Remembering Rooney: how Dan made a difference in Garfield
By Bob Jones, Jr. Brothers & Sisters Emerging

Op-Ed / Garfield - It is not well-known, but the former president of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Dan Rooney, who passed away in mid-April, did have a role in touching the
See Dan Rooney | page 5

Citizen crossing guard provides safe passage on Penn Ave.
By Andrew McKeon the Bulletin

Garfield - Where most folks turn a blind eye, Rose Parker hoists a stop sign. Right at the intersection of Millvale and Penn Aves., the Garfield resident stops traffic to help students safely exit their school bus and cross the street. Some motorists honk their horns; others glare at Parker (pictured at left), who volunteers her time every day throughout the school year.

The stop sign, which Parker purchased on Amazon as an upgrade to an old, makeshift cardboard sign, does not always do the trick. So, she lets the rest of her striking red outfit – including a color-coordinated coat, hat, and sometimes even galoshes – convey how serious she is about providing safe passage for students like her grandson.

“I just happened to remember I had a red coat. You really need something to grab the drivers’ attention,” she said. “Otherwise, they’ll just keep going right as the kids are trying to cross the street.”

While waiting at her grandson’s bus stop in 2016, Parker witnessed a close call that almost took a young girl’s life. She
See Citizen Crossing Guard | page 7

EVO preps new food truck to feed local children
By Andrew Perrow the Bulletin

Friendship - Since 2013, Earthen Vessels Outreach (EVO, 250 S. Pacific Ave.) has been providing East End families with a vital service: free access to fresh food and ingre-
See EVO Food Truck | page 11

Above: Garfield resident Rose Parker is in her element at the intersection of Millvale and Penn Aves., where she serves the community as a volunteer crossing guard. After witnessing one too many local students survive a close call with motorists as they exited the school bus, Parker decided to order a stop sign, put on her brightest red clothes, and then stop traffic herself. Read more about this dedicated citizen crossing guard at right. Photo by John Colombo.

Above: Danes prepare for a new Attack Theatre performance called, “The Next Stop,” which features debut works from internationally renowned choreographers. The May 20 performance is designed to explore dance as a learning tool for area youths. Photo by Dr. Robert Kormos.
## Comparative Q&A: Pittsburgh Mayoral Candidates

On April 18, the Bulletin reached out to the candidates running for Mayor of Pittsburgh, seeking their feedback on a few important issues ahead of the May 16 primary election. All three (Democratic) candidates’ responses have been edited for space and printed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reverend Dr. John C. Welch</th>
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<th>Councilwoman Darlene Harris</th>
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<td>“In 2014, Pittsburgh was selected as a member of the ‘100 Resilient Cities’ program to help us become more resilient to the physical, social, and economic challenges that we face in the twenty-first century. Earlier this year, we released our resilience strategy, which we will continue to implement. The framework focusing on ‘People, Place, Planet, and Performance’ will ensure that, as we move forward, we do it as one Pittsburgh. The plan outlines a wide range of actions to navigate the challenges that we will face in the future, ranging from housing to transportation to land use to wastewater management.”</td>
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**What new initiatives will you introduce during your first 100 days in office?**

- **Reverend Dr. John C. Welch:** The city is facing an affordable housing crisis and current development is primed to make Pittsburgh a virtually gated community. I will push for a mandatory, inclusive zoning ordinance requiring twenty to thirty mixed-income developments. I will push to have EPA-approved, point-of-entry filtering systems installed for PWSA customers to fully comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Then, I would address when and how to replace the service lines. I will also evaluate the vacant parcels of land owned by the city and acquire neglectful landowners’ properties, then work to rehabilitate these homes into accessible, affordable houses to address the increasing homelessness issue. I will reassess the appropriation of bike lanes to ensure cyclist safety and mitigate ‘door zone’ accidents. I will put pressure on UPMC to pay their share of payroll preparation taxes to address gap revenues in the city of Pittsburgh.

- **Mayor William Peduto:** Our administration is committed to continuing to address the needs of affordable housing, early childhood education, and our city’s aging water infrastructure. By implementing the recommendations of our affordable housing task force, the City is responding to the pressures that all of us as are facing from market-driving housing prices. We are working to secure the opportunity for early childhood education for every three- and four-year-old in the city. That’s why we’ve worked with council to establish a task force that will give us a blueprint for universal pre-K by the end of the year. We have established free lead water-testing and filter programs for all city residents; we are working with state officials to eliminate restrictions the city has on replacing service lines owned by private property owners; and we have established a blue-ribbon panel of experts to advise the city on legal, operational, and safety issues.

- **Councilwoman Darlene Harris:** First, I plan to improve our citizens’ health, safety, and welfare. One way I will accomplish this task is by addressing the water crisis. The current administration is more interested in hiring consultants to discuss potential solutions than actually taking action. But, I will try to bring back the chemists who ensured our water was safe in order to get us back on track. Second, I will prioritize public safety. The citizens of Pittsburgh deserve to feel safe in their homes and not have to worry about violence. I will work to rehabilitate or, when necessary, tear down abandoned properties in order to prevent illegal activity in those locations, increase the property values of surrounding homes, and create housing suitable for all types of individuals and families. Finally, I will focus on improving the morale of city employees and making sure that each department has the workers they need to provide their services to the community.

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**List three ongoing issues you plan to address in your first year that, in your view, would enhance the quality of life in the city?**

- **Reverend Dr. John C. Welch:** The city receives about $15M dollars in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money each year. We should be able to address this shortfall through the enhanced Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) programs expiring June 30 of this year. Other city funds that will be freeing up from bond payments in the upcoming year.

- **Mayor William Peduto:** Despite what happens in Washington, we’ve been through tough times and we will continue to move forward. One example of critical funding that we are moving to protect is the City’s Learn and Earn program. We introduced legislation to protect funding for summer youth employment. By re-engaging with the U.S. Conference of Mayors, we are working with cities across the country to lobby for funding for critical programs.

