

# 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 6 December 2024

## S'more Attractions for the Annual Holiday Stroll

Tis the season for the fifth **Annual Paddock Hills Holiday Stroll**  
**5:30 - 7 p.m. Sunday, December 8.**

The event has become a favorite neighborhood tradition since it began as a way to safely counter months being cooped up with Covid quarantines.

"We get to renew friendships and enjoy the spectacular holiday decorations that our neighborhood has become known for," said Emma Kitzmiller, chair of the event.

Like previous years, the Stroll will be centered on the axis running along Paddock Hills Lane from Westminster to Paddock Hills Avenue, but residents are encouraged to wander widely to take in the holiday decorations.

There are several new attractions this year.

They include:

- A bounce house or in this case a bouncy castle with a "Frozen" theme.
- A tractor ride will replace the trackless train.  
The tractor will pull some small cars in the shape of different animals.
- A s'more station hosted by the Stallworth's on Paddock Hills Avenue.  
Kids and parents will be provided with a plastic baggie with s'more ingredients and a disposable skewer to roast marshmallows over a fire.



Returning Stroll festivities include:

- An arts and crafts station for kids to make decorations and holiday cards.
- Plenty of cookies and gallons of self-serve hot chocolate at two locations.
- Santa Claus will be in attendance for pictures with the kids (Please see our “exclusive” Santa interview in this newsletter).
- The letters to Santa mailbox will again be installed in the Paddock Hills Avenue cul-de-sac. It has become a special location thanks to the spectacular home-made decorations at the house of Chris Ruthemeyer.

“We hope people find this year’s event bigger and better. We haven’t changed it up in a while so we think this year it’ll be fun and a little different,” said Kitzmiller.

If you have any questions about the event, or would like to volunteer to help run some of the stations, please contact Emma at [paddockhillsholidaystroll@gmail.com](mailto:paddockhillsholidaystroll@gmail.com) .

**Traffic Note:** No streets will be closed for the Holiday Stroll, but residents are strongly urged to voluntarily restrict vehicular travel during the event, especially along Paddock Hills Lane and the Paddock Hills Avenue and Westminster cul-de-sacs. Travel through the neighborhood will be congested with people and children in the streets and the tractor giving rides through the area.



# Our Own Santa and Mrs. Claus of Avon Drive



Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus and as certainly as love, generosity, and devotion exist... he lives in Paddock Hills.

In our case, Santa is also known as Owen Cramer, a retired analyst in the construction and sewer industry, who says his career provided him with little training for his annual rites as the Paddock Hills Santa Claus. “Absolutely none,” Owen says with a chuckle.

But he does have that bushy, bristling beard. And Owen is the kind of guy who has that perpetual twinkle in his eye. Owen and his wife, Pauletta Hansel, have been Mr. and Mrs. Claus since the Holiday Stroll started in 2020, roaming the neighborhood and holding court on Avon Drive.

Owen said he sort of stumbled into the Santa business when he bought a Santa suit from a friend who had a theatrical supply store that went out of business. “I figured you never know when you need a nice, warm red outfit.” Sure enough, Paddock Hills came calling for Santa duties, and Owen was ready to go. He thinks he has been well received among believers and the suspicious.

“Kids seem to like it. There seems to be sort of a range. There are kids who don’t seem to know what to make of it. There are the kids who are Doubting Thomas’s, but not in front of their parents, and the kids who are awestruck.” And are neighborhood kids mostly naughty or nice? “I have not found a naughty child,” Owen laughs. “All are sweet.”

Unfortunately, Owen is going solo this year. Pauletta, a poet, who has published several books and is a former poet laureate for the City of Cincinnati, has to be out of town for a women’s conference. Owen says he is looking for a substitute Mrs. Claus—at least for one night.

And while Owen is as authentic a Santa as you’ll find this side of the North Pole, he admits the harshest critics can be those closest to you. He says his granddaughter saw a picture of him in his Santa outfit and blurted out, “What is Grandpa doing in Santa’s clothes?”



P A D D O C K   H I L L S

## Share the Warmth Coat Drive

St. Vincent de Paul is asking the community to donate new and gently used coats which will be made available to community members in need this season.



**Drop off coats, gloves, hats, and scarves**

**by Dec. 16th to:**

1344 Westminster Dr.

OR

1309 Paddock Hills Ave.



email Jamie with questions: [jamie@thelcrrchef.com](mailto:jamie@thelcrrchef.com)  
[www.svdpcincinnati.org/drop-off-events/winter-coat-drive](http://www.svdpcincinnati.org/drop-off-events/winter-coat-drive)



*if only  
it's cold  
outside*

## Meet Our New Mail Carrier



Sydney Scholl has been named the new mail carrier for the Paddock Hills area by the St. Bernard station.

She replaces Joe Jones who took a new route closer to his home in Mount Washington last August.

“I was eyeing this route because Joe spoke so highly of it,” Scholl said.

Carriers “bid” on routes as they become open. A decade ago Paddock Hills was divided into two routes, but they were combined. The current route is 90 percent residential, encompassing all of Paddock Hills, and ten percent businesses along Tennessee Ave.

Scholl, originally from the Fort Wayne, Indiana area, moved to Cincinnati two years ago after graduating from Indiana University with majors in physics and filmmaking. She lives in Northside.

