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NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday
June 10, 2015
7:00PM

Most Holy Name
School Building

**PennDOT will discuss
Rt. 28 construction updates**

IN THIS ISSUE:

Business Corner

Community News

The Green Corner

Upcoming Meetings &
Neighborhood Events

Letter from the Chairman, by *Tony Benvin*

There is an old saying that we oftentimes “can’t see the forest for the trees;” that is, in dealing with everyday occurrences we sometimes miss the big picture. For many of us, we remember the robust Pittsburgh when steel mills were a mainstay and along with companies like Heinz and Dravo offered good-paying manufacturing jobs. It’s easy to look at Pittsburgh now and see a diminished Pittsburgh where those companies and those jobs are shells of their former selves, but has Pittsburgh really diminished or has it just changed?

We don’t recognize that Pittsburgh has benefited from being on the forefront of national urban change. When we lost our heavy manufacturing base some 30 years ago and became known as “The Rust Belt” our area was in a painful state but it was also on a leading edge. Because we lost our old economic base earlier than many areas of the country we had to start our economic rebuilding program before other areas of the country even needed to think about doing this. As a result, we were at the front of the line, a new economic line, and our area had the opportunity to attract some of the first round draft picks to help direct our city to this new economy. We became an international transplant and medical center; we are one of only a few supercomputing centers nationwide; we house a robotics institute of international stature, and these three items are only the start of a very impressive list.

So what does this have to do with Troy Hill? Because we live here, because we work here and because many of us were affected by the loss of our old Pittsburgh, many of these changes pass us by without much recognition or notice. But other people have noticed! Recently in Brooklyn Based (an e-mail magazine for Brooklynites) there was an essay by Nicole Davis titled: Could the Next Brooklyn be Pittsburgh? Davis’ article praises Pittsburgh and specifically highlights Troy Hill for its real estate value and for an upcoming new Troy Hill restaurant, The Pear & Pickle, which will hopefully open this fall.

Pittsburgh and Troy Hill are poised to be on the cusp of development in this twenty-first century but it won’t happen by itself. It requires each and every one of us to do our part. Sometimes that part is as seemingly insignificant as picking up litter, sweeping a step or painting a wall, but each of these small efforts is a seed which contributes to the well-being of our community. If Troy Hill were a dilapidated, high crime area does anyone think that Nicole Davis would have ever even mentioned our neighborhood?

We never really know which, if any, of these events will take root to have an effect, but they do, and more importantly they accumulate to have an effect sometimes well beyond anything we could imagine. They contribute to our neighborhood and help it flourish.

The word is out! Others have noticed and we should take note, too! To each and every Troy Hill resident: “Keep up the good work!”

Read the whole thing:

<http://brooklynbased.com/blog/2015/04/24/move-pittsburgh/>

Inspired By The Past - A New Era For Billy's Restaurant

Living or working in an inner city Pittsburgh neighborhood like Troy Hill, one comes to find that its people are as rich and rooted in history as the buildings around them. It is not uncommon to pass the same faces on a daily basis. Emerging from the THC office, I often find a familiar face to smile and wave to. We may or may not know each other's names yet, but we recognize a friendly face, and wave or nod in neighborly acknowledgement. There's something comforting about that. Warm interactions like these remind me of the community I grew up in—Morningside—where family homes are passed down from generation to generation, and close relatives buy homes a few blocks away. My sisters, neighbors, and many friends remain residents of their family homes.

As the community organizer and consultant for Troy Hill Citizens, Inc. over the past year, I have come to know and love Troy Hill because of its people and places. I admire the bond they share. When I proudly mention that I work in Troy Hill, I always find someone who grew up here with fond memories of the neighborhood, or another who attended North Catholic, as my son did.

At moments like these, I take the opportunity to proudly reintroduce them to Troy Hill. Some haven't returned to visit the area in a long while, so I let them know that it is still the great place it always was. What is it about a hometown that can make time stand still and transform scenery into a living memory? It is a place where the past and present come face-to-face.

