



THE Brookline

South Pittsburgh Development Corporation

Issue 10

<http://www.brookline-pgh.org>

May 2009

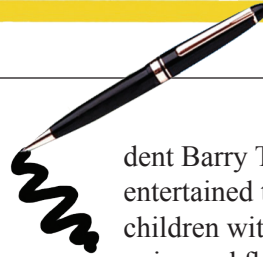
Letter from the Editor

Ready. Set. Plant. Move those tomato seedlings from the kitchen window to the backyard. Let them stretch their roots into mother earth. Scatter the marigold seeds you picked up at the Spring Fling. Generally mid May is the safe date to plant in our area. We usually spend the Saturday before Mother's Day planting our garden.

Our grandparents and parents planted victory gardens during World Wars I and II to reduce the burden on the food supply created by the wars. Today our gardens can reduce our

grocery bills, and, maybe, obesity. Weeding the garden on a sunny summer day burns calories, and the reward is fresh produce. Popping sweet grape tomatoes straight from your backyard plant is heavenly. Sliced tomatoes still warm from the sun sprinkled with salt, pepper, slivers of fresh basil and a drizzle of olive oil - McDonald's "I'm lovin' it!"

If you didn't attend the Spring Fling, you missed some impressive balloon art created by Brookline resi-



dent Barry Taylor. This young man entertained the adults as well as the children with his cats, snakes, penguins and flowers.

Finally, we offer our condolences to the families of the three police officers who lost their lives last month in yet another senseless act of violence. We thank the Pittsburgh Police officers who risk their lives daily to protect and serve. And to those officers who also choose to call Brookline home, a special thank you.

Jacqueline's House of Beauty/Day Spa Salon

616 Brookline Blvd.
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412-341-1354

Hours: Tues - Sat 9:00AM to 4:00PM
Tues. Wed. & Thurs. evenings till 9:00PM
Closed Sunday & Monday

By Pamela Grabowski

Imagine a day of pampering including facial, massage, waxing, manicure, pedicure, hair styling, make-up application and a tanning session. You can have it all at Jacqueline's House of Beauty. Jacqueline Capatolla's soft melodic voice is a perfect complement to the restorative services she offers at her day spa. She uses Tressa hair products and is a Tressa educator.

For those who remember Victor from Vogue or Georgine from Nails by Georgine. They are here at Jacqueline's. Victor specializes in styles favored by the mature woman. With five stylists, Jacqueline's can accommodate a wide range of preferences.

Wedding and Prom Packages are also available. A Wedding Package

would include hair, nails and make-up. The wedding party will be feted with bagels and mimosas while Jacqueline's staff readies them for the big event. There's even a small gift for the bride. The Prom Package is similar, but prom-goers munch popcorn and drink punch. They will receive a free hair accessory.

Gift certificates are available by package or by dollar amount. Mother's Day is coming up. This is an easy gift if you are at a loss for what to get Mom. There's a new client special, a "just to try" selection of mini-services. The idea being that if you like a mini manicure, you'll be back for the full treatment. We're betting you just start with the full treatment.



Jacqueline Capatolla with customer Christine Berry. Photo by Harmonie King.

Resurrection's Centennial Anniversary

By Richard A. Longo

At a recent Church social function many individuals commented on how hard it is to believe that Resurrection or "Ressi" which it is fondly referred to by many in the Brookline and surrounding communities "is going to be one hundred years old." Then again, commented one of the long standing parishioners, "I can't recall when Ressi was not a part of my life or for that matter part of this community."

When the Church was founded in 1909 and the first Mass celebrated in a building which is now occupied by the Frank DeBor Funeral Home parking lot, Fr. Quinn, the founding Pastor, never could have imagined the magnitude and impact the Church would have on the community of Brookline. The first Catholic Parish in the community would over the years give birth to other Parishes including St. Pius, Our Lady of Loreto and even St. Bernard's in Mt. Lebanon.

