

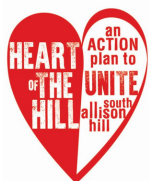
ALLISON HILL NEWSLETTER



An initiative of Tri County Community Action

MARCH 2021 • VOLUME 1 • ISSUE 1

HEART OF THE HILL UPDATES



The Heart of the Hill Community Plan was developed through the involvement of over 700 residents and stakeholders defining their shared values: housing and public space, sense of community, safety and youth. The Heart of the Hill Community Plan has been finalized and some projects have already begun!

You can check out the full document here:
bit.ly/hoh-action-plan

Already beginning! A partnership between Capital Region Water, Tri County Community Action (TCCA), and the City of Harrisburg focused on improving our storm water system, improving the walkability of the neighborhood, and beautifying our public spaces. Be sure to look up at our new neighborhood banners on lamp posts throughout the neighborhood! Along our main corridors, Market and Derry Streets, large decorative planters will be placed with community murals!



The Allison Hill Safety Project was developed using resident feedback and addresses the safety values presented in the Heart of the Hill Plan. Partners on this project include TCCA, Light the Hill, Wildheart Ministries, Harrisburg Housing Authority, Latino Hispanic American Community Center, and Tri-County Housing Development Corporation. This is a project funded by the City to address community safety. These projects focus on improving lighting, increasing security, addressing vacant lots and homes, and engaging neighbors. By repurposing vacant lots, boarding up vacant homes with community murals, and increasing formal and informal security in the neighborhood, crime opportunity areas will be minimized. Repurposing vacant lots for community use will provide recreational and gathering spaces for neighbors. Using Street Captains and an app to connect neighbors, a sense of community will be established. This project will serve as a model for safety projects around Harrisburg.

The Allison Hill Substation has been activated and is located at 313 S. 15th Street. The office is open to the public between 8am-4pm. The vision for this space is to provide an opportunity to access the police and resources without having to go downtown to the main station. While you cannot pay bills or fines at this location, you will have access to codes if you're having any issues. Be on the lookout for opportunities to engage when there are changes in COVID restrictions!

To address pedestrian safety, TCCA partnered with Capital Region Water and the City of Harrisburg to create curb bumpouts. Stormwater planters and other green infrastructure elements completed by Capital Region Water will reduce combined sewer/stormwater overflows and flooding in the neighborhood. This spring you'll also find a decorative crosswalk at 14th & Derry Street! The Allison Hill Farmers Market is back for its second season starting Wednesday, June 2nd from 3-7 pm at the Heart of the Community Garden, 1421 Derry Street! The market accepts payment in the form of cash, all major credit/debit cards, SNAP/EBT and select vendors accept FMNP vouchers! The SNAP Match program continues allowing you to increase your purchasing power by up to \$10 at each market! This season will also feature food demonstrations, music and family friendly activities!

SNAP MARKET MATCH

1. GO

TO THE MARKET'S
INFORMATION TENT



2. SWIPE

YOUR EBT CARD FOR
MARKET TOKENS



3. DOUBLE

YOUR PURCHASING
POWER - UP TO \$10
PER PERSON.



4. SHOP

FOR FRESH PRODUCE, INCLUDING:



FRUITS



VEGETABLE
STARTS



HERBS



MUSHROOMS



VEGETABLES

The Local Foods, Local Places initiative aims to address housing and public space issues while also increasing the sense of community and accessibility to food-related resources in the neighborhood. The Harrisburg Redevelopment Authority (HRA) received a grant from the Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) called Local Foods, Local Places. These grant funds assisted our neighborhood to develop local, affordable, healthy food and food businesses for Allison Hill. Through a series of workshops and meetings, community members and stakeholders developed four overarching goals for creating a more sustainable food system in Harrisburg:

Goal 1: Develop a food hub (a.k.a. Food accelerator) that is a financially self-sustaining venture that supports the local food economy

Goal 2: Improve access to and demand for fresh nutritional foods for residents starting in the Allison Hill Neighborhood and expanding to the broader community.

