City Council Tries to Tackle Problem Properties

By Mandy Kendall

Trying to tackle the city’s problem properties has become a priority for city Council, as evidenced by two bills currently being considered by Council.

In late January, Councilmen Len Bodack and Dan Deasy introduced the Vacant Property Ordinance, Bill No 2007-1112. The purpose of the bill is to establish a program for identifying and registering vacant properties, to determine the responsibilities of owners of buildings and vacant structures, and to speed their rehabilitation, thus eliminating blight. Owners of vacant properties will be required to register their property within 30 days of it becoming vacant, or the Bureau of Building Inspection informing the owner of vacant status, although there will be no fee for registration. The bill also requires owners to submit a plan for securing and sealing the building, and either demolishing or rehabbing it. Plans will be subject to review and approval by the Bureau of Building Inspection to ensure compliance with current building codes.

Failure to register and submit a plan within the thirty-day deadline can result in a fine of up to $300 per day until registered. Exceptions are possible for up to 90 days in the event of damage from fire or weather. A list of vacant properties will be presented to City Council and the Mayor’s Office every six months.

A public hearing on Bill 2007-1112 has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, at 1:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. Councilmen Darlene Harris and Douglas Shields have signed on as co-sponsors. Rental properties can also be a source of problems in the city. According to Adriene Aul of the Vacant Property Working Group, Pittsburgh is the largest urban area in Pennsylvania that does not require any registration or licensing for residential rental properties.

Bill No. 2007-1117, introduced in early February by Councilman Dan Deasy, would require all rental property located in the City of Pittsburgh to be registered and regulated. The legislation would require a $25 annual permit fee per rental unit and mandatory inspection of all rental units once every two years. In addition, all landlords would need to have on file a valid address and phone number of the person responsible for the property, along with an annually updated list of tenants. Landlords would also need to be informed of the owner of vacant status.

See PROPERTIES, Page 6

Local State Legislators

Announce Committee Appointments

By Mandy Kendall

Local legislators have begun to announce tier committee appointments for the 2007-2008 legislative session.

District 21 State Representative Elisabeth Bennington, who recently returned from the Pennsylvania Leadership Academy at the University of Pennsylvania’s Fels Institute of Government, received several prestigious House committee assignments.

“It was an honor to be selected to participate in the Leadership Academy at Fels,” said Bennington. “The approaches we discussed to boost cooperation in Harrisburg to meet and overcome the Commonwealth’s challenges will be more important than ever this session.”

The leadership academy is comprised of five members from each caucus in the General Assembly and five members of executive agencies. The participants convened for several days in Philadelphia and Harrisburg to explore possible solutions to the state’s most pressing issues.

Community Invited to Review Plans for New Garfield Public Housing Development

From Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation and Garfield Jubilee Association

Why are the boards going up at the Garfield Public Housing Community? The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation and Garfield Jubilee Association invite you to come find out what is in store for public housing in Garfield at an informational meeting on Thursday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Lawrence O’Toole Activity Building at the corner of N. Pacific Avenue and Broad Street.

KBK Enterprises, the developer of the new housing community that will replace the current Garfield Public Housing Community, and representatives from the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh will be on hand to discuss their master site plan, and specifically Phase I, which will include 90 replacement units and a community building.

KBK will present site drawings and their plans to change both the infrastructure of the site and their plans to integrate the look of the site into the neighborhood as a whole. Funding for the project will also be discussed.

All community members are encouraged to attend.

For more information on the meeting, please contact the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation at 412-441-6950 or Garfield Jubilee Association at 412-665-5200.

Children’s Home to Hold Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

By Mandy Kendall

The Children’s Home of Pittsburgh will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 13, 2007, to commemorate the grand opening of their new building located at 5324 Penn Avenue.

The ceremony will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and include light refreshments, remarks, and tours of the building.

All guests to the ceremony must RSVP by contacting The Children’s Home of Pittsburgh at 412-441-4884 or e-mailing bmcintyre@chomeph.org. Several hundred guests are expected.

The building officially opens for business on Monday, March 19, 2007. Questions or concerns regarding the day’s activities can be addressed to Robin Weber at 412-441-4884 ext. 234.
Caltagirone said, “During the Committee of the Whole that was held in the fall, members from both sides of the aisle presented worthwhile proposals that ranged from putting more police on the streets to investing in long-term preventative solutions. As I see it, the only way we can stop the violence plaguing our communities is to start looking for practical common-sense solutions.”