- **Councilwoman Darlene Harris:** I will go to Harrisburg and Washington, D.C. to explain to officials why Pittsburgh needs this funding. I would also collect the billboard tax that Mr. Peduto has failed to collect. I worked hard to create this legislation around three years ago, but Mr. Peduto has not tapped into the expected $16 million revenue this tax would produce. And, I would stop wasting tax dollars on overpaid directors.

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**As the city anticipates cuts to federal community development and housing funds, how will you replace this loss of funding?**

- **Reverend Dr. John C. Welch:** “In my first 100 days, I will institute an aggressive recruiting strategy that will promote diversity within the civil service sector jobs especially within the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police - as we are in danger of losing a significant number of qualified officers to retirement. This program will be similar to the DiverseCity365 program under Mayor Ravenstahl, which saw a 221% increase in total civil service applicants and an 80% increase in diverse applicants. I will call for a federal state of emergency around the city’s water crisis and I will call for an audit of the URA and the Housing Authority.”

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Schools exploring strategies to support growing ESL student population

By Ebony R. Pugh Pittsburgh Public Schools

Pittsburgh - With all ten of its English as Second Language (ESL) regional centers experiencing increases in enrollment, Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) is now sharing potential strategies for enhancing its standard of service for students and families. The strategies aim to support the creation of an ESL delivery model that reduces student travel, increases family engagement, and prepares for anticipated growth in ESL student populations.

“As part of our evaluation of services provided to our English language learners, we found that, while we are meeting state requirements for ESL services for students in their home feeder schools, as well as leveraging its PreK program to provide supports to students at a younger age. The District will also examine the possibility of providing ESL services to students in their home feeder schools, as well as leveraging its PreK program to provide supports to students at a younger age. The District will also explore the creation of a Newcomer Academy to serve students who have interrupted formal education (SIFE), have been enrolled in a U.S. school for less than two calendar years, or require the maximum amount of ESL support daily.

Currently, the District serves 1,056 ESL students, up from 877 last year. The most popular languages spoken among the District’s ESL student population are Spanish (246) and Nepali (204); additional languages include Swahili (150), Arabic (151), Russian/Uzbek (59), Chinese (54), and more (156 students speak one of the following: Burmese, Karen, French, Somali, Farsi, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Japanese, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, and more). ♦

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

By Aggie Brose Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Garfield - On April 13, a seventeen-year-old male was shot in the head on the 400 block of N. Graham St., according to Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Zone 5. Officers reported that they arrived to find the victim laying in the street with several gunshot wounds, but he was conscious and talking.

Traditionally, summer months are the most active time for area gun activity, and summer is almost here. Our community must come together and resist the temptation to become complacent about gun-related violence if we are going to prevent more incidents like this one from happening in our neighborhoods. Anyone with information about the shooting on N. Graham or any other gun or drug-related activity is strongly encouraged to call the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Group Violence Intervention (GVI) squad at 412-323-7151. You will have the option to remain anonymous if you call GVI.

Do you want to keep your neighborhood safe? If so, call me at 412-441-6950 x15 to learn more about how you can get involved to keep our neighborhoods safe. ♦
Bloomfield Saturday Market welcomes new program coordinator

A message from the Bloomfield Development Corporation

Bloomfield – Extending a warm welcome, the Bloomfield Development Corporation (BDC) is pleased to introduce Lucy Powell as the new program coordinator for the Bloomfield Saturday Market, which begins on May 20. After moving from southeast Ohio to attend the University of Pittsburgh, Powell graduated last spring with a degree in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies.

Her experience working as a farmers’ market vendor will be invaluable to Saturday Market vendors and customers alike. Powell has also worked in education and nonprofit programs; she currently serves as the program manager for “PRYSE Academy,” a summer camp for the city’s refugee and immigrant youths.

The new program coordinator plans to bring her passion for youths and education to the market with “Kids Day,” which takes place on the first Saturday of the month throughout the summer. Educational nonprofits from the area will host children’s activities while parents can find information about summer camps, schools, and after-school programs.

She is currently working to garner sponsorships, design summer programming, and coordinate with vendors. The BDC welcomes every market-minded neighbor to come meet Powell at 5050 Liberty Ave. during the Bloomfield Saturday Market’s opening day, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. ♦

Attack Theatre performance helps kids perceive movement as learning tool

By Daniel Fleegle

East Liberty - Attack Theatre invites kids of all ages to leap into action at the “Movement Zone” - an interactive, creative movement exploration. This special event will highlight movement games and creative play that can help children and their families stay active and learn through movement.

On Saturday, May 20, Attack Theatre presents a free afternoon of dancing, creativity, and fun from 2:00 to 2:50 p.m. at the Kelly Strayhorn Theater (5491 Penn Ave.). Following these activities, audiences are invited to attend a contemporary dance performance, The Next Stop.

During the intermission, audience members are invited to return to the lobby, where Michele de la Reza will help everyone investigate new ways to view dance performances by guiding them in a movement-based, age-appropriate reflection on The Next Stop’s first act.

Alongside repertory by Ms. de la Reza and Peter Kpe, Attack Theatre’s co-founders and artistic directors, this performance will mark the debut of two new works by internationally acclaimed choreographers, Helen Simoneau (North Carolina) and Norbert De La Cruz III (New York).

Each choreographer’s creative vision fuses with the local dancers’ athleticism to create some striking imagery and vibrant physicality. “I found out pretty quickly that the dancers were really great at shifting on a dime,” Simoneau said.

“So, I could have clear interruptions within the cadence of the material: stops and starts, silences, pauses, and then fast movement,” she added.

The Movement Zone is designed for children of all ages and their families to engage with movement and dance as a tool for learning that can enhance problem-solving, communication, and cooperation skills.

“Dance and movement can be such powerful tools for promoting creativity and healthy living,” de la Reza explained. “This is central to Attack Theatre’s arts education programming. We constantly strive to engage kids, adults, and educators in fun and physical ways that complement our main stage productions.”

The Movement Zone joins over 300 events as part of “Remake Learning Days” from May 15 through May 26. This twelve-day initiative celebrates educational innovation in Southwestern Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Remake Learning Days is an initiative of the Remake Learning Network, a group of more than 200 organizations, educators, schools, businesses, and others working together to transform teaching and learning throughout the region. ♦
Dan Rooney continued from page 1

lives of kids from Garfield and the neighborhoods surrounding it.

