

Sottile Fashions

by Dan Kaczmariski



Sottile Fashions, Brookline Blvd.

Ray Feather Photography

Fashion and comfort are equally important to Jennifer Mendicino, owner of Sottile Fashions at 616 Brookline Boulevard. That became clear to her after she experienced some life changes. Jennifer had been a stay-at-home mother for 10 years. After going through a divorce, she realized she needed to re-identify herself. One step was to reassess her wardrobe.

She says she had invested a lot in what's called compression spandex, such as pantyhose and other foundation garments designed to make women look thinner. ("My body had changed dramatically when I had children. It went in ways I didn't even know it could go," she says with a laugh.) After much layering of clothes over compression undergarments, she had an insight that changed her life. "Why can't I just make something all in one?", with compression material built into a piece of stylish clothing.

She created and patented a prototype compression shapewear shirt, worked with a New York City manufacturer to put it into production, and named her line "Sottile."

With the shapewear shirts as a starting point, she expanded her inventory to make possible entire outfits. "That sprang a lot from requests from customers," she says, "like 'what do you think would look good with this?' I wanted to be aware of the latest trends, but not in the sense where you have to do this, this, and this. I wanted to stay different and classy."

The inventory at Sottile Fashions ranges from bodysuits to skirts, shirts, dresses, sundresses, and some formalwear. It also includes shoes from the Guilty Soles line and accessories from purses to

jewelry. Jennifer estimates that 30 percent of the items in her store are Sottile compression shapewear.

Her design choices are steered by her own desire to be both fashionable and comfortable. "We as women probably take more upon ourselves than we should. When I was getting back on my feet, I felt that I was supposed to look a certain way. In reality, I just wanted to be comfortable. There's no reason you can't be comfortable and stylish at the same time."

Jennifer knows that in some peoples' minds boutique equals pricey. "I know what it's like to want to look nice, but say 'Why in the world is this so expensive?' I try to carry pieces that you can't find in corporate stores, just to be different and unique, and I always try to keep it classy and up-to-date on the latest styles and trends. But I also try to keep it affordable. I don't want people to be shy of coming in and to say, 'I might as well not go in; I can't afford it.'"

The items in her store start in price from \$19.99 and no piece is more than \$60. This includes the Guilty Soles shoes, which are becoming increasingly a bargain at her shop. The shoe company approached her when both she and it were starting up, and she was able to price their heels for \$39.95 and flats for \$29.95. Since then, although the shoes' online price has increased, the company has agreed to honor its original prices to her. "So I'm able to sell them in my store for \$20 less than they cost online."

She's been very happy with the response from the community. "People are really welcoming and friendly." Her customers range from college students to women of retirement age. The shop's clothing comes in a variety of sizes, including oversized.



Sottile founder and owner, Jennifer Mendicino

Ray Feather Photography

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Sottile from p. 1

Jennifer says she struggled with the question of whether it was possible to be a successful woman in business and a great mother. At one time she believed she couldn't have both, but in the end, with the right balance, she says she's achieved that goal. "It is incredibly rewarding to say the least."

616 Brookline Blvd.
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Brookline Updates

Community Contacts

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Brookline Recreation Center	412-571-3222
Carnegie Library	412-561-1003
State Senator Wayne Fontana	412-344-2551
State Representative Dan Deasy	412-928-9514
State Representative Dan Miller	412-343-3870
State Representative Harry Readshaw	412-881-4208
Brookline Christian Food Pantry	412-344-8451
Meals-on-Wheels	412-531-2925
Dollar Energy/Columbia Gas Cap	412-344-4222

Community Crimes Zone 6

June		
Zone 6 Crimes	Total	Brookline
Aggravated Assault	6	1
Burglary	11	2
Theft	11	1
Theft from Vehicle	11	0
Stolen Vehicle	3	1

The Brookline aggravated assault, burglaries, and theft were reported to be either domestic or by known actors. The stolen vehicle was reported as having a key inside.

AUGUST COMMUNITY MEETINGS

No August Brookline Chamber of Commerce Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, September 11, 6 p.m. at Brookline Teen Outreach Building, 520 Brookline Blvd.

Tuesday, August 1

Brookline Block Watch will celebrate National Night Out from 6-8 p.m. at Magistrate Jim Motznik's office, 736 Brookline Blvd. Refreshments will be served. There will be no meeting on August 8.

