

Pasta II

by Joseph Samuel Rogers



Bobby Matrascia of Pasta II

Pawsburg Photography

Opening Pasta II on Brookline Boulevard was a homecoming for owners Bobby and Joanne Matrascia, as they both grew up in Brookline and the neighborhood has always had a special place in their hearts. Pasta II has been in Bobby's family for over 20 years and originated on Federal Street in the North Side. Bobby and Joanne moved their business to Brookline in October 2015 because of their roots in the neighborhood and they thought it was the perfect place to put a family-atmosphere restaurant.

The Matrascias put a strong emphasis on Pasta II being family friendly--"from grandparents to grandkids." Since the restaurant opened at the end of October, business has been overall very steady and customers appear to be very receptive of the restaurant's high quality. The décor is done in soothing earth tones with attractive wall decorations. A colorful mural of an overflowing produce basket adorns the front wall above the tastefully decorated bay window.

Pasta II aims to provide high quality and affordable home-cooked meals to Brookliners. The menu features favorites including pizza with a variety of toppings, 7" and 12" hoagies--including steak, meatball, "Italian Stallion," and Hot Sausage, among several others--pasta dishes, and salad. Multiple side dishes, including zucchini patties, rice balls, eggplant, and stuffed hot peppers, are also made daily.

Bobby shared with me during our interview that the meatball casserole is a big seller, and I must agree. Meatball casserole

is served on a bed of pasta of your choice with meatballs and cheese baked on top. What a treat on a cold January day! The best part of Pasta II, aside from the comfortable environment and affordable prices, is that everything is homemade at the restaurant. Customers can dine in or take out.

Pasta II is open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, and also does some catering and large tray items. Bobby said that the restaurant has also become a destination for after-event groups.

Bobby and Joanne offer rotating dinner specials that range from pizza to sit-down dinners, and lunch specials are offered periodically. Bobby told me that he "plans to monitor the menu to some extent and will add items as needed based on customer interest," but wants to focus his positive energy on serving the people of Brookline.

"I love Brookline; it has always been home because I was born and raised here. It is great to be part of the Brookline Boulevard community!" Bobby said. Pasta II offers customers a taste of Italy and a delicious, home cooked meal. From pizza, to salad, to hoagies, and pasta, customers will surely find an item on their menu that they will absolutely love. Customers are invited to come in, sit down, and relax, and discover why Pasta II is just another reason why it's mighty fine to dine in Brookline!

718 Brookline
Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA
15226
412-561-5500
Facebook: Pasta
II on Brookline
Boulevard

Hours: Monday to
Thursday 11 a.m. to
10 p.m.
Friday 11 a.m. to
12 a.m.
Saturday 11 a.m. to
11:00 p.m.



Pawsburg Photography

RESTORATION

BAPTIST CHURCH

Love ◦ Truth ◦ Action

Location:

1801 Pioneer Ave
Moore Park Rec Center

Sunday Hours:

Children's Bible Hour ◦ 10:30 am
Community Group ◦ 6:00 pm

We Would Like to Invite You to Our Easter Service

Sunday, March 27th at 10 a.m.

At 1801 Pioneer Ave (Moore Park Rec Center)
We will also have a continental breakfast beginning at 9 a.m.

PO Box 96060 Pittsburgh, PA 15226 · 412-254-3137
restorationpgh.com · restorationpgh@gmail.com

A-Boss Opticians



*If we can't repair them...
no one can!*



Certified Opticians • Established 1971

938 Brookline Blvd | 412-561-0811

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



Talk to TIM
Your Brookline Realtor

*My knowledge, preparation, and
experience will bring you Good luck!*

Tim Reitmeyer

412-833-3600

412-343-5372

treitmeyer@howardhanna.com



South Hills and City of Pittsburgh specialist



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



616 Brookline Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

waterfallcatering@verizon.net
www.thewaterfallcafe.com

Dan & Renee Vichie

(412) 867-9196 or (412) 445-8710

Waterfall Catering

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

January	Total	Brookline
Zone 6 Crimes		
Homicide	3	0
Aggravated Assault	6	2
Robbery	4	1
Burglary	5	1
Theft	4	1
Theft from Vehicle	15	6
Stolen Vehicle	7	3

MARCH COMMUNITY MEETINGS

March 8 Tuesday

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

March 14 Monday

Brookline Chamber of Commerce Meeting 6 p.m. at Carnegie Library 708 Brookline Blvd.

March 21 Monday

South Pittsburgh Development Corp. 7 p.m. at United Presbyterian Church 1036 Brookline Blvd.

We have over 1,400 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
Jan Beiler	Proofreading
Ericka Hough	Proofreading
Julie Salas	Proofreading
Devon Strayer	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

March 7 for April's Issue

April 7 for May'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 by email or USPS mail.

