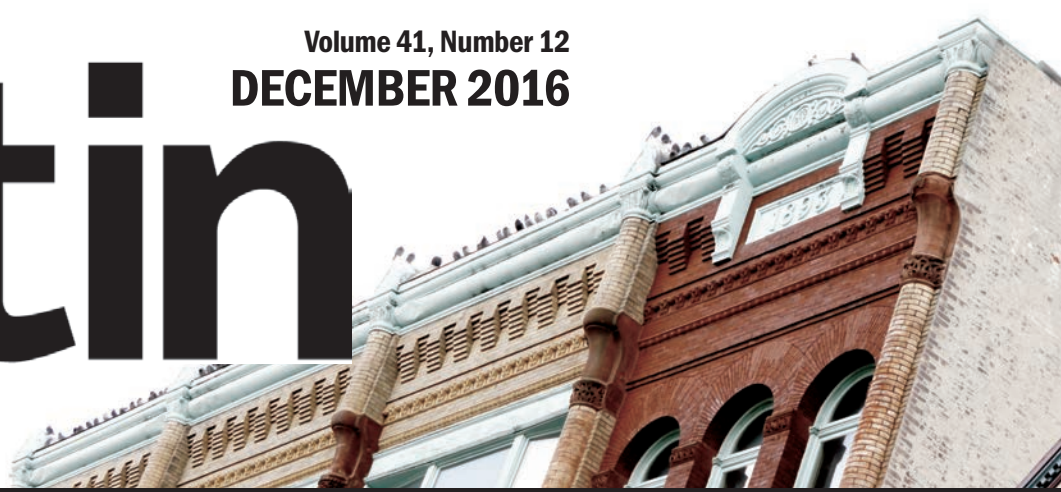


the Bulletin

Volume 41, Number 12
DECEMBER 2016

Serving Bloomfield, Friendship, Garfield, East Liberty,
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ABOVE: Loading up for a blitz, the Garfield Gators youth football team takes on stiff competition during league championships on Saturday, Oct. 29, at George K. Cupples Stadium (800 E. Ohio St.). All five of the Gators' football squads made it to their respective championship games. Turn to page 4 to see more action shots from the Gators' playoff run. Photo by John Colombo.

Neighboring gesture in Garfield: "community ambassadors"

By **Aggie Brose** Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - In response to the last year's uptick in gun-related incidents in Garfield, the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) recently convened a meeting with

See **Ambassadors** | page 3

3

Post-renovation, PATF opens new medical clinic in East Liberty

By **Andrew Ptaschinski** Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force

East Liberty - Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force (PATF) recently opened a new medical clinic following the completion of a \$1 million renovation project at its East

See **PATF Clinic** | page 7

7

Community members addressing local heroin overdoses

By **Dave Breingan** Lawrenceville United

Pittsburgh - The year is not even over yet, but heroin overdoses in the city in 2016 have already exceeded the total number of known overdoses in all of 2015 by nearly 40% (according to statistics provided by the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Criminal Intelligence Unit).

In Lawrenceville, Bloomfield, and Garfield, sixteen lives have already been lost to heroin overdoses this year. The bureau's data reveals that the past three years have seen an exponential increase in the number of heroin overdoses in Pittsburgh; this past September marks the worst recorded month for overdoses since the city began collecting data in 2010.

While the opioid epidemic has become a national crisis, it has clearly had devastating local impacts. Public safety officials' use of "Naloxone" (a.k.a. "Narcan") has reportedly saved many lives and kept the city's death-to-overdose ratio at 22%, even as overdoses have increased. Yet, the data shows that overdoses have been deadlier in Lawrenceville, Bloomfield, and Garfield than most other city neighborhoods.

See **Overdoses** | page 9



ABOVE: During the BGC's annual luncheon on Friday, Nov. 4, Board President Bill Cornell addresses a packed house at the Omni William Penn Hotel's grand ballroom in downtown Pittsburgh. For more snapshots of the luncheon, turn to page 8. Photo by John Colombo.

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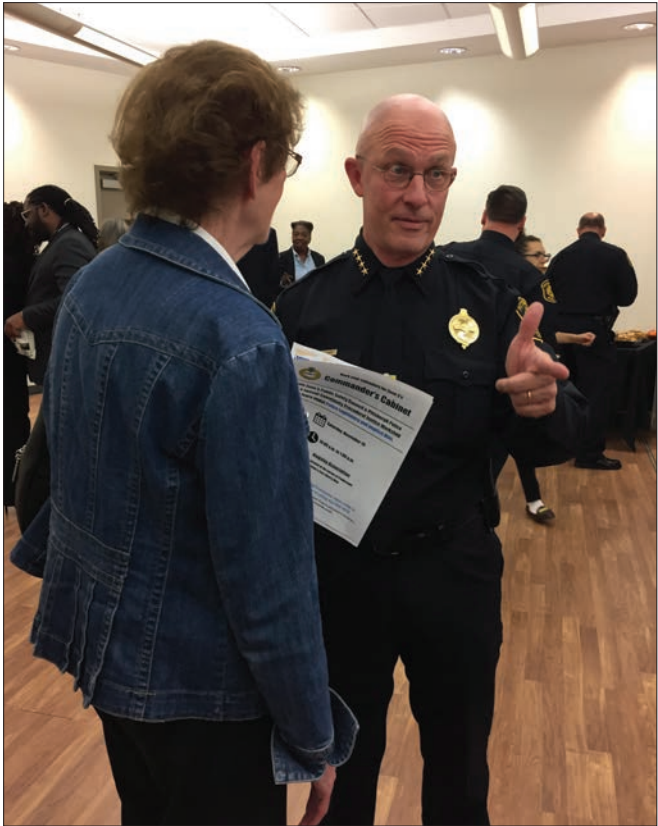
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AT RIGHT: Former Chief of Pittsburgh Police, Cameron McLay (right) greets visitors during a farewell party on Monday, Nov. 7. McLay's two years of service on the force have greatly influenced local police protocol, ushering the idea of "community policing" into the larger conversation about public safety in Pittsburgh. Aggie Brose (pictured, at left), the BGC's Deputy Director, has worked closely with McLay to engage local communities in public safety initiatives over the last two years. She looks forward to furthering McLay's mission in future collaborations with interim Police Chief Scott Schubert. Thanks to the lasting effects of his efforts to maintain transparency and open dialogue, the former chief's local impact will not soon be forgotten. Photo by Wesley Davis.



Official word: Primanti Bros. prepares to open new Garfield location

A message from Ryan Wilkinson *Primanti Bros. Restaurant & Bar*

Garfield - For the first time in more than twenty years, Primanti Brothers Restaurant & Bar is opening a new location in Pittsburgh city-proper.

In early 2017, the restaurant will open its thirty-seventh, and newest, location at 5491 Penn Ave., in the space formerly occupied by Prairie.

"We've been taking the Primanti Bros. brand around the country," Primanti Bros. CEO David Head said. "And, while we've been well-received everywhere we've opened, we're excited to also continue growing in our hometown of Pittsburgh."

In the spirit of the original Primanti Bros., a historic hub of the Strip District, the new Garfield location will focus on the brand's iconic "Almost Famous" sandwich (between two slices of soft Italian bread,

the sandwich is piled high with a choice of grilled meat, an optional egg, secret recipe sweet-and-sour slaw, fresh-cut fries, and two tomato slices). However, the new menu will also feature pizza, wings, and various appetizers every day.

"We're excited to show off how we've grown," Head acknowledged. "Primanti Bros. will always remain true to our roots but, since the Strip District location opened in 1933, we've expanded our menu, perfected our process, and worked to remain focused on keeping our fans excited about our restaurants."

In addition to the expanded menu, the new Primanti Bros. will feature a full bar with daily specials on draft and bottled beers and cocktails. "Get ready, Garfield," Head said. "The bros are back in town." ♦

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Ambassadors *continued from page 1*

outgoing U.S. Attorney David J. Hickton, the District Attorney's Office, the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police leaders, and other public safety stakeholders to discuss strategies aimed at curbing gun violence. In recent conversations, Hickton highlighted Garfield's history of strong community engagement and its importance in addressing local gun violence.

The BGC is floating the idea of a local "community ambassadors" program; the notion is that a different ambassador would cover each block in the Garfield neighborhood. These ambassadors would communicate with their neighbors about safety issues on their block and receive weekly crime updates from the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police - Zone 5.

