

# the Bulletin

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Painting the bleachers at Fort Pitt Field. Photo courtesy WDO Photography



## Casual Eatery to Replace Brian & Cooper

By Paula Martinac  
*The Bulletin*

**Bloomfield** – The owner of the building at 300 S. Pacific Avenue, which now houses Brian & Cooper Food Mart, has given his tenant notice to vacate and intends to open a new eatery and cafe in that location next spring.

Nick Redondo, who owns both the building and the liquor license, gave notice to Brian & Cooper proprietor Nasir Raess in July. Raess has until March 1, 2012, to vacate the premises.

“I thought it was time for a change,” Redondo told *The Bulletin*. Raess has been at odds with nearby neighbors for eight years over issues such as selling pornography and operating a bar in the back room. Raess made some adjustments a year ago in response to a heated community meeting, but neighbors continued to be unhappy with the establishment.

After Brian & Cooper closes, Redondo will open his own business, O.S. Marden’s, a casual eatery and coffeehouse, on the property late next spring. He says he envisions the venue as “a place where neighbors can come and mingle.” The name comes from an American writer, Orison Swett Marden (1850-1924), whom Redondo discovered “by a fluke” and

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## Volunteers Spread the “Love” in Garfield

By Kathryn Vargas *Bloomfield-Garfield Corp.*

**Garfield** – The months of September and October were all about spreading the love on Hillcrest Street in Garfield. To implement a “Love Your Block” Grant received from the City of Pittsburgh,

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## PPS Administrators Defend Realignment

By Joshua Barszczewski *The Bulletin*

**East End** – On Thursday, September 22, administrators from Pittsburgh Public Schools hosted a public meeting at the Reizenstein Facility, 129 Denniston Avenue, to discuss the District Realignment

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## Healcrest Transitions into Herb Farm

By Paula Martinac *The Bulletin*

**Garfield** – Who starts a farm on 15 abandoned and tax-delinquent lots on a hilltop in the middle of a struggling city neighborhood where people once mined coal? That was exactly what Maria

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U.S. Rep. Mike Doyle poses with seniors from Pittsburgh Westinghouse High School enrolled in the Culinary Arts program. The students catered the Oct. 20 grand opening of Pittsburgh CONNECTS, Garfield’s new technology center. Read the full story on page 2. Photo by Paula Martinac

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## Eatery from page 1

whose writings on self-reliance and success, he says, have inspired him. Marden's photo will grace the venue's front awning.

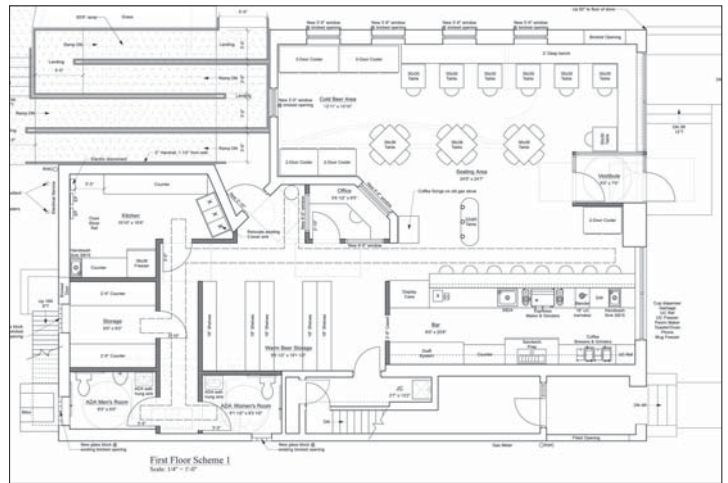
Redondo has engaged local architect John Cullen of S. Atlantic Avenue to draw up the renovation plans. He says he has also received "a lot of offers of help" and advice in setting up the business. Over the past few months, he has done extensive research into the best food and beverages for his new venture, which will be open from 7 a.m. to about 8 p.m. daily (9 p.m. in summer months), serving bagels and other breakfast items, sandwiches, salads, soups, coffee and beer. "I want things you can't find at Starbucks," he noted.

To that end, Kiva Han will be roasting coffee for the store under a private label. Coffee fixings will be available at a counter fashioned from a vintage stove. In addition, Marden's will feature draft beer from East End Brewery, self-serve coolers of craft beers only, and pastries from Paddy Cake in Bloomfield, among others. Fresh soups will come from Hale and Hearty, a popular New York City-based company. "I want everything to be different, special,"

Redondo said. "We'll have sandwiches with basil pesto, named after neighborhood streets." Still, he noted, he intends to keep prices affordable.

There will be no table service; customers will order and then take their food to one of 11 tables. Maximum seating inside is 32. If the venture proves successful, Redondo said he may investigate opening a front deck for the summer season. The eatery will also feature two ADA-compliant bathrooms and wireless Internet service.

Redondo said he intends to manage the establishment himself during the first year, from an office on-site with two-way glass. "It's not going to become a bar," he reported. "And we won't sell any cigarettes, candy or magazines." Aggie Brose, deputy director of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation who facilitated several community meetings about Brian & Cooper, told The Bulletin she is impressed with the proposed plans and believes the new venue "will really serve the neighborhood's needs." ♦



ABOVE: Architect's rendering of the interior of O.S. Marden's at 300 S. Pacific Avenue. Courtesy Cullen & Associates

## Doyle Helps Launch Tech Centers

By Paula Martinac *The Bulletin*

Garfield – U.S. Rep. Mike Doyle (D-Pa.) came to Garfield on October 20 for the official launch of a network of citywide computer labs. The tech centers, funded by federal stimulus dollars and jointly called Pittsburgh CONNECTS, are a project of the Neighborhood Learning Alliance (NLA), which is headquartered in East Liberty.

The centers are located in four of the city's lower-income neighborhoods – Garfield, Homewood, the Hill District and Southside Hilltop. NLA worked in partnership with Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC), Homewood Brushton YMCA, Hill House Association and Centre Avenue YMCA to create and manage the free labs.

The grand opening took place at the Garfield CONNECTS center, situated at 5321 Penn Avenue and managed by the BGC. About 75 people attended the festivities in person, while the three other CONNECTS sites were able to celebrate the event via Web conferencing.

NLA executive director Stephen MacIsaac introduced Doyle as someone whose commitment to bringing technology to underserved communities "inspires my work every day." Doyle, he noted, "understands that communication is power."

Doyle praised the four centers by saying,

"Communities that don't have a voice get a voice through programs like this." The labs, he observed, will "open up the world to young people and adults to help them compete in this economy." He called technology "the most wonderful, terrible invention ever," which must be made accessible to all.

The four labs, each of which is unique, are not just places to use computers; they also offer instruction to community members in the many useful applications of computers in everyday life. They also provide valuable job-searching tools and assistance. Each of the four centers presents a full monthly schedule of classes and workshops on topics such as learning Internet and email basics; doing online banking; and finding reliable information about health issues on the Web – all in a casual setting with comfortable chairs and attractive artwork.

The Garfield center is staffed by the BGC and Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, members of Americorps and local volunteers, such as University of Pittsburgh nursing students. (See pp. 14-15 for November events at the Garfield lab.) For more information about the Garfield lab, email [bgc.enec@gmail.com](mailto:bgc.enec@gmail.com) or call 412-441-9833. ♦

## County Election Questionnaire Results Released

Pittsburgh – The Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG), a coalition of community-based organizations working for the revitalization of urban neighborhoods, has published the results of a questionnaire it distributed to candidates in the 2011 county elections, to be held Tuesday, November 8.

Current Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato decided not to run for re-election, which puts "the third most powerful seat in Pennsylvania ... up for grabs," according to PCRG's "Candidates Guide for Voters."

PCRG sent the questionnaire to county executive candidates Rich Fitzgerald (D) and D. Raja (R), seeking responses to questions on banking, property assessment, mass transit, economic development and nonprofit policy. The questionnaire also solicited the views of county controller candidates Chelsa Wagner (D) and Ron Howard (R) on similar topics.

To access the voters' guide, go to [www.pcrgr.org](http://www.pcrgr.org) and scroll to Latest News.

