



The Bulletin

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Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

The East Liberty branch of Carnegie Library reopened in late August, after a year-long renovation. The main reading room is now bright and high-tech. For a list of October programs at this branch, see page 11.

Housing Plans To Be Shared at Public Meeting

With a number of housing initiatives underway or planned for Garfield in the next few years, representatives of several community organizations thought it would be a good idea to cover them in one evening meeting for residents and other interested parties. That meeting will be held at the Community Activity Center, 113 N. Pacific Avenue, on Thursday, October 7, starting at 6 p.m.

"There is so much that is happening that we thought could be brought together in one forum for those who want to see how they may be affected," said Rick Swartz, executive director of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, one of the hosts for the session. "We have homeownership developments on-going at several locations, and new rental housing being built now at the top of the hill in

by Joe Reuben
The Bulletin

of Penn Avenue."

Swartz believes that with further cuts in government spending "in the wind" at both the state and federal levels, the next two to three years could signal the end of an era that saw neighborhoods like Garfield transform themselves. "The public dollars leveraged much private investment activity. But if those dollars disappear, a good bit of privately-financed development will likely go as well," he says. "We want neighbors and others to know that we are trying to do as much as we can with the resources we have to set the neighborhood on a new course, in case the proverbial window of opportunity closes."

A light dinner will be provided to attendees.

Garfield, as well as future units planned for streets within three blocks

Penn Avenue Reconstruction Still Moving Forward

It's been exactly a year since the plan for Phase 1 of the Penn Avenue

by Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

Reconstruction Project was completed by the engineering firm of L.R. Kimball & Associates, but that doesn't mean the project has stalled.

The contract for the engineering and design phase of reconstruction has been weaving its way through city and state offices, undergoing some tweaks and adjustments. The hefty contract is now with the PennDOT Central Office in Harrisburg and is hopefully just weeks away from being signed, sealed and delivered, according to Patrick Hassett, Assistant Director of the Bureau of Transportation and Engineering of the Pittsburgh Department of Public Works.

"They have a gazillion contracts from all over the state," Hassett noted. "But we're now in the home stretch." Hassett said that there could be a final contract in place by November 1, allowing Kimball to move ahead with engineering and design. "Surveying will start after the contract is finalized," said Brian Krul, project manager for Kimball.

As previously reported in The Bulletin, Phase 1 of the corridor reconstruction will address the blocks between Mathilda and Evaline streets, which were determined through a comprehensive, year-long study of the avenue's infrastructure to be in greatest need of physical repair. A future Phase 2 will encompass Evaline through Aiken.

The scope of Phase 1 includes work on pavement reconstruction, such as curbs, sidewalks, and ADA

curb ramps; signage and pavement markings; bus shelters, bicycle racks and street furniture; street lighting and traffic signals; streetscaping elements; and safety improvements at intersections.

The bill for the four-block area will total \$5 million; construction is expected to begin in late 2011.

Kimball has itself undergone major changes since the engineering contract began making the rounds for approval. In July 2010, the firm was purchased by CDI Corporation, a Philadelphia-based, NYSE-traded company that provides engineering and IT outsourcing and professional staffing. Rick Genday, a Kimball Senior VP who has almost 30 years with the firm, told members of the Penn Avenue Reconstruction Committee (PARC) that the buy-out is "a good fit" for Kimball. "You will effectively see no change in the [Penn Avenue] project," Genday assured the committee. "Our management is still in place." Krul has been the manager since the project's inception, and will remain at the helm.

PARC, which consists of community representatives and city and state officials, will be meeting bimonthly "to keep Kimball focused and to act as a liaison between Kimball and the community," according to Hassett. In addition, the committee will be responsible for making final design decisions that "were left on the table" following the completion of the plan's recommendations for the corridor in October 2009.

The final deadline for all articles, ads, and Bulletin Board items for the November 2010 issue is **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2010**. Placement is first-come, first-served. For more information: 412-441-6915.

New CISP Supervisor Brings Passion to Her Job

by Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

Lisa Young has been in law enforcement for her entire career, but she says nothing has given her greater satisfaction than working with young people. This past summer, she got her dream job: She was named as supervisor of Garfield CISP (Community Intensive Supervision Program), a juvenile probation program, replacing retiring Rick Cokley.

Previously, Ms. Young worked as a Special Agent in the Attorney General's office and as a Domestic Relations Officer. "With adults, you hear the same stories over and over," she notes. "I need to know I'm being effectual." In 2005, she switched to the youth side of law enforcement, first working in the investigations unit of a program for serious offenders.

But she was still looking for an assignment that would be a good fit with her personal philosophy about juvenile probation. When she became a probation officer with Homewood CISP in 2006, she says she "fell in love with the program. It allows

young men to make restitution, to be accountable for their actions. There's a lot of hope, and that's what originally drew me into probation work."

With centers in five at-risk neighborhoods throughout the county, CISP is geared to young men aged 13 to 18. Some have spent time in detention and been released on probation; CISP acts as their "aftercare program" – a kind of reacclimation back into the community. Others come directly from court to get a "second chance," Ms. Young says. They live at home, which gives them the benefit of family support.

Participants are picked up directly after school at 3:30 p.m. and brought to the Garfield center. "Statistics show that's the time when young people can get into trouble," says Ms. Young.