These ambassadors would also regularly share information with their neighbors about local educational and supportive services. The time commitment for community ambassadors would be no more than one to two hours per week; perks of being an ambassador could include free t-shirts, monthly dinners (with childcare provided), and additional opportunities to assume a community leadership role.

In January 2017, the BGC is thinking of hosting a community meeting so residents can learn more about becoming a community ambassador. Residents who would like to be part of an "ambassador" program are encouraged to contact the BGC's Aggie Brose at 412-441-6950 (ext 15) or Aggie@Bloomfield-Garfield.org. ♦

New legislation aims to provide seasonal worker benefits

By State Rep. Joseph F. Markosek D-Allegheny

Harrisburg - On Oct. 26, State Rep. Joe Markosek, D-Allegheny, voted to fix a 2012 law that was denying unemployment compensation for thousands of seasonal workers in Pennsylvania.

"Some 44,000 Pennsylvanians have been denied the safety net they earned working a seasonal job," Markosek, the Democratic chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said. "The change was unnecessary when it was made during the Corbett administration. It ended up hurting working people and depleting the trust fund that helps to pay unemployment benefits."

Markosek said H.B. 319, which is now headed to the governor for his consideration, would restore unemployment compensation benefits for seasonal workers, such as those who work in building trades and the construction business, and those who make too much money during their busy season to qualify for benefits when there is no work for them in the off-season.

Act 60 of 2012 was designed to stabilize Pennsylvania's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund, but its new requirement that an employee earn at least 49.5 percent of their annual earnings outside their highest earning quarter, negatively impacted the fund, he said. "Many of us realized the unintended consequence of Act 60 on seasonal workers soon after it became law," Markosek noted. "We've been working since then to come to this agreement and improve the solvency of the UC Trust Fund."

In addition to restoring UC eligibility to 44,000 cyclical and seasonal workers across Pennsylvania, Markosek said the legislation would shore up the UC Trust Fund by: implementing new provisions to reduce potential waste and fraud by employers and claimants; providing a three-month amnesty program to encourage employers and claimants to settle outstanding debts to the fund; and requiring employers that are over-utilizing the UC fund (when laid-off workers collect more than the employer pays towards the fund) to pay more into the fund.

"This legislation restores a level of fairness to the employers and employees who pay into it, and it will help the UC Trust Fund reach solvency faster," Markosek said.

"It is a good and necessary step forward for Pennsylvanians who find themselves out of work through no fault of their own and depend on these benefits to feed and shelter their families." ♦

- CORRECTION -

In last month's issue of the Bulletin (Vol. 41, No. 11), an article about Level Up Studios (4836 Penn Ave.) mis-listed the address of the organization's website. Please visit <http://LevelUpPgh.com> to learn more about the Garfield studio and its available services.

the Bulletin

A publication of the
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 12

The deadline for the January issue is **Monday, December 12, 2016.**

Editorial and Advertising Offices • 5149 Penn Ave. • Pittsburgh, PA 15224
412-441-6950 (ext. 13) • Andrew@Bloomfield-Garfield.org

Total Circulation • 21,000 Copies • 18,000 Mailed • 3,000 Bulk Dropped

Staff • Andrew McKeon, Editor • Andrew Perrow, Staff Writer • Rick Swartz, Proofreading • Mary Anne Stevanus, Office Manager • Trib Total Media, Printing & Mailing • CISP, Bulk Distribution

Board Meetings are held by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, at the BGC Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.), and are open to the public.

The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the publisher.

The Bulletin is made possible in part by funding from Dollar Bank, WesBanco Bank, Allegheny Valley Bank, and The Heinz Endowments.

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Thank you! The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation would like to acknowledge its main corporate partners: WesBanco Bank, Dollar Bank, and Allegheny Valley Bank. Thanks to Key Bank, PNC Bank, Allegheny Health Network, Citizens Bank, the City of Pittsburgh, the Sprout Fund, *the Bulletin's* advertisers, and all our members.

The Children's Home champions "safe sleep" for infants

By Jennifer N. March *The Children's Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center*

Garfield - Every parent wants to keep their baby as safe and healthy as possible. Every parent also wants – and desperately needs - their baby to sleep. Many families struggle to meet both of these needs so that everyone can rest easy at night.

The Children's Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center (5324 Penn Ave.) is proud to have been recently designated a "Certified Gold Safe Sleep Champion," the highest designation through The National Safe Sleep Hospital Certification Program.

This program, an initiative of Cribs for Kids® and numerous other health and safety organizations, has created guidelines for hospitals to adhere to while babies are inpatients; these guidelines also help hospitals teach families about safe sleep habits they can continue at home.

Every year in the U.S., approximately 3,500 infants suffer sleep-related deaths due to accidental suffocation, strangulation, or undetermined causes during sleep; this number has fallen by more than 50% in the years since "safe sleep" guidelines were introduced.

In achieving the highest certification level, The Children's Home has committed to join in the continual effort to reduce infant sleep related deaths by establishing an infant safe sleep policy, modeling infant safe sleep throughout the hospital, and partnering with Cribs for Kids®.

"In order to impact and reduce the number of sleep-related infant deaths in our community, it is critical to provide a consistent and repetitive message about infant sleep safety," Erin Colvin, The Children's Home's Clinical Director, said.

"This is the ideal setting to begin the message of safe sleep for infants." To learn more about The Children's Home and its safe sleep recommendations for new and expecting parents, please call 412-441-4884. ♦

BELOW: The Garfield Gators had another very successful season, from the youngest team (5 and 6 year-old kids) to the oldest team (13 and 14-year old youths). All five made it to the championship game in their respective age divisions, the first time that's been known to happen in the midget football league to which the Gators belong. In the end, the Baby Twerps (5 and 6 year-olds) prevailed, 21-6. And the Termites (9 and 10 year-olds) won their class by a score of 13-0. All hail the victors! Heartfelt thanks go out to Brothers and Sisters Emerging (BASE) for organizing the coaches, cheerleaders, donors, and parent volunteers, without whose support the program just would not be the legend that it has become.



Garfield Gators Football Championships - 10/29/16

All photos by John Colombo




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The Midwife Center expands services

By Rachel Dingfelder *The Midwife Center*

Strip District - The Midwife Center (TMC, 2825 Penn Ave.) welcomes any and all women who might be due for an annual exam, interested in birth control, currently pregnant, or planning a future pregnancy.

Southwestern PA's only licensed and accredited, freestanding birth center, TMC can provide patients with safe, satisfying care that is personalized to meet their needs. Founded in 1982 and conveniently located along multiple bus lines from various East End neighborhoods, TMC offers primary gynecological care, prenatal care, and childbirth in a warm and supportive center.

The center accepts medical assistance plans like UPMC for You, Gateway, and United Health Community Plan, as well as most private insurance plans. TMC's gynecological services include annual exams and pap tests, birth control options (including IUDs and oral contraceptives), STI and vaginal infection screening/treatment, menopausal care, and more.

Anyone interested in these and other services may simply drop by the center's "With Woman Fridays" walk-in hours, held every Friday from 12:30 to 5:00 p.m. On

the first Friday of every month, Spanish-speaking individuals can receive walk-in gynecological services from a Spanish-speaking provider.

In a facility dressed up to feel like home, a team of certified nurse-midwives and nurses provides prenatal care, childbirth services, breastfeeding support, and postpartum care. The midwives also help expectant mothers have their baby at the birth center; alternatively, TMC can always facilitate hospital care.

For eligible clients, TMC offers sliding-scale classes, free diapers from the Diaper Bank, and vouchers for the East End Community Thrift Store, along with phone interpretation services.

Starting in 2017, the center plans to add behavioral health services to help clients with anxiety, depression, perinatal depression, stress, and more. Aiming to accommodate more clients and offer expanded services to the community, TMC is currently building a new addition to its Penn Ave. facility. To make an appointment or learn more, call 412-321-6880 or visit TMC at <https://midwifecenter.org>. ♦

"Burgh's Eye View" app provides public access to city data

By Katie O'Malley *City of Pittsburgh*

Pittsburgh - On Oct. 31, the City of Pittsburgh furthered its commitment to transparency and open data by unveiling Burgh's Eye View, a new mobile web application giving residents instant visual access to important neighborhood data.

This mobile web application will, for the first time, grant citizens with visual insight into a wide range of data including incidents of crime and other public safety data, building permits, code violations, and "311" service requests.

