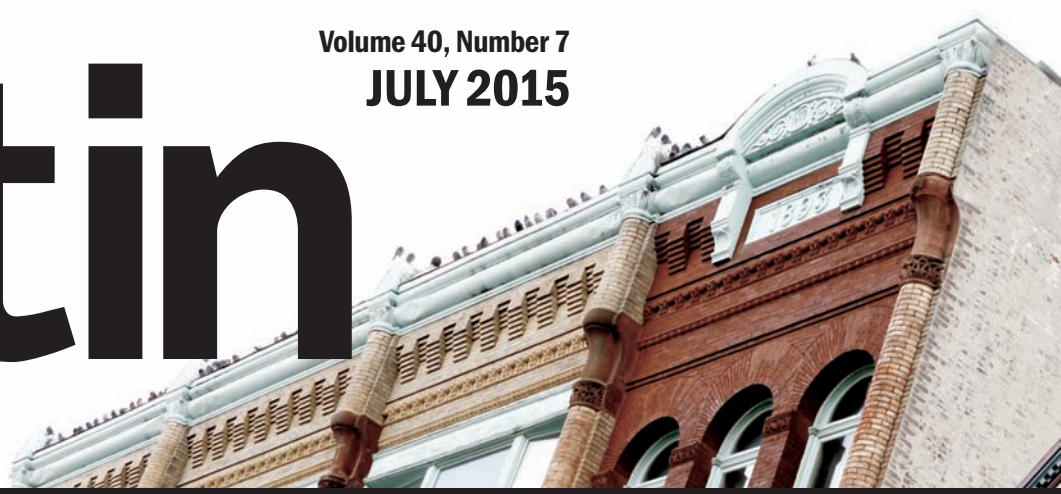


the Bulletin

Volume 40, Number 7
JULY 2015

Serving Bloomfield, Friendship, Garfield, East Liberty,
Lawrenceville, and Stanton Heights Since 1975



Garfield's Kite Hill Park gets a natural makeover

By Kim Dinh SCEC

Nestled in the hills of Garfield, Kite Hill Park is one of the neighborhood's most important green spaces. Community members are now pursuing a plan to make the green space more functional with a modern makeover.

Collaborating with the Garfield Community Action Team (GCAT), undergraduates from the Student Civic Engagement Council (SCEC) at the University of Pittsburgh are assisting in the revitalization efforts.

Students will work together with other volunteers from the community to remove the overgrowth, which has long obscured the fields of play, and make space for natural "play-scapes." Designed by green-thumbed architect Gary Cirrincione, these play-scapes incorporate natural elements into the creation of playgrounds.

Featuring an exploration garden and foot paths lined with log stumps, the redesigned Kite Hill Park will function like an urban oasis for all of Garfield. Volunteers have already begun repainting the basketball court – an often overlooked, yet crucial exercise environment

See **Kite Hill Park** | page 4



ABOVE: Winding up for a shot on goal, a water polo player keeps his eyes on the prize at Ammon Pool in the Hill District. This summer, Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) staff have organized a community water polo team as part of the City schools' "Summer Dreamers" program. Look to page 3 for a story about more community aquatics in action. Photo courtesy of Community Outreach Learning Hub (CLOH.org).

Young readers enjoy Little Free Libraries

By Andrew McKeon *The Bulletin*

East End - As the lazy summer days turn into long summer months, kids tend to get bored – just not so bored that they ever want to go to the library. But if that library looked like a big bird-

See **Little Free Libraries** | page 7

7

Doo Dah Days turns back the clock on Butler St.

By Tom Powers *Bulletin Contributor*

Lawrenceville - The tenth annual Stephen C. Foster Music and Heritage Festival or, as it is more affectionately known, "Doo Dah Days," will take place on Saturday, July 11, at the Butler Street

See **Doo Dah Days** | page 10

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ABOVE: Kareem Cooper volunteers as a young gardener for Kincaid Street Community Garden in Garfield, where he can always scour the Little Free Library for some horticultural how-to. Photo courtesy of Lydia Yoder.

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Mercy Health hosts open house at new facility

By Zandy Dudiak Pittsburgh Mercy Health System

BELOW: Visitors at the June 19 open house enjoy some of the artwork made by participants at the Pittsburgh Mercy Alternative Training and Employment Center. Photo by Archie Carpenter.



Oakland - As anyone passing by its large windows might have noticed, the building at 4749 Baum Blvd. is abuzz with new activity.

Located at the former site of Asia Carpet and Decorating, this spacious facility is now home to an innovative, blended program designed to meet the unique educational and employment needs of adults - aged eighteen and over - with intellectual disabilities.

Operated by Mercy Intellectual Disabilities Services (MIDS) with a staff of ten full-time employees, this Mercy Health program has outgrown its previous Shadyside location (5850 Centre Ave.) and found a facility boasting three times as much space on Baum Blvd.

On June 19, Pittsburgh Mercy Alternative Training and Employment Center (ATEC) hosted an open house celebration, welcoming the public to its new headquarters for the first time. Guests toured the facility's job training stations and learned about the center's ongoing community employment program, which currently provides specialized job placement and employment support services for more than 100 adults with intellectual disabilities.

Program director Sue Hardy is working hard to provide better support for adults in the 18-21 year-old, transitional age population. "We're actively collaborating with other providers to help transition this age group so they can further develop the work skills they need prior to graduation and become more fully prepared for successful community employment," she said.

Future plans include the addition of a sensory room, a taste of which was on full display at the open house. ATEC also looks to expand its vocational rehabilitation programming at the new facility while also establishing a program for those suffering from autism.

"To increase opportunities for community employment and promote successful transitions, job coaches will work with the individuals that PMHS serves at the center and in the community," Hardy said.

Even though the open house celebration has passed, ATEC continues reaching out to local adults with intellectual disabilities and keeping its doors open to the community.

To request an application for service or arrange a site visit, call 412-344-6400. For more information, visit www.pmhs.org. ♦

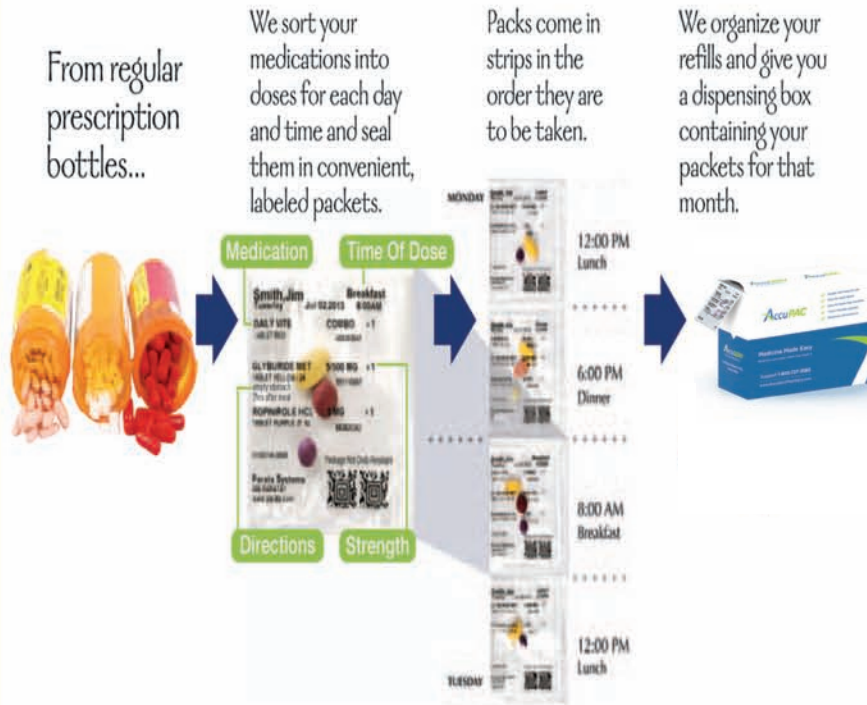


ABOVE: Stacy Fitzgerald, a Mercy Intellectual Disabilities Services staff member, experiences what a future sensory room might look like at the Baum Blvd. facility's open house. Photo by Archie Carpenter.

