**Pitch In: Garfield residents lend hands to curb litter problem**

By Eric Lidji Garfield resident

**Garden Resource Center opens for the season in Larimer**

By Maggie Graham Grow Pittsburgh

**City backs community planning process, stalls re-zoning of Enright Parklet**

By Joe Reuben Bulletin contributor

*East Liberty* - In a move that won approval from nearby neighbors and community groups, the City decided last month to hold off on proposed legislation at City Council to re-zone Enright Parklet in East Liberty, while it allows for a community planning process around the future of the parklet to get off the ground.

In a February 15 e-mail to Sallyann Kluz - a neighbor of the parklet - Mayor Bill Peduto’s Chief of Staff, Kevin Acklin, committed to delaying a public hearing on the re-zoning that had been scheduled at Council for Feb. 16. Kluz, along with other neighbors and community organizations, had asked for the delay in the hopes that it would bolster the willingness of all parties to negotiate in good faith on the future of the parklet.

The fate of Enright Parklet appears intertwined with the future of the larger Penn Plaza Apartments site that encircles most of the parklet near the intersection of Penn and Negley Aves. The owners of Penn Plaza are seeking a similar re-zoning of their land parcel that would...
Oakland - Now in its third year, the Pittsburgh Women & Biking Forum will bring together women of all ages and experiences on Saturday, April 2, to celebrate a shared love of biking. The forum, hosted by Bike Pittsburgh, runs from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the University of Pittsburgh's William Pitt Union (3959 Fifth Ave.) in Oakland.

Those in attendance can engage in a variety of workshops, enjoy a luncheon, and hear from a keynote speaker. The event is designed to address everything bicycling, from technical know-how and bike maintenance to community engagement and bike advocacy.

Bike Pittsburgh encourages women and trans-identified people, everyone from the "bike-curious" to the most seasoned of cyclists, to participate in the forum. Planned workshops include Bike Maintenance levels 1 and 2, Family Biking, Racing and Nutrition, Advocacy Training, and Bicycle Touring.

"One of my favorite things about the Women & Biking forum is the age diversity of the women who attend," Ngani Ndimbie, of Bike Pittsburgh, said. "It's a transformative event." The third annual forum aims to inspire women, not just to incorporate biking into their daily lives, but also to develop strategies for dismantling cultural barriers that specifically affect women and the biking community.

New to the forum this year are two things: a short film premiere and a "City Cycling" class. The Wind in Our Hair, directed by Jennifer Hardacker, explores the ways in which bicycling can enrich one's sense of well-being and self-confidence. City Cycling, Bike Pittsburgh's urban biking class, is dedicated to helping people become more confident riding on the street; a three-hour, women-only class will take place in the same location on the following day, April 3.

The cost of registering for the forum, which includes a catered lunch, is $20 per person; discounted tickets will be available to Bike Pittsburgh members for $15 each. For $35, non-members interested in membership can join Bike Pittsburgh and register for the event at the same time to receive double the discount.

While the event is geared towards adults, children may attend under proper supervision. For more event details and registration information, visit http://BikePgh.org/womenbike or call 412-325-4334.

Properties on Penn Ave.

Interested in buying/renting a property located on or around Penn Ave? Interested in selling/renting your own property located on or around Penn Ave? The Penn Avenue web site has a page dedicated to commercial and residential listings (www.pennavenue.org). The properties listed represent those that we know to be available. If you would like your property listed on our site, please email details about the property, sale/rent price, approximate square footage, contact info, and photos (if available) to Mainstreets@Bloomfield-Garfield.org. Please use "Property Listing" as the subject line.

Note: The BGC is not a real estate agent and does not arrange or broker the sale/lease of any properties. Instead, the BGC seeks to facilitate a way for potential developers or investors to locate owners who may or may not be interested in selling or leasing their property.
Pitch In continued from page 1

The idea is to place trashcans at “litter hotspots” throughout Garfield and recruit residents to assume the responsibility for maintaining them. Each participating resident will receive a large trashcan, a year’s supply of garbage bags, and a cable lock to keep anyone from stealing the can.

If you join the program, you are agreeing to make sure the receptacle remains on your property while it functions for public use. You must also promise to regularly empty the can and take the full bags to your own designated trash area for curbside pick-up. Because this system will rely on already-existing collection routes, and because each can only creates an extra few bags to pick up, the city is on board.

Local artists will decorate each trashcan in snazzy, customized patterns as part of a continued effort to keep the neighborhood looking clean and stylish. So far, seventeen residents have agreed to adopt a can; organizers hope that when neighbors notice what a difference these colorful receptacles can make on their block, they will want to lend a hand to Pitch In.

GCAT is planning a kick-off event for the project in the near future. Anyone interested in Pitch In can learn more at http://GCATPgh.com.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

By Aggie Brose Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Pittsburgh - Police reported that a robbery occurred at the corner of Penn Ave. and N. Aiken Ave. on February 9. According to the police report, “the victim said the suspect pulled out a small handgun and ran off. The victim dropped his wallet.” The victim gave up his wallet, which was unlocked - or running - when they are not present.

According to the police bureau’s graffiti unit, “if there is graffiti on property you own, do not attempt to remove the graffiti before calling 911.” Once a police report is taken, unit officers will recommend that the property owner remove the graffiti or “have the Department of Public Works Graffiti Busters program remove it.” On February 1, the graffiti unit arrested Max Gonzales. The graffiti unit can be reached at 412-323-7761.

On December 24, eighteen-year-old Carlos Clark was gunned down in the 4900 block of Broad St. No arrests have been made, according to city police.

On December 21, a triple homicide occurred on S. Mathilda St. in Bloomfield. Meiko Devaughn, a resident of the apartment, admitted to police that he shot and killed an intruder, Kadeem Williams, who allegedly had broken into his home. Devaughn also reportedly killed his girlfriend, Akeiah Solomon, and his sixteen-year-old brother, Jaimill Kenney, in the process of shooting at Williams. Although police did not arrest Devaughn at the time of the incident, officers have apparently now issued a warrant for his arrest.

Any person with information about either incident is strongly encouraged to call Pittsburgh Police at 412-323-7161. Callers will not be asked to share their identity with law enforcement officers.
Preparring & Filing 2015 Tax Returns? We Can Help

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service, is once again assisting individual taxpayers with filing their federal and state tax returns online. There is no charge for this service, which will be offered every Saturday, beginning February 7 and ending on Saturday, April 16. Taxpayers need to make appointments before visiting:

BGC Community Activity Center, Lower Level
113 N. Pacific Ave.
Garfield (15224)

The first appointments are at 12:30 p.m. and the last ones are at 4:30 p.m. We do not assist business filers, individuals who have rental income, or those with numerous capital gains to report. City residents will also be able to receive help in filing their city tax returns. Call Rick Swartz at the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, 412-441-6950 (ext. 11), to schedule an appointment.

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Keep up with neighborhood events! Visit the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation’s news blog at http://Bloomfield-Garfield.org
Group to bring crowdfunding, real estate together for East Liberty confab

By Ben Schulman CityLAB

East Liberty - On Sunday, Jan. 31, Pittsburgh’s first “Tiny House” made its debut at 223 N. Atlantic Ave. in Garfield. Hundreds of visitors turned out to see one of the city’s first crowdfunded real estate projects. Crowdfunding, the sourcing of funds from a crowd of everyday people, entered into the collective internet psyche within the last decade.

The concept is perhaps most commonly associated with helping musicians and artists raise money for creative projects through websites like Kickstarter.com. Online supporters often donate $10, $25, or $50 to a project that captures their attention; in return, they receive some sort of recognition or reward.

Crowdfunding real estate, however, is much different than crowdfunding someone’s artistic project. It is not simply donating, but rather investing. Thanks to a law known as the Jumpstart our Business Startups (JOBS) Act, which Congress passed in 2012, it is now possible for individuals to contribute monies to the development of a business or building with the aim of getting a financial return on their investment. This is the the world of equity crowdfunding, a rapidly emerging segment of the financial industry that continually shapes the terrain of online fundraising. The real estate crowdfunding sector, an industry that netted absolutely nothing before JOBS was passed, is now estimated to reach the $3.5 billion mark by the end of 2016. Local platform Small Change is tapping into this newfound energy and channeling it into another city first: RealCap Pittsburgh.

Organized in partnership with the Chicago-based American Homeowner Preservation, RealCap is a national conference that educates everyone – from newcomers to leaders to developers and investors – on the expanding industry of real estate crowdfunding. On March 24, top thinkers and speakers from around the country will converge at Repair the World (6022 Broad St.) in East Liberty. Everyone is invited to attend and learn from RealCap’s crowdfunding experts, who will share best practices while guiding attendees through the ins-and-outs of a growing market.

Small Change founder Eve Picker knows just how much of a game-changer this new economy can become. “Hold onto your hats,” she said recently to colleagues in the real estate industry. “Crowdfunding like you’ve never seen it before is about to change the world.” Anyone curious about crowdfunding is encouraged to visit http://realcappittsburgh.com.

Pittsburgh Bicentennial spawns citywide celebration

By Gloria Forouzan Office of Mayor William Peduto

Pittsburgh - The Pittsburgh Bicentennial is a yearlong celebration of the official 200th anniversary of the incorporation of Pittsburgh as a city, which gave citizens the right to vote and the opportunity for self-governance.

In anticipation of this year’s calendar significance, Mayor Bill Peduto formed a Pittsburgh Bicentennial Commission with unique and collaborative partnerships to help Pittsburghers recognize and celebrate the anniversary.

President and Chief Executive Officer of the Senator John Heinz Regional History Center, Andy Masich chairs the commission to work with over 200 organizations, companies, nonprofits, and individuals participating in the yearlong celebration.

Mayor Peduto will kick things off Downtown with the first official Bicentennial event at the City County Building (414 Grant St.) on March 18, at 10 a.m. Many Bicentennial partners are eager to join the mayor and commemorate the formal organization of Pittsburgh as a city; incorporation papers, which allowed the people of Pittsburgh to elect their municipal representatives, were signed on March 18, 1816.

The Commission has scheduled another official event for Saturday, July 9, with a parade on Liberty Ave. and festivities in Point State Park. The date was selected to honor Pittsburgh’s first Mayor, Ebenezer Denny, who took the oath of office on July 9, 1816.

Among the honored guests at the parade will be various descendants from every one of Pittsburgh’s former mayors. All organizations are welcome to participate in the parade; interested parties can email pgh200@pittsburghpa.gov to register.

Additional events are being planned to complement the spirit and goal of the celebration throughout 2016. For more information about participating in the Bicentennial, visit http://PGH200.com or contact Holly Bulvony at 412-471-4160.

April Bulletin Deadline: March 14
Download advertising information: bit.ly/bulletin_ad
Download guidelines for stories, photos, and notices: bit.ly/bulletin_news
Student artists compete for grand prize at BOOM Concepts

By James Fogarty A+ Schools

Garfield - For the second year in a row, student artists from across the city converged on Penn Ave. in Garfield to see who would be crowned winner of the annual “Your Art, Our Schools: Cover Art Competition.” Partnering with BOOM Concepts (5139 Penn Ave.) to host the event, A+ Schools brought its creative art contest back to the neighborhood on Thursday, Feb. 18, for more than eighty attendees to enjoy. The grand prize: great exposure on the cover of a premier publication. Ever since 2010, the front and back covers of A+ Schools’ annual Report to the Community on Public School Progress have featured prize-winning artwork created by local students. The publication, which furnishes data from parent surveys and student achievement results, serves as the leading information guide for Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS). Distributed to over 60,000 households, it can also be found at many libraries, schools, and offices of elected officials across Pittsburgh.

ABOVE: Student artists create new works together during an art competition at BOOM Concepts (5139 Penn Ave.) on Feb. 18. Offering quite a grand prize, A+ Schools features the winning student submission on the cover of its annual community report. Photo by Christopher Sprowls Photography.

After tallying up the votes from those in attendance on Feb. 18 – and others voting online – the event organizers awarded Henry Presser, a student from Pittsburgh Montessori School, with first place; Jada Dillard, a student at the Urban Academy of Greater Pittsburgh Charter School, won runner-up.

As A+ Schools’ executive director Cary Harris explained, “It’s a great opportunity for the youth to see their work featured in the community and to be recognized for the hard work they put into making some really beautiful pieces.”