At the center they take part in discussion groups on a variety of topics, such as "Keeping Yourself Alive," "Personal Hygiene," and "Maleness to Manhood," which looks at the difference between being physically male and being a man. The young people also have chores: CISP participants perform a variety of communi-

ty service tasks (including delivering 3,000 copies of *The Bulletin* to neighborhood churches, banks, and other public venues each month). "It's important to do service in the community where they committed the offense," Ms. Young notes. Restitution, she says, is a major component of the CISP program.

Other features of the program include recreation, tutoring, job counseling, and occasional field trips. For example, the young men and their supervisors recently made a trip to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, and have also visited the August Wilson Center in downtown Pittsburgh. The youths are served a three-course dinner before they leave for home. "Many of them come here hungry," Ms. Young explains.

Garfield CISP, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, has a good success rate, Ms. Young says – in fact, "people come from other places to see our program and model it." She acknowledges that she has "big shoes to fill" in taking over for Cokley.

Her goal in becoming supervisor



LISA YOUNG, NEW GARFIELD CISP SUPERVISOR

is simple: "I don't want to see repeat offenders." Most important, she wants parents "to take comfort in knowing their young men are in this program" – receiving structure, consistency, and nurturing so that they can start over and ultimately enjoy success in their lives.

EASTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD EMPLOYMENT CENTER HAPPENINGS

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Also, on a daily basis from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7:30 p.m., ENEC offers a variety of job preparation services, such as one-on-one job counseling and workplace dress and behavior tips. Call for more information.

Trees Coming to Black Street

It's official:

Expect a tree-lined Black Street this fall. The street trees will be planted

along both sides of Black Street between North Aiken Avenue and Negley Avenue.

Earlier this year, the Bloomfield Garfield Corporation, East Liberty Development Inc., and Negley Place partnered to submit a proposal to TreeVitalize Pittsburgh – a program of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, which gives trees to communities in Pittsburgh with the goal of planting 20,000 trees by 2012.

Black Street was chosen as the planting site for a number of reasons. A highly traveled road, the presence of trees there may help slow traffic

by Kathryn Vargas
Bloomfield-Garfield Corp.

and block street noise. It is also the dividing line between Garfield and East Liberty,

so the tree planting will have a positive impact on two communities. Additionally, the groups working to compile this application were able to get many of the local homeowners to sign on to the project, indicating that they want to have a street tree in front of their property.

The hope is to have as many community volunteers as possible come out to help plant the trees. Be on the lookout for the official tree planting date and time in next month's issue of *The Bulletin* – come join us in greening the neighborhood!

NEXT PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE MEETING

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

4:00 p.m.

Community Activity Center

113 North Pacific Avenue, Garfield

The first 15 minutes of the meeting are open to residents who wish to bring specific public safety issues to the attention of the committee.

“Dignity” Defines Concept of East End Community House

by Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

Forty years ago, an interfaith group of 18 local congregations founded East End Cooperative Ministry, with the simple goal of providing a nutritious meal to Peabody High School students on their way to school. Since then, EECM's mission has expanded significantly, creating the need for a building to bring together all the organization's services under one roof.

At present, EECM operates its various programs at about 15 locales scattered across the East End, including church basements and schools. But at the end of the month, the dream of a unified space for its services will move one step closer to reality, when EECM hosts a sign-unveiling at the construction site of the planned East End Community

House on Penn Circle in East Liberty.

Located at the corner of Penn Circle North and Penn Circle East, Community House is designed by local architect Stefani Danes of Perkins Eastman. A major capital campaign is already underway to raise funds for the facility, according to Board Vice President Phil Hallen, who chairs the campaign.



Courtesy EECM

SHOWN IN AN ARTIST'S RENDERING, THE EAST END COMMUNITY HOUSE ON PENN CIRCLE WILL FEATURE DIFFERENT WINGS SURROUNDING A CENTRAL COURTYARD.

The 56,000-square-foot, two-story structure will house EECM's diverse programs, which fall into three major categories: those geared toward the homeless; those combating hunger; and those for children and youth. With a central courtyard providing natural lighting for much of the building, the facility's design is bright, airy and efficient. Different wings with separate entrances delineate the various programs.

"Dignity" is a word both Hallen and David Dix, EECM's Development Director, use to describe the layout and planning of Community House. "We worked hard to stay away from an institutional look," explains Hallen.

One example of the careful planning is the food pantry. The current pantry serves 500 families a month with products donated by stores such as Whole Foods Market and Giant Eagle. The need for this vital service has increased in recent years with the downturn in the economy. "We're getting people from Shadyside at the food bank," Dix points out. With more space in the new facility, clients will have the option of shopping free of charge for foods they want instead of just receiving a bag of miscellaneous products they might not like. "It will allow them to shop for their food with dignity," says Dix.

Dix also points out the changes planned for the homeless shelter component of Community House. "Our homeless men's shelter is maxed out every night," he notes.

Currently housed in the basement of East Liberty Presbyterian Church, the shelter affords residents no privacy and must be used for other programs throughout the day, so the men must vacate the premises between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. The shelter wing of the new facility will be co-ed, operate 24/7, and incorporate recreational spaces and semi-private rooms and bathrooms.

The building will feature an educational wing for EECM's after-school and tutoring programs, as well as generous-sized rooms for community events. The Community House will also create a permanent space for the East End/East Liberty Historical Society, for exhibits and collections.

An on-site kitchen will lend ample space for preparing the thousands of free, hot meals EECM serves each year to homebound clients and in its soup kitchen, largely with the help of volunteers. On the roof terrace, a greenhouse will provide space for growing some of the food used to prepare these meals.

