



## CALENDAR

### April 21

Keep PA Beautiful  
Tree Planting  
See page 1 for details

### April 24

First-Time Homebuyer  
Counseling Workshop  
See page 2 for details

### April 24

Council-At-Large Forum  
Kensington South NAC  
1217 N. Hancock Street  
6 p.m.

### April 28

The Garden Center  
Official Opening Day  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### May 1

The Business of Art:  
Basic Financial Management  
Coral Street Arts House  
See page 2 for details

### May 5

The Garden Center  
Workshop feat.  
Mike McGrath  
See page 4 for details

### May 17

BSomeday presents:  
CAPA Storytelling Project  
5 - 8 p.m.  
Coral Street Arts House  
2446 Coral Street

### May 19

Trenton Avenue  
Arts Festival &  
Kinetic Sculpture Derby  
See page 1 for details

### June 9

Pop's Playground  
Rededication Festival  
More details to come!

# INSIDE NEW KENSINGTON

2515 Frankford Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19125

215-427-0350

*Serving Fishtown, East Kensington, & Port Richmond since 1985*



[www.nkcdc.org](http://www.nkcdc.org)

SPRING 2007

## Kinetic Sculptures To Compete at Arts Fest



"The Duck" pictured above, won the Best Pit Crew award at the 2005 Baltimore Kinetic Race.

The Trenton Avenue Arts Festival (TAAF), which will take place Saturday, May 19th on Trenton Avenue between Norris and Dauphin Streets from 12-5 p.m., will be the host of a very special first for Philadelphia - the first annual Kensington Kinetic Sculpture Derby!

The TAAF, established last year by members of the East Kensington Neighbors Association to raise money for neighborhood projects and revitalization, will include local artists selling their work, local music, and plenty of good food provided by local restaurants. Last year's festival included fifty eclectic vendors selling work ranging from pottery and glass to jewelry and

screen printed t-shirts.

The Kinetic Sculpture Derby celebrates art and human-powered transit by pitting mobile sculptures against one another along a three mile urban obstacle course of cobblestones and mud pits. Pilots and crew members will be decked out in festive garb, awards will be given out, and lots of fun will be had by all!

NKCDC is searching for additional entries for the sculpture derby. Sculptures large and small are needed; size does not matter. Don't worry if you cannot gather enough people to start a team - NKCDC can connect you with others who are looking for help. Of course, lots of spectators are needed to energize the crowd!

The planned course for the derby spans up to Lehigh, back down Frankford to Girard, down to Beach Street, around Port Richmond Plaza to York Street, and back to the Arts Festival on Trenton Avenue.

For more information on getting involved in the sculpture derby, please contact Kathryn Doherty at 215-427-0350 x 120 or visit [kinetickensington.org](http://kinetickensington.org).

In addition, space is still available for artists who are interested in selling their work at the festival. To register please contact Laura Semmelroth at 215-739-0310 or visit [EKNA.org](http://EKNA.org).

## Frankford Avenue Cleanup/ Keep PA Beautiful Day

The annual springtime Frankford Avenue Cleanup was a big success this year, with over fifty volunteers coming out on the morning of April 14th to help clean up the corridor.

The cleanup was a collaboration with the FNA Beautification Committee and Friends of Palmer Park. Managing Director's Office (MDO) assisted in the cleanup by picking up bulk items such as tires and couches.

In addition to the usual cleanup, "No Dumping!" signs provided by PWD were installed on Frankford Avenue storm drains.



Volunteers celebrated a hard day's work with a free barbeque afterward, provided courtesy of Yards Brewery.

NKCDC is seeking volunteers to assist with tree planting for Keep PA Beautiful Day, which will be Saturday,

April 21st.

Upwards of 59 trees will be planted at various locations around the neighborhood, including the 2500 and 2600 blocks of Lehigh Avenue and the surrounding area, as well as several trees around Greensgrow Farm on Cumberland Street.

Trees will be provided through DCNR's Treevitalize program. A wide variety will be planted, including maples, elms, and cherries.

If you are interested in volunteering on Keep PA Beautiful Day, please contact Marlene Buck at 215-427-0350 x 122.

# Neighbors Help Create Vision for Waterfront



Neighbors attending a meeting at Hinge Café work with Nando Micale of WRT to create design guidelines.

NKCDC is currently conducting a series of outreach meetings with neighbors regarding the future of the Delaware waterfront. These meetings give neighbors the opportunity to provide input on detailed actions for the waterfront from Spring Garden to the Betsy Ross Bridge.

This interactive community-based visioning process, which is being facilitated with the help of planning and design firm Wallace, Roberts and Todd, includes a slideshow of waterfront best practices from other cities for consideration. Neighbors have been working on projects specifically designed for our neighborhood

that will act as gateways to the river, including parks on abandoned piers and greenways connecting waterfront parks to the neighborhood.

Design guidelines, which would incorporate open space elements and waterfront access into major projects, are also being developed.

Funding for the NKCDC Waterfront Plan is being provided by the PA Environment Council, as well as the Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources.

