

## President's Message

The snow has gone, flowers are blooming, birds are chirping, and ... trash is everywhere. A long, cold winter has given way to the beautiful spring weather and outdoor activities that we have all yearned for since fall. But once the snow melted it revealed the ugly trash that has littered our sidewalks, stairways, and green spaces.

The green growth of spring is soon to explode and brighten the scenery, and with it some of this trash will be hidden from view for another year. I would encourage each and every one of you, my neighbors, to make an effort to clean their little section of our wonderful hillside community (see *Spring Cleanup* on p. 7) . I personally will take the time to scour Mission Street on a weekly basis, if not more, to remove the random litter. I will pick up after garbage day when empty barrels may have left a few loose pieces of trash to flutter about in the breeze, better to grab it and bag it than to dig it out of that forsythia bush next week, right? In this beautiful weather, let's make our neighborhood beautiful together. Don't have the time to pick up litter? You can do your part by keeping your trash stored out of sight from the street, and in a barrel with a lid.

Need trash bags or gloves? Contact us at [info@southsideslopes.org](mailto:info@southsideslopes.org) and we can hook you up.



Thanks neighbor,

**Brian Oswald**

*President, South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association*

*[brian.oswald@southsideslopes.org](mailto:brian.oswald@southsideslopes.org)*



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*"Neighbors working together to make the Slopes a more livable, beautiful, and safe community."*



## GAMES N'AT

FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES...

Tucked in between the Slopes and Flats on Josephine Street, walking into Games N'At puts you right in the middle of a game-lover's paradise.

Whether you like to play arcade games, pinball, games of skill, video games, or one of everything, they offer unlimited play on pool tables, ping-pong basketball, pinball, driving games, shooting games, video games (a lot of old school classics), air hockey, foosball, bubble hockey, touchscreens, and online PC games.

You can buy tokens for games of skill to win great prizes!

Games N'At has private party rooms available for many types of events.

Support this Slopes business!

### Games N'At

2010 Josephine Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15203

412.481.2002

<https://sites.google.com/site/gamesnatsite>

## Get Out and About: Join the South Side Park Walking Club

Spring has arrived and what better way to get out and explore than to take a guided tour of South Side Park. Fresh off renovations from our \$45,000 grant that was executed last summer, the park has never looked better.

The Ol' Renziehausen Trail, named after a famed distiller of Monongahela Rye Whiskey and the donor of the first parcel of land that formed South Side Park, has been improved and widened in areas to allow greater access. The Bandi Schaum Community Garden is prepared to begin its fourth growing season, and the skills that are evolving as the gardeners learn and grow are astounding. The view from The Plateau remains beautiful and unobstructed. The "tombstones" and other remnants of an industrial history within South Side Park remind you of the fabric from which this green space will be resurrected.



The "tombstones" along the trail in South Side Park. Walk with us to learn more about them, or tell us your story!



A beautiful Sunday walk in South Side Park in April, enjoyed by all — human *and* canine.

### JOIN US FOR A WALK

Want to learn other interesting facts about South Side Park? Come and join us every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m. We meet at the parking lot between the Mission St. Bridges across from the Pump Station. Family and leashed pet friendly. We look forward to walking with you, and increasing the positive usage of this great neighborhood asset.



Your South Side Neighbor, Patty Elstner

## Patty Elstner: A SOUTH SIDE GIRL!

Growing up in the South Side in the 60's and 70's was a real experience. Patty Elstner found great joy in belonging to St. Michael's Church. She was involved with Veronica's Veil Passion Play and remembers her experience fondly as a youngster. She participated in the show starting at the tender age of five as a small Christian girl in the play's crowd. At 14, she became an usherette, but sorely missed being on the stage, so she went back to acting and continued on for many years.

