NKCDC
NEW KENSINGTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Business Newsletter

Vol. 9 Issue 4 Winter 2010

Save the Date!

March 13th, 2010
Meet-n-Greet for the Trenton Avenue Arts Fest and Kensington Kinetic Sculpture Derby

Learn more about getting involved in the Arts Fest and the design competition and parade of human powered vehicle floats. Help support the events by buying raffle tickets and limited edition T-Shirts!

Saturday March 13th 2-4pm
@ The Philadelphia Brewing Co.
2439 Amber St (enter on Martha St)
Free to attend, Raffle tickets are $2 or $5 for 5, T-Shirts are $20.

For more info:
www.kinetickensington.org

Facade Improvement of the Quarter

Part Time Studios
2031 Frankford Ave

GreenWorks Small Business Energy Efficiency Rebates Now Available!

GREENWORKS
PHILADELPHIA

At the end of January, the City of Philadelphia announced that $27 million in federal funds have been allocated towards programs for small businesses. One of these programs is particularly relevant as PECO prepares to remove the rate increase cap in 2011, impacting the energy bills of people through out the city. The GreenWorks Small Business Energy Efficiency Rebate was devised to prepare businesses for these future changes.

The purpose of this program, according to the City's Commerce Department, is to encourage businesses and commercial property owners to improve the energy efficiency of their operations by investing in structural retrofits and energy efficiency processes or equipment. The program reimburses owners of the commercial buildings and businesses who make energy efficiency improvements up to 50% of the costs of these improvements. The maximum rebate amount per applicant is $10,000. All projects must meet two criteria. First, businesses or commercial properties must prove that the improvements made to the building will result in a 20% reduction in annual energy consumption. Secondly, funds used must result in a payback period of no more than 10 years. Typical projects include HVAC, lighting, energy management control systems, windows and insulation, commercial equipment or major appliances, water heating systems, electric motors and in some cases renewable energy projects.

The city is requiring that all applicants first conduct an energy audit or assessment to get professional recommendations on energy saving practices if the project involves structural retrofits or changes in processes. Fortunately, the city has an energy professional who can conduct this assessment for you and this is the first step in the application process. If you use the city's energy professional, the assessment is free but you will be subject to the city's timeline. Businesses can also find their own energy professional as long as he or she is one of the following: Professional Engineer, a Certified Engineering Technologist, an architect, a Certified Energy Manager or a Certified Energy Advisor. Projects involving mechanical systems do not require this preliminary assessment.

For more information on the facade improvement grant and how NKCDC can help you improve your businesses facade -
Contact Sarah Corlett
215 427 0350 x 111

Fishtown Area Business Association

Fishtown Area Business Association
FABA
www.fishtownbusiness.org

Don't forget to attend the FABA Happy Hour
Wed. February 24th 5-7pm
Johnny Brenda's
1201 Frankford Ave

It is time to renew or join FABA. Dues are $50 annually, click here for the membership form.

Join us at the next meeting Wednesday March 3rