

Life Back Massage Therapy

by Dan Kaczmariski



Carla Marratto, owner of Life Back Massage Therapy

Pawsburgh Photography

Entering Life Back Massage Therapy, located in the back of the Suns of Intanity establishment on Brookline Blvd., is like being enveloped in an oasis of calm.

Life Back, owned and operated by Carla Marratto, is tucked away in a separate room. Inside, lights are dimmed and a soothing aromatic scent fills the air. Just being there, you can feel yourself relaxing, even without a massage.

At one time, trained massage therapists such as Carla were not required in Pennsylvania to be licensed, but the massage therapists themselves lobbied for the licensing requirements. Despite the concomitant costs of training, insurance and ongoing education, the massage therapists want people entering their establishments to know they are dealing with a legitimate, licensed, therapeutic specialist.

Before becoming a licensed as a massage therapist, Carla was trained and working as a cosmetologist. At some point, the idea came to her to be what she calls a “one-stop shop,” where people could get a style and manicure as well as a massage. Once she entered training for massage therapy, however, she realized that was what she primarily wanted to do. After her first several massage clients, she was sure of that decision.

“They may have been a little elderly and had a hard time

walking or some arthritis, or they were younger and active in sports and had injured themselves,” she says. “When they got off my table, they were able to walk a little easier, with a little less pain, a smile on their face and a little hop in their step. I was like ‘Wow, I’m able to help people and get paid for it; this is the best job ever.’ Plus, it’s very calming and soothing.”

It’s been Carla’s nature all her life to want to help other people. Back when she graduated from eighth grade at St. Pius X School, each graduate received some personalized recognition. Her award was to be called the next Mother Teresa. “I am so far from being the next Mother Teresa,” she says laughing, “but it kind of inspired me.”

She says she wanted a profession that was ethical, professional, and really helped people. Her grandfather was very active in his Church and founded one of the food pantries in Brookline. When her father became ill with ALS when she was young, she grew up helping him and the family in whatever way she could.

She has been trained in a variety of therapeutic massage techniques, from Swedish (the basic relaxation technique), to neuromuscular, trigger point, deep tissue, oncology, and more. Which one is best for a particular client is determined by talking with that person. “Most people who come in don’t know all the different types,” she says. “The majority of people come in with neck and shoulder issues, but you can have an issue in your neck, and it can be stemming from down in your back. I may incorporate a couple of techniques, whatever is going to help relieve that pain and discomfort.”

The shop opened a little over a year ago and Carla says business has taken off. “The experience in Brookline has been wonderful,” she says. “Thankfully, people seem to like my massage, my technique and my personality. I’ve gotten a very good response.” She says many people come on a regular basis—once a month, twice a month, even once a week.

Carla and her husband and son live in Brookline. She spent her childhood here until her family moved away, but was glad to be able to return. “When we were looking for a house, we realized we are so spoiled living in Brookline. We have so many things here in a walkable area. Now that they’ve redone

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the Boulevard, it's beautiful. I feel like Brookliners are a family. We seem to watch out for each other. When something's going on, we're not afraid to speak up. I value and appreciate that."

And speaking of appreciation, with Mother's Day coming up, keep in mind that you can purchase gift certificates at Life Back Massage Therapy, which in addition to massage, offers sugar scrubs and facial waxing.

When contacting Life Back, use of email is preferred, but also available by phone.

804 Brookline Blvd (in the Suns of Intanity building)
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
lifebackmassagetherapy@gmail.com
412-440-7717

www.massagebook.com/lifebackmassage
Facebook: Life Back Massage Therapy
Hours: Monday, Thursday to Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 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

March		
Zone 6 Crimes	Total	Brookline
Aggravated Assault	12	2
Arson	2	1
Robbery	6	2
Burglary	7	5
Theft	22	3
Theft from Vehicle	10	1
Stolen Vehicle	2	0

MAY COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Monday, May 8

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

Tuesday, May 9

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

Monday, May 15

South Pittsburgh Development Corporation, 7 p.m. at Brookline Teen Outreach, American Legion Building, 520 Brookline Blvd.

We have over 1,600 readers.

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

The Brookline

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Deadlines for Submissions and Ads

No June Issue
 June 7 for July's Issue

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No Newsletter in June

In order to give our all-volunteer staff some time off, there will be no June issue of The Brookline. After the May issue, the next issue will be in July.

Around the Campfire with Troop 6

by Michele Metting



Spring has been a busy time for the scouts of Troop 6 Brookline, which meets at the Church of the Resurrection. During our March camping trip in North Park, we learned about fly-fishing. In April, we traveled to Oil Creek State Park and a tour of the Drake Well Museum. We end our scouting year

in May at Camp Guyasuta in Sharpsburg to teach cooking and whittling to the cub scouts of Pack 601. Find out more about us or contact us through our website: www.screamingeaglestr6.mytroop.us.

Scout Slogan: "Do a Good Turn Daily." Our scouts have been helping with the monthly community dinners at St. Mark's Church, and you'll see our scouts decorating Brookline Boulevard with Flags on Memorial Day and the 4th of July.

