

the Bulletin

Volume 42, Number 11
NOVEMBER 2017

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



Survey spots need for Bloomfield benches

By Christina Howell

Bloomfield Development Corporation

Perspective

Bloomfield – Many local residents often wonder why their walkable neighborhood, which boasts a vibrant business district, does not have much public seating. Considering how 20% of Bloomfield's population is aged 60 and above, it seems like people should have plenty of places to sit along Liberty Ave.

Rather than foist a solution onto the neighborhood, Bloomfield Development Corporation undertook a robust and transparent community process to ensure that creating public seating and increasing greenery with planters would be a good use of public and private funds. This community process encouraged community members to voice their opinions about what the new amenities should look like, as well as where they should be placed.

Over a thirty-day period, two sets of benches and planters were installed between Edmond St. and State Way. Bloomfield Development volunteers and staff gathered 1,112 survey responses (700 via direct engagement) and attended eight community events; they also

See **Bloomfield Benches** | page 2



ABOVE: Pedestrians cross Liberty Ave. with purpose and aplomb during "Crossings," a coordinated public action near the Bloomfield Bridge, on Wednesday, Oct. 18. Crossings participants rallied to draw attention to the intersection's public safety hazards and advocate for the needs of the neighborhood's more vulnerable pedestrians. Photo by John Colombo.

City announces agreement on Penn Plaza, Enright Park redevelopment

A Message from the City of Pittsburgh

East Liberty - A consent agreement has been reached among the City of Pittsburgh, Pennley Park South, LG Realty Advisors, and four local neighborhood groups

See **Penn Plaza** | page 4



Environmental Charter School taking root in Garfield

By Joe Reuben *Bulletin contributor*

Garfield - In a bit of a surprising twist, the former Rogers Middle School on Black St., once destined to be a market-rate apartment complex, now appears to be

See **Environmental Charter School** | page 6



ABOVE: During a Sept. 30 workshop at Assemble (4824 Penn Ave.), a young participant shows off one of many inventive reclamation projects. Kids got a chance to explore climate change with representatives from the Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse. Photo courtesy of Ashley Andrews.

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the Bulletin

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"Writing Pittsburgh" book prize welcomes local submissions

A Message from Creative Nonfiction

Pittsburgh - The "Writing Pittsburgh" book prize will recognize one book focusing on a subject of regional and national significance, by a writer with a meaningful Pittsburgh connection.

The author of the winning manuscript will receive a \$10,000 honorarium; publication of their book by Creative Nonfiction's (CNF) independent book imprint, In Fact Books (IFB); national distribution; and a marketing and publicity campaign.

Manuscripts will be judged on originality, the subject's broad appeal & resonance with a national readership, interpretation of the "Writing Pittsburgh" theme, and literary quality & strength of prose.

The selected book might be an in-depth reporting project focusing on one organization, individual, or event; alternatively, it might be a more personal writing project, i.e., a memoir.

All submissions will be judged by CNF's



editorial staff. The winning author will work with CNF/IFB's editorial staff to refine and polish the manuscript. Publication will occur between one year and fifteen months from the announcement of the prize.

Submissions should include a cover letter of up to two pages and a book-length manuscript, double-spaced. The deadline to upload files has been extended to Monday, Nov. 20; the winner will be announced in February 2018.

Applicants may upload entries at <http://creativenonfiction.org/submissions/writing-pittsburgh-book-prize>. The Writing Pittsburgh Book Prize is made possible through support from the Heinz Endowments.

The Heinz Endowments is devoted to the mission of helping the region prosper as a vibrant center of creativity, learning, and social, economic & environmental sustainability. ♦

Bloomfield Benches *continued from page 1*

engaged eight local community groups and entities. Additionally, a ballot box - placed on a vacant storefront near the demonstration area - allowed neighbors to give feedback when volunteers were not present.

These survey methods, along with the input gleaned from social media, ensured that all neighbors could register an opinion - including those with inflexible schedules and those without internet access.

Of the survey responses, only 2% (24 respondents) indicated opposition to the new amenities. The majority voted for the wood bench option, and for rectangular planters in a larger size; respondents suggested over 700 different locations for the benches.

As a result of the overwhelmingly positive feedback from the community, Bloomfield Development will work to attract public and private funding for the amenities, and coordinate with the City's Department of Public Works to finalize locations identified by the survey results.

Generously funded by Neighborhood Allies, the demonstration period was supported by Michael Baker International, who created the survey and Streetscape Design Guidebook so that other communities could replicate this project in their neighborhoods.

Those interested in learning more may view the full report, as well as the guidebook, on Bloomfield Development's website: www.bloomfieldnow.org. ♦

BELOW: Judging by local survey results, Bloomfield residents want more benches along Liberty Ave. Photo courtesy of Christina Howell.



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Fax 412-441-6918

Do you need help acquiring insurance via the Affordable Care Act or Medicaid? HELP HAS ARRIVED!

The Consumer Health Coalition, an expert in health insurance, wants to answer your questions about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Medicaid!
The goal is to help you get insurance for 2018!

The following questions will be answered:

- How do I sign up online for the Affordable Care Act or Medicaid?
- If I already have insurance, how do I update my plan?
- How much financial assistance will I receive?
- Have any changes been made to the enrollment process?
- What rate increases are currently occurring?
- If I have unpaid premiums, can I still get insurance?
- How can the Consumer Health Coalition personally help me complete the insurance application - at no cost to me?

Open Enrollment: November 1st thru December 15th!

Event Details:

Date: Wednesday, November 8th

Time: 6 - 8 p.m.

Location: Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.)

RSVP by calling 412-204-7325

Special thanks to Citizen's Bank for its sponsorship of this event and our partnering organization the Bloomfield Garfield Corporation.

Light refreshments will be provided

RISE program provides free job training in construction trades

By David J. Tobiczky *Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania*

Lawrenceville - Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania's RISE (Reentry through Industry Specific Education) Project is currently seeking program candidates. Now entering its sixth year, the construction job-training program focuses on individuals aged 17-24 who need to earn their high school diploma/GED®.

Ten additional individuals who already have their GED®, and are between 16 and 18 years of age, will also be accepted. As part of the RISE program, individuals who are in need of their diploma will be enrolled in Goodwill's free classes; they can take all GED® tests at no cost.

During the project's first five years of operation, nearly 250 individuals have participated in RISE - resulting in job placement as skilled laborers in machine manufacturing, construction, concrete, roofing, and furniture repair.

RISE is offered in conjunction with Pittsburgh Community Services Inc. (PCSI). PCSI's curriculum covers topics like carpentry, electrical, plumbing, brick masonry, landscaping, and painting. Participants will also earn their OSHA-30

Certificate.

All RISE Project participants will receive construction and life skills training, job placement assistance, paid & unpaid work experience, case management, and counseling. The program includes free lunches, bus passes during the training period, and driver's education classes (if eligible). The ten-week training program will be conducted at the 2400 East Carson St. Goodwill facility on Pittsburgh's South Side. Program hours are Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Eligible RISE candidates are individuals between the ages of 17 & 24 who are in need of their GED, have a barrier to employment, and reside in the city of Pittsburgh or Allegheny County. Other RISE partners include Partner4Work, Allegheny County Juvenile Probation, and the Pennsylvania Career Technical Training Alliance.

For more information on the RISE Project, visit www.goodwillswpa.org/vocational-training; please contact Ms. Whitney Miles at 412-632-1742 or whitney.kasprzak@goodwillswpa.org. ♦

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 11

The deadline for the December issue is **Monday, November 13.**

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Board Meetings are held by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, at 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.

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www.Bloomfield-Garfield.org © 2017 by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

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ABOVE: Bill Cornell (l), Board President of the Bloomfield Garfield Corp. (BGC), and Rick Swartz (r), BGC Executive Director, flank Jeanette Coleman as she receives an award for her years of volunteer service to the Garfield community. A BGC Board member, Coleman resides with her family in Garfield. Photo by Rick Flanagan.

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Penn Plaza

continued from page 1

to resolve a long-running dispute over the future redevelopment of the former Penn Plaza Apartments’ property.

