



The Bulletin

A Publication of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

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Phase 1 of Garfield Heights Redevelopment Plan Shifts into Drive

On September 13, approximately 75 community members filled the activity hall of St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Garfield to hear the good news about Phase 1 of the Garfield Heights Redevelopment Plan - a \$21 million project that involves the construction of 90 new single-family homes, 50 reserved for low-income residents. Just one day earlier, the

state announced its award of \$10 million in tax credits for the project, allowing work to move ahead quickly, with construction now slated to begin in spring of 2008 and conclude at the end of 2009.

"It's been five years of meetings," said Joann Monroe, executive director of Garfield Jubilee Association,

By Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

which sponsored the meeting along with Bloomfield-

Garfield Corporation. "There's been a lot of disappointment, a lot of tears....But the Housing Authority made a commitment...to revitalize our community."

As reported last October in *The Bulletin*, the contract for the Garfield Heights project went to KBK Enterprises, a Columbus, Ohio-based African-American-owned firm whose principal, Keith Key, grew up on Columbo Street in Garfield. Working with Keys on the project are two other former Garfield residents - David Scott, the project's construction manager, and Tisha Germany, the Pittsburgh office executive for KBK. The three attended Peabody High School at the same time, and are now

determined "to help put the old neighborhood back together," said Key. (See related story, page 4.)

Speakers at the community meeting unveiled the revised Master Plan for Phase 1, which was significantly altered from earlier designs. One of the biggest changes, Germany explained in her presentation, was adding an additional street, so that there will be more than one entrance and exit to the neighborhood, unlike other planned-unit developments.

Also, each house will have distinguishing features, instead of being nearly identical to those around it, so residents will find it "clear that your house is your own," Germany said. Significant differences will occur in façade appearance, porch placement, and location of personal green space. Each unit will come equipped with a



ARTIST'S RENDERING OF A ROW OF NEW UNITS ALONG FERN STREET AT SCHENLEY AVE.

SEE PHASE 1, Page 6

East Liberty Development Aims to Reverse Neighborhood Decay

Most new housing projects are intended to serve a particular kind of customer, while hopefully generating a profit to the owners. Rarely do they take on the challenge of changing economic or social conditions in the marketplace. But the latter is certainly true of a 41-unit, scattered-site development now underway in a section of East Liberty that borders Highland Park.

After years of watching a gradual decline in the fortunes of an area bounded by N. Negley Avenue and East Liberty Boulevard, East Liberty Development Inc. (ELDI) decided a more radical approach was needed. Working through its real estate subsidiary, ELDevCo, it began amassing a

By Rick Swartz
Bloomfield-Garfield Corp.

portfolio of decaying multi-family houses and vacant lots located in close proximity to better-maintained housing on Mellon Street and N. Negley Avenue. Then it approached a private developer, S & A Homes, and convinced it to form a partnership that would be needed to leverage over \$8 million in financing to put the properties back into productive re-use.

Today, "Negley Neighbors," as the project was christened, is renovating 33 apartments at seven different locations on Jackson Street, Mellon Street, and N. Negley Avenue, and building eight new rental units at four others.

When finished, individuals or families with incomes as low as 40 percent of the median household income for the Pittsburgh region will be able to move into a mix of 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom, and 3-bedroom apartments.

"In the 500 block of Mellon Street just a few years ago, we had a very rough environment on any given day," says Eric Jester, project manager for ELDI. "Now, we're starting to see that dissipate, because we focused on purchasing the buildings where some of those active in that market lived." Standing at the corner of Jackson and Mellon Streets, Jester can point to four single-family homes that were recently renovated by the Highland Park Community Development Corpora-

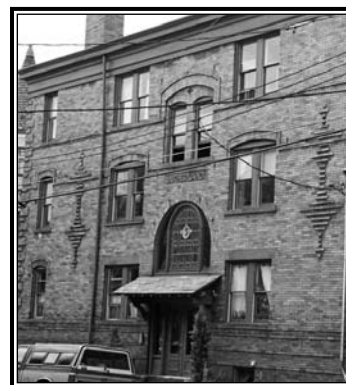


Photo by Rick Swartz

THE SUTHERLAND, AT THE CORNER OF MELLON AND JACKSON, WAS REDONE TWO YEARS AGO.

SEE ELDI, Page 5

**NOVEMBER
DEADLINE!**

The **FINAL DEADLINE** for the **November 2007** issue of *The Bulletin* is **Friday, October 15, 2007**. 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

Home Alone: Is It Safe to Leave Children on Their Own?

When is it OK for parents to leave a child home alone, either for a short period or on a regular basis? It is generally recommended that children younger than age 10 never be left at home alone.

By the age of 11 or 12, some children can stay home alone safely for up to a few hours, but remember that every child matures at a different rate. Therefore, it is not just the age that matters in making your decision. There are a number of important points families should consider before allowing their children to be self-supervised. Does he or she have the personality, self-confidence, and judgment skills to accept this responsibility? Will the experience be positive and help build and enhance the child's self-image, or will the experience cause anxiety? Does your child want to stay home alone?

Having a family conference to discuss the arrangement is a good place to start. House rules, expectations of each family member, and a daily routine should be decided. At the end of the day, parents and guardians can have regular family meetings to help make sure the arrangement is still working and identify any changes needing to be made. Here are some steps you and your child can take to have a positive home alone experience.

