

Fox's Pizza Den

by Dan Kaczmariski



Fox's Pizza Den on Brookline Blvd.

Photo courtesy of Katie Seagriff & Matt Luciani

For years, Brookliners got used to seeing Fox's Pizza Den on Brookline Blvd, but in March 2015, the shop was infused with a jolt of energy and freshness when Matt Luciani and Katie Seagriff, along with Katie's uncle, took over as its new owners.

Matt says it took about 6 months for the public to realize there was a new game in town; although the shop is a franchise, it's truly independently owned and operated. "We'd say to people, 'We're under new ownership,' and they'd say 'OK, sure.'" "There are certain corporate things we have to abide by," says Katie, but we added a lot to our menu."

They installed fryers and have added nine new items to the fried food menu, such as hot pepper cheese balls, broccoli cheese bites, macaroni and cheese bites, jalapeno poppers, and several varieties of chicken wings. They've recently added to their menu a mammoth 52-piece pizza. "We basically have to deliver that one because people's cars aren't big enough to take it," says Matt.

Katie says they've gotten a lot of positive feedback. "Many people say our food tastes a lot different than that of the previous owners. Our hours are different; many prices are lower; portions are bigger. We have people driving from other neighborhoods because they like us better than the Fox's in their own neighborhood."

The shop's sales are up 50 percent over that of the previous ownership and have doubled in the past year. In addition to

walk-in business, the shop delivers up to 60 or more pizzas each weekend day. The shop has hosted group events and can seat at least 32.

Katie and Matt have opened their business and themselves to Brookline. Front windows that used to be bare under previous ownership are now festooned with community event fliers. The shop's restrooms are no longer kept locked. The shop will have its second annual "Lunch with Santa" in December. Matt is an active member of the Brookline Chamber of Commerce.

"We try to do as much as we can because we want to become known as people to come to in the community," says Matt. "We're not just about our business," adds Katie. "We want to make it better for the community."

"For instance," says Matt, who is also a Brookline real estate agent, "Olive Oil Pizza is coming down the street and I can't wait to meet those guys and talk to them. We need businesses on the Boulevard; I don't care if it's a pizza shop or not. We want to stay here; we want to have our pizza shop in Brookline and I want to have people come to me to move to Brookline."

Some quick facts about Brookline's Fox's. They:

- Have three different online ordering systems (Grubhub, Eat24, and their own system).
- Have expanded their delivery zone and doubled their staff to meet the demand.
- Delivered pizza to the staff of the Penguins and San Jose Sharks for this year's Stanley Cup Game 1 (Fox's is served in Heinz Field and is the official pizza of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Penguins.)
- Have fundraiser options for all local schools and recently partnered with South Brook middle school selling "Pizza Cards."

902 Brookline Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15226

412-892-9130

foxsbrookline@gmail.com

www.foxspizza.com/locations/PA/Brookline

Facebook: Fox's Pizza Den Brookline

Hours: Sunday through Thursday

11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Friday and Saturday

11 a.m. to 11 p.m.



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Brookline Updates

Community Contacts

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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

Community Crimes Zone 6

August		
Zone 6 Crimes	Total	Brookline
Aggravated Assault	6	0
Rape	1	1
Robbery	13	4
Burglary	18	2
Theft	16	2
Theft from Vehicle	14	2
Stolen Vehicle	4	0

OCTOBER COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Monday, October 10

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

Tuesday, October 11

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

Monday, October 17

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

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The Brookline

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October 7 for November's Issue
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From Shelters to Happy Homes

by Dan Kaczmariski

If it weren't for Nala, there probably wouldn't be a Forever Home Beagle Rescue, and hundreds of dogs that are romping and playing in loving homes wouldn't have made it out of an animal shelter alive.

Brookline resident Julie Stoops had always owned cats, not dogs, but in 2005, on a trip to Animal Friends in search of a cat to adopt, she happened upon a beagle in a cage. Julie said that when she looked at Nala, she knew instantly that was her dog. "It was ridiculous," she says. "I'd never had a dog. I didn't know what to do with a dog; I didn't want a dog. But I looked at her and thought, I had to have her."

