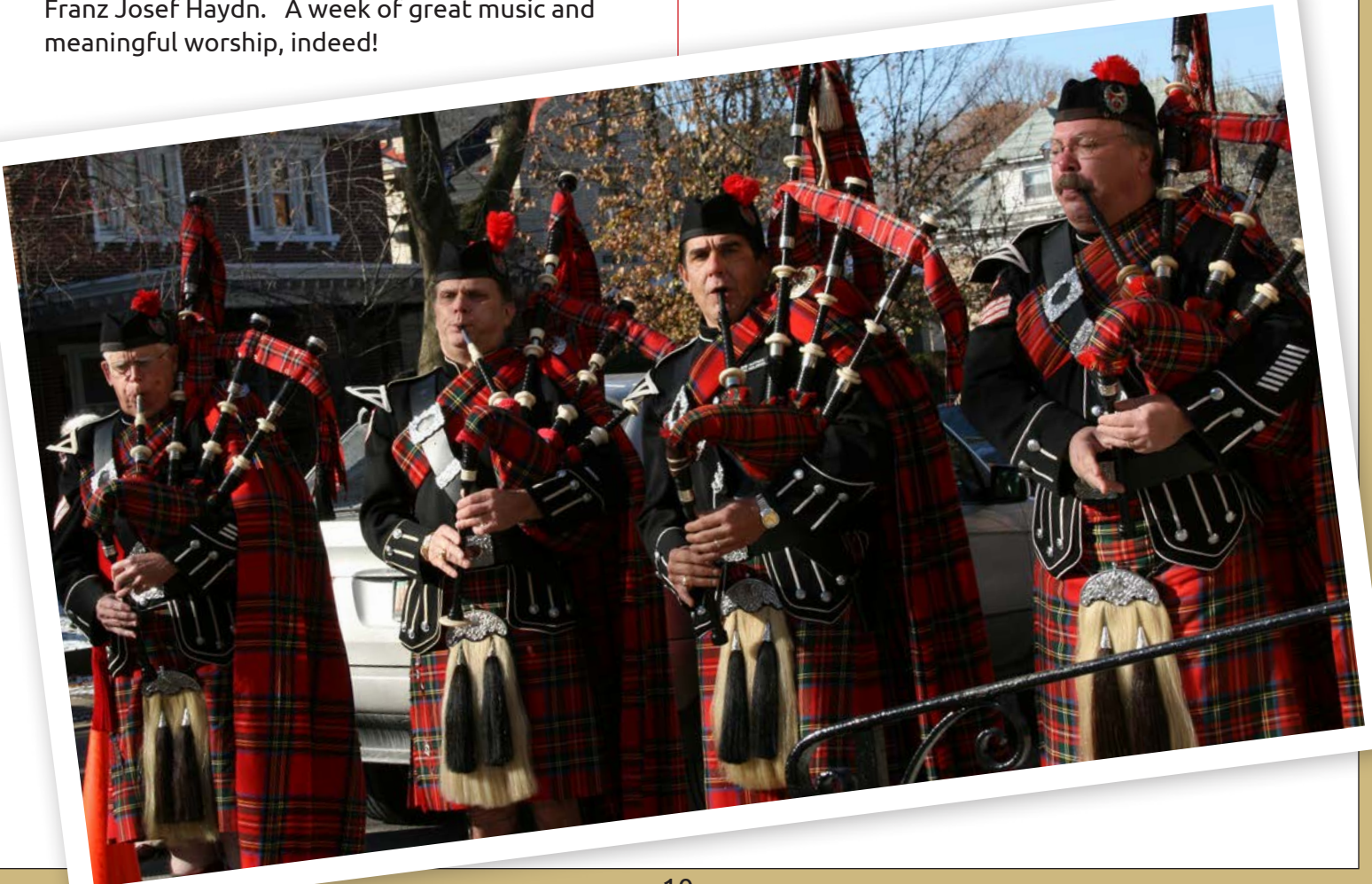


AROUND ST. ANDREW'S

By Bruce Robison, Rector

On Sunday morning November 20 the neighborhood will echo once again with the sound of bagpipes as the Syria Highlanders Pipe and Drum Band join us at the 11 a.m. service to celebrate our observance of the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, our Patron. Weather permitting the Highlanders will play a "prelude" out on the front steps at Hampton Street beginning around 10:45, so come on out to enjoy the fun! Later that afternoon, at 4:30 p.m., our Schola Cantorum will sing Choral Evensong for the Feast of Christ the King, and our Guest Preacher

will be the Rev. C. Garrett Yates--Highland Park resident, former St. Andrew's seminarian, and now Assistant Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon. A wonderful way to complete a wonderful day . . .



AROUND ST. ANDREW'S *Continued*

We would also note that Choral Evensong at 8 p.m. on the First Thursday evening of December, December 1, will feature the St. Andrew's Parish Choir singing music of Philip Moore and Orlando Gibbons, and that our recital that evening, immediately following the service, will be with our friends of the Bloomfield Liedertafel! A fun evening ahead for sure, and a festive Advent reception to follow the recital in Brooks Hall.

Meanwhile in the Church School and Families Department, Friday evening November 4th will be our next scheduled Family Movie Night, with the feature film a Thanksgiving seasonal classic, "Free Birds." The movie begins at 6:30 p.m., and popcorn is provided--but families are also encouraged to bring and share snacks! All free, and neighborhood families warmly invited to join us. The kids of the Church School are also in the early November stages of preparation for the presentation of the Children's Pageant of Christmas, which will take place at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, December 18. New Sheep and Shepherds, Angels and Magi, etc., are always welcome! Please contact our Church School Director, Brandon Cooper, via the St. Andrew's Church Office, if you know of any kinds or families who would like to participate!

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: www.standrewspgh.org.

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*

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Scott Dietrich

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Dave Atkinson

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Janine Seale

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Kelly Vitti

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OLEA – Todd Shirley

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Reservoir of Jazz – Tania Grubbs

Super Playground –

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Vernon Simmons (412) 661-1366

Yard Sale – Paul Miller (412) 365-0675

Welcoming – Todd Shirley

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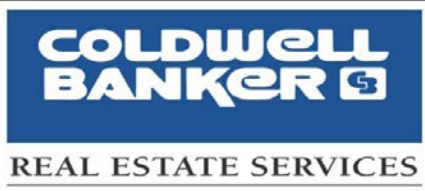
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