Before allowing your child to be home alone, you should:

- Ask your child how he or she feels about being alone. Is your child afraid to be left alone? Does he or she have the maturity and initiative to assume that responsibility?
- Decide if you feel your child can follow directions and solve problems

on his or her own.

- Determine how long your child will be alone, how available you or another trusted adult will be in case of an emergency, and how safe the neighborhood is.
- Make sure you've set specific rules to be followed by your child while he or she is alone, and give your child specific instructions about how to reach you at all times. This should also include another contact person, if your child needs help and can't reach you right away.
- Remember you're in charge, even if it is from a distance.

Before staying home alone, make sure your child knows:

- His or her full name, address, and telephone number.
- Your full name, where you will be and that telephone number, and any pager or cell phone numbers you have.
- How to make an emergency call using 911.
- How to carry his or her key so it is hidden and secure. Your name and address should not be on the key, and it may be wise to leave an extra key with a trusted friend or neighbor.
- Not to play alone on the way home, and never take shortcuts home. Not to tell other kids he will be home alone.
- What to do if he or she is being followed. If that happens, your child should turn around, run in the opposite direction, and go to a designated place to get help and tell a trusted adult what happened.
- To always check out the house before entering, looking for doors

**By Community Education Department
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
of UPMC**

that may be open, windows that may be broken,

or anything that doesn't look right, and go to a safe place to call for help if something doesn't seem right.

- To always lock the door after entering and make sure the house is secure.
- To immediately check in with you upon returning home to let you know he is home safe.
- To tell callers you can't come to the telephone and offer to take a message instead of letting people know he or she is home alone.
- Not to open the door for or talk to anyone who comes to the home unless the person is a trusted family friend or relative, that he or she feels comfortable being alone with that person, and the visit has been pre-approved by you.
- To stay alert for true emergencies such as a fire or gas-main leak that would require the need to leave the home.

- To check with you or another trusted adult if he or she is in doubt about anything.

As a parent or guardian, you should make sure you have:

- A daily schedule of homework, chores, and activities for your child to follow.
- A list of emergency phone numbers kept close to the telephone.
- Explained to your child what to do in case of fire and other emergencies.
- A plan if you are going to be late returning home.
- Rules about watching television, preparing meals and snacks, using a computer, talking on the telephone, and inviting friends over when you aren't home.
- Time to discuss the day's events with your child. Make sure he or she knows it is okay to discuss anything with you, especially something that may have made him or her feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused in any way.

School Safety Forum

Quincy, a 2-year-old drug-sniffing black Lab who works with the Pittsburgh Public Schools Police, and his handler, Officer Young, made a guest appearance at a presentation on school safety on Sept. 11 at Reizenstein Middle School in East Liberty. The presentation was given by Chief Robert Fadzen and Detective Kristy Zombeck for parents, teachers, and other interested community members. Chief Fadzen covered such topics as how building design affects safety and what security measures and crisis plans are in place to protect students in Pittsburgh's public schools. "The safest eight hours your kids spend are in school," Chief Fadzen assured the audience. "These kids are our life."



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

Zone Meetings

If you would like to stay up-to-date with police efforts in your area, then please attend one of the monthly zone meetings.

The next Zone 5 Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 9, at 7 p.m. at The Union Project, 801 N. Negley at Stanton.

For more information, call Zone 5 at 412-665-3605.

The Zone 2 Public Safety Council Meeting is held the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Hill House, 1835 Centre Avenue.

For more information, call Zone 2 at 412-255-2827.

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The Mayor Comes to Garfield

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl brought his "Neighborhood Listening Tour" to Garfield on Sept. 5, when he addressed about 70 residents of the Upper East End (Lawrenceville, Polish Hill, Morningside, Garfield, Friendship, Bloomfield, and Highland Park) in St. Lawrence O'Toole's community hall.

Flanked by representatives of his administration - including Police, Fire, Housing Authority, Public Works, Planning, and other city departments - the mayor reported back to the community on issues of financial stability, city management, public safety, economic development, neighborhood revitalization, and the city's "green" (i.e., environmental) agenda.

He said that the city will end 2007 with a surplus of \$80 million, and that he believes "we have turned the corner financially." While his emphasis was on his accomplishments, he also acknowledged a few continuing problems, such as the shortfall in the public pension fund - "a problem we didn't get into overnight."

In the area of public safety, the

mayor expressed particular pride in the city's 311 system, which has processed 25,000 service requests in less than a year, and in a "very visible police presence" in the city. Also, as a techno-friendly mayor - "the first mayor of Pittsburgh to have a computer in his office," he said - Mayor Ravenstahl is instituting a new policy of having a computer in each police car, to eliminate the need for officers to return to their zones to file reports.

Following the mayor's presentation, there was a structured discussion period with members of the audience, facilitated by Josette Fitzgibbons of the City Planning Department. During the discussion, attendees were invited to relate two things they liked about their neighborhood, two concerns they have about it, and two hopes they have for their community 5 to 10 years down the road. The mayor's staff made notes on an easel pad.

Audience member responses varied widely, depending on where people lived. For example, while some residents of Lawrenceville were wor-

By Paula Martinac
The Bulletin

ried about traffic and parking, especially with the coming of Children's Hospital, or wished for a bike trail, folks from Garfield complained about drugs, prostitution, rats, and garbage. John Walker, who lives on the East Liberty/Garfield border, said he would "love to see more beat cops. There's a lower police presence than what we'd like."

