



# THE HUB

March 2006

Volume XXII, No. 3



## Easter Egg Hunt Matches at Later Hour Again This Year

It's that time of year again! Spring is in the air and just around the corner is the ever-loved Easter Egg Hunt. This year, we are planning the hunt for **Saturday, April 8th**. Plan on gathering at **3:00 pm** in **Devou Park's Rotary Grove**. (For those not yet familiar with the area, Rotary Grove is located diagonally across from the band shell.) Many enjoyed the later time last year, and hopefully the temperature will be a little warmer later in the day.

The Egg Hunt is limited to children ages 10 and under. The kids will be organized into three age groups. Eggs filled with goodies will be hidden throughout the Grove for the children to find and keep. There will be a few special eggs that bring special prizes for the fortunate children who find them. It's been rumored that that Easter Bunny plans on making a special appearance to the Grove to give a little surprise treat to all of the children.

To make your reservation, call Janie Zembrodt at 291-1128 or fill out the registration form and mail it in!

Be on time and don't forget to bring your Easter basket!

### DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE!

We welcome and appreciate any of your **clean plastic Easter eggs** that are in good condition. There will be a bin at the check-in table and we'll use them at next year's hunt!  
Thanks in advance!



REGISTRATION FORM  
**PARK HILLS 2004 EASTER EGG HUNT**  
Saturday, April 8th, at 3:00 P.M.

The following children will be attending the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 3rd:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents or Grandparents names: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: The Easter Egg Hunt is limited to children or grandchildren of members of the Park Hills' Civic Association. Non-members can join at the Egg Hunt.

Mail to: Easter Egg Hunt  
C/o Janie Zembrodt  
901 Terrace Dr.  
Park Hills, KY 41011  
Phone: 291-1128

(Rain date and time is Sunday, April 9th at 3:00 P.M.)

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## PROUD PAST, HOPEFUL FUTURE:

### THANK YOU, GREG JOHNSON!

### A NEW TEAM BEGINS

When we think of Greg Johnson and the many years he served our city as President of the Civic Association, we think of words from a Chinese philosopher: "When the best leader's work is done, the people say, 'We did it ourselves'".

Greg always gave others credit for the success of Park Hills Civic Association events. He never looked for the credit he deserved for his coordination of Park Hills events. Greg was enthusiastic, generous, and he got it right. He used his terrific sense of humor to diffuse conflict and made it all look easy.

Thanks, Greg, for all of your years of service. We look forward to your advice as we begin the year.

A character in Our Town asks, "Do human beings ever realize life while they live it?" We were talking the other day about taking for granted all of the wonderful things about Park Hills. There's comfort in living in a place where almost everyone knows everyone. Although the smaller town atmosphere has been known to occasionally spur disagreement, it invites more good than bad.

We've often noticed the way Park Hills residents pull together to make this city a better place to live and work. For an example, each time we pass the gardens of Park Hills near Park and Amsterdam, we realize that it is unbelievable what can be accomplished when a group of people share a vision and are proactive in seeing it through. And we remembered that we all have people to call on, whether professionals or friends, when we are in need.

As we start the year, we've set a major goal to

increase Civic Association membership. What do you get when you pay \$15 for membership? That's a fair question. You get: The Hub, our quarterly publication, a phone directory of our members, free attendance to all Civic Association activities (the Easter Egg Hunt, the community picnic, and the children's Christmas party), and this year, A "Dickens Christmas," where you can interact with Scrooge and Tiny Tim.

We have a new incentive, too: **Any new or renewed Park Hills Civic Association membership will receive half off on the Luminary Night Carriage Rides.**

We have a question for all of you: What can we do for you? If you are a teenager, are there activities that would interest you? If you are starting your family, what would your children like to do? If you are a senior, what help do you need? What activities would you enjoy?

We invite you to communicate your ideas in one of two ways: email us at [ParkHillsKY\\_CA@HotMail.com](mailto:ParkHillsKY_CA@HotMail.com); or write us at 1076 Jackson Road, 41011. We will publish your ideas in a future HUB, and we will introduce and discuss them at Civic Association Meetings.

When we were newly married, we lived in a large city. We loved our years there, but it was difficult to feel that we were making a difference in any way. In Park Hills, we've found many opportunities to participate; harmonious interactions with neighbors; and peace.