It definitely was a "family affair." Patty's grandfather was a policeman and directed traffic every Saturday and Sunday, making sure all the big yellow school buses were parked along

Pius Street and everyone arrived safely to the auditorium. Patty's aunts and uncles were actors, her mother and sisters were also on stage, and her father was in charge of the lighting and special effects.

In 1980, she tried out for the role of Rebecca, the wife of Caiaphas the high priest and was thrilled when she got the part. Her aunt, Marion Saunders, who had played the part for several years retired in 1979. Her uncle, Br. Thomas Aul, C.P. portrayed Abenadar the centurion and also retired that year (he passed away October of that year from cancer). She was so proud to carry on the family tradition of acting. The last year of Veronica's Veil in 2010 that was sad season for everyone. She had the honor of portraying Rebecca for 30 years! Patty looks back and says, "I still remember the lines and miss the show terribly!"

Every Lent she reflects how much that show meant to her and her entire family as it did to all the families involved over the years. Patty recalls, "those wonderful times will be embedded in my mind forever." Although the neighborhood has changed over the years, Patty will always remember Veronica's Veil, America's Passion Play as one of her fondest memories of growing up and living in the neighborhood. It's the thing she's most proud of when she tells people, "I'm from South Side"...great memories from a great neighborhood.

## Community Garden Begins Fourth Season

The Community Garden at Bandi Schaum Field is off to a great start this year thanks to volunteers from Duquesne University and the Student Conservation Association (SCA) crew. On April 18, the two groups teamed up with gardeners and neighbors to clean up and prepare the garden for the upcoming growing season. Mulching pathways, cleaning out the shared garden shed, and building a picnic table were just some of the tasks accomplished by the group on a sunny Saturday morning.

Official kickoff of the gardening season begins on Planting Day, scheduled for May 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stop by anytime throughout the year and take a stroll through the garden to see the progress. Visit: [www.bandischaum.org](http://www.bandischaum.org).



Teamwork in action....students enjoying the great weather and mulching garden pathways .



# A Fun Summer on Tap at Brashear!

The Brashear Association provides services to South Pittsburgh families, providing academic support and educational enrichment for children.

This summer they will be running four 2-week camps for kids from 12pm to 4pm, Monday through Thursday.



## BRASHEAR SUMMER CAMPS

**June 15 -25—Eco Camp:** A camp focused on taking care of the world around us through sustainable means and community beautification. This camp will also cover gardening, cooking lessons and art projects. Students graduating Grades 1-4.



**June 29 -July 9—Tech Camp:** Campers will develop team building skills and next generation technical skills through modern, technology based programming. Students graduating 4th-7th grades. [A Hilltop YMCA partnership]

**July 13 -23—Outdoors Camp:** Get outside with Venture Outdoors! Students will hike, bike, kayak, geocache, fish and much more. Students graduating 3rd-7th grades. [A Venture Outdoors Partnership]

**July 27-August 6—Maker Camps:** A creator-based program focusing on cultivating and encouraging young engineers and inventors through science, technology and the arts. Students graduating Grades 2-5. [A Maker Corps and Millvale Library Partnership]

*\*\* All camps are on an application basis only. Space is limited.*

## CONTACT BRASHEAR

For more information, please contact Amber Rooke at [arooke@brasherassociation.org](mailto:arooke@brasherassociation.org) or call 412.431.2236 x 21. Visit [www.BrashearKids.com](http://www.BrashearKids.com).



## ABOUT THE BRASHEAR ASSOCIATION [www.brashearassociation.org]

The Brashear Association provides human and community services to more than 5,000 South Pittsburgh residents each year by:

- Providing academic support and educational enrichment for children
- Connecting low-income individuals and families to the services and resources needed to become more self-sufficient
- Supporting seniors to help them remain in their homes and be active community members

# City Signage for Public Steps on the Church Route

In the Fall of 2014, the city of Pittsburgh installed street signs including an icon of a set of steps to delineate each of the sets of stairs included in the Church Route. The installation of the signs coincided with the "Pro Walk Pro Bike Pro Place" conference held in Pittsburgh last September.



