

Master Planning On Tap for Iron City Site

By James Eash Lawrenceville Corporation

Lawrenceville – A group of more than 30 residents and community stakeholders gathered at the Iron City Brewery site on Monday, Sept. 10, kicking off a long-awaited master-planning process for the shuttered brewery. Among stray pallets, cordoned-off work areas and the odd case of Iron City beer, the group discussed possible future uses, priorities for development and the potential for new life on the underutilized site.

The visioning meeting was facilitated by the lead consultant group, local architectural firm DLA+, and signaled the beginning of public involvement in the master-planning process. "We are here to collect information that will be the basis for what we do and what we as a community envision for the site," said Dennis Astorino, principal of DLA+. The plan will ultimately provide a framework for future development on the 9.5-acre site that is supported and endorsed by the community.

The meeting included break-out sessions where broader discussions were

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Zoning Board Hears Plans for Grocery

by Paula Martinac The Bulletin

Bloomfield/Garfield – Bottom Dollar Food, now on its second attempt in 20 months to bring a grocery store to 5200 Penn Ave., finally got its day at the city's Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) on Sept. 20.

About 50 people crowded near the front of the hearing room in the John P. Robin Civic Building downtown while Bottom Dollar representatives presented the store's proposed site plan to a lone ZBA member, Manoj Jegasothy; the two

other board members were absent.

More than half the attendees were community members in support of the site plan. A smaller contingent of neighbors from the Bloomfield/Friendship neighborhood behind 5200 Penn came to voice their continued objections to the various elements of the site plan.

At a prior hearing on Aug. 3, the Zoning Board had issued a continuance and sent Bottom Dollar back to the

See **Zoning** | page **3**

Get Counted in the Creative Census

By Sara Blumenstein cityLAB

Garfield – Do you make things? Do you play an instrument or DJ? Do you code, knit or quilt? And do you live in or around Garfield?

See page 2

Library Featured in National Journal

By Kitty Julian Bulletin Contributor

Lawrenceville – The history of the Lawrenceville Carnegie Library branch is being shared with a national audience thanks to a paper

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Fighting Obesity in the Community

By Paula Martinac The Bulletin

Friendship/Garfield - A group of family practice residents at the UPMC St. Margaret Bloomfield-Garfield Family Health Center at

See page 12







ABOVE: Bloomfield-Garfield Corp.'s City of Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Program participants line up for a picnic dinner and gift bags on their final day of work. Photo by Paula Martinac

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Dr. Kush earned his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed his internal medicine residency at the Western Pennsylvania Hospital. Dr. Kush is board-certified in internal medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine.



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Dr. Nigborowicz is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed his medical internship at UPMC Presbyterian, and is board-certified in internal medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Nigborowicz is a clinical instructor in medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.



Priya P. Saxena, MD, FACP

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Board-certified in internal medicine, Dr. Saxena received her medical degree from Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica, West Indies. She completed her internal medicine residency at Maryland General Hospital in Baltimore, where she served as chief resident. She is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and is NCQA-certified in diabetes management.

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Census from page 1



ABOVE: The first meeting of the 6% Place Advisory Committee in August. Photo courtesy cityLAB

Then get counted in the first-ever Garfield Creative Census in October and November

The census, which will be online at www.garfieldcreativecensus.com from Oct. 15 to Nov. 15, is sponsored by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation in partnership with cityLAB as part of cityLAB's 6% Place project. The goal of the Creative Census is to count how many people do creative work for a full-time job, or as a hobby or a sideline. Respondents will also be able to opt in to an exciting new resource, the Garfield Freelancer's Database, which will provide a way for local creative entrepreneurs to connect with new clients and customers.

In addition to the online survey, limited in-person surveys will be conducted door-to-door from mid- to late October in the blocks between Penn Avenue and Broad Street and between N. Matilda Street and N. Negley Avenue.

Both the online and in-person surveys will only take about five minutes to complete, and the privacy of the respondents' answers will be respected. The information that respondents provide

won't be used for any other purpose, and no one's responses will be associated with his or her name or address.

This information will provide critical benchmarks for future advocacy efforts in Garfield by the BGC, cityLAB and other organizations. By taking the Creative Census, participants will help to quantify the creative sector's impact on the local economy and shape the future of Garfield's creative economy.

The Garfield Creative Census is the first project of the 6% Place Advisory Committee, a group composed of Garfield residents and local creative workers. The committee, supported by funding from The Heinz Endowments, is working on the implementation of projects related to cityLAB's 6% Place experiment. The 6% Place experiment examines strategies for building Garfield's human capital, with the goal of filling in the neighborhood's vacancies with creative workers who will both benefit from Garfield's amenities and invest in the neighborhood's future. Find out more about the 6% Place experiment and follow the committee's work at www.citylabpgh.org. ♦



GCAT CHAT

Pick-up Penn Ave

Saturday, October 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Most Wanted Fine Art, 5015 Penn Ave.

Love Your Block Garden Project

Saturday, October 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Meet at the corner of Mossfield and N. Mathilda and help beautify a vacant lot!

Community Clean-up and Kite Hill Work Day

Saturday, October 20, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Community Activity Center, 113 N. Pacific Ave.

Garfield Gardeners

Saturday, October 27, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 5201 Penn Avenue.

Join the Garfield Gardeners for our last meet-up of the season.

GCAT Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, October 31, at 6:00 p.m. at Most Wanted Fine Art, 5015 Penn Ave.

Aloha, New Restaurant?

by Paula Martinac The Bulletin

Garfield - An ambitious young chef, his brother and father have indicated their interest in bringing a new Hawaiian-themed restaurant to 4923 Penn Ave., the property that formerly housed the nightclub Envy.

Simon Chough, a Pittsburgh native who attended the prestigious Culinary Institute of America, has plans for an upscale eatery called Saimin, which is the name of the state dish of Hawaii. Chough will act as executive chef/owner, while his brother, Christopher, will join him as general manager/owner. Their father, Simon Chough Sr., a UPMC cardiologist, will be the majority owner, investing all the capital for start-up costs, including purchasing and renovating building and transferring a liquor license from Damon's in Bridgeville.

At a meeting on September 18 with nearby neighbors, facilitated by Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, Chef Chough laid out his business plan, which includes a 30- to 40-seat restaurant serving lunch and dinner six days a week. Hours will be 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The decor will be industrial chic, with a complete interior and façade renovation featuring a sliding glass garage door. The restaurant will be a smoke-free space, and will use security cameras. Outdoor signage will be simple,

Chough said he takes his inspiration from Momofuku, a group of trendy Manhattan noodle bars; locally, he admires Salt of the Earth and Verde Mexican Kitchen & Cantina. Lunch entrees at Saimin, including noodle dishes and grilled chicken, beef and fish plates, will be priced between \$5 and \$15, while dinners will be in the \$15 to \$30 range. Chough said he envisions a small dinner menu of six or seven choices "that will change biweekly or monthly, with local, sustainable ingredients." He expects to do most of the shopping and pick-ups himself in the Strip District, instead of relying on trucks to deliver ingredients.

Alcohol at Saimin will be available during all business hours. Mixed drinks will run \$9 to \$12, and beers from \$4 to \$6. The Choughs said they are well aware of the history of problems with Envy and have no desire to run a nuisance bar, which is why drinks will have high price points. "The idea is you have a drink with your meal, but you're not ordering three or four," Chef Chough observed.

