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It's Academic

Playing for Change—The Philadelphia School Joins the Band

By Lois Traub West, Director of Communications

Music lovers all over the globe joined together on Saturday, September 19, to celebrate the fifth annual **Playing For Change Day**. Musicians and fans gathered on stages, street corners, schools, and via live-streams in 61 countries on six continents to participate in musical performances, concerts, and events that promote peace and positive social change.

The Philadelphia School was proud to be one of the venues selected for Playing for Change Day. Says Head of School Justine Hoffman, "The goals of Playing for Change—using music to find personal expression, to promote peace and

cooperation through collaboration, to foster children's self-esteem and resilience, to understand one's own unique heritage and cultural traditions—resonate deeply with our educational philosophy and practice."

Since the school's founding in 1972, music has been an integral part of its educational program, which strives to provide students with meaningful, personal experiences with music—as performers, audience members and scholars. Music is integrated into classroom curricula: for example, the 7th grade geology unit includes the formation of a class "Rock Band," which

Continued p. 2



Victoria Bastian

Participants learn a Ghanaian dance by watching a demonstration video of students from the Bizung School.

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covers a favorite pop or rap song with geology-related lyrics. Whenever possible, the musical talents and interests of students are incorporated into classroom projects and productions.

On Playing for Change Day, faculty and students from The Philadelphia School, along with a youth choir from New Central Baptist Church, were among the thousands of musical performers across the globe singing and playing for peace and social change. Performers and audiences took part in the “Ripple effect,” singing the Grateful Dead’s 1970 classic “Ripple,”



Victoria Bastian

TPS Middle Schoolers.

Playing for Change’s most recent world-renowned Song Around the World.

On hand at the concert was Elizabeth Hunter, Executive Director of the Playing for Change Foundation. The Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established in 2007, supports music schools and programs created and operated by local communities, and then connects those communities around the world.

A highlight of the Playing for Change Day performances in Philadelphia on September 19 was a virtual musical “collaboration” between middle school students at TPS and at the Bizung School of Music and Dance in Ghana, a school supported by the Playing for Change Foundation. The two schools are forging a partnership, and TPS looks forward to a long-term relationship that results in mutual understanding and appreciation among its students. TPS 6th-grade teacher Jess Ford, whose students spend a full year studying Africa, says, “Building relationships with students from the



Victoria Bastian
Youth Choir from the New Central Baptist Church, 2139 Lombard Street.

Bizung School is exciting, and my co-teachers and I are looking forward to building authentic connections to our curriculum. Providing our 6th graders an opportunity to learn from their counterparts in Ghana has the potential to produce such rich rewards.”

The Philadelphia School (<http://tps.school.org>) educates children in preschool through grade 8. It is a nonsectarian independent school located in Center City. For more information about Playing for Change, go to playingforchange.org.

It's Academic

Fourth Annual School Fair Offers Info, Food, Fun and Food for Thought

By Judy Heller, Vice President CCRA Board

The 4th Annual School Fair was held on October 5 at the Franklin Institute. Conceptualized by community leaders of each respective neighborhood association—Center City Residents’ Association (CCRA), Logan Square Neighborhood Association (LSNA), and South of South Neighborhood Association



Donna Strug

A range of public, private, charter and parochial schools was represented at the Fair.

(SOSNA)—the School Fair is designed to make it easier for parents to “shop” for local elementary school options.

The schools selected for the fair represent a cross-section of the educational opportunities available to families within and beyond the boundaries of the three neighborhood associations. This year, representatives from 21 public, charter, parochial and independent schools were on hand to answer parents’ questions, as well as provide pertinent enrollment information.

Besides generously providing the space and food, The Franklin Institute also offered a staffed play area filled with engaging activities to entertain the kids. Their smiling faces said it all. To the delight of all who attended, Philadelphia School District Superintendent Dr. William Hite was present at the Fair this year. His preferred manner is to

intermingle with parents and faculty, rather than give a formal talk, which created much goodwill among those he met.



Donna Strug

School Superintendent Dr. William Hite mingled with attendees, including CCRA VP Judy Heller, left.

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President's Report

Taking a Deeper Look



Charles Goodwin
CCRA President

“Who am I and what am I doing here?”

Many of you will recognize those words. For those who don't, they were Adm. James Stockdale's introduction to the first debate in the 1992 presidential election campaign as Ross Perot's Vice

Presidential running mate. Admiral Stockdale was a decorated veteran of the Vietnam War, who spent the years from 1965 to 1973 as a “guest” of the Viet Minh. In captivity, he led the POW resistance to their North Vietnamese hosts. He returned to the U.S. unable to stand upright and barely able to walk, after suffering beatings, torture and a broken back as a prisoner. For his defiance of his captors and his rallying of his fellow captives to resist, he was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1976. He went on to serve as President of South Carolina's military college, The Citadel. Later, he became a fellow at the Hoover Institution. In sum, he was a bit to the right of most folks reading this, but definitely no dummy.

It goes without saying that these words were widely mocked – especially on Saturday Night Live – as a sign of Adm. Stockdale's senility. He wasn't senile.

Much like Rabbi Hillel's three questions, Stockdale's questions are important ones that everyone should ask themselves, perhaps daily. There are certainly other questions that all people should ponder: What's my goal? Who am I true to? For what will I sacrifice? How can I add to the sum of light? And undoubtedly many more that each of us should ask ourselves when we wake up in the morning or when we lie down to sleep in the evening.

Stockdale's questions are questions that, from time to time, CCRA – like any organization – should ask itself.

I'm not giving you my answer. I'm merely President. My job is to get you folks thinking and talking. And (once minds are made up) get things done. The Board could tell you what it thinks, but Instead ...

We're asking you to answer Adm. Stockdale's questions for CCRA. And to write out your answers and to send those answers in to us at centercity@centercityresidents.org or (by mail to CCRA, 1600 Market St., Suite 2500, Philadelphia, PA 19103). It's a conversation that should take place among the Board and the membership. You, as members, should tell us what you think we should be. We purport to represent the community. The City of Philadelphia expects us to represent the community in zoning matters. But nobody can magically divine the “general will” except by opening ears and listening.

CCRA's stated mission is to preserve, enhance and celebrate Center City living. It's a mission that is perhaps subject to wide interpretation and something that those of us living in Center City could discuss for days. (If you put three Center City folks together, you'll get eight opinions.)

This is your community. Center City is what you make of it. Merely by living your life here you create a community among the people with whom you interact. You can make friends of your neighbors – or they can be strangers. This can be a place where you can't walk to the corner without talking to people you know. Or it can be the “big city” where everyone blends into the crowd, where anonymity allows people to live as they please. Arguably, much of what was vital about urban life from the 1950s to the 1970s was the absence of community – a liberating anonymity that allowed “nonconforming” people to live as they were without fear of consequence from narrow-minded bigots. (Historical footnote: Frank Rizzo, when he was the Police Captain for Center City in the late '50s, routinely raided coffee houses. Neighbors complained about the disreputable “beatniks” who frequented them. Apparently, espresso was threatening in 1959. Now you can't trip without falling into Starbucks. Or Good Karma. Or Pete's. Or La Colombe. Or LaVa. Or OCF. Or ... apologies to any Coffee Houses that I missed.)

It feels different now – because hopefully people are less narrow-minded than they once were. Hopefully, nonconformists feel like they are at home when they are here in Center City: because they are.

What do you think: who are we and what are we doing here? Let us know.



