



Hazelwood and Four Mile Run Residents React to Announced Playground Funding

By Junction Coalition

On Sept. 2, Four Mile Run resident Barb Warwick found Department of Public Works [DPW] workers at the neighborhood’s playground. “[They were] replacing a lot of the old and rusted parts,” she recalled. “My kids are super happy to have their playground back.”

For more than three years, neighbors in The Run had pleaded with

See *PLAYGROUND* on Page 18

National Adoption Month celebrates families who give kids a safe haven

By Tiffany Taulton

Reverend Michael Murray’s childhood and his faith played equal roles in his decision to adopt. “I came from a large family of 12, including my parents. I grew up in a happy home. When you grow up in a happy home, you see the difference between enjoying your life and seeing what others put into it. So, once I wanted to develop a family, I wanted a big family.”

In addition to raising his three biological children, Rev. Murray has adopted seven and fostered 22 children. His fifth, sixth, and seventh adoptions were of three siblings. His fostering experience started by chance through kinship care when a family member was struggling to take care of their child. That first experience reminded him just how

See *ADOPTION* on Page 4

Hazelwood Greenway project named-finalist for UN climate change award



City and community partners met in the Hazelwood Greenway on a trail clearing day. Left to Right: Tiffany Taulton, Hazelwood Initiative Director of Community Initiatives; Rebecca Kiernan, Principal Resilience Planner at City Planning; Thomas Guentner, Director of Land Stewardship for Landforce; Matt Erb, Director of Urban Forestry for Tree Pittsburgh. Photo courtesy of Tiffany Taulton

By Juliet Martinez

The Hazelwood Greenway restoration will be one of 12 partnerships showcased in Glasgow, Scotland, on November 10 in the Climate Challenge Cup. The city of Pittsburgh, Hazelwood Initiative, Inc., [HI] and Greenway stewardship volunteers have been collaborating to make the 183-acre urban forest cleaner, more stable and more accessible.

Hazelwood group is working to open grocery co-op on Second Avenue

By Ziggy Edwards

Hazelwood residents working to establish a full-service co-op grocery store on the 4800 block of Second Avenue hope to present their proposal this month to the board of Pittsburgh’s Urban Redevelopment Authority [URA].

Calls for a grocery store enjoy

See *GROCERY* on Page 5

New county rule could improve air quality during inversions

By Juliet Martinez

Allegheny County has a new rule to lower air pollution when weather traps it near the ground. Here is what you need to know.

The new rule says polluters in the Mon Valley have to release less air pollution during temperature inversions. An inversion is when a mass of warm air is trapping cooler air underneath it. Fumes, exhaust, ozone and fine particulates get trapped too. These weather events are most common in fall and winter.

The new rule will affect 18 plants in the county. One of them is U.S. Steel’s Clairton Coke Works, the biggest source of fine particulates, known as PM 2.5. These particles are less than half the size of a grain of pollen and can build up in the lungs. They are especially harmful to children and elderly people. Other plants include DURA-Bond Industries in Duquesne and Keywell Metals in West Mifflin.

Plants can slow down production or put other measures in place to lower pollution during inversions. The county will track whether these actions are effective. If not, it can ask the plants to do more.

Are inversions really that dangerous?

During inversions, all the pollution is stuck in one place. One famous inversion happened in Donora in the Mon Valley in 1948. For five days, an inversion trapped so much smog that hundreds of people had trouble breathing. Hundreds more individuals with heart and lung diseases were evacuated. In all, 20 people died from smog exposure.

The Donora “Death Fog” was the worst air pollution disaster in U.S.

See *AIR QUALITY* on Page 8

The Climate Challenge Cup is a new competition celebrating partnerships that combat climate change in the United States and United Kingdom. The award ceremony will be part of the United Nations 2021 Climate Change Conference, COP26.

The competition categories are “achieving net zero” and “climate

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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.

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

Send letters and story ideas to:
editor@hazelwoodinitiative.org

The Homepage reserves the right to decide what content is appropriate for publication and may edit submissions for length or form. The opinions expressed, whether by paid advertising or editorial content, do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper, the Hazelwood Initiative, Inc., the Greenfield Community Association, nor the 31st Ward Community Action Group.

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PUBLISHER'S PAGE

ReLeaf Hazelwood members listen to neighbors at pumpkin patch

Members of the ReLeaf Hazelwood team gathered at Floriated Interpretation’s pumpkin patch to connect with neighbors and get their perspectives on trees in Hazelwood. The ReLeaf Hazelwood grant comes from the Pittsburgh Foundation, with two goals. The first is teaching residents about the role of trees in fighting climate change. The second is beautifying, cooling and cleaning the air in the neighborhood by planting more trees on streets and in yards. Tree Pittsburgh and Hazelwood Initiative, Inc., collaborate with community members who serve as ambassadors for the program and steer the direction of the programming about climate change and the role of trees. Left to right: Joy Dore (steering committee member), Antonetta Avila (Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.), Kelsey Munsick (Tree Pittsburgh), Tiffany Taulton (Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.), Valerie Testa (steering committee member). ReLeaf Hazelwood steering committee community members not shown are Elaine Price, Daniel Orkwis, Adriene Jones and Jon Ward.



Photo by Tameeka Cuff-Jones

Become a Hazelwood Initiative member and make your voice heard!

Hazelwood Initiative proudly serves all residents of Hazelwood and Glen Hazel. While anyone can attend HI meetings, only members can elect or serve on the Board of Directors. Members also receive our weeklie- newsletter, keeping you informed about upcoming meetings, community events and job opportunities. Membership is free; having a voice in your community is priceless.

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

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

Name (first, last) _____

Street number _____

Apartment _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

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

Correction: The Woods Village opinion piece written by Kristina DiPietro said the Woods Village development could be built between Minden and Tullymet streets along Second avenue. It should have said between Mobile and Tullymet streets.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Food and clothing

Holy Cross Evangelical-Lutheran Chapel of Hazelwood

Food and clothing distribution: Saturday, September 4th, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., and Saturday, September 18th, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Community dinners: Sunday, September 5th, 4:00-6:00 p.m. and Sunday, September 19th 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.)

Phone: (412) 521-0844

Address: Holy Cross Evangelical-Lutheran Chapel, 5319 Second Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15207

Hazelwood YMCA Food Pantry

Food box distribution: First Saturday of every month

Phone: (412) 421-2708

Address: 134 E. Elizabeth St, Pittsburgh, PA, 15207

Fishes and Loaves

Meals on Wheels: Monday through 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 through Friday 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Emergency food boxes: Pick up at Spartan Center 9:00 a.m.to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or home delivery within 15 miles of the office.

Call to arrange food box pickup on the weekend.

Grocery buying assistance is available. Address: 131 E. Elizabeth St, Pittsburgh, PA, 15207

Phone number (412) 499-4313

Ask for Dylan Knapp-Scott

Contact Hazelwood Initiative for help with rental assistance applications

Contact Tiffany Taulton, Director of Community Initiatives, at Hazelwood Initiative for help applying for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program [ERAP]. Mobile phone: 412-392-7427 ttaulton@hazelwoodinitiative.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. To request an item, contact Rabbi Mark Asher Goodman at mgoodman@bethshalompgh.org or 412-421-2288 See bethshalompgh.org/medicaldevices/ for more information.

COVID-19 testing and vaccination

COVID-19 vaccinations

Rite-Aid

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

4934 Second Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15207

Phone: (412) 421-6948

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

Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson available

COVID-19 testing and vaccination

Hazelwood Family Health Center

4918 2nd Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Phone: (641) 715-3900 Extension: 301402

Call for appointment

Call now for your booster shot if you have a weakened immune system due to cancer, solid organ transplant, steroid treatment or **other cause.**

Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson available

Housing and utilities

Action Housing: Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Visit: <https://Covidrentrelief.alleghenycounty.us>

Call: (412) 248-0021

Email: rentalassistance@actionhousing.org

PWSA relief application:

Apply at <https://www.pgh2o.com/residential-commercial-customers/customer-assistance-programs>

Call: Dollar Energy Fund at (866) 762-2348

Free housing legal services for renters and homeowners

Tenant Services

- Mediation: Third party trained mediators facilitate a resolution between landlord and tenant issues.

- Limited Legal Consultation: Attorneys provide limited and brief legal advice related to tenant issues and provide information on options, rights and responsibilities.

- Full Legal Representation: Attorneys provide representation through court proceedings to help prevent evictions and stabilize housing.

Homeowner Services

- Tangled Title: Legal assistance to help transfer the home's record title to the current occupant.

- Foreclosure Prevention: Assistance to help prevent foreclosure by helping to explore options such as repayment plans, forbearance and deferrals, mortgage modifications, refinancing and/or bankruptcy.

For a Legal Assistance Program referral call: 412-534-6600

Non-English speakers please call: 412-530-5244

Hotlines, alerts, and general information

Allegheny County Health Dept.

24/7 hotline:

888-856-2774

Phone Alerts:

www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts

General Information & Assistance:

Call 2-1-1

OR text your zip code to 898-211

OR visit PA211sw.org

Center of Life

Covid-19 Online Resource Guide

centeroflifeonline.net/covid

Hazelwood Initiative Community Updates

facebook.com/hazelwoodinitiative

Praise Temple Community

Hotline

*Answering M-F,

10am-2pm

412-422-1983

Resolve Crisis Services

(888) 796-8226

Mental health crisis support

Churches and houses of worship

Holy Angels Parish

408 Baldwin Road

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-461-6906

www.holyangelsshays.org

Keystone Church of Hazelwood

161 Hazelwood Avenue

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-521-3468

Praise Temple Deliverance Church

5400 Glenwood Avenue

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-277-0113

Mary S. Brown-Ames United Methodist Church

*During construction of new building -

Temporarily meeting at:

515 West 8th Avenue

Homestead, PA 15120, 412-421-4431

info@brightredfence.org

www.brightredfence.org

Squirrel Hill Christian Church

290 Bigelow Street

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-521-2447

www.squirrelhillcc.wixsite.com

St. John the Evangelist Baptist

4537 Chatsworth Avenue

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-521-0994

info@stjohnpgh.org

www.stjohnpgh.org

Fountain of Life Church

247 Johnston Ave Pittsburgh, 15207

412-422-8794

www.fountainoflifepgh.com

First Hungarian Reformed Church of Pittsburgh

221 Johnston Avenue

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-421-0279

St. Rosalia's Catholic Church

411 Greenfield Avenue

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-421-5766

strosaliaparish@gmail.com

www.strosaliaparish.org

St. Stephen Catholic Church

5115 Second Avenue

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-421-9210

saintstephen@verizon.net

www.ststephen-hazelwood.org

Steel City Church

290 Bigelow Street

Pittsburgh, 15207, 803-422-5855

info@thesteelcitychurch.com

www.thesteelcitychurch.com

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Chapel

5319 Second Avenue

Pittsburgh, 15207, 412-521-0844

www.holycrosspgh.info

Warriors of Holiness in Power

(W.H.I.P. Ministries)

1174 Mifflin Road

Pittsburgh, 15207

412-461-5572

whipwarriors@gmail.com

www.whipministries.org

Emergency broadband assistance

The Emergency Broadband Benefit will provide a discount of up to \$50 per month towards broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price. Apply online: <https://getemergencybroadband.org/> For help applying or more information, call (833) 511-0311 between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

**“Just For Today”
Nar-Anon Family Group Meeting**



**Meeting First and Third Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
First Hungarian Church – Calvin Hall
217 Johnston Avenue
Any questions contact Cindy 412-421-7076**

If you have a loved one, family member or friend that suffers from the disease of addiction, these meetings are for you.

