

Newsletter of the Center City Residents' Association

Vol. 6 No. 4 Winter 2016

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CCCulture

Gershman Y Gallery Show Honors Warhol's Visit 50 Years Ago

Velvet Underground Tribute Concert December 15 to Host Yo La Tengo, Dean & Britta

By Bill Chenevert, Director of Public Relations and Marketing

The Gershman Y celebrates a significant milestone in its cultural history this December—the 50th anniversary of Andy Warhol's appearance there with The Velvet Underground and Nico in 1966.

It may come as a surprise to many, but the Gershman Y was a far-out, avant-garde epicenter of arts and culture in the 1960s, thanks to the Y's Arts Council, a volunteer group with a visionary and progressive eye for programming and recruitment. Over two nights in December, 1966, Warhol attracted nearly 3,000 art lovers to the Y, which honors that phenomenon throughout the month of December.

On December 15, Hoboken, NJ-based band **Yo La Tengo** headlines a night of music that channels the '60s spirit. Supporting them are **Dean Wareham & Britta Phillips** (formerly of Luna and Galaxie 500), who bring their uniquely created *13 Most Beautiful... Songs for Andy Warhol's Screen Tests*, commissioned by the Andy Warhol Museum as a soundtrack to Warhol's portrait film stills. Their performance features some of those film portraits, set to Dean & Britta's blissful, ambient music.

Yo La Tengo are avowed Velvet Underground fans, and performed as the band in the 1996 film *I Shot Andy Warhol*, starring Lili Taylor as Valerie Solanas. They bring an exciting mix of their encyclopedic knowledge of covers to the Gershman Y show. Issuing their first

original LPs on Coyote, Alias and Bar/None Records, the band signed to the iconic Matador Records and started cutting records with the famed independent label in 1993. Their fourteenth full-length studio record, *Stuff Like That There*, was issued last August and received positive reviews from *Rolling Stone*, *New Musical Express*, *Pitchfork* and *The Guardian*.

Continued p. 2



You're not tripping: It's the '60s once again at the Y with an homage to Warhol and the Underground. (Original Photography: Sam Moskowitz; Design: Ace Face Print)

Before the late, great Lou Reed – a Jew who said “My God is rock `n` roll” – gave us his iconic *Transformer* in 1972, he caught the attention of pop artist Warhol in



Like the poster on the preceding page, this one advertises the 50th Anniversary concert at the Y in a style reminiscent of the '60s art it celebrates. (Design: Henry H. Owings)

the early '60s. After lineup changes and the addition of German model and singer Nico, Warhol's famous banana record cover ushered in *The Velvet Underground & Nico*, released in March of 1967 on Verve Records. It didn't sell particularly well, but it is said to be one of the most influential pieces of psychedelic music ever recorded.

Not only will Yo La Tengo and Dean & Britta transport us musically, but this is also a chance to dress up in your finest retro fashions, step into history and reminisce about the '60s culture that still captures our imagination. “This is going to be a wonderful, multifaceted night, spanning generations and mediums,” says Gershman Y Executive Director Maxine Gaiber. “From young rock `n` roll enthusiasts to Philadelphia-area seniors who remember that wild weekend at the Y in 1966, there's something for everyone.”

Even before the big night of the 15th, patrons can view *Underground Nights: When Warhol's Exploding Plastic Inevitable Met The Y*, an exhibit in the Gershman

Gallery (Dec. 1 - Jan. 4; opening reception 5:30 pm, Dec. 1, free). Curated by Cheryl Harper, the exhibition features never-before-seen pictures of Warhol at the Y by Philadelphia photographer Sam Moskovitz, plus ephemera and video projections.

The night prior to the concert, join rock critic, author and historian Richie Unterberger for a multimedia presentation, *Visions of The Velvet Underground* (7 pm, Dec. 14, \$10) at the Y. The esteemed *All Music Guide* critic and author of *White Light/White Heat: The Velvet Underground Day by Day* emceeds the following night, introducing Dean & Britta and Yo La Tengo in the Auditorium.

The concert is held in the Elaine C. Levitt Auditorium of the Gershman Y, 401 S. Broad St. Tickets: \$40 for General Admission; \$60 for seated tickets in the balcony; \$125 VIP tickets include the option of relaxing with the bands in a post-performance reception atmosphere. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Visit GershmanY.org or call 215-545-4400 for tickets or more information.

It's Academic

Icelandic Musicians Inspire

By Lois West, Director of Communications, The Philadelphia School

In October, The Philadelphia School and Temple Music Prep co-hosted a weeklong visit to Philadelphia of the Icelandic Tonskoli Sigursveins Youth String Orchestra. The orchestra's itinerary included a daylong rehearsal at The Philadelphia School's performance venue – The Garage – with performances at Temple Prep, at Philadelphia's Creative and Performing Arts High School, and at TPS.



Young musicians from TPS and Iceland's visiting youth string orchestra rehearse together.

The Tonskoli Sigursveins performed in concert twice with The Philadelphia School's Sandra Dean String Ensemble, made up of students in grades four through eight. The Icelanders also took part in the ensemble's weekly master lesson and rehearsal. What a powerful experience it was for our young players!

This musical exchange experience not only provided performance and listening opportunities for our students but also reaffirmed the school's longtime commitment to a robust string program. Professional string residencies at the school have included the Jasper Quartet, string players from The Philadelphia Orchestra, and violinist Gil Morgenstern. The TPS ensemble program, conducted by music teacher Aaron Picht, consists of two ensembles, made up of 29 string players, and financially supported by a grant.

Families provided home stays for the Icelandic musicians, who spent their spare



Combined master class.

time doing what we locals do, eating where we eat, and generally soaking up the Philadelphia experience. Host families had the opportunity to make new friends from afar. Says Aaron Picht, “I look forward to a continued musical relationship with the Tonskoli Sigursveins musicians. Perhaps a trip to Iceland is in our young ensemble's future!”

The Philadelphia School is an independent preschool–8th grade school located at 25th and Lombard Streets. For more information, please go to www.tpschool.org.

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¼ Page	\$ 375.00	\$ 450.00
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For information and deadlines, please call 215-546-6719.

President's Report

Who We Are



Charles Goodwin
 CCRA President

CCRA's mission is to preserve, enhance and celebrate Center City living. I want to talk about why.

Center City is a neighborhood, just like any other Philadelphia neighborhood. It's a great neighborhood, as many are. Like every great neighborhood, it's the people who commit to the neighborhood that make it great – by tending window boxes, volunteering, just knowing your neighbors, decorating for the holidays, smiling at people on the street or calling 911 if there's trouble.

Because of our effort, we have created something fantastic – and not merely in its physical beauty but in its embrace of humanity. All people may call our neighborhood home. We come in every color, from every nation, in all sizes and shapes. We are home for Muslims, Jews, Christians, Hindus, Baha'is, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis, Zoroastrians, Taoists, Shintoists, animists, skeptics, agnostics and atheists. Our sidewalks ring with voices in Spanish, Russian, French, Italian, German, Mandarin, Min, Korean, Vietnamese and more alongside multiple English dialects. Here men and women are equal. We have a place for all who seek love and intimacy: gay, straight, bi, cis, trans, neither, both or something else. We range from newborn to elderly. We are home to billionaires in penthouses, people scraping by on disability and, sadly, those sleeping in doorways.

We are peaceful. There is no religious conflict here. There is no discrimination based on nationality. We still wrestle with matters of race – because history does matter – and with the disparity between rich and poor. But bigotry is rare. We have no place for it. We react with wide outrage when people here are attacked because of their demographics. There is ordinary crime, some of it very frightening on occasion, but it does not cage us in our homes, because it is not all that common. We are also, by all meaningful standards, ridiculously prosperous.

This is what we have to preserve, enhance and celebrate. Fear is the gravest threat to our neighborhood. The consequences of fear are almost always worse than the causes. Fear makes us timid, rather than confident. Fear keeps us inside, rather than out. Fear keeps us away from people who are different. Fear keeps us from speaking to strangers, even when they are our neighbors. We have no time for fear.

