



The Homepage

Serving the communities of
Greater Hazelwood • Greenfield • 31st Ward • New Homestead • The Run

Volume 11, No. 11

Published by Hazelwood Initiative, Inc. 4901 Second Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15207

November 2022

Wayne Walters wants to bring students and joy back to PPS

By Ann Belser

Wayne Walters let out a laugh as he walked into the courtyard of the Pittsburgh Public Schools Administration building in Oakland.

His first reaction was to cover his mouth for being too loud.

For more than 40 years — as a student, then teacher, school administrator and assistant superintendent — Mr. Walters, who has a loud laugh and is effusively joyous, has heard a good bit of shushing.

But no one is shushing him now: he is the newly-appointed Superintendent of Schools.

He started with the district as a music teacher at King Elementary after graduating from Carnegie Mellon University in 1990. For more than 30 years, he has worked his way up through the system: He was the assistant principal of Northview Heights Elementary in 1999, principal of Frick International Studies Academy 6-8 in 2000, and the first principal of the new Pittsburgh Barack Obama Academy of International Studies in 2008.

He moved to the administration building in 2014 as an assistant superintendent and took over the top job as superintendent on an interim basis in October of last year. He was officially appointed superintendent of schools in July.

Now permanently named to the role he has either been near or held for eight years, Mr. Walters has had a wide view of the system during these past two tough years when the district had to balance education with public health during the first years of the COVID-19 pandemic as schools across the country shut down and large districts stayed closed.

During the pandemic, the system lost 10% of its enrollment.

During the 2019-2020 school year, when the schools had an enrollment

See WALTERS on Page 8

Johnston Ave. traffic meeting: City eases crossing guard hiring but no speed humps until spring

By Juliet Martinez

Residents of Glen Hazel made impassioned pleas for traffic calming measures on Johnston Avenue at the October 5 meeting with Mayor Ed Gainey. Although the city did not

promise to speed up the work, it did remove barriers keeping volunteer crossing guards from being hired.

Family and friends of 6-year-old Jamel Austin, who died after being hit by a car while riding his bike on Johnston Avenue on July 26, joined

a packed crowd in the Glen Hazel community center for the evening meeting.

Since Jamel's death, his grandmother Dashieba Wilder and other community members have volunteered as crossing guards to stop traffic when children are in the street. Ms. Wilder said she applied for a position as a crossing guard, but did not have a class C driver's license, a job requirement.

Crossing guard supervisor, Donna McManus, told the meeting that staffing is low, which is why there is no crossing guard stationed on Johnston. She promised to investigate removing that requirement.

I emailed Ms. McManus to ask when residents could expect to have this requirement dropped. She replied on October 7 that it was done. She also clarified that crossing guards are exempt from taking the civil service test.

But the city did not budge on the spring 2023 timeline for installing speed humps on Johnston Avenue.

Mike Maloch, municipal traffic engineer, outlined the steps already taken such as repainted crosswalks,

See GAINNEY on Page 5



Mayor Ed Gainey in front of the Glen Hazel Recreation Center on October 5. Photo by Ray Gerard.

Two lesser-known candidates want to represent you on city council

By Juliet Martinez

The special election for the District 5 city council seat is November 8. Two candidates are running without the support of a major party. Matt Mahoney of Greenfield is running as an independent, and Robert McCune of Hazelwood filed his party affiliation as "Rob for Council" because only one candidate can file as an independent.

I spoke with both candidates about their decisions to run, their campaign strategies and where they stand on some of the big issues.

Matt Mahoney: "Balanced leadership"

If you have been at the park or on your porch, you may have met Matt Mahoney, who is biking around the district without yard signs, talking to voters about his run as an independent.

The Greenfield resident has worked in the renewable energy sector since 2013, currently as director of government affairs at the Penn-

sylvania Solar Center and Sustainable Pittsburgh. When we spoke in October, he said running for office comes from the desire to be of service that has motivated his career choices so far.

"This seems like a natural step," he said. "I've worked in some of the most difficult situations: homeless, unemployed folks; kids, youth who are having difficult times finding jobs. And then I've worked in very complex, difficult, technical, policy-oriented spaces."

Mr. Mahoney said he has developed the ability to bring parties with different viewpoints to the table and move difficult conversations forward.

"I think folks are looking for balanced leadership, not polarized politicians," he said. "Not shaming and blaming, no mud throwing, especially at the local politics level. Local government shouldn't be that way. We need to meet people exactly where they are, and that's why

See COUNCIL on Page 5

Table of contents

- Publisher's message.....p. 2
- Community resources.....p. 3
- Your elected officials.....p. 6
- City and county.....p. 8
- Familiar faces.....p. 10
- Transit.....p. 12
- Development.....p. 13
- Business directory.....p. 13
- Community news.....p. 14
- Audience participation.....p. 15
- Community meeting.....p. 16
- 31st Ward news.....p. 16
- Environment.....p. 17
- Community voices.....p. 18
- School updates.....p. 19

Page 3: Updated housing resources

The Homepage is published by Hazelwood Initiative, Inc., a community-based nonprofit, and is made possible through a grant from the City of Pittsburgh and advertising revenue from local businesses and organizations.

The mission of Hazelwood Initiative, as a community-based development corporation, is to build a stronger Hazelwood through inclusive community development.

Sonya Tilghman, Executive Director (she/her)
Juliet Martinez, Managing Editor (she/they)
Sarah Kanar, Designer and Ad Specialist (she/her)

The Homepage is delivered monthly for free to residents of Hazelwood, Glen Hazel, Greenfield, Hays, New Homestead, and Lincoln Place. All readers, and others who have an interest in these communities, are encouraged to use this newspaper as a platform to promote resources, events, services and initiatives to further connect and strengthen their neighborhoods.

Submissions

Email letters, essays, photos and story ideas to editor@hazelwoodinitiative.org. The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. on the second Friday of each month for the following month's issue. See page 4 for complete submission guidelines.

The Homepage reserves the right to decide what content is appropriate for publication and may edit submissions for length, grammar, punctuation or clarity.

The opinions expressed, whether by community contributors or sponsors, do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper or Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.

Contributors

Ziggy Edwards (Writing and proofreading)
Ray Gerard (Photography)
Heather Mull (Photography)



© Copyright 2022, all rights reserved.
Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.
4901 Second Avenue
2nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
(412) 421-7234

PUBLISHER'S PAGE



Juliet Martinez, Homepage managing editor.
Photo by Sarah Kanar

A word from the managing editor on election coverage

I have been writing the recent election coverage for The Homepage, and I want you to know exactly where your election news is coming from. First, I do not live in District 5, so I will not be voting for your new city councilperson. I do not have any financial connections to any candidate in this or any other race, or to any political party. I am a life-long registered independent, so I do not participate in or contribute to any political party or campaign.

I do not discuss whom I vote for with anyone, including close family members. Naturally, I have deeply held beliefs that affect my voting decisions. If you are curious about those beliefs, I'm happy to talk with you about them.

When I vote, I want to know as much as I can so I can support whom-ever most closely reflects my convictions and priorities. My goal is to offer you, my readers, information that allows you to do the same: vote for the candidate whose platform reflects what is important to you. I appreciate the opportunity to serve you in this way and I hope you will let me know how I'm doing. My email is jmartinez@hazelwoodinitiative.org.

Welcome new interns!

Shelby (she/her), Outreach and Community Engagement

From: New York state

Why is this job important to you and how does your educational, professional, or personal background help you to do your job well?

My current education as a social work student at the University of Pittsburgh will help me to get to know the residents and organizations in Hazelwood and learn how we can work together to benefit everyone.

What do you love about this neighborhood? I love that the people of Hazelwood have such a strong sense of community, as it reminds me of my hometown, and that everyone I have met so far has been friendly and welcoming.



Photo courtesy of Shelby Woodard

Oscar (he/him), Outreach and Community Engagement

We have respected Oscar's request not to include his photo.

From: Pennsylvania

Why is this job important to you and how does your educational, professional, or personal background help you to do your job well? My role at Hazelwood Initiative is important to me because of the tangible impact our work has on the community. My professional background in micro-level social work helps me engage well with members of the community.

What do you love about this neighborhood? Hazelwood has a strong sense of community and is very welcoming.

Correction: The third installment in a series of essays on self-directed education by Maggie Bogdanich and Jason White-Weidow in the October Homepage was incorrectly labeled as part 2.

Become a Hazelwood Initiative member!

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/HazelwoodInitiativeMembership> or complete and return the following form.

Membership is free!

Title (circle one) Mr. Miss Mrs. Ms. Mx. Dr.

Name (first and last) _____

Address _____

Email _____ @ _____

Phone _____ Mobile _____ Landline (circle one) _____

Age _____ Renter _____ Homeowner (circle one) _____

Race _____

Racial makeup of household _____

Return to: Hazelwood Initiative, 4901 Second Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15207

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

HOUSING AND UTILITIES

AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING

If you are looking for a rental unit and have a Section-8 voucher, fill out the renter interest form at <https://www.hazelwoodinitiative.org/harpp>.

AFFORDABLE HOMEOWNERSHIP

If you are a low- or moderate-income family looking to buy a newly renovated or newly constructed home with a monthly mortgage payment of \$500-\$800, fill out the interest form at <https://www.hazelwoodinitiative.org/ahop>.

URA HOUSING SERVICES

Help in a housing crisis: Up to \$3,000 for renters, up to \$6,000 for homeowners
Down payment assistance: \$5,000-7,500 0% loans

Accessibility home improvements: Up to \$10,000 for homeowners, up to \$5,000 per unit for landlords

Deferred second mortgage: 0% mortgage that you pay back when you sell your house

Fix up your façade: Up to \$8,000 in matching grant funds for façade improvement.

Free housing legal help:

Tenant Services: Mediation, limited legal consultation, full legal representation

Homeowner Services: Tangled title, foreclosure prevention

English: (412) 225-6600, option 1
 Other languages: (412) 530-5244

HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS

The Pennsylvania Homeowner's Assistance Fund helps keep homeowners from falling behind or losing their home through foreclosure.

Learn more and apply for aid at <https://pahaf.org/>, or call (888) 987-2423.

CATAPULT

Emergency resources and support

Peer counseling

Financial education

Asset building

Homebuying assistance

Homeownership support

Visit catapultpittsburgh.org/programs, call (412) 623-9596 or email info@catapultpittsburgh.org.

WAVE HOUSING PROGRAMS

Mortgage tax relief

Pre-homeownership counseling

Eviction prevention

Foreclosure prevention

Credit and debt counseling

Call (412) 573-9217.

NEIGHBORWORKS W. PA

Down-payment assistance: Standard fixed-rate second mortgage to eligible first-time homeowners.

Visit www.neighborworkswpa.org/homebuyerhelp, call (412) 281-9773 or email lending@neighborworkspa.org.

PWSA BILL ASSISTANCE

Apply at <https://www.pgh2o.com/>. Call (412) 255-2457 or email cares@pgh2o.com.

HEATING BILL ASSISTANCE

The low-income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) pays your utility company from \$500 to \$1,500 to keep your heat on in the winter. This money does NOT need to be repaid. Low-income renters or homeowners do not need to be on public assistance or have unpaid heating bills to qualify.

Create an account and apply at <http://www.compass.state.pa.us/>.

Apply at www.compass.state.pa.us.

Learn more at <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHEAP.aspx>

AFFORDABLE INTERNET

This U.S. government program helps low-income households pay for broadband service and internet-connected devices.

Apply at <https://ACPBenefit.org>

Call (877) 384-2575 M-F 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Email ACPSupport@usac.org.

WATER AND SEWER OUTAGES

Find out where current and planned water and sewer outages will happen.

<https://www.pgh2o.com/projects-maintenance/service-outages>

PWSA can notify renters about service outages in your area. Call customer service at (412) 255-2423 (press 5) to update your contact information to receive notifications. Or fill out the web form at: <https://tinyurl.com/update-contact-info-pwsa>

MEDIATION FOR RENTERS AND LANDLORDS

If a dispute with your landlord is putting your housing at risk, you need help with a housing conflict or communication with your landlord or tenant has broken down, contact Just Mediation for free mediation services that work with your schedule.

