

Brook Park Journal

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SAVE THE DATE

****Local Borough/Township Dates of Interest will be included when information is available—For a more comprehensive list, refer to your Borough/Township Web Site, Calendar or Office****

December 23, 2017	N/A Luminary Delivery date
January 2 – 19, 2018**	N/A Christmas Tree Recycling Pick-Up Town of McCandless
January 7, 2018	7:00 pm Civic Board Meeting—Sir Pizza Party Room
January 12, 2018	10:00-11:30 am Kid Connection @ Kat Cottone’s
January 20, 2018**	10 am – 2 pm JVS E-Waste Collection @ AW Beattie—9600 Babcock Boulevard
January 24, 2018	9:30-11:00 am Kid Connection @ Holly Kikel’s
February 7, 2018	9:30-11:00 am Kid Connection @ Holly Kikel’s
February 11, 2018	7:00 pm Civic Board Meeting—Sir Pizza Party Room
February 23, 2018	1:00-2:30 pm Kid Connection @ Holly Kikel’s
March 4, 2018	7:00 pm Civic Board Meeting—Sir Pizza Party Room
March 6, 2018	10:00-11:30 am Kid Connection @ Becky Sunderlin’s
March 11, 2018	2:00 am Daylight Savings Time Begins— Check Smoke & CO Detector Batteries
March 12, 2018	N/A Yard Waste Collection Begins—Town of McCandless —Green Top Bins
March 23, 2018	1:00-2:30 pm Kid Connection @ TBD



Current Board of Governors

President/Treasurer:	Vice President:	Secretary:	Membership:
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Members of the Board:			
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Ian Lindsay ilindsay@msn.com (412) 369-4574	Colleen Paulson cpaulsons@verizon.net (412) 367-1196	Brad Weaver bradkat@verizon.net (412) 366-9089	Nate Bopp nate.bopp@gmail.com (412) 585-1701
Alternates:			Welcome:
Diane Salvatora (412) 366-9106	David Scott scottdds@comcast.net (412) 369-5371	Lisa Kocent LisaKocent.BPMCA@gmail.com (412) 367-7473	Darla Garcia darlacarcia@gmail.com (412) 367-0810
Women’s Club Coordinators:			
Heather Byers byers_heather@hotmail.com (412) 364-1054	Jessica Deible jessdeible@aol.com (412) 367-7356		
Newsletter Editor:	Field Club Rep:		
Theresa Wilkinson wilkinson.theresa@gmail.com (412) 548-3718	***OPEN***		

Let's Save Our Pool!

First, thanks to everyone who has submitted their membership and/or contributed to the Go Fund Me. Our Go Fund Me fundraising effort (<https://www.gofundme.com/save-bpsc>) has raised more than \$8,000! If every household in Brook Park became a Sustaining Member of the pool and/or donated at least \$85 to the Go Fund Me campaign, we would raise more than \$30,000. We also hope that you will consider joining as an Active Family Member - it is a great way to meet your neighbors and our intention to make the pool a place for everyone to gather this summer. Activities that we hope to offer include block parties, New Neighbor nights, Original Owner and grandparent gatherings, Firepit Fridays, and much more!

The pool isn't just an amenity for the community - the revenue generated by the pool supports the neighborhood! The pool pays more than \$7,000 in property taxes on the 23 acres of land surrounding the pool and manages the landscaping of that land. If we don't have a pool to support the maintenance of the area on Fassinger Lane, then will it become weeds unless someone steps up to maintain this. From a practical standpoint, Brook Park needs the pool to maintain this land.

It may seem too early to send in your membership, but we will have to have our fundraising completed early in order to do the maintenance work necessary to open in 2018. We have already received two estimates - one at \$37,000 for a PVC Liner and the other at \$55,000 for a complete concrete renovation/coating. We are in the process of getting estimates for patchwork solutions, which would be less money but a shorter-term fix. Based on our financial situation, this is most likely what we will have to do in order to open this year. We are looking over the entire budget to determine the lowest-cost ways to run the pool in 2018.

With that said, we are looking at options for having a new pool manager in 2018 - this would be a full-time job and ideal for a teacher or someone who has availability to run all aspects of pool operations. If you or someone you know is interested, please reach out to Colleen Paulson at cpaulsons@verizon.net for more information.

