

# The Frankford Gazette



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VOL. V, ISSUE 11—JUNE/JULY 2016

## Welcome, Summer



Donovan Williams Memorial Foundation Annual Basketball League



Flea Market Day at Overington



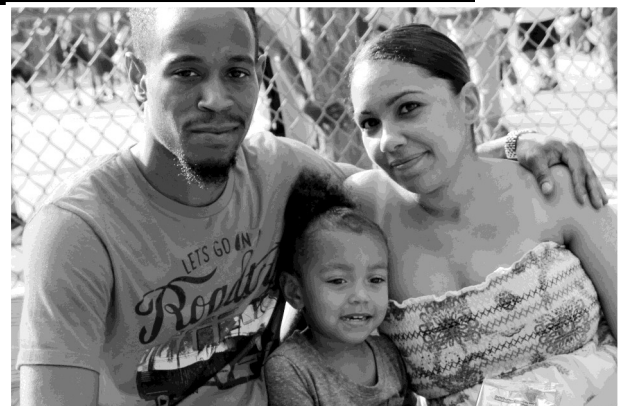
Slow Down, Mikey



The Little Libraries Team at Northwood Academy Charter School



Memorial Day Observance St. Joachim Cemetery



Wilmot Park

## Civics, PSA

By Bob Smiley

### Frankford Civic

President **Pete Specos** remains sidelined but the meeting rolled on anyway with about 15 attending on June 2nd at St. Marks.

**Pastor Larry Fowler** discussed the possibility of "Operation Clean Sweep" to be implemented as a demonstration of support to residents on those blocks most heavily infested with crime and drugs. It would be a clean up and informational event. It will be discussed at the next Frankford Forward meeting on June 27th.

Residents on the 4700 block of Griscom discussed tenants dumping trash in the alley that runs in the back of the block. Reports to 311 may be the only option however it usually falls to other residents to clean up after them.

Construction is going on at 4101-07 Paul Street without permits at a location that was formerly a cabaret until it was closed following a shooting. The Civic will investigate and report it to 311 if the allegation is true.

On the crime front, the trend over the last 5 years has been downward. There were no homicides in May for the second month in a row.

The Civic is no longer the designated RCO (Registered Community Organization) for zoning in Frankford since that function was assigned by the ZBA to the Frankford NAC. The same situation had prevailed with the Northwood Civic until a recent case of an application to convert a duplex to a triplex at Castor Ave. and Dyre Street. That application has been assigned to the Northwood Civic and will be discussed at their June

meeting.

Most RCOs believe that these cases should be handled by the RCO closest to the address of the case. It would make more sense to divide Frankford into 3 geographic zones to cover our large area. Formerly an applicant would often have to make a presentation to 2 or even 3 RCOs which is an unreasonable burden.

A suggestion was made to rotate the location of the Civic meeting to give more residents the opportunity to attend. The Civic meeting had to move out of Aria Hospital due to a scheduling conflict in the use of the meeting room and has been meeting at St. Mark's since the beginning of the year. That issue will be discussed at a future meeting in discussions about increasing community engagement.

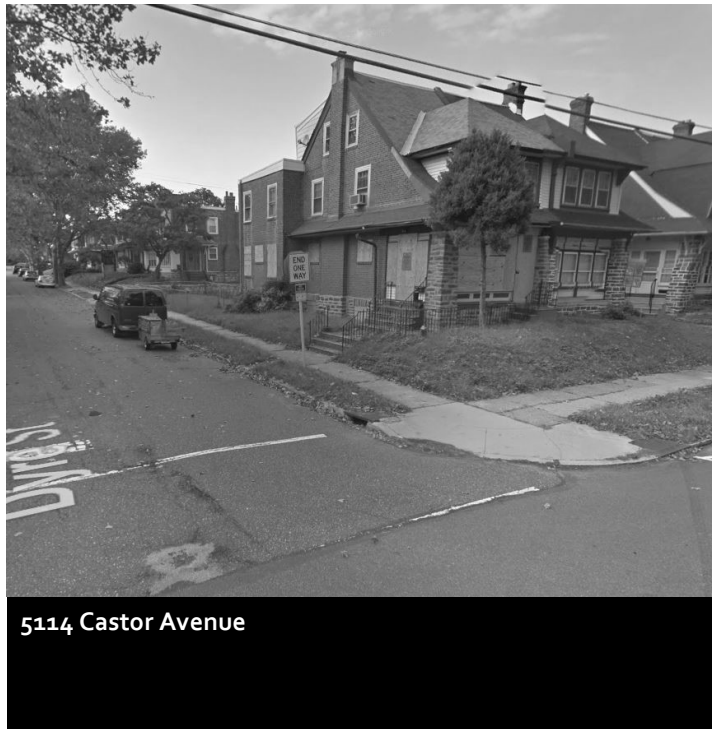
A resident of Margaret Street raised the problem of L&I issues and difficulty to getting simple things done with them. One result of the last PSA meeting where the L&I Commissioner attended, is that we now have a direct line of communication to that office in order to work more effectively with them. When specific problems are reported, we can find out what happens and hopefully take corrective action.

