

the Bulletin

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Compromise Reached on Grocery Store

By Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

Penn Avenue – The representatives of Bottom Dollar, the grocery chain looking to bring a store to 5200 Penn Ave., and the small group of Friendship residents who appealed the Zoning Board of Adjustment's approval of the store's site plans have reached a tentative agreement that will soon allow construction to move forward.

accommodations stretching back to December 2010, the two sides had reached an apparent stalemate over one final issue – a wall separating the store from the residential neighborhood behind it. The appellants – four residents of South Pacific Avenue and the nonprofit Friendship Preservation Group – insisted on an 8-foot masonry wall that would

After a long series of negotiations and

See **Grocery** | page 3

EVO Takes Playground to Zoning

By Jill Harkins The Bulletin

Bloomfield – The natural playground that Ryan and Vera England of Earthen Vessels Outreach (EVO) have been planning since last

See **page 2**

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Not Your Father's Kind of Volunteering

By Paula Martinac The Bulletin

Lawrenceville – For those 55 and older looking for social networking opportunities or ways to share their life experiences, Pittsburgh Cares,

See **page 4**

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Historical Society Hosts Exhibition

By Thea Young Bulletin Contributor

East Liberty – The East Liberty Valley Historical Society welcomes the community to an exhibition of historically significant items from

See **page 11**

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Pittsburgh Montessori K-8, located in Friendship, hosted its annual Heritage Dinner at the end of the school year, in which students and their families celebrated the many cultures of Asia. In the photo above, teacher Rachel Hood looked on while Susan Randall and her daughter Cleo enjoyed a display about animals native to India. Photo by Marissa Morrison

Making the Effort to ReEnergize Pittsburgh

By Jill Harkins
The Bulletin

Lawrenceville/Bloomfield – ReEnergize Pittsburgh was founded with the overarching goal of making Pittsburgh more energy efficient. Today, the program has ambassadors in communities throughout the city, including several East End neigh-

borhoods, who are attempting to better the housing stock and improve the living conditions of the residents.

According to Sara Innamorato, Communications Specialist for GTECH,

See **ReEnergize** | page 5



ABOVE: Hill Dance Academy Theatre was one of the performance troupes featured at the Arts in Motion festival on Penn Avenue on June 15. For more on the street fair, see page 9. Photo by John Colombo Photography

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Playground from page 1

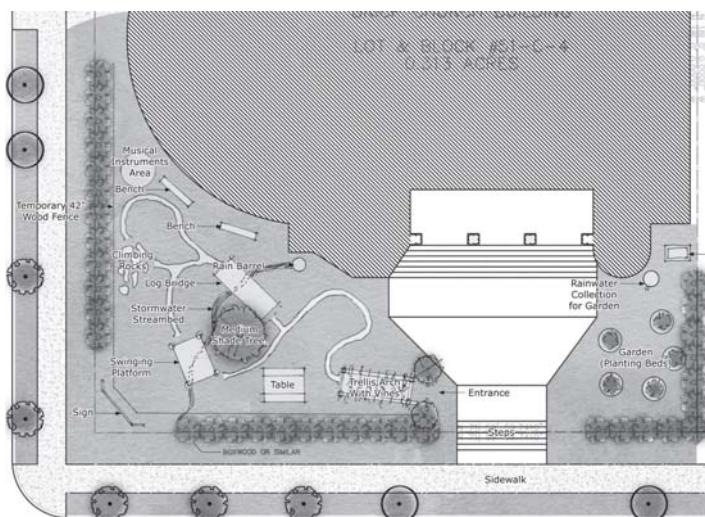
August, and that *The Bulletin* covered in December ["Natural Play Space Planned by EVO," Vol. 37, No. 12], is reaching the final stages of the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) process. The ZBA should have a decision for EVO in early August.

EVO, a faith-based nonprofit that aims to serve youths and families in need, has been renovating Pacific Sanctuary, the church at 250 S. Pacific Ave. that is its home, since 2007. Many attendees of the most recent ZBA meeting recognized and applauded this effort. John Axtell, who lives less than a block from the site, said, "I share with my neighbors appreciation for [EVO] taking ownership of and revitalizing the empty building."

When the organization first moved in, it had no intentions of building any type

of outdoor play area. "My wife and I felt that the typical playground materials, like metal and plastic, would have been ugly and taken away from the space. We had never heard of a natural playground before," Ryan said. After finding out about natural playgrounds in other areas, the Englands reconsidered. "The elements of a natural playground are low to the ground and contextual; they blend into the area around them." Ryan said they feel that such a playground will enhance the licensed daycare and after school programs that EVO already runs.

In the final plans, such elements include a wooden platform slung between low wood posts, which allow it to swing; rocks and logs for climbing; bamboo chimes and wood drums for creating music; and a



ABOVE: Artist's rendering of the natural playground in front of the Pacific Sanctuary, located at the corner of South Pacific Avenue and Friendship Avenue. Photo courtesy Earthen Vessels Outreach

stormwater stream with a bed of rocks. Although Vera, an artist and architect, designed the plans herself, she did so with extensive input that EVO requested from the community.

EVO has held five community meetings over the past seven months to discuss plans and objections. However, Ryan said that regardless of widespread emails and notices on the doors of neighbors, attendance at these meetings has been low. Despite this, opposition at the ZBA hearing was high, coming mostly from neighbors who live within a block of the Pacific Sanctuary.

The size of the 44-foot sign that EVO wants seemed to concern almost everyone, including Axtell. "The point of the 30-foot zoning requirement is to avoid looming, bulky objects in areas that are supposed to be green spaces," he told ZBA. Ryan said that he wants the sign to be large in order to identify the church, which people often have trouble finding, and so it can be read by cars passing by on Friendship Avenue. However, he agreed to reduce the size significantly if the organization can obtain approval for stop signs at the corner of Friendship and Pacific avenues prior to the start of construction.

Most of the other apprehensions expressed at the zoning hearing centered on safety. The playground will be open to

the public, so that both the children of EVO as well as neighborhood children can use it. The steep slope on which the playground will sit and the busy street that lies at the bottom of it concerned many attendees, and David Weber, who lives across the street from Pacific Sanctuary, said that he worries every day that a child will get hurt. According to Weber, there is already too much activity in the area, and EVO's playground will make it worse.

Many also questioned why the playground was even necessary, as there are already three in the area. Ryan maintained, however, "There are drawbacks to not having this for the younger children. It can be hard for 3-year-olds to walk two and a half blocks to go to the playground." Other briefly mentioned objections included a possibility of noise or of teenagers using the site in an unintended manner, as well as the proximity of the site to the property line.

Despite opposition, the Englands continue to remain optimistic. Ryan said that all of the objections are understandable, but that, "as neighbors, we can agree to disagree." He added, "This process is always awkward, but I think the ZBA is a great way to decide situations like this. They can be very accessible, very friendly. I have a lot of respect for them." ♦

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Correction

The article "Fundraising for Gun Buyback Proceeds" [*The Bulletin*, June 2013] neglected to include State Rep. Dom Costa, State Rep. Adam Ravenstahl and City Councilman Ricky Burgess as supporters of the Gun Buyback Initiative. *The Bulletin* regrets the error.

Grocery from page 1

wrap around from Coral to South Pacific. Bottom Dollar, whose approved site plan included an 8-foot wooden fence on Coral and a lower brick-and-wrought-iron decorative fence on South Pacific, felt strongly that a high, solid brick wall would constitute a public safety hazard, and other community members agreed.

However, in the interest of advancing the deadlocked project, Bottom Dollar put forward a compromise site plan in late May, allowing for a masonry wall that is 5 feet 8 inches in height on the Coral Street side. Along South Pacific Avenue, the brick wall is reduced to a height of 4 feet 4 inches, and toward the middle of the block, it reverts to open, ornamental fencing. Arbor vitae are planted on the street side of the wall.

In addition, Bottom Dollar agreed to post a "Right Turn Only" sign at the egress from the parking lot onto South Pacific, to address neighbors' concerns about too much traffic flowing into the residential neighborhood.