In 1994, when a group of Garfield men were seeking to start a football program that could be sustained for years to come, we had to reach out to a number of people for help in getting started. In doing our initial fund-raising, we came upon a notice in one of the city's newspapers, announcing that there was soon to be a meeting of the Art Rooney, Sr. Foundation. Art Sr. was Dan's father, who had already passed away by 1994.

We did not know much more about the foundation than the fact that it existed, but we thought it would be worth our while to send a letter appealing for support to the foundation just to see if we might get a response. In the letter, we apprised the foundation of our desire to start a football program in the fall for young kids in Garfield.

For several weeks, we heard nothing, and wrote off the notion that the Steelers would be in a position to help us with our goal. Then, one summer day in that same year, a call came in from the office of Steelers vice-president, Art Rooney II, Dan's son. We were being invited to come into the Steelers' offices at Three Rivers Stadium to meet with Art Rooney II and describe who exactly we were, and what it was we were intent on doing.

A small group of neighborhood representatives were ushered into Art's offices. He asked each of us to introduce ourselves and tell him more about our plans. He questioned us intently and, for a while, it did not seem things were going to go our way. He had a list of questions on a yellow notepad, and was carefully weighing our responses to each. In the end, he thanked us for coming and we departed - feeling as though we had given it our best shot, but prepared for disappointment.

By the third week of July, we were getting ready to launch the Garfield Gators football program, with or without any help from the Steelers. And then the phone rang again; this time, there was an invitation to come to the Steelers' offices early on a Saturday evening, prior to an exhibition game between the Steelers and the Indianapolis Colts. No other information was forthcoming. Many of us had already made plans for that evening, except for one person, Rick Swartz of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation.

Rick showed up at 6 p.m., and was told to join a small group of other nonprofits in a trip up to one of the stadium boxes reserved for the media and other guests. The Steelers' official who greeted the community folks said they would have to stay in the guest box at least until halftime before being called down to the field. Again, no reason was given as to why exactly that would be necessary. The secrecy was a bit frustrating. Rick told me he thought this could be the equivalent of some form of musical chairs, where someone is ultimately left without anything.

Right before halftime, with the group of community folks now huddled on the field just beyond the end zone, Dan Rooney walked out from the tunnel that ran underneath the stands. The game was momentarily stopped, and the public address announcer told the crowd to direct their attention to the field below, where a special ceremony was about to occur. On the scoreboard appeared the name “Garfield Youth Sports” identifying us as one of the groups on the field. Dan walked along the short line of community people, introducing himself, asking each of them who they were, and then delivering a check in an envelope to each.

For Garfield, the envelope held a check for $5,000. It was a total surprise. Rick said he refused to open it until he was outside the stadium. Suddenly, we could look at buying some new equipment; the players; uniform order for that first season became a lot less concerning. To say that a small burden had been lifted from our shoulders might be an understatement.

None of us ever met Dan again after that, but from time to time, his son Art would check in to keep tabs on how things were going with the Gators. We have always been sure that the last thing we would ever want to do would be to let down the Pittsburgh Steelers and Dan Rooney. Twenty-three years later, we do not feel that we have.

Dan Rooney
Pittsburgh - ‘Nebby’ is a word often heard in western Pennsylvania. It means ‘nosy’ or ‘inquisitive,’ denoting a person who asks a lot of questions. It is classic Pittsburghese.

“I think ‘nebby’ is my favorite of the local Pittsburgh words that I grew up with,” local on-air legend Rick Sebak recently admitted. Acknowledging the fact that nobody uses the term “Greater Pittsburgh” anymore, Sebak is currently designing new programs to spotlight the whole tri-state area, while also giving special billing to his beloved local stomping grounds around the city.

“I try to make the program that I want to watch,” he said. “I hope that others share the same curiosity and general ‘nebbiness.’” Taking today’s federal funding forecasts into account, Sebak turned a normal Kickstarter campaign into a “Rick-starter” pledge spot for the ages.

Between Meat Pittsburgh and A Short History of Route 88, Sebak has grand plans for his audience. Although federal funding might be drying up, he is just getting started.

Sebak’s fascination with the little things is hard to hide; he focuses on the margins, where local characters thrive. “The stories are about what’s going on, not about me,” he said. Upon close examination of his locally- and nationally-syndicated programs, Sebak is certain of one thing: “Pittsburghers love the Pittsburgh shows.”

The Beagle Brothers, a local band comprised of Sebak fans, was honored to write the theme song for the fundraising campaign. “How amazing is that?” Sebak asked. “I know those guys and their lyrics are really astounding.”

He would rather not contemplate the circumstances of Rickstarter failing to meet its goal in time. “I don’t want to think about that,” Sebak said. “We can scale back and do one or two. Take advantage of the money we have from the Buhl Foundation.”

According to the Rickstarter page, “the entire goal of $113,000 must be met before funding will be released to WQED, or any individual is charged. If the goal is not met, WQED does not receive any of the contributions to Rickstarter and the donor’s credit card will not be charged.” As of press time, Sebak’s campaign was already well above the giving limit – a testament to his ebullient temperament and inimitable persona.

During the past thirty years at WQED, he has been through good times and bad. But, if Sebak was ever worried about the fundraising goal, his face never showed it. “I was lucky to be born with a face that always makes me look like I am smiling,” he told the Bulletin.

Numerous businesses have supported the campaign by holding special events to generate proceeds in support of Sebak’s unique vision. Those interested in supporting WQED’s most recognizable face may visit www.wqed.org to learn more.
Farmers’ market returns to Arsenal Park

By Danielle San Filippo Lawrenceville Farmers’ Market

Insight

Lawrenceville – In anticipation of the June 3 opening of the Lawrenceville Farmers’ Market, some might just suffice to say, “The veggies are coming.” But, that’s not even half of the story. Over the years, the market has become a neighborhood staple for local produce, meat, cheese, baked goods, maple syrup, coffee, Wigle Whiskey products, lunch specials, and more.

