

# the Bulletin

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

## Allegheny County Children's Fund on Nov. 6 election ballot

By Aleita Hermanowski

Bulletin contributor

### Op-Ed

*Allegheny County* - Over the summer, a coalition of local volunteers and representatives from numerous community organizations collected more than 63,000 signatures for a petition to get the Allegheny County Children's Fund Initiative onto the Nov. 6 election ballot.

Branded as "Our Kids, Our Commitment," the initiative aims to use local tax dollars to support programs in Allegheny County that are proven to benefit children and their communities in three specific areas: early childhood education, afterschool programs, and proper nutrition.

Should a simple majority vote "yes" on the November ballot, the initiative would pass. With a 0.25 millage rate in-

See **Children's Fund** | page 3



**ABOVE:** The Garfield Night Market comes alive on Friday, Sept. 7, beckoning visitors from near and far to close out the 2018 season. Boasting so many vendors that it required another street closure on the 5100 block of Dearborn St., the market was also soundtracked by live music from local performers. See more snapshots from the market on page 7. Photo by Sarah Nielsen.



**ABOVE:** Garfield litter warriors pose for a team picture on Saturday, Sept. 22, during a city-wide cleanup event known as the "Garbage Olympics." Look to page 7 for more photos of local Olympians beautifying their neighborhood. Photo by Nina Gibbs.

## Pittsburgh Muslim community leader Jamil Brookins dies at 70

By Virginia Alvino Young 90.5 WESA

*East Liberty* - Pittsburgh's Muslim community is mourning the loss of one of its leaders. Jamil Brookins died Sunday, Sept. 9, from cancer at age 70.

Brookins owned Jamil's Global Village in East Liberty for nearly 30 years, selling imported African and Islamic goods and art.

Wasi Mohamed, Executive Director of the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh, said Brookins' impact on the community stretched far beyond the shop. "He

served as a bridge between parts of the world and Pittsburgh," said Mohamed. "He also served as an important bridge between the immigrant Muslim community and the black Muslim community and the Latino Muslim community. Everyone loved Jamil."

Jamil Brookins' son Rafiq Brookins said his father was a pioneer who understood why people often self-segregate.

See **Jamil Brookins** | page 4

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'HEROINEBURGH' ELEVATES  
STRONG PITTSBURGH WOMEN

C'MON, JUST VOTE ALREADY:  
YOUR LOCAL VOTER'S GUIDE

- PAGE 10 -



## City, community collaborate on new vision for Enright Park

By Elizabeth Sensky *East Liberty Development, Inc.*

*East Liberty* - Five months after its launch, the community planning process to re-envision Enright Park is now in full swing. The park, which is in close proximity to the site of the former Penn Plaza Apartments, was originally situated behind the buildings - off of Penn Ave. between Negley and S. Euclid Aves.

Caught in the crosshairs of the Penn Plaza redevelopment plans, the public green space became a galvanizing issue for many community members; local advocates worried that Enright Park would be jeopardized by LG Realty's new vision for the Penn Plaza site. In 2016, the City voted to preserve the park, stipulating that it must remain the same size and that any new streets [constructed in concert with LG Realty's plan] could not run through the space.

So far, the City has hosted two public meetings to invite comment on the park's reconfiguration. Neighbors and other fans of Enright Park gathered to offer input to the architects and city planners in a collaborative effort to determine what makes the most sense for the park's surrounding communities.

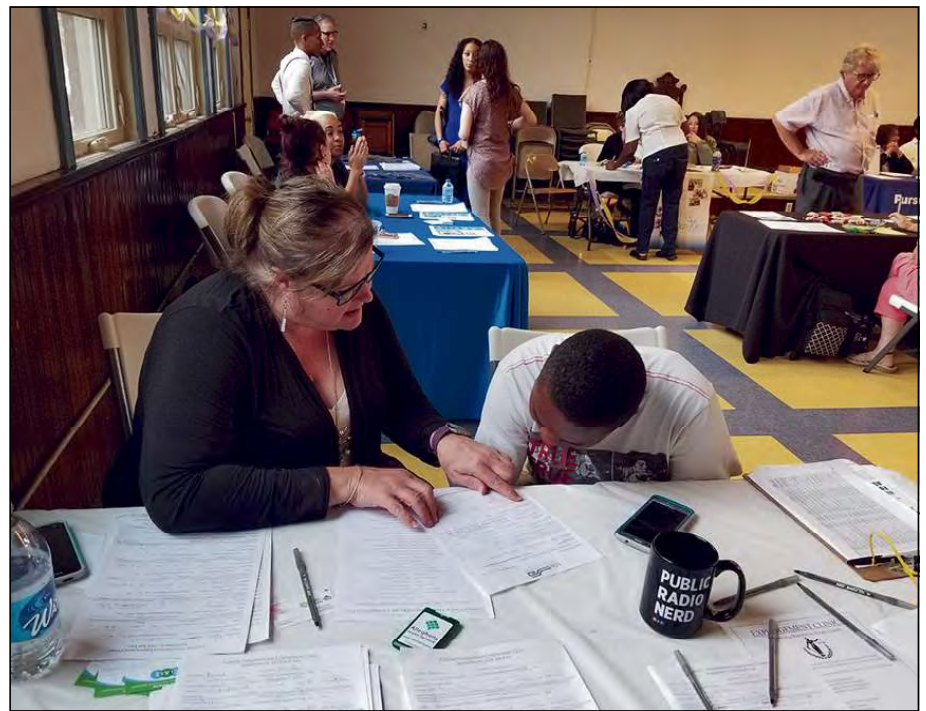
Both meetings were "open house" forums - with boards and images displayed for public review - where questionnaires were handed out for response, and everyone could make notes directly on the presentation materials. According to Jason Roth, an architect working on the project, "there's been lots of input regarding character and amenities, but two clear preferences [are] for more than just a single basketball court and for a shelter that keeps out both sun and rain."

The City is leading the planning process, with staff from both City Planning and Public Works involved, while the design work itself is being completed by Studio Bryan Hanes of Philadelphia. Park construction is tied to LG Realty's new Pennley Park South development on the former Penn Plaza site, only inasmuch as there is a land swap involved; the north portion of the park for the southeast portion of the Pennley Park South site. Otherwise, the two projects are unrelated.

"Part of the reason to create a clear dividing line with the relocated Eva Street across the site is to sever the park as much as possible from issues around the Pennley Park South development," Roth said.

Ultimately, the main goal of the park redesign is to make a new and improved space that can be utilized by everyone in the community. All parties involved hope, as Roth said, "to preserve the best of what's there - the green, open space, the ability to serve diverse park users simultaneously - while providing improved amenities, such as water features beyond the whale and a shelter for public use."

To track the planning process, visit [www.eastliberty.org](http://www.eastliberty.org) and the Enright Park Neighborhood Assoc. Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/EnrightPark](http://www.facebook.com/EnrightPark)). ♦



**ABOVE:** Judy Lubarski (left), a BGC coordinator for the College & Career Readiness Program, helps a local student apply for employment during a job fair on Sept. 6. Photo by Amber Epps.



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## Children's Fund *continued from page 1*

crease in the county property tax, the fund would generate approximately \$18 million each year.

A 0.25 millage rate increase means that property owners would pay an additional \$25 annually on each \$100,000 of assessed value. For the average Allegheny County homeowner, the increase would amount to an additional tax burden of less than \$30 per year.

About 30 counties across the country have established similar types of funds; results have been overwhelmingly positive. The Community Children's Services Fund in Missouri helped slash high school dropout rates by half, and Pre-K programs in San Antonio, TX are believed to have contributed to significant improvements in student performance, literacy, and math.