Once Julie adopted Nala, she learned online how many dogs were in immediate danger of being killed and in need of rescue. It might seem surprising that a large number of beagles end up on death row in shelters. After all, they're friendly, cute "Snoopy's," right?

Their popularity is part of the problem. They've been overbred and are often bought on impulse. When some people get tired of owning a dog, they take it to a shelter. Even more sadly, many beagles are abandoned in the woods at the end of hunting season, either when the dogs get lost or they've outlived their usefulness.

Julie and her husband began her rescue movement by getting a couple of other dogs from a shelter, taking them to a veterinarian, then finding them a permanent home. The veterinarian gave them discounts, but they paid for the vet work, managing to max out their credit card.

She began working for about 2 years with another woman who was doing something similar. When the other woman began focusing on other breeds, Julie continued to rescue beagles. In 2012, she met Amy Blankenship, who was working at the time to save beagles in West Virginia. They worked together at a distance until Amy moved to Pittsburgh and have been working together here ever since.

From small beginnings, the rescue program has grown exponentially into a 501(c)(3) non-profit that rescues dogs in multiple states. Most of the dogs are from Pennsylvania, West

Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky. Amy spearheads fundraisers and soliciting donations, which together with adoption fees keep the program operating.

Although the Forever Home headquarters are off Pioneer Ave in Brookline, the actual dogs are distributed in foster homes. The number of foster homes is crucial to how many dogs can be rescued. Standard procedure is for a rescued dog to go

to a foster home until the program can find a "forever home." At any one time, there are usually about 20-25 dogs in foster homes. Forever Home pays for veterinary treatment, transport, and caretaking costs, though some foster homes choose to cover those costs themselves.

How long a dog stays in a foster home varies. "We have dogs that are adopted within a week or less and others that are there 6 to 12 months later," says Julie. "Chances are a special needs dog or a senior is going to be a longer term foster. But on the average, probably 3 weeks to a month." The program reviews prospective adoptive homes carefully and takes the dog on a preliminary visit before deciding whether to place it there.

Despite its name, the program isn't limited to beagles. "We'll essentially help any dog if we can find a foster home," says Julie. She also emphasizes that the program helps dogs that are not in the program and already in loving homes from being taken to shelters for financial reasons. "We offer financial assistance and anything we can to keep a dog that's already being cared for to stay in that home."

What does the program need most? "Fostering is huge," says Julie. "Also, help with fundraising, including grant writing. Any kind of transport. And obviously, donations; what's most beneficial are gift cards such as those to Amazon, because a lot of times our fosters aren't local so we'll drop-ship things from Amazon."

Forever Home Beagle Rescue has a website and Facebook page. The coordinators can be contacted by email at fhbrinfo@gmail.com and urge anyone who doesn't hear back right away to keep trying. They assure you that you will get a response.



*Having fun at Beaglepalooza, a Forever Home Fundraiser
Pawsburgh Photography*

2016 a Golden Year for Brookline Musician

by Dan Kaczmariski



Jack Stanizzo

Pawsburgh Photography

It's fall, 1966, and you're a teen who loves to listen to Top 40 stations KQV and KDKA. For the past several weeks, in addition to new releases such as "Good Vibrations" and "Mustang Sally," you've looked forward to hearing "Someone," a haunting ballad of lost love by the Contrails that's climbed to #5 on the Pittsburgh charts. You buy the 45 and become one of more than a million music lovers to do so.

This year, Brookline musician Jack Stanizzo, co-writer of "Someone" and a member of the Contrails, finally has a gold record certifying that the song was at least a million-seller. "Porky Chedwick always said to me, 'You know what, Jackie, you sold over 2 million records. I can tell by what's played on the radio and how many times a day it's played.' But I really never paid any attention to it.

"When I recently reconnected with my co-writer Dick Engel, he told me he had received a gold record. I said, 'What are you talking about?' He said, 'Yeah, you can get one too.'" It turns out that to actually be issued a gold record, Jack needed to contact the Record Industry Associations of America, which keeps track of sales.

Jack calls it kind of a fluke that "Someone" even existed. "We were playing the Golden Nugget on Rt. 51 when a couple of guys came up and asked if we'd be willing to play the music for some girl singers they wanted to record. They said, 'We can't pay you, but we'll give you studio time to record one song of your own.' So we put together 'Someone.' Once we recorded it, these guys dropped the girls and said they were going to release our record."