*Bella Vista Neighbors Association * Center City Residents' Association * Central Roxborough Civic Association * East Falls Community Council * East Passyunk Crossing Civic Association * Fishtown Neighbors Association * Hawthorne Empowerment Coalition * Logan Square Neighborhood Association * Northern Liberties Neighbors Association * Overbrook Farms Club * Packer Park Civic Association * Passyunk Square Civic Association * Queen Village Neighbors Association * Society Hill Civic Association * South Broad Street Neighbors Association * Spruce Hill Community Association * Washington Square West Civic Association * West Powelton/Saunders Park RCO * Woodland Terrace Homeowners Association*

Crosstown Coalition Update

Crosstown Coalition Takes on Parking, AVI, Elections, Zoning, and Ethics

By Steve Huntington, Crosstown Coalition Chair

Crosstown Parking Initiative

Real patriots have been defined as those who get a parking ticket and rejoice that the system is working. Under this definition, the patriotism of Center City vehicle owners is tested regularly. That test grows more challenging as parking lots and garages are converted to residential units. A Crosstown Coalition parking committee, chaired by CCRA member Bill West (known to readers of this publication as our own resident scholar of urban quality of life, with a specialty in parking), will examine parking issues in the 21 neighborhoods represented by Crosstown civic association members.

The committee has created an eight-page questionnaire with subsections scripted for local business owners, residents who own cars, and residents who do not own cars. At present, the questionnaire is being tested among Crosstown board members. Once the kinks are ironed out, members of the 21 Crosstown associations, including CCRA, will be asked to complete the questionnaire.

The questionnaire results will be collated and published, and the Committee then plans to survey on-street parking and turnover rates at street spaces. The goal is to present the new mayoral administration with a wish list of parking asks. At the time of this writing, the Crosstown had written the candidates requesting that a parking czar/czarina be appointed so as to enable one-stop shopping for parking requests.

Crosstown and Realty Tax Assessments

Crosstown committee members met on October 28 with the Director of the Office of Property Assessment, the department charged with assessing city real estate. The topic: a 37-page Crosstown Coalition report authored by former CCRA board member/Treasurer Walt Spencer, which identified apparent anomalies in the AVI (Actual Value Initiative), the Nutter administration project that reassessed all City parcels. Among the topics discussed: underassessments on properties participating in the 10-year tax-abatement program, large commercial buildings, and small multi-family units.

The OPA is in the process of reassessing the City's residential parcels and believes that many of the issues identified in the report will be rectified when the new assessments are issued this April for bills payable in 2017. The Crosstown and the OPA plan to meet in March, once the reassessments are completed, to discuss the new evaluations.

Crosstown and the Mystery RCO Bill

A June 1 PlanPhilly article reported that Council President Clarke's office had prepared a draft ordinance in cooperation with the Planning Commission, applying the City's Standards of Conduct and Ethics to Registered Community Organizations (RCO's)—standards which do not apply to Council members or their staffers. When the Crosstown investigated, the Council President's office denied authorship of the

bill, as did the Planning Commission. The Crosstown therefore wrote both the Council President and the Planning Commission requesting that the Crosstown be alerted should the bill be presented for passage in Council.

Coalition Report Offers Suggestions on Zoning Procedures

With an eye towards the coming change of administration in January, the Crosstown convened stakeholders to discuss improvements in Zoning Board of Adjustment procedures. Participants included representatives from the building industry (the Builders Industry Association and the Development Workshop), as well as attorneys and architects active in land-use matters.

Among the suggestions that emerged in a five-page report: implementing credential qualifications for Zoning Board of Adjustment members; and requiring that ZBA members participate in training and continuing education, with the provision of increased compensation for ZBA members; dividing ZBA schedules into multiple time groupings to minimize downtime waiting for cases to be called; prioritizing uncontested cases; vetting applications to ensure that applicants have all required documentation; and video live-streaming of ZBA hearings.

Continued p. 21

57th House Tour a Team Effort

By Jeffrey Braff

CCRA's 57th Annual House Tour, held on October 18, was, by all accounts, a great success. But it could not have happened without scores of volunteers and contributors, some of whom are acknowledged below. Without fascinating venues there could be no Tour. So first we wish to thank our neighbors who



Townhouse on the tour.

generously "donated" their homes/offices/gardens for the afternoon:

- The Klenk Family**
- Dieter and Sara Forster**
- The Philadelphia School**
- Sandy Cadwalader**
- Charles Goodwin and Nicole Galli**
- Carl Aley and Barbara Halpern**
- CFI-Knoll and Mettler's**
- American Mercantile**
- Sidney Hillman Apartments**
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And let's not forget: our pre-Tour ticket sellers (Rittenhouse Hardware, Jomici Apothecary, Maxx's Produce, Pure Flower



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Design, Waffles & Wedges, and Good Karma Café); our Tour-day ticket locations Temple Beth Zion - Beth Israel and Trinity Center for Urban Life; our Tour-day Restaurant Discount Program Partners (Aldine's, Audrey Claire, The Crow and the Pitcher, and Twenty Manning Grill); and our Tour-day Discount Parking Partner (Parkway Corporation).

And finally, thanks to all Tour-day volunteers (including hosts, hostesses, and ticket-sellers), and to Tour Chair Kathleen Federico, and her top lieutenants: Ruth Segal, Bonnie Collins, Jean England Brubaker, Heather Montgomery, Jacob Markovitz, Jeff Braff, Steve Huntington, and Travis Oliver.

This is a major fundraiser for the Association. Would you like to get involved? Next year's Tour will be held on Sunday, October 23. Contact the CCRA office to volunteer or offer your home.

House Tour Highlights Two Historic Sites

The Historic Preservation Committee of the CCRA is very pleased with the turnout at the two preservation sites on the 57th Annual House Tour held October 18. The first site was the former Church of the New Jerusalem at 22nd & Chestnut, now the



Former Church of the New Jerusalem, at 22nd & Chestnut, now the home of CFI-Knoll offices.

offices of CFI-Knoll. This is an excellent example of a repurposed church, showing how church structures can be adapted for alternative uses.

The second site had a different story: it was a spectacular, historic, Depression-era mural depicting the history of the US Labor Movement. The mural, by Philadelphia artist Joseph Hirsch, is currently at the Hillman Apartments at 22 South 22nd Street; the hope is that, someday, funds can be raised for its restoration. Neither of these places is generally open to the public.

As is always the case with such preservation sites on the House Tour, we recruit expert docents—architects, preservationists, art historians and others—who can speak with

authority about the site to the visitors. We also enjoy the support of the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia, and for the church, Partners for Sacred Places.

By featuring these special preservation sites on the Fall House Tour, the Historic Preservation Committee can highlight preservation issues and success stories in the CCRA area.

The CCRA Historic Preservation Committee welcomes new members. Please contact Pip Campbell at pipcamp@aol.com if you are interested in learning more about historic preservation and in preserving our neighborhoods.

—Dane Wells

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“Pictures Are Little Miracles”: A Passion for the Image at PHOTOLounge

By Bob Weiss

My friend Elke from South Philly, a life-long shutterbug, carries her camera everywhere and even exhibits her work in local galleries. To Elke, picture-taking is an art form. So she showed great faith in the PHOTOLounge, at 1909 Chestnut Street, when she brought them 2000 of her slides to be processed into JPEGs—not a small job. But for them it was an easy task, one of their core services: to transfer old film formats to newer digital technology. And Elke was happy with the results: “I would use them again.”

So I visited this store out of curiosity and learned that PHOTOLounge is a photo lab and much more. For 20 years it has helped amateur and professional photographers manipulate their efforts into different modes—such as transmuting film images into collages and videos and wall-hangings and desk decorations. Owner Ravid (accent on the second syllable) Butz started the business by selling second-hand cameras to students, in a tiny space closer to City Hall. Soon PHOTOLounge morphed into a processing lab, but thereafter had to weather the digital revolution that “killed” film. It survived and thrived by embracing digital—but it kept film.



PHOTOLounge is located at 1909 Chestnut Street.



The service counter is a hive of activity.

