

ABOVE: Cycling enthusiasts and other bike-minded folks gather at Kraynick's bike shop (5003 Penn Ave.) in Garfield for a fundraising event/bike race called "Kraynick-Kat." Designed as an "alley-cat" styled bike race, the event helped raise awarness about the legendary bike shop's future plans, as well as some money to fund its pending transition of ownership. Read more at right, and also on page 7. Photo by John Colombo.

Could a Community Land Trust take root in Garfield?

By Vera England Bulletin contributor

People, places, and pop-ups: the Friendship Bagel story

By Tyler Wheeler Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - Rapidly rising East End property prices are now making it difficult for many residents to afford housing. Since August, Garfield area residents have been

See Community Land Trust | page 4

Friendship – It comes as no surprise that food trucks and pop-ups are beginning to gain momentum in Pittsburgh's contemporary food scene. Thanks to local legislation

See Friendship Bagel | page 9





Garfield bike shop pedals toward new ownership

By Andrew Perrow

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - Out of all of the places in the world, three men from the same village in the Philippines met for the first time in the back of a forty-year old bike shop in Pittsburgh. Such a chance meeting might seem impossible to most folks but, for Jerry Kraynick, proud owner of Kraynick's Bike Shop (5003 Penn Ave.), this was just another example of a "fortuitous concourse of atoms" at work.

The phrase, which could be boiled down to mean "coincidence" has formed a philosophical foundation for a sense of community that has made Kraynick's shop into a vital part of Garfield's cultural landscape. People from all walks of life visit the shop with the sole intent of working on their bicycle; most leave knowing much more than just how to change a flat tire.

Kraynick's customers - a term only very loosely applied - are given the chance to fix, maintain, or upgrade their bikes under the guidance of a true master of bike repair.

Given the likely scenario that several

See Kraynick's | page 7



NON-PROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID PITTSBURGH, PA Permit No. 2403

A Publication of The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation



ABOVE: A glimpse into the possible future of East Liberty's "western gateway" at Penn and Negley Aves., this rendering portends many changes for the neighborhood. Local residents gathered at a Dec. 12 meeting to discuss the impacts of LG Realty's new redevelopment plans. Read about the meeting and the ongoing discussions about affordable housing on page 8. Graphic by MV+A architects.

Scenes from the annual BGC holiday party

(Friday, Dec. 16, 2016) Photos by John Colombo

BELOW: Leia Taylor shows off some sequins she is using to decorate a festive holiday banner for her family.





ABOVE: New arrivals to the neighborhood (front to back Carson, Candace, and Baxter Skibba) enjoy their first BGC Holiday party in front of one of the event's biggest attractions: hot chocolate

BELOW: Brothers J'Mere (left) and Frank Richardson proudly display their new stickers while other children craft away at the Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.) on Dec. 12.



BELOW: *Jazmyn Johnson, who patiently waited her turn to visit the party's most popular celebrity, sits down with Santa (a.k.a. Barry Canada) to relay her Christmas wish list.*





ABOVE: Xavier Pilone decorates a holiday sugar cookie to his exact specifications. Party planners decked out the basement of the Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.) to provide an assortment of crafting activities; the kids went in on everything from stickers and banners to cookie decorations.







PENN AVENUE FACEBOOK PHOTO CONTEST

- Submit your photo(s) of anything Penn Avenue (between Mathilda and Negley) to mainstreets@bloomfield-garfield.org. Please be sure "Penn Ave Photo Contest" is the subject of the email. The email should include your name and contact info (phone/email). The deadline is January 31, 2017. Anyone can participate.
- 2. On February 1, 2017, photos will be posted to the Penn Avenue Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pennavenue412) in an album entitled "Photo Contest" and on the Penn Ave Instagram site (@pennavenue412). Make sure you like/follow both pages and then click the like button (Facebook) or double-tap (Instagram) the photos that you like best. Yes, you can choose more than one! The deadline for voting is February 28, 2017.
- 3. The winner will be announced on March 3, 2017. Prizes will be awarded to the first place winner as well as the runner up. The prizes were donated by Penn Avenue businesses as well as the BGC. If you are interested in donating a prize, please email mainstreets@bloomfield-garfield.org.

*Official rules can be found at www.pennavenue.org

Treating you like the first family we've ever served is what makes our service second to none.



It never escapes us that each family is unique. That's why we care for each family we serve as if it were our first—first to experience our understanding, our caring and most of all our personalized service. It's the least we can do to show you that in our eyes your family's care is second to none.

D'Alessandro Funeral Home & Crematory Ltd.

"Always a Higher Standard"

Daniel T. D'Alessandro, Spvr.

4522 Butler St. ● Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Phone: 412-682-6500 • Fax: 412-682-6090

www.dalessandroltd.com • dalessandrofh@aol.com



A publication of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation



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 42, Number 1

The deadline for the February issue is Friday, January 13, 2017.

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 • John Colombo, Staff Photographer • 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.

www.Bloomfield-Garfield.org © 2016 by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Thank you! The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation would like to acknowledge its main corporate and philanthropic partners: PNC Foundation, Heinz Endowments, The Pittsburgh Foundation, WesBanco Bank, Dollar Bank, and Allegheny Valley Bank. Thanks to PNC Bank, Allegheny Health Network, West Penn Hospital, the City of Pittsburgh, *the Bulletin*'s advertisers, and all our members for all their support and assistance.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Pittsburgh - The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police was selected to be a part of a national program (funded by the US Department of Justice) focused on procedural justice in community policing.

According to the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice, "procedural justice focuses on the way police and other legal authorities interact with the public, and how the characteristics of those interactions shape the public's views of the police, their willingness to obey the law, and actual crime rates."

Pittsburgh Police recently held a community workshop for neighborhood volunteers to participate in portions of the same trainings undertaken by local officers. Zone 5 Commander Jason Lando said the first procedural justice training focused on how officers can improve their legitimacy in verbal interactions with people. The second training focused on improving outcomes in physical interactions.

Lando explained that the Bureau is currently working on developing "less lethal" tools to help officers resolve escalated conflicts in a safer manner, like dispensing a "bean bag round" from a shotgun to disable a dangerous individual without causing a fatality.

The National Initiative stated that "procedurally just policing is essential to the development of goodwill between police and communities, and is closely linked to improving community perceptions of police legitimacy." Other cities that were selected to be a part of this initiative include Minneapolis, Minnesota; Birmingham, Alabama; Gary, Indiana; and Stockton, California.

[Editor's Note: the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation is currently scheduling a procedural justice workshop where local residents can learn about this national initiative and how Pittsburgh Police officers are working to improve their interactions with the community. Look to next month's issue of the Bulletin for more information.] ◆

Community Land Trust continued from page 1

meeting to explore the idea of starting a Community Land Trust (CLT). As a tool for permanent affordability, CLTs can help support residents during times of change while preserving the neighborhood culture.

The land trusts are resident-run, nonprofit organizations that steward and sometimes develop housing and community spaces. Properties become a part of the CLT when a current owner donates their land to the organization while still retaining ownership of buildings on the property. The CLT then leases the land back to the owner.

This model has existed around the country for many years, but has yet to be tested in Pittsburgh. Lawrenceville and Oakland are starting their own CLTs, and a regional hub known as "Common Ground" is forming to support neighborhood CLTs throughout the city. Because the land is community owned, these trusts can stabilize the property cost, ensure that structures are cared for, and maintain appropriate uses of the property.

Recently, community members have been voicing their concerns about how to preserve affordable housing at local CLT meetings. To that goal, two groups are now working together to create the first CLT in Garfield: the "outreach committee" is getting input from area residents about community needs, while teaching them how CLTs work; and the "structure committee" is considering projects, partnerships, and legal frameworks for the new organization.

Given the positive community response, the working groups hope to move forward with creating a local CLT in the next several months. The organizers welcome community participation so the land trust serves the real needs of the community.

