

Letter from the Editor

“Jack Frost nipping...warm woolen mittens...snowflakes fill the air...ho ho ho...’tis the season...” This is the one month we actually welcome the cold and snow. We also expect that cold and snowy weather to depart on New Year’s Day, but that’s a discussion for next month.

December, like October, is another month of holidays covering many cultures. We begin with Eid ad Alha, the most important feast of the Muslim calendar, then spin the dreidl for Hanukkah, followed by the joyous season

of Christmas, and end with the African American heritage celebration of Kwanza. It’s a busy, festive, family-filled month. By the time New Year’s Eve rolls around we need a rest from the busy, festive, family-filled month.

Since Santa brought our Christmas gift early, as requested, we are able to share our new look. Thanks to our volunteer staff member Dana Hackley, we didn’t know we could look this good! We are hoping to roll out some additional enhancements in the

new year. So keep reading, and please keep in touch.

Now we must work out the logistics of preparing The Feast of the Seven Fishes for Christmas Eve and Christmas dinner the following day. Nonna never seemed to have a problem with this, and she didn’t have all the nifty appliances we do.

We’re wondering if the family will buy off on tuna salad for one of the fishes!

SALON CANOVA

By Pamela Grabowski

Day Spa. Sounds very upscale—right? Well Brookline has a Day Spa. Salon Canova. You can get a manicure, pedicure, facial and a massage. Yes, right here in Brookline. Oh, and waxing too. And it won’t cost you as much as it would at one of those fancy schmancy places downtown or Sewickley, Mt. Lebanon—get the picture?

Janet Canova opened her unisex salon 10 years ago this month. “While Brookline is my community, and the Garrubba Family name is synonymous with Brookline [Janet is a Garrubba], there is more that my husband and I considered when deciding to establish Salon Canova in Brookline. We are a great ethnic community with reasonable housing, low crime rate, the city’s second largest neighborhood, centrally located with easy access to downtown and parkways. Why NOT have an upscale salon in BROOKLINE.” Why



**515 Brookline Blvd.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15226
 Hours: Tues. to Sat.
 By Appointment**



See CANOVA Page 3 From left: Janet Canova, Lisa Schwah and Thorunn Moyer



Chamber of Commerce

By Amy Fisher

The Brookline Chamber of Commerce sponsored the annual Halloween Parade on Brookline Blvd. October 25. The rain showers did not dampen the spirits of those who attended! The parade happens on the Saturday before Halloween every year

at 2:00 PM, starting at the cannon. A fire truck or police car leads the marchers in the street and the crowd gathers for "best costume" prizes. Congratulations to this year's winners, who received Brookline Bucks spendable at Chamber member businesses.

Brookline Block Watch

By Pamela Grabowski

Burglaries are on the rise in the area. They are occurring during the day when residents are not home. If you see an unfamiliar vehicle in your neighborhood, get a license number particularly if the vehicle seems to be cruising the neighborhood. Report graffiti immediately to the police. In some cases, homes may have been tagged before they were burglarized.

Pay attention to groups of kids walking in the area, between houses or in alleys. CALL 911 before you are the next victim.

The incidents of burglaries and robberies tends to rise when the economy is down. Watch out for yourself and your neighbors. CALL 911. CALL 911. We can't say it often enough.

South Pittsburgh Development Corp.

By Pamela Grabowski

Jeremy Dentel was introduced at the November meeting. Jeremy is working with Jan and Bob Beiler on the Brookline website www.brookline-pgh.org.

There was continuing discussion on the merger between SPDC and Brookline Chamber of Commerce, as well as an update on the newsletter.

Winter Fire Safety

By Dana Hackley

As holiday festivities include the use of candles, lights, dry holly and trees, the chance of home fires increases. In fact, the Consumer Protection Safety Commission estimates there are more than 14,000 candle-related fires each year resulting in about 170 deaths and \$350 million in property loss.



From left: Lt. Mohan, Firefighter Evans, Capt. Hoyle, Firefighter Chirum, Lt. Heim and Firefighter Loeffert.

common sense and take preventative measures. "Have smoke detectors, get your furnace and chimney cleaned. Don't leave anything in the oven. Keep an eye on all portable heaters. Limit how much you put into extension cords as well as the number of lights so as to not overload circuit breakers." He insists, "If a fire does

Lt. Dan Heim from Brookline's firehouse cautions people to use some

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Do you know someone who would enjoy a subscription to The Brookline?

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Send their name and address along with a check or money order payable to "SPDC" to the following address:

P.O. Box 9606
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

BROOKLINE SHOPPER OF THE MONTH: MIKE ZANG



Above: Becca Buskirk (left) holds an Obama cookie, while Victoria Lewis (right) holds a McCain cookie. Party Cake Shop's cookie contest -Obama 723 to McCain 420 - Brookline had it right!



We want to hear from you. If you have questions about Brookline, maybe we can help you get answers. We welcome your comments. Send your questions or comments by email, phone or mail.

Email: mnp.grabowski@verizon.net

Telephone: 412-343-2859

Mail: The Brookline c/o SPDC, PO Box 9606, Pittsburgh, PA 15226.

Get The Brookline in COLOR! Send your email address to mnp.grabowski@verizon.net. Put "The Brookline" in the subject line.

