



The Bulletin

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Penn Avenue's 5100 Block Makes Ready for Change

By Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

Pap's 'N Us, a longtime neighborhood tavern at 5106 Penn that had seen a dramatic drop-off in its clientele in recent years, will soon be getting a fresh start. But it won't be the one *The Bulletin* reported on earlier this year.

In a surprise development, the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) has purchased the building and business assets from its owners, Richard and Janet Tysarczyk, after a pending sale to another party fell through in May. The organization is in the process of applying to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board to transfer the bar's liquor license into the BGC's name as part of the transaction.

In April of this year, *The Bulletin*

reported that Zamir Zahavi, who had once managed a now-defunct bar in the 5400 block of Penn, had entered into a memorandum of understanding with the BGC, Friendship Development Associates (FDA), and Garfield Jubilee Association (GJA) concerning his plans to open a new establishment in Pap's space. He had formed a new corporate entity, and was hoping to make significant upgrades to the bar.

But the deal was never consummated, and the Tysarczyks approached the BGC in early May to see if an expedited sale of the tavern were possible. Thanks to financing provided by Landmarks Community Capital Corp., a unit of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, the BGC was able to act quickly and step into the role of what Rick Swartz, the organization's executive director,

describes as "interim owners."

"It wasn't the desire of our board of directors to pre-empt anyone else from purchasing the bar and its related property," Swartz told *The Bulletin* recently. "But we obviously have a strong interest in making sure that whoever comes in next to operate a business at that location will be an asset to the community, and not a liability."

By mid-August, according to Swartz, the BGC, working with the FDA and other neighborhood stakeholders, will be seeking proposals from individuals or firms who want to open a business in the bar's former space. Information on how to submit a proposal, which will require a business plan, will be available in the September edition of *The Bulletin*,

See **PENN AVE**, page 5



Rick Flanagan/BGC

PAPS 'N US, A LONGTIME BAR IN THE 5100 BLOCK OF PENN AVENUE, HAS CHANGED HANDS.



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

MEMBERS OF THE PENN AVENUE CORRIDOR PHASING PLAN COMMITTEE LISTEN AS PROJECT MANAGER BRIAN KRUL (CENTER) REVIEWS THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAVEMENT CONDITION SURVEY PERFORMED IN MAY ON THE TWO-MILE STRETCH OF PENN AVENUE FROM DOUGHBOY SQUARE TO NEGLEY AVENUE.

Plans for Don Allen Site Presented at Community Meeting

Area residents got a look at the plans for a mixed-use development at

the former Don Allen Auto City site at a June 24 meeting with DOC-Economou, the development team behind the planning complex. Members of the Bloomfield and Friendship communities also had a chance to voice their concerns about the project, which is now being called Baum Liberty Crossing.

Speaking for DOC-Economou were Christine Fulton, Vice President of Public Finance and External Relations, and Mark S. Dellana, Executive Vice President of

By James Eldred
The Bulletin

Construction and Development. Both previously worked for the Sommer

Organization, and were part of that company during its construction of SouthSide Works. Richard Voelker, whose family sold the Don Allen dealership to DOC-Economou and is now a minority partner in the development, spoke as well.

Councilman Bill Peduto, who was also present, told the audience he believes that Baum Liberty Crossing will be an important part of the community. "This is going to become one

See **DON ALLEN**, page 4

**SEPTEMBER
DEADLINE!**

The **FINAL DEADLINE** for the **SEPTEMBER 2008** issue of *The Bulletin* is **FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2008**. This includes ALL classified ads, Bulletin Board announcements, story submissions, and ad space reservations. All content is accepted on a space-available basis. For more information, call 412-441-6915.

PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE REPORT

Zone 5's New Commander Stays Positive Through Long Career

By Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

Commander Larry Ross has clocked 29 years with the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, and knows that, at 52, he should be starting to think about retirement. "But I enjoy what I do," he notes. "I wouldn't know what to do after this" – which makes perfect sense for a man who wanted to be a police officer since he was a kid.

Promoted to commander last year, Ross assumed the reins at Zone 5 this past May, when a shuffling of commanders brought him from Zone 3 (the South Side) to take over for departing Commander RaShall Brackney. Brackney moved to Zone 1 (the North Side) to replace Commander Catherine McNeilly, who in turn crisscrossed town to Ross' old post.

"The three of us were surprised,"

Ross says of the reassignments. "But I'm a good soldier. I do what the Chief tells me. And I agree with the basic idea that commanders should get to know the entire city."

And "getting to know the city" is precisely what Ross' long career on the force has entailed. He started off as a beat cop in 1979 in Squirrel Hill (then Zone 6), and spent many years patrolling Hazelwood, Point Breeze, and Shadyside. His subsequent history included being a firearms instructor at the Police Academy; serving with the divisions of Major Crimes and Narcotics; and even working as a bomb technician. In his view, police work "gets into your blood – you see the bad and the good. It's very diverse. And you actually do have fun."

The challenges of Zone 5, Ross says, are very different from those he encountered in Zone 3, "where we had something like 111 liquor licenses. Here, crime tends to be more violent."

He states outright that he needs more officers – Zone 5 has only 93, while Ross' ideal would be 120. He also has just 20 patrol cars, with another dozen in the garage, where he says they tend to "disappear." But he has- tens to add that all of the zones "have the same problems, so I don't want to complain too much."

The biggest challenge he sees in his new assignment is "trying to find an avenue for youths, to keep them away from illegal activities. It's hard to persuade them when everything they see in the media is about fast cash." Plus, he observes, "Lots of these kids don't think they're going to live to 25."

To that end, this summer Zone 5 is working with the Pittsburgh Public Schools on programming for youths, primarily reading and mentoring activities. "Not every kid's an athlete," says Ross, "and kids need to be directed to the resources that are out there. You have to engage kids before they're 16 in order to have an impact." (Volunteers who are interested in getting involved in the youth programs can contact Officer Michael Gay at 412-665-3770.)



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

Also, a federal grant for the city's "Safe Summer Pittsburgh" initiative has funded more beat cops in each zone through September, since crime often rises with the temperature. In just the first two weeks, Ross says, he's noticed what "extra manpower" can accomplish: his officers have made 16 drug-related arrests, and been able "to identify who the problem children are" needing special attention.

Ross says that he's proud of his longevity on the force and that he's been able to keep a positive attitude through three decades of public service. What has helped him weather the ups and downs, he notes, is the knowledge that "mayors come and go, and chiefs come and go, but I work for the people."



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin



On the morning of July 10, Aggie Brose, deputy director of Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (top photo, talking to Fire Chief Darryl Jones), and Rick Swartz, the BGC's executive director, led officials from various city agencies on a tour of blighted, abandoned houses and overgrown lots along Brown Way and Kincaid Street in Garfield. Representatives from the Bureau of Building Inspection, the Department of Health, the Mayor's Office, the Department of Public Safety, the Zone 5 Police Station, and the Fire Department were all on hand to take notes and try to devise a plan of action. "When we all work together," said Brose, "we can more effectively address these problem areas and clean them up."

