



THE HUB

September, 1998

Volume VII, Issue 3

Annual Picnic is September 20th “Run for the Hills” Race the 19th

You won't want to miss either of these events.

Park Hills' "Run for the Hills" road race promises to test the meddle of the community's fittest and fastest runners. The event will consist of a 5K run and walk through Park Hills and Devou Park followed by a Kid's Fun Run.

The race starts and finishes at Trolley Park. Prizes will be awarded to winners in both men's and women's divisions as well as age and weight-group categories within each division. Further information will be announced on entry forms which will be circulated within the community prior to the race.

Those interested in running and needing more information should call Carl Wooten at 344-6088, Greg Johnson at 291-1922 or Jay Bayer at 431-7699.

Those interested in watching are more than welcome to come out and cheer on their neighbors and friends.

The annual picnic is scheduled for the following day and is always a great way to

wind up the summer — a lot of fun for the entire family and a chance to get together with friends and neighbors. There will be plenty of activities and events including music, games, pony rides, face painting and giveaways for the kids. (Children wanting to participate in picnic games need to be accompanied by an adult.)

The Park Hills Picnic also includes the annual covered dish competition where you can savor some of Park Hills' finest home cooking. Prizes will be awarded for the best dish in each of the following categories: Appetizers and breads; soups and salads; main courses and side dishes; and desserts. We'd like to welcome



residents bringing dishes to also provide a copy of the recipe so we can share winning recipes by publishing them in the HUB's next issue. Anyone wanting to enter the covered dish competition should arrive promptly with their entry at 2:00 p.m.

When the food judging is over, only those families bringing a dish will be allowed to help themselves to the buffet of great food that was entered in the competition. So plan to bring a dish if you want to sample some outstanding food!

Soft drinks and beer, as well as hot dogs and hamburgers are provided at a minimal cost, with discounts available to Civic Association Members. Bring your Civic Association membership card to obtain premium prices on food and drinks. If you're not already a member, you can join at the picnic. Dues for the Civic Association are the same as last year:

\$10.00 per family, and \$5.00 for a single. All members are

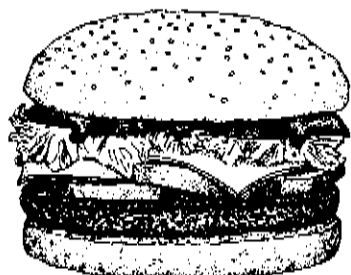
entitled to enjoy and participate in Civic Association events throughout the year.

Some of the activities the Park Hills Civic Association

sponsors and or participates in

include the children's Christmas party and tree-lighting ceremony, street sign replacement program, city tree plantings, Memorial Day parade, Halloween party and the fund drive benefiting the Fire Department, Police Department and Rescue Squad.

The annual picnic is always a great time for everyone involved. The fun starts at 3:00 pm in Trolley Park. Don't miss it!



It is Still Not too Late to Pay Your Civic Association Membership Dues

If you missed the street chairman collecting Civic Association membership dues, you can still send your dues to:

Millie Fangman
1001 Park Dr.

Or, drop your dues at the Park Hills City Building.

Members receive a 1997-98 Park Hills Civic Association Directory and will have their family's name and address listed in next year's directory.

Welcome, New Residents!

Welcome packets from the Civic Association's Hospitality Committee were sent to the following residents:

John & Amy Castetter - 1136 Audubon Rd.
Dan & Mandy Volpenhein - 1123 Old State Rd.
Natalie Green - 1022 Jackson Rd.
Ron & Gene Oswalt - 1022 Rose Ci.
Kent & Kristy Dunn - 1013 Lawton Rd.
Karen McGaughey/Jennifer Kelly 1053 Lawton Rd., Apt. 1
Don & Patti Smith - 1040 Altavia
David & Ann Stutler - 1328 Old State Rd.
Stephen & Kelly Middendorf - 838 Alhambra
Allan & Shannon Walcott - 904 Alhambra
Michael & Billy Lou Grant - 836 Arlington Rd.
Joe & Sandy Thoma - 1113 Cleveland Ave.
Jim & Judy Cogswell - 1023 Parkcrest Dr.

Next meeting of the Park Hills Garden Club will be October 15th at 7:00 p.m. at Wood Bros. on Dixie Hwy. All who are interested, please attend.