The Allegheny County Children's Fund Initiative steering committee includes members of community-based organizations such as Allies for Children, The Mentoring Partnership, APOST, Pressley Ridge, PUMP, Trying Together, The United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania and the YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh.

"I think it's just incredible," Colleen Fedor, steering committee member and Executive Director of The Mentoring Partnership, said. "The 63,499 people who signed this petition said, 'We want this on the ballot because kids matter to us.'"

On Aug. 6, the committee delivered a record number of signatures, over 3,700 pages of petitions, to the Allegheny County Elections Department.

"The visual of all those pieces of paper confirms what we know," Fedor continued. "They're saying, 'Hey, let's look at doing things differently instead of always scraping by and never having enough resources. Let's make sure that the children of Allegheny County, especially those in underserved communities who are struggling, have access

to early education, afterschool programs, and good nutrition.'"

If the initiative is approved, funds will be used in accordance with the determinations of a citizen's advisory council. Comprised solely of volunteers, the advisory council will be chosen by the Office of the Allegheny County Children's Fund based on three criteria: a demonstrated commitment to the well-being of all children across Allegheny County, familiarity with the program's three areas of focus, and ability to ensure the representation of a diverse group of community delegates.

"We have many well-run, research-based, proven programs serving children in our region. We're leaders in a whole lot of ways, yet there are never enough resources," Fedor said. "This fund changes that ballgame and says to our community, elected officials, and the nation that our kids matter and we're going to make sure they're cared for."

Although they will not directly determine the use of funds, elected officials and their constituents will provide oversight on the creation of a strategic plan, inclusiveness, and other issues.

The proposed charter amendment prohibits money from the Allegheny County Children's Fund to be used for general governmental purposes. According to the proposed amendment, funds will only be distributed for children's programs based on "need, effectiveness, and fair & equitable allocation."

A public website will report all funding allocations to the community; a financial audit by an independent third party will be required annually. The initiative also calls for an outside party to conduct independent research (every five years) on the needs of children across Allegheny County.

For more info on the Initiative, visit [www.ourkidsourcommitment.org](http://www.ourkidsourcommitment.org). ♦

## the Bulletin

Serving Pittsburgh's  
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since 1975

with the mission of reporting on issues affecting underserved communities and facilitating local residents' exchange of ideas.

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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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## Jamil Brookins continued from page 1

"It's everywhere like that," said Rafiq Brookins. "Our society has been programmed to think we're different because of the way we look or where we come from. Pittsburghers really are diverse, yet segmented."

Mohamed said it's no different within the Muslim community, and that groups often stick together. He said Jamil aimed to break down those barriers by regularly attending diverse prayer groups, volunteering, and reaching out to youth of various racial and ethnic identities.

Rafiq Brookins said Jamil united people across religious, cultural, racial and economic divides "just by being vocal and bringing up these issues that peo-

ple normally wouldn't talk about. It started discussion."

Mohammed said at Brookins' funeral Sunday, more than 100 mourners gathered with just a few hours notice. "You have Uzbeks and Indians and Pakistanis, the black community, the Nigerians. If you looked at his funeral, people from everywhere came out," said Mohamed. "There's few people who could bridge that many gaps, that could bring that many people together."

*[This article has been reprinted with permission from 90.5 WESA. To connect with more community reporting and stories like this, please visit [www.WESA.org](http://www.WESA.org).]* ♦



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## Kids Halloween Party promises chills, thrills at Arsenal Park

By Sarah Cole *Lawrenceville United*

*Lawrenceville* – On Saturday, Oct. 27, Arsenal Park will play host to the neighborhood's annual Kids Halloween Party from Noon - 4 p.m.

Hosted by Lawrenceville United (LU) and the Lawrenceville Farmers' Market, this long-standing neighborhood tradition boasts a full lineup of family activities that are free and open to the public. A kid-friendly, haunted house located within Arsenal Middle School's auditorium will provide chills and thrills to go along with all the treats at the candy table.

Sponsored by Lawrenceville Pet Supply, the coveted "Doggy Costume Contest" will encourage pet owners to dress their furry friends in Halloween outfits. Kids will also get to show off their festive attire during a costume parade scheduled for 2 p.m.

Grilling out for the event, LU will provide free food and drinks for everyone to enjoy. In addition to all the Halloween festivities, River City Blues Band will take the stage for a 1:30 p.m. performance. Attendees will even get a chance to shop the Lawrenceville Farmers' Market from 1-4 p.m.; vendor booths will double as trick-or-treat destinations for the kids.

LU is currently seeking more volunteers to help set up the haunted house, pass out candy, and perform general event assistance. For more info, please contact [info@lunited.org](mailto:info@lunited.org). ♦



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## Mixed opinions: Bloomfield residents respond to housing survey

By Jessica Cook Bloomfield Development Corporation

*Insight - Bloomfield* - Over the past month, online results have been trickling in for the first Bloomfield Housing Survey.

The 110 residents polled so far have lived in the neighborhood anywhere from six months to 64 years. The majority of respondents indicated that they want to remain Bloomfield residents because of the neighborhood's convenient location, walkability, and sense of community.

However, roughly half of the respondents to date - homeowners and renters alike - believe their housing costs are "somewhat high" to "very high," and nearly two-thirds have thought about

leaving Bloomfield. Insights like these help paint a clear picture of how rising housing costs are affecting the local community. This fall, as the survey's outreach expands throughout Bloomfield, the statistical insights will become even more accurate.

The survey was designed by Bloomfield Development Corporation (BDC) in partnership with the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, Bloomfield Livable Streets, Bloomfield United, and the Baum-Centre Initiative.

While residents and community organizations have watched Bloomfield's housing costs rise steadily for years, many have noticed exponentially steep

increases in rents and property taxes over the last year. In response to widespread concern about housing costs, BDC hosted a series of well-attended, educational events for local residents in the spring.

Representing organizations that focus on housing issues throughout the city and region, guest speakers addressed topics ranging from technical definitions of housing affordability to the actual lived experience of displacement. They also explained the value of civic tools like inclusionary zoning and community land trusts, which are potential tools to help keep housing costs reasonable in Pittsburgh and beyond.

To get a better sense of how to take action to preserve housing affordability in Bloomfield, BDC and its partner organizations are currently soliciting local opinion. From October through December, community volunteers and students from the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University will be trained to go door-to-door and administer the survey.

Only households selected from a random sample will get a knock at the door, but BDC and its partner organizations welcome all Bloomfield residents to weigh in online at [www.bit.ly/bdchousing](http://www.bit.ly/bdchousing).

For those who cannot, or prefer not to, complete the survey online, hard copies of the survey may be picked up and dropped off at the Bloomfield Crazy Mocha (4525 Liberty Ave.) or Friendship Perk & Brew (300 S. Pacific Ave.).

Upon request, BDC representatives will deliver the survey to any doorstep; residents are encouraged to contact [housing@bloomfieldpgh.com](mailto:housing@bloomfieldpgh.com) or call 412-681-8800 to make arrangements. Anyone interested in getting involved as a survey administrator may email [jessica@bloomfieldpgh.com](mailto:jessica@bloomfieldpgh.com) to learn more. ♦

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## Zoning Board greenlights new community center for Garfield

By Rick Swartz Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

*Garfield* - A community that lacks any type of recreation center at present could eventually see one built in the next few years, if King of Kings Baptist Ministries (5169 Broad St.) is ultimately successful in realizing its vision for a parcel of vacant land next to its existing church facility.