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# Drilling Signals Movement on Penn Reconstruction

By Paula Martinac *The Bulletin*

*Bloomfield/Garfield* – That wasn't Marcellus Shale drilling residents witnessed along Penn Avenue on the evening of September 27 – it was geotechnical drilling, a required part of Phase 1 of the much-awaited Penn Avenue reconstruction project.

Dawood Engineering carried out the drilling, which sampled the pavement in five different spots between Mathilda and Evaline. The drilling began at 6 p.m., so the trucks and heavy machinery would not create a traffic snarl during the day, and continued until well after midnight. According to Brian Krul of L.R. Kimball, project manager of the corridor reconstruction, "The drilling was required by PennDOT and the City to properly design the pavement structure, determine what lies beneath the corridor, and assess any underground environmental issues."

Krul said the pavement cores are currently being analyzed in a lab. Kimball engineers will use the results in their upcoming pavement design for the corridor. "All of the drilling was completed within one night with minimal disruptions," Krul observed.

Rich Engel, Mainstreets Manager of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, reported, "We got positive comments from people on the avenue. They realized construction is actually going to happen." Jason Sauer, owner of Most Wanted Fine Art, remarked that he only heard a brief burst of loud drilling near his building at 5015 Penn. Joe Suppa, owner of Calabria's Italian Restaurant at 4911 Penn, said he was so impressed with the way the drilling

was handled that he offered the crew a fresh, free pizza around 10:30 p.m.

Completion of the drilling is a signal that design plans for the reconstruction of the four-block stretch of Penn, set to begin in 2013, are moving apace. As scheduled, the preliminary design plans will be officially presented for community review at a public meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2012, at the St. Lawrence O'Toole Activity Center at 140 N. Atlantic Ave., from 6 to 8 p.m. Pizza and beverages will be served.

Also reviewed at the meeting will be the scheduling and phasing of construction, and the details of the official detour for the length of the project. Krul reported that inbound to downtown Pittsburgh, all traffic and buses will travel along Penn. The signed outbound detour for cars and trucks, he said, will follow Main Street to Liberty Avenue to Baum Boulevard to Negley Avenue and then back onto Penn.

However, the outbound detour for buses will be different, using Friendship Avenue to Negley instead. "The Port Authority decided the bus detour," Krul explained. "They want it to be as close to the regular route as possible." Representatives from PAT will be on hand at the public meeting to explain the detour.

At the community meeting in January, detailed plans will be on display, and an open mike session will accommodate questions from the audience. Following the presentation and Q&A, there will be time for residents and business owners to meet with project staff and city officials at separate stations. ♦



Nighttime geotechnical drilling along Penn Avenue. Photo by Jason Sauer

## the Bulletin

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with the mission of reporting on activities and ideas affecting those communities and offering an opportunity for residents to express opinions and exchange ideas.

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**Board Meetings** are held by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at 5321 Penn Avenue. These meetings are open to the public.

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

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## SHOWCASE OF THE MONTH

## 4100 Penn Avenue: Eyesore No More

By Aggie Brose Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

*Lawrenceville* – The property at 4100 Penn Avenue, City of Pittsburgh, 9th Ward, was highlighted in the June 2009 edition of *The Bulletin* as an Eyesore of the Month. Now, a little more than two years later, the property is well on its way to turning around.

Back in 2009, the owner, Angelo Posteraro, who has owned the property since 2004, was letting the building sit vacant and in a blighted condition.

This property is on a prominent corner of the Penn Avenue corridor. Within blocks of the building, there has been more than a half-billion dollars of investment in the community. When the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation contacted Mr. Posteraro back then to ask about his plans for the property, he told the staff he planned to reinvest in the property and open a sports bar at the location. He was seeking a liquor license for the premises, and was consulting an architect on the design of the building.

Since that time, BGC staff members have been monitoring the building and would now like to report that Mr. Posteraro has been true to his word, and is turning this eyesore into a potential

community gem. Contractors are doing a total rehab of the old building, with the intent of bringing a little of the North Shore sports-bar atmosphere to the East End.

A new slate roof, new floors, new windows, new bathrooms, new paint – all this is being accomplished with private money. The big picture windows allow for a panoramic view down Penn.

Mr. Posteraro has secured the liquor license for the establishment. He also acquired 4113, 4115 and 4117 Main Street, directly behind 4100 Penn, in May 2011 – these properties were in foreclosure and a blight on the community. The three buildings will soon be demolished to make way for a possible parking lot for the sports bar and for Graziano's Pizza Shop across Penn, which Mr. Posteraro also owns and operates. Mr. Posteraro says he lost parking in front of the pizzeria when new traffic lanes were created to accommodate the new Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

The sports bar will have five to six large TV screens and serve cold dishes, since it is not equipped with a kitchen at



4100 Penn Avenue, once an eyesore, is experiencing a 100 percent rehab, complete with picture windows that provide a panoramic view of Penn Avenue. Photo by Paula Martinac

present. Mr. Posteraro could not give a specific opening date at this time. "I could have done things a lot cheaper," he said of the rehab. "But this will be something beautiful for the avenue."♦

To nominate a property as either an eyesore or a showcase, contact Aggie Brose at 412-441-6950 x 15 or [Aggie@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:Aggie@bloomfield-garfield.org).



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# Community Forum Addresses Drugs and Drug Policy

By Paula Martinac *The Bulletin*

*Garfield* – A perceived failure of the U.S. government's drug policy was the topic of a community forum on October 17 at Morningside Church of God in Christ in Garfield. Attended by about 30 people, the forum was sponsored by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, whose board of directors voted to hold the meeting to look at current drug policy and its effects on the neighborhood.

BGC Board Vice President P.J. Maloney emceed the program, and three expert panelists addressed the audience. Professor Jonathan Caulkins of Carnegie Mellon University, co-author of the book *Drugs and Drug Policy: What Everyone Needs to Know* (2011), provided a policy perspective on the issue of drugs and enforcement. He differentiated between different levels of drugs, and pointed out that the "expensive majors" – heroin, cocaine, crack and methamphetamine, not marijuana and minor drugs – spark the greatest violence and do the most harm to communities.

Caulkins gave some historical perspective to the worsening drug crisis in the country, pointing out that de-industrialization and the accompanying lack of good jobs have contributed to a lack of economic opportunities, thus fueling illegal drug activity.

"A lot of things can be done," he said, outlining an example of "two-tiered toughness" to distinguish between low-level and hard-core drug dealers. "Let's be extra tough on sellers who are noxious... who damage the community more" – those who use children to peddle their supplies, or who sell in front of treatment centers or schools, he noted.

He added that trying to create a differential in punishment for drug offenses is "easier to win" than legalizing drugs. When minor drug dealers are convicted of felonies, then released from prison, he noted, they are denied access to public housing and educational loans. This leads many ex-offenders to resume criminal activity because they can't restart their lives.

Rev. David Else, director emeritus of Center for Spirituality in Twelve Step Recovery, talked about the need for prevention rather than punishment. He called the so-called "War on Drugs," launched by the Nixon administration in 1971, "the modern-day Prohibition" – an example from U.S. history in which the "solution" was actually worse than the problem, resulting in a growth in crime.

Else called addiction the number 1 public health problem in the country, and proposed that doctors be trained to diagnose it rather than simply treat its effects. Among his other ideas, he said he envisioned converting abandoned neighborhood buildings that have turned into crack houses into "recovery homes" with the help of the community and skilled workers unions. "How about making recovery visible?" he suggested.

Commander Tim O'Connor of Zone 5, Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, spoke in what he called an unofficial capacity. "I'm not speaking for the police," he said. O'Connor, who has worked in law enforcement for more than 30 years, discussed how difficult it is to enforce drug laws and how much time police spend going after and helping to



Commander Tim O'Connor (left) and Rev. David Else brought different perspectives to the community forum on drugs. Photo by Paula Martinac

punish small-time drug users and dealers. "Arrests don't solve the problem," he observed. "Someone always takes the arrested dealer's place... And while this is going on, there are casualties on both sides."

O'Connor expressed an interested in talking to community members about "any solutions on a policy front we can come up with."

Aggie Brose, deputy director of the BGC and chair of its Public Safety Task Force, told *The Bulletin* she thinks "we really ought to

look at Professor Caulkins' suggestion of trying to change the felony charge. Let's give people a second chance to turn their lives around."