"Transparency and openness are essential to ensuring a responsive City government and thriving neighborhoods," Mayor William Peduto said. "Burgh's Eye View brings that transparency directly to the citizens of Pittsburgh and, more importantly, transforms the experience of open government by making it truly accessible to everyone."

Built by the Department of Innovation & Performance's Analytics and Strategy team, Burgh's Eye View is designed to become a "one-stop-shop" for residents and community groups to access and view city data. With a simple search bar, a map that responds and updates as users choose which data they see, and a mobile layout for use on smart phones, the application is designed to reduce any technological barriers to accessing city and neighborhood data.

According to Debra Lam, Chief of Innovation and Performance for the City of Pittsburgh, "Burgh's Eye View is proof of the City's commitment to open data. We hope that making this information available and widely accessible not only increases government accountability, but enables residents and community groups to contribute to effect change at the neighborhood level. This is another testament to Pittsburgh's inclusive innovation."

The application is populated with data the City supplies nightly to the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center (WPRDC) and relevant data sets can be exported directly from the application as well as the WPRDC website.

The application was built internally by the Analytics & Strategy team and has no cost.

The Analytics and Strategy team will also "open source" the application in the coming weeks, ensuring that the code used to build Burgh's Eye View can be used and modified by other cities looking to provide a similar tool for their residents. This positions Pittsburgh as a leader in inclusive approaches to the use of open data.

Burgh's Eye View is part of a larger suite of maps built for City departments (Police, Fire, Public Works, PLI) and City Council, which have been in use for nearly a year. Amongst others, this project continues to deepen the City's commitment to transparency and accountability through the thoughtful use of data that increasingly powers City services.

The new application's debut builds upon work by the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center, along with other efforts to make City operations more accessible and transparent to residents. ♦

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Local college-prep academy welcomes inspirational new Board member

By Ethan Lennox *Bulletin contributor*

Stanton Heights - For many folks, recent days have held few bright spots. But, Election Day was not all doom and gloom for some. Voters at polling places in Garfield, Stanton Heights, and even Penn Hills, might have noticed a bolt of light known as Brenda Frazier. A new appointee to the Board of Directors at The Neighborhood Academy (TNA, 709 N. Aiken Ave.), Frazier was busy handing out donuts and flyers as all the electoral predictions began slowly capsizing. Regardless of the electoral outcome, she still managed to spread the word about a college-preparatory school in Stanton Heights.

The chance to broadcast TNA’s mission throughout the community provided Frazier and others with a positive experience in an otherwise dark time. She told voters about the school’s explicit mission to break the cycle of poverty in which many local students become ensnared.

Frazier and several staff members from the school had their own assignment: try to make those families in the communities surrounding the school, many of whom would be ideal candidates for accessing the opportunities that it offers, aware that the school even exists. Since its beginning, the academy has encountered issues of misperception.

This is not surprising given the type of change that TNA ushered into Stanton Heights; the construction of its new school greatly altered the neighborhood’s physical complexion. When the academy was first under construction, a number of parents in the area protested.


But, TNA has a funny way of turning protestors into proponents, and many of those same parents are now some of the school’s biggest supporters. These days, the school is again planning to impact the communities surrounding the school, but this time on a more metaphorical level.

Frazier’s recent appointment to the board is crucial to new engagement efforts. A former Allegheny County Council member, community activist, and Pittsburgh Public Schools teacher, Frazier is seen by the school’s leadership as a perfect spokesperson. She aims to help the academy achieve a more visible profile as a welcoming institution and true community asset.

According to TNA President Mark Kurtzrock, Frazier brings a unique and important perspective to the boardroom. “When she talks, people listen,” he remarked. Frazier, who became involved with the school back when it was located in Garfield is excited to be, quite literally, “on board.” “I’m looking forward to using the contacts that I have to help [the academy],” she said.

Highlighting how much talent the neighborhood holds, Frazier is already brainstorming new ways to connect her neighbors with different volunteer opportunities at the school or, as she put it, “to invite the neighborhood into the school.”

For more information about the academy and its educational mission, call 412-362-2001 or visit <http://theneighborhoodacademy.org>. ♦



Christmas

has a different meaning to everyone, and that meaning can change from year to year, depending on what fate has brought your way. For some, it has been a year of prosperity... for others, it has been a year of loss. Fortunately, time has a way of healing, and letting us go forward—to celebrate again. Whatever the year has brought your way, we want you to know our family’s thoughts are with you.

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College & Career Readiness Program sowing seeds for future development

By Andrew Perrow *the Bulletin*

Garfield - Whether going to college in the fall or entering the workforce, the high school class of 2017 is facing some of the biggest decisions of their lives.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) and the Neighborhood Learning Alliance (NLA), the College and Career Readiness Program (CCRP) is in the process of engaging more East End residents than ever.

CCRP has been a stabilizing force in an otherwise uncertain economy and changing political atmosphere. The program provides high school seniors with the opportunity to find employment after graduating, get connected with internships, and find resources designed to enhance their college applications.

Emoni Jones, a senior at Obama High School, has been affiliated with the program since her junior year. “The CCRP has really helped me broaden my horizons”, Jones told *the Bulletin*. Along with many of her peers, Jones has worked closely with recruiters at the BGC to finalize her college applications.

Eric, a senior at Allderdice High School, found his passion for engineering by working with BGC staff. “The BGC has really pushed me forward,” he said. “They’ve been a helping hand.” The young engineer landed an internship with TechShop, an organization that offers its members access to advanced software and hardware tools to complete creative D.I.Y. projects.

Using skills honed at TechShop, Eric was able to create beautiful pieces of jewelry for his girlfriend and mother. “Without the BGC’s help, I would not have been able to get this internship,” he said. This sentiment touches on a very important aspect of the CCRP: the program is free.

High school seniors living in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County are required to submit an application, along with various documents, without any cost to the students or their families. As he prepares for career readiness, Eric has absorbed not only the experience, but also the confidence to succeed in the field of engineering. “You couldn’t put a price on something like this,” he confessed.

The BGC and NLA are currently working with students with similar stories to Emoni and Eric, all with hopes larger than life to find their passions and run with them. To get your student involved in the program, call 412-441-6950 (ext. 17). ♦



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PATF Clinic *continued from page 1*

AT LEFT: U.S. Congressman Mike Doyle (right) extols the virtues of Pittsburgh Aids Task Force (PATF) during an Oct. 25 ribbon-cutting ceremony in East Liberty. He joined many other elected officials and community leaders in welcoming the opening of PATF's new medical clinic at 5913 Penn Ave. In a commemorative gesture to acknowledge all the previous generations of hard-working AIDS advocates, PATF CEO Sean DeYoung (also pictured, at left) read aloud a quote from his organization's founding member, Kerry Stoner, welcoming the new medical facility to a changing East Librty. Photo by Erik Graham.



Liberty facility (5913 Penn Ave.). Combined with PATF's existing vital services, the clinic ushers in a new model of coordinated and integrated care for HIV/AIDS clients. The extensive office renovation also includes an expanded pharmacy program, enlarged food pantry, new HIV/STI testing center and space to add onsite behavioral health care.

In addition to specialized HIV/AIDS medical care, the new clinic - led by Sarah McBeth, MD, MPH - provides routine medical care for clients and their family members, as well as sexual health care for the community, regardless of HIV status.

During a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, Oct. 25, PATF celebrated the clinic's opening with a greeting from Governor Tom Wolf; remarks from PATF Board President Brian Balonick, Mayor Bill Peduto, and Congressman Mike Doyle; and PATF CEO Sean DeYoung's reading of a quote from PATF Founding Director Kerry Stoner.

"There are a lot of services that are needed today. That wasn't the case twenty or thirty years ago, and it's good to see [PATF] keeping the pace with [these changes]," Congressman Doyle said. "It's great that we live in a community that works together and cares about the people that live there."

Though treatment for HIV has drastically improved since the introduction of anti-retroviral medication in the 1990s, many new medical challenges have arisen as people with HIV grow older. Over a third of HIV-positive individuals that PATF serves are now 55 or older and many have lived with the infection for decades.

HIV-positive individuals may have long-term health complications from the virus - or from treatment - and are at higher risk for cardiovascular disease, lung disease, certain cancers and liver disease, among other conditions. Not only does the clinic provide specialized HIV/AIDS medical care, but Dr. McBeth is also able to act as

a primary care provider and attend to a myriad of her clients' other medical needs.

