

Blue & Gold

Cathedral of Learning Society

Two Pitt-Greensburg donors inducted

Two University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg donors were recently inducted into the Cathedral of Learning Society, which recognizes individuals who have given gifts to the University totaling \$1 million or more.

Virginia Campana and Carl F. Poke, PhD, joined 11 other donors in earning this recognition. (Visit www.news.pitt.edu/news for a complete listing of the other donors inducted into the Cathedral of Learning Society.)



Virginia Campana

Virginia Campana, who together with her sister maintained lifelong friendships with faculty members at Pitt-Greensburg, was inspired by those friendships as well as her religious beliefs to make a bequest to construct the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. More than a beautiful

gathering space for educational programs, artistic performances, and special events, it also is a tribute to the late Virginia Campana to the memory of her beloved sister, Mary Lou.

Throughout their lives, the sisters demonstrated that they shared their parents' deeply held belief in the importance of service to others. In addition to Virginia's longtime service to St. Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh, she supported numerous charitable organizations through the Caesar Puff Foundation. Among the many contributions the sisters made to the University was a generous gift to establish the Dr. and Mrs. Fred T. Campana Endowment Fund, which provides financial support to Pitt-Greensburg students.

The Campana Chapel also commemorates the Campana family's devotion to the welfare of animals. The chapel's stained-glass windows include images from *The Peaceable Kingdom*, a series of paintings by 19th-century painter and Quaker preacher Edward Hicks, who used animal imagery to convey the biblical message of peace.

The late Carl F. Poke, PhD, played a key role in establishing the academic mission of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. After earning three degrees from Pitt, Poke became one of the first academic leaders appointed by Pitt-Greensburg's inaugural president, Albert B. Smith.



Carl F. Poke, PhD

During his 40 years at Pitt-Greensburg, Poke served as director of admissions and student aid and dean of academic affairs. He also was instrumental in initiating the first four-year degree programs offered. His enthusiasm for political science as well as his belief that administrators should remain connected to students prompted him to teach political science classes throughout his administrative career. He returned to teaching full-time in 1991 and earned the status of *emeritus* professor of Political Science when he retired in

December 2005. He received the President's Medal for Distinguished Service from the University of Pittsburgh in 2004.

An enthusiastic world traveler, Poke encouraged students to study abroad and made a financial commitment to helping them do so by underwriting international travel experiences with gifts he made to the University, as well as through a generous bequest to the Carl A. Poke and Florence R. Poke Endowed Fund for Student Travel. His passion for film also inspired another generous bequest, one that established the Carl F. Poke Endowed Fund for the Millstein Library in support of the Pitt-Greensburg library's film collection and the purchase of audiovisual equipment. ▲



The medals and certificates honoring Ms. Campana and Dr. Poke will be displayed in Millstein Library and the Campana Chapel and Lecture Center, respectively.



GREENSBURG

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2 Message from the President

3 Alumni News

Feature: Seán O'Donnell '02

4 Campus News
Campus Renovations

6 Campus News
New Faculty & Staff

7 Featured Events
St. Clair Lecture
Joan Chambers Concert Series

8 Events & Classnotes

Message from the President

We are proud to see the generosity of Dr. Carl Poke and Virginia Campana recognized by their induction into the Cathedral of Learning Society. They were each able to donate \$1 million or more to our campus—donations which continue to benefit our faculty, staff, students, and the greater community.



Most recently, we received notice that another member of our campus community, the Honorable John Driscoll, will be recognized with the Legacy Laureate Award in October. This award was established in 2000 to honor University of Pittsburgh alumni for their outstanding personal and professional accomplishments. Judge Driscoll's contributions to the overall good of our community extend from our own campus to the national level. At Pitt-Greensburg, he is a valued member of our Advisory Board while providing time, talent, and financial support to many of our projects and programs. Watch for more details in our next issue of the *Blue & Gold*.

