

André Costello and the Cool Minors

by Ryan Askey

You may have heard the music of André Costello and the Cool Minors on several local radio stations or playing over the PA at your favorite coffee shops and record stores, but what you may not know is that André hails from Brookline.

The *Brookline* got a chance to sit and talk to André about his music and the Pittsburgh music scene.

When did the band start, has it always been the same lineup, and how many releases do you have?

I started out doing solo stuff out of my bedroom setup with a single mic, a Mac computer, and Garageband in 2010. That's when I finished recording what I called "André Costello and the Cool Minors." I chose that

as a title because it had a certain amount of ambiguity in that one could decipher from the name that it was either 1) a band (which it wasn't at that point, but I liked it to seem that way, like Gorillaz or something), 2) a dude with a band, or 3) a dude and some moody minor musical notes.

I was caretaker for a house on Rossmore and lined up a bunch of musical roommates that I could collaborate with. I recruited Cynthia Thomas (whom I also worked with at Cannon Coffee) to play drums and Michael Perrotta on bass (who worked at the Pub with his brother Chooch before they both moved to California). We performed a lot together, trying out sketches of songs that eventually ended up on my first proper full-band release with my now-steady lineup that consists of Matthew Fiorillo, Nicholas Charters and James Hart.

I personally have four releases under my belt: André Costello - Tumbleweed (home recording, 9 tracks); André Costello - Summer's Best (3 track EP, with a visual EP component); André Costello and the Cool Minors - Way of the Future (7" single,

2 songs); and André Costello and the Cool Minors - The Rattling Arcade (full length, vinyl, 8 big songs).

Who are your primary influences?

Neil Young, Grizzly Bear, Wilco.



André Costello and the Cool Minors

Photo courtesy of André Costello

What are your favorite contemporary Pittsburgh bands?

Ghost Guts, Harlan Twins, Grand Piano.

What is your favorite live performance with the Cool Minors?

I can't say I have any one single show that was the best or my favorite. All I can say is that performing at Deutchtown Music Festival [on the North Side] is consistently my favorite show of the year. And I have

so much love for the Park House, Howlers and Thunderbird. Spirit is doing amazing things. And really anything Pete Spynda does with his Weather Permitting music series, or Bayardstown. Randy Baumann's shows are always a blast and an amazing privilege and honor. Because of Randy, I've been on stage with Donnie Iris, man! We've texted!

What's been your favorite Brookline institution?

Cannon Coffee.

What are the band's plans for the near future?

We're going to record a high-quality super-real and honest album, and play a few shows within a few hours of Pittsburgh to push it. We're hoping to have a video aspect to mirror the audio of the album to make for a full experience, but we'll see if that's in the cards as far as roping in people to work for me for peanuts.

<http://www.costelloandthecoolminors.com>



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Brookline Recreation Center	412-571-3222
Carnegie Library	412-561-1003
State Senator Wayne Fontana	412-344-2551
State Representative Dan Deasy	412-928-9514
State Representative Dan Miller	412-343-3870
State Representative Harry Readshaw	412-881-4208
Brookline Christian Food Pantry	412-344-8451
Meals-on-Wheels	412-343-8144
Dollar Energy/Columbia Gas Cap	412-344-4222

Community Crimes Zone 6

July		
Zone 6 Crimes	Total	Brookline
Aggravated Assault	9	2
Arson	1	0
Robbery	6	0
Burglary	16	3
Theft	22	4
Theft from Vehicle	19	5
Stolen Vehicle	6	1

SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Monday, September 12

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

Tuesday, September 13

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

Monday, September 19

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

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The Brookline

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September 7 for October's Issue

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A Man with a Mission

by Dan Kaczmariski with Mickey Underwood

I grew up in Brookline in the '50s and '60s before leaving for high school, college, and career. One of my regrets in going away is that I never had the chance to meet Chuck Senft who passed away this July 26th. I knew he was a Brookline institution, but didn't appreciate until his passing the deep and heartfelt respect and affection he engendered in those he mentored and worked with.

Chuck started in 1958 as the Director of the Moore Park Recreation Center, then became Director of the Brookline Memorial Recreation Center when it opened in 1971. He's widely known for his boxing programs, but boxing was just one of the many ways Chuck reached out to youth and adults.

One of the people who knew Chuck best is Mickey Underwood, former Director of the Brookline Recreation Center, who worked alongside Chuck for over 30 years. We asked Mickey to share some of her memories of Chuck.

No Child Left Behind

"I know Chuck's legacy is boxing," says Mickey, "but he felt diversity was where it's at." His goal was to get as many kids and adults involved in as many different sports as possible. "Chuck felt that every population should be touched." In addition to the variety of sports and special events offered at the Rec Center, for years he ran a Jesse Owens track and field program that allowed local kids to go to Los Angeles and other cities, as well as a men's basketball league.