The Lawrenceville Farmers’ Market is open every Saturday, June 3 through October 28, from 1 to 4 p.m. in Arsenal Park. Last year, twenty-three vendors provided a broad range of everyday staples and specialty goods; this year’s list has grown to feature an even greater variety of vendors.

Now in its seventh year, the market is celebrating its second year in vibrant Arsenal Park, which provides the neighborhood with a beautiful al fresco market space. As the new market manager, I look forward to meeting you this year. Make sure you stop by the market information booth so we can talk. Beyond paying in cash, you can also process credit, debit, and EBT cards at the information booth for market purchases.

Thanks to the market’s partnership with Just Harvest, for every $5 they spend with SNAP benefits, customers receive an additional $2 to be spent on any market produce. In addition to delicious food provided by a large variety of weekly vendors, the market will host weekly children’s activities, chef programs, music, yard games, picnicking, incentives for older adults, and many seasonal events.

We’re in the midst of planning a pre-season launch party at the Allegheny Wine Mixer, as well as several other fun events in the community throughout the season. For more information about the farmers’ market, including regular updates about market vendors and events, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LawrencevillePGHFarmers-Market/ or email Market@LUnited.org to get added to our e-newsletter.

The Lawrenceville Farmers’ Market is a program of Lawrenceville United, an inclusive, resident-driven, nonprofit organization that works to improve and protect the quality of life for all Lawrenceville residents. For more information, please contact (412) 802-7220 or stop into the office at 4839 Butler St.

Citizen Crossing Guard continued from page 1

Below: Always wearing a smile to go along with her red outfit, Rose Parker is happy to put herself in harm’s way to make crosswalks safer for students. Photo by John Colombo.

decided that, even if it was the city’s responsibility [Pittsburgh Public Schools students travel on these buses], she had to take things into her own hands.

So, Parker suited up and began walking into traffic. It was not long before one driver, who whizzed around a school bus and its stop-sign, made her almost regret becoming a citizen crossing guard. “By the grace of God, she had good brakes,” Parker exclaimed.

As she manned her post one April afternoon, Parker made due use of the crosswalk call-button, pressing it in rhythm with approaching school buses to create a red light and safeguard students’ arrival. A handy phone app also helps her track schedule changes if certain buses are running late.

Now retired, the grandmother’s previous occupation – working as a PPS school bus driver for many years – qualifies her as a veritable expert on school bus protocol. Since Parker is beloved by local parents and other pedestrians, not to mention the fact that she knows just how bus drivers should handle myriad traffic situations, she has the makings of an excellent crossing guard.

“One guy asked me if I was authorized to be out here,” she recalled. “I said that I’m a grandmother waiting for my grandson, so that authorizes me to be out here.”

The city might as well just hire her and say “keep up the good work.” Alternatively, if the city asked this volunteer to step aside and staff the corner with one of its own crossing guards, Parker would welcome the change. “I’d appreciate if they put someone who has the authority to ticket dangerous drivers out here,” she told the Bulletin.

Until then, Parker welcomes other local residents and parents to follow her example. Otherwise, she will have to develop superhuman speed to cover all the bus stops along Penn Ave. “I wish I could be like Flash Gordon and be at every intersection up and down the avenue,” she said with a smile.

As she waits for the last school bus driver to pass by and wave, sometimes as late as 5 p.m., Parker often strikes up conversations with pedestrians and neighborhood parents. One concerned mother even suggested throwing eggs to really drive the point home with bad motorists.

“Usually, when someone like me is out in the street, they’re either crazy or they just want you to stop. I’m all of the above,” she said with a wink.

The most common bad habit Parker observes in city drivers is, hands down, texting-while-driving. That is where her job is important; it cannot be ignored.

“If they can’t see me, they need to stop. I’m all of the above,” she exclaimed. Alternatively, if the city asked this volunteer to step aside and staff the corner with one of its own crossing guards, Parker would welcome the change. “I’d appreciate if they put someone who has the authority to ticket dangerous drivers out here,” she told the Bulletin.

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“If they can’t see me, they need to stop driving,” Parker explained.
New hotel on the horizon, Bloomfield residents hold developers accountable

By Andrew Perrow & Andrew McKeon, the Bulletin

Bloomfield – It is no secret that most Pittsburgh residents have strong opinions about redevelopment, especially in the city's East End neighborhoods. So, it should come as no surprise that a new hotel development slated for construction at 4520 Penn Ave. is raising some eyebrows along the avenue.

In April, the Bulletin reached out (via email) to a few residents who live near the proposed construction site to get their feedback about a new Hampton Inn Hotel moving into the neighborhood. “I own a property directly adjacent to the site and I never received outreach of any kind from the developer or their representatives,” Daniel Barrett responded. “They provided no notifications, phone calls, or invitations to discuss their plans and how it might affect me and my home. If it weren’t for my involvement with BDC [Bloomfield Development Corporation], I wouldn’t even be aware of this project.”

Aiming to create a transparent process that is inclusive of all community members, the BDC has stayed close to the flame throughout the preliminary stages of the hotel's development. For the past several months, the BDC has encouraged Bloomfield residents to make their cases to the developers during open-door, community meetings in the area.

According to Executive Director Christina Howell, at most of the meetings, “the feeling of those who attended from the community was largely that a hotel could be great here.” One of her neighbors’ main concerns, though, is preserving the unique essence of Bloomfield as new developments take hold along a corridor that links up with Garfield and Lawrenceville.

“Artists, activists, small businesses, and community-minded organizations have infused a sense of art and intrigue into the avenue...Unfortunately, I don’t get the sense that this Hampton Inn is going to add to the excitement and create something that’s unique to our neighborhood.”

– Dan Yablonsky, Bloomfield resident

Advocating for the needs of the residents to be reflected in the hotel’s construction and implementation, Howell reminds the hotel planners that the 4500 block of Penn Ave. might make for trickier logistics than elsewhere in the city. “Penn Ave. is of a very different scale than Baum Blvd., where other hotels have popped up,” she observed. Facing the Allegheny Cemetery, the hotel building would share a small back alley with longtime residents; many worry about the impact the construction process might have on their daily routine.

