



Contents

CCStreetwise

Reclaiming Urban Alleys.....1
Rally for the First Green Alley..... 15

Town Square

Celebrate Peace Day Philly 2
Anti-SLAPP Legislation Passes State Senate..... 4
Oil-Train Safety–Status Update 5
Get to Know Your Neighbors on the
CCRA Board.....10
Voters: Some Tips for Judging the Judges
Before You Get to the Booth..... 17

Out & About

Two Historic Sites Featured on CCRA
House Tour October 18.....2
Trinity Brings a Country Fair to Center City..... 13
Fire Safety Event Fun for the Whole Family..... 20

President's Report.....3

CCCulture

Photography Tips Offered as Part of Street
Scene's New Photo Contest.....7
Come See Ettinger's Etchings.....7
Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival Mavens
Celebrate 35 Years.....9
How Friends of PCI Supports Our
Neighborhood Branch Library..... 19
Dancing Canvas: Dance Critic Nancy Heller
to Speak on Sargent's "El Jaleo"..... 19
Save the Date–Bring a Date!.....28

Dining Scene

Restaurant Noise: Make Your Voice Heard!9

Shop Talk

Your Sole Needs Work? Shoe Repair in the
Neighborhood Is an Immigrant Story..... 12
Merchant Members Discount Program..... 13

Bricks & Mortar

Learn Benefits of Historic Easements to
Property Owners, Historic Neighborhoods 23

What's Going On

CCRA Fall Calendar – Chillin' Out..... 25

CCStreetwise

Reclaiming Urban Alleys from Cars, Trash and Rats

By William West

In Philly we have big streets, like Market Street; we have regular streets, like Walnut; and we have little streets, like Addison in, say, the 1700 block. I love this block. It's a narrow street, with no curbside parking allowed. The trees are decorated year-round with strings of white Christmas lights. (I'm told they're LEDs, so this exercise in whimsy may even be reasonably green.)

Sometimes these little streets are called alley-streets, but we also have genuine alleys, which are even narrower, and rarely beautiful.

Matchbox Cars

Let's have a look at the 1700 block of Waverly, which lies directly north of Addison. Here it is, tucked in between Addison and Pine, which is also a very

attractive block. Waverly is a mess. The main culprit is the parked cars, which are shoehorned at odd angles into small spaces behind the houses facing Pine and Addison. This little alley looks somewhat like my living room floor years ago, after my son had finished playing with his Matchbox cars, and before we had agreed to clean up.

There are alleys like this all over the neighborhood. We tend not to notice them. Why walk up 1700 Waverly when you can walk up 1700 Addison? I started paying attention only when I was working on an inventory of parking spaces for CCRA, and I had to traverse these alleys. That's where the parking was.

Continued p. 14

CENTER CITY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

1600 Market Street, Suite 2500
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-546-6719
centercity@centercityresidents.org
www.centercityresidents.org



2000 block of Moravian—an uninviting, underutilized urban alley.

Andy Nicollini

Celebrate Peace Day Philly, International Day of Peace with Ethical Humanist Society

By Hugh Taft-Morales

All are invited to attend peace events at the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia, on Rittenhouse Square, September 20 and 21. Events are free and open to the public.

Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader, will discuss Peace, Poverty, and the Planet

Sunday, September 20, 11 a.m.

The day before the United Nations' International Day of Peace, Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia, will explore what it will take to bring lasting peace to the planet. From a humanist perspective, the recent Encyclical Letter of Pope Francis, entitled "Our Common Home," emphasizes the fundamental interrelatedness of all of nature and society. War, greed, and exploitation feed off each other; to build peace, we need sustainability and justice.

An Interfaith Peace Celebration and Dialogue: Nurturing the Activist Within & Relationships Beyond

Sunday, September 20, 2 to 4:30 p.m.

Co-sponsored by the Interfaith Walk for Peace and Reconciliation, Music Media Ministry, Zones of Peace, and the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia, this event is designed to build the community,

network, and inspiration necessary to grow peace in our hearts, our city and the world. Learn about other peace groups in Philadelphia. Come for music, poetry, personal stories, refreshments, and dialogue to nurture the activist within. Share with others a transformative moment, person, or experience that shaped your peace activism; about why your peace-related organization is right for you—where, in the words of Frederick Buechner, "... *your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet*"; what you would do if given the opportunity to institute just one systemic change in this city, country or world.

Fifth Annual Peace Day Philly Sing-Along and Candlelight Walk

Monday, September 21, 6:15 p.m.

Gather outside the building for the 5th Annual Peace Day Philly Sing-Along. Taft-Morales, along with families, musicians, the Granny Peace Brigade and other peace organizations, will sing songs of peace. The program will include some participatory Dances for Universal Peace. The event will conclude around 7:15 p.m. with a silent candlelight walk around Rittenhouse Square. For more information, or if you are a musician with sing-along experience who would like to



Hugh Taft-Morales, Leader of the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia, at last year's Peace Day event.

lead a peace song, please email Hugh at LeaderHugh@phillyethics.org.

Founded in 1885, the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia, 1906 Rittenhouse (at the southwest corner of Rittenhouse Square), is part of ethical humanism, a humanist, religious, and educational movement, which has contributed to progressive causes for over a century. A member of the American Ethical Union, the local organization partners with other groups that share its values. www.phillyethics.org For more information about Peace Day Philly go to www.peacedayphilly.org

Two Historic Sites Featured on CCRA House Tour October 18

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

CCRA's Historic Preservation Committee has arranged to have two sites of historic significance included in this year's Center City House Tour. They are not to be missed:

Depression-Era Mural

Commissioned in 1940 by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, this mural, covering three walls, was painted by Philadelphia artist Joseph Hirsch, and depicts President Franklin Delano Roosevelt; it is on view in the Sidney Hillman Apartments at 22 South 22nd St. For a detailed history of this and other Depression-era murals in Center

City, see article in *Center City Quarterly*, Fall 2014, p. 19. http://centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22136_CCRA_3rdQ_2014_web.pdf

Nineteenth Century Swedenborgian Church

Designed in 1881 by Theophilus Parsons Chandler, Jr., this former Church of the New Jerusalem is now home to CFI, a family of companies that distributes Knoll office furniture, and Mettler's American Mercantile, a retail chain. See article in *Center City Quarterly*, March 2013, p. 21. centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/March%202013%20newsletter.pdf



This detail of an immense mural painted by Joseph Hirsch traces the early history of U.S. labor unions. The figure of then-President Franklin D. Roosevelt appears standing in the lower right corner.

CCRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Maggie Mund** President
- Charles Goodwin**..... Executive Vice President
- Barbara Halpern**..... Vice President
- Judy Heller** Vice President
- Frank Montgomery**..... Vice President
- Harvey Sacks** Vice President
- Philippa Campbell** Secretary
- Dawn Willis**..... Assistant Secretary
- Walter Spencer** Treasurer
- Michael Axler** Assistant Treasurer

DIRECTOR (term ending)

- Arthur Armstrong (2017)
- Guy Aiman (2016)
- Wade Albert (2018)
- Emmeline Babb (2018)
- Janet Bender (2018)
- Elena A. Cappella (2016)
- Ellen Chapman (2017)
- Phil Consuegra (2017)
- Richard Gross (2017)
- Barbara Halpern (2016)
- Victoria Harris (2018)
- Dilek Karabucak (2018)
- Dan Keough (2016)
- Fran Levi (2016)
- Charles Loomis, **Zoning Co-Chair**
- Jacob Markovitz (2018)
- Philip McMunigal (2017)
- Andy Nicolini (2016)
- David Rose (2018)
- Matt Schreck (2016)
- Donna Marie Strug (2016)
- Mark Travis (2017)
- Ben Waxman (2017)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stephen N. Huntington

COUNSEL

Stanley R. Krakower

PAST PRESIDENTS (active)

- Jeffrey Braff Lenore Millhollen
- George Brodie, Jr. Adam Schneider
- Louis Coffey Vivian Seltzer
- Kristin Davidson Pam Thistle
- Eugene Dichter Sam Weinberg
- William Jordan

Bold Print = Executive Committee Member

CENTER CITY QUARTERLY

- Nancy Colman EDITOR
- Bonnie Eisenfeld CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
- Bill West PRODUCTION EDITOR
- Donna Strug PHOTOGRAPHER

Cover Photo Credits: (1) Robin Kohles, (2) Bonnie Eisenfeld, (3) Shift Design, (4) Andy Nicolini

Newsletter Ad Rates

4 Issues	Members	Non-Members
Full Page	\$ 1,350.00	\$1,425.00
½ Page	\$ 750.00	\$ 825.00
¼ Page	\$ 375.00	\$ 450.00
1 Issue	Members	Non-Members
Full Page	\$ 450.00	\$ 475.00
½ Page	\$ 250.00	\$ 275.00
¼ Page	\$ 125.00	\$ 150.00

For information and deadlines, please call 215-546-6719.

President's Report

Message to the Board from Maggie Mund

Editor's Note: The following is from a letter to the CCRA Board, sent by the newly installed President, Maggie Mund, explaining her need to step down and the plans for succession.



*Maggie Mund
Outgoing CCRA President*

Dear CCRA Board Members,

No one was more excited to assume the Presidency of CCRA in May than me. Having served as Executive Vice President for four years, and before that on the Executive

Committee as Events VP, I was ready and willing to assume the leadership. And grateful for the opportunity.

However, life is funny, and shortly after my tenure began I took a position in Trenton, New Jersey. While it would be difficult, I still thought being President was doable. After about a month in this position, I concluded that an hour-and-a-half commute, plus a full workday in Trenton does not make for a successful CCRA presidency. I would not be able

to attend City Council or other hearings, mid-morning or afternoon meetings, even early evening meetings. While I could have delegated a lot of these activities, that was not the Presidency I wanted for myself or the organization.

It was a very difficult decision. I feel passionately about CCRA and have worked hard on its behalf. I had recruited new, enthusiastic board members, planned to decentralize decision-making, and wanted to make the organization self-sustaining. I did not want to leave at this time, but it is the right thing to do—for me and for CCRA.

I am confident that Executive Vice President Chuck Goodwin will be an excellent President, and that the organization will continue to grow and prosper. I hope to stay involved in various committees as my schedule permits.

Maggie Mund



Introducing Former CCRA Executive Vice President and Incoming President, Charles Goodwin



*Charles Goodwin
Incoming CCRA President*

In the past four-plus years, CCRA has risen from dire straits to become more vibrant and vital than it has been in a long time. Maggie Mund has been a tremendous part of CCRA's comeback. She has given heart and soul to the organization.

Everyone associated with CCRA owes her a debt of gratitude.

We hope that she will continue to participate in our activities. She is a great person to work alongside. New Jersey's gain is very much CCRA's loss.

Both Maggie and I share a common goal of revitalizing CCRA's committees, giving our members more opportunities to participate, and creating a stronger bond of community among our members and the residents living in our footprint. A lot of this is behind-the-scenes work, but hopefully it will strengthen CCRA and make it a more dynamic organization.

Presidents' photos by Andy Nicolini



*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 Anti-SLAPP Legislation Passes State Senate

By Steve Huntington, Crosstown Coalition Chair

SLAPP: It looks like a cartoon sound effect from a Marvel comic book. But it was no laughing matter when the Old City Civic Association (OCCA) was named as a defendant in a series of Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP). OCCA insurance premiums skyrocketed as a result of these SLAPPs, all of which were dismissed or withdrawn before coming to court.

SLAPP suits, which appear in such diverse forms as defamation or contractual interference, are asserted not to remedy civil wrongs but to silence—or even shut down—adversaries. Twenty-eight jurisdictions have enacted anti-SLAPP laws—bills that restrain suits filed to discourage legitimate public participation while permitting the adjudication of claims having substance.

A team of Crosstown lawyers drafted an Anti-SLAPP statute, which was championed by our State Senator, Larry Farnese. Thanks to his diligence, Senate Bill 95 sailed through the Senate Judiciary Committee and, on the Senate floor, received bipartisan, statewide support in a 48-to-1 vote. The legislation provides protections for defendants named in SLAPP actions, to facilitate prompt

dismissal of SLAPP claims and provide “SLAPP-back” remedies—attorney’s fees, costs and damages. The bill has been reported out of the Senate and, as of this writing, is in the State House Judiciary Committee.

Crosstown and Zoning Overlay Bill: Two Steps Forward, One Step Back

In June 2014, at the request of the Building Industry Association (BIA), Councilman Mark Squilla, who represents Center City neighborhoods east of Broad, introduced Bill 140519, a zoning overlay for greater Center City (river to river, Washington Avenue to Spring Garden Street). The bill would have substantially revised the new zoning code, enacted in August 2012.

Among the proposals is raising rowhouse height limits to 42 feet (despite already having been increased from 35 to 38 feet in 2012), and permitting more dense development via the reduction of minimum lot sizes and the expansion of permissible floor-area ratios (i.e., the ratio between lot size and permissible square footage of development).

That September, the City Planning Commission proposed detailed revisions to the Bill, without consulting either

the affected communities or the bill’s sponsor, the BIA—a tone-deaf maneuver that kick-started a dialogue between the civic community, represented by the Crosstown, and the development community, represented by the BIA and the Development Workshop.

The upshot: a stakeholder meeting was convened by the Crosstown in November in Councilman Squilla’s office, attended by a Center City Overlay task force convened by the Crosstown. The task force included staffers from three City Council members whose districts were affected, six civic associations, and the Planning Commission. The group concluded that zoning-code revisions should await the creation of a new zoning map reassigning zoning classifications to the land parcels in greater Center City.

The Crosstown member civics have reached various stages in completing the task of the remapping venture. A CCRA remapping committee, working with Planning Commission staff, has met seven times since January. Even though the remapping of greater Center City is very much a work in progress, and it was agreed

Continued p. 5

that the bill should not be enacted until remapping was completed, bill 140519 mysteriously surfaced on the Council calendar for passage in June of this year.

At the Crosstown’s request, the bill was removed from Council’s docket. Further, at the Crosstown’s initiative, the task force reconvened twice, producing a compromise draft that has been okayed by the BIA and is being circulated for approval among Crosstown members.

Crosstown Efforts on Planning and Development Bill

In September 2014, Council President Clarke introduced charter change Bill 140721, creating a cabinet-level Director of Planning and Development, and reorganizing the city agencies heretofore responsible for these tasks. The Crosstown

supported the concept but was concerned about the lack of details regarding its implementation. Furthermore, the Crosstown opposed a provision giving Council the right to approve the hiring of the new cabinet-level officer, even though the officer would report to the Mayor and not to Council.

Teaming up with the Coalition to address these concerns, which also troubled the development community, was the Development Workshop, a federation of developers, realtors and bankers—an organization more frequently appearing on the other side of the table from the City’s civic associations. A Coalition/Workshop consortium—including the Central Delaware Advocacy Group, the families of the victims of the Salvation Army building collapse, the Design Advocacy Group and the Committee of Seventy—staged

a February press conference, and later presented Council testimony requesting that the legislation be delayed and revised. As a result, the Bill was kept in Committee, and Council President Clarke undertook to issue a memorandum on the issues presented.

When the memo did not issue, the Crosstown wrote two letters and an email requesting that Council staffers meet with stakeholders to discuss the legislation. Commencing in late April the consortium (joined by the Preservation Alliance) met for five consecutive weeks with Council staffers, Planning Commission personnel and administration employees. The result: a much-improved bill, which passed Council on June 11. The November ballot will contain a referendum on approving the charter change.

Town Square

Oil-Train Safety–Status Update

By Walter Spencer

CCRA continues to share concerns about oil trains operating in the neighborhood with our elected officials and to advocate for stronger regulation.

Vice President of Government Affairs Harvey Sacks and Executive Director Steve Huntington recently joined officials from the Logan Square Neighborhood Association at a meeting with legislative staff from Senator Robert Casey’s office. Casey is sponsoring legislation to provide federal funding for additional training of emergency personnel.

Our two Associations are seeking a meeting with CSX, the rail carrier operating on the east side of the Schuylkill, to express our concerns.

CCRA also monitors new developments on the issue. Governor Tom Wolf has requested additional federal funding for state rail inspectors, who would ensure compliance with existing rules.

New Federal Rules

In a major development, the Federal Railway Administration (FRA), the agency that oversees the nation’s railroads, has issued new regulations governing operation of oil trains. The regulations are intended to reduce

the chances of accidents, as well as the incidents of oil spills when accidents occur.

Rail carriers must now analyze 27 safety and security factors when operating oil trains, and select routes based on the findings. In some cases, railroads will have to straighten tracks and improve maintenance schedules if they continue operating oil trains on existing routes.

The speed limit for oil trains operating in urban areas has been reduced to 40 mph. (It had been 50.)

The new rules also require railroads to notify local governments when they transport oil through their community, and designate a point of contact. The rail carriers operating in our neighborhood have done this voluntarily, but now are required to do so.

Three additional regulations are designed to reduce the chance of an oil spill or explosion when an accident occurs.

For the second time in four years the FRA has set new, stricter oil-tank car requirements. All tank cars constructed after October 1 must have thicker inner- and outer-tank shells and improved

pressure-relief valves. The oldest tank cars (DOT-111) must be upgraded to meet the new standards by October 2018, or be removed from service. Second-generation tank cars (CPC-1232) must be upgraded or removed from service within five years.

The FRA is also requiring a major upgrade in oil-train braking systems over the next five years. The new systems must be electronically controlled and have braking capability at both the front and back of the train.

Carriers must also do more chemical analysis of crude oil before it is loaded, and certify that it is being transported in accordance with the test results. (Scientists have found that some oil from the Bakken range, the source of most oil being transported through our neighborhood, is more volatile than crude from other areas.) Many observers believe that this rule will prevent transport of Bakken oil in the oldest tank cars.

“Oil trains continue to be an important concern for many of our members,” CCRA President Chuck Goodwin said. “The Board and our Government Affairs Committee will continue our advocacy on this issue.”

Progressive education

at The Philadelphia School means...

1

Student-teacher relationships that are strong and based on mutual respect

2

A concept- and content-rich program centered on the developmental needs of children at every age

3

A commitment to building diversity into our curriculum and institutional culture



Open Houses

Preschool

October 8, 7–9 pm

Kindergarten

October 22, 7–9 pm

1st–7th Grade

November 8, 12–2 pm

Focusing on

Diversity at TPS

November 8, 3–5 pm

2501 Lombard Street
Philadelphia, PA 19146

tpschoool.org
215.545.5323



The Philadelphia School
CITY COUNTRY CLASSROOM

THE PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL IS A PROGRESSIVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL SERVING CHILDREN IN PRESCHOOL THROUGH 8TH GRADE.

Photography Tips Offered as Part of Street Scene's New Photo Contest

By Michael Stern

As a component of this year's Street Scene garden competition, I presented a workshop at Schuylkill River Park Community Garden in July, geared toward the new photography contest, providing tips for getting the most out of your photographs. Although the August 15 deadline for submissions has passed, the information provided at the workshop is useful to anyone wishing to make top-notch pictures. Here are some highlights from the workshop.

When you set about taking any photo, think about the **objectives**. For the competition there were two categories: promotional and artistic. Photos for the first category promoted the mission of City Scenes, beautifying our Center City streetscapes. The second category provided freedom for an artistic vision, allowing maximum possibilities for composition and creative effects.

Lighting is the most important factor within your control. For photos of plants and flowers, the soft light of early morning or late afternoon is best. Mid-day light tends to be "hot" and harsh, creating hotspots that are distracting and hard to edit out. See if you can get the flowers lit from behind: This will reveal structure and provide a pleasing glow. Turn off your flash, unless you have a detachable flash. Most flashes that are mounted close to the lens are great for shots of people, but will create hotspots and an



Workshop instructor Michael Stern, center, discusses the finer points of photographing flowers.

unbalanced exposure when photographing plants and gardens.

For **composition**, think in "thirds." Rather than positioning the main subject in the center of the photo, try shifting it a third of the way over in the frame. Dividing the screen display into thirds can be done with an iPhone and many cameras. The goal is to create a dynamic balance and interest that leads you through the image. There are great explanations of the "rule of thirds" available online.

In terms of **subject matter**, for individual flowers pay equal attention to the back, and

the way the flower attaches to the stem. Take care to get good contrast between the subject and the background. Make sure there are no distracting elements, such as a trash can or dead flowers. Consider including people in your photos, both posed and spontaneous. Does the image "tell a story" about the idea or subject you want to portray?

Finally, take time to slow down and consider the process of looking and enjoying the subject. In the case of the second annual Street Scene competition, these window boxes, tree pits and more are lovely "gifts to the street," that we all can share.

Come See Ettinger's Etchings on Open Studio Tour in October

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

The C. R. Ettinger Studio, owned and operated by Cindi Royce Ettinger, is the only professional etching studio in the Philadelphia area. Many artists, relying on Ettinger's expertise in intaglio and relief techniques, collaborate with her on their print projects. After the artist makes the plates, Ettinger editions the prints, and the artist signs them.

In her gallery, Ettinger exhibits artwork from the studio and also mounts other print-related shows. Working as a master printer for over three decades, Ettinger has exhibited artists' works locally and abroad.

Ettinger came to Philadelphia from New York in 1975 to attend the Philadelphia College of Art (now the University of the Arts). After graduating, she co-founded a print studio in New York and then in 1982 she started her own studio in Old City Philadelphia. In 2012 she relocated the studio to its current spot on South Street.

During the Philadelphia Open Studio Tour, the public is welcome to visit the C.R. Ettinger Studio Gallery at 2215 South Street, on Saturday, October 17, or Sunday, October 18, starting at noon. The gallery features exhibitions of prints and printmaking-related works. Normal hours are noon to 6:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday, but contact first. <http://crettinger.com/home.html>



Cindi Ettinger in her studio with the press.



2015 ESTATE PLANNING DAY

Saturday, October 24, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Pennsylvania Bar Institute – Conference Center
The Wanamaker Building
100 Penn Square East, 10th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Registration Fee: \$20 per person (includes beverages and boxed lunch)

The Philadelphia Estate Planning Council cordially invites you to attend its inaugural Estate Planning Day event. Our goal for the event is to provide members of the local community with an overview of key estate planning issues as well as the opportunity to ask questions of local professionals about estate planning related matters. A broad spectrum of estate planning related issues will be covered, in order to provide something for everyone - from folks who have never started the process of estate planning (i.e., never had a will prepared) to those who have already implemented several estate plans. The event will feature four hours of educational sessions, conducted by local knowledgeable and experienced professionals who are members of the Philadelphia Estate Planning Council. There will also be an opportunity for private consultations with such Council members.

We hope you will join us to learn about basic and cutting edge issues and planning techniques to help optimally address matters that are important for you, your family and your intended beneficiaries. Anyone who is concerned about themselves, or loved ones, getting their personal and financial affairs in as good an order as possible for death or incapacity can gather essential information at this program.

There will be no solicitation of business at this event.

Topics include:

- Estate Planning 101
- Advanced Estate Planning
- Basic Income Tax Planning/1040s
- Retirement/Investment/College Planning
- Life, Disability, and Long Term Care Insurance
- Charitable Planning
- Psychology of Intergenerational Wealth
- Business Succession Planning
- Estate & Trust Administration
- Planning for Blended Families
- Long Term Care (“Elder Law”) Planning
- Planning for Special Needs Beneficiaries

**Space is Limited!
Register Early!**

For more information and to register, please visit www.philaepc.org.
Questions? Call 215-486-6215

Restaurant Noise: Make Your Voice Heard!

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Restaurants fall into one of three noise-level categories: those that deliberately raise the volume, those that make an effort to reduce the noise level, and those that are clueless. How does one know in advance which category a restaurant belongs in? This issue, it seems, is beginning to grow some legs.

As reported in the *Inquirer* in July, and following a similar article in the Winter 2014 issue of the *Center City Quarterly*, Friends in the City (FitC) gathered at the PCI branch of the Free Library on Rittenhouse Square recently to hear a panel discussion on the subject of restaurant noise. Moderated by Dane Wells, the panelists included Penn Medicine clinical audiologist Linda Ronis-Kass, Acentech acoustical consultant Terry Tyson, and Starr Restaurant architect Sydney Stewart. The audience was full of people who are unhappy with the deafening noise of many Center City restaurants. The meeting was intended to find out how to judge restaurants on noise control; what we can do about it; how to communicate our dissatisfaction; and how to avoid restaurants whose noise levels are too high.

According to Tyson, acoustical methods are available to solve the problem of loud noise, but first the restaurant has to recognize it has a problem. It's simple: hard surfaces increase reverberations, and soft surfaces decrease

them. Some soft materials may look like wood or tile so you can't always tell by appearance.

Loud conversations and music are the most frequently cited complaints. Stewart says that Starr Restaurants keep the music at a high enough level so you don't hear the conversation at the next table. The result, however, is that diners often must speak louder to be heard above the music. Stewart mentioned Parc as an example of a restaurant that tries to control noise; several attendees said that Parc is noisy, and many questioned their noise-control effort. Stewart said Starr restaurant staffers read online reviews so it's important to write comments.

Ronis-Kass recommends learning to read lips, a solution useful for those who are hard of hearing, but unlikely to be adopted by the average person. She says that 75 decibels is the maximum healthy continuous sound level that people should be exposed to, and when you get above 85 decibels for over 20 minutes, your hearing is at risk for permanent damage. The decibel scale is logarithmic, which means a reading of 85 is 100 times louder than 75. Wells recommends getting a decibel app for your smart phone and measuring the sound volume in the restaurant. Use that information when reviewing the restaurant or complaining to the manager.

So what can you do to find the perfect restaurant? When you reserve a table, ask for a quiet one. OpenTable, an online reservation service, includes diners' noise-level ratings, so before you book, take a look at the average rating for noise. (On OpenTable, "energetic" means loud.) Yelp does not have separate ratings for noise level, but you can search for a quiet restaurant by zip code. The search result is based on comments made by reviewers.

The FitC Forum has a new section: Conversation Friendly Restaurants where FitC members can post comments. There are already several messages posted in that section including a list of quieter restaurants, <http://friendscentercity.org/forums/conversation-friendly-restaurants>

Dane Wells concluded with this recommendation: "When you ... are dissatisfied with the noise level, instead of just walking out disgruntled, voice your opinion to the manager." After each dining experience, write online reviews on OpenTable or Yelp, and post comments, reviews, and recommendations on the FitC Forum in the Conversation Friendly Restaurant section. Many restaurants have contact options on their website, so you can also send emails directly to them.

CCCulture

Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival Mavens Celebrate 35 Years

By Eric O'Hara

This November, the Gershman Y's Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival (PJFF) celebrates its landmark 35th anniversary season. Founded in 1980 by Judy Golden and the late Archie Perlmutter, the PJFF is among the longest-running Jewish film festivals in America, and shows no signs of slowing down. We spoke with Golden, Ruth Perlmutter (Archie's widow), and current Chair Phyllis Fischer about the early history of the festival and their involvement today. All three reside in Center City.

Festival Co-founder Judy Golden was a longtime PJFF Chair, and continues her involvement as Chair Emeritus. A native of the

Wynnefield section of Philadelphia, Golden is a University of Pennsylvania and Harvard graduate, who, in addition to her real-estate career and prolific work as a ceramic artist, has spent most of her adult life donating time to the non-profit arts community, much of it centered at the Gershman Y.

In the early 1960s, Joan Kron chaired the Gershman Y Arts Council, a program that brought avant-garde artists (many of them New Yorkers) from diverse creative disciplines—theater, dance, music, fine arts—to premiere their work in Philadelphia. "Joan invited my husband and me to be subscribers,

Continued p. 21



Ruth Perlmutter

Olivia Antsis

Get to Know Your Neighbors on the CCRA Board

At CCRA's Annual Meeting in May, a new slate of Officers and Directors was elected to the Board. We thought our Members would like to know a little bit about the individuals whose dedication to their community has motivated them to donate their time and talents to CCRA, and to the benefit of us all.

Officers

Maggie Mund (President)

Maggie has served on the Board since July 2010, as an officer since 2011. A Center City resident since 1995, she resided just south of South Street for eight years prior to that. With husband Gordon Henderson, she raised two sons, both products of the Philadelphia School District. Maggie also served on the board of the Lombard Swim Club, and chaired the Masterman [School] Expansion and Renovation Committee.

Charles Goodwin (Executive Vice President)

Chuck came to Philadelphia from Boston in 1989 to attend law school at Penn, where he fell in love twice – once with Nicole Galli, his wife, and then with Philadelphia. Since 2001 the couple has lived in Fitler Square, where they are raising their two children. Chuck has been active with CCRA and is a Democratic committee person for the 8th Ward. He maintains an independent legal practice.

Barbara Halpern (Vice President)

Barbara has been an active member of both the Events and the Membership Committees. Having practiced law in Center City since 1977, she then switched to the nonprofit sector, and became Chief of Staff for David Haas, Chairman of the Board of the William Penn Foundation. She is a certified Mediator and has served on the board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. Currently, Halpern is an ESL tutor for the Center for Literacy. Barbara and her husband, Carl, moved to Filter Square from Abington in 2012.

Judy Heller (Vice President)

A clinical social worker in private practice, Judy has over 25 years' experience in individual, couples' and family therapy. Since moving from the

suburbs in 2003, she has been a member of Town Watch and assumed leadership positions in several neighborhood projects. Currently, she serves as Chair of CCRA's Education and Family Committee. She and husband Ed Friedman live near Fitler Square.

Frank Montgomery (Vice President)

Frank and his wife, Heather, have lived in Center City for a little over two years, but have loved every minute. He currently is the CCRA Vice President overseeing the Physical Environment (streets and community garden). Frank is currently a Project Manager at Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. Frank is also a Battalion Commander in the PA Army National Guard, with more than 24 years of service.

Harvey C. Sacks (Vice President)

Harvey has been involved with his local community wherever he has lived, be it Santa Monica, CA, or Malahide, Ireland, or Solebury, Bucks County, and now Center City, where Harvey and his wife, Mary, relocated in 2013, one of the "best decisions" of their 32 years together. A non-practicing attorney, Harvey has owned an Ameriprise Financial holistic financial-planning and investment-management practice since 2001. Previously he was owner of an international trade consulting firm specializing in the former Soviet Bloc countries, during which time he received a non-political appointment from then US Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige to chair its Technical Advisory Committee; taught international marketing and law at UCLA, Santa Monica College, and Cal State Northridge; and created adult-education-level international-business certification programs for UCLA and



Donna Strug
New and returning Board members: (kneeling) Frank Montgomery, Effie Babb; (middle) Dilek Karabucak, Pip Campbell, Judy Heller, Maggie Mund, Janet Bender, Ellen Chapman; (back) Harvey Sacks, Michael Axler, Wade Albert, Dan Keough, Mark Travis. Not pictured: Charles Goodwin, Barbara Halpern, Victoria Harris, Jacob Markovitz, David Rose, and Walter Spencer.

Cal State Northridge. Upon their move to Center City, Harvey consolidated his Bucks County and Hunterdon County, NJ, offices into a single Center City office, to serve the increasing number of Millennials and Baby Boomers moving into the city. He has served on numerous nonprofit boards, chairing various fundraising and other events.

Philippa Campbell (Secretary)

Pip has lived off Rittenhouse Square for 20 years. A professor at Thomas Jefferson University, she conducts research with infants and young children, their families, and child caregivers. A member of the CCRA historic preservation committee, Pip has written articles for the *Center City Quarterly* and other publications about the importance of respecting and learning from the past.