I wish to express my appreciation to each of our donors who support our mission to educate students who are prepared to face the challenges of tomorrow. Your gift to Pitt-Greensburg, no matter how big or small, changes lives. Whether it's through a scholarship that provides financial assistance to a student in need or a donation to a capital campaign project that improves our facilities—your gift makes a difference. To see the 2009-2010 honor roll, please visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/honorroll.

As educators, we are at a watershed moment in history. Problems in preK through 12 education are forcing colleges and universities to do more for their students at the front end, such as offering remedial training in basic reading and math skills with far less as government support decreases.

To prepare for these changes—which will only continue as time goes on—I challenged members of the faculty and staff to articulate a “new normal” for the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg during the annual President's Retreat. Calling on the abundant creativity that exists among our faculty and staff, I asked them to look at who they thought our students will be in the future and what will they be studying. I am currently reviewing their suggestions for feasibility and look forward to sharing these ideas with you as we bring them to fruition.

My hope is that we will be able to follow Diane Ravitch's advice in *The Death and Life of the Great American School System* and continue to offer an excellent and relevant curriculum taught by passionate, well-educated teachers.

Sharon P. Smith

Sharon P. Smith, PhD
President

University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

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O'Donnell releases debut album

During a recent Pitt-Greensburg alumni gathering, songwriter Seán O'Donnell '02 shared that his first studio album, *Emotional Apocrypha of the Bubblegum Gospel*, is now available online and in area record stores. A mix of surreal love-songs and psych-folk ballads, *Apocrypha* showcases his unique lo-fi, DIY ethic and influences.

Monkey Corner Records produced and distributed the album. It is online at <http://monkeycorner.net/sean>.

Raised in Hempfield Township, PA, O'Donnell has been enthralled by music ever since he saw his uncle's bagpipe band. A skilled bagpiper himself, he performs for weddings, funerals, and festivals across Western Pennsylvania.

Also a talented guitarist, O'Donnell has collaborated with many bands, including Truth in Advertising, The Standard Issues, and Farm Gold Ensemble. He has performed his many original songs around Pittsburgh, and several have debuted on local radio



stations WYEP and WPTS. *Apocrypha's* "Take Me Home to Pittsburgh" was included in the Pittsburgh Pirates' In-Game Entertainment in May 2010.

O'Donnell also is a founding editor of *OpheliaStreet.com* and a co-owner of Art Dimensions Pittsburgh. His company, Monkey Corner Industries,

published *The Pittsburgh Monologue Project* anthology in 2006, in partnership with the Sprout Fund.

When he's not performing, O'Donnell lives out his passion for the University of Pittsburgh working in the Office of Institutional Advancement in Oakland. He noted that his Pitt diploma is proudly displayed in his office. ▲

Save these dates . . .

Mock Graduate School Interviews

Any alumnus/a who has graduated from graduate school is invited to serve as an interviewer during the Graduate School Mock Interviews. This event is scheduled to take place between **October 10 through October 28**. Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 724-836-7496 or upgalum@pitt.edu to learn more or to volunteer as an interviewer.

Speed Interviewing



Joyce Dramel '97 (left) was one of 47 volunteers who provided guidance to juniors and seniors during the 2009 Speed Interviewing event.

Pitt-Greensburg alumni are invited to serve as interviewers during this year's Speed Interviewing event on **Wednesday, October 27**. Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 724-836-7496 or by email at upgalum@pitt.edu to volunteer or to learn more.

University of Pittsburgh Homecoming

The University of Pittsburgh Homecoming celebration in Oakland will be held **October 28, 29, 30, and 31**. Information is available at <http://www.alumni.pitt.edu/homecoming/>.

Annual Holiday Networking & Wine Tasting Event

The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association will host its annual Holiday Reception on **Friday, December 3**, at 7:30 pm. in Lynch Hall. Watch for more details, including costs, in the *Alumni Connection E-Newsletter* or at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni. Reservations may be made by calling 724-836-7496 or e-mailing upgalum@pitt.edu.

La Cultura Winter Gala



The 2010 *La Cultura* Winter Gala celebrated "moving toward a greener future."