The buildings have been demolished, and the dispute has centered on the future of a city parklet, access into and out of the site once any new development is built, and the loss of affordably-priced rental housing that occurred when several hundred tenants were evicted by the property owner, Pennley Park South, Inc. The signing of the consent agreement by Judge Joseph James of Common Pleas Court means that lawsuits which the city had filed against the owners, and which the owners had filed against the city, have been formally resolved.

The city, in its announcement of the filing of the consent agreement, stated that there were more than 1,000 collective hours of discussions, mediation sessions, and negotiations led by Downtown Attorney William Pietragallo II among the City, Pennley Park South, LG Realty Advisors, East Liberty Development, Inc. (ELDI), Friendship Community Group, Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, and the Enright Park Neighborhood Association.

One of the main by-products from the negotiated settlement will be the creation of an East End Affordable Housing Fund that will use tax revenue spun off by the commercial development at the site to help seed several hundred units of housing intended to replace what was lost at Penn Plaza. Those developments will be targeted

for the neighborhoods of East Liberty, Larimer, and Garfield.

The Housing Fund will be supported by a 50% TRID (Transit Revitalization Investment District) contribution by Pennley Park South pursuant to a plan jointly developed by the City, neighborhood groups, and Pennley Park South. All of the projects supported by this dedicated fund will be within one mile; they are expected to be completed concurrent with the full build-out of LG Realty’s new development.

Enright Park, the City Park adjacent to the development site, will be reconfigured, redesigned, and rebuilt as an improved amenity to the community. As part of the agreed-upon new site plan, the park will connect Negley and Euclid Avenues, acting as a greenway between Friendship and the heart of East Liberty, as well as a buffer between the residences around the site and the new commercial development.

An agreed-upon reconfigured overall site plan for the development, focused on retail and office uses, will create a blend of work-force jobs and maximize tax revenue to the city. A robust public process will precede plan approval, including two community meetings and review by the City Planning Commission and other appropriate bodies.

No replacement housing is currently planned for the Penn Plaza site but the Housing Fund created by this agreement Could allow many of the roughly 200 residents displaced by the redevelopment to

ultimately lease or purchase affordable apartments or houses in the vicinity.

“While I’m happy this settlement was reached we must remember the many longtime East Liberty residents displaced by this development, which was first announced two and a half years ago,” Mayor William Peduto said. “I want to thank everyone – especially ELDI, Friendship Community Group, Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, and the Enright Park Neighborhood Association – for all their hard work on this agreement and its commitments to funding affordable housing and rebuilding the neighborhood’s park,” Mayor William Peduto said.

Lawrence Gumberg, President of LG Realty Advisors, Inc., stated, “William Pietragallo II, Mayor Bill Peduto, and all of the neighborhood groups brought extraordinary collaboration to come to this consent agreement. We thank them for their efforts and look forward to working together to build a signature project for East Liberty and the City.”

our efforts will benefit the entire community. New mixed-income housing in close proximity to the former Penn Plaza will create opportunities for low-income residents to continue to be part of an economically thriving East Liberty and East End. We will have an upgraded Enright Park with improved access for the whole community, linking formerly isolated pockets of the neighborhoods, and a vibrant commercial development. We appreciate the hard work of our mediation partners and our tireless mediator, Bill Pietragallo.”

Special Mediator Bill Pietragallo said, “The global resolution of these important and diverse individual, neighborhood, business, commercial and governmental issues is one of the most gratifying experiences of my professional career. I am proud to have been of service to the people of Pittsburgh.”

For more information, please contact City Solicitor Lourdes Sanchez-Ridge at 412-255-2015. ♦

Penn Avenue Business Walking Tour


Interested in learning more about what your neighborhood has to offer?
Take a walk with us as we visit some of the awesome businesses and galleries on Penn Avenue between Negley and Mathilda.

This event is rain or shine. Please wear comfortable walking shoes. We will meet at Alloy Theater (5530 Penn Ave at 11am) to begin the tour.



Open to all ages!

A light lunch will be served.

Date: November 18, 2017
Time: 11am-1pm



RSVP is required in order to attend. Please provide name and phone number/email address.
Email: mainstreets@bloomfield-garfield.org
Phone: 412.441.6950 x 16



Sponsored by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation and the Penn Avenue Arts Initiative
www.pennavenue.org/unblurred

Penn Ave. Arts & Commercial District Community Survey

My name is Amber Epps and I am the Commercial District Manager for the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC). In order to make sure that the Penn Avenue Arts & Commercial District is meeting the needs and expectations of the community, the BGC is conducting a short, preliminary survey to gather your feedback. Once you have completed your survey, please drop it off at the BGC office, located at 5149 Penn Ave. We look forward to hearing from you!

- How do you prefer to receive information about what’s going on in the neighborhood?
Choose all that apply.
 - Email
 - Social media
 - Word of mouth
 - Flyers
 - Mail
 - The Bulletin
 - Other _____
- Do you attend events/activities (including arts-related activities) on Penn Avenue?
 - No
 - Yes (If yes, which ones?) _____
- If you answered “No” to question #3, why not? Choose all that apply.
 - Costs too much
 - Nothing that I am interested in
 - Not aware of what is going on
 - Other _____
- What types of events/activities would you like to see on Penn Avenue?
- Do you shop or visit restaurants/cafes on Penn Avenue?
 - No
 - Yes (If yes, where?) _____
- If you answered “No” to question #5, why not? Choose all that apply.
 - Costs too much
 - Nothing that I am interested in
 - Not aware of what is available and/or what their hours are
 - Other _____
- If you have any other feedback related to the events, activities, etc. on the avenue, please write them below!
- Optional: What street do you live on? _____

What’s your email address? _____

Walk begins at Fort Pitt School
5101 Hillcrest St. Pittsburgh, PA 15224

Garfield PEACE WALK

Nov. 11th at 11 a.m.

Let's walk for peace in our community and remember the lives lost as we stop to pray at locations where lives have been gone way too soon.

Walk ends at Aiken and Hillcrest with a Peace Cookout @ 12:30 p.m.
(Cookout rain location at Valley View 601 N. Aiken Ave.)

Sponsored by Valley View Church

Competition heats up for annual Lawrenceville "Cookie Cup"

By Rachel Webber Lawrenceville Corporation

Lawrenceville - For seventeen years, local business owners and cookie lovers alike have eagerly anticipated the annual "Joy of Cookies" Tour, a three-day event that welcomes visitors from across the region. The free, family-friendly takes place along Butler St. and parts of Penn Ave.

Gingerbread signs (numbered 1 - 40) mark the location of free sample cookies, while "Take-A-Break" stop signs (numbered 1 - 15) denote prime locations to grab a coffee or lunch during the tour.

The tour will take place from Friday, Dec. 1, through Sunday, Dec. 3. It provides an opportunity for visitors to explore the ever-growing business district, discover new shops and, of course, sample plenty of cookies. A printed map of the tour route can be found at participating businesses and select locations in the city starting in November.

Saturday, December 2, will be packed with an assortment of extra goodies - including a holiday pop up market at Bay 41 (4107 Willow St.) featuring local vendors, including Edward Marc Chocolatier.

With the generous sponsorship of The Foundry at 41st Street and The Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, two wheelchair accessible trolleys from Molly's Trolleys will shuttle people across the neighborhood beginning at noon on Saturday, Dec. 2.

The venerated "Cookie Cup" returns this year. Local jeweler, Paul Michael Designs (3453 Butler St.), has once again offered to craft an award for "Best Cookie"; a beautiful, silver medal goes to the business with the most shout-outs on social media.

Last year, Una Biologicals won the gold hardware. Participants can use "#Cookie-Tour2017" on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram and tag the business with their favorite cookie. The winner of best cookie keeps the medal for display for one year until the next tour (think: the Stanley Cup of cookies).

To learn more - and download a printable map of the tour stops - visit www.lvpgh.com/cookie-tour or find "The Joy of Cookies, Cookie Tour" on Facebook. ♦

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Pittsburgh Bach Choir

Saturday, December 2nd
6-9pm

camels
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sheep
free food
cookies
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Download guidelines for stories, photos, and notices: bit.ly/bulletin_news

Environmental Charter School continued from page 1

in line to become the future home for the middle grades of the Environmental Charter School (ECS).