According to Justin Miller, Senior Planner in the Department of City Planning, "I originated the project a few years ago in an attempt to bring some order to our street name signage system. The one-size-fits-all approach didn't seem like it was enough, with regular streets, stairs, pedestrian paths, and honorary street names all sharing the same sign type. "

He added, "the first goal is public safety—paths/stairs should be not only marked, but in a way that clearly shows them as different from streets (while using a design that clearly lets people know it's a public right of way). The

second goal was as a celebration of these assets that make Pittsburgh so unique. "

The Church Route is a walking tour on the South Side Slopes. In addition to climbing up and down about 800 steps, you will also walk by historic South Side churches including St. Adalbert's Church, St. Michael's Church, St. Paul of the Cross Monastery, and St. Josephat's Church. In case you get tired, the route also passes near UUBU 6 and Garvey's where you can stop for a cold beverage. Of course, you can stop at almost place along the route to enjoy the views. For 10 years this route was a part of StepTrek but the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association decided to publish the route for everyone to enjoy throughout the year.

*For more information and a detailed map of the South Side Slopes Church Route, visit:*

<http://www.southsideslopes.org/steptrek/church-route>

Ultimately, the new sign program will be expanded to all sets of public stairs. Justin says, "the program will be integrated with the day-to-day activities of the sign shop and DPW streets crew. They replace signage constantly, and many of the ones that were removed for the stair signs were 15+ years old—in some cases there was no sign."



If you see a set of stairs that needs a sign, please dial 311 and request that a new stair-specific sign is added. Let's let the city know we like this program!

## Neighbor Stories: Call for Submissions

As residents of the Slopes, we know that our best kept secrets are the incredible people we call our own. We would like to share the stories of our neighbors in the newsletter and are asking you for submissions to include in an upcoming publication.

**Know a Slopes resident whose story needs to be shared?** Contact us at [newsletter@southsideslopes.org](mailto:newsletter@southsideslopes.org).

## Get Involved...

Would you like to get more involved in the neighborhood? Whatever your interest or passion, joining one of the SSSNA committees can be a great way to help improve our community and meet some great people! Contact us:

### StepTrek Committee

brian.oswald@southsideslopes.org

### Beautification Committee

dawn.lorincy@southsideslopes.org

### South Side Park Task Force

jamie.earl@southsideslopes.org

### Outreach Committee

cara.jette@southsideslopes.org

### Zoning/City Planning Committee

brad.palmisiano@southsideslopes.org

## SSSNA Board of Directors

*Brian Oswald, President*

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*Pavel Yakovlev, Treasurer*

*Candice Gonzalez, Secretary*

*Denise Fillip*

*Peter Kreuthmeier*

*Dawn Lorincy*

*Brad Palmisiano*

*Kristin Raup*

*Sarah Shea*

## Sprouting Sarah Street Garden Party

*Sprouting Sarah Street*



**DATE:** Sunday, June 7, 2015

**TIME:** 2—5 p.m.

**LOCATION:** 2220 Sarah Street,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

**COST:** \$50/person

*A Garden Party benefiting the community efforts to improve and redevelop South Side Park.*

Please attend (rain or shine) a community gathering at a private and extraordinary garden in our South Side neighborhood for an afternoon of socialization, wine, hors d'oeuvres, and chamber music to benefit the progress being made to improve South Side Park for all to share and enjoy!

### JOIN US AT THE GARDEN PARTY

To buy a ticket to the garden party, please visit:  
<https://www.showclix.com/event/SproutingSarahStreet>, or scan the QR code to the right.



Scan the code to buy a Garden Party ticket.

## Social Recap: The 2015 South Side Social—Raising Money *and* Having Fun



Flats and Slopes residents came together on March 28 at the Steel Cactus for an evening of fabulous food, friends, and fun! The event raised almost \$1,500 for development and improvements in South Side Park.

