

the Bulletin

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JULY
2018

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

Local grocery industry must raise wages

A Message from Pittsburgh UNITED

Perspective

Pittsburgh - Some 5,000 United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) members working for Giant Eagle are in a critical contract struggle with the company for \$15/hour and a union.

Good jobs that supported families until the 1980s have become poverty jobs for a workforce that is 65% part-time. This market-dominant corporation is leading the grocery industry in the wrong direction.

Starting wages of \$8.25, and a long path to good pay, mean that 46% of Giant Eagle workers earn poverty wage; tax-payers subsidize [Giant Eagle], which made \$9.3 billion in revenue last year. The corporation's union-busting practices keep workers from having a voice on the job in approximately one third

See **Grocery Wages** | page 10



ABOVE: Vendors from Keno's Hawaiian Shave Ice serve up refreshing treats at the Garfield Night Market on Friday, June 1. Visitors had their pick from a veritable smorgasbord of dining and shopping options on N. Pacific Ave. See more snapshots from the night market on page 5. Photo by Sarah Nielsen.



ABOVE: Fred Rogers (left) sits down with his mentor, Dr. Margaret McFarland, at the old Arsenal Nursery School in Lawrenceville. Read more about Dr. McFarland's pioneering work in child development at right. Image courtesy of Ellen DiBiase.

Arsenal Family & Children's Center builds on legacy of child development

By Ellen DiBiase *Bulletin contributor*

Friendship - Hidden halfway down the 300 block of S. Aiken Ave., a small building houses one of the top-rated, developmental preschools in the area.

Arsenal Family & Children's Center (AFCC), located at 336 S. Aiken Ave., has shepherded the progress of several renowned figures in the field of child development - including Pittsburgh's own Mister Fred Rogers, who studied there in the 1960s as a theology student and child health advocate.

Founded by Dr. Benjamin Spock [no relation] in 1953 as a partnership between the University of Pittsburgh and the Public Health Department, the preschool was created to provide a laboratory setting where pediatric medical students could train in child development.

Originally operating under the name of "Arsenal Nursery School," AFCC

See **Arsenal Family** | page 7

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SCREENPRINTING COLLECTIVE
SETS UP SHOP ON PENN AVE.

BLOOMFIELD GALLERY CONJURES
'PAUL BUNYAN OF STEEL'

- PAGE 8 -

Community development news

By Rick Swartz Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Council to consider bill allowing “granny flats”

City Council will take up legislation this month to allow a second dwelling unit to be added to single-family homes in a large portion of Garfield. Homeowners and homebuilders will have a two-year trial period to see if it is feasible to convert a basement, garage or third-floor attic into a second apartment, or tuck a “granny flat” into a newly-built house, as ways to make owning a home more affordable. The homeowner would need to remain the primary occupant of the house for as long as the unit is rented. The area of Garfield under consideration extends from Allegheny Cemetery on the west to N. Aiken Ave. on the east. Penn Ave. would not be included in the district. A public hearing on the bill is scheduled for July 25, at 2 p.m., in City Council chambers.

Modular home approved for lot in 400 block of N. Graham

The Garfield neighborhood could see the construction of its first modular home this summer on a lot at the corner of N. Graham and Hillcrest Sts. Module, Inc. received approval from the city zoning board in May to erect the house, which will be built in sections in a factory and shipped to the site. A homebuyer for the unit has already been identified. Brian Gaudio, a principal in the firm known as Module, has said he would like to build additional, for-sale homes in other parts of the neighborhood.

Open Hand Ministries ramps up activity in Garfield

Open Hand Ministries, currently renovating a single-family home at 208 N. Fairmount for a working-class homebuyer, appears poised to take on renovations projects at several other locations in Garfield. Pairing up with East Liberty Development, Inc. (ELDI), Open Hand has its sights set on re-doing houses at 4752 Kincaid St., 310 N. Fairmount St., 5521 Broad St., and 233 N. Aiken Ave. ELDI has managed to receive a commitment award of federal tax credits that will reduce Open Hand’s construction costs by as much as 20%, which will help keep their homes affordable to families earning under \$40,000 per year.

Possible help from City Council for Fort Pitt School and Field

Councilman Rev. Ricky Burgess told two representatives from Garfield community groups last month that he will try to get the city to commit as much as \$50,000 to seed efforts to plan for the future of Ft. Pitt School and an adjoining ballfield. The school has sat empty since 2011. A letter sent in March to school Superintendent Anthony Hamlet by Brothers and Sisters Emerging, Valley View Presbyterian Church, and the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation requested collaboration from the school district in creating a facility that could be used by both the district and the community. The letter has gone unanswered. Brothers and Sisters, which organizes the Garfield Gators football program every fall, is concerned about the deteriorated condition of the field’s grass surface, and would like to see artificial turf installed in its place.

City says “no” to paying for remediation of Broad St. hillside

Mayor Bill Peduto’s chief of staff, Dan Gilman, told the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* in June that a landslide which occurred in February behind a group of homes in

the 5400 block of Broad St. was not triggered by what many residents feel was a poorly-executed house demolition the city oversaw last July. Four homeowners saw their houses condemned initially by the city after a portion of the hillside fell away from their homes. The occupants of two of those homes were able to return to them about a month later, but the other two owners have been forced to accept housing elsewhere. The point of origin for the landslide appears to have been the lot where the demolition work was done. The question remains as to who will take responsibility for reconstruction of retaining walls at both the top and the bottom of the hillside. The retaining wall that ran along the top of the hillside was knocked down by the demolition contractor the city hired last year to raze a house and rear garage that had been condemned at 5472 Broad St.

Garfield Land Trust moving forward with incorporation

After almost two years of planning and engagement of neighborhood residents, the Board of the Garfield Land Trust is readying articles of incorporation for filing this summer with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The land trust’s mission will be to find ways to create an inventory of housing in Garfield that is permanently affordable for lower-income individuals and families. A business plan is also being prepared that will have a variety of strategies the trust’s Board can use to achieve this goal. In a somewhat related move, City Council has approved Mayor Peduto’s nominees to the first advisory board for the Housing Opportunity Fund. The fund will have a stream of up to \$10 million annually in city tax dollars that groups such as the Land Trust will be able to use to achieve their mission. ♦



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Why demolishing Lawrenceville's Holy Family Church would have been a mistake

By Dave Breingan *Lawrenceville United*

Perspective

Lawrenceville - Lawrenceville United (LU) and Lawrenceville Corporation (LC) are pleased that 44th & Summit Development LLC has voluntarily withdrawn its demolition permit application for the Holy Family church, filed on May 29. Constructed in 1940 to serve the area's growing Polish immigrant population, the church building contributes greatly to Lawrenceville's current nomination to the National Registry of Historic Places; its edifice is one of the most iconic structures in the neighborhood.

