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WCGN NEWSLETTER September 15, 2025



Photo courtesy of Maggie Chapman

Sept. 18 Tickets Selling Fast!

Enjoy a fun evening and bring home some cool prizes this Thursday September 18 when Germantown United CDC hosts their annual fundraiser. Remember when Germantown thrives, we all benefit. Always shop Germantown when you can. Register and/or donate [here](#).

West Central Germantown Neighbors (WCGN) is an all volunteer community organization dedicated to improving and maintaining the quality of life in our neighborhood, bordered by the north side of Cheltenham Avenue, the west side of Baynton Street, the south side of Washington Lane, and in the east by the Chestnut Hill West SEPTA rail line.

Sept. 17 Get Your Questions Answered

GERMANTOWN UNITED CDC & #PHILLYTEENJOBS PRESENTS...

THE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL: HOW IT AFFECTS YOU!

The "Big Beautiful Bill" could impact your Medicaid, SNAP, housing, and your student benefits. Join us for a community town hall to understand how this bill could affect you.






Dr. Sonia Lewis "The Loan Doctor" Sheirce White "#PhillyTeenJobs" Senator Art Haywood Louise Hayes Community Legal Services (CLS)

FREE FOR EVERYONE

WEDNESDAY 17 Sept, 2025 **START AT 6:00-8:30 PM** **HOUSE OF GLORY PHL 5245 GERMANTOWN AVE**

• Resource Tables • Community Q/A • One-on-One Help

Lets talk about it! Scan the QR code with your device camera, to register!




Philadelphia Tax Questions?

A representative from the city's Department of Revenue will be available to answer your questions at the Mayor's District 8 Community Action Center in the Northwest Regional Library located at 68 W. Cheltenham Avenue this Thursday 9/18 from 1-3:30 PM

Sept. 19 Share This Opportunity

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ANDRE D. CARROLL PRESENTS

CLEAN SLATE

PARDON CLINIC

IN COLLABORATION WITH



123 E. Price St., Philadelphia, PA 19144 • (215) 438-7939

A single mistake shouldn't determine the rest of your life. Let us help you get a second chance!

FRIDAY, SEPT. 19
1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

REQUIREMENTS:
Bring your case information, including a copy of your court records/minute orders
Must not be in violation, on parole or on probation.

DISTRICT OFFICE OF STATE REP. ANDRE D. CARROLL
5845 Germantown Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Legal experts will be on hand to provide FREE information about the criminal justice system, explain eligibility requirements, and offer limited on-site application assistance. My staff and I will be on hand to provide information on state services.

HOSTED BY
STATE REP. ANDRE D. CARROLL
201st Legislative District
5845 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144 • (215) 849-6592
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Sept. 20 at Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion



Bach, Chopin, and Umar Dimayev piano music to be played on the Mansion's 1866 Stieff Grand Piano by returning classical pianist, Artem Tenkeli [register](#) for tickets.

Check out other EMM events [here](#).

Sept. 23 Zoning & Land Use Meeting

Join us as we discuss several current and important Zoning initiatives in the neighborhood. Via this [Zoom Link](#) at 7PM.

Sept. 25 Tulpehocken Station Historic District Events Planning Meeting

To commemorate the designation of our neighborhood to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places this fall, we are beginning to plan some special events for the Spring of 2026. Ideas being floated are House & Garden Tours, Plein Air Painting Day, etc. Please join us on Thursday September 25 at 7 for our first official meeting. Bring your ideas and expertise to help WCGN highlight our neighborhood around this Historic Designation. Even if you can't make this meeting, please let us know of your interest by responding [here](#). Use this [Zoom link](#) at 7PM

.Oct. 1 RCO Meeting 28-30 W. Haines

Because only one near neighbor attended the RCO meeting for this property back on July 9, a 2nd one is planned to address a variance request to allow the entire property - the 3-story main twin house as well as the freestanding 1-story house - to have Visitor Accommodation (AirBnB) zoning. Haines Street Neighbors, please make every effort to attend on Wednesday October 1 at 7 PM. You must [register](#) here to

attend.

Outdoor Classroom Dedicated in Style



Neighbor volunteers from left bottom: Emilie Birdie Busch, Alison Dilworth, and Cindy Skema. Top: Joseph Lozana, Michael Drelling, Emily Demarest, Michael Hunt, Mark Likosky, Jason Norbut, and Ebo Nunoo.

Photo courtesy of Lingebach Parent, Mark Likosky

This past Thursday, Anna L. Lingelbach students, faculty, parent volunteers and guests gathered to formally dedicate their new outdoor classroom. Read this [Chestnut Hill Local](#) article to learn about the amazing effort that went into making this dream a reality, what it means for students, and how parental involvement in every school is vital.

Oct. 4 Revolutionary Germantown Festival at Cliveden

Walk up the Avenue to Johnson Street and enjoy the reenactments and brush up on your Revolutionary war History. [Details](#)

Wyck House & Garden News

October 12 [Historic Chocolate Making](#)

Led by Germantown chocolatier, Ebo Nunoo of XoXoa Chocolates, watch, make, and taste what you create.