"Chuck did 'no child left behind' before there was a no child left behind," says Mickey. "He believed that everybody should be able to compete, that they had the right to that memory. He'd say, 'I don't care if they're no good.' If you had only one good arm, he'd have you throw with that arm. If one of your legs was shorter than the other, then you were going to jump off that good leg. If you couldn't do anything, he'd put a team shirt on you and have you stand next to us and hold the clipboard.

"Chuck said his job was to stand up for the person who couldn't speak for himself or herself. We made sure each kid was outfitted with a uniform. Chuck felt every child, no matter what his or her ability, deserved a high amount of recognition.

"What Chuck cared about most was whether a kid had the willingness to be part of a team. For him, the team aspect was the most important. He'd say to the kids, 'You're a team. You're brothers and sisters. If you're brothers and sisters here in this Center, you're still brothers and sisters when you leave the

Center. Remember that.'

"Chuck taught them how to be friends; how to have camaraderie; how to have a sense of who they were and where they were from. He used to say, 'We're training people to go into society.' He never saw someone for their color, religion, race, or where they came from. He didn't care."



Chuck with 1998 Golden Gloves medalists Joseph Kellington and John Ladasky

Photo courtesy of Brookline Connection

Changing Lives through Boxing

Chuck boxed successfully while in the Army and said the sport made him what he was. Both he and Mickey believed that training in martial arts gives a person a mental discipline they

could carry through life. He felt an obligation to pass along the opportunity he had and by the time his career with Citiparks ended in 2003, had trained over 8,000 boxers, ages 8 and up. Among those were 500 champions and 52 championship teams.

But the numbers weren't as important to Chuck as the training. He was never comfortable putting a kid into a bout until they were ready.

"He felt it was all training, training, training," says Mickey. "Three hours a night in the gym. First you did calisthenics, then 10 3-minute rounds of shadows, then at least 5 3-minute rounds on the bags. After you had hit the bag and your arms were dropping, Chuck would have the 10-second drill, when you had to dig, dig, dig. You were tired, but only then did you get to spar."

The training was grueling but the sessions were filled. At first, most participants were from Brookline and adjoining neighborhoods, then increasingly from other communities as well. "They'd come from Mt. Washington, Belmont, Arlington," says Mickey. "We had kids come from Beaver County."

Many showed up because of a personal invitation from Chuck. He and Mickey made time--often their own time---to actively recruit participants. "Back then, we had to hand-make fliers with markers and crayons," says Mickey. "We'd post

them on the Boulevard, in Beechview, Carrick, Overbrook--on every main street, in libraries. Then Chuck would walk the neighborhoods. He'd go to the schools and talk about whatever sport was coming up."

Standing at the Gate

Chuck wasn't recruiting to get his numbers up. He was recruiting to keep people on the right track and to try to save those who--because of crime, substance abuse, or other bad choices--were in danger of spiraling beyond help.

"Chuck felt that we weren't there just to do sports, but to save lives," says Mickey. "He said we were there to watch; that we were sentinels; that we stand at the gate.



Chuck Senft and Mickey Underwood on St. Patrick's Day, 2016

Photo courtesy of Mickey Underwood

"Each session, we took attendance. If you didn't come, Chuck called your house at 10 o'clock at night. If we were going somewhere and you were missing, he didn't care if we were on a 60 passenger bus. He went to your house to get you."

Anyone familiar with the Brookline Rec Center knows what a force Mickey was in working tirelessly and effectively to reach and serve the community. Hearing her talk about Chuck, it's clear what an enduring influence he had on her career.

Chuck pushed her to take the classes necessary to be a registered state-certified boxing coach and trainer. When the kids boxed, he put her in the other corner to coach. "When I started at the Rec Center in my teens," she says, "Chuck said to me, 'Never stand behind the fact that you're a girl. You're not a woman or a man here. You're a leader. Stand up straight and lead.'"

For Chuck, leading meant setting an example. Forty-two years after her start as a full-time employee at the Rec Center, Mickey recalls Chuck sitting her down for what she calls "the talk." "He said to me, 'If you rub dirt on your face, I guarantee you 10 minutes later 10 little kids are also going to rub dirt on their faces. So you never swear. You never do anything that can be repeated badly. You are a leader. Put that in the front of your mind and keep it there.'"

Working with youth and adult sports programs has its good times--having fun with the moniker "Charlie's Angels" in the '70s, banquets and parties for all team members no matter what their talent level, making every victory a team victory,

seeing a young athlete work his or her tail off to wring out every last ounce of ability, watching an at-risk kid turn it around. But for those like Chuck and Mickey who really, really care, it also makes it that much more wrenching when someone slips through the cracks. As was so eloquently phrased in *The Brookline Connection*, "Every single child who went down to the Center was like Chuck's own."