While no public announcement has been made, Garfield community representatives were informed in late September by ECS officials that a change in plans was pending on the future use of the building. Rogers was sold by Pittsburgh Public Schools in January of 2015 to a limited partnership controlled by Steiner Development, an Edgewood-based firm, for \$275,000. The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) had directed a letter in mid-September to Steiner’s offices, seeking an update on the company’s purported renovation plans for the building, but it went unanswered, according to BGC Executive Director Rick Swartz.

The BGC had been a rival bidder for the property, in the hopes of converting it into affordable rental housing, but its bid of \$165,000 was spurned by the city school Board in favor of the higher offer from Steiner Development. Swartz said there has been no communication from Casey Steiner, the company’s CEO, or his firm since the spring of 2015, when the city Zoning Board held a hearing on the project. Steiner appeared before the board and subsequently won zoning approval from the city for his project. There was an initial flurry of demolition activity at the property, according to Swartz, “and then nothing”, he advised *The Bulletin*.

During this same time period, ECS was engaged in a two-and-a-half year legal battle with the city school Board over plans

to expand its presence in the city. According to Jon McCann, the CEO of Environmental Charter School, that fight was brought to a conclusion this summer after a state appeals board reversed the city school Board’s decision to reject ECS’s application for a second charter license. A July story in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported the news of an out-of-court resolution to the dispute, but provided few details other than to note that news of the settlement came from the offices of the school Board’s solicitor, Ira Weiss. McCann confirmed to the Garfield neighborhood representatives that the issuance of a charter will be forthcoming from the district, and that ECS’s search for a new site for their middle school intensified once matters were settled with the school district.

“We’re excited about coming to Garfield, and are hoping to work closely with Garfield residents, churches and community groups in putting plans in place to open by September 2019,” McCann told these same neighborhood representatives on October 4. McCann said their initial plan is to move the 6th, 7th and 8th grades to Rogers, and add one new classroom to each grade. When the 8th graders are ready for 9th grade, they will remain at Rogers to form what will be the start of a

high school class. But McCann said the school’s long-term plan will be to find a third site for a high school in another neighborhood “somewhere between the two rivers.”

Because not much is known generally about charter schools and how they operate, Swartz said the BGC decided to schedule a public meeting for Thursday, November 9th, at its Community Activity Center, 113 N. Pacific Avenue, in Garfield, starting at 6 PM. McCann said he will use the opportunity to talk about the school’s mission, its curriculum, its desire to integrate itself into the East End, and how the process for accepting students into the school will actually work.

Several of the representatives attending the Oct. 4th meeting told McCann they were hopeful that Garfield parents in particular would be given ample opportunity to acquaint themselves with ECS and see if the school is a good fit for their children. McCann welcomed that idea, but did state that there is no way for ECS to reserve slots for children from the immediate neighborhood. He pledged that parents in the community would know when the application process opens. He also said he would like the school’s facilities to be available for other events organized by the public at large. ♦

They were missed then.
They’re missed now.



Now is the time we especially remember those who served for our country. They fought to make a better world for the rest of us, and we will never forget them.

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GINKGO FEST 2017

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November 4th, 2017
1-4PM
Highland Park
Maple Grove Shelter

A family focused event to celebrate ginkgo trees! Enjoy performances from **Pittsburgh Taiko**, a yo-yo performance by the **Organization of Chinese Americans**, and **Win-Win Kung Fu!**





SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

SAVE THE DATE

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PENN AVENUE

Friendship Community Group elects six new Board members

A Message from the Friendship Community Group

Friendship - On Thursday, October 19, the Friendship Community Group (FCG) held its fourth quarterly meeting of the year at Fourth Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh (5450 Friendship Ave.). The evening began with informal socializing and followed with a meeting that consisted of Board elections and committee reports. Six new directors - and one returning Board member - were elected for two-year terms by acclamation.

The new FCG Board members are as follows: Jayne Bower, who wants to use her experience in supply chain management to support FCG efforts; Rod Cunningham, who is interested in neighborhood environment issues; Ellen Dibiase, who is focused on keeping public green-spaces clean and safe for all; Tom Hritz, who says he wants to keep Friendship strong and welcoming for all; Vince Manetti, who will use his background in engineering to deal with code enforcement and zoning issues; and Meredith Maverro, whose communication and PR experience will support the Communications and Community Building Committee.

The sole returning member, current Board President Martha Terry, is focused on increasing her neighbors' participation in the FCG and fostering even more inclusion. Committee reports highlighted ongoing projects and current issues.

According to Anna Tang and Evan Tobin, co-chairs of the Neighborhood Environment Committee, new lights and a storage shed will soon be installed at Baum Grove. Jennifer Haven, vice-chair of the Housing and Business Borders Committee, outlined numerous issues - including an agreement regarding the former Penn Plaza site, potential changes to the five-way Roup/Harriet/Fairmount intersection, and the possibility of a new development at the ShurSave IGA site in Bloomfield.

Representing the Communications and Community-Building Committee, Mora McLaughlin and Ted Cmarada talked about ensuring that all Friendship residents are apprised of FCG activities; they noted that the "Street Ambassadors" program will be launching soon. Sara DeLucia reported that the 2017 House Tour was a success, and Martha Terry asked for volunteers to begin planning next year's Friendship Flower and Folk Festival (F4).

The Board will hold its annual retreat in January, during which the agenda for 2018 will be set. Anyone who would like to submit issues for the Board's consideration may contact the Board at fcg@friendship-pgh.org. ♦



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Lissa, 28

Stage 3A breast cancer diagnosis
January 2016

"I thought I had all my priorities straight. But the moment someone says to you, 'You have cancer,' It's like, 'Whoa, I need to be doing things a lot differently.'"

Seven years ago, when Lissa was just 21 years old, her family doctor asked her if she was doing breast self-exams. Her answer was no, but she started to do them. A few years later, she felt something. It was an 8-centimeter tumor. Lissa had stage 3A triple-negative breast cancer. Her team of Allegheny Health Network gynecologists, oncologists, and surgeons quickly devised a plan: chemo and radiation to shrink the tumor, a double mastectomy, and reconstructive surgery. Today Lissa is breast-cancer free. Find Lissa's story at AHN.org/AllOfHerLife or women's health specialists at (412) DOCTORS.

Caring for all of her, all of her life is #LivingProof.



Neighborhood FOCUS

“Crossings: Bloomfield” advocates for safe crosswalks

By Andrew McKeon *the Bulletin*

Bloomfield - Sometimes, a near-miss is all it takes to expose the familiar dangers we encounter every day. At the Bloomfield Bridge intersection, that near-miss happened in July, when a motorist inexplicably drove his car into the Bloomfield gateway sign that sits in the middle of Liberty Ave. and Main St. Miraculously, nobody was hurt, but the accident still shook local pedestrians who regularly walk through the dangerous intersection.

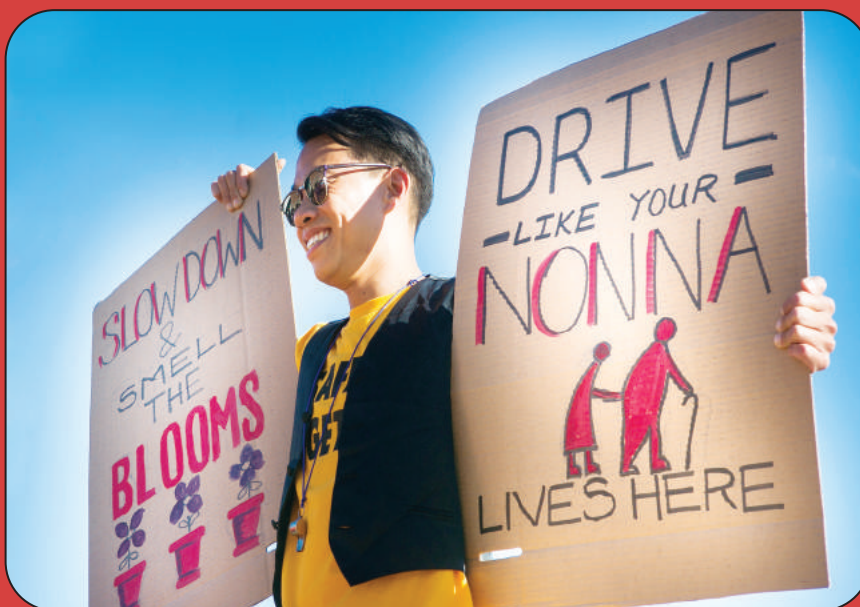
As Christina Howell, Bloomfield Development Corporation’s executive director, wrote in a *Bulletin* article last month (Vol. 42, No. 10), “this gateway intersection is adjacent to the ShurSave IGA grocery store, the Bloomfield Pool & baseball fields, and Woolslayer Elementary School - destinations that attract pedestrians of all ages and abilities, including young children and older adults.”

