

the Bulletin

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Corporation



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

Pittsburgh Glass Center buys former Horoscope Lounge

By Rick Swartz

Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - Thanks to the Pittsburgh Glass Center (PGC), a pair of long-vacant storefronts in the Penn Ave. corridor will soon find new life as arts-related spaces. The center recently concluded its purchase of a two-story building at Penn Ave. and N. Graham St.

Once home to a bar known as the Horoscope Lounge, the property at 5431-33 Penn Ave. has been sitting empty since 2006, when District Attorney (DA) Stephen A. Zappala orchestrated the tavern's closing after years of complaints from neighbors and community groups about its management.

As part of the deal with the DA's office, the owner at the time, Angelo Restano, was allowed to retain the liquor license for the premises, but could no longer

See **Glass Center** | page 3



ABOVE: At the "Taste of Africa" fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 13, Matt Jones (left) sports attire from Swaziland as he stands beside Penny Ngoushema, wearing traditional Cameroonian threads. The Cameroon FDP event supported African youths via the prism of soccer. Look to page 11 for more snapshots. Photo by John Colombo.

Bridge Music Hall: home & harmony on N. Highland Ave.

By Elizabeth Sensky

East Liberty Development, Inc.

East Liberty - Rich Dieter had been searching for a suitable space to create his "listening room" concept for nearly three and a half years when he finally found an ideal location for The Bridge Music Hall at 124 N. Highland Ave.

Dieter first imagined the concept of a cabaret-style listening room back in 2015. "I was having dinner with a friend and I remarked that Pittsburgh no longer had a decent listening room - a place where you can really go and listen to music without hearing typical bar noise or other kinds of nonsense," he recalled.

"The concept of a listening room is that when the musicians play, you shut up. You talk before the musicians play, at intermission, or afterwards - but, while

See **Bridge Music Hall** | page 12



ABOVE: Juma Mkomwa walks his children Arbay, Mohamed, and Halima, to the school bus stop near the family's home in Northview Heights on Oct. 10. Read more about the Mkomwa family at right. Photo by John Altdorfer/PublicSource.

Booming Lawrenceville has priced out some residents. Would inclusionary zoning prevent displacement?

By Jason Vrabel *PublicSource*

Lawrenceville - At the Lawrenceville Farmers' Market in Arsenal Park, Omar Muya lit Sterno cans to heat the samosas he sells there every other Saturday afternoon throughout the summer.

Muya, 34, came to the United States from his native Somalia in 2004. He moved with his family to a house three blocks from the park. "My friends and cousins, we all played soccer in this park," he said.

When Muya's family was ready to buy a house, he found an affordable one with a yard outside of the city. He commutes to Lawrenceville each day to his job as an electrician at the National Robotics Engineering Center.

Most of the roughly 300 Somali Bantu refugees that called Lawrenceville home a decade ago haven't been as fortunate.

See **Booming** | page 6

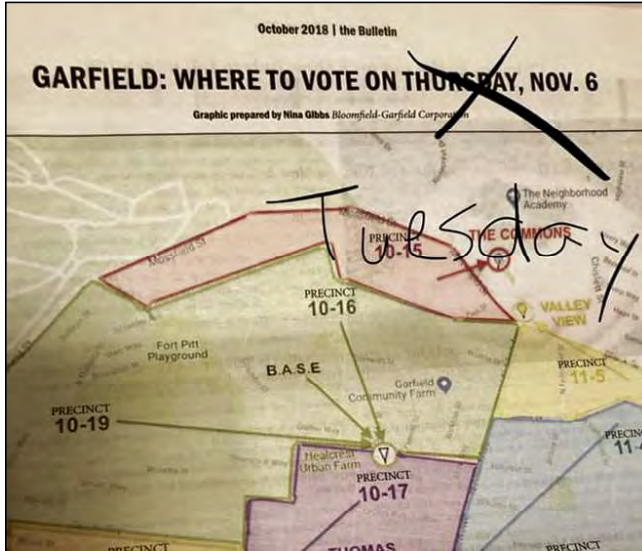
- PAGE 5 - WEST PENN PLANS FOR HOSPITAL EXPANSION IN BLOOMFIELD

VOTE WITH YOUR STOMACH: DO THEY CARE ABOUT HUNGER? - PAGE 10 -

CORRECTION

VOTE: **TUESDAY**, NOV. 6**AT RIGHT WRONG:**

Last month's Bulletin was wrong about a very important fact: Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 6. On Facebook, Bulletin readers Stephanie Pergantis and Brennan Kaye posted notes of concern about the misprint and its far-reaching consequences. The impact of "non-facts" can be injurious, especially for voters. Photo by Stephanie Pergantis.



The Bulletin - Last month, I made a grave mistake. Upon listing the date for Election Day, I inexplicably printed "Thursday," instead of "Tuesday," in a headline about the Nov. 6 mid-term.

No publication, much less *The Bulletin*, should ever communicate false information. And, although mistakes happen, this is different - namely because voter suppression is alive and well in our country.

It might sound crazy, but the same glad-handing tactics used by Prohibition-era hucksters have established a real foothold on Facebook these days.

According to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), "since 2008, states across the country have passed measures to make it harder for Americans - particularly black people, the elderly, students, and people with disabilities - to exercise their fundamental right to cast a ballot. These measures include cuts to early voting, voter ID laws, and purges of voter rolls."

I take full responsibility for my error, and its untold magnitude, because it is vital for readers everywhere to have accurate information, especially about

the upcoming election. If we do not vote, we cannot be accounted for - no matter the numbers game.

When somebody screws up the facts, readers are right to be skeptical; a fudged listing smacks of poor editing, but a misprinted election date is unacceptable, bar none. As Bulletin readers Stephanie Pergantis and Brennan Kaye soon pointed out on Facebook [pictured above], such an error can have serious consequences.

In making the argument for why readers should vote, I feel the full severity of my mistake. My response begins and ends with *mea culpa*.

If anything is to be gained from my very serious gaffe, I hope it is an appreciation for the fundamental fact-checking, vetting, and proofreading that can guide our greatest decisions.

So take this "teachable moment" as a reminder to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 6. Before you green-light their governance, study up on your future legislators' platforms at www.aclupa.org/issues/votingissues.

- Andrew McKeon, *The Bulletin* ♦

City seeks cooperation inspecting vaults ahead of reconstruction

A Message from the City of Pittsburgh

ATTN: Property Owners

Although construction is not set to begin until late 2020, the planning of Phase 2 of the Penn Ave. reconstruction project is now well underway. If you own property located within the boundaries of Phase 2, you will receive a letter from the City of Pittsburgh in the coming weeks.

The dimensions of the project will be approximately from the building face on one side of Penn to the building face on the other side, extending from Evaline on the west to Coral on the east (with some exceptions for properties that are considered large commercial developments). Your property may have an underground vault (i.e. space located beneath the sidewalk which may be an extension of your building basement or mechanical room).

The City of Pittsburgh is in the early stages of design work associated with Phase 2 of the reconstruction. The project will consist of complete reconstruction of the road, curbs, and sidewalks. In addition, the City plans to upgrade traffic signals and street lighting - with a promise to install pedestrian-level lighting and landscaping that complements the work done during Phase 1.

Understanding the extents and limitations of your vault is a critical step in the design process. There is no physical alteration planned for your vault at this time; the initial assessment will help determine if physical alteration is warranted.

The City is requesting that you allow the City and/or the project's design consultants to access the vault area in order to perform a visual investigation. The primary purpose of the investigation is to determine how far the vault or basement area extends into the right of way - and what modifications would be required for the vault or basement area to be able to support new roadway, curbs, sidewalks, light pole foundations, plantings, and other streetscaping elements.

An Access Form will be sent to you via email or the United States Postal Service (depending upon the contact information that is available to the City) so that you can properly coordinate access to your vault or basement area. We urge you to give this matter your highest priority.

