

# FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

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Fox Chapel Borough



Fall 2018

## Flood Damage Assessment

The Borough received significant rainfall July 2 - 4. Council President Andy Bennett declared a disaster emergency on July 2nd, and Borough Council extended the emergency for 30 additional days on July 9. The Borough experienced severe damage to roads and parks caused by flooding and landslides. The July 3 deluge resulted in intense flooding along Squaw Run Road in the flood plain resulting in twisted guiderail, the washing away of the new trailway and the depositing of several inches of rocks, mud and debris at McCahill Park. Fortunately, the new pedestrian bridges were not severely damaged. The storms caused many trees to fall onto streets and power lines. The Public Works Department (PWD) removed many trees from Hunt Road where 5 telephone poles were broken. The Department backfilled several road and bridge edges to make them safe for motorists while intermittently closing sections of roads. There remains a landslide below Old Mill Road opposite Millview Drive that has the potential to cause Old Mill Road to slide. A geotechnical engineer has reviewed and provided a report that will be the basis for bid specifications for the repair of the slide. The Fox Chapel VFC pumped 10 basements, some multiple times, and answered many tree and fire calls. The Fox Chapel PD responded with professionalism to numerous calls. The Borough supplied two open top bins for two weekends to accept large volumes of damaged items from Borough residents. The total cost to the Borough is estimated to be over \$400,000 in materials and labor. The majority of the flooding occurred in flood-prone areas.

The Borough would like to commend the PWD on a phenomenal job diligently working night and day to clear roads of debris and trees, repairing drainage systems that were washed away and reopening roads as quickly as possible. It took several weeks for the PWD to get a handle on repairing all the damage from the storms while also needing to get roadways prepped for paving. The police and volunteer fire departments also performed exceptionally during these events. Fortunately no one was injured during this catastrophic event.



### Remember to Vote

Election Day is November 6th. Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM. Go to Allegheny County Election Department's website if you need to find your polling place at [www.alleghenycounty.us/elect](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/elect). You can also register to vote or obtain an Absentee Ballot application on the site. Forms are not available at the Borough office.



### HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE

Mayor's Memo .....	2
Glitter & Glow.....	2
GROW Grant.....	3
Road Safety.....	3
Non-Emergency Number.....	3
Donate Your Old Sneakers!!! ...	3
Deer Management.....	3
Fall Leaf Collection .....	4
Halloween Hours .....	4
Ice Skating Rink.....	4
Christmas Tree Recycling.....	4
Snow Removal/Street Parking...	5
Beechwood Farms.....	5
Women's Board of Pittsburgh...	6
Holiday Garbage Collection...	6
Shady Side Academy.....	7
American Association of University Women.....	7

## Mayor's Memo



We welcomed residents to the Borough Building on Saturday, September 15, to “Meet Our First Responders”. Our Police, Volunteer Fire Department and Foxwall EMS were on hand for the event to showcase the equipment and vehicles used. Our First Responders are “heroes” in many ways for all the work and time they spent helping us during the July floods, and we cannot thank them enough. Those of you who were rescued from your vehicles know what our crew can do, and we are relieved that there were no serious injuries. Our K-9 Officer “Falco” and his handler, Officer Rob Katich, were on hand to do a demonstration for families. Officer Craig Sorg was on hand with his dog “Hocus”, a Dalmatian (!), who jumped into one of the firetrucks! Many residents just came by to thank the First Responders for what they do for all of us in Fox Chapel.

Leaf collection season will be here soon. We continue to suggest alternatives to leaf pick-up. A compost pile on the property or a wooded area where leaves can be deposited remains a better solution for our environment. This can save time for the Public Works Department still trying to catch up from damage incurred by the July floods.

Our Public Works staff continues to perform drainage and sewer work needed prior to paving. The drainage work should extend the life of the new pavement. We appreciate your patience as we are behind on the paving due to flood damage.