Email: info@justmediationpgh.org

Call: (412) 228-0730

Web: www.justmediationpgh.org

WEATHER-PROOF YOUR HOME

Action Housing and Duquesne Light have partnered to help low- and

fixed-income households weatherize their homes. This program runs all year. Call Action Housing at (412) 281-2102 (ext. 2101). Note: Renters must get their landlord's permission before making changes in their home.

ALLEGHENY LINK

Contact Allegheny Link for person-centered resource navigation to promote independence, dignity and quality of life, as well as fair, equal and streamlined access to homeless services.

Allegheny Link has resources for those who are disabled, elderly, unhoused, at risk of homelessness, pregnant or with a child under age 6.

Call 866-730-2368 between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., deaf and hard-of-hearing email alleghenylink@alleghenycounty.us or visit One Smithfield St., 15222 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays.

FOOD AND CLOTHING

FISHES AND LOAVES

COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES

131 E. Elizabeth St., 15207

Meals on Wheels: Monday-Friday home meal delivery, free to anyone who needs food in Hazelwood, The Run, Greenfield and Glen Hazel

Congregate lunch: Eat-in or take-home lunch, Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Emergency food boxes: Pick up at Spartan Center from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday or home delivery within a 15-mile radius. Call to arrange weekend service.

Grocery-buying assistance

Phone: (412) 499-4313

HAZELWOOD YMCA FOOD PANTRY

134 E. Elizabeth St., 15207

Food box distribution on first Saturday of every month

Phone: (412) 421-2708

HOLY CROSS EVANGELICAL-LUTHERAN CHAPEL OF HAZELWOOD

5319 Second Ave., 15207

Food and clothing distribution:

Every other Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Community dinners: First and third

Sundays, 4-6 p.m.

(412) 521-0844

LINCOLN PLACE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1202 Muldowney Ave., 15207
 Food pantry on the third Saturday of each month from 8:30-9:30 a.m.
 Sunday worship at 10 a.m.
 (412) 461-3377

ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL PARISH FOOD PANTRY

Food distribution in the Saint Rosalia rectory building every Tuesday from 2-3 p.m. (412) 621-4951
 411 Greenfield Ave., 15207

HEALTH, MEDICAL AND COVID-19 RESOURCES

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS AND TESTING

Rite-Aid

4934 Second Ave. 15207

Phone: (412) 421-6948

Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Book an appointment online if possible at <https://www.riteaid.com/locations/pa/pittsburgh/4934-second-avenue.html>.

Hazelwood Family Health Center

4918 Second Ave., 15207

Phone: (641) 715-3900

Extension: 301402

Call for an appointment.

THE CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE

Rehabilitation and educational services for children with a range of needs. Behavioral therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy are available.

Autism services include applied behavior analysis and social skills groups. The approved and licensed private academic day school serves autistic children and children with multiple disabilities ages 5-21. Transition services for children ages 14-21 help prepare them for independent living.

1405 Shady Ave., 15217

For more information, call (412) 420-2400 or visit <https://amazingkids.org>.

MEDICAL DEVICES LENDING LIBRARY - BETH SHALOM

Walkers, wheelchairs and canes available for short- or long-term loan to residents of Greenfield, Hazelwood, Squirrel Hill and Homestead.

Local delivery available.

Contact Rabbi Mark Asher Goodman at mgoodman@bethshalompgh.org

or (412) 421-2288.

See www.bethshalompgh.org/medicaldevices/ for more information.

FAMILY AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

RESOLVE CRISIS SERVICES

(888) 796-8226

24-hour mental health crisis support

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

AUTISM URBAN CONNECTIONS

Parents and caregivers for children with autism and related disorders can meet in a safe space. Meetings are online every second Thursday of the month. Register at tinyurl.com/SupportGroupRegistration.

Join Circles of Care, a six-week program teaching parents and caregivers skills and techniques to improve your family's quality of life. Complete the course to be certified as a volunteer family engagement peer support.

Contact info@aucopfgh.org for more information.

GREATER HAZELWOOD FAMILY CENTER

Home visits, assessments, services, family goal-setting and support for parents and families.

Contact Danielle Gill:

dgill@cotraic.org

5006 Second Ave., 15207

Phone: (412) 904-2005

<https://www.cotraic.org/greater-hazelwood-family-center>

CHURCHES

THE CHURCH AT MON RIVER

3929 Coleman St., 15207

connect@monriver.com

www.atmonriver.com

FIRST HUNGARIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF PITTSBURGH

221 Johnston Ave., 15207

(412) 421-0279

FOUNTAIN OF LIFE CHURCH

247 Johnston Ave., 15207

(412) 422-8794

www.fountainofflifepgh.com

HOLY ANGELS CHURCH

408 Baldwin Road, 15207

(412) 461-6906

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

HOLY CROSS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHAPEL

5319 Second Ave., 15207

(412) 521-0844

www.holycrosspgh.info

KEYSTONE CHURCH OF HAZELWOOD

161 Hazelwood Ave., 15207

(412) 521-3468

<https://www.centeroflife.net/>

LINCOLN PLACE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

5604 Interboro Ave., 15207

(412) 462-2524

nazlp@aol.com

LINCOLN PLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1202 Muldowney Ave., 15207

Sunday worship at 10 a.m.

412-461-3377

MARY S. BROWN-AMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Temporarily meeting at

515 West 8th Ave., Homestead, 15120

(412) 421-4431

www.brightredfence.org

MORNINGSTAR BAPTIST CHURCH

5524 Second Ave., 15207

(412) 421-6269

PRAISE TEMPLE DELIVERANCE CHURCH

Pastor Lutual M. Love, Sr.

5400 Glenwood Ave., 15207

(412) 277-0113

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

506 Saline St., 15207

Pastor@sjbcc.com

<https://sjbcc.com>

(412) 421-0243

SQUIRREL HILL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

290 Bigelow St., 15207

(412) 521-2447

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST BAPTIST

4537 Chatsworth Ave., 15207

(412) 626-3232

info@stjohnpgh.org

www.stjohnpgh.org

ST. ROSALIA CATHOLIC CHURCH

411 Greenfield Ave., 15207

(412) 421-5766

info@saintpaulcathedral.org

www.ghocatholics.org

ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

5115 Second Ave., 15207

(412) 621-4951

info@saintpaulcathedral.org

www.ghocatholics.org

STEEL CITY CHURCH

290 Bigelow St., 15207

(412) 342-8387

info@thesteelcitychurch.com

www.thesteelcitychurch.com

WARRIORS OF HOLINESS IN POWER (W.H.I.P. Ministries)

1174 Mifflin Road, 15207

(412) 461-5572

whipwarriors@gmail.com

www.whipministries.org

HOTLINES AND INFORMATION

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.

24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. 24/7 hotline: (888) 856-2774

Text alerts: www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts.

General info and help: Call 2-1-1 OR text your ZIP code to 898-211

HOME PAGE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Community members, nonprofit organizations, business owners and anyone who wishes to submit writing to The Homepage, please be aware that:

- The deadline for submissions is the second Friday of each month for publication the following month.
 - Letters to the editor (up to 300 words), opinion pieces and personal essays (300-600 words) are all welcome. For reported articles, pitches are due by the first Friday of the month.
 - Please send us your school updates and event announcements from nonprofit organizations and other neighborhood-based groups.
 - The Homepage reserves the right to decide what will appear in print.
 - Submissions may be edited for length, grammar, punctuation and clarity.
 - Submissions received after the deadline may be declined or held for a future issue at the discretion of the editor.
 - Please direct your questions, suggestions and story ideas to Juliet Martinez, managing editor. Email: jmartinez@hazelwoodinitiative.org
- Phone: (412) 421-7234 x406

ADVERTISE IN THE HOME PAGE

- The Homepage offers affordable advertising rates to promote small businesses and the health of our neighborhood economy.
- Contracts must be submitted by the first Friday of each month for publication the following month. Art must be submitted by the second Friday of the month.
- Ads received after the deadline may be declined or held for a future issue at the discretion of the editor.
- Contact Sarah Kanar (skanar@hazelwoodinitiative.org) for more information.

ARE YOU NOT RECEIVING YOUR HOME PAGE?

Let your mail carrier know you want to get your Homepage every single month without fail!

NEED AN EXTRA COPY?

If you need extra copies of The Homepage or yours was not delivered, pick them up at Hazelwood Initiative, 4901 2nd Ave., Second Floor, 15207. Or call us at 412-421-7234 x 406 or editor@hazelwoodinitiative.org. Please include your home address.



Council

- Continued from Front Page

I'm running the campaign like I am. This is not a state-level campaign, this is my neighbors next door and down the street."

He said his transportation up and down the hills of District 5 is an old



Matt Mahoney. Photo courtesy of Matt Mahoney

Italian racing bike his dad pulled out of the trash. It could be seen as a metaphor for the job of city councilperson.

"It's not a real glorious job," he said. "It's a tough, down and dirty job, if you ask me."

Mr. Mahoney emailed me his stances on some of the pressing issues of this campaign. His answers have been lightly trimmed.

Housing: As councilperson, I will ensure we listen before we develop, and we will leverage every single incentive program available and maximize the use of the Inflation Reduction Act and Pennsylvania's Whole Home Weatherization programs. Our neighbors deserve it.

Public transportation: District 5 is poised to define what it means to have safe, affordable, accessible, clean urban residential transportation. We need a collectively developed plan that recognizes the need for innovative transportation options supporting disadvantaged neighbors, seniors, families, working professionals, and everyone!

Commercial development: When narrow interests have the potential to overpower our disadvantaged, overburdened and under-resourced neighbors, we must work stronger, smarter and harder to ensure corporate social responsibility and build stronger connections. We need to explore in good faith and implore our large and small neighbors to work better together.

Traffic calming: All our neighborhoods deserve equitable access to resources, especially measures that secure community safety. I be-

lieve if we work harder and smarter together, we will find solutions that protect everyone, including our bicycle riders, walkers, runners, dog walkers, family strollers, bus riders, drivers and everyone else that shares public roads.

Robert McCune: "If you build it, they will come."

Robert McCune wants to reinvigorate Hazelwood. He told me he remembers when Second Avenue was vibrant and thriving.

"When I came back, I said this is nothing like the Hazelwood that I once knew," he said when we spoke in October.

Mr. McCune moved to Hazelwood from East Liberty two years ago. He started putting on cookouts for his neighbors at Hazelwood Towers and then at the Burgwin Spray Park, supplying all the food and doing all the cooking.

He said these neighbors encouraged him to run for office.

"This community needs it, it needs uplifting," he said.

Mr. McCune had a 10-year military career that ended in 1995. After retiring from the Army, he took community college classes, but left school to become a cook and support his family. Now retired, he works part time at the Rite Aid in Squirrel Hill.

"There is a cloud of disparity over the community," he said. "I said, 'I'm going to do my part to get the community together.'"

His campaign strategy consists mainly of talking with small groups of neighbors and putting up flyers on bus shelters and telephone poles.

Mr. McCune blames partisan di-



Robert McCune at Hazelwood Cafe. Photo by Juliet Martinez

visions for what he sees as government's inability to solve serious problems, saying people accept that this is normal but it should not be.

"They're feuding back and forth, and in reality 'we the people' are the victims. We're being victimized. There comes a time when the people have to step in and say 'no more.' Democrats are fighting with Repub-

licans and nothing gets solved."

He said people should vote for him because of his perspective as a person who has experienced poverty.

"I'm a regular person," he said. "My family's poor. I know just what the people want and what they need. And what they need is community people to step up and get involved."

These are his stances on what he sees as important issues in this race:

Economic revitalization: Second Avenue needs a grocery store and more restaurants; the neighborhood needs more affordable housing, he said, adding his motto, "I believe that if you build it, they will come. Affordable housing, that's a start toward rebuilding a community."

Law enforcement: Mr. McCune wants to improve relations between law enforcement, first responders and the community, by showing the community's appreciation for what they do. "You give them respect they give you respect," he said. "You have to build a relationship with them."

Gainey

- Continued from Front Page

"slow curve" arrows to warn motorists about sharp curves and transverse painted strips on a stretch near Browns Hill Road. He said painted bump-outs, which create a highly visible no-parking zone near crosswalks, both visually narrow the roadway and make crosswalks safer.