LU's mission is to improve and protect the quality of life for all Lawrenceville residents. LC serves as the catalyst, and conduit, for responsible growth and re-investment in the local community. Together, [both organizations] steward development in the neighborhood, ensuring that individual projects comport with neighborhood plans and values, and contribute to the authenticity of the neighborhood. As a part of this effort, the organizations created a community process to provide a forum where new development projects can be discussed, vetted, and measured against community plans and priorities.

Several years ago, LU and LC engaged local property owners in a robust community process regarding a proposed redevelopment of the former Holy Family Church and School (250 44th St.) into residential housing. The process included well-attended community meetings, as well as smaller focus-group sessions with residents from different impact areas.

Hundreds of residents participated in the process; in response to the community members' articulated concerns, the [developers] revised their plans to reduce the overall unit count while increasing the parking options. Notably, the adaptive re-use of the historic church structure was central to the revised plans, which were supported by LU and LC. Documents pertaining to this community process are available on LU's website at www.LUUnited.org.

Both nonprofit organizations received the recent demolition permit application unexpectedly, without any advance notice, and viewed the proposed demolition as a serious deviation from the property owner's previous agreements and commitments. In response, LU and LC co-submitted the Holy Family Church's application for nomination by the City's Historic Review Commission. Prepared by Preservation Pittsburgh, with support from the Lawrenceville Historic Society, this nomination ensures that all proposals for exterior alterations to the building must first be reviewed and approved by the Historic Review Commission.

On Friday, June 16, 44th & Summit Development LLC withdrew its demolition application, releasing a statement that indicated its commitment to working with the community and formulating a new path forward. LU and LC appreciate this orientation and remain fully supportive of responsible redevelopment on the property, as long as it aligns with the established community priorities.

The continued dilapidation of a vacant and blighted 1.5-acre site in the heart of central Lawrenceville is not beneficial to neighbors or the community at large. Local stakeholders look forward to working in good faith, and in earnest, with [the developers] and other partners on a community-supported plan that includes the preservation of the sanctuary.

We thank Mayor William Peduto, Councilwoman Deb Gross, Preservation Pittsburgh, the Lawrenceville Historical Society, and the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation for their support in preserving this historic church. ♦



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the Bulletin

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Deadline for the August issue is **Monday, July 16.**

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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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PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

By Nina Gibbs *Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

Garfield - School is out and the summer sun is heating up, but it is important to remember that, as the temperature rises, so does the incidence of crime. The information below, which concerns open cases in recent weeks, was furnished by Zone 5 Police.

Officers encourage all local residents to sign up for Zone 5's community crime report, a weekly email featuring local incident reports, at <https://tinyurl.com/Zone5CrimeUpdate>.

5/29/18 Robbery - 123 N. Negley Avenue (Sunoco), 4:10 a.m. - A 41 year-old female clerk reported that she exited the rear door of the Sunoco A-Plus to take out the trash when two males ambushed her, grabbed her arms, put a bag over her head, and taped her hands together. The two men then robbed the store while the victim was incapacitated. The men fled the area and the victim was able to call 911. She found that the pair had stolen cash, condoms, and cigarettes, along with her cell phone and credit cards.

6/11/18 Aggravated Assault (Shooting) - 5300 block Brown Way, 8:48 p.m. - Officers responded to a call for shots fired and arrived on scene to find a 26 year-old male with gunshot wounds. The male was taken UPMC Presbyterian in critical condition, and he ultimately died.

Since last winter, theft from vehicles has been on the uptick; all have been crimes of opportunity. Drivers must remember to secure all valuables before leaving their vehicle and also remember that storing a firearm in a vehicle is very dangerous.

Anyone with information about a homicide, robbery, burglary, or sex crime may anonymously contact Pittsburgh Police Major Crimes at 412-323-7800. Those with information about less serious offenses like theft, drug-trafficking, etc. should contact the Zone 5 police station at 412-665-3605 and ask to speak with a plainclothes detective. ♦

Tamere Lester graduates Friendship Academy with honors, scholarship

By **Rachelle Quinn** Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield – On June 7, Tamere Lester graduated from Friendship Academy with high honors, much to the delight of his friends at the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC).

Beaming with positivity and a “can-do” attitude, the Garfield teenager worked closely with counselors from the College & Career Readiness Program (CCRP) to prepare for his future endeavors.

He was one of only two Friendship Academy students to receive a college scholarship (funded entirely by the school’s teachers and staff), the announcement of which overjoyed many attendees at the June graduation ceremony.

More community-involved than most of his peers, Lester volunteers to help out at neighborhood events and school functions. On weekdays, he picks his brother up from school, buys groceries, and makes sure to call home with any updates. He also enjoys playing video games and basketball – almost as much as he enjoys meeting new people and lending a hand.

Over the years, Lester has explored a number of different career opportunities through the BGC’s summer “Learn & Earn” program. His internships at the East-side Neighborhood Employment Center (5321 Penn Ave.), the Thomas Merton Center (5129 Penn Ave.), and the City of Pittsburgh’s Department of Planning have proven very fruitful – as did his work with the East End Fruit Cart project [See: August 2017 issue of *The Bulletin* (Vol. 42, No. 8)].

“I like how [CCRP counselors] gave me the opportunity to choose my own jobs, and then help me through it. They’ll always be here to help you out when you need them.” ♦

BELOW: *Tamere Lester, who just landed a college scholarship after graduating from Friendship Academy, stands out as a role model for other Garfield teens. Photo by Rachelle Quinn.*



‘Housing for All’ event connects senior homeowners with valuable resources

By **Nancy Gippert** Lawrenceville United

Lawrenceville – The city’s lack of affordable housing is taking its toll on local seniors, many of whom need resources to help them stay in their homes. As the market rate skyrockets, older homeowners must fend off hungry land speculators while also dealing with costly property repairs. On the other side of things, renters are being priced out of their neighborhood at rates apace with mass eviction.

These issues, which remain front and center for most Lawrenceville residents every day, will be the focus of Lawrenceville United’s (LU) 2018 “Housing for All” resource fair on Saturday, Aug. 4. Running from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Persad Center (5301 Butler St.), the event will feature presentations geared towards homeowners, prospective homebuyers, and renters. Lunch will be provided for all attendees; childcare is available by RSVP.

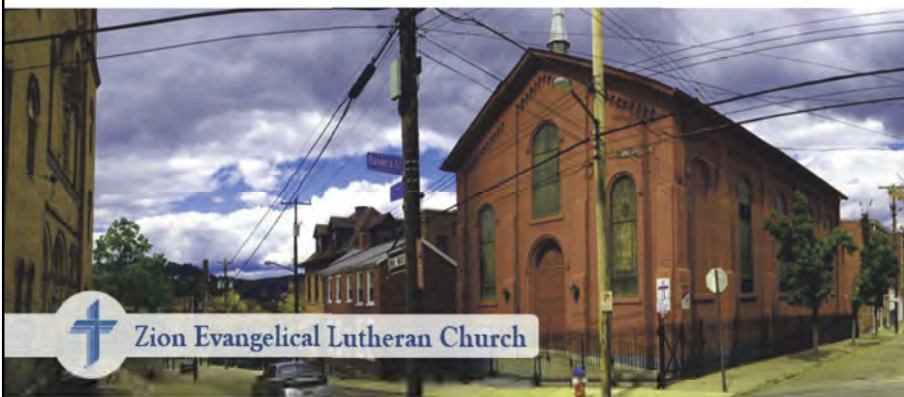
The program will begin with an overview of the state of housing in Lawrenceville, followed by panel discussions. For the renters in attendance, speakers will provide information on topics like evictions, fair housing laws, tenant/landlord disputes, healthy home practices, homeownership courses, credit counseling, and policy recommendations for alleviating the barriers to fair housing.

