

# 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

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## Holiday Stroll Makes Our Neighborhood Merry and Bright

'Tis the season for the Fourth Annual Paddock Hills Holiday Stroll 5:30 - 7 p.m. Sunday, December 10. The event has quickly 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. “I especially enjoy the wonder of the children watching them sip cocoa and ride the holiday train.”

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.

The Paddock Hills version of the Polar Express—a four-car, trackless train will make runs through the neighborhood, boarding at Paddock Hills Avenue and Paddock Lane.

Other 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 stations
- Santa Claus will be in attendance for pictures with the kids
- And those motorcycle Santas will return (you have been warned)
- A letters to Santa mailbox will be installed in the Paddock Hills Avenue cul-de-sac. It has become a special location thanks to the spectacular decorations at the house of Chris Ruthemeyer (see story below).

**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 train giving rides through the area.

# Holiday Lights Competition

The lights competition will again be decided with a community vote! If you would like your home to be in the competition please have decorations up by December 9 and send a picture of your home, or one you want to nominate, to [emma.kitzmiller@gmail.com](mailto:emma.kitzmiller@gmail.com).

Judges will post pictures of homes for all residents to vote on in a google form that will be emailed to the neighborhood.

## Paddock Hills Food Pantry and Personal Care Drive

Paddock Hills resident Jamie Stoneham is again organizing the annual food and home care drive. The effort has filled an SUV the last couple years and Jamie would like to challenge the neighborhood to fill two SUVs this year!



Society of  
St. Vincent de Paul  
email Jamie with questions:  
[jamie@thefarmchef.com](mailto:jamie@thefarmchef.com)

### P A D D O C K H I L L S

## FOOD PANTRY & PERSONAL CARE DRIVE

Please consider donating food pantry and personal care items to be donated to St. Vincent de Paul.

### Some examples of the most needed items are:

- Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Laundry detergent pods
- Dish soap
- Cooking oil
- Spices
- Peanut butter
- Canned protein (such as tuna/chicken)
- Cereal
- Low sodium/lite syrup
- Diced tomatoes
- Macaroni and cheese
- canned veggies & fruits

**Drop off Items between Dec 1st - Dec. 17th to:**  
1344 Westminster Dr. OR 1309 Paddock Hills Ave.

**For a complete list of most needed items (scroll to the bottom of the page):**  
[www.svdpcincinnati.org/drives-events/host-your-own-drive/](http://www.svdpcincinnati.org/drives-events/host-your-own-drive/)



# The Story Behind a Three Generational Holiday Display

When Tony Ruthemeyer built his house some 50 years ago in Monfort Heights, he had electrical plugs built into the roof. Yes, kind of unusual, but very practical, if you love putting together holiday displays. And Tony loved his decorations.

Tony's display had plastic candles, nutcrackers, a life-size hand-made wooden Santa and Charlie Brown set pieces. There were glittering stars and wreathes on the roof. And lots of lights, easily plugged-in to the roof, of course.

That original inspiration now resides at the home of Tony's son, Chris, who has picked up his dad's display and transported it to Paddock Hills, staging one of the most spectacular, and sentimental holiday displays in the neighborhood.

The brilliantly decorated house you see driving down Paddock Hills Avenue in past holiday seasons is the Ruthemeyer house that anchors the cull de sac. It features a multitude of glimmering lights, but most importantly wooden set pieces that have a true heritage. Probably 75 percent of the display is what his dad put together when Chris was a kid.

"The plastic statues are as old as I am," Chris said. "The deer, the snowman, and Charlie Brown are all things I made with my dad in grade school and drew them out on the wood and cut them out."



Chris said the display had been in storage after his parents sold the Monfort Heights home. When Paddock Hills decided to do a holiday event, where neighbors could stroll and look at decorations, he realized he had a ready-made show to bring out that dated from his earliest memories of the holiday season.

“I had to rebuild the snowman because it was deteriorated. Last year I built penguins to add to it, just because, well, I like penguins. But most all the lights are as old as I am, or from my childhood years.”

On a Saturday in late November, Chris was setting up the display, with Tony looking on, obviously contented that his son was carrying on the tradition he started. Chris was also preparing for the next generation, this year adding some blow-up figures from “Frozen.” Of course, he had to that. After all, he has two daughters, 4 & 2.

“Hey, maybe we can go three generations with this,” Tony said.

And about those electrical plugs on the roof.

“Well, the people who bought the house kind of looked puzzled about what they were for,” said Tony, with a twinkle in his eye.



# President's Letter

Hello Neighbors,

I thought I would take this opportunity to say thanks to our neighbors who dealt with our recent Dog Drop. For those who may be unaware, we had about a half a dozen dogs unceremoniously dropped in our neighborhood a week or so ago.

As usual, our neighbors responded with consideration and kindness. Several neighbors helped round up the pups.

