



# The Bulletin

A Publication of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

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Volume 34, No. 3 Serving Bloomfield, Friendship, Garfield, East Liberty and Lawrenceville since 1975 March 2009

## Community group questions school board members on Peabody's fate

By Cecily D. Randolph  
*The Bulletin*

City school board members Tom Sumpter, Bill Isler, Randy Taylor, and Mark Brentley, Sr. met on February 4 in Garfield with a newly-formed advocacy group to discuss future plans for Pittsburgh Peabody High School in East Liberty.

The 55-member group, calling itself "Pittsburgh Peabody Stakeholders," has been organized by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation out of rising concerns that the roughly 500 students who now attend the school may be moved out to make way for a program once based at the shuttered Schenley High School in Oakland. That program, known as the International Baccalaureate (IB) and currently housed in the former Reizenstein Middle School in East Liberty, focuses more heavily on current national and world affairs and culture as students prepare for what will likely be post-secondary study at a college or university.

A committee appointed last year by city school Supt. Mark Roosevelt recently recommended Peabody as the permanent home for what could grow to be, by 2012, a 1,050-member student body under the IB banner. Peabody's current student body is drawn almost entirely from the neighborhoods of Garfield, East Liberty, Larimer, and Lincoln-Lemington.

The school board members listened intently at the BGC's Community Activity Center as different members of the group expressed their issues with the proposed change. Sumpter responded that any final determination about the use of the high school will be the board's to make. Nancy Kodman, director of the school district's Office of Strategic Initiatives, described to those in attendance the factors that will influence the decision of not only what occurs with the IB program, but also with the curriculum and operations of the existing high school.

"It's clear to most in our group that Peabody as presently constituted is not sustainable, given the problems it is having with student achievement, a high drop-out rate, and poor matriculation rate," said Richard Flanagan, youth development director for the BGC. "It is not the first choice for parents living in the more affluent parts of the East End that the school is intended to serve, such as Highland Park and Morningside. The question is how do we make Peabody a school of choice for parents in the East End, and even beyond, whose children won't be enrolled in the IB program?"

Flanagan and others at the meeting voiced the belief that without continued pressure from the community, the district might simply disperse Peabody's current population

see **PEABODY**  
*continued on page 3*

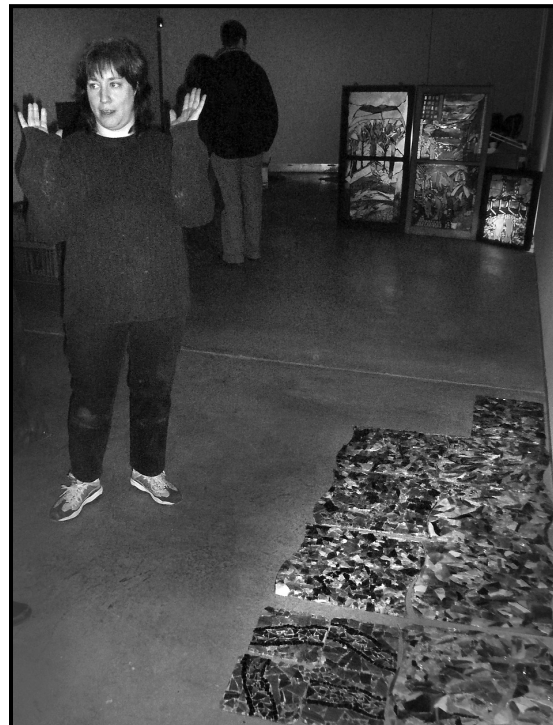
## Looking at Pittsburgh through multi-colored glasses

A very enthusiastic Daviea Davis describes the Neighborhood Mosaic Project currently underway at the Pittsburgh Glass Center. In a collaborative residency and exhibition between Davis, PGC, several schools and the community, Davis is working with local school students and community members at the Glass Center to "map" the city in mosaic glass, creating a 360-degree glass mosaic panorama of the unique characteristics and joys of the City of Pittsburgh. The show will be open to the public April 3 through June 14, 2009.

In the project, which is sponsored by the Multicultural Arts Institute, Construction Junction and Youghiogheny Glass, Davis and her helpers will use more than one million shards of colorful stained glass donated by Youghiogheny Glass. "This project isn't just about my perception of Pittsburgh. It's bigger than that. I want everyone to think about their neighborhood, what they love about it and have pride in their community," said Davis.

Everyone is invited to join Davis at PGC and help with the mosaic through

March 31. Davis will be working Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or during Penn Avenue Arts Initiative's next *Unblurred* event on Friday, March 6 from 6 to 9 p.m. .



Bulletin photos by Curt Chandler

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## PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE REPORT

### Narcotics and Vice Squad arrests in area during January

The following is a summary of arrests made in the Garfield and surrounding areas by city detectives with the narcotics and vice squads between Jan. 1 and Jan. 31, 2009.

On Jan. 5 at 12:45 p.m., the Western PA Fugitive Task Force arrested a suspect on a warrant in the 5400 block of Kincaid St. The 20-year old male was wanted for a robbery that took place at the Sunoco convenience store on N. Negley Ave. on Dec. 8, 2008. The suspect was able to post bond, but then failed to appear for a Jan. 8 preliminary hearing. He was re-arrested on Jan. 15.

On Jan. 9 at 7 p.m., vice detectives arrested a 30-year-old female for prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution at the intersection of Penn Ave. and N. Winebiddle St.

On Jan. 9 at 8 p.m., vice detectives arrested a 37-year-old female for prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution in the 700 block of Mellon St. She was observed flagging down vehicles at N. Negley Ave. and Rippey St., and was subsequently picked up by an undercover detective.

On Jan. 13 at noon, narcotics detectives arrested a 25-year-old male for possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance believed to be crack cocaine, and for violating the terms of his parole by possessing a firearm. The male was arrested after a search warrant was served on his place of residence in the 600 block of N. Euclid Ave.

On Jan. 22 at 10:25 p.m., narcotics detectives arrested a 31-year-old male and a 38-year old female in the 5100 block of Penn Ave. The two suspects were arrested after the detectives observed the male allegedly selling crack cocaine to the female.

On Jan. 27 at 11:21 a.m., narcotics detectives, working with a city SWAT team, arrested three males at a residence in the 5100 block of Broad St. for possession with intent to deliver marijuana, heroin, and crack cocaine. The SWAT team was called in due to the violent histories of one or more of the suspects, ages 33, 32, and 28. One suspect is an ex-convict who reportedly had a firearm in his possession.

