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Our Greene Countrie Towne

Kenneth D. Frank and the Ecology of Center City Philadelphia

By Lee Horne

Ken Frank's recently published *Ecology of Center City Philadelphia* focuses on the lives of some Center City residents who don't usually get much press. Some of them you probably know well – from sparrows, squirrels and the common blue violet, to stink bugs and cockroaches. Others likely will have escaped your notice: the stink bug hunter? liverwort? bridge spiders?

To bring these members of our community into their historical and environmental contexts, Frank proceeds like an investigative reporter. He poses questions, tracks down the evidence, searches archives, and consults with academic

experts. He makes skillful use of all the remarkable resources that Philadelphia offers, from the vast collections and expertise of the Academy of Natural Sciences, to the recollections and unwritten observations of his own neighbors.

It is both a decidedly local community effort and a model for what other densely occupied urban centers might undertake. It is also an extremely readable and beautifully illustrated book, easy to follow, yet not shy of unobtrusive endnotes for those who want them.

Continued p. 2



Ailanthus webworm moth on Ageratina altissima on MLK Drive Sept 17 2011.

Ken Frank

Continued from p. 1

Each of 27 chapters and 17 short “spotlights” features a different species and set of questions. Two summary chapters wrap it up. Together they tell a story of introductions, extinctions and adaptations amid the perils and benefits of city life.

Frank shot most of the book’s 272 photographs himself, initially with a Nikon D200 and later with a Nikon D800. Some of his most amusing anecdotes about the book revolve around the challenges of trying not to attract attention while crawling on his hands and knees taking pictures with a very large camera, a long lens and a flash.

Natural science has long been part of Frank’s life. At Amherst College he majored in biology with a special interest in entomology (the study of insects), which led to an undergraduate project on circadian rhythms in fruit flies, and two summers in Trinidad assisting a professor in his study of butterflies.

Frank went on to Harvard Medical School and then medical practice in Philadelphia; nearly 40 years ago, in 1977, he and his wife, Sue, settled into their house on Pine Street near Fitler Square, where they still live today. Several generations of patients and their families will remember him from his days of primary-care practice in West Philadelphia – first at 36th and Walnut, then 36th and Market, and finally at the VA Hospital.



House sparrow on Independence Mall, Dec 13 2012

But a busy medical practice with its non-stop, 12+-hour days left little time for nature study. In the evenings, his greatest pleasure was to relax in front of his garden door. By installing a black light to attract moths and other flying insects, Frank found he could study and photograph them at night without even leaving home.

His urban projects really got underway, however, when he gave up his car 12 or so years ago. Without it, he lost the easy access to the parks and wildlife centers surrounding Philadelphia that he’d always enjoyed. In exchange he discovered an unexplored territory right in his own neighborhood.

Urban ecology in a core downtown area was seldom – if ever – written about. Frank realized he could make a credible scientific contribution that would require no grants or take much time away from home and work, and was within walking distance of home to boot. What could be better? When he retired



Salamander in Fitler Square October 20, 2012.

from his medical practice in 2011, he finally had the time he needed to complete this inaugural volume for the Fitler Square Press.

What will he do next? It’s an open project, he says, because he is constantly driven by the need to know more. He has already given or is about to give talks to the American Entomological Society, the Wissahickon Restoration Volunteers, the Philadelphia Botanical Club, and Penn’s Village on new material not included here (featuring Japanese beetles, bees, butter-and-eggs, and the ecology of Rittenhouse Square, respectively). These and more will appear in a future volume.

Ecology of Center City Philadelphia is available for all to read and download without cost. A bound, full-color, softcover version is available for purchase. <http://fitlersquarepress.com>
FitlerSquarePress@gmail.com

Town Square

City Agencies and Officials Offer Swift Response to CCRA and Neighbors’ Concerns in the Wake of Catastrophic Apartment Fire

At St. Patrick’s Parish Hall on January 28, a little more than a week after a devastating apartment-house fire on the 2100 block of Locust Street, Councilman Kenyatta Johnson (standing at lectern) addresses the sizeable crowd that assembled to express their concerns. Seated to his right are representatives of the Police and Fire Departments, L&I, and other city agencies charged with handling various issues surrounding the incident. According to CCRA Vice President and Government Relations Committee Chair Harvey Sacks, the serious issues many audience members raised with regard to L&I have prompted his committee to ask Councilman Johnson’s office to organize a public forum in collaboration with CCRA, which, he says, is now in the works.



Donna Strug

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President’s Report

Fusion by Fire: A Neighborhood Comes Together in a Crisis



Charles Goodwin
CCRA President

On January 28, I attended a community forum about the apartment-house fire January 19 at Locust and Van Pelt. Our Councilman, Kenyatta Johnson, had taken a lead in organizing the forum with CCRA’s help. Weeks will have passed by the time you read this.

Councilman Johnson brought the head of the local Red Cross, the Fire Commissioner, our police captain, staff from the Managing Director’s office, Sen. Larry Farnese’s staff, and the Department of Licenses and Inspection (L&I) to the meeting.

I know we’re supposed to be tough on our elected officials, but the councilman and his staff did an impressive job organizing the forum on a tight schedule. Their concern for the Center City community was there for everyone to see.

As of this writing, the facts about the fire are still thin. The cause is not known. Arson has been ruled out. We know the fire started on the first floor. We know it traveled up the middle of the building and involved the roof, perhaps through a plumbing chase. Some apartments were totally destroyed, while others did not suffer significant fire damage.

The fire – if you were lucky enough *not* to have seen it first hand – was horrific. The flames so engulfed the roof, while embers floated on the wind, that it would not have been credible if you’d seen it in a movie.

No residents were injured or killed. Two firefighters suffered minor injuries.

Victims, near-neighbors and the general community came to the forum. All were grateful to and impressed with the Fire Department for battling the blaze, and to the Police Department for its courtesy while keeping the street closed. We were fortunate to have an incredible response from the Fire Department. Evidently, the blaze could have been far worse, spreading to adjacent

buildings. Similar fires have consumed as many as eight homes.

Criticism was leveled at L&I. Several people raised concerns that L&I has not been sufficiently vigilant on building safety and construction issues. Frustration was expressed at an apparent inconsistency in the level of scrutiny as to different property owners.

There was also concern and confusion as to the safety of the burned-out building. L&I has classified the building as an imminent threat, and suggested that closing that block of Locust to traffic would be wise. One neighbor praised L&I for its diligence and thoroughness in inspecting the fire site, expressing confidence that, while the building is not safe, it is stable enough for the present.

What was impressive about the forum was the way our community came together. For some reason, various voices often seem to speak as if Center City isn’t a neighborhood. January 28 – and the expressions of concern and compassion that came into the CCRA office in the week between the fire and the forum – should make this unambiguous: Center City is as much a neighborhood as any other in this town. People in this neighborhood care about each other. People in this neighborhood respond to adversity by seeking to help. People in this neighborhood care about their neighborhood – that’s why there is a CCRA. We are a neighborhood.



Devastation in the aftermath of the fire.



*Bella Vista Neighbors Association * Center City Residents' Association * Central Roxborough Civic Association * East Falls Community Council * East Kensington Neighborhood Association * 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 2016 – Education, Parking & Zoning/Council Suggestions

By Steve Huntington, Crosstown Coalition Chair

Sixty Crosstown delegates and City Council staffers gathered on January 19 for a Coalition social, featuring the presentation of the Coalition's first annual report (available online at philacrosstown.org), and the announcement of the Coalition's 21st member, East Kensington Neighborhood Association, as well as committee reports on goals for the new year.

The Coalition education committee is planning the second Friends of Neighborhood Schools Summit in April, a reprise of last year's event, which attracted 120 participants from more than 25 schools.

Another project in the works is the Crosstown Parking questionnaire, which was tested on CCRA members last December, then delivered in January to the 20 other Coalition civics for presentation to their respective address lists.

Coalition representatives also rolled out two whitepapers at the event. One, entitled "Recommendations to Improve Zoning Board Performance," was prepared by a Crosstown-convened stakeholder group comprised of civics, developers and real-estate/design professionals. The resulting report was issued by the Coalition and two trade groups, the Building Industry Association and the Development Workshop.

Among the proposals is a suggestion that professional/career qualifications be set in place for members of the Zoning Board. While the Planning, Historical and Art Commissions specify qualifications necessary for service, there are no such requirements for service on the Zoning Board – even though the Board reviews more projects each year than the other three commissions combined. Other suggestions in the whitepaper include revising Board scheduling practices to minimize "down time" at hearings, and increasing the staff support and financial remuneration for the Zoning Board.

The other whitepaper calls for changes in Council's legislative procedures to facilitate more effective citizen participation. Currently, community voices are heard either at committee hearings after bills have been drafted and introduced, or even later in the process when bills are presented to Council for a vote.

A better system would enable civic input during the drafting process so that neighborhoods could deal proactively with legislative issues, rather than reacting to proposals that have already been vetted and approved by Council and administration staffers. The Coalition suggests that legislative proposals be held for public commentary before being introduced into Council.

A further recommendation would change sequencing procedures to ensure that Planning Commission input is received prior to committee hearings. Current procedures permit bills to simultaneously proceed through Planning Commission and City Council so that a bill may be heard in committee before the Planning Commission has provided commentary.

Another proposal calls for Council committees to play a more active role in the legislative process. As matters stand now, legislation is not held in committee for amendments in response to commentary presented at committee hearings. Instead legislation routinely passes out of committee to the Council floor with the assurance that revisions can be negotiated with bill sponsors. However once a Bill is reported out of committee it can be passed within eight calendar days so that time constraints can restrict negotiations occurring once a bill has been dispatched from committee.

The Coalition also requests that an ombudsman be created to update Registered Community Organizations on Council calendar activities, and maintain the interpersonal contacts provided by paid staffers and lobbyists employed by better-funded professional groups.

City Denizens Bring the Constitution Alive for Students

By Lois West, Director of Communication, The Philadelphia School

Throughout their final, capstone year at The Philadelphia School, 8th graders are constitutional scholars, focusing their attention on the Bill of Rights and subsequent amendments to the United States Constitution. They begin their studies by learning about the origins of this seminal document – its own historical roots – and they close the year by presenting findings on their own research on complex constitutional issues to Senate and White House staffers in Washington, D.C.