It’s a niche business and popular. Film processing is a fraction of its activity now, but it is seen as cool rather than outmoded. Customers these days range from the student dropping off film for a photo course, to a young couple ordering canvas prints from their wedding, to professional portrait and wedding photographers, to young professionals looking to decorate the “white walls” of their urban digs with enlargements, to lots of iPhone users, including parents and grandparents archiving older memories for kids and grandkids.

What do customers get from this business? Ask Ravid and you will get his enthusiastic response. The list of products and services includes camera lessons, passport photos, distinctively designed stationery, puzzles and games, greeting cards, frames, gifts, advice and training. The cameras for sale are high quality, as are the lenses and various accessories. Even the puzzles are classy: jigsaws of *New Yorker* covers, memory games for brainy kids.

Mostly, PHOTOLounge wants to sell the satisfaction provided by images: memories fixed in different formats, suitable to hang on walls or to be preserved in other highly visible ways. Keeping stuff on an iPhone is great, but it’s not as meaningful as an enlargement displayed as wall art or printed on a canvas that becomes a chair pillow.

The owner and employees have a lot of knowledge and a good sense of customer



Behind kiosks linked to photo-printing capability are hundreds of photos displayed as a wall collage.

service. When one patron’s two daughters were sitting for passport photos, employee Chris Bertelsen wisely cautioned that the State Department does not accept these if a hairstyle hides facial features. Online customer reviews are heavily favorable and often mention the personal attentiveness of PHOTOLounge staff.

Less known is the store’s involvement with the local community. For over a decade, PHOTOLounge has participated in the annual Little Friends Festival for children by setting up a tiny photo booth to pose a youngster with or without parents or grandparents. A free glossy 8”x10” enlargement may be picked up at the store a few days later.

This past year PHOTOLounge had a booth at the Rittenhouse Square Flower Market for Children’s Charities—Ravid was excited not just about selling some of his merchandise but also about distributing coupons for discounted services in the store.

Depending on the season, PHOTOLounge is open six or seven days a week, and its attractive and easy-to-use website offers a variety of Internet services as well. A smaller branch of the business, open fewer days, was recently launched in Chestnut Hill.

NOTE: In addition to discounts provided to professional wedding and portrait photographers, PHOTOLounge offers discounts to CCRA members. For information, call 267-322-6651, or go to myphotolounge.com.



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—Bill West

Vincent Feldman, *City Abandoned: Charting the Loss of Civic Institutions in Philadelphia* (2014).

"For many years, he has photographed abandoned buildings throughout Philadelphia, some of which remain abandoned, others of which have since been demolished, some of which have been saved."

Philippa H. Campbell, "CCRA Annual Meeting May 20 to Feature Photographer and Author Vincent Feldman," CCQ, Spring 2015, p. 1. http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949_CCRA_1stQ_2015_WEB.pdf

Sue Eisenfeld, *Shenandoah: A Story of Conservation and Betrayal* (2015)

"Eisenfeld traces her off-trail hiking adventures and discoveries of old cemeteries, house foundations, and artifacts in the backwoods, and tells the true story of the American settlers who were forced to leave their homes in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains during the FDR administration's creation of Shenandoah National Park."

Bonnie Eisenfeld, "Author and Greenfield Alum Sue Eisenfeld to Speak at Athenaeum," CCQ, Spring 2015, p. 5. http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949_CCRA_1stQ_2015_WEB.pdf

Charles Montgomery, *Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design* (2013).

"In the year after Charlotte, N.C., installed the LYNX light rail, people who lived near the commuter line walked 1.2 miles per day more than they had before, and lost an average of 6.5 lbs."

Virginia K. Nalencz, "Urbanists to Cities: C'mon, Get Happy," CCQ, June 2014, p. 12. http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/21806_CCRA_June-July_Digital_Color.pdf

Jeff Speck, *Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Street at a Time* (2012).

"The skyline dazzles, green parks refresh, streets thrum with busy shops and restaurants, housing offers options high and low—congratulations, says Jeff Speck, but if you want to do just one thing to allow your city to thrive in the 21st century, make it possible to live there without a car."

Virginia K. Nalencz, "Up with Walkability, Down with Traffic Studies (and Take Another Look at Minimum Parking Requirements)," CCQ, June 2013, p. 1. <http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/June%20newsletter%20for%20web.pdf>

Jane Jacobs, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961).

"Jane Jacobs' 1961 book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, launched a national conversation."

Dane Wells, "Why Preservation? A Case for Shielding Our Heritage," CCQ, Fall 2014, p. 4. http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22136_CCRA_3rdQ_2014_web.pdf

Tony Junker, *Tunnell's Boys* (2005).

"Published in 2005, his historical novel, *Tunnell's Boys*, is set in 19th century Quaker Philadelphia and tells a story of the sea and conflicting views on war and peace during the Spanish American War in 1898."

Bonnie Eisenfeld, "Tony Junker: Architect, Teacher, Writer, Peacemaker," CCQ, March 2014, p. 9. http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/21353_CCRA_March-April_FINAL_WEB.pdf



Nancy Moses, a Center City resident, is the author of a new book, *Stolen, Smuggled, Sold: On the Hunt for Cultural Treasures*. Each chapter tells a different and interesting story about a work of art, artifact, or document that went missing. Each story is a good read based on the facts alone, and each chapter is enhanced by the author's first-person narrative about her journey of discovery, her commentary, and her questions about each of the items. Her writing is vivid and makes the reader visualize these items and imagine their travels. You grow to love each piece and eagerly await the outcome to learn if it found its home.

Previously the Executive Director of the Atwater Kent Museum (now the Philadelphia History Museum), Moses is a consultant to nonprofit organizations. In addition, she is one of the producers of a TV series, *The Women of Philadelphia: A Documentary*, and the founder of Women for Social Innovation, a giving circle, dedicated to developing social entrepreneurs in the Greater Philadelphia area.

— Bonnie Eisenfeld

Continued p. 26

The Center for Art in Wood: A Holiday Destination in Old City

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

The first time I visited the Center for Art in Wood I was awestruck by the beauty, uniqueness, and creativity of the objects on display, all crafted from wood, and I wondered why I had not known about this place before. Albert LeCoff, the enthusiastic co-founder of the Center for Art in Wood, who has promoted art shaped from wood for nearly 40 years, gave our group an hour-long tour, and his love of the craft was exhilarating and contagious. Le Coff expresses his love of art: “My work is constantly inspired by the new creations of working artists. My life’s work is exhibiting and documenting the work of artists.”

In 1986, after years of promoting the craft in his home, LeCoff, along with his brother Alan, founded the non-profit Wood Turning Center —now the Center for Art in Wood. The Center has been widely recognized by artists, collectors and scholars as a valuable resource for the education, preservation and promotion of art made from wood. The museum collection displays over 1,000 objects from around the world, including functional objects and contemporary sculpture. The Center has four or five special exhibitions in its Gerry Lenfest Gallery each year, as well as traveling exhibitions. In addition, the Center’s



Exhibit at Center for Art in Wood, Gerry Lenfest Gallery.

Len Scherock Museum Store features wood objects ranging from handcrafted collectors’ items to more affordable useful or fun pieces. The Fleur and Charles Bresler Research Library and Earl Powell Artist Research Files contain over 26,000 images, artists’ files and books on the subject of art in wood.

Each year through the annual Windgate ITE International Residency program, the Center awards seven prestigious fellowships to five artists who work either solely in wood or who work with wood in combination with other materials, one photojournalist, and one scholar/educator; fellows are selected from an international pool of applicants. For eight weeks, from June through the first week of August each year, the resident fellows live and work collegially

at the University of the Arts, exploring, researching, and collaborating on new pieces that are later exhibited at the Center for Art in Wood.

LeCoff has produced more than 20 symposia, 50 exhibitions and 15 publications on the subject of art in wood. In 2003 he became an American Craft Council Honorary Fellow and received the Collectors of Wood Art Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2008, the American Association of Woodturners gave him a Lifetime Achievement Award.