Adoption

- Continued from Front Page

much of a difference having a person fully invested in a child's life could make.

In Pennsylvania, nearly 15,000 children are currently in foster care. Another 3,000 children are waiting to be adopted into loving homes. For National Adoption Awareness Month, The Homepage invites you to learn more about adoption, how you can support kids and families in need, and ways to celebrate adoptions in your family or social circle.

Considering adoption

People choose to adopt for many reasons, from infertility to wanting to fill an empty nest. Some want to have a family, but do not have a partner. Others may feel called to show God's love by caring for children. As long as they genuinely love children and are able to give them a safe home, they may be a candidate for adoption.

Who can adopt

Pennsylvania is one of the least restrictive states with respect to adoption. Same-sex partners and single individuals can adopt. Those who are over age 21 can both foster and adopt. The main requirement is to be a loving adult with the space and financial security to take care of a child or children.

As long as you genuinely love children and are able to give them a safe home, you may be a candidate for adoption.

The process

There are two ways to adopt: through a private agency or through the State foster care system. Private adoptions, whether domestic or international, are typically for infants and can cost up to tens of thousands of dollars.

Adopting through the state foster care system, however, is nearly free as the state will cover most major expenses. The person or couple seeking to adopt must pay for their clearances and other minor expenses.

Once the application and background checks are completed, prospective adoptive parents must complete training courses on topics like trauma, attachment, prudent parenting, legal issues, adoption resourc-

es, and supporting a child's cultural identity.

Prospective parents also must provide personal references and undergo interviews to make sure they are financially and emotionally ready to foster or adopt, and identify what kind of child or children would be best suited for their home. The foster-adopt licensing process typically takes about six months.

However, once the process is completed, it is not unusual for a newly licensed home to receive a call for their first placement within the same week. Even those who want to adopt will find they typically have to foster for six months to two years before the child becomes available. The state of Pennsylvania prefers family reunification and usually does not end parental rights except in extreme cases, and only after a prospective adoptive parent is found.

Before the adoption is finalized, prospective adoptive parents will have biweekly visits from their state social workers to ensure both they and the child or children are adjusting well. They will have to take the child to scheduled visits with the biological parents and any medical appointments. They may need to continue taking them to their previous school if removing them from both their home and their school at the same time is considered too traumatizing. However, once the adoption goes through, the adoptive parents will have full authority over the child's travel and education.

If we give our children sound self-love, they will be able to deal with whatever life puts before them.

—bell hooks



Reverend and Adelle Murray with the newest permanent additions to their family. Photo courtesy of the Murray family.

What is open adoption?

Open adoption means keeping some form of contact and communication with an adopted child's biological family. This may mean exchanging photos and letters frequently or every few years. It may mean phone calls or visits. How this looks depends on a lot of factors, including how much contact the biological parents want, where the adopted child and their families live, and the kind of relationship the adoptive and birth parents have.

Whatever the particulars, adopted kids benefit from continued contact with their birth families. It helps them understand who they are and where they come from. It also helps put to rest worries they may have about their birth family being alright. Open adoption reassures children that their biological family did not reject them. Adoptive parents who keep in contact with their child's birth parent are giving their child a powerful message about love and acceptance. This approach has been researched for many years and has been shown to help children become more attached to their adoptive parents.

For resources on open adoption, go to <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/adoption/adoptive/before-adoption/openness/>.

Celebrate!

Families and communities can celebrate finalizing an adoption with a party. Others can help a friend celebrate an adoption anniversary by chipping in to send them on a family vacation. During Adoption Awareness Month, you may also want to share articles and videos on social media about adoption and encourage others to open their homes to a child in need. Adoptive families can use this month to watch positive adoption movies with their child and spend time re-telling them their adoption story.

While foster parenting and adoption have their challenges, they also offer tremendous rewards and can become a life-long calling. This was the case for Rev. Murray. "I made a pledge to God and myself that as long as I'm capable I'll make a safe haven and a have a rescue mission."

Grocery

- Continued from Front Page

broad community support and recognition in the Greater Hazelwood Neighborhood Plan. Two Hazelwood groups, People Of Origin Rightfully Loved And Wanted [POORLAW] and a subsidiary called Greater Hazelwood Coalition Against Racial and Ethnic Disparities [GH-CARED] are now spearheading the effort to make this community desire a reality. The other organizations involved are Massaro Properties, Oak Moss Consulting, D. Well & Associates, DeLoJe, True Spirit Property Management, Leaders of Change, and Four Mile Run Communications.

They plan to build a two-story building on the southern part of the block near the intersection of Second and Hazelwood avenues. The first floor would be a 20,000-square-foot grocery store, while the second floor would house other services to be determined by the community.

Pittsburgh's Urban Redevelopment Authority [URA] owns most of the 4800 block. In 2019, they put out a call for redevelopers to propose housing and retail projects for the site. The development team that URA selected did not propose a development for the west (river) side of Second Avenue. Therefore, residents are asking the URA to postpone any decisions about that side of the street for at least nine months and give the neighborhood coalition time to solidify its proposal.

The Heinz Endowments has committed to funding a feasibility study for the grocery store if the group prevails. The Greater Hazelwood Community Collaborative [GHCC] board voted to write a letter to the URA in support of the project. Hazelwood Initiative [HI] also plans to do so. In addition, HI will vote on whether to let the group use an HI-owned building on the 4800 block as part of the project.

In the past, officials have expressed doubt about feasibility. For example, during a 2019 public meeting at the Center of Life, local Councilman Corey O'Connor responded to a Hazelwood resident's comment that Hazelwood needs a grocery store by saying the possibility had been explored and "the numbers weren't there."

He later explained studies had been conducted by HI and Action



A community group is working on putting a co-op market here on the west side of the 4800 block of Second Avenue. Photo by Juliet Martinez

Housing in partnership with "a group out of [Washington] DC." They took place 5 or 6 years ago, Councilman O'Connor said, and he did not recall the particulars.

Councilman O'Connor added that he has long recognized Hazelwood's lack of access to fresh food and produce. He has supported efforts to remedy the problem, such as setting up farm stands on the 4800 block that later "spun off" into a popular neighborhood market, Dylamato's, at the southern end of Second Avenue near Glenwood Bridge.

"I'm fully supportive of a grocery store [in Hazelwood]," Councilman O'Connor said. "That's the whole point of moving forward with a market study."

An earlier study echoes Councilman O'Connor's reservations about whether the community can support a traditional supermarket. In 2019, HI commissioned the Greater Hazelwood Housing and Business District Action Plan and published it in January, 2020. The section of the 112-page report dealing with the community's desire for a food-oriented market says a full-service, full-size grocery store would not be viable for Hazelwood for two reasons. First, it says, residents are already traveling along familiar routes by bus or car to do their shopping. Given the steep hills in the neighborhood, most of them would still have to drive or take a bus to do their shopping on Second Avenue.

The second reason cited in the report is that a full-size supermarket requires more than \$10 million in annual sales. The report says Great-

er Hazelwood has \$6 million in surplus grocery retail spending, which is considerable, but not enough for a full-service grocery store.

"A market that allows for small food-based vendors to have a physical presence in the neighborhood would serve as an alternative to a full-service grocery store," the report says. This plan would promote local businesses and maintain the character of the neighborhood, the report states, but would require careful management to become sustainable.

Pastor Lutual Love, who leads Praise Temple Deliverance Church and is a founding member of GH-CARED, said the neighborhood group is basing its efforts on the premise that residents of surrounding neighborhoods will be potential customers. "We want everyone to be a part of it," said Pastor Love.

The group envisions a co-op model, which offers many advantages over a third-party retailer. "[As a co-op] we have to make a profit, but not the same type as what is required by a private company. Our profit goes to stabilize and sustain store operations rather than advance individuals."

"A chain can leave if they don't have a high enough profit margin," said Sandra Cole McKamey, co-founder of POORLAW. She cited the example of Shop 'n Save's 2019 closure of their location in the Hill District's Centre Heldman Plaza. The move left Hill residents without a grocery store. The URA bought the shopping complex that year, and worked with the community to choose a new grocery store to fill the spot. They recently announced they will enter into lease negotiations with Salem's Market & Grill. Ms. McKamey added that she would like to see the URA work with the Hazelwood community in similar ways.

The GH-CARED team is in planning discussions with the Keystone Development Center—a nonprofit that, according to their website, "provide[s] technical and research assistance to groups who wish to organize as cooperatives."

Pastor Love said Keystone will provide training on running a co-op, and GH-CARED will make such training available to all community members "whether they're interested in participating or just learning about how a co-op works."

"It's about more than just food," he said. "It's an attitude that helps us preserve our community."



Greenway

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The Landforce crew clears overgrown invasive plants from the Hazelwood Greenway. Photo by Tiffany Taulton

change adaptation.” The Hazelwood Greenway project, a pilot for the city’s Greenway Stewardship Program, belongs to the second category.

A \$50,000 grant to the Hazelwood partnership from the Trust for Public Lands in February enabled trail clearing and maintenance work by Landforce, a workforce development program. A separate grant from city councilman Corey O’Connor’s office allowed HI to bring goats from Allegheny Goatscape to remove invasive vines and Japanese knotweed. Tree plantings to improve forest biodiversity and prevent regrowth of the invasives is scheduled for early November.

All these resources have converged on Hazelwood thanks to the efforts of residents and support of local government officials.

“The residents of Hazelwood have put their backs and hearts into this,” said Sonya Tilghman, HI Executive Director. “From our board members and neighborhood volunteers, to Tiffany Taulton, our director of community initiatives, who also lives here, this pilot project really springs from the skill, talent and dedication of Hazelwood.”

The systems this pilot is developing will help address a problem that affects many Pittsburghers: landslides. Extremely heavy rains in 2018 caused landslides that resulted in millions of dollars in damages and required the city to more than double its disaster response budget

for the following year. With more frequent and severe storms expected in the future, the State Auditor General published a report that concluded that “every \$1 spent on natural disaster mitigation saves \$6 in recovery costs.”

Gavin White is a Hazelwood resident and HI board member. He has been active in the Hazelwood Greenway restoration since around 2016. He said the problems of soil erosion and landslides affect the whole Greenway system. Although more severe in some places, the Hazelwood template will be effective in more landslide-prone areas.

“The idea with bringing these goats in, with bringing Landforce in, who have trail building experience, was to pilot a system whereby the city could partner with communities, bring these technical resources to help improve the trails and improve the habitat in the Greenways, which ultimately prevents landslides,” Mr. White said.

Hillside stabilization can be achieved with costly retaining walls, but Mr. White said clearing invasive species and planting trees also lessens the effects of climate change and preserves wildlife habitat while creating jobs and promoting local small businesses.

“You can use goats and people and make jobs, and put a sort of soft touch on the landscape,” he said, “while also doing the important resilience work.”

Tiffany Taulton has organized vol-

unteer cleanup days in the Greenway, led hikes, and brought children from the neighborhood to have a rare close encounter with the visiting goats.

