

Take One
FREE
Take One

HAZELWOOD HOMEPAGE



ONE OF PITTSBURGH'S GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS

PUBLISHED BY HAZELWOOD INITIATIVE, 5344 SECOND AVE., PITTSBURGH, PA 15207

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Celebrate African American History Month

Kelli D. Herd

February is African American History Month, a month set aside to honor African Americans who have mysteriously disappeared from "traditional" history books. Pittsburgh is ripe this month with a variety of activities and events celebrating the rich history, culture and contributions of both local and national African Americans. What follows is a list of events sure to educate, inspire and entertain everyone!

SoulScapes

209 Ninth Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-258-2700
10/5/2007 through 2/16/2008

This exhibit by African American women analyzes the many manifestations of soul in a stunning array of oil, watercolor and acrylic paintings, ceramics, computer-generated and silver gelatin photographs, fiber, collage and multimedia works.

Drawn In Black & White: The Work Of Morrie Turner

Children's Museum Of Pittsburgh
1/19/2008 through 2/27/2008

Celebrate Black History month with this exhibit offering a tribute to comic strip legend Morrie Turner, creator of "Wee Pals," the first mainstream comic strip to integrate the funny pages.

"Wee Pals" debuted in 1965 and featured minority characters and handled controversial issues with humor and humanity. Through Turner's original art, you can see how his work influenced many minority cartoonists as he tackled issues of prejudice and race relations.

Also on display will be art and production cels from cartoons featuring minorities, such as "Fat Albert," "Sesame Street" and more.

Honeydripper

Harris Theater

2/1/2008 through 2/10/2008

John Sayles' 2007 film is set in Harmony, Alabama in 1950 and tells the amazing story of the nearly-broke proprietor (Danny Glover) of the Honeydripper Lounge, who gambles everything to stage a one-night-only gig in order to save the club.

As the fates conspire in unexpected ways, the Honeydripper Lounge is suddenly and miraculously poised to play a part in rock 'n' roll history.

Features an extraordinary cast, including Charles S. Dutton, Stacy Keach, Mary Steenburgen and Sean Patrick Thomas, as well as such musical luminaries as Keb' Mo' and Dr. Mable John — and the electrifying debut of Gary Clark Jr.

See African American History, page 13

Hazelwood Demolition

Kelli D. Herd

The city of Pittsburgh opened on Tuesday, January 29, 2008 bids for the job of demolishing close to 60 abandoned and dilapidated homes in the Hazelwood area. The goal is to improve city neighborhood blocks where abandoned and run-down housing exists. According to Robert Stephaney, Urban Redevelopment Authority's deputy executive director of planning and development, demolition of this magnitude is a first for the city.

The decision to tear down these 59 homes comes on the heels of

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl's decision to increase this year's demolition budget to \$4 million. The ultimate goal is to reduce the number of abandoned houses throughout the city. Abandoned houses are often havens for crimes, drug use, illicit behavior and rodent infestation.

Demolition of the Hazelwood homes could begin as early as February. For many Hazelwood residents it should have been sooner. Hazelwood Resident Bill Boyle said of the scheduled demoli-

tions, "It's good, very good...It's about time."

Another Hazelwood resident, Naomi Miller, feels a bit nostalgic about the demolitions. Quoted in the January 29 edition of The Pittsburgh Post Gazette, Ms. Miller stated, "I think they ought to build up the city, not tear it down."

Though the city plans to demolish almost 400 abandoned homes throughout the city of

See Demolition, page 5

Hazelwood Initiative, Inc. is supported by



PPND
pittsburgh partnership for neighborhood development



PROJECT SAFE
NEIGHBORHOODS
America's Network Against Gun Violence

URA-City Mainstreet Program

Advisory Commission on Community Based Organizations (ACCBO)

Community Development Block Grants

Hazelwood Initiative 5344 Second Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

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Permit No. 5333

NEXT DEADLINE
February 18, 2008

HI Lites

Hazelwood Initiative Inc., General Membership/Community Meeting Minutes Jan 8th, 2008

Meeting was called to order by Bill Kulina at 6:35, December 11th meeting minutes were approved. Treasure's Report was given by Jim Richter along with a copy for review by the group, treasurer's report was accepted and approved by membership after all questions were addressed.

Joan McLaughlin suggested that more fundraisers be given by the Board. Jim Richter invited HI Members to go beyond their dues and become donors.

Membership Recruitment & Development report—Kris DiPietro: The February meeting will host State Officials. Kris also briefly discussed the Board Election ballots mailed in December.

Block Club/ Watches Update Sam Stratti—Riverside Block/ Watch spoke about the improvement in the Riverside Neighborhood since the demolition of nuisance housing. However he would like to see more police patrols in the area.

Joy Dore—Johnston Avenue Block/Watch spoke about restructuring and recruiting new members for the Block/Watch in the Johnston Avenue area. She referenced various places to obtain information on organizing block clubs /watches.

Deloris Livsey—Monongahela/Marsden Block/ Watch the group had a brief meeting in which they discussed restructuring of Bylaws with the assistance of Marjorie Howard from CTAC.

Rev. Michael Murray inquired about the structure of block club development. Organization and regulations of block/watches in neighborhoods, Jim Richter addressed this question briefly indicating that HI had various guides and resources to assist with development.

Guest Speaker: Bethany Davidson, Policy Analyst Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group. Main Topic of Discussion: Vacant Property Issues:

1. Vacant Property Working Group (VPWG) assists community groups in assembling land for development projects.
2. Nuisance Properties- the VPWG has researched existing legislation throughout the Commonwealth regarding active nuisance property legislation and made recommendations.

3. PCRG publicly supports the Mayor's Disruptive Property Ordinance and City Council's Licensing Ordinances as methods to hold landlords accountable for the behavior of their tenants while at the same time ensuring safe shelter for those residents.

Doug Shields City of Pittsburgh Council District 5.

Key Points:

- Vital role of Block/Watches and organizations such as the Hazel Initiative, and the governing body the community the voice of the people.
- Updates on demolitions scheduled for the Hazelwood vicinity, Landlord registration. Structure of fees and regulations for out of state landlords.
- Acknowledgements: Doug thanked everyone for their support.

Mayor's Office on Neighborhood Initiative Gabriel J. Mazefsky, Policy Manager. Mr. Mazefsky gave a brief on the background and possible effectiveness of the new Disruptive Property Ordinance. Highlights:

- Identification of specific infractions that are considered disruptive activities including: Drug Violations, Gun Violations, Public Offences such as public drunkenness and excessive noise. Maintenance Violations such as overgrowth or refuse accumulations.

What if these infractions occur?

1. Property will be declared disruptive if cited for three infractions in 60 days or less;
2. Once declared disruptive any further calls for the law enforcement to the property over the next 6 months may result in the property owner being charged with the costs of the administration and law enforcement actions taken by the City in response to disruptive activity.
3. Within 10 days of receipt of the Disruptive Property violation the property owner must file a plan with the Director of Public Safety detailing plans to abate the problem. The Director must approve the plan.
4. If the City Department of Public Safety is called upon to respond to disruptive activity occurring at the property on three separate occasion within a one year period following the declaration of Disruptive Property, such property is hereby deemed to be a public nuisance punishable as a misdemeanor of the second degree by the applicable provisions of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code.
5. An appeals board will be established, The Disruptive Property Appeals Board for property owners that believe their property has been wrongfully declared disruptive. Budget for demolition has been doubled, Side Yard Sales, removal of abandoned cars within 2 days, and 311 phone lines.

Gregg Daley City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Works encouraged everyone to use the 311 phone line. Jim Richter thanked the DPPW for the worked they've done in the community.

Brian Hill City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Building Inspections updated the group on the number of houses being torn done in this area. The number of houses being demolished is 61. Twelve are located in this vicinity Flowers, Monongahela, Kilbourne and Renova Streets.

Commander Kathy Degler City of Pittsburgh Zone 4 Police Public Safety Report -- Commander Degler gave an explanation of two types of crimes which are addressed in this area. Part I and Part II crimes.

The FBI Crime in this area has decreased by 29% and the Narcotic Sales in this area are being conducted by juveniles in this area.

There also will be an upcoming training course entitled the Citizens Police Academy (CPA) which will begin Feb 25th, 2008 at the Hazelwood Presbyterian Church located at 5000 Second Avenue. The program will be held every Monday evening from 6:30 to 9:30 P.M. for 15 weeks. Description of class requirements and contact person are listed in homepage.

Executive Directors Report Jim Richter. Due to the lateness of the hour, members were asked to review copies of the Executive Director's Report.

Next upcoming event will be Earth Day scheduled for April. He also commended Bob Vavro for the upkeep of the grounds surrounding the H.I. office.

Announcements/ Comments

- Lisa Kunst Vavro suggested that the agenda be restructured to have the City Department
- Joy Dore briefly spoke about the death of Jim McCue's mother and asked that all the membership sign Sympathy card.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Board Members in Attendance: Bill Kulina, Fran Bertomaschi, Carl Di Pietro, Juanita Godfrey, Natalie Green, and Bob Vavro. Deloris Livsey Recording Secretary Jim Richter, Executive Director

HAZELWOOD HOMEPAGE

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Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.
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5344 Second Avenue
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Hazelwood Initiative, Inc. Mission Statement

Hazelwood Initiative, Inc., acts as a catalyst for the revitalization of the Greater Hazelwood community, provides leadership to create a healthy community, and serves as a community resource and advocate.



What's Up?

NOTICES CONCERNING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



The Hazelwood YMCA

SilverSneakers Program, is a low grade exercise program designed for the senior citizens. The program is year round from 10:00AM - 10:45AM, Mon. Wed. & Fri. For more information, please contact Lisa Reihl at (412) 421-5648 ext. 10.

Food Bank

The Food Pantry is a need-based program for low income families. The third Thursday of every month from 10:00AM - 12:00PM. Located at the Hazelwood YMCA, 4713 Chatsworth Ave. Please bring proof of income, address and ID.

If interested in starting NA/AA meetings at the Hazelwood YMCA, please contact Carole Jordan at (412) 421-5648 ext. 13.

Strong Communities Campaign.

We also offer special rates to families with more than one child. For information, contact Ericka Wingfield at 412.421.5648x11.

Get your Homepage faster!!

The Hazelwood Homepage is also available online at www.hazelwoodhomepage.com

Pittsburgh LEARNS After school Program at Mifflin School

Pittsburgh LEARNS is the result of a unique collaboration between the Pittsburgh Public Schools, Wireless Neighborhoods and the Hazelwood YMCA. The program focuses on a fun, innovative academic enrichment program, homework/project help, nutrition, and enrichment activities. The after school program is open to Mifflin School Kindergarten through second grade students who receive referrals from their teacher, principal, or guidance counselor. The Pittsburgh LEARNS program at Mifflin School meets from 3:30-6:00pm Monday through Friday. Contact Ikeva Wilkins at 412.715.2215 for more information.

After School Academic Enrichment Program

Our program has 3 components that provide children 5-13 yrs with LITERACY, TECHNOLOGY, and HEALTH & WELLNESS. A wide variety of age appropriate activities are offered in the education curriculum areas of math, reading, and communication. We provide transportation from local schools, snack & dinner are also provided. We also offer full day child care during select holidays and school in-service days. HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday—Friday 2:30-6:00pm. Subsidies through DPW and Child Care Partnerships are accepted. The Hazelwood YMCA scholarships are also available to all participants. Scholarships are provided with funds raised through our annual fund drive.

Nar-Anon, a support group for families of people with drug addictions, meets each Wednesday at 7 PM. at the First Hungarian Reformed Church of Pittsburgh (221 Johnston Avenue). For more information, call Cindy T. at 412-421-7076 or Eleanore M. at 412-782-2210.

Book 'Em - Pittsburgh's Books to Prisoners program seeks donations of dictionaries, how-to-draw books and African-American history and literature. Thomas Merton Center, 5125 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh (Garfield). (412) 361-3022 www.thomasmertoncenter.org

FOR SALE

Jazzy 1113 Electric Wheelchair
Only 1 month old
Used only 3 times!!! \$700.00
412.521.395

ESTATE SALE

Saturday, February 16th
Household items, miscellaneous furniture, slate pool table and accessories.
1617 State Route 885, Jefferson Hills. Call 412/401-0403 for directions.

The Valley Voices, a group of singers from the Mon Valley, is looking for vocalists to perform in the group's concerts, scheduled at the Carnegie Library of Homestead and other local venues. Rehearsals are from 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays at Central Presbyterian Church, Versailles Avenue and Union Street. For more information, call 412-655-3469 or 412-401-0403.

Important Dates From Allderdice:

Allderdice Parent School Community Council Meeting
February 12, 2008
7:00 PM
High School Library
"All are welcome to attend"

Discover Allderdice
February 20, 2008
7:00 PM-9:00 PM
Whole School
"Event geared toward future Allderdice students and families. Take the opportunity to meet with staff members and see and hear about the great things that are happening at Allderdice!"

The next Hazelwood Initiative General Membership meeting will be February 12, 6:30PM at the Car barn located at 5344 Second Avenue.

The Planning Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7PM at the HI Office.

Please join us for one or all of these meetings. For more information, please call 412.421.7234.

The Communications Committee is seeking members. If you are interested, please call the HI office or contact us via email at hazelwoodeditor@yahoo.com.



A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. -- Margaret Mead

For more What's Up and other information concerning your community, see page 7.

MAYOR LUKE RAVENSTAHL'S RESPONSE LINE
PITTSBURGH QUESTIONS COMMENTS CONCERNS
Call 3 1 1

Let Us Know What's Up
Contact Us with Information about Your Community Group, Church, Friends & Neighbors

Hazelwood Homepage
5344 Second Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
Tel/Fax - 412-421-7234
email - hazelwoodeditor@yahoo.com

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Making Progress on Pa. Health Care

State Rep. Dan Frankel

One of the more overlooked stories out of Harrisburg in the past year has been the significant progress that Gov. Rendell and the House Democratic majority have made on health care reform.

While we certainly have more to do, I am pleased to report the following:

- We passed a new law that should greatly reduce deaths and illnesses from preventable infections that occur in hospitals, nursing homes and other health-care facilities. This law requires health-care facilities to create infection-control plans and insurers to cover infection screenings. The new law also provides quality improvement payments to facilities that reduce infections and makes Pennsylvania the first state in the nation to require hospitals to meet specific benchmarks to reduce infections.
- We also passed a set of new laws that should help rein in costs and expand access to health care. These laws expand the allowable scope of practice for many types of trained health-care professionals, including certified nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse midwives and physician assistants. This is expected to allow many patients to be treated sooner and at a lower cost.
- With my support, the House has passed legislation (H.B. 834) that would protect patients by banning most mandatory overtime for nurses and other patient-care workers in hospitals and other health-care facilities. This is a common-sense measure

— we don't allow airlines and trucking companies to require 16-hour shifts or double shifts without rest because we recognize the danger to airline passengers and people who share the roads with truckers. Another benefit of this bill is that it would reduce the number of nurses who leave the profession because of overwork and burnout. I hope that the Republican-controlled state Senate will soon permit a vote on this important bill.

- I have been leading the fight for a strong smoke-free bill that would protect the health of workers and all citizens in public places. The House passed a bill that rejects exemptions for casinos and offices and other loopholes sought by the tobacco industry or other special interests. The Senate had included several exemptions to the bill, but the House took them out. I disagree with the notion, which strikes me as playing God, that some people would deserve a less healthy workplace than the rest of Pennsylvania. Clean indoor air is a right that everybody in Pennsylvania deserves — in fact, the right to clean air is in the state constitution.

