



Hilltop Highlights

MARCH 2021

SHARING THE NEWS FROM YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Looking Back, Planning Ahead

by Amy Clevens, Civic Association President

For the past few years, I sit down with our board each January and we discuss all we did the past year. We like to spend a little time celebrating all we did. That's when I start to think about writing this note, which usually is a fond look at all we've done.

This year, obviously, is different.

We took the time to recap – but it began mostly a discussion of the things we were *not* able to do. Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Celebration, the Back-To-School Parent social in September, Our Halloween event, the Independence Day Celebration – and so much more.

But then we decided to flip the discussion on its head and talk about what traditions we were still able to uphold – and what new programs we brought to our neighbors.

In the Spring, we were still able to partner with our local fire departments to help the **Easter Bunny** visit our neighborhood kids. He made the visit on Fire Trucks – a tradition we will be repeating in 2021. We're also planning a **virtual "Egg Hunt"** – more on that to be sent to members soon!

In the summer, we had to cancel our traditional **Independence Day Celebration**. That was certainly heartbreaking – but we will explore possibilities for 2021.

In September, more than 25 families participated in our first Hilltop **Neighborhood Yard Sale**. Sad you missed it? Our next one is planned for May 15! Start getting those items ready!

Later in the fall, our **Halloween celebration** was scaled back to a **Halloween Scavenger Hunt** – a tradition we'd like to continue even when our more active celebrations return.

We wrapped up the year with two annual favorite events: **Santa Claus' trips on the fire trucks**, and our **Holiday Lights contest!** Next year's holiday celebrations will also include a **Holiday Scavenger Hunt**.

We are also trying some new things in 2021. Our first Food Truck Friday brings the Red Stone Pizza Truck to our neighborhood on Friday, March 26.

As long as you keep supporting our Civic Association, we will keep planning new and returning events and programs for you – our neighbors. Please make sure to send in your \$10 membership fee so we can keep it going.

The power of neighborhoods is evident – now more than ever. Thanks for all you do for each other and keeping Hilltop a wonderful place to live.

- Amy Clevens, Hilltop Civic Association President



OUR (VERY TENTATIVE!) 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 25	Hilltop Civic Association Meeting (virtual) See website or Facebook for info
March 26	Food Truck Fridays with Red Stone Pizza Watch your email for more information!
March & April	Easter Bunny on the Fire Truck
May 27	Hilltop Civic Association Meeting – 7 p.m. Bon Air Fire Company (enter at rear)
May & June	Garden Contest Judging
September TBD	Tentative Back-To-School Parents Social
September 23	Hilltop Civic Association Meeting – 7 p.m. Bon Air Fire Company (enter at rear)
October 1-28	Halloween Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt
October TBD	Halloween Event/Parade
November 18	Hilltop Civic Association Meeting – 7 p.m. Bon Air Fire Company (enter at rear)
December	Holiday Lights Judging
December 1-23	Holiday Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt

Want the latest on these and other events we plan? Make sure to join the Civic Association and give us your email!

Genevieve Davis Education Grants

Every year, HCA awards grants to students who are currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at a college, university, nursing program or business school.

The amount and number of grants is determined based on funds available after that year's membership drive. Applicants must be 25 years old or younger and must be the child or other eligible dependent of an HCA member. Recipients cannot be a previous winner of a grant. We had fantastic applicants for the 2020 awards – and are proud of all of them.

Congrats to our winners, who each received \$100: Joseph Cecchine and Megan Henry.

Applications can be returned with your membership application.

Know a Hilltop student who could be our next winner? Make sure they know about the grant!

Honoring Our Best Gardens and Holiday Lights

Every year, we have a lot of fun with our contests! Sadly, we had to skip the garden contest due to COVID-19 but it will be back this year.

All the holiday lights entrants were worthy, but we were able to pick winners for each category.



Make sure to congratulate your neighbors if they won!

Holiday Lights: Nick & Linda Ayoub, Carl & Maria E Duca-Boyd, Candida Pascale Kessler, Cindy & Kevin Leahy.



Didn't win in 2020? Forgot to enter? Make sure you do for 2021! (It's on your membership form.)

Hilltop Community Yard Sale Planned for May 15

Our Civic Association will once-again coordinate a Hilltop Community Yard Sale! If your family is a member of the Civic Association, then we will add your address and highlight your items in our promotions!