Classroom discussion and project work are complemented by “Monthly Constitutionals,” a speakers’ series featuring guests who not only reinforce classroom study but also bring the Constitution alive for students. Ranging from historians to legal scholars to politicians, Monthly Constitutional speakers demonstrate that the Constitution is a powerful, relevant document that affects their own work and the lives of everyone who lives in this country each day. Says teacher Emily Marston, “We are so appreciative of our guest speakers; it is critical for young people to meet individuals who are the type of engaged citizens we hope we are preparing our students to be.”

Of course, there is no better place for young students to immerse themselves in all things constitutional than Philadelphia, the birthplace of our nation’s Great Experiment. However, the city offers so much more as a major American metropolis, with its wealth of scholarly, governmental, and legal resources – as well as, unfortunately, its myriad complex societal issues that need resolution.



Penn Professor Dorothy Roberts, an acclaimed scholar of race, gender, and the law, led the students in a passionate discussion on family law.

Monthly Constitutionals bring these issues to light, and introduce students to individuals from their own Philadelphia community who are dedicated to creating a “more perfect union.” One recent guest was federal prosecutor Paige Pratter, who vividly illustrated the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 8th amendments for the students by walking them through a recent bank-robbery case.

A sampling of other guest speakers includes political-law attorney Adam Bonin (who spoke on *Citizens United*); Penn Law Professor Dorothy Roberts (privacy rights and the family); Executive Director of Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts Lynn Marks (which seeks merit selection rather election of judges); Legal Aid attorney Benjamin West (is there justice for all?); State Representative Brian Sims (state versus federal legislative work); former Executive Director of Community Legal Services Catherine Carr (“civil *Gideon*”); Federal Administrative Law Judge Theresa Timlin (employment law); and Executive Director of the Education Law Center Deborah Gordon

Klehr (First Amendment issues relating to children).

Since its founding in 1972, The Philadelphia School has recognized the enormous value of using the city’s vast historical, cultural, and educational institutional resources as an extension of its classrooms. This means, however, that students not only leave the school building regularly to take advantage of Philadelphia’s extraordinary museums, libraries, theaters, and historic sites – it also means bringing its people into our classrooms.

Says 8th grader Jillian Yum, “Monthly Constitutionals have shown me how an 18th-century document, while remaining the law of the land, can be rethought, rearranged, and renovated to apply to modern situations and ideas. Most importantly: young people can be the architects and catalysts for change.”

The Philadelphia School is a nonsectarian independent school educating children in preschool through 8th grade. For more information, please visit www.tpschool.org.

Out & About

Keep Current with Events in Center City

To learn about events in Center City, sign up to receive *(IN) Center City*, the bimonthly e-newsletter published by the Center City District. You will also receive *CCD Parks*, a monthly e-newsletter containing information about programs and events at the four CCD-managed parks: Dilworth Park at City Hall, Sister Cities Park at 18th Street & the Ben Franklin Parkway, John F. Collins Park at 1707 Chestnut Street, and Cret Park at 16th Street & the Parkway. www.centercityphila.org/incentercity/signup.php

—Bonnie Eisenfeld

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Great Bags Come Back to Rittenhouse Square

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

When the Pennsylvania Guild Fine Craft Fair comes to Rittenhouse Square every Spring, I always look for the **GreatBags®/Maple Leather Company** booth, where Seymour Mondshein and his wife, Lisa Martin, exhibit their handbags, backpacks and fanny packs made of leather, tapestry and nylon. I own three of these handbags, so I usually take one of them to visit its cousins. These handbags never wear out – after many years they look brand new.

If the handbags are so indestructible, I asked Mondshein, then how does he get repeat business? To which he laughed and said, “Each bag has 10,000 zips in it.”

GreatBags® are custom-designed from an array of styles, fabrics and patterns. Buyers are mostly city women, ages 12 to 80, who want lightweight, safe, and durable bags with lots of pockets and zippers, not easily robbed, and beautifully designed. Sixty-thousand people have purchased these bags.

Explaining his philosophy, Mondshein says, “As a designer I strive to create work of lasting beauty, designs which are both durable and functional... I use only the finest materials available and the highest levels of craftsmanship.” Each year, Mondshein talks to thousands of women about what they want in a bag and designs new styles. Those of us who know these bags recognize one instantly, and exchange information about how many bags we have and how long we have had them.



French Satchel Tote 223 in Kandinsky-inspired fabric with ballistic nylon.



Lisa Martin and Seymour Mondshein

The son of a European-trained furrier and Holocaust survivor whose craft saved his life, Mondshein learned to make small leather pouches in his father’s fur shop in Newark, New Jersey. While attending the College of New Jersey, Mondshein made these leather pouches in his dorm room and sold them on a blanket in the student center, then at the Golden Nugget Market in Lambertville, and later at the 1973 American Craft Council Craft Show in Rhinebeck, New York.

While still an undergraduate he interned at a tannery, and learned about manufacturing by traveling with sales reps to handbag companies. After college he continued his course work in design at the

New School, the Fashion Institute of Technology, and Parsons School of Design in New York City. His first studio was in Hopewell, N.J., followed by a factory space in Lambertville.

Now GreatBags®/Maple Leather Company has a showcase and studio in the renovated chicken hatchery of Cane Farm, 14 Raven Rock Road, Rosemont, N.J. Mondshein exhibits at about 20 U.S. regional crafts shows each year, including Lincoln Center and the American Crafts Council. The Philadelphia Museum of Art and several local stores sell these bags, and you can purchase them online at www.greatbags.com.

CCCulture

Jules Heller Prints on Exhibit at Jefferson Blood Donor Center

Art historian, professor of art history at the University of the Arts, and Center City resident **Nancy G. Heller** has donated prints by her late father, artist **Jules Heller**, to Jefferson Hospital. Jules Heller (1919-2007) was a pioneering American artist, author and teacher who spent nearly seven decades exploring all sorts of printmaking and papermaking techniques. Heller was Founding Dean of Fine Arts at both the Pennsylvania State University and York University in Toronto, Canada; he also served as Arts Dean at his alma mater in Arizona. Heller was an artist-in-residence in Mexico, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and northern Argentina, and the recipient of many awards. His work is represented in prestigious public and private collections. The donated prints are on exhibit at the Jefferson Blood Donor Center, 111 South 10th Street, Gibbon 1114 (ground level). <http://www.julesheller.net>.



Jules Heller's "Beastie III," 1982, monotype.

Courtesy of Nancy G. Heller

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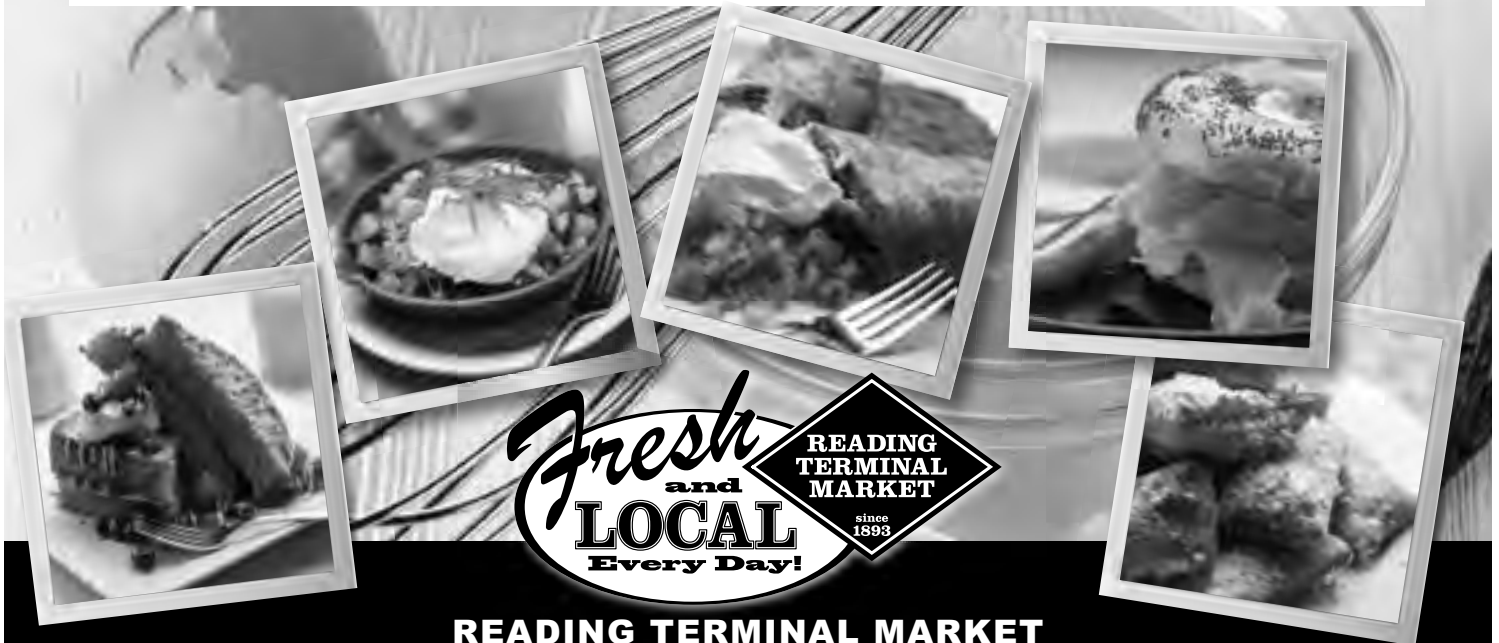
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Richardson Dilworth, an Urbanist for the Ages

By Bill West

I was born and grew up in New York City. I didn't move to Philadelphia until I was in my 30s. Aside from Benjamin Franklin and Grace Kelly, I think the first Philadelphian I heard of was Edmund Bacon (father of Kevin). And the second was Richardson Dilworth.

But I confess I didn't know very much about Dilworth until I sat down and read Peter Binzen's excellent 2014 biography, *Richardson Dilworth, Last of the Bare-Knuckled Aristocrats*. I didn't know he'd been a 19-year-old Marine rifleman at the battle of Belleau Wood in World War I, or that he'd won the Silver Star on Guadalcanal in World War II, or that he'd struggled with alcohol for most of his life.

And what a life it was. Born to wealth, educated at Yale and Yale Law School, a successful law career, then four jobs with the City of Philadelphia – treasurer, district attorney, mayor, and president of the Philadelphia Board of Education.