"We will definitely be following up with some of the ideas that came up in the discussion," said Eileen Kraus-Dobratz, a BGC board member who spearheaded the public forum. Anyone interested in working on a committee to look at exploring these ideas should call 412-441-6950 x15 or email [aggie@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:aggie@bloomfield-garfield.org). ♦

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## PPS Realignment from page 1

Plan for the 2012-13 school year. Approximately 75 community members attended. Administrators at the meeting included Dr. Linda Lane, Superintendent, and Dr. Jeanne French, Chief of School Performance.

The Realignment Plan proposes closing, among others, Fort Pitt PreK-5, 5101 Hillcrest Street, and Langley High School in Sheraden. The Langley building will be used instead for a new PreK-8 school, while the Fort Pitt building will be shuttered completely. McCleary Early Childhood Center at 5251 Holmes Street in Lawrenceville will be relocated into the Arsenal facility. All told, the plan calls for closing seven schools and discontinuing the use of seven buildings. The plan follows other tactics used by the District to cut costs, including the elimination of 217 jobs.

Under the plan, Fort Pitt students will be assigned to Arsenal PreK-5 in Lawrenceville and Woolslair K-5 in Bloomfield.

The District created the Realignment Plan in part because of state budget cuts. In a typical year, schools can expect increased funding from the state government. The schools must now operate without that security, indicated Dr. Lane. "We can no longer depend upon an ever-increasing revenue stream from the Commonwealth." Under proposed state budget cuts, the Dis-

trict projects a deficit of \$38.7 million in 2012. Dr. Lane said that the district does not want to raise school taxes for Pittsburgh residents because "it's hard to ask for more tax money because of what we already receive—almost \$10,000 per pupil." According to an Associated Press story published in 2010, the national average cost-per-student is \$10,259.

Another reason for Pittsburgh Public Schools' budget gap is the increasing number of students enrolling in charter schools, to whom the District must give a share of tax revenue. Although the charter schools put a strain on the budget, Dr. Lane said that the District still approves them. "If you read charter school laws, the fact that it's going to cost you money cannot be used as a reason to not approve the charter."

Dr. French said that the district decided which schools to close on the basis of four metrics: building condition, enrollment and class size, student achievement and operational costs. She went on to explain that many schools are not running efficiently but that increased class sizes and elective offerings do not have a direct impact on student performance.

After presenting the plan and the rationale behind the District's proposed closures, school administrators opened the floor for public comment. Beth Miller, a

Lawrenceville resident whose children will be affected by McCleary relocating to Arsenal, said, "There's no playground at Arsenal. McCleary has a playground, a gym, a cafeteria, and a library. The kids will have to fight for space at Arsenal. The traffic on Butler Street will be a safety concern because our parents walk and our kids walk."

Dr. Regina B. Holley, a Highland Park resident and candidate for the District 2 position on the Pittsburgh Public Schools Board of Directors, was concerned about the cost of reusing the Langley facility into a K-8 school. "How much will it cost to transform that school?" Dr. Lane admitted that there would be costs but that projected savings have already taken them into account.

Rick Swartz, Executive Director of Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, commented on the effects closing Fort Pitt will have on the Garfield community. "The handwriting's been on the wall for some time, but as enrollments have shrunk, student achievement has increased."

Dr. Lane concluded that the District was aware of the problems associated with closing a school in any neighborhood. "Closing schools cannot be the only strategy. We have to get kids back in our schools. Charter school folks go door-to-door to recruit. Our teachers have said they'd do the same."

The Board of Education could vote on the proposed Realignment Plan as early as the November 22 Legislative Meeting. Until that time, community members can submit feedback for Board consideration by emailing [citieschoolsfiscalchallenges@pghboe.net](mailto:citieschoolsfiscalchallenges@pghboe.net) or by attending a public hearing on November 21 at 6 p.m. in the Board of Education administration building, 341 S. Bellefield Avenue, in Oakland. ♦

### Magnet School Registration

Parents interested in enrolling their children in one of Pittsburgh Public School's Magnet or career and technical programs (CTE) need to do so by December 16. Magnet programs in the East End include the International Baccalaureate program at Obama 6-12 and the Spanish-emphasis program at Dilworth PreK-5. CTE programs include the Culinary Arts regional program at Westinghouse and the Health Career program at Pittsburgh Milliones. A complete list of Magnet and CTE programs and registration forms can be found at [www.pps.12.pa.us](http://www.pps.12.pa.us). Parents may also request copies at 412-622-7290.

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## Volunteers from page 1

volunteers worked together to make improvements to Fort Pitt Field and clean up Hillcrest Street so that it is a safe place for kids to walk to and from school.

"Love Your Block" is a partnership of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl and The Home Depot Foundation to beautify Pittsburgh - block-by-block. The grant, awarded to the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's Elm Streets Initiative and the Garfield Community Action Team (GCAT), included a \$500 gift card to Home Depot and access to city services to concentrate on the needs of one block. The first round of "Love Your Block" grants were awarded in 10 communities.

The gift card went toward making improvements to Hillcrest Street and Fort Pitt Field, where the Garfield Gators play. On September 15 and 16, volunteers worked together to repaint the bleachers, install a new door for the Press Box, pick up litter along Hillcrest Street, clean up two vacant lots, and distribute flowers to neighbors on the street. The painting and pick-up project wrapped up on October 22.

Volunteers from GCAT, neighborhood residents, coaches of the Garfield Gators, and young people were all involved in this project. Youths from the Fort Pitt after-school program, run by the BGC and Family Resources of Western PA, also participated and helped paint and plant flower pots before the event. The day ended with a small cookout for volunteers. The event celebrated the Gators as an asset to the community and a positive activity for kids. A big thank-you to the team and to all those who helped make this project happen. ♦

**BELOW:** Potting flowers for Hillcrest neighbors.  
Photo courtesy WDO Photography



## Walk This Way



**ABOVE:** Safe Kids Allegheny County joined local school children and FedEx volunteers to raise awareness about child pedestrian safety on the 12th annual International Walk to School Day on October 5. Volunteers taught children how to be safe pedestrians as they walked to and from school. Students from Woolslair Elementary School, 501 40th Street in Bloomfield, participated in this year's event. Photo courtesy Safe Kids Allegheny County

## Painting Up a Storm

Joshua Barszczewski *The Bulletin*

**Bloomfield/Garfield** – This October, Penn Avenue was briefly taken over by a group of passionate and committed citizens. No, they weren't protestors rallying against economic injustice and corporate greed. They were painters hoping to make Penn Avenue better – or at least brighter.

Jason Sauer, owner of Most Wanted Fine Art and Volunteer and Events Coordinator for the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative (PAAI), organized Fresh Paint Days, which involved the painting of four Penn Avenue buildings – Kraynick's Bike Shop at 5003 Penn, Richard Rappaport's studio at 5120 Penn, Most Wanted Fine Art at 5015 Penn, and Bob's Auto at 4808 Penn. The project grew to include two additional buildings, 4929 Penn and 5001 Penn, and to remove graffiti from four other properties. The project was funded in part by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, PPG PITTSBURGH® Paints and The Home Depot.

"The response has been so amazing," said Sauer. In all, the project had 50 volunteers. Some of those had originally planned to work on another volunteer project that weekend. However, when their planned project fell through, Pittsburgh Cares, a nonprofit that facilitates volunteer service, coordinated with Rich Engel, Manager of PAAI, to bring the volunteers to Penn Avenue instead. Engel had worked on the Fresh Paint grant proposal with Sauer.

Gerry Kraynick, whose building the volunteers painted, was so moved by the Fresh Paint Days volunteers that he bought and donated scaffolding for the project and for future use by the community.

Another painting day is planned for November 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Email [mostwantedfineart@yahoo.com](mailto:mostwantedfineart@yahoo.com) to find out how to help. ♦



Volunteer painters hard at work on Penn Avenue.  
Photo courtesy Most Wanted Fine Art

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# Neighborhood FOCUS

## Toasting a Baseball Legend

Duane Rieder on Roberto Clemente, Wine and Photography

By Christine Bethea *Friendship Development Associates*

**Ph**otographer. Winemaker. Painter. Museum curator. Duane Rieder wears all these hats and more, as the owner of Engine House 25, located at 3339 Penn Avenue.