With the closing and re-opening of the only restaurant in Troy Hill, the past and present are doing just that—meeting each other face-to-face. Yet I am confident that they won't butt heads. In order to gain some perspective on the merging of these two eras, I sat down with soon-to-be-former owner of Billy's Bistro, Jim Bougher, and soon-to-be-new owner Don Mahaney last week. I was humbled by Bougher's life-long work and exhilarated by Mahaney's enthusiasm.

Jim Bougher is vested in the fabric of Troy Hill. His life is rooted in Billy's Bistro. At the age of 18 Jim began working with his uncle, Bill Armstrong, doing what Bougher calls a "lot of heavy lifting", more or less carrying heavy construction materials up and down the stairs. Armstrong, a "burly" man, as his nephew describes him, renovated the upper levels into apartment units, then combined the lower level into one contiguous property. A Troy Hill resident himself, Armstrong owned several other restaurants in the Pittsburgh area before establishing Billy's in the late 1970's. There was A & B Pizza, a small pizza shop in Troy Hill at the corner of Hatteras & Froman, as well as Frank n' Stein's in Shaler, which is still in business today.



Billy's Interior Restaurant



Jim Bougher pictured here in his restaurant, just a few weeks before his last day.

When he purchased the property at 1720 Lowrie Street in 1998, Bougher also took legal ownership of the establishment from his uncle, who continued to help around the restaurant until his passing a few years ago. Like the other faithful members of Billy's staff, Bougher's mother Doris has also worked by his side for many years. When it came to his uncle's work ethic, Bougher highlighted Armstrong's commitment to craft—the wood paneling

**Inspired By The Past -
A New Era For Billy's Restaurant (Continued)**

that spans most of the restaurant's walls was done by Armstrong himself. Bougher took the time to point out to me one minor mistake where his uncle forgot to router a trim piece. Only one small mistake, unlike all the others, but so special.

During my visit to Brooklyn last week, I encountered something that reminded me of this piece of Billy's history. While taking myself on a walking tour, photographing small retail stores and gathering ideas to bring home to Troy Hill, I stopped into "Icy Signs", the artist-owned sign shop of designer Steve Powers. One particular sign stuck with me, reading, "Mistakes cost extra". It is hard to keep in mind how the serendipity of mistakes makes them all the more endearing. Now, each time I go back to visit Billy's Bistro, I will remember that error in the wooden trim piece. I will remember the day I interviewed Jim Bougher, and I will remember how I witnessed Jim feel his uncle's presence as he described that 'mistake' to me. That day I made a memory to relive again and again throughout time.



Michael's Department Store

On May 29th, 2015, Jim Bougher worked his last day at Billy's Bistro. Bougher says he is "just ready for a change". For many years, he has worked 7 days a week with few vacations. But this is certainly not a retirement. Jim will now have time to paint his mother Doris' home. Maybe Jim will paint his own home, or take a vacation with his wife. After-all, he's just taking a long deserved break. I took Jim's photo at the end of our meeting, and I swear I saw his uncle and the bistro's piano player in the background, or maybe it was just the atmosphere of pride bouncing off Jim's chest. Congratulations Jim, and thank you for serving Pittsburgh with a family style restaurant and that Black Diamond Steak Dinner. Jim is a former Board member and past President of Troy Hill Citizen's, Inc.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Troy Hill Citizens Office	412-321-2852
TroyHillCitizensEmail	troyhillpittsburgh@gmail.com
Troy Hill Citizens Web	www.troyhillpittsburgh.com

Call **911** for any crime, fire, or serious medical problem in progress or suspected to be in progress.

Mayor's Service Center call **311** or **412-255-2521**

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Mayor's Office **412-255-2626**

Councilwoman Darlene Harris.....**412-255-2135**

State Rep. Adam Ravenstahl**412-321--5523**

Zone One Pittsburgh Police.....**412-323-7201**

Street Lights..... **412-255-5483**

Animal Control**412-255-2036**.....Barking dogs, dogs running loose and stray.