The Bulletin has a new e-mail address:
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Community-Sponsored Study of Penn Avenue Available Online

By **Jonathan Cox**
East End Partnership

A study of the Penn Avenue corridor from Doughboy Square in Lawrenceville to Penn Circle in East Liberty is now available at the East End Partnership of Pittsburgh's new website, <http://www.eastendpartnership.org>. Initiated in 2005 by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, East Liberty Development Inc., Friendship Development Associates, and the Lawrenceville Corporation, the four organizations' collaborative approach to planning is unusual, noteworthy, and drawing praise. Collectively, the organizations are working together as the East End Partnership of Pittsburgh (first reported on in *The Bulletin* in June 2008).

The Penn Avenue study looked at urban design and planning issues, including land use, transportation, and design guidelines. It also included an analysis of the commercial and residential markets along and adjacent to the corridor. More than 200 community members par-

ticipated in meetings in Garfield and Lawrenceville in 2006, contributing ideas and concerns. In addition, 50 planners and design professionals took part in a design charrette. The study was prepared by East Liberty-based mossArchitects and ZHA, Inc. of Annapolis, Maryland, with funding from the Surdna Foundation in New York. The Penn Avenue Corridor Master Plan complements, but is distinct from, the Penn Avenue Corridor Phasing Plan that was reported on in the July issue of *The Bulletin*.

Key recommendations/findings in the report include:

- Create "signature gateways" and strong intersections, especially at Doughboy Square, Penn and Main, and Penn at Negley.
- Establish, brand, and/or reinforce an "Arsenal District" from Doughboy Square to 40th Street, a "Hospital District" from 40th Street to Mathilda, and an "Arts District" from Mathilda to Negley.
- Preserve and enhance assets like St. Mary's and Allegheny Cemeteries, and replace undesirable



sites, such as warehouses, with more appealing uses.

- Improve and expand public spaces by adding or replacing trees and other landscaping, benches, bus shelters, signage, and even parklets on vacant lots.
- Improve conditions for pedestrians, motorists, and bicyclists alike, with emphasis on enhancing safety and reducing confusion. Also, create comprehensive integrated parking plans for each district.

With completion of the study, the East End Partnership is moving for-

ward with an action agenda that includes many of the study's recommendations. The Partnership has begun seeking funds to develop detailed plans for the Penn-Negley, Penn-Main, and Doughboy Square gateways. A request has also been submitted to fund a streetscape lighting initiative on the Penn Ave. side of St. Mary's and Allegheny Cemeteries. In addition, Partnership staff are deeply involved in planning for Penn Avenue infrastructure improvements and raising the necessary funds.



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Lawrenceville Fair Connects Residents, Resources

By **Nadia Diboun**
Lawrenceville Corporation

Would you like to make improvements to your life, home, and neighborhood—but you're not sure where to look for help? On Saturday, September 13, look no further than the parking lot of St. Matthew's Parish at 5322 Carnegie Street in Lawrenceville. From noon to 5 p.m., local and citywide organizations will unite for a Lawrenceville Resource Fair and Community Celebration.

Coordinated by Lawrenceville Corporation's Elm Street Committee, the vision for this event is to connect residents with valuable resources during a fun gathering for neighbors, friends, families, and children. The event will feature great food, live music by local artists, and information about programs and services related to health, the environment, employment,

financial assistance, home repair, public safety, and much

more. Friendly representatives will be on hand to answer questions and provide materials. This event is free and open to the public.

The Elm Street Program was created by the State of Pennsylvania's Department of Community and Economic Development to strengthen blighted, historic neighborhoods adjacent to business districts.

In 2005, following a successful proposal for Elm Street designation, the section of Lawrenceville bounded by Stanton Avenue, Dresden Way, Keystone Street, and 55th Street became designated as an Elm Street district. To learn more about Lawrenceville's Elm Street Community, visit www.lawrencevillecorp.com/elmstreet.htm or call 412-782-5100 x 102.

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

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SUBMISSIONS POLICY

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.

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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, Dollar Bank, PNC Financial, Citizens Bank, The City of Pittsburgh, and State Senator Jim Ferlo for their support.

BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD CORPORATION'S

EYESORE OF THE MONTH

Every other month, we highlight property owners whose neglect hurts the neighborhood. Properties are nominated by community members. It's easy to do! Just make a quick call to Aggie Brose at 412-441-6950 x 15 with your choice for "Eyesore of the Month."

Bloomfield Property Owner Fails to Comply with Citations

The building at 4601 Friendship Avenue, in the 9th ward of the city, was nominated this month for "Eyesore Property." According to the Allegheny County Real Estate Website, Dominic and Nancy Buccigrossi are the recorded owners. The mailing address for the tax bill is 902 Alpine Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15221. The Buccigrossis acquired the property in 1992 for \$25,000, and at present, the taxes are heavily delinquent.

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) staff visited the property and found that it fit the criteria of an eyesore. This property is on the corner of Torley Street and Friendship Avenue, which is a gateway into the residential

area. Unlike the Buccigrossis' property, other buildings on Torley Street are well maintained.

The Buccigrossis' property was reported to 311 (the service request # is 77312), and its status is "under notice/legal action taken."

The BGC staff contacted the Bureau of Building Inspection (BBI) and found that the property was cited back in 2006 for rubbish and garbage, broken window panes, litter, and graffiti. BBI also received complaints about loose mortar on the exterior of the building. The most recent citation was issued on May 13, 2008, for a brick wall in danger of collapsing.

When the BGC staff visited the property, they found that the side wall

had indeed collapsed onto the sidewalk and that a scaffold was in place. But no repairs had been started on the wall, the store was full of rubble and debris, and the building looked as if it had been abandoned, even though Mr. Buccigrossi has registered his masonry and construction business at that address.

The BGC contacted Mr. Buccigrossi, who informed us that he had been cited by BBI four or five times over the last 15 to 18 years. He stated that he picks up litter and garbage every week. He said he had done some wall patching, which was halted by "cold weather," and when the exterior wall collapsed, he erected the scaffolding. He said he would start working again on Monday, July 21, but a follow-up visit to the property on July 24 by BGC staff found no construction activity underway.

Mr. Buccigrossi reported that he had experienced health problems and apologized for the condition of his building. He said that his plans are to repair the collapsed wall, paint the building, and clean it up "soon." He also expressed concerns about finding bullet holes in his building and being hit by graffiti numerous times. He noted that he has put "a fortune" into the property and will try to do better by it in the future.

Since Mr. Buccigrossi himself stated that he had received citations over the years and since the conditions still exist, we will keep an eye on the status of the work and the commitment Mr. Buccigrossi gave the BGC staff to address these issues "soon."



THE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AT 4601 FRIENDSHIP AVE. HAS GRAFFITI ON THE FRONT DOOR, DEBRIS IN PLAIN VIEW, AND A GAPING HOLE IN THE SIDE WALL.



DON ALLEN, from page 1

of the most important parts of redeveloping our economy," said Peduto. "It will be very critical to keeping and attracting young people after they graduate from the universities and want to stay in the city of Pittsburgh."

The \$230 million project will encompass five buildings at the intersection of Liberty and Baum. The plans for the seven-acre, three-block development include 700,000 square feet of office/retail space, 150 condominium units, and a 120-room hotel. Construction of the development will be phased, with the first building –

which will be seven stories high and include the hotel – going up at the former location of Goodwill.