Aggie Brose, deputy director of Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation,

said her dream for the near future is that "the Penn Avenue corridor will be beautiful, housing stock in Garfield will be outstanding, and Garfield will be a place where everyone will want to be."

Mayor Ravenstahl will report back to East Liberty, Larimer, Lincoln Lemington, Homewood Brushton, and East Hills on Wednesday, October 24, at 6:30 p.m. at Reizenstein Middle School, 129 Denniston Avenue. For more information, call 412-255-2694.



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

MAYOR LUKE RAVENSTAH POSES WITH BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD CORPORATION BOARD MEMBER P.J. MALONEY FOLLOWING THE MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD FORUM IN GARFIELD.

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Friday, November 16
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Pittsburgh Athletic Association
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Tickets: \$50/person

Ticket price includes three-course lunch. Indicate choice of chicken or vegetarian entrée with ticket order. Make checks payable to Bloomfield-Garfield Corp., and send to BGC, 5149 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15224, by Nov. 9. All tickets will be held at door. Business attire required. Information: 412-441-6950.

*Mellon Bank is now BNY Mellon Corp.

The Bulletin

serving
Bloomfield, East Liberty, Friendship,
Garfield 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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All submissions to *The Bulletin* of any sort 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.

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and thank our advertisers and the BGC's funding partners, including Mellon Financial Corp., 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.

Garfield Representatives Tour Developments in Columbus



Rick Swartz/Bloomfield-Garfield Corp.

A delegation of representatives from the Garfield community and the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh (*above left*) visited the offices of Keith Key, president of KBK Enterprises, in northeast Columbus, Ohio, on September 18. KBK Enterprises will be the lead developer in replacing the Garfield Heights public housing community with new, affordably priced rental homes. (*See related story, page 1*) The group was able to meet with the KBK staff, tour the offices, and visit a number of housing developments either owned or managed by the firm. Included among these was the Hermitage (*above right*), a 384-unit complex that is largely supported by the Section 8 rent program.

Garfield Gators Upcoming Games

Saturday, Oct. 6: North Shore at Garfield (home - Ft. Pitt ALA)
Saturday, Oct. 13: Garfield at Clairton (Clairton High School)
Saturday, Oct. 20: Garfield at Kingsley (Peabody High School)
Saturday, Oct. 27 and Nov. 3: Playoff Games (place TBA)
Nov. 11: Championship Games at Cupples Stadium, Southside

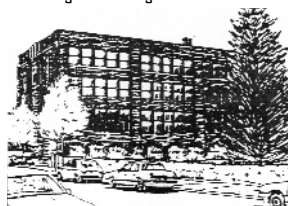
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ELDI, From Page 1

tion and resold for prices in excess of \$200,000. There is also a 3-story building, The Sutherland, which was redone two years ago, and is now commanding rents of \$900 per month and up. "Our goal," says Jester, "was to build off the strengths of those successes in planning Negley Neighbors."

Creative financing was key to making the development feasible. Every building needed to be gutted, and the cost of renovating such properties has climbed to over \$125 per square foot. To put that in perspective, a 900-square-foot apartment would cost over \$110,000 to redo. But working-class families can't afford the \$1,200 per month rent for the 2-bedroom unit that would result. So the amount that Negley Neighbors would have to borrow to do both the new and renovated housing had to be reduced considerably.

ELDI and the Highland Park CDC decided to collaborate in getting this section of East Liberty designated an historic district. That opened the way for using state tax credits to offset a portion of the renovation costs. Then ELDI and S & A Homes pursued an allocation of federal tax credits available through the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency. That award came earlier this year, and then Mellon Bank's Community Development Corporation and the city's Urban Redevelopment Authority were able to round out the financing with the requisite loans. ELDI even loaned funds to the project, thanks to grants from the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation. "We tapped every source we could think of," Jester admits.

The commitment of community development corporations to securing

this type of housing for families who might otherwise be shut out from the market is often doubted. Jester hopes that Negley Neighbors can be a long-standing testament to the fact that CDC's do want a mix of residents in their communities. "We need housing that is well-managed and maintained," Jester says. "Housing for lower-income persons doesn't have to be the worst of what a neighborhood has to offer. Increasingly, that was becoming the case in East Liberty. Too many private landlords want the income stream from such investments, but don't want to re-invest enough of that stream back into their properties. And they want to palm off their management responsibilities on to the police, or to the neighbors." Negley Neighbors will have a proactive management presence, and will have reserves created for future repairs and improvements, Jester says.

S & A Homes is the general contractor and is building the new homes, using a prototype that Todd Winnor, a division manager for S & A, says will exceed national energy-efficiency standards by 40 percent. Team Construction, a local firm, has been sub-contracted by S & A to do the ren-



Photo by Rick Swartz

524 NORTH NEGLEY AVENUE IS CURRENTLY UNDERGOING RENOVATION AS PART OF THE "NEGLEY NEIGHBORS" PROGRAM.

ovation portion of the project. The developers hope to have the first units ready for occupancy by the end of this year. Jester says that several websites will soon be posted with information on how individuals can apply to be tenants.