The project, says Hallen, has been about six or seven years in the planning stages. "If all goes according to plan," he notes, "construction should begin in fall 2011."

The East End Community House sign unveiling takes place on Friday, October 29, at 4 p.m., at the corner of Penn Circle North and Penn Circle East. For more information, or to learn about volunteering for EECM, call: 412-361-5549.

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The Bulletin is published by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corp. to:

- serve the incorporated territory of the BGC and surrounding communities
- report on activities and ideas affecting those communities
- offer an opportunity to express opinions and exchange ideas

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Don't forget to visit The Bulletin's blog at www.bgcbulletin.blogspot.com for the latest events and happenings!

SHOWCASE OF THE MONTH

Charm of Bloomfield House Is Set in Stone

Driving down the well-kept street of South Winebiddle, you can't help but notice the beautiful stone house at Number 403. This home was nominated as October's showcase because of the special charm it brings to the block.

Homeowners Shirley and Lois Placke are twin sisters who have lived in the home together for 22 years. They were born and raised in Bloomfield and had previously lived in apartments. However, their love of animals and desire to be able to own pets led them to decide to become homeowners. They are the third owners of this property, which was built in 1940, according to the Allegheny County Real Estate website.

Lois shared that the two always wanted to live in a stone house. When they heard that this property was available, they jumped at the opportunity. Since purchasing the house in 1988, they have



Kathryn Vargas/BGC

THIS STONE HOUSE ON SOUTH WINEBIDDLE DISPLAYS AN ELEGANT FACE TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

maintained the property's charm very well, adding an attractive new fence to the side and back yards. Maintenance of their flower gardens and other landscaping proj-

ects are regular activities.

Lois stated that she loves the neighborhood and her neighbors,

See **SHOWCASE**, page 12

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Despite an appeal filed in Common Pleas Court by Stanton Heights Community Organization (SHCO), The Neighborhood Academy continues to knock down trees and a plethora of animals have lost their habitat. (See "The Neighborhood Academy Breaks Ground for New Facility," *The Bulletin*, June 2010). Bulldozers are mercilessly destroying the acreage to build a high school for some 61 students, most of whom don't live in the area.

The appeal was filed in late August on behalf of residents whose homes abut the woodland site – including Rosecrest Drive, Somerville St., N. Aiken Ave., Rosecrest Place, and Schenley Manor Drive – and who are concerned about the value of their homes, traffic, noise levels, lighting and signage.

In filing the appeal, Attorney Arnold Horovitz says the City Zoning Administrator erred in its approval of Neighborhood Academy's plans to build on the woodland site.

There are more than 22 vacant

school sites available to The Neighborhood Academy. To ignore the appeal is a gross disrespect for the appeals system and for the residents who have legitimate concerns.

Jean Bryant
SHCO

The Neighborhood Academy responds:

For 10 years, The Neighborhood Academy (TNA) has counted being a part of Garfield and the revitalization of Penn Ave. as a blessing. Now we are excited to soon house our successful college-preparatory school in Stanton Heights. While acknowledging the concerns of some residents, we present these sometimes misunderstood facts:

Fact #1: The land, owned by The Vincentian Sisters of Demarillac, was private, not public property sold to TNA.

#2: TNA did not hide our intent. We presented architectural site plans and renderings to the Stanton Heights

Community Association in January of 2009 and Ms. Bryant (SHCO) that February.

#3: We are not ignoring the appeal. SHCO appealed Zoning's decision and lost, after which the City granted us a building permit.

#4: Admittedly, construction is messy, but it is not merciless destruction. In fact, we are leaving roughly 4 of 7.8 acres untouched. Trees are being cleared to build a park-like campus with an academic and athletic building, new trees, and meadows (www.theneighborhoodacademy.org).

#5: Good urban planning incorporates schools as essential assets to the health of communities and property values. Once open, TNA will be an excellent school for Stanton Heights' children and a resource for the entire community.

Josephine B. Moore
President and Co-founder
The Neighborhood Academy

Major East Liberty Construction Project Remains On "Target"

By Margaret Graham

East Liberty Development, Inc.

The skyline of the East End is about to change: Target is coming to East Liberty. Since breaking ground in July, construction is progressing smoothly.

"Construction is going well," said Kevin Mickens, Section 3 Compliance Coordinator at East Liberty Development, Inc. "Everything is on schedule."

The 143,000-square-foot store will be a two-story structure, making it one of only a few two-story Targets in the country, with parking located underneath the store. This configuration allows Target to occupy one-third of the land typically occupied by their one-story buildings. In addition, the store will be the only one in the nation to include windows on the sales floor.

The store will also feature bioswales, which are elements in the landscape designed to use storm water to water grass, plants and trees around the store. These will eliminate some of the runoff that goes to the sewer drains and into the city's rivers during storms.

The construction of Target is currently employing residents of the East End (see box this page), and when the store opens in July 2011 it will bring 250 jobs to the area, according to



Kevin Mickens/ELDI

Mickens. Currently, crews on-site are working on the installation of precast concrete columns and the steel to support the building's interior structure.

In addition to the construction of the Target store, work has begun on the two-way conversion of Penn Circle between Highland and Collins avenues. There will also be a reconfiguration of the intersection of Penn Circle and Penn Avenue to four-way instead of the current five-way design.

The new Target store won't just change the streetscape in East Liberty's business district, but will change how residents shop as well.

