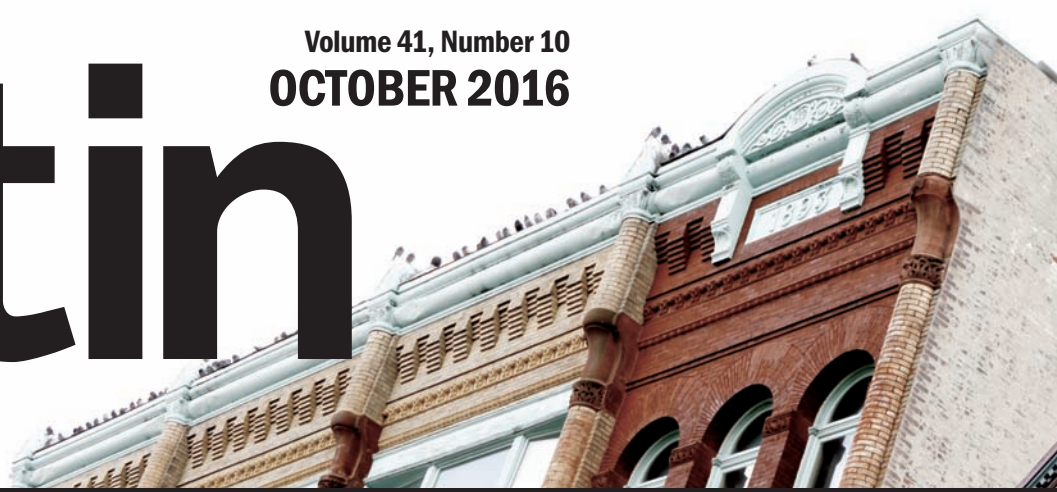


# the Bulletin

Volume 41, Number 10  
OCTOBER 2016

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



## Preservation act: Albright Church's fate still undecided

By John Kohl *Bulletin* contributor

*Shadyside/Bloomfield* - Once a very commanding force within the community, the Albright Community United Methodist Church building (486 S. Graham St.) fell on hard times as enrollment started declining and maintenance costs kept rising, well before the building endured a roof leak in 2013.

All things considered, the building has aged splendidly over more than 100 years. The church has maintained its original structural integrity in a way that only a few other local churches have been able to manage.

In chorus with the aesthetes who admire Albright's architecture, congregants pose one fundamental question: "why would anyone destroy this beautiful, well-made building?"

Enter Tony Ross, owner of Ross Development, a prominent Pittsburgh-based real estate developer. Exuding the confidence of a "J.R. Ewing"-styled businessman, Ross believed the Conference could not do without him, or his offer. He had already done his homework; in identifying the site's potential, he pointed to demographic research and highlighted a

See **Albright** | page 6



**ABOVE:** Eric Greenawalt a.k.a. "the Chalking Dad," decorates N. Winebiddle St. with Garfield's signature color scheme and Gator mascot. His chalk illustration heralds the arrival of Next 3 Days, a "neighborhood spotlight" festival, on Saturday, Sept. 10. Photo by John Colombo.

## NRA pushes legislation to sue PA towns over gun control

By Rob Conroy *CeaseFire PA*

*Op/Ed - Pennsylvania* - As you may be aware, Act 192 - our state legislature's "NRA can sue towns" law from the 2014 session - was struck down by the Pennsylvania

See **Gun Control** | page 5

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## CMU students reimagine East Liberty's "western gateway"

By Elizabeth Sensky *East Liberty Development, Inc.*

*East Liberty* - In a place that is quickly becoming synonymous with change, there is one stretch of land that might be changing a lot faster than anything else over the next

See **Western Gateway** | page 11

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**ABOVE:** Students from the Urban Academy of Greater Pittsburgh inspect their new school supplies on Wednesday, Sept. 14; Guardian Storage packed more than 230 "power tools homework kits" and distributed them to local students through the "Adopt-A-School" program. Photo courtesy of Erin Carlin.

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Bulletin

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## PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

### Drug trafficking investigation connects dots between East End, U.S. Virgin Islands

A message from the U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Pennsylvania

*Pittsburgh* – Following a multi-jurisdictional investigation into drug trafficking in Pittsburgh, fourteen individuals have been indicted in the Western District of Pennsylvania for violating federal narcotics laws. The multi-agency “Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force” investigation revealed a cocaine trafficking distribution network operating from the Virgin Islands to Detroit, Michigan, and a heroin trafficking scheme originating in Detroit and distributing to Pittsburgh.

Coordinated law enforcement action occurred in multiple locations, with arrest warrants and search warrants being executed in Georgia, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and the U.S. Virgin Islands. “This investigation, which utilized Title III wiretap intercepts, controlled drug purchases, and other investigative techniques, established the existence of several overlapping and interrelated drug distribution networks with tentacles in the Western District of Pennsylvania, Northern District of Ohio, Eastern District of Michigan, Northern District of Georgia and the District of the Virgin Islands.” U.S. Attorney David J. Hickton stated.

“While our focus began in early 2015 on the Clinton Robinson drug trafficking organization operating on Pittsburgh's North Side, we have since been able to track the drug suppliers beyond the borders of our own district and across the Caribbean Sea.”

The Western District of Pennsylvania charges are contained in four separate, but related, indictments returned on Aug. 23, 2016.

- *Clinton Robinson, 31, of Pittsburgh, PA; Ronelle Lane, 35, of Pittsburgh, PA; Vanier Murraine, 33, of Ferndale, MI; Victor Burnett, Jr., 36, of Oak Park, MI; Christopher Butler, 29, of Twinsburg, OH; Frank Williams, 27, of Detroit, MI; and Drue Williams, III, 35, of Cleveland, OH.* The two-count indictment alleges that - from in and around January 2016 and continuing until around September 2016 - Clinton Robinson, Ronelle Lane, Vanier Murraine, Victor Burnett, Jr., Christopher Butler, Frank Williams and Drue Williams, III, conspired to distribute and possess with intent to distribute one kilogram or more of heroin. In addition, the indictment alleges that on or about August 22, 2016, Robinson, Lane and Murraine attempted to distribute and possessed with intent to distribute 100 grams or more of heroin.

- *Derrein Robinson, 33, of Pittsburgh, PA; Dion Robinson, 27, of Pittsburgh, PA; and Todd Kenney, 27, of Pittsburgh, PA.* The one-count indictment alleges that, from in and around April 2016 and continuing to in and around June 2016, Derrein Robinson, his brother Dion Robinson, and Todd Kenney conspired to distribute and possess with intent to distribute a quantity of heroin.

- *Raheem Buchanan, 32, of Pittsburgh, PA; and Lamont Butler, 45, of Munhall, PA.* The one-count indictment alleges that, from in and around February 2016 to in and around July 2016, Raheem Buchanan and Lamont Butler conspired to distribute and possess with intent to distribute a quantity of heroin.

- *Kelvin Ferguson, 29, formerly of Pittsburgh, PA; and Regina Brown, 28, of Pittsburgh, PA.* The two-count indictment alleges that in and around May 2015, Kelvin Ferguson and Regina Brown conspired to distribute and possess with intent to distribute a quantity of heroin. The indictment further alleges that on May 14, 2015, Ferguson and Brown possessed with intent to distribute a quantity of heroin. The charges against Brown, however, were subsequently dropped.

