

# the Bulletin

A publication of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

Vol. 46, No. 10

OCTOBER  
2021



NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
Permit No. 2403

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

## Community pushes back against Amazon plans in Lawrenceville

By Dave Breingan *Lawrenceville United*

*Perspective/Lawrenceville* - Community members are pushing back against Amazon's plans for a last-mile delivery station at the former Sears Outlet on 51st St.

Neighbors cite concerns about the way Amazon treats its employees - not to mention the corporation's inconsistencies on "responsible development" and [lack of] follow-through with local hiring commitments - and the impact its proposed facility could have on Lawrenceville's mobility, air quality, and small business community.

During an online community meeting held by Lawrenceville United (LU) and Lawrenceville Corporation (LC) in June, Amazon representatives shared a proposed site plan. They also shared the details of a daily operation that included the deployment of 75-150 delivery vans (con-

See **Amazon Facility** | page 2



**ABOVE:** With arms wide open, (from left to right) Bobbi Williams, Samira Mendoza, Nina Barbuto, and Sophie Barner welcome visitors to Williams' "Fantastical Realms" show at Assemble. Check out more of the September Unblurred action on page 14. Photo by Kenneth Neely.

## Councilman Burgess shares insights on city budget woes, Garfield's needs

By Joe Reuben *Bulletin contributor*

*Pittsburgh* - During a virtual meeting with staff members of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC), Councilman Rev. Ricky Burgess recently tempered expectations on what he or the city will be able to do in providing more resources for projects and services for the Garfield neighborhood in the coming year.

Burgess stated that, while the city just received the first installment of \$335 million from the federal government under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) this summer, the drop-off in the revenues that the city collects from various taxes is going to continue burdening the city as the COVID-19 pandemic drags on.

Although real estate tax revenues have remained steady, the councilman said that parking, amusement, and wage taxes have stagnated.

"In all honesty, I would say that in 2024 and 2025, if the falloff in revenues hasn't turned around, the city could still be looking at barely being able to meet expenses," Burgess contended. "We won't have the ARPA funds

See **Councilman Burgess** | page 4



**ABOVE:** Lawrenceville volunteers savor the sweet smell of victory as they bid farewell to a pile of garbage during the Garbage Olympics on Sept. 18. Photo courtesy of Madeline Weiss.

- PAGE 8 -

*PGH STREETWEAR ICON OPENS  
NEW EAST LIBERTY HUB*

*KELLY STRAYHORN: FALL  
LINEUP TAKES CENTER STAGE*

- PAGE 15 -



# Amazon Facility continued from page 1

ducting routes for 10-hour shifts) within a 40-minute radius, in addition to 12-20 long-haul, overnight trucks dropping off products to the facility.

The Lawrenceville community first became aware of Amazon's plans for the site in December 2020, when *The Pittsburgh Business Times* reported that the online retail giant had entered into a lease for the entire 330,000-square-foot warehouse at 27 51st Street.

Based on over 320 responses to a community survey [conducted by LU and LC], as well as comments from the June meeting and suggestions from the neighborhood organizations, Amazon's current plans are opposed by a strong majority of local community members.

Many respondents seem wary of adding more vehicles to Lawrenceville's already congested streets - especially when the City's Climate Action Plan has set a goal to reduce vehicle trips and when community plans focus on improving safety, accessibility, and walkability.

Neighbors fear how additional vehicles will exacerbate the neighborhood's poor air quality, create noise pollution, place

a burden on public infrastructure, and require seas of parking lots that not only block connections to the riverfront but also contribute to stormwater management problems.

"The Lawrenceville community has spent so many volunteer hours creating a sustainable vision and plan for our neighborhood," Bruce Chan, a Lawrenceville resident who is no stranger to community planning meetings, noted. "It's just sad to see all that effort, time, and advocacy be disregarded by a big private corporation in the blink of an eye. It doesn't speak well to Amazon's claims of wanting to be part of our community."

Feeling the impact of Amazon during a pandemic, many small businesses are struggling to survive.

As one survey respondent wrote of the plans: "there will be no foot traffic, or dollars, going into local small businesses. Using this as an Amazon facility robs Pittsburgh of the opportunity to put money back into the local industry."

Veterinarian Aileen Ruiz is worried about how the new traffic patterns will affect her clients at Big Easy Animal Hospital, which

is located adjacent to the proposed facility. "Dealing with traffic related to Amazon will not only impact critical cases that need to be seen at Big Easy Animal Hospital, but also endanger the wellbeing of any elderly [persons] or children bringing their pets to our facility," she said.

The Upper Lawrenceville Vision Plan, a defining document for the neighborhood, embraces the neighborhood's history of industry and manufacturing, and sees a future where community and industry can build on a coexisting harmony.

Lifelong Lawrenceville resident June Coyne-Givens [sister to the late Aggie Brose, former Deputy Director of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation] is a proud, self-described union family member.

Looking back on her 25 years' worth of memories working at the Sears Outlet building, which Amazon now leases, Coyne-Givens praised how Sears offered jobs to working-class families in her neighborhood. "We were getting good wages. My first husband died in 1983, when I was 50," she explained. "By the skin of my teeth, and by Sears, I was able to hold onto my house."

The distribution center had employed neighbors with physical and intellectual disabilities for many years, Coyne-Givens said.

"It was a place where you were respected," she noted. "I don't know Amazon; I only

know Sears. If they would be as good as Sears, I'd support them."

Many local residents question the job sustainability that Amazon has touted, noting the company's reputation for high turnover rates and automation, its opposition to unionization efforts, and company-wide working conditions that have led to Amazon's injury rate being [reportedly] double the industry standard.

"As someone who worked at family-supporting, unionized trucking jobs - once prominent in Lawrenceville - I know that the hoped-for jobs with Amazon are not only low-wage, and physically brutal, but also temporary," local resident Mel Packer said. "There is no job security pledged with Amazon."

Years of public vetting culminated [in 2020] in conditional zoning approvals for an office flex space from developer Spear Street Capital. These prior plans had included more than a dozen hard-won community benefits, including the creation of public amenities along the riverfront, investment in public infrastructure to improve pedestrian safety, and the contracting of minority- and women-owned businesses.

By contrast, a representative from Amazon struck a different tone in presenting the company's plans to the community in June; they committed to only one of the community benefits previously negotiated with Spear Street: a riverfront bike/pedestrian trail.

Community members, however, are not waiting for Amazon to redefine their streets. They are taking this time to build a collective power and voice, while simultaneously launching working groups, a petition, and the "Lawrenceville Amazon Response Fund" to help cover legal costs, in an effort to level the playing field with one of the world's largest companies.

More info about Amazon's plans, plus links to sign the petition and donate to the Lawrenceville Amazon Response Fund, can be found at [LUnited.org/Amazon](http://LUnited.org/Amazon). To get involved with a working group and attend a meeting, please contact LU at 412-802-7220 or [info@LUnited.org](mailto:info@LUnited.org). ♦

EAST  
END  
FOOD CO-OP



7516 Meade Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208  
[www.eastendfood.coop](http://www.eastendfood.coop) • 412-242-3598

## Wanted: Office Attendant Guest Relations (Lawrenceville)

Part time; 25-30 hours/week

Responsibilities include: supporting front desk operations, registration of guests, and administrative & data entry.

Must be able to work some evenings and weekends. Customer service experience preferred; must be reliable and detail-oriented.

Criminal background check (clearances 33 & 34 required) for all job candidates.