The neighbors approved the revised site plan and agreed to drop their appeal. The

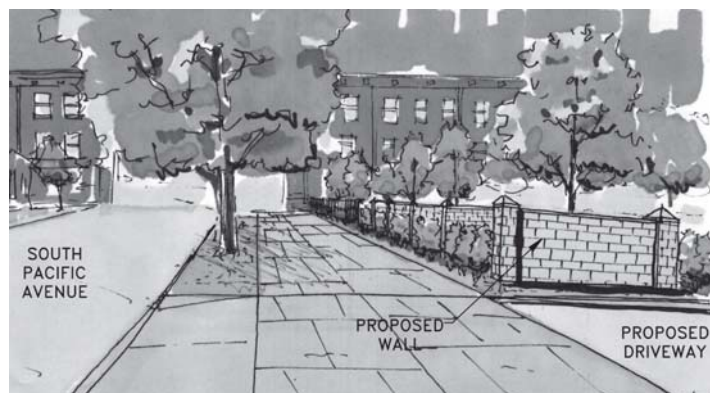
revised site plan has been submitted to the Department of City Planning, but at press time, it had not yet been approved, and the appeal could not be officially dismissed.

Brantley Tillman, of Commercial Properties, Inc., has been working on behalf of Bottom Dollar to bring the store to Penn Avenue for over two years, holding six public meetings to field neighbors' concerns and make adjustments to the site plans. In the process, the cost of the store has risen substantially, but the result is a dressed-up exterior that will make the store visually appealing to neighbors and help it blend into the urban landscape.

"Bottom Dollar has gone the extra mile to satisfy everyone, even though it escalated the cost," stated Aggie Brose, deputy director of Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, which has supported the store's site plan on the behalf of the majority of residents. "They kept going because of the overwhelming support for the store."

"The opening date will depend on when we can start construction," said Tillman in an email to *The Bulletin*. He said he hopes Bottom Dollar can open early in 2014. ♦

BELOW: Artist's rendering of the proposed masonry wall for Bottom Dollar. Photo courtesy Commercial Properties, Inc.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Taking Guns Off the Streets

Dear Editor:

On April 28, 2013, Brandon Stokes, a young man from my church and just 21 years old, died in Pittsburgh from a gunshot wound. What can I do? I am just one person. Well, I can do something now with the BGC's Gun Buyback Program ["Fundraising for Gun Buyback Proceeds," *The Bulletin*, Vol. 38, No. 6 (June 2013)]. I am submitting a donation that will take one handgun off the streets. It is one small step, but I pray that the guns taken off the streets through the Gun Buyback Program will save at least one person's life and many others' heartbreak.

Julie Parker
Bloomfield

ED. NOTE: You can make a secure donation of any amount to the Gun Buyback Program online at www.bloomfield-garfield.org/public-safety/gun-buyback, or send a check made out to BGC-Gun Buyback to BGC, 5149 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15224.

the Bulletin

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The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the publisher.

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Garfield Night Market Launches Next Month

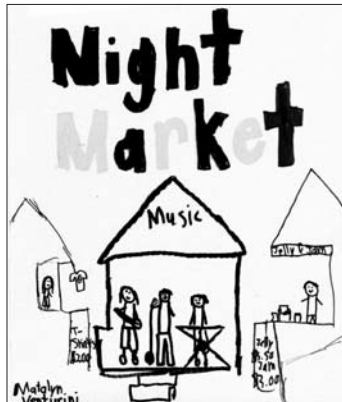
by Sara Blumenstein
cityLAB

Garfield – The Garfield Night Market will premiere the evening of August 2, with a planned location of North Pacific Avenue between Penn Avenue and Dearborn Street.

The Garfield Night Market planning committee, composed of local residents with advisory support from the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) and cityLAB, is organizing the market. (The Garfield Night Market grew out of cityLAB's 6% Place experiment.) Christine Bethea, who directs the annual Geek Arts/Green Innovators festival on Penn Avenue, has been hired on as the market's manager.

The market, which will coincide with warm-weather Penn Avenue Unblurred events on Penn through November 2013, will include Garfield-based vendors as well as some from further afield who will sell a mix of food, local produce and hand-made items. For its pilot year, vendors will be free to sell their goods at the Night Market for no fee. Technical assistance will be provided to help selected Garfield residents obtain the licenses, training and supplies necessary to sell food at the market.

The goals of the Night Market are to create a connection point between Garfield and the Penn Avenue corridor; to provide local residents with entrepreneurial opportunities; to sponsor a family-friendly activity for summer evenings; and to create a destination off Penn Avenue to draw Penn Avenue Unblurred attendees into Garfield, which organizers believe will make Garfield



ABOVE: Young artist Matalyn Venturini captures the spirit of the Garfield Night Market in her drawing. Photo courtesy cityLAB

more visible to the rest of the city.

Support from the Heinz Endowments, Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development and an anonymous foundation, along with a sponsorship from First Niagara Bank, are helping to get the Night Market off the ground. Fundraising efforts for the market are still underway; lump-sum and in-kind donations to the Night Market are being accepted by the BGC.

The market is also looking for vendors, volunteers to help set it up and performers to draw attendees in from Unblurred. Fill out a form online at nightmarket.citylabpgh.org. For inquiries about the Garfield Night Market, email info@citylabpgh.org or call 412-434-7080. ♦

Volunteers from page 1

with offices at 3505 Butler St., has brought back a volunteer program that was once run locally by the American Red Cross. Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is part of the federally funded Senior Corps, one of the largest volunteer networks in the country.

But Riley Baker, the local program manager for RSVP, says "I wish I could change the name," because younger "baby boomers" don't necessarily identify as seniors and may not even be thinking about retirement. "It's not about running bingo at a senior center," Baker explains. "That's an old model."

Baker says Pittsburgh Cares is seeking to put a "distinctive stamp" on the volunteer program. It places volunteers in activities that match their interests, skills and available time, such as mentoring young people, organizing neighborhood clean-ups, acting as companions to home-bound seniors, planting trees or serving meals to homeless veterans. Some organizations Baker works with in the East End include Lawrenceville United and Veterans Place of Washington Boulevard.

The emphasis is on finding meaningful experiences for those who can give their time. "If they have an interest in something, we can set that up," Baker notes. Often, volunteers want to engage in something completely different from the job they held for decades. "We had a retired teacher you might have thought would be a mentor, but she said she wanted to work with animals."

RSVP requires only one hour of service a year in a local nonprofit in order to maintain membership, but people are able to give as much time as they want. Tangible benefits include training, secondary supplemental insurance, transportation reimbursement and an e-newsletter.

There are also the more nebulous perks of networking and connection. "We have a great social network," Baker adds. "You get to meet people who are interested in similar things." In lieu of old-fashioned volunteer recognition events, RSVP instead organizes social outings for volunteers like neighborhood walks, theater and



ABOVE: Volunteers are matched with work they are interested in – anything from office tasks to outdoor labor. Photo courtesy Pittsburgh Cares

sports events, talks and educational opportunities.

Baker observes that some participants have "parlayed their volunteer experience into a new job." This possibility may be especially attractive to people at the younger end of the 55+ spectrum who want to explore new skills or try to transition into a different kind of employment for the remainder of their working years. By volunteering for a nonprofit and demonstrating their abilities, they may be able to make themselves invaluable to the organization.

RSVP is involved in a volunteer recruitment push. Baker says the program currently has 100 active volunteers, and is looking to boost that number to 500. The critical needs right now are for volunteers who want to mentor youths; people interested in environmental projects, like clean-ups and education/awareness programs; and those with skills in areas like event planning, finance or technology, which they could impart to nonprofits on a consultant-type basis.

"We need you," Baker says simply. "Your community needs your skills. It's hard to find people who can come in on week-days," so those with even a little spare time during the week are especially needed.

To enroll in RSVP or to find out about possible volunteer opportunities, visit rsvp.pittsburghcares.org or call Baker at 412-471-2114. ♦

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ReEnergize from page 1

ReEnergize's parent program, "ReEnergize is unique because we are trying to bring together all of these energy-efficiency stakeholders, like utilities programs and financial services, to one table so that residents only have to go to one place."

ReEnergize ambassadors work in Bloomfield and Lawrenceville, along with communities such as Oakland, Larimer and Homestead. Erin Pischke and Cleo Zell are the representatives for Bloomfield and Lawrenceville, respectively, and they told *The Bulletin* that ReEnergize is all about engaging the residents of their community on many different levels, from the tiniest things you can do to improve your energy efficiency, like unplugging your appliances, to the very big, like upgrading insulation.