Clinton Robinson, Ronelle Lane, Derrien Robinson, Dion Robinson, Raheem Buchanan, and Lamont Butler were arrested and made their initial appearances in U.S. District Court in Pittsburgh. Vanier Murraine, Victor Burnett, Jr., and Frank Williams were arrested and made their initial appearances in U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Michigan. Christopher Butler and Drue Williams, III, were arrested in Ohio and will make their initial appearances in U.S. District Court in Pittsburgh. Kelvin Ferguson is presently detained on state charges at SCI Somerset. Todd Kenney is a fugitive. Anyone with information is asked to call the FBI at 412-432-4000.

Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed would be based upon the seriousness of the offense and the prior criminal history, if any, of the defendant. Assistant United States Attorney Amy L. Johnston of the Western District of Pennsylvania is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government. An indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty. ♦



# In tribute to Garfield legend Melvin Gay

By Andrew McKeon *the Bulletin*

*Garfield* - Lifelong Garfield resident Melvin S. Gay passed away unexpectedly on Aug. 27. A magnanimous figure in the local community, Melvin is survived by many loving friends and family members.

His brother, Officer Michael Gay (Zone 5, Pittsburgh Police) admired Melvin's charitable spirit more than any accolades. "We've always been family-oriented, goal-oriented, and respectful," Gay said.

Growing up on Hillcrest St., Melvin was more inclined toward musical pursuits than organized sports. "Our family was musically based," Gay said. "We had a family choir called 'The Cousins' where we sang together with four generations of our family."

While a drum major at Peabody High School, Melvin also played trumpet with a city-wide marching band. Upon venturing into adulthood, he soon began following his instinct to mentor.

"When he became an adult," Gay said, "Melvin's whole thing was to give back and make sure the kids had opportunities." The former musical prodigy took to coaching Little League football with local youth sports nonprofit Brothers and Sisters Emerging (BASE). Melvin excelled

**BELOW:** Melvin Gay, a great football coach and youth mentor. Photo courtesy of Michael Gay.



as a coach of the Garfield Gators football team; he also coached youth basketball at the Church of St. Benedict the Moor.

In July, Melvin hosted a community picnic where dozens of Garfield residents gathered to celebrate their neighborhood's legacy. "We are a close-knit group," his brother remarked. "Garfield is a family."

Melvin's wry sense of humor will continue to inspire his friends and family members as they carry on his memory. "Every time I start to miss him or mourn him and the tears start to flow," Gay explained, "they quickly become tears of joy because my brother was just so funny." ♦

## the Bulletin

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**Bloomfield-Garfield  
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**Serving Bloomfield, Friendship, Garfield, East Liberty, Lawrenceville, and Stanton Heights Since 1975** with the mission of reporting on activities affecting those communities and offering an opportunity for residents to express their opinions and exchange ideas.

### Volume 41, Number 10

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## Property placards: how to interpret City of Pittsburgh signage

By Aggie Brose *Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

*Pittsburgh* - The City of Pittsburgh's Department of Permits, Licensing and Inspections (PLI) has instituted a policy of placing placards on properties to serve as a notice of violations for dangerous structures. According to PLI, the placards are meant to signify notices of "Stop Work Order," "Condemnation," "Imminent Danger," and "City Demolition." Notices will still be sent to the owner of record via traditional mail, but placards will also be placed on the structure. Residents seeking more information are encouraged to call Julie Reiland, PLI's Government and Public Relations Liaison, at 412-255-2811.

**ABOVE:** Stop Work Order - Whenever work is occurring without the proper permits, outside the scope of an approved permit, and in a dangerous manner, an inspector may enforce a stop work order.

**ABOVE:** Condemnation Placards - When a building is condemned, occupancy is prohibited and the owner is notified. Although regularly inspected, buildings may be condemned for a long period of time without being demolished.

**ABOVE:** Imminent Danger - Once a building is condemned and the structure has deteriorated so much that it poses a public safety risk, the structure is considered an imminent danger. This step directly precedes demolition.

**ABOVE:** City Demolition - Once a structure has deteriorated to the point of being an imminent danger, the City will post the structure for demolition. This serves as public notice that the structure is now under contract to be razed.



# “Sharing the road”: BikePGH clarifies two and four-wheel transit laws

By Alexandria Shewczyk *BikePGH*

*Pittsburgh* - From behind the windshield, it may look like bicyclists are all the same, but they come from all walks of life and experiences.

They might be students who have yet to meet the legal driving age, who are just trying to get to get around town; they might be desk-job employees switching up their daily commute; they might be commuting to work because of gaps in bus service.

In order to safely coexist, bicyclists and drivers alike have a responsibility to learn the rules of the road. For many people who would like to cycle on city streets, but choose to abstain, safety is usually the main concern.

When bicyclists get nervous on city streets,

they might opt for riding on the sidewalks - which is against state law. On the road, cyclists must decide whether to take the center of the lane or share it with nearby drivers. When moving at the speed of traffic, or when the lane is not wide enough for cars to pass, cyclists should take the center.

Many drivers are not aware of the extra cautions that bikers must look out for, like parked cars, potholes, rubble, and weather hazards. Pennsylvania’s “Safe Passing Law” (HB 170) provides a number of protections and guidelines so that vehicles and bicycles can safely share the road. The law stipulates that bicycles must operate in the rightmost turning lane, and that no turn by a motorist may interfere with a cyclist’s straightforward path.

This means that bicyclists should stay in the rightmost lane, or as close to the right as possible, except when making a left turn that requires them to be in the left or center lanes. The gist of the law is a reminder to slow down until it is safe to pass.

At night, both drivers and bicyclists have to watch out for each other. State law requires bikes to use a front headlight and a rear reflector, allowing drivers to better illuminate their path. Bright clothes, like reflective vests and ankle straps, help

increase a cyclist's visibility. These tips, along with a lot of other advice, guide BikePGH as it works to transform local streets into vibrant, healthy places by making them safe and accessible for everyone to enjoy.

Area residents are encouraged to join transit advocates from Bloomfield Livable Streets on the fourth Tuesday of the month, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at “The White Whale” a.k.a. “The East End Book Exchange”(4754 Liberty Ave.). ♦

## Cyclist recounts close call on Penn Ave.

By Angela Agnes Urban *Bulletin contributor*

### Op-Ed

*Garfield* - While bicycling, I was run over by a driver near the intersection of Penn and Negley Aves. in early May of this year. I ended up under the car; my sister [who was also riding a bike] got hit as the driver bumped into a parked car before stopping.

It was night-time, but both of us had our lights on. Even though the driver behind our assaulter saw us, he was obviously too busy on his phone to help. My sister got a broken wrist and I sustained the following injuries: a broken jaw, traumatic brain injury, a lung contusion, multiple broken ribs, a broken femur, and a fractured ankle. My femur and jaw got fixed with implanted metal, so now I’m bionic.

Most of the bones healed while I was in a coma, which lasted for about a month. That was followed by a two-month recovery stay with my parents. Now, I’m back in school, where I’m struggling more than I ever have before. Still, I believe the only way for me to return to 100% is by challenging myself.

Most would say this whole ordeal isn’t a “share the roads” predicament, but rather a “distracted driving” one. But, these two issues are inherently entwined. A big part of sharing the roads is being aware that bikers and pedestrians exist on and around the road - while not running them over. I encourage everyone to embrace open communication, patience, and adherence to the law. Leave your resentment for other modes of transport at home, or toss it off the Incline.

If everyone follows the law, a myriad of sketchy situations will be avoided. Ones where a car blazes through a yellow light and runs over a bicyclist who’s just making a turn; where a bicyclist pretends to be a pedestrian and chugs through a green walk sign only to run over a pedestrian; where a car disregards the “four feet of passing space” law and skims the biker’s left side. Enforcement of these laws would help all parties understand their roles; bicyclists who abide by the rules are a viable part of the road and they shouldn’t feel confined in a perpetual death trap.