According to Skip Schwab, Grants and Development Director at ELDI, Target will provide residents in the city the same shopping convenience as their suburban counterparts.

"Target's first foray into the city of Pittsburgh will give residents easy access to the goods and services the store provides," he said. "It is a blessed day to welcome Target to the East End."

Building Trades Highlight the Construction of the Target Store

On July 29, representatives from the building trades and crafts, Target, and Bridges, the general contractor, provided career and occupational information to more than 200 individuals at the Kingsley Association as a kick-off for the beginning of the construction of the Target store in East Liberty.

Trade organizations from the Associated Builders & Contractors of Western PA (www.abcwpa.org), the Builders Guild (www.buildersguild.org), and Master Builders Association provided a comprehensive variety of resources and information regarding the construction industry, including free training, formal apprenticeships, occupational information, and outreach.

Since the Target store's development is providing a limited number of construction openings with pending subcontractors, this event was designed to promote career development and industry awareness of the variety of skills and career opportunities available in the field of construction.

If you are interested in the pursuing a career in the field of construction or in an opening with this project, contact kevin.mickens@eastliberty.org or 412-361-8061 x27 at ELDI for additional information.

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Quantum Theatre's Neighborhood Initiative Brings Premiere to Iron City Brewery

By Patrick Bowman
Lawrenceville Corporation

Quantum Theatre continues to celebrate its 20th year of bringing live theater to alternative venues across Pittsburgh with the premiere of Andrew Bovell's (author of *Speaking in Tongues*) latest work, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, at Iron City Brewery on Thursday, October 28.

Set in locations ranging from a London flat in 1959 to the coast of southern Australia in 2039, *When the Rain Stops Falling* stretches across time and place to weave an intricate story of seven people—bound together by blood and circumstance—trapped in patterns of love, betrayal, and secrecy.

The production launches Quantum Theatre's Neighborhood Initiative, a program designed to increase the economic impact in the communities where their productions are held. Over the course of the next 18 months, Quantum will take at least three projects to the "Quantum Corridor"—a swath of closely aligned neighborhoods surrounding Penn

Avenue and extending from Doughboy Square to Bakery Square, encompassing Lawrenceville, Bloomfield, Garfield, Friendship, and East Liberty.

Quantum has partnered with local real estate developers, business owners, and community development corporations to enable both the theater and the community to harness the benefit of repeat visits from the theater group's core audience (roughly 7,500 individuals over the course of the 18-month program). Information promoting the neighborhood's assets, including discounts for local restaurants and businesses, will be available to attendees and local schools will be participating in Quantum's educational programs with internships available to residents.

"The amazing neighborhood spaces where we make work have such an effect on us and our artists," said Quantum Theatre Artistic Director Karla Boos, "we want to have an equal positive effect on the neighborhoods that welcome us in for a time, by turning our hip audience onto its people, its goals, and its hidden treasures."

Quantum Theatre also hopes to expand its audience by introducing neighborhood residents to the breadth of its work with discounted tickets to all three shows, and invitations to special neighborhood events.

The October 28th premiere will serve as "Community Night" for the surrounding neighborhoods, featuring a special pre-show party hosted by Quantum, followed by a performance of the play with discounted tickets for residents. Visit www.quantumtheatre.com for ticket information, cast list and more about Quantum Theatre.



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

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Sojourner MOMS Yard Opens for Play on Black Street

By Susan Orr
Sojourner House

Sojourner House MOMS held a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony of MOMS Green on September 9, at 5525-5529 Black Street in East Liberty. City Councilman Patrick Dowd (District 7) performed the honors of cutting the ribbon and officially opening MOMS Green play yard.

MOMS Green was developed after Sojourner House, a residential rehabilitation facility for addicted mothers and their children, purchased two adjacent vacant lots from the City of Pittsburgh. Sojourner House's initial vision was to provide play space for the children of Sojourner MOMS, residential living quarters for families after mothers successfully complete the Sojourner House program.

The end result? MOMS Green now serves as a play yard for the children. Furthermore, in an effort to be environmentally mindful, MOMS Green was created out of recycled materials.

"It has been so heart-warming to witness the enthusiasm of over 150 volunteers from all over Pittsburgh as they worked to clean up the lots that were once strewn with debris from previous structures and transform them into a safe and beautiful place for our children to play," said Joann Cyganovich, Sojourner House Executive Director. "Remarkably, the stone path that meanders through the play yard was created from pieces of the buildings that once sat on these lots."

Based in East Liberty, Sojourner House MOMS (Motivation,



COUNCILMAN PATRICK DOWD HELPS CUT THE RIBBON ON THE SOJOURNER MOMS PLAY YARD.

Opportunities, Mentoring, & Spirituality) is a faith-based recovery program that offers permanent supportive housing for women and their children to break the intergenerational cycle. MOMS is a partnership of Sojourner House, East Liberty

Development, Inc., and the Negley Place Neighborhood Alliance. For more information, please call 412-361-1213, email jrcrawford@sojournerhousepa.org, or visit www.sojournerhousepa.org.

BGC Luncheon Showcases Collaboration of East End Groups

The dictionary defines the verb "collaborate" as follows: "to work together with others to achieve a common goal." In recognition of the growing collaboration of East End organizations, the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation will host a luncheon called "Collaborate" on November 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association.

