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HAZELWOOD HOMEPAGE



ONE OF PITTSBURGH'S GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS

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

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SALT PILE PANEL DISCUSSION

By Lisa Kunst Vavro

At the first monthly membership meeting of 2001, Hazelwood Initiative sponsored a panel organized by County Councilman Rich Fitzgerald for discussion concerning the salt pile below the tracks. A series of twenty questions were presented that night to our panel, which consisted of Ray Burke, representing Detroit Salt; Tom Majcher, contractor to Detroit Salt; Carlos Martinez, consulting engineer to Detroit Salt; Steve Thienel, CSX; Sandra Etzel, Allegheny County Health Department; Ron Schwartz and Betsy Mallison, PA Department of Environmental Protection; and Tom Donatelli, Director Allegheny County Public Works. County Councilman Rich Fitzgerald monitored.

Several questions put before the panel could not be answered immediately. Those attending the meet-

Please see Salt Discussion on page 6

Snowflake Holiday Lights – The Story

We've seen a lot of snowflakes so far this winter, falling from the skies, resting on the rooftops and lying on the ground. But the absence of our community's electric snowflake decorations hanging from the poles along Second Avenue had more of an impact than we at Hazelwood Initiative had expected. Many people called our office or stopped us on the street asking why they weren't there this year. After four holiday seasons they looked forward to this renewed tradition and they expressed their disappointment.

Let me explain.

In 1996, through Operation Weed and Seed funding, the Greater Hazelwood community received twelve (12) snowflake holiday lights. These snowflake lights were installed from Hazelwood Avenue down to Johnston Avenue for the 1996 Holiday Season. In 1997, another twelve (12) snowflake holiday lights were purchased directly through Operation Weed and Seed funding. Then we had twenty-four (24), and twenty-two (22) snowflake lights were installed from Hazelwood Avenue down to Renova Street for the Holiday Seasons 1997 through 1999. (Two were in safe keeping to be installed down to the Glenwood Bridge when permanent wiring would be installed.)

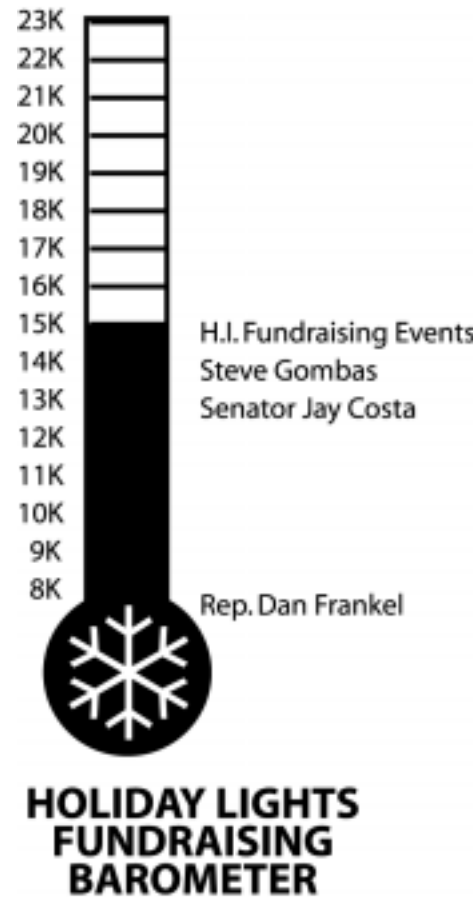
In order for those snowflake lights to be installed, Operation Weed and Seed lent support each year to have the lights put up by Newcomer Electric Company, who through the permission of Duquesne Light, would splice into existing electrical service with temporary timers, and also to remove the lights after the season. As you can see Operation Weed and Seed covered the cost of each year, for the past four years, just for temporary installation of the lights. During the course of these past four years it was brought to the attention of Hazelwood Initiative, Inc. (HI), the owner organization of the snowflake lights, if permanent wiring was in

place for the lights, the cost for installation, dismantling and storage with maintenance would drop considerably to \$600.00/year. The only catch was that the permanent wiring must be installed to a tune of \$23,000.00, in one lump sum, at one time.

Since Operation Weed and Seed funding was more and more in demand, the snowflake light installation could not be funded so, at the end of 1999 the HI Board decided grants would be applied for and money solicited for permanent wiring. Our first major contributor in December of 1999 was Steve Gombas with a \$1,000.00 donation. Grants received in 2000 added up to \$13,000.00, with \$8,000.00 from State Representative Dan Frankel and \$5,000.00 from State Senator Jay Costa. With some additional monies raised from the Oktoberfest 5K races and other fundraising events, Hazelwood Initiative was still approximately \$8,000.00 short for permanent wiring.

What a dilemma we were facing. Should we expend \$4,400.00 of the money earmarked for permanent wiring to have Holiday Lights in 2000? Or should we forgo the snowflake lights this year and definitely raise the additional monies for permanent wiring in 2001 to ensure future bright and festive Holiday Seasons along Second Avenue? As you know by now, our decision was the conservative one and we hope the Greater Hazelwood community agrees with our decision.

So, although we have been actively pursuing fundraising for the holiday snowflake lights, Hazelwood Initiative is now kicking off our last leg of fundraising. In this issue we are introducing our "snowflake barometer" which shows where the fundraising is with respect to our goal. Future issues of the Hazelwood Homepage will include the "snowflake barometer" so that we can keep the community informed as to the fundraising



progress.

That's not all! We are asking all residents and business owners in Greater Hazelwood to donate toward the cause and help the reading of the "snowflake barometer" rise and get your name listed in Hazelwood Homepage. Any contributions can be made to Hazelwood Initiative, Inc. and mailed to:

Snowflake Lights
c/o Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.
The Carbarn
5344 Second Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Remember all donations are tax deductible. Please consider helping to brighten our future Holiday Seasons.

*Lisa Kunst Vavro, Chair
Hazelwood Initiative, Inc.*

Hazelwood Initiative 5344 Second Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

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**NEXT DEADLINE
February 12**

OPINION

Who Delivers?

by Luci Kennedy

Let me begin by saying that, as editor of the Homepage, I had to fight with myself this month to get this "opinion" column finished. Pulling together statements and discerning fact from embellishment isn't an easy task when your community has a vested interest in the result. But here's one "fact".

Two months ago I called Pizza Hut to place a delivery order sometime around 6:00 p.m. This is something we've done about every 4 to 6 weeks without a problem. The person on the other end of the line asked my telephone number and verified my address. I listened as he yelled to someone "what about Mansion St.". About 30 seconds later the answer came back "we don't deliver to Hazelwood after 5:00". From there the script went a little like Q. "Since when"; A. "Since today"; Q. "Why?"; A. "That's all I know." Editorial policy prevents me from continuing the printing of my end of the script.

I ranted over the telephone about the unfairness shown to all for the faults of a few. After hanging up (that's putting it gently), I continued at a slow boil and my husband listened, aggravated but calm. It was Jack that called a few days later and talked to the manager, who explained that a few delivery employees had been robbery victims. Pizza Hut's solution, extend delivery time from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. but no more. Jack's questions of "Have you had any robberies in other neighborhood areas?; Has your solution been the same in each case and neighborhood?; Just how does the delivery time alter your concern?; drew no response other than "we're looking into it".