It feels like there is a lot of resentment - from both bikers and drivers – that prevents further discourse. Cyclists are mad that their fellow bike-riders are constantly being struck by road-hogging drivers. Meanwhile, many local drivers loathe how some bikers feel entitled to “being a pedestrian” just so they can blow through red lights.

Before we can foster an understanding, patient, and lawful community of travelers, everyone needs to curb their resentment and join forces to advocate for safer roadways. Our city needs to alter its infrastructure in order to create safer roads for bicyclists.

We need more protected bike lanes and more lights acknowledging bikers’ existence. All this would cradle us towards a society where people don’t get killed or put into comas for deciding to bike to work that day. ♦



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# Gun Control continued from page 1

Supreme Court in June. The Court's analysis focused on the law being enacted unconstitutionally and did not address the substantive components of the law.

Now, the PA General Assembly is at it again; SB 1330 (Senate) and HB 2258 (House) are moving fast, with an effort to ram these bills through as soon as possible [*Editor's Note: As of press time, neither Bill had been passed*]. If passed, SB 1330 and HB 2258 (billed as "firearms pre-emption" laws) will potentially bankrupt well-meaning communities while eradicating more than 250 years of common law that governs who in this Commonwealth can file a lawsuit (which is called "legal standing").

From the dawn of our nation up until the present, any person filing a lawsuit has had to prove that they have suffered actual, actionable damage, or that they are in imminent danger of so doing. For example, your neighbor who is angry about your icy sidewalk cannot sue you over it unless they slip and sustain an injury while walking on said icy sidewalk.

When the state legislature failed to pass a statewide "lost or stolen gun reporting" law in 2008 and local municipalities were forced to pass their own "lost or stolen" laws, the National Rifle Association (NRA) - who, as a membership organization, could not sue a municipality - enlisted two individual plaintiffs to sue Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, challenging the cities' municipal laws. These "propaganda plaintiffs" based their lawsuits upon a group of state laws collectively known as the "Uniform Firearms Act."

Citing a specific provision [18 Pa.C.S.A. Section 6120(a)], they believe the Act prohibits a municipality from passing any law regulating the "lawful ownership or transfer of firearms" that might contradict pre-existing state laws. In both cases, the Commonwealth Court threw out the lawsuits, but solely on the "standing" issue.

In other words, because neither of the plaintiffs had actually been charged under these "lost or stolen" laws, they had not sustained actual damages as a result of the laws and, therefore, had no grounds to sue the municipalities. However, the Court's ruling did not specify whether or not "lost or stolen" laws were covered by the Uniform Firearms Act. As a result of that ruling, a statewide stand-off lasted for years; no one wanted to enforce their local ordinances for fear of a lawsuit from the NRA.

Fast forward a few years to the 2011-2012 legislative session, when the gun lobby tried to change the laws of standing to enhance its leverage. Although they were unsuccessful, the lobbyists didn't give up; in late 2014, they convinced the legislature to greenlight Act 192 (now embodied in SB 1330/HB 2258).


This draconian legislation allows for the following:

1) any citizen of Pennsylvania who could possibly own a firearm to sue any town that passed a gun law that differed from state law even if they don't live there, have never been there, have no intention of going there, and have not had the ordinance enforced against them or anyone else; 2) any group that counts such a person among its members can also sue the town in question; 3) there is no limit on the number of lawsuits that can be brought against a specific town; 4) if the threat of suit or filing of suit leads to a repeal of the ordinance, or if the ordinance is found to violate pre-emption, the town can be liable for costs and fees of plaintiffs; 5) no matter the outcome of each lawsuit, even if the town(s) won the lawsuit(s), each municipality is left holding the bag for its all of its legal expenses.

Although legislators claim that they have concerns about a "patchwork of laws" and they want to prevent municipalities from having, in their opinion, too much control over their destinies, SB 1330 and HB 2258 are not the way to address the problem. Setting aside centuries of legal precedent to please one interest group in such an awful, punitive way can open the door to all sorts of horrible ramifications down the road, leading to all sorts of frivolous lawsuits being filed for any number of reasons. Our legislators need to actively, vocally oppose these Bills and figure out a different way to attack the "patchwork" problem.

CeaseFire PA, a statewide organization taking a stand against gun violence, suggests that concerned residents take following courses of action: 1) set up constituent meetings with your legislators as soon as possible; 2) establish a phone bank and encourage your contacts to call their legislators; 3) pen letters to the editors of your local newspapers; 4) convince every one of your contacts to e-mail their legislators.

Feel free to use this basic message in your communication: "Vote against HB 2258, SB 1330 or any other bill/amendment that allows the NRA and/or anyone to sue a municipality without ever having suffered a direct, provable damage from that law or set foot in that municipality. This erodes 250 years of legal standing under our common law to hand the gun lobby an unprecedented gift. Punishing towns for wanting to pass safer gun laws is not the answer." ♦



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# Albright

*continued from page 1*

**BELOW:** A beacon of worship for decades, the Albright Community United Methodist Church building awaits City Council's decision about its future purpose in the East End. Photo by Larry Rippel.



a steady uptick in vehicular and foot traffic in the area.

Two years ago, Ross made his offer to purchase the historic building at 486 S. Graham St., bulldoze it, and erect a new chain-store coffee shop in its place. The Conference soon accepted the offer and all signs pointed to quick redevelopment.

*The Bulletin* recently reached out to the developer for comment about this transaction; neither Ross, nor anyone else at his company, could be reached for comment.

Where Mellon Center proudly stands today, along Grant St. in downtown Pittsburgh, Albright saw its humble beginnings as the Zion Church of Pittsburgh of the Evangelical Association - or "Zion," for short. Once Zion's congregants grew weary of the pollution and din of traffic associated with downtown life, they began aggressively searching for a more accessible destination to call their own.

Around the turn of the nineteenth century, they discovered the site on the edge of Bloomfield; by 1906, local architect Chancey Hodgdon finished constructing what soon became the home of the

Albright Community United Methodist Church.

Hodgdon's project adopted a unique style known as "Eclectic," which was modeled after Pittsburgh's then-favorite architect, Henry Hobson Richardson. According to written records, Richardson was solely responsible for the design and construction of Pittsburgh's own Allegheny County Courthouse and jail complex, as well as

numerous other award-winning buildings. Despite meteoric success, the famous architect died alone and penniless.

Eclectic design was so named because it incorporated various architectural and constructional features from both the Romanesque and Gothic Revival. For the church building, Hodgdon used classical Romanesque motifs like massive end-walls, wide stone arches, bell towers, and apsidal closures. He blended these features with Gothic Revival motifs like tracery windows, pinnacles, pilasters, and pedimented roofs to create an outstanding Eclectic building.

The church's interior also bears significance in its auditorium-style, public seating plan. The traditional, central nave plan had no place in Hodgdon's building because he wanted congregants to enjoy a full, unobstructed view of their preacher.

As Director of "Friends of Albright," a local group advocating to save the church building demolition, Lindsay Patross took it upon herself to file a lengthy petition to protect the Eclectic structure from looming demolition. "Once a building like Albright and others like it disappear, we can't get them back, meaning they're gone

forever. Patross contends, "All that's left is the regret that we didn't do enough until it was too late."

Should City Council deliver a favorable decision regarding Albright Community United Methodist Church, it would do so under a special designation of historic preservation, which spares buildings from being demolished by zealous contractors. The church would then be able to make the necessary improvements to the existing building.