Caring is what drives people like Chuck and Mickey to relentlessly go the extra two miles. Brookline is blessed to have had Chuck Senft. But Chuck wasn't looking for credit, he was looking to serve. As he used to say to Mickey and others, "It's a Community Center. It doesn't say Chuck on that door."



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Eating Your Way Through Brookline

by Dan Kaczmariski

There are at least 90 Pittsburgh neighborhoods, but only Brookline and five others have been chosen as destinations for one of the top-rated tours in the City.

'Burgh Bits and Bites leads culinary and history tours through Brookline, Bloomfield, the Strip District, the North Side, Lawrenceville, and the South Side. The tours are rated the best of 27 tours in Pittsburgh by members of Trip Advisor, a website that contains user reviews of travel-related destinations internationally.

Each Saturday morning at 10 a.m., the company's tour guides lead a group down Brookline Boulevard. Along the way, the tourists learn about the neighborhood and sample the wares of Waterfall Catering, SMOQ PITT, Pitaland, Las Palmas, Party Cake Bakery, Café de Noir, and DeLuca's Bakery, Deli, and Groceria. At times, Antonio's Pizza is also included in the tour, which lasts about 2 hours.

During the past 12 months, 510 people have taken the Brookline tour. Judging by Trip Advisor reviews, people enjoy their experience in our neighborhood. Comments include: "Definitely a fun 2 hours," "A great neighborhood to explore," "Do yourself a favor and book now." One visitor ending up moving here.

Overall, reviews of 'Burgh Bits and Bites tours are consistently stellar. For the past 5 years, the company has earned Trip Advisor's "Certificate of Excellence," which is granted to hospitality businesses that maintain an overall Trip Advisor rating of at least

four out of five stars. Sylvia McCoy, owner of 'Burgh Bits and Bites, estimates that during the summer about half of the people taking the tours are from outside the Pittsburgh area.

The Brookline tours began in 2011. Sylvia says there's no formula for how neighborhoods make it onto the tour list. "It's really just a matter of exploring a neighborhood, talking with people there, tasting your way through, finding hidden or unique culinary or historic treasures and putting that together in a tour."

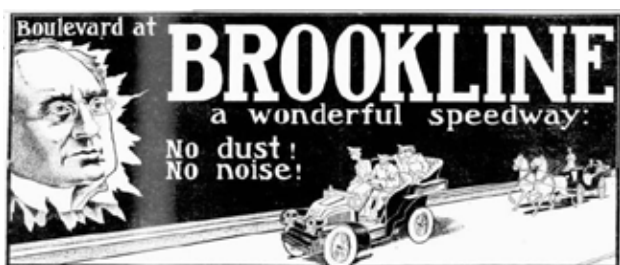
Although the Brookline tour emphasizes food, history isn't neglected. "We want people to understand why the neighborhood is what it is, and see where it's been and what it's coming to today. In Brookline, we try to show pictures of the old fire house back in the day with a horse and wagon. We talk about the trolley line down Brookline Blvd. and the influx of residents that originally came into Brookline and why."

"I've always liked Brookline," she says. "It's one of those neighborhoods where people have always been so warm and welcoming. It's been a real pleasure."

Public tours of Brookline begin each Saturday at 10 a.m. and are usually limited to about 12 participants. Additionally, groups of varying sizes can book private weekday tours. Sylvia recommends that anyone interested in doing a tour of a neighborhood to book about 2 weeks in advance, although openings are sometimes available closer to the tour date, especially in the winter. Cost per ticket is \$39. For more information, go to burghfoodtour.com.

Brookline's History is a Click Away

by Dan Kaczmariski



A Freehold Real Estate ad touting Brookline c. 1907

Photo courtesy of Brookline Connection

One morning this summer, I was at my computer studying a 1910 photo of Brookline Boulevard. The view was toward Chelton Ave. No cannon was there because the First World War had not yet happened. In the background loomed an unfinished Resurrection Church/School.

Two mouse clicks later, I was watching the original howitzer from the Brookline Veterans Memorial Park being hauled away for scrap metal in the WWII effort.

A few clicks more and I was reliving a chronological history of Brookline, over a half century of photos, and year-by-year highlights. At that point, I had savored just a fraction of a marvelous community website called The Brookline Connection.

The website, developed by Brookline resident Clint Burton with assistance from Doug and Michael Brendel, is a gem. If you've seen it, you know what I mean. If you haven't, you'll have to check it out at www.brooklineconnection.com.

The website's home page has portals to over 25 different journeys through Brookline's history, including local sports past and present, photos and write-ups about Brookline personalities, histories of local schools and churches, trolleys in Brookline, and much more. Woven among the pictorial histories are intriguing narratives walking you through our community's past.

