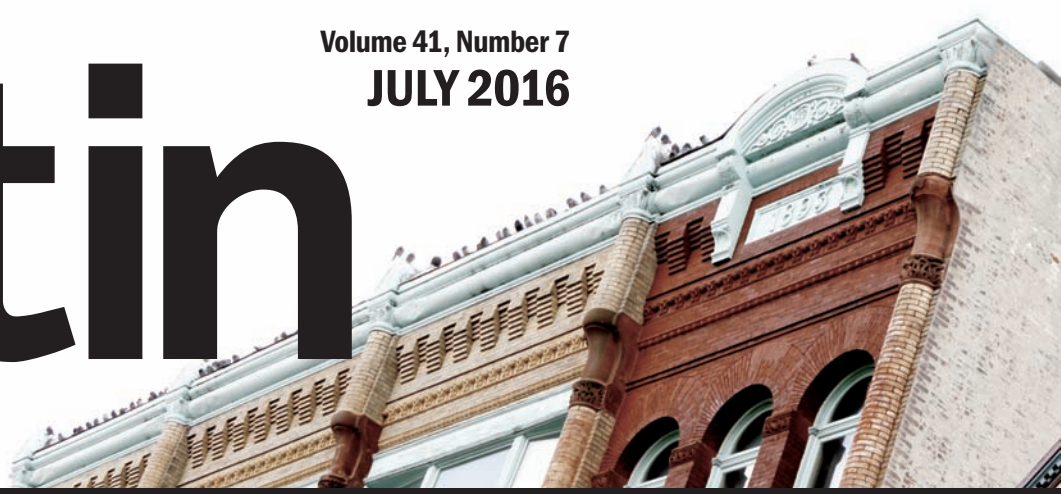


# the Bulletin

Volume 41, Number 7  
JULY 2016

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



## Garfield architects design downtown “Water Cube”

By John Kohl *Bulletin contributor*

*Garfield* - In 2010, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust (PCT) invited Gary Carlough, principal architect of GBBN/Edge Studio (5411 Penn Ave.) in Garfield, to contribute designs for a permanent outdoor art installation in downtown’s busy “Cultural District” corridor. Carlough enthusiastically accepted the challenge and set about designing one of the city’s most beloved, yet controversial public art installations, the “Water Cube.” Finished just in time to unveil at the start of the June 2016 Pittsburgh Arts Festival, the Water Cube represents a local high-water mark (pun unintended) of public installation art.

On the subject of Carlough’s commitment to impeccable design, current GBBN/Edge Studio principal architect Matthew Manzo recalled, “He was the very reason the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust came to us in the first place. Gary was a big part of why the project came to be. Just his knowledge of how things worked together set him apart in our industry.”

Unfortunately, Carlough died in June of 2014, two years before his studio could unveil the Water Cube, one of his favorite

See **Water Cube** | page 6



**ABOVE:** Affordable-turned-unfashionable housing projects, East Liberty’s once-promising Penn Plaza Apartments now bear the mark of the beast - planned obsolescence. Before a backdrop of upward mobility, a longtime neighborhood hub now prepares to become a distant memory. Meanwhile, national grocery chains set their sights on its increasingly valuable Penn Ave. site. “Look out ‘progress,’ because here comes free parking.” Photo by Keith Williams.

## PrideFest galvanizes local support in wake of national tragedy

By Aryssa Shultz *The Bulletin*

*Downtown* - On Sunday, June 12, a huge crowd of people pressed against the fencing along the Grant St. route of the Pride March. People of all shapes and sizes, some

See **PrideFest** | page 4



## Short of reinventing wheel, East Liberty nonprofit turns it faster

By Elizabeth Sensky *East Liberty Development, Inc.*

*East Liberty* - “Repair the World” (RPW) may be an ambitious name for a nonprofit, but it is one rooted in small, local actions. A Jewish-based service organization,

See **Repair the World** | page 11



**ABOVE:** Musicians Adam Ramage (left), Dan Bhutta (middle), and Deb Levine talk shop during “Summer Recess,” a free outdoor food and music festival at Spirit (242, 51st St.) on Saturday, June 18. Turn to page 9 for more images from Summer Recess. Photo by John Colombo.

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EYESORE OF THE MONTH

By Aggie Brose Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation



Garfield - A neighborhood in transition can have many positive things to celebrate, yet new and longtime residents still find themselves living next to vacant, blighted properties. Land overgrown with weeds, bushes, and grass tends to attract wildlife – unsavory rodents that feast on garbage.

Not only do these eyesore spots collect trash and debris, they also harm neighborhood property values. Plants on a severely overgrown lot can damage adjacent walls and sidewalks, as well as the infrastructure of nearby houses. Abandoned cars parked on a vacant lot create public safety hazards.

Overgrowth often obscures the public walkways, creating challenges for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Many vacant lots sit at the site of a razed building. Addressing blight is a critical part of revitalizing the neighborhood, but merely demolishing a building does not absolve the owner of their responsibility to maintain the empty lot.

The city's Department of Permits,

Licenses, and Inspections (PLI) stipulates that grass growing higher than ten inches represents a city code violation. This neglected property (pictured above) is but one example of Garfield's extensive problem of overgrown lots that are in violation of city code and should be cited.

For many years, the city of Pittsburgh has offered a fitting solution with its "Sideyard" sale program. Under the direction of this program, the owners of any property that lies adjacent to city or publicly-owned lots have the opportunity to purchase the vacant lot from the city for \$200. In the short term, the city will even allow the adjoining owner to lease the property.

Once a lease agreement is in place, the adjacent property owner can turn an empty lot into a garden or a parking pad, among other things. After roughly eighteen to twenty-four months, the adjacent property owner will have the opportunity to buy this lot. More information about the Sideyard sale program is available at 412-255-2300. ♦

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# Bicentennial parade commemorates local history with “human timeline”

By Gloria Forouzan Office of Mayor William Peduto

Downtown - Organizers of the “Pittsburgh Bicentennial Celebration” welcome all residents of the greater Pittsburgh region to get together and celebrate the city’s history on Saturday, July 9.

The day begins with an 11 a.m. parade on Liberty Ave., starting at 11th St. and ending at Point State Park, then continues with a showcase in Market Square before concluding with an evening concert and fireworks in the park.

The Bicentennial parade is organized as a “human timeline,” beginning with the first indigenous residents of the region and proceeding through the city’s history of immigration from Europe and, more recently, Latin America, Africa, and Asia. The Bicentennial year forms a bridge from Pittsburgh’s first 200 years to the future.

Native Americans from the Council of

Three Rivers American Indian Center will lead the parade. They will be followed by French & Indian War and Revolutionary War re-enactors bearing muskets, fifes, and drums.

Travelling from across America and Europe, 400 descendants of Pittsburgh’s mayors (from 1816 to present) will be involved in the parade. These guests are paying for their own travel and lodging expenses.

More than 100 Pittsburgh organizations are participating, including the Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History, the YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and the Pittsburgh Rotary Club.

Reflecting the local history of cultural exchange, heritage groups will chronologically dot the human timeline to highlight various immigration landmarks. ♦



**“NEXT 3 DAYS”  
IN GARFIELD**



**SEPT. 9, 10, & 11**

## PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

By Aggie Brose Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - According to Zone 5 police reports, officers responded to a June 13 ShotSpotter alert in the 5400 block of Broad St. The 9:20 a.m. alert indicated that nine shots had just been fired. One witness indicated that a blue Ford Escape SUV was observed fleeing the scene immediately following the shots. Officers noted that two parked cars sustained damage from the gunfire, however, nobody was injured. At this time, it is unclear whether the Ford Escape was the shooter’s vehicle or was merely fleeing from the gunfire. Zone 5 police have not yet identified any suspect(s), encouraging anyone with information about the shooting to call the station at 412-665-3605.

Later that day on June 13, officers responded to a fight in the 200 block of N. Aiken Ave. While en route, they also received a ShotSpotter notification that three rounds had been fired at the same location. Officers arrived to find a 35 year-old female victim, who indicated that her ex-girlfriend - Amber Cobbs, 25, of Elizabethtown, NC - had been calling her 17 year-old son and threatening to shoot their whole family.

After arriving at the victim’s house and attempting to start a fight, Cobbs reportedly pulled a gun from her waistband and fired shots that narrowly missed the victim and her son. Officers began searching the area and saw the suspect walk between two houses, then reappear moments later. They soon detained Cobbs and checked the rear of the house, where they reportedly found a black “Hi-Point” .45 caliber pistol.

Cobbs was arrested and transported to the Allegheny County Jail. During transport, she allegedly threatened to kill the victim’s family and kill the transporting officer when she got out of jail. Officers later learned that Cobbs did not have a license to carry a firearm and was also wanted on warrants in both Pittsburgh and North Carolina. ♦

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**Bulletin**

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The deadline for the August issue is **Friday, July 15, 2016.**

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**Board Meetings** are held by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, at 5321 Penn Ave., and are open to the public. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the publisher.

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## BGC Summer Learn and Earn Program

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation will place 170 young adults between the ages of 14 and 21 in internships throughout the city this summer. Restaurants, private businesses, government agencies, summer camps, and others will host summer interns that will be paid by the BGC. The Summer Learn and Earn Program is a youth employment initiative led by the 3 Rivers Workforce Investment Board, the City, and Allegheny County.



On June 15, Markisha Kennedy of “Dress for Success: Pittsburgh” spoke with the program’s interns about professionalism and personal branding. Kennedy and other guest speakers helped provide twelve hours of “work-readiness” training for youth interns who were eager to start their summer jobs on June 27. Representatives from NeighborWorks Western PA were also on hand to educate participants about financial literacy and how to maximize their first paycheck.



# PrideFest

*continued from page 1*

**BELOW:** Merely hours after dozens of innocent victims lost their lives during a hate crime in Orlando, Pittsburgh PrideFest marches onward with messages of love and support. Of the roughly 100,000 people gathered downtown to support equal rights, everyone in attendance managed to rejoice for the future while also processing the grief of such a horrible tragedy. Photo by Aryssa Shultz.



wearing rainbow-colored wings on their backs, started cheering as the first float appeared. Glitter flew, rainbow flags waved, and Pride was on parade.

Pittsburgh PrideFest itself commenced on June 1 with RuPaul’s “Drag Race.” The twelve-day festival included a prom, a pub crawl, and a concert performance by Kesha on Saturday, June 11.

An exclamation point to conclude the festivities, the Pride March began at noon on Sunday, June 12, at the corner of Blvd. of the Allies and Grant St. From there, the proceedings traveled down Grant, turned left on Fifth Ave., and concluded on

Liberty Ave. between 6th and 10th Sts. - the festival’s programming hub.

Booths representing large companies, a rainbow bounce house, and even an adult store dotted the makeshift promenade while a 10th St. stage produced a constant stream of entertainment until sundown. Some Pride participants dressed in drag and some were in costume; many others wore regular street clothes as they showed support for LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans\*, queer, intersex, ally, and beyond) communities.

This year’s turnout of approximately 100,000 people was similar to the draw

from last year’s event, but the festival’s momentum is undoubtedly growing. One of the attendees, 19-year-old Sam Beale, spoke fondly of PrideFest, saying it was his first experience with queer culture.

Beale went to PrideFest for the first time right after his freshman year in high school. “Personally, I’m in a really different place for this Pride than I was the last time,” he admitted. “After my freshman year, I’d just come out, and I guess I didn’t consider myself a part of the queer community yet, which is silly to think about because it’s not like there’s an initiation or something.”

Although Pittsburgh has one of the smallest LGBTQIA+ communities for a city of its size, there is no doubt that local activists have a strong voice in the international conversation about equal rights. As the local march began, less than twelve hours after the mass shooting in Orlando, all in attendance mustered up the courage to be positive and joyful in the face of such devastating news.

The next day’s impromptu event was far more somber as more than 2,000 community members convened downtown for a candlelight vigil honoring the victims of

the mass shooting in Orlando. “I honestly can’t talk about this [festival] without mentioning the hate crime in Orlando,” Beale said. “It made me think twice about even going to Pride, but then I realized that going to Pride was exactly what I needed.”

Beale uses the word “surreal” when describing his feelings towards the tragedy in Orlando. “I haven’t felt that vulnerable about being queer in years but, being surrounded by people who relate - whether or not we talked about it - was healing.”

With the entire country mourning the mass shooting, Pittsburgh’s PrideFest offered a unique venue for everyone to show unity and support while also celebrating individuality. “My favorite part of PrideFest is just being surrounded by other queer people,” Beale explained. “Not feeling like I have to worry about what people think about that part of my identity is so refreshing, especially in such a public setting.”

Even after all the celebrations are over, PrideFest lives on in blissful memory, reminding attendees to show their pride every day. As Beale articulated, “Pride reminds me that, yes, the community is small, but it’s here and always will be.” ♦

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# Beyond the red herring: State Representative Frankel demystifies “bathroom bill,” defends PA Fairness Act in Harrisburg

By State Rep. Dan Frankel *D-Allegheny*

## Op-Ed

*Allegheny County* - As annual Pride festival celebrations begin, and many Pennsylvania communities welcome the summer tradition, I again report that the state has yet to pass my legislation – one that would protect the rights of LGBT people by prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Thanks to the Pride festivities, this time of year always serves as a bittersweet reflection of the best the LGBT community has to offer us; juxtaposed with the harsh reality that, at a state level, we still lack full civil rights to protect against discrimination and prejudice.

For more than a decade, I have been the prime House sponsor of what is now the Pennsylvania Fairness Act (H.B. 1510/S.B. 974), which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of a person's sexual orientation and gender identity. It is entirely consistent with existing bans on discrimination, as well as the actions of thirty-six municipalities across the commonwealth that have already extended civil rights protections to the LGBT community.

The Fairness Act is again stuck in the muck of the House State Government Committee, whose chairman is a well-known opponent of equality and has, so far, bottled up the [legislation]. But, we know that public opinion is in our favor. More than seventy percent

of Pennsylvanians believe LGBT residents should be free from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations; more than two-thirds of the nation's Fortune 500 companies have adopted LGBT protections. Indeed, our own local governments have acted while the commonwealth stands on the sidelines.

Over the years since this bill was first introduced, the attacks against it have taken many forms. Most recently, the attacks are packaged as "religious freedom" protections, or worse, crude and meaningless names such as the "bathroom bill." Regardless of how the opposition packages the attacks, they all share the singular aim of defeating LGBT civil rights at any cost. One popular attack uses the so-called "religious freedom" bills.

Proponents assert that one's "sincerely held religious beliefs" compel them to refuse service to a customer in the free market on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. This is a perverse interpretation of the First Amendment and one that now supports using the principles of religious freedom as license to discriminate.

These same arguments have been used to justify slavery, the marginalization of women, enforcement of Jim Crow laws, and segregation. Now, opponents of the Fairness Act use religious freedom to deny the equal rights of the law to the LGBT community. It was as true then as it is now: religious freedom should not be a tool of discrimination.

Through egregious and affirmatively discriminatory actions like H.B. 2 in North Carolina, opponents of full equal rights have found their newest target, the transgender community. We're now seeing non-discrimination bills labeled as "bathroom bills" by people who would have us believe there is some kind of correlation between equal access to public accommodations for transgender people and notions of sexual assault or a lack of privacy.

Let's be clear that the bathroom scare is a red herring argument without one shred of real evidence. Nothing in the Fairness Act would change current law for crimes committed in a bathroom. If anyone enters a bathroom or locker room and commits a crime, that person will be charged with breaking the law. Any claim that our legislation changes the rules for bathrooms in a dangerous way is unequivocally false.

In addition, states that promote discrimination have seen economic backlashes; instead, we should move our economy forward with an expanded non-discrimination law. This would make Pennsylvania a more attractive and welcoming place for residents and businesses, including four of our six neighboring states and all other northeastern states. Regardless of the exact nature of the attacks, we know that opponents of the state's Fairness Act have one simple goal: to use any means necessary to stop the movement for LGBT civil rights. In the face of that opposition,

I remain committed to seeing the Fairness Act become state law and for us to end the last remaining vestige of legal discrimination in the commonwealth. If you want to help get the Fairness Act moving in Harrisburg, visit <http://legis.state.pa.us> and show your support to your state representative and senator. ♦

## SAVE THE DATE: Friday, Nov. 4 Annual BGC Luncheon

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's (BGC) annual luncheon is scheduled for Friday, November 4th at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association in Oakland. This event is a great opportunity for friends and supporters to gather to reflect on the prior year and celebrate our accomplishments. For information about purchasing a ticket to the luncheon or signing up for a sponsorship, please contact Aggie Brose, Deputy Director of the BGC at 412-441-6950 ext. 15.

**BELOW:** Demonstrators weigh in on both sides of the issue - to keep, or not to keep, newly crowned superintendent Dr. Anthony Hamlet - as crowds assemble in front of Pittsburgh Public Schools' Oakland headquarters. Before a public hearing on Monday, June 20, the debate was divisive enough to feature protesting parents and community leaders on both sides of Bellefield Ave. As of press time, the school board was still exploring its options regarding the possible removal of Dr. Hamlet, a superintendent whose inaccurate biography provoked quite an uproar. Photo by Keith Williams.



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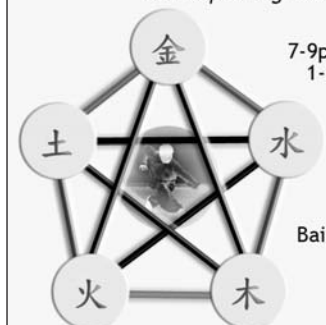
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# Water Cube

continued from page 1

career projects. Yet, his contributions live on in the form of an eco-friendly hydration solution meant for everyday use.

"The idea of the Water Cube was to have people drink from the fixture itself, not from plastic water bottles purchased somewhere else," Manzo said. "Our hope was to save 900 gallons of water a year. Each year, this country produces millions of plastic water bottles [that end up in] landfills. This design was intended to reduce - by as many bottles as humanly possible - the number of plastic water bottles making it to landfills each year."

Commissioned to produce a "sparkling, free-water facility," a beacon for the general public, GBBN/Edge architects wanted to hew closely to the original vision. "[PCT] knew that, because of the environmental threat posed by plastic bottles, a Water Cube was the only real option for a public water enclosure," Manzo told *the Bulletin*.

"We were in pursuit of a final design, so all the relationships between various parties were very important to the outcome," he said before listing the design team's biggest challenges.

For starters, the task of lighting the Water Cube posed peculiar problems because of its translucent facade. On top of everything else, the plumbing just did not go according to plan; decayed pipes had to be redirected elsewhere, thereby altering the cooling and refrigeration demands of all related equipment.

Keeping all the rolling alterations in mind, architects designed an enclosure to accentuate internal lighting. Their efforts have given the cube an after-dark impression that it is floating in mid-air. "With this permanent public art piece, the Trust hopes to provide a unique amenity for the residents, regular district patrons, and visi-

tors," PCT's Shaunda Miles said of the Water Cube's mission.

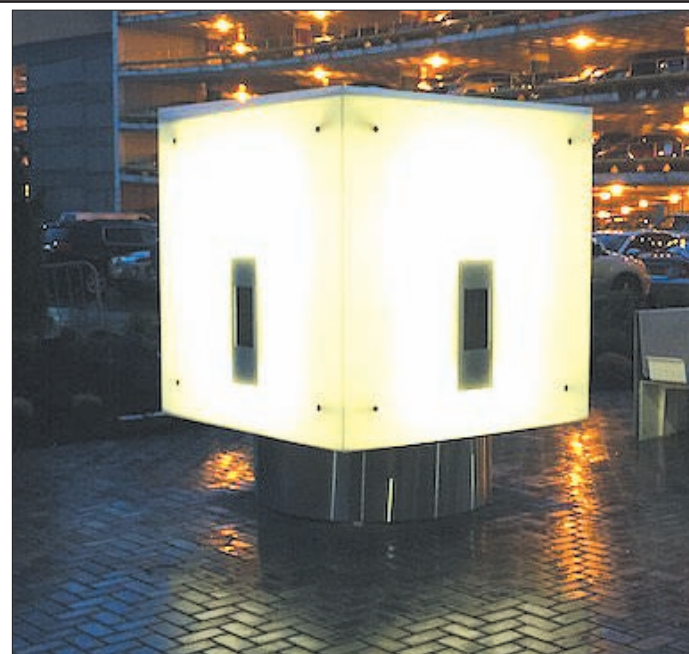
"We want to help reduce the consumption of bottled water and beautify the 8th St. block of Penn Ave. The Water Cube parklet, which boasts what is believed to be the best sparkling water in the United States, can become a gateway space that generates conversation."

The cube's creators hope its convenient, bus-accessible location will enhance the cube's profile as a genuine destination for bicyclists and pedestrians alike. "GBBN literally 'engineered' the project and brought it to life, but it's the Trust's brain-child," Miles said.

"Once they saw a carbonated water fountain in Europe, the Trust chose to pursue [the Water Cube] as a complement to other functional art around the district." She knows this project is different from most community development initiatives. "As of today [June 19], we have dispensed over 900 gallons of water - with water service only since May 11," Miles stated. "Plus, the drinking fountains were used 4,215 times, the still-bottle filler recorded 1,340 uses, and our sparkling water filler had 2,280 fills."

Pittsburgh-based Flyspace Productions, a firm without whom the Water Cube would not have been possible, contributed to the design of an internal chilling system. "They basically told us, 'Design a carbonated water system,'" Flyspace owner Cory Cope recounted. "We then did everything we could to help people find what they were looking for."

He readily congratulates the design teams for achieving the unthinkable, in spite of all the obstacles. "While a lot of the stuff we did was new to us, that [challenge] only helped us work that much harder," Cope said. ♦



**AT LEFT:** The Cultural Trust brought in Ben Peoples Industries to design the Water Cube's "Horatio" installation, which integrates more than 30 sensors within the Cube's water and lighting systems. It provides real-time data on the status of both systems, sending regular status and usage reports when things are working, as well as immediate alerts when they fail. Photo courtesy of Ben Peoples Industries.

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This publication begins and ends with you, the community, so we respectfully invite your opinions and insights. Please contact our neighborhood tip-line/suggestion box/commentary pipeline at [Bulletin@Bloomfield-Garfield.org](mailto:Bulletin@Bloomfield-Garfield.org).



# WPH town hall opens dialogue on Zika virus, opioid addiction, perinatal depression

By Morgan Rupert Allegheny Health Network

*Bloomfield* - On May 26, PA State Senator and Minority Leader Jay Costa joined executives at Allegheny Health Network (AHN) to discuss women's and children's health issues, along with opioid addiction and treatment. Ron Andro, President and CEO of West Penn Hospital (WPH, 4815 Liberty Ave.), welcomed the crowd by highlighting the vital role the hospital plays in the health and wellbeing of women and children.

Among the most anticipated topics of the evening was the Zika virus, a disease spread primarily through a bite from an infected *Aedes* species of mosquito. Allan S. Klapper, MD, Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, advised listeners of Zika's most common symptoms: fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (red eyes). At the time of his presentation, Dr. Klapper pointed to 591 confirmed Zika cases in the U.S, including nineteen in Pennsylvania. He expressed concern that, with the upcoming Olympics in Rio de Janeiro and the surrounding Zika outbreak in Brazil, further spread should be expected.