Sometimes, life in a smaller town rocks.

All Our Best,  
Diane and Joe Geiger



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## New Benefits for Members of the Civic Association

Submitted by Jill Smith



## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE: Just Around the Corner!

**Monday, May 29th 2006**

As part of the Civic Association's goal of increasing membership for the July 2006 through June 2007 year, some new incentives are being offered to new and renewing members. A membership form will be included in the May HUB newsletter. After you mail, or deliver your membership form and dues by the deadline of August 31st, 2006, you will be signed up for the following:

1. 50% discount on carriage rides on luminary night, based on very limited availability. You pay only \$5 per person.
2. Your name will be entered into a quarterly drawing for a gift certificate from a local merchant or restaurant.

Your friendly street captain will be coming around in June to visit those who didn't send their membership form and dues in May of 2006. Let's hope their list of homes is short!

As a member, you continue to enjoy the quarterly HUB newsletter and all the fun activities throughout the year that enable us to socialize with our neighbors. These activities include the Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Party, the Community Picnic, Memorial Day Parade, golf outing, and luminary night. You also will receive the Park Hills Neighborhood Directory and the Park Hills Companion Booklet that has handy community information.

Of course, we can't forget the beautiful flowers and landscaping our financial contributions help to make possible.

Some additional street captains are needed this year to cover unassigned streets. Please contact Jill Smith at 491-1373 or [jsmith1075@insightbb.com](mailto:jsmith1075@insightbb.com) and take advantage of this chance to meet your neighbors while helping the Civic Association serve the community.

A great big thank you goes out to those street captains that pound the pavement every year making sure each and every resident of Park Hills has the opportunity to contribute to the vibrant and beautiful neighborhood we enjoy everyday.

2006 Memorial Day Parade planning is about to start! The parade forms at Dixie Highway, Park Hills - Northern Kentucky University - Covington Campus. (Across from Ft. Mitchell Garage), and concludes at the intersection of Amsterdam and Park Drive.

Even though the preparations for the day start early, the parade officially starts at 11:30 am, and culminates in our Flag Raising Ceremonies after the parade. Ceremonies conclude about 1:15pm.

So reserve this special Monday on your calendar and plan on being with your townfolk. We always need creative floats, participants, viewers, and behind the scenes helpers! Come join us!

Call David Schlothauer, 491-6051 if you have any questions, or want to help!





# news from the... AVANT- GARDENERS

Submitted by Carol Bethel

Once again, Park Hills residents and the Avant Gardeners put on a beautiful display for "Luminary Night". We all appreciate the work that goes into coordinating the final event of the year and many thanks go to our street chairs and coordinator, Millie Fangman.

The Avant Gardeners also participated in a Progressive Dinner so we had an opportunity to see the neighborhood "lighted". Thanks to our hosts for each part of the dinner: Jim and Judy Jenkins, Jack and Louise Wells, and Craig and Stefanie Feltner. If you have not joined us in the past, make plans for 2006 as it gets better every year!

At the end of last summer, Avant Gardeners members were sent a survey to ask what you would like to do for upcoming events. The response from the survey was great and we appreciate you sending in your comments. Most of you said you like a variety of events, so we have some things planned for everyone. In addition, we will meet at different times so that everyone can participate at some time.

On January 9, the club met to brainstorm some ideas and pool resources for planning purposes. Here are the results, though some dates are subject to change. Postcards will be sent for meeting reminders so let me know if you'd like to be on the mailing list. We are always open to new ideas if there is something you would like to suggest.

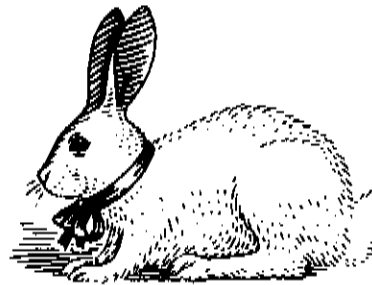
### Upcoming Events of the Avant Gardeners

- Thursday, March 9      Make hypertufa troughs
- Thursday, April 6      N. K.Y. Garden Club Association Meeting
- Thursday, May 11      Container Gardening Workshop
- Monday, May 29      Memorial Day Bake Sale
- Saturday, July 22      Party for all Park Hills Avant Gardeners, and significant others
- Thursday, September 14      Trip to the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, attend reception and silent auction of plants.
- Saturday, November 4      "Art in Bloom" at the Cincinnati Art Museum
- Thursday, November 9th      Luminary Preparation and workshop.
- Sunday, December 10      Luminary Night and Progressive Dinner, TBA.