For the homeowners, a special emphasis will be placed on issues affecting older adults. Presentations will focus on local affordable housing initiatives, home repair programs, low-interest and “free” loans, how to improve a home’s accessibility, property tax rebate programs, and resources that can help homeowners challenge property assessments.

In July, LU will launch a community process to adopt inclusionary zoning in Lawrenceville. Inclusionary housing programs create housing for low- and moderate-income families as the housing markets heat up; these programs can incentivize, or even require, developers to build a certain percentage of affordable units as part of their residential projects.

For upcoming announcements about this process, and information about the Housing for All resource fair, please visit www.LUUnited.org or contact LU at info@LUUnited.org or 412-802-7220. ♦

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Garfield Night Market - Friday, June 1 - Photos by Sarah Nielsen

BELOW: A booth featuring work by immigrant artisans draws a crowd for critical dialogue during the Garfield Night Market on Friday, June 1.



ABOVE: Vendors, parents, and children enjoy the night market's 'al fresco' shopping experience on N. Pacific Ave in Garfield.

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Garfield honors beloved evangelist

By Deacon John P. Wright Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - Every summer, the Morningside Church of God in Christ hosts a summer vacation Bible school for children at its facility in Garfield. But this year will be slightly different, as the church has decided to honor one of its own, Mary Louise Burns. This year, the summer program will carry her name as its sponsor, recognizing her many years of service to the members of the church and the greater Pittsburgh community. "Mother Burns", as she was affectionately known, passed away recently at the age of 93.

Mother Burns wore many hats of responsibility with the Morningside C.O.G.I.C. She worked to make the community food bank, which the church hosts in its social hall, a long-standing presence in the neighborhood. She also served as the secretary for the congregation and for its financial department. She was a teacher for many years at the summer Bible school, understanding the importance of spirituality in the lives of the children who attended. It was in recognition of her years of devotion that that Elder Lamont Shields, who was also her brother, and the executive board of the church decided to honor her in this manner.

In her private life, Mother Burns and her late husband, Art, opened and operated the Southern Platter Restaurant in Homewood for many years. For a long period of time, it was the premier family-style restaurant in that neighborhood.

The church's Bible school will carry on in Mother Burns' name this summer, beginning Monday, Aug. 6, and concluding on Friday, Aug. 10, at 5173 Dearborn St. in Garfield, running from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon daily. ♦

THE BULLETIN WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK!

This publication begins and ends with you, the community members, so we respectfully invite your opinions and insights.

Please contact our tip-line/suggestion box:

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In conversation with artist Aaron Regal of Garfield's 'PULLPROOF' screenprinting studio

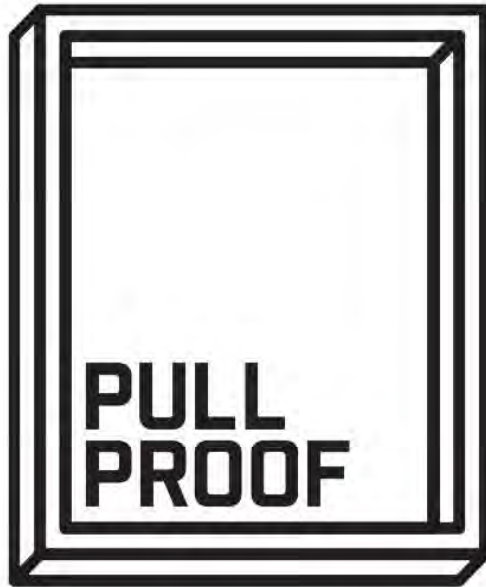
By Nina Gibbs Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield – A group of artists, activists, and designers have joined forces at 5112 Penn Ave. to form a printmaking studio called "PULLPROOF."

They are in the midst of creating a fully equipped, membership-based, silkscreen printing facility, along with a shared workspace and storefront gallery. The shared mission: providing local artists with affordable access to silkscreen printing equipment in a collective setting.

For a monthly fee, PULLPROOF members will have 24/7 access to the studio's printmaking facilities. The founding members first kicked things into gear with a successful Indiegogo campaign that raised over \$16,000 to fund initial construction.

The Bulletin recently checked in with artist Aaron Regal from the PULLPROOF team to see how things have shaped up since the studio hosted its inaugural event during Unblurred: First Friday in April.



The Bulletin: Why did you choose Penn Ave. for the studio location?

Regal: "Lots of reasons! The pre-existing community of both emerging and established arts organizations was a big plus for us, and being able to get in and start participating in Unblurred: First Friday openings while we were still building out our shop was definitely part of our decision... The price was right on commercial rent, which certainly didn't hurt. Ultimately, we were interested in locating in the East End and Garfield felt like the place an organization like ours would be most likely to thrive."

Bulletin: What is your favorite part about Garfield?

Regal: "Speaking personally, the fact that the neighborhood is racially and socioeconomically diverse makes it really special to me. I just hope it manages to stay that way as gentrification continues to transform the area. There are a lot of small businesses and nonprofits on Penn that make up a unique quarter of community stakeholders, residents, and entrepreneurs."

Bulletin: What makes your space special?

Regal: "I don't find a lot of organizations out there that are built by artists for artists, and I think that makes us categorically unique and attractive to others wanting to become involved in the local arts community. We're one part facility rental, one part co-working space, and one part art gallery. I think that being able to integrate oneself in an active group of artists working in a specific medium has a lot of cross-educational and community-building potential."

Bulletin: What will it cost for an artist to become a member?

Regal: "We're still working out the kinks on this one in collaboration with our business consultants, generously facilitated by the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council. We know how economically demanding being a working artist can be, and we're committed to keeping membership as affordable as possible. Long story short: members will get 24/7 access for far cheaper than they would renting a private studio in the East End. Plus, it will come with all the screen-printing amenities. We'll announce the fine print on [membership cost] in the next few months as our membership application goes public."

Bulletin: Who are the other founding members of your collective, and could you describe each of them in one sentence?