After living for so long in an area so often the victim of unfair press coverage in bad times and non-existent press coverage in good times I try to avoid those same practices when I'm on the reporting end so I decided to do some checking of my own. Zone 6 reported that there had been 4 robberies and 3 apprehensions. Pizza Hut stated that the whole of Hazelwood was included in the 6:00 p.m. cut off because their drivers had to drive through "bad sections" in order to deliver to the "ok" ones. However, in confirming the robbery report, Pizza Hut stated that these robberies took place during delivery. Driving through "bad sections" wasn't a factor here but once again the whole of Hazelwood suffers. It seems that Hazelwood is the only part of their delivery area with after 6:00 restrictions. When asked how far their delivery area extended I was told it included

Greenfield, Squirrel Hill, Swisshelm Park, Regent Square and Oakland. Apparently, there are no "bad sections" throughout these areas!!!

However deluded Pizza Hut may be in this thinking, the truth lies in the fact that there are an abundance of good areas and good people in Greater Hazelwood and we are forced to suffer from this sort of reasoning process.

We don't make excuses for what has happened here. Lives shouldn't be put in jeopardy for a pizza and a few dollars. But a large corporation, whose slogan tells us that "Pizza Hut Pizza Delivers" should surely have a solution to a problem that is inevitable in any part of this world we live in today.

Hazelwood Initiative is indignant over this situation for good reason. For the last few years Hazelwood Initiative, Inc. in conjunction with this particular Pizza Hut, has conducted a fundraiser on Super Bowl Sunday. You can bet these pizzas were not all delivered before 6:00 p.m. We raised a few dollars, Pizza Hut fared very well for their effort and the Initiative succeeded in promoting and supporting an area business. Sounds to me a little like a fair weather friendship.

With the many pizza and fast food shops in and around our community, we encourage all our readers to remember those that not only serve great food but also support us with their advertisements.

HAZELWOOD HOMEPAGE

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5344 Second Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Sponsored in part by
Operation Weed & Seed

Do you want to keep parking on Second Avenue?

Then start making noise!

The Mayor's Service Center has taken over 200 complaints from commuters who want us to move our cars at their convenience.

It's time for Hazelwood to fight back!

Call the **Mayor's Service Center** at 255-2621 to let them know that you support unrestricted parking along Second Avenue.

Let **Mayor Murphy and Councilman O'Connor** know how important it is to you to allow parking on Second Avenue – making our streets safer for children, slowing down the traffic, our rights as residents – call the **Mayor at 255-2626** and the **Councilman at 255-8965**.

Go to City Council at 10:00am on Tuesdays. The commuters who oppose our parking are doing it and being heard.

So far, City government has only heard from those who want to get rid of our parking. **If the squeaky wheel gets the oil, then expect to lose your right to park in front of your house or business.** Start calling and writing letters. And don't be afraid to remind them that it's election season!

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The Hazelwood Initiative meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm at the Car barn. Call 421-7234 for more information.

Upcoming Meetings 2000-2001: February 13 March 13
April 10 May 8 June 12 July 10 August 14 September 11
October 9 November 13 December 11

Become a member now!

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KOZ BACK IN HAZELWOOD

by Dina Vargo

The Keystone Opportunity Zone is coming back to Hazelwood - this time as a community partner to stimulate real economic development opportunities on Second Avenue.

The City of Pittsburgh and the URA are proposing that the properties in the 4700 and 4800 blocks of Second Avenue be declared tax free as a part of the latest state program called Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zones.

The Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) is an adaptation of the original Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ), giving municipalities that were not able to submit an application in 1998 another chance to do so. The state program is designed to revive economically distressed communities by abating all state and local taxes in certain designated areas. The City of Pittsburgh, working in conjunction with the Urban Redevelopment Authority, will be submitting an application to include properties in several neighborhoods in the City to create a Pittsburgh subzone that is a part of a larger Southwestern Pennsylvania Zone.

The proposed Pittsburgh subzone would be comprised of properties in the neighborhoods of California-Kirkbride, East Liberty, Homewood, the Hill District, Mount Washington, Uptown and of course, Hazelwood.

In order to minimize tax loss, most of the properties being proposed are owned by the City of Pittsburgh, the URA or the Board of Education. There will be a handful of privately owned properties submitted in Homewood where the fo-

cus will be on restoring the residential area. All of the other zones, with the exception of the South Hills High School in Mount Washington, are almost exclusively in commercial areas.

The properties proposed in Hazelwood are a mix of privately and publicly owned land. However, those property owners who are not up to date on their taxes or do not have their buildings up to code will not qualify for the ten-year tax abatement.

The goal of the KOEZ is to stimulate economic development in areas that haven't seen much activity in recent years by offering businesses a ten-year break on their real estate and business taxes. In return, it is required that any business that locates in the zone must increase their employment by 20% or make a significant capital investment. The program also ensures that after the ten year period is up, the area will be generating greater tax revenue than what was started with.

To determine what kind of development will happen in the Hazelwood zone; the URA and City will be participating in the upcoming Master Plan to understand the types of development the neighborhood wants.

As previously mentioned, the City and URA must submit an application to the state as part of the Southwestern Pennsylvania regional application. Resolutions from County Council, City of Pittsburgh Council and the Pittsburgh Board of Education must be included in the application as well as supporting letters from the community groups where KOEZ's have been proposed. The application is due on February 28, 2001 to be approved during March 2001.

What's Up enat Dahnstreet

NOTICES CONCERNING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Make sure you take time to visit St. Stephen Parish Winter Carnival - two days of fun, Friday, February 2nd - 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 3rd - 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. Bring your friends and family and join in the festivities - Crafts, Door Prizes, food, baked goods, etc.

Next membership meeting of Hazelwood Initiative, Inc. is Tuesday, February 13, 2001 at 6:30 at the Senior Citizen Center, The Car barn, 5344 Second Avenue. Find out what's happening in your community, how we can help you, and how YOU can help us. We don't pretend to have all the answers but we won't stop until we do.

Belated birthday wishes to Julianne O'Donnell who celebrated her 9th birthday on January 14th!

Clean Air Council Workshop: Clean Air Council invites the residents of Hazelwood to attend the Council's free Risk Management Plans Workshop being held at the CCI Center in Pittsburgh on Saturday, March 24, 2001, from 10:30AM until 2PM. The CCI (Conservation Consultants, Inc.) Center is located at 64 South 14th St. Certain facilities that handle significant amounts of specified dangerous chemicals must implement risk management programs designed to prevent accidental releases of hazardous substances from the facility and to provide swift emergency response to any such releases. In addition, the facilities must submit risk management "plans", summaries of their risk management programs, to the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Twenty-one facilities within Allegheny County, including five within Pittsburgh, have filed risk management plans with EPA. Risk Management Plan information is public, but it can be difficult to find and understand. This free workshop presents a unique opportunity for citizens and community leaders to learn how to better protect their communities from chemical disasters. Speakers will include Thomas J. Puzniak, Technical Consultant in the Accidental Release Prevention Program of the Allegheny County Health Department's Air Quality Program; Rachael Belz, Cincinnati Area Program Director of Ohio Citizen Action; and Sally Mattison, Esq., Staff Attorney at Clean Air Council.

For more information or to register, please contact Roberto Ruiz at 215-567-4004 ext. 238 or by e-mail at r Ruiz@cleanair.org

Meals on Wheels needs runners to carry the food from the car to the house. This allows the driver to stay with the car. Please call 521-2330.

John Tokarski, active and involved parent of three Pittsburgh public school children and Project Coordinator for the City of Pittsburgh's Operation Weed and Seed program announced his candidacy for the District 5 seat of the Pittsburgh Public School Board. The announcement was made Wednesday, January 3, 2001 from the steps of his residence at 5316 Gertrude Street, Glenwood.

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

After enjoying 10 years of healthy financial growth, it is predicted that the United States will soon experience the pressures of a very serious drop in that economic stability.

Interest rates are up, home and automobile sales are down, and retailers report the lowest holiday sales on record. Legislators and taxpayers look to Federal Chairman Alan Greenspan to lower interest rates in the hopes of reversing the downward trend in the economy.

