

Brook Park Journal



APRIL 2022 IN THIS ISSUE

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Get on Board! (the Civic Association Board)

We need individuals to serve as alternates on the Brook Park Civic Association board. What exactly does this entail? You would sit in on the Board's monthly meetings and be a valued voice as we make decisions about your community. If a regular board member is absent, you may step in to fill their spot. This is a great way to see how decisions get made and see what issues are impacting our community. It is also a great way to try out joining the board before "making it official." Please consider serving. If you're ready to help your community, please email brookparkmanor@gmail.com. Your time would be very much appreciated!

Pool News!



It's just about six weeks until we will all be able to splash in our favorite neighborhood swimmin' hole. We are starting our spring clean up to get your pool ready for the season. Roth

Painting will be cleaning and spot painting the pool and volunteers are busy making upgrades and getting all the mechanical equipment ready to run for 3 months straight. We'll start filling the pool in mid-May and then it is just a matter of getting the heater running and the pool chemicals balanced.

We cannot wait to see you on Memorial Day weekend. Our Events Committee is hard at work planning new activities for the whole family. Watch your email for the weekly eblast and follow us on Instagram (#BrookParkPool) to stay up to date on all that is happening this Summer.

We would not be where we are now if it was not for the support of our neighbors and the hard work of many volunteers. We cannot say "Thank You" enough.

Garage Sale "Off Year"

Spring brings to mind images of sun, warmer weather, being outside and spring cleaning. People have been asking, "what can I do with all my junk loved treasures wanting a new home?" This is a reminder that this is an off year for the neighborhood garage sale. Due to wildly fluctuating participation numbers, many years ago the decision was made to hold this event every other year. So, hold on to your things and get ready for the neighborhood garage sale in 2023 OR donate to one of the many worthy organizations in the area such as Habitat For Humanity, Goodwill, or AmVets. To all those who have helped with this in the past, THANK YOU! And, we're looking forward to it next year!

Brook Park Babysitter's Club

We have a neighborhood full of kids, all ages! Babysitters are in great demand as the summer months approach. If your child/niece/etc is interested in babysitting, please fill out the form [here](#). We will share the Babysitter list in the May & June newsletter and e-Blasts.



6 Pack & A Snack Parties are Back!

It's time to restart the "6 Pack & a Snack" neighborhood house parties - we've gone 27 months without one, that's way too long!



The idea is pretty simple, you just bring whatever you want to drink for yourself and some food to share. The host provides the house and ice, and sets an optional cap on the number of attendees.

Signup is self-serve through a Google Doc. The only requirement is that you be a member of the Brook Park Manor Civic Association, there is no charge for each event.

If you are interested, please fill out [this brief form](#) to get on the list. We hope to see many of you this season!

We Still Need a Gardener!

We are still looking for someone with a green thumb to help care for our entrance on Fassigner Ln. If you are willing to give a small bit of your time, please provide your contact information [here](#).



Food Trucks Return!

Brook Park - get ready... Food Trucks are returning! This year the food trucks will return to Brook Park on Wednesday's, with a few extras. We kicked off the season with one of Brook Parks own, Urban Trail Coffee. Please save the dates and come out to support these great local businesses, AND save yourself a day of meal planning & prep!



| | | | |
|----------------|--|--------------|---|
| Weds, April 20 | South Side BBQ 4-7p (<i>Bar-B-Cone!</i>) | Weds, July 6 | Mission Mahi 4:30-7p |
| Sat, April 30 | Sinkers and Suds exact time TBA | | |
| <hr/> | | <hr/> | |
| Weds, May 4 | Totopo, 4-7p | Weds, Aug 3 | B's Sips of Summer, 4-7p |
| Weds, May 18 | Hot Dawgz, 4-7p | Weds, Aug 17 | Benvenutis Pizza Truck 4-7p (<i>Back to School Neighborhood Pizza Party</i>) |
| <hr/> | | <hr/> | |
| Weds, June 1 | Kilimanjaro, 4-7p | Weds, Sept 7 | Kilimanjaro, 4-7p |

More Dates TBD!