No August South Pittsburgh Development Corporation Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, September 18,, 7 p.m. at Brookline Teen Outreach Building, 520 Brookline Blvd.

We have over 1,600 readers.

Pick up The Brookline at a Boulevard merchant.

The Brookline

The Brookline Staff

Dan Kaczmarek	Features Editor
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Email: thebrookline@gmail.com or
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Deadlines for Submissions and Ads

August 7 for September Issue

September 7 for October Issue

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Fitness Fun is a Breeze

by Melissa Migliaro and Beth Bliss

The 36th Annual Brookline Breeze 5K Run and Fitness Walk is Saturday, August 12. This community favorite has something for everyone, including dogs. You can run or walk the course at your own pace.

For the past 35 years, the Breeze has continued to provide exciting and healthy activities for Brookline and surrounding residents, all to benefit a great cause. Over the years, they have continued to use race funds and sponsorship for several beneficiaries.

This year, we are thrilled to partner with Animal Friends of Pittsburgh in our 1-Mile Dog Walk. Animal Friends is a non-profit companion animal resource center serving the needs of pets and people for more than 70 years. They will join our list of beneficiaries, along with: Brookline Area Food Bank, Meals-on-Wheels, Brookline Recreation Programs, Saint John Bosco Academy Activities, and the Brookline Teen Outreach Program.



Stick around after the race for refreshments and festivities, including the annual BreezeFest. Our special MC for the day will be Eric Burnett from Fireside Events. Event website: www.brooklinebreeze.com. Be sure to follow us on Facebook too: <https://www.facebook.com/BrooklineBreeze>.

Grab your family and friends and register today. Registration is open online or in a PDF printable application. 5K Run: \$25; 5K Walk: \$20; 1-Mile Mini-Breeze: \$13; Mini-Breeze Dog Walk: \$18; Additional Dog: \$10

Registered participants will receive a commemorative Breeze shirt and a runner's race packet (Shirt sizes are not guaranteed to day-of-race registrants). Registered dogs will receive a commemorative Breeze Bandana.

Participant packets can be picked up at the following times: Thursday, August 10 from 1-6:45 p.m. at Fleet Feet Sports Pittsburgh; Friday, August 11 at the Brookline Memorial Recreation Center, 6-9 p.m.; and Saturday, August 12, beginning at 7 a.m.

Participant packets can be picked up at the following times: Thursday, August 10 from 1-6:45 p.m. at Fleet Feet Sports Pittsburgh; Friday, August 11 at the Brookline Memorial Recreation Center, 6-9 p.m.; and Saturday, August 12, beginning at 7 a.m.

BreezeFest Boulevard Festival Saturday, August 12

Once again the Brookline Chamber of Commerce, sponsors and merchants have planned a community event for all to gather for fun, food and sales. Starting immediately after the 36th annual Brookline Breeze 5K Run and Fitness Walk. Come join us for food, children's activities, live music and buskers, arts and crafts, and merchants' sales/specials.

Events

9 a.m.: The 5K Brookline Breeze--bringing nearly 1,500 runners and their families and spectators to Brookline to experience our parks and business district.

The BreezeFest starts at 10 a.m. and goes until 4 p.m. Walk the sidewalks looking for merchants specials. Stop in your favorite store for hot dogs, gyros, tacos, pizza, Mediterranean, and more. Don't forget a great cup of coffee, a scoop of ice cream and a sweet dessert.

Stop by the Chamber Booth to sign up for the new Brookline

Business app, and purchase a chance to win one of the many baskets donated by local merchants. All proceeds go for all Chamber community events.

Especially for kids: New this year. Tree of Life, 1036 Brookline Blvd (across Queensboro Ave. from Brookline Veterans Memorial Park), will be entertaining children with Bounce Castle, skee ball game, carnival games, colorful crafts, and tons of prizes. ALL FREE.

Live Bands at Rather Ripped Records, sponsored by State Senator Wayne Fontana and State Representatives Harry Readshaw, Dan Deasy and Dan Miller. Also, strolling Buskers along the sidewalks.

Space for vendors still available, \$45. For applications or more information, email Blvdbreezefest@hotmail.com

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

Blvd. btw. Merrick & Starkamp: Patty & Dan Kaczmarek

700 Block Woodbourne: Mary Zottoli

900 Block 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

900 Block Berkshire Ave.: McGlothlin Family

Eben St., bottom of Creedmor Ave., Shire Place: Jill Lutz

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.

The Heritage Players will perform their children's show, *Folktales From Around the World*, August 4-6 and 11-13 at the Seton Center. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children under 18. Mention you are participating in your local library's reading program and get \$2 off your total ticket purchase.

Also this season:

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.

The Heritage Players will be holding auditions in early August for the musical, *Into the Woods*, at the Seton Center. Performance dates are November 3-5 and 10-12. For more information, email heritageplayers@yahoo.com or phone 412-254-4633.

Events on the Boulevard

At Brookline Teen Outreach/American Legion Bldg.

Brookline Community Open Mic., Wednesdays, 8-10:30 p.m.
At Brookline Teen Outreach, 520 Brookline Blvd

At 824: The Consignment Shop

Oils & Essences Workshop Presented by Mary Petrella.
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On The Issues: Brookline Goes *On Mission*

by Joseph Samuel Rogers



St. Pius X Church, Pioneer Ave.

Photo Angela Martin

There is no doubt that our community has changed. The Brookline my grandparents moved to in the 1950s is vastly different from the Brookline we live in today. An overflowing amount of Catholics and school-aged children back then necessitated three parishes with three schools in Brookline, but now the need no longer exists.

Over the past 15 years alone, the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh has seen a 40 percent decline in Mass attendance, 50 percent decrease in sacramental participation, and 50 percent drop in Catholic school enrollment. With nearly half of 209 diocesan priests set to retire within eight years, change is necessary to not only better manage resources, but to promote vibrancy and reinvigorate the Catholic faith.

“On Mission for the Church Alive is a planning initiative that invites all Catholics to best respond to changes in demographics and culture in our parishes, schools, and ministries,” according to Bob De Witt, diocesan spokesman.

The upcoming diocesan reorganization is a reflection of those challenges. After having consultation sessions in every parish to collect feedback about potential ways to combine parishes, the Diocese recently released 49 proposed groupings based on the feedback collected and on 21 criteria ranging from geography of parishes, size of the church, availability of parking, and room for future growth.

Based on that criteria, Our Lady of Loreto, Saint Pius X, and Resurrection, along with Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Pamphilius in Beechview and Saint Bernard in Mount Lebanon, are proposed to come together to form one faith community with three eventual worship sites. The Diocese is also in the process of regionalizing its



Resurrection Church, Creedmoor Ave

Photo Pawsburgh Photography

school system.

With limited weekend bus service in Brookline, and since walking to church may no longer be feasible for many churchgoers, De Witt emphasized that the On Mission process does not want to leave any parishioners behind, and especially wants parishioners from parishes that will merge to be welcomed.

“One of the outcomes of On Mission is to identify new ministries, including potential transportation ministries to make sure that all parishioners have a ride to church. [Also], more parishes have added welcoming committees to greet and get to know new parishioners, so these will certainly be important when the parishes come together,” he said. Sacramental records and sacred objects also will be cared for.



Our Lady of Loreto Church, Pioneer Ave.

Photo Angela Martin

Bishop Zubik will finalize groupings of parishes and assign pastors in early 2018, who will operate from a series of “blueprints” on how to combine ministries, councils, and identify staffing needs. “There may be opportunities for new ministries and staffing in parishes to focus on faith formation and evangelization,” DeWitt added.

While change is never easy, Bishop Zubik encourages parishioners to see the opportunities to deepen one’s faith.

On Mission is not just about reorganization, it is about getting people excited about their faith, to see the Church alive and vibrant, and to become closer to Jesus.

Editor’s Note: Bob De Witt is a spokesman for the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh. Joseph Samuel Rogers is a parishioner of Our Lady of Loreto in Brookline and a graduate of Brookline Regional Catholic, now Saint John Bosco Academy.

Whoever Thought You Could Miss a Cannon?

Unless you've been out of the country since July 8, you know there's an empty space where the cannon used to be at Brookline's Veterans Memorial Park. And an empty space in many Brookliners' hearts. The cannon was dragged and damaged when a Port Authority bus veered out of control across the park. The cannon (technically a 1917 155mm Schneider howitzer) had been at the park since 1946. Before it, another howitzer had been in the same spot from 1935 until 1942, when it was hauled off to be used as scrap metal during WWII.