House Appropriations Committee Chairman Dwight Evans, D-Phila., was the driving force behind the Committee of the Whole, a threeday session devoted to a discussion of legislation and ideas to address crime and violence. It was the first time in a decade that the legislature took a serious look at the issues.

“People like to say crime and violence are urban problems or a Philadelphia problem,” Evans said. “That’s simply not true. The anecdotal evidence and the statistics show that crime, especially as it relates to illegal handguns and drugs, is impacting all of our communities. I hear from mayors every day who say, ‘please help us solve this problem.’”

The Pittsburgh informational meeting has been scheduled for March 28. Time and location have for the meeting not yet been determined, but will be available closer to the meeting date by calling 717-783-8024.
Could filing your taxes mean that the government might owe YOU money? You could be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EIC) if you have been working, even part time—up to $4,539 for 2006. The catch? You MUST file a tax return and the appropriate forms.

Free help with income taxes and filing forms are available for low-income families at the following locations:

**Parental Stress Center**  
5877 Commerce Street  
East Liberty  
Mon-Sun, Day & Evening, Thru April 15  
By Appointment Only: 412-431-8964

**ACORN**  
5907 Penn Avenue  
East Liberty  
Mon-Sat, Year Round  
Call for Appointment: 412-441-6551

**Community Activity Center**  
113 N. Pacific Avenue  
Garfield  
Saturdays, Thru March 31  
By Appointment: 412-441-6950

**Free Tax Help Could Mean up to $4536 in Returns**

In last month’s political update, readers were informed that the current city council members in Districts 7 and 9 were being challenged by a number of contenders.

District 7 incumbent, Councilman Len Bodack, now has two challengers to his city council seat as both Patrick Dowd and Tom Fallon seek the Democratic endorsement. City Council District 9, which is currently served by Councilwoman Twanda Carlisle, appears to have at least six candidates seeking the Democratic Party endorsement, and four who plan to run independently. In addition to incumbent Twanda Carlisle, Leah Kirkland, Rachel Cooper, Gerald Brown, Rick Burgess and Randall Taylor have registered to seek the Democratic party endorsement.

In addition to those who have registered with the Democratic Committee, Shawn Carter, K. Chase Patterson, Judy Ginyard and Ora Lee Carroll have also announced their candidacy. To be considered for party endorsement, candidates were required to register with the Democratic Committee by submitting a Letter of Intent and a filing fee by February 15, 2007. Candidates must also register with the Board of Elections.

The Allegheny County Democratic Committee announced that the 2007 Endorsement Meeting will take place on March 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the IBEW Hall on Hot Metal Street, South Side. There, committee members will vote for the candidate they think should be endorsed by the party.

To educate voters and learn more about the challengers’ platforms, several organizations will be offering a free tax service to individuals who are working, but can’t afford to pay a private company to do their taxes. We will be handling only those returns that do not require a Schedule C, D, or E to accompany them. We’ll even be able to file the federal returns on-line, which will speed up any refund you may have coming.

**Saturdays, March 3 - March 31**  
**Noon - 3 PM**  
**By Appointment Only**

For us to assist you capably, you’ll need to have:

- A valid photo ID
- Information on all of your sources of income  
  (W-2, 1099, etc.)
- Verification as to your valid social security number, as well as those of any dependents

**See PRIMARIES, Page 9**

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**Do you need help filing your federal or state income tax returns?**

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- Verification as to your valid social security number, as well as those of any dependents

To schedule an appointment for this service, please call Rick Swartz at the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation,  
(412) 441-6950.

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**City Leadership Races Heat Up as Candidates Compete for Democratic Endorsement**

By Michelle Burton-Brown  
For The Bulletin

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To educate voters and learn more about the challengers’ platforms, several organizations will be organizing forums and debates. Jans Williams, one of the organizers of the February 28 forum held at the Union Project in Highland Park, says that the political arena in Allegheny County is slowly changing and many organizations are natural allies on issues such as voter’s rights and voter education.

“The participants who organized the [Union Project] event wanted to provide their members with an opportunity to hear from candidates in three important races before the Primary Election on May 15th,” said Williams. “The Mayor’s race is important not only to Pittsburgh residents, but impacts all of Allegheny County,” Williams said. “The 7th District is the only seat up for re-election this year that represents the college students living in North Oakland. The 9th District has public safety issues and chronic unemployment, which works against families. Our coalition of organizations felt that all candidates should have an opportunity to talk to voters about their vision.”