Plans are moving forward for this year's *La Cultura* Winter Gala, scheduled for January 15, 2011. Watch for details about this year's event. This is the 10th anniversary of the event, which benefits the President's Scholarship Fund. Tickets purchased before **December 15** receive a \$15 discount. Call 724-836-9942 for information about being a sponsor or purchasing tickets. ▲

Renovations highlight summer activity

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg spent the late spring and summer making key renovations to campus. Most of this work was completed before students arrived on August 26.

New women's softball field

The most noticeable construction on campus is the new women's softball field that will be located across the road from the main portion of campus. Construction began on this project in July and is expected to be finished in October. The result will be an NCAA Division III regulation softball field that includes two cement dugouts, a batting cage, a pitching box for warm-ups, and parking for 20 to 25 vehicles.

Millstein Library improvements

The renovations to Millstein Library were made possible through a \$25,000 grant from the Millstein Charitable Foundation and a \$15,000 grant from the H. Glenn Sample Jr MD Memorial Fund. Additional funding was provided through Pitt-Greensburg internal resources.

Construction began this spring to convert an existing staff lounge into a psychology lab suite that includes a large testing room, small testing room, observation room, and waiting area. Cameras have been installed for both security purposes and for use in monitoring the psychology experiments. A microphone system was also installed for use with psychology experiments.

Additionally, the current periodical room was upgraded and an outdoor reading patio was constructed. Three other rooms were converted into two private study group rooms, two research assistant offices, and another office. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Thursday, September 30.

With the installation of a new sprinkler system in Robertshaw Hall, all residence halls on campus have sprinkler systems.



Construction began in July for the new women's softball field.



A new patio area at Millstein Library highlights the summer renovations to the building.



The high-level bridge that spans Slate Run Creek was renovated with new steel and decking, as well as a fresh coat of paint.



Smith Hall

Roof-mounted heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment were replaced in Smith Hall this summer. Also replaced were the electric heating and water-chilled air conditioning system. Room 216 in Smith Hall received a face-lift with long tables and chairs replacing standard desks to make it more conducive to the hands-on, inquiry-based learning techniques to be used in teaching science to Education majors. A deep sink was also installed in this room.

Sustainable Office and Classroom Building

Progress continues on the planning and design of Phase 1 of a new Sustainable Office and Classroom Building to be built between the Faculty Office Building and the Villages. Construction is expected to begin in March 2011

and be completed within one year. Plans currently call for a 13,000 square foot building that will house an expanded computer lab, additional work and storage space for computer support and media and instructional technology services, two large classrooms, 10 faculty

offices, and a student lounge.

Other construction work on campus includes:

- Replacement of the sidewalk outside of the Ronnie Andrews Fitness Center;
- Conversion of the Lyceum space to offices and a conference room;
- Paving of the circle drive in front of Lynch Hall and new sod replaced in the center circle;
- Upgrading the facilities in Rossetti House to conform to current fire codes by installing appropriate warning devices and emergency lighting devices, as well as renovation of one public restroom to conform to ADA regulations;
- The temporary softball field will be converted back to a baseball field, which includes leveling and grading the facility to fix drainage issues, as well as putting sod back on the infield. Work is expected to be completed this fall. ▲

Class Notes . . . continued from page 8

Tyler McCloskey '06 completed a full year of national community service with AmeriCorps in Pittsburgh where he taught English as a Second Language to adult immigrants and refugees. In August, he left for the Philippines where he will work in Coastal Resource Management with the Peace Corps.

Amber Newcaster '01 and her husband Nick welcomed their first child, Jillian, on June 17, 2010.

Ashlee Yingling '04 is living in Chicago and is employed as a company spokesperson for McDonald's USA.

David Yurkovich '86 recently was promoted to manager of Editor Content at Zynx Health, a Los Angeles-based healthcare information company and industry leader. He and his wife, Dianne Pearce, recently adopted their first child, Sophie, from China's Jiangxi Province. ▲

Reconnect & win!