"Recognizing the complexities of care for HIV-positive individuals, we identified the need for greater integration between social services and medical care," PATF CEO DeYoung said. "This integration is made seamless by bringing treatment and services together in the same location, leading to better health and quality of life outcomes for clients."

By bringing medical treatment under the same roof as PATF's social services (including medical case management, housing assistance, food pantry, legal assistance, emergency funds, and transportation assistance) clients are better able to access the help they need.

The clinic also provides services to those who are HIV-negative, including an onsite phlebotomist, as well as onsite treatment for sexually transmitted infections. "Our new services for HIV-negative community members provide new tools for our long-standing commitment to prevent the spread of the infection," DeYoung affirmed.

A key feature of the new medical capabilities is a Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Clinic. A powerful new tool in preventing the spread of HIV, PrEP entails taking the medication "Truvada," which is over 90% effective at preventing HIV infection.

Delivering HIV and other medications directly to clients, without co-pays, the clinic has been operating a mail-order pharmacy for many years. Now, thanks to an expanded pharmacy program, an onsite pharmacy specialist is available to speak with clients, in-person, following their medical appointments.

Clients who would prefer an alternative to home-delivery may instead pick up their medication at the clinic. For more information about PATF's medical clinic, or to set up an appointment, please call 412-248-0550. ♦

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Neighborhood FOCUS

Silver Eye Center for Photography now focused on Penn Ave.

By Amber Epps Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation & Andrew McKeon the Bulletin

Garfield - After operating from its South Side location (1015 E. Carson St.) for decades, Silver Eye has decided to find a new home in the Penn Ave. arts corridor.

As one of the few remaining spaces for visual arts in the South Side, the center noticed a steady decrease in daytime foot traffic; the surrounding neighborhood, and its nightlife orientation, prompted Silver Eye to seek greener pastures.

"This is the best part of the East End hub," Silver Eye's executive director, David Oresick, said of the center's new home at 4828 Penn Ave. "We have a lot of faith that [Penn Ave.] is looking a lot more like a responsibly developed corridor [than E. Carson St.]," he added. Oresick and his staff already know they will be in good company at the new location; along with their arts-minded, next-door neighbors Assemble (4824 Penn Ave.) and Level Up Studios (4836 Penn Ave.), Silver Eye is eager to engage its neighbors upstairs - tenants residing in the Penn Mathilda Apartments (4816 Penn Ave.).

"It's really exciting to partner with new organizations," Silver Eye's Juliana Zipay, Membership and Marketing Manager, told *the Bulletin*. "We want to expand our reach while making new friends." Staging between four to six exhibits per year, Silver Eye brings in works from all over the world. The center prides itself on being a museum without a collection, one that has been making waves, both locally and nationally, for more than thirty-five years.

Oresick explained that Silver Eye will offer tours, artist talks, and panel discussions to accommodate each upcoming exhibition. Until its grand opening, which is slated for the spring of 2017, the center will maintain a presence on the avenue by hosting monthly pop-up exhibitions during *Unblurred: First Fridays*.

In its new digs, Silver Eye will inhabit two separate, first-floor storefronts; separated by not much more than an adjoining residential portico, the two polarized spaces will occupy different points on the spectrum in the world of photography. A few doors away from the center's instructional photography lab, "Spaces Corners" is taking shape at the intersection of Penn Ave. and Mathilda St. to operate under the Silver Eye umbrella. A bookstore for the photography-obsessed, Spaces Corners originated in 2011, spawning in Lawrenceville before arriving at its 1714 Lowrie St. location in Troy Hill.

Photography scholars Melissa Catanese and Ed Panar oversee the artist-run bookstore's everyday operations, whether minding the local brick-and-mortar location or working as visiting vendors at New York City's International Center of Photography Museum. Spaces Corners stocks a rotating selection of new photography books from some of the world's leading independent and small press publishing houses.

In 2013, the store launched its own publishing imprint to further collaborate with artists, institutions, and collections. "As small print jobs become more accessible," Oresick said, "photo-books have really turned into a big part of the world of photography." The retail components of Silver Eye's plans, including a lounge where customers can sit and engage with photographic works, look promising for the 4800 block of Penn Ave. and beyond.

The center also plans to provide education-oriented offerings like classes, workshops, and tutoring, as well as professional services available to artists of all skill levels. With regard to professional printing capabilities, Oresick is convinced that local photographers will jump at the chance to use the center's cutting-edge ameni-

ANNUAL BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD CORP. LUNCHEON IN PICTURES

Photos by John Colombo

AT RIGHT: BGC Executive Director Rick Swartz (left) and Board President Bill Cornell (right) embrace Shirley Gleditsch as they present her with the 2016 "Pioneer Award." As founder and manager of Garfield's East End Community Thrift store on Penn Ave., Gleditsch has been brightening her customers' days for decades; she is a veritable conduit for the local community.



AT LEFT: Public Service Honoree Ruthie Rea takes to podium to accept her new award from the BGC. Rea serves the community as Principal at Arsenal PreK-5 (within Pittsburgh Public Schools). She has been a teacher, reading coach, technical assistant with Pennsylvania's Department of Education, and part of the Pittsburgh Emerging Leadership Academy.



AT LEFT: The annual luncheon's keynote speaker, U.S. Congressman Mike Doyle (14th District), listens to BGC staff members, board members, and other local leaders' stories about community development. Congressman Doyle looks forward to serving his local constituents during his next term in office.



AT LEFT: Luncheon guests at the Omni William Penn Hotel (530 William Penn Pl.) in downtown Pittsburgh mingle throughout the grand ballroom on Friday, Nov. 4.

Overdoses continued from page 1

All three neighborhoods have a higher death-to-overdose ratio than the city's 22% average; at 39%, Lawrenceville's ratio is nearly double that of the whole city.

Lawrenceville United (LU) is joining forces with the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) and Bloomfield Development Corporation (BDC) to proclaim, "Enough is enough."

In confronting this issue, LU is welcoming residents to attend a public community meeting on Tuesday, December 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Persad Center in Lawrenceville (5301 Butler St., Suite 100).

The evening will include a free training on how to administer Narcan in the event of an overdose and a panel discussion with local experts and police, as well as a resource fair with local health organizations, service providers, recovery support

groups, and treatment centers.

LU wants to create a call-to-action for the entire neighborhood to prevent any more loss of life by answering the following series of questions: how is the opioid epidemic affecting local neighborhoods; what are the warning signs of drug abuse and addiction; what resources and supports are available to families affected by addiction, and how can families successfully navigate them; what is causing overdose deaths, and what can be done to prevent them; how can all residents work with the police to keep drugs off the streets?

All are welcome to attend the meeting. Free dinner will be provided, and child-care is available by request. For any questions, or to RSVP, please contact Lawrenceville United at 412-802-7220 or info@LUnited.org. ♦



ABOVE: A rendering of the Silver Eye Center for Photography's new home base on Penn Ave. reveals great potential for local community engagement. Graphic by The Design Alliance Architects.

ties. "It's cheaper to rent our printer than it would be to buy their own," he said.

One of Silver Eye's greatest upsides is its ability to help photographers polish their product, to confidently present their work to high-pressure galleries and actually get the gig. Via curative writings and other means, the center helps artists proliferate their prints to gain access to other professional development opportunities. "When I think about 'place-making,' you've got something that's thriving organically and you've also got something that's just being built to become a building," Oresick remarked. "There's just no rudder there."

Silver Eye is reaching out to Action Housing, Inc. – the nonprofit organization responsible for financing construction of the building at Penn Ave. and Mathilda St. to listen and learn about the tenants' life situations. Boasting an accessible location that accommodates many different transit lines, the center is primed to attract even the most nascent of photo-files.

Oresick advises young photographers to mimic their heroes' commitment to the craft. "The only way to get better at photography," Oresick said, "is to keep taking pictures, all the time." Visit <http://SilverEye.org> to learn more about the center's mission and community engagement efforts. ♦

Pittsburgh Parking Authority Board Authorizes Free Holiday Parking:

AT ALL PARKING AUTHORITY GARAGES ON THE FOLLOWING DATES ONLY. FREE PARKING FOR TRANSIENT CUSTOMERS ON "BLACK FRIDAY" AND ALL DAY FOR FIVE(5) SATURDAYS PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS AT ALL AUTHORITY-OWNED AND LEASED GARAGES FOR THE 2016 HOLIDAY SEASON.

