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June 16, 2011

GLOBE TIMES

Bringing Good News to the Community since 1945

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COMING UP

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Hey Governor, It's Raining Now Fighting Proposed School Budget

With umbrellas up to symbolize funding of public education from "rainy day", protestors gather outside City Hall.

By Kate Atkins,

With umbrellas in hand, concerned Pennsylvanians gathered outside City Hall last Thursday (June 9) to tell elected officials now is not the time to put hundreds of millions of dollars into the state's Rainy Day Fund.

But that is what Governor Corbett and House Republicans want to do with a \$540 million revenue surplus, while cutting cost-effective local services and \$1 billion or more from schools.

"Our elected officials propose to put a \$540 million dollar surplus in a Rainy Day Fund," said Sharmain Matlock-Turner, president and CEO of the Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition (GPUAC). "It's obvious that they haven't noticed that we're getting soaked right now."

Several speakers echoed that message as they called upon the Senate to use the surplus to restore some of the most damaging cuts when that chamber votes on a budget plan later this month.

"With these proposed deep budget cuts, Pennsylvania's working families and the nonprofits that help them in their time of need are out here to say that the time to use these funds to balance the budget is now," said Matlock-Turner.

Cutting schools by \$1 billion or more will increase class sizes and drive up property taxes, while putting effective programs like full-day kindergarten in jeopardy.

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OPINION

Teen Pregnancy — Help is Available

While teen pregnancy has long been a problem in the U.S., the number of teenagers expecting a baby in Philadelphia — especially in Southwest — is alarming, at nearly twice the national average.

According to statistics from the Family Planning Council, Philadelphia's teen birth rate in 2007 was 60 per every 1,000 girls. Meanwhile the birth rate in Southwest and West Philadelphia was 76 per 1,000 teen births, nearly double the national rate.

Maybe because more than 400,000 teen girls in the U.S. become mothers, and the practice is often glamorized on TV shows and in the media, having a baby while as a teenager seems a normal to them. This despite the fact that those who end up pregnant are forewarned and often face a tough future.

Many teen moms eventually drop out of school to care for the child, not only landing on the road to an impoverished future, but paying a heavy physical, financial and emotional toll. This burden is often shared by the teen

mother's family and community as well as with that of the baby's father.

Black and Hispanic teens have the highest rates of teen pregnancy, being 2-3 times

Black and Hispanic teens have the highest rates of teen pregnancy.

more likely to give birth than white teens. In addition, girls born to teen parents are more likely to become a teen parent. All of these factors have caused the rate of pregnant

teens in the U.S. to climb to nine times that of those in other developed countries.

In the end, about 50% of teen moms earn a high school diploma by age 22, compared to 90% of those who don't give birth.

Though family planning information is readily available, teenagers often choose to follow advice from their friends as opposed to adults or even qualified professionals in the field who counsel them advice.

But news on teen pregnancy in Southwest is not all bad. Overall, the number of teens getting pregnant has dropped 40% in the last 20 years. This puts the occurrence at its low-

est level since records started being kept 70 years ago. Luckily someone has noticed and wants to help the decline.

The Family Planning Council (FPC), a private, non-profit agency promoting reproductive health in Southeastern PA is one such group. The organization is determined under a grant from the Center For Disease Control (CDC), to reduce the number of pregnant teens in Southwest and West Philadelphia by 10% over the next five years with the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative. The idea is for the FPC to "increase the number of youth ages 10-19, who participate in evidence-based, teen pregnancy prevention

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SOUTHWEST
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A Music Instructor Says Thanks

The students of the Southwest Area Combined All Star Tour Band hit a home run with their performances at Pepper and Tilden on May 20, and Longstreth and Lamberton on June 2. The concerts were a hit with the audiences and a positive experience for the 55 student performers.

The audiences at those schools clapped and cheered and even sang along, especially when the band played the Taio Cruz song "Dynamite." At Longstreth, they even got a standing ovation.

The band was composed of my top students from Pepper and Tilden, and those of my colleagues, Roberta Goren and Roy Martin from Lamberton, Hamilton and Longstreth.

On behalf of the band, I would like to thank the many administrators and support staff which provided logistic support for the project. Business specialist Mary Weldon gave me advice on how to proceed with planning. Principals Yolanda Armstrong and Tracey Mitchell-Lawrence of Pepper and Jonas Crenshaw and Lisa Mesi of Tilden provided financial assistance and helped sort out and solve problems.

Robin Cooper of Longstreth and Dale Friedman of Lamberton were excellent hosts, even when those assemblies took place at times that did not conform to class and lunch schedules. The lunchroom staffs at Pepper and Longstreth were flexible and accommodating to students from outside their schools.

The cost of the buses was paid for mostly by grants from CityLights, an outreach program of Wayne Presbyterian Church. Our concerts would not have been possible without their commitment to the students of Southwest Philadelphia.

This year's Tour Band has demonstrated the willingness of many administrators, educators, support personnel and community groups within our region to find and support more opportunities for our instrumental students to perform for their peers, their teachers, their parents and their community.

Ernest Baker Jr.
Class Instrumental
Music Teacher
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COMMUNITY NEWS

ACES Roundtable Airs Immigrant Concerns

By Elhadji Endiaye
and Caleb Nothwehr

When it comes to the national conversation on immigration, Southwest Philadelphia community leaders are trying to make sure that African and Caribbean immigrants have a place at the table.

About 20 Southwest residents attended a breakfast meeting at the Connell Park Center at 65th Street and Chester Avenue on Saturday morning, June 11, to discuss how immigration policy affects the African and Caribbean immigrant community. Hosted by the African Center for Education and Sustainability, Inc. (ACES), the roundtable focused primarily

on the under-representation of African and Caribbean immigrant communities in current immigration discourse.

Carol Sallymatu Bangura, founder and executive director of ACES, said African and Caribbean immigrant students are often misclassified as African American. For this reason, they do not receive the resources and supports allocated for immigrant or English Language Learning students. What results, Bangura said, is a situation where non-English speaking students end up in



Residents debate important issues affecting SW immigrants.

English only classrooms, without any of the support that the district designated for them.

“Within the city school district, there are seven or eight

languages that they support. That’s not enough,” Bangura said. “You can’t dismiss us because there’s too many languages.”

The roundtable discussion occurred as a response to a request by Michael Blake, spokesman from the White House Office of Public Engagement, to create more grassroots discussion about immigration policy in the United States, Bangura said. Discussion attendees spoke about the difficulty in achieving unified support for a change in immigration policy.

“We have a tendency for division and we need to rise above it,” said Pamela Henry, panel participant.

Other participants pointed out the need for communication and cooperation between the immigrant community and the African American community. “African Americans are our natural allies,” said Numa St. Louis, roundtable participant.

Discussion also centered on the importance of immigrant communities maintaining their cultural identity and passing it on to the younger generation. “I’m a Jamaican. I identify

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...Its Raining in PA

Continues From Cover Page

Health care, county child abuse protection, and help for people with disabilities are also targeted for cuts in the House version of the budget.