Saimin will employ about 28 people in total, and Chough has indicated his interest in hiring local people. "They tend to show up for work," he noted. And, since all parking will be on the street, locals can walk

The next step in the process is an Oct. 16 hearing at 1 p.m. before Pittsburgh City Council, which has to approve all intermunicipal liquor license transfers. If Council approves the transfer, the Choughs will apply to the state Liquor Control Board to acquire the license, and an orange placard will appear out front. Neighbors will then have 30 days to contest the license application, if they see the need to do so; a second community meeting will likely be held at that time. The Choughs have indicated their purchase of the building is contingent on securing a liquor license.

For more information about the liquor license process for Saimin, call Aggie Brose at the BGC at 412-441-6950 x 15. ♦



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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 Ave. These meetings are open to the public.

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

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www.bloomfield-garfield.org © 2012 by Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Zoning from page 1

community for one or two additional community meetings to address the neighbors' concerns. These were in addition to four community meetings that had already taken place.

The first of these additional meetings took place on Aug. 23. Store officials and the developer, Commercial Properties Inc., presented the store's proposed site plan and listened to and responded to people's concerns, including the close proximity of the building to a residence on Coral and the positioning of the parking lot on the corner of S. Pacific.

At the second meeting on Sept. 13, Bottom Dollar representatives returned with an amended site plan, which had addressed many of the neighbors' issues. These included expanding the space between the store building and the nearest neighbor to 9 feet; adding more trash cans and landscaping, such as mature trees and shrubs; providing a gate to eliminate the possibility of cutthroughs behind the building; moving the HVAC units further from nearby homes and providing additional acoustical screening; and removing a light from the Coral side of the property. In addition, Bottom Dollar agreed to make the exit onto S. Pacific a right turn only for trucks making deliveries, to avoid 18-wheelers driving through the residential neighborhood.

tional stipulations to the Sept. 13 meeting, some of which the developer, C. Brantley Tillman, said he was unable to meet. These requests were for changing the business hours of the store and adding a high, solid brick wall along Coral, which the project's engineer said would impede the sight line of truck drivers trying to exit the lot.

A few small issues were resolved in advance of the Zoning Board hearing. Bottom Dollar agreed to take the lighted store sign off the Coral side of the building; install security cameras; extend an 8-foot wooden box-style fence along Coral to within 10 feet of the corner; and entertain a community working group to provide feedback to the store manager.

Finally, at the Zoning Board hearing, each side got 45 minutes to present exhibits and testimony from both experts and community members. "It's the quality of testimony that counts," advised Jegasothy, "not the quantity." City Councilmember Ricky Burgess was in attendance to support the site plan, as were representatives from the office of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl and that of State Rep. Dom Costa.

ZBA has 45 days from the hearing date to return a decision on the site plan. If the plan is approved, objectors will still be able to file an appeal if they choose to. Stay tuned to future issues of The Bulletin for updates on the store's prospects. •



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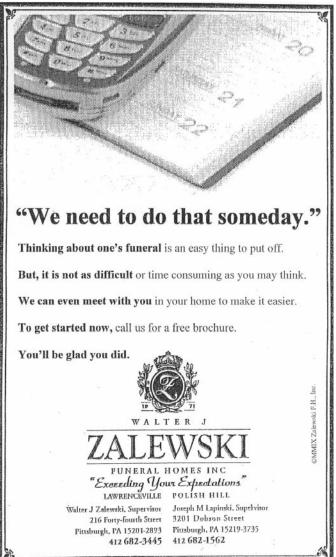
\$25.....2 bottles

§35.....3 bottles

50.....4 or more bottles

The neighbors brought a list of addi-





Iron City from page 1

distilled into key priorities for site development. Shared priorities included a mix of uses with an emphasis on mixed-income housing, increasing connectivity to surrounding neighborhoods, and the restoration and adaptive reuse of existing historic buildings.

DLA+ is currently undertaking an existing conditions assessment of the site, examining each building's internal systems, structural integrity, circulation and other conditions that may affect possible re-use options. This information will be integrated with community input from the Sept. 10 visioning session to help guide initial design options. The next opportunity for community participation will occur in mid-October, when the consultant team will present several design options for additional feedback.

"The importance and potential for this site cannot be understated," said Matthew Galluzzo, Executive Director of the Lawrenceville Corporation. "It is a notable collection of historic buildings on a huge tract of underutilized land located at the gateway to both the Strip District and our East End neighborhoods. Whatever happens on this site will have tremendous impact and influence on the surrounding communities."

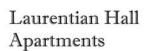
The Lawrenceville Corporation has worked to facilitate a master plan of the site for several years, dating back to the previous

ownership group. A master-planning process nearly got off the ground in 2010, but was ultimately abandoned due to lack of cooperation from ownership. Collier Development, which acquired the site in early 2012, provided an opportunity to revisit the community planning process.

"This plan will be a critical tool for any redevelopment of the site," said Mr. Galluzzo. "If we are successful, at the end of the day we'll have a document that provides a community-supported, historically appropriate and realistic framework for future development of this historic site, against which any proposed project will be meas-

Galluzzo noted that the local preservation community deserves considerable credit for "shining a bright light on the site" and creating a true public interest through historic designation from the city's Historic Review Commission. "This master-planning process should be viewed as an extension of those efforts to maintain a neighborhood seat at the table moving

The project is guided by an advisory committee comprised of representatives from Collier Development, local community organizations, City Planning, the Office of Councilman Dowd, preservation experts and local residents. The entire process is expected to wrap up in late fall.



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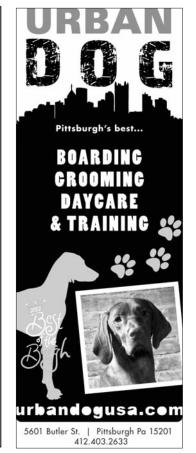
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Art Bench Adds "People Space" to Penn

By Kathryn Vargas

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield – It's hard not to notice one of the newest and most unique additions to the Avenue – the bench at the corner of Penn and N. Winebiddle Street. Since its arrival, the bench's intricate design and construction have been the subject of discussion by the many people who pass by and use it.

Not only has this public art piece taken an otherwise unremarkable corner and turned it into an attractive gateway into Garfield, it is also a needed functional space and a hallmark of the burgeoning Penn Avenue Arts district. The bench is one of six Green and Screen projects completed by the ecoDesigners Guild with funding support from the Urban Redevelopment Authority. Run by Garfield resident Minette Vaccariello, ecoDesigners Guild is responsible for the many Green and Screen public art pieces that have popped up on the Avenue over the past three years.

Lead designers of the project, Rebecca Mizikar and Matt Zambelli, are both graduates from Penn State University with a background in landscape architecture. They are involved in this project as volunteers and members of the Guild, which serves as an outlet for design professionals looking for ways to connect their expertise to community service. Joined by a team of eager-to-serve design professionals and approximately 20 volunteers, Mizikar and Zambelli spent more than two years and countless volunteer hours to realize this design from concept to construction.

"We knew that we wanted to design a bench and that we wanted the space to be functional. We also knew that we wanted it to be more than just a bench," Mizikar reflected. The materials available helped to dictate the design. A trip to Construction Junction, the building material reuse center in Point Breeze, proved successful in securing a number of oak panels, perfect for constructing the body of the bench. From there, the final product of the original design was created with near exactness.

Because of the level of detail in the design, every piece of the bench had to be custommade. Mizikar noted, "The most difficult

ABOVE: This new addition is made possible by many volunteers and sponsors including: Rebecca Mizikar, Matt Zambelli, Minette Vaccariello, Joshua Lederer, Myles Geyman, Catherine Peek, Courtney Patterson, Bob Mizikar, Jason Sauer, Jeff Harshman, Summit Academy, 43rd Concrete, Outlaw Studio and the generosity of the property owners. Photo by Minette Vaccariello

part of the construction was the connecting of the seats between height transitions." The design takes the standard seat configuration of 18 inches high and 2 feet wide and plays with it to provide seating of various heights and widths. "The design is unorthodox but it creates an interesting space for people to interact with and react to," said Zambelli. "It is interesting to see where people decide to sit."