“We’re likely to see parking and street/alley access disrupted by such a substantial
project. This is a huge headache for residents that rely on Comrie Way for access to their homes, and an even bigger problem for the handful of elderly or disabled residents in the area,” Barrett, who lives next to the site, explained.

He and other neighbors dread the possibility of disruptions continuing long after construction is completed, not to mention their privacy being compromised by new plans for second floor windows facing Comrie Way. The BDC has engaged the developers to consider how the hotel’s trash pick-up schedule and parking protocol might affect the surrounding residents.

Apparently, the architects have planned for ample parking facilities located underneath the hotel building. “If there is one thing that this developer did a great job of, it’s integrating copious amounts of parking into the basement space, maybe even exceeding the zoning code’s requirement,” Yablonsky indicated.

Howell notes a promising evolution of the dialogue between Bloomfield residents and the developers. “I can see that they’ve developed some better sensibilities as a result of this process,” she said. “They’ve realized that they do need to respond to the community’s needs and are responding now.”

Although the developers have already incorporated significant changes requested by the community, some residents are still wary of the hotel’s plans altogether. “I’m incredibly reluctant to be close neighbors with an unreliable, bad actor,” Barrett opined. “Frankly, as much as I’d like to see positive development occur in the Bloomfield neighborhood, especially along this often neglected section of Penn Ave., it is my hope that this project does not move forward at all.”

Yablonsky is a bit more optimistic, albeit reservedly so, about the possibility of becoming neighbors with a new hotel. “There is so much potential for this to be a tremendous asset to the neighborhood,” he clarified, “or a terrible corporate eyesore.”

Many details must be sorted out before construction plans can move forward. By sending letters to the city’s Zoning Board, Howell is hoping keep the hotel development in the public eye so that all nearby residents can help shape the process.

To stay informed about upcoming meetings and the status of the project, visit www.bloomfieldnow.org or call 412-681-8800 with any questions. [Editor’s Note: During a March 9 hearing, the Board decided to approve the zoning variances on certain conditions that more community concerns are addressed.] ♦

 Finding treatment after losing hope is #LivingProof.

Naomi’s life has been centered around traveling. Diagnosed with late-stage cancer, and after second, third, and fourth opinions, she thought her life was over. With no hope, she turned to Allegheny Health Network and met with the renowned oncology team who introduced her to stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT) – an innovative technique others hadn’t mastered. Precise and non-invasive, it usually results in improved outcomes with fewer complications.

Today Naomi is back to her life as well as her travels.

To learn more about cancer care visit AHNLivingProof.org.
“Bike to Work Day” opens up new lanes for city commuters

By Alexandria Shewczyk BikePGH

Pittsburgh – “Bike to Work Day” is dedicated to celebrating the thousands of people in Pittsburgh who ride to work every day. Friday, May 19, also serves as the perfect day for many local residents to give bicycle commuting a try for the first time.

Through collaboration with Healthy Ride, UPMC Sports Med, East End Food Co-op, and other community partners, Bike PGH will host a “commuter café” in Oakland’s Schenley Plaza and Downtown’s Market Square. In addition to discounts at local bike shops, Bike PGH members will enjoy other perks on Bike to Work Day; members can stop by either café to pick up special edition bike bells.

Biking to work is a great way to wake up and feel alert upon arriving at work. Daily commuters get their exercise on the way to and from work, so they seldom need to take a trip to the gym during the workday. Plus, they can save gas money and bus fare while also benefiting the environment.

How to prepare for Bike to Work Day

Healthy Ride will be free all day
• If you do not have your own bike, sign up for Healthy Ride at www.healthyridepgh.org.
• Trips will be free on May 19, so just set up an account to borrow a bike.

Tune up your bike or buy a bike
• Perform an “ABC Quick Check” on your bike.
• Find your local bike shop to buy a bike or get a tune-up.

Read over some tips, tricks, rights, and responsibilities
• BikePGH’s “Urban Biking Companion” provides tips on safe, easier commuting - from tire inflation to turn signals (bikepgh.org/resources/).
• Use BikePGH’s Pittsburgh Bike Map to plan your biking route (bikepgh.org/maps).

Plan your bike route
• Take a test-ride on your commuting route before Friday, May 19. This will ensure that you are familiar with your bike route.
• Remember that the best driving route is not always the best biking route.
• Bring a lock and find bike parking near your place of employment or ask you can bring your bike inside for safe storage.

UPMC CancerCenter
Partner with University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute

UPMC CancerCenter is pleased to welcome our newest doctor at the Mario Lemieux Center for Blood Cancers.

James M. Rossetti, DO
Hematologist

Dr. Rossetti specializes in the treatment of hematological malignancies with a special interest in myeloid diseases, including myelodysplasia, acute myeloid leukemia, and myeloproliferative neoplasm. He also specializes in cellular therapy. Dr. Rossetti received his doctorate from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in Erie, Pa. He later completed his internal medicine residency at St. Francis Medical Center, formerly in Pittsburgh. Board-certified in hematology, he completed his hematology/oncology fellowship at The Western Pennsylvania Hospital, in Pittsburgh, where he later served as assistant director of Cell Transplantation and assistant director of the fellowship program. Dr. Rossetti is part of the UPMC MDS Center of Excellence team, with research interests including the development of improved treatment strategies for patients with MDS and acute leukemia.

To schedule an appointment, or for more information, call 412-864-6600 or visit UPMCCancerCenter.com.

Mario Lemieux Center for Blood Cancers
Hillman Cancer Center
5115 Centre Ave., 4th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

ABOVE: In Downtown Pittsburgh and throughout the city, “Bike to Work Day” is fast approaching on the right - on Friday, May 19, to be exact. Photo courtesy of Bike PGH.
“F4” aims to delight festival-goers
By Staci Backauskas Friendship Community Group

Friendship – Residents who are ready to shake off the winter blues can rejoice because the “Friendship Flower and Folk Festival,” also known as “F4,” is back with more festivities than ever. On Saturday, May 13, the festival will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Baum Grove; the intersection of Harriet St. and Roup & S. Fairmont Aves. will be filled with vendors, flowers, food, and entertainment.