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news delivered to your inbox.



Water Polo

from page 1 **By Mark Rauterkus** Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Pittsburgh - In essence, sport is about competition. But, in practice, it is all about cooperation. Taking this sentiment to heart, students from local schools are now joining together to form a new varsity water polo program at Pittsburgh's Obama Academy (515 N. Highland Ave.).

Last month, administrators at several City schools received an invitation to help form a sports team that would allow students from these same schools to play water polo under one unified team banner in high school competitions. The invitation stated, "In past years, we've had more informal participation and called the team, 'Pittsburgh Combined.' This year, we'd love to

include students in a more robust program. More jobs and tighter relationships among the educational institutions will really help the city kids compete with other teams."

Students from University Prep Public School (3117 Centre Ave.) and Pittsburgh Science & Technology Academy (107 Thackeray Ave.) are already eligible to join Obama Academy's varsity swimming, basketball, and volleyball teams. The football team, known as "USO," already brings together players from these three schools..

Obama Academy's "Pittsburgh Combined" water polo team hopes to pull together a

BELOW: On the attack last year at Ammon Pool in the Hill District, a water polo player looks to assist teammates or find a clear avenue for a shot on goal during last year's program. Photo courtesy of Community Learning Outreach Hub (CLOH.org).



bigger pool of eligible athletes by including students from private schools, Catholic schools, charter schools, and smaller public schools.

When it comes to water polo, students at City schools enjoy far less opportunities than students in suburban settings. Local water polo advocates hope this new co-op model can help to grow the sport by bringing different schools and neighborhoods together here in the city.

Through the City schools' "Summer Dreamers" program, the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation has been offering water polo training for the past two summers. This year, over the course of

twenty-eight days, more than 150 students will learn to swim and play water polo for three hours a day.

Drawing upon the support of school administrators and parents, athletic directors and other school staff help train the aquatic athletes for life beyond the swimming pool. Applying skills honed by sports, more than a dozen students from the City's "Learn & Earn" summer youth employment program are participating in sponsored job trainings through the water polo program. These competitive students are now embracing cooperation, carrying athletic notions of teamwork with them into the professional world. ♦



ABOVE: Players from the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University join Summer Dreamers students and staff for community water polo competitions at Citiparks pools. Photo courtesy of Community Learning Outreach Hub (CLOH.org).

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Kite Hill Park

from page 1

for young people. Installation of LED lights will also provide better lighting throughout the park, illuminating the natural setting for local foot traffic.

Committed to civic engagement and volunteer efforts, the SCEC works to maximize the impact that Pitt students have on the community and, in return, the impact that the community has on Pitt students. For more information about the SCEC and the Office of PittServes, please visit <http://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/pittserves>. ♦

AT RIGHT: Volunteers from Jumpstart join forces to saw through a large stump at Kite Hill Park in Garfield. The park, which is located on the 5400 block of Hillcrest St., has people like Gary Cirrincione to thank for its ongoing makeover. Gary, an East Liberty resident, and others are trying to transform neglected aspects of the park into new, natural playscapes. Such dedicated volunteers have helped turn this way-place into a wonderful green space. Now that the park can breathe again, it won't be long before the kites are flying again. Photo courtesy of Gary Cirrincione.



Penn Avenue makes way for Mixtape

By Aggie Brose Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield — Katie Molchan and Elaina Holko, two Lawrenceville residents, are currently in the process of opening a dance lounge and event space called, “Mixtape,” at 4907 Penn Ave. Functioning as a juice bar by day, the venue will be available to rent for private events during evening hours. Molchan and Holko also plan to open Mixtape to the public as an art gallery and dance lounge, intending to be an active part of “Unblurred” on the first Fridays of each month.

Initially considering a BYOB establishment, Mixtape’s co-owners held a number of meetings with Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) staff to create a community agreement, which they signed on October 1, 2014. This agreement outlined their hours of operation, noise control policies, and security measures.

Molchan told *The Bulletin* that she and Holko have since made extensive renovations to the property. Contractors have installed a new HVAC system, built a new roof, and added walls with improved sound-dampening capacity. After considering their options, Molchan and Holko soon decided to scrap the BYOB idea and apply for a liquor

license. On June 2, they hosted an open meeting to discuss issues that might arise from their acquisition of a liquor license. Based on concerns from nearby neighbors, BGC staff worked out an addendum to their previous community agreement.

The co-owners responded to local residents’ fears of noise pollution by agreeing to close Mixtape’s front-facing, overhead door, or “nano-window,” by 10:00 p.m. when hosting public events as a dance lounge. Due diligent in their consideration of the surrounding community, these entrepreneurs aim to have their new Penn Ave. venue up and running by the end of the summer. For more information about Mixtape, visit www.mixtapepggh.com. ♦



ABOVE: Thanks to thorough effort from co-owners Katie Molchan and Elaina Holko, the property at 4907 Penn Ave. is looking more like a destination every day. Photo courtesy of Mixtape.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE



Mayor William Peduto
Chief Cameron McLay

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES ARE CRIMES OF OPPORTUNITY

If you take away the opportunity, you are less likely to become a victim.

Here are some helpful tips to make it harder for a burglar.

1. Keep shrubs trimmed back. If windows are visible, it's easier for neighbors or police to spot a broken window. Also, consider "thorny" shrubs. If it's painful to access a window over shrubs, that's a deterrent.

2. Consider an alarm system. Most insurance companies offer discounts for alarms. Some systems also monitor for fire.

3. Lock all doors and windows. On the subject of locks, invest in a good lock. Deadbolts with long bolts that terminate in a good, solid door frame makes breaking down a door a chore.

4. Watch what you throw out with the trash. If you've purchased a new TV, computer, or other expensive item, consider another way to dispose of the box. Can you cut up the box and place it in garbage bags? Can you take it to a recycle drop off spot?

5. Keep your garage door locked at all times. Not only does this prevent items from being stolen, it also takes away another sign that you're away. If you have a garage, use it to store your vehicles. This makes it harder for crooks to not only determine when you're home and when you're gone, but also helps prevent them from burglarizing vehicles.



Other Tips

- **When away for long periods of time, give the home a lived in look.** Keep on an inside light. Leave a radio or TV on at a conversational volume level. Have a neighbor pick up your paper and mail or call the post office & ask that your mail be held. Have a neighbor remove door hangers and other advertisements that pile up.
- **Consider a safe deposit box for jewelry storage,** especially expensive jewelry or jewelry you don't wear often.
- **Join or form a crime watch group and invite the police to your meetings.** This can be a powerful tool in your arsenal against crime.
- **Turn on exterior lighting after dark.** Use the same schedule for lighting when you're away that you do when you're home. Consider timers for exterior lights.