Question: In your opinion, would lower interest rates encourage sales and strengthen the economy? Do you feel it would have a positive effect on the market? In combination with the Allegheny County revaluation of property assessment, a 20% Pittsburgh School tax increase and almost doubled utility costs, how well do you feel local residents will fair?

Response: State Representative Dan Frankel

Over the past two years the Federal Reserve Board's primary concern was that the US economy was overheating and that a new outbreak of inflation was likely. To counter this threat, the Federal Reserve Board steadily increased interest rates in order to cool things down. It now appears that the Federal Reserve Board may have over estimated this threat and created the conditions for a recession as opposed to a soft landing.

During the first week of January, the Federal Reserve Board unexpectedly and dramatically lowered the Federal funds rate by .5% signaling a change in sentiment from fighting inflation to preventing a recession. Lowering interest rates would lower all sorts of consumer borrowing costs from mortgages, car loans, home equity loans and credit cards. This should have a positive effect on the economy but it may take several months to see.

On the other hand, Allegheny County residents will be seeing an increase in their annual expenses with the reassessment and the City of Pittsburgh residents will be particularly hard hit with the 20% increase in the school tax millage. This and the increases in fuel and utility costs and cold weather will hit Pittsburghers hard, especially senior citizens and those living on fixed and low incomes.

There are several things that Pennsylvania should do to address these concerns: (1) State support for public schools has declined dramatically as a percentage of their budgets. Ten years ago the state funded 50% of public school budgets. Today that percentage has been reduced to 34%. In addition, the funding formula for special education discriminates against urban school districts. Finally, the cost of state mandated charter schools come directly out of the school districts budget. We need

to address each of these issues in Harrisburg. (2) We need to review the recent deregulation of gas and electric utilities. I question whether we are truly bringing competitive rates to individual household consumers. Deregulation also compounded the pressures on the budgets of Allegheny County, the City of Pittsburgh, the School District and Port Authority by eliminating the Public Utility Realty Tax Act (PURTA) that costs each of these entities million of dollars in revenues that the state refuses to reimburse them for. (3) I am a sponsor of a bill to increase the income eligibility for heating assistance (LIHEAP) to 150% of poverty. The General Assembly and the Governor should act quickly to enact this legislation.

In the long run I am an optimist. I expect that the foundation of this strong economy will continue to expand with a couple of bumps in the road. I feel strongly that government; particularly state government, must play an active role in smoothing some of these bumps and addressing the critical needs of urban areas like Pittsburgh. It is my highest priority to see to it that we live up to that responsibility in Harrisburg.

Response: County Councilman Rich Fitzgerald

Yes, there is no doubt that cutting interest rates will help spur economic growth. The question remains as to whether Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan acted quickly enough to head off a recession or if further interest rate cuts are needed. Cutting interest rates helps economic activity by lowering the borrowing costs for business as well as individuals. This historically has led to increased housing starts, and increased sales in such big-ticket items as automobiles, home improvements, appliances, etc. which causes an increase in economic activity and employment. The economic growth rate in the U.S. economy was so explosive in the last few years that the Fed raised interest rates in 2000 to keep the economy from overheating and causing the type of high inflation we experienced in the 1970's and early 80's. While the Pittsburgh Region did not experience much of this nationwide economic boom, we benefited some, as we were still dealing with the loss of much of the major manufacturing from our region. We certainly know about this firsthand in Hazelwood. I don't know if the interest rate cuts will help us immediately with respect to the Allegheny County property revaluation, high utility rates, or increased school taxes. The increased economic activity (job opportunities and overtime) may make it easier for us to pay these bills which will be sure to come due. While the property revaluation will cause an increase for some, others will benefit as there is 5% cap on tax revenues system-wide, and in Hazelwood we should see assessments

remain fairly stable as property values have not increased as quickly as other areas of Allegheny County. The school tax will be a bigger hit to the family budget, as a 20% increase is a major hike. This problem is one in which we need the Governor to increase state funding to Public Education, which will lower our local tax burden.

The relationship between the Fed setting interest rates and how it affects certain items locally is difficult to answer in a few sentences. I applaud the question as it allows us to think globally and view the big picture as we concentrate on things in the neighborhood.

Response: Council President Bob O'Connor

Lower interest rates will always promote a stronger economy. Simply put, it lowers everyone's cost of living or doing business. It allows the extra capital to go to work in the market place. Individuals have more money to spend on consumer goods instead of paying it out in a mortgage payment. Corporations find it cheaper to purchase new equipment or borrow to make other improvements in the workplace. Perhaps even more importantly, everyone has the opportunity to refinance old debt at a lower interest rate. Lowering interest rates a single point can mean a significant difference in your monthly mortgage payment. Providing you with more money to spend allows for business to create more jobs, especially the durable goods sector such as homes, automobiles, appliances and so forth. That is why there is so much attention paid by everyone on the price of borrowed money. It has an effect on everything. Lowering the interest rate was the cornerstone of the Clinton administration's economic policy which lead to the elimination of huge federal deficits and fueled the unprecedented growth we experienced in our economy the past eight years.

Higher taxes, as we are seeing in Allegheny County as a result of the county-wide reassessment, can offset financial gains made with a lower interest rate. Federal taxes effect all Americans no matter where you live. Local taxes leave you with an option - live somewhere else where they are lower. It is extremely important for Pittsburgh and its school district to minimize or better yet, forgo any increase in taxes. If we don't people will vote with their feet; and, they have according to the latest census data. The city's population has dropped some 33,000 people. The reasons for this loss are many. But, we can't afford to give anyone another reason to leave. We are competing with nearby communities as well as other regions in the country. If we are not an attractive "buy" we will find it increasingly more difficult to keep what we have let alone attract new people and businesses. Unless we as a city and a region develop a fair and equitable lo-

cal taxing structure that promotes growth, local residents will see any gains from lower interest rates offset by higher taxes. I can assure you that I will be bringing this very issue to the forefront in the coming months.

Response: State Senator Jay Costa, Jr.

There is no doubt that lower interest rates are an economic catalyst. The availability of low cost financing spurs activity in retail markets increases sales of capital goods and promotes job growth. However, interest rates that are too low often result in an economy that is overheated, thus causing inflationary pressure. The trick of balancing the economic stimulus of low interest rates with inflationary pressure is a key to preserving a strong economy. In recent years, the ability of the Federal Reserve to manage interest rates effectively, efficiently and confidently has enabled our country to enjoy unbridled growth.

One of the threats to our continued strong rate of growth is taxes. Tax rates that are too high stifle investment and rot the free market of capital. Plus, the compounding effect of increased utility costs on an already top-heavy tax structure forces families to spend more on fixed costs and exacerbates the problem.

The residents of Pittsburgh may be facing this very situation in the near future. The combination—or triple whammy—of new property assessments, a school tax increase and doubled utility costs will be a serious challenge for many Pittsburghers.

The recently completed countywide reassessment may raise property taxes for some homeowners. In addition, the Ridge Administration failure to adequately support public education has forced many school districts to increase property taxes. And, uncertainty concerning utility rates contributes to economic uneasiness.

Proper planning and quick thinking will enable many to cope with these profound changes. Already, many residents have found cheaper utility rates among electric suppliers as a result of the new deregulation law that promotes market prices for this commodity. Plus, in the near future, I hope to see the Senate Democratic plan to reduce the local tax property tax burden reintroduced and adopted. This plan—HomeSTAR—would re-direct surplus state tax dollars back to citizens on a yearly basis to help them cope with local property tax increases. In addition, due diligence by policymakers to ensure fairness in the property reassessment will aid in restraining costs for many families.

