

Sights from the Slopes: StepTrek 2017

Enjoy this selection of photos from StepTrek which took place Oct. 7. Read more about this year's event on p. 2.



Above: The mosaic on the Oakley Way steps was on this year's Black Route.



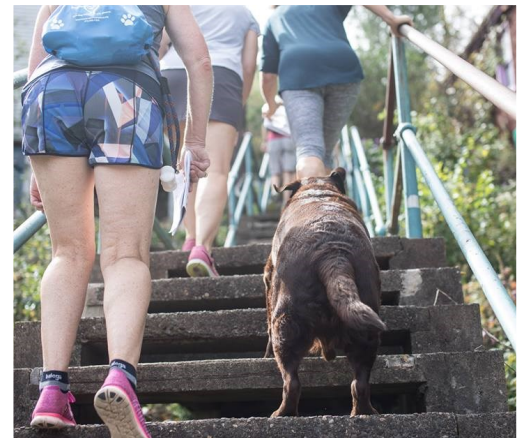
Slopes resident, Dennis, talks to trekkers about the historical photo display of the inclines, Slopes and neighboring areas.



Trekkers enjoying the Gold Route on the 18th St. Steps.



Old StepTrek t-shirts never go out of style!



Dogs are some of the most excited trekkers on the courses.

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

SOUTH SIDE SLOPES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

www.southsideslopes.org

StepTrek 2017: Highlights

According to Brian Oswald, chair of the StepTrek committee, this year's event was one of the best to date. He shared, "We pre-sold more than 500 tickets—showing what a good forecast and nice day can do to attract a big crowd!"



StepTrek volunteers help make the day awesome. L to R: Jill Modzelewski Cole, Brian Oswald (StepTrek



For a second year in a row, the Steppin' Stanzas entertain with their poetry and dance along the route.



Two StepTrek walkers enjoying their day on the steps!

Pittsburgh's Department of Public Works was very helpful, repairing several steps and two hand rails prior to the event, in addition to sweeping and power washing the StepTrek marketplace area.

For all the first-time, trekkers and veterans to the four folks from Baltimore celebrating their third consecutive year of walking StepTrek, the beautiful, warm day proved to be a great day to explore the Slopes, and have fun with neighbors and friends, new and old!

The StepTrek Committee is eagerly looking for help with event planning, fundraising and ideas on how to improve the event. If you would like to help with next year's StepTrek, please contact Brian Oswald at brian.oswald@southsideslopes.org.

South Side Slopes Holiday Party

**Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.
UUBU 6 (178 Pius Street)**

Slopes residents & friends invited!
Food provided | cash bar

SSSNA Board Members, Officers Elected

In October, South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association board member elections were held. Current members Brad Palmisiano, Blake McLaren, Cara Jette, Denise Filip and Gavin Robb were all re-elected to two-year terms. Jamie Balser was elected to his first, two-year term (see next page). Officers were elected by the board as follows: Kristin Raup, president; Donna Tarkett, vice president; Dawn Lorincy, Treasurer; and Cara Jette, Secretary.



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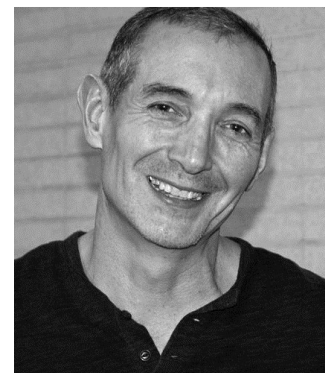
24 Hour Emergency Service

SSSNA Welcomes New Board Member

Newest South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association (SSSNA) board member Jamie Balser originally hails from Fairfax, VA, by way of Texas, Ohio and Maryland. He loves his adopted home in the Slopes and has taken an active role in making it a better place to live. He is the current chair of Friends of South Side Park, a group. In October, Jamie was elected to an open position on the board and is looking forward to getting more involved in the neighborhood.

Jamie managed commercial real estate, mainly in the Washington D.C. area, for 25 years. He has been a real estate investor in Pittsburgh for more than 12 years and also works for Verizon. Additionally, he manages two addiction recovery houses.

In his spare time, Jamie collects musical records and phonograph equipment from the WWII era and enjoys partner and swing dancing. He is single and lives with this beloved, 15 lb. Bichon Frise dog.



Jamie Balser, newly elected
SSSNA board member.

Public Works Division Serving the Slopes Closed and Split

The Public Works division serving south Pittsburgh neighborhoods, including the South Side Slopes, has closed. A structural engineering report from earlier this year showed the Division 4 Public Works building located on Bausman Street in Knoxville was been found to be unsafe for both workers and machinery. Mayor Peduto's office announced that the facility closed at the end of October and will be demolished before the end of the year.