I'll end with something from Ronald Reagan. I think he describes our neighborhood and our city very well. "I've thought a bit of the 'shining city upon a hill.' The phrase comes from [Pilgrim] John Winthrop, who wrote it to describe the America he imagined. ... I've spoken of the shining city all my political life ... [I]n my mind it was a tall, proud city ... teeming with people of all kinds living in harmony and peace; a city ... that hummed with commerce and creativity. And if there had to be city walls, the walls had doors and the doors were open to anyone with the will and the heart to get here. That's how I saw it, and see it still."

Town Square

Happy Hour with Council-at-Large Members

Victor's Bar, 2101 Chestnut Street | Wednesday, December 14, 6 pm

We mostly know the officials specifically representing our footprint, but seldom get to know our Council-at-Large members. So here's an opportunity to meet in a strictly social setting. All seven Council-at-Large members are invited; each will speak briefly about their 2017 focus, and then mingle. First round is on CCRA. Food and Happy Hour prices graciously provided by Victor's Bar.

Conservation Center Restores and Preserves Vintage Works on Paper

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

A family heirloom or historical artifact made of paper, such as a book, document, photograph, drawing, print, map, poster, or musical score, needs to be stored properly in order to be preserved. But what if you find that an item hasn't been properly stored and needs to be restored and preserved? Help is close by at the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts (CCAHA), a non-profit organization established in 1977, located at 264 S. 23rd Street. <http://www.ccaha.org/>

CCAHA specializes in the care and treatment of art and historic artifacts on paper. Highly trained conservators on staff do painstaking, technical work to restore and preserve paper items, not only for private family heirlooms, but also for many large institutional collections of art and historical artifacts.



Inpainting a mixed-media wallpaper panel from Historic New Orleans Collection. [Photos Courtesy of Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts (CCAHA)].

In addition, CCAHA provides consulting services for assessment, preservation, storage, and safeguarding of valuable items, as well as emergency assistance and disaster planning.

Here is an example: A private collector brought in a large panoramic photo of the 1939 Harvard - Yale football game. The photo had gotten wet and was now stuck to the framing glass, a common problem with old photographs; it was also dirty and the image was fading. Senior Photograph Conservator Barbara Lemmen separated the photograph from the glass by carefully applying moisture to the back through a Teflon fabric; reduced surface dirt with appropriate materials; and washed the photograph on Tek-Wipe, a non-woven fabric saturated with deionized water. Lemmen remarks, "The treatment went smoothly, capped by a happy reunion between the object and owner."

CCAHA recently treated a wallpaper screen belonging to the Historic New Orleans Collection in New Orleans. This large screen, 7 feet by 4.25 feet, consists of mixed media – pastel, graphite, and gouache on wallpaper, layered wove paper on a wooden board, and wooden strainer. The conservation concerns it presented were standard – surface cleaning, tape removal, and inpainting (filling in the missing parts of a painting), but its size made it unique. Amy Heuer, Manager of Marketing & Engagement, proudly notes, "This project



CCAHA Senior Photograph Conservator Barbara Lemmen meets with a private client to discuss treatment options.

showcases CCAHA's capacity – it's a project on a scale that few private conservators would be able to handle."

Executive Director Laura Hartz Stanton asserts: "We take our jobs as stewards seriously, whether we're treating a family bible or a museum collection. As we treat historic objects, we become part of their history, which is both an honor and a responsibility we don't take lightly."

CCAHA offers workshops, conferences, and seminars, and provides fellowships and internships for the purpose of educating and training conservators. For the public, CCAHA has an annual open house at which they display a variety of artifacts they have treated, from rare books to fine art. The 2016 open house was held on November 3. Look for it again in Fall, 2017.

Our Greene Countrie Towne

Let the Sunshine In – Solarize Center City

With the energy and inspiration of restaurateur/entrepreneur Judy Wicks to spur it forward, a new movement is taking hold in Center City West. At her instigation, a big push for solar power is gathering momentum, thanks to the support Wicks has drummed up and the example she has set by her own use of solar energy to power her home.

Thanks also to those of you (more than 60!) who joined us at Trinity Memorial Church for our October kickoff event to Solarize Center City. It was lively and a great start. We are busy preparing initial solar proposals and have our first contract in hand. Please visit

www.solarizecentercity.com for more info. Additional events and workshops included:

Teas, Cookies, and Solar, Sunday November 13 at the Ethical Society on Rittenhouse Square.

Winter Is Coming: Solar Survival, Thursday December 1, 5:30 pm, at the Dwight D (a new Bed and Breakfast), 256 S. 16th Street.

Additional gatherings are in the works, to be held at area coffee shops and hot spots. If you'd be willing to host your neighbors, or



have suggestions for great venues in the area, please give us a call at 215-939-6699 or email info@solar-states.com. Don't forget, CCRA members get an additional five cents off per watt, which means hundreds of dollars saved on your solar!

Maestro Louis Scaglione Celebrates 20 Years with Nationally Recognized Philadelphia Youth Orchestra

By Sharla Feldscher

It is with great pride that Maestro Louis Scaglione celebrates his 20th Anniversary with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra (PYO), among the country's most highly respected music-education programs, this 2016-2017 season. Under the Maestro's leadership, PYO has grown, transforming into a nationally recognized, professionally managed institution.

Founded in 1939 as an all-volunteer organization, PYO is now headquartered just off Rittenhouse Square, in St. Patrick's Church at 20th and Locust Streets, where students from the greater Delaware Valley (including Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey) audition and rehearse. Impromptu rehearsals in Rittenhouse Square bring joy to the park's residents and visitors, always appreciative of these gifted young musicians sharing their talent. Today, various ensembles of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra perform in the Kimmel Center's Verizon Hall and Perelman Theater, and other performance spaces throughout the region.

Scaglione's tenure began in 1997, when PYO's Music Director Joseph Primavera, who served for 51 years, appointed him Conductor of the Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra (PYAO). In 1999, Scaglione was named Associate Conductor of the PYO organization, becoming the first Executive Director two years later. In 2003, he was named President, and upon Maestro Primavera's retirement two years later, Scaglione became the organization's fifth Music Director, in addition to serving as President and CEO.

Scaglione remembers warmly his early years working under the guidance of Primavera, someone he admired greatly. "I was honored to be hired by Joseph Primavera in May 1997," he says, "when it was a great time to become involved, as the organization was poised for growth and development."

Rick Touhill, PYO Chairman from 2004 to 2006, vividly recalls those early years, with great respect for Scaglione. "We didn't know if PYO would have a future after Joseph Primavera retired, but with Louis' vision and belief in our organization," he says, "we rose to the top and are now seen as a leader on a



Maestro Louis Scaglione conducting the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra.

national level. He has truly been a blessing to PYO."

Under Scaglione's leadership, more ensembles and music directors were added to the program year after year. When Scaglione began, PYO had only two ensembles with 180 students. Now six program divisions involve over 500 students. Scaglione has engaged some of the best music teachers and pedagogues in the area.

The first was Bravo Brass, the all-brass ensemble for promising middle- and high-school instrumentalists, directed by Curtis Institute Dean of Faculty and Students Paul Bryan.

Next was PRYSM (Philadelphia Region Youth String Music), with a younger division added later, PRYSM Young Artists. Both ensembles provide string large-ensemble and sectional master-class instruction for beginning and intermediate musicians ranging in age from 6 to 14. PRYSM's director and conductor is the highly respected Philadelphia Orchestra cellist Gloria DePasquale.

Maestra Rosalind M. Erwin, who also conducts the Drexel University Orchestra, is now conductor of PYAO. More programs have been added, including Tune Up Philly (TUP), the community engagement program for students in underserved communities. Directed by musician, teaching artist and composer Paul Smith, TUP provides more than 200 students in seven schools with

invaluable opportunities to learn and perform a differentiated orchestral music curriculum.

This season, a new and expanded educational offering of PYO is the Philadelphia Young Musicians Orchestra (PYMO), a beginning- to intermediate-level full symphonic orchestra, directed and conducted by Kenny Bean.

