

the Bulletin

Volume 42, Number 2
FEBRUARY 2017

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



ABOVE: Tim Stevens (center, holding bullhorn) addresses impromptu crowds outside the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary during the nineteenth annual "Summit Against Racism" on Saturday, Jan. 21. As protestors and activists from the "Our Feminism Must be Intersectional" march made their way from Penn Plaza, many convened at the seminary's East Liberty campus. Stevens, who founded the Summit Against Racism, asked all parties to join him in a community dialogue to explore themes of polarization and cooperation. Turn to page 11 to see more photos from the summit. Photo by John Colombo.

State court flags down Autozone proposal at old Babyland site

By Joe Reuben *Bulletin contributor*

Garfield - In a decision handed down relatively quickly after a Nov. 15th hearing, the state's Commonwealth Court ruled in December that a county Common Pleas

See **Autozone Decision** | page **5**

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Prototype builds, opens new doors with feminist "makerspace"

By Aryssa Shultz *Bulletin contributor*

North Oakland - On Sunday, Jan. 8, "Prototype" - a forward-thinking, feminist "makerspace" - celebrated its grand opening at 460 Melwood Ave. Welcoming

See **Prototype** | page **12**

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Implications of immigration: local father's fate hangs in balance

By Andrew McKeon *the Bulletin*

Pittsburgh - Above all else, Pittsburgh is a family town. It also happens to be an immigrant town. In much the same way, Martin Esquivel-Hernandez is, above all else, a family man. He also happens to be an immigrant. Yet, this 35-year old construction worker's time in Pittsburgh is now tenuous at best.

Upon fleeing his gang-ridden neighborhood in Mexico City, Esquivel-Hernandez made his way to California (albeit illegally) to be with his wife, Alma, and their three small children in 2012. The young family soon moved to Pittsburgh, where Esquivel-Hernandez's brother and mother lived.

Despite being new to the area, Alma and her husband dove right into the social fabric by getting involved with two local churches - Beechview's St. Catherine of Siena Church and the East Liberty Presbyterian Church (116 S. Highland Ave.) - as well as their daughters' school, Arsenal PreK-5 in Lawrenceville.

They also began working with A+ Schools' "Community Alliance for Public Education" and served as facilitators for

See **Immigration** | page **11**



ABOVE: Rick Swartz (left, facing), Executive Director of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, speaks to landscape architecture students from West Virginia University about Garfield's green zone initiatives on Wednesday, Jan. 11. The BGC is excited to engage these students in facilitating the research and design of a neighborhood green zone. Photo by Andrew McKeon.

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PENN AVE. RECONSTRUCTION UPDATE

By Aggie Brose & Wesley Davis Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Penn Ave. - Phase I of the Penn Ave. reconstruction project, which runs from Evaline St. to Winebiddle St., has already been completed, but it still requires a few finishing touches. The city of Pittsburgh Forestry Division indicated that it plans to replace dead trees and shrubs in the Phase I area in the spring of 2017, sometime after March 15.

The Forestry workers are also in the process of installing cloth "socks" full of mulch, or tree rings, to cover the base of the trees that were recently installed on Penn Ave. Installation of the tree rings, which will fill the gap between the tree trunk and the new tree grates, is expected to be completed soon.

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) is currently in the process of entering into a maintenance agreement with the city's Department of Public Works (DPW) focused on the upkeep of plants and shrubs in the Phase I area; terms of the agreement are currently being reviewed by the city's legal department.

According to the DPW, the city will be responsible for watering trees and shrubs along the avenue. Once the maintenance agreement is in place, the BGC will recruit neighborhood stakeholders to weed and maintain plant and tree beds on Penn Ave.

DPW officials estimate that Phase II of the reconstruction project (which is slated to continue in line with Phase I, from Evaline St. to Graham St.) will not begin construction until early 2019. The department has already received eleven statements of interest from teams that want to perform preliminary engineering services for Phase II reconstruction.

Preliminary engineering, the officials explained, will include conducting underground investigation of utilities, hosting community engagement sessions for local stakeholders to provide input on the project, and identifying a more formal scope for the construction phase of the project.

Penn Ave. property and business owners are encouraged to attend the next Penn Ave. Reconstruction Committee meeting to participate in ongoing discussions about this project. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Mar. 2, at 8 a.m. at The Children's Home of Pittsburgh (5324 Penn Ave.). ♦

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

By Aggie Brose & Wesley Davis Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - On December 14, Pittsburgh Bureau of Police - Zone 5 officers said they conducted a traffic stop on a dark gray Cadillac in the 200 block of Fern St. around 7 p.m.

According to the reporting officers, the car was stopped for vehicle code violations and, upon closer inspection, it smelled of burnt marijuana. Based upon the suspicious activity, officers removed the occupants and conducted a vehicle search.

Robert Whitley, 18, and RayQuan Jefferson, 18, both from the Hill District; Naton Pearson, 20, from Highland Park; and a 17-year old male juvenile from Homewood were all arrested on the scene.

Zone 5 officers reported recovering the following items from the car: marijuana, a Smith & Wesson .40 caliber pistol bearing an obliterated serial number, eight bags of

crack cocaine, and sixteen bundles of heroin (about 160 stamp bags).

The BGC would like to congratulate Zone 5 officers on making this arrest and for preventing the illegal drugs that were seized during this arrest from being sold to drug users in the area.

Statistics point to a rapid increase in opioid-related abuse in the city of Pittsburgh and surrounding region. According to the US Drug Enforcement Administration, the number of drug-related overdose deaths in Allegheny County increased by 37% from 2014 to 2015.

The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Criminal Intelligence Unit stated that, in November of 2016, the number of heroin overdoses reported in the city of Pittsburgh already exceeded the total number of overdoses in all of 2015 by at least 40%. ♦

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Most Wanted Fine Art relocates, reinvests in Garfield for ten more years

A message from Most Wanted Fine Art

Garfield - Last month, Most Wanted Fine Art (MWFA) - a community service organization disguised as an art gallery at 5015 Penn Ave. - announced plans to build a new facility in Garfield, a destination space for its relocation. Since opening ten years ago, the organization has housed more than twenty-four resident artists while giving voice to the community through its ongoing programming.

Hosting over 500 art events over the last decade, MWFA has served upwards of 1,600 artists in the region, all from its space at 5015 Penn. However, now that MWFA has become so deeply engaged with the neighborhood, the organization's mission and all of its art activities have finally outgrown its current location.

MWFA is the workspace and home of artists Jason & Nina Sauer, along with their 5-year-old son Rowdy. Rowdy is the sixth generation of Jason's family to live in the Garfield area. "I feel blessed to be able to raise my son in a place with such strong ties to my family, a place that supports the arts in the way Garfield does," Jason explained.

The couple currently uses the first floor and basement rooms of their building to house MWFA programs; activities are usually sandwiched in between teaching general contracting skills to men recently released from prison and providing home repair to neighbors (at a discount) to help cover some of the costs of maintaining the gallery space. Most of the funds brought in are used for neighborhood art projects and initiatives, but the Sauers prefer for the organization to be a for-profit entity.

Programming will continue as usual in the new space. MWFA will host art shows, pop-up dinners, community service, poetry, and more. The Sauers' new home features the addition of full wheelchair accessibility, a garage for auto classes, a sculpture studio, a mono print shop, and an outdoor event space with a sculpture garden. Located in the upper part of Garfield, near plans for a new green zone initiative, MWFA's new headquarters will maintain emphasis on renewable and green practices. "We feel that we can better serve the community in a larger space with improved accessibility in close proximity to green initiatives," Jason said of the new location, which neighbors Healcrest Farms and the Garfield Community Garden.

Regardless of the move uphill, MWFA will still participate in special neighborhood events, including First Fridays' Unblurred festivities. In order to focus on getting the new building up and running, the Sauers have listed the 5015 Penn Ave. building for sale. "It is our hope to serve the Garfield community another ten years," Jason pledged. "Despite mixed personal emotions and attachments to the building, this is an important step to ensure that."

The last scheduled event at the 5015 Penn Ave. space will take place during the Unblurred gallery crawl on Friday, Feb. 3. Following this, the couple plans to host occasional pop-up events until the building is sold. A current schedule of happenings is available on the MWFA Facebook page (www.facebook.com/MostWantedFineArt).

Anyone who would like to donate labor, materials, or funds for the new building may contact Jason Sauer at 412-328-4737 or mostwantedfineart@gmail.com. Lisa Gasperoni, of Howard Hanna Real Estate, will handle the sale of the building. ♦



ABOVE: Most Wanted Fine Art's Jason (left), Rowdy (middle), and Nina Sauer reminisce about their ten year journey at 5015 Penn Ave. as they prepare to sell their building and move uphill from the avenue to a new space in Garfield. Photo by John Colombo.

the Bulletin

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 2

The deadline for the March issue is **Monday, February 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.

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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.

NEED ASSISTANCE FILING YOUR 2016 TAX RETURNS?

THE BGC CAN HELP!

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC), in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service, will continue helping individual taxpayers file their federal and state tax returns online. There is no charge for this service, which will be offered every Saturday, beginning February 4 and ending on April 15. Taxpayers will need to make appointments in advance, and then visit:

Community Activity Center, Lower Level
113 N. Pacific Ave. — one block from Penn
in the Garfield neighborhood (15224)

The earliest appointments we have are at 12:30 p.m. and the latest available slot is 4:30 p.m. We do not assist business filers or individuals who have rental income or numerous capital gains' transactions to report. City residents will also be able to receive help in filing their city tax returns. All taxpayers must provide photo IDs and proof of their Social Security number in order to qualify for tax assistance services.

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Sojourner House earns “Champion in Action” award funds from Citizens, WPXI, & Trib

By Frank Quaratiello *Citizens Bank*

Garfield – On Monday, Jan. 10, Sojourner House (5460 Penn Ave.) earned a 2017 “Champion in Action®” award in the category of addiction prevention and treatment services.

The award, announced jointly by Citizens Bank, WPXI-TV, and Trib Total Media, comes with \$35,000 in unrestricted funding and extensive promotional and volunteer support for the faith-based recovery services that the organization provides for women and their children.

Sojourner House, which helps addicted mothers learn to break the cycle of chemical dependency while rebuilding relationships with their children, will use the award to help support the recently doubled capacity of its “MOMS” program; forty-two units of supportive housing are intended for single parents and their children experiencing homelessness.

Executive director Joann Cyganovich explained how “Sojourner House believes women can shatter the chains of addiction and hopelessness when surrounded by what means most to them: their children.”

The Champions in Action program is part of Citizens Bank’s ongoing initiative to

enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of local communities by supporting small, nonprofit organizations.

“Sojourner House has improved the lives of countless women throughout the state who have been affected by chemical dependency,” Mark Latterner, the bank’s market president for Western PA, noted. “We are proud to support our next Champion in Action, Sojourner House, as they expand their services and outreach to more deserving women and their families throughout Pittsburgh and the surrounding area.”

To date, the program has awarded more than \$2.2 million in contributions and promotional support to forty nonprofits. “We are grateful to Citizens, WPXI-TV, and Trib Total Media for their generous support of our mission,” Cyganovich said.

“Their Champions in Action recognition is an important endorsement of our work and we thank them for their partnership, which will ultimately benefit the area.”

For more information about the Champions in Action program, visit www.citizensbank.com/community/champions. ♦

Aldi, Family Dollar make ongoing investments in Garfield stores


By Aggie Brose & Wesley Davis *Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

Penn Ave. - Aldi, Inc. recently made improvements to its 5200 Penn Ave. grocery store, which sits across S. Pacific Ave. from the neighborhood Family Dollar store. According to Christina Morascyzk, Director of Real Estate for Aldi Saxonburg Division, the company is showing its commitment to the 5200 Penn location – and the surrounding community – by upgrading the store’s refrigeration units to feature more produce and installing new condenser units for the air conditioner.


Just across S. Pacific Ave., Family Dollar (5160 Penn Ave.) has likewise enhanced its store experience with the installation of upright refrigerator and freezer units to improve its variety of food and beverage products. In January, Oakland Real Estate Company, the building’s owner, installed new sidewalks around the store’s perimeter to provide better accessibility for customers and pedestrians alike. ♦



ABOVE: Thanks to the efforts of Aldi and Family Dollar, the intersection of S. Pacific and Penn Aves. now offers customers more accessibility to a growing variety of products. Photo by Wesley Davis.



PENN AVENUE FACEBOOK PHOTO CONTEST



During January a number of photos were submitted as part of the Penn Avenue photo contest advertised in the previous issue of The Bulletin. Cast your votes for your favorite photos by visiting the Penn Avenue Facebook (www.facebook.com/pennavenue412) and/or Instagram (www.instagram.com/pennavenue412) profiles. Voting takes place from February 1 until February 28. The winner will be announced on March 3. Visit <http://pennavenue.org> for more information.

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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 receive a printed remittance card and become a BGC member.

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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.

Primanti Bros. arrives in Garfield



ABOVE: Dozens of local residents and stakeholders enjoy their first eats and drinks at the new Primenti Bros. restaurant during its grand opening on Tuesday, Jan. 17. The new 5491 Penn Ave. location hopes to provide Garfield residents with more affordable dining options. Look to next month's issue of the Bulletin for a story about this new Penn Ave. destination. Photo by Andrew McKeon.

Autozone Decision *continued from page 1*

Court judge erred when he overturned the city Zoning Board's decision to deny a developer's request to build an AutoZone retail outlet on the site of the former Babyland store at Penn and S. Negley Aves.

LG Realty, which purchased the various Babyland properties in June of 2012 for \$518,800, had found a sympathetic ear in Allegheny County Common Pleas Court Judge Joseph James by arguing that simply because they would be leaving one wall intact along a rear alley (Hugus Place) behind the original Babyland building, the new AutoZone would merely be a reconstruction of an existing, non-conforming structure.

If the Zoning Board had accepted this rationale in the fall of 2014, then the new building not be subject to any of the standards that now apply to new structures, as outlined in the Pittsburgh Zoning Code, for local neighborhood commercial districts.

However, the Zoning Board's decision held that, by demolishing substantially all of the buildings on the site, LG Realty was abandoning the existing non-conforming structures and must, as a result, fully comply with the current Zoning Code requirements. Judge James, however, rejected this line of reasoning when he overturned the Board's decision in early 2016.

In addition to requesting that there be no setback of a new building from Hugus Place behind it, LG Realty wanted to avoid constructing a building that would meet the following zoning requirements for a local neighborhood commercial district: have significant frontage along the Penn and Negley Avenue sidewalks; have a significant number of windows along that sidewalk frontage; have its main entrance on Penn and/or Negley avenues; and minimize the parking lot frontage on Penn and Negley Aves.

The AutoZone structure, as proposed by LG Realty, would have had a foundation eight feet above the Penn-Negley corner, would have substituted building wall or

non-transparent glass for most of the openings that are required by the zoning code, and would have had a parking lot along much of its Penn Ave. frontage.

In the end, the three-judge panel at Commonwealth Court that heard the case voted unanimously to toss Judge James' ruling, maintaining that the Zoning Board had properly acted to enforce the codes as they appear on the books.

LG Realty has until late January to appeal the case to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, according to Rick Swartz of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, one of the appellants in the case, along with the Friendship Community Organization, the Highland Park Community Council, and the City of Pittsburgh.