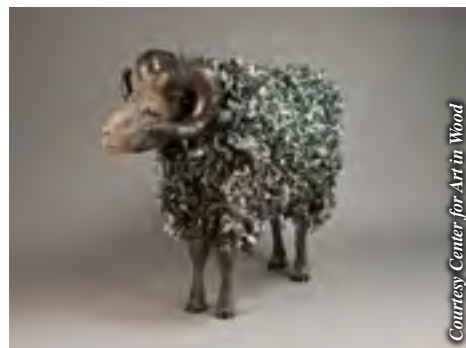
The Center for Art in Wood is located at 141 N. 3rd Street (near Cherry Street). Admission is free, and a voluntary donation of \$5 is requested. The gallery and museum store are open Tuesday to Saturday, 10a.m. to 5p.m. Memberships are available at a variety of levels. Members receive a discount at the store and many benefits, including the e-newsletter, *Turning Points*.

Events are held at the Center for Art in Wood during First Fridays. Join the email list to be notified of special events including artists’ lectures, gallery talks and presentations. For more information, please go to: <http://www.centerforartinwood.org/>



Courtesy Center for Art in Wood

Malcolm Gaynor’s Bend II.



Courtesy Center for Art in Wood

Daniel Hoffman’s Ram.

Museum of the American Revolution Addresses “Historical Amnesia”

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

In 2009, the American Revolution Center released the results of a national telephone survey of over 1,000 adults in the US about their knowledge of the American Revolution, its significance and its legacy. Although 89 percent of respondents thought they could pass a basic test on the American Revolution, 83 percent *failed* the test, which covered the beliefs, tenets and liberties established during the Revolution. Many respondents did not even know the century in which the American Revolution took place.

According to Dr. Bruce Cole, former president and CEO of the American Revolution Center, a non-partisan, non-profit organization, “Many people are unaware that the everyday freedoms and liberties they enjoy—reading newspaper editorials, expressing a dissenting opinion while attending a public meeting, or

worshipping at a religious institution of their choice—are the legacy of the American Revolution.”

Michael Quinn, current President and CEO of the museum and a Center City resident, came to the Museum because, in his words, “this is the most important project in public history today. A national museum on the American Revolution is long overdue—and urgently needed. There could be no better place for this museum than in Philadelphia, the headquarters of the American Revolution.” Quinn is well qualified to lead this effort. He previously held the positions of President and CEO of James Madison’s Montpelier and Deputy Director of George Washington’s Mount Vernon.

To tell the story of the Revolution and to address what Cole calls “historical amnesia,” ARC planned the Museum of the American Revolution. From its birth as an idea to its emergence as a real place people can visit, there are many steps to creating a museum, including developing a theme, assembling a collection, constructing a building, hiring a staff, and building a groundswell of anticipation from an enthusiastic audience. The Museum of the American Revolution has been building excitement in virtual reality for a number of years through its e-newsletters describing its collections, the progress of the building, and stories from the Revolutionary period.

The Museum will cover the American Revolution from the days of British America in the 1760s through Washington’s Inauguration as President in 1789. Collections contain items owned and used by General George Washington, and other rare and historic artifacts including weapons, uniforms, flags, personal diaries, paintings and sculpture, manuscripts, and books.

Recent announcements describe the donation of a fifer’s music book, a loan of eight cannons, and the hand-sewing repair of George Washington’s Headquarters Tent. Additional news items have covered the construction of the museum building,



Courtesy of the Museum of the American Revolution

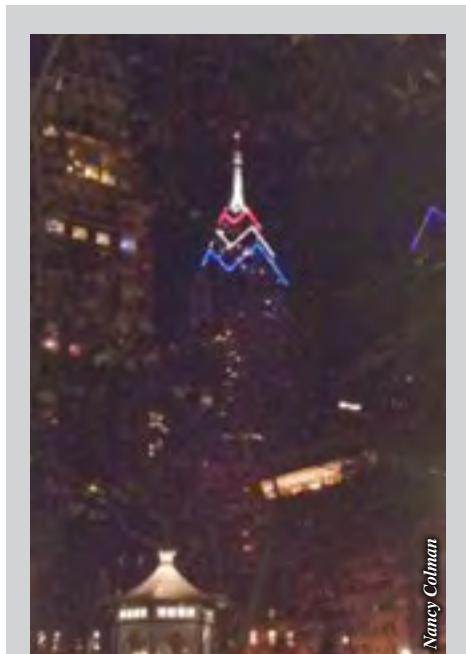
Michael Quinn, President and CEO, Museum of the American Revolution.

staffers in charge of collections, and a traveling exhibition. A recent one, “Women and the War,” an excerpt from John Ferling’s book, *Whirlwind: The American Revolution and the War That Won It*, describes the difficulties women faced during the long conflict.

Philadelphia-area philanthropist H.F. “Gerry” Lenfest is Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Museum’s campaign goal is \$150 million to complete the project and set up an endowment, and Lenfest has issued a challenge grant, which will double the impact of funds donated to this project.

The Museum of the American Revolution is planned to open in Spring 2017 at Third and Chestnut Streets, a site announced in 2010. Designed by Robert A.M. Stern Architects, the building will rise three stories above street level and will house exhibition galleries, theaters, educational spaces, a café and a retail store.

For more information about the Museum, to read the historical excerpts, to join the email list, and to donate, please go to www.amrevmuseum.org/



Nancy Colman

The night after Paris suffered its worst terrorist attack since World War II, the city of Philadelphia showed its solidarity, as did cities around the globe, by displaying the blue, white and red of the French Tricolor atop Liberty Place, seen here from Rittenhouse Square, and the pyramid topping the Mellon Bank Building.

BRCA Research Center, Established at Penn Medicine by Mindy Basser Gray, Is Saving Lives

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

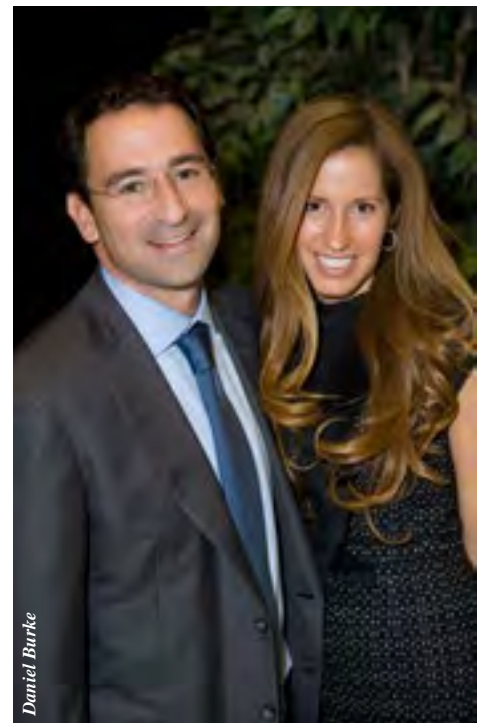
Turning her sadness into a solution, former Center City resident Mindy Basser Gray gave the gift of life to countless others when she and her husband, Jonathan Gray, founded the Basser Center for BRCA at Penn Medicine's Abramson Cancer Center in May 2012. Named in memory of Mindy's sister, Faith Basser, who lost her life at 44 to a BRCA-related ovarian cancer, the Basser Center is dedicated to finding better options to detect, treat and ultimately prevent BRCA-related cancers, and to providing genetic counseling, testing, outreach and education to individuals and families.

The Grays have invested over \$30 million to support the mission of the Basser Center, including funding BRCA research at institutions around the world. It is the first and only comprehensive BRCA-focused center of its kind.