Dellana addressed concerns about parking during the question-and-answer period. "All the parking will be handled under each building," he said, adding that while the construction of an underground parking garage is expensive, it is worth the effort and cost. "You shouldn't do an urban project unless you can accommodate the parking."

When pressed to give exact dates about when construction will begin,

Dellana hedged, saying that the project is still in the early stages and zoning clearances have not yet been granted. He stressed the importance of patience to Bloomfield residents.

"I have in my briefcase a PowerPoint presentation that I did in 1995 that shows the Southside Works was going to be 100 percent completed in 1999. We didn't get the first building out of the ground until 1999," he noted. "So if I stood here today and told you how fast [Baum Liberty Crossing] would happen, it would absolutely be a guess."

Environmental Group Finds Space To Grow in Garfield

By James Eldred
The Bulletin

Like the trees they want to populate the city with, Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest (FPUF) has grown and will soon be putting down roots in Garfield, with a new home on Penn Avenue.

The nonprofit organization, which seeks to protect and restore Pittsburgh's tree population, has spent the past year in a small office in Penn Circle, sharing space with East Liberty Development Inc. However, starting in September, they will be found at 5427 Penn Avenue in a newly renovated 700 square foot office space that they are renting.

According to Danielle Crumrine, executive director of FPUF, the larger space will allow the group to continue and expand its work, which frequently involves the East End.

"We're already working on projects in the East End with Friendship Development Associates [FDA], with East Liberty Development, so it made sense for us to be close," she said.

Diana Ames, founding president of the FPUF, is also looking forward to the move. "It's going to be amazing to be in the middle of all the exciting development that's going on there and continue to expand our relationship there," she said.

Matthew Erb, FPUF's director of urban forestry, explained some of the

work the organization does with FDA. "A lot of sidewalks have been raised by tree roots and cracked over time. So we're looking at alternative methods to repair and replace the sidewalks."

The group is applying its environmentally conscious mission to the renovation of the new office space. Crumrine said that they plan to have a front façade of windows to increase natural light, and new hardwood floors made of recycled wood from trees that were taken down in the city. There will be a worm pit to do onsite organic-waste composting. According to Ames, the owners are funding the extensive renovations to the building, while FPUF is paying for the environmental customization.

Of course, you can expect several trees to be planted outside the office, which will also serve as a way to make the building more environmentally friendly.

"In the summertime, the trees will shade our front windows so our air conditioner won't have to work as hard to keep our space cool. In the wintertime they can act as wind-breaks and reduce our heating costs," said Erb.

With a more prominent location, Crumrine and the rest of the FPUF hope that they will be able to spread their message to more people. They want people to understand just how important trees are to this city.

"[Trees] contribute to the quality of life for our neighbors and they clean the air," said Crumrine. "They provide shade, which contributes to energy savings; they take in storm water to help with our overflow problem; [they provide] a habitat for wildlife...the list goes on."

FPUF'S NEW BUILDING HAS BEEN UNDERGOING AN EXTENSIVE, ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS REHAB IN PREPARATION FOR SEPTEMBER OCCUPANCY.



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

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PENN AVE, from page 1

and also online at the websites of the BGC and FDA.

In a related development in the 5100 block of Penn, *The Bulletin* reported in its February 2008 issue that neighborhood residents had complained about the properties at 5108 and 5110, next to Pap's, which were suspected "speakeasies," or illegal liquor-serving establishments. Several residents and business owners had spoken out at a community meeting on January 18, giving accounts of seeing patrons enter the storefront, from which point they were reportedly guided to a basement area to purchase drinks.

Following up on this information, Aggie Brose, deputy director of the BGC, contacted the owner of 5108 and 5110 Penn, Nathan Hausler of

Squirrel Hill, to bring the matter to his attention. Hausler directed his management company, Equity Real Estate, to investigate, and on April 1 filed "recovery of real property" notices in district court against the tenants, Ngosa Pepala and Emmanuel Ozor. Neither party appeared at an April 14 hearing, resulting in their eviction.

"Mr. Hausler acted responsibly and quickly, once he became aware of the situation," said Brose. "Now things can turn around on that block."

"For Lease" signs have appeared on the doors of both buildings, which are undergoing interior renovation, and will soon be available for new commercial tenants.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Much has been written in the various newspapers about the great and wonderful things that Children's Hospital will do for the Lawrenceville community.

Don't believe everything that you read.

The first thing that our new and wonderful neighbor is doing is confiscating parking spots from local merchants in the vicinity between Main Street and 42nd Street along Penn Avenue to create a new access way.

In case no one noticed, parking is at a premium everywhere in our community. The loss of even a single parking space will have a negative impact on the operations of the handful of small mom-and-pop businesses in that vicinity.

If City Council and the traffic and zoning commissions stand with Children's Hospital against the small proprietors, whose livelihood is dependent upon those marginal stores, then it will be obvious that our political establishment has learned nothing from the massive out-migration of population and businesses from Pittsburgh.

If St. Francis Medical Center could provide its patients with ambulance service without the theft of parking spots from its neighbors, we have the

right to expect the same from UPMC.

Those little businesses along Penn Avenue have been our neighbors and friends for many years. They pay taxes and are valuable assets to our community. It is time that the people of Lawrenceville stand firmly behind them and demand that they be allowed to keep their parking spots.

James Wudarczyk
Lawrenceville

Dear Residents:

I am reaching out via *The Bulletin* to ensure community members are aware of the various ways they can get in touch with us. If you have any questions, concerns or issues regarding the new Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC building project, please let us know.

Children's Hospital is dedicated to being a good neighbor, and we are working very hard to keep residents and businesses informed. Partnering with the community is very important to us. Since the beginning of the new hospital building project, we have taken various steps to ensure that we share information and to maintain open lines of communication.

I personally conduct routine community meetings and regularly meet with neighborhood block-watch groups and business associations in an effort to keep a pulse on any issues, concerns, or questions residents have regarding the project. These open forums allow me to listen to concerns and offer a venue for open discussion about our new campus and its impacts.

In addition to the community meetings, there are other ways people can obtain information or contact us. Children's Hospital's website has a section on the new hospital, found at www.chp.edu/newcampus, that is updated frequently and includes project details and construction updates.

Also, concerns or questions can be directed to myself at 412-692-3272 or via e-mail at eric.hess@chp.edu.

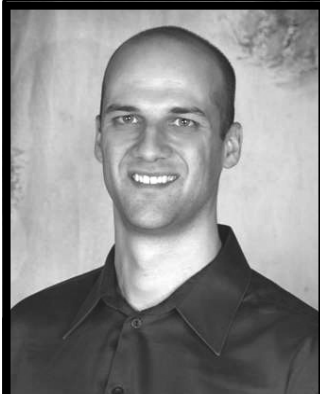
We are diligently working to build a world-class pediatric hospital that everyone in the community and our region would be proud to have in their backyards. We see the new hospital — Pittsburgh's new hospital — as an investment in our children's future and the future of the community. And we want both to excel. Thank you.

Eric Hess
Vice President and Project Executive
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC



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



Check Out This Smile!