As of the date this Newsletter went to print, the cannon was being kept at Port Authority facilities for safe keeping. According to Nathan Mallory, President of the Brookline Chamber of Commerce, direction was being awaited from the U.S. Department of Defense Armament Unit in Michigan as to who can repair the cannon and how to fix it. He says the Port Authority has agreed to fix the cannon, but no scope of repair had been finalized, so it was not known whether, in addition to the physical repairs, the cannon would be sandblasted or painted. The Port Authority and/or its insurance will be

responsible for funding the repairs to the Veterans Memorial Park and those repairs will be carried out by the City of Pittsburgh.

Doug Brendel was on the scene shortly after the accident to take these photos.



Fortunately, nobody was seriously hurt in the accident.



Parts of the park railing were destroyed.



The cannon was transported to the McGann and Chester lot (pictured), then to Port Authority facilities.

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 Tuesday, August 8 and Thursday, August 10 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.

The Boulevard is not an Ashtray



Editor's note: Many people who litter don't think much about it, but some smokers take reflexive littering to unmatched levels. If you watch a smoker finish his or her cigarette and flick the butt onto the ground, it's amazing how their hand motion seems to require no conscious thought from the brain. Surveys have shown that many smokers don't consider cigarette butts litter, when, in fact, butts are the most littered item across

the globe. We can't control the globe, but we can work on our own neighborhood. The following article is by one of the selfless residents in our community who quietly and without fanfare pick up litter so our Brookline home will be better for all of us.

Locally, careless people are turning our tree beds and planting areas into huge ashtrays as they flick cigarette butts into those areas, as well as onto our streets and sidewalks.

Discarded butts are a form of non-biodegradable litter, carried as runoff from streets to drains and into our rivers, leaching toxins into the water that can kill or injure various forms of wildlife. Cigarette filters are made from cellulose acetate, a plastic that can break into smaller pieces, but will never biodegrade or disappear, but can be ingested by fish and birds (and kids too).

The presence of litter in a community reduces property values. If they weren't spending so much time picking up litter, volunteers could put their time to better use in beautifying the neighborhood, such as by planting and painting, rather than stooping to pick up these hard-to-gather items.

Studies show that litter begets litter. Smokers are more likely to litter if the environment contains any type of litter, not just cigarette butts. Brookline strollers, as you walk our beautiful streets and Boulevard, it would be wonderful if everyone could pick up just one piece of litter a day—great exercise. Smokers, take a few seconds to dispose of this difficult-to-remove waste properly and give our overworked volunteers a break. Take pride in and show respect for our community!

Eileen Papale

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Brookline Teen Outreach News

by Caitlin McNulty


As part of the mission of Brookline Teen Outreach, we work diligently to act as contributors to the community. We do this by hosting the Brookline Chamber of Commerce and South Pittsburgh Development Corporation monthly meetings, by donating our space for community information sessions, and by being a part of community events like Art on the Blvd, Taste of Brookline and the Brookline Breeze. Our goal is to continue to grow in serving our main mission, providing quality resources to youth ages 10-18, and further expand our secondary mission of serving as a resource for the whole community.

One way we plan to do this is by hosting a spaghetti dinner on Friday, August 11 from 5-8 p.m. This event is open to participants of the Brookline Breeze 5k race, their families, and all Brookline residents who want to come out and show their support for the runners on the eve of the race. It's a great way to celebrate our amazing community, meet new faces, and carbo-load in anticipation of the race.

Our teens have been hard at work to create a cultural diversity event slated for September 23, 2017. "Old World, New World Heritage Festival" will include art, information, food, fun, and a positive message for people of all ages. This is a free student-produced event and you will not be disappointed!

September is a busy month at BTO! Our 2nd annual Night at the Races Fundraiser will take place on Saturday, September 16, so mark your calendars. You don't want to miss this one!

Brookline Teen Outreach is now available for party and event rentals. We have two distinct spaces to suit all your needs. For more information, email info@brooklineteenoutreach.org or call 412-254-4590.



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Amy Fisher, Visual Artist

Anxiety Attacks, Panic Attacks, and Phobias: Same? Different? How?

by Jill Lutz



Ever experience symptoms such as restlessness, fear of something terrible happening, or impending doom? Do your muscles tense, heart race, feel dizzy, and have shortness of breath? You are not alone. These are symptoms of an anxiety disorder and approximately 20 percent of the US population suffer from at least one of them (NIMH, 2013b, 2013d), although many times cases are unreported so the number may be even higher. Anxiety disorders include specific phobias, social anxiety disorder, panic disorder, and generalized anxiety disorder, as well as others. All anxiety disorders share the same features of fear and anxiety. Fear being the emotional response to an impending threat and anxiety being the anticipation of a future threat.