BRCA1 and BRCA2, genes that everyone has, are involved in controlling healthy

DNA repair. When there is a mutation in these genes, men and women have an increased risk of developing breast, ovarian, prostate, and pancreatic cancers. Women with these mutations have up to an 80 percent lifetime risk of developing breast cancer and up to a 45 percent lifetime risk of developing ovarian cancer. These mutations can be passed on to children from either parent, and are estimated to cause five to 10 percent of breast cancers and 10 to 15 percent of ovarian cancers. Individuals of Ashkenazi (Central or Eastern European) Jewish ancestry have a 1-in-40 chance of carrying a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation. This probability is at least 10 times greater than that of the non-Jewish population.

Testing for these genetic mutations can save lives. Those who test positive for a gene mutation have options available to lower their cancer risk and to detect cancer at an earlier, more treatable stage. Options include preventive surgeries, as



Jon Gray and Mindy Basser Gray.

well as early and more frequent screenings. Founders Mindy Basser Gray and Jon Gray expressed their feelings this way: "We hope that the Basser Center will eliminate BRCA-related cancers and, in doing so, provide a road map for curing other genetic

Continued p. 13

To Your Health

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 - **On-site Lab** – tests provided for urine, strep throat, pregnancy, blood sugar levels and more
 - **Physicals** – examinations for general health, sports and school
 - **Vaccinations** – protection against the flu, tetanus, hepatitis B and more
- For more information, go to Hospitals.Jefferson.edu/news/2015/05/urgent-care-center/

—Bonnie Eisenfeld

diseases. As Penn alumni, we are fortunate that our alma mater has the world-class medical facilities and gifted researchers essential for this mission.”

Mindy and Jon Gray both graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1992. A senior executive at Blackstone, Jonathan Gray holds dual degrees from Penn’s Wharton School of Business and the

College of Arts and Sciences. The Grays now reside in Manhattan with their four daughters. Mindy Gray grew up in Center City Philadelphia and attended the Albert M. Greenfield School.

The *Basser Jean Bash*, the Basser Center’s inaugural New York City benefit, was held November 10 at Cipriani Wall Street. Mindy Basser Gray reports, “We BASHED all expectations, raising \$8

million and filling the room with over 1100 guests.”

For more information about genetic risk assessment and management, please contact Pamela Kline, Outreach Manager at the Basser Center for BRCA, at 215-662-2748. The Basser Center is located at the Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, 3400 Civic Center Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA 19104. www.basser.org

CCStreetwise

You Never Forget Your First LOVE [Park]

By Bill West

I am a great fan of the LOVE Park redesign. Final plans were presented in a public meeting at the Free Library on Monday, October 26. I do have one improvement opportunity. It relates to the park’s footprint.

At the meeting, Deputy Parks Commissioner Mark Focht related that, in addition to the removal of the slip lane at the southwest corner of the park, the southern sidewalk has been extended approximately eight feet to the south. This is a wonderful thing.

On the west side of the park, however, the treatment of the street remains as it currently is, with a total of five traffic lanes jostling northward. Removing one lane would not increase congestion, but it would calm traffic, particularly at the northwest corner of the park, where 16th Street intersects with Arch and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. This is probably the park’s gnarliest street corner, which is saying a lot.

It’s worth remembering that, up to Chestnut Street, 16th has only two traffic lanes. It then bulges out over the next two blocks, eventually ballooning to five lanes as it reaches LOVE Park. Then, in the next block, up by the Café Cret, it’s back to three lanes.

On 16th Street adjacent to the park, the rightmost lane of the five is a turn-only lane that feeds the entrance to the LOVE Park garage, on the north side of the park. Because of the configuration of Arch Street, the only other thing you can do if you turn right at that corner is go back



Looking north toward the corner of 16th and Arch, the right-turn-only lane bordering LOVE Park is empty of traffic, while the others are heavily traveled.

down 15th Street. Why would someone going up 16th Street want to go back down 15th Street? Maybe you left your cell phone at home.

Finally, removing a traffic lane would allow the park to expand. LOVE Park is not a large place, and the extra space would be useful.

On the evening of Thursday, October 29, I went out and observed the right-turn-only lane on 16th Street, where it intersects with Arch. I watched for 15 minutes, from 5:08 to 5:23 p.m.

Seven cars and one SugarHouse Casino bus turned right during those 15 minutes. Multiplying by four gives a rate of 32 vehicles per hour, during the evening rush. Much of the time I watched, the lane was completely empty.

There are times—the morning rush, for instance—when we could expect more traffic in this lane. But of course there would be less traffic in the other lanes. Sixteenth Street is basically a get-outta-town street.

We really can live without that right-turn-only lane. Time to show LOVE Park some love.

Pope Francis in Philadelphia

The eyes of the world were upon our fair city, when Pope Francis paid a visit to the World Meeting of Families in September. Some of the preparations were over the top, while many necessities seemed to be afterthoughts. But most agreed that it was a once-in-a-lifetime event, never again to pass this way. For that reason, we thought it worthwhile to share some of the unique images viewed through the eyes of Center City residents brave enough to disregard the dire warnings and stay to witness history. But rather than rehash the well-known scenes widely broadcast by the media, here for your enjoyment are a selection of sights captured by your friends and neighbors, who know what Center City normally looks like.

Scenes ranged from the sublime (a beautiful web of ropes made from thousands of individual prayers woven together outside the Cathedral on Logan Square) to the eerie (a major urban artery, 22nd Street, completely devoid of vehicles) to the irreverent (Pope-up Beer Gardens and a golf cart tricked out like a Pope-Mobile) to the aesthetically insulting (Port-a-Potties barricading Rittenhouse Square), with signs of diversity ranging from welcoming (a bagel store making papal overtures) to hostile (religious extremists protesting the Pope's visit). Have a look...





Bonnie Eisner



Courtney Barbara Halpern



Bonnie Eisner



Courtney Barbara Halpern



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Cathy Layland

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SPECIAL THANKS TO RECOGNITION-LEVEL MEMBERS

CCRA thanks all of you for your membership support. Membership dues are critical to our activities, accounting for approximately 45 percent of the Association's annual revenue. We would especially like to acknowledge those many resident members who in the recently completed fiscal year joined or renewed at our recognition levels. (In the Spring issue of the *Quarterly*, we will formally acknowledge the recognition-level contributors to our Annual Beautification Campaign.)

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Friends Select School Launches Upper School Entrepreneurship Elective

By Sarah Schmidt, Associate Director, Marketing, Communications

Friends Select School has partnered with Schoolyard Ventures to launch an upper school social entrepreneurship elective.

Over the course of the 13-week program, students will develop a foundation of entrepreneurial skills and experiences, as well as engage in a social-enterprise consulting project with the Social Impact Initiative of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

“Friends Select students benefit already from the school’s extensive network of relationships with academic and cultural institutions in the city,” said Colleen Puckett, assistant head of school for external affairs and marketing. “This partnership is yet another opportunity for our students to directly engage with the world outside of school walls, as well as to understand the impact that entrepreneurial action can have on the world.”

Schoolyard Ventures instructors will meet with students once a week after school for 90

minutes. The first seven weeks of the course will introduce students to the foundational skills of micro- and macro-entrepreneurialism. For the remaining six weeks of the program, students will work with the Wharton School, where they will use their newly developed entrepreneurial skills to help solve a real-world problem on behalf of a social enterprise in the community.

“For this year, the program is an after-school elective, and we are already planning on how to expand the program for next year,” said Chris Singler, upper school director. “Students who have enrolled in the course are dedicated to and motivated by the potential to help others through socially conscious entrepreneurship. They’ll be given the tools and space to bring their ideas to life.”

At least 10 mentors—pulled from the worlds of angel investment, business and social enterprise—will visit and participate in the sessions.

Friends Select School is a coed, college preparatory, Quaker day school in Philadelphia serving 560 students in grades pre-k through 12. The school, which traces its roots to 1689, is located on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, in the cultural heart of Center City Philadelphia. At every age, students visit museums, attend cultural events, participate in community service, and experience the finest educational resources Philadelphia has to offer. For more information, please visit friends-select.org.