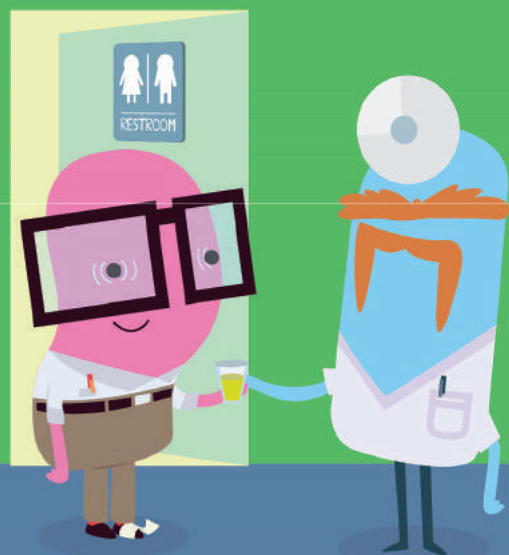
Swartz told *the Bulletin* recently that the appellants are more than happy to reopen a discussion with LG Realty around the design of whatever it is they would like to build on the busy corner.

“LG Realty can continue along the road of litigating this, and spend the thousands of dollars in legal fees that this strategy has entailed, or they can begin spending some money instead on an architect who could give them something that would please both their tenant and the community,” Swartz observed.

“The same developer is getting ready to invest hundreds of millions of dollars in building a first-class project on the other side of Negley Avenue. But on this side, they want to build what amounts to a third-rate structure. It really doesn’t make any sense.”

[Editor's Note: LG Realty also controls the Penn Plaza apartment complex that is undergoing demolition to make way for a new Whole Foods store and an accompanying retail, office, and upscale apartment development; the city Planning Commission turned down LG's proposal for a new Whole Foods market, 200 apartments, and 40,000 square feet of office space to be built on the site of what had been over 100 low-income apartments.] ♦

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FCG Invites Friendship Residents to Attend First Community Meeting of New Year

The Friendship Community Group (FCG) will hold its first community meeting of 2017 on Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh (5450 Friendship Ave.). This is a great way to meet some neighbors and help shape your community. Learn more about the success of the Baum Grove Christmas tree program that kept over 200 trees out of landfills and discover how community voices helped redirect plans for the redevelopment of Penn Plaza and Enright Park. Find out how neighbors can participate in the 2017 House Tour and many other FCG events on the calendar. Light refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7. All Friendship residents are invited to attend. For more information, visit www.new.friendship-pgh.org.

WPH hosts “heart saver” course in Bloomfield

By Morgan Rupert Allegheny Health Network

Bloomfield - According to the American Heart Association (AHA), more than 350,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur every year in the United States.

In these critical situations, knowing CPR and how to operate an AED device can double or even triple a person’s chance of survival. This month, Allegheny Health Network’s (AHN) EMS Training & Collaboration team is joining forces with healthcare professionals from the STAR Center to educate members of the community about CPR and AED implementation.

In honor of Valentine’s Day and “Heart Health Month,” they are offering a free, two-hour “Friends & Family CPR and AED” course open to the public; a community-designed program, it is intended for those who do not require

certification, but still want to learn “heart saver” skills.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, classes will commence at the STAR Center, which is located at 4900 Friendship Ave., inside the West Penn Hospital (WPH) School of Nursing building in Bloomfield. The STAR Center team, a highly experienced group of healthcare professionals, helps educators design courses to facilitate local residents’ understanding and implementation of vital healthcare skills.

The two-hour course will be offered every hour on the hour, with the first course at 9 a.m. and the last at 1 p.m. To register to become a “heart saver” this month, or for more information on the course, contact the STAR Center at 412-578-5476 or email Michael.Wysteppek@ahn.org. ♦

Proposed state commission to study local effects of Obamacare repeal

By Ben Turner House Democratic Communications Office

Harrisburg - House Democratic Caucus Chairman Dan Frankel, D-Allegheny, plans to introduce legislation establishing a bipartisan commission to study the impact of federal repeal of the Affordable Care Act on Pennsylvania residents.

"Repealing the Affordable Care Act would not only put at risk the healthcare coverage of millions of Pennsylvanians, but also devastate our state’s finances," Frankel said. "Pennsylvania has saved about \$700 million a year from the law’s drug rebates, increased funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and closing of the Medicare Part D prescription-drug benefit 'donut hole.' Without the Affordable Care Act, Pennsylvania taxpayers would need to come up with this funding from somewhere else – at a time when we already face large, unsustainable budget shortfalls."

"We also know the law has had many other benefits for Pennsylvanians," he elaborated. "We need to know what the impact would be if a new president and Congress take them away. These gains that are at risk include: enabling young people to stay on their parents' plans until age 26; providing free preventive care; federally-funded Medicaid expansion that has already helped cover roughly 600,000 Pennsylvanians; banning insurance companies from denying coverage due to pre-existing conditions; and banning annual and lifetime limits on care."

Frankel questioned what might happen to the healthcare sector in western PA in light of a federal repeal, citing potential difficulty on the horizon for one of the region’s major employers. "These are bipartisan concerns," he noted. "For example, the Republican governors of Ohio and Michigan want Congress to keep the ACA's Medicaid expansion, and Ohio's governor has confirmed what we know in Pennsylvania: that the Medicaid expansion has helped greatly in the fight against the opioid epidemic."

According to Frankel, the commission, composed of both gubernatorial and legislative appointees, would offer recommendations for the General Assembly to consider if the Affordable Care Act is partly or fully repealed. ♦

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PATF offers free Syphilis testing to stem county-wide epidemic

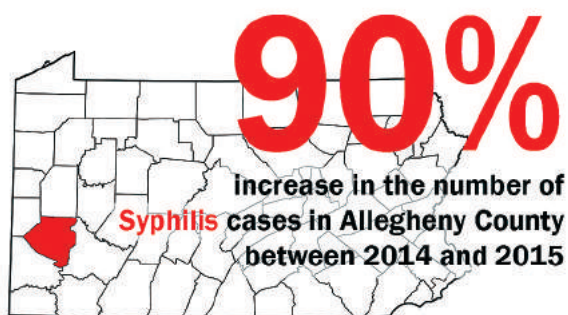
By Andrew Ptaschinski Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force

East Liberty – Responding to a surge in Syphilis cases in Pittsburgh and the surrounding region, Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force (PATF) now offers free rapid Syphilis testing; available six days a week at its East Liberty office (5913 Penn Ave.), testing will also be conducted at outreach events throughout southwestern PA.

Since a historic low in 2001, Syphilis has been on the rise nationally and, according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the rate in Allegheny County far exceeds the national average. The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) recently reported a 90% increase in the number of primary and secondary Syphilis cases in the county from 2014 to 2015, significantly outpacing the national growth rate of 19% for the same period.

During 2015, the total number of recorded Syphilis cases in the county was 129, (compared to sixty-eight cases the previous year) and 93% of these cases were found in men; most were in men who have sex with other men. ACHD also reported that 45% of people with Syphilis were HIV positive and 62% of people in this group were under the age of 30.

Syphilis is spread during vaginal, anal, or oral sex, and it is notoriously difficult to detect because it has many possible symptoms, many of which are often mistaken for other things. The only surefire way to know if one has Syphilis is to get tested. During the first (primary) stage of infec-



Graphic courtesy of PATF

tion, individuals may develop painless sores that are often mistaken for ingrown hairs or harmless bumps. Common symptoms of the secondary stage include skin rashes and flu-like symptoms.

Whether or not an individual receives treatment, symptoms from both the primary and secondary stages will eventually recede. However, if left untreated, individuals may develop serious health complications between ten and thirty years after the infection first began its course. These complications can include difficulty coordinating muscle movement, paralysis, numbness, blindness, dementia, and even death.

Anyone can stop by the PATF office on Penn Ave. to receive free testing; results will be available in just ten minutes. The agency's new Syphilis testing complements its established HIV, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Hepatitis C testing program.