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Here's just some of what the BGC does:

- * Builds new single-family homes and rental properties
- * Renovates older houses and buildings
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- * Operates one of the largest year-round youth employment programs
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- * Publishes a monthly community newspaper, *The Bulletin*
- * Works with law enforcement agencies and the courts to improve public safety

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



Pick Up Chopstick!

Chopstick is a shy, 1-year-old lab/setter mix with a beautiful red coat. Cho was a stray before she came to Animal Friends and has not had a lot of socialization with people. She likes a quiet touch and asks that a structured, settled family take her home. She scares rather easily when faced with overwhelming activity or noisy environments. She thinks kids are okay if they are quiet and gentle with her.

While Cho is a little timid around people, her demeanor with dogs is very different. She attempts to play with other dogs and even acts a little bossy with them. Volunteers describe Cho as "Queen Bee" when talking about Cho's interactions with other pooches.

Cho hasn't had much experience with cats; if you're interested in adding her to a kitty-friendly household, please ask an adoption counselor to check that out.

Cho told us that she will try to be a good girl in her forever home. Now we just need to find her perfect match! To find out more about Chopstick or other wonderful animals available for adoption, please contact Animal Friends at www.animal-friends.org or call 412-847-7000.

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PHASE 1, From Page 1

computer, air conditioning, private storage, a washer/dryer hookup, kitchen appliances, a private patio, wall-to-wall carpeting, a porch, and private parking.

Other features of note for the 35-acre site include a 6000 square-foot community center at the corner of Fern and Schenley streets, with a computer lab, classrooms, and plenty of meeting space; and six large community green spaces, including playgrounds. The neighborhood as a whole will be "an inviting space," Germany told the crowd.

Alexandra Laporte-Snediker, project manager for the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh (HACP), estimated that demolition of the old public housing units in Garfield Heights will begin within the next few weeks and be completed by February. Still to come is a City Planning Commission Hearing on the plan, but "we expect to have a smooth transition to construction" in March, she told those in attendance.

Key assured the audience that the Garfield Heights project is part of a

"grand vision" for the entire community, which includes helping people living in homes outside the public housing neighborhood to locate and utilize resources for rehabbing their own homes. "Our goal is to create a more exciting Garfield," he said.

Another issue addressed in detail at the meeting was the hiring of local workers and subcontractors for the project. According to Diona Jones, program supervisor for Garfield Jubilee, the goal is "to hire residents of Garfield Heights and Garfield and surrounding neighborhoods" for construction jobs, which often do not go to minority workers. HACP will be participating actively in this effort, recruiting laborers, running workshops and orientations, helping potential subcontractors with applications and paperwork, and providing safety training.

"We're not just building new homes," said A. Fulton Meacham Jr., executive director of HACP, "we're building new lives."



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Power of Attorney: What Is It, and Who Has It?

In this installment of the series on estate planning, the focus is on power of attorney (POA). The POA is an important planning tool, since it is a means of authorizing someone to act on your behalf when you are unable or unavailable to handle your own personal or financial affairs. However, great caution must be exercised when selecting the person named to act on your behalf. Some recent stories in the news media related how POAs can be abused. This article will outline what a POA can do for an individual, and will suggest some steps to safeguard against potential abuses.

A POA is a legal document by which a person (referred to as "the principal") appoints someone to act on his/her behalf when the principal is unable or unavailable to tend to his/her own affairs. The person named in the POA to act on behalf of the principal is referred to as "the agent." The word "agent" is a newer term used to describe the person who is authorized in a POA to act for someone. The term "attorney-in-fact" is an older term used to describe an individual authorized to act for another under a POA. Both terms mean the same thing.

Many people have heard about durable power of attorney. A durable POA is one that remains effective or comes into effect following a subsequent disability or incapacity. It is

By Frank Pistella
*Neighborhood Legal
Services Association*

generally thought of as being in effect for an unlimited period. However, it would be possible to limit the amount of time a durable POA would be in effect. In Pennsylvania, all POAs signed on or after Dec. 16, 1992, are "durable" unless the document specifically states otherwise. Having a durable POA makes the most sense for many people, since it is during a disability or incapacity that it is important to have someone identified and appointed to handle personal and business affairs.

A POA can be either general or specific. A general POA allows the agent to act on just about any of the principal's affairs, and activities permitted can include things such as handling bank transactions, entering into a contract on the principal's behalf, entering a principal's safe deposit box, or handling real estate transactions. On the other hand, a POA can also be specific or limited. An agent can be appointed to handle just a few matters for a principal or named to handle affairs for a limited period of time. For instance, an agent can be appointed to access a particular bank account to make real estate tax and utility payments for the principal. This could last for six months while the principal

might be in a different state or another country, or it could last longer. The POA can be tailored to meet the specific needs of the principal's situation, doing just one or a few specific tasks for the agent.

It is important to consider certain issues when drafting a power of attorney, and perhaps the most important is to whom the power to act as agent is granted. Here the principal may look to a family member. It is sometimes thought that it is best to appoint two agents as opposed to one. This could develop into a problem, since the POA can be prepared so both agents must be available when needed and that they must agree on how to proceed when fulfilling their responsibilities under the POA. This could be inconvenient. On the other hand, a POA can be prepared so that either agent can act independently of the other. While this may be more convenient, it may be a little confusing if one agent is handling finances and the other agent is unaware of what financial changes may have been made. It is a better idea to name a successor agent who would take over in the event your first choice for an agent becomes disabled or incapacitated or is unable or unwilling to serve. This is not the same as having two agents, but it is a way to have a standby agent available to serve if the primary agent cannot.