These ambassadors always live in whatever neighborhood they are serving, because, as Zell said, "Many times the residents hear that the program is free and don't trust it." Being a familiar face in the community helps ambassadors dampen this disbelief.

Pischke very recently held a "Blitz" in Bloomfield, in which she gave out bags full of products that could help residents increase energy efficiency in their homes, such as CFL light bulbs, power strips and

outlet insulators. "This was a direct method, providing people with tools to help them start to become energy efficient in their homes," Pischke said.

Events such as the Blitz engage residents on the most basic level. If residents are interested in learning more, ReEnergize can help them explore obtaining low-income assistance to make their homes more energy efficient or organize a Home Energy Audit, which Zaheen Hussain, Program Coordinator for ReEnergize Pittsburgh, says costs between \$400 and \$500. When ReEnergize offers these programs to people, Hussain said it is asking them, "You're already doing the small things, what more can you do?"

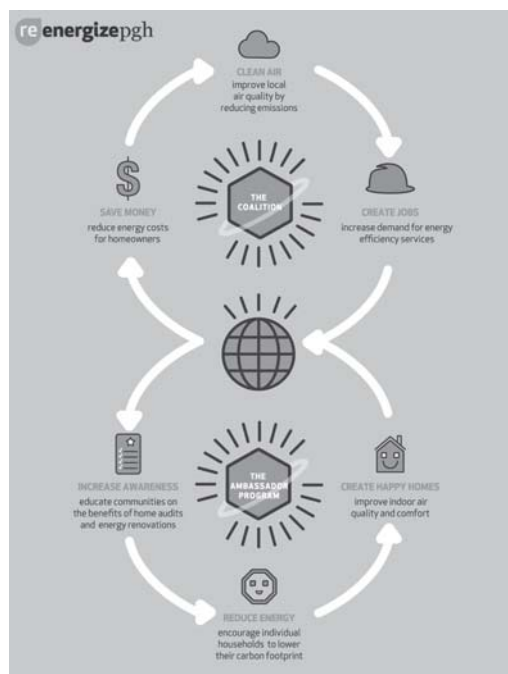
If a resident decides to have a Home Energy Audit performed, the utility company tells them where problems exist in their home and how to fix them. Examples include drafty areas from poor insulation, mold caused by leaks and old appliances that release toxins into the home. These problems can negatively impact the health of those living in the house, particularly causing respiratory problems and asthma.

These problems can also have a huge impact on utility bills, because, as Innamorato said, "Filling a house that isn't

sealed properly with renewable energy is the equivalent of filling up a bucket with a bunch of holes in it. There's water spilling everywhere but you just keep pouring it in and hoping that the bucket stays full."

Innamorato said that it's hard for people to understand why such upgrades are necessary because, "With these kinds of upgrades you don't have something tangible in the end; you don't have something shiny or new to look at. A lot of the things that take place are up in your attic or between the walls. There's that disconnect where people wonder what they just spent their money on. But they spent it on their well-being and their comfort, and hopefully it will pay off financially in the end."

Hussain described it as "learning to love the invisible."



ABOVE: Graphic depiction of the ReEnergize Pittsburgh "Ambassador Program" process. Courtesy ReEnergize Pittsburgh

To learn more about the services ReEnergize Pittsburgh provides, visit reenergizepgh.org or call 412-361-2099.

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But the BGC doesn't stop there. If you read the paper regularly, you know that since last summer, the BGC has also accomplished the following:

- ◆ Construction of new single-family homes in Garfield for first-time homebuyers, bringing to 48 the number completed since 2002
- ◆ Operation of the "MainStreets" program that helped produce three beautification projects on Penn Avenue and assisted three building owners with storefront makeovers
- ◆ Construction of 45 single-family rental houses in Garfield, which are now being offered to working-class households
- ◆ On-going co-sponsorship of the Penn Ave. Arts Initiative, which resulted in 12 first Friday Unblurred events
- ◆ Hosting of planning sessions to move forward the \$5-million reconstruction of Penn Ave. infrastructure between Mathilda and Evaline Sts., beginning in August 2013
- ◆ Hosting three major community meetings to obtain residents' input on plans for a proposed 18,000-square-foot grocery store at 5200 Penn Ave., which led to the store's approval by the city's zoning board
- ◆ Continuous interaction with law enforcement through monthly meetings of the Public Safety Task Force to pinpoint and address serious criminal activity in the community
- ◆ And many more accomplishments in public safety, health, education, employment and housing

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NEWSBRIEFS

Penn Ave. Artists Represented at Cleveland Arts Festival

Penn Avenue – Part of the annual Waterloo Arts Festival, the Rust Belt Rivalry pits sister cities Cleveland and Pittsburgh against each other in friendly, competitive art challenges as well as a traditional group art exhibit. Conceptual artist Jason Sauer and his wife, filmmaker/photographer Nina Gibbs, of Most Wanted Fine Art, 5015 Penn Ave., created the event last year with Arts Collinwood, a Cleveland non-profit organization with an art gallery, community arts center, studio spaces and café.

The event was such a success that it was held again this year on June 29, with Sauer and Gibbs bringing a cast of Pittsburgh All-Stars to the Cleveland Arts District of Waterloo. Representing the Penn Avenue Arts District were the pop art anatomy works of Sam Thorp, texture-heavy



ABOVE: Sam Thorp was among the artists representing the Penn Avenue Arts District at both the 2012 and 2013 Rust Belt Rivalry in Cleveland. Photo by Nina Gibbs

photos of Americana by Gibbs, metal paintings by Sauer, monotypes from master printmaker John Lysak and fine pop paintings by Lauren Toohey. – *from press release*

Awesome Books Reverts Back to Clay Penn

Garfield – Laura McLaughlin has led two lives at 5111 Penn Ave. She purchased her building 10 years ago and opened Clay Penn, a shop that showcased and sold her personal art. Then, in 2010, she inherited a large number of books from a friend, and she and Bob Ziller, a longtime friend, opened Awesome Books in the front of the building while McLaughlin maintained studio space in the rear.

Just about a year ago, Ziller and McLaughlin opened a new location downtown as part of the city's Project Pop-Up, through which they got a year's free use of the storefront. They had plans to keep the storefront after their year was over, but when a customer named Eric Ackland expressed his dream of owning a bookstore while he shopped in the downtown location, they decided to end their time there.

Ackland bought all of the books from both locations, thereby closing the Garfield location as well. He has renamed the downtown location Amazing Books, and the Garfield location has been converted back to the original Clay Penn.

McLaughlin said that she and Ziller intentionally decided to do this to focus on their personal art. "In our two and a half years with Awesome Books, we learned a lot and met a lot of wonderful people," said McLaughlin. "It was just time to move on."

McLaughlin is working on the community garden project called the Sea Garden on South Aiken Avenue, and will be presenting at a clay conference in September in Denmark. – *Jill Harkins, The Bulletin*

SAT Prep Scholarships Offered

East Liberty – Neighbors in Need, a nonprofit project sponsored by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, is offering 10 scholarships for local students to take SAT prep classes this summer. These intensive courses are designed to help college-bound students significantly increase their SAT scores, while also teaching crucial study skills, test-taking methods and time-management techniques that will help them succeed in college. All courses will be taught by Pittsburgh Prep, a test company in East Liberty.

The scholarships are open to all high school juniors and seniors in Pittsburgh who have a GPA of B or higher, can demonstrate financial need and plan to apply to 4-year colleges or universities. Applications are currently being accepted, but deadlines for summer session scholarships are approaching quickly, so interested students are encouraged to download applications at ninpittsburgh.org/satprep and submit them as soon as possible.

Two students participated in the program last year and improved their SAT scores by more than 250 points. Nic Jedema, a 2012 Neighbors in Need Scholar, increased his SAT score by 410 points after completing the course and earned a scholarship to Cornell University. Jedema said, "Usually you think learning SAT is going to be the most boring thing on the planet, but [the instructor] does a very good job of making it an exciting classroom setting... If you take this course, everything you need to get a perfect score is sitting right in front of you."