Dawn Willis (Assistant Secretary)

A longtime Center City resident, Dawn lives with her two children in the Rittenhouse area. Dawn works as a Medical Content Editor, and enjoys taking advantage of the arts in Philadelphia.

Walter Spencer (Treasurer)

Walter is a retired business executive. A longtime CCRA member, he has lived in Philadelphia since 1991. He joined the

Continued next page

Board of Directors in 2012, and currently serves as Treasurer. He is also Treasurer of the Wanamaker House Condominium.

Michael Axler (Assistant Treasurer)

Michael and his wife, Susan, live on Rittenhouse Square. A native of Philadelphia, he worked as a commercial real-estate consultant and appraiser (MAI) with national firms for more than 25 years. He was based in Philadelphia and New York prior to opening his own practice in NYC in 1992. Michael retired two years ago and moved to Center City from Bucks County and Brigantine. He serves on the board of the South Jersey Cancer Fund, and volunteers with his wife on numerous related organizations. The Axlers have two sons and four grandchildren.

Directors

Wade Albert

A lifelong Philadelphian, Wade has been a Center City resident for approximately 10 years. He currently lives in the Rittenhouse area with his partner, Peter. A management-side employment litigation attorney, Wade practices at Sobol & Sobol, P.C. He serves on the board of the Liberty City LGBT Democratic Club and is active with the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Effie Babb

Effie is an attorney specializing in tax-exempt organizations in the Morgan Lewis tax department. She and her husband moved to Center City six years ago, eager to return to the area after attending college in Philadelphia. They are now raising their two young sons in Center City. She serves on the Young Friends of the Penn Museum Advisory Board and as a weekend tour guide at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Janet Bender

Janet first viewed Rittenhouse Square from her baby carriage, with her parents and both sets of grandparents living in the area. She moved back into town in her 20s, owned a travel agency for several years, and now in retirement can enjoy all the perks of the city. Janet has embraced the activism, events, and desire of CCRA to make Center City a great place to live, and hopes to serve and become more active in the community

Ellen Chapman

Ellen has lived in Center City for 35 years, currently at 20th and Walnut Streets. She remains committed to living, working and playing in town. A 23-year veteran of Xerox, Ellen is a sales professional serving the commercial real-estate industry. She is also active in the 8th Ward, and has been a committee person and Judge of Elections for approximately five years. An alum of the Wharton School, Ellen is very proud to have her daughter graduate from Penn last year.

Victoria Harris

Victoria has lived in Center City for five of her six years in Philadelphia. A transportation and urban planner at a Center City engineering firm, she has a master's degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania School of Design. Victoria is passionate about issues of urban transportation, design and development, and cares deeply about effective government and improving mobility for all residents and visitors. Victoria serves on the board of a shelter for homeless families, and is excited to build on her service to Philadelphia through the CCRA.

Dilek Karabucak

Dilek and her husband moved to Philadelphia over 20 years ago. They have been raising their two daughters—a third-grader and one off to college—in Center City. Throughout her career working with global and local companies—L'Oréal, HayGroup and LionsRoar, she has developed an expertise in human resources and marketing. Currently working as a career counselor, Dilek is excited to share her professional expertise and enthusiasm in support of the mission of CCRA.

Dan Keough

Dan is a lifelong Philadelphia resident. A St. Joseph's University graduate, Dan is an ardent workout enthusiast who enjoys trivia, politics and sports.

Jacob Markovitz

Jake was born and raised in Philadelphia, and has spent the last three years working and living in Center City, just off Rittenhouse Square. Since graduating

from the University of Miami in 2009, he has been a realtor with Elfant Wissahickon Realtors, working throughout greater Philadelphia. Jake has a deep appreciation for history, architecture and all things Philly real estate. When not working, Jake can be found on the tennis court or at the dog park with his spaniel mix, Franklin. Jake is very happy to be joining the Board and looks forward to serving his community and contributing to the growth of Philly.

David Rose

David serves on the Board of Directors at William Penn House (1919 Chestnut), where he lives with his wife, Erica, and his 4-year-old son, Nathaniel. He has lived in Center City since arriving in Philadelphia 20 years ago to attend the University of Pennsylvania. He owns and operates Bridge Club of Center City (1511 Walnut), and is president of the Philadelphia Bridge Foundation, a non-profit organization that promotes bridge learning in schools, colleges, detention facilities, retirement communities and senior centers. A founding member of the Philadelphia Democratic Progressive Caucus, David is an active Democratic committee person for Ward 8, Division 16. He serves on the steering committee organizing Philadelphia's inaugural Veterans Day Parade. David serves as a Vice President on CCRA's Executive Committee, and chairs the Streets Committee.

Mark Travis

Mark was raised in Mt. Airy, where his family was an early member of the Weavers Way Co-Op. He is a proud product of Philadelphia Public Schools, as are his children. For the past 15 years, he has been a Wealth Manager at Morgan Stanley. Previously, he worked in AIDS research, synthesizing and sequencing the human genome at Temple University's Fels Research Center. As a property owner, Mark feels we are all ambassadors of our community; as a member of the CCRA Board, he looks forward to helping shape our city and the village we call Center City Philadelphia.

Your Sole Needs Work? Shoe Repair in the Neighborhood Is an Immigrant Story

By Bob Weiss

Despite the millennials' preference for sneakers or sandals, lots of people in zip code 19103 wear traditional shoes—leathery things. Many wearers of leather-type shoes may work locally and need footwear that says “I’m professional.” Thus a viable business can be cobbled together to serve their needs. It may indeed be a very small storefront operation, and may be open nearly 60 hours a week, but it may also be profitable and satisfying.

The work of shoe repair could be classified as skilled—it requires knowledge and training—but it’s neither hard nor easy. To do it, you have to be good with your hands and need good hand-eye-brain coordination. Like surgery. And of course you have to be attuned to your customers’ needs and desires.

So who qualifies, and who wants to do the work? All of the shoe repairers in our area of Center City are men, some of them assisted by wives or additional employees who may, for example, shine shoes for walk-ins. Their businesses have legs—several have been open for more than 30 years, and even the newest is almost seven years old. And all are owned by first- or second-generation immigrants.

They generally get high marks on Yelp, which suggests that they all do creditable work and have no shortage of customers. A visit to each shop confirms this finding: all

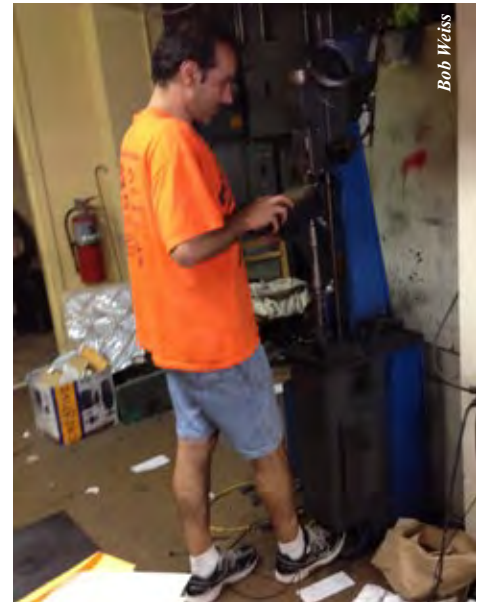
have an array of bags full of repaired shoes awaiting pickup.

Many of these shops offer other services (keys made, shoes shined, leather repairs for jackets and pocketbooks) and special services (cleaning the furry Uggs, working on orthopedic shoes, same-day service, etc.).

The shops nearest to City Hall operate just five days, the others six days, but all are open to customers for more than 50 hours a week—which represents a lot of work for a sole proprietorship or a mom-and-pop operation.

Lee Moncalto, who bought **Dom’s Shoe Repair** at 203 South 20th Street in 1993, learned the trade from his immigrant Italian father, who had worked in a shoe factory in the old country. Lee instructed me in the different machinery needed for shoe repair: nailers, stitchers, sanders, lasts, and more. Lee explained that his regular customers tend to be people who need good shoes because they live and work in the Center City neighborhood, especially in high-rise office buildings. (NOTE: Dom’s provides a Merchant Members’ discount for CCRA members.)

Kahn Yi and his wife, Ock, run **Unique Shoe Repair** at 104½ South 21st Street, and have owned it for more than 25 years, since migrating from South Korea. Kahn’s engineering background and familiarity



Lee Moncalto at his “shoe repair machine”

with sheet metal enable him to repair his own machinery when necessary.

Paco Villa migrated from Ecuador when he was 19, then started working in the shoe repair store at **266 South 19th Street** two years later, and subsequently bought the business. He noted that each shoe repair shop had a master machine on which he does most of the necessary operations.

Luis Guaricela recently purchased the former Avila’s shoe-repair business in the Westbury, at **275 South 15th Street**. Three other local shoe-repair shops are run by immigrants from South Korea. Lower rents at side-street locations were attractive for shop owners Hong (**1702 Ranstead Street**) and Yang (**1822 Ludlow Street**), who, like their fellow owner-operators, work very long hours. Charles Kang does business on a main thoroughfare, at **1800 JFK Boulevard, Suite 105**, where his friendly shoe-shining employee Melvin admonished me to remind his customers to offer tips for his work.

Interviewing at all of these businesses gave me an education and an appreciation for the dedication of immigrant families to succeed in their new country through hard work and long hours. As Charles Kang put it, “I know just this, and that’s that,” and he intends to keep on doing “this” for many years.



Charles Kang at his shoe stitcher

Trinity Brings a Country Fair to Center City

Friends and neighbors of Trinity at 22nd need not wander far from home to get a taste of country life when they join in the celebration at **Country Fair, City Style**—an evening of music, dancing, food, and games, on Saturday, October 24. Highlights of the evening will include a *Blue Ribbon Dessert Contest* and a *Pet Photo Contest*.

“Country Fair, City Style, is a country fair-style celebration in the heart of our vibrant city, and we invite all friends and neighbors of Trinity at 22nd to join us,” says Nancy DeLaura, event chair.

The Dessert Contest will feature submissions from The Rev. Donna Maree of Trinity Memorial Church; John Randolph, convener of the Community Outreach Partnership; Phyllis Schnell, director of Trinity Center for Urban Life; and Christa Cywinski, director of Trinity Play Group. A panel of special guests will judge the desserts and award the blue ribbon.

The Pet Photo Contest will bestow awards for the Most Glamorous Cat, the Happiest Hound, and the Most Exotic Pet. Everyone

who attends is encouraged to bring a 4x6 photo of a favorite pet.