Contact Becky at 412-246-1102; email your resume to [becky@rmhpcph-mgtn.org](mailto:becky@rmhpcph-mgtn.org).

## MONTHLY BLOOD DRIVE IN BLOOMFIELD

Bloomfield Development Corporation invites local residents to participate in its monthly blood drive - held every third Thursday, from 2-7 p.m. - behind the WPH Nursing School (4921 Mend Way). Visit [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) or call 412-209-7000 to make an appointment.



# Introducing BGC Greenzone & Safety Coordinator Madeline Weiss

By Madeline Weiss Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

*Garfield* - I'm happy to introduce myself as the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's (BGC) new Greenzone & Safety Coordinator, and I'm really looking forward to getting to know all of you as we work together to transform the Greenzone into something truly spectacular.

For the past three years, I worked as an organizer [here in Pittsburgh] for water issues, including affordable rate structures, lead in drinking water, and green infrastructure. Now that I get to work on the types of projects I spent so long advocating for, I'm enjoying the new challenge here at the BGC.

I want to make sure Garfield residents have access to sustainable technologies that can help them navigate our changing climate as much as possible. Many of these technologies are simpler than you might think. By planning gardens and organizing tree plantings, we can help better manage our stormwater, prevent flooding, improve air quality, and increase the quality of life for Garfield residents.

While I acknowledge that green spaces represent just one piece of the puzzle for every Pittsburgh neighborhood, I'm nevertheless excited to help work out what neighbors want, and where they want it applied, to really explore all the possibilities for Garfield. I think these spaces should be fun, enjoyable, community-managed and -controlled, and ultimately usable in new ways.

When I'm not busy at work, I like going on walks and hikes, watching movies, spending time with friends & family (including my two cats), playing games, and much more. I hope to meet you soon, and I'm eager to learn more about your goals for the neighborhood. Feel free to email me at Madeline@Bloomfield-Garfield.org.

Together, we can work on making lasting improvements to the Garfield Greenzone. ♦



**ABOVE:** Madeline Weiss is the BGC's new Greenzone & Public Safety Coordinator. Photo courtesy of Madeline Weiss.

## the Bulletin

Serving Pittsburgh's  
East End neighborhoods  
since 1975

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

**Vol. 46, No. 10**

- Deadline for the November edition is Friday, Oct. 15th -

**Editorial & Advertising Offices** 113 N. Pacific Ave. • Pittsburgh, PA 15224 • 412-441-6950 (ext. 113) • Andrew@Bloomfield-Garfield.org

**Total Circulation** 14,500 Copies [bulk copies available for pickup in city's East End]

**Staff** Andrew McKeon, Editor • John Colombo, Staff Photographer • Rick Swartz, Proofreading • Pamela Schön, COO • Trib Total Media, Printing & Mailing • USPS, Home Delivery • Garfield CISP, Bulk Distribution

**Board Meetings** are held by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, and are open to the public. Meetings are currently being conducted online via Zoom; email Nina@Bloomfield-Garfield.org for more details.

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

The Bulletin is made possible in part by funding from Dollar Bank and WesBanco Bank.

[Bloomfield-Garfield.org](http://Bloomfield-Garfield.org)

© 2021 by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

## Thank You!

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) would like to acknowledge its corporate and philanthropic partners: PNC Bank, Dollar Bank, Key Bank, Poise Foundation, Highmark Health Foundation, Standard Bank Foundation, Program to Aid Citizen Enterprise, The Pittsburgh Foundation, PNC Foundation, and The Heinz Endowments. Thanks also to the City of Pittsburgh, *The Bulletin's* advertisers, and the BGC's local partners in community development for their ongoing support.

## Penn Ave -A- BOOlooza

A celebration of art, music, and all things Penn Ave!

## Save the Date!

Join us for a day of live performances and art!

Check out our local businesses & restaurants and participate in our BOO-k Bag giveaway!

10  
16  
21



Bloomfield  
Garfield

Lawrenceville  
Garfield  
Bloomfield

EXPLORE  
SHOP  
GROW



**224  
TUESDAYS**

• AT •

**2FRAYS BREWERY**

5113 PENN AVENUE

GARFIELD, PITTSBURGH

TWOFRAYSBREWERY.COM

@TWOFRAYSBREWERY

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



\$1.00 OFF

TWO FRAYS

DRAFTS

FOR OUR

NEIGHBORS

ON TUESDAYS

FROM 5PM-9PM



# Councilman Burgess *continued from page 1*

to prop up the budget as we do now. So to find money for the types of projects or level of services that all the neighborhoods are expecting, or asking for, could remain very problematic. We'll just have to see."

Burgess, who was re-elected last year to a third term on Council, said that the coming change in mayoral administrations also introduces a measure of uncertainty as to what the city's fiscal priorities will be in the future. Ed Gainey, the area's state representative, and Tony Moreno, a retired city police officer, will be squaring off in the November mayoral election. Burgess said whoever wins is likely to re-shape the landscape of capital spending to fit what they see as the priorities for attention.

Burgess also addressed the following issues:

### *Implementing the plan to improve Fort Pitt Ballfield*

A year-long community process yielded a plan for major improvements to the ballfield facility on Hillcrest St. Included in the plan is the possibility of an artificial playing surface that would greatly enhance the field's utility to the Garfield Gators football program and others. At the moment, Burgess noted, there are no funds in the city's 2022 capital budget to move that project into the design and engineering phase. The councilman said he would attempt to find at least \$150,000 to move the project forward.

### *Addressing infrastructure and maintenance needs*

Burgess was told that many Garfield residents are disheartened by the city's failure to cut hundreds of vacant lots that have fallen into its possession, along with its failure to repair broken sidewalks and steps that can make it difficult to traverse the upper part of the neighborhood. Fort Pitt Park, which encircles much of Fort Pitt Ballfield, has seen no investment for decades. Burgess acknowledged that there are residents hoping to see a "green zone" preserved in the community, but cautioned that the city does not have the money at present to clean up lots or remove debris or invasive species from wooded areas. He said the community is going to have to press its case with various city departments if any of this is to change, including providing for walking trails and other outdoor amenities. Council is not going to make additional budgetary dollars available, he maintained, unless they are in response to requests from department directors.

Burgess made a point of saying that while many residents see the city's name [on the county's assessment registry] as the owner of record for hundreds of vacant lots, "the reality is the city does not have clear title to them. Therefore, the city could not transfer these lots, for other parties to steward, or develop, without taking several years to do the necessary title work.

### *Empowering the city land bank to take control of vacant lots*

With Council's approval of the ARPA spending plan back in July, \$10 million is destined for the city's land bank, now housed at the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), to spend between now and 2025. Burgess, a land bank board member, said no plan is yet in place for how those dollars will be utilized. When a BGC staff member raised the prospect of the land bank using those funds to help purchase hundreds of vacant lots from



**ABOVE:** The house on the left is a vacant, city-owned property in the 4900 block of Broad St. in Garfield. Photo by Andrew McKeon.

the city that could then be sold off or re-purposed for other uses, Burgess indicated that he could not say for certain if that would be the eventual outcome from the deployment of the ARPA funds.

Burgess said he had to "fight with other Council members" to get those resources allocated for the land bank's operation, the staffing of which is now at a minimal level. He recommended that the BGC and other organizations not refer to the ARPA funding that agencies or departments got from Council when pitching specific programs, projects, or needs in their communities. Instead, he advised: "present to [those agencies or departments] what it is you want to see happen in your community, and then let them determine where they find the money to do it."