On Aug. 23, the city Zoning Board of Adjustment gave its approval to the construction of a proposed community center in the 5100 block of Broad St. that, among other things, would feature a large multi-purpose room that could also double as a gymnasium. The new building would be roughly 6,900 sq. ft. in size, allowing the church to host a number of different programs and events.

Because the land parcel is located in a district zoned for single-family residences, the Zoning Board had to decide if the operation of the proposed center would be detrimental to the surrounding neighborhood.

To that end, Cassandra Williams, a church representative, confirmed to the Board that no event or program would extend beyond 11 p.m. She said this was in line with a commitment made at a recent meeting with community members, where a concern was raised about late-night activities at such a facility.

A representative from the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation appeared at the hearing and testified that King of Kings held two community meetings: one in 2016, when the plans for the center were still in their infancy;

and one this past spring, when a rendering of the new structure and a site plan was shared with nearby residents. This satisfied the Board's concerns that there had been adequate community input into the planning process.

The church has engaged the architectural firm of Rothschild Doyno Collaborative; its architects have been receptive to comments from residents about the center's design and the need to make some provisions for off-street parking, despite a slope to the site that could make it difficult to do so. There are plans for only five off-street spaces behind the building, which means that church members and visitors will have to rely mainly on any available street parking.

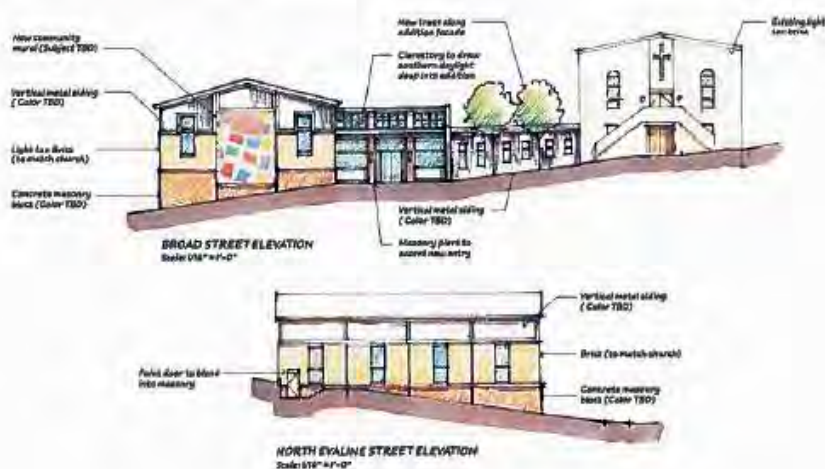
The architects were also asked to allow more natural light into the building by adding glass to the building facade, particularly at the corner of Broad and N. Evaline Sts. Ken Rothschild, a principal with the firm, agreed to incorporate that suggestion into the final designs.

The next stage for King of Kings and Rev. L. C. Carter, the church's pastor, is to find the money needed to complete the project. After the Aug. 23 hearing, Rev. Carter said he is "very optimistic" the church will eventually achieve its fundraising goals.

This could require the church to secure between \$1.5 and \$2 million in contributions or other financing, but the pastor said King of Kings congregants are "not deterred at all" by the challenge confronting them. ♦

### FRESH FACE FORWARD

LOOKING AT THE FACADES ALONG BROAD STREET AND NORTH EVALINE STREET



**ABOVE:** The top image features a view of the building as it would front onto Broad St. The bottom image features a view of the proposed building looking East from N. Evaline St. Graphics courtesy of Rothschild Doyno collaborative.

## City joins nationwide petition in support of clean car standards

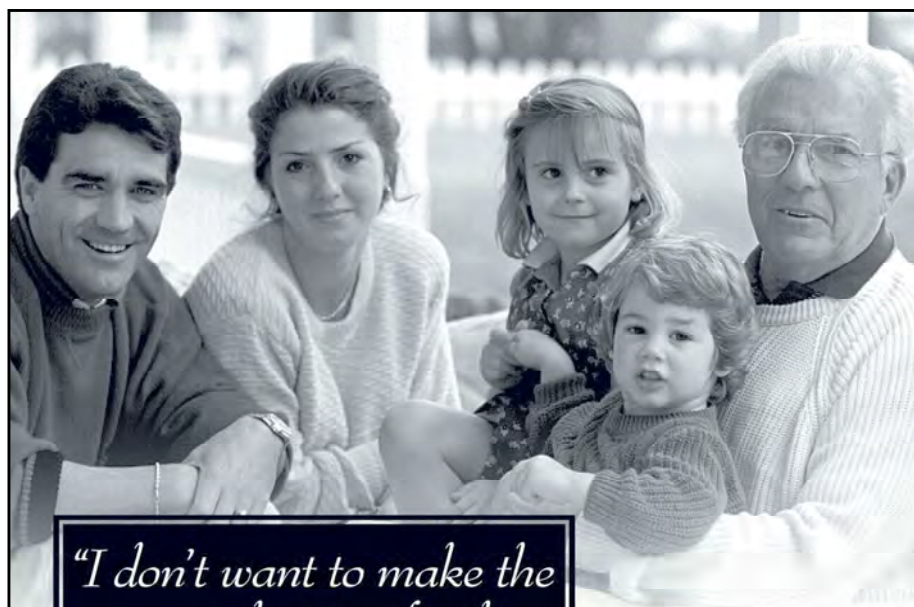
A Message from the City of Pittsburgh

*Pittsburgh* - The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), the National League of Cities (NLC), and more than a dozen cities and counties around the nation have joined a legal motion to oppose the Trump administration's efforts to roll back the emission and fuel economy standards established for light duty vehicles ("clean car standards").

If the motion is granted, the petitioners will be able to file an amicus brief detailing why these standards are critical for cities and local governments in their fight to reduce emissions from the transportation sector and help avert the harmful impacts of climate change.

Filing a motion in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to participate as amici curiae ("friends of the court") in support of the federal clean car standards are the following: Pittsburgh; the USCM; the NLC; the City of New York, NY; Los Angeles, CA; Chicago, IL; King County, WA; Santa Clara County, CA; San Francisco, CA; Baltimore, MD; Oakland, CA; Minneapolis, MN; Boulder County, CO; Ann Arbor, MI; West Palm Beach, FL; Santa Monica, CA; Coral Gables, FL; and Clarkston, GA.

This coalition of local governments is representative of the diverse communities affected by the proposed roll back of the clean car standards. The NLC represents over 19,000 cities and towns and USCM is the official non-partisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. The cities and counties that have signed onto the motion are home to more than 22 million people, including New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago - the three largest cities in the U.S. ♦



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## September to remember: Garfield in pictures

**BELOW:** Visitors stroll N. Pacific Ave. in search of local wares and services at the Garfield Night Market on Friday, Sept. 7. Photo by Sarah Nielsen.



**ABOVE:** Volunteers of all ages roam the streets and back-alleys of Garfield during the "Garbage Olympics" cleanup competition on Saturday, Sept. 22. Photo by Nina Gibbs.



**ABOVE:** Sitting along Dearborn St., vendors prepare Turkish food (with a smile) at the Garfield Night Market on Friday, Sept. 7. Photo by Andrew McKeon.

**BELOW:** One enterprising "Garbage Olympian" collects bags of trash, and a bunch of tires, en route to a medal. Thanks to the discovery of a totemic ragdoll, the Garfield team won for "Strangest Item Found." Photo by Nina Gibbs.



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# Neighborhood FOCUS

## Lawrenceville explores inclusionary zoning options

By Dave Breingan *Lawrenceville United*

**Perspective - Lawrenceville** - As the neighborhood grows, how do community members ensure it remains a place that people of all incomes can keep calling it “home”? A series of three community meetings is aiming to explore this question and mobilize the Lawrenceville neighborhood to advance a tool that has the promise to make a difference.