Dr. Klapper also revealed how, due to the mild nature of symptoms, most people do not realize they have been infected. The virus poses its most present danger to pregnant women; if infected, an expecting mother can pass the virus on to her fetus. Zika has been linked to cases of microcephaly, a serious birth defect that results in babies born with smaller brains, which can cause unrelenting medical problems and impaired development for infected children.

The subject of postpartum depression also generated a lot of questions and conversation at the WPH town hall. Deborah W. Linhart, Vice President, Women's Health Initiatives, warned that one in seven new mothers face perinatal depression - which she defined as major depression during pregnancy, and up to a year postpartum. AHN has begun a pilot program that focuses on perinatal depression education and awareness; doctors conduct dual screening during and after pregnancy, involve the fathers and significant other in the process, and providing rapid access to treatment.

"Lack of awareness, lack of routine screenings, lack of access to services, and cultural stigma - coupled with current services that separate the mom and baby - need to be overcome," Linhart said. "In just the last ten months, we have screened 207 pregnant women and identified 127 as needing some form of treatment." Legislation is currently being introduced in the Pennsylvania House and Senate to include postpartum depression as an "at-risk category" for early intervention tracking under 1990's ACT 212.

"This is a big step in the right direction," Linhart remarked. "Perinatal depression can lead to increased costs of medical care, child abuse, and neglect. It can adversely affect a child's early brain development." Linhart joined Giovanni Laneri, MD, Newborn Medicine Services, WPH, in taking a stand against the growing problem of maternal and newborn addiction.

"Gestational exposure to drugs of abuse is the 'largest, preventable cause of environmentally-induced developmental delay in infants,'" Dr. Laneri said, citing *Clinics in Perinatology*, 1999 (*Malagna et al*). Of all the substances of abuse - including cocaine, amphetamines, marijuana, and opiates - alcohol causes the most serious effects to the fetus, with the most severe and consistent physical malformations occurring during the first trimester. Every nineteen minutes, a baby is born with Neonatal Abstinence Substance (NAS).

This condition is comprised of a constellation of signs of withdrawal from certain illicit drugs or prescription medications to which infants have developed dependence and tolerance during fetal life. While there are pharmacologic options reserved for infants with the most severe symptoms, Dr. Laneri noted that non-pharmacologic alternatives like infant massage therapy are at the cornerstone of pain management for NAS babies. Yvonne Murphy, director of the PA Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) marketing program, addressed the changes under Governor Tom Wolf.

In December of 2015, the governor signed a bill that extends the program through 2017. Currently, there are 160,598 children enrolled statewide, including 12,391 in Allegheny County. CHIP is a state program to provide health insurance to uninsured children and teens that are not eligible for the state's Medical Assistance programs.

In thanking the panel for their time and efforts to combat these issues, Senator Costa said, "Addiction is a disease that does not discriminate and there is no easy solution to fix the problem. When addiction finds its way into a family, it can nearly paralyze them for fear of what the future may hold." ♦

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# Neighborhood FOCUS

## Green light on Liberty: Linea Verde

By Mark Schramm *Bulletin contributor*

Q & A

**Bloomfield** - Although it has only been a year since Gina Merante opened up shop, it feels like the local produce merchant and her Linea Verde Green Market (4619 Liberty Ave.) have been part of the Bloomfield neighborhood for decades. *The Bulletin* recently sat down with Merante to learn about her family connection to the local business district, find out who her regular customers are, and get the backstory on her unique approach to SNAP payments.

**Bulletin:** First of all, why produce?

“Well my sister has a store up one block, [Merante Gifts] at 4723 Liberty Ave., where she has a cooking school. There’s a gift shop in the front and a bakery in the back; upstairs, she teaches peasant Italian cooking and hosts private dinners. I had been doing all of her buying, purchasing all of her produce, so this is just like a ‘biggie-sized’ refrigerator for her needs.”



**ABOVE:** Customer Karen Miller (left) consults Gina Merante, owner of Linea Verde Green Market (4619 Liberty Ave.), during a June 26 quest for strawberries. In less than a year’s time, countless Bloomfield residents have begun visiting Merante’s shop to satisfy their local produce needs. Photo by Andrew McKeon.

“I get customers from all walks of life coming up and down the avenue.”

– Gina Merante, Linea Verde Green Market

**Unlike some city neighborhoods, Bloomfield seems to be maintaining a lot of the old guard as it changes and welcomes new residents. How is Bloomfield able to adapt while staying true to its roots?**

“I really don’t know, but I do feel that it’s true. My sister has been here, I think it’s almost twenty-eight years, and she’s changed along with the times. When she first opened, she was making wedding favors and cookies. Now, people aren’t getting wedding favors, so she’s just making cookies and doing all the other stuff on the side. So, my sister’s business evolved along with the people that moved into the neighborhood.”

**Tell us about your all-consuming inventory process. How do you go about finding the freshest produce possible?**

“Knowing when the stuff is coming in is a key factor. I know Georgia peaches were just picked, so I got Georgia green beans and Georgia corn because - even though my sister might not need either - I knew she needed the peaches.”

**Now that you’ve been here for a year, how do you like being a small business owner in Bloomfield?**

“I love it here. You know, I’m getting to know the same people who walk by every day. Between West Penn, Children’s, and even [UPMC] Shadyside hospital, I get customers from all walks of life coming up and down the avenue...I think the majority of my customers are the kids that are renting. The older Italian people that own property around here, they’re not usually my regular customers.”

**Even before you got the SNAP payment machine up and running, you were giving food to cardholders on good faith that they would eventually pay you back. Could you explain what prompted this decision?**

“I did. You know, you have to get approved by the state in order to be able to accept Access cards. And my application never got lost; it just seemed like such a process of being almost interrogated. It just took so long to get approved and I knew that I was eventually going to get it. So, what I figured I would do was let them pay me back when I finally got the machine - and it worked to my benefit. [SNAP cardholders] wouldn’t have the card if they didn’t need it. So, I went ahead and it was just a judgement call to say, ‘if they never come back, then somebody got food when they needed it more than this place did.’ You know, it was the only... it was the right thing to do.” ♦



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## Friendship stages plethora of summer activities at Baum Grove

By Staci Backauskas *Friendship Community Group*

**Friendship** - The Friendship Community Group (FCG) - a tax-exempt organization comprised of local residents, business owners, and property owners - has been hard at work organizing family-friendly summer activities for all fun-loving neighbors to enjoy.

Located at the intersection of S. Fairmount and Roup Aves, the beautiful Baum Grove provides the perfect summer setting for a host of happenings.

"Saturday Yoga" will be offered all summer long, every Saturday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Instructors from the Yoga Hive (5491 Penn Ave.) offer a class suitable for all levels of ability. Those interested in practicing yoga in nature - the ultimate mindfulness - should bring a mat, water, and sunscreen. A \$10 donation is requested.

The monthly "Storytime at Baum Grove" returns with an animal-themed reading on Saturday, July 9, at 11 a.m. Auntie M (aka Friendship resident Martha Terry) will read story books to the children and then everyone will participate in creating a brand new story; each child contributes a

piece until the story is complete. Families are encouraged to bring blankets and snacks.

**Community Picnic** - On Friday, July 15, neighbors will congregate at Baum Grove at 5:30 p.m. for a community picnic, as well as a family-friendly movie at twilight. Burgers, dogs, drinks, and veggie options will be provided; the FCG recommends that picnic-goers bring chairs, blankets, and potluck dishes to share with their neighbors.

August in Friendship is shaping up to be just as much fun. FCG members are telling friends to hold Sunday, August 14, on their calendars for a special "Brunch in the Grove" concert with singer Rachel B.

As summer fades, residents will reconvene for the annual "Friendship House Tour," which is set for Sunday, September 15.