Regal: "We are currently a core team of five artists/screenprinters/managers looking to expand our collective. I'm Aaron, and I've spent all of my 26 years living in the East End of Pittsburgh. Anna works with local refugee and immigrant populations to help them develop sustainable economic futures in Pittsburgh. Charlie is one of the best architectural illustrators in town. Christina is a design and social media marketing wizard. Matt is a guitarist and vocalist in a hardcore band." ♦

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Arsenal Family continued from page 1

BELOW: Children are encouraged to read and pursue “play-as-learning” principles at Arsenal Family & Children’s Center (336 S. Aiken Ave.) in Friendship. Photo courtesy of Ellen DiBiase.



was first located in Lawrenceville, situated on land once occupied by the Allegheny Arsenal. The center’s first director, Dr. Margaret McFarland, worked as a professor in the University of Pittsburgh’s Department of Psychiatry. Other specialists in the field of child development looked to Dr. McFarland as a wellspring of information for families with young children.

She also served as Rogers’ mentor for more than thirty years; upon interning with Arsenal, he went on to meet with Dr. McFarland every week to discuss the songs, props, and scripts planned for upcoming episodes of “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood.” In the fall of 1964, he welcomed children from Arsenal in front of the camera as special guests for the very first episode.

In the 1950s, Erik Erikson - a visiting professor who had achieved fame with his book, *Childhood & Society* - helped the preschool established guidelines citing two critical factors essential to healthy child development: (1) there must be opportunities for active learning through play and (2) a child requires the passionate involvement of an adult in their lives. “Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning,” Rogers once noted. “But, for children, play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood.” Mr.

Rogers often performed his signature puppetry for the children at Arsenal and was a fixture at the classroom piano, playing songs that focused on socio-emotional development.

In 1980, AFCC was formed as a private nonprofit after the University of Pittsburgh withdrew its financial support. The name change had been proposed by Dr. McFarland to better reflect the Center’s scope of activities, which came to include parenting programs and other social services for families at risk. AFCC moved to its present Friendship location in 2003.

Melissa Hankin, who has served as the Executive Director of AFCC since 2010, says the center still maintains partnerships with local universities like Duquesne and Carlow, inviting psychology students for observation on a regular basis. AFCC’s developmental preschool program serves children ages 2-5 and emphasizes a play-as-learning curriculum, where the child is an active participant in the learning process.

Skills such as decision-making, self-confidence, independence, control, and conflict resolution are reinforced through everyday play as the children explore, create, and manipulate ideas and materials. “Play-as-learning is a positive, uplifting ap-

proach to what can sometimes be quite heavy work,” Hankin explained, “as anyone who’s worked with children knows.”

AFCC’s parenting programs include supervised visitation in a group setting and 1:1 parent/child mentoring in conjunction with the Family Division of the Court of Common Pleas and the Office of Children, Youth, and Families. These programs aim to prevent child maltreatment by fostering knowledge and skills that help parents listen empathetically, use appropriate discipline when needed, and build parental self-confidence. For the children within these programs, the objectives include learning how to express their feelings and needs, as well as how to engage parents in their play.

AFCC prides itself, Hankin said, on the partnerships it fosters with families. The center’s staff list speaks to longevity on the job, with some members having worked there for more than two decades; Hankin attributes this retention rate to the staff camaraderie and everyone wholeheartedly supporting the center’s founding philosophies.

To learn more about AFCC, visit www.ArsenalFamily.org. ♦

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Neighborhood FOCUS

Magarac Gallery honors legend, forges new path on Liberty Ave.

By David Hogan Bloomfield Development

Bloomfield - With a little nod to a local steel legend, the Magarac Gallery & Gathering Space is taking shape as a showroom and event space at 4071 Liberty Ave.

John and Jody Walter, who own Iron Eden blacksmith shop, organized their new gallery around the theme of Joe Magarac, a veritable “Paul Bunyan of steel.” Beyond the ornamental iron and glass doors, the gallery showcases furniture and decorations with an industrial aesthetic - heavy duty steel, rivets, reclaimed wood, diamond plates, and I-beams abound.

The space also features press clippings, comics, and images of the mythical steelworker Joe Magarac, who reportedly worked in the mills 24 hours a day. According to Jody Walter, John maintains “similar work habits.”

Over the last thirty years, Iron Eden’s blacksmith shop has produced everything from iron security gates to garden ornaments to metal and wooden furniture. The Walters operated their shop at 4071 Liberty Ave. until four years ago, when they decided to merge Iron Eden’s gallery and workshop into one space at 4001 Lorigan St. (underneath the Bloomfield Bridge); they also recently opened Salvation, an architectural salvage shop, at 4700 Lorigan St.

“We hope that people will come experience the space for an event or gathering and maybe learn more about Pittsburgh’s steel history.”

- Jody Walter, Magarac Gallery & Gathering Space

August Bulletin Deadline: Monday, July 16

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

BELOW: Joe Magarac, the “Paul Bunyan of steel,” inspired Jody and John Walter, the owners of Iron Eden to open a new gallery space in his honor. Image courtesy of www.joemagarac.com.



In launching Magarac Gallery last October, the Walters have reactivated their space on Liberty Ave. – installing a bar, catering kitchen, TV, patio, and pool table – to make it more than just an East End showroom.

Since virtually all of the items displayed at the gallery are definitely for sale, Magarac does still function as a showroom. However, the owners’ vision extends beyond mere commerce, plunging headlong into community-building horizons. “We hope that people will come experience the space for an event or gathering,” Jody explained, “and maybe learn more about Pittsburgh’s steel history.”

Magarac recently hosted a networking breakfast (organized by Bloomfield Development) that drew more than forty-five attendees from neighborhood

- continued on next page -



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- continued from page 8 -

businesses. In addition to its monthly "Open House" happy hours, the gallery recently hosted a few milestone birthday and anniversary parties, as well as a bridal shower. The Walters also aim to utilize the space's maximum capacity, which hosts up to ninety people, in accomodating corporate events.

Boasting an immaculate event space festooned with industrial artworks and custom-molded furniture, along with a mini-museum of a local legend, Magarac Gallery is forging its own path in Bloomfield. As Jody testified, "there's nothing else like it in the city."

To learn more about the gallery and its availability for event rentals, visit www.JoeMagarac.com. ♦



ABOVE: Local businesspeople enjoy refreshments and custom-made ambiance during a networking breakfast event at Magarac Gallery. Photo courtesy of David Hogan.

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Pittsburgh Public Schools and City launch 'Youth Budget Council'

By Ebony R. Pugh *Pittsburgh Public Schools*

Pittsburgh - The Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) and City of Pittsburgh are seeking twenty student representatives, across all nine districts, to serve on the PPS Youth Participatory Budget Council (YPBC).

YPBC members will learn about the inner workings of city government, and the school district, as they create a proposal for how to use funds on a capital project. The youth council will bring PPS students together with their peers who attend charter, private, and parochial schools.

As members of the YBPC, students will serve as liaisons to their community and City Council, share the interest and concerns of families in their com-

munity, work on an advocacy project for a City Council sponsor, and meet twice a month for an open discussion of ideas.

Students interested in representing - and trying to make things happen in - their community are encouraged to apply now and become a member of the council at <https://www.pghschools.org/YPBC>. The council's application deadline is July 6.