Howell and other local community leaders joined forces to highlight the need for safer streets – and they did it with a show of force. Enter “Crossings: Bloomfield,” a public action/street demonstration that employs “flash mob” tactics to drive the public safety point home for local drivers.

On Wednesday, Oct. 18, activists and concerned neighbors gathered at the Bloomfield Bridge intersection to cause a ruckus about unsafe walkways during rush hour. They wore bright colors, shook noise-makers, hoisted crazy signs, and danced - en masse – through the streets to loud, blaring James Brown tunes like “Get on the Good Foot.”

Before everyone got moving at 4 p.m., Howell addressed the crowd to communicate the need for safer crosswalks, urging people to fill out surveys designed by Bloom-

BELOW: Bruce Chan, a community advocate from Bloomfield Livable Streets, holds up signs encouraging safer driving around the Bloomfield Bridge intersection during a “Crossings event on Wednesday, Oct. 18. Photo by John Colombo.



field Livable Streets’ community organizers. Of the intersection’s potential for accidents, she said, “it’s not a matter of ‘if.’ It’s a matter of ‘when.’”

Howell confirmed that City officials are drafting plans to redesign some of the crosswalks to address public safety concerns. Working in partnership with “Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh” - a regional initiative that seeks to create more inclusive, respectful communities for all generations - the social enterprise known as “Lively Pittsburgh” helped bring the Crossings event to fruition.

Toting a sign and dancing to the beat alongside her constituents, City councilwoman Deb Gross told *the Bulletin* that she understands how dangerous intersections can influence one’s everyday routine. “We’ve met some long-time residents who’ve never crossed the intersection right in front of their home because it’s just too dangerous,” she said.

Wayne Younger, from PULSE, cited the need to re-think the whole equation when it comes to vehicles and pedestrians. “It’s important for the streets to serve the people, rather than the other way around,” he said.

As marchers of all ages made their way through each crosswalk, back and forth a few times over, they made sure to take as long as humanly possible.

While drivers crawled alongside the pedestrians, they began taking notice of the pop-up public action; some honked in solidarity and others merely squinted to read the signs.

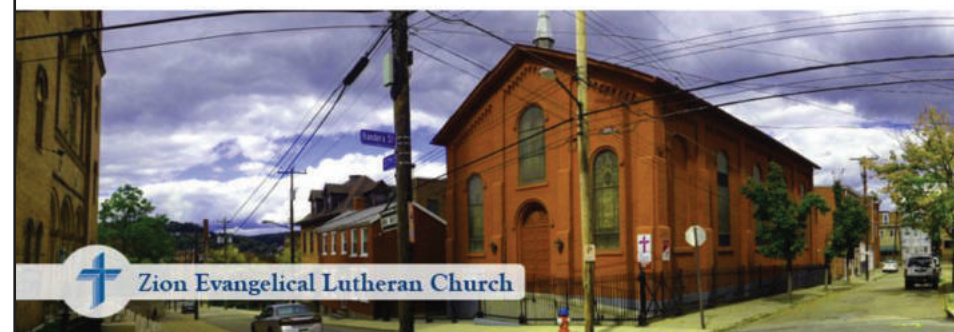
Walking through the thicket of vehicles, one could not help but realize just how many cars were stuck in traffic along Liberty Ave. Two emergency vehicles brought

LOOKING FORWARD TO CELEBRATING OUR 150TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN LAWRENECEVILLE

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“It’s important for the streets to serve the people, rather than the other way around.”

– Wayne Younger, PULSE

all the intersection’s problems into focus when they flashed sirens and honked horns to clear the way, yet were barely able to make it through the gridlocked traffic.

Making his daily trek to the ShurSave grocery store, a Polish Hill resident known as “Simeon the Icon Painter” happened upon the Crossings scene and promptly joined the advocates’ ranks. “I use the Bloomfield Bridge every day,” he said. “It’s about time we have some safety for the old people in the community like me.”

He noted that Bloomfield and, to a larger extend, the whole city, plays host to far more vehicles than its aging infrastructure can withstand. “All of these intersections used to be fine,” Simeon said (as his canine companion sniffed about below), “but now they’re bad for pedestrians, they’re bad for bicyclists, and they’re even bad for doggies.”

Echoing the sentiments of everyone at the Crossings event, Simeon put things in very simple terms: “It’s the pedestrians who make this town, not the cars.” ♦

State Congress advances House Bill 1737 to bolster chiropractic programs

By State Rep. Adam Ravenstahl D-Allegheny

Op-Ed

Allegheny County - My efforts to expand chiropractic educational programs in Pennsylvania, by allowing chiropractic interns and students to practice under supervision, have received a significant shot in the arm.

In late September, the House Professional Licensure Committee unanimously advanced my House Bill 1737, putting the measure before the full House chamber for consideration.

Chiropractic care is an important facet of health care; its holistic and non-invasive techniques offer benefits long-recognized throughout the commonwealth. However, a number of barriers have hindered the development of the profession, and its professionals, in our state.

Currently, a chiropractic intern cannot obtain experience in Pennsylvania, a hurdle to advancing the profession and a major factor why the state has no chiropractic educational programs.

That is one toxic barrier. Even though many exemplary chiropractic professionals have practiced in Pennsylvania for generations, interns and students are barred from gaining hands-on experience and must travel out of state to gain credentials.

By removing this restriction, I hope to spark educational programs throughout the state and increase the chances that a chiropractic practitioner will choose to pursue their practice in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Chiropractic Association is supporting the bill.

After all, we need to expand job opportunities throughout the commonwealth, not thwart them. ♦



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- Specifically, what help NeighborWorks Western Pennsylvania can provide

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Special thanks to Citizen’s Bank for its sponsorship of this event and our partnering organization the Bloomfield Garfield Corporation.

**** Light refreshments provided****

City close to finalizing affordable housing policy, but the politics are getting messy

By J. Dale Shoemaker Public Source

Editor's Note: The following story has been reprinted in full with permission from Public Source - a nonpartisan, nonprofit, digital-first media organization dedicated to serving Pittsburgh and the region. Find the story at <http://publicsource.org/the-city-is-close-to-finalizing-its-affordable-housing-policy-but-the-politics-are-getting-messy/>.

Pittsburgh's path to finalizing an affordable housing policy has been arduous, but these days, there's high confidence on Grant Street that the city will at least find the money for an affordable housing trust fund by the end of 2017. That gives city officials only two and a half months to sort through this practical and political matter of how to raise \$10 million a year.

To do that, here's what will need to happen:

- Members of city council will have to agree on a plan to raise the funds — an amount the city's Affordable Housing Task Force recommended. The funding could come from raising taxes or redirecting other money from the city budget.
- Mayor Bill Peduto will have to sign off on the plan. At this point, he's voiced support for a tax increase and has said he'll work with city council on its other ideas.
- Once the funding plan is in place, the Urban Redevelopment Authority will take out a bond for tens of millions to immediately start work on affordable housing projects. Council will also set up a board to oversee how the money is spent.

But while those few steps seem straightforward, they belie a tricky political process.

