

Letter from the Editor



Welcome to the steamy days of summer, and we hope the sun shines on this year's Breeze Fest. Please try to make it to the Boulevard for the festivities. We would enjoy meeting you so plan to stop at the **SPDC** table. **Joanne Fantoni** will be there, and she's always looking for ideas for her column.

Last month we stated that crime is down in Brookline. Contrary to what you might be hearing, that is accurate. We hear many inaccurate statements casually tossed around on the 39 Brookline, in the local businesses, or on the street. We based our low crime statement on the May crime summary passed out by **Officer Kenneth Stewing** reflecting the following crimes for Zone 6 which includes the communities of Fairywood, Windgap, Chartiers City, Esplen, Sheraden, Craftan Heights, Elliot, West End, Westwood, Oakwood, East Carnegie, Ridgmont, Banksville, Beechview and Brookline.

	Total in the Zone	Number of those that occurred in Brookline
Aggravated Assaults	6	0
Rape	1	0
Robbery	8	1
Burglary	16	2

(Continued on page 8)



MELISSA DISTEL PHOTOGRAPHY

800 Brookline Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
412-728-4102
www.melissadistel.com
Tues & Thurs 10:00AM to 5:00PM
& By Appointment

To describe **Melissa Distel** as a photographer doesn't really do justice to her work. Each one of her photographs is a work of art. As I studied the children's photos that line her studio, I realized I would gladly hang any one of them in my home—and they weren't my kids! The fact that Melissa has four children of her own may explain her skill photographing children. They happen to be her favorite subjects, too.

Melissa's education at Eastern Michigan University and the Art Institute of Pittsburgh shows in the creativity of her work. Whether she's taking photos of babies, weddings or a family group, there's a small twist that turns the ordinary image into frame-worthy art. The newborn curled up in a macramé plant hanger or the baby girl wearing a diaper festooned with pink and white flowers smiling as she sleeps is more



Melissa Distel

Photo by *Catia Fath*



than just the familiar run-of-the-mill baby picture.

Since Melissa doesn't advertise, she is able to keep her prices low. She depends on customers recommending her and if you read some of the online reviews, she gets glowing recommendations. She also carries a wide variety of ways to present your photos.

It's not too early to think about the holidays. Is this the year you send a photo Christmas card? Maybe a photograph of Mom and Dad would make a great gift this year, or a family portrait? Check out **Melissa Distel Photography** online, at Facebook, or better yet stop by the shop and see her work. You will be impressed, too.

Photo by *Melissa Distel*

-*Pamela Grabowski*



SUSTAINING FRIENDS

Your donations keep us in print. Please continue to support us. We can provide a donation box and make monthly collections. Become a sustaining friend of **The Brookline**. We will thank you in the newsletter.

- Donations thru June 2011:
Cannon Coffee - \$100.25
Kribel's Bakery - \$391.05
A Boss - \$6.00

WE PRINT CLASSIFIED ADS

Ad copy must be RECEIVED by the 12th of the month BEFORE publication. For the September issue we must have the information by August 12. Price will be \$4.00 per month. Payment required before publication. You can submit by snail mail, phone or email. See sample ad below
Snail Mail: The Brookline, PO Box 96136, Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Phone: 412-343-2859
Email: mnp.grabowski@verizon.net

SAMPLE AD

SAMPLE of a \$4 Ad - Item for sale. Apt for rent. House for sale. Lost pet. Put your ad in The Brookline.



Sponsored by:
 Brookline Chamber of Commerce

Email: BlvdBreezefest@hotmail.com



The Brookline Staff
Pamela Grabowski Editor

- Jan Beiler* Proofreader/Advertising
- Amy Fisher* Proofreader
- Julie Salas* Proofreader
- Jennifer Askey* Proofreader
- Ryan Askey* Proofreader
- Catia Fath* Photographer
- Rosemarie Traficante* Delivery
- South Hills Printing* - The Brookline's official printer

Your \$10 annual membership in SPDC supports projects like Jacob-Whited, DogiPots and The Brookline. Join today.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: thebrookline@brookline-pgh.org or mnp.grabowski@verizon.net
Telephone: 412-343-2859
Mail: The Brookline , PO Box 96136, Pittsburgh, PA 15226.