From its onsite medical clinic, PATF also offers treatment for Syphilis and other sexually transmitted infections. Visit www.patf.org for a full schedule of testing locations, days, and hours, along with additional information about the medical clinic. ♦

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NeighborhoodFOCUS

Justin Greenawalt eyes East Liberty’s future through overlooked past

By Elizabeth Sensky *East Liberty Development, Inc.*

East Liberty - When most people walk through the streets of East Liberty, they are not stopping to consider the historical importance of a building’s architecture or reflecting on the people who have walked the streets before them.

In the bustle of daily life, most folks do not have the energy or impulse to research the historical context of their surroundings. Justin Greenawalt is working to change this situation. As the new president of the East Liberty Valley Historical Society (ELVHS), he is making it his mission to bring the value of East Liberty’s past to the public.

Greenawalt, who also works as a realtor for Howard Hanna, did not set out to become an architectural historian. “It wasn’t until I was in my twenties that I realized it was even possible,” Greenawalt explained. After an internship with the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation in 2006, Greenawalt realized that a degree in Architectural History could have applicable uses outside of the academic realm.

Graduating from the University of Pittsburgh in 2008, Greenawalt moved to New York City to begin a Master’s Degree at Columbia University. But, New York could not hold him for long. As Greenawalt put it, “New York was grand, but my heart was always in Pittsburgh.”

At Columbia, he wrote his Master’s Thesis on East Liberty’s mid-century urban renewal project. For many, this

“If East Liberty has taught me anything, it’s that we need to be cognizant and respectful of the human component in our cities and, in doing so, become cognizant and respectful of ourselves.”

– Justin Greenawalt, *East Liberty Valley Historical Society*



ABOVE: Justin Greenawalt, the incoming president of the East Liberty Valley Historical Society (ELVHS), wants to cultivate a new generation of historical appreciation in East Liberty. Photo courtesy of Justin Greenawalt.

would seem an obscure topic but, for Greenawalt, East Liberty was a stumbled-upon fascination.

He explained how the neighborhood first grabbed his attention: “It was 2006 and I had just moved to an apartment on Fifth Avenue at Negley. I was trying to find the Post Office. I had never been to East Liberty before and, not being from Pittsburgh, I had no idea that Penn Circle existed. I turned left from Broad St. onto Penn Circle, in front of what is now Target, and I was instantly greeted with a four-lane wall of fast-moving, one-way traffic.”

“Without thinking, I drove up and over the sidewalk, through some bushes, and into the Kirkwood parking lot,” he continued. “As I sat there, stunned, I asked myself, ‘what in the hell happened here?’ ‘What is this place?’ ‘Why is it like this?’ Then, I made it my job to find out.”

This fascination eventually took Greenawalt to a tiny, 400-square-foot studio apartment on S. Fairmount St. and a job with Franklin West, Inc., a family-owned property management company in the East End. It was there that he learned more about the historic homes of Pittsburgh and the significance they still hold.

Greenawalt soon found his way to the East Liberty Valley Historical Society in 2012 and joined its Board of Directors the following year. As a board member, he works with a group of local business leaders and historians to promote the history of East Liberty.

“For nearly forty years following urban renewal, East Liberty was dormant. It had, in many respects, lost its identity. I would argue that it still hasn’t fully reclaimed an identity,” Greenawalt said. “In order for a place to have an identity, it must have a past [that people care about].”

Now, as the historical society’s current president, Alfred Mann, steps down, Greenawalt will lead the fight to remember the past. As president, he aims to increase the visibility and effectiveness of ELVHS.

“It is my primary goal to develop our organization as the community resource that it can and should be,” he said. Greenawalt knows that a historical society can

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Pitt volunteers honor MLK with day of service

By Andrew Perrow *the Bulletin*

leverage its knowledge for those currently seeking to redevelop the neighborhood. "We frequently see developers that are encountering community opposition when they plan to demolish and replace a building that they didn't know was historic or they didn't realize had community value," he said. "The ELVHS can help to mitigate those issues."

Highlighting the neighborhood's past to current developers goes beyond aesthetics. Greenawalt notes that numerous National Historic District tax credits and other incentives are not being utilized in many new East Liberty developments. "Local developers can and should become more savvy as to their benefit and use," he said.

Ultimately, though, spreading this historical awareness starts on the individual level. Greenawalt believes that any given community member is always mere footsteps away from truly appreciating the historical context of their neighborhood.

"I cannot tell you how many times I've been talking about a particular building and someone says, 'Oh. I guess I've never looked at it.' Exactly! Go look at it," he exclaimed.

Greenawalt views cities and neighborhoods as extensions of those who live in them. He maintains that, when we opt to demolish, what we are really demolishing is something within ourselves. In helping East Liberty reclaim its past vibrancy, he is aiming to cultivate a new generation who cares about this connection.

"If East Liberty has taught me anything," he said, "it's that we need to be cognizant and respectful of the human component in our cities and, in doing so, become cognizant and respectful of ourselves."

For more information about the East Liberty Valley Historical Society, visit www.facebook.com/EastLibertyValley/. ♦



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Garfield - In celebration of Martin Luther King Day on Monday, Jan. 16, the University of Pittsburgh partnered with the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) to help its students perform their annual day of service. Honoring Dr. King's tireless dedication to civil rights and community building, these students committed themselves to service projects all across the city.

Approximately twenty-five of the university's volunteers spent the holiday assisting BGC staff with service projects at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (ENEC, 5321 Penn Ave.) and Community

Activity Center (113 Pacific Ave.). Projects included painting interior walls at the ENEC, stuffing envelopes, and calling community members to help inform them about upcoming job fairs in the area.

The BGC is fortunate to have the help of such dedicated student volunteers. PittServes, the branch of student affairs that coordinates the day of service and other volunteer opportunities is always recruiting potential partners to provide local service opportunities for its student volunteers. For more information, visit www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/pittserves. ♦



ABOVE: Volunteers from the University of Pittsburgh take a break at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (5321 Penn Ave.) after completing their day of service in honor of MLK Day on Monday, Jan. 16. Photo by Rick Flanagan.

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“Latino Parents United in Action” advocates for bilingual public school staff

By Amie Matson A+Schools

Commentary

The following commentary has been reprinted from the bilingual “Azucar” blog - with permission from its parent website - hosted by local event production company Café Con Leche. Amie Matson profiles the parent-led Latino advocacy group, “Latino Parents United in Action” (LPUA), a collective movement anchored by A+ Schools. If you are interested in getting involved with LPUA, contact Amie Matson at amatson@aplusschools.org or 412-697-1298 (x113).

Pittsburgh - When you're new to a country, trying to figure out a public school system that's complex can be daunting. What are my rights? What are my obligations? How do I make sure that my child is on track in her/his education?

These are but a few of the questions that many families have. When customs and language are different, getting answers to them can be daunting.

In February of 2014, A+ Schools partnered with the Latino Family Center and Vibrant Pittsburgh to address the barriers Latino and immigrant families face within education. The group began with eight parents and continues to grow with each passing month.

The parents call themselves “Latino Parents United in Action” (LPUA)”, because they don't want to just talk about the challenges; they want to take action to change things. In their first year, they learned the basics of Pittsburgh's public education system from A+ Schools organizer Amie Matson. Topics ranged from where to look to find out if school is cancelled due to weather, to how your child can access different learning supports through “Individualized Educational Plans” and the “Gifted Program.”

After a year of meeting, group members decided to take their concerns about the barriers their families faced to the public. They petitioned the school board in English, Spanish, French and Arabic for more bilingual staff within the district to reflect the changing population, and asked that bilingual staff be made available at every district-wide function.

LPUA parents and partners helped to obtain over 500 signatures on the petition, which was then presented to the Pittsburgh Public School (PPS) Board in the spring of 2015. They followed up the petition by testifying before the board in Spanish about the challenges they had experienced and creating a video to share their experience with a broader audience.

Their advocacy efforts have begun to pay off. This past July, LPUA, which has now grown to include over fifty participating members, was able to get key district leaders to come meet with them and hear their concerns. A total of thirty-one people attended, including two principals, five school board members, four central office staff, and the new Superintendent of PPS.

