

Paddock Press

A publication for the neighborhood of Paddock Hills, Cincinnati, Ohio. Funded by the Neighborhood Support Program.
Newsletter address: PO Box 16028, Cincinnati, Ohio 45216-0028

Volume 30 Issue 3 June 2024

Block Party Kicks Off the Summer in Paddock Hills

Please join us for the the Paddock Hills social event of the year!

The annual block party will be held **Saturday, June 1**, from **4-8 p.m.** at **The In Between**, Paddock Hills Lane between Avon Drive and Paddock Hills Avenue.

It's a great chance to renew neighborhood friendships and meet newer residents. The event is free to all Paddock Hills residents funded by the Paddock Hills Assembly (and your dues!)

The catered event will serve food from 5-6:30 p.m. with a menu that features Angus burgers (and veggie burgers), Queen City metts & hot dogs, baked beans, sautéed onions, potato and pasta salads, mac 'n cheese and more.

And, yes, the always popular ice cream truck returns.

Bottled water will be provided, but feel free to bring your own refreshments.

You can also dance the afternoon and evening away with a live DJ along with games and surprises for kids (and adults).

Volunteers are needed to help with the set up and clean up for the event. If you can pitch in please show up at the location around 1 p.m. Saturday or plan to stick around after the event. Please contact Julie Stallworth if you are able to help out: (jstall@fuse.net).

Traffic Note: Paddock Hills Lane will be blocked off starting around noon until 9 p.m. Saturday.

Rain date will be June 8.

T-Shirt Pickup

Those who ordered Paddock Hills t-shirts may pick them up at the Block Party.

The Pre-Order price is \$15, cash, or check made out to Paddock Hills Assembly.

If you didn't get in on the pre-order,
you can still order t-shirts at the event (\$20).

More Summer Happenings

The annual **Beautification Landscape Award** will be presented July 6 and nominations are welcome.

A committee headed by Lynne Stone, PH Assembly Beautification Chair will review nominations, tour the neighborhood to make the award and runner-ups.

Please consider nominating a neighbor (or your own yard) for the award by sending nominations to Lynne (stonelynne58@gmail.com).

The committee will consider several factors including a weeded landscape, edged lawns, manicured flower beds, trimmed shrubs and vibrant coordinated colors of plants and flowers.

The 2023 PH Beautification Award went to Thomas Carter and Michael Head, of 4548 Bristol Lane.

Save the date for the National Night Out and Ice Cream Social

August 6, 7-9 p.m.

The event is a chance to mingle with District 4 police officers and Engine 9 firefighters, along with games and face painting for kids,

and, yes, the ice cream truck returns!



New Leadership for the Paddock Hills Assembly

Annual Elections for the Paddock Hills Assembly Board of Trustees produced two new faces and the selection of a new president.

Trustees are selected by members of the entire community at the April meeting.

The 11-member board then votes on officers at the May meeting.

Selected as the new president is Pierrette Wallace replacing Steve Munday.

Emma Kitzmiller was elected secretary.

They serve two-year terms.

Continuing to serve out their terms are

Lina Orr, vice president and Robert Fecher, treasurer.

Munday is planning to move out of town and decided to step down from the office.

Steve will be missed. He was known for running tight no-nonsense meetings, efficiently guided the Paddock Road mural project, worked to encourage greater community participation and did not shy away from trustees getting involved with controversial issues such as questionable apartment developments and most recently seeking consensus on opposition to proposed zoning changes under the Connected Community proposal.

Steve sent the Paddock Press his “farewell address.”

Dear Neighbors,

All things have their time and it seems, after two and a half years, my time as President of the Paddock Hills Assembly has come to a close.

Indeed, my time in Paddock Hills is growing short as I am planning a move back out to Colorado Springs, Colorado near the end of the year.



I grew up in Northern Kentucky.

Moved to California to be with a college sweetheart, then to Colorado to pursue my Masters in Teaching, where I taught high school for about a decade.

My former wife (not the aforementioned sweetheart) and I decided to return to Cincinnati to raise our family since both of our extended families are in this area. Eventually we moved to Paddock Hills around 2008. Except for a brief three-year stay in Pleasant Ridge, I've been here ever since.

I am very grateful to have had my children grow up in this neighborhood, this community. Both my kids as young scouts were able to safely go knocking door to door in this friendly neighborhood to sell boy scout flowers and girl scout cookies. As they grew older, I enjoyed watching my son at a block party dancing the electric slide with our neighborhood matriarchs, and I enjoyed watching my daughter play steel pan for our neighborhood mural dedication. In the last few years, I've been able to introduce our good, young friend Jason to this neighborhood as he has lived with me for the latter part of his undergraduate career. He graduated last December. This spring, my son graduated from Earlham College. My daughter this last month turned 20 if you can believe it. She is looking to start at UC in the fall.