In 2008, the BGC joined with other East End community organizations to form an alliance called the East End Partnership. Collectively, these organizations have been working to promote more livable communities through collaborative planning, programming and investment. In addition to the BGC, participants include Bloomfield Development Corporation, East Liberty Development, Inc., Friendship Development Associates, Lawrenceville Corporation, and Lawrenceville United.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of these six organizations, and also Garfield Jubilee Association, Pittsburgh's East End will eventually be a powerful regional driver for economic development through the next decade and beyond. Some of the exciting ideas that the partnership has been working on include: shared services, such as real estate, property and financial management; collaborative strate-

by Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

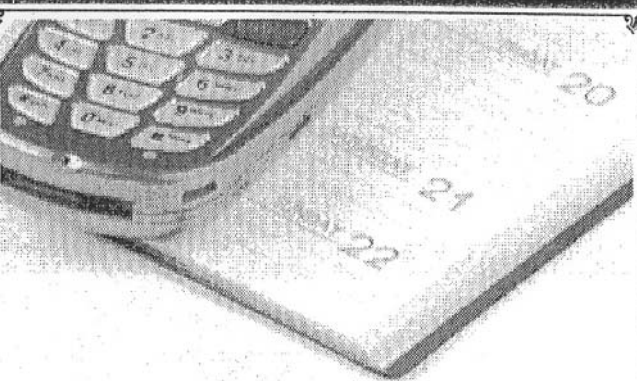
gies for funding large-scale projects across neighborhoods; coordination of arts-related development along historic Penn Avenue; and a comprehensive marketing and branding plan for the East End, featuring a combined calendar and communications vehicle as the centerpieces of the strategy.

Joining the BGC at the luncheon to celebrate the new collaboration will be Grant Oliphant, President and CEO of The Pittsburgh Foundation since March 2008, who will deliver the keynote address. Oliphant has a long history in the foundation world, having previously worked with The Heinz Endowments.

Also on tap for the event is the conferring of a Public Service Award to Mary Lou Tenenbaum, the longtime manager of the Real Estate Department in the city's Department of Finance.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$60 each, and include hors d'oeuvres and a three-course meal. P.J. Maloney, KQV newscaster and the Vice President of the BGC's board of directors, will emcee the affair.

Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are also available. For more information, please contact Aggie Brose, Deputy Director, at 412-441-6950 x15.



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Mural Work Begins on Family Resources Building



Be on the lookout for a mural going up on 2,400 square feet of wall space at the west end of the Family Resources building at 5877 Commerce Street. Painting has begun in earnest on a street scene that will be populated with portraits of people from East Liberty. Funded with a grant from the Sprout Fund, the mural is being painted by Brian Brown, a recent MFA graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, with assistance from Martin Swift. The mural combines Brown's concept with input from a community advisory committee that helped refine the final design. The mural is due to be completed by mid-October.

Public Allies Pittsburgh Trains Leaders

Some people look around and question the opportunity for change. Others

By Fernanda Crosby
Regional Internship Center Intern
Alicia Bekeny
Coro Pittsburgh Intern

Rick Flanagan, calls the AmeriCorps program a benefit to the community. "I highly commend Public

take initiative to create a just and equitable society.

Grounded in the conviction that "Everyone Leads," Public Allies Pittsburgh provides individuals an opportunity to receive leadership development training, grow professionally in a non-profit placement, and participate in local community service initiatives. Garfield is just an example of one community in which Public Allies Pittsburgh has worked with the community to make a difference. Earlier this year the Allies supported the Open Hand and Open Door Ministries during a community service, helped to facilitate the Garfield Advisory's Board's Family and Clean-Up Day, as well as had an Ally placed at the Bloomfield Garfield Corporation (BGC).

One success story for Public Allies Pittsburgh comes from Joseph Breems. As an Ally, Breems was placed with the BGC to work on various projects, from organizing the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) St. Margaret Health Partnership (a collaboration of six local schools and various healthcare providers who provide free health programming), to initiating new partnerships during his apprenticeship.

Breems describes his role as "eclectic," and says he has learned about challenges that are associated with community engagement. "I've learned that 'making things better' is more than just crusading into a community with a great idea, but rather listening, speaking, learning, and collaborating," Breems says.

Breems' supervisor and Youth Development Director of the BGC,

Allies Pittsburgh for its well-organized approach and the standard to which the program holds its Allies," he says.

Now an alum of the program, Breems believes Public Allies Pittsburgh will set the bar for his future employment.

"Public Allies Pittsburgh, definitely helped me better understand the hallmarks of good leadership and effective organization, and set standards for the kinds of places I want to work in the future," Breems states.

As the Bloomfield Garfield Corporation goes into its second year as a partner of Public Allies Pittsburgh, this year's Ally for the BGC will be Kirk Myers.

Myers believes Public Allies Pittsburgh "addresses solutions, and challenges everyone to be a leader in their community." He says he looks forward to challenging himself to learn and grow. He also hopes to "better understand non-profits and how they interact with the local community."

AmeriCorps Allies have the opportunity to earn a monthly stipend of \$1,400, gain an AmeriCorps Education Award, and receive healthcare, childcare and student loan deferment while expanding their network of diverse and passionate leaders within the Pittsburgh community.

If you are interested in becoming an Ally, contact Raquel R. Davila, Program Manager-Ally Recruitment, at raqueld@publicallies.org. For more information on how to apply to be a Public Allies Pittsburgh partner, please contact Matthew Bartko at matthewb@publicallies.org.