**Donate to South Side Park: [www.southsideslopes.org](http://www.southsideslopes.org)**

(Click on Donate button, add comment to specify funds to be used in South Side Park)



# Cleanup Recap: A lot of Litter, A lot of Trash, A lot of Help

As Brian Oswald mentioned in his *President's Message* (p. 5), each year we have to endure the same annoying eye sore: Litter and trash galore! This spring was no exception. Many have started to tackle the ongoing battle, making our streets prettier and cleaner.

On April 4, more than 200



Stacks of tires, piles of garbage cleared from Knoxville Incline Park.

volunteer hours were logged as students from CMU, South Siders and friends converged on Knoxville Incline Park and Brosville Street to haul out of the woods, hillside, and sidewalks. More than 100+ bags of trash, 125+ tires, including random garbage such as a shopping cart, pieces of a toilet, more than 30 phone books, and several rolls of carpet padding, among various other things.

In celebration of Earth Day, volunteers came together again on April 25 to pick up litter, as well as clear out invasive vines and weeds in South Side Park.



Clearing out "Jurassic Valley" in South Side Park for Earth Day.

## Want to Help?

Find out about future clean-ups and other community events. Sign up for our eblast emails, follow us on Facebook or Twitter, or visit our website at [southsideslopes.org](http://southsideslopes.org).

**STORE XPRESS.com**  
Indoor Climate Controlled Self-Storage  
Proud to support the  
South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association

*Special Offer for Residents of  
South Side Slopes*  
**2nd MONTH FREE RENT**  
\*Must present coupon at lease signing. May not be used with any other offer.

**FREE TRUCK AND GAS FOR MOVE IN!**

**412-431-5625**

South Side Slopes  
Neighborhood Association

**APPROVED**

Keep Trash Out of Sight, Stored in Cans with Lids - [SouthSideSlopes.org](http://SouthSideSlopes.org)

## Support the SSSNA

Please help to support the SSSNA and its mission of "neighbors working together to make the Slopes a more livable, beautiful, and safe community."

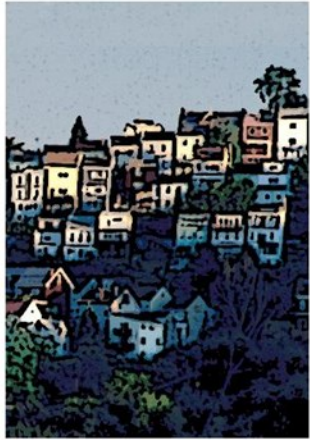
Donations are accepted through our website: [southsideslopes.org](http://southsideslopes.org) (click on the PayPal link).

To donate with a check, please make it out to SSSNA, and mail it to: SSSNA, P.O. Box 4248, Pittsburgh, PA 15203.

Access our website with your smartphone using the QR code to the right.



South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association  
P.O. Box 4248  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS—2015

Tuesday, May 12 — General Meeting [Speaker: District 3 Commander Sciroto]  
Saturday, May 16 — Planting Day [Bandi Schaum Community Garden]  
Saturday, May 23 — Garden Planting [Greeley & Josephine, Barry & Josephine Streets]  
Saturday, June 7 — Garden Party Benefiting South Side Park [2220 Sarah Street]  
Tuesday, July 14 — Summer Picnic [Quarry Field, Saber Way]  
Saturday, October 3 — StepTrek [21st Street, Entrance to South Side Park]  
Tuesday, October 13 — General Meeting & Elections  
Tuesday, December 8 — Holiday Party

All general meetings are held at the St Paul of the Cross Monastery Retreat Center at 7PM. The address is: 148 Monastery Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15203. Parking is available.

### Interested in Advertising?

Each edition of the *South Side Slopes Quarterly* reaches more than 1,800 residents and businesses. Contact us at: [newsletter@southsideslopes.org](mailto:newsletter@southsideslopes.org).



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