On Jan. 27 at 9:57 p.m., vice detectives arrested a 33-year-old female

for prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution in the 4700 block of Penn Ave. She was observed flagging down vehicles in the 5700 block of Penn Ave., and was subsequently picked up by an undercover detective.

On Jan. 27 at 8:50 p.m., vice detectives arrested a 38-year-old female for prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution at the intersection of Penn Ave. and N. Fairmount St.

She was observed flagging down vehicles in that vicinity, and was subsequently picked up by an undercover detective.

On Jan. 27 at 10:20 p.m., vice detectives arrested a 34-year-old female for prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution at the intersection of Penn and N. Aiken Aves. She was observed flagging down vehicles in that vicinity, and was subsequently picked up by an undercover detective.



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Enrollment is now open for the 2009-2010 school year for students entering the 9th grade, and 10th and 11th grade (as space permits).





## Dinette conjures up fairy-tale visions... The Emperor's New Clothes

By Lisa Porter Werner  
*Bulletin Contributor*

After hearing all the glowing reviews since its opening last October, I was eager to try Dinette, East Side's new posh, but casual petite pizzeria and wine bar. Dinette was opened by Sonja Finn, who was schooled in California cuisine and recently returned to Pittsburgh after living in San Francisco.

Our party of four visited Dinette for an early dinner on a wintry Friday night. I wasn't surprised to find the teeny place packed (it seats about 35), but we were lucky to secure one of the sleek silver tables complimented by bright orange "Jasper Morrison" chairs. The décor is simple and modern, but its white walls, concrete slab floors and intensely bright lighting give it a sterile feeling.

We expected more on the menu than pizza and salad, but other than one soup selection and three dessert choices, that's it. Since numerous people have asked me what kind of "California cuisine" is served at Dinette, I must reiterate that it's a pizzeria.

We ordered a bottle of the Dolcetto di Dogliani, San Luigi, Pecchenino, Piedmont wine (\$32) and I started with the Caesar salad (\$8). The presentation of the salad was attractive and the romaine lettuce was fresh, but Dinette's own website says they serve "small plates" and they aren't kidding; there was barely any salad there. (I'm not someone who prefers quantity over quality and maintain that the prices at some restaurants are reasonable considering the quality of the food). We also ordered the butternut squash soup (\$8), topped with a swirl of crème fraîche and chili oil, which was creamy and sweet as expected, but kind of bland -- some salt and black pepper would have given it more flavor. A companion chose the beef carpaccio over arugula with baby beets, horse-radish cream and sherry-shallot vinaigrette (\$11) which I did not try, but she seemed to enjoy it.

We experienced a wave of sticker shock when we saw the tiny, thin-crust, what appeared to be 12-inch individual-serving pizzas served to our fellow diners. Surely the pizza must be out-of-this-world delicious if they're charging \$16 for a tiny pie that serves only one person.

A few years ago, my husband and I stood in a line that wrapped around several city blocks for a table at a lower Manhattan pizzeria to try what -- at the time -- was deemed, the "World's Best Pizza," by the Food Network. So we had no problem paying a few extra dollars to try the thin crust pizza at the eatery that had been "all the buzz" in our own backyard. If it was as good as the pizza we waited in line for in lower Manhattan, or even as good as the pizza at Piccolo Forno in Lawrenceville, we would be satisfied.

As we waited to order, we continued to eye the pizzas the servers were bringing out of the kitchen. The pizzas appeared to have either white or no tomato sauce on them. I prefer tomato sauce on my pizza so I asked the waitress to point out which ones on the menu were made with tomato sauce. She recommended the salt-cured anchovy pizza (\$14) adorned with jalapeno peppers, capers, mozzarella cheese and tomato sauce. She said it was one of her favorite pies and it sounded delicious, so we ordered two. The pizza crust was nice and crispy, the toppings were flavorful and created a pleasing combination of salt and a mildly hot spice, but the pizza was quite greasy. I had to dab the grease puddles away with my napkin before I could even taste it. The pizza only had a tiny line of sauce around its outer edge, making it taste somewhat dried out. I wanted to ask the server for a side of sauce, but she seemed to be the only waitress working during such a busy time and she never came back to our table to ask if we were enjoying our meals. We tried getting her attention to no avail.

Our group also tried the pizza topped with oyster and shitake mushrooms, pine nuts, truffled pecorino and mozzarella cheese (\$16). Again, the mushroom-and-cheese combination was flavorful and the crust was cooked perfectly, but there was a puddle of grease on top. The last pizza we tried was topped with prosciutto, arugula, parmigiano reggiano, mozzarella and tomato sauce (\$16). The salty prosciutto balanced nicely with the peppery arugula, but the tomato sauce was sparse, which, again, made the pizza seem too dry.

For dessert we tried the rice pudding with blueberries (\$6), a simple rice pudding with blueberries and lemon zest, which was a refreshing combination; and the sour cherry cake (\$6).

Dinette is quirky with a fun atmosphere located smack dab in the middle of a location where East End inhabitants crave new eateries. Clearly it is doing well, which means that many others find it appetizing and don't mind paying a premium price for pizza, but I do mind. So it disappoints me to say that although the produce was fresh and the pizza crust was done just right, it did not live up to our high expectations and our party left feeling as if the meal wasn't worth what we paid for it.

Apparently the owner's culinary skill isn't the only thing at Dinette that hails from San Francisco -- the prices do, too. The hefty price tag for our meal at Dinette was \$145.00, including tax, and we always tip at least 20%, which means we paid \$175.00 for this meal. Pizza this spendy should have knocked our socks off, but it didn't. Nonetheless, Dinette is a "must try" for those who love white pizza and don't mind splurging.

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## FDA welcomes new Executive Director

By Stacie Chandler  
*Interim Bulletin Editor*

When John Barrett started as the new Executive Director of Friendship Development Associates, Inc. last month, he was returning to his family's roots. With a father who grew up in Lawrenceville and a mother from Bloomfield, his ties to the East End go back a long way.

Barrett and his family live in Greentree, making him the first Executive Director who doesn't call Friendship home, but he believes that his fresh eye and regional perspective will bring a lot to the 20-year-old organization.

Barrett has a varied professional background. He received an MA in Public Policy Analysis and Administration from Duquesne University, has worked at the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, was the Director of Programs at the Local Government Academy and, most recently, was the Chief Administrator of the municipality of Murrysville.

While Barrett says he "enjoyed seeing government at work and learning how policy affects communities," he came to believe that "sprawling development is not sustainable" and in his new position he will be "on the right side of sprawl."