But do anxiety attacks, panic attacks, and phobias differ and how? Well, yes and no. As stated above, they are all considered anxiety disorders; however, they do have certain symptoms that differ. Let's start with generalized anxiety disorder, or GAD. GAD includes symptoms of excessive worry or anxiety about a number of events and the worry is in disharmony with the actual or expected event, meaning the worry is greater than should be expected when faced with the situation. GAD also includes pathological worry where the anxiety causes considerable concern to the individual suffering from them.

How do panic attacks and panic disorder differ from anxiety attacks? Panic attacks contrast from anxiety disorder in that they are abrupt surges of intense fear that peak rapidly. This rapid rise to peak intensity is what sets them apart from anxiety attacks. Panic attacks are also predominated by physical symptoms such as heart palpitations, sweating, trembling/shaking, chest pain, fear of losing control or going crazy, fear of dying, etc. Panic disorder is when panic attacks are followed by a month or more of persistent worry about having another attack and a change in behaviors that are designed to avoid having an attack (such as avoidance of place, things, etc.).

So let's move on to specific phobias. Specific phobias are characterized by fear or anxiety about a specific object or situation that provokes immediate fear and is actively avoided or endured with intense fear, and the fear and anxiety are out of proportion to the actual posed danger. They typically last 6 months or more and cause significant distress to the individual suffering from them. The phobia groups include animals, natural environment (heights, etc.), blood-injection injury (e.g., needles), situational (e.g., flying), and others.

If you find yourself experiencing any of the above symptoms and they are affecting your daily life, therapy is very effective in treating these disorders. Therapists will utilize treatments such as cognitive therapy, mindfulness and relaxation training, as well as others, to help you reduce your symptoms and move towards a more relaxed you.

Jill Lutz, M.S.Ed, NCC is a nationally certified therapist at Compassionate Counseling located at the Brookline Teen Outreach building at 520 Brookline Blvd. Compassionate Counseling provides services for adults, teens, children, families, and couple. Phone 412-841-0315, e-mail jilllutz0320@gmail.com.

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Council Woman Natalia Rudiak



The City of Pittsburgh has 247 facilities, which total 1.45 million square feet. Unfortunately, these facilities have not been properly maintained throughout our history. Because of this, our facilities have recently been evaluated and rated on a scale of 1-5.

1 = Critical (Extremely worn or damaged; replace immediately.)

2 = Poor (Worn from use, end of expected lifecycle. Replace within the years projected in report.)

3 = Fair (Average wear for building age; no new or major issues to report. Lack of maintenance.)

4 = Good (Good condition; no reported issues or concerns. Keep regular maintenance.)

5 = New (New or like-new condition; no issues to report; no expected failures unless no regular maintenance occurs.)

These evaluations have led to some number crunching: how much do we need to invest to get all of our facilities in good condition? In 2017/18, that number is over \$59 million. Over five years, the total is over \$65 million. Ten years: \$74 million. And 40 years, the number is \$178+ million. Knowing these numbers is the first step to budgeting for these needed expenses.

District 4 facilities need about \$4.9 million in work; which ranks 4th out of the 9 council districts in needed expenditures. The Brookline facilities that were evaluated and will receive work are: Moore Pool/Rec Building, the Brookline concession stand, the Firehouse (26), and the Moore Park Gazebo. Look for more information in our August newsletter (www.pittsburghpa.gov/district4/newsletters).

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.

Spaghetti Dinner. Friday, Aug. 11, 5-8 p.m. Brookline Teen Outreach, 520 Brookline Blvd. Come and enjoy all you can eat spaghetti, salad, rolls, and drinks. Carbo load before the Brookline Breeze! BYOB. Take-out available. \$10 adults/\$5 children 6 & under. Call 412-254-4590 for advance reservations.

Representative Dan Deasy



I recently co-sponsored legislation to update Pennsylvania's animal abuse statutes and increase penalties for abusing animals. The legislation, Act 10 of 2017, was signed by Governor Wolf on June 28.

The new law has been praised by the Pennsylvania SPCA as the most "comprehensive animal protection bill in the history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."