### *Replenishing URA loan programs for low-income homeowners*

During the meeting with the councilman, a BGC staff member stated that the URA is out of money for loans to low-income homeowners - monies that could help them make crucial repairs to their properties - and that Council's ARPA spending plan made no allowance for this need. Burgess reiterated his stance about dropping any reference to the ARPA when talking about such issues, saying he realizes the lack of funding may be a serious problem, but also pointing out that Council did send over \$70 million to the URA from its ARPA relief funds.

In order to replenish the loan program in question, he said, the URA must agree to shift funds away from other programs that the ARPA funding could be used to fill. "They'll have more flexibility to do that, more so than coming back to Council and asking us to amend what it is that we already approved," he contended. "So you're going to need to let them make those decisions and see where it goes. If there is a great demand for a program like that, as I'm certain there is, then they'll find the money for it." ♦

**YOUR AD HERE**

THOUSANDS OF BULLETIN READERS  
CAN ALMOST SEE IT NOW

ADVERTISE IN OUR MONTHLY PUBLICATION TO MAKE THINGS  
HAPPEN FOR YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS. TO LEARN MORE,  
CONTACT ANDREW AT 412-441-6950 (EXT. 113) OR  
ANDREW@BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD.ORG.

*Celebrating 25 years of  
serving the community.*

*Thanks for your  
continued support!*

ALL GOD'S  
**creatures**

PET GROOMING  
SALON

5121 Penn Ave. • Pittsburgh, PA 15224 • 412-661-5636



## 'Why I joined the BGC': Board Member Liz Rosevear

**BELOW:** BGC Board Member Liz Rosevear enjoys the great outdoors with her canine companion. Photo courtesy of Nina Gibbs.



*Garfield* - Ever since I moved to Pittsburgh, the Penn Avenue business district has played a huge role in my life.

My first job here was with PULSE (Pittsburgh Urban Leadership Service Experience, 5151 Penn Ave.), and my husband and I have truly enjoyed the opportunities to try so many new foods, take art classes, and make friends thanks to the small businesses in Garfield.

I joined the board of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation as a way of giving back to the very community that welcomed me when I first moved here. We are so fortunate to have such a diverse and strong business district along Penn Avenue.

It deserves to be protected for future generations of entrepreneurs and community members to enjoy. ♦

*Over the last ninety years, Shirley Gleditsch has touched many lives. So many, in fact, that she received over 100 birthday cards from friends and family this year. Shirley would like to thank everyone who sent their love.*

Thank You!

Thank You!  
Thank You!

Thanks to all of you for joining me in the celebration of my 90th birthday. Each day of my life, I am reminded of my good fortune in having you as friends.

- Shirley Gleditsch

# CRASH the CARNEGIES

**NOVEMBER 6 & 7**  
**4400 FORBES AVENUE**

Join Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh  
and Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh  
for a celebration 125 years in the making!

We're celebrating our anniversary  
by opening up our historic Oakland  
campus to the community... **FOR FREE.**  
Experience our spaces like never before.  
Fun for the whole family. Take part in  
activities, performances, tours, and more!

**CRASH in on the fun!**

CARNEGIE | MUSEUMS  
OF PITTSBURGH  
*Four distinctive museums*

**C** Carnegie  
Library of  
Pittsburgh

[CrashtheCarnegies.org](http://CrashtheCarnegies.org)



## Making a case for the Garfield Greenzone

By Madeline Weiss *Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

*Perspective/Garfield* – Working on community development often involves advocating for housing, transportation, and economic justice – all three of which can be improved by creating and maintaining functional green spaces in our communities.

As we look towards an uncertain future with climate change, having more green spaces is vital to weathering the storm. In Pittsburgh, rainfall is projected to increase in the coming years, putting more pressure on the city's already overburdened drainage systems. We can also expect to see higher temperatures, more air pollution, and unpre-

dictable weather patterns.

Green spaces can help alleviate these problems by reducing heat, purifying the air, collecting rainwater, and much more, but there are undeniable benefits beyond these more direct impacts. Trees and other vegetation are beneficial for businesses and residents alike, making neighborhoods more inviting and encouraging foot traffic.

In Garfield, we have been working on pollinator gardens, which are a beautiful way to help the local ecology recover from man-made impacts on the environment. Increasing tree canopy is important for local wildlife and habitats, and we have the opportunity to increase the number of healthy trees and reduce invasive vegetation. The choices are not quite endless, but a plethora of options will allow us to enjoy green spaces alongside our animal neighbors, who also need spaces to live.

The best part about green space is that with maintenance, it can grow and improve over time instead of deteriorating like traditional infrastructure. It is a wise investment in the future of Garfield and other neighborhoods across the city. We are lucky to have designated spaces to work on in Garfield, and there is always a lot that we can get accomplished. We can work together on making sure urban trails go in as planned, to provide more recreation and access across the neighborhood. We have the ability to add outdoor museums, performance spaces, areas for sports and play, and so much more.

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation has plenty of opportunities to get involved in the stewardship of these spaces, and we need community voices and support to create a functional Greenzone that could be replicated in other city neighborhoods.

There is still a lot to learn, and a lot of heavy lifting left to do but, by working together, we can develop a space that benefits everyone in Garfield. To join in, contact me at [Madeline@Bloomfield-Garfield.org](mailto:Madeline@Bloomfield-Garfield.org). ♦



**ABOVE:** Garfield volunteers shows team spirit after cleaning up at the Garbage Olympics on Sept. 18. Renee Robinson (fourth from left) was instrumental in organizing the clean-up event. Photo courtesy of Madeline Weiss.



**“Like” the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation**

([Facebook.com/BloomGarCorp](https://www.facebook.com/BloomGarCorp))

for the latest neighborhood information and community updates.

# Pittsburgh's only women-owned and operated medical marijuana dispensary.

**We are open for online  
and phone reservations  
during COVID-19.**

**412.404.7464 (Opt. 3)  
5845 Centre Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206**



[MAITRIMEDS.COM](https://www.maitrimeds.com)



@MAITRIMEDS



## Garfield residents encouraged to pursue 'Real Estate Co-Powerment Series'

A Message from the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation

*Garfield* - The "Real Estate Co-Powerment Series" of courses, offered by Omicelo Cares & Neighborhood Allies, is intended to demystify the real estate development process.

Through class instruction and mentorship, the courses demonstrate how community members, organizations, and small business owners can participate and benefit from their own neighborhood's revitalization.

Please note that there are only 25 available seats for each cohort. The first 15 slots are reserved for residents/business owners in Garfield, where the series will be held. An additional 10 seats are available for individuals residing outside of Garfield.

Course topics include real estate basics, proforma development, community engagement, transactional law, tax credits, financial training, zoning, and green building.

The fee for the course is \$200; food and drinks are provided. Classes will begin at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 26, at the BGC's Community Activity Center (113 N. Pacific Ave.) in Garfield. Scholarships are available to those in need.

In order to be considered for a scholarship, please submit a letter of recommendation from a community-based organization and/or employer. The series only costs \$50 with a letter from the BGC. Email [Paris@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:Paris@bloomfield-garfield.org) with any questions. ♦



**The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation has a monthly email newsletter!**

Subscribe at [bit.ly/bgc\\_email](https://bit.ly/bgc_email) to get the latest community news delivered to your inbox every month.

