

Pro Knitwear

by Dan Kaczmariski



Pro Knitwear staff members with Dana Heinze and the 2016 Stanley Cup

Photo Courtesy of Pro Knitwear

When Lauren Feeney watches sports on television, she can't help noticing the players' uniforms. "My husband laughs at me because I comment as much on the uniform as I do on the game," says Lauren of Pro Knitwear. That's what growing up in a family that has run a sportswear company for over 60 years will do to you.

Pro Knitwear, located at 1250 Brookline Blvd., has been in operation since 1953. The company was founded by Lauren's grandfather and his brother. Her father, Tim Feeney, assumed ownership in the early 1980s. The business has outfitted thousands of athletes from pee wee to pros, including the work it does for the Steelers, Penguins and Pirates.

The company started on Forbes Avenue, then took up residence on the South Side in the Terminal Building for decades. In 2013, it moved all operations to Brookline. Lauren says the Brookline Blvd. location suits the business much better than its previous site. Although the long narrow units of the Terminal Building were workable, the company finds the large square configuration of the Brookline site better suited to its production process.

The business prides itself on having all of its operations in the United States and meeting the needs of a wide variety

of customers. The products that leave the Brookline building range from uniforms sewn from scratch to more generic clothing to which the company has applied lettering and logos. As the Pro Knitwear website says, "The only thing we don't do is weave the fabric...yet."

"The uniforms we make from scratch are mostly for high school age group AAU travel lacrosse and basketball, and we're starting to get more into football," says Lauren. One section of the building is devoted to fabric cutting and sewing and the remainder is taken up with processes such as silk screening, heat sealing, and direct stitching of lettering and logos.

If you watch the Steelers, Penguins or Pirates, you've probably seen some of the company's handiwork. When a player is called up from the minors or traded to the team, he needs his name and number on a uniform in a hurry. That's where Pro Knitwear comes in. The team hustles a jersey over to Brookline, where the company often has only a few hours to do the necessary stitching.

The company also alters some of the local pro teams' uniforms to suit individual players' needs or preferences. "The Steelers tailor a ton," says Lauren. "Their players are more concerned about how the jersey fits. James Harrison wears



Pro Knitwear headquarters on Brookline Blvd.

Photo Courtesy of Pro Knitwear

Pro Knitwear from p. 1

one that's three times too small for him so opponents can't grab onto it. Ben Roethlisberger doesn't like tight sleeves so we take the elastic out of the sleeves for him."

Lauren says the company's workers vary in their reactions to working on pro uniforms. For some, it's business as usual. "And then there are those who are like, 'Ooh, I touched Sidney Crosby's jersey.'" When fully staffed, the business employs about 35 workers. There are currently several openings for sewing machine operators with some experience on industrial sewing machines.

Lauren recommends that anyone interested in doing business with the company first make contact by email or phone, rather than walk in off the street.

1250 Brookline Blvd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15226

412-488-1585

proknitwear@hotmail.com

proknitwear.com

Hours: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mike T's Auto Sales
www.miketsautosales.com
"NO GAMES NO GIMMICKS"



Mike "T" Trapolsi
Owner/Operator

All Vehicles With Brand
New PA Inspection

2421 McNeilly Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Business: 412-561-3456
Cell: 412-758-5597



Have a Great Real Estate Day!
Denise C Marasco
Realtor®
412.977.5673 (c) • 412.561.7400 (o)
DeniseMarasco@howardhanna.com
www.howardhanna.com

**Howard
Hanna**

Real Estate Mortgage Title Insurance

MT Lebanon Office
701 Washington Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15228
SERVING THE SOUTH HILLS AREA

RATHER RIPPED RECORDS

The new kid in town or at least Brookline is really 45 years old.



* Over 10,000 used records already in stock starting at \$1.

* New reissue, imports and rare live sealed lps (green dots) ON SALE AT 20% OFF regular price. Come see!!

* CDS at \$2 each, 3 for \$5 for the thousands we have in stock and constantly coming in. \$5 for most new (sealed) ones with some collectors begging for more.

* T Shirts new and Vintage for kids, adults and the rest of us.

RATHER RIPPED RECORDS
is located at 754 Brookline Blvd.
@Flatbush, Brookline, PA 15226,
is open at 11 to 7 Tues thru Saturday,
11-4 Sun and closed Mondays. 412-253-3445

WE ACCEPT ALL CHARGE & DEBIT CARDS.

Because there is a difference...



Quite simply...
better than the rest.

Call today to find out why

412-561-0380

Frank David DeBor, Supervisor

1065 Brookline Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15226-2291

Brookline Updates

Community Contacts

Pittsburgh Police, Zone 6	412-937-3051
Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak	412-255-2131
Brookline Recreation Center	412-571-3222
Carnegie Library	412-561-1003
State Senator Wayne Fontana	412-344-2551
State Representative Dan Deasy	412-928-9514
State Representative Dan Miller	412-343-3870
State Representative Harry Readshaw	412-881-4208
Brookline Christian Food Pantry	412-344-8451
Meals-on-Wheels	412-343-8144
Dollar Energy/Columbia Gas Cap	412-344-4222

Community Crimes Zone 6

December		
Zone 6 Crimes	Total	Brookline
Homicide	1	0
Aggravated Assault	4	1
Arson	3	0
Rape	1	0
Robbery	6	5*
Burglary	7	1
Theft	33	8
Theft from Vehicle	17	8**
Stolen Vehicle	3	1

*In three of the incidents, the reported actor was known by the victim.

**Six of the thefts from vehicles occurred the same night on Rossmore Ave. In each of the six cases, the vehicle had not been locked.

FEBRUARY COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Monday, February 13

Brookline Chamber of Commerce Meeting, 6 p.m. at Brookline Teen Outreach, American Legion Building, 520 Brookline Blvd.

Tuesday, February 14

Brookline Block Watch, 7 p.m. at Magistrate Jim Motznik's office, 736 Brookline Blvd.

Monday, February 20

South Pittsburgh Development Corporation, 7 p.m. at Brookline Teen Outreach, American Legion Building, 520 Brookline Blvd.

We have over 1,600 readers.

Pick up The Brookline at a Boulevard merchant. Look for "The Brookline Available Here" sign in the window.

The Brookline

The Brookline Staff

Dan Kaczmarek	Features Editor
Victoria Cumer	Layout Editor
Joseph Samuel Rogers	Staff Writer
Amy Fisher	Photography
Dorothy Grant	Proofreading
Desiree Niccoli	Proofreading
Julie Salas	Proofreading
Deborah Brimmer	Distribution
Travis Sefzik	Business
Ryan Askey	
Mitch Liebovich	

Contact Us

Email: thebrookline@gmail.com or
pdkaz@comcast.net
Phone: 412-531-1252

Deadlines for Submissions and Ads

February 7 for March's Issue

March 7 for April's Issue

Interested in Advertising with us?

Contact us at thebrookline@gmail.com or pdkaz@comcast.net for rates and more information.

The Brookline is available free of charge by email. Go to <http://bit.do/brookline> to sign up.
A one-year postal delivery subscription is \$25 for non-SPDC members and \$15 for SPDC members.

Copyright 2017 South Pittsburgh Development Corporation—All Rights Reserved

Tracking a Feathered Visitor

by Pamela Grabowski



Ruby-throated hummingbirds are the usual hummingbirds in our area
Photo Courtesy of Cornell Ornithology Lab

It's 6:45 on a late November morning in Brookline, and Michael and I are heading to Diane and Lori's house where we will be joining National Aviary ornithologist and licensed bird bander, Bob Mulvihill. The plan is to capture and tag a Rufous hummingbird that visited our feeder in mid-November last year but has been visiting their yard lately.

During the summer, Ruby-throated hummingbirds are the most common type in our area and migrate to Central America around the end of September. Rufous hummingbirds typically migrate south from the Pacific Northwest directly to Mexico but, increasingly, some will take a different migratory route across the Rockies, eastward and then south to new wintering grounds along the Gulf Coast. It's these pioneering hummers that ornithologists are interested in learning more about.

Bob placed a cylindrical cage over the feeder. The cage had a

door allowing the bird access to the feeder. Bob sat about 15 feet away from the cage, holding a fishing line attached to the door. When the bird flew into the cage to reach the feeder, he released the line so the door closed, trapping the hummingbird inside. It took several attempts and a cage adjustment before the bird was able to locate the door, but once it did, Bob had it trapped in a second.

Bob carefully reached in the cage to grab the hummingbird inside. He cradled the tiny green and orange bird in his hand, slipped it into a white cloth bag, and brought it into Diane and Lori's house for banding. In their kitchen, he recorded its age and sex; measured its wing, tail, and bill length; noted the number of colored feathers in its throat; and then weighed it. To weigh the bird Bob slid it into a small plastic pill bottle, then suspended the bottle from the hanging scale. He had earlier zeroed the scale for the weight of the empty pill bottle.

All the information Bob recorded enables him and his colleagues to understand the health and migratory habits of this bird. The hummingbird tag is incredibly small and we had to locate a magnifying glass so Bob could read the number on it! Bob gently extended the bird's tiny leg, slipped on the band, and carefully squeezed it closed so that the bird now had its very own identification bracelet. Now, if, when, and wherever this bird is recaptured, ornithologists will have another clue to the migration pattern of this species. Bob has trapped hummingbirds in southwestern Pennsylvania that were originally banded as far away as Louisiana and Mississippi!

After placing the bird back into the white bag, we returned to the patio. First, Bob gently held the bird against our ears so that we could hear its incredibly rapid heartbeat—at 1,000 beats per minute, it truly hums! Next, Bob placed the hummingbird in Lori's hands. After taking a few photos, he asked Lori to

Continued on p. 5



Banded hummingbird about to fly
Photo Courtesy of Bob Mulvihill



Waiting for bird's arrival
Photo Courtesy of Lori Maggio



Close up photo
Photo Courtesy of Lori Maggio

Feathered from p. 4

open her hand, but cautioned her that the bird would likely not move at first. Then he instructed Diane to blow a puff of air on the bird, as if she were blowing out a candle. The puff of air was all the encouragement the hummingbird needed to quickly zip away.

Since we knew that Lori worked from home, we contacted Diane and Lori a couple of days later to ask if the bird had returned to the feeder; and Diane responded, "Yes, quite often! Lori counted over 25 times yesterday, when she's supposed to be working!" But how could anyone pass up the opportunity to watch the bird world's hovering wonder. According to Diane, she and Lori were entertaining the Rufous through December 15. They used chemical hand warmers and old wool socks to keep the nectar (sugar water) from freezing. That's the challenge with Pittsburgh weather.

We have pulled our feeders in for the winter, but come late March, we will take them out, clean them up, and fill them with the sugar mixture (4 parts water to 1 part plain sugar) that attracts hummingbirds to our Brookline gardens. Watching hummingbirds is one of the best shows in town!

In early March, there will be a class about feeders and plants to attract hummingbirds in our area. The class will be held at Brookline Teen Outreach, 520 Brookline Blvd., located next to CVS. Check the March issue of The Brookline for the date and time.

February Events on the Boulevard

At 824: The Consignment Shop

Love Potion Mixology Workshop. Tanya Chasse will teach how to make 3 fabulous Valentine's cocktails—"Pucker Up," "Love Potion #9," and "Chocolate Kiss."! Hors d'oeuvres that pair well with the cocktails are included in ticket price, as well as a \$30 gift certificate for Chasse Permanent Makeup. Sat. Feb 4 from 7-10 p.m. Price per ticket is \$50. Space is limited; reserve yours today! 824 Brookline Blvd. 412-440-8245

Medium Reading Event. Psychic Mary Petrella returns to 824: The Consignment Shop--this time for medium readings. Sat., Feb. 25 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Price per ticket is \$45. Refreshments provided. 908 Brookline Blvd., next to Mazza Pavilion

At Brookline Teen Outreach/American Legion Bldg.
Brookline Community Open Mic., Wednesdays, 8-10:30 p.m. For all ages. 520 Brookline Blvd.



