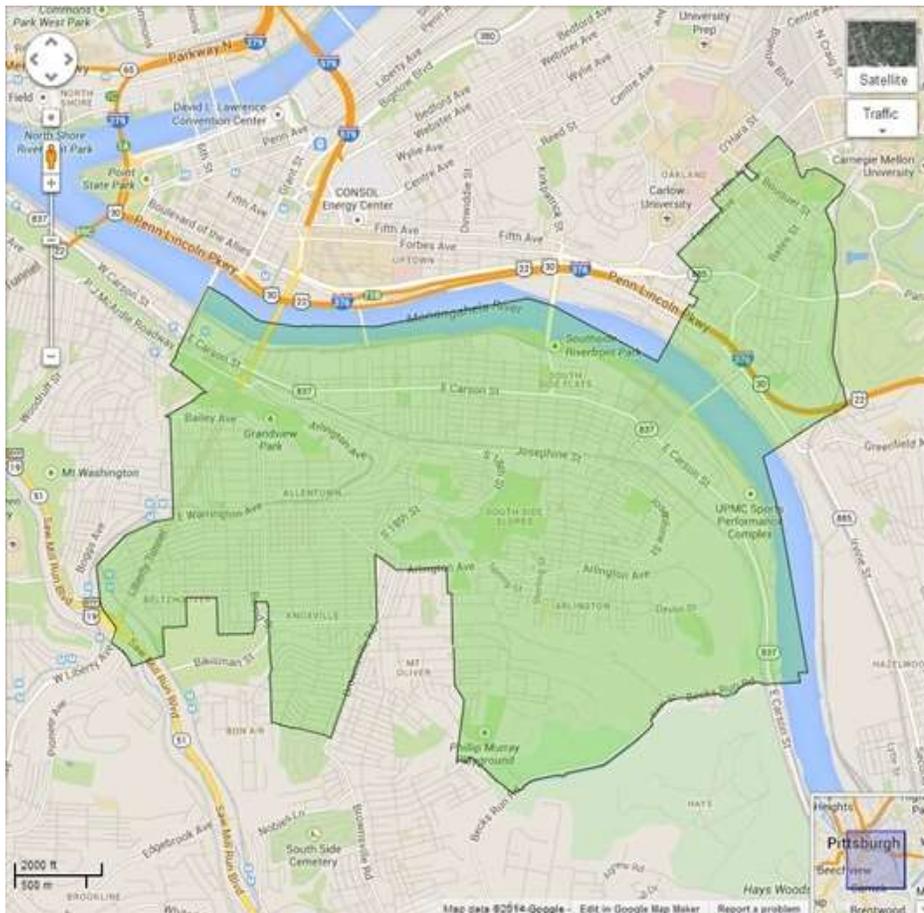


# DISTRICT 3

*Allentown, Arlington, Arlington Heights, Beltzhoover, Knoxville, Mt. Oliver, Oakland (Central and South), South Side Flats, South Side Slopes, St. Clair*



## Contents

National Impaired Driving Prevention Month 2014	2
Become a Tree Tender	2
Allentown Techno-motion	3
Pitt's World Record Clothing Drive Attempt	4
PAWA Tips for the winter	5
Mobile Offices	7

## Welcome Back!

*By Hannibal Hopson / Community Relations Assistant*

— Here in the District 3 Council Office we feel it is important to recognize and spotlight outstanding news in our energetic, diverse community. The purpose of this newsletter is to highlight members/organizations and their efforts to improve the community. In the event that you have a story you feel is worth sharing, please contact our office at 412-255-2130.

## Safety Concern: Keep the Holidays a Happy time!



— There are no words that describe the pain of losing a loved one. During December 2012, more than 800 people lost their lives in crashes involving a drunk driver. Being one of the busiest months on the nation’s roadways, December marks National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. December is a time to bring more light to an issue that is both pressing and avoidable. Remember not only to plan for transportation prior to festivities but also to remain cognizant of your surroundings. May your holidays be filled with joy and happiness!

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## Urban Forestry: Our city’s initiative to remain green



— Tree Pittsburgh is on a mission to ‘green’ our city one tree at a time and they are determined to “make a difference in Pittsburgh, planting trees and caring for existing ones—ensuring a healthy urban forest for generations to come.” Along with over 1,300 Pittsburgh residents that already serve as catalysts for this green movement, you too can become a Tree Tender!

Continued on page 5



## Warrington Avenue Incubator: Fostering innovation for the people

The neighborhood of Allentown has never been a stranger to groundbreaking innovation and projects geared to drastically improve the area: in 1888, Allentown became the first site west of the Allegheny Mountains to open an electric streetcar serving as a successful model for technology that is still utilized. Today, Allentown's Business District houses another new model for technology that hopes to impact the neighborhood as much the electric streetcar did in 1888. **The Hardware Store**, a digital service agency, aims not only to serve as a business incubator, housing eager freelancers, but also to leverage in-house resources and technological expertise to stimulate Allentown and its business district's economy.

*Work hard you will.* On the wall of its main level working spaces, this phrase can be seen next to a vinyl wrap of the popular figure Yoda. Broadside Printing, one of the 'key-holders' that work creatively everyday to bring

their ideas into our world, constructed the photo-quality exterior vinyl wrap. Josh Lucas, "inventioneer" and handyman of the Hardware Store, preaches inclusiveness and stability as critical goals for his projects and the brewing works of 'key-holders'. With a bachelors degree in chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh as well a masters in secondary education, Lucas started his professional career as a chemistry teacher in a nearby school in McKees Rocks.