“We’re celebrating the many ways in which Trinity at 22nd serves as a spiritual, cultural and social center of the community in our Center City neighborhood,” says DeLaura. “Whether you walk through our doors to worship, attend a concert, cast a vote, or assemble dinners for shut-ins, we welcome your presence and your support of our mission.” Trinity at 22nd is home to Trinity Memorial Church, concert and meeting venue Trinity Center for Urban Life, the Community Outreach Partnership with WinterShelter, and the Trinity Play Group.

Country Fair, City Style runs from 7 to 11 pm, Saturday, October 24, at Trinity Memorial Church, 2212 Spruce Street. Tickets sales benefit the Building Fund, and are \$10 per person.



Morris Klein

The Plein Air Art Group, sponsored by Friends in the City (FitC) and led by local artist Mina Smith (above), gathered to paint in Rittenhouse Square on a pleasant June day.

Shop Talk

CCRA Merchant Members Discount Program

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

Di Bruno Bros.

1730 Chestnut Street and
The Market at the Comcast Center
(215-665-9220)

Dom's Shoe Repair

203 S. 20th Street
(215-972-0098)

Eye Candy Vision

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

Koresh Dance Company

2002 Rittenhouse Square Street
(267-687-1769)

Liberty Vet Pets

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

Nature's Gallery Florist

2124 Walnut Street
(215-563-5554)

PhotoLounge

1909 Chestnut Street
(267-322-6651)

Twenty-Two Gallery

236 S. 22nd St
(215-772-1911)

Rim's Dry Cleaners & Tailors

2203 South Street
(215-546-1889)

Rittenhouse Hardware

2001 Pine Street
(215-735-6311)

Rittenhouse Pet Supply

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

Computer Troubleshooters

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

Uber - Limo service

\$20 off first ride; good for new users only. Members use code CCRA14.

Philly Foodworks

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

Reclaiming Urban Alleys...

Continued from p. 1

I understand that available space is frequently tight. But is this an excuse for turning a whole street (excuse me, alley) into a hodgepodge? After all, we're talking about the backyards of some very nice buildings. I can vouch for the front façades being nice, and the houses I've been inside generally have been quite nice as well. But then we walk out the back door into an inartful jumble of architectural afterthoughts.

It's a shame that some of the city's prettiest streets are backed up by these automotive shantytowns. We might as well put up a sign: Abandon All Standards, Ye Who Enter Here. That's how it is, but I don't think it's necessary. All we really need to do, I think, is pay a little attention.

Trash

The same thing goes on in the Central Business District, only there the main culprit is trash, not cars. It is apparently a Philadelphia custom for merchants and restaurateurs to store their trash in the alley. While I'm sure this delights the city's population of rats, I, as a human, find these alleys quite distasteful.

Have you ever walked down the 1700 block of Moravian? It's far from the worst, but it's bad enough. And there it is, sandwiched between Walnut, our premier shopping street, and Sansom, home to both the Sofitel Hotel (they're from France, you know) and a very nice row of boutiques and restaurants.

"F" for Functional

I've actually developed a grading scale for our alleys. Feel free to use it as you walk around town. You don't even have to walk down the alleys. You can just peek from the corner. Here's the scale:

F - Functional. A place to stow cars or stash trash. No redeeming qualities.

D - Depressing. Many defects, but not the worst.

C - Crummy. A few defects, lacks cohesive vision.

B - Borderline. No defects, but doesn't spark joy.

A - Actually Attractive. A good, integrated design showing imagination and possibly a bit of whimsy (See: Addison, 1700 block of).

I could hand out a lot of Fs at this point, but instead let's look at a block that almost has its act together—the 2100 block of Cypress.

In fact, I'll give the south side of this street an A. The north side is a C, but it could be a B if two garages with derelict but functional façades were fixed. However, to become an A the homeowners would have to get together. On the south side we have a theme with variations; on the north side, cacophony.

Perhaps the CCRA could branch out from horticulture and have an alley contest. I think I'd withhold a prize for best alley, at least for a few years, but perhaps award several prizes in the most-improved category.

Progress is possible, folks. It doesn't have to be this way. Just pull the camera back from Center City West, and zoom out to include all of Center City. There are many lovely alleys in places like Washington Square West and Society Hill. Philadelphia is home to the granddaddy of them all, Elfreth's Alley, the oldest continuously occupied residential street in the country.

Pasadena

Or we could pan our lens west, to Pasadena, Calif., whose downtown, called Old Pasadena, is Professor Donald Shoup's shining example of a successful Parking Benefit District.

In his book *The High Cost of Free Parking*, Shoup describes PBDs as key to solving parking problems and improving neighborhoods. PBDs receive a portion of parking revenues generated within the district, for investment in neighborhood improvements. Shoup recommends fixing sidewalks, planting trees, and burying utility wires.

Old Pasadena found an additional improvement opportunity—the alleys. Meter money, says Shoup, "helped convert what had been a commercial skid row into one of the most popular tourist destinations in Southern California." (Shoup, *High Cost*, 2011 edition, p. xxviii.)

I've seen Pasadena's reclaimed alleys. They're really nice—"safe, functional walkways with access to shops and restaurants." (Shoup, p. 406.)

Stone Street

Returning to the East Coast, we can find a particularly attractive alley in Lower Manhattan called Stone Street. According

to the indefatigable researchers at Wikipedia, an alliance of property owners, city agencies and do-gooders "transformed Stone Street from a derelict back alley into one of Downtown's liveliest scenes. Restored buildings, granite paving, bluestone sidewalks and period street lights set the stage for the half-dozen restaurants and cafés, whose outdoor tables are very popular on warm summer nights."

My brother and I spent a pleasant morning there, and I recall having cappuccino and a croissant on the cobblestones. Lovely.

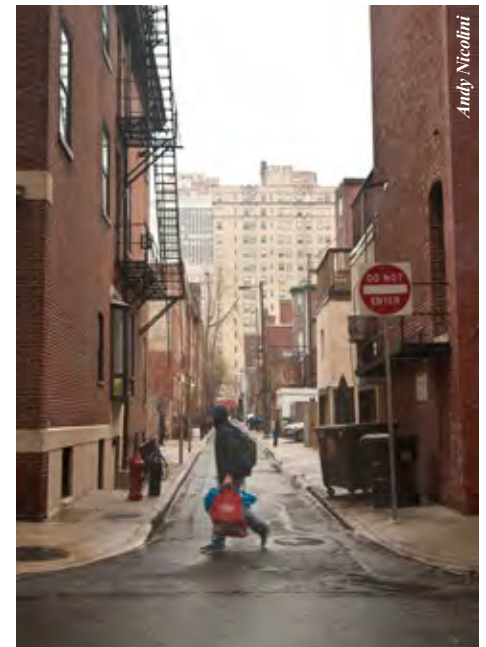
On Stone Street we also encounter the curious phenomenon of the two-faced restaurant. It seems almost all the places that open onto Stone Street also open onto a parallel street. This can seem disorienting, but it's logical that entrances on two streets can be good for business.

I know of one two-faced restaurant in Philadelphia. It's called Bru: Craft and Wurst, with entrances on the 1300 blocks of Chestnut and Drury. If you stand on Chestnut and look in, you can see through to McGillin's on the other side of Drury Street. It's an unusual view. Ordinarily you can't see through a city block—too much stone in the way.

Moravian Again

Which brings us back to the 1700 block of Moravian Street in Philly. Time has not been kind to this block, but guess what?

Continued next page



2000 block of Moravian St. as it looks today.

Virtually all the buildings on Moravian seem to extend through to either Walnut or Sansom. On the south side are a bunch of blocked-up doors and windows just waiting to be daylighted, and on the north side some buildings have actual front

façades, instead of the familiar turn-your-back-on-the-back-alley treatment.

Does it have the potential of Stone Street? Maybe not. But this block of Moravian sits in the lap of two of the hottest retail blocks

in Philly—the 1700 block of Walnut, and 18th between Walnut and Chestnut.

I look forward to a tranquil cappuccino amidst the happy bustle of commerce. Probably not soon, but I'm a patient guy.

Rally for the First Green Alley—From Grim to Garden

By Andy Nicolini

This spring our 2000 block of Moravian Street was a finalist for a Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Placemaker Grant, intended to support our goal to make it Philadelphia's first "green alley"—but what does that entail? Can a high-density, multiple-use street also serve as an inviting urban oasis, an educational and safe space for passers-through, and a showcase for native flora and local artists?

But first picture a narrow city street lined with concrete and stucco walls, chain-link fences with barbed-wire fringes, and black fire escapes. Crowding the sidewalks are graffiti-covered dumpsters overflowing with trash, rusting commercial oilcans leaking food waste, firewood piles stacked six feet high, and rodents scurrying in search of scraps of malodorous leftovers.

Now picture the same alley, resplendent with vivid rainbow hues. One that has healthy vines cascading from above; window boxes spilling over with unique, brilliant foliage of native plants; birdhouses that invite wildlife to make their home in a newly designed refuge

boasting permeable pavement, vertical gardens and LED-lighting.

To help us visualize the transformation, we partnered with Shift Design, a Philadelphia-based collaborative design firm well known for their work at Shake Shack, at the northeast end of our block. We also gathered support from diverse sources including the Streets Commissioner, Center City District, and local businesses.

Our project positions Philadelphia at the forefront of great civic landscapes, with an imaginative, sustainable public space that offers a long-lasting, low-maintenance, high-impact change with low-cost, locally designed improvements.

While our grant application ultimately was not selected for this year's award, we were encouraged by our status as finalists, and hope to reapply next year. The 2000 block of Moravian wants to kick-start our project to transform our block into a model urban oasis, and become not only a destination for visitors and neighbors but also a touchstone for other alleys in the city to become "green."



Rally for the First Green Alley	ZONE 5: HANGING PLANTERS	30 MAR 2015
PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	DATE

PROPRIETARY - CONFIDENTIAL
THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DRAWING IS THE SOLE PROPERTY OF SHIFT SPACE DESIGN LLC OF PHILADELPHIA, PA. ANY REPRODUCTION IN PART OR AS A WHOLE WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF SHIFT SPACE DESIGN LLC IS PROHIBITED.



© SHIFT SPACE DESIGN LLC info@shiftspacedesign.com 215.221.4840 SHIFTSPOCEDESIGN.COM



One of the series of designs illustrating proposed improvements to the same block.

DI BRUNO BROS. CATERING & EVENTS

CATERING@DIBRUNO.COM
215.665.1659

ARTISAN TO GO CATERING

European cheese trays, classic Italian lunch and dinner options, fresh seasonal salads—something for all kinds of food lovers.