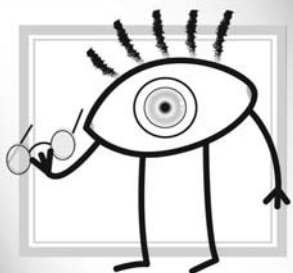
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www.bloomfield-garfield.org/Pages/Bulletin.html.

Giant Flowers To Sprout on Penn Avenue

by Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

Are they flower planters? Stadium seats? Fences? The answer to all these is "yes." The giant steel flowers that will soon be cropping up in the Penn Avenue arts district are part of a concerted effort to fill in the missing "teeth" of the corridor, says Jason Sauer, owner of Most Wanted Fine Art gallery.

Sauer, who has owned his building at 5015 Penn since 2006 and has actively volunteered with the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative for the same amount of time, is filling in for Matthew Galluzzo, who recently left his job as Penn Avenue arts district manager. (See related story on this page.) Sauer is volunteering his time until a decision is made about a permanent replacement for Galluzzo.

The Penn Avenue Arts Initiative's architectural screening project, known "Green & Screen," is part of a larger, long-term plan to overhaul the corridor and transform it into a visible arts district. (See article, page 1.) Using donated materials from Bayer, Alcoa, and Summit Academy in Butler, Pa., a school for delinquent teenage boys where Sauer used to teach, Sauer and students from the academy will be hoisting the giant flowers into place in front of empty, blighted lots, beginning at 4903 Penn. Funding is in place for five other screens along the corridor.

The flowers are made from the metal parts of old stadium seating, welded together and painted with many coats of colorful paint. The plastic seats constitute the "green" part of the project; they will be positioned in the center of the flowers and planted with non-invasive grasses and flowers. The giant metal flowers will sit atop 14-foot-high poles, with screening connecting them. The idea,



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

JASON SAUER WITH ONE OF THE ART FLOWERS THAT WILL BE PART OF "GREEN & SCREEN."

says Sauer, "is kind of an elaborate fence" that "screens" unsightly lots from public view.

The screens will be movable, to accommodate change and construction along the corridor. Sauer calls the project, which is being overseen by a volunteer collaborative called the Eco Designers Guild (ecodesignersguild.blogspot.com), "ambitious and huge." The hardest part, he says, will be getting the poles into place, but Summit students will be on hand to help. As part of their education, the students perform community service; the motto of the school is "Our job is to catch a kid doing something right."

Sauer says the first site has been prepped and is ready for installation to begin. He is excited about changes along Penn Avenue, which he also calls home; he lives in the two floors above his gallery. "It's raw," he says, when asked what he likes about the avenue. "I'm surrounded by art sympathizers. I've wanted a gallery for years. I tried to have one in Seattle, when I was there, and in Texas, but it didn't work out. Now I'm living my dream."

Meet Lawrenceville Corporation's New Executive Director

Four days into his job as the new Executive Director of the Lawrence-

ville Corporation (LC), Matt Galluzzo is already covering ground in the East End. When we spoke, he was hustling to answer my call, having just exited a meeting at the offices of East Liberty Development Inc.

Galluzzo was never averse to life in the trenches, though, having first cut his teeth at the neighborhood level in Cincinnati, and then as a project manager with the Hazelwood Initiative. Until the first week in September, Galluzzo was the Arts District Manager for the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative (PAAI), and co-coordinator of the East End Partnership. His success promoting Penn Avenue and the relationships he developed in both of these positions helped his candidacy for the Lawrenceville job.

Galluzzo gravitated toward the Lawrenceville Corporation for the chance to work in a neighborhood that has so many assets already in place, from the 16:62 Design Zone, to vibrant and distinct commercial districts in both Lower and Upper Lawrenceville, to the neighborhood's signature gateway, Doughboy Square. According to Galluzzo, the neighborhood has come a long way, but still has further to go. Lawrenceville is one of "two or three areas in Pittsburgh that can absorb turnover" from shifting demand, he says. Still, he estimates it will be a few years until the neighborhood finds its natural equilibrium.

When asked how working in an already prosperous and well-established

neighborhood will be different, he says that there are many parallels, despite surface differences. "Residents want a better quality of life," says Galluzzo, and that involves the same process no matter the location. He notes, however, the sheer number of development projects happening in Lawrenceville. The highest profile of these is the multi-parcel development surrounding Doughboy Square, which Galluzzo calls "important architecturally, from a functional standpoint, and significant for its place identity." For now, Galluzzo will spend his time getting up to speed on the project and learning from those already involved. LC's website also notes the past construction of 33 townhouses on Penn Avenue, the Streetface facade renovation program, and the reuse of the Lawrenceville Bathhouse.

And where will Lawrenceville be in 10 years? Galluzzo defers, as he says he did when asked the same question during the interview process. He offers that the future of Lawrenceville "is not up to me — it is up to the membership and stakeholders," whose vision he will work to bring to life. To that end, Galluzzo says he is "committed to being on the street." If his past work is any indication, it is very likely we will be seeing him on the street — on Butler or Penn, or somewhere in between.

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation United Way Contributor Choice #260



Since 1976, the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation has been a voice for change and improvement in the Bloomfield, Garfield, and Friendship neighborhoods. The BGC's staff, board, and volunteers work to achieve the physical revitalization of the community, improve its economic assets, and invest in the social well-being of its citizens. Please help the BGC to continue to be strong and responsive to our neighborhoods by directing your **United Way gift to Contributor Choice #260.**

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

The Bulletin Board publishes listings of volunteer opportunities, free or low-cost events and classes, announcements, fundraising events, and services that are of particular interest to our neighborhoods. Send announcements to Bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org by the 15th of each month. We do not accept listings on the phone. Information published on a space-available basis.