So, since my nest is currently emptying, I decided it is the right time to relocate it.

While each of my young adults is planning to stay here in Cincinnati, I am, none-the-less, looking very forward to my move. While I will be paying a bit more for a bit less house, it comes with a dramatic mountain view and a perpetually blue sky, two things that really impact me.

But, I know I will never again find a neighborhood as wonderful as Paddock Hills. It's diversity, it's kindness, it's sense of community and volunteer spirit are all things I have deeply valued in living here.

When I took on the role of President, I did so knowing that I would not be doing it all alone. I have not been disappointed. Many, many, many, many thanks to *everyone* who helped keep things humming along over the last two and a half years. I appreciate it.

And so now I will be passing the baton to our next President, Pierrette Wallace.

I think she is a fantastic choice to take on the role. I know she will ably take our beloved neighborhood on to the next great things.

Sincerely,

Steve Munday

Letter From the New President

Hello Neighbors,

My name is Pierrette C Wallace. I am starting a new role as President of Paddock Hills Assembly and wanted to introduce myself to everyone. Although I am not new to the board and its inner workings, I am new to the role of President and look forward to the challenge. Steve Munday has done an amazing job and has also been integral in me having a successful transition into this role.

A little history – I first moved to Paddock Hills at the age of 10 with my mother and brother. My home on Clearbrook has always been one you can find good food and encouragement. It is common to see a lot of visitors at my address as we have hosted three decades of spaghetti birthday dinners and/or a fish fry for our very large family. I am a mother of three and grandmother of two. I have worked in the construction industry for over 20 years, starting at CPS planning and construction department, to big-box commercial building, and now managing facility maintenance and construction projects at the P&G Winton Hills Business Center. I have been fortunate to work close to home over my professional career and always happy to turn south on Paddock at the end of my workday.



My love for Paddock Hills is a direct reflection of my mother's commitment to community. We relocated from Bond Hill, where she was very involved in community efforts and carried me along with her to witness what it means to take care of where you live. She transferred that same example to Clearbrook and has taught me how to keep it going. What I love most about Paddock Hills is what I was shown, our neighbors take care of where we live. Picking up trash, welcoming new neighbors, participating in our community events and supporting each other by keeping eyes out and offering a hand. What I have witnessed being a PHA board member is that we show concern and consistency in keeping Paddock Hills the hidden jewel that exists. Safe, beautiful as well as diverse. These are three necessary ingredients to a thriving community.

Thank You, Steve, Lynn and Lina for the stellar examples
and Thank You to the board for the warm PHA President welcome.

P. Wallace

New Trustees

Chris Fries and Kyle McGrath are the two new trustees selected at the April meeting to serve three-year terms. Four trustees terms were up with Robert Fecher and Wallace selected for another term. (Munday and Julie Stallworth left the board).



Chris Fries (l), Kyle McGrath (r)

A look at the new trustees:

Kyle McGrath moved to the neighborhood earlier this year after purchasing a home at 1266 Westminster and doing extensive remodeling.

Kyle works as a Sales Area Manager for Staffco-Campisano, an electronics manufacturer's representative firm. Kyle and his wife, Calista, are Northern Kentucky natives who returned to the area after living in Jacksonville, Fla. When house hunting, they fell in love with the many Tudor homes that distinguish Paddock Hills.

"I wanted to be a trustee because community is very important to me and the community that Paddock Hills has cultivated is special," Kyle said. "I want to keep doing the work that those before me have done in order to maintain this place we call home. I feel it's important to have dialogue with my neighbors and to have dialogue with the city leaders of Cincinnati to ensure all of our hopes and concerns are heard and acted upon."

Kyle says he would like to explore the possibility of a Paddock Hills community garden. But, above all, he hopes to bring an "ability to actively listen, forge relationships, think outside the box, and have the perseverance to show up. I'm very grateful for this opportunity and am excited to contribute to the beautiful fabric and legacy of Paddock Hills."

Chris Fries, has lived at 1271 Avon Drive since 2016, moving from Norwood. Chris is a realtor, an Airbnb landlord and has experience flipping several houses.

"One of the houses that I previously renovated was on the west side of Paddock Hills and I would cut through our neighborhood on Avon and Paddock Hill Ave from Norwood to get to it," Chris said. "I love the English Tudor style of home and told myself if one ever came on the market that needed a total renovation, I would try to purchase it."

He has done that in his Avon home with a complete renovation of kitchen, bathrooms, roof, floors electrical and plumbing.

Chris and his wife Kara have two sons— Dawson (6) and Zander (4) can often be seen in the front yard playing soccer, baseball or football.

"It's great being centrally located, having diversity, and having so many kind neighbors to enjoy life with."

Chris ran for trustee because he wanted to get more involved in the community. "I bring my expertise and knowledge of the real estate market and home construction to the table to hopefully share with our neighborhood."

