#### Waterfront Square Newsletter

# **THE NAVIGATOR**

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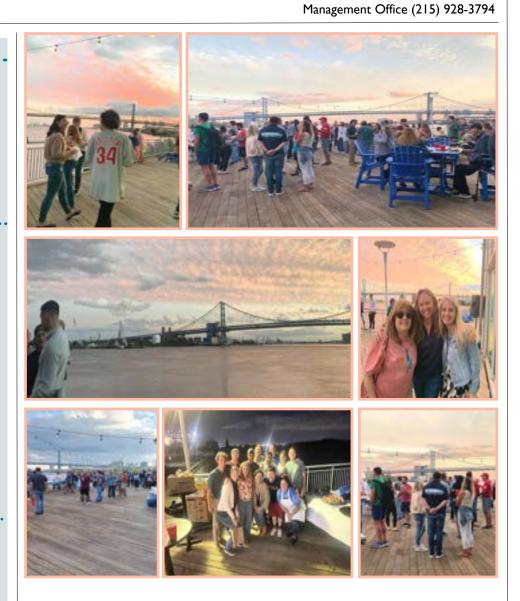
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# **Our BBQ is Back!**

WFS residents gathered on the deck to celebrate its reopening after being closed for repair for several weeks. But that wasn't the only thing we were celebrating - it was also a return to normal after 2 1/2 years of the pandemic pause on our social events. Neighbors gathered for the first time in years as the sunset cast a beautiful orange glow on the festivities. The grills were manned and the food was catered by Campo's of Old City. Many thanks to the management team and maintenance staff for organizing this annual and well-loved event!

### Waterfront Square Newsletter

# Book Club News

The next book club meeting will be Wednesday, October 26th at 1PM in the Peninsula Library/Community Room. Two books will be discussed this month, so get reading!



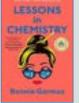
"*The Forgiven*, written by Lawrence Osborne, explores the reverberations of a random accident on the lives of Moroccan Muslims and Western

visitors who converge on a

luxurious desert villa for a decadent weekend-long party. " - Goodreads "In *Lessons in Chemistry*, written by

Bonnie Garmus, a frus-

trated chemist finds herself at the helm of a cooking show that sparks a revolution. Welcome to the 1960s, where a woman's arsenal of tools was



often limited to the kitchen—and where Elizabeth Zott is hell bent on overturning the status quo one meal at a time." - New York Times

Meetings are open to all residents. All meeting dates and book titles are posted in building elevators and lobbies.

# Social Committee

Join us in welcoming **Rosann Cozza Tancredi** to her new position as the chairperson of our Social Committee!



Rosann, a 17 year resident of WFS, currently serves as the Secretary on the Regatta board and is a member of the WFS Communication Committee. She has been a realtor for 20 years and was the former Sales & Marketing Director for WFS.

Please contact Rosann at rosannroro@aol.com if you're interested in joining the Committee. She's hoping to plan an event for next spring.

## News from the Grounds Committee

Last fall and this spring, a whole lotta planting was going on! The Grounds Committee worked with management and our landscaping firm, Land Stewards, to prioritize and implement several phases of Land Stewards' comprehensive plan for our ground floor landscaping. Work was completed on five of the



eight different zones identified on the plan. These zones included:

- The area adjacent to the Reef along the guest parking entrance
- The area outside of Reef's south-facing entrance door
- The waterfront area of Peninsula Point
  - The beds on Peninsula's south and east facades
- Three Tree Park next to the Lighthouse



The Committee will be reviewing and prioritizing the remaining areas to be planted next spring. They're also working with Land Stewards on additional plantings for Three Tree Park this fall.

Included in the total cost for the recently completed deck repairs was a small allowance to

have Land Stewards replant the two adjacent bulkheads with native grass seedlings. The Committee is working with management to make sure we understand the care and watering needs of these areas.

Looking to next year, the Committee hopes to start to replace some of the grassy areas on the 3rd/4th floor roof park with meadow plantings as recommended in the plans by Roof Meadows. They're also continuing to explore materials and costs to replace the old putting green surface with some type of hardscaping. Pavers have been ruled out because of their cost and the complexity of the installation, but alternative materials like decking are being considered.

## Watch This Space

Our pool and hot tub were closed on October 3rd for a two week replastering project. This project is one of many that we budget for per our reserve study. Included in the project is the installation of new tile trim, drain covers, and LED pool lights.

Our lap swimmers appreciate the fact that our 25 meter Jr. Olympic sized swimming pool is the only regulation lap pool in a Center City condominium. And that view!



## Waterfront Square Newsletter

## Pie Sale



Although pies won't be delivered directly to WFS this year, residents can

still buy or donate MANNA'S delicious pies!