A one-year postal delivery subscription is \$25 for non-SPDC members and \$15 for SPDC Members

Copyright 2016 South Pittsburgh Development Corporation—All Rights Reserved

Taking Another Shot at \$100K

by Dan Kaczmariski

When you think of talented artists, the first thing that comes to mind might not be in-your-face competition. But that's exactly what Sarah Miller, owner of Wyld Chyld Tattoo on Brookline Blvd, faces as she competes for \$100,000 for the second time on Spike

TV's "Ink Master" show starting March 1 at 10 p.m.

This will be Season 7 for Ink Master, which features artists competing in challenges that assess their tattooing and other related skills. In Season 2, Sarah placed 2nd of 16 artists.

There was no second-place prize, but the show did significantly up Sarah's visibility in the tattoo world. Numerous competitions are held in the U.S. and around the world, at conventions and other gatherings. Before competing on Ink Master in 2012, she

had three or four awards under her belt—all 1st places. Since then, she's done between 25 and 32 shows a year, in the U.S., Canada, and overseas, where she's won awards for realism and color. Increasingly, she's being honored to take part as judge, mentor, and advisor, rather than a competitor.

This season's Ink Master will differ from previous ones in that, of the 16 competing artists, half will be newcomers and the other half show veterans. The format includes "flash challenges" and tattoo challenges. The flash challenges are kind of artistically related preliminaries that don't necessarily involve tattooing, but where winners can make the choices for the tattoo challenges and so play to their own strength.

"This season, basically everybody will be at each other's throats and they're emphasizing playing the game," said Sarah. "Whoever gets to hand out what the other artists do will try to throw them off their game. It's going to be the most competitive season ever. The people who do the best are going to be able to overcome these obstacles."

When invited to return for Season 7, she initially expected that being a show veteran would give her and the other returnees an advantage, but now she's not so sure. "I think everybody coming back thought that because we've done it before, we kind of knew what to expect. But this is a completely new beast. In Season 2, we

weren't really that ruthless. Now, it's definitely a lot more trauma and more of a level playing field."

Sarah's Wyld Chyld studio has made Brookline a destination for travelers both nationally and internationally. She said she's just tattooed Steve Grad, the autograph expert from "Pawn Stars." "He flew in from California. We've had clients fly in from England, from Ireland, for me and the other artists here as well. They'll literally fly to Pittsburgh just to come to the shop. While they're here, if they want to sample something, we refer them up and down the Boulevard.

"I'm really proud to be in Brookline and to have been a part of the community for the past four years. I love coming to work every day." She gives great credit to her talented staff of six artists (including another Ink Master veteran) and her shop manager. "I really wouldn't be where I am if it weren't for the people around me. Everyone here is a heavy hitter and has their own specialties. It's amazing being with them; it makes you a better person." In addition to the staff, guest artists visit from around the country and overseas.

The Ink Master episodes air on Spike TV each Tuesday at 10 p.m., starting March 1. If you don't have access to that network or you happen to miss an episode, you can watch complete episodes online at inkmaster.spike.com. Sarah couldn't reveal all of the format details prior to the season, including whether there would be a viewer vote, but if there is, let's all support Brookline's Ink Master in her national quest!



Wyld Chyld owner Sarah Miller
Photo courtesy of Wyld Chyld Studio



An example of Sarah's fine art of tattooing
Photo courtesy of Wyld Chyld Studio

MJ AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE CENTER LLC
2600 PIONEER AVE
PITTSBURGH PA 15226
(412) 531-9909

PIONEER & BROOKLINE BLVD.

AAA

ASE CERTIFIED

MJ AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE CENTER

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

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

MIKE & TERRY WEGA OWNERS
MWEGA@MJAUTOMOTIVE1.COM

Brookline Memorial Recreation Center

Spring Programs

Fishing at North Park

Ages 10-15. Saturdays starting March 26, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Fishing equipment will be provided. \$5 per Saturday. Cost will cover lunch and bait.

Co-Ed Kickball League

Ages 12-15. Friday evenings 5 p.m. Registration fee, \$15

Milan's Basketball Clinic

Co-Ed, ages 6-8 and 9-12. Tuesday and Thursday nights starting April 5 and 7. Ages 6-8 @ 6-6:45 p.m. Ages 9-12 @ 7-7:45 p.m. Registration fee, \$10

Kinder Kick Ball

Ages 4 through 6. Thursday afternoons starting April 7. 4-5 p.m. FREE

Ongoing

Weight Room and Fitness Center

Patrons ages 16-17 must be orientated and accompanied by a parent or guardian. Membership card is required. \$5 monthly fee for use of weight room and fitness center.

Kindersports

This fun activity is for children up to school age and their parents. This includes fun time in the gym, story time, a craft and snack. Program runs throughout the school year on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. FREE. Please be sure to wear your tennis shoes.