## THIS MONTH IN THE ENEC

A project of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, The Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (ENEC) is a non-profit agency with a storied history of providing free employment services to our neighbors, helping to improve the economic and social conditions in the community through workforce development, job readiness, training, career counseling, and job search assistance.

### CAREER SERVICES EXPANSION:

We are excited to continue our partnership with PA Career Link and Partner4Work through the Community Services Expansion (CSE) program. This partnership allows our ENEC neighbors more direct and intentional access to CareerLink services. Our CSE partner joins us in the center physically every Tuesday from 10:00am – 2:00pm, and is able to meet with current or prospective CSE program participants. We welcome you to call ahead to schedule a time to meet with her.

### UPCOMING:

The ENEC continues to host self-driven "Computer Basics Classes" every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00am - 12:00pm and 2:00pm - 3:00pm.

Be on the lookout for informational sessions, hiring events, and workforce development classes and workshops (resumes, interviews, etc) to relaunch SOON!

"THE ENEC HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL, PATIENT, AND RESPECTFUL TO ME IN HELPING ME WITH MY JOB SEARCHING, UPDATING MY RESUME, AND EVEN WITH COMPUTER CLASSES! THIS ORGANIZATION IS VERY SPECIAL TO PEOPLE LIKE ME, AND BECAUSE OF THEIR HELP I'M READY TO START AT A NEW JOB"

- AKEELA TILLMAN, ENEC NEIGHBOR

Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center

113 N. Pacific Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15224

Phone: 412-362-8580

Email: [admin@enecpittsburgh.com](mailto:admin@enecpittsburgh.com)

Monday - Friday

9:00am - 5:00pm

By appointment only





# Neighborhood FOCUS

## PGH native opens 'beSOCIAL' community hub in East Liberty

By Elizabeth Sensky *East Liberty Development, Inc.*

*East Liberty* - Streetwear entrepreneur James Whitner is coming back, and giving back, to his Pittsburgh roots with the creation of two new "beSocial" community hubs, one in East Liberty and the other in West Mifflin.

The Mon-View Heights native rose to fame in the retail world with his award-winning company, The Whitaker Group, which runs the stores Social Status, APB, A Ma Manière, and Prosper.

Since 2017, Whitner has been developing his organization's nonprofit division, the Whitaker Charitable Project, by opening community spaces alongside his Social Status stores all across the country. It's an extension of Whitner's retail philosophy - one that looks to offer customers more than just new sneakers and clothes.

As he told Pittsburgh's 90.5 WESA, "[The goal is] to help create an ecosystem for the consumer to not just take money out of their pocket, but as we take money out of their pocket, we put information and resources back into them and their lives."

Growing up in Pittsburgh in the 1990s, Whitner understands the value of those resources, which were not accessible to him when he was coming of age. His story of hardship - financial pressures led Whitner to get involved in street life and face incarceration in his early twenties - has been well-documented.

**BELOW:** The new beSOCIAL space (5929 Penn Ave.) is an East Liberty community hub. Photo courtesy of beSOCIAL.



Fast forward to today, and his journey to foster change in the city and beyond has taken center stage. The East Liberty neighborhood that Whitner once saw, firsthand, struggling with the same challenges of crime and low opportunity as his Mon-View community, is now the site of his first remodeled space in Pittsburgh.

It is a full-circle opportunity for him to take an active role in the neighborhood's rebirth. Located at 5929 Penn Avenue in East Liberty, the space itself features, among other things, sleek white desks where people can gather to work, and a flatscreen display for presentations.

Both of the new beSocial hubs/spaces will provide kids with mentorship groups, exposure to entrepreneurial opportunities, annual back-to-school activities, and other educational programming and events on an ongoing basis. Most programs will be open to all ages, with special attention to middle school and high school-aged children. Above the East Liberty beSocial space, Whitner and his team also created 38a, a new art gallery and programming space for emerging artists.

"The space not only showcases local and national artists, but will also house a residency program that gives local artists and curators the professional tools needed to navigate the business side of art while honing their creative skills," the beSocial team explained. "Both community spaces will serve as a way to connect people to something bigger than themselves."

- continued on next page -

### The Stained Glass Cellar

**I make custom stained glass windows and custom made stained glass pet portraits.**

**Dave Bellotti - [dns8110@aol.com](mailto:dns8110@aol.com)**

**Follow me on Facebook @ The Stained Glass Cellar**



# BLOOMFIELD

## SATURDAY MARKET

**EVERY SATURDAY**  
**MAY 8 - NOVEMBER 20**

**9:00AM - 1:00PM**  
**5050 LIBERTY AVE**



VISIT THE INFORMATION TENT  
FOR MORE DETAILS





*'We want to be a space where the community can gather to activate tangible change, especially for the Black community.'*

- beSOCIAL team

- continued from previous page -

The first 38a show ran from August to September, featuring photographs of East Liberty by local photographer Dominick McDuffie.

Whitner's bigger vision with beSocial is to reach whole families through youth programming. As he told *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* recently: "That one child, in an afterschool program, represents a family - the mother, the father, the cousin, the grandmother."

By eventually working to provide educational programming for adults around financial literacy, professional development, homeownership, mental health, and other topics, Whitner hopes the centers can make an impact across generations.

In East Liberty specifically, "ours is more than just a pretty space and building that houses cool things," the beSocial team emphasized. "We want to be a space where the community can gather to activate tangible change, especially for the Black community. We hope to add resources, visibility, and exposure as a networking hub for East Liberty, as the city continues to grow and attract diverse people and talent from across the nation and region."

Whitner and his team encourage anyone interested in beSocial to stop by the new East Liberty space at 5929 Penn Avenue (Monday through Saturday, from 12-7 p.m., and Sunday from 12-5 p.m.) to learn more about the community hub and get involved with its upcoming programs and events. ♦

**BELOW:** The beSOCIAL co-working space is outfitted with sleek white furniture and a huge flatscreen. Photo courtesy of beSOCIAL.



Co-created and Presented by

**OMICELO CARES** **NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIES**

# REAL ESTATE CO-POWERMENT SERIES *Garfield*

**October 26 - December 16, 2021**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays (No class the week of Thanksgiving)  
6:00 - 8:00pm

BGC Activity Center 113 N. Pacific Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

**ONLY \$50 FOR GARFIELD RESIDENTS**  
Contact Paris at the BGC Office FOR DISCOUNT  
paris@bloomfield-garfield.org  
412-441-6950  
[WWW.BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD.ORG](http://WWW.BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD.ORG)  
for more details

**SCAN for Application!**

**WHAT**  
A 7-week education platform meant to:  
• Demystify the real estate development process  
• Demonstrate how community members can get involved  
• Help get active projects across the finish line

**LEARN MORE**  
[OmiceloCares.org](http://OmiceloCares.org)  
[NeighborhoodAllies.org](http://NeighborhoodAllies.org)

**WHO**  
• Community-based organization staff  
• Property Owners  
• Small Business Owners  
• Active Community Members  
• Those interested in learning the real estate investment process

**HOW**  
• In-class instruction by qualified professionals (24hrs)  
• Post-class mentorship (10 hours)

**APPLY Online at [OmiceloCares.org/apply](http://OmiceloCares.org/apply)** | **\$200 Course Fee**  
Scholarships Available

**Logos:** Dollar Bank, PALO ALTO PARTNERS, ura, CCI, NEW YORK LIFE, Pittsburgh City Planning, JSOC, and others.

# BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**EMAIL [NINA@BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD](mailto:NINA@BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD) TO LEARN MORE**

## VOLUNTEERS CAN JOIN THE BGC BOARD, COMMITTEES, OR HELP WITH BEAUTIFICATION EFFORTS!

**Do you have questions?**  
Contact Nina at the BGC Office  
[nina@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:nina@bloomfield-garfield.org)  
412-441-6950 x 117

**Logos:** Bloomfield Garfield CORPORATION, and others.



## Shori Sims: BOOM Concepts artist-in-residence

By Tereneh Idia BOOM Concepts

*Garfield* - Shori Sims launched her career as a visual artist back when she just a kindergarten student. During nap time, when all the lights were off and heads were meant to be down, Sims was busy coloring.