Baum Grove’s amphitheater will come alive with demonstrations from urban chicken keepers “Chicks in the Hood,” “STEAM Innovators,” Assemble, and other organizations. On top of that, Sunburst Music Studio, Aerial Silk, and several local bands will perform outdoors.

Vendors plan to feature many fine wares for sale — including fused glass, jewelry, handmade cards, honey, and organic clothing — and raffle baskets will be filled with items from local businesses. Kids can enjoy a “bouncy house,” along with some activities designed by the neighborhood’s Montessori School.

Plenty of food and, of course, a variety of flowers and plants will be available for purchase at the festival. F4 is also home to Friendship’s annual book sale; those with book donations are asked to bring them to the tent at Baum Grove on the morning of the event.

Organized by the Friendship Community Group and sponsored by Giant Eagle-Market District, Councilwoman Deb Gross, and Councilman Dan Gilman, the festival raises funds to maintain upkeep of Baum Grove, the neighborhood’s main green space.

EVO Food Truck

Chaney said. Last summer, her organization delivered more than 18,000 meals to those in need. With the new truck, the team expects to deliver approximately 24,000 meals this summer.

Despite the obstacles, Chaney is remarkably passionate about working with all families and establishing lasting relationships with EVO’s neighbors across the city. “The kids will come when there are relationships, when there is meaning in what they’re doing,” she relayed.

To that end, EVO plans to staff its new truck with people who are excited to be part of community development; on-site chefs will provide the kids with educational experiences about food production and cooking.

“Kids aren’t just going to come, get a free meal and leave,” Chaney said. “One day, there might be a three-on-three basketball game. Another day, it’s face-painting.”

As she assembles a dynamic team of professionals, Chaney welcomes all East End residents to keep an eye out for the new truck. Thanks to EVO, everyone can enjoy a high quality meal - free of charge - this summer. Visit http://www.evopgh.org/ for more information.

Below: Tech-heads gather to address social and civic issues at April’s “Steel City CodeFest,” where they seek to provide technology solutions for non-profits and government agencies in the Pittsburgh area. The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) submitted a proposal for a new app that sends updated “Unblurred: First Friday on Penn Avenue” activity listings directly to gallery-crawlers’ mobile devices every month. Thanks to the CodeFest team, users will also be able to post comments, submit photos, and post directly to social media through the app, allowing Unblurred to reach a wider audience and become a more attendee-centered event. The BGC will apply for funding to expedite the finalization, roll-out, and maintenance of this new app. Photo courtesy of Amber Epps.
### Assemble

**Location:** Assemble (4824 Penn Ave.)

**Ages:** 6 - 13 years old

**Dates:** June 19 - August 18 / 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Details:** Think science camp, technology camp, engineering camp, art camp, and math camp all rolled into one for Assemble’s STEAM Summer Camps. From beginners to burgeoning hackers, all skill levels are accepted and welcome. Camp is free for Garfield residents. Learn more and register at [http://assemblepgh.org/summer-camps-2017/](http://assemblepgh.org/summer-camps-2017/).

**Contact:** Email Hannah at hannah@assemblepgh.org.

### Earthen Vessels Outreach

**Location:** 250 S. Pacific Ave.

**Ages:** 3 - 14 years old

**Dates:** June 19 - July 29 / 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. / Extended camp hours are available upon request

**Details:** The 100+ children participating in the summer camp will be in a structured learning environment that offers STEAM teaching through math, reading, spiritual formation, and recreation. Recreational activities include swimming, tennis lessons, playground games, weekly field trips, arts & craft activities, drama, and dance.

**Contact:** Email earthenvessels98@gmail.com or call 412-681-7272.

### ESC Boys & Girls Club/Lawrenceville United

**Location:** 4600 Butler St.

**Ages:** 4 - 12 years old

**Dates:** June 19 - August 11 / 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. for ages 5 and up

**Details:** Breakfast, hot lunch, and a snack are provided daily. Every Thursday, we take our members to North Park Swimming pool. Field Trips to be scheduled: Pittsburgh Zoo, Carnegie Science Center, Carnegie Museum, Carnegie Library, Aviary, Frick Museum, Heinz Field tour, PNC Park tour, and self-guided nature walks. Brochures and registration forms are available at the club’s 4600 Butler St. location.

**Contact:** To learn more, contact John Daugherty at 412-682-4013 or email j_daugherty@bgcwpa.org.

### Irma Freeman Center (pictured at left)

**Location:** 5006 Penn Ave.

**Ages:** 6 - 17 years old

**Dates:** June 19 - July 28 / 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. / Two camps a day, plus after-camp options

**Details:** New this year, teens and tweens will dance to their own choreography and make silk-screens via collaboration with Artist Image Resource (AIR). Summer campers will enjoy “Acro Yoga,” dance, costume-making, space exploration, DIY crafts, performance, drawing, printing, book-binding, and circus fun. The camp offers reasonable rates and scholarships; register online at [www.irmafreeman.org](http://www.irmafreeman.org).

**Contact:** To enroll and learn about financial aid options, contact director Sheila Ali at sheiladali@irmafreemnan.org or call the office at 412-924-0634.

### 2017 Summer Camps at a Glance: Opportunities Aplenty for Local Kids

A variety of camps will provide out-of-school fun and enrichment for East End kids this summer. Read below to learn more about some local youth programs.


**LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER**

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

Compiled by Lillian Denhardt, Howard Hanna Real Estate

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**Bloomfield**

Erica B. Smith to Erica B. Smith at 4231 Upview Ter. for $1.
Sarah J. Brown to Adam T. List at 4798 Yew St. for $165,500.
Wai & Yun Wang Lam to Yun Wang at 4715 Liberty Ave. for $0.
Wai & Wang Yun Lam to Wai Lam at 4717 Liberty Ave. for $0.
Rachel Peluso to Diana Gregorio at 131 S Alken Ave. for $1.
Carolyn & Karen Garrett to Winebiddle Properties LLC at 244 S Winebiddle St. for $120,000.