With umbrellas up to symbolize funding of public education from "rainy day" accounts are (l-r) State Rep. Ron Waters; Charlotte Hummel, pres., Board of School Directors, William Penn School District (back); Sharmain Matlock-Turner, president and CEO, Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition, and State Rep. Babette Josephs.

"I think the Governor and the House underestimate the anger of the people," said Cassie James of Liberty Resources, an organization that advocates for people with disabilities. "They cut home and community-based services that are needed for disabled and elderly people to remain in the community."

Education advocates also voiced concern about deep cuts to schools and early education programs.

"This budget clearly reflects a lack of understanding of the progress that districts, especially poor districts, have made in the last two years with increased funding," said Charlotte Hummel, president of the William Penn School District Board of Directors in Lansdowne, PA.

"It makes cuts to the very programs that have supported the neediest of kids."

Said James of the education cuts, "How dare they cut education. We all have children we love and want to be ready for the challenges of the future."

Speakers also called on lawmakers to close tax loopholes and end special tax breaks, including the passage of a tax on natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. Penn-

sylvania is the only major gas-producing state without a tax or fee on drilling.

"Our senators will face a choice next week," said a spokesperson for the Southeastern PA Budget Coalition and Better Choices for Pennsylvania. "They can make deep cuts that will impact the lives of middle-class families, or they can use the surplus. Our

message is simple - it's raining in Pennsylvania right now; we're out here with our umbrellas, and it's time to use the surplus."

Thursday's rally was organized by the Southeastern PA Budget Coalition, the Flash Forward PA Coalition and Better Choices for Pennsylvania. Special Thanks to Clear Channel Radio (Power 99 FM).

Ms Atkins is Outreach Coordinator, SEPA Budget Coalition.

Learn more about the SEPA Budget Coalition at <http://pabudgetnow.wordpress.com/>; the Flash Forward Coalition at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Flash-Forward-PA-Coalition/155314487863578>; and the Better Choices coalition at <http://betterchoicesforpa.com/>.



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...Roundtable

Continues From Previous Page

myself as such so people can know who I am," said Barbara Wilson.

The problem of under-representation stretches beyond the classroom, as well, Bangura said. "If I walk into City Hall and I speak Spanish, I have someone to talk to. If I walk in and say, 'I speak Mandingo,' they look at me like I'm crazy," she said.

Bangura said both lawmakers and education officials were relatively unaware of how the

misclassification of students affected the African immigrant community. "I can make a lot of noise myself, but there's power in numbers," Bangura said, expressing the hope that events like the roundtable discussion will start to generate awareness both locally and nationwide.

By the end of the roundtable, attendees established a representative focus group designated to visit public officials and follow up on this issue.

Bangura can be reached at 267-584-7079 or by emailing cbangura@africenter.org.

Art in the Field at Bartram's Garden

A delightful range of artistry took place among the trees and on the grassy lawns at historic Bartram's Garden last Saturday, June 12.

Dozens of visitors from as far as South Jersey, had a chance to ramble down the shady paths, tour the gardens now bursting forth with spring flowers, and drop in to the new expanded gift shop. Guests participated in such activities as the knit-in-public event, print making on various kinds of fabric, tea sampling, woodworking, storytelling and ice cream-making.

The gift shop was especially popular, displaying not only a wide variety of souvenirs, cards and books on flowers, plants and trees, but also a great selection of quality tools to suit the needs of every enthusiastic gardener.

Outside the gift shop, Leah Mackin, Anni Altshuler, Chris Kline

and Eli VandenBerg of Space1026, set up tables with silk screen frames and helped visitors imprint various kinds of fabrics with brightly colored designs. Space1026 is a cooperative



Making ice cream the old fashioned way.

comprised of 30 or so screen printers and graphic artists who operate a studio and gallery at 1026 Arch St.

Anya Pallante and her husband

Frank, turned out some impressive scarves and t-shirts for gifts under Mackin's watchful eye.

"We heard about Bartram's classes for home schooled children last year, Anya said. "Now I bring our youngsters over for two hours each month and they've learned about such things as winter habitat for animals, the botany of flowers and apple cider making."

Another pleasant diversion was tasting samples of a number of intriguing teas prepared by Lisa Gregg-Alexander, owner of the Whispering Leaves Herb and Sip Shop at 4615 Woodland Ave. "We offer not only a wide variety of teas, but serve sandwiches and tea based soups," said Gregg-Alexander. "A great favorite is my sweet potato pie which starts with South Asian cinnamon chai tea."



A silk screened scarf could make a great gift.

By far the most popular stop was the ice cream-making activity which took place across from the massive John Bartram house. Mobilizing youngsters to turn the handle of the ice cream, Bartram's educational staff Alison Hosdale and Jamie Bower combined the sugar, vanilla extract, heavy cream and half-and-half in a wooden barrel to produce pints of yummy vanilla ice cream which was served up to the eagerly awaiting crowd.

to visit. It provides a little incentive to listen as we give them the 250-year history of the house and gardens and how Bartram's family continued his legacy."

For more information about public hours, the varied education program, tours, volunteering and donations, and special events call Bartram's at 215-729-5281 or visit the website at www.bartramsgarden.org.



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Gun Protests Represent 'Faith on Its Feet'

By Caleb Nothwehr

Carrying signs that read, 'Illegal guns DO kill people,' and 'HONK to end gun violence,' a group of about 12 protesters gathered in front of a gun store in Northeast Philadelphia on Tuesday, June 6, seeking to exert pressure on the store's owner and garner neighborhood attention.

For many of those present on the sweltering June evening, the act was more than a call for social change; it was a continuing expression of faith.

"We've tried to have the motto of 'Faith on its Feet,'" said Robert Fles, a co-coordinator of the event, sponsored by the Neighborhood Partnership to End Gun Violence and its parent organization, Heeding God's Call.

The group, gathered in

front of Delia's Gun Shop at 6104 Torresdale Ave., was comprised of men and women representing a variety of faith traditions. Some claimed affiliation to Quaker Friends Meetings, others were less specific. For Fles, gathering to protest illegal gun sales is an act of faithful obedience.

"As a Christian I'm asked to stand for justice and support the outcast and marginalized." Fles confessed. As he held his sign high and waved to honking motorists, he also took time to briefly explain the group's motivation.

The main objective of the protest, which resumes the first and third Tuesday of the month, is to exert pressure on the store's owner to sign a Code of Conduct, committing

to not sell illegal firearms.

"In this case, an illegal firearm can mean one acquired through a straw purchase in which a criminal



Protesters take aim at illegal straw gun purchases.

offender pays or hires a citizen to buy a firearm on the offender's behalf," stressed Fles. "Many of these purchases, protesters say, go on with the store owner's full knowledge of the criminal intent."

According to the Heeding

God's Call website, the group desires that small business gun shops will join mega-retailers like Wal-Mart in signing the Responsible Firearms Retailer Code of Conduct. In signing, the group seeks to minimize "the likelihood that the guns they sell will be re-sold illegally on the streets and used in violent crimes."

Furthermore, the group hoped to raise awareness and gain support within the neighborhood surrounding the gun store. "We've had people from the neighborhood thank us," indicated Fles.