"The Most Convenient Suburb" - Some History About Your Town

The area that is now Park Hills was mostly uninhabited in the mid 1800's. The land was too hilly for farms and too inaccessible for homes. The few homes that were built were along Lexington Pike, now Dixie Highway.

A famous landmark along Lexington Pike was the Stonewall House which became a stopover point for farmers driving stock to the markets in Covington and Cincinnati. It was a restaurant and tavern. In the early 1900's it was sold and converted into The Hotel Hahn. It has since been torn down and the Ft. Mitchell Garage now sits on its spot.

Early developers of the land were Coran, Spencer, and Corry. Hoping to develop this area, they subdivided it and laid off many streets but they were never graded. The Light and Montague families owned other parts of the land. The Light family sold molding sand for many years from their property located on Breckenridge Road. At one time, the property had a small clay quarry and the family claimed to have sold quantities of the clay to Rookwood Pottery in Cincinnati.

About this time William P. Devou came into the picture. A wealthy landowner whose major holdings were in the Cincinnati area, Devou lived most of his adult life on his family's farm in Covington. For many years he wondered what to do with over 500 acres of non-productive land that he owned adjacent to his farm. E.S. Lee, friend and then president of the First National Bank, urged Mr. Devou to donate the land to Covington as a park in memory of his mother. The land was then given to Covington in 1910 and became Devou Park.

Meanwhile, the electric streetcars were going through the area on what was the "Number 1" or "Ft. Mitchell Line." The route started at Dixie Terminal in Covington and passed through

what is now Park Hills, past Highland Cemetery and ended at Orphanage Road. This particular electric rail line was completed in 1910 and the street cars ran until 1950.

The development of Park Hills began in the 1920s when the Lee, Simmons, and Billiter families bought land and began to lay out streets. In 1926, some of the first homes were for sale on Audubon Road, Emerson Road, Rose Avenue and Cleveland Avenue. The Lee and Simmons Development Company advertised "a beautiful subdivision with streetcar service, city water, natural gas and sewer, that is almost completely surrounded by Devou Park." By January, 1927, homes were selling for more than \$10,000 and new residents were demanding other services such as police protection and trash collection.

On June 30, 1927, a charter was granted to incorporate the city and the first board of trustees met. The city of Park Hills was founded, getting its name from the hilly area near Devou Park. The Police Department was organized around 1941. In the early 1950s, it was one of the first suburban departments in the county to provide 24-hour-a-day coverage. The city contracted with Covington for fire protection until 1942, when the Park Hills Fire Department was formed. The City Building at 1106 Amsterdam Road was built that same year.

The town developed and new streets got their names in various ways. Exter Drive was named for the Exterkamp Brothers Developers; Breckenridge Road was for Confederate General John C. Breckenridge; Cleveland Avenue was named after President Grover Cleveland.

Today Park Hills is a fourth class city, has 980 homes, and 3,321 residents.

- Pat Delaney

New Fire Chief Appointed

On July 1, 1998, Dennis Finke was appointed fire chief, replacing Jim Kaelin.

Dennis Finke has lived in Park Hills since 1961. He lives on Lawton Rd. with his wife Sharon and their three children, Terri, Ryan and Emily.

Being the chief of Park Hills' fire department is nothing new to Dennis. He previously served as fire chief from 1986 to 1991. Dennis will be doing double duty since he will continue as the public works director along with his new duties as fire chief.

The fire department is made up of 30 volunteers and is always looking for more help. The department meets every Tuesday night, so if you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for either the fire department or an EMT position, please call Dennis at 431-6252. Interested persons must be at least 18 years old. Training will be provided.

- Alice Akin

The Hub welcomes article submissions and letters expressing your opinions on community matters. Address all correspondence to: Poppy Evans Hub editor, 1064 Jackson Rd., Park Hills, KY 41011

Hub Schedule

<u>Issue/Mailing Date</u>	<u>Copy Deadline</u>
December/November 30	November 15
March/February 28	February 15
May/May 15	April 30
September/August 31	August 15

Look to *The Hub* as your primary source of information on community events and

Garden Club Sponsors Fireworks Gala

The Garden Club is sponsoring a Labor Day Fireworks Gala that will give Park Hills residents an opportunity to view fireworks with friends and neighbors in a family-oriented setting that avoids the crowds and traffic associated with this event in river-front viewing locations.

