

## St. John Bosco Academy

by Joseph Samuel Rogers

In 1996, Brookline Regional Catholic was created to continue the legacy of Catholic education in Brookline from Our Lady of Loreto, Saint Pius X, and Church of the Resurrection. The school now also continues the legacy of South Side's Prince of Peace, Saint Mary of the Mount, Saint Catherine of Siena, the Hilltop's Bishop Leonard, and is also sponsored by Saint Pamphilus in Beechview and formerly Saint John Vianney in Allentown. To better reflect the status as beneficiaries of these parishes and former schools' hard work, and to acknowledge that students come from thirteen parishes, the school restructured as Saint John Bosco Academy in 2014.



St. John Bosco Academy

Restructuring has brought many new opportunities, including advertising in new communities and having fundraisers with other parishes. Priests from each of these parishes also celebrate Mass twice a month for the school community and maintain an active role in its daily life.

Janet Salley Rakoczy, principal for 18 years, is extremely proud of the school's extracurricular portfolio, including its successful sports offerings. "In addition to a robotics club, Math 24, newspaper, forensics, after school Girl Scouts program, and art club, we also have a three-time diocesan championship girls' basketball team, as well as soccer and volleyball."

Saint John Bosco also has an annual science fair and is the only school in the area to participate in National History Day, a national competition where students from the school have been very successful on the local level. The school also has a proven record of academic success, with students receiving numerous Carson scholarships, Merrick finalists, Crossroad

Foundation scholarships, and a scholarship to Bishop Canevin High School.

Saint John Bosco Academy will be making capital improvements this next school year and will install a brand new security system, stronger wireless, and a new roof, and will update the cafeteria.

Now that the school's boundaries extend far beyond Brookline, Ms. Salley incorporates various cultural and Catholic traditions into school life. "Our school has had a May Crowning for many years, which is a traditional Catholic ceremony, and we also celebrate Los Posadas and Day of the Dead. We want to expose our students to different cultures the best we can," Ms. Salley told me. The school also has a culture club that explores global cultures and implements programs to recognize them.

Saint John Bosco offers students a faith-filled curriculum, many activities to participate in, and a foundation for a successful future. Many students continue their academic journey in Catholic high schools and look back on their days there with great pride. It's our duty to preserve the legacy of Catholic education that began with the founding of our parishes nearly a century ago and continues to exist through Saint John Bosco. Prospective families are invited to call the office to schedule a tour and learn about the school's program offerings.

*Editor's Note: The author is a proud 2010 graduate of Brookline Regional Catholic and has family who attended the schools of both Our Lady of Loreto and Church of the Resurrection.*

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# Brookline Updates

## Community Crimes Zone 6

May		
Zone 6 Crimes	Total	Brookline
Homicide	1	0
Aggravated Assault	5	0
Robbery	7	2
Arson	1	1
Rape	1	1
Burglary	14	2
Theft	20	4
Theft from Vehicle	14	3
Stolen Vehicle	2	0

June		
Zone 6 Crimes	Total	Brookline
Aggravated Assault	4	0
Arson	1	0
Robbery	12	2
Burglary	19	1
Theft	25	9
Theft from Vehicle	21	4
Stolen Vehicle	9	5

## AUGUST COMMUNITY MEETINGS

### **Tuesday, August 2**

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

### **Monday, August 8**

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

We have over 1,500 readers.

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

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

### Contact Us

Email: [thebrookline@gmail.com](mailto:thebrookline@gmail.com) or  
[pdkaz@comcast.net](mailto:pdkaz@comcast.net)  
 Phone: 412-531-1252

### Deadlines for Submissions and Ads

August 7 for September's Issue  
 September 7 for October's Issue

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

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# Join the Fun at Breezefest 2016!

by Kathleen Keating and Tiffany Thomas

Brookline, the Breeze, and Breezefest 2016! A perfect combination for a great summer's day!

On Saturday, August 13, Brookline Boulevard will be closed to traffic in the morning to clear the way for hundreds of athletes who will take part in the 35th Annual Brookline Breeze 5K Run and Fitness Walk.

Following the race, the Boulevard will remain closed to traffic between Stebbins and Glenarm Avenues for the Brookline Breezefest, which will celebrate the community from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with special events including children's activities, a stage with live music, arts and crafts vendors, and a food truck round-up.

Breezefest is Brookline's special summer festival. In addition to our welcoming local businesses, the streets and sidewalks will be lined with a colorful array of vendors of arts, crafts, food, entertainment, and a variety of other displays. Some businesses will offer specials during the Breezefest. Stop by for hot dogs, gyros, tacos, pizza, BBQ, and more. Don't forget



*Three Rivers Martial Arts at Breezefest 2015*

*Pawsburgh Photography*

a great cup of coffee, a scoop or three of ice cream, and a sweet dessert while strolling the Boulevard. Groove to tunes from DJ's at Rather Ripped Records.

The Main Stage will feature performances and exhibitions by The Threads, Three Rivers Martial Arts, The Meeting of Important People, Retro Red Productions, the Nox Boys, and Open Mike.

The Breezefest is hosted by the volunteers of the South Pittsburgh Development Corporation (SPDC) and the Brookline Chamber of Commerce and would not be possible without the contributions of our other generous sponsors: Farmers Insurance, Rohrich Chevrolet, Brookline Area Community Council, and Community Bank.

SPDC is an all-volunteer non-profit organization, so in order to make any of our events and programs possible, we need the help of our neighbors. If you are interested in volunteering at the Breezefest, please let us know by sending an email to [BrooklineBreezefest@gmail.com](mailto:BrooklineBreezefest@gmail.com). For more information about other SPDC programming or to find out about other Brookline happenings, please check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/brooklinespdc>

## Brookline Breeze Going Strong at 35

by Debbie Brust

On Saturday, August 13, at 9:00 am, the starting gun will signal the start of the 35th anniversary of the Brookline Breeze 5K Run and Fitness Walk at the Brookline Rec Center. This race is a community favorite and fun for the whole family! Pittsburgh Citiparks has co-presented the race with the Breeze committee all 35 years.

The Breeze was first run in 1982 and over the past three and a half decades has evolved into one of the signature events on the yearly Citiparks running calendar. This year's race will feature special activities of face painting, photo booths, and additional giveaways to runners and walkers.

You can sign up for the race at [www.brooklinebreeze.com](http://www.brooklinebreeze.com), or complete an application (available at local sponsors or the Brookline Rec Center). Fees are \$20 for the 5K race, \$15 for the 5K walk, and \$10 for the 1-Mile Mini Breeze and Dog Walk. All runners and walkers receive a tech style race t-shirt,

refreshments and entry into the post-race raffle.

Packet pickup and late registration will be available this year on Thursday, August 11 at Fleet Feet, 1751 N. Highland near South Hills Village, from 1 to 6:45 p.m. Pickup and registration continue on Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Brookline Rec Center, and again the following morning on race day before the start of the events. Water stops will be located along the course and there will be plenty of refreshments available for all participants near the finish line, including Antonio's Pizza and Scoops on the Boulevard sherbet.

As the race results are confirmed, Brookline's own "The Wurms" will play live music. An awards presentation and gift raffle follow the race, with terrific prizes of Fit Bits and gift certificates and the grand prize of a pair of tickets for an upcoming Pittsburgh Steelers football game! Don't miss all the fun at the race, then join us on the Boulevard for an all-day Breezefest event!

# Brookline Welcomes Retro Red

Brookline is blessed with a growing theatre scene. Since 2013, The Heritage Players have offered a regular schedule of performances and acting classes at the Seton Center on Pioneer Ave. Now, our community is home to a second robust theatre group, Retro Red Productions. We asked Retro Red founder Anita Spano about the group's beginning, its current shows, and its plans for the future.

## Where did the name "Retro Red Productions" come from?

A few years ago, during a free-writing exercise, I created a "bucket list." I can't remember everything on that list, but the first two items were: 1. Go to Italy and 2. Learn to play the piano. I thought "why not start taking piano lessons now?" So, I did, which led to taking voice lessons, which led to auditioning for a part in a Jude Pohl Productions' dinner theatre show. One of the Jude Pohl musicals I performed in was called Retro Nuns. During a rehearsal, Jude said, "Girls, I want you all to wear red lipstick in this show!" A few days later, I was in a drugstore in downtown Pittsburgh and found a lipstick named "Retro Red." It was perfetto! Retro red lipstick was, and is still, a big hit!

Last year, Jude Pohl passed away, and it was a great loss to the community of theatre people he brought together, including myself. When I was thinking about what to name the theatre company, "Retro Red Productions" popped into my mind. For me, Retro Red will always be a nod, a thank you, and a fond remembrance of the beginning of my theatre career. For our audiences and our actors, we hope Retro Red will be a remembrance of great shows and good times!

## What are Retro Red's plans and goals?

I've worked in corporate America for over 18 years, so starting a theatre group wasn't something I ever thought I'd be doing. But with a lot of help, guidance and mentoring from Annette

Ferrieri, the Director of Retro Red Productions, we're building an expanded theatre community here in Brookline. Our long-term goal is to buy a building and establish a gathering place for community enrichment; for artistic inspiration, endeavors and performances; for dinner theatre and espresso with friends.

Retro Red is planning on doing dramas, comedies, musicals and dinner theatre shows. Although we are not affiliated with The Heritage Players, we do support them as a patron sponsor. We will not be doing all of our productions at Seton Center and are always looking for new venues. We just did a dinner theatre show at The Royal Place in July and will do more dinner theatre shows in the future. We plan to do two to four shows each year and are exploring the idea of becoming a 501(c)(3).


## What shows have Retro Red performed and what's next on the schedule?

We debuted with *Bingo! The Winning Musical* and followed that with *Godspell* and *Christmas Cards | A Musical Revue* in 2015 and Neil Simon's *The Dinner Party* and *A Visit to Broadway | A Musical Revue* this year. This September, we'll be doing *Children of Eden*, then *Anita: A Little Christmas* in December. Also, we will produce a one-act play in August at the Carnegie Stage as part of the 2016 Pittsburgh New Works Festival.

## Where can people go for more information?

We have a website and Facebook Page where you can find updated information on our upcoming auditions and performances ([www.retrored.net](http://www.retrored.net) and <https://www.facebook.com/Retro-Red-Theatre-Productions-432697686907181>). Auditions are open to the public. If you have questions, you can contact [anita.spano@gmail.com](mailto:anita.spano@gmail.com) or Annette Ferrieri at [aferrieri@aol.com](mailto:aferrieri@aol.com), 412- 341-9863. And, PS, I did make it to Italy!

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# Whited Street's Low-Key Caretakers

by Dan Kaczmariski



Mike Pilewski

## Mike Pilewski

I worry sometimes about Mike Pilewski. Maybe you share my concern if you've ever driven down Whited St. on a Monday around 9 a.m. Mike is the guy in the safety vest methodically working his way up and down the side of the road, picking up litter as traffic races close by.

Pride in our community is what gets him out there each week, 12 months a year, rain or shine. "I live here,"

he says. "This is my street. When people drive into Brookline and see garbage everywhere, it must mean nobody cares. That bothers me."

His weekly pick-up route starts a few houses above his home near Marloff Pl., proceeds down one side of Whited to just beyond the railroad trestle, then returns up the other side of the road. He's usually out for about an hour and 20 minutes. "I'm pretty thorough. I try to make it so if you're driving up the street, you don't see garbage. I hate to see garbage. What bothers me is sometimes I'll go all the way down, then work my way back, and see new stuff that's just been thrown there."

He chooses Mondays because the City collects household trash the next day, so he can dispose of his findings before they get any riper. "Some of the stuff I pick up is pretty funky. I don't understand why people will scoop up dog dirt, put in a bag, then throw it onto the road."

Now retired after 33 years as a registered nurse for the Veteran's Administration, Mike is self-effacing about his volunteer efforts. "It's not a big deal," he says. "I walk every day anyway, so this gives me something else to do. It just makes me feel good to pick this stuff up."

As someone who once foolhardily tried to jog up Whited, I can assure you it is a big deal. The street is definitely not pedestrian friendly—"dangerous" would be a good word--and anyone who voluntarily braves it every week for the sake of his neighbors deserves a big thank-you.

He doesn't deny the road can be hazardous. "I wear a reflective vest that my kids bought me, but you still have

to pay attention. I have a very good sense of hearing and I always go against traffic."

Because most litter on Whited is from passing vehicles, Mike has a simple solution. "God made back seats for a reason," he says with a laugh. "Any time I have something in my car—like orange peels—it goes there. Then when I go for gas or something, I clear it out and throw it in the garbage."

And the message he'd like to convey to fellow Brookliners? "I'd just say, this is where we live, so show some pride. Brookline's a nice place. If we keep it nice, we'll have it nice. It doesn't take much."



Dan McKeever

## Dan McKeever

If you enter Brookline via Whited St. from Saw Mill Run Blvd., you've no doubt seen the "Brookline" sign with flags and landscaping at the corner of Whited and Jacob St. That piece of land was leased by the City of Pittsburgh to the South Pittsburgh Development Corporation in 2007. You may have also noticed that the plot is kept mown and

weed-free .

For the past 6 years, we've primarily had Brookline volunteer Dan McKeever to thank for the plot's tidy condition. Dan and Joe Nellis, another Brookline volunteer, keep an eye on the lighting and the condition of the flags there. Dan does the grass mowing and other grounds maintenance.

Left to itself, the area would soon morph into an impenetrable thicket of tall, razor-sharp weeds. In addition to mowing, Dan removes the weeds, which itself can take 2 to 3 hours.