THE DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS: FRIDAY, NOV. 25(BLACK FRIDAY); AND FOR FIVE (5) SATURDAYS: NOV. 26, DEC. 3, 10, 17, AND DEC. 24, 2016 ONLY.

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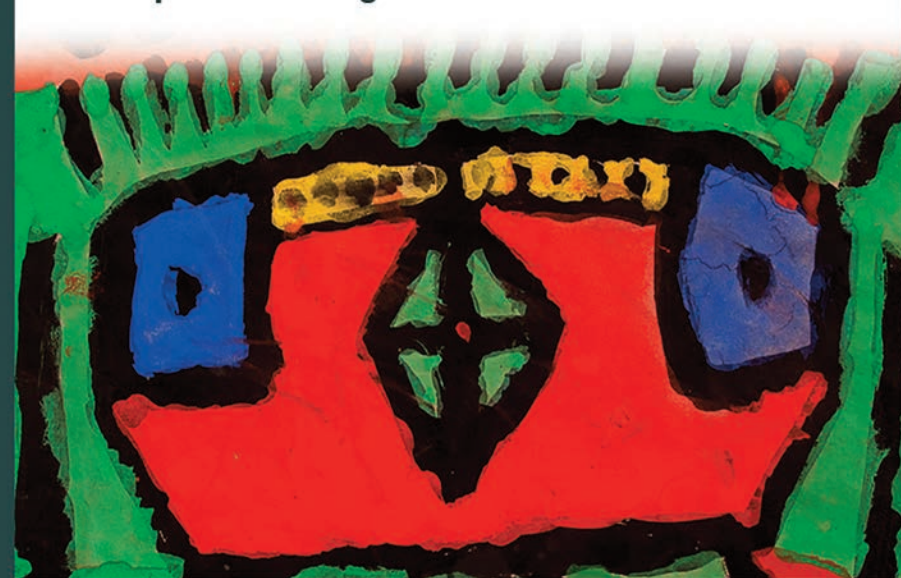
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WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

Send us a note about what you would like to see in *the Bulletin*. Readers are welcome to sound off on our Editorial Board, write a scathing review, and pen 'op-ed's about neighborhood developments.

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.

Environmental theatre for East Liberty

By John Kohl *Bulletin contributor*

East Liberty - From its home on N. Highland Ave., Quantum Theatre coordinates everyone from trained professional actors, directors, and musicians to opera singers, dancers, and writers – channeling collective efforts into unique performances.

Quantum's mission statement renders it as a collection of "progressive, professional artists dedicated to producing intimate and sophisticated theatrical experiences in uncommon settings."

According to artistic director Karla Boos, who has been with Quantum for decades, "since moving our headquarters to East Liberty six years ago, we've seen tremendous changes here. There's a general feeling that the area's resurgence is primarily about fine dining and hospitality, but we're here to show that the neighborhood's cultural capital is also very strong."

The company's current production is a play called *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*, which coalesces a seven-piece orchestra, three sterling singers, and inventive video projection. "This work let us get inside one man's head, feel his special challenges, and experience along with him a new way of seeing," Boos said.

Though past productions have been staged in various locations around the city, the company is bringing its current production back home to East Liberty for some "environmental theatre." Quantum is using its very headquarters, a 200 N. Highland Ave. storefront, to provide a street-level theatrical forum that blends seamlessly with the neighborhood at large.

"Theatre, with all its timeless, universal attraction, should not just be accessible to our entire community, but actually be part of each community," Boos said.

With such a caring community member at the helm, Quantum's professional harmony - a process driven by many moving parts - is in good hands. "I especially like working in the city," she noted, "because I feel connected to a diverse population, to the different struggles people have in living together, to a sense of trying to collectively achieve together."

The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat will be performed at 200 N. Highland Ave. on December 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 11. To find out more about Quantum's schedule of performances, visit <http://quantumtheatre.com>. ♦

Root-down in Bloomfield: TreeVitalize

By Joshua Rolon *Bloomfield Development Corporation*

Bloomfield - More than thirty volunteers spent a November Saturday planting nineteen trees around S. Mathilda St., between Friendship and Penn Aves. Through the TreeVitalize "Pittsburgh Neighbors" program, volunteers worked together to plant trees that local residents received at no cost.

The program has blossomed from a partnership between local and state governments, along with two nonprofits, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) and Tree Pittsburgh. Bloomfield resident Dan Yablonsky, who lives on South Mathilda St., completed the TreeVitalize application to authorize tree-planting in front of his and his neighbor's homes.

"This planting program is a beautifully simple way to build community. It gets neighbors talking and organizing towards a common goal of beautifying the street," Yablonsky said. "This breaks down barriers and builds genuine connections between everyone. Now, our street looks great and we know who our neighbors are. I'm so grateful for all the support that TreeVitalize was able to provide at every step in the process, Yablonsky went on to say.

Bloomfield Development Corporation (BDC) wants to support residents like Dan Yablonsky to bring more trees to the neighborhood, especially on streets where there are no living trees. Compared to other city neighborhoods, Bloomfield has very low tree coverage; according to the 2012 State of the Urban Forest Report, it ranks among the ten neighborhoods with the lowest tree coverage in Pittsburgh.

"Bloomfield is losing out on benefits that trees provide, like cleaner air, shade, and additional greenspace", BDC's Executive Director Christina Howell said. "BDC sees the TreeVitalize program as a great way to enjoy the benefits of trees while avoiding potential downsides like uprooted sidewalks."

BDC is now accepting applications from local residents interested in planting street trees, especially those living south of Liberty Ave., around Millvale and Mathilda Sts. Applications will be accepted until Dec. 25. Email info@bloomfieldnow.org or call 412-681-8800 for more information. ♦

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BELOW: Dyonna Hall (right), a 16-year-old junior at Obama High School, prepares for an EKG performed by Judy Mishler, a stress monitor technician at Bloomfield's West Penn Hospital. Photo courtesy of Doug Braunsdorf.



Unblurred: First Fridays on Penn Avenue

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Charter school relocates to Larimer, reaps educational rewards

By Andrew Perrow *the Bulletin*

Larimer - The student-scholars at the Urban Academy of Greater Pittsburgh are not only enjoying their new school building, they are flourishing in it.

The Urban Academy, which recently moved to its new Larimer home on Turret St., is a PreK-5 STEM-focused charter school for families in Pittsburgh and the surrounding communities. Regardless of the school's focus, students are not required to express a strong interest in STEM classes to be admitted; the academy provides a rich curriculum for all admitted students.

For traditional classes, such as reading and mathematics, instructors offer unique programs like robotics and ballroom-dancing. Each classroom is equipped with a large flat-screen television to provide the students with many ways to engage their learning. Students are also required to take Spanish language classes, a skill that is becoming more and more critical as the country diversifies.

Aside from the school's academic rigor, perhaps one of its greatest benefits is its very floor plan. "The classrooms are designed as a school," Urban Academy Principal and CEO Dr. Gail Edwards said. "We needed to finally have a building that was built for us to house all of our programs."

The academy's previous location - which was designed to meet the needs of yester-

year - was physically confined in a way that placed the classrooms, cafeteria, and gymnasium all within close proximity. In the new Larimer location, students may now negotiate various routes to reach their academic destinations. This mobility was no happy coincidence; Dr. Edwards worked with a team of local architects and planners to design the new school with students and faculty equally in mind.

"The teachers actually have a workroom," Dr. Edwards remarked. "And they also have a lunchroom." She readily recalls the conditions of the previous building; it did not have adequate natural lighting, not to mention decent air conditioning and heating.

A walk-through of the new building offers a brief glimpse into the life of the student body: students happily greet faculty; the classrooms' aesthetics foster new modes of learning, and the teachers respect their pupils in a nurturing atmosphere of sharing and listening.

As the school continues to expand, Dr. Edwards and her team hope to create more outdoor spaces for their students in addition to the school gymnasium. All things considered, the future of the school - and its new location - is just as bright as the future of its scholars.

For more information about the academy and its services, call 412-361-1008 or visit <http://urbanacademypgh.org>. ♦

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Cultural exchange rates flourish at Highland Park’s Ginkgo Fest

By Aryssa Shultz *Bulletin contributor*

Commentary

Highland Park - Autumn is my favorite time of year. The leaves are constantly changing, pumpkins are all over the place, and hot chocolate and apple cider are in endless supply. One of my favorite autumnal offerings, though, is the plethora of fall festivals available in the city’s East End.