If you're in a real hurry, you can take a lively 2-minute video jaunt through Brookline history set to the Statler Brothers "Do You Remember These?" And don't miss the effusive Freehold Real Estate ads from the early 1900s touting Brookline as a residential nirvana, where "Money and nature have gone into partnership to accomplish the founding of the most perfect suburb that could be desired."

What's Hot in Brookline? DeLuca's Bakery

by Joseph Samuel Rogers

October 2014 marked the beginning of a new era on Brookline Boulevard when Rob DeLuca and his father and brother Bart purchased Kribel's Bakery, a longtime Brookline staple, and reopened it as DeLuca's Bakery and Deli. I was a loyal Kribel's customer for many years because my beloved grandmother, Mrs. Jean Rogers, once worked there, and my father and I went regularly to play the numbers and buy breakfast snacks; therefore, I was hesitant to see my dessert haven close. I was relieved, however, to see the same fresh and homemade quality of Kribel's carried into DeLuca's Bakery.

Co-owner Rob DeLuca is from Penn Hills, and when he saw the bakery for sale in Brookline, he thought the location would be a nice place to open a business. His parents have been in the bakery business for a long time and he grew up helping his parents on weekends and after school. The example set by Rob's parents inspired him and his brother to get into the bakery business. Rob's sister and her husband also operate the bakery's Lawrenceville location at 5227 Butler St.

DeLuca's consists of a full deli with Boar's Head meat and even makes sandwiches for customers. The deli also features fresh pastas and DeLallo products. Fresh Italian bread is made daily. The bakery also serves coffee, has regular deli specials, and will be renovating the interior of the bakery in September. The expanded deli is extremely popular because of its convenience for customers. In addition, DeLuca's now has outdoor seating and recently added a food cart serving meatballs, hot sausage, and hot dogs.

The dessert portion of the bakery includes a blend of DeLuca family recipes and a few classic Kribel's products. Customers enjoy seeing regular offerings that include cream cheese cannolis, ricotta cannolis, tiramisu, biscotti cookies, small and large lady locks, and thumb print cookies. My eyes always drift to the wide variety of doughnuts made fresh each day. The bakery is also busy filling birthday cake orders and sells a large quantity of cakes and cookies each day.

Customers love the changes at DeLuca's Bakery and, according to Rob, the store has garnered a following consisting of regular and new customers. "Everyone is very nice and welcoming in Brookline, showing what a friendly neighborhood it is," Rob said. Rob is also open to exploring ways to become more involved in the Brookline community. Brookline is incredibly fortunate to have not only one, but two bakeries on Brookline Boulevard, and DeLuca's is special because of its expanded offerings and convenience to customers. They certainly won me over, which is why DeLuca's Bakery is another reason why it is mighty fine to dine in Brookline!



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Brookline Teen Outreach News

by Caitlin McNulty

“Let’s Eat!” is a hands-on cooking class for teens that takes place every Thursday at 5 p.m. Learn some skills, eat great food, and have fun doing it!

We have just launched a new program called “Smart Science” on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. We take scientific concepts from a variety of disciplines and use them to create really cool and useful things.

We are happy to be the new host location of Brookline Open Mic. These amazing people bring art and music to life every Wednesday evening. Stop by and check it out!

Parents, need a break on Saturday morning to run errands, clean the house or have some quiet time? We are offering babysitting every Saturday morning from 10 a.m.-noon for ages 1-9. For a small fee (\$5 first child, \$3 each additional child), kids will have a safe and engaging place to play as well as a snack. This program is staffed by students working toward their babysitting certification and approved adult volunteers.

All teen events are free and open to anyone ages 10-18. The teen center is open Thursday and Friday 3-9 p.m. and Saturday noon-9 p.m.

Night at the Races BTO Fundraiser

When: Friday, September 9, 2016 from 6-11 p.m. (EDT)

Where: Brookline Teen Outreach - 520 Brookline Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Doors Open: 6 p.m. | First Race: 7:15 p.m.

Price: \$25 per person. Price includes buffet dinner and two bar drink tickets.

Everyone is Welcome: Bet on horses, socialize and bid on raffle items, including a 47” Magnavox Smart TV, two Steelers tickets and more!

Register and Pay Online: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/night-at-the-races-tickets-26672570376>

(All proceeds benefit Brookline Teen Outreach. Brookline Teen Outreach, identification number 47-5537371, is a tax-exempt, non-profit entity under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)3. The official registration and financial information for Brookline Teen Outreach may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State. Registration does not imply endorsement.)

Old Notes By Old People

by Chip Gorski

According to an article back in April posted on NextPittsburgh.com, Brookline is cool again. I am sure you already knew that. The writer suggests in her online article that young families are returning to the neighborhood for a variety of reasons. Chief among them is that fact that Brookline is affordable, has a walkable business district, and has lots of playgrounds. There is also more good news for the region as a whole. Pew Charitable Trust recently reported that while the adult population is down overall, the percentage of young graduates grew by nearly 6 percent. So why is this important? Longevity.