If you think Alfred is smiling at you, you're right! Alfred is a very happy boy who came to Animal Friends as a stray. He is a 6-year-old Shepherd mix who wasn't feeling too well when he first came to Animal Friends. But Animal Friends gave him such good medical care and lots of love, attention, and TLC that he's now ready to go to a family of his own whom he can give lots of love back to. Alfred has made lots of friends at Animal Friends and is very social and playful. He recently spent some time in a foster home, where he quickly earned the reputation of being a "big snuggle bear" because he was so gentle and playful. Alfred is housetrained and a perfect gentleman at all times. Please contact Animal Friends at 412-847-7043 or check Alfred out at www.ThinkingOutsideTheCage.org.

Tip of the Month: Please remember to give your dog plenty of water and a shady shelter if he or she is outside for any length of time in the hot weather. Also, never leave your dog in an automobile unattended and with windows closed. The results can be deadly. Love your dog as much as your dog loves you, and please treat him or her accordingly.

Pittsburgh Peabody Students Earn Incentives for Achievements in School

By Ebony Pugh

Pittsburgh Public Schools

Pittsburgh Public Schools and Pittsburgh Peabody High School alumnus, Keith B. Key, partnered during the 2007-2008 school year to begin a pilot of The Challenge Program Inc. at Pittsburgh Peabody.

The Challenge Program Inc. is specifically designed to build a bridge between students in high school and the business community by providing incentives to students for successes they achieve while in school. Mr. Key, Pittsburgh Peabody's corporate sponsor for the program, donated \$3,000, making Pittsburgh Peabody the first school in Allegheny County to launch the program.

At a school-wide assembly held May 23, 12 students in grades 10 through 12 were awarded \$250 each for their accomplishments in one of the following four categories: most improved academically, best attendance, most community service, and best overall GPA.

A 4.2 GPA earned 10th-grader Alexis Jackson top honors, with

Junior Melody Peters (3.7) and Senior Argena Olivis (3.6) earning the highest in their classes.

Shakwia Jackson (11th grade) earned \$250 for her perfect attendance, while Robert Balochkom (12th grade) and Cidney Christian (11th grade) each earned attendance honors for missing just one day of school all year.

Mark Cox (12th grade), Chelsea Reid (11th grade), and Jasmine Odom (10th grade) each received \$250 for proving to be the most-improved students in the areas of behavior and academics.

Volunteering more than 200 hours at school-sponsored events, working the refreshment stand, and spending extra hours on the class yearbook, earned senior Latoya Steadman community service honors. Tenth-grader Demetrius Dorsey served 160 hours in community landscaping and maintaining local trees. Making sure that the school's "Promise of the Future" event, held May 10, went off without a hitch earned 11th-grader Jayquela Waller honors for her 100 hours of service.



PITTSBURGH PEABODY STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED \$250 EACH AS PART OF THE CHALLENGE PROGRAM INC. POSE WITH SPONSOR AND BUSINESSMAN KEITH B. KEY (CENTER), A PEABODY ALUMNUS.

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The Challenge Program Inc. will return to Pittsburgh Peabody next year.

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By Lisa Porter Werner
Bulletin Contributor

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Restaurant-Hopping Makes for a Tasty and Affordable Night Out in Bloomfield

There is an abundance of Chinese restaurants in our city, and most serve good to excellent food at reasonable prices. The newest addition, serving good food at exceptionally affordable prices, is Wai Wai (pronounced "Way Way") on Liberty Avenue in Bloomfield.

The building was previously home to a Domino's Pizza, but its appearance is so different now that it's hardly recognizable. The décor of the 12-table B.Y.O.B. is tastefully done in a contemporary style. The walls are painted in hues of crimson, tangerine, and brown, with electric blue light fixtures complementing the dark wood tables, chairs, and crimson leather couch-like seating that runs across the main wall. The relaxing ambiance is complete with light guitar music piped through the sound system. If you close your eyes, you may feel like you're in a day spa. The restaurant is divided into two sections: a sit-down dining area, and a long take-out counter.

My latest visit was on a muggy Friday evening in early June. Our group of six was anxious to pop open the chilled bottles of white wine that we brought with us. We asked the waitress for wine glasses (approximately four times) and were beginning to think it was also B.Y.O.G. (bring your own glass), since it took her 25 minutes to bring them to us. Perhaps the wine glasses were lost in translation with our orders, since several wrong dishes were brought out, too. Fortunately, the mistakes were corrected without further delay.

We started with classic spring rolls (\$2.25); egg rolls with shrimp (\$1.45); chicken on a stick (\$3.95) - four large skewers marinated in a tangy teriyaki sauce; grilled boneless spare ribs (\$4.50) glazed in a sweet barbecue sauce (that tasted like cherry pie filling); and a large bowl of tasty tofu vegetable soup (\$3.50) with water chestnuts, broccoli, carrots, and baby corn. The soup was unanimously the preferred dish out of the bunch. Appetizers range from (\$1.45- \$4.50).

The entrees are presented attractively on colorful square plates, and the portions are generous. The Shrimp with Vegetables (\$7.95) - served with peppers, corn, mushrooms and onions in a brown Szechuan sauce - beckoned my taste buds. The shrimp was fresh, and the vegetables were plentiful. The same can be said about the Shrimp with Broccoli (\$7.95). We also dined on the Pepper Steak with Onions (\$9.86), tender sliced meat served in a dark brown sauce that tasted similar to Salisbury steak; classic Sweet and Sour Chicken (\$9.22); Curry Chicken with Vegetables (\$7.95), cooked in an extremely spicy sauce and served with snow peas, onions, carrots, and bamboo shoots; and Cashew Chicken (\$7.95), tiny fried chunks of chicken peppered with diced pieces of celery, carrots, mushrooms, bamboo shoots, and cashew nuts.

As a tip, be sure to ask the server how your dish is prepared. The menu descriptions are vague and a few of our fellow diners ended up ordering fried food by mistake.

Wai Wai also offers a "dinner box" all day, which includes a selection of twelve different entrees, served with fried rice or white rice and an egg roll, for \$8.99. Its lunch counterpart is served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. sans egg roll for only \$6.67. They also deliver!

Wai Wai does not serve dessert. A few doors down the street, however, is the fabulous Grasso Roberto Café, which serves delicious homemade gelato and Italian ices at very reasonable prices. The gelato is \$2.50, and the Italian ice is \$1.75. Our group was elated as we stood behind the old-fashioned ice-cream cooler trying to decide which flavors to choose. We had to try the famous spaghetti ice cream - homemade vanilla gelato shaped like pasta and topped with pureed strawberries (to look like red sauce), a sprinkling of white chocolate (to look like grated cheese), and chocolate meatballs (\$4.25). This dessert did not disappoint - it was scrumptious! Every month, the café creates new gelato flavors to complement the traditional flavors, such as pistachio. The honeydew and blue raspberry Italian ices and strawberry gelato were simply delectable, especially on such a hot night.

Grasso Roberto has an array of coffee drinks, such as lattes, café mochas, cappuccinos, and chai tea. Panini sandwiches are also available at Grasso Roberto. I'll definitely be back to try the Panini sandwiches another day. What a fantastic way to end a summer evening out in the city - without breaking the piggy bank!