Need assistance
With PA programs or
problems?
Contact my local office, I am here to serve
with local office staff Marilyn, Miller,
Andrea Olechowicz & Nancy Heckmann

State Representative Harry Readshaw

36th PA Legislative District
16th Ward, Pittsburgh,
Divisions 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-9-10-11
17th Ward, Pittsburgh
Divisions 3-4-5-6-7-8
18th Ward, Pittsburgh
Division 1
19th Ward, Pittsburgh
Divisions 6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-30-36-37
29th Ward, Pittsburgh
All Divisions
32nd Ward, Pittsburgh
Divisions 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8
Baldwin Borough
Districts 1-2-3-4-9-12-13-15-16-18
Brentwood Borough
Mt. Oliver Borough

1917 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh PA 15210
Phone: 412-881-4208
Fax: 412-886-2077

On The Issues: Face to Face with City Council Candidates

by Joseph Samuel Rogers



District 4 candidate Ashleigh Deemer

Photo by Jasmine Goldband, The Incline

Editors note: City of Pittsburgh District 4 Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak has chosen not to run for reelection this year. Several candidates have announced their intention to run for the District 4 seat, which represents Brookline, Beechview, Bon Air, Carrick, and Overbrook. In the months leading up to the May 16 primary election, The Brookline staff writer Joseph Samuel Rogers will profile each of the candidates, starting this month with Ashleigh Deemer. For this series, each candidate received an identical questionnaire.

Although she resides in Beechview, Ashleigh Deemer is no stranger to Brookline, as she has served as Councilwoman Rudiak's Chief of Staff for nearly six years. "Brookline is my second home. My family shops and eats there and I send my son to Elizabeth Seton Center," Deemer shared. Among her favorite facets of Brookline are the neighborhood's pride and, of course, Pitaland's falafel.

She is running for City Council because she is proud of the work accomplished over the past six years—especially the renovation of Brookline Boulevard—and wants to build on that success.

"I organized a volunteer day at Moore Park to put a fresh coat of paint on the gazebo and the chipping railings, and I successfully advocated for more than \$300,000 in the City's 2017 Capital Budget for repairs to the basketball courts, fencing, and entry stairs to the recreation center," Deemer explained.

She acknowledges resident concerns that the district had been neglected for many years, but stated that Brookline is no longer forgotten.

"The City was not budgeting funds in an equitable manner... [but] in part thanks to Councilwoman Rudiak's legislation that reformed our Capital Budget process, the City is basing funding decisions on real data about our roads and facilities," she said.

In addition to the improvements to Moore Park, the fire house will get a new roof in 2017 and, if elected, Deemer intends to focus on having residential streets resurfaced for the first time in decades by working with residents and Public Works.

Brookline is home to several public schools and Saint John Bosco Academy, South Pittsburgh's Catholic School. Deemer wants to work with parents, teachers, school board representatives, and the Diocese to make sure that students have opportunities to get involved in the community.

"I want to get the community into the schools so kids learn about their neighborhood and have access to programs offered by the library and other organizations. We need to support our kids when they are not in school, so they come to school ready to learn," she explained. She cited examples like youth sports leagues and Brookline Teen Outreach to keep youth active.

To support merchants, Deemer said she will connect merchants with the City's grant and loan programs and educational resources to help their business grow and succeed.

Many of Brookline's residents attend one of the three Roman Catholic churches in the community. The Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh's restructuring process—scheduled to conclude in 2018—could result in closings or mergers of some of the churches. Deemer said she is fully committed to helping the congregants during the transition. She said she will work with the parishes to understand their strategy for getting congregants to church and will talk with residents to determine who needs transportation, coordinate ride-shares, and seek funding for shuttles, if needed.

If transit accessibility is ever a concern, Deemer said she can also schedule a public meeting with Port Authority representatives to ensure people are heard, as she enjoys a productive relationship with them.

Note: The writer is a lifelong parishioner of Our Lady of Loreto Catholic Church and previously served as an intern at City Council District 3 during summer 2012.

Brookline Housing Update, 2017

By Tim Reitmeyer, Howard Hanna Real Estate

The Brookline housing market experienced a very good 2016 with a nice rise in sale prices, and 2017 is looking to do as well. For some, our community continues to be a destination. For others, Brookline is an affordable alternative to some of the pricier city neighborhoods with a median home sale price just over \$100,000. We have a good stock of well-built homes in a community comparable to the best Pittsburgh has to offer. Brookline offers a vibrant, walkable business district. It is a great community, with programs for all ages and amazing facilities to support them. Brookline's convenient location to downtown, the south and west suburbs, the airport business area, and interstates adds to our desirability.

While mortgage interest rates have been at historic lows the past few years, in 2017, the rates are starting out slightly higher and are expected to rise. Keep in mind that mortgage rates traditionally run 7 to 8 percent, but after being in the 3 percent range for a few years, even a move into the 4 percent area seems like a huge jump. That said, a home purchased at \$100,000 with a conventional or FHA loan and minimum down payment will have a monthly payment less than \$700, including taxes, homeowners insurance, and mortgage insurance. Tax deductions for mortgage interest effectively reduce the monthly payment even more while building equity. A person cannot rent a home that cheaply. For Brookline buyers and sellers, this is a win-win situation; higher prices for sellers, yet still affordable for buyers!

Selling

For those thinking of selling their home in 2017, spring is the best time to be on the market. The spring market normally runs from the end of March to mid- to late-June. To achieve the best selling price, the home should be clean, freshly painted, and free of clutter. Curb appeal is usually a big factor. When the prospective buyer arrives, the outside should be welcoming and saying, "Come inside, and see more." A trimmed lawn, a few plants, and a clean and uncluttered porch go a long way to achieving this. Of course, pricing is key. When priced right, homes in our area usually sell for 92 to 94 percent of asking price. I encourage sellers to meet with me for discussion about what needs to be done prior to listing and to determine a realistic price point.