Many in Pittsburgh are concerned the city will become less affordable as it's reinventing itself into a stronghold for technology and innovation. While more than 10 percent of the city's housing stock is considered affordable, advocates and public officials agree the city is in need of at least 17,000 additional affordable housing units. Affordable housing is typically for households whose annual income is less than an area's median income. In Pittsburgh, that means those who earn less than \$41,000.

The task force, formed in 2015, concluded that to reach its goal of \$10 million annually, the city would need to find "new sources of revenue." With the city considered financially distressed under Act 47 and only having nominal budget surpluses each year, that would likely mean raising taxes.

The task force members looked at multiple ways to raise money, including getting state approval to raise the hotel tax and using money from expiring tax credits, but decided that those options alone wouldn't cut it. Involving Harrisburg is problematic, though. Many of the tax increases that could raise enough money would require state approval, meaning the city would be in for a fight with a Legislature that already struggles to pass a budget.

So the task force kept its options focused on what the city could control: the property tax and the realty transfer tax (RTT).

Councilman R. Daniel Lavelle, who was on the task force, became the chief proponent of raising the RTT and wrote it into a bill he introduced to council. But even he wasn't convinced the RTT was the best option. "Ultimately, the increase in the realty transfer tax was viewed as the best of sort of the worst options because our hands are indeed tied in terms of what we can actually do," he said.

The idea of increasing the RTT fares worse among his colleagues on council. That

proposal is "dead in the water," according to Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak. And back in July, Councilman Dan Gilman offered tepid approval, telling the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* at the time: "Do I think increasing the realty transfer tax is a great idea? No. Do I think it's the only tool in my very, very, very small toolbox? Yes."

Raising the RTT is unpopular for a few reasons:

1. Opponents of raising the RTT, including the Realtors Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh, say the increase in the tax (from 4 percent to 5 percent) would leave Pittsburgh with the highest transfer tax in Western Pennsylvania and would disincentivize people from buying homes in the city. There have been no studies specific to Pittsburgh that would prove that.
2. Councilman Corey O'Connor raised a concern that the RTT increase isn't "reliable" because the number of real estate transactions, and thus the amount of tax revenue, differs each year.
3. Developers and corporations, the ones making real estate deals that would bring in a bulk of the money from the tax increase, would likely find ways to avoid paying it, said John Petrack, the executive vice president of the Realtors Association. Even though Pennsylvania lawmakers officially closed a loophole in Pennsylvania's tax code in 2013 that made it possible for big buyers and sellers to not pay the RTT (known as 89-11 transactions), there are other ways for them to avoid the tax. "The proponents like to say it's going to be the developers and the flippers that will pay this but that's simply not true," Petrak said. "They're in business; they're not going to pay that. The consumers will."
4. Some council members worry increasing the RTT will place too big of a burden on first-time homebuyers and others earning middle-class incomes, the very populations the city wants to attract and retain. For example, the RTT on a \$100,000 home is 4 percent now, so \$4,000. A 1 percent increase would raise that cost to \$5,000, an additional \$1,000. While the charge is usually split between buyer and seller, you can't pay for it with a home loan; the tax is levied on top of the other closing costs and must be paid up front.

[continued on next page]



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Councilwoman Deb Gross said raising the RTT is like “taking money” from the middle class to pay for affordable housing and she’d like to look for a way to make the big spenders pay more.

“If there is an opportunity to garner those dollars from the mega builders, isn’t that a better place to look for contribution?” she said.

Some cities, including New York City, have a special kind of RTT that includes a “millionaire’s clause,” meaning that real estate deals worth more than \$1 million are charged more tax than the ones worth less. Pittsburgh can’t have this, though, because of the uniformity clause in the state’s Constitution.

The clause says all taxes have to be levied evenly, regardless of how rich or poor someone is. But hypothetically, if Pittsburgh was allowed to have a millionaire’s clause for real estate sales, it could fund affordable housing without creating an additional financial burden for the middle class.

As of July, Lavelle, Gilman, Rev. Ricky Burgess and President Bruce Kraus supported the plan. But it needs at least five votes to pass. So if the council doesn’t sway toward increasing the RTT to raise \$10 million for the fund, what are some options that remain?

- An increase in property taxes.

Raising property taxes by half of a mill (a mill being equal to \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 a property is valued at) is still on the table, though Lavelle doesn’t favor it. He worries that President Donald Trump and the Republicans who control Congress may pass a budget that cuts federal funding to Pittsburgh. If that were to happen later this year, he said, increasing the millage rate would be one way to make up the lost money.

“While I don’t necessarily see the draconian cuts that our president is proposing actually happening... I’m afraid to [raise property taxes] now, knowing we may have to do that at some point anyway if Congress acts the way that they’re actually talking,” Lavelle said.

- Another alternative is capitalizing on the revenue created by expiring tax credits.

Council members O’Connor and Gross think this strategy may work. The two tax credit programs are called the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) and Tax Increment Financing (TIF). They work differently, but both produce the same outcome: The city receives new tax revenue, which it previously didn’t collect, when the programs expire. Put simply, both programs encourage developers to build in areas that are run down or blighted and gives them a tax break to do it.

Both TIFs and LERTAs require a builder to pay a base property tax rate (meaning the amount the land is worth before it has a mall or office complex on it) and then set a schedule that says when the full amount of property tax is going to be due. These schedules usually stretch over multiple years and, eventually, the city will collect the full amount of taxes.

Gross and O’Connor want to see that “found money,” as it’s called, directed to the affordable housing trust fund. Currently, the city controller is auditing the TIF and LERTA programs to see how much “found money” will be there each year. According to preliminary numbers that Gross’ staff compiled, the city could see about \$117.9 million come in between 2018 and 2028 — more than enough to put \$10 million in the trust fund each year.

The plan is problematic, in part because this kind of “found money” is typically already budgeted and isn’t really “found money” at all.

The end result could be a hybrid solution: It’s possible the plan could include a small

increase in either the RTT or property taxes, some TIF and LERTA money and a pull from other pots of existing money.

Currently, Lavelle has been privately lobbying his fellow council members to piece together a compromised proposal that could make it past a vote.

It’s not clear what kind of affordable housing funding plan, if any, Councilwomen Darlene Harris and Theresa Kail-Smith would support. Neither returned requests for comment.

Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak supports the city taking responsibility to fund affordable housing but she opposes raising the RTT and has concerns about how big of a bond the city may take out. O’Connor and Gross both have serious concerns about the 1 percent RTT but have been working most actively on a compromised plan.

“I think when you’re looking at one option, that doesn’t satisfy me. I always think there are other ways to do things,” O’Connor said. “And if you’re stuck and you’re backed into a corner, and there’s only one option, I’d like to wiggle my way out of that corner and try different options.”

O’Connor and Gross are aligned on using some TIF and LERTA money to fill the fund, but it would deplete funding the city relies on. Rudiak, too, has joined those discussions. One of the reasons the task force recommended finding “new sources of revenue” is because Peduto’s administration is concerned about not having enough money for future expenses like city contract negotiations or the city’s pension fund. That worry came up during the task force’s meetings, said Mark Masterson, the executive director of the Northside Community Development Fund.

“What was inferred is that there’s going to be a ton of budget pressure and no way to pay for it,” Masterson said. “If the mayor and administration aren’t in favor of using these funds, it’s not going to be easy.”

“I’ll work with the council members on this. I want this done by the end of the year.”

As long as there is a way to make up for any TIF and LERTA money taken from the budget, Peduto said last week, he supports redirecting those funds to pay for affordable housing. Previously, Peduto had only voiced support for raising the RTT a full percent, though he said on Oct. 13 that a smaller increase along with using some TIF and LERTA money could be a viable solution.

“I’ll work with the council members on this. I want this done by the end of the year,” Peduto said. “I’m willing to be completely flexible to what they feel comfortable supporting. If they can find a better way, we’ll be there with them 100 percent.”

O’Connor said he’s aware that the city will have big expenses coming in the future but that council can use the funds if it wants to.

“Yeah, the money could have been already budgeted, but guess what? At the end of the day it comes to us and we can make that a priority,” he said.