Among other provisions, the act breaks down cruelty to animals into three categories, based on the egregiousness of the conduct, rather than different penalties for different animals as was the case before Act 10. The three categories under the new act include:

- Neglect of an animal, which includes denying an animal necessary food and potable water, clean and sanitary shelter, or necessary veterinary care. This is a summary offense and becomes a third-degree misdemeanor if the violation injures the animal or places the animal in imminent risk of serious injury.
- Cruelty to an animal, which includes intentionally, knowingly or recklessly ill-treating, overloading, beating, abandoning or abusing an animal. This is a second-degree misdemeanor.
- Aggravated cruelty to an animal, which includes intentionally or knowingly torturing an animal or causing serious injury or death to the animal. This will be a third-degree felony.

The new law has additional provisions dealing with tethering, reporting, and forfeiture. For a copy of the new law, call my office at 412-928-9514 or go to my website at www.pahouse.com/deasy.

Where in Brookline?

The Brookline Chamber of Commerce invites you to test your knowledge of the Brookline area. Can you identify where this photo was taken? Hint: It's at an educational institution near the border of Brookline and Overbrook. (Answer on page 12.)



Photo Lee Herbermann

Representative Dan Miller



In May, my office hosted a Suburban Poverty discussion, and one issue we focused on was food insecurity in the 42nd district. Food insecurity is a persistent issue in our district, and while you may miss them if you don't need them, we have seven food pantries in our area alone. Also, all of our local school districts have substantial free and reduced lunch programs.

Unfortunately there is still a lot of stigma when it comes to food insecurity. This is particularly true in relation to kids in schools. Not long ago one school district in western PA actually took the food back from an elementary student because his family was behind on the bill. While we need to be sure that parents who can pay the lunch cost do so, in my opinion no student should be penalized as a way of sending a message home.

A 2014 report found that almost half of all school districts employ some type of "lunch shaming" method as a way to get parents to pay. This includes making students work for their food, slapping wristbands on them to alert parents of overdrawn lunch accounts, and refusing meals altogether.

While Pittsburgh Public has developed a different policy, I have co-sponsored House Bill 1403 which would prohibit "lunch shaming" throughout Pennsylvania. This bill would make sure that no child is punished—especially publicly—for an overdue bill. After all, it's very hard to learn on an empty stomach.

Senator Wayne Fontana



I am excited to announce that prior to the start of the 13th annual FontanaFest on Saturday, August 19, will be the 1st annual FontanaFest One Mile Fun Run/Walk sponsored by Highmark and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC!

The Fun Run/Walk will take place at Highmark Stadium with runners beginning at 10:30 a.m. and walkers at 10:45 a.m. The unique course will start inside Highmark Stadium before turning onto the river trail, ultimately ending inside the stadium. All participants will get a T-shirt.

Registration is \$10 for individuals and can be done by visiting my website at www.senatorfontana.com or <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Pittsburgh/FontanaFestFunRunWalk>. Families with three or more people can register for a flat fee of \$25. Proceeds from the race will be donated to organizations in support of fighting childhood cancer and supporting families.

Following the race, awards will be presented on the field at Highmark Stadium while the 13th annual FontanaFest kicks off at 11 a.m. FontanaFest, a free community event, is perfect for families and children, promoting healthy and active lifestyles by providing many fun activities, games and crafts. Children will have the chance to play on inflatables, an obstacle course, and a climbing wall. All attendees can engage with more than a dozen organizations from around the region and receive important information on available services and programs, nutrition, health care and much more.

Parking will be free in the stadium's West Lot, compliments of Forest City.

Representative Harry Readshaw



A 2015 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection study revealed that the blacklegged tick, more commonly known as the deer tick, is now found in all 67 counties in Pennsylvania.

This is important because the deer tick is known to carry the bacteria that causes Lyme disease, which causes fever, fatigue and headaches—and if left untreated can lead to serious complications within the heart, joints and nervous system.

Lyme disease is most common in the Northeast, and in fact is named for the community where it was first discovered, Old Lyme, Conn.

New England states have a higher percentage of infected residents, but due to its size, Pennsylvania has reported the

highest number of Lyme disease cases over the last few years.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health has produced a Lyme disease information sheet, which you can view at <http://bit.ly/Lymefacts>. You can learn more about Lyme and other tick-borne diseases on the state Department of Health's website, <http://bit.ly/PALymeinfo>.