Since then, however, her path to becoming an artist has not exactly been encouraged.



**ABOVE:** Shori Sims aims to create new sculptural works during her artist residency in Garfield. Photo courtesy of BOOM Concepts.

"When I was younger, my schools tried to dissuade me from going into art. Basically, everyone was saying, 'Oh, you're not going to make any money, and there's no jobs in it, blah blah blah, you can't be an artist,'" Sims recalled.

As she progressed through middle school and high school, the young artist started thinking about what she would do when she grew up, knowing full well that her heart was in the arts.

Unfettered by the naysayers, Sims is now in her senior year of studies at Carnegie Mellon University. She is also BOOM Concepts' (5139 Penn Ave.) artist-in-residence through November.

In addition to her work as a visual artist - drawing, painting, sculpture, mixed media - Sims is also a talented writer.

"My writing connects with my artistic practice. For me, I really have to write to make art. The writing is such a necessary intro because I have been a writer my entire life," Sims explained.

"My way of making, my way of understanding what I am making, because I have to understand what I make...there has to be a reason behind it."

Her work explores popular culture, retro advertisements, beauty, the cosmos, Blackness, Black feminism, Marxist theory, the cyber world, and futurism.

Sims' theory of a cyber future as a new form of nature, with Black women as the creatures of that future, asks the question: "Who better to create a new form of nature than the mothers of humanity, Black

women?"

For the duration of her residency at Garfield's BOOM Concepts, Sims aims to create and exhibit new sculptural works that look towards the future.

Moving forward with her five-year plan has proven difficult during the pandemic.

"I realized that I can't control what happens in five years, so I've been focusing on trying to see what I can do in the present," Sims said.

She hopes the residency can also help her achieve a personal goal: applying to and attending graduate school.

So many opportunities await this already accomplished young artist.

When she contemplates what success might look like, Sims pictures a very unique vessel.

"I'll know that I've been successful when I can afford to make a glass boat," she noted. "Having the backing and the resources required to create a boat made of glass, or mirrors, like an installation [is] when I'll know that I've reached my goals because I'll have the resources and knowledge. I'll have these people that are willing to help me, and that's how I'll know that I've succeeded." ♦



**Follow the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation on Twitter (@BloomGarCorp)**



*"I don't want to make the wrong decision for the one person who always made the right ones."*

Now is the time to make the right decisions for you and your family. As preplanning specialists, we can make certain that all of your wishes are carried out and that you spend only what is needed.

We'd like to answer any questions you might have. Call us today to find out what you can do to make all of the right decisions.

## D'Alessandro Funeral Home & Crematory Ltd.

**"Always a Higher Standard"**

Dustin A. D'Alessandro, Supervisor  
Daniel T. D'Alessandro, Funeral Director  
4522 Butler St. • Pittsburgh, PA 15201  
Phone: 412-682-6500 • Fax: 412-682-6090  
www.dalessandrofhd.com • dalessandrofh@aol.com

### MONTHLY BLOOD DRIVE IN BLOOMFIELD

Bloomfield Development Corporation invites local residents to participate in its monthly blood drive - held every third Thursday, from 2-7 p.m. - behind the WPH Nursing School (4921 Mend Way). Visit [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) or call 412-209-7000 to make an appointment.

**SAUER BROTHERS**  
Heating • Cooling • Boilers  
**412-782-1100**

**We've been installing Residential Furnaces & Air Conditioners For Over 60 Years**

### FAMILY HOME CHILD CARE NOW ENROLLING!

Located in Garfield Heights

Meals and Snacks Included

Full and Part-time care

Monday-Friday

6:30 am to 6:00 pm

- Infants
- Toddlers
- Preschoolers

[www.mamashawns.com](http://www.mamashawns.com)

**Call Today! (412)436-6095**



Do you see  
problems in the  
community?

Want the City  
to fix them?

Report them  
via 311!



What is 311?

**311 is a City Non-Emergency Line**  
To report concerns like...

\*Pot holes \*Deteriorated Sidewalks \*Overgrown Weeds  
\*Street Lights \*Open Windows & Doors \*Illegal Parking  
\*Dumping \*Squatting \*Graffiti \*Unsafe Structures

\*Available m-f, 7 am - 7 pm  
Call/Text 412-573-9736 during off hours

\* You can also submit requests...  
via Twitter @PGH 311 or  
Pittsburghpa.gov/311/form



Get the myBurgh app for Android & iOS!  
myBurgh is Pittsburgh's 24/7  
resource to notify the city's 311 call  
center of non-emergency issues.



**Call Me, A Longtime Friendship Resident  
For All Of Your Real Estate Needs!**



**Maureen States**

Associate Broker/Owner

Cell: 412 377-7775

Office: 412 241-4700 ext. 11

maureenstates@neighborhoodrealtyservices.net

Put nearly 4 decades of proven experience to work for you!  
Get the best of customer service and make the process easy.  
**CALL ME NOW! GET THE RESULTS YOU DESERVE!**

## Bloomfield welcomes Heather Hanus, new Saturday Market coordinator

By Morgan Rothacker Bloomfield Development Corporation

*Bloomfield* - Heather Hanus, who was recently hired by Bloomfield Development Corporation (BDC), is the new Program Coordinator of the neighborhood's Saturday Market (5050 Liberty Ave.).

Drawing on her experience in local food co-ops and community gardens, along with a diverse background working with

programs like "Food Not Bombs," Hanus is well aware of the disconnect between: 1) wanting to solve the issue of food deserts, and 2) providing communities with the resources necessary to sustain these new solutions. She looks to expand the market's impact while also helping BDC establish effective, equitable food programs throughout the city.

"I believe in working with local stakeholders," Hanus said, "to nurture the social, economic, and environmental well-being of their communities and small-scale food producers."

She moved to Pittsburgh in order to pursue a master's degree in Food Studies at Chatham University. While living in Bloomfield, Hanus discovered BDC's weekly market on Liberty Avenue.

"It's such an incredible opportunity to center access for folks, vendors and customers alike, who have historically experienced theft of their farm land," she explained.

The market operates each Saturday [through Nov. 20] from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Visit [bloomfieldpgh.org](http://bloomfieldpgh.org) to learn more. ♦



**ABOVE:** Heather Hanus, Program Coordinator for the Bloomfield Saturday Market. Photo courtesy of BDC.

BE A HERO  
**GIVE \$ TO  
GARFIELD**  
**ioby.org/Garfield**

**Donations  
Doubled**

[ioby.org/Garfield](http://ioby.org/Garfield)



**Do you have questions?**  
Contact Nina at the BGC Office  
[nina@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:nina@bloomfield-garfield.org)  
412-441-6950 x 117



## ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday 11:15am

"Come to Me, all who are weary  
and burdened, and I will give you rest"

Matt.11-28

Meet our new pastor, Rev. Donn E. Woolweber



**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
237-37<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LAWRENCEVILLE  
412/621-2720

### November Bulletin Deadline: Friday, Oct. 15

Download advertising information: [bit.ly/bulletin\\_ad](https://bit.ly/bulletin_ad)

Download guidelines for stories, photos, and notices: [bit.ly/bulletin\\_news](https://bit.ly/bulletin_news)

## NEED A JOB? UNDER-EMPLOYED? WE CAN HELP.

Through the **Career Services Expansion Project**, PA CareerLink® and seven local partners are helping eligible clients find employment.