Mr. Maloch said the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure will install new 25-mile-an-hour speed limit signs this year. Residents have asked for the speed limit to be lowered to 15 miles per hour, but Mr. Maloch said state law does not allow that, except in school zones.

He said speed humps for Johnston Avenue still need to be designed and engineered, but he will return in 2023 for community input.

"This is a project that is on the top of my list," he said. "When the weather breaks in 2023, it will be implemented quickly."

The Propel Safe Routes to School project for Mansion and Glenwood streets should be funded in the 2023-2024 budget, he said.

James Cole, who runs the Hazelwood Cobras football program at Burgwin Field and the afterschool program at Burgwin Park, noted that Homewood is set to get speed humps this year. DOMI officials at the meeting confirmed it.

Transportation and infrastructure: Broken crosswalk buttons and the hazards of crossing Second Avenue, especially for older pedestrians, are a top concern for Mr. McCune. "How can these seniors go to and fro?" he asked. "The seniors are being neglected."

Traffic calming: Mr. McCune said cars speed on Tecumseh, where he lives. He said the painted rumble strips are not enough to make motorists slow down, so speed humps are needed.

MATT MAHONEY FOR CITY COUNCIL



TAKE A CELL PHONE PICTURE OF THIS QR CODE FOR A DISTRICT 5 COMMUNITY SURVEY

INDEPENDENT FOR EVERYONE

EMAIL: MAHONEYFORCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT PAID FOR BY MATT MAHONEY FOR CITY COUNCIL

"If you can install speed bumps in Homewood in the next couple of weeks, I think you can push forward and get these speed bumps sooner than next year," he said, standing surrounded by 20 young players in their football uniforms. When he asked how many of them had close calls with speeding cars on Mansion and Johnston streets, most raised their hands.

Mr. Cole said a lot of children travel along Johnston Avenue between Propel School on Mansion Street and the Glen Hazel recreation center where the meeting happened.

"Our kids are just as important as kids in Homewood," he said.

On October 20, the Gainey administration released a statement committing to make Glen Hazel safer.

"The commitments include removing barriers to employment for crossing guards, investments in traffic calming infrastructure, and ensuring proper lighting outside of the Glen Hazel recreation center," the statement read.

"Creating safe neighborhoods across our city is a top priority for my administration," Mayor Gainey said. "I am pleased to announce these improvements and look forward to continuing to work with residents of Glen Hazel to ensure that we address their concerns."

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Proud to put people first in Pittsburgh and beyond



Rep. Abney and Louise Gray at the grand opening of Hazelwood Café. Photo courtesy of Rep. Abney.

By State Rep. Aerion A. Abney, representing Pennsylvania's 19th district

Hello, Hazelwood residents! I'm eager to share with you some of the important work I've been doing in Harrisburg and here at home.

Small business support

I recently introduced H.B. 2839, which is a modernized version of the Small Business Incubators Act. Local businesses are integral to fostering a strong economy. Getting such a venture up and running, however, can be extremely challenging from a cost perspective alone. The bill I've introduced would provide up to \$20 million in grants and loans for small businesses in Pennsylvania. Every single person deserves to live the American dream, and it's my sincere hope that these funds will go a long way to helping many do just that.

Schools and home repair funding

My colleagues and I helped to pass a historic budget this past summer and I want to share two of its important benefits.

I voted to increase education funding by \$79 million, and Pittsburgh Public Schools benefitted two-fold. The district received \$300,000 in PA Pre-K Counts grants and \$2.56 million in grants from the Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program.

The 2022-23 budget also created the Whole-Home Repairs Program. The \$125 million allocated to the program provides grant funds to residents who need assistance with home maintenance, whether it is structural, energy-related, or to accommodate a disability.

Biosciences at Hazelwood Green

I spoke at Hazelwood Green on the site of what will become the Pitt BioForge Biomanufacturing Center. The facility is a joint venture between ElevateBio and the University of Pittsburgh and will be built where a steel mill used to stand. Where hazardous materials once polluted our atmosphere, the center will focus on developing cell and gene therapies to enhance the quality of life for Pittsburgh residents and beyond. This night-and-day transformation will bring many job opportunities to the area; it is a project I'm extremely proud to support.

Hazelwood Café

I also want to give a shout-out and congratulate Dasawn Gray and his staff on the grand opening of Hazelwood Café. Please support small, black-owned businesses like the café. Especially when the coffee is so delicious!

Don't forget to make your voice heard on November 8th and have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

Student debt relief, Pathways to Pardons and election day



Rep. Lee talking about how to apply for clemency at a Pathways to Pardons event. Photo courtesy of Rep. Lee

By State Rep. Summer Lee, representing Pennsylvania's 34th district

Student debt relief

On September 30, 2022, Governor Tom Wolf officially announced that more than 1.7 million Pennsylvanians can apply for President Biden's student debt relief plan. With certain income limits, the Biden Administration strategizes to cancel up to \$20,000 for eligible bor-

rowers who received the Pell Grant and up to \$10,000 for those who did not. Providing this type of aid not only provides relief for students but their families as well. For the time being, student loan payments will be paused through December 31, 2022. More information on this one-time program can be found at: <https://studentaid.gov/debt-relief-announcement/one-time-cancellation>.

Pathways to Pardons

In October, my office and I hosted a successful Pathways to Pardons event. Our previously and currently convicted or incarcerated neighbors are facing barriers like finding affordable housing, suitable work with a livable wage and voting. Our resource fair included the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons, the Allegheny County Department of Court Records, and the Allegheny County Bar Association Pro Bono Center to give people a second chance. Thankfully, these resources provided information on how to streamline the pardon process and give our friends the ability to request clemency from the commonwealth. For information on the pardons process, visit <https://www.bop.pa.gov>.

Election day

The General Election is around the corner and this year it is vital! Key issues like voting and women's reproductive rights are at risk. Be sure to make a plan for how you will vote. Tuesday, November 8th is the day to make your voice heard. Mail-in and absentee ballots must be received by 8 p.m. that evening. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you have questions about ballots and polling places, call the Allegheny County Elections Division at 412-350-4500 or visit <https://www.vote.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Where and when can I vote?

Find your polling location:

Visit <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/pages/pollingplaceinfo.aspx>. Polling Locations are open from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm on Election Day. If you are in line to vote at 8:00 pm, you are entitled to vote. You may not be turned away!

Will I need to show ID?

If it is your first time voting at a particular location, you must show ID.

Approved forms of ID

The ID must include the name and address of the voter, and be valid and not expired (if a photo ID).

- PA driver's license or ID card issued by PennDOT
- ID issued by any other Commonwealth agency or the US government, including a passport or military ID
- Voter's identification card issued by the voter registration commission
- Student or employee ID
- Firearm permit
- Current utility bill
- Current bank statement
- Current paycheck
- Government check

Where can I call if I have problems voting?

All Pennsylvanians may call the State Voter Hotline at 1-877-868-3772 with questions or if they encounter problems on election day.

The Lawyers Committee on Civil Rights provides a Voter Protection Hotline at 1-866-687-8683 (1-866-OUR-VOTE) or 866ourvote.org

Accessibility

All polling locations are required to be accessible.

This may mean there is a ramp or a separate entrance, and there should be accessible parking spaces near the door. All locations must also have at least one accessible voting system. You may also have a person assist at your polling location.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

A legislative update from State Rep. Nick Pisciotano

By State Rep. Nick Pisciotano, representing the 38th Legislative District



Hello friends and neighbors,

My dedicated staff and I are always excited to assist members of our community with any state-related matter.

Please don't hesitate to call 412-466-1940 or email RepPisciottano@pahouse.net, or visit our Dravosburg office at 751 Pittsburgh-McKeesport Blvd.

Honoring the legacy of Scott Hirsh

Recently, I was pleased to see a legislative effort years in the making finally come to fruition: the renaming of the now Scott F. Hirsh Memorial Interchange. I had the honor of attending and speaking at the dedication ceremony a few weeks ago.

Scott was a registered nurse from Whitehall who was fatally struck by a distracted driver while changing a tire on the side of I-279 in Ohio Township in 2017. Sadly, due to a lack of applicable laws at the time, the driver was never prosecuted.

Scott's family has spent years advocating for improved traffic laws. Their efforts supported passage of Pennsylvania's Move Over law that went into effect in April 2021, requiring drivers approaching an emergency response to move over and slow down.

I was proud to co-sponsor a bill to rename the interchange near where

Scott was killed. It was signed into law earlier this year. Now, Scott's legacy will continue to save lives across the commonwealth every day, just as he did in life as a registered nurse.

Making the unemployment compensation system more efficient

The COVID-19 pandemic created an unemployment crisis that revealed major flaws in our state unemployment compensation system. Many people did not receive assistance they needed because of delays in the system.

I'm pleased to report that the Mon Valley Unemployed Committee will receive \$396,080 through a state grant to help workers navigate the system and receive prompt assistance. This funding will expand outreach to those most in need of assistance, especially people in low-income communities. Contact the MVUC or my office for help navigating the UC system.

Helping working families

My office can also offer information on utility assistance and reduced prescription costs for seniors, help applying to the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, and much more.

The tax and rent rebate program gives a cash rebate for these housing costs. Eligible Pennsylvanians include seniors 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. Income requirements also apply.

Last year, my office helped households receive more than \$490,000 through PTRR. Contact my office today to see if you're eligible.

A legislative update from State Sen. Jay Costa

By State Sen. Jay Costa, representing Pennsylvania's 43rd district



Photo courtesy of Sen. Costa

You may remember that the collapse of the Fern Hollow Bridge in my district left many people injured and sounded a wake-up call.

The closest urban search and rescue team was in Philadelphia. Victims had to wait nearly six hours for help to arrive.

When disasters happen, help should be close by. I am so proud that lawmakers cooperated in a bipartisan way to bring funding for an urban search and rescue team to western Pennsylvania.

Surrounded by emergency responders and city and county officials, my colleagues and I on October 11 provided an update on bipartisan efforts to enhance urban search and rescue capabilities in western Pennsylvania. By reaching

across the aisle, we were able to secure \$5 million for an urban search and rescue team that will cover western Pennsylvania and give the same high-quality response as the Philadelphia-based team. Fellow Democratic Senator Lindsey Williams and I participated in a demonstration of lifesaving strategies, technologies, and drills that prepare officers to respond quickly and aggressively to save lives.

State funding will help the team buy vehicles to transport the equipment cache and personnel needed to coordinate urban search and rescue. The funds will help the team close equipment gaps in support of credentialing and typing efforts with state and federal credentialing authorities, and better serve the western commonwealth.

We never know when the next disaster will happen, but we can prepare now to ensure those affected will get the help they need. That starts with giving our first responders the tools, tactics and training they need to respond to disasters quickly whenever they happen.



DYLAMATO'S MARKET

your neighborhood grocery



5414 SECOND AVE IN GLENWOOD

FREE CURBSIDE PARKING

HOURS: TUESDAY - SATURDAY, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

- LOCAL MEAT AND EGGS
- MADE TO ORDER DELI SANDWICHES
- FRESH PRODUCE
- MEE MEE'S FRESH PASTRIES
- TURNER DAIRY
- FRESH SALADS/CUT FRUIT
- LOCAL HONEY
- DELI MEATS & CHEESES
- ORGANIC GRAINS
- VEGETARIAN EATS

PHONE: 412-521-1351

AUTUMN IN HAZELWOOD

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FOLLOWING FREE EVENTS!

HOLIDAY PORTRAIT FAIR | NOVEMBER 10
PROPEL SCHOOL

SIPS & CRAFTS | NOVEMBER 18
THE ROUNDHOUSE @ HAZELWOOD GREEN

SPIRITS & SNOW | DECEMBER 10
THE WOODS HOUSE

FOR ALL EVENT DETAILS, CHECK:
WWW.HAZELWOODLOCAL.EVENTBRITE.COM

CITY AND COUNTY Walters

- *Continued from Front Page*
of 21,275 children, the schools shut down for the last three months of the school year. By last year, as schools opened and closed depending on the number of students who tested positive, the enrollment dropped to 19,159. This year's enrollment is not yet available, but the schools are no longer opening and closing, as all the children and staff have access to the vaccine.



