



## MARY KENNEDY OF WOODLAND HILLS

One of our few living octogenarians, *Mrs. Mary Kennedy*, led a full life over the period of history which rushed around her during 85 continuous years in the Forest Hills area. She was the former *Mary Ford*, and her father — James Ford — served on the old School Board at Hannatown. Her sister, Martha Ford, taught in the old Duquesne School and became Mrs. Martha Main.

*Mary Ford* married John J. Kennedy who was a foreman in the Duquesne Coal Company mines here and served as one of our first Councilmen and founders. He was a familiar figure on the borough scene with one arm, having lost the other in a collision in the coal mines. He served later as our Road Commissioner until his death.

One of the children of this union was John J. Kennedy, Jr. who served the borough as a policeman for twelve years. The elder brother, James A. Kennedy, followed his father's foot-steps and served on the Forest Hills Borough Council as a

## MRS. MARY KENNEDY

Picture showing *four* generations

Mrs. Mary Kennedy is shown standing in the center with her husband John J. Kennedy. Her son James is to her right and Mrs. James (Emily) Kennedy is at her left.

Seated is Mrs. Mary Kennedy's mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. James Ford. The Fourth generation represented is Jimmy Kennedy (now of Parise Road) who is seated on his great-grandfather's lap.

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member and later as President for many years. A daughter, *Martha Kennedy* also served in public life as a teacher at the Woodside Road School.

John J. Kennedy, Jr., a son, and James Kennedy, her grandson, today both live in Forest Hills and operate the J. A. Kennedy Plumbing Company, Inc.

*Mrs. Mary Kennedy* lives in a little bungalow today on Braddock Road, one of the original streets of the old Duquesne Coal village. She remembers well as a child walking to Braddock to get a train to the city of Pittsburgh. It was a big event!

## WOMAN POWER

There is a lot of power in a Woman's Club, but there is also a lot of determination in the individual housewife, who as we all know can be the "Behind the Scenes" politician. In 1935 Mrs. Charles B. McIntyre canvassed door to door on foot more than 300 homes and came up with a petition of the necessary 300 signatures to place "local option" on the ballot. She wanted the borough to go *dry*.

Borough Council found a technical error in the wording of the petition. Undaunted with this "hang up", Mrs. McIntyre had some judges in the Allegheny courts draw up another iron-clad petition and secured the 300 signatures once again on a petition.

The results did not please everyone, but are shown here for the records!

## DRY WITH A BANG

(Forest Hills News, Dec. 1935)

By a vote of about 3 to 2 (1,086 to 728), Forest Hills made up her mind to go dry. Had the election day weather been less humid, the vote might have been even more decisive.

The actual figures of the voting follow:

District	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Liquor—Yes	93	129	355	151	728
No	375	253	254	204	1086
Beer —Yes	100	127	343	157	727
—No	364	249	253	194	1060

## LOYAL "ARMY" VOLUNTEER ORCHIDS and ROSES!!

Further proof of this woman's dedication and determination is the 54 year record of her commuting to the *Salvation Army* headquarters in Pittsburgh, for preparation of the annual 2,000 Easter Sunshine gifts for 49 area hospitals and institutions. *Mrs. McIntyre* is one of the 100 ladies who packed Easter gift packages for distribution. She also participated in every Salvation Army Campaign for funds until the organization became affiliated with the United Fund. She serves also as a patient escort in the Oakland Veterans Hospital. Her first volunteer duty was serving in the Canteens in 1916, for World War I servicemen.

## FRANK V. KOVALOVSKY

After 18 years of devoted service as our Borough secretary, *Frank Kovalovsky* resigned in 1959. Frank was a veritable combination administrator, appeaser, and diplomat, and with his vast knowledge of the borough, was also an encyclopedia of information.

In 1969, his 44-year career in banking also came to an end April 1 as Assistant Vice-President and Manager of the East Pittsburgh Office of Mellon Bank. In his first years in the Turtle Creek Valley, Frank was a resident of the Tonnaleuka Club in Wilmerding, but abandoned his bachelorhood in 1929 when he married *Elizabeth Haley* who had been working in the bank as secretary to President C. I. Miller.

The Kovalovskys live at 104 Hawthorne Road and have two daughters—Mrs. Ralph A. Frew of Washington D.C., and Mrs. Robert S. Runk of Columbia, South Carolina—as well as four grandchildren.