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Letter to the Editor

To *The Bulletin* editor:

As a Lawrenceville resident, I just wanted to say what a shame it is that Lauren Byrne, the executive director of Lawrenceville United, has been the target of the scurrilous attacks profiled in the media recently. For all the good that she has done for the community, it's a sad reflection on who it is that still calls Lawrenceville their "home."

While the large majority of residents would never stoop to such lows, there is still a minority who unfortunately harbor criminal intent towards those who want to keep Lawrenceville from becoming the next Strip District or Station Square. This element wants to see as many bars and clubs in operation as possible, until the place becomes saturated with them, regardless of the impact on those of us who want safety and stability to be the hallmarks of our community.

Lauren, with the support of her board, has faced down this element at community meetings and in the testimony she's given to city and state agencies. She's been nothing but open and direct. Those of us who want to see her stay and succeed in her efforts need to get behind her and tell this criminal element (and the friends they may have in the business community) that, eventually, we'll see them brought to justice for what they're doing.

A Plummer Street resident

Trouble in Lawrenceville



ABOVE: Former state Senator James Ferlo attends a Lawrenceville United (LU) that called for stepped-up investigations by the City police and the County District Attorney's Office into a campaign of vandalism and harassment directed against the organization's executive director, Lauren Byrne. Photo by Barry Werber.

CARL Program Home Loans

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ABOVE: Remnants of a burned out-truck belonging to Lauren Byrne, Executive Director of Lawrenceville United, a community organization in the Lawrenceville neighborhood. Byrne has been the target of vandalism and harassment by unidentified persons for the past eighteen months. Photo by Barry Werber.

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Health center awards summer scholarship

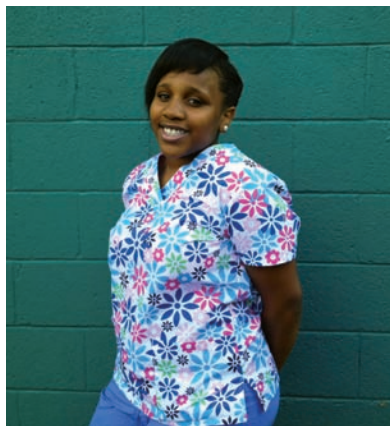
By Lakshmi Reddy, M.D. East End Community Health Center

Garfield - The East End Community Health Center (EECHC) (115 N. Negley Ave.) is proud to announce the first recipient of its foundational summer scholarship program. Shakiya Ruffin, who hails from Larimer, is an accomplished young woman and dedicated scholar. A rising senior at George Westinghouse High School, Ruffin has been an “excellent” addition to the health center’s staff, in the view of the center’s director, Dr. Dan Lapp.

The summer scholarship offers a wealth of hands-on experience, allowing Ruffin to further explore a career in the medical field. She will not only greet patients and book appointments, but also assist with medical records and learn fundamental clinical skills. Having already completed many prerequisite courses at the Community College of Allegheny County, Ruffin is well on her way to becoming a registered nurse. She complements her scholastic pursuits with her performances as a drum major for Westinghouse High School.

For nearly twenty years, the EECHC has followed its mission to not only provide medical care for the residents of the East End, but also to be a part of the community itself. Staff members understand that mentorship is necessary to help young people succeed, so they encourage growth by building positive relationships with young scholars like Ruffin.

Thanks to a generous donation from the Pittsburgh Indian Community & Friends 5K Walk/Run, this summer scholarship program can provide resources and guidance to help local students excel in the healthcare and medical fields. ♦



ABOVE: Summer scholar Shakiya Ruffin is dressed for success as she pursues a career in nursing at the East End Community Health Center (115 N. Negley Ave.) this summer. Photo by Lakshmi Reddy.

Little Free Libraries *from page 1*

house with stories inside, most kids would probably change their tune.

These peculiar libraries are popping up all over the world, let alone the United States, with momentum that speaks to a movement. Traditional reading initiatives ignore most of the invisible barriers to literacy, so book-lovers have taken it upon themselves to encourage young readers with a simple idea: walk-up, book exchange sites with no room for card catalogs or late fees.

With a universal motto of “Take a book, return a book,” these libraries often resemble small cottages or miniature gardening sheds with glass doors. The Little Free Library (LFL) nonprofit organization has inspired people to build and maintain more than 25,000 of these book exchanges.

Each LFL is overseen by a steward, be it a person or organization that cares for the books and the library structure itself. Lori Horowitz saw her first LFL years ago, in Chicago. Now that she stewards the Eastfield in Garfield, Horowitz reminisces fondly about how she became involved.

“I looked it up and saw that this whole organization promoted it and would help you get started,” she said. “My mom was an elementary school librarian in Pittsburgh Public Schools for 35 years. I’d wanted to do something to celebrate her legacy and saw this as the perfect idea.”

Crowd-funded and community-built, the Eastfield Little Free Library features five bookshelves for young readers of all kinds. Adults have also made an impact on the selection, turning the top shelf into a collection of titles well beyond the physical and mental reach of most children.



ABOVE: Some of the Little Free Libraries, like the Nicholas C. Ridge Library on Friendship Ave., are able to maintain high readership with a low physical impact. Photo by Andrew McKeon.



ABOVE: The Eastfield Little Free Library (5543 Black St.) stands not only as a beacon of learning, but also as a tribute to library legacy. Photo courtesy of Lori Horowitz.

Herself a steward, Lydia Yoder relishes the sense of discovery that comes with each library visit. “You never know what you’re going to find in there when you open the door,” she said. “There might be a title that you’ve never seen before.”

Yoder looks after the Garfield Little Free Library, a fruitful addition to the Kincaid Street Garden at 5543 Black St. She loves seeing children take books from the kid-friendly library and read them in the adjoining garden area.

On a recent walk by the Nicholas C. Ridge Library, a much smaller LFL on Friendship Ave., Yoder decided to perform a new kind of inter-library loan. “I looked inside and found the book, Mathilda. When I realized the kids living across from the Garfield Little Free Library would love it, I just took it on up the hill.”

Most LFLs are oriented around children’s literature, but not all stewards have a steady supply of kids’ books. “I don’t have any kids, so I didn’t have many kids’ books,” Horowitz said. “But, once I put the call out on social media and told people that book donations were welcome, I was flooded with tons of kids’ books.”

Horowitz admits that some of these titles haven’t even made it onto the shelves at Eastfield, but that’s a good sign; LFLs are most healthy when they can naturally cycle through titles without too much stewardship.

Now that they’ve got better access to books in their own neighborhoods, local kids are really adventuring to find them. “For the kids, it’s kind of exciting,” Yoder said. “It’s like going on a treasure hunt.”

Free designs for constructing a little library are available at LFL.org. ♦

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Neighborhood FOCUS

URA green-lights Garfield housing

By Rick Swartz *Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

With the votes taken by the board of the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) at its June 11 meeting, two much-anticipated housing developments in Garfield will likely begin construction by the fall.