Some of the recent news reports focus on the abuses by agents of the POA. Some abuses involve gifts by the agents to themselves or to the agent's family members. Other abuses include the misuse of the principal's retirement or pension funds by the agent. Some of these potential abuses are easier to avoid than others. It may be prudent on the part of the principal to avoid granting the power to give gifts by the agent. Making sure that the principal has the help and support of caring and trusted family members is the best assurance of avoiding abuses.

In order for a POA document to be valid in Pennsylvania, the principal must be of sound mind. In other words, the principal must understand the powers that they are granting with the POA, and must understand the implications of naming someone else to make decisions for them. In some instances, it may be proper to have a discussion with a family physician or doctor in the determination of whether a principal possesses the required capacity to execute a POA. The final piece necessary for a valid POA in Pennsylvania is the signature of the principal. It is not required to have this signature notarized, but that is the better practice. The principal's signature must be witnessed by two competent adults.

Neighborhood Legal Services Association (NLSA) has a toll-free number for its Pittsburgh office, which can be accessed from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (1-866-761-6572). For more information on NLSA, please visit us at www.nlsa.us. At our website, you will also find a link to www.PaLAWHelp.org, which provides valuable legal information on a multitude of legal topics.

Next Month: Don't miss the final installment in our four-part series on Estate Planning for Everyone - Advance Medical Directives.

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**The Bulletin has a new blog -
www.bgcbulletin.blogspot.com.**

**Check it out for news and
events you won't want to miss!**

UPMC St. Margaret School Partnership Promotes Good Health for Students in East End

UPMC St. Margaret School Health Partnership has been quietly providing supplementary health services to students in the East End of Pittsburgh since late 1989. Currently, the Health Partnership serves Arsenal Elementary, Fort Pitt Accelerated Learning Academy, The Neighborhood Academy, Pittsburgh Montessori, the Urban League Charter School of Pittsburgh, and Woolslair Elementary School.

The Health Partnership began with the encouragement of then-Superintendent Richard Wallace. Dr. Gayle Griffin, a former principal of Fort Pitt School, had identified a need for her students to receive thorough puberty development education from medical professionals, and she approached Ann McGaffey, M.D., the medical director of the Bloomfield Garfield Family Health Center, to conduct these classes. Direct classroom education began in 1991.

UPMC St. Margaret School Health Partnership was the first elementary school partnership the Pittsburgh Board of Education created with a health provider in the city, and other health providers soon followed suit. "The School Health Partnership

between St. Margaret's Hospital, Fort Pitt Elementary School, and Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation was a pioneer program that started because we cared about the total child," says Dr. Griffin, now Assistant Superintendent for the Newark Public Schools. "We recognized that children need many things to be 'ready for school.' Good health, good nutrition, and overall wellness mean a child can concentrate in the classroom and learn better."

As more needs were identified, the Health Partnership expanded to include other service agencies. The Allegheny County Health Department's Dental Department joined the Partnership. The Dental Department provides free dental screenings and sealants to all first and second graders in the Health Partnership schools with parental permission.

Behavioral health partners are also involved with the Partnership. Mercy Behavioral Health and FamilyLinks work with schools to provide prevention education lessons. In addition,

By Emily Welsh
Family Health Coordinator
Bloomfield-Garfield Family Health Center
UPMC St. Margaret School Health Partnership

credentialed therapists from the behavioral health agencies are

located in the Partnership schools to provide on-site mental health treatment or to make community-based referrals. The Partnership has also increased the health-education programs offered. To date, six educational initiatives exist, including such topics as puberty development, smoking prevention, and healthy eating and lifestyles.

The free physical exams performed at the health partnership schools by UPMC St. Margaret resident doctors require parental consent. Rosia Williams, RN, from the Lawrenceville Family Health Center assists with the physical exams at Arsenal Elementary and Woolslair Elementary. Virginia Gray, RN, assists with the physical exams at Fort Pitt ALA, Pittsburgh Montessori, Urban League Charter School, and The Neighborhood Academy.

The most recent improvement of the health partnership is the creation of the Health Coordinator position. This

position's purpose is twofold: (1) to coordinate the educational programming between the participating schools and UPMC St. Margaret; and (2) to increase the number of students accessing health-care services - especially preventative health-care services - primarily through outreach to and education of parents.

The Health Partnership wants to ensure it is meeting the needs of all the participating schools. There are monthly meetings with the participating school principals, PPS administrators, UPMC St. Margaret doctors and medical staff, UPMC corporate administrators, and the other Partnership providers from the behavioral health and dental fields. The Partnership meets the second Tuesday of each month, with rotating host schools. The next Partnership meeting will be Tuesday, October 9, at Pittsburgh Montessori.

If you have any questions about attending the meeting or the Health Partnership in general, you may contact Emily Welsh, Health Coordinator for the UPMC St. Margaret School Health Partnership, at welshee@upmc.edu or 412-361-7562.

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BGC After-School Program Tailors Learning to Student Needs

After a successful summer program at Woolslair K-5 in Lawrenceville, the PittsburghLEARNS team is looking forward to this year's after-school program. 21st Century PittsburghLEARNS, a partnering program funded and founded by Wireless Neighborhoods and implemented by Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, begins this month at Fort Pitt ALA.