Frank is well known to Forest Hills officials and citizens where he still serves in important posts. He is Treasurer of the Churchill Area Schools Authority as well as Treasurer of three different boroughs—East Pittsburgh, Forest Hills, and Chalfant; he is Director and Treasurer of the East Pittsburgh Parking Authority and the Turtle Creek Valley Junior Achievement Chapter; Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Forest Hills Volunteer Fire Association; and member of Forest Hills Rotary Club, the Bankers Club of Pittsburgh; and the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church.

## E. HILL TURNOCK — ARCHERY "CHAMP"

Mr. E. Hill Turnock formerly of Woodside Road was five times state archery champion and in 1939 was national archery champion. Mr. Turnock was also a member of the Forest Hills Building & Loan Assn. Mrs. Turnock had the dubious distinction of being the first of her sex to join the Civic Club when that organization opened its membership to include women. Mr. Turnock died in 1969.

## MUSIC MAN

*Eugene Reichenfeld*, Music Director of the Wilkinsburg Symphony for 21 years, was appointed permanent conductor of the Murrysville Symphony Orchestra in 1969.

Mr. Reichenfeld, Music Educator in the Penn Hills Schools, was a former resident of Forest Hills.

**CONGRATULATIONS FOREST HILLS  
ON YOUR 50th ANNIVERSARY**

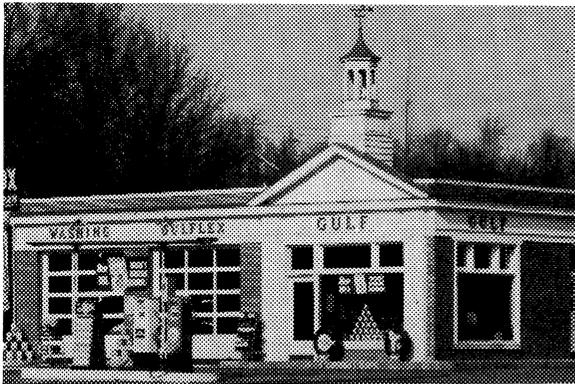


**WE HOPE WE ARE FULFILLING OUR GOAL  
"TO MAKE FOREST HILLS A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE"  
YOUR HISTORY IS OUR HISTORY**

(See Page on Civic Association)



**THE FOREST HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION**



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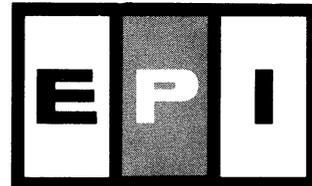
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Congratulations to the community of Forest Hills! You are celebrating your 50th birthday this year!

Columbia Hospital, located at Penn Avenue and West Street since 1906, is proud to have been of service to Forest Hills residents since the community founding in 1919.

In this 50-year period, Columbia Hospital has added and improved many of its services to you. Columbia's Outpatient Department was set up in 1922 with the addition of the Social Service Department in 1925.

The Blood Bank began its operation in 1948 in co-operation with the Central Blood Bank of Pittsburgh and the Heart Station, for treating cardiac patients, was established in 1954.

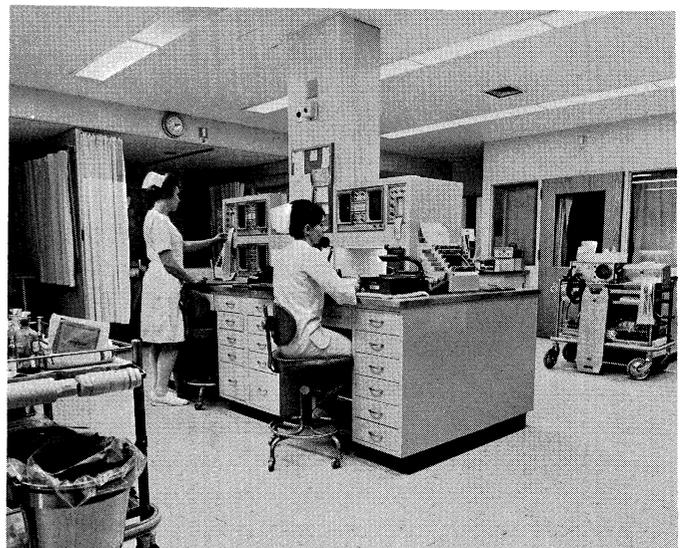
In 1959, Forest Hills residents demonstrated their appreciation of Columbia's services by helping to make possible the new North Wing at a cost of \$2.5 million. When the wing was dedicated in June, 1959, still more facilities were made available, including some 80 additional adult accommodations and six of the most modern operating rooms.