75th Anniversary: On October 29, Troop 6 will celebrate its 75th Anniversary with the same sponsor (Brookline Church of the Resurrection). During that time, our Troop has produced over 90 Eagle Scouts. We are in the process of planning a ceremony to celebrate and are looking for Troop 6 alumni. If anyone has been involved in Troop 6, please contact us at troop6brookline75th@gmail.com with your stories and memories of the Troop as well as contact information for an invitation to the event.

Art on the Boulevard

The Brookline Chamber of Commerce will present "Art on the Boulevard" on Friday, June 30 from 5 to 8 p.m. We're combining an art gallery night for the Boulevard with wine tastings (plus delectable food pairings) and music. If you are an artist who would like to be part of the event, or if you just want more information, contact Geri Roberts, 824: The Consignment Shop (412-440-8245) or Caitlin McNulty, Brookline Teen Outreach (412-254-4590).

Youth Gaelic Football Returns to Brookline

This summer, for the third year, the Pittsburgh Gaelic Athletic Association is offering a Youth Gaelic Football program at three area sites. The South Hills region will be based at the Brookline Memorial Recreation Center. The season runs from June 4 through August 13 on Sundays.

Gaelic football is a mixture of soccer, basketball, and rugby, although it's older than all of those games and doesn't allow the type of physical contact associated with rugby. It's a field sport that's been played in Ireland for hundreds of years in every village, town and city and also in the United States and many other parts of the world. But you certainly don't have to be Irish to play and enjoy the game.

The ball used is slightly smaller than a soccer ball. The object is to either kick it over a crossbar or send it over by hand/fist, or get it into a net by, in most cases, foot. Gaelic football allows for hand-passing (by striking the ball with a hand or fist.) Every four steps, the ball must be either bounced or dropped on your foot and kicked back up into your hand.

The season will consist of training, games, and fun within each area, competitive games among the three areas, and at least one away trip to play a team from another city.

Registration is \$40 per child and a maximum of \$100 per family. To sign up or for more information, go to the GAA website at www.pittsburghgaa.com or call 412-478-2799.

South Hills High School 50-Year Reunion

The South Hills High School Class of 1967 will be celebrating its 50th reunion on September 23, 2017 at Chartiers Country Club, 601 Baldwin Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 from 6 to 11 p.m. The cost per person is \$67. Please email any questions you may have to SHHS.50th.Reunion@gmail.com. A Facebook page is also available at SHHS Class of 67 50th Reunion.

Yard Debris Pick-Up Day

On Saturday, May 20, the City of Pittsburgh will pick up yard debris from your curb, including leaves, grass, plants, tree trimmings, branches (4"-diameter or less), and shrubs. Bundle all branches with fiber twine or natural rope in lengths of 5-feet or less. No plastic bags allowed. The pick-up will not accept stones, dirt, rocks, manure, garbage, lumber, or food waste.

Call for Volunteers

- BROOKLINE CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY at Tree of Life Open Bible Church at 412-531-0590
 - BEGIN AGAIN CLOTHING MINISTRY To donate gently used or new clothing, call Tree of Life Open Bible 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, unopened foods with current dates, or checks made out to Brookline Christian Food Pantry.

Heritage Players Theater News

The Heritage Players perform in the Seton Center auditorium at 1900 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.

Coming in May:

Sense and Sensibility. Adapted by Jon Jory, based on the novel by Jane Austen. May 12-14 and 19-21 at the Seton Center. Friday and Saturday performances at 8 p.m., and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. \$12. Box office opens one-half hour before curtain. For more information visit www.bphp.org.

Also this Season:

Winnie the Pooh. Lyrics by A.A. Milne. Music by Allan Friedman. Adapted by Kristin Sergel. August 4-6 and 11-13.

Lost in Yonkers by Neil Simon. September 8-10 and 15-17.

Into the Woods. Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Book by James Lapine. November 3-5 and 10-12.

Season Tickets:

Season tickets are on sale for \$25, good for one admission to each production. For more information, email heritageplayers@yahoo.com.

Auditions:

The Heritage Players will hold auditions for their children's show, "Folk Tales From Around the World," on May 21 and 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Seton Center. Seeking actors ages 10-adult. There will be cold readings from the script. Performance dates are August 4-6 and 11-13 at the Seton Center. For more information visit www.bphp.org or email heritageplayers@yahoo.com.

Memorial Day Parade and Remembrance Service

The Memorial Day Parade will be held Monday, May 29 at 10 a.m. Parade units will begin to line up on Brookline Blvd. at Stebbins Ave at 9 a.m. Anyone wishing to participate in the parade should call Annette at 412-341-9863. The parade will follow the traditional route from the Boulevard to Pioneer Ave. to West Liberty Ave./Washington Rd. in Dormont and Mt. Lebanon, ending at Mt. Lebanon Cemetery.

Immediately before the start of the parade, there will be a remembrance service at the Cannon to honor those who sacrificed their lives while serving in the military. All are invited and members of the armed forces, past and present, are especially encouraged to attend.

Celebrate the Apparitions of the Blessed Mother

Our Lady of Fatima

100th Anniversary

May 13, 1917–May 13, 2017

Saturday, May 13, 1 p.m.

Our Lady of Loreto Church

Special Mass

Followed by Rosary March around the church.