The current Chair of PYO, Dr. Joseph DiMauro, says of the Maestro: "I have known Louis for well over 15 years, first as a parent, then as a volunteer, and finally as a Board member. The impact that he has had on the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra organization has been truly remarkable. He has expanded the program from a single ensemble to five separate and distinct orchestras. Louis leads the organization with expertise, integrity, and grace. It has been my privilege to watch the PYO organization blossom under Louis' guidance."

Reflecting on his tenure, Scaglione said, "During the past 20 years, I have devoted my life's work to the development of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, ensuring my predecessor's legacy of excellence. We have developed a pathway to allow any student to succeed who has the talent, desire and passion for instrumental and orchestral music learning. We know that we train tomorrow's leaders, and, through our various programs, we develop good citizens. This is what I am most proud of."

For more information, visit pyos.org.

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Steve Huntington Stepping Down as CCRA Executive Director

By Jeffrey Braff, Past President

In the summer of 2011, shortly after the start of my first term as CCRA President, Steve Huntington invited me to join him for lunch. After advising me that he was slowing down his law practice, Steve presented a written outline of an offer to have himself, and the administrative staff of his law firm, run the CCRA office administrative functions out of his office, while also providing executive-director services, all at a cost lower than what we had been paying for an office manager (salary and benefits plus overhead).

I was familiar with Steve's past contributions to CCRA. Aside from his 1987-89 term as President, Steve: was instrumental in the adoption of permit parking in our neighborhood; provided pro bono legal counsel to the effort that saved the Wanamaker Mansion; co-founded the Friends of Schuylkill River Park; created a discounted auto-insurance program member benefit; negotiated the lease for the Schuylkill River Park Community Garden; represented CCRA in almost two years of meetings regarding the drafting of the 2012 Zoning Code; chaired the committee that revised CCRA's Neighborhood Plan; formed an interfaith association of 12 neighborhood congregations; and was a driving force behind the South X

Schuylkill Task Force. Steve's proposal was fleshed out and, after approval by the CCRA Board, Steve became Executive Director on January 17, 2012.

I have had the pleasure of working closely with Steve since he assumed that role. There are people who talk about things that ought to be done, and then there are people who get things done. While Steve is an imaginative and "outside the box" thinker, he definitely falls within the "people who get things done" category. Perhaps this is a function of his stint in the Peace Corps, or the way he approaches problems as a community organizer, or his insistence that there be rigorous and timely minutes drafted for every formal meeting. Whatever the explanation, it is not surprising that Steve did not rest on his laurels.

Over the past five years, aside from ensuring the smooth operation of the CCRA office and a multitude of CCRA events, Steve's accomplishments include: drafting the 16-page monograph "A Primer on Philadelphia Real Estate Taxes" (Jan. 2013) to coincide with City Council's deliberations over AVI and subsequent real-estate assessments; getting the Merchant Members Discount Program off the ground; adding the Restaurant Discount

Program to the House Tour; creating the "What's New in the Neighborhood" column in the weekly eNewsletter; putting together the Sacred Spaces Open House Tour; spearheading the Halloween costume contest in Filtler Square; and serving as secretary to the CCRA Remapping Task Force, a group that has been meeting monthly, if not twice a month, since January of 2015.

Steve's initial contract was for only two years. It morphed into five. Though he is stepping down from his Executive Director position, and plans on spending more time traveling with his wife, Sue, I am hopeful he will remain active in the Association. (And once he steps down, he can return to being a member of the Board of Directors, a position reserved under CCRA's bylaws for all former presidents, which Steve relinquished upon becoming Executive Director.)



Retiring CCRA Executive Director Steve Huntington.

Town Square

Crosstown Coalition Update

By Steve Huntington, Crosstown Coalition Chair

From 2008 to 2014, the Crosstown Coalition worked as an informal confederation of civic associations addressing first the new Zoning Code, and then the Actual Value Initiative (AVI), which reassessed tax ratings on all City properties. At its 2014 organizational meeting the Crosstown group incorporated, elected officers and identified three initiatives – zoning and land use, education, and government– which the Coalition still pursues.

To advance these objectives, the Coalition invited 90 other Registered Community Organizations to a "Building Better Associations Workshop" on October 22, with 84 representatives from 43 associations attending how-to sessions on zoning, fundraising, best practices for civics, and community outreach.

Zoning and Land Use

No zoning matter in the past year has generated the sound and fury of the Center City Overlay legislation that precipitated 18 months of negotiations, culminating in a much improved, if less than perfect, ordinance. In 2016, the Zoning and Land Use Committee has focused on incremental improvements in both Zoning and Planning Commission procedures.

In July and August, Committee representatives met with 14 of the 17 members of City Council to present a five-point list of "asks." The first upshot is Bill 160865, drafted by Coalition members working with staffers of the bill's sponsor, Councilman Bobby Henon. The bill addresses an annoying loophole in zoning-notification procedures. Currently,

orange zoning-meeting postings specify date, time and place of Zoning Board of Adjustment hearings but no information about zoning issues presented. Under Bill 160865, this information would be included so passersby could learn the issues at stake.

On the planning front, per Crosstown request, the Planning Commission agenda now contains electronic links to legislation/studies pertaining to each agenda item, enabling citizens to quickly determine the issues at hand. Also, for the first time, Commission staffers met with Coalition representatives to discuss the Planning Commission's annual year-end omnibus bill, providing technical amendments to the Zoning Code. In the past, the Crosstown and its civic members received

Continued p. 9

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8 Companies — 48 Performances



Parsons Dance: Photo Courtesy Lois Greenfield



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princetheater.org/next-move

Continued from page 7

as little as two weeks' notice of this complex and important bill, a schedule that guaranteed there would be little effective citizen input.

Education

The Coalition's education arm, FONE (Friends of Neighborhood Education), is an alliance of neighborhood school-support groups. At this year's second annual FONE summit, 120 representatives from more than 25 schools participated in workshops and networking sessions. The interactions occasioned by FONE have led to projects such as:

- Paper Jam, collecting \$10,000 in funds funneled through the Crosstown Treasury, for purchasing paper at neighborhood schools
- The Philadelphia Public School Giving Circle, which has raised \$11,000 for "mini grants" to neighborhood primary schools

for extracurricular activities like school trips

- Realtor tours of neighborhood schools so that real-estate agents can better inform buyers and renters of available public-school options

Government Outreach

The Coalition's key government outreach effort involves Senate Bill 95, regulating "SLAPP" claims, or Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation. These lawsuits stifle grassroots participation in the government process by saddling citizens with defending costly specious claims. Here in Philadelphia, after three SLAPP actions – none of which went beyond the pleading stage – against Old City Civic Association rendered the Association uninsurable, they were forced to disband.

In 2015, a team of Coalition lawyers drafted Senate Bill 95, modeling its language on

the provisions of 26 other jurisdictions that have enacted anti-SLAPP legislation. Larry Farnese, CCRA's state senator, introduced the Bill, which passed the State Senate by a vote of 48 to 1. Unfortunately, Bill 95 stalled in the House Judiciary Committee and did not reach the floor before the legislature adjourned.

But this disappointment was not for want of effort by the Coalition. The Crosstown and 18 of its 23 members – including CCRA – wrote the 21 members of the House Judiciary Committee individualized letters supporting Bill 95. In addition to these 378 pieces of correspondence, Crosstown lobbied members of the Philadelphia delegation via personal visits. Further, Crosstown volunteers drafted a four-page memo addressing eleventh-hour concerns expressed by the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Plans are underway to reintroduce the Bill when the new legislature convenes in 2017.

Our Greene Countrie Towne

Clean Air Council Protects Your Right to Breathe

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

The Clean Air Council has been working to protect your right to breathe clean air for almost 35 years. Founded in 1967 – before the EPA, before Earth Day, and before the modern Clean Air Act – the Council is Philadelphia's oldest environmental non-profit organization. Led by Executive Director and Chief Counsel Joe Minott, the Clean Air Council, headquartered at 135 S. 19th Street, has 9,000 members.