These policy changes will help Allegheny County residents, and all Pennsylvanians, cope with rising fuel costs and the uncertainty in today's economy.



by Jim O'Brien

REFLECTIONS FROM SUNNYSIDE STREET

A Sister Who Taught Me How To Dance

I love the sounds of the holiday season, especially the Christmas music. Whatever shopping mall you walk through, whether it's Century III Mall, Monroeville Mall or South Hills Village, Christmas music constantly fills the air from November through December. I love to dance to some of the songs.

I came home late one night in December after a series of book signings at area bookstores in a business suit. My wife Kathie was in the kitchen in her pajamas. I had a new CD "Good Christmas Tonight" by Pittsburgh's Johnny Angel and the Halos. We put it on and did a slow dance to "Merry, Merry Christmas, Baby," an adaptation from "Happy, Happy, Birthday," and I told Kathie some stories about Sister Ann Patricia.

It was Sister Ann Patricia who first taught me how to dance. This was in seventh grade at St. Stephen's Grade School in Hazelwood. We had 23 sisters, members of the Sisters of Charity, plus two lay teachers back in 1955. Now there is one, the principal, Sister Anne

Maurice Toomey. Sister Ann Patricia later became the principal there.

One day, Sister Ann Patricia took us all to the social hall and showed us some dance steps. She cautioned us not to press against one another when we were dancing. Later, when we attended school dances the activity would be monitored by the nuns. If they thought we were holding the girls too close, one of the nuns would scold us. "Leave some room for the Holy Ghost between you," they'd say.

I seldom heeded that directive then, and I haven't since.

I was actually traded to Sister Ann Patricia midway through seventh grade. My initial teacher was thought to be too inexperienced to cope with me. Sister Ann Patricia read the riot act to me when I showed up in her class, telling me that no nonsense would be tolerated. It was the beginning of a beautiful relationship.

I was one of the shortest kids in the class and I was seated behind the tallest girl in the class. Her name was Theresa Montana and she had the blackest and longest hair. Soon after I took my seat, I dipped one of Theresa's dark tresses in the inkwell at the upper left-hand side of my desk. Back then, they had holes in the desk for inkwells. I didn't think Theresa would notice.

When Theresa protested loudly, Sister Ann Patricia came back and belted

me. She packed quite a swat for someone restricted by a black cape.

Sister Ann Patricia brought some discipline to my daily experience at St. Stephen's. I had her for English in eighth grade and she showed us how to diagram sentences and improved our grammar and speaking.

She was the toughest nun I knew in grade school, but she was the one I respected the most and came to love as an adult. I knew she always liked me.

She told us about her family and things in her early life, so we got to know her as more than a nun. "Nuns were not supposed to seem like normal people," another member of the Sisters of Charity told me recently. "We were not allowed to hold babies, for instance, stuff like that. It came from European traditions."

I knew that her brother, Martin, worked at Mesta Machine Company in her hometown of Homestead. My father worked there, too, and later my brother would work there as well. So we had something in common.

She was Mary Claire Barkin when she was born on Valentine's Day, 1921. Her father, Christopher, worked for the Union Railroad. One of her brothers, Christopher, worked for U.S. Steel in Homestead. Her third brother was Paul and she had a sister named Margaret. They are all deceased.

Once the Barkin family all lived in Homestead, just up the hill from Mesta Machine Company.

Her sister-in-law, Mary Barkin, who lives in Monroeville, remembers Sister Ann Patricia well. "She was like a mother to all of us," she said when she came to see me and buy my latest book, *Glory Years*, at a book signing session at B. Dalton Books at Monroeville Mall. "That's the way she treated all of us. When your mother tells you to do something you just do it. Until you get older, anyhow, and then you might question it. She was very kind and generous. If she had a dollar she would give it to you. She was very loving. She loved everybody."

Sister Ann Patricia left St. Stephen's for St. Luke's in Carnegie where she served as principal, and stayed on after her arthritis prevented her from continuing as an administrator. I called her about every three months to check up on her and tell her what I was up to.

She'd tell me her legs and back were bothering her and that she was having difficulty getting around. "I'm getting old, Jim," she'd say and I could picture her smiling.

She could be so stern back at St. Stephen's, but she always had a twinkle in her dark eyes. She could smile easily, too. She had a sense of humor. She enjoyed a good belly laugh now and then. She was real, all right.

I sent my newest book to her every Christmas and wrote an inscription to thank her for what she'd done for me. She said she was proud of me.

One time, in a moment of

weakness perhaps, she forgot one of those dictums passed on by Mary Elizabeth Seton, a widow in Baltimore who founded the Sisters of Charity after she converted from being an Episcopalian to Catholicism.

"I love you, Jim," she said.

There was an uncomfortable pause.

"Don't tell anyone I said that," she added, as if they might misunderstand.

But I always knew she loved me. That's why she was my favorite nun, no doubt. That's why I could put up with



Sister Ann Patricia

her put-downs and punishments. She wanted the best out of me. She believed in me, much like my own mother.

I visited Sister Ann Patricia this past summer at Seton Hill College in Greensburg. She was now in residence at Caritas Christi Hall, a retirement/nursing home. There are 98 sisters staying there, far more than presently teach in the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh. We had a long, satisfying talk. We opened up to each other. We compared notes on some of the nuns back at St. Stephen's.

She sat in a chair the whole time, with a shawl wrapped around her shoulders. She said her back really bothered her. She coughed a few times. I gave her a hug and a kiss on her cheek when I left.

When I learned that Kathie and I would be going to a wedding at Seton Hill College in mid-November, just a month ago, I asked Kathie if we could go a little early so I could stop to see Sister Ann Patricia.

Two days before we were to go, a grade school classmate of mine, Angela Capelli, came up to me at a booksigning at Kaufmann's in downtown Pittsburgh. "Isn't it a shame about Sister Ann Patricia," she began. Sister Ann Patricia, nearly 80, had died of congestive heart failure. She was already buried in the cemetery at Seton Hill College where all the American members of the Sisters of Charity are buried. I could hear the Christmas music at Kaufmann's, but I didn't feel much like



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Salt Discussion from page 1

ing were told that those answers would be provided in written form and sent to Hazelwood Initiative. This included the requested Material Safety Data Sheet on the stockpiled salt. Some of the questions answered contained the following information:

- ⌋ Detroit Salt currently retains a five (5) year lease with CSX for the property.
- ⌋ Concerning the salt cover, Detroit Salt states it is impossible to keep the salt pile covered completely while the operation is running with trucks loading salt.
- ⌋ CSX stated the fence was repaired four (4) times (twice by CSX and twice by Detroit Salt). However, the community only knows of only one repair.
- ⌋ Trucks are required to use Vespucius Street and NOT the Elizabeth Street Bridge. Trucks are also required to be tarped when loaded with salt. An average of eight (8) trucks remove salt per day, at the most twelve (12).

- ⌋ Allegheny County Health Department claimed only one (1) complaint to date and found no specific health concerns, but said they will further investigate.
- ⌋ When asked whether Detroit Salt would plant a row of trees along Langhorn Street to reduce fugitive emissions – they said they would consider it.
- ⌋ Concerning employees, Detroit Salt has hired two (2) people from Pittsburgh to work at the salt pile, but would like to hire local community people.

Although both the Allegheny County Health Department and PA Department of Environmental Protection stated they would keep on top of the situation, ***it is important that those of us in the Greater Hazelwood keep our eyes open for any violations to report.***

When Hazelwood Initiative receives further answers to the questions posed January 9, 2001 we will pass the answers on to you via Hazelwood Homepage.