For affordable housing advocates, any proposal that fills the trust fund is good. “We’ve got our head down,” when it comes to politics, said Linda Metropulos, a task force member and the director of Action Housing. Celeste Scott, another task force member and the affordable housing organizer for Pittsburgh United, said she, too, is not as concerned with the politics, only that Pittsburgh begins to focus on affordable housing and finds a sustainable way to fund it.

“We would just like to get the \$10 million,” she said. “If we get that, we’ll be satisfied.” ♦

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West Penn Hospital & Lemieux Foundation unveil new “Austin’s Playroom”

By Jesse Miller Allegheny Health Network

Bloomfield - Allegheny Health Network’s (AHN) West Penn Hospital (WPH, 4800 Friendship Ave.) and The Mario Lemieux Foundation recently announced the opening of an “Austin’s Playroom” at the hospital’s NICU Step-Down/Pediatrics Unit. The playroom serves babies and their families who are making the transition from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) to home.

Nathalie Lemieux, vice president, Mario Lemieux Foundation/Chair, Austin’s Playroom Project; Nancy Angus, executive director, Mario Lemieux Foundation; Ron Andro, president and CEO, West Penn Hospital; Joseph Aracri, DO, chair, Department of Pediatrics, AHN, and special invited guests officially opened the space in Bloomfield.

West Penn is now home to two Austin’s Playrooms; the other has served NICU families for several years.

“We are so pleased to open the thirty-fourth Austin’s Playroom,” Mrs. Lemieux said. “Our goal is to reach as many children and families as possible, and we are excited to bring Austin’s Playroom to families who are preparing to take their new babies home.”

Austin’s Playroom Project was established as a result of Nathalie and Mario Lemieux’s personal experience while caring for their infant son, Austin. In 1996, Austin was born profoundly premature and spent seventy-one days in the NICU.

While they were caring for Austin, they noticed how difficult it was to simultaneously engage their daughters, who were both toddlers at the time, while also tending to their son’s needs.

It was then that Mario and Nathalie realized a need for playrooms and began their plan to establish the Austin’s Playroom Project. The Pittsburgh Society of Invest-

ment Professionals, Seremet Family Foundation, and the Learmonth Fund of Pittsburgh contributed funds for the playroom through the Lemieux Foundation. Understanding the need for such a facility, WPH employees also contributed to the playroom’s construction.

“On behalf of the staff and patients of West Penn Hospital, we are all grateful for the generosity of the Mario Lemieux Foundation and we are proud to be the site of the thirty-fourth Austin’s Playroom,” Andro said. “West Penn has been home to an Austin’s Playroom since 2008. It was an amazing gift to our patients, and has been used by kids every day since.”

The Pittsburgh Society of Investment Professionals and Seremet Family Foundation contributed funds to the playroom through the Lemieux Foundation; the

Learmonth Fund of Pittsburgh also contributed, as did WPH employees.

“As a health care professional, I have seen first-hand how these playrooms fill an important need for a hospital like West Penn, which sees so many new mothers, fathers, and babies,” Dr. Aracri said. “We thank the Mario Lemieux Foundation and all of the contributors who helped make this project a reality.”

The Mario Lemieux Foundation was created in 1993 after hockey legend and NHL Hall of Famer Mario Lemieux survived Hodgkin’s disease. It is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to raising funds for cancer research and patient care.

Since 1998, the Lemieux Foundation has given over \$20 million to cancer research and patient care initiatives in the Pittsburgh region and beyond. ♦

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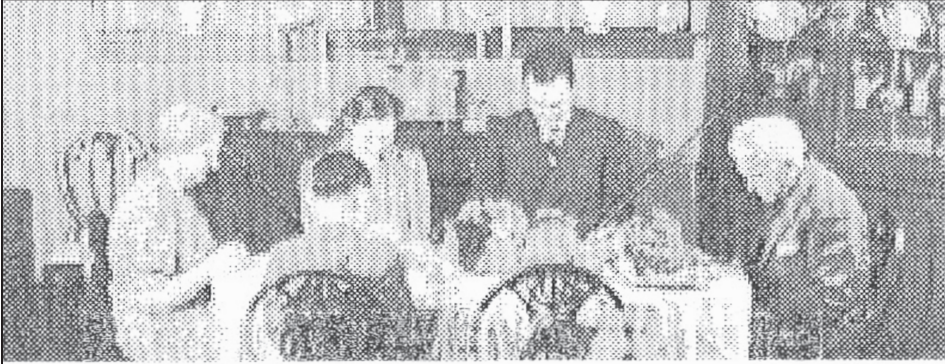
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LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER

- Bloomfield, Friendship, Garfield, East Liberty, Lawrenceville, & Stanton Heights -

Real Estate Sales (August 16 - September 15, 2017)

Compiled by Lillian Denhardt, Howard Hanna Real Estate

Bloomfield

Albert & Rita Stagno to Seraphim Thornton at 352 S. Winebiddle St. for \$299,964.

Andrew William Dora to Tyler Nelson at 336 Taylor St. for \$150,701.

Beverly Stepp to Alexander Kozlowski at 231 Ella St. for \$190,000.

Brian David Harkavy to Joy O. Jakubek at 39 Hemingway St. for \$300,250.

Daniel H. Papasian to Alecia Ott at 4620 Torley St. for \$133,000.

Debbie & Troy Krzysiak Krzysiak to Wanying Fu at 2 Hemingway St. for \$306,000.

Gregory E. Lane to Julie R. Sokolow at 423 Pearl St. for \$175,000.

John J. Barbera Jr. to Maxwell Tower at 362 S. Evaline St. for \$380,000.

Karen L. Mahon to David Schach at 4412 Milgate St. for \$115,000.

Mary G. Cunningham to Richard M. Cunningham Revocable Trust at 4094 Cabinet St. for \$1.

Michael & Ortenza Magliocco to David Davidson at 334 Taylor St. for \$295,000.

Michael Delecce to Delecce Revocable Living Trust at 342 Garnet Way for \$1.

Michael Delecce to Delecce Revocable Living Trust at 4625 Carroll St. for \$1.

Nathan W. & Christine M. Geller to Charles Daniel Sabatos at 4619 Friendship Ave. for \$121,250.

Norman C. Coliane to Eli Labelle at 431-432 Sapphire Way for \$55,000.

Paul B. Donatelli Jr. to Sandra Falcione at 335 Gross St. for \$1.

Raymond K. Myers to Rock The Krazbar LLC at 4038-4042 Howley St. for \$250,000.

Read Connolly to Daniel V. Bortfeld at 4701 Lorigan St. for \$177,900.

William G. & Mathilda Sexton to Laura Longenecker at 302 S. Atlantic Ave. for \$302,000.

Friendship

No sales to report.

Garfield

Adam Kunes to Stacy L. Weiss at 4854 Mossfield Ct for \$210,000.

Charles E. Strong Jr. to Greenfield Holdings LLC at 5434 Hillcrest St. for \$52,000.

George B. & Marylene S. Brown to Margaretta Investments LLC at 5508 Margaretta St. for \$166,000.

James B. & Sheila A. Faust to Jennifer Bates at 311 N. Mathilda St. for \$40,000.

Michael R. Whitely to Ppref A LLC at 5518 Broad St. for \$160,000.

Willie Thompson to Wassie Goushe at 5318 Hillcrest St. for \$16,000.

East Liberty

City Of Pittsburgh to Housing Authority City Of Pittsburgh at 120 Larimer Ave. for \$2,200.

Fay Barnhart to UCG Twenty Nine LLC at 617 N. Saint Clair St. for \$153,500.

Mary Worth Investment LP to Monica G. Krasinsky at 517 N. Beatty St. for \$185,500.

Robert G. & Kathleen W. Dunworth to Brent T. & Tina C. Bellinger at 713 N. Euclid Ave. for \$650,000.

Robert G. & Kathleen W. Dunworth to Brent T. & Tina C. Bellinger at 715 N. Euclid Ave. for \$650,000.