Barrett was initially drawn to the position by the organization's strength and vision. In challenging economic times such as these, he said, nonprofits need to be fluid and prepared to go in new directions when opportunities present themselves. He believes projects like the Glass Lofts and the new townhomes at 5000 Penn Avenue will be key to continuing the redevelopment momentum, and added that the Penn Avenue Corridor Plan is another key aspect of moving the community forward.

During his first week on the job, Barrett spent time meeting people from the community and other organizations, attending meetings and getting to know the neighborhood. After a tour of the neighborhood with FDA staff, he said he was particularly impressed by the style and originality of the community. "A lot of the buildings have such unique architecture and that's something for the organization to capitalize on." He was especially taken with some of the innovative live/work spaces along Penn Avenue. He says he went home and told his wife that it was impressive "how cool it can be to be here -- to live, work and have your social life" combined in one place.

## Birth Announcement

Dr. Danielle Staresinic of Lawrenceville Vision Care, her husband, Chuck Staresinic, and daughters Amelia (3) and Rosie (2) are pleased to announce the birth of Juliet Elise des Groseilliers Staresinic (6 lbs. 11 oz.) and Edward Charles des Groseilliers Staresinic (7 lbs. 10 oz.) on November 2, 2008. Dr. Staresnic reports that everyone is healthy and happy.

## Omissions/Corrections

We regret that one of our reviewer's favorite restaurants, Piccolo Forno at 3801 Butler St. in Lawrenceville, 412-622-0111 (BYOB), was omitted from our Valentine's Day Restaurant Guide.

The article on Avoiding Foreclosures in the February 2009 issue was written by Yvonne N. Zellars of Garfield Jubilee Association.

# The Bulletin

serving Bloomfield, Garfield, East Liberty,  
Friendship, and Lawrenceville since 1975



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

March 2009 • Vol. 34, No. 3

## Total circulation:

20,000 copies  
16,700 mailed  
3,300 dropped

## Editorial and Advertising Offices:

5149 Penn Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15224  
Phone: 412-441-6915  
Fax: 412-441-6956  
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Advertising: Martin Pochapin

Proofreading: Rick Swartz

Bookkeeper: Mary Anne Stevanus

Distribution: Garfield CISP

The opinions expressed herein are  
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All submissions to *The Bulletin* must include the writer's name, address and phone number. We welcome your letters, opinions, articles, and notices. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space. Manuscripts and photographs will be returned only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication, unless otherwise noted. *The Bulletin* is published monthly.

## We Would Like to Acknowledge

and thank our advertisers and the BGC's funding partners, including The Bank of New York Mellon, Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development, The United Way, National City Bank, Allegheny Valley Bank, Dollar Bank, PNC Bank, Citizens Bank, and the City of Pittsburgh.

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## BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD CORPORATION'S

# SHOWCASE PROPERTY

OF THE MONTH

Each month we highlight either property owners whose neglect hurts the neighborhood or those who have admirably maintained or renovated their properties. Properties are nominated by community members. To nominate a property for either Eyesore or Showcase Property of the Month, call Aggie Brose at 412-441-6950.

## Community pressure brings welcome change

Back in August 2008, the property at 4601 Friendship Avenue was nominated for *The Bulletin's* Eyesore Property of the Month by residents in the neighborhood. According to the Allegheny County Real Estate website, Dominic and Nancy Buccigrossi are the recorded owners. The building, located on a prominent intersection of the well-traveled Friendship Avenue, stuck out like a sore thumb amidst the many well-maintained homes surrounding it.

The property was reported to the City via the 311 service, and it came to light that the owner had received a number of citations over the years, with the most recent citation issued in May 2008. Mr. Buccigrossi appeared before the magistrate in September and was given until November to correct the problems.

Soon after the court appearance, the owner began repairs. As evidenced by the before and after pictures, the structure today is vastly improved in both safety and appearance. New aluminum accents draw attention to the recently updated and repaired building, now adding to, rather than detracting from, the landscape. A neighboring homeowner commented on how pleased he was about the change.

BGC appeared in court to represent the neighborhood's interest in improvements to the property and recently confirmed with the magistrate's office that all citations issued by the city's Bureau of Building Inspection were abated and the case discharged. BGC is also pleased with the outcome, and credits the local residents with initiating this neighborhood improvement.



The building at 4601 Friendship Ave. (above) has improved significantly since it was featured as our Eyesore of the Month in August 2008 (left). Nearby neighbors had called the BGC to complain that the building's appearance was not in keeping with the well-kept properties in the neighborhood (right).



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## HOUSING

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limits means homebuyers must meet income guidelines.

Unless leadership at city hall can find a way around this mandate, Swartz believes "these requirements will slow, if not prevent outright, the redevelopment of other neighborhoods across the city." Senator Ferlo echoed that view, asking if Zober and URA executive director Rob Stephany could lead a task force to work with the city's construction unions to persuade the state to waive union-scale wage rates on developments in "economically depressed" communities. Stephany said he and his staff would take a serious look at Ferlo's recommendation.

## U.R.A. okays financing for next round of new Garfield homes

In what admittedly was a difficult decision, the board of the city's Urban Redevelopment Authority approved a little over \$1.7 in financing for the construction of seven new Garfield homes at its February meeting. Although URA funds will complement loans from two area banks, the agency's subsidy provides substantially more in funding than was needed for earlier phases of the for-sale development. The detached units will feature three bedrooms, two baths, and either integral garages or rear parking pads.

Since 2002, 31 new homes have been built and sold by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, working in partnership with Garfield Jubilee Association. Due to the use of federal funds to finance the project, the BGC must now comply with the federal Davis-Bacon Wage Act, which requires union-scale rates for all laborers involved in the construction work. Tom Cummings, the URA's housing director, advised the URA board. According to BGC executive director Richard Swartz, the requirement will add over \$220,000 in costs, which applies not only to the homes themselves, but to sitework such as

**Joe Reuben**  
*Bulletin Staff Writer*

sidewalks, catch basins, driveways, and sewer and water lines. A sec-

ond stipulation requires that the homes meet federal EnergyStar standards, increasing the construction budget by another \$38,000, Swartz said.

"We could be seeing the end of an era when houses were built on-site," Swartz told *The Bulletin*. "It's clear the URA does not have the resources for us to finish the final 12 houses, as called for in our original plans for the development. The board's discussion reflected the tough choices we face down the road in rebuilding the Garfield housing market. Future houses might have to be assembled in a factory, and brought to the site."