As part of its clean air mandate, the Council studies and acts on air pollution, climate change, waste reduction, renewable energy, fracking, and clean commuting, through public education, community advocacy, and, when necessary, legal action. The Clean Air Council forced Pennsylvania to implement an automobile inspection and maintenance program, and was instrumental in bringing wind energy to our state. Minott says, "I am most proud of the work that we have done in neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia, working with residents, to address specific pollution issues. The Council has been particularly effective at educating Philadelphians about climate change and its devastating threat to our city."

Philadelphia's air quality is still a work in progress. "Even a beautiful area of the city

such as Rittenhouse Square," Minott notes, "has elevated levels of some pollutants, largely due to the amount of car and truck traffic, including idling." Most of us are aware of air pollution only if we see, smell or feel it. A bad smell can indicate a health threat depending on the source and intensity of the odor. Also, there are air pollutants that humans cannot detect.

According to Minott, "Without a doubt, citizen action is the most powerful way to achieve change." The Council has community organizers and attorneys who work closely with area residents. To report a local air-quality problem, contact Philadelphia Air Management Services at 215-685-7586 (<http://www.phila.gov/health/airmanagement/index.html>) and the Clean Air Council at 215-567-4004 to learn how best to document your concerns.

The Council is developing low-cost, mobile air-quality monitors for those residing near polluting facilities and high-traffic areas. These monitors will provide residents affected by pollution with a powerful tool to advocate for change. A pilot program in Chinatown is now testing for particulate matter.

The Clean Air Council has been raising concerns about and working to stop fossil

fuel energy infrastructure projects proposed for Philadelphia, citing diminished air quality and an added health risk to neighborhoods downwind of these facilities.

Many different pollutants are regularly measured. Regionally, government agencies monitor for ozone (smog); fine and coarse particles (soot); lead, oxides of nitrogen, sulfur dioxide, and carbon monoxide. The latest research shows adverse health impacts at lower exposure levels, indicating standards have been tightened. Even though agencies monitor air quality, if they are not adequately funded and supported by elected officials, they can't do their jobs to reduce air pollution.

The Department of Public Health's Air Management Services (AMS), with limited resources, is the key agency addressing air pollution in Philadelphia. The AMS measures air quality throughout the city, using a network of EPA-approved air monitoring stations. The US Environmental Protection Agency and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection are responsible for setting federal and state pollution standards. Major sources of pollution like the refinery in southwest Philadelphia are required to monitor and report their emissions.

Continued p. 11

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Continued from page 9

Despite regulatory agencies and ordinances, when the Clean Air Council was established in the 1960s, Philadelphia's air quality was poor. In 1948, a City Council ordinance had established the Division of Air Pollution Control and the Air Pollution Control Board under the Department of Public Health, which still exists today. Joe Minott sits on the Air Pollution Control Board. In 1969, Philadelphia adopted the Air Management Code, and in 1970 the Federal Clean Air Act was passed. Since then, air quality has improved, but the Philadelphia region

still struggles to meet federal air-quality health standards.

The Council supports sustainable energy, organizing "solarize" campaigns within neighborhoods to convince homeowners to go solar, and is currently a partner in the Solarize Center City program launched this fall by Judy Wicks. <http://judywicks.com/project/>

Annual Clean Air Council events include the Run for Clean Air on Earth Day, Greenfest Philly in September, and Dine Out for the Environment in October. Visit

www.cleanair.org for more information about the Council's programs or to get in touch with the staff.

Joe Minott, Esq., joined the Clean Air Council in 1982 as Staff Attorney, and became Executive Director in 1987. He holds a J.D. from Villanova University School of Law, an M.A. in Political Science, and a B.A. in Political Science and American Civilization from the University of Pennsylvania. Minott lives and works in Center City. He does not own a car.

Bricks & Mortar

CCRA 58th Annual House Tour Soars with Eagles

By Jeffrey Braff

CCRA's 58th House Tour was held on October 23, just as the Philadelphia Eagles were plastering the as yet unbeaten Minnesota Vikings. While diehard Eagles fans were at the game or glued to their TVs, some 600 others took advantage of the perfect fall weather to explore a wonderful collection of 11 neighborhood sites. Generating revenue for the Association to continue supporting its mission "to preserve, enhance, and celebrate urban living," the House Tour is an annual event whose success depends upon a cast of hundreds of volunteers and contributors, some of whom are acknowledged below.

Without fascinating houses, there could be no Tour. So first we owe thanks to our neighbors who generously opened their homes/offices for the day:

The Dwight D Inn
Alice Hall
The Claridge
Renee Scharf, M.D.
Donna and Jay Butler
2116 Chestnut Street
Terri and Mark Steinberg
Susan Herron
Judy Wicks
Stephen Carlino and Dr. Dennis Fee
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We are grateful to our pre-Tour ticket sellers **Good Karma Café, Jezabel's Cafe, Jomici Apothecary, Maxx's Produce, Rittenhouse Hardware, and Waffles & Wedges**; our Tour-day ticket locations **Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel and Trinity Center for Urban Life**; our Tour-day Restaurant Discount Program partners **Audrey Claire, Crow & the Pitcher, La Fontana Della Citta and Twenty Manning Grill**; and those who purchased ads in the House Tour booklet distributed to all Tour-goers.

Finally, thanks to all Tour-day volunteers (including hosts, hostesses and ticket-sellers), and to Tour Chair Kathleen Federico and her top lieutenants Bonnie Collins, Chuck Goodwin, Steve Huntington, Jake Markovitz, Travis Oliver, Kelly Patrizio, Ruth Segal and Dawn Willis.

This is a major fundraiser for the Association. Would you like to get involved? The 2017 Tour will be held in October, date to be determined. Contact the CCRA office to offer your home, volunteer, be a sponsor, or purchase a Tour Booklet ad.

Dining Scene



Garces Goes West with New Restaurant 24

Chef Jose Garces' newest restaurant, 24, was built with the Center City neighborhood in mind, offering a casual eatery with an energetic approach to Garces' signature brand of Latin-inspired hospitality. Located at 2401 Walnut Street, 24 is meant to be a convenient and appealing destination for residents, professionals and students.

The menu focuses on wood-fired pizza, pasta and other Italian specialties at affordable prices. Also featured at 24 are quick counter service, offering Garces Trading Company coffees and freshly baked pastries, and healthy grab-and-go breakfast options including fresh cold-pressed juices and kombucha. The restaurant is open 7 am-10 pm Sunday through Thursday, and 7 am-11 pm Friday and Saturday. Website: www.24Philly.com Phone: 215-333-3331. Instagram/Twitter: @24phl

PhillyFree Streets – A Moratorium on Cars

Text and pictures by Bill West

Editor's Note: Inspired in part by the Pope's visit, with its unintentional experiment of Center City streets populated only by walkers and cyclists—minus the intrusion of motorized vehicles—a day was deliberately set aside in late September to recreate that heady sense of people power. The length of South Street was closed from river to river to all vehicular traffic. Our intrepid writer Bill West set out to document the day; here are some of the scenes he captured.



Learning from Nice. A mural arts garbage truck blocks South Street at Broad. A terrorist would have found it difficult to replicate the Nice truck attack here. Barriers everywhere – permeable to pedestrians and bicyclists; to drivers of large trucks, not so much.



Saturday morning yoga went off without a hitch.



Grays Ferry Triangle. Business as usual at 23rd and South – busy.



South at Front Street. Many, many bicyclists joined the promenade, working well with the throngs of walkers and runners. Streets were often extremely crowded, but everyone seemed to get along. Matching your speed to your surroundings appears to be the key.

Center City District Celebrates 25 Years of Service with Expanded Focus

In celebrating the Center City District's 25th anniversary, the CCD expanded the role for its non-profit affiliate, the Center City District Foundation. Formed in 1992 as the charitable arm of the CCD, CCDF has accepted grants and donations totaling more than \$10 million to date. The foundation has contributed to CCD's work of improving streetscapes and planting trees; employing disadvantaged workers; effecting positive change for the homeless; and renovating notable Center City parks and public spaces.