FULL SERVICE CATERING

Plated and cocktail menus prepared and served on site for a truly memorable occasion.

PRIVATE EVENT SPACE

Our Rittenhouse Upstairs Café offers a full à la carte menu with hot hors d'oeuvres, buffet options, and sit down events.



Voters: Some Tips for Judging the Judges Before You Get to the Booth

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

You never know when you may find yourself in court for a civil or criminal case in which you, a family member, or a friend is involved as a litigant, victim, witness, or defendant, or just to protest a traffic ticket. So, it's important to all citizens that the most qualified judges are presiding from the bench.

Pennsylvania is the only state in the country to hold judicial elections solely in odd-numbered years, so 2015 is the year of the judges! Candidates for five judicial offices will appear on the ballot on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3. But with so much at stake, it is surprising that many voters know so little about those vying for such important roles in our democratic process.

In an *Inquirer* article published before the Primary Election in May, Lynn Marks, Executive Director of Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, and a Center City resident, stated that "voters have a hard time getting enough meaningful information to make an informed choice." Unfortunately, the random assignment of ballot positions can influence the outcome of the election. It is important that voters make an effort to learn more about the candidates than their number on the ballot or their party affiliation.

The Pennsylvania Court System is structured like a pyramid with the Supreme Court on top. Go to the following link to see a graphic, an explanation of how each court is structured, and its function. <http://www.pacourts.us/learn>

The Courts of Common Pleas are trial courts organized into 60 judicial districts mostly

following the geographic boundaries of counties. Judges in these courts hear cases involving crimes including robbery, rape and homicide; family law including divorce and child custody; and civil suits including motor vehicle accidents, defective products, malpractice and libel. Common Pleas, Municipal Courts and Traffic Courts are often called minor courts, and, according to Marks, "they are also called the people's courts because they are the courts which most Pennsylvanians will come in contact with."

There are three appellate courts in Pennsylvania: The Supreme Court is the highest appellate court, with seven justices who receive over 3,000 requests for review per year; the Superior Court and the Commonwealth Court are intermediate appellate courts. Cases are usually heard by panels of three judges in Philadelphia, Harrisburg, or Pittsburgh but may sometimes be heard by all the judges. The Commonwealth Court is primarily responsible for matters involving state and local governments and regulatory agencies, and trials for lawsuits filed by or against the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

To help sort out the various players and courts, the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Philadelphia Bar Association both rate judicial candidates for Supreme Court and Superior Court. The Pennsylvania Bar Association also rates candidates for the Commonwealth Court. The Philadelphia Bar Association rates candidates for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas and Municipal Court. Voters can read the ratings and learn about

the process at <http://www.pabar.org/public/news%20releases/pr012815.asp> and <http://philadelphiabar.org/page/NewsItem?appNum=1&newsItemID=1001450>

Judicial candidates are labeled *highly recommended*, *recommended* and *not recommended*. Ratings are based on a variety of factors including legal ability, experience, integrity and temperament. Candidates who are *highly recommended* are considered capable of outstanding performance, those *recommended* are expected to perform satisfactorily, and those *not recommended* are considered inadequate at the present time.

Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, the non-profit, nonpartisan organization headed by Marks, seeks to reform the judicial selection process, and has proposed Merit Selection. Using this process, judges would be screened and nominated by an independent nonpartisan commission composed of citizens from diverse fields. The Governor would then select from a list of the most qualified finalists. The purpose of this reform would be to ensure that the most qualified judges are seated on the bench, regardless of their financial and political resources, geographic region or background. In order to change the current process, an amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution is required. An amendment requires a bill to pass two legislative sessions and a Pennsylvania voters' referendum. <http://www.pmconline.org/>

The Committee of Seventy can provide more information about the November election; please go to: www.seventy.org

BE SURE TO VOTE IN THE NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION



October 5 Last day to REGISTER before the November election

October 27 Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot

October 30 Last day for County Boards of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots

November 3 ELECTION DAY

CCRA – Land of Opportunity

Opportunity No. 1. The CCRA House Tour on October 18 needs volunteers to serve as docents and help run the event. Day-of volunteers receive free tickets (a \$35 value!) as well as eternal gratitude (priceless).

Please email centercity@centercityresidents.org with subject line "House Tour Volunteer."

Opportunity No. 2. Perhaps you've heard the Pope is coming to town, along with 1.5 million of his closest friends. And while the scuttlebutt suggests that the Bishop of Rome will cause more disruption than a Category 3 hurricane, it's also a chance to show everyone how great Center City is. To that end, CCRA seeks volunteer "civic ambassadors" – people willing to patrol the streets, greet visitors, and help them find their way around town. Let's make Philly shine!

Email centercity@centercityresidents.org with subject line "Pope Visit."

Opportunity No. 3. The CCRA is a volunteer organization. We welcome the gift of your time, expertise and effort in our many events, programs, and committees.

Email centercity@centercityresidents.org and express your interest.

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

Coldwell Banker Welker Real Estate "We Get The Job Done!"

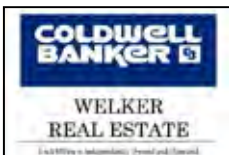


Additional Properties Sold By Coldwell Banker Welker R.E.

2319 Delancey Street
2705 Panama Street
1710 Delancey Street
1632 Spruce Street
2218 Rittenhouse Sq. Street
812 N. 24th Street
2337-39 Perot Street
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

Thinking of Renovating your
Kitchen or Bath...



TEKNIKA
DESIGN GROUP
Kitchens — Baths — Custom Cabinetry

215-922-4414
teknikadesigngroup.com
225 Race Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Receive a gift at your initial consultation when you mention this ad!

How Friends of PCI Supports Our Neighborhood Branch Library

By Pamela Freyd, President

Friends of the Philadelphia City Institute Library

The FREE Library of Philadelphia! That's been the name since the library was chartered in 1891, when Dr. William Pepper provided initial funding for "a general library, which shall be free to all." During the next 124 years, the free library system grew to encompass the Central Library, the internet, and regional, neighborhood and specialized branches.

If the Library is free, why does the Friends of the Philadelphia City Institute (PCI) Library (our neighborhood branch, located on West Rittenhouse Square at Locust St.) ask for membership dues? Many people think the library is a city service like trash collection or police. It is not that simple.

A little over two-thirds of the library's operating funds come from the city, another 17 percent from the state, and the remaining 15 percent from private sources (including fines from overdue books). Most of the private support for the Free Library of Philadelphia comes through the Free Library Foundation.

Seventy-five percent of the library's budget goes to payroll, 10 percent to materials, and the rest to administrative support (which includes anything related

to technology), and to maintenance and security. The Free Library Foundation does an exemplary job of raising funds to support the library. Money donated to the Free Library Foundation goes to programming and special collections.

In the 1990s, when the library system began to renovate most sites, including the installation of computers, each branch was expected to form a Friends group to help pay for computers. The Friends groups have endured, providing financial support and advocacy for the branches. The membership money collected by Friends groups supplements other resources. At PCI, for example, Friends' funding helped our neighborhood branch purchase new audio speakers for the meeting room. The PCI library could have requisitioned new speakers with its discretionary budget, but it would have been months before the speakers arrived, necessitating the cancellation of scheduled programs in December and January. But thanks to the Friends of PCI, new speakers were in place within a week, and all programs could proceed as planned.

People can join the Friends of PCI by filling out a membership form kept at the

checkout desk and returning it with modest dues. Some people think they are members of the Friends of the PCI Library because they have made a donation to the Free Library Foundation and indicated that it be used for PCI. Indeed, that donation will be sent to PCI for discretionary use, but the local Friends group may not necessarily know who has donated. The Library Foundation has an equitable system for providing discretionary funds to all branch libraries.

The Friends of PCI thanks its many supporters and invites others to join. We welcome your suggestions and support for our wonderful library.

For more information about ways in which the neighborhood branches affect urban quality of life, consult The Pew Charitable Trusts' 2012 study of the Free Library of Philadelphia, *The Library in the City: Changing Demands and a Challenging Future*. It is worth reading; go to <http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/reports/2012/03/07/the-library-in-the-city-changing-demands-and-a-challenging-future>

Dancing Canvas: Dance Critic Nancy Heller to Speak on Sargent's "El Jaleo"

Nancy G. Heller, art historian, author, dance critic for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and professor of Art History at the University of the Arts, will speak about John Singer Sargent's painting, "El Jaleo," depicting a flamenco dancer. The presentation will take place at the Athenaeum, 219 South 6th St., Wednesday, October 21, at 5:30. A reception will follow. Heller has studied and performed Spanish dance since the 1980s, and is a lively and interesting presenter. She is the author of *Why a Painting Is Like a Pizza: A Guide to Understanding and Enjoying Modern Art*, and *Women Artists*. The painting resides at the Isabella Stewart Gardner museum in Boston. Tickets can be purchased online at the Athenaeum's website for \$10. (Free for Athenaeum members.) An article about Nancy G. Heller appeared in the *Center City Quarterly*, September 2012.

—Bonnie Eisenfeld



Eddy Paltumbo

**"We do more than
Open Doors"**



River to River | Townhouse
New Construction | Co-op
Condo | Commercial



PREFERRED

1401 Walnut Street, 8th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
www.cbpref.com



"Committed to the Community"

**KATE FEDERICO
KATHLEEN FEDERICO**

2050 Pine St.
2212 Pine St.
PARC Rittenhouse
620 Fitzwater St.
400 S. 22nd St.
1631 Kater St.
219-29 S. 18th St. 510
718 N. Uber St.
Phoenix 1600 Arch St.
Ritz Carlton 16F
1806 Rittenhouse Savoy
426 S. Taney St.
112 Elfreth's Alley
1207 S Broad
1821 Fitzwater

Office: 215.546.2700 x1079
Direct: 267.238.1059
Cell: 215.840.0049
kfederico@cbpref.com
katfef@cbpref.com

© 2011 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and Operated by NRTLCC.

ORGANIZING, ETC.
by ELLEN TREU COHEN

AS AN **EXPERIENCED ORGANIZER**
& **INTERIOR DECORATOR**,
I CAN HELP YOU:

- EVALUATE YOUR NEEDS
- ORGANIZE PAPERS AND POSSESSIONS
- ELIMINATE STRESSFUL CLUTTER
- SET UP STORAGE SYSTEMS
- MAXIMIZE YOUR USE OF SPACE & TIME

...and more!

Call for your

FREE CONSULTATION &
FREE MINI-LESSON!