The Brookline by email is in FULL COLOR!
The Brookline is also available by mail. A one year subscription is \$15 with your \$10 membership to SPDC.

CONTACT THE BROOKLINE

THE BROOKLINE PAST ISSUES

Clint Burton has archived past issues of **The Brookline** at www.brooklineconnection.com.

We want to hear from you. Send your questions or comments by email, phone or mail. **Deadline for September is August 12. October's deadline is September 12.**

*****ADVERTISING RATES*****

Contact Pamela Grabowski at mnp.grabowski@verizon.net or call 412-343-2859 for more information. We now have over 1,350 readers.

Standard ads are a width of 3.75 inches. We charge by the height of the ad at \$12.00 per inch. This is an example of a one inch ad space. Remember ad graphics and artwork are free! Call us to place your ad in **The Brookline**.

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

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SENATOR WAYNE FONTANA

If you received a small Social Security cost of living increase (COLA) that puts you over the income limit for participation in the PACE/PACENET programs, you can still retain these benefits thanks to a new law that the Senate passed in June. Act 21 says that if the Social Security COLA is the only change in income that puts a recipient over the income threshold, that it will not be counted toward their income. Without the change, about 9,000 people receiving PACENET would have lost their benefits, while an estimated 21,000 PACE enrollees would have had to move to PACENET, making them responsible for higher co-pays.

PACE and PACENET provide comprehensive prescription coverage to seniors and cover most prescription medications, including insulin, syringes and insulin needles. To be eligible for PACE or PACENET, one must be 65 years of age or older, a state resident for at least 90 days prior to applying for benefits, and cannot be enrolled in the Department of Public Welfare's Medicaid prescription benefit. Eligibility for both programs is determined by previous year's income.

To qualify for PACE, a single person's income cannot total more than \$14,500. For a married couple, combined total income must be less than \$17,700. PACENET's income limits are slightly higher than those for PACE. A single person's total income can be between \$14,500 and \$23,500. A couple's combined total income can be between \$17,700 and \$31,500.

If you believe that you may be eligible for PACE or PACENET, please contact my office for an application and assistance.

And remember - the application period for the Property Tax & Rent Rebate Program has been extended through the end of the year. If you haven't already applied, please visit my office for an application and assistance in completing the form. If you have already applied, the state began issuing checks on July 1. If you are a Pennsylvanian age 65 and older, a person with a disability 18 and older, or a widow or widower age 50 and older, you may be eligible. Income limits are \$35,000 for homeowners and \$15,000 for renters. The maximum standard rebate is \$650, but supplemental rebates for qualifying homeowners can increase rebates to \$975.

More than 600,000 people are expected to receive a benefit under the program, with 120,000 seniors having their school district property tax bill eliminated. Rebates will be sent out beginning July 1. Eligible residents who submit their application after June 30 will receive their claim after it is processed. You may also check the status of claims online by visiting the [PA Department of Revenue website](#) or call 1-888-PATAXES. The program is supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery and revenue from slots gaming.

WIN AN iPad PLUS ACCESSORIES



The **Brookline Chamber of Commerce** will be raffling off an iPad at the Breeze Fest on August 13. Tickets are available at **Cannon Coffee, A-Boss Opticians** and **Hair by Conroy**. Tickets cost \$5.00. The winning number is based on the PA evening

Lottery. Proceeds go back to Brookline community projects. Help support Brookline's growth.

-Linda Boss



AUGUST 13

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JOANNE'S CORNER

Things that aren't here anymore - Part 29

Now that we are well into summer remember the **Brookline Breeze Fest** on August 13. The race will be in the morning, and I think the Boulevard will be closed to traffic until 10:00AM. There will be many different vendors, including lots of food, the whole length of the Boulevard. I'm sure you will run into friends and neighbors and catch-up on the latest news. Our newsletter staff will have a table somewhere around the **Cedars of Lebanon** [810 Brookline Boulevard]. So stop by and give me some ideas for the column that I haven't touched on yet. Does anybody remember when we had the first **Brookline Breeze**?

