

The Area Guide to

HOMES

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BUCKS COUNTY
HERALD

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Your guide to **Real Estate & Rentals,**
Home Improvement, Builders,
Furnishings & Landscaping

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Mister Rogers Pittsburgh home offers buyers glimpse at his 'neighborhood'

The former house of Fred Rogers, the beloved host of the kids' TV show "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," was recently listed for sale for \$850,000.

To be clear, this 3,700 square-foot house isn't the one where you saw Rogers don a sensible cardigan and entertain with puppets and drop-in guests like the friendly mailman, Mr. McFeely. That house was based on the one where Rogers grew up in Latrobe, Pa.

This 1921, five-bedroom, three-bath abode is located in the Squirrel Hill section of Pittsburgh where Rogers lived in the late 1950s and early 1960s with his wife before he got his big break in children's TV programming.

During his time in the house, Rogers worked as a puppeteer and organist while getting a degree from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. The family moved in 1966.

According to a report in Next Pittsburgh, Rogers was known to perform puppet shows for local kids here and considered this home to be his favorite in the Steel City area.

At 100 years-old, this brick house is a bit of a relic, but it's been updated

throughout with a quiet color scheme, built-in shelves and lots of closets.

According to Linda Corcoran, the real estate agent with Coldwell Banker who holds the listing, the previous owner recently painted the interior of the home and installed new hardwood floors throughout the first floor.

Along with the excellent condition of the home, Rogers' reputation as a gentle soul has attracted tons of attention from media outlets and eager home buyers.

"It has been surprising to me how many media stations have reached out to me since this house was listed, and the impact Mister Rogers has had on the world. He reached international status, and so has Squirrel Hill," said Corcoran. "We had 16 showings in two days and multiple offers, and now an accepted bid."

Other agents agree that this house is likely to move fast, given its fame, condition and price.

"What a gem," said Cedric Stewart, a real estate agent with Keller Williams Capital Properties.

"This home is in surprisingly good shape, considering its age, and the amount of space and charm the place

provides could certainly be worth the \$850,000 price tag." "Those who grew up watching 'Mister Rogers' might be further compelled to pay the premium associated with this property and its unique history."

Still, what would "home" feel like outside the confines of this house? The neighborhood, after all, is what the "Mister Rogers" show was all about. And Squirrel Hill has changed a lot since Rogers lived in the area.

"Trolleys have been gone for a long time, and I don't think driverless cars were something anyone thought of," said Corcoran. "The majority of houses are not new, but the established neighborhood offers architecture and charm, tree-lined sidewalks, and walkability – all features buyers want. They love the convenience to work and play, and the close vicinity to three major parks."

Squirrel Hill was rocked by a shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in October 2018 which killed 11 people.

"This tragic shooting rocked the neighborhood, but Squirrel Hill was determined to remember the deceased, overcome, and stay strong," Corcoran recalls.

"A logo with the Jewish Star of David resembling a Steeler logo with a message 'Stronger Than Hate' was seen and worn everywhere. Mister Rogers once said in a video that he learned from his mother that in a crisis situation, 'find the helpers.' The helpers found Pittsburgh."

Even though the memory of that shooting still lingers, Squirrel Hill is coveted among buyers as a safe neighborhood for families.

"Squirrel Hill has an aging population, and owners love their neighborhood and don't want to leave, so moving up or downsizing is [hard] since many homes needed are not single-story houses. There is also a need for houses that can accommodate multiple generations, as some family members will visit and stay for months to help out," said Corcoran.

"Even though there are and always will be challenges, Squirrel Hill is a beautiful, friendly, diverse neighborhood. I think Mister Rogers would still be proud."

Source: "A Startling Peek Inside Mister Rogers' Real-Life House—and Neighborhood—Today," by Jennifer Kelly Geddes (April 15, 2021), realtor.com.

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For additional information or a private tour contact Art Mazzei at 610.428.4885, or Nicole Curran at 215.801.1935 Addison Wolfe Real Estate, 550 Union Square, New Hope, PA 18938 Office: 215.862.5500 • AddisonWolfe.com

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*Submitted by
Alpha Genesis Design*



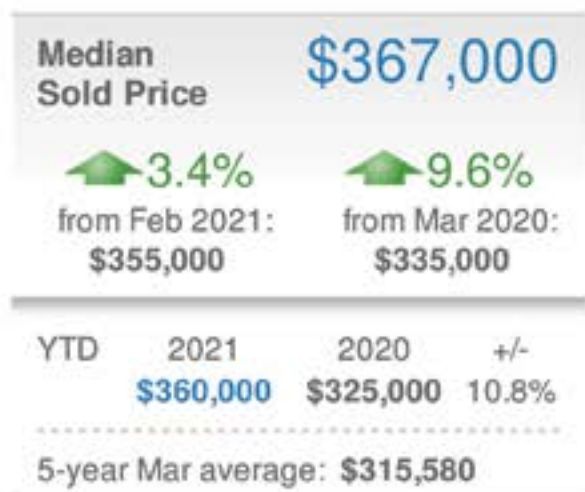
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Local Market Insight: Bucks County, Pa.

March 2021



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