Come see the "Giant, Floating Rosary in the Sky"

Made of helium balloons tethered above the church!

On The Issues: Face to Face with Chief Scott Schubert

by Joseph Samuel Rogers



Pittsburgh Police Chief Scott Schubert

Chief Schubert

Following the resignation of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Chief Cameron McClay in November 2016, longtime Brookline resident and Assistant Chief of Police Scott Schubert was appointed by Mayor Bill Peduto to succeed him, the first Brookliner in over ten years to hold the position.

Chief Schubert has lived in Brookline since 1995. In

addition to the people of the community, he loves Brookline Boulevard and Brookline Memorial Field and Recreation Center.

He has been a proud member of the Pittsburgh police for 24 years. He began as a patrolman in Zone 5 and moved through the ranks to eventually become Chief, a position he considers himself humbled and honored to hold.

Schubert elaborated that the department's focus "remains on providing the City of Pittsburgh with a professional police agency that is committed to keeping people safe, serving others, treating people with dignity and respect and making a difference in the lives of others."

The department works continuously to reduce violent crime, improve officer morale and wellness, build trust-based relationships with the communities they serve, and to improve diversity and technology.

Chief Schubert and the police department is committed to the community and views community-oriented policing as a philosophy that every agency and officer must believe in and use while performing their duties.

"It's a partnership between the police department and the community to work together to help make each neighborhood a better place to live, work and visit. There are also Community Relations Officers assigned to each Zone who are given an opportunity to spend more time working with the residents and other officers to help build trust and improve safety," Chief Schubert said.

Officers Ken Stewing and Tiffany Kline-Costa are the

Community Relations Officers assigned to Zone 6, of which Brookline is a part, and Schubert is very pleased with their work in the community. In addition to working with the residents at various community events, they provide safety tips and updated information of what's going on in the Zone. The officers also visit schools and help teach chess to young children.

Chief Schubert considers Brookline, the city's third largest neighborhood, to be a relatively safe place to live, work and visit. "There is a lot of community involvement and that is key to keeping our communities safe....We have great officers and residents and by working together, there isn't anything we can't do!" he said.

Brookliners can follow Zone 6 on Facebook and Twitter to see how involved the Pittsburgh Police are in our neighborhood!

<https://www.facebook.com/pghpoliczone6/>

[@PghZone6](https://twitter.com/pghzone6)

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YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SHOP.



April made us proud to be Brookliners. Three different events, carried out entirely by volunteers, reinforced how our community is indeed someplace special!

Volunteers Hop to the Rescue

Aime Boyko and Jaison Viglietta of Facebook group Brookline United were disappointed to learn there would not be a traditional community pre-Easter event this year for the children of Brookline. Via the Facebook group, they were able to quickly organize an Easter egg hunt that took place on Brookline Blvd. on April 8.

Eighteen establishments and organizations took part, including Life Back Massage, Brookline Pub, Deluca's Bakery, Fox's Pizza, Geekadrome, Hair By Conroy, Jolina's, Looking For Group, No Name Cafe, Pitaland, Sottile Fashions, Suns of Intanity, Waterfall Catering and Zippy's. Also taking part were Brookline Teen Outreach, Brookline United, Anthony Coghill and St. Mark's Church.

After the egg hunt, the Tree of Life Open Bible Church opened its doors to the community for an event featuring free food, 4,000 eggs, face painting, a puppet show and more.

Over 200 children and their parents/guardians turned out for the Boulevard event. All participants did an amazing job on short notice. Due to the overwhelming turnout, some businesses ran out of things to distribute so they had to improvise. Geekadrome gave out comics and Pitaland treated the kids to fresh pitas! The children, parents and participants were all visibly happy. It was a day of real community bonding that made everyone involved proud to be a Brookliner.

Brookline United plans to make this an annual event. Increasing the number of participants and providing a bunny for photos are next year's goals. Visit the Brookline United Facebook page for information and updates.

Jaison Viglietta



The April 8 event included a stop at the Tree of Life Open Bible Church

Kids Against Litter

Concern for the environment was on full-color display this spring, as hundreds of local students showed the world through art why littering Brookline and the world is totally uncool.

Close to 800 students took part in an anti-littering artwork contest sponsored by South Pittsburgh Development Corporation in partnership with the Brookline Chamber of Commerce and the Brookline Area Community Council. The students were led by art instructors from Brookline PreK-8, Carmalt PreK-8, St. John Bosco Academy, and West Liberty PreK-8.

The entries were judged by a panel of local artists and on April 29 all official entries were displayed at the Brookline Memorial Recreation Center, followed by an awards ceremony. Winning entries will also be on display at establishments along Brookline Blvd. the first weeks of May.

The artwork was inspiring, creative, and touching. We were blown away by the thought, time, and talent it demonstrated.

It made us proud of our kids and renewed our hope in the future. A special thank you to the schools and their faculty for their wonderful support of this project.

We are also grateful for donations by Alcosan, Senator Wayne Fontana, Phil Behr and Farmer's Insurance, Brookline Teen Outreach, Digital Creative Agency, Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak, Kathy Fear, Pamela Grabowski, and other private donors. Their generosity made it possible for us to give every student an anti-littering goody bag to thank them for their participation.

