

Paddock Press

A publication for the neighborhood of Paddock Hills, Cincinnati, Ohio. Funded by the Neighborhood Support Program.
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President's Message

Happy 2021 Paddock Hills!

My wish is for COVID to be over. With the increase of mask wearing and vaccines being administered, I think we have a chance for a winning year. Our desire is to have the Paddock Hill's calendar executed as planned. So, I look forward to seeing everyone out for the neighborhood clean up, the block party, new neighbor cook-out and the Holiday Stroll!

Last year was a fulfilling year even with COVID. We accomplished Zoom meetings, Little Libraries, security signs, neighborhood flags, a mural display, ice cream social, a community budget request for a traffic study and street signs, and the new Paddock Hill's website (<http://www.paddockhills.org>). This is just to name a few!

This year we would like to see improvements made to The Paddock Hills Ball field. Cathi Lowry, our Beautification Chair, submitted the Keep Cincinnati Beautiful City of Cincinnati "Safe and Clean Neighborhood" grant for this project. We are also planning to take advantage of this same grant offered again in August by submitting our grant for Avon Woods Nature Center improvements. Our objective is to make it more family and kid friendly by installing informative signage and interactive nature equipment.

Other initiatives on our plate are:

- Improve security camera coverage
- Decrease the speed/traffic on Paddock Rd. and some of our side streets
- Improve the cleanliness of our neighborhood.

Inclusion, unity and kindness are the principles we instill in all we do. We would love to hear from you if you have ideas for Paddock Hills, please attend one of the monthly community meetings.

Lynne Stone
President
Paddock Hills Assembly

Community News

Holiday Stroll

“We’re having so much fun.” “I hope we do this again.” “It was so great to finally get out and see our neighbors.” Those were some of the comments heard during December’s Holiday Stroll, an event that was an instant hit at a time when COVID confined folks were eager for a safe, socially-distanced chance to get out and celebrate the season.

“The Holiday Stroll was such a major success, we decided to make it an annual event,” said Lynne Stone Assembly president. “Kudos to Holiday Stroll Chair, Emma Kitzmiller. I also want to thank all of our neighbors for pitching in and helping where needed. Homes were beautifully decorated by the day of the event.”

Special appreciation to:

John Bird (son of Rick & Stacy Bird): Donated hot chocolate and chocolate bars; Patrica Drane: Donated the cream filled croissants; Scott Lucas and Joe Galvin: Motorcycle Santas; Byron Stallworth: Convertible Benz Santa; Stephanie Schlagel: decorations and serving; Christopher Ruthemeyer and Jen Schulte: Santa’s mail box and decorations; Nathan Hemingway: Hemingway Carriage rides.

Cookies, chocolates, candy canes and croissants that were leftover were donated to several groups including a local women’s shelter and an assisted living community and holiday treat boxes were sent to several establishments in the Paddock Hills business community including CFD- Station 9, CPD -District 2, Huber & Kessel, Blue Gibbon, and Sugar & Spice.



2021 Projects

A few of the initiatives and ideas for 2021 that have been discussed at recent Community and Trustee meetings:

—Trustee Bruce Bowden prepared and presented a power point to city council introducing Paddock Hills emphasizing the neighborhoods 100 year history and challenges for our second century. This is at the invitation of City Council members Kearney, Pepper, Sunderman and Vice Mayor Smitherman and the City of Cincinnati Neighborhoods Committee who are surveying the current concerns and priorities of Cincinnati's 52 neighborhoods. The key focus of our presentation was the need for a permanent solution to the hazardous traffic on Paddock Road that endangers our community members, young and old, and impacts our cohesiveness and identity as a neighborhood. Focusing on another barrier to walkability in the neighborhood, the overwhelming trash along Reading Road and Paddock Road; President Lynne Stone made the suggestion that each our 52 neighborhoods should receive 3-4 large trash cans to decorate and place in problem areas for collection on the neighborhood's trash day.

—We continue to press City of Cincinnati departments and committees to take action to discourage speeding on all of our neighborhood streets, drives, avenues and lanes.