Secondhand smoke causes work-related health problems that are preventable, including preventable deaths. In addition, secondhand smoke drives up health-care costs for everyone. At this writing, the bill (S.B. 246) is in a conference committee to work out differences between the versions passed by the House and Senate. I am

hopeful that the result will be a strong bill that gives Pennsylvanians protection as good as the people in most of our neighboring states, where they already have smoke-free laws. You can learn more about this issue and sign a petition about it on my Web site, www.pahouse.com/Frankel.

- Another key health-care battle involves the effort by Gov. Rendell and House Democrats to cover 800,000 Pennsylvanians who lack health insurance. While there are several different funding options being proposed, the important thing is that the costs associated with the uninsured are far more burdensome than the money we would have to allocate to provide health care to the uninsured. If you currently have health insurance, about 6 percent of your premium pays for health care for those who have no coverage. That costs you and other Pennsylvanians about \$1.4 billion a year.

On top of that, Pennsylvania businesses, taxpayers and consumers pay unnecessary health-care costs arising from avoidable hospital infections, medical errors and complications, and inadequate care for chronic diseases, such as diabetes and asthma.

I will continue working for additional health-care reform.

*** If you have been watching coverage of the early presidential primaries and caucuses and wondering why Iowa and

New Hampshire have much more influence in that process than a large state like Pennsylvania, you are not alone. With my support, the House passed a bill (H.B. 289) last year that would have moved Pennsylvania's 2008 primary from April 22 up to Feb. 12. Unfortunately, the leadership of the Republican-controlled Senate chose to let the bill die in committee.

Constituents in the 23rd Legislative District with state-related concerns or questions may call Rep. Dan Frankel's office at 412-422-1774, visit the office at 4225 Murray Ave., or send him e-mail through his Web site, www.pahouse.com/Frankel.



Neighborhood Address

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl

Dear Neighbors:

As we continue planning for Pittsburgh's future, one of my top priorities is to ensure that we reinvest in our neighborhoods, in order to create safe, clean, stable and self-sufficient communities.

Over the past six months, I have engaged in direct dialogues with more than 650 residents across the City and in each of our 90 neighborhoods as part of my Neighborhood Listening Tour. During each of the ten meetings, my directors and I shared information regarding how we put your tax dollars to work. We outlined Pittsburgh's progress in combating crime, restoring finances and reinvesting in neighborhood infrastructure. I challenged you to envision your community's future, and you did.

In return, you challenged me to take action on the issues and concerns that you brought to my attention. I will continue to create, introduce and implement initiatives, policies and programs, drawing from the feedback that you provided at the forums.

We are already addressing some of your top concerns and are trying to make your vision for the future a reality. A large number of the responses that we collected addressed public safety issues. Residents want better police protection and increased police presence in their communities. Since the start of the Neighborhood Listening Tour, we have re-opened the Zone 6 Police Station, and have reintroduced a beat cop program with at least eight police officers walking a business district beat. As part of my Safe Neighborhoods Cabinet, community stakeholders and leaders with experience, confronting and deterring crime are meeting to share their thoughts and ideas as to how we can improve public safety.

Many responses also indicated that residents wanted to see better and increased code enforcement. We made this a priority last year. In 2007, we completed over 16,500 daily code enforcement inspections compared to less than 13,000 in 2005. I will continue to place an

emphasis on code enforcement in 2008, as I think we can do even better.

Many of you long for vibrant and revitalized neighborhood business districts and residential development, as well as more recreational opportunities and facilities for our youth. Through the storefront renovation program, we currently offer \$5,000 grants to neighborhood businesses to make improvements to the façades of their buildings. We will also be expanding the Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Program (PSYEP) this year as well.

These requests are shaping and will continue to shape my plan for neighborhood development, and I am exploring ways to effect these changes. Although we are off to a great start, we can and will do more. My Neighborhood Listening Tour will continue in 2008, with a focus on the top issues identified from last year's forums. Please stay tuned for a complete schedule of meetings.

Thank you again for meeting with me and for providing me with creative and detailed requests and recommendations. I also want to thank you for sharing what you like about your community with me. We are a City of residents and neighborhoods who genuinely enjoy and take pride in our City. We all want the best for our communities. We want to see our neighborhoods succeed and together, I believe that we can achieve this.



Keeping Our Trees

City Council President Doug Shields

Pittsburgh has long enjoyed a valuable – though old — tree stock. Trees muffle noise, soften the urban landscape, make homes more valuable, reduce the need for air-conditioning and even serve as homes themselves. As today's residents, we can return the kindness of our predecessors by making way for a new urban forest.

The City of Pittsburgh Forestry Division is charged with the care and keeping of the public tree stock and takes great pride in maintaining trees for long and beneficial lives. Like you, I am concerned that *all* healthy trees remain in place for as long as possible. I have been assured by David Jahn, the city's certified arborist, that a precise process is used to determine tree health. To prevent catastrophic damage to persons and property, removal is man-

dated for any of the following reasons:

- Large trunk cavities, which make the tree unstable
- Poor structure which may lead to tree failure
- Old age: trees with more dead wood than live wood are hazardous
- Root rot, which can cause an entire tree to fall over

Three years ago, the City of Pittsburgh and the Shade Tree Commission contracted with Ohio's Davey Resource Group to conduct an independent street tree inventory. They catalogued the quantity and condition of all 31,524 street trees. Typical of inventories in other cities, they found that 10% of our urban street trees were in serious condition and warranted removal over the next 3 years. They recommended a seven-year, \$8 million plan to cut dead trees, establish a pruning schedule to maintain healthy ones and plant 4,200 new trees.