Any Friendship resident interested in showcasing their house on the tour may contact Sara DeLucia (friendshiphouse-tour@gmail.com). For more information on the FCG or any of these events, visit [www.new.friendship-pgh.org](http://www.new.friendship-pgh.org). ♦



**ABOVE:** Dave Kaule, owner of local company TROIKA Skateboards, plants his foot on top of a skate ramp at Spirit's "Summer Recess" festival. Bloomfield's Overcast skate shop provided ramps and rails for all to skate on June 18. Photo by John Colombo.



**ABOVE:** Local underground music veteran Dane Adelman entertains the crowd with his backwards guitar licks during "Summer Recess," an outdoor festival at Lawrenceville's Spirit. Photo by John Colombo.

## Unblurred on Penn Ave.

The monthly Unblurred event takes place on the first Friday of every month between the 4800 and 5500 blocks of Penn Ave. Galleries, shops, and restaurants open their doors to welcome visitors from across the region.

Typically beginning around 6 p.m. and winding down around 11 p.m., Unblurred is open to the public; many of the events are family-friendly and free-of-charge. Festivities include art exhibits, musical performances, dancing, and universal revelry for all in attendance.



Through September, the Garfield Night Market (GNM) will be open for business on N. Pacific Ave. - between Penn Ave. and Dearborn St. Updates on the market and other Unblurred activities are made available at <http://PennAvenue.org/Unblurred>.

Interested parties may also email [GarfieldNightMarket@gmail.com](mailto:GarfieldNightMarket@gmail.com) or [mainstreets@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:mainstreets@bloomfield-garfield.org) or for more information. Additional event details can be found at <http://GarfieldNightMarket.org>.

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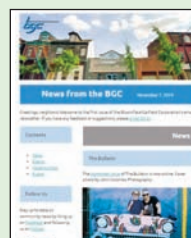
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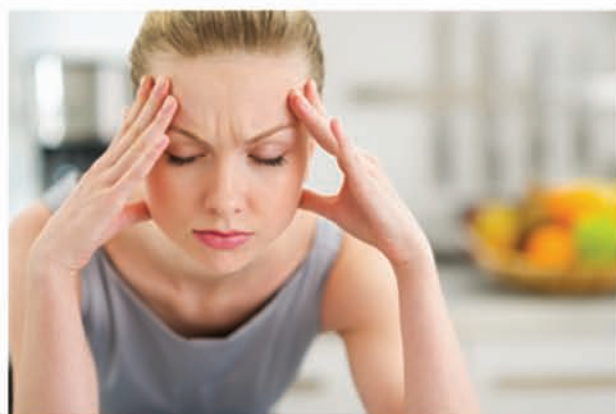




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## Ignite + Imbibe: hot glass, cool drinks at PGC

By Paige Ilkhanipour *Pittsburgh Glass Center*

*Friendship* – For the last fifteen years, Friendship's Pittsburgh Glass Center (PGC, 5472 Penn Ave.) has been helping the city rediscover its history as a major producer of glass and create its future as an important destination for glass artists.

PGC will be heating things up to celebrate its fifteenth anniversary with handcrafted beverages by the fire for "Ignite + Imbibe" on Saturday, July 16. From 6 to 9 p.m., local glass artists will be firing up the furnaces for a big glass "pour-formance" – a special tribute to handcrafted vessels and the spirits they bear.

Some area residents might not realize that, before it became the "Steel City," Pittsburgh was famous for glass. It was even known as "America's Glass City." The city's strategic location on an inland river system made it an ideal location for the manufacturing of such a fragile product. By 1920, the region produced 80% of the glass in the United States. But, the area's more spirited production history came long before it was known for glass, back in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries when Pittsburgh was the epicenter of American whiskey production.

Ignite + Imbibe partner Wigle Whiskey (2401 Smallman St.) is named for one of those pioneering local distillers. Phillip Wigle was sentenced to hang for his unsinkable love of whiskey. In 1794, Wigle defended his right to distill in a tussle with a tax collector. He unwittingly helped spark the Whiskey Rebellion, which pitted Western Pennsylvania distillers against George Washington's troops. After the Whiskey Rebellion of the 1790s, Pittsburgh continued to make the country's whiskey. By 1808, Allegheny County was producing half a barrel of whiskey for every man, woman, and child living in America. Today, Wigle Whiskey is the first distillery in the City of Pittsburgh since Prohibition, and the only legitimate whiskey distillery in the region.

In addition to some local brewers, Boyd & Blair Potato Vodka (distilled in Glenshaw, PA) will join Wigle on July 16; guests will get to sip some handcrafted beverages (featuring locally-grown ingredients) while glass artists pour molten magma into shape before their very eyes. "This is going to be a really fun event," PGC Executive Director Heather McElwee said. "Our artists are planning some spectacular, fiery performances and our partners will be ready to put out the flames with delicious drinks."

Thanks to PGC's state-of-the-art headquarters on Penn Ave., such artists have been able to hone their craft in one of the top glass facilities in the country. A public-access school, gallery, and glass studio dedicated to promoting glass art, PGC welcomes world-renowned artists to teach others via live hot-glass demonstrations. By day, PGC is free admission, open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All Ignite + Imbibe attendees will receive a handmade glass to take home at the end of the evening. Tickets cost \$50 each; admission includes refreshments and a glass. Anyone age 21 and over may purchase tickets online at <http://pittsburghglasscenter.org>. ♦

**BELOW:** This molten glass mug-shot proves just how hot things will get during Ignite + Imbibe. Each attendee will take home a handmade glass, once it cools down. Photo by Nathan J. Shaulis.



## Repair the World *continued from page 1*

it is founded on the Hebrew principle *tikkun olam*, which is the idea that everyone has a responsibility to transform and repair the world. With branches in five cities (Baltimore, Detroit, New York, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh), RPW believes that each community is best at identifying and addressing its own individual problems. Zack Block helms the Pittsburgh branch, which is located in the heart of East Liberty; he has served as director since the Pittsburgh site launched in 2013.

Leaving behind a long career as a tax attorney, Block soon found the change he needed. After volunteering with various local organizations, including East Liberty Development, Inc. (ELDI) and the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, he began searching for a way to break into the nonprofit world. "Repair the World first started coming into the Pittsburgh area around April of 2013, just to see if it would be a good community to support a program," Block explained. "I was their first hire in the community."

Once Block was signed on, he worked with the New York office to develop the program. "Our CEO ran the US Corporation for National and Community Service for about five years where he oversaw AmeriCorps and other service-year programs. So, he wanted to take the best of these programs and mesh them into one."

Together, they settled on a strategy of supporting and building up a group of community service partners on issues related to food and education. "We don't want to come up with something new, we want to build the capacity for people already doing things that help them do more things," Block explained. "So if, for example, Higher Achievement – an after-school program that we work with – is working with fifty kids, we want all fifty of those kids to have mentors."

Block would be the first to say that, rather than reinventing the wheel, RPW is just helping turn it faster. This proverbial wheel is powered by a team of fellows whose eleven-month fellowship brings them together in Pittsburgh. The current cohort of fellows is working closely with 412 Food Rescue, Assemble, Circles Greater Pittsburgh, East End Cooperative Ministry, Grow Pittsburgh, Higher

Achievement, the Homewood Children's Village, and the Jewish Relief Agency. "There's a lot of synergy between organizations. We want to work with one another, so it's usually a pretty quick process to make it happen," Block said.

Fellowships play an integral role in developing partner relationships and getting the community involved. The philosophy centers on building relationships and creating opportunities for action; fellows serve the neighborhood by leading workshops and volunteer events, recruiting more like-minded partners and organizations along the way.

Rebecca Sufrin, an Education Justice Team Leader fellow at RPW Pittsburgh, speaks passionately about the breadth of projects she was able to be a part of and help steer. "My work on the education justice side has really been about creating relationships, sharing skills, and learning from one another. Last year, I was able to tutor a 16 year-old, a middle aged person, and a senior citizen – all in the same day – at East End Cooperative Ministry," she said.