Lawrenceville

15 Deer Run Lane LLC to Romek Russell LLC at 3906 Mintwood St. for \$173,500.

Algon Realty Co. to NW 51St Street LLC at 27 51St St. for \$10.

Anthony Michael Ceoffe to Mingxin & Kyler Way at 253 38th St. for \$255,000.

Boots-N-Sox LLC to Sesoch LP at 5167 Butler St. for \$350,000.

Bridget E. Meacham to Benjamin S. Berg at 3624 Mintwood St. for \$310,000.

Carl & Stacy Vansluytman to 5246 Carnegie LLC at 5246 Carnegie St. for \$135,000.

Christine M. Gallagher to Michael P. & Janelle K. Maloch at 5255 Carnegie St. for \$315,000.

Christopher L. & Fawn M. Pignoli to 3465 Ligonier Street Holdings LLC at 3465 Ligonier St. for \$215,000.

Erik M. & Airen A. Germesin to Robert S. England at 3930 Mintwood St. for \$305,000.

Floyd T. & Denise Botta to White Butterfly Ventures Inc. at 5304 Holmes St. for \$90,000.

Frank & Teresa Cherico to Robert P. Petraglia at 3738 Liberty Ave. for \$50,000.

Housing & Urban Development to David Robert O'Leary at 276 Service Way for \$84,000.

Jawd Properties LLC to Kinwew Holdings LLC at 186 44th St. Rear for \$155,000.

Lora Gilpin to Joseph Rockey Jr. at 5150 Natrona Way for \$75,000.

Mahaca Development Group LLC to Miguel Betegon Ramiro at 184 44th St. for \$485,000.

Matthew Lambert to Patrick X. Gray at 3906 Howley St. for \$255,000.

Maureen A. Kulikowski to Bradford Brothers LLC at 5210 Keystone St. for \$140,000.

Mccleary Development LLC to David M. & Angela M. Mariani at 5267 Holmes St. Unit 405 for \$535,000.

Mccleary Development LLC to Jason M. Handerhan at 5267 Holmes St. Unit 103 for \$355,550.

Mccleary Development LLC to Rebecca A. & Keith W. Jackson at 5267 Holmes St. Unit 404 for \$395,000.

Mccleary Development LLC to Rosemary J. Froehlich at 5287 Holmes St. for \$469,000.

Mccleary Development LLC to Stephanie L. Wallace at 5267 Holmes St. Unit 401 for \$399,000.

Michael Deighan to Michael Golensky at 3945 Liberty Ave. for \$293,000.

Michael Deighan to Michael Golensky at 3947 Liberty Ave. for \$293,000.

Michael Deighan to Michael Golensky at 3949 Liberty Ave. for \$293,000.

Mornate Realty LLC to Jinpeng Ren at 4931 Hatfield St. for \$479,000.

Paul Novick to Big League Construction LLC at 4713 Hatfield St. for \$162,500.

R Kyndall Development Group LLC to John M. Jordan at 5227 Poe Way for \$458,500.

Raymond F & Debra J. Yeschke to Randall

August Gottus at 158 Home St. for \$125,000.

Richard & Patricia Gutmann to Mahaca Development Group LLC at 127 44th St. for \$165,000.

Ricki Lee Cole to Charles J. Colteryahn at 5629 Carnegie St. for \$147,000.

Ryan Enck to Michael Krueger at 225 Main St. for \$339,900.

Salvador A. & Carmelita L. Portugal to RMU Properties LLC at 3603 Penn Ave. for \$190,000.

Sandra L. Adams to Kevin & Adriana Doyle at 115 Banner Way for \$99,900.

Stabler Holdings LLC to Lawrenceville Assets LLC at 5770 Butler St. for \$275,000.

Stephen Nuske to Jake S. Charland at 315 Main St. for \$395,000.

Stephen V. Williams to Cory Ricci at 115 45Th St. for \$263,000.

Swellldwellings LP to Chan Real Estate LP at 3504 Charlotte St. for \$1,000,000.

Thomas F. Buti to Abbey Fedrow at 5142 Dresden Way for \$10,000.

TMNL LLC to Melissa A. Quattrone at 5216 Natrona Way for \$215,000.

Truong Q. & Phuc Thi Hong Nguyen Bui to Derfler Investments LLC at 712 53rd St. for \$122,400.

Urban Capital Group LLC to Kevin M. Colleran Jr. at 5256 Carnegie St. for \$399,000.

William J. & Lisa A. Bell to Christopher Fuget at 159 44Th St. for \$39,600.

Stanton Heights

Aaron Todaro to Casey L. Droege at 932 Millerdale St. for \$139,000.

Andrew Reichert to Lindsay Allshouse at 958 Oranmore St. for \$94,000.

CWABS Inc to Louis John Depellegrini at 280 Schenley Manor Dr for \$115,000.

Doris A. Rutkowski to Richard & Doris A. Dickinson at 4249 Stanton Ave. for \$0.

Janet M. & Robert Haley Feindel to Carolyn M. Hilliard at 1136 Oglethorpe Ave. for \$175,000.

Maria Catrina & Sean Jaime to Michael P. Casey Jr. at 147 Stanton Ct W. for \$170,900.

Sandra E. Turner to Read W. Connolly at 1172 Stanton Ter for \$180,000.

Sena Thompson to Jonathan Medeiros at 0 Camelia St. for \$162,000.

Sena Thompson to Jonathan Medeiros at 4403 Stanton Ave. for \$162,000.

Shane J. Siciliano to 88 Property Investments LLC at 957 Woodbine St. for \$99,900.

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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Local Events
Classes
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Sorry, but we do not accept listings by phone.

The Bulletin Board publishes listings of free or low-cost events, classes, volunteer opportunities, fundraisers, and services that are of particular interest to our neighborhoods. Listings are published on a space-available basis; we cannot guarantee placement or thorough edits of any listings. Announcements for the **December** issue of *the Bulletin* are due by **Friday, November 17**. Please submit listings using our online form at www.bit.ly/bulletin_submit.

November 2 - Thursday

GARFIELD
Land Trust Potluck

Bring a dish and join Garfield Land Trust members for a discussion about affordability, inclusiveness, and issues affecting our community at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov 2, at the Community Activity Center (113 N Pacific Ave. at Dearborn St.). Become a member today at www.garfield-landtrust.org/membership/. Your voice counts.

November 3 - Friday

LAWRENCEVILLE
First Friday Fish Fry

On Friday, Nov. 3, New Bethel Baptist Church (221 43rd St.) will sell fried fish, pound cakes, and sweet potato pies from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. To order, call 412-291-8185.

Fish & Chicken Dinner

The fish and chicken dinners will be sold at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church (3415 Ligonier St.) on Friday Nov. 3. The starting time is 11 a.m. and it runs until the dinners are sold out. You may call 412-621-4311 to place an order.

November 4 - Saturday

GARFIELD
Health Insurance Enrollment

Do you need health insurance? Health Insurance Navigators will be onsite at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (5321 Penn Ave.) on Saturdays during “Open Enrollment.” We provide free help with enrolling in and renewing Marketplace or “Obamacare” plans. Appointments are available on Saturday, November 4, 11, and 18; and Saturday, December 2 and 9; from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Call 412-456-1877 to schedule an appointment. Open Enrollment ends December 15.

November 5 - Sunday

EAST LIBERTY
Cathedral Concert

Essence of Joy returns to East Liberty Presbyterian Church (ELPC) for one final concert tour under maestro Dr. Anthony Leach’s leadership. The ELPC Chancel Choir, under the direction of Dr. Edward Alan Moore, will join Essence of Joy for a set of

spirituals in the first concert of the Cathedral Concerts’ 2017-2018 series on Sunday, November 5, at 3 p.m. Please visit www.ELPC.church for more information.

November 6 - Monday

GARFIELD
Green Zone Meeting

The Garfield Land Trust’s Green Zone Committee will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, November 6, at the Community Activity Center (113 N Pacific Ave at Dearborn St.). For information, email Greens-guild@gmail.com or call 412-365-5781.