The location is the property of Jerome Radin at 1094 Cecelia Ave. The yard is cozy and provides an incredible view of the fireworks. Parking will be available along Rue de Maisons for those who attend.

Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. (Children under are free with an adult.) Price includes food, soft drinks, quality WEBN broadcasting and activities for young children who are likely to become bored waiting for the fireworks to begin.

The Gala begins at 6:00 p.m. Due to limited space, the number of reservations will be limited to 200 Park Hills residents and their families and friends. Call now to reserve your place: 581-0022 (Mllie Fangman) or 431-0583 (Janice Cantrell).

Thanks Jim!



If you see Jim Kaelin, tell him thanks for a job well done. Jim recently resigned as chief of the Park Hills fire department.

Do You Qualify for a Property Tax Exemption?

You may be eligible for the "Homestead Exemption" reduction on your property taxes and not even know it! Here are the Homestead Exemption requirements:

To qualify for HEX:

1. One spouse must be 65 in the year the application is filed.
2. You must show proof of age.

To qualify for Disability Exemption

1. The individual must have maintained disability classification for the entire year.
2. The individual must have received disability payments.

3. Verification documents must be submitted prior to December 31 each year to show continued eligibility.

Application must be submitted to the property Valuation Administrator at the Kenton County Courthouse between January 1 and March 1 in the year in which the exemption is sought. For disability exemption, you must file each year by December 31.

The amount of the homestead exemption and the disability exemption is currently \$24,400. Taxes are calculated after the exemption is deducted from your assessed property value. This applies to both city and county taxes and applies only to the property in which you reside, not rental property you may own.

Call the city clerks office at 431-6252 for more information.

-Alice Akin

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News from the Park Hills Police Department

Watch out for Kids

School days are here again! Children will be waiting for their school buses and some will be walking to and from St. Agnes School. Our streets are narrow and most don't have sidewalks. Please drive safely and obey speed limits.



Political Signs

With elections soon upon us, we thought a reminder about political signs would be appropriate in this issue. Signs may be placed on private property and not upon the public right of way no earlier than 45 days before the election. They should be removed within three days after the election.

Avoid Burglaries with these Safety Tips

The typical home burglar rarely knows his victims. He chooses a target based on relative ease of entering the house, apartment or condo. And, according to the most recent FBI crime statistics, people still are making it too easy for burglars to strike their residence.

More than a quarter of all residential burglaries happen without forced entry, and more than half occur in broad daylight. In fact, in the nation's cities, home burglaries that aren't break-ins are the only type of burglaries on the increase.

Burglary remains more than just a crime statistic and a simple offense--it's a serious invasion of personal privacy that can lead to more destructive offenses such as robbery, assault, rape or even murder. In the unfortunate event of a break-in, one should

never confront a burglar. Upon your return from being out, if you suspect your home has been burglarized, leave immediately and call the police from a neighbor's home.

A burglar is twice as likely to rob a home than a place of business, and the more inviting a home is, the better chance he will choose it as his target. Unlocked doors are the ultimate welcoming gesture. But prolonged darkness, excessively shady trees and bushes and piled up newspapers, mail and flyers also are sure to catch a burglar's attention.

Perform a security check on your home. Do you keep a garage door open during the day while you're in a different area of the home? Do you leave lights on at night, inside and out? Don't invite strangers into your home to use the telephone. Don't hide keys in an obvious spot, like under a door mat or flower pot, or on a window sill.

The key to success is to discourage a burglar from ever approaching your house in the first place, and then making it as difficult as possible to gain access if a break-in is attempted.

Keep an eye out for yourself and your neighbors. Call us IMMEDIATELY if you see anything suspicious. Calling the next day or hours afterwards to report suspicious activity makes it almost impossible for us to check it out.

Last but not least... GARBAGE!

This summer we have noticed people placing their trash at the street days before actual scheduled pickup. According to our ordinance, "refuse containers shall not be placed on the street prior to 6:00 p.m. on the day before scheduled collection, and shall be removed to the rear of premises before 9:00 a.m., the day following scheduled collections.