Since the reconstruction's success will be measured by our ability to keep the project on schedule, we ask you to please return the Access and Survey Forms within 10 days of receipt. Once the City understands how your vault or basement area impacts the proposed project, additional coordination may be necessary.

The information gathered from accessing your vault will help the City better understand the feasibility and cost of the project's proposed streetscaping components. ♦

THE BULLETIN WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK!

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Glass Center continued from page 1

use it at that location.

Several years later, Restano's attempt to re-open the storefront as a restaurant without a liquor license soon fizzled. In December of 2016, RGB Graham LLC paid Restano \$400,000 to acquire the property.

Heather McElwee, the executive director of the Glass Center, recently confirmed to *The Bulletin* that her organization was able to negotiate a land swap with RGB Graham; this arrangement enabled the Glass Center to pay \$400,000 for 5431-33 Penn, and sell a commercial property it owned (5447 Penn) to RGB Graham for \$1.00.

With the acquisition of the 5447 Penn property, the individual (representing RGB Graham) who has been involved in the assemblage of other properties in that block will now control all but one of the parcels between the "Bride of

Penn Avenue" mural and the Fairmont Apartments complex.

That individual, Dr. Ghassan Bejjani, a former UPMC neurosurgeon, is the principal in several limited liability corporations - through which he has purchased the vacant houses and lots that have dominated the 5400 block of Penn for over a decade. It appears that Bejjani has now completed the renovation of one of those houses, 5439 Penn, which sits next to the mural.

McElwee said the PGC will spend the next six months planning the re-use of the first floor spaces and renovating three upstairs apartments, which are apparently in poor condition.

She said the center has long sought to find housing suitable for its visiting artists, and that the newly-acquired property at 5431-33 Penn could provide an opportunity to serve that purpose. ♦

BELOW: During the Bloomfield Halloween Parade on Thursday, Oct. 25, parade-goers were treated to a preview of artwork to be featured at the upcoming First Night parade, including art cars created by artists Olivia Skoric and Amy & Tony Scafuri. Photo by Cheryl Capezzuti.



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the Bulletin

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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
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Pacific Ave.), and are open to the public.

The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the publisher.

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Letter from developers of 327 N. Negley, former B’Nai Israel synagogue

Dear Neighbors, Community Groups, and Civic Leaders,

We would like to thank those readers who were able to attend the Oct. 9 workshops to discuss the future of the vacant synagogue and school at 327 N. Negley Ave. During the workshops, we gathered many creative ideas on how to best transform this property into a regenerative, net-zero energy, affordable housing community that serves the local neighborhood.

We heard, loud and clear, that it is very important for this new, low-income housing to welcome residents who have been displaced from the neighborhood. Attendees gave great ideas on how this property could be used for education, fitness, nature experiences, food production, shared meals, support services, job training/mentorship, art, childcare, health, community gathering, spiritual purposes, historic preservation, neighborhood connectors, flex space, small business incubators, gardens, and a hub for sustainable transit. We also learned how we could partner with well-established Pittsburgh organizations.

Our next step is to dig deeper into the various ideas to see what is most feasible at this property. As we conduct research on the concepts discussed at the workshops, some of you may hear from us directly. Presently, we are working on an application for Low Income Housing Tax Credits, which are allotted on a competitive basis by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency. This application is due in November; if selected, it would support 45 new low-income apartments at 327 N. Negley. In the spring, additional workshops will allow us to share designs and ask for your feedback. The public will also be able to monitor the project via our social media.

We are seeking partner organizations to help make this project a reality. If you would like to talk more about our efforts, or would like to get involved at any level, feel free to contact us. If you were not able to attend the workshop, but would like to share your ideas for the property, please feel free to send us an email.

We were thrilled by how many community members gathered to share ideas at last month’s session. We will do our best to turn your ideas into meaningful plans for this property.

Sincerely,

David Motley (MCAPS), Michael Polite (Ralph Falbo) and Courtney Koslow (Beacon Communities)

[327 N. Negley Ave. Development Partners] ♦

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Rep. Gainey proposes mandatory drug tests for all PA legislators

By Nick Malawskey House Democratic Communications Office

Harrisburg, PA – Rep. Ed Gainey, D-Allegheny, has proposed legislation that would require Pennsylvania House and Senate members to undergo random drug testing.

“We must be willing to do ourselves what we ask of others,” Gainey said. “It is critical to lead by example and stand with our constituents to end the stigma of the disease of addiction. We must be held to the same standards as those we serve.”

Under Gainey’s legislation, elected officials would undergo a test within the first 60 days of an election. A random test would then be required at least once during the calendar year and not more than once every three months.

Results from the tests would be forwarded to the House and Senate Ethics committees, which would retain the records and open investigations related

to failed tests. Members who fail a test would be referred to the State Employee Assistance Program to determine if they should be evaluated for treatment options, counseling, outpatient treatment, or other substance-abuse rehabilitation services.

Officials would be required to pay for the costs of any rehabilitation program not covered by insurance, as well as the cost of any failed drug test. All results and information related to the testing would be considered confidential unless an official refuses to take two or more tests, or fails two or more tests.

“This is about fairness and it’s about leading by example,” Gainey said. “If we as legislators are going to require our constituents to pass drug tests to access state services, then we - as servants of the state - should be required to do the same.” ♦



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Lawrenceville United welcomes Darrell Kinsel as new Community Engagement & Program Manager

By Dave Breingan Lawrenceville United



AT LEFT: Darrell Kinsel brings a wide range of experience to his new role as Community Engagement & Program Manager for Lawrenceville United. Co-founder of Garfield's BOOM Concepts (5139 Penn Ave.), Kinsel aims to bridge gaps between the neighborhood's legacy residents and all of their new neighbors. Photo courtesy of Dave Breingan.

Lawrenceville – Lawrenceville United (LU) is excited to welcome Darrell Kinsel as the neighborhood organization's new Community Engagement & Program Manager.

While new to the position, Kinsel is certainly no stranger to Lawrenceville; he lived, and had an art studio, in the neighborhood for a time. Working as the Arts & Action Program Coordinator at MGR Youth Empowerment, he also coordinated multiple after-school and in-school programs at the local Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8 school.

"Lawrenceville is a unique neighborhood that has contributed to making Pittsburgh a hub for creativity and innovation," Kinsel said. "I am excited to be returning and serving a formal role here."

In 2014, Kinsel co-founded BOOM Concepts (5139 Penn Ave.), a creative hub in Garfield that remains dedicated to the advancement of black and brown artists representing marginalized communities.

Through BOOM, Kinsel has worked with youths, community artists, and neighborhood partners to help identify contemporary expressions of social justice through drama, dance, music, visual art, and technology.

His work in the community has earned him recognition from *New Pittsburgh Courier's* Fab 40, Pittsburgh Magazine's "40 Under 40," Pittsburgh Tech Council's "Creative of the Year," *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's* "Top Ten People To Meet in 2016," and The Incline's "Who's Next: Art."

Now, Kinsel turns his creative talents

to supporting quality-of-life initiatives for Lawrenceville residents. For LU, he coordinates the organization's communications, manages the AdvantAGE program (to support older adults and help them age in place successfully), oversees the Lawrenceville Farmers Market, plans community events, and directs neighborhood cleaning and greening efforts.

Kinsel said he is especially passionate about working with older adults in the community, creating spaces for legacy residents and newer neighbors to build relationships.

"There's a lot happening in Lawrenceville and there has always been a lot happening here. Through the programs at LU, I hope to make the gaps between the past, present, and future of the neighborhood smaller."

To get to know Kinsel, and get involved with LU, please contact 412-802-7220 or Darrell@LUnited.org. ♦

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West Penn Hospital shares Bloomfield expansion plans

By Joe Reuben Bulletin contributor

Bloomfield - In a sign of its return to strong financial health, West Penn Hospital (WPH) has unveiled a ten-year development plan that will infuse over \$100 million into expanding its facilities.