Dan, who turns 70 this year and is a Vietnam Veteran (1967 campaign, Navy), is low-key about his contributions to the community. "When I found out from [SPDC] that they wanted someone for upkeep, I said "OK. It's only seven or eight houses down the street from my home. I walk down with a lawnmower, cut it, and keep it presentable."

Dan and Joe are also the driving forces behind the POW-MIA flag at Brookline Memorial Park (the Cannon) and clean-up and decoration of the park for Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day.

So the next time you're coming up Whited St., you might want to give a salute to Dan and the other Brookline volunteers who quietly sacrifice their time to keep our community beautiful.

Editor's Note: As we went to print the POW - MIA flag at the Cannon was missing and will be replaced. If you have the flag or know who does, please take it to the Brookline Fire Station.



*The first view of Brookline coming up Whited Street*

*Pawburgh Photography*

## Remembrance: Tony Canizaro

Tony lived in Brookline most of his life. A lot of people loved him. Tony would always have something to say about someone. He'd always say that there was more good in this world than there was bad—damn if he wasn't right! Tony was a good soul and he'll be missed dearly. Goodbye Bazooka! May you rest in peace.

*Sal's Barber Shop - Sal & Lynn Bondi*



# Old Notes By Old People

by Chip Gorski

No doubt this has been a long and conflicted summer. As I write this, the nation mourns the loss of five police officers in Dallas who lost their lives in an unbelievable and senseless act. We await word on the investigation of the shootings of two more African American men during a police stop. As we are reeling in this country over these events, dozens of people have been mowed down in Nice, France at the hands of one person. Those are facts.

How I feel personally about these tragic events is not important. In journalism, rule #1 is to remain objective. Some of my colleagues seem to have forgotten this basic tenet of the Fourth Estate, skewing stories to the left or right instead of sticking to facts. Some have lost their jobs because they forgot about rule #1. It's hard to sit on the sidelines and not comment when people lose their lives. For those of us on the receiving end of information from the media, getting the facts and truth out is hard over the shouting matches, clutter, and nonsense that is somehow considered "news" these days. It has been and will always be about ratings. High rating equal advertisers. Advertisers equal dollars. Dollars mean we all get to keep our jobs -- providing we deliver high ratings, which brings us back to the shouting, clutter and nonsense.

Somewhere back in the mid 1970s, the Pittsburgh Public School Board decided that it was going to close South Hills High School in Mount Washington. They also decided to close Fifth Avenue High School in the Hill District and Gladstone High School in Hazelwood. Students who attended these schools would now go to a new high school that was built in Beechview.

The school would be named after inventor and astronomer John A. Brashear.

The thinking behind the decision was to bring students from the predominantly white neighborhoods of Brookline, Beechview and Hazelwood together with students from the predominantly black Hill District neighborhood. There were protests on both sides of the river. The media was there for the opening, hoping to report on the chaos that was expected when all of the neighborhoods came together under one roof.

In the fall of 1978, I started at Brashear for my freshman year. Rumors abounded that we were going to get "jumped." There were rumors of impending race riots. I will never forget the utter feeling of terror on that first day as the school bus snaked its way down Crane Avenue and up into the parking lot. I had never attended school out of Brookline.

Getting off that bus and into the school went fine. For about the first week, I was always looking for a place to run in case these "alleged" riots broke out. They never did. In fact, there really weren't any major problems. Had I not gone to Brashear, I probably would not have gotten a job in journalism.

That's because I would not have had the benefit of both an outstanding guidance counselor who found so many opportunities for me and a tough but excellent English teacher who loved "her kids." By the way, they were both African American women. Maybe it's time for a little less shouting and more talking, cutting out the clutter and getting to the heart of the issue, and, no nonsense.

# Brookline Teen Outreach News

by Caitlin McNulty

Brookline Teen Outreach is excited to announce a Saturday babysitting program. Babysitting will be held every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon for ages 1-9. Children will be supervised by adults and by teen volunteers who are working toward their babysitting certification. The cost is \$5/child or \$10/family and includes a healthy snack. For more information, or to register, contact Diana at 412-302-5341 or [ddunc1@verizon.net](mailto:ddunc1@verizon.net)

If you haven't been walking down Brookline Boulevard in the rain, you may have missed some beautiful sidewalk art and poetry outside of the Teen Center. A group of teens and young adults created original poetry that can only be seen when the sidewalk is wet.

If you have a business that would like to be a part of this art installation, please contact Caitlin at [cmcnulty@brooklineteenoutreach.org](mailto:cmcnulty@brooklineteenoutreach.org).