Patross urges those genuinely interested in saving Albright Community United Methodist Church to write to their City Councilperson. "It's critical you tell this to them in no uncertain terms," she stressed. "Otherwise, they'll assume you're not interested and give up just as quickly."

By contrast, David Barton, an attorney for the Annual Conference of Methodist Churches, argues free market economics. "Ross Development is entitled to the property and we therefore have no rights over what they do with it," he said.

"What we would like to see, however, is to improve housing and end hunger in our

*[continued on page 7]*

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**SAVE THE DATE: Friday, Nov. 4, 2016**

**Annual BGC Luncheon**

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's (BGC) annual luncheon is scheduled for Friday, November 4, at the Omni William Penn Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh. This event is a great opportunity for friends and supporters to gather to reflect on the prior year and celebrate our accomplishments together.

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).



community. We're obligated as a matter of church law to use the money in the same neighborhood."

Barton believes that the Conference's decision to sell the property can somehow become a reinvestment in the nearby community. "We feel that a religious entity such as a church should not be able to hide behind religious privilege to get what it wants. In this case, it is Albright's request for designation exempting from demolition," he proceeded.

"We feel that that by selling the property to Ross Development, we are helping the community to grow and improve through various new social programs. These programs will then bring new jobs and housing opportunities. It will be a good thing for this community," Barton added.

Patross agrees that creative reuse of old buildings could provide excellent community assets. "With all the new doctors commuting to UPMC Shadyside from such faraway places, why not build apartments to house them near their workplace? It would be a great way to readapt Albright to modern-day uses," she said. "Plus, we could have places for the homeless and others looking for work, along with daycare for their kids. It would be another great venue for Albright, if City

Council grants our desired exemption."

Arthur Ziegler, President of the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation (PHLF), hopes Albright does not become another foregone conclusion of the "new Pittsburgh."

"We wish [the building] could be saved. It will be an unfortunate loss," he noted. "But, with the kind of declining church enrollment we're seeing anymore, in our city and nationally, it's not surprising that churches like Albright are being sold to the first buyer. This is causing major problems. We hope things work out for Albright." ♦

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# Neighborhood FOCUS

## “Stanton Hops” beer: brewing fruits of local retaining wall

By Ethan Lennox *Bulletin contributor*

*Lawrenceville* - Besides beer, there are not many things that can bring a group of fifty people together on a rainy Sunday afternoon in Pittsburgh - during a Steelers game, no less.

Considering how this particular beer was sourced from Stanton Heights and brewed in the Tenth Ward, it is no wonder that community members, former residents, and plain-old beer appreciators huddled under canopies to sample the new local beverage.

“Stanton Hops” was on everyone’s lips, or rather, flowing past their lips, as they took shelter from the rain outside of Roundabout Brewery (4901 Butler St.) on Sept. 18. Neighbors enjoyed a performance from “the Armadillos” while eating pizza from Driftwood Oven (660 Loretta St.) and sampling the new beer, which was created using hops grown along a retaining wall on Stanton Ave.

Hops on Lots Pittsburgh (HOLP), the group that grew the hops, and its partners at the Stanton Heights Neighborhood Association (SHNA), split the event’s proceeds. The collaboration between these two groups came about in a distinctly Pittsburgh-style fashion, involving connections made between people who knew people who knew other people, as well as the ingenuity that has made Pittsburgh into a model post-industrial city.

According to the SHNA’s president, Lissa Geiger Shulman, her association had been considering several options for making improvements to the retaining wall since the summer of 2014. The idea of using trellises to cover up the wall’s gathered rust came up in a community meeting, prompting Mike Sturges - a resident and organizer of a Stanton Heights composting program - to think about whether hops could be grown there.

Once SHNA received a “Love Your Block” grant from the City of Pittsburgh, Geiger found herself holding a HOLP business card at the end of a neighborhood orientation meeting; she knew it was a sign. This is not to say that the quest for Stanton Hops was all smooth sailing after that.

Pete Bell and Dave Chmielewski, the people behind HOLP, soon encountered a variety of challenges during the installation and cultivation process. While hops are traditionally grown on a trellis, allowing for air circulation on all sides, these hops



**ABOVE:** As part of the Stanton Heights Neighborhood Association’s (SHNA) new project with Hops On Lots Pittsburgh, a volunteer waters hops growing along a Stanton Ave. retaining wall. The folks at Lawrenceville’s Roundabout Brewery sourced brewing materials from the wall to create “Stanton Hops” beer. Photo courtesy of SHNA.

grew right along the wall. Therefore, they were heated more than usual, which was exacerbated by the heat rising from the avenue.

Among the other challenges were the morning glory vines that tried to crowd out the hops. Then there was the family of rats that had been living in the wall for years; when the rats were roused during the installation process, they did not take lightly to being evicted.

HOLP, however, was not discouraged by these natural hiccups. Plans are already underway for next year’s growing season, including an irrigation system that will streamline watering procedures.

Bell and Chmielewski, who helm a second growing operation in Hazelwood and have several more in the works, have not only started a trend (their efforts were recently documented in *Modern Farmer* and *NEXT Pittsburgh*), but also produced a viable option for utilizing the city’s many vacant lots.

Because of the conditions, the hops were ready for harvest before than the anticipated date. “Nature has its own plans,” Chmielewski said. As Bell explained, hops are ideally harvested when they begin to get a bit of brown on their leaves.

When the HOLP guys visited the plants on Labor Day, they noticed the hops were starting to dry out; when they broke open a few flowers and smelled the fragrant lupine inside, they knew the time had come. That day, Bell and Chmielewski picked about four pounds of hops and delivered them to the brewers at Roundabout. Just under two weeks later, a keg of “Stanton Hops” pale ale was ready to taste.

On Sunday, Sept. 18, as folks gathered to sample a new local brew, the sun peaked late in the afternoon and the keg of beer ran out shortly thereafter, around 6 p.m.

Then, the crowd spread out a bit, but not too hurriedly. These were neighbors, after all, and they did not mind huddling together to support a local cause. Call it beautification, collaboration, or something else altogether, but this whole process is a fine example of just how residents can join in creating a better sense of community. ♦

“Nature has its own plans.”

– Dave Chmielewski, Hops on Lots Pittsburgh

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## West Penn matches patients and doctors

By Morgan Rupert Allegheny Health Network

**Bloomfield** - Many patients dream of shopping for their own doctors. Thanks to an innovative community event from Highmark Health, patients may now chat with medical professionals to find the right fit for their personal needs before scheduling an appointment.

The second annual "Meet Dr. Right" event will take place at West Penn Hospital (WPH, 4800 Friendship Ave.) on Oct. 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Prospective patients will get to interact with primary care physicians, obstetricians, gynecologists, pediatricians, and numerous specialists from Allegheny Health Network (AHN) and the nearby community in a casual setting.

Once a good fit is found, staff will be on hand to schedule an appointment. Free

health screenings - including blood pressure, glucose, and cholesterol (non-fasting) - will also be available for all in attendance.

"These events provide guests with the opportunity to meet, mingle, and make appointments with physicians," WPH president and CEO Ron Andro said. "Our primary care physicians and specialists enjoy this unique and casual forum as much as our guests do."

Highmark's "My Care Navigators" customer service representatives will be on hand to answer questions about health insurance. Free validated parking will be available in the Millvale Ave. garage.