In 2006-2007, the nonprofit Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest, a partner of the city's Shade Tree Commission, raised \$1 million for city

foresters. Diana Ames, founder of the nonprofit, said then that the Friends group would continue to raise money to see the tree-stewardship plan through. Finally, after many decades of neglect, the city was able to begin to reverse the woeful state of much of its tree stock. We are now in year two of the removal process. Kudos to City Forester David Jahn and his able staff for all their hard work in this mammoth effort.

The next major concern will be the replacement of trees. The Mayor's Office is engaged with state-funded TreeVitalize, a program that will assist Pittsburgh in the planting of thousands of new trees in the next decade. When a street tree is removed, the Forestry Division provides adjacent property owners with a Tree Planting Request form to register interest in receiving a new tree at a future date. If you are a property

owner who would like to plant a tree in a city right of way at your own expense, please call 412-665-3626 to request a no-cost permit.

You can help, too, by keeping your street trees weeded, watered and properly mulched. You may also want to check out www.pittsburghforest.org for additional information.



Demolition, from page 1

Pittsburgh, Hazelwood was first on the list, in part because of the fire last year on Path Way. The fire started in an abandoned house and destroyed 12 neighboring homes leaving many individuals homeless.

Hazelwood Initiative Executive Director Jim Richter believes that the demolitions will have an effect on the community's psyche. "For the psyche of the neighborhood, it's going to give residents the feeling that the city is taking notice of them," he said.

The city hopes that the newly vacant lots will be converted into side yards, green space and urban gardens. Arlington is the next neighborhood scheduled for demolition.



These two houses at (above) Gertrude Street and (right) at 409 Flowers Ave. are on the list of 59 structures to be demolished. Photos courtesy of The Pittsburgh Post Gazette and KDKA.

Beginning February 15 from 9:30 AM until 12:30 PM, Beth Ann Cushmanick, staff representative from Representative Jake Wheatley's 19th Legislative District Office, will set up shop at the Hazelwood Initiative Office to completing notary and other state-related needs for Hazelwood residents. Cushmanick will be available from 9:30 AM until 12:30 PM on the following dates:

February 15, 2008

March 14, 2008

May 16, 2008

July 18, 2008

September 19, 2008

November 21, 2008

Word Problems

Rose Velgich

Tom had \$8.45. He wanted to buy 5 notebooks that cost \$1.26 each. The tax on each notebook was 7%. Did he have enough to buy the notebooks? If he did, how much money did he have left? Now, as an adult you may not find this problem difficult. I know people – especially shopping pros – who could solve this in a matter of seconds using mental math. I would have to write it down to solve it. Some people would prefer to use a calculator. Some would rather draw a picture. Depending on the way you learn, you could solve this. These types of math problems are not uncommon in classes across the United States. As a matter of fact, the PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) includes word problems that the students have to solve, not only by finding the answer, but students are required to draw a picture and/or explain how they solved it.

Word problems or story problems have a history in math books. I don't recall having much difficulty solving them as a youngster but, I also remember that math problems were not as hard as they are today. When we teach children to solve these problems, we should also teach them a few steps that may help in finding the solutions. Many teachers have students reread the problem to understand what the question is asking. How much, how many, what time, etc are important words that a student should look for when completing these problems. Then, students should draw a picture or write the numbers (depending on instructional/grade level) of what they are talking about. Once a picture is drawn, the student should be encouraged to solve for the answer. Students need to look

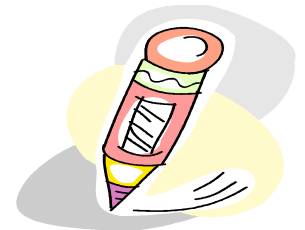
for key words to tell what operation will be used.

For parents, there are some home adaptations to help in finding solutions. Allow your child to use a chart that is in column format with the words, ADDITION, SUBTRACTION, MULTIPLICATION and DIVISION in each column. Have your child write words that may help to solve the problems under the appropriate column. For example under the Addition column, the words, "altogether" and "in all" may be listed. List the words as they come up so your child can reference the chart. Encourage your child to "talk" though the problem and read it aloud.

For the most part, word problems are abstract – a child must understand what he is reading and answer a question. Giving an example, using a different problem, may help to solve the problem. Some children need more time to solve, there-

fore do not rush your child through the problem. If your child is reading a table, chart or graph, please make sure he reads the information and looks at the table before solving the problem. You may even want to highlight the information and encourage him to do the same, particularly the question words and numbers. Another good strategy is to number the questions as many times there are more than one.

As always, if a child is having a lot of difficulty in solving a problem, tell the teacher particularly if you see where the trouble in occurring. This will certainly help them to help your child.



Events this Month at Carnegie Library

Sara Dora



Story Time Fun for Toddlers and Preschoolers

Tuesdays and Thursdays in February at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Special Valentines Day Story Times

Tuesday, February 12 and Thursday, February 14 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00

Ages 2- 6 with an adult

Join us for special themed stories, songs, puppets, and finger plays.