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TAX MAN

by Patrick N. Price
Tax Consultant
Internal Revenue Service

It is not too late to file for the economic stimulus payment! Taxpayers that are normally not required to file a federal tax return can still file for the stimulus payment until October 15, 2008. Senior citizens, veterans, low-wage workers, and the disabled often do not have enough taxable income to be required to file a federal return based upon their filing status. If these taxpayers have at least \$3,000 from wages, Social Security benefits, or certain veterans benefits then they are generally eligible to receive the stimulus payment. If the taxpayer is claimed as a dependent on another person's federal return, then he or she is not eligible for the stimulus payment. More detailed information on the economic stimulus payment is available at www.irs.gov.

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Community Groups Form Citywide Public Safety Network

Pittsburgh may have almost 90 distinct neighborhoods, but crime knows no boundaries. To fight a common issue across many borders, community leaders from 17 neighborhoods representing more than 225 active block watch members gathered on June 28 at Duquesne University. The event celebrated the launch of the Safe

By Andrew Macurak
Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group

Friendship neighborhoods. Representatives from the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police and Mayor Luke Ravenstahl's office were also on hand.

Issues of cross-community collaboration, responsible handgun ownership, and social influences on public safety focused the discussion of the event's speakers - Aliya Durham of Operation Better Block,



Courtesy PCRG

COMMUNITY GROUPS FROM VARIOUS CITY NEIGHBORHOODS MET IN JUNE TO LAUNCH A PUBLIC SAFETY COLLABORATIVE.

Neighborhoods Block Watch Network, an ongoing, open-membership, free-of-charge, citywide public safety collaborative.

The network, housed on the Internet at <http://pghsafeneighborhoods.wordpress.com>, is coordinated by Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG), a coalition of 21 community organizations representing low- to moderate-income communities. The Safe Neighborhoods Network website serves as a forum for Pittsburgh public safety activists to connect, discuss strategies, and share information.

At the launch, representatives of block watches, city agencies, and community groups from north, south, east, west, and central neighborhoods exchanged tactics for promoting public safety and discussed universal causes of crime. Staff from the Bloomfield Business Association and Friendship Development Associates represented the Bloomfield, Garfield, and

Jana Finder of CeaseFirePA, Rev. Lara Zinda of United Christian Community Development Corporation and chief chaplain of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police. Sergeant Bob Miller, also of the Bureau of Police and Ed Gainey of the mayor's office provided venues for participation in city/community public safety partnerships.

The Safe Neighborhoods Block Watch Network is supported in part by Pittsburgh 250 Community Connections and The Sprout Fund. Community Connections is a grassroots initiative of Pittsburgh 250, supporting projects that encourage civic engagement throughout southwestern Pennsylvania, commemorate the region's 250th anniversary, and provide lasting value to communities and the region as a whole. The Sprout Fund is a nonprofit organization supporting innovative ideas and grassroots community projects that are catalyzing change in Pittsburgh.



By Amy J. DiPlacido, M.D.
Bloomfield-Garfield Family Health Center

A-a-a-choo!

Have your eyes and nose been bothering you lately? Have the symptoms been hanging on for weeks? Do your symptoms seem worse in certain places (like outdoors) or during certain times of the year? It could be more than just a bad cold. Many people suffer from allergies, and summer is a prime time for symptoms to act up.

Common symptoms include itch-

ing, watery, and red eyes. Other symptoms can include a runny nose, nasal congestion, post-nasal drip, sneezing, and coughing.

Allergies happen when the body's immune system reacts to normally harmless substances in the environment. Allergies, like asthma and eczema, often run in families.

Outdoor triggers can be pollen, grasses, spores, and weeds. Other triggers include tobacco smoke, pollution, dust mites, and cold air. Some people have allergies that worsen during different seasons of the year. Other people have allergies that last all year.

Your doctor can usually diagnose allergies based on the description you give of your symptoms and based on a physical exam. It is very important to try to avoid substances that cause symptoms if they can be identified. Other treatments can include eye drops, nasal sprays, or pills, depending on which parts of your body are most affected. If people have severe allergies that are not controllable by medications alone, sometimes they are referred to an allergist to be evaluated for allergy shots.

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Youth Employment Program Grad Works on Voting Issues

By James Eldred
The Bulletin

Sam Hawkins thought he had all he needed to get a job. But even after getting his GED through Pittsburgh Job Corps and receiving special training in business office technology, the 19-year-old from East Liberty wasn't able to find work that he felt suited him.

"I was looking for a job [for about] a year," he said. "I wanted something that could be progressive, not just flipping burgers."

Now Hawkins is working part-time with the League of Young Voters (LYV), a nonprofit organization that works to encourage young people to get involved with the voting process, and he credits the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's Youth Employment Program (YEP) for the opportunity. Hawkins said that the process of finding a job, something that was nearly impossible for him before, was made easier with their help.

"I came in for the entry test, and after that, they found me a job in three weeks," he said. Hawkins has been with LYV for about six months, working as a staff assistant - first as a temp through the YEP, and now as an employee.

Hawkins said that he enjoys his

job because he's working with computers, "I do data entry, and I do some research projects, gathering information together for canvassing."

He's also learning about issues that he knew little about before, and some of it is surprising him. One of the issues that LYV is most concerned about is making sure that people are not blocked from exercising their right to vote. Hawkins said he didn't realize that was still an issue.

"It surprised me how sometimes [people] will work on getting certain people to not vote or not allowing certain people to vote," he said.

Hawkins plans on continuing his education, and hopes to go to business school in the future, since his long-term plans include opening his own business. And when it comes to continuing his education, the Youth Development Center "has been telling me that they can help me get into school. I'm looking to going back and finding out what they can do for me," he said.

The Youth Employment Program has played a key role in Hawkins' life so far, and he spoke highly of it: "I would recommend it for anybody - these programs are really a big help."



SAM HAWKINS IN HIS WORKSPACE AT THE LEAGUE OF YOUNG VOTERS.

James Eldred/The Bulletin

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Rick Flanagan/BGC

ON JULY 10, RESIDENTS OF THE FAIRMONT APARTMENTS IN GARFIELD ATTENDED A PRESENTATION BY VIRGINIA GRAY, NURSE AT UPMC ST. MARGARET'S BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD FAMILY HEALTH CENTER, WHO TALKED ABOUT THE CENTER'S SERVICES FOR SENIORS. THE HEALTH CENTER IS RELOCATING FROM THE LAURENTIAN HALL BUILDING TO A LARGER SPACE IN THE PENN FAIRMONT COMPLEX. THE EVENT WAS ORGANIZED IN PART BY CARL BOWMAN, AN INTERN WITH THE BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD CORPORATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

WHAT IT IS AND HOW IT WORKS

Part II in a three-part series on employment issues

By Frank Pistella

*Neighborhood Legal Services
Association*

Workers with disabilities are protected from discrimination in the workplace by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Under the ADA, a person cannot be fired or refused employment solely because of a disability, and employers are required to make "reasonable accommodations" for any disabled worker in order for that worker to perform his or her job.

The ADA defines a disability as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. Either having a record of such impairment or being treated as if you have such impairment is sufficient. Some disabilities are more obvious than others. Being paralyzed from the waist down is an obvious disability, but there are impairments a person may have that are not as easily recognized. There have been many court cases to help define what constitutes these disabilities. Suffering from chronic back problems, being HIV-positive, or having some mental illnesses are some of the court-defined disabilities that are also covered under the ADA.