The next meeting of the Frankford Civic Association will be held on Thursday, July 7th at 7 PM at St. Mark's Church at 4442 Frankford Avenue.

### Northwood Civic

**Joe Krause**, President of the Northwood Civic Association, revealed at the meeting on May 17th that an application for a variance is pending for the owner of 5114 Castor Avenue to increase the dwelling units from two to three.

The address is within the deed restricted area and that would pro-



5114 Castor Avenue

hibit anything other than single family homes. The owner or his representative will make a presentation at the next Civic meeting on June 21st.

This is the first zoning issue in about 2 years where the Northwood Civic has been recognized at the coordinating RCO (Registered Community Organization). During that period issues in Northwood were covered by the Frankford NAC at their meetings. **Krause** raised the issue and the result is that Northwood now gets a say in what happens in Northwood.

Votes by residents are critical since the deed restriction is widely believed to be important to the quality of life in that area. Residents are urged to attend.

In other business at the meeting: **Krause** noted the ongoing lack of participation by Northwood residents in the 15th District PSA1 meeting each month. Northwood residents are complacent until

something happens and then unwilling to take next step to do something about it. Complaining does not fix the problem. Go to the meetings.

The conservatorship hearing for 1301 Wakeling is on June 1st. The owners must have the property fixed and on the market by that date or the non profit will take it over and do the job. This is a victory for Northwood in either case.

There are now 3 individuals selling cars and a car wash in Northwood on the streets. Calls to 911 have been ineffective in shutting them down. They do not belong in a residential area.

3 bikes were stolen from a residence on Castor Avenue across from Northwood Park. Be on the lookout for kids in the afternoon.

The Castor Avenue traffic project is on schedule and its just a matter

(Continued on page 3)

## About the Frankford Gazette

**Keep the Faith in Frankford** publishes the Frankford Gazette. This is a print edition of some of the articles available online. We Cover the Frankford neighborhood in Philadelphia. Go to [www.frankfordgazette.com](http://www.frankfordgazette.com) to get full details.

**Editor:** Bob Smiley; **Associate Editor:** Pat Smiley, **Veterans Affairs:** Richard W. Johnson, **IT Director:** Jim Smiley, **Printing by Health Partners Plans.**

You can receive Frankford/Northwood news and event information by text message sent directly to your cell phone. Text the word JOIN to sms+659@telefio.com.

Interested in writing for Frankford's community newspaper? Email [contrib@frankfordgazette.com](mailto:contrib@frankfordgazette.com) or call (215) 847-5506. Want your event on the community calendar? Email [events@frankfordgazette.com](mailto:events@frankfordgazette.com) or call (215) 847-5506. Publication date is the 20th of each month. Events and ads are due by the 14th.

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(Continued from page 2)



5020 Harbison Avenue

of time before we start to see implementation. Continuing to look to improvements to Ramona and Adams.

There was a cleanup at Arrott and Large Streets in the area of Simpson Playground on May 28th. This was organized by **Christina Soza**.

**Joe Hohenstein**, representing Frankford Friends Meeting reported on the funds raised for the relief of the fire victims in February. \$1,500 was raised but only \$500 was disbursed to 2 families. They are looking for anyone else who suffered financially from the fire. Northwood Civic donated \$500 of that total.

