

Overstock Warehouse



Photo Courtesy of Overstock Warehouse



Pawsburgh Photography



Photo Courtesy of Overstock Warehouse

by Dan Kaczmariski

When Brookliners create their wish list of types of store they'd like to see on the Boulevard, a hardware store is a perennial nominee. Well, although Overstock Warehouse, which opened at 815 Brookline Blvd. in August, isn't a hardware store per se, at least not yet, it's a welcome newcomer for those looking for quality tools at bargain prices.

The store's inventory, which is scheduled to consistently expand, currently includes, among other things, drills, hammer drills, circular saws, nailers, sanders, miter saws, table saws generators, tools for the car, flooring tools, framing tools, grinders, and toolboxes.

Most of the items are new and still in boxes. The owners buy them at Home Depot and Lowe's auctions—items such as overstocks, discontinueds, returns, or those in damaged boxes--and sell them for less than retail. The day I stopped in, brands available included Milwaukee, Dewalt, Ridgid, Ryobi, and Husky. The store monitors the asking price at the chain stores and other establishments, and if the other stores lower their prices, Overstock Warehouse lowers theirs even further.

New inventory is obtained every other week, so if you've already stopped in it can be worth your while to return. The store also sells some used tools and is planning to offer rental in the future.

What you currently see at the Boulevard location is just a start. In addition to expanding their inventory here, they'll soon open a 5,000 sq. foot location on Saw Mill Run Blvd. in the Brentwood area, across from the Get-Go. Customers will be able to find out at the Brookline location what's available at the second site. Between the Brookline and Brentwood locations, they'll expand their inventory to include materials for renovation, such as locks, lighting, ceiling fans, drywall, flooring, and other items. And with the coming of the second location, they're planning to offer items such as refrigerators, freezers, microwaves, and televisions, all at bargain prices. Long-range, they hope also to sell heavy equipment such as Bobcats and excavators.

In addition to quality products at bargain prices, Overstock Warehouse prides itself on its customer service. The Brookline Blvd location is open 7 days a week, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and has taken customer phone requests outside of business hours. If you're looking for an item that's not currently in stock, you can pre-order it and Overstock Warehouse will track it or a comparable model down for you. The store offers free delivery.

815 Brookline Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
412-370-6284
Facebook: Overstock Warehouse
Hours: 7 days a week 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



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Brookline Updates

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

Community Crimes Zone 6

September		
Zone 6 Crimes	Total	Brookline
Aggravated Assault	8	0
Robbery	2	1
Arson	1	0
Burglary	19	2
Theft	25	5
Theft from Vehicle	14	4
Stolen Vehicle	6	1

NOVEMBER COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Tuesday, November 8

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

Monday, November 14

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

Monday, November 21

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

We have over 1,600 readers.

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The Brookline

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Amy Fisher	Photography
Dorothy Grant	Proofreading
Desiree Niccoli	Proofreading
Julie Salas	Proofreading
Deborah Brimmer	Distribution
Travis Sefzik	Business
Ryan Askey	
Mitch Liebovich	

Contact Us

Email: thebrookline@gmail.com or
pdkaz@comcast.net
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November 7 for December's Issue
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2015 Crime Report

by Dan Kaczmarek

Each year, the City of Pittsburgh publishes a report regarding crime in Pittsburgh for the previous year. In this article, we provide the final numbers for Brookline for 2015. (In the February 2016 issue of *The Brookline*, we provided preliminary numbers.)

Crimes against Persons

What the report indicates is that Brookline continues to be a very safe neighborhood with regard to crimes against persons (homicide, rape, robbery, and assault). Brookline's 2015 numbers per hundred residents for those crimes were lower than 90 percent of the other 90 Pittsburgh neighborhoods. According to the report, in 2015 there was one homicide in Brookline, no rapes, three robberies, and nine assaults.

