



An ad from the 1972  
Alderdice High School  
Yearbook.  
Credit: [donslist.net](https://donslist.net).

## LOOKING FORWARD AND BACKWARD FROM

# 1972

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THE SQUIRREL HILL URBAN COALITION (SHUC) WAS CREATED IN 1972—a time of social upheaval, deterioration of urban areas, and environmental concerns. Not very different from today.

In 1972, Richard Nixon was President, Spiro Agnew was still Vice-President, Milton Shapp was Governor of Pennsylvania, and Pete Flaherty was Mayor of Pittsburgh. Nixon signed Title IX into law as part of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibiting gender discrimination in any educational program receiving federal funds. He also went to China, but later that year he became embroiled in the Watergate scandal. That didn't stop him from winning the 1972 election in a landslide over Senator George McGovern.

So much more was happening that year. The Vietnam War was raging. The hippie movement was flowering. The Environmental Protection Agency banned the use

of DDT. Eugene Carter was the last man to walk on the moon in the 20th century during the Apollo 17 mission, which ended the Apollo space

program. Mariner 9 sent pictures from Mars. Hurricane Agnes dumped 11 inches of rain on Pittsburgh, flooding its valleys with 35.8 feet of water and filling underground parking garages downtown.

Roberto Clemente got his 3,000th hit in the last regular season at-bat of his career. Later that year, he died in a plane crash while attempting to deliver earthquake relief supplies to Nicaragua. About a week before, Franco Harris's Immaculate Reception began the first of eight consecutive playoff appearances and four Super Bowl championships for the Steelers. The first Godfather movie was released. "M\*A\*S\*H" premiered on NBC.

Life in Squirrel Hill went on, and what happened here in 1972 echoed what was going on in the wider world. The