Pittsburgh Public Schools superintendent Wayne Walters. Photo courtesy of East End Print

He said the keys to convincing families to enroll their students in the schools are the students who are already there.

"I think our children are the best marketers of what quality education is for them and when they share their stories with their friends and share it with their families they think about the Pittsburgh Public Schools in a different light," he said.

Looking at the schools now two years after the initial COVID-19 lockdown, Mr. Walters said there have been lessons learned: The schools must embrace the needs of both children and staff as they come through this.

He is well aware of the racial achievement gap but said the response to students not reading well is not to make learning a chore.

"Students should not have the experience that because a school is perceived as having low test scores, that our initial response is to triple dose learning and math and get rid of all... other experiences because then learning seems like it is consequential and not joyful," he said.

When Mr. Walters talks about education, he often focuses on the word "joy."

"Why can't English be fun? Why can't math be fun?" he asks. "For me, if I come with the same passion, to me I create the infection as an educator. And so, if I create that infection and that infection is joy... Think if they added the arts to math, how much joy that would bring."

But as superintendent, he is not just an educator, he is also an administrator of educators, which he said means broadening his educational philosophy to a much larger scale. To that end, he talks about the three Es: equity, education and efficiency.

"Equity because we need to be rooted in what students need and not making sure that everyone has the same thing," he explained. "Excellent because we need a district of excellence, not only for our students but for our city. If we want to attract people back, we have to be received as a district of excellence."

"And of course efficiency is the reality that if your revenues do not exceed your expenditures, it's problematic."

That last piece, efficiency, means district spending is going to have to come into line with district revenues.

One area he wants to explore is to end the diversion of a portion of the wage tax that is collected for the school district but has been paid to the city since 2005 to help steady the city government, financially, when it entered Act 47.

Now the schools are in trouble and Mr. Walters has joined the call started in February 2021 by then-school board chair Sylvia Wilson for the money collected for the schools to stay in the schools.

Pittsburgh residents are currently assessed a 3% wage tax, with 2% for the schools and 1% for city government. But when the city was in financial distress, the state legislature allowed a diversion of 0.25% of that tax, or \$20 million, to the city from the schools. That diversion is still in place so the city receives 1.25% and the schools receive 1.75%. Now the schools are struggling, and Mr. Walters said he is talking to Mayor Ed Gainey, whose children attend public schools, to give the money back. Gainey, so far, has not done so.

As to possibly closing schools because enrollment has dropped, Mr. Walters said the conversation cannot start with what schools are closing.

"First and foremost, I think what helps people with understanding a decision is understanding the 'why' behind the decision. A lot of times in our institutions, we will admit that we have given a lot of the 'what' without the 'why.' And certainly not the 'how,'" he said.

He said he wants to bring people to the table to talk about what needs to be done, but that also means the schools have to be open to what is said at that table.

"If we are saying we are open to other ideas and ways to think about

this, then that's what we need to do: and bring those folks to the table to think about what are the opportunities while understanding the financial challenges, buildings not to capacity, equity issues, racial achievement disparities, and all of the student experience."

And, Mr. Walters said, as residents, parents, teachers, and students get to understand the challenges, they also need to talk about how to change the spaces where children are taught, bringing in technology and even air conditioning because with climate change, both the beginning and the end of the school year are becoming unbearable for children and staff.

"I really think that what allows people to come on board with you is that 'why' to inform the 'what.'"

Democrat Erin McClelland declares run for county exec

By Juliet Martinez

Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald has more than a year until his final term ends on December 31, 2023. But the race to replace him has begun with the entrance of Democrat Erin McClelland.

I caught up with Ms. McClelland in September and spoke with her about the focus of her campaign.

"It's not the sexiest campaign, but I am running on operational integrity," she said, explaining that since 2015 she has been working for the Department of Human Services tackling some of the county's biggest workforce problems. Her background is in substance abuse counseling, but she has also run against Republican Steve Rothfus twice without success.

"Civil service issues, turnover problems, lack of transparency, a lot of that really hardcore systemic stuff that starts to deteriorate a workplace," she said, pointing to the closure of Shuman Juvenile Detention Center last year, the deaths of county jail inmates and staffing shortages at the Department of Children and Families as signs that things are not going well.

"These are absolutely essential services that lift up our most vulnerable populations at some of the weakest moments in their lives," she said. "It is essential that the systems we have in place support the workforce so the workforce can support our communities."

She said she will approach supporting the workforce through an evidence-based practice for dealing with what she characterized as a "very abused workforce" where departments only communicate in-

One of the biggest strengths of the Pittsburgh Public Schools is Pittsburgh itself.

"I think one of the great things about Pittsburgh that I've received is that everybody wants to help," he said, adding that he knows the community will stand for improving the school district.

"We have a community that has embraced Pittsburgh Public Schools and wants it to get better."

Ann Belser is the publisher of East End Print, a community newspaper serving Pittsburgh's East End. This article is reprinted in partnership with the Pittsburgh Community Newspaper Network. It has been edited lightly for length and clarity.

ternally, and transparency is nonexistent.

"You go in and you tell every worker, 'If you are in an unsafe environment, if you are asked to do something illegal or something immoral, if you are being bullied, you are to address it with your supervisor immediately. If they don't fix it, you are to call me directly,'" she said. The result is open floodgates of information from people who have wanted to call out the problems they see and can now do so without fear of retaliation.



Erin McClelland. Photo courtesy of Erin McClelland

Ms. McClelland said her background in counseling and her years working in process improvement reducing medical error and waste have prepared her to grapple with these challenges.

She has faith that the problems of county workers can be solved if they can first come out into the open, and she is not afraid of the public seeing that things are not perfect.

"I don't care what it is, let's disclose it," she said. "I believe that the people are absolutely fine understanding things go wrong, just be honest with them and fix it."

CITY AND COUNTY

Advocates call out CMU, Pitt for developing law-enforcement tech perpetuating racial bias



Protesters march down Forbes Avenue at Craig Street. Photo by Ray Gerard

By Junction Coalition

On September 26, Against Carceral Tech held a “Tour of Harm” that wound through the campuses of Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh. About 60 people carried signs and chanted, stopping at sites with ties to research that aids development of tech used for policing and military applications.

Speakers at the march called on the City of Pittsburgh and CMU to ban the use of facial recognition, which is software that identifies people based on images of their faces. Law enforcement may use facial recognition to find missing people or solve crimes. But a 2020 Harvard University report showed that facial recognition is not reliable for identifying people with dark complexions.

“We are supposedly a welcoming city, but this technology is not welcoming,” said Laura Perkins of Casa San Jose, an organization that works with immigrant communities. “Facial recognition has much higher levels of inaccuracy with people with darker skin. That is a fact. In Pennsylvania, many immigrants don’t have access to driver’s licenses. When they are targeted by the software, they won’t be able to even prove their identity.”

This technology has the potential to harm Black and Brown communities near Hazelwood Green, where both CMU and Pitt have a growing presence.

Facial recognition is a “perpetual lineup”

In July, CMU drafted a policy that would have allowed the university to use facial recognition during

criminal investigations. Civil liberties advocates and researchers have warned that this technology threatens privacy and contributes to mass incarceration.

The danger does not affect communities equally. According to “Reimagining Public Safety in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County,” a report released by Alliance for Police Accountability, “67% of people currently incarcerated in the Allegheny County Jail are Black despite Black people only making up 13% of the county’s population.”

CMU quickly shelved its facial recognition policy after community pushback.

In 2020, Pittsburgh City Council passed legislation that requires



Brandi Fisher addresses marchers at the “Walking to the Sky” sculpture on CMU’s campus. Photo by Ray Gerard

city council approval of such technologies before the city acquires or uses them, except in “an emergency situation.” The legislation does not cover JNET, a system with facial recognition capabilities that any Pennsylvania law enforcement agency can use.

Surveillance begins at home

Another form of surveillance technology, predictive policing, has a hyper-local connection. In 2015,

CMU’s Metro21 initiative received a \$600,000 grant from The Richard King Mellon Foundation, one of Hazelwood Green’s owners. According to the foundation’s annual report that year, the grant funded two Metro21 projects, one of which covered two years of support for a predictive policing model based on CrimeScan. A pilot program using data to identify people at risk of committing or being victimized by crime was ultimately scrapped in Chicago.

Rather than targeting individuals, Pittsburgh’s system uses algorithms to target locations based on large amounts of data that predict high-crime areas. CrimeScan relies on a “broken windows” approach, which holds that small crimes like disorderly conduct or damaging property

We are supposedly a welcoming city, but this technology is not welcoming. Facial recognition has much higher levels of inaccuracy with people with darker skin. That is a fact.

Laura Perkins, Casa San Jose

encourage more serious crimes.

Proponents of the technology, including the city’s former police chief Cameron McLay, say it improves quality of life and removes human biases from the equation. But critics argue it can actually reinforce the biases of its creators. And they point to a lack of accountability for harmful decisions that can be blamed on a computer.

CMU researchers developed Pittsburgh’s CrimeScan program in partnership with Police Chief McLay. In August 2016, they quietly began a pilot in Homewood, then expanded it citywide in May 2017.

If that process does not sound transparent to the public, it wasn’t meant to be. A Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Pittsburgh and CMU (the first such agreement between a city and a university) allowed them to bypass city procurement processes for joint projects. In a 2018 interview, then-Mayor Bill Peduto boasted, “I don’t have to put out an RFP. I can just pick up the phone, call the university, and say, ‘I need your team to develop this for me.’”

University students silenced by bureaucracy and poverty

Even CMU students find themselves unable to object to the devel-

VOTE
ROBERT MCCUNE



There's no Democrat of America,
There's no Republican of America,
There's just one America,
That's the United States of America!

**United we stand
divided we fall
one vote for me is one
vote for all!**

Vote
Robert McCune

Paid political advertisement
paid for by Robert McCune

opment of surveillance or military tech. Franky Spektor, a CMU graduate student, told the crowd, “CMU is so deeply entrenched in bureaucracy we barely have a voice as it is, so we need to speak up and be loud, and make sure they hear us, before the city and CMU use this technology even more and take away our voices and our rights.”

Ms. Spektor said she knows of students who, while working many hours in their fields, also sell their plasma just to cover their basic needs. Their financial dependence makes it especially hard to challenge questionable university projects or policies and risk losing funding.

Bonnie Fan, a CMU graduate and Against Carceral Tech organizer, emphasized the importance of solidarity to protect both students and broader communities.

“I learned that [CMU] does not care about me or you or any of its workers or students and learned that instead it was my fellow students and community members organizing outside of campus to show up for me and show up for all of us,” Ms. Fan said.

Read more at www.junctioncoalition.org.

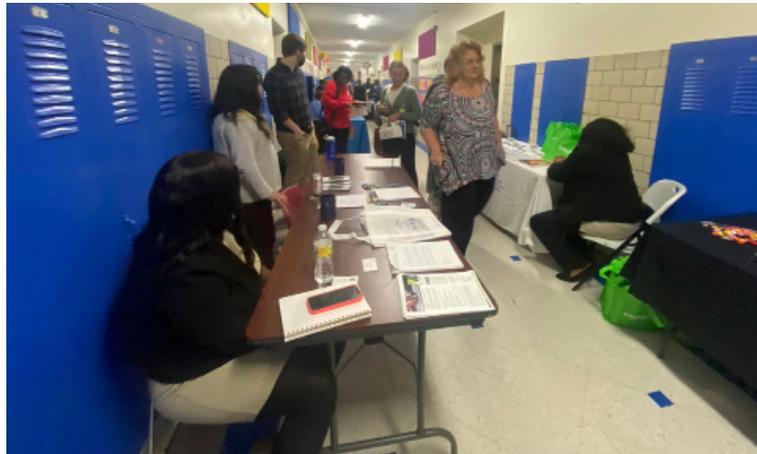
FAMILIAR FACES



The Hazelwood Café, at the corner of Second and Tipton avenues, opened on October 8, drawing patrons from around the neighborhood and city. Dasawn Gray and his staff welcomed everyone with delicious hot and cold drinks and pastries. Photos by Heather Mull



FAMILIAR FACES



The Hazelwood Housing Summit on September 28 attracted housing advocates from around the region. Above left: Chrystyn Ballard, a housing counseling agent with WAVE (Women's Agency for Vision and Empowerment). Above center: Resource tables in the hallway of Propel Hazelwood School. At right: De'Shawna McHenry, community engagement specialist and Jonathan Newell, relationship manager with NeighborWorks.