The group also seeks to reach out to like-minded individuals in the Philadelphia area. In a political environment where little change can happen through legislation,

these protests offer an avenue of action for people who want to make a difference.

"It's good for people who are concerned to see that there is something they can do," Fles maintained.

While the band of protesters on Torresdale Avenue received many supportive honks, they also received some negative attention. During the first 10 minutes of the protest, a car stopped, the driver leaned out and asked if the group had proof that the gun store sold illegal guns.

A few protesters nod; many simply smiled and remained silent; the agitated driver drove on.

For more information about the work of Heeding God's Call, consult its website at www.heedinggodscall.org, or telephone the Globe Times at 215-727-7777.

Mitchell Elementary Wins Target Library Grant

By Caleb Nothwehr

When it comes to crack open the books next fall, Mitchell Elementary students will be doing it with style.

The students, staff and faculty at Mitchell will be the proud patrons of a completely renovated and re-stocked library next fall thanks to a grant they won from the Heart of America Foundation and the Target Corporation in competition with many other schools.

Kelly Vogel, a teacher in the Mitchell School library, was the library staff person who applied for and won the grant, with the support of Principal Jacqueline Haltie. "It's a wonderful gift to be able to give to our children," Vogel said. "The library makeover will include between 2000-

3000 new hardcover books, furniture, shelving, carpeting, and new technology such as an interactive white board.

The renovation will also include the construction of a Wall of Fame, which will feature famous people chosen by the students.

Mitchell's current library contains mostly used and donated books, Vogel said, so the renovation will be a welcome change for the kindergarten through 5th grade students there. In addition to the new library books, the grant also provides for seven new books for each Mitchell student to own.

"I hope it gets them more excited about reading," Vogel said.



Principal Jacqueline Haltie, teacher Kelly Vogel and students Malik Jengo (4th grade) and Maleah Mackey (5th grade) look at library book selections.

The renovation, which begins in September, will be completed and unveiled in a celebration ceremony and service day on Oct. 21, 2011. On this

day, Vogel said, between 100 - 200 volunteers from Target will visit the school and work on enhancement projects such as murals, maintenance on the exterior of the building and general cleaning.

Also on the unveiling day, the school and the Heart of America foundation will recognize two Mitchell Elementary students as "Heroes of the Heart." These two students, a boy and a girl, will be recognized for their service, integrity, and leadership within the school.

In order to win the grant, Vogel needed to make a presentation in front of a board representing Target and the Heart of

America Foundation.

"I was nervous, but I felt at peace," she said. "You're asking for all this money and a brand new library. I didn't want to let down the students. I wanted to be able to say, 'Look what we have for you.'"

One contributing factor in awarding the Target/Heart of America grant was the significant contribution made over many years by the parents of Mitchell students. Another element was the donation of hundreds of hours of volunteer time, money and books by Wayne Presbyterian Church through its urban/suburban partnership, CityLights Network. One teenaged Wayne youth collected more than 1700 of the books presently on Mitchell's library shelves as a Boy Scout project.

Officer Young Lauded

Thanksgiving turkey giveaways, job fairs to combat unemployment, Christmas parties loaded with toys and a visit from Santa for underprivileged youth and annual coat drives serving more than 300 residents of the Southwest Philadelphia were not initiatives organized by the Mayor's office.

The events were established by Community Relations Officer Joe Young of the 12th Police District.

In honor of his service to the Southwest community he served for more than 25 years, Police Officer Young is the 2011 recipient of the prestigious George Fencl Award, given annually by the to the city's top performing officer.

Young was nominated for the award by those he works

with and serves in Southwest.

Though clearly humbled by receiving the award, Young responded true to form and took getting the honor in stride.

"I just thank the community for coming out and supporting me," he told the crowd at last Wednesday's 12th District Workshop, which is hosted by Young and is the largest gathering of its kind at any police station in the city. "I couldn't do it without you." To that, the workshop-goers stood and cheered wildly for the well-known officer.

Officer Young will be given the Fencl Award next Tuesday (June 28) at 4 p.m. at the Waterfall Room in South Philadelphia.

The Fencl Award, sponsored by the Philadelphia Daily News, was named for the late Philadelphia Police

Civil Affairs Chief Inspector George Fencl. It celebrates local police officers whose careers are worthy of recognition - not for just a single act of valor or bravery.

"George Fencl was an outstanding representative of the Police Department," said former Capt. David Morrell, winner of the first Fencl Award in 1986. "Everyone liked him in the community and the department."

Officer Young, a former runner-up for the award, joins former winners from the 12th Police District including runners-up Capt. Dan MacDonald and Lt. George Holcombe, and past winners Police Officer Adrian Hospedale and last year's winner Robert "Butch" Riddick.

Prison/Halfway House Court Hearing

A Common Pleas Court judge will hear the case concerning the proposed Prison/Halfway facility at 5213 Grays Ave. on Wednesday, June 22, 2011, according to community leader Marsha Wall of Southwest Community Action Group. This hearing will take place at City Hall, Court Room 426 at 10 a.m.

"Regardless of the hot weather, we have to brave the heat to attend this hearing in force," urged Wall. "This is important enough to go to work late that day, take off from work, get a babysitter, car pool, and ask our family, friends and neighbors to attend. We may only be able to sit silently and respectfully in the court room or stand patiently in the corridors or outside, but this showing will clearly indicate our dissatisfaction with the idea of having

a prison in our neighborhood."

A few months ago, a similar court case was held where more than 75 stakeholders attended to voice their concerns, and their case was overturned, Wall noted. "We have to do the same thing, again," she stressed.

Wall urged that residents and local businesses email this information as widely as possible.

"If you are on Facebook, Twitter, or My Space add this to your status or as an event," she advised. "Please let everyone know that we have to attend with as many people as possible. This is free to attend, so please come out to respectfully and silently show our disapproval."

Wall can be reached by emailing mwwall23@yahoo.com.

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New Welcoming Center at Bartram's Garden

By Caleb Nohwehr

With construction complete and doors open at its new Welcome Center and Garden Shop, Bartram's Garden in Southwest Philadelphia is seeking to provide an even more inviting space for neighbors and community members.

Bill Butler, facilities coordinator at Bartram's is both a recipient and provider of the warm atmosphere at the green space.

It's a second home to me," Butler said of the 45-acre public green space at the intersection of 54th Street and Lindbergh Boulevard. A Philadelphia native, Butler previously worked as a machinist for 20 years in Northeast Philadelphia. He began working at Bartram's Gardens

after a friend told him that the facility was seeking someone to fill a part-time janitor position.

Now, eight years later, Butler is known as "Mr. Bartram's Gardens" by other staff members because of his presence and passion for the facility. His daily tasks include general maintenance, overseeing weekend events and greeting and assisting visitors.

"It's a job of a thousand labels," Butler said, lauding the facility as a treasure to the neighborhood with a wealth of resources available to the community. "When we tell people they're standing on the oldest botanical garden in

the country, they say, 'Oh really? That's where I'm standing?'"

Butler believes the new Welcome Center will be instrumental in stirring interest



Stephanie Phillips, Director of Development and Bill Butler, facilities coordinator at Bartram's new Welcome Center and Garden Shop.

in the facility and reaching out to the surrounding community especially the youth.