Goal 3: Expand and increase resources, training, and support for local food growers and food entrepreneurs

Goal 4: Make Allison Hill known for its restaurants and food

Do you want more information or are you interested in getting involved in Heart of the Hill projects? Email vkelly@cactricounty.org with subject line "Heart of the Hill" for more information!

Photo taken August 1957



PC: PennLive archives, used with permission



PC: Jelani Splawn

HISTORY ON THE HILL

Did you know that Allison Hill is home to one of the original theater buildings in Harrisburg City? The old Roxy Theater is now home to the Bilingual Christian Church at 123 S. 13th Street!



PC: Jelani Splawn



PC: Jelani Splawn

Lydia Roque is a Harrisburg artist who enjoys tattooing, painting, and “good old sketching”. Lydia describes her art as comic style and fantasy. Influenced by video games, mangas and other tattoo artists such as Megan Massacre, you can find some of her work included here! Lydia currently works at Hidden Arts Tattoo Shop and you can follow her work on Instagram, Facebook and YouTube using the handles below!



ARTISTS CORNER

Lydia Roque

Instagram: @inkbygh0st

Facebook: @gh05tbae

YouTube page: “Ghost Bae”



A LIFE OF SERVICE, MARIA ALEJANDRA HERNANDEZ BY RICK KEARNS

For Immigrant rights advocate Maria Alejandra Hernandez, the amazing Allison Hill is not only where she works but it's where she's lived and found inspiration.

Maria is one of the founders of the Harrisburg chapter of Movement of Immigrant Leaders in Pennsylvania (MILPA), a grassroots network of Pennsylvanian immigrant families that cultivate leadership and organize for: unmarked driver's licenses for all Pennsylvania residents, regardless of immigration status; fight back against anti-immigrant bills; and develop leadership skills and political education.



In her work for MILPA she has led projects aimed at protecting and educating immigrant families on Allison Hill and throughout the area. But she got her start as an activist and leader in this great neighborhood.

Maria recalled that when she and her family first came to Harrisburg from Mexico, she and her mother took ESL classes in the neighborhood at the old Mt. Pleasant Hispanic American Center on 13th Street; they also became involved in the soup kitchen at St. Francis of Assisi Church on Market Street.



I could see that education was so important," she noted.

"Starting at age 14, Maria began volunteering at the International Service Center, then Estamos Unidos of Pennsylvania, and then St. Francis where she was also a catechist and is now working on church festivals.

Those experiences informed her journey towards justice on behalf of immigrants. But before she went into organizing, she completed high school at Bishop McDevitt and then she continued with her education, as a single mom, and earned an Associate's Degree in Paralegal Studies at HACC. While being a volunteer grassroots organizer and immigration paralegal at The Shagin Law Group, LLC, she realized that change must happen being involved on the other side of the table. Then she continued her education and acquired a bachelor's degree in Public Policy from Penn State Harrisburg, graduating in 2020.

Maria went on to organize community leaders of Harrisburg to form MILPA's Harrisburg Resists and Responds, training an action group to respond to immigration ICE raids on Allison Hill in 2019 after multiple raids were conducted that impacted immigrant families on the hill.

The Harrisburg Resists and Respond group knocked on Allison Hill resident doors educating neighbors on their rights regarding immigration and police, and on their neighbor's rights while also asking residents to sign a "voter pledge card" in support of driver's licenses for all.

MILPA also collaborated with Power to the Hill in door knocking to register voters and ensure already registered voters to go out and vote in the 2016 and 2020 federal elections while also asking residents to sign a "voter pledge card" in support of driver's licenses for all.

She is using her public policy knowledge by working as Community Cares Coordinator for MILPA and serving Allison Hill residents and beyond on their rights, and leadership development for the involvement of public policy change making through political and civic engagement. She is also a board member of the Pennsylvania Immigrant and Refugee Women's Network, based in Harrisburg.