The first relates to Phase II of the Garfield Glen rental development, which will add nineteen single-family homes to the neighborhood for working-class families. The development will be a mix of detached houses and townhouses, with rents priced at \$850/month or less. Phase I was completed in 2013 and brought forty-five new homes to the community for families with annual incomes below \$40,000. The developers, a partnership of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) and S & A Homes, are acquiring another thirty-six parcels on Kincaid, Broad, and Dearborn St. for Phase II. Many are vacant, tax-delinquent properties the City has taken through its own foreclosure process, setting the stage for their sale to the BGC.

Getting Phase II to the starting gate has been difficult. The pricing for the construction of the homes came in \$800,000 over projections, forcing the developers to look for money to close the gap in a number of places. With the help of a grant from a local foundation and a pending loan from a nonprofit lender, Bridgeway Capital, the project has been able to identify where half of those missing funds will come from.

“Over \$60,000 must be spent just to ready the lot for the tiny house we intend to build.”

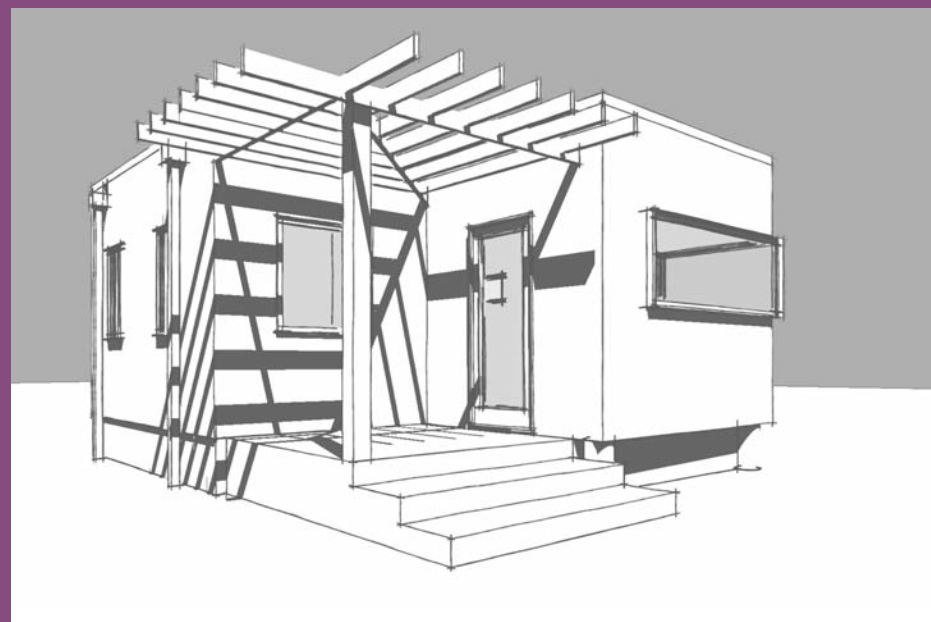
— Eve Picker, *cityLab, Inc.*

Still, Phase II would have stalled if the PA Housing Finance Agency had not agreed in April to allow the developers to return to it for an extra allocation of housing tax credits provided to the state by the federal government. Those tax credits will be used to bring the balance of the funds needed for the project to move forward. A private investor will “purchase” those credits, which enable them to reduce their taxable income for the next fifteen years. In return, the investor provides their own cash to the development, saving the developers from having to borrow the funds from other sources. The less debt there is in the deal, the greater the ability to hold rents at levels that can provide affordable housing for families who cannot afford to pay market-rate rents.

URA will make a \$548,000 permanent loan to Garfield Glen Phase II. At such time that the homes are sold, either to the occupants after fifteen years, or to outside parties after thirty years, the URA can then be repaid. It will also make a so-called “bridge” loan for \$495,000 at 3% interest that the developers can use until such time that the equity capital from the private investor arrives in the project. The sales prices to the occupants in year 2031 would be an estimated \$60,000 to \$65,000 on average.

“We are fortunate to have such a reliable funder in the Urban Redevelopment Authority,” Andy Haines, a vice-president with S & A Homes told *The Bulletin* prior to the URA board meeting. “You don’t always find that level of cooperation in other parts of the state.”

The second action taken by the URA involved approval of a \$49,000 repayable grant to the nonprofit developer of the first “tiny” house in Garfield. That developer, cityLab, Inc.,



ABOVE: Rendering of a 340 square-foot home (with basement) intended for site in the 200 block of N. Atlantic Ave. in Garfield. Image courtesy of cityLab, Inc.

has spent the better part of two years trying to put together a feasible plan to build a 340 square-foot home somewhere in the neighborhood. But construction estimates have soared well over \$100,000, much to the surprise of cityLab and others. Eve Picker, cityLab’s president, told the URA board at its June meeting that the higher cost is influenced by the fact that “over \$60,000 will have to be spent just to ready the lot for the house we intend to build.”

With a total development cost now pegged at \$190,000, Picker has had to turn elsewhere for funding to be able to keep the sales price for the home from starting above the targeted price of \$99,500 set by cityLab last winter. Grants for the project have been sought from Neighborhood Allies and the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation. Picker is also using a new, online equity financing platform known as “Small Change” to secure \$97,500 for the project. That money, while not a loan from a traditional lender, will have to be repaid when the home is sold. Picker estimates the mortgage payment for a buyer could be as low as \$825/month if the \$99,500 sales price holds.

The tiny house development could be one strategy to fill in smaller lots in the neighborhood with homes owned by their occupants. A number of Garfield residents who participated in the 2010’s development of a 20-year housing and land use plan for the neighborhood asked that homeownership development remain a priority for the future.

The BGC recently completed construction on the last of forty-eight new houses in Garfield that allowed families earning as little as \$35,000 annually to become homeowners. Most mortgage lenders would require a homebuyer to earn closer to \$40,000 in order to be able to afford an \$825/month payment on a tiny house. Picker told the URA board she believes that “when compared to projects like Bakery Square 2.0, with studio apartments renting for \$1,300 or more, a tiny home could look like a real bargain.” ♦

BELOW: Rendering of side-by-side houses to be built as part of the Garfield Glen Phase II. Image courtesy of Lami-Grubb Architects.



West Penn Hospital welcomes local students into the workforce

By Mallory Helbling Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Bloomfield - West Penn Hospital (WPH) is going above and beyond its commitment to work with local youths in Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) programs. Students participating in the "Learn & Earn" program, as well as the "In-School Youth" (ISY) and "Out-of-School Youth" (OSY) programs, are taking full advantage of WPH job trainings and internships.

Coordinator Lyndsey Rozzi can already see unlimited opportunity on the horizon for the ISY program. "There are so many potential jobs in the healthcare field," she said. "The career possibilities are endless." Rozzi is glad that her students now have more opportunities, like CPR trainings at WPH's Simulation, Teaching, and Academic Research (STAR) Center.

As ISY program participant Mircalene Valcin explained, "I'm glad to be placed at West Penn because I want to be a nurse in the future." She and other students are able

to learn even more about the field from healthcare experts, a valuable exchange that provides real insight for young professionals in-the-making. After completing their internship, a number of students are hired on as staff at the hospital. "By working hard, I was able to turn an internship into a full-time job," participant Jacuqese Foster said.

Community Projects Coordinator Wes Davis understands how important WPH is to the program's success. "West Penn buys into the partnership, from the top down," he said. "They've been nothing but generous, so we look forward to working together on future programming for ISY and OSY students."