For more information, please visit ninpittsburgh.org or call Neighbors in Need at 412-802-9197. – *JoEllen Marsh, Neighbors in Need*



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We'll be picking up litter and planting/weeding on our green spaces along Penn Ave. Hep make Garfield beautiful! More dates at: <http://gcatpgh.com/calendar/>

GCAT Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, July 18 at 6:00 p.m. at Assemble Gallery, 5125 Penn Ave.

Rain Barrel Project at Gator Gardens
Saturday, August 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Gator Gardens, 5414 Kincaid Street.
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Butterfly Garden Promotes Safe Community

By Jill Harkins

The Bulletin

Garfield – With the help of \$1,750 worth of grants from both Pittsburgh's "Love Your Block" program and KaBOOM, as well as the volunteer service of many neighborhood residents, the Nelson Mandela Peace Park in Bloomfield now has a brand new butterfly garden.

"Love Your Block" is a partnership of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl and The Home Depot Foundation to revitalize Pittsburgh block by block, while KaBOOM provides grants to communities that want to begin or enhance a neighborhood playground.

Minette Vaccariello of the Garfield Community Action Team (GCAT) started applying for these grants in early spring of this year, with the original intention of making repairs to the playground, including painting and repaving. However, negotiations by the Bloomfield Garfield Corporation (BGC) and GCAT led to the city of Pittsburgh agreeing to do this maintenance itself, which left GCAT with money to beautify instead of repair.

Vaccariello requested plants from Lauren Cohen, who owns The Farm and Garden nursery in Allison Park, and received a complete sketch along with them. "She made it really easy for us," Vaccariello said. "We gave her the dimen-

sions and then all we had to do was lay it out exactly as she had planned."

GCAT hosted three volunteer days at the park throughout the months of May and June, with the final, most important workday on Saturday, June 8. Vaccariello said that she was very happy with the number of volunteers who came, numbering upwards of 20 throughout the day. She said she was especially pleased by the number of young children who attended.

"We were really thrilled that the little kids wanted to help and to learn to plant," she said. She mentioned in particular one little boy named Woodland who attended every workday with a strong desire to help and learn.

In addition to the children and adult volunteers, teenagers from Garfield Community Intensive Supervision Program (CISP) helped with much of the heavy lifting and shoveling, and Vaccariello expressed many thanks to them, claiming that the day would not have been possible without them.

The butterfly garden is currently more green than any other color, but Vaccariello said that the goal is for the plants to bloom

See **Garden** | page 13

SHOWCASE OF THE MONTH

A Grand House in the Heights

by Aggie Brose

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Stanton Heights – The showcase of the month is 1403 Simona Drive. The owners of record, according to the Allegheny County website, are Kenneth and Jacqueline Welsh, who acquired the house in May 1992.

When you approach the corner of Fairfield Street and Simona Drive, the house is a visual statement of pride with its beautiful white portico, which the Welshes designed themselves and added to the house shortly after moving in. The portico lends a certain grandeur to the property. They usually have a flag flying high, and Mr. Welsh is often seen manicuring his lawn and tending to the landscaping lining the sidewalk.

The Welshes have also invested extensively in the interior of the house and the



ABOVE: The columned portico gives this Stanton Heights house an elegant look, reminiscent of the White House. Photo by Paula Martinac

back yard, where they built a pond.

Thanks to these property owners for choosing to live and invest in the Stanton Heights neighborhood. ♦

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Neighborhood FOCUS

Raising Hops in Garfield

Local Grower Aims to Return Pa. Hops Industry to Former Glory

By Christine Bethea *Bulletin Contributor*

Garfield – Growing on a sunny stretch of land at Garfield Community Farm, 70 prime hops seedlings were planted by Noah Petronic and his enthusiastic volunteers this past spring. The process of them actually making their way from the farm to the brewing company and into a bottle of beer is still three years off, but this planting is a far cry from the first little scruffy hops plants Petronic rescued from a greenhouse at his family farm in Wexford several months ago.

"Once I found out what they were, I sort of adopted them like pets," said Petronic. "I just wanted to see what they would do." He had graduated from Point Park University with a degree in photography, but ended up starting his own small hops yard. With very little training, he soon discovered the 6-foot trellis he had created for the hops was not going to produce the yield he desired.

The first expansion came fast; the poles went up several more feet. Then Petronic started reading everything he could find on hops, both in print and on the Internet. He started talking to more people and getting better ideas. He even networked his way around Pittsburgh's urban garden scene. After attending the Northeastern Hop Alliance meeting last fall, he'd made an eventful discovery: "I'd become obsessed with hops!"

Petronic soon forged a solid collaboration involving GTECH, Garfield Commu-



ABOVE: Tender hops seedlings were planted at Garfield Community Farm in May. Photo courtesy GTECH

"We can grow all the varieties the big beer boys can't."

nity Farm, East End Brewery and the Sprout Fund. Community organizers like the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's Aggie Brose wrote a key letter of support. Soon the dream that began with Petronic became The Hop Project, perhaps the first of its kind in an urban setting.

"We built trellises for the hops to grow on in March," said Sara Innamorato, Communications Specialist at GTECH. "Since then, things have been moving quickly." GTECH Strategies is a nonprofit housed on Hamilton Avenue in Larimer whose mission is to improve the social and environmental health of communities. The organization was perfectly poised to assist the emerging enterprise. "There's a lot more to growing hops than people realize," Innamorato said. "You have to consider the soil type, zone temperatures and gravity levels. There's a lot of science to growing hops. Then, of course there are several flavors."

Scott Smith of East End Brewing explained, "Each variety of hops is very different. The most common is Cascade, which is the bitter type most brewers use. Mt. Hood is more floral, and Chinook has a citrus taste. In the past, we've had to get our hops from the Finger Lakes region around New York. Normally hops are made into pellets, which don't produce the clean flavor we prefer. If we wanted the fresh or 'wet' hops, we'd have to coordinate our brewing time with the New York pickers'



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Growing Hops in Garfield continued

schedule. We'd stop the brewing process, drive six hours, pick up the hops and try to get back to Pittsburgh, before the plants got stale."

Hops plants, Smith noted, are very sensitive, and making a beer with fresh-picked plants is a novelty. "A lot of people offered to grow hops for us," he said, "but Noah was a farmer actually doing it."

Petronic said the first yield at Garfield Community Farm will be modest. He's only planted about one-fourth of an acre, but is gratified that his enterprise will soon expand, adding that "we can grow all the varieties the big beer boys can't!"

The May groundbreaking and planting went smoothly, and the hops plants, after a bit of a struggle, have taken off. Petronic explained that Pennsylvania was once a major hops producer, before Prohibition and then a mildew outbreak in the 1930s that killed off the industry.

Meanwhile, both GTECH and East End Brewing are looking forward to the results from Garfield Farm. "This fall we hope to offer the smaller crop to local brewers and let them experiment," said Innamorato. "We may even host a fundraiser for The Hop Project."

East End Brewing recently moved its operation to Julia Street, a stone's throw from GTECH. "It's great to be neighbors. The East End of Pittsburgh is getting better by the minute, and we feel lucky to be part of it," said Smith.

The brewing company has been working on seasonal and limited-edition novelty beers for the city, like one called Old Nebby. Hand bottled, only about a dozen were produced. They also built a brand-new tasting room, ready and waiting for the new beer brewed with Petronic's hops.

Smith stated with enthusiasm, "Pittsburgh has bees and chickens in the city. Why not add hops?" ♦

For more information about The Hop Project, visit www.thehopproject.com.

Arts Put Penn Avenue in Motion



Penn Avenue – A street festival called Arts in Motion, hosted by the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative, rocked the block of Penn Avenue between Atlantic and Pacific on Saturday, June 15. Among the many vendors were Trundle Manor, the headquarters of the Secret Society of Odd Acquisitions, run by Mr. Arm and Velda Van Minx (shown above). A mini "I Made it! Market" offered handmade crafts and artwork, while local eateries such as Salt of the Earth and Verde Mexican Kitchen + Cantina, along with the BRGR food truck, served up portable food. Children kept busy at the family activity area, where Carnegie Museum of Art's Children Studio, the Irma Freeman Center for Imagination and Assemble provided kid-friendly activities, including crafting and face-painting. Photo by John Colombo Photography



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Sports Hall of Fame Inducts Two Local Heroes

by Dick Romano

Bulletin Contributor

Bloomfield –The Bloomfield Sports Hall of Fame, a wall of plaques housed in WesBanco on Liberty Avenue, honors men and women who have enjoyed long careers as players, coaches, managers, instructors, umpires, referees and sponsors. The contributions these men and women have made, especially to youth sports, are sometimes forgotten or taken for granted.