By Teresa Kim Schmittberger
The Bulletin

This will be the fourth year the Bloomfield-

Garfield Corporation, with the help and support of Fort Pitt ALA and Principal Verna Arnold, is running the PittsburghLEARNS program. The program caters to Fort Pitt students, predominantly from Garfield Heights, each year serving between 35 and 80 students. By supplementing skills taught in the general public school curriculum, the after-school program is tailored to facilitate learning in these students through various creative methods.

PittsburghLEARNS is also partnered with some of Pittsburgh's universities, including Pitt and CMU, which encourage students to volunteer for the after-school program through work-study. This year, the program will include up to 60 children who will stay at Fort Pitt following their school day, further enhancing their social and academic education.

Bertha Nesser, lead site coordinator of PittsburghLEARNS, described this year's program as "focusing on literacy and supplementing the literacy program of the Fort Pitt curriculum." In



Photo by Lydia Winnicka

(FRONT TO BACK, LEFT TO RIGHT): JAMEER LANE, KRISTIAN PURTER, MARKITA BONNER, AND ADEIA FRYE ENJOYING A FRIDAY FIELD TRIP TO THE PITTSBURGH ZOO.



Paula Martinac/The Bulletin

PARTIAL DEMOLITION OF THE NABISCO PLANT IN EAST LIBERTY TOOK PLACE IN MID-SEPTEMBER. THE REST OF THE HISTORIC BUILDING ON PENN AVE., CONSTRUCTED IN 1917, WILL BE RENOVATED AS PART OF A MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT CALLED "BAKERY SQUARE" - A \$113 MILLION "GREEN" PROJECT BEING DEVELOPED BY WALNUT CAPITAL. THE COMPLEX, WHICH WILL INCLUDE A HOTEL, RETAIL AND OFFICE SPACE, RESIDENTIAL UNITS, AND A PARKING GARAGE, RECENTLY RECEIVED APPROVAL OF \$10 MILLION IN TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING BY THE CITY'S URBAN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. THE NABISCO PLANT CLOSED IN 1998, PUTTING MORE THAN 350 EMPLOYEES OUT OF WORK.

SEE SCHOOL, Page 12

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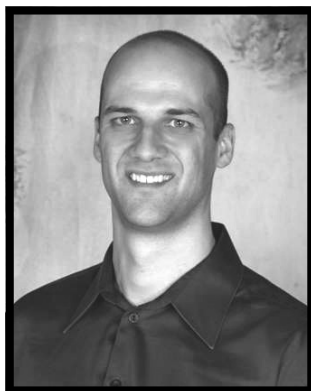
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BULLETIN BOARD

"SETTING A PLACE FOR MY SISTER" BREAKFAST

Kick off the season for giving at the eleventh annual "Setting a Place for My Sister" breakfast, Friday, October 5, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center. WTAE-TV news anchor Sally Wiggin will emcee the breakfast, which features a raffle, Chinese auction and a very special performance by the children of Sisters Place. At this year's breakfast, the Homeless Children's Education Fund (HCEF) will receive the Community Partner Award, given by Sisters Place to honor those who have made a difference in the lives of homeless families. Tickets are \$75, and can be purchased by calling 412-233-3903 or e-mailing info@sistersplace.org. Proceeds from the "Setting a Place for My Sister" breakfast will benefit the families of Sisters Place, Inc., a nonprofit organization offering transitional and permanent housing and supportive services for homeless single parent families in Southwestern Pennsylvania. For more information, visit www.sistersplace.org.

PSO BENEFIT CONCERT AT PEABODY H.S.

The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, with Daniel Meyer conducting, will perform a benefit concert at Peabody High School on Thursday, October 25, at 7:30 p.m. The program includes works by Schubert, Rosetti/M. Haydn, Elgar, and Rossini. Tickets are as follows: adults, \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door; seniors and students 18 and under, \$5; groups of 10 or more, \$8.50 per ticket. All ticket proceeds stay in the East Liberty community, benefiting music education initiatives. For tickets or more information, call 412-361-5662.

ART & HERITAGE FALL FESTIVAL

Our Lady of the Angels introduces its first annual Art & Heritage Fall Festival, Oct. 5-7. The festival will take place at St. Mary Lyceum and former St. Mary property located between 45th and 46th streets in Lawrenceville. This festival will appeal to children and adults alike: for the young ones, there will be a hayride, a climbing wall, storytelling, face painting, games, and hands-on activities like pumpkin painting and scarecrow building. For adults, there will be ethnic meals/beverages each night (Friday, German; Saturday, folk; Sunday, Irish), wine tasting, table gaming, a farmer's market, artists' booths, and two stages of continuous entertainment. Also, the first annual 5K Spirit Run will take place through the beautiful Allegheny and St. Mary cemeteries, on Saturday, Oct. 6, beginning at 9 a.m. Don't miss the

excitement! For more information, contact the Parish Office at 412-682-0929.

FOSTER CARE INFORMATION MEETINGS

Is foster parenting for you? Join Family Services of Western Pennsylvania at one of our upcoming information meetings to learn more about foster care and how the approval process works. Meetings are held at our East Liberty office in the Village of Eastside (6401 Penn Avenue, 2nd Floor). Upcoming dates: Tuesday, Oct. 9, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.; and Wednesday, Oct. 17, 6 - 8 p.m. Register at 412-661-1670 x649 or kerrs@fswp.org. All individuals interested in or curious about foster care are welcome to attend.

