

# The Frankford Gazette



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VOL. IX, ISSUE 1—AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018

# Hometown Champions

By Pat Smiley

After you read the article, there will be information regarding how you can register your 5-14 year old child(ren) for the Frankford Chargers.

When you first meet her, you are struck by her energy and her enthusiasm. You know, immediately, that she cares for the kids and for the games they play. She is Coach Kisha Thompson.

Kisha is the Vice-President of the Frankford Chargers Sports and Mentoring Association. She is also a coach for the sports teams – football, basketball and baseball. The Frankford Chargers also have cheer and dance teams as well.

The coaching part is a big part of her life. But so is the fund-raising and the organizing of the teams. Finding sponsors is one of her most important jobs and, if you and your organization are interested, we'll give you contact information at the end of this article. If you live in the Frankford area, these teams are very successful and when the football teams or cheer teams win the regionals, they will travel to Florida (even the youngest at 5 years old) to participate in the national championship and cheerleader

competition. She finds and raises the money and somehow finds time to do it all.

But she doesn't do it alone. She and many other dedicated individuals and supportive parents come together to give our local youth the opportunity to play on a team and to learn what it means to be part of a team. In addition to all she does for the Chargers organization, she has a Bachelor of Science degree and works full time as a tax accountant.

Kisha now lives near the Frankford neighborhood where she grew up. She attended Smedley Elementary School, Harding Jr. High School and then graduated from Frankford High School.



Coach Kisha, Aaron Gary, Floyd Williams, Mark Williams – 8 year old team.

Believe it or not, she joined the Frankford Chargers at the age of 3 in cheer and quickly became their Mascot. She did not have an official name, she was just known as "Little Kisha" wearing her cheerleader outfit cheering her teams on to victory.

Mentored by Big Rasheed Muhammad, he encouraged her to stop cheerleading and start coaching at the age of 12. Sadly, he passed away last year. Kisha continued along the path and always remembers he was the one to inspire her. She just wants to pass that on to the kids she meets and gets to know so well.

Kisha realizes how important that inspiration is to our young peo-

ple. Besides the rules of the game, Kisha and the other coaches try to convey, to their players through sports, real life skills like teamwork and looking out for each other. This is a brotherhood and when you become successful, you come back to give back. Kisha mentions two players who made it to the NFL – Will Fuller, a wide receiver for the Houston Texans, and Zaire Anderson, linebacker for the Denver Broncos, who were both a part of the Frankford Chargers. Not every player will be able to do that she says, but they

can be anything they set their minds on to be. Most importantly, she wants to see them grow up to be productive citizens. She points out one of the coaches who came right from work, still in his suit because these boys matter to him. It's important that they see people from all kinds of



Coach Robert Williams and the 5 year old team

*(Continued on page 2)*

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occupations modeling for them what it means to be a man or, in Kisha's case, a woman who have taken their talents and used them for good – for themselves and for others. Kisha was elected into the Frankford Chargers' Hall of Fame in 1993 and the Little Guys Football Conference Hall of Fame in 2012. Way to go, Coach!

This is her 30th Anniversary year of coaching and last year was the 50th Anniversary of the Frankford Chargers Sports and Mentoring Organization. Looking ahead, Kisha remembers when the Gambrel Recreation Center (4800 Ditman St.) fields were "dust bowls" until they got help with new turf so maintaining the fields, the equipment, etc., is an investment.

Parents are supportive and help with fund-raisers but corporate sponsors can make an even bigger difference and get the opportunity to help develop their future



Jeanette Hines and her 2 daughters, Montana (stroller) and Madison, root for Christopher despite a few drops of rain!

workforce.

What keeps Coach Kisha returning is, of course, the kids. She recounts stories of when she's out and about, a young man will come up to her and say "Coach Kisha, do you remember me?" That's the greatest feeling for her. Coach Kisha knows that life is a game won off the field or outside of a job. She coaches her players for both arenas.