For more information, or to register for this free event, call 1-855-856-0319 or visit <http://meet-dr-right.com>. ♦

## "Through the Pages": *Bulletin* exhibit presents Penn Ave. as muse

By Andrew McKeon *the Bulletin*

**Garfield** - Founded in 1975 as a neighborhood source for news, events, people, and initiatives, *the Bulletin* has since become a powerful tool for social change and community empowerment in the East End. The Penn Ave. corridor, which the paper has called "home" for more than four decades, has endured many growing pains over the years.

Stewarded by thoughtful community organizers, the BGC publishes *the Bulletin* to help address these changes while advancing its mission: improving the quality of life for all in Garfield and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Thanks to the intrepid research of Bobby Abramson, a graduate student from Carnegie Mellon University, the *Bulletin* has digitally archived every single issue dating back to 1975. Abramson's work soon inspired further digging through the archives; Most Wanted Fine Art's Nina Sauer curated a selection of past issues of *the Bulletin* to create a new exhibition called "Penn Avenue Through the Pages."

The exhibition, located at 4828 Penn Ave. (next to Level Up Studios and Assemble), will be open to the public during Unblurred on the evening of Oct. 7th. Looking through a prism of the last forty years' headlines, photos, advertisements, and editorials, visitors will leave with a comprehensive understanding of community development along the Penn Avenue corridor. ♦



**ABOVE:** Bloomfield resident Kara Olson reflects on one of the *Bulletin*'s most jarring cover pages during the initial exhibition of "Penn Ave. Through the Pages" on Sept. 11. Photo by John Colombo.

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Over 20 seasonal employers are looking to hire for positions could potentially lead to full time work. The Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (ENEC) will host a free hiring event at the BGC Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.) on Tuesday, October 11, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Please bring 2 forms of Identifications (state ID, birth certificate, social security card). To register for the event, contact the ENEC at 412-362-8580.



# Affordable housing projects underway in Lawrenceville

By Ed Nusser *Lawrenceville Corporation*

*Lawrenceville* - The summer of 2016 was a busy one for the Lawrenceville Corporation (LC) as the organization worked to address a pressing neighborhood need: affordable housing. Using the recommendations of the “Tenth Ward Community Plan” and the “LoLa Plan,” the LC spent the summer exploring two different development opportunities to increase access to safe, secure housing for low and moderate-income households.

In May, the LC hired architecture firm Rothschild Doyno Collaborative to develop designs for seven single-family, permanently-affordable, for-sale homes in Upper Lawrenceville through the burgeoning Community Land Trust (CLT) initiative.

As the state’s first CLT located west of State College, this new tool can help the region expand and protect opportunities for affordable home-ownership. Over the course of the summer, LC staff members hosted two community meetings to gather input on the potential designs of the CLT homes as they take shape.

In June, the LC also began design development for an affordable, mixed-use development in the heart of Doughboy Square, planned for key properties in the 3300 to 3400 blocks of Penn Ave. Local firms, 4080 Architecture and Studio for Spatial Practice, began design work in July. Current designs project the development sites combining for thirty to thirty-five new apartments made affordable to households earning 50-60% of Pittsburgh’s “Area Median Income,” which is roughly \$25,000 - \$46,000 per year depending on family size.

Nearly 100 stakeholders attended a community meeting in July to explore preferences for how the sites could be developed. Building on the momentum of a follow-up review held in September, a final meeting is now being planned for late October.

More information about the CLT program is available at <http://lvpggh.com/CLT> and will be presented at the “Tenth Ward Block Watch” on Tuesday, October 11, at the AOH (5203 Carnegie St.) in Upper Lawrenceville. ♦

# Dog parade plots course through Friendship

By Staci Backauskas *Friendship Community Group*

*Friendship* - When area resident Doug Cooper and some of his neighbors asked each other what their neighborhood was missing, it was not long before they decided on a dog show and parade.

“The idea just popped up and was met with unanimous acclaim,” he remarked. Cooper, an instructor at Carnegie Mellon’s School of Architecture, has lived in Friendship with his wife Stefani since 2006. An avid dog-lover, he decided to take the lead in planning a fun-filled, fall afternoon for dogs and their owners; several of his neighbors jumped right in to help orchestrate the event.

“We’re expecting about fifty dogs and 100 humans,” Cooper said. The fun begins on Saturday, Oct. 15, at 1 p.m. in Baum Grove, the park behind the Aldi grocery store on Baum Blvd.

Dogs and their owners, as well as any neighbors who want to participate, are invited to line up for the parade through Friendship, which will be led by an informal band comprised of local musicians.

“Costumes are encouraged,” Cooper noted, “for dogs and for humans.” The

parade winds up back at Baum Grove for the dog show at 2 p.m. Local resident Ted Cmarada will emcee and deejay the event.

Dogs and their humans will be judged in a variety of categories: “Best Human/Dog Look-alike,” “Best Dog Trick (including a special award for Best Stupid Dog Trick),” “Most Bohemian,” “Best Yinzer,” and “Most Formal (open only to human/pet duos in formal wear).” Awards will be given based on the loudest applause and barking from the audience.

Other contests will include a two-legged race for dogs, a four-legged race for humans, a Frisbee toss, and a “connoisseur blind” taste test where participants try to guess if they are consuming dog food or “people food.” Small prizes will be awarded for all the free contests.

The Franktuary food truck will be on site, along with other concessions and a caricature artist. Three Rivers Dog Training will provide information on dog training methods and All God’s Creatures (5121 Penn Ave.) will offer tips on how dog owners can protect and pamper their pets.

To learn more or register, e-mail [dcooper@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:dcooper@andrew.cmu.edu). ♦

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**BELOW:** Dancers from Level Up Studios (4836 Penn Ave.) practice their routines before performing during the Next 3 Days launch party at Alloy Studios' 5530 Penn Ave. headquarters. Photo by John Colombo.



**BELOW:** Young ladies from the Obama Academy Marching Band make their woodwinds sing during the Next 3 Days festivities on Saturday, Sept. 10. Photo by John Colombo.



**ABOVE:** The Garfield Gatoettes, a pep squad affiliated with the local youth football team, cheer on the festivities on Saturday, Sept. 10. Photo by John Colombo.

**BELOW:** The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's (BGC) executive director, Rick Swartz (left), joins BGC Board President Bill Cornell to cut the ribbon on Phase I of the Penn Avenue Reconstruction Project on Saturday, Sept. 10. Photo by John Colombo.



**ABOVE:** Jennifer March rides down Penn Ave. in a "Green Gear" pedicab driven by Jim Pettler on Saturday, Sept. 10. Next 3 Days organizers arranged for festivalgoers to pick up free pedi-cab rides up and down the avenue. Photo by John Colombo.

## Western Gateway *continued from page 1*

twenty years. The unlocked potential of East Liberty's "western gateway," a fifty-acre chunk of land situated between the neighborhood's historic commercial core and its residential ring, has recently inspired some new ideas.

Seven graduate students hailing from all over the world are diving into East Liberty to research the community's potential uses for this space. In the 1960s, the area was slated for large-scale subsidized housing and suburban, auto-oriented retail; however, large swaths of it have remained empty parking lots to this day.

Thanks to a new course developed for Carnegie Mellon University's (CMU) Master of Urban Design (MUD) students, the gateway can once again serve a greater community purpose. East Liberty Development, Inc. (ELDI), a community development corporation, helped spearhead the project to aid in its future development plans.

Working in three groups, the students will create three different scenarios for future development of the entire area. According to Stefani Danes, an Adjunct Professor of Architecture at CMU, "the idea is that this enables the people in the community and

ELDI to think broadly about how to mend this very empty place back together again." Together with her fellow faculty member, Stefan Gruber, Danes prepares coursework that jibes well with the new project; it easily fits into the students' larger education in designing livable cities.

The focus on East Liberty, a place with a storied rise and decline, will allow the students to explore the idea of "place" within a city. As East Liberty enters a new era, the students will investigate its past, present, and future role within Pittsburgh.

"Their research includes doing on-site analyses and interviewing residents, business owners, leaders of local nonprofits, and local leaders who have a city-wide perspective on East Liberty, so they'll have a pretty broad set of stories about peoples' experience in East Liberty," Danes explained. "We want to make sure that the goals of the project are defined by the people in East Liberty rather than by the [students]."

The MUD students will meet with ELDI's community planning committee to gain information and discuss ideas every month. They will draw from the "2010 East Liberty Community Plan" as an over-

arching guide to the concerns and goals of the neighborhood.

This real-world experience is invaluable for the students, who Danes acknowledged are just beginning their careers in urban design and planning. "This is an opportunity for students to understand the complexity of issues in cities and for the university to have a role in helping the neighborhood in ways that just can't be accomplished otherwise," she said.

The project will study ways to make East Liberty more resilient and resourceful on a local scale. Yet, the proposals will also address "bigger picture" issues that are increasingly affecting communities worldwide – namely, climate change and its inherent political and economic ramifications.

"There are clear signs that the next fifty years will be a volatile time," Danes noted. "We're introducing the question, 'what does it mean to live in a community where your ability to weather these difficult times is going to depend on the people, businesses, and resources that are close at hand?' And also, 'what would it mean to build a city with the resilience to thrive in this new future?'"

The young thinkers' plans will incorporate energy-conserving buildings, as well as walkable and bike-friendly transportation systems. Local agriculture, affordable housing, and opportunities for enhanced social connections also figure into the mix. As Danes described it, the plans will be at a "10,000-foot level."

With such a large area of land and a limited amount of time in a semester, these proposals will not be able to delve into the detail required by full-blown development plans. Instead, Danes said, "these are really intended to be alternative frameworks for what the community wants to see there in the future."

When it comes to the western gateway, it is ultimately going to be up to the community. "The more we can design for a diverse population, a mix that might be a little different from other neighborhoods," Danes remarked, "the more we can help make East Liberty a really exciting place to be."

The projects will be presented at public forums on Oct. 19 and Dec. 7; final reports will then be made available to the public. Contact ELDI via <http://eastliberty.org> for more details. ♦



# Arsenal Middle School installs new “learning garden,” helps students plant seeds

By Marnie L. O'Connor Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8

Lawrenceville - Thanks to Grow Pittsburgh and the Community Kitchen, Arsenal Middle School now boasts a new “learning garden” at its 220 40th St. campus.

The garden, which was installed over the summer, hosted an official “kick-off” on Sept. 7; representatives from Grow Pittsburgh helped the middle-schoolers get started by instructing the first lesson for three different classes.

Before they could plant any seeds, the students had to first haul bags of soil. Then, once the topsoil was spread throughout the new garden beds, the kids learned how to properly water their garden vegetables and herbs. The young gardeners even got a chance to make their own “ranch” dressing and sample it with some carrots.

Last year, Grow Pittsburgh began teaching Arsenal students how to grow, pick, and cook fresh food. At the end of the spring semester, they planted kale, radishes, carrots, basil, and collard greens; after summer passed, their hard work was ready for harvest during the first week of the fall semester.

The kids picked up where they left off, cooking and eating their homegrown vegetables and herbs to ring in the new school year. Now that they have a new learning garden to explore different possibilities, the students are excited to harvest and taste new foods.

The school’s staff members welcome the new installation as a valuable tool for teaching children not only about ecology, but also about responsibility. ♦

**BELOW:** Middle-school students from Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8 fill the planter beds of their new “learning garden.” School administrators worked with Grow Pittsburgh to install the instructional garden at the school’s 220 40th St. campus in Lawrenceville. Photo courtesy of Marnie L. O'Connor.



# Bloomfield tests out street furniture

By Christina Howell Bloomfield Development Corporation

Bloomfield – This October, local residents will get a chance to meet some new prospective neighbors along Liberty Ave: two sets of benches and planters installed on the sidewalks between Edmond St. and State Way.

With support from Neighborhood Allies, the Bloomfield Development Corporation (BDC) has embarked on a demonstration project to temporarily showcase these new streetscape features. The project affords all community members an opportunity to weigh in on the types of planters and benches they would like to see in their neighborhood. As of press time, two different sets of benches and planters were scheduled to be installed on Liberty Ave. around September 30; each set of benches will be on display for a two-week, trial period.

The first set will feature two wooden benches - one with a back and one backless - and a matching wooden planter. The second set presents black metal benches with fiberglass planters. A committee of urban designers and planners, community members, and architects sifted through an extensive selection of designs to find the right fit for Bloomfield. Gathering all necessary input in the planning process, the committee worked closely with the City’s Department of City planning, Art Commission, and Department of Public Works.

The “Bloomfield Neighborhood Vision Plan” identified the area’s business district as a key to its community character; an enhanced streetscape is vital to supporting the business district, residents, and visitors. In conjunction with local engineering firm Michael Baker International, the project team will implement various methods for gathering community feedback about the benches and planters.

On-site conversations, paper surveys, and an electronic survey will help the BDC ensure that all Bloomfield residents can have a voice in the project. Once it has finished gathering the feedback and crunching the data, the project committee will finalize the selection, collaborate with the engineers to complete an implementation plan, and submit the final plan to the Art Commission for review.

Upon approval of its plan, the BDC will begin working with the neighborhood’s business and property owners to pinpoint the best locations for bench and planter installation, which will be completed in phases. More information on the demonstration project can be found at <http://bloomfieldnow.org> or by calling 412-681-8800. ♦



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## Local homeowners explore backyard ecology

By the Friendship Community Group

**Friendship** - With concerns about pesticides and food costs on the rise, many people are exploring how to grow their own food. This is a hot topic in the neighborhood of Friendship, where residents are exploring just how a garden can help them save money.

To get some answers, the Friendship Community Group (FCG) reached out to Fourth River Workers Guild; the worker-owned, design build cooperative shows residents how to improve their community's ecology through natural building, construction, ecological design, and permaculture. FCG's new collaboration has paved the way for an upcoming series of hands-on workshops. The first class, "Backyard Ecology: A Permaculture Approach to Gardening," is a monthly workshop designed to give students an understanding of local ecology.

Permaculture is a system of ecological and social design principles that uses patterns found in nature. Drawing upon agriculture, ecology, community design, and green building strategies, it integrates the study of natural environments and appropriate technologies to design more environmentally conscious human systems.

Guild members Juliette Olshock and Seth Nyer will lead the class, helping participants turn their yards into beautiful productive gardens. Olshock describes her own garden, which she designed using permaculture principles, as her favorite place in the world. "What makes me happiest about my garden is that it serves so many purposes beyond its beauty," she said.

Beginning Oct. 22, the Saturday class will run once a month - in seven installments - at the Waldorf School of Pittsburgh (201 S. Winebiddle St.) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The total fee for all seven classes is \$450; any additional donations will contribute to an FCG scholarship fund. Students will learn basic techniques to analyze their environments while they work together on a collective permaculture design project.

"This is an exciting offering for our local communities," Friendship resident Susan Spangl noted. "We've already heard from lots of neighbors who are eager to start designing sustainable gardens in their own backyards."

Students must register at <http://backyardecology.brownpapertickets.org/> by Oct. 19. To learn more or inquire about scholarship opportunities, contact [Juliette@fourthriver.coop](mailto:Juliette@fourthriver.coop) or visit <http://www.facebook.com/FourthRiverWorkersGuild/>. ♦

## "Ginkgo Fest" celebrates Asian roots in Highland Park

By Aryssa Shultz the Bulletin

**Highland Park** - Local tree lovers have already marked their calendars to celebrate one of the oldest living trees, the Japanese Ginkgo, on Saturday, Oct. 29. From 1 to 4 p.m., Tree Pittsburgh will host its second annual "Ginkgo Fest" and tree sale in Highland Park's Maple Grove Center, located near the city's largest public Ginkgo tree.



Although the trees are indigenous to Japan and China, there are over 1,000 public Ginkgo trees in Pittsburgh. One can find them throughout the city, like in Oakland, where many Ginkgos reside along the sidewalk across from Phipps Conservatory. As the seasons change, each Ginkgo tree's leaves turn a specific shade of golden yellow that most Pittsburghers already adore.

Open to all ages, the Oct. 29 fall festival will include everything from crafts like origami to performances by Pittsburgh Taiko Drumming, which demonstrates

the Japanese "taiko" style of drumming. Children can enjoy "story time" and get a chance to take a photo with the city's largest public Ginkgo tree. "It is fun to see people of all ages celebrating the beauty of the Ginkgos' delicate fan-shaped leaves as they turn a splendid golden yellow this fall," Rachel King, who helped organize the first event last year, told *the Bulletin*.

According to King, Ginkgos are a great urban tree because they are very tolerant of low oxygen levels in the air and higher salt contents. On top of that, their species is affected by no known pests or diseases.

"The event-planning opened my eyes to how amazing Ginkgo trees really are," King noted. In anticipation of this year's festival, many tree lovers like King are eager to meet others who share their love of the Ginkgo tree. For more information, visit <http://treepittsburgh.org/events/pittsburgh-ginkgo-fest-tree-sale>. ♦

## New businesses dotting Penn Ave.

By Amber Epps Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

**Arts & Crafts / 4901 Penn Ave.** An addition to the LOCAL gallery, Arts & Crafts is a "Botanica" and occult shop that offers products used in spiritual practices (special ingredients and tools to help with a variety of ailments, issues, and overall wellness) and also jewelry, soaps, candles, incense, and oils (<http://facebook.com/ArtsandCraftsPgh>).

**Gluten Free Goat Bakery / 4905 Penn Ave.** Relocating from the Pittsburgh Public Market, Gluten Free Goat Bakery offers a variety of gluten free and vegan treats. Local, seasonal, and organic ingredients are sourced whenever possible. Gluten Free Goat's products allow customers to enjoy baked goods without having to sacrifice taste or health (<http://GlutenFreeGoat.com>).

**Level Up Studios / 4836 Penn Ave.** Level Up Studios is a creative arts studio that offers dance instruction, design, and creative writing services - and urban apparel - under one roof. Inspired by hip hop culture, Level Up celebrates its positive roots and serves as a hub for artists and enthusiasts; "the creative playground for the collaborative culture," (<http://LevelUpPgh.com>).

**Naturally Clean / 5124 Penn Ave.** An eco-friendly house cleaning service, Naturally Clean also produces and sells its own line of green cleaning products (<http://NaturallyCleanPgh.com>).

**One Point One Yoga / 4929 Penn Ave.** One Point One Yoga offers classes, private sessions, yoga therapy, small group sessions, and yoga for athletes, as well as special events; workshops and teacher training area also available (<http://OnePointOneYoga.com>).

**Trusst Lingerie / 5125 Penn Ave.** Started by a team of women engineers and designers, Trusst has designed and created a new system of bra support. Trusst realized the need for innovation in the lingerie industry and now offers a number of bras that refocus support around the core of the body (<http://TrusstLingerie.com>).

**Workshop PGH / 5122 Penn Ave.** Workshop PGH is a D.I.Y school that offers classes, events, and art activities to the public. Classes, which are typically one-day, provide a fun social environment for art (<http://WorkshopPgh.com>). ♦

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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 **November** issue of *the Bulletin* are due by **October 16**. Please submit listings using our online form at [http://bit.ly/bulletin\\_submit](http://bit.ly/bulletin_submit).

## October 1 - Saturday

### EAST LIBERTY

#### Dr. Ysaÿe Barnwell Sings

Join East Liberty Presbyterian Church (116 S. Highland Ave.) for a "community sing" with Dr. Ysaÿe Barnwell on Saturday, October 1 at 7 p.m. The community sing is conducted in the oral tradition, so you don't have to read music or have any vocal training. Even if you don't want to sing, come and be inspired by Dr. Barnwell's unique ability to help everyone find their voice! Freewill offering accepted. Visit <http://ELPC.church> or call Dr. Ed Moore (412.441.3800 x24) for more information.

## October 3 - Monday

### FRIENDSHIP

#### Social Justice Meeting

Every day, our thoughts, choices, and interactions shape our community and our world. Thoughtful conversation can facilitate fruitful self-examination and mutual support, leading toward a healthier and more empathic, just and compassionate society. Join us at 6:30 p.m. in Baum Grove as we challenge and grow ourselves. All are welcome. Bring a friend or come alone. Another meeting will follow on Oct. 14; no meeting on Oct. 31.

## October 5 - Wednesday

### LAWRENCEVILLE

#### Family PlayShop

Laugh, play, discover, and explore with your child at Family Playshop - taking place every Wednesday night starting at 6 p.m. in the auditorium of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Lawrenceville. Play together with toys and activities that encourage creativity and healthy development. Connect with other parents. Ask questions! Each week, we'll have experts - like doctors, speech therapists, and dentists - on hand to chat about potty training, milestones, health, and more. This program is designed for children (age 5) and their parents or caregivers. For more information, you can email [lawrenceville@carnegielibrary.org](mailto:lawrenceville@carnegielibrary.org) or visit <http://carnegielibrary.org>.

#### Puppeteer Joanne Kielar

Artist/puppeteer Joanne Kielar engages children using props and folk instruments to present "Now Things Are Worse," a comic Yiddish folk tale about a man who takes advice only to find his situation becoming increasingly ridiculous. This special

performance at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Lawrenceville - on Wednesday, Oct 5, at 10:30 a.m. - is presented through Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's Gateway "StoryCorner" program.

## October 6 - Thursday

### FRIENDSHIP

#### Community Meeting

The final Friendship community meeting for 2016 takes place Thursday, October 6, at the Waldorf School on Coral and Winebiddle Sts. PWSA Acting Director of Water Quality, Gina Cyrpych, and ACHD Environmental Health Compliance Officer, Michael Scheer, will answer questions about lead in the city water. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. with a pot-lock dinner. Elections for new Friendship Community Group (FCG) board members will take place afterwards. Those who wish to nominate, either themselves or someone else, are encouraged to send an e-mail to Patrick Vernallis, chair of the nominating committee, at [Patrick.Vernallis@gmail.com](mailto:Patrick.Vernallis@gmail.com). Nominations will also be taken at the meeting, followed by a vote to elect members for the 2017-18 board. For more information on the FCG, please visit <http://new.friendship-pgh.org>.

## October 7 - Friday

### LAWRENCEVILLE

#### Free Fish Dinner

New Bethel Baptist Church (221 43rd St.) in Lawrenceville welcomes you to enjoy a fish dinner. From 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., the church will be serving fish dinners (sweet potato fries and pound cakes included). Please call 412-291-8185 for more

information.

### GARFIELD

#### Sidewalk Sale

The residents at Fairmont Apartments will be hosting their "Annual Sidewalk Sale" on Saturday, October 7, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lots of great items for sale - and a bake sale as well. The Sidewalk Sale will take place outside at 5461 Penn Ave.

## October 8 - Saturday

### EAST LIBERTY

#### 89 Bus Celebration

Join your neighbors to celebrate the renewal of weekend and holiday service of the 89 Garfield Commons bus. Residents who have lobbied the Port Authority to renew 89 bus service will hold a celebration at the Kelly Strayhorn Theater (5941 Penn Ave.) from 10:30 am to noon. All are welcome. The event is co-hosted by Pittsburghers for Public Transit, Bloomfield Garfield Corporation, Lincoln Park Community Center, and the Kelly Strayhorn Theater.

### BLOOMFIELD

#### Free Spaghetti Dinner

The Bloomfield-Lawrenceville Lions will hold a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, October 8 - from 4 until 7 p.m. - in St. Maria Goretti Social Hall (230 Edmond St.). Adult: \$10; child (age 10 & under): \$5. All proceeds benefit Lions charities in our community. Tickets available from any Lion, and at the door.

## October 10 - Monday

### LAWRENCEVILLE

#### Tree Park Maintenance

Corner of Keystone/Stanton Ave. in Upper Lawrenceville, from 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Join the Lawrenceville Tree Tenders to care for the Lawrenceville Tree Park, a once-vacant lot that has been transformed into a community greenspace. All ages are welcome; no experience necessary, tools and materials will be provided.

## October 13 - Wednesday

### GARFIELD

#### Community Health Fair

In celebration of 32 years of service in the Bloomfield/Garfield community, you are invited to attend a free community health and wellness fair on Thursday, October 13, at the UPMC St. Margaret Bloomfield/Garfield Family Health Center (5475 Penn Ave.) from 3 to 6 p.m. We will have over 15 vendors with giveaways. Free blood pressure screenings, "Ask the Doctor," "Ask the Pharmacist," free information on family health services, adult flu clinic, facility tours, and much more. For more information, please contact Virginia Gray, MSN, RN, at 412-361-7562.

## October 18 - Tuesday

### GARFIELD

#### AARP Jobs Program

Individuals over age 55 who are looking for employment are encouraged to attend an information and enrollment session for the AARP Senior Community Service Employment Program. This program provides a paid job training experience at a local nonprofit. 1:30 p.m. at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (5321 Penn Ave.). Call 412-206-9849 to register.

## October 19 - Wednesday

### STANTON HEIGHTS

#### SHNA Meeting

Join us to discuss future projects at Dinan Park and Kelly Field and other neighborhood issues. Check out <http://stantonheights.org> for more details.



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412-441-6950 ext. 15  
[aggie@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:aggie@bloomfield-garfield.org)  
[www.bloomfield-garfield.org](http://www.bloomfield-garfield.org)

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# Volunteer Opportunities & Services

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### Bucky Palermo: A Life in Leather

On Wednesday, October 19, the Lawrenceville Historical Society will host local legend Bucky Palermo. After 68 years of fixing shoes and sports equipment at three locations on Butler St., Palermo has seen a lot of changes in the Lawrenceville neighborhood. He will talk about his years behind the bench, as well as his experiences as a boxer and referee. Most notably, he'll recount his time in the squared circle as a referee during Channel 11's "Studio Wrestling" days. The event takes place in the Carnegie Library (279 Fisk St.), at 6:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public; no reservation necessary.

October 21 - Friday

## HIGHLAND PARK

### Taste of Africa

Enjoy authentic African food, drinks, music, fashion show, silent auction, and more at the 6th annual Taste of Africa fundraiser on Friday Oct. 21, from 7 to 10 p.m., at the Union Project (801 N. Negley Ave.). All of the proceeds support CameroonFDP.org, a Pittsburgh-based, grass roots, non-profit that creates soccer leagues and teams to attract youth. They integrate social, health, and leadership education into all practices and matches. For more information and to buy tickets (\$55), go to <http://CameroonFDP.org/TOA>.

October 24 - Tuesday

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### Duncan Park Workday

Corner of 54th St and Duncan in Upper Lawrenceville, 6 p.m to 7:30 pm. Join Lawrenceville United and neighbors to help transform a decommissioned park into a resident-designed greenspace. A public orchard has recently been planted here; planned features include natural playspace, pollinator gardens, and much more. No experience necessary, all ages are welcome, tools and materials are provided.

October 26 - Thursday

## BLOOMFIELD

### Financial Workshop

October 26, 6:30pm Bloomfield Development Corporation is partnering with First Commonwealth Bank for a workshop on financial planning. Learn about ways to make your earned dollars go further. Dinner and child care provided. Held 366 Gross St. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. and workshop is at 6:30 p.m. RSVP by Monday October 24 to [Josh@Bloomfieldnow.org](mailto:Josh@Bloomfieldnow.org) or call 412-681-8800.

October 31 - Friday

## GARFIELD

### Harvest Festival

Morningside Church of God in Christ's Youth Department presents our annual "Harvest Festival" on Oct. 31, at 5 p.m. Come join us at 5173 Dearborn St. for a time of fun and games. Learn how to make dirt and meet neighbors and friends. Also, find out why we plan this safe event just for you.



## GARFIELD NIGHT MARKET NOW RUNNING THROUGH OCTOBER!

FOR MORE INFO AND VENDOR APPLICATIONS,  
VISIT [HTTP://GARFIELDNIGHTMARKET.ORG](http://GARFIELDNIGHTMARKET.ORG).



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# Local juvenile probation officer responds to public threats, offers new perspective

A message from Barry Canada Garfield CISP Officer

## Op-Ed

*On the evening of Monday, Sept. 12, seventeen-year-old Dalon Williams was murdered in front of his home in Garfield. The young man was a client of the “Community Intensive Supervision Program” (CISP), operated by the Allegheny County Juvenile Probation Court. As Williams exited the CISP van to return home that night, a group of armed assailants opened fire; the perpetrators shot him dead, striking the van in the process.*

*In light of this tragic shooting, the Garfield program has gone on hiatus. Since then, those involved with the program have become unwitting targets of vitriolic hate-mail from all directions. The Bulletin would like to consider the perspective of CISP’s Barry Canada, who has made a life’s work of advocating for his clients’ safety and well-being.*

To the community of Garfield:

I would like to take this time to give you a brief report regarding the Garfield CISP. For the better part of twenty-six years, this program has been integral to local charity work, hosting generations of clients without ever being seen as a detriment to the community.

Former clients often come back to talk about how the program helped them get on the right track. While some have gone on to further their education, others have learned a viable trade and started their own families. A few of our former clients have even come back to work in the field, getting jobs with CISP through the juvenile court system.

With great hope for the future, our program will continue to be highly visible in the Bloomfield-Garfield area. Many folks have seen our kids undertake street-cleaning projects, clean up vacant lots, provide food for the needy, and assist their elderly neighbors with yard work and snow removal. When kids go through CISP, they often leave with a sense of “I can make it in life.”

We help our young clients find success in school, at home, and in their communities.

Kids enter CISP with average grades and leave as “honor roll” students because the program is so goal-oriented and conducive to learning.

I am writing this letter to let readers know that we are not here to bring the community down, but rather, to help youths take pride in their local environment. As CISP Officers, we are happy to help our kids enjoy things they may have never otherwise experienced.

Our clients regularly attend professional football, baseball, and hockey games - as well as August Wilson plays and other Cultural District events. Just ask any of our former clients and they will attest that we have always had the kids’ best interest at heart in everything we do here at CISP.

In appreciation of your support,  
Barry Canada

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