FREE FINANCIAL LITERACY CLASSES

Get money smart with free financial literacy classes through Family Services of Western Pennsylvania. This three-hour class will cover the basics of banking and budgeting. Open to the public, but regis-

tration is required. Classes are held at our East Liberty office in the Village of Eastside (6401 Penn Avenue, 2nd Floor). Upcoming dates: Thursday, Oct. 4, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 18, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. For other dates or to register: 412-661-1670 or kerrs@fswp.org.

CLASSES FOR OLDER ADULTS

St. Margaret Foundation offers FREE classes in October for older adults at Canterbury Place, 301 Fisk Street, in Lawrenceville. "Maintain Your Brain," sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association, will be offered on Tuesday, October 2, from 10 a.m. to noon. Learn ways to keep your brain healthy and possibly reduce the risk of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. "Cataracts" will be offered on Wednesday, October 17, from 2 to 4 p.m. Learn what cataracts are, how they are diagnosed, and what the treatment options are. Pre-registration is required for both classes: www.stmargaretfoundation.org/events, or call 412-784-5313 and leave a message with your name and phone number.

THE GREAT L'VILLE SCAVENGER HUNT

Get a clue at the Great Lawrenceville Scavenger Hunt! Love to have fun? Love adventure? Love to win money (\$1,000 first place prize, to be exact!) Then join us on Saturday, October 6, as we hold our first ever Great Lawrenceville Scavenger Hunt. Here you will decipher clues to answer funny, tricky questions about the places you visit and the things you find. Plus pick up a few items along the way. The hunt officially begins at 1 p.m. and ends promptly at 4 p.m. You may walk, ride a bike, or drive. All teams must be comprised of 2 to 4 players, and each team MUST remain together at all times! Cost is \$10 per person. You may register in advance by calling the Our Lady of the Angels parish office at 412/682-0929, or team registration will be held that day beginning at noon on the grounds of St. Mary's property (the "hunt" starting point), located between 45th and 46th Streets in Lawrenceville. The top three teams will win cash prizes.

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Preschool Storytime

For ages 3-5. Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., October 4, 11, 18, and 25

Playshop: A Parent/Child Workshop

For parents of children ages 1-4 with their children. Fridays, 10:30 a.m., October 12, 19, 26, and November 2 and 9. This 5-week session allows parents an opportunity to play with their child while receiving valuable information from resource professionals. Registration is required.

Celebration at the Haunted Library

For all ages. Saturday, October 27, from 2 - 4 p.m. Children, teens and adults will enjoy a celebration with scary stories, games, crafts and much more. Registration is required.

East Liberty PC Center:

Introduction to Computers

Do you know how to use a mouse? Do you know where the Enter key is? What about the different parts of the

computer? If you are unsure about any of these questions, this class is for you! Learn the basics of a computer, mouse, and keyboard as a prerequisite for all our other computer classes. NOTE: This class is designed for those who have little or no computer experience. Thursday, October 4 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. OR Wednesday, October 10 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. OR Thursday, October 25 from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Buying a Computer

In this class you'll learn how to read those crazy computer ads, handle slick salespeople, and discover helpful resources to aid you in your purchase of a personal computer. Monday, October 22 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

To register for these classes or for more information about our free computer classes, call the PC Center-East Liberty at 412-363-6105. This service has been funded with federal Library

**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Lawrenceville Branch
279 Fisk St 412-682-3668**

Preschool Storytime

For ages 3-5. Thursdays, 11 a.m., October 4, 11, 18, 25

Adult Book Discussion

Monday, October 8, from 5-5:45 p.m. The featured book is *How to Marry a Ghost*, by Hope McIntyre.

Gaming @ Lawrenceville

Saturday, October 20, at 3 p.m. A video game program for teens. Come and tryout a Wii game system.



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BULLETIN BOARD

MARTIAL ARTS JOJUTSU SEMINAR

The Traditional Martial Arts Society (TMAS) will offer a seminar in Jojutsu (the Art of the Staff) on October 13, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., at its facilities in East Liberty. Cost is \$20 for Rinpa members, \$35 for non-members. David White, Mokuroku of the Rinpa Kai, will be instructing. The throws, locks, and strikes of this art develop your coordination by learning to apply momentum and leverage through the staff. This session is a focus on the daijo (long staff). We will investigate the drop and throw techniques and the distance relationship between attacker and defender. People of all styles and levels are invited to attend. This seminar will take place at the TMAS, 5738 Baum Blvd. To register, call 412-361-1080.

10TH ANNUAL ST. ANDREW'S LECTURE

Jon Delano, KDKA-TV's Money & Politics Editor, political analyst for WQED-TV, and columnist for *Pittsburgh Business Times*, will be speaking on "Pennsylvania's Role in Picking the Next President," at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street, in Highland Park on Friday, October 12, at 8 p.m. The event is free, with refreshments following. For more information, call 412-661-1245.