For more information regarding upcoming meetings, please contact Joe McNulty: 215.427.0350 Ext. 127

## THE BUSINESS OF ART - BASIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



**May 1st  
6 - 8 P.M.**  
Coral Street  
Arts House  
(Coral & Hagert)

Topics Include:

- Basic Recordkeeping
- Turning your talent into cash
- Creating a personal budget
- Steps to improve your credit
- Determining what is deductible
- The importance of good credit
- And much more!

Registration is \$10. To register please contact the Temple Small Business Development Center @ 215-204-3856 or sbtrain@temple.edu.

## Staff News

Farewell to David Cleghorn, who leaves us after 3 1/2 years of heading up the Real Estate Development Department. Thanks for everything David, and best of luck!



Welcome to Francis Ryley, one of our new Housing Counselors!

Welcome to Adé Fequa, our new Kensington Area Neighborhood Advisory Committee (KANAC) Coordinator!



Thank you to our spring interns, Nate Hardaway & Catherine Lim!



## HOUSING COUNSELING AND ENERGY NEWS

### UTILITY EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND (UESF) GRANT

If you have a utility shut off during heating season, or are in the process of a shut off during non-heating season, you may be eligible for this grant. Income guidelines are \$1,429 monthly income for single person and \$1,925 for a couple. The grant is up to \$500 and must zero out the balance. If the bill exceeds \$500.00 then the applicant is responsible for the balance at the time of application. For more information about eligibility or to set up an appointment call NKCDC at 215-427-0350.



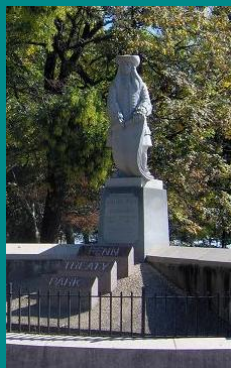
### FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER WORKSHOPS @ CORAL STREET

NKCDC offers two first-time homebuyer workshops every month at the Coral Street Arts House. The next workshop will be held on April 24th. from 4 - 8 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please call our office to set up a one-on-one assessment beforehand.

### STATE PROVIDES MORE FUNDING FOR WEATHERIZATION

This federally funded program is administered by the Energy Coordinating Agency (ECA) and the Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation (PHDC), and provides free weatherization and energy conservation improvements for any fuel types to both homeowners and renters. Those who have been approved for LIHEAP or are on SSI are automatically eligible. For more information or income guidelines please call Frances Ryley at 215-427-0350 x 123.

## Columbia Ave Residents Plan Greenway



William Penn's statue guards the entrance to Penn Treaty Park, where a landscaping project will soon be underway.

On March 22nd, over 30 residents attended the first in a series of Columbia Avenue neighbors meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to brainstorm ideas for the creation of a greenway along Columbia Avenue, which will connect Penn Treaty Park along the waterfront with Palmer Park, which is situated along Frankford Avenue.

Neighbors came up with their own ideas for the greenway, which include large planters, individualized mailboxes, new alleyway doors, and the creation of a façade improvement program. Neighbors also expressed interest in forming not only a Columbia Avenue greenway coalition, but also a "Friends" group to manage

Hetzells Ball Field.

NKCDC is currently in the process of implementing the first phase of this project - landscaping the triangle at the entrance to Penn Treaty Park. Design elements will be decided upon by the Friends of Penn Treaty Park and may include perennials, flag poles, and a large shade tree.

The greenway is being co-sponsored by the Fishtown Neighbors Beautification Committee. Funding for this project, which is being facilitated through NKCDC's Land Use Management program, is being provided through Neighborhoods Now!, formerly known as the Philadelphia Neighborhood Development Collaborative.

# NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWS

## NKCDC Assumes NAC Contract for Former KAN/KARP Area

On February 1st of this year, NKCDC assumed the Neighborhood Advisory Committee contract for the former KAN/KARP area to the north of Lehigh Avenue.

After KAN/KARP decided to cease operations, the city Office of Housing and Community Development asked NKCDC to consider taking over the NAC contract for this area that borders NKCDC's long-established service area.

The service area for the new NAC will be roughly bounded by Kensington Avenue to G Street (west), the Frankford Creek (north), Aramingo Avenue (east) and E. Lehigh Avenue (south). This area encompasses all or portions of the Fairhill, Harrogate, Port Richmond, Juniata, and Kensington neighborhoods.

NKCDC has hired Adé Fequa for the position of NAC coordinator for the new area. A graduate of Penn State, he is already familiar with the area because of his prior service there as a social worker. His fluency in Spanish will also be an asset for working in the area.

In early April the new NAC Coordinator reopened the former KAN/KARP office at 2423 E. Allegheny Avenue under its new temporary name, Kensington Area Neighborhood Advisory Committee (KANAC). NKCDC will seek a more central office for the NAC during

the first year of the contract.

The new NAC office will disseminate information on programs available from the city and other organizations and help residents request assistance and complete applications. It will also help residents voice their concerns and issues to different city and other organizations and organize to pursue community improvements.