All applicants must be available to attend a summer leadership training session that runs from Aug. 13-16. For additional information, or to request an application, contact Asia Mason, Project Manager for Student Voice, at (412) 529- 3560. ♦



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We promise not to overshare!

Grocery Wages continued from page 1

of its corporate stores. Below is the testimony of Helen Gerhardt, a grassroots organizer for Just Harvest, regarding Pittsburgh's Wage Review Committee May 24 community hearing on the retail grocery industry. City Councilman Rev. Ricky Burgess chairs the committee, which last met in 2015 to investigate local healthcare workers' low wages and poor working conditions.

In March, the Keystone Research Center published a white paper that researched the history, conditions, and standards of some Pittsburgh-based retail grocery employers. The findings caused concern about the negative impact low-wage employment standards are having in our communities.

The committee's investigation of the impact of local healthcare industry wages led to dramatic improvements in the healthcare industry for workers, for the city of Pittsburgh, and for the economy in general. Pittsburgh UNITED (of which Just Harvest is a member) is hopeful that providing workers in the retail food industry with the same opportunity to tell their stories and experiences will lead to a fuller understanding of their conditions, as well as specific public policy recommendations that can improve local residents' quality of life.

Helen Gerhardt:

"Since 1987, Just Harvest has strengthened the public response to hunger and poverty in Allegheny County through a focus on government policy, community food access, and safety net programs. Four years ago, I started at Just Harvest as a Food Stamp specialist, helping people navigate the often complicated application process to sign up for SNAP benefits.

Most people who called us never expected to need food assistance – people who considered themselves to be "middle class," who had been sick or injured, whose family member(s) needed to be cared for, or who had been laid off along with a bunch of their coworkers and were looking for their next job. Most people only needed the safety net for a few months until their life bounced back to normal.

The hardest calls came from people who worked full-time at low wages, those who often took second jobs and worked hard, day in and day out, over the long haul but could not afford to feed their families. All too often, I had to persuade them to stay on the

phone line and complete their applications; they often expressed deep shame at having to accept "handouts" from the government.

"These are not handouts," I would tell them. "You have earned these benefits. You have paid taxes. These are your own dollars coming back to you for your most basic needs - for your children's most basic health and well-being."

So often, politicians and the media dump blame and shame on the millions of people who have to reclaim a portion of their own earnings through "safety net" programs in order to eat, keep moving, and keep working hard for the fat-cat companies that pay them a pittance and relegate them to a life of poverty. These companies claim many millions in corporate welfare, year after year, to pay their CEOs some millions of dollars - no matter how their company performs.

Many of those corporations are national giants like Wal-Mart, Verizon, or CVS. Still, there was a special sting when I spoke with men and women who worked for grocery stores that would not pay them enough to buy the food that they sold to others - the food those workers had earned.

When these men and women apply for food stamps to keep themselves and their children from going hungry, yes, it is those grocery stores that are receiving the government handouts. It is those grocery stores, feeding their own greed, seeking profit at the expense of their workers, and on the taxpayer's dime (which amounts to billions of dollars).

We at Just Harvest call on our elected officials to hold the retail grocery industry to account. We call on participants in the grocery industry to act as responsible, corporate community members of Pittsburgh, our state, and our nation.

Keeping working people in long-term poverty is theft. It is theft from these men and women and it is theft from the larger community. Local grocery stores like Giant Eagle should look to the past and study their previously responsible practices, like when they paid living wages to help workers build a good life in the same city that their CEOs have long called "home."

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was originally published by Just Harvest at www.justharvest.org.] ♦

Letter-to-the-Editor

To the Editor:

I find it necessary to respond to the article, "Lot to Like: The Lot at 5007 Penn Ave." in the June issue of *The Bulletin*. As a resident of the 5000 block of Penn Ave., I frankly find this article offensive to the neighborhood.

The unnamed authors from "The Lot" seem quite proud of themselves, celebrating the monthly parties that Nicholas Hartkopf holds during Unblurred: First Fridays in an empty lot at 5007 Penn Ave. While lauding themselves for their creative use of salvaged materials accompanied by clever music and party cuisine, what the authors fail to mention is that the two adjoining buildings, located at 5009 and 5011 Penn, are also owned by Mr. Hartkopf.

Throughout all his years of his ownership, these properties have been woefully neglected. People live and work on Penn Ave. People live and work in the blocks behind Mr. Hartkopf's party space. Abandoned storefronts and disintegrating buildings were once ever-present on the avenue. Now, through the efforts of many residents and responsible stakeholders, the face of Penn has changed dramatically. Mr. Hartkopf is not among the responsible property owners on Penn. This article celebrating his empty lot is an insult to those of us who live, work, and renovate responsibly on Penn Ave.

Bill Cornell

President, BGC Board of Directors ♦

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"Like" the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

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for the latest neighborhood information and community updates

Community members contribute time, money to 'pretty up' Penn Ave.

By Nina Gibbs Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - In May, the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) launched a crowd-funding initiative to raise money for beautification efforts along the Penn Ave. business corridor.

Via the IOBY online platform, the fundraiser was able to reach individual donors, while also receiving a matching grant of \$800 from The PNC Foundation.

Funded in less than two weeks, the campaign was a success to the tune of \$2,583. In addition, another [anonymous] donor directed a \$600 contribution to the cause for a grand total of \$3,183.

The BGC will use the funds to purchase handmade art installations, a golden-framed bulletin board, fresh plants for the sidewalk planter beds, and more flowers to refill the flower pots. Beautification projects like this imbue the neighborhood with an ambiance of care that benefits residents and businesses alike.

Something as simple as planting flowers is an investment in the neighbor-

hood; it promotes community stewardship of open spaces while attracting new visitors to the main street. The BGC invites all local residents to help make the avenue itself as beautiful as the art in its galleries.

Although the fundraising is over, contributions are still being accepted in the form of volunteer time. On Sunday, July 29, volunteers will convene at the Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.) before setting out to beautify Penn Ave. from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; refreshments, tools, and supplies will be provided.

Volunteer days are supported by the Primanti Brothers restaurant at 5491 Penn Ave., which has generously donated food and even safety vests to keep the clean-up crew out of harm's way. The BGC applauds Primanti Brothers and its staff for their commitment to the Garfield community.

Call 412-441-6950 (ext. 14) to learn more about all the volunteer opportunities available to those who want to "pretty up" Penn Ave. ♦

SPONSORED CONTENT

*"I was in so much **Back Pain** and was told my only option was to be on medication, but that wasn't true. I now have a great quality of life."*

-Jennifer M. (39 yrs. old Lawrenceville, PA)



"So I have been suffering with low back pain for 5 years and I had done what every doctor has told me: 'Take this anti-inflammatory and pain medication and rest.' So of course I followed the instructions but my pain got worse. I was then sent to more specialized doctors for more tests and was told that I had a pinched nerve and to avoid all movements that caused pain. I was placed on more medication, but fortunately, I was told that I did not need surgery. At least that was good!

I was then sent to pain management and given shots. I had so much hope, but the pain was back with a vengeance in just a short amount of time and then there were no answers. It's really easy to get confused and fed up. If this didn't work the first time then I wasn't going to have them give me more shots!