To make this design work, the team called on the expertise of Mizikar's father, Bob Mizikar, electrical engineer and farmer by trade, to provide technical assistance on the project. The team moved the bench more than an hour's drive away to Westmoreland County to finish construction under the leadership of Mr. Mizikar, who relied on old-fashioned traditional construction basics to troubleshoot the difficult nature of the construction

According to Zambelli, "This design is a blend of new technical innovations and traditional design and construction elements. We could not have done this project without both, and that was an important and valuable lesson."

Why spend two years toiling on an unpaid and structurally difficult design project? For Mizikar, this project hits close to home. "I live in the community and like to see the positive change it brings. I also have a son attending the Waldorf School and friends who live across Penn who feel this corner is difficult to cross when walking their children to the school on S. Winebiddle. I think this design reinforces the corner as a 'people space' and helps to slow traffic."

It was also the very nature of their passion for design that drew them into the challenge, according to Zambelli. "This project is really a continuous learning project and it is the perfect opportunity as a designer to be able to tailor a project to fit what you want to learn and design."

This is not the last you will hear from Mizikar and Zambelli; they have already spent the past year working on their next project, which will be placed near the corner of Penn and S. Aiken Avenue. The two designers helped teach a third-year architecture class at Penn State University and included this new site in the class – giving students hands-on experience in creating a design that transforms from paper to pavement. Be on the lookout for this sure-to-impress project to pop up sometime next year.

To learn more about the EcoDesigners Guild and the Green and Screen projects on Penn Avenue, visit www.ecodesigners.net.



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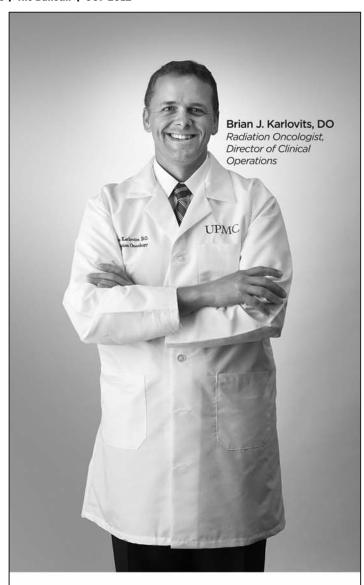
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Lawrenceville Library Cools Off

By Karen Brooks CLP-Lawrenceville

Lawrenceville – The neighborhood of Lawrenceville will soon see and feel a drastic change in its library. For the first time in its 114-year history, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Lawrenceville branch will have air conditioning. The improvement is part of a "spruce-up" plan to make all of Carnegie Library's buildings comfortable and accessible.

In addition to air conditioning, work on the historic building will consist of a new slate roof, refurbishing of the existing wood windows and replacement of an antiquated 1960s heating system. The library's customer service desk will be historically sensitive and constructed to address accessibility concerns, staff functionality and ergonomics. New flooring, furniture, fixtures, equipment and updates to the lower level meeting room are also part of the plan.

A portion of the work will occur during normal business hours. However, CLP-Lawrenceville will close temporarily Monday, October 8, until mid-November to accommodate intrusive repairs.

While the building is under reconstruction, library users will be able to pick up requested items and return materials three days a week to the Stephen Foster Community Center at 286 Main Street. The preliminary schedule is Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. Library staff will also hold children's programming Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. through the end of October in the Opera Theater's rehearsal space at the Community Center. The library's book drop will remain open during the spruce up.

Customers may contact CLP-Lawrenceville staff by email at lawrenceville@carnegielibrary.org and are encouraged to visit Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's website, www.carnegielibrary.org, for updates and additional library locations. Updates will also be posted on the branch's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/CLPLawrenceville. (See related story, page 1.) ◆

Radio Personality "Paints the Town"

By Melinda Maloney Bulletin Contributor

Lawrenceville – National radio personality Delilah Rene Luke initially intended just to "Paint the Town" of Lawrenceville. And paint she did – but not before giving a big gift to the neighborhood's four-legged residents.

On Saturday, September 8, thanks to support from Delilah's Paint the Town community-building charity, the Bernard Dog Run celebrated its grand opening. Paint the Town supplied the park with a cyclone fence – the final step needed for its completion.

The radio station WISH 99.7, which broadcasts Delilah's song-request show locally, connected her with Lawrenceville United and the Lawrenceville Corporation after Delilah selected Pittsburgh to benefit from her charity's annual beautification efforts.

"They were really interested in doing something that would mean a lot to the community," Lauren Byrne, executive director of Lawrenceville United, said. After five years of planning, Lawrenceville was ready for its dog run.

That same weekend, Delilah also painted the town more literally. She and her volunteers put the finishing touches on a mural on the 40th Street Bridge. The mural was locally designed by Elise Gatti, coordinator of the Lawrenceville Dog Park Committee, and Ben Grocholsky, of Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Institute. Delilah brought in nationally

renowned muralist Rich Warshak to erect the mural, which features historical landmarks in Lawrenceville such as Doughboy Square.

Further painting had to be deferred until Sunday because of inclement weather Saturday. "We got rained out on Saturday and virtually lost probably 85 percent of our volunteer base," said WISH 99.7 station manager Alan Serena. He noted that about 200 people, many mobilized by the United Methodist Church and WISH, registered to volunteer Saturday.

On Sunday, Delilah and her smallerthan-anticipated team still managed to spruce up between 10 and 12 buildings on Liberty Avenue, including both business fronts and duplexes. They also painted the concession stand at Sullivan Field.

Delilah has been beautifying communities all over the country as part of Paint the Town for four years. Because WISH 99.7 was one of her very first affiliates, she wanted to come to Pittsburgh this year. WISH 99.7 recommended several communities within its coverage area, and Delilah and her team narrowed the list down to three. After talking to representatives of the neighborhoods, they settled on Lawrenceville.

The United Methodist Church, Glidden Paint, Lawrenceville United and the Lawrenceville Corporation partnered with Delilah and WISH in the event. ◆

Getting Squeezed Out of the American Dream

by Aggie Brose Bloomfield-Garfield Corp.

Garfield – On May 9, 1984, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coleman became the proud owners of 5310 Hillcrest St., and for them the American Dream came true. For 28 years, the Colemans have maintained their home and property in picture-perfect condition.

But as the years went by, the two houses on either side of the Colemans' property became deteriorated and are now sitting vacant and abandoned. They become more dilapidated and overgrown as the days and months roll on.

According to the Allegheny County real estate website, Geraldine Morgan is the recorded owner of 5304 Hillcrest St., the house to the right of the Colemans. Ms. Morgan acquired the property in March, 1979 for \$14,900. Her mailing address is 129 Country Club Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235. The property is tax-delinquent.

Ms. Coleman's property is full of code violations and has a jungle of overgrown weeds and trees in the back yard. According to the City of Pittsburgh's Bureau of Building Inspection (BBI), this property was condemned on October 24, 2011. Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) staff tried to reach Ms. Morgan, but was unable to.

Michael, Luisa and Amante Vivar are the recorded owners of 5316 Hillcrest St., directly to the left of the Colemans; they



ABOVE: The picture-perfect home at 5310 Hillcrest St. (center) sits between two blighted properties, one of which has an out-of-state owner. Photos by Paula Martinac

acquired the property in September, 2004 for \$10,500. Their mailing address is 14 Canterbury Dr., Sayville, NY 11782-1341. The property is not tax-delinquent.