Growing up in St. Marys, Pa., and later DuBois, Rieder attended a vo-tech high school, and was sure he'd end up a welder. But he found the pay scale low and the work unsatisfactory. "Just enough to burn the life out of you," he observes.

Rieder moved to California to work for a glassmaking company. Then a friend who was an actor asked him to take some photos of a performance. Rieder had never held a camera in his life and admits he had no idea what he was doing. Miraculously, the photos, taken with a borrowed camera, turned out well. After that, his photographic skills were in demand. Even the parents of a youth softball team he coached part-time wanted pics of the games and their little boys.

One of the young ball players, also a photo enthusiast, bragged about the darkroom his father had built for him, and invited Coach Rieder home to develop his own work. The moment Rieder saw his images come to life in the chemical tray, he fell in love with photography forever.

Rieder moved back east, enrolling in The Art Institute of Pittsburgh, but planned to return to L.A. when he graduated in 1986. Fate stepped in when Westinghouse offered him a photography assignment that went so well he was offered a few more. From there, he spring-boarded into working for companies all over the city.

By the late 1990s, he had a thriving photography business and owned an old firehouse in Lawrenceville with his studio on the first floor. The Pittsburgh Pirates asked him to produce a calendar to commemorate the unveiling of the Roberto Clemente statue at PNC Park created by Friendship artist Susan Wagner.

"That's when things really caught fire! No pun intended," Rieder adds.

Rieder flew to Puerto Rico to meet the Clemente family. He was saddened by how Roberto's wife, Vera, had fallen on hard times. Sadness turned to anger when he learned how many people were taking advantage of the Clemente legacy. Unscrupulous companies and organizations were still producing Clemente memorabilia, and the family wasn't benefiting. Rieder helped the family collect and conserve what was left of Roberto's legacy by rescuing old photos from basements, and approaching the baseball legend's friends for additional pictures and information. When the Clementes were invited by the Pirates to Pittsburgh for the All Star game in 2006, Rieder hosted a family reunion at his firehouse. "It looks like a museum in here," Vera told Duane. And so the Roberto Clemente Museum was born.

In yet another twist, Rieder started winemaking not too long after. He was riding high on



Duane Rieder, Executive Director, and Elizabeth Meyer, Assistant Director, holding a Clemente wine bottle. Photo by Rob Larson.

"It looks like a museum in here," Vera Clemente told Duane. And so the Clemente Museum was born.

his success and relieved some of his stress was relieved with an old hobby that became yet another business. In 2009, Engine House 25 was licensed to become a full-fledged winery. In an ironic twist, Vera Clemente mentioned in passing to Rieder how much Roberto loved homemade wine. It was as if the museum and winery were destined to be together. Fittingly, it was Roberto Clemente's image that graced the very first wine label.

Today, Rieder hires out Engine House 25 for events and prints custom wine labels for corporations, weddings and individuals. The labels can be placed on a variety of blends the winery makes, including merlot or sauvignon blanc. The Roberto Clemente Museum may be toured by appointment. For more information, call 412-621-2512. ♦



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# The Bulletin In-Sight Microgrants Program Presents

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## REBLURRED

FRIDAY • NOVEMBER • 4TH

5 NEIGHBORHOODS 1 EVENT

The Bulletin In-Sight Microgrant Program encourages cross-neighborhood collaboration by supporting events that span multiple communities across the East End, using The Bulletin as a free marketing tool. Reblurred is the first grant recipient, and would like to thank Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development, Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group, First Niagara Bank, and Children's Hospital of UPMC. For more information, go to [www.bloomfield-garfield.org](http://www.bloomfield-garfield.org).

- Mo Gear (6022 Penn)**
- Jamil's Global Village (6024 Penn)**
- Ace Athletic (6021 Penn)**
- Sam's Bostonian (6005 Penn)**
- David's Shoes (6017 Penn)**
- Beauty Shoppe (6014 Penn)** Open house party with music, food and drink from 6-10 pm.
- Ava Lounge (126 S. Highland)** 5-9 pm, a fundraiser for the Pittsburgh Promise.
- Waffle Shop (124 S. Highland)** Scheibe Zeig ("Crap Show") is Sam Perry's experimental platform that explores the collation of citizen opinion.
- Spinning Plate Gallery (5720 Friendship)** Gallery opening, new work by Toni Gigante.
- Dance Alloy (5530 Penn)** Open rehearsal with Stayce Pearl Dance Project, 7-9 pm.
- Pittsburgh Glass Center (5472 Penn)** Hot Jam and open house. Plus "10 More Years on Penn," the installation by Gwylene Gallimard and Jean Marie Mauclet. More info at [pittsburghglasscenter.org](http://pittsburghglasscenter.org).
- TeeRex Guerrilla Retail Headquarters (5440 Penn)** November Craft-O-Tron\_tacular! Get started on that holiday shopping early and enjoy local food, local apparel and local beer.
- BFG Cafe (5440 Penn)** New oil paintings on display by Tate Hudson. For info, [artdoxa.com/tatehudson](http://artdoxa.com/tatehudson).
- Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (5321 Penn)** Opening exhibition "Stacks" featuring work by Vanessa German, Christiane Leach, Ayanah Moor, Stayce Pearl, Blaine Siegel, Brett Wormsley, and Sarah Zeffiro. Curated by Alisha Wormsley.
- DojoYoga (5118 Penn)** HappyHourYoga at 6:30 pm w/ SnEAK; a guided meditation at 7:30 pm w/ James Gyre; discussion/social hour: topic TBD from 9 pm-? More info & to help to determine the topic [facebook.com/dojoyogaph](http://facebook.com/dojoyogaph).
- Assemble (5125 Penn)** Local Artist Lizzy De Vita presents "Lizzy De Vita: So...lo." Free and fun! The work will be up until November 26th. For more information, 412-432-9127 or [assemblepgh.org](http://assemblepgh.org).
- Awesome Books (5111 Penn)** Thousands of titles in all subjects, VHS movies...lots of bargains, too.
- ARTica Gallery (5110 Penn)** Featuring artists LaVerne Kemp and Daviea Davis. 412-596-6521.
- Mr. Roboto Project (5106 Penn)** Grand Opening of Mr. Roboto Project featuring art by Mike Budai, Music by Frizz and 1 more performer TBA.
- The International Children's Art Gallery (5020 Penn)** Large-format paintings of women by Richard Rapoport. For more info, [richard-rapoport.net](http://richard-rapoport.net).
- Most Wanted Fine Art (5015 Penn)** New works from Ryan Dunmeyer and Cory Bonnet from 6-11 pm. Wilhelm Winery provides free wine tastings from 7-10 pm. Grand Snafu performs at 9 pm with special guitar performances by the artists themselves. For more info [most-wantedfineart.com](http://most-wantedfineart.com) 412-328-4737.
- Studio 5013 (5013 Penn)** Exhibiting "Vote: Gabe Felice Now." Acrylic on wood, balloons and lights. For more info [gabrielfelice@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielfelice@gmail.com).
- Irma Freeman Center for Imagination (5006 Penn)** 2nd Anniversary from 7-10 pm. Closing reception for "Pittsburgh by Pittsburgh Artists"; with the work of Annie Bendle Ladley. Open Mic starting at 7pm. For more info [irmafreeman.com](http://irmafreeman.com) 412-924-0634.
- Law office of Richard Walters (5005 Penn)** Starting at 9:30 pm, come dance to classic "Golden Age" Argentine Tango music in the office, and Nuevo/Alternative Tango downstairs. For info, 412-721-7771.
- World's Smallest Art Gallery (5005 Penn)** Step inside The World's Smallest Art Gallery! Sketches by Chris Rue and complimentary wine.
- Conservatory of Oil Painting (5001 Penn)** New venue to the neighborhood, featuring Work by faculty and students.
- Garfield Artworks (4931 Penn)** "Making the Scene" Documentary photographs of the Pittsburgh local music scene, as well as additional photographic works, by David Burt Harris. Donations requested. For more info 412-361-2262 [garfieldartworks.com](http://garfieldartworks.com).
- Modern Formations (4919 Penn)** "Butterfly Kingdom" thru Nov. 25, artwork of Christian Breitkreutz and Steph Neary. For more info go to [modernformations.com](http://modernformations.com), 412-362-0274.
- Pittsburgh Beautification Project Studios (4810 Penn)** Exhibited work by resident studio artists Katy DeMent, Dean Cercone, James Shipman, Sigh Meltingstar, and Bob Ziller.
- Los Cabos (4410 Penn)** Check the board out front for Reblurred specials.
- Cafe Mona (4200 Penn)** J'et Cafe is now Cafe Mona. Come to the grand opening of this new eatery with a revamped menu and extended evening hours on Friday, November 4th until 8:30 pm. Friend Cafe Mona on Facebook and Twitter and you receive 10% off your bill! For more info, [cafemona.com](http://cafemona.com).
- Brillobox (4104 Penn)** Pandemic dance party w/guest dj Joro Boro and Pandemic Pete and Juddy, and a performance by Uncao Capoeira Pittsburgh. 9:30pm - 2am.
- Wilson's Pharmacy (4101 Penn)** Free waters will be available to folks in the business district, perfect for cooling off after dancing at Brillobox or any of the other dancing events at Reblurred.
- Cats and Dogs Coffee House (4059 Penn)** Local artists Lindy Hazel LaDue will be having a single artist show.
- Tram's Vietnamese Kitchen (4050 Penn)** 412-682-2688
- Arsenal Cider House (300 39th Street)** Arsenal Cider house will be showcasing live music along with cider and wine tastings. [arsenalciderhouse.com](http://arsenalciderhouse.com)
- Kiln n' Time (3801 Penn)** Fridays are family nights at Kiln n' Time. From 6 to 9 pm parents and kids admission will be discounted. To schedule a session call 412-687-0383.