Money raised from the sale goes directly towards preparing and delivering Thanksgiving dinners and providing year-round services for people with acute nutritional risk from a critical illness such as cancer, chronic kidney disease, HIV/AIDS and more.

To purchase or donate one of their tasty pies, please go to mannapies.org and make your selections. In



the "Pie Seller Area," click that you're buying or donating the pie directly and then choose one of the 17 pick-up sites in the area. Click continue, then enter your contact and payment information. Order by **November 18**. Your pie can be picked up at your chosen selection site on

November 22.

# **Remembering Ed**

*"Welcome Home."* We miss those words and the smiling man behind them.

The weather was beautiful as residents and staff gathered together in June for a memorial and tree dedication service for our much-loved concierge, Ed Lawrence.

There were tears, but also smiles, as speakers shared memories of Ed's welcoming presence. He is still very much missed in our community.

## **Ditty Bags for Seafarers**

Larry Isard and Nikki Green of the Peninsula are organizers of an annual collection drive coordinated by Seamen's Church Institute. This wonderful cause supports the crews of the large ships that pass Waterfront Square every day.

Seamen's Church Institute reaches out to

ships in ports along both sides of the Delaware to provide ditty bags filled with small gifts during the holiday season. Seafarers are away from home for months at a time and are so appreciative of these useful gifts from the residents of the ports they serve.

Nikki and Larry will set up a collection bin in the lobby of the Peninsula from October 7th through October 30th to collect donations for the ditty bags. Your support is very much appreciated!

#### Wish List

(full sizes for toiletries, please)

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- Hats and Scarves (dark colors)
- Work socks, work gloves
- ChapStick

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- Nail clippers
- Razors
- Shaving cream
- Playing cards
- Hand lotion

## **Security Committee**

- Toothbrush, toothpaste Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Comb
- Pens and writing paper
- Mini sewing kit
  - Hard or boxed candy, gum, cough drops

Many thanks to *Kim Chhour*, a member of the Reef board, who volunteered to form and chair a Security Committee focused on improving WFS exit/entrance processes and other common area security concerns. The committee has met several times and made several recommendations being considered by the parent board and management.





# **NLNA's Operation Santa**



It may be October, but the holidays are right around the corner and we're happy to again partner with Northern Liberties Neighborhood Association to support the Operation Santa project. The project typically serves 45 households and 150 kids in the greater Northern Liberties area. Referrals for households are received from neighbors and from local schools and libraries. Operation Santa is non-denominational and aims to provide at least one gift and a book to each child as well as a holiday meal to each family. Funding for the meals and other support comes from the Penn Treaty SSD. Gifts come from donations

from Northern Liberties neighbors, particularly Waterfront Square.

*Please consider donating a new toy to this worthwhile project.* Collection boxes will be placed in the lobbies right after Thanksgiving. Toys will be collected through December 18th. Janet Finegar of NLNA always welcomes volunteers to wrap and distribute the gifts. Be sure to check out the NLNA's website at nlna.org for updates and info.

## **History Preserved**



We've all seen (and probably welcomed) the demolition of the bus depot and nightclub across the street at 700-730 Delaware Ave. Still remaining though is a row of old homes on Fairmount Ave. The good news for history buffs is that the planned 488-unit project will include the preservation of these historic homes.

The block this row sits on was first dedicated in 1771 as Coats's Landing (deeded to Thomas Coats). It's assumed that the houses were constructed some time around 1830, when Coats's Landing

was widened to become part of Coates Street. The early 19th century residents of these houses were working class people like shoemakers, tanners, and shipbuilders. It wasn't an ideal place to live because it was prone to flooding from either the Delaware or the Cohonksink Canal.

Coates Street was re-named Fairmount Avenue in 1873. Six years later, 81 and 83 Fairmount, the two houses at the corner of Fairmount and Beach Streets, were combined into one unit and became the Friends Neighborhood Beach Street Mission, a community center that primarily served local children, mostly poor immigrants.

By the early 20th century, the entire area surrounding the row of houses had become an industrial wasteland. It's likely that the houses went unused during this time. In the 1930s, Terminal Warehouse Corporation took ownership of the row of houses for use as their headquarters building. The entity became the largest warehouse company in Philadelphia and the second largest in America.

An entity named Mount Corp. purchased the row of homes in 1965. They leased the space to numerous com-

panies: a car dealership and realty management firm in the 70s, the American Freight Corporation in the 80s, a caterer in the 90s. In the 2000s a motorcycle dealer called Yamaha City made their home in the old Wagon House section of the property (built in 1873 and recently torn down) and the rowhomes housed a dance studio and a real estate agency.

Although it's not clear in the Civic Design Review how the rowhomes will be utilized in the new development, it's nice to know that this little slice of history will be around for decades to come.



Article excerpted from Hidden City and the Philadelphia Historical Commission Nomination Form