



Office of Councilman Patrick Dowd — August 2011

LETTER FROM COUNCILMAN DOWD

Dear friends in District 7,

August 19, 2011, was a day of tragedy for Pittsburgh. The flooding on Washington Boulevard that day took the lives of two women and two children and changed the lives of their loved ones forever. It is with a deep sadness that I offer my condolences to their family and friends and also to our community. It is with great appreciation, however, that I offer praise to those public safety workers who saved the lives of many that day.

Standing in the area it was clear to me that the higher Allegheny River Boulevard is essentially a dam at the end of the lower Washington Boulevard. Water from the more than 3,000-acre sewershed collects in the basin at the intersection of Allegheny River Boulevard and Washington Boulevard. There is nowhere for this water to go. The only solution to the terrible threat of future flooding is to restore a natural flow, and that means breaking that dam that we call Allegheny River Boulevard, giving water a course to the river.

We are all responsible for finding solutions--the City, PWSA, ALCOSAN, the Commonwealth and the Army Corp of Engineers. All are considering short-term solutions such as developing emergency road closure procedures, studying Negley Run Watershed, using robots to inspect submerged pipes near the river, and installing warning lights on Washington Boulevard.

The only real long-term solution is to permit water to flow past Allegheny River Boulevard to the river. Through these measures we can avoid the threat of future flooding and fatality thereby ensuring the safety of our citizens.

Sincerely,

Patrick Dowd

To see a map that includes the currently culverted Negley Run, please go to <http://images.library.pitt.edu/cgi-bin/i/image/image-idx?view=entry;cc=maps;entryid=x-86v01p31>

NEWS AND UPDATES

The Morningside Mile

The inaugural *Morningside Mile Honoring Those Who Serve*, a 1-mile race, will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2011, at 8:30am. The Morningside Area Community Council, with support from the Morningside VFW, Post 3945, is organizing this walk/run to promote fitness and build community through physical activity. The event will be held in honor of those who courageously serve our country and communities.

Proceeds from the Morningside Mile will benefit the Wounded Warrior Project and the Morningside Area Community Council. Each year the race will honor one individual from the Morningside area who has served our country and/or its citizens unselfishly in the face of crisis. This year, tribute will be given posthumously to Marine Gunnery Sgt. Justin Schmalstieg. He was killed in December 2010 by a roadside

bomb in the Helmand Province in Afghanistan. Schmalstieg, 28, was a Stanton Heights native, a 2000 graduate of Peabody High School and the son of Pittsburgh police officers.

For more information and to participate in the race please go to www.morningside-pa.org/run.

The Jay Bernard Dog Run

After nearly three years of consultation and development, the much-anticipated Bernard Dog Run, an enclosed, off-leash exercise area for dogs and their owners, is nearing construction. Recent conversations between city officials and community advocates, including representatives from Lawrenceville United, the Lawrenceville Dog Park Committee, and the Office of City Councilman Patrick Dowd, have occurred to iron out the logistical and legal details of the project. Preparation of the roughly one-acre site may begin as early as this fall.

The Bernard Dog Run is named in honor of the late Jay Bernard, well-known Lawrenceville resident, business owner and abandoned dog advocate. The dog run will extend along the riverfront in Lawrenceville west of 40th Street to approximately 37th Street, between the Allegheny Riverfront Trail and the railroad. It will feature both small dog and large dog sections, with a shared, double-gated vestibule and a sign detailing liability information, rules and regulations. The Bernard Dog Run will be within a 15-minute or 1/2-mile walk of three-quarters of Lawrenceville's residents, and is expected to increase the safety of the area by bringing much-needed "eyes" to the riverfront.

This project, however, will come at a considerable cost. We are still in need of donations—both financial and in-kind. Should you wish to be a part of bringing this off-leash exercise area to fruition through donating or volunteering, please email becky@lunited.com. More details and updates can also be found at the Bernard Dog Run website: www.lawrencevilledogpark.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Council to Go

Join **Councilman Patrick Dowd at Council to Go**, his mobile district office, to voice your concerns, ideas, and questions about local government and services.

Polish Hill — Wednesday, September 14, 7pm-8pm – Lili Coffee*Shop, 3138 Dobson Street

Highland Park — Thursday, September 22, 7pm-8pm – Enrico's Tazza Doro, 1125 N. Highland Avenue

Bloomfield — Tuesday, September 27, 6pm-7pm – Crazy Mocha Coffee Company, 4525 Liberty Avenue

Community Events

Saturdays through October 29, 2011, 9:30am-1pm – [Lawrenceville Farmers Market](#), Lawrenceville – 52nd Street & Berlin Way (Goodwill Industries Parking Area)

PLEASE NOTE: Lawrenceville Farmers market **CLOSED** on Saturday, September 3 for the holiday weekend.

Saturday, September 10, 2011, 8:30am – [Morningside Mile Honoring Those Who Serve](#), Morningside -- In front of Morningside School near the intersection of Greenwood and Jancey Streets.

Friday, September 16, 2011, 7am-3pm – [PARK\(ing\) Day](#), Lawrenceville – in front of Partner's Bar at 4601 Butler Street and in Polish Hill

Saturday, September 17, 2011, 9am-1pm – [Love Your Block](#), Lawrenceville -- McCandless Avenue and Natrona Way

Saturday, September 17, 2011 – [Polish Hill Civic Association Yard Sale](#), Polish Hill

If you know of any free community-oriented events in your District 7 neighborhood that we should publicize through our monthly newsletter and [District 7 website](#), please email Jennifer.thoma@city.pittsburgh.pa.us by the **1st of each month**.

DID YOU KNOW?

Kurt Shaw, of the Tribune Review, brings us this month's DID YOU KNOW? story with his cataloguing of monuments in the Pittsburgh region linked to Labor movement's history.

"Labor Day, in honor of working people, is observed annually in the United States on the first Monday in September.

The day was originally conceived in 1882 by Peter J. McGuire, founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of New York. In September 1882, workers staged the first Labor Day parade in New York City. Organized labor then campaigned to make the day a national holiday. In 1887, Oregon became the first state to make Labor Day a legal holiday. And by 1889, President Grover Cleveland signed a bill making Labor Day a legal holiday.

...With a day honoring workers well underway, monuments to the same soon followed. Having strong roots as workingman's town, Pittsburgh has its fair share these monuments."

Read more: [Monuments honor Western Pennsylvania's industrial roots - Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/ae/s_641642.html#ixzz1Wib4eWVB)
http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/ae/s_641642.html#ixzz1Wib4eWVB

To unsubscribe from Council District 7 updates, please notify Jennifer Thoma at jennifer.thoma@city.pittsburgh.pa.us and you or your organization will be removed from our contact list.

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[District 7 Schedule of Events Google Calendar](#) | [2010 Annual Report](#) [pdf]