Speaking of summer do you remember the Victory Gardens we planted during the war years? I always think of that when I'm enjoying those sweet beautiful red ripe tomatoes with fresh basil, olive oil and fresh mozzarella. Yummy!

-Joanne Fantoni

Last Month's Question:

Do you know how many of our churches in Brookline had a steeple with bells?

Answer: Three



Watch for Copper Pipe Thieves

While it is euphemistically called "Midnight Plumbing," the thefts usually occur during the day. The plumber entering that vacant house might not be legitimate. Call 911. Let the police check it out.

AND THE NAME IS...

In June's issue, Joanne had a question without an answer. We asked, and you answered. Does anyone remember the name of the Lebanese restaurant that was upstairs of **Party Cake** and **South Hills Printing**?

"The Rubiyat," *Dave Johnson*

"Chahine," *Merrilee DiPippa*

"Kail's. Tommy Kail owned it and his wife did the cooking," *Sandy Dacey*

"Chahine," *Alice Mervos*

"Chahine's," *Bob Hungerman*

"Chahine's Bakery and Restaurant," *Pat Carson*

"Chahine's. My aunt Mildred Gibbs was a manager at Autenreith's and she would eat lunch there," *Kathy Mangis*

"Chahine's," *Joan Bader*

"Chahine's," *Pat Khalil*

We believe both **Chahine's** and **Kail's** are correct answers. **Chahine's** was there first and then **Kail's**. Joanne is doing some additional research, and she will let us know what she finds. We do want to thank everyone who responded.

- Pamela Grabowski

READERS' RESPONSE

As a former resident for many years on Pioneer Ave in Brookline, I enjoy your **The Brookline** very much—very interesting & well put together—in fact, excellent!

-Shirley Gruzewski

You are doing a very good job. I love reading **The Brookline**!

- Maria Casciato



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THIS MONTH AT CARNEGIE LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

World of Crafts

Tuesday, August 2 at 2:00PM

Kids entering grades K-5 - Learn to make fun and interesting crafts like those created by children in other countries.

World Explorers

Wednesday, August 3 at 2:00PM

Kids entering grades K-5 - Go global with stories, songs and more inspired by cultures around the world.

Away We Go!

Thursday, August 4 at 11:00AM

Kids ages 0-3 - Book a trip for world-wide fun with stories, rhymes and fingerplays.



Around the World in 8 Movies

Thursday, August 4 at 2:00PM

Kids entering grades K-5 - Take a trip around the globe with some of your favorite film characters. All movies rated G or PG. Call the Library for titles.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Go Global, Go Green

Monday, August 1 at 2:00PM

Teens entering grades 6-12 - Craft your own fabulous, fun creations inspired by globe and some eco-friendly projects that can help save our planet.



nations around the

Book Your Ticket

Monday, August 8 at 4:00PM

Teens entering grades 6-12 - Expand your horizons by discussing books set in locales throughout the world.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Book Discussions Adults 18 and older. Explore new ideas and perspectives through contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction.

Monday Evening Book Club First Monday of each month at 6:00PM

Wednesday Afternoon Book Club Second Wednesday of each month at 1:00PM



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Stop in and meet **Joe Chuong** at **Chuong's Cleaner's**. He will be happy to make you his next customer.
-Photo by *Catia Fath*



REPRESENTATIVE CHELSA WAGNER

In late June, the House of Representatives passed a \$27.15 billion state budget bill for the 2011-12 fiscal year. I made the decision to vote "no" on this budget because it cuts millions of dollars from vital county government services and programs, shifting the burden to these already struggling and over-burdened agencies and leaving county governments with dire options – either eliminate the programs or increase taxes to make up the revenue.

With its unprecedented and devastating cuts to higher education – \$200 million – this budget shows an incredible lack of foresight into the best interests of Pennsylvania's future and a shocking misplacement of priorities.