Ward chairs and committee members will work diligently over the next eight to ten weeks, holding meetings, candidate forums and petition parties, to determine who will best serve the Districts and the City of Pittsburgh. The responsibilities of a committee person is to communicate to party leaders the opinions and views of the people in their community, to register new voters, provide voter education, and to “Rock the Vote” at every election in support of a Democratic candidate.

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- Allegheny County Fire Fighters’ Assoc.  
- Allegheny & St. Mary’s Correctional Association AM/VE/Ts POST #64  
- Make a Wish Foundation  
- MDA  
- Lawrenceville “Art All Night”
**The Bulletin**

serving
Bloomfield, East Liberty, Friendship, Garfield and Lawrenceville since 1975

The Bulletin is published by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corp. to
• serve the incorporated territory of the BGC and surrounding communities
• report on activities and ideas affecting those communities
• offer an opportunity to express opinions and exchange ideas

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**SUBMISSIONS POLICY**

All submissions to The Bulletin of any sort must include the writer’s name, address and phone number. We welcome your letters, opinions, articles, and notices. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space. Manuscripts and photographs will be returned only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication, unless otherwise noted. The Bulletin is published monthly.

We Would Like to Acknowledge and thank our advertisers and the BGC’s funding partners, including Mellon Financial Corp., Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development, The United Way, National City Bank, Dollar Bank, PNC Financial, Citizens Bank, The City of Pittsburgh, and State Senator Jim Ferlo for their support.

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**THE BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD CORP’S**

**EYESORE PROPERTY OF THE MONTH**

**Call it Home?**

The property at 5336 Colombo Street was nominated for Eyesore of the Month and according to the Allegheny County Real Estate Web Site, Zone Investments Partnership is the recorded owner. There is no known address to which tax bills can be delivered, which makes holding the owner responsible for the condition of their property that much more difficult. The property is tax delinquent.

The BGC staff visited the property in mid-February and found that it was abandoned. The first floor entries were boarded up, with the exception of open windows in the attached garage in the rear. There was an abandoned car in the side yard, and debris in the front and back yards. The hedges, weeds and vines have so completely covered the front of the house that it is almost impossible to see from the street.

BGC staff contacted the Bureau of Building Inspection (BBI) and found that the property had no record of outstanding violations against it.

This property is directly across the street from Rogers School, putting it within the 1,000 sq. ft. school safety zone created by the school district and the city administration in 2006.

The house is abandoned and needs a new owner before it ends up on a demolition list.

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Each month we highlight either property owners whose neglect hurts the neighborhood or those who have admirably maintained or renovated their properties. Properties are nominated by community members. To nominate a property for either Eyesore or Showcase Property of the Month, please call Aggie Brose at 412-441-6950.
A Community-Building Event to Support East End Students and Families

On May 5, 2007, Peabody High School will be collaborating with their community partners to host “Excellence for All: An East End Community-Building Event.” Superintendent Mark Roosevelt will provide introductory remarks about the important role that residents of all ages, community organizations, and service providers play in improving the academic performance for all East End students through Excellence for All.

Excellence for All provides a road map for improving the academic performance of all students in the Pittsburgh Public Schools.

The purpose of the event is to connect the resources of the community, provide meaningful opportunities for community involvement and strengthen the East–End community for the advancement of all students.

In addition, speakers and workshop presenters will be on site to discuss issues that address the needs of students and the surrounding community such as, employment opportunities, money-management and home ownership, on-going prevention efforts to address area violence, Peabody’s Public Safety Magnet and parent involvement.

Exciting entertainment, speakers and lunch is planned throughout the day.
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PRC / Appliance Warehouse Offers Appliance Recycling

The Pennsylvania Resources Council, Inc. (PRC), a non-profit environmental group with a passion for recycling, has announced a new appliance recycling campaign in partnership with Appliance Warehouse, an appliance retailer based on the South Side of Pittsburgh. For a limited time, Appliance Warehouse will accept drop-offs of old, broken or unwanted major appliances at its facility for FREE. This includes air conditioners, refrigerators, washers, dryers and other appliances typically categorized as “white goods”. For every appliance dropped off, Appliance Warehouse will make a donation to support PRC’s litter and graffiti prevention efforts in the community.

