



Volume I, Issue 1  
January/February 2015

BURGLIFE.COM

## INAUGURAL ISSUE

Not as in presidential (no offense, Barack) – just our first issue.

### WELCOME TO THE BURGLIFE BULLETIN, a brand new publication from BurghLife.com.

Every other month, you can count on the *Bulletin* to entertain you in a fun, quick, and easy-to-read style. From contests and giveaways to the latest BurghLife FM highlights (plus features like *The Burghing News*, every yinzer's favorite information source), the *Bulletin* is designed to enlighten, inform, and entertain you without monopolizing too much of your time.

If you enjoy this first issue, let us know! Send an email to [koz@burghlife.com](mailto:koz@burghlife.com) with your comments, questions, suggestions, or inspirational quotes (note: we did NOT request critiques).

Finally, in this hyper-digital age, you might wonder why the *Bulletin* is a printed piece. Our first response is, "Jesus, can we do ANYTHING right?" And secondly, we think there's something to be said for the printed word...though the *Bulletin* is also available in PDF format from [BurghLife.com](http://BurghLife.com).

OK, that should cover it for now. We hope you enjoy this first issue of the *Bulletin*, and we thank you for reading...and for just being you.

# Pittsburghese authority interviewed on BurghLife FM ('n'at)

## CMU's Dr. Barbara Johnstone stops by BLFM to discuss Pittsburgh speech with Koz and Goldie

IF YINZ HAVE YET TO HEAR the BurghLife FM interview with Dr. Barbara Johnstone – widely recognized as the authority on Pittsburgh speech – then you need to stop whatever you're doing and listen right now. We'll wait.

See? Aren't you glad you listened?

Johnstone, the author of *Speaking Pittsburghese: the Story of a Dialect*, has been featured in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *Tribune-Review*, *City Paper*, and numerous other media outlets, contributing her vast knowledge on what BurghLife believes to be the best subject in the world.

During the interview, Johnstone fielded questions like a pro (since, you know... she is a pro on the subject),

offering insight into the origins of common terms, personal anecdotes (her bathroom renovation story had Koz and Goldie in tears), and whether or not our beloved hometown speech might become extinct. :-)

Additionally, BLFM listeners sent in several thought-provoking questions (so proud of yinz!) for Johnstone to answer. Listener questions included:

- Is omitting the phrase "to be" a Pittsburgh-only trait?
- Do you think that Pittsburghers are more interested in local speech vs. those in other parts of the U.S.?
- Is it true that professionals exist to help Pittsburghers lose their yinzer accents?
- What is the meaning of life? (Kidding on that one – wanted to make sure you were paying attention.)

Following the interview, Koz and Goldie thanked Johnstone

by giving her a BurghLife T-shirt ("Yinz Irish?" – our original/best-selling St. Patrick's Day design), since she collects Pittsburghese Ts. Then we took her to our latest obsession, Beto's Pizza on Banksville Road. Thankfully, Johnstone was impressed (\*whew\*).

BurghLife once again thanks Dr. Barbara Johnstone for visiting



and discussing Pittsburgh speech with us! Not only was she thoroughly knowledgeable on the subject, she was also a really nice person, and we enjoyed talking with her over the deliciousness that is Beto's.

To listen to the interview, visit [BurghLife.com](http://BurghLife.com) or search for "BurghLife" on iTunes, Stitcher, or other podcast platforms. Johnstone's interview is featured in show #004, which was uploaded on Dec. 21, 2014.



Promo for our interview with Dr. Barbara Johnstone, asking yinz to send in your questions.



Mmmmm...Beto's.

## SALE! 20% OFF THE BURGLIFE ALUMINUM LICENSE PLATE



Now just \$15.99  
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Show your Pittsburgh pride with this sweet aluminum license plate – great for your car, home, or office!

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## WANNA WIN ONE OF THESE?

We're giving away a FREE BurghLife Aluminum License Plate to one lucky reader! Just email [koz@burghlife.com](mailto:koz@burghlife.com) by March 15, 2015 with the subject line "License Plate Contest" to enter. Good luck!

Winner must be able to pick up prize in person within 5 miles of downtown Pittsburgh.

## New year, no resolutions

**NOPE, THAT'S NOT A TYPO** in the headline – I really did mean no resolutions. Sure, I have hopes of making this the year that I get into peak physical condition, or eat healthier, or simply be nicer to the people locked in my basement...but all of those things are *hard*. And, when I inevitably fall short of the resolutions I had made on Jan. 1, I feel really bad about my failures (especially the basement people one). So this year, I decided "no resolutions." And a few weeks into 2015, I've gotta say that it feels great!

Gone is the guilt of abandoning my goals. Gone is the self-loathing that I feel after indulging in a doughnut or two or eight. And most importantly, gone is the torment I feel over tormenting complete strangers. Although it was unexpected, this whole "no resolutions" idea has proven to be my best resolution ever! I can say without hesitation that it's made me a better person, and for that, I am truly gra...*FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, I'M TRYING TO WRITE HERE. I KNOW THAT YOU'RE THIRSTY, OK? YOU'LL SURVIVE...PROBABLY.*

Ugh, sorry about that. I guess I should go, but my hope is that you'll consider abandoning all of the baggage that comes along with new year's resolutions like I did for 2015. If you do, I'm living proof that a better, more peaceful life awaits!

## Damn Ravens. But thanks, Steelers...

**TELL ANY STEELERS FAN** that the Jan. 3 loss to the Baltimore Ravens was "no big deal" and... well, you might want to run for your life. The Steeler Nation *always* wants Coach Tomlin and company to win, especially when we're up against those dirty, dirty birds.

But BurghLife isn't here to provide another play-by-play of that wild-card game, or to point out what could have been done better – plenty of others are

far more qualified for that type of advice (and they're usually not too shy about sharing it). We're writing this for one simple reason – to say "thanks." So here we go:

Thanks, Steelers, for taking hit after hit and sustaining injury after injury while we watched from the comfort of our couches, recliners, house parties, or neighborhood bars.

Thanks for infusing energy into our city at the tail end of a

season that most of us thought held little promise.

And perhaps most importantly, thanks for demonstrating that good sportsmanship must be the rule and not merely an option (to put it Blount-ly).

We believe in our Steelers, and we appreciate you...especially now that the Ravens are eliminated from the race. (FYI, New England Patriots: this does NOT mean that we'll be writing a "thank-you" article for you.)

## BURGHING NEWS

Car with NY license plate crushes folding chairs on South Side, ignoring obvious parking spot reservation

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