At two community meetings in October, hospital CEO Ron Andro promised that all of the growth WPH is hoping to see will stay within the confines of its existing physical plant - bounded by Liberty Ave. on the south, Gross St. on the east, Friendship Ave. on the north, and S. Mathilda St. on the west. He said that if the growth projections are accurate, West Penn could, over time, see 800 employees added to its existing 1700-member workforce.

The main elements of the plan, at least at this moment, include the following: 1) a new, multi-story, ambulatory care center - to be built behind West Penn's nursing school at Gross and Friendship; 2) conversion of the Mellon Pavilion on Liberty into another in-patient wing of the hospital, with possible storefronts at ground level; 3) expansion of the current parking garage at Gross and Liberty to add space for another 800 cars; 4) an increase in the size of the hospital's power plant on S. Millvale Ave.

About 40 people attended an Oct. 16 session, the second of two meetings the hospital held last month at its nursing school auditorium, to share its vision for the future. "This will be the first," Andro said, "of a number of meetings with community members as we refine and revise the plan." He fielded a number of questions about how Gross St. could be affected by both the garage expansion and construction of the new care center.

Preliminary plans call for Gross St. to become two-way from Liberty to the entrance of the new parking facility. Andro reaffirmed the reason for this was to encourage Liberty, and not Friendship Ave., to remain the main means of ingress and egress to and from the campus. "We want to protect Friendship Park from excessive motor vehicle traffic," he said, "and retain the relief it provides from all of the hustle and bustle nearby."

Several residents questioned how the hospital would make up for the loss of its on-street parking (on the western side of Gross) once construction removes spaces along that side of the block. Some said they are already contending with hospital employees who insist on parking in the block during the evening - after the area is freed from permit parking restrictions. Indicating that he was sensitive to this problem, Andro pledged to explore various solutions, including the possibility of opening up the new parking garage for local residents to use.

City Councilwoman Deborah Gross, also in attendance, suggested a more pedestrian-friendly campus. "I walked to the hospital from my former home on S. Millvale Ave. when I was ready to deliver my first baby," she said. She went on to describe the development's possible impact on the block of S. Millvale extending from Liberty Ave. to the park. "It's something of a concrete canyon already," the councilwoman observed, "and this plan could make it worse."

Andro agreed with her assessment, saying that he would try to look into other possibilities - namely, how Mend Way, which runs parallel to Gross and S. Millvale between the two streets, could be re-worked as a pedestrian pathway through the WPH campus. In citing a number of partnerships with community groups, to which WPH has often contributed personnel and monetary support, he promised to schedule additional meetings with local residents and organizations over the fall and winter.

The CEO maintained that West Penn has come a long way from where it was a decade ago, when it was teetering on the brink of insolvency. "We've been delivering, on average, over 400 babies per month this year," he said. "We want people to see us as the first choice for healthcare if they live in Bloomfield, the Hill District, Shadyside, Garfield, Lawrenceville, and East Liberty."

What comes next for West Penn is a date with the city Planning Commission, who will be asked to give its approval to the broad concepts that provide the blueprint for the 10-year development plan. That could happen within the next 90 days, but Andro cautioned that each element in the plan would still need a separate review by the commission before it can be built.

WPH has retained an architectural firm, IKM, and a transit-planning firm, Trans Associates, to assist in designing the main features of the expansion plan. ♦



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for the latest neighborhood information and community updates

Booming continued from page 1

It is believed that all are now gone from Lawrenceville, exiled to other neighborhoods in large part by burdensome housing costs.

Many of them return weekly for English and citizenship classes and to visit UPMC St. Margaret Family Health Center. For nine months out of the year, Somali Bantu children return to attend Lawrenceville schools.

“But they can’t live here, and you see how tragic that can be when they have to go through the reintegration process all over in a new neighborhood,” said Dave Breingan, executive director of Lawrenceville United [LU], a neighborhood advocacy group.

Breingan hopes that a housing policy tool called inclusionary zoning (IZ) may give remaining low- and moderate-income families a better chance at staying in the neighborhood. The goal of IZ is to ensure that affordable units are created as part of market-rate developments.

To that end, LU recently launched a process called Housing for All to prepare for an IZ pilot project in Lawrenceville. In partnership with the Lawrenceville Corporation and Councilwoman Deb Gross, and with technical support from the city’s planning department, a successful pilot in Lawrenceville could be expanded to other parts of the city within two to three years.

More than other housing programs, IZ creates the potential for social and economic opportunity. Increasing affordable housing in more affluent neighborhoods gives tenants better access to jobs, schools and safer streets, studies suggest.

In a 2012 report titled, “Is Inclusionary Zoning Inclusionary?” the RAND Corporation, a nonprofit think tank, concluded it is. “While IZ programs serve relatively more-advantaged families than other affordable housing programs generally do,” the report authors wrote, “the degree of access IZ provides to low-poverty places is still remarkable.”

Specifically, RAND determined that on the whole, IZ households were “assigned to lower-poverty schools” that “performed slightly above average.”

Two Lawrenceville public schools, Ar-

senal PreK-5 and Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8, offer underserved students opportunities not available in many lower-income neighborhoods.

The schools have English as a Second Language [ESL] programs that serve about 30 percent of students. This past school year, the 78 Arsenal students promoted to ninth grade represented 17 countries and spoke 22 languages.

The Somali Bantu children that once walked to Arsenal schools each day now bus in from other neighborhoods — about 150 from Northview Heights, according to Patti Camper, principal of Arsenal 6-8.

Of the 78 recent graduates, only eight lived within walking distance, down from 15 to 20 a few years ago, Camper said. “There aren’t many kids within walking distance because we sit in the middle of the biggest boom in housing,” she said.

Arsenal’s ESL population has plateaued in recent years, while South Hills Middle School, another school with an ESL program in a more affordable part of the city, has increased dramatically during the same timeframe, Camper said.

Juma Mkomwa is a Somali native with six children, three of whom ride a school bus 5 miles to Arsenal from Northview Heights. Mkomwa has two other children eligible for preschool, but he said he can’t drive them because his shift at a candy factory starts at 3 p.m. “I can take them in the morning but can’t pick them up. If I’m late for work, I might get fired.”

Camper acknowledged that transportation is a challenge for the PreK program. The PreK program’s “demographics don’t look like our demographics,” she said. “You see a less diverse population because it runs from 8 to 2, and no transportation is included. Only parents who have the ability to pick up and drop off are able to even access PreK.”

Camper also said that because of long bus rides, many students can’t participate in after-school programs.

This affects not only immigrant households, but all families earning lower incomes, Camper said.

“It’s a very different world for many of our families,” she said. “They don’t

work, they don’t get paid. ...Part of why PreK is predominantly white is because the people who work [multiple] jobs are predominantly black or brown.”

The disparities are further reflected in the rental housing and homeownership market. According to analysis by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Lawrenceville lost 120 (about half) of its units that accepted Housing Choice Vouchers, commonly known as Section 8, between 2011 and 2016.

Breingan said the number of owner-occupants who lived in their homes for 35 years or more declined by 31 percent between 2014 and 2017.

More than a thousand people live in the low-rise public housing buildings of Northview Heights, isolated atop a hill and encircled by trees. At the entrance is a security gate and a guard who asks guests for their driver’s license, the make and model of their vehicle and reason for visiting.

Mkomwa lives with his wife and children in a four-bedroom apartment decorated with traditional Somali wall tapestries. He moved to Seattle from Lawrenceville nine years ago, but returned two years later.

“I saw other places, other cities, but I liked Pittsburgh,” he said. But he found he could no longer afford Lawrenceville. Most of the Somali Bantu community had already left for Northview Heights.