The Pittsburgh Police divide 91 Pittsburgh neighborhoods into 6 zones. Brookline is part of Zone 6, along with Banksville, Beechview, Chartiers City, Crafton Heights, East Carnegie, Elliott, Esplen, Fairywood, Oakwood, Ridgemont, Sheraden, West End, Westwood, and Windgap. According to the most recent U.S. Census, Brookline's population of 13,214 is 29 percent of the total Zone 6 population. Based on the City's crime report, the 2015 Brookline numbers for homicide, rape, robbery, and assault represented, respectively, 25 percent, zero percent, four percent, and eight percent of those crimes in Zone 6 overall.

Property Crimes

However, the Brookline numbers aren't as positive regarding property crimes, particularly theft. According to the City's

report, in 2015 Brookline had 219 thefts, 63 burglaries, 8 motor vehicle thefts, and 3 arsons. The thefts represented 33 percent of the 2015 thefts in Zone 6 overall, making it the only category where Brookline's percentage was higher than Brookline's population percentage.

The police caution about reading too much into those numbers without knowing the background details. For instance, many of the thefts were attributable to people familiar to the victims. Still, it's clear our community needs to step up its theft prevention measures. Perhaps because Brookline is such a safe community overall, it can be tempting to become lackadaisical about protecting our property.

Crimes of Opportunity

In their recommendations for crime prevention, the police emphasize that residential theft/burglaries, as well as thefts from and of vehicles, are largely "crimes of opportunity." Although definitions of crimes of opportunity differ, they all boil down to two ingredients: a motivated offender and a suitable target.

While law-abiding citizens rightfully lament the presence in society of motivated offenders, that part is often out of our immediate control. What we can control are the number of suitable targets. Crime researchers say that offenders usually make rational choices and choose targets that offer a high reward with little effort and risk. Some definitions go so far as to say that crimes of opportunity are committed without planning when the perpetrator sees that he/she has the chance to commit the act at that moment and seizes it.

Here are some of the police recommendations for reducing the number of "suitable targets."

Protecting your residence:

- Be watchful of abandoned properties in your neighborhood.
- Leave a light on when you're not home.
- Turn on exterior lights after dark.
- Keep doors, garage, and windows locked and lock screen doors even when you're inside.
- Don't let your mail or newspapers pile up while you're away.
- Never hide your house keys around the outside of your home.

Protecting your vehicle and its contents:

- Lock all vehicle doors and close all windows. A significant percentage of thefts from or of vehicles in Brookline in 2015 were of vehicles that were left unlocked, some with the keys still in the vehicle. This pattern has continued

Brookline Block Watch

One of the police recommendations for preventing crime is to be part of a Block Watch. On the second Tuesday of each month, a Brookline community Block Watch meeting is held at Magistrate Jim Motznik's office at 736 Brookline Blvd. at 7 p.m. This is a good place to learn how to form or join a Block Watch, but you don't have to be a Block Watch member to attend. The meeting is attended by representatives of the Pittsburgh Police from Zone 6, who report on the crimes in Brookline for the previous month and answer attendees' questions. Additionally, if you have concerns about neglected properties in Brookline or other safety issues, you can report your concerns at the meeting. (Be prepared to provide the street address of the property in question.)

into 2016, included the majority of the September 2016 Brookline thefts from and of vehicles.

- Always park in a well-lit area.
- Lock your glove box and any internal compartments.
- Never leave a firearm inside the vehicle.
- Activate an alarm or have an alarm system installed by a professional.
- Remove valuables from the passenger compartment and items in plain sight. According to the police, the items most commonly stolen from vehicles are: backpacks, gym bags and briefcases, cash/coins, credit cards and checkbooks, wallets and purses, laptops, iPads/iPods and MP3 players, cell phones, chargers and dock stations, portable GPS navigation systems, jewelry, keys, garage door openers, mail, and firearms.

Differences between Theft, Robbery, and Burglary

In general, theft is considered to be the unauthorized taking of property from another with the intent of permanently depriving them of it.

Robbery has been committed if, during the commission of a theft, the defendant injures someone, threatens them with injury, commits any first or second degree felony, uses force (no matter how slight), or takes money from a financial institution by making a demand upon an employee of the institution.