“We don’t have our own city nature park in Hazelwood, so the Greenway is all this neighborhood has for a place to hike and be in nature,” Ms. Taulton said. “But having healthy green space is also important because we have a high rate of asthma in the community, so we need those trees to clean the air and reduce the heat in the summer.” She

explained that neighborhoods with ample green space can be significantly cooler in the summer than those without it.

Ms. Taulton, who also teaches environmental justice at Duquesne University, said communities of color often have less green space.

“The heat, the air quality, mental health, even how much time people want to spend exercising or shopping in their own neighborhood can be affected by the quality of our tree canopy,” she said.

All five age divisions of Hazelwood Cobras went to the playoffs

All five Hazelwood Cobras divisions made the Western PA Youth Athletic Association fall football playoffs for the first time since 2014 when Coach James “Papoose” Cole took over the presidency. The teams are Venom (ages five and six), 24-Karat (ages nine and 10), Jungle Boys (ages 11 and 12), Black Mambas (ages 13 and 14), and King Cobras (ages 15 and 16). The Hazelwood Cobras are a program of POORLAW.



The Jungle Boyz proudly take the field.



The 24K Twerps with Coach Bundy

Photos by Alicia "Ace" Collins for Originally Sauced Up Productions. Used with permission.

HEALTH

Advertorial

Take the stress out of exercise!

By Mindy McHale

Allow me to be the little voice in your head about exercise, but not the one that tells you, “You should exercise.”

You already know that exercise is key to good physical, mental and emotional health. You don’t need to feel guilty or overwhelmed trying to fit it into your life. That’s what listening to the should voice can feel like.

The should voice isn’t especially helpful. It doesn’t acknowledge the challenges that make exercise difficult: lack of time or access to a fitness facility; lack of finances or help at home; injuries or other health issues.

The should voice offers no solutions to scheduling workouts – only an overwhelming sense of obligation. Listening to that voice can make you feel defeated, and can result in you skipping workouts, or quitting them altogether.

The little voice in your head that I would like to be is the one that asks:

“What kind of exercise can you do that is considerate of your challenges?”

es? How can you work out in a way that makes you feel good?”

This voice takes the stress out of exercise because it is kind and curious. It acknowledges your capabilities and limitations. It helps identify enjoyable activities, so you are more motivated to work out.

Here is an example:

You: “I know I have to exercise, but I only have 30 minutes, a few days a week. That’s not enough to justify a gym membership. Why should I bother to do anything?”

Kind, curious voice: “Exercise is so good for your health. What can you do in 30 minutes that will get your whole body moving and make you feel good?”

You: “I can do a few minutes of stretching, 10 bodyweight squats, 10 push-ups, and then take a brisk walk for the rest of the 30 minutes.”

Kind, curious voice: “Sounds like a great plan! It gets you moving, challenges your strength, and fits into your schedule. You can always change your routine as your life changes.”

You get the greatest benefits of exercise if you do it with consistency, so don’t stop following this kind, curious voice. Always ask yourself what you want to do, instead of what you should do. This will keep you moving and growing stronger every day.

✓ Small group ✓ All levels welcome ✓ Energetic ✓ Supportive



Saturday Mornings

9am - 9:45am

The Anti-Bootcamp

✓ High-energy, full-body workout
without the bootcamp stress!

✓ YOU control the intensity
✓ MODIFICATIONS provided

10:15am - 11am

Strength Training

✓ Full-body workout with
dumbbells and other equipment
✓ Focus on strength and stability
✓ Work at your own pace

\$15 drop into any class

10% off Greenfield/Hazelwood residents

Max 5 participants/class



Led by
Mindy McHale, CPT

COVID-19 Safety - Proof of full vaccination required.

Details and Registration:

www.strongernowstudio.com

StrongerNow

517 Greenfield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Staying safe from COVID-19 during the holidays

By Juliet Martinez

Thanksgiving is around the corner and the pandemic is still not over. How can we celebrate with our loved ones while staying safe?

Even though COVID-19 is still a reality, families and friends will want to gather for the holidays. Those who are fully vaccinated, especially those who have had a booster, may feel safer. But even if all the adults in your family are fully vaccinated, the kids might not get their shots by Thanksgiving.

Experts have weighed in on how to stay healthy this holiday season. Here is what they say:

> Get vaccinated as soon as you can, if you're not already. See page 3 for information on getting a COVID-19 vaccine in the neighborhood.

> If you are not fully vaccinated, you should always wear a well-fitted mask in indoor public places. This goes for kids over the age of two as well.

> Open-air gatherings are generally safer. But if local new case numbers are high and you will be in a big crowd, definitely mask up.

> If you have a weakened immune system, wear a mask and keep social distancing even if you are vaccinated. Make sure you wear a well-fitted mask when you are in public.

> If local case numbers are substantial or high, vaccinated people can catch a mild case of COVID-19. But wearing a well-fitting mask whenever they are in public can protect them.

What does this mean for Thanksgiving dinner?

Experts suggest we start talking to our families about COVID-19 holiday safety now. Some of our loved ones may not be old enough to get vaccinated, or may have weakened immune systems. We can protect them most by getting vaccinated ourselves. Some of us may decide we will Zoom our holiday dinner.

Those who gather in person can

find ways to lower their risk and the risk to their loved ones. Wearing masks indoors will add a layer of protection. Having as much of the gathering as possible outdoors, weather permitting, helps too. Some families may buy rapid COVID-19 tests so everyone can test before the

get-together. Start the conversation now to choose the best course of action.

Once you have a good plan to keep everyone safe, you can decide who will be bringing the sweet potatoes. Have a safe, happy Thanksgiving!



Illustration by Ray Gerard

HEALTH

Advertorial

Murray Avenue Apothecary – Your destination for health and wellness!

By Susan Merenstein

Murray Avenue Apothecary is a Compounding Pharmacy Boutique located in the Greenfield/Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh.

With 40 years of pharmacy and clinical experience, Susan Merenstein has always been on the cutting edge of advances in Pharmacy Compounding and Wellness. Our mission at Murray Avenue Apothecary is to create a triad of Holistic Health between the Physician, Pharmacist and Patient.

We provide customized compounded medication solutions and wellness services to bypass the one-size-fits-all of conventional therapies.

Compounding is the long-established tradition in pharmacy practice that enables physicians to prescribe and patients to take medicines that are specially prepared by pharmacists to meet patients' individual needs. A growing number of people have unique healthcare needs that conventional prescription medicines cannot meet. For them, customized, compounded medications prescribed or ordered by licensed physicians or veterinarians that are mixed safely by trained, licensed compounding pharmacists are the only way to better health.

Our compounding technicians are state certified and trained in the latest compounding techniques. Our pharmacists have a combined experience of over 70 years. We have high standards at the Apothecary and send our compounds for testing to provide the efficacy and stability that our practitioners and patients deserve.

The licensed pharmacists and certified lab technicians who work in our state-of-the-art compounding lab at Murray Avenue Apothecary follow strict USP 795 guidelines for compounding. These guidelines dictate lab operations, the proper protective lab wear, washing and disinfecting and effective cleaning of equipment.

Compounding is in even greater demand for treating animals because of the relatively narrow selection of medicines that are manufactured by

pharmaceutical companies. Because every patient or pet is different and has different needs, customized, compounded medications are a vital part of quality medical care.

In addition to our compounding services, we also offer One-on-One Hormone Balance Consults as well as a wide range of Pharmacist-picked supplements for humans and pets.

Susan is also owner of LabNaturals, Inc. (www.LabNaturals.com) – home of LabNaturals CBD Products for People and Pets (www.LabNaturalsCBD.com), LabNaturals Skincare (www.LabNaturalsSkincare.com), and LabNaturals Glutathione (www.GlutathionePharmacist.com). We are grateful for your support of small business. Please visit our website (www.maapgh.com), to learn more and shop (curbside pickup available)

Susan Merenstein, Owner/Pharmacist
4227 Murray Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15217
(412) 421-4996

Air Quality

- Continued from Front Page

history. Since then, clean-air regulations have helped make air safer to breathe. But as recently as the winter of 2019, an inversion made the air unsafe for eight days in a row.

An inversion is when a mass of warm air is trapping cooler air underneath it. Fumes, exhaust, ozone and fine particulates get trapped too.

Air pollution can cause pre-term labor during pregnancy and learning difficulties in children. It can also cause heart and lung disease and even mental health problems. Greenhouse gas pollution also causes hotter weather. Excess heat alone can cause illness or death.

How do I find out about air quality on any given day?

To check local air quality, visit



Your neighborhood destination for health and wellness!



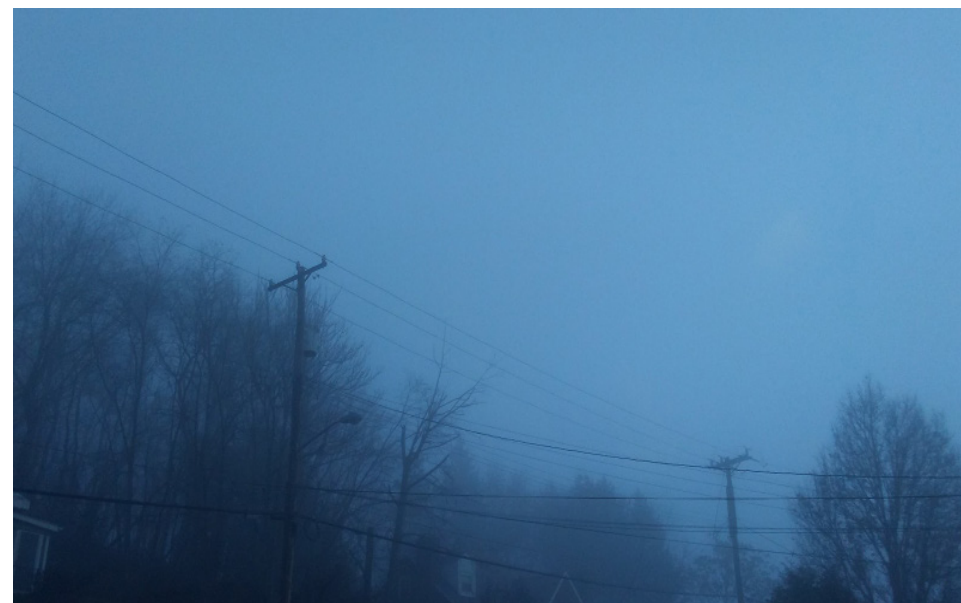
“Our Pharmacists have a combined experience of over 70 years!”

- Susan Merenstein, Pharmacist/Owner

Visit our website (www.maapgh.com) to learn more and shop!

Friendly curbside pickup available!

4227 Murray Avenue Apothecary • Pittsburgh, PA 15217



Cold air trapped near the ground during temperature inversions can cause dense fog. The warm air sitting on top of the cold air mass prevents pollutants from dispersing. Photo by Juliet Martinez

AirNow.gov. In Allegheny County you can receive text or email alerts on Air Quality Action Days. On Air Quality Action Days, the level of pollutants is high enough to affect sensitive people. It can harm children, babies, pregnant people and those with heart and lung disease. These people should stay inside on Orange Air Quality Action Days.

Children exposed to too much air pollution can have trouble paying attention or learning. So parents should keep children indoors on Air Quality Action Days.

Email or text alerts can tell you when Air Quality Action Days happen. To sign up, visit <https://tinyurl.com/Air-Quality-Alerts-signup>.