Schoolyard Ventures helps teens launch businesses, non-profits and other real-world projects that are meaningful to them. Since 2009, Schoolyard Ventures has worked with more than 650 high school students in the Greater Philadelphia area, who in turn have launched for-profit ventures, non-profit social enterprises, school clubs, and movements of like-minded individuals.

Spotlight On...

Meet Joe Paradin, Head Librarian

By Fran Levi

Editor’s note: This article first appeared in Friends of Philadelphia City Institute Newsletter Vol 1 Issue 2 May 2014. It has been reprinted with kind permission.

Joe Paradin, PCI’s head librarian, has been a librarian with the Free Library of Philadelphia for over 37 years. According to Joe, he “was very young when he started.” Although he was raised in Bergenfield, NJ, he moved to Manhattan and then to Philadelphia in 1970. In 1976 he moved to the Rittenhouse Square neighborhood. Joe’s education includes a Bachelor of Arts from Fordham University in Literature/Art, a Master of Arts from the University of Pennsylvania in Drama and a Master of Science from Drexel University in Information Technology.

In May 2006 Joe was assigned to PCI where he has managed the busiest branch library in the system despite staff shortages, funding reductions, fluctuating operating schedules, etc. I asked him to what he attributes his success in making the branch function as well as it does in spite of problems over which he has no control. Joe replied, “I’ve always cultivated my staff, i.e. encouraged their strengths and discouraged their shortcomings. I also try to instill a sense of pride in each of them with measured praise and the occasional pizza party. A happy trustworthy staff can accomplish anything. I guess I’ve learned this through the maturity of experience.”

However, Joe is looking forward to December 2015 when he will retire. He



Joe Paradin—the Heart of PCI Library

is enrolled in the city’s DROP plan and must retire that month. Until then we will have the benefit of his expertise at our neighborhood library, which is constantly busy with 20,509 items checked out during March, making it by far the circulation leader of all branch libraries.



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CCRA Conceives Town Hall Series to Take Members' Concerns Seriously

By Harvey Sacks

CCRA's Government Relations Committee held its first in a planned series of Town Hall meetings with its membership's four elected state and city representatives on Thursday, November 12. This inaugural meeting at the Greenfield School was focused on 2nd District City Councilman Kenyatta Johnson's office. At his request, key members of Philadelphia's Fleet Management, City Commissioners, Office of Support Housing, and the Streets Departments discussed neighborhood issues that were provided in advance by CCRA members over the past couple months.

The purpose of these Town Halls is to give our members the opportunity to become better acquainted with our elected officials, but more importantly, for our elected officials to better get to know our members and their concerns. The purpose was not intended to suggest that CCRA members should contact their representatives instead



Marie S. Nahikian, Director of the Office of Supportive Housing, informs the audience about homelessness in Philadelphia, with a focus on the veteran population.

of CCRA, which remains committed to hearing from its members about their concerns and doing what it can to resolve those issues.



CCRA VP Harvey Sacks (at podium) listens intently as Commissioner Christopher Cocci describes his job in the Office of Fleet Management.

Members should be on the lookout for the dates and venues for upcoming Town Halls. We hope they will take advantage of these opportunities.

Sen. Farnese Meets with CCRA Members

State Senator Larry Farnese held a successful town hall meeting with the Center City Residents Association on Thursday, October 8th. Held at Broad Street Ministries, the event attracted dozens of neighborhood residents. Topics discussed included public education, the state budget, and Sen. Farnese's legislation to protect community groups from frivolous and expensive lawsuits, known as SLAPPs. (See P. 4 of the Fall 2015 issue of *Center City Quarterly* for a detailed account of the Crosstown Coalition's work supporting Sen. Farnese's efforts to get this legislation passed in the Pennsylvania State Senate).

— Ben Waxman



Continued from p. 4

Election Matters

Only Kenney, Kindij Reply to Crosstown Questionnaire

Democrat Jim Kenney answered the Crosstown Candidates' Questionnaire during last Spring's primary. In August, the Coalition requested responses from other general

election candidates, including Republican Melissa Murray Bailey. Only Independent Boris Kindij replied. The questions and answers are available at philacrosstown.org.

Crosstown Supreme Court Candidates' Forum

On October 17 at Community College, the Crosstown, partnering with event organizer

United Voices for Philadelphia, cosponsored a forum for Pennsylvania Supreme Court candidates. Two hundred and fifty people heard five judges seeking the three open seats on the court: Christine Donahue (D), Kevin Dougherty (D), Judith Olson (R), Paul Panepinto (I) and David Wecht (D).



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- 2400 South Street #514
- 1813 Pemberton Street
- Wanamaker House #14L
- Naval Square #2722
- 2128 Carpenter Street
- Academy House #11N



Julie
Welker
President
& CEO



1904 South Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146 * 215-546-3500
2311 Fairmount Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19130 * 215-235-7800

Town Square

Public Safety Meeting Addresses Schuylkill River Trail Attack

In response to the recent attack along the Schuylkill River Trail, Councilman Kenyatta Johnson called a Public Safety Meeting November 5. In attendance were CCRA representatives, along with representatives of the Philadelphia Police Department, City agencies and other stakeholders. The purpose was to come up with ideas to improve safety and to eliminate fear, harassment and violence along the Trail.

Among the results are increased Police and Ranger patrols, including undercover personnel, and stepped-up requests for any and all incidents to be reported. **PLEASE don't just look the other way. Call 911.** Other ideas are being imminently explored, including better lighting, cameras, and distance markers spaced at more frequent intervals (existing mile markers are too far part) so that locations of incidents can be more easily reported.

—Harvey Sacks

Christmas Village Returns to Center City

The Christmas season is officially here again, and Christmas Village in Philadelphia, presented by NRG Home, is returning for the eighth straight year to bring the unrivaled holiday atmosphere of a traditional German Christmas market (*Weihnachtsmarkt*) to Center City. What better way to embrace this festive season than by taking in the sights and sounds of a genuine Christmas market right here in Philadelphia? Christmas Village in Philadelphia will be spreading the holiday cheer this year from **Thanksgiving Day to December 27th** and is situated once again in **Center City's own LOVE Park (JFK Boulevard between 15th and 16th Streets)** making it convenient and accessible for all Center City residents.

For those new to the experience, Christmas Village in Philadelphia is an outdoor holiday market built and modeled after the time-honored tradition of Christmas markets in Germany. Since its inception in Philadelphia in 2008, it has grown to over 70 wooden booths and two large tents, in order to hold a wider array of one-of-a-kind, festive holiday gifts. Browse the rare selection of items, including festive ornaments, handmade jewelry, and high-quality arts and crafts, not to mention an authentic and delicious array of European food and drinks!

As a special gift to Center City residents this year, discounts are offered on the most popular food and drink specialties. **Show your valid Center City Residents' Association membership card, and receive discounts on your favorite treats!** Choose from a mouthwatering German bratwurst or schnitzel served on a warm roll (*Brötchen*) to satisfy your holiday cravings; both feature a hearty complimentary side of tasty German sauerkraut.



Come feel the LOVE—with exceptional gifts, delicious traditional European foods, warming beverages, festive music, and exclusive CCRA discounts—at the annual Christmas Village in LOVE Park.

If you're hungry for something different and exciting, try a special menu item like the *Döner Kebab* (a German specialty featuring fresh meat shaved right off the rotisserie spit, and served in a warm pita pocket with tomato, onion, and our delicious homemade sauce). For the first time ever Christmas Village offers scrumptious authentic Belgian fries. The thick hand-sliced potatoes can be enjoyed with a variety of delicious dips and sauces. Wash it all down with a warm mug of traditional German *Glühwein* (spiced mulled wine) or rich hot chocolate.