**Green + Screen Project** Volunteers from the ecoDesigners Guild present The Green + Screen Project, centered on creating architectural screens and landscaping that can fill the gaps on Penn Avenue, helping create a more visually cohesive arts corridor.

### Green + Screen Locations

- Here Today, There Tomorrow** by Raedun Knutsen (5416 Penn Ave)
- PENnergetic** by the ecoDesigners Guild - Completion Slated for November 2011 (5200 Penn Ave)
- Eco-equation** by Dave Edwards and the ecoDesigners Guild (5111 Penn Ave)
- 5105 Penn Ave Bench Design** by the ecoDesigners Guild (5105 Penn)
- 4903 Penn Ave Green + Screen No. 1** by the ecoDesigners Guild (4903 Penn Ave)

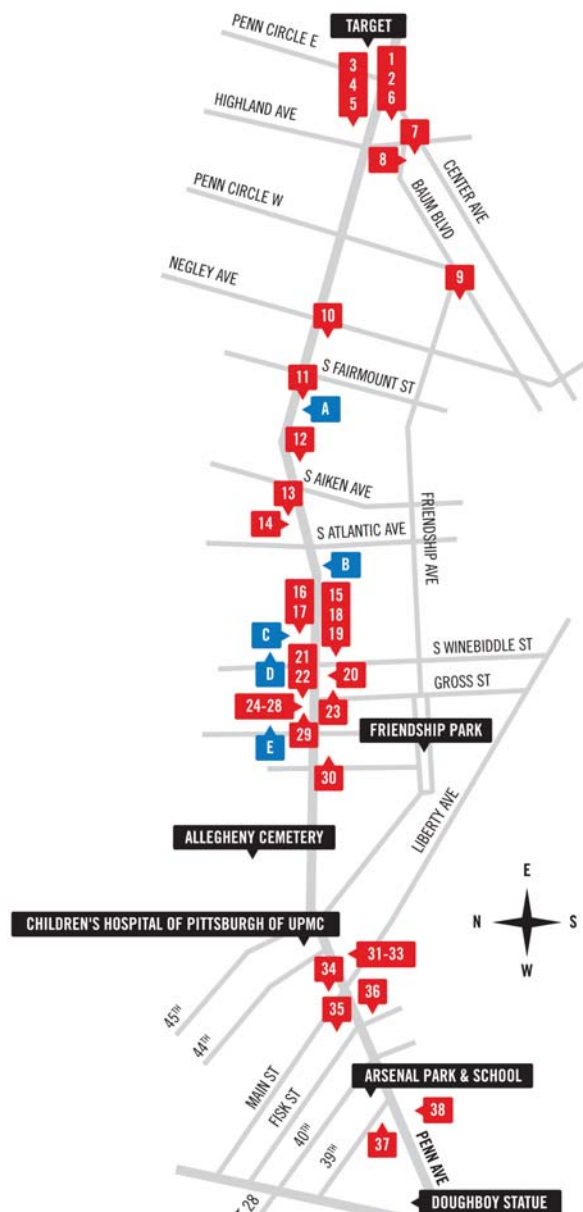
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## Pistella's Celebrates 30 Years on Penn

By Rich Engel Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

*Friendship* – A steep set of handmade steps is obscured by stacks of product with eye-catching labels. At the top is a bookkeeper's office, but with a sparse living room, complete with daytime television running in the background. While the barrel-chested owner formerly known as "Butchie" and his all-male crew run forklifts and sate the local thirst for beer on the ground level, his wife is running the other half of the show upstairs, where it's quiet.

Frank Pistella Sr. and his wife, Nancy, have been East Enders for most of their lives. As a child, Frank lived on North Fairmount Street and Nancy at Broad and N. Aiken. "Actually, both our childhood homes have been renovated recently," Nancy said. Nancy graduated from St. Lawrence O'Toole and Frank graduated from Peabody.

After 18 years at Jones & Laughlin Steel working as an inspector, Frank moved out of the city to a new house in Oakmont when he learned the plant was closing. While working a few different jobs, he looked into buying a beer distributor. Fortunately, Frank learned that Garfield distributor Taylor's was for sale. He bought it and operated it for three years as Taylor's. Then, he and his wife bought Ninehouser Distributor and moved to their current location, Pistella's Beer Distributor at 5514 Penn Avenue.

Their kids have also been drawn into the family business. They started out by sorting

different-colored returnable bottles when their parents owned Taylor's. Their eldest son, Frank Jr., runs two Beer Nutz shops, one in Verona and one in O'Hara. Their second son, Michael, runs the Shadyside Saloon.

Even after 30 long years on Penn Avenue, Frank and Nancy say they are not ready to quit.

Just the opposite, in fact: Pistella's is having a grand re-opening in late November. After repainting the building's exterior, they are reorienting the shop. "About six years ago, we opened the current showroom," said Nancy, "and this showed individual customers what a variety we sell, because we've always had a lot of restaurant clients." Now, the Pistellas plan to open the entire 3800-square-foot warehouse to shoppers.

"The average quality of product we sell has changed with the neighborhood," said Frank, referring to microbrews and locally made beer, "We get plenty of customers from Shadyside and Squirrel Hill now, too."

Nancy agrees. "We are so glad Friendship Development Associates came in and turned things around here," she said.

Look for giveaways and other specials at their 30th anniversary celebration and grand re-opening in late November. ♦

## Eco-equation Glows on Avenue

By Joshua Barszczewski The Bulletin

*Garfield* – Drivers and pedestrians traveling down Penn Avenue have grown accustomed in recent years to seeing rich and vibrant sculptures decorate otherwise unsightly, vacant lots. The pieces are commissioned by Green & Screen, a project run by the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative (PAAI) and overseen by the volunteer collaborative Eco Designers Guild.

In September, Green & Screen's newest project, "Eco-equation," was installed on a vacant lot in the 5100 block of Penn Avenue. This sculpture does not just brighten up the vacant lot – it literally glows.

"Eco-equation" is the first public art piece in Pittsburgh to contain a completely self-sustaining energy design. The 16-by-12-foot installation generates its own power through solar and wind energy. At night, the piece glows, proving its own message: sun and wind combine to make energy and light.

Lead artist Dave Edwards, the CEO of ArtEnergyDesign, constructed the installation with associates Paul Cha and Ian Edwards. The preliminary design for the project emerged out of the collective efforts of ArtEnergyDesign, EcoDesigner's Guild and Garfield community members.

During the design process, EcoDesign Guild member Evaine Sing suggested that the installation take the form of an equation. "The concept of a simple, positive, and balanced message really appealed to our team," said Edwards. "Solar and wind power generation is all about a balancing act between how effectively energy is produced, stored and used."