School Days

by Rose Velgich

When parents of students ask me what books they should be reading with their child, my response is brief. Make sure you are reading books that spark the interest of your child and are age appropriate. Up until the child is 4 or 5 years of age, read books that are brief in words; but are rich in pictures. For school age children, most publishers identify what levels are appropriate for your child. Research shows that reading with your child at a young age is very influential in the development of reading skills and your child's attitude toward reading. With this in mind, here are a few tips that might help:

1. Begin reading to your children during their early years.
2. Encourage your child to read.
3. Show enthusiasm when reading!
4. Listen to your child while they are reading.
5. Respond to them in a helpful manner if they have any questions or ideas.
6. Ask questions about the book. Who are the characters? What happened in the story? Don't limit your questions to who, what, when, and where. Ask questions that allow them to express their opinions. Did you like the story? Why? What would happen if....?

So, set aside a quiet time to sit with your child and happy reading!

News from the community schools:

St. Stephen School submitted a written proposal to the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools titled "Building Unity Through Character Education". This long-term project's objective focuses on values that build Christian character. The project's objective is to enable students to recognize and celebrate each other's differences and for each student to appreciate his or her own unique qualities. This will be accomplished by engaging in various activities aimed at producing positive outcomes. We intend to give further meaning to our school's Buddy System and to work hand in hand with our families and neighborhood. This will enable us to extend Gospel Values into the community at large.

Throughout the course of our Middle States project, we will strive to teach cooperation and tolerance. We will integrate values-based themes throughout our curriculum in order to empower confidence in our students.

Our character-building process will discourage intolerance of differences, thus enabling our students to accept one another as unique individuals.

We are excited to implement this project. We are confident it will make for a better school and its students. We are happy to bolster the character development of this group of Hazelwood citizens.

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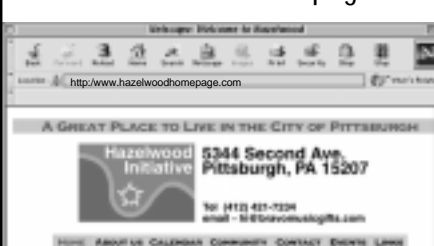
David O'Connor supervisor

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February 17 - 18
February 24 - 25

Where:
Senior Citizen Center
The Car barn
5344 Second Avenue
Time: 12 noon - 3:00 PM

Coming March 2001
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Gladstone Community Learning Center (GCLC)
Gladstone Middle School
327 Hazelwood Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15207
GCLC Spring 2001 Schedule: January 16th - June 14th

The Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council will offer **Adult Computer Basics** Monday in room 138 from 6:30-8:30 PM. Learn *MS Word* programs: Windows, Excel, Power Point & Paint. Have fun with the Internet too!
Youth Computer Basics meets Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 PM.

Youthplaces programs meet between the hours of 5:00-9:00 PM, Monday thru Thursday and include: *Gameroom, Open Gym, Career Readiness* and other activities to be announced.

Citiparks programs will resume February 26th with *Swimming & Martial Arts*.

The Hazelwood YMCA will provide *childcare* for program participants Monday @ the GCLC in room 133 from 6:30-8:30 PM.

Schedule is subject to change.
For more information call: *Communities In Schools* @ 422-3508.

Clean Up at the Coke Plant

Fran Bertonaschi

Since the LTV coke plant closed three years ago, there has been one important question on the minds of many Hazelwood residents: What is going to be built on the site? Until LTV sells the property and a developer begins the process of turning the land into a site for commercial uses, answers to this question will be speculation. However, last Spring a group of students at Carnegie-Mellon's Heinz School of Public Policy and Management completed a project to determine what might be feasible for the site.

They looked at the background of the Hazelwood community, physical assets of the coke plant site, environmental contamination of the land, and a market analysis of business community needs. After combining this information, they produced a detailed plan for a development consisting primarily of premium office space, supplemented by an area that might contain a mix of office/lab/light industry. It also included space that would be set aside for recreational activities and a riverfront park. In the process of developing this plan, they interviewed two groups of people, real estate brokers/land developers and community residents. The business people provided insight into the market conditions that exist in the Pittsburgh area, and what the demand might be for various scenarios at this site.

Hazelwood residents indicated some general themes they felt were important not only in the development of the site, but also in the direction the neighborhood should be moving. While this study presents a very detailed picture of what development of the coke plant site might look like, it is important to remember that this is only one possible outcome. The planning process that will take place in the next few months will have a major impact on what eventually takes place on the coke plant site, as well as the rest of the Hazelwood community. Whatever the outcome, it will be a big improvement over another coke plant.

REVERSING NEGATIVITY

by Joan McLaughlin

One of the biggest obstacles to overcome in the attempt to improve the aesthetic value of any neighborhood is the lack of pride and concern of residents and business owners within that neighborhood. How much simpler it is to "lament" the decline than to "work" toward the improvement. If this is interpreted as harsh criticism, it is, but true nonetheless.

Picking up trash in front of your own residence costs no money. Throwing an empty pack of cigarettes, a bag of potato chips, or a bottle of soda in a refuse can instead of on the sidewalk costs no money. Trimming the hedges, sweeping the sidewalk of leaves, or removing snow and ice for the elderly couple living next to you costs no money. Simple steps that help create pride in any resident in any community.

There is no doubt that sidewalks need repaired and that many buildings have gone unattended. Money is available through various city programs to help the homeowner or business owner rectify these situations. Several community organizations can help in making the necessary contacts.

Most disturbing are the negative statements after an improvement has been made. No doubt, you've heard someone say that the gazebo will get ruined. What about the statements that the flowers will get destroyed at the garden sites? In fact there has been no damage to these sites and many individuals have not only complimented us but also joined in to help remove weeds, water plants, or decorate for the holidays. There are naysayers who condemn such community efforts as the 5K Walk/Run or Summer Concert series. But these community events have grown bigger every year and those who live along the race route have stated how much they enjoy watching the runners. As much as we oppose the influx of suburbanites each day through the community, many have applauded the efforts made to brighten our streets and return to the prosperous business district we once had.

All of this started with a few individuals who wanted to clean up the garbage (remember, at no cost). Those individuals felt a need to make a difference. Now, we are on the verge of one of the most impressive revitalizations that the City of Pittsburgh has seen in quite some time. Getting involved comes in many forms. Start a block club to weekly clean up the sidewalk and trash along the street. Come to the garden sites when the planting dates are listed and get to know more community members. Consider joining in the planning of the Master Plan. If there is something you don't like, don't just talk about it - **do something**.

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The Best Kept Secret in Hazelwood

by Eleanore Robins

Where are they going, these men and women over 60 years old? What do they do when they get there?

You are invited to join them at the Old Car Barn, now known as the Hazelwood Senior Community Center. Operated by the City of Pittsburgh for more than twenty (20) years, the Center has provided a place to meet, socialize, share experiences, and more.

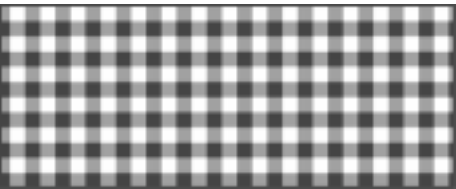
We receive tickets to the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, through a grant from the RAD monies. The free tickets are issued on a "first-come" basis for those who have not had the opportunity to attend. The plays are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM, at the beautiful new O'Reilly Theatre downtown. Transportation is on OPT for those who request it. The next play is "Tea" on March 28.

Our Thursday "Early Bird Dinner Club" continues, with trips to Armstrong's in Caste Village, Eat 'n Park, Old Country Buffet, etc. Please join in. Make suggestions. Transportation is provided, at no cost, with the use of the Senior Interests van.