In order to bypass the logjam of local talent seeking airplay in Pittsburgh, it was decided to release "Someone" on a West Coast label – Reuben records – which then sold the song to Diamond Records. The song took off, but it wasn't until

several months later that stations realized the Contrails were from Pittsburgh. "When they found out," says Jack, "it was like 'Wow, these guys are local!'"

The group members were better musicians than financial managers. At the time, Jack was 19, one year out of high school. "Odell Bailey, the producer, kept the money and records hidden from the band," says Jack. "Once the record was picked up by Diamond Records we had lost track. We now find out that Diamond also sold it to Apex. But we were paid only for our performances." As co-writer, Jack does continue to receive royalties from radio play. (On the 94.5 3WS Sunday Night Diner ranking of Pittsburgh's Top 100 oldies, the song is listed at #14.)

The group was booked into local venues by Bob Mack, then – under Pat DiCesare – began playing college auditoriums, the Syria Mosque, the Civic Arena, and on the road with acts such as The Temptations, Little Anthony and the Imperials, Smokey Robinson, Three Dog Night, and Sonny & Cher. Jack says he'll never forget seeing The Temptations and Little Anthony standing offstage watching the Contrails perform. "It was just so cool; you were really appreciated by guys like that."

By the end of the decade, however, the group had drifted apart. In 1969, Jack formed a band called Thy Brothers Blood, which for the next 10 years or so opened for acts such as Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Blood, Sweat, and Tears, and Chicago.

While with the Contrails, Jack enrolled at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh to study architecture and interior design. Today, he owns his own construction and design company but music is still integral to his life. He continues to compose and performs with guitarist Paul Lowe. Jack and Paul will perform at the Getaway Café on Sussex Ave. on October 8 at 8:00 p.m.

You can hear "Someone" on YouTube and also on a 40th Anniversary CD of Contrails originals released in 2006. In 2009, Jack and Paul released their own CD, *Heart of the City*. For more information, you can check out Jack's Facebook page.



Jack's gold record for "Someone"

Photo Courtesy of Jack Stanizzo

One on One with Father Fernando Torres

by Joseph Samuel Rodgers

It is no secret that our community has changed over the years. The streetcars that once carried passengers from Brookline to Downtown were replaced with busses, fittingly with the same bus number. Many of the businesses that my father grew up with – and one in particular, Kribel's Bakery, where Granny Rogers once worked – have either changed names or purposes. Even our three neighborhood Catholic churches are all operated by one pastor and two assistants.

Participation among Hispanic Catholics has surged, and in response to the growing Hispanic population in Brookline and Beechview, Father Fernando Torres was assigned to our community to work with Hispanic ministry and also celebrate a weekly Sunday Mass at 1 p.m. and a Thursday evening Mass at 7:30 p.m. in Spanish at Saint Catherine of Siena Church in Beechview.

Father Fernando is from León, Mexico and has been a priest for ten years, serving in Mexico, Spain, Italy, France, and now the United States. Father was “inspired to answer God's call because of the faith of my family and then because of my time in the seminary where they helped me find my vocation.”

Father's first assignment in Pittsburgh was as the co-coordinator of the Hispanic Apostolate of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He is presently assigned as a parochial vicar at Our Lady of Loreto, Saint Pius X, Resurrection, and Saint Catherine of Siena in Beechview.

According to Father Fernando, between 100 and 190 parishioners regularly attend Mass in Spanish at Saint Catherine's on Sundays, and many are families with small children. The community is steadily growing, prompting the addition of a weekday Mass on Thursdays

earlier this summer. Father has noticed many non-Spanish speakers from the four parishes who attend the Spanish Mass to learn the language and interact with their fellow parishioners. In addition, members of the Spanish community attend Mass in English at the four parishes as well, and members of both communities served together at the summer festival at Saint Pius X this past August.

Programs within the Hispanic community have been gradually expanding to meet the needs of the community, including a prayer group, bonding activities to create a closer community, Independence Day celebrations for Spanish speaking nations that have representatives in the community, and Posadas during the Christmas season. All money raised by these programs supports our four area parishes.