L'VILLE FARM STAND

The Farm Stand Project of the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank provides fresh, affordable produce to low-income neighborhoods that have limited access to grocery stores. The farm stands accept payment in cash, WIC and Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) checks, and Food Stamps/EBT. The East End farm stand is located at the Stephen Foster Center, 286 Main Street, in Lawrenceville, every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The stand operates every week through November 11.

FORBES FIELD STORIES

The Lawrenceville Historical Society Lecture Series has gained such a fine reputation that more and more organizations contact us for help in getting speakers for them. You, too, can see what the excitement is about. On October 21, join us for "Forbes Field Stories." Dan Bonk and Len Martin will give a history of the park and tell many of the best stories. This is our election month for the LHS, so we encourage members to come and vote the next year's board members. Location: Canterbury Place, McVay Auditorium (1st floor), 310 Fisk Street, Lawrenceville, at 7 p.m. For more information, e-mail us at info@LHS15201.org.

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS WORKSHOP

Join NeighborWorks Western Pa. in partnership with Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, West Penn Hospital and PNC Bank for a free presentation on the right steps toward homeownership. Saturday, October 9, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (lunch provided). BGC Activity Center, 113 North Pacific Avenue. To register, call 412-281-1100 x 121 or x129.

L'VILLE BLOCK WATCH

VSZT Blockwatch, 40th-50th Streets below Butler. Let your voice be heard. Meetings held the first Wednesday of every month: Oct. 6, Nov. 3, and Dec. 3 at 7 p.m., Lawrenceville United office, 4825 Butler Street

GIRL SCOUT TROOP

Do you have a daughter between the ages of 5 and 8 years old? Are you looking for something fun for them to do? If so, Girl Scouts may be the right choice. Come let your daughter experience friendship and empowerment, great field trips, and community and cultural events. Let your daughter become a Girl Scout. Contact Tamara Kilgore or Felisa Preston at gst53642@gmail.com, or 412-626-1844. Meetings are on Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Community Activity Center, 113 North Pacific Avenue. Parents are encouraged to volunteer also.

"CARING FOR FAMILY MEMBERS" CLASS

Vintage Adult Day Services & Senior Community Center, 401 North Highland Avenue, East Liberty (across from Home Depot), will offer a FREE 3-week class series on "Caring for Family Members with Memory Impairment." The class will meet on Thursdays from 12 Noon until 1 p.m., October 14 - 28. A variety of speakers will help you better understand memory impairment, community resources that are available to help, and the important role that you can play in supporting your loved one, while keeping your peace of mind. Space is limited. Preregistration required. Please call 412-361-5003 x104.

CCAC SCHOLARSHIPS

The US Department of Labor through the Pittsburgh Job Corps Center has 200 full scholarships available to the Community College of Allegheny County. These 100% tuition-paid scholarships are available to young persons 17 to 24 years of age. These are fully comprehensive, covering tuition, books, and a bus pass. All those enrolled also receive a monthly stipend for other expenses. Tutoring and academic support are also available. Students can use these scholarships to obtain a two-year Associate

Degree or in a one-year Certificate Program. More than 50 areas of study are available. New and current students can apply. Students do not have to reside at the Job Corps Center. Most students live at home and attend the CCAC campus of their choice. For more information, contact Job Corps at 412-441-8779 or email Comer.Josh@jobcorps.org.

DIABETES EXPO

On Saturday, November 6, the American Diabetes Association EXPO Pittsburgh will take place at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This free event includes activities for people of all ages - including a Youth Pavilion with exciting activities and information for the whole family. EXPO Pittsburgh also provides the community with a unique opportunity get free health screenings, participate in cooking demonstrations, talk to exhibitors and listen to leading experts about diabetes prevention and management. An exciting addition to this year's event is Janice Taylor, a nationally known Life and Wellness Coach whom Oprah Winfrey has termed "a kooky genius." Taylor will be presenting twice during the event. For more information about diabetes or the EXPO Pittsburgh, call 1-888-DIABETES (1-888-342-2383), or visit diabetes.org/EXPOPITTSBURGH.

LAWRENCEVILLE LITTLE FLEA

Visit the Lawrenceville Little Flea every Saturday in October (weather permitting) at the corner of Butler St. and 36th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Little Flea is a weekly outdoor marketplace featuring a rotating variety of flea, thrift, craft, food and cultural activities. We're actively seeking vendors, musicians and artists. For more info and to apply, visit lawrencevillelittleflea.blogspot.com or call 412-353-0109. The market closes its season October 30.

URBAN FARMS FORUM

Healcrest Urban Farm and Garfield Community Farm are hosting a Community Forum about the urban farms and gardens currently in Garfield. We will be discussing what has been and what is going to be happening with the community gardens

for next season including: rentable garden plots, volunteership, direct-produce sales to residents, FMNP/WIC checks to buy produce and understanding how the community feels about the gardens! Tuesday, October 19, at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Activity Center, 113 North Pacific Avenue. Please come out to share your opinion on the gardens or to sign-up to participate for next season. For further information contact: healcresturbanfarm@gmail.com.

STANTON HEIGHTS GET-TOGETHER

The Stanton Heights Community Organization is holding a Wine & Cheese Get-Together and Chinese Auction Friday, October 22, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Morningside VFW, 1820 Morningside Avenue, to help defray cost of legal fees in its fight to preserve R1-DL status for the neighborhood's residential areas. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call 412-361-6591.