So I did what anyone would do... I went on the internet and searched different ways to treat back pain other than medications and shots. I tried 'home remedies' that I found, but they didn't help much. Then I came across a voucher for a "free discovery visit" with Dr. Brittany Lowe DPT who is a physical therapist. I have to tell you, this visit changed my life.

Dr. Lowe spent 30 minutes of one-on-one time with me during the free visit, listening to how I've spent the last few years dealing with this excruciating pain. The thing that impressed me the most was that she was the first person that was completely honest with me. She told me that if she could not help me that she would TELL ME. That is all I wanted.

Well, thank goodness that she could help me because I am completely pain-free, and back to running, hiking, biking and playing with my children in ways that I haven't been able to in over 5 years. This was all without taking prescription medication, shots, or surgery. So why didn't anyone tell me this first instead of going through taking all the medications and shots?

I wish that I would have come to see Dr. Lowe first. I did not need a referral to see her and I got an appointment within 24 hours of my call. I will continue to go to her first for any orthopedic complaint from now on. I highly encourage anyone to take the free discovery visit if this is offered in the future, it completely changed my life."

-Jennifer M. (39 years-old, Lawrenceville, PA)

We hear stories like this so often in our practice. It's interesting how often people are told to "take this anti-inflammatory and pain medication and rest" without any physical training or hands on treatment to fix the underlying issue and prevent it from happening again. We want to help you take charge of your health and to provide you with the tools to help you make informed decisions to improve your quality of life.

This month only Dr. Lowe is providing the opportunity to come in for a **"Free Discovery Visit"** for any muscle, joint or pain condition when you call her at (412) 228-5843 and use the special code: **#DISCOV498**. Due to scheduling space, this is only limited to the first 15 people who call.

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LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER

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

Real Estate Sales (for the month of May 2018)

Compiled by Lillian Denhardt, Howard Hanna Real Estate

Bloomfield

Anthony J & Joann Balistrieri Rev Tru to Michael H Silvio at 4515 Minerva St. for \$92,000.

Birch Run Properties to Litzu Tsao at 4555 Carroll St. for \$182,000.

Casciato Family Real Estate Protection Trust Dated Jan. 9 2018 to Susan M Manuppelli at 400 S. Atlantic Ave. for \$380,000.

Christine A Zietak to Mathew Rosenblum at 4422 Milgate St. for \$152,000.

Cypress Lofts Pgh LP to Emily P Lambert at 622 Gross St. for \$299,000.

Darwin N & Linda Rose Smith to Joanne Ross Simon at 5172 Liberty Ave. for \$315,000.

Doris M Carlin to Elaine Oestreich at 329 West Penn Pl for \$292,000.

Eugene L Desabato to Joshua R Gruwell at 434 Ella St. for \$215,600.

Frances Runco to Andrew Beck at 4206 Main St. for \$189,900.

Frank C Cartieri & Lisa Platt to Elizabeth A Elliott at 4627 Friendship Ave. for \$204,900.

Jeffrey R Leonard to Jessica A Leonard at 200 S.Millvale Ave. Unit 102 for \$1.

Jonathan L Sarazen to David B Gough at 206 Taylor St. for \$220,000.

Karl Lee Carlson to Meihua Bo at 140 Morewood Ave. for \$100,000.

Karl Lee Carlson to Meihua Bo at 4733 Maripoe St. for \$100,000.

Leonard Feldman to Michael & Associates Inc at 328 S.Mathilda St. for \$1,125,000.

Liberty Empire LP to Alhosna LLC at 0

Liberty Ave. for \$410,000.

Liberty Empire LP to Beth M Macisaac at 0 Liberty Ave. for \$480,000.

Mathew L & Melinda J Kieffer to Jason Polder at 4771 Cypress St. for \$265,000.

Matthew C & Allison K Black to Eric D Zack at 3828 Liberty Ave. for \$350,000.

Real Estate Trust to Tgrs Holdings LLC at 4705-4707 Liberty Ave. for \$342,855.

UPMC to LRS 615 at 0 Gross St. for \$40,000.

Vincent & Alietta Berardi to Brennan Capital LLC at 441 Cedarville St. for \$210,000.

Friendship

No sales to report.

Garfield

Angela J Cornelius to Jennifer Kacin at 302 N.Winebiddle St. for \$270,000.

Aniket & Diane Hirebet to Randall C Nortman at 5503 Margaretta St. for \$49,500.

Avanti Construction & Associatesinc to Michelangelo Morandini at 5201 Nora Way for \$1.

David A Grenick to Penn Pioneer Enterprises LLC at 5010 Dearborn St. for \$30,362.

David Scott Farris to Christopher G Matrozza at 4744 Kincaid St. for \$150,000.

Derrick L Beasley to Rebecca I Dilla at 434 N.Fairmount St. for \$87,000.

Greenfield Holdings LLC to Molly Aura at

310 N.Millvale Ave. for \$150,000.

Matthew Galmoff to Laura Marengo at 5491 Penn Ave. Unit B304 for \$215,000.

Pamela M Crisostomo to Christopher P & April Yucui Brust at 301 N.Winebiddle St. for \$290,000.

Pittsburgh Glass Center Inc. to Rgb Graham LLC at 5447 Penn Ave. for \$1.

Pittsburgh Housing Development Corporation to Karen M Rohrer at 227 N.Fairmount St. for \$300,000.

Shermina Brock to NCRC Housing Rehab Fund LLC at 4826 Kincaid St. for \$113,000.

East Liberty

Leonard Feldman to 251 S. Saint Clair LLC at 251 S. Saint Clair St. for \$850,000.

Patricia M Buddemeyer to Nicholas J Coles at 5808 Black St. for \$216,000.

Samantha J Kilgour to Stephen A & Michele A Lombardi at 724 N.Euclid Ave. for \$392,000.

Urban Redevelopment Auth of Pittsburgh to Baum Grove LP at 5860-5880 Baum Blvd. for \$212,500.

Lawrenceville

Andrew J Dreistadt to Robert D Johnson at 236 45th St. for \$399,900.

Anna S Reinhard to Laura C Bunting at 4519 Plummer St. for \$250,000.

Anthony & Doris Mccafferty to Brian C Root at 3610 Smallman St. for \$220,000.

Build A Dream Investments LLC to Lauren E Andrews at 326 37th St. for \$413,500.

City Re Holdings LP to Oishii Donburi Inc at 5227 Butler St. for \$532,900.

Clara M & Carl A Faas to William B & Eleanor J Gialanella at 4206 Geneva St. for \$157,500.

Clara M & Carl A Faas to William B & Eleanor J Gialanella at 4208 Geneva St. for \$167,500.

Eko2 Development LLC to Melanie J Harris at 5281 Holmes St. for \$403,000.

Faith & Granite Property Group LLC to

Barr Property Development Inc at 243 38th St. for \$97,000.