Burglary is defined as entering any portion of a building or occupied structure with the intent to commit a crime inside, unless the premises are open to the public at the time or the defendant is allowed to enter.

Coffee With Cops at Café de Noir

The Pittsburgh Police go out of their way to make themselves accessible to local communities. On Saturday, November 12, you can have some friendly facetime with officers from Zone 6 at this month's Coffee with Cops at Café de Noir at 802 Brookline Blvd. from 10 a.m. to noon.

Coffee with Cops is one of the neighborhood social events the police try to host every other month, depending on the season and availability of locations. According to Community Resource Officer, Tiffany Kline-Costa, Brookline Coffee with Cops at Café de Noir has been popular with the community and attendees come to socialize with police officers, raise concerns about local issues or traffic complaints, and share ideas about community policing. Tiffany says the police find conversations with community members very valuable and appreciate all input. So mark your calendar for November 12 for some delicious baklava and Coffee with Cops.



April Coffee with Cops at Cafe de Noir

Pawburgh Photography

Adopt-A-Block

We salute those dedicated community volunteers who pick up litter that's selfishly left by others and encourage new Adopt-A-Block members. To add your name to the list, contact pdkaz@comcast.net.

Adopted Blocks

Norwich Ave & Boulevard: Michael and Pamela Grabowski
Merrick Ave, btw. Eben St. & Boulevard: Eileen Papale
Corner of Blvd. & Glenarm: St. Mark parishioners
Bldv. btw. Merrick & Starkamp: Patty & Dan Kaczmariski
700 Woodbourne: Mary Zottoli
900 Woodbourne: Diane Walkowski & Mary Anne Miller
Plainview Ave from Jillson to Capital: Jim Sheppard

Lynnbrook btw. Marloff & dead end: Matt & Joey Pilewski
Whited from Jacob to Gallupe: Michael Pilewski
Bellaire Ave btw. Pioneer and Whited: Denise Robinson
Gallion Ave: Lisa Wilson
1800-1900 Pioneer Ave: Dennis and Valerie Rew family
Rossmore at Flatbush & Oletha btw. Flatbush and Glenarm:
Zachary and Sarah Zelazny

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)

Angels in Brookline

by Joseph Samuel Rogers



In my column each month, I often speak highly about a neighborhood restaurant and why our community is lucky to have such an establishment. Our neighborhood is also fortunate to have special services that provide resources to those who need a helping hand. Angels' Place, located on Fordham Ave., provides parenting support services at no cost to single parents with low incomes who are

pursuing a high school, college, or trade school education. Many of the young parents who utilize the resources at Angels' Place come from Brookline, but some travel to Brookline on their way to school.

Founded in 1984 by Mrs. Mary Winter, Angels' Place provides parents with education and resources on how to raise their young families. Winter counseled women on the value of life while they are pregnant, and the program that became Angels' Place takes her vision a step further by providing education support.

Angels' Place provides accountability to the parents attending school by requiring them to maintain passing grades and attendance. The center provides academic support through tutoring and admission

assistance, and also has a family support specialist who meets with parents to create goals and family functioning plans. According to Stephanie Parker, the center's Program Director and a former teacher herself, the program's participants can be moms and dads, but as typical in today's society, the majority of participants are single mothers.

In addition to educational support, Angels' Place has a preschool that serves children from birth to age five; therefore, the children are receiving an education just as their parents are. The children receive two snacks and a hot lunch each day, and enjoy family style meals to build social development skills and manners. Parents volunteer at the center each week as a way to give back, and according to Stephanie, they "want parents to give back to the community once they see what the community has done for them."

With over seventy-five families across the organization, and twenty-five in the Brookline location, Angels' Place is a very successful program and has touched the lives of those who participated, as evident by the alumni who come to speak at an annual fundraising dinner. The center keeps in touch with alumni in several ways starting with an annual birthday phone call.

Angels' Place would not be successful without the assistance of partners in the Brookline community because they rely on donations to continue operation. Schools and churches have supply drives, jeans days, and diaper drives, and the Brookline library has story time for the preschool children.