According to the BBI, the Vivars' property has citations that have not been abated: overgrown weeds and dead trees; rear exterior loose and missing siding; a loose chimney; and missing bricks. The Vivars were taken to Housing Court last year and fined. Evidently, it didn't faze

plus ...

them because the latest citation for code violations on the property was issued on August 23, 2012. BGC staff tried to reach the Vivars, but were unsuccessful in these attempts.

These two blighted properties are squeezing the life and the equity out of the Colemans' well-maintained home. To regain the Colemans' equity, BGC staff will work with BBI to get 5304 Hillcrest Street demolished and 5316 Hillcrest

Street moved back into Housing Court for not abating the citations on the property. The Vivars would then have to make a trip into Pittsburgh to appear in Housing Court and be held accountable for their property in our neighborhood. BGC staff will monitor the hearing.

Anyone knowing how to contact either Ms. Morgan or the Vivars, please call the BGC directly at 412-441-6950 x 15. ◆

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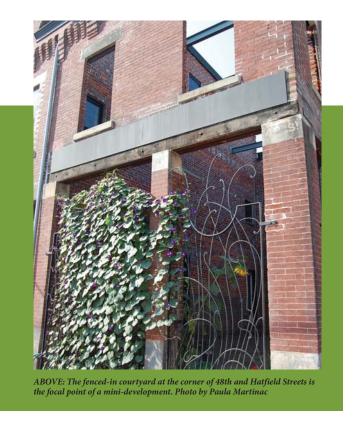
By Paula Martinac The Bulletin

Lawrenceville – Just a few years ago, the corner of 48th and Hatfield Streets was one of the most blighted areas in the entire neighborhood of Lawrenceville. The crime rate was high, and many of the properties were vacant. In a tragic accident in 2009, a 3-year-old girl was struck and killed by a pick-up truck near the intersection.

"We moved to our house at 4738 Hatfield, which is right around the corner, in 2004 and I started raising the question of everyone in town as to who owned the property and why it was falling down," Kate Bayer told *The Bulletin* in an email. "I used to see the roof blow up and crash down during thunderstorms. It bugged me that the owner didn't pay his taxes and got away with it."

Fast forward to 2012, and five row houses at this junction have been completely renovated by Lawrenceville-based Botero Development and sold to responsible homeowners. The development has been a catalyst for other projects, and the vacancy rate in the area has plummeted from 60 percent to 20 percent. And now, three of these homes will be featured on the annual Lawrenceville Hospitality House Tour – of which Bayer is an organizer – on Sunday, Oct. 7, from 12 to 5 p.m.





"Tearing something down is the last resort."

The Bulletin got a sneak peek at one of the Hatfield homes, located at 4750 Hatfield St. and owned by Becky Thatcher, Community Program Coordinator at Lawrenceville United (LU). Visitors might never guess that Thatcher's bright, meticulously renovated house was once the back end of a beer distributor and before that, an auto shop.

"I came to Pittsburgh for graduate school," said Thatcher, who has a master's degree in arts management from the Heinz School of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University. When she graduated in 2009 and then got her job with LU, "I was tired of renting" and started looking around for a home she could afford to buy as a young professional. One property she seriously considered in 2010 fell through. Luckily, the following year, she met Brian Mendelssohn, principal of Botero Development.

Mendelssohn has been buying and renovating buildings in Lawrenceville since 2009, when he purchased his first property on 42nd Street. Other properties in his portfolio include Wild Card at 4209 Butler Street – and the two loft apartments above it, one of which he and his wife occupy – plus the forthcoming Arsenal Bank Lofts at 43rd and Butler.

The 48th and Hatfield properties had been vacant since the 1990s. Mendelssohn responded to a Request for Proposals from Lawrenceville Corporation (LC) for a "responsible developer" to purchase and rehab them. LC had purchased the derelict properties in 2009 from the City, which had gained ownership through a lien process.

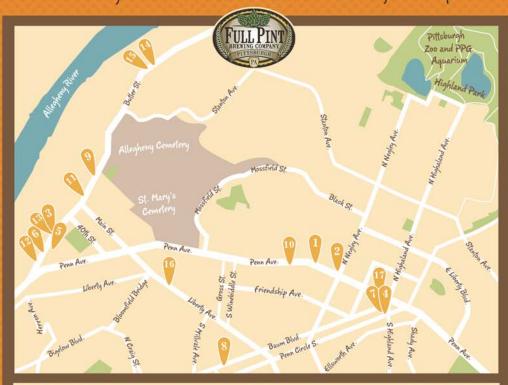
"The project was to revitalize this part of Lawrenceville," Mendelssohn explained,

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- 2. Verde Mexican Kitchen & Cantina, 5491 Penn Ave., \$20 key lime tamales with 3 tequila flight, served with palate-cleansing sangrita.
- 3. Coca Cafe, 3811 Butler St. Special on pumpkin pancakes with ginger mascarpone cream and caramelized pears. Plus, open Thurs. Fri. and Sat. night for small plates!
- 4. Plum Pan-Asian Kitchen, 5996 Penn Cir S. Featuring an extended happy hour through the whole restaurant.
- $5.\ Pastitsio,\,3716\ Butler\ St.\ {\bf Free\ seasonal}$ appetizer with an entree purchase.
- 6. Tamari, 3519 Butler St. Featuring a three-course tasting menu at a special price.

- 7.Spoon + BRGR, 134 South Highland Ave.\$35 tasting menu at SPOON Free side of fries with any purchase of two signature burgers at BRGR.
- 8.Toast, 5102 Baum Blvd.Featuring Full Pint on special!
- 9. La Gourmandine, 4605 Butler St. \$3.15 for gourmet coffee and a Danish.
- 10. The Quiet Storm, 5430 Penn Ave. Featuring the East Ender Salad.
- 11. Industry Public House, 4305 Butler St. \$3 Full Pint drafts + free upgrade with sandwich purchase.
- 12. Dozen Bake Shop, 3511 Butler St. Featuring Full Pint cupcake with rosemary bourbon coffee cake.

- 13. Eclipse Lounge, 3705 Butler St. Full Pint special!
- 14. Nied's Hotel, 5438 Butler St. Full Pint special!
- 15. Allegheny Wine Mixer, 5326 Butler St., Featuring half bottle Gruet sparkling wine with 4 oz. cheese pairing, \$20.
- 16. The Pleasure Bar, 4729 Liberty Ave., Full Pint special!
- 17. Zeke's Coffee, 6012 Penn Ave. Buy one pound of Zekes Featured Roast, get \$2.00 off the second. Buy one large coffee, and give your friend a free large coffee (Must bring a friend).

for more restaurants and more information, visit TARLEmagazine com/eastendrestaurantweek.ph













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Library from page 1

published in fall 2012 edition of *The Concord Review*, the only national academic journal of writing by high school students.

Former Pittsburgher and 2012 graduate of The Ellis School, Ms. Zaynab (Zaynee) Malik wrote the essay after her Ellis history teacher, Mr. Richard Malmstrom, encouraged her interest in the library. Malmstrom is a former Lawrenceville resident.

"Pittsburgh's history in many ways is the history of our country," said Malmstrom. "Andrew Carnegie, because of his own upbringing, realized the value of the free public library. His library system became the prototype for libraries everywhere. Zaynee recognized the critical role the Lawrenceville Library played in maintaining the cohesiveness of the community."

Zaynee, now a freshman at Georgetown University, shared these thoughts.