—Grants are pending for sprucing up the CRC Recreation Field and instituting Paddock Hills Play Days at the field as well as family friendly improvements to Avon Woods Nature center. We continue to look for opportunities for safe play spaces for our children.

—We will be publishing a final updated hard copy of the Neighborhood Directory. We are looking towards a safe easily updated web based directory in future.

—At a recent Community Meeting interest was expressed in reinstating, refreshing or reimagining a traditional but sparsely attended Paddock Hills social event, the Ethnic Potluck. The potluck was originally tied to Thanksgiving season and was a fun and tasty opportunity to share traditional dishes and flavors from the many cultures represented in our community. Ideas discussed included scheduling it at less harried time of year for young families, turning it into a progressive dinner of sorts with various streets or cul de sacs hosting a smaller event or course. We are inviting ideas from the community, email them, talk to a trustee about them or bring them to a Community Meeting.

Community Input

Be on the lookout for email asking for your input and concerns about Paddock Hills and the Paddock Hills Assembly

The email will contain a link to a few open ended survey questions, your replies will be anonymous.

Assembly Business

It is the time of year for electing new Trustees.
Four Trustees' terms expire in 2021.

A Nominating Committee, which includes Emma Kitzmiller, Ellie Johnson, Lina Orr and Don Swain has been appointed by the Trustees. Those who are interested can contact anyone on the committee or email the assembly to express your interest. Any current or former Trustee will be glad to have a conversation about what the position involves.

April is designated the Annual Meeting.
New trustees are elected by the community at this meeting.
This year the April Community meeting will be a Zoom Meeting.

The Nominating Committee provides the list of nominees fourteen days before the April Meeting. This year the list of nominees will be emailed.

Assembly Officers are then elected by the Trustees at the May meeting.

A Paddock Hills Representative for Communities United for Action (CUFA), and a chairperson for the Security (camera) committee are needed. These positions can be held by any community member and are not limited to Trustees.

Parking

The average automobile is in motion only a small percentage of the time. During the remaining time it is stationary, in a garage, driveway or on the street.

Paddock Hills was planned and constructed at time when a single family home or apartment unit would be expected to store one automobile at most. Our garages and narrow streets are a product of that era. Because of that our community faces serious parking shortages without simple solutions.

Community members report that our residents' on-street parking has reached and exceeded capacity to the point that tradespeople, caregivers, delivery trucks and visitors are unable to park on their streets.

Consideration for one another is the only amenable solution available to us.

Where possible please utilize garages, driveways and backyard parking pads to relieve congestion. If you park a vehicle on the street, try to maximize curb space while being careful not to block driveways.

Neighborhood News

A Word About Coyotes

Coyotes have been spotted in Paddock Hills for at least ten years and, after a lull, there have been more sightings recently — on the golf course, bordering the nature center and on Westminister. With the elimination over 50 years ago in Ohio of their only natural predator—the wolf— coyotes have slowly expanded and adapted to the urban environment. They are routinely seen throughout Greater Cincinnati from Hyde Park and Clifton to Park Hills, Kentucky.

As creepy and menacing as they look, the urban coyote poses little to no danger to humans, according to naturalists. The only known fatal case of a coyote attack in the last 40 years occurred in a California suburb. They will attack cats and small dogs, so people should be watchful of their pets. While you may find it strange, wildlife experts say there is nothing to be done about coyotes since they pose little danger. Indeed some see them as helpful, since their primary food source is rodents and they prey on deer. “They keep the rodent population down and help with the overpopulation of deer by going after fawns. says Rachel Rice, naturalist at Avon Woods Nature Center.

They also reduce the feral cat population which is good for songbirds, since feral cats are responsible for killing millions of birds each year.

The most likely time to encounter an aggressive coyote is in spring—pup season. If the coyote seems menacing best advice, naturalists say, is to wave your arms, clap your hands loudly or yell at it. Don't run. Also, don't inadvertently feed the critters by leaving access to garbage or feeding pets outdoors.