The Intensive Care Unit, one of the finest in the area, was opened in the Spring of 1964. Eleven beds are available for reception and care of medical and surgical patients whose condition requires continuous skilled nursing.

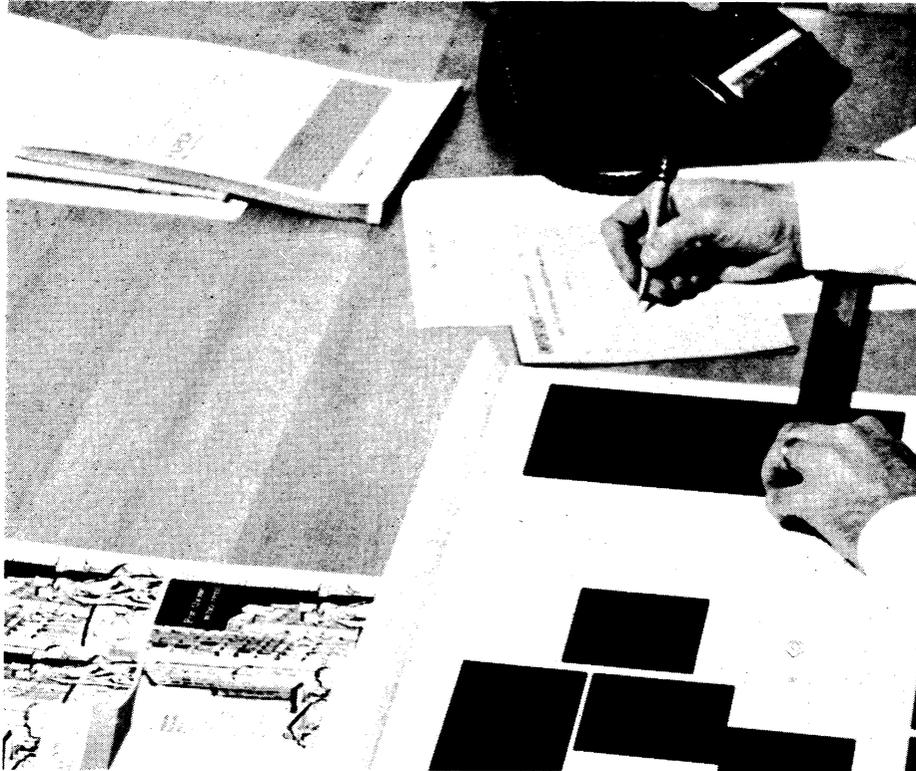
Currently, nine of Columbia Hospital's staff physicians are Forest Hills residents, including James B. Shaler, M.D., who was elected president of the medical staff in January, 1969.

Columbia Hospital has set its sights high as it looks toward the future—a future which will provide the optimum in health care for everyone it serves.

The hospital is grateful to its many friends in Forest Hills for their generosity in helping Columbia Hospital to grow with their community. And—we look forward to continuing our service to you in the years to come.



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## OUR FIRST DOCTORS

The medical profession proudly salutes our first doctors in Forest Hills. *Dr. John W. Funk* set up a practice in his residence (with officers) at corner of Atlantic and Lenox Avenue and also served as President on the early School Board. He was active in the first P.T.A. and Civic Club.

*Dr. Wesley W. Jones* was the other of the first two doctors to set up practice in our borough. He lived and had his offices at 1831 Ardmore Boulevard in Forest Hills for 27 years and practiced medicine for 44 years. When he retired, he sold his home and doctor's office near the corner of Braddock Road and Ardmore Boulevard to *Dr. Frederick V. Longphre*.

*Dr. Wesley W. Jones* and *Mr. Arthur Jackman* originated and developed the old Edgewood Acres Men's Club. Mrs. Jones was one of the founders of the Forest Hills Woman's Club and also the early *Garden Club*.

## PATRON PHYSICIANS

Lawrence N. Adler, M.D.  
John M. Brandon, M.D.  
Elmer Holzinger, M.D.  
James D. Kelly, M.D.  
Gilbert Krause, M.D.  
Seymour E. Krause, M.D.  
Alfred Monardo, M.D.  
W. R. Morton, M.D.  
George W. Patterson, M.D.  
James B. Shaler, M.D.  
John A. Tamarelli, M.D.  
Edward L. Waisbrot, M.D.  
Charles W. Zimmerman, M.D.