"Our partnerships with Neighborhood Learning Alliance and Assemble's after-school programs allowed me to form positive relationships with students from both middle and high schools in Pittsburgh, some of whom I still run into and love catching up with." Hailing from hometowns across the United States, many fellows stay in the Pittsburgh area after they graduate from the program. "The first year, five of them stayed in Pittsburgh," Block recounted. "In this third cohort, there's eight fellows and there's been talk around all eight of them staying."

Lindsay McCord, a first-year fellow, can attest to Pittsburgh's lasting impression. "I loved working and living in East Liberty. I was constantly surrounded by people doing cool, innovative work," she said. "Repair the World acts as a connector for a lot of other nonprofits."

Block hopes his efforts can offset some of the larger ills at play in modern America. "Right now, I'm a little disillusioned with the macro issues in our country and world that are fueled by systems that aren't necessarily working," he said. "But, with the way we operate, we get to have a real one-on-one kind of effect with people. We're building relationships." For more information, visit: <http://wererepair.org>. ♦

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# Penn Ave. tattoo gallery welcomes new cafe

By Amber Epps Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - On May 23, Tyler Bryan opened his new café inside Artisan - a tattoo gallery and boutique at 5001 Penn Ave. About ten years ago, Bryan started working at Oakland's Kiva Han café while attending the University of Pittsburgh.

It was during this time that he fell in love with the coffee shop scene and its inter-connected community. Since then, Bryan has helped multiple cafés open up shop and even served as a guest barista; he typically held two café jobs at any given point, and recalls working for approximately fourteen coffee shops in the Pittsburgh area.

Having always loved "alternative" cafés, Bryan felt that Artisan was the perfect location because of its unique and welcoming environment, one that values customer interaction and community orientation. He envisioned Artisan Café as the kind of place where you can actually get to know the staff - one of the building blocks for cafés as community hubs and special gathering places - rather than a typical business establishment whose sole purpose is to churn out drinks.

After seeing the amount of work that needed to be done to the 5001 Penn Ave. storefront in order to get everything up to code for a coffee shop, two other potential owners had backed out by the time Bryan threw his hat in the ring. Over the last three years, as Bryan helped Artisan's owners (Jason and Meliora Angst) build out their shop, he began picturing his own café situated within the multipurpose

tattoo gallery. When the Angsts offered him the space, it was a match made in café heaven.

Since Artisan Café has only been open for a month, the daily operations are constantly evolving and the menu offerings are expanding on a weekly basis. Currently the café's best-selling specialty drink, the "cold-brew" coffee, is made using Kyoto Towers apparatuses.

Involving a unique process used by only a few cafés in the city, Kyoto Towers give the coffee a much clearer and more refreshing taste compared to normal cold-brew methods. Bryan chose to use such exotic equipment because he believes that the quality of his coffee is of the highest priority. Artisan also offers up a spicy ginger mocha, which uses handmade ginger syrup, as well as a *crème brulee* cappuccino featuring a blow-torched, crunchy texture on top of the drink.

Bryan is really excited to grow with the community and bring delicious coffee and food to the neighborhood. In addition to giving the local community a place to gather, he hopes to bring the local coffee shop community together by offering guest barista positions and hosting "latte art" competitions at Artisan.

Café hours are Monday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., with plans to soon be open seven days a week. More information about Artisan Café can be found online at <http://artisanpittsburgh.com> or on Instagram (@artisancafePGH). ♦



ABOVE: Artisan Café (5001 Penn Ave.), a new coffee shop situated within a Garfield tattoo gallery, is a new business model living in an old neighborhood. A veteran of the local café scene, owner Tyler Bryan hand-picked the cafe's location based on specific visions of a shared space with the potential to become a special gathering place. Photo courtesy of Tyler Bryan.

# Lawrenceville furthers Community Land Trust discussions

By Genevieve Barbee Lawrenceville Corporation

Lawrenceville - A local neighborhood association, the Lawrenceville Corporation (LC), is holding its second community meeting to share updates on the real estate development planned by the city's first Community Land Trust (CLT). The meeting will allow LC and their architecture team (from Rothschild Doyno Collaborative) to present the completed design work and solicit feedback from residents.

On Thursday, July 14, the meeting will run from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the local Goodwill (151 52nd St.) "There's a reason that 'CLT' has a 'C' in it," Ed Nusser, LC's Real Estate and Planning Manager, said. "Community input and ownership of this process is incredibly important." The median home sale price in Lawrenceville has more than doubled in the last decade. In the face of such rapid escalation of prices, creating and preserving affordable housing for people across the socio-economic spectrum is incredibly important. LC aims to be a catalyst for responsible growth in the Lawrenceville community; part of that mission is fostering neighborhood awareness and opportunities for residents and stakeholders to get involved in the process.

In addition to a recap of the first meeting, which included a briefing on the CLT concept, the upcoming meeting on July 14 will feature updates on design work to date, as well as the development timeline for LC's seven CLT homes. Those interested in attending the meeting may RSVP by contacting Ed Nusser at 412-621-1616 or [ed@lawrencevillecorp.com](mailto:ed@lawrencevillecorp.com). More CLT details are available at [www.lvpgh.com/clt](http://www.lvpgh.com/clt). ♦

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: Tuesday, Aug. 2

Join your neighbors for a community celebration of public safety in the Garfield neighborhood on Tuesday, August 2, at the Nelson Mandela Peace Park (located at the corner of Broad and N. Evaline Sts.) from 5 to 8 p.m. Neighbors will gather with the City's public safety personnel to enjoy music, eat food, and take part in children's activities as part of National Night Out festivities.

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# Puerto Rican artist-in-residence brings unique perspective to Garfield gallery

By Aryssa Shultz *The Bulletin*



**ABOVE:** Puerto Rican muralist Elizabeth Barreto Ortiz always looks to her young Latin American students for artistic inspiration. Photo courtesy of MWFA.

*Garfield* - “Woman, Puerto Rican, cat lover, artist.” This is how Elizabeth Barreto Ortiz described herself during an artist talk at Most Wanted Fine Art (MWFA, 5015 Penn Ave.) on Friday, June 17.

Ortiz enjoyed a residency at MWFA thanks to a collaboration with Café con Leche; during the event, she sat next to her laptop, facing a small group of people, sipping beer and making small talk as late-comers trickled into the gallery. Then, a little after 7 p.m., she began to tell her story.

Born and raised in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, Ortiz launched her art career when she matriculated to college. “I was really a young kid when I went to college. That’s when I entered the real world,” she said. “I had no clue what I was getting into and how it would affect the rest of my life.”

In 2010, the young artist graduated with a BFA from San Juan’s Escuela de Artes Plásticas de Puerto Rico. Originally, Ortiz was inspired by cartoon work and animation; her work bore strong influences from Japanese *anime*. The first series she painted, entitled, “*Is This Really the Real World?*”, combined a cartoon style with a newfound love of realism. Ortiz is currently most known for her murals, but she also enjoys many other mediums, like using acrylic paint on paper.

While enrolled in college, she got her first taste of muralism and peer collaboration; friends laid down some traditional graffiti-styled lettering on a wall before she painted the corresponding backgrounds and characters. During Ortiz’s third year of studies, a government change in Puerto Rico implemented new laws, including “Infamous Law 7” that cut budgets to public institutions, resulting in massive layoffs.

Not long after her school went through a 71% budget cut, Ortiz became involved in *guerilla* art. At first, she joined colleagues in creating politically-themed prints and hanging them around their capital city by nightfall. Before long, they found a way to transform their interactive art pieces into human agency by organizing an academic strike. “We didn’t want to vandalize anything or make the school our playground,” Ortiz reasoned.