Since July, 126 Pitt-Greensburg alumni have reconnected with the University as part of the "Once a Bobcat, ALWAYS a Bobcat" contest. **Nicole Paterline '03**, the July prize package winner, received four large Pitt-Greensburg drinking glasses, four koozies, a Pitt-Greensburg wooden picture frame, pom poms, wave sticks, and a magnetic car paw. The August winner was **Jill Richter '97** who won a Pitt stadium blanket, Pitt-Greensburg golf umbrella, a magnetic car paw, pom poms, and wave sticks. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/win for details, rules, and to submit an entry. ▲

CRDF grant will enhance students' science experience



Dr. Pazehoski (standing) teaching a biology class.

Kristina Pazehoski, PhD, assistant professor of Biological Science, has been awarded an \$11,815 Central Research Development Fund grant for 2010-2012.

The Small Grants Program of the Central Research Development Fund (CRDF) is a competitive grant opportunity administered by the University of Pittsburgh Office of Research and the University of Pittsburgh Research Council. The primary goal of the Small Grants Program is to enhance opportunities for faculty at the University of Pittsburgh to engage in high-quality research, scholarship, and creative endeavors. The maximum grant available for this year's awards was \$16,000.

The majority of the grant funds will be used to purchase a Temperature-Controlled Console Shaker that will allow for the growth of large volumes of bacterial cell cultures for Dr. Pazehoski's research on genes. The equipment also will greatly enhance the campus lab's capability to produce substantial amounts of various proteins for student experiments. ▲



Once a Bobcat, ALWAYS a Bobcat

... and it's the perfect time to reconnect

Log-on for a chance to win Pitt prizes
www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/win

Update your contact information and be entered to win Pitt items, including tickets to the Backyard Brawl.

GRAND PRIZE:

Two tickets to the **Pitt vs. WVU football game** on November 26, 2010

One alumni winner of a Pitt prize package will be chosen each month through November. All entries will be entered to win the grand prize drawn in November.

University Relations & Institutional Advancement
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Pitt-Greensburg welcomes new faculty and staff

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg welcomes these new members of the faculty and staff:

Cheryl Bailey was hired as an administrative secretary in the Academic Affairs Office. She will also provide support to the University's new Education program.

Dale Blasko was hired as the chief of campus police

Missy Cremeens was hired as the UPMC athletic trainer.

Caelyn DiSanti was hired as an assistant women's basketball coach.

Erin Eaton was hired as the women's basketball coach and assistant athletic director.

Jeffrey Everly, PhD, was hired as an assistant professor of Psychology in the Behavioral Sciences Division.

Amanda Folk was hired as a reference/PS librarian.

Clayton Garcia '10 was hired as an application developer.

Jessica Ghilani, ABD, was hired as an instructor of Communication in the Humanities Division.

Jason Giran was hired as the women's tennis coach.

Rich Gockel was hired as the women's bowling coach.

Merwin Hamm was hired as the assistant men's cross country coach.

Eric Kimball, PhD, was hired as an assistant professor of History in the Behavioral Sciences Division.

Jennifer Komenda '10 was hired as an Admissions counselor.

Bill Monstrola was hired as the head coach of the women's softball team.

Jeanne Moore, EdD, was hired as an assistant professor of Education in the Behavioral Sciences Division.

Michael Moyer was hired as a campus police officer.

Shelley Muto was hired as an assistant women's soccer coach.

Erick Randolph was hired as the graduate resident director and will oversee Westmoreland Hall.

Floyd Shroyer was hired as an assistant women's softball coach.

Sabrina Smith-Reed was hired as an academic advisor.

Brian Root '04 was hired as the assistant director of Housing and Residence Life.

Troy Ross '99 was promoted to director of Housing and Residence Life.

Steven Satterlee was hired as the director of Campus Activities.

Sean Strickland was hired as the men's basketball coach.

Chris Thompson was hired as a campus police officer.

Jonathan Vallano, PhD, was hired as an assistant professor of Psychology in the Behavioral Sciences Division.

Chuck Wigle was hired as an assistant men's soccer coach.