Poetry and art to brighten a rainy day.  
Photo courtesy of Brookline Teen Outreach

## A Beautiful Send Off For Eileen Gordon

Eileen Gordon, a Brookline native for over 40 years, who owned and operated Gordon's Bar. She dedicated her life to running the business and helping family and friends. She loved playing cards, farkle, making flower arrangements, and going to the casino. She worked everyday even after being diagnosed with ALS. She was a smart, caring generous person whose spirit will live on in the Neighborhood for a long time. Please remember that August is ALS Ice Bucket Challenge Month, don't forget to donate.

-The Gordon Family



## 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.

The Heritage Players will present the classic musical *Alice in Wonderland* based on the novel by Lewis Carroll at the Seton Center, Pioneer Ave., Brookline, August 5-7 and 12-14. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Admission is \$5 for children 18 and under, and \$10 for adults. For more information visit [www.bphp.org](http://www.bphp.org) or phone 412-254-4633.

The Heritage Players are offering fall theater classes for all age ranges five to adult at the Seton Center. Please visit [www.bphp.org](http://www.bphp.org) for upcoming course descriptions, online registration, and pricing.

Coming up in October: The beloved musical, *Mame*.

# Call for Volunteers

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- 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](http://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](mailto: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 412-393-7648. In partnership with Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council.
  - OPEN YOUR HEART TO A SENIOR Volunteers needed to assist senior citizens. Call Family Services at 412-661-1670
- Other ways to help: Meals on Wheels can use donations of cash, cookies, desserts and bread. The Brookline Christian Food Pantry can use grocery store gift cards (send to Pat Erny, 2918 Pioneer Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15226).

## Government Hotlines for Seniors

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Allegheny County Area Agency on Aging – SeniorLine – If you are looking to receive services or you are just looking for information that can benefit older adults, contact the SeniorLine for assistance. 412-350-5460.

APPRISE – A free health insurance counseling program to answer questions about Medicare, Medicare Supplemental insurance, Medicaid, and long-term care insurance. 1-800-783-7067.

Ombudsmen - Investigates and seeks to resolve complaints made by or on behalf of long-term care consumers 60 or older, who are receiving in-home or long-term care in a nursing facility. 717-783-8975.

24-Hour Elder Abuse Hotline – Hotline to report physical or sexual abuse, self-neglect, caregiver neglect or financial exploitation. Reports may remain anonymous. 1-800-490-8505.

Attorney General – Bureau of Consumer Protection – Investigates consumer complaints. 1-800-441-2555.

Attorney General's Health Care Section – Helps with disputes with health insurance companies and medical providers. 1-877-888-4877

PA Legal Services – Provides listings of the organizations that provide free or discounted civil legal services for individuals with low and moderate incomes. 1-800-322-7572.

PennSERVE – Promotes volunteering and community service throughout Pennsylvania for people of all ages and levels of physical ability. 1-866-673-7838.

*Information courtesy of Representative Dan Deasy*

## Correction in Community Directory

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In the new 2016-2017 Brookline/Community Directory, the phone number for Brookline Teen Outreach is incorrect. The correct number is 412-254-4590.

## Looking for a Meal at 3 a.m.?

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Brookline has arrived as an all-night destination! For those who just can't bear to see the night end, No Name Café at 536 Brookline Blvd. is now serving meals from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The extra hours will continue at least through the summer.

## In Appreciation: Chuck Senft

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It is with sadness that we note the passing of a Brookline icon, Charles ("Chuck") Senft. Chuck started his position as recreation director of the Brookline Recreation Center in 1958, and for over 50 years worked with youth, teens, and adults through the Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League. He trained over 8,000 participants in boxing, coaching 500 champions. In addition to being recognized by numerous other organizations, he was named Brookline's Man of the Year and received the Community of Champions Jefferson award. In Images of America: Brookline, he received the following accolade, "No man has worked harder to bring the kids of Brookline together and teach them the spirit of teamwork and dedication." His work and spirit lives on in the many people who had the privilege of being mentored by him.

# Community Events & Announcements

## Brookline Memorial Recreation Center

### 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.

#### **Quilting Class**

Monday evenings 6-8:45 p.m. and Friday mornings, 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.

