

# Brook Park Journal

## Backyard BBQ: Games, Music & More



The Backyard BBQ, formerly pig roast, is making its triumphant return on Sunday, August 28 and we are so excited! It is shaping up to be a wonderful day! There will be games through the afternoon including:

- Pinata
- Duck pond
- Water balloon toss
- Tug of war + more
- Blind Colours**, a local rock band featuring Brook Park neighbor Dom Garcia, will be performing at **6:30pm**.

Come for the afternoon or the whole day. Orders for The Flame BBQ are closed, but even if you haven't ordered, you can always bring your own. Just come out and enjoy a day of fun and friends!

Our 2nd **Craft Beer Exchange** starts at 3pm. Round out the summer with a look-see of the upcoming fall beers, ales, porters, and/or stouts!

- Each participant must be 21+.
- Bring a 12 pack of craft beers to share. (Cups will be provided.) Support local and/or small breweries. Beers like Miller, Coors, seltzers and/or ciders are discouraged.
- In accordance with health code, no glass bottles are permitted.
- Cold beers are suggested for tasting.
- Water is encouraged to sip and cleanse your palate between tastings.
- Feel free to bring snacks to enjoy as we sip and share.

Please note, this is not an open house or "drop-in" event. For the swap to work, we need to have participants in attendance at 3PM. Registration is required, [so tap or click here](#). Include your name and, to eliminate duplicates, the name/type of beer you will be exchanging. If you have questions, please contact the event coordinator, Ann Fetterman at 412-973-7656 (cell).

## Food Trucks

Keep your summer evenings simple by visiting these fab food trucks in the coming weeks. Check your email weekly for updates & details!

Weds, Sept 7 Kilimanjaro, 4-7p  
 Weds, Oct 5 Cilantro and Ajo, 4-7p

## Social Events & Groups: PLEASE SIGN UP!

It is time to sign up for Brook Park social groups and events! You can find the list of traditional groups and events on **Pages 2** of this issue.

Want something you don't see? Great! We can help you get it started.

Email Heather Byers at [byers\\_heather@hotmail.com](mailto:byers_heather@hotmail.com) and she will help you get the ball rolling.



We are in need of coordinators for most events and groups. If we do not have coordinators, these events will not happen. You can join and/or volunteer to lead by [tapping or clicking here](#).

Make sure you do it soon! Deadline is August 31! [Tap or click here to tell us your idea](#).



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## Traditional Social Groups

Below, you will find a list of long standing Brook Park social groups. Most typically meet once a month. What is written here is what has happened in the past. Current leaders and members are welcome to take these groups in the directions they see fit. If you are interested in joining and/or chairing/co-chairing any of the groups below, [please tap or click here](#).

### 6 Pack & A Snack

Akin to happy hour, this group is open to all 21+. Participants BYOB and snacks and enjoy each other's company.

### Book Swap

This group has traditionally met once a month. Members bring books they have finished, sharing plots and swap with others during meetings.

### Bunco

Bunco is a fun and easy dice game. Traditionally, there have been two bunco groups, one that meets once a month on Tuesdays and one that meets once a month on Thursdays. The Thursday group is a long standing, established group that is not currently taking new members.

### Creative Cooking

This women only group meets once a month on Wednesdays to play with food. Monthly meetings have included presentations on wine and wine pairings, pasta making demonstration, mixed drink instructions, dinners, pot lucks, dinner out and many, many more.

### Kid Connection

This is a neighborhood play group that has met once a month. It is a great opportunity for kids to meet, socialize and play as well as their caregivers.

Don't forget, there's always room for more! Have something you want to add? [Tap or click here](#).

## Traditional Brook Park Events

Each year over the past several decades, Brook Park hosts numerous fun, family oriented events around the neighborhood. Below is a list of all the great events you can attend and/or help organize. But, don't be afraid to invent a new one! If you'd like to organize any of these events, you are welcome to change or add to the event as you see fit. If you are interested in coordinating or assisting with any of the below, [please tap or click here](#), and THANK YOU! Questions before you take the plunge? Feel free to contact Heather Byers at [byers\\_heather@hotmail.com](mailto:byers_heather@hotmail.com).

### Easter Egg Hunt

This is a traditional Easter egg hunt where participants, divided by age, hunt for filled plastic Easter eggs. This is usually accompanied by small games, cookies and snacks.

### Scavenger Hunt

Residents put out fun or quirky items and participants can roam the neighborhood over the scavenger hunt weekend to find where those items have been "hidden." Finders participate for prizes.

### Neighborhood Wide Garage Sale

2023 is the year of our neighborhood wide garage sale!

### Plant Swap

This is a time for residents to come together with plants from their yard they no longer love or need to be divided. Participants can browse what everyone brings and trade, take or give what they are interested in. This was once an annual event, but has not been held in a while. There has been interest in seeing it return.

### Adult Fall Social

This is another event that has been dormant for a bit, but there has been interest in seeing it revitalized. Historically, it was an adult Halloween party, but has been suggested it reawaken as Oktoberfest or brewery crawl.

### Halloween Parade

Participants dress up and parade along the designated parade route. Typically the parade is led by a local fire company and the NA band. There are often small games and cookies at the end.

### Bonfire

Traditionally held in December, although covid has forced it to move around the calendar a bit, this is a traditional bonfire with cookies, socializing and sometimes Christmas caroling.