There was a major 15th District PSA1 meeting on May 26th at the Bridesburg Boys and Girls Club. This was an opportunity to show the police and City officials that the community wants solutions to our problems rather than promised. There was a record turnout from residents and officials.

The next Northwood Civic meeting will be on July 19th at 7 PM at St. James Lutheran Church at Pratt St. and Castor Ave.

## Frankford NAC

Residents at the Frankford NAC zoning meeting on June 9th voted to oppose the conversion of the property at **5114 Castor Avenue** to a triplex citing the Northwood deed restriction. The property goes before the Northwood Civic Association at their meeting on June 21st.

**4623 Mulberry** – Was discontinued. Meaning they failed to show up three times so, they have to go through the process all over again as we are not going to see them.

**5520 Harbison** (The former convert at St. Bart's school) - Continued because they need residents to vote and they need to give us a clearer picture of what they plan to do with the property.

The next meeting of the Frankford NAC zoning board will be on July 14th at 7 PM at Second Baptist Church at 1801 Meadow Street.

## PSA1

The July PSA1 meeting will be held on July 14th. This is the second Thursday rather than the 4th Thursday as is usual, due to the Democratic Party convention which is being held at the end of July.

## CHARGERS CHAMPIONS



Frankford Chargers Championship Team ZG Tournament in Boston 13 and under

The Frankford Chargers 13 and under basketball team went up to Boston in June and showed them how the game is played at the ZG tournament. They came back as champions.

Elijah (EJ) Stratham won Player of the Game and Body Armour Athlete of the Week.

Congratulations to the team and coaches for bringing it home for Frankford.

**New Beginning Church**

**Our Ministries**  
 Credit Repair & 1st Time Homebuyer  
 Legal Service  
 Social Justice & Civic Engagement  
 Food Ministry  
 Prison Ministry  
 Youth Ministry  
 Women Ministry  
 Men Ministry

See U This Sunday at 10:00 AM  
 5185 Castor Ave., Phila., PA 19124  
[www.nbcop.org](http://www.nbcop.org)

**FAITH LOVE HOPE**



# Building a New NEST on Orthodox Street

By Bob Smiley

Construction got under way in June on the Frankford Friends School NEST.

The site, on the Northwest corner of Griscom and Orthodox Streets, is the former location of the Central United Methodist Church which was demolished in 2012 as well as its parsonage.

The NEST will hold the Innovation Workshop, the Media Studio, and the Nature Learning Lab.

The Nature Learning Lab is where students will explore, investigate, and observe their world through engagement with natural materials, native plants and local animals, rocks and soils, water, and engineering apparatus.

Each of these spaces was designed to foster experimentation and collaboration among the students. Students will learn to identify and understand real-world problems, and to use teamwork and strategic thinking to find solutions.



Ground Breaking day at the NEST

## Research Study

"Making Ends Meet in Frankford, Philadelphia:  
The Social Situation of Young Urban Men"

### Looking for Participants

Adult Males (ages 25-34)

Must be a long-term resident of Frankford

Temple University is conducting interviews of young men living in Frankford for a study of employment and other strategies for making ends meet. Interviews will last approximately 2-3 hours. Respondents will receive payment for their time.

To find out if you qualify for the study,  
call Dr. Jamie Fader at 215-341-3234



## State Representative Jason Dawkins 179th Legislative District

### District Office

4915 Frankford Ave. Philadelphia,  
PA 19124

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. -  
5 p.m.  
Friday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

(215) 744-7901  
(215) 744-7902  
(215) 744-7903  
(215) 744-7906 (fax)

Thursdays: 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



### Satellite Offices:

#### Olney Free Library

(5th St and Tabor Rd)  
5501 N. 5th Street  
Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

#### Great Awakenings Café

(Cheltenham and Horrocks)  
1466 E. Cheltenham Avenue  
Tuesday and Wednesdays: 10:00  
a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Eric Stieffenhofer Left Us Smiling!

By Pat Smiley

**Eric Stieffenhofer** almost made it to his 81st birthday. He liked marking milestones and he had had many in his life. You couldn't sit in his and his wife, Bernice's (Bee's), living room without him pointing out to you his wedding picture proudly hanging over the mantle.