Edwards is best known for his series of public artworks, Power Flowers, which he created as part of a Pittsburgh Technology Center initiative. Power Flowers are mobile sculptures that harness solar and wind energy to provide energy for laptops, water pumps and cell phones. Power Flowers have been exhibited at Wilkins School Community Center's Ecofest 2009; the Three Rivers Bioneers Conference of 2009; the Geek Art/Green Innovators Festival in 2010 and 2011; and at the Carnegie Science Center.

Edwards, an Allegheny College alumnus, won the Business of Creativity Award in 2010 from the Pittsburgh Technology Council for his ongoing work with the Power Flower series. Other examples of his community-oriented environmental arts can be seen at [www.DavidEdwardsArt.com](http://www.DavidEdwardsArt.com).

See page 11



## Healcrest from page 1

Graziani did in 2005 when she founded Healcrest Urban Farm at the top of Garfield.

Graziani was an urban studies major who came to Garfield as a block-and-lot intern with the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation and decided to stay. Through a partnership with the BGC, the Urban Redevelopment Authority and the city's Green-Up Program, she was able to pull together just under 2 acres of land to launch her dream.

Since the beginning, one of the biggest challenges she has faced has been "trying to heal the soil," Graziani says. When she started out, the land was "filled with garbage... DPW [Department of Public Works] hauled off about two big trucks of it." Fighting back Japanese knotweed has also presented problems. "It sucks the water from the soil and kills biodiversity," Graziani notes of the invasive plant. Amending the soil remains a constant concern six years later.

Although she originally grew vegetables for sale and ran a farmstand for several seasons in conjunction with Garfield Community Farm, Graziani says she "didn't get the direct community involvement we wanted. Some people aren't used to organic produce, and they wanted the bigger crops they could get at Giant Eagle." She maintains a small vegetable garden on the land, but Healcrest has moved into specializing in medicinal and culinary herbs. She sells

the herbs in bulk and also uses them to create a line of natural body-care products and herbal teas under the name Vital Mother Moon. This change in vision fits her own training and background perfectly; she is a certified herbalist, having trained with Rosemary Gladstar in Vermont and Linda Christen in West Virginia.

Healcrest's acreage is covered with native herbs – everything from sage and lavender to chasteberry, comfrey, evening primrose and lemon balm. The plan is to move into growing "herbs that are popular but have become very pricey." Graziani gives the example of red clover, which recent medical studies have pinpointed for its anticancer properties.

To accomplish this revisioning, the farm has received a grant from Pennsylvania's Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), with the help of State Sen. Jim Ferlo. Graziani has also launched a Kickstarter campaign to fund the building of an 800-square-foot learning and production center. She would use the center both to teach on topics such as urban farming and making herbal teas, and to produce her products, which she now blends in small batches in her own kitchen a few blocks away.

Healcrest's Kickstarter campaign ([www.kickstarter.com/projects/healcrest](http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/healcrest)) offers a variety of incentives to those who donate to the project. Each donor gets a coupon for 25 percent off Vital Mother



Maria Graziani points out the variety of medicinal and culinary herbs she now grows at Healcrest Urban Farm. Photo by Paula Martinac

Moon products, while larger donations receive additional perks. A \$100 donation garners a gift package of Vital Mother Moon products, while \$1,000 donors receive gift packages for six months.

"A person who donates \$5,000 or more gets the center named after them," Graziani says. In total, she is trying to raise \$20,000,

but will only receive the funds if she reaches that goal. The Kickstarter campaign runs until November 21. ♦

For more information about Healcrest or to purchase Vital Mother Moon products, visit [healcrest.wordpress.com](http://healcrest.wordpress.com) or [vitalmothermoon.com](http://vitalmothermoon.com).

## Eco-equation from page 10

"I am interested in art you can plug into, and not so much about art you have to plug in. Distributed energy production, where power is made close to where it is used, is a theme of great interest to me," he said.

Eco-equation is Green & Screen's fifth project on Penn Avenue. Another project, a redevelopment of the empty lot next to Spak Brothers, 5107 Penn, is underway.

Green & Screen works with existing efforts to brand Penn Avenue as an arts

district. Additionally, the project works to help brand Penn Avenue and Garfield as a place that takes environmentalism and green technology seriously. Jason Sauer, the Volunteer and Events Coordinator for PAAI and owner of Most Wanted Fine Art at 5015 Penn, said, "I enjoy Green & Screen because it activates the community and reinforces the identity of the avenue. It is an impressive volunteer project with many residents pitching in to help beautify their neighborhood." ♦



The latest addition to the Green & Screen project is in the 5100 block of Penn. Photo by Dave Edwards

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## Trees Coming Soon To Dearborn and Winebiddle

By Kathryn Vargas

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

*Garfield* – The Garfield neighborhood has been selected as the recipient of 17 trees to green up the corner of Dearborn and Winebiddle Streets.

About 40 residents have signed on to approve a tree planting on their property. Of the 40, 17 spots were approved, making a great addition to the neighborhood.

The trees are coming from TreeVitalize, a program supported by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, with the goal to plant 20,000 trees in the city by 2012. This will be the second TreeVitalize planting in Garfield.

This particular section of Garfield was selected because it currently does not have many trees, and Winebiddle Street is an obvious gateway into the neighborhood from Penn Avenue.

Members of the Garfield Community Action Team (GCAT) were instrumental in bringing the trees to the neighborhood, volunteering to educate residents about the project and securing permission from neighbors to plant trees on their property. The trees will be planted on Saturday, November 12; please see the GCAT Corner (right) for details on how to volunteer. ♦



## Give Thanks

On Thanksgiving we are supposed to give thanks.

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## GCAT CHAT

### Black Street Tree Care & Mulching

Tuesday, November 1, from 5-6:30 p.m. meet at 5525 Black Street (MOMS Play-Yard)

Help get newly planted trees on Black Street ready for winter!

More information about this event: <http://www.gcatpgh.com/black-st-tree-care>

### Dearborn & Winebiddle Tree Planting Day

Saturday, November 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the BGC Community Activity Center, 113 North Pacific Ave.

Help TreeVitalize plant trees along Dearborn and North Winebiddle Streets.

Volunteers must pre-register, online at: <http://www.paconserve.org/300>

or call: 412-586-2386 More details at for this event are on the GCAT website:

<http://www.gcatpgh.com/dearborn-winebiddle-tree-planting>

### GCAT Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, November 23, at 6 p.m. at the Bloomfield Community Activity Center, 113 North Pacific Ave.

Be part of the Garfield Community Action Team (GCAT) and help with projects that improve the neighborhood. For other events, check the GCAT Calendar:

<http://www.gcatpgh.com/pages/calendar>

## HandsOn Tech Program Assists East End Communities

By Staff

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

*Garfield* – Three AmeriCorps VISTA members are instituting training at the Pittsburgh CONNECTS computer center in Garfield, as part of a new program known as HandsOn Tech. Blake Anneberg, Julie Yorkshire, and Benjamin Weaver will spend the next year working with local communities in the East End, focusing their attention on low-income neighborhoods.

Pittsburgh was chosen as one of only seven cities in the country to host the HandsOn Tech program, in partnership with Google and the HandsOn Network. The three VISTAs are working locally with Pittsburgh Cares, a volunteer-matching organization located downtown, and spend much of their time moving around the city to local community centers and nonprofits.

Unlike many VISTA programs, HandsOn Tech has a slightly different approach to combating poverty. With a focus on nonprofits and the communities they serve, this program looks to improve how technology is used in order to help low-income populations. In the East End, HandsOn Tech is partnering with nonprofits to upgrade existing technology usage, working on everything from simplifying document sharing to social media and marketing. They believe that nonprofits do not need to invest in costly hardware or software, and should rather focus on shifting to low or no-cost cloud-based solutions.

Not quite sure what the "cloud" is, or what it can do for an organization? Blake, Julie, and Ben can help with that as well. They'll be teaching a variety of classes over the next year, open to everyone, including nonprofit staff and community members. Starting this month, HandsOn Tech will be teaching classes at the new Pittsburgh CONNECTS computer center in Garfield, along with three other centers in the Hill District, Homewood and the Hilltop neighborhoods above the South Side.