To facilitate the formation of a land trust for Garfield, an anyonymous private donor has stepped forward with a \$10,000 donation towards legal and other start-up cotsts. Anyone is welcome to join, help understand what is needed, and develop goals. Learn more at www.garfieldcommunitylandtrust.org. ♦

Applications now open for affordable homeownership in Lawrenceville

A message from the Lawrenceville Corporation

Lawrenceville - Throughout 2016, the Lawrenceville Corporation (LC) has been working to address a pressing neighborhood need: affordable housing. Using the recommendations of the "Tenth Ward Community Plan" and an advisory committee of Lawrenceville residents and housing experts, the LC has incorporated a Community Land Trust (CLT) for Lawrenceville into its existing organization.

As the state's first CLT located west of State College, this new tool can help the region expand and protect opportunities for affordable homeownership. By late 2017, the first of LC's seven CLT homes will be ready for occupancy.

Designed by local architects from Rothschild Doyno Collaborative, the homes will fit the neighborhood's housing style and context while also meeting Energy Star standards. LC plans for three of the homes to be sized for "2 bedroom/1.5 bathroom" standards and four of the homes to be "3 bedroom/2 bathroom." Sale prices will range from \$120,000 to \$145,000, with income restrictions in play.

"Given Lawrenceville's amenities, employment opportunities, and transit connections, we hope that these homes will offer individuals and families a path to homeownership that was previously unavailable in our neighborhood," Matthew Galluzzo, LC's executive director, remarked.

Individuals interested in the Lawrenceville CLT may contact Ed Nusser at (412) 621-1616 or ed@lawrencevillecorp.com for more information. LC encourages everyone to visit www.lvpgh.com/CLT, where they can learn more about CLT homes and begin the application process. ♦

BELOW: Representatives from Garfield's Most Wanted Fine Art gallery (MWFA, 5015 Penn Ave.), the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, and Bad Habit promotions came together on Nov. 23 to present Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC with a donation of \$2,500. MWFA helped raise the funds during a recent demolition derby held at Stoneboro Fairgrounds, PA. Photo by John Colombo.





Chaz & Odette

5102 Baum Blvd

412-683-8388

Globally Inspired/Locally Sourced www.chazandodette.com

Introducing **Our Newest Doctor**



Hillman Cancer Center is pleased to welcome our newest doctor.



Vikram C. Gorantla, MD Medical Oncologist

Vikram C. Gorantla, MD, specializes in the treatment of sarcoma, breast cancer, and head and neck cancers. Board-certified in internal medicine and medical oncology, he received his medical degree at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. He completed his internal medicine residency at Washington University, St. Louis, MO, and his hematology/oncology fellowship

To schedule an appointment, or for more information, call 412-235-1020 or visit UPMCCancerCenter.com.

UPMC CancerCenter

Partner with University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute

Befriend the Bulletin on Facebook

(www.facebook.com/BgcBulletin)

We promise not to overshare!



Opportunity Fund grants support to local arts organizations

By Amber Epps Bloom field-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - In recognition of Penn Ave.'s strong arts presence and its stakeholders' commitment to social and economic justice, the Opportunity Fund - an organization that provides grant funding - opened its first offices in Pittsburgh in March at 5126 Penn Ave.

The mission of the Opportunity Fund is to award grants to organizations and initiatives that advance the arts, as well as social and economic justice, with at least 75% of the grants being awarded to projects that will benefit the greater Pittsburgh community.

Executive Director Jake Goodman has a background in theatre and a Master's degree in experiential Jewish education. He cut his teeth on the ground in New York City as a founding member of a grassroots activist group called "Queer Rising," which demands full equality for all LGBTQIA+ people through direct action and civil disobedience.

Goodman's professional career has always been in the nonprofit world: running national programs and initiatives, consulting, speaking publicly, educating, performing, and organizing. When he learned that a new position was available, he jumped at the opportunity (no pun intended), moving from Brooklyn to Pittsburgh to take the job.

La'Tasha Mayes, the founder and executive director of New Voices Pittsburgh who also ran for Pittsburgh City Council's District 7 seat (in 2015), was the first to suggest that the organization look into the Garfield neighborhood. In fact, thanks to Mayes and the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC), the Opportunity Fund ended up finding a new home in her former Penn Ave. campaign office.

Established in February 2015, the organization was formed to honor the life of a remarkable woman named Gerri Kay. A social worker by training, Kay - who passed away in September of 2014 - was a fierce advocate of social justice, civil rights, and the arts.

Since the organization is still actively learning and growing, its funding priorities, application and decision processes, staff structures, and overall strategies are still evolving. However, Goodman has already helped support several Penn Ave. organizations, including Pittsburghers for Public Transit (via the Thomas Merton Center, 5129 Penn Ave.), the Pittsburgh Glass Center (5472 Penn Ave.), the Kelly Strayhorn Theater (5941 Penn Ave.) and, one of the corridor's newest neighbors, the

Silver Eye Center for Photography (4808 Penn Ave.).

At a time when civil liberties might be at even greater risk than usual, the fund is proud to support the ACLU Foundation of Pennsylvania, as well as the Abolitionist Law Center.

The fund also awarded a grant to the Homewood YMCA Creative Youth Center, which is a creative hub for youths in Homewood and across the East End; the center specializes in project-based learning and artistic mastery in media, visual, and performing arts. Every grant that the organization has awarded can be viewed on its website (www.theopportunityfund.org), under the "Grants" section.

The process for the Opportunity Fund's grant application, which is designed to help applicants save time, involves only two steps. The first step is an initial inquiry, by which each applicant provides a brief, general overview of their organization and request.

If, upon review of this initial inquiry, Goodman knows that any particular proposal will not be awarded grant money, he does not invite the applicant to the second stage of the process: the full application. The Opportunity Fund believes it would be unkind to make an applicant go through the time-consuming work of filling out a full application if this effort will ultimately prove fruitless.

"We have to say 'no' to a lot of proposals that are very strong on their own merit, but which don't align strongly with our priorities," Goodman admitted.

"Those who are applying for arts-based grants should know that it's not a requirement for their proposal to explicitly deal with social and economic justice. While much of the art we fund does have something to say about what's going on in the world - and we are certainly mindful of equity issues - this is not a requirement, and we do also support 'art for art's sake,' as they say."

Goodman, who is currently the only staffer at the Penn Ave. office, encourages any potential grant applicants to get in touch with him through the Opportunity Fund's website. "Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have, at any time," he said. "I am accessible."

As the fund grows and begins crystallizing its local purpose, Goodman is glad to be in a city with such a strong philanthropic community and bedrock of foundational wisdom. •



Local troupe performs vintage radio material, conjures airwaves of old

By John Kohl Bulletin contributor

Allegheny County - Before color television reigned supreme, "Burns and Allen," "My Friend Irma," and "The Lone Ranger" dominated the airwaves as some of America's most popular radio programs.

With an appreciation of such programming in mind, Pittsburgh resident Jeanne Miller helped found Vintage Radio Players (VRP) ten years ago.

The local performance group, which is mainly comprised of senior citizens, helps other Allegheny County seniors immerse

themselves in joyous memories from their early childhood years. "Because we have studied the original [radio] show, we can more accurately reproduce comedic timing." Miller told the Bulletin. "Our goal is always to remain true to the original

Judging by the players' polished performances, most of VRP's audience members would never guess the group started from such humble beginnings. "We first gathered at 'Oasis,' an organization established many years ago in the old Kaufmann's department store in Downtown Pittsburgh," Miller said.

"Oasis provided lectures and other activities of interest to seniors, such as chorus, art lessons, and computer classes. When they asked us for ideas about what kind of new group to start, I suggested 'old radio scripts,' and we were in business."

As the troupe's emcee and director, Miller also handles trivia-master duties and monitors the accuracy of her actors' vocal inflections at each performance. "We ask for a microphone and sit in chairs [with the audience]. As each character speaks his lines, we stand up with the microphone and speak conversationally to maintain accurate timing," she explained.

"We stay tuned to the old-fashioned radio show performers. All we change is the costumes."

Tickets to VRP's free events are not available to the general public; instead, group settings like AARP functions, church groups, and nursing homes book the shows. The troupe requires no donations for its performances.

One of Miller's closest associates, and a fellow VRP performer, Janice Ortenberg got a taste for the spotlight by reading along with the scripts before getting more involved in 2008. She appreciates the experience from both the performer's, and the audience's, perspective.

"The most enjoyable aspect is the joy and laughter that abound during all our presentations." Anyone wishing to contact VRP may call Jeanne Miller at 412-235-

Lawrenceville legacy: Barb's Corner Kitchen

By Aggie Brose Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Lawrenceville - For the last twenty-six years, Pat Geraci has owned and operated Barb's Corner Kitchen (4711 Butler St.), a neighborhood restaurant with the laid-back atmosphere of a "kitchen away from home." Named after Geraci's mother, Barb's serves standard, no-frills diner fare at a decent price. Over the years, it has attracted a roster of regulars to become a neighborhood haunt; most of the omelettes, pancakes, and coffee are served on a first-name basis.

Geraci's son, Robert, now oversees much of the restaurant's operation, including infrastructure improvements to its Butler St. storefront - which once functioned as an ice cream shop. He recently installed a new countertop on the bar and floor tiles below the bar, two of the traditional diner setting's more contemporary accents.

One of the space's most defining features is a wall decorated with photos of local residents who have served in the armed forces. "The military needs to be recognized," Robert said of his inspiration to create a welcoming beacon for Lawrenceville's many proud veterans.

Remembering when the neighborhood faced serious challenges like crime and prostitution, the small business owner is excited to see where things are headed for Lawrenceville. "The area has become super eclectic," he noted, explaining that his kitchen plans to continue serving its classic diner fare while "making some changes to accommodate new residents in the neighborhood."

As Robert makes plans to hand the business over to his son, he is glad to see that Lawrenceville is growing and attracting new neighbors. "A lot of places looking to revitalize could take a page from Lawrenceville's playbook," he said. ♦



ABOVE: Robert Geraci, owner/operator of Barb's Corner Kitchen (4711 Butler St.) stands before an ordinary restaurant wall that he has transformed into a memorial to Lawrenceville's military veterans. Photo by Wesley Davis.

Voted "Best Veterinary Hospital In The City" for two consecutive years

Safety Measures - Facility Design Safe Yards

Our outdoor play yards have a 6 feet fence additional fencing to prevent escape.

Our outdoor play yards also have artificial grass.

Weather permitting, we have multiple garage doors that will be open to allow fresh air and clean breeze filter through for your dogs to enjoy while they are playing. This will maintain a clean and healthy facility free from bacteria and odor.

Our facility has a fire alarm and heat sensor that automatically dispatches the Fire Department in the event of smoke or heat detection. Staff is close by for emergencies.

Veterinarians On-Site

Big Easy Dog Daze is the ONLY DAYCARE/BOARDING FACILITY IN PITTSBURGH THAT HAS VETERINARIANS ON-SITE should immediate care be needed.

> Baked Goods for Dogs by The Pet Bakery of Oakmont!

Services

- Wellness & Preventative Care
- Senior Pet Care / Specialty Diets
- Micro Chipping
- Urgent Care
- Surgery / Radiology
- Laboratory, On-Site
- Pharmacy, On-Site

NEW LOCATION OPEN FOR BUSINESS! Big Easy's Doggy Daycare, Dog/Cat Boarding Please call us today for booking information

12 McCandless Avenue Upper Lawrenceville

412-908-9301 ww.TBEAH.com

Mon-Thur: 9am-7pm Fri: 9am-6pm

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.

Kraynick's continued from page 1



ABOVE: Jerry Kraynick (left) and Rocky Cristobal, the old master and his new successor, respectively, share a vision about the community value of cheap bicycle repair. The two bike enthusiasts are raising money to secure the long-term future of Kraynick's bike shop in Garfield. Photo by John Colombo.

people are seeking his advice at the same time, the atmosphere of the shop compels everyone to mingle and work together to solve each other's problems. Customers often forge new friendships with other cyclists while they all wait in the back of the shop to solicit expert assistance, free-of-charge.

Kraynick's father, a steel mill worker who began adopting derelict bicycles as a hobby before tinkering his way to "bicycle guru" status in the 1960s, founded the bike shop in the Hill District before moving it to Penn Ave. For the last four decades, the younger Kraynick has devoted the family business to stewarding entire generations of Pittsburgh cyclists. "Retail that acts like a nonprofit," is how he described it. "This is a co-op that doesn't require you to become a member."

Those who frequent the bike shop will attest that they often leave the premises without ever spending a dime. Kraynick will be the first one to proclaim that the shop's main

goal is to empower people to learn a new skill and maintain their bike without relying on another shop to do the work for them. "The only 'catch,' if there has to be one," he explained, "is that, if you see someone struggling with something and you know what to do, then you have to help them fix it."

This kind of simple rationale, along with minimal overhead and dedicated volunteers, has shaped the shop's operations over the past forty years. Now, Kraynick is ready to pass the torch to his apprentice, Rocky Cristobal, a longtime fixture at the shop. "Rocky is the right guy to run this program," he told *the Bulletin*. "He's great with people and he's very intuitive." Kraynick would like to keep the spirit of his shop alive, with an emphasis on community giving and support. Basically, things would remain exactly the same as they have always been, just under the leadership of a new bike enthusiast.

In order to raise funds for the shop's change of ownership, Kraynick and Cristobal launched a GoFundMe campaign; they seek to generate \$420,000 of donations from legions of repeat customers – many of whom never paid for any services. The campaign had already raised over \$10,000 at press time. At the behest of his protégé, Kraynick worked out an arrangement wherein, if the shop can raise \$420,000 in the next few months, then it can operate under the same profit-averse principles for the foreseeable future. As the shop owner is quick to remind, this figure is not such a considerable sum when considering how much inventory is within his walls, let alone what prices other buildings along the avenue are fetching these days.

Anyone who has ever sourced bike parts, or picked up cycling "how-to," from Kraynick can support the shop by donating at www.gofundme.com/kraynicksbikeshop. A Dec. 3 biking event modeled after "alley-cat" races helped raise awareness about the shop's transition and generate some new funds for its cause.

"Kraynick-Kat" as the race was called, brought dozens of bike enthusiasts out to support the Garfield shop and thank Kraynick for all his decades of selfless community service. Follow the bike shop on Facebook (@KraynicksBikeShop) for more information about its fundraising efforts and future plans. ◆

wireless the Way you Want it.

The Wireless You Want Is Here.

1st Month FREE for New Customers!



Neighborhood FOCUS

Down-to-the-wire decisions about East Liberty redevelopment

"There's a lot of complicated wrestling

that goes into a site plan like this."

- Kendall Pelling, East Liberty Development, Inc.

By Andrew McKeon the Bulletin

East Liberty - "Band practice" would be the best way to describe a Dec. 12 community meeting held in the basement of East Liberty Presbyterian Church (116 S. Highland Ave.). Not just because the church's band happened to be practicing in an adjoining room at the same time, but because the meeting itself was more noisome and clamorous than any brass instruments.

Framed as "robust community process," the meeting - which was hosted by East Liberty Development, Inc. (ELDI) - sought to engage local residents in an ongoing discussion about plans to redevelop what was once the site of Penn Plaza Apartments, an affordable housing complex that stood for decades at the neighborhood's "western gateway" of Penn and Negley Aves. To be clear, though, this was nothing more than a dress rehearsal for a city planning commission decision that was to be rendered less than twenty-four hours after the meeting adjourned.

The crowd was quick to flash its temper as various audience members began interrupting the proceedings to point out flaws in the logic of the whole presentation. "There's lots of stories about what we're doing, but we're going to provide some facts this evening," Maelene Myers, ELDI's executive director, said to the audience.

The facts of the matter are hard to distill, no matter where they come from, so the crowd seemed eager to dig down to the real truths of affordable housing. Kendall Pelling, ELDI's Director of Land Recycling, was happy to oblige the dozens of local residents in attendance by examining his organization's visions, both past and present, on a projector screen. He mentioned success stories and creative models for affordable housing, adding, "You shouldn't be able to tell where low-income housing is. It should look just as good as market rate housing."