I know of a community that is far out in the suburbs. In its heyday, the community attracted middle class families. The community had great parks, an active business district, great schools and well-kept homes. Flash forward now 20 years since its major employer pulled up stakes. Parks are in disrepair, streets go unpaved, more and more homes are being abandoned. Local businesses that lined the streets have closed up shop. It seems as though people, who were once excited about a big-box, all-purpose supercenter locating in the

community now bemoan the fact that they can’t get somebody to come help them find the pieces required for purchase to make a minor plumbing repair. The heroin epidemic has arrived and the crime associated with it, as well.

While I am sure there are situations in Brookline that need work, overall, the community is really lucky. You really can’t appreciate your town until the places, sights, and scenes you love fall prey to blight, closing signs, and broken-down community infrastructure.

I was walking along the Boulevard a few months ago, making some stops to pick up a few things. I pointed out that Pitaland used to be Foodland, and that I used to buy penny candy at Bickerton’s on my way to school or on the way home. Basically, we didn’t have to leave the community to visit a library, grocery shop, or be entertained. I am very happy to see that the community continues to evolve. And more importantly, encouraged to see young families moving in to become the future caretakers. That is the only way Brookline won’t fall prey to the ravages of blight, disrepair and disinterest.

Brookline Memorial Recreation Center

Kinder Sports

Ages 5 and younger. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-Noon. Very young boys and girls will have a blast with our ongoing Kindersports program. Activities include gym time with games and sports, arts and crafts, storytime, and snack. Drop in any time! FREE

Circuit Training for Women

Ages 18+, Mondays, 9-10 a.m., Sept. 12-Nov. 14. 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. \$20

Tabata

Ages 18+, Tuesdays 5:30-6:15 p.m., Sept. 6-Nov. 15. 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 is limited. \$20

Fitness for Young Women

Ages 10-14, Thursdays 4-5:30 p.m., Sept. 8-Nov. 10. A weekly fitness program designed to encourage healthy lifestyle choices. Each weekly session will involve a workout, teaching appropriate fitness fundamentals, and a healthful snack. This program will focus on making fitness FUN! FREE

Fitness for Young Men

Ages 10-14, Thursdays 4-5:30 p.m., Sept. 8-Nov. 10. A weekly fitness program designed to encourage healthy lifestyle choices. Each weekly session will involve a workout, teaching appropriate fitness fundamentals, and a healthful snack. This program will focus on making fitness FUN! FREE

Youth Indoor Soccer

Ages 4-6 & 7-8 (3 on 3). Sign up now. Season starts in Nov. Indoor soccer is a fun friendly environment. Our 4-6 year old instructional program practices Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, with games on Saturday. Ages 7-8 practice on Tuesday evening, with games on Thursday. \$20

Indoor Bocce

All ages, Mondays 10 a.m.-Noon. Begins Sept. 12. Drop in anytime. FREE

Basketball Clinics

Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-6:45 p.m. (ages 6-8) and 7-7:45 p.m. (ages 9-11). Sept. 6-Oct 27. This clinic is to show the basics of basketball to the kids. All participants receive a t-shirt. \$20

Family Game Nights

All ages. Wednesday and Friday evenings, 6-8 p.m. Enjoy a game night with our Center staff. Board games, card games, etc. FREE

Hike the Trails

All ages. First and third Thursdays of the month, September-November, 4-6 p.m. starting Sept. 8. Join us twice a month learning about the city's parks and venture out for a hike in each of them. Transportation provided. FREE

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.

Correction

In our June 2016 issue, The Brookline Newsletter incorrectly reported that the Brookline American Legion Post 540 had lost its charter. The Legion continues to operate in the Brookline area and serves its members through social events and veterans' advocacy programs. Additionally, it continues to sponsor bingo each Sunday at 520 Brookline Blvd, the American Legion building currently occupied by Brookline Teen Outreach. Doors open for bingo at 4 p.m. and bingo begins at 6 p.m.

Fundraisers

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

Bingo. Sundays, sponsored by Brookline American Legion; American Legion Bldg., 520 Brookline Blvd. Doors open at 4 p.m.; bingo begins at 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 and 2 bar drink tickets.

Representative Dan Deasy



I am hosting hours at libraries in my district to provide residents with voter registration forms as well as applications for absentee ballots. You can stop by and see my staff at the Carnegie Library Beechview Branch or the Carnegie Library West End Branch from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21. If you cannot

make it to these locations, four other events are scheduled in McKees Rocks, Green Tree, Crafton and Sheraden. Please call my office at 412-928-9514 for details.