Buying

Buyers planning to purchase a home this spring should begin the mortgage pre-approval process now. I recommend contacting at least two local lenders and have them compete for your mortgage business. I encourage local lenders because

my experience with on-line lenders has been chancy. On-line lenders usually do not know the area and cannot give that face-to-face personal touch. The lender will tell the prospective buyer the maximum loan amount for which they are approved. I tell buyers to use only up to 75 percent of that number because I believe that "you don't want to be house rich, but cash poor." Before beginning the actual search for a new home, buyers should prepare a list of what features they desire in a home. Now comes the hard part: prioritize each item on the list, from "must haves" to "would like to have" to "would be great, but don't need it." I encourage buyers to meet with me before getting started so that we can discuss the entire buying process, and I can begin my search for that dream home.

Tim Reitmeyer is in his 24th year as a Realtor and is a member of Howard Hanna Real Estate Services elite President's Circle and a multiple winner of the National Sales Excellence Award, which recognizes the top five percent of real estate professionals in North America. He can show and sell houses anywhere in southwestern Pennsylvania and advises and represents sellers and buyers throughout the South Hills and the city of Pittsburgh, with Brookline being one of his areas of concentration. He is the top-selling agent of Brookline real estate and a lifetime Brookliner.

801 BROOKLINE BLVD.
WEST LIBERTY
Cycles
PITTSBURGH, PA 15226

BIKES
ACCESSORIES
APPAREL
REPAIRS
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SHOP.

JAMIS HARO BH PIVOT GIANT EASTERN BIKES
ULTRALIGHT CYCLES cannondale

Brookline Teen Outreach News

by Caitlin McNulty

One of our goals at Brookline Teen Outreach is connecting teens to their community in meaningful ways. On December 21, students had the opportunity to shop, cook and serve a meal at St. Mark's Church. Here are some highlights of our teens in the kitchen.

Each Wednesday evening, the church hosts a free community meal that is open to all. We are excited to have another opportunity to provide a meal to the community at the end of this month.

The Max & Erma's Fundraiser held on January 25 was a great success. Thank you to everyone who came out to support Brookline Teen Outreach.



Tommy and Adam on dish duty.



Matias slicing bread.



Logan preparing our homemade desserts for the dinner.



Josh, Logan, Sarah, Emily and Chris talking with community members and passing out desserts.

All photos courtesy of Brookline Teen Outreach

Old Notes By Old People

by Chip Gorski

I saw a relic from times gone by the other day and it made me laugh. I was in our nation's capitol and was inside one of the congressional office buildings, where located on a far wall appeared to be a bank of tiny rooms no bigger than the size of a closet. Upon closer inspection, it became apparent that these closets used to house payphones. One would walk in, deposit a dime--or in later years a quarter--and one could be connected to the local party of his or her choice for a few minutes of private conversation. So I looked inside of one.

The payphones were gone, victims of technology. The bench inside each was still there. I guess they were left behind in case somebody wanted to have a seat and some privacy while they talked on their cell phone. That would be rare. Most people just talk when and where convenient, like the mall, while driving, the bathroom. You get the picture. But I digress. Look at the progress made in the last 20 or 30 years.

Over the past couple of weeks, I've been watching a number of movies and television shows. The one that I think is excellent, and will probably not advance in the Oscars because it lacks foul language and a raunchy storyline, is *Hidden Figures*. Set in the early 1960s, it is the true story of three NASA employees who are brilliant mathematicians. They are black and they are women. I won't tell you the storyline but, without any of them, we simply wouldn't have had a space program. One the ladies

took it upon herself to study FORTRAN, which was one of the first mathematical computer languages. It seemed NASA had just purchased a new IBM mainframe and nobody knew how to program or operate it. Again, you'll have to see the movie, but the computer NASA ordered required that it be housed in a huge area requiring several dozen people to operate it.

Roughly 50 years later, we can compute right from the palm of our hands. I hope I'm alive when they make parking meters obsolete. I mean, why would we need them? Our cars are almost ready to drive themselves and in another 20 years maybe they will be able to fly.

Fundraisers

Is your Brookline community church, school, or other non-profit holding a fundraiser? We'd like to list it in *The Brookline*. To have your event listed, contact pdkaz@comcast.net. Please include "Fundraiser" in the subject line.

Family Bingo. Friday, February 17. Benefits Brashear Boosters PTO. Brashear High School cafeteria. Doors open 6 p.m.; bingo begins at 7 p.m. \$15 per person. Kids under 18 must be with an adult.

Bingo. Mondays, Church of the Resurrection. Doors open 5 p.m.; bingo begins 7 p.m.

Bingo. Sundays, sponsored by Brookline American Legion in the American Legion Bldg., 520 Brookline Blvd. Doors open at 4 p.m.; bingo begins at 6 p.m.

Call for Volunteers

- **ANGELS' PLACE** Volunteers needed at Angels' Place, Inc. Help us work with children, arts and crafts, organizing and more. If interested, please call Stephanie at 412-531-6667. www.angelsplaceph.org.
 - **BROOKLINE CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY** Call Pat Erny at 412-344-8451.
 - **BEGIN AGAIN CLOTHING MINISTRY** To donate gently used or new clothing, call Brookline United Presbyterian Church at 412-531-0590.
 - **DOGIPO T MAINTENANCE** Call Lisa at 412-304-3086.
 - **FOREVER HOME BEAGLE RESCUE** Call 412-304-4034 or BeagleHQ@msn.com Foster homes needed as well as donations of dog food, funds and Amazon gift cards.
 - **MEALS ON WHEELS** Sponsored by St. Mark's Lutheran Church call 412-343-8144.
 - **OASIS: HELP CHILDREN READ Tutors** (age 50+) needed in Pittsburgh Schools, including Brookline PreK-8 and West Liberty K-5. Call John D. Spehar at 412-393-7648. In partnership with Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council.
 - **OPEN YOUR HEART TO A SENIOR** Volunteers needed to assist senior citizens. Call Family Services at 412-661-1670
- Other ways to help: Meals on Wheels can use donations of cash, cookies, desserts and bread. The Brookline Christian Food Pantry can use grocery store gift cards (send to Pat Erny, 2918 Pioneer Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15226).

Adopt-A-Block

We salute those dedicated community volunteers who pick up litter that's selfishly left by others and encourage new Adopt-A-Block members. To add your name to the list, contact pdkaz@comcast.net.