267-273-1597

ELLEN@ETCORGANIZING.COM
ETCORGANIZING.COM



Out & About

Fire Safety Event Fun for the Whole Family

By Judy Heller

Heavy summer rains failed to dampen spirits or quell the fun at "Friends of Fire Fighters," a successful fire-safety event held July 15 at Taney Park. Lots of smiling children hopped in the cab of the fire truck, grabbed the wheel, and pretended they were heading the brigade as they "drove" the truck to put out the fire. Equally smiling parents watched, reliving their childhood. The firefighters were super friendly and engaging. They hoisted kids into the fire truck, helped them put on a captain's helmet, and answered questions about the equipment. As an added bonus, they gave out coloring books on fire safety. Kudos to Robin Kohles and the CCRA education and family programs committee for pulling this program together, along with supporting efforts by CCRA Executive Director Steve Huntington. We look forward to making this an annual event.



Photos by Robin Kohles

Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival...

Continued from p. 9



Judy Golden

and then she invited me to join the committee,” recalls Golden. Eventually she transitioned into serving as Chair of the Arts Council, which segued into her leading the Gershman Y Board (as its first female president), and culminated in Golden’s three-decade stint as Co-Chair of the Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival.

Brooklyn native Ruth Perlmutter, Ph.D., taught film studies and related subjects at the University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, and the Tyler School of Art over a period of almost 30 years. Her husband, fellow Brooklynite Archie Perlmutter, was an M.I.T. graduate, earning bachelor’s and master’s degrees in chemical engineering; he would go on to work on the Manhattan Project. After hitting it off at a friend’s birthday party in Crown Heights in 1947, Ruth and Archie went on to marry and share their passion for cinema with others. As avid cinephiles, Ruth founded local film clubs and in time wrote extensively about film for a number of publications, both regional and national. Ruth is currently PJFF’s Artistic Director Emeritus and continues to serve on the screening committee.

She recalls Archie’s early involvement with the Festival and what drew him to it. “He was already a film buff. I was really Dr. Frankenstein, because he was my monster; I created him. And [film] went straight to his intellectual core and he was very much an intellectual to begin with. We traveled all over the world to film festivals, and around 1980 I said to him, ‘Look, you’re disenchanted with your work, you’re interested in secular Judaism, and you love movies. So what could be better? Start a Jewish film festival; they just started one in San Francisco.’ And so we did that.”

Golden adds: “At the very beginning, Archie and I were asked to co-chair PJFF; Archie because of his great knowledge of film, and I because of my activities with the Y over all those years. And the very first program that we did was actually one that had been put together by the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, and we essentially just bought that

program and put it on. After that, we decided we could do it ourselves.”

While the Festival came to earn citywide recognition and longevity, in the early days there were no guarantees. “We had our ups and downs,” says Perlmutter. “It was something new; Philadelphia wasn’t used to it and Jewish people weren’t used to it. In recent years, it has grown to be very successful due to Olivia [Antsis, current PJFF Director], Phyllis [Fischer], and Iris [Drechsler, current PJFF Artistic Chair].”

“In the early years of the festival,” Golden says, “we built a very good following. San Francisco was the first Jewish film festival in the country, and we were the second, and at this point I think there’s a Jewish film festival in every city and hamlet in the world. At the time, we thought it might last a few years; we weren’t sure how many Jewish films we could find, and, instead, the opposite has happened. The number of films being made has just grown and grown, and every year we have hundreds of films to look at in order to choose our programs.”

The current PJFF Chair, Phyllis Fischer, is originally from North Jersey but has called Philadelphia her home for the past 43 years. A Penn graduate with a degree in sociology, Fischer “wanted to save the world,” and was very active in the Civil Rights movement. But of a life dedicated to helping others, she takes the most pride in her work with PJFF.

“It gives me a chance to use all of my abilities to really express what matters to me,” Fischer says. “I’m very proud to be part of an organization that is helping to ensure the continuity of Jewish culture, identity, community and values.” It was her idea to try to get supporters of the Festival to “adopt” films, a type of sponsorship now proving fairly popular in the world of film festivals.

PJFF, like most film fests, takes place over the course of a few weeks. This wasn’t always the case. “We started with basically a format of one weekend a month, during which we would show a film Saturday night, Sunday afternoon and Sunday night,” says Golden. “And then, we added to that, several years later, a series of Monday [night] documentaries in the spring. Of course, a few years ago that format was changed completely to that of a two-week festival, simply because this is more common among Jewish film festivals today. Added to that is the spring film series, which is no longer

relegated strictly to documentaries, but includes films of any genre.”

At first, when asked to recall some of their fondest memories of the years they spent with the Festival, Golden, Perlmutter and Fischer each protest that there are just too many to count. But inevitably, there are a number of moments that stand out. Golden recalls: “We were supposed to have a star of a particular film, and at the last minute, that person canceled. So, instead, we got Peter Fonda. We went out for cocktails and dinner with him beforehand, just my husband and I, and he told us the wildest stories. We had a great time and were thrilled that he was so open and friendly. And then, of course, we had Elie Wiesel and he was an incredible man; he had a dynamism about him that you felt when you were with him.”

“We had some terrific moments; some extraordinary people came,” says Perlmutter. “Maurice Sendak, he was terrific. Jackie Mason came; we had the funniest night I ever experienced. We showed a silly French comedy, and afterwards, Jackie Mason came out and said, ‘This is what you call Jewish culture? I gave up my honorarium for this?’” She also counts Isaac Bashevis Singer and Jerzy Kosinski as guests of particular interest.

But the question remains: What, exactly, makes a film Jewish? According to Golden, “There are many ways to define what makes a film Jewish. We prefer a very broad definition. Archie Perlmutter thought that any movie he liked was Jewish; he could find Jewish content in anything.”

The 35th Annual Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival will take place at venues in and around Philadelphia November 7 – November 21. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit PJFF.org or call 215-545-4400.



Phyllis Fischer, left, with Olivia Antsis, film producer Nancy Spielberg and Iris Drechsler at Closing Night of the 2014 season.

4403

Sp

Spectrum
Scientifics

Spectrum Scientifics

Gifts for Science Enthusiasts

Great gifts for children and adults:
robots, telescopes, microscopes, fossils,
rockets, electronics kits, chemistry sets, plus
wild and crazy things with a science twist.

Philly Hotlist Best Children's Toys for 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2014!

4403 Main St., Manayunk
Philadelphia, PA 19127
(215) 667-8309



Spectrum-Scientifics
spectrum-scientifics.com



Baby Boomer or Millennial?
Enjoying Philly?

My mission is to help make people more secure about reaching
their ideal goals and dreams including your Center City lifestyle.

We use an exclusive holistic financial planning process,
and as a company, have more financial planning clients than any other firm!

Client Satisfaction Survey Score of 100.

Harvey C. Sacks, J.D.
Financial Advisor
Business Financial Advisor
Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
1515 Market Street
Suite 714
Philadelphia, PA 19102
Direct: 215 802 2509 F: 215 940 7902

* Source Based on the number of financial planning clients SEC-registered investment advisers disclosed annually. Date as of Dec. 31, 2012 available at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. The survey score is based on responses gathered within the preceding two years. The survey rates Ameriprise advisors on overall satisfaction, financial knowledge and other criteria. A score averages all responses and may not represent a particular client experience. A minimum number of responses are not required for a score. Working with this advisor is not a guarantee of future financial results. Investors should conduct their own evaluation of a financial advisor. Investment advisory services and products are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., a registered investment adviser. Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2014 Ameriprise Financial, Inc., All rights reserved.

1100086ACMR0115



TENTH CHURCH

P R E S C H O O L

A PRELUDE FOR LIFE

Nurturing the whole child through
music, literature, learning and play

For ages 2-PreK | Visit tenthpreschool.org for details
1701 DELANCEY STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103
A **MUSIC TOGETHER** Preschool

Come One, Come All!

Quarterly Town Hall-type meetings to begin this
October: As an added benefit of membership,
CCRA will be organizing informal get-togethers
with various government officials to provide a
forum for some direct discussions on issues that
concern our members.

Our first such meeting will be with Kenyatta
Johnson, Councilman for the Second District in
October (specific date, time, and location TBD).
Other city agency reps may be present depending
on the issues identified.

**Members should submit emails to
centercity@centercityresidents.org
identifying issues they wish to have
on the agenda by September 12, 2015.**

Further information about these meetings will be
contained in our weekly eNewsletters and CCQ.

Learn Benefits of Historic Easements to Property Owners, Historic Neighborhoods

By Dane Wells

Preservation easements are a vital tool to protect historic places for future generations. If you have invested a lot of time and energy into purchasing or restoring an historic building, this may be of interest, particularly if you want to ensure that future owners will “do the right thing” with your property.

Why would an owner enter into such an agreement? The primary reason should be the desire to see the property preserved as an historic structure. As a bonus, the owner may be eligible for a charitable contribution reducing federal income taxes, if certain IRS criteria are met.

An easement is a voluntary legal agreement between the owner of an historic property, and a qualified charitable easement holding organization, such as the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. It ensures, in perpetuity, that the property’s intrinsic historic values will be preserved, even when the property is sold to subsequent owners.

The primary restrictions of an historic preservation easement relate to the physical maintenance and possible alterations to the property’s exterior architectural

characteristics. A preservation easement basically gives the entity that holds the easement the responsibility to review and approve any work to the façades (which can, if so desired, also include significant interiors) as defined in the easement agreement. The organization is also responsible for monitoring the property on a regular basis. The person donating the easement retains ownership and rights of use.

The IRS rules are detailed, and meticulous attention should be paid to every aspect of the process. But, as a starter the property must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places or certified as significant in an historic district. Should listing be needed and warranted, this can be done with the help of the Preservation Alliance.

The tax deduction for the grant of an historic easement is the difference between the fair market value of the property before and after the grant. This is determined by a qualified appraisal prepared in compliance with IRS rules. While some taxpayers have been successful in taking substantial deductions, in other cases the IRS has argued that, due to local land-use restrictions, the donation has no value.

Homes Needed for CCRA’s 57th Annual Fall House Tour, Sunday 10/18

Our 57th Annual House Tour will be held on Sunday, Oct. 18. It is an important fundraiser for the Association. As hundreds of your neighbors have done before, would you consider placing your house, apartment, or condo on the Tour this year? We provide insurance and numerous on-site hosts/hostesses. You receive our deepest thanks, as well as recognition in our Tour Book and the *Center City Quarterly*. Please contact the CCRA office for further information, at 215-546-6719 or centercity@centercityresidents.org.

It is therefore important to consult with a tax adviser well versed in this area. A carefully prepared and well documented deduction that is “reasonable” is much more likely to survive an IRS audit.