Dan Kaczmariski

Boulevard Cleanup



*Working together to keep Brookline beautiful
Kyle Stewart*

On Sunday, April 2, a successful volunteer spring cleaning of the Boulevard took place. The event was organized by Paul Drabick, Jaison Viglietta, and Aime Boyko. Paul owns The Geekadrome at 534 Brookline Blvd. and Jaison and Aime are from the Facebook group Brookline United. Parents and children, as well as individuals, came out – over 30 total. The high turnout assured that both sides of the Boulevard were covered, from CVS up to and including Veterans Memorial Park (the Cannon).

Approximately 40 bags were filled with trash and debris. Thanks to Michael Burke for donating brooms and dust pans. Thanks as well to Paul for coming up with the idea, supplying the trash bags and handing out wonderful thank you bags that he personally made. The Geekadrome and Brookline United hope to do this two to three times a year from now on. For updates, see Paul at The Geekadrome or join the Brookline United Facebook group. Hope to see you at the next clean-up!

Jaison Viglietta

Brookline Teen Outreach News

by Caitlin McNulty

A very big thank you to everyone who joined us for the Taste of Brookline on April 29, co-hosted by Brookline Teen Outreach and South Pittsburgh Development Corporation. A great time was had by all.

Taste buds were delighted by participating restaurants: Brookline Pub, Deluca's, Fox's, Jolina's, Party Cake, Pitaland, Scoops on the Boulevard, Waterfall Catering, and Zippy's. We even had tasty bites prepared by the Brookline Teen Outreach cooking class and Casa San Jose. Music by Sadie Freund and Amy Melissen was a hit and we had lots of happy door prize and raffle basket winners.

An extra thank you goes out to our sponsors, Brookline Chamber of Commerce, Community Bank, Brookline Area Community Council, and West Liberty Cycles.

If you are looking for a way to show your love for your

neighborhood, look no further. Brookline Teen Outreach is selling exclusive Brookline t-shirts for only \$10 each.



Show your Brookline pride and support Brookline Teen Outreach

Brookline Teen Outreach

Shirts will be on sale at 824: The Consignment Shop and Brookline Teen Outreach while supplies last. If you can't find your size, please email info@brooklineteenoutreach.org, and we will customize an order for you.

Brookline Teen Outreach is currently seeking new board members from the Brookline community to help guide the future of our programming and what is best for our community. If you are a proud Brookliner with a goal to see your community offer the best for the young people of the neighborhood, please contact Executive Director, Caitlin McNulty, cmcnulty@brooklineteenoutreach.org or 412-302-9394, for more information.

Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at Brookline Teen Outreach at 6 p.m.

Old Notes By Old People

by Chip Gorski

Growing up, dumpster diving and shack building were among two of my favorite things to do. As the weather began to warm in late April and May, I would sit in the classroom at school and instead of focusing on what was being presented, I would stare out the window and wonder how I could get my hands on scrap wood. This mission was to get into the woods and start building a fortress.

Usually, the scrap wood wasn't hard to find. After a long winter, somebody would illegally dump old building materials into the woods at the bottom of our street. Those scraps would be turned into a shell of a shack. More magic happened later in the spring when the city would park those huge red and blue dumpsters on the street. The dumpsters were dropped off as part of a "spring cleaning" program. Somebody else's junk dumped in the dumpster became perfect additions to our shack. We would find carpeting, chairs, paint – all sorts of things. So after time, the shack took shape and it would be a great gathering place over the summer.

In those woods, we would lift rocks and capture salamanders. We would take the live salamanders up to the sporting goods

store on the Boulevard. The owner would buy them as bait. We thought it was amazing that the woods had its own waterfall, providing the proper moisture needed for the salamanders to exist. We never realized that we were probably playing in storm or sanitary sewer run-off.

Occasionally, we would find some amazing things. There was an old car down there. We found tires that we used to make a rope swing. We also found a stash of magazines that our mothers wouldn't have approved. We probably all got punished for peeking anyway. Shortly after finding that stash, we all came down with a massive case of poison ivy. Nothing is more punishing than not being able to sleep because you itch. That, coupled with the heat of summer and a house that didn't have air conditioning, caused me to swear off the woods – until the following spring, of course.

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.

A Pittsburgh Law Enforcement Legend

by Dan Kaczmariski

When long-time Brookline resident Therese Rocco recalls seeing the Oscar winning movie *From Here to Eternity* at the Warner Theater downtown, she vividly remembers a stranger's leg wrapped around her own.

It wasn't a pleasant experience, but it was why she was there.

As a young member of the Pittsburgh Police, she was working as a decoy, hoping to lure a "masher" who had victimized other women. Elsewhere in the theater, a male police detective waited ready to make the arrest once the masher moved in.

That was just the first of many decoy assignments for Therese, as she describes in her recently published memoir, *Therese Rocco, Pittsburgh's First Female Assistant Police Chief* (Word Association Publishers). Another time she found herself in a hotel room pretending to be an aspiring model for a "businessman" suspected of luring women to try on lingerie. One of her most harrowing experiences was when she posed as an extortion victim making a blackmail drop-off in Highland Park. Back then, female members of the Department did not carry guns or walkie-talkies. As she left a bag full of bogus money near the extortionist, she had to trust that her back-up detective was close by.