Adopted Blocks

Norwich Ave & Boulevard: Michael and Pamela Grabowski

Merrick Ave, btw. Eben St. & Boulevard: Eileen Papale

Corner of Blvd. & Glenarm: St. Mark parishioners

Blvd. btw. Merrick & Starkamp: Patty & Dan Kaczmariski

700 Block Woodbourne: Mary Zottoli

900 Block Woodbourne: Diane Walkowski & Mary Anne Miller

Plainview Ave from Jillson to Capital: Jim Sheppard

Lynnbrook btw. Marloff & dead end: Matt & Joey Pilewski

Whited from Jacob to Gallupe: Michael Pilewski

Bellaire Ave btw. Pioneer and Whited: Denise Robinson

Gallion Ave: Lisa Wilson

1800-1900 Pioneer Ave: Dennis and Valerie Rew family

Rossmore at Flatbush & Oletha btw. Flatbush and

Glenarm: Zachary and Sarah Zelazny

900 Block Berkshire Ave.: McGlothlin Family

Heritage Players Theater News

The Heritage Players perform in the Seton Center auditorium on Pioneer Ave. The group draws actors, directors, and crew from throughout the Pittsburgh area. Brookliners are encouraged to share their talents with the all-volunteer group.

Special in February:

50 Shades of Shakespeare: Love comes in many forms and the Bard explored nearly all of them. Please join The Heritage Players for a night of theatre, featuring some of Shakespeare's most famous (and infamous) scenes. Directed by Bob Scott, who will be honored with the first ever Heritage Award for his contributions to Pittsburgh theatre. Performances February 24 and 25 at 8 p.m. at the Seton Center, 1900 Pioneer Avenue. Admission is \$10. To purchase tickets, please call 412-254-4633 or email heritageplayers@yahoo.com.

2017 Season:

Sense and Sensibility. Adapted by Jon Jory, based on the novel by Jane Austen. May 12-14 and 19-21.

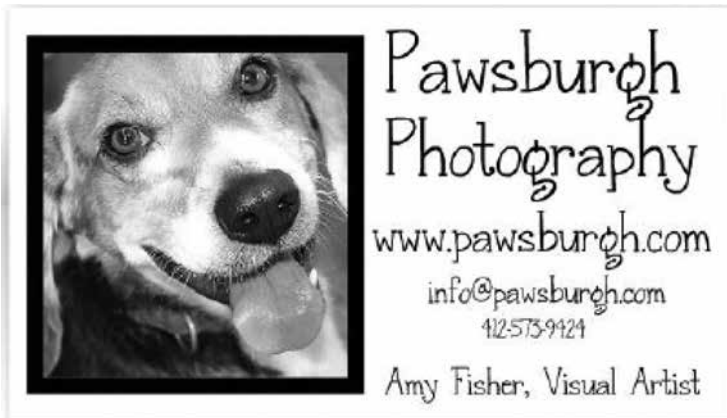
Winnie the Pooh. Lyrics by A.A. Milne. Music by Allan Friedman. Adapted by Kristin Sergel. August 4-6 and 11-13.

Lost in Yonkers by Neil Simon. September 8-10 and 15-17.

Into the Woods. Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Book by James Lapine. November 3-5 and 10-12.

Free Meals for Kids

GrubUp Pittsburgh offers free afterschool meals each weekday at the Brookline Recreation Center for those 18 and under. Snacks: 3-4 p.m. Hot meal: 5-6:30 p.m.



Council Woman Natalia Rudiak



The City of Pittsburgh has launched new tools to help you get the City services you need and get info about Building Permits, Code Violations, 311 calls, arrests, and more in your neighborhood.

Building Eye

Building eye is a mapping tool that allows you to view all open and recently completed code violations, building permits, license applications, and zoning requests and changes. You can zoom into your neighborhood and click on cases to view more details. You can also set up alerts for areas you care about. So, for example, if you want to see every new building permit application in Brookline, you can set up an automatic alert! Easy. Check out Building Eye here: <https://pittsburghpa.buildingeye.com>.

Burgh's Eye View

Burgh's Eye View is another mapping tool that allows you to see 311 requests, police calls, arrests, citations, building permits, code violations and more. You can filter the information by Neighborhood, Council District, Police Zone, or Public Works Division, as well as the types of permits, violations, or requests. You can even view the raw data in table format if you want. Here's more information on all the ways to use Burgh's Eye View: <http://analytics.pittsburghpa.gov/BurghsEyeView/>.

My Burgh

MyBurgh connects you directly to 311 through your smartphone! The app actually captures your location via GPS without need to enter the location of, say, a pothole. You can also read City news, get contact information, learn about your trash and recycling pick-up, AND access the Snow Plow Tracker during snow events. MyBurgh is a free download for both Android and iPhone users.



No Name Cafe

Open Seven Days A Week
Additional Hours: 11pm - 4am
Fridays & Saturdays

Breakfast Served All Day

536 Brookline Blvd.
412-563-1813

Senator Wayne Fontana



With 2017 underway, a new two-year legislative session in Harrisburg is upon us. I encourage all my constituents to stay in touch and contact me with thoughts and opinions throughout the year on matters before the General Assembly. It is important for me to hear from you on issues that may come before me for a vote. Constituents can either contact my office at 932 Brookline Boulevard (412-344-2551) or email me directly at fontana@pasenate.com.

Throughout the year, constituents can stay informed by visiting my website at www.senatorfontana.com. The site contains news releases, information and applications on and for important programs, provides links where visitors can research legislation, watch Senate session live, and much more. You can also follow me on Twitter at @WayneDFontana.

Another way to stay informed is by subscribing to my weekly "News & Views" e-newsletter. Simply visit my website and sign up to receive these editions in your inbox. These editions inform readers on happenings both in Harrisburg and in the district. I also assist job seekers by publishing a monthly edition of my "News & Views" that is dedicated to jobs and includes a listing of companies with open positions and recent news and events related to employment in our region. My front window along the Boulevard will continue to list job openings in our region as well.