Frank V & Josephine Lamarca to Pasquale A Lamarca at 5338 Holmes St. for \$0.

Gordon Hannah to Joshua H & Madeleine R Getzoff at 169 46th St. for \$300,000.

Hector E Corante to Katrina Kelly at 164 37th St. for \$279,000.

Hmt Holdings Revocable Trust Agreement to 3241 Development LLC at 715 52nd St. for \$150,000.

Irwin M Fletcher LP to Andrew Y S Ho at 3607 Butler St. Unit 302 for \$256,000.

Jawd Properties LLC to Kiwew Holdings LLC at 190 43rd 1/2 St. for \$90,000.

John A Kavalir Trust to Adam C Wilberger at 5324 Kent Way for \$282,000.

John J & Beverly A Centner to Cinque Saunders at 5203 Wickliff St. for \$80,000.

John M & Genevieve D Lentz to Joseph M Lentz at 5119 Duncan St. for \$0.

Lawrenceville Corporation to Emily V Howe at 5230 Duncan St. for \$140,000.

Michael Golensky to Hannah J Kuhn at 3945 Liberty Ave. for \$452,000.

Parris White to STH Development LLC at 3926 Howley St. for \$122,500.

Pine Gardens LP to David Della Chiesa at 4018 Willow St. for \$258,000.

Shane Perry to Dorian Kusyk at 196 36th St. Unit 2-E for \$225,000.

Sth Development LLC to Derfler Investments LLC at 3926 Howley St. for \$160,000.

Swell Dwellings LP to Mark Alton III at 4927 Plum Way for \$250,000.

Wells Fargo Financial Pa Inc to JLA Properties LP at 3931 Liberty Ave. for \$4,256.

White Butterfly Ventures Inc to Iron Valley Capital Investments LLC at 5304 Holmes St. for \$125,000.

William F & Virginia R Russell to Faith & Granite Property Group LLC at 243 38th St. for \$65,000.

Stanton Heights

Antonio Tavella to Domenico & Antonia Direnzo at 6502 Adelphia St. for \$33,000.

Bank Of New York Mellon to Costello Properties LLC at 1430 Simona Dr. for \$60,250.

Dean O Paras to Anna M Failla at 316 57th St. for \$75,000.

Dean O Paras to Anna M Failla at 318 57th St. for \$75,000.

Frederick W Kline to Christine-Lynne Brookline LLC at 6020 Butler St. for \$250,000.

John Moss III to Jonathan Paul Faix at 4605 Amsterdam Ave. for \$181,500.

William R & Mary Louise Skaugen to Tirzah C Decaria at 4603 Coleridge St. for \$145,000.

For questions, comments, or just to chat about real estate in our neighborhoods, feel free to email Lillian at agent.lillian.pgh@gmail.com or call 412-335-6068. ♦

SOJOURNER HOUSE

Sojourner House is a licensed Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Residence where admission is based on determination of need. To be eligible for admission, women must be at least 18 years old and have at least one child age 12 years or younger, or be actively seeking custody of a child, or be pregnant. Priority Population is as follows:

PREGNANT IV DRUG USERS | PREGNANT SUBSTANCE USERS
| INJECTION DRUG USERS |
OVERDOSE SURVIVORS | VETERANS

Sojourner House responds to admissions inquiries from women and their loved ones, other drug and alcohol programs, case workers, social agencies, physicians, prison and probation officers, counselors, and Children, Youth and Family courts. We will consider patients who are dually diagnosed with both addiction and mental illness.

Our house has 14 apartments, with a waiting list during periods when the house is full. Priority of admission is determined by order on waiting lists and urgency as defined by the priorities above. The program is designed for a six-month stay. Inquiry for admissions should go to 412-441-7783.

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BulletinBOARD

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 August issue are due by Monday, July 16.** Please submit any listings using our online form at www.bit.ly/bulletin_submit.

JULY 2 - MONDAY

GARFIELD

Summer Camp:
‘What’s the Matter?’

Kids (ages 6-7) who want to learn more about the sublime science of slime can put their goggles on to discover “What’s The Matter?” this summer. At Assemble (4824 Penn Ave.), they can let out their inner scientist by experimenting with states of matter, sculpture, and mold-making. This summer camp will be held on July 2, 3, 5, and 6 (from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day); there will be no camp on July 4. Read more about camp cost, lunch provisions, and dietary restrictions at <http://assemblepgh.org/summer-camps-2018/>.

JULY 7 - SATURDAY

GARFIELD

‘M3 (Materials, Media, & Me)’ kids workshop

This free workshop for kids (ages 5-10) gives them a chance to get to know the material world around them - and provides fun activities to help parents fill a Saturday afternoon. The “M3 (Materials, Media, and Me)” summertime Saturday program runs from 1-3 p.m. at Assemble (4824 Penn Ave.) in Garfield. To learn more about M3 and other Assemble programs, email Hannah at hannah@assemblepgh.org.

JULY 10 - TUESDAY

EAST LIBERTY

Music & Rhythm: Silly Songs and Parodies

Children will experiment with creating parody songs to develop their musical appreciation and writing abilities at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh: East Liberty (130 S. Whitfield St.) on Tuesday, July 10. Beginning at 1 p.m., this fun program is recommended for kids in grades 2-5.

JULY 12 - THURSDAY

LAWRENCEVILLE

Vintage Wholesale Day

It’s a vintage wonderland at “Good Scout’s Vintage Wholesale Day.” Drop in for steals and deals on great vintage clothing and housewares on Thursday, July 12, from 4 - 8 p.m. Women’s and men’s clothing, as well as accessories like hats, bags, and shoes, will be on sale at Goodwill’s 118 52nd St. location.

GARFIELD

Garfield Land Trust Membership Meeting

The Garfield Land Trust will hold a membership meeting at the Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave at Dearborn St.) at 6:30 p.m. on Thurs-

day, July 12. Light refreshments will be served. Please call 412-345-3831 or email GarfieldLandTrust@gmail.com with any questions. Visit <http://garfieldlandtrust.org/membership> to become a member today.

JULY 14 - SATURDAY

UPTOWN

Pro Ultimate Frisbee

On Saturday, July 14, the Pittsburgh Thunderbirds, a professional ultimate frisbee team, will play the Detroit Mechanix at 6 p.m. This 2018 season finale game will be played at Arthur J. Rooney Athletic Field, located on Duquesne University’s campus. Visit www.pgthunderbirds.com to learn more.

EAST LIBERTY

‘All Hands on Tech’: Coding for Kids

This program is intended to teach elementary school children (grades 2-5) some basic coding concepts. It begins at 2 p.m. at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh: East Liberty (130 S. Whitfield St.). Call 412-363-8274 to learn more.