Teens Only Valentine Crafts

Thursday, February 7 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Ages 12 and up

Make some spiffy valentines for your friends. We will provide the materials to make your own special valentines.

Valentine Crafts

Saturday, February 9 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Ages 12 and under

Join us for a stories and valentine crafts for the ones you love!

Chess Practice

Saturday, February 9 and Saturday, February 23 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Ages 5 and up

Get ready for the chess tournament (scheduled for Saturday, March 1st) brush up on your skills or learn how to play with at few games of chess at the library.

Aquatic Biology 102

Saturday, February 16 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Ages 12 and under

Come learn something new about aquatic organisms and help us take care of our fishy friends.

KinderPrep

Tuesday, February 19 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and Thursday, February 21 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., Ages 4-6 with an adult

KinderPrep is designed to help parents and educators prepare their children to meet the PA Early Learning Standards that educators observe/evaluate for each child entering Kindergarten.

African American Poets Discussion and Writing Workshop

Thursday, February 21 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ages 12 and up

Join us to learn about some of poetry's most important and influential voices. Read some poetry with us and share or write some of your own.

Jewelry Making with UMOJA

Saturday, February 23 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

All ages are welcome!

In honor of Black History Month you can learn how to create beautiful beaded jewelry with the guidance of the Umoja African Arts Company at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Hazelwood. Materials will be provided.

Staying Active

Kelli D. Herd

St. Valentine's Day Run

5M/2M Run, 1M Walk

Mt. Lebanon High School
(Upper Parking Lot)

Sunday, February 18, 2008

10:00 AM Start

412.341.0684

Race to Any Place

Presented by
UMPC Health System

Location: US Steel Tower-
Pittsburgh, PA

Date / Time: Feb 23, 2008 - 8:00 AM

Distance: 6 hours

Street Address: 600 Grant Ave-
Upper Lobby

Website: www.racetoanyplace.com

Spring Thaw

Location: North Park Boathouse-
Allison Park, PA

Date / Time: Feb 23, 2008 - 9:00 AM

Distance: 10, 15, 20 Miles

Street Address: 399 Pierce Mill Rd.

Website: www.eliterunners.com

Register Online

Event Description 32nd Annual Spring Thaw. This race began as the original Pittsburgh Marathon and has evolved into one of the best warm-up races used by many Pittsburghers to prepare for the spring marathon season.

PPG Skating Rink Hours

Open November 16, 2007

General Hours:

Monday - Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday 11:00 a.m. to Midnight

Sunday Noon to 8:00 p.m.



The Washington Boulevard Cycling Track

It's a half-mile oval loop along Washington Boulevard with banked corners and a slight hill.

The track's flat interior surface is the perfect place for kids to learn to inline skate or ride bikes or scooter.

WALKING

Year-round

West Penn Park, Polish Hill,
Schenley Park Oval

For information: 412-255-2539

SKATEBOARDING

Year-round

Citiparks Skate Parks
McKinley Park, Beltzhoover
West Penn Park, Polish Hill

Tuxedo Street, Sheraden

For information: 412-255-2539

PITTSBURGH SPORTS LEAGUE

Year-round adult co-ed sports, including basketball, kickball, volleyball, softball. Various city locations.
412-338-2133 or www.pump.org

What's Up continued

The Meals on Wheels program in Hazelwood is always looking for volunteers for substitute drivers, delivery and kitchen help. If you are interested or know of anyone interested, please call 412.521.2330.

Shared Grief is Diminished Grief

Grief Support Group Meeting

1st Tuesday of each month
at the First Hungarian
Reformed Church Hall
221 Johnston Avenue at 7 PM
All are welcome.

For more information,
please call 412-421-1165.

Sponsored by
Sauvageot Funeral Home
Metropolitan Cremation Service

COME WORSHIP AND BE INSPIRED BY

The Church of the Good Shepherd
Located at
Second and Johnston Avenue

Traditional Mass: Sundays at 10 AM
Praise and Worship: Sundays at 1 PM

An Episcopal Church

"If a profound gulf separates my neighbor's belief from mine, there is always the golden bridge of tolerance"



Hazelwood Homepage Needs YOU!!!

If you've ever dreamed of seeing your writing published or if you simply have something you want others to read, give us a call or email us at hazelwoodeditor@yahoo.com. Who knows this may be the first step to a serious career in journalism. Please call Kelli at 412.421.7234 for submission guidelines. The next deadline for article submissions is February 18, 2008.

Events In and Around Pittsburgh

Forward Lanes Bowling

5844 Forward Avenue
Squirrel Hill, PA
412-422-5844

Forward Lanes is consistently rated among the top Bowling Alleys in the western Pennsylvania region. And not only that, it does it all for the absolute lowest prices! Not only are the everyday bowling prices lower than the competition, but we also have numerous discounted bowling nights and specials. www.forwardlanes.net

Samite of Uganda

2-15-08

www.proartstickets.org

Richard E Rauh Theater, Fox Chapel
412.394.3353 With melodies both serene and haunting, African musician and humanitarian Samite mesmerizes audiences with original compositions played on kalimba (finger-piano), marimba (wooden xylophone), litungu (seven-stringed Kenyan instrument), and flutes, both traditional and western. Samite was born and raised in Uganda, where his grandfather taught him to play the flute.