Now that Winter is here, stop in for a cup of coffee or tea, a hot meal, friendly conversations, and more. The Old Car Barn is located at 5344 Second Avenue. Our phone number is 422-6549. Would love to see you here! If you cannot stop in, call for a copy of the monthly calendar and menu.

We ask that a short registration form be completed, in advance, for those who are not center members. At lunchtime, 50¢ donation is suggested. This money goes back into programming.

R e c i p e



Transylvanian Gulyas by Jozsa Corner

I remember my Grandma's cooking – oh the aromas! – during the colder months of December, January, and February in Hungary. These are memories I cherish fondly and emulate through my cooking style.

Amazingly the joy and memory remains in faith and traditions in most western, central and eastern European cultures, where winter foods that are prepared, to this day, using a lot of sauerkraut. Although sauerkraut made goods can be used in any season, it is more prominent in the cooler continents. The acidity of the sauerkraut discourages spoiling. It is also a significant source of vitamin C.

Through conversations with local families in Hazelwood, the whole of the Pittsburgh area, and with visitors from outside Pennsylvania, I have heard many variations on the way each household prepares its sauerkraut. Some prepare it whole, some partially or fully sliced, and still others pickled, spiced and slightly salted, made in large

jars and barrels - a ceremony and a custom in itself. Comparable to pickling, canning and bottling, making home-style sauerkraut is still a great art in the USA. Processed commercially, using a highly mechanized system produces sauerkraut with characteristics uniquely different from that of home-style. Obviously, home-style is my preference.

Before preparing your recipe I must point out that perfect measurements and improvisational additional sprinklings are at the discretion and mood of the cook. I use a bit of whole or powdered caraway seeds for extra flavor. I also prefer this in the aging of the kraut as well as in the pot. Cooking the Transylvanian Gulyas from a dash to a splash of spicing is on you – but its best to know all of your ingredients and their effects before experimenting too much.

- Transylvanian Gulyas
- 1 lb. cubed pork butts
 - 3 tablespoons of shortening or canola oil
 - 1 tablespoon of salt
 - ¼ tablespoon of black pepper
 - 2 cups of sauerkraut
 - ¼ tablespoon of Hungarian paprika
 - 1 medium size minced onion
 - 1 cup of sour cream (include in pot or add on top when served)

Cube meat to about 1 inch or smaller. Brown meat in shortening, add onions, salt, pepper and paprika until tender – cover with lid – stir occasionally so everything is evenly browned and meat is tender. Add in sauerkraut and stir until flavored and tendered in the stew. If you prefer, you may stir sour cream directly into the recipe if you intend to serve it at only one meal. The customary mode in the Carpatho Mountains in the mainland is to add the sour cream to the mouth taste of the individual. It can be served with rye, pumpernickel, or crusted breads. This recipe can serve up to 4 adults amply, if you want to economize you could add up to two more cups sauerkraut to serve more people.

Joetvagyat! (Have a good appetite!)

The kraut juice kept or drained is up to you and some households even wash and soak the kraut. So again, the customs and traditions in preparing are as delightfully different and amazing as the households themselves are.

Come and visit us at Jozsa Corner, 4800 Second Avenue, at the corner of 2nd Avenue and Hazelwood or call at 412-422-1886. Alexis, Jennifer and Alexander Jozsa Bodnar (who have lived and worked in this community since 1974) wish all our readers and neighbors a blessed happy healthy and prosperous New Year.

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Wishing You
Health,
Happiness
and Prosperity
in the New Year.

County Councilman
Rich Fitzgerald

Tell us about Hazelwood's Health.

The Hazelwood Health Initiative, a committee of the Hazelwood Initiative, wants to learn how citizens feel about health in our community.

Loosely defined, health is "quality of life." Access to health care, education, housing, employment -- all have a direct impact on the health of our community.

To positively impact the health of Hazelwood, we need citizens to tell us:

- What are the benefits to living in Hazelwood?
- What health issues are you concerned about?
- What health issues would you like to see addressed in the community?

If you have an answer, thought or opinion about Hazelwood's Health, please send, fax, or e-mail it to the address below. Please include your name and contact information if you would like to become actively involved in this effort.

Hazelwood Health Initiative
c/o UPMC Community Initiatives Dept.
Falk Medical Building, Suite 1B
200 Lothrop Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Fax: 412-647-3362
E-mail: saksonsr@msx.upmc.edu

Thank you for helping to shape Hazelwood's health!



Little League Parent Meeting & Sign Up



WHO: Parents of children (ages 5-12) in the Hazelwood Community
WHAT: Parent Meeting & Sign Up for Little League and T-Ball
WHEN: Saturday, February 10, 2001 - 1:00 PM
WHERE: The Car barn

The formation of the "NEW" Greater Hazelwood Little League starts with your input. We need parents and interested parties to work together to make a difference for the kids.

Managers, coaches, and other support people are needed to "make it work." This is an open discussion for the whole community.

Already know you can help? Call Jim McLaughlin at (412) 422-8205.

Not quite sure what you can do? Call Jim McLaughlin at (412) 422-8205.

Want to know more? Call Jim McLaughlin at (412) 422-8205.

Be There for the Kids



LOST HISTORY

Tesla Street

by Gerry Gardner

Tesla Street runs along the West Side of Calvary Cemetery until Harlem, Frayne, and Hazelwood interrupt it. Another segment begins at Bigelow. It is named after the person whose patents built Westinghouse.

On January 7, 1943, Nikola Tesla died in New York City at the age of 87. He was virtually penniless, living on a small foreign pension at the dilapidated Hotel New Yorker in a room that he shared with a flock of pigeons, which he considered his only friends. The thriving industries he had built had long since turned their backs on him. The scientific community shunned him and his eccentric views. To the general public, he was either unknown or an object of ridicule, a lunatic whose ravings were fit only for sensational tabloids. The popular "Superman" cartoons of the 1940s pitted the Man of Steel against the death rays and electromagnetic terrors of a scheming mad scientist, whose name was Tesla.

How could this have happened? Whatever his flaws, however far afield he may have strayed at times, Tesla surely deserved better than this. Modern society owes him just as much as the people of his time did, if not

more, and yet we have forgotten him.

Tesla probably failed to make the history books because he failed as a businessman. For example, after he invented electric motors that used Alternating Current (AC), he signed a contract in 1892 with Westinghouse for \$1,000,000, but this was peanuts compared with what he could have negotiated. Tesla spent the money on another futuristic invention, achieving a major breakthrough in 1899 at Colorado Springs. He transmitted 100 million volts of high-frequency electric power without wires over a distance of 26 miles and powered 200 light bulbs and an electric motor. With this 'souped up' version of his Tesla coil, Tesla claimed that only 5% of the transmitted energy was lost in the process. But without funds again, he had to seek investors to back his project of broadcasting electric power in almost unlimited amounts to any point on the globe.

When J.P. Morgan agreed to underwrite Tesla's project, a strange structure was begun and almost completed near Wardencllyffe in Long Island, N.Y. Looking like a huge oil derrick with a mushroom cap, it had a total height of 200 feet. Then suddenly, Morgan withdrew his support of the project in 1906 when he at last understood that Tesla was considering the free distribution of energy — a terrifying

idea to any self-respecting capitalist. Eventually the structure was dynamited and brought down in 1917. Some think Morgan used his considerable clout to ensure that no one else would bankroll Tesla's threatening schemes.