Mkomwa’s family lives near the intersection of Mt. Pleasant Road and Chicago Street within the public housing development. The intersection in 2015 was identified by real estate data site Neighborhood Scout as the third most dangerous place in the country. Hundreds of children catch a school bus there each morning and get dropped off every afternoon.

Breingan said LU was founded by the

mother of a girl who was shot in a drive-by. “Today we’re the safest neighborhood in Zone 2. At the same time, [the Somali Bantu] stand to benefit from a safer neighborhood. They’ve been priced out to one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in Pittsburgh.”

The windows at Arsenal School look out over the city’s largest luxury apartment development, Arsenal 201. The first phase of the 625-unit project is complete, and available units range from about \$1,000 per month for studios to \$3,100 for three bedrooms.

Camper recalled when the project was in its planning stage.

“They kept asking for our input and I was like, ‘Why?’” she said. “There will never be a time that I will have kids who walk across the street from Arsenal 201. Because that housing is never going to be family oriented. You’re not attracting families with children who will attend our public schools.”

Breingan said that of the hundreds of rental units newly built in Lawrenceville during the past five years, only 10 are priced to be affordable to those earning 80 percent of the area median income or below.

“So much of the housing production that has been created has been at the high end of the market, largely for one-bedrooms,” he said. “Are we really providing opportunities for families to live here — for people to really grow roots in the neighborhood?”

Jason Vrabel is a freelance writer based in Pittsburgh. He can be reached at vrabelman@downstream.city.

This story was fact-checked by Tyler Losier.

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HAPPY HOUR **681-9562** VEGAN OPTIONS

Friendship House Tour spotlights neighborhood's unique home stock

By Ellen DiBiase *Bulletin contributor*

Friendship - It was a perfect day for a stroll - not too hot and not too cold - when about 200 guests toured the neighborhood on Sept. 23. The 2018 Friendship House Tour highlighted a diversity of home styles in a neighborhood that is just a few blocks wide.

From a cozy, brick row-house to larger, late-Victorian four-squares (in various stages of renovation), the families on this year's tour definitely made the most of their spaces; homeowners designed living quarters to accommodate their unique hobbies, artistic pursuits, and home collections.

Upon checking in at the Baum Grove booth, tour-goers got a sense of what it might be like to live in Friendship. There, and at several other points along the tour, children were selling refreshments to raise money for various causes of their choice.

Ivy Lamitina, age 10, set up her booth on S. Atlantic Ave. to feature hammered-metal jewelry; she sells these handmade items to benefit humane animal rescue efforts - under the name "HAR-Wear." Lamitina was particularly interested in helping animals affected by Hurricane Florence with the money she raised during this year's house tour.

Two of this year's featured homes have boasted some serious screen-time. Neighbors might recognize the domicile at 411 S. Graham St. as the narrative scaffolding for *Smart People* [a 2008 movie featuring Dennis Quaid, Sarah Jessica Parker, and Ellen Page].



ABOVE: An impressive, recently renovated residence at 113 S. Evaline St. was just featured on the 2018 Friendship House Tour. Photo courtesy of Ellen DiBiase.

Homeowners Kim and Tom Mangan keep a copy of the script, signed by the film's crew and actors, on display in their "Hollywood-adjacent" home. They have since preserved a stained-glass window on the second floor landing - a *faux* feature installed by the film's production staff.

On the other side of the neighborhood, at 113 S. Evaline St., guests were able to see the final results of a "home flip" - as featured on the short-lived HGTV series *Steel City Rehab*. For those readers who have seen the television episode, it offered a special glimpse into the transformation; homeowners John and Stacey Olson decorated their abode with unique works - gleaned from international travel - to great effect.

Upwards of 25 volunteers served as docents, helping homeowners monitor each floor and sharing a bit of the house's history with tour-goers along the way. Volunteers from the Shadyside Action Coalition joined to help Friendship Community Group (FCG) members with docent duties.

All volunteers received a free ticket to check out the tour - before or after their shifts. The primary sponsors of the house tour included UPMC, Inhabit Real Estate Collective, K Bennett Development Group, IngMar Medical, and the Michael Healy Company. Guests of the sponsors were also invited to attend the tour at no charge. Track more FCG news at www.friendship-pgh.org. ♦



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Neighborhood FOCUS

Bloomfield: 'shop local' in small business paradise

By Sam Spearing Bloomfield Development Corporation

Bloomfield - Op/Ed - This year, instead of enduring the hustle and bustle of Black Friday at area shopping centers, consider staying in the neighborhood and supporting local businesses.

Simply browsing the variety of shops along Liberty Ave. and Main St. can help you find a gift for anyone on your list. Offering everything from traditional presents to modern "must-haves," Bloomfield boasts a number of businesses where you can source the perfect gift.

Anyone heading to a last-minute dinner party will find that a flower bouquet from Leone's Florist (4822 Liberty) is the best "plus one" companion; for those who plan ahead, the florist also offers customized flowers. By proceeding a mere block down the avenue, you can even pair your bouquet with a holiday card from Joan's Hallmark (4748 Liberty) to complete the gesture.

Located in the same Bloomfield shop where luminaries like Paul and Karl and Bob and Mikey and Jason [likewise operating on a first-name basis] once served the listening public, Juke Records has good *mojo* baked into its brick & mortar.

Bloomfield's Italian culture shop - Merante's Gifts (4723 Liberty) - is not only a fantastic place to shop for the chef or foodie in your life, but also the only place to sign someone up for Maria Merante's famous cooking classes.

For the fashion-oriented gift-getters in your life, several businesses in the neighborhood focus on "wearables," and most are great for lower budgets. Clothes Minded (4740 Liberty) has a variety of vintage and modern second-hand clothing, accessories, and jewelry for both men and women.

Allure (4730 Liberty) carries a collection of women's fashion and specializes in one-of-a-kind pieces, as does Kathmandu Artifacts (4625 Liberty Ave.), which focuses on imported Nepalese and Tibetan goods. Both carry unique jewelry that you won't find anywhere else; be sure to check out their scarves and bags.

Kula Industries, brand new to Bloomfield at 4124 Main St., carries a well-curated selection of vintage and redesigned fashion. Honestly, if you'd like to re-fashion something into a new piece, with a special someone in mind, this is the place for you. Serving a legion of local residents and ex-pats who

BELOW: White Whale Bookstore (4754 Liberty Ave.) is one of many shopping destinations dotted along Bloomfield's commercial corridor. Locals can "shop local" this holiday season by simply strolling down Liberty Ave. Photo by Sam Spearing.



wear the city's loyalty on their shoulders, Commonwealth Press (4707 Liberty Ave.) specializes in manufacturing pierogi pillows and clever Pittsburgh t-shirts.

Shopping for a teen who [temporarily] despises conventional presents? Consider visiting Overcast Skate Shop (4116 Main), which specializes in supplying gear and apparel from top-flight skate companies.

Bloomfield is home to several shops that are stocked with all kinds of art, from handmade goods to obscure records. Songbird Artistry (4316 Penn) features unique wares like jewelry, clothing, home décor, and beauty products from all over the city. Boxheart Gallery (4523 Liberty) hosts local art as well, offering paintings and sculptures for sale - along with expert, custom framing.

Juke Records (4526 Liberty) covers the neighborhood's music needs, providing a large library of new and old records fit to complement any collection. Located in the same Bloomfield shop where luminaries like Paul and Karl and Bob and Mikey and Jason [likewise operating on a first-name basis] once served the listening public, Juke Records has good *mojo* baked into its brick & mortar.

At White Whale Bookstore (4754 Liberty), you can list a genre or author name and they'll help you find a book that's sure to be well-received. White

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BDO PERSPECTIVES IN PRINT

- continued from page 8 -

Whale specializes in new, popular titles and young adult fiction, with a smattering of used books as well. While shopping for your more politically-motivated friends and relatives, make sure to visit the anti-profit, volunteer-run Big Idea Cooperative Bookstore & Cafe (4812 Liberty) to stock up on radical 'zines, patches, and literature.

