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The Pleasant Run Farms Memo } December 2019

www.pleasantrunfarms.org A publication brought to you by the PRF Civic Association

A Pool Membership is a Present the Whole Family will LOVE!

I know the weather is getting colder and summer is becoming a distant memory but fear not! Summer will return and it will once again be pool weather! Prices were SLASHED for the 2019 season and your chances to take advantage of these amazing low membership rates are fading fast!! Membership prices WILL go up for next year so head to pleasantrunfarms.org/swim-club to join today! Rates remain frozen until Christmas and then go up in January!!

I am excited to take a more active role in the operation of the pool this year and would love to hear what YOU would like to see offered at the swim club in 2020. We are so lucky to have a neighborhood pool and I look forward to helping it remain viable for years to come! Do not hesitate to call, text or email me anytime!

Mary Barrera – 513-678-5011 – mbarrera@comey.com



Photo: purplequeue/123RF

Happy Holidays!

President's Update



This years Holiday in the Farms was a lot of fun for many of us. We had a bigger attendance than ever at the Trolley Depot at John Wesley United Methodist Church. This year, we were happy to have the Northwest High School Choir singing all the classic Holiday songs. Santa arrived and spoke with all the children making sure he new just what they wanted for Christmas. Our own Farms Shriners Magician entertained all of us with his magic. Everyone loved the Christmas crafts and the little ones enjoyed some Holiday face painting. There were free snacks for everyone and we had fun luminaria rides in a large limo with Disney video carols.

After driving through the Farms we have to say that Edgewater was one of the most beautiful streets with the Luminaire candles lighting the street with a soft Holiday glow and the houses with there beautiful Christmas decorations.

The asphalt repairs on Elkwood Dr. between John Gray Rd. and Deerhorn has been delayed due to recent weather. The Township plans to make the repairs

shortly. The repairs will include a 4 ft. strip of asphalt down each side of Elkwood. Major repair of the street will be scheduled sometime after the Welch Project has been completed.

Our Swim Club team has extended the 2020 Membership discount price of \$198 until December 30 th . Take advantage of this Holiday special and save \$50 on a family membership. It's the perfect family Christmas gift. A Swim Club membership form is in this Memo.

It's time to renew your annual membership in the PRF Civic Association for 2020. And if your not a member it's the perfect time for you to join the Civic Association and support all the important things we do to keep Pleasant Run Farms a great place to live. We provide fun community events throughout the year, work as a liaison with Springfield Township on all kinds of things like road maintenance, funding for the Farms, safety and others. We operate the Farms Swim Club; coordinate an athletics program and maintain the ball fields at Clifford George Park, publish the monthly PRF Memo newsletter and work to enhance the look of the Farms. The Civic Association is run by all dedicated volunteers. If you're interested, we'd love to have you join us.

Our next General Meeting is on January 21, 2020 at John Wesley United Methodist Church at 7:00pm. We'll be electing officers for 2020, present our annual treasurers report and schedule next years community events.

Happy Holidays,

Skip Wicklund

President, PRFCA



BASEBALL, SOFTBALL, AND TBALL IN PLEASANT RUN FARMS IN 2020

This year is almost over and with it a new year starts. And with the new year is a new season of baseball and softball. Soon girls' and boys' teams will be forming. Parents will be recruited to coach. Kids and adults will be attending umpiring classes. Fields will be getting prepped to play. Parents will start registering their children to play.

Over 130 kids and 11 teams played baseball and Tball in PRF in 2019. There were six teams in Tball alone. And two more in coach pitch. These kids were 4 – 7 years old and just starting to play. We expect that there will be more teams as we build on the increasing number of younger players.

It's not even Christmas yet and already we are busy planning for the coming season. We are checking our equipment. Ordering new equipment, such as baseballs, scorebooks, and bats. Looking at our needs for uniform shirts and baseball caps. We are getting a lot of the preliminaries completed even this year.

Now Registration starts this month of December. Kids from 4 – 14 can be registered to play. Everything you need for registering is on our website. You can register your child at prfarms.org. It's easy and quick.

Please remember that there have been times in the past when too many kids tried to register in the same age group. This resulted in some kids not being able to play for Pleasant Run Farms. **DON'T LOSE OUT!** Be sure to register early to ensure your child has a spot on a team.