Her decoy gigs alone could fill a book. But that wouldn't leave room for the rest of her career – including the most substantial, visible, and emotionally intense part – her legendary role in searching for and finding missing persons.

Therese's book draws from her 39 years of experience with the Pittsburgh Police Department, starting with her entry as clerk in the Missing Persons Bureau, through her appointment as captain of Missing Persons, to her position as the city's first female assistant chief of police.

From her first days on the force, she felt emotionally attached to every missing-persons case she worked on, particularly those regarding children. She was tireless in pursuing leads. When others would give up, she pushed on, working long hours and weeks. A 1988 *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* article stated that "No peers can compete with Therese Rocco's ability in finding missing persons."

"Things touched me," she says today. "I took everything to heart. I probably did things that were annoying to my

supervisors. They implied that when you work a case, you drop it; and I couldn't. I would hold on to these people and go further."

Such singlemindedness could take an emotional toll. In real life, not all stories have happy endings. In her book, one of the stories she relates is that of a 6-year-old boy who went

missing on Valentine's Day. She was at the boy's house with his mother and siblings when the voice of KDKA announcer Mike Levine came across the radio reporting the discovery of a small child's body in an open well near Wabash and Steuben Streets.

Many more times, however, Therese had a role in bringing a missing person home and she developed personal relationships with many. She tells of a runaway teen whom she tracked down in New York City who was brought back to Pittsburgh. For over a year afterwards, the boy called her every night at 9 p.m. to report he was home and in the company of his parents.

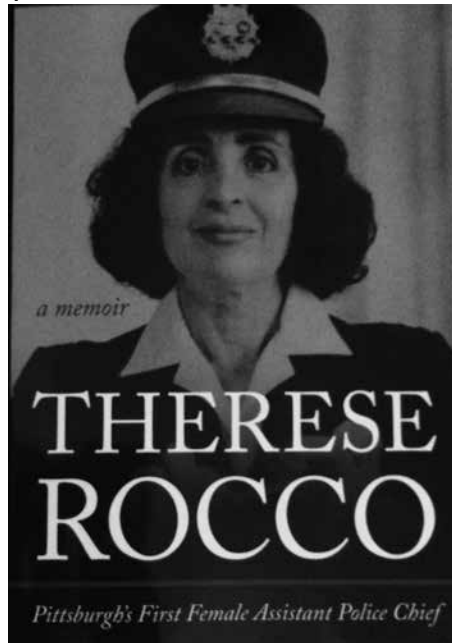
The missing persons case that made Therese most visible to the media was the disappearance in 1962 of a ten-year-old

girl, Mary Ann Verdecchia. Mary Ann's case has never been officially resolved; she remains missing. But the case is still under investigation and Therese is optimistic it will one day be solved. In her book, she tells of the long and complicated trail of clues she followed in tracking down suspects when others had given up. It's a case that still lives in Therese's mind and heart. Even now, she asks herself every day, "Mary Ann, what happened to you?"

For much of Therese's career, there was an elephant in the room that refused to leave. While she was building a stellar reputation as a nationally recognized investigator whom others sought out for assistance, female and male detectives were not treated equally. As a captain, she received a sergeant's pay. The other women's salaries were equivalent to that of a first-year patrolman. Women detectives did not receive the physical and weapons training that men received.

Therese never let discrimination affect her job performance. She smiled and did her job but continually lobbied for change. She presented report after report in Court describing the courageous and invaluable accomplishments of female members of the force. Her reputation garnered her invitations to multiple conferences dealing with job equality for women and interviews with the media. She says she's never stopped

Continued on p. 10



Law Enforcement from p. 9

rejoicing over the great strides that women have made, not just in the police force but in all walks of life.

When asked if her encounters with the sad and seamy sides of life ever jaundiced her, Therese says, "I think what always held me together was my faith. I had a tremendous religious educational background. When you have Italian parents, they bring that faith with them. My mother was extremely religious."

Which is one of the reasons Therese didn't always inform her parents about her decoy gigs. When she was given the lingerie assignment, she walked away thinking "If my mother only knew." And if you want to learn the humorous ending to her Warner Theater assignment, pick up a copy of her book. (Available by calling 412-343-1849 or from Amazon online). It's a gritty, moving, sometimes amusing story that names names and makes you glad that there are people like Therese Rocco around.

Council Woman Natalia Rudiak



Research shows that a single spay surgery can save 55 unwanted animals from being born. That means 55 fewer animals waiting in shelters...or worse. There is only one way to proactively reduce pet overpopulation, and that is to spay and neuter.

The City of Pittsburgh offers a FREE spay and neuter program to city

residents. Up to five pets can be spayed/neutered at no cost to owners. Pet owners (or caregivers, for feral cat colonies) must prove they live in the City by showing two bills with a valid city address and a driver's license or equivalent form of identification with a valid city address. Cat colonies must be located in the city limits.

Fast Facts:

- Limit 5 pets;
- Vaccination record must be presented prior to surgery;
- Proof of city residency, valid city dog license and vaccination records must be sent to Animal Care and Control for approval before surgery can be scheduled;
- All dogs must be wearing their valid city dog license and rabies tag on their collar on the day of surgery;
- Microchips: Pet owners can purchase a microchip for a nominal fee and have it placed at the time of surgery. Make sure to discuss this with the venue of your choosing at the time your pet is scheduled for surgery.