Quilting Class

Quilting class has expanded from Monday evenings 6 p.m.-8:45 p.m. to now include Friday mornings! Friday morning class will run from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Class is open to everyone who has some sewing experience and a sewing machine. This class is ongoing and everyone is welcome! FREE

Center hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., 9:15 a.m.-8:45 p.m.; Tues., Thur., 1:15 p.m.-8:45 p.m.; Sat. 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

Call the Center for more information: 412-571-3222



Pawsburgh
Photography
www.pawsburgh.com
info@pawsburgh.com
412-573-9124
Amy Fisher, Visual Artist

Las Palmas and SMOQ PITT Make "Delicious Things" List

Congratulations to Las Palmas and SMOQ PITT for being included in the getfitpgh.com "15 Most Delicious Things to Eat on Cheat Day in PGH." Las Palmas made the list under "Top-notch Tacos" and SMOQ PITT was recognized under "Finger-licking BBQ." Getfitpgh.com covers fitness-related events, food, and neighborhoods.

Do You Want to Recieve The Brookline Online?

We at South Pittsburgh Development Corporation (SPDC) have been working hard to make important updates about Brookline easier for users to access online. We've started using a service called MailChimp to send our updates directly to readers' inboxes. If you'd like to receive these news updates, as well as the monthly issue of the Newsletter free of charge, just go to <http://bit.do/brookline> and request to be added to our update list. We'll continue to distribute the usual number of printed Newsletters each month to our pick-up locations and to mail subscribers.

SPDC Secures Grant

SPDC applied for and received a "Love Your Block" grant from the City of Pittsburgh and Peoples Gas. Each of 19 organizations in the city received a \$1,000 grant for a specified community improvement plan. The SPDC grant is earmarked for materials for volunteers to create a litter awareness campaign, participate in a clean-up day, and place cigarette butt receptacles at participating properties.

With Sadness

It is with deep sadness that we note the passing of a member of our Brookline Newsletter family, Jan Beiler. Jan has been a dedicated and powerful force in improving our community for many years, and was an active member of multiple community organizations. She was a consummately classy lady with a great sense of humor who will be missed by many. An article of appreciation for Jan will appear in the next issue of the Brookline.

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
 - DOGIPOT 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, blankets and bath towels.
 - 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 412-232-2021. 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).
-

First Person: Making a Connection in Brookline

by Ben Kaczmariski

I've lived in Maryland most of my life, and spent a little over a year in Washington D.C. The area in D.C. where I lived was working class, with rows of houses punctuated by family-run bars, pizza places, and hair salons. In short, it looked a lot like Brookline—or the part of Brooklyn where my roommate, Nick, grew up.

There was one thing that struck us about the D.C. neighborhood, though: No one seemed to say “hi.” Ever. People routinely walked about in silence, passing each other wordlessly as they went by. Nick and I both experienced this, but weren't sure how far it went, or how deeply it was embedded in the local culture.

So we conducted an experiment. For two weeks, we said “hi” to everyone. Literally everyone: the morning joggers, the folks out in the evening walking their dogs, the commuters huddled by the bus-stop in the chill winter air, even the drunks on the corner. Everyone. And we tallied how many people said “hi” back.

Over the course of two weeks, we collectively said “hi” to hundreds of people. Of those hundreds, three people responded to Nick. No one said a word to me.

Whenever I tell anyone about that experiment, it always reminds me of a visit to Brookline. My grandparents lived on Merrick Avenue, in the house my father now owns. My grandma's health had taken a turn for the worse after a series of health issues, so I drove up to visit on the weekends as often as possible. Along with my grandfather, I'd sit at my

grandma's bedside and hold her hand as we talked about the weather, their courtship, dem Stillers, or just sat and prayed.

One Saturday afternoon, I realized my time with her was brief. Overwhelmed with that thought, I went down Merrick and around the corner to the Boulevard Lounge and ordered a beer. The bar was empty, except for the bartender and a man at the barstool next to me. He looked to be about 50, with strong hands and a weathered face.

I sighed as I drank my beer. He noticed, and asked me what prompted that. I told him about my grandma, and he nodded knowingly. He offered to buy the next round and we shook hands and got to talking--about life, faith, old country songs, Steelers running backs, and the stories and memories that you treasure during your last moments with someone. We chatted for more than an hour, when I noticed the time on the clock in the back of the bar. I paid his tab and shook his hand and walked back to my grandparents' house.

I've been back to the Boulevard Lounge since then, but never met the man again.

I mention this because it may seem common and ordinary to you—the way you're supposed to treat people—but it doesn't happen everywhere. Trust me. I've run the experiment.

Free Meals for Kids

GrubUP Pittsburgh offers free afterschool meals for those under 18 at the Brookline Rec Center.
Snacks: 3-4 p.m. Hot meal: Starts 5 p.m.

Old Notes By Old People

by Chip Gorski

I think to some extent, every generation thinks the one coming up after it is somehow worse off. I'm not sure I would agree. I mean, we didn't have iPhones and laptops when I was a teenager in the later 70s to early 80s. The biggest advancement in technology that we had was Atari and hand-held games that were probably the precursor to a Game Boy. I think for a younger person to be brought up in a world of these new technological gadgets is exciting--if used for the right purpose. In saying that, it makes me sad to see kids rejecting the notion of "going outside to play" in favor of parking it in front of a television screen or hand-held device. Anymore, it seems as though fun for kids is an organized activity that needs to be squeezed into a family schedule. I think my generation didn't have such a life organized and transported to and from by our parents. They were too busy working to do what so many of us have done.