When it comes to the comestibles, Bloomfield has every palette covered. A fruit basket from Linea Verde (4619 Liberty), a collection from Gryphon's Teas (4709 Liberty), or a cheese basket from Chantal's Specialty Cheese Shop (4402 Penn) are all delicious choices. Shoppers catering to the needs of an aspiring foodie can simply sign them up for one of Chantal's cheese-pairing classes.

If you're completely stuck, a local gift card is always a "win-win." Bloomfield is home to countless options like Alexander's (5104 Liberty), Bitter Ends Garden & Luncheonette (4613 Liberty), Tessaro's (4601 Liberty), Station (4744 Liberty), Pleasure Bar (4729 Liberty), Baby Loves Tacos (4508 Liberty), Caliente (4624 Liberty), Thai Gourmet (4505 Liberty), the new Sugar & Smoke at 4428 Liberty Ave., and many more.

No matter where you buy gifts this holiday season, remember that "shopping local" is very simple: your dollars can support your neighborhood. ♦



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- Saturday, October 13 from 9-11 AM Lower School (Grades K-2)
- Thursday, October 25, from 6-7 PM Upper School (Grades 3-5)
- Saturday, November 10 from 9-11 AM Lower School (Grades K-2)
- Tuesday, January 8 from 5:30-7:30 PM Lower School (Grades K-2)

School Tours

- Grades K-2 Tours take place on Tuesdays from October-January 31st from 9:30-10:30 AM
- Grades 3-8 Tours take place on select Wednesdays from October-January 31st from 9:30-10:30 AM

Applications for the 2019-2020 school year open October 1, 2018.

For more information visit: ecspgh.org/apply

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Allegheny
Health Network

Where they stand on hunger: candidate responses from Just Harvest

Graphics by Just Harvest

[Editor’s Note: On Tuesday, Nov. 6, the voting public will decide who gets to “make the rules” for the next few years. While campaigning throughout the region, candidates for office rarely dig deep into their constituents’ everyday struggles - even when funding for programs like SNAP, as well as protection for workers and universal access to Medicaid, is at risk in the coming election.

Just Harvest, a local nonprofit working to combat hunger via public policy and sustainable programming, has furnished the following information for your consideration. No matter who votes them into office, our elected officials need to be responsive to the needs of everyone; the future of local food policy hangs in the balance. Please consider each candidate’s stance on hunger when casting your ballot on Nov. 6.

There are not enough pages in The Bulletin to feature all the information relevant to your choice of candidate. Learn more about each candidate at www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/ElectionInfo/electioninfo.aspx. Research each candidate’s stance on hunger issues at www.JustHarvest.org. FYI: In the time it has taken to read this, you could have already voted.]

FEDERAL OFFICE CANDIDATES



United States
Senator
Pennsylvania



Robert Casey (D)*	Key Policies That Cause Hunger	Louis Barletta (R)
Opposes	Reducing SNAP Funding	Supports
Opposes (is against work requirements)	Blocking Access to SNAP and Medicaid by Expanding Work Requirements	Supports (is for work requirements)
Opposes	Tax Cuts for the Wealthy	Supports

STATE OFFICE CANDIDATES



Governor
and Lt. Governor
Pennsylvania



Tom Wolf (D)* John Fetterman(D)	Key Policies to Combat Hunger	Scott Wagner (R) Jeffrey Bartos (R)
Support (is against work requirements)	Protect Access to SNAP and Medicaid by Opposing Work Requirements	Oppose (is for work requirements)
Support raise to \$12/hour	Raise the State Minimum Wage	Support raise to \$8.75/hour
Support (is against HB 861)	Pass Local Laws to Protect Workers	Oppose (is for HB 861)
No position on Fair Share Tax Plan Support a severance tax	Raise Taxes on the Wealthy and on Marcellus Shale Drillers	No position on Fair Share Tax Plan Oppose a severance tax

Local soccer charity supports youths in Cameroon at Lawrenceville fundraiser

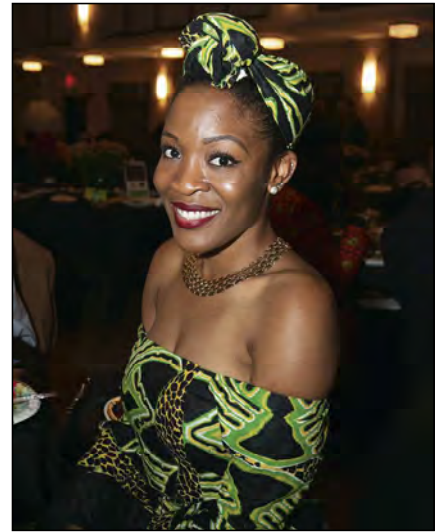
All photos by John Colombo

Cameroon FDP is a Pittsburgh-based 501(c)3 nonprofit organization (Tax ID 27-4829728) that follows a mission to improve the lives of youths in Cameroon, Africa through the global game of soccer. Since 2010, its educational soccer programs and competitions have engaged more than 3,000 boys and girls to create positive social impact in communities across Africa, the developing world, and at home in Pittsburgh. On Saturday, Oct. 13, the organization held a fundraiser at the Teamster Temple (4701 Butler St.) in Lawrenceville. Learn more at www.cameroonfdp.org.



ABOVE: Buffet offerings of traditional Cameroonian cuisine become a crowd favorite at the Oct. 13 fundraiser for Cameroon FDP.

BELOW: Chris & Irene Atte pose for a photo during the Cameroon FDP fundraiser in Lawrenceville.



ABOVE: Sheila Enoch is beaming, radiating positive energy for a good cause at the Oct. 13 fundraiser.

AT RIGHT: Supporters of a local soccer charity, Cameroon FDP, perform a traditional African dance during the organization's Oct. 13 fundraiser in Lawrenceville. Hosted at the Teamster Temple, the charity event raised money to fund new activities and opportunities for youths in Cameroon. To learn more, and get involved as a volunteer or donor, visit www.cameroonfdp.org.



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-Tribune Review

Safety Measures - Facility Design

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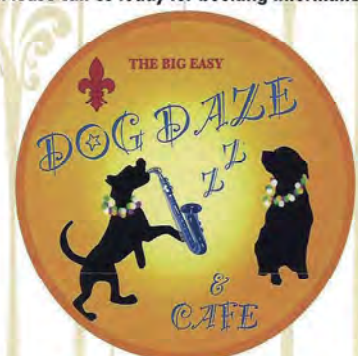
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Bridge Music Hall continued from page 1

the musicians are playing, you listen.”

Relying on his prior experience running a Chicago club and managing national acts, Dieter was confident his networking skills would lead to success. “I talked to over 300 people, from musicians to community developers to business people, to get their insight and ideas,” he said.

Skip Schwab, deputy director of East Liberty Development, Inc. (ELDI). Schwab linked him up with Hotel Indigo (123 N. Highland Ave.), which needed someone to book music for Wallace’s Whiskey Room + Kitchen (located within the hotel). Ever since, Dieter has been booking Wallace’s acts on behalf of The Bridge Music Hall.

“It’s really brought people together,” he said. “People from East Liberty, from Oakland, from Homewood, from Penn Hills, from Monroeville, and even people from the North Side. We’re trying to draw people in from throughout the city.”

With a board of musicians, community developers, and business people in place, all the concept needed was a dedicated space. “This year, we were happy to find a cooperative developer in Nigel Parkinson, who owns the

building [at 124 N. Highland Ave.] across from Hotel Indigo,” Dieter said. “The second floor is perfect for our purposes. The interior doesn’t require an extensive amount of build-out and Nigel has agreed to help us get in there to develop The Bridge Music Hall.”