The hospital's Volunteer Office welcomes such mutually beneficial relationships. Director of Volunteer Services Robin Nitkulinec and her co-worker, Darlene Bruni, are committed to not only placing

the youth, but also mentoring them. "It truly takes a team of people to make this all happen. I have great support from the senior leadership team here at WPH, as well as managers who are willing to mentor and accept the youths into their departments," Nitkulinec said.

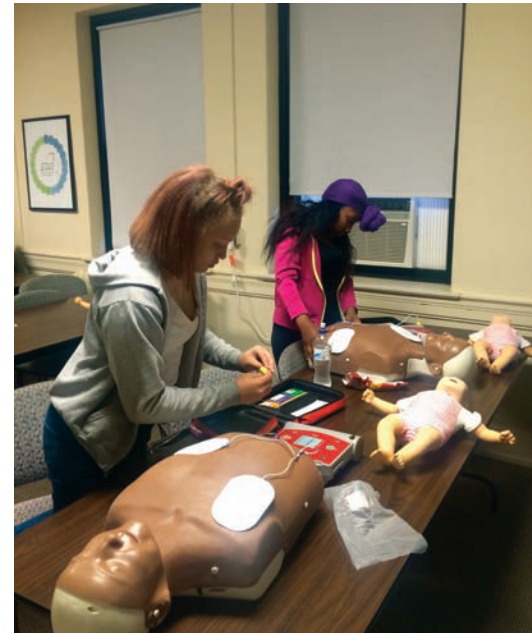
"This type of investment is mutually satisfying with great outcomes, so we're expanding the program to make great things happen," she noted.

Employing local talent for mutual benefit, WPH has naturally been very giving in its partnership with the BGC. Such a sustainable, community-oriented relationship requires a lot of work, not to mention lots of generosity.

"Whether it's the CEO, floor staff, or a representative from Human Resources, their employees are always willing to take the time for our young people," Youth Development Director Rick Flanagan said.

Sidney Parker spent a lot of time at WPH trainings before giving birth, and then landing a new job, at the very same hospital. Benefiting from

both the patient and provider's prospective, she knows how important healthcare is for young families. "I am thankful for this opportunity, she said. "Now, I am able to better provide for my family. This means a lot, especially as I get ready to start school in the fall." ♦



ABOVE: Local students demonstrate the ins-and-outs of proper CPR technique at West Penn Hospital (4815 Liberty Ave.). Specialized trainings are made available for young people interested in pursuing a career in healthcare. Photo courtesy of Mallory Helbling.

The Western PA Conservancy and Evolve Architecture have completed their report on open spaces in the upper part of Garfield, inventorying the sites and assessing their relative condition. It also contains input from members of the public who attended several community meetings. To view the report, visit www.bloomfield-garfield.org.

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DOO DAH DAYS *from page 1*

entrance to Allegheny Cemetery in Lawrenceville. Free and open to the general public from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., this festival pays tribute to Foster’s mid-nineteenth century glory days with period specific panache.

Foster, who was born in Lawrenceville in 1826, wrote more than 280 music compositions in his lifetime; his folkloric significance is immeasurable. Following his January 1864 death in New York City, Foster’s body was returned to Pittsburgh and he was laid to rest, close to home in Allegheny Cemetery. In collaboration with the Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association, the Lawrenceville Historical Society has put together a winning lineup of musical tributes to Foster’s legacy.

Four different groups will pay homage to Foster’s songbook and other period melodies as part of this year’s Doo Dah Days festivities. It all starts at 11:15 a.m. with a musical outfit of Civil War reenactors called, “Professor Guibert and the



ABOVE: Erika Gidley captures old-timey fashion using modern technology at Lawrenceville’s Doo Dah Days celebration. This year’s festivities will feature a time-traveling photo booth to complement musical performances. Photo by Tom Powers.

1913 Blue & Gray Reunion Band.” This brass and drum ensemble commemorates a 200-mile march that Peter Guibert took from Pittsburgh to Gettysburg for its fiftieth anniversary in 1913.

The ever-popular “Home Front,” a group of musicians that has appeared at every Doo Dah Days, returns again for a performance at 12:30 p.m. Hailing from Pennsylvania and Maryland, band members focus on music of the 1860s to reflect and illuminate the American civil war era for modern audiences. Their vast repertoire includes classic war songs, beloved Foster pieces, parlor music, and instrumental arrangements - featuring banjo, bones, and fiddle.

Taking the stage at 1:45 p.m., “AppalAsia” combines the influences of Appalachian and Asian music traditions with original composition and improvisation for a singular sound. Using dulcimer, banjo, erhu, and vocals, they will develop new interpretations of Foster’s music to provide a cross-cultural experience for the audience.

The “Bay Chamber Players,” a chamber

ensemble delivering loving treatments of Foster’s multi-instrumental classics, will close out the festivities with a performance at 3 p.m. Known for its ability to perform works in different folk, country, jazz, and classical styles, the ensemble is sure to satisfy musical tastes of all kinds.

Throughout the afternoon and between performances onstage, the Miracle Elixir Side Show - an old-fashioned medicine show right out of the Victorian era - will provide plenty of laughs and amazing stunts to entertain the crowds. Skilled docents will guide visitors on trolley tours through Allegheny

Cemetery, telling stories about many of the famous people buried there. Running from 11:30 a.m. until 2:45 p.m., these trolley tours require a small fee to defray operational costs.

As in the past, food vendors and historical re-enactors will be on hand to enhance this gala event. Everyone is invited to bring a lawn chair, kick back, and enjoy the fun as Doo Dah Days turns back the clock to honor Lawrenceville’s most legendary songwriter. ♦



ABOVE: If not for the handicap parking sign painted on the asphalt, one might think this Doo Dah Days tableau was photographed in the nineteenth century. From left to right are Greg Adams of the band, “Home Front” and reenactors Adam Ward and Kevin Tabor. Photo by Tom Powers.

Keep up with neighborhood events! Visit the
Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation’s news blog at
www.bloomfield-garfield.org



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Local poet publishes prize-winning work

By T.H. Finn *Bulletin Contributor*

Bloomfield – Long-time Bloomfield resident Terrence Chiusano recently published his award-winning book, *On Generation & Corruption: Poems*, to rave reviews.

A few years ago, the local author submitted his manuscript to the Poets Out Loud (POL) book series in an international competition awarding publication and honoraria to the two best up-and-coming writers.

Run in conjunction with Fordham University Press in New York City, the POL book series awarded Chiusano the 2013-2014 Editor's Prize and made plans to publish his seminal, full-length volume of poetry.

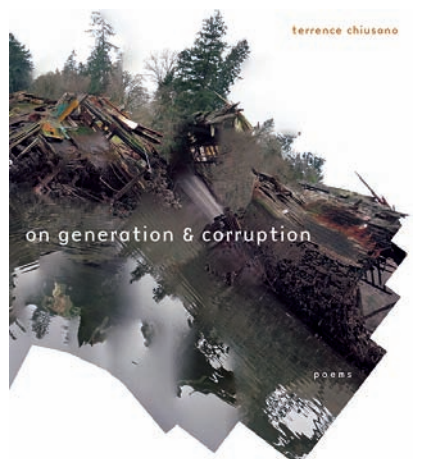
"Composed of several distinct, yet interwoven long poems, *On Generation & Corruption* is structured around the conceits of location and dislocation as it deconstructs a picture-postcard American town," Fordham University Press wrote.