It reminded me of the time when I thought I was going to be a great boxer. I signed up, all 80 pounds of me, at the Brookline Community Center. I was fairly convinced I could do this. I was wrong. It started with one or two practices a

week. Then it morphed into practically every day. There were exercises and sparring matches. Let's just say this--I didn't do well enough to be considered Brookline's Mohammed Ali. Other kids were far more talented in the boxing ring than I was. But that wasn't the point of the program. The point of the program, meticulously directed by Chuck Senft, was to engage the community youth in an activity. Maybe you weren't going to be a boxer. But, he wasn't going to let you run the streets getting into trouble or simply sit on your couch doing nothing. His commitment to the kids in the program was so strong that if you missed a practice he would call your house. In fact, he would come to your house and bring you to the community center to make sure you stayed engaged.

That is the difference between today and yesterday. I am sure there are many programs working today that operate like this. I think the problem is there aren't enough. Keeping kids out of trouble isn't measured by participation awards handed out at the end season. It's measured by the respected leader who teaches life lessons by encouraging participation, a work ethic, and responsibilities no matter how good or bad the athletic performance is. We got that from Chuck.



WEST LIBERTY Cycles
801 BROOKLINE BLVD.
PITTSBURGH, PA 15226

**BIKES
ACCESSORIES
APPAREL
REPAIRS**

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SHOP.

Free March Events on the Boulevard

At 824: The Consignment Shop

LuLaRoe representative Amanda Osterberger will be at the shop for a Trunk Sale. She'll have approximately 400 pieces of fun and comfortable LuLaRoe fashions for sale. Sat. March 12, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., 824 Brookline Blvd.

Art on the Boulevard. Meet and mingle with some Pittsburgh artists who will be showcasing original works of art. Age 21 and older only, please. Fri, March 25, 8 to 11 p.m. 824 Brookline Blvd., 412-440-8245

At Rather Ripped Records

Rather Ripped Records presents its 3rd live show inside the store. Sun, March 13, 3 to 5 p.m., 754 Brookline Blvd., 412-253-3445. The Irish Twins are only half-Irish and none twins, but their originals and covers of Americana eschew any need for labels. Bring a friend or half a dozen.

At Brookline Pub and Pourhouse

Brookline Community Open Mic. All talent levels and performance types are welcome. Every Wed., 7-10:30 p.m. brooklineopenmic@gmail.com

Local Scouts Mark Annual Celebration

by Fred Metting and Joseph Samuel Rogers



Scout display in Medicine Shoppe window
Pawburgh Photography

Since 1942, Brookline's very own Troop 6, sponsored by the Church of the Resurrection, has dedicated its time and talents to give back to the local

community. Once a year, the Boy Scouts of America celebrate Scout Anniversary week, which this year was recognized on Sunday, February 7. While Americans eagerly awaited the Super Bowl, Troop 6 began the week with Scout Sunday, a day in which all Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts attend religious services, together if possible, to demonstrate faithfulness in their religious duties and respect for the beliefs of others. Boy Scouts have a duty to God in addition to their country, and Scout Anniversary week is a special time set aside for scouts to celebrate the founding of the Boy Scouts of America and the principles they live by.

Along with Scout Sunday, Boy Scout Troop 6 and Cub Scout Pack 601 celebrated Anniversary week with a window display in the Medicine Shoppe on Brookline Boulevard. The Cub Scouts of America program, designed for elementary school students grades one to five, introduces them to some of the

outdoor activities the Boy Scouts participate in and prepares them for future involvement in the scouting program. The window included scout-related items, both traditional and modern, showing how scouting has changed through the years. Troop 6 ended the week with a Court of Honor ceremony recognizing individuals for their recent accomplishments and celebrating the history of scouting. A Court of Honor is a celebration where scouts and their families recognize scouts who earned merit badges in various skills and crafts and advanced to higher ranks within the organization.

Next year, Troop 6 will celebrate its Diamond Jubilee, its 75th Anniversary with the Church of the Resurrection. Since the troop was chartered in 1942, over 85 Eagle Scouts have come through the troop, not to mention the scouts and leaders who have been involved to make the troop a success. This would not have been possible without Brookline and surrounding communities. Moving forward, we hope to remind everyone that we remain an active part of the community through neighborhood events, putting up flags on Brookline Boulevard, and Eagle Scout projects. Troop 6 is in a very strong position and is looking forward to giving back through continued service to young men and future leaders.

For more information about Troop 6 and Pack 601, visit: <http://troop6screamingeagles.webs.com> and <https://sites.google.com/site/pack601brookline2/home>, or the Church's website: <http://www.eresi.com>.

(Fred Metting is the Scoutmaster of Troop 6 and Joseph Rogers is an Eagle Scout and former member of Troop 6.)

Fundraisers

Bingo. Every Monday, Church of the Resurrection. Doors open 5 p.m.; bingo begins 7 p.m. 412-563-4400.