"We want people to feel

welcome and comfortable here," he said. One of Bartram's strongest assets to the community is its offerings for young people. If children can gain an appreciation for nature early, they'll hang onto it when they're older," Butler contended.

To foster this appreciation, the Gardens offer a variety of youth programs including Little Explorers, a monthly garden outing for toddlers, and Family Discovery Days, a weekend program for school-aged children and their families.

Kim Massare, public programs manager at the Gardens, said the facility's connection to the Southwest Philadelphia Community is a priority.

"We want the Southwest neighborhood to think of the Gardens as their park," she stressed. "The new Welcome Center and Garden Shop is a way of highlighting the accessibility and importance of the Gardens to the community, Massare said.

When the Welcome Center opens for guests, one of Butler's jobs is to fly large, blue 'Welcome' flags in front of the facility. It is a task that symbolizes his attitude toward the gardens.

"Places like this are so rare in the city," he said. "It's a real treasure."

Bartram's Garden can be reached at 215-729-5281 or by visit the website at www.bartramsgarden.org.

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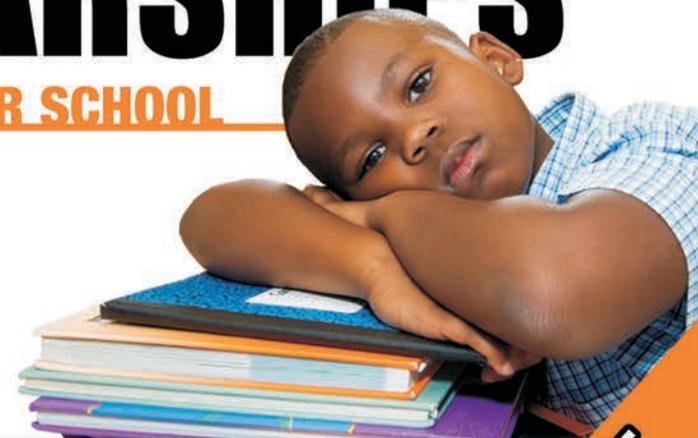
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Public Meeting on 58th Street Property Improvement

The Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development (PAID) has announced it will hold a public meeting at Bartram's Garden July 6 to inform the community about its plans to improve the former Transmontaigne/U.S. Gypsum industrial land between 56th and 58th Streets at the Schuylkill River.

The July 6th public meeting will be held in the Bartram's Garden Coach house beginning 6:30 p.m. Bartram's Garden is located on 53rd Street off Lindbergh Boulevard.

According to the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the project, the land had been contaminated by a variety of petroleum products and other chemicals during and after the closing of the



View of the property (item 51) from a 1946 Map of Southwest

U.S. Gypsum plant in 1988. The company built the plant in 1929 to make gypsum drywall board widely used in housing and office

construction.

The land in question composed of four parcels totaling about 29 acres which PAID intends to purchase, decontaminate and make available for industrial development.

PAID estimates that once the land has been reclaimed, it will be very attractive for industrial investment since it is close to all types of transportation and public transport is readily available to workers. Industrial jobs of this kind provide average annual wages of around \$50,000, according to PAID data.

At the public meeting PAID will lay out the process

for reclaiming the property, involving removal of thousands of cubic yards of soil, transporting to another location for cleaning, and returning it to the site. Special precautions will be taken during the procedure to assure that any contaminants do not find their way into the ground water or the Schuylkill River.

The end result will be restoration to a state known as a non-residential site specific standard (rather than a residential standard mentioned in the "Notice" on page 15 of the Globe Times on June 2.

Copies of the PIP are available at the Paschalville Library and at Southwest CDC, 6328 Paschall Ave.

Questions and comments may be communicated to the Department of Environmental Protection, Southwest Regional Office, Land Recycling/Cleanup Division, 2 East Main Street, Norristown, PA 19401.

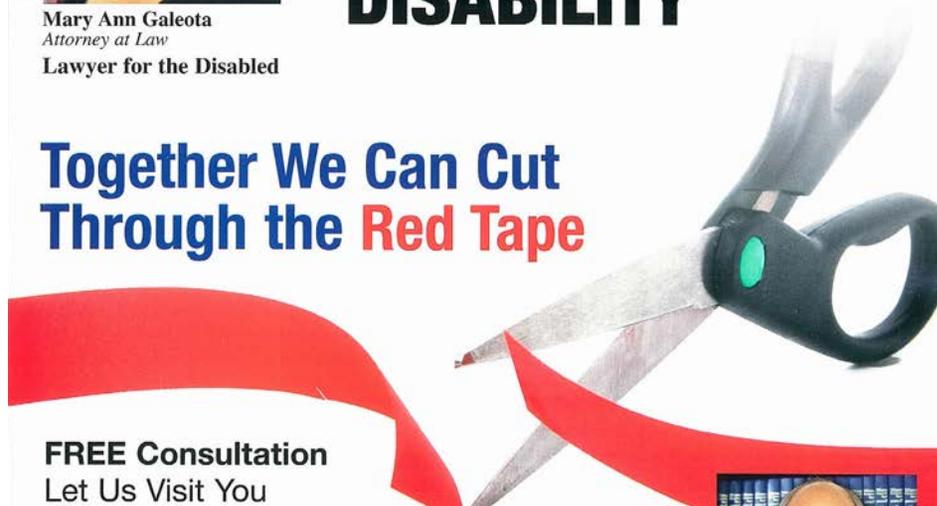
Copies of the Public Involvement Plan are available to residents at the Paschalville Public Library at 70th and Woodland and Southwest CDC, 6328 Paschall Ave.



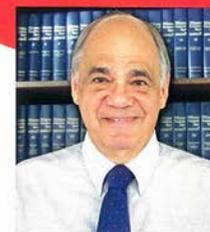
Mary Ann Galeota
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Kingsessing 5th Div. Block Captains Weekly Walk for Wellness

The block captains and neighbors associated with the Kingsessing Fifth Division Community of Neighbors (K5DCN) have responded actively to the message being spread throughout Philadelphia and around the nation about the need for Americans to get more physical exercise.

Their weekly Walk for Wellness program consists of rambling several times around Kingsessing Recreation Center and its playgrounds every Monday and Tuesday evening beginning at 7 p.m. The activity started April 18, and will continue until Tuesday June 28.

The walkers meet at the corner of 51st Street and Chester Avenue, and after a short but necessary warm-up, they head off in small groups around the playground – according to the pace each person prefers. Each week, those who are serious about improving their health record their weight and blood pressure.

Trekkers said the walk has been a dynamic tool for getting neighbors to exercise, talk with each other, meet their neighbors' pets, and become visible models of a healthier lifestyle in the community.

Organizers all from the K5DCN in-

clude Gregory R. Benjamin, founder and president, Phill Hughes, secretary, Wesley Johnson, treasurer, and block captains Chris Benjamin, Curtis Scott, Ron Currie, Dwight Byrd, Gloria Turner, Jean Cobb, Wanda Roundtree, April Turner, and committeeperson Nadira Branch.