BOYS OF LAWRENCEVILLE SERVE UP PASTA



The Boys of Lawrenceville, a gay men's benevolent association, will host its Gourmet Spaghetti Dinner this year in honor and memory of founder Jay Bernard, a Lawrenceville resident and business owner, and the catalyst for numerous successful events promoting the neighborhood. The dinner is on Friday, October 5, from 6 to 10 p.m., at St. Matthew Parish, St. Kieran Church Hall, 5322 Carnegie St. For more information call 412.683.1184 or e-mail spaghetti@san@aol.com. Tickets are \$8 in advance, available at Jay Design, Perk Me Up Coffee, or Who New?, all on Butler St. in Lawrenceville; or \$10 at the door. Proceeds benefit Our Lady of Angels' Food Pantry & St Vincent DePaul at St. Matthew's.

GARFIELD CENTER PLANNING MEETING

Representatives from the Allegheny County Dept. of Human Services invite families to participate in a meeting focused on bringing a new Family Support Center to Garfield. There are more than 30 family support centers throughout Allegheny County, and they share a set of beliefs and an approach dedicated to strengthening and empower-

ing families and communities. The focus is on families with very young children ages 0-5, to foster their development and that of other family members. If you think this sounds like a good idea, come to the meeting on Wednesday, October 24, at 6:30 p.m., at the Community Activity Center, 113 N. Pacific Avenue. We will provide a light dinner and want to make sure we have enough, so please call Celeste at 412-350-6611 to register.

"THE JAY SHOW" AT GALLERY ON 43RD

You might know that Jay Bernard made soap – beautiful soap. You might not realize that he was also a painter, a cartoonist, loved to draw and create three dimensional works. The Gallery on 43rd Street will present "The Jay Show," exploring the work of this gifted artist. We will be presenting a limited edition print of one of Jay's masterful drawings. Peggy and Dreamboat will be offered in an edition of 200 numbered prints. Proceeds benefit the Jay Bernard Memorial Scholarship fund at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh. Please contact Mary Coleman at Gallery on 43rd Street, 412-683-6488, to reserve a print. The show runs Oct. 26 – Nov. 3. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tues. through Sat. and noon to 4 on Sunday. There will be an opening reception on Fri., Oct. 26 from 7 to 10 p.m. To view Peggy and Dreamboat, log onto www.galleryon43rdstreet.com.

ANTI-VIOLENCE EDUCATION FOR GIRLS

Girl Scouts-Trillium Council (GSTC) will present anti-violence summits on four consecutive Saturdays in October, at four city high schools, in recognition of Anti-Violence Month and as part of the national Project Anti-Violence Education (P.A.V.E.). These "Agents of Change" summits take place 10 a.m.-3 p.m. each week at Carrick, Langley, and Peabody high schools, and Perry Traditional Academy. Participants will be involved in anti-violence workshops and break-out sessions that will educate girls on Internet safety, bullying prevent/intervention, gang prevention and crime prevention. All girls in grades 9-12, including current Girl Scouts and non-Girl Scout members, are invited to attend. Fee per session \$5. Registration due two weeks prior to the summit. For information, call 412-594-2245 or email ahoward@gstrillium.org.

OKTOBERFEST!

Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph's parish celebrates Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 13, from 6-10 p.m. in the Immaculate Conception Social Hall in Bloomfield. Kielbasa, hot dogs, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, apple dumplings, coffee and iced tea, and beer will be served. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Call 412-687-1752 or 412-681-6844 for tickets or more info.



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To find out more, go to pncgrowupgreat.com or call 1-877-PNC-GROW.



SCHOOL, from Page 9

past years, the theme of the after-school program was "Learn Through Play," with an emphasis on art, African dance, and technology. The after-school program is tailored to help K-2 students raise their literacy and math skills to a proficient level.

Nesser explained, "We focus on where the children are lacking. If we need to do a lesson on short vowels, we may, for example, play a game called 'Jet Boat Harbor,' which will target this skill." The program uses hands-on activities and visuals to creatively convey academic and social skills to the children. Once a week, a life-skills curriculum is taught to the students including lessons on raising self-esteem and making friends.

This past summer, the Pittsburgh-

LEARNS support staff helped carry out the Pittsburgh public school summer program. After the public summer-school curriculum was taught to the children during the day at Woollair, the day was extended to include an enrichment program at the Bloomfield-Garfield Community Activity Center on North Pacific Avenue in the afternoon. Forty children participated in this enrichment program, featuring similar activities to the "Learn Through Play" program. Summer students also went on field trips on Fridays throughout the city, visiting locations such as Schenley Park and the Pittsburgh Zoo, and participating in activities such as roller skating and swimming.

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CALL FOR VENDORS

Wanting to sell for the holidays? Furniture/antique dealers, crafters, artists are welcome to participate in new open-air market located in Strip District. Market at 20th & Penn open Saturdays, 9-3. Call 724-770-0377 or e-mail Jas178@aol.com for details.

EMPLOYMENT

A high-growth Pittsburgh food-service distributor is seeking **applicants for Fruit and Vegetable Processing**. Processors start at \$9 per hour and include 80% company-paid health benefits package, 401(k) with company match and profit sharing. At least 18 years of age. Can work a flexible schedule (including Sundays). Ability to work in a refrigerated atmosphere. Must be a team worker. 412-621-2626 x246.

Controller wanted for Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church in Cranberry Township. CPA preferred. Great Plains experience required. Cover letter and resume by e-mail to Apply@wpaumc.org by October 12.

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Merrill Hoge

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