We continue to encourage tree planting as the number of trees in the Borough has declined. This is a County-wide problem and planting can help. Trees are the number one “friend” of storm water management as they soak up water. Recent weather tells us that trees and natural wooded areas will do more for water management than a large lawn. With all of our parks and open space, Fox Chapel is ahead of the curve, but we can improve! Our friends at Beechwood Farms recommend planting natives – the list is available on the Borough’s website.  
-Alex Scott-



## Glitter & Glow

*Glitter & Glow excitement and promise is back.*

*Kick up your heels with friends in support of the Fox Chapel Garden Club efforts to further the appreciation & knowledge of gardening & advocacy for sound environmental stewardship.*

*Wednesday, December 5th, 2018 7-9 PM*

*Fox Chapel Golf Club, 426 Fox Chapel Road Pittsburgh 15238*

*Don't miss out on our fabulous curated silent auction of spectacular gifts, collectibles, along with our wildly popular fresh greens and member-created floral arrangements*

*Door prizes & surprise drawings throughout the night!*

*Hors d'oeuvres & Desserts - Cash bar*

*Info & Tickets: <https://gandg.eventbee.com>*

*Tickets will be available October online.*

*All monies raised from sales are invested back into our local communities.*





## Road Safety

For safety purposes, the Police Department strongly encourages bikers, joggers and walkers to use the upgraded Borough trails for exercise instead of public roadways.



## Non-Emergency Police Department Telephone Number

For a non-emergency police matter, please call the police office at 412/963-7220. Leave a voicemail message if no answer. Remember to always call 911 for any emergency.



## Donate Your Old Sneakers!!!

The Fox Chapel Garden Club and local Girl Scouts are collecting used sneakers. The better shoes will be given to the Free Store in Braddock and Wilkinsburg and St. Vincent's. Worn out shoes will be shipped to Nike's "Reuse-A-Shoe" program where they will be ground and reused as playground mats, running tracks and basketball courts. Brightly colored collection bins are located throughout the community from Labor Day through October. All brands of athletic shoes are accepted, but no boots or cleats, please. For more information contact Rebecca Ringham Myerburg at [ringhamrm@gmail.com](mailto:ringhamrm@gmail.com).



## GROW Grant

The Borough received a grant from ALCOSAN in the amount of \$658,417 to be used for future sewer operations and maintenance of existing sewer lines. This grant will ease the burden on taxpayers in the coming years. The grant is for reimbursement of sanitary sewer lining costs the Borough expended from 2014 - 2017. The Allegheny County Sanitary Authority's Board of Directors approved \$4,116,580 in grant offers as part of the third round of ALCOSAN's Green Revitalization of Our Waterways (GROW) program. Seventeen municipalities were awarded the grants for a total of 19 green infrastructure, sewer separation and sanitary sewer pipe lining projects that are projected to remove 16 million gallons of overflow volume per year.



## Deer Management

During the 2017-2018 hunting season, a total of 98 deer were removed: 21 by vehicles, 22 by archers and 55 by the police sharpshooters. This compares with 118 deer removed the year before.

Archery season began Saturday, September 15, for white-tailed deer in Allegheny County. As in previous years, the Borough assists residents who want to have a hunter on their property by providing a pre-qualified archer *as long as there is an adequate safety zone* on the property. While the law allows you to give permission to any licensed archer to hunt on your property, we strongly encourage you to obtain a pre-qualified archer through the Borough by contacting Chief David Laux. Experience gained over the years clearly shows that the archers in the Borough's pool of archers are much more proficient at removing deer than non-pool archers.

The second part of the Borough's deer management program involves the use of police officers to remove deer at night at selected sites throughout the Borough. All meat obtained in this manner is donated to Hunters Sharing the Harvest. This aspect of the program extends from February 1st to September 30th but generally all such activity ceases from April through August.

If you have any questions about the Borough's program, please do not hesitate to contact Chief Laux at 412/850-5024



## Fall Leaf Collection

Leaf composting and placing leaves in wooded areas of your property is highly recommended and remind landscapers to do the same. This is especially needed this year because the wet summer has delayed road work for the Public Works Department. Your help in removing leaves from the collection program is needed and appreciated.