Stephanie added that "people think they are all alone and don't know where to turn, but at Angels' Place, they become a family." Angels' Place is proud to call Brookline home, and we also should be proud to be the home of a wonderful program that helps young families grow.

Keeping an "Eye" on Building Permits

Are you interested in finding out who's applied for building permits or licenses in Brookline, or whether any code enforcement actions have taken place in our neighborhood?

In October, the City of Pittsburgh unveiled "buildingeye," a public website online mapping tool designed to make information about permits, licenses, and enforcement actions more accessible. According to a City press release, the free website, created in collaboration with buildingeye, Inc., is updated nightly. Data displayed on the site is public information pertaining to building permits issued by the Pittsburgh Department of Permits, Licenses, and Inspections (PLI), active location-based licenses, planning applications, and code enforcement actions. Residents, businesses, developers and others will be able to view and search a detailed map that shows all building and zoning data happening in every neighborhood citywide.

A user can narrow down a search through detailed filters or browse data within a specific area of interest. Residents can register for an account and receive notifications when an action—pertaining to a permit, license, or code enforcement—is submitted to the PLI databases. The Pittsburgh buildingeye site can also be utilized to verify violation reporting. Residents who witness a possible violation can search the buildingeye site for appropriate permit or notice of violation documentation. If a permit or notice is not documented, residents are encouraged to contact the City of Pittsburgh 311 Response Center to report an issue for enforcement.

For more information, visit: <http://pittsburghpa.gov/pli/buildingeye>.



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1917 Brownsville Road
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Fax: 412-886-2077

City Curbside Pick-Up of Yard Debris

On Saturday, November 12, you can get rid of your yard debris without having to schlep down to the West End Drop-Off Center. That day is one of two annual curbside pick-ups when the City will collect the following: leaves, branches (4 inches or less in diameter), brush, and grass. According to the City guidelines, bagged items must be in paper bags weighing less than 35 pounds. Branches must be 5 feet or less and be bundled using fiber twine or natural rope. Items should be set out at your regular collection curb spot before 6 a.m. on November 12.

The City will not pick up: plastic bags, metal/wire, stones, dirt, rocks, manure, garbage, lumber, or food waste.

Brookline Teen Outreach News

by Caitlin McNulty

Are you, or do you know, a teen girl who loves to write? We are happy to announce that we are hosting Girls Write. This program was expertly developed to give young girls a platform for their skills, feedback on their work, opportunities to partner with writers' groups like City of Asylum, and chances to publish. If you're interested, stop by the teen center or visit www.girlswritepittsburgh.com.

If you stopped by the ER Basement last month, thank you. The entire haunted house experience was envisioned and created by our students. They worked and planned for months and we

couldn't be prouder!

Are you looking for ways to give back during the holidays? Well, mark your calendar for December 10! Brookline Teen Outreach in conjunction with the Central Blood Bank will host a blood drive from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Not only does your blood donation provide vital blood products, but it also earns scholarship money for our students.

Remember our new hours are Tuesday-Friday 3-9 p.m. and Saturday from noon-9 p.m. Check out our calendar at www.brooklineteenoutreach.org or like us on Facebook for detailed information regarding our programming.

Old Notes By Old People

by Chip Gorski

As the leaves turn and it starts getting colder, everyone is focused on the weather. The older I get, the less and less I like to drive in snow. I don't have a major issue with a little bit, but more than an inch or two I find myself getting concerned. Two issues with the weather recently struck me odd.

The first week of September, we headed to the beach along southern New Jersey. In the week leading up to the trip, I was so focused on wrapping up loose ends at work that I paid no attention to the fact that a hurricane was chugging up the coast and threatened to spoil our plans. The Friday before we left, I started scanning the internet and watching the news. We'd waited all year for this and I wondered if we should cancel. We didn't. At a rest stop outside of Valley Forge, I was told they were evacuating the town to which we were headed. I didn't believe them and we pressed on with our journey.