These historic cuts – including a 19 percent cut to funding for the University of Pittsburgh – could dismantle the framework of public higher education and harm Pennsylvania's economic competitiveness. This simply isn't the place to cut back. These cuts to basic and higher education imperil the economic future of our region.

This budget also slashes funding to our public schools by nearly \$1 billion – an unprecedented attack on public education that will hurt our kids and cause school districts to raise local taxes in order to make up for the loss in revenue.

Our local schools will feel the pain of this budget, receiving significant decreases in total education funding for 2011-12. The **Pittsburgh Public Schools** alone are cut by \$26.7 million, or nearly 15 percent. The more than 200 job cuts announced by the district in June could be just the beginning of the hardships caused to our students due to this budget.

These cuts are unnecessarily harsh, especially because we have at least \$700 million in surpluses that could be used to restore these painful cuts. It is irresponsible to leave these surplus funds in the state's bank accounts, and then turn around and burden students with higher tuition bills and residents with increased local taxes.


I am committed to doing all I can to ensure the security of the communities and families I represent despite this difficult budget, and in ensuring that our needs and priorities remain at the forefront of the ongoing debates in Harrisburg. Please never hesitate to contact my offices for assistance with any matter relating to state government.

MAINTAINING CANNON PARK

“Well, we are called Cannon Coffee,” **Nathan Mallory** said when asked why he and **Ben Haake** took the reins on maintaining this Brookline landmark. The local veterans who had been tending the park are now in their 70s and 80s. Nathan, also a veteran, convinced the **Brookline Chamber of Commerce** to hold the funds **Cannon Coffee** collected to maintain the park - several hundred dollars. They collected more than was initially needed, but the excess and any additional contributions will be used to continue with tree trimming, planting and painting. Nathan and Ben will hold Community work days if you would like to participate look for an announcement on **Cannon Coffee's** Facebook page or in the shop.

-Pamela Grabowski





**Witchcraft? - Fortune Telling? - Voo-Doo?
Not Even Close!**

Check out IRIDOLOGY

A regular camera is used to take photos of each eye. The analyzed photos yield detailed information about your iris and can reveal genetics of your body in relation to health. You may already know some of these, and you may be surprised at others. This knowledge can empower you to take steps now to prevent possible health problems in the future.

HOW COOL IS THAT?

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BROOKLINE BLVD. IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Update from June 23, 2011 Meeting:

Traffic

- Working on deciding what signal is best to be placed at Starkamp.
- For the safety of pedestrians there should be no parking on each block that is being worked on (one side at a time). There will be access to the businesses. The traffic will be changed to keep the Blvd. open.

Proposed curb ramps/crosswalks

- Revised curb ramp adjacent to CVS to eliminate partial right-of-way. Take crosswalk on Brookline Blvd. near **MJ Automotive**. Contact **MJ Automotive**.
- Stripping on asphalt in walkway.
- A waiver will be sent out for residential/business sidewalks.

Roadway

- Elimination of driveways at **CoGo's** and **Sunoco Station**. (They are not talking about eliminating them all together.) They are drafting to make their driveways not take up so much sidewalk.
- Sidewalk improvements in front of parking garage - Pashek & Associates are working on this building, they will be putting in a new sidewalk. Fred will contact Parking Authority to coordinate a plan, they don't want to tear out a new sidewalk in a year.
- Their contractors will remove the Chamber lights, but the Chamber is responsible for picking them up.
- Street Light poles - They were going to do 15/20 ft. light poles down the Boulevard. I mentioned that the Chamber wanted outlets on the poles for our new Christmas ornaments. They are working on doing both tall and lower street light poles.

You can see the progress yourself by visiting the website Pittsburghfederalprojects.com

-Lois McCafferty

BROOKLINE COMMUNITY ARTS INITIATIVE

On July 29 there was a benefit at Club Café for the **Brookline Community Arts Initiative**. The benefit featured Brookline musicians, songwriters and poets. The arts initiative is the brain child of Nathan Mallory co-owner of **Cannon Coffee**, and the benefit was the first step to raise seed money for the organization.