One story relayed to me went as follows:

"The large dog remained on the street. It was frightened and malnourished. It took food tossed on the ground, and eventually, it jumped into my landscaper's tractor. We called everyone we could, but were told it would be 24-48 hours before Animal Care would come back. Officer Spaulding responded to our non-emergency police call and tried to get us bumped up the list with Animal Care, but eventually, it was our neighbor Ann (Pearson), from Sunnyslope Circle, who saved the day. She took the lead and patiently, calmly, over the course of an hour, managed to get a leash on the dog. At 12:30, she and her husband took it home and will take it to the vet." - Susan Glas

Lina Orr then followed up with folks and coordinated the effort to find homes for our wayward furry friends. With the help of several neighbors and friends of neighbors, all the pups have been taken in to new homes.

We live in a special neighborhood.

We know each other.

We help each other.

I really don't think you'd see such a coordinated and caring response elsewhere.

Thank you to all who helped, named and unnamed.

Have a wonderful December!

-Steve Munday



## Dogs Rescued

The doggie rescue by Paddock Hills residents, as detailed in Steve Munday's letter, had a happy ending, but highlights a growing problem in greater Cincinnati.

People are dumping and abandoning dogs at a record pace. In a six-week period this fall Cincinnati Animal care took in 450 abandoned dogs, according to Lina Orr, Paddock Hill Assemble vice president.

"It's wonderful the neighborhood rallied around these dogs," Lina said. "It's also a sad story because dogs get dumped all the time."

There is of course no way to know where the dogs came from, but they were clearly dumped and not strays running together.

"It's not a coincidence they all showed up at once," said Lina, "And they apparently were familiar with one another. They were trying to find places to shelter. They were not strays used to roaming. They were house trained."

# Sugar n' Spice Update

The year-long wait for your Sugar n' Spice fix is almost over.

A spokeswoman for owner Adam Mayerson says it's expected the iconic and beloved Reading Road restaurant will reopen sometime between mid- December and the first of the year, but she was unable to give an exact date as of this writing.

Setbacks for a November opening were caused by the delay of equipment delivery.

Mayerson has said Paddock Hills residents will get a head's up and be invited for a "soft opening," considering the support the neighborhood has shown for the restaurant over it's some 80-year existence.

The restaurant closed last November as Mayerson announced plans for a 1,200 square foot expansion that will nearly double the seating, and a separate room capable of accommodating larger groups for events such as birthday parties and meetings.

Since Mayerson bought the restaurant four years ago he has expanded the quirky brand, opening a Sugar n' Spice in Over-the-Rhine and in Blue Ash both featuring the "wispy thin pancakes" with the '50s decor of pastel colors and handing out rubber ducks to kids, a tradition started by a former owner.

## Leaf Reminder

It was brought to the attention of Paddock Hills trustees at the November community meeting, that some residents are blowing leaves into the street. So, we want to issue a reminder that the practice is a violation of a city ordinance covering yard waste materials that states: No person shall dispose of or dump yard waste materials on any street or other public place or any public property.

The major concern is that leaf and other yard waste wrecks havoc on the sewer system, not to mention creating traffic hazards, especially when the snow flies.

## Crime Update

The neighborhood experienced several car break-ins in October, but District 4 officers told the recent community meeting that the last month has been quiet with no major or petty thefts reported.

Police caution during the holiday season to not tempt thieves by keeping packages in cars parked over night. Cincinnati police say auto break-ins and petty thefts remain an ongoing major problem throughout the city occupying a large amount of their time.

# 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 how the community is passing the time during the winter months.

# Calendar Notes

**There is no Community Meeting in December.**

# Calendar/Upcoming Events

<b>Monday January 22</b>	<b>7:00 - 8:00 PM</b>	<b>Community Meeting</b>	<b>Avon Woods Nature Center</b>
<b>Monday February 26</b>	<b>7:00 - 8:00 PM</b>	<b>Community Meeting</b>	<b>Avon Woods Nature Center</b>
<b>Monday March 25</b>	<b>7:00 - 8:00 PM</b>	<b>Community Meeting</b>	<b>Avon Woods Nature Center</b>

## 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 Anthony Hill Neighborhood Officer  
[anthony.m.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto: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 <http://paddockhills.nextdoor.com>

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

## Paddock Hills Assembly Officers

President - Steve Munday  
Vice President - Lina Orr  
Treasurer - Robert Fecher  
Secretary - Pierretti Wallace

## Paddock Hills Assembly Trustees

Luekiucus Brown	Robert Fecher
Emma Kitzmiller	Steve Munday
Suresh Nirody	Lina Orr
Julie Stallworth	Annie Stephan
Liz Swain	Pierrette Wallace
Greg Watkins	

## NSP Grant Manager

Lina Orr

## Committee Chairs

Beautification - Lynne Stone  
Housing/Economic Development - Ellie Johnson  
Safety, Security and Traffic - Luekiucus Brown  
Security Cameras - Robert Fecher  
Social - Julie Stallworth  
Special Projects - Lynne Stone  
Welcome - Emma Kitzmiller  
Youth Programs - Robert Fecher

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