Yarone Zober, URA chairman, and Mayor Ravenstahl's chief of staff, questioned what the justification would be for moving forward with the project as proposed. Swartz responded that if the project were to come to a halt, "it really throws open the question of what to do with the hundreds of vacant lots and dozens of vacant homes that still dot the landscape in Garfield. Home ownership brings stability to a neighborhood, and a more diverse economic make-up to it, too."

State Senator Jim Ferlo, a URA board member, acknowledged that cost issues have to be addressed, "even with a project such as this one, which has been successful," prior to the vote. The home prices have been set at \$137,500 to \$139,500, slightly above those of the last phase, but well below their per-unit construction cost, Ferlo said. "It's clear that raising the prices by another \$20,000 or \$30,000 would help to close the gap in financing and reduce the public subsidy involved. But then would those willing to buy a home in Garfield still be able to afford it?" he asked. He also noted that the use of federal funds

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## Martin R. Delany

# Black History Month at Union Project includes reading of original play

**By Stacie Chandler**  
*Interim Bulletin Editor*

Participants of the Union Project's Monday Evening Conversations had a real treat on February 9 when Wali Jamal, local playwright and author, gave a reading of his new play "Martin R. Delany – The Pittsburgh Years" before it opened at Pittsburgh Playwrights Theater a few nights later.

The intimate setting was a great place to get to know one of America's lesser-known but incredibly influential African-American leaders. Standing before his audience, Jamal gave voice to all of the characters in Delany's long and varied life. Born free in Charles Town, VA, he was taught to read by his mother Pati, herself the daughter of an African prince. When it was discovered that Martin and his brother could read – a crime in those days -- the family fled to Chambersburg, PA. Their father was able to purchase his freedom and join them about a year later.

At the age of 19, Delaney walked to Pittsburgh, where he was able to overcome prejudice in order to pursue his love of medicine. He was fortunate to have made the acquaintance of some very wealthy and influential African-American businessmen who supported his goal. Said Charles Richard (his future father-in-law), "It's about time someone among us would take on the mantle of science and healer."

Delany was apprenticed to Dr. Andrew N. McDowell, who taught him some of the most up-to-date medical practices of the time: cupping and bleeding. Jamal brings the horror of illness in those times to life as he tells the unusual story of

Delany's efforts to relieve the suffering of a young white girl and the gratitude of the girl's mother, despite her initial misgivings about the color of the only doctor available to help.

Delany was not content to merely heal. He had strong opinions about the state of race relations in pre-Civil War America and he took on a number of tasks to implement change. He attended his first Negro Conference in 1835, became involved in the temperance movement, and was an active participant in organizations helping fugitive slaves. It's at these points in Delany's life that Jamal's meticulous research shines. He relates anecdotes about Delany's activities that alternately caused chuckles and frowns in the rapt audience.

Delany also started writing about his ideas and opinions and started *The Mystery*, a black-controlled newspaper. He met Frederick Douglass around this time and was recruited to help found the North Star newspaper.

Growing frustrated and angry by a lack of progress in civil rights and laws that endangered free Blacks, Delaney decided to move his family to the free country of Texas. Using imagined conversations with real people that Delany met when he travelled down the Mississippi to check out Texas for himself, Jamal tells a harrowing tale of the lives of all Blacks, both slave and free.

Delany went on to become the highest ranking African-American in the Union Army during the Civil War. His life was filled with fabulous firsts and heart-breaking sadness, all of which made him the amazing African hero that he is.

The Union Project, at the corner of N. Negley and Stanton Avenues in Highland Park, holds quarterly Monday Evening Conversations to address current events, recent community development, issues surrounding race and society, education and schools and financial education. Often topics are explored through the arts and discussion with professionals in the field. Discussions are free and open to all ages and backgrounds.

For more information, contact Jeffrey Dorsey, Program Director at 412-363-4550.

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## Penn Ave. reconstruction plan is topic of community meeting

By Deadra Keener  
BGC Staff

Exciting Penn Avenue developments are in the works. Many Bulletin readers traverse the Bloomfield/Friendship/Garfield/Lawrenceville stretch of Penn Avenue, so we want to share the news with you, and make sure that all are aware of an upcoming community meeting to hear about the future of Penn Avenue in more detail.

The Penn Avenue Corridor Phasing Plan Committee has been hard at work for several months. The committee utilized input gathered at the March 2008 community meeting to inform the Penn Avenue reconstruction planning process.

A second community meeting will be held Thursday, April 16, to update the community on the progress of the Penn Avenue reconstruction plans. The community meeting will be held at the St. Lawrence O'Toole Activities Building at the corner of Broad Street and N. Atlantic Avenue. Refreshments will be available at 6 p.m., and the presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. All who are interested in reconstruction plans that will affect Penn Avenue from Negley Avenue to 34th Street are encouraged to attend the meeting.

To complement the reconstruction planning, Friendship Development Associates recently was awarded a Multi-Neighborhood Corridor Grant by the Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development to hire a firm to work with the community and city in shaping a Penn Avenue streetscape design plan for the project area.

The plan will be a set of guidelines for specific recommendations regarding streetscape, such as species selection and placement of street trees, benches, lighting, wayfinding signage, bike racks and other amenities.

In January, a Request for Proposals was announced and several local firms submitted proposals. A committee of representatives from the city, FDA, East End Partnership, BGC, East Liberty Development, Inc., Kimball & Associates and PPND all reviewed the proposals last month.

From a field of excellent candidates, the committee selected the firm of Loysen+Kreuthmeier Architects, which is located in the 5100 block of Penn Avenue, in the heart of the project area, and is very aware of the challenges and opportunities along

that stretch of road.

While all of this big picture planning is in the works, some short-term but effective changes are occurring now on the Avenue thanks to the Mayor's Office, just in time for spring. Mayor Luke Ravenstahl and his team toured Penn Avenue, from Mathilda Street to Negley Avenue, in October as part of the Mayor's "Taking Care of Business" initiative.

As a result, Mayor Ravenstahl committed to cleaning up the business district by repainting worn curbs and poles this spring, replacing the missing parking meter heads along the Avenue, and designating a Public Works Employee ("hokey patrol") to Penn Avenue to ensure that the street is kept litter-free. Through this program, the city installed ten new garbage cans at litter hot spots, and other locations chosen by business owners and stakeholders. The city Ravenstahl will also make bike racks available this spring in an effort to make the Avenue more pedestrian- and bike-friendly.

## FDA seeking help for two projects

Friendship Development Associates and Penn Avenue Arts Initiative have a few marketing projects on the horizon and we need your help!