GARDEN AND SUSTAINABILITY

Garlic, the stinking rose

By Matt Peters



Matt Peters, Hazelwood Initiative’s community garden manager, showed volunteers how to turn the soil using a giant fork that uses the gardener’s body weight on October 17. They also removed weeds, planted the garlic and covered the beds with mulch. Photo by Juliet Martinez

The gardener’s yearly cycle of labors typically ends with planting garlic. Garlic in our northern latitudes is planted in the fall, and harvested in mid-July. This year, the Urban Ag Team hosted a garlic-planting party on Sunday, October 17. Grow Pittsburgh generously provided two pounds of seed garlic for our community garden at the former YMCA.

Garlic is grown by simply planting the individual cloves that one might otherwise peel and eat. Plant each clove deep, more than an inch beneath the soil surface, and mulch with a deep layer of straw (not hay!) to protect the developing plant from winter’s cold. Garlic can be grown quite close together, I like to space mine about four inches apart, allowing enough room for the bulbs to develop. The underground bulb is the part of the plant we are most familiar with, but Garlic produces a second vegetable in June, with the edible flower stems or scapes which give a milder, fresher or “greener” garlic flavor. Almost every part of the garlic plant is edible, except the paper sheathing of the mature cloves and the basal cluster of fine rootlets.

Garlic has been grown since ancient times, with cuneiform tablets from the Sumerian documenting its production some 4,000 years ago. Garlic was found preserved in Tutankhamen’s tomb (circa 1325 BCE) and was grown in ancient China. Garlic is mentioned in Chinese documents dating to 2000 BCE, and today China is the main producer of nearly 80% of the world’s garlic supply. Much of China’s exported

garlic is treated with chemicals to prevent sprouting, so planting store-bought garlic may yield disappointing results. Garlic from your farmers’ markets or other locally-grown sources will be more successful.

Garlic is so ancient its origins are lost in the mists of time, but it appears to have originated from a wild progenitor native to the Middle East or southwest Asia. It features prominently in global mythology and folklore, with its vampire-repellant properties fairly well-known even among modern-day Americans. The origin story of Korea features a tale about a bear transformed into a woman after 100 days of eating garlic and mugwort. Garlic is one of the essential items in a traditional Persian New-Year’s table display, called Haft-Sin (“seven things that begin with the letter S”).

Garlic’s healthful properties are no myth, however, with clinical studies showing a small but measurable drop in blood pressure after eating garlic, and some indications that garlic may reduce some cancers of the upper digestive tract. While these studies are inconclusive or limited by confounding factors and sometimes even bias on the part of the researchers themselves, Garlic’s time-honored place in culinary medicine remains firm. However, garlic interacts with some medications that treat blood coagulation, such as Warfarin, as well as other medications and some antibiotics.

Garlic holds a central, almost sacred place in many kitchens, and no garden would be complete without it.

Support Your Local businesses

Abriola’s Auto Parts.....	(412) 421-8100
Allegheny Fence.....	(412) 421-6005
Automotive Medic.....	(412) 422-2886
Brad Rosen Landscaping.....	(412) 421-4330
C&D’s Kitchen.....	(412) 224-2658
Carpets & Things.....	(412) 401-8049
Christian Cleaning Services.....	(412) 781-5989
Colwell Automotive.....	(412) 422-2658
Community Kitchen Pittsburgh.....	(412) 246-4736
Dylamato’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
Floriated Interpretations.....	(412) 607-7886
General Contractor - Mike Lignini.....	(412) 600-1969
Graphics 22 Signs, Inc.....	(412) 422-1125
Gray’s Tidy Up Services.....	(412) 819-5597
Greenfield Jewelers.....	(412) 904-3589
Halbleib’s Auto Body.....	(412) 422-4665
Hazelwood Family Health Center.....	(412) 422-9420
Inspirational Wear.....	(412) 218-4782
Italian Village Pizza.....	(412) 521-1900
Marks Fantastic Photos.....	(412) 403-9247
MDT Home Remodeling & Repair.....	(412) 467-9577
Jimmy Cohen Plumbing,Heating and Mechanical..	(412) 421-2208
John D. O’Connor & Son Funeral Home.....	(412) 521-8116
Jozsa Corner Hungarian Restaurant.....	(412) 422-1886
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 Cafe.....	(412) 421-4881
Odell Minniefeld Construction and Services.....	(412) 421-6662
Phyl’s Cleaning and De’cor.....	(412) 708-3586
The Pittsburgh Stop.....	(412) 969-7488
Reed’s Sweet Treats.....	(412) 449-9338
Renee’ Roma Personal Training.....	(412) 443-6957
Rite Aid.....	(412) 421-6948
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 skanar@hazelwoodinitiative.org

Tree giveaway in Hazelwood



On October 19, ReLeaf Greater Hazelwood and Tree Pittsburgh gave trees to Hazelwood residents. They set up in the parking lot across from Rite Aid to distribute young trees for planting in the neighborhood. Joe Stavish, Associate Director of Education for Tree Pittsburgh, uses a sponge activity to show Jamier Upshaw how placing trees in different locations can absorb stormwater and prevent floods. Photo by Tiffany Taulton

TRANSPORTATION

Pittsburgh's long-range transit plans: higher elevations and lower fares

By: Juliet Martinez

Pittsburgh transit planners are looking into the future. They are imagining a city where getting around is cheaper, easier, and sometimes airborne.

The Department of Mobility Infrastructure [DOMI] released its 50-year plan in September. The Port Authority [PAT] released its 25-year plan in September as well. Themes of accessibility and equity run through both plans. Both expand transit service to underserved areas like Hazelwood and the 31st Ward.

For example, the PAT plan will connect the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers. An aerial gondola system will link the Strip District to the Hill District, Oakland, Hazelwood, Carrick and Overbrook. Riders will

not have to take a bus to Downtown and catch one or two more before arriving at their destination. They will travel over the city on a more direct route.

PAT gathered public input for its plan through six rounds of 45 public meetings. These had almost 1,500 participants. The agency held 37 pop-up tent events in Allegheny County. They gathered input from 625 people during summer and fall of 2020, and spring and summer of 2021. Almost 20,000 people responded to survey on paper, over the phone, online, by text, at the project website and via social media.

Public input to the PAT plan stressed accessibility, affordability, efficiency, equity and sustainability.

The DOMI 50-year plan also expands bus, light rail transit, gondola

and multimodal connections. It even envisions water taxis on the rivers. Other projects will make getting around safer for people who walk, or ride a bike or scooter. The Smart Streets project will update more than 600 stoplight intersections.

DOMI collected more than 900 comments between May, 2019, and January, 2020. This input went into its draft project list. Public meeting participants reviewed the list in June, 2020, and offered feedback.

The core principles guiding the DOMI plan include:

- > Adapting the infrastructure of the past for the needs of the future
- > Recognizing and responding to the reality and urgency of global climate change
- > Promoting affordable housing and access to quality jobs through fair-

ness in mobility

> Advancing mobility justice to redress structural racism.

Transportation contributes about a third of the pollution in most cities. Making public transit safer, more accessible and more affordable will help reduce pollution. Lowering pollution will reduce rates of asthma and lung disease. Cleaner air also helps prevent learning difficulties and pregnancy complications.

Learn more about the PAT NEX-Transit 25-year plan at <https://tinyurl.com/PAT-NEXTransit-25-year-plan>.

Learn more about the DOMI 50-year plan at <https://pittsburghpa.gov/domi/transport-vision-plan>.

If you have an idea for a transportation story, email editor@hazelwoodinitiative.org.

City-wide Walk to School Day



On October 13, kids at Propel Hazelwood and schools all over the city participated in the city-wide annual Walk to School Day event. During the 2020-2021 school year, Propel Hazelwood staff and students conducted a walkability audit that identified crosswalks, stop signs, sidewalks and traffic safety issues. The school was named a Safe Routes to School [SRTS] Champion.

"Walk to School Day is a simple starting place for getting students started safely walking to school," SRTS coordinator Harriet Jackson emailed The Homepage.

Updates and safety improvements based on the walkability audit will begin in the spring of 2022 through a grant from Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Photo courtesy of Propel Hazelwood

Easy Does Lawn Care would like to thank everyone who used our lawn care services. We hope to see you next season!

Sincerely, Phyllis Bergwin

Remembering Homepage founding designer Jeffrey Goldammer

By: Juliet Martinez



Jeffrey D. Goldammer, June 3, 1960 - September 26, 2021. Photo by Tuan Nguyen

Homepage founder and former designer Jeffrey D. Goldammer, who created the original layout and worked on The Hazelwood Homepage in its early years, died September 26.

Mr. Goldammer was born in Pittsburgh on June 3, 1960, to the late Rose (Blancato) and Wulfrin Goldammer. He graduated cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh. He trademarked n@, a shorthand for n'at and a symbol of Pittsburghese.

Mr. Goldammer loved to joke and pull the occasional prank. He was known for his friendliness and intelligence. Friends and family mem-

bers left online tributes to his passion for fighting the good fight.

He was a former member of the 1980's bands The Convenients and Kitsch. As he got older, he still loved to write songs and accompany himself on guitar. He was working on recording a solo project in recent years.

Mr. Goldammer ran his own design studio, Bravo Design, since 1997. He was also a skilled handyman and builder. He renovated three homes in Greenfield and gained five-star ratings for his work. One tribute from a friend mentioned a set of treasured bookcases he built for her.

He leaves behind his wife, Michele (nee Engelmann), his uncle, Angelo Blancato (Gudrun), and cousins Nancy Fair, Ann Blancato (Dee Bruce), Sam Blancato (Jillian Barnett), Tom Blancato, Bob (CL) and George (Debbie) Ruda, and Judy Giddings. His uncle in Germany, Diethart Goldammer died before him. He also leaves relatives in Germany: his aunts, Gesa Goldammer and Dagmar Goldammer; cousins, Bjoern (Dhouha) and Till (Karen) Goldammer, and Svenja (Goldammer) Puls (Oliver).

Hazelwood Initiative, Inc., and the Homepage staff offer our deepest condolences to Mr. Goldammer's family and friends.

SCHOOL UPDATES

Propel Hazelwood cultivates partnerships to benefit everyone

By Propel Hazelwood

As a Community School, Propel Hazelwood values the health of its scholars, families, staff, and broader community. To increase access to healthy opportunities, school staff partner with a variety of community groups.

Safe Routes to School Champions

On October 13, Walk to School Day, a group of Glen Hazel scholars walked to school with Community Site Coordinator Rachel Sonnet, Assistant City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Chief Anna Kudrav and Propel Superintendent Dr. Tina Chekan. Scholars celebrated the day with a morning dance party and pledged to walk safely throughout their neighborhoods.



Propel students and staff participated in the city-wide Walk to School Day on October 13. Photo by Josh Martin

Propel Hazelwood is among the first Safe Routes to School Cham-

pions, as designated by the City of Pittsburgh Department of Mobility and Infrastructure. Through this effort, scholars identified barriers to walking and biking in Hazelwood. Improvements are scheduled to begin in the spring.

Promoting health equity

This year, Propel joined HealthCorps, a national nonprofit committed to eliminating health inequity in at-risk communities by educating and empowering students to improve their physical and mental health. Nationally, HealthCorps supports a network of schools called Living Labs, of which Propel Hazelwood is one. Coordinator Julia McAfee mentors scholars, leads health-related workshops, and promotes various in-school and afterschool activities.