To increase its impact and to help raise funds for new projects, last May CCDF announced a new Board of Directors led by Gerard H. Sweeney, President, Chief Executive Officer and Trustee of Brandywine Realty Trust. Other board members include: Autumn Bayles, ARAMARK Corporation; Emily Bittenbender, Bittenbender Construction, LP; Mariska Bogle, Philadelphia Hospitality; Julie Coker Graham, Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau; John J. Connors, Brickstone Realty; Michael C. Forman, Franklin Square Capital Partners; Linda A. Galante, Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP; Christophe P. Terlizzi, First Niagara Bank; Richard Vague, Gabriel Investments; and Paul R. Levy, ex officio, Center City District, Central Philadelphia Development Corporation.

Led by Executive Director Nancy Goldenberg, the CCDF aims to be the "charity of choice" for those who care deeply about enhancing the ongoing transformation, prosperity and quality of life in Philadelphia. The CCDF's expanded focus includes fundraising for:



Embedded in Dilworth Park's fountain, Pulse, designed by internationally recognized artist Janet Echelman, traces above ground in real time the movement of the three subway lines below, using four-foot-tall thin curtains of dry mist in colors corresponding to each transit line. Orange, blue and green mists evoke the steam emanating from the city's first water-pumping station, located on this site, and the steam from the trains at the Pennsylvania Railroad Station that stood across the street. To see an animation of the fountain, visit <http://www.echelman.com/project/pulse/>

- Installing the innovative Pulse interactive art experience at Dilworth Park
- Initiating construction of the Viaduct Rail Park
- Enhancing Sister Cities Park to make it the country's most celebrated park for families and children
- Opening up employment opportunities for disadvantaged workers

"The CCD's impact is evident on every block in Center City," says Goldenberg. "Through our fee-for-service partnership with CCRA

we've expanded the areas that benefit from our services. But now is the time to increase the role of CCDF and make it the charity of choice for Center City Philadelphia. With our civic-minded partners, we have accomplished a lot in 25 years, but there's so much more to do. We look forward to working with CCRA to continue the transformation of Center City."

To learn more about the Center City District Foundation and how to support its initiatives, visit www.supportccdf.org or contact Nancy Goldenberg at ngoldenberg@centercityphila.org or 215-440-5523.

It's Academic

The City School Shows Faith in Action

By Brandon Van Deirse, Communications Director

The City School is a PK-12 Christian school with a wonderfully diverse population of learners. With a high school campus located in the historic Rittenhouse neighborhood, in the heart of Center City, our mission is to train students' minds, disciple their hearts, and bring light to the city—one child at a time.

One way we live out this mission is through our Faith in Action program.

Faith in Action is a community-service program that encourages students to connect their faith with a life of service in their city. At our Rittenhouse campus, high school students pour their hearts into more than 3,000 hours of volunteer service each year, partnering with more than 30 local charities and organizations. Much more than mandated community service, as students work with their partner organizations, they are challenged to see how their area of service brings light to the city we call home.

Students develop a theology of the city: a way of looking at city life through the lens of God's love.

Philadelphia is a beautiful city. With its tremendous diversity, it is home to some of the world's most prestigious universities, museums, and institutes of learning, hailed as the birthplace of American democracy. But Philadelphia is also broken. Homelessness, poverty, drug addiction, and crime are tragic

Continued p. 15

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realities. Rather than ignoring this grim reality—or simply despairing—our students learn to confront injustice head on.

Sametta volunteered for eight weeks with Horizon House, serving as a caretaker for people with physical, intellectual, and developmental disabilities. She helped with chores and daily tasks, but most importantly she spent time forming friendships with patients. For Sametta, this was more than an act of charity. “The best part of this experience was bonding with people,” she says. “I learned so much about myself. I learned to be more grateful and to celebrate my blessings. I learned how to be a better friend.”

Amea partnered with West Shore Civic Association, where her mother serves as President. She traveled the city meeting with various community organizations partnering

to invest in their neighborhoods. She even went to City Hall to consult with local lawmakers. Amea reflects, “When you think about how things will affect others more than yourself, you realize the intensity of the situation. I learned a lot about the importance of communication, community-building, and voting.”

Dylan worked as a transporter and messenger at Lankenau Medical Center. He moved patients between different departments in the hospital and transported vaccines, blood specimens, and medical supplies to doctors. “Working in the medical field was challenging,” he says, “but it taught me to be more patient and to really listen to people. Sometimes you can’t do much to help someone in need, but you can listen.”

These three stories offer a small glimpse into a program that has changed our students’

lives and transformed our communities. Students often uncover new talents and passions through their service, and several students have changed the course of their college and career pursuits because of their experience. Our students learn to find joy in service. They learn to work for the good of their city. They learn what it means to put faith in action.

Center City neighbors, if you know of any in need, we would love to partner with more local organizations dedicated to redeeming our city. We especially prefer places where students can volunteer their full 25+ hours of service. If you have any partnership suggestions, please feel free to reach out to Katelin Conde-Rodriguez, College Counselor, at kconde-rodriguez@cityschool.org.

Together, we can bring light to the city we love.

It's Academic

Friends Select’s History Department Wins \$25K

By Sarah Schmidt, Associate Director of Marketing, Communication

The Friends Select history department was awarded \$25,000 by the National Constitution Center, for winning third prize in its inaugural civic literacy contest in September. The contest challenged schools in the Philadelphia area to craft lesson plans to reinvigorate teaching of the U.S. Constitution, and find creative curricular uses for the Center’s new Interactive Constitution app.

“The prize money will help redefine the ways we already interact with the city, by creating a sustainable partnership with the Constitution Center and the many intellectual institutions it’s linked to,” says Brian Kors, upper school history teacher and history department chair. “It’s going to make our civics program truly experiential as students in grades 5-12 participate.”

Key features of the 15-page multi-pronged contest proposal include:

- 1) A panel discussion series for middle- and upper-school students that focuses on modern constitutional and political topics, and brings together experts with different perspectives for robust, civil discussions.
- 2) New middle-school field trips to local and state government institutions, such as a visit to Harrisburg to learn about state government.

- 3) Enhancement of existing programs like the 11th grade Modern Issues Research Project and the Washington D.C. Research Trip.
- 4) Professional development work, particularly in the area of civics.

“With this new programming, our goal is for students to engage with civics authentically,” says 5th grade teacher Steph Demko. “Similar to the way the new Interactive Constitution app works, we, as teachers, give students the tools they need to handle information they’re presented with, and then guide them to think for themselves and come up with their own conclusions.”

The National Constitution Center awarded three Philadelphia schools a combined \$175,000 as part of the inaugural civic literacy contest. The grand prize of \$100,000 went to First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School in Frankford, and the \$50,000 second prize went to Constitution High School.

The Interactive Constitution tool provides students with objective factual background on the articles and amendments of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and then presents an array of different perspectives and opinions about key Constitutional debates.

Momentum and Tradition Mark Friends Select’s Installation Ceremony

Michael Gary was installed as Friends Select School’s thirteenth Head of School on November 17, at the Franklin Institute. More than 400 guests, including Friends Select alumni/ae, trustees, faculty and staff, and community leaders from in and around Philadelphia, gathered to celebrate Gary’s headship, and welcome him to Philadelphia.



Michael Gary, thirteenth Head of Friends Select School, shared with guests the story behind what brought him to the PK-12, Quaker day school.