KJ: What inspired you to write this paper?

ZM: When I moved to Pittsburgh from Houston, I was impressed by and in awe of the efficient city-wide 19-branch library system. I fell in love with the Main Library branch in Oakland as well as the Squirrel Hill library near my house. I read the libraries were in constant danger of losing funding and several smaller

branches were in danger of being shut down. Mr. Malmstrom mentioned the Lawrenceville branch to me, so I decided to check it out. When I visited and spoke with the manager, I realized what an essential part of the community it was.

KJ: What about the Lawrenceville library struck you as especially important or meaningful to Pittsburgh and beyond?

ZM: Lawrenceville began as an immigrant community. Many people spoke little or no English. The library took the initiative to get easy-to-read English books as well as books in its patrons' native languages. It also set up the first children's reading room in Pittsburgh. The Lawrenceville Library sets an incredible example for how libraries should serve patrons.

KJ: What did you learn, while writing and researching this piece, about the people and community of Lawrenceville?

ZM: I learned that the community truly cares about its library. When the library was at risk of being shut down, the Friends of the Lawrenceville Library membership multiplied. I also learned that Lawrenceville has a unique history and the library is a central part of this history.

KJ: How has using a library changed YOU as a person?



ABOVE: Zaynee Malik, author of a paper on the Lawrenceville Library. Photo by Patti

ZM: It has made me appreciate how much public institutions can change a person's life for the better and how important it is to make sure they keep functioning and serving communities. Libraries have given me access to so many good books, movies, magazines, foreign language tapes and more. They helped teach me responsibility when I was younger because I had to turn my books in on time.

KJ: Is there anything you'd like to tell people in other communities about their libraries?

ZM: The best way to show your support for your local library is to use it! Meet friends to study there, check out books, take advantage of free programming – the options are endless!



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House Tour from page 8

"but with the idea that tearing something down is the last resort." To that end, because the building situated at the corner couldn't be saved as a residence, it was hollowed out, stabilized and transformed into a courtyard with decorative iron gates. Mendelssohn calls the courtyard the "focal point" of the mini-development, lending an "industrial chic-ness" to the project.

Thatcher joined on in early 2011 by "pre-buying" her house from Botero through a second mortgage program with the Urban Redevelopment Authority. She says she saw the Hatfield Street property as "a really cool way to get a house that was already fixed up... I work a lot and I wouldn't have had time to do the renovations myself."

Pre-buying afforded Thatcher the chance to have input on the many design

choices that had to be made – everything from where to place the staircase to the color of the interior walls. Moss Architects, with whom Botero works closely, drew up three distinct layouts "to start the conversation," Mendelssohn said. Mendelssohn also provided Thatcher with a catalog of "my favorite products" – fixtures in different prices ranges from which she could pick and choose to stay within the selling price.

Thatcher said she couldn't afford to exceed the selling price, so she made trade-offs throughout the process. "I opted to leave the door off the bedroom closet so I could get a clawfoot bathtub," she noted as an example.

One of the most unique features of 4750 Hatfield is a clear garage door in the living/dining area, which lifts for air circulation and literally opens the space



ABOVE: The living room of the house at 4750 Hatfield features a clear garage door that brightens the space. Photo by Paula Martinac

up. "I could have had a garage, but I wanted a big living room," Thatcher explained. The result is a light, airy space that feels much bigger than it is. The door also made moving in a breeze, noted Thatcher.

Mendelssohn said he is particularly proud of Thatcher's house. "I was very attached to this house," he observed. "I wanted it for myself." He called it a "model for city living" in its energy-efficiency and compactness – perfect for a single person or a couple. "There is no wasted space," he said, though Thatcher joked that only her dog, Bella, can use a small area under the stairs.

Both Thatcher and Mendelssohn praised Lawrenceville as the ultimate place to live in Pittsburgh. "I love the people here," Thatcher said. "I love the small-town feel. I like the mix of old and new." Not a gut renovation, her house mixes original wood flooring and 19th-

century exposed bricks with 21stcentury touches like glass and metal awnings.

"Lawrenceville grabbed me," Mendelssohn added. "I thought, 'This is truly a neighborhood."

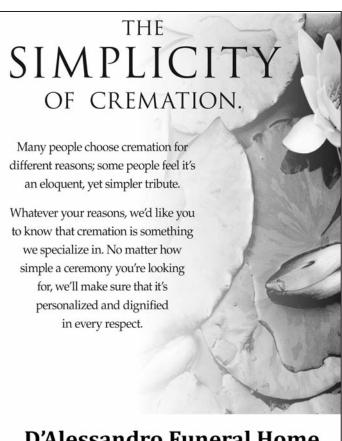
There are 10 additional houses on this year's Lawrenceville Hospitality House Tour, plus two points of interest. "The houses run the gamut from totally new construction on a vacant lot to reconstruction/gutting of an existing structure to full-scale historic restoration," Bayer explained. "Our points of interest are the Ronald McDonald House at Children's Hospital, with a spectacular view of the city, and the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, which has the oldest continuing congregation in Lawrenceville."

For more information about the tour or to purchase tickets, visit www.lawrencevillehousetour.org. •

BELOW: The blighted corner of 48th and Hatfield Streets prior to redevelopment; 4750 Hatfield is on the right. Photo by Josh Bayer/30+ Productions







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Obesity from page 1

5475 Penn Ave. have seen the damaging effects of the obesity epidemic up close in the community. They've decided to fight back - with education.

"We have a lot of obese clients," remarks Elisabeth Hyde, MD, a secondyear resident at the center. Now Hyde and four of her colleagues, under the supervision of Ann McGaffey, MD, the director of the center, are launching a pilot education program for their clients called ABLE2, an acronym for "A Better Life through Exercise and Eating." They are partnering with Creative Fitness, right down the block at 5406 Penn Ave., operated by Cathy Fink.

"We wanted to bring obesity to the forefront of care," says Hyde. She and Elizabeth Mohan, MD, and Ashley McMakin, MD, rattle off the various complications that can result from excessive overweight - everything from arthritis and diabetes to coronary artery disease and certain types of cancer. The three residents are clear that the program they've designed - along with Amy Heinzan, MD, and Maria Balestrino, MD - will not concentrate on weight loss for cosmetic reasons; instead, it's "to improve quality of life," notes McMakin.

The doctors envision ABLE2 as a 12week workshop for adults to be held once a week in the evenings at the center. The pilot program launches this month, and the residents are looking for funding from St. Margaret Foundation. Although there will be a nominal fee, participants who finish the full program will get their money refunded.

Hyde outlines their three-pronged curriculum, which includes education, nutrition and exercise - major weapons in the fight against obesity. Each meeting will zero in on a specific issue related to obesity - one, for example, will look at hypertension, or high blood pressure, while another will discuss ways to keep motivated. Doctors, nurses and medical students will present the medical information, while registered dietitians and clinical nutritionists will impart skills such as how to read nutrition labels and how to distinguish between "good" and

Following these structured discussions, the ABLE2 participants will walk together to Creative Fitness, where Fink will work with them on the exercise component of the program.

Fink got involved in ABLE2 by chance. Hyde says she was "walking around, looking for a nearby gym" and spotted the Creative Fitness sign.

Fink was immediately receptive. She's been in the fitness business for 20 years and says she has a commitment to helping people understand that "exercise can be anything" from dancing to doing yard work - it's not just about lifting weights at the gym. "It shouldn't be an on and off thing." Learning how to incorporate exercise into their daily lives so they can shed pounds helps people gain selfesteem and confidence, she explains.