Any individuals, businesses, townships, boroughs, or municipalities that may have old or unwanted appliances lying around now have an opportunity to recycle these items for free. There is no limit to the number of appliances that may be dropped off. Freon will be removed at Appliance Warehouse by EPA certified technicians.

This partnership results in two primary benefits. First, individuals are able to safely and legally dispose of their unwanted appliances free of charge. This helps eliminate the illegal dumping of appliances and ensures that any freon contained in these appliances is collected and recycled in a responsible manner meeting all state and federal guidelines. Secondly, by dropping off appliances at the Appliance Warehouse, individuals are helping to support grassroots community efforts to eliminate litter and graffiti from their neighborhoods.

PRC’s three primary service areas are recycling, litter/ter control, and waste reduction.

COMMITTEES, From Page 1

Personal information is secure and safe in state agencies data bases. The Select Committee on Information Security is comprised of members from four House committees.

District 20 State Representative Don Walko has been appointed Chairman of the Subcommittee on Courts on the House Judiciary Committee. As chairman, Walko intends to explore the impact of mandatory minimum sentences on the prison population and review proposals to change the system for selecting appellate court judges from an election-based system to a “merit selection” system.

As a member of the Insurance Committee, Walko will be involved in reviewing Governor Ed Rendell’s proposed health plan for Pennsylvania.

Walko will also be returning to serve on the House Appropriations, Professional Licensure and Urban Affairs committees.

In the state senate, District 38 Senator Jim Ferlo will be serving as the Minority Chair of the Local Government Committee, along with serving on the committees for Community, Economic & Recreational Development; Finance; Labor & Industry; and Urban Affairs & Housing.

Contact information for each of these legislators can be found on the facing page.

PROPERTIES, From Page 1

Up-to-date on their taxes and resolve any outstanding violations. Fines of up to $1000 per infraction would be imposed for violations of the ordinance.

Co-sponsors of the bill include Councilmen Len Bodack, Twanda Carlisle, Darlene Harris. As of The Bulletin’s press time, a public hearing date had not yet been set for the ordinance.

Finally, council will hold a cable cast post-agenda meeting, at the request of Councilman Jim Motznik, on Tuesday, March 13 at 1:30 p.m., to discuss the implementation of Ordinance No. 4 of 2005, concerning nuisance properties.

The ordinance, passed in 2005, calls for a property to be designated as a nuisance property if it is cited, or police are called to the property on three or more occasions within a 60 day period (five or more times for a property with 5 or more units).

In attendance for the cable cast will be Mayor Luke Ravenstahl; Deputy Police Chief Paul Donaldson; Kathy Kraus, Manager of the Office of Municipal Investigations, Bureau of Public Safety; Chief Ron Graziano, Bureau of Building Inspection; Celia Liss Law Department; Howard Stern, Director, City Information Systems, and Eugene Ricciardi, District Magistrate.
A Message from The Mayor

Dear Neighbors,

While many refer to Pittsburgh as a city of bridges, to me it is a city of eighty-eight unique, distinct and valuable neighborhoods. It is our neighborhoods, and the people and businesses that comprise them, that define who and what we are. As we build a greater city that benefits us all, it must be done in each of our neighborhoods – leaving no neighborhood behind. It is a “neighborhoods first” agenda to which I am committed.

One of my top priorities is to ensure that the streets of our neighborhoods are among the safest and cleanest in the country. Together, street by street and block by block, Police Chief Nate Harper and I have worked to make every neighborhood safer by getting our police force back into our communities and business districts where they belong. We’ve increased our neighborhood foot patrols- or ‘park and walks’- by fifty-percent over last year. By investing in technology, like increasing the number of mobile data terminals in our police vehicles, we have reduced time officers spend on paperwork, allowing them to spend thirty-percent more time patrolling our streets.

This month we also created a new community oriented crime-fighting program connecting neighborhood groups to our officers in a joint effort to make our streets safer. The Community’s Technical Investigative and Preparedness Section (C-TIPS) is a dedicated detective unit with the specific goal of resolving the public safety concerns of community groups, faith based organizations and business owners. C-TIPS detectives establish relationships with these members by seeking first-hand input from them.

Citizens can reach C-TIPS by dialing Pittsburgh’s new 3-1-1 Response Line. The C-TIPS program is anonymous, free and with your help – it will work.