The group was able to discuss, in person, some of the barriers they face as a group, and to explore possible solutions to overcoming these challenges. In addition to getting an audience with key decision makers, the parents were able to get the district to implement a multilingual parent hotline and a multilingual district website.

They also got the school board to approve an increase in the budget for translation costs to cover the growing demand, as well as additional funds to hire a bilingual psychologist for the district. In the current school year, the District has hired two new bilingual staff and is looking to fill a third bilingual position.

The members of the LPUA know their work is not done, and there are still ways to continue to improve upon the partnership between the public school system and the growing immigrant and refugee community here in Pittsburgh. ♦



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Immigration *continued from page 1*

the recently completed “Latino Needs Assessment Project,” which examines the challenges confronting Latino families in Allegheny County.

Dave Breingan, Executive Director of Lawrenceville United (LU), spent a lot of time with the Esquivel-Hernandez family volunteering at Arsenal’s afterschool events. “This is a very close-knit and loving family that attends every school function together, volunteers, and gives back in the community,” he said.

Naturally, Breingan and others who knew the family were shocked to hear that the young father had been detained by federal authorities on May 2. Less than twenty-four hours after he and his family marched in a Mayday immigration rights rally from Beechview to Brookline, Esquivel-Hernandez received a visit from U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers.

The authorities immediately took him into federal custody, shuttling him between various detention centers before sticking him in a for-profit, private prison in Youngstown, Ohio - where he currently awaits possible deportation.

“I’ve seen firsthand how Martin’s family has already been devastated by his detention - now in its eighth month - and potential deportation,” Breingan revealed. “It’s very hard to understand how tearing a decent and hardworking father away from his children is an act of justice.”

Esquivel-Hernandez’s case has drawn great attention from the city’s growing Latino population, as well as human rights activists from the Thomas Merton Center (TMC, 5129 Penn Ave.), the Pittsburgh Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA), and other local organizations.

According to TMC’s Christina Castillo, who has been closely involved in the advocacy efforts, “rather than protecting the most vulnerable members of our society, Martin’s prosecution only further destabilizes a vulnerable immigrant family that includes a U.S. citizen child who desperately relies on his father for guidance and support.”

As people first began galvanizing around the Esquivel-Hernandez immigration case, advocates focused their energies on U.S. District Attorney David J. Hickton. When he recently stepped down to make way for a new administration’s appointment, organizers aimed their pleas at Interim U.S. District Attorney Soo Song. For months, Esquivel-Hernandez’s supporters

rallied downtown at public demonstrations. Staging protests in and around the federal courthouse, activists voiced their concerns for a local father’s future in public venues where Song could not help but take notice.

Many supporters rejoiced on Dec. 29, when Esquivel-Hernandez accepted a plea deal that lessened his charge from “felony illegal re-entry” to “misdemeanor illegal possession of an identification document.” While significant in that it takes his name off the “priority enforcement” deportation list, the plea deal could not guarantee Esquivel-Hernandez a clear path back to his family.

“Using the U.S. Attorney’s own metrics,” Castillo posited, “the impact of Martin’s alleged offense is minimal to nonexistent, as illegal reentry is a victimless crime.”

Unfortunately, ICE does not show remorse when it comes to the victims involved in the case, namely the Esquivel-Hernandez family. Many local immigrants are so fearful of deportation that they would never dare attend one of the rallies supporting his cause.

No matter how much they would like to show their support, the threat of ICE stops them cold in their tracks. “That’s why it’s so important that other people step up. It’s about how we treat our vulnerable populations. When people can’t stand up for themselves, we stand up for them,” local Latino activist/promoter Tara Sherry-Torres told *the Bulletin*.

Surrounded by dozens of other supporters outside the City-County building at a Dec. 8 rally downtown, Sherry-Torres said that such shows of support “really send a powerful message that, as a city, we’re in a period of transition. Our window is small, but it’s there and, as a city, we can get it right.”

Still, it will be an uphill battle to convince fellow Pittsburghers, many of whom are children of immigrants themselves, to treat their new neighbors as “first class citizens.” Many local residents feel uncomfortable when they hear Spanish spoken on the street. They forget that the speaker might be a fellow mother, father, hard worker, etc. - let alone a fellow American.

Rev. Paul Dordal, whose family hails from Puerto Rico, understands these sentiments very well. At the Dec. 8 rally, he spoke of looking beyond the differences and embracing new neighbors like Esquivel-Hernandez. “Our own scriptures say to be welcoming to the alien, but this country is not welcoming to the alien,” the reverend

said. “I call on all Christians to stand up for our faith and welcome these immigrants into our communities.”

Current events have cast new shadows onto the situation as a regime change might transform circumstances for many immigrants, whether or not they are legally naturalized citizens.

“As most of us are well aware, the recent election has deeply increased immigrants’ fear of deportation, racial profiling, and xenophobic backlash,” Castillo noted. “The prosecution of Martin only adds to these legitimate fears and undermines efforts to make Pittsburgh a welcoming city.”

In light of the present state of affairs in Washington, however, it is important to consider historical context, especially when it comes to immigration. “This city will not get stronger unless we embrace local immigrants,” Rev. Dordal said. “Many years ago, Eastern European immigrants came here to build a new city. Now, we need a new influx of immigrants to help us build our city into the city that we want to

be.”

Thousands of community members, political leaders, and people of faith (including Mayor Bill Peduto, U.S. Congressman Mike Doyle, and Bishop David Zubick) have reached out to assist Esquivel-Hernandez and his family; supporters have sent more than 700 letters, along with twice as many petition signatures, to ICE’s regional field director, Rebecca Adducci.

Tired of waiting for a response, advocates from TMC and LCLAA are now turning their attention to the head of immigration under the Obama administration, ICE’s national director, Sarah Saldaña. Regardless of all the local and international support for Esquivel-Hernandez, the national office has made it clear that they intend to pursue deportation.

Those who would like to advocate for Esquivel-Hernandez may learn more at www.facebook.com/BringMartinHome and submit an online letter of support at www.actionnetwork.org/letters/bring-martin-home. ♦

Pittsburgh Summit Against Racism

Saturday, Jan. 21
Pittsburgh Theological Society

AT RIGHT: During one of the summit’s community workshops, local resident Matisha Cook takes the mic to share her thoughts about how she and others can become effective allies for all their neighbors. Listening and learning were among the attendees’ top priorities on Saturday, Jan. 21. Photo by John Colombo.



AT LEFT: Demonstrators from the “Our Feminism Must be Intersectional” march spill onto the front lawn of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary’s Highland Ave. campus. Beginning at the controversial site of Penn Plaza’s redevelopment, scores of protestors and activists plotted their route to intersect with the summit in East Liberty. Photo by John Colombo.

Prototype

continued from page 1

upwards of four hundred people into the space, co-founders Erin Oldynski and E. Louise Larson celebrated the opening of their newest project with members of many different communities. “We created this space as a way to prototype the kind of world that we want to see,” Oldynski said.

The project’s goal is based on Pittsburgh’s growing technology industry. Larson and Oldynski say it is important to provide resources, particularly to women and gender-nonconforming individuals, to help involve people in the economic uplift. Oldynski quoted a study done by the Harvard Business review that found, in STEM fields, as many as 50% of women will eventually leave their jobs due to unsatisfactory work environments. “That’s something Louise and I want to combat here in Pittsburgh,” she noted. “We’re going to do that through a number of workshops.”

Beginning on Saturday, Jan. 28, Prototype will host workshops in the building’s theater area; from 7 - 9 p.m. on Thursdays; and from noon until 2 p.m. on Saturdays. The workshops are currently booked through March as Larson and Oldynski put things in place for April.