The Park Hills Avant Gardeners is open to all residents of

Park Hills. Your membership in the Civic Association includes membership to the garden club. Please join us for the many social activities and projects to beautify our city.

If you have any questions or to attend a meeting, call Carol Bethel on 292-0317 or [clbethel@fuse.net](mailto:clbethel@fuse.net)



## The Park Hills Yard and Garage Sale to be held every other year.

The Park Hills civic Association plans on holding the city-wide yard sale again next year. In an effort to keep the event fresh, and keep the participation level high, the event will be held Spring of 2007. We've gotten a couple of calls at the city building from folks who are ready to set up shop, but we are asking you to stick all of that good stuff in the corner of your basement and hold off for next spring.

If you would still like to have a sale this year, you may hold up to two sales per address, per year, and you must purchase a permit from the City of Park Hills prior to the sale. Good luck storing, or selling!



# Village Green Committee

(formerly, the Vision 2006 committee)

Submitted by Pam Spoor



**The air is like a  
butterfly  
With frail blue wings.  
The happy earth looks  
at the sky  
And sings.**

-Joyce Kilmer, Spring

Spring is very near. The robins have returned in force and the crocus are beginning to bloom. The days have lengthened and a hint of green is visible in the trees. Soon children will be playing in Trolley Park and we can all enjoy (if the deer and weather permit) a cheerful display of tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, lilies, allium and crocus. The Village Green Committee is working in conjunction with the Garden Club and the Park Hills Civic Association to obtain a refreshing, but safe water feature for Trolley Park. It is our hope to have it fully operational for this summer. It should be restful for both eye and ear and contribute to the enjoyment of our park space.

The Village Green Committee would also like to extend an invitation to all who wish to remember their loved ones in a special and lasting manner. Gifts to the Park for memorial trees, benches or garden spaces will be commemorated with a bronze plaque. Such gifts would be tax deductible and would benefit all who enjoy the park. A tree is an especially good monument as it is a symbol of life, strength and stability. The park is in need of some good long lived shade trees. Excellent choices would include Oaks (Scarlet or Red), Red Maples, or Zelkova.



## Sunshine and Hospitality Committees

Let Us Know If You Hear.....

The Sunshine Committee has made a tradition of sending caring cards to our neighbors recognizing when significant events occur in their lives, such as when a new baby arrives or when a loved one passes on. The Hospitality Committee strives to give each new neighbor a welcome packet as soon as they move in, which includes the neighborhood directory among other items.

You can help insure that everyone in our community is included by informing us when you become aware of births, deaths, or other major life events in the lives of our neighbors, and when someone new moves to our neighborhood. Thank you for your help. Contact person is **Jill Smith who can be reached at 859-803-0610 or [jsmith1075@insightbb.com](mailto:jsmith1075@insightbb.com).**

## Sunshine Committee Report

Submitted by Andrea Thaman and Jill Smith

### Condolences were sent to:

Shannon Adams - lost her mother  
Betty Baker- lost her father Estelle Wilburn Aebi  
Sue Benning who lost her mother  
John Carson - lost his father  
Margie Claypole -lost her sister Velma Weaver.  
James Cogswell - brother  
Jane Ehrman- lost her father George Weidner  
David Griffey - lost his father  
Marcella Fritz - lost her brother  
Stephanie Hall who lost her mother, Charlotte Hall  
Bonnie Hicks -lost her mother  
Sue Hicks - lost her mother  
Daniel McCarthey - father  
Joseph Metzger - lost his sister  
Joyce Neal - lost her mother  
Louise Neff who lost her brother, Dale Day  
Edythe Nichols - lost her husband  
Richard Ochs - lost his mother  
Eva Ostendorf - lost her brother  
Robert Pingel - lost his brother  
James Reising - lost his father  
Jim Ryle who lost his sister, Alice Ryle Gower Yaegel  
Jill Shields - lost her mother  
SND - lost their Sr. Mary DePazzi  
Jill Smith - lost her mother  
Dick Spoor- lost his father  
Donna Weber- lost her husband William Weber