Collection will begin on October 15th (brush and decorative grasses are not included). Once a complete pass has been made through the Borough, the crews will start over on the first street and continue again throughout the Borough. All leaves should be deposited on the lawn BEHIND the curb or road edge, not on the pavement or in the gutter. LEAVES PLACED ON THE ROADWAY WILL NOT BE COLLECTED. This is important because leaves placed in the street can become soggy from street runoff which makes them extremely difficult to vacuum and increases the time required to remove the leaves. It also creates a safety problem by reducing the cartway available to motorists and pedestrians. (Ordinance No. 535 prescribes a penalty of \$1,000 for anyone placing such materials on a road.) Due to equipment limitations, leaves placed further than 6 feet from the curb cannot be collected. Borough personnel will not rake leaves down to the curb that are located outside the 6-foot limit. The final collection will start November 27. *Any leaves placed after November 27 will not be picked up.* Please make certain to notify landscapers of the cutoff date and the need to keep the leaves off the street. (Please email Dempsey Bruce at [dbruce@fox-chapel.pa.us](mailto:dbruce@fox-chapel.pa.us) if you would like a load or more of leaves delivered to your home.)

Please be aware that should the Borough experience the steady falling of leaves this fall, it could take as long as three weeks between collections. (Sometimes it takes Borough personnel an entire day to collect one street.) The Public Works Department keeps a daily log of streets collected so the Borough is aware of the number of collections made on a particular street. Your patience during leaf collection is greatly appreciated.

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## Halloween Hours

Halloween will be celebrated on Wednesday, October 31st, from 6 PM – 8 PM. The Police Department will be out in force patrolling Borough streets to make certain that all speed limits are being obeyed. Parents should dress their children in light or reflective clothing and an adult or older child should accompany the very young.

## Ice Skating Rink

We are asking those who use the ice skating rink at McCahill Park during the winter months to **please observe the “Closed” sign when posted.** The main reason for closure is the ice surface is not completely frozen. Borough personnel post the sign as well as place yellow tape across the entrance and yet the tape is removed and skating occurs causing damage to the rink’s liner. This has happened on several occasions since the rink has been installed and ruins skating for all. We are asking residents to help the Borough patrol the rink and notify police when usage occurs when closed. The rink has become a popular attraction during winter months, and it is the Borough’s desire to continue the tradition for years to come.

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## Christmas Tree Recycling

The Borough will provide a *curbside* pickup of Christmas trees. All trees must be brought to the curb by Wednesday, January 9th, with the cut end facing the street. All trimmings must be removed. Barring inclement weather, the collection usually takes only three days to complete. If you miss the curbside collection, Christmas trees can be brought to the bin area behind the Borough Building during normal bin hours (10 AM to 4 PM, Saturday & Sunday). Vogel Disposal does not collect Christmas trees.

## Snow Removal/Street Parking

Residents are reminded that street parking is prohibited during periods of snowfall, ice accumulation and inclement weather. Vehicles parked on public roads during the deposit or accumulation of snow or ice present a traffic hazard and impair the Borough's ability to effectively remove all snow or ice from the roads in a safe and expedient manner. The Police Department will tow any vehicle parked along any public roadway during inclement weather. In a related matter, it is also unlawful for residents to shovel any snow from any driveway/sidewalk/private road onto any public road. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



## Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve

**Get outside with Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania!** Join us for free, naturalist-led birds and more walks every Wednesday morning at 9 AM at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve – year round!

Upcoming events: Register and learn more at [www.aswp.org](http://www.aswp.org)

### **Audubon's Native Plant Nursery Discount Days – the month of October**

During the month of October, we're offering an additional 10% off on our native plants. That's 10% off for nonmembers and 20% off for members!

### **Creatures of the Night Family-Friendly Halloween – October 19 and 20**

Creatures of the Night is a non-scary Halloween adventure that takes you through our reserves to meet larger-than-life costumed nocturnal creatures. Refreshments are provided and treats will be given along the way. Come in costume for twice the fun.

### **Owl Prowl – November 9**

Learn about our local owls inside, then search for them on the trails. This event is appropriate for all ages. \$6 per member, \$10 per nonmember.

### **Owl Prowl and Growler – November 30**

Learn about our local owls as you search for them on the trails. Afterwards, head out to Fort Pitt Brewery (Sharpsburg) and enjoy a glass of your favorite adult beverage as you talk birds. 21 years of age and older; participants are responsible for the cost of their food and drinks.