“A primary goal of ours is the spiritual well-being of the community. I try to provide the guidance to grow in their faith, to deepen their faith, and to unite and enhance their sense of community... and to offer the religious traditions that they would have in their countries,” Father said. Father and his team also assist members with finding work, assistance with medical issues, navigating legal matters, and getting a Green Card.

Father Fernando “would like to thank those from the Spanish speaking and non-Spanish speaking community who have stepped up to help and who volunteer so much of their time to help create such a positive and loving environment in our community.”

The Hispanic community has added a new dimension to our vibrant neighborhood, and Father Fernando looks forward to continuing to serve the people of Brookline and Beechview.

Father Fernando can be contacted at Our Lady of Loreto Catholic Church, 1905 Pioneer Avenue, 412-341-6161.

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, funds and Amazon gift cards
 - 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)

Halloween Parade to Add Special Treats

by Heather Fulton



Halloween Parade 2015

Pawburgh Photography

Why not start the upcoming holiday season with a Halloween parade that's sure to be a new and exciting experience for all children and adults alike? Brookline's 2016 Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 29, will undoubtedly be a fun-filled experience for the entire family!

A new feature for this year's parade will be volunteers dressed in costumes handing out treats the entire length of the parade, alongside our spooky trick or treaters!

Participants will be able to "trick or treat" throughout the entire parade route; gathering candy and surprises from the many participating stores and businesses on the Boulevard. We are very excited to combine this exciting event with people from the community and many of our business owners who support Brookline. An extra special thanks in advance to Community Bank for donating the treat bags and goodies! Thanks Michael!

This year's costume contest will consist of five separate categories, including one for preschoolers. Prizes will be awarded for: funniest, scariest, group, pets, and under-age-5 costumes. Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each category. So put your best and most creative costume together and strut your stuff in this year's spooktacular parade!

To ensure the safety of everyone, Brookline Blvd. will be temporarily closed from the Cannon to CVS during the parade.

Watch out for our Happy Halloween posters on the Boulevard for more information regarding the parade, and mark your calendars for Saturday, October 29 @ 2 p.m. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please feel free to contact Heather Fulton at Heatherafulton@gmail.com. Happy Halloween!!



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Brookline Teen Outreach News

by Caitlin McNulty

Thank you to everyone who supported us by attending and sponsoring the Night at the Races event held on September 9. It was a fun night of racing, prizes and revelry. We hope to make this an annual event, so don't worry if you couldn't make it this year. A very special thank you to our financial donors:

A-Boss Opticians, Community Bank, The Medicine Shoppe, Michael Poremski Plumbing, South Hills Art Center, DeBor Funeral Home, Scoops on the Blvd, South Hills Printing, Natalia Rudiak, D & N Enterprises, Getaway Café, Mt. Lebanon Office Furniture, Hair by Conroy, Robert S. Miggantz & Donna L. Labriola, D.M.D., P.C., and Future Perfect Life Coach.

At BTO, we love supporting the visions of the kids we work with. We proudly display student-made art, develop programming based on student requests, and provide platforms for great ideas. On Thursday, October 6 and Friday, October 7 from 6-10 p.m., we are inviting everyone to attend "ER Basement," a student produced and created haunted house. Admission is only \$8 for all ages and includes both a haunt experience and a Halloween party including food, showings of classic Halloween movies and more.

Brookline Teen Outreach is now open five days a week! Hours are Tuesday-Friday 3 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 9 p.m. Unique programming and open access to video games, air hockey and fooseball every day.

Brookline Teen Outreach Receives Grant



Left to right, Jeff Gedman, Caitlin McNulty, Frank DeBor
Pawburgh Photography

This summer, Brookline Teen Outreach, through the efforts of Frank DeBor, president and owner of DeBor Funeral Home, Inc., received a \$1,000 grant from Matthews International, Corp.

BTO, headquartered at 520 Brookline Blvd., is a non-profit drop-in, out-of-school-time facility for 6th to 12th graders that offers an array of programs, activities and events. BTO strives to transform lives by connecting members with the experiences, resources, and supports they need to succeed both in and out of school.