# Beware of Invasive Plants

Submitted by Park Hills Tree Board and Pam Spoor

Frequently gardeners, scientists, or even engineers introduce a new species to the local ecology. Often it is a plant of great beauty or perhaps great utility; but it escapes cultivation, and lacking its native limiters, wreaks havoc on the native ecosystem. These plants can be very difficult to eradicate. The most notorious offender, in our area, is honeysuckle (*Lonicera*). The following table from the Ohio Conservancy lists the most

## INVASIVE SPECIES

*Lonicera maackii* (Amur honeysuckle)  
*Lonicera morrowii* (Morrow honeysuckle)  
*Lonicera tatarica* (Tatarian honeysuckle)  
*Lonicera Xbella* (showy pink honeysuckle)

## NATIVE ALTERNATIVES

*Amelanchier arborea* (serviceberry)  
*Amelanchier laevis* (serviceberry)  
*Aronia melanocarpa* (chokeberry)  
*Clethra alnifolia* (summersweet) \*  
*Cornus alternifolia* (alternate-leaf dogwood)  
*Corylus americana* (American hazelnut)  
*Crataegus crus-galli* (Crusader/ Inermis hawthorn)  
*Crataegus phaenopyrum* (Washington hawthorn) \*  
*Crataegus viridis* (Winterking hawthorn) \*  
*Hamamelis virginiana* (witch-hazel)  
*Lindera benzoin* (spicebush)  
*Physocarpus opulifolius* (ninebark)  
*Rhus copallina* (shining or winged sumac)  
*Viburnum prunifolium* (black haw)

Honeysuckle was originally introduced from Asia as an erosion control plant. It is particularly damaging because it out competes indigenous species for space, light and pollinators. Also, it leafs out very early and thereby chokes out native Spring ephemerals and wildflowers.

Honeysuckle control requires patience and hard work. Chemical and mechanical methods are the best. Cut the bush to the ground and apply Roundup. Repeat this process at least once during the year. Failure to repeat the process may result in even denser growth. Seedlings can be removed by hand or with an herbicide application.

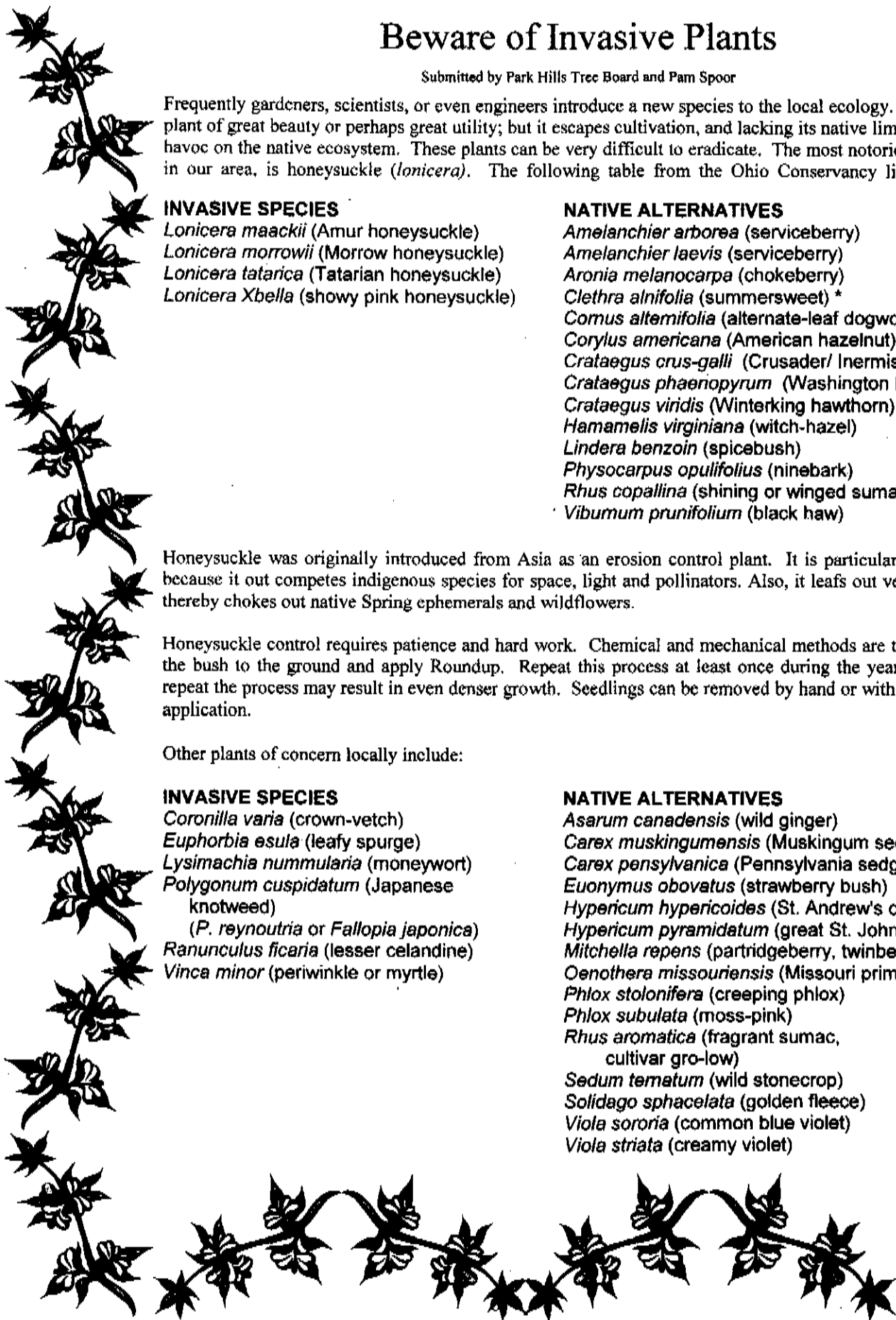
Other plants of concern locally include:

## INVASIVE SPECIES

*Coronilla varia* (crown-vetch)  
*Euphorbia esula* (leafy spurge)  
*Lysimachia nummularia* (moneywort)  
*Polygonum cuspidatum* (Japanese knotweed)  
(*P. reynoutria* or *Fallopia japonica*)  
*Ranunculus ficaria* (lesser celandine)  
*Vinca minor* (periwinkle or myrtle)

## NATIVE ALTERNATIVES

*Asarum canadensis* (wild ginger)  
*Carex muskingumensis* (Muskingum sedge)  
*Carex pensylvanica* (Pennsylvania sedge)  
*Euonymus obovatus* (strawberry bush)  
*Hypericum hypericoides* (St. Andrew's cross)  
*Hypericum pyramidatum* (great St. John's wort)  
*Mitchella repens* (partridgeberry, twinberry)  
*Oenothera missouriensis* (Missouri primrose) \*  
*Phlox stolonifera* (creeping phlox)  
*Phlox subulata* (moss-pink)  
*Rhus aromatica* (fragrant sumac, cultivar gro-low)  
*Sedum tematum* (wild stonecrop)  
*Solidago sphacelata* (golden fleece)  
*Viola sororia* (common blue violet)  
*Viola striata* (creamy violet)





# ODD JOBS ?

The following individuals have submitted their names to the Civic Association's "Odd Jobs" program. They may be available to help if you are ever in need of a babysitter, or occasional help around the house such as raking, grass cutting, weeding, watering, walking the dog, snow shoveling, babysitting, car washing... whatever!

NAME	PHONE
Julia Bayer, 14 yrs.) Augubon Rd. (babysitting)	431-7699
Jill Claypole, (16 yrs.), Old State Homework help, tutoring, summer babysitting.	581-4567
Joseph Frankl (16 yrs.), Montague Rd. (lawn mowing, dog walking, snow shoveling, taking care of plants & animals during vacation, raking leaves)	491-6091
Mandy Jacobs (16 yrs.), Amsterdam Rd. (babysitting, dog walking, pet care and Pet sitting)	431-8458
Nick Martini (15 yrs) Cleveland Ave. (grass cutting, yard work, odd jobs, pet care)	281-3862
Julia Nemeroff, (14 years) Lawton Rd. Babysitting	281-3919

Parents must give their written consent for children under 18 years of age to partake in the program. If your young person is interested in the Odd Jobs program, please call Elizabeth Muske at 291-2992 for more information.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 8th, 3:00 pm