Visit Wyck's [website](#) for many other events.

226 Harvey Variance Voted Down

The Community meeting held on September 3 focused on a zoning variance to convert a single-family home into 6-units. Over 35 neighbors expressed concerns about parking, building capacity, work done without permits, and general lack of trust in owner/contractor given past experiences. The 29 votes cast were unanimously opposed. This was based on voting

by 20 near neighbors and 9 "not near" neighbors. The ZBA is scheduled to hear the case on 11/19 at 9:30. As that date approaches, we will instruct all neighbors on how to attend the hearing and/or where to write letters concerning the case.

Providence Baptist Church of Germantown at 78 E. Haines

Congregant, Denise Way, with help from the Historical Commission of Philadelphia staff, has nominated her church to the Register of Historic Places. Located in our neighborhood and built by neighbor congregants between 1939 and 1943, Providence has been a vital community center for all. Read more about the nomination [here](#).

Update on Anou Vongbandith by Ann Marie Doley

As you may know our neighbor and Das Good Head Chef was detained by I.C.E. in July. In the past few days he was granted a temporary "stay". This will "buy him some time" from imminent deportation to Laos which he left as a young child with his parents.

After months without his heart medication, our PA State Senator Art Haywood was able to insure that he will now receive it as prescribed.

How can you help?

* Write letters to Anou:

Anovsack Vongbandith

A025196578#A3-26L

Moshannon I.C.E. Processing Facility

555 GEO Drive

Philipsburg, PA 16866

* Make a donation to [GoFundMe](#) to cover mounting legal fees.

*Patronize Das Good at [322 W. Cheltenham](#).

Beautification Partnership With Personal Care Residents

Renee Payton, ED of Women Walking In Victory, and McCallum Street neighbor, Maggie Chapman, are teaming up with WCGN's Green Space Committee to beautify the frontage along 62-64 Harvey and create green therapy opportunities for

the residents. [Email](#) us to help with this project.

Mark your calendars for



Oct. 25 WCGN Fall Potluck, Community Meeting, Halloween Parade

This year our Fall Potluck Picnic will be combined with a short Community Meeting (Board Elections) and a Halloween Parade for the little ones. It will be held at WYCK [6026 Germantown Ave.](#) on the 25th from 12-4. Let us know how you can [help](#). Treats for those (kids & adults) who come in costume!

Parking on Unit Blk of W. Tulpehocken

Neighbors Nathan Long, Regina Robinson, Dionne Wright-Chambers, Bob Lane, and many others have been working for years to get some relief at the dangerous intersection of Germantown Ave. & W. Tulpehocken. With Councilwoman Bass' help, the meter parking along the 6100 & 6200 blocks of Germantown has been removed, allowing Sparrow House Apartment tenants and others to park their cars there. This should relieve the congestion and prevent accidents on Tulpehocken.

Report Illegally Parked/Abandoned Vehicles

Use this [link](#) to report abandoned (nuisance) or

illegally parked (mobility access violation -too close to corner, in bus zones, crosswalk, etc.). Be sure to include photo and get license # (under additional information).

Halloween in the Neighborhood

Spooky plans are underway for our trick or treaters this year. Would you serve as a safe crossing guard at a strategic spot? If you have little ones or if you just love Halloween and you can help. please let us know by clicking [here](#).

WCGN Parents WhatsApp Group

Click here: [West Central Germantown Neighbors Parents](#) to join the conversation with other young families about meet-ups, summer camps, scout troops, schools, etc. Call or write to Sean Morris at 610-368-8711 or seanraymondmorris@gmail.com.

Welcome our neighbors and families

Sarah Griffin on W. Walnut, Josette Sydnor on E. Walnut, Samantha Campo on McCallum, Sarah Carson on Germantown, Aaron Preetam, Taylor Passmore. Natalie Mathurin, Gian-Grasso Brennan, Allison Dutton, Courtney Smerz, Eve Putkovich, Nancy Howard ,Willia Roher & Matthew Levy, Jason & Zabrina Doerck all on Harvey, Tommy Nguyen & Doug Fitch on W. Rittenhouse, Brendan & Miriam McBride on W. Price, Stephanie Ravette, DDS of Greene Street Dental, Alana Taylor of A & N Produce, Carla Willard of the Chestnut Hill Local, and Emilie Davis have all joined our mailing list.

Please invite neighbors to receive WCGN newsletters so they too can stay informed of items related to our neighborhood. They can sign up on our [website](#).

Your Donations Matter. To support our mission of service to our community, please consider making an automatic monthly donation of any amount, such as \$5, or one annual donation.

Pay Online: Go to our [website](#) and click on “Donate”, and pay via PayPal or debit/credit card. There is a box to check for monthly donations.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Don Maedche via [email](#).

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WCGN's treasury is used for annual Directors and Officers Insurance, purchase of supplies for social gatherings as well as for the train station garden, zoom hosting for RCO and other meetings, printing notices for other neighborhood initiatives, and, on occasion, lawyers' fees.

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