### **Fledglings Preschool Activities: Ages 3-5 – October 11, November 8, December 13**

Give your 3-5 year old a head start on a lifetime of loving the outdoors. Fledglings programs incorporate stories, a walk, and activities to introduce new and fun nature themes to young participants.

### **Volunteer Opportunities: Habitat Restoration Plantings – October 13 and 27, November 3**

Join ASWP to support habitat restoration at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve. We'll plant native trees, shrubs, and perennials with high wildlife value. No experience is necessary. All materials will be provided. Large groups are welcome.

**Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve is located at 614 Dorseyville Road in Fox Chapel. [www.aswp.org](http://www.aswp.org) or (412) 963-6100.**



## Women's Board of Pittsburgh

Save the date: Friday, January 25, 2019, Fox Chapel Golf Club  
"Bridging Communities Through Hope" – Fundraising event benefitting Hosanna House, Inc.

For 27 years, The Women's Board of Pittsburgh has held an annual benefit luncheon with the sole purpose of raising money to lend financial support and publicity to selected local non-profit organizations. Our mission is to support the welfare and development of children in the greater Pittsburgh area. Out of the Women's Board 50 volunteer members, a team forms a Search Committee which reviews proposals from a number of local nonprofits, execute site visits, and selects one beneficiary for the annual benefit.

The 2019 recipient is Hosanna House, Inc., a multi-purpose health and human service organization which provides services to over 35,000 individuals from Wilksburg and the surrounding area. The mission of Hosanna House is to provide opportunities that empower families and individuals to discover, acknowledge and develop their potential physically, spiritually, and economically. Their core focus and need for support are on their children and youth services.

Hosanna House is focused on bringing change to subpar standardized test scores, poor academic grades and declining attendance through exposure to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The monies raised at the luncheon will support their Makerspace classroom, the Aviation Lab (using 4-H drone discovery curricula), and the Outdoor Classroom on their Sherwood property.

This year's benefit luncheon, co-chaired by Susan Boyle and Sandy McInerney, includes a cooking demonstration by Donegal's talented chef John Bergquist from Out of the Fire Cafe, and an informal fashion show from Oakmont's favorite, Carol Kinkela from Carabella. Themed "Bridging Communities Through Hope", and emceed by Andrew Stockey (Channel 4 Action News). Fundraising efforts will include Silent and Teacup Auctions as well as a Grand Raffle. In addition, the board solicits financial support from local donors, foundations, businesses, and generous sponsors.

For more information and reservations for the event, please visit the website: [www.womensboardpittsburgh.org](http://www.womensboardpittsburgh.org)



### **Holiday Garbage Collection Schedule and Driveway Reminder**

Garbage will not be collected on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day thus delaying garbage collection one day following the holiday for the remainder of the week.

With winter weather approaching, Vogel Disposal would also like to remind residents to keep driveways clear of snow and ice. If the driveway is not accessible due to dangerous/slippy conditions, garbage will not be collected. If bad weather is predicted on collection day, it is recommended that the garbage cans be placed at the curb to ensure pickup. Your cooperation is appreciated. *Call Vogel directly for a missed garbage collection or any collection problems toll free at 1-855/494-3345 and press 1 for Customer Service. Please do not call the Borough office – you will be instructed to call Vogel directly.*



## Shady Side Academy

### Shady Side Academy Fall Open Houses

Families interested in applying to Shady Side Academy for the 2019-2020 school year are invited to attend a fall admissions open house. Events will be held at all four campuses. RSVP online at [www.ShadySideAcademy.org/Visit](http://www.ShadySideAcademy.org/Visit).

Junior School (Point Breeze, PK-5)	Wednesday, Oct. 17	9:15 AM
Country Day School (Fox Chapel, PK-5)	Friday, Oct. 19	9:30 AM
Middle School (Fox Chapel, 6-8)	Saturday, Oct. 27	10:00 AM
Senior School (Fox Chapel, 9-12)	Saturday, Oct. 20	11:00 AM

### Hillman Performing Arts Series 2018-2019 Season

The 2018-2019 Hillman Performing Arts Series features a great lineup of family-friendly shows. All shows are Saturdays at 7:30 PM at the Hillman Center for Performing Arts on the Shady Side Academy Senior School campus, 423 Fox Chapel Road. Learn more and buy tickets at [www.TheHillman.org](http://www.TheHillman.org).