"We cordially invite the community to come out on Tuesday (June 28) at 7 p.m. for this session's final gathering. We will have refreshments and some mingle time," said Benjamin who insisted his group welcomes anyone who wishes to join them for the remaining exercise days.

Those interested in more information can contact K5DCN at 267-254-9972 or by emailing greg3957ben@aol.com.

Parenting Graduates Celebrate

Catholic Social Services' Southwest Family Service Center held a graduation ceremony June 14 for the 10 members who completed its second 14-week Strengthening Families Program (SFP).

In addition to the ceremony which took place at noon, the successful graduates, parents, friends and staff were treated to a delicious lunch and music by DJ Antonio "Pooh Geez" Curtis.

After lunch, the gathering heard a touching rendition of the song "The Greatest Love of All" by Jamila Cole, an up-and-coming songstress. Graduates were awarded their SFP certificates and many had an opportunity to tell the attendees about how much the course had meant to them.

Each graduate also received a gift and a framed poem for completing the program. Amy Stoner, director of Community-based Services for Catholic Social Services, and Renee Hudson-Small, administrator of Northeast and Southwest Catholic Social Services were in attendance. Lola DeCarlo-Coles, assistant administrator-Southwest Family Services, addressed the graduates as did Casimiro Dunn Sr. of the SFP Class of 2010

Father Anthony Orth gave a beautiful, lighthearted blessing in closing

which everyone seemed to enjoy. It was a fun and exciting close to a challenging and enlightening journey for the teachers, Sonia Navarro and Francesca Spross, and for the parenting students and their families.

The next two, 15-week cycles of



Parenting Class Graduates at Catholic Social Services' Southwest Family Service Center.

the Strengthening Families Program will begin August 9, and be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In addition, there are parenting /pregnancy classes on Mondays 11-noon (parenting education), Wednesdays (pregnancy education) from 3-4 p.m. and a new parenting support group begins Tuesday, June 28 from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Southwest Family Service Center is located at 6241 Grays Ave, the former Our Lady of Loreto Rectory. In addition to Strengthening Family Program, it provides information, referral, intake and assessment services, pre-natal education and support, after school and summer programs for school-age children, a food pantry, a homelessness prevention program, and FEMA Assistance. SWFSC can be reached at 215-724-8550.

Teacher Francesca Spross provided the information for this article.

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In Memoriam

Carol Ann Kellam (1948 - 2011)

By Edith L. Dixon

Carol Ann Kellam, 63, a lifelong resident of Southwest and longtime community activist died Friday, June 10, at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Darby, PA.

Ms. Kellam was a tireless advocate for Southwest. Her many endeavors included active membership in the 12th Police District Advisory Council, 12th District Police Open House and Southwest Pride Day Committee, South West Action Coalition (SWAC) and the Paschall Betterment League

An avid fighter for human rights and local issues, when Paschall was in the perilous state of having no stoplights, Ms. Kellam fought to get them. When the city wanted to close her Paschall neighborhood's only recreation center, she battled back with car-stopping protest on Island Avenue.

"She campaigned hard for rights, especially for human rights and those of the homeless," said her longtime neighbor and fellow community activist Paul "Earthquake" Moore.

A kind-hearted, but strong and outspoken woman, Ms. Kellam worked for the Mayor's Office of Community

Service. She also helped initiate the Healthy Start program to reduce infant mortality, low birthweight and other poor perinatal outcomes and for many years, ran a playstreet for children in Paschall.

"She had a passion for life and for people," said Lorraine Thomas, operations manager at Southwest CDC. "She affectionately called everyone, 'Baby,' and even spoke some Cambodian. She made me laugh a lot."

Ms. Kellam attended the churches of Paschall, including St. John A.M.E., First Baptist Church of Paschall and New Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, and was a graduate of John Bartram High School.

She is survived by four sons, Paul, Timigene, Damon and Robert; her mother, Gloria; a sister, Renee, and a brother, Floyd.

A viewing will be held from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, June 18 at St. John AME Church, 2114 S. 71st St. The funeral service will follow at 11 a.m. at the church. The funeral arrangements and interment will be handled by the Francis Funeral Home, 5201 Whitby Ave., Phila., PA. 215-747-1919.

Construction on SEPTA Trolley Route 13 Begins June 20

A two-and-a-half month trolley track replacement project on Route 13 through Southwest will begin June 20 and run through Labor Day. Work will be done during daylight hours from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The first construction area will be along Chester Avenue and proceed down 60th Street and then to Kingsessing Avenue.

Starting Sunday, June 19, buses will operate in place of trolleys on the Route 13 trolley line between the

Yeadon Loop and the 40th Street Portal. Route 13 customers can travel to-and-from 40th Street to Center City on trolleys running on routes 11, 34 or 36. Buses operating on the Route 13 will follow regular trolley schedules



Route 13 surfaces from the 40th Street tunnel near Baltimore Avenue and runs through Southwest beginning at Woodland Avenue before moving to Chester Avenue to either the Mt. Moriah loop or on to Yeadon or Darby.

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Obama Campaign Event in SW

The first Democratic national day of action for the Philadelphia area will be Saturday, June 18. The event will involve voter registration in the area around the 6000 block of Trinity Place – which is off 49th Street near Springfield Avenue.

Meeting time for the activity is 12:30 p.m. and it will run through 4:30.

Given the Republican Party moves to restrict voting (demands for photo ID's) and make it more difficult to register voters, activities like the one planned for Saturday become extremely important.

According to national campaign leader Jeremy Bird, the more people who get involved now, the more extensive the network of volunteers will be -- which means we can reach more voters with the facts about what President Obama and his allies have accomplished, and what they plan to accomplish in the future.

To sign up log on to <http://my.barackobama.com/June-18th-Day-Of-Action> or phone 215-485-8633

Paschalville Library Job Readiness Center Free Help to Jobseekers

By Caleb Nothwehr

Paschalville Library at 69th Street and Woodland Avenue is one of the first public library branches in Philadelphia to offer free assistance and resources to jobseekers in the community.

The Paschalville Branch Library Job Readiness Center, at 6942 Woodland Ave., offers computer availability, resume and cover letter assistance, and nearly one-on-one help to patrons seeking employment. They even throw in a free jump drive for patrons.

"It's a big deal to the community," said Chaka Moore, senior job coordinator at the Center. "We all can use a helping hand. Such assistance is crucial when much of the job hunting process depends on a person's ability to

use technology and navigate the internet effectively."

Counselors at the Job Readiness Center not only assist people



Chaka Moore, sr. job coordinator, assists jobseeker Terrick Johnson with an internet search.

in finding gainful employment, they also help those who are looking to take a next step in education. "We also promote education as a backbone," said Moore. "It's a way you're going to get your foot in the

door with a job."

Another benefit that the Center offers is increased computer time for patrons. While most libraries allow 30 minutes of computer time, patrons can use the computer to search for jobs for up to an hour.

Funded primarily by the Lincoln Financial Group, the Center has been in operation since 2006. Moore said the response from the community has been gracious and positive.

"The feedback we get is, 'Thank you so much,'" she said.