Lawrenceville has changed rapidly, perhaps more than any other city neighborhood. The crime rate has dropped significantly, the business district has taken off, neighborhood public schools are improving, blight and vacancy have been reduced, and the community is growing, as hundreds of new housing units have been constructed – with many more currently in the pipeline.

Yet, it is easy to understand why many residents do not feel included in these changes. The majority of new housing is arriving in the form of luxury units. With housing costs skyrocketing in Lawrenceville, many families are finding fewer affordable housing options in the neighborhood.

According to a 2017 study by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* (“The Limits of 8”), Lawrenceville lost 120 of its 234 publicly-subsidized housing units, whose tenants utilize so-called “housing choice vouchers,” between 2011 and 2016. This meant that over half of the community’s “Section 8” renters were displaced in just five years. The loss appears to be the highest proportional drop in subsidized housing within city neighborhoods during that time period.

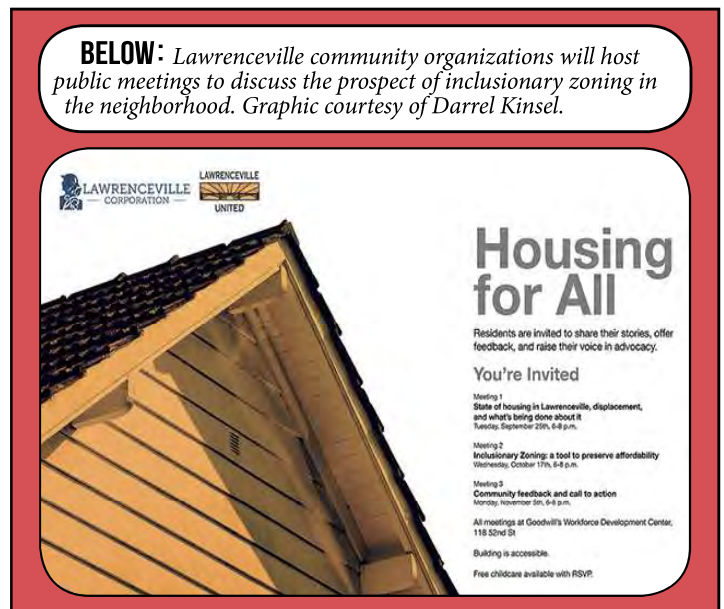
“Despite the displacement of our families,  
our community’s continued love for  
Lawrenceville has never faded.”

– Aweys Msese Mwaliya, former Lawrenceville resident

The impact of this displacement is told through many different voices. For instance, after coming to Pittsburgh as refugees around 2004 and 2005, nearly 300 Somali Bantu recently called Lawrenceville “home.” Today, very few of these families remain in the neighborhood.

Amina Muya, whose family settled in Lawrenceville before Children’s Hospital was built in 2006, saw the pace of change quickening years ago. “I was very excited when I heard the hospital was about to open,” Muya said, “but, sadly, we soon had to move. I came home from school one day and my parents said, ‘start packing because we can’t afford to stay.’”

**BELOW:** Lawrenceville community organizations will host public meetings to discuss the prospect of inclusionary zoning in the neighborhood. Graphic courtesy of Darrel Kinsel.



Many of the Somali Bantu who were forced to leave still remain connected to Lawrenceville in countless ways: attending neighborhood schools for their English as a Second Language education, accessing supports and services through the UPMC St. Margaret’s Lawrenceville Family Health Center and Goodwill of Southwestern PA, working at jobs in the business district, and even selling prepared foods at the Lawrenceville Farmers Market.

“Despite the displacement of our families,” former resident Aweys Msese Mwaliya said, “our community’s continued love for Lawrenceville has never faded.”

Amid these realities, a tool called “inclusionary zoning” may show promise. An increasingly prevalent strategy used by cities around the country to mitigate displacement - and recommended here locally by the City of Pittsburgh’s Affordable Housing Task Force - inclusionary zoning programs incentivize or require new housing developments of a certain scale to include a percentage of units for people earning lower and more modest incomes. While it cannot singlehandedly solve all of the housing challenges in Lawrenceville, it is one tool that could conceivably make a difference, according to housing experts.

As Matt Galluzzo, Executive Director of Lawrenceville Corporation (LC), said recently, “there is overwhelming community interest in creating paths to ensuring housing opportunity and availability for all in Lawrenceville. It is our responsibility as neighborhood stewards to join with our public partners to advance those efforts.”

To discuss these issues, offer feedback, and raise their voice in advocacy, the public is invited to participate in a series of open community meetings hosted by LC, Lawrenceville United (LU), and City Councilwoman Deb Gross.

“As a community, Lawrenceville has committed to affordable housing. It is time for City government to adopt new tools that work with, not against, this community,” Councilwoman Deb Gross said. “We’re hoping that Inclusionary Zoning is the tool that will support Lawrenceville and create rental units that people can afford to live in.”

Held on Sept. 25, the first meeting focused on the state of housing in Lawrenceville and ongoing displacement. A second meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 17, will focus on inclusionary zoning and what it might look like locally. A final meeting will take place on Monday, Nov. 5.

All meetings run from 6 - 8 p.m. at Goodwill’s Workforce Development Center (118 52nd St.), which is fully accessible; childcare is available by request. For more information, please contact LU at 412-802-7220 or visit [www.LUUnited.org](http://www.LUUnited.org). ♦

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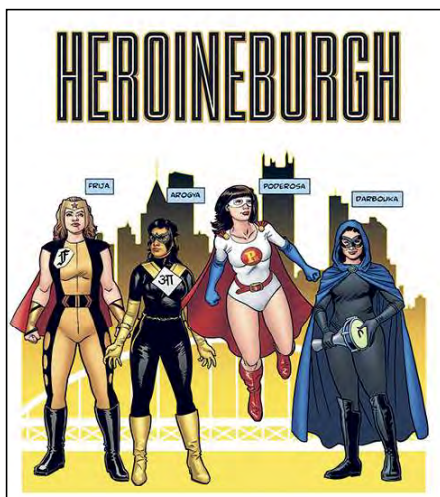
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# Pittsburgh ladies save the world: 'Heroineburgh' series debuts new episodes

By Andrew McKeon *The Bulletin*



**Lawrenceville** – In a city that Hollywood has cast as everything from a post-apocalyptic afterthought (*The Road*) to a murky and menacing Gotham City (*The Dark Knight Rises*), it is refreshing to see Pittsburgh rendered in even more fantastical, yet hyper-local, ways. Enter: *Heroineburgh*.

The comic book universe of *Heroineburgh* is defined by magnetic female personalities whose powers elevate them beyond mere superheroes, into the stratosphere of “superheroines.”

The episodes in this live-action video series tell the stories of superheroines and villainesses like Argoya, Chlorina, Poderosa, and Fria – just to name a few. The first season’s final three episodes (11-13) will debut at Hambone’s (4207 Butler St.) on Sunday, Nov. 4.

Lawrenceville resident and veteran music promoter Manny Theiner created *Heroineburgh* from scratch, al-

it with some help from the Pittsburgh music scene.

Theiner, who ran Garfield Artworks – a gallery-space/performance venue in the 5000 block of Penn Ave. – from 2003 to 2014, has booked shows across the city for decades. His connections with local performers made the process of casting each super-heroine character that much easier.