And what a cast of characters. Moses Annenberg, one of Dilworth's most important law clients. Jack Kelly, Olympic oarsman and father of Grace. Albert M. Greenfield, Gus Amsterdam, Bernard Watson.

Sam Dash, later famous as counsel for the Senate Watergate Committee, worked for Dilworth. So did William T. Coleman, later U.S. Secretary of Transportation, and A. Leon Higginbotham Jr., later chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

A bold and innovative reformer with a calculated temper and a remarkably disarming sense of humor, Dilworth's breakthrough moment came in 1951, when he teamed with Joe Clark to oust a Republican political machine that had run Philadelphia for 67 years. Clark became

mayor; Dilworth became district attorney, and then succeeded Clark as mayor.

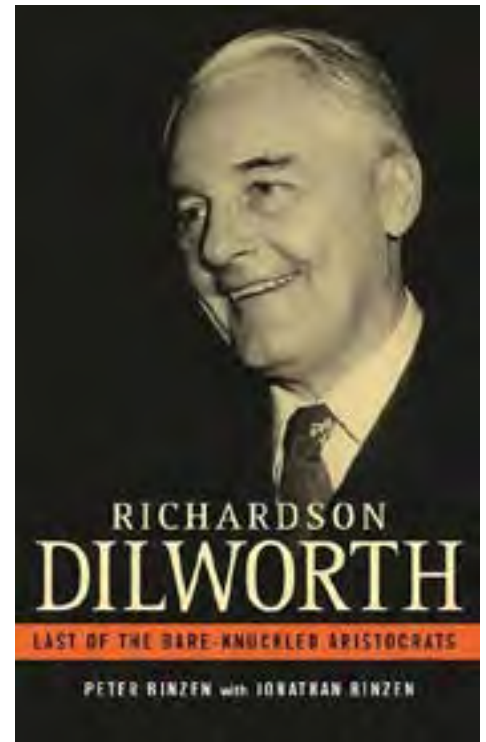
As D.A., Dilworth did something that would be worthy of note even today. He insisted on fair trials. As one observer put it, "He wanted to make sure justice was done and if mistakes were made to admit them." (P. 116.)

U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy tangled with Dilworth in 1953. McCarthy was busy hunting for communists in government, and suspected spy Alger Hiss had been convicted of perjury. Dilworth reportedly said that a thousand Alger Hisses hurt less than one McCarthy.

McCarthy challenged Dilworth to a televised debate, and at the debate Dilworth defended his statement. "We can put traitors in jail," Dilworth said to McCarthy, "but demagogues remain too long above and beyond the processes of the law." (P. 119.)

Elected mayor in 1955, Dilworth turned out to be an urbanist for the ages. His work with Ed Bacon – particularly the revival of Society Hill – is well known. Other stories, less well known, place him at the center of debates that are going on today.

Parking in South Philly was a problem even in 1961, when, as Binzen puts it, "the mayor proposed requiring residents to pay for overnight parking spaces in front of their houses. The proceeds of the \$40-a-year licenses" – what amounts to about \$320 today – "were to be earmarked for building off-street parking lots. Such a plan worked in Milwaukee, but Dilworth's scheme got nowhere. When he confronted his critics at a stormy public meeting, rock throwers targeted the building. A city councilman, Tom Foglietta, was cut by flying glass." (P. 140.)



From the book jacket.

Dilworth also wanted to ban cars in the center of the city. Writes Binzen, "His concept was to create a restricted area that would comprise some 400 blocks, from 8th Street west to the Schuylkill River and from Spring Garden Street south to Lombard and South Streets." (P. 151.)

After leaving the mayor's office, Dilworth became involved in a project to develop high-speed rail service between Boston and Washington. President Kennedy encouraged his work, but Kennedy's successor, Lyndon Johnson of Texas, was an entirely different proposition. When he finally got to meet with Johnson, Dilworth said, "It was very clear that he just couldn't be less interested. He just sat there wondering what the hell we were talking about. All he could envision was where he lived. And he would either get a helicopter or an airplane or else get in that enormous Lincoln and drive on a straight road to Austin at 95 miles an hour. So who needed or wanted a train?" (Pp. 155-156.)

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Ruth and Rick Snyderman: Fifty Years of Fine Crafts

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

“What is Craft? Making close contact with materials, technical skills plus imagination, tangible results in the form of things, sometimes pushing at the outer limits of function, taking the material for a walk. The American Customs & Excise definition of ‘a work of art’ is that the owner must be able to prove it is completely useless. Craft work is something else, though it can produce objects for contemplation as well as objects for use.”

— Christopher Frayling,
Royal College of Art, London

The American studio craft movement started in the 19th century as a reaction to and rejection of mechanization and mass production. Independent artists and studios began creating well-designed and well-crafted, one-of-a-kind functional objects from various materials including wood, glass, ceramics, textiles and metal.

After World War II, European artists brought their traditions and knowledge to America. As a result of their influence, the craft movement in America became international in scope. By mid-20th century, Center City residents Ruth and Rick Snyderman had developed their appreciation for fine crafts. The Snydermans’ galleries mounted shows by top artists and craft studios, and eventually the couple became Philadelphia’s leading craft exhibitors. They are pioneers in development of not only the craft market and art appreciation programs but also emerging neighborhoods in Philadelphia.

Artists don’t get enough credit for economic development. Often marginal

neighborhoods with cheap rents attract artists; soon restaurants, galleries, shops and theaters move in, and the neighborhood becomes a vibrant magnet for new residents and visitors. The Snydermans are a case in point.

In 1965, Ruth Snyderman founded The Works Gallery on Locust Street, which specialized in ceramics, jewelry and fiber. Later the gallery moved to South Street, where Ruth was active in the South Street Renaissance of the 1970s. Rick Snyderman joined his wife at The Works Gallery in 1972, and in 1983 he formed Snyderman Gallery, specializing in contemporary studio furniture and glass. Knowing that rents would rise as the area became more popular, the Snydermans purchased their buildings and helped other entrepreneurs do the same, enabling them to stay on South Street as it developed.

In 1992 Rick Snyderman moved his gallery to Old City, where he helped launch First Friday, a monthly event that draws thousands of visitors, attracted by more than 50 galleries and design studios, visual and performing arts centers, museums, theaters and restaurants. Old City has become one of Philadelphia’s major cultural attractions. In 1996, the two galleries merged into Snyderman-Works Galleries, and continue to be the center of Philadelphia’s craft world, exhibiting works by internationally known artists.

In 2015, the Snydermans celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage and the founding of the gallery. Both have been astounding successes. Their son, Evan, curated a special exhibit to commemorate the dual anniversary, and made a video,



Ruth and Rick Snyderman in front of Warren Seelig’s “Shadowfield Granite Path”

Courtesy of Snyderman-Works Galleries

Fifty Years and Counting, the Snyderman Family, Pioneers of Craft. In the video we see the work of various artists, learn the history of the galleries, and hear commentary by artists, collectors, other gallery owners, family and friends. According to Evan Snyderman, who narrates, the Snyderman family includes the “artists, collectors, and friends that Rick and Ruth have made along the way, who are welcomed into an ever-growing circle of people devoted to beautiful objects and their makers.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TjQEJDNdoo&feature=youtu.be>

The couple continue to be active with many local, national, and international organizations, including the Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts (Edgecomb, Maine), The Clay Studio (Philadelphia), and the National Crafts Council of Ireland.

Snyderman-Works Galleries’ Tenth International Fiber Biennial, an invitational exhibit of nationally and internationally prominent artists, opens March 4 and runs through April 16. You can visit Snyderman-Works Galleries at 303 Cherry Street, Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. <http://www.snyderman-works.com/>

Seelig To Be Honored April 7

Warren Seelig, a visiting professor at the University of the Arts, whose work “Shadowfield Granite Path” is displayed at right and above at the Snyderman-Works Galleries, is to be honored April 7 by the university. His work is in the permanent collections of the Philadelphia International Airport and the Pennsylvania Convention Center, and has been exhibited extensively as part of the U.S. State Department’s Art in Embassies program, most recently at the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem.



Courtesy of the artist and Snyderman-Works Galleries

Warren Seelig, “Shadowfield Granite Path,” granite and silver-brazed stainless steel, 2011

The Print Center Marks a Major Milestone

By Rachel Marks, Development and Communications Manager, The Print Center

In 2015 The Print Center, a nonprofit gallery nestled in a historic carriage house on Latimer Street, celebrated its 100th Anniversary. We marked the momentous occasion – 100 successful years dedicated to the growth and understanding of photography and printmaking as vital contemporary arts – with *The Print Center 100*, a citywide celebration of our legacy, which includes many contributions to the Philadelphia cultural landscape, and longstanding relationships with numerous fellow arts and culture institutions.

In addition to three Centennial exhibitions presented at The Print Center – *Gabriel Martinez: Bayside Revisited; Recollection;* and *The Print Center 100: Highlights in History* – we partnered with over 50 local, national and international colleagues to put print front and center in Philadelphia. Together we mounted 19 exhibitions of prints and photographs, presented 43 public programs, commissioned the creation of several dozen new artworks, and exhibited the work of more than 250 artists.

Exhibitions took place at partnering institutions including the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Free Library of Philadelphia, art galleries at City Hall, the University of the Arts and more than 10 other Philadelphia area galleries. Event highlights included the Centennial Gala & Street Party, where 250 people celebrated at Curtis Institute of Music and late into the night on Latimer Street; a panel discussion at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, with internationally renowned artists Elizabeth Peyton and Rikrit Tiravanija, and Sarah Suzuki of the Museum of Modern Art; an open-air screenprinting workshop at City



Centennial Street Party on Latimer Street on November 13, 2015

Hall; and the Neighborhood Social at the gallery, where we welcomed a terrifically fun crowd of Center City Residents' Association and Friends in the City members.

Though the celebration has officially concluded, a major part of it will live on, through a WHYY *Friday Arts* feature on The Print Center, Gabriel Martinez and the *Bayside Revisited* exhibition, produced by Michael O'Reilly. (The segment can be found in the *Friday Arts* Archive on whyy.org.)

This season we are pleased to present two group exhibitions running through April 23. One, *By the Book: New Photography Publications*, will feature new photography books displayed alongside the fine-art prints reproduced in the books. The nationally recognized artists include Keliy Anderson-Staley, Jesse Burke, Stephanie Bursese, David Hartt, Justine Kurland, Andrea Modica, Nadia Sablin and Will Steacy. The other, *Experiments in Print: Derrick Adams, Matthew Day Jackson, Dread Scott and Kate Shepherd* from the Lower East Side Printshop, features prints created at the New York-based printshop renowned for its expansive and experimental approach to printmaking.

Later this year, we will mount a solo exhibition by area printmaker Victoria Burge, a group photo and print show of work concerned with celestial imagery, and three

solo exhibitions awarded from our 90th *Annual International Competition*.

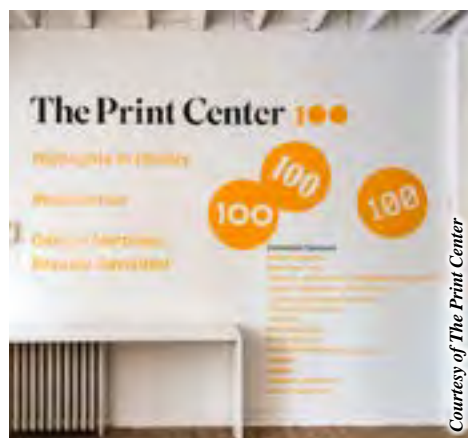
April 1-2, The Print Center is once again partnering with the Philadelphia Photo Arts Center and Fluxus to present the second iteration of The Philadelphia Art Book Fair. The fair will take place at The Annex on Filbert and will welcome photography and art book publishers, individual artists and institutions, and it will host lectures from key figures in their respective fields.

We are thrilled to begin a second century stronger than ever! We invite you to visit our upcoming exhibitions – and please introduce yourself when you do. It is no small feat for a small, medium-specific nonprofit to remain vibrant for 100 years, and we couldn't have done it without the longstanding support of our community.

General Information

The Print Center
1614 Latimer Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
p: 215.735.6090
printcenter.org
facebook.com/printcenterphilly;
@ThePrintCenter

Free and open to the public
11 a.m. – 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday



Interior of The Print Center during the Centennial Exhibitions

Collective Creativity: Local Artists Form Naudain Street Art Collaborative

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

The newly formed *Naudain Street Art Collaborative*, made up of artists on Naudain Street between 21st and 25th Streets and their friends, will be mounting exhibits six times a year. The inaugural show, featuring Ed Bronstein, an urban impressionist, and Emily Squires Levine, a polymer clay designer, was held on January 23.

The second exhibition is scheduled for March 5, featuring artists Betsy Alexander of Ravenswing Studio, who works in mixed media, and Lauren Sweeney, who creates still lifes and city scenes in watercolors.

Among the other member artists' names you may recognize from past Philadelphia Open Studio Tours and *Center City Quarterly* articles are: Bhavisha Patel (cityscapes and African scenes); Burnell Yow (mixed media, Ravenswing Studio); and Bill Silver (murals, oil paintings, mosaics).

Other artists covering a range of media and styles are joining the collaborative: Priya Patel is a photographer; Karen Villarreal is a realist painter; Sally Eisenberg creates abstract art on paper; and Leslie Sudock is a textile artist and SAORI® weaver. (SAORI®

is free-style hand weaving, originated in 1968 by Japanese artist Misao Jo.)

The exhibits are free and open to visitors at the home studio of Bhavisha Patel, 2503 Naudain Street, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Dates will be announced and visits can be arranged by appointment.

For more information or to get on the email list, please contact Bhavisha Patel, bhavisha.h.patel@gmail.com

Town Square

JEVS Human Services Offers First-time Non-violent Drug Sellers Better Choices

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

In some neighborhoods, drug dealing might look like a profitable career choice, a way to make money quickly and acquire luxuries. Unfortunately, many who try it—even first-time offenders—end up in jail for significant periods of time.

A 2014 national survey conducted by the Pew Research Center found that two-thirds of the public now favor a move away from mandatory sentences for non-violent crimes. But what's the alternative? A new program, run by JEVS Human Services, called *The Choice is Yours* (TCY), offers first-time non-violent drug sellers a way out of jail and an alternative to a life of crime. The objective of the program is to help these offenders become productive citizens, stay out of jail, and avoid the lifelong stigma of a felony conviction.

In the 13-month program, participants receive—free of charge—individual plans; skills and job-readiness training; basic educational services; job-placement assistance; case management; mentoring; academic tutoring; and assistance obtaining housing, child support, and public benefits. Participants give 220 hours of community service.

JEVS Human Services employs three full-time and one part-time experienced professional staff to run the program—a director, case manager, program assistant, and instructor. A dedicated Municipal Court judge monitors participant progress and motivates compliance.

The Choice is Yours has proved to be exceptionally effective. In the pilot group, 89 percent completed the program. Of those participants with employment goals, 89 percent attained their goals, obtaining jobs in factories, warehouses, construction, property maintenance, hospitality, and other service fields. Of those with educational goals, 52 percent attained their goals. Only 12 percent were rearrested within one year.

In a comparison group of offenders who did not accept the offer or did not complete the program, 44 percent were rearrested. Since the start of the program, JEVS has served over 175 participants and is continually enrolling more. The cost per participant is \$5,200. The cost for a year in jail is almost \$40,000.

Originated by Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams and operated in partnership with his office, Municipal

Court, and the Public Defenders Association, *TCY* is based on a similar successful program in San Francisco. Through a competitive bidding process, in 2012 JEVS Human Services was selected to run the program in Philadelphia. The program targets offenders who were caught selling small amounts of crack, powder cocaine, or heroin and are facing one- to two-year prison sentences. The DA's office selects offenders and offers them the option of joining the program instead of doing time in jail. If they complete the program, all charges are dropped; and if they are clean after two years, their criminal records are expunged.

The Choice is Yours is funded by both public and private sources, including the Philadelphia Prison System and The Lenfest Foundation.

CCRA'S Congregations Committee – Building a Multi-faith Community

By Steve Huntington, Congregations Committee Chair

For the past six years, CCRA has partnered with the neighborhood's congregations to create cross-community connections. Organized by the Congregations Committee of CCRA, the effort commenced in May of 2010 at a Rittenhouse Square breakfast that drew clergy and lay representatives from 10 local congregations.

The group's first initiative was the revival of a neighborhood tradition – an interfaith Thanksgiving celebration – an event that since its revival has been held yearly. This past year on November 24, organized by CCRA, 11 Christian, Jewish and Islamic congregations gathered 120 neighbors at Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel to participate in a service coordinated by Pastor Donna Maree of Trinity Memorial Church. The \$500 gathered at the offertory was given to the Neighborhood School Giving Circle, a charity sponsored by the Crosstown Coalition to support extracurricular activities at schools within disadvantaged neighborhoods.

In 2011, on the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy, CCRA assembled volunteers from Buddhist, Christian, Jewish and Islamic congregations to create a faith fair and memorial service in Rittenhouse Square. Thirteen congregations staffed outreach tents in the Square and collaborated on a communal service commenced by an imam's Call to Prayer, and closed by an impromptu display of community, when hundreds of people joined hands in three concentric circles within the Square. Funds totaling \$750 gathered at the event were



Steve Huntington, CCRA Executive Director and Congregations Committee Chair, addresses the audience assembled for the Thanksgiving Interfaith Service at Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel.

donated to an Oxfam relief fund for Nepal earthquake victims.

The following year, in December 2012, CCRA arranged a holiday Sacred Spaces tour in which 12 congregations opened their sanctuaries to the public to allow a glimpse of the interiors of these beautiful and historic buildings we all pass by daily but rarely enter. Tour-goers received a cell-phone app to access a history/architecture guide providing an introduction to the treasures in our midst: Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel's neo-Gothic building featuring stained-glass windows depicting the five books of the Torah; the soaring Byzantine dome of First Baptist Church; the intimate meditation rooms at the Shambhala Center; and the majestic neo-Classical hall of St. Patrick's. In December

2014, CCRA organized a second edition of the tour, this time with 14 sanctuaries on display.

Last June, the partnership inaugurated a post-Ramadan break-the-fast event sponsored by Peace Islands Institute, an Islamic outreach charity supported by members of the Turkish community. Eighty residents gathered at sundown to learn about the traditions of Ramadan and enjoy a post-sundown meal served in the Ramadan tradition.

The Congregations Committee needs volunteers to continue its activities. If you are interested, contact the CCRA office at 215-546-6719 or email centercity@centercityresidents.org.

"Coffee with the Candidates" for Pennsylvania House Seat

Concerned citizens and coffee drinkers alike turned out on Saturday, February 6, from 9 to 11 am, for a CCRA-sponsored "Coffee with the Candidates" for Pennsylvania House Seat, hosted by SAXBYS Coffee.

Held at Saxbys corporate headquarters' beautiful third-floor space at 2300 Chestnut Street, the informal gathering invited CCRA members and other interested voters to enjoy complimentary coffee and beverages while listening to several candidates seeking the local Pennsylvania House of Representatives seat for the 182nd District – incumbent Brian Sims, and challengers Marni Snyder, Ben Waxman and Lou Lanni.



From left: Harvey Sacks (VP, Government Relations, CCRA), Candidates Ben Waxman (aide to PA State Sen. Vince Hughes), Marni Snyder (criminal defense and special-education law attorney), Lou Lanni (Realtor and real-estate investor), and incumbent Brian Sims.

Getting His Act Together: The Juggler in Rittenhouse Square

By Bob Weiss

Have you walked by the juggler who performs in Rittenhouse Square? Did you pause as he put three, then four, then five, then six balls or bowling pins in the air at once? And did you put some money into the plastic container he sets out for those who appreciate his skill enough to pay to watch? That's the business of Michael R. LeRoy, whose tax return identifies him appropriately enough as an entertainer in show business. Being a juggler is his profession – not yet a living, he says, but enough to pay some bills.

The pitch to small fry

Le Roy's skills can be seen currently on weekends and holidays, weather permitting, as early as he can set up his station. Lacking set hours, he often stays until dark. And even then, if some of the Square is illuminated he can sometimes be found nearby a lit menorah or Christmas tree. He juggles small balls and bowling balls, tennis racquets, and rings; and he spins plates. He has a repertory of routines or tricks that have names. In *La Fantastique*, for example, he juggles a few balls in his left hand and spins a large ball in his right, while balancing a spinning plate from his chin, all this while double-hula-hooping around his waist.

Sometimes the crowd applauds an especially impressive routine. LeRoy keeps up a steady humorous patter, some of it self-deprecating (after all, the balls don't always go where he intends, so it's a good strategy to make a joke out of a mistake).