### What does this project offer?

- Individualized career coaching
- Job search assistance
- Resume and interview preparation
- Supportive services, including but not limited to:
  - Transportation assistance
  - Equipment and/or tools
  - Clothing & uniforms
- Educational services, including but not limited to:
  - Financial literacy courses
  - Post-secondary classes
  - Adult literacy courses



Are you interested in this program? Maybe you have questions about how it could work for you. Our Career Link Partner will be joining us in person every Tuesday from 10:00am - 2:00pm.

Call or Email ahead to let us know that you're coming!

113 N. Pacific Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15224  
412-362-8580 ext 118

[admin@enecpittsburgh.com](mailto:admin@enecpittsburgh.com)

Pennsylvania  
**CareerLink**  
A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network

**eastside  
neighborhood  
employment  
center.**

**Bloomfield  
Garfield  
CORPORATION**

## Assemble, 1Hood win 'Moonshot' grants supporting youth programs

### A Message from Remake Learning

*East End* - To build a better tomorrow - one that tackles challenges, pursues bold ideas, and opens the door to new possibilities for students - Remake Learning has awarded more than \$500,000 in the second phase of Moonshot Grants to nine schools and educational nonprofits in southwestern Pennsylvania and north-central West Virginia.

Assemble and 1Hood Media Academy are two of nine schools and educational nonprofits to receive funding and take advantage of this opportunity.

Headquartered in the city's East End, both awardees will host projects where learners develop problem-solving communication & artistic skills while also exploring effective ways to embrace diversity in their neighborhoods.

Through a partnership with The Legacy Arts Project and other training partners, Assemble's "The Ramp Up Fellowship" will work with youths in their communities and help create their own "manifestos for learning." Assemble aims to help kids build their confidence through making and STEAM learning experiences.

Through its "Youth Art & Activism" project, 1Hood Media Academy will challenge traditional notions of positive youth development, cultural literacy, and student success by experimenting with an alternative pilot program. The participant-led programming will be devoted to social justice, civic engagement, and community service. ♦



IN EFFORTS TO  
BETTER SUPPORT  
OUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
KIDDOS, THE BGC  
YOUTH  
PROGRAMS HAVE  
CREATED AN "AS  
NEEDED" SCHOOL  
SUPPLY PANTRY.  
THE ITEMS WILL  
BE FREE TO  
LOCAL YOUTHS.

**CCRP**  
CITY OF PITTSBURGH  
**SCHOOL  
SUPPLY  
PANTRY!**  
TO SUPPORT BGC YOUTH



113 N PACIFIC AVE  
PGH, PA 15224  
FROM 9AM-5PM

**-PENCILS    -FOLDERS  
-NOTEBOOKS -PENCIL CASES  
-PENS        -GRAPH PAPER  
AND SO MUCH MORE !**



**FOR MORE INFO  
CONTACT JULIA  
412-441-6950 X124**



# LOCAL REAL ESTATE BLOTTER

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

Real Estate Sales (for the month of August 2021)

Compiled by Lillian Denhardt, Residential Realtor

## Bloomfield

Arsenal Collective LLC to Zachary V Lash at 4211 Milgate St. for \$289,500.

Battle M & Carol Finelli Brown to Johnna Jackson at 375 S. Pacific Ave. for \$686,500.

Carol A & Barbara A Phelps Adams to Pearl 134 LLC at 134 Pearl St. for \$163,000.

Carol A Adams to Torley 4633 LLC at 4633 Torley St. for \$150,000.

Charles N Morse to Paige A Anderson at 3922 Woolslayer Way for \$200,000.

Hannah Makarevich to Sarah Joan Sadler at 320 Darsie St. for \$250,000.

Ilario Mario Silla to Pearl 409 Orwell 404 LLC at 409 Pearl St. for \$370,000.

Ilario Silla to Pearl 409 Orwell 404 LLC at 404 Orwell Way for \$370,000.

Madrone Property Holdings Inc to Torley 4629 LLC at 4629 Torley St. for \$170,000.

Nehemiah Homes LLC to Joseph Rosenbloom at 465 Taylor St. for \$185,000.

Reginald D Myers Sr to Torley 4631 LLC at 4631 Torley St. for \$165,000.

Thomas J Hussar to Michael R Worth at 4825 Sciota St. for \$300,000.

## Friendship

Amittai Axelrod to Christopher James Zhang at 150 Stratford Ave. for \$1,000,000.

D Matthew Shaffer to Adam J & Alisse H Janicki at 353 S. Graham St. for \$505,000.

Harry & Mollie Daniels to Mark Daniels at 332 S. Negley Ave. for \$150,000.

## Garfield

N & B Management Company LLC to Open Hand Ministries Inc at 5310 Kincaid St. for \$30,500.

Thomas A Raith to Licinia Holdings LLC at 4814 Dearborn St. for \$125,000.

Tiny Owl LLC to Stay With Us One LLC at 223 N. Atlantic Ave. for \$160,000.

Vivian O Benjamin to Kyle Fisk at 4923 Broad St. for \$120,000.

Yao Yao to Karen Orton and Rich Addison at 5018 Broad St. for \$200,000.

## East Liberty

Ashley & Shawn Moorefield to Diversified Residential Homes 2 LLC at 376 Enright Ct. for \$122,500.

Diana Camp to Oliver Wesley M & Kathleen at 5712 Hays St. for \$541,750.

East Liberty Development Inc to Citemotion LLC at 5624 Rural St. for \$98,000.

East Liberty Development Incorporated to Alyson L Lush at 474 Enright Ct. for \$184,900.

Eric W & Veronica A Amundson to Kincaid Investments LLC at 5709 Rippey St. for \$270,000.

Urban Redevelopment Authority Of Pittsburgh to Harvard Beatty Housing LLC at 205-233 N. Beatty St. for \$400,000.

## Lawrenceville

1301 Grandview I LLC to Concetta L Placone at 3929 Liberty Ave. for \$510,000.

5515 Butler Street Development LP to Emily Brant at 5577 Berlin Way for \$529,900.

5515 Butler Street Development LP to Susan Christine Marie Townsend at 5587 Berlin Way for \$579,975.

Benjamin J Yaroch to Christopher D Stack at 3607 Butler St. Unit 200 for \$305,000.

Butler Street Associates LLC to Shreshth R & Rakhi S Upadhyay at 3513 Butler St. for \$953,000.

Carlos Evelyn Raupach to Elmer & Donna Nahum at 196 36th St. Unit 2F for \$257,000.

Ceejae LLC to Gregory A Forsyth at 166 42nd St. for \$389,500.

Charles W Honse JR to Charles M Horowitz at 5634 Donson Way for \$225,000.

Darlene F Kloczek to Leonard Rzoski at 5263 Keystone St. for \$100,000.

Dexter Lake Associates LLC to Rc Capital Management LLC at 4800 Baum Blvd for \$3,156,766.