Propel is HealthCorps' first partner in the Pittsburgh area. Recently, our scholars, families, and staff met HealthCorps' founder, world renowned TV personality and surgeon Dr. Oz, when he visited the area.

Receiving asthma care at school

Another partnership we have is with the Duquesne University Center for Integrative Health. Thanks to a Bridges to Health Grant, Propel Hazelwood has expanded our in-school Asthma Clinic from nine participants to 17. Propel Hazelwood offered influenza and COVID-19 vaccination clinics that were open to the public.



Photo by Josh Martin

Coordinating care for health challenges

Additionally, Propel Hazelwood has made numerous referrals to Community Health Workers. Based out of the Center of Life, Community Health Workers provide in-home care coordination. Propel Hazelwood families can also take advan-

tage of the RX for Change program to assist with chronic disease management.

Propel Hazelwood values these types of collaborations that support our educators as they redefine school so that our scholars can defy expectations.

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.

— Albert Camus

TRVS students campaign and vote in elections with real responsibilities

By Maggie Bogdanich

Hello there from all of us at Three Rivers Village School! Election season is upon us. Here at TRVS, students are no stranger to elections. As a democratically run school, every year our Elections Clerk, a position held either by a student or a staff member, organizes and oversees elections at school. Anyone who wants to run for positions such as School Meeting Chair, Justice Committee Chair, Elections Clerk, Announcements Meeting Chair, and Chore Clerk must campaign and be elected. These officials have important jobs and play an integral role in fundamental school operations. Students have the opportunity to hold positions that require real responsibility to their school community.



TRVS students deliberated on what color to paint the new computer room in the former YMCA. Photo by Lauren McNulty

When they do, our school is all the better for it.

TRVS is inching ever closer to moving into the former YMCA on

Chatsworth Street. We recently had Family Work Days where some TRVS parents came to help pack school belongings at the Spartan

Center and move them to our soon-to-be school building. We are in love with the outdoor space around our new school building and can't wait to spend more time there once we finalize our move!

Over at Chatsworth Street, we picked up litter outside, and one of the classrooms got a fresh coat of green paint. Students and our staff member, Lauren, shot some footage around the grounds for a video promoting our Annual Appeal Fundraiser that runs from October 11th through November 12th. Check us out on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ThreeRiversVillageSchool>) if you'd like to donate.

For more information about the Three Rivers Village School contact us at info@threeriversvillageschool.org.

FAMILIAR FACES



Sherry and Terry had a chance to catch up at the 4th Annual Grandparents’ Day Celebration on September 14. Arts Excursions Unlimited organized the event. Photo by Heather Mull



Tanny and Nita enjoy themselves at the 4th Annual Grandparents’ Day Celebration at the Vietnam Veterans Pavilion in Schenley Park. Photo by Heather Mull



Cheryl and Erin get ready for bingo at the 4th Annual Grandparent's Day Celebration at the Vietnam Veterans Pavilion in Schenley Park. Photo by Heather Mull



Tayshaun and Charles are Hazelwood teens who volunteer and work for Arts Excursions Unlimited. They helped set up and clean up for the Grandparents Day celebration. Photo by Heather Mull



Guest speaker Marcia Reid shares her wisdom and creativity with grandparents at the 4th Annual Grandparent's Day Celebration on September 14. Photo by Heather Mull

FAMILIAR FACES



Ella waits to hear her number and win one of the many door prizes at the 4th Annual Grandparent's Day Celebration on September 14 in Schenley Park. Photo by Heather Mull



Rev. June Jeffries (right) embraces a friend at the 4th Annual Grandparent's Day Celebration. Photo by Heather Mull



Grandkids can celebrate grandparents, too. Judah line dances at the 4th Annual Grandparent's Day Celebration organized by Arts Excursions Unlimited. Photo by Heather Mull



Carolyn smiles as Teaira greets friends and family at the Grandparents' Day event on September 14. Photo by Heather Mull

Arts Excursions Unlimited is dedicated to increasing the cultural connectivity of the citizens of the greater Hazelwood community. The project is community-owned. AEU is facilitated by artist Edith Abeyta. <http://www.artsexcursionsunlimited.com/>

31ST WARD WIRE

Lincoln Place • Gates Manor

Hays • New Homestead



Our Mission:

The 31st Ward Community Action Group was established to bring the residents of our community together, advocate for the neighborhoods' needs, and to support the youth, veterans, and senior citizens of the 31st Ward and surrounding areas.

31st Ward Churches



Holy Angels Parish
408 Baldwin Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
412-461-6906
www.holyangelsshays.org

Lincoln Place Church of the Nazarene
5604 Interboro Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
412-462-2524
www.ipnaz.org

Lincoln Place Presbyterian Church
1202 Muldowney Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
412-461-3377

Mt. Rise Baptist Church
80 Ingot Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15120
412-462-8333

Maoz Tzur - Rock of Ages Messianic Jewish Congregation at Lincoln Place Church of the Nazarene
5604 Interboro Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
412-609-1117

St. John the Baptist Byzantine Cathedral
210 Greentree Road
Munhall, PA 15120
412-461-0944

Warriors of Holiness in Power (W.H.I.P. Ministries)
1174 Mifflin Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
412-461-5571

31st Ward CAG Corner

Join the 31st Ward Community Action Group for community planning and events, discussion of current concerns and goals, as well as updates from Zone 4 police, the Office of Councilman O'Connor, and the mayor's office.

Meeting location: Lincoln Presbyterian Church,
1202 Muldowney Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15207

*Monthly meetings every 2nd Tuesday at 7 PM
Social Hall of LP Presbyterian Church.
Enter on Cooley Way

Contact us:

Email: executiveboard@31WardCag.org

Website: 31stwardcag.org

Find us on Facebook!

31st Ward Flag Fund

Your donation will help our volunteers to install and maintain American flags that line the streets of the 31st Ward. Please make checks payable to the **31st Ward Community Action Group** and mail to 944 Sunglow St, Munhall, PA 15120. Include a return mailing address if you would like a receipt of your donation. Send a donation via Venmo to @Pgh31stWardCAG, www.venmo.com/Pgh31stWardCAG



Informal tournament at Lincoln Place's new Dekhockey rink



More than 10 years after dreaming up this vision, Patrick and Shara Stack saw kids and families getting together to play Dekhockey at the new rink in McBride Park in Lincoln Place on October 9. The ribbon-cutting was in June and the Penguins donated around \$3000 of equipment.

Mr. Stack said mixed-age groups will play together for now. "We're doing that until we kind of grow and can break things up into different experience levels," he said. "The kids have been real good about it." Photo by Juliet Martinez

Church schedules and information

Yorke Fellowship

ALL ARE WELCOME AT YORKE FELLOWSHIP
We are an independent, unaffiliated, episcopal style, congregation. Our Sunday Services are held at 11:15 am, THE FORGE WINERY, 210 E 7th Avenue, Homestead, PA 15120 (We are right by Aldi's in Homestead)
Come participate in our Music Program. We have a Music Library of over 15,000 Anthems and growing daily.
Participate in our Choir, Men's Vocal Group, or Scholar Choir.
Become active in our Bread Ministry.
Participate in our Morning Prayer Service and our mid-week service
You are loved and welcomed here at Yorke Fellowship
All services are live streamed on our Facebook page.
Rev. Raymond Ursin is our Pastor
Please contact us at yorkefellowship@gmail.com for questions.

Lincoln Place Church of the Nazarene

Sunday School (all ages) - 9:30 AM
Children's Church - 10:30 AM
Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Evening Service - 6:30 PM
Monthly food pantry - 3rd Saturday (8:30 AM) at Lincoln Place Presbyterian
Need a ride to church? Call Darrel at 412-461-6742

Holy Angels Parish

Tuesday - 8:00 AM
Thursday - 8:00 AM
Friday - 8:00 AM
Saturday - 8:00 AM
Saturday Vigil - 6:00 AM
Sunday - 9:30 AM
Confession: Saturdays after 8am 'til 9am

Lincoln Place Presbyterian Church

Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 AM
Monday - NA's 7:00 PM
Tuesday - Senior Lunch & more 12:00-2:00 PM
Free Library-Tuesday's 10:00 - 1:00 PM
All are welcome.
For more info call: 412-461-3377

HOUSING

Mediation for tenants and landlords is better and cheaper than court

By Juliet Martinez

If you rent and have a problem with your landlord, it might feel like you do not have many options. Do you withhold rent and risk eviction? Pay for a lawyer? For renters in Allegheny County, there is another way.

Just Mediation Pittsburgh is a free mediation service for renters and their landlords. Renters must be low- or fixed-income to qualify. If you rent and have problems with your landlord, you can contact Just Mediation.

After calling, you will go through an intake process to identify your problems and needs. The intake specialist will contact the other party in the dispute to explain the process. At that point you may also find out about other resources like food banks or legal aid.

Mediation is a completely voluntary process. No one is forced to take part.

If the other party agrees, a trained mediator schedules a virtual meeting. Most of their mediations are taking place online, but they can do them over the phone if necessary. The mediator schedules the meeting at convenient times for you and the other party.

Just Mediation has had about 170 cases since launching in May, 2020. Aaron Erb is Just Mediation's Exec-

utive Director. He said 90% of their cases have reached a settlement both parties can agree to.

Landlords and tenants create settlements together with the help of the mediator. Both parties then sign the agreement. The settlement agreement is binding and becomes part of the lease.

The primary goal of Just Mediation is to help tenants avoid eviction. Eviction filings are traumatic, time-consuming and costly for tenants, and lead to housing insecurity.

Brenda Harris is Just Mediation's Media and Engagement Director. She said eviction is something ev-



Brenda Harris, Just Mediation Pittsburgh Media and Engagement Director, spoke with the Hazelwood Initiative, Inc., community meeting on October 12. Photo courtesy of Brenda Harris

Call Action Housing for help making your home weather-tight

By Juliet Martinez

The Old Farmer's Almanac predicts this winter will be severe. It is time to talk about weatherizing your home.

Weatherizing means making sure heat stays in and cold air stays out. First, find places where you can feel cool air coming into your home. By sealing those leaks with caulk or spray foam, you can keep your home warmer and save on your heating bill. If cold air is leaking around a door, weather stripping can help. Weather stripping is a foam strip that sticks to the edges of your door to prevent leaks.

It is also a good idea to get your fur-

nace tuned up before the cold weather sets in. Regular maintenance can save you from waking up freezing because your furnace broke. But buying supplies and having a HVAC person come out to check your furnace may not be in the budget.

There is help available.

Action Housing and Duquesne Light have partnered to help people weatherize their homes. The program helps low- and fixed-income households make their homes more weather-tight. Call Action Housing at 412-281-2102 (ext.2101) for information on how to apply. If you rent, get your landlord's permission before making any changes in your home.

everyone involved would prefer to avoid. It can cost landlords \$5000 or more to evict a tenant. Besides court filing fees, they may also need process service and have to pay constable fees.

"Once you've removed that tenant, it's going to include the cost of rehabbing that [unit]," she said. It may remain vacant for months, and the landlord has to pay to list it so they can find a new tenant.

Ms. Harris said it is best not to wait until the landlord-tenant relationship has fallen apart.

"They don't have to be on the brink of eviction in order to come to us," Ms. Harris said. "Frankly, I would encourage them to come before it's blown up to the point where you feel like that's your only recourse."

Mr. Erb said Just Mediation has

positive relationships with many landlords. They gain this trust by being impartial.