But LeRoy's shows in the Square are pitched especially to the stroller set. He lets toddlers and youngsters approach, involves them in his act, and even teaches them how to hold the stick with the spinning plate or spin the rings or do a variety of other simple tricks. Kids happily enter his space, they play with the balls and hoops, and they have a blast. Many of his routines are developed to draw them in.

"I do a thing for the children with a tennis racquet and I call it magic," he explains. "I get them to come up with a magic word – it brings out their creativity, which is what I'm trying to do. I'm trying also to make them laugh."



Rittenhouse Square juggler Michael LeRoy enthralls and engages the small fry of Center City.

And when they participate and accomplish a trick, he encourages applause, often initiating it. As the parents and adults watch the kids entering into and enjoying the show, they seem to get a big kick out of it too.

LeRoy is not just an entertainer for young people. He also performs outdoors for street fairs and community festivals, and indoors for seniors' groups and children's birthdays, and many other kinds of events. Now in his mid-40s and physically fit, he has overcome injuries several years old that had stopped him from juggling. He returned to his home town of Philadelphia to rehab his body, coming to the Square's open space to practice his juggling, and gradually building up his strength and agility and developing his routines into an impromptu show. His affinity for working with young children quickly helped him gain a following, which is readily apparent when you see the strollers and the little ones surrounding his performance station.

A natural juggler, but with training in circus, comedy, and acting

"I started at 12 and got good very fast," LeRoy offered when I asked about his juggling past. As a youth he started doing charity benefits for the Knights of Columbus (his father was a member). After high school he got picked up by a magic-and-theater show and traveled with them for five years, even to Asia. He was readily

able to master the complicated hand-eye-brain coordination required and to add body, acting, and comedic skills to his repertoire. In addition to juggling and acting, he has toured as a magician's assistant.

He was one of the founders of the Philadelphia Jugglers' Club in the 1980s; appeared on *Captain Noah and His Magical Ark*, TV's *Evening Magazine*, above the old Middle East Restaurant, and on the Santa Monica Pier (for eight years). He was an associate of renowned juggler Greg Kennedy, opened for a rock band, did adult shows at The Comedy Works, and worked street festivities (including the Rittenhouse Square Restaurant Festival and the Chestnut Hill Garden Arts Festival).

He's even got weekday jobs doing horticultural/tree and snow-removal work, so weekends are to perform and practice.

Juggling the future: beyond busking

LeRoy plans an interactive show for kids: he would be dressed as a circus ringmaster, do a short presentation and a routine, then begin to involve the young audience. Along the way he would provides lessons on suitable topics such as politeness to others, sharing with others, and using numbers. If you're interested in contacting him for any sort of juggling gig, e-mail michaelrleroy@gmail.com.

Dance Affiliates Makes NextMove in Center City—at the Prince

By Anne-Marie Mulgrew, Project/Education Director, Dance Affiliates

NextMove Dance at the Prince is the brainchild of F. Randolph (Randy) Swartz, Artistic Director of Dance Affiliates, one of America's leading presenters of world-class contemporary dance. Dance Affiliates is known in Philadelphia as co-presenter of the award-winning Dance Celebration Series with Annenberg Center for the past 32 years. For the 2015/16 season, Dance Affiliates created the NextMove Series, featuring eight stellar companies in 54 performances, in the newly renovated Prince Theater, purchased by the Philadelphia Film Society, at 1412 Chestnut Street.

Swartz's vision in creating this new series was multi-layered: to offer dance companies more performances in the intimate 460-seat theater; to connect the performing artists on a deeper level to the community through free master classes, affordable student performances, post-performance chats and pop-up appearances; to build and nurture relationships with the Center City residents and business communities; and to become part of the vibrant Avenue of the Arts cultural scene reaching new audiences.

To date, five world-class dance companies have graced the Prince's stage. Troupes include: Complexions Contemporary Ballet; LA's BODYTRAFFIC; MacArthur Genius award-winner Michelle Dorrance and her company, Dorrance Dance; Canada's

popular touring company, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal; and Ezralow Dance, the new company of Danny Ezralow, choreographer for the Academy Awards, the Opening Ceremony of the Sochi Winter Olympics, and Broadway's *Spider-Man: Turn off the Dark*. Audiences have been charmed, astonished and wowed by their versatile and eye-catching programs.

Upcoming Spring performances feature three very different companies – Limón Dance Company (March 9-13), Seán Curran Company (April 6-10) and MOMIX (May 11-15 and 18-22). Swartz had this to say about the upcoming productions: “With Limón Dance, it is an opportunity to see classic works by the original company, and is an authentic representation of some of the greatest choreography in the 20th century. Seán Curran is a multi-talented dancer, choreographer, director and teacher who has worked in dance, theater, opera and represented the U.S. in an international cultural exchange. MOMIX celebrates the unmatched imagination and wit of Moses Pendleton, who merges dance, theater and special effects to create entertainment that resonates for people aged 8-80.”

Celebrating its 70th anniversary, Limón Dance Company brings three masterpieces by the legendary Mexican-American choreographer/founder and American

Modern Dance pioneer José Limón. The program opens with *Mazurkas* (1958), a tribute to the heroic spirit of the Polish people, set to Chopin's music. Audiences will also experience Limón's most unforgettable work, *The Moor's Pavane* (1949). This dramatic and passionate piece is based on Shakespeare's *Othello*, the timeless tale of love, jealousy and betrayal. The program closes with *The Winged*, a riveting work about flight. Originally created for a cast of 19 dancers in silence, it was re-imagined by artistic director Carla Maxwell to a commissioned score by Jon Magnussen.

Seán Curran Company brings two Philadelphia premieres, *Social Discourse* (2007) and *Left Exit: Faith, Doubt, and Reason* (2010), showcasing Curran's athletic and kinetically driven choreography. Curran describes *Social Discourse*, as a “contemporary urban folkdance” for six dancers in primary-colored leotards to music by Radiohead's front man, Thom Yorke. *Left Exit* – a 50-minute, full-company work set to Jerome Begin's original score – was built on the overarching theme, “the image of God in man.” It examines faith, spirituality and religion, and the desire to search for significance and purpose in one's life.

MOMIX closes the NextMove Season with 12 performances May 11-15 and 18-22. A Philadelphia favorite, this troupe is known for creating works of astounding beauty and inventiveness. Performed by extraordinary dancer-athletes, under the direction of the irrepressible Moses Pendleton, MOMIX presents the multimedia spectacle and blockbuster hit, *Opus Cactus* (2001), inspired by the Sonoran Desert. The *New York Times* calls it “at heart a sprawling, luscious fantasy.” Filled with rich imagery, unusual props, constructed costumes, humor and an eclectic mix of music, *Opus Cactus* is appealing to all ages and a great way to introduce new audiences to the wonder, passion and magic of dance.

Single tickets are \$37-\$57. There is a special CCRA member discount of \$10 off single-ticket prices by using the promo code. For tickets, go to the www.princetheater.org or in person at the box office, 1412 Chestnut Street. Visit www.danceaffiliates.org for more information.



Performers from Limón Dance Company in *Mazurkas*

Paula Labo



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Michael Gary Named New Head of School at Friends Select

By Sarah Schmidt, Associate Director Marketing, Creative, FSS

Friends Select School has announced the appointment of Michael Gary as next head of school, effective July 1. Currently Director of Admissions at Phillips Exeter Academy, Gary will succeed Rose Hagan at the completion of her 21st year as head of Friends Select.

“The Friends Select community is thrilled to have Michael Gary be its next head of school,” said board president John Chin. “Michael’s passion for children and for education, and his ability to articulate that vision, was evident to all during his on-campus visit,” he said. “Not only is he committed to the college-preparatory mission of the school, he also comprehends the importance of strong city and global connections to the future of Friends Select.”

Gary understands, at a deeply personal level, why a good education is important. The child of a single parent, he grew up in a low-income housing development in New Haven, Conn. “My neighborhood was the neighborhood Yale students were warned to stay away from,” Gary said.

He attended Pomfret School, a coeducational, college-preparatory boarding and day school, and fully credits his independent-school education for his later success at college and in life.

“I’m excited to join Friends Select because of its long and rich history of teaching critical thinking while modeling Quaker values of peace, equality and integrity,” Gary said. “Its mission, not only to provide an excellent education but to help students find their Light within, resonates with me. It is as relevant today in character development as it was when the school was founded.”

Gary brings more than 26 years of independent-school administrative and teaching experience at Phillips Exeter Academy, The Peddie School and Pomfret School to the position. He graduated from Trinity College with a degree in economics, and earned a master’s degree in administration and social policy from the Harvard School of Education.

A trustee of his alma mater, Pomfret School, Gary currently serves on the Secondary School Admission Test Board (SSATB) and chairs the Testing Committee. He is the founder and president of Inner City Lacrosse, a non-profit access program in Connecticut that connects local youth with university players.

About Friends Select School

Friends Select School is a coed, college preparatory, Quaker day school in Philadelphia serving 560 students in



Photo courtesy of Michael Gary

Michael Gary starts July 1.

grades pre-k through 12. Friends Select believes that education can be fascinating. The school, which traces its roots to 1689, is located on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, in the cultural heart of Center City Philadelphia. At every age, students visit museums, attend cultural events, participate in community service, and experience the finest educational resources Philadelphia has to offer. For more information, please visit friends-select.org.

Town Square

Come One, Come All to a CCRA Town Hall

Wednesday, March 9, 7 - 8:30 pm

PA Representative, 182nd District Debate. Moderator: Chris Brennan, political writer for the Inquirer. 2027 Chestnut St.

Thursday, March 24, 7 - 8:30 pm

US Representative, 2nd District Debate. Moderators asked: Sam Katz and Larry Kane. 2027 Chestnut Street.

Thursday, April 7, 7 - 8:30 pm

Town Hall with City Council President Darrell L. Clarke. Not only is he the president of City Council, but he is the councilperson for the 5th Councilmanic District, a portion of which falls within CCRA’s boundaries. Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel, 300 S. 18th Street.

Thursday, May 12, 7 - 8 pm

PA State Senator Larry Farnese Town Hall, Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel, 300 S. 18th Street.

CCRA Government Relations Committee

The Government Relations Committee is on the move and now has limited openings for a few members to get involved in liaising with our government officials and working on some interesting initiatives. If interested, please email your name, address and phone number to the CCRA office at centercity@centercityresidents.org, and write Government Relations in the subject line.