**Lawrenceville**

Michael & Velma A. Fayforvich to Kurt G. Dittmer at 926 53rd St. for $148,250.
Ari Enterprises LLC to Coralie Kartesz at 915 Mccandless Ave. for $55,000.
Deborah A. Mcleary to Jason Wright at 5429 Mccandless Ave. for $103,000.
William B. & Cynthia T. Winczner to Patrick Palmer at 173-D 45th St. for $210,000.
William P. Ross to N. Alex O’hara at 168 45th St. for $367,250.
Barr Property Develop Inc. to Zachary C. Smith at 86-44th St. for $345,000.
City RE Holdings LP to Waterfall Properties LLC at 4745 Butler St. for $83,500.
Jall Enterprises Services LLC to Pittsburgh Real Estate Team Inc. at 5218 Duncan St. for $100,000.
Roseann Nichol to Property Trio LLC at 5225 Lotus Way for $68,000.
Harry F. & Darlene Makoby to John M. Makoby at 510 52nd St. for $1.
Thomas A. Schuetz to Vandalay Properties LLC at 5236 Holmes St. for $1.
Kimberly A. Ford to White Butterfly Ventures Inc. at 206 Mccandless Ave. for $110,000.
Mary E. Turak to Andrew T. Turak at 137 Mccandless Ave. for $1.
Mary E. Turak to Andrew T. Turak at 139 Mccandless Ave. for $1.
Thomas & Irma O. Kravic to Thomas Kravic Sr Revocable Trust at 3320 Natrona Way for $1.
Richard Lee & Lois L Eggers to A J Holdings LLC at 5238 Carnegie St. for $105,000.
Andrew G. & Mary Dombrowski to Urban Capital Group LLC at 5256 Carnegie St. for $99,900.
Rasjid Singer to James H. Lash at 5259 Carnegie St. for $370,000.
Rhio Enterprises LLC to Alexandra Lackos at 5215 Carnegie St. for $295,000.
William & Dolores Charlton to Marian Tisdale at 5235 Dresden Way for $75,000.
Pridewill LLC to Carlton Court Development at 0 40th St. for $360.
Pridewill LLC to Carlton Court Development at 3954 Wooslayer Way for $360.
Mary Ann Ceoffe to Dana Pazzanita at 3610 Mintwood St. for $70,000.
Thomas A. & Debra A. Schuetz to Larryville Holdings LLC at 264 38Th St. for $1.
William A. Weiler to Amit & Rae Ann Shah at 241 37Th St. for $165,798.

**Lawrenceville**

Romona L. Sallis to Eric Johnson at 715 Mellon St. for $176,000.
Thomas W. & Irma O. Kravic to Thomas Kravic Sr Revocable Trust at 5451 Black St. for $1.

**Lawrenceville**

Michael & Velma A. Fayforvich to Kurt G. Dittmer at 926 53rd St. for $148,250.
Ari Enterprises LLC to Coralie Kartesz at 915 Mccandless Ave. for $55,000.
Deborah A. Mcleary to Jason Wright at 5429 Mccandless Ave. for $103,000.
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William A. Weiler to Amit & Rae Ann Shah at 241 37Th St. for $165,798.

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**Stanton Heights**

Dino Macerelli to Dino & Samantha J. Macerelli at 1547 Hawthorne St. for $50.
LSF9 Master Participation Trust to Nasha LP at 1128 Woodbine St. for $45,000.
Jodie L. Rupp to Gabriel L. Diamond at 975 Millerdale St. for $129,900.

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

For questions, comments, or just to chat, feel free to contact Lillian at 412-336-6068 or email agent.lillian.pgh@gmail.com.

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**June Bulletin Deadline: May 15**

Download advertising information: bit.ly/bulletin_ad
Download guidelines for stories, photos, and notices: bit.ly/bulletin_news
May 3 - Wednesday

**SHADYSIDE**

**Sojourner House Fundraiser**

Alex and Ani will be hosting a fundraiser for Sojourner House. This event will take place Wednesday, May 3rd, from 3 to 5 p.m. at 5505 Walnut St.

May 4 - Thursday

**GARFIELD**

**Garfield Land Trust**

A community forum to launch Garfield Land Trust begins at 6:30 pm on Thursday, May 4, at Valley View Church (601 N. Aiken Ave. - at Black & Dearborn Sts.). If you need childcare help at the meeting or if you need a ride, leave a message at 412-345-3831 or GarfieldLandTrust@gmail.com at least 24 hours before the meeting. Help sustain & increase affordable housing in Garfield. Read more at GarfieldLandTrust.org.

May 6 - Saturday

**BLOOMFIELD**

**Vacant Lot Transformation**

On May 6, join the Bloomfield Development Corporation to transform two unsightly vacant lots at the corner of Mathilda and Aloe Sts. From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., we’ll be rolling boulders into place, planting perennials and a few annuals, and generally cleaning up - to help that corner look “fab” and less like an illegal dumping spot/mud pit. Bonus: if we have enough volunteers, we’ll be heading out to weed and clean litter from Liberty Ave. in preparation for the following day’s PGH Marathon party.

May 13 - Saturday

**FRIENDSHIP**

**Looking for F4 Vendors**

Friendship Flower and Folk Festival (F4) is looking for craft/art vendors for MAY 13th. Cost is $15 per table; checks can be made out to Friendship Community Group (P.O. Box 9180 / Pittsburgh, PA 15224). All vendors need to bring their own table, chairs, and tent. The festival is free to the public and will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Setup will run from 9 to 10 a.m. and breakdown begins at 4 p.m. If you’re interested in being an F4 vendor, please email fcg@friendship-pgh.org.

May 17 - Wednesday

**STANTON HEIGHTS**

**SHNA Meeting**

The Stanton Heights Neighborhood Association meets on the third Wednesday of every month. We meet at Sunnyside Elementary from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Join us to learn about many upcoming projects in the neighborhood including public safety, beautification, public art, and green infrastructure. City officials will also be on hand to field your questions and concerns about any neighborhood issues.