Once a worker is recognized as having a disability, the next step is to determine what an employer must do in order to provide reasonable accommodations that will assist the disabled

worker in the performance of his or her job. Providing reasonable accommodations under the ADA can be accomplished in a variety of ways, and may include: changing the physical structure of the workplace; providing special equipment; changing the disabled worker's schedule; installing a ramp to provide wheelchair access through an entrance; providing a worker with a reading device; or letting a worker work in isolation.

However, there are limits to what an employer must do to provide reasonable accommodations. An employer does not need to accommodate a disabled worker if it is extremely difficult or expensive for the company to do so. The steps a company must take to provide reasonable accommodations depend upon the worker's disability and the company's financial resources. Employers are not expected to provide the "best" or "ideal" accommodations.

Employers cannot ask job applicants about their health, but a prospective employer can ask if he or she can do the job. When applying for a job, it may not be a good idea to tell a prospective employer about a disability, unless there is a need to be accommodated.

If a worker with a disability has been conditionally offered a job, the employer can require a physical examination. An employer can then only refuse to hire the disabled worker based on the results of the exam if it shows that the worker would be

unable to perform the job requirements even with reasonable accommodations.

Once a worker with a disability is hired, there is no requirement that the employer be told of an existing disability. It is only when the employee wishes to have a reasonable accommodation that notice would be required. Requests should be in writing and the employer may ask for proof of the disability; usually a doctor's note is sufficient. The employer must then make the accommodations within a reasonable time.

Even though discrimination against the disabled is illegal, it still happens. If discrimination occurs or if an employer fails to provide a reasonable accommodation, a complaint can be filed with several organizations. Be aware that there are strict time restrictions on filing complaints with each of these organizations.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has a 300-day time limit to file a complaint; they can be reached at 1001 Liberty Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, or at 412-644-3444 and text telephone at 412-644-2720; the EEOC website is www.eeoc.gov. The Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (PHRC) has a 180-day time limit on filing complaints and can be reached at the State Office Building, 300 Liberty Avenue, 11th floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, or at 412-565-5395 and text telephone at 412-565-5711; the PHRC website is

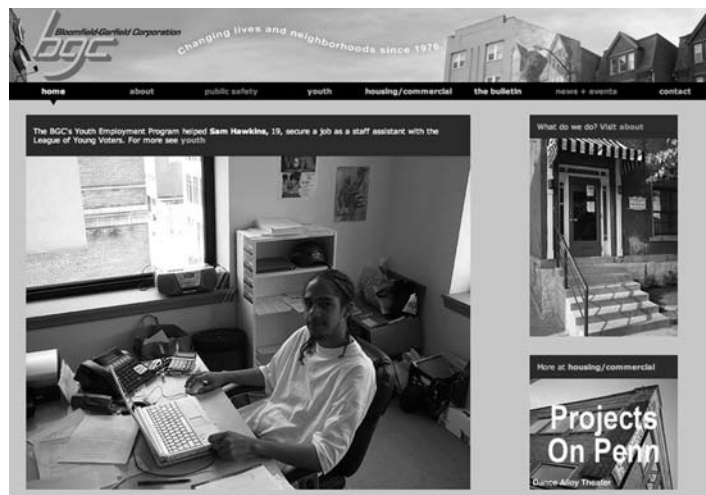


www.phcr.state.pa.us. The Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations (PCHR) has a 365-day time limit. They are located at 908 City-County Building, 414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, and can be reached at 412-255-2600; the website of the PCHR is www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/chr/ and their e-mail address is human.relations@city.pittsburgh.pa.us. Remember, employers are not legally permitted to retaliate against workers for filing complaints with these organizations.

As always, it is important that workers seek legal advice regarding disability issues, since these types of cases can be complicated, and the law is constantly changing. Neighborhood Legal Services Association (NLSA) can provide advice to eligible persons in these situations. NLSA has a toll-free number which can be accessed from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday (1-866-761-6572). For more information on NLSA and the services we provide, please visit us at www.nlsa.us. At our website, you will also find a link to www.PaLAWhelp.org, which also provides valuable legal information on a multitude of legal topics.

BGC Website Gets Design Overhaul

With the generous assistance of the Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development, Allegheny Valley Bank, and National City Bank, the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation has begun a major revamping of its website. At right is a peek at the new, interactive home page. Freelance designer Alec Sarkas, who also created a logo for the BGC last year, is the talent behind the eye-catching design. Although the website is still in process, staff will be adding content in the weeks to come. Visit us often at www.bloomfield-garfield.org!



ERRATUM

In the July 2008 edition of *The Bulletin*, the "Legal Ease" article on employment discrimination omitted information on how to contact the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations (PCHR). They are located at 908 City-County Building, 414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 and can be reached at 412-255-2600; the website is www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/chr and e-mail address is human.relations@city.pittsburgh.pa.us.

Lawrenceville History Comes To Life in "Snapshots Through Time" House Tour

By Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

If you're wondering how a house tour in Pittsburgh could possibly be fresh and new, you'll want to make a trip to Lawrenceville this October. That's when the neighborhood's 20-year-old annual hospitality house tour will transform itself into a history-filled extravaganza called "Snapshots in Time," in honor of the city's 250th birthday.

Organizing committee member Kate Bayer may be understating it when she says that there will be "a lot going on" in Lawrenceville on Oct. 4 and 5. Not only has the house tour expanded from one day to two, but historical re-enactments are also on tap. The event is made possible by grants from Pittsburgh 250's Community Connections, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, and the Lawrenceville Corporation.

The 2008 house tour will highlight much more than the history of Lawrenceville's elite or well-known figures like Stephen Foster. Among the featured homes is a row house on Plummer Street that was built in the 1890s and once housed a mill worker's family. "This was the working man's typical dwelling," observes Bayer. The current owners have trans-

formed what was once a strictly utilitarian structure into a showcase that will be featured on a segment of HGTV's *My House Is Worth What?* next year.

"You don't see row houses or city houses, for that matter, on HGTV," says owner Kalliope, who bought the place 10 years ago and now lives there with her husband, Joe. "We thought [being on the show] would be an interesting way to promote Lawrenceville," a neighborhood she says she fell in love with before it was "on the map."

With judicious arrangement of their compact living quarters, Kalliope and Joe have created a warm space that never feels cramped, although it's filled to the brim with whimsical lighting fixtures and quaint antiques they picked up at rummage sales. "I like to salvage things and revive them," Kalliope notes.

"Her creativity is endless," says Joe, crediting his wife with their home's many space-saving features and imaginative touches. In the front of the house, she dressed up what could have been just a plain brick facade with colorful container plants and a bright purple bench. In the narrow back yard, she and Joe built a deck and pond, which has become a miniature natural habitat, once even



attracting a blue heron. Their home will be open for touring at dusk, allowing visitors a chance to see the magical quality of their back yard's



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

ONCE A MODEST WORKING-CLASS RESIDENCE, THIS HOUSE ON PLUMMER STREET IS NOW A SHOWCASE INSIDE AND OUT.

outdoor lighting scheme.

Different houses will be available for viewing each day, with trolleys and a van available to shuttle people from stop to stop. In addition, performers and re-enactors representing the neighborhood's different historical periods will be posted in strategic locations. Among the historical personages making "appearances" will be Indian chief Shannopin; frontiersman George Croghan; industrialist Andrew Kroman; actress Lillian Russell; world welterweight champion Fritz Zivic; and a variety of lesser-known but still fascinating local characters, like a woman who ran a Lawrenceville speakeasy during Prohibition and a 1936 flood victim. And, of course, Stephen Foster.