Thanks and all the best,

Harvey C. Sacks,
VP Government Relations, CCRA

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Town Square

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) — What You Need to Know

When filing taxes for 2015 (due in April 2016), working families with children that have annual incomes below about \$39,000 to \$53,300 (depending on marital status and number of dependent children) may be eligible for the federal EITC. Although 188,000 Philadelphians received an EITC refund last year, there were still 40,000 eligible Philadelphians who did not. With an average refund of \$2,400 per return, more than \$100 million is being left on the table in Washington, D.C. every year.

To raise awareness, Councilman Allan Domb, along with the City's Revenue Department, the Urban Affairs Coalition and the Campaign for Working Families, are teaming up to offer help with free tax preparation. The locations of CWF's approximately 26 sites, and information on EITC eligibility are available at www.YouEarnedItPhilly.com or by calling 215-686-9200 until April 18, 2016.

Reimagining Our Streets: Bikes Will Lead, But They Will Not Be Alone

By Bill West

Bikes are a disruptive force on our streets. Thank God. I've spent my life watching a frozen standoff between cars and pedestrians, and it was well past time to start moving in a better direction.

Our streets have an interesting history. The pedestrians were there first. The cars arrived around World War I, and they hit this country like a tsunami, rearranging our built environment, our laws, and our minds. (To read more about all this, see Peter Norton's book *Fighting Traffic*.)

Before the cars came, the streets were open to all who wished to come and go – pedestrians, beer wagons, hansom cabs, horse-drawn trolleys, the occasional coach and four (that would be four horses). Things could be a bit chaotic, but when it came to getting killed, people seem to have been more worried about Typhoid Mary and other carriers of infectious disease.

When cars showed up, they had a number of advantages – they were big, and heavy, and fast. Before then, the occupants of the street had all gone about the same speed. Cars were also very popular. People loved their cars. Now that we're jaded, and overwhelmed by the sheer number of cars on our streets, it's a bit hard to imagine what it was like.

Cars came to own the streets in the 1920s. They basically muscled their way in, and they literally marginalized the pedestrians, pushing them over the curb and confining

them to the sidewalk. (Sidewalks date back at least to Roman times, but until the car arrived, they were an amenity, not a ghetto.)

And there things stood, until a few years ago, with pedestrians pinned to the sidewalk and cars owning the cartway – the street-space between the curbs. Pedestrians were allowed to cross at the corner, but it was best to look both ways.

Then along came the bicyclists, and all of a sudden we are reimagining our streets.

I live in Philadelphia, and recently I attended the city's first Vision Zero conference, which was organized, not surprisingly, by the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia. Bikes are going to lead the reimagining of our public spaces. But they will need some help – and I think they will get it.

Runners, for instance, have been doing Open Streets for years – they call their events races. The Broad Street Run has shut down the full length of Broad Street in Philadelphia on the first Sunday in May every year for decades.

Children used to play in the street. News flash: In Philadelphia, they still do – on the many little side streets of our town. Now, I live on Lombard Street, which is an access road for the Schuylkill Expressway, and I don't expect to see children in short pants and floppy hats shooting marbles in the middle of Lombard Street anytime soon.



Bike lanes make streets safer for everybody.

But one block away, on Addison Street, children often draw with chalk and play ball in the good weather as their parents sit on stoops, watching over their little ones and socializing with one another.

Restaurants are also getting more aggressive about pushing out on to the sidewalks and even into the streets. Special props to the bagel shop Spread on 20th Street, for figuring out what to do when the pope visited, and vehicular movement was greatly restricted in a large part of the downtown. Spread took the lane, with tables. And very happy customers.

Bikes will lead these groups, because bikes have organization, focus, and even a little bit of money. And because, for bikes, the issue is not optional.

We need bike lanes. We need a network of bike lanes that will allow people to get around town safely. This network will make the streets better for everybody. It will calm traffic, and it will make the streets safer for pedestrians to cross. (See, for instance, the New York City Department of Transportation's 2014 report *Protected Bicycle Lanes in NYC*.)

And yes, this means that motorists will need to learn to share the road with the many other groups that have legitimate claims on the space.

Twice I have run down the middle of the Champs Elysees in Paris. And I was not alone. It was called the Paris Marathon.

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Enhancing Center City Living with Street Trees

By Andrew Terhune

Center City is blessed with an abundance of street trees, but we've all seen the empty tree pits in the sidewalks where trees once stood, and the barren blocks with no street trees at all. Have you ever wished you could do something about it?

As part of its mission of "making Center City a better place to live, work and play," the CCRA has created a task force to answer that question and marshal resources to obtain more street trees for Center City.

There are several ways to get street trees planted. The least expensive is through the Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Department's Tree Maintenance Citizen Service Request Form (treephilly.org). Although free to the property owner, it can take as much as two years until the requested tree is installed. Nonetheless, if we don't ask, we don't get. If the sidewalk in front of your home or business might be suitable, by all means fill out the form and get on the city's list.

The quickest but costliest route is to arrange the planting yourself. The form

above can also be used to request the city's extensive list of approved tree contractors to handle all the details. You must cover all costs, but you can select the species of tree, and get your tree at the next spring or fall planting season.

The third method offers the options of both a brief waiting period and a lower cost, but requires an investment of personal time and commitment. This is the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's (PHS) Tree Tenders program. To participate and receive free trees from the PHS, at least three CCRA members (with more recommended for backup) must attend Tree Tender seminars at the PHS offices at 20th and Arch, pick up the trees, plant them, and arrange for their maintenance (watering from April to October) for two years. PHS will cut the holes in the sidewalks as needed, provide the trees, and handle the permitting with the city. Other civic groups do this very successfully.

Do CCRA residents have what it takes to become PHS tree tenders? If you think you might, send an email to the CCRA office at centercity@centercityresidents.org, with



Donna Straug

Street trees—like these encircling Triangle Park at 23rd & South—offer oases of green in the city.

the words "Tree Tenders" in the subject line. Include your contact information, and request that it be forwarded to Andrew Terhune. There will be Tree Tenders seminars in May and another in the early fall, so we can be ready for the fall planting season in early to mid-November. More details about the Tree Tenders can be found at the PHS website, phsonline.org/programs/tree-tenders.

CityLit

Erin Hoopes Named Head Librarian of Philadelphia City Institute Branch

By Pamela Freyd

It's official. Erin Hoopes has received her appointment as the Branch Head for the Philadelphia City Institute Library. Erin began her tenure with the Free Library of Philadelphia as an Adult/Teen Librarian at PCI in 2007. In 2009, she was transferred to the Fishtown Branch, before returning to PCI in the spring of 2014. Clearly, Ms. Hoopes knows our library well.

Erin Hoopes has the challenge of filling the big shoes of much loved Joe Paradin. But she's already begun to initiate her own plans for the library by making a concerted effort to have PCI and its programs be more visible in the community. For example, you can expect to see some of the PCI Teen Reading Lounge group participating in Love Your Park Day in Rittenhouse Square.

"I hope to honor Joe Paradin's rich legacy by continuing to hold dynamic music, ballet and arts programming," Erin says. "I am also excited to lead the branch into more community outreach efforts and to continue building PCI's teen and young adult programming."

Erin graduated from Hope College in Holland, MI, with a Bachelor of Arts in English/Creative Writing. She changed career paths and graduated from Drexel University with a Master of Science in Library and Information Science. She says, "I decided to go to library school mainly because I had no desire to be a starving writer. I was looking for a career that was intellectually and creatively satisfying, as well as one that paid the bills, and I have been very happy with my chosen profession." Prior



Fran Levi

Erin Hoopes has been named to head the PCI Branch.

to becoming a librarian for the Free Library of Philadelphia, Erin was a Young Adult Librarian for the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library system in Charlottesville, VA, and a Reference Librarian at Drexel's Hagerty Library.

We congratulate Erin Hoopes on her appointment as the new Branch Head of the Philadelphia City Institute Library.

This article was reprinted with kind permission from the newsletter of the Friends of the Philadelphia City Institute Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia.



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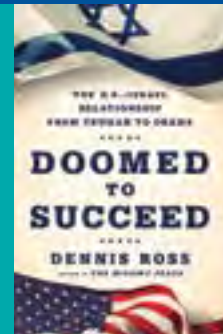
A night with Dennis Ross, author of *Doomed to Succeed: The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama*

Doomed to Succeed paints a clear picture of the complexities of the US-Israel relationship and the larger Middle East landscape.

Ambassador Dennis Ross is counselor, professor, and the William Davidson Distinguished Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. He has worked for the administrations of Presidents Barack Obama, George H. W. Bush, and Bill Clinton.

\$18 for members; \$30 for general community. To register: bzbi.org/events or call the BZBI office at 215-735-5148.

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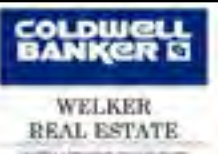
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CCStreetwise

Schuylkill River Trail Incidents

By Harvey Sacks, VP Government Relations

For the past four months, there have been various types of incidents along the Schuylkill River Trail – including assaults and robberies – of runners, walkers, and bikers. Councilman Kenyatta Johnson has led a number of meetings convening community groups, running clubs, Parks & Recreation personnel, and Police to come up with ways to prevent their recurrence.

CCRA has been one of the main participants. Ideas that have been instituted are better lighting, increased police and undercover presence, and trail markings to help victims identify their location to police, and more are being explored.

On February 11, with CCRA as a key sponsor, Councilman Johnson organized a meeting to implement and seek volunteers for a Trail Watch made up of community volunteers. “There’s just too much ground to be covered by officers, even with the increased patrols,” said Police Captain Convery.

Typical trail users may want to jump at helping. We encourage those wanting to volunteer to call Anthony Murphy’s office at 215-686-1459. He is Executive Director of the city’s Town Watch Integrated Services. Training will be provided and possibly vests and walkie-talkies too. Please identify yourself as a CCRA member and let the CCRA office know you volunteered.

Pyramid Club: Exciting Improvements Are Coming

By Maureen Coyle

Change is in the air at Philadelphia’s prestigious Pyramid Club, located on the 52nd Floor of the BNY Mellon building. Thanks to its exceptional networking, top-notch cuisine, personalized service, superb meeting and dining facilities, and state-of-the-art technology, members have come to expect the ultimate private-club experience. But this year, the Club that locals love is welcoming an exciting reinvention. Overlooking iconic Philadelphia landmarks including the Ben Franklin Bridge and City Hall, the Club is a resident icon in its own right – and it keeps getting better with time.