Animal Friends.....**412-456-5687**..... abused or neglected animals

Bureau of Building Inspection...**412-255-2175**

Questions about building permits & occupancy permits
200 Ross Street 3rd floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Allegheny County-pot hole complaints **412-350-2513**

Pittsburgh Public Schools school safety.. **412-622-3520**

Duquesne Light.....**1-888-393-7100**

Power Outages.....**1-888-393-7000**

Allegheny County Health Dept...**412-578-8026**

United States Attorney's Office, Western District of PA, Pittsburgh Office..... **412-644-3500**

Better Business Bureau..... **877-267-5222**

Benefit Helpline (cash assistance, SNAP, MA, etc.)
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Children's Health Helpline **1-800-986-KIDS**

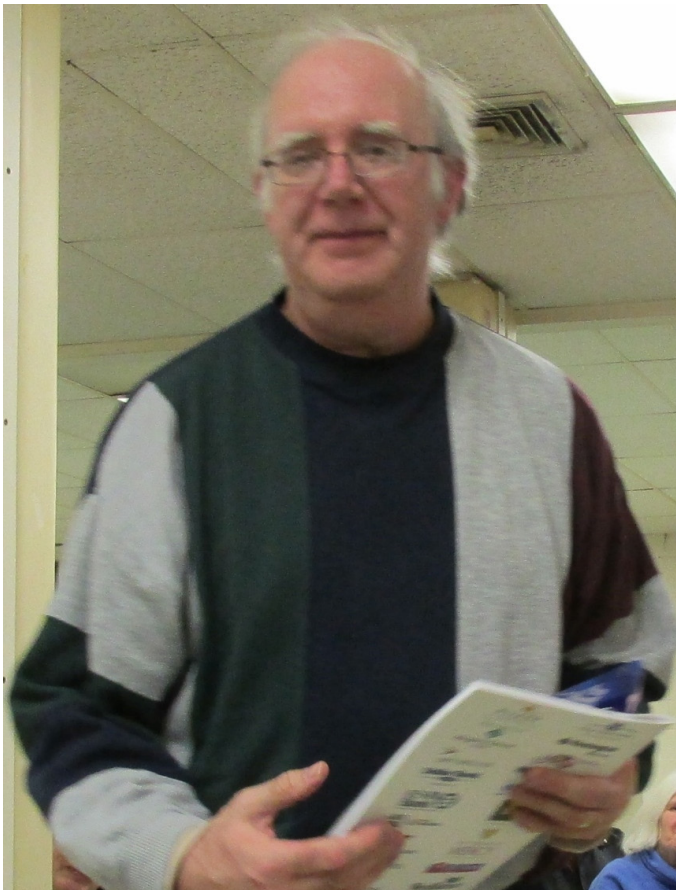
Crime Stoppers Tip Line **412-255-8477**

Trachten Wallfahrt and Gtiftungsfest

This one-mile long walking pilgrimage which is a celebration of Bavarian and Austrian Traditions was on Saturday May 16 beginning at Chestnut and Troy Hill Streets going to St. Anthony Chapel for a 4 pm German Mass sponsored by the members of GTEV D" Lustigen Isartaler followed by a German banquet dinner at the Teutonia Mannerchor with a German band accompanied by the dancers and a chorus.

What is a Trachtenwallfahrt? It is a pilgrimage one makes in Tracht (the traditional clothing of Bavaria / Austria) from one point to a church or chapel where a special mass is celebrated for the living and deceased members of family members. The origins of Trachtenwallfahrt date back to the Middle Ages and are widely in practice today in Bavaria and Austria. Pittsburgh is the only city in North America that is fortunate enough to celebrate this special custom.

Don Donaghey – Volunteer Extraordinaire, *by Janet Koch*



Don Donaghey, Volunteer of the Year 2014

Mr. Donaghey has been working with his church, Grace Lutheran Church and been quick with a helpful word and a supportive hand.

His dedication to his community is much-appreciated help in itself, but his work also serves to inspire others -- the true mark of a civic institution. It is for these reasons that Troy Hill Citizens was proud to have Don Donaghey as our Volunteer of the Year for the NorthSide Leadership Award.

Don grew up in Rutland, VT, joined the Marines and thru a fellow Marine met his wife Barb. They settled here much to our delight.