JULY 15 - SUNDAY

GARFIELD

“Back Down Memory Lane” Musical

On Sunday, July 15, Morningside Church of God In Christ (5173 Dearborn St.) will present the “Back Down Memory Lane” musical at @ 3:30 p.m. The musical will

JULY 16 - MONDAY

FRIENDSHIP

Haiku al fresco

Join haiku ninja Staci B at Baum Grove on Monday, July 16, to unleash the inner creative and design mini-works of art. Participants will go home with several three-line poetic nuggets that capture the essence of their thoughts in a fun and meaningful way. The event begins at 6:30 p.m.; it’s free to participate, but donations will be accepted for the upkeep of Baum Grove. All ages of poets are welcome to attend and bring a snack to share.

JULY 18 - WEDNESDAY

LAWRENCEVILLE

Free Lecture:
‘Mayor of Shantytown’

On Wednesday, July18, the Lawrenceville Historical Society’s public lecture series continues with journalist Rich Gazarik speaking on the incredible and colorful life of Father James R. Cox. As a Lawrenceville native and Roman Catholic priest, Father Cox was best remembered for his efforts in helping the poor and destitute of Western PA during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The program takes place at the Carnegie Library (279 Fisk St.) at 6:30 p.m. It is free to the public; no reservations necessary.

BELOW: Kids flock to the bounce house at the Zone 5 Community Open House on Saturday, June 9. Law enforcement officials worked together with local volunteers and nonprofit organizations to provide an array of entertainment for children and their parents. Photo by Barry Werber.



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Volunteer Opportunities Announcements Shout-Outs Services Open Calls Classifieds

JULY 20 - FRIDAY

GARFIELD

Friday Church Service

On July 20, Morningside Church of God In Christ (5173 Dearborn St.), is hosting a special Friday night service. Members of the King of Kings Baptist Ministry (located down the street in Garfield) will be in charge of the service. Please come out and be sure to wear your shouting shoes.

JULY 21 - SATURDAY

FRIENDSHIP

Neighborhood Yard Sale

The community-wide Friendship Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, July 21, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (rain date is Sunday, July 22). To register as a seller, please submit your information online via the link by Friday, July 13. Sellers can set up on their own yards and front porches or sell at Baum Grove. Please contact fcgyardsale@gmail.com with any questions.

GARFIELD

Women's Conference

On Saturday, July 21, the Morningside Church of God In Christ (5173 Dearborn St.) will be host a women's conference. The theme is: "Women on a Mission: When Your Faith Catches Fire." The speakers will be Evangelist Linda Steals (from Greater Mt. Zion C.O.G.I.C. in Farrell, PA) and Evangelist Denise White from Pentecostal Temple in Pittsburgh. The conference runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and registration costs \$12. A continental breakfast and light lunch will be served. Attendees may contact Evangelist Cathy Bryant (412-853-2022) so she can get a head -count for seating and food.

JULY 24 - TUESDAY

STANTON HEIGHTS

SHNA Social Hour

The Stanton Heights Neighborhood Association (SHNA) will hold its July social hour from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, July 24. The event will take place on Upview Terrace (just turn right off Stanton Ave. at the stop sign and look for the balloons). The theme for the evening is "summer salads." Please bring a dish or a beverage to share; kids are welcome.

JULY 28 - SATURDAY

BLOOMFIELD

Community Picnic

Celebrate our wonderful community at the 2nd annual community picnic at Friendship Park on Saturday, July 28. From 3 to 6 p.m., local residents can play lawn games, hear some great live music, and meet more neighbors. Hot dogs, hamburgers, and vegetarian/vegan alternatives and drinks will be provided by Bloomfield Development. \$5 suggested donation helps cover Bloomfield Development's costs for the event. Bringing a side dish or dessert to share is encouraged but not at all required.

GARFIELD

Volunteer Day

Volunteers are needed to help clean up Garfield on Saturday, July 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Everyone will meet at the Community Activity Center (113 North Pacific Ave.). Email Nina Gibbs at Nina@Bloomfield-Garfield.org to learn more.

LAWRENCEVILLE

CYA Flea Market

The Catholic Youth Association (CYA) is sponsoring a Flea Market at the Stephen Foster Center (286 Main St.) on Saturday, July 28, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Enjoy shopping for local wares, buying baked goods, and playing a 50/50 raffle. The market is a fundraiser for the center's many programs. To participate as a seller, the cost is \$45 for vendor tables and \$20 for individual tables. For more info, email ctcpowers@gmail.com. ♦

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-Thomas Jefferson



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ABOVE: A young resident winds up for a throw at the fan-favorite dunk tank during the Zone 5 Community Open House. Officers took turns sitting above the water and hoping each pitcher threw more more balls than strikes. Photo by Nina Gibbs.

CCRP student profile: Jason Johnson, aspiring orthodontist

By Gabriel Gryffyn Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation



AT LEFT: Jason Johnson looks forward to pursuing his studies at Duquesne University, where he will set out on a career path in orthodontics. Johnson speaks highly of the College & Career Readiness Program (CCRP) and the guidance provided by his CCRP counselors. Photo by Gabriel Gryffyn.

Garfield - A fresh graduate of Pittsburgh Science & Technology Academy, Jason Johnson has his sights set on the West Coast and a successful career in orthodontics.

He credits the College and Career Readiness program (CCRP) with helping him secure an internship at West Penn Hospital while preparing for college. Operated by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC), the program provides high school seniors with individual guidance to help them start a career path on the right foot.

Johnson recently sat down with his CCRP counselor, Gabriel Gryffyn, for an exit interview at the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center; read the transcript below.

The Bulletin: What did CCRP assist you with this year?

Johnson: "It helped me with issues that I feel like I wasn't comfortable asking my guidance counselor about in school. Having an outlet - and another person who can help with a lot of stuff like FAFSA [Free Application for Federal Student Aid], preparing for college, and getting an internship - is great."

Bulletin: Did you have fun interning at West Penn Hospital?

Johnson: "I was already used to West Penn because I've volunteered there before, but having the ability to be compensated was helpful. I was able to do a little bit more there [than while volunteering] and they gave me more freedom during my internship."

Bulletin: Where are you going to college in the fall and what do you plan to study?

Johnson: "Duquesne, Environmental Science. I'm going to Pitt afterward; I want to be an orthodontist."

Bulletin: What made you want to become an orthodontist?

Johnson: "It's always been a passion

of mine. I've always been interested in teeth, but helping people is the main thing. I knew I wanted to be in the health field because my sister is also in the health field (to become a pharmacist)."

Bulletin: Are you planning to move away from Pittsburgh after completing your studies?

Johnson: "I'm going to go out into the world. I want to live in Oregon."

Bulletin: Back to your experiences with CCRP, would you recommend the program to your friends?

Johnson: "Yes. I was actually surprised that not a lot of people from my class wanted to do CCRP. It's very helpful since our guidance counselor was not able to really help us much individually. She was so busy; there are seventy people she has to look after and additionally, she had to do scheduling and all that stuff...So, [CCRP] is helpful for people moving up because they get that individualized care they need. Everyone's different and needs different things. Now, Alyah [Jason's friend and fellow CCRP student], she wanted to do something totally different from a standard college thing, and having that opportunity to work with the program was good because she could do the West Penn Nursing thing." ♦



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