Development and revitalization are taking place all over Pittsburgh. While much has been made in years past of efforts to boost development of residential and commercial property Downtown, much of my work has taken place in our other neighborhoods. I am particularly energized by our successful efforts to buy back $64 million worth of tax liens on 10,000 parcels of properties at a fraction of the cost. By regaining control of these tax liens we took a giant leap in eliminating blight caused by vacant properties in our neighborhoods. We opened the door for citizens, community groups and developers to revitalize properties. We are already advancing housing projects that had stalled for years due to the complications arising from the tax liens. New development is on its way now where once we had only blight, making unprecedented progress in neighborhood redevelopment and speeding up our city’s continued fiscal recovery.

We are off to a great start, but I recognize that there is much more to be done. Over the next few months I will be talking about many more new ideas and programs. They will all have a common theme: a fresh and bold vision for a new and better Pittsburgh. It’s a vision for Pittsburgh that improves our economy and creates jobs, that makes our streets among the safest and cleanest in America, and it is a vision that is financially sound and prudent. I look forward to continuing to work with you as, together, we make our shared vision a reality.

God Bless you.

-- Shirley Borner

By Mayor Luke Ravenstahl
City of Pittsburgh

State Senator
Jan Ferlo
District 38

State Representative
Elisabeth (Lisa) Bennington
District 21

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www.pahouse.com/preston

Committees:
Consumer Affairs, Minority Chairman
Intergovernmental Affairs
Committee on Committees

The weekend of February 9-10, I lost my small brown wallet in the East End. Later that weekend, it was returned to me in my mailbox. I want to thank the kind and honest person who returned the wallet to me.

God Bless you.

-- Shirley Borner
This month’s topic is one that is near and dear to my heart. In our culture, it is now in vogue to be “too busy”. If I hear that once, I hear it 10 times a day. “I would love to do that but I just don’t have the time.” The 30-second rule is a wonderful discipline for everyone who is “too busy.”

What is stated in the 30-second rule is that if ANYTHING takes less than 30 seconds to accomplish then do it now. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL LATER! Some examples of this rule are how long does it take to put your keys where they truly belong rather than setting them somewhere that for the moment is convenient, but will cause you wasted time later looking for them? What about throwing out the junk mail? Toss it when it is in your hand instead of laying it down for a minute, only to forget about it and move on to the next project that calls for your attention.

By using the 30-second rule you will complete small tasks before they become major challenges.

The 30-second rule takes some getting used to. At first our procrastination tendencies will say that it takes too much time to do this. We might even fight ourselves for a few days because it can be difficult to change our longstanding habits. My suggestion to you is to stick with this new discipline until it becomes habit.

In closing I ask you, “If you don’t have time to do it right when will you have the time to do it over?”

Until next time, I wish you the true riches of life, peace, happiness, and time to enjoy it all.

Carol Briney is a speaker, trainer and holistic organizing consultant. She can be reached at 412-781-8773.

To find out how to attend one of her workshops, or to schedule one for your group go to www.universalor.com

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**Welcome Spring with Beatrix Potter**

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**Book Club**

The book this month is “Magic Time” by Doug Marlette. Monday, March 5 from 5 - 5:45 p.m.

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**Family Fun Event**

For families with children ages 4-10. Stories, and activities celebrating families. Saturday, March 17, 2p.m.

**Tell-a-Tale Theater**

For ages 3-7. Featuring the book “Arthur Writes a Story” by Marc Brown. Saturday, March 24, 11 a.m.

**East Liberty PC Center**

**Introduction to Computers**

Do you know how to use a mouse? What about the different parts of the computer? If you are unsure about any of these questions, this class is for you! Learn the basics of a computer, mouse and keyboard as a prerequisite for all our other computer classes. NOTE: This class is designed for those who have little or no computer experience. Thursday, March 1, from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. OR Tuesday, March 13, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

**Introduction to Library Services**

Learn how to search the online catalog, about the library’s databases, and how the library works. Prerequisite: Learn the WWW or solid mouse, keyboarding, Windows, and Internet experience. Saturday, March 17 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

To register for these classes or for more information about our free computer classes, call the PC Center-East Liberty at 412-363-6105. This service has been funded with federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds administered by the Office of the Commonwealth Libraries.