Married for 56 years, he always said it was destiny because you could find the letters of his name, E R I C, in the name B E R N I C E.

A real love story they had. They met at the Fairmount Wallet factory where they both worked. In fact, they were both engaged to someone else. Eric was right about that destiny – they broke off their engagements and the result was five children, Lori, Krae, Beth, Mark and Tara and 12 grandchildren so far.

Initially settling in the Hunting Park area, the family moved to Northwood in 1974. They liked the diversity of the people and had very good neighbors. Beth tells the story of one of the neighbors asking about Eric only to learn that he had really just died. The man stopped and stood in the middle of their street upon hearing this news.

Eric would stop many people walking by as he sat on the front steps. Whether he knew you or not, he soon had you engaged in conversation. You would think you knew him all your life. No matter how he was feeling, Eric always wanted to lift others up. He would do that with a joke. Even the way he told them, you were intently listening until



the punch line.

Truly, Eric put the "Pop" in "Pop Pop" as the grandchildren called him. Pop Pop would do the silliest things to keep them entertained. They loved to be with him and his family was most important. He would wrestle with the kids and always showed an interest in whatever they cared about. His granddaughter, Megan, would do puzzles with him on the iPad. His family just loved

being with him because he was so much fun. He knew a lot about sports and there's a lot you can learn from the game shows that he and Bee would watch. Eric was a favorite uncle, too. Eric loved parties and dancing; he knew how to enjoy life.

Eric and Bee were VIP's, very important parishioners of St. Joachim. I used to see Eric at Mass, and he struggled with health issues that would have stopped anyone else in their tracks, but he was able to keep going.

During one of my visits, he showed me how he kept up with all the Keep the Faith in Frankford news on his iPad as we worked to reopen St. Joachim. I was impressed. Eric took the closing of the church, very, very hard. In fact, his family felt that when his beloved St. Joachim closed in June, 2013, that his health declined further as a result. He truly believed St. Joachim would reopen. He recounted a vision he had one day and told me he knew the Church would open again. I believe, Eric and we sure are trying!

Eric had special gifts. One of them was his sense of humor, shared freely with all those he came into contact with. His son, Mark, during Eric's funeral Mass, began a eulogy to his father by telling all gathered a joke. That made us all feel a little better. We all smiled. Eric was still lifting us up and reminding us to smile. We won't forget to "hear the laughter", Eric, and we won't forget you either. You are a part of all of us. There won't be much resting in peace in heaven as you've already had them laughing with a few good jokes!

**The Northeast Frankford Boy's and Girl's Club Advisory Council** is asking the community of Frankford to help us support the children of our community with our "

Future Leaders Of Tomorrow" drawing/ raffle at the Lloyd Wilson Jr. Post on Sat. July 9th.2016 @ 9 pm at 2006 Orthodox St.

Donations benefit educational programs and building renovations. ALL ARE WELCOME.

1st. Prize....\$200

2nd. Prize...\$100

3rd Prize.....\$50

George F Taylor, chairman, Steve Whitmore, vice chairman

**Services at  
Second Baptist Church of Frankford**  
Rev. Darrell R. Bradsbery, Pastor  
1801 Meadow Street

Wednesday Prayer Service/Bible Class 7:00 PM  
Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Sunday Worship Service 10:45 AM  
Third Sunday Baptism  
Fourth Sunday Communion

**RECLAIMING  
THE COMMUNITY**  
A COMMUNITY COLLABORATION **2016**  
SATURDAY JULY 16  
TIME: 12 NOON - 4 PM  
FEATURING  
**OG LAW**  
AND OTHERS  
GAMBRELL'S PLAYGROUND  
1900 WAKELING STREET | PHILADELPHIA, PA 19124