If you know Nathan and his partner, **Ben Haake**, you know they support Brookline artists. **Cannon Coffee** showcases paintings and photographs from area artists as well as jewelry and note cards. In addition, the Wednesday evening open mic night performances showcase local talent.

By creating the **Brookline Community Arts Initiative**, Nathan and Ben hope to involve more local merchants. For instance, an art studio might host a show, and give lessons on how to care for that painting you purchased at **Cannon Coffee**.

Nathan has arranged with CitiParks to set up a stage at Brookline Boulevard and Flatbush Avenue for five hours of live music at the **Breeze Fest**. **Yellow Bird** will be there if you missed their performance at Cannon Coffee. Stop by and learn more about the future of the arts in Brookline.

-Pamela Grabowski



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Call for Volunteers

- **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.
- **DOGIPOT MAINTENANCE** call Lisa at 412-343-1319
- **MEALS ON WHEELS** sponsored by **St. Mark's Lutheran Church** call 412-343-8144
- **MEALS ON WHEELS** sponsored by **Lutheran Service Society** call 412-366-9490
- **SENIOR VAN TRANSPORTATION** call 412-344-4222
- **BROOKLINE CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY** call **Pat Erny** 412-344-8451
- **CLOTHES CLOSET MINISTRY** call **Brookline United Presbyterian Church** at 412-531-0590

Are you unable to volunteer your time right now? You can still help many of these organizations. **Meals on Wheels** accepts cash and donations of cookies, desserts and bread. Add a grocery store gift card to your shopping cart and send it to the **Brookline Christian Food Pantry, c/o Pat Erny, 2918 Pioneer Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15226-2038**

When you are kind to someone in trouble, you hope they'll remember and be kind to someone else, and it'll become like a wildfire.
-Whoopi Goldberg

Letter from the Editor (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

Theft	31	5	
Theft From Vehicle	22	9	Of the nine vehicles, five were unlocked.
Stolen Vehicle	5	1	

We can remember Dad unlocking the front door when he left for work in the morning, and locking it again after the 11:00PM news. The world isn't the same place it was forty or fifty years ago. We have to lock all doors and windows in the house and in the vehicle.

The other inaccurate statement we hear is that calling 911 doesn't help. We want to share this email from **Commander Scott Schubert**.

*"On June 30 at 0158 hours [1:58AM], a concerned resident reported a possible burglary in progress at a vacant house (for sale property) in the 600 Block of Woodbourne Avenue. Multiple Zone Six officers and an off-duty PBP detective responded to the scene and heard power tools being used inside the property. Upon entering the residence, officers encountered **George Joseph Assenat** (W/M 32 of Carrick) who surrendered to officers after hearing multiple verbal commands that a police dog was being released inside. Officers recovered plumbing tools and noticed extensive damage to copper pipes throughout the house.*

***George Joseph Assenat** was charged with Burglary and Possession of Instruments of Crime and transported to the Allegheny County Jail. A photo is listed on the Community Safety Website.*

This is just one of many great success stories that occur when members of the community get involved and immediately report suspicious behavior. Please remember to look out for one another and report criminal activity and suspicious behavior. By working together we can help make our communities a better place to live, work and visit."

There isn't a community in the country that has enough police to station an officer at every corner. Citizens have to be involved. Your call to 911 does help. **Cmdr. Schubert** reviews the 911 call log to determine where patrols are needed. We also agree that sometimes it's hard not to be discouraged.

As we left July's Block Watch meeting, a vehicle speeding down the Boulevard pulled into an empty spot near the Magistrate's office. **Cmdr. Schubert** and **Officer Stewing** went over to talk to the young man. The police were walking away, and as the young man and his girlfriend passed us, she was mocking the officers adding her own colorful expletives. At that moment, we were hoping the ground would open and swallow them, but alas, it was not to be. We are not discouraged though because we believe in karma - what goes around comes around. We also sincerely hope that young couple decides that they don't need Brookline because we don't need them.