In addition to the student art on display, the event featured professional artists and representatives from Bike Pittsburgh’s Positive Spin program. They helped students re-imagine what city streets and neighborhoods could look like. The results, like umbrella bicycles that irrigate rain water and wave pools next to public schools, were encouraging creations. “We’re really grateful to the team at BOOM who treat our student artists like professionals,” Harris said.

The unique partnership with BOOM’s team is many years in the making; BOOM co-founders D.S. Kinsel and Julie Mallis previously worked with PPS students and A+ Schools through the MGR organization. “We need to celebrate the arts in education,” Kinsel said. “Our youth have much to say, and we want the public to listen.”

For more information about A+ Schools, go to http://APlusSchools.org. To find out more about BOOM’s upcoming events, go to http://BoomConcepts.com.

Q & A with local nurse Virginia Gray

By Abigail Godollei Bulletin contributor

Garfield - The UPMC St. Margaret Bloomfield-Garfield Family Health Center (5475 Penn Ave.) has been serving nearby residents for well beyond thirty years. Nurse Virginia Gray, a thirty-nine-year St. Margaret’s veteran now managing the family health center in Garfield, recently sat down with The Bulletin to reflect on her experiences.

Q: What kind of public health initiatives are you currently implementing?
A: “We have HPV vaccines that we’re doing right here at the health center. We’re trying to get as many people immunized as we can.”

Q: What do you want the community to know about the family health center?
A: “We really do have some outstanding physicians and nurses that work here. I haven’t seen any friendlier doctors’ offices. We have one of the finest programs on the Eastern seaboard for family practice program […]”

Q: What made you want to become a nurse in the first place?
A: “You know, I never wanted to be a nurse. Back in the old days, you took aptitude tests for things you wanted to be. They said, ‘Oh, you’d be a good nurse.’ I said, ‘I don’t want to be a nurse,’ and went home. Then, I was thinking about it and said, ‘Well, maybe I’ll go and be a nurse.’ That’s how I started. Soon, I found out that, yeah, I really did like it. I was good at being a nurse.”

Q: How has your local health facility grown over time?
A: “At our first location on Penn Ave., our monthly average was about 300 people. Then, we moved up to 5321 Penn Ave., where we served about 500 people every month. At this [5475 Penn Ave.] facility, where we’ve been for the last seven years, we see about 800 to 850 patients a month. So, yes; to make a long story short, we have grown over the years.”

Q: What do you enjoy most about working at the family health center?
A: “My favorite part of the job is all the interactions with everyone – the patients, the physicians, the staff. Just talking with them and, you know; simply forming relationships with the patients. I know most of the patients here. We have second and third generations […]”

“I’ve even had people come in and say, ‘Don’t you remember me?’ I don’t remember them because they were little kids [laughs]. But, they tell me how I used to give them regular shots and checkups.”

Q: How did you get involved with the St. Margaret facility here in Garfield?
A: “In 1975, I started as a receptionist at the old St. Margaret health center. Then, I went to nursing school. When I came back from school, I started working at the health center and continued school until I got my Masters in Nursing. So, officially, I’ve been here since 1977.”

Q: What do you want the community to know about becoming a patient, please call 412-361-7562.

For more information about The Bulletin’s advertising rates and policies, please call 412-441-6950 (ext. 13) or email andrew@Bloomfield-Garfield.org.
Garden Resource Center continued from page 1

In order to address local needs and provide aspiring gardeners with a destination for their green-thumbed solutions, Grow Pittsburgh has created the Garden Resource Center (GRC) in Larimer.

A tool-lending library and materials depot located at 147 Putnam St., the GRC is open to any individual or group residing in Allegheny County. It operates in tandem with Grow Pittsburgh’s organizational belief that access to locally-grown, chemical-free fruits and vegetables is a right, not a privilege.

Gardeners can borrow power tools, like gas-powered rototillers or cordless drills; hand tools, like spades and pruning saws; and an array of literature from the GRC’s extensive gardening library. Other materials, like compost and mulch, are also available.

Grow Pittsburgh is excited to host a grand re-opening on Saturday, April 9. KDKA AM 1010 Radio has been scheduled to broadcast the True Value Home Improvement Hour, along with Doug Oster’s “Organic Gardeners” show, live from the GRC. Bill Fuller, chef from Big Burrito Restaurant Group, will perform a cooking demonstration on site. Organizers hope the re-opening can give families unfamiliar with the GRC a chance to see what the space is all about, meet fellow community gardeners, and consider signing up for a membership.

The GRC offers two types of membership: “Individual Gardener” and “Community Gardens.” For $40, any individual can join the GRC, get assistance from experienced staff, and borrow five tools at a time; Grow Pittsburgh Annual Members enjoy a discounted individual membership cost of $30. For $80 a year, local community gardens, farms, and food pantries can borrow an unlimited amount of tools.

The center is open on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Hours of operation, which vary by season, are always available online at http://growpittsburgh.org/garden-resource-center.
County Council responds to Garfield, expands 89 bus service schedule

By Casey Stelitano Pittsburghers for Public Transit

Garfield - For months, neighbors and residents of the Garfield hilltop communities have been hard at work to bring back weekend service on the 89 bus route. The fight began at a Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) roundtable discussion where it became evident that the lack of weekend bus service is severely limiting a vital community.

Residents have come together and spoken out about the difficulty of life on the hilltop, especially in the winter. A number of these neighbors suffer from a wide range of mobility issues, so walking up and down the hill is nearly an impossible feat, especially in the winter. Many have even said that they feel like prisoners in their own neighborhood.

After the hard fought battle to bring a grocery store to Garfield, some folks are still finding it hard to access Aldi's ---- Penn Ave. location. They cannot access supermarkets, workplaces, friends, family, and entertainment all weekend long.

Ever since weekend and holiday bus service were cut back in 2011, long-time residents have endured serious transportation hardships. Community meetings about neighborhood transit services have allowed many Garfield residents to voice their opinions about the need for everyday bus service. Over 400 "requests for service" were submitted to the Port Authority; more than half of these requests were collected by Garfield resident Stacey Chandler. Dozens of Chandler's neighbors turned out to give their testimony about the neighborhood's transit needs to the Port Authority board. After rallying in the streets with advocates from other communities who were also fighting for better bus service, PPT organizers marched together to the board meeting.

During a Feb. 16 public meeting in the Gold Room at the County Courthouse downtown, Allegheny County Council unanimously approved a motion urging the Port Authority to reinstate weekend service on the 89 Garfield bus route. County Councillor Denise Ranalli Russell (second to left) joined Garfield residents and community advocates to celebrate a victory at Allegheny County Council chambers on Feb. 16. Thanks to the testimony of residents like Annie McGowan (middle), Donna Terry (foreground), and Myval Johnson (right), Pittsburghers for Public Transit's Molly Nichols and other organizers were able to garner unanimous support to bring the weekend bus service back to Garfield. Photo by Wesley Davis.

“With all the construction and revitalization that's going on in the East End of Pittsburgh, I want to make sure that every resident, regardless of their financial situation, has equal representation,” she said. “I am that voice to fight for the East End residents.” Other elected officials, like State Rep. Edward J. Gainey and State Senator Wayne Fontana, helped generate the campaign's initial momentum.

On Feb. 16, after PPT’s Molly Nichols outlined the community's robust campaign for service, Garfield residents voiced their concerns to Council. Annie McGowan told of how she and her mother are unable to go to church events on the weekends.

Her neighbor, Myval Johnson, said she was dismayed that she cannot shop at the new Aldi grocery store on Saturdays. Donna Terry relayed the challenges she faces travelling up to N. Aiken Court on Black St. to take care of her mother.

Despite being new to the job, Councilwoman Russell knew how to respond to the needs of her voters. “I am not the stereotypical politician,” she told The Bulletin. “I am here at County Council to work for my district and pursue what we feel as a whole. It's not about me; it's about each and every constituent.”

In her capacity as a community advocate and deputy director of the BGC, Aggie Brose asked all the legislators in the room to imagine just what their lives would be like if they lived without a car in Garfield. Many councilmembers spoke in support. Councilman James R. Ellenbogen (District 12)

“People’s lives depend on the bus. “In line with the support of Councilman John F. Gainey and State Senator Wayne Fontana, helped generate the campaign's initial momentum.

Palmiere (District 6), Councilman DeWitt Walton (District 10) highlighted the importance of fixing the “prior damage” that was done to communities during the 2011 transit cuts.

As it pushes for every Pittsburgh community to receive the transit service they deserve, PPT finds this political support to be very encouraging. Any city resident including Garfield, Lawrenceville, and Morningside – supported the motion and joined with community members to introduce it to her peers on the council.

ABOVE: The Bloomfield Garfield Corporation’s deputy director, Aggie Brose (left), and County Councilwoman Denise Ranalli Russell (second to left) join Garfield residents and community advocates to celebrate a victory at Allegheny County Council chambers on Feb. 16. Thanks to the testimony of residents like Annie McGowan (middle), Donna Terry (foreground), and Myval Johnson (right), Pittsburghers for Public Transit’s Molly Nichols and other organizers were able to garner unanimous support to bring the weekend bus service back to Garfield. Photo by Wesley Davis.
shared stories of walking the hill in Garfield every day for four years to get to class at the old Peabody High School.

Council vice president Nicholas Futules (District 7) reminded everyone that “people’s lives depend on the bus.” In line with the support of Councilman John F. Palmiere (District 6), Councilman DeWitt Walton (District 10) highlighted the importance of fixing the “prior damage” that was done to communities during the 2011 transit cuts.

Thanks to the collective action of numerous local residents and organizations, Garfield residents will once again enjoy their fundamental right to adequate public transit. Community advocates applaud the council for unanimously passing this motion.

As it pushes for every Pittsburgh community to receive the transit service they deserve, PPT finds this political support to be very encouraging. Any city resident that wants to know more about their transit options may visit http://pittsburghfor-publictransit.org for more information.

### The Garfield Night Market is Hiring!

Starting in May, the Garfield Night Market (GNM) will return for its fourth year. Running until September, the GNM takes place during the first Friday’s Unblurred activities – from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. - on the 100 block of N. Pacific Ave., between Penn Ave. and Dearborn St. Approximately 700 to 1,000 visitors attend each market to enjoy vendors of all types: food, art, and other wares.

Vendors are required to bring their own tent, table, chairs, and lighting. However, a limited number of tents and tables are available to residents of Garfield, Friendship, and Bloomfield who do not have access to these items. To find out if this is the right opportunity for you, please visit http://garfieldnightmarket.org for the vendor application or call 412-441-6950 (ext. 16) for more information.

- Product/info vendors (art, apparel, accessories, tangible wares, non-profits, etc.): $25 per market / $15 for all dates (if paid in full by 4/15/2016); $100 season pass for Garfield residents and/or businesses.
- Processed/pre-made food vendors (orders not prepared on site): $35 per market / $155 for all dates (if paid in full by 4/15/2016); $140 season pass for Garfield residents and/or businesses.
- Prepared/made-to-order food vendors (orders prepared on site): $50 per market / $225 for all dates (if paid in full by 4/15); $200 season pass for Garfield residents and/or businesses.

The GNM is currently looking for a “Night Market Coordinator,” a position that requires about ten hours of work per month; Pay rate is $12/hr.

**The Night Market Coordinator is responsible for:**
- Hanging “No Parking” signs at least 24 - 48 hours before the market date
- Setting up the market, including directing vendors to their booth spaces
- Cleaning up, returning all equipment back to into storage
- Oversight of crew members

**Requirements:**
- Must be available for all GNM dates (May 6, June 3, July 1, Aug. 5, and Sept. 2) from 2 p.m. until 11:30 p.m.
- Ability to lift up to 50 lbs
- Must be able to solve problems quickly
- Prior event experience preferred, but not required
- Excellent communication skills
- Reliable transportation and a cell phone

The market is also seeking two crew members who can assist in the event’s set-up and take-down each month; compensation will be $10/hr. The deadline to apply for market positions is March 25. When emailing resumes to GarfieldNightMarket@gmail.com, remember to list either “coordinator” or “crew member” in the subject line. Resumes can also be mailed to:

Garfield Night Market Manager
Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation
5149 Penn Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

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**Welcoming

Taran Sharma, MD**

**Rheumatology**

Dr. Sharma is a board-certified, fellowship-trained rheumatologist offering adult patients general rheumatology care, with particular clinical interest in rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, crystalline arthritis and vasculitis. He joins the physicians of the Lupus Center of Excellence.

