# 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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### President's Letter

There has been a change of the leadership of the Paddock Hills Assembly as of the first of the year. Steve Munday, a long time Paddock Hills resident, was unanimously elected president of the Assembly by trustees at the November meeting. Munday succeeds Lynne Stone who resigned after four years in the post. Stone has stayed on in the leadership as vice president.

Munday will fill out Stone's term which expires June 1. The election for new trustees is in April. The trustees then select assembly officers in May.

Hello Neighbors,

So, it seems I have taken on a new role in the community. By way of introduction, I am Steve Munday. I moved into Paddock Hills the first time in 2009 and lived on Paddock Lane for five years. After a short stint away, I managed to return to Paddock Hills in 2019. I was very happy to get back into this wonderful neighborhood with my two, now young adult, children. I have always appreciated its diversity and history and its strong and actively maintained sense of community.

This is the neighborhood where my son, as a young Cub Scout, built up quite the door-to-door flower fundraising clientele. This is the neighborhood where my daughter rode her unicycle with her friends down Paddock Hills Lane during National Night Out. It has provided years of neighborhood picnics, Halloween kid parties, and Ice Cream Socials for my family to enjoy.

The main reason I decided I was comfortable taking on this new role in Paddock Hills is because of the strong commitment and participation our community enjoys. There are more people than you likely realize who devote their time and effort to keeping our community so vibrant: the Swains who put together our National Night Out and Neighborhood Picnic; Kathy Grant who puts out our signs for Community meetings each month; Kim Gordon who spearheaded the creation of our new Little Libraries; Emma Kitzmiller, who coordinated our newest event, the Holiday Stroll, for the last two years. And this doesn't include all the people that help set up, run, and tear down our events, or our trustees and committee chairs that keep us organized and moving forward through the year, and many, many more. Perhaps I will tell you more of their volunteering heroics in future letters.

I will do my best to keep these traditions alive and thriving during my time as President. But I will clearly, very clearly, not be doing it alone. Thank you all (in advance) for *all* your help!

## Mural Update

Paddock Hills has been approved by the City of Cincinnati for a \$10,000 grant for a public art mural project.

As we reported in the December Paddock Press, the PH trustees voted to apply for the grant to install a painted mural on the retaining wall along the eastern hillside of Paddock Road. It is believed the mural would be the first inner city commission for an art project on a retaining wall.

The grant is from funds available to all 52 city neighborhoods as part of the Covid relief bill passed by Congress in early 2021 that encourages neighbors to come up with projects that can enrich and bring a community together after the disruptions and stress of the pandemic.

With the grant approval, the Assembly is able to move ahead with the project. It has contracted with Kip Eagan, a local public art consultant, who will commission three ideas for the mural. After a verbal presentation at a future community meeting, residents will be asked to vote for two of the best ideas, which will then be turned into sketches by the artists. The community will then vote between the two final renderings.

The mural is to be installed by late summer, complete with unveiling party.

# Spring Cleanup - Please Circle the Date

The annual Paddock Hills neighborhood cleanup will be **Saturday, March 26** from **9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** commencing at the Avon Woods Nature Center.

Winter brings so much trash to our streets and the annual cleanup makes a big impact for the rest of the year in managing trash maintenance, along with garden and sidewalk cleaning.

Volunteers are needed to help lead the work along side University of Cincinnati student volunteers. We expect a few dozen students will join us as part of the Clean Up Cincy effort where UC sends hundreds of students to area neighborhoods each semester to serve in beautification and sustainability efforts.

Your efforts will be rewarded by the PH Assembly with a pizza party at the nature center following the cleanup.

Please come and help improve our treasured living space. For more information, please contact event coordinator, Cathi Lowry (joca.lowry@gmail.com)

# Holiday Stroll Recap

The second annual Holiday Stroll was another huge success with dozens of families turning out to ride the train, sip some hot cocoa, write letters to Santa and generally spread the season's good cheer.

"Thank you to everyone for decorating their homes and yards this year," said Emma Kitzmiller, event coordinator. "It was so much fun to wander the neighborhood and see how everyone showed their individual tastes with the lighting and decorations. It was such a fun event!"

Over 30 letters to Santa were answered.

"I brought my entire family and some extras. We had a great time. My grand baby and niece both received their Santa letters," said Pierette Wallace of Clearbrook. "I felt it was well organized; the train rides went smoothly."

A committee formed to judge awards for the best holiday lighting displays reached a consensus that three homes should be recognized in a tie as winners of this year's event:

Joe & Mary Ayers on Avon Dr.

Chris Ruthmeyer & Jen Schulte on Paddock Hills Ave.

Denise O'Neal & John Rushing on Westminster Dr.







Thank you so much for decorating and lighting up.

You made the evening magical!

Next year we are going to set up an online ballot box for everyone to vote for their favorites.

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped out with the 2021 Holiday Stroll, we could not have done it without you!