Activities range from hands-on “making” sessions with the BoXZY (a desktop milling machine/3-D printer/laser-engraver combo) to learning how to advocate for oneself in the workplace as a woman or gender-nonconforming person. These include resume reviews and internship techniques, as well as how to pursue a promotion or a pay raise.

“We are looking for more people to partner with to provide resources or deliver workshops that revolve around advocacy, job search, or anything to sort of help fill-in the opportunity gap,” Larson told *the Bulletin*. “So, there are a lot of potential partnerships, but it’s sort of an open-call, too.”

Outside of the workshops, the makerspace will be open every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon until 4 p.m. These times are called the “Open Swim” hours, where members can bring whatever project they are working on to receive feedback and work side-by-side with other members.

“A term we’ve been talking about is ‘co-making,’” Larson revealed. “You can bring whatever you’ve been working on, and you can come and work on it, but also be in a space where you can get feedback. The community aspect is really important.”

Membership costs \$25 for six months and \$50 for one year. Prototype plans on extending its hours to everyday operation and implementing scholarship programs where members simply pay what they can afford to pay.

Larson and Oldynski first met while working in a program sponsored by the Sprout Fund called “Digital Corps,” a free after-school program for inner-city youths to learn how to, according to its website, “demystify robotics, code websites, program mobile apps, investigate online privacy, and empower the next generation of digital innovators.”

Both went on to work together at TechShop, a makerspace in Bakery Square, where they gained experience that has helped them become fluent in discussing engineering and design processes. “The first step in the process is to think about a problem and identify a solution, which is what we did when we created this space,” Oldynski explained.

While they await the arrival of donated hand tools and a loom, the co-founders are still compiling a makerspace arsenal with plans to grow it beyond two BoXZY machines, a typewriter, a heat press, and a sewing machine. Many of the other tenants in the building

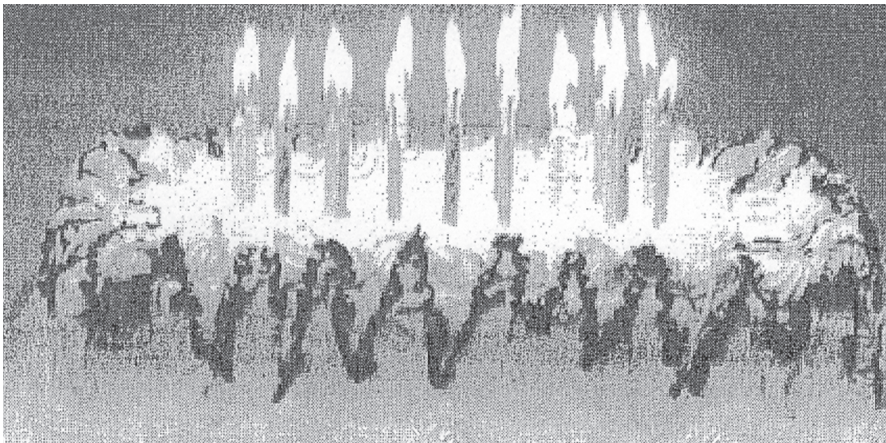
are going to share their materials with the maker-space and a woodshop/welding studio located downstairs will grant Prototype members some access to its facilities. “We are in the user-testing phase now, so we will see what the members of Prototype think, and we’ll take their feedback into consideration,” Oldynski said.

As far as the physical space is concerned, she and Larson plan on making it more modular in order to accommodate individual work spaces, desks, shelves, moveable lighting, and a dedicated electronics space. They keep building up the space’s resource library by adding more design books, pattern books, and zines. Future plans include the acquisition of soldering irons, a vinyl cutter, an embroidery machine, and more design software.

“I don’t know if there’s any one specific thing we’re going to do,” Larson said. “We just want to continue to learn, grow, and provide resources to people.” She and Oldynski are looking forward to connecting with their old workplace as they pursue a partnership with TechShop, where they hope Prototype members can take classes at a reduced cost.

“We see this base as a laboratory, or a crucible,” Larson said. “There’s a bunch of different analogies.” As a space, and an idea, Prototype is designed to continually evolve, so the co-founders are excited to form new partnerships while also seeing how the members shape their new makerspace.

To find out more about Prototype and its workshop schedule, visit www.prototypepgh.com. ♦



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GARFIELD NIGHT MARKET RETURNS!

From May through September, the Garfield Night Market will run from 6 to 10 p.m. during the Unblurred: First Friday gallery crawl on Penn Ave. The market can host up to thirty-two vendors; organizers are interested in recruiting those who sell art, jewelry, food, clothing, and other wares. Nonprofit organizations that would like to set up a booth and spread the word about their services are also encouraged to apply. Those interested in being a vendor should visit www.facebook.com/garfield-nightmarket and click the “Sign Up” button at the top of the page.

March Bulletin Deadline: February 13

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LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER

- Bloomfield, Garfield, East Liberty, Friendship, Lawrenceville, and Stanton Heights -
Property Transactions (Nov. 16 - Dec. 15, 2016) Compiled by Lillian Denhardt, Howard Hanna Real Estate

CORRECTION: In the December issue (Vol. 41, No. 12), this column listed the sale of 5163 Penn Ave. to Matthew Watson. We would like to correct the record to include Myra Awodey, Watson's partner, as the co-owner of 5163 Penn. Welcome to Garfield, Myra and Matthew!

Bloomfield

Devan M Goldstein to Ryan Beaver at 4510 Minerva St. for \$126,000.

Emidio & Luciana Deuliis to Varun Gulshan at 437 S. Aiken Ave. for \$500,000.

Eugene L & Barbara J Zielmanski to Kevin Zielmanski at 4633 Friendship Ave. for \$1.

Louis M & Connie L Certo to Pabeau Property LP at 4111 Penn Ave. for \$295,000.

Matthew & Leena Murphy to Jesse Rothschild at 204 S. Atlantic Ave. for \$339,583.

Michael & Cynthia Savoia to Michael Savoia & Cynthia Savoia Living Trust at 219 S. Pacific Ave. for \$1.

Michael & Grace Celender to Hongjie Guo at 4805 Yew St. for \$168,000.

Natalia Khorunzhina to Clinton W Liddick at 254 Gross St. for \$240,000.

Patsy & Dena M (1/3 Interest) Lombardo to JPM Liberty Properties LLC at 4760 Liberty Ave. for \$860,000.

Property Trio LLC to Joshua T Smith at 4414 Woolslayer Way for \$194,000.

Ronald J Flynn to Ronald J Flynn at 209 Sapling Way for \$95,000.

Rosemarie Longo to Lin Yuan Wang at 250 Gross St. for \$245,000.

Urban Capital Group LLC to Steven T Gross at 714 State Way for \$150,000.

Garfield

Angelo Restano to RGB Graham LLC at 5431 Penn Ave. for \$400,000.

Anna Mae & Lucille Freil Townsend to Samuel Brown at 4905 Jordan Way for \$40,000.

Donald Buczkowski to Buczkowski Family Trust at 220 N. Mathilda St. for \$1.

Donald N & Joanne V Buczkowski to Buczkowski Family Trust at 216 N. Mathilda St. for \$1.

Donald N & Joanne V Buczkowski to Buczkowski Family Trust at 218 N. Mathilda St. for \$1.

Friendship Development Associates Inc. to Kimberly Musial at 5491 Penn Ave. Unit B101 for \$89,000.

Lonzo S Green to Pho Real Estate LLC at 5313 Rosetta St. for \$13,500.

Michael & Cynthia M Savoia to Michael Savoia & Cynthia Savoia Living Trust at 5111 Penn Ave. for \$1.

Michael & Cynthia M Savoia to Michael Savoia & Cynthia Savoia Living Trust at 5113 Penn Ave. for \$1.

Thomas O'Connell to JTA Enterprises LLC at 5111 Jordan Way for \$500.

TS Pgh I LLC to TS Pgh I LLC at 5334 Kincaid St. for \$7,970.