**Memorial Day Parade:** Monday, May 29th

**Memorial Day Bake Sale:** Monday, May 29th.

**Membership Drive Begins:** Friday, July 14th



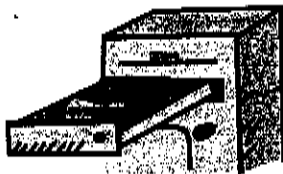
### For the Birds

Submitted by David Chandler

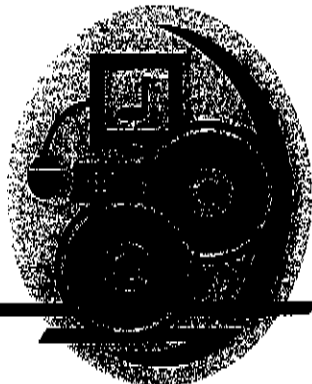
That's gold in these here hills! Well, actually there's Gold Finch in Park Hills. And if you'd like to strike it rich with these beautiful birds it's really easy to do. First, buy an upside down tube feeder. These can be found at most home improvement stores and garden centers. (Cost between \$8 and \$10) Gold Finch are the only type of finch who can hang upside down and eat from the feeder. Plus, as the weather heats up their yellow plumage becomes more pronounced and by the middle of summer they're a beautiful bright yellow! Make sure you use Thistle Seed to fill the feeder. If you use regular bird seed you'll attract squirrels that will promptly tear the plastic feeder apart to get to seed.

## Beware, Some Music CDs Install Dangerous Tracking Software

Did you know that by just putting certain music CDs into your computer, a dangerous tracking program could be installed? That same music CD plays fine on a regular stereo.



However, if you want to copy the CD, or transfer files to your iPod, or just play the CD on your computer, then the tracking software is installed on your computer. In early 2005, Sony decided to use a copy-protection program on some of their new music CDs. These CDs install cloaked, undetectable software that keeps track of how many times the CD is played. The software also prevents users from making more than three backup copies of the CD and doesn't allow you to transfer music to your iPod. Even worse, the software sends personal information back to Sony every time you are on the internet.



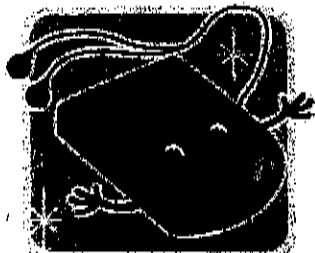
Over a half million computers were infected with this software. When this story finally hit the news, the company released a download to fix the problem. However, the download didn't remove the software, just the cloaking of it. The software was still active on the computers. To make matters worse, the software also gave virus

writers an easy tool for hiding viruses on computers that were compromised by this software. In November 2005, the company announced it was pulling copy-protected CDs from store shelves and offered to replace the copy-protected, infected CDs for free.

To remove this software, you have to do it manually. However, after you remove it, you have some new problems. Now, your Windows computer will not be able to access the CD-ROM drive. It also causes your system to be unstable and to crash. This leaves you with a Windows PC that's useless. Unfortunately, The only remedy to fix this problem is to perform a full reformat and reinstall.

By John Locke, Owner of  
Computer Connections of Northern  
Kentucky, LLC

(859) 421-0989 or (859) 743-6263



## Park Hills Civic Association Children's Christmas Party 2005



Submitted by Carol Bethel

This year's party was held at Gateway Community and Technical College on December 3. The kids enjoyed crafts, games, and snacks. Each child received a picture of themselves with Santa and a small gift. The highlight of the day was a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. A big THANK YOU to all the volunteers:

Kathy Smith, Gateway	Food
Betty Barrett and students, Gateway	Decorations and Crafts
Debbie Zegarra	Crafts, mounting frames for pictures
Stella Ludovicy	Decorations, children's gifts from Santa
Dave Schlothauer	Santa and Mrs. Claus
Sarah Wilmes	Crafts

Watch for news for the 2006 party. The committee is thinking of changing the format of the party to a "Breakfast with Santa". It will be announced in the November HUB.



### Extra special thanks:

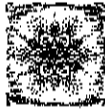
Submitted by Skip and Millie Fangman

Thanks to the wonderful people who helped decorate the city's public spaces for the Christmas season. We all get to enjoy the benefits of the work which these people do with such a good spirit: Neil Frankl, Greg Johnson, Bill Muske, David Schandler, Steve Elkins, Greg DiMuzio, Pam Spoor, Carol Bethel, Joe and Diane Geiger, Greg and Sue Bennings, Judy Jenkins, Jay Bayer and family, Millie Fangman, Linda King,, Marge and Neil Frankl, Michael Hellmann, and the Business People's Association of Park Hills.