Circle Saturday, May 15 on your calendar; the yard sale will run from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and will be promoted on area websites, Facebook, and other channels.

This is a great chance to clear out the clutter, make some extra cash, and partner with your neighbors for a great community event.

If you are interested, just make sure to check the box on your membership form when you send it in! You can always drop off the list later – we will be sending emails to everyone who signs up closer to the date, to confirm your participation.

There is no additional charge beyond your regular Civic Association membership!





2021 Membership Form – Dues only \$10!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ Please add us to the yard sale address list

☐ Enter our home in the garden contest

☐ Enter our home in the holiday decorating contest

Volunteer – I MAY be able to help out with the following:

Food Truck Fridays ☐ planning ☐ day of the event

Parents Night Out ☐ planning ☐ day of the event

Garden Contest judging ☐ volunteer judge

Fall/Halloween event ☐ planning ☐ day of the event

Holiday Lights Contest judging ☐ volunteer judge

My idea for a program or event: _____

Annual dues are \$10.00 per household. Please mail your check or money order to:

Hilltop Civic Association
P.O. Box 814
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

If you prefer, you may complete the online membership form and pay online with a credit card or PayPal. (We must add a \$0.75 fee to defray the cost to HCA.) Visit www.hilltopcivic.org and click on "About HCA"

2021 Education Grant Application

Applicant must be:

- The son, daughter, or dependent (per tax guidelines) of a Hilltop Civic Association member.
- Under 25 years of age.
- Currently a freshman, sophomore, or junior undergraduate student at a college, university, nursing program, or business school.
- Not a previous winner of this grant.

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

High School: _____ Class of: _____

College/Secondary School: _____ Class of: _____

Course of Study: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

Applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2021. The amount and number of grants will be determined based on funds available after our membership drive. Grants will be presented at the May HCA meeting.

Richland Park Update

Thanks to the work of our Civic Association and a partnership with the Township, changes are coming to Richland Park (off West Chester Park.)

We've worked with the Recreation Department to identify new playground equipment for the area, and hope it all arrives and is installed by the end of the summer.

We are also working on improving the landscaping and adding additional seating areas.

About Your Hilltop Civic Association (HCA)

We are a volunteer organization.

Membership in the Hilltop Civic Association is open to all households within the area of Manoa Elementary School.

All residents are invited and encouraged to attend our meetings. They are held on the fourth Thursday of January, March, May, June, and September and the third Thursday of November at 7:00 p.m.

We meet at the Bon Air Fire Hall - enter through the back of the building. All neighbors are encouraged to attend with ideas and suggestions.

Please check our website for updates, follow us on Facebook, and give us your email to stay in touch! We won't send too many emails, we promise.

Are you signed up for EMAIL UPDATES from your Township Commissioner? It's easy!

Second Ward:

Mario Oliva

Second Ward Commissioner

mario@2ndwardnews.com

Ninth Ward:

Bill Wechsler

Ninth Ward Commissioner

bwechsler@havtwp.org

When you email Mario and Bill, they will add you to their lists!

Our Board

President: Amy Clevens - 610-789-2656

Vice President: Debbie Cipolla - 610-446-4765

Secretary: HELP NEEDED!

Treasurer: Sean Stickel 610-789-6557

Membership: Elizabeth Battista - (609)233-1261

Communications: Kate Stickel - 610-789-6557

Thank You to Our Wonderful Program Leaders

Education Grant: Amy Clevens - 610-789-2656

Easter Egg Hunt: Help Wanted for 2022!

Halloween Event: Amy Clevens - 610-789-2656

Trails in Hilltop: Tina Crognale - 610-446-9349

Garden Contest: Nancy Ryan - 610-853-4423

July 4 Parade & Events: Tracy Nini - 610-212-5136

Scavenger Hunts & Parents Night Out: Kate Stickel 610-789-6557

Holiday Lights Contest: Elena Alma - 570-479-3368

YOUR PAID MEMBERSHIP GETS YOU SPECIAL,
MEMBERS-ONLY EMAIL UPDATES WITH LOTS OF
GREAT LOCAL INFORMATION!

2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR
CIVIC ASSOCIATION WITH YOUR
\$10 MEMBERSHIP!

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