This year the Frankford Chargers have 300+ children as members of the organization. Your child must be 5 – 14 years old. They are still accepting applications through September 6. They practice 3-4 nights weekly. They are organized into teams by age. Here's a list of equipment the players need – <http://www.frankfordchargers.org/forms.html>. There is also a link

to the individual registration forms that you need for each sport. As for physicals, a nurse practitioner is onsite at the Gambrel Recreation Center, 3 days a week, to complete the necessary forms. You can stop by the Rec office, contact the Frankford Chargers by phone at 215-685-1243 or email them at [frankfordchargers@verizon.net](mailto:frankfordchargers@verizon.net)

If you're inspired by Coach Kisha and the work of the Frankford Chargers, please contact them and find out how you can get involved, too! Corporate sponsors, you won't find a better investment anywhere!

Thank you, Coach Kisha Thompson, for all that you and the Frankford Chargers Sports and Mentoring Association do for our youth in Frankford! Go, Chargers! You are making a real difference in these children's lives!

## Frankford NAC Zoning Says Yes to Church Street Duplex

By Christine DeJesus

The Frankford NAC zoning meeting was held on August 9th, at 7 PM at Second Baptist Church.

There was no opposition to the legalization of a 2 family dwelling at **1546 Church Street**. A notice of non opposition to the application will be sent to the ZBA.

The case for the PERMIT FOR THE ERECTION OF A REAR ADDITION TO AN EXISTING ATTACHED STRUCTURE. STRUCTURE FOR USE AS A GROUP LIVING facility at **1369 Sellers Street** by the House of W.I.N. has been continued until the next meeting in September.

There was some community opposition to the project but since there was some confusion about the flyer distributed in the neighborhood, the case was continued.

The Frankford NAC Zoning group will meet on September 13th at 7 PM at the Second Baptist church, 1801 Meadow Street.





# Everyday in Frankford



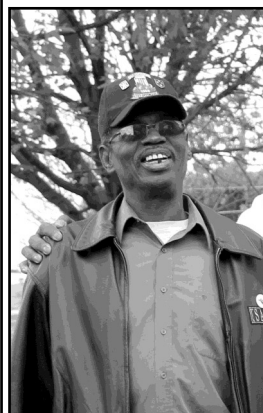
Don, nearly 60, joined his father cleaning windows along Frankford Avenue at sixteen years old. After 43 years washing windows he now walks along the Avenue seeking work from shop owners, many who use corporate services that decimated his client base. Companies supply chemicals and tools but not the labor and instead of hiring a cleaner, like Don, shop owners provide the labor themselves. A good day for Don could mean five shop fronts. Many days he struggles to secure as many.

Photo credit Chris Baker Evens <https://www.chrisbakerevens.com>

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The Donovan Williams Memorial Foundation 12U MVP, received The Bill Gambrel Award for The Gambrel Hawks baseball team for his outstanding leadership and academics. Jah Jah Boyd, this young man is so humble and has a great attitude.



## Leon Brantley

Our good friend Leon Brantley has been under the weather for some time now. He wanted me to let you know that he continues to work on Veterans issues as much as his health allows.

He is as active at Post 224 as possible and has hopes of seeing some improved veterans programs being implemented in the coming months.

His passion for promoting awareness of the importance of the history of the African American community in Northeast Philadelphia continues.

We look forward to hearing more in the future.

**2ND ANNUAL FRANKFORD HIGH 5K**

**2nd Annual FRANKFORD 5K HIGH SCHOOL**

Date: September 29, 2018  
 Event Start Time 8:00 am  
 Location: 5000 Oxford Ave  
 Cost: \$25-Adults / \$10- Students  
 Includes T-shirt, Race Bib and Refreshments

REGISTER HERE:  
[BIT.LY/FRANKFORD5K](http://bit.ly/frankford5k)  
 QUESTIONS: EMAIL [FRANKFORD5K@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FRANKFORD5K@GMAIL.COM)

## When You Realize

Life is more than the heartbeat in your chest,  
 The way you were raised,  
 The way you talk,  
 Even the way you dress.

Life is more than just a heartbeat in your chest,  
 It's what you see,  
 How you move  
 How you learn to impress.