Matthews has been a leader in the memorialization industry for over 150 years. Among other business segments, the company provides funeral homes and cemeteries with products and services, including caskets, cremation products, and bronze burial markers. Matthews, which has a site in Brookline near the bottom of West Liberty Ave., runs a program through which client funeral directors can petition for a grant for a deserving organization in the funeral

home's community. Frank, in conjunction with BTO Board Chair Caitlin McNulty, applied for and received the grant.

The presentation was made by Jeff Gedman, Matthews Sales Consultant. "I think it's wonderful that we could help out Brookline and the Outreach Center," said Jeff. "The company really likes to take care of its people."

DeBor Funeral Home has been a member of the Brookline community since 1951. "We're proud to be able to facilitate this grant from Matthews," said Frank. "It's just another example of the way we like to be here, to support as many things as possible."

The grant will be used to support some of BTO's newer programs, such as Thursday cooking classes, as well as movie nights and other community endeavors. "We're very grateful for the opportunity from Frank to apply for this grant, and thankful to Matthews for granting it to us," says Caitlin. "\$1,000 is very meaningful and useful to what we're doing."

October Events on the Boulevard

At 824: The Consignment Shop

LuLaRoe Trunk Sale. Try on the latest fashions while sipping mimosas! Free. Age 21+. Sat., Oct. 8, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. 824 Brookline Blvd. 412-440-8245. Also at 824: Mask-Making Art Workshop. Sat. Oct. 22, 6-10 p.m. Space is limited. Refreshments included. \$30 per person. Age 21+.

At Brookline Teen Outreach/American Legion Bldg.

Brookline Community Open Mic. Wednesdays, 8-10:30 p.m. 520 Brookline Blvd for all ages.

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., through Nov. 14. This 45-minute class focuses on a total body workout using a variety of strength, cardio, and core exercises. Open to all levels! Registration is limited. \$20

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. Drop in anytime. FREE

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, through November, 4-6 p.m. 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.

For more information, call 412-571-3222.

Changing Children's Lives



The Pittsburgh OASIS Intergenerational Tutor Program is seeking volunteers (50+) to tutor in Pittsburgh and Woodland Hills School Districts in grades K-4. Share your love of reading as you help a child develop a positive self-image and a motivation to read and communicate. An hour a

week can change a child's life!

OASIS has volunteers helping at Brookline PreK-8 and West Liberty K-5. A two-day training class will be conducted on Wednesday, November 16 and Friday, November 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 411 Seventh Ave., Suite 525 (Duquesne Light Building), downtown Pittsburgh. No teaching experience is required and all training, materials and clearances are provided free of charge.

For more information or to register, please contact John D. Spehar, Pittsburgh OASIS Tutoring Program Director at (412) 393-7648 or by email at jdspehar@oasisnet.org. This program is operated in partnership with Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council.

Fundraisers

Is your Brookline community church, school, or other non-profit holding a fundraiser? We'd like to list it in the *Brookline*. To have your event listed, contact pdkaz@comcast.net. Please include "Fundraiser" in the subject line.

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.

Just a Reminder

Under City of Pittsburgh ordinance Sec. 423.03, unless a permit has been issued, it's illegal to post signage within the right-of-way lines of any public street or sidewalk. This includes the mulched areas and utility poles on the Boulevard.

Free Meals for Kids

GrubUp Pittsburgh offers free afterschool meals each weekday at the Brookline Recreation Center for those 18 and under. Snacks: 3-4 p.m. Hot meal: 5-6:30 p.m.

Representative Dan Deasy



I am partnering with the state Attorney General's Office to bring its Senior Crime Prevention University (SCPU) program to my district. The SCPU program is designed to educate older Pennsylvanians and their families about crime prevention, including the threat of fraud to the senior

community, how to avoid becoming a victim and whom to call with safety concerns.

As detailed on the Attorney General's website, the theme of the program is "Aware, Avoid, Alert." The goal is to make seniors "aware" of the scams and frauds that are out there; teach them how to "avoid" becoming the next victim; make them "alert" and observant of their surroundings and situations they are facing; and, encourage them to report any instances of scam or fraud to their local law enforcement.