Thomas Edison, committed to the use of the outdated Direct Current (DC) technology, despised his former employee's success with AC, and campaigned to smear Tesla's name. He held demonstrations at which animals were lethally electrocuted with AC-powered devices, in a deceptive and inhumane effort to warn the public of the danger posed by Tesla and Westinghouse's "unsafe" new electrical system. He used data from these animal electrocutions to perfect his invention of the "electric chair." Edison also sat on the War De-

Tesla on his boss Thomas Edison: "If Edison had a needle to find in a haystack, he would proceed at once with the diligence of the bee to examine straw after straw until he found the object of his search. I was a sorry witness of such doings, knowing that a little theory and calculation would have saved him ninety per cent of his labor."

partment advisory board that rejected Tesla's proposals of the death ray and his radar-like device.

On Tesla's death, the FBI ordered the Office of Alien Property to seize all of Tesla's papers and possessions. This confiscation was unequivocally illegal, because Tesla had been an American citizen since 1891. He was from a family of Serbian origin, his father an Orthodox priest, his mother unschooled but highly intelligent. While Tesla was ignored in his adopted country, he was honored abroad. The international unit of magnetic induction is called a Tesla. There is a handsome building in Belgrade for memorabilia and the papers eventually released by the FBI. There is a vast physics project with the acronym TESLA, standing for: Tera electron volt; Energy; Superconducting; Linear; Accelerator, under construction at Hamburg, Germany, to be completed in 2006.

But the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC, still ignores his genius. Marconi is presented as the inventor of radio, although the Supreme Court ruled in 1943 that Tesla held the patents and Marconi merely copied. A bust of Edison stands beside Tesla's induction motor with no credit given to the true inventor. Dr. Bernard S. Finn is Curator and first author of a Smithsonian publication on the electricity exhibit. In his section entitled "The Beginning of the Electrical Age," he names 43 contributors to the science of electricity. Thomas Edison's name is cited many times along with his photographs, but Nikola Tesla's name is

omitted. The entire electrical display at the Smithsonian (including their web site) focuses on Edison's brief DC business enterprise that failed. This is not a story of invention, but of big business. Note that the Edison Institute contributes money to the Smithsonian. (direct your letter to: Mr. Lawrence Small, Secretary Smithsonian Institution Washington, D.C. 20560)

The Smithsonian Book of Invention is an extra-large hard cover book almost an inch thick. Many inventors and their inventions are shown and their impact on civilization discussed, including Edison, Archie Bunker, and Colonel Sanders. Tesla and his epic-causing discoveries are omitted.

In his later years, Tesla was fascinated with the idea of light as both a particle and a wave — the fundamental proposition of what would become quantum physics. This field of inquiry led to the development of his death ray. Tesla also had the idea of creating a "wall of light" by manipulating electromagnetic waves in a certain pattern. This mysterious wall of light would enable time, space, gravity and matter to be altered at will, and engendered an array of Tesla proposals that seem to leap straight out of science fiction, including anti-gravity airships, teleportation and time travel.

The weirdest invention Tesla ever proposed was probably the "thought photography" machine. He reasoned that a thought formed in the mind created a corresponding image in the retina, and the electrical data of this neural transmission could be read and recorded in a machine. The stored information could then be processed through an artificial optic nerve and played back as visual patterns on a 'viewscreen'.

On life in space, he wrote: "I think that nothing can be more important than interplanetary communication. It will certainly come some day and the certitude that there are other human beings in the universe, working, suffering, struggling, like ourselves, will produce a magic effect on mankind and will build the foundation of a universal brotherhood that will last as long as humanity itself."

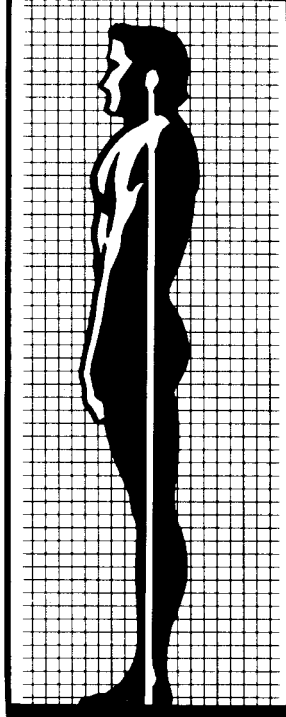
Tesla on his friend George Westinghouse:

"George Westinghouse was, in my opinion, the only man on this globe who could take my alternating-current system under the circumstances then existing and win the battle against prejudice and money power. He was a pioneer of imposing stature, one of the world's true nobleman of whom America may well be proud and to whom humanity owes an immense debt of gratitude."

"The doctor of the future will give no medicine, but will interest his patient in the care of the human frame, in diet and in the cause and prevention of disease."

—Thomas A. Edison

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Hazelwood Homepage Valentines



Anthony-Happy Valentines Day to my favorite little guy!
Love, Aunt JuJu

Happy Valentine's Day Daddy - we love you!
Iliana, Baba A & Baby B

Brian-To the love of my life. Happy Valentines Day. I love you.
Love, Jude

Roger - Their loss is our gain! Thank God we found each other again. I love you more each day. Always - Kathy

Bubbu, my wuv you, Love Ro-Ro
Jim - You still make my toes curl. Love always, Joan

To the Kennedy's, the Cardamone's, the O'Donnell's and the Pluff's
Every word in every valentine would never be enough
To thank you for our grandchildren and for all the joy we've had Being "gran'ma" and "pap-pap" to all of them and for being your mom and dad. Mom & Dad Kennedy

Love to my Children - Peggy, Buzzy, Sue, Nancy, Georgin, Eugene, Charlie, Mike and Theresa from Mom

To my Honey Bunny...You still make my heart throb! Happy Valentine's Day and Happy Birthday. With love, Your Sweetie Pie

Happy Valentine's Day Grandma & Grandpap Kennedy
We love you - Iliana, Baby A & Baby B Cardamone

A special delivery for you John & Valentine wishes. I hope you get well and lots of love. Joan



All you need is love.
All you need is love.
All you need is love, love.
Love is all you need.



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GREENFIELD - SPACIOUS!

Move right into this 4 bedroom brick home with a lovely glass enclosed front porch, eat in kitchen, finished gameroom and powderroom.
Asking \$89,900 - Judith, Ext. 109.



GREENFIELD - REDUCED

Lovely 3 bedroom brick with new berber carpet, private porch with fenced in yard, 2 parking spaces in rear, all appliances included.
Asking \$65,500 - Jane, Ext. 107



LINCOLN PLACE! - REDUCED

Move right into this 3 bedroom brick located on a cul de sac, 1st floor powder room, familyroom, security system, level rear yard.
Asking \$85,900 - Jane, Ext. 107



LINCOLN PLACE! - REDUCED

Priced to sell, this 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home is located on a level lot. The roof, windows and siding are less than one year old, air conditioning.
Asking \$69,900 - Jim Jr., Ext. 108.



EDGEWOOD - OWNER ANXIOUS

Owner Anxious See this 3 bedroom with 1st floor laundry, newly carpeted, sun room.
Asking \$39,000 - Jane, Ext. 107



HAZELWOOD

View this lovely 3 bedroom brick on a double lot. With 1 1/2 baths, newer furnace, integral garage.
Asking \$37,000 - Jane, Ext. 107



HAZELWOOD - RANCH!

Just reduced!! View this 2 bedroom brick with central air, 1 1/2 baths, lots of storage.
Asking \$39,900 - Jackie, Ext. 105

★ ★ ATTENTION ★ ★ FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS

Why pay rent? It's a great time to buy a home, lower interest rates (6.5%) are here using City Bond Money available through the Urban Redevelopment Authority and your local banks. There are always questions that need to be answered. Call us for a free no obligation counseling appointment. We'll help you figure out just how much home you can afford and assist you with the process of obtaining a mortgage.