“The superheroines and villainesses we feature are often members of local bands – they sing, play guitars and bass and keyboards. They have charismatic personalities as they prowl across the stage or interact with the audience, and this confidence shines through in the way they portray their heroine characters. But, there aren’t just musicians in our episodes,” Theiner said. “We also include members of the theater, burlesque, bellydance, and cosplay communities as well.”

Featuring an array of local luminaries, the cast for each episode was a major selling point for potential actresses to get on board for future episodes.

“When I began to see the lineup and who all was involved, it was a no-brainer,” Christina Santavicca said. “I had actually just met Manny that night. He was telling me about *Heroineburgh* and mentioned that he needed cameramen. So I said, ‘hey, I know some people,’ and we connected through that. Then, just a week or two later, he asked if I wanted to be in one of the episodes.”

Singer/keyboardist for local band The

Shadow Event, Santavicca (pictured at right) was intrigued by the possibility of playing a strong female character. She portrays Rosa Perez – an intrepid, Latina, TV news reporter – who, after “a dark-energy meteor bombards the atmosphere above Pittsburgh,” is granted super-powers to be reborn as “Poderosa” in Episode 12. Boasting abilities like the power of flight, incredible strength, and lightning speed, Poderosa fights crime as the official superheroine of News Channel 16.

In order to film each episode, Theiner and company scoured their personal networks for contributors, employing an all-hands-on-deck approach.

“My son just graduated high school and is now going into film school,” Santavicca said. “I brought him in and, for my whole episode, my son actually got to be the second camera guy.”

The videos, which are available for preview on Youtube (search “Heroineburgh”) feature impressive post-production effects, like lasers and colorful projectiles, done by a company called “Latent Imagery.” Most of the episodes are named after post-punk songs; they riff on alternative music history as much as they do comic book tropes. Tracks from local bands play throughout each one.

“When [local musician] Shani Banerjee’s character transforms into Argoya in Episode 11, she becomes her heroic self while her voice is heard in the background – on a song from her post-punk band, Empty Beings,” Theiner explained. “This helps tie the episodes thematically to the contributions from the music scene.”

Although the video production has been dubbed “high camp with a side of second-wave feminism,” *Heroineburgh*’s related artwork is nothing short of the industry standard for comic books. Thanks to local artist and DC Comics colorist Jason Wright, the 20 superheroines have been fleshed out on the page with two-dimensional verve.

“As a colorist for DC Comics, who has worked with the likes of Gail Sim-



**ABOVE:** Christina Santavicca portrays Latina superheroine Poderosa in Episode 12 of *Heroineburgh*, a live-action video series based in Pittsburgh. Photo courtesy of Manny Theiner.

one and Ethan Van Sciver on books like *Batgirl* and *Green Lantern*, Jason knows how to make characters pop right off the page,” Theiner noted. “So, when Jason represents our stunning actresses as comic book heroines on our posters and banners and T-shirts, he makes them as powerfully expressive as possible.”

During the live premieres of Episodes 1-10, held at theater venues all across the city, Theiner was able to gather face-to-face feedback about his creations from Pittsburgh residents. Online viewers, who purchased episodes at [www.Heroineburgh.com](http://www.Heroineburgh.com), have also been sounding off to Theiner and suggesting plot scenarios for next year’s Season 2 installments.

While he welcomes the interests of the internet and a new, global audience of comics geeks, Theiner maintains that his creation is steadfastly “Pittsburgh” in aspect.

“A series set in another city wouldn’t have the now-defunct Murray Avenue News Stand and Bloomfield Bridge Tavern, or Carnegie Mellon and Pitt, or the Pittsburgh Zoo and Pittsburgh Filmmakers, or Spirit and Brillobox,” he said. “A fantastically ‘real’ version of Pittsburgh is definitely a ‘character’ in the *Heroineburgh* series, the way Gotham is a character in the Batman mythos.”

Episodes 11-13 will debut on Sunday, Nov. 4, at Hambone’s in Lawrenceville. Featuring a full food and drink menu, this (21+) premiere begins at 8:30 p.m.; tickets cost \$5 each. For more info, visit [www.Heroineburgh.com](http://www.Heroineburgh.com) or email [Info@Heroineburgh.com](mailto:Info@Heroineburgh.com). ♦

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# THE 2018 ELECTION: How You Can Vote

**The 2018 General Election will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 6.** Polling places are open 7:00am-8:00pm.

**AM I REGISTERED TO VOTE?** Find out here: [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com)

You can also use this website to update your registration, find your polling place, or register for the first time. **The deadline to register for the November 2018 election is Tuesday, October 9.**

## NEED AN ABSENTEE BALLOT?

If you are registered to vote but will not be able to get to your polling place in person on election day, you can apply for an absentee ballot. Those eligible include people who are incarcerated for a misdemeanor or are awaiting trial. **The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is 5:00pm on Tuesday, October 30.**

Learn more about who is eligible and get the absentee ballot application at [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com)

## NEED AN ALTERNATIVE BALLOT?

If you are registered to vote and have a disability or are age 65 or older, and were assigned to a polling place that the County Board of Elections says is not accessible, you can apply for an alternative ballot. **The deadline to apply for an alternative ballot is 5:00pm on Tuesday, October 30.** Learn more and get the application at [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com)

## USEFUL TIPS FOR ELECTION DAY:

- **You only need to show an approved form of photo or non-photo ID (listed below) the first time you vote at a particular polling place.**

### PHOTO ID *(must be valid)*

- PA driver's license or ID Card issued by PennDOT
- ID issued by US government
- ID issued by any Commonwealth of PA agency
- US Passport
- US Armed Forces ID
- Student ID
- Employee ID

### NON-PHOTO ID *(must include your name and current address)*

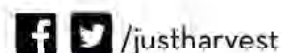
- Your voter's card
- Firearm permit
- Current bank statement
- Current utility bill
- Current paycheck
- Government check

- You cannot lose your job, or your benefits, or be evicted for voting.
- If you are registered and in line at your polling place by 8pm poll workers must permit you to vote.
- If poll workers do not accept your registration as valid, ask for a *provisional ballot*. By law, they must let you vote on a provisional ballot and straighten out the problem later.
- In PA, people with felony convictions who are registered can vote if they are no longer incarcerated.
- People who are homeless can vote if they are registered.
- People with disabilities and those who speak another language or cannot read are allowed to vote with assistance from a person of their choice.



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**Graphic prepared by Nina Gibbs** *Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*





# Chimney swifts put on a show before fall migration

By Kara Holsopple *The Allegheny Front*



**ABOVE:** "Chimney swift" bird up close. Photo courtesy of Ed Schipul/flickr.

**Lawrenceville** - Recently a group of fans gathered outside of a Pittsburgh restaurant in anticipation. But these "swifties" aren't here for a pop concert or a celebrity sighting. They're gathered together along a side street to witness a natural phenomenon that happens around dusk this time of year. It's the roosting of chimney swifts.

Sarah Koenig is conservation director for Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, and she directs people to look up at the chimneys at the rear of the Church Brew Works. It's an old church that's been converted into a restaurant and brewery.

It's noisy, with nearby traffic, the restaurant's exhaust fan, kids practicing football on an adjacent field. But fifty people have their eyes peeled for the little cigar-shaped birds that are just starting to arrive.

"I love just kind of seeing them come out of nowhere to join the group," Koenig says.

Chimney swifts spend their summers in eastern North America breeding, and their winters in the upper Amazon. Koenig says they're regrouping now to migrate south. When they're here, chimney swifts perform an important service.

"They're like the ultimate urban insectivore. They eat 3,000 to 5,000 insects per day," she says. "So they eat mosquitoes, and other biting things that might annoy us."