We are looking for photos of Friendship and Penn Avenue: the people, community gatherings, businesses, neighborhood events, houses, porches, dogs, children playing, families, artwork, people creating artwork, gardens, trees, our streets, etc. Whatever you've got, we want it! Please send your images to [sarah@friendship-pgh.org](mailto:sarah@friendship-pgh.org).

We have also begun planning for the 16th Annual Friendship House Tour and the House Tour Committee needs your house!

The 2009 House Tour will feature a kitchen and bath theme. With so many Friendship residents remodeling their kitchens and bathrooms we thought that we'd show them off to the Pittsburgh region! The House Tour Committee is looking for homes that have remodeled or updated a kitchen or bathroom or homes with interesting or historical elements in the kitchen or bathroom. Interested in placing your home on tour? Contact Sarah Collins at [sarah@friendship-pgh.org](mailto:sarah@friendship-pgh.org) or 412-441-6147 x7.

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# Unblurred: Garfield's Alter Ego

By Alec Kerestesi  
Bulletin Contributor

Pittsburgh's art scene has changed dramatically over the past few years. Neighborhoods that once were considered seedy and rundown are now pulsing with an artistic nightlife through new gallery openings and tours. Garfield is one such neighborhood. Old dilapidated buildings along Penn Avenue have been converted into galleries that showcase the work of local artists. On the first Friday of every month, the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative holds the gallery crawl known as *Unblurred*.

I was recently taken on a tour of the galleries featured during *Unblurred*. The tour is led by Sherris Moreira Byers of Sole City Tours. She calls it her "Superhero" or "Recycling" Tour to reflect the neighborhood's transformation. People from all over Southwestern PA, college kids, families and people in business attire, can be seen walking the streets, admiring the galleries and art work.

Our tour started at Attack Theatre. A mural entitled "Tuesday's Heroic Paragon" hangs over the Attack Theatre parking lot, capturing a local hero who recently died. Its image flickers mysteriously on and off with a streetlight. It is a "perfect example of art [that]...helps to make neighborhoods a bit more fun," said Sherris.

Expecting a gallery after the wall mural, the next stop was a tattoo parlor called Mel's Outlaw Tattoo.

As we walked over, Sherris explained how Garfield's changes have been fueled by neighborhood groups' efforts to promote increased home-ownership, revitalize business activity and use art and artists as a catalyst. The upcoming relocation of Children's Hospital to its new facility at Penn and Main is expected to bring still more new people to the neighborhood.

Mel's is an interesting spot. Its owner, Tattoo Don, said he is one of the only tattoo artists to do freehand work in Pittsburgh. Don described the dangers of tattoo art. Because he works with the living human body, he is exposed to blood-borne illnesses every day. As a way to reduce infection in his customers, he uses only one needle per person, which he then properly disposes after each use.

His hygienic approach to tattoo art attracts professionals such as doctors and lawyers, as well as firefighters, paramedics, and police. Mel's has even had star-studded visits from musical artists Aerosmith, Motley Crue, Circle To Circle, and Ozzy.

From the tattoo parlor, Byers' tour continued to ModernFormations gallery. Once a Chinese restaurant, it was gutted and renovated into an art gallery with the help of "a lot of pizza, beer, and friends," as the owner put it. Its goals are to bring out lesser known local artists, and take away the awkward, high-brow feeling of traditional galleries.

The interior is set up like a living room with huge couches. People are free to sit and drink beer while looking at the art. ModernFormations brings in a new artist every month, includes all genres, such as poetry and music.

The rest of the tour highlighted Garfield Artworks, featuring artists Biko and Diamond Axe; the ImageBox.com, featuring Richard Schnap; and The Clay Penn, featuring the work of owner Laura G. McLaughlin. All were easily accessible and comfortable to be in. The art spaces resembled artsy Friday night hangouts more than traditional galleries.

One of our last stops was ARTica. The theme was "Fun Black Facts" in honor of Black History Month. This art space is basically a garage sale, but instead of selling used objects, art antiques, and collectibles are sold.

ARTica also allows unknown artists to show their work, "particularly Pittsburghers' because I don't think we get enough respect," said curator and owner Christine Bethea. As part of the art project "Passports," its money goes to an Art Diversity Project.

The most interesting part of the tour was the informational guidance of Byers. She seemed well-informed on the area's history. Her tour gives the complete package, not only of Garfield's current state, but also of its progression.

We returned to Attack Theatre, where they were having Game Night -- an opportunity for visitors to play Atari games. At 9:00 and 10:00 p.m., they previewed their upcoming show.

*Unblurred* was a positive experience; Byers' addition of historical facts about the different places we saw was a wel-



Bulletin photo by Curt Chandler

A team of glass blowers worked together at the Pittsburgh Glass Center to construct a winged Cupid for an appreciative audience during *Unblurred*.

come addition. I'd recommend this tour to anyone who wants to see Pittsburgh in a new, more mysterious and appreciative light.

*Editor's Note: Alec Keresteni is a junior Literary Arts major at Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts*

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By Bill Stanhope and Kate Bayer  
In Memory and Honor of Jay Bernard



## Meet Regent Square...

...a 10-year-old Golden Retriever mix. Regent Square was picked up as a stray and came to Animal Friends as part of their annual New Year's Eve rescue. He is a very nice boy who is adjusting happily to life at the shelter. He enjoys spending time with our staff and volunteers and has become quite the popular guy! He seems to be very easy-going and appreciates having a roof over his head and food in his belly. His bed and blanket are also tops on his list.

Do you have a relaxed home, or even one with older children? If so, Regent would love to move in and become the newest addition to your family. If you are a senior citizen Animal Friends offers a unique Golden Age Retriever adoption program that matches our mature neighbors with senior pets, with discounted adoption fees! The adopted animals thrive in responsible homes while the senior adopters benefit from the increased activity and companionship that accompany pet ownership. If you are 60 or older, ask about Animal Friends' Golden Age Retriever adoption program.

Regent Square is available at Animal Friends located at 562 Camp Horn Rd. Call 412-847-7002 or check out [www.ThinkingOutsideTheCage.org](http://www.ThinkingOutsideTheCage.org)



## Understanding Diabetes

By Jennifer L. Middleton, MD, MPH  
Bloomfield-Garfield Family Health Center

### To Your Health

Diabetes is a common disease, and yet many people don't understand what diabetes really is, and why it's so important.

Every cell in your body needs glucose (sugar) to work. Glucose is the fuel for the cells. When you eat, your body digests your meal into basic building blocks like glucose, protein, and fat. Your blood carries these building blocks all over your body. The cells in your body can't just pick up this glucose right from the blood, though – they need the hormone insulin to help. Insulin works like a key to open up the cell and let the glucose in.