He received his medical degree from Mahatma Gandhi Mission’s Medical College in Navi Mumbai, India. He completed his internal medicine residency at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Jersey City Medical Center, in New Jersey. He went on to complete his rheumatology fellowship at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pa. He has published articles in medical journals and made numerous presentations to medical audiences nationally and internationally.

Dr. Sharma is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and is a member of the American College of Rheumatology.

He has medical staff privileges at West Penn Hospital and Allegheny General Hospital.

As always, new patients are welcome. Most major insurances are accepted.
West Penn physicians prepare for beckoning allergy season

By Morgan Rupert Allegheny Health Network

**Bloomfield** - The coming of spring also means the dreaded return of allergy season. Spring allergies affect as many as thirty percent of adults and forty percent of children.

Physicians and staff at West Penn Hospital's Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology department, located at 4815 Liberty Ave., want to spread the word about avoiding allergy triggers and relieving seasonal symptoms.

Commonly known as "hay fever," spring allergies have become a universal condition defined by symptoms such as sneezing, watery eyes, and a stuffy nose. These types of allergies affect an estimated one out of every three people, making it difficult for many to enjoy the simple pleasures of walking in the park or playing with family pets in the yard.

Weather plays an important role in how much pollen is produced and distributed, as well as how much pollen is in the air at any given time. Because pollen does not circulate, allergy symptoms are often less intense on rainy or windless days. Conversely, pollen counts tend to be higher in the morning - as well as on warm, dry, and windy days.

Allison Freeman, MD, a board-certified allergist at WPH in Bloomfield, monitors the seasons' fluctuation to better inform her patients. "Last year, Pittsburgh's persistent cold temperatures resulted in a 'pollen tsunami' during the first week of May," she explained.

"This year, because of the seemingly mild winter, I think we will see a different pattern, one that is more spread out over the spring pollen season. Based on this, I am telling my patients to think about starting their first preventative medications now."

Strategies for combating spring allergies include frequently washing bed linens and encasing mattresses and pillows in dust mite-resistant cases as well as avoiding aerosol sprays, irritating fumes, tobacco smoke, and wood smoke. Dr. Freeman advises her patients to stay inside air-conditioned environments during peak pollen times.

"I recommend starting one daily medication at the first week of pollen season," she said. "A good strategy is to start a preventative nasal spray and begin adding antihistamines on bad days."

In addressing symptoms that cannot be controlled by daily nasal spray and antihistamines, physicians may offer additional treatments like allergy shots, sublingual drops, and tablets. To make an appointment with a board-certified WPH allergist, call 412.578.3503.

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**Lawrenceville “block watch” stays vigilant**

By Helen Ewing Lawrenceville United

Lawrenceville - The “block watch” is a Lawrenceville institution. Just like the fish sandwiches at Nied’s Hotel, the block watch is a part of the neighborhood’s history. For decades, groups of neighbors have been gathering in church basements and community halls in the Sixth, Ninth, and Tenth Wards. Determined to eliminate the threat of drug traffic and gun violence in Lawrenceville, these neighbors also promised to look out for one another on the block watch.

The impact of drug-related crime hit close to home for lifelong Lawrenceville resident Jenny Skrinjar in 2003, when she had already been serving as a block watch captain for several years. Skrinjar’s teenage daughter was not far from home - just walking to the store with a friend - when she was struck by a stray bullet.

In the months following the incident, as hundreds of residents showed up to the block watch meetings, the anguished mother and emboldened block watch captain stayed up countless nights to survey the street for suspicious activity; she monitored known drug houses to record license plate numbers and descriptions of visitors.

Skrinjar also knocked on every door on her street, introduced herself to any neighbors she did not already know, and gave everyone her phone number. Many she spoke with were too afraid to call the police, so they called her instead; the block watch captain relayed detailed reports to the police multiple times a week.

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of Skrinjar and others like her, the neighborhood’s sense of urgency has decreased over time. Strong community partnerships with police, increased pressure for landlords to vet tenants, and the strength of neighbors banding together have all contributed to a stunning sixty percent decrease in the rate of Part 1 and Part 2 crimes in Lawrenceville over the last decade.

Driven by a deep commitment to neighborhood safety and quality of life, many of the same residents who were running block watches in the early days are still involved. They will be the first to tell you how, despite any reduction of the crime rate, there still exists a need for community forums. Such public meetings function as opportunities for neighbors to build relationships with law enforcement, raise localized concerns, plan collective action, and sustain the progress made by Skrinjar and others.

In order to provide Lawrenceville’s three block watches with more resourceful information, Lawrenceville United (LU) is partnering with block watch captains and Zone Two police to create interactive programming open to all residents. This year’s schedule will include LU updates on land development and greening efforts, 3-1-1 procedural, and CPR training to go along with the usual public safety information.

Thanks to neighbors looking after neighbors, the block watch in Lawrenceville is alive and well in 2016. Look to the Bulletin Board event listings in The Bulletin for scheduled block watch meeting times. For more information, please visit http://LUUnited.org or call 412-802-7220.
East Liberty connections spur present-day partnerships for business pioneer

By Elizabeth Sensky  East Liberty Development, Inc.

East Liberty - As the face behind East Liberty's famous Shadow Lounge and Ava Bar, Justin Strong has long been one of the neighborhood's catalysts of change. Despite both his businesses closing in 2013, Strong's early ventures helped attract new ideas and people to East Liberty. Now, through his work as a dry cleaner and events consultant, Strong continues to stay invested in East Liberty.

He first began organizing events while attending the University of Pittsburgh; it wasn't long before his house parties were outgrowing his house. "I was doing everything from parties to backyard lyricist battles to renting out facilities for fashion shows," Strong said. "I started looking for a space in Oakland to hold these events outside of my house, something outside of renting a facility."

After two years of searching in Oakland, Strong arrived at the idea that East Liberty was a better fit. Therapeutics, a monthly hip-hop showcase at the Kingsley Center (6435 Frankstown Ave.) might have had something to do with his decision.

Shortly after, in 2000, Strong found a space, wrote a proposal, and put down a security deposit. That was the beginning of the Shadow Lounge's tenure at 5972 Baum Blvd., where it soon became a haven for artists from all over Pittsburgh. "It had lived on paper for so many years that, when I opened it, I didn't know exactly what it was going to be. I came at it from a promoter's standpoint, seeing it as a place where I would do my events, but it quickly became a space where other people could do their events," Strong confessed. "It became almost a refugee community center for people who were looking for non-mainstream culture."