Join the fun! We'll see you at the ball fields this year.

Matt Heller, PRF Baseball Commissioner

ARTSCONNECT WINS CINCY MAGAZINE "BEST OF THE NORTH" Article from Springfield Township

Springfield Township gives a hearty congratulations to ArtsConnect for its recent title, given by readers of Cincy Magazine. Cincy will be announcing its "Best of the North" award winners in the January edition. ArtsConnect, Springfield Township's non-profit organization designed to create an engaged and vibrant community through the arts and events, has been officially named 2019 Best of the North in the category of Arts Centers.

"We are humbled and share this recognition with all of the volunteers, community partners and business sponsors that make it all possible", said Kimberlee Flamm, Executive Director of ArtsConnect.

Since ArtsConnect began in 2013, the organization has offered 139 community events with a combined attendance of 25,000 people. It offers an accredited

arts camp in the summer and holds art classes for all ages throughout the year. ArtsConnect selected the artist and managed the Brentwood Bowl mural alongside ArtWorks. They coordinated the beloved Charley Harper Banners along Winton Road and run the township's upcoming WinterFest Reimagined event.



In the upcoming months, the arts center will close temporarily for interior renovations, bringing it up-to date with more modern amenities families are looking for in a public space. Rentals of the arts center and The Grove Event Center sustain the operations of the arts center.



Happy Holidays PRF Community!



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Join the Parranda

14

Reindog Parade

14

The City Flea-Holiday Market

17

Holiday Party at the Zoo

Today's Recipe
Eggnog Cheesecake
 1 cup graham cracker crumbs
 2 tbs white sugar
 3 tbs melted butter
 3 (8oz) packages of cream cheese, (softened)
 1 cup white sugar
 3 tbs all purpose flour
 3/4 cup eggnog
 2 eggs
 2 tbs rum
 1 pinch ground nutmeg

- 01 Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).
- 02 In a medium bowl combine graham cracker crumbs, 2 tablespoons sugar and butter. Press into the bottom of a 9 inch spring form pan.
- 03 Bake in preheated oven for 10 minutes.
- 04 Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C).
- 05 In a food processor combine cream cheese, 1 cup sugar, flour and eggnog; process until smooth. Blend in eggs, rum and nutmeg. Pour mixture into cooled crust.
- 06 Reduce heat to 250 and bake for 45 minutes, or until center of cake is barely firm to the touch. Remove from the oven and immediately loosen cake from rim. Let cake cool completely before removing the rim.

Membership Applications are available in this memo and on the website listed below or by calling our Membership Chairperson, Monica Bowles.

Dues are \$25 a calendar year. (\$35 for monthly hard copy memo distribution)

Check out the website below for additional news and community information.

Hard Copy Issue Advertising Rates
 • Back Full Page \$110
 • Regular Full Page \$ 90
 • Half Page \$65
 • Quarter Page \$25
 • Business Card Size Ad \$25
 • Classified Ad \$8
 • Eletronic Issue Rates are 1/2 the cost of Hard Copy Issue Rates
Contact Jalisa Harris @ harrisjalisa88@gmail.com to place your Classified or Business Ad.



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WWE Holiday Tour

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Rhinegeist NYE 2020

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NYE Cocktail Party



YOUR PRF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

- Skip Wicklund skipwicklund@gmail.com (President)
- Jerome Bouie (VP)
- Ed Mayer prfcatreasurer@yahoo.com (Treasurer)
- Bert Cameron (Secretary)
- John Buschmann johnbusch25@yahoo.com (Athletics)
- Jalisa Harris harrisjalisa88@gmail.com (Communications)
- Mary Barrera mbarrera@comey.com (Community Activities)
- Monica Bowles (Membership)
- prfswimclub@yahoo.com (Swim Club)



CELEBRATING 23 YEARS - TRUSTEE GWEN MCFARLIN STEPS DOWN TO FULFILL A NEW ROLE

Article from Springfield Township

If you've lived in Springfield Township awhile, chances are you have at least heard of Gwen McFarlin. Many have met and even call her a friend. Gwen has been a Trustee here for 23 years, but her longstanding commitment to the community goes much further than fulfilling her duties as an elected official.