Christmas Tree Recycling Pick-Up

—Town of McCandless—January 2 - 19, 2018

Save The Date--Annual Brook Park Civic Association Meeting--7:00 pm—Sunday March 4, 2018 at Sir Pizza Party Room—Rochester Road



The Civic Association's annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 4, 2018, at Sir Pizza in the party room. It is open to all Brook Park residents and also to Civic Association social members who are not Brook Park residents. Consider attending if you would like to hear a recap of the year's activities and expenses, if you have ideas about additional events & services the Civic Association can provide, or if you are potentially interested in getting more involved with neighborhood activities.

All Brook Park residents will receive an annual postal mailing in February with a yearly summary, a voting ballot for Civic Association board members, and a directory update form.

JVS e-waste collection January 20

JVS Environmental will host an e-waste collection on Saturday, January 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at A.W. Beattie Career Center, 9600 Babcock Blvd.

Commonly accepted items include computers, printers, copiers, scanners, cell phones, networking equipment, monitors, keyboards, cables, speakers, and CD/DVD drives. Televisions will be accepted with a one television per car limit.

There will be a \$2 per-bulb charge for fluorescent bulbs and a \$20 fee for appliances containing Freon. All other covered electronics will be accepted at no charge.

Although the Town's contract with Waste Management includes the At Your Door collection service for electronics, this event still is being held to help residents who live in apartments and other residential complexes that are not a part of the Town's waste contract. The collection ONLY is for residents of McCandless and the Town's recycling partner, Ohio Township.

**PROPOSED CELL PHONE TOWER AT CLOVER HILL GOLF COURSE**

Please be aware Franklin Park Borough and Verizon have signed a lease agreement to construct a 150 foot tall monopole cell phone tower by the maintenance shed at Clover Hill Golf Course. The design proposal is going through the Planning Commission before it goes to the Zoning Board for final design approval. The current proposal will require a waiver from the current zoning ordinances, namely, construction within 163 feet of the nearest residential property (ordinance requires 200 feet), and placement on a 10 acre parcel (ordinance requires 50 acres). The Borough has previously granted a waiver to interpret the area to include all of the golf course property consisting of two abutting 10 + 43 acre parcels.



Issues include:

Current cell service is spotty in the local area.

Demand for more capability and speed is driven by streaming video, not phone service.

Cell technology is not as critical today with increasing WiFi improvements.

Verizon states nearly 50% of private homes no longer use a landline.

A 150 foot pole (15 stories high) will tower nearly 3X above the current tree line and be a local residential eyesore at best.

There are alternate solutions that can be considered.

A strong objection group, mostly from Field Club neighbors, is asking for further review, alternate designs that are not so intrusive, and relocation to abide under the existing R-2 zoning purpose to "...combine the preservation of natural features with low-intensity residential development suited to the natural conditions and rural character of portions of the Borough." Currently the Planning Commission has tabled the proposal for further review.

For further information, please contact the Franklin Park Borough offices, or the coordinators of the residents group, Brian Bane, bcbane@hotmail.com, 412-735-6126 or Ramona Cain, 412-719-0134, rcain621@gmail.com



Luminary Sale Recap

Christmas Eve Luminary Project Recap: Thank you to everyone who participated in the neighborhood Christmas Eve luminary project. The Civic Association sold almost 250 kits this year, an increase of 30 kits over 2016. A special thanks to Jami Heffley and Nicki Gronsky for their assistance with advertisement, assembly, and distribution of the kits.

Anyone who would like to return their red bags, they can be placed in my mailbox or inside my storm door (1507 King David Drive) any time and I will reuse them next year.

I am looking for a co-chair to help out next season. I love doing the project but it is a lot of work during a busy time of year! Please email Kristin at kkline.sullivan@gmail.com if you think you may be interested in helping out during the 2018 holiday season.

Santa Visits Recap

On December 19, 2017, Santa made his annual trip around Brook Park Manor. After parking his sleigh to avoid spooking the reindeer while cars were out, his helper took him around the whole neighborhood. He stopped at 11 houses visiting 22 boys and girls. Santa spent a few minutes with each family passing out gifts and candy canes, making sure he had his list correct, and telling the kids to be good all year round not just during Christmas. Santa double checked to make sure all the children were on the nice list. After his visit he flew out of site and on to the next neighborhood. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and hopes we all stay good so he can visit again next year. Brook Park would like to extend very special thank you to the Bopp's for helping to organize this event. Without their efforts none of this would have been possible.