To learn more, call 412-255-2036 or 412-255-2935 or go to: http://pittsburghpa.gov/animalcontrol/spay_neuter.htm.

Representative Dan Miller



Last year, with the leadership of Governor Wolf, the legislature passed several bills designed to target Pennsylvania's opioid crisis. Recently, at a meeting with the Speaker of the House, I was able to talk about one of my bills that I think needs to be prioritized.

Federal law requires automatic license suspension for drug offenses. This means that no matter how much a person complies with probation, no matter how far along they are in recovery, or whether they actually were diagnosed with an addiction, they lose their license for six months or more. Clearly, probation is not meant to be easy, and we have legitimate public safety concerns to consider, but the inflexibility of the system also leads to the inability for some to get to treatment, maintain work, and meet their family obligations.

My bill would seek to follow 34 other states that have been relieved of this obligation and to allow Pennsylvania—through its judges—more options in advancing recovery and rehabilitation while balancing public safety. House Resolution 76, which has bipartisan support, has been assigned to the House Transportation Committee. Working off of my conversation with the Speaker, and in conjunction with like-minded colleagues, I have reached out to the leadership of the committee for a hearing. We have also sought review from the Governor's office. Through this resolution, it is my hope that we provide more tools in the fight for long-term recovery and public health.

Where in Brookline?

The Brookline Chamber of Commerce invites you to test your knowledge of Brookline. Can you identify where this photo was taken? (Answer on page 12)



Lee Herbermann

Senator Wayne Fontana



In the wake of ongoing issues relative to lead in water supplies and aging infrastructure, I have a proposal that would allow municipalities and municipal authorities, including the City of Pittsburgh and the PWSA, to apply for and use public funds to repair or replace broken sewer laterals and water service lines on private property when the leaks pose a threat to the public's health or safety.

My legislation will amend the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority Act to allow municipalities or municipal authorities to include private lateral rehabilitation or replacement in PennVEST funding applications when determined by the municipality that it is the most cost-effective approach to reduce wet weather sewer overflows. The plan would also allow municipalities or municipal authorities to include projects for the improvement, extension, repair or rehabilitation of private water service lines connected to public water systems, where the governmental unit determines that those activities will benefit the public water system in PennVEST applications.

Currently, funding can only be used for publicly owned infrastructure projects and not those that go onto private property. However, in many instances, issues with the public water and sewer systems cannot be fully eradicated without the repair or replacement of private lines that are connected to these sources.

I am hopeful this legislation moves quickly through the legislative process as this issue is not unique to Pittsburgh or Allegheny County. Visit my website at www.senatorfontana.com and sign up to receive my weekly News & Views to learn more about this legislation and to follow its progress.

Representative Dan Deasy



As part of my continued efforts to promote awareness of the dangers of identity theft, I am partnering with State Sen. Wayne Fontana and Green Tree Borough to host a free on-site paper shredding event in my legislative district.

Our shred event will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Green Tree Park, located at 895 Green Tree

Road, Pittsburgh.

Residents are invited to bring old health records, financial documents, tax returns and other sensitive information for secure disposal. Documents will be shredded on site by a reputable and bonded company. This is a great opportunity to protect your personal information and defend yourself against identity thieves.

Should you become a victim of identity theft or fraud, you will need to take action quickly. Notify the police, banks, and creditors immediately. Obtain a copy of your police report as evidence of the fraud having been perpetrated. Cancel all existing credit cards, accounts, passwords and PINs, and replace them with entirely new ones. Call the credit bureaus and ask each to attach a fraud alert and victim's statement to your report.

The three main credit bureau fraud alert phone numbers are: Equifax – 800-525-6285; Experian – 888-397-3742; and TransUnion – 800-680-7289.

Please contact my constituent service office at 412-928-9514 for more information about the shred event or more information about what to do if you are a victim of fraud.

Representative Harry Readshaw



As I pointed out in my previous column, Pennsylvania 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember phone number and web resource that connects you to help for health and human services questions and emergencies. In this column, I will focus on how our veterans can benefit from 2-1-1.

You can dial 2-1-1 in about 85 percent of Pennsylvania and almost anywhere in the country to be connected to the local branch. When you contact PA 2-1-1, a trained resource navigator can discuss your issues and offer impartial and confidential advice and referrals throughout the state, both public and private. 2-1-1 can direct veterans to help for food assistance, health services and other benefits.

We are very fortunate that the Southwest 2-1-1 call center has a veteran on staff. Having a veteran who may have experienced the same issues previously can make the answers even more valuable.

For many of Pennsylvania's 800,000 veterans, transitioning from a military life to a civilian life can reveal unexpected issues, including depression and PTSD. More than 5 percent of our veterans are living in poverty and 5.6 percent of our veterans are unemployed. 2-1-1 can direct veterans to employment training programs, tax preparation assistance and help paying for utilities.

Last year, more than 8,000 veterans received referrals through the 2-1-1 system.

If you are a veteran or a family member of a veteran with questions, you can start by calling 2-1-1 or visiting the local website <http://PA211sw.org>.