Residents began steering the conversation toward the actual site plans for LG Realty's proposed development of a large 9.4 acre area situated right in the thick of the city's East End. They demanded answers to fundamental questions, like why they were not fully included in the "robust community process" that was required of the developers. "There's a lot of complicated wrestling that goes into a site plan like this," Pelling admitted.

At first, Zach Gumberg of LG Realty Partners and his company's attorney, Jonathan Kamin, seemed eager to answer questions about their commercial plans in relation to the lack of affordable housing in the East End. Speaking on behalf of the developers, Kamin maintained an adroit awareness of the shifting energies in the room. But, he could not provide the right answers for most folks gathered at the church that night.

One resident spoke out about the timing of the meeting; with a zoning hearing only sixteen hours away, there was far too little time for neighbors to organize their voices and demand the developers' consideration. "Community engagement is good,"

he said, "but this is pretty down-to-the-wire for such big decisions."

Kamin enlisted the help of the project's architect, Jim Voelzke (MV+A), to quell the crowd with illustrations of the site's proposed look and feel: a brand new Whole Foods Market with some office space tucked overhead, a massive parking lot next-door, and 200 market-rate (read: expensive) units plopped down where more than 300 affordable housing units once stood. As one might imagine, the audience was not that impressed. "This is not a process of the ideal," Kamin reminded everyone. "It's a process to find alternatives to what's there now." Before long, one man in the front row shouted a rhetorical question about ELDI, as he put it, "acting as a P.R. firm for the developers." Things began to unravel from there, and the crowd grew more restless with each back-and-forth.



ABOVE: At at Dec. 12 community meeting about redveloping Pennley Park South in East Liberty, Zach Gumberg (standing, left) and Jonathan Kamin(second from left), who represent the developers, take an ear-beating from concerned residents like Jacquea Mae (standing, second from right). Photo by Andrew McKeon.

Some residents brought up Enright Park, which was once nestled away behind apartment buildings, but - as Voelzke affirmed - would now be shaved to about two-thirds of its present size on account of the Whole Foods' footprint. Seventeen fully mature trees would be removed from the park, along with one of its basketball courts, if the preliminary plans were approved by the city in a matter of hours. Tree replacement, green space requirements, and other related topics started shaping the conversation before crowd members started asking some hard questions about affordable housing in East Liberty.

Kamin directed everyone's attention to Mellon's Orchard (located across Penn Circle from the city's fire station, next to Garland Parklet), where LG Realty lost a bid to build affordable housing units; TREK Development won the bid. Kamin's employers acquired Enright Park from the City of Pittsburgh and were able to submit a proposal to the U.R.A., with ELDI as a partner, to bring new affordable housing development to Mellon's Orchard. They believed that such a move would help offset the fact that they had just terminated hundreds of affordable units in East Liberty.

"Stop telling us to be thankful," Tresa Green exclaimed. She and Jacquea Mae, both representing 1Hood Media, would not stand for Kamin's smooth misdirection, so they stood up and let him know it. "Do you have any physical copies of this presentation?" Mae asked. "Why don't I have this on paper to take home with me?"

When the meeting organizers admitted that they did not have any physical copies on hand, Mae prodded further until she was assured that the presenta-

tion was on the city's website. "I appreciate your effort," she responded, "but hope ain't housing." Others in the room began tapping into Mae and Green's unbridled energy and, before long, the presentation turned into a very angry town hall meeting as the presenters lost their grip on the audience. The meeting,

in effect, adjourned itself; audience members filtered out to talk amongst themselves while organizers networked on the sidelines and ELDI went back to the drawing board.

The next day, at the end of a long and tumultuous hearing in front of the city's planning commission downtown, ELDI's executive director made good on her pledge to represent the East Liberty community when she spoke out against the developers' preliminary plans.

Having endured a brutally honest dress rehearsal with local residents the night before, Myers responded to their concerns by imploring the board to give the whole process more time to unfold. The commissioners considered many residents and organizers' perspectives before postponing its vote until a Jan. 10 session. ◆

East Liberty theater celebrates MLK, elevates local arts community

By Andrea Petrillo and Meredith Harrison Kelly Strayhorn Theater

East Liberty - On Monday, Jan. 16, the Kelly Strayhorn Theater (KST) will present the eighth annual "East Liberty Celebrates MLK" event from noon to 4 p.m. at its 5941 Penn Ave. venue.

The celebration will be open to community members of all ages with no set price for admission; the theater's "Pay-What-Makes-You-Happy" system encourages anyone and everyone to enjoy the festivities without worrying about the price of admission.

KST plans to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by highlighting the value of the East Liberty community and the strength of its individual community members. As East Liberty and the nation face change around every corner, Dr. King's words serve as a reminder that "the time is always right to do what is right."

Featuring interactive programming from local organizations and artists, the party will put a spotlight on positive neighborhood influences to elevate the theme of "Together, We Build Community."

The event is, according to KST's executive director, Janera Solomon, "a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Dr. King's legacy and the perfect time to come together and reflect on recent protests and national conversations centered around equality and justice."

This year's lineup will showcase dance, poetry, music, and more; groups like the Trevor C. Dance Collective, Hope Academy, 1 Hood, and others are slated to perform on Jan. 16.

The Union Project, Boom Concepts, and Repair the World are just a few of the many organizations that will be on hand to lead the activities. This year's theme provides a framework for reflection, conversation, and action - three guiding lights of the "#KSTCommunityChallenge."

An "interactive hashtag wall" will encourage guests to voice a community commitment via text or video. The theater organization plans to reflect on these throughout the coming year in hopes of responding to the needs of the neighbor-

KST effectively pledges its commitment to building community in 2017 by: being an inclusive, safe space for all people; creating an environment where everyone's voice is heard; and serving as a platform for innovative art, creativity, and experimentation.

"As a theater rooted in East Liberty, one of Pittsburgh's most diverse neighborhoods, we are committed to creating inclusive, whole communities as an intentional act," Solomon offered.

"As KST looks into the future," she said, "we assess our commitment to building community and look forward to the #KSTCommunityChallenge as a platform to uplift voices and respond to East Liberty's needs." ♦



ABOVE: Idasa Tariq, asstant creative director of local advocacy network 1Hood Media, shows that he is no stranger to the microphone during last year's "East Liberty Celebrates MLK" festival at the Kelly Strayhorn Theater (5941 Penn Ave.). This year's event, set for Jan. 16, will feature even more local performers and activities, along with an "interactive hashtag wall." Photo by John Colombo.

"Like" the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

(www.facebook.com/BloomGarCorp)

for the latest neighborhood information and community photos

Friendship Bagel continued from page 1

granting mobile merchants more freedom to sell their food products, the market is widening for more experiments in getting comestibles into the hands of customers.

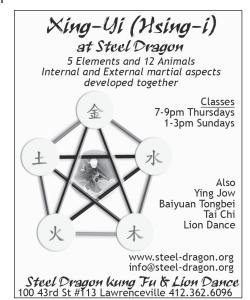
Friendship Bagel, a bagel stand that literally "popped up" at the intersection of Gross St. and Friendship Ave. last May, has been gaining a lot of recognition within the city's East End. Currently operating out of Commonplace Voluto coffee shop (5467 Penn Ave.) on Saturday mornings (from 9 a.m. to noon) and also down the avenue at Bantha Tea Bar (5002 Penn Ave.) on Thursdays (from 7 a.m. until 10 a.m.), the bagel stand is more than just a table and wares.

Its creator, Justin Lubecki, moved to the East End of the city several years ago to reconnect with estranged family. Noticing the city's "foodie" potential at the time, Lubecki settled down and worked for eight years at various farm-to-table restaurants. Eventually, he left the restaurant business to focus on developing his own food projects, For Lubecki, it has never been about creating a product and making money; the food he prepares and sells at Friendship Bagel stands for so much more - and he is happy to tell customers all about it.

Whether it is "Steve Cook's Maine Sea Salt" or grains sourced from a place right outside of Pittsburgh called Weatherbury Farm, Lubecki said he wants "every ingredient to be a face that I met and a hand that I shook." Together, the ingredients create not only a bagel, but what he referred to as "an expression of this place."