When it comes to having to lose weight, "a lot of people feel stranded," notes Mohan. Their doctors may tell them to "eat healthy" and then turn them loose without explaining how to accomplish that. After the program concludes, participants will have follow-ups on their progress with their PCP at the center.

'We want obesity to become a normal part of the conversation" between a family practitioner and her patients, says Mohan. The doctors also want to encourage participants to share what they've learned with others and become "health ambassadors" to family and friends.

Community members interested in participating in future ABLE2 workshops need to first establish themselves as clients with the Family Health Center. For information or to make an appointment with a doctor, call 412-361-7562. To find out more about Creative Fitness, visit www.creativefitnesspgh.com or call 412-378-7300. ♦



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Penn Avenue Shop Emphasizes Cozy Decor

By Paula Martinac The Bulletin

Bloomfield/Lawrenceville – When Linda Nawrocki told her father about her plans to open a home accessories shop, his first thought was how she loved playing store when she was little. Her longtime affinity for retail came to fruition in July when she launched Urban Cottage, a new store located at 4602 Penn Ave.

"I scoured the city for space," Nawrocki said of how she landed on the Penn Avenue corridor. Because she loves Butler Street, she first looked at Lawrenceville, when she had lived for 12 years. But she found the large storefronts "overwhelming from the standpoint of starting a business." Since her shop would carry a lot of small decorative pieces and wall furnishings, she wasn't sure she could fill a large space.

The site she eventually settled on is just 900 square feet and is comfortably full of everything from small furniture pieces to glassware, candle, linens and clocks. Items are appealingly arranged on tables, walls, shelves, even the floor.

"This is the next corridor," she noted of her location across from Allegheny Cemetery and just up the block from Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC

The store's name was drawn from her own decorating preferences. "I like the idea of a cozy place," she explained. "That's always been my look." She said her love of "nooks and crannies" stems from living for a while in Ireland.

With a background as an online marketing professional, Nawrocki did her homework before launching her new business.

"There was a hole in the market," she said. "There are a lot of upscale boutiques in Pittsburgh, and then there's Target." She said she was aiming for unique decorative items you couldn't find everywhere, but that were still within reach for people like herself "who are still paying off student loans."

She calls the shop's focus "rustic" and "shabby chic." About 80 percent of her inventory consists of new merchandise from vendors who often use recycled materials. The remaining 20 percent of her goods are refurbished pieces she finds by haunting Pittsburgh's second-hand stores and flea markets.

"I look for things that need a little TLC," and then she smartens them up herself. "I have a crafty gene," she said, explaining that her mother is a florist and her father an engineer. Her mother bought her a sewing machine when she turned 30 and "I taught myself."

Nawrocki pointed with pride to a French country-style chair that "represents my theory" of how it's possible to give old items new life and still keep the price low. The chair originally had an ugly plastic cushion, but she dressed it up with a fresh coat of white paint and new upholstery. The result is a charming piece that "won't break the bank" at \$35 and will dress up the corner of an apartment or house.

"I'm picky about what's in the store," she explained. "I don't carry a lot of any one item." She keeps up with what's in vogue in home decor – last year it was equestrian items, but "this year it's dogs."

Many of her items feature birds; even



ABOVE: Urban Cottage features one-of-a-kind merchandise to turn a house or apartment into a cozy home, including new and refurbished items. Photo by Paula Martinac

the store's logo is a bird. "I do have a lot of birds," she laughed. "Birds are classic. They hold up over time."

Most of the shop's business so far has come from word of mouth and some foot traffic from employees at Children's Hospital. Nawrocki has started keeping the store open until 9 or 10 p.m. on First Fridays for the Unblurred gallery crawl and said she hopes eventually to host art exhibits as part of that monthly event.

Right now, Urban Cottage hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Customers can also shop online at www.urbancottagedecor.com and pick up their purchases in the store to avoid shipping costs. For more information, call 412-683-1950. ◆



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Buletin BOARD Announcements Fundraisers

October 1

GARFIELD

Experi-Mondays

Literary Arts Boom [The LAB] hosts assorted writing workshops and activities for kids aged 6 to 18 that involve art, technology and communication. Experi-Mondays are free and snacks are provided. At Assemble: 5125 Penn Ave., 4 to 6 p.m. Also on Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29. Call 773-425-1531, visit www.literaryartsboom.org/calendar or email literaryartsboom@gmail.com for more details. If you plan to bring a group of students, please let us know.

GARFIELD

Basic Computer Skills

Learn to use a computer at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, 5321 Penn Ave, a free computer lab. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The two-day class continues at the same time on Oct. 2, and then repeats Oct. 17 and 18. Call 412-441-9833 to register.

October 2

GARFIELD

Free Homework Help

Literary Arts Boom [The LAB] invites youths aged 6 to 18 to get homework help from volunteer mentors and work on creative projects. Snacks provided. At Assemble: 5125 Penn Ave., 3:30 to 6 p.m. Also on Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30. Call 773-425-1531, visit www.literaryartsboom.org/calendar or email literaryartsboom@gmail.com for more details. If you plan to bring a group of students, please let us know.

October 4

EAST LIBERTY

Baby and Me

Come sing, clap, bounce and listen to nursery rhymes and stories at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-East Liberty, 130 S. Whitfield St., 10:30 a.m. Recommended for babies up to 24 months. Also offered October 11, 18 and 25.

October 5

PENN AVENUE

Unblurred

The first Friday of each month, from 6 to 11 p.m., various venues in the Penn Avenue Arts District (4800-5500 Penn Ave.) open their doors and showcase the work of a variety of artists and performers. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/pennavenuearts.

October 6

PENN AVENUE

Vehicular Abstraction

Do you own an art car? Bring your masterpiece-on-wheels to Penn Avenue (corner of N. Winebiddle – Carl's TV parking lot) from noon to 4 p.m. for a celebration of the culture of cars. Free for anyone to bring their car down to this event and be part of the festivities. Already decorated cars that want to be in a juried event – with the winner receiving a trophy and prizes – can register for only \$20 with a percentage of the proceeds to benefit the Red Cross. There will also be live car painting, kids' activities, vendors and crafters. For more information, visit www.most-wantedfineart.com or email mostwantedfineart@yahoo.com.

HIGHLAND PARK

Transition to Healthy Diet

Do you want to "eat healthy," but are you confused about where to start? This workshop will lead you through the gradual steps needed to make a smooth transition to a healthy diet and a healthier you. 10 a.m. to noon, The Nuin Center, 5655 Bryant St. Led by Paula Martinac, M.S., nutrition educator. Cost: \$30 includes a healthy snack. Space limited. To register, email Paula.Nutritionu@gmail.com, visit www.nutritionu.net or call 412-760-6809.

EAST LIBERTY

Chili Taste-off

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-East Liberty, 130 S. Whitfield St., is holding a Chili Taste-off in conjunction with its Fall Kick-Off Book Sale. The Book Sale runs from 10 am. to 1 p.m., and the the Taste-Off starts at 1:30 p.m. Participants will be competing in two categories: Vegetarian & Non-Vegetarian. Participation limited to eight entries per category. All neighbors are invited to participate. Please call 412-363-8232 to register a dish or for more info. Kids can celebrate the Chili Taste-off at 11 a.m. with a reading of the book "Armadilly Chili" and decorate a ceramic bowl from Kiln-N-Time of Lawrenceville. Participants must call 412-363-8274 to register; cost is \$5.00.