We are also encouraged by **Cmdr. Schubert**, **Officer Stewing** and the other members of the **Pittsburgh Police** who patrol Brookline and live in Brookline. Reread **Cmdr. Schubert's** last sentence. They want the same thing we do.



AUGUST 2, 2011 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

"Pittsburgh's neighborhoods celebrate with picnics, porch parties, festivals or by chatting with neighbors on their stoops. It's a time to learn about neighborhood anticrime programs, strengthen police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals that residents are organized and working to keep their communities safe, strong and secure."

-Liz Style, Coordinator Operation Weed and Seed Program Development and Initiatives

THIS MONTH

August 4 - 6 Thursday, Friday & Saturday

Throughline Theatre's production of *Othello* at **Seton Center** 1900 Pioneer Ave. Thursday & Friday at 8:00PM and Saturday at 5:30PM. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$10.00. Students (valid school ID) & Seniors (55 and older) \$8.00

Othello is a classic, tragic tale of revenge, deceit, and consequences with some of the most powerful, archetypal, and complex characters to ever be put on stage. The Moor of Venice is married to his love, Desdemona. His lieutenant, Iago, plots his downfall by using Othello's own passion against him.

<http://throughlinetheatre.org>

August 6 Saturday

Flea Market 8:00AM to 2:00PM at **Brookline Recreation Center** Bring your own table and set up in the lower parking lot. Free

August 9 Tuesday

Brookline Block Watch 7:00PM at **Magistrate Jim Motznik's** office 736 Brookline Blvd.

August 12 Friday

The Breeze Car Cruise

5:00PM to Dark at **Brookline Recreation Center** Bring your classic vehicle. Fun, Food, Music, Trophies. Come and enjoy a Free evening of old friends and new friends.



August 13 Saturday

Brookline Breeze Fest Brookline Blvd. 10:00AM to 5:00PM. After the **Brookline Breeze** →



Brookline Year Round Farm Stand
Seton Center

1900 Pioneer Ave

Wednesday 11:00AM —6:00PM

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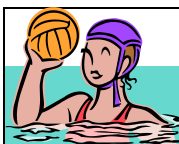


MOVING ART CART
August 10 Ages 5-12 Welcome
Brookline Community Center
10:00AM to 1:00PM

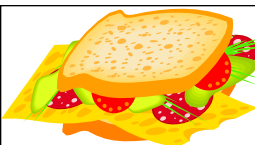
BROOKLINE RECREATION CENTER

- **Boxing** is back in Brookline Wednesdays 6:00PM to 8:00PM for ages 8 to adult.
- **Art class** - Saturdays 11:00AM to 1:00PM for ages 12 through adult. Cost is \$3 plus materials.
- **Kick ball** for ages 4 through 9 - games to be played Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30PM to 6:00PM. Cost will be \$10, and each child will receive a T-shirt.
- **Adult Craft Classes**- Monday 1:00PM to 2:30PM and in the evening 7:00PM to 8:30PM.
- **Fitness Challenge** - Thursdays 7:00PM to 8:00PM - We'll help you get ready to join us in the Brookline Breeze. This is a free program.
- **Martial Arts** - Mondays 6:00PM to 8:45PM for ages 10 to adult. Learn Tae Kwon Do fundamentals with a trained instructor. Cost is \$15 a year.

Call the center for more information 412-571-3222.



CITIPARKS POOL TAGS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT MOORE PARK POOL



Free Lunch program is in effect in July and August. Free lunches and snacks for 18-under. **Brookline Recreation**

Center lunch is 12:00-2:00 and snack from 2:00-3:00. **Moore Recreation Center** lunch is 11:30-1:30 and snack from 2:30-3:30.



Brookline Breeze

Register for the **Brookline Breeze 5K Run and Fitness Walk**, including the one-mile fun run and the first **Doggie Dash** (a separate part of the one mile fun run) This is the

30th Anniversary. Saturday, August 13, 2011. Fun Run 8:30AM - 5K Run and Walk 9:00AM. Registration forms can be obtained at the **Brookline Recreation Center** or online registration accepted at www.brooklinebreeze.com.