Cincinnati's Wild Canines: Rachel's Take

Red fox, gray fox and coyotes... the latter is now the most commonly seen wild dog in Ohio. Coyotes are not native to our region but are highly adaptable and are now found in 49 states. While not always nocturnal they have grown more so to avoid human interaction. The fact is that coyotes have come to play an important role in our urban ecosystems. It is interesting to note that Avon Woods, Avon Fields, St. Mary's Cemetery and our neighborhood ravines and backyards are all part of the coyotes' habitat.

It is interesting to note that while many people think of a golf course as dead space, Avon Fields is modeled after the Audubon style, which is less manicured and allows portions to go wild for cover for wild life.

Also if people are interested, I have a few spots left for a dog friendly hike at Mt. Airy on February 27th where we will be discussing wild and domestic dogs.

Link for registration: <https://explore.nature.regfox.com/wildcanineshike>

Rachel Rice
Nature Next Door Outreach
Avon Woods Nature Center

Memorial Restored

Special thanks to PH resident Susan Glas who lobbied the city for the past year to replace the signs at the Reading Road ball field in honor of Donte Evans Brown and Darrell Lane.

The ball field is named after the two teens, ages 13 and 14, who were murdered in 1981 in a sniper shooting by serial killer and avowed white supremacist Joseph Paul Franklin. Franklin was indicted by a Hamilton County grand jury on two counts of aggravated murder for the June 1980 shootings, was found guilty and received a life sentence.

The original signs were torn down after a storm. Susan felt it was important to keep the memory of the two young boys alive and took the initiative.

Thank you Susan for your dedication to the memory of Donte and Darrell.



Neighborhood Notes

Kudos to Jamie Stoneham of Westminster who organized a neighborhood coat drive at the Holiday Stroll

“We had a great collection,” she says. “Paddock Hills truly is a great neighborhood with a giving heart.”



In another example of generosity of spirit, Amy Bauknecht and her kids were caught being neighborly, shoveling their neighbor's drive, after a February snow storm.

The Paddock Press always welcomes submissions showing off the kindness and community spirit demonstrated in Paddock Hills. Email submissions to newsbird1@icloud.com.

New Neighbors

Among the new Paddock Hills residents are Anna Marsala & Ben Raanan on Avon Drive. Anna is an IT project manager at P&G; Ben is a theater director with a speciality in disability theater.

“We're so glad to be in a neighborhood where there is a community feeling. Everyone has been very welcoming,” says Anna. “When we were looking for a house and came across Paddock Hills, we were elated to find a centrally located neighborhood with a community feeling and passion for inclusion. We are very happy to be joining the neighborhood and are excited to meet everyone!”

Welcome Anna and Ben.

Newsletter Submissions

The Paddock Press would like to invite more submissions to introduce our new neighbors and announce our community members' milestones and accomplishments as well as our individual and community "spring cleaning" efforts to clean up and refresh our streets and gardens.

Please submit your news for the April edition by mid March.
Paddock Press newsbird1@icloud.com.

Calendar / Upcoming Events

Monday March 22	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Trustee Meeting	Zoom
	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Community Meeting	Zoom
Monday April 26	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Trustee Meeting	Zoom
	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Community Meeting	Zoom

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 <http://www.paddockhills.org>

Nextdoor Paddock Hills <http://paddockhills.nextdoor.com>

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

PH Free or Trade <https://www.facebook.com/groups/245307956815508>

Paddock Hills Assembly Officers

Lynne Stone - President

Joe Galvin - Vice President

Lina Orr - Treasurer

Stacy Bird - Secretary

Paddock Hills Assembly Trustees

Stacy Bird

Joe Galvin

Paul Jones

Cathi Lowry

Lina Orr

Liz Swain

Bruce Bowden

Ellie Johnson

Emma Kitzmiller

Nicole McWhorter

Lynne Stone

NSP Grant Manager

Faraz Rizvi

Committee Chairs

Safety, Security and Traffic - Luekiucius Brown

Environment - Paul Jones

Beautification - Cathi Lowry

Economic Development -

Nicole McWhorter and Ellie Johnson

Social - Liz Swain

Welcome/Directory - Emma Kitzmiller

Membership - Joyce Coleman

Youth Programs - Joe Galvin

Little Library - Kim Gordon

Paddock Press

Rick or Stacy Bird

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