With the help of some like-minded colleagues and professors, she organized a twenty-four-hour lockdown of the school; protestors felt that the school’s administration was not truly fighting back against the new budget cuts. During the strike, Ortiz had a moment of doubt, so she sneaked outside to confide in her father.

He promised that, as long as his daughter was standing up for her rights, he did not care if she was expelled – a moment that has granted her the resolve to be an artist. “I feel like my purpose as an artist is to be socially active,” Ortiz revealed. “Art is powerful, and power is wasted when you aren’t involved.”

After graduating, Ortiz continued her pursuit of muralism. In 2015, she was invited to paint a sizable mural for the University of Puerto Rico. Entitled, “*To Learn to Overcome*,” it depicts a young girl’s glowing imagination coming to life as she reads *Le Petit Prince* (pictured at right).

During the June 17 engagement at MWFA, Ortiz referenced fond memories of taking art students out to her mural site and explaining the process behind such an undertaking. “Art opens doors and creates a safety net in the community,” she said.

These days, Ortiz devotes herself to teaching art workshops for sixth to eighth-grade children from Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Many of these students’ families are unable to afford school and their children often work on the streets. Inspired by her young students, Ortiz’s June exhibition at MWFA presents an eye-opening look into the poetry of despair. Drawings of children, rendered as ungendered and almost supernatural, depict beings without pupils or nipples.

Ortiz explained that she wanted to showcase the children as special and superhuman, the way she beholds them. “Diversity comes from our freedom to speak who we are. It’s not a racial thing,” she reminded the crowd. “Everyone is going to have different perspectives and, obviously, culture affects that. But, in the end, we’re all human and we go through similar troubles.”

Moving forward, as the Pittsburgh arts scene begins widening its focus and reaching out to more Latin American artists like Ortiz, the cultural barriers will soon fade from view. “We have to just put ourselves out there and cross that line,” Ortiz proclaimed. “The hardest part is crossing that line.” ♦

**BELOW:** Ortiz’s “*To Learn to Overcome*” mural at the University of Puerto Rico reminds onlookers of the power of imagination. Despite the obstacles, Ortiz and other Latin American artists are now finding their way to Pittsburgh, especially Garfield’s arts-friendly Penn Ave. corridor. Photo courtesy of MWFA.



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-Thomas Jefferson



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the  
**Bulletin** BOARD

**Local Events** **Classes**  
**Announcements** **Fundraisers**

**Sorry, but we do not accept listings by phone.**

The Bulletin Board publishes listings of volunteer opportunities, free or low-cost events and classes, fundraisers, and services that are of particular interest to our neighborhoods. Listings are published on a space-available basis; we cannot guarantee placement or thorough edits of any listings. Announcements for the **August** issue of *the Bulletin* are due by **July 15**. Please submit listings using our online form at [http://bit.ly/bulletin\\_submit](http://bit.ly/bulletin_submit).

**July 1 - Friday**

**GARFIELD**  
**YouthBuild Employment Program**

Garfield Jubilee Association, Inc. (GJA) is now recruiting 70 youths (aged 16 to 24) to participate in its YouthBuild employment program this summer. Career tracks include construction and health & wellness fields. The program's informational session will begin on July 1. Contact GJA at 412-665-5200 with any questions. For more information, call program coordinator Dion Jones at 412 665-5206.

**July 2 - Saturday**

**LAWRENCEVILLE**  
**Independence Day Festival**

For 72 years, the Pittsburgh neighborhood of Lawrenceville has continued to hold an Independence Day festival that is filled with softball and baseball games, children's races, a KSWA wrestling show, pony rides, a petting zoo, music, entertainment, refreshments, and -of course - world-class Zambelli fireworks. This year, the celebration will take place on July 2, beginning at 11:00 a.m. in Arsenal Park.

**July 9 - Saturday**

**LAWRENCEVILLE**  
**Doo Dah Nights**

Join Lawrenceville Historical Society celebrating the City of Pittsburgh's 200th Anniversary celebration as we host our annual Stephen Foster Music Festival and Square Dance. This year we are moving it to the night for even more dancing. The event will be held at Spirit Hall at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$10 at the door. There will be performances by Prof. Guibert and the 1913 Blue & Gray Reunion Band, Devilish Merry, and The Haygood Paisleys.

**GARFIELD**  
**Church Youth Rally**

Attention all youths: you are invited to attend the central district's 5th annual outdoor "Youth Rally" at Morningside C.O.G.I.C. (5173 Dearborn St.). From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., there will be games, face painting, mime, music, open mic, and speakers. Bring your friends, join the fun, and be blessed. Refreshments will be served.

**July 11 - Monday**

**LAWRENCEVILLE**  
**Doughboy Design Kickoff**

Come down to the Roberto Clemente Museum (3339 Penn Ave.) and help shape the future of Doughboy Square. Lawrenceville Corporation welcomes neighbors and Lawrenceville stakeholders to the first in a series of community meetings to learn about and give input regarding the design of a mixed-use, mixed-income project at 3400-3404 and 3330-3350 Penn Ave. Meeting goes from 6 to 7:30 p.m. RSVP to Ed Nusser at 412-621-1616 x106 or [ed@lawrencevillecorp.com](mailto:ed@lawrencevillecorp.com).

**July 13 - Wednesday**

**BLOOMFIELD**  
**Vacation Bible School**

July 13, 14 and 15, from 5-8 p.m. East End Assembly of God (430 S. Evaline St.) will be hosting "Ocean Commotion" Vacation Bible School. All children ages 3-12 are welcome. Dinner and transportation will be provided. Registration is free online at [www.eastendag.org/vbs](http://www.eastendag.org/vbs). For more information, call (412) 687-3493, email [vbs@eastendag.org](mailto:vbs@eastendag.org), or visit <http://eastendag.org>.

**July 14 - Wednesday**

**LAWRENCEVILLE**  
**Community Land Trust Meeting**

At the local Goodwill (151 52nd St.), Lawrenceville Corporation is holding the second in a series of informational community meetings from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The meeting will give an update about and gather neighbor input on the design of the first Community Land Trust homes in Lawrenceville.

This project creates permanent affordable housing in Lawrenceville's 10th Ward. Please RSVP to Ed Nusser at [ed@lawrencevillecorp.com](mailto:ed@lawrencevillecorp.com) or 412-621-1616 x106.

**July 17 - Sunday**

**GARFIELD**  
**Get Your Praise On**

We at Morningside Church of God In Christ, where Elder Lamont B. Shields is the Pastor, are inviting everyone to come on over to 5173 Dearborn St. in Garfield and get your praise on! We are expecting to have a high time in the Lord with guest speakers: Evangelist Earlene Smith from Pentecostal Temple here in Pittsburgh and - all the way from Leesburg, Florida - Bishop Jerome Jones. Service starts at 3:30 p. m. Our theme will be "I've got a praise!" Won't you come out and join us?

**July 18 - Monday**

**BLOOMFIELD**  
**Weight-Loss Info Session**

West Penn Hospital, Allegheny Room. Two free sessions: 11 a.m. -12:30 p.m. or 6 - 7:30 p.m. Registration is appreciated but not required; call 412.362.8677, option 1. We invite you and your family to our information session to enhance your understanding of weight loss surgeries and services offered by our institute. The presentations include an informational talk given by our bariatric surgical staff and a question-and-answer period.



**ABOVE:** Children play among a bike rack dedicated to a very special Montessori parent and devoted husband, Andrew Fisher. A brief dedication on Saturday, April 30 was followed by a bike parade around the school. Photo courtesy of Pittsburgh Montessori School.



Toddler and pre-school programs  
Call for information or to schedule a tour.