"Gwen has immense energy and an unwavering devotion to Springfield Township. She has served our community well over the years and we will miss her." shares Chris Gilbert, Township Administrator.

Reporter Scott Wartman of the The Cincinnati Enquirer recently documented a bit of Gwen's life history sharing that as a young child in the 1950's, Gwen woke up before the sunrise for chores and school, then worked until dark in her family's Clermont County tobacco farm. She tended to the farm animals. Her parents later sold the farm for more stable careers; her father in the union and her mother in the health field. The article follows Gwen through her first encounter of racism where she credits that experience with making her a leader. Gwen said to the reporter, "You learn how to accomplish what trails you're trying to blaze in a way that makes it a win-win. You learn how to partner and collaborate with different people and universes."

Gwen attended Miami University, studying nursing. Following her undergraduate studies at Miami, Gwen completed her graduate work in nursing administration at the University of Cincinnati. She worked first as a nurse for Jewish Hospital and then later for non-profits centered around developmental disabilities. She was married and raised six children.

Gwen shared that her political awakening first happened in the 1960's. She saw Martin Luther King, Jr. speak of having a dream. She was later taken with Marian Spencer, a Cincinnati Civic Rights activist who ran for Cincinnati City Council in 1983. Gwen signed up to help in Spencer's campaign. She worked alongside Roxanne Qualls, knocking on doors and organizing rallies.

Fast forward to 1995. Gwen McFarlin ran for office in her own hometown of Springfield Township. She carried the majority vote to serve as the first woman and the first African American Trustee in the township. She has subsequently been re-elected to five additional 4-year terms (1999, 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2015).

Over the past 23 years, Gwen has been involved with every political decision that has shaped the community she calls home. She was the motivational force behind Springfield Township's youth curfew. Her top priorities as an elected official included the revitalization of neighborhoods, increasing financial stability, pushing for economic development and encouraging redevelopment of the township. She has been an advocate of health, the arts, schools and in empowering young girls to take leadership roles. Gwen has served on multiple boards and committees, building unity and respect amongst elected officials and promoting teamwork across party lines. She is currently the chair of the Hamilton County Board of Elections, and of the Tax Levy Review Committee. Gwen serves on the Hamilton County Public Health Advisory Board. Earlier this year she became the first black woman to head the Hamilton County Democratic Party. Her position as the Leader of the Hamilton County Democratic Party is why she has stepped down as Trustee of Springfield Township. Law prohibits the designated leader of the party to run in another election.

The community will have an opportunity to wish Gwen McFarlin well in her new journey at an open house, scheduled on December 17th from 4-7 p.m. at The Grove Event Center. (9158 Winton Road, Building B).



NEARLY \$2 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDING COMING TO SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Article from Springfield Township

Springfield Township just received the best news it could hope for from the recent round of State Capital Improvement Project (SCIP) applications. **Three road projects, totaling \$3.95 million in improvements, will be awarded state funding.** The state will be awarding \$1.975 million towards the projects; the township will be responsible for the matching \$1.975 million. Property owners will be contributing \$70-\$95 annually for ten years through an assessment.

This is the largest grant award Springfield Township has ever received in its history. This award also includes the township's largest road project in history.

Six different road project grant applications were submitted to the Ohio Public Works Commission by Springfield Township Trustees in September, 2019. Eighty applications were submitted for **District 2, which includes applications from all communities inside of Hamilton County.** With only 10 million dollars available to award, only the top-scoring 19 projects were designated to receive funding.

The three projects that will be funded include:

The Burlington Meadows Rehabilitation Project

Includes: Maria Avenue, Briarrose Court
Estimated Cost of Rehabilitation:\$795,000

The Hollydale Rehabilitation Project

Includes: Toulon Drive

Estimated Cost of Rehabilitation:\$685,000

The Wildbrook Acres Rehabilitation Project

Includes: Garnoa Drive, Terway Lane, Wildbrook Lane, Crestbrook Drive (Sunwood Court to Garnoa Drive) , Northfield Lane, Sunwood Court, Ridgebrook Lane, Northbrook Court, Fernbrook Court, Kelso Court
Estimated Cost of Rehabilitation:\$2.47 million

The Wildbrook Acres project, renovating ten streets in one application, is the largest road project ever performed in Springfield Township.

