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Stapleton Carroll

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*History and Heritage
Committee Chair:*
Mike Ramos

*Green Space Committee
Chair:*
Phil Kane

Board Contact Information:

WCGN NEWSLETTER October 1, 2025



Sunflowers on Harvey Street

Photo courtesy of Suzanne Ponsen

[Would you like to see your photo here?](#)

Tonight 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.

Oct. 4 Revolutionary Germantown

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.

Festival at Cliveden

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

Oct. 7 Rezoning Around Germantown East Septa Station

NEIGHBORHOOD REMAPPING GERMANTOWN STATION AREA

PUBLIC MEETING

» **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7**
FROM 5:30 PM TO 6:45 PM

» **JOSEPH E. COLEMAN**
NORTHWEST REGIONAL LIBRARY
68 W CHELTEN AVE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19144

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Councilmember Cindy Bass and the Philadelphia City Planning Commission invite neighbors to review and update the zoning maps for the area around SEPTA's Germantown Station. At the meeting, the Planning Commission will present an Introduction to Zoning, an introduction to remapping this area of Germantown, and share a proposed map for neighbor input.

» **Zoning influences development.**
Updating zoning can make development more predictable.

Questions about remapping? Email planning@phila.gov.

Department of Planning and Development
Philadelphia City Planning Commission
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

CINDY BASS
PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 10

CITY COUNCIL
PHILADELPHIA



Oct. 12 Wyck House & Garden News

October 12 [Historic Chocolate Making](#)

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

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

Free Yard Trees Register by 10/15

Partners: Maplewood Collective

Event Date: Saturday, October 18th, 2025

Location: Maplewood Mall

2-20 Maplewood Ave

Philadelphia, PA 19144

Time: 10:00AM-3:00PM

Registration: [Register Here!](#)

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, October 15th, 2025

If you register, Phil Kane, WCGN's Green Space Committee Chair, will pick up and deliver to you! Just let him know [here](#).

Oct. 18 Vernon Park Flea Market



If you have things to donate for the Park to sell, please [contact](#) us and we will pick them up.

Oct. 25 WCGN Halloween Parade, Fall Potluck & Community Meeting at Wyck!

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!

Otherwise please bring food to share. We will supply drinks, paper cups & plates as well as utensils. Donations are welcome.

WCGN Board Election

At our Halloween Parade, Potluck, Community Meeting (see above), we will be voting to elect the following slate of officers:

*President: Suzanne Ponsen

*1st VP & Zoning Committee Chair: Julie Stapleton Carroll

*2nd VP & History & Heritage Committee Chair: Mike Ramos

*Secretary: Lora Lewis

*Green Space Committee Chair: Phil Kane

And the appointments of:

*Don Meadche, as treasurer

*Fairleigh Barnes, as chair of the
Communications Committee

Oct. 25 Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion "Spirits of Historic Germantown"

Don't let a fear of ghosts prevent you from experiencing otherworldly phenomenon. Get your [tickets](#) now!

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

Oct. 31 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 don't have Trick or Treating responsibilities, or if you just love Halloween and you can help, please let us know by clicking [here](#).

Grab Your Gardening Gloves

Oct. 25 9-11 at 62-64 Harvey to plant bulbs

Nov. 2 1:30 at the Tulpehocken Station Orchard

If you can't make it either of these times, but you like to get your hands in the soil, let us add you to our Green Space list of gardeners by letting us know [here](#).

Community Fridge News



The poster is for the Germantown Community Fridge. At the top right, it says "GERMANTOWN COMMUNITY FRIDGE" in a curved banner. In the center, there's an illustration of two people, a man and a woman, packing food into a blue box. To their right, the word "Volunteers" is written in large, bold, black letters, with "Needed" below it in the same style. Below the illustration, there's a green box with white text that says: "GCF is looking for volunteers to assist in donation pick ups, fridge maintenance, cleanings, cooking & more!". To the left of this green box is a circular logo with a yellow refrigerator in the center, surrounded by the words "GERMANTOWN COMMUNITY FRIDGE". Below the logo, there's a list of "Fridge Locations": "20 W Armat Street", "19 W High Street", and "5424 Lena Street". At the bottom left, it says "Email: Germantownfridge@gmail.com" and "More information: linktr.ee/germantowncommunityfridge". At the bottom right, there's an illustration of three women holding shopping bags.