Maria is an activist and leader to keep your eye on!

WELLNESS CORNER

WELLNESS TIPS FOR YOUR REMOTE LIFE

01

Use positive imagination

Instead of worrying about the worst case scenario, think about the BEST case scenario.



02

Limit negative news

Garbage in means garbage out. You have to limit the negativity. Be informed but limit negative media intake. Find some happy news today!



DEFEAT
NEGATIVE
THOUGHTS
AND STINKIN'
THINKIN'

03

Pray, Meditate, Read

Do not neglect your spiritual life. You can pray, read positive affirmations, or comforting scriptures like Psalm 91 to obtain peace of mind. Consider joining a book club or utilizing library resources to connect and reflect.



SPECIAL THANKS TO ANGELA M. CAMPBELL,
PH.D., LPC
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASSESSMENT &
STRATEGY AT HARRISBURG AREA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR SHARING THESE
TIPS!

Spring Word



Scramble



Can you unscramble these spring related words?

alblerum

iultp

naiorwb

bbrita

COMMUNITY EVENTS

APRIL- JUNE 2021



MAY

Community Action Month

May 3rd- Last day to register before Primary Election

May 5th- P2H Internet Radio Program; 5:30

May 5th- Cinco de Mayo May 8th- Love the Hill Cleanup Day

May 9th- Mothers Day

May 11th- Last day to apply for mail-in or civilian absentee ballot

May 15th- P2H Voter Engagement Day; 9:30-1:30pm

May 15th- South Allison Hill Homeowners and Residents' Association Meeting

May 18th- Local Primary Elections

May 22nd- Love the Hill Cleanup Day

May 26th- Pennsylvania National Guard Associations Virtual Job Fair

[PNGAS.jobboardhq.com](https://www.pngas.jobboardhq.com)

May 26th Harrisburg School District last day of school

May 31st- Memorial Day

APRIL

April 1st- April Fools Day

April 4th- Easter

April 7th- P2H Internet Radio Program; 5:30pm

April 9 & 10th- Free Vision Clinic

April 10th- Love the Hill Cleanup Day

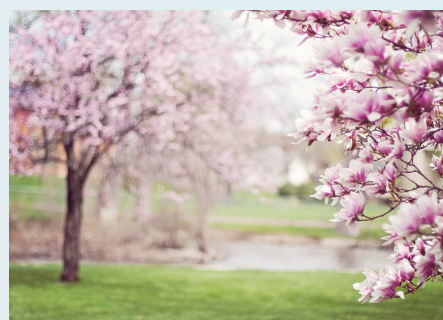
April 17th- P2H Voter Engagement Day; 9:30-1:30pm

April 17th- South Allison Hill Homeowners and Residents' Association Meeting

April 15th- Tax Day

April 22nd- Earth Day

April 24th- Wildheart Block Party



JUNE

June 2nd- Allison Hill Farmers Market opens! Every Wednesday 3-7pm

June 2nd- P2H Internet Radio Program; 5:30pm

June 19th- P2H Voter Engagement Day; 9:30-1:30pm June 19th- Juneteenth

June 19th- South Allison Hill Homeowners and Residents' Association Meeting

June 20th- Father's Day

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Allison Hill Substation (nonemergency) (717) 558-6900

Capitol Region Water 888-510-0606

Childline (to report child abuse or general child well-being issues) 800-932-0313

Domestic Violence Hotline : 800-654-1211

HELP Ministries (717) 238-2851

Poison Control 1800 222 1222 or text POISON to 7979797 Animal Poison Control
888-426-4435

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255

National Sexual Assault Hotline 1-800-656-4673

**ARTISTS AND
WRITERS NEEDED!**
Share your talents in
this quarterly
newsletter.

Access a digital version of this
newsletter by visiting our website:
cactricounty.org/allison-hill

Want to make sure your event makes it on the next
quarterly calendar? Email vkelly@cactricounty.org or call
(717) 232-9757 x 121 with event details by **May 24th**