Dieter is optimistic about the timeline to get things up and running by spring of 2019. He plans to book acts across musical genres; Calliope, a local, folk-music society, will also use the new space and function as a programming partner.

The venue will serve drinks, but not food - a feature that Dieter hopes will benefit area restaurants.

“We’d like to see that whole N. Highland corner be developed into an entertainment center. I would like nothing more than [for] somebody to rent one of those buildings and put in another music club,” he noted, “because, the more things that are clustered around, the more we all benefit.”

Follow along with the listening room’s progress via Facebook (www.facebook.com/TheBridgeMusicHall) and catch The Bridge Music Hall’s weekly shows at Wallace’s. Visit www.facebook.com/clwwrkpgh/ for schedule info. ♦

Lawrenceville celebrates ‘AdvantAGE’ with classic fall party at Hambone’s

By Nancy Leff *Lawrenceville United*

Lawrenceville - Local residents (age 55+) have a significant AdvantAGE - the opportunity to meet new friends, take in free events, and enjoy discounts at neighborhood shops & restaurants. The program, sponsored by Lawrenceville United (LU) helps members get out of the house, stay socially active, continue learning, and engage with local businesses.

On Sunday, Nov. 11, AdvantAGE members will gather for the “Fall Classic” party at Hambone’s (4207 Butler St.). This free, fun event - which runs from from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. - includes a feast and music by the bar’s Monday Evening Cabaret Band, which performs jazzy standards, showtunes, and blues.

The Fall Classic is free for AdvantAGE members who RSVP; any Lawrenceville resident (age 55+) may become a member on-site. Other party-goers can purchase meals listed on the menu; all attendees must pay for their own drinks.

RSVP deadline is Monday, Nov. 5. To reserve seats, call LU at 412-802-7220. ♦

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LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER

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

Real Estate Sales (for the month of September 2018)

Compiled by Lillian Denhardt, RE/MAX Select Realty

Bloomfield

Alejandro H. Diaz to Elina Mukherjee at 325 Taylor St. for \$180,000.

Angeline Kamon to Jason G. O'Toole at 4552 Rosina Way for \$115,000.

Cesare A. & Assunta Borrelli to Thank Your Sister Holdings LLC at 355 Gross St. for \$330,000.

Donna M. Thornquest to Pgh House Help LLC at 321 Darsie St. for \$67,000.

Francis J. & Theresa R. Nowalk to Gartley Group LLC at 4016 Liberty Ave. for \$100,000.

Grato Investments LLC to Nicholas & Nicole Simonian at 322 Ella St. for \$310,000.

Jason C. Yee to Bloommer LLC at 442-444 Taylor St. for \$244,900.

Kenneth A. & Celeste Martin to Daniel J. Tasse and Tatiana Vlahovic at 4789 Yew St. for \$189,000.

Leonard V. & Dolores D. Feigel to Franjessica LLC at 228 1/2 Ella St. for \$142,941.

Marilyn H. Schmid to Paul J. Schmid at 425 Cedarville St. for \$1.

Marshall W. Jenkins to Joseph S. Rosenbloom at 337 Ella St. for \$80,000.

Meisheng & Qing Ye Chen to Kk Rentals Properties LLC at 5143 Cypress St. for \$156,000.

Pgh House Help LLC to Joseph Rosenbloom at 321 Darsie St. for \$80,000.

Tanya Koul to Thomas Weyandt at 433 Taylor St. for \$290,000.

Timothy L. Feigel to Franjessica LLC at 228 Ella St. for \$142,941.

Friendship

No sales to report.

Garfield

Anthony D. Ciotti to Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation at 5164 Broad St. for \$35,000.

BFB Enterprises Inc to Hboy Holdings LLC at 5109 Jordan Way for \$8,000.

Brides Row LLC to 5453 Penn LLC at 5453 Penn Ave. for \$25,000.

City Of Pittsburgh to Bloomfield Garfield Corporation at 5316-5318 Kincaid St. for \$1,000.

Cynthia J. Adams to Nola Properties LLC at 5361 Warble St. for \$37,000.

Dkh Properties Inc. to Fadi Marwan Aboud at 5169 Kincaid St. for \$76,000.

Dkh Properties Inc. to Fadi Marwan Aboud at 5171 Kincaid St. for \$76,000.

Helen E. Brownlee & William Boyd to NCRC Housing Rehab Fund LLC at 413 N. Graham St. for \$120,000.

Helen Faith & Edward Joseph Parker to NCRC Housing Rehab Fund LLC at 5008 Dearborn St. for \$101,000.

Jennifer George to Nola Properties LLC at

5324 Brown Way for \$70,000.

Penn Pioneer Enterprises LLC to NCRC Rehab Fund LLC at 5010 Dearborn St. for \$103,000.

Penn Pioneer Enterprises LLC to Saddle Properties LLC at 315 N. Graham St. for \$95,000.

Pgh Home Buyers LLC to Jordan & Jena El-Sabeh at 5149 Dearborn St. for \$298,000.

TS Pitt LLC to Ang Real Estate LLC at 5409 Columbo St. for \$71,000.

William N. Renwick to Joseph Ditommaso at 300 N. Aiken Ave. for \$65,620.

East Liberty

Carl A. & Susan Holm Hildebrandt to Carl A. Hildebrandt at 189 S. Euclid Ave. for \$1.

Carol W. Delatorre to Rebecca Alice Carter at 502 N. Sheridan Ave. for \$173,000.

Jeffrey John & Sherri Ann Walewski to 300 Saint Clair LLC at 300 S. Saint Clair St. for \$1.

Kendall A. Paul to K Bennett Enterprises LLC at 519 Collins Ave. for \$65,000.

Michael Whitley to East Liberty Development Incorporated at 348 Enright Ct. for \$42,500.

Richard C. Montgomery to Quality Home Investments LLC at 515 N. Saint Clair St. for \$175,000.

Lawrenceville

43rd Street Properties LLC to Three Rivers LP at 144 43rd 1/2 St. for \$80,000.

Andrew R. Buchert to Pink Boots LLC at 4223 Post St. for \$200,000.

Anita Emmett to Marc E. Caputo at 136 42nd St. for \$90,000.

Barr Property Development Inc. to Adam H. & Shelby S. Tharpe at 5239 Carnegie St. for \$385,000.

Bradley R. Truman to Krygowski Properties LLC at 341 46th St. for \$125,000.

City Of Pittsburgh to Lawrenceville Corporation at 5210 Dresden Way for \$1,000.

City Of Pittsburgh to Robin Berman at 265 Ater Way for \$200.

David Quinlan to Dolores Quinlan at 3928 Mintwood St. for \$1.

Dolores Quinlan to Kevin A. Quinlan at 3928 Mintwood St. for \$1.

Gupta Properties LLC to Leroy & Katherine Lundgren at 4824 Hatfield St. for \$598,150.

Hailey M. Wood to Bernard Jonas Macatangay at 5137 Carnegie St. for \$404,000.

Harrison Street Associates LLC to Michael A. Burleson at 5232 Harrison St. for \$269,000.

Jerry C. & Leslie Corinne Glikis to Anthony & Heidi Zanotti at 5204 Dresden Way for \$228,000.

John J. Palmieri to Daniel Gene Newman at 5429 Camelia St. for \$180,000.

John J. Palmieri to Daniel Gene Newman at 5435 Camelia St. for \$180,000.

Karen Dibucci to Kossam Properties LLC at 5164 Carnegie St. for \$165,000.

Marlin Chapman to Gregory S. Kienzl at 5159 Stanton Ave. for \$420,000.

Michael E. & Carolina L. Roy to David Ledet at 193 38th St. for \$350,000.

Mike Palmer to Heather J. Ogg at 357 44th St. for \$595,000.