Kate Bayer's husband, Josh, is co-producing the re-enactments with local theater professionals Andy Ostrowski and Brian Czarniecki. On August 25, the re-enactment committee will hold open auditions for "people with some experience" to play the various roles. (See "Call for Actors" on page 15 for details.)

For more information about "Snapshots Through Time," including where to buy advance tickets, visit the website at www.lawrenceville-housetour.org.



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BULLETIN BOARD

The Bulletin Board publishes listings of volunteer opportunities, free or low-cost events and classes, announcements, fundraising events, and services that are of particular interest to our neighborhoods. Send announcements to hgbulletin@yahoo.com by the 15th of each month. Information is published on a space-available basis.

3RD ANNUAL YOUNG ARTISTS' CONTEST

Calling young artists! The Children's Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center welcomes you to enter the 3rd annual "Kids Helping Kids" art contest through August 29. Children ages 12 and under are encouraged to let their imaginations run free and create an original piece of artwork. Five winners will be selected by local celebrities to have their creation printed on private label products that will be sold at local retail outlets and on their website. All proceeds benefit The Children's Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center. Applications and instructions available online at www.chomepgh.org or call 412-441-4884 for more information.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN EAST LIBERTY

The East Liberty Section 3 Job Training & Referral Initiative is a partnership between the Coalition of Organized Residents of East Liberty (COR) and East Liberty Development Inc. (ELDI), with the purpose of linking neighborhood residents with opportunities created by the redevelopment of East Liberty. We are accepting applications for immediate and future openings in the following industries:

- Food and Customer Service
- Retail and Customer Service
- Construction and Building Trades

Many employers are seeking enthusiastic individuals who are willing to learn on the job with company training. Some employers are seeking experienced and skilled professionals within these specific industries. If you are looking for an employment opportunity in East Liberty, please visit or contact us: Section 3 Coordinator, East Liberty Section 3 Job Training & Referral Initiative, c/o

COR East Liberty, 211 N. Whitfield Street, Suite 210, Pittsburgh, PA 15206. Phone: 412-661-2600; fax: 412-661-2602; e-mail: kevin.mickens@eastliberty.org.

SUMMER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The Morningside Church of God In Christ, 5173 Dearborn St. in Garfield, will have Summer Vacation Bible School from August 4 to 8, 10 a.m. to noon. Children ages 4 to 16 are invited to come and participate in the activities: Bible study, crafts, and music. The closing service will be on Friday, August 8, at 1:30 p.m.. For more information, call the church at 412-361-9865.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT IN GARFIELD

Concerned Women for Christ present "Family Movie Night," Thursday, August 7, at 6:30 p.m., at the Bloomfield-Garfield Community Activity Center, 113 North Pacific Avenue (corner of Dearborn) in Garfield.

GREATER PGH FOOD BANK SERVICES

If times are hard and your grocery budget is being spent on gasoline or utility bills, your family does not have to go hungry. The Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank can help you get some of the food you need in order to be happy and healthy. Please call toll-free 1-800-343-3135 x 456.

DIABETES EXPO AT CONVENTION CENTER

On Saturday, August 23, the American Diabetes Association will host the Diabetes Expo in conjunction with WTAE-TV Healthy 4 Life Expo at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Downtown Pittsburgh from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This free, one-day event showcases the latest products and services for people with diabetes and features dance, exercise and cooking demonstrations, and health screenings. This highly interactive event also includes activities for people of all ages, including a fun Youth Zone with exciting activities and information for children with diabetes and their families. The Diabetes EXPO offers the public a unique opportunity to talk with health-care experts and obtain important medical and nutrition informa-

tion. For more information about diabetes and the Diabetes EXPO, contact (412) 824-1181 x 4608 or 1-888-DIABETES (1-888-342-2383).

BEREAVEMENT CAMP FOR CHILDREN

Good Samaritan Hospice (GSH), a mission of Concordia Lutheran Ministries, will host an overnight summer bereavement camp (Camp Good Sam) from Aug. 14-16 at YMCA Camp Kon-O-Kwee near Zelienople, just north of Cranberry. Camp Good Sam is designed for children ages 6-18 who have lost a loved one. Interested campers must complete a camp application and participate in a brief interview before attending. The cost for Camp Good Sam is only \$15 per family. The curriculum for the camp includes group sessions, one-on-one interaction, crafts, and activities. Campers are encouraged to work through grief at their own pace, while GSH counselors foster an environment of sharing and acceptance. Registration is currently open. To register or receive additional information, contact Good Samaritan Hospice toll free at 1-800-720-2557 or visit GSH on the Web at www.concordialm.org.

PENN AVE. BUILDING OWNERSHIP WORKSHOP

Do you want to learn how to own a building? Join the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative on Thursday, September 18, at 6 p.m. at EDGE Studio for our 8th Annual Building Ownership Workshop. The unique workshop educates those interested in owning a building about the resources and programs available. To reserve your spot, call Matthew at 412-441-6147 x 4. EDGE Studio is located at 5411 Penn Avenue.

ZUMBA LESSONS IN EAST END

Zumba dance lessons in the East End - the fusion of Latin dance, aerobics, and international music! The routines tone and sculpt your body while burning fat. Add some Latin flavor and International zest into the mix and you've got Zumba! No prior dance experience needed. Please bring some water, a towel, and comfortable shoes. E-mail modernformations@hotmail.com or call 412-362-0274 for more information. Private lessons also available. Tuesdays, August 5, 12, 19, 26; 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.;

Saturdays, August 2, 16, 23, 30; 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. \$5 per class, package deals available - cash or check.

KIDS' DROP-IN CENTER

Door of Hope Community Church now offers the "Night Hope Center" on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7 to 10 p.m. for kids aged 10-15 years. The drop-in center has Wii, pool, games, snacks, and other fun for free at 5227 Holmes Street. Call 412-781-6440 for more information.

MORNINGSIDE C.O.G.I.C. AUGUST PROGRAMS

The Young Women's Christian Council of Morningside Church of God in Christ, 5173 Dearborn St. at Pacific, will be sponsoring a pre-pastoral anniversary service on Friday, August 15, at 7 p.m. The theme is "Women of Liberty." The guest speaker will be Evangelist Roberta Watkins. All are welcome. Also, the church will have its annual outdoor Community Day on Saturday, August 30, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. There will be food, entertainment, items to purchase, games for the children, health screenings, and CPR training. Come and enjoy a fun filled day. For more information or to have a table, you can call the church at 412-361-9865.

L'VILLE URBAN GARDEN TOUR

Calling all urban gardeners excited about sharing and learning new ideas on gardening in urban spaces. No garden is too small. Container gardens are very welcomed. Share your secrets. Gardens needed. If you would like to participate, please call Liz at 412-657-6402 or e-mail eballinger@chatham.edu. Free to the public - please tell your friends. Tour is scheduled for Sunday, September 7, from 11-5.