Resurrection and its School run and led by the Sisters of Charity was the largest faith-based enterprise in the Community. School and Church to thousands of people, Resurrection has had a tremendous impact on both young and old alike. For many, the fond (and not so fond especially if you were "bad") memories of the priests, sisters, teachers and lay leaders all have had a lasting influence on many. Mary, a life long Parishioner, commented that "my faith and for educa-

tion was all learned at Ressi and that I am forever grateful." John, a recent member to the Parish, said he "was never so welcomed in his life and the sense of community and caring was beyond his imagination." Tony, who



attended the school, commented "the way I live my life I owe all of it to Ressi."

And so, these and many similar stories have been the mainstay for those fortunate and lucky enough to say they had the "Ressi experience." "Imagine reaching one hundred years old" said Evelyn an eighty-six year old Parishioner who went on to say "a few more years and I would be celebrating this milestone with the Church." Yes, while it may be hard to believe at first thought but not so when one realizes how a good and strong community re-

source like Resurrection takes hold in a community with a mission and intent to provide for the common good and spiritual development of its people.

As the Brookline and surrounding communities have and continue to change, so too does Ressi always with the intent to meet the needs of the people for whom it serves. From outreach services, to ecumenical encounters to spiritual development Ressi continues to serve as a bastion of hope and resource for the people in this community. As Fr. Frank Mitolo the current Pastor says "Church is community and as such this interconnectedness is key to spreading the good news."

"Old age and years of hard work" are beginning to show thus requiring the Church to under go a capital campaign and renovation program. With a goal of \$500,000 of which one \$100,000 has already been raised, Ressi is on its way towards a new "paint job"! A recognition program with several options is available for willing donors. A year's worth of activities will culminate on Saturday, May 16 when the Anniversary Mass presided over by Bishop David Zubik will be held at 4 PM with a Gala to follow at the Radisson Hotel in Green Tree. For more information on the Giving program and/or the Anniversary/Gala please contact 412-563-4400 or visit www.ressi.com.



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100 Years of Brookline School

By Alyssa Hensel, Grade 8

100 years, that is 365,242,199 (three hundred sixty-five million, two hundred forty two thousand, one hundred ninety nine) days. A lifetime.

In 1927 my grandmother attended this school for seventh and eighth

grades. She grew up to be the private secretary for Richard King Mellon. And it makes me wonder how many successors have walked down these very halls. And how many success stories exist in this graduating class. And how many exist in the classes to come. A lot of things can change in 100 years. Especially in a school. Brookline used to offer electives such as, woodshop, sewing, and home economics. It used to be a school for K-5. But they increased the age limit, now making the grades K-8.

I've only attended Brookline for two years personally. This is my second year, and also my last. Even though I've only gone here for, something like 400 days, things have definitely changed year to year. This year to highlight school spirit we had a pep rally. This year in particular we should have school spirit because it's not only our last year, but it's the hundredth year, and we're the hundredth graduating class. So in a way it's like we're part of the school's history.



We look around this school and see papers, tests, and walls. But it's what we don't see that really matters. Like the hundreds of lessons, the hundreds of goals, the hundreds of dreams; some of which came true, and some of which didn't. And the hundreds of years or work and talent and perseverance, that still exists underneath it all. And have been distributed throughout the years. The urgency, the nervousness, the excitement, the hesitancy, the anxiousness, the confidence, the confusion, that we and the students before us felt will exist in this school buried under years and time. Because once you go to this school it stays with you forever.

Like I said before, 100 years is a long time. In one hundred years people can change, people can grow. In 100 years people can die and things can end. But they can also continue and live on. The way this school will for another hundred years, then another hundred years after that. This school lives vicariously through the students who inhabit it.

Joanne's Corner

Things that aren't here anymore - Part Three

By Joanne Fantoni

Remember all the drug stores with soda fountains on the Boulevard back then? Leapak's was down where Park-side Manor is now. Zak's was across from CoGo. In the fifties it became Patterson's Drug Store. In place of all of these now we have a gigantic CVS and a small Medicine Shoppe right next to each other. Gone are the soda fountains and the cherry phosphates, milkshakes and sundaes and sodas. Question of the month: Do you remember what we used to call the guys with the white hats who worked behind the fountains? Answer to last month's question: What was located many years ago where the Boulevard Lounge is today? A Dairy Queen.