Diabetes comes in two types, 1 and 2. People with both kinds of diabetes have problems with insulin. In Type 1 diabetes, the body does not make any insulin. Type 1 diabetics must inject insulin into their body so that the body's cells can get the glucose that they need.

In Type 2 diabetes, the body makes insulin but it does not work correctly. Type 2 diabetics take medicine to help their body's insulin work better.

Eventually, the bodies of most Type 2 diabetics will not make enough insulin, and then they need to inject insulin as well.

Without insulin, the glucose can't get into the body's cells, and it builds up in the blood. When there is too much glucose in the bloodstream, it can damage the blood vessels along with many other organs in the body – especially the eyes, kidneys, heart, and brain. People with diabetes are at higher risk of blindness, kidney failure, heart attacks, and strokes than people without diabetes.

The good news is that doctors can help people with diabetes to keep their blood glucose levels under control and lower their risk of serious problems. Unfortunately, because people with diabetes often have no symptoms and feel well, they don't keep up with their medicines and doctor's appointments until a serious problem arises.

If you have diabetes, take advantage of the services offered by your doctor. Many offices have a special diabetes nurse or educator. You should see your

doctor every three months. Your doctor will check a blood test called the "A1C" to measure your glucose levels. If your glucose levels are running high, your doctor may recommend diet and medicine changes. Keeping your glucose at normal levels will help prevent serious problems with your eyes, kidneys, heart, and brain. You should have an exam by an eye doctor once a year. Your doctor will also check your kidneys annually with a simple urine test.

Because people with diabetes are at a higher risk of heart attack and stroke, your doctor will follow your blood pressure and cholesterol. Controlling your blood pressure is the single most important thing you and your doctor can do to protect you from a heart attack or stroke.

Many people with diabetes feel overwhelmed and helpless. Those feelings are common, but diabetics can take control of their disease by working with their doctor. If you have diabetes, keep up with your doctors' appointments. Tell your doctor honestly about problems you are having with your medicines or diet. If someone in your family has diabetes, ask your doctor if you should be tested. Together, you and your doctor can keep diabetes under control so you can live a long and healthy life.

## Plans for former church discussed

The staff of Earthen Vessels Outreach held a second community meeting on February 10 to familiarize neighbors with their plans to renovate a vacant church at the corner of S. Pacific and Friendship Avenues.

EVO is affiliated with the Seeds of Hope Church, which currently shares space at Evaline Lutheran Church at S. Evaline and Friendship Aves. EVO provides activities for under-served youth, mainly from nearby neighborhoods.

Ryan England, Project Manager, gave a summary of the renovation plan and took questions from the audience. (see Feb. 2009 issue of *The Bulletin* at [www.bloomfield-garfield.org](http://www.bloomfield-garfield.org) for plan details.)

Nearby residents' questions primarily focused on the group's plans for parking, external changes such as play equipment, traffic congestion, and hours of operation.

England addressed participants' concerns saying that the plan calls for excavating the property along Amboy Way to create sufficient parking for

staff vehicles and that EVO is in talks with nearby businesses for access to their parking lots during church services and events, in order to mitigate parking problems on neighboring streets.

England told the audience that there are no plans to build any play equipment such as swings, but that the lawn would undoubtedly be used for outside play in good weather.

EVO is planning a full traffic study to determine how to avoid congestion. England said there will be a pick-up/drop-off point on Amboy Way to keep traffic flowing on nearby streets.

Although there are no time limits imposed on events, England said that currently no activities extend past 9 p.m. Rev. John Paul Chaney, pastor of Seeds of Hope Church, said he would be willing to consider an 11 p.m. cut-off point for events.

A zoning hearing will be held to review EVO's plans, but a date has not been set.

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## Kids can join FitWits for fun

Kristin Hughes, a professor in the Carnegie Mellon University School of Design, is partnering with Dr. Ann McGaffey at UPMC Saint Margaret's Family Health Centers to teach families how to have healthy lifestyles in an educational and entertaining way.

The Fitwits program is a series of learning games imbedded with positive, educational health content regarding nutrition and physical activity for pre-adolescents. The program focuses on healthy and unhealthy ingredients and stresses the importance of kid-appropriate portion sizes and amounts. It is also designed to help facilitate conversations about health and health-related topics.

Fitwits is joining forces with the Giant Eagle on Centre Avenue on Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. to noon to create awareness of the program. Bring your kids for a storewide scavenger hunt in search of Fitwits and their not-so-healthy relatives, the Nitwits. There will be other games and activities designed to help you talk with your kids about nutrition, fitness and portion size. We will also have lots of prizes.

Sharpen your wits before the big game day by playing our Finders Keepers Sticker Game! Pick-up your game board at [www.fitwits.org](http://www.fitwits.org).

## Compact fluorescent light bulbs: Energy-savings vs. mercury hazard

While many people are turning to compact fluorescent light bulbs -- which use 75 percent less energy and last up to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs -- there is a concern because CFLs contain a small amount of mercury.

The EPA says the benefits of lower energy consumption outweigh the disadvantages, but encourages the safe disposal of old CFLs to prevent the release of mercury into the environment. The mercury is present in trace amounts, five milligrams, an amount that would cover the tip of a ballpoint pen.

Old CFC bulbs can be taken to Home Depot, IKEA and Ace Hardware for recycling.

If a bulb accidentally breaks, proper clean-up is necessary. Evacuate the room, including pets, and open a win-

dow to air out the room for at least 15 minutes. If the bulb broke on a hard surface, take a piece of stiff paper or cardboard and scoop up as much of the debris and residue as you can.

You could use an old glove or sock to protect hands and then wipe up any remaining residue with a moist paper towel.

If you bulb broke on a soft surface, such as a carpet, use sticky tape to blot up any residue. Put everything in a plastic bag or a jar that can be sealed with a lid and dispose of it with the regular household trash.

For more information on CFLs go to: [www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/waste-types/universal/lamps/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/waste-types/universal/lamps/index.htm) and [www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/waste-types/universal/lamps/faqs.htm](http://www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/waste-types/universal/lamps/faqs.htm)

## Peabody Working Group

continued from page 1

among the city's other high schools. Kodman and Sumpter assured both him and the other 70-odd members of the audience that the district wants to work collaboratively with the stakeholders to build a better program for Peabody's population.