Bingo. Every Sunday, American Legion Post 540. Doors open at 4 p.m.; bingo begins 6 p.m. 412-561-9750.

Lenten Fish Fry. Church of the Resurrection. Every Friday in Lent. (Take Outs call 412-563-4400: 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. for lunch; 4-7 p.m. for dinner.) Fish sandwiches, French fries, cole slaw, mac n cheese, homemade haluski and pierogies, and more.

Correction

In the January Brookline profile of Jolina's Mediterranean Cuisine, there was a misprint of the restaurant's phone number. The correct number is 412-341-3333.

Brookline on PG "Love to Call Home" List

The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* has published a "pgh insiders guide 2016," a 104-page full-color glossy guide "to finding and enjoying the best that Pittsburgh and this region have to offer." In the article "City Neighborhoods," writer Rosa Colucci features what she calls "a few cool pockets that I'd love to call home." Brookline is one of five City areas featured, along with five suburban communities. The article says that Brookline's motto, "Character, Charm, Convenience—is all true," and that you "can't get bored or hungry." Each neighborhood listed also gets a "Pro" and "Con." The "pro" for Brookline? "Lots of good food." The con? "Where's Brookline?"

Why Shop Brookline?



Shopping at your locally owned independent business 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. With each dollar you spend at a local business, you are saying 'Yes' to the continued strength and vitality of our community.

Coming Soon!

2016 Brookline's Business Community Directory

Don't miss this opportunity to highlight your business to thousands of new and current residents. Business owners: send your Chamber of Commerce membership information and dues ASAP to make sure you are listed correctly. Contact brooklinenow@gmail.com with any questions.

A black and white illustration of a chef wearing a tall hat and a white apron, standing in a kitchen. The chef is pointing towards the text.

No Name Cafe

Breakfast Served All Day

536 Brookline Blvd.
412-563-1813



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

Senator Wayne Fontana



Anyone not registered to vote who wishes to vote in the April 26 Primary Election must register by March 28. Remember, voter registration can now be done online. Simply visit www.votespa.com to get started. In addition to registering to vote, current registered voters can also use the online system to

make updates to their voter record, such as a change of name, address, or party affiliation.

Anyone wishing to register with a paper application can obtain an application from my district office, located at 932 Brookline Boulevard, or by downloading one at www.votespa.com. Completed applications can be returned by mail to the Allegheny County Division of Elections and must be postmarked by March 28 in order to be processed prior to the April 26 Primary Election.

You can also register by completing an application in person at the Division of Elections office. The location of the Allegheny County Division of Elections office is listed below. For any questions related to registering to vote, please contact 412-350-4510.

Attn:Voter Registration Services
Allegheny County Division of Elections
542 Forbes Avenue, Room 609
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Representative Dan Deasy



The 2015-2016 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program – LIHEAP -- will accept applications through April 1. The Department of Human Services may extend or shorten the program depending upon the availability of federal funds. After your application is reviewed, you will receive a written notice

explaining your eligibility and the amount of assistance you will receive. Payments are generally sent directly to a utility company or fuel dealer and are credited to your account. Please allow 30 days for a response.

Applications are available in my district office, and my staff stands ready to assist in completing it. If you have questions, please call 412-928-9514.

Who is Eligible?

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$17,655
2	\$23,895
3	\$30,135
4	\$36,375
5	\$42,615
6	\$48,855
Each Additional Person Add	\$6,240

I Know I Shouldn't Look, But....

by Dan Kaczmarek

Zillow is an online real estate data base that has some supporters and many critics. In addition to providing a listing of properties on the market, it allows you to type in a property's address (e.g., yours), even one not for sale, and get Zillow's estimate of its current market value. Zillow hedges its bets by imbedding that estimate within a pretty broad range of possible values.

Zillow has historically given real estate agents headaches because it often gives sellers an erroneous idea of what their property is worth. Zillow doesn't actually visit your house, but instead uses public information such as lot size, square footage, number of bedrooms and bathrooms, building age, tax assessments, transactions for the property and recent sales

of comparable nearby homes. Zillow isn't aware of updates you may have made or whether a stray asteroid has recently hurtled through your roof. To get a useful estimate of your property's actual market value, you need to turn to a local real estate agent.

Having said all that, Zillow can be a rough barometer of real estate trends in an area. If actual sales indicate home values in my community are going up or down, those changes should be factored into Zillow's estimate for my property.

For the next several months, the Brookline will track Zillow changes for a single Brookline home not currently on the market. On January 24 of this year, Zillow's estimate for that home was \$141,632. On February 28, the estimate was \$142,493.

Representative Harry Readshaw



As a result of a 1996 law, you can choose which company generates your home's electricity. You can buy electricity from Duquesne Light at a default rate called the "price to compare," or you can choose from competing suppliers. However, you might be paying more from the suppliers than from Duquesne Light.

The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate reminds you that energy rates fluctuate regularly. Unless you are in a good fixed-rate contract, you should check the price per kilowatt hour you currently pay with Duquesne Light's price to compare, both of which can be found on your electric bill, and the comprehensive list of energy rates for your area that can be found on www.papowerswitch.com.