TS Pgh I LLC to TS Pgh I LLC at 5355 Broad

St. for \$11,877.

TS Pgh I LLC to TS Pgh I LLC at 5438 Rosetta St. for \$1,330.

East Liberty

Brooke Rothshank to Andrew J & Hannah Halfhill at 741 N. Beatty St. for \$260,000.

Carl Nelson to MM Capital Group LLC at 6473 Centre Ave. for \$100,000.

East Liberty Development Inc. to 254 46th St. LLC at 5637 Hays St. for \$137,100.

East Liberty Development Inc. to 254 46th St. LLC at 5639 Hays St. for \$137,100.

East Liberty Development Inc. to 46th St. LLC 254 at 5623 Hays St. for \$137,100.

Housing And Urban Development to Bayview Loan Servicing LLC at 409 Selma St. for \$1.

Norma J Carter to William Zavala at 5486 Hays St. for \$60,800.

Saint Clair Apartments LP to 254 46th St. LLC at 5635 Hays St. for \$90,000.

Saint Clair Apartments LP to 46th St. LLP 254 at 5617 Hays St. for \$90,000.

TS Pgh I LLC to TS Pgh I LLC at 338 Enright Ct. for \$1,976.

Friendship

Ankur J Shukla to Five 5535 Centre Ave. Associates LLC at 5535 Centre Ave. Unit 5 for \$185,400.

Ankur J Shukla to Five 5535 Centre Ave. Associates LLC at 9 Dapper Way for \$185,400.

Maxine C Petrasek to Thomas & Joanne Germanos at 335 S. Fairmount St. for \$110,000.

Lawrenceville

Arcus Holdings to JDS 48th St. Holdings LLC at 158 48th St. for \$10.

Catherine Bacasa to Michael A Bacasa at 3937 Mintwood St. for \$1.

Christopher J Fry to Christopher J Fry at 5112 Natrona Way for \$1.

Christopher J Fry to Christopher J Fry at 5113 Keystone St. for \$1.

Dolores Laughlin to Donna & Michael Armenti at 91 Mccandless Ave. for \$1.

Dolores M Laughlin to Donna & Michael Armenti at 5243 Carnegie St. for \$1.

E Properties & Development LLC to Carter

Louis LLC at 3719 Butler St. for \$0.

E Properties & Development LLC to Carter Louis LLC at 3721 Butler St. for \$0.

East End Group LLC to Bradley R Truman at 341 46th St. for \$85,000.

East End Group LLC to Penn 45 LP at 141 45th St. for \$1.

East End Group LLC to Penn 45 LP at 3807 Penn Ave. for \$1.

Eko Developments LLC to Louis Carter LLC at 173 36th St. for \$0.

Frank & Lisa Platt Cartieri to Lisa Tsou at 232 43Rd St. for \$101,575.

Frank M Jr Machi to Lakewood Management Group LLC at 4605 Carlton St. for \$153,000.

Gabriel O Stephenson to David Kusher at 166 46th St. for \$249,900.

Grace E Barrett to Gregory & Rose Cosnotti at 3724 Liberty Ave. for \$50,000.

Janine M Amato to Synergy Capital LP at 5147 Keystone St. for \$45,000.

Jessie M H Dixon to Naomi Y Hale at 6094 Butler St. for \$0.

Jo Anne Williams to Andrew R Nelson at 5163 Natrona Way for \$170,000.

John W Bauer III & Deborah Ann Bauer to Jeffrey & Paula K Holzapfel at 0 Butler St. for \$675,000.

John W Bauer III & Deborah Ann Bauer to Jeffrey & Paula K Holzapfel at 5335 Butler St. for \$675,000.

Martin Media to Wylie Holdings LP at 6032 Butler St. for \$67,740.

Martin Media to Wylie Holdings LP at 6048 Butler St. for \$67,740.

Martin Media to Wylie Holdings LP at 6060 Butler St. for \$67,740.

Melissa R Mcallister to Justin Page at 132 46th St. for \$372,300.

Naomi Y Hale to John R & Charlene E Lynch at 6094 Butler St. for \$28,500.

Peter M & Amelia K Weishaar Simon to Daniel B Gurwin at 302 44th St. for \$225,000.

Virginia Andrews to Deanna & Steven Jones at 4118 Foster St. for \$1.

William L & Rose Marie Zaborowski to Build A Dream Investments LLC at 3914 Howley St. for \$120,000.

Stanton Heights

David Mark Jr & Alice Harrison to Daniel L Harrison at 1548 Hawthorne St. for \$1.

James B & Mary T Schmitt to Paul W & Joann Schmitt at 1044 Premier St. for \$68,000.

Leff Revocable Living Trust to David Lackey at 230 Schenley Manor Dr. for \$82,900.

Morton & Lillian S Cieply to Cheryl Garber at 107 Hawthorne Ct. for \$0.

Ralph W Collins to John S Iii Zoppelt at 5618 Donson Way for \$137,500.

This column uses data from Allegheny County that contains occasional errors (sale price, owners' names, etc.). If something looks off, please do not hesitate to let us know.

For questions, comments, or just to chat, feel free to contact Lillian at 412-335-6068 or email agent.lillian.pgh@gmail.com. ♦

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Safety Measures - Facility Design

Safe Yards

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Our outdoor play yards also have artificial grass.

Clean Air

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.

Fire Protection

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



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the BulletinBOARD

Local Events Classes Gatherings 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 **March** issue of *the Bulletin* are due by **February 17**. Please submit listings using our online form at www.bit.ly/bulletin_submit.

February 2 - Thursday

GARFIELD
Affordable Housing Discussion

Join the discussion about establishing a Community Land Trust at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb 2nd, at Brothers and Sisters Emerging (5315 Hillcrest St. at Donna St. in the former YMCA bldg). Your input is welcome about how to retain and increase affordable housing in Garfield. Read more at www.GarfieldCommunityLandTrust.org.

February 3 - Friday

GARFIELD
Art of Tayeb Khelifa

Bantha Tea Bar (5002 Penn Ave.) from 6-10 p.m. Different styles in oil painting on canvas, done here in Pittsburgh. "It's about forms, light, colors, movement and dynamics," Khelifa says. "A swing between my imagination and my personal perception of reality."

"Dreamworlds"

Irma Freeman Center (5006 Penn Ave.) from 7 - 10 p.m. 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.

February 8 - Wednesday

LAWRENCEVILLE
Art-All-Night Planning

It's time to plan the 20th Art All Night: Lawrenceville. Everyone is welcome to come to the weekly planning committee meetings. The committee will meet for the first time on Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Stephen Foster Community Center (286 Main St.) and will continue to meet every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Join the committee to help plan this free, uncensored, unjuried art event this April.

February 11 - Saturday

LAWRENCEVILLE

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

Pancake Breakfast

The Lawrenceville Rotary is holding its 14th annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 11th, at a new location - the New Bethel Baptist Church (221 43rd St.) in Lawrenceville. Tickets, available at the door, are \$7 for adults and \$3 for kids aged 10 and under. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, and real maple syrup will be served from 9 a.m. to noon. Proceeds fund local non-profit organizations and Rotary International projects.

February 20 - Monday

GARFIELD
Garfield Green Zone

Did you know there are over 10 acres of woodlands in Garfield? If you are interested in knowing more, you are invited to attend the upcoming 'Green Zone' planning meeting. Beat the winter blues by thinking green. This will be an informal meeting facilitated by community members for setting goals, creating focus groups, and fostering a general discussion about what we as the community can do.

Bring your ideas and passions to the table as we move forward with preserving our wooded wonderlands. Join us on Monday, February 20th, at the Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.) at 7p.m. All are invited to attend; light refreshments will be served. If you would like more

information, please contact greensguild@gmail.com or leave a message at 412-365-5781.