JOBS FOR ADULTS 40+

AARP WorkSearch helps adults 40 and over remain in the workforce, become more marketable, change careers, or get a new job. Identify suitable job choices and determine if you have the right skills. Link to job openings by zip code. Free training available to mature job seekers of all income levels. Register at Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, 5100 Penn Ave., or call 412-362-8580 or 412-271-1580 for details.

BULLETIN BOARD

FORECLOSURE PREVENTION COUNSELING

Are you worried about losing your home? Are you behind with your property taxes or other creditors? Do you know what to do or who to call? Do not wait - call now to schedule your free financial assessment: 412 665-5213.

COMMUNITY PRAYER WATCH

Every other Wednesday night at 7 p.m. at Valley View Church (601 N. Aiken Ave), we will be gathering to pray for our community. All are invited to attend as we unite as a community in prayer. Specifically, we will be praying for peace and justice in the homes and in the streets of Garfield and Pittsburgh. We'll be gathering every other Wednesday. August dates for the Community Prayer Watch will be August 6 and 20. Please come and join us.

ISAIAH'S KITCHEN

Introducing *Isaiah's Kitchen* at Valley View Church (601 N. Aiken). Isaiah's Kitchen is our new food bank ministry, which takes place the first Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to noon. If any in the community are in need of some extra food for the month and are currently NOT receiving food from another food bank, Isaiah's Kitchen is here to serve you. Our next distribution is Saturday, August 2.

If Saturdays are not good for you, our other food bank day is generally the third Tuesday of the month. For August, it will be August 19. Please feel free to call with any questions. The church number is 412-361-0870. Pastor Chad Collins' number is 412-708-6158.

CALL FOR ACTORS

The Lawrenceville House Tour is looking for local community actors capable of playing ages 25 and up in "character"-type roles. If selected, you will be portraying various individuals from Lawrenceville's historic past, giving "living history" presentations to tour-goers. The re-enactments will be given at various houses and locations throughout the community. Character scripts will be provided, but you will be expected to do some research and background on your character. This is a great opportunity for intimate performances and in-depth character presentations, to be

literally "in the moment." Performance dates are Saturday, October 4, from 5 to 9 p.m. and Sunday, October 5, from noon to 5 p.m. You must be available both days. For the audition, you will be expected to present a two-minute monologue, as well as cold-read one or two of the prepared scripts. Auditions are at the Shiloh Center, 39th Street and Mintwood in Lawrenceville, on August 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. Please bring a headshot and resume if you have them. We are scheduling audition times; please contact Josh Bayer at jb163@verizon.net for your time. Casting decisions will be made that evening.

FREE YOUTH KARATE PRACTICE

The Traditional Martial Arts Society will be practicing in Highland Park on Saturday, August 9, from 9 to 10 a.m. across from the Super Playground on Reservoir Drive (the wooden play area) by the North Highland Ave. entrance. This FREE activity is open to all children ages 7 to 17. Children should wear loose clothing and sneakers. Parents and children should come 10 minutes early to sign in for practice. Atemi jutsu stresses hand strikes and kicks as a manner of handling attackers and is geared for teaching young people leadership skills; focusing on self confidence, mutual respect, and self-discipline. In the case of bad weather, the free practice will be held at TMAS facilities at 5738 Baum Blvd. in East Liberty.

YOUTH KARATE SUMMER CAMP

The Traditional Martial Arts Society is conducting its youth summer camp August 12-14. "Fighting the End of Summer!" is an energetic and exciting program designed to promote physical activity, discipline, and leadership qualities through study of martial arts, specifically Atemi jutsu. Children coming through the summer program will feel empowered to use the skills they have developed when they return to their communities. The program is open to all children ages 8 through 18, regardless of style or experience: 8- to 13-year-olds will meet from 5-7 p.m., 14- to 18-year-olds will meet from 7-9 p.m. Cost is \$45 or \$20 per day. The camp will take place in TMAS facilities at 5738 Baum Blvd. in East Liberty. Call 412-361-1080 for more information

MARTIAL ARTS WORKSHOP

Joseph Urich and David White, head instructors of The Traditional Martial Arts Society, will be presenting a martial arts workshop on Saturday, August 23, in the TMAS dojo at 5738 Baum Blvd. Open to all styles and all levels of practitioners, the workshop will focus on ground controls of the Hito Ryu. The workshop will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is \$30. Aiki Jujutsu is a classical Japanese martial art focusing on using an attacker's energy to apply arm locks, throws, chokes, and strikes against the attacker. To register or receive more information, call 412-361-1080.

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM REGISTRATION

After-school program, Monday through Thursday, 4 to 6 p.m., ages 7 to 17 years in grades 2 to 10, at New Bethel Church, 221 43rd Street, Lawrenceville. Reading, math, help with homework, and projects with access to supervised Internet use. Light snacks served. Deadline for registration is August 15; program begins Sept. 15. Seats are limited. For registration forms and class details, call Yvonne Rose, program administrator, at 412-537-4188, or Minister Nicita Moses at 412-728-4046. Leave message with your name, phone number, your child/children's names, ages, and grades.

MAYOR'S FAMILY NIGHT

Grab a blanket, gather up the kids, and join Mayor Luke Ravenstahl for the first-ever "Mayor's Family Night," on Sunday, August 10, on Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park in Oakland. There will be light refreshments and fun activities for the kids - including arts and crafts and the chance to get up close and personal with fire, police, and public works vehicles. The evening wraps up with the Academy Award-nominated animated film *Surf's Up* (rated PG). There will also be information on various city neighborhoods and initiatives. The fun begins at 6:30 p.m., with the movie starting around 8:30 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE MEETING

The BGC Public Safety Task Force meets once a month to review progress being made in the area of crime prevention in Bloomfield, Garfield, and Friendship. Residents and business owners are invited to attend the first 15 minutes to raise specific concerns or give concrete details about criminal activity. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, August 13, at 4 p.m., at the Bloomfield-Garfield Community Activity Center, 113 North Pacific Avenue (corner of Dearborn). For more information, contact Aggie Brose, chair of the Task Force, at 412-441-6950 x15.

EAST LIBERTY LIBRARY AUGUST PROGRAMS

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh/East Liberty
130 S. Whitfield St.
412-363-8232

Preschool Storytime

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

Catch the Reading Bug


For ages 6-12. Wednesday, August 7, 1:30 p.m. Learn about butterflies.

Summer Reading Final Program

For summer reading participants. Saturday, August 9, 2:00 p.m. Make bug crafts with Judy Press.

East Liberty PC Center:

Visit <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/locations/pccenter/eastliberty/> to view the August classes. To register for classes or for more information about our free computer classes, call the PC Center-East Liberty at 412-363-6105.




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EVENTS

Lawrenceville "Urban Pocket Garden" Tour

Urban gardeners share and learn new ideas. No garden is too small! Container gardens are welcome. If you would like to participate, please call Liz at 412-657-6402 or e-mail eballinger@chatham.edu. Free to the public. Garden tour is scheduled for Sunday, September 7, from 11-5.

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THANK YOU

The Poston Family would like to say thank you for all your prayers and condolences in the passing of our little angel, Marcia Janie Poston.
*With a heart-felt thank you
The Postons*

WORSHIP SERVICES

Morningside Church of God in Christ

5173 Dearborn Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15224
Office: (412) 361-9865 Fax: (412) 363-5414
Elder Lamont B. Shields, Pastor

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

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