November 10 - Friday

HOMEWOOD
YUIR Weekend Training

YUIR Weekend is a free, two-and-a-half day, anti-racist organizing training for youths (ages 14-23). The training will operate in partnership with the YMCA Lighthouse Project, located at the YMCA Homewood (7140 Bennett St.). The Friday, Nov. 10 session runs from 6:30 - 9 p.m. and includes dinner. The Saturday and Sunday (Nov. 11 & 12) sessions run from 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and includes lunch. Register at www.afsc.org/yuirweekend.

GARFIELD
Earth, Wind, & Fire Day Camp

Have you ever wondered what the air, fire, and Earth have to do with cooking? Do you know if the core of the Earth is a solid or a liquid? Have you ever wanted to do experiments with the air or our Earth and make things bubble, float, grow or sink? We will explore these questions as we discover the mysteries of the elements. Bring your creative mind and questions to our Earth, Wind and Fire Day Camp. For more information and to register, visit: <http://assemblepgh.org/day-camps/>.

EAST LIBERTY
“Spiritrals”

Kelly Strayhorn Theater (5941 Penn Ave.) hosts Dahlak Brathwaite and his hybrid hip-hop drama “Spiritrals” at 8 p.m. on Nov. 10 and 11. Brathwaite’s humor transforms a chilling personal story that layers storytelling and poetic verse with original songs. A young black man is stopped by the police without clear cause, again and again, until one encounter lands him before the courts. Addiction, religion, and the law intersect in this examination of factors that have misplaced him in

what appears to be a cultural rite of passage. Ticket cost is “Pay What Makes You Happy”; Visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org for mor information.

November 11 - Saturday

LAWRENCEVILLE
Sister to Sister Women’s Ministry

On Saturday, Nov. 11, the Sister to Sister Women’s Ministry presents “I’m Every Woman 3 John 2” during the SASS Conference (from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) at the New Bethel Baptist Church (221 43rd St.). Donation: \$30. A “Celebration of Women” service will follow at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 12, featuring guest preacher Rev. Kr. Kimberly Credit (from the Mount Zion Baptist Church in Boonton Township, New Jersey). Call 412-621-2155 for more information.

November 15 - Wednesday

STANTON HEIGHTS
Community Meeting

Last meeting of 2017. Join us for an update on community projects and programs, elections of new board members, and interesting speakers. As usual, city officials will be in attendance to hear your feedback. Visit www.stantonheights.org for

more info.

LAWRENCEVILLE
Free Lecture: “The Doughboy Mystery”

On Wednesday, November 15, the Lawrenceville Historical Society will host Tom Powers, who will discuss the year-and-a-half-long search for the dedication date of the Lawrenceville Doughboy statue’s replacement base with the Sixth Ward’s honor roll of World War II veterans. This ceremony could not be found in any of Pittsburgh’s archives until a lucky internet search solved the mystery. Event takes place at the Carnegie Library, (279 Fisk St.) at 6:30 p.m. It is free to the public. No reservations are necessary.

November 16 - Thursday

LAWRENCEVILLE
McConway & Torley meeting: ACHD permit

Please join Lawrenceville United (LU) and Lawrenceville Corporation (LC) on Thursday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Arsenal Middle School (220 40th St.) for a community meeting with the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) on the draft operating permit for

THURSDAY | NOV. 16TH | 6:30 PM
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**PENN AVENUE
COMMUNITY
MEETING**

This is a follow up to the July meeting. An updated version of the strategic plan will be presented along with a report on what has been done since the last meeting. Light dinner will be provided.

**RSVP TO 412.441.6950X16 OR
MAINSTREETS@BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD.ORG**

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Volunteer Opportunities Announcements Services Open Calls Shout-Outs

McConway & Torley. For more information, please contact LU at 412-802-7220 or info@LUnited.org.

November 18 - Saturday

GARFIELD

District Women's Prayer Breakfast

Morningside C.O.G.I.C. (5173 Dearborn St.) presents its fifth annual District Women's Prayer Breakfast, titled "Prepared for Harvest," on Saturday, Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to Noon. Donation is \$5. Bring a friend and be blessed. Call 412-361-9865 for more information.

November 19 - Sunday

EAST LIBERTY

Organ Performance

Three rising star organists from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY are featured in concert at East Liberty Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 19, at 3 p.m. This free concert is part of the "Cathedral Concerts" series at the church. Please visit www.ELPC.church for more information.

November 25 - Saturday

EAST LIBERTY

Suite Life Concert

The Kelly Strayhorn Theater (5941 Penn Ave.) hosts the tenth annual "Suite Life: Billy Strayhorn Birthday Bash," a musical tribute to the life and legacy of jazz icon and KST namesake Billy Strayhorn, at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 25. The concert, curated and directed by musician Poozie Bell, celebrates Strayhorn's continued influence on artists today and works to ensure his work inspires generations to come. Tickets are Pay What Makes You Happy. Information: kelly-strayhorn.org.

November 26 - Sunday

GARFIELD

Family & Friends Day

Morningside C.O.G.I.C. (5173 Dearborn St.) presents Family & Friends Day on Sunday, Nov. 26. Family and friends can come and enjoy the day with us and be blessed.

November 27 - Monday

GARFIELD

Robots Day Camp

Have you ever wanted to build your own robot? Do machines have feelings? How do you use technology to help you with daily tasks? Could robots help us live on another planet? Bring your questions and creative mind to our exploratory camp (designed for Grades 3-5). All Assemble Day Camps run from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. We offer pre-camp and post-camp care options. Both are available for an additional fee. Interested families can reserve a spot for their child by calling 412-661-6111 or emailing hannah@assemblephg.org to register.

- Ongoing -

CITY-WIDE

United Way Mentoring

"Be a Middle School Mentor" is a mentoring initiative through the United Way that pairs a caring adult with a middle school student to provide support, career guidance, stability, and vision. The goal is to help these students realize their full potential. The importance of good grades & consistent attendance are needed in order to pursue and achieve their academic dreams & goals in middle school, high school, and beyond. Being Pittsburgh Promise eligible will help these students further their post-secondary education after high school with the hope of fulfilling their life's goals. Mentoring (lunch time, after school & evening) is offered in 18 PPS & 3 Mon Valley Schools. For more detailed information, please contact Kathy Rodriguez by calling 412-456-6822 or emailing kathy.rodriguez@unitedwayswa.org.

Become a Scout

Boy scouting is a program designed for boys in Grades 1-5 (Cub) and ages 11-17 (Boy) that

emphasizes leadership, citizenship and personal fitness while developing character, family understanding and community service. It is camping, kayaking, archery, BB shooting, campfires, fun with friends and more. A nearby cub scout pack meets on Wednesdays at St. Raphael Parish Activity Center in Morningside at 6:30 p.m. A Boy Scout Troop meets in Lawrenceville at the VFW, Post 214 (316 52nd St.) on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. If interested in either unit, you may call Scout Master Bob McKinstry at 412-661-2963 or email Emckin1135@aol.com.

Foster Parents Needed

Would you like to make a difference in the life of a child? Are you a caring, affectionate, dependable, responsible, and patient person over the age of 21? Three Rivers Youth is in search of qualified individuals to become foster parents for children and teens. Training is free and conveniently located at 6117 Broad St. in East Liberty. Call 412-441-5020 for more information.

GARFIELD

Bible & Ministry Class

The William A. Johnson School of the Bible & Ministry is now open for enrollment. Classes are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday evenings at the Morningside Church of God in Christ (5173 Dearborn St.) in the Garfield area of Pittsburgh; early classes are from 5:45 to 7:15 p.m. and late classes are from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. These classes will offer you a life-changing experience. Call 412-361-9865 for more information.

Save the Date: December

EAST LIBERTY

Gift Gallery at the Plate

Dec. 8 - 10 is the fifth annual Gift Gallery show/holiday sale at Spinning Plate Gallery (5821 Baum Blvd.). The hours are Friday from 6:30 - 9 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sunday from Noon - 5 p.m. This is a free event. Local artisans offer a wide variety of their handmade work for your last minute gifts. For further info, contact Kitty at (412)535-1496, or kittwhy@gmail.com, or "Gift Gallery at the Plate" on Facebook.

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