By providing food made from locally-sourced ingredients at a nondescript, "pop-up" storefront, Friendship Bagel seeks to create connections and strengthen the community's ties to good food. In a way, the humble bagel represents a larger narrative about people and places.

These stories - about the bagels and the bakers and the customers - are crucial ingredients to Lubecki's vision of forming connections through food. "I'm made of this place," he revealed. Follow Friendship Bagel on Facebook (@Friendshipbagel) or visit https://friendshipbagel.com for more information. ♦



Maintenance Worker Needed

Familylinks is seeking a maintenance worker with a minimum 1 yr. experience. Carpentry, plumbing, electrical experience preferred. Valid PA driver's license. 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. shift. \$13.00/hr. Oncall required.

> Familylinks values diversity and is an EOE.

Submit your resume through our website at: www.familylinks.org or mail to:

> Familylinks Human Resources Dept. 401 North Highland Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15206

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

A donation in any amount makes you a member. **Please consider donating to the BGC.**

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

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

Standing Rock: forces of empire and justice

By John Creasy Open Door Ministries

Commentary

North Dakota - Forces of oppression and injustice exist in our world, in our country, in Pittsburgh, and in North Dakota. These are what I call forces of empire, the forces that drag our world away from an overarching ideal of justice toward human greed and

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." The work of justice is an ongoing and difficult task against the oppression of empire, but that justice will win. Some days, that is easier to believe than others.

In November, I hopped in a Chevy Suburban right in front of my home in Stanton Heights. The vehicle's odometer had logged more than 300,000 miles by the time four friends and I set out on a twenty-four-hour trek to the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota. The Chevy was packed to the roof, with more strapped on top, as we ferried supplies for the "Oceti Sakowin" camp on the Cannonball River; this is the very spot where the Dakota Access Pipeline is intended to cross the Missouri River.

We felt an arc of justice pulling us toward Standing Rock and the thousands of "water protectors" who were living in camps to protect the land and water from the fossil fuel industry. Thousands had traveled from all over the country, bringing with them supplies, full hearts, and a desire to stand with Standing Rock.

During times of injustice, the arc of the universe - as explained by Dr. King - draws those willing to heed the call toward action, continue the arc, and slow the empire of human greed and power. In Pittsburgh, we continue to fight against injustice to create a city where the poor are lifted up, where every resource available is put toward a clean and low carbon future, where LGBTQIA+ people are treated as equal human beings.

As we in the church celebrate Christmas, we are reminded how the love we believe holds this universe together was incarnated into a baby and lived under one of the most oppressive empires in human history. Today, we continue to pull the arc of the universe toward justice every time we step into someone else's life situation and stand in on their behalf.

What are you doing this winter season to stand in the place of those who suffer injustice? How are you giving away your privilege or power to those who have less? The empire of consumerism and political greed tells us to hold onto the power that is ours by right, but the moral arc of the universe tells us that it is only in giving away these things that we truly receive. ♦



Arsenal Family & Children's Center

336 S. Aiken Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15232 Phone: 412.345.0008

Email: afcc@arsenalfamily.org



"Water is Life" resounds in Pittsburgh

By Tiffany Parker Bulletin contributor

Pittsburgh - In August, a group called "ReZpect Our Water" organized on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation to stop the construction of a new oil pipeline. Protesters then petitioned the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and local tribesmen promptly sued for an injunction.

Controversy continues swirling around the pipeline, regarding not only its necessity, but also its potential impacts on the environment. A number of Native Americans in Iowa and the Dakotas officially oppose the pipeline, including the Meskwaki and several Sioux tribal nations.

Thousands of people have been protesting at the pipeline construction site, drawing international attention to an otherwise forgotten issue. For the past several months, Pittsburgh's artistic community has worked to support Standing Rock with gestures of solidarity and understanding. Many local events are currently raising money, spreading awareness, and sharing the stories about Standing Rock.

Those who have gone to stand on the front lines [like Garfield resident and pastor John Creasy] often return with a renewed sense of struggle and a stronger determination to fight against the "black snake" of oil money. In Lawrenceville, Hambone's bar (4207 Butler St,) hosted an event called, "Standing for Solidarity," on Friday, Nov. 18 to benefit Standing Rock protes-

Organized by Daisy Wise, who was preparing to travel to North Dakota with a van full of much-needed supplies, the fundraiser featured an auction in which local artists donated all the proceeds from their art sales to activists occupying the North Dakota pipeline site.

"It is our obligation to not allow the corporations to tell us what we are going to do and how we will use our land," Wise said. "The pipeline affects everyone," she added, "because you can't drink oil."

Local bands played onstage as Wise passed around a water pitcher to collect money for the cause, along with various supply items she had solicited via the event's Facebook page. Within a matter of days, another group was already gathering at Howlers Coyote Café (4509 Liberty Ave.) in Bloomfield with the same show of

A few weeks later - on Saturday, Dec. 3 many of the same supportive faces gathered at Spirit (242 51st St.) in Lawrenceville; musicians played in the foreground while images of the Standing Rock standoff projected onto a screen behind them.

Each event brought people together to exchange ideas about new ways to help Standing Rock activists and spread the message that "water is life." When asked about her hopes for an upcoming visit to Standing Rock, one local woman known as "Eva" replied, "I hope people are not killed and I hope the police will not shoot."

Eva signed on to serve as a "medic healer" and use her wilderness training to treat wounds and other ailments in freezing temperatures. As she made plain, this situation is not about gas or water, but the rights of indigenous people affected by the construction of a massive pipeline.

"Many are under the assumption that Standing Rock is like a festival or they hope to find some spiritual enlightenment, but this is not the place," Eva said. "This is a war zone." ♦

Make good on those New Year's resolutions and join a neighborhood committee today!

A new year brings new opportunities for community engagement. To join any of these open committees, just contact Aggie Brose (Aggie@bloomfield-garfield.org) or Wesley Davis (Wesley@bloomfield-garfield.org).

Committees include the "Housing & Land Use Committee," "Youth Education & Employment Committee," and "Public Safety & Environmental Quality Committee."

In addition, we have committees of which the BGC is a part like any other stakeholder: "Penn Ave. Reconstruction Committee" (Aggie Brose, convenor); "Garfield **Green Zone Working Group" (Margaret Graham, leogemblue@gmail.com);** "Garfield Community Action Team" (Gary Cirrincione, cirrinc@verizon.net); and "Community Land Trust Committee" (Vera England, england.vera@gmail.com).

West Penn Hospital advances care for mothers struggling with addiction

By Jesse Miller Allegheny Health Network

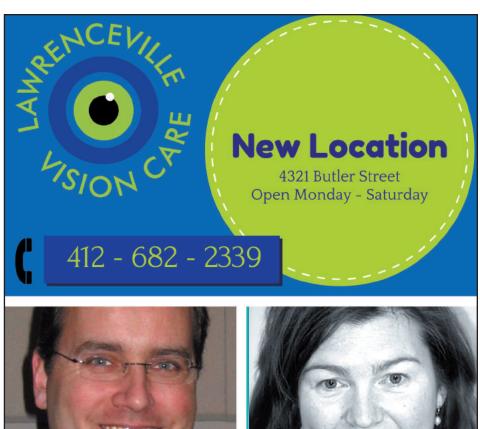
Bloomfield - Allegheny Health Network (AHN) recently launched a new initiative at West Penn Hospital (WPH, 4800 Friendship Ave.) called "Perinatal Hope." The program offers a medical home-care model for mothers-to-be who are addicted to drugs; it provides comprehensive and coordinated treatment to get the mother and baby on track for a more hopeful future.

Perinatal Hope is the region's first, all-inclusive program for maternal addiction that combines obstetrical care, drug and alcohol therapy, and medication-assisted treatment into one clinic visit. According to Allan Klapper, MD, Chair of AHN's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, "Nationwide, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of mothers using opiods during pregnancy, and the number of babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome [NAS]. Western Pennsylvania is no exception."