Ice & Snow Removal Ordinances

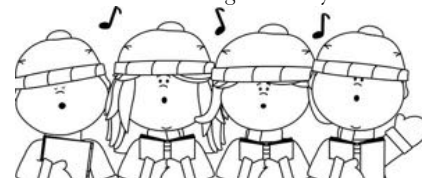
Well, the first snow has officially fallen! Now is a good time to review local snow and ice removal ordinances. Please visit your local municipality's web site to view specifics. We encourage all Brook Park neighbors to remove snow and ice in a responsible, timely fashion from sidewalks and driveways, in accordance with Borough and Township Snow Removal Ordinances. It is against ordinances to blow or shovel snow into Borough and Township streets; doing so could result in a fine.

Parking in the streets during or after a snow fall may also be limited or prohibited. Beyond the laws, its common courtesy to keep sidewalks cleared; especially for the children walking to their bus stops.



Caroling & Bonfire Recap

The 3rd annual Brook Park Bonfire, Tree Lighting, and Caroling was huge success! The event started with kids putting ornaments they made or brought onto the Christmas tree on the Pool patio (except for that crew of boys more interested in the cookie table!). Then Santa arrived on a fire truck to greet the kids, hand out candy canes, and light the tree. Nearly 100 people attended and stayed warm with not one but *two* bonfires in the Pool gravel lot. It was great to see so many families and friends enjoying each other's' company for the holiday. Jolly times were had by all. Thanks to everyone who made the event happen, especially Dennis Moul, Jess Deible & Kat Cottone, and to Chief Mangel, Tyler Leff, and the whole Fairview VFD crew. We look forward to the event again next year!



Street Parking Prohibited During Snow Events

Winter is here, and it is a good time to remind everyone that during the winter months, both McCandless and Franklin Park have restrictions on street parking to enable snow removal.



From the McCandless web site: Severe road conditions prompt some drivers to leave their vehicles on Town streets. Vehicles parked on streets during such conditions make some operations extremely difficult and jeopardize the safety of vehicles. Vehicles must be removed as soon as possible, so that the Town can conduct its snow operations effectively.

From the Franklin Park web site: § 202-13 Parking prohibited during certain hours. No person shall park a vehicle upon any Borough street between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., prevailing local time, and/or during snow removal times. To make snow removal (and all our commutes) easier, please refrain from parking on the streets this winter.

Crime Watch Program

Dear Neighbors! The Crime Watch Program is now in effect for Brook Park. How it works--Call 911! That is always the first step. Then an email to:

brookparkmanor@gmail.com. A mass email will be sent out to neighbors informing us of the situation and what to be aware of. If you are not on this email list and wish to be added, please forward your email address to brookparkmanor@gmail.com and request to be added to receive Crime Watch reports. Please note, you will also receive emails not pertaining to Crime Watch such as items for sale, etc. Most all of us have phones with cameras. Please use this tool to video any suspicious activity if possible. Note license plate numbers.



NEW NEIGHBORS:

Names: Chris and Kristin Repin
 Address: 1550 King James Drive
 Phone: 814-935-8720
 E-Mail: kboosell7@gmail.com or krc102514@gmail.com

Previous Address: Ross Township
 Occupation: Military and Attorney
 Hobbies: We love going to the pool, traveling, trying new restaurants, entertaining, spending time with family and friends, and taking walks with our baby and dogs.
 Children: Lucas (17 months)

Resale Certificates Available to Make Home Sales Smoother

When you sell a house in an area covered by a Homeowner's Association, you are supposed to provide a document called a "Resale Certificate" that explains to the potential buyer the financial and legal status of the Association. The Civic Association Board has created this document for our neighborhood. It explains our voluntary nature and social organization functions, and also how the Brook Park Swim Club and its dues work. If you are selling your house, contact Brook Park Treasurer, Dennis Moul, for a free Resale Certificate for your property (some HOA's charge a lot of money for these, Brook Park provides them for free). Your realtor and your buyer will appreciate you having this official documentation in advance.

Please remember to provide your realtor and/or potential buyers with a copy of the protective covenants covering your Phase of Brook Park when selling your Brook Park home. Doing so will eliminate potential issues with the closing of your sale. A copy the protective covenants can be viewed and printed from the Brook Park website: www.brookparkmanor.com.

Social Memberships for Former Brook Park Residents & Field Club Residents

The Civic Association Board offers Social Memberships to past residents of Brook Park & Field Club Residents. A Social Membership offers the ability to participate in events and activities sponsored by the Civic Association and Women's Club (does not include voting rights). Do you know of someone who would be interested in joining? Membership Fee is \$30 per year. Checks are payable to: BPMCA and should be forwarded to: Lisa Kocent, 999 Broadmeadow Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Forward any questions to Lisa Kocent @ LisaKocent.BPMCA@gmail.com.

Brook Park Facebook Page

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