See page 3 for updated resources for renters and homeowners, and page 13 for full story.



Left: Kevette Groomes (left), homeownership counselor and Bretteny Duck (right), director of homeownership with Catapult Pittsburgh.

Right: Sarah Hall (left) and Ruth Walker (right), members of the PGH2O Cares team, offering customer assistance and resource connections.

Below left: Jordan Ogbanna, real estate project manager, and Crystal Jennings-Rivera, stewardship and engagement manager, with City of Bridges Community Land Trust.

Photos on this page by Juliet Martinez



Left: Alicia Majors (left) and Jahd Burns, representing the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh.

Below: Ruby Velasco (right), program manager with Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group.



TRANSIT

Greenfield parking space becomes gathering place for Park(ing) Day



On September 16, Greenfield Livable Streets took over a parking space at 791 Hazelwood Avenue as part of Park(ing) Day, which reimagines how to use space allocated for parking. Photo by Ray Gerard

By Ziggy Edwards

How would you use a curbside parking space in your neighborhood if it wasn't needed for a vehicle? The Park(ing) Day movement encourages communities around the world to imagine the possibilities.

As part of the annual event on September 16, Greenfield Livable Streets, a bike, pedestrian, and tran-

I'm here, I'm doing it, but we all need to work together to show city council and DOMI how serious the problem is.

Catherine Adams

sit access advocacy organization, took over one parking space at 791 Hazelwood Avenue in front of My Deli Your Market. Volunteers put out chairs, set up tents with colorful decorations, and offered activities like Jenga. A whiteboard invited visitors to suggest street-level improvements in the neighborhood.

The annual event encourages communities to reimagine the use of curbside parking spaces. This year marked Greenfield's first Park(ing) Day installation. The community group hoped to draw attention to the need for traffic calming on Hazelwood Avenue.

Catherine Adams, a Greenfield Livable Streets member who lives on Hazelwood Avenue, has seen traffic accidents on her street. Pittsburgh's Department of Mobility and Infrastructure, known as DOMI, has said traffic calming on Hazelwood Avenue is not a priority.

"Some folks have been living here under these conditions for decades," said Ms. Adams said. "I hope an

event like Park(ing) Day inspires people to organize. I'm here, I'm doing it, but we all need to work together to show city council and DOMI how serious the problem is."

While Ms. Adams and I talked, a turning vehicle clipped a minivan parked next to the installation. The busy street had slower-moving traffic than usual because it was being used as a detour around construction on Route 837 in Homestead. Some motorists watched the festive Park(ing) Day scene as they inched along.

Mackenzie Rasul, who runs My Deli Your Market with her husband Mo, parked a chest freezer outside and sold water ice for the occasion. The frozen, sugary treat, apparently a staple of eastern Pennsylvania/Delaware summers, is creamier than a snow cone and lighter than sorbet.

Several neighbors stopped by, including Teri Myers and her young grandson. Ms. Myers said her daughter had told her about the event, and that she wanted to check it out because of the activities for children. She said she liked the idea of making streets and intersections "more friendly for Greenfielders."

Ms. Adams pointed out that there are many ways communities like Greenfield can advocate for their safety needs. "It doesn't have to be all meetings and emails. It can also be through fun and creative events, like this," she said.

In addition to the Greenfield event, three Lawrenceville organizations hosted a Park(ing) Day event at Butler and Main streets: Better Streets Lawrenceville, Lawrenceville United, and Lawrenceville Corporation. And in Oakland, the Center for Creativity and other University of Pittsburgh partners held a Pitt Park(ing) Day event on campus.

County: Discounted transit fare pilot program will serve riders who receive food assistance

By Juliet Martinez

Pittsburghers who receive food assistance will soon be able to ride the bus for less. Transit advocates praise the pilot as a step toward needed fare relief for the lowest-income riders.

In late September, Allegheny County announced the creation of a 12-month pilot program that will allow some residents who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also called SNAP benefits, to ride mass transit for discounted fares.

During the pilot program, the county will measure the effectiveness of lower-cost Pittsburgh Regional Transit fares in helping them access services the Department of Human Services offers and other opportunities. Eligible participants must be between 18 and 65 and receive SNAP benefits.

"In the Pittsburgh region, [Pittsburgh Regional Transit] fares fall heaviest on low-income households, who are the most reliant on public transit and the highest likelihood of paying the full cash fare for every trip," said a statement from the Fair Fares for a Full Recovery Coalition. "As such, we are excited

to see this substantial step forward in providing much needed fare relief."

The coalition led by Just Harvest, Pittsburgh Food Policy Council, Pittsburghers for Public Transit, and UrbanKind, and advanced by the Equitable and Just Greater Pittsburgh network, said in its statement that member organizations, along with riders and community members, have advocated for price relief for low-income riders for many years. The coalition praised the pilot as the first step toward affordable public transportation, a need that, when met, "would unlock access to healthy food, health care, child care, employment, and all of civic life."

The group encouraged the creation of a permanent free fare program for SNAP households, saying this would "ensure freedom of movement, economic opportunity, and investment in underserved areas, while strengthening the county's transit system as a whole."

The county's statement said a permanent program could be launched late next year.

To sign up for updates about the pilot program, visit <https://www.fairfaresnow.org/>.



Veronica Jenkins of Casa San Jose holds a sign showing that transit costs more for low-income people at a rally 2020. Photo courtesy of Pittsburghers for Public Transportation

HAZELWOOD INITIATIVE AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING



Hazelwood Initiative is putting the final touches on newly renovated **two-bedroom** rental units reserved for families whose **income falls between \$3,800-\$5,700 monthly.**

For more information, fill out the interest form at <https://www.hazelwoodinitiative.org/harpp> or contact Dave Brewton by emailing dbrewton@hazelwoodinitiative.org or calling **412-421-7234 ext. 407.**

DEVELOPMENT

Hazelwood Housing Summit brings residents, advocates and resources together



From left: Dave Breignan, Elaine Price, emcee Alyssa Lyon and Joy Dore (facing away). Photo by Tiffany Taulton

By Juliet Martinez

If your low-income neighbors are moving because their landlords raised the rent, blighted homes are being renovated and sold at high prices, or luxury developments are popping up near you, you may be watching gentrification happen. What can communities do?

The Hazelwood Housing Summit on September 28 at Propel School tackled that question. The event drew residents, housing-oriented nonprofits from around the region and activists who have fought gentrification for decades.

The housing committee of the Greater Hazelwood Community Collaborative organized the event in response to concerns about property taxes raised by Elaine Price, owner of Floriated Interpretations on Irvine Street.

“In other local communities that have been ‘restructured’ or ‘revitalized,’ I’ve watched friends lose their family homes because they couldn’t keep up with gentrification in their community,” Ms. Price told attendees during the main session.

Allegheny County property taxes are determined according to 2012 baseline assessments. But a lawsuit challenging the county’s property tax math could result in a court-ordered change in the baseline system. Given the steep growth in Hazelwood home prices, Ms. Price is worried about her property taxes rising.

Lawrenceville United executive director, Dave Breignan, spoke at the summit. He said some cities have policies protecting longtime and low-income homeowners from sharp increases in property taxes. But, he said, low-income communities often benefit from more frequent reassessments rather than the baseline system currently in place.

Those communities are harmed by wealth building through homeownership, said Speaker Carl Redwood, a social justice activist and cofounder of the Hill District Consensus Group.

“That’s the essence of what gentrification is about,” he said, because selling one’s home at a profit benefits the homeowner but harms the community. “It’s not normal for us to think as ‘we are Hazelwood,’ or ‘we are the Hill District.’ It’s normal to think about me and mine.”

He recommended neighborhood-wide incentives for homeowners to sell to a community land trust so the next buyer would be a moderate- or low-income homeowner. He also suggested limited equity housing co-ops, where the co-op owns the home, and the “mortgage” is a carrying fee. When a co-op resident is ready to move, they sell their share and earn some equity without driving up property values and displacing their neighbors.

As Lawrenceville has gentrified, Mr. Breignan said Lawrenceville United has promoted both community land trusts and inclusionary zoning, a policy focused on creating more affordable housing for renters. Under Lawrenceville’s inclusionary zoning ordinance, 10% of new units must be set aside as affordable. He mentioned two 300-unit developments under construction; 30 units in each will be set aside for moderate- and low-income families.

“So, 60 units, you know, in two projects is not going to solve the affordable housing crisis,” he said. “But it makes a real difference because those are 60 more families who will be able to stay in Lawrenceville while we are working on other solutions.”

Go to page 3 for housing resources and page 11 to see the organizations that tabled at the housing summit.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

- Abriola’s Auto Parts.....(412) 421-8100
- Allegheny Fence.....(412) 421-6005
- Allen Demolition.....(412) 361-7500
- Automotive Medic.....(412) 422-2886
- Brad Rosen Landscaping.....(412) 521-4330
- Christian Cleaning Services.....(412) 781-5989
- Colwell Automotive.....(412) 422-2658
- Combo Kitchen.....(412) 462-1568
- Community Kitchen Pittsburgh.....(412) 246-4736
- Dylamoto’s Market.....(412) 521-1351
- Easy Does It Lawn Care.....(412) 708-3586
- Elevationz: MoNae’s Hair Studio , Killa Kutz , New 2 You &
- The Diamond Room.....(412) 235-7033
- Elizabeth Pharmacy.....(412) 421-0114
- Elmer Herman Funeral Home.....(412) 521-2768
- Fitzhenry Contracting.....(412) 496-3892
- Floriated Interpretations.....(412) 607-7886
- Fred Crum Reasonable Tree Service..... (412) 353-7000
- General Contractor, Mike Lignini.....(412) 600-1969
- Go Go’s Market.....(412) 863-7783
- Graphics 22 Signs, Inc.....(412) 422-1125
- Gray’s Tidy Up Services.....(412) 819-5597
- Greenfield Jewelers.....(412) 904-3589
- Green Light Wireless.....(412) 228-3100
- Halbleib’s Auto Body.....(412) 422-4665
- Hazelwood Family Health Center.....(412) 422-9420
- Hazelwood Café..... (412) 586-7532
- Healthy Habit Studio.....(412) 436-9065
- Inspirational Wear.....(412) 218-4782
- Italian Village Pizza.....(412) 521-1900
- Mark’s Fantastic Photos.....(412) 403-9247
- Mikal Merlina, Piatt Sotheby’s International Realty.....(412) 471-4900
- Negril Curbside Food Truck.....(412) 437-8474
- Jimmy Cohen Plumbing, Heating and Mechanical.....(412) 421-2208
- John D. O’Connor & Son Funeral Home.....(412) 521-8116
- K & M Clean Fix LLC (Handyman Services).....(937) 369-8364
- K & T Cleaning.....(412) 337-7903
- Key Bank(412) 422-7420
- Kruszka’s Auto.....(412) 521-8911
- La Gourmandine.....(412) 291-8146
- Lytle Café.....(412) 421-4881
- Odell Minniefield Construction and Services.....(412) 421-6662
- Phyl’s Cleaning and Décor.....(412) 708-3586
- The Pittsburgh Stop.....(412) 969-7488
- Reed’s Sweet Treats.....(412) 449-9338
- Reneé Roma Personal Training.....(412) 443-6957
- Rite Aid.....(412) 421-6948
- Ron’s Electric.....(412) 727-8211
- Smuts Brothers Debris Removal.....(412) 512-7739
- We Care Chiropractic.....(412) 521-8890
- Webster Electric.....(412) 290-1112

Want your business listed for FREE?

Call (412) 421-7234 or email editor@hazelwoodinitiative.org.