## PATRON DENTISTS

Alfred D'Alessandro, D.D.S.  
John S. Lloyd, D.D.S.  
H. E. McCartney, D.D.S.  
Joseph L. Vogt, D.D.S.

## LEGISLATORS and JUDGES

In our history, two Judges chose to reside in the borough. One was *Judge Malcolm McDonald*, and in February, 1952, *Judge Ralph T. Bell* of 722 Cascade Road was appointed by Governor John Fine to the Court of Common Pleas.

*Senator Jack E. McGregor* lived most of his life time in Forest Hills until recently and was the first Senator representing the district to come from Forest Hills. He also was probably the youngest Senator to go to Harrisburg when elected.

*John J. Murray* lived most of his life time in the borough, and was the first legislator to come from Forest Hills. He was a Democratic candidate in 1949 for Burgess here.

## PATRON ATTORNEYS

Joseph V. Esper  
Vincent A. Crisanti  
W. Arch Irvin, Jr.  
William J. Lancaster  
Lewis E. Mai  
Edwin J. Martin  
James R. McGregor  
William R. McKee  
George J. Miller  
Warren S. Reding  
Joseph Swartz  
Charles B. Watkins  
Charles I. Ziegler

## BUSINESS PATRONS

Bruckman Realty Company  
Edgewood Cleaning Company  
Great Valley Lanes, Inc.  
Homewood Bake Shop  
James A. Jobe Funeral Home  
Kerr Glass & Paint  
Knee Memorial Home  
Marlen Jewelers  
Memory Lane  
McLaughlin's Esso Service  
Nate's American Service

## **HISTORICAL VIGNETTES— SERIOUS AND OTHERWISE**

### **1919 — OUR FIRST POLICE STATION**

Before the municipal building was constructed in 1922, "Moody" Champ and police of the early days operated out of a small, two-room wooden shed situated on the still present vacant lot between Spinelli's and the Boutique shop (formally Jim Stein's Pharmacy and Al Reiner's drugstore.) Here *John France*, the first Burgess, held court. When the Formas Club golf links tee'd off originally in 1931, some stalwart citizens moved the shanty up behind the Borough building to be the golf Club house. *Hermie Theilacker* was the caddy master in those days and later became Road Commissioner of the Borough.

### **TAMPA TRAMPS**

Were you around in the early '30's when this combo group were doing their thing? The members were: George Ruppel—Manager, Helen Annis, Jimmy Annis, George Annis, Ang Aeillo, Carl Chada, Bill Pika.

### **THE VIGILANTES — THE DEPRESSION**

The little-known, underground movement in our borough during the depression years was known as the Vigilantes. This unmaned group of citizens used to turn on the water and other utilities at night after the companies had turned them off when people could not afford to pay their bills and had become delinquent!

### **POLITICS AS USUAL??? NOT IN 1933!!! THE CITIZENS PARTY**

The newer residents of Forest Hills today may think politics are always cut and dried and there were only the Democrat and Republican Parties over the Years — NOT SO!

The shennigans and political trickery which was perpetrated on the citizens caused the creation of a new Citizens Party in 1933 to take the control from the politicians and return it to the hands of the independent voters. The new Citizens Party opened up headquarters, rolled up their sleeves, and really "Got out the vote". There were 2686 registered voters in the borough at the time and the victory of the Citizens Party over the Machine Politicians won overwhelmingly at the polls when 2173 cast their ballots — the largest vote ever polled in the borough's history!

### **RING a LING a LING**

The year was 1937 and the Westinghouse Plan was in the "Valley" telephone exchange . . . the citizenry was very irate because the rest of the borough was "across the Berlin Wall," and paid toll charges for phone calls back and forth! This was a little tough on the pocket-book when a fellow wanted to call his girl or somebody's mother-in-law phoned across the boundaries.

The rest of the borough used "CHurchill" and "FRemont" exchanges and of course the phone company had to draw a boundary line somewhere. It was an unhappy decision in 1938 when the phone company still refused (after negotiations with a Forest Hills committee representing our residents) to extend the *Pittsburgh exchange* boundary lines. Eventually this "hang-up" was overcome and history marched on!!