Alternative suppliers may provide benefits such as renewable power sources or variable rates.

For more information regarding electricity choice, visit www.papowerswitch.com or the Office of Consumer Advocate at www.oca.state.pa.us.

Representative Dan Miller



This month I wanted to provide a reminder of a few state programs and services that my office typically offers at this time of year:

Property Tax/Rent Rebates: Seniors over age 65, widows/widowers over age 50, and individuals with disabilities may qualify (based on their income)

for a rebate on property taxes or rent paid in the previous year. My office has application forms and can provide assistance in completing them.

Tax forms: if you need paper copies of state tax forms or instruction booklets, they can be picked up at my office or call us and we can mail these to you.

DHS benefit applications: If you need to file a new application for state benefits, or if you are currently receiving benefits and need to recertify your eligibility, my office staff can assist you in completing necessary forms.

Keep in mind anytime you interact with a Pennsylvania state program or office, my office can help facilitate timely responses. We can be reached by phone at 412-343-3870 or by email at RepMiller@pahouse.net.

Council Woman Natalia Rudiak



As a Councilwoman, I am honored to represent many of those who have served our city, state and nation, and I want to make sure that those who have sacrificed for our freedom have the support and resources that they were promised. A new program called PAServes is here to help veterans and their families access these services.

PAServes is the first coordinated network of public, private, and nonprofit organizations working together to serve veterans and their families. PAServes covers 3 counties: Allegheny, Butler, and Westmoreland and is comprised of over 135 providers, including 35 veteran service organizations, and is able to support over 140,000 unique military and veteran Families. Western PA is home to the third largest veteran population in the nation. The veterans in this region are our neighbors and community members who have answered the call to serve. PAServes assists veterans and their families with filing for VA healthcare, benefits, disability, education, employment, financial services, housing, legal services, mentoring, meeting other veterans, spouse support and volunteering. There are over 32 highly respected veteran service organizations that are part of the PAServes network.

By working with PAServes, providers, family members and veterans experience a "One Stop Shop" to access services. PAServes has had a steady stream of referrals and has worked with military members and veterans on all services offered. The services used most have been: housing, financial assistance, healthcare, and education. The PAServes Coordination Center is located at Pittsburgh Mercy Health System. PAServes can be reached at 1-855-838-7744, or online at paserves.org. UniteUs, our host network, can be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UniteVets/.

DR. GUY RESCHENTHALER
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

No Name Café: Comfort Food on the Boulevard

by Dan Kaczmarek



No Name Café
Pawburgh Photography

One blustery day last month, under leaden skies with a wind chill near zero, my wife and I sought some comfort in Brookline. Our goal was to get something to eat, but not go far, pay a lot, or wait long. And mostly we were hoping for something that would make us say “a-h-h” on a bleak and biting day.

We discovered all of that a few doors up from the Post Office at No Name Café. Twenty-five minutes, one savory cheeseburger, and a delicious

afternoon hot breakfast later, we were on our way, warmed by our meal and a friendly conversation with Mary, the owner.

Mary and her granddaughter, Tonya, run the Café. The ambience is uber-casual. The place is cozy enough that sitting at any of the four tables gives you a ringside view of your meal

sizzling on the griddle. There's also counter seating. Mary said she wants customers to feel like they're guests in her own kitchen. Regular customers have frequented the Café for years, but Mary says the clientele is increasingly young adults and new faces.

The menu offers lots of choices. There's an entire page of breakfast items, served all day. I had the Mega Bite breakfast, with everything perfectly seasoned and as hot off the griddle as you can get. My wife chose a quarter-pound cheeseburger from the more than a dozen hot sandwiches and burgers. There are also soups, salads and sides. If you don't have a power meeting immediately afterward, you might consider sitting back and savoring a lunch platter featuring hot roast beef, meatloaf, or country fried steak, with mashed potatoes and vegetables.

And Mary isn't kidding about making her guests feel at home. While eating, my wife and I mentioned maybe walking over to DeLuca's or Party Cake on the way to the car to get a donut for dessert. Mary offered to send a staff member out to pick some up for us so we could enjoy them with our coffee at the Café. We politely declined, but were touched by the offer, as well as the good food and warm, comfortable atmosphere at No-Name Café.

Brookline Teen Outreach Orientation and Open House

by Caitlin McNulty
President, Brookline Teen Outreach

New is the theme at Brookline Teen Outreach this month! We have a new location, new opportunities and new ways to get involved.

All are welcome to celebrate the opening of our new space and learn more about how we're working to serve the teens of South Pittsburgh at our open house on Sat, March 19, noon to 4 p.m. at 520 Brookline Blvd. [American Legion building]. The afternoon will include raffles, photo booth, and light refreshments.