### Coming in September

#### **Kinder Sports**

Ages 5 and younger. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-Noon. Kids will do some small-group warm-up/exercise and a gym activity, then have snack and a story and do arts and crafts projects. FREE

#### **Circuit Training for Women**

Ages 18+, Wednesdays 9-9:45 a.m., Sept. 7-Dec. 21. This 45-minute class will focus on a total body workout using a variety of strength, cardio, and core exercises. Open to all levels! Registration is limited to 10 people. \$20

#### **Tabata**

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

#### **Youth Fitness for Girls**

Ages 10-14, Thursdays 4-5:30 p.m., Sept. 8-Dec. 22. This weekly fitness program is designed to encourage healthy lifestyle choices for girls. Each weekly session will involve a workout followed by a healthful snack. This program will also focus on team building, developing a healthy body image, and making fitness FUN! FREE

#### **Bocce**

All ages, Mondays 10 a.m.-Noon. FREE

#### **Basketball Clinics**

Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-6:45 p.m. (ages 6-8) and 7-7:45 p.m. (ages 9-11). \$15

## Cinema in the Park

A great free family night outside at the Brookline Recreation Center. Thursdays. Movies start at dusk.

August 11 – Cinderella (PG)

August 18 – Heavyweight (PG)

August 25 – The Peanuts Movie (G)

### Do You Want to Receive The Brookline Online?

If you'd like to receive The Brookline Newsletter online free of charge, as well as periodic Brookline news updates from the South Pittsburgh Development Corporation, just go to <http://bit.do/brookline> and request to be added to our subscription list. We'll continue to distribute the usual number of printed newsletters to our pick-up locations and mail subscribers.

## Fundraisers

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

Bingo. Sunday, Brookline Teen Outreach Bldg., 520 Brookline Blvd. Doors open at 4 p.m.; bingo begins 6 p.m.

Night at the Races, Fri. Sept. 9 at Brookline Teen Outreach, 520 Brookline Blvd. Doors open 6 p.m. with first race at 7:15 p.m. \$25 per person, includes buffet dinner & 2 bar drink tickets.

## August Events on the Boulevard

### At 824: The Consignment Shop

Oil Pastel Workshop with Christopher Visgitis, Sunday, August 21, 2-4 p.m.. Refreshments and all materials included. Per ticket cost is \$35. 824 Brookline Blvd. 412-440-8245

Art on the Blvd Gallery Crawl, co-sponsored by 824: The Consignment Shop and Brookline Teen Outreach, 520 Brookline Blvd, 412-254-4590. Friday, August 26. Meet and mingle with local artists from 8-11 p.m. Free event.

### At Brookline Pub and Pourhouse

Brookline Community Open Mic. All talent levels and performance types are welcome. Wednesday from 8-10:30 p.m at the Brookline Teen Outreach building, 520 Brookline Blvd for all ages.

# Carnegie Library of Brookline August Events

## For Kids

- *Kids Club: Wacky Wednesdays* – Wednesdays, Aug. 3, 10, & 17 • 3–4 p.m. – fun and engaging activities for children like crafts, games, or technology
- *Storytime* – Thursdays, Aug. 4, 11, & 18 • 11 a.m. – interactive stories, songs and rhymes. Children 18 months–5 years and caregivers

## For Teens

- *Pokemon Club* – Mondays, Aug. 8, 22, & 29 • 3–5 p.m. – battle leagues for both the video and card game
- *Teen Time* – Thursdays • 3–5 p.m. – cool art projects, epic games, music, movies and just chilling out
- *STEM Video Game Challenge* – Mondays, Aug. 1 & 15 • 3–5 p.m. In 5 bi-weekly sessions, we'll teach you ways to code and make video games. The final session is Aug. 15 when competition entries are due.

## For Adults

- *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, Aug. 9 • 6 p.m. – fun, relaxed conversation and movie-inspired treats.

- *Résumé Assistance by Appointment* – Wednesday, Aug. 10 & 24 • 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 ½-hour appointment.
- *Book Discussions*
  - *Mystery & More* – Wednesday, Aug. 10 • 1 p.m. – contemporary and classic mysteries, along with the occasional nonfiction title. This month: *The Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh
  - *Between the Lines* – Monday, Aug. 15 • 6 p.m. – contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction. This month: *Letters from Skye* by Jessica Brockmole
  - *The Buzz* – Thursday, Aug. 25 • 6 p.m. – unconventional fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels. This month: *Furiously Happy* by Jenny Lawson
- *Game Night* – Tuesday, August 16 • 5:45 p.m. – enjoy friendly competition. Traditional board games and quest-based adventure games available.

[www.carnegielibrary.org/clp\\_location/brookline/](http://www.carnegielibrary.org/clp_location/brookline/) or call 412-561-1003

## A View of Brookline from the Bluff

by Dan Kaczmarek

In 2013 it was the Strip District, followed by Squirrel Hill in 2014 and East Liberty a year ago. This year, it's Brookline.

Each year, students in Duquesne University's Journalism and Multimedia Arts Department spread out into one of Pittsburgh's neighborhoods to--as the university's website says--zero in "on what makes a main street tick." They use their research, visits, and interviews to build a series of written and video pieces for an online and print magazine called *Off the Bluff* that focuses on that neighborhood.