Thanks to misguided urban renewal projects from the 1960s, which redirected vehicular traffic (read: attention) away from East Liberty, the neighborhood has suffered through more than its fair share of blight and crime. However, it was this very neglect that Therapy, a monthly hip-hop showcase at the Kingsley Center (5965 Frankstown Ave.), might have had something to do with his decision.

He first began organizing events while attending the University of Pittsburgh; it wasn't long before his house parties were outgrowing his house. "I was doing everything from parties to backyard lyricist battles to renting out facilities for fashion shows," Strong said. "I started looking for a space in Oakland to hold these events outside of my house, something outside of renting a facility." "We were bringing in people from all over the city, from all morning and no one really cared," Strong remembered. "There was a vibrant street scene and traffic (read: attention) away from East Liberty, the neighborhood has suffered through more than its fair share of blight and crime. However, it was this very neglect that contributed to gentrification. They are open about that and very intentional on how to balance that out," Strong explained.

"We kind of had this blank palate in 2000 where we could be open until 5 or 6 in the morning and no one really cared," Strong remembered. "There was a vibrant street scene during the day with the vendors but, at night there wasn't much going on; being able to create our own brand without the area also branding our efforts allowed us to be different and quirky and weird." Such unique vibes were bound to draw interest, but nobody could ever foretell what was to come in East Liberty. "We were bringing in people from all over the city, from all different socioeconomic backgrounds - different races, classes, and religions. All these different people were joining together," Strong said.

"We wouldn't have made it as far if it weren't for the East Liberty Presbyterian Church, East Liberty Development, Inc., or Bridgeway Capital," Strong said. "We wouldn't have gotten to 2005, where we had an opportunity to get a liquor license and expand into the next building."

Despite its expansion, the Shadow Lounge and Ava Bar both shut their doors in 2013 due to zoning and financial issues. Strong planned to re-open the venues in North Oakland but, as he puts it, they ran out of time and money. After the Shadow Lounge and Ava closed, Strong made what he calls a "natural transition" by shifting focus to the dry cleaning business.

In 2014, Strong took over his family's Strong II Dry Cleaners (7620 Frankstown Ave.) in Homewood. Since assuming control of the family business, he has continued to tap into the Shadow Lounge community. Strong now maintains valuable business partnerships with East Liberty's two new boutique hotels, Hotel Indigo (123 N. Highland Ave.) and Ace Hotel (120 S. Whitfield St.).

Regardless of the fact that he and Liana Maneese have just founded the Good Peoples Consulting group, Strong has not given up on the events industry. Outside of dry-cleaning contracts with Ace and Indigo, the entrepreneur is pursuing other ways to collaborate. He sponsors music events at Hotel Indigo and is currently doing consulting work with Ace Hotel. "From Ace's standpoint, they understand that, as a brand, they either create or contribute to gentrification. They are open about that and very intentional on how to balance that out," Strong explained.

He and Maneese are happy with what they've seen so far from the new lodging destinations. "It seems like Ace is another great, social gathering space for people to gravitate towards," Strong said. "It's interesting because I'm seeing some of the old Shadow Lounge and Ava crowd; they're older now, but they still want some type of vibe."

Strong understands that, while there can never be another Shadow Lounge in East Liberty, the next generation will still pick up the torch. "Pretty much everyday, I get asked, 'When are you opening Shadow Lounge or Ava again? We miss the Shadow Lounge. It's worth it!'" Strong said. "This was a moment in time. It was a moment we got to participate in, directly or indirectly, and now may be the time for the younger folks do something for their crowd."

Due to higher rents and the profiteering nature of development, Strong is doubtful that a new Shadow Lounge can ever happen in East Liberty. But, he is confident that it can happen nearby. "Maybe it can't happen in the exact same neighborhood," Strong admitted. "But, I think Shadow Lounge showed that there's a demand in the Pittsburgh market for something off-beat and something culturally diverse."

Unblurred on Penn Ave.

The monthly Unblurred event takes place on the first Friday of every month between the 4800 and 5500 blocks of Penn Ave. Galleries, shops, and restaurants along the avenue open their doors to welcome visitors from across the region. Typically beginning around 6 p.m. and winding down around 11 p.m., Unblurred is open to the public; many of the events are family-friendly and free-of-charge.

Festivities include art exhibits, musical performances, dancing, and universal revelry for all in attendance. From May through September, the Garfield Night Market (GNM) will be open for business on N. Pacific Ave. - between Penn Ave. and Dearborn St. Updates on the market and other Unblurred activities are made available at http://pennavenue.org/unblurred.

Interested parties may also email mainstreets@bloomfield-garfield.org for more information. Additional event details can be found at garfieldnightmarket.org, or by emailing GarfieldNightMarket@gmail.com.

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation has an email newsletter!

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April Bulletin Deadline: March 14

Download guidelines for stories, photos, and notices: bit.ly/bulletin_news
Arsenal 360 Night: a cultural kaleidoscope
By Dave Breingan Lawrenceville United

Lawrenceville - Arsenal Elementary and Middle Schools will host the second annual “Arsenal 360 Night” at 215 39th St. on Tuesday, March 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. Free and family-friendly, the event looks to showcase the many different cultures at Arsenal Elementary and Middle Schools.

Over twenty different countries and languages are represented by the schools’ student populations. Arsenal 360 Night celebrates this diversity with stories from Arsenal families and school staff while providing the entire community an opportunity to share and connect with each other’s experiences.

“For my family, the night was a reminder of why Arsenal is a good place to send our daughter,” Arsenal parent Jen Pelling said. “Where else could you walk down the hallway, sample food from Ireland to Iran, and then listen to beautiful Haitian music in the cafeteria? All of this connects deeply with our daughter. It’s not an abstract social studies lesson; these are her friends.”

Participating families are invited to answer the question, “How did you come to Pittsburgh?” During last year’s event, which was sponsored by the Sprout Fund and the Global Switchboard, twenty families and teachers gave their response in the form of dances, songs, presentations, and delicious food from around the world.

Sacoyia Reed, a parent of two students at Arsenal, created a display tracing her family’s contiguous roots back to the South. “My family and I left with full bellies, expanded minds, and a new appreciation for what our families bring to Arsenal.” This year’s Arsenal 360 Night plans to feature even more kid-friendly activities, engaging speakers, and tasty food.

