

# Brook Park Journal

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### Annual Civic Association Meeting 3/6

Mark your calendars now! Next month is the Brook Park Civic Association Annual Meeting. This meeting is open to all current Civic Association members and is your chance to ask questions of the board and hear what they have been working on. This is YOUR neighborhood and YOUR board, so why not join in to get involved?

The meeting will be held via Zoom on Sunday, March 6 at 7 PM. Zoom invite to follow.



### Big Thanks to David Scott, Gardener



When you enter our neighborhood on Fassinger Lane, you are warmly welcomed home by the Brook Park sign and landscaping around it. In the warmer months, there are cheerful plants and during the snow, you can often spot the Brook Park snowmen. For the past **two decades**, it has NOT been gnomes or fairies that have made this a beautiful spot, but rather long time Brook Park resident David Scott. David is an avid gardener and his beautiful yard shows it. The emerald lawn and well tended plants are true delights and the space has even qualified as an official wildlife habitat. David's talent with plants is obvious from everything he touches and we are grateful he has chosen to share his talents with our community. Sadly, David has decided it is time to retire from his neighborhood gardening work. We, as a board, and on behalf of the Brook Park Community, would like to thank David for his time and dedication. Not only has he helped to make our community more beautiful, for a number of years he also shared his time on the civic board. Thank you David, for all of your service! Brook Park is a better place because of you. We are grateful for all you have done!

### Easter Egg Hunt: Save the Date!

Hello neighbors! With all the snow and cold, it is hard to believe that we are already thinking about and planning the spring Easter Egg Hunt. The event is TENTATIVELY scheduled for April 9th. We are currently recruiting volunteers to help with such things as set up, games and clean up. If you, or someone in your family is interested in helping out, please contact Holly Kikel at [hollykikel@gmail.com](mailto:hollykikel@gmail.com).



### Brook Park Pool Update!

Enough snow and ice, let's think fun and sun! Make sure you can join in the fun this season at Brook Park Swim Club by renewing your pool membership now! Registration is now open to RENEWING MEMBERS AND BROOK PARK/FIELD CLUB RESIDENTS for the 2022 swim season at Brook Park Swim Club. You can renew your membership 1 of 3 ways:

**Option 1** – Go green and totally paperless! Complete your [application online here](#) and pay via credit card (a 3% surcharge will apply)

**Option 2** – Go nearly green and almost totally paperless! Complete your [application online here](#) and mail payment to:  
 Brook Park Swim Club  
 PO Box 640  
 Ingomar, PA 15127

**Option 3** – Download the application, [available here](#), print, fill out and mail, along with payment to the address above.



**Do not delay!** The deadline for renewing members and neighborhood residents is **April 15**. After that date, we cannot guarantee your spot. The past several years, we have had up to 40 families on a wait list and we will move on to those new members if space allows.



### Class of 2022 Upcoming Feature

Hey graduating seniors and parents of graduating seniors! This is your heads up that we will again be featuring graduating seniors in the June issue of the Brook Park Newsletter. Start thinking about what you would like to share in that newsletter. Be on the lookout for the link to the Google Form for you to share your information.

**Brook Park Entry Landscaper Needed**

Do you like YOUR neighborhood? Do you like being outside? Do you enjoy gardening? Are you looking for something fun to do with your friends? If you answered yes to any of these, we have a position for you!



With the retirement of David Scott, your civic board is looking for people to keep the Brook Park entrance on Fassinger Lane beautiful. This would mean purchasing, planting and maintaining flowers/plants during the growing months of the year. Volunteers would be compensated for the purchase of plants. This would be a great opportunity for a family looking to get involved in the community, young people in need of service hours, groups of friends looking to spend time together having fun or individuals passionate about gardening. If you fall into any of the categories, or if you're just interested in helping to keep our entrance beautiful, please let us know! If this sounds like a good fit for you [please tap or click here](#) to give us your contact information and we will get you started.

**Hannah Pyles Update!**



Good news! Our little neighbor Hannah had scans at the end of January and remains cancer free!!! Hannah is 4 years old and was diagnosed with neuroblastoma when she was 2. We are so grateful our little neighborhood hero is doing so well! Go Hannah!

**Street Parking Prohibited During Snow Events**

Winter is sticking around for another 6 weeks, at least (according to Punxsatwney Phil)! Just a reminder that during the winter months, and especially during a winter storm, both McCandless and Franklin Park have restrictions on street parking to enable snow removal. Please be respectful and allow the road crews to do their jobs and keep everyone safe.



**Cocktail Special for February 2022**

Hey fellow Brook Park residents! I'd like to share with the Brook Park newsletter readers some cocktail recipes that you can make at home. This month's recipe is "Never Kiss And Tell". All these ingredients can be found at your local Wine & Spirits and/or grocery store. I hope you enjoy!



**Chai Syrup**

2 chai tea bags  
1.5 cups sugar  
2 cups water  
Combine ingredients in a saucepan. Boil, stirring regularly. Simmer for five minutes, double-strain, chill.

**Never Kiss And Tell**

1oz Ketel One Grapefruit & Rose vodka  
1oz chai syrup  
1oz fresh lime juice  
1oz 100% black cherry juice  
2dash Angostura orange bitters

Shake with ice, strain, serve neat, garnish with orange peel I have been a Brook Park resident since 2010, and an amateur mixologist for over 15 years. I regularly post free original cocktail recipes to Twitter @NULLphoenix. If you have questions or comments about cocktails, or would like help with anything cocktail-related, please reach out: [phoenix@null.net](mailto:phoenix@null.net)

**Share your Brook Park Memories!**

Last month we asked you to tell us why you chose to move to this neighborhood. We had ONE brave family answer, and that one response was...[it was a] neighborhood with a "cozy" feel and sidewalks, and a pool within a walking distance. Yes, sidewalks and the pool are both wonderful Brook Park assets. Thank you to our one responder! We're going to try again, but with a new question and we would LOVE To hear from more of you.

What is your favorite Brook Park memory? [Share your favorite Brook Park memory here.](#)

Your stories are wonderful, and everyone loves to hear them. It is delightful to hear the different perspective from over the years in Brook Park. We look forward to hearing *memories* from you!



**TIPS FROM THE PROS: REAL ESTATE**

**Ask your local REALTOR®: Thinking of Buying a Second Home?**

Right now, the demand for second homes is at an all-time high. And it's not just the cold Pittsburgh weather that's driving the trend. With more people working from home, it's easier than ever head out of town without having to take vacation time off. And doing work always feels better with a view of palm trees or a picturesque mountain.



If you're thinking about buying a second home, be sure to go through a list of pros and cons. If you take out a mortgage, there will be tax benefits. You can rent out the property when you're not using it, bringing in income. You'll also have a place you can get away to anytime. But there are downsides. Maintenance can be problem if the house is far away. If something comes up here at home, you may not get to your second home as often as you'd like. And if you're planning to rent your property, you'll have to line up renters, a cleaning service, and have someone nearby in case those renters encounter problems.

A second home is a dream come true for many. And if you're interested in learning more, contact me. I'll show you the real estate options available across the world through Piatt Sotheby's International Realty. I can help you to buy anywhere!

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