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Happy Holidays!
As the year comes to a calendar close and the holiday festivities begin, the HPCC remains active as our calendar year has just begun with our annual membership drive in November. If you have not renewed your membership yet, you can do so online at www.hpccpgh.org.

The following are a few updates on some items that are ongoing at this time.

First up, the OLEA. I appreciate everyone’s patience as we enter the final stages of the project. I am sure most of you are discouraged by the lack of progress on the construction phase, but if my position with the HPCC has taught me anything about working with the City over the years, it is that things often take much longer than expected. The OLEA will happen, just not in 2015 as I had hoped. What’s the hold up? The fencing, which was ordered months ago, has not come in yet. Without it, there is no off leash area. Also, DPW is still working with PWSA to determine the best way to get a water source into the site, which will be required in the warmer months of the year. Once the fencing does come in, hopefully any day now, weather will play a factor. Based on the timing, we may need to make the decision to put the fencing up and add the water later, knowing use will be impacted in the spring. Or we can decide to wait until early spring and do it the right way, all at one time. I would appreciate your feedback so when the time comes, I know how to move forward.

Recently, the HPCC Board voted to lend our support to the City’s proposed Rental Registry ordinance. With so many rental units in our neighborhood, we saw this legislation as crucial to protecting the health and safety of the residents of Highland Park. The version of the legislation passed by Council is modeled after rental registration programs that have been successfully implemented in other Pennsylvania cities. It will require landlords to register with the city, pay an annual fee and get regular property inspections. The goal is to make sure all rental properties are safe and if there is an issue, the City knows exactly who to contact. It is my understanding that owner-occupied units are exempt.

Last, but certainly not least, initial meetings on the Heth’s Run Ecological and Recreational Restoration Project have begun and a larger community meeting is planned in January. As soon as the date is set, I will send an email out to the ListServ so everyone is aware. This is going to be one of the largest park projects we will see in our lifetime and it will bring great change to our corner of the city.

Happy Holidays!

Monica Watt
HPCC President
resilient to the physical, social and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century. 100RC supports the adoption and incorporation of a view of resilience that includes not just the shocks – earthquakes, fires, floods, etc. – but also the stresses that weaken the fabric of a city on a day to day or cyclical basis.

Todd Shirley described his efforts to revive the Welcome Committee. 38 welcome bags have recently been distributed to new residents.

Anne Marie Tocket and Anna Tang described how they have been advocating for increased cyclist and pedestrian safety/access. They described the three projects that they submitted as community representatives for Bike Pittsburgh. These projects were in turn submitted to Councilwoman Gross for inclusion in the City’s capital budget.

Gavin White from PPC is the outreach coordinator and will be liaising with Highland Park and Morningside on the Heth’s Run project. The firm Jackson Clark has been hired for the community process and will need input from community members. The HPCC will assist Jackson Clark in outreach to Highland Park residents.
The Victorians expressed everything with flowers and viewed the Christmas holiday as an opportunity to adorn their lavish and detailed domiciles with the greenery of the season; it’s from our Victorian ancestors that most of how we decorate our homes today comes from. For us modern folk, we don’t have a bevy of house servants to mind the decorating so we’ve got to economize and identify a few key areas to get the most bang for our buck and back.

Living in Highland Park, just about all of us have at least one mantle sitting politely in our homes and with a few adjustments, it’ll serve as a masterful stage for a splash of holiday cheer. I like to keep it simple when we’re talking about the mantle. It anchors most living or dining rooms, or if you’re really fancy, you call it a salon. Whatever you’re calling it, this structure naturally serves as an architectural and decorative focal point to the space. I start with taking a few of my standing décor pieces off and giving myself some room to work. I find a nice white pine garland or roping works well on a mantle and has some good staying power so long as it’s not in direct heat or sunlight for too long throughout the day, but most importantly, it smells fantastic. Of course you’ll have to fiddle with it a bit to get it to lay with an even
drop on each side of the mantle and a nice centered drop in the front. To keep it in place, I anchor each corner of the mantle with a vase of holiday greens – Cedar, white & red pine, juniper, some seeded eucalyptus and some real or faux pepper berries – this mix will highlight some wonderful seasonal greens and give both the mantle and the arrangement some depth and fragrance. From here, you could be done, so long as you’ve plenty of room to hang your stockings with care, or you could add a few more elements.