Koenig says the little, gray birds spend the whole day on the wing, cruising around for insects and even mating in the air. They belong to the same order as hummingbirds, and their tiny, short feet can't perch on a horizontal surface. The swifts have to cling to rough, vertical surfaces, like the inside of a chimney. But it has to be the right kind of chimney.

"It's got to have something that they can grab hold of," says Joan Schoff, one of the many experienced birders in the crowd. "Now there's a lot of chimneys that have steel or aluminum flues. Most of us either have a cap on our chimney, or we have the wrong kind of chimney."

Schoff says she's never seen swifts go down into a chimney to sleep for the night.

In rural areas, chimney swifts roost in hollowed out trees, but development has pushed them to adapt in the city and suburbs. Now they're common in communities with old, brick chimneys. But they're "near threatened," says Sarah Koenig, as pesticides reduce their food sources, and new development means chimneys are becoming a thing of the past. She says chimney swifts have lost 50 percent of their population over the last 50 years. Audubon and partners have built smaller, stand-alone chimney swift towers to help increase their habitat.

Dozens of birds swirl around the chimney as the sky darkens; it's a dramatic sight against the clouds threatening rain. You can hear them chittering, and the birds move fast. As they form into a group, people stop using their binoculars, because the individual birds are too hard to keep in their sights. The street lights are on, too, and everyone is shielding their eyes.

"Once a few drop in, they'll all go down," says Koenig.

"It's like watching smoke go back down a chimney. It's amazing," says Rob Protz.

Protz is an experienced birder who monitors peregrine falcons. He's seen this spectacle before, but he's just as excited as everyone else.

"There they go!" Protz exclaims, and the crowd echoes his words.

Eric Blondin is new to all of this. He says he just started dating a serious birder.

"I couldn't find my keys the other day. And then I'm sitting here, and these birds migrate thousands of miles to the same chimney. And I couldn't find my keys," he says. "Something like this makes me feel small. Just kind of in awe of bigger things than me."

The birds will leave the chimney in the morning. Audubon estimates about 200 swifts roosted at the Church Brew Works that evening. More may come to join the roost before they finally leave the area in October to migrate south.

*[This article has been reprinted with permission from The Allegheny Front, an award-winning public radio program covering environmental issues in Western PA, airing locally on 90.5 WESA. Check out more stories at [www.alleghenyfront.org](http://www.alleghenyfront.org).]* ♦

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# LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER

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

Real Estate Sales (for the month of August 2018)

Compiled by Lillian Denhardt, Re/Max Select Realty

## Bloomfield

Concetta M Caldwell to Edwin James Schuck at 443 S. Pacific Ave. for \$325,000.

Frank H & Erica L Tipton to Kyle J & Kathleen J Conway at 520 Aspen St. for \$301,603.

Harrison Thurman to Bloommer LLC at 4408 Woolslayer Way for \$140,225.

Hilda Lee Karev to Hboy Holdings LLC at 420 S. Aiken Ave. Unit A3 for \$118,000.

Jean Marie Strickland Pearce to Scott Gibson at 219 Edmond St. for \$191,000.

Regis M Oleary to Kasey M Hinkle at 233 Taylor St. for \$163,000.

Ricardo & Carolyn Roberts to Lawrence Laray Gipson at 236 S. Winebiddle St. for \$405,000.

## Friendship

No sales to report.

## Garfield

BFB Enterprises Inc to Julie A Collins at 418 N. Graham St. for \$100,000.

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation to Brittney Aston at 4827 Broad St. for \$143,000.

Chad E Jenkins to Pho Real Estate LLC at 0 Dearborn St. for \$5,000.

Connie L Hollinger to Highland Associates LLC at 5204 Dearborn St. for \$100,000.

Council Of Pittsburgh Society Of St. Vincent De Paul to SaltedEgg LLC at 501 N. Negley Ave. for \$565,000.

Dolores Bailey to Shawn A McAtee at 735 N. Atlantic Ave. for \$75,000.

James Earl Doyle to Katherine Cr &

Craig J Sewall at 5544 Columbo St. for \$135,000.

Joanne Politano Trust to Highland Associates LLC at 320 N. Atlantic Ave. for \$38,000.

Nicholas Hartkopf to Nicoh LLC at 5009 Penn Ave. for \$5,000.

Nicholas Hartkopf to Street Contracting LLC at 5011 Penn Ave. for \$80,000.

Penn Pioneer Enterprises LLC to 239 42nd St. LLC at 417 N. Millvale Ave. for \$30,250.

Robert V & Sarah Cleveland to Greenfield Holding LLC at 5372 Rosetta St. for \$45,000.

Saint Clair Apartments LP to Mao & Mao LLC at 5522 Black St. for \$105,000.

Saint Clair Apartments LP to Mao & Mao LLC at 5524 Black St. for \$105,000.

Society of St. Vincent Depaul to SaltedEgg LLC at 0 Columbo St. for \$565,000.

Society of St. Vincent Depaul to SaltedEgg LLC at 503 N. Negley Ave. for \$565,000.

SRB Construction LLC to Ruben T & Emily Niculcea at 5010 Broad St. for \$305,000.

## East Liberty

Mauricio Czonstkowsky to Diana Camp at 5712 Hays St. for \$450,000.

Richard & Dian Jackson to Wasiullah Mohamed at 410 N. Beatty St. for \$130,000.

Sarah D & Bryan M Perry to Richard A Gartner at 5636 Rippey St. for \$315,000.

## Lawrenceville

37th Street Associates LLC to Ang Real Estate LLC at 500 37th St. for \$215,000.

52nd Street Ventures LLC to Angela Thu Gruenberg at 444 52nd St. for \$475,000.

52nd Street Ventures LLC to James Boulden at 5197 Keystone St. for \$510,000.

A & J Holdings LLC to Legacy Partners Property Group LLC at 5235 Wickliff St. for \$180,000.

Adam D & Coppingsamber Schreckhise to Ronald Persico at 5511 Celadine St. for \$131,000.

Alisa Murray to Keenan Adib at 3433 Ligonier St. for \$555,000.

Anthony J Golembiewski to Ater Way LLC at 269 Ater Way for \$20,000.

Ari Enterprises LLC to JTR Development LLC at 147 43rd St. for \$121,000.

Auto Driveway Co to 39th Street Associates LLC at 3820 Butler St. for \$120,000.

Cooper T Pierce to Amanda M Wang at 5132 Carnegie St. for \$375,000.

Damian E & Phuong T Essel to Molly Catherine McManus at 5104 Natrona Way for \$105,900.

Daniel J Alder to Iron Valley Capital Investments LLC at 5121 Keystone St. for \$82,500.

Eko2 Development LLC to Ray G Burdett at 5279 Holmes St. for \$419,888.

Graham W Ferree to Alexander Trinca at 315 39th St. for \$335,000.

Heather Bossert to Mark A Toukan at 332 44th St. for \$245,000.

Henry R Burke to Evelyn Raupach Carlos at 196 36th St. Unit 2-F for \$218,000.

Irwin M Fletcher LP to Benjamin J Yaroach at 3607 Butler St. Unit 200 for \$247,500.

Jay R & Rachel G Roszman to John C Yackovich Jr at 4214 Bessemer St. for \$295,000.

Jennifer McCord to Pittsburgh Residential Solutions LLC at 260 Fisk St. for \$310,000.

Jessica D Gray to Robert K Rice at 397 40th St. for \$183,000.

Joann R Kielar to Evans Michele G & Mark Michael at 4201 Sherrod St. for \$280,000.

Kevin J Adams to Victoria L Trombetta at 350 Main St. for \$275,000.