Series editor Elisabeth Frost, a professor of English at Fordham, explains how cleverly the work communicates itself to readers. "It's based on the idea of story-telling, without ever actually recounting a story. It's a strange and wonderful book," she wrote in Fordham's newspaper, *The Observer*.

Through the use of procedural constraints and the incorporation of large amounts of prose, the book is also a kind of meditation on permanence and change - while at the same time an exploration of realism, narrative, and of the problem of how place is constructed on the page.

"Discursive, formally inventive, endlessly sharp-witted, and gorgeously written, it is one of the freshest and most unorthodox books (let alone first works) I have read in a very long time," Lynn Emanuel, professor of English at the University of Pittsburgh, wrote of the book.

On Generation & Corruption is currently available from Fordham University Press, as well as Amazon, Powell's, and other online retailers. Chiusano, who currently works at Carnegie Mellon University, has also published his poetry in *Colorado Review*, *CURA: A Literary Magazine of Art & Action*, and Australia's *Cordite Poetry Review*, among



ABOVE: Local author Terrence Chiusano's first work, a full-length volume of poetry, receives accolades from academics and casual readers alike. Image courtesy of Fordham University Press.

Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center hosts annual job fair

BELOW: Nearly a thousand area residents filed through Eastminster Presbyterian Church in East Liberty to attend a job fair on June 4. Employers from various business sectors reached out to prospective employees with information about full and part-time employment opportunities. Photo by Rick Flanagan.



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American Red Cross seeks volunteers

By Kevin D. Brown *American Red Cross of Western PA*

Pittsburgh - Ever since Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross (ARC) in 1881, the organization has relied upon legions of volunteers to provide disaster relief and recovery for those affected by unexpected tragedy.

Presently at 400,000 strong, volunteers account for ninety percent of the ARC workforce. Since no two volunteers are exactly alike, they apply themselves in different ways.

Each person has been shaped by unique life experiences that led them to pursuing various service opportunities. Volunteers are placed in positions that suit their experience, personalities, and skill sets. Patricia Waldinger, chief executive officer of the

ARC of Western Pennsylvania, understands how important these volunteers are to a humanitarian organization.

“We are always looking for people who want to be part of the Red Cross mission,” she said. “Volunteers are needed to work as disaster responders, community shelter workers, canvassing neighborhoods with fire safety information, and teaching disaster preparedness classes, among other opportunities.”

Disaster relief workers aid communities affected by disaster while also helping them prepare for future disasters. Others offer their services to the armed forces – providing members of the military, veterans, and their families with emergency communications and referrals to any available services.

Volunteers also work behind the scenes to assist the organization’s local and national office support, counsel public affairs, manage social media, and coordinate special events.

“They help us fulfill our life-saving mission every day, and we are grateful for their dedicated service,” Waldinger said. Those interested in continuing Clara Barton’s mission and becoming a volunteer can visit redcross.org or call 412-263-3100. ♦

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ABOVE: Good-spirited police officers and community members enjoy an impromptu dance session at the Zone 5 Open House, an event that brings families and officers together for the benefit of the community. Photo by Barry Werber.



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Assemble offers summer camps of all kinds

By Seth Gamson *Assemble*

Garfield - This summer, young creatives looking for a fun mix of science and art need look no further than Assemble (5125 Penn Ave.), where they can work hands-on with cutting edge technology and create real products to bring home and impress their parents. Running one-week courses through August 14th, Assemble's summer camp programming accommodates children from six to thirteen years old.

The "Urban Eco Explorers" program encourages exploration; kids conduct outdoor experiments with sun-sensitive paper, moss graffiti, energy harnessing devices, and other items. Punctuated by field trips and farm visits, the program teaches campers about environmental issues with a focus on local ecology and renewable energy.

Campers partaking in the "Superheroes Assemble" course get a chance to create their own superheroes by designing high-tech costumes and writing stories about their alter-egos. Brain-teasers like, "how can we make something fly?" or even, "how can we use bioengineering to harness the superpowers of nature?" help connect the dots between science and superheroes.

The final week of camp (August 10-14) transforms some of the older campers into practicing scientists. "So, You're a Scientist?" explores astronomy, biology, and genetic engineering (among other sciences) through hands-on experimentation.

Kids can discover the properties, and possibilities, of different materials on Saturdays (from 1 – 4 p.m.) at Assemble's M3 workshops. Drawing upon expertise in their chosen material, a local artist guides each learning session.

Oreen Cohen will teach children about the properties of metal, helping them trace the impressions of architecture using tooling aluminum and create silver topographic tapestries to learn more about the unique spaces that exist all around us.

Leading a workshop on cardboard, Evan Grimes will use a low-impact medium to produce highly creative results as he demonstrates how to create movable parts out of cardboard.

Fabienne Hudson engages her students with found objects in nature. Applying their knowledge of chemistry and UV light, they make cyanotype prints from natural materials found in Pittsburgh's backyard.

Children can create their very own elec-



ABOVE: Summer campers spring into action with their own, homemade alter-egos as part of the festivities for "Superheroes Assemble!" Photo courtesy of Assemble.

tronic musical instrument with the help of Jonathan Hodges, who teaches them about electricity and the circuit by experimenting with changing resistance levels. Students will also be able to make their own paper, discovering its many uses as they put together a mixed paper collage with Valerie Herrero.

As a means of reaching out to the local community, Assemble offers its programs at no cost to Garfield residents and also grants scholarships for some campers. For those living outside of the Garfield neighborhood, each week-long summer camp costs \$200 and the M3 workshops cost \$5 a session.

Reservations can be made in person, on Assemble's website (www.assemblepgh.org/programs/summer-camps-2015), or via email (info@assemblepgh.org). ♦

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Digital badges showcase youth achievements

By Adam Majewski *Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

Pittsburgh - The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) is bringing tablet technology into the classroom this summer. Thanks to support from the Sprout Fund and Pittsburgh's "City of Learning" initiative, kids enrolled in the City schools' "Summer Dreamers" Swim & Water Polo camp, as well as the Mindful Eating camp, will enjoy the perks of a modern learning environment that encourages technology literacy.

Plugging tablet technology into the classroom equation is part of the BGC's ongoing effort to improve education outcomes for young Pittsburghers. By providing the incentive, direction, and visibility for students to develop their talents, these tablets will provide a means of rewarding students' learning achievements outside of the classroom setting.

BELOW: Digital badges like these incentivize students to learn new skills and achieve even greater recognition for their accomplishments. Image courtesy of Community Learning Outreach Hub (CLOH.org).

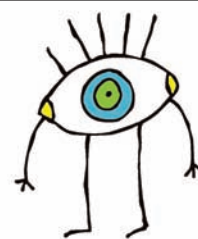


"Digital badges" are another way to showcase student achievements across the internet, a means of demonstrating their career readiness and aptitude to collaborate in multi-media projects. The Pittsburgh "City of Learning" effort is also tying in with other city-wide programs, like the "Learn & Earn" Summer Youth Employment Program, to spotlight students' progress through digital badges.

Another of the programs leading the way in this initiative is the Swim & Water Polo program, which uses the badges to incentivize its young learners and better prepare them for future fitness health and employment opportunities.

In aiming to dynamically improve the visibility of Pittsburgh Public School students' achievements outside the schoolroom, this program allows students to better display their skill sets across social media.