Traveling down the Garden State Parkway, I notice how the usual traffic inbound to shore points was non-existent. The traffic away from the beach was horrific. We arrived at our rental. The sky was ominous, the waves in the ocean were huge. But, no rain. We put on the local news. They talked about our area being flooded and advised where we should go if that

would happen.

Hermine suddenly had taken a swing further out to sea and while damaging to Florida, she spared the eastern seaboard. If this storm would have been headed to Pittsburgh, I would have been concerned. I guess because it was headed to a vacation area, it was more of an adventure for me albeit a financial and devastating calamity for others. The meteorologists took a beating on social media—they ruined the Labor Day plans for thousands and cost millions to local shore businesses because people stayed home.

The second issue was during a recent business trip to the Washington, DC area. As I was in my hotel, I turned on the TV to catch the morning news. Some schools were operating on a 2-hour delay. I looked out the window and saw a dreary October morning with rain. "Why is there a delay?", I pondered.

Too much rain was the answer. Some roads had ponding on them. While this didn't cause a mad dash to the grocery store for toilet paper and bread, it did cause major traffic headaches for all. I wonder what will happen when the DC metro area sees its first snow of the season.

Enjoy the fall weather!

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Kinder Sports

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Total Body Conditioning for Women

Ages 18+, Mondays, 5-6 p.m. This class will focus on a variety of formats to keep you motivated while improving your overall fitness. Each 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 7:45-8:30 p.m. and Thursdays 5:45-6:30 p.m. Dec. 6 and 8 through Feb. 21 and 23. This high-intensity workout is designed with 20-second intervals of intense exercise followed by 10 seconds of rest, repeated 8 times. These burst of intense work will burn calories and strengthen your entire body. Registration is limited. \$20 for 1 class per week; \$30 for 2 classes per week.

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.

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

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.

Knitting Club

Mondays 9:30-11 a.m. Come meet new people, try new knitting patterns, and enjoy a community of knitters. This club is open to all levels and can provide beginner instruction. Please bring your own materials. Light refreshments provided. FREE

For more information, call 412-571-3222.

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.

Nite at the Races. Saturday, November 19, 7 p.m., St. John Bosco Academy. Plan on attending to support the school or simply purchase a horse or jockey (winners need not be present). For more information, call call 412-563-0858.

Representative Harry Readshaw



I support Governor Wolf in the battle against opiate addiction.

On Sept. 28, Governor Tom Wolf addressed a rare joint session of the General Assembly to outline his plans for fighting opiate addiction and overdoses in Pennsylvania.

To battle the crisis, we need a number of different approaches. A big step was the open prescription for Narcan, the medicine which can stop the effects of an overdose within minutes. The drug is available to all residents at most pharmacies and also carried by many police.

A number of bills will be working through the legislature as well, including bills that would create a task force to focus on the epidemic's impact on children and a bill that would require insurers that cover opioid medications to also cover abuse-detering pain medications. I expect the legislature to consider these bills and others in the next few months.

I plan to support all of the efforts to reduce the toll of opiate addiction.

Representative Dan Miller



We all know that technology and in particular cell phones have revolutionized much of the way we conduct business and even live our lives. Few of us use cash for making a big run to the grocery store, and now more of us are making that purchase by hitting a button on our phones.

This revolution will continue and I think our state should embrace it.

Accordingly, in early October I authored a new bill that would allow for digital driver's licenses to be available in Pennsylvania through an app made in conjunction with PennDOT. This would not eliminate the need for someone to possess a traditional license, but would embrace the reality that more and more of us are leaving our wallet or purse at home. For a small fee, the app would provide the back and front of a license, its current status, and have privacy protection features. As always I will be open to compromise and improvements, but I do hope that this idea can be discussed in coming months.

November Events on the Boulevard

At 824: The Consignment Shop

Pop-up LuLaRoe Boutique. Come try on the latest LuLaRoe fashions! Refreshments provided. Thurs., Nov. 3, 6-8 p.m. Free. Also at 824: Martini Mixology Workshop. Learn to make 3 fabulous martinis with infusions! Hors d'oeuvres are included in the price. Space is limited; reserve today! \$40. 824 Brookline Blvd. 412-440-8245. Sat., Nov. 19, 7-10 p.m. 21+

At Brookline Teen Outreach/American Legion Bldg.