"We're not a tenant advocate program. We're not casting [the landlord] as the big bad wolf in the story." Tenants need to have a reasonable place to live and landlords have mortgages to pay. "We're in the middle," he said, "trying to provide a situation where both parties can get everything they need."

Mr. Erb said sometimes tenants and landlords work things out before mediation. By talking about trying mediation, they might clear the air. "It kind of highlights how simple some of these miscommunications are," he said.

Their website is <https://www.justmediationpgh.org/>. Their phone number is 412-228-0730.

Meetings every 2nd Tuesday of the month!

GREATER HAZELWOOD

VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

**Tuesday
Nov. 9th
6pm - 8pm**

TOPICS & SPEAKERS

- **Nisus Brewing Company** - Steve Hartman, Bob Hartman, Larry Adams
- **Redevelopment of the former S&R Mart Parking Lot** -- Kate Tunney, Rothschild Doyno
- **Trade Up!** (building trades apprenticeship) - Daniel Lampmann, Literacy Pittsburgh
- **Bridges to Health & Community Health Workers** - Tiara Parker
- **Hazelwood Initiative Updates**- Gladstone Residences--Workforce Development
- **Community Announcements**

Register in advance for this meeting:
<https://bit.ly/2SwPr9k>
 CALL IN TO LISTEN: (646) 558-8656
 Meeting ID: 853 9182 9343 Passcode: 796212

Drawing for \$25 gift cards at the end of the meeting!

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COMMUNITY VOICES

We must draw the circle of Love and act as one

By Jim McCue

The Universe is a living but temporary manifestation of God. Quantum physics is showing that there is no such thing as separation. Though it seems counterintuitive, quantum computers go almost past the restrictions of time and space to yield speeds much faster than traditional computers. Since electricity travels about 186,300 miles per second, that's pretty fast!

There is technology that can get us all off the grid. Energy is everywhere. It can be absorbed from sunlight, ocean waves, and wind. Scientists are coming up with all kinds of ideas and inventions, for example, to slow down the rate of climate change.

But the biggest thing we can do is re-green the Earth. There are thousands of environmental organizations and millions of people working together to get us back on course.

Ben Franklin noted that death and taxes are two certainties of life. Life is temporary; get over it. This

Schoolhouse Earth is not everything there is, but it's an important part of it.

These times seem to me to be similar to those at time of Christ. Great catastrophes are being matched by great miracles. The droughts, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and diseases are the waking up of a new age. The new Earth being born is up to us to help create. "The kingdom of God is within you," said Jesus the Christ.

God is not a white guy with a beard. God is Love. You don't have to believe there is a God at all to see that, regardless of your personal limitations, you do have some freedom to act. Acting as one, we can solve any problem.

Outwitted

He drew a circle that shut me out —
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But Love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in!

~Edwin Markham

The Best Places to Catch the Leaves Changing in Hazelwood and Greenfield

By Julie and Ted Block

With the fall season in full swing, the days are shorter, the apple cider is hot, and Pittsburgh's leaves are changing! And while most of them will be on the ground or in giant piles by the end of this month, there's still plenty of time to catch some of the prettiest leaves in two of our favorite Pittsburgh neighborhoods—Hazelwood and Greenfield.

As we've walked and driven through the neighborhoods with our real estate clients in recent weeks, we've figured out some of the best places to take in the colorful leaves before they're completely gone this season.

Where to Spot the Best Leaves East Elizabeth Street & The Hazelwood Greenway

For this one, you'll want to follow East Elizabeth Street all the way to the end. There, you'll find an entrance to the Hazelwood Greenway. Hop out of your car and enjoy the hike through the woods as you take in the colors of the season! Be sure

to wear a good pair of boots in case it's been raining.

Kilborn Street and Tesla Street

Like the Hazelwood Greenway, Kilborn Street cuts through the woods. Unlike Hazelwood Greenway, however, it's a narrow street, so you'll need to take your car. Hug the forest all the way to Telsa Street, where you can spot the changing leaves inside Calvary Catholic Cemetery.

Schenley Park

This one might be the most obvious, but Greenfield is so close to Schenley Park, we had to mention it! Head north over the Greenfield bridge. If you like viewing the leaves from your car, turn right onto Pocusset Street. Or, if you'd like to walk, continue until you reach your favorite trail or parking lot.

Irvine Street

Long, straight, and relatively flat, Irvine Street can be a great place to walk while taking in the fall colors. Plus, in the right spots, you can even get a view of the railroad tracks and the Monongahela River! Just be

Pumpkin patch brings fall festivities to Floriated Interpretations on Second Avenue



Floriated Interpretations hosted a pumpkin patch right in the neighborhood in October. School groups and families got portraits taken by Prestine Bush, did fall-themed crafts and of course picked out pumpkins to take home. (Left) A girl with a friendly scarecrow. (Bottom) Kyomi Knox from Center of Life is seen here helping a young crafter with her project.

Photos by Tameeka Cuff-Jones



Six-word stories: Back by popular demand

This popular audience participation feature has been missing from The Homepage for the last two issues. Thanks to readers who made their voices heard, we're pleased to bring it back.

Here are prompts for next month's issue! Please submit your six-word poems and stories to editor@hazelwoodinitiative.org by Monday, November 15.

Write a six-word story or poem about:

- A favorite place for leaf peeping
- Pittsburgh's annual Light Up Night
- Ending the Pandemic

This month's prompts came from MaryAnn Majcher. Send your six-word story prompt ideas to editor@hazelwoodinitiative.org.

careful: The sidewalk along Irvine Street is rough in some patches.

Monteiro Street and Flemington Street

This one's a little more challenging because of its hills (Monteiro Street has plenty of stairs!), but the sidewalk is quiet and the trees are colorful in the fall months. Start on the Magee Park end of Monteiro Street, then head northeast.

Have Your Own Favorite Spot?

Of course, the Pittsburgh region is packed with great spots for watching the leaves change. From the winding trails of Settlers Cabin Park to the paths of North Park, you don't need to travel far for great views in Pittsburgh.

Where are your favorite spots? We'd love to hear about it! Feel free to drop us a line at theblocks@blocksintheburgh.com.

Julie and Ted are realtors with Compass Realty. You can learn more about them by visiting blocksintheburgh.com.

COMMUNITY VOICES

Playground

- Continued from Front Page

city officials to repair and reopen their playground. It was plagued by hazards, including deep holes left by missing benches and tables. Concrete chunks had fallen from the Parkway East during PennDOT repairs, and a broken play structure had injured a child. But the sudden appearance of DPW workers was not quite what the community had asked for.

OnePGH will rehabilitate playgrounds in The Run and Hazelwood

A September 3 City of Pittsburgh press release announced that “Carnegie Mellon University [CMU] and the City of Pittsburgh have partnered to provide support for the rehabilitation of Four Mile Run playground in Greenfield and improvements at Lewis playground in Hazelwood as part of the OnePGH community investment plan announced earlier this year by Mayor William Peduto.”

We learned about these plans the same way we learned about the CMU- and Pitt-proposed Mon-Oakland Connector: through press coverage.” - Ziggy Edwards

The press release characterized DPW’s work on The Run’s existing playground as “short-term repairs” while the new playground is being planned. But residents of The Run say no one was lobbying for a brand-new playground, and that it should be unnecessary once their playground is fully repaired.

Plan does not include specifics or reflect neighborhood input

The press release did not say how much CMU planned to donate for each playground. OnePGH is a partnership between the city and outside nonprofits, including CMU. District 5 Councilman, Corey O’Connor, said there is no set amount for the

CMU donation “because we want to do a neighborhood process to see what people want at both playgrounds.”

“For The Run,” Councilman O’Connor added, “[these current repairs were] City money. We requested the repairs last fall, but there was a backlog due to COVID.”

“It’s exciting to see the work happen,” Run resident Ziggy Edwards said, but added, “We learned about these plans the same way we learned about the CMU- and Pitt-proposed Mon-Oakland Connector [MOC]: through press coverage. It’s disappointing that—once again—major decisions affecting our neighborhood came from a partnership between our elected representatives and monied interests that excluded residents.”

Hazelwood and Run residents, and dozens of social justice and community groups, churches, and others, have rejected the MOC, a proposed shuttle road between the Hazelwood Green development and Oakland campuses. The MOC is championed by the public-private partnership formed between CMU, Pitt, and Mayor Peduto’s administration for that purpose. Residents say building a new road through the Junction Hollow section of Schenley Park and The Run will permanently degrade the park and eventually erase the neighborhood. Affected communities —The Run, Panther Hollow, Greenfield, South Oakland, and Hazelwood — created their own plan for how MOC funds should be spent instead: Our Money, Our Solutions [OMOS].

The city did not seek input from Hazelwood residents on restoring Lewis Playground

James Cole of Hazelwood said he was unaware of CMU’s playground funding commitment until contacted for this article. “How is it that no one asked the people in the neighborhoods what they want?” he asked. “I have 150 kids up [at Burgwin Field for youth programs] every day, and this is the first I’m hearing



The Run’s playground was closed for over three years because of decaying infrastructure, including broken equipment that injured a neighborhood child. Photo by Ray Gerard

about it.”

“How is it that no one asked the people in the neighborhoods what they want?” - James Cole

Three Rivers Village School [TRVS] is planning a move from the Spartan Center into the former YMCA across Chatsworth Avenue from Lewis Playground. Staffer Jason White-Weidow said he had not heard about the plan to improve the playground either.

“It would definitely be great for TRVS to have an updated park there and it would get a lot of use by our kids, including the Hazelwood residents,” Mr. White-Weidow said. “We agree though, that it is strange that the community wasn’t consulted.” He added that if other parks or community resource priorities would serve more residents, especially kids, then neighbors’ voices should be heard and respected.

Councilman O’Connor said the community has expressed itself extensively about both playgrounds. “We’ve heard from people for a number of years,” he said, naming the Greenfield Community Association, Hazelwood Initiative, Inc., Center of Life and other community groups. He said other feedback came from community and budget meetings and 311 calls.

Councilman O’Connor said there is no timeframe yet for the meetings the city wants to hold with residents, but stressed that “there will be opportunities for community input.”

Residents say Greenfield K-8 needs a playground

In a similar spirit to the OMOS

plan, residents are already identifying and proposing alternatives for the Four Mile Run playground funds. Ms. Warwick says a playground is desperately needed at Greenfield Elementary School.

“Greenfield is a K-8 school with a special needs program and a Pre-K program. Right now, all they have is a field that’s often too muddy to use, and a big parking lot,” Ms. Warwick explained. A group of parents from the Greenfield Community Association and the Greenfield School PTO are working together to raise funds for a playground. “We should build a playground that will improve the lives of kids from all over Greenfield,” she added.

Read this article with links to source material at <https://www.junctioncoalition.org/2021/09/15/hazelwood-run-residents-react-to-announced-playground-funding/>.

"Thank you" is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding.

— Alice Walker

POORLAW Community Thanksgiving dinner

Date and time: November 25th 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Call Sandra Cole at 412-670-8421 for location details.

This event has been happening every year for more than 10 years, bringing families and communities together.