In mid-June, two more men who fit these qualifications were inducted into the Hall of Fame to receive the honor and recognition they deserve.

George Sciuillo, 90, began his career playing football for Schenley High School, and continued to play the game for the Bloomfield Trojans and Bloomfield Rams. He also played softball with the Bloomfield Softball League and baseball as a catcher and pitcher with the Bloomfield

House League. He bowled for 12 years in a league at Lawrenceville's Arsenal Lanes, and golfed for 10 years with friends from Bloomfield. George is married with one daughter and two grandchildren.

George referred to the days he spent playing Bloomfield sports as "the best times of my life," and thanked the Hall of Fame, calling induction into it "the highest sports award in the community anyone could receive."

His fellow inductee, Joe Posteraro, 49, started his sports career with five years in Little League baseball and two years in Pony League for the Bloomfield Youth Athletic Association. He went on to play football as a noseguard for Immaculate Conception School.

Despite experience in other sports, hockey was Joe's true niche. He played for




ABOVE: Dick Romano, president of the Bloomfield Sports Hall of Fame (center), presented George Sciuillo (left) and Joe Posteraro with their Hall of Fame plaques at an induction ceremony on June 13. Photo by Paula Martinac

the Bloomfield Street Hockey League for eight years, during which the team won four championships. He also played center for Peabody High School for four years; his team won one championship and Joe made All City, Center.

After his years as a player, Joe continued his love of sports by coaching and sponsoring. He coached girls' softball and boys' street hockey, and many of his teams won championships. Today, Joe still finds the

time to sponsor Little League and other youth teams while spending time with his wife and two children and running Angelo's Pizzeria in Bloomfield. In his spare time, he likes to fish and hunt.


The Bloomfield Sports Hall of Fame is a program of the Bloomfield Youth Athletic Association. Visit the Hall of Fame at WesBanco, 4917 Liberty Ave.; the wall of plaques is to the right immediately after entering the bank. ♦



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Popping Up Everywhere



Garfield – Healcrest Urban Farm won a \$1,000 Awesome Pittsburgh micro-grant this spring, which went toward the purchase of a refrigerated cart for vending their new artisanal "teapops." These all-natural frozen treats are crafted from locally grown teas, fruits and herbs, and many of the ingredients come directly from the Garfield farm. Healcrest sets up its Teapop Shop every weekend at the Pittsburgh Public Market in the Strip District, and also sells its pops and specially blended herbal teas around town at festivals and outdoor markets like the weekly Bloomfield Farmers Market. Teapop flavors are always changing, but have included such exotic concoctions as Apple Butter, Coconut Chai, Ginger Rising and Black MinTea Fudge. Above, Healcrest founder Maria Graziani staffs the cart. For more Healcrest happenings, visit www.healcresturbanfarm.com. Photo courtesy Healcrest Urban Farm

History from page 1

August 16 to 31. The exhibition will be located at the Royal York Auction Gallery at 5925 Baum Blvd., and admission is \$5. According to Alfred Mann, the Society's president, the goal of the exhibition is to "establish a firmer base for the historical society and the community."

The Society has secured assistance for the exhibition from several sources, including churches and nonprofit organizations. Items related to notable figures from the 18th and 19th centuries have been secured for display.

Lockhart family descendants will lend original portraits of Mr. Charles and Mrs. Jane Lockhart to the exhibition - Lockhart was an early pioneer in the petroleum industry. The current residents of the mansion of Edward Bigelow, the father of Pittsburgh's park system, will lend associated portraits and relics. Mann said he

also anticipates the Sen. John Heinz History Center will lend original documents from the Negley and Winebiddle families, samples of artwork and stained glass windows made in the Rudy Brothers Studio of East Liberty and a shovel used by Revolutionary War General St. Clair.

In addition to donating his gallery space for the exhibition, Robert Simon is assisting in securing several antique cars for display. Mann said he and his wife,



ABOVE: The Charles Lockhart home on North Highland Avenue was built in the late 1800s. Photo courtesy East Liberty Valley Historical Society



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Genevieve, are working with the staff of Carnegie Library's East Liberty branch on a display of books written by East End residents, "of which there are quite a number." The Society would also like to display items related to East End schools, including those no longer in operation. Mann said he is particularly eager to connect with East End alumni organizations.

The Society is still seeking the loan of articles to display from any historic period. Examples of such artifacts include artwork, first editions of books written by authors with ties to the East End, military-related items, clothing, items purchased in East End business districts and documents. Mann emphasized that the Society will provide insurance and security to protect the items on loan. Volunteers and other support are also needed for the exhibition.

Founded in 2002, the East Liberty Valley Historical Society has approximately 100 members. It preserves and

commemorates the history of the East End neighborhoods of East Liberty, Friendship, Garfield, Highland Park, Homewood-Brushton, Larimer, Lincoln-Lemington-Belmar, Morningside, Point Breeze, Shadyside and Stanton Heights. Society literature states that its mission is "to encourage community esteem" and "foster future growth and development through a broad understanding of our past." The Society published *Pittsburgh's East Liberty Valley* in 2008, which contains narrative and photographs covering more than 250 years of East End history.

According to Mann, his dream is for the Society to be able to move its rare books, maps and paintings from the donated space at East Liberty Lutheran Church to a permanent Heritage Center with space for displays and classes.

To offer articles or support, to volunteer or for more information about the exhibition, please contact Mann at either 412-661-5947 or alfred.mann@verizon.net.

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Highlighting Pittsburgh's Civil War Past

By Dan Simkins

Lawrenceville Historical Society

Lawrenceville – Although there are currently more than 100,000 books and articles dealing with the topic of the American Civil War, Pittsburgh's role in the conflict has been largely overlooked. That will change on July 13, when Lawrenceville historian James Wudarczyk unveils his new book, *Until the Morning Cometh: Civil War Era Pittsburgh*, during Doo Dah Days, the annual celebration of the life and work of composer Stephen Foster.

Wudarczyk has established a reputation for his extensive writings on Lawrenceville. He has also frequently lectured and written on the subject of the city's role in the great Civil War.

The author has previously written the book *Pittsburgh's Forgotten Allegheny Arsenal*, co-authored the Lawrenceville Historical Society's three publications – *Monster on the Allegheny...* and *Other Lawrenceville Stories*, *A Doughboy's Tale... and More Lawrenceville Stories*, and *In Loving Memory...and Still More Lawrenceville Stories* – and contributed nearly 300 articles to various historical publications. The new book looks at the turbulent days that immediately preceded the Civil War all the way through the final battle at Appomattox, when a Pittsburgh man was nearly one of the last casualties

of the conflict.

Chapters delve into the Pittsburgh area's first training camp, Confederates in the city, scandals, the contributions of local men to the war effort, the deadly Allegheny Arsenal explosion of 1862, the prejudice against Catholic nuns who volunteered their services as nurses and much more.

In an interview for *The Bulletin*, Wudarczyk explained more about this important project.

DS: What inspired you to choose this topic?

JW: A number of years ago, when leading a walking tour of the Civil War era sites of Lawrenceville, [I found that] most people were unaware of Pittsburgh's rich contributions to the war effort. The purpose of the tours, articles and now the book is to raise the public consciousness and hopefully develop an appreciation for our past.

DS: Does your book deal primarily with Lawrenceville?

JW: No, the scope of the book is much broader, but the East End plays a prominent role with the 1863 fortification in the event of a Confederate attack. We also produced two generals: Alfred Pearson



ABOVE: The Allegheny Arsenal in Lawrenceville was a major munitions supplier during the Civil War.

and James Scott Negley.

DS: What makes your book so different from the other books written about the Civil War?

JW: The major difference is that many of the other works deal with famous politicians, generals, and battles. My book highlights the contributions of the ordinary people, common soldiers and events that have been largely overlooked.

DS: Is there anything that will surprise readers?

JW: I don't think most people realize that Pittsburgh was a true arsenal for the Union. In addition to the Allegheny Arsenal [in Lawrenceville], Pittsburgh also had a major cannon foundry, and we

were also producing vessels that were instrumental in the river campaigns. For a small city, Pittsburgh did more than its fair share of contributing men, money and supplies. Somebody had to tell our story.