Sarah Young was hired as resident director. ▲

Pitt-Greensburg ROTC commissions four new officers



From left: 2Lt. Aaron Grieb, 2Lt. Lucas Killmeyer, 2Lt. Alyson Kohler, and 2Lt. Evan Randall.

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg Army ROTC commissioned four new officers in a ceremony held on campus in August. The three men and one woman, each commissioned as a second lieutenant (2nd Lt.), constitute the largest ROTC class commissioned from the Pitt-Greensburg campus. Following the Oath of Office, each candidate received his or her lieutenant bars from a family member or friend.

The four candidates receiving their commissions are listed below.

Second Lieutenant Aaron Grieb '10 attended the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg before transferring to the Swanson School of Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh, where he graduated with a BS in Computer Engineering. He currently resides in Westminster, MD, where he is employed as a software engineer.

Second Lieutenant Lucas Killmeyer '10 graduated with a BS in Business Management. He currently lives in Plum, PA.

Second Lieutenant Alyson Kohler '10 graduated as valedictorian from Pitt-Greensburg with a BS in Biological Sciences. She currently resides in Greensburg, PA.

Second Lieutenant Evan Randall '10 graduated with a BA in History. He currently lives in Greensburg.

For the 2010-2011 academic year, two seniors, six juniors, 10 sophomores, and 20 freshmen will participate in ROTC at Pitt-Greensburg, according to Maj. Michael Zabrzkeski, the ROTC Senior Military Science Instructor at Pitt-Greensburg.

Visit the news section of www.greensburg.pitt.edu to see additional photos and learn more about the program. ▲

Featured Events

Center for Professional Growth: Expert panelists to provide insight on healthcare reform

The Center for Professional Growth at Pitt-Greensburg will host "How Health Care Reform Will Affect Your Business" on Tuesday, October 26, at the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. This free program, which will offer a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m., begins at 8 a.m. Registration may be completed on-line at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/about/cpg.

John Kozar, director of Benefits for the University of Pittsburgh; Catherine L. Creech, principal, National Tax, Ernst & Young LLP (Washington, DC); and John Fedele, Esq., chief legal counsel for Excela Health will serve as panelists and provide a one-hour presentation followed by a question-and-answer session. Please note that this forum is not meant to be a political discussion, but rather to provide realistic answers and practices for those charged with implementing the changes.

"While the future of health care reform is still uncertain, changes already are taking affect," explained Linda Morlacci, Manager for the Center for Professional Growth. "If you own a business, are responsible for company benefits, or provide legal services for a company, you need to start planning now so that you are prepared for the changes." ▲

Joan Chambers Concert Series: thingNY and tenor Andrew Zimmerman



The Joan Chambers Concert Series will present two performances during the fall 2010 semester. Both events will be held in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. Made possible by the Joan Chambers Endowment, the performances are free and open to the public.

New music ensemble thingNY fuses experimentation with theatrically-charged chamber music. The group's collaboratively composed *ADDDDDDDDD* is an opera exploring the sweet sounds of excess. In a poetically verbose blend of noise, song, and spoken word, the five composers/performers highlight the everyday excesses of everyday life as told through chants, rants, and advertising. The opera quickly becomes a montage of numbers, appointments, peevs, dreams and commercial interruptions in five-part harmony. The program begins at the special time of 8 p.m.

Tenor Andrew Zimmerman will perform at 7:30 p.m. on November 12. Director of the Doña Ana Lyric Opera, he has sung as the lead tenor in more than 50 operatic productions in more than 20 European opera houses. His roles include such parts as the tenor leads in *La Boheme*, *Tosca*, and *Madame Butterfly*. For the last 10 years, Zimmerman's careers have centered upon the Heldentenor repertoire where he has sung Tristan in *Tristan und Isolde*, Canio in *I Pagliacci*, and Samson in *Samson and Delilah*. He constantly receives critical acclaim for the depth of his dramatic interpretation, ringing high notes, and extraordinary vocal stamina. ▲



Fundraiser for Carnegie Hall performance: Pitt-Greensburg Chorale solo concert



Join the Pitt-Greensburg Chorale at 7:30 p.m. on October 29 in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center as it presents the individual voices of the choir in a concert of classical and popular music.