Christmas Village in Philadelphia is widely considered to be one of Philadelphia's most unique and charming holiday attractions, and one of the most rewarding places to spend quality time with family and friends. Where else in Philadelphia can you experience an intimate and unique

Christmas ambiance while shopping for such fine and distinct holiday gifts for your loved ones? Visit the Christmas Village during your lunch break for a stroll through the quaint promenade, or plan a visit after work for a new and exciting take on happy hour with friends and coworkers.

Imbuing the Christmas Village in Philadelphia with even more holiday cheer, complimentary entertainment by local artists playing your favorite Christmas songs is provided on weekdays starting at 4 p.m. The team at Christmas Village in Philadelphia cordially invites you to enjoy the warmth and atmosphere of Christmas, away from the hustle and bustle of shopping malls and big box stores. Show your family and friends why the holiday season in Center City would not be the same without Christmas Village in Philadelphia! See you there!

Why whisper down the lane when you can shout it from the rooftops?

Center City Quarterly wants to hear from you.

Contribute an article. Share your pictures. Send us a letter. Pitch an idea.
Email centercity@centercityresidents.org, with CCQeditor in the subject line.

CCRa
center city
residents' association

Everyone's a Winner: Second Annual Street Scene Urban Garden Competition

By Maggie Mund

Center City Residents' Association, Reinhold Residential, Berkshire Hathaway, and Friends in the City would like to thank all contestants who participated in the 2015 Street Scene Urban Garden Contest. Their efforts made us all the real winners.

Overall Winners

First Place

Commercial: Elfant Wissahickon, 2000 Pine Street
Residential: Denelle Drake, 2050 Pine Street
Garden Block: 200 Block of South Van Pelt Street

Second Place

Commercial: Shawn Nesbit, 2319 Walnut Street
Residential: Nicole Onesti, 2012 Pine Street
Garden Block: 2000 Block of Pine Street

Third Place

Commercial: Joseph Pozzuolo, 2022 Walnut Street
Residential: Barbara Klock, 1900 Delancey Place
Garden Block: 100 Block of South Van Pelt Street

Winners by Category

Best Design

1st Place: Ruth Cohen, 2320 Spruce Street
2nd Place: Ellen Steiner, 2133 Spruce Street
3rd Place: Kiley Smith, 405 South 26th Street

Best Use of Color

1st Place: Tami Heilman, 126 South Van Pelt Street
2nd Place: Butch Puchowitz, 2119 Spruce Street
3rd Place: Lea Oxenhandler, 2203 Lombard Street

Greenest Thumb

1st Place: Linda Brenner, South Van Pelt and Manning Streets
2nd Place: Bernard Appelbaum, 2329 Spruce Street
3rd Place: Kevin Crane, 350-52 South Smedley Street



Denelle Drake, overall residential winner.

Most Creative

1st Place: Meredith Dunn, 2050 Pine Street
2nd Place: Kyle Connor, 2310 Lombard Street
3rd Place: Heather Montgomery, 2032 Latimer Street

Most Dramatic

1st Place: Julie Hirsch Waxman, 2031 Rodman Street
2nd Place: Dodi Fordham, 2022 Pine Street
3rd Place: Larry Pitt, 1918 Pine Street

Most Elegant

1st Place: Sharon Collins, 120 South Van Pelt Street
2nd Place: Paula Brown, 2414 Manning Street
3rd Place: Caren Cohen, 1913 Spruce Street

Most Stylish

1st Place: Ginny Beier, 253 South Van Pelt Street
2nd Place: Jenice McMillan, 2024 Pine Street
3rd Place: Susan Huntington, 2226 Delancey Street

Most Striking

1st Place: Diane Galli, 2019 Rodman Street
2nd Place: Laura McMunigal, 1811 Pine Street
3rd Place: Richard Levine, 1915 Panama Street

Most Variety

1st Place: Vensa Hess, 2100 Cypress Street
2nd Place: Stephanie Hausen, 2112 Lombard Street
3rd Place: Marjorie Roth, 2422 Pine Street

Most Vibrant

1st Place: Chariss McAfee, 2325 Waverly Street
2nd Place: Rahim Ghazunian, 2424 Lombard Street
3rd Place: Patsy Sauri, 124 South Van Pelt Street

And a final big thank-you to our wonderful teams of judges:
Christine Guiliano and Joan Wells
Wayne Rosenberg and Lois Evans
Missy Randolph and Allison Rulon-Miller
Dianne and Ted Reed
Michele Langer and Alan Cohen



200 block of South Van Pelt, overall garden block winner.

Greenfield Organizations Sponsor Timely Panel on Education and Racial Justice

By Ben Waxman

The October issue of *Philadelphia Magazine*, which was billed as a guide for parents to getting a great education for their children in Philadelphia, has drawn the ire of teachers, parents and education activists for a cover photo that many said did not accurately represent the School District Of Philadelphia. Two groups affiliated with the Albert M. Greenfield School at 22nd and Chestnut Streets saw the controversy as an opportunity to host a panel discussion on education and racial justice.

For the cover in question, *Philadelphia Magazine* used a photo of seven Greenfield children, none of whom were African-



Panelists, from left, are: Josh Block, SLA, Penn Grad. School of Ed.; Wei Chen, Asian Americans United; Cherri Gregg, KYW and Association of Black Journalists; Tayyib Smith, Little Giant Creative; Paul Socolar, Public School Notebook.

American. This was seen by many as being problematic, because over 30 percent of Greenfield's student body are black, as are more than half the School District of Philadelphia's overall student population. Many critics said that *Philadelphia Magazine* should have used a more accurate photograph to represent the school's diversity.

The two organizations affiliated with the school, Friends of Greenfield and the Greenfield Home and School Association, decided to sponsor a panel discussion in response to the controversy, in the hope of fostering a conversation about education and racial justice. A roundtable that included education activists, journalists and racial justice advocates discussed the implications of the cover, and how to build a more socially just education system for all students.

The event, which was attended by more than 80 people, provided an outlet for parents, former Greenfield students, and concerned community members to discuss issues related to race and education. It also provided a space for dialogue on how to make media coverage of education more racially inclusive.

The panelists included Tayyib Smith of *two.one.five* magazine, Cherri Gregg of



Journalist Bobbi Booker of the Philadelphia Tribune moderated the panel.

KYW 1060am Radio and the Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists, Paul Socolar of the *Philadelphia Public School Notebook*, student activist Wei Chen, and public school teacher Josh Block. The panel was moderated by Bobbi Booker of the *Philadelphia Tribune*.

CCRA board member Ben Waxman is a founding board member of Friends of Greenfield. He can be contacted at benwaxman@gmail.com.

Roosevelt's New Book, *Allegiance: A Novel*, Presented at Free Library's PCI Branch

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Kermit Roosevelt, a Center City resident and professor of law at the University of Pennsylvania, spoke about his new book, *Allegiance: A Novel*, at the Free Library of Philadelphia City Institute branch on Rittenhouse Square, November 4. The theme is the imprisonment of thousands of Japanese-American citizens during World War II.

At the presentation, audience members asked questions related to the U.S.

Constitution. My question was, "When the U.S. government acts unconstitutionally, are there ever any consequences to the people who acted?" Roosevelt's answer: "Generally, no."

He spoke about the 14th Amendment, adopted after the Civil War, which says that all those born in the U.S. are citizens regardless of the status of their parents. The purpose of the amendment, he said,

was to assure that no class of people would remain outsiders for multiple generations. Roosevelt focuses on constitutional law and conflict of laws, and has written several other books. He holds a JD from Yale University and a BA from Harvard University. He is a member of the Roosevelt family, which gave us two U.S. presidents.

Anthony Flint, *Wrestling with Moses: How Jane Jacobs Took on New York's Master Builder and Transformed the American City* (2009).

“To those who wished to ban cars entirely, she replied that not the car itself, but allowing it to dominate planning decisions, created the problem.”