Springfield Township's six applications totaled \$6.73 million. "By applying for multiple projects, we made every effort we could to rehabilitate as many roads as possible," explains Director of Infrastructure and Development, Mike Gould. "Our innovative approach when submitting this year's applications is a direct result of our success." Trustee Joe Honerlaw stated, "These applications are crucial in getting the township's worst streets replaced. Grant funding is matched by the township road levy funds, making our limited dollars stretch further." The application process is extremely competitive and it is rare to have three projects funded in the same year. Over the previous four years, Springfield Township has received \$2.57 million in SCIP funding to rehabilitate 15 neighborhood roads.

The approved grant application projects will begin in Spring of 2021.

The projects that were applied for and did not receive funding will undergo reapplication in 2020. These projects include: The Bellune Rehabilitation Project (Lexington Heights), The Brentwood Rehabilitation Project and The Kempermill Rehabilitation Project.

CARRIERS NEEDED



The Pleasant Run Farms Civic Association is seeking carriers to assist with hard copy memo distribution. Carriers do receive pay for delivering the paper during hard-copy months. If you have a small child/young teen this may be the ideal job for you! Interested candidates can reach out to Venita at vvivans@prodigy.net

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY!

Springfield Township is now accepting applications to fulfill a vacant full-time police officer position.

Applications will be accepted at the Springfield Township Police Department located at 1130 Compton Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00 p.m. on January 17, 2020



At Home With Mary

By, Mary Barrera



Have you been looking for a budget-friendly way to organize that pesky junk drawer in your home? Instead of heading to the store and spending money on organizers, take a look around your home first. Do you have any old egg cartons waiting to be recycled? Small jars, bowls, or lid-less Tupperware waiting to be used? Gather up those items and get ready to turn your drawer from chaos to coordination. The first thing you'll need to do after grabbing your tools is pulling everything out of your drawer. Once you have your items laid out, create a toss/donate pile so you can get rid of items you no longer use. Then, strategically place the organizing items you've collected in your empty drawer. Try to fill the drawer so there won't be any shifting when the drawer opens and closes.

Now you've got separation spaces to place what you had in the drawer! Put batteries in one jar, pens in another container, and so on. When you open your drawer, there will be a designated space for each item, so now you won't need to dig through old sauce packets to find a paperclip! While it may seem like a small accomplishment, starting small can create the catalyst that makes you want to organize the rest of your home!

Celebration News: Birthdays and Home Anniversaries

Dec 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Anniversaries
1	2	3 Ric Boschert	4 Luke Strebe	5	6	7	The Phillips Family 2011
8	9	10	11	12 Gretchen McDaniel	13 Gary Hunn	14	
15	16 Al Eichorn Gary Johnson Angie Cunningjam	17	18	19	20	21 Jerry Sutton	
22	23 Jim Gutknecht	24	25	26	27	28 Rita Hunn	
29 Jonathon Brearton	30	31	1	2	3	4	





Thinking Out Loud



It's the last month of 2019! A new generation will begin with 2020. This excites many of us. Lately, I have been making a lot of changes. So honestly, I do not have any New Years resolution. It's not that I do not agree with making goals. I just know that the power of NOW is more valuable to me than waiting for 2020 to begin actualizing on my goals. It's all about compounded effect. Whether we believe in its efficacy or not it's always present. We either grow stronger or get worse but we never stay the same. Therefore, I am not delaying on putting action towards my goals until the new year. I am in full effect now. I have been making small daily changes like reading 10 pages of a self development book a day and taking my lunch to work daily. I want to continue to sharpen my mind and save money. These are small activities I can employ now to help achieve some of my larger goals for how I would like 2020 to play out for me...but I am not waiting to start.

All activities, (and lack of thereof) add up. So why not start NOW? I hope that we break traditions of waiting for the new year to get started on improving our lives and spend the last current days of 2019 practicing the new behaviors that will indeed improve our lives. What small daily activity could you do NOW to help you really strengthen some of your larger 2020 goals? Happy Holidays everyone!

Hope you Enjoyed!

Jalisa Harris, PRFCA Communications Director