City officials said that snowplowing, salting, street cleaning, pothole patching and other services to city residents within the division will not be impacted negatively. All employees are being retained and will deliver services from the bordering 3rd and 5th divisions instead.



To report any issues with snow removal, street cleaning or trash/recycling collection, please submit a report using the city's 311 service. **You may dial 311 or call 412-255-2621, submit an email request at pittsburghpa.gov/311/form or report via Twitter @311PGH.** (See below for 3-1-1 tips)

Should you call 911 or 311?

CALL 9-1-1 FOR ANY EMERGENCY

- **Crime(s) in progress-happening now.**
- **Life-threatening situations: fire, vehicle accidents, injuries requiring immediate medical attention.**
- **Any home alarm system sounding, i.e. fire, carbon monoxide, burglar alarm.**
- **Workplace violence.**
- **Property damage (yours or your neighbor's).**
- **Suspicious packages or activities.**

When calling 9-1-1:

- ⇒ Stay calm and speak clearly.
- ⇒ Know your exact location.
- ⇒ Answer all the questions asked.
- ⇒ When asked, explain what is occurring in detail.
- ⇒ Follow all of the instructions you are given.
- ⇒ Do not hang up until told to do so and stay close to your phone. An operator may call you back.

CALL 3-1-1 FOR NON-EMERGENCIES

- **Graffiti, litter, illegal parking, overgrown weeds, parking or traffic issues, pot holes.**
- **Information on city events or neighborhood services .**
- **Boarding/securing abandoned properties.**
- **Any non-emergency situations or behavioral trend you notice.**

To contact 3-1-1:

BY PHONE—Call 311 or 412-255-2621

ONLINE—Fill out a request: pittsburghpa.gov/311/form

TWITTER— Tweet: @311PGH

MYBURGH App— Download app from your app store.

When you make a request:

- ⇒ Explain the problem completely.
- ⇒ Remember to give an address.
- ⇒ Use the tracking number to follow-up on your request.

South Side Park: Master Plan Underway

The master plan process for South Side Park has begun! In 2017 the City of Pittsburgh was awarded a DCNR grant, matched from 2017 Capital Budget funds to develop a master plan for South Side Park. A selection committee, with representatives from the surrounding neighborhoods (Arlington, South Side Flats and South Side Slopes), City staff, and other stakeholders, selected Studio Bryan Hanes, a landscape architecture firm, to create the plan. Working with Studio Bryan Hanes is Brean Associates and Sci-Tek, both based in Pittsburgh.



The South Side Park Master Plan is an outcome of the City's comprehensive Open Space Plan (2013), identifying South Side Park as a potential "Signature Community Park" in need of a master plan that includes neighboring Arlington Park. South Side Park's watershed has been identified as a top priority in the PWSA's Green First Plan. The focus of the master plan will be recreation, connectivity, programming, and ecology using the unique topography to create features that will appeal to the public and bring more people into the park. Design decisions will take cues from the unique culture and spaces within South Side Park's energetic community and rich landscape, which engages the site's natural systems while also providing a strategic plan for providing phased community

resources. Projects will be achievable and representative pieces of the larger vision that both builds community pride and helps to guide future capital investments.

One of the most important considerations is community outreach and engagement. Embedded in this process are the advisory committee representatives from the three communities bordering the park. Ruth Isaacson and Terri Cataldo-Fazio represent the Arlington neighborhood, Donna Tarkett represents the South Side Slopes neighborhood, and Kitty Vagley represents the South Side Flats. Although they are the official representatives, everyone involved agrees that the process needs as many residents as possible to be part of the conversation. Many of residents' families have lived in their neighborhood for generations and may have questions, and even concerns, about the future of South Side Park. To allow for ALL voices to be heard, Studio Bryan Hanes will be holding four interactive (and fun)community events. These events will take place in January, February, March and April, with April being a celebration of all of the work done and the unveiling of the final master plan (dates will be announced in December).

The South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association, Arlington Civic Council, Friends of South Side Park, South Side Community Council and Hilltop Alliance will be sharing information regularly. Watch your email, local newsletters and social media for updates so that you don't miss out on information about this exciting process! Share your vision of what YOU want South Side Park to be. Together let's make South Side Park a regular destination for residents and visitors!

For more information or questions about the project contact:

Josh Lippert – Senior Environmental Planner, Project Manager – South Side Park Master Plan

Joshua.lippert@pittsburghpa.gov or 412-255-2516



Article written by Donna Tarkett, Vice President, SSSNA and member of the Master Plan Advisory Committee

Holiday happenings....

You're invited!

South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association

invites you to their annual

HOLIDAY PARTY

Tuesday, December 12 at 7 p.m.

UUBU 6 (new location)
178 Pius St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203



Food will be provided | Cash bar available
Slopes residents and friends are welcome!