To help defray the cost of Doo Dah Days, Wudarczyk will donate the profits from all copies sold at the festival or at other Lawrenceville Historical Society functions.

The 339-page book sells for \$15.00 plus \$3.00 for postage and handling. After Doo Dah Days, the author said he expects the book to be available in local stores; it can also be obtained by sending a check payable to James Wudarczyk at 417 Fisk Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15524. ♦

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Photo by Amy Crawford



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In East Liberty, the Play's the Thing

By Margaret Graham

East Liberty Development, Inc.

East Liberty – Innovative, experimental theater is coming to the neighborhood once again with Quantum Theatre's production of *Mnemonic*. In keeping with Quantum's Neighborhood Initiative, which brings theater to the communities surrounding the Penn Avenue corridor, *Mnemonic* will be staged at 215 N. Highland Ave. in East Liberty.

Mnemonic is the story of Alice, who has left her boyfriend Virgil in a quest to learn about the father she never knew. The ensuing trek through Eastern Europe is seemingly unconnected to the other storyline in the play – the discovery of a body in the Austrian/Italian Alps.

As Virgil and the audience trace Alice's steps, the two stories come together and the characters travel back to Neolithic times, when the glacial corpse rested his head on a rock some 5,200 years ago, never to rise again. This part of the show is based on a true-life event: the discovery of an ice man in the Alps in 1991.

Quantum is the first American company to perform *Mnemonic*. Quantum will have its own unique additions to the performance, including video

designed by Joe Seamans. In fact, the Kirkwood Building, the selected performance space, was picked partially because of its large, pale walls – perfect for projections.

The show is a global story, with many countries weighing in on the discovery of the glacial corpse. Was the body discovered in Italy, or Austria? Quantum artistic director Karla Boos – who also directs the show – sees *Mnemonic* tying into the larger community of East Liberty.

"I feel that East Liberty is poised to be among the more globally representative neighborhoods in our city," Boos said.

The show runs July 5 to 28, Wednesdays through Sundays, at 8 p.m. Special event opportunities include Community Night, for invited East Liberty residents, on July 3; a post-show discussion with the cast on July 7; Ladies Night on July 10, a women's-only viewing with a pre-show gathering; Grapenuts Night on July 12, which includes a special pre-show wine-tasting; and a night for young professionals on July 26. For ticket information, call Quantum Theatre at 412-362-1713 or visit quantumtheatre.com. ♦



ABOVE: Artistic director Karla Boos hops a ride during the delivery of rocks to the set of Quantum Theatre's *Mnemonic*. Photo courtesy Quantum Theatre

Garden from page 7

into beautiful purples, yellows, and pinks that will attract butterflies and songbirds to the garden. The plants are all perennials, so colorful varieties such as Baptisia ("Purple Smoke") and Phlox ("Blue Paradise") will return year after year.

While Vaccariello was talking to *The Bulletin*, a mother whose children were playing on the swings approached her, saying that she lived down the street, and that the new garden was a beautiful improvement to the area. Vaccariello said she hopes that other residents of the area will respond in the same way, even those without children. "With this beautification, we anticipate that neighbors will come and sit in the park, and take ownership of it," she said. She added that such ownership and watchful eyes will hopefully combat any negative activity that could happen in the area. ♦



ABOVE: Neighborhood children were actively involved in planting the butterfly garden. Photo by Kathryn Vargas

Vaccariello said she wants to hold events in the park throughout the summer, including National Night Out, an event held the first Tuesday in August throughout the country to promote public safety, drug prevention and neighborhood watch. ♦

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Local Events Classes Announcements Fundraisers

July 2

GARFIELD

Free Yoga Classes

Come to the Healcrest Urban Farm, 5200 Hillcrest St., for this series of Yoga 1 practicum classes. Join Instructor Meg Graham for class every Friday in July at 7 a.m. and the first four Tuesdays in July at 7:30 p.m. This moderately-paced class will include a wide range of postures designed to increase strength, balance and flexibility. For new students in good health. Bring water and a mat. Register at www.healcresturbanfarm.com/classes.html or contact healcresturbanfarm@gmail.com.

July 5

FRIENDSHIP

The Sound Project

Come to The Alloy Studios at 5530 Penn Ave. at 8 p.m. for Murphy/Smith Dance Collective's "Sound Project," which explores the relationship between sound and human instinct by illuminating how everyday life sounds around us create environment and are a source of communication. Pay what you can; reservation required. For tickets or details, visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org or call 412-363-3000.

July 6

PENN AVENUE

Pick Up Penn

Call for volunteers for Pick Up Penn, neighborhood clean-up. Meet at 10 a.m. at Most Wanted Fine Art, 5015 Penn Ave. Refreshments provided.

LAWRENCEVILLE

4th of July

The Lawrenceville Fireworks Committee and Lawrenceville United will once again host the Independence Day Celebration from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Food vendors and free activities including a wild animal show, petting zoo, Keystone State Wrestling Alliance, pony rides and more. The event culminates at dark with a Zambelli fireworks show. Call 412-802-7220 or visit www.lunited.org/programs/community-engagement-restoration/lawrenceville-united-seasonal-events/ for details.

GARFIELD

Herb Walk

Come to the Healcrest Urban Farm, 5200 Hillcrest St., from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for "Plant Allies." Join medical herbalist Ola Obasi, in a plant walk sharing stories and discussing the healing properties of plants. Fee is \$10. Register at www.healcresturbanfarm.com/classes.html or contact healcresturbanfarm@gmail.com.

GARFIELD

Story-telling Camp

Does your child love writing and sharing stories? Join the LAB for our Storytellers' Studio: After-Care Camp at Assemble, 5125 Penn Ave. During this five-day camp, participants will collaborate on a group story and adapt it into plays, songs/raps, and comics. Camp runs July 8-12 for 5-7 year-olds, July 15-19 for 8-10 year-olds, and July 22-26 for 11-13 year-olds. 3 to 6 p.m. daily. Fee is \$50 per week and covers snacks and materials. Need-based scholarships are available. Please contact literaryartsboom@gmail.com or 773-425-1531 for more info.

EAST LIBERTY

Lego Night

Explore creativity and use your imagination at the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library, 130 S. Whitfield St., from 6 to 7 p.m. as you build with Legos, K'nex, straws and connectors, wood blocks and more. For families, age 3 and up. Visit <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/events/> or call 412-363-8274 to register.

July 9

GARFIELD

Healcrest Tour

Visit Healcrest Urban Farm, 5200 Hillcrest St., from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. to experience the herb gardens and orchard, witness bees in action in the apiary and see chickens at work. Maria Graziani, certified herbalist, will lead a walking tour filled with the history of Healcrest, identification of herbs and discussion on sustainable farm techniques. The tour concludes with a tea tasting. Fee is \$15. Register at www.healcresturbanfarm.com/classes.html or contact healcresturbanfarm@gmail.com.

July 10

GARFIELD

Insurance Workshop

Come to Assemble, 5125 Penn Ave. from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to learn about options for self-insurance and what to expect in 2014 from insurance expert Liz Kennon. Lessons from the 6% Place is a free business education series for freelancers and other creative entrepreneurs. RSVP at lessons.citylabpgh.org.

Public Safety Task Force

The Public Safety Task Force has convened monthly in Garfield since 2000. At the table are representatives from the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, the Bureau of Police, other neighborhood organizations, the offices of the Mayor and City Council members, various city and county departments and the state. Community members are invited to bring specific concerns to PSTF's monthly meeting during

the first 15 minutes. The meeting starts at 4 p.m. at BGC's Community Activity Center, 113 N. Pacific Ave. For more information: 412-441-6950 x15.

PENN AVENUE

Midday Dance Party

Take a break, bust a move and grab some lunch at Beats n Eats Midday Dance Party at The Quiet Storm, 5430 Penn Ave., from 12 to 2 p.m. Enjoy a special menu and house DJ.

July 11

EAST LIBERTY

Harlem Quartet

The acclaimed Harlem Quartet returns to Pittsburgh at the Kelly Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Ave., at 7:30 p.m. The ensemble features Ilmar Gavilan, violin; Melissa White, violin; Jaime Amador Medina, viola and Matthew Zalkind, cello. Co-presented with Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society. Tickets are \$20. For tickets or details, visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org or call 412-363-3000.