Assistance at the Paschalville Branch Library Job Readiness Center is by appointment basis only. Hours of operation are Mon, Wed, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Tues, Thurs, Fri. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Contact them to make an appointment at 215-726-4587.

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610.237.4000 | www.mercyhealth.org/fitzgerald

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A member of Mercy Health System
501 South 54th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19143
215.748.9000 | www.mercyhealth.org/mercyphiladelphia



Happy Birthday Ada E. Cooper 100 Years Old!

Ada E. Cooper has done a lot of living, and if it is the Lord's will, she will turn 100 on June 18.

Born June 18, 1911 in Chester, PA, Mrs. Cooper is the matriarch of six generations who on Sunday, June 19, will gather at the Lambs Tavern in Springfield, PA for a gala 100th birthday dinner.

"My grandmother has lived for many years on South Wilton Street here in Southwest Philadelphia and has seen many changes in her community, city and state," said grandson Tre' McNair. "I know she would be beside herself to have people in the community acknowledge her century of living among us."

When asked if she had any suggestions to give to the present generations, the clear minded Mrs. Cooper said, "My advice is first of all to be more kind to each other. I don't see enough love for other people these days."

For young people, she added, "They need to learn to obey those who are in charge."

As to why this whether she thinks this is happening, Cooper affirmed, "It's up to parents to teach the rules on how to live. That's how I learned them, and I tried to pass them down the line through my children as they grew up."



Mrs. Ada E. Cooper, 100-years-old on June 18

Counting just the family, the celebration will be quite an affair, since Cooper counts six children (of whom three remain), 15 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, 30 great, great, grandchildren, and 2 great, great, great, grandchildren.

Well wishers in the community might consider sending cards or messages to the birthday girl in care of Mother Ada E. Cooper, 1811 South 58th St., Philadelphia PA 19143 or email her grandson at tremcnair2008@gmail.com.

...Teen Pregnancy

Continues From Page 2

programs, and increase the number of youth who receive clinical care."

FPC has developed a vast curriculum, with courses to suit nearly any and every community group with teens. The Council will train those who run the programs in the coursework of their choosing, and provide information and resources related to the project through newsletters, brochures, websites and presentations at meetings. It is up to the community to take ownership and drive the FPC project. We think it's worth getting involved just to give our young people a chance to succeed.

This is not the only pregnancy

prevention project in the works. Philadelphia OIC has a program that takes a more hands-on approach to stopping teen pregnancy that will be discussed in an upcoming Globe Times.

Meanwhile, if you are interested in implementing a pregnancy prevention program for teens at your church, mosque, Town Watch group, recreation center or community group, please contact Tiffany Thompson, program coordinator at the Family Planning Council at 215-985-2600. The mailing address is Family Planning Council, 1700 Market St., 18th Floor, Phila., PA 19103 or email Thompson at Tiffanyt@familyplanning.org.

—Edith L. Dixon

ACES Holds Children's Day at Connell Park

Neighbors young and old representing a wide range of cultural backgrounds came together June 11 at Connell Park, 65th Street and Elmwood Avenue for the second annual African and Caribbean Children's Day sponsored by the African Center for Education and Sustainability (ACES).

Following a breakfast roundtable where immigration issues were discussed, children began assembling for the variety of games and activities as parents and friends looked on, lounged around the park while treating themselves to hot dogs and soft drinks.



Children cool off by tossing water filled balloons.

The affair was graced by the presence Mayor Michael Nutter who has strongly backed the assimilation of the city's growing African immigrant population through the Mayor's Commission on African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs. Mayor Nutter was greeted by ACES founder and executive director, Carol Sallymatu Bangura. A native of Sierra Leone, Bangura attended Philadelphia schools and received a master's degree in education. Originally focusing on collecting books here in the U.S. to send back to her home country, ACES now provides a variety of education and support services of the area's immigration population.

"The more we get to know and understand the rich cultural di-

versity of our city, the better chance we have of living together in peaceful and productive ways," noted the mayor, reflecting on the importance of gatherings that specifically reach out to the diverse elements within our community.

Based on a report prepared in 2007 by Penn researchers, there are more than 50,000 African immigrants living within the city limits, of which 75 percent have arrived since 1990. While the largest contingents came from Nigeria, Liberian, Ethiopia, and Ghana, there are sizeable groups from other countries in West and East Africa. Moreover, within many countries, there are additional tribal differences in language, customs, traditions and

religion. This mixture further complicates the educational and health services picture.

Though often lumped together by outside observers, there is tremendous diversity among black Americans.

"It is difficult to understand where someone is coming from unless there is an opportunity to interact in a peaceful, structured environment," added Bayeh Thompson, a volunteer staff member at ACES.

"We try to introduce young people that kind of positive interaction in our programs. While our country is still a great melting pot, we stress that we're all Americans now, and must be tolerant of one another."

Lynn Pollard, another ACES volunteer, observed that throughout the day visitors would be hearing music from almost every country. "The variety of the music also helps to develop an awareness and appreciation for the different cultures we have in our neighborhoods."

ACES can be reached by calling 267-584-7079 or emailing cbangura@africenter.org. The website is www.africenter.org.

COMING UP

JUNE 18	JUNE 17-18	JUNE 19	JUNE 20	JUNE 22	JUNE 22
African & Caribbean Community Youth Law Enforcement Education Summit, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., (see box below)	Summer Sidewalk Book Sale Book Corner, 311 N. 20th Street, (see box below)	Evelyn Graves Dinner/Theatre's Father Day "Handwriting on the Wall" 3 p.m., (see box below)	Career Fair Prep Workshop 5 p.m., 1936 N. Judson Street, (see box below)	Academy on the Go: Raptors, 3:45 p.m., Kingsessing Library, (see box below)	Court Hearing for Proposed 5213 Grays Avenue Prison/Halfway Facility, 10 am Philadelphia City Hall 1 Penn Square, Court Room 436
JUNE 23,30	JUNE 23	JUNE 24	JUNE 27-30	JUNE 29	JULY 2
Thursday Movie Matinees for Kids, 1 p.m., Cobbs Creek Library, (see box below)	Active Transportation Summit, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 2929 Arch Street, (see box below)	Family Gaming Fridays, 2 p.m. Eastwick Library, (see box below)	Business Youth Camp, Ages 13-18, Register now, (see box below)	Merchants Safety Clinic 5 – 6:30 p.m. 12th Police Dist. 6448 Woodland Ave. Crime Protection, report filing. Register 215-557-2826	Woodland Avenue Clean Up Day: 65th – 69th St. 7 – 10:30 a.m. Volunteers Welcome. Contact Vaughn, SWCDC 215-729-0729.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

African & Caribbean Community Youth Law Enforcement Education Summit

Saturday, June 18th, 11 am – 2 pm
ACANA Hall, 5526 Chester Avenue,

All the African and Caribbean immigrant community youth are invited. Learn about law enforcement in our communities..
The event is Free and Light Refreshment will be served.