BODIES...The Exhibition

Bodiestickets.com

01-02-08 to 05-04-08
Carnegie Science Center
412.237.3400

BODIES... The Exhibition is a must-see during its limited engagement at Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh. This striking exhibition showcases real human bodies, giving visitors the opportunity to see themselves in a fascinating way like never before. Bodies...The Exhibition will enlighten, empower, fascinate, and inspire.

SHAKESPEARE WORKSHOP for kids and teens

www.HopeAcademy.info

01-17-08 to 02-09-08

East Liberty Presbyterian Church
412-441-3800 x11

Prepare for the Pgh Public Theater Shakespeare Contest in this fun-filled workshop for 4th-12 grade students. Sat. from 1:30-3PM for 15 weeks.

Family & Community Drumming & Dancing Workshop

02-09-08

St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 304 Morewood Avenue
412-682-3342

Come and see! Diverse group of people, no experience necessary, drums provided. Facilitated by Elie Kihonia from Afrika Yetu. All are welcome.

South Side Works Cinema

Every Monday movie tickets are just \$5 each and you get a FREE 32oz. popcorn

The next session of the Citizen's Police Academy (CPA) will begin February 25, 2008, at the Hazelwood Presbyterian Church, located at 5000 Second Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15207. The program will be held each Monday evening, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for 15 weeks. This is part of the on-going plan to offer the CPA outside of the Bureau's training academy facility.

Participants receive three hours of training one evening each week in many of the varied functions of law enforcement. They experience some of the highlights of police training and are exposed to the operations of the police bureau. Participants are taught the basics of criminal law, search and seizure, patrol tactics, firearms and many other subjects. They learn about the processing of a crime scene, conduct a ride-along with an officer, may experience a traffic stop, and see how police canines are used. CPA participants meet and talk with many of the street officers as well as the command staff and training staff that serves them. All this takes place in a safe and entertaining training environment.

Instructors are law enforcement professionals who teach both veteran and recruit police officers. Students leave this training with a greater understanding of the police mission and with increased ability to see how the police serve the community.

Class size is limited to 30 participants. All interested persons must give permission for the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police to conduct a background check to determine if they have a criminal record.

All applications must be received by February 18, 2008. Please contact Lieutenant Jennifer Beidle at jennifer.beidle@city.pittsburgh.pa.us or (412)323-7889 if you have any questions about the program.

Ask the Pharmacist: Weight Control

Dave Hairhoger



Can being overweight lead to medical problems?

Yes. Being overweight is linked to a number of health problems, including:

- Heart disease and stroke
- High blood pressure
- Diabetes
- Cancer
- Gallbladder disease and gallstones
- Osteoarthritis
- Gout
- Breathing problems, such as sleep apnea (when a person stops breathing for a short time during sleep) and asthma

How do I know if I am obese?

Obesity is defined as an excess proportion of total body fat. A person is considered obese when his or her Body Mass Index (BMI) is greater than 30.

Is any fat healthy?

A certain amount of fat in the diet is good and necessary to be healthy. However, nutrition experts agree that most Americans should eat less fat than they currently do. When you do eat fat, make sure it is unsaturated fat, such as fat that comes from nuts, grains and vegetable sources.

What steps should I take to lose weight?

- Decide you want to permanently lose weight
- Educate yourself
- Have a realistic goal in mind
- Formulate a structured treatment plan with your doctor and receive proper follow-up.

What type of exercise is best?

It does not matter what type of physical activity you perform — sports, planned exercise, household chores, yard work, or work-related tasks — all are beneficial. To determine the best type of exercise program for you, talk to your doctor and a certified athletic trainer.

How much exercise should I do?

Studies show that even the most inactive people can gain significant health benefits if they accumulate just 30 minutes or more of physical activity per day. For the greatest overall health benefits, experts suggest 30 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic exercise 3 or more times per week plus some form of anaerobic exercise such as muscle strengthening activity

and stretching twice a week. If you have been inactive for a while, you may want to start with less strenuous activities such as walking or swimming at a comfortable pace.

How do I spot a fad diet?

While there is no set approach to identifying a fad diet, many have the following characteristics.

- Recommendations that promise a quick fix
- Dire warnings of dangers from a single product or regimen
- Claims that sound too good to be true
- Simplistic conclusions drawn from a complex study
- Dramatic statements that are refuted by reputable scientific organizations
- Lists of “good” and “bad” foods
- Recommendations made to help sell a product
- Recommendations based on studies published without review by other researchers
- Recommendations from studies that ignore differences among individuals or groups
- Eliminate one of more of the five food groups

What prescription medicines are used to treat obesity?

Currently, most available weight-loss medications approved by the FDA are for short-term use, meaning a few weeks or months.

Most available weight-loss medications are “appetite-suppressant” medications. These include Didrex,

Tenuate, Sanorex, Mazanor, Adipex-P and Meridia. These medications generally come in the form of tablets or extended-release capsules. Appetite suppressants can be obtained by a doctor’s prescription or purchased over-the-counter.

Another type of prescription weight loss drug is a fat absorption inhibitor. Xenical is the only example of this type of treatment approved for use in the U.S. Xenical works by blocking about 30% of dietary fat from being absorbed, and is the most recently approved weight loss drug.