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Next Up at NextMove

Parsons Dance, Doug Varone and Dancers, and Cuba's Malpas Dance Company

By Anne-Marie Mulgrew

NextMove Dance, Philadelphia's premier presenter of contemporary dance, under the direction of Randy Swartz, offers a winter line-up featuring three world-renowned touring companies – Parsons Dance (December 7-11), Doug Varone and Dancers (January 18-22) and Malpas Dance Company (February 15-19). Each engagement entails six performances at the Prince Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Known for its athletic, popular, uplifting works and virtuoso dancers, Parsons Dance brings a world premiere incorporating live dancers and sophisticated robotic drones. Created in collaboration with engineers from Drexel University's ExCite Center, artistic director/choreographer David Parsons' newest work explores the evolution of man and machine. The program includes three additional works choreographed by Parsons. *Finding Center* (2015), a Philadelphia premiere, is an exuberant and highly musical work with projections by visual artist Rita Blitt. Set to the songs of Dave Matthews Band, *DMB* (2005) is a rollicking show-stopper. *Caught* (1982) is Parsons' signature stroboscopic masterpiece. Rounding out

the concert is the Philadelphia premiere of *Almah* (2015) choreographed by Katarzyna Skarpetowska, lead Parsons' dancer from 1999 to 2006, and listed by *Dance Magazine* as "one of the 25 to watch" in 2016.

A much sought-after director, Doug Varone has created works for opera, theater, dance, and film, earning him a Guggenheim Fellowship, an OBIE Award, and three Doris Duke Awards. To celebrate Doug Varone and Dancers' 30th Anniversary, Varone reconstructed his classic master work, *Possession* (1994) a physically thrilling, emotionally driven dance to Philip Glass' *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra*. The program features the Philadelphia premiere of *ReComposed* (2015), choreographed by Varone for eight dancers. Inspired by American abstract artist Joan Mitchell's pastel drawings, it is set to an explosive score by Michael Gordon. *Kansas City Star* notes, "An evening of Doug Varone's choreography is a feast of tens of thousands of individual moments."

Cuba is known for producing world-class dancers skilled at anything from contemporary to classical to capoeira to Afro-Cuban movements. Malpas Dance Company,



ReCompose, Doug Varone and Dancers

Cuba's hottest contemporary dance troupe, will not disappoint when it makes its Philadelphia debut. Founded in 2012, Malpas burst onto the world stage, mesmerizing audiences with its technical prowess, youthful energy and a slice of Cuban life. Program highlights include *Indomitable Waltz*, a new theatrical dance work by Canadian choreographer Azure Barton, and *24 Hours and a Dog*, choreographed by Osnel Delgado, Artistic Director, set to music by Grammy Award-winning Cuban American composer Arturo O'Farrill. "This extraordinary troupe of dancers . . . displays the incredible dance talent and inspired choreography that has become Malpas's hallmark." (*Broadwayworld.com*)

Performances are Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30pm; Fridays at 8:00pm; Saturdays at 2:00 and 8:00 pm; and Sundays at 3:00pm. **CCRA members can receive \$10 off single tickets by using the code SAVE10.** Tickets can be purchased at the Prince Theater box office, by phone 215-422-4580 or online <http://princetheater.org/next-move>. For more information, visit www.danceaffiliates.org.

Town Square

L&I Fire Update

Last January, CCRA held a public meeting to update neighbors about the massive apartment fire at 22nd and Locust, which caused tremendous trauma for the displaced residents of that building. It also raised a lot of awareness of how the fire department's actions kept the blaze from consuming many more homes, especially on such a bitterly cold and windy night.

That meeting generated a great number of questions for newly appointed L&I staff in attendance, prompting a CCRA promise to hold a separate forum on L&I issues. So on the evening of October 27, CCRA held a public meeting with L&I Commissioner David J. Perri.

Commissioner Perri was quite eloquent in his explanations about the progress the department has made, and continues to make, since his January 2016 start date. A 35-year public servant, he offered facts about vacant buildings, the fire code, various enforcement issues, his 2017 plan and priorities (public safety being his Number One priority), and little-known L&I responsibilities like fire-escape and private-bridge inspections.

Johnson to Form Task Force on Safety in Rittenhouse Square

In response to the unsettling news of the attempted robbery of a young couple and shooting of the Good Samaritan who intervened in the heart of Rittenhouse Square, various top brass of the Philadelphia Police Department and other city agencies came together October 24 before a packed house at Holy Trinity on the Square to address neighbors' understandable concerns. Organized by Councilman Kenyatta Johnson, and attended by Council President Darrell Clarke and Councilman Allan Domb, approximately 250 attendees heard how the Square can be made more harmonious and provide a greater sense of security and safety. All three councilmen have pledged their support in this effort. Johnson is organizing a task force of residents, government, Friends of Rittenhouse Square representatives and, of course, CCRA, which will be heavily involved, to strategize and implement recommended changes. CCRA President Chuck Goodwin acted as moderator and spoke of the need to respect the park as a gem visited by tourists and locals alike, and the need for all to enjoy as a city park. He also reminded everyone that 70-some years ago, CCRA's very first act was to save Rittenhouse Square from destruction to make way for an underground parking garage.

—Harvey C. Sacks



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Harvey C. Sacks, JD, Financial Advisor
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215-563-0900, www.firsttrust.com

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<http://www.yandpphilly.com/>

Home Care

Home Helpers

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Contact: Patricia Grace, 267-402-7271
pgrace@homehelpersphilly.com
www.homehelpersphilly.com

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Contact: jgiannoneplumbing@gmail.com
215-383-2957 www.calljg.com

Solar States

1508 N. American St.
Contact: Micah Gold-Markel, 215-939-6699
www.solar-states.com, info@solar-states.com

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Contact: George J. Badey, III

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Penn Medicine

399 S. 34th St., 800-789-PENN
www.pennmedicine.org

Pennsylvania Hospital

800 Spruce St., 215-829-3000
<https://www.pennmedicine.org/for-patients-and-visitors/penn-medicine-locations/pennsylvania-hospital>

Meeting Space

Pyramid Club

1735 Market St., 52nd Floor
<http://www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Pyramid-Club>
Contact: Maureen Coyle

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<http://libertyvetpets.com/>

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415 S. 20th St., 215-546-2030
Contact: Mark Gamba, info@as-realty.com
<http://www.as-realty.com/>

Mary on the Square Realtors

210 W. Rittenhouse Sq., 215-806-1500
Contact: Mary Genovese Colvin,
mary@maryonthesquare.com
www.maryonthesquare.com

Renaissance Properties

1324 Locust St., Mezzanine Level
Contact Henry Friedman, 855-745-2587
henry@renaissancepropertiesgroup.com
www.renaissancepropertiesgroup.com

Tori Properties

266 S. 23rd St., 16A
Contact: Gloria Tori, 215-735-3020
<http://www.addisonre.com/>

Retail/Shopping

Boyd's Philadelphia

1818 Chestnut St., 215-564-9000
<http://www.boydsphila.com/>

Di Bruno Bros, Rittenhouse Sq.

1730 Chestnut St., 215-665-9220
www.dibruno.com

Metropolitan Bakery

262 S. 19th St., 215-545-6655
www.metropolitanbakery.com

Reading Terminal Market

12th & Arch Sts., 215-922-2317
www.readingterminalmarket.org

Ursula Hobson Fine Art Framing

1528 Waverly St., 215-546-7889
<http://www.ursulahobsonframing.com/home>
Contact: Ursula Hobson

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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Dining Scene



CROW & THE PITCHER

Crow & The Pitcher to Get a New Name, Menu

Owner Michael Franco is pleased to announce the renaming of his Rittenhouse Square restaurant, Crow & The Pitcher, to be known as Baril, in tribute to his grandfather's South Philly bar, Johnny Barrels. Following the Crow's last day of service November 23, Baril is set to open the first week of December. Franco says the new menu is awaiting Chefs Greg's and Perrier's final touches. Thanking his loyal patrons, Franco says, to those who "have all been so supportive the last two years... I am looking forward to seeing you at the bar and in the dining room for years to come."

The restaurant is located 267 S. 19th St.; 215-687-2608.

It's Academic

October's Fifth Annual School Fair at the Franklin Institute, cosponsored by CCRA, was a great success, drawing attendance from a broad cross-section of Center City families.