Edward J & Gail P Moschetti to Bosphorus Properties LLC at 5102 Butler St. for \$270,000.

Gerald P & Pamela Ann Wilson to Aarkat LLC at 5255 Butler St. for \$675,000.

Gregory A Forsyth to Erik S Oas at 127 1/2 Almond Way for \$249,900.

Jerad Paul Bachar to Dylan Caplan at 5146 Carnegie St. for \$505,000.

Joseph M Seminara to Geneva 4042 LLC at 4042-4044 Geneva St. for \$400,000.

Joseph R Thaman to Casey J Estep at 4413 Butler St. Unit 3 for \$315,000.

Kathryn E Klie to Chloe Lisbeth Papke at 717 52nd St. for \$272,000.

Limerick Property Management LLC to Sean Daru at 4840 Hatfield St. for \$295,000.

Margaret M Osche to Daniel Rose at 4230 Post St. for \$242,000.

Mark K Connolly to Melinda J Willoughby at 187 1/2 34th St. for \$345,000.

Matthew J Bochkoris to Mark Cox at 271 38th St. for \$750,000.

Michele A & Michael D Walsh Ramski to 175 42nd Street LLC at 175 42nd St. for \$200,000.

Rd Real Estate Debt Fund II LP to Daniel Jackson at 5227 Duncan St. for \$610,000.

Rose Kenbok to McChow Holdings LLC at 284 Main St. for \$212,000.

Russell A & Paulette M Clementoni to Alex R Clementoni at 3827 Liberty Ave. for \$360,000.

Stacie R Ley to Emily Ann Vertosick at 302 45th St. for \$349,000.

Wylie Holdings LP to Jacob Wayne Ward at

226 Main St. for \$525,000.

## Stanton Heights

Andre Henderson to Adrian & Danielle Redman at 4380 Coleridge St. for \$52,000.

Casa Renovata LLC to Samiram Saghabi at 5323 McCandless Ave. for \$387,500.

Maurice Bajcz to David Ribera at 4730 Coleridge St. for \$235,000.

*This column uses data from Allegheny County that contains occasional errors. We strive for accuracy every month so, if something looks off, please let us know.*

*For questions, comments, or just to chat about real estate in your neighborhood, email Lillian at [lillian@agent-lillian.com](mailto:lillian@agent-lillian.com) or call 412-335-6068. ♦*

## Local Services

### Hauling/Cleanup

We clear basements, yards, garages, attics, estates, etc.

*Fast. Reliable. Reasonable*

Also demolition work, lawn maintenance

412-687-6928 **Call Walt** 412-773-0599

### Pro Tec Pest & Termite Service

"Quality Service at an Affordable Price"

John Cygnarowicz  
412-628-6893



*Insuring our community for 75 years*



**AUTOMOBILE - HOME - BUSINESS**

CALL TODAY FOR A QUOTE: 412-681-2700

5020 Centre Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Pittsburgh • ————— • Penn Township

[www.wagneragency.com](http://www.wagneragency.com)

1941 - 2016

CELEBRATING

**75** YEARS

INSURING OUR  
COMMUNITY





**ABOVE:** Kraynick's bike shop (5003 Penn Ave.) grills up some tasty grub.

**BELOW:** Diners take in the festivities from Soju's (4923 Penn Ave.) sidewalk seating area.



## Sept. 3 Unblurred: Penn Ave. in pictures

Photos by Kenneth Neely



**ABOVE:** A deejay keeps the beat going at 5110 Penn Ave.

### Ugly Concrete?

Steps, Ret.Walls, Pads, Foundations,  
Driveways, Sidewalks, and more!

Concrete Repair &  
Restoration

Don't replace your ugly concrete!  
Repair! It will save you money!

412-734-5432

[johnshomeimprovement.org](http://johnshomeimprovement.org)

PA# 050547 Fully insured

Credit cards accepted



**ABOVE:** The beer garden at Two Frays Brewery (5113 Penn Ave.) is buzzing with First Friday/Unblurred energy on Friday, Sept. 3.

*Wu Style Tai Chi Chuan  
at Steel Dragon*



**Classes**  
Mondays 7:30-8:30pm  
Saturdays noon-1pm  
[www.steel-dragon.org](http://www.steel-dragon.org)  
[info@steel-dragon.org](mailto:info@steel-dragon.org)

Also  
Xing-Yi  
Bagua  
Ying Jow  
Tong Bei  
Capoeira Angola

Free trial class  
**Steel Dragon kung fu & Lion Dance**  
100 43rd St #113 Lawrenceville 412.362.6096

# A national leader.



AHN West Penn Hospital was named among the Top 100 Hospitals in the Nation for Medical Excellence in Women's Health.

It's among the Top 10% in the Nation for Medical Excellence in Heart Attack Treatment and Patient Safety in Overall Hospital Care.

And West Penn is the No. 1 Hospital in Southwestern PA for Medical Excellence in Cancer Care.

Source: Quantros, Inc. 2021. CareChex® Awards are powered by the Quantros Quality Outcomes Analytics Software. Quantros is a leading provider of software-based solutions and services to health care. Unlike other publicly available award rankings, CareChex awards are based on comprehensive risk-adjustment methodology and do not include any self-reported data. The Southwestern PA region includes the Pittsburgh-New Castle-Weirton Combined Statistical Area. 04/21 MX602817



# Fall performances take center stage at Kelly Strayhorn Theater

## A Message from Kelly Strayhorn Theater

*East Liberty* - After nearly two years apart, Kelly Strayhorn Theater (KST) is excited to welcome all lovers of the arts back home to East Liberty this fall for an unforgettable series of dance, art, and musical performances.

Masks will be required for both vaccinated and unvaccinated guests. "With the uncertainty of the pandemic, our community's health and safety come first for us at KST," Joseph Hall, KST Executive Director, said. "Moving forward into our 2021-2022 season, we will continue to closely follow the CDC and Allegheny County Health Department's guidelines to make sure that all of us can enjoy the performing arts without fear or unease. All our performances, workshops, and classes will be masked because, to us, you can't have a great show without an audience who feels safe and at home."

Taking inspiration from the cultural tradition of Black homemaking, KST is affirming itself as a home for artists, and a site of resistance, by birthing community-centered arts where all are valued, with particular care for and nurturing of historically marginalized folks.

Season events take place at both the Kelly Strayhorn Theater (5941 Penn Ave.) and KST's Alloy Studios (5530 Penn Ave.), unless otherwise noted.

Tickets are now on sale at [kelly-strayhorn.org](http://kelly-strayhorn.org); they can also be purchased in person at the event. Pricing is "Pay What Makes You Happy!," a sliding scale of accessible price points in order to truly welcome all to enjoy the arts. For full season details, and to purchase tickets, visit [kelly-strayhorn.org](http://kelly-strayhorn.org).

• Friday Oct. 1 & Saturday, Oct. 2: Freshworks Showing: Death Dream, featuring Ty Greenwood and Cherish Morgan.

• Wednesday, Oct. 6: Wit(h)ness featuring Helga Davis, Wura-Natasha Ogunji, & Naima Ramos-Chapman. Co-Presented with Center for African American Poetry & Poetics.

• Saturday, Oct. 9 - Sunday, Oct. 31: CIRCLES: reclamation visual arts exhibition, featuring STAYCEE PEARL, Bekezela Mguni, Kitoko Chargois, sarah huny young.

Co-Presented with August Wilson African American Cultural Center.