The meeting with Sumpter and other district officials followed closely on the heels of three other meetings the BGC hosted since January 1 that offered insight into how Peabody was selected by the committee charged with finding a permanent home for the IB program. Westinghouse High School, located in Homewood, was one of the other facilities which the committee examined closely. Like Peabody, its enrollment has shrunk considerably in recent years, to the point where a community-led effort is also afoot to reinvent that school.

There has been some sentiment that the future of both Peabody and Westinghouse should be linked as the district tries to figure out its long-range plan for the city's high schools. Some stakeholder members would like to see the IB planning efforts folded into the mix as well. Others have wondered if the district's decision last year to close Schenley could be revisited, in light of the billions of dollars reportedly allocated for modernization of public schools in the newly-passed federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Supt. Roosevelt had convinced the school board that the district could not afford the projected \$60-\$80 million cost of much-needed renovations to Schenley.

The Pittsburgh Peabody stakeholders have vowed to continue to meet and organize in developing recommendations on improving academic achievement and programming at Peabody. An upcoming meeting with the staff of

U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter is slated to better understand what is in the federal stimulus package for schools.

A tour of the Pittsburgh Peabody campus to acquaint members of the group with the pluses and minuses of the existing facility is also planned. Anyone interested in joining the stakeholders or obtaining more information, should contact Rick Flanagan at 412-441-9833 or at [rflanag@aol.com](mailto:rflanag@aol.com).

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## BULLETIN BOARD

### SPRING REDD UP DAY

Help to "spring clean" Penn Avenue! As part of the city-wide Redd Up events during the last weekend in April, a community clean up of Penn Avenue is planned for Saturday, April 25 from 9 to 11 a.m. Volunteers are needed for this event to help remove litter and tend to street trees along Penn Ave. from Millvale Ave. to Negley Ave. Gloves and bags will be provided, as well as a light breakfast and lunch. Please RSVP to 412-441-6950 x17 so that we can be sure to have enough food and supplies.

### PROJECT PROM

Project Prom provides gowns, tuxedo rentals, purses, shoes and accessories to high school students living in Allegheny County if they or their family receive services from the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (employment and training, drug and alcohol, mental health, developmental disability, hunger and housing assistance, etc.) Students who receive free lunch, or have a parent or guardian who receives unemployment are also eligible.

The Project Prom Shop will hold the dress giveaway on the 3rd level of

Century III mall across from the escalators on March 24-26 from 3 to 6 p.m.

The Project Prom Shop will be open at Century III and items will be sold to the public on Wednesday, April 4 from noon to 6 p.m.

For information about the dress sale or to volunteer, contact Samantha McVicker at [sbaer@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:sbaer@alleghenycounty.us) or at 412-350-6790 or visit <http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/projectprom.aspx>

### DOG PARK EVENT

The Lawrenceville Off-leash Dog Park Benefit Variety Show will be held Sunday, March 8 at 7 p.m. at Your Inner Vagabond Coffeehouse and World Lounge, 4130 Butler St. Admission is \$5. Zombo will host this event and we encourage you to come enjoy live music from Jenny Snyder & Friends and The Whips; bellydancing from Olivia Kissel; comedy and surprise guests! There will also be silent auctions, raffles, food and fun with the proceeds of the event supporting the establishment of an Off-leash Dog Park in Lawrenceville. For details call 412-683-1623 or visit [www.yourinner-vagabond.com](http://www.yourinner-vagabond.com) or <http://lvilleddog-park.blogspot.com/>.

### COGIC EVENTS

The Young Women's Christian Council of the Morningside Church Of God In Christ, 5173 Dearborn Street will sponsor a pre-80th Church Anniversary Service on Friday, March 6 at 7 p.m. The group will also be in charge of the 5th Sunday morning Auxiliary Service on March 29 at 10:45 a.m. The guest speaker will be Evangelist Yolanda Bennet. All are welcome at both events.

### STANTON HTS. MEETING

Bring your neighbors and join the Stanton Heights community for our next meeting on Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. We will meet at Sunnyside Elementary School auditorium. If you can't attend, mark your calendar for our next meeting on May 20. For more information, email: [stantonheightspgh@gmail.com](mailto:stantonheightspgh@gmail.com) or call 412-205-5707

### MARATHON VOLUNTEERS

The Pittsburgh Marathon will be held Sunday, May 3 and participants will be passing through East Liberty. Marathon organizers are calling for volunteers for the East Liberty water stop on East Liberty Boulevard. The

East Liberty Blvd station is mile 19.4. Support the Pittsburgh Marathon and those taking part! Volunteers will receive t-shirts and a party after the run! To sign up go to [www.pittsburghmarathon.com](http://www.pittsburghmarathon.com), go to the volunteer tab, choose water station and click register.

### ACCOMPANIST NEEDED

OASIS is seeking a pianist to accompany The OASIS Chorus, a group of men and women 50+ who love to sing. They meet at Macy's Downtown on the 10th floor, every Tuesday from February to June from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information contact Gail Weisberg, OASIS Executive Director, at 412-232-2021 or [gweisberg@oasisnet.org](mailto:gweisberg@oasisnet.org)

### THOMAS MERTON CTR.

The new Board of Directors of the Thomas Merton Center, 5125 Penn Avenue, invites the TMC community and other interested individuals to join the newly combined Membership and Development committee. We are starting to plan the New Person Award (May event), the Thomas Merton Award (November event) and other outreach activities and events. We are interested in energizing and engaging as wide a community of people who are concerned about overcoming war, racism, poverty, and oppression as possible. Contact Melissa Minnich at the TMC: 412-361-3022.

### ART ALL NIGHT

Art All Night 2009 will be held on April 25-26 at a TBD location in Lawrenceville. The leadership team is presently seeking volunteers and contributions for this year's event. If you'd like to assist in any way, please email [info@artallnight.org](mailto:info@artallnight.org). It's also time to start creating your entry. We invite you to again submit one (and only one) piece of artwork, or sign up to perform during this one-of-a-kind neighborhood event attended by over 7,500 people each year. Artist registration information will be available soon at [www.artallnight.org](http://www.artallnight.org).

### UPCOMING DAT EVENTS

Dance Alloy presents Behind the Curtain with Victoria Marks on Monday, March 9. Marks will discuss the much-anticipated return of her award winning signature piece,

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Fridays, 10:30 a.m., March 6, 13, 20, 27. For parents and children ages 6 months to 3 years.

#### Origami

Saturday, March 21 at 3:30 p.m. For adults and children.

#### Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Saturday, March 27 at 1:30 p.m. For families.