INFO: Dr. D. Thompson 267-294-4584 OR Hon. Stanley Straughter 215-817-9887

Mayor's Commission on African & Caribbean Immigrant Affairs & the PA Crime Delinquency/Phila Working Grp

"Handwriting on the Wall"
Based on Biblical Story of Daniel
Evelyn Graves Dinner Theater
Sunday, June 19th 3 pm, 1115 Whitby Ave, Yeadon.
Catered Dinner and Exciting Play
Live Music – Delicious Meal – Sacred Dance
Info & Tickets 215-727-7796

Youth Anti-Violence/Health Awareness Initiative
Tuesday, June 28th, 11 am to 4 pm Myers Rec Cntr

Get educated, tested, have fun. FREE lunch, drill teams, and featuring The Resurrection Bad Boys

Workshops include Nutrition, drug prevention, conflict resolution, HIV prevention, community engagement

INFO: Vernon Montague 215-873-3774 OR Keisha Coffie 215-683-4060 OR Emmitt Brayboy 215-683-4060

Sponsors: YOACAP, IDAAY, Resurrection Ministries, Urban Solutions, Myer's Rec Advisory Council, SW Community Advisory Committee

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Phila. Authority for Industrial Development
Public Meeting July 6 - 6:30 to 8:00 PM
Bartram's Gardens Coach House,
5400 Lindbergh Boulevard, Philadelphia,

To Discuss Subservice Investigation Findings
REMEDATION: U.S. GYPSUM PROPERTY
58TH STREET – EASTWICK AREA

OTHER EVENTS

Summer Sidewalk Book Sale
Book Corner 311 N. 20th Street

Friday, June 17th 12 pm to 6 pm
Saturday, June 18th 10 am to 6 pm
Rain or shine! www.libraryfriends.info

Active Transportation Summit
Thursday June 23rd, 8 am to 5 pm
The HUB at the Cira Center
2929 Arch Street, Mezzanine Level, Philadelphia, PA

Two representatives from SW Philly will be on the agenda **for the 58th Street Greenway.**
Cost: \$50, scholarships available
INFO/RSVP: 215-592-1800
www.pecpa.org/event/active-transportation-summit

Baltimore Ave Dollar Days

First Thursdays July 7, August 4, September 1
5:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Baltimore Ave 42nd to 50th Street

Live performances, street vendors, music, food trucks

For info & list of participating places visit:
<http://www.universitycity.org/dollarstroll2011>

JOB RESOURCES

7th Annual North Philadelphia Career Fair
June 28th, 11am-2:30pm, 1936 N. Judson Street
Honickman Learning Center/Comcast Technology Labs

Job Prep Workshops (see address above)
Monday June 20th, 5 PM - Career Fair Prep Workshops:
Learn what employers look for and how to make a good impression.

Wednesday June 22nd 11 AM - Computer Workshop:
Search employers' websites, create a resume, and apply online.
June 28th, 11:30 AM – (during career fair)
ReEntering the Workforce: Learn about Ticket to Work and other resources for non-workers who have been receiving benefits.

INFO: 215-235-2900 x6116.

Pepsi • Comcast • Project H.O.M.E. • Horizon House • PA CareerLink • State Civil Service Commission • PECO • Slomin's Home Security • RiteAid • PA Department of Corrections • Urban League of Philadelphia • Community Legal Services • ShopRite • PNC • NHS Human Services • Lowe's • Hilton Worldwide • Americorps VISTA • First Transit • Coventry Cares

Need Help Job Hunting? Get fee help!

Job Readiness Center - Paschalville Branch Library
6942 Woodland Ave, 70th & Woodland Ave
Mon & Wed 11 am to 7 pm, Tues & Fri 10 am to 5 pm
Thurs 10 am to 4 pm

Write a resume and cover letter ♦ Open a job-related e-mail account ♦ Sign up for Careerlink ♦ Search for jobs on-line ♦ Apply for jobs on-line

Info/Appointments: 215-726-4587

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RESOURCES

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- ◆ Creating/refining resumes and cover letters
- ◆ Evaluating affordable housing options
 - ◆ Locating GED/Training courses
 - ◆ Free Income Tax Return Services/EITC
- ◆ Applying for Public Benefits, including LIHEAP, Child & Health Care, TANF/SNAP Assistance, and more
- ◆ FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Hours: Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm
 West Office – 203 S. 60th St (60th & Walnut, next to Mimmo's Pizza) – 215-474-1807,
phillywest@liftcommunities.org

HIV/AIDS & STD Testing

Neighborhood United Against Drugs provides testing for HIV/AIDS and STD's at your site if needed. They also offer counseling to get services. Best for groups with high risk populations, eg: shelters, ex-offenders, soup kitchens, etc.

INFO: Joe or Hannah at NUAD, 215-724-7430

Housing retention

Receive up to \$2000 to stay in home from advocate for homeowners facing foreclosure

INFO: Deirdre Lowman 215-729-0800

USEF - Emergency Utilities Assistance

Available for those with shut off notices.
 Pays up to \$1500

INFO: Southwest CDC, 6328 Paschall Ave
 215-729-0800

LIBRARY EVENTS

Library Events

Kingsessing Library

◆ Wednesday, June 22nd, 3:45PM Academy on the Go: Raptors (everyone welcome)

Cobbs Creek Library Branch

Tuesday, June 21st 4 pm The Cat's Pajamas Musical Performance (children) ◆ Thursday, June 23, 1pm Movie Matinees for Kids ◆ Thursday, June 30, 1pm Movie Matinees for Kids ◆ Wednesday, July 5, Teen Wii Workout

Eastwick Library

Monday, June 20th, 4 pm International Summer Reading Kick off Party ◆ Wednesday, June 22, 2 pm Summer Reading Movie Days ◆ Friday, June 24th, 2 pm Summer Time Gaming Day ◆ Monday, June 27th, 6 pm, Adult Summer Reading Movie ◆ Friday, July 1st, 2 PM Gaming Fridays (families)

Lucien E. Blackwell W. Phila Regional Library

Tuesday, June 21st, 4 PM, Line Dancing with Gloria Kingcade (families) ◆ Wednesday, June 22, 5:30PM Chess Club for Children ◆ Friday, July 1, 2:30PM Manga Café – Japanese Comic reading and drawing (twens and teens) ◆ Wednesday, July 6th, 3 PM, Cooking Around the World

See library contact info under "Library Programs"

Camp Groups are Welcome!

Call your local branch to arrange for a one-hour weekly group slot during the summer! Ed Voves of the Kingsessing Branch will also come to you to register kids for cards, tell about programs, and read stories. Contact Ed at VovesE@freelibrary.org

SPIRITUAL

46th Street Baptist Church

1261 South 46th Street - (215) 386-8150

- ◆ Tuesdays, 7 PM Bible Study & Prayer Service
- ◆ Thursdays 4:30PM – 6 PM Youth Movie Night (Thru July 28th) Ages 8-13) ◆ Fri June 17th, 7 PM Beloved Dance Ministry "Joy Night"
- ◆ Saturday Night Service & Drama Ministry Every 2nd & 4th Saturday, Rev. Michael Heath – Guest Preacher
- ◆ Sunday June 26th, 11 AM PASTOR'S ANNIVERSARY - Rev. Martin T. Wright, M.T.S., Pastor
- ◆ Bus Trip - Dorney Park, Fri July 1st. INFO: 215-386-8560

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Summer Reading Program June 20th to August 12th

- Children, Adults, & Teens - sign up at local library
- Camps, schools, and other groups - sign up for the program and appointments to visit

Summer Reading Online Program June 1st to August 31st

Children, Adults, & Teens can sign up at their local library at www.freelibrary.org/summerreading

Kingsessing Library

1201 South 51st Street 215-685-2690

Cobbs Creek Branch

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Touring the Beautiful Murals of Southwest

By Marquita Bell

CityLights Network ushered in the summer with a Southwest mural tour on Saturday, June 11.