Continued on p. 11



DR. GUY RESCIENTHALER

Chiropractor

723 Brookline Blvd. • Pittsburgh, PA 15226
412.343.2440

Serving the Brookline Community since 1983
Provider: Highmark, UPMC, Medicare
Most Insurances Accepted
Auto Injuries • Personal Injuries • Sports Injuries
NEURO MUSCULAR SKELETAL CONDITIONS

OVER 100 YEARS QUALITY SERVICE
Plumbing
Heating
Air Conditioning
Water Heaters
Sewer & Drain Cleaning
Gas, Water & Sewer Lines
Emergency Service Available
Residential & Commercial
Fully Insured
Free Estimates

PA Reg. #PA009345
HP #3599



BROOKLINE PLUMBER
412-531-0183
613 Brookline Blvd., Pittsburgh

It is important to know that I and my staff are always available to assist you. Since first elected in 2005, we have always ensured that any constituent who comes to us has his or her problem solved, and if we can't solve the problem directly, we are able to at least provide direction and/or information to get a solution. I look forward to continue serving you!

Representative Dan Miller



Every parent wants to make sure their child gets a great education, and more and more we are learning that early education is key to laying a strong foundation for a child's success in school. On Monday, February 13, my office will be hosting our Early Learning 101 event, in conjunction with Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC).

This event is geared toward families with children age 0-4 years and will help parents learn more about how to choose the best early learning program for their child.

Presenters from PAEYC, the Voice of Early Childhood in the region, will share information on what makes for quality care and education, financial assistance programs that might be available, campaigns to expand access and affordability, and so much more! Representatives of local high quality childcare programs will also be sharing information about what they offer specifically. Pizza will be provided, and kids are welcome to come along! Join us on February 13 at 6 p.m. and thank you to St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church for hosting us.

On a related note, the call for more affordable, high quality early education is becoming louder in Pennsylvania, and I have already signed on to a letter urging Governor Wolf to address this need. In the 2017-2018 legislative year, I hope to make sure that addressing the child-care and early-education availability and affordability concerns of Pennsylvania's working families at all income levels is a priority.

824: The Consignment Shop is Moving!

We are excited to announce that 824: THE CONSIGNMENT SHOP is moving to its new location at 908 Brookline Boulevard (next to the Mazza Pavilion). We'll open our doors there on February 21 and look forward to seeing you.

Representative Harry Readshaw



In an effort to save money, PennDOT has stopped issuing the annual license plate registration stickers. The last stickers were distributed in December 2016.

Eliminating the stickers will save PennDOT an estimated \$1.1 million per year with an additional \$2 million savings in mailing costs. Without the stickers,

residents will be able to register their car and print an official registration card online.

Police will have access to PennDOT records from their vehicles to verify a vehicle is registered. New license plate reader technology will also be able to scan and validate registrations as the equipment becomes available to police departments. To learn more, visit <http://bit.ly/PennDOTStickers>.

Representative Dan Deasy



I had good news regarding Pennsylvania's unemployment fund, but unfortunately this good news has been overshadowed by bad news.

The "good news" is that before the House adjourned in November, we voted on legislation to fix a loophole in Pennsylvania's unemployment compensation law.

This fix will allow seasonal workers--such as those working in construction, agricultural, building trades or retail jobs--to file for unemployment compensation during the parts of the year when they have little or no work.

The "bad news" is that Republicans in the Senate adjourned the legislative session without passing a bill that would have funded unemployment compensation service centers, despite the fact that the bill passed the House in a bipartisan effort. These centers are integral to helping unemployed Pennsylvanians file for unemployment compensation benefits and get back on their feet and find work.

Without the funding bill, nearly 600 workers from the Department of Labor and Industry have been furloughed. These furloughs not only impacted those workers and their families, but also thousands of unemployed Pennsylvania residents. The closure of these centers creates a logjam that has slowed the process for payment on unemployment compensation claims.

It is my hope that early in this new legislative session, the Senate will take action to fund the UC Service Centers. In the meantime, if you or someone you know is having a hard time contacting an unemployment compensation service center, please contact my office for assistance at 412-928-9514.

Brookline Memorial Recreation Center

Kinderkids Club (formerly known as Kinder Sports)

Ages 5 and younger. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-noon. Very young boys and girls will have a blast with this ongoing program. Activities include gym time with games and sports, arts and crafts, story time and a snack. Drop in any time! FREE.

Lil' Sport Sampler

Ages 3-6. Tuesdays, 5-5:45 p.m. March 7 to April 11. This class will introduce your child to a variety of sports such as T-ball, basketball and soccer. Children will work on developing skills and having fun, learning in an energetic and supportive environment. Parent participation is encouraged. \$10.

Fun Family Fitness Classes

Ages 3+. Discover the value of staying active as a whole family. Have fun exercising, learn new fitness tips, and create healthy habits together. 6-7 p.m. "Recess Fun," Friday, March 10; "Obstacle Course," Friday, April 7; "Circuit Training," Friday, April 14. FREE.

Game Night

Ages 18+. Fridays, 7-8:15 p.m., March 3 to April 14. Board games and PS4 gameplay. FREE.

Pickleball

Ages 18+. Mondays, 10 a.m.-noon, starting March 6. A racquet sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. Two, three, or four players use solid paddles to hit a perforated ball, similar to a wiffle ball, over a net. \$3.

3-on-3 Basketball League

Ages 13-15 and 16-18. Ages 13-15 meet Wednesdays, 5-6:15 p.m., March 8 through April 19. Ages 16-18 meet Fridays, 5-6:15 p.m., March 10 through April 21. A competitive league with in-house referees. Shirts will be provided upon sign-up and tournament winner will receive a trophy. Maximum 8 teams per age group. \$15.

Basketball Clinic

Ages 4-6, 7-9, and 10-13. Ages 4-6 meet Thursdays, 5-6 p.m. or 6-7 p.m. Ages 7-9 meet Tuesdays, 5-6 p.m. or 6-7 p.m. Ages 10-13 meet Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m. March 7 & 9 through April 25 & 27. Learn the fundamentals of basketball, such as dribbling, shooting, and passing. At the end of the session, the kids will use their new skills in a game against each other. Each age group will have one practice a week. \$10.

Speed & Agility

Ages 14-16. Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m., beginning March 15. This class will focus on the ability to quickly change body position or direction. \$5.