CINEMA IN THE PARK

Starts at Dark (approx. 9:00PM) **Brookline Park**

August 4 - *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* (PG)

August 11 - Disney Nature Presents "Oceans" (G)

August 18 - *Secretariat* (PG)

August 25 - *Tangled* (PG)





THEATRE IN BROOKLINE



Do you know theatre is alive and well Brookline? [Throughline Theatre Company](#) is on stage at **Seton Center** through November. The small company was founded by seven individuals who either met while attending Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina or doing local theatre. Two members of the company, **Lauren Connolly**, Managing Director and **Liam Macik**, Artistic Director are Pittsburgh natives. Lauren and Liam returned to the city after graduating. The rest of the company **Ursula Asmus Sears**, Marketing Director, **Sean Sears**, Director of Development, **Tina Marie Cerny**, Production Manager, **Ryan Tierno**, Chief Research Analyst and **Briana Tierno**, Children's Theatre Director were enticed to stay after they came to Pittsburgh to workshop a play Liam had written. **Eric J. Leslie**, a friend of Liam's, joined the group as Business Manager.

They kicked off their 2011 season in June with Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Shakespeare's *Othello* followed in late July, and you can catch the final performances of *Othello* the first weekend of August. *Is He Dead?* a comedy by Mark Twain adapted by David Ives is September's production. The season ends with Liam Macik's play *The Strikelight*.

Thursday and Friday performances begin at 8:00PM. That allows everyone time to enjoy dinner at one of Brookline's fine dining spots and either walk or drive to **Seton Center**. Parking at **Seton Center** is free. Saturday's 5:30PM curtain lends itself to a post theatre stop at **Scoops**. Ticket prices are \$10.00. Seniors 55 and older or students with a valid school ID get in for \$8.00. Snacks are sold at intermission. [Throughline Theatre Company](#) is sustained by ticket sales, snack sales and donations.

You can visit their website <http://throughlinetheatre.org> for more information on volunteering, donating, auditioning and submitting original scripts. You can read the biographies of the eight talented individuals who are bringing theatre to our area.

Don't be mislead by theatre snobs who would tell you that small local theatre company isn't worth your evening. I distinctly remember seeing City Theatre's production of *Josephine the Mouse Singer*. It was performed at a location on Bouquet Street in Oakland that had formerly been Bimbo's Restaurant. Everyone has to start somewhere. One day you will be watching the Tony Award Show as one of the [Throughline Theatre Company](#) actors accepts his/her award, and you will be able to say, "I remember seeing him/her perform at **Seton Center!**"

-Pamela Grabowski



COMMUNITY CONTACTS

We are acting on a suggestion from **Linda Boss** to create a new regular section in the newsletter of community organization contact numbers. We are beginning with those suggested by Linda and a caller. Whose number would you like us to add? Check page two for our contact information, and let us know. When we have our final list, this section will migrate to a permanent location in the newsletter.

- Carnegie Library** 412-561-1003
 - Brookline Christian Food Bank** 412-344-8451
 - Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak** 412-255-2142
 - Meals-on-Wheels** 412-343-8144
 - Mini-Bus** 412-344-4222
 - Representative Chelsa Wagner** 412-343-2094
 - Senator Wayne Fontana** 412-344-2551
- Who do you want us to list?






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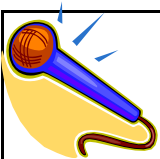
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OPEN MIC SERIES

Cannon Coffee 802 Brookline Blvd. Wednesdays 8:00PM to 10:00PM

A PITTSBURGH STORY

[A reader **tomjudy1644** emailed this story to us, and we thought you might enjoy it too. -Editor]

You need to be from Pittsburgh to appreciate this story.

The year is 2016 and the United States has just elected the first woman president, who happens to be from Pittsburgh. A few days after the election the president-elect, whose name is Susan, calls her Father and says, "So, Dad, I assume you will be coming to my inauguration?"