Meridia and Xenical are the only weight-loss medications approved for longer-term use in significantly obese people, although the safety and effectiveness have not been established for use beyond 1 year for Meridia and up to 2 years for Xenical.

How can I prevent gaining lost weight?

- Set realistic weight loss goals, such as a 1 to 2 pound weight loss per week. Those who lose weight slowly, by eating less and exercising more, tend to keep their lost weight off.
- Do not skip meals.
- Choose foods high in fiber as whole grain breads, cereals, pasta, rice, fruits and vegetables. These foods will give you chewing satisfaction, while the high fiber content may make you feel fuller on fewer calories.
- Eat a variety of foods to get all the nutrients you need.

If you have specific questions, contact your doctor or pharmacist

LIFEGUARDS NEED THIS SUMMER!

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO BECOME A CERTIFIED LIFEGUARD?

DO YOU WANT A GREAT SUMMER JOB?



The University of Pittsburgh is looking for youth ages 15-18 yr. olds who have the motivation and drive to become Life Guards. The cost of the training will be covered (normally \$200) if you have the desire to learn! This 30 hour course takes place at Trees Hall, and runs from Dec. to April, evenings and weekend. We refer to City Parks & Recreation and others for job placements. You don't have to be a 'great' swimmer but you must be serious about learning and attending class. All inquiries should contact:

Community Leisure-Learn Program
University of Pittsburgh
146 Trees Hall, 412-648-8278.

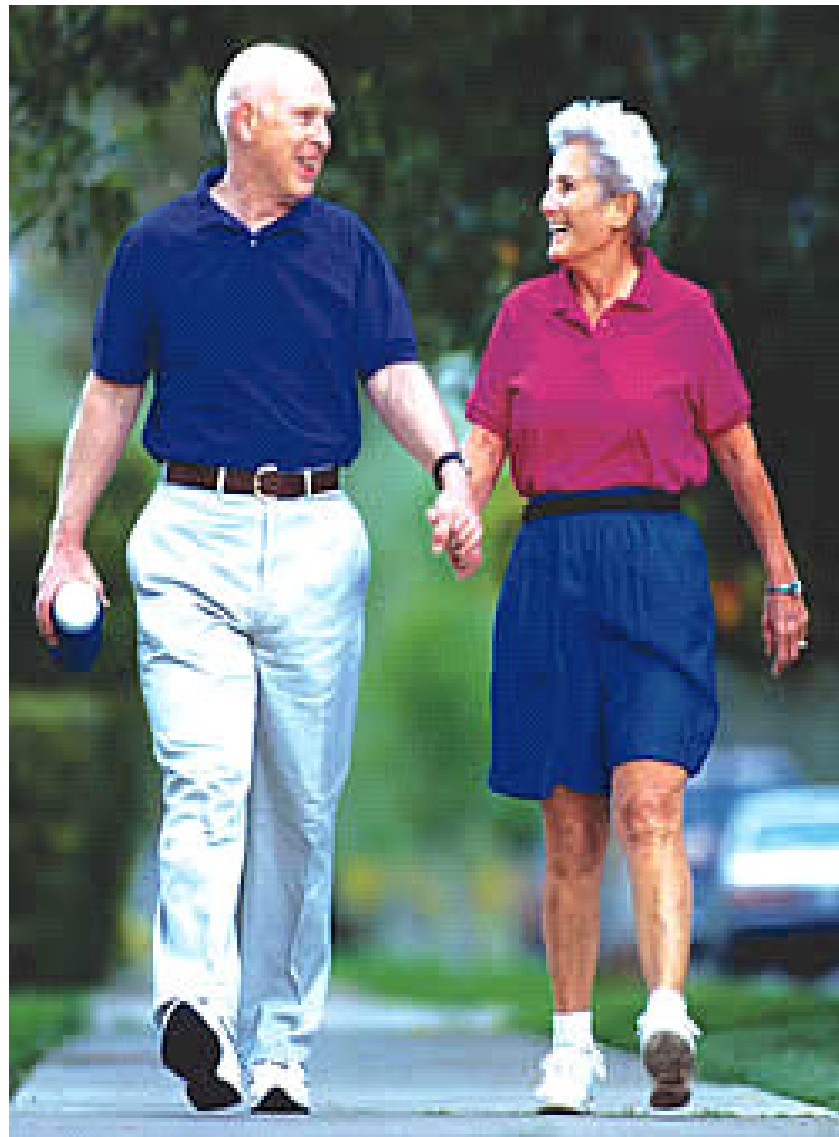
John D. O'Connor & Son Funeral Home Inc.

**David O'Connor, President,
Funeral Director and Supervisor**

Debbie O'Connor, MIW

**5106 and 5108 Second Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15207-1725
412.521.8116**

Health Tip: Let's Take a Walk



Walking is among the easiest, safest and cheapest ways to get and stay fit. And, even if you can't walk a few miles every night, you can still walk around the office, take the stairs instead of the elevator or park on the other side of the parking lot. Adding a little exercise is that easy and good for you, too.



517 Greenfield Ave., Pgh. PA 15207
Phone: 412-421-4104 * Fax: 412-521-7784

*"If you don't know your drugs,
Know your pharmacist."*