Life is more than just a heartbeat in your chest,  
 It's when you rise,  
 When you run,  
 When you lay down and rest.

That's when you realize that you are blessed,  
 When your heart keeps beating in your chest.

BY LENNY JAYNES

## Second Baptist Church of Frankford

Rev. Darrell R. Bradsbery, Pastor  
 1801 Meadow Street

## By Grace Alone Frankford Church

1300 Dyre Street

Sundays at 12:00 pm

For more information call 610-283-2969

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

## 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](mailto: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.

Distribution locations: Frankford CDC - 4667 Paul St., S&A Dry Cleaner - 4935 Frankford Ave., Rep. Dawkin's Office - 4667 Paul Street, PA Auto Insurance Outlet - 4901 Frankford Ave., Lee Brothers Deli - Harrison St. & Frankford Ave., Lowi's Market - 4801 Frankford Ave., Peter Bressi N.E. Senior Center - 4744-46 Frankford Ave., Taha Barber Shop - 4665 Frankford Ave., Meadow House - 4649 Paul Street, Frankford Library - 4634 Frankford Ave, Frankford High School, Frankford Friends School, Northwood Academy Charter School, Marshall School, Gambrel Recreation Center, McIlvain Recreation Center, Simpson Recreation Center, Boys and Girls Club, Great Awakenings Cafe - 1466 East Cheltenham Ave. Campbell AME Church 1657 Kinsey St., St. Marks Church 4442 Frankford Ave., 2nd Baptist Church 1801 Meadow St., All Star Kids Learning Factory 4654 Frankford Ave., Sen. Tartaglione Office 1061 Bridge St., American Legion POST 224 2006 Orthodox St.



## Veteran of the Month



**Sergeant J. Williams**

Lewis, Keff - Navy  
 Lewis, Nathan - Army  
 Lewis, Paul\* - Army  
 Lewis, Russell\* - Army  
 Lightfoot, Robert - Navy  
 Lott, Maynard B. - Army  
 Madden, James - Army  
 Marble, Barryx - Army  
 McAvoy, Erin - Navy  
 McAvoy, Thomas A. - Marines  
 McAvoy, Tom - Army  
 McCartney, James L. - Army  
 McClain, Edward J.\* - Marines  
 McCoy, Calvester\* - Army  
 McCoy, Russell\* - Army  
 McFarland, Brian - Air Force  
 McGeehan Jr., Bill - Army  
 McGeehan Sr., Bill - Air Force  
 McGrath, Francis J.\* - Army  
 McGuigan, Joseph\* - Army  
 McCoy, Russell\* - Army  
 Miller, Benjamin\* - Marines  
 Miller, Robert - Army  
 Montgomery, Calvester\* - Army  
 Montgomery, John - Army  
 Montgomery, John - Army  
 Mullane, John\* - Army  
 Nash, Tommy\* - Army  
 Negron, Jose D. - Air Force  
 Newman, Joseph\* - Army

Niblock, Earl (Wayne) - Marines  
 Nix, Angelita\* - Marines  
 Charles T., O'Brien\* - Army  
 Parker, William M.\* - Marines  
 Perry Jr., Raymond W. - Navy  
 Pierce, Walter G. - Army  
 Pittman, Arron - Navy  
 Pittman, Charles - Air Force  
 Pittman, Thomas -  
 Porter, Nathan - Navy  
 Prescott, Fred A.\* - Army Air Corps.  
 Prescott, Fred C. - Air Force  
 Pryor, William\* - Army  
 Randolph Sr., Charles\* - Army  
 Randolph, Wallace\* - Army  
 Randolph, William - Army  
 Randolph Jr., Charles\* - Army  
 Randolph Jr., Robert C.\* - Marines  
 Reddman, Doctor - Army  
 Rice, Walter - Army  
 Richard G., Higgins - Air Force  
 Rivera, David - Army  
 Rivera, Jonathan - Air Force  
 Roberto, Angelo - Marines  
 Roberto, Sammy - Marines  
 Roberson, Shelly - Army  
 Robinson, Nathan\* - Army  
 Robinson, Phil - Army  
 Robson, James - Army  
 Rohrer, John E.\* - Air Force

**J. Williams** was born on September 13, 1939 in Savannah, Georgia. He attended Haven Home Elementary School and Beach High School. After graduating from High School, he enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1961 and was sent to Fort Benning, Georgia for his Basic Training.