The tour kicked off at Bartram's Garden's bridge at 54th and Lindbergh and proceeded past six other murals in our part of the city.

With helpful comments from knowledgeable guide Anita Pacheco, a student at Mastery Shoemaker Charter School, visitors inspected wall art such as "African Presence - Bridging the gap" at 58th and Woodland, "All Join Hands" at 58th and Kingsessing, and "Magic Wall" at 47th and Up-land.

The tour was based on research performed by Pacheco and fellow classmate Darius Duncan, who are both

sophomores at Mastery. Their six-month study delved into the history of the Southwest mural projects and the stories behind the graphic images portrayed in the artwork. The research was done under an internship at the urban/suburban partnership, CityLights Network, Inc. 6330 Paschall Ave.

Although the research was time consuming, Pacheco considered the project worthwhile.

"I believe this project may help the Southwest community by allowing all residents to see that they are fortunate enough to have these amazing and meaningful murals around their community," she said. "Maybe even some visitors will want to help to improve the community."

Duncan, created a map

of the mural locations online, suggested that murals help others see a different perspective on their neighborhood.



"I think it will allow them to better understand the beautiful artwork in their community," he said.

Pacheco and Duncan

were fulfilling Mastery Charter School's requirement for students to have an 18-week unpaid internship with a local business or organization. Business and organizational leaders serve as mentors to the student interns and provide what is often the first encounter the young people have in a real-work environment. The innovative program helps students build their organizational skills and helps them communicate effectively in an adult environment.

During their time with CityLights, Pacheco and Duncan verified locations of more than 20 Southwest murals, took photographs, and obtained background information from the city's Mural Arts Program. Their work is part of CityLights' ongoing project of compiling a guide to all the murals located in Southwest. The effort was created to promote tourism in

the community and increase the enjoyment of people already living in Southwest.

CityLights is a faith-based non-profit that has been serving the Southwest for 15 years. Its mission is to form partnerships and collaborate with faith-based and community organizations, private and public institutions, and committed residents to foster positive change in Southwest Philadelphia. Their goal is to revitalize Southwest Philadelphia spiritually, economically, and socially.

To find out more about CityLights, its partnerships and volunteer opportunities, contact Carey Davis at citylightscdavis@gmail.com or 267-270-CITY(2489). To find out more information about hosting a Mastery Charter School intern, contact Lili Curcio at 215-518-0225 or at lili.curcio@masterycharter.org.

Grey Ferry Farmers Market Opens in South Philly

State Reps. Kenyatta Johnson and Babette Josephs, and Sen. Anthony H. Williams were all on hand recently to announce the Grays Ferry Farmers' Market will open Tuesday, May 31 for the season.

The market runs from 2 to 6 p.m. each Tuesday at Peace Plaza on Wharton Street between 29th and Hollywood through October.

The farmers' market will be run by the Food Trust and will feature locally grown, seasonal fruits and vegetables, as well as Amish baked goods and canned items.

"In order to fight against obesity, it's important to... make healthy food establishments easily accessible," said Johnson. "I am proud to support programs that help promote healthy lifestyles to our youth, and the community as a whole."

"It's always a great moment when we can focus on viable solutions as opposed to simply admiring the problem," Williams said. "This market will provide fresh fruits and vegetables to our community, items that aid in



combating chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and obesity.

"For far too long, those ailments have been the norm, as have been fast food and unhealthy snacks that predominate in urban

areas. We begin to substantively attack the problem by providing alternatives that are accessible and affordable. The Grays Ferry Farmers' Market is such an example. It will help promote healthier lifestyles - the ones marked by sound nourishment that help students stay focused and achieve in school and reduce health care costs."

The Grays Ferry Farmers' Market is one of 10 new markets in the city as part of Get Healthy Philly, an initiative of the city's Public Health Department.

The market will accept Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers given to seniors and WIC recipients, as well as Access cards; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, also known as food stamps; and Philly Food Bucks, an incentive program for SNAP customers.

Teacher of the Year

Ms. Valda Dodson has been nominated Teacher of the Year by her community and by Boy's Latin Charter School. She will be honored at a Give Back and Fun Day by the blocks of 1700 Frazier Street and 5000 Kingsessing Avenue on July 30 at 2 p.m.



Also being recognized for their community service at that celebration will be state Representative Ronald Waters and Kenyatta Johnson, and the American Cancer Society.

Ms. Dodson is a very devoted teacher," attested celebration coordinator Priscilla Martin. "She loves her job and her students love her"

One of Ms. Dodson's favorite sayings is "Plan your work and Work your plan," continued Martin. "And the children really respond to that. As they would say, 'Ms. Dodson, you are a rock.'"

Participating in the Give Back event will be block co-captains William Hanif Moore and Charlotte Turner. Ms. Martin can be reached at 215-724-3642 or priscilla.martin22@verizon.net.

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1 LB. TURKEY BREAST	1 LB. BEEF BOLOGNA	1 LB. TURKEY BREAST	6 CT. PKG. AMOROSO ROLLS	1 LB. TURKEY PASTRAMI	1 LB. BEEF BALOGNA
1 LB. TURKEY HAM	1 2-LITER SODA	1 LB. TURKEY HAM		6 CT. PKG. AMOROSO ROLLS	
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1 LB. TURKEY BREAST		1 LB. TURKEY SALAMI I		1 LB. AMERICAN CHEESE	1 LB. TURKEY SALAMI I
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1 FREE 2 LITER SODA	5 LBS. TURKEY WINGS	2 LBS. SHOULDER STEAKS	3 LBS. CHICKEN WINGS	2 LBS. BUTTER STEAKS	5 LBS. TURKEY WINGS
3 LBS. ALL BEEF SAUSAGE	3 LBS. CHUCK STEAKS	2 LBS. GROUND BEEF	3 LBS. QTR'D CHICKEN LEGS	2 LBS. SHOULDER STEAKS	3 LBS. QTR'D CHICKEN LEGS
2 PKGS. CHICKEN NUGGETS	3 LBS. SHOULDER STEAK	2 LBS. CHICKEN CHOPS	1 DOZEN EGGS	2 LBS. CHICKEN BREAST	3 LBS. CHILKEN WINGS
5 LBS. WHITE POTATOES	5 LBS. CHICKEN WINGS				
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1 FREE 2 LITER SODA	3 LBS. GROUND BEEF	1 FREE 2 LITER SODA	10 LBS. TURKEY WINGS	3 LBS. CHICKEN DRUMS	2 LBS. BEEF SAUSAGE
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