A newfangled solution to one of summer education's more traditional dilemmas, the digital badge plan provides an innovative way for students to build their skills' set diversify their talents and celebrate their accomplishments with an even broader segment of the larger community. ♦



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Local Events
Announcements

Classes
Fundraisers

July 3

FRIENDSHIP

Free HPV Vaccines

Latham Street Commons (30 Latham Street), situated between the 100 blocks of S. Aiken Ave. and S. Graham St., will host a mashup event from 5:30-8:30 p.m. that will include free hair-cuts from Jeffrey Smith Salon and free HPV vaccines for 9 to 18 year olds from the Bloomfield Garfield Family Health Center. You can also see chickens from Rent the Chicken and purchase artisan goods from Robin's Nest!

July 6

BLOOMFIELD

Baby 911 - Infant CPR and Safety

Class fills up quickly! Designed for parents and caregivers to develop skills in infant/child CPR, this 3-hour class also focuses on valuable safety considerations, "baby proofing" your home, SIDS and car safety. 6:00 – 9:00 pm, West Penn Hospital, Burstin Room. \$40 per person or \$75 per couple. Call 412.578.7030 to register. Note that, in order to hold your spot, you must complete registration and payment must be received.

July 9

LAWRENCEVILLE

Free Computer Class

The Carnegie Library of Lawrenceville and Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania are teaming up to offer a free computer workshop to area residents. The July 9 workshop will teach students how to utilize the Carnegie Library’s Pittsburgh Job Resource Databases. The library subscribes to many databases and has organized many online sources related to finding a job and researching a career. A selection of these resources will be demonstrated so that Pittsburghers can readily understand the job-finding opportunities. Classes are held at Goodwill’s Lawrenceville Workforce Development Center at 118 52nd Street. To register for classes, call 412-632-1842.

July 10

GARFIELD

“It’s Your Time” Youth Weekend

Starting Friday, July 10th with Young People’s Willing Workers at 6 p.m. and Youth Night Service at 7 p.m., Morningside C.O.G.I.C. will host a youth weekend presented by the Youth Department. Activities continue on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with an Outdoor Youth Rally featuring refreshments, games, face painting, mimes, dancing, singing, an open mic, and speakers. Sunday will begin with 9:30 Sunday School and continue with a Youth Day service at 10:30. Don’t miss the fun! Come join us at 5173 Dearborn Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15224.

July 11

MANCHESTER

Tree Tender Classes

Tree Tenders are making a difference in Pittsburgh, planting trees and caring for existing ones--ensuring a healthy urban forest for generations to come. Tree Tenders take an 8 hour course and learn about urban forestry practices, tree biology and health, proper planting, pruning, and maintenance, and lead their communities in organizing tree plantings and tree care.

Time: 9am-4pm \ Cost: \$40: includes registration, materials, light food, and instruction.

Scholarships are available.

Contact Joe@treepittsburgh.org or call 412-781-TREE (8733) for more information

July 12

GARFIELD

Old Time Gospel Musical

Morningside C.O.G.I.C., at 5173 Dearborn Street, is proud to present Old Time Gospel Musical at 3:30 p.m. Dinners will be sold in the Fellowship Hall. Please note that all proceeds from the event will benefit the Women’s Christian Council and the Community Day Special Project!

July 19

GARFIELD

It’s Revival Time!

Evangelist Regina Bryant will host a one-night revival at Morningside C.O.G.I.C., 5173 Dearborn Street. Activities start at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Revive and restore us, O Lord God Almighty!

July 21

GARFIELD

Garfield Community Roundtable

Garfield residents are encouraged to attend a community round table discussion in the Garfield Commons Pride Center at 242 Fern Street, 6:00 p.m. Attendees will discuss history, concerns, and new ideas with other Garfield neighbors.

July 23

LAWRENCEVILLE

Basic Email Class

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Lawrenceville and Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania are teaming up to offer free computer workshops to area residents. The Basic Email Class will teach students how to sign up an email account, as well as how to send, reply, and forward messages. Students will also be taught how to work with email attachments. Classes are held at Goodwill’s Lawrenceville Workforce Development Center at 118 52nd Street. To register, call 412-632-1842.

July 25

FRIENDSHIP

Friendship Yard Sale

The annual Friendship Yard Sale will be held from 8 a.m.- 2 p. m. on Saturday, July 25. Yards sale maps can be picked up at Baum Grove (Baum Blvd and S. Fairmount St.) starting at 8 a.m. More information about the yard sale can be found online at <http://friendshipyardsale.blogspot.com>

July 31

LAWRENCEVILLE

Affordable Accessibility Solutions

Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act by hosting an open house to showcase low-cost and no-cost accommodation ideas. Accessible technologies and adaptive products can help people with disabilities live and work more independently. The public is invited to discover how affordable these solutions can be on Friday, July 31, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Goodwill’s Workforce Development Center at 118 52nd Street in Lawrenceville. This event is free and no pre-registration is required. For more information contact adrienne.tolentino@goodwillswpa.org or 412-632-1877.

Ongoing

MULTIPLE NEIGHBORHOODS/ CITY-WIDE

Summer Credit Recovery Program

Does your high school student have failed school credits? Neighborhood Learning Alliance (NLA) and Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) will operate credit recovery activities this summer to help students with failed credits get back on track towards graduating from high school. To determine whether or not your high school student needs to take part in these credit recovery programs, call the NLA at 412-385-3356.

In Search Of...

Looking for persons who lived in or around the Pittsburgh community in the early and mid 1940s who may have visited the Forsythe Log House . It was near the corner of Penn and Negley Avenues and is a subject of great interest to some. If anyone remembers the landmark, please contact Lyle Matey at (412) 821-8602.

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 May issue are due **Wednesday, July 15**. Submit listings using our online form at http://bit.ly/bulletin_submit.

Volunteer Opportunities & Services

LAWRENCEVILLE

Weekly Dinner

Beginning Wednesday June 17th, the Lawrenceville Community Organic Garden will be hosting a weekly dinner for all children ages 18 and under. Through an alliance with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Food Security Partnership and the United Way of Allegheny County, the Community Garden will be home to all manner of food and activities from 6-8 PM every Wednesday evening. Bring your appetites and come join the fun!

GARFIELD

Sojourner House

Sojourner House offers treatment for women, 18 years or older, who have at least one child 12 years or younger. We also offer treatment for those women who are actively seeking custody of a child, or are currently pregnant. The Single County Authority and providers that serve the injection drug abuse population shall give preference to treatment as follows: firstly, pregnant, injection drug users; secondly, pregnant substance users; thirdly, injection drug users; and all others. For more information, call 412-441-7783.

BLOOMFIELD

Bloomfield Saturday Market

Every Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., enjoy a wide variety of farmers and food vendors, free live music, cooking demonstrations, and health activities by Allegheny Health Network/West Penn Hospital. SNAP benefits are accepted at the red information tent to allow even more shoppers access to the wonderful wares offered at the market.