Name Branch

Veteran of the Month

Name Branch

Wayne Hunt, Air Force  
 Bill Jackson, Army  
 Edward Jackson\*, Army  
 Kevin Jackson, Army  
 William Jackson, Army  
 Kenny James\*, Army  
 Leonard James, Army  
 William James\*, Army  
 Mike Jennings\*, Army  
 Andrew Johnson\*, Army  
 James Johnson\*, Army  
 Phillip Johnson\*, Army  
 Richard D. Johnson, Navy  
 Richard W. Johnson, Army  
 Russell Johnson, Army  
 Samuel Johnson\*, Navy  
 Wallace Johnson, Army  
 Brenda Jones, Army  
 Corey Jones\*, Army  
 Justin Jones, Army



**Captain James L. McCartney**

Willie Jones\*, Army  
 Tom Keane, Army  
 Edward Keith, Army  
 Richard Kennedy, Army  
 Martin King, Navy  
 Darryl Lampkin, Marines  
 Jamie Lampkin, Army  
 William Lampkin\*, Army  
 Adolph Lang, Marines  
 Floyd Lang, Marines  
 James Lang, Marines  
 Clarence E. Lewis\*, Army  
 Donald Lewis, Army  
 Gary Lewis\*, Army  
 Gregory Lewis, Army  
 Guy D. Lewis, Army  
 Henry Lewis\*, Army  
 Keff Lewis, Navy  
 Nathan Lewis, Army  
 Paul Lewis\*, Army

\*Veteran is deceased

By Richard W. Johnson

**James L. McCartney** was born on March 3rd in 1945 in the Mayfair section of Philadelphia. He was a student at St. Bernard's Elementary and graduated from Father Judge High School.

James then joined the Army National Guard in 1962 and completed his Basic Training at Ft. Dix, New Jersey. He also served at various camps such as Fort Drum, New York and Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania and A. P. Hill, Virginia. While serving James received many awards and certificates. He also rose to the rank of Captain. When discharged in 1992 he still served inactive duties as Adjutant Officer of the Veterans Guard Reserve Association.

James also was employed at Super Grip Anchor Bolt Company as a metal fabricator. James, in his spare time was involved in auto restoration. He has also been a great supporter of community groups and organizations such as the Lloyd C. Wilson Jr. American Legion Post 224.

**James, we thank you for your service.**

**Happy Independence Day—July 4th, 2016**



# Coming Up in Frankford

**Live Music** - Each Saturday 7pm - 10pm - Great Awakenings Cafe, 1466 E Cheltenham Ave.

**Rotary Club of Frankford Northeast**, Each Tuesday 12:15pm - 1:30pm - Cannstatter Volkfest Verein, 9130 Academy Road - Call 215 332-0121 For more information

**Keep the Faith in Frankford Meeting** - Each Wednesday 6:30pm - 8pm - St. Marks, 4442 Frankford ave.

**Children's Story and Craft Hour** - Each Thursday 10am - 11am - Great Awakenings Cafe, 1466 E Cheltenham Ave. Ages 2 to 5

**Live Acoustic Music Every Thursday** - Thu, June 30, 8pm - 11pm, The Original Chickie and Pete's Frankford Ave. and Robbins Street - Featuring phenomenal local talent Great late night Happy Hour Mike Dougherty  
www.mikedoughertyproduction.com

**Wii with Vince** - Wed, June 29, 4:30pm - 5:30pm, Frankford Neighborhood Library, 4634 Frankford Avenue - Come play your favorite Wii games with Mr. Vince. For school-aged kids. Fourth Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m.

**4th of July Craft w/ Ms.**

**Tessa** - Thu, June 30, 3pm - 4pm, Frankford Neighborhood Library, 4634 Frankford Avenue - Take part in a 4th of July craft while celebrating the last day of LEAP w/ Ms. Tessa June 30 at 3pm

**Story Telling w/ Mr. O** - Thu, June 30, 4pm - 5pm, Frankford Neighborhood Library, 4634 Frankford Avenue - Enjoy a story and a related craft with renowned artist Mr. O. Every Thursday at 4pm June 16, 23 & 30, July 7, 14, 21 & 28

**Teen Tuesdays** - Tue, July 5, 3pm - 4pm, Frankford Branch, 4634 Frankford Ave. - Crafts, games and fun for Teens Only. Snacks will be provided. Ms. Pam will be doing a special program with Teens on Tuesday, July 12th. Select Tuesdays of the month | 3:00 p.m. June 21 & 28, July 5, 12, 19 & 26