Connected Communities Zoning Vote Next Week

Now that the controversial Connected Communities zoning proposal has passed the Cincinnati Planning Commission, it goes before city council next week.

City Council's Equitable Growth and Housing Committee meets at 1 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, in Council Chambers at City Hall.

You can register to give public comment virtually by 2 p.m. on Monday, June 3. If the ordinance passes out of committee, Council will likely vote on it June 5.

The Paddock Hills Assembly sent a letter to council members and the mayor raising many concerns about the proposed zoning changes in the ordinance, reflecting consensus sentiment after a community meeting. The objections also echo many concerns raised by dozens of other neighborhood community councils.

The concerns include:

loss of neighborhood character since the proposal would allow 2-4 unit dwellings among traditional and historic single family homes;

parking congestion, since parking requirements for new construction would be eliminated;

and the **pressures put on the city's aging infrastructure** by the higher density.

The Paddock Hills Assembly letter proposed other alternatives such as targeted incentives, a focus on underutilized areas and more community input.

The city is touting the zoning changes as something that would increase housing density, supposedly moderating rents, and would provide more pedestrian traffic for business and retail corridors that border residential neighborhoods (not an issue for Paddock Hills).

PH Trustees have urged residents to give input on the proposal in the coming week by contacting the mayor's office and city council members.

Parking Stuff

A quick word to the wise that our police are actively enforcing parking tickets in our neighborhood's no parking zones. This has been especially the case on Paddock Hills Lane, where just a single illegally parked car near the corner of Paddock Hills Avenue can foul things up.

Relatedly, we sometimes get vehicles dumped in our neighborhood and we seek to have them removed. Over the years, neighborhood police officer, Anthony Hill has been quick to tow what appears to be abandoned or dumped cars, since there have been instances where they have been linked to the drug trade used as “storage units.”

So, if you have a long term guest or some similar situation, consider letting your neighbors know that an unfamiliar car will be parked for a while so they aren't mistakenly towed. Officer Hill also said it would be wise that you send an email notifying him (anthony.m.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov) that the vehicle is accounted for.

Slow Down

There have been 117 accidents involving pedestrians so far this year in Cincinnati's 27 neighborhoods. That is on pace with this time last year.

We have had some wonderful weather to be outside,
Children are out playing, neighbors are walking their dogs,
parents are waking babies in strollers,
friends and families are walking to Sugar and Spice,
bikers are biking, runners are running and walkers are walking.

Please slow down when driving in the neighborhood and consider pedestrians.

We are lucky to have a neighborhood that invites us to enjoy a walk when the weather permits.

Let's keep it that way.

Submissions

Please send your contributions for the August Paddock Press by the last Monday in July.

We would like to welcome new neighbors, celebrate our neighbors accomplishments and milestones and share some of your summer activities.

Submit to (newsbird1@icloud.com).

Calendar/Upcoming Events

Saturday June 1	4:00 - 8:00 PM	Block Party	The In Between Paddock Hills Lane
Monday June 24	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Community Meeting	Avon Woods Nature Center
Monday July 22	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Community Meeting	Avon Woods Nature Center
Tuesday August 6	7:00 - 9:00 PM	National Night Out	The In Between Paddock Hills Lane

Frequently Called Numbers

Unattended, abandoned cars, litter, overgrown weeds, snow removal, pot holes, dead animals, sidewalk repair and graffiti, etc.

To report concerns or request services from the city:

Cincinnati Public Works 591-6000

www.5916000.com

Cincinnati Police

District 4

513 569-8600

Officer Anthony Hill Neighborhood Officer

anthony.m.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov

513 569-8678

Avon Woods Nature Center

513 861-3435

Paddock Hills Media

Paddock Hills Neighborhood website <http://www.paddockhills.org>

Nextdoor Paddock Hills <https://nextdoor.com/g/crf4af6be/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Paddock-Hills-266186546751105/>

Paddock Hills/North Avondale Free or Trade

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/245307956815508>

Paddock Hills Assembly Officers

President - Pierrette Wallace

Vice President - Lina Orr

Treasurer - Robert Fecher

Secretary - Emma Kitzmiller

Paddock Hills Assembly Trustees

Luekiucius Brown

Chris Fries

Kyle McGrath

Lina Orr

Liz Swain

Greg Watkins

Robert Fecher

Emma Kitzmiller

Suresh Nirody

Annie Stephan

Pierrette Wallace

NSP Grant Manager

Lina Orr

Committee Chairs

Beautification - Lynne Stone

Housing/Economic Development - Ellie Johnson

Safety, Security and Traffic - Luekiucius Brown

Security Cameras - Robert Fecher

Social - Julie Stallworth

Special Projects - Lynne Stone

Welcome - Emma Kitzmiller

Youth Programs - Robert Fecher

Paddock Press

Rick or Stacy Bird

email newsbird1@icloud.com

telephone 513-807-7129