Don Donaghey has been a great asset to Troy Hill from cutting the grass; helping with the Picnic at the Park; to digging and planting a new Edible Garden and his participation in Troy Hill's Block watch.

He has demonstrated a vigilant concern for our neighborhood's safety while volunteering in numerous capacities for well over a decade,



a

Safety for children – family rules

Having a system of family rules about personal safety is a good way to teach children the difference between safe and unsafe situations. Many families have rules about bedtime, TV watching, chores but by adopting rules about personal safety, parents teach good habits through repetition and reinforcement without excessive fear. They can be used in a family routine.

Inside rules

Children should know their complete home address, telephone number including the area code, parents first and last names.

How to dial 911--practice this with the receiver button taped down. Children should be taught not to tell personal information about themselves or family over the phone or to a stranger without the parent's permission. If children are home alone teach them to say the parent can't come to the phone now; take a message or ask the person to call back later. Teach children not to open the door to anyone until they know who is knocking. Teach them to open the door only to people whom they are allowed. Children should be taught how to lock and unlock the doors at home.

Outside rules

Have a system of accountability; learn the full names, addresses, phone numbers of your children's friends and parents. Verify the information learning the rules of the friend's house who will be there? Know the routes your child takes to and from school--"No Shortcuts". Children need to be taught never to go anywhere without the parents permission. When children go to public restrooms use the buddy system. Teach your child not to approach a car that stops asking for directions. Bad guys might act nice even offer gifts or may ask children "can you help find a puppy". They may even lie especially if a stranger says your mother told me to pick you up after school. Bad guys may use threats like I'll hurt your mother if you don't come with me right now. Teach children that bad guys are people who ask them to violate family rules.

Brighten someone's day by sending a card or a note to these folks possibly cheering them up:

Eva Woomer 38080 Stevens Road Lovettsville, VA 20180

Helen Lindenfelser 2118 Lautner Street Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Dorothy Phillipps 2117 Straubs Lane Pittsburgh, PA 15212

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THC General Membership Meeting – Open to the Public

Wed. June 10th: 7pm @ Most Holy Name

Agenda: PennDOT Senior Project Manager, Erik Porter, will discuss the progress of Route 28 improvements and provide us with details about the upcoming changes at the intersection of Troy Hill Road & Chestnut Streets.

Troy Hill Community “Day of Music in the Park”

Saturday, July 18

FREE Bollywood dance lessons at NOON

Live Bands from 1pm-5pm

“Sol Persona” Three Rivers Revival” & “Television”

Games of chance, food and beverages for sale by local vendors

Most Holy Name Summer Festival....June 17 – 20, 2015

No Blockwatch in June & July

Darbea's Tavern

Open 7 days a week

11:00AM

1962 Lowrie St.

Waltmire Pharmacy

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Lookout Garden Update



A BIG thank you to the City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Works! The construction crew put down a gravel base and moved the shed to the shady side of the garden. They also installed the split rail fence, moved 2 benches to a shady corner and moved the boxes of 4 plots!

Not only all that, but they also gave us a water source! WOW! Don Donaghey and Lenore Zotter shoveled soil to refill 2 boxes.

Help is needed to move the remaining piles of soil into the empty boxes.

A combination lock will be purchased and the combination given to those



who garden there. The tools now stored at the THC office will be stored in the shed.

If you have requested a plot, now is the time to get gardening! Email us at troyhillpittsburgh.com for more information or to register.

Unveiling of the PA Historic Marker and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the interpretive panels and memorial wall at St. Nicholas Church Historic Site June 20, 2015 11:00 AM

Preserve Croatian Heritage Foundation (PCHF) invites you to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new St. Nicholas Church Historic Site and a public dedication of a Pennsylvania Historical Marker for the former St. Nicholas Church, N.S. on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at 11 AM.

There will be a ribbon cutting for the memorial wall and interpretive panels for St. Nicholas, Pittsburgh PA, the first Croatian parish in America.

The panels describe the rich history and significance of St. Nicholas Church, Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto and the Mala Jaska neighborhood. The dedication for the marker will conclude the ceremony.