MITTENS & MINGLES

Thursday, December 7 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Clear Story Studio (1931 Sidney St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203)

The South Side Chamber of Commerce invites you to their holiday fundraiser to benefit the South Side Welcome Center and raises funds for holiday toys and meals for The Brashear Association's community initiatives. Get tickets: www.southsidechamber.org

Brashear Association Holiday Open House

Wednesday, December 13 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Allentown Learning Engagement Center (928 E. Warrington Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15210)

Celebrate the season with Brashear's staff, board, after-school families and community members. Bring a toy for their annual toy drive! They especially need gender neutral toys for kids under 12. Refreshments provided. Visit www.brashearassociation.org for more info.

Brashear Celebrates 100 Years of Service to South Pittsburgh

On Oct. 19 more than 300 people celebrated Brashear Association's 100 years of service to the south community. Through programming providing economic self-sufficiency services, job readiness and search assistance, short-term food, holiday and utility assistance and children's education, Brashear has helped low-income individuals and families throughout south Pittsburgh.

Looking forward to the next 100 years, Brashear unveiled plans for a new facility to be constructed in the Knoxville-Mt. Oliver community. Margittai Architects have been engaged to design the building and presented proposed renderings of the site on Brownsville Road to an enthusiastic crowd. Stay tuned for more news about the new hilltop addition!



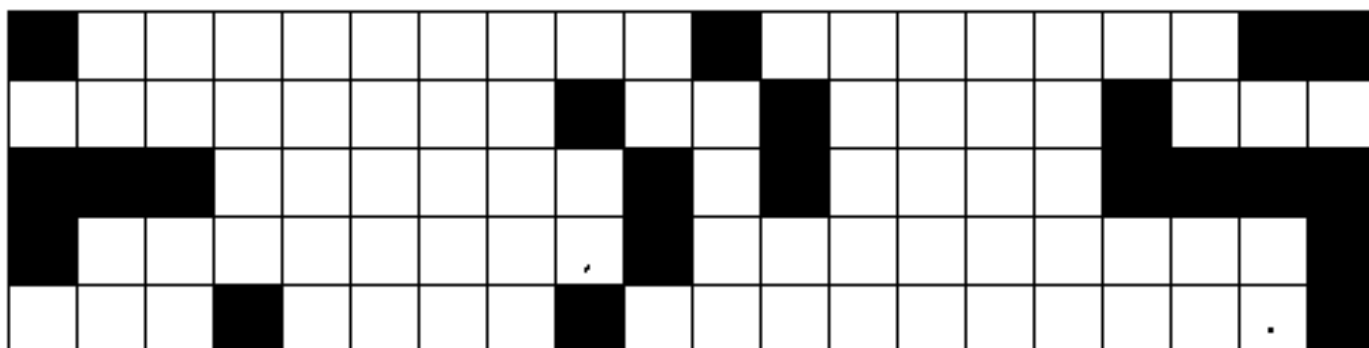
An architect's rendering of the proposed Brashear Hilltop Community Center along Brownsville Road in Mt. Oliver.
(Courtesy of Margittai Architects)

South Watch Meeting: Dec. 13

South Watch is a South Side Flats and Slopes Code Enforcement Project that works to improve quality of life on the South Side by bringing people and institutions together to identify code violations, advocate for their remediation and monitor the outcomes. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. at the Brashear Association (2005 Sarah St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203). The public is welcome to attend.

PITTSBURGH PUZZLER

What is the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association's mission? (Fill in the phrase below.)



S B F E O U N I
O E E L H P E O M O K I U
L D V G O E E S O E M A R I T Y
A N I S A H L O S C A M A R K E F G H
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Answer on p. 8.

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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."

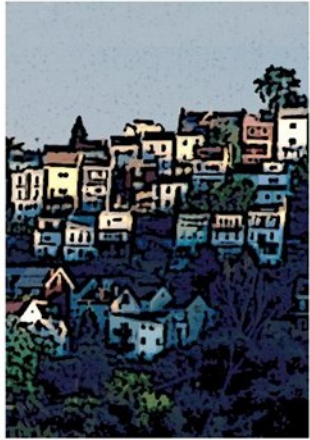
Donations are accepted through our website: southsideslopes.org (click on the PayPal link).

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—2017

Thursday, Dec. 7—Mittens & Mingles (Clear Story Studio, 1931 Sidney St., 6 p.m.)

Tuesday, Dec. 12—SSSNA Holiday Party (UUBU 6, 178 Pius St., 7 p.m.)

Wednesday, Dec. 13—SouthWatch (Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah St., 6 p.m.)

Wednesday, Dec. 13 — Brashear Association's Holiday Open House (928 E. Warrington Ave., 6 to 8p.m.)

To stay informed of all upcoming events, please sign up to receive our eblast:

www.southsideslopes.org/contact

Pittsburgh Puzzler Solution (from p. 3):

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

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