As a reminder, I will be serving as host of a Senior Health Expo at St. Pamphilus Church hall from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9. The event will feature over 30 exhibitors offering programs and services to older Pennsylvanians, light refreshments, entertainment, door prizes and more. Stop by and visit the Pennsylvania Mobile Veterans Van, get a flu or pneumonia shot with a valid Medicare or insurance card, and bring your unused or expired medications to be collected for proper disposal by the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office.

You can visit my website at www.pahouse.com/deasy or call my office for a complete listing of all upcoming events. Of course, you can always call for assistance in any state-related matter.

Retro Red Productions Presents



Book by John Caird
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Based on a concept by Charles Lisanby
Orchestrations by Bruce Coughlin and Martin Erskine

Based on the story of Genesis, the age-old conflict of parents and children takes the stage in this epic, heartfelt Stephen Schwartz musical. Adam, Eve, Noah and the "Father" who created them deal with the headstrong, cataclysmic actions of their respective children. The show ultimately delivers a bittersweet but inspiring message: that "the hardest part of love... is letting go."

Director: Annette Ferrieri

SAVE THE DATE

Seton Center, 1900 Pioneer Ave. 15226
Sept 9,10,11 & 16,17,18
Fri - Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm

Ticket Prices: Adults \$15 | Seniors \$10 | Students \$10
To purchase tickets on line for \$10 www.retrored.net
To reserve tickets, email: retro.redpro@gmail.com
Tickets can also be purchased at the door

Children of Eden is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

Representative Dan Miller



Many Pennsylvanians know firsthand the devastation caused by opioid addiction. I have been at the forefront of efforts to address this issue in the General Assembly, and I welcome Governor Wolf's call for a special legislative session to combat this epidemic. In the meantime, community members can take

important steps at home to help stem the flow.

One easy way to fight the crisis is to safely dispose of unused prescription pills to ensure they stay out of the wrong hands. The Zone 6 police department puts together a quarterly drop-off system, but for more urgent drop-off needs, the Dormont and Mt. Lebanon police departments have 24/7 drop-off services. The Allegheny County Sheriff's Office runs a similar program, Project D.U.M.P. For more information, call 412-459-5000.

Opioid abuse is a serious threat to our state's health and safety. While the legislature works to end this struggle, I will keep fighting for the proper funding for prevention programs.

Representative Harry Readshaw



Pennsylvania has passed a law that allows for the medically appropriate use of marijuana. This new law is long overdue, and I hope it will help many seriously ill children and adults.

Many of the new law's components will take effect over the next year and a half, but one important note is that as of May 16, a parent of a child who suffers from one of the qualifying illnesses will be immune from prosecution for possessing medical marijuana which was legally purchased in another state. Caregivers must apply for a Safe Harbor letter and carry it with them whenever medical marijuana is being transported outside the home.

All patients will be required to receive a Department of Health Medical Marijuana ID card.

Among the 17 approved medical conditions are:

- HIV/AIDS
- ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease)
- Cancer
- Epilepsy or intractable seizures
- Parkinson's disease

Senator Wayne Fontana



This year's FontanaFest, the 12th annual, is scheduled for Saturday, September 24 from 11 a.m. – 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, promoting healthy and active lifestyles by providing many fun activities and crafts. Children will have the chance to play on several inflatables, an obstacle course and a climbing wall, as well as visiting with a face painter and balloon maker. All attendees will also be able to engage with several organizations from around the region and participate in activities and crafts, while also receiving 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 by The Home Depot, Allegheny County Sheriff's Office, Pittsburgh Firefighters, Carnegie Library, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh Children's Museum, Homeless Children's Education Fund, Pittsburgh International Children's Theater, WQED, Calgon Carbon, Comcast, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, and more.

On Friday, September 30, I will host my annual Flu/Pneumonia Shot & Senior Clinic from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. in Father Quinn Hall at Church of the Resurrection. In addition to receiving a flu shot, seniors will have the chance to meet with many services and providers from around our region, including Duquesne University's School of Pharmacy where attendees can "Ask the Pharmacist" about medication, receive a blood pressure screening and much more.



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Council Woman Natalia Rudiak



We're proud of our stellar venues here in Pittsburgh. From PNC Park to Heinz Field, Consol Energy Center, and the Convention Center, we have fantastic spaces to cheer on the home team, attend conferences and special events, AND see some of the brightest and biggest musical acts of our time. We know these

venues bring people to the City, where they spend money on parking, dinner, drinks and souvenirs, while adding to our local economy. That's why the City provided assistance in building these beautiful venues. But when I called for an audit in 2014, the Controller's office found that performers were exploiting a loophole that allowed them to skip town without paying the taxes they owed for using our taxpayer-funded facilities.