You can also read more on the Centers for Disease Control's webpage, <http://bit.ly/CDCLyme>. Among the individual pages you can explore are:

- Signs and symptoms of Lyme disease;
- Preventing tick bites on you and your pets;
- How to remove a tick;
- Diagnosing Lyme disease;
- Treating Lyme disease.

I want you to enjoy the outdoors, but also want you to stay safe.

What's Happening at Brookline PreK-8

by Amy Cornelius Dembosky, Parent Volunteer

Do you have a child who needs to be registered for the 2017-2018 school year? The school office will be open beginning August 10. Visit the Pittsburgh Public Schools website at pghschools.org for information about what items to bring.

New and returning families are invited to attend our annual Back to School Night on Thursday, August 24, 2017, from 5 to 7 p.m. Visit your new classrooms, meet your new teachers, and reconnect with old friends! Rita's Italian ice will be served this year, too.

The first day of school for PreK and first through eighth graders will be August 28. Students can be dropped off starting at 7:40 a.m. Please remember to only allow students to exit next to the curb. The left lane must be kept clear for through traffic. Breakfast is available in the cafeteria. ALL students can receive free breakfast and free lunch!

If you have a child entering Kindergarten, the teacher will contact you to schedule an interview that will take place August 28, 29, or 30. The first day of school for Kindergarten students will be Thursday, August 31.

School supply lists have been posted on our Facebook page, Pittsburgh Brookline PreK-8. You'll know you're looking at the correct page when you see the cover photo of the school's front door behind the fence which is decorated with flowers.

We would also like to announce our new Parent Teacher Association officers for the 2017-2018 school year: Melissa Kilmer, president; Jen King, vice president; Amanda Stewart, secretary; and Nikkie Kennedy, treasurer. We wish them the best as they plan for the coming year.

We hope you're enjoying your summer and all the activities our neighborhood has to offer!

Free Cinema in the Park

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

- Aug. 3 – A Dog's Purpose (PG)
- Aug. 10 – Queen of Katwe (PG)
- Aug. 17 – Moana (PG)
- Aug. 24 – Beauty and Beast (2017) (PG)
- Aug. 31 – BFG (Big Friendly Giant) (PG)

Carnegie Library of Brookline August Events

For Kids

- *Storytime: Toddler & Preschool Tales* - Mondays, August 7, 14, & 21 • 6:30 p.m. & Thursdays, August 3, 10, 17, & 24 • 11 a.m. – Get up and get moving with interactive stories, songs and rhymes. 18 months to 5 years and caregivers.
- *Kids Club: Wacky Wednesdays* – Wednesdays, August 2, 9, 16 • 3 p.m. - Meet new friends, hang out and try something new!
- *Summer Reading Ice Cream Party* - Wednesday, August 23 • 3 p.m. - Have fun celebrating all of your summer reading accomplishments with an end-of-summer ice cream party!
- *Snack Break at the Library* – Monday - Friday • 3 p.m. - Stop by the Library every weekday for hands-on activities! A snack will be provided while supplies last. Last day is August 18.

For Teens

- *Pokémon Club* – Mondays • 3 p.m. – Compete with other teens in drop-in battle leagues for both the video and card games.
- *Teen Time* – Tuesdays • 3 p.m. – Cool art projects, epic games, music, movies and just chilling out.
- *Tween Scene* - Thursdays • 3 p.m. - Meet new friends, hang out with old friends and try something new!
- *Teen Time Summer Reading Finale Movie Screening* - Tuesday, August 22 • 3 p.m. - stop by for a movie and snacks!

For Adults

- *Book Discussions:*
 - *Mystery & More* – Wednesday, August 9 • 1 p.m. – Join us for lively discussions of contemporary and classic mysteries. This month: *Maisie Dobbs* by Jacqueline Winspear.
 - *Between the Lines* – Monday, August 21 • 6 p.m. – Take part in engaging conversations about contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction. This month: *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr.
 - *The Buzz* – Tuesday, August 22 • 6 p.m. – join us where hip meets lit to discuss unconventional fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels. This month: *Monster: The Graphic Novel* by Walter Dean Myers.

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 photo was taken at Carmalt PreK-8 school at 1550 Breining St.