#### East Liberty PC Center:

Check out these computer classes at the PC Center-East Liberty:

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NOTE: This class is designed for those who have little or no computer experience. Monday, March 2 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. OR Thursday, March 12 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. OR Friday, March 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

#### Introduction to CareerLink

Learn all about this job assistance website, how to sign up for its services, and more.

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To register for these classes or for more information about our free computer classes, call the PC Center-East Liberty at 412-363-6105.

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"Out Stealing Horse" by Per Petterson

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Saturday March 14 at 2:30 p.m.

For adults

#### Celebrate! St. Patrick's Day

Monday, March 16 at 3 p.m.

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#### Family Open House:

#### Won't You Be My Neighbor?

All ages welcome. Saturday, March 21

from 1 to 4 p.m.

## BULLETIN BOARD

"Dancing to Music." Refreshments at 6:30 p.m. and performance at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5. A complimentary wine and cheese reception follows.

Tickets are on sale now for "Exposed," Dance Alloy's April Mainstage production running April 3 through 6. The performance features two world premieres, "4-2 Men" by DAT's Artistic Director Beth Corning and "becoming angels" by Nora Chipaumire, as well as a return of Victoria Mark's award-winning "Dancing to Music." Call 412-363-4321 or visit [www.dancealloy.org](http://www.dancealloy.org).

### COUNCIL-TO-GO

Meet Councilman Patrick Dowd at *Council to Go*, his mobile district office. Councilman Dowd and his staff will be available to hear your concerns, provide news on issues in Council, and help you access city services. This month's sessions will be held on Wednesday, March 18,

from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Polish Hill Civic Association, and Wednesday, March 25, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Enrico's Tazza D'Oro in Highland Park. For more information about Council to Go and Councilman Dowd, visit [www.pgh.gov/district7](http://www.pgh.gov/district7) or call 412-255-2140.

### Morningside Church of God in Christ

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#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship..... 4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday Prayer ..... 12:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Evening Prayer ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Evening Bible Band .. 7:30 p.m.  
Friday Evening-YPWW (Young People Willing Workers).. 6:00 p.m.  
Friday Evening Evangelistic Service .... 7:00 p.m.

"For God all things are possible." Mark 10:27

## CLASSIFIEDS

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to place a classified or display ad!

## Openings in many PPS magnet programs

Learning is a different process for everyone and students have more success when they are motivated by a passion for what they are studying. For that reason, Pittsburgh Public Schools provides a number of different magnet programs at all grade levels. In addition to the core subjects taught at all schools, each of the Magnet schools offers a different and very specific course of study, such as Science and Technology; Creative and Performing Arts; Montessori; International Baccalaureate and International Studies; Pre-Engineering; Robotics; Computer Science; Business and Finance; Teaching; Cosmetology; ROTC; Law & Public Service; and University Prep.

The Magnet registration process, which is available to all students in the district, was held in the fall; and a lottery to fill classrooms was held in January. Many programs are already filled and are only accepting students on a waiting list at this time, but there are still openings in various programs at most grade levels and registration will continue through September 2009.

Most programs are only available at one location, so it is possible that a student will not be attending a neighborhood school. Some programs are only available for certain grade levels, such as Pittsburgh Montessori, which is a K through 8 school that incorporates the Montessori teaching philosophy. Some programs, such as the International Baccalaureate, build on the educational foundation that begins in elementary schools and continue through high school, so it may not be possible for older students to enroll because they haven't taken the pre-requisite courses.

GRADES K through 5	AVAILABLE
Pittsburgh Carmalt Science Tech	K
Pittsburgh Fulton French*	1
Pittsburgh Manchester German*	K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Pittsburgh Northview Spanish*	K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
* These language magnets require spring after school language tutoring and assessment for students entering grades 3, 4 or 5.	
GRADES 6 through 8	AVAILABLE
Pittsburgh Classical Academy	6,8
Pittsburgh Schiller Classical Academy	6,7,8
Pittsburgh Sterrett	6,7,8
Pittsburgh University Prep 6-12	7,8
Pittsburgh Science and Technology	7
GRADES 9 through 12	AVAILABLE
Pittsburgh Carrick Business & Finance	9, 10, 11, 12
Pittsburgh Langley Teaching Academy	9, 10
Pittsburgh Oliver Cosmetology	9, 10, 11, 12
Pittsburgh Oliver JROTC	9, 10, 11, 12
Pittsburgh Oliver Law & Public Service	9, 10, 11, 12
Pittsburgh Peabody Robotics Technology	9, 10
Pittsburgh Perry Math Science	9, 10, 11, 12
Pittsburgh Perry Traditional Academy	9, 10, 11, 12
Pittsburgh University Prep 6-12	9, 10
Pittsburgh Westinghouse Cosmetology	9, 10, 11, 12

To fully explore the options available to their children, parents should review the Magnet Program information online at [www.pghboe.net](http://www.pghboe.net). Click on the yellow box that says "Magnet Programs."

You can also visit the Magnet Office at 341 S. Bellefield Avenue in Oakland or request information

from your child's school.

The chart above shows which Magnet Schools had openings at various grade levels at the time *The Bulletin* went to press. The website or the Magnet Program office can give you the most up-to-date information about what options may be available for your child.

## Summit Academy students volunteer at FDA to spruce up neighborhood

Summit Academy students from Butler volunteered a weekend of painting last month for the Friendship Development Associates.

The students have helped out in the past, as well, loading a truck with Summit Academy's Screen Print equipment so they could teach participants how to create their own shirts during the Art Cubed event. The image on the shirt was the 86B bus, which runs through the heart of the Penn Ave. Arts Corridor.

Students also participated in the Pick-up Penn project, held last fall on the day before the annual Friendship House Tour. The students picked up trash and pulled weeds. They also competed for two awards that day: Most Garbage Collected and Best Dressed. For that event, the



Summit Academy Screen Print trade shop also printed shirts with an image of a dump truck hauling flowers.

Most recently, students from the building maintenance trade shop volunteered to paint the interior of the Friendship Development Associates building.

The youth are students in the Summit Academy Trades Program, which offers youth an opportunity to learn a variety of trades: Carpentry and Construction Technology, Building Maintenance, Automotive Technology, Graphic Design, Screen Print, CADD, and Technical Drafting.

The trades program is run under the supervision of Jeff Harshman. Faculty members Don Vinkovich and Jason Sauer have participated in multiple events in the Penn Avenue Arts Corridor.

The Summit Academy Trades Program stresses pride, education enrichment, and social identity. Their volunteer efforts have incorporated all of the above principles. The students said they enjoy helping out on Penn Avenue.

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