EAST LIBERTY

Let's Speak English

If English is not your first language and you would like a place to practice, come to the Library. Meet other non-native English speakers for a friendly, low-stress conversation. Join us at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - East Liberty on Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Camp Cadet Application

The Allegheny County Camp Cadet program is accepting applications now through July 15 for its August 2015 program. Any boy or girl who resides in Allegheny County who is between the ages of 12 and 14 (and in good physical condition) is encouraged to apply. Allegheny County Camp Cadet is a non-profit, charitable organization that is funded by contributions from the community and is free to attendees. A mini-police academy program, Camp Cadet is designed to provide a better community understanding of law enforcement activities while simulating an atmosphere similar to a police training academy. For more information, please come and visit www.alleghenycountycampcadet.org. You can also contact Officer Mike Spagnoletti, Co-Director of Camp Cadet, at 412-473-1322 or via e-mail at mspagnoletti@county.allegheny.pa.us for an application or to receive more information about this special program.

Little Learners

Come to the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Lawrenceville, 279 Fisk St., every Wednesday at 6 p.m. for family playtime. Using a wide array of age-appropriate toys, little learners will experience something exciting with their caregivers at their sides. Recommended for newborns to 3-year-olds and their families.

Teen Time

Come to the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Lawrenceville, 279 Fisk St., every Monday at 4:30 p.m. for Teen Time. Play Xbox 360 or Xbox One? We do it at Teen Time. Make movies? We do it at Teen Time. Play music? We do it at Teen Time. Just hang out? We do it at Teen Time.

GARFIELD

Garden in Garfield

Are you a Garfield resident looking to grow your own food this year? At Kincaid Street Community Garden you can adopt a plot, volunteer, or participate in a number of community-oriented events. Leave a message at 412-450-0371 to learn more or visit gcatpgh.com/kincaid-gardens.

Public Allies Recruitment

The Public Allies Pittsburgh is a 10 month AmeriCorps program with full-time employment, professional development, and community service. Information sessions are held on July 11, at 1 p.m., July 15, at 5 p.m., and July 25, at 1 p.m., All sessions are held at Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, 5321 Penn Ave., RSVP to michaelb@publicallies.org or call 412-206-9849. For more information visit www.publicallies.org/pittsburgh

S&B Sewing Circle

This community gathering takes place on the third Monday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Assemble, 5125 Penn Ave. Participants – adults only, please – can bring a knitting, sewing, or crafting project to work on, and a dish to share. This event is BYOB.

Night Market Vendors

Garfield Night Market was a success last year, and it has already begun growing this season. If you are a vendor, or are interested in becoming a vendor, send an email to garfieldnightmarket@gmail.com. Also, stay tuned to <http://garfieldnightmarket.org> for updates about market activities. We look forward to seeing everyone out on the street again this year.

Interest-Free Loans for Allegheny County Residents

Many local residents are struggling to finance credit cards, medical bills, home repair, college tuition, automobiles, and other living expenses. The Hebrew Free Loan Association (HFLA), a local nonprofit organization, is helping to defray these and other expenses by offering interest-free loans (on a non-sectarian basis) to qualified residents.

Pittsburgh's HFLA, which was founded in 1887 and is now based in Greenfield, is the oldest of forty such 'micro-lending' agencies in the country. "We welcome residents of Bloomfield, Garfield, and other surrounding neighborhoods to contact us," said Aviva Lubowsky, one of HFLA's directors. "We live in challenging financial times, and we are here to help."

Borrowers have requested loans for many different reasons: small business needs, vehicle purchase or repair, adoption, debt consolidation, family emergencies, fertility treatment, weddings, and funerals, just to name a few. Loans are not offered to help cover living expenses such as rent, utilities, or car payments. To qualify for a loan through HFLA, candidates must reside in Allegheny County and maintain a valid source of income. First-time borrowers also require a cosigner – another county resident who is currently employed, owns a home, and has established good credit.

By offering interest-free loans to people who may not qualify for assistance through other institutions, HFLA helps local residents achieve their goals while retaining financial stability and independence. For more information on how to apply, please visit www.hflapgh.org. Potential borrowers may also email any questions to info@hflapgh.org or call 412-422-8868 to schedule a confidential appointment with HFLA Board Members. ♦

LAWRENCEVILLE

Sunday Market

The Night Gallery hosts a market every Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Come to 4936 Harrison St. for artisan bread, fresh coffee, and amazing jewelry.

Adult Game Night

Join your neighbors at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Lawrenceville, 279 Fisk St., every Tuesday at 6 p.m. for board games, card games, or even video games. Participants must be 18 and up. Call 412-682-3668 for more information.

SHADYSIDE

Curious About Quakerism?

The Religious Society of Friends holds a "Meeting for Worship" each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. at 4836 Ellsworth Ave. Earlier arrival is encouraged, and all are welcome. Light refreshments and fellowship follow the service. For more information, call 412-683-2669 or visit www.quaker.org/pghpamm.

August Bulletin Deadline: July 15

Download advertising information: bit.ly/bulletin_ad

Download guidelines for stories, photos, and notices: bit.ly/bulletin_news



Think about It!

My God! How little do my countrymen know what precious blessing they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy.

-Thomas Jefferson



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Properties on Penn Avenue

Interested in buying/renting a property located on or around Penn Ave? Interested in selling/renting your own property located on or around Penn Ave? The Penn Avenue web site has a page dedicated to commercial and residential listings (www.pennavenue.org).

The properties listed represent those that we know to be available. If you would like your property listed on our site, please email details about the property, sale/rent price, approximate square footage, contact info, and photos (if available) to mainstreets@bloomfield-garfield.org. Please use "Property Listing" as the subject line. Note: The BGC is not a real estate agent and does not arrange or broker the sale/lease of any properties. Instead, the BGC seeks to facilitate a way for potential developers or investors to locate owners who may or may not be interested in selling or leasing their property.

Plans for Baum Blvd. Arby's raise concerns

By Rick Swartz Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Bloomfield - Arby's Restaurant Group, Inc. is asking the City to approve construction of a drive-through restaurant on a vacant tract of land at Baum Blvd. and Cypress St. in Bloomfield.

Because the property is located in what is designated by the City as a "Local Neighborhood Commercial District", the City requires a public hearing to consider several waivers to the zoning code that the project is seeking.

Based on a site plan submitted by Arby's to the City, the restaurant would be a one-story structure, with a driveway off of Cypress for vehicles to enter and exit the site. There would also be a driveway for vehicles to enter the site from Baum Blvd. Arby's will have fourteen off-street parking spaces for customers and employees.

Baum Boulevard is currently host to several restaurants within several blocks of the site that are similar in nature to what Arby's is proposing, among them Boston

Market and Wendy's. The site, next door to a Jiffy Lube outlet, will likely add to the amount of vehicle traffic using Cypress as an access point to Baum, and this has a few neighbors concerned.

Joe Wingenfeld, a Friendship resident, told *The Bulletin* recently, "It seems Baum Boulevard really doesn't have a neighborhood group that claims the corridor as its own, one that could push for better and higher uses for property."

"It sits on the fringe of several neighborhoods and, while there has been some advocacy around the design of larger projects, it appears Baum is going to remain an auto-centric, four-lane highway for the indefinite future. Projects like this will only serve to reinforce that image," he said.

The City's zoning board will hear the case on Thursday, July 16, at 10 a.m. in a first-floor conference room at 200 Ross Street, Downtown. The hearing is open to the public. ♦



ABOVE: Local veterans, church members, and Boy Scouts march down Penn Avenue as part of a Memorial Day service to commemorate fallen soldiers on May 25. Photo by Nancy Mahoney.



"Like" the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

on Facebook for the latest neighborhood information and community photos.

August Bulletin Deadline = July 15