SOLID BRICK RANCH

Located at the end of the street, charming ranch, updates, only 40 years old, cheerful kitchen, large knotty pine gameroom, so much potential.
Asking \$89,900 - Jane, Ext. 107

SUPPORT HAZELWOOD INITIATIVE ACTIVITIES

...and have fun at the same time

Here are some future events and fundraising activities planned to help improve our community

by Joan McLaughlin

Thanks cannot express how grateful the Hazelwood Initiative is for the support that has come from the community in the efforts to raise money to support the various projects we have worked on throughout the year 2000. Through the sale of flowers, monthly tickets, Subway coupons, soda and candy, and other items we raised over \$4,700 this past year. Now, we will set goals for the year 2001.

We need to raise an additional \$8,000 for the permanent installation of our holiday lights. Also, it is the hope of this committee that we can have a bigger and better "Safe Gazebo" for the children on Halloween night.

Check out the following programs to see how you can help us raise \$10,000 this year!!

- Watch for the new ticket being sold by members of the Hazelwood Initiative. We will be giving a bigger prize to the winner.
- Saturday, March 24, 2001 - **NIGHT AT THE RACES**. This annual event will be held at St. Stephen's School Hall. Horses, door & refreshment tickets will be sold at \$10 each. Only 100 tickets are available for horses. Door and refreshment tickets will be sold at the door for \$5.00. Lots of Fun - Get a group of friends together and reserve a table.
- Saturday, May 12, 2001 - **Annual Mother's Day Flower Sale**. Each year more neighbors are showing us how they can make their yards look more attractive with the purchase of various plants in flats (vincas, petunias, marigolds, impatiens), hanging baskets, or potted geraniums. This year we will extend the variety to include some vegetables. Look for the order form in the next issue of the Homepage!
- Plans are being made for several **bus trips**. The trip to Mountaineer Park in the fall was so successful that many have been asking for more. Have a spot in mind? Call Joan at 421-7234 and leave a message. Some of the ideas being considered are for an overnight trip to a Riverboat Casino, a day trip to Erie (including a potato chip factory and winery), and a fall foliage trip to Altoona or Bedford. Registration forms will be available soon.
- We continue to solicit used laser and inkjet printer cartridges. Deposit boxes are available at the Car barn and Library. Most Apple, Canon, IBM, and Lexmark products are recyclable. Should you have any questions, please call Joan at 421-7234.

LISTENING IN ON THE CELL PHONE CONVERSATIONS OF...

The Hazelnuts

Gertrude & Glen

Episode 4: Does Anyone Know a Plumber?

"You have to come home right away. I'm stuck under the sink laying flat on my back. I'm in incredible pain. I was trying to fix that leak when my back froze up on me. I can't move."



"Well, I'll finish up and come straight home. I'm at Kunst Bakery in Oakland picking up the cookies for Elizabeth's Valentine party. It won't take long to get home."

"Try to hurry! This %\$#@ cold water dripping in my eye is making me crazy! Also, you're going to have to find a plumber. There is no way I'm going to be able to finish this up today and the water is spraying all over the place."



"I told you a thousand times you should go and have your back looked at! The first thing I do when I get home is call Dr. Smooke's office and make an appointment for you. This has been going on for way too long."

"Yeah, yeah. You're right! But the first thing to do is get this water stopped! It's starting to flow all over the kitchen floor and Fido can't lick it up fast enough. Maybe you can find a plumber advertising in the Homepage."



"We do like to support the local businesses that support the community. I'm just kind of disappointed that your back condition is going to spoil our Valentine's Day plans."

Next months episode: "Gert loses control"

HAZELWOOD INITIATIVE NIGHT AT THE RACES



Sat. March 24, 2001 7:00PM - 11:30PM
Doors open at 6:30PM

Races take place at St. Stephen's School Hall



\$10 Horse Ticket or \$5 Door Ticket
Includes food & beverage

Make it a winning night
Bring your friends & neighbors



Enjoy an evening of fun while you support existing and new projects in the Hazelwood community. Contact 421-7234 for additional information.



Hazelwood Initiative, Inc. has 11 long sleeve and 21 short sleeve 5K Run & Walk shirts for sale. Made with high quality material and imprinted with the Oktoberfest 5K Run & Walk logo. The dark green long sleeve shirt is selling for \$10.00, the beige short sleeve sells for \$7.00. Size and quantities available are:

Short Sleeve (Beige)		Long Sleeve (Dark Green)	
Qty.	Size	Qty.	Size
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9	XL	2	L
3	L	1	M
5	M		

First come first served. For more information call 421-7234



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ASK DR. DAN LINCOLN

A healthy dose of the Zzz's

At the end of a long day many of us are eager to climb the stairs, go to bed, and get a good night's sleep. Sleep makes us feel relaxed, refreshed, and ready to tackle another day. But for many people, the time spent trying to fall asleep is frustrating, not relaxing. They start the next day tired instead of refreshed.

According to a Gallup Poll conducted for the National Sleep Foundation (NSF), one out of every two people suffers from sleeplessness at some point in their lives, many of them chronically. It's estimated that 30 to 40 million Americans suffer from serious sleep disorders that undermine their sleep quality and their health.

On average, a person requires approximately eight hours of sleep each day. But according to NSF, two-thirds of adults report getting less than this recommended amount of sleep. The pressures of everyday life lead many to cut back on sleep. Almost one-half of all adults agree strongly or somewhat with the statement that they will "sleep less to get more work

done," according to another NSF poll. This trend leads to a decline in a person's alertness and attentiveness, placing extra strain on work, family life and relationships.

Sleeplessness, whether it's the result of a sleep disorder or an overextended lifestyle, diminishes quality of life and can harm your health. Afternoon drowsiness, mood swings, and irritability can make those suffering from sleeplessness try just about anything to catch some zzz's. However, some methods such as alcohol and sleeping pills that help a person fall asleep can be very harmful to sleep patterns in the long run.

In many cases, lifestyle changes can help promote sleep. Try to build into your schedule time for eight hours of sleep, and follow this routine as regularly as possible. The NSF offers the following tips that many people have found to be useful.

- Avoid caffeine, nicotine, and alcohol in the late afternoon and evening. Caffeine and nicotine can delay your sleep. Drinking alcohol often results in interrupted sleep during the night.
- If you have trouble sleeping when you go to bed, don't nap during

the day, since it affects your ability to sleep at night.

- Exercise regularly, but do so at least three hours before bedtime. A workout after that time may actually keep you awake because your body has not had a chance to cool down.
- Establish a regular, relaxing bedtime routine that will allow you to unwind and send a "signal" to your brain that it's time to sleep. Avoiding exposure to bright light before bedtime and taking a hot bath may help.
- Make your sleep environment as pleasant, comfortable, dark and quiet as you can.
- If you can't go to sleep after 30 minutes, don't stay in bed tossing and turning. Get up and involve yourself in a relaxing activity until you feel sleepy. Remember: Try to clear your mind; don't use this time to solve your daily problems.

Keep in mind that what works for some individuals may not work for others. Find out what's effective for you and stick with it. If you are having a sleep problem that persists for more than a week, visit your doctor. He or she can help address sleep prob-

lems and other treatments that will turn sleepless hours into restful nights. To make any appointment with one of the doctors at UPMC Hazelwood, call 412-422-9520.

"Ask Dr. Dan Lincoln" is a column exclusive to the Hazelwood Homepage. If you have a health question or topic you would like Dr. Lincoln to address, please send your question or suggestion to UPMC Community Initiatives, 200 Lothrop Street, Falk Medical Building, Suite 1B, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Contact us with your request by phone at 412-647-4756 or e-mail at saksonsr@msx.upmc.edu.



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