HOME ENERGY SUPPORT GROUP

It takes more than spending money to fix a leaky home that is continually wasting precious energy. Join the Friendship Preservation Group's sustainability committee for three or four informal group meetings this fall to share know-how and resources available in Pittsburgh, including info on audits, contractors, rebates and tax credits. The group will be using the new website <http://www.energypa.com> and handouts. Contact communications@friendship-pgh.org for times and meeting places.

SHARE A RIDE

Instead of driving solo, consider sharing a ride, along with the costs of gas and parking. CommuteInfo is dedicated to increasing the number of commuters in Southwestern PA sharing a ride to work or school. It's free to register, and benefits include informational updates and, for those who join a "pool," participation in the Emergency Ride Homeservice. The CommuteInfo website includes a cost calculator where commuters can calculate the cost of their commute. Contact CommuteInfo at 1-888-819-6110 or register on-line at www.commuteinfo.org.

OCTOBER AT THE KELLY-STRAYHORN

The hypnotic dance stylings of Sidra Bell Dance New York (SBDNY) fill the Kelly-Strayhorn Theater stage, 5941 Penn Avenue, on Fri. and Sat., October 8 and 9, at 8 p.m. A free pre-show mixer begins at 6 p.m. Halloween Mayhem closes the month on October 30 from noon to 4 p.m. with a free, family-oriented Halloween party. The interactive afternoon of music, performances, and merriment will feature "artfullyGREEN," a hands-on workshop in which participants will re-use household items to make Halloween masks, costume pieces, and decorations. Details on the season, season memberships and related discounts, including special prices for groups and residents of zip code 15206, are available at www.kellystrayhorn.org or by calling 412-363-3000.

URBAN FOREST FUNDRAISER

Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest is excited to announce its annual fundraising event, "Arbor Aid 2010." Featuring art created from salvaged wood, Arbor Aid celebrates trees as a living resource, daily providing benefits to city residents, and encourages creativity in thinking about extending their useful lives as furniture, flooring, artwork, and beyond. Arbor Aid 2010 features artwork by more than 50 local artists and woodworkers! The event is Friday,

October 29, from 7 to 11 p.m. at Guardian Storage Solutions in the Strip District, 2839 Liberty Avenue, 6th floor. Featuring: Cello performance by Gordon Kirkwood, music from The Mon River Ramblers, local food and libations, a silent auction and, of course, incredible artwork. Exhibited artwork will be for sale, the proceeds of which will go toward the Urban Tree Forge. Exhibited artwork will be for sale, the proceeds of which will go toward the Urban Tree Forge. Tickets: \$20 for Tree Tenders, \$25 all others ahead of time, \$30 day of the event, available at www.pittsburghforest.org/arboraid starting October 1, or call 412-362-6360.

VIEW, CHEW & CHAT

Family movie night at Stanton Heights Church, 4721 Stanton Avenue, the first Friday of each month. Come join us October 1 at 7 p.m. Enjoy free popcorn and drinks. Bring your family and friends for a quality time with neighbors.

GLASS LOFTS RIBBON-CUTTING

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held on October 1 at 2 p.m. to celebrate the completion of the Glass Lofts project at 5491 Penn Avenue. The complex features 18 residential loft condominiums, office space, four artist studios and a restaurant space. For more information, visit www.glassloftspittsburgh.com.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY HAPPENINGS - OCTOBER

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - East Liberty Branch
130 S. Whitfield St. 412-363-8274

PreK Storytime

For ages 3-5. Thursdays, October 7, 14, 21, 28, 10:30 a.m..

Family Study Buddies

For students in grades K-5 with their parents. Saturday, October 2, 10 a.m. This event is a series of monthly programs for children and parents to learn to work together to encourage students' school success in kindergarten through fifth grade. Registration required.

Family Playshop

For ages 0-3 with parent. Fridays, October 8, 15, 22, 29, 10:30 a.m.

Kids Create: Origami

For ages 6-12, but adults are welcome too! Saturday, October 16, 3:30 p.m.

Celebrate Halloween at the Library

For families. Saturday, October 30, 2 p.m. Celebrate Halloween with the magic of TJ Hill followed by activity stations.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Lawrenceville Branch

279 Fisk St. 412-682-3668

Call for this month's programs.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Main PC Center

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Job Corps Takes Home the Silver at Academic Olympics



Courtesy PJCC

It was a mental race to the finish at the Regional Academic Olympics competition hosted by the Pittsburgh Job Corps Center in August. In the end, it was the team from the Shriver Job Corps in Massachusetts that took first place, while the Pittsburgh Job Corps placed second.

Tom Baker, Vice President for Programs at the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh, acted as moderator for the event. He said it was too close to call and had to wait for the scorekeepers to produce the results.

Contest questions were "short answer" and based on the GED and high school competency materials. Questions covered the subject areas of language arts, social studies, science, spelling and mathematics.

Pictured in the photo is the Pittsburgh Job Corps team, from left: Coach Chris Matich, William Bumbaugh, Lee Pontzer, Tyler Shaw, Amber Miller, Jake Patsches, Coach Karen Bobick, and Joe Reber.

SHOWCASE, from page 4

and thinks that everyone on the block does his or her part to keep the street looking beautiful. 403 South Winebiddle is a prime example of the hard work and care that residents have put into this street.

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