**Public Meeting
Open House
Brookline Boulevard
Improvement Project**

The City of Pittsburgh, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Transportation and Engineering, will hold a Public Meeting Open House concerning the Improvements to Brookline Boulevard from Pioneer Avenue to Starkamp Street. See page 6 for date and time.

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From Senator Wayne Fontana

Are you ready for the summer? Make sure that you start your summer off on the “right wheel”

by joining me and the Greater Beltzhoover Interagency Network on Saturday, May 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Brookline Recreation Center for a Bike Safety Derby!

Did you know that Pennsylvania law requires that children under the age of 12 wear an approved helmet when riding a bicycle? And that it’s even more important to wear a properly-fitted helmet? That means a helmet that is placed level on the head, is snug and covers the forehead, doesn’t move from side to side or back and forth when strapped on, and leaves one finger width of space between the chin and chin strap. While par-

ents should encourage helmet use as soon as a child learns to ride, children also need to be aware of the dangers around them at all times. By attending the bike derby, children will have the opportunity to learn about these issues and much more!

Don’t have a helmet? Free helmets will be provided – including a fitting – to the first 150 participants. All youth can test their bike handling skills in a fun and free Bike Safety Rodeo. All youth can have their bikes inspected for safety by experienced mechanics; on-the-spot repairs may be made. Kids will be able to participate in a bike safety course, get educational information, get to take a chance on a game wheel and have refreshments including hot dogs.

Have questions or need more information, please call my office at 412-344-2551

For a subscription to The Brookline:

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Non Members: \$30 a year (12 issues)

Make check or money order payable to “SPDC” to the following address:

**P.O. Box 9606
Pittsburgh, PA 15226**

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Non Members \$400

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Non Members \$225

THREE MONTHS:
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Annual SPDC membership dues are \$5.00. Do the math!

Talk to TIM Your Brookline Realtor

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South Hills and City of Pittsburgh specialist

From State Representative Chelsa Wagner *Stimulus can help neighborhood*



As discussions continue on the most effective ways to use federal stimulus money to boost our local and national economies, I am confident that focusing on our neighborhoods is essential to this hoped-for recovery. Significant stimulus funding will soon become available for neighborhood projects, to be distributed through Community Development Block Grants. These are grants from the federal government that can be used at the discretion of the city and county governments. The City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County are each to receive more than \$4 million to distribute.

While the list of projects which will be granted funding is still in the works, I am committed to ensuring that any project that moves forward will be done with input from the community and will be held to the highest standards of transparency and accountability. For a neighborhood like Brookline, a small fraction of the available funds can have a transformative impact if used wisely. I look forward to keeping the community updated on the benefits this funding will bring.

The stimulus bill will also provide funding for community development groups for activities like home weatherization, which could greatly benefit areas like Brookline with many older homes. The process for distributing these funds is not yet finalized, but I am monitoring this to ensure that Brookline will be able to access these significant resources for its projects.

It needs to be understood that the use of these funds cannot be a top-down process. Community groups will be the ones making these funds work and providing the long-term benefits. I ask that with your voices and involvement you join me in making sure that communities—not Downtown or Harrisburg—will be calling the shots when funding for neighborhoods is received. I always welcome your input on this or any other matter by contacting my office at (412) 343-2094.

Reader Feedback

As I was reading “The Brookline”, I noticed wayyyy in the back ...if anyone had any questions about Brookline. Well, I certainly do. WHEN is Brookline going to get a DECENT grocery store? We have Co-Go’s, Seven Eleven, Pitaland and now a new place Food for Less, however none of those are sufficient to actually

do a lot of shopping.

The sad fact is, Beechview, which is surrounded by bars and is somewhat of a dying community even has a grocery store.

How can they have one and we do not? I’m very sorry that my and many others’ business goes to either Giant Eagle in Baldwin, Castle Shannon or

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.

Brentwood or Foodland in Carrick, or Kuhn’s in Banksville. Our money is going to other communities instead of our own. It has been over a year since Foodland has moved out, but yet, no one can get a grocery store to take residence there? How utterly shameful!

-G. Schreiber

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THIS MONTH

May 4

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

May 5

Brookline Blvd. Improvement
Project Update 5:00PM until 7:00PM
St. Mark's Church Corner of Glenarm
Ave. & Brookline Blvd.