COMMUNITY VOICES

A Reason to Give Thanks

By Vicar Benjamin Janssen

In Psalm 136, King David writes, “Give thanks to the LORD for He is good, His steadfast love endures forever” (Ps 136:1). We all have a reason to celebrate this time of year and give thanks to God for preserving us through another year. In my life, I am especially thankful for my family, friends, and for the greater Hazelwood community. You have all graciously accepted my family into your loving and beautiful community and for that, I am forever thankful. Hazelwood is our home and I cannot thank you enough for making us a part of your community.

On top of my personal thanks, Holy Cross is forever grateful for our community as we get to know more and more people each and every week through our multiple events and regular food and clothing distribution center. We are continuously thankful for all the supports, prayers, volunteers,

donors, local partnerships, donations, and offerings that continue to sustain our mission of loving you on account of Jesus’ love for us (1 Jn 4:19). We love our community and cannot be more thankful for all the wonderful people we get to meet, work with, and serve on a daily and weekly basis.

Most importantly, our church, along with Christians throughout the world, are continuously thankful for the salvation won for us in the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In Jesus Christ, we have been given salvation, hope, everlasting life, and eternal joy in heaven. Our spiritual and physical comfort is found in Jesus Christ, the true Son of God who died for our sins and was raised for our salvation and justification. This eternal and everlasting truth is the foundation of all our thankfulness and praise.

Come join us in giving thanks to God for all the good things which have been given to us in our lives. Come give thanks with us for our

community, for friends, neighbors, and for the Son of God who has won for us salvation. Our Sunday morning worship is at 9:30AM and all our other weekly and monthly events can be found on our calendar. God bless you all this month and thank you for being our neighbor!

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.



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DAT’Z Mini Mart marks first anniversary



The Zupancic family celebrated one year since opening DAT’Z Mini Mart at 791 Hazelwood Avenue in November of 2020. Albert Zupancic said his inspiration was the penny candy stores of his childhood. Kids like to come in to get a vintage treat, and neighbors of all ages come in for basics like milk, eggs and bread. “The neighbors know each other,” he said. “They sit all together in the evenings. And that was the whole point of the store: children and community.” Photos by Juliet Martinez

Become a Court Appointed Special Advocate for kids in foster care

Court appointed special advocates (CASA) volunteers are there to help at one of the hardest times in a child’s life. They get to know the child and the important people in their life, like parents, teachers, doctors and foster parents, attorneys and social workers. Then CASA volunteer presents the information they learned to judges and others involved in the child’s care. This helps steer decisions towards what is best for the child.

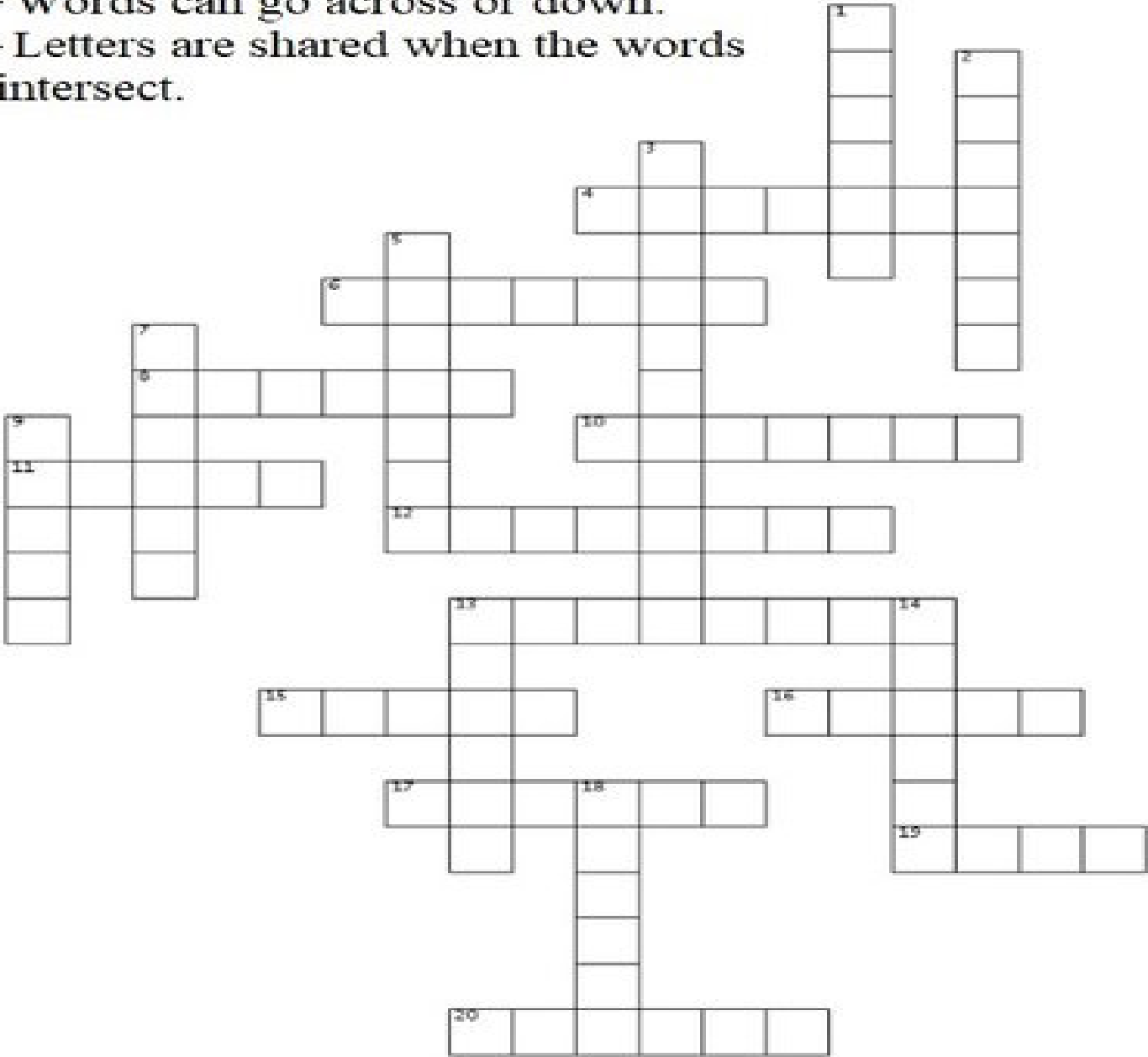
All kinds of people become CASA volunteers. Anyone who cares about giving the most vulnerable kids a fair shot at life can get trained to be a CASA volunteer. Go to <https://pacasa.org/> for more information.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

TREASURE HUNT CROSSWORD

Use the clues to fill in the words.

- Words can go across or down.
- Letters are shared when the words intersect.



Crossword Clues

ACROSS

4. Floriated Interpretations was full of these in October.
6. Temperature inversions are a kind of this.
8. The Hazelwood football is called this.
10. Get this to avoid getting COVID-19 or passing it to someone you love.
11. This is one way to create a family.
12. This is one of several kinds of domestic abuse listed in State Rep. Jeanne McNeill's commentary.
13. Vicar Janssen says Holy Cross is forever this for the community.
15. PWSA says please keep leaves out of these kinds of drains.
16. The new Dekhockey rink is in Lincoln this.
17. This is coming so it's time to weatherize and keep the cold air out.
19. A recipe for this dish is still commonly made in Wampanoag country.
20. CASA volunteers can make a difference in the lives of kids in this system.

DOWN

1. Easy Does Lawn Care sends this to all their faithful customers.
2. Jim McCue says this kind of physics tells us there is no such thing as separation.
3. POORLAW, GH-CARED and other groups want one of these on Second Avenue.
5. Just Mediation can help resolve disputes between these and landlords.
7. Kids all over the city walked and biked to this place on October 13.
9. DAT'Z Mini-Mart in Greenfield has a lot of different kinds of this.
13. Matt Peters and friends gathered to plant this at the Y garden.
14. The Blocks suggest some good places to look at these as they change colors.
18. Landforce helped clear these in the Greenway.

STR8TS SUDOKU

Easy

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

Tough

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

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.

2	1		4	5	
6	4	5	3	2	
4	5		2	1	
4	3	6	2	1	5
3	5	2	1	4	
2	1	3			

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 **CROSSWORD KEY** and **SOLUTIONS** on Page 23

BLUEBERRY BUSH GIVEAWAY

The Izaak Walton League of America has recognized Hazelwood as an environmental justice community and made us a priority community to receive free blueberry bushes as part of its new initiative, The Pittsburgh Blueberry Project.

Blueberries are:

- Nutrient rich and good for your brain, heart, skin, and muscle
- Fresh produce you can grow in your yard
- Good for native moths, butterflies and birds

Plus, blueberry bushes can help absorb stormwater. They are low-maintenance, don't grow very tall and need little pruning.

To receive blueberry bushes next spring, sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/HZbluetrees> (this web address is case sensitive).

Email Matt Peters, Urban Garden Manager at gardens@hazelwoodinitiative.org for additional information.

To learn more about planting blueberries, go to <https://tinyurl.com/planting-blueberries>.



Illustration by Ray Gerard

NOVEMBER EVENT

11/2021

JAZZ BRUNCH



November 13th, 2021

12pm - 3pm

The South Porch at Mill-19

Live local sounds, handmade sips,
and brunch favorites in an intimate
outdoor lounge.

hazelwoodlocal.com

RSVP: [HAZELWOODLOCAL.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com/haelwoodlocal)

Sobaheg, a Wampanoag traditional autumn stew

By: Paula Bidwell (Shawnee, Lakota, Cherokee, Delaware and Seneca)

Editor's note: The Wampanoag people were the first to come in contact with the fleets of settler colonists who invaded the shores of Wampanoag territory in what became Massachusetts. Wampanoag historian and educator Linda Coombs says many foods eaten on Thanksgiving come from Native Americans. "Turkeys are one of our indigenous birds here," she says. "So, I have no problem eating turkey any day of the year. Squash, cranberries—all that comes from us."

Read stories of Wampanoag culture, history and interactions with Pilgrims, as well as crafts and more recipes at <http://www.manyhoops.com>.

Sobaheg is the Wampanoag word for stew. Like most stews, this dish is easily adapted to seasonal ingredients. The ground nuts help to thicken the sobaheg. Variations of this dish are still made in Wampanoag country today.

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup dried beans
- 1/2 cup coarse grits*
- 1 pound venison or other meat, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 8 cups water
- 1 small acorn squash or 2 cups any other winter squash, peeled and cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 cup peeled and cubed Jerusalem artichokes**
- 1/4 cup walnuts, chestnuts, or sunflower seeds, shelled and ground until powdery

In a large, heavy-bottomed pot, combine the dried beans, grits, venison, salt, and 8 cups water. Bring the mixture to a gentle boil over medium heat. Cover the pot, reduce the heat, and keep the sobaheg at a low simmer for approximately 2 hours, stirring often to prevent sticking. Periodically skim off the froth that rises to the top.

When the beans and venison are tender, stir in the squash and Jerusalem artichokes. Simmer until they are cooked through, about 30 minutes.

Add the nut flour, stirring until thoroughly blended, and serve.