In early July, Mayor Peduto introduced an ordinance to close that loophole. The loophole allowed some performers to hide their earnings in a trust fund and avoid paying what they owed us. In 2013, Taylor Swift paid \$70,410 for using Heinz Field, while Kenny Chesney only paid \$131. (Chesney's management eventually paid the full amount due, but we had to chase them down to get them to pay up.) Major events like this require significant City resources, from Police coverage to EMS services, clean-up by Public Works, and more. When performers don't pay, City taxpayers foot the bill. I'm proud to have been a part of the partnership that is leading us to closing this loophole and giving taxpayers what they are owed.

SCARECROW COMPETITION WIN UP TO \$150



The Brookline Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the fifth annual "SCARECROW COMPETITION." Windows along Brookline Boulevard will be decorated with all types of scarecrows into November.

We are asking Brookline businesses, community organizations, schools, churches, senior centers and individuals to design their own homemade scarecrow with a theme. Winners will be announced at the Halloween Parade. Applications are available at A-Boss Opticians, Party Cake, and the Medicine Shoppe.

HALLOWEEN PARADE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 2:00 PM

The Brookline Chamber of Commerce Annual Halloween Parade will take place thanks to the support of Community Bank and the volunteers who make it happen. The parade starts at Cannon Park and parades down Brookline Boulevard (weather permitting). Judges will stroll through the crowd picking out the best of funny, original, scary, and pretty.

Carnegie Library of Brookline September Events

For Kids

- *Kids Club: Wacky Wednesdays* – September 7, 14, 21, & 28 • 3:30 p.m. – Connect with peers in an engaging environment. Fun and engaging activities for children like crafts, games, or technology.
- *Storytime: Toddler and Preschooler Tales* – Mondays, September 12, 19, & 26 • 6:30 p.m.; Thursdays, September 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 • 11 a.m. – interactive stories, songs and rhymes. Children ages 18 months to 5 years and caregivers.

For Adults

- *Power Yoga with Amy* – Wednesdays • 6:30 p.m. – Bring your own mat, towel and water for free, fun, fitness-based yoga. All skill levels are welcome.
- *Monthly Movie Showdown* – Tuesday, September 13 • 6 p.m. – pick up copies of the selected films at the Library and watch them on your own or with friends. Then join us for fun, relaxed conversation over movie-inspired treats.
- *Résumé Assistance by Appointment* – Wednesdays, September 14 & 28 • 6 - 8 p.m. – A qualified volunteer is available to review your existing résumé and cover letter to help make

them stronger. Call 412-561-1003 to schedule a half-hour appointment.

- *Book Discussions*
 - *Mystery & More* – Wednesday, September 14 • 1 p.m. – Join in and enjoy contemporary and classic mysteries, along with the occasional nonfiction title. This month: *A Constellation of Vital Phenomena* by Anthony Marra
 - *Between the Lines* – Monday, September 19 • 6 p.m. – Join us to discuss contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction. This month: *The Light in the Ruins* by Chris Bohjalian
 - *The Buzz* – Thursday, September 22 • 6 p.m. – Come discuss unconventional fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels. This month: *The Book of Speculation* by Erika Swyler
- *Game Night* – Tuesday, September 20 • 5:45 p.m. – Looking to get away from it all? Take the night off for some friendly competition. Traditional board games and quest-based adventure games will be available.

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

Heritage Players Theater News

The Heritage Players are pleased to offer theater classes for ages 6-11 from September 19 to November 21. For ages 18 to adult, classes run September 24 to November 19. For course description, online registration, and fees visit www.bphp.org. Registration deadline is the first day of class. Classes will be held at the Seton Center, 1900 Pioneer Avenue, Brookline.

Jim Gloeckl, longtime member, actor, and singer for the Heritage Players, will present a one-man show of golden oldies from the '50s and '60s on September 24 at 7 p.m. at the Seton Center. Admission is \$5 at the door. Box office opens one half-hour before the show. For more information, email heritageplayers@yahoo.com.

The Heritage Players will present *Influence* at the Pittsburgh New Works Festival held at the Carnegie Stage, 25 W. Main St., Carnegie. *Influence* is one of three new one-act plays in the Festival's Program D which runs on September 16, 17, 22, 24, and 25. Tickets are \$12-15. Visit pittsburghnewworks.org for more details.

The Heritage Players will present the delightful musical, *Mame*, at the Seton Center on October 14-16 and 21-23. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$13 if purchased in advance online at www.bphp.org/xu35a. Box office opens one-half hour before curtain. For more information, visit www.bphp.org or phone 412-254-4633.

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What's Happening at Brookline PreK-8

by Amy Cornelius Dembosky, Parent Volunteer

We hope you had a safe and happy summer! We welcomed students in PreK and first through eighth grades back on August 29. Kindergarten started on September 1. Students may be dropped off for school as early as 7:40 a.m., which is when breakfast starts. The day officially begins at 8:14 a.m., and ends at 2:51 p.m. The earlier drop-off time has helped us to improve traffic flow on Woodbourne Ave. in the morning.