Laneda Daniels to R & M Homes LLC at 5216 Keystone St. for \$120,000.

Lora Gilpin to Todd & Arlene Adleff at 5154 Natrona Way for \$115,000.

Marlin Chapman to Christopher M Ban at 5161 Stanton Ave. for \$414,000.

Merissa Eve Lombardo to Alexander C Laskin at 3612 Mintwood St. for \$385,000.

Michael Golensky to Matthew C Black at 3949 Liberty Ave. for \$487,700.

Norma Fitzpatrick to Darwin Copeland at 5148 Dresden Way for \$95,000.

Patrick A & Mildred C Damico to Jerome B Yoders at 4086 Cabinet St. for \$165,000.

Pauline M Bozdech-Veater to Sean Rothermel at 3500 Penn Ave. for \$210,000.

R & M Homes LLC to Ceeja LLC at 166

42nd St. for \$359,175.

Richard W & Judith A Foust to Kiran Sudhakara at 4303 Davison St. for \$253,000.

Stephen Guzzetti to Matthew Lee VanDyke at 3460 Ligonier St. for \$323,457.

Sylvia Zywiolk to 20186WY-59 LLC at 218 Fisk St. for \$225,000.

Virginia A Jankowski to Anthony Veglatte at 3922 Clement Way for \$113,500.

William Eichelberger to Aglk Property Solutions LLC & 3 Mholdings LLC at 5316 Keystone St. for \$168,000.

## Stanton Heights

Barbara & Stanley J Giaramita to Joshua T Soberdash at 4253 Upview Ter. for \$175,000.

Barbra Moore to Lynn E Horton at 5 Coleridge Pl. for \$207,800.

Deborah A & Lester A Robinson to Clarke and Jo LLC at 1034 Premier St. for \$50,000.

Edward P & Josephine S McManus to Edward G McManus at 4811 Coleridge St. for \$10.

Helen F Schugar to Kathryn M Haas at 1621 Hawthorne St. for \$184,050.

Karl J Henrikson to Brian C Yeagle at 1519 Trinity St. for \$166,500.

Kevin & Jessie Rawlings Minerich to Vincent M Vess at 4922 Somerville St. for \$229,900.

Rachel L MacDonald to Samantha R Wilkinson at 1025 Premier St. for \$190,000.

Raoul H & Adriene Pamphile to Smana Pamphile-Clerfe at 4507 Coleridge St. for \$2.

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



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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 November issue are due by Friday, Oct. 19.** Please submit listings using our online form at [www.bit.ly/bulletin\\_submit](http://www.bit.ly/bulletin_submit).

OCTOBER 2 - TUESDAY

EAST LIBERTY

Free Lecture: ‘Globalization and Migration’

At 4 p.m., the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (616 N Highland Ave.) will host a free lecture called “Globalization and Migration: The Movement of God’s Word.” Jehu J. Hanciles, D.W. and Ruth Brooks associate professor of world Christianity at Candler School of Theology (Emory University), will keynote. All are welcome to arrive early for chapel service at 11:30 a.m. Following the lecture, World Mission Initiative will hold a dinner; registration is \$20 per person. Email [rmenard@pts.edu](mailto:rmenard@pts.edu) for more info.

OCTOBER 4 - THURSDAY

SHADYSIDE

‘Sleep Matters’ event

Join the Aging Institute on Thursday, Oct. 4, from 1 - 2 p.m., and learn how to sleep better without medication. This free event will be hosted at UPMC Cen-

ter for Integrative Medicine (Shadyside Place / 580 South Aiken Ave. / Suite 310). Call 1-866-430-8742 to register.

GARFIELD

Community meeting w/ State Rep. Ed Gainey

Come to the BGC Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.) at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 4, to discuss future plans for Garfield with State Rep. Ed Gainey. Call 412-441-6950 (ext. 14) for more information.

OCTOBER 5 - FRIDAY

LAWRENCEVILLE

First Friday Fish Fry

On Friday, Oct. 5, come to the New Bethel Church (221 43rd St.) in Lawrenceville to enjoy a “First Friday Fish Fry.” Call 412-291-8185 to place orders; will deliver within close vicinity to the church.

OCTOBER 7 - SUNDAY

LAWRENCEVILLE

Annual Hospitality Tour

The Annual Hospitality House Tour features 8 - 10 owner-occupied homes that are restored, renovated or newly constructed, that promote the positive aspects of the Lawrenceville community. The self-guided tour begins at Noon; tour-goers will gather at the entrance to Allegheny Cemetery (4734 Butler St.). Tickets are available at the following Lawrenceville businesses: City Grows, Gallery on 43rd Street, Wild Card, Pavement and T’s Upholstery. Advance tickets are \$15 per adult and \$12 per Senior Citizen (age 55 and older). Email [lawrencevillehospitality@gmail.com](mailto:lawrencevillehospitality@gmail.com) for more info.

‘Housing for All’ Meeting

Please join LU, LC, Councilwoman Deb Gross, and other partners for a series of open community meetings to discuss the state of housing and displacement in Lawrenceville - and how an inclusionary zoning program could become another tool for preserving housing affordability. All meetings will be held at Goodwill’s Workforce Development Center (118 52nd St.), which is a fully accessible

building. Another meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 17. Free childcare is available for all meetings; RSVP to 412-802-7220 or [info@LUnited.org](mailto:info@LUnited.org).

OCTOBER 11 - THURSDAY

GARFIELD

Land Trust Meeting

The Garfield Land Trust will hold a meeting at the Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave. at Dearborn St.) at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 11. Contact 412-345-3831 or email [Garfield-LandTrust@gmail.com](mailto:Garfield-LandTrust@gmail.com) with any questions. Visit [www.garfieldlandtrust.org/](http://www.garfieldlandtrust.org/) membership to become a member.

Public meeting on WPH expansion plans

West Penn Hospital (WPH) in Bloomfield is hosting two community meetings to share its new plans for campus expansion. Both meetings begin at 6 p.m. at the WPH School of Nursing (4900 Friendship Ave.). The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 11; the second meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 16.



Help Re-Imagine 327 N Negley  
You’re Invited to a Neighborhood Design Charrette.

Tuesday OCT. 9 2018	Charrette Location UNION PROJECT 801 N Negley Ave Pittsburgh	6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM
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UPCOMING  
COMMUNITY EVENTS

October 3rd / 6:30 p.m.  
Interested in joining the BGC Board?  
*Candidates need to work or live within Garfield, Friendship, or Bloomfield, and be heavily involved in their local community.*  
BGC Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.)

October 6th / 10 a.m. start  
Garfield Community Clean-Up  
Meet at 113 N. Pacific Ave.

October 6th / 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
“Brunch with the Bishop” - King of Kings Ministries  
113 N. Pacific Ave.

October 6th / 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
“Let’s Go Fishing with Pancakes and Jesus”  
End-of-Summer, Family Fishing Skills Event at Lake Carnegie in Highland Park [to register, call (412) 444-8313 or email [LetsGoFishing@PancakesAndJesus.net](mailto:LetsGoFishing@PancakesAndJesus.net)]

October 11th / 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
Garfield Land Trust Quarterly Membership Meeting  
113 N. Pacific Ave.  
<https://garfieldlandtrust.org/events>

October 23rd / 6 - 8 p.m.  
Community Ambassador & Volunteer Meeting/  
Community Service Happy Hour!  
Primanti Bros (5491 Penn Ave.)

November 1st / 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Penn Ave. Reconstruction Project/Stakeholders Meeting  
*Phase II reconstruction, between Evaline and Graham Sts., is slated to begin in 2020. Please join us for this planning meeting with representatives from the City’s Community Development Office.*  
113 N. Pacific Ave.