Arsenal parents, in partnership with school staff and Lawrenceville United’s PEP Rally program, are proud to organize such a tribute to diversity. All community members and families are invited to attend, share, and learn. Please visit http://LUnited.org for more information. All inquiries may be directed to Dave@LUnited.org and 412-802-7220.

Emsworth - One of Pittsburgh’s more affordable, innovative Catholic high schools, the Holy Family Academy in Emsworth prepares students of all faiths and economic means for successful careers. Located on Ohio River Blvd., the HFA campus encompasses a modern school building on a historic site, one of the best kept secrets near the banks of the Ohio River.

Academy students - many of whom hail from Bloomfield and Garfield - engage in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) education programs to help advance their critical thinking skills on the path to graduation. Immersed in a project-based learning environment, these young thinkers can study religion and graphic design while also honing their problem solving skills and accomplishing community service.

Students are also engaged in creative, off-campus programming; various experts and partner organizations can help them develop twenty-first century skills that prove so crucial to personal and professional success. The Citizen Science Lab, Manchester Craftsmen’s Guild, the Energy Innovation Center, and the Carnegie Science Center have all partnered with HFA to enhance the students’ experiences.

From freshman through senior year, students are paired with corporations and nonprofit organizations to work one day a week at different entry-level jobs. These assignments teach confidence, basic office skills, and professional etiquette, while also empowering young scholars to assume an active role in financing their own education.

The academy provides lunch and transportation services for its students; school vehicles escort them back and forth between the campus and worksites throughout the city. Students from Pittsburgh’s East End are now working at locations like K&L Gates, the Pittsburgh Steelers, and Giant Eagle Corporation.

Those pursuing summer internships at these worksites are already well on their way to earning four solid years of corporate work experience with some of the city’s best employers – all before their seventeenth birthday.

HFA’s next open house, which includes lunch, is scheduled for March 5. To schedule a campus tour, call an admissions representative at 412-307-0230 or email Admissions@hfa-pgh.org.
Garfield student becomes Warrior, gives back to community
By Emily Traynor Neighborhood Learning Alliance

BELOW: Naiya Montgomery, a high school student from Garfield, is giving back to her community through the Reading Warrior program, where she is a reading and math mentor for elementary school children. Photo courtesy of Neighborhood Learning Alliance.

Guided by ongoing training and support, Warriors also exercise a great deal of freedom in designing after-school programs and advocacy projects in their communities. The program is proud to convey its core belief: “given the right resources and coaching, Pittsburgh teens can be highly effective educators, mentors, leaders, and community advocates.”

According to her mother, Michelle Scott, “Naiya is not only teaching younger kids, but developing a work ethic she will need for her future.” Scott appreciates the leadership experience her daughter is earning. “I am very fortunate that Naiya has an opportunity such as this one,” she said. “After I graduate high school, I want to go to college for neurology because I want to help people,” Montgomery said of her career plans. “You can learn a lot about teaching kids and helping people by being a Warrior.” More program information may be obtained by calling the NLA at 412-363-1910 or visiting http://neighborhoodlearning.org.

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- Healthy Heart Store Tour – join us for an in-aisle tour with a Registered Dietitian at the Shadyside Market District on Friday, March 18, 2016 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. The event is free, but please call 412.578.1442 to reserve your spot.

- Bloomfield Saturday Market – exciting new additions for 2016! Watch West Penn Hospital staff prepare healthy food choices, provide health screenings including flu shots, or offer tips on healthy living. From June 4 through November 5, 2016, the West Penn Hospital-sponsored farmer’s market/weekly festival is a great way to kick off your weekend!

West Penn Hospital is dedicated to helping you have your healthiest year yet. Together, we are committed to Health for All.

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Syrinx, an a cappella ensemble in the Penn State School of Music, was organized in 1991 by Anthony Leach to perform includes acrylics, clay monoprints, and encaustics. Lawrenceville on March 4, 2016 - from 7 to 10 pm.

On March 6, from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, at the East Engineering, Math) supports learning and literacy by introducing children to technology. Kids are the experts in these play testing programs, which will include an app developer from Pixure Book Publishing who will record observations. Meet on Wednesday, March 9 at 4 pm at the Lawrenceville branch of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. Call 412.682.3688 for more information.

Free lecture: “Life and Times of H. J. Heinz”
On Wednesday, March 16, 2016, the Lawrenceville Historical Society will host Emily Ruby, curator at the Heinz History Center (and LHS board member), will speak about the life and times of H. J. Heinz. Ruby will follow H. J career from selling bottled horseradish door-to-door in Sharpsburg to getting the idea that “S” is an ideal number for marketing his company’s many products. Event takes place at 6:30 p.m. in the Carnegie Library, 279 Fisk St. No reservations required.

“Mime Explosion” program
Morningside Church Of God In Christ, located at 5173 Dearborn St., where the Pastor is Elder Lamont B. Shields. Come to church on March 13, 2016 @ 3:30 p.m for a “Mime Explosion” program, Spreading the Gospel Through Mime. On program, we have participants such as Z. A. Thomas, Pastor Randy Taylor, the Morningside O.G.G.I.C. Youth Group and others. It is FREE for the community and other churches to attend. It will be a great Sunday evening outing for the family. If anyone is interested in participating they may contact me, Cathy Bryant @ 412-853-2022.
March 25 - Thursday

**LAWRENCIVILLE**

**“Pitts-born” music festival fundraiser**

At Club Cattivo (1464 44th St.) on March 19, at 9pm. Event is 21+. Admission is $10. A first in a series of music festival fundraisers for Bernie Sanders’ presidential run, this show features many great bands: Vertigo-go, Chrome Moses, Mace Ballard, Bingo Quixote, Wreck Loose, Paddy the Wanderer, Old Game, The Homisides, Elkhound, The Jim Dandies, Jeremy Caywood, Gary Zaborowski, DJ Haamid Rahim, Colleen Wilde Bellinsky. NOTE: $10 admission will be split evenly with the bands (after the club fees). One member from each band then writes a check to the Sanders fund immediately for the amount of cash they are given. Then we send all the checks in as a group. This way we don’t go over the donation limit. Also limited run T-shirts will be available at the cost price of $5 each to make sure they are seen around town.