• Saturday, Oct. 23, Halloween Mayhem, featuring Alumni Theater Company, Dave English.

• Thursday Oct. 28 - Saturday, Oct. 30: CIRCLES: going in, featuring STAYCEE PEARL dance project & Soy Sos, Co-Presented with August Wilson African American Cultural Center.

• Friday, Nov. 5 & Saturday, Nov. 6, Freshworks Showing: 40412, featuring Livefromthecity & Sheryland Neal.

• Wednesday, Nov. 10 - Saturday, Nov. 13: My People: A QTPOC Festival of the Arts, featuring Kyle Abraham.

• Wednesday, Nov. 17, Synchronized with Soy Sos.

• Saturday, Nov. 20, Let's Move Family Dance Party, featuring The Alloy School Showcase.

• Saturday, Nov. 27, Suite Life: A Celebration of Billy Strayhorn and Gene Kelly. ♦


## York Commons is accepting applications for residency!

### APARTMENT AMENITIES

- Most utilities included in rent that is based on income
- One bedroom apartments
- Small pets welcome
- 24-hour emergency maintenance
- Onsite laundry facilities
- Service Coordination

*Supportive and affordable apartments for those 62 years of age and older. The waitlist for adults 18 years of age or older living with a disability has been closed.*

**Call or visit York Commons today!**  
 4003 Penn Avenue  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15224  
 412-682-1151  
[www.SrCare.org/york-commons](http://www.SrCare.org/york-commons)  
 Professionally managed by SeniorCare Network



## “We need to do that someday.”


Thinking about one's funeral is an easy thing to put off.

But, it is not as difficult or time consuming as you may think.

We can even meet with you in your home to make it easier.

To get started now, call us for a free brochure.

You'll be glad you did.



W A L T E R J

# ZALEWSKI

FUNERAL HOMES INC

*“Exceeding Your Expectations”*

LAWRENCEVILLE

POLISH HILL

Walter J. Zalewski, Supervisor  
216 Forty-fourth Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15201-2893  
412 682-3445

Joseph M. Lapinski, Supervisor  
3201 Dobson Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-3735  
412 682-1562



# Sounding Off: Spin scooters are good for Pittsburgh

By A. Neighbor *Bulletin contributor*

*Perspective/Pittsburgh* - The cold air greets me as I step out of my Garfield home. Today, like so many other days, I make the decision to “Spin” as my form of transportation.

I open the Spin Scooter app on my phone, purchase a 24-hour “Spin Pass” for \$25.99, and walk to our neighborhood scooter hub at the corner of Penn Avenue and N. Winebiddle Street. After unlocking the scooter and riding off onto a side street, I’m able to plan my route to get Downtown. Today, it takes me through the Strip District via the bike lanes of Liberty Avenue and Smallman Street.

As one of the many Pittsburghers that benefit from the multiple forms of alternative transportation afforded by my location in the city (public transportation, ride sharing apps, bicycling, walking, running, etc), these scooters are honestly my favorite form of transportation right now.

While using them over the last few months, I’ve made some observations about the way they fit in our city’s unique transit system. The main thing that I’ve noticed is that, when used responsibly, the Spin scooters are a wonderful resource. Transportation is all about access - whether it’s about our access to the transportation system, or our ability

to access new destinations throughout the city by way of public transit.

Spin riders are often hourly workers commuting to their job, or a teen trying to get to football practice, or even a married couple who just enjoy riding scooters together. Many local residents have raised concerns about improper parking of the scooters, and how some users are not following the rules of the road.

From one neighbor to another, this is how I see it: our job as neighbors is to make sure that our “most livable city” is livable for absolutely everyone! That means being sensitive to the experiences and needs of our neighbors, and gritting through the growing pains of this new thing together.

Ultimately, this neighbor is sure that with proper education comes better compliance to the rules. Over time, these scooters will become as stitched into the city’s transit system as the Healthy Ride bicycles and Scoobi mopeds, both of which are now vital to serving our public transportation needs. ♦



**ABOVE:** A Spin scooter, the city’s latest transportation alternative, awaits its next rider on Edmond St. in Bloomfield. Photo by Andrew McKeon.

## LOOKING TO SOUND OFF? WE’RE HERE FOR IT!

ANYTHING FROM POTHOLES TO THE PANDEMIC IS FAIR GAME,  
AS LONG AS IT’S A TOPIC THAT MATTERS TO YOU.

PLEASE SEND YOUR THOUGHTS TO:  
**BULLETIN@BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD.ORG**

### OPPORTUNITIES



### RAMP - UP FELLOWSHIP

The Pilot Ramp Up Fellowship is an 8 month-long program for 18-24-year-olds who are looking to become teaching artists in a supportive learning environment. This partnership between Assemble and Legacy Arts Project, supports young teaching artists while they learn and work alongside our program staff. This fellowship prioritizes young adults who identify as BIPOC or LGBTQIA creatives who reside in or grew up in Homewood and Garfield. This collective action will foster the next generation of teaching artists to advance our missions and build opportunities for community-based arts education. This is supported by the Arts Equity Reimagined Collective Action Grant.

- key info:**
- **To Apply:** Interested applicants should submit a resume, 3 references including your most recent supervisor or a past teacher, and a letter of interest to [jobs@assemblepgh.org](mailto:jobs@assemblepgh.org).
  - **The deadline for applying is October 22, 2021.**
  - The pilot fellowship will run from January 3, 2022, to August 31, 2022.
  - This is a full-time, 40hrs/week paid commitment
  - Hourly Rate: \$15/hr for 40 hours a week
  - Benefits: Healthcare and 15 Days Paid Time Off

### LEGENDARY BEASTS

**DAY CAMP  
FRIDAY, OCT 29  
GRADES 3-5**

Join us at Assemble to create your own plaster imprints of a footprint and learn about legends from around the world. Let’s explore the great beyond!

**Free for Garfield residents!**

- Full price registration: \$20
- Scholarship registration: \$10

Register online at [assemblepgh.org](http://assemblepgh.org) or by calling 412-661-6111.

### CALL FOR ARTWORKS

**HyperLocal  
COMMUNITY EXHIBITION**

HyperLocal is dedicated to featuring works by artists, makers, and creators living in Garfield, Friendship, and Bloomfield neighborhoods. HyperLocal showcases works new or old, 2D, 3D, poetry, craft, tech, and multimedia pieces by makers of all ages.

HyperLocal will be open to the public from December 3, 2021 - January 7, 2022. Those interested in participating in the exhibition should email Assemble’s Monthly Program Coordinator, Samira to coordinate artwork drop off. [samira@assemblepgh.org](mailto:samira@assemblepgh.org)

**FREE to participate!**



### HACK THE FUTURE

**GRADES 9-12  
GET PAID TO SHARE YOUR PASSIONS**

Hack the Future is a social justice and innovation focused program for students in grades 9-12. Get paid to learn the latest in technologies, untold histories, LGBTQIA+ issues, social justice issues, leaders, and more at Hack the Future. Students use their creativity and the design process as a means to address problems that are important to them.

**key info:**

- This 30 session program begins on Saturday, October 16 from 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm
- This program takes place in-person at Assemble.
- Students will be compensated a stipend of \$14.50 per two-hour session that they attend every six weeks.
- Limited number of space, applications required. Deadline to apply is October 1

Register online at [assemblepgh.org](http://assemblepgh.org).

**@ ASSEMBLE  
4824 PENN AVE**