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

Representative Dan Deasy



On November 11 each year we celebrate Veterans Day. This year we mark the 97th anniversary of the first Veterans Day in these United States!

My sincere gratitude to all of our veterans and to active soldiers and reservists. On November 11, show your profound appreciation and pride in our service men and women who have put their lives on the line for us, and those who continue to do so for our freedoms. Also, remember the sacrifices the families of our soldiers make each and every day while their loved ones serve our great United States of America.

There are many programs and services available to veterans. My office can assist veterans in getting a veterans designation on their PA driver's license, help in securing a specialty vehicle registration plate for individuals with a service-connected disability, provide information on free hunting or fishing licenses for veterans, and much more. Please call my office at 412-928-9514 or visit my website at www.pahouse.com/deasy for information on programs and services available to veterans.

Again, to all veterans, THANK YOU for your service.

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Council Woman Natalia Rudiak



This past summer, my office heard from Brookline residents who had concerns about the condition of Moore Park. In response, we organized Moore Love: A Volunteer Day to Pretty Up Moore Park. We joined neighborhood volunteers in painting railings and the gazebo, while Public Works crews trimmed

trees, smoothed ballfields, and patched cracks in cement stairs and courts. We also found some real opportunities to rebuild and renew some of the park's features.

Each fall the Capital and Operating Budgets for the city are proposed and passed. This year, we made several requests for Brookline and we were thrilled to see them in the Mayor's proposed budget. Nearly \$300,000 will be invested in Moore Park in 2017. The entry stairs to the recreation center will be replaced, the soccer fields will be re-seeded, sidewalks will be renewed, ballfield fencing will be replaced, and the basketball courts will be resurfaced. Sensors will also be added to save money on energy and water. The basketball court lights and the spray park fountains can be turned on when people want to use them, but will no longer have to run constantly.

The budget also includes sidewalk repairs at Brookline Memorial Park, and a brand new roof and some interior renovations for our hardworking Brookline firefighters at Engine House 26! We can't wait to see these projects underway in 2017. We thank everyone in Brookline who helped us to isolate the highest priority projects. And we look forward to increased participation from South Pittsburgh neighborhoods during next year's budget process. If we work together, we can make sure the City invests in South Pittsburgh neighborhoods!

Senator Wayne Fontana



As Vice Chairman of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) Board of Directors, I want to inform students and parents that the U.S. Department of Education made the online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available on October 1. The FAFSA is a tool that colleges and universities

use to determine how much financial aid to offer students and whether those students are eligible for federal grants, student loans and other types of federal and state aid. Not only is completing the FAFSA required to be considered for federal student aid, such as the Pell Grant or federal student loans, it's also used to determine eligibility for many kinds of scholarships

and grants, including the Pennsylvania State Grant Program.

In the past, the FAFSA wasn't available until January 1. Typically, colleges had spring deadlines for prospective students to complete their FAFSA. Then colleges would mail or email financial aid packages to prospective students they had accepted. May 1 has been the universal date by which students were supposed to let colleges know their choice. This date did not give families much time to figure out if they could afford to pay tuition once they knew what aid their student would receive.

Although the aid starts with the 2017-18 school year, families will need to use their income and tax information from 2015 to fill out the FAFSA. A key benefit of being able to use 2015 tax return data when completing the 2017-18 FAFSA is that more applicants can use the Internal Revenue Service's Data Retrieval Tool, which automatically fills in the online FAFSA form with the necessary tax information. This streamlines the process significantly and increases accuracy.

For information on the higher education financial aid process, schedules for upcoming FAFSA Completion Sessions, reminders of financial aid deadlines, and information pertaining to planning for higher education, students can visit www.PHEAA.org. A student can also call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243. It's important to note that if you overlook the new October kickoff and procrastinate too long, you risk losing out to others who realize that some financial aid is offered on a first-come, first-served basis.