March 22 - Tuesday

**LAWRENCIVILLE**

**Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**

The Estelle S. Campbell Boys and Girls Club (4600 Butler St.) and the Citiparks’ Healthy Active Living Center is hosting their first Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. The cost is $7 for adults and $5 for kids. Pictures can be taken with the Easter Bunny for an additional fee of $1.00. The time for the event is 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. and we are serving ages 3 to adult. Please come and join us for pancakes, eggs, sausage and bacon to support our programs. Call 412-682-4013 to find out more.

March 24 - Thursday

**LAWRENCIVILLE**

**Free Microsoft Excel Workshop**

Goodwill’s Workforce Development Center at 118 52nd St., from 6-8:00 p.m. Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania and Carnegie Library Lawrenceville are teaming up to offer free computer classes to area residents. The class on March 24 will focus on learning to use Microsoft Excel. An instructor from the library will help students become familiar with Excel worksheets, entering formulas with an emphasis on accurate formatting and shortening, and basic formatting to make the worksheet more user friendly. Free parking is available. To register, contact Jaime Tracktenberg at 412-632-1842 or jaime.tracktenberg@goodwill-pa.org.

March 26 - Saturday

**LAWRENCIVILLE**

**The Big Hunt**

You’re invited to the biggest Easter Egg Hunt in Lawrenceville! It’s the 4th Annual The Big Hunt sponsored by Encounter Church. Join us on March 26th from 11am-1pm at Arsenal Park in Lawrenceville. There will be 15,000 eggs, tons of candy, food, a bounce house, the Easter Bunny, EC Kidzone and more! ALL FREE! Visit www.encounterpgh.com for more details.

March 27 - Sunday

**LAWRENCIVILLE**

**Easter Service**

You are invited to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday with Encounter Church. Come experience a welcoming environment with free coffee and doughnuts, inspiring and heartfelt worship, and a challenging teaching from the Bible. Encounter Church meets at Row House Cinema in Lawrenceville at 4115 Butler St., Pittsburgh, PA 15201. Service begins at 10am.

March 28 - Monday

**LAWRENCIVILLE**

**Sixth Ward block watch**

Arsenal Elementary School Library (215 39th St.) Meet neighbors, hear the latest crime updates, and participate in workshops on important topics like: CPR bystander training, getting the most out of 3-1-1, how to tackle graffiti in your neighborhood, and more.

March 30 - Wednesday

**BLOOMFIELD**

**Dogs & Toddlers**

Wednesday, March 30, from 7-9pm, at West Penn Hospital (4815 Liberty Ave.) in the Burstin Room, (1st floor/North Tower). Created by a certified dog behavior consultant and mother of four, the Dogs & Toddlers® is for families with babies who are between three months to three years old and exploring their independence for the first time. It is offered as both a group training class and private in-home consultation which parents and other caretakers can attend with their dogs. Free to anyone who would like to attend; register by calling 412-578-7030.

**Ongoing**

**GARFIELD**

**Zumba Classes at Irma Freeman Center**

Zumba classes at The Irma Freeman Center for Imagination (5006 Penn Ave.). Classes will operate on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. $7 per class ($5 for students with ID). Call 412-924-0634 for more information about these excellent classes.

**Systematic Bible Study**

Morningside Church Of God In Christ, located at 5173 Dearborn St., where the Pastor is Elder Lamont B. Shields. Come to church at 11:00 a.m. on March 26, 2016; bring your friends and be blessed. Refreshments will be served.

March 10 will focus on learning to use Microsoft Excel. An instructor from the library will help students become familiar with Excel worksheets, entering formulas with an emphasis on accurate formatting, and basic formatting to make the worksheet more user friendly. Free parking is available. To register, contact Jaime Tracktenberg at 412-632-1842 or jaime.tracktenberg@goodwill-pa.org.
Local artist disseminates *Free Money* as labor of love

By Christine Bethea  Bulletin contributor

Pittsburgh - Several years ago, at barely twenty-one years of age, Daniel McCloskey took a $10,000 inheritance from a woman he never met, bought a house in Upper Lawrenceville, and began mapping out his own cultural plan for city-living. Using a "sky-blue" color, the writer and illustrator began painting his house on Carnegie St., rendering puffy cartoon clouds on the vinyl siding, and started a visiting writers program from scratch. Soon thereafter, the building housed five residents; each paid $73 dollars a month – not only to live in what McCloskey called a "biggish closet," but also to become part of his new collective: the Cyberpunk Apocalypse.

"It wasn't about the rent money," McCloskey said. "It was important to me at the time to put a bunch of 'like minds' together, give them support, and enjoy the outcome." He built the project and they came. Folks like Max Wheeler from Athens, Ohio; Artnoose from Berkeley, California; Jamie Ross from Canada; and others from as near and far as Chicago, Illinois and Portland, Oregon.

Anarchist Margaret Killjoy, the first of the resident writers, used his time in the house to write a nationally recognized Steampunk adventure novel. Back then, it was fairly easy to get into the writer’s program because one merely had to send a nice inquiry to McCloskey. Very quickly, though, a year's worth of vacancies was booked solid, and everybody was too busy to flinch.

McCloskey played landlord, put on at least two events a month, and supplemented his own modest income by doing freelance work and illustrations. Everyone being on a similar page created a lot of good energy. He is proud that his house became a place where the words "writers" and "friends" were used interchangeably, where colleagues could be comrades.

But, just like anything else, the salad days of the Cyberpunk Apocalypse eventually ran their course and came to an end. These days, McCloskey, a graduate from the University of Pittsburgh, is putting his fiction studies to work with *Free Money*.

While throwback in its nature, McCloskey's self-published comic/zine puts his spin on modern narratives in its first five volumes. Each issue bears a date thirty years in the future, yet it feels eerily connected to the present tense of things.

McCloskey recently sold his start-up digs in Lawrenceville and opened a larger space on the Northside, where Cyberpunk Apocalypse is now a publishing house. It gives him a great deal of satisfaction when he walks into a random place, like a laundromat, and someone who recognizes him calls out, "Hey, I want *Free Money*!" Learn more about Cyberpunk Apocalypse and *Free Money* at danielmccloskey.com.

Below: Thinking of a master plan, writer and illustrator Daniel McCloskey plots the next move for "Free Money," his apocalyptic science fiction zine. The artist plans to continue self-publishing and locally distributing his work. Photo courtesy of Daniel McCloskey.

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