We need volunteers to make BTO thrive and grow. There are many volunteer opportunities from occasional helpers to board members, and everything in between. If you are interested in learning more, please join us for volunteer day on Sat. March 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please visit our newly launched website at www.brooklineteenoutreach.org



Try out your skills with Café de Noir's new chess set

Photo by Keith Knecht

**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

Community Events & Announcements

Carnegie Library of Brookline March Events

For All Ages

- Crochet & Knitting Fun – Saturdays, March 5 & 19 @ 1 p.m. – one-on-one assistance and limited free supplies are available.

For Ages 12 – adult

- Intro to Guitar – Tuesdays, March 1 & 22 @ 7 p.m. – Make an appointment to learn basic techniques, get introductory tips and hands-on practice. Call 412-561-1003 to reserve a half-hour session.

For Kids

- Storytime: Toddler and Preschooler Tales – Mondays @ 6:30 p.m.
- Tween Workshop Tuesdays – Tuesdays @ 3 p.m.
- Kids Club: Wacky Wednesdays – Wednesdays @ 3:30 p.m.
- Family PlayShop – Thursdays @ 11 am – Babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their caregivers spend time together, make friends, use toys to learn about their world, and talk one-on-one with child development specialists.
- STEM Super Science: Beebots – Wednesday, March 16 @ 3:30 p.m.

For Teens

- Pokémon League – Mondays @ 3 p.m. – video game making this month!
- Teen Time – Thursdays @ 3 p.m.

For Adults

- Let's Speak English! – Tuesdays @ 6:45 p.m. – non-native English speakers build comfort and confidence with the language through casual conversation.
- Power Yoga with Amy – Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. – bring your own water, mat and towel for free fitness-based yoga.
- Monthly Movie Showdown – Tuesday, March 8 @ 6 p.m. – *Moon* versus *Pandorum*
- Résumé Assistance by Appointment – Wednesdays, March 9 & 23 @ 6-8 p.m. – A qualified volunteer is available to review your existing résumé and cover letter to help make them stronger. Call 412-561-1003 to schedule a half-hour appointment.
- Book Discussions
 - Mystery & More – Wednesday, March 9 @ 1 p.m. – *The Husband's Secret* by Liane Moriarty
 - Between the Lines – Monday, March 21 @ 6 p.m. – *Big Little Lies* by Liane Moriarty
 - The Buzz – Thursday, March 24 @ 6 p.m. – *Fables Vol. 1: Legends in Exile* by Bill Willingham
- Game Night – Tuesday, March 15 @ 5:45 p.m. – classic and adventure-based board games

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

Heritage Players Theater News

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

In March

The Importance of Being Earnest. Oscar Wilde's classic British comedy. March 11-13 and 18-20 at the Seton Center. Fri. and Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun. matinees, 2 p.m. Tickets \$12 at the door or \$10 in advance online at www.bphp.org/xu35a.

Auditions for *Picnic* by William Inge, March 5 at the Seton Center, 7 p.m. & March 6 at the Schoolhouse Arts Center, Bethel Park, 7 p.m. Seeking actors ages 16-65. Please prepare a one-to-two minute dramatic monologue. There may also be cold readings from the script. Performance dates: May 13-15 and 20-22 at the Seton Center. This Pulitzer Prize-winning American classic is earthy, humorous, honest, touching and intensely romantic. A handsome drifter arrives in a small

Kansas town one fateful Labor Day and alters the lives of all those who come in contact with him, especially the female residents.

Season tickets

It's not too late to buy a 2016 season pass for just \$25! Productions include *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Picnic*, and *Mame* in October.

Theater classes

Heritage Players are offering theater classes for all ages from five to adult beginning April 4 at the Seton Center. An audition preparation class for ages 13-adult will also be offered at the Schoolhouse Arts Center, Bethel Park. Visit www.bphp.org

For course listings and descriptions and ongoing registration, season tickets, to place a business ad in the show programs, or for more information visit www.bphp.org.

What's Happening at Brookline PreK-8

by Amy Cornelius Dembosky, Parent Volunteer

Love was in the air for us in February, and so was attendance! We participated in our second attendance challenge of the year, this time in competition with Concord, Roosevelt, and Arlington schools. It's so important for children to be in school each day and on time. Early dismissals can have an impact on student learning, too, so please try to limit them as much as possible.

At the end of the second nine-week report period, we are happy to say that we had over 70 students earn the Trifecta award for perfect attendance, making the honor roll, and having outstanding citizenship. Way to go, Bobcats!

The Parent Resource Center is open to any parent or caregiver of a student (or future student!) every school morning from 8:15-9, and Mondays and Wednesdays from 2 p.m. until dismissal. Our parent volunteers can help you: get your clearances using our two brand new computers and printer; check out our bulletin board of family activities, and find information on community resources. We have books and toys for your preschool-aged children to keep them busy!

What's Going on at Pittsburgh West Liberty?

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

We are happy to welcome some warmer weather--that is, if Punxsutawney Phil is correct. Accordingly, Phil did not see his shadow so we can expect an early spring.

For the month of March, we have some fun activities planned at our school. March 10 is our Math Night at Pittsburgh West Liberty. Our Math Team of teachers and staff get together to plan an evening around math games and activities to help your child become a better student in math. It also provides interesting and creative ways to practice math with your child rather than worksheet after worksheet.