Please join my staff and a representative of the Attorney General's Office at the Carnegie Library – Beechview Branch at 4 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 21, for this important session, which will include a brief presentation and a question-and-answer session. Light refreshments will be served. Call my office at 412-928-9514 to register your attendance or if we can be of assistance in any state-related matter.

Do You Want to Recieve 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.

Back to 1924



It's little consolation, but this isn't the first time we've had the Tubes and no Liberty Bridge. The Tunnels opened in 1924; four years before the bridge. The north portals went to Arlington Ave.

Photo courtesy of Clint Burton and "Brookline Connection"

Representative Dan Miller



Too many of our veterans are returning home and struggling to re-connect, find work, and sometimes find the assistance they need to help deal with service-related medical needs. In particular, post-traumatic stress is a plague amongst our veterans. Recent numbers have estimated that 22 service people a day commit suicide across our nation. This is unacceptable.

As a member of the Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness committee, I consider it a top priority to get our Pennsylvanian veterans the help and services they need. That is why I have partnered with Senator Guy Reschenthaler to talk with veterans and experts to understand what role the state can play in helping veterans when the federal system doesn't get the job done.

Our event will take place on Thursday, October 27 starting at 7 p.m. at the Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building. The state Veterans Mobile Service Van will also be on hand from 6-8 p.m. to help connect veterans and their families to needed services. Please join us!

Representative Harry Readshaw



Here is a recent letter I received. I'd welcome your comments on the writer's recommendation.

I would like to offer a suggestion that will not only make an impact in our neighborhoods, but will truly engage more people in their communities.

Questions we often ask are "How can we get more people involved in our communities?" and "How can we make this world a better place?" There is no simple solution. Sometimes it is difficult to get people engaged and inspired. Some might not think that their efforts will make a difference, and others may not have time.

To help combat this, I am proposing: If one does (x) amount of community service hours, they shall receive a tax credit of (x) on state taxes. This can be for things like volunteering at your local animal shelter, helping with church programs, working at homeless shelters, and so much more.

This would increase volunteerism, provide a financial incentive, and help organizations and people that are in need of assistance.

What do you think of this idea? You can reach my Brownsville Rd. office at 412-881-4208.

Senator Wayne Fontana



I want to remind everyone the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue will be accepting applications for the 2015 Property Tax/Rent Rebate program through the end of the year. If you are eligible and have not yet applied, applications are available at www.revenue.pa.gov or at my Brookline

office, located at 932 Brookline Boulevard. My staff would be happy to assist you in preparing your application.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and over; widows and widowers age 50 and over; and people with disabilities age 18 and over. Homeowners with a maximum yearly income of \$35,000 and renters with a maximum yearly income of \$15,000 are eligible for a rebate. Keep in mind half of Social Security income is excluded. Some applicants who previously received rebates may continue to qualify despite Social Security cost-of-living adjustments that may have pushed their income past eligibility limits.

For any questions about this program or any other state related issue please contact my office Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. at 412-344-2551.

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My office gets a number of calls every day from neighbors just like you to ask for assistance. When encountering an issue from a broken streetlight to a missing stop sign, you can call 3-1-1, email through the 311 system (<http://pittsburghpa.gov/311/form>), or go on Twitter (@pgh311). The request is then sent to the

appropriate department for service. For example, if there is a city-owned lot that needs to be mowed, that request will be sent to the Department of Public Works. But sometimes, even though a request is made, the wheels of government move slowly. That's when we can step in to help.

When 311 hasn't gotten the results you are looking for, Megan Neuf, our constituent services manager, can step in and follow up. She acts as a detective, checking to see if the request got to the right department or person, and seeing what caused the delay and how to fix it.

Sometimes we come across bigger issues that require a larger response. For example, when constituents came to us about Moore Park, there were bigger fish to fry. That's when Ashleigh Deemer, my Chief of Staff, organized a volunteer day at Moore Park that turned out more than 30 volunteers who painted railings and the gazebo right alongside our whole office. Furthermore, Ashleigh wrote the capital budget requests to ensure more capital investment in Moore Park in 2017.

So when it comes to issues large or small, our office is here to assist you! You can reach us at 412-255-2131 or online at <http://pittsburghpa.gov/district4/contact>.