Guest speakers include: Josko Paro, Croatian Ambassador to the U.S., Ed Pazo, our National President; Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto; Jim Ferlo, retired State Senator and a founding member of Preservation Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh City Councilwoman Darlene Harris, and PennDOT District Executive Dan Cessna. Other dignitaries will be in attendance.

The Junior Tamburitians of Duquesne will provide entertainment, singing the National Anthems of the U.S.A. and Croatia.

A new walkway that begins at the parking lot across the street from Penn Brewery leads to the former St. Nicholas Church site. Free parking is available in this lot. Also, Penn Brewery has given permission to use their parking lot, as well. A golf cart shuttle will be provided by PCHF for physically handicap individuals from the parking lot to the historic site.

Six public art murals commemorating Pittsburgh's North Side neighborhood have been sandblasted into the retaining wall along the trail, leading to the largest image commemorating St. Nicholas Church. The seating area located to the right of the Church mural includes a crescent shaped wall with an alcove and seating along the bottom portion of the wall. The St. Nicholas cornerstone was saved and is now part of this memorial wall.

In the center of the site, a 5 inch-wide copper, hexagon shape has been incorporated into the ground. The hexagon was inspired by the three, unique onion-dome shaped steeples that once stood so proudly on top of St. Nicholas Church.

In addition, the PA Historic Marker awarded to St. Nicholas Church, N.S. will stand to the right of the wall. The three interpretive panels will be installed on this site. The 3 ft. x 4 ft. panels will stand vertically and include both historic text and beautiful colored photographs. Eight large landscaping stones will add to the wide variety of foliage and will serve as additional seating. Hikers, bikers and walkers are invited and encouraged to take some time to stop, rest and learn more about historic, St. Nicholas Church, N.S., the Grotto and the Mala Jaska neighborhood that filled this stretch of E. Ohio Street for over 100 years.

Once you visit the site, you will agree that the Pa Dept. of Transportation did a marvelous job helping the community and welcoming all visitors to this historic site. As PennDOT Executive Director, Dan Cessna, stated, "All the work is coming together, and we anxiously look forward to opening the road and walkway for many to enjoy for years to come".

We may have lost our beautiful church after a 14-year fight, but we now have this amazing memorial to share St. Nick's history with future generations. So plan to join us on Saturday, June 20 at 11 AM to celebrate the new and educational St. Nicholas Church Memorial Site.

Regards,
PCHF Board

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Interview with Ron Donoghue, Local Pittsburgh Artist *by Brian Schimmel*

90 Neighborhoods

Ask a Pittsburgher where they are from and they won't reply "Pittsburgh", but rather "Point Breeze, Bloomfield, or Crafton Heights." Pittsburgh is a city defined by its neighborhoods and artist Ron Donoghue captures a moment from each of them in his 90 Neighborhoods project. He calls his project a time capsule of that year from August 2013 – 2014.

Ron Donoghue, who lives in Lawrenceville, allowed himself 12 months to complete the project, requiring him to finish two paintings per week.

Along with an ambitious schedule, Ron also decided to visit each of Pittsburgh's 90 neighborhoods in alphabetical order rather than painting adjacent neighborhoods back to back. Hopping around the city alphabetically allowed Ron to paint each neighborhood anew, without the feeling from one neighborhood influencing the painting of the next. Spanning the project over one year allowed Ron to capture scenes of Pittsburgh in its different seasons. Ron paints in Plein Air style, which roughly translates to "painting outdoors". This method reproduces the actual visual conditions seen at the time of painting. As Laura Domencic mentions in the foreword, "In some of the paintings, you can feel the temperature" Attention to light and climate are central to his paintings. The subjects of his scenes appear to have been chosen on how the lighting splashed across the buildings, or shadows darkened alleyways. At times, the Plein Air style pitted Ron against the elements. During a particularly frigid Pittsburgh winter, he had to fold up his easel and retreat indoors, his fingers refusing to work.

After viewing the paintings, I've resolved to visit all of Pittsburgh's 90 neighborhoods, and I can only imagine that Mr. Donoghue's project will inspire many similar pilgrimages. Mr. Donoghue's "90 Pittsburgh Neighborhoods" exhibit will be on display at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts in Shadyside through August 9th.