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Carnegie Library of Brookline November Events

For Kids

- *Kids Club: Wacky Wednesdays* – November 9, 16, 23, & 30 • 3:30 p.m. – meet new friends, hang out with old friends and try something new! Children can build social skills and use their imaginations.
- *Storytime: Toddler and Preschooler Tales* – Mondays, November 7, 14, 21, & 28 • 6:30 p.m.; Thursdays, November 10 & 17 • 11 a.m. – get up and get moving with interactive stories, songs and rhymes.

For Teens

- *Anime Club* - Monday, November 7 • 3 p.m. - hang out, explore Japanese culture, showcase cosplay, and enjoy anime.
- *Pokemon Club* – Mondays, November 14, 21, & 28 • 3 p.m. – compete with other teens in drop-in battle leagues for both video and card games.
- *Teen Time* – Thursday, November 3, 10, & 17 • 3 p.m. – if you're into cool art projects, epic games, music, movies and just chilling out, come kick it at Teen Time.

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* – November 8 • 6 p.m. – fun, relaxed conversation over movie-inspired treats.
- *Book Discussions*
 - *Mystery & More* – Wednesday, November 9 • 1 p.m. – contemporary and classic mysteries, and occasional nonfiction. This month: *The Girls of Atomic City* by Denise Kiernan
 - *Between the Lines* – Monday, November 21 • 6 p.m. – contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction. This month: *The Light in the Ruins* by Chris Bohjalian
 - *The Buzz* – Thursday, November 17 • 6 p.m. – unconventional fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels. This month: *My Stroke of Insight* by Jill Bolte Taylor
- *Game Night* – Tuesday, November 15 • 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 available.

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

November 11 is Veterans Day

We honor our veterans on November 11, Veterans Day, and every day. Thank you to all who have served or are serving and your families.



Memorial Day on the Boulevard

Pawsburgh Photography

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.

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May 13, 1917 was the date of the first of six apparitions of Our Lady, the Mother of Jesus, to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. These apparitions culminated on Oct. 13, 1917 in a spectacular solar display in front of 70,000 people, including newspaper reporters who testified that it actually happened. The event is recognized as a miracle by the Catholic Church.

On Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. the World Apostolate of Fatima, Our Lady's Blue

Army, is bringing to The Church of the Resurrection on Creedmoor Ave. the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of the USA.

This beautiful image of Our Lady of Fatima was blessed by Blessed Pope Paul VI and given to our country by the Bishop of Fatima to carry the important message of Fatima to the United States. It is a message Pope St. John Paul II said is more important today than ever.

All are invited and encouraged to come see this beautiful statue and learn Our Lady's message for obtaining peace and putting an end to abortion and the moral corruption afflicting our country. The Statue Custodian will discuss how the message of Fatima applies to our country and the world today and explain what we can do to earn the blessings on our country that Our Lady promised if her requests are fulfilled.

Sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima



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Saturday, November 26, 2016

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A Brighter Holiday for Brookline

The Brookline Chamber of Commerce is asking for your support.

As we prepare to hang the Boulevard holiday wreathes and lights again this year, we will continue to ask all merchants and professionals for their continued generous donations, but that alone will not cover our new yearly cost.

If you enjoy the holiday cheer provided by the lights on the boulevard, we would appreciate your generous donation to keep the lights shining. Please make your check payable to: Brookline Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 9610, Pittsburgh, PA 15226.

Thanking you in advance for your support to the Brookline Community and Brookline Chamber of Commerce.

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving!

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What's Happening at Brookline PreK-8

by Amy Cornelius Dembosky, Parent Volunteer

Autumn has been a busy and exciting time for everyone at Pittsburgh Brookline PreK-8. In October, our students studied integrity as part of our character education program. At the end of the month, students in each homeroom nominated classmates who they feel demonstrated the quality. They then voted to select the student of the month. By discussing positive character traits, we hope to increase appropriate behavior among all students. November's trait is humility.