On October 29, my boyfriend and I hopped on the bus to Highland Park and headed for the Maple Grove Shelter, where we joined Tree Pittsburgh in celebrating the historic *Ginkgo biloba*. The tree – which is native to China and Japan, but now, grows all over the globe – took center stage at this year’s Ginkgo Fest, becoming more than mere foliage.

The oldest living Ginkgo tree is about 2,500 years old; known as “living fossils,” these Asian plants are just about genetically identical to their ancestors of 150 million years. Ginkgoes’ medicinal purposes have become part of ancient homeopathic traditions to treat anxiety and concentration, in addition to maintaining eye health.

Even though the trees are native to Japan and China, many reside here in Pittsburgh because their durability helps them thrive in urban environments. This was all news to me, so the festival began taking on a whole new meaning as I learned about the tree’s cultural and historical significance.

After staging a yo-yo performance, the Organization of Chinese Americans was tabling throughout the festival. Pittsburgh Taiko, an organization that educates the community about Taiko and Japanese culture through performances and outreach activities, put on a spectacular drum performance. The troupe’s drummers performed a song meant to invoke images of summer storms – strong, abrupt forces that enter and exit frame with similar vigor - as they occur both here in Pittsburgh and across the sea in Japan.

A large two-sided drum sat on a tall stand, surrounded by smaller drums arranged in a half-circle. Dominant bass sounds erupted when two drummers, one on either side of the large drum, began banging in loud step with the main rhythm.

Using their entire bodies to mesmerizing effect, the Taiko drummers let their sticks function like extensions of themselves; the performers’ traditional robes and serious faces only enhanced the drums’ deep impact on the audience.

After the performance, I got a chance to speak with Ben Pachter, the founding member of Pittsburgh Taiko, whose organization also performed during last year’s festival. “You don’t often get a chance to play outdoors at this time of year, let alone in such an amazing environment as Highland Park,” Pachter said.

According to Tree Pittsburgh’s Rachel King, programming director, the festival is “a local celebration of trees and the beautiful fall color.” Yet, alongside all the arboreal elements, it still never hurts to feature hot apple cider, Ginkgo leaf-shaped cookies, and roasted chestnuts to bump up the seasonal flair.

I consider the Ginkgo Fest to be an annual reminder of our city’s cultural diversity. By elevating one plant’s physical *Diaspora*, we can also celebrate its otherwise faraway cultural heritage right here at home. ♦



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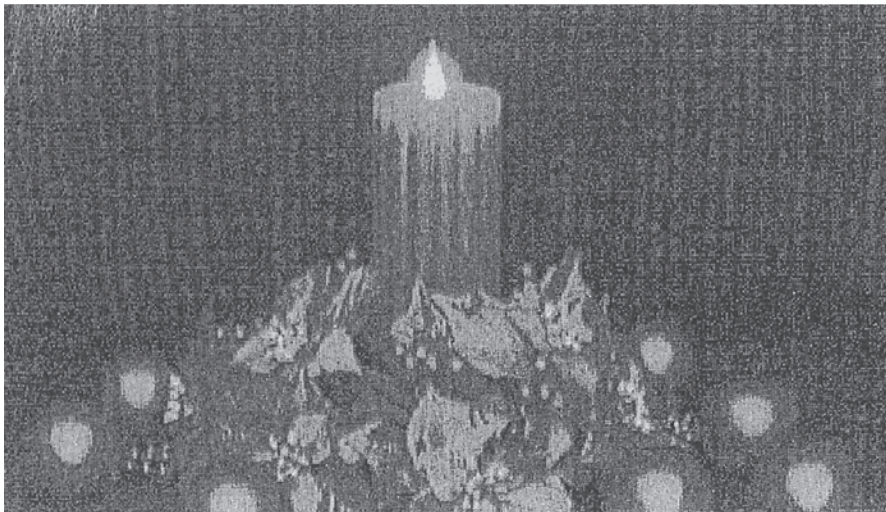
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During this Holiday Season, more than ever, our thoughts and prayers turn to those who have lost a loved one this past year. We are lighting a candle in our funeral home in remembrance of all the families that we have been privileged to serve. And it is in this spirit that we simply, but sincerely say...May the Peace and Joy of the Christmas Season be yours throughout the New Year.



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LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER: PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Editor's Note: The following listings are sponsored by Lillian Denhardt, a member of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's (BGC) Board of Directors. Denhardt has purchased space in the Bulletin to advertise her real estate business and draw readers' eyes to the very properties that are being bought and sold in their neighborhoods.

October Real Estate Transactions in Bloomfield, Garfield, East Liberty, Friendship, Lawrenceville, and Stanton Heights

Compiled by: Lillian Denhardt, Howard Hanna real estate agent / Garfield resident

Bloomfield

231 Commercial Avenue LP to Matthew Sinicki at 460 Cedarville St. for \$25,000.
 Alan W & Lin Philana Ling Chu to Michael K Happold at 10 Hemingway St. for \$290,000.
 Associates In Respiratory Medicine LTD to VJR Investments LLC at 5131 Liberty Ave. for \$315,000.
 Capital Core Investment Group LLC to Arch Masonry Real Estate LLC at 500 Dargan St. for \$444,395.
 Carmen & Mary Bartuccio to Carmen J Bartucci at 5002 Friendship Ave. for \$1.
 City Of Pittsburgh to Marshall Barbour at 4932 Gross St. for \$5,000.
 Edgar J Smith to Abigail Hope Gardner at 5414 Coral St. for \$330,000.
 Eleanor G Salak to Joseph Salak Jr. at 4309 Milgate St. for \$0.
 Eric S Grzegorzczuk to Chris & April Ragland at 4547 Carroll St. for \$87,500.
 Felice & Rosa Ricci to Christina E Ricci at 4619 Torley St. for \$80,000.
 Francis J & Barbara A Gregg to BNG Diamond Properties LP at 4567 Carroll St. for \$10,000.
 Greater Pittsburgh Properties LLC to Kevin J Divers at 402 Taylor St. for \$82,000.
 Jeffrey T Dehart to Kristy Sorcan at 244 Edmond St. for \$175,000.
 John J Ludwig to Greater Pittsburgh Properties LLC at 402 Taylor St. for \$60,000.
 John W Heffner to Mark A Mangini at 1703 Trinity St. for \$133,000.
 Jonathan Pearlman to Arsenal Collective LLC at 4211 Milgate St. for \$1.
 Mary Ellen Donohue to Martin M Signore at 4106 Howley St. for \$190,000.
 Peter S Vosler to Sandra-Maelissa J Gould at 406 S Evaline St. for \$270,000.
 Robert & Jessica Walters to Daniel Papasian at 332 West Penn Pl. for \$290,000.
 Scott Marshall to Christopher M Natali at 4206 Milgate St. for \$215,000.
 Steven T Reis to Kristin Nicole Saunders at 207 57th St. for \$98,195.
 Thomas E Sepich to Troy Hill Development LLC at 616 S. Mathilda St. for \$100,000.
 Wesley B & Sherril J Covell to Matthew J Tabler at 25 Hemingway St. for \$330,000.

Garfield

Bank of New York Mellon to Avanti Construction & Associates Inc. at 5201 Nora Way for \$14,929.
 Bloomfield-Garfield Corp. to Bethany R Bartnikowski at 4906 Rosetta St. for \$131,500.
 Corey Diethorn to Corey Diethorn at 4717 Kincaid St. for \$33,500.
 Garfield Jubilee Revitalization Partnership to Elliott G Williams at 5407 Black St. for \$146,000.
 Kent Tran to LP He4003 at 5013 Dearborn St. for \$105,000.
 Marc P Giosi to Matthew J Watson at 5163 Penn Ave. for \$215,000.
 Pittsburgh Housing Development Corporation to Matthew Kainaroi at 5486 Broad St. for \$143,500.
 Ulla M Tolliver to Neal Kimberly Hairston at 419 N. Mathilda St. for \$8,500.

East Liberty

East Liberty Development Inc. to Berna & Mchale LLC at 5445 Black St. for \$17,500.