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**THE 30-SECOND RULE**

By Carol Briney

Professional Organizer

The 30-second rule is that if ANYTHING takes less than 30 seconds to accomplish then do it now. Do not wait until later! Some examples of this rule are how long does it take to put your keys where they truly belong rather than setting them somewhere that for the moment is convenient, but will cause you wasted time later looking for them? What about throwing out the junk mail? Toss it when it is in your hand instead of laying it down for a minute, only to forget about it and move on to the next project that calls for your attention.

By using the 30-second rule you will complete small tasks before they become major challenges.

The 30-second rule takes some getting used to. At first our procrastination tendencies will say that it takes too much time to do this. We might even fight ourselves for a few days because it can be difficult to change our longstanding habits.

My suggestion to you is to stick with this new discipline until it becomes habit.

In closing I ask you, “If you don’t have time to do it right when will you have the time to do it over?”

Until next time, I wish you the true riches of life, peace, happiness, and time to enjoy it all.

Carol Briney is a speaker, trainer and holistic organizing consultant. She can be reached at 412-781-8773.

To find out how to attend one of her workshops, or to schedule one for your group go to www.universalor.com
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Glasgow Action Job Training Opportunity for Ex-Offenders

Glasgow Action is a stained glass restoration social enterprise that will employ low-income individuals in the art of stained glass restoration. We will target historic structures in need of stained glass restoration that may not be able to afford go-worthy restoration and contract with them on an application-based sliding scale. Glasgow Action will promote historic preservation, community and economic development and job creation and training. We are issuing a call for applications from ex-offenders who are interested in FT employment with benefits. Prospective employees must have demonstrated a commitment to recovery, employment and teamwork. No skills in stained glass restoration are required, though people who are good with their hands and able to learn new skills in manual labor are preferred. Please send resumes, references and cover letters to: Glass Action Union Project 801 N. Nagle Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15206 Fax: 412-363-1216.

Peabody High School “All Classes” Reunion

Come join your former classmates and friends for a Peabody High Class Reunion for “All Classes.” on Wednesday, July 4, 2007. The theme will be “Remembering Garfield, The Way It Was.” The reunion will take place at the St. Lawrence O’Toole Activity Center, located at 140 N. Atlantic Avenue in Garfield from 6 p.m. til 12 a.m. After you’ve had the picnic with your families, join us for an evening of “Remembering Garfield.” Hot’d o’ures will be served; event is BYOB. Cost is $10 per person, payable at the door. For more information, please contact Michelle Franklin at (323) 496-4212 or by e-mail at blakeb1@verizon.net or Roxanne Miles-Thomas at (412) 661-2710. We hope to see you all there!!!

Joe Negri Jazz Concert

Pittsburgh jazz guitarist Joe Negri will perform Saturday, March 24, at Scottus Hall, 146 Hawthorne Road in Millvale, during the sixth annual Arts and Hands Gala to benefit the Change a Heart: Franciscan Volunteer Program. Negri will be joined by vocalist Maureen Budway, Max Leake on electric piano, Brian Stahurski on bass and percussionist Tom Wendt. The event begins at 6 p.m. with hors d’oeuvres, refreshments, a silent auction, 50/50 drawing and chances to win prizes from the locked box. As one of the most recognized names in Pittsburgh music circles, Negri also serves on the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University and Duquesne University. He is known nationally for his frequent appearances as Handymen Negri on Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood. Tickets are $30 in advance, $35 at the door. For tickets, or more information, please call 412.821.0861, or send an e-mail to volunteer@millvalefranciscans.org.

Panic/Anxiety /Depression Support Group

A Panic-Anxiety / Depression support group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at U.C.P. Community Center, 4638 Centre Avenue at Neville Street in Oakland. For information, call 412-255-1155, or just drop by. NO FEE.

Friendship House Tour Year of Glass

Mark your calendars! The 14th Annual Friendship House Tour will be held on Sunday, September 16, 2007, from 11am-5pm. As of 2007 is the “Year of Glass” in Pittsburgh, the tour will begin at the Pittsburgh Glass Center, right in the heart of the Penn Avenue Arts District. Many of the homes on tour have interesting glass amenities as well. For more information, please contact Sarah at 412-441-6147 x 7.