Our character education program goes along with our anti-bullying initiative. Parents and guardians play a vital role in bullying prevention and at our school in general. Our parent book study group meets once a month on Fridays at 8:30 a.m. This year's book is *Bully Nation: Why America's Approach to Childhood Aggression is Bad for Everyone*, by Susan Eva Porter. If you'd like to borrow the book and join the discussion, please call the school office at 412-529-7380. There will be no meeting in November due to the Veterans' Day holiday.

The Latest from St. John Bosco Academy

by Holly Victor, Parent Volunteer

October brought a chill in the air and excitement on the volleyball court. The girls volleyball teams, both varsity and junior varsity, showed continued improvement throughout the season. Coach Sue returned as the JV coach this year and also took on the role of varsity head coach. The girls worked together as Coach Sue fostered a learning environment based on team work and development.

Halloween celebrations carried on throughout the month. The first school dance of the year followed a "Monster Mash" theme. Students in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades were encouraged to wear costumes and compete in the costume contest for prizes. The inaugural "Trunk or Treat" festivity was held in the parking lot on a Friday evening. St. John Bosco families each decorated the trunks of their cars and handed out candy to all of the "trunk or treaters."

In the spirit of giving, Mrs. Miller, the new technology teacher, along with the student leaders of the eighth grade are participating in "Operation Christmas Child." Each homeroom will collect items that kids would like to receive. Those items are packed into shoeboxes and shipped to children in need.

"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the father."
Colossians 3:17

Happy Thanksgiving!

Thank you to all in the community who support our school. We collect Box Tops for Education and Tyson Project A+ labels, if you would like to donate them. Our students are often involved in various fund raisers, like hoagie sales and cookie dough sales. Thank you for buying when you can! Our teachers often have projects that you can search for on donorschoose.org. We are grateful to be a part of one of Pittsburgh's best neighborhoods, and thank you for your help!

Our Parent-School-Community Council (PSCC) meets monthly, like most of our groups. In October, we were joined by representatives from neighborhood businesses and organizations, like the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Looking for Group, Girl Scouts, the Brookline Teen Outreach Center, and Geekadrome. Each person shared information about what their group offers to the community. It was very informative. If you would like to attend one of our PSCC meetings, please call the school office for the date and time.

Happy Thanksgiving!

What's Going on at Pittsburgh West Liberty?

by Deonne Arrington, Principal
Teresa Grusong-Adams, First Grade Teacher

We have been very busy with the start of the new school year at Pittsburgh West Liberty. We are proud to announce that we have a new addition to our family, and it is our Pre-K room. Welcome to our Learning Garden. Pre-K's day begins at 8 a.m. They eat breakfast and lunch together and their day ends at 2 p.m. They have a full schedule that encourages our three and four-year-old students to learn and grow through play-based learning and a hands-on early childhood curriculum. The curriculum encompasses math, social studies, science, language arts, music/art, gross motor, and social/emotional activities. Ms. Thompson, the Pre-K Teacher, and Miss Jenny, the Teaching Assistant, are excited to be at our school and are confident to have our students prepared to be kindergarten ready.

We will be having our Reading Night event on November 17 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for your child to find several ways to gain interest in Reading. The children have so much fun seeing their school friends at night, and they have fun while they are learning. Be sure to respond indicating your intention to attend our Reading Night Event.

We are looking forward to our winter festivities that will be occurring in December. Remember Pittsburgh West Liberty is "Where Learners Excel and Character Counts."



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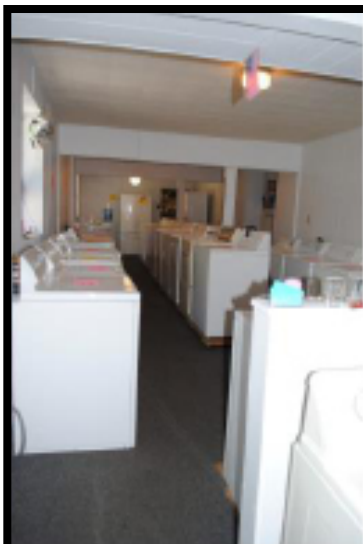
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