**Arsenal Family & Children's Center**  
336 S. Aiken Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232  
Phone: 412.345.0008  
Email: [afcc@arsenalfamily.org](mailto:afcc@arsenalfamily.org)



**Now accepting registrations for Fall 2016**



# Volunteer Opportunities & Services

July 20 - Wednesday

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### 44th St. House History

Free lecture: the Lawrenceville Historical Society will host Kathy Kier, an avid genealogist who will demonstrate the interplay of geography and local history with genealogy. While researching the home at 44th St. in Lawrenceville as a wedding gift for a family friend, Kathy made some unexpected historical discoveries about the street and adjacent land. Kier's presentation will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the Carnegie Library (279 Fisk St.). Free and open to the public. No reservations necessary.

## BLOOMFIELD

### Baby 911

West Penn Hospital, Burstin Room, from 6 - 9 p.m. \$40 per person or \$75 per couple. Register by calling 412-578-7030. Space is limited; please register early. Designed for parents and caregivers to develop skills in infant/child CPR, including baby-proofing your home, SIDS, and car safety.

July 23 - Saturday

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### Neighborhood Cleanup

Join Lawrenceville United for the monthly neighborhood cleanup, happening every 4th Saturday April through August. This month's clean up takes place Saturday July 23, beginning at 10 a.m. at Lawrenceville United (4839 Butler St.).

July 27 - Saturday

## SHADYSIDE

### Heart Healthy Store Tour

Shadyside Market District (1-2 pm). Free to anyone looking for a healthier future! Join a West Penn Hospital Registered Dietitian for an in-aisle tour and learn how to shop heart smart! Register by calling 412.578.1442.

July 28 - Thursday

**AT RIGHT:** Alongside his mother, Roberta Brody, Zone 5 Commander Jason Lando takes a break to enjoy some of his home-made salad during a Zone 5 Open House event. On Saturday, June 4, local community members and public safety officials gathered at Zone 5 headquarters for a meet-and-greet fueled by culinary creations and general goodwill. Responding to the casual atmosphere, officers said they were eager to get to know the very residents they protect every day. Photo by Barry Werber.



## Become a Bloomfield- Garfield Corporation (BGC) member today!

The BGC is a membership organization that counts on residents and business owners like you to support its efforts. Our membership has been a part of recent accomplishments like bringing an ALDI grocery store to Penn Avenue, facilitating the Garfield Night Market, and starting construction on 19 new affordable rental units in Garfield!

**A donation in any amount makes you a member.**

Visit <http://Bloomfield-Garfield.org> to donate online. Donations are also encouraged via standard mail; please call 412-441-6950 to receive a printed remittance card and become a BGC member.

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### "Historic Places, Lawrenceville"

Please join the PA State Historic Preservation Office, the Pittsburgh Department of City Planning and the Urban Redevelopment Authority at 6 p.m. at the Arsenal School Auditorium, for a public information meeting about efforts to list most of the Lawrenceville neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

July 29 - Friday

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### Kennedy Books Lecture

Be the guest of the Lawrenceville Rotary Club as we host Karl Ohrman. Karl is a collector of books about the Kennedy family. He is speaking at the Lawrenceville branch of the Carnegie Library from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Danielle at 412-867-5117.

Ongoing Opportunity

## GARFIELD

### Summer Food Program

Garfield Jubilee Assoc. Inc. will be a host for the Summer Food Program. June 27, 2016 to August 18, 2016. Breakfast served at 8:30 a.m., lunch served at 11:30 a.m. Participants must be under 18 years of age. Meals must be consumed at the site. 5323 Penn Ave. For details, call 412-665-5200.

## Shout-Outs

How lucky we folks were at the Morningside Senior Center to have Martha Crean. After working at the center for 7 years, Martha resigned and is now looking forward to exploring other options. Martha always exemplified kindness and patience. We're going to miss her smiling face!

## Classifieds

### Services

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### Involvement:

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- Visit duration is 2-3 hours per visit
- Compensation ranges from \$100 to \$150, and up to \$50 for travel reimbursement
- fMRI scan (optional, \$150 extra)

If interested, contact: [dnpl@upmc.edu](mailto:dnpl@upmc.edu), or call 412-246-6014



# Lawrenceville resident sounds off on proposed Charlotte St. brewery

By Alina Del Pino *Bulletin contributor*

## Op-Ed

*Lawrenceville* - Matt McMahon has a dream. After years of home-brewing beer in the suburbs, he is now the proprietor of Eleventh Hour Brewing, LLC, with dreams of making lots more beer and running a bar. Good for him. There's one problem, though, and it's a big one: the chosen site for his brewery/bar is completely inappropriate.

Charlotte St., a small, quiet street in lower Lawrenceville is at the very heart of a long-established residential neighborhood. His "dream" would forever change and deform the essential residential qualities that neighbors have worked long and hard to achieve, qualities of life that we deeply cherish. His business, at best, belongs on Butler St.

New liquor regulations came into effect in Pennsylvania on May 30, 2015. This new law [40 Pa. Code § 3.93] prohibits communities (anywhere in Pennsylvania) from protesting the issuance of Brewery Licenses. It is the only kind of Liquor License that cannot be protested. On top of that, the legislation also allows holders of Brewery Licenses to have a "tap room" (in my view, a thinly disguised name for a bar), without the need for a separate Brew Pub License. This is nothing short of a draconian double bind, a "catch-22" that disenfranchises members of the Commonwealth from having a voice about what is acceptable within their communities.

When neighbors learned about McMahon's intentions, there was a strong showing of more than forty residents who made good on their legal right to protest by writing to the state's Liquor Control Board. This level of community engagement would have normally triggered a public hearing. We would have all had an important opportunity to express ourselves and have our concerns respectfully considered as part of a fair pre-licensing process.

Rather than allow the community to have its say in a legal and meaningful way, McMahon took advantage of the state's new liquor regulations and withdrew his application for a Brew Pub License. By doing so, he made sure that there could be no hearing. McMahon has strategically silenced the community and assured himself a license. This is hardly evidence of good will, or of his intention to be a fair neighbor that's open to compromise.

No doubt, the businessman will reapply for his Brew Pub License whenever it suits him, just to sell more and different kinds of alcohol on our street. The old adage, "give them an inch, and they'll take a mile," is clearly already at work here. McMahon's supersized business plan and tactics represent nothing short of an invasion. Unlike other brew pubs on Butler St. that are discreet, small, and self-contained, McMahon wants to open up the building's façade and install three very large "garage door windows." His plans include a floor capacity of ninety-five people, hosting food trucks, installing TVs for loud sports broadcasts, and holding unspecified "parties and special events." Everything about this business would overwhelm the neighborhood and jeopardize the peacefulness and safety

of our streets. Residential properties surround the building on three sides, and the streets here are typically "Lawrenceville narrow." Homes are situated as close as ten and twenty feet away from the proposed bar.

We all know the typical behavior of people who come to drink in Lawrenceville, many of whom live elsewhere. We have, in fact, become what we never wanted to be, the "new South Side." With at least six other liquor establishments within two hundred feet of the proposed bar, Charlotte St. would become part of the drinking circuit. Living on a street that's part of this drunken social media loop will surely make the neighborhood feel as insufferable as an electric blanket on a hot summer night.

This is not progress. This is not community building. Instead, it is an arrogant disregard for the most basic values and characteristics held dear by our residents. This business isn't trying to fit in; it's forcing its way in - even though any reasonable person can see that it doesn't belong. What is happening here points to a systemic failure involving outdated zoning laws, predatory liquor regulation, and opportunistic development. For whom is this neighborhood livable? Who gets to define what "livable" means?

Times have changed. Lawrenceville has changed and will continue to do so. Unmediated, and left to the "what's hot now" game plan, change can be a disaster. In this case, the disaster is a bar on Charlotte St. We hope our elected officials and other community leaders, as well as the stakeholders and newcomers, can engage the big picture and realize just how misguided and detrimental this proposed bar could be to the neighborhood.

As one of my neighbors said, "This guy's dream is a nightmare for the rest of us!" Indeed, I agree with my neighbor. Why should so many people have to give up so much just so that one person can get whatever he wants? ♦

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--- News to Note ---  
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