Old Notes By Old People

by Chip Gorski

In an instant, more than 70 years of Brookline history was knocked off its moorings and into the side of a Port Authority Bus. No doubt by now, you've heard about the cannon crash. Thankfully, there were no serious injuries after the bus, making a left onto the Boulevard from Queensboro, swerved into the park and into the cannon. It could have been far worse had people been walking on the sidewalk at the park or on the opposite side of Brookline Boulevard where the bus ultimately stopped.

Generations of Brookline kids climbed all over that cannon. While it wasn't the first cannon in what is officially known as Veterans Memorial Park, the damaged cannon has occupied the space longest. While the park itself can be a place for one to quietly honor our community veterans, the park was also a space to rest and enjoy the view.

For many of us, the cannon was a meeting place. You would

always hear somebody say, "I'll meet you at the cannon." Or it was a directional marker as in "stay to the left of the cannon." It was also the location that let you know if you were on the wrong PAT bus. If the outbound bus was heading to the left of the cannon, you were headed to East Brookline. If the bus traveled to the right of the cannon, you were headed to Ebenshire Village. Many times I would realize I got on the wrong bus and would have to walk the two blocks from the cannon home.

Just a couple of days before the accident, I was telling somebody that when I was a kid, the roller skating bus would pick us up and drop us off at the cannon. It was a quick ride to Bethel Park and back. I remember after an afternoon of roller skating, I hated walking up the two hills to get home.

By the time you read this, I hope the cannon is back at its post defending the boulevard and that the fence has been replaced. Most of all, I hope it continues for many, many more years as a legacy to our veterans and bright spot for community.

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 412-531-2925.
 - 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.



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We at South Pittsburgh Development Corporation have been working hard to make important updates about Brookline easier for users to access online. If you'd like to have these updates emailed directly to your inbox, as well as the monthly issue of The Brookline Newsletter free of charge, just go to <http://bit.do/brookline> and request to be added to our update list. We'll continue to distribute the usual number of printed Newsletters each month.

Every Dog has His (or Her) Day

We're in the midst of the Dog Days of summer, but don't blame your pooch for that name or the heat. Many people think the term sprang from a belief that dogs get lazy when the weather swelters. The real reason is that this is the time of year the Sun occupies the same region of the sky as Sirius--the brightest visible star and part of the constellation Canis Major, the Greater Dog. That's why Sirius is sometimes called the Dog Star.

As proof that Brookline canines aren't couch potatoes just because it's hot, Pawsburgh photographer Amy Fisher met up with some of our furry friends on the Boulevard during recent weeks. (All photos courtesy of Pawsburgh Photography, except as noted.)



Bella, the "Pittsburgh Cuddlehound," owned by Rob at West Liberty Cycles.



Willow, a husky I met by luck (or fate) outside CVS.



Franklin (full name Franklin Delano Roosevelt), the French bulldog owned by Melissa Lowman, waiting for some fresh pita bread.



Jazzmin is a brindie Australian shepherd girl who stopped for ice cream with her dad, Rich, and walked right into a photo shoot.



Nemo, the yellow lab, my lens licker.



Lila, the coonhound, is a Forever Home Beagle Rescue foster "failure" who is now owned by her former foster parent, Susan Hinz. Susan and her husband foster dogs for both the Brookline beagle rescue and Erie-based Droopy Basset Hound Rescue. Sometimes, the dog finds her forever home right there with the foster! Fostering is a great way to find the perfect dog to fit in with your family and fostering one dog saves two lives, because it frees up space for another dog within the rescue.



Sophia, the golden retriever, with her grand-dad Danny O'Toole



This black lab was out on Rossmore Ave. looking for his owners when he was rescued by a Good Samaritan. Please, PUT A NAME TAG WITH WORKING PHONE NUMBER on your dog!



Silvi is a brindie baby, but she's ALL mutt. Her dad Kevin describes her as a wonderful dog.



Of course, there's always one who won't leave the air conditioning. 17-year-old Licorice (lcky), owned by Kathy Fear, is happy watching reruns of "Married with Children." Photo by Dan Kaczmarek



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The 36th Annual Brookline Breeze will be held

Saturday, August 12, 2017

Starting Line at Brookline Recreation Center - 1399 Oakridge Street, Pittsburgh PA

- One Mile Mini-Breeze - 5K Run/Walk
- 1 Mile Dog Walk with Animal Friends
- Register online at BrooklineBreeze.com



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