February 23 - Thursday

LAWRENCEVILLE
Free Computer Workshop

Goodwill's Workforce Development Center at 118 52nd Street from 6 - 8 p.m. 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. Our February 23rd workshop is an introduction to using Google Drive (including Google Calendar) to create and save documents, photos, and other files, as well as how to share them with other users. If you don't have a Google account, you can sign up for one at the workshop. Workshops are held in Goodwill's computer lab. Participants must register in advance by calling 412-632-1842.

February 26 - Sunday

GARFIELD
Black History Service

Morningside C.O.G.I.C (5173 Dearborn St.) presents a Black History service entitled, "Let's Stop Dreaming and Start Doing!" Come, bring your

For Everyone in the Flock and Every Room in the Nest, shop at

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friends, and be blessed on Sunday, Feb. 26, at 4 p.m.

- Ongoing -

EAST LIBERTY Zumba Gold

Zumba Gold is perfect for active older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba® class that recreates the original moves you love, at a lower-intensity. The easy-to-follow Zumba® choreography focuses on balance, range of motion and coordination. Come ready to move, and prepare to leave empowered and feeling stronger! The Zumba class is offered at Vintage Center for Active Adults (401 N. Highland Ave.) in East Liberty. Call Tom Sturgill, Program Director, at 412-361-5003 for more information.

GARFIELD High School Diploma Program

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. If you live in Allegheny County and are low income, you qualify. GJA is located at 5223 Penn Ave. If transportation is a problem, you can receive a bus pass to come to the program every day. Garfield Jubilee is open Monday-Friday from

8 a.m.-3 p.m. For information, call Connie M. Taylor at 412-665-5210.

LAWRENCEVILLE

New Creation PM Church

Please join us at New Creation PM Church (5227 Holmes St.). Sundays at 10 a.m. - Sunday Schools and Life Recovery; 11 a.m. - Worship Service; Tuesdays at 6 p.m. is Truth Tuesdays; and much more. For more information, call Pastor Don at 412-853-5030.

GARFIELD

Artist Residency

Assemble is now accepting proposals for 2017 artist and maker residencies in partnership with our Saturday Crafternoon youth program and monthly Unblurred artist showcase. Through this RFP process, Assemble will select 4 local artists and makers for participation in month-long residencies that engage elementary school-aged youth and neighborhood partners in a collaborative process of creative placemaking. Chosen artists and makers will share skills, incubate creative ideas, and facilitate community-engaged youth projects through the weekly Saturday Crafternoon program. Assemble will share work created through this process during the following month's Unblurred artist showcase. More info is available at <http://assemblepgh.org/on-view/call4artists/>.

CITY-WIDE

Startable Pittsburgh

Startable Pittsburgh is now accepting applications from students age 15-19. Startable is a free eight-week summer program that teaches students ages 16-18 entrepreneurship and maker skills. Students receive a program stipend and free TechShop membership while networking with professionals and launching their own businesses. The program takes place in East Liberty from June 26-August 18. Learn more and apply online at www.startablepgh.org. Contact Jackie Shimshoni at jshimshoni@innovationworks.org.

CITY-WIDE

Life'sWork Training

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. 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 tutoring and GED prep, life skills seminars, staff/peer mentoring and job placement. To learn more, or to make a referral, contact Josh Martin at 412-471-2600 (ext. 321) or via email at jmartin@lifesworkwpa.org.

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Bride's Row becoming sore spot on Penn Ave.



ABOVE: A mysterious sign reading, "Fight Blight / Bride's Row / Call 311," blows in the wind as the lovely "Bride's Row" mural - the namesake of the properties from 5439 to 5445 Penn Ave. - looks on in disappointment. For months, the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) has been trying to contact the owner of these properties in order to understand the on-again, off-again plans to rehab some of the residential buildings. More details about the future of Bride's Row will follow in the March issue of the Bulletin.. Photo by Andrew McKeon.

FREE AFTERSCHOOL
MONDAYS GIRLS ONLY 5TH - 8TH GRADERS
TUESDAY 6TH - 8TH GRADERS
WEDNESDAY 4TH - 6TH GRADERS
THURSDAY 1ST - 3RD GRADERS
4PM TO 6PM
assemble
a community space for arts + technology
412-254-4230 4824 PENN AVE ASSEMBLEPGH.ORG

CREATIVE NONFICTION JOINS THE NEIGHBORHOOD

The Creative Nonfiction Foundation (CNF) is honored to be a new addition to the Bloomfield/Garfield/Friendship neighborhood. Founded in Pittsburgh in 1994 and now located at 5119 Coral St., CNF's main objective is to provide a venue for writers and storytellers who want to take their skills to the next level.

CNF publishes two magazines (one monthly and one quarterly), produces books under the imprint "In Fact Books," and offers a growing variety of craft-based writing workshops and online classes. Simply put, CNF is true stories, well told. To learn more, or to register for a writing class, visit www.creativenonfiction.org.

March Bulletin Deadline: February 13

Download advertising information: bit.ly/bulletin_ad

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

Intersectional advocacy at front lines of Women’s March on Washington

By Andrew Perrow *the Bulletin*

Washington, D.C. - On Saturday, Jan. 21, the day after a new administration entered the White House, half a million people were waiting for the new leaders in their backyard – and at the front gate.

Looking every which way from the top of the Washington Monument, a sea of pink hats with pointed corners could be seen despite the lingering fog that, similar to many crowds, refused to disperse. This massive collective - the organizers, demonstrators, and supporters who came from all over the world – was the Women’s March on Washington (WMW).

Forming a human banner of unity, scores of marchers joined together to voice their concerns about a new political climate that promises anything but a certain future for women and many others. I spent seven hours at the march that day and was fortunate enough to be on the scene for one of the largest demonstrations in American history.

Though many considered the march to be a demonstration against the new administration, the organizers of the march had intended the WMW to be a platform for the American people to express an agenda based on progressive ideals, rather than a forum to tear others down. What was anticipated as an event with crowds numbering near a quarter million folks, the marches in D.C and around the globe have reported crowds ten times greater than the predicted figures.

Before the march began (almost two hours behind schedule), we heard speeches from dozens of private and public figures who described a bleak present, but hopeful future. Legendary human rights activist Angela Davis expressed hope for an overhaul of the criminal justice system. Sybrina Fulton sang

out in memory of her son, Trayvon Martin. Representatives from Planned Parenthood defended their mission, one that advocates access to affordable and quality healthcare.

Writer/activist Janet Mock delivered a moving speech on equality for trans people and communities of color.

And, within that massive crowd, we listened and we were inspired. From the activists on Penn Ave. to the researchers in Antarctica, the fundamental message of the WMW and the sister marches was a call for unity - not just during the course of the day, but for the indefinite future.

Much to my delight, a diverse array of creative protest signs were on display in the nation’s capital. For as many messages that struck a humorous tone - “We Shall Overcomb” and “Free Melania” - there were just as many sincere messages about nonviolence, divesting from fossil fuels, and support for the Affordable Care Act.

Towards the end of the march, as the crowd gathered in huddles near the White House, we placed our signs on nearby fences, making for a striking mosaic of all the diverse issues and messages at play.

In the weeks and months ahead, it may not be easy to determine just what effect the WMW will have had on such a politically polarized country as ours. One message that should endure is how, at the intersection of all the nation’s diverse communities, there is a wealth of collective potential because we overlap with each other in so many different ways.

Let’s use these shared spaces to work towards a common good for more than just the next four years. ♦



ABOVE: Participants in the Women’s March on Washington hoist protest signs outside the nation’s capitol on Jan. 21. Some turned to humor to make their voices heard. Photo by Andrew Perrow.

Learn How to Love Your Heart

- Find out how to exercise for your heart.
- Discover healthy food and snack ideas.
- Receive a free blood pressure screening.
- Enjoy free refreshments.

Staff members from West Penn Hospital will be on hand to help answer questions about heart health.

Wednesday, February 15th
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Community Activity Center
113 N. Pacific Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

No RSVP required.

Please call 412. 330.2438
if you have questions.



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