Baby and Me

Come to the Baby and Me program at the East Liberty Carnegie Library, 130 S. Whitfield St. from 10:30 to 11 a.m. to introduce your child to the library. Meet new moms, dads, grandfathers, caregivers and others. Come sing, clap, bounce and listen to nursery rhymes. For babies up to 24 months. Visit <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/events/> or call 412-363-8274 to register.

July 12

FRIENDSHIP

"The Wholehearted"

Come see "The Wholehearted" at The Alloy Studios, 5530 Penn Ave., at 8 p.m. Holm plays a proud but unreliable former boxing champion reliving her glory days in a rundown boxing gym. The showing and discussion after will help the creative team polish this work that will have its Pittsburgh premiere next season at the Kelly Strayhorn. Pay what you can; reservation required. For tickets or details, visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org or call 412-363-3000.

July 13

FRIENDSHIP

Yard Sale

The Friendship Preservation Group is planning a neighborhood-wide yard sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. between Gross and Negley. Maps and information will be available at Baum Grove the morning of.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Doo Dah Days

The Lawrenceville Historical Society, together with the Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association, presents the 2013 Stephen Foster Music and Heritage Festival, Doo Dah Days, which will take place in Allegheny Cemetery from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival will celebrate the life and music of Stephen Foster, while helping draw attention to the history of Pittsburgh B.C. (before Carnegie). There

will be four folk bands, specializing in Stephen Foster era music; educational tours of Allegheny Cemetery (including Foster's burial place); costumed re-enactors and other outdoor activities.

EAST LIBERTY

Wiggly Worms

Did you know that earthworms are an important part of your garden? Come to the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library, 130 S. Whitfield St., from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. to hear a story about them and enjoy a yummy "dirt" snack. Decorate your own wooden worm to take home. Recommended for children ages 3 to 6 with an adult. Visit <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/events/> or call 412-363-8274 to register.

July 14

Adult Drama Camp

Come to First United Methodist Church, 5401 Centre Ave., for Dancing with Dragons: Transformation of the Mind, a week-long East End Song Studio music drama camp from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The camp will engage workshop participants in the theme of transforming conflict in society and in the mind through music, art and dance. Workshops include presentations on self-defense and gun education for non-owners. Camp ends on July 20 with a live opera performance. Fee is \$185. For more info or to register, email eesongstudio@gmail.com.

July 15

GARFIELD

Composting Class

Would you like your waste to be beneficial waste instead? Come to Healcrest Urban Farm, 5200 Hillcrest St., from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. to find out how. In this workshop you will be introduced to a few easy methods for turning food scraps into soil, or composting. Dana Launius will share her love of sustainable living in this fun and educational series. Wear old clothing. Fee \$15. Register at www.healcresturbanfarm.com/classes.html or contact healcresturbanfarm@gmail.com.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Science Camp

Come to the Lawrenceville branch of the Carnegie Library, 279 Fisk St., from 4 to 5 p.m. for a five-day camp in which you will explore different types of science through fun activities and challenging hands-on experiments. Recommended for students entering grades 1-5 in the fall. Supplies provided. Visit <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/events/> or call 412-682-3668 to register.

July 16

EAST LIBERTY

Library Baseball Class

Get your children excited about the MLB All Star Game. Come to the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library, 130 S. Whitfield St., from 3 to 4 p.m. to listen to baseball stories, play frying pan baseball and watch fireworks in a glass. For grades K-5. Visit <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/events/> or call 412-363-8274 to register.

Sorry, we do not accept listings by phone.

The Bulletin Board publishes listings of volunteer opportunities, free or low-cost events and classes, fundraising events and services that are of particular interest to our neighborhoods. Listings published on a space-available basis; we cannot guarantee placement.

Announcements for the August issue are due Monday, July 15, via email to bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org.

Volunteer Opportunities & Services

July 17

LAWRENCEVILLE

Holiday Lights Committee

Come to a community meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Boys & Girls Club, 4600 Butler St., to discuss revitalizing the holiday decorations that once adorned all of Lawrenceville. Please attend if you would like to help get the ball rolling on the installation of new lights to help celebrate this wonderful time of year. For more info, please contact Lawrenceville United at info@lunited.org or 412-802-7220.

GARFIELD

ManorCare Recruitment

Come to the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, 5321 Penn Ave., at 1:30 p.m. for a ManorCare senior assisted living recruitment session. They are looking to hire RNs, LPNs and CNAs. Competitive pay and comprehensive benefits package, including medical, dental and 401(K). Call 412-362-8580 to register.

July 18

EAST LIBERTY

Brooklyn Rider Quartet

Trumpeted as "stunningly imaginative," this strong quartet makes its Pittsburgh debut at the Kelly Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Ave., at 7:30 p.m. The ensemble features violin, viola and cello. Co-presented by the Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society. Tickets are \$20. For tickets or details, visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org or call 412-363-3000.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Computer Class

Come to the Lawrenceville branch of the Carnegie Library, 279 Fisk St., from 12 to 1 p.m. for a basic computer instruction class focusing on basic mouse movements and the Desktop screen. Class will be conducted on three consecutive days, for approximately one hour per day. Call 412-682-3668 to register.

July 19

FRIENDSHIP

Musical Performance

Come see the Groove Aesthetic, a collective of artists and musicians of various disciplines and genres who come together to create multi-faceted performances, at The Alloy Studios, 5530 Penn Ave. Elements include classical music, jazz/soul music, performance art and a newly arranged piece that combines elements of classical music and jazz. Featured collaborators include DJ duo Tracksploration and visual/video artist Julie Mallis. Time TBD. Pay whatever you can. For tickets or details, visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org or call 412-363-3000.

July 20

EAST LIBERTY

Free Science Class

Mad Science of Pittsburgh will present a workshop for students from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the East

Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library, 130 S. Whitfield St. Check out rock samples to find out how they were made. Inspect minerals, create tremors for earthquakes. For students entering grades 1-5. Limited to 25 participants. Visit www.carnegielibrary.org/events/ or call 412-363-8274 to register.

Origami Class

Join the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library, 130 S. Whitfield St., from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the children's room and learn the art of Japanese paper-folding. Fold paper to make shapes like boxes, frogs, cones and more. For children and adults. Visit <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/events/> or call 412-363-8274 to register.

July 27

GARFIELD

Garden Happy Hour

Come to Healcrest Urban Farm, 5200 Hillcrest St., from 7 to 9 p.m. to delight in the aromas of the herb gardens and the soundscape of the urban wilderness and sway with the flora. Join Michelle Soto and Dana Launius for an urban garden happy hour and an evening of earthly enjoyment. Learn to make Aphrodisiac Truffles, as well as basic community-style bellydancing. BYOB and potluck snacks welcome. Fee is \$10. Register at www.healcresturbanfarm.com/classes.html or contact healcresturbanfarm@gmail.com.

July 29

FRIENDSHIP

Music Workshop

This week-long intensive workshop from July 29 until August 2 at The Alloy Studios, 5530 Penn Ave., by SOUNDWAVES Steel Band Ensemble is ideal for students who are interested in a broad range of musical styles and want to develop their own skills. To register or for details, visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org or call 412-363-3000.

GARFIELD

Hotel Recruitment

Come to 113 N. Pacific St. at 10:30 a.m. to learn about open jobs in hospitality and tourism at the Omni William Penn Hotel, including housekeeping, banquet services, dish washing and more. Sponsored by the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center. Call 412-362-8580 to register.

Vacation Bible School

Morningside Church of God in Christ will hold "Hip Hop Hope," a vacation Bible school, today through Aug. 2. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily. Breakfast and lunch served. Come and bring a friend. For information, call 412-361-9865.

July 30

LAWRENCEVILLE

Blood Drive

Central Blood Bank is coming to the Stephen Foster Center, 286 Main St., from 2 to 7 p.m. for a Community Blood Drive. All registered donors will receive two free Pirates baseball tickets for an upcoming home game. The tickets will be mailed

after the blood drive. You save three lives each time you donate. To schedule an appointment, contact Craig at 412-209-7245 or cprince@itxm.org. Drinking plenty of non-caffeinated and non-alcoholic fluids prior to donating will aid in expanding your veins to help ensure a comfortable experience.