NEW Brook Park Directory Project! By Nate Bopp

Brook Park is getting ready to update and print our new directory. The directory has been an important and useful tool of Brook Park for many years. Our welcome committee hands each new neighbor a printed directory and all paid members of the Civic Association get a new directory every time we update it. Here are few helpful and informative facts about our directory:

- 1) If you have not updated your information yet via the printed form from our annual letter or [>THIS GOOGLE FORM LINK<](#) please do so now. We are starting our update process on May 1st.
- 2) We NEVER sell your information EVER. We only use the information you provide to print this directory and to communicate with you about neighborhood topics.
- 3) This is NOT an online directory. Some would find this helpful, but we decided it is too easy for our emails and phone numbers to get into the hands of solicitors in a digital format so we will only be producing a print version.
- 4) I don't want my information published – For various reasons someone might not want their information printed. We will gladly remove your information from the directory. Please send us an email and we will confirm.
- 5) How do I get a copy of the newest directory – Easy all you have to do is join the Civic Association and we will be distributing the directories to all paid members once they are printed.
- 6) Timeline – Please be patient with us this is a large undertaking for a very limited number of volunteers. We are going to be doing this while working full time, taking the kids to practice, yard work, and several other tasks. Our goal is to get this completed in a timely manner, but we can't tell you an exact time frame.
- 7) People are constantly moving in and out of the neighborhood so while we strive to have the most updated date copy there might be outdated information. We also try to make sure our info is accurate, but typos can happen and while we try to limit them as much as possible, please understand that we are human just like you.



Easter Egg Hunt Recap

The annual Brook Park Easter Egg Hunt took place on Saturday, April 9 at Wall Park. Despite the weather, participants had a wonderful time!

We had 52 happy egg hunters. Max Campbell, Madison Welsh and Eleanor Masters found the golden eggs and won cash prizes! Thank you to everyone who donated cookies! Thank you to the coordinators and volunteers, Holly Kikel, Becky Sunderlin, Susie Mackay, Maria Laughlin, Rebecca Zellers, Anne Marie Herm, Erin and Justin Vita! See you next year!



Scavenger Hunt Returning in May!

Brook Park's spring scavenger hunt IS RETURNING!! Remember how this works? Residents "hide" items in their yards, windows, trees or even roofs and The Great Big List of hidden items is sent out for us to find. The hunt will be on **May 6, 7 & 8**. Prizes will be awarded for those finding the most items so start training those eagle eyes now to prepare!



BUT there can't be a hunt without hidden items. We need you to pick out an item and hide it on your property where it can be seen from the sidewalk. This item can be anything wacky, wild or fun. Please email Jessica Campbell at jessicacarver123@gmail.com with the item you will be hiding and your address by **APRIL 24**. Our volunteers will generate The Great Big List and email it to the neighborhood prior to the hunt.

A HUGE thank you to our organizers! And HUGE thank you to all our resident hiders! Have fun with this!



Class of 2022 Upcoming Feature

Hey graduating seniors and parents of graduating seniors! Congratulations! You've nearly made it to the end and we want to celebrate your accomplishment. Please share with us who you are and what's next for you.

We would also love to hear what your favorite Brook Park memory is and what you're most excited about as you move on. You've worked hard, so let us celebrate you! [Tap or click here](#) to complete the Google form so we can include you in the June newsletter.

Spring is here!



TIPS FROM THE PROS: REAL ESTATE

Ask your local REALTOR®: Why are interest rates rising?

Prospective homebuyers are keeping a close eye on interest rates, which continue to increase. In early April, a 30-year fixed rate mortgage was over 5%. What’s driving this increase?



In short, inflation. Demand for pretty much everything, including homes, is high. This drives up prices—sometimes to an unnaturally high state. When this happens, The Federal Reserve steps in and raises interest rates to decrease people’s desire to borrow and spend money. Over time, this causes demand to decrease and interest rates and prices then fall in kind.

Buying a home is a balancing process and one that I’m happy to guide you through. I’ll advise you on how to stay within your budget while searching for a home that meets your expectations. I’ll also recommend lenders that can help you to better understand the financial market and interest rates—and determine which length and whether a fixed or adjustable rate mortgage is right for you. If you’re getting ready to buy, contact me. My experience will help to guide you through the process. I take pride in being “your friend in real estate!”

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| Newsletter Editor: | Field Club Rep: | | |
| Theresa Wilkinson wilkinson.theresa@gmail.com (617) 905-7325 & Co-Editor Heather Byers (see above) | ***OPEN*** | | |



Appalachia Mission 2022 FAMILY PASTA DINNER

Salad | Pasta | Meatballs | Dessert

Beer / Wine available

ADULTS \$15

KIDS(4-10) \$7.50

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Questions? Email LVirostek@sjnpittsburgh.org

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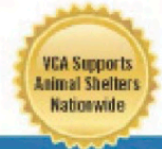
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