We would also like to thank every one involved in the great events sponsored by the Civic Association over the Holidays: Carol Bethel for chairing the Children's Christmas party, Ann O'Hara and Beth Norton for organizing the carriage rides, the St. Agnes Girl Scouts for their caroling entertainment at the Tree Lighting Ceremony, and the numerous other "behind the scenes" volunteers.



## Looking back over the Holiday season....



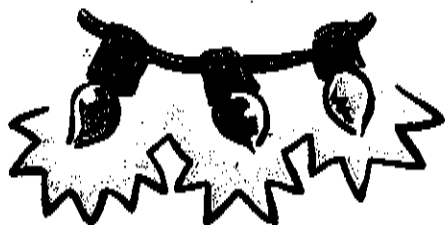
### Holiday Decorations:

submitted by Elizabeth Muske

Park Hills never disappoints when it comes to knowing how to decorate for the Holidays. Our third annual Holiday Decorations contest has a few winners who could just about quit their day jobs if the pay in stringing up Christmas lights was worth it! So without further ado, it gives us great pleasure and pride to announce the winners in the column below. You truly helped make Park Hills a very festive Holiday community! You have raised the bar once again, but in the true Park Hills spirit, we expect some strong challengers again next year!

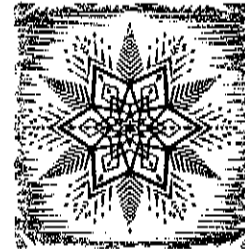
### THE PARK HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION THIRD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DECORATION AWARDS 2005

Best Religious Theme (2nd time winner)	Caroline Butler 1308 Old State Road
Most Traditional	Gene and Ron Oswalt 1018 Rose Circle
Best Use of White Lights	Tim and Ann Kruse 910 Arlington
Best Use of Lights	David and Carrie Chandler 1138 Audubon Rd.
Most Elaborate	Greg & Sue Bennings 502 Rosemont
"Special Recognition" Best Overall:	Joey Schulte
The Most Coveted, The 3rd Annual Clark Griswold Award:	Mike & Karen Herman 1106 Park Drive



## Congratulations Kids!

Local students, Emma Kramer, Katie Kramer, Annie O'Hara, Maggie O'Hara, Caroline Muske, and Eleanor Muske, all who attend St. Agnes School, participated in their first Destination Imagination competition on March 11th in the Ohio Region 18/ Kentucky state tournament. Eleanor, Katie, and Maggie received first place honors for their division and age group for Kentucky, and were invited to attend the global tournament in Knoxville, Tennessee in May. Annie, Caroline, and Emma participated at the exhibition level due to their young age. Great job, all of you!



### Hub Deadline:

Articles for the May issue of the HUB are due April 21st, 2006. Articles must be submitted electronically via e-mail (preferred) to [muskefam5@fuse.net](mailto:muskefam5@fuse.net) or disk (MS-Word compatible)

This will allow the HUB to drop in mailboxes around **Monday, May 8th 2006.**

*The HUB is a quarterly publication of the Park Hills Civic Association. The HUB is supported and paid for through Civic Association dues and advertising, and is distributed to all households in the city of Park Hills. Please call Elizabeth Muske at 291-2992 for information related to the HUB.*

### Needed at the HUB

The HUB is looking for someone to offer their skills as an apprentice in learning the process for doing the HUB. Knowledge of MS Word or Publisher is a plus. Must have good eye for layout, organizational skills, and attention to details and deadlines.  
Call Elizabeth Muske at 291-2992.

The HUB is also looking for someone to organize the Park Hills Honor Roll for the public and private high schools. Interested people should call Elizabeth Muske at 859-291-2992.



Happy Spring Park Hills!  
 From Everyone at the  
 Park Hills Civic Association

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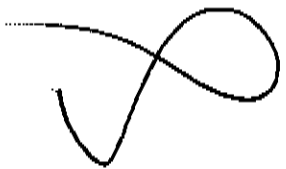
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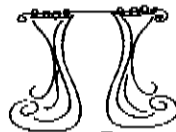
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