On March 16, we will be welcoming WTAE's meteorologist Mike Harvey to West Liberty. We are excited to have an assembly to enjoy his presentation. Also, the children are looking forward for a chance to be on television. It's an exciting time for all.

Spring break is from March 21 through March 25. Classes will resume on Monday, March 28.

Enjoy the beautiful weather and remember, Pittsburgh West Liberty is "Where Learners Excel and Character Counts."

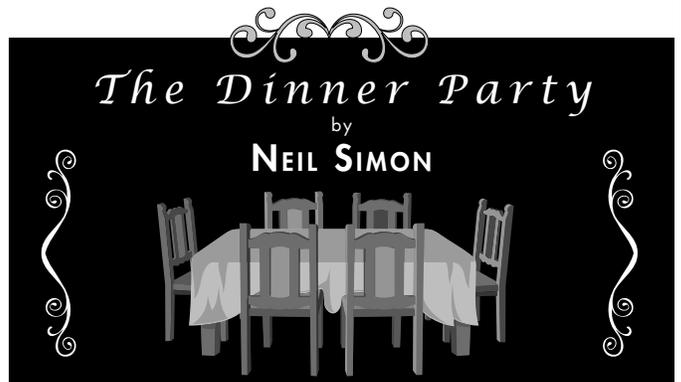
Please call the school for more information.

As part of our school's instructional focus on early literacy, the Parent Resource Center is hosting preschool story time on Wednesdays. Join us March 2 and 16 at 2 p.m. in the school library for stories and crafts. We will read several stories and do some activities with the kids, and at the same time the little ones will get to check out the "big kids' school!" Pre-K students may join us after they are dismissed. When we are done you can pick up your older children!

We are excited that our fifth graders will again be participating in the Dancing Classrooms program. Dancing Classrooms teaches more than the foxtrot -- it promotes respect and cooperation among students. This contributes to our goal of having a caring and safe environment for all students. There will be a total of 20 sessions, culminating in a performance for families and the opportunity to dance in the all-Pittsburgh competition.

Remember to mark your calendars for spring break! It starts with a half-day on March 18 this year. School will resume Monday, March 28.

Retro Red Productions Presents



Directed by: Annette Ferrieri

Here is a decidedly elegant dinner party served up in a chaotic mode that only a master of comedy could create. Five people are invited to dine at an exclusive restaurant in Paris. They do not know who the other guests are or why they have been invited. Tossed together in a private dining room, they never suspect that this dinner party will forever change their lives.

SAVE THE DATE

Seton Center, 1900 Pioneer Ave. 15226

Apr 1,2,3 & 8,9,10
Fri - Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm

Bring this ad to the show
and receive \$2.00 off
your ticket price!

Ticket Prices:

Adults: \$15 | Seniors: \$10 | Students: \$10

Purchase tickets on-line at www.retrored.net for \$10

To reserve tickets:

email: retro.redpro@gmail.com

Tickets can also be purchased at the door

Presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.



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.



South Hills Used Washers & Dryers

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

Gary Henry
412-641-9605

- Sales
- Service
- Delivery



155 McNeilly Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15226



www.southhillsusedwashersanddryers.com

Dancing With Daddy G

Motown

British Rock

Pittsburgh Oldies

The Rat Pack



ANYBODY can play oldies... I LIVED THEM!



My music will create an atmosphere that takes you back to the day, right up to the present. Everything from Doo-Wop to Hip-Hop

"Tony, What a great job! Your masterful display of music knowledge, along with your showmanship, made our night complete. You orchestrated the dancing and the other fun stuff that only a true professional could do."
-Trent G. 1968 Baldwin High School 40th Reunion

**For booking information contact
Guarino Group Productions**

**www.GuarinoGroup.com
412-600-6171**

Mike T's Auto Sales

www.miketsautosales.com

"NO GAMES NO GIMMICKS"



All Vehicles With Brand
New PA Inspection

2421 McNeilly Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Mike "T" Trapolsi
Owner/Operator

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



PARTY CAKE SHOP

E-Mail: partycake1@yahoo.com • www.partycakeshop.com

706 Brookline Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
412-531-5322

297 Beverly Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
412-343-0101

Rather Ripped Records

Cleans and prices approximately 500 records each week and the surprises & hits just keep coming and get added to:

- Over 10,000 used records already in stock starting at \$1.00
- New reissue, imports and rare live sealed LPs
- A lot of 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.
- Vintage leather, denim and other jackets for men and women.
- T-shirts new and vintage for kids, adults and the rest of us.

WE BUY SELL & TRADE
Call (412) 253-3445

RATHER RIPPED RECORDS is located at 754 Brookline Blvd @ Flatbush and Brookline, PA 15226, is open at 11 to 7 Tues thru Saturday, 11-4 Sunday and Closed Mondays
WE ACCEPT ALL CHARGE & DEBIT CARDS.

We Buy, Trade & Sell
Just ask how and tell a friend about us