There are lots of ways to get involved at our school. First, you can be a volunteer. Volunteers do any number of things from reading with students to photocopying to preparing art supplies. You need to have a few clearances through different agencies like the Pennsylvania Child Abuse Registry. Our Family and

Community Engagement Coordinator, kindergarten teacher Sara Lewis, can help you get those together.

Second, you can participate in the Parent-School-Community Council (PSCC). This group meets monthly to hear about and give input on many topics including programs offered, data collected, and Title I programs at the school level, as well as to get information on district-wide news and proposals. Although the name may sound fancy and formal, the meetings are friendly and all are welcome! A light dinner is usually served and child care is available with advance notice. The first meeting for the year is focused on the Title I student support program, and it will be held Wednesday, September 7. For the time of the meeting, and for answers to any questions you have regarding enrollment and back-to-school, call the office at 412-529-7380.

The Latest From St. John Bosco Academy

by Holly Victor, Parent Volunteer

St. John Bosco Academy is proud of its students, staff, and faculty members for the many volunteer hours donated during the summer to church and community. There were several opportunities to help out our supporting parishes; the Resurrection Fun Flair and the St. Pius X church fair, just to name a few. Being among the group of sub-sponsors for the Brookline Breeze, SJBA plays roles from registration to clean up and everything in between. The SJBA Girl Scout troop offered refreshing and much needed hydration to the runners as they scaled the St. Pius X parking lot at the halfway point of the race. We also had several participants who braved the heat and

humidity to contribute by way of running and walking the 5K. Congratulations to Brookline for another successful Breeze!

We'd like to express our gratitude and joy to Joe Rogers for the beautiful piece in last month's Brookline Newsletter that highlighted St. John Bosco Academy. Joe is a fine example of the type of student who comes from our school. Please contact our office at 412-563-0858 if you are interested in learning more about registration.

News and Updates: The safety of our students is always a number one priority; as a result a new security camera has been installed. Also, a huge thank you to Sue Lucas, who has accepted the position as the new Athletics Director. Good luck, Sue!

Call for Volunteers

- ANGELS' PLACE Volunteers needed at Angels' Place, Inc. Help us work with children, arts and crafts, organizing and more. If interested, please call Stephanie at 412-531-6667. www.angelsplaceph.org
 - BROOKLINE CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY Call Pat Erny at 412-344-8451
 - BEGIN AGAIN CLOTHING MINISTRY To donate gently used or new clothing, call Brookline United Presbyterian Church at 412-531-0590
 - DOGIPOT MAINTENANCE Call Lisa at 412-304-3086
 - FOREVER HOME BEAGLE RESCUE Call 412-304-4034 or BeagleHQ@msn.com Foster homes needed as well as donations of dog food, blankets and bath towels.
 - MEALS ON WHEELS Sponsored by St. Mark's Lutheran Church call 412-343-8144
 - OASIS: HELP CHILDREN READ Tutors (age 50+) needed in Pittsburgh Schools, including Brookline PreK-8 and West Liberty K-5. Call John D. Spehar at 412-393-7648. 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).

Breezefest 2016

by Kathleen Keating and Tiffany Thomas

Brookline Blvd. was jumping with the second annual Breezefest on August 13. The festival welcomed vendors from around the region and highlighted the many great businesses along the Boulevard. The oppressive heat didn't keep the crowds away; hundreds of people enjoyed the family-friendly event.

With the help of Rather Ripped Records, the Breezefest main stage featured popular local bands The Threads, Nox Boys, and Meeting of Important People. The event kicked off with Brookline's own Tony Griffith, pumping up the Breeze runners with fast-paced DJ dance jams. He was followed by a performance of Brookline Open Mic musicians: Sister Sheena, the Shadow Puppets, and Joey Pelesky. Between performances, Three Rivers Martial Arts and Retro Red Theater kept the crowd entertained.

A 20-minute torrential downpour had Breezefest attendees running for cover, huddling under the main tent and rushing into local businesses until it passed. The storm interrupted the Nox Boys' performance, but they stuck around until the skies

were clear to finish their high-energy set.

Kids at the event were able to make adorable robots and other crafts out of recycled materials, get their faces painted, and jump in the bounce house. The heat didn't stop many of the children from dancing in front of the concert stage.

The Breezefest was 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 generous local sponsors: Phil Behr & Adam Johnson: Agents with Farmers Insurance, Rohrich Chevrolet, Brookline Area Community Council, Community Bank, the City of Pittsburgh, and Frank F. DeBor Funeral Home.

SPDC is always looking for volunteers to help make community events happen. If you want to make Breezefest even better next year, please let them know at brookline.spdc@gmail.com.

Photos courtesy of Pawsburgh Photography and Dan Kaczmariski





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