Williams was sent to Vietnam and also did a tour of duty in Okinawa. Then he returned stateside to Fort Knox, Kentucky. While finishing his term of duty, Williams received various awards, medals and certificates, including being promoted to the rank of Sergeant (E5). He also served in a Special Forces unit and served as a Military Policeman. He was honorably discharged in 1964.

Williams joined the Camden, New Jersey Police Force and served as a Chaplain to American Legion Post 372 in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. He is also a dedicated and strong believer in his Pentecostal Faith.

He retired from the Police Force and became a Notary Public and still found time to become involved in all kinds of community and church projects. He loves Basketball, Weight Lifting and Body Building. He spends much of his time as a Chaplain at the Post, helping veterans cope with various concerns.

**Sergeant J. Williams—We thank you for your service!!!**



We have some new opportunities for buying economical fresh produce in Frankford this year as you can see on this page.

These 2 kids, Eden and Nathan McKinnie, are showing off the harvest from the community garden at Paul and Unity Streets.

## Frankford-Kensington Resource Fair

**20+**  
exhibitors

**Including housing, addiction, health,  
legal, financial**

Saturday, September 15, 2018  
1:00PM-3:00PM

Padre Pio Prayer Center @ St. Joachim's  
1527 Church St., Phila., PA 19124

(Enter at corner of Griscom and Church)

sisterclarepppc@gmail.com

## Frankford Farmers Market

Every Saturday July 21st to November 10th

1300 Dyre Street—10 AM to 11 AM

### Free Farm Fresh Produce

To qualify you must

- Receive free or reduced school lunch
- Receive Public Assistance
- Receive SSI/SSD

Register on site or pre-register by calling

215-288-9800

By Grace Alone and Frankford Memorial UMC

With America's Grow a Row



## Produce Stand at John Marshall School Open to the community



Fresh fruits and vegetables  
available!

Up to  
50% Off  
Grocery Store  
Prices!

Every 1st Wednesday  
Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Jan. 9, Feb.  
6, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, and May 1  
Outside the Main Entrance  
8:00-9:00 am

Proudly accepting cash, credit/debit, EBT, FMNP, and  
Philly Food Bucks!



This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) through the PA Department of Human Services (DHS). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.  
The Share Food Program is a nonprofit organization serving a regional network of community organizations engaged in food distribution, education, and advocacy. Share promotes healthy living by providing affordable wholesome food to those willing to contribute through volunteerism. These produce stands are constructed using SNAP-ED funds.

# Coming Up in Frankford

**Friends of Overington Park** - Tue, September 4, 7pm - Friends Meeting House, 1500 Orthodox Street—The group maintains and supports Overington Park at Orthodox and Leiper Streets. This park has been resurrected and now hosts events almost every month of the year but it can't do it without your active participation. New members needed.

**Produce Stand** - Wed, September 5, 8am - 9am, John Marshall Elementary School, 4500 Griscom St, Fresh Fruit and vegetables for up to 50% of grocery store prices, every first Wednesday, outside the main entrance to Marshall School. September 3rd 2018 to May 1, 2019.

**Frankford Civic Association Meeting** - Thu, September 6, 7pm, St Mark's Church Frankford, 4442 Frankford Avenue

**Grand Army of the Republic Museum Open House** - Sun, September 9, 12:00pm - 3:30pm 4278 Griscom Street - At 1:30 pm, Mr. Bruce Venter will present a special presentation about the infamous Kilpatrick - Dahlgren Raid: "Kill Jeff Davis: The Union Raid on Richmond in 1864."

**Historical Society of Frankford** - Tue, September 11, 7:30pm - 9:00pm, Historical Society of Frankford, 1507 Orthodox Street—Program is a reading of a paper originally researched and read to the members of HSF in April 1931 entitled "The Story of Elizabeth Drinker, a Quaker diarist and her accounts of times during the American Revolution from her position

as an oppositionist to the war trying to remain neutral.

**Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting** - Thu, September 13, 7pm, Second Baptist Church of Frankford, 1801 Meadow St

**Frankford Kensington Resource Fair** - Sat, September 15, 1pm - 3pm, St. Joachim Church, 1527 Church Street (map)

- Connect with and learn from 20+ exhibitors, serving the Frankford and Kensington neighborhoods with a variety of services. Representatives will be present from organizations offering assistance with housing, addiction, health, legal, financial, faith, education, children/families, and more. Light refreshments will be provided.

**Northwood Civic Association Meeting** - Tue, September 18, 7pm, Simpson. Recreation Center, 1010 Arrott St - Open to the residents of Northwood

**15th Police District PSA1 Meeting** - Thu, September 27, 7pm, Jefferson Frankford Hospital, 4900 Frankford Ave.

**2nd Annual Frankford High School 5k** - Sat, September 29, 8am - 12pm, 5000 Oxford Ave. - For more details follow this link - <https://frankfordhs.philasd.org/about-us/frankford-5k/>

## Fall Programming at Frankford Library

### School Age

#### **Frankford's Movie Night**

Every 1st Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.  
Sept 5, Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 5

#### **Block Building and Lego Playtime**

Wooden Block Party and Lego free play time at the library.  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 5:00 p.m.  
Sept 17, Oct 15, Nov 19, Dec 17

#### **Wii Wednesdays with Mr. Vince**

Play Wii and other games at the library.  
Every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m.  
Sept 26, Oct 24, Nov 28, Dec 26

### Teens and Adults

#### **Teen Third Thursdays**

Come have fun doing various activities and games. Snacks provided.  
Teens Only  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 4:30pm.  
Sept 20, Oct 18, Nov 15, Dec 20

#### **Email Basics**

Create an email, upload attachments and learn how to navigate your email with our Digital Resource Specialist.  
Every Tuesday at 12pm  
Sept 4, 11; Oct 2, 9, 16, 30; Nov 6, 20, 27; Dec 4, 11, 18

#### **Resume Help**

Create and edit your resume with our Digital Resource Specialist.  
Every Thursday at 12pm  
Sept 6, 20, 27; Oct 4, 11, 25; Nov 8, 29; Dec 6, 13, 27

*LaBae Daniels*

*Branch Manager & Adult/Teen Librarian*

*Frankford Neighborhood Library*

*4634 Frankford Avenue*

*Phone: 215-685-1473 Email: [danielsl@freelibrary.org](mailto:danielsl@freelibrary.org)*

#### 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**

#### Northeast Baptist Church

4744 Tackawanna Street

Service at 11:00 AM Sunday

#### Padre Pio Prayer Center

Chapel corner of Griscom and Church Sts.  
Mass 730 AM Tues, Wed, Thurs  
Mass: 700 PM Monday and Wednesday  
Mass: Saturday 800 AM (Spanish)

Chapel open for private prayer Monday  
through Friday from 7 to 9 PM

#### 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)

St. James Lutheran Church

5185 Castor Ave.

Philadelphia, PA 19124

215-743-1828

[www.StJamesPhilly.com](http://www.StJamesPhilly.com)

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00am

Friday Night Youth Ministry (4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

Grade): 6:30pm - 8:30pm

#### 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.





**Your  
health.  
Our  
focus.**

**The *only* Medicaid plan  
in Pennsylvania to receive  
excellent status for exceptional  
service and clinical quality programs.\***

Our award-winning health plan has served Southeastern Pennsylvanians, like you, for more than 30 years. Now that's a plan you can trust!

To see if you qualify or to enroll in Health Partners, call PA enrollment services at 1-800-440-3989 (TTY 1-800-618-4225) or visit [enrollnow.net](http://enrollnow.net).

\*According to NCQA's  
Medicaid Health Insurance  
Plan Ratings 2017-2018



2017-2018



**Health Partners** Plans

[HPPlans.com](http://HPPlans.com)

CC-2522-17