“My education certainly didn’t have anything to do with logistics or postal issues,” Scholl said with a laugh. She said her long term career goals might involve creative writing and film work. “When I moved to Cincinnati after school I wanted to do something outdoors and saw this opportunity. Eventually, I’d like to find something with more creative pursuits, but for now I’m dedicated to being a mail carrier.”

Scholl says she has received a warm welcome from the neighborhood.

“I’ve been loving it quite a bit. It’s much more welcoming than the other areas I’ve been in. Everyone’s been very kind to me over the past month as I transition into the route.

“It’s a bit longer than other routes in the St. Bernard station. But the kind of people on a route matter.”

“I’d rather work a longer route with people I can talk to and who are welcoming rather than a shorter route where you don’t get to know the community.”

Paddock Hills residents were sad to see Joe leave. Over his six years, he endeared himself to the neighborhood as an affable, diligent mailman always up for a chat. But he had been hoping to secure a route closer to his home in Anderson Township. Joe said his route is just a ten minute commute, instead of 45 minutes, and it’s easier on his body with half the route driving.

“I do miss it over there,” Jones said. “I liked the neighborhood. I hope you guys are all doing well. The whole Paddock Hills neighborhood was great to me.”



# Paddock Hills Fall Events



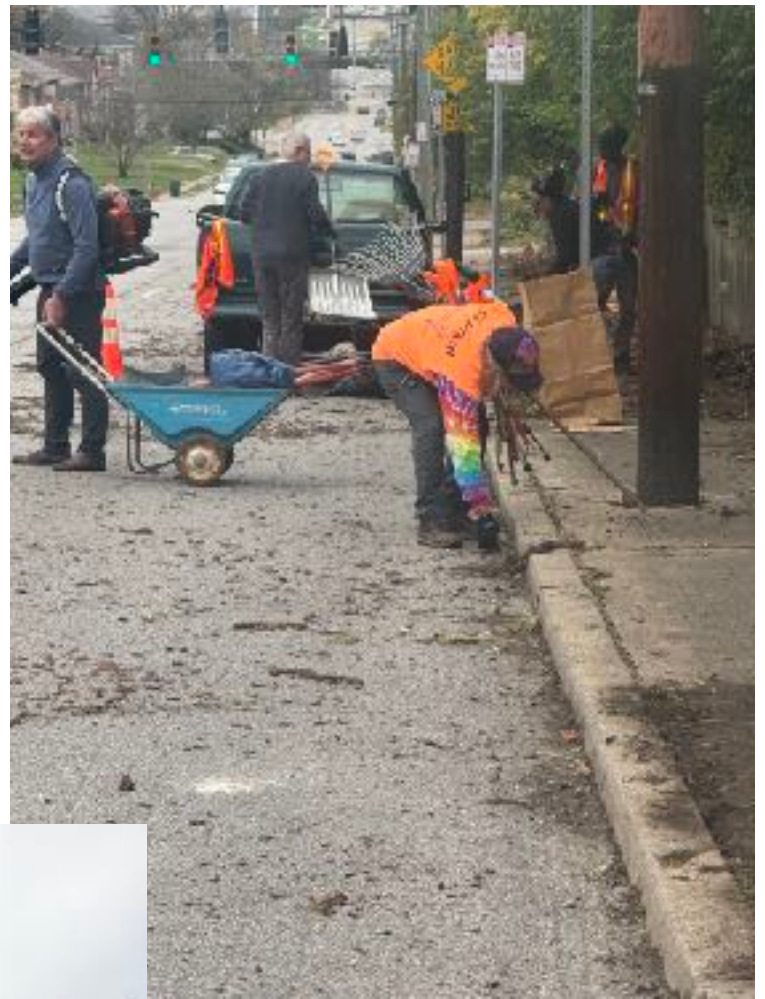
Thanks to Robert Fecher,  
once again the Annual Halloween Kid's  
Party at Avon Woods was a success  
featuring a collection of creative  
Paddock Hills creatures and critters.



The Paddock Hills fall cleanup, with the help of students from the University of Cincinnati, concentrated on picking up trash and generally cleaning up along Paddock Rd., Tennessee Avenue, and Reading Road.

“Our corridor through the neighborhood looks great and it’s all due to those who rolled up their sleeves donated their time, tools, and vehicles,” said Julie Stallworth PH Beautification chair. “The Paddock Hills Assembly really appreciates you.”

Thanks to Julie for organizing the event.







Kudos from the Paddock Hills community to Mary Ayers of Avon Drive.

Mary generously takes the time to seasonally decorate many of the garden and common areas such as her halloween decorations at the Little Library and holiday displays at the community garden at the bottom of Avon near Reading.

It's her kind of efforts that make Paddock Hills a special and welcoming place to live.





# Submissions

Please send your contributions for the February Paddock Press by the last Monday in January.

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

Are you taking a class, creating new art, taking a trip?  
Are you hibernating, reading by the fire, baking bread?

Submit to ( [newsbird1@icloud.com](mailto:newsbird1@icloud.com) ).

## 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](http://www.5916000.com)

### Cincinnati Police

District 4  
513 569-8600  
Officer Patrice Brooks Neighborhood Officer  
[patricebrooks@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:patricebrooks@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>

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