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

South Pittsburgh Development Corporation
P.O. Box 9606
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

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Janet Canova with customer Lorraine Arena.

not indeed!

Salon Canova offers therapeutic massage including deep tissue and hot stone therapy. The facial options include back facial treatments as well as foot facials. Janet uses and sells Dermalogica products. Dermalogica does not test on ani-



mals, and their products are non-comedogenic. Dermatologists recommend non-comedogenic products for acne patients because these products will not clog the pores. Janet points out that the Ultra Calming Wash can be used on infants. Start hinting for a gift certificate to Salon Canova now. Better yet stop by the salon and pick up a brochure. Then you can specify the amount you want on the gift

certificate. Maybe a therapeutic massage. Or a Spa Pedicure and Paraffin Foot Treatment. No, save that for sandal season. How about a European Skincare Treatment! Perfect!



FIRE Continued from Page 2

break out, Dial 9-1-1. Don't try to put it out yourself. You wouldn't believe how many people try to do it themselves or call a neighbor to help."

Meanwhile, the CPSC provides these additional tips:

Trees and Decorations:

- When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant." Although this label does not mean the tree won't catch fire, it does indicate the tree is more resistant to burning.
 - When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and do not break when bent between your fingers. The bottom of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles.
 - When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces and radiators. Because heated rooms dry out live trees rapidly, be sure to keep the stand filled with water.
 - Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree.
- Lights:**
- Indoors or outside, use only lights

that have been tested for safety by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory, such as UL or ETL/ITSNA. Use only newer lights that have thicker wiring and are required to have safety fuses to prevent the wires from overheating.

- Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Throw out damaged sets.
- If using an extension cord, make sure it is rated for the intended use.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and a person touching a branch could be electrocuted.
- When using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use and only plug them into a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected receptacles or a portable GFCI.
- Turn off all holiday lights when you go to bed or leave the house.

Fireplaces:

- Do not burn wrapping paper or plastic items in the fireplace. These

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READERS RESPOND

To the October's inquiry on Madalyn Murray O'Hair.

We have official record in our Church Register that Madalyn E. Mays, daughter of J. I. & Lena Mays,

was born on April 13, 1919 and was baptized at the Brookline Boulevard United Presbyterian Church on July 19, 1925 with the Rev. John J. McIlvaine officiating. She would have been around six years of age at

the time of her baptism. We do not have record of either Madalyn or her parents ever joining this church. - Submitted by Carolyn R. Wood, Clerk of Session of the Brookline Boulevard United Presbyterian Church.

READERS ASK

Mary Hutchins we didn't forget about you. Your question will be answered in January's newsletter.

Halloween Awards

Scariest:

- 1st: Joshua Howe
 - 2nd: Sarah Merlina
 - 3rd: Jaden
 - 4th: Jaren Chardello
- Most Original:
- 1st: Nico Giampa

- 2nd: Zachary
 - 3rd: Mackenzie Trosky
 - 4th: Brittany Corbett
- Most Funny:
- 1st: Kingston Cox
 - 2nd: Gregory Steedley
 - 3rd: Matthew Kennard Jr.

- 4th: Alex Fisher
- Group:
- 1st: Aliena & Evelyn Damas
 - 2nd: Drew Lex & Gus Ferris
 - 3rd: Danny & Aidan Lukaszewicz
 - 4th: Tyler Palmer & Lexis Harvey



December 8

Chamber of Commerce Meeting 6:00PM at Magistrate Charles McLaughlin's office 736 Brookline Blvd.

December 8

South Pittsburgh Development Corp Meeting 7:00PM at Magistrate Charles McLaughlin's office 736 Brookline Blvd.

December 9

Brookline Block Watch Christmas Party 7:00PM at Magistrate Charles McLaughlin's office 736 Brookline Blvd. Bring an appetizer, side or dessert to share.

December 20

Breakfast with Santa 11:00 AM \$2.00 per person Brookline Recreation Center. Adults eat too.

BROOKLINE REC CENTER

Boys & Girls Indoor Dec. Soccer Signups- \$15.00, Games Start Jan.

THIS MONTH

- Joe's Fitness Club, Men & Women 18 and over
- Kinder Sports (sports and crafts with Mickey and Milan), Free 11:00AM to Noon. Age 6 and under.
- Boxing, Mon. Tues. Wed. 6:00PM to 9:00PM. Ages 7 to 36.
- Girls Fast Pitch Softball, Sat. 2:00PM to 3:00 PM Free

FIRE Continued from Page 3 materials can ignite suddenly and burn intensely, resulting in a flash fire.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the number of fatalities and injuries caused by residential fires has declined gradually over the past several decades. Unfortunately, deaths from fires and burns remains the fifth most common cause of unintentional injury deaths in the United States.

PUT YOUR AD HERE!!!

We currently have over 900 readers, and that number doesn't include those who read The Brookline at the website. Contact mnp.grabowski@verizon.net or call 412-343-2859 for more information.

YEAR:	
SPDC Members	\$280
Non Members	\$400
SIX MONTHS:	
SPDC Members	\$160
Non Members	\$225
THREE MONTHS:	
SPDC Members	\$100
Non Members	\$125
Annual SPDC membership dues are \$5.00. Do the math!	