Located in the same building as the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, the new space in Garfield offers an array of computer classes throughout the week, including those taught by the three VISTAs. (See Bulletin Board, pp. 14-15) Community trainings will also be held elsewhere around the city at local libraries and other community centers. For nonprofit staff, larger training sessions will be held at the Google office in Bakery Square.

The program is always looking for volunteers to help teach community members and to work with local nonprofits. If you're interested in learning how you can help the HandsOn Tech program, or how it can help your nonprofit and local community, please call 412-450-0496 or email [tech@pittsburghcares.org](mailto:tech@pittsburghcares.org). HandsOn Tech is also accessible on the web at [tech.pittsburghcares.org](http://tech.pittsburghcares.org). ♦



## COMMENTARY

## Vote YES for Library Funding

by Patrick Dowd

City Council, District 7

On November 8, the community will vote to decide if Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh will have a dedicated source of funding to help sustain the critical services in literacy and learning that the Library has provided for more than 115 years. The "Our Library, Our Future" initiative is hoping that the answer will be a resounding "yes."

Since 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has offered free library services to the Pittsburgh community. The 19 neighborhood locations are some of the region's most visited assets, with more than 2.5 million visitors each year. The Library provides valuable resources for the community, including programs for children, classes and job training opportunities that engage the community in literacy and life-long learning.

Unfortunately, this free resource is not without cost.

Though Andrew Carnegie provided seed money to build the library facilities, he did not leave an endowment for their ongoing operations and maintenance. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has one of

the smallest operating budgets for a city and regional system of its size and nature. Pittsburgh's preeminent position among the most literate cities in America is now in serious jeopardy as funding cuts continue to weaken the ability to maintain the important library services the community needs.

*"...this free resource is not without cost."*

"Our Library, Our Future" is part of the answer to ensure that generations to come can experience all that the Library has to offer. One prong of a six-part plan, "Our Library, Our Future" is a community-based effort organized to raise awareness about the need to support Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and vote "yes" on the ballot question in November.

The initiative collected nearly 11,000 signatures from Pittsburgh voters in order to get its funding referendum on the ballot, and is moving forward with full force to Election Day on November 8.

Supporters across the city are knocking on doors and making phone calls to ask their friends and neighbors to vote "yes" on the ballot question to provide funding for Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. The ballot question asks for a 0.25 mil special tax on all taxable real estate in the City of Pittsburgh to be allocated and used only for the operation and maintenance of Carnegie Library. This is the equivalent of \$25 per year or \$2.09 per month on \$100,000 of assessed value.

With your help, Pittsburgh can find the means to ensure that the Library has the necessary resources to continue to strengthen the community and enrich peoples' lives. So talk to your friends and families about how important the Library is to you – and make sure that you vote "yes" to support Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh in November. ♦

To find out more about the "Our Library, Our Future" initiative and how you can help, visit [www.OurLibraryOurFuture.com](http://www.OurLibraryOurFuture.com).

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Marianne Bonidie, MD  
Gynecologist/Obstetrician

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# Local Events

## Classes

## Announcements

## Fundraisers

# the Bulletin BOARD

November 2

## GARFIELD

## Project for Freedom

Do you or someone you know have a disability? Join the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, 5321 Penn Avenue, to learn about Project for Freedom's Job Readiness training. Project for Freedom provides technical skills training to people with disabilities in order to improve their job readiness. The program starts at 10 a.m. To register, please call 412-362-8580 or leave a message at 412-465-0425.

November 3

## OAKLAND

## PIIN Action Meeting

Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network (PIIN) will hold a public meeting, from 7-8:30 p.m. at Rodef Shalom Congregation, 4905 Fifth Avenue. PIIN will ask public officials for commitments to make changes on five crucial issues: 1) to increase jobs; 2) to provide funding for mass transit for all; 3) to take measures to educate all of children; 4) to fight gun violence; and 5) to protect the civil rights of immigrants. In the East End, Valley View Presbyterian Church is a member of PIIN. For more information, call PIIN at 412-621-9230 or email office@piin.org.

November 4

## GARFIELD

## STACKS at Unblurred

For the first time, Pittsburgh CONNECTS, the BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn Avenue, will participate in Unblurred: First Fridays on Penn. The show STACKS will feature seven different artists and is inspired by the work of Romare Bearden.

November 5

## STATION SQUARE

## Celebrate Life Luncheon

The Celebrate Life Luncheon and Auction will be held November 5, 2011 from noon to 4 p.m. at Grand Concourse, 125 West Station Square Drive. The tickets are \$20 and cover the cost of parking and lunch. Betsy Lawrence and John Burgh will provide the entertainment. All proceeds benefit The Children's Home of Pittsburgh.

November 5

## LAWRENCEVILLE

## Prayer Breakfast

In celebration of Women's Month, New Bethel Baptist Church, 221 43 Street, will host a women's

prayer breakfast at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 412-621-2155.

November 7

## LAWRENCEVILLE

## Book Discussion Club

This month, the Adult Book Discussion Group at the Carnegie Library in Lawrenceville, 279 Fisk Street, will discuss *The Weird Sisters* by Eleanor Brown. The group will meet at 6 p.m.

November 7

## GARFIELD

## Voting Research Online

Let former campaign organizer and Americorps member Nick Pettet show you great resources for researching candidates and issues. Learn to use smartvoter.org and other internet resources before you vote! The event will be held at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, the BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn Avenue, from 3:30-5 p.m. Free and open to the public. Call 412-465-0858 to RSVP.

November 8

## LAWRENCEVILLE

## Film Discussion Club

Join local film buffs at the Carnegie Library in Lawrenceville, 279 Fisk Street, for movie screenings and discussions. The club will meet from 6-8 p.m.

November 10

## GARFIELD

## Excel Training Class

Come to Pittsburgh CONNECTS, BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn, to learn all of the things Excel can do for you. This free class will be held from 5-6 p.m.

November 9

## GARFIELD

## Employers' Info Session

Come to the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, 5321 Penn Avenue, to learn about hiring veterans. A VA vocational specialist will discuss the benefits and advantages of hiring veterans. There are various tax incentives for companies of any size, and the VA pre-trains vets for various occupations such as housekeeping, food service and landscaping. The specialist will be on hand to answer any questions about hiring wounded veterans, how to recruit and hire Vets, and ensure any accommodations as necessary. To register, please call 412-362-8580 or leave a message at 412-465-0425.

November 12-13

## GARFIELD

## Redd Up Thread Up

Redd Up Thread Up, a used clothing sale at Assemble, 5125 Penn, will be held November 12-13. Participants can purchase an event tote bag at the door. The cost is \$10 on Saturday and \$5 on Sunday. Donations of gently used men's and women's clothing will be accepted November 7-11 from 4-8 p.m. at Assemble, 5125 Penn. Please see [www.reddupthreadup.com](http://www.reddupthreadup.com) for more information.

November 14

## GARFIELD

## iPhone Upgrade

Heard about iCloud? Have an iPhone 3Gs, 4, or new 4S? Learn how to upgrade your phone or iPad to the newest software to backup all of your data safely and wirelessly without a computer. This workshop will be held at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn, from 6-7 p.m.

November 15

## GARFIELD

## Free Computer Repair

Bring your computers in for repair from noon-1 p.m. to Pittsburgh CONNECTS, the BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn Avenue. If our tech gurus can't fix your machine on the spot, they'll find someone who can. Call 412-465-0858 for more information.

November 16

## GARFIELD

## Casino Interviews

Three Rivers Casino is hiring in your neighborhood! Love working with people? Three Rivers Casino offers competitive salaries and benefits, as well as opportunities to grow. Visit the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center Wednesday, 5321 Penn Avenue, on November 16 from 1-4 p.m. to meet with representatives and apply for positions.

November 16

## GARFIELD

## Pharmacy Help

Come to Pittsburgh CONNECTS, the BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn Avenue, from 5-6 p.m. to learn how to use the Internet to research medicine and prescription drugs. University of Pittsburgh pharmacy students, lead this free public workshop.

November 17

## GARFIELD

## Winter Heating Help

The Pennsylvania state government offers many solutions for those who need assistance paying for heating bills over the long, cold winter. Come learn about them out at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, the

BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn Avenue, from 6-7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Call 412-465-0858 for more information or to RSVP.