To add some finishing touches and details to your mantle, I usually bust out my alarmingly large, borderline shameful collection of mini reindeer (yes, there is a Rudolph & a Clarice) and speckle them throughout the laying garland; however, this year, I went with my Brittains fox hunt collection. Whatever you choose to use, just keep it small and colorful to add pops of contrast and depth but not overburden the space. Lastly, you can’t go wrong with some pinecones and vintage Shiny Brite bulbs. Whether you hang them on the garland or just nestle them in little patches throughout, the cones add a nice organic sensibility, while the bulbs add luster, color and nostalgia... and if you don’t have any bulbs to spare from your tree, use some old C9 ceramic light bulbs (those ones you’ve kept for no apparent reason other than you can’t bare to throw them out) – they’re another great option for the mantle. Mix the colors up or keep them in pairs or singles – this year I’m going with pink and hues of gold.

So we’ve got greens, bulbs, pine cones and let’s not forget the magic of light. The Victorians used candles... they also had a lot of house fires... So if you’re going to add a lighting element, I’d go with a nice jar candle – something high enough to stay out of the garland laying on the mantle and something to add some fragrance and subtle animation as the flame flickers. The other option for light, of course, is to entwine some small white lights into your garland. My recommendation here would be just a small string of incandescent bulbs... the LEDs look so manufactured and are just wrong on so many levels (my opinion, not fact). Whatever you choose, so long as you put a little heart into, it’ll be great.

So now I’m pumped and ready to scoot down to the flower market and load up on greens. Before I go, though, whatever you end up decorating, and however you end up doing it this year, be sure to take some time with your family and friends and enjoy your creation and this wonderful winter holiday.

Cheers!
He was born Oct. 1, 1925, in Manhattan, New York, the son of Albert and Rose Fischel Wald. Albert was an attorney and New York state senator who sponsored the state's first minimum-wage law. Rose's father, Harry Fischel, was a businessman who was active in Jewish causes and a founder of what today is Yeshiva University.

David Wald said his father was expected to take his place in the "Fischel empire."

"He didn't want to do that," Mr. Wald said. "I called him a quiet rebel because he left that. He just kind of went out and did what he wanted to do."

In a videotaped interview conducted by longtime colleague Allen Brodsky in 1999, Dr. Wald said he decided on a career in medicine when he was 10 or 11, after an uncle who was a doctor gave him a book about science.

"He traveled a lot, and he was one of the early responders when there would be a nuclear meltdown," said Dr. Wald's son, David of Maplewood, N.J.

Dr. Wald, 90, whose work with Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bomb survivors contributed to what is described as the world's most important body of data about human radiation exposure, died Saturday at Charles Morris Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Squirrel Hill. A professor at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health from 1958 to 2004, he had been in declining health since a fall in May.

After graduating from Columbia University in 1945 and New York University School of Medicine in 1948, Dr. Wald joined the Air Force, which assigned him to the radiobiology department at the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Air Force Base near San Antonio.

"That's how I 'chose' to do radiation research and health physics," he recalled.
Near the end of Dr. Wald’s Air Force duty, Shields Warren, a Navy pathologist who studied radioactive fallout in Japan, persuaded him to join the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission there as senior hematologist and head of the radioisotope laboratory.

“To be honest, getting people there was not always easy,” said M. Susan Lindee, professor of the history and sociology of science at the University of Pennsylvania and the author of “Suffering Made Real: American Science and the Survivors at Hiroshima.”

Dr. Wald and his wife, Lucienne, lived in Japan from 1954 to 1957. David Wald and his younger brother, Phillip, who died in 1986, were born there.

Ms. Lindee said the commission, which continues to operate as the Radiation Effects Research Foundation, has compiled the world’s most extensive data on human radiation exposure. “This is it. This is the most important population.”

Mr. Brodsky, an adjunct professor of radiation medicine at Georgetown University whose doctoral work at Pitt was supervised by Dr. Wald, said his mentor published an early account in the journal Science about the prevalence of leukemia among Hiroshima survivors and developed a way to study radiation exposure through chromosomal changes.

From 1957 to 1958, Dr. Wald was head biologist at the Health Physics Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. He joined Pitt in 1958 as professor of radiation health. In 1967, Dr. Wald helped to treat three workers accidentally exposed to radiation in a Gulf Oil Co. accelerator accident in Harmar.

Also surviving are a granddaughter, Esther Wald of Brooklyn, N.Y.; and a sister, Judy Wald of Manhattan. Services, with military honors, were Monday.
Go to [http://alleghenysnowangels.org/](http://alleghenysnowangels.org/) to register. Here is what you can expect:

**Ready to shovel? Here’s how to get started:**

1. **Register:** So you’re ready to commit and become part of an elite snow shoveling army. Congrats!

2. **Complete Online Training:** Did you know there’s a right and a wrong way to shovel snow? Learn more via our short and simple Online Snow Angels Training.

3. **We’ll Be In Touch:** We’ve simplified the sign up process this year by providing individualized matching via phone. Expect a phone call from a Snow Angels team member within 24-48 hours after you complete registration to assist you with locating a senior close by. You’ll be shoveling in no time!