GARFIELD

Fermentation Basics

Join Healcrest Urban Farm, 5200 Hillcrest St., for a food exploration introducing the basic concepts and processes of the fermentation of foods. Natalya Pinchuk will help you make sauerkraut, pickled tomatoes, preserved herbs, lightly alcoholic cider and hot sauce. You will learn about kefir grains and clabbered milk. You will go home with a small batch of San Francisco sourdough starter. Fee is \$20. Register at www.healcresturbanfarm.com/classes.html or contact healcresturbanfarm@gmail.com.

July 31

GARFIELD

Veterans Event

Come to the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, 5321 Penn Ave., at 10:30 a.m. for an event featuring Karen Payne, career advisor and case manager at the Veterans Leadership Program of Western PA. She will present on various opportunities that support veterans' needs, including rental assistance, housing programs, and employment programs. Call 412-362-8580 to register.

Further Out

LAWRENCEVILLE

Call for Vendors

The New Bethel Baptist Church, 221 43rd St., is planning a Flea Market & Vendor's Market Place for August 3 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please contact Catherine Curry at 412-441-5968 for more info.

FRIENDSHIP

House Tour

The 2013 Friendship House Tour, planned for September 22, is looking for homes to showcase on this year's tour. Old homes, new homes, newly remodeled, partially remodeled, and apartments (with landlord permission) are welcome. The Friendship Community Group is also looking for volunteers to help plan and execute this event. Planning meetings will occur monthly. If you would like to volunteer or if you would like to share your home or suggest a home you would like to see on the tour, email housetour@friendship-pgh.org.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Pre-K Program

Children's Hospital Family Care Connection Lawrenceville is offering a Jumpstart program for Pre-K children ages 3 to 5. The program focuses on the academic and behavioral skills needed for a successful transition to Kindergarten. Classes run from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting in September. Call 412-784-8683 to register.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Call for Houses

The annual Lawrenceville Hospitality House Tour will be held on Sunday, October 7 from 12 to 5 p.m. The planning committee is accepting nominations for houses at this time. The House Tour showcases the diversity of construction, rehabilitation and

renovation that can be attained for a home of any age or any size. Homeowners are encouraged to submit their house for possible inclusion in this year's tour. If you know of a house in Lawrenceville's 6th, 9th or 10th wards please contact Kate at kateb1950@gmail.com or call 412-600-2068. Volunteers are needed for the planning committee, so anyone who is interested is encouraged to contact Kate. For more info visit www.lha15201.org.

On-Going

HILL DISTRICT

Swim & Waterpolo

Training sessions in swimming and waterpolo will be offered from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in July and August at Citi-parks Ammon Rec Center outdoor pool at 2217 Bedford Ave. with Coach Mark Rauterkus, Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation and Pittsburgh Obama Academy. For high school and middle school students and those 9 and older. For more information, call 412-298-3432.

EAST END

Summer Food Service

Through August 16, Citi-parks Summer Food Service Program will provide healthy and delicious breakfasts, lunches and snacks to all children up to 18 years old as well as to mentally disabled individuals up to 21 years old. Sites in the East End include: Bloomfield Community Center, 408 Ella St., Bloomfield; East Liberty Gardens Apartments, Complex Playground, East Liberty; Estelle Campbell Boys & Girls Club, 4600 Butler St., Lawrenceville; Inner City Ministries, 5643 East Liberty Blvd., East Liberty; and Valley View Presbyterian Church, 601 N. Aiken Ave., East Liberty. For hours of operation and a complete list of sites, call 412-244-3911.

BLOOMFIELD

Pittsburgh Dance Center Classes

Join the Pittsburgh Dance Center, 4765 Liberty Ave., 2nd floor, for Hip Curve Bellydancing Foundations on Saturdays from 10 to 11 a.m., Beginning Technique and Training Bellydance Bootcamp on Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m., Level 2 Bellydancing: Combos and Choreography on Mondays from 7 to 8 p.m., and Tribal Style Belly Basics on Thursdays at 6 p.m.

PENN AVENUE

Bike Free Fridays

When you walk, ride the bus, bike or skateboard to the Kelly Strayhorn Theater for any of the Friday performances, you will receive one voucher that may be exchanged for two free tickets to a future performance. KST is proud to collaborate with Bike Pittsburgh on Bike Free Fridays.

GARFIELD

Computer Skills

Pittsburgh CONNECTS, 5321 Penn Avenue, hosts weekly computer classes. Intro to Computers, Mondays from 10 to 11:30 a.m., covers the basics of the computer from clicking the mouse to saving and attaching files. Internet and Email Basics, Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., covers basic internet navigation skills. For information on these offerings and Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel classes visit main.pghconnects.org.

Get your Bulletin Board listings in early!

Twist of Fate Keeps ARTica Owner on Penn

by Jill Harkins
The Bulletin

Penn Avenue – Christine Bethea had every intention of closing ARTica Gallery and Antiques at 5110 Penn Ave., and went through with most of her plans. But as it turned out, it was not quite time for her to leave the storefront.

Bethea owned and operated ARTica for the past four years as a leg of Passports: The Art Diversity Project. In 2009, she opened the gallery and shop and since then has run the much-loved boutique while simultaneously working to include art and artists in a variety of projects city-wide, including the Geek Art/Green Innovators (GA/GI) Festival produced annually in collaboration with the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative.

At the May Unblurred on Penn, ARTica finalized its closing with an auction, using AYP-Today Pittsburgh. AYP is a family-run business located in Highland Park that acts as a seller for homes and businesses by creating an online presence of bulk unwanted items. They organize everything, take photos of the items, write descriptions and list them. Bethea said she loved that they took care of everything so she could just stand at the door and hug old customers as they came in.

"They were perfect for my needs," said Bethea. "I wanted to sell over 400 items fast, as close as I could get to the bare walls."

On Bethea's very last day at ARTica, a friend, who had closed his retro furniture

shop in Homestead more than a year ago, came by to visit. "This isn't a bad little space. Maybe you should reopen it with partners," said Bernie Schilling. Despite closing his own shop, he had been looking forward to reopening at a new location. Penn Avenue's growth and energy as well as ARTica's popular presence made it a great prospect for a collaboration – one that Schilling quickly suggested to Bethea.

"After picking my chin up off the floor, I called [the management company] Equity Realty to see if the space was still available. We had a great relationship," said Bethea, "and they were happy to release it to me. I love the idea of still having a visible home base while I do other Penn Avenue projects."

Bethea will partner with Schilling, and ARTica will operate under the banner of MOSTLY MOD, Schilling's brand. "This is a great opportunity for all of us. We'll share time in the store, and people looking for retro, antique and urban decor will benefit from our years of combined experience." Both business owners said they are excited to move forward with two customer bases for their new and improved unified store.

Schilling said that he had gone to ARTica just to chat with Bethea and hear about her plans for the future. "I wanted to learn about her next endeavor, but little did I know her next endeavor would be me," Schilling told *The Bulletin*.



ABOVE: Bernie Schilling and Christine Bethea pose in the new MOSTLY MOD storefront. Photo by Jill Harkins

Designs for the new MOSTLY MOD will include a hip, upscale design and merchandise to match. Schilling said he thinks ARTica and MOSTLY MOD will mesh well and evenly.

"Christine and I like most of the same things, and I think our design sense and our thoughts about what's hip are the same," he said. Plans are to hold a grand opening at the Friday, July 5th Unblurred.

Despite her busy schedule, Bethea will continue to be involved in programs on

Penn Avenue, including the development of the annual GA/GI Festival and the planning and coordination of the Garfield Night Market. "I'm in love with Penn Avenue. I will always be present in some way," she said.

Bethea also owns a storefront at 4825 Penn Ave. (the old Heavenly Cuts salon), but plans for that space will be on the back burner now that she has her hands full with the new venture. ♦

Ready to Work



Garfield – The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation will host 40 young people as part of the Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Program. The youths, ages 14 to 21, will be employed for six weeks as interns with local businesses and nonprofits, performing a wide range of business or clerical functions and earning minimum wage. At their orientation on June 18 (above), the young people reviewed with BGC staffer Jason Cordova how to complete tax forms and other basic employment skills. Photo by Paula Martinac

Classifieds

Education

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