Spring Break Camp

Grades K-5. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., April 10-13. This camp over spring break will be jam-packed with fun-filled activities. Have a blast at the rec with your friends. Breakfast and lunch included. \$10/week.

Fishing

Ages 15 & under. 9 a.m., Saturdays, beginning April 29. Learn the basics of fishing at North Park. \$5.

Tabata

Ages 18+. Thursdays, 6-6:45 p.m. March 2 to April 6. This high-intensity workout is designed with 20-second intervals of intense exercise followed by 10 seconds of rest, repeated 8 times. These bursts of intense work will burn calories and strengthen your entire body. Registration is limited. \$20.

Total Body Conditioning

Ages 18+. Mondays, 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. March 6 to April 10. \$20.

For more information, call 412-571-3222.

Dear Friends of Waterfall Catering!

BIG NEWS! Our "test" year on Brookline Boulevard has come to a close & it has been beyond wonderful! We really wanted to bring a piece of our business to the neighborhood we live in--to financially support the Boulevard and deal with more of our neighbors and friends.

And it has been absolutely AMAZING! 2016 was our BEST YEAR EVER! A special "Thank You" to all the local schools, churches, businesses and all of our new friends who have shared their special events with us! Birthdays, Communion & Confirmations, Baby Showers, Retirements, Dinners & Holidays and the Graduation Parties this year! OH MY - There were so many new faces. We are so thankful. You have made us realize that our "office only" space is too limited & we need a full kitchen here in the neighborhood. You want more from us & we are working very hard to make that happen.

We are moving to another location this year that will allow us to provide more food options for you! Please don't worry when you see our current office space for rent.....we are not going away! We are simply growing thanks to you, Brookline!

Renee & Dan Vichie ~ Waterfall Catering

Carnegie Library of Brookline February Events

For Kids

- *STEM: Imagination Builders* - Wednesdays • 3:30 p.m. - imagine, design, construct! Grades K-5
- *Storytime: Toddler and Preschooler Tales* – Mondays • 6:30 p.m. & Thursdays • 11 a.m. - interactive stories, songs and rhymes. 18 months to 5 years
- *Tween Workshop Tuesdays* - Tuesdays • 3:30 p.m. - fun and engaging activities like crafts, games or technology

For Teens

- *Pokémon Club* - Mondays, February 13, 20, 27 • 3 p.m. - drop-in battle leagues for both video and card games
- *Teen Time* - Thursdays • 3 p.m. - art projects, epic games, music, movies and just chilling out

For Adults

- *Power Yoga with Amy* - Wednesdays • 6:30 p.m. - bring your own mat, towel and water for free yoga. All skill levels welcome.
- *Crochet & Knitting Fun* - Saturdays, February 4 & 18 • 2 p.m. - learn the basics, get help with an existing project or just drop in to check it out

- *Monthly Movie Showdown* – Tuesday, February 14 • 6 p.m. – fun, relaxed conversation over movie-inspired treats
- *Game Night* – Tuesday, February 21 • 5:45 p.m. – traditional board and quest-based adventure games
- *Color Your World* – Tuesday, February 28 • 6 p.m. - coloring is a great way for adults to relieve stress
- *Book Discussions*: ---
 - *Between the Lines* – Monday, February 20 • 6 p.m. – contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction. This month: *What Alice Forgot* by Liane Moriarty
 - *The Buzz* – Thursday, February 23 • 6 p.m. – unconventional fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels. This month: *The Eyre Affair* by Jasper Fforde

Visit http://www.carnegielibrary.org/clp_location/brookline/ or call 412-561-1003 for more information.

What's Happening at Brookline PreK-8

by Amy Cornelius Dembosky, Parent Volunteer

At Pittsburgh Brookline PreK-8, communication is very important for student success. We are adding another method of communication starting in the second semester. "Remind" is a service that sends families messages from school via text, email or an app. Some of our teachers are already using Remind. Information on how to sign up for Remind was in the January Bobcat Bulletin. If you need help, please contact your child's teacher or the school office.

In February, we will focus on "making your best effort" as our character trait. We want all of our students to try their hardest at everything that they do at school. All of our staff works to support our wonderful students in their academic, social and athletic endeavors.

The Pittsburgh Public Schools literacy department is working to make sure that all of our children have access to high-quality reading, spelling, writing, and grammar texts and materials. A committee of teachers, administrators, and parents met in December and January to evaluate new curricula. Brookline was represented by one of our teachers

as well as several parents. Thank you to them for their time and effort. Our district hasn't had a new reading/ELA curriculum in 10 years! It's definitely time for an update.

Getting involved with our school can be as simple as attending a Parent-School-Community Council meeting. Each month the days and times vary so that people who work different days and shifts can attend a meeting. This month, our meeting will be held at the Carnegie Library on Saturday, February 11 at 11 a.m.



PARTY CAKE SHOP
E-Mail: partycake1@yahoo.com • www.partycakeshop.com
706 Brookline Blvd. 297 Beverly Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15226 Pittsburgh, PA 15216
412-531-5322 412-343-0101

Carmalt News

by Chyonna Blango-Symms and Sara Messiah

Even though the wind was blustery and a two-hour delay added excitement to the day, the attendance at the 2016 Holiday Extravaganza was incredible. Four hundred people were slated to participate, but even with the below-zero wind chills, there were still approximately 300 jolly souls present.

The evening began with a sing along led by the Carmalt Chorus. The gymnasium was filled with the sounds of "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer," "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," "Jingle Bell Rock," and many traditional holiday tunes as the kids waited anxiously for Santa's arrival. Children waited in line for their turn to sit on his lap and share their Christmas wishes.

Some of the other activities included edible and non-edible crafts. The children had fun making edible Christmas trees out of ice cream cones, icing, and sprinkles. Plastic cups, white fluff, glitter, decorations, and hot glue were the ingredients used to create adorable snow globes. Kids of all ages had fun tracing their hands to create a link which would become part of the Carmalt peace chain on display at the choral concert the following week.

The celebration concluded with everyone gathering in the cafeteria for a snack, door prizes, and results of the Chinese Auction. The 2016 Holiday Extravaganza definitely helped put the Ho-Ho-Ho in our holidays.