Need assistance
With PA programs or
problems?
Contact my local office, I am here to serve
with local office staff Marilyn, Miller,
Andrea Olechowicz & Nancy Heckmann

State Representative Harry Readshaw

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Division 1
19th Ward, Pittsburgh
Divisions 6-7-8-9-10-11-13-14-30-36-37
29th Ward, Pittsburgh
All Divisions
32nd Ward, Pittsburgh
Divisions 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8
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Brentwood Borough
Mt. Oliver Borough

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Fax: 412-886-2077**

Carnegie Library of Brookline May Events

For Kids

- *Kids Club: Wacky Wednesdays* • 3:30 p.m. - Meet new friends, hang out with old friends and try something new! Children can have fun, build social skills and use their imaginations

For Teens

- *Pokémon Club* – Mondays • 3 p.m. - Drop-in battle leagues for both video and card games

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
- *Word Games* – Tuesday, May 2 • 6:30 p.m. - join other adults for fun with words playing classic board games like Scrabble, Boggle, Upwords and Scattergories. For adults 18+.
- *Monthly Movie Showdown* – Tuesday, May 9 • 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.
- *Game Night* – Tuesday, May 16 • 5:45 p.m. – Take the night off for some friendly competition. A variety of traditional board games and quest-based adventure games will be available.
- *Color Your World* – Tuesday, May 23 • 6 p.m. - Coloring is a great way for adults to relax, relieve stress and have fun. We'll provide crayons, colored pencils and markers, along with up to three coloring pages, for everyone who joins us. For adults 18+.
- **Book Discussions:**
 - *Mystery & More* – Wednesday, May 10 • 1 p.m. – Discuss contemporary and classic mysteries, and occasional nonfiction. This month: *Galileo's Daughter* by Dava Sobel.
 - *Between the Lines* – Monday, May 15 • 6 p.m. – Come talk about contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction. This month: *The Blind Assassin* by Margaret Atwood.
 - *The Buzz* – Thursday, May 25 • 6 p.m. – Come in to discuss unconventional fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels. This month: *The Bees* by Laline Pauli.

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

Answer: Where in Brookline?

Answer to “Where in Brookline” photo on page 10: The Jacob St. steps at the bottom of Brookline Blvd.

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.

Night at the Races—Run for the Roses, sponsored by St. John Bosco Academy, on Saturday, May 6. Doors open 6 p.m., food 6:30 p.m., races begin 7 p.m. St. Pius X Church, Cullen Hall, 3040 Pioneer Ave. Admission \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, includes food, snacks, pop & beer. BYOB—set-ups provided. Must be 21 or older to attend. 412-563-0858.

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.

May Events on the Boulevard

At Brookline Teen Outreach/American Legion Bldg.

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

At 824: The Consignment Shop

Fabulous Fashion Exchange. Sun., May 7, 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Swap clothing, shoes, purses, and/or jewelry no longer bringing you joy, or shop at this special event! Cost to participate in the swap is \$10 per person. (The event is free if you're just shopping!) Refreshments provided. 908 Brookline Blvd. 412-440-8245

Dream Builder Workshop. Wed, May 10, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. In this 12-week workshop, led by Life Coach Ruth Martin, participants will work toward building the life of their dreams. The workshop will be held on 12 consecutive Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Weekly cost per person is \$75, or pay in advance and save \$50. Refreshments provided.

Connecting With Your Psychic Abilities. Sat., May 20, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. & Sun, May 21, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Psychic Mary Petrella returns to teach this 2-day workshop wherein participants will learn to connect with their psychic abilities. Cost TBD. Refreshments provided.

Brookline Memorial Recreation Center

Weight Room and Fitness Center

Patrons ages 16-17 must be orientated and accompanied by a parent or guardian. Membership card is required. \$5 monthly fee for use of weight room and fitness center.

Fishing

Ages 15 & under. 9 a.m., Saturdays, beginning April 29. Learn the basics of fishing at North Park. \$5

Summer Camp

Camps run June 13 to August 11. Contact the Center for more information.

Summer Hours, Beginning June 5

Monday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon; closed Sunday.

For more information, call 412-571-3222.

What's Happening at Brookline PreK-8

by Amy Cornelius Dembosky, Parent Volunteer

April was a busy month at Pittsburgh Brookline. Thank you to everyone for your cooperation with completion of the PSSAs. Sending your children to school on time and prepared is a great help!

May is going to be bustling with activity! Our annual Very Important Person (VIP) Day will be May 19. Every year we have a variety of options for the guests that students bring to school on that day. Last year, visitors could make flowers to decorate our fence, participate in a Brookline Beautification project by planting flowers on the Boulevard, or visit their child's classroom. Watch for a paper coming home to sign up for this year's fabulous opportunities!

Also in May, our fifth-grade students will participate in the city-wide Dancing Classrooms competition. If you've never heard of Dancing Classrooms, it's a nationally renowned program that teaches children respect and appreciation for each other in addition to fox trots and waltzes. Fifth-grade families will be notified if their children are participating in the competition. Watch for a note to come home with information about the date and time. Everyone is welcome to attend the city-wide competition and to cheer on our dancers!