GARFIELD

PC Skills Tutoring

Improve your PC skills every Saturday in October from 1 to 3 p.m. at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, 5321 Penn Ave., a free computer lab. Call 412-441-9833 for more information.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Tree ID Walks

Want to know more about the trees around you? Learn basic tree identification skills with Tree Pittsburgh's certified arborists on a tree walk from 9 to 11 a.m Meet at Allegheny Cemetery's Butler Street entrance at 47th Street. \$5 for Tree Tenders, \$10 all

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 NOVEMBER issue are due MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, via email to bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org.

others, includes a copy of the seasonally appropriate *Tree Finder* by May Theilgaard Watts. Pre-registration is required. Call 412-362-6360 or email Caitlin@treepittsburgh.org for registration.

October 7

LAWRENCEVILLE

House Tour

The annual Lawrenceville Hospitality House Tour will be held from noon to 5 p.m., beginning at the Butler Street entrance to the Allegheny Cemetery. Advance tickets are on sale at these Lawrenceville businesses: Perk Me Up, Jay Design, Gallery on 43rd, Dandelions, Coca Cafe and Pavement. The tour is self-guided and this year will feature 10 unique homes and two points of interest, the Ronald McDonald House at Children's Hospital and Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. For more information, visit www.lha15201.org. (See related article, page 8.)

GARFIELD

PC Skills Tutoring

Improve your PC skills every Sunday in October from 1 to 3 p.m. at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, 5321 Penn Ave., a free computer lab. Call 412-441-9833 for more information.

October 8

BLOOMFIELD

Zumba Class

Tootsie Sobkiewicz, LCSW, Certified Group Exercise Instructor and Zumba Instructor, will lead a Zumba class at the Cancer Caring Center, 4117 Liberty Ave., from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. This class is held at the Center on the 2nd Monday of each month and welcomes cancer patients, survivors and loved ones. Participants should dress in comfortable clothes and register by calling 412-622-1212.

October 9

EAST LIBERTY

Word Intermediate

Learn advanced formatting, using pictures and styles in MS Word at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-East Liberty, 130 S. Whitfield St., from 10 a.m. to noon. Presented by Pittsburgh CONNECTS. Free

October 10

GARFIELD

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., BGC's Community Activity Center, 113 N. Pacific Ave.

October 11

GARFIELD

Comics Club

Get visual! Get verbal! Make comics! Literary Arts Boom [The LAB] and Assemble invite youths aged 8 to 13 to a series of four consecutive Thursday workshops (also Oct. 18, 25 and Nov. 1), from 4 to 6 p.m. at 5125 Penn Ave. \$5/session or \$15 for the series. Learn about the visual and narrative elements of comic strips and graphic novels. Students' work will be compiled and published at the end of the workshop series, and they'll have a chance to exhibit their comics at a Comic Fair on a Saturday at Assemble (in November or December). Students should plan on attending all four sessions. Preregister by visiting assemblepgh.eventbrite.com or contacting 773-425-1531 or literaryartsboom@ gmail.com. Please include the student's name, age, grade level and school.

GARFIELI

Reducing Your Risk of Cancer

Dr. Lyn Robertson, professor at the Hillman Cancer Center, describes lifestyle choices and medical conditions that increase your risk for cancer. 6 to 9 p.m. at Pittsburgh CONNECTS, 5321 Penn Ave. For more information, call 412-441-9833.

BLOOMFIELD

Humor for Stress Relief

Sally Chopping, stand-up comedian and professional public speaker, will talk about using humor as stress relief and show why it actually works. This "Live Well with Cancer" program will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Cancer Caring Center, 4117 Liberty Ave. Bring a friend and register by calling 412-622-1212.

October 13

EAST LIBERTY

Super Science

Join Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-East Liberty, 130 S. Whitfield St., and the Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse for Reuse-a-Palooza! – a hands on, open-ended, creative activity for kids, teens and adults. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

October 15

BLOOMFIELD

Ovarian Support Group

Teal Hearts Network, an ovarian cancer support network, meets on the third Monday of each month from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Cancer Caring Center, 4117 Liberty Ave. Please call the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition at 412-661-1095 to register.

October 16

EAST LIBERTY

Excel Intermediate

Learn more about formulas, conditional formatting, printing and multiple spreadsheets in MS Excel at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-East Liberty, 130 S.

Volunteer Opportunities & Services

Whitfield St., from 10 a.m. to noon. Presented by Pittsburgh CONNECTS. Free.

October 17

GARFIELD

Workshop Development

Do you want to help youths practice and improve their writing skills in a fun way that incorporates arts, technology, and communication? If you're interested in creating a one-time workshop or a series of workshops for young people as part of Literary Arts Boom [The LAB], please attend this workshop from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Develop topics and include media that pique curiosity, prompt inquiry and spark creativity. From space travel to Penn Avenue travel, from world history to Garfield history, a wide variety of ideas take form on paper, in blogs, via eyeballs, through eardrums, etc. Review the key elements of a LAB workshop to ensure that writing and other hands-on elements are incorporated, kids have fun, you have fun, quirkiness and discovery ensue, etc. etc. RSVP to literaryartsboom@gmail.com or 773-425-1531.

October 18

GARFIELD

Flu Shots

Free flu vaccines will be given to area residents age 65 and older at the Bloomfield-Garfield Family Health Center, 5475 Penn Ave., from 9 to 11 a.m. Those under 65 will be charged \$15. Flu vaccines will not be given to anyone under the age of 18. Anyone allergic to eggs or chicken should not receive a vaccine. For more information, please call 412-361-7562.

FRIENDSHIP

Friendship Neighborhood Meeting

The Friendship Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Fourth Presbyterian Church, 5450 Friendship Ave. Bring a main course dish to share. Beverages and childcare provided.

LARIMER

"Nothing But The Blues"

New Horizon Theater, Inc. presents the play Nothing But The Blues at the Kingsley Association, located at 6435 Frankstown Avenue, through October 28. Showings Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. with weekend matinees at 3 p.m. Call 412-431-0773 for reservations or email at newhorizontheater@yahoo.com. Tickets: \$20. The play is written by Joseph Plummer and is directed by Eileen J. Morris. It is loosely based on Marc Pokempner's book Down at Theresa's: Chicago Blues. Nothing But The Blues was nominated for 10 Black Theater Alliance Awards in 2010.

October 20

LAWRENCEVILLE

Artists' Studio Tour

The 8th Annual Lawrenceville Artists' Studio Tour will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visit artists where they create and work. Many will be demonstrating their craft and visitors can see them at work and ask questions about their creative process. This year there will be 14 studios on this self-guided tour, with 17 participating artists. To download a list of studios with a map, go to lypgh.com or call 412-683-6488 for more information.

October 23

EAST LIBERTY Powerpoint Intermediate

Learn to add animations, multimedia and interactive controls in MS PowerPoint. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-East Liberty, 130 S. Whitfield St., from 10 a.m. to noon. Presented by Pittsburgh CONNECTS. Free.

October 25

GARFIELD

Diabetes and You

Learn about diabetes prevention, screening, management, and the short- and long-term effects of the disease. Attendees also learn how to utilize the Internet as a resource to further educate themselves on the subject, and gain hands-on experience in accessing websites such as the American Diabetes Association. Presented by Pittsburgh CONNECTS, 5321 Penn Ave., 6 to 8 p.m. Call 412-441-9833 for more information.

October 26

HIGHLAND PARK

St. Andrew's Lecture

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street, will present its annual St. Andrew's Lecture at 8 p.m. The speaker is Jan Beatty, poet and director of the creative writing program at Carlow University. Her presentation will explore the local poetry scene and include readings from her own work and that of other poets. Free and open to the public; reception follows. For more information, call 412-661-1245.