GERMANTOWN COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Volunteers Needed

GCF is looking for volunteers to assist in donation pick ups, fridge maintenance, cleanings, cooking & more!

Fridge Locations:
20 W Armat Street
19 W High Street
5424 Lena Street

Email:
Germantownfridge@gmail.com

More information:
linktr.ee/germantowncommunityfridge

Germantown Community Fridge began in 2020
They accept non-perishable foods. menstrual

supplies, baby items (wipes, diapers, and foods), pet food, toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes), fresh produce, prepared food (must be labeled with ingredients, made date and recommended eat by date), raw meat **(Must Be Put In Freezer)**. They **do not accept**: open or expires food, medicine, clothing, housewares, take out/fast food or alcohol. Also remember not to leave anything outside the fridges. Help keep the areas clean by taking recyclables home.

Your neighbors Shannon Sims on McCallum, Dani Hawkins & Amy Muehlmatt on Pulaski, and many others are already helpng. Join them by contributing the above mentioned items, cleaning the fridges, picking up donations from individuals and food banks, etc. Learn more [here](#).

WCGN Newsletter, Website, Facebook

We need you to help us keep our communication systems fresh and relevant! Please step up and ask [Fairleigh Barnes](#), our Communications Committe Chair, how you can help.

PHDC is Hiring

15 departments within Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation are hiring for many different levels of experience. Use this [link](#) to learn more and apply

FOOD IS DIGNITY



ALERT - NEW RULES TO KEEP SNAP FOOD ASSISTANCE

NOW IN EFFECT

- To keep SNAP food assistance, adults aged 18-64 without disabilities must provide proof of 80 hours of work per month from one or more of the following:
 - Work
 - School
 - Volunteering
 - Job Training
- Make sure your information is up to date with the Post Office, DHS, and Compass

For more
information:
Contact DHS at
1-800-692-7462



SenatorHaywood.com
215-242-8171

Tulpehocken Station Historic District House & Garden Tour

To celebrate the anticipated naming of the Historic District to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places, plans are underway for an Historic House & Garden Tour this coming spring.

If you would like to volunteer your House &/or Garden for the tour please let us know.

If you would like to volunteer as a guide or in any other way to help us make this a success, please [contact](#) us now.

Other events are being considered as well so watch for details in the coming months.

Update on Anou Vongbandith



Anou and Anh

of Das Good Cafe Philly
in Germantown

Need Your Help!

Our neighbor, Chef Anou has been imprisoned by ICE at Moshannon since July with intent to deport to Laos where he hasn't been since a child 45 years ago. Major progress is being made to stop deportation and secure Anou's release!



We Urgently Need:

1. Character Letters via Email for Anou by Oct. 13th.
100 letter Goal!
2. If able, donations to Legal Fund GoFundMe

All details in
QR Code and Bit.ly Link!

<https://bit.ly/lettersforAnou>



How else can you help?

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

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

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).

WCGN Parents WhatsApp Group

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

Welcome our neighbors and families

Janelle Smith, Lindsay Kovnat, Ajene Farrar, Megan Sarvo, Claire Jones, Greg Muniak, Brennan Gian Grasso, Will & Kim Cambria, and James & Charity Womack all from Harvey Street, Daniel Kilson, owner of [410 BMW Specialties](#) on W. Rittenhouse, Jordan Divito, from State Senator Art Haywood's Office, Dale Juncos & Danielle Siwek, Sylvia Forman, Carla Robinson from the [Chestnut Hill Local](#), and Shirley Wardlaw, Director of [Way To Grow Nursery School](#) on Maplewood Mall 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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