A special shout out to the homes that were really entertaining for the kids:

Emma & Paul Kitzmiller of Paddock Hills Ave. Greg Watkins & Sherri Weber of Westminster Dr. Amy & Mark Bauknecht of Westminster Dr. Pauletta Hansel & Owen Cramer of Avon Dr. Maureen & Peter Mello of Paddock Hills Lane

The following homes were recognized for especially beautiful door displays:

Eric & Emily Fox of Egan Hills Charles White of Paddock Hills Ave. Chris & Lindsey Florea of Paddock Rd.





## Holiday Giving

The Paddock Hills Assembly was able to distribute holiday baskets to several of our retail and nonprofit neighbors.

"Between what we had left after the holiday stroll and the candy that was ordered for the gifts, I was able to put together really nice gift platters," said Lynne Stone. "A card was placed on each platter to thank them for their services and was signed 'Paddock Hills Assembly."

The baskets were distributed to Huber and Kessel, Blue Gibbon, Cincinnati Fire Department, Avon Woods Nature Center and a separate gift to our neighborhood police officer, Anthony Hill.

Jamie Stoneham, of Westminster, again hosted the neighborhood food pantry and personal care drive for St. Vincent de Paul. She reports a great response from Paddock Hills. "We filled the whole back of an SUV. I'm so thankful for living in such a generous neighborhood."



# New Neighbors

Paul Stephan and Annie Jachthuber moved in to 1323 Avon Drive just before Christmas (formerly the home of the Ongolea family).

Annie is originally from Atlanta, Ga.; Paul is from the Cincinnati area.

"We have moved with our dog, Sherlock Holmes, from Chicago for Paul's work. We are very excited to be closer to family and friends," said Annie. "Paul and I met when we attended The Ohio State University. I was a rower on the NCAA Varsity team, and while I rowed we won a national championship and all four Big10 championships. Go Bucks!

Annie says they were attracted to the area because of the elegant Tudor architecture, (something she did not often experience growing up in Atlanta!).

Welcome to the neighborhood Paul and Annie.

### Police Blotter

Neighborhood police officer Anthony Hill reported at the January 24 community meeting that three abandoned vehicles were recently towed from Egan Hills after residents reported suspicious vehicles to District 4. Hill saluted the residents for reporting the cars saying, "We need to keep an eye on such cars since they are often used by dealers for drug storage."

It's believed the three cars had been stolen.

Officer Hill also urged residents to make sure garage doors are locked and garage door openers are also locked in cars. This after an attempted burglary on Westminster in early January in which a would-be burglar tried to gain entrance to a home through an open garage door. The burglar was unable to gain entry to the home itself, according to Hill. Police are still looking for a suspect.

As a reminder, Officer Hill has been very responsive to neighborhood concerns, whether it's parking issues or unruly dogs.

He is best reached through email (anthony.m.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov).

# Calendar/Upcoming Events

Monday February 28	6:00 - 7:00 PM 7:00 - 8:00 PM	Trustees Meeting Community Meeting	Avon Woods Nature Center
Saturday March 26	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Spring Cleanup	Avon Woods Nature Center
Monday March 28	6:00 - 7:00 PM 7:00 - 8:00 PM	Trustees Meeting Community Meeting	Avon Woods Nature Center
Monday April 24	6:00 - 7:00 PM 7:00 - 8:00 PM	Trustees Meeting Community Meeting	Avon Woods Nature Center

Trustee's Meetings are open to members of the community; agenda items discussed and voted upon in the Trustee's Meetings are announced and recapped at the Community Meeting.

#### **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 4 569-8600

Officer Anthony Hill Neighborhood Officer anthony.m.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov 569-8678

#### **Avon Woods Nature Center**

861-3435

#### Paddock Hills Media

Paddock Hills Neighborhood website <a href="http://www.paddockhills.org">http://www.paddockhills.org</a>

Nextdoor Paddock Hills <a href="http://paddockhills.nextdoor.com">http://paddockhills.nextdoor.com</a>

Facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Paddock-Hills-266186546751105/">https://www.facebook.com/Paddock-Hills-266186546751105/</a>

### **Paddock Hills Assembly Officers**

President - Steve Munday Vice President - Lynne Stone Treasurer - Lina Orr

Secretary - Pierretti Wallace

#### **Paddock Hills Assembly Trustees**

Bruce Bowdon
Kim Gordon
Emma Kitzmiller
Steve Munday
Lynne Stone
Pierretti Wallace
Robert Fetcher
Paul Jones
Cathi Lowry
Lina Orr
Liz Swain

**NSP Grant Manager** 

Faraz Rizvi

#### **Committee Chairs**

Safety, Security and Traffic - Luekiucius Brown
Security Cameras - Robert Fetcher
Environment - Paul Jones
Beautification - Cathi Lowry
Economic Development - Ellie Johnson
Social - Liz Swain
Welcome - Emma Kitzmiller
Membership - Joyce Coleman
Youth Programs - Robert Fetcher
Little Libraries - Kim Gordon

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