Blurred: First Fridays on Penn

Penn Avenue Arts Initiative hosts Unblurred: First Fridays on Penn Friday, March 2nd. Unblurred is a monthly event that opens the Penn Avenue Arts District (4800-5500 Penn) for exploration by adults and children. This month’s Unblurred showcases Pittsburgh’s Community Gallery Project, a city-wide event celebrating youth art-work in Pittsburgh! Be sure to visit EDGE studio, The Clay Penn, Inter*Architecture and AKA Goods, all showcasing youth artwork and representing the East End! The evening also features events at Dance Alley Theater, Attack Theatre and Imagebox. For a complete schedule visit www.pennavenuenews.org or pick up a handbill/map at participating locations.

Garfield Family Support Center

The Garfield Family Support Center provides free services to parents of young children to keep them abreast of their early childhood developmental expectations, as well as having the opportunity to enhance their parenting skills. The Support center is a place in the community for parents and children to come together to share, support one another and learn about their community’s resources and special events. The mission of the Garfield Family Support Center is to provide support and interact with families living in the Garfield community. The support center will focus on bringing families together to promote unity, leadership and awareness of the Garfield community. All Garfield residents who have children ages 0-5 years will be offered this free program and a full spectrum of services will also be available to school age children including homework and tutoring assistance. In addition, educational training, educational programming and recreational activities will also be offered to teens and young adults. The Garfield Family Support Center offers the following services: • Home visits for individual parents with children ages 0-5 years. • Child development activities. • Family Goal plans. • Parent to Parent interaction groups. • Parent and child play interaction groups. • Child development screenings. • Health Insurance assistance. • Computer classes for parents and children. • Parent and child read to succeed program. • Education and Employment and Career assistance. • Housing Assistance. • Conference lab for parent and group meetings. • Health and Child care information. • Food Bank. • Family referral services to community. • Human and Social services. How do you sign up for these great programs here at Garfield Family Support Center? For more information about the Garfield Family Support Center, contact us at (412) 661-9560 or just stop by the Garfield Family Support Center located at 5315 Hillcrest Street in Garfield.

World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 2, at the Motherhouse Chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis of Millvale, 146 Hawthorne Road. The public is invited to attend. World Day of Prayer is an international event that unites Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian women and men from more than 170 countries in prayer. Christian women from Paraguay, who served as the writers of this year’s worship service, invite participants to gain a better understanding of their country and its needs. Among those participating in the Millvale service will be representatives from the First United Church of Christ, Christ Lutheran Church, Millvale United Methodist Church, Holy Spirit Church, St. Nicholas Church, St. Ambrose Churches of Millvale and North Hills Community Outreach.

Photos Needed for East End / E. Liberty Historical Book

The East End/East Liberty Historical Society, a non-profit organization, has been commissioned to write an illustrated book on the history of our area, to be published by Arcadia Press, a major publisher of community books. We are looking for photographs to include in the book. They can be from any era. Any photographs we want to use would be scanned and returned immediately to their owners. If you have anything you would like to offer to the project, please contact Al Mann at 412-661-5947 or via e-mail at alfredmann_6@msn.com.

Mortgages for Mothers

Mortgages for Mothers, a Free Home Buying Workshop, will be held on Saturday, March 3 at the Sherraton Station Square. Feature Speaker will be KDKA’s Lynne Hayes-Freeland. Counselors will be on hand to show you how you too can own a home! Topics will include grant money for closing costs; mortgage options with no down payment; Programs to help public housing residents, section 8 tenants and renters (minimum annual family income of $12,000 required), counseling programs for those with less than perfect credit; and a free credit report and evaluation. Registration and Continental Breakfast begin at 9 a.m. For more information, or reservations, please call 1-800-345-DOLLAR.

New Bethel Church Skill Builders Tutoring

New Bethel Church Skill Builders Tutoring, located at 221 43rd Street, is area looking to recruit students grades 1 through 9 who require Math, Reading, & Language Arts tutoring and homework help during the school year on Saturdays from 10a.m.-noon. If you are in need of help in these areas, then this is the place for you! All groups of study are FREE of charge and all students will be offered snack at the end of the session. Please contact: Nicita Moses, Tutoring Coordinator at 412-728-4046 from 8a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday or by e-mail at nicitamoses@verizon.net or contact: Dallane Ratley, Tutoring Instructor at 412-605-0126.