4. **Pick Up Supplies:** While most care recipients will have a shovel and salt available for their volunteer, shovels and salt are available for pickup for volunteers who need them. Please contact us if you’re in need of supplies.

5. **Tell Us When You Shovel:** We recommend reporting your hours weekly, depending on how often it snows. We’ve made it easy using an online form.

6. **Share Your Experience:** Join in the fun and share your Snow Angels experience via Instagram using the hashtag #PGHSnowAngels. Be sure to follow us at @PGHSnowAngels.

Snow Angels matches neighbors with neighbors to shovel the walks of those who are unable to do this on their own. Volunteers impact lives in our community by ensuring our more vulnerable neighbors continue to have access to essential services such as home-delivered meals and medications during the harsh winter months.

We invite any resident of Allegheny County who is able to shovel snow to volunteer!

We have many people throughout our communities who are unable to shovel their own walk. By volunteering, you are ensuring their safety and access to meals and medications. Those under the age of 18 must sign up with an adult. Volunteers must pass a criminal record check.
December and January, as we sail from Fall to Winter and from Old Year to New, and in the Church, Advent, Christmas and Epiphany – and through it all we would wish all our neighbors a season of blessings and renewal, healing and mercy, hope and joy.

Following our usual pattern, we will have two services on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, with the somewhat less-formal 4:30 p.m. Family Service of Holy Communion to include the Blessing of the Creche, familiar carols and the Rector’s Children’s Sermon. The traditional Midnight Choral Service of the Holy Communion begins by candlelight at 10:30 p.m. with a Prelude of Music for harp, brass, organ and Choir, featuring guest-artist Sierra Pastel and with the Holy Communion service beginning at about 11 p.m.

For those who prefer a quieter service, or who don’t care to venture out at night, a Christmas Morning service of Holy Communion will take place in the Chapel at 10 a.m. on Friday, December 25, with a capella carols, followed by a Christmas Morning Coffee Hour.

On Thursday evening, December 31, New Year’s Eve, we’ll gather at the Church at 11 p.m. for a brief organ recital presented by our Organist and Choirmaster, Highland Park resident Peter Luley – followed by a service of Holy Communion in the Chapel – and then we’ll climb the tower and ring in New Year 2016 for the whole neighborhood on the Great Bell. A champagne (or non-alcoholic alternative) toast will follow in Brooks Hall!

On Thursday evening, January 7, 2016, our first “First Thursday” service of Choral Evensong in the new year will observe the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord, with the St. Andrew’s Parish Choir, under the direction of Peter Luley, singing the Evening Service in F Major by George Dyson and the anthem, “There shall a star from Jacob come forth,” by Felix Mendelssohn. A brief recital will follow, featuring pianist Nathan Carterette, and then all will be invited to a festive dessert reception in Brooks Hall.

St. Andrew’s, in the 5800 block of Hampton Street, has been in ministry in the heart of this neighborhood of Highland Park for over a century. If you have a pastoral concern we can help with – a baby to be baptized, a marriage to celebrate, a sick or shut-in family member or neighbor who would appreciate a visit and a blessing, a family to comfort at the time of the death of a loved one – or if you simply would like some space for a family gathering too large for your living room, please feel free to give our Church Office a call at 412-661-1245 – or to check us out on the web, standrewspgh.org, or to “Like” us on Facebook (/StAndrewsEpiscopal). We’re always glad to hear from you, and to help if we can.
We have a Queen Anne Victorian that calls out for lots of holiday decorating. And yes, I get a little carried away. One of my go-to decorating tips is to put poinsettias in front of the fireplaces on the first floor to dress them up. The fireplaces are nicely tiled, but the gas inserts have long been removed and an open space remains. If the poinsettias are large enough, they fill the space nicely and add more color and cheer to the rooms.

Finding the perfect poinsettia was challenging at first, but then I came across Janoski’s Farm and Greenhouse in Clinton, PA. They have many different shapes and sizes and the costs are reasonable. If you are up for a holiday adventure, it is a bit of a drive out past the Pittsburgh Airport. For more information go to www.janoskis.com.
Shop Local: Last Minute Gift Ideas

A reminder that many of our local businesses and restaurants offer gift certificates – the perfect way to spread some holiday cheer.

Joseph Tambellini Restaurant
Enrico’s Tazza D’Oro
E2 (Squared)
Park Bruges Cafe
Smiling Banana Leaf
Union Project
Bryant St. Ltd.
Jeffery Smith Salon

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We Get Homes Sold!
2 Heads are Better than 1
Contact Us…We Are Available!!

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