For women dealing with addiction during pregnancy, one of the biggest hurdles is keeping a variety of appointments with limited support and transportation options. AHN's Perinatal Hope makes all these appointments available at one central location. "By offering services in a medical home model, we give these women a one-stop shop where they can find expert care and support," Mark Caine, MD, Chief, Maternal Health Programs at AHN, explained. Perinatal Hope will initially be based at Bloomfield's West Penn Hospital, with plans to expand into Jefferson Hospital in the South Hills, Forbes Hospital in Monroeville, and AHN's Federal North office building on the North Side.

"The medical home model will reduce the cost of caring for mother and baby - through pregnancy, postpartum, and over the first three years of the baby's life - by increasing prenatal appointment compliance and reducing the number of babies treated for neonatal abstinence syndrome," Dr. Caine said. "By building relationships with addicted moms, we can integrate them into ongoing, proactive health care."

For more information about Perinatal Hope, contact West Penn Hospital's OBGYN Clinic at 412.578.5559. ♦



Unblurred: First Fridays on Penn Ave

To find out what's going on every month, visit www.pennavenue.org/unblurred.

Reinvestment on Penn Ave. corridor

Now that Phase I of the Penn Ave. reconstruction project is finished, new businesses are popping up along the corridor. Below is a listing of the investments (including renovation and construction) that have occurred on Penn since the project's completion in 2016.

New businesses

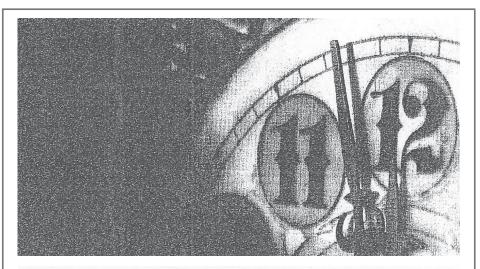
Silver Eye Center for Photography (4808 Penn Ave.)
Level Up Studios (4836 Penn Ave.)
Gluten Free Goat (4805 Penn Ave.)
Pizza Fiesta (4911 Penn Ave.)
One Point One Yoga (4929 Penn Ave.)
Workshop PGH (5122 Penn Ave.)
Naturally Clean (5124 Penn Ave.)
The Opportunity Fund (5126 Penn Ave.)
Trusst Lingerie (5125 Penn Ave.)
Aldi (5200 Penn Ave.)
Time Bomb Shop (5430 Penn Ave.)
Primantis (5491 Penn Ave.)

Construction/renovation

Penn Mathilda Building (4800 Penn Ave.) 5019 Penn Ave. Bantha Tea Bar (5002 Penn Ave.) Princess Beauty Supply (5152 Penn Ave.) Okapi Braiding Salon (5506 Penn Ave.)

Purchased

4852 Penn Ave. 4803 Penn Ave. 4824 Penn Ave. 5122-5126 Penn Ave. 5151 Penn Ave.



My New Year's Resolution is...

It has been alleged that most New Year's resolutions don't last more than a day.

At most, they extent to a few weeks, and for the resolute at heart, they last for a couple of months.

But they are never adhered to very long.

This year, make a resolution to make your funeral or cremation choices known.

It's a resolution that will last for years to come.

Resolve to call today!



WALTER J

ZALEWSKI

"Exceeding Your Expectations"
LAWRENCEVILLE POLISH HILL

Walter J Zalewski, Supervisor 216 Forty-fourth Street Pittsburgh, PA 15201-2893

412 682-3445

Joseph M Lapinski, Supervisor 3201 Dobson Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219-3735 412 682-1562

In conversation with local photographer Randall Coleman: "Create. Serve. Influence."

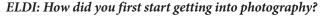
By Elizabeth Sensky East Liberty Development, Inc. Photos courtesy of Redd Vision

Randall Coleman

East Liberty - "Create. Serve. Influence," is more than a tag line; it is a philosophy that guides and defines 24-year-old Randall Coleman, a Pittsburgh-based photographer and videographer behind the creative agency ,Redd Vision. Growing up just outside of the city in Penn Hills, Coleman did not plan on becoming a photographer, but the passion eventually found him. With encouragement from his brother, he took a photography class while studying at Duquesne University and began to fall for the medium.

Since then, Coleman has used photography

and video to showcase talented individuals living in many different neighborhoods, especially those residing in the city's East End. Below, East Liberty Development, Inc. (ELDI) speaks with Coleman about his work and how he is carving out purpose within the evolving Pittsburgh landscape.



Coleman: "When I was a senior in high school, my older brother Ron, also known as DJ Arie Cole, came home and started taking photos of our cats with his new, professional camera. He told me I should take a photography class when I go to college. In my second semester of college, I took his advice; I took the class and fell in love with photography.

I remember taking a photo of my brother, and my professor loved it. I laughed inside because I'd just told my brother to sit in a chair and make a straight face. I realized, then, that I could communicate with photography. I always knew others could but, in that moment, I learned that I could as well."

Why, over other cities, do you choose to call Pittsburgh home?

"I was born and raised in the suburbs of Pittsburgh, and, as an adult, I have chosen to remain. The energy of this city draws you in. During the day you can go to Zeke's or the Ace Hotel and have a great conversation in a cool setting. The number of unique restaurants is ridiculous and the nightlife is like no other. I love going to events thrown by Arie Cole or Ryan Brown. The people at these events and around town are also a big part of what makes this city great; everyone is open to having a conversation or dancing like there is no tomorrow. Pittsburgh has a unique way of preserving the old while incorporating new ideas, and this makes the aesthetic for events really cool and interesting."

AT RIGHT: Coleman's "slice-of-life" approach is on full display in this photo taken at the intersection of Penn and Highland Aves. in East Liberty. A young man's facial expression captures the viewer's attention as the geometry of the neighborhood's streetscape frames him. East Liberty has provided Coleman and his Redd Vision agency with a veritable treasure trove of source material and inspiration.



A lot of your portraits feature the East End, specifically East Liberty. How did you find your way to this area and how does it play a role in your work?

"Having grown up outside of Pittsburgh, I was aware of East liberty, but I did not come to East Liberty until I was a freshman at Duquesne University. That's when I went to the Shadow Lounge and performed a poem during an 'open mic night' with the encouragement of my friend, Naf Keen. It was a great experience. As a graduate student, I had an opportunity to work with a couple of startups at the Beauty Shoppe, and it was a reintroduction to the area for me.

While East Liberty is still a relatively new area for me to explore, I find a lot of character

in its nooks and crannies. When I walk around East Liberty, I look for the local establishments and admire the old brick buildings and streets that are not so polished. East Liberty still has raw aspects to it that I look to capture."

Your work features many intriguing portraits of people. What inspires this focus?

"The use of humans in my work stems from my love for lifestyle photography. Publications such as *Hypebeast*, *Highsnobiety*, and *Mr. Porter* have been major influences on my style. I also like to show humans as "cool" as possible. My definition of "cool" is self-assurance and self-confidence. Everyone has his or her own style. To bring out someone's sense of "cool" is different for each subject, and I love that."

Your tag line is "Create. Serve. Influence." Could you speak to what this signifies?

"I'm a big fan of Simon Sinek and his teaching of 'start with 'why." When I decided to develop Redd Vision, it was important to have a clear purpose. For me, the concepts of creativity, service, and influence are relatable to everyone."



AT LEFT: Looking through the viewfinder at a whole new East Liberty intersection, a young photographer perches himself within one of the Target store's oversized "portholes" to snap shots of a changing neighborhood. Coleman, who found his way into photography, and East Liberty, at the right time, encourages young shutterbugs to document their everyday surroundings as a means of discovering their artistic purpose.

How do you see your work serving and influencing the community?

"I see my work giving people experiences in the digital and physical realms. To help someone escape for a moment or gain presence means a lot to me. Creating platforms is probably my favorite way to serve. Right now, I have the Youtube DJ Series "111 & 222," but I also plan on creating other types of videos for people to enjoy."

In an interview with the Beauty Shoppe, you were quoted as saying, "Things didn't work out for the Shadow Lounge era, but folks transitioned to this new era. They brought new life to this city." How do you see this new life manifesting itself?