Are you working in a field that you love? How does your job benefit our community? If you would like to share your experience, please consider participating in Career Day for our middle school students. All jobs are important, and our students are interested in a variety of careers, from automotive technician to zip line operator! Career Day will be held Friday, May 26, at our school. Call Mrs. LaSaune Rayzer at 412/529-7377 if you'd like to help. Thank you!

Carmalt News

by Kate Shimko and Joanne dePoutiloff

Pittsburgh Carmalt staff and students are full of excitement as spring has finally arrived. In order to reduce some of the stress that comes with PSSA testing, there were pleasant surprises in store for the month of April.

On April 18, the students participated in Jr. Achievement Day. Representatives from BNY Mellon spent the day working with students as they cycled through eight different stations focusing on career development. The next evening we hosted the first Family Bingo Night from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

On Friday, April 21, 40 students from our Middle School traveled to the Carnegie Museum of Art to take part in a workshop revolving around the current Iris van Herpen fashion design exhibit. Interested students learned about the internationally renowned designer's

innovative approach to melding the physical and digital, and reality and dream worlds in her high couture lines.

During April, we also had a chance to celebrate student accomplishments. Ten Carmalt students were chosen to exhibit their work in this year's All-City Art Exhibition, designed to recognize and celebrate the artistic talent of Pittsburgh Public School artists. This year's artists include Zach Schrader, Kylee Hollerich, Oday Abushaban and Tyra Hopper, with movement sculptures; Joycita Lucas and Darius Symms, glue batik on fabric; Rachael Nagle, cut-paper collage; Alaina Hogle, yarn weaving; and Lamis Dayoub and Sy'Rai Minter with quilt-inspired fabric designs.

The All City Exhibition Award Ceremony took place April 22 at The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's Education Center. We hope you were able to take some time out of your busy schedule to relax and unwind with the Pittsburgh Carmalt family.

The Latest from St. John Bosco Academy

by Holly Victor, Parent Volunteer

As the end of the school year rapidly approaches, I can't help but feel a bit nostalgic. Saint John Bosco Academy has been a part of my children's lives for about as long as they can remember. This May, when my daughter graduates from the eighth grade, it will be our last function as a St. John Bosco family.

I'd like to take a moment to thank the teachers and staff who have aided in making my children the extraordinary young man and woman that they are today. Not only has the education that they've received prepared them for an easy transition into high school, but, also knowing that the same values that I instill at home were being reinforced in school each day made all of those tuition payments worth it! St John Bosco has been an extension of our family for the last ten years, and I will miss this school immensely.

Congratulations to the St. John Bosco Academy graduating class of 2017: Brogan, Kendall, Ennui, Sloane, Maggie, Sydney, Dynasty, Lexi, Gianna, Emily, Sammy, Jared, Brandon, Shane, Avery, Tyler, and Anthony.

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And you are the one who'll decide where to go..." – Dr. Seuss

What's Going on at Pittsburgh West Liberty?

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

The school year is passing by fast. It is difficult to believe it's May already. As we prepare to conclude our school year, it wouldn't be complete without our end of year celebrations.

During the week of May 1 through May 5, we will celebrate Teacher Appreciation week and will have activities for this occasion. Also, Junior Achievement will join us May 5 for a day at school. During this day, our students will participate in lessons to help them understand the difference between wanting and needing to buy certain objects. They will also be taught how to make good solid decisions and about career opportunities in the business world.

May 19 is our celebration of Take Your Father to School Day. We have several activities planned to make the day special for the children and their fathers. The children have a great time interacting with their fathers, and they also enjoy activities with their friends and their friends' fathers.

It wouldn't be fair to end our school year without acknowledging those individuals who help our school succeed. On May 22, we will hold our annual Volunteer Luncheon at which the faculty each brings a covered dish. Our school wouldn't be the same without the generous donations of time given to students by our volunteers. They develop meaningful relationships with our students and are a great asset to our school family.

While this school year is wrapping up, we are busy planning our upcoming school year. Enrollment is currently open for preschool and kindergarten. If you would like to visit or register, please call Mrs. Brunk at 412-529-7420. We are always excited to expand our school family. That's all for now; enjoy the beautiful weather and remember Pittsburgh West Liberty is "Where Learners Excel and Character Counts."



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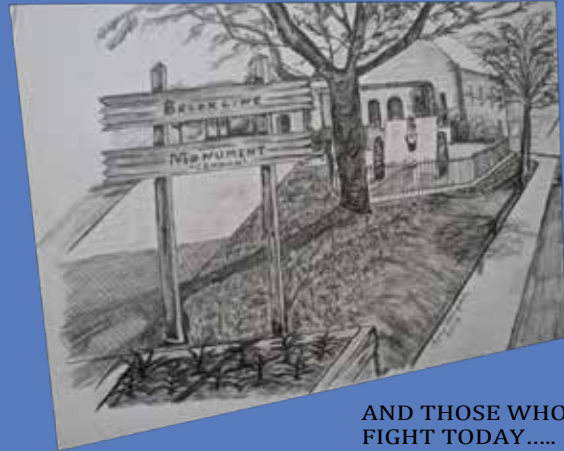
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Frank David DeBor, Supervisor

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