October 27

EAST LIBERTY

Halloween Mayhem

Zombies, a costume parade on stage, puppets, live performances, games and more will fill the Kelly Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Ave., for the fifth annual Halloween Mayhem, a day of activities designed to delight and entertain the whole family. 10 a.m to 2 p.m.

November 1

HIGHLAND PARK

Juicing for Health

The Nuin Center, 5655 Bryant St., kicks off First Thursdays on health and wellness issues with a free screening of the documentary Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead, and a discussion with Paula Martinac, M.S., nutrition educator. The film follows the cross-country trip of a man who decides to juice his way to good health – and a smaller waistline. Screening at 6 p.m.; juicing demonstration and samples will follow. For information, call 412-760-6809 or email Paula.NutritionU@gmail.com.

November 10

DOWNTOWN

Diabetes EXPO

Whether you are newly diagnosed with diabetes, already accustomed to living with the condition or at risk, this is a can't miss one-day event. You'll not only be educated about diabetes but also entertained at the popular Divabetic area, showcasing this year's theme of Gillian's Island Experience – a tropical stage show with self-care games, fitness demonstrations and diabetes care advice from the experts. Schedules for the workshops, healthy eating demos and Divabetic, plus pre-registration for this free event at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center are online at www.diabetes.org/expopittsburgh. For more information call 1-888-DIABETES, x 4608.

Announcements

BI OOMFIFI D

After-school at EVO

Earthen Vessels Outreach offers before- and afterschool care for children pre-K through middle school. Located at 250 S. Pacific Ave., EVO is a CCIS and CYF approved site. Transportation is provided to and from the school. A structured routine enables children to be tutored daily in math, reading and computer skills. Individualized tutoring plans are made for all enrolled students. Health, nutrition and physical activities are implemented to teach a healthy, active lifestyle. Drama performances occur three to four times a year. Community scholarship rates are reasonable. Call for details: 412-414-2993.

GARFIELD

YouthBuild Funding

Garfield Jubilee Association's YouthBuild program received \$1.1 million from the U.S. Department of Labor. The program is one of 74 social service agencies in the nation to receive funding and one of two in Pennsylvania. This funding allows GJA to provide construction training, life skills and job readiness for up to 70 at-risk youths in Pittsburgh. For information, contact GJA at 412-665-5200.

EAST LIBERTY

Theater Subscriptions

The Kelly Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Ave., is introducing a flexible subscription plan called "Four on the Floor." With more than 20 original dance, theater, music and film programs, subscription holders have many options as they build their own plans. "Four on the Floor" costs \$80 for four programs (\$60 for residents of Zip code 15206). The season features something for everyone – internationally acclaimed artists premiering works in Pittsburgh, contemporary music, big band sounds

and programs the entire family can enjoy together. Subscriptions may be purchased at the theater or by calling 412 363-3000. For details about the 2012-2013 season, visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org.

FRIENDSHIP

Dance Classes

Get into shape this fall with community dance classes at The Alloy Studios, 5530 Penn Ave., including high-energy hip-hop, graceful contemporary/modern dance or spicy salsa/merengue. A supportive, non-competitive environment with classes taught by experienced instructors. Classes are designed for teens and adults at all skill levels; beginners welcome. If you can't decide which class to take, sample several by purchasing a class card good for six classes for only \$75. Visit www.kellystrayhorn.org or call 412-363-3000.

GARFIELD

Call for Artists

Tree Pittsburgh, 5427 Penn Ave., seeks artists to show work in their fifth annual fundraiser, Arbor Aid, to be held Saturday, Nov. 10. Arbor Aid is a one-night special event featuring art created from salvaged wood. Interested artists can call 412-362-6360 or find more information at www.treepittsburgh.org/arbor-aid.

BLOOMFIELD

Tutoring Available

Is your child struggling with learning in school? Consider Earthen Vessels Outreach and its tutoring program. All children and youths welcome, ages pre-K through high school. SAT and ACT test preparation. Reading, math and other subjects able to be tutored. Instruction can be one-on-one for \$25 an hour for 75 minutes or one-on-two for \$20 an hour for 75 minutes. Call for details: 412-414-2993.

Classifieds

For classified rates, please call 412-441-6915 or email bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org.

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Spanish Chamber Opera Graces East Liberty Church

By Margaret Graham

East Liberty Development, Inc.

East Liberty – Looking for an opportunity to see a chamber opera in East Liberty? Quantum Theatre is bringing Grammy Award-winning Ainadamar to the heart of the neighborhood Oct. 19 to Nov. 3.

Ainadamar tells the story of the friendship of Spanish poet and playwright Federico Garcia Lorca and his muse, Margarita Xirgu. With music direction by Andres Cladera and stage direction by Karla Boos, *Ainadamar* features many of the same performers and crew from *Maria de Buenos Aires*, a performance Quantum staged in East Liberty last year at the former YMCA. *Ainadamar* will be performed at East Liberty Presbyterian

Church at 116 S. Highland Ave. The opera will be sung in Spanish with English surtitles.

"Ainadamar came about as the artists from Maria de Buenos Aires looked for another piece to make together," said Boos, Quantum's Artistic Director. "I think [Ainadamar] will resonate with a wide range of audiences."

Quantum's first show in East Liberty was Lorca's play *Yerma*, so it's fitting to bring an opera about Lorca's life to the same neighborhood

The theater company is engaged in a Neighborhood Initiative, focused on neighborhoods along the Penn Avenue corridor. The production of *Ainadamar* will feature a Community Night for East Liberty residents and groups on Oct. 16.

"East Liberty has such an awesome sense of community, of people and organizations being aware of each other, sharing our common experience," said Boos. "So we love working here and contributing to that vibrancy." Quantum also calls East Liberty its home base, with offices located on N. Highland Avenue.

Quantum selected East Liberty Presbyterian Church as the venue because of specific architectural features that will serve the play well, including a stage and grand staircase.

"What a gorgeous building!" said Boos. "The architecture feels Spanish to us, with the slate floors, beautiful dark work, fancy iron work and balcony."

The show will be performed Oct. 19-Nov. 3 at 8 p.m. To purchase tickets, visit www.quantumtheatre.com or www.show-clix.com/event/229382. Also, be sure to check Quantum's website for more information regarding a Post-Show Discussion Night with the director and cast, Ladies' Night and a wine-tasting event called Grapenuts Night. ◆



ABOVE: Raquel Winnica Young, one of the performers in last year's "Maria de Buenos Aires," will return in Quantum Theatre's new production, "Ainadamar." Photo by Heather Mull

Arsenal PreK-5 Strikes International Theme

By Judith Flaherty Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5

Lawrenceville – "One School, Each Student's Story" was the theme of the annual Welcome Back Night at Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 on August 28.

Principal Ruthie Rea, staff and community members greeted students and their families and encouraged them to participate in a scavenger hunt to acknowledge the international environment of the school. Students searched for facts found on 20 displays representing the countries of the students. Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 is one of four "English as a Second Language" schools (ESL) within the Pittsburgh Public Schools District. Thirty-three percent of the students are ESL students speaking 12 different languages

Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 has experienced a very successful transition incorporating 277 students from Fort Pitt School and McCleary Early Childhood Center. The extra planning throughout the previous year included several opportunities for teachers, students and parents to meet, receive support and share concerns.

Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5 projects a new and positive image with the addition of five preschool classes, new staff members and different classrooms. The instructional focus of Arsenal will continue to be reading comprehension. Goals this year are to accelerate academic achievement, eliminate racial disparities and become a school of first choice. •





ABOVE: Mrs. Schubert's kindergarten class at Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5. Photo by Judith Flaherty

"Like" the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation on Facebook for the latest neighborhood information and community photos.