"Pittsburgh is and will continue to be a hub for creativity. The events will only get better, and more people will join the culture being created."

Where can people find you online?

"You can follow me on Instagram and Twitter (@Reddvision), or Snapchat (Redd_Vision). For business inquiries, you can reach me at Reddvisionart@gmail.com. My website is Reddvision.co." ◆





LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER

November Property Transactions in Bloomfield, Garfield, East Liberty, Friendship, Lawrenceville, and Stanton Heights

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

Bloomfield

Charles F Schweinberg to Rivers & Steel City Homes Inc. at 4930 Yew St. for \$47,000.

Charles J Wright IV to Biseda Investments LLC at 414 S. Atlantic Ave. for \$480,000.

Chartiers Valley Industrial & Commercial Development Authority to Nancy D Washington at 5604 Baum Blvd. for \$1.

Fannie Mae to Equity Trust IRA Safekeeping at 318 N. Mathilda St. for \$10,000.

Jennifer Mariani to TW Holdings 4 LLC at 4308 Main St. for \$172,500.

Max Auto Real Estate LLC to Max Auto Real Estate LLC at 801 Gross St. for \$1.

Paula A Straznick to Henry A Edwardo at 4638 Rosina Way for \$50,000.

Seema S Wadhwa to Cabot Heath at 4743 Friendship Ave. for \$380,000.

Steven Costa to David & Julie Didiano at 127 Pearl St. for \$75,000.

Garfield

5515 Penn Inc. to RT Investment Group LLC at 5515 Penn Ave. for \$1,145,000.

5515 Penn Inc. to RT Investment Group LLC at 5523 Penn Ave. for \$1,145,000.

Catalina Holdings LLC to Nicolas & Patrinos Penn LLC at 5491 Penn Ave. Unit G101 for \$482,000.

Garrett Margliotti to Christopher Whittelsey at 5491 Penn Ave. Unit A103 for \$190,000.

Jacob K Klinvex to James W Blake Jr. at 5491 Penn Ave. Unit A301 for \$260,000.

Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh to Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh at 5461 Penn Ave. for \$24,723.

Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh to Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh at 5461-5481 Penn Ave. for \$24,723.

Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh to Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh at 5467 Penn Ave. for \$24,723.

East Liberty

CY LLC to Maurice A & Nancy N Nernberg at 312 N Sheridan Ave. for \$20,000.

Dennis C Flavin to Christopher Leventis at 6107 Stanton Ave. for \$150,400.

Grace O Yum to Thomas H Khuu & Grace O Yum Revocable Living Trust at 800 N. Highland Ave. for \$1.

Philip D & Kathy G Pennock to Philip & Kathy Pennock Revocable Trust at 5801 Hays St. for \$1.

Philip D & Kathy G Pennock to Philip & Kathy Pennock Revocable Trust at 5805 Hays St. for \$1.

Friendship

No transfers to report during November.

Lawrenceville

Alpha Beatty LLC to Emma N Diehl at 161 Almond Way for \$248,000.

Gerald J Kvortek to Eoan Development LLC at 230 42nd St. for \$65,000.

Ian F & Joy D Hargraves to Susanna Mcilwain at 3650 Mintwood St. for \$191,000.

Joseph Pijanowski to Bridge City LLC at 4006 Foster St. for \$105,000.

Karen H Soltis to Bryan & Reagan J West-Whitman at 167 Home St. for \$266,500.

Kyra C Klein to Davneet Minhas at 5220 1/2 Carnegie St. for \$160,000.

Lavandula Way LLC to Matthew Barnes at 121 41st St. for \$360,000.

Lisav Capital LLC to Jeremiah T Escajeda at 4825 Hatfield St. for \$289,000.

Lisav Capital LLC to Lisav Capital LLC at 4825 Hatfield St. for \$1.

Marissa Kulikowski to Marissa & Christopher M Pedrotty at 5310 Natrona Way for \$1.

Mary Jo Breen to Alison Lennox at 5407 Carnegie St. for \$245,000.

Melissa Yuhas Kaley to Melissa Yuhas & Jason A Kaley at 3923 Howley St. for \$1.

Paul & Gloria Kleitz to Gregory Kleitz at 5236 Harrison St. for \$1.

Robert Pijanowski to Bridge City LLC at 4012 Foster St. for \$95,000.

Roseanne Gottschalk to Roseanne Gottschalk at 336 Percy St. for \$1.

Walter & Sheila Brotherton to Matthew D Manzo at 5114 Natrona Way for \$50,000.

Wylie Holdings LP to 4830 Hatfield Street LLC at 4830 Hatfield St. for \$575,000.

Stanton Heights

Linda R Steranchak to Kenneth J Furdella Jr. at 4830 Stanton Ave. for \$140,800.

Roderick D Ramsey Jr. to Kathryn L Harrsen at 4225 Upview Ter. for \$155,000.

Rosen Eugene & Lenore to Ralph E & Sharon B Tarter at 929 Millerdale St. for \$100,700.

Tirzah Catherine Decaria to Tirzah Catherine Decaria at 4704 Stanton Ave. for \$10.

Venda Millender to Alex W & Keisha K Shealey at 259 Schenley Manor Dr. for \$125,000.

Wells Fargo Bank to BGBC Realty LLC at 4341 Coleridge St. for \$55,207.

For questions, comments, or just to chat, feel free to email Lillian at agent.lillian.pgh@gmail.com. ◆

NON-DAILY SMOKERS NEEDED

Do you smoke cigarettes OCCASIONALLY? Only on SOME days?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a RESEARCH STUDY FOR NON-DAILY SMOKERS

For more information, contact the University of Pittsburgh Smoking Research Group:

call 412-383-2059

text "NONDAILY" to 412-999-2758

www.smokingresearchgroup.com

Eligible NON-DAILY smokers can earn at least \$300 upon completion

Studies available for those who <u>do</u> or <u>do not</u> wish to quit at this time

February Bulletin Deadline: January 13

Download advertising information: bit.ly/bulletin_ad

Download guidelines for stories, photos, and notices: bit.ly/bulletin_news

PITTSBURGH EYE ASSOCIATES



Dr. Roxana Barad Dr. Chris Cecchini
Ophthalmologist Optometrist

EVERYTHING LOCAL FOR YOUR EYE CARE NEEDS!

- Medical eye care & dry eye therapy
- · Diabetic eye exams
- · Cataract evaluation & surgery
- Refractive implants for cataract surgery
- · Glaucoma evaluation & treatment
- Cosmetic eyelid procedures
- Full service optical department & contact lenses

4424 Penn Avenue
Suite 101, Pittsburgh, PA 15224
pittsburgheyeassociates.com
Across from Children's hospital

412-683-0500

LET US TAKE CARE OF YOU!

DOES
ADVERTISING IN
THE BULLETIN
REALLY WORK?

IT...JUST...DID!

Consider how many thousands of readers would see your ad in this very spot. *The Bulletin* helps local advertisers reach local customers. No matter what business or service

you want to promote, we are committed to providing quality placement and maintaining affordable insertion rates.

For more information about the Bulletin's advertising rates and submission policies, please call 412-441-6950 (ext. 13) or email Andrew@Bloomfield-Garfield.org.

Buletinboard

Local Events ClassesGatherings 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 **January** issue of *the Bulletin* are due by **January 16**. Please submit listings using our online form at **www.bit.ly/bulletin_submit**.

January 5 - Thursday

GARFIELD Affordable Housing Discussion

Join the discussion about establishing a Community Land Trust, at 6:30 p.m. Thurs., Jan 5th at Brothers and Sisters Emerging, 5315 Hillcrest Street at Donna Street. Your input is welcome about how to retain and increase affordable housing in

January 6 - Friday

GARFIELD

"Dreamworlds"

Irma Freeman Center. 5006 Penn Avenue. 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. The art of Jen Cooney and Teresa Martuccio. BFFs of 17 years take you on a journey through their ideas of a dreamworld. Illustrating feelings in whimsical styles that are accessible to people, connecting and comforting the viewer. Seeing the beauty in the little things and the humor in darkness.