- Sep. 15 – Shana Tucker (singer & cellist)
- Oct. 20 – Artrageous (interactive art experience)
- Nov. 17 – Lynn Trefzger (ventriloquist)
- Dec. 8 – Deanna Witkowski (classical pianist)
- Mar. 9 – Poor Man's Gambit (Celtic band)
- Mar. 16 – The Amazing Max! (magician)
- Apr. 13 – The Flying Karamazov Brothers (jugglers)

### Fox Chapel Farmers Market Open Through Oct. 24

The Fox Chapel Farmers Market is open Wednesdays from 3:30-6:30 PM through October 24 in the first parking lot on the Shady Side Academy Senior School campus, 423 Fox Chapel Road. The market features seasonal produce, food and specialty items from local farms and vendors including SSA's on-campus farm. In addition to fresh fruits and vegetables, vendors offer grass-fed beef, gourmet baked goods, handmade items and more. Learn more at [www.ShadySideAcademy.org/FarmersMarket](http://www.ShadySideAcademy.org/FarmersMarket).



## American Association of University Women

### ***THE ART OF DEMOCRACY: DESIGNING INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT***

Date: Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 9:30 AM (coffee); 10:00 AM (meeting and program)  
Location: Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church (corner Fox Chapel and Field Club Roads)  
Speaker: Tim Dawson, Co-founder, The Art of Democracy

Partners at The Art of Democracy plan and facilitate high-stakes conversations on controversial issues for communities, local governments, nonprofits, and corporations with the aim of bringing stakeholders and policymakers together to find a path forward. Mr. Dawson will discuss some of the techniques he and his team use to defuse heated rhetoric and achieve successful outcomes in community forum sessions.

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, philanthropy, education, and research.

**For more information, contact** Lindsay Bond Totten, Publicity Coordinator, Fox Chapel Area Affiliate, AAUW, Email: [lbtotten@comcast.net](mailto:lbtotten@comcast.net)



**BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL**

401 FOX CHAPEL ROAD

PITTSBURGH, PA 15238

(412) 963-1100

*www.fox-chapel.pa.us*



**BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL  
ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Andrew C. Bennett, *President*  
 Jay S. Troutman, *Vice President*  
 Harrison S. Lauer  
 Ann R. Meyer  
 James M. Royston  
 Thomas A. Karet  
 Frederick C. Leech  
 Walter A. Scott, III, *Mayor*  
 Joy A. Hardt, *Treasurer*  
 Gary J. Koehler, *Manager*

Meets each month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:00 P.M.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Daniel H. Sliger, *Chairman*  
 Walter A. Scott, III  
 Thomas J. Murphy  
 Peggy G. Jayme  
 Jay S. Troutman  
 Nanette Bennett  
 Austin Henry

Meets as needed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Harrison S. Lauer, *Chairman*  
 Nanette Bennett  
 Wesley W. Posvar  
 James M. Royston  
 Jeffrey B. Todd

Meets as needed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 5:30 P.M.

**PARK COMMISSION**

James W. Pashek, *Chairman*  
 Nancy Fales  
 Jay Troutman  
 Maria Harrington  
 Dotty Nielsen  
 Liz Nelson  
 Lois Folino  
 Susan Crookston  
 Wesley W. Posvar  
 Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in April, June, September and December at 9:00 A.M.

**ZONING HEARING BOARD**

Richard E. Jaynes, *Chairman*  
 J. Christian Hart  
 Kyra Tucker

Meets as needed on the Wednesday following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS  
Office 412-963-1100**

Building Permits/  
 Zoning ..... 412-850-5023  
 Public Works ..... 412-850-5026  
 Sewer Department.. 412-850-5030

**Police Dept. 412-963-7220  
(Office/non-emergency)**

**MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE BOROUGH BUILDING AND ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.  
ALL RESIDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.**