Q: How did you decide on Rialto St. as the subject for Troy Hill?

Donoghue: I've always been intrigued by Troy Hill and especially "Pig Hill" because of the history behind it. (Marching animals down to Herr's Island for slaughter is a visual that stays in my head!) I also liked the challenge of painting the extreme perspective of it. What I didn't realize is that Herr's Island is technically a part of Troy Hill.

Q: Was there a neighborhood that you discovered during your project that you might call a "hidden gem" or stood out in some way?

Donoghue: Manchester is a neighborhood which surprised me. I didn't realize how much grand architecture was there.

Q: Has your easel ever tipped over down a hill when you were painting in Pittsburgh?

Donoghue: haha it has been blown over many times. The wind is my enemy.

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and valuable
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website at:

troyhillpittsburgh.com/

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Firm ties to the present: Scratch Food & Beverage

The team at Scratch food & beverage are gearing up to move into the space formerly occupied by Billy's Troy Hill Bistro. Owner Don Mahaney, Chef Chris Biondo, and Bar Manager Steve Kalajainen have worked with Jim Bougher, former owner of Billy's, for the better part of a year to orchestrate a smooth transition for the neighborhood, one that in Don's words "will never be complete" so long as he, Chris and Steve are properly engaged with the people of Troy Hill, the Northside and Pittsburgh. "It's about knowing our guests and listening to our neighbors and responding to them," said Don. "If we do this right, we will never stop changing; we will always be working to meet the people of the neighborhood, the Northside and the City where they are."

Don and his team are committed to making sure every guest will still be able to grab a cold beer and enjoy a decent burger at Scratch...at a decent price. Billy's was known for its sandwiches; the team at Scratch hopes to carry that distinction forward with a signature Reuben, Dagwood, Burger, Fried Chicken Salad and many many other sandwiches. However, as the name "Scratch" implies, the team will be striving to make everything it possibly can from the most basic ingredients. A menu made from scratch? Count me in.

This summer, the remodel will be underway. Don encourages anyone interested to stop by anytime they like to check on progress. You can also look at the Scratch tumblr page at www.scratchfb.tumblr.com for updates. An Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and proper website are also in the offing. The team is planning a series of soft openings with no set dates at the moment. But they assure me that there will be at least one happy hour, dinner, brunch and karaoke test run before the grand opening.

It's safe to say that people will still be using 1720 Lowrie as a point of reference for directions: "Bare left when you get come to Billy's" will be replaced with "Bare left at Scratch." I'm rooting for Scratch to continue redefining its place in Troy Hill, and watching Scratch food & beverage become part of the atmosphere of the hill. It's unique. It has character. It's historic. And when I walk into Scratch food & beverage, someone will know my name, just like they did at Billy's.

Miller - Brady Funeral Home

~Also honoring commitments of the former Oscar Miller Funeral Home ~

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Stephen M. Brady, F.D.

LeAnn Sherman, Supervisor

Garrett Gale, Counselor

Pre-Need Plans | Forethought Life

Homesteaders Life | Numerous Bank Trusts

Scratch food & beverage will be open for business beginning in late July or early August on Tuesdays through Thursdays, from 11-11; Fridays from 11- Midnight; Saturdays from 3 - Midnight, and Sundays, for Brunch, from 8 - 8. Happy Hour will be from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Monday thru Friday. Aside from the standard drink discounts, Happy Hour will also include select menu items prepared only during this time. Bon appetit!

Troy Hill Citizens Membership Form

Name: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____ City & State: _____
Zip Code: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

New Membership 2015: Membership Renewal 2015: Each membership is \$10.⁰⁰

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Membership is also available online at our website, dues are payable through PayPal. <http://troyhillpittsburgh.com/member->

Troy Hill Citizens Inc.
1619 Lowrie St.
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We hope you enjoy our newly designed newsletter! Are you renewing your membership for 2015 and need to update your contact information for our newsletter? Email us at troyhillcitizens@gmail.com with your contact info and indicate if you would like a return phone call in your message.

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