Donna Strug

Look to Literary Locals to Light Up Your Gift List

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Memoir

Rittenhouse Writers: Reflections on a Fiction Workshop by James Rahn, founder and leader of the Rittenhouse Writers' Group for over 25 years. Describing his complex feelings about coaching writers with varied talents and personalities, and becoming a reluctant parent to his two nieces, the book includes short stories by ten workshop participants. Rahn taught writing at the University of Pennsylvania for 15 years, and has published a novel, *Bloodnight*, and stories in literary magazines. <http://rittenhousewritersgroup.com/>

Doing Philadelphia

100 Things to Do in Philadelphia Before You Die, by Irene Levy Baker. Highlights must-see places in Philadelphia, many in Center City, that have surprised and delighted travel writers who visited here: where to dine and drink; unique music venues; where to walk, skate and bike; best museums and historic sites, and hip shopping areas. Baker has 25 years of experience with the restaurant and hospitality industries in Philadelphia. For almost a decade she was Communications Director at the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau. She now owns Spotlight Public Relations, specializing in restaurants and hospitality. (See sidebar for information on CCRA-sponsored book-signing.)

The Perfect Square, by Nancy Heinzen. This square-shaped book is an interesting, generously illustrated, and fact-filled history of Rittenhouse Square and the surrounding neighborhood, from the 17th century to the

Millennium. Heinzen has been active with Friends of Rittenhouse Square, CCRA, Rittenhouse Flower Market and Friends of Curtis Institute.

Food

The Restaurant Critic's Wife, a novel by Elizabeth LaBan, wife of *Inquirer* restaurant critic Craig LaBan, is totally fiction according to the author. Elizabeth LaBan teaches fiction writing at the University of Pennsylvania, and has written young adult fiction, newspaper articles and *The Grandparents' Handbook*. <http://elizabethlaban.com/>

Edible Flowers, by Constance L. Kirker and Mary Newman. Describing how flowers have been used in cooking, starting with the ancient Greeks up to modern times, the book ties the culinary history of flowers into their cultural connotations. Kirker is an art historian, culinary historian, docent trainer, lecturer and researcher. She taught art history at Penn State Brandywine, lived abroad, and collects Asian artifacts. <http://globalphiladelphia.org/people/constance-kirker>

Good Morning, Beautiful Business: The Unexpected Journey of an Activist Entrepreneur and Local Economy Pioneer, by restaurateur, writer and speaker Judy Wicks. From her original restaurant idea, a sustainable humane business, Wicks comes to the eventual realization that her long-term goal was to develop a sustainable regional economy even though it meant helping her competitors. Wicks is the co-founder of

Business Alliance for Local Living Economies and founder of the White Dog Cafe.

Art, Architecture and Photography

Assemblages, Cabinet Sculptures, Digital Abstracts, and Fifty-Two Collages in 52 Weeks, by Burnell Yow! These four art books consist of photographs of his unique and colorful art work. A fifth book, *Photographs: Evidence of Life After Color*, shows his black and white photographs. Yow! creates works in mixed media and found objects at Raven's Wing Studio. His philosophy: "There are no rules, only materials." Yow! participates in the Philadelphia Open Studio Tour and the Naudain Street Art Collaborative. <http://ravenswingstudio.com/>

Philadelphia Architecture, by architect and preservationist John Andrew Gallery, features color photographs of Philadelphia architectural highlights. The book is now in its 4th edition. Gallery has also published *The Planning of Center City Philadelphia* and *Sacred Sites of Center City*. www.johnandrewgallery.com

Searching for Philadelphia: The Concealed City, by David S. Traub. Architect and preservationist Traub has assembled a collection of black and white photographs of hidden corners, entryways, walkways, courtyards, gardens and other lesser-known spots in Philadelphia.

All books listed are available at Amazon.

Author Talk & Book Signing Sponsored by Friends of Greenfield & CCRA

100 Things to Do in Philadelphia Before You Die

Want to land tables at Philadelphia's trendiest restaurants? Get your apathetic teen excited to spend the day with you? Entertain your mother-in-law? Entice your college roommate to come visit? Find unique gifts?

Irene Levy Baker will speak about her newly released book, *100 Things to Do in Philadelphia Before You Die*. This well-curated, easy-to-use guide includes the tried-and-true as well as little-known gems and tips.

Baker has spent more than 25 years exploring Philadelphia's nooks and crannies. She has worked with tourist bureaus in Philadelphia and South Jersey, the "mayor" of Chinatown, boutique hotels, a historic tavern, celebrity chefs, the nation's first environmentally smart hotel and one of the nation's largest malls. She has hosted scores of travel writers – the world's most jaded travelers – and noted what surprised and delighted them.

Come for a brief talk followed by Q&A. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Albert M. Greenfield School, 2200 Chestnut Street, Monday, December 12, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

For the latest news about Philadelphia, visit www.100ThingsToDoInPhiladelphia.com and follow [facebook.com/100ThingsToDoInPhiladelphiaBeforeYouDie](https://www.facebook.com/100ThingsToDoInPhiladelphiaBeforeYouDie).

Friends of Greenfield is a registered nonprofit organization that fosters connections between Albert M. Greenfield School and the surrounding community to help build a stronger public school for our neighborhood. Albert M. Greenfield School is a public K-8 school in Center City.





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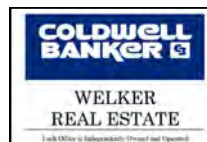
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Merchant Member Discount Participants and Their Discount Programs

Astral Artists, Use promo code "CCRA" to receive a \$10 flat rate on all concert tickets.

Computer Troubleshooters, 108 S. 20th St., 215-825-2101, www.pc-troubleshooters.com Computer/phone sales, service. Contact: John Goodman. Discount: 15% to CCRA members; may not be combined with other sales or discount programs. Mon-Fri, 9 am-7 pm; Sat, 11 am-4 pm.

Crow & the Pitcher (reopening as **Baril** in early Dec.), 267 S. 19th St, 267-876-2608, crowandthepitcher.com Contact: Michael Franco. Discount: 20% off food bill for CCRA Members.

Dance Affiliates, NextMove at the Prince, 1412 Chestnut St., 215-422-4580, www.danceaffiliates.org. \$10 off dance performances with CCRA Membership. Members use promo code SAVE10.

Di Bruno Bros, 1730 Chestnut St., 215-665-9220, http://www.dibruno.com/locations/rittenhouse-square Discount: For CCRA members paid up as of January 31, 2016, 10% off all purchases at 1730 Chestnut St. and Comcast Center locations. Must use current "CCRA Friends of Di Bruno Bros." card; obtain at checkout register. New members who sign up after January 31, 2016, cannot use this discount. Mon-Fri, 9 am-8:30 pm; Sat, 9 am-8 pm; Sun, 9 am-7 pm.

Dom's Shoe Repair, 203 S. 20th St., 215-972-0098, domshoe@hotmail.com www.domsshoe.com Contact: Leandro (Lee) Montalto. All leather tasks including orthopedics and handbags. Discount: 10% to CCRA members; may not be combined with other sales or discount programs. Mon-Fri, 7:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat, 9 am-5 pm.

EyeCandy Vision, Optometrists and Opticians, 218 S. 20th St., 215-568-3937, EyeCandyVision.com Contact: Tim Saggas. Discount: 20% to CCRA members; may not be combined with other sales, discounts or insurance programs. Closed Monday; Tues-Fri, 10:30 am-6:30 pm; Sat, 10:30 am-4 pm.

Home Helpers Philly, 1835 S. Broad St., Ste. 2, 215-334-2600. Quality non-medical and personal in-home care. 10% discount to CCRA members.

Koresh Dance Company, 2002 Rittenhouse Square St., 267-687-1769, www.koreshdance.org A world-class dance company with studios and instruction available to the public. Contact: Haley Bradstreet. Discount: First adult class is free! Call or go online for class hours.

Liberty Vet Pets, 265 S. 20th St., 888-458-8587, http://libertyvetpets.com. Contact: Robert T. Wright. Committed to educating clients on how to keep pets healthy year-round, with good nutrition and exercise. Discount: 10% off services and boutique items (excluding food). Call for business hours.