"I don't think so. It's an 18 hour drive."

"Don't worry about it Dad, I'll send Air Force One. And a limousine will pick you up at your door."

"I don't know. Everybody will be so fancy. What would your mother wear?"

"Oh Dad," replies Susan, "I'll make sure she has a wonderful gown custom-made by the best designer in Washington."

"Honey," Dad complains, "you know I can't eat those rich foods you eat. Do they serve tap beer?"

The President-to-be responds, "Don't worry Dad. The entire affair will be handled by the best caterer in Washington. I'll ensure your meals are salt free. You and mom just have to be there"

So Dad reluctantly agrees and on January 20, 2017, Susan is being sworn in as President of the United States. In the front row sits the new president's Dad and Mom. Dad noticing the senator sitting next to him leans over and whispers, "You see that woman over there with her hand on the Bible, becoming President of the United States?"

The Senator whispers back, "You bet I do."

Dad says proudly, "Her brother played football for the Steelers."

CAREER DAY AT BROOKLINE K-8 A SUCCESS

Friday, June 8 was Fun Day at **Brookline K-8**, and everyone was talking about was how awesome we were. At first, I thought it was the chicken my husband was grilling, but no, it was our presentation at Career Day the day before.



We thought the older kids wouldn't be that interested, but so many of them asked questions about our presentation. First they wanted to know how **Tom Jordan** from DistTech, a subsidiary of KAG, guided the tractor-trailer into such a tiny space. I told them it required a trained and dedicated professional to perform feats like that. In addition, they wanted to know if **Greg McDonald** the Terminal Manager of DistTech was in charge of all the tractor trailers on the road. I told them he thinks he is! Thank you Greg for partnering with us.

The next time we will expand on what happens on the road because I did get a ton of questions about the distance a driver has to cover and more. The most amazing thing for the kids was blowing the horn. They couldn't believe that there was a bedroom behind the driver's seat. I may have to confirm that the replica of the tractor trailer DistTech presented to the school made it into the display case, and not someone's game room! The younger kids were given a coloring page to do. It was probably the project they work on during their last three days of school.

Ramona Henderson, the purchaser for the Ashland Chemical plant on Neville Island, was the subject of several questions too. Does she spend millions of dollars? Yes. Their eyes popped on that one. Did she ever take a million or two for herself? No. Hmm, I wonder if that kid knows the word embezzler. They understood why we called her the heartbeat of the plant. If she didn't do the buying, we wouldn't be able to operate. Thank you Ramona for taking the wonderful pictures, too.

The kids were concerned for **Tia Pinnick** our Payroll Coordinator. Did she ever get into trouble or beat-up for not paying someone? I got a laugh when I told them she would never get beat up, but she might have to sneak out the back door at the end of the day.



Of course **Tom Gerger**, being the mad scientist, won as most popular presenter even with all his big words. The kids wanted to know if he could make anything from the stuff that looked like goo and then turned into a solid. I said that was for them to imagine and create in the future. Someday they may use our resin to make what they design. They loved everything we passed out, and I

do believe there was some trading going on as we left.

I won for coolest Mom with the coolest job. They said my daughter Nia was lucky to have me. The teachers and staff said our presentation was the most interesting and exciting Career Day they could remember. We kept everyone enthralled. Now when the adults look at things, they are wondering if it is made of resin.

Our presentation fulfilled the Career observation required of the 7th, 8th and 9th grade classes. We showed them the availability of different jobs in a company like ours. They can



make a living with an educational background of high school, technical school or college.

I thank each and every one of the Ashland United Way Team and DistTech people. I hope we offered a glimpse into the job market with pizzazz. This is what makes companies who believe in Community involvement important as we help strengthen neighborhoods.

*-Gaye Waller Posey, Shipping Coordinator, Ashland Inc-Performance Material
Photos by Ramona Henderson*

From left: **Gaye Waller Posey, Tom Jordan, Ramona Henderson, Tia Pinnick, Shawn Stromberg, Brookline K-8 Vice Principal, and Greg McDonald.**