During the first contract year, NKCDC will seek more detailed information on this large service area as a basis for developing longer-term service and development strategies for it. Part of this effort will be to consider how NKCDC's existing programs for its traditional area can be extended into the new area.

"It is sad to see an organization that has worked in the community for over thirty years close their doors, but we are honored to follow in KAN/KARP's footsteps," said NKCDC Executive Director Sandy Salzman. "We hope that community residents and stakeholders will take part in naming the organization and establishing long-term goals. We look forward to working with other community partners to make this a great place for people to live, work, and raise their families."

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact the KANAC office at 215-426-6862.

## Summer Day Camp at Pop's Playground!

This summer starting in July, the Black, Coyle and McBride playground will have something it hasn't had in quite some time - a day camp for kids!

New Kensington CDC is very proud to present an exciting Arts Program for children ages 8-12. The program will run Monday thru Friday, starting July 2 and ending August 10. Daily art instruction in a range of mediums such as ceramics, painting and drawing, as well as theater and dance will be provided by highly acclaimed organizations with professional artists.

The Clay Studio, a non-profit organization in Old City in operation since 1974, will be participating by sending their Claymobile, an award winning mobile ceramic arts program. The Center for Emerging Visual Artists (CFEVA) was formed in 1984 to help visual



artists with career development. The program they are bringing to Pop's is called Hand-in-Hand and its mission is two fold: to pique children's interest in art (especially those who have not been exposed to it) and to provide opportunities for artists to earn money and hone their teaching skills while engaging the region's children.

The six-week program will also include field trips to the Mann Center, daily recreational activities, and plenty of free playtime. In addition, the Department of Recreation is providing breakfast and lunch for the children every day.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity for your child. Space is limited! Call New Kensington CDC today for information and registration!

Lauri Kochis : 215.427.0350 Ext. 116



A representative from The Next Great City Coalition presented its action plan to neighbors on March 27th at the Fishtown Rec Center.

The coalition of over 60 organizations, led by the Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future, is recommending to the Mayor and City Council 10 low-cost actions to improve Philadelphia. These range from stopping sewer backups and flooding to modernizing the city's zoning code.

NKCDC is proud to be part of this coalition. For more information, please visit The Next Great City website, [www.nextgreatcity.com](http://www.nextgreatcity.com).

### IMPORTANT CITY-WIDE ELECTIONS ARE TAKING PLACE ON MAY 15TH!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATES OF YOUR CHOICE!

## Community Leaders To Brainstorm in Baltimore

Members of both NKCDC staff and the East Kensington Neighbors Association will be attending a regional training conference in Baltimore from April 26 - 29th. This Community Leadership Institute is sponsored by NeighborWorks America, a national organization that provides training, technical assistance and some financing to CDC's that meet qualification standards. The conference attendees will hail from up and down the east coast. Participants will attend workshops, tour neighborhoods and swap community-building stories.

By the end of the four-day program, the volunteer leaders will have an action plan to bring back home. The last time NKCDC teamed up with resident leaders for this conference, Frankford Avenue received six innovative trash cans and students from Kensington Creative and Performing Arts High School performed an original play about not littering!

Be sure to pick up the next NKCDC newsletter this summer to find out what community improvement project the group came up with!

Inside New Kensington - Spring 2007  
Editor: Kevin Musselman  
Contributors: Anne Czajka, Lauri Kochis, Duane Wilcox



**SATURDAY  
MAY 19TH  
12 - 5 p.m.**

**TRENTON BETWEEN NORRIS AND DAUPHIN STREETS**

Local artist vendors, live music, great food,  
and the first ever....



A celebration and  
competition of art  
and human-powered  
transit!

A three mile race of  
enduring mud pits  
and cobblestones!

**COME OUT AND HELP SUPPORT LOCAL ARTISTS!!**

[WWW.EKNA.ORG](http://WWW.EKNA.ORG)  
[WWW.KINETICKENSINGTON.ORG](http://WWW.KINETICKENSINGTON.ORG)

## **THE GARDEN CENTER**

(1825 Frankford Avenue)

presents

# Mike McGrath

Host of NPR's  
"You Bet Your Garden"



**Saturday, May 5th - 1:00 P.M.**

Mike will deliver a triple play workshop at The Garden Center: "The Secrets of Successful Container Gardening"; "Tomato Growing in the City"; and "Urban Greening Outside your own Front Door". Plus a Q & A session! It's all FREE; and the Garden Center will be stocked with all the plants and Springtime supplies you need!



*Offering high-quality, low-cost plants, workshops, and free compost & mulch since 1997. Proceeds reinvested in the community via NKCDC's award-winning Land Use Management Program.*

Contributions to NKCDC are tax-deductible and can be made by mail or via United Way to Donor Choice #6066. Thank you!

**New Kensington CDC  
2515 Frankford Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19125**

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PHILADELPHIA PA  
PERMIT NO. 4655



*Printed on recycled paper.  
Please recycle.*