### **1934 — THE FOREST HILLS NEWS**

Our own local newspaper was called "The Forest Hills News." It was issued monthly and served the Borough well for over twenty years. It was started in the year 1934 as an arm of the influential Civic Association. The purpose at first was to give wider circulation to the many committee reports of the Civic Association and activities of the School Board and Council. This newspaper has been sorely missed since the 1950's when it disappeared as did the library. There were dedicated staffs and excellent editors such as Dan Frye of Castlegate Road. Throughout the first year, the masthead carried only the names of the officers of the Civic Club, but listed no editor. Mr. R. E. Ferris was listed until October, and then Mr. G. S. Shull as successive presidents. Mr. H. H. Blackmon became editor for 1935 . . . Mr. L. K. Scott for 1936, and Mr. Dan Frye served from 1937 to 1944, putting out eight annual volumes or ninety-six consecutive monthly issues.

Other editors were Boyd C. Shaffer, Bill Pika, Denton Beal, W. L. Gjebre, Maurice W. Reagan, Jr. and Betty Galbraith.

The Golden Jubilee History—or story of Forest Hills—could never have been written without the old records and original newspapers that were saved by a few people all these years.

### **1950's — THE FENCING SCHOOL**

A unique Fencing School was organized in Forest Hills by *Mrs. John Birkby*. It was one of the first in Pittsburgh and started classes in the basement of the old Presbyterian Church. Grace Birkby formerly of 21 Castlegate Road was well "versed in the foils", having studied under a French tutor at the School of Fencing in Lensburg, London for over nine years, and later winning championships on the continent. It was this Britisher who inaugurated a fencing school which continued to expand and operate in Wilkinsburg, and eventually became the nucleus for today's Western Pennsylvania Division of the Amateur Fencing League of America. Mr. & Mrs. John Birkby now reside in Edgewood Borough.

**A CONFRONTATION**

**1951 Braddock Road Housewives STRIKE**

On July 16, 1951 irate housewives of Braddock Road were out to pit flesh and blood against steel vehicles when they staged an impromptu strike against the borough of Forest Hills. The confrontation focused attention on the wretched condition of this deteriorating road. Some of the "growing pains" in the borough were over the question of paved vs "unimproved" roads. Braddock Road was a county road and an important connecting link between municipalities.

Strangely enough, in the days of the WPA, a start was made at paving the street but was abandoned when *one* resident refused to wave damages for a six-inch change of grade.

Progress at times really grinds to a halt!

**1952 – A HAPPENING**

**Joe "Bugs" McGuigan, Jr. Zeroes Plane into Fierst's Tavern**

It was a Saturday in November 1952 at Fierst's when the boys were having beer at the local pub now known as the Tavern on the Pike. "Bugs" McGuigan was missing from the group but suddenly as he buzzed the bar to say "hello", the plane zeroed into the gabled entrance breaking a window and slightly damaging the roof, not to mention a stretch of wiring and a couple of autos. No one was hurt and "Bugs" McGuigan's rented Taylor Craft type airplane got about as "close to the bar" as you can get!!

**ANTHONY JOSEPH "Toe Nails" Downey**

1924 entered the U.S. Navy – retired 1955. Claims to be the *only retired serviceman* in the Borough who was born in the same house where he returned to live after retirement.

**INCORPORATION OF NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES**

- 1890 .....Wilmerding
- 1888 ..... Edgewood
- 1887 ..... Wilkinsburg
- 1934 ..... Churchill
- 1904 ..... Wall
- 1892 ..... Turtle Creek
- 1895 ..... East Pittsburgh
- \*1821 ..... Wilkins Township
- 1946 ..... Braddock Hills Boro.  
(Formerly Braddock Township)
- 1898 ..... Swissvale

\*Wilkins Township – Chartered as a 2nd class township in 1821 and was incorporated as 1st class township in 1901.

*Congratulations!*

●

**May good government, peace  
and happiness prevail in Forest  
Hills until the end of time.**

●

**WALTER G. WINNENBERG**

## THE GALLERY



LADIES AID Society of the Presbyterian Church present a loose show in yesteryear!!

## THEATERS AND OTHER PRODUCTIONS

*Show business* was part of our life in the Borough and over the years we enjoyed the productions and minstrel shows of the Civic Club, the Woman's Club, and "The Cabin in the Hills" of the firemen. We have had "Barber Shopping" sponsored by the Rotary Club and now Jack Kelley's "Playhouse East" is the thing!



Volunteer Fire Department in 1939 presented all-time hit  
"CABIN IN THE HILLS"

This page is respectfully dedicated to all persons, organizations, and businesses, that we failed to include –

To err is human . . .  
To forgive divine.



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