Nathan Ruger to Zachary R. Francis at 5241 Carnegie St. for \$220,000.

RC Group Properties Inc. to Nicholas Daniel & Darby Lynn Testa at 4919 Hatfield St. for \$358,000.

Richard S. Wellins to Preston L. Brickner at 3814 Cabinet Way for \$250,500.

Ronald Fazio to Yalin Zhong at 3943 Howley St. for \$190,000.

Thomas D. & Jean M. Cox to Andrew L. Kelemen at 174 42nd St. for \$235,000.

Walter J. & Helen A. Kubit to Robert W. Kubit at 269 Fisk St. for \$1.

William J. White to Samuel G. Blake at 163 42nd St. for \$390,000.

Stanton Heights

Brittany Lynn Mills to Ashley A. Mangone at 1414 Simona Dr. for \$179,000.

Edward G. Mcmanus to Margaret M. Mcmanus at 4811 Coleridge St. for \$10.

Noreen N. Connery to Daniel Hatzala Jr. at 1127 Fairfield St. for \$193,500.

Robert A. & Anna Mueller to Stephen D. Schaffer at 1032 Downlook St. for \$197,000.

Sentara Austin to Janice M. Walker at 4728 Stanton Ave. for \$59,640.

Simon & Tatyana Milgrom to Charlotte Koerner at 1539 Woodbine St. for \$110,000.

Timothy Ho Yin Wong to David Underhay at 4325 Stanton Ave. for \$279,900.

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

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



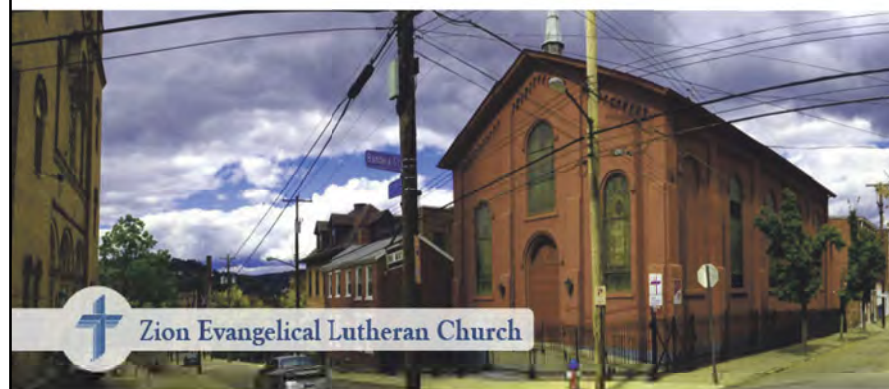
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the BulletinBOARD

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 December issue are due by Monday, Nov. 19.** Please submit listings using our online form at www.bit.ly/bulletin_submit.

NOVEMBER 1 - THURSDAY

SHADYSIDE

'Mindfulness' Workshop

Join the Aging Institute on Thursday, Nov. 1, from 1 - 2 p.m., to learn how to manage stress. Free event at UPMC Center for Integrative Medicine (580 S. Aiken Ave. / Shadyside Place / Suite 310). Call 1-866-430-8742 to register.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Row House screening/ LU fundraiser

On Tuesday, Nov. 1, Row House Cinema (4115 Butler St.) will host a benefit for Lawrenceville United (LU). During a one-time showing, *Progression* will be screened at 10:15 p.m. All seats at \$10; proceeds will go to LU. Loosely based on the Lawrenceville Urban Pioneer Society's progressive dinners, the film is a zany comedy - written and directed by Lawrenceville residents Gab Cody and Sam Turich; it showcases food prepared by neighborhood residents. Email marypgh456@gmail.com for more info.

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, Nov. 1. Contact 412-345-3831 or email GarfieldLandTrust@gmail.com with any questions. Visit www.garfieldlandtrust.org/

membership to become a member.

NOVEMBER 2 - FRIDAY

GARFIELD

Showcase @ Assemble

Using soft sculpture and printmaking, Lauren Bailey's "Less Guts Than Most" explores the anxiety and body horror that comes with a chronic illness diagnosis. Join Assemble (4824 Penn Ave.) on Friday, Nov. 2, for art, crotchet, and cookie-making from 6 - 10 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

NOVEMBER 3 - SATURDAY

LAWRENCEVILLE

Church Rummage Sale

East Liberty Presbyterian Church (116 S. Highland Ave.) is hosting a Cathedral Rummage Sale on Saturday, Nov. 3. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., church members will be selling men's, women's, and children's clothing in the church's social hall - along with housewares, small hardware, linens, jewelry, toys, knick-knacks, books, DVDs, records, Xmas items, and more. Admission is free; cash & checks only.

NOVEMBER 5 - MONDAY

LAWRENCEVILLE

'Housing for All' Meeting

Please join LU, LC, Councilwoman Deb

Local Events Classes Gatherings Fundraisers

Gross, and other partners to discuss the state of housing and displacement in Lawrenceville - and how an inclusionary zoning program could become another tool for preserving housing affordability. On Monday, Nov. 5, a public meeting will run from 6 to 8 p.m. at Goodwill's Workforce Development Center (118 52nd St.), which is a fully accessible building. Free childcare is available; RSVP to 412-802-7220 or info@LUUnited.org.

NOVEMBER 7 - WEDNESDAY

DOWNTOWN

Philanthropic Pitch Party

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 7, for the inaugural "New Philanthropic Leaders" pitch party. Come hear pitches from three local nonprofit organizations that support single women raising children (Jeremiah's Place: A Relief Nursery in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Women Work, and Providence Connections, Inc.). By attending, you will not only donate \$20 to an organization serving women & children, but you will also be able to vote for which organization should receive the largest of three grants, ranging from \$7,500 to \$11,000. The event is being held at The Energy Innovation Center (1435 Bedford Ave.). Free childcare available with RSVP to 412-802-7220 or info@LUUnited.org.

NOVEMBER 10 - SATURDAY

LAWRENCEVILLE

SASS Conference

New Bethel Baptist Church (221 43rd St.) will host the SASS Conference from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 10. The Sister-to-Sister Women's Ministry will present "Healing a Mother's Hurt" (Psalm 34:18). Donation: \$30. Call 412-621-2155 for more info.

NOVEMBER 11 - SUNDAY

EAST LIBERTY

'Leon Ford 4 City Council' Public Meeting

Activist, author, and motivational speaker Leon Ford will officially launch his campaign - to run for Councilman of Pittsburgh City Council District 9 - on Sunday, Nov. 11. Citing a need for bold new leadership that prioritizes safe, equitable, and livable communities, Ford outlined his vision and platform to help Pittsburgh become a place where all residents can prosper. The event will include music, food, and speakers in support of Leon's candidacy. Find the campaign on Facebook (@VoteLeonFord) to learn more.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Celebration of Women Church Service

New Bethel Baptist Church (221 43rd St.) will host a "Celebration of Women" service on Sunday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m. Guest preacher: Rev. Dr. Kimberly Credit from Mount Zion Baptist Church in Boonton Township, New Jersey. Call 412-621-2155 for more info.

NOVEMBER 14 - WEDNESDAY

NORTH SIDE

PULSE Pitch

Join PULSE (Pittsburgh Urban Leadership Service Experience) Fellows, alumni, board, nonprofit partners, and neighborhood residents as PULSE fellows "pitch" their ideas for small, community-based projects throughout Pittsburgh. Fellows have 5-7 mins to "pitch" their idea. The alumni council and audience will have an opportunity to vote for where funding will be distributed. Amounts of up to \$1,000 will be made available to provide immediate support for projects. Pitches run from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Alloy 26 (100 S. Commons, Suite 102) in the city's North Side. Email jkuyers@pulsepittsburgh.org to learn more.