Virginia K. Nalencz, “What Would Jane Jacobs Do?” CCQ, September 2010, p. 13. http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/CC_Quarterly/CCRA_Qtrly_September_2010.pdf

Nancy G. Heller, *Why a Painting Is Like a Pizza: A Guide to Understanding and Enjoying Modern Art* (2002).

“Among her other books on art are *Women Artists: An Illustrated History* and *Imaging Dance: Visual Representation of Dancers and Dancing.*”

Bonnie Eisenfeld, “Nancy G. Heller: Dancer, Art Historian, Author, Teacher and Center City Resident,” CCQ, September 2012, p. 13. <http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/newsletter%20web%20version.pdf>

Meryl Ain, Arthur M. Fischman, Stewart Ain, *The Living Memories Project: Legacies that Last* (2014).

“*The Living Memories Project* is a collection of stories from Nick Clooney, Lynda Johnson Robb, Jack Klugman and others who lost someone dear to them, and how they keep memories of their loved ones alive through memory quilts, the arts, scholarships, poetry, recipes, and many other forms of remembrance.”

Nancy Colman, “Center City Writer Art Fischman Talks About *The Living Memories Project*,” CCQ, Spring 2015, p. 11. http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949_CCRA_1stQ_2015_WEB.pdf

Sephardic Jewish Cookbook Created from Inquisition Documents

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Rabbi Lance Sussman spoke about the history of Sephardic Jews and the Spanish Inquisition at the Gershman Y, Broad & Pine, on November 5. One in a series, and accompanied by colorful graphics designed by Joan Myerson Shrager, Sussman’s lecture covered the period from the 11th century until the 17th century.

During the Inquisition, many Jews converted to Christianity but maintained their cultural heritage, including dietary practices, such as not eating pork and cooking with oil instead of lard. Because of these household practices, *conversos* (as they were called) were often targets of the Inquisition. From testimony found in court documents, David M. Gitlitz and Linda Kay Davidson, professors at

the University of Rhode Island, created a cookbook and culinary history entitled *A Drizzle of Honey: The Lives and Recipes of Spain's Secret Jews*, containing Sephardic Jewish recipes and stories of Sephardic Jewish culinary customs.

Sussman is senior rabbi at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, Elkins Park, and author of numerous books and articles. He is an expert in American Jewish history. Shrager is a digital artist and has exhibited in more than 75 juried, invitational, and solo exhibitions. Her digital work is in the permanent collection of the University of Pennsylvania.

CCRA Merchant Members Discount Program

Support our local merchants and save money too. These local merchants will provide a discount (described here) to any member who shows a current CCRA membership card (Di Bruno Bros. has its own CCRA card) and personal identification.

Liberty Vet Pets
265 S. 20th Street
(888-458-8587)

Rittenhouse Pet Supply
135 S. 20th Street
(215-569-2555)

My Doc Urgent Care
1420 Locust Street
(215 800-1909)
Show your membership card for a \$25 flu shot with this coupon.

Nature's Gallery Florist
2124 Walnut Street
(215-563-5554)

Computer Troubleshooters
108 S. 20th Street
(215-825-2101)

Uber - Limo service
Uber provides \$20 off a first ride, Good for new users only. Members use promo code CCRA14.

PhotoLounge
1909 Chestnut Street
(267-322-6651)

Di Bruno Bros.
1730 Chestnut Street and the Market at the Comcast Center
(215-665-9220)

Philly Foodworks
Use the code "CCRA" when signing up for home delivery and receive a \$20 discount on delivery charges.

Twenty-Two Gallery
236 S. 22nd Street
(215-772-1911)

Dom's Shoe Repair
203 S. 20th Street
(215-972-0098)

Rim's Dry Cleaners & Tailors
2203 South Street
(215-546-1889)

Eye Candy Vision
218 S. 20th Street
(215-568-3937)

Rittenhouse Hardware
2001 Pine Street
(215-735-6311)

Koresh Dance Company
2002 Rittenhouse Sq Street
(267-687-1769)

Dance Affiliates
Get \$10 off Dance Performances with your CCRA Membership. Members use promo code allattheprince.

CCRA Winter Calendar – Do You Want to Build a Snowman?

The Dream of Wonderland: Alice Turns 150

Anniversary celebration of
Alice in Wonderland
Includes material from
Lewis Carroll collection
Through Sunday, March 27, 2016
Rosenbach Museum and Library
2008 Delancey Place
www.rosenbach.org/learn/exhibitions/down-the-rabbit-hole

Rittenhouse Square Annual

Holiday Tree Lighting

Tuesday, December 1 at 5 pm
Bring a new, unwrapped toy for the CBS3
Toy Drive to benefit local charities.
www.friendsofrittenhouse.org/

St. Patrick's Church Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 5, 10 am to 6 pm
Sunday, December 6, 10 am to 2 pm
20th & Locust Street

Fitler Square Holiday Tree and Menorah Lighting

Sunday, December 13, 5 pm
2300 block of Pine St.
www.fitlersquare.org/events_holiday.html



Michael Stern

Fitler Square Holiday Tree Lighting



Courtesy Comcast Corporation

The Comcast Holiday Spectacular

Christmas Village

November 21 to December 27
Hours vary.
Love Park, JFK Plaza
1500 Arch St.
www.philachristmas.com/293-0-Holiday-Hours.html

Comcast Holiday Spectacular

Thanksgiving Day through New Year's Day
15-minute shows, daily at the top of each hour
Comcast Center
17th and JFK Blvd.
philly.com/philly/calendar/231054151.html

Macy's Center City Holiday Light Show

Through December 31
Daily, even hours 10 am to 8 pm
13th and Market Streets
www.wanamakerorgan.com/xmas.php

Wanamaker Organ Concerts at Macy's

Daily (except Sundays) at noon
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and
Saturday at 5:30 pm
Wednesday and Friday at 7:00 pm
Late afternoon concerts may be cancelled
on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.
13th and Market Streets
www.wanamakerorgan.com/xmas.php

Koresh Dance Company's "Philadelphia Interludes"

Friday, Jan. 8, 5 pm
at Philadelphia Museum of Art
Saturday, Feb. 27, 1 and 4 pm
at Longwood Gardens
Friday, March 4
at The Barnes Foundation
215-751-0959
www.koreshdance.org

Free at the Kimmel Center

Broad and Spruce Streets
Free events:
www.kimmelcenter.org/events/?org=355

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 16, 2016

from 7 to 9pm at Trinity Memorial Church.

School Daze: "Choosing the Right Elementary School for Your Center City Child"

A panel discussion on what to look for in an elementary school. This program is for parents of preschool and elementary-school-age children.



More information to follow.

Looking Ahead

Be Part of the Solution – Participate in a Town Hall

Following last quarter's successful series of CCRA-sponsored Town Halls, we have begun planning another series of interesting, informative and important encounters for our members to connect with their elected and unelected public servants. While the following Town Halls are still to be confirmed, we urge you to stay tuned to your weekly eNewsletters for further updates and potential changes to the proposed schedule. If you have specific concerns you wish to see addressed, or would like to hear from particular individuals not listed so far, please contact Board member Harvey Sacks at harveysacks@verizon.net.

- **State Rep. Brian Sims Town Hall:** either February 11 or 18, 2016, 7pm. Light snacks will be offered. Venue TBD.
- **Councilman Darrell Clarke Town Hall:** following installation of the new Mayor and Council, and, with the assumption Clarke retains his status as Council President, CCRA members will have an opportunity to ask questions that pertain not only to the 5th Councilmanic District but also to Council's legislative agenda and dealings with Kenney. Thus we are looking at a Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday 7pm in January, March or April 2016. Venue TBD.
- **State Sen. Larry Farnese Town Hall:** the month Clarke leaves open. Venue TBD.
- **On the drawing board:** candidates' debates for US Rep. Chaka Fattah's seat and State Rep. Sims' seat in March.