This year's *Off the Bluff* highlights Brookline. The magazine contains 28 articles and videos that each zero in on one piece of the colorful mosaic of our community. Broadly divided into "People," "Food," "Change" and "Culture," the profiles highlight individuals such as Brookline bluegrass legend Mac Martin and our unofficial goodwill ambassador George Gilfoyle, an eclectic variety of Boulevard shops, restaurants,

and social services, and a bit of neighborhood history.

This year's magazine's editor, Rebekah Devorak, makes no secret that Brookline has won her heart. Before working on *Off the Bluff*, she says in her letter from the editor, she had never been in Brookline. But, she says, "the moment I stepped onto the Boulevard, lined with quaint shops and hometown restaurants, dotted with places of worship, I knew this was a neighborhood not to be forgotten."

Of Pittsburgh 90+ neighborhoods, says Rebekah, "very few showcase the unyielding strength and love of community ties quite like Brookline. She says those qualities are "evident no matter where you go, no matter if you are a friend, a neighbor, or a stranger." Her impression is that in Brookline "everyone is welcome."

You can check on the online version of this year's *Off the Bluff* at [www.offthebluff.com](http://www.offthebluff.com).

### New Brookline Community Events Calendar

A thank you to Caitlin McNulty for creating an online month-by-month daily Brookline community events calendar. The calendar is still gathering entries, but already lists community meetings, blood drives, and youth, library, and recreation center events, among others. You can access the calendar by going direct to <https://goo.gl/wQPNIw> or to [www.brooklineteenoutreach.org](http://www.brooklineteenoutreach.org), then clicking on the community calendar link. To suggest events for inclusion in the calendar, email to [info@brooklineteenoutreach.org](mailto:info@brooklineteenoutreach.org)

## Representative Dan Deasy



I will be hosting my 8th Annual Senior Health Expo on Friday, September 9, 2016, at St. Pamphilus Parish Hall located at 100 Tropical Avenue in Beechview from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. The event features 35 vendors sharing information on programs and services available to senior citizens.

In addition, flu and pneumonia shots will be offered at no charge if you present a valid Medicare Part B or commercial insurance card. You can also pay out of pocket for the shots if you do not have coverage. The event will also offer entertainment, light refreshments and door prizes.

If you cannot attend our senior health expo but need assistance in answering senior-related questions, please call my office at 412-928-9514. In addition, some government programs that can field a plethora of questions are listed in this issue of the Brookline Newsletter under "Government Hotlines for Seniors."



**STOP BY AND SEE US AT  
BREEZEFEST 2016**

Stop at the Brookline Chamber of Commerce table at Breezefest 2016, Saturday, August 13, to pick up a free 2016-2017 Business/Community Directory & sign up for the new Brookline Business app.

Purchase a Brookline Mug and receive a chance to win one of many baskets, including a chance for a \$250 gift certificate to West Liberty Cycles!

## Representative Dan Miller



Almost universally, parents accept and understand the value of their children receiving required health care checks in order to attend school. In most cases, screens for vision, hearing, scoliosis, along with physicals and immunizations, are considered basic, essential care for all children.

While physical health is important, arguably brain or mental health is even more important and few parents are able to identify a child's mental health issue on their own.

Accordingly, my Brain Health Bill (HB 2057) requires a depression screen for students by age 14. It allows parents to opt their child out, but my hope is that we can provide information and services early so we can decrease the likelihood of young people skipping school, trying to self-medicate, or exhibiting self-injurious behaviors. I believe that HB 2057 can help more young people reach their full potential.

## Representative Harry Readshaw



I was pleased to speak at the press conference as Gov. Tom Wolf referred to the recommendations from the Task Force and Advisory Committee on Opioid Prescription Drug Proliferation. He also declared that a Special Session on this public health crisis, which I had been working for, will be held in

September.

House Democratic and Republican lawmakers, along with the governor, stood together in solidarity on June 22 to detail legislative progress made to date, outline more recommendations made by the special task force, and discuss plans for a special session this fall to focus lawmakers' attention on combatting the opioid addiction epidemic.



## Senator Wayne Fontana



This year's FontanaFest, the 12th annual, is scheduled for Saturday, September 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Highmark Stadium, home of the Pittsburgh Riverhounds – RAIN OR SHINE. Once again, parking will be free in the stadium's West Lot, compliments of Forest City!