# Volunteer Opportunities    Announcements    Shout-Outs    Services    Open Calls    Classifieds

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### 'Excel' Comp. Workshop

Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania is offering free "Excel" workshops to area residents. Learn how to import data, clean up and freeze headers, and create bar charts. The Thursday, Oct. 11, workshop runs from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Goodwill's 118 52nd St. headquarters.

**OCTOBER 17 - WEDNESDAY**

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### Free Lecture: 'Day-by-day w/ 123rd PA Volunteers'

On Wednesday, Oct. 17, the Lawrenceville Historical Society will host local author Chris George. He will discuss his book, and how a devout minister raised a Civil War regiment from Old Allegheny for service in the Union army. This free lecture will take place at the Lawrenceville Branch of the Carnegie Library (279 Fisk St.) at 6:30 p.m. No reservations are required.

## GARFIELD

### Land Trust Committee Meeting

The Garfield Land Trust will hold a committee meeting at the Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave. at Dearborn St.) at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 17. Contact 412-345-3831 or email [GarfieldLandTrust@gmail.com](mailto:GarfieldLandTrust@gmail.com) with any questions. Visit [www.garfieldlandtrust.org/membership](http://www.garfieldlandtrust.org/membership) to become a member.

**OCTOBER 18 - THURSDAY**

## FRIENDSHIP

### Community Meeting

The quarterly Friendship Community Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 18, in the social hall of the Fourth Church of Pittsburgh (5450 Friendship Ave.). Potluck begins at 6:30 pm; please bring a dish to share. The meeting begins promptly at 7 p.m. with Board elections for the 2019/2020 term. Neighbors must be present at the meeting to vote.

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### 'Word' Comp. Workshop

Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania is offering free "Word" workshops to area residents. Learn how to use the quick access toolbar & ribbon menus, print, and save documents. The Thursday, Oct. 18, workshop runs from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Goodwill's 118 52nd St. headquarters.

**OCTOBER 21- SUNDAY**

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### Free Walking Tour

The annual Lawrenceville Historical Society Walking Tour will take place on Sunday, Oct. 21, at 2 p.m. The tour, which explores Central Lawrenceville, begins at the corner of 40th and Davison Sts. and ends at the Allegheny Cemetery on Butler St. The tour lasts approximately 1.5 hours, so please wear comfortable shoes. No reservations required; rain date set for Sunday, Oct. 28, at 2 p.m.

**OCTOBER 25- THURSDAY**

## LAWRENCEVILLE

### 'Small Mall': Overhaul

Enjoy new work from artists in the region while checking out a re-hang of the space at 5300 Butler St. Light drinks and heavy fun provided. This free Oct. 25 event is open to the public from 2 - 8 p.m.

### 'PowerPoint' Comp. Workshop

Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania is offering free computer workshops to area residents. Learn how to insert animations, text boxes, tables, and external hyperlinks into your presentation, among other topics on Thursday, Oct. 25, from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Goodwill's 118 52nd St. headquarters.

**- ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES -**

## CITY-WIDE

### Cub Scouting

Cub Scout Pack 343 is looking for new Cub Scouts to join us for the fall. Cub Scouting is a year-round, family-oriented part of the BSA designed for children who are in first through fifth grades (or are 7, 8, 9, and 10 years of age). Pack 343 meets weekly; contact Rudy at 412-414-6189 with any questions.

### Dental Research Study

The University of Pittsburgh is recruiting African-American mothers who have been pregnant for up to 29 weeks, planning for visits and phone calls through the baby's 2nd birthday. Participants will be compensated for time and travel for each visit (6 total visits over 2 years), earning up to \$530 if they complete each part of the study; a dental screening is provided every visit. No procedures are performed, but referrals are provided. Email [tmd65@pitt.edu](mailto:tmd65@pitt.edu) or visit [dental.pitt.edu/oral-health-studies](http://dental.pitt.edu/oral-health-studies). ♦

## Classifieds

### Goods & Services

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412 682-1562

### Shoutouts from the Bloomfield Swimming Pool!

The Bloomfield Swimming Pool staff for the City Parks and Recreation would like to thank the following friends & businesses for their donations and participation in our yearly Carnival: PPG Aramark Arena, Pizza Italia, Tobacco Outlet, Liberty Beer, Rita McLaughlin, Mark & Kim Carr, and Kerrie and Mr. & Mrs. Cooler. With your help and donations, we were a success! Hope to see you again next year.



## ELPC community kitchen feeds new business in East Liberty

By Elizabeth Sensky *East Liberty Development, Inc.*



**AT LEFT:** Everyone enjoys using the East Liberty Presbyterian Church's community kitchen for a variety of reasons. The kitchen, which began as a lunchtime destination 15 years ago, now functions as an incubator for local chefs and food-handlers. For a nominal fee, area entrepreneurs enjoy access to a commercial grade kitchen hidden underneath the old church's 116 S. Highland Ave. location.

*East Liberty* - Underneath the East Liberty Presbyterian Church (ELPC, 116 S. Highland Ave.), a little-known kitchen has been feeding the community, in more ways than one, for over a decade. The ELPC community kitchen was born of a different era in East Liberty's history, when finding a decent lunch spot in the neighborhood was no easy task.

"The [kitchen's] long, ancient history includes the fact that, 15 years ago, East Liberty was a totally different place," Pamela Kimmel, a business administrator for the church, explained. "A lot of the local businesses, including the people that worked at the church, really had no reasonable place to go for lunch, so we decided to open a program called 'Cathedral Café.' We had a certified chef and, at lunchtime from Tuesday through Friday, local people could come in and eat."

As East Liberty grew and more restaurants opened, the last thing administrators wanted was for the church to be in competition with the community, so they decided to close the café. Their next decision - what would become of the commercial kitchen - came down to changing circumstances.

"We had several people on staff as certified food handlers to help with the food programs for the church, but we thought there are other people who can take better advantage of the fact that we have this kitchen," Kimmel said.

As luck would have it, an entrepreneur soon approached ELPC about using the community kitchen to jumpstart her business as a personal chef. Since her home was not suitable, and she did not have access to a restaurant kitchen, the entrepreneur relished the idea of engaging a community amenity to achieve her business goals.

"This opened our eyes," Kimmel recalled, "to the fact that there might be other people who were in this circumstance."

For the last five years, the ELPC community kitchen has played host to many other local chefs, all of whom are in varying stages of growing their food business. Three to four chefs currently use the space on a regular basis for their food production and catering needs; all of the chefs happen to be women.

As the owner/operator of "Roxanne's Catering," Roxanne Easley sees the value in having access to a commercial kitchen. "The church has helped my business grow," she said. "It opens doors for contracts that would not be available to me if I did not have the proper space and location to prepare food."

For personal chef Catherine Amatangelo-Alfaro, who prepares meals for clients with unique dietary needs, the kitchen functions as her off-site workspace. "I started using the kitchen because it made sense for my business and clients," she explained. "I no longer have to bother my clients by using their kitchens, and I have access to all the commercial equipment I need to prepare their meals."

The church charges those using the kitchen a small daily fee to cover basic expenses, but the operation does not yield any financial profit. The gains achieved by the kitchen relate to giving local entrepreneurs access to a professional space for their food production.

"Occasionally, it's someone who's beginning a new phase of their life and they just need help getting started," Kimmel noted. "What we're trying to do is be a support to these people."

While the kitchen is currently at capacity, ELPC hopes to host other certified chefs and food-handlers in the future. "The idea," Kimmel said, "is for this to be a space that's always open to the community." ♦

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