BARBARA GREENWOOD WARWICK FOR CITY COUNCIL



CONTACT BARB

(412) 368-2068
barbforpgh@gmail.com

LEARN MORE

barbforpgh.com
@Barb4PGH

In the past two years alone, Barb has worked hard with residents and neighborhood groups to:

- Stop a private shuttle road through Schenley Park
- Increase bus service to Squirrel Hill and Oakland on the 93
- Raise nearly \$100K for a playground at Greenfield School
- Successfully petition the City to reopen Magee Pool
- Expand after school programs in Glen Hazel
- Support the co-op grocery store project in Hazelwood
- Advocate for traffic calming and sidewalk accessibility in Greenfield and Greater Hazelwood

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT PAID FOR BY BARB WARWICK FOR CITY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 5

ENDORSED BY

MAYOR ED GAINEY

COUNCIL PRESIDENT THERESA KAIL-SMITH

COUNCIL WOMAN DEB GROSS

COUNCIL WOMAN ERIKA STRASSBURGER

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY COGHILL

COUNCILMAN REV. RICKY BURGESS

COUNCILMAN BOBBY WILSON



COMMUNITY NEWS

Feed My People program is expanding to include 200 households

By Pastor Lutual Love

Praise Temple Deliverance Church, in collaboration with POORLAW and HOPE 1212, and with the support of the Pittsburgh Foundation, is determined to confront food justice in our community.

Greater Hazelwood has experienced rapid growth over the years but not all people have benefited. This kind of growth creates racial and economic inequities that negatively impact Greater Hazelwood's Black, Brown and low-income families.

With this program, we are hoping to see an increase of at least 25% of families now having access to fresh and healthy foods. We hope that we relieve the financial burden of families who have to buy household items.

The goal of this project is to expand our outreach to include 200 households, thereby increasing the total meals provided to 5,000.

Meals will include accommodation for lunch, dinner and snacks. We will also provide hot meals in an in-person setting once a month to the homeless and families who requested. In addition to the in-person

setting, meals will also be delivered to families, and/or we will provide take-out services. The program will also provide household and personal items to residents in the community.

Meals will be provided two ways: Hot meals will be prepared onsite during designated days. Food items will be purchased, boxed, and delivered to the designated households.

The project will be active from November 1, 2022 to October 1, 2023. Each family must complete an intake assessment form. Questions will include the number of people in the family, ages and special needs. We will operate the program out of Praise Temple Deliverance Church at 5400 Glenwood Avenue.

Register today

This program will be operated on a first-come, first-served basis. The first 200 families who register will become recipients of the program.

To enroll, contact project coordinator, Emily Higgs, at emilyh3070@gmail.com or call 412-452-4116.

Register online at <https://poorlaw.org/community-programs/feed-my-people-program>.

GREATER HAZELWOOD'S

LIGHT UP NIGHT

SAVE THE *date*

DECEMBER 5
6 - 8 P.M.

ALONG SECOND AVE.

Activities

HORSE & BUGGY • FACE PAINTING

• CRAFTS • FOOD • BAND •

SUPERHERO & PRINCESS PHOTO OP • CHRISTMAS TREE RAFFLE •

GAMES

Want to donate?

To drop off donations: Take new or gently used tree ornaments, tree lights, and trees to the Hazelwood Carnegie Library at **5006 Second Ave.**

To schedule pickup of donations: Call Edith Abeyta at **(412) 295-1795**

For monetary donations: Drop off donations to H.I. office at **4901 Second Ave., 2nd Floor**

More Information (412) 421-7234

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Six-word stories and poems

Each month, Homepage readers submit clever and creative six-word stories and poems. Some imaginative readers also submit prompts for the following month.

We invite you to try your hand at this game of literary brevity. There are no wrong answers, just wrong word counts! Here we go...

New winter boots

*snowflakes melt upon
glistening black leather*
Adam Rohe

*Warm and furry
Not to worry*
Miss Bea

*Shiny waterproof exterior;
Fur lined interior*
Janice O'Toole

*Low or high
keep feet dry!*
Julie Hornak

*Comfortable and cozy
Great for mosey*
MaryAnn Majcher

*Soft and furry
Ready for furries*
Maureen Rua

Ancestors

*Body Hair?!?!
Thank You,
Italian Elders...*
Adam Rohe

*From stories told
countries to behold*
Miss Bea

*trees that blossom
have strong roots*
j.w.

Sailed across the sea from Italy
Janice O'Toole

*Bloodline in review
Old to New*
Julie Hornak

*They're from Poland
I'm so beholden*
MaryAnn Majcher

Community connections

*Spooky Bigelow Street
Greenfield's Halloween Treat*
Adam Rohe

*Small town feel
is Greenfield's appeal*
Miss Bea

*Garden committee to keep neigh-
borhood pretty*
Janice O'Toole

*Everyone can dream;
Bowling, Pizza, Ice-cream*
Julie Hornak

*Love bacon
At Porked
I've partaken!*
MaryAnn Macher

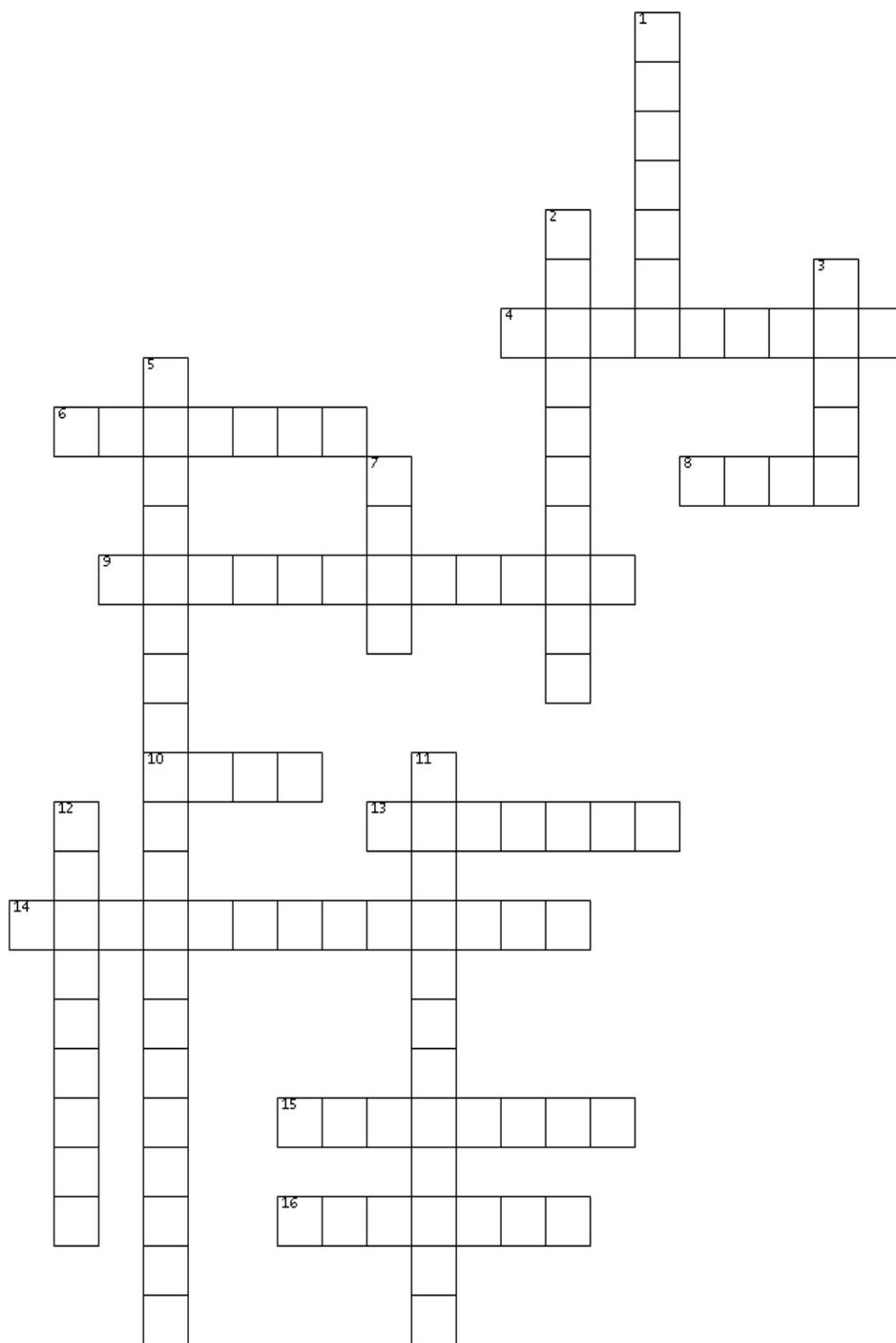
*Lending a hand
The kindest plan*
Maureen Rua

Prompts for December were submitted by MaryAnn Majcher:

- Winter Solstice
- A cherished holiday gift
- Enjoying a winter's evening

Please submit your six-word poems, stories, poems and prompts by November 11 to editor@hazelwoodinitiative.org.

Crossword puzzle



ACROSS

4. Hazelwood Café offers these delicious circular treats.
6. Some Greenfield folks turned a _____ space into a community space for a day.
8. City council candidate Robert McCune retired from this branch of the military.
9. Rep. Nick Pisciotano reports an infusion of funding to help people get _____ compensation.
10. Kids at Three Rivers Village School learn to do this on their own schedule.
13. Rep. Summer Lee held an event called Pathways to _____.
14. Planned Parenthood life skills classes help youth and adults learn about healthy _____.
15. Vicar Wenndt says to give thanks with this kind of heart.
16. A new pilot program will allow some riders of this to do so for less.

DOWN

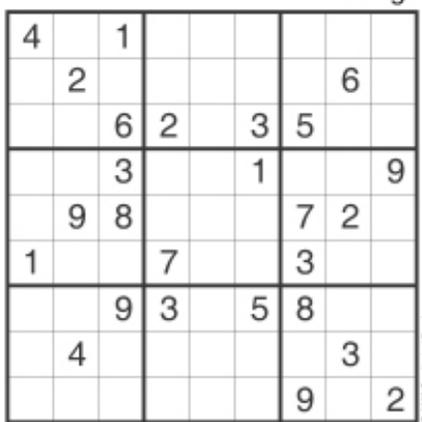
1. The summit at the end of September revolved around this topic.
2. Rep. Aerion Abney spoke at an event promoting this at Hazelwood Green.
3. Independent candidate Matt Mahoney rides an old racing bike from this country.
5. Sen. Jay Costa helped get \$5 million allocated to develop a team of this kind of first responders.
7. Jim McCue says we need to stop wasting 40% of our _____.
11. Tiffany Taulton took a trip to _____.
12. Mayor Gainey and community members met in this community on October 5.

STR8TS

SUDOKU

Easy

Tough



How to beat Str8ts – Like Sudoku, no single number 1 to 9 can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into **compartments**. Each compartment must form a **straight** - a set of numbers with **no gaps** but it can be in any order, eg [7,6,9,8]. Clues in black cells remove that number as an option in that row and column, and are not part of any straight. Glance at the solution to see how 'straights' are formed.

To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely. For many strategies, hints and tips, visit www.sudokuwiki.org for Sudoku and www.str8ts.com for Str8ts. If you like Str8ts and other puzzles, check out our books, iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on our store.

SEE PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 17.

COMMUNITY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from the October 11 Hazelwood Initiative meeting: Planned Parenthood, Hazelwood Local, fall and holiday fun

By Juliet Martinez

The October community meeting covered a wide range of resources and reports on great things happening in Hazelwood. Public art, job training, youth programming, tree plantings and holiday festivities were some of the opportunities residents learned about.

The November has been canceled because it would fall on election day but we hope to see you at the December 13 meeting from 6 to 8 p.m.

Planned Parenthood Hazelwood drop-in center

Although Planned Parenthood is usually thought of as a source of reproductive health care, at the October 11 Hazelwood Initiative community meeting, staff from the Planned Parenthood drop-in center in Hazelwood described a range of education and support services.

Dany Ricci, education and outreach specialist at Planned Parenthood, said youth can drop in on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 6 p.m. to learn about healthy relationships, sex education, life skills, gender and sexuality. Staff at the drop-in center also help connect people with Planned Parenthood clinical services.