May 18 - Thursday

**GARFIELD**

**Allegheny Health Network Hiring Event**

Come to the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (ENEC, 5321 Penn Ave.) on Thursday, May 18, for a hiring event with Allegheny Health Network. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Follow us on Twitter (@enecpgh) and on Facebook to stay connected with employment opportunities.
in your neighborhood.

May 27 - Saturday

EAST LIBERTY
“Salad-A-Rama”
The Activity Club of 5330 North Aiken invites you to our “Salad-A-Rama” on Saturday, May 27. Time: 12 – 4 p.m. Place: 5330 N. Aiken Ct. Tickets: $8.00. You will be able to taste salads from all over, with wing-dings on the side. There will be three door prizes/gift cards. For more Information, you may contact: Ms. A. Jean Owens at (Home) 412-427-2700 or (Cell) 770-337-8824; or Ms. Jewel Method at (Cell) 706-593-3105.

- Ongoing -

EAST END
Tri-Ward Baseball
Boys and girls (ages 5 and up) from Bloomfield, Lawrenceville, and Garfield are encouraged to sign up and play Tri-Ward baseball this summer. For more information, call Corky at 412-683-1828 or 412-427-7739.

LAWRENCIVILLE
Affordable Homes 4 Sale
The Lawrenceville Corporation is building affordable homes for sale in Upper Lawrenceville as part of the Lawrenceville Community Land Trust. A maximum income restriction applies. If you are interested in becoming a homeowner, call Ed Nusser at 412-621-1616 (x 106) or email ed@lawrencevillecorp.com. Potential homeowners may also visit www.lvpgh.com/CLT.

Calling All Gardeners
The Lawrenceville Hospitality Association is seeking interested residents to showcase their gardens or outdoor leisure areas in the annual garden tour on Sunday, June 11 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact lawrencevillehospitality@gmail.com for more information. All types of gardens and backyard urban areas are welcome to participate in this free, self-guided, walking tour.

EAST LIBERTY
New Life Christian Fellowship at the Cube
Looking for a friendly church experience? Join us at New Life Christian Fellowship at 5877 Commerce St. in the Cube (across from Whole Foods) on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. Your church experience will include lots of fun activities: fellowship every Sunday at the Holy Grounds Cafe, special dinners, outings, movies, holiday events, etc. We also provide Junior Church for the young ones. Hope to see you soon. Please enter the Cube building through the doors under the clock.

GARFIELD
Garfield Greenway
The Garfield Greenway working group will meet on the 1st Monday (next: May 1) of the month at 7 p.m. with coordinated clean up activities the 2nd Saturday at 11 a.m. (next: May 13) of each month for the duration of 2017. Meetings will be held at the Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.); Saturdays will involve site-specific locations throughout the neighborhood. For more information: 412-365-5781 or greensguild@gmail.com.

Employment Assistance
Are you looking for a job? Come on in to the Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (ENEC), located at 5321 Penn Ave. in Garfield. Meet with our staff to help you get hired. We have 20+ computers for job-searching and checking emails and we host hiring events every month with employers like Allegheny Health Network, Starbucks, Chipotle, The University of Pittsburgh, & many more. We also hold information sessions with CCAC to help you find your next career path. Call us at (412) 362-8580 or visit www.enecpittsburgh.org for more details.

- Classifieds -

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Fast, Reliable, Reasonable
Also demolition work, lawn maintenance
412-687-6928 Call Walt 412-773-0599

BELOW: Western PA Conservancy staff lead a Saturday, April 22 training on how to plant a tree next to the Community Activity Center at 113 N. Pacific Ave. Local volunteers went to plant fifteen additional trees throughout Garfield. Photo by Wesley Davis.
Affordable housing afforded new plan with scattered sites in East Liberty

By Elizabeth Sensky East Liberty Development, Inc.

East Liberty - Twenty new units of affordable housing are currently under construction in East Liberty; plans project a summer completion date. In partnership with the "HELP Initiative," East Liberty Development, Inc. (ELDI) is building this replacement housing on behalf of the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh (HACP).

These units will replace former HACP units that were demolished as part of Larimer's "Choice Neighborhoods" redevelopment efforts. Launched earlier this year by Councilman Rev. Ricky Burgess, the HELP Initiative is a resident-driven partnership between public and private organizations that aims to aid the local supply of affordable housing.

"Everybody deserves a clean, decent, safe, and affordable place to call home in the 'new' Pittsburgh," Councilman Rev. Ricky Burgess said. This new housing project represents a move away from denser, affordable developments - such as the Penn Plaza Apartments or the Penn Towers high-rises, long-since demolished, from the 'urban renewal' era.

"ELDI's unique model, which provides affordable housing on scattered sites that blend seamlessly and anonymously into the neighborhood, was seen as a strength," Eric Jester, a development consultant for the project, noted. He points to 317 Collins St. (now identified as 6429 Centre Ave.) as an example. "That building was full of empty stamp bags of heroin, mattresses, and other drug-related debris. It had been abandoned for years," Jester said. "Now, it's a handsome new home for two families who want to stay in the neighborhood."

Beyond the architectural component lies the social aspect: granting tenants the peace of just being part of the neighborhood. "While this level of anonymity makes for a lousy ribbon cutting, it has repeatedly shown to yield better life outcomes for tenants," Jester revealed. "They will be neighbors, not tenants in a housing project. Their social circle will be expanded to include neighbors from just about every walk of life, which improves job prospects."

For more information on the HELP Initiative, visit www.helppgh.org. Learn more about ELDI at www.eastliberty.org.

ATTENTION Youth Ages 14-21!
Looking for a Summer Job?

Apply online to the Summer Learn & Earn Youth Employment Program at: WWW.JOBS4SUMMER.ORG

Applications will be available starting April 10th
For help applying visit the:
Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (ENEC)
5321 Penn Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15224
Monday-Friday 2pm-8pm and Saturday noon-6pm
Call 412-362-8580 with any questions.

- The ENEC offers: Friendly staff that are ready to help YOU with; access to computers, printing, and scanning equipment, and MORE!

The APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 20, 2017