### Santa Visits

Santa visits residents' homes to talk with the kids. We still have the Santa suit!

### Luminaries

Luminary kits go on sale in November for residents to purchase and light on Christmas Eve. Kits include 10 bags, 10 candles and sand.

Don't forget, there's always room for more! Have something you want to add? [Tap or click here](#).

### Civic Association Email Blast Guidelines

Several months ago, in response to concerns raised regarding the use of the neighborhood email list, your board has held serious discussion about how this platform is used. To address your concerns, beginning at the start of the year, changes were made to limit the use of neighborhood emails. These changes have been made out of respect for your time and inbox space.

Neighborhood-wide emails will be sent if they contain information regarding the following:

- Neighborhood lost and found
- Neighborhood events
- Serious alerts
- Relevant municipal information from McCandless or Franklin Park
- Youth offering services (babysitting, snow shoveling, etc)
- Residents looking for services & recommendations

Emails will **not** be sent for the following:

- Political advertising (this does not include alerts if polling places change, etc. Rather emails will not be sent favoring or informing about any candidate or issue).
- Items for sale or free. These should be posted on the [Brook Park Market Place Facebook page](#). A link to the Facebook page will be in every month's newsletter also.
- Ongoing products or services. These can be advertised for free in the newsletter for any paid Civic Association member.

We are grateful to have the neighborhood email platform as a way to easily communicate with residents, but wish to continue using it in a manner that best suits residents needs and wants. Thank you for your cooperation and support.



### Lead Our Halloween Parade!

Hey neighbors! Did you know Disney is already decorated for Halloween!?

While we may not be asking you to decorate quite yet, it is time to be thinking about the annual Halloween parade. This wonderful event is a favorite of many. The parade has seen different routes through the years, with the most recent being around the King James loop. Over the years neighbors have seen firetrucks, police cars, NA marching band and even the Pirate Parrot! It's a wonderful afternoon for neighbors of all ages! BUT, it won't happen this year without YOU! We are in need of a coordinator and helpers for this event to happen. Please be the reason this tradition continues! You can email Heather Byers at [byers\\_heather@hotmail.com](mailto:byers_heather@hotmail.com) OR [tap or click here to help](#).



### NEW NEIGHBOR WELCOME

Please give a warm Brook Park welcome to our new neighbors on Broad Meadow Drive! Lisa and Matt Heymann moved here from Rockaway, NJ. Lisa is a Physical Therapist, and Matt is in Hotel Management. They have one son, Luke and are expecting another child in October! How exciting! We are so glad you're here, Heymann family!

**Contact info:**

Lisa - 412-996-6234  
Matt - 607-426-0737  
Email: LisamHaddad@gmail.com



### BROOK PARK SWIM CLUB NEWS

The 2022 summer swim season is winding down, and it has been a TERRIFIC summer at Brook Park Swim Club! There has been loads of everyday fun, smiles and laughter along with numerous events. We even got a new water bottle refiller and new parking lot striping! As we finish out the season we will

be seeing a synchronized swimming clinic, a 2nd craft beer exchange, Backyard BBQ, Cornhole Classic and Labor Day happenings. It is sad to see this season come to a close, but we are very grateful for the season



TIPS FROM THE PROS

**Ask your local REALTOR®: Late summer tips for Curb Appeal**

Summer is a busy time for home sales. It’s convenient to move when kids aren’t in school and there’s plenty of outdoor time to get to know your new neighborhood. But the cooler weather ahead doesn’t mean your house can’t sell quickly! Make your home stand out with curb appeal:

- Green up that lawn! Fertilize with a summer fertilizer and show off your property at its very best.
- Use an open space in the back yard to set up a fire pit area—giving potential buyers a vision of extending the outdoor season by enjoying fall nights by the fire.
- Trim back bushes that block pathways or come up against the driveway.
- Pull weeds, plant fresh flowers, and touch up mulch that might have faded.
- Create an inviting front door—paint can do wonders—and think about a trendy new (or even old fashioned) doorknob that gets potential buyers excited for what’s inside.

If you’re ready to buy or sell a home, my experience will help to guide you through the process. I take pride in being “your friend in real estate!” Call or email me today.



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**Nell Rose Foreman**  
★★★★★ 10 weeks ago

Kathy is by far one of the most organized person I know. She is effective, efficient and pleasant to work with. I know if I need something completed, if I have Kathy in charge, I know I am in good hands! I can sit back and relax, which as a business owner is rare. Do yourself a favor and hire her to help you!



**Regina Rivers**  
★★★★★ 12 weeks ago

Kathy's skills at organizing astound me! She enters, assesses the situation and digs right in. She's energetic, efficient and trustworthy. Kathy understands the difference between memorabilia and clutter and works with her clients from this compassionate viewpoint. She knows that a cluttered space creates a cluttered mind and vice-versa. Want to free yourself from inner and outer clutter? Call Kathy!



**Deborah Crawford**  
★★★★★ 29 weeks ago

Kathy helped me to organize my office which had not been done for 10 or 15 years. She took what was a mess and made it logical enough for me to use it all the time. Even when I came back from our Florida home to our PA home after five months. She is worth every penny and will make your life a lot easier if you hire her to do this organizing for you. I am able to find things that I never thought I could find with her help.

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