Pyramid Club’s coming renovation will transform the way the city’s business, political and community leaders and guests work, connect, host and live. Improvement plans encompass casual and upscale dining renovations, including the new Anytime Lounge. In addition, the Club’s office-away-from-office areas – new private work zones and a business lounge – make it an appealing destination for Philadelphia professionals on the go. Highlights include:

NEW Anytime Lounge

The new bar and lounge offers a media wall, lighted liquor displays, communal tables with self-serve draft beer and much more

– it’s the perfect place for delicious meals, your favorite drinks and a place to unwind.

NEW Upscale Dining Experience

Make an event into a memorable occasion at the new upscale dining locale, where you’ll enjoy the Club’s vibrant energy, with elevated cuisine and service.

NEW Business Lounge and Work Zones

Welcome to the four new intuitively useful work zones and business lounge, where you can drop in and be productive.

NEW Arrival Experience

Arrive in style and greet clients in our luxe new entrance area. Complete with a refined receptionist desk and stylish new seating area, members always receive a warm welcome at their Club.

In addition to these exciting improvements, the Club also offers ways to enjoy membership beyond the walls of the Club. Pyramid Club’s innovative membership opportunities offer not only privileges at the Pyramid Club itself, but also access to ClubCorp’s industry-leading network of more than 300 owned, operated and alliance clubs across the country, through Pyramid Club ONE (Optimal Network Experiences). This program offers 50%



Rendering of the planned interior.

off à la carte dining at the Home Club, free golf and dining when traveling, plus special offerings at more than 1,000 hotels, resorts and entertainment venues. *

**Reservations must be made through ClubLine. All offers are subject to availability. Alcohol excluded and cart fees, guest charges, service charges and/or applicable taxes may apply. Other restrictions may apply. See the Club for details. © ClubCorp USA, Inc. All rights reserved.*

To preview reinvention plans, or learn more about membership opportunities go to pyramidclub.com
1735 Market Street
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215-567-6510

Shop Talk

CCRA Merchant Members Discount Program

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

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Dance Affiliates

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

Historic? — Maybe Not So Much

By Pip Campbell

Limited availability of buildable parcels creates challenges for developers seeking to join the rapidly emerging new development and unprecedented number of construction projects in CCRA neighborhoods. When open land is scarce, surface parking lots become potential building parcels, and demolishing existing buildings creates buildable lots.

The City Department of Licenses and Inspections reviews applications and grants permits for any building to be torn down. Buildings need not be unsafe or falling down or abandoned to be considered for demolition. Potentially any building may be demolished, except for properties designated as “historic” by the Philadelphia Historical Commission (PHC) and as such have been deemed worthy of preservation. But even those buildings may be granted demolition permits if an owner appeals to and receives approval from the PHC.

By definition, a building is *historic* when it has been so designated either locally or federally or both. In Philadelphia, buildings can be designated individually or as part of historic districts. Many blocks, but not all, within CCRA boundaries are designated historic, as part of the City’s Rittenhouse-Fitler Historic District. Within this district individual properties carry labels such as “significant,” “contributing,” or “non-contributing” to further differentiate their respective importance historically. A map and property listing shows our district boundaries and can be downloaded from www.phila.gov/historical/register/Pages/default.aspx. Look up property designations

at <http://www.phila.gov/historical/PDF/Ritt%20Fit%20Inventory.pdf>.

Historic disputes

The designation “significant” or “contributing” is intended to protect a property as worthy of preservation – that is, until someone needs the land for another purpose and seeks permission to demolish on the basis, for example, of financial hardship. Most recently the PHC granted approval for partial (but major) demolition of the Boyd Theater for financial hardship. Developers presented an intricate proposal to build an upscale movie theater if the financial hardship was granted. When all was said and done, the original developers sold the property; the Boyd turned out not to be so protected, and the “partial” demolition cleared the necessary land for an apartment tower along Sansom Street.

Many CCRA neighbors will remember Rindelau’s Row, the historically designated cluster of buildings along South 18th Street, that just 10 years ago were torn down to make way for the entrance to 10 Rittenhouse, the first condominium built on the Square in decades. All of the historic Rittenhouse Club was demolished, except the Walnut Street façade, resulting in a “façadectomy,” in which the front face is retained for use in new construction after the rest of the building is demolished.

Historic buildings in our neighborhood are in the way of major development, once again, on the 1900 block of Sansom Street. As part of a large parcel fronting Walnut, 20th, and

Sansom Streets, these three unimposing but nonetheless historic buildings are blocking progress on a prominent property that has been vacant and awaiting development for over 20 years.

The development design includes a Sansom Street entrance to underground parking, necessitating the demolition of at least two of the historic properties. The developer has applied to the PHC for demolition permits on the basis of financial hardship. *Inquirer* architecture critic Inga Saffron wrote on November 21, “the Boyd hardship decision sent a clear message about the city’s preference for development over preservation: Buy it and you can demolish.” And so this developer follows suit.

The three “contributing” historic buildings at the center of this request are part of four row houses at 1902 - 1920 Sansom Street; the remainder of block to the west is a parking lot, also part of the development project. One of the three buildings, known as the Rittenhouse Coffee Shop, has been removed from the PHC demolition request and will be preserved by the developer. This 1855 structure is the most recognized because of its unique and exceptional 1923 resurfacing in the Spanish Revival mode.

Also designated as contributing, the other two buildings are less notably unusual. Reports prepared by George Thomas of Civic Visions, LP, cite the poor condition of all three buildings and the high cost of restoring them to some sort of viable use. Excessive costs, not surprising for long-abandoned structures, are the basis for hardship applications, so it follows that reports will document high costs for returning buildings to some sort of previous use. In essence, the argument the consultant is making is that the costs to restore or rehabilitate a structure would create a hardship.

Development déjà vu

In 2004, previous developers attempted to demolish these same three buildings. Approval was granted by the PHC in a decision affirmed by Licenses and Inspections. The Preservation Alliance and others took the matter to the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, where the PHC decision approving demolition was

Continued p. 25



Michael Bixler

1900 block of Sansom, with Spanish Revival architectural details of the Rittenhouse Coffee Shop clearly visible.

overturned. In so doing, the judge noted that “the fact that we have a system of ordinances protecting historic buildings recognizes that historical properties need protection because they cannot compete with more profitable uses.” The ruling also suggested that demolition should be permitted only when it serves the public interest, for example, when buildings are a threat to public safety.

Demolitions of historic properties are considered on a building-by-building basis,

but, over time, demolitions change the character of a neighborhood. The Rindelaub’s Row demolitions changed the character of 18th Street just as the Boyd demolition is drastically altering the 1900 blocks of Chestnut and Sansom Streets. Even more new construction in place of demolished historic buildings on the 1900 block of Sansom Street will change the once-charming character of this entire block, leaving only a few historic buildings to compete with massive new construction projects.

Development, density, new businesses and new projects are important, but so is maintaining a balance between the historic (or the old) and the new. As Caroline Boyce and Harry Schwartz of the Preservation Alliance wrote in the *Inquirer* in December, “... as glass towers rise and new residents continue (we hope) to flock here, let’s not lose sight of what makes the city such a desirable place. The price of progress need not be the destruction of the old, but, rather, a sensible incorporation of the old with the new.”

Living History

Philadelphia Named First World Heritage City in U.S.—What Does It Mean?

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

In November, the XIII World Congress of the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC), an international non-profit, non-governmental organization headquartered in Quebec, met in Arequipa, Peru, and voted in the City of Philadelphia as the **first World Heritage City in the United States**. Philadelphia joins more than 250 cities worldwide that have that prestigious title, including Paris, Florence, Jerusalem, Cairo, St. Petersburg and Prague (<http://www.ovpm.org/>). Mayors of World Heritage cities comprise the General Assembly of the OWHC, and eight of those mayors are elected to the Board of Directors.

Center City resident David Brownlee, an art history professor at the University of Pennsylvania, serves on the Working Team of Philadelphia’s World Heritage City Initiative, and has written much of the material the team used to describe Philadelphia’s history, its significant historical sites and architecture, and its contributions to art and culture.

In Brownlee’s view, “This title gives Philadelphia the opportunity to promote its rich historical and cultural heritage to a world audience and – for me this is the most important thing – promoting this new title to Philadelphians gives us an excellent starting point for increasing our understanding of our own rich and exciting history.”

Philadelphia expects financial benefits as well. A study commissioned by the Global Philadelphia Association estimated that the World Heritage City designation could help to increase foreign tourism in Philadelphia by

as much as 10 to 15 percent, generating about \$150 million per year.

The World Heritage City Initiative was co-sponsored by the City of Philadelphia, represented by Deputy Mayor Alan Greenberger, and the Global Philadelphia Association, headed by John Smith. In support of the project, then-Mayor Michael Nutter assembled the Philadelphia World Heritage Committee, comprised of 28 leaders of Philadelphia’s art, culture, education, and business communities.

Independence Hall was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979, having met the criterion as a place or building of outstanding universal value. Global Philadelphia Association Executive Director Zabeth Teelucksingh first proposed the idea of Philadelphia’s joining the Organization of World Heritage Cities in 2011. Because the OWHC requires a World Heritage City to have a least one UNESCO World Heritage

Site, Philadelphia was eligible to join the OWHC as an Observer Member in 2013.

“Although membership in the OWHC is based on the fact that Independence Hall is designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site,” Brownlee says, “it’s essential that we draw attention to Philadelphia’s entire story, which includes every era in our long history, every neighborhood, and all parts of our diverse community.”

The Global Philadelphia Association, one of the project participants, has about 200 organizational members, and promotes international events throughout the year. In addition, it manages two membership organizations of individuals who support Philadelphia’s designation as a World Heritage City: The Philadelphia World Heritage Society and Friends of Philadelphia World Heritage. <https://globalphiladelphia.org/gpa-key-initiatives/world-heritage-city/friends-philadelphia-world-heritage>

Town Square

On February 11, CCRA held the second in its Town Hall series for residents to meet their locally elected officials. There was a fairly lively exchange between attendees and Brian Sims, PA State Representative of the 182nd District. However, Sims spent the brunt of the evening educating the audience on the state budget situation, including personalities, idiocies, and solutions. Definitely, it was an extremely worthwhile experience for all.