November 17

## LAWRENCEVILLE

## Free History Lecture

The Lawrenceville Historical Society will sponsor a free lecture at 7 p.m. in the McVey Auditorium of Canterbury Place, 310 Fisk Street, exploring the lives of Frances Slocum of Wyoming Valley and Massie Harbison of Allegheny River Valley. Both women were taken prisoner in Indian raids and carried away. The event is free and open to the public.

November 19

## HIGHLAND PARK/EAST LIBERTY

## "Speak UP"

As Union Project celebrates a decade of service to building community among thousands of community members, we are also engaged in strategic planning for 2012-15. Please join us for a fun morning of community building as we vision our future together. Meet Union Project's strategic planning team, learn more about our plan, and offer your input. Saturday, November 19th from 10 a.m.-noon at Union Project, 801 N. Negley Avenue. Bring the family! UP Ceramic Studio will offer fun arts activities for kids. Please RSVP to 412-363-4550x37 or email [Kelly@unionproject.org](mailto:Kelly@unionproject.org) by Wednesday, November 16.

November 19

## GARFIELD

## Foreclosure Prevention

NeighborWorks Western Pa. will be hosting a Foreclosure Prevention Workshop on Saturday, November 19 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, 5321 Penn Avenue. NeighborWorks will help you to make your mortgage payments and negotiate with lenders. NeighborWorks services are free. To register, call 412-281-9773.

November 19

## LAWRENCEVILLE

## "Thank You Very Much"

ELVIS Impersonator Randy Galioto, Saturday, November 19, at St. Augustine Auditorium, 220 37 Street. Amazing show, buffet, soft drinks and beer - just \$25. Doors open at 6, buffet at 6:30, show at 7:30. Tickets available after weekend masses or at the parish office. Sponsored by Our Lady of the Angels Parish. Call 412-682-0929 for info.

November 21

## GARFIELD

## Online Recipes Workshop

Come to Pittsburgh CONNECTS, the BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn Avenue, at noon to meet with representatives from Whole Foods. They'll be avail-

**Sorry, we do not accept listings over the 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. **Announcements for the December issue are due NOVEMBER 10 via email submission to [bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org).**



# Volunteer Opportunities & Services

able to teach you how to use the internet to find the best Thanksgiving recipes.

**November 22**

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### Community Thanksgiving

In memory of Pastor Le Roy Walker and Sister Maria Green, New Bethel Baptist Church, 221 43 Street, will serve a community Thanksgiving dinner on November 22 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome! For more information, call 412-621-2155.

**November 21-22**

## GARFIELD

### Job Readiness Camp

ENEC wants you to get a job! Sign up for the Job Readiness Boot Camp to gain the skills you need to get employed. This special 2 day intensive program, which will take place at the Bloomfield-Garfield Community Activity Center, 113 N Pacific Avenue, will cover everything you need to know about resume writing, interview skills, and job applications. To register, please visit or call the ENEC, 5321 Penn Avenue, to pick up an application and complete an interview. Registration is limited and ends on Nov. 16

**November 22-28**

## GARFIELD

### Call for Artists

Artists of all ages are encouraged to submit works of any medium to the HyperLocal Show + Art Bazaar at Assemble, 5125 Penn. Please drop your work at Assemble between 4-9 p.m. from November 22-28. With your submission, include: name, address, age, price, and reason why you like to make things. For more information, email assemblepgh@gmail.com.

**November 28**

## GARFIELD

### Cyber Monday Shopping

Cyber Monday, the Monday after Thanksgiving, is one of the biggest days for sales online. Come use the laptops at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, the BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn Avenue from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m., to get the biggest bang for your buck.

**Wednesday, November 30**

## GARFIELD

### Hypertension Workshop

Come to Pittsburgh CONNECTS, at 5321 Penn Avenue, from 6-7 p.m., to ask Pitt medical students about how to relieve your hypertension this holiday season. Learn about websites to help choose the right plan for you, so you can lower your blood pressure now. Track your progress on our computers, and help find the right resources to feel better.

**November 30**

## GARFIELD

### East End Works Meeting

East End Works needs your help to drive Pittsburgh's economy to greatness and invites all interested employers, organizations, and individuals to a brainstorming meeting to build upon East End Works and develop concrete goals for the future. The event is located at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, 5321 Penn Avenue, and starts at 5 p.m. To register, please call 412-362-8580 or leave a message at 412-465-0425.

**November**

## GARFIELD

### Events at Yoga Hive

Yoga Hive, 5491 Penn Avenue, will present an array of events this month. A back bending workshop will be held November 5 from 1-2:30 p.m. Registration is \$15 by November 2 or \$20 afterwards. An arm balancing workshop will be held on November 19 from 1-2:30 p.m. Registration is \$15 by November 16 or \$20 afterwards. A "We Give Thanks" fundraiser to benefit the East End Cooperative Ministries' Hunger Services will be held on Thanksgiving, November 24 from 10 a.m. to noon. Finally, a Thanksgiving Recovery session will be held November 27 from 1-3 p.m. Registration is \$25 by November 23 or \$30 after.

**November**

## EAST LIBERTY

### Library Events for Kids

The Carnegie Library in East Liberty, 130 S. Whitfield Street, will host a ton of fun and educational activities for children throughout the month. On November 7 at 5:30 p.m., kids ages 4+ and their families can build their imaginations during Lego night. On November 19 at 3:30 p.m., kids of all ages can learn to do origami. On November 30 at 6:30 p.m., kids ages 3-6 with an adult can learn all about math and science for preschoolers. For more information about these or any other exciting programs, contact the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library at 412-363-8274.

**November**

## EAST LIBERTY

### Queer Film Series

The Kelly-Strayhorn Theater will present My People Film Series: Queer Legacies, a four-part series highlighting the lives and experiences of queer people of color. The series will be presented on four consecutive Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at 5941 Penn Avenue. The schedule for the film series is as follows: Tuesday, November 1, *The Untitled Black Lesbian Elder Project*; Tuesday, November 8, five films - *Billy and Aaron*; *Rex vs. Singh*; *More Than Love* (a trilogy); *Tomboy Gatoey Mango* and *Tom/Trans/Thai*; Tuesday, November 15, *Zero Degrees of Separation*; Tuesday, November 22, *Billy and Aaron* and *Brother to Brother*. A discussion featuring filmmakers and local leaders will follow the film screenings. Individual tickets are \$10 for each event or \$30 for a series pass. For tickets and additional information, visit [www.kelly-strayhorn.org](http://www.kelly-strayhorn.org) or call 412-363-3000.

**Ongoing**

## OAKLAND

### Calling All Toddlers

The University of Pittsburgh Early Social Development Research Lab is seeking healthy, typically developing children between 12 and 48 months of age for a research project. All research is play-based and fun for the children. Parents remain with their children at all times. Parking on the University of Pittsburgh campus is provided at no cost. Visit [www.pitt.edu/~toddlers](http://www.pitt.edu/~toddlers) or call 412-624-4957 for more information.

**Ongoing**

## PITTSBURGH

### Raising Kids Is Tough

The Warmline at Family Resources can help provide free and confidential support to all parents. If you have a concern about parenting issues or need information or referrals, our trained counselors can help you out. Call 412-641-4546. Our hours of operation are Mondays through Fridays 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays noon - 5 p.m.

**Ongoing**

## GARFIELD

### Tech Center Events

Ongoing classes at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, BGC's tech center, 5321 Penn, include: adult computer classes on Mondays from 1-2 p.m.; student computer lessons and job assistance on Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m.; and, internet safety classes for youths and adults on Sundays from 6-7:30 p.m.

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## Arsenal PreK-5 Students Make the Grade



Arsenal PreK-5 students Afisa Uwimana, Halima Abdiaziz, and Haji Mada pose in their new uniforms. Last spring, parents at Arsenal PreK-5 voted overwhelmingly to adopt a new uniform policy in order to save money and diminish peer pressure. On the first day of school this year, the students arrived sporting jumpers, pants, skirts, shorts, and polo shirts with a blue, yellow, and khaki color scheme. Arsenal PreK-5 also has academic news. For the second year in a row, the school has made adequate yearly progress (AYP), a federal guideline defined under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. *Photo by Judy Flaherty*

# DETERMINED

Join the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation  
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