May 12

Brookline Block Watch
Meeting 7:00PM at Magistrate
Charles McLaughlin's office 736
Brookline Blvd.

May 16

Flea Market/Craft Show 8:00AM
to 2:00PM Hosted by St. Pius X
Women's Club in Cullen Hall below
the church. 50 vendors, bake sale,
Chinese Auction, 50/50 and a lot-
tery board with \$100 worth of lottery
tickets.

May 18

Brookline Area Community Council
"Pot Luck Dinner" 6:00PM St Mark's

Church Corner of Brookline Blvd.
& Glenarm Ave. BACC will provide
chicken you bring your favorite side
dish (enough to feed 8-10) and meet
your neighbors. Annette Ferrari is
making sure everyone isn't bring green
bean casserole so to let her know what
you are bringing. 412-341-9863.

May 19

South Pittsburgh Development Corp
Meeting
7:00PM United Presbyterian Church
1036 Brookline Blvd.

May 25

Memorial Day Parade 10:00AM
Parade starts at Brookline Blvd. &
Flatbush proceeds to Pioneer Ave.
Left onto Pioneer to West Liberty
Ave. Left onto West Liberty to the Mt.
Lebanon Cemetery.

May 31

50th Anniversary Mass 10:30AM at
Our Lady of Loreto 1905 Pioneer Ave.
Dinner Dance at Georgetown Center.
Call the Rectory 412-341-6161 for
information.

Volunteers Needed

COMMUNITY DAY in August needs
volunteers. Call Linda Boss at 412-
563-0759.

MEALS ON WHEELS call 412-343-
8144

SENIOR VAN TRANSPORTATION
call 412-344-4222

**BROOKLINE CHRISTIAN FOOD
PANTRY** call Pat Erny 412-344-8451

CLOTHES CLOSET MINISTRY
call Bernice at 412-343-0937

EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP on May
23. Meet at the United Presbyterian
Church at 9:00AM. Supplies will be
provided.

Are you unable to volunteer right
now? You can still help many of these
organizations. Clothes Closet Ministry
is collecting used clothing for people
who use the Food Pantry. They also
need hangers and plastic bags.

Meals on Wheels accepts cash and
donations of cookies, desserts and
bread.

If you can buy just about anything
you want at the grocery store, add a
grocery store gift card at checkout.
No matter how small it will help the
Brookline Christian Food Pantry.

Lend a hand any way you can.
That's what sustains a thriving
community.

Community Update

The Brookline History website
address has changed to:
www.brooklineconnection.com.
Clint Burton tells us that "the
change was sudden and unan-
nounced, so there may be a lot of
people scratching their heads."

BROOKLINE REC CENTER - 412-571-3222

YOUTH PROGRAMS:

Boys & Girls Indoor Soccer

\$15.00 Fee

Kinder Sports

Free program of sports and crafts
with Mickey and Milan. 11:00AM to
Noon. Age 6 and under.

Girls Fast Pitch Softball

Sat. 2:00PM to 3:00 PM Free

Mr. Joe's Fitness Program

Come and receive personal in class
training and nutritional from Joe
Szymanski. Ages 13 to 17.

Boxing

Get ready for Golden Gloves. Mon.
Tues. Wed. 6:00PM to 9:00PM. Ages
8 to 36. Subnovis, novis and open
divisions are trained by Mike and
Carlos.

Boys & Girls Summer Basketball League

Ages 9-14 \$25.00 per player. Season

runs mid-June through first week of
August.

ADULT PROGRAMS:

Joe's Fitness Club

Come and receive personal in class
training and nutritional info from Joe
Szymanski. Men & Women age 18
and over

Boxing

Get ready for Golden Gloves. Mon.
Tues. Wed. 6:00PM to 9:00PM. Ages
8 to 36. Subnovis, novis and open
divisions are trained by Mike and
Carlos.

Body Sculpting and Weight Loss Program

Mon. and Thurs. 6:30PM to 7:30PM
\$30.00 Fee for 10 classes

Yoga Tues. 6:15PM to 7:15PM \$50
Fee for 6 week session or \$10 per
class.