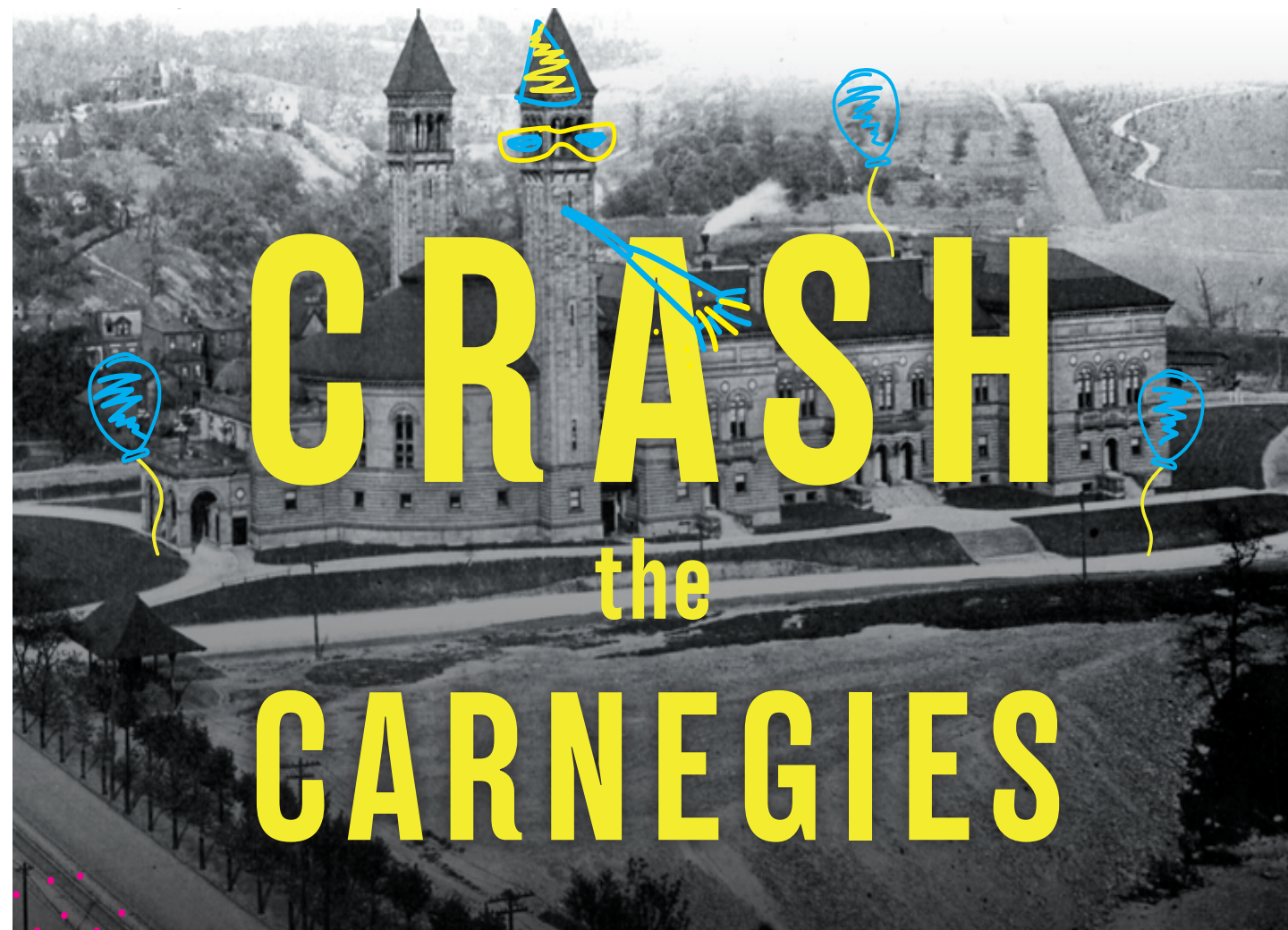
*Coarse grits of flint corn, some-

times called samp, from the Narragansett word "nasàump." Coarse white or yellow grits are available at many large supermarkets. Finely ground corn used for Southern grits just will not do.

**Jerusalem artichokes, also called sunchokes, are part of the sunflower family. They are available in market produce sections in the fall and early winter. If you are unable to find them, the recipe will still be delicious.



Photo by Juliet Martinez



NOVEMBER 6 & 7
4400 FORBES AVENUE

Join Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh for a celebration 125 years in the making!

We're celebrating our anniversary by opening up our historic Oakland campus to the community... FOR FREE. Experience our spaces like never before. Fun for the whole family. Take part in activities, performances, tours, and more!

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GLADSTONE RESIDENCES

CONSTRUCTION TRAINING OPPORTUNITY



Hazelwood Initiative and The Community Builders, Inc. have partnered to redevelop the former Gladstone School located in Pittsburgh's Hazelwood neighborhood into affordable apartments.

- The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) of Western PA will conduct a trainer-based NCCER accredited training program.
- The first module will be CORE focused and involve approximately 50 hrs of classroom time covering Safety, Tools, Employability, Rigging, Construction Drawings, Construction Math, Large Tools/Machinery, and construction site communication.
- The team will assist in placing graduates into construction jobs at Gladstone School upon completion.

INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN THIS TRAINING OPPORTUNITY SHOULD CONTACT 412-421-7234







DON'T GET EVICTED! GET HELP!

EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ERAP)

<https://covidrentrelief.alleghenycounty.us/>

Rental and utility assistance is now available for those who have suffered a loss of income, OR increased expenses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (Ex: higher utility bills because you are home all day>)

Up to 12 months of late rent payments and 3 months of future payments can be made--typically within 2 weeks of application. You must apply online.

If you don't have a computer or mobile device, you can go to a drop-in center or make an appointment for a phone intake (slightly slower) by calling Action Housing at (412) 248-0021.

You do not need to be a citizen. Interpretation services available. A social security number is not required.

Documents needed:

- W-2 or 1040 or 1099 tax forms, paystubs
- SSI or Unemployment determination letter
- Lease agreement signed by landlord and tenant
- Utility bills and statement of back-owed rent

For more neighborhood housing and event info visit <https://hazelwoodinitiative.org> or follow us on Facebook. Phone: (412) 421-7234.

Crossword Key

- ACROSS:

 - 4. PUMPKINS
 - 6. WEATHER
 - 8. COBRAS
 - 10. VACCINE
 - 12. STALKING
 - 13. GRATEFUL
 - 15. STORM
 - 16. PLACE
 - 17. WINTER
 - 19. STEW
 - 20. FOSTER
- DOWN

 - 1. THANKS
 - 2. QUANTUM
 - 3. SUPERMARKET
 - 5. TENANTS
 - 7. SCHOOL
 - 9. CANDY
 - 13. GARLIC
 - 14. LEAVES
 - 18. TRAILS

Solutions

Str8ts Solution

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

Sudoku Solution


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

Help plant trees in the Greenway!


Where: Meet at the top of Elizabeth Street at the entrance to the Greenway.

When: November 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/Nov-6-tree-planting>



Happy Thanksgiving



STATE SENATOR **JAY COSTA**

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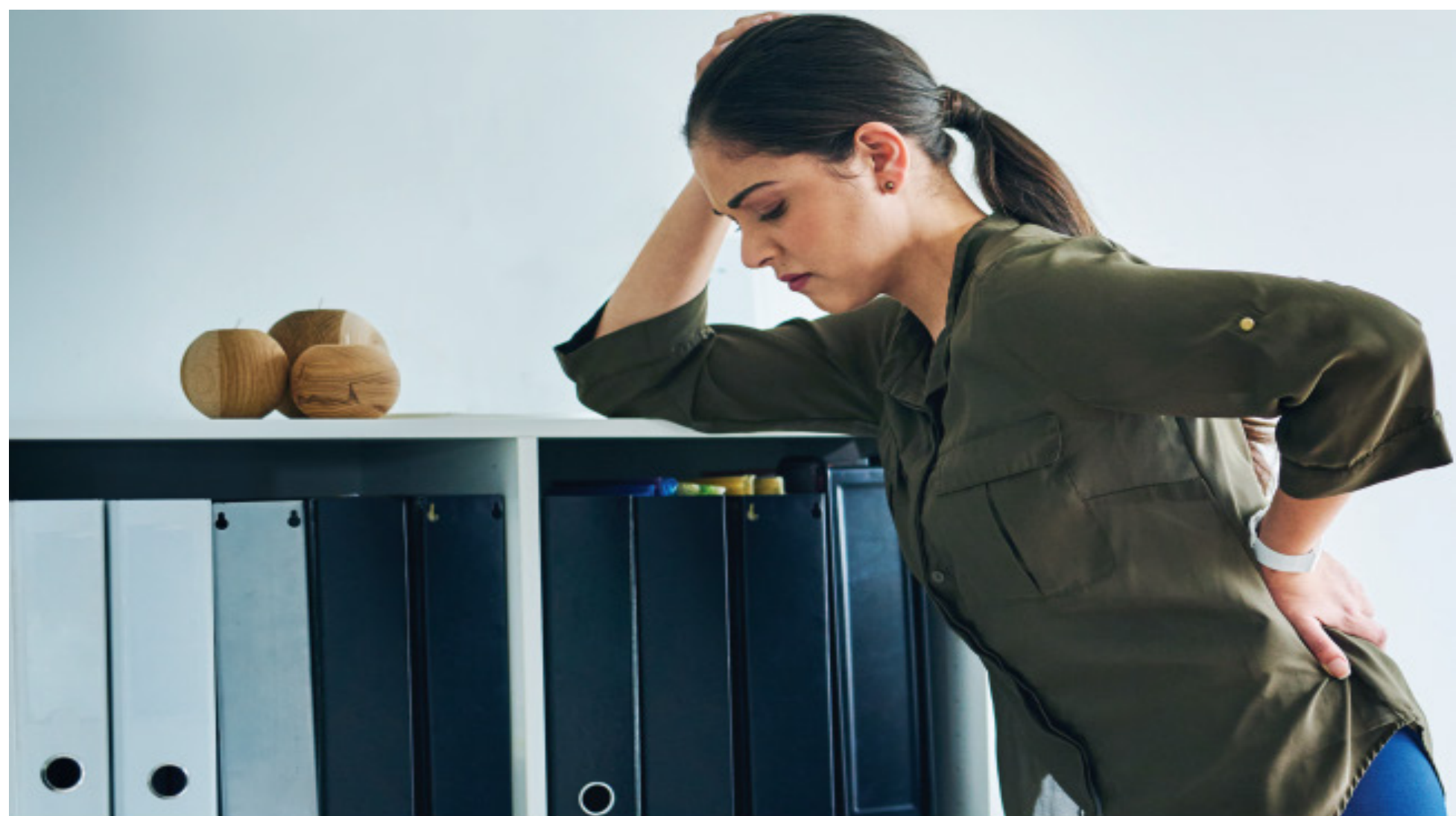
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Got Back Pain?

Are you:

- age 18 or older?
- currently experiencing low back pain?

You may be eligible for a University of Pittsburgh federally funded research study exploring different therapies to treat **low** back pain and prevent it in the future.

There is no cost to you to participate in this year-long study.

This study may not be for you if you have ongoing, bothersome back pain that has lasted more than three months.

To learn if you may qualify for a screening appointment, visit **pacback.org**.

Compensation will be provided.

If you are eligible and willing to participate, you will be randomized (like rolling dice) to one of four possible treatments:

- **Spinal Manipulation** involves hands-on therapy to the joints and muscles in the low back.
- **Supported Self-management** focuses on teaching you things you can do on your own to manage your back pain.
- **Combined Spinal Manipulation and Supported Self-management** involves a combination of hands-on therapy and self-management.
- **Medical Care** involves treatment such as medication that you would typically get from your medical provider.