**Wii with Vince** - Wed, July 6, 4:30pm - 5:30pm, Frankford Neighborhood Library, 4634 Frankford Avenue - Come play your favorite Wii games with Mr. Vince. For school-aged kids. Fourth Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. June 29 & July 27

**Frankford Civic Association Meeting** - Thu, July 7, 7pm - 8pm, St Mark's Church Frankford, 4442 Frankford Avenue

**Frankford Forward** - Mon, July 11, 6:00pm - 7:15pm, St. Marks, 4442 Frankford Ave.

**PSA1 Meeting** - Thu, July 14, 7pm - 8pm, Aria Hospital, 4900 Frankford Ave.

**Neighborhood Advisory Committee Zoning Meeting** - Thu, July 14, 7pm - 8pm, 2nd Baptist Church, 1801 Meadow St.

**Unity Day** - Sat, July 16, 10am - 4pm, Piccoli playground at Castor and Cayuga St- Broken pieces United outreach will be celebrating our Unity Day, There will be Fashion Show and Talent showcase and there will be different vendors such Luke, pea and OIC and the Philadelphia Army and a host of others. Face painting and games and raffles and much more. If need you need to get in contact with me 215-554-5697.

**Reclaiming the Community** - Sat, July 16, 12pm - 4pm, Gambrel Playground, Wakeling

and Ditman Streets - A community collaboration - OG Law and others, prayer wall and refreshments. All are invited.

**Northwood Civic Association Meeting** - Tue, July 19, 7pm - 8pm, St. James Lutheran Church, at Castor Avenue and Pratt Street.

**Frankford Forward** - Mon, July 25, 6:00pm - 7:15pm, St. Marks, 4442 Frankford Ave.

**Senior Breakfast** - Tue, July 26, 8am - 10am, Aria Health, Frankford - 2nd floor cafeteria - Aria will provide our community seniors with monthly, insightful tips and information on issues that are directly affecting you and your health. Breakfast will be provided free of charge. To reserve your seat call 1-877-808-2742 and then press 2.

Remember, if you don't tell us about your local news and upcoming events, no one else will know about it either.  
Email [gil@frankfordgazette.com](mailto:gil@frankfordgazette.com)

The next edition of the Gazette will be distributed on July 29th.

**Services at  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church**  
4442 Frankford Ave.  
**8:30AM SIMPLE AND  
SHORT WORSHIP**  
**Sunday Morning Bible  
Study: 9:00am**  
**10:00AM Main WORSHIP  
SERVICE**

**Campbell AME Church**  
1657 Kinsey Street  
Church Office: 215-288-2748  
Email: [campbella.m.e.frankford@gmail.com](mailto:campbella.m.e.frankford@gmail.com)

**Services at  
Faith Assembly of God**  
1926 Margaret St

Sunday 11 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday 7:00 P.M.

Friday 7:30 P.M.

**St. James Lutheran Church**  
Castor Ave. at Pratt St.

## It's Time For Church

Christ Fellowship Christian Church

Pastor Ronald W. Gayle Sr

1639 Harrison St. Phila Pa. 19124

Sunday Worship @ 1045 A.M.

Wednesday Bible Study @ 6:00 P.M.

1st Sunday Communion

For God So Loved The World.

John 3:16



# Your family. Our focus.

At Health Partners Plans, we are all about family. We have been taking care of generations of households in Southeastern Pennsylvania for more than thirty years.

KidzPartners, our CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) plan, provides Pennsylvania children up to age 19 with free or low-cost health coverage, depending on family size and income.

**KidzPartners offers:**

- 24/7 member relations line to answer your questions in 140 different languages
- Free fitness center membership
- Reduced cost Weight Watchers® membership
- Routine check-ups and well visits
- Emergency care
- Dental, vision and hearing services

Health Partners Plans makes it easy to apply for CHIP. Just call 1-888-888-1211 (TTY 711) and ask for an enrollment specialist to help you through the process or visit our website at [HealthPartnersPlans.com](http://HealthPartnersPlans.com)



Pennsylvania's Children's  
Health Insurance Program  
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Health Partners Plans



CC-749-16