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Carnegie Library of Brookline October Events

For Kids

- *STEM Super Science* – Wednesdays • 3:30 p.m. – pair books with hands-on experiences to engage children through active, scientific learning.
- *Storytime: Toddler and Preschooler Tales* – Mondays, October 3, 10, & 17 • 6:30 p.m. – interactive stories, songs and rhymes.
- *Family PlayShop* – Thursdays • 11 a.m. – laugh, play, discover, explore.
- *Be a Herpetologist* - Monday, October 24 • 6:30-7:00 p.m. – live exotic amphibians and reptiles at the library.

For Teens

- *Animé Club* – Monday, October 3 • 3-5 p.m. – explore Japanese culture, showcase cosplay, and enjoy animé.
- *Pokemon Club* – Mondays, 8, 15, 22, & 31 • 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.

For Adults

- *Power Yoga with Amy* – Wednesdays • 6:30 p.m. – bring your own mat, towel and water for free, fun, fitness-based yoga.
- *Monthly Movie Showdown* – Tuesday, October 11 • 6 p.m. –

fun, relaxed conversation over movie-inspired treats.

- *Résumé Assistance by Appointment* – Wednesdays, October 12 & 26 • 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, October 12 • 1 p.m. – contemporary and classic mysteries, and occasional nonfiction. This month: *The Man in the Brown Suit* by Agatha Christie
 - *Between the Lines* – Monday, October 17 • 6 p.m. – contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction. This month: *An Irish Country Doctor* by Patrick Taylor
 - *The Buzz* – Thursday, October 27 • 6 p.m. – unconventional fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels. This month: *V for Vendetta* by Alan Moore and David Lloyd
 - *Game Night* – Tuesday, October 18 • 5:45 p.m. – traditional board games and quest-based adventure games

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

Heritage Players Theater News

The Heritage Players perform in the Seton Center auditorium on Pioneer Ave. The group draws actors, directors, and crew from throughout the Pittsburgh area. Brookliners are encouraged to share their talents with the all-volunteer group.

In October

The delightful musical, *Mame*, 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.

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

Do You Like to Write or Proofread?

The Brookline Newsletter, an all-volunteer publication, welcomes writers for articles and announcements, and also proofreaders. If you'd like to write, we can provide you with contacts and choices of topics and we welcome your article ideas as well. There's no obligation to write each month; we'll work with your schedule. If you're a writing student, this is a great way to get byline clippings for your portfolio.

If you like detail work and grammar, we can always use proofreaders. It would involve an hour or two of your time once a month.

For more information, contact Dan Kaczmarek at pdkaz@comcast.net

What's Happening at Brookline PreK-8

by Amy Cornelius Dembosky, Parent Volunteer

Our school year has gotten off to a great start. We would like to welcome our three new staff members. Our middle school students have two new English/Language Arts teachers. Dr. Diane Smith has joined us for sixth and eighth grades, and Mr. Michael Jones is teaching seventh. We also have a new nurse practitioner, Mrs. Brigetta Devlin. We are glad to have them as part of our Brookline family.

Our science teachers are excited about our new curriculum. It is an inquiry-based program from Carolina Biological and the Smithsonian Institution. We hope that our students will find it challenging and intriguing.

This fall our middle school students (grades 6-8) have the opportunity to participate in two sports – our established cross country team and our new flag football. Both sports are co-ed. Intermediate students (grades 3-5) will be able to participate in intramural sports starting this month. Watch for permission slips which will be coming home!

“Embracing Challenges” was the theme of a special speaker who came to visit our intermediate students. Captain Eric McElvenny served our country for seven years as a Marine. He lost his lower right leg as a result of an explosion in Afghanistan. Now retired, Capt. McElvenny divides his time between public speaking and participating in athletic endurance events. In 2013, he competed in the Ironman triathlon as part of a team led by Hines Ward. We appreciate Capt. McElvenny telling his story to our students, and showing them that perseverance pays off.

Please remember to follow ALL street signs as well as instructions from staff during drop-off and pick-up times. These rules are in place to keep our students and families safe! If you have questions or concerns about parking safely or any other school issue, you can discuss them at our Coffee with the Administrators (call for dates and times) and/or the Parent/School/Community Council meeting. The next PSCC meeting will be October 4 at 8:30 a.m.