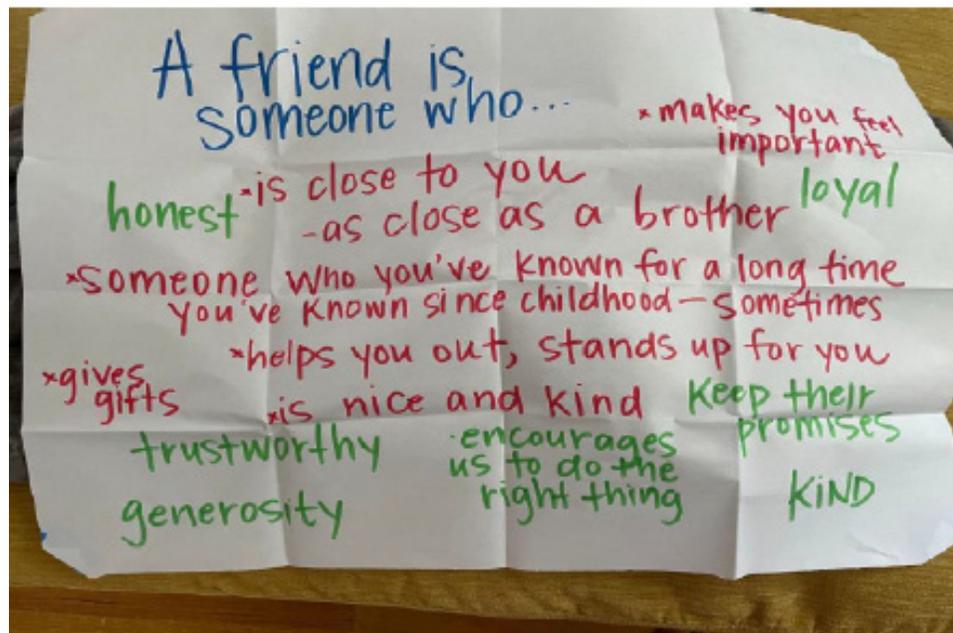
The center at 5125 Second Avenue offers free snacks, condoms, period supplies, Plan B emergency contraception and pregnancy tests.

Planned Parenthood educators at the center give information and answer questions in a medically accurate, nonjudgmental way. Parents can come with questions about how to talk to their kids about sex, puberty, love and dating.

Planned Parenthood has partnered with organizations like Center of Life, JADA House International and Carnegie Library. Community education services include teaching sex education in middle and high schools and teaching youth to be Peer Helpers through a weekly learning series.

Planned Parenthood educators attend community health fairs and deliver period products to schools, lead discussion groups for all ages and promote life skills and healthy decision-making about sex and relationships. All the educational content is LGBTQ-inclusive and can be tailored for different audiences.

The drop-in center can also connect adults with HIV and AIDS services and resources. Stop by Monday, Wednesday or Thursday from 2 to 6 p.m.



Life skills classes from Planned Parenthood engage youth and adults in learning how to build positive friendships and relationships, how to recognize the signs of abuse, and avoid abusing someone or being abused. Photo courtesy of Planned Parenthood

Hazelwood Local

The event planning initiative for Hazelwood Green has hosted 17 events so far this year, according to Nikki Martin, one of the event planners. Most events are at Hazelwood Green Plaza but they also hold them around the neighborhood. Events on Hazelwood Green this year have included a dog-friendly brunch, summer movie night and music performance series. Neighborhood events included a formal dinner at the Roundhouse and family cooking classes at Community Kitchen.

Hosting events on Hazelwood Green is free! Fill out the short inquiry form on the Event Permitting page. Ms. Martin said they can help you with logistics, permitting, event insurance and other details.

Upcoming Hazelwood Local events can be found on their website (<https://www.hazelwoodlocal.com/>) and in the ad on page 7. Email nikki@streetplans.org with event suggestions for next year.

Light Up Night

The December 5 event will feature free balloon art, face painting, hot chocolate, cookies and pizza slices along Second Avenue (see ad on page 14). To donate new or gently used artificial Christmas trees for the raffle, please deliver them to Carnegie Library Hazelwood.

Hazelwood Initiative Real Estate

Hazelwood Initiative is proud to promote sustainable commercial development on Second Avenue, including Hazelwood Café, Elevationz, Luella's Kitchen (opening

soon on the first floor of 4901 Second Avenue), and the Josza's Corner building. Tim Kaulen of Industrial Arts Workshop has recruited Hazelwood teens to learn the basics of welding and metalworking.

In 2023, Mr. Kaulen and Edith Abeyta will lead community input sessions on a mural and public art project for the plaza at Elevationz. Hazelwood Local will be working on a new mural for the side of the former Josza's Corner building. The mural will be portable to preserve the building's historic character.

Environment

After October's tree adoption event, tree plantings in the Hazelwood greenway and Burgwin Spray Park, Hazelwood Initiative will have planted or given away more than 650 trees in Hazelwood through its two-year partnership with Tree Pittsburgh as a ReLeaf community. In addition to the large hillside stabilization plantings done in the Greenway, Hazelwood Initiative also targeted plantings on its own properties, near places where kids play, like across from Lewis Parklet, the Carnegie Library, and Lytle Land Playground. This gives kids cooler, cleaner air to breathe and protects those with asthma. Tree adoption events through this partnership distributed trees throughout the neighborhood. At the tree adoption event in October, residents adopted another 73 trees. Up until then, Hazelwood set Tree Pittsburgh records for every ReLeaf event!

Gladstone Residences workforce development

Of 15 students who registered for the pre-apprenticeship program that started on July 19, only eight completed the course, most of those from Hazelwood. Four have already gotten the certification they need after completing the course, and the others will get a chance to re-take the test.

In January look for information on preliminary meetings about living in Gladstone Residences. The low-income tax credits make this a complicated situation, so these will be informational meetings only. When the project is closer to completion there will be more meetings and how to apply. The buildings are expected to be ready for tenants in late 2023.

JADA House international

The annual toy drive will be December 17 from 2 to 4. Watch for information in The Homepage and Hazelwood Initiative e-newsletter.

31ST WARD NEWS

Highlights from the Oct. 11 31st Ward community meeting

By Luke Schaming

The Lincoln Place community clean-up took place on October 22 at 10 a.m. with the help of Pitt students for "Make a Difference Day." Thank you to all who come out to help.

The annual spaghetti dinner on election day at the Lincoln Place Presbyterian Church runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Take-out only.

The annual Veterans' Day breakfast will take place Saturday, November 12, at 9 a.m. Reservations are required. Call 412-462-6148.

Veterans' banners will be available to order soon. Check the 31st Ward community group on Facebook for order forms and details.

The annual 31st Ward Santa Trolley Ride will be December 3 from noon to 4 p.m. at Lincoln Place Presbyterian Church. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the group through Facebook.

The annual holiday parade will take place on Saturday, December 10 at 10 a.m. Contact the group if you would like to volunteer or sign up to join with a float or vehicle.

ENVIRONMENT

Hazelwood and Mon Valley groups talk energy justice in DC

By Tiffany Taulton

Hazelwood took another step toward telling the world what it wants its future to look like when community members made their desire for clean air and energy justice known in Washington, DC, in August.

Dr. Shalanda Baker, Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, and her energy justice team at the Department of Energy invited community groups to meet in response to a letter written by North Braddock Residents for Our Future. The group of Mon Valley residents had responded to the department's request for information from environmental justice communities that may be affected by plans to develop regional clean hydrogen hubs, also known as H2Hubs.

Members of Arts Excursions Unlimited, Braddock, Center of Life's Social Justice Resource Center, Clairton, Hazelwood Initiative and North Braddock Residents for Our Future accepted the invitation.

We wanted to present a united front of concerned Mon Valley residents and make sure leaders in Washington understand the challenges our communities are facing. We shared our fears that increased environmental destruction could further harm the health of our families and neighbors.

Developing clean hydrogen to carry, store or deliver energy is seen as critical to cutting carbon emissions from industries like steel and concrete, and meeting the Biden administration's climate goals.

But not all hydrogen is produced

the same way. It may be made using renewable, nuclear or fossil fuel energy. In Appalachia, hydrogen will likely be produced using natural gas. But if the resulting carbon emissions are not captured, hydrogen production will make pollution worse, not better. Large-scale carbon capture and storage has yet to be successful, so environmental groups are concerned that hydrogen production in Pennsylvania will further harm vulnerable communities.

The many environmental justice communities of the Mon Valley region are still dealing with the consequences of toxic industrial production: high rates of asthma, and contaminated water and soil. And, of course, the decades of economic hardship after these industries left. These same communities will be most affected by hydrogen hubs built on former industrial sites.

We want to make sure hydrogen production facilities are required to capture carbon emissions. Companies with a history of polluting

need to clean up contaminated sites before receiving federal dollars to join the H2Hubs projects. And our communities must receive immediate benefits from the creation of H2Hubs, not promises for future benefits that may not materialize. We specifically requested benefits beyond jobs in H2Hubs: infrastructure improvements, affordable housing, small business support and afterschool programs for youth.

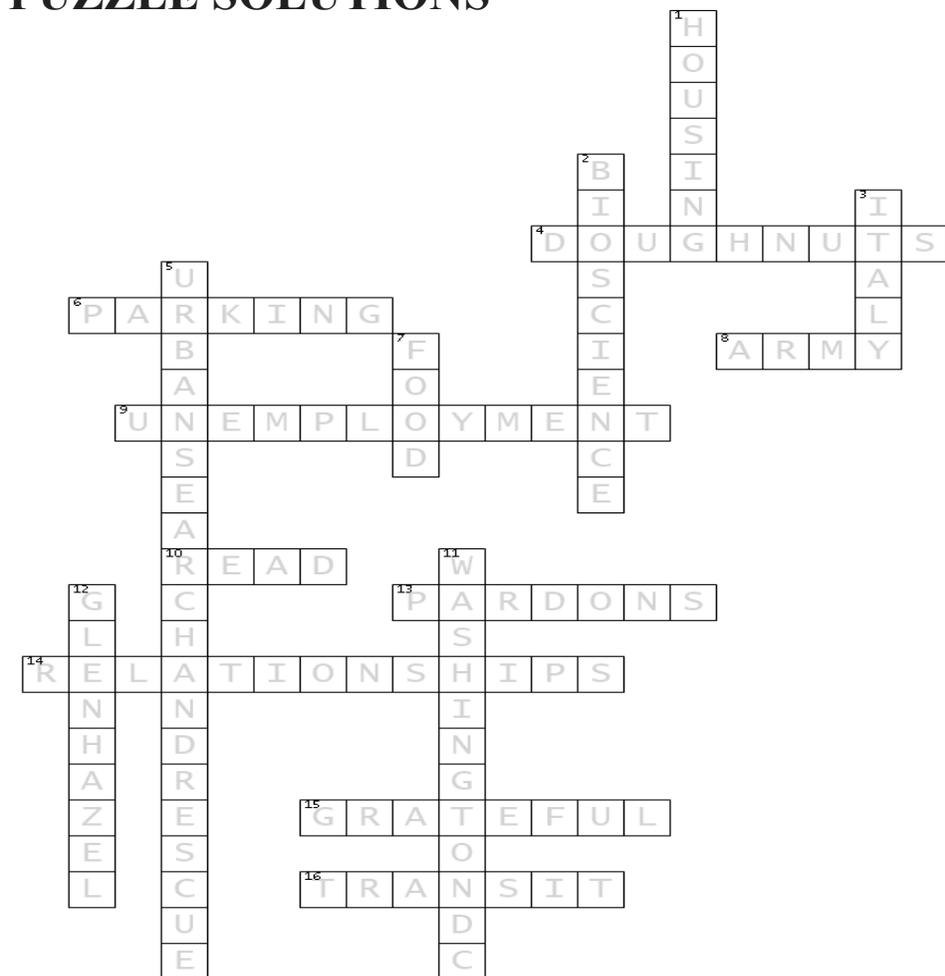
The Energy Department officials listened respectfully and said the H2Hubs would meet those goals if we continue to participate in the process. They also promised to visit our community. In September, they brought a large contingent to tour the region.

We look forward to more conversations and making sure people in Washington understand the impacts of their decisions on our community, and to let them know what kind of future we want for Greater Hazelwood and the Mon Valley.