The Latest from St. John Bosco Academy

by Holly Victor, Parent Volunteer

With the cold winter months upon us, the students of SJBA worked together with the "One Warm Coat" organization to collect winter coats for those in need. New and gently used winter coats were collected throughout the month of January and will be distributed locally within our own community to any person in need, without charge, discrimination or obligation.

In January, we joined the rest of the nation in the annual Catholic Schools Week celebration. The students participated in fun activities that focused on the value of the Catholic education. Students also took part in Junior Achievement day. A volunteer led each classroom, K through 12, in programs that are designed to foster work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills. At the end of the day, each participating student received a JA certificate of completion. The faculty was also treated to an appreciation breakfast with food items donated by the parents and students.

This month, be sure to tune in to "Education Plus" with Father Tom Burke on KQV radio to hear the interview with students Ennui Knapick, Jarred Russman, Brogan Victor and Maggie Wilson as they talk about what it means to be a student leader and the upcoming National History Day competition.

Happy Valentine's Day everyone!

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

- Romans 12:9

What's Going on at Pittsburgh West Liberty?

by Deonne Arrington, Principal
Teresa Grusong-Adams, First Grade Teacher

It may be cold outside, but inside we are heating it up. We have been very busy planning the winter months with activities to take away the winter blues. The children love the opportunity to spend time with one another and to learn through new adventures. Here are just a few things going on at West Liberty during the month of February:

On February 3, our intermediate grades will be going on a field trip to PISA (Pittsburgh Indoor Sports Arena). The children will get to participate in lots of different sport activities and will rotate through each available activity. Children must earn this trip by showing excellent behavior in class and in school to attend. On February 17, we will be having Random Act of Kindness day. Staff members and students will remember the importance of character by doing random acts of kindness for each other. The week of February 27, we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday. The children will be participating in various activities revolving around Dr. Seuss and the importance of reading.

Mad Science will also return on February 28. This program allows children in grades kindergarten through fifth to participate in learning experiments with a focus on science. The children enjoy working with each other and they have fun with the experiments as well. That's all for now. Try to keep warm during the cold weather ahead and remember, West Liberty is the place "Where Learners Excel and Character Counts."



WE ARE PROUD TO BE A PART OF THE BROOKLINE COMMUNITY! WE LOOK FORWARD TO BRINGING YOU THE BEST Q IN THE BURGH. CALL, ORDER ONLINE, OR STOP IN ON THE BLVD.

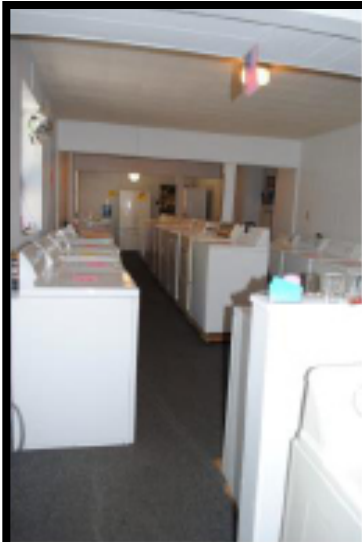
**BRISKET
RIBS**

**PULLED PORK
CHICKEN**

**(412)668-3459 • SMOQPITT.COM • BYOB
600 BROOKLINE BLVD. • PITTSBURGH, PA.**

f t @SMOQPITT

RUB. SMOKE. LOVE.



- Sales
- Service
- Delivery

South Hills Used Washers & Dryers

We have a large selection of like-new Whirlpool and Kenmore washers and dryers



155 McNeilly Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Gary Henry
412-641-9605



www.southhillsusedwashersanddryers.com



Talk to TIM
Your Brookline Realtor
"Home is where the heart is."

I LOVE working with buyers & sellers

Tim Reitmeyer

412-559-8467

412-833-3600

treitmeyer@howardhanna.com



South Hills and City of Pittsburgh specialist



- Logos/Branding
- Print Advertisements
- Online Marketing
- Postcard Mailings
- Business Cards
- Signage
- Stationary

Mr. Mic Designs Ltd

Advertising You Can Hang Your Hat On

www.mrmicdesigns.com

(412) 341-0918

A TIP FROM THE BOSS

"Don't leave your eye care up to a salesperson"
 Put your eye care in the hands of a certified optician

Serving South & East Pgh. Since 1971

- Fill Prescriptions • Duplicate lenses
- Replace Broken Frames and Parts
- Solder and Repair • Senior Citizen Discounts

A-BOSS OPTICIANS

938 Brookline Blvd.
 Pittsburgh, PA
 412-561-0811

634 Braddock Ave.
 Braddock, PA
 412-271-4424

5074 West Library Ave.
 Bethel Park, PA
 412-854-5838



Bloomfield
 Liberty Avenue
 (412) 687-1111

Brookline
 Brookline Blvd.
 (412) 561-9982

Mt. Lebanon
 Beverly Road
 (412) 561-1994

"Your neighborhood Ice Cream Parlor"

www.scoopspittsburgh.com

MJ AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE CENTER LLC

2600 PIONEER AVE
 PITTSBURGH PA 15226

(412) 531-9909

PIONEER & BROOKLINE BLVD.



- AAA APPROVED •
- STATE INSPECTION •
- GENERAL REPAIRS •



MIKE & TERRY WEGA
 OWNERS
MWEGA@MJAUTOMOTIVE1.COM

WHY SHOP BROOKLINE?

Shopping at locally owned independent businesses returns dollars to the Brookline community. The Brookline Chamber of Commerce sponsors the annual Halloween Parade, BreezeFest, Christmas lighting and more.

Your local independent businesses and the Chamber of Commerce support your baseball, football, and other sports leagues, your Churches, Breeze Run and school programs.

The Boulevard business district adds to the character of Brookline, contributing more than just goods and services. They offer personalized attention and bring life to the Boulevard.

Each time you spend your dollars at a local business, you are saying "Yes!" to the continued strength and vitality of our community.

- Keep the money in our neighborhood!
- Create more local jobs!
- Local businesses support local non-profits!