OCTOBER 25- THURSDAY



ABOVE: Created by famed architect Henry Hornbostel in 1923, the former synagogue building at 327 N. Negley Ave. is in the process of being redeveloped. See the developers' letter to the public on page 4. Photo courtesy of Courtney Koslow.

BELOW: The interior of the former B'Nai Israel synagogue building (327 N. Negley Ave.) features brilliant stained-glass windows. Photo courtesy of Courtney Koslow.



Volunteer Announcements Shout-Outs Opportunities Services Open Calls

Classifieds

NORTH SIDE

Nonprofit Info Session

Nonprofit professionals: please join us for lunch, networking, an overview of PULSE (Pittsburgh Urban Leadership Service Experience) and the specifics of a PULSE nonprofit partnership. PULSE fellows serve in a year-long nonprofit partner from the beginning of September to the end of July, 35 hours/week, building capacity, tackling large-scale projects and helping your organization succeed. This info session will run from 12 – 1 p.m. at the Allegheny Conference On Community Development (11 Stanwix St.) in the city's North Side neighborhood. Email jkuyers@pulsepittsburgh.org to learn more.

NOVEMBER 17 - SATURDAY

SHADYSIDE

Literacy Tutor Workshop

Literacy Pittsburgh is offering free training workshops to help people become tutors; no teaching experience necessary. Attend one six-hour session at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (304 Morewood Ave.) on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Or, attend two three-hour sessions at Third Presbyterian Church (5701 Fifth Ave.) on Tuesday, Nov. 27 and Thursday, Nov. 29 from 6 – 9 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Call 412-393-7645 or email rhatcher@literacypittsburgh.org. Visit www.literacypittsburgh.org/volunteers for more details about tutoring students in reading & writing or English as a Second Language.

NOVEMBER 20 - TUESDAY

LAWRENCEVILLE

Free Lecture: Polish Pittsburgh

The Lawrenceville Historical Society continues its public lecture series on Tuesday, Nov. 20, with a presentation by Stanley States, PhD, on "Polish Pittsburgh." States is a first-generation American, whose father and grandparents came to Pittsburgh from Poland in the early 1900s. His Arcadia book chronicles the immigration of Poles to Pittsburgh in several waves. Event takes place at 6:30 p.m. at the Carnegie Library (279 Fisk St.) It is free to the public; no reservations required.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

On Tuesday, Nov. 20, New Bethel Baptist Church (221 43rd St.) will host a community Thanksgiving dinner in

memory of Pastor Le Roy Walker and Sister Marie Greene. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Call 412-621-2155 for info.

NOVEMBER 14 - WEDNESDAY

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 Wednesday, Nov. 28. Contact 412-345-3831 or email GarfieldLandTrust@gmail.com with any questions. Visit www.garfieldlandtrust.org/membership to become a member.

- ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES -

FRIENDSHIP

Holiday Wreath Sale

The Friendship Community Group is selling wreaths, hanging baskets, and garlands for the holiday season. Proceeds go to the upkeep of Baum Grove. Orders are due by Wednesday, Nov. 21; pick-up will be at Baum Grove on Tuesday, Nov. 27. An online order form is available at

<https://friendship-pgh.org>.

- SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER -

LAWRENCEVILLE

'Tows 4 Tots' Toy Drive

On Sunday, Dec. 2, C&R Collision will host the third annual "Tows 4 Tots" Toy Drive at its 120 Putnam St. location in Lawrenceville. From 9 a.m. to Noon, you can join in helping the families of Every Child, Inc. by donating a new, unwrapped present (for children ages newborn to 18). Bring your families and enjoy the coffee & doughnuts. Donations will also be accepted prior to the event. A tow truck parade will follow the toy drive; tow truck operators can join by arriving at Noon. For more info, contact Joey at 412-628-9271 or find the charity on Facebook (@TowsForTots Pgh). ♦

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Goodwill now recruiting young job-seekers for training program

By David J. Tobiczyn Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania

Pittsburgh - Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania's RISE (Reentry through Industry Specific Education) Project is currently seeking candidates who are hungry for career opportunities.

Now entering its seventh year, the program has two specific program areas of focus for participants ages 17-24: those looking to start a career, but who have no high school diploma or GED; and those with a diploma who are willing to start working within three months in order to launch their career.

During its first six years, nearly 300 individuals participated in RISE, resulting in successful job placement in various skilled positions.

"We know that participants find RISE very valuable," Tiffanee Heywood, Assistant Director of YouthWorks at Goodwill, said. "They've told us that they feel camaraderie with the other students and really appreciate the opportunities RISE gives to everyone."

For individuals trying to earn their GED, RISE offers several training programs that can be completed in as little as ten weeks - and be combined with their GED classes. Training areas

include the culinary arts, machinery, masonry, and general laboring.

Participants also receive help with transportation and employment services; they get financial literacy assistance, aid from a dedicated case worker, and a monetary stipend upon completion of the program.

For any out-of-school individual who has a GED or high school diploma, RISE offers the opportunity to receive a state-issued, industry-specific certificate (based on "JumpStart Success," the premier job-readiness curriculum), and employment in less than three months.

The program also provides mobile case managers who are able to meet participants at convenient locations, resume-writing assistance, interview preparation, and other services.

Both programs are WIOA eligible and currently offer rolling admission, with start dates through December. For more info on RISE or any of Goodwill's youth programs, visit: www.goodwillswpa.org/youth-services. To enroll in RISE, call 412-632-1742 or email tiffanee.heywood@goodwillswpa.org. ♦

In conversation with Natalie DeiCas, owner of Everyday's a Sundae & Café

By Amber Epps Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - Natalie DeiCas is a busy woman. With nearly two decades' worth of experience in the restaurant business, she provides catering services, operates a consulting business for restaurant owners called "Blue Flame," and teaches ServSafe classes to aspiring food workers.

When she is not busy in the kitchen, DeiCas attends restaurant conventions all over the world to bring back new recipes and add to her growing menu. Holding a degree from Clarion University, she also worked for six years as a counselor for Pittsburgh Public Schools.

DeiCas recently moved her restaurant/catering business, Everyday's a Sundae & Café, to 4919 Penn Ave. in Garfield. The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) recently connected with DeiCas to learn more about her vision for the restaurant.

BGC: We are really excited to welcome another restaurant to the neighborhood. How did you decide on Garfield?

DeiCas: "I'm just as excited to open up shop here. I chose Garfield because of the community, families, and other small businesses. As a long-term resident of Garfield, I've never been able to find a place locally that served breakfast or lunch at a reasonable price."

BGC: How would you describe the menu?

DeiCas: "The menu is made up of breakfast, lunch, pastries, soups, lemonades, coffee, and fruit bouquets. Our signature item is the breakfast sandwich. Weekends we will serve a *prix-fixe* brunch menu with seasonal items. For business types in search of a quick bite, our pre-made lunch menu will be designed for easy grab-and-go, available all day starting at 9 a.m. It will include our signature sandwiches, as well as some new ones. We will have homemade soups available every day, along with cold side dishes, salads, and fresh fruit. We also carry vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options."

BGC: What kind of atmosphere can people expect?

DeiCas: "People can expect to be greeted with a smile, and the smell of good food, in a family-friendly atmosphere."

BGC: How would you describe the overall dining experience at Everyday's a Sundae? What makes it unique?

DeiCas: "What makes us unique is that a lot of my recipes come from my grandma, who used to serve us 5-course meals daily. I take that same approach here: breakfast is made to order, all the meats for our signature sandwiches are sliced fresh daily, and our desserts are made fresh daily. The dining experience is designed to make our customers feel the love of my grandma's cooking, the way that I experienced it."

[Located at 4919 Penn Ave. in Garfield, the restaurant will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday; weekend hours are yet to be announced, and the restaurant is closed on Mondays for catering purposes. Visit www.everydaysasundaecafe.com to view the menu and learn more.] ♦



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