After 13 years and a few unsuccessful web app attempts, the Hardware Store was launched in 2011 and today brings up to 1,000 people to Allentown each month. From work and brainstorming spaces to both digital and tool based flex spaces, the co-creative realm offers a diverse group of resources available to patrons. Aggregate equipment and an equipment calendar foster sharing, a value that rings in the foundation of any neighborhood or business district. The Hardware Store hopes to look at local businesses critically and to help fill

*Continued...*

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existing technology gaps, growing into a social enterprise model designed to promote “ever increasing knowledge on a path of responsible and social consciousness”.

Lucas reiterated that this concept of sharing internally builds a fiduciary balance of forces that he hopes to extend legally as the space creates “crucial [community] role development rather than being a real estate piece.” Accordingly, the Hardware Store has already begun to receive neighborhood support and Lucas spoke very highly of the local existing businesses, highlighting the strong unity and hard-working ethic that his neighbors have.

The latest example of the Hardware Store’s efforts to become an extension to the streets and the talent that lies within Allentown, comes from the efforts of another ‘key-holder’. Meta Mesh, a company “working to make mesh networking accessible to anyone, regardless of their technical abilities,” is responsible for the free Wi-Fi administered to all of the Allentown Business District on E Warrington Ave between Arlington Ave and Beltzhoover Ave. This project fills the former ‘data desert’ with an extremely valuable resource and hopes to be the spur for more production in the area.

With so much promise for the Hardware Store, it is difficult not to be overzealous about what lies ahead for the space. Still, Lucas remains steadfast in his approach to the future, “it’s all about managing emotional responses.” Having been unsuccessful or unhappy with results before, Lucas believes that the field of social enterprise is about balancing good and bad news, as your expectations for the community often collide with reality. However, what can be controlled is the nature of the ideas that come out of such an enterprise. In this case, battling homogenous ideas and embracing natural, cultural forces remain a key pillar to the framework that plans to build a bridge between blue-collar, grass-roots, and economically challenged neighborhoods. A tool, formed by technology and administered through the literal streets of Allentown once came in the form of transportation. This tool may have been reimagined in the form of an action-based “store”, with the resources and savvy to vend constructive and pioneering social goods and disperse them throughout the community.

## Events



### Give A Thread

#### Who?

**University of Pittsburgh**

#### What?

**Clothing donations both youth and adult in any condition**

#### When?

**Until January 9th**

#### Drop Off Location

**Box in the lobby of City County Building**

#### Why?

**For the year of sustainability, Pitt will be working to begin a thrift shop on campus. All other clothes will be donated!**

**When leaving donations, PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS!**

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(Continued)

To find out more about The Hardware Store, one of the ‘key-holding’ creators, or to contact Josh Lucas, please visit: <http://workhardpgh.com/home/contact-the-hardware-store-2/>

### Urban Forestry (Continued from page 2)

Tree Pittsburgh will offer a three-part Tree Tender course January 7th, 14th, and 21st at the Boys and Girls Club on Butler Street in Lawrenceville from 5:30-8pm.

Those attending the course learn everything from tree biology and identification to tree care practices. Registration is required. Fee is \$40 but scholarships are available. Dinner will also be provided.

To register or for more information about becoming a Tree Tender, visit: <http://treepittsburgh.org/become-tree-tender>

## Tips for the Winter

As the days become shorter and temperatures continue to drop, making sure that you’re prepared for winter and that your home is “winter ready” is important. Pennsylvania American Water has released an “It’s All About the Preparation” infographic highlighting the essential, proactive steps homeowners can take to maintain their pipes.

### Protect your pipes by:

- Reducing sources of cold air within the house (plugging drafts, sealing windows, etc.)
- Insulating pipes and knowing how to properly shut off the water.
- Maintaining a constant drip of running water.

### If your pipes do freeze:

- Immediately shut off the water source and attempt to thaw the frozen pipes with warm air.
- Cautiously turn back on the water source, as to not further damage the pipes.

To report problems with frozen or leaking pipes, or simply for more information, you can reach Pennsylvania American Water 24 x 7 at 1-800-565-7292. More cold weather tips can be found at [www.pennsylvaniaamwater.com](http://www.pennsylvaniaamwater.com), or by visiting the company’s YouTube channel ([youtube.com/paamwater](http://youtube.com/paamwater)) or its Facebook page ([facebook.com/pennsylvaniaamwater](http://facebook.com/pennsylvaniaamwater)).

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## District 3 Internal Office News

### Satellite Offices:

412-689-1130

### Southside (monthly):

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**

**10am – 2pm**

UPMC Mercy Southside Outpatient Center

2000 Mary St, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

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### Oakland (monthly):

**\*Appointment Only\***

People's Oakland

3433 Bates St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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### Arlington (weekly):

**Tuesday**

**10am – 2pm**

Allegheny County Adult Probation Day Reporting Center

2322 Arlington Ave, Pittsburgh PA 15210

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*Excerpt from 'The Philosophy of Andy Warhol (From A to B and Back Again)'*

*"I think having land and not ruining it is the most beautiful art that anybody could ever want."*

*- Andy Warhol*

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### District 3 Office

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### Acknowledgements

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