The Latest From St. John Bosco Academy

by Holly Victor, Parent Volunteer

Every year St. John Bosco Academy schedules a day centered on fitness. This year was no different. On the last school day of September, our students were able to raise money for the school by collecting pledges from friends and family based on their participation in the annual Fitness Walk. The younger students lapped the courtyard while the upper classmen circled the parking lot and front of the school. Everyone was treated to a well-deserved snack at the end.

The Fitness Walk is just one of many fundraisers that SJBA offers to help defray the cost of Catholic school tuition. All year long, each family has choices of fundraisers and activities in which they

can participate to help pay for a portion of their tuition. Sarris' candy bars are sold throughout the entire school year. Parents can also purchase gift cards for Giant Eagle and other retailers and a percentage of the cost is given back in the form of tuition credit through the Scrip program.

In addition to those opportunities, magazine, seasonal candy, and candle sales also help to raise money. Look out for our students at our supporting parishes beginning this month selling lottery calendars after Mass. They are only \$5 and you have a chance to win everyday!

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up”- Galatians 6:9

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Sweet Memories

by Dan Kaczmariski

Chip Gorski's "Old Notes by Old People" column will return in November. This month, we were able to fill his spot with someone even older.

With Halloween soon upon us, what better time to tap into one of the best memories from our childhoods? CANDY. As all neuroscientists know, the single largest functioning area in any child's brain is the *sweetus cravus*, the homing device that leads him or her to candy. Why else would our parents and teachers have to warn us not to get into a car with a miscreant just because he or she offered us a Hershey Bar?

We all had our favorite candy and our habitual go-to locations for purchases, though anyplace would do in a pinch. I and my siblings and cousins frequented Grumet's Market, next to the current Egghead's Saloon. Other Brookline youth preferred Newsies, Bickerton's, or one of the multiple drugstores or grocery stores on the Boulevard. It didn't really matter. Whatever the source, few childhood experiences surpassed the intoxicating gratification of unwrapping and eating a candy bar.

Like most kids, I assumed history started the day I was born. Only later did it dawn on me that certain things critical to civilization had existed before I graced the earth, such as some of my favorite candies.

But some nifty treats did make their debut during my childhood and I have to admit some pretty decent ones have been invented in the decades since.

So here's a pre-Halloween history lesson. These are the decades some candy favorites first appeared in Brookline and elsewhere.

Pre-1920s

Candy corn
Good and Plenty
Hershey Bars
Necco Wafers
Tootsie Rolls
Clark Bar



1920s

Butterfingers
Baby Ruth
Chuckles
Milky Way
Mounds
Reese's Cups

1930s

Three Musketeers
Chunky

Kit Kat
Skybar
Snickers
Nestle Crunch

1940s

Mallo Cup
Almond Joy
M&M's
Smarties
Whoppers
Junior Mints



1950s

M&M's Peanut
Pez Dispensers
Candy necklace
Atomic Fireballs
Hot Tamales

Satellite Wafers

1960s

Swedish Fish
Good and Fruity
Pixy Stix
Starburst
Sweet Tarts
Lemonheads



1970s

Reese's Pieces
Blow Pops
Pop Rocks
Jelly Bellies
Ring Pops
Twix

1980s

Airheads
Gummi Worms
Nerds
Skittles
Sour Patch Kids
Big League Chew



1990s

Icee Squeeze
Pay Back Attack
Toxic Waste
Candy Blox
Reese's Nutrageous
Warheads



Photos by Evan-Amos, Wikimedia Commons



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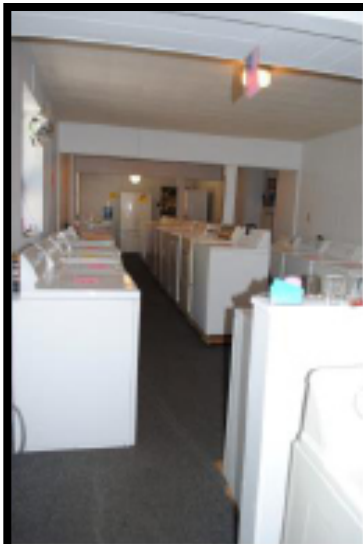
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