—Harvey Sacks, CCRA VP Government Relations



State Rep. Brian Sims

CCRA Business Member Directory

For more information or to obtain a Business Membership in CCRA, please call the office at 215-546-6719 or email: centercity@centercityresidents.org.

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215-636-9000 ext. 105
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Founded in 1979 by Artistic Director and Center City resident Randy Swartz, Dance Affiliates is one of the nation's few remaining dance-only presenters. Dance Affiliates is known internationally for its award-winning annual Dance Celebration program, co-presented with Annenberg Center, which was Philadelphia's longest-running series of world-class contemporary dance for the past 32 years. In 2015/16, Dance Affiliates presents its inaugural NextMove Season at the Prince Theater, featuring eight world-class companies in 54 performances. Visit www.danceaffiliates.org

Friends Select School

The Center City Quaker School that Sparks Fascination
17th Street & Benjamin Franklin Pkwy
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Contact: Annemiek Young, Director of Admission and Enrollment Management
215-561-5900, x102
friends-select.org

Friends Select School is a coed, college preparatory, Quaker day school serving 560 students. Flanked by City Hall at one end of the Parkway, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art at the other, Friends Select offers students PK-12 the benefits of sophisticated learning experiences through curricular partnerships with Parkway museums and other city institutions and resources.

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Penn's Village is committed to helping residents of central Philadelphia neighborhoods lead vibrant, healthy lives while they remain in their own homes. Volunteers and members enjoy the benefits of mutual support through educational and social programs, as well as access to resources and basic services that allow them to continue to enjoy the activities of city life as they age.

Pyramid Club

1735 Market Street, 52nd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103
www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Pyramid-Club
Contact: Maureen Coyle

Pyramid Club is a private business club strategically placed 52 floors high at the "top of the town," above Center City. The club specializes in outstanding cuisine, personalized service, superb meeting and dining facilities, and state-of-the-art technology.

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Twenty-Two Gallery

236 S. 22nd Street
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Office: 215-772-1515
Gallery: 215-772-1911
www.twenty-twogallery.com
Contact: Shawn Murray

Since 2003, nestled in Philadelphia's premier neighborhood, Rittenhouse Square, an intimate, original fine-art gallery representing 22 emerging and established local artists working in a variety of mediums. Included is the 50 years of historical, sports & Americana photographic artwork by Bruce Murray, Sr. (1893-1969). The gallery is available for rental for intimate events, music, pop-ups and more.

CCRA Spring Calendar – Tip-toe through the Tulips

CCRA Town Hall Meeting

PA State Representative, 182nd District Debate;
Moderator: Chris Brennan, political writer
for the *Inquirer*.
Wednesday, March 9 | 7 – 8:30 pm
2027 Chestnut Street

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

Wednesday, March 16 | 7 – 8:30 pm
Trinity Memorial Church
22nd & Spruce Streets
Free, advance registration requested at
www.centercityresidents.org;
For information, call CCRA office at 215-546-6719

CCRA Town Hall Meeting

US Representative, 2nd District Debate;
Moderators asked: Sam Katz, Larry Kane
Thursday, March 24 | 7 – 8:30 pm,
2027 Chestnut Street

2016 Philadelphia Art Book Fair

Presented by The Philadelphia Photo Arts Center
and The Print Center
Friday, April 1, and Saturday, April 2
The Annex on Filbert, 830 Filbert Street
<http://www.phlartbookfair.com/#welcome2>

CCRA Town Hall Meeting

With City Council President/Councilperson for
the 5th Councilmanic District (a portion of which
falls within CCRA's boundaries) Darrell L. Clarke
Thursday, April 7 | 7 – 8:30 pm
Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel, 300 S. 18th St.

Philadelphia Invitational Furniture Show

Friday, April 8, to Sunday, April 10
23rd Street Armory, 22 South 23rd Street
<http://www.philadelphiafurnitureshow.com/>

Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts

Friday, April 8, to Saturday, April 23
<http://pifa.org/about/>

Dining Out for Life

Thursday, April 14
Proceeds benefit AIDS/HIV organizations
<http://www.diningoutforlife.com/philadelphia>

CCRA Celebration of Center City Living

Honoring former State Rep. Babette Josephs,
2016 Lenora Berson Community Service
Award winner
Wednesday, April 20 | 6 – 8:30 pm
Trinity Center for Urban Life
22nd & Spruce Streets
Tickets: 215-546-6719 or
www.centercityresidents.org

Philadelphia Science Festival

Friday, April 22, to Saturday, April 30
<http://www.philasciencefestival.org/>

First Philadelphia Chinese Lantern Festival

Historic Philadelphia celebrates the 10th
anniversary of revamped Franklin Square
Friday, April 22, through Sunday, June 12
Franklin Square
<http://www.uwishunu.com/2016/01/chinese-lantern-festival-at-franklin-square/>

Blue Cross Broad Street Run

Sunday, May 1 | 8:30 am
<http://www.broadstreetrun.com/>

Rittenhouse Square Flower Market for Children's Charities

Wednesday, May 4 | 9 am – 6 pm
Thursday, May 5 | 9 am – 6 pm
Rittenhouse Square
<http://rittenhousesquareflowermarket.com/home/category/events/>

Fitler Square Spring Fair

Mother's Day Weekend
Friday, May 6 | 10 am – 6 pm
Saturday, May 7 | 10 am – 4 pm
23rd & Pine Streets
www.fitlersquare.org

Love Your Park Day

Saturday, May 7 | 9 am – noon
Rittenhouse Square
<http://friendsofrittenhouse.org/events/all/love-your-park-day/>

CCRA Town Hall Meeting

PA State Senator Larry Farnese, 1st District
Thursday, May 12 | 7 – 8 pm
Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel, 300 S. 18th St.

Pennsylvania Guild Fine Craft Fair

Friday, May 13 | 11 am – 7 pm
Saturday, May 14 | 11 am – 7 pm
Sunday, May 15 | 11 am – 5 pm
Rittenhouse Square
<http://www.pacrafts.org/fine-craft-fairs/may-2/>

Aberdeen Dad Vail Regatta

Friday, May 13, and Saturday, May 14
Schuylkill River
www.dadvail.org

National Train Day

Saturday, May 14
Events at Amtrak's 30th Street Station

Down the Rabbit Hole: Celebrating 150 Years of Alice in Wonderland

Through Sunday, May 15
Rosenbach Museum & Library
2008 Delancey Place
www.rosenbach.org

Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show

89th Annual Spring Show
Friday, June 3 | 11 am – 7 pm
Saturday, June 4 | 11 am – 7 pm
Sunday, June 5 | 11 am – 5 pm
<http://www.rittenhousesquareart.com/>

Free at the Kimmel: 6th Annual Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Day

Saturday, June 11 | 11 am
Kimmel Center, Verizon Hall
Broad & Spruce Streets
www.kimmelcenter.org/events/?org=355

Little Friends of Rittenhouse Square Festival

Wednesday, June 15 | 5:30 – 7:30 pm
Rittenhouse Square
<http://friendsofrittenhouse.org/events/all/little-friends-festival/>

Young Friends Ball on the Square

Thursday, June 16 | 7 pm – midnight
Rittenhouse Square
<http://friendsofrittenhouse.org/events/all/young-friends-ball-on-the-square/>

Ball on the Square

Thursday, June 16 | 8 pm – midnight
Rittenhouse Square
<http://friendsofrittenhouse.org/events/all/ball-on-the-square/>

Bloomsday Readings from James Joyce's Ulysses

Thursday, June 16
Rosenbach Museum & Library
2008 Delancey Place
<http://www.rosenbach.org/learn/news/bloomsday-central>

Albert M. Greenfield School 45th Alumni Reunion. All classes are invited.

Friday, June 17 | 5:30 pm. | Meet at
schoolyard door for tour of the school
7:30 to 11:30 pm. Dinner, DJ, and dancing,
IATSE Ballroom
2401 South Swanson Street
(near Front Street & Oregon Avenue)
(For more info, see Page 19) Tickets at
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/greenfield-reunion-tickets-18888172031>

Curtis Institute of Music

Free student recitals.
1726 Locust Street.
<http://www.curtis.edu/performances/learn-more/>

And looking ahead to Summer....

Democratic National Convention

Monday, July 25, to Thursday, July 28
<http://www.phldnc.com/>

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday, March 9, 7 – 8:30 pm

CCRA Town Hall Meeting
PA Representative, 182nd District Debate
2027 Chestnut Street

Wednesday, March 16, 7 – 8:30 pm

School Daze: Choosing the Right Elementary School
Trinity Memorial Church
Register at www.centercityresidents.org

Thursday, March 24, 7 – 8:30 pm

CCRA Town Hall Meeting
US Representative, 2nd District Debate
2027 Chestnut Street

Thursday, April 7, 7 – 8:30 pm

CCRA Town Hall with Council President Darrell L. Clarke
Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel, 300 S. 18th Street

Wednesday, April 20, 6 – 8:30 pm

CCRA Celebration of Center City Living
Honoring former State Rep. Babette Josephs
Trinity Center for Urban Life
Tickets: www.centercityresidents.org or 215-546-6719

Thursday, May 12, 7 – 8 pm

CCRA Town Hall Meeting
PA State Senator Larry Farnese, 1st District
Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel, 300 S. 18th Street

Out & About

CCRA Celebration of Center City Living! *Trinity Center for Urban Life | Wed., April 20, 6 - 8:30 pm*

Celebrate the joys of Center City Living with your friends and neighbors; honor former State Rep. Babette Josephs, our 2016 Lenora Berson Community Service Award winner; and help raise some money for CCRA.

This year's event will have an Earth Day theme—April 22 will be the 46th Earth Day!—and will be held at the Trinity Center for Urban Life, 22nd and Spruce Streets. Enjoy wine (courtesy of **Moore Brothers**), a yet-to-be created cocktail/alcoholic punch, hors d'oeuvres and desserts (courtesy of **Di Bruno Bros.**), games, lively music, and fine conversation, while bidding on a silent auction and a special selection of live-auction items. Tickets start at \$75 per person (or \$35 for those under 35) and can be purchased online at www.centercityresidents.org or by calling 215-546-6719.



Donna Strug

CCRA members, from left, Jenny Nalencz, Judy Heller, Ed Friedman, and Jay Strug share a convivial moment at last year's Celebration of Center City Living.