The annual community event is perfect for families and children, promoting healthy and active lifestyles by providing many fun activities and crafts. Children will also have the chance to play on several inflatables, an obstacle course, and a climbing wall. All attendees also are provided with the opportunity to engage with several organizations from around the region and receive important information on available services and programs, nutrition, health care, and much more.

I'm thrilled that once again this year, students from Pittsburgh Musical Theatre will join us to perform at 11:15 a.m.! We will also be joined this year by The Home Depot, Allegheny County Sheriff's Office, Carnegie Library, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh Children's Museum, Homeless Children's Education Fund, Pittsburgh International Children's Theater, WQED, Calgon Carbon, Comcast, Point Park University, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, and more. Sign up to receive my weekly News & Views by visiting [www.senatorfontana.com](http://www.senatorfontana.com) to receive updates on FontanaFest. I look forward to seeing everyone there!

### Thank you for your Support

Thank you to all those who continued to feed the "Brook the Lion" ceramic coin donation banks from mid-May to July while the Brookline Newsletter took a 1-month hiatus. All ad revenues and donations go to cover printing costs to keep the Newsletter in existence. A special appreciation to the patrons of Party Cake Bakery, who during that time donated \$173. Thank you to a very generous community!

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## Council Woman Natalia Rudiak



Our City budget has two parts: the operating budget and the capital budget. The capital budget maintains parks, buildings and roads. The operating budget pays for employee salaries, supplies, and regular maintenance of buildings and equipment. You can access current and historical budgets at <http://pittsburghpa.gov/information/budget>.

Recently, Moore Park received some needed attention. My office put together a volunteer day ("Moore Love") to paint railings and the Department of Public Works trimmed overgrowth and patched basketball courts. But we need to do more at Moore. And that's where the capital budget comes in.

My office requested over \$200,000 for improving Moore Park from the Mayor's Office of Management and Budget for 2017. These funds would be spent on many projects. The concrete entry stairs, railings, and basketball courts need to be replaced. The fence around the upper ballfield needs to be replaced. We also asked for a small amount to paint a mural overlooking the pool. None of this is guaranteed just yet, as it needs the mayor's approval and then all of Council's approval. But this is how we get investment into our neighborhoods!

In addition to input from City Council, the mayor takes community input from capital budget forums that were held in June. These forums offer every resident the chance to weigh in on our spending priorities for the next year. The forums were started in response to my legislation to allow citizens the opportunity to give feedback on which projects to prioritize. We hope to see more South Pittsburghers attend these budget meetings in the future! Stay tuned to [facebook.com/PghDistrict4](https://facebook.com/PghDistrict4) and subscribe to our newsletter <http://pittsburghpa.gov/district4/newsletters> to learn more.

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# What's Happening at Brookline PreK-8

by Amy Cornelius Dembosky, Parent Volunteer

Please plan on joining us on Thursday, August 25, 2016, from 5 to 7 p.m. for our annual Welcome Back to School event. This will be an opportunity for families to visit the school to see their children's new classrooms, meet their teachers, and hear about the many exciting opportunities for the upcoming school year.

The office staff will be returning from summer break on August 12. They will be available to assist parents with student registration and other business.

During the week of August 15, families will receive a postcard in the mail with their child's new homeroom information. The first day of school for students in preschool and grades 1-8 is Monday, August 29. The first day of school for kindergarten children is Thursday, September 1.

There are many ways to get involved with your child's school. One of the first opportunities is attending our Parent School Community Council Meeting on Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. The subject will be the Title I program, and everyone is welcome to come and learn about it! Our school will also be unveiling a new Facebook page this year, so keep an eye out for that.

## The Latest From St. John Bosco Academy

by Holly Victor, Parent Volunteer

Education does not take a summer vacation. Each student at St. John Bosco Academy is given a summer reading assignment that must be completed by the first day of the new school year. Some children gripe at the thought of doing school work in the summertime (that would be my children!), but studies show that it is important to keep children engaged during the summer learning gap. During the typical 3-month summer vacation, a student can lose up to 2.6 months worth of knowledge. We encourage our parents and students to take advantage of local opportunities located right here in Brookline. Among other options, check out the Library and Rec Center to keep your children's minds and bodies active.

St. John Bosco continues in its Earth Day mission. One project, of which we are very proud, is our rain barrel. The rain barrel was granted to SJBA through an organization called Barrels by

the Bay. In an effort to educate the students on the importance of water conservation, the 50-gallon rain barrel sits next to the rectory and is used to collect rain and run-off from rainfall, later to be used for outdoor watering needs. We encourage everyone to stop and take a look at it and use this as an opportunity to spread the word on water conservation!

### 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

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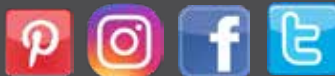
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