Left to right: Joe Hepner and Dasawn Gray (AEU), Joseph Amadasun (Clairton, son of Melanie Meade), Edith Abeyta (AEU and North Braddock Residents for Our Future), Melanie Meade (Clairton clean air activist), Tiffany Taulton, Cameron Craig (COL Social Justice Resource Center), Tony Buba (Braddock filmmaker and clean air activist). Photo courtesy of Tiffany Taulton

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



Str8ts Solution

6	5	4	3		2	1	
7	8	6	5		1	2	
8	9		6	7		3	4
	7	8		5	4	6	9
1	6	9	8	4	3	7	5
3	2	7	9	8		5	6
2	3	1		6	5	4	7
	5	4	3		6	9	8
	4	3		9	7	8	
							5

Sudoku Solution

4	3	1	6	5	7	2	9	8
5	2	7	9	4	8	1	6	3
9	8	6	2	1	3	5	4	7
2	7	3	8	6	1	4	5	9
6	9	8	5	3	4	7	2	1
1	5	4	7	9	2	3	8	6
7	6	9	3	2	5	8	1	4
8	4	2	1	7	9	6	3	5
3	1	5	4	8	6	9	7	2

31ST WARD EVENTS

AT LINCOLN PLACE PRESBYTERIAN

1202 Muldowney Avenue, Pittsburgh 15207

Call 412-461-3377 or 412-462-6148 for information

Annual Free Veteran's Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

A time to honor those who served so that we may be free

All veterans, spouses and caregivers are welcome.

November 12, 2022, 9 a.m.

Call 412-462-6148 to make a reservation by November 9

Coming this fall and winter:

Thanksgiving dinner for seniors, **Tuesday, November 15**

Annual Santa's Trolley Ride, **Saturday, December 3rd**

2nd Annual Holiday Parade, **Saturday, December 10th**

Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Spaghetti, salad, bread and cake

We make the best spaghetti around!

\$10.00, take-out only

November 8, 2022, 4-7 p.m.

Senior Lunch

Come enjoy lunch with friends at **noon on the first and third Tuesdays of every month.**

Find further information on the 31st Ward Community Action Group Facebook page.

COMMUNITY VOICES

A better world is possible



Jim McCue. Screenshot from 2017 video about Everybody's Gardens. <https://tinyurl.com/everybodys-garden-video>

By Jim McCue

The Earth is incredibly beautiful, despite the destruction we human beings have so thoughtlessly wreaked on it.

We are on the verge of possible extinction soon unless we change drastically. From ocean acidification to many plants and animals going extinct to global warming and climate change to increasingly powerful weapons to the resurgence of polio, a disease we'd thought we'd gotten rid of, to the continuing use of coal, nuclear, oil and gas. We must change, and soon.

Things will get a lot better when we quit doing dumb things like wasting 40% of the food grown in this country. We don't need sugar and corn syrup in our diet. Technologies such as drones can help replant forests as well as make war. Genetic engineering can be used, for instance, for bioremediation of polluted soils and waters rather than for making seeds that don't reproduce so that farmers and gardeners must buy new seeds each year rather than being able to save their own.

Had Tesla technology not been suppressed, we would have had electric vehicles more than 100 years ago - that did not even need recharging! Tesla invented fluorescent lighting.

A cooperative world would have no need for war. Cooperation is possible, too! In Spain during the Spanish Revolution and in Cuba when its economy tanked, people formed moneyless societies based on mutual aid rather than competition. Cubans lost an average of 40 pounds of body weight, but no one starved because they helped each other and changed to more natural farming methods. Why can you make money on war? It is destructive; no one wins a war, everyone loses.

Read more from Jim McCue at <http://bioeverything.blogspot.com>.

Give thanks with a grateful heart!

By Vicar David L. Wenndt

As we begin November we enter what is, for many people, one of the happiest times of the year: the holiday season.

Thanksgiving is coming up at the end of the month; a holiday observed by Americans across all backgrounds and geographic regions, where we stop and give thanks for the blessings we've received.

Some years it's easier to be thankful than others. There are many times when life is difficult or there are specific challenges that we've been facing and it's difficult to give thanks: when we've lost a loved



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Chapel. Photo by Douglas Spittel

one; when we've lost or are unable to find a job; when money is tight; when we don't have or are about to lose a home. These are challenging times that many of us know all too well. It's easy to not feel thankful, or to even feel resentful at what others have and we don't.

But we all have things we can be thankful for. Here at Holy Cross Lutheran Chapel, we're most thankful for being in the neighborhood. Meeting our neighbors and being in their lives; being here to help provide food and clothing for so many people who need it truly brings us great joy. We look for ways to be involved in the community.

If we can help, please stop by. We are thankful to be here with you and would love to help give you something that you need and can be thankful for. God Bless you this month and always!

David Wenndt is vicar at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Chapel in Hazelwood.

The Community Voices section of The Homepage showcases readers' diverse perspectives and experiences. The opinions expressed here are the author's alone and do not reflect the views or policies of The Homepage or its publisher, Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.

Healthy Habit Studio: Posture and why it matters

Hello, Pittsburgh community! I am Dr. Hailey Steinhauser, chiropractor and postural neurologist. I recently opened my practice in Pittsburgh, and I am excited to share tips on how to get healthy, stay healthy, and live your best life.

Last month, we talked about what chiropractic is and how it can help you get healthier. Getting chiropractic adjustments can help to reduce and eliminate pain, improve your posture, and level up your athletic performance.

The part of the brain that controls your posture also affects things like your mood, how well you can handle stress, if you can focus effectively, if your body is good at preventing injuries, and more.

This month, we are going to take a deep dive into posture. Posture is the way we hold ourselves up against gravity. The area of our brain that allows us to stand on two legs, as opposed to four legs, like our furry friends, is a main contributor to our ability to have good posture. The thing is, a lot of people struggle with this. There are many reasons why, such as too much sitting, stress, and time looking down at screens. Fortunately, we all have the ability to improve our posture.

Take a moment now to check your posture. If you were to drop a string from the bottom of your ears, would that string line up with your shoulders or is it hanging forward, in front of your chest? Are your shoulders lined up with the center of your hips? If you're sitting, does your spine feel like it's stuck in a "C" shape? If you find that it's hard to have your ears, shoulders, and hips all lined up, and your spine is more comfortable in a "C" position rather than straight, you would benefit from working on your posture.

It's important to pay attention to your posture and improve it when necessary because posture actually plays a role in many other areas of your life.

The part of the brain that controls your posture also affects things like your mood, how well you can handle stress, if you can focus effectively, if your body is good at preventing injuries, and more.

What that means, is that when you suffer from poor posture, those other things suffer too. Your mood is less stable, life feels very stressful no matter what, it's hard to focus,

and you can end up injuring yourself more often.

This is why I love helping patients improve their posture. When their posture improves, many other aspects of life also improve.

When it comes to actually improving your posture, it's more than just remembering to "sit up straight." Yes, changing bad habits is important, but the more effective way to improve your posture is to go deeper into your nervous system by getting chiropractic care. At my office, I use the chiropractic adjustment and brain-based exercises to stimulate the pathways in your body that will make it so your posture improves even when you're not consciously thinking about it.

If you feel like you need help with your posture, call to set up a personalized exam so you can know specifically what is going on with your body, get adjustments to improve your brain body communication, and have support from me with specific brain-based exercises so you can look better, feel better, and move better. I look forward to working with you!

Paid content from a Homepage sponsor

HEALTHY HABIT STUDIO



Better Posture
for a Better Way of Life



BOOK YOUR CHIROPRACTIC ASSESSMENT

(412) 436-9065

www.healthyhabitstudio.com
5865 Forbes Ave, 2nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

TESTIMONIAL

"Dr. Hailey is absolutely incredible! I've never had a chiropractor like her. For being 32 weeks pregnant, it is amazing how good I feel. I have zero back or hip pain, and she has even helped me address issues with digestion and low energy. Her work is so holistic and personalized. If you're even considering chiropractic care, be sure to reach out!"

SCHOOLS

Self-directed learning, part 4: How will children learn to read?



The author's daughter in 2017 getting help learning to read from one of Three Rivers Village School's founders. Photo by Maggie Bogdanich

By Maggie Bogdanich

How will they learn how to read?!?! This is a common question for folks new to the concept of child-led learning.

Reading is one of the most useful tools known to humankind. Perhaps that is why it is one of the first things students are expected to learn upon entering school at age 5. Sometimes it is easy for a child to learn. They can follow along with a teacher, pick up on phonetics, string sounds together, and begin to understand context. However, not all kids are developmentally ready to do any of that by the age of 5. In fact, many kids aren't ready. Or they may simply be interested in other things. It's easy to get by when you are a pre-literate youngster.

As a parent, it wasn't easy to be patient as she struggled and even actively resisted learning to read. It seemed the more I pushed, the more she refused to even try.

Students who struggle to learn to read at a young age are often judged as less intelligent or even trouble-makers. Left to their own time, at some point kids recognize how important reading is and the desire to learn arises in them. Oftentimes the desire is so strong it takes very little time for them to pick it up, especially if they are within supportive environments and around others who read and will read to them. TRVS doesn't require students to take a reading class, however, we witness kids learning to do so all the time

and in many ways in ages typically ranging from 5-10.

One way, though not necessarily the most common, is for students to receive support from a school staff member in the form of repeated lessons with simple tools like workbooks or flashcards. Some kids are

Believe it or not, some kids are highly motivated to read so they can read dialog, menus and chats in video games!

curious about all the words they see around them on signs, t-shirts, vehicles, and will ask someone in the vicinity to read it to them and slowly over time they memorize the letters and sounds.

Believe it or not, some kids are highly motivated to read so they can read dialog, menus and chats in video games! Struggling to sound out the words their fellow players type while playing Minecraft, for instance, ends up being the primary learning modality.

I'd like to share a personal anecdote about my own daughter, who has been at Three Rivers Village School since the age of 5. She wasn't able to read proficiently until the age of 10. As a parent, it wasn't easy to be patient as she struggled and even actively resisted learning to read. It seemed the more I pushed, the more she refused to even try. Around the time she was 7 or 8 I let go of my expectations and came to the conclusion, though it wasn't easy, that she would eventually learn.

Over time, through a combination of workbooks, individual instruction, struggling on her own, and sheer determination, she did. Now-



Availability!

Since 1983

Bill Kulina
Community Manager

HAZELWOOD
TOWERS

(412) 421-2000

UNITS

- Rent Based on Percentage of Adjusted Gross Income
- Rent Includes Utilities (Except Phone, Cable, and Internet)
- Individual Thermostats - Heat and A/C
- Professional On-Site Management
- 24-Hour Maintenance
- Convenient On-Site Laundry Facilities
- Resident Permit Parking
- Elderly Preference
- Public Transportation
- Private Balconies or Patios
- Small Pets Welcome!

111 Tecumseh Street | Pittsburgh, PA 15207

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE INCOME

1 person.....	\$33,200
2 person.....	\$37,950

TDD: 1.800.456.5984 Fax: 412.421.8158



adays, she reads more often than I ever did as a teenager, often several hours a day. I attribute that enthusiasm to the fact she wasn't forced to learn when she wasn't ready and therefore reading didn't become a chore she had to do in order to keep up at school. She discovered, on her own, that reading was a pleasurable way to spend her time.

When a child learns to read does not indicate how intelligent they are or predict how successful they will be in life. If the underlying message is "reading is important" not "reading is important and you must learn it by the time you are 6 or else," a burden is lifted. The concept of reading becomes more about the value of learning or connecting with others and less about the worth of the child.

Maggie Bogdanich is a staff member at Three Rivers Village School.

All schools in The Homepage circulation area are welcome to share essays, news, event announcements, and admissions and calendar information with the community each month. If you would like to submit a school update, email jmartinez@hazelwoodinitiative.org. See page 4 for submission guidelines.

FREE Garden Space Available!



Grow food for yourself, your family and friends!

The Hazelwood Urban Ag Team serves to facilitate free access to land for growing food. We have options to suit many needs and alternatives, from a single garden bed to help with getting vacant lots from the City.

Sign up at:
<https://bit.ly/3R8rMZe>

Contact Matt Peters for more information, gardens@hazelwoodinitiative.org

NOW OPEN!

HAZELWOOD



MON-FRI ♥ 7AM-4PM
SATURDAY 11AM-5PM

Bring this coupon for 10% off!

5017 2ND AVENUE, HAZELWOOD

We contribute to the community
one cup at a time by serving
Single-origin African coffee,
from ethical sources.

Follow us on

 HAZELWOODCAFEPGH  HAZELWOODCAFE