More information, including some examples, can be obtained at www.preservationalliance.com/what-we-do/easements/. Those interested in how such an easement might be possible for them can attend a special workshop on October 21—see sidebar for details.

Workshop Offered

For those interested in learning more, the Center City Residents’ Association and the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia will be holding a seminar on October 21 in the board room of the Wells Fargo Bank, Broad & Walnut Streets. The meeting will begin with a wine-and-cheese reception in the Wells Fargo Banking Museum on the corner at 6 pm. This informative workshop enjoys the sponsorship of George C. Pilallis, Connelly & Moore Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors. There is a fee of \$15 per person, \$20 per couple, with the proceeds going to CCRA and PAGP. Advance registration by October 19 with the CCRA office is required.



A Wells Fargo wagon on display at the Banking Museum.

Courtesy Wells Fargo Banking Museum



We Are Now Serving Your Philadelphia Neighborhood

- *Companionship*
- *Homemaking*
- *Medication Reminders*
- *Meal Preparation*
- *Personal Care*
- *Errands & Appointments*
- *Trained & Insured*
- *Background Checked*

Call for your FREE C.A.R.E. Assessment.

(267) 499-4700

www.synergyhomecare.com



FITNESS WORKS

PERSONAL TRAINING

Private Studio or Onsite

Gian Costello

Certified Personal Trainer, ISSA

www.fitness-works.biz • 267-808-1522

giancostello@fitness-works.biz

**STRENGTH TRAINING
CARDIO • YOGA
WEIGHT LOSS
HEALTHY EATING
RITTENHOUSE AREA**

Say Cheese!



Downtown Cheese



Salumeria



Valley Shepherd

READING TERMINAL MARKET

MON-SAT 8-6 & SUN 9-5 • \$4/2HRS PARKING • 12TH & ARCH STREETS • 215-922-2317 www.readingterminalmarket.org

CCRA Fall Calendar – Chillin' Out

Fringe Festival, sponsored by Fringe Arts
Thursday, Sept. 3 to Saturday, Sept. 19
<http://fringearts.com/about/festival-guide/>

S'Mores Nights on the back patio
First Fridays, 6 to 8 p.m., Sept. 4; Oct. 2;
Nov. 6; Dec. 4
Fireside Camp Supply, 2207 South Street
Store owner Christina Saboe will supply
ingredients to make s'mores over a campfire
or barbecue. BYO wine/beer. Details on
Facebook; or phone Christina at 267-928-2757.

Organ Demonstrations
Free at the Kimmel
Saturdays at 1 p.m., Sept. 12; Oct. 24; Nov. 14
Broad and Spruce Streets
<http://www.kimmelcenter.org/events/?org=355>

RH²–Rosh Hashanah in Rittenhouse Square
Welcome the Jewish New Year with your
“Neighborhood” Synagogue, BZBI. Sing,
dance, celebrate, bring your friends.
Sunday, Sept. 13
Bzbi.org

Rittenhouse Square Fine Arts Show
Friday, Sept. 18, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 20, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Celebrate Peace Day Philly and International Day of Peace
Sunday, Sept. 20 and Monday, Sept. 21
Ethical Humanist Society, Rittenhouse Square
www.peacedayphilly.org/events



A dragon boat crew plies the Schuylkill.

World Meeting of Families Congress
Tuesday, Sept. 22 to Friday, Sept. 25
Pope's Visit Saturday, Sept. 26 to Sunday,
Sept. 27. www.worldmeeting2015.org

Ars Nova Workshop features Barry Altschul Trio
Thursday, Sept. 24, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia Art Alliance
251 South 18th Street
<http://www.arsnovaworkshop.org/events/barry-altschul-trio-09-24-2015>

Philadelphia International Dragon Boat Festival
Saturday, Oct. 3 at 8 a.m.
Schuylkill River
www.philadragonboatfestival.com

Fourth Annual Elementary School Fair
Monday, Oct. 5
The Franklin Institute
222 North 20th Street

DesignPhiladelphia
Thursday, Oct. 8 to Friday, Oct. 16
More than 130 events highlighting architecture,
fashion, furniture, multimedia and urban-
planning design. 2015.designphiladelphia.org

Philly Photo Day
Friday, Oct. 9
The Philadelphia Photo Arts Center
(PPAC) invites everyone to take a photo
in Philadelphia that day. PPAC then prints
and hangs every single image in a gallery
exhibition in November and December, and
selected images on billboards around the city
and at an outdoor exhibition in Dilworth Plaza
in March and April 2016.
www.philaphotoarts.org/event

Pennsylvania Guild Fine Craft Fair
Rittenhouse Square
Friday, Oct. 9, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 10, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 11, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Dream of Wonderland: Alice Turns 150
Anniversary celebration of Alice in Wonderland
Includes material from Lewis Carroll collection
Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2015, to
Sunday, Mar. 27, 2016
Rosenbach Museum and Library
2008 Delancey Place



Join Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel as they welcome the Jewish New Year at RH², their second annual celebration of Rosh Hashanah in Rittenhouse Square.

Continued p. 27



To learn more about the life-expanding opportunities at this thriving multi-generational Quaker-affiliated residential community in Center City Philadelphia, call us at 267-639-5257 or request an appointment on our web site www.friendscentercity.org

- To visit Riverfront or to join FitC
Call 267-639-5257 OR
- Go online at: www.friendscentercity.org
OR
- Email us at info@friendscentercity.org

Be sure to include your full name, address, phone number and email address when you contact us.



FitC is a membership-based community without walls.

We provide an age friendly gateway to the city and its resources for members of all backgrounds.

As a member you will enjoy unprecedented access to events and activities in downtown Philadelphia and you will share those experiences with a community of people who are as committed to the concept of urban engagement as you are.

Join us at FitC to Dine, Share, Read, Exercise, Volunteer, Act, Power lunch, Interact, Experience, Enjoy, Learn, Attend, and Explore with others



**DON'T LET THE NEW ZONING CODE
MAKE YOU CRAZY.**

Crack the code with plain English definitions of confusing terms. Go to:

www.zoningandrealstate.com



Brought to you by **ExecuSpeak**
DICTIONARY®

TransAmerican
OFFICE FURNITURE INC.



*Creating Sustainable and Cost Effective
Workplace Environments since 1976*

Contact Sam Weinberg Today!
Former CCRA President

Office 215-482-8550 x255 • Cell 215-704-6569
sweinberg@transamfurn.com

3800 Main St. • Phila, PA 19127 • www.transamfurn.com

CCRA Fall Calendar...

Continued from p. 25

23rd Philadelphia Film Festival

Philadelphia Film Society
Thursday, Oct. 15 to Sunday, Oct. 25
<http://filmadelphia.org/festival/>

Philadelphia Open Studio Tour (POST)

Sponsored by The Center for Emerging Visual Artists
Saturday, Oct. 17 and Sunday, Oct. 18
Artists' studios and galleries in Center City west of Broad Street will be open to the public. For addresses go to <http://philaopenstudios.org/post/neighborhood/center-city-west>

Center City Residents' Association 57th Annual Fall House Tour

Sunday, Oct. 18, 1 to 5 p.m.
www.centercityresidents.org

Country Fair, City Style

Featuring Blue Ribbon Dessert and Pet Photo Contests
Saturday Oct. 24, 7 to 11 p.m.
Trinity Memorial Church
2212 Spruce Street
Tickets \$10 per person to benefit the Building Fund

Head of Schuylkill Regatta: Gold Cup Challenge

Saturday, Oct. 24 and Sunday, Oct. 25
<http://hosr.org/>



Donna Strang

Families register at the 2014 Elementary School Fair. Don't miss CCRA's Fourth Annual event at the Franklin Institute, Oct. 5.



Bonnie Eisenfeld

Meet, mix and mingle with new members at a CCRA Party celebrating the Print's Center's 100th Birthday.

27th Annual Liberty Medal Award to Dalai Lama of Tibet

Monday, Oct. 26, 5 p.m.
National Constitution Center
525 Arch St.
Also broadcast on WPVI-TV/6ABC

The Print Center Celebrates 100th Anniversary

CCRA is helping to throw them a party
Monday, Oct. 26
1617 Latimer Street
Free to CCRA members; bring an adult under 40 to introduce to CCRA. Stay tuned for details.

Fitler Square Halloween Party

In a yearly tradition, Fitler Square Improvement Association welcomes neighbors and friends for a Pumpkin Hunt and Costume Party the weekend of Halloween.
<http://fitlersquare.org/events.html>

Election Day

Tuesday, November 3
For information on polling places, registration deadlines, and more, go to www.seventy.org/

Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival / 35th Anniversary

Saturday, Nov. 7 to Saturday, Nov. 21
Various venues around the city
For programs, tickets, subscriptions visit PJFF.org

Gore-Tex Philadelphia Marathon

Friday, Nov. 20 to Sunday, Nov. 22
<http://www.philadelphiamarathon.com/>

Curtis Institute of Music

Alumni and student recitals, ongoing
Field Concert Hall, 1726 Locust Street
For performance schedule, see Curtis events calendar at <http://commonroom.curtis.edu/curtis-calendar-home>



Andy Nicolini

One of the stunning homes on last year's CCRA House Tour; be sure to get your tickets for the 57th Annual tour on Oct. 18.

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

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Fourth Annual Elementary School Fair

Monday, October 5
The Franklin Institute
222 North 20th Street

CCRA's 57th Annual House Tour

Sunday, October 18, 1 to 5 p.m.
www.centercityresidents.org

Celebrate The Print Center's 100th Anniversary with CCRA

Monday, October 26
1617 Latimer Street

CCCulture

Save the Date—Bring a Date!

By Barbara Halpern

The Print Center, a bi-level photography and print gallery at 1617 Latimer Street, is celebrating its 100th Anniversary, and you are invited to join the festivities.

CCRA and other local nonprofits are teaming up on Monday, October 26, to throw a cocktail party at the Center, which will feature an exhibition, *Bayside Revisited*, Cuban-American artist Gabriel Martinez' reflections on the history of the iconic gay mecca of Fire Island. Also on display are some amazing historic prints from their collection, as well as several newly commissioned works, including an immersive film projection installation. Meet, mingle, drink and nosh.

Admission to this exciting new event is free to CCRA members, but there's a catch; **we are asking that all members/couples bring with them an adult under the age of 40.** For CCRA, this is a "coming up" party for our younger CCRA board



Work in progress from the studio of Gabriel Martinez.

Courtesy of The Print Center

members, whom you will also get to meet! More details will become available as the date gets closer (see the weekly eNewsletter for updates), but in the meantime...**SAVE THE DATE! GET A DATE!**