Nature's Gallery Florist, Inc., 2124 Walnut St., 215-563-5554, www.ngflorist.com. Contact: Gabriella Nemati, Event Planning Manager. Flowers, plants, gift candles and soaps, fruit and gourmet baskets made to order. Discount: 10% to CCRA members. Call for business hours.

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

PhotoLounge, 1909 Chestnut St., 267-322-6651, info@myphotolounge.com. Contact: Ravid Butz. A photo lab for film and digital pictures; products for everyone; bike-messenger delivery from the Delaware to Penn's campus, and from Washington to Girard. Discount: 15% off for CCRA members; may not be combined with other sales or discount programs. Mon-Fri, 9:30 am-6:30 pm; Sat and Sun, 11:00 am-4 pm.

Rim's Dry Cleaners & Tailors 2203 South St., 215-546-1889. Contact: Jake Kang. Discount: 10% to CCRA members for first-time customers; may not be combined with other sales or discount programs, Mon-Sat, 7 am-6 pm.

Raven Lounge/Pendulum, 1718 Sansom St., 215-840-3577, www.ravenlounge.com. Contact: Jonathan Hunter. Discount: 20% off your bill with CCRA membership card.

Rittenhouse Hardware, 2001 Pine St, 215-735-6311, Rittenhousehardware@gmail.com. Contact: Ken. Discount: 5% to CCRA members; may not be combined with other sales or discount programs. Mon - Fri, 8 am - 7 pm; Sat, 9 am - 6 pm; Sun, 10 am - 3 pm.

Rittenhouse Pet Supply, 135 S. 20th St., 215-569-2555, www.rittenhousepet.com www.rittenhouse.com, info@rittenhousepet.com. Contact: Wendy Schnaars. Discount: 10% off all non-food items; may not be combined with other sales or discount programs. Mon-Fri, 10 am-7 pm; Sat, 10 am-6 pm; Sun, 11 am-6 pm.

Society Hill Dance Academy, 2nd & Pine Sts., 215-574-3754, info@societyhilldance.com. Through special arrangement with CCRA, members can get an introductory Free VIP Instructional Package (valued at \$200). VIP package includes 3 group classes and one private lesson. CCRA offer available as an individual or as a couple; ask for the CCRA VIP package.

Suga Restaurant, 1720 Sansom St. 215-717-8968. Suga is the newest venture of internationally acclaimed chef/author Susanna Foo and her son Gabriel Foo. 10% discount to CCRA members.

Twenty-Two Gallery, 236 S. 22nd St., 215-772-1911, www.twentytwogallery.com. Contact: Shawn Murray. Discount: 15% to CCRA members on all artwork. Wed-Sun, noon-6 pm, or by appointment. Opening shows every second Fri, 6-9 pm.

Ursula Hobson Fine Art Framing, 1528 Waverly St. 215-546-7889, www.ursulahobsonframing.com/home, Contact: Ursula Hobson.

What's Going On

CCRA Winter Calendar – Here's Help Fending Off Hibernation

For updated information on hours and more events, please go to VisitPhilly.com

100 Things to Do in Philadelphia Before You Die

Talk & Book Signing with author Irene Levy Baker, Sponsored by Friends of Greenfield & CCRA Albert M. Greenfield School, 2200 Chestnut St. Monday, December 12, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Happy Hour with Your Council-at-Large Members

Victor's Bar, 2101 Chestnut Street Wednesday, December 14, 6 pm

50th Anniversary Concert to Commemorate Andy Warhol's 1966 Visit to the Gershman Y with The Velvet Underground and Nico

Yo La Tengo headlines, with **Dean Wareham** and **Britta Phillips**
Elaine C. Levitt Auditorium of the Gershman Y
401 S. Broad St.
Tickets: \$40 - \$125.
Visit GershmanY.org or call 215-545-4400.
Thursday, December 15. Doors open at 6:30 pm

Christmas Village

City Hall Courtyard | Through December 24
Check for hours: <http://www.philachristmas.com>

PHLASH Downtown Loop's Holiday Service

Through Thursday, December 31
Daily service every 15 minutes, 10 am to 6 pm.
Includes holiday attractions like Franklin Square Holiday Festival, Macy's Christmas Light Show, and Christmas Village

Comcast Holiday Spectacular

Comcast Center, 17th Street and JFK Boulevard
Through Sunday, January 1, 2017
Top of the hour, 10 am to 8 pm
(excluding 5 p.m. weekdays)

Macy's Center City Holiday Light Show

13th and Market Streets
Through Sunday, January 3
Daily, even hours, 10 am to 8 pm

Wanamaker Organ Concerts at Macy's

45-minute recitals
Monday to Saturday 12 noon
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 5:30 pm
Wednesday and Friday 7 pm
<http://www.wanamakerorgan.com/events.php>

Rothman Ice Rink

Dilworth Park, City Hall
Through Monday, February 27, 2017

Curtis Institute

18th and Locust Streets
<http://www.curtis.edu/performances/>

Free at the Kimmel Center

Broad and Spruce Streets
<https://www.kimmelcenter.org/events-and-tickets/?search=free>

Our Greene Countrie Towne

Winners Announced at 3rd Annual Street Scene Urban Garden Competition

By Patsy Sauri

On a lovely fall day, Center City gardeners and their friends celebrated the success of CCRA's third annual Urban Garden Competition, at the Schuylkill River Park Community Garden. Over the past three years, the neighborhood has become noticeably greener, and it is clear that the Urban Garden Competition has fostered this delightful trend.

After welcoming remarks by CCRA President Chuck Goodwin, an overview of the Community Garden by Joan Wells, and a big thank-you to commercial sponsors Bala Golf Club, Pam Thistle at Berkshire Hathaway, Rittenhouse and South Square Markets, and a generous contribution from CCRA Board member Guy Aiman, awards were handed out. The Awards Ceremony Committee included host Patsy Sauri, assisted by Street Scene committee members Lois Evans, Amy Gorman, Steve Huntington, Frank Montgomery, Lauren Patterson, Andrew Terhune and Joan Wells.



Lauren Patterson (left) presents award to Annie Chervine Edwards, accepting for Avi Eden, who gifted his award back to CCRA. Looking on are Exec. Dir. Steve Huntington and Pres. Chuck Goodwin.

Overall Winners:

Best Business Planting

- 1st Place: The Dorchester
- 2nd Place: Fred Fisher
- 3rd Place Tie: Elfant Wissahickon
- 3rd Place Tie: Gallery 339

Best Residential Tree Wells

- 1st Place: Avi Eden
- 2nd Place: Andreas Petrides
- 3rd Place: B. Hibbs

Best Residential Container Garden

- 1st Place: Andrea Hermann
- 2nd Place: Chris Sanchirico
- 3rd Place Tie: Kristin Puramsetti
- 3rd Place Tie: Lois Evans

Best Residential Window Boxes

- 1st Place Tie: Lynne Flaxman
- 1st Place Tie: Richard Phillips
- 2nd Place Tie: Melissa Leplon
- 2nd Place Tie: Gary Keim,
- 3rd Place: Ruth Cohen

This competition achieved such a high level of success thanks largely to the 16 judges who volunteered their time, talents and expertise. As a token of our gratitude, the Committee invites the judges to enjoy a generous 10-percent, one-time discount on flowers from local "green merchant" Nature's Gallery Florist, 2124 Walnut Street.

Judges

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Mary Jo Strawbridge | Allison Rulon-Miller | Andrew Terhune | Michael Kihn | Amy Shuttleworth |
| Barbara Rittenhouse | Dianne Reed | Missy Randolph | Sally Frazza | Patsy Sauri |
| Stephen Huntington | Susan Herron | Barbara Halpern | Karen Nicolini | Joan Wells |
| Sue Huntington | Joel Beaver | Lillian Cohen | Andres Nicolini | |

CCRA congratulates all the contestants, and considers everyone a winner – as are all residents, businesses and visitors to our wonderful neighborhood, so ably beautified by their efforts.