"Wat's Her Problem"

Bantha Tea Bar. 5002 Penn Avenue. 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. The closing Art show of Lavi Darling. A Collection of collages by Lavi Darling.

January 12 - Thursday

"Help or High Water"

"Help or High Water: A Volunteer Fair" is an event designed to connect Pittsburgh residents with some of the many amazing organizations doing work in social justice, equity, food access, reproductive rights, and much more. This free event will be an opportunity to connect with neighbors, be inspired, and connect to organizations that need your help to grow the impact of their very important work. Location: Spirit (242 51st St., upstairs). Time: 5 p.m. - 11 p.m.

January 18 - Wednesday

LAWRENCEVILLE Free Lecture:

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.

Appreciating Maps

The Lawrenceville Historical Society's public lecture series will host local attorney Michael Frachioni, who will discuss the lure and fascination with cartography. His lecture will range from the earliest mass-produced world and local maps to the modern era's property maps, with an emphasis on Pittsburgh and its Lawrenceville neighborhood. The event will take place Wednesday, January 18, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Carnegie Library, 279 Fisk Street, in Lawrenceville. Event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required.

January 19 - Thursday

LAWRENCEVILLE Online Genealogy Resources

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Lawrenceville and Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania have teamed up to offer free computer classes to residents who want to brush up on their computer skills. The class topic on January 19 is Online Genealogy Resources. The class will demonstrate online resources for general genealogical research, but will also highlight resources specific to Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. 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.

January 21 - Saturday

EAST LIBERTY Summit Against Racism

All are welcome to the 19th Annual Summit Against Racism, a multicultural initiative of the Black and White Reunion. The Summit is scheduled for Saturday, January 21, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The theme is "Polarization to Cooperation: HOW Do We Get There?" The Summit will take place, snow or no snow, at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, located at 616 North Highland Avenue. To register, go to the website summita-

gainstracism.org. For more information, email summitagainstracism@gmail.com or call 412-444-8436. Please note that no one will be turned away because of the inability to pay.

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

BLOOMFIELD "Discovering Chr

"Discovering Christ" program

As part of a pilot program within the Diocese of Pittsburgh, St. Maria Goretti Parish is offering a nine-week religious journey. The program is called "Discovering Christ" and is free and open to anyone and everyone, baptized and un-baptized. The program will commence on January 10, 2017 and run for nine consecutive Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The experience will take place at St. Maria Goretti Social Hall, 300 Edmond Street. The sessions will include dinner, prayer, a video teaching, and discussion. If you would like to participate in the program, please call the St. Maria Goretti parish office at 412-682-2354, register on-line at stmariagorettipgh.org, or email your information to clpsmg@gmail.com.

GARFIELD

Open Call: Art for Unblurred 2017 Season

Assemble (4824 Penn Avenue) is currently



Follow the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation on Twitter (@BloomGarCorp)



Insuring our community for 75 years



AUTOMOBILE - HOME - BUSINESS

CALL TODAY FOR A QUOTE: 412-681-2700 5020 Centre Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Pittsburgh • Penn Township

www.wagneragency.com

1941 - 2016
CELEBRATING

SHAPE

INSURING OUR
COMMUNITY

Volunteer Announcements Opportunities Services Open Calls Shout-Outs

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. Call (412) 254-4230 for more information.

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

GARFIELD 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 - January 3, 10, and 17 - from 7 to 9 p.m. The series cost \$179 and space is limited to fifteen students. To register, visit www.creativenon-fiction.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-

Are you depressed?

Participate in a research study investigating why some people with depression have thoughts of suicide and others do not.

Looking for:

Men 55 or older who have been feeling sad or down, have less interest in activities, or who may have noticed a decrease in energy, concentration, sleep, or appetite.

Involvement:

- 2-3 visits consisting of interview-style assessment of emotional well-being, memory and attention testing, and computer games
- Visit duration is 2-3 hours per visit
- Compensation ranges from \$100 to \$150, and up to \$50 for travel reimbursement
- fMRI scan (optional, \$150 extra)

If interested, contact: dnpl@upmc.edu, or call 412-246-6014

vessels98@gmail.com to learn more. Childcare available

CITY-WIDE

Life'sWork Training Programs Available

Life's Work 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.

Classifieds

Services —

Pro Tec Pest & Termite Service

"Quality Service at an Affordable Price"

John Cygnarowicz 412-628-6893

Hauling/Cleanup

We clear basements, yards, garages, attics, estates, etc.

Fast, Reliable, Reasonable

Also demolition work, lawn maintenance

412-687-6928 Call Walt 412-773-0599

FREE AFTERSCHOOL

MONDAYS GIRLS ONLY 5TH - 8TH GRADERS TUESDAY 6TH - 8TH GRADERS WEDNESDAY 4TH - 6TH GRADERS THURSDAY 1ST - 3RD GRADERS

4PM TO 6PM



a community space for arts + technology

412-254-4230 4824 PENN AVE ASSEMBLEPGH.ORG



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

Friendship Community Group: year in review

By Staci Backauskas Friendship Community Group

Friendship - The Friendship Community Group (FCG), a neighborhood advocacy organization, made great strides in bringing neighbors together in 2016. Earlier this year, the FCG purchased Baum Grove, the park behind the Aldi grocery store at 5631 Baum Blvd., and followed a two-prong strategy to make safety improvements to the park and find new ways to share the park with the community, and thus make it more welcoming for all visitors.

Among the park's improvements: installation of a new frost-proof water spigot; graffiti removal; and renovation of the park sign. Plans for new lighting are also underway, as is an evaluation to determine the best way to modify paths to increase the outdoor space's accessibility. Baum Grove provided the setting for multiple events this year, including the annual "Inspiration Station" for the Pittsburgh Marathon, summertime yoga classes taught by the Yoga Hive, Saturday morning storytelling for children, biweekly social justice meetings, and a community picnic.

Two free, summer concerts featuring the East End Appalachian Jam Band and the Sunburst School of Music All Stars played to rave reviews at the park. Baum Grove also hosted the first ever "Friendship Dog Show" and the FCG's inaugural "Movie Night" event; this programming will continue through 2017.

Funds raised by the FCG sponsored a complete makeover of the play-park at Pittsburgh Montessori School (201 S. Graham St.). Installation of a new play surface, as well as a new paint job, was completed in concert with the construction of a new slide, decks, and handicap-accessible stairs. The annual house tour, which was a success despite torrential downpours, and the "Friendship Folk & Flower Festival" helped attract attention to the neighborhood's aesthetic cultivations. During November's annual wreath sale, residents purchased locally-sourced, handmade wreaths and pine rope to help fund ongoing improvements to Baum Grove.

around development in the area, like the Penn Plaza and Enright Park project and the Don Allen Mazda site on Liberty Ave. As always, the focus of the FCG is on serving as a voice for all of its Friendship neighbors.

Thursday, Feb. 2, in the chapel of the Fourth Presbyterian Church (5450 Friendship Ave.) to learn more about the group and how they can participate. Cookies and coffee will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. ♦



tion on nineteen single-family, scattered-site houses in Garfield. Households earning 60% or less of median income for the area are elegible to apply. For more info, contact Linda Fulmer of NDC Real Estate Management at 412-361-4462. Photo by Rick Swartz.

Over the past year, FCG members also participated in discussion and negotiations Local residents are encouraged to attend the first community meeting of 2017 on **Garfield Glen Housing - Phase II** ABOVE: The BGC and its partner, S&A Homes - out of State College, PA - are wrapping up construc-Health for All. February Bulletin Deadline: January 13 **Health Network** Download advertising information: bit.ly/bulletin_ad Download guidelines for stories, photos, and notices: bit.ly/bulletin_news

Turning tragedy

into triumph is

#LivingProof.

In an emergency, time is everything. And for Carlton, our Emergency

Department was up to the task. That's because at Allegheny Health

medicine experts. And no matter your insurance provider, you can

get immediate, high-quality emergency care with the shortest wait

times in the region. So when things happen quickly, it's important

that you choose emergency care that can keep up. To learn more

about Carlton's story, go to AHN.ORG/emergency.

Network, our hospitals are staffed with teams of emergency