Empty Bowls Dinner

The 12th Annual Empty Bowls Dinner will be held Sunday, March 11, 2007, at Rodef Shalom Congregation in Oakland from 3 - 7 pm. A benefit for Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and Just Harvest, A...
**Bulletin Board**

Center for Action Against Hunger, Empty Bowls is a simple meal of soup and bread that reminds us that many of our neighbors are struggling to feed their families. Soups are donated by local caterers and restaurants. The family-friendly event has live music and children’s activities, draws over 1,000 people, and over 11 years has raised more than $200,000 to fight hunger in our communities. The occasion’s most unique feature is, of course, the bowls. Each ticket holder chooses a ceramic bowl from among over 1,000 on display, hand-made by potters, professional and amateur, from all over the area. Tickets for the Empty Bowls Dinner are $20, available now at www.justharvest.org or www.pittsburghfoodbank.org, or by calling 412-431-8960.

**Trinity Gallery Hosts Gallery Exhibition**

Trinity Gallery’s first major exhibition of outside artists will showcase the work of local artists Jayne Osgood and Jesse Sharrard. The exhibition will run from March 10 through April 21, 2007. The opening reception will be held on Saturday, March 10 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. and is free to the public. A Pittsburgh native who returned to Pittsburgh from Marin County, California, Jayne Osgood uses varied subject matter and mix media to create visually appealing images. She is a graphic designer and illustrator who specializes in architectural illustration. After studying English and Art at Tulane University in New Orleans, Jesse Sharrard’s new work is an expression of his written thoughts through painting and sculpture. His artistic talent also lends itself to the culinary arts as he is a classically trained chef who works at an upscale area restaurant. Jesse will cater the opening reception. For more information, contact Dan Gaser at 412-687-2458 or e-mail at tmdan@verizon.net.

**Lawnrenceville United Jimmy Buffet Party**

Lawnrenceville United presents a Jimmy Buffett "Live" Party featuring Tom Watt on Saturday, March 3, 2007 from 7 p.m. -1 a.m. at the Lawrenceville Moose. Call 412-687-2458 or visit www.tracieyorkedance.com.

**Middle Eastern Belt Dance Classes**

Mesmerized by the dance but can’t feel the rhythm? Come to Tracey York School of Dance for Hip Solos; Middle Eastern Belt Dance on March 24 and learn these dances step-by-step in the company of other women. Class will run from 12 - 2 p.m. and is for all levels. Cost is $25. For more information, please call 412-478-8146 or visit www.traceyorkedance.com.

**Call For Glass Artists**

The Union Project is seeking artists working in glass and glassware to participate in Margaritas in March (March 23, 2007) in conjunction with Pittsburgh Celebrates Glass 2007. Pittsburgh Celebrates Glass 2007 is a city-wide celebration of glass and glass art. Participants include organizations and individuals from many different backgrounds -- from museums to gallery owners, churches to artists. Additionally, Pittsburgh will play host to the 37th Annual Glass Art Society Conference from June 7-9. For its part in Pittsburgh Celebrates Glass 2007, the Union Project is planning to host several events involving and celebrating glass art. Margaritas in March will involve the sale of handmade glasses, margarita tasting and music. Artists will recover 70% of the revenues from the sale of these glasses. The remaining 30% of the sales will go the Union Project to help recover the cost of the events and to contribute to the organization’s operational costs. For more information please contact Hilary at hilary@unionproject.org or at 412-363.4550 x 26.

**LHS Presents “An Appalling Disaster”**

Join the Lawrenceville Historical Society as they present: “An Appalling Disaster,” the Allegheny Arsenal explosion lecture and slides presented by Pittsburgh author and historian Allan Becker. It’s free and it’s happening at Canterbury Place, McVay Auditorium (1st Floor), 310 Fisk Street, Lawrenceville. Starting time for all presentations is 7 p.m. For more information e-mail us at info@LHS15201.org.

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**The Bulletin is Hiring!!!**

**Editorial Position**

The Bulletin, a monthly community newspaper covering the neighborhoods of Bloomfield, Garfield, Friendship, East Liberty and Lawrenceville, is hiring for the position of Editor.

Preferred candidate will possess a bachelors degree in Journalism, English Writing, or related field. Must be proficient in QuarkXpress, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Acrobat, and Microsoft Office software. Duties include management of newspaper, writing, editing, page layout, digital photography, coordinating volunteers and supervising display ad sales.

Applicant must be available for training mid-April.

To apply, please send resume and copies of writing samples to:

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