The concert is part of the group's quest to get to Carnegie Hall in New York City. Last year, the Chorale received a once-in-a-lifetime invitation to sing at this renowned musical venue, where they would join other choirs from around the country in singing with professional soloists and orchestra in an intense weekend of rehearsal and performance.

Donations toward this trip will be accepted at this event.

Fall Events *continued from page 8*

October 28-31

Homecoming Weekend at the University of Pittsburgh in Oakland. Visit www.pitt.edu/homecoming for details.

October 29:

The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers present a solo concert as a benefit fundraiser for their Carnegie Hall Concert. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

November 14 and 15

Pitt-Greensburg invites high school juniors and seniors to experience life at Pitt-Greensburg during its Overnight Visit. Prospective students stay in residence halls, attend class sessions, and enjoy a few campus activities. The program begins at 5 p.m. on Sunday and ends at approximately 1:30 p.m. on Monday and includes a student-led walking tour of campus. A \$45 application fee waiver is offered to any student who attends this program. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

November 18-20

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company presents *Play It Again, Sam* by Woody Allen as its Fall 2010 production. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater on the Pitt-Greensburg Campus. A buffet dinner will be available before the November 20 performance. For ticket information, contact Dr. Stephen Schrum, director of Theatre, at 724-836-7483. ▲

Fall Events

September 7-October 14

I Thought I Could Fly, an exhibit by acclaimed photographer Charlee Brodsky, will be displayed at the Millstein Library. This is a traveling exhibit organized by the American Jewish Museum (AJM) that pairs photographs with personal narratives by individuals whose lives are affected in some way by mental illness.

October 7

Pitt-Greensburg hosts the 7th annual Graduate and Professional School Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Chambers Hall. More than 35 schools and programs are expected to attend this event, which is open to the public. For more information and a list of participating schools, visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu.

October 21

Ballet Folklorico "Quetzalli de Veracruz" will perform their visual fiesta of culture and folklore taken from the regional dances of old Mexico. Music is performed on authentic stringed instruments. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater (Smith Hall). There is no cost to attend.

October 23

Visit the Pitt-Greensburg campus during Discovery Day and meet faculty from all academic departments, staff from admissions, financial aid, housing, campus life, and other areas. Prospective students will be able to spend an hour with the academic division of their choice in order to learn more about specific majors. Campus tours and lunch will be available, too. A \$45 application fee waiver is offered to any prospective student who attends this program. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

Continued on page 7

Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/athletics for fall sports schedules, rosters, and the latest updates on Bobcat athletics!



University of Pittsburgh
at Greensburg

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Discover Yourself . . . Discover Your World

Class Notes . . .

Robert Armstrong '88 is employed as a general manager by American Campus Communities, one of the largest developers, owners, and managers of high-quality student housing communities in the nation. He will relocate to Pittsburgh by summer's end.

Kevin Conlon '05 writes, "I currently work at ESPN in Bristol, CT as a researcher for SportsCenter, primarily. This past year I was able to travel to all seven games of the NBA Finals for work and will continue to be present at major sporting events!"

David A. Hoffman '04 was promoted to Chief Financial Officer for the Denver VA Medical Center in Glendale, CO.

Kathy Kovalic '84 was hired as the director of Marketing, Drug Delivery, and Fluid Therapy for B. Braun Medical in Bethlehem, PA.

Continued on page 5

SAVE THE DATE

La Cultura Winter Gala
Sparkling Reflections: the 10th Anniversary

Saturday, January 15, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

Proceeds from this event fund scholarships for Pitt-Greensburg students.

ADVANCED BOOKING BY DECEMBER 15: \$115 per person or \$920 per table of eight

AFTER DECEMBER 15: \$130 per person or \$1040 per table of eight

To reserve your seats or for information about the gala, please contact Jodi Kraisinger at 724-836-9942.