East Liberty Development Inc. to Mark & Natalie Ann Lauterbach Bernard at 5613 Hays St. for \$45,000.
 Franco & Adalgisa Treglia to Gali Hendel at 724 N. Saint Clair St. for \$169,900.
 Janice J & Savanna Jamerson Henderson to Prism Glass Holdings LLC at 6100 Saint Marie St. for \$182,500.
 Jonathan Pearlman to Arsenal Collective LLC at 268 S Euclid Ave. for \$1.
 Pauline Johnson to Geralyn V Johnson at 413 Selma St. for \$0.
 Penn Pioneer Enterprises LLC to Phillip Cresswell at 701 N. Saint Clair St. for \$155,000.

Friendship

No transfers to report during October.

Lawrenceville

Bryan Scott Peterman to Joshua S Nicholas at 4602 Plummer St. for \$0.
 Bryan Scott Peterman to Joshua S Nicholas at 4604 Plummer St. for \$0.
 Bryan Scott Peterman to Joshua S Nicholas at 4606 Plummer St. for \$0.
 Butler & 40th LLC to Arsenal 201-Phase 1 LLC at 3925 Butler St. for \$5,731,946.
 Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC to Lawrenceville Corp. at 474 44th St. for \$1.
 City Of Pittsburgh to East End Group LLC at 3807 Penn Ave. for \$23,000.
 City Of Pittsburgh to Lisa Javornick at 5224 Duncan St. for \$13,100.
 Cobble House Holdings LP to Lei Zhou at 260 42nd St. Unit 1 for \$309,500.
 Coralie Kartesz to Lost Cabin Invests LLC at 4632 Hatfield St. for \$251,250.
 East End Group LLC to Adam Koberna at 5265 Carnegie St. for \$428,000.
 Edward M & Sandra J Jones to Steel Town Properties M2 LLC at 186 39th St. for \$130,000.
 Elisa Bosilovic to Patrick St.ewart at 3644 Penn Ave. (Unit 304) for \$305,000.
 Eric Menninger to Branden P Moore at 155 38th St. for \$385,000.
 Eskandar Khaiatzadeh to Boulevard Rows LLC at 3638 Mintwood St. for \$140,000.
 Eugene A Steratore to 144 Lawrence LLC at 144 44th St. for \$125,000.
 General Structures LTD to Allison L Nickel at 4631 Eden Way for \$110,000.
 George P Williams to Susan M Williams at 3821 Penn Ave. for \$289,400.
 George P Williams to Susan M Williams at 3825 Penn Ave. for \$289,400.
 Howard J & Susan R Bails Wein to Kayan Moussoba at 251 44th St. for \$181,000.
 Nagham H Al-Ghazi to Rasha Al-Ghazi at 3636 Mintwood St. for \$0.
 Patrick Parsons to Steel Town Properties M2 LLC at 172 39th St. for \$80,000.
 PB Property Development Inc. to Daniel D Finnegan Jr. at 3811 Howley St. for \$347,500.
 Phillip J & Stefanie A Disilvio to Sandra Chihyun Kim at 3407 Butler St. for \$560,500.
 Sean Sugarmann to Lawrence LLC 144 at 144 45th St. for \$145,000.
 Steven K Walters to Adam J Paranick at 3808 Howley St. for \$190,500.
 Synergy Capital LP to Robert J & Nancy L Haddad at 144 43rd St. for \$625,000.
 Thomas P & Lorraine M Niggl to Helping Hand Real Estate LLC at 5232 Carnegie St. for \$77,000.
 W&J Properties LLC to Ashley M Frost at 104 43 1/2 St. for \$225,000.
 William A Capilongo to Merina R Jedlicka at 5241 Kent Way for \$66,000.
 William J Federspiel to Mark H Worthy at 5202 Butler St. (Unit #2) for \$294,000.
 Wylie Holdings LP to Penn 45 LP at 117 45th St. for \$115,000.
 Zachary Morgan to 3600 Penn Associates LLC at 6206 Butler St. for \$5,000.

Stanton Heights

Ashley M & Jev A Clark to Rosalynn Renee Williams at 4226 Coleridge St. for \$158,000.
 Jean Smedley to Jordan L Talmadge at 956 Millerdale St. for \$109,000.
 Kenneth J Lawton to Cory J Pelligreno at 5531 Camelia St. for \$95,000.
 Marlin Chapman to Todd E Adams at 5502 Camelia St. for \$335,000.
 Sandra J Frank to Ronika Frank at 934 Millerdale St. for \$1.

Feel free to contact Lillian at agent.lillian.pgh@gmail.com with questions or requests for more information about real estate matters in our neighborhoods.

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the BulletinBOARD

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 **December** issue of *the Bulletin* are due by **December 16**. Please submit listings using our online form at http://bit.ly/bulletin_submit.

December 1 - Thursday

GARFIELD
Affordable Housing Discussion

Join the discussion about establishing a Community Land Trust, at 6:30 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 1st at Valley View Presbyterian Church (lower level hall), 601 North Aiken Avenue at Mossfield & Black Streets. Your input is welcome about how to retain and increase affordable housing in Garfield.

LAWRENCEVILLE
“Light Up Lawrenceville”

Allegheny Cemetery Entrance (4734 Butler St.) on Thursday, December 1st, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Lawrenceville United is hosting the neighborhood’s annual tree lighting at the entrance to Allegheny Cemetery. Join us for hot chocolate, kids’ crafts, caroling, food trucks, and the tree lighting at 7:30 p.m. All ages welcome for this annual community tradition, which is also the kick-off event for the local “Joy of Cookies” cookie tour.

December 3 - Saturday

LAWRENCEVILLE
Cookie Mall

Saturday, December 3rd, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Estelle Campbell Boys and Girls Club (4600 Butler St.)The Cookie Mall is a bake sale, kids’ party, and community holiday celebration all rolled into one.

Local nonprofit groups will be selling homemade batches of baked goods, while Santa will be there giving out gifts to every child. Hosted by Lawrenceville United, the Cookie Mall is one of the trolley stops on the “Joy of Cookies” cookie tour.

December 15 - Thursday

LAWRENCEVILLE
MS Excel Workshop

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Lawrenceville and Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania have teamed up to offer free computer workshops to residents who want to brush up on their computer skills. The workshop topic on December 15 is Microsoft Excel. Students will be introduced to worksheets, entering formulas, and formatting. Classes are held in Goodwill’s computer lab at 118 52nd St. and run from 6 to 8 p.m. Participants must register in advance by calling 412-632- 1842.

December 18 - Sunday

GARFIELD
“Take Another Look” Christmas Program

Join Pastor Lamont B. Shields and Morningside Church of God in Christ (C.O.G.I.C.) at its 5173 Dearborn St. location for the annual Christmas program, entitled, "Take Another Look!" Festivities begin at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18. Come, bring your friends and be blessed as you enjoy our

Christmas program.

December 24 - Saturday

LAWRENCEVILLE
Christmas Eve Program

Please join us at six o'clock p.m. Last service for Door of Hope Community Church.

December 30 - Friday

LAWRENCEVILLE
“Night at the Races” Celebration

“Night at the Races” is the can’t-miss annual fundraiser for Lawrenceville’s Independence Day Celebration. Taking place at Teamsters Temple, 4701 Butler, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and include entry, dinner, and beer. Horses and jockeys can be purchased for \$10 each. Tickets available at Lawrenceville United’s office at 4839 Butler St. Get them now, because they sell out every year!

- Ongoing -

GARFIELD
Seeking Students

A Garfield Jubilee Association Inc. (GJA) program is enrolling youth between the ages of 16 to 24. If you would like to earn your high school diploma - or work on-site with construction, facilities, housing, landscaping, electrical, plumbing, neighborhood parks beautification, customer service, retail, health, - or attain certification in 3 weeks, contact GJA. Incentives are provided for participants. GJA is located at 5223 Penn Ave. To learn more about your potential role in the program,

contact Justin Bragg or Sarah Flamenbaum at 412-665-5200.

Open Call: Art for Unblurred 2017 Season

Assemble is currently accepting proposals for the 2017 season of Unblurred. Work related to new media art, process art, design, architecture, science and engineering, installation, interaction, and social engagement are highly encouraged. We welcome artists, makers, and technologists from diverse backgrounds to apply. Selected artists/makers/technologists will have a month-long show at Assemble. In addition to the opening, all artists/makers/technologists are to have various engaging experiences, workshops, and classes for our neighbors of Garfield to learn about their process. Some workshops can be integrated to our existing programs, such as Saturday Crafternoons or After School. The opening will be for an Unblurred, the monthly Penn Avenue gallery crawl that gets around 1,000 visitors interacting in the space in one evening.

Rolling Health Insurance Enrollment

Health insurance enrollment navigators will be available to help individuals enroll in affordable health insurance plans at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (5321 Penn Ave.) To schedule an enrollment appointment, please call 412-206-1298.

Credit Counseling

NeighborWorks Western PA provides a credit and budget counselor who can meet with you individually and confidentially at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (5321 Penn Ave.). These counselors can help with financial and credit counseling, homebuyer assistance, and

Adult English Classes at Arsenal!

Tuesday and Thursday Evenings

4:30 – 7:00 PM
Arsenal Middle School (220 40th Street)



- Classes are run by Goodwill of Southwestern PA
- For adults with beginner and intermediate English skills
- Free and open to the community
- Childcare available by request

Please fill out the information below to register. Return completed forms to Arsenal's main office. For questions, please contact Rosalind at (412) 802-7230 or rosalind@arsenal.org

Adult Name _____ Phone # _____ Email _____

Please communicate with me in the following language: _____

Do you require childcare? Yes No

Are you interested in TEACHING a class in your native language to students and/or adults?
☐ Yes, I could teach the following language(s): _____
☐ No



Interested in affordable homeownership in Lawrenceville?

Come to a free info session about Lawrenceville's Community Land Trust!

Homes available in Upper Lawrenceville for \$125,000 - \$145,000.

Child care available! RSVP at lvpgn.com/clt

Contact Ed Nusser for more information: (412) 621-1616 x106

12/1 6pm Arsenal Middle 220 40th	12/10 10am Goodwill 118 52nd
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DO YOU WANT TO MAKE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFER?

The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Zone 5 and City of Pittsburgh Public Safety Department can help you form a **NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH.**

A block watch is a way for neighbors to jointly monitor and address safety issues in their neighborhood.

If you would like to form a neighborhood block watch please call Aggie Brose of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation at **412-441-6950 ext. 15**



The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation has an email newsletter!

Subscribe at bit.ly/bgc_email to get the latest community news delivered to your inbox every month.

Volunteer Opportunities & Services

more. To schedule an appointment, just call 412-206-9849.

Mentors/Tutors Needed

The Garfield Jubilee Association Inc., located at 5323 Penn Ave., is in need of tutors and youth mentors. We are located behind the old St. Lawrence O'Toole Church on N. Atlantic and Penn Aves. (the red porch). We are recruiting volunteers to assist students earning their high school diploma; we also seek volunteers to work on housing construction, customer service, retail, nursing, and neighborhood beautification projects. Volunteers are welcome Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch provided on Saturdays. For information, call Connie M. Taylor at 412-665-5210.

FRIENDSHIP

Creative Nonfiction Writing Series

Take your writing to the next level with Creative Nonfiction's new series of weeknight workshops. Our craft-based workshops draw from Lee Gutkind's experience and CNF's twenty-two years as a leading voice in the genre. This series will teach you strategies and skill sets for your personal writing process. Taught by Anjali Sachdeva, a Visiting Lecturer in English at the University of Pittsburgh, workshops will be held at 5119 Coral St. on Thursday - December 3, 10, and 17 - from 7 to 9 p.m. The series cost \$179 and space is limited to fifteen students. To register, visit

<http://creativenonfiction.org>.

FRIENDSHIP

Adults Achieve: Literacy

Opportunity to complete your high school diploma as an adult. Earthen Vessels Outreach is looking to enroll 5 - 10 adults (young adults) who had their high school education derailed and now want to make it right. You can now change the past, and have a new opportunity to obtain your high school diploma. On-line learning with flexible working hours. All high school credits are applied to the program to help complete your degree. No out of pocket cost for you. Please call 412-681-7272 or stop by at 250 South Pacific Ave. & Friendship Ave. for additional information. E-Mail earthen-vessels98@gmail.com to learn more. Childcare available.

CITY-WIDE

Life'sWork Training Programs Available

Life'sWork of Western PA prepares youths and adults for entry into the workforce by assisting clients in job training programs that lead to employment preparation and placement assistance. Clients will work with our Workforce Development Specialists to help them identify their work preferences, match job skills, and develop strong resumes with the goal of successfully placing them in the workforce. Life'sWork is currently enrolling clients to participate in two 8 week adult

training programs: Customer Service Representative Training Program, Environmental Services Training Program. Additional services include: resume building and interview training, supported employment, tutoring and GED prep, life skills seminars, staff/peer mentoring and job placement. To learn more or make a referral, contact Josh Martin at 412-471-2600, ext. 321 or via email at jmartin@lifesworkwpa.org.

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Explore a Technology Career Program!

Community College of Allegheny County's (CCAC) "Pathway to a Technology Career" program provides a free monthly bus pass and \$300 stipend at the end of every successful completed semester to qualified individuals. Students will complete certificates in one year; classes begin January 2017 at CCAC's Homewood-Brushton Center & South Campus (701 N. Homewood Ave.).

• **Computer-Aided Drafting:** designed for students seeking careers or employment as CAD operators, drafting technicians, or engineering aides that utilize computer-generated engineering drawings and models.

• **Cybersecurity:** this certificate program prepares students for entry-level careers related to cybersecurity; this program follows the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies (NICCS) guidelines. It is designed primarily for students who already have a college degree or are looking to expand their credentials.

• **Information Technology Support:** this program provides students with specific technical competencies for entry-level employment opportunities as a user-support or network-support specialist. For more information, please contact CCAC Homewood Brushton Center at 412 371 1600 or email vtssurin@ccac.edu.

You are Invited to:

Bloomfield-Garfield's Family Holiday Party!

Join us for a fun filled night of holiday cheer!!!

- Visit **Santa** and get you photo taken!
- Enjoy free **hot chocolate** and **cookies!**
- Make **holiday cards** and **crafts!**
- Enjoy holiday music and a beautiful tree!

Where: BGC Community Activity Center
113 North Pacific Ave.

When: Friday, December 16, 2016

Time: 5:30PM- 8:00PM

If you would like to lead a children's activity, make a donation, decorate, or help with promoting the party, please call the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation at 412-441-6950 ext17.

Pottery tour taking shape in Highland Park

By **Stephanie Sun** *Union Project*

Highland Park – Carrying the torch for a special winter tradition, the sixth annual Highland Park Pottery Tour will begin on Saturday, Dec. 10, and run through Sunday, Dec. 11. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days, local ceramic artists will open their homes and studios to the general public, inviting everyone into their living rooms to celebrate the holiday season.

Throughout this free, two-day event, the handmade work of twenty-five ceramic artists will be for sale at six different stops (all within walking distance). The tour creates a relaxed and intimate setting for guests to meet local potters in their community. “People that are bicycle enthusiasts often comment on my collection of cycling art and photos in the house,” Jeff Guerrero, one of the founding potters, described. “When I tell them that I have sixteen bicycles in the basement, they feel that we’re kindred spirits.”

Pittsburgh’s East End is home to a close-knit ceramics community where supportive artists help each other fire kilns, learn new techniques, and refine their art form. The “Ceramics Cooperative” has supported artists to develop their skills and try new artistic opportunities at Union Project (801 N. Negley Ave.).

First-time tour participant Elise Birnbaum is thrilled to bring a different flair to the tour with her handmade, organic, ceramic knot jewelry built to surprise. Jeff Brunner, another tour participant and full-time artist, will showcase ceramic skills that have made his ornaments a must-have gift for the holiday season.

The 2016 Highland Park Pottery Tour is sponsored by WESA, WYEP, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and Standard Ceramics Supply Company. To learn more about the event and the artist lineup, please visit <http://HighlandParkPotteryTour.com>. Please note: Union Project is the only wheelchair-accessible tour stop. Guests can start the tour at any of the six stops; printed maps will be available at all stops. ♦



ABOVE: Local potter Jenna Vanden Brink’s house is always a favorite stop on the Highland Park Pottery Tour. Guests will get an intimate look at ceramic artists’ lives by touring their homes, viewing their works, and speaking with the artists themselves on Dec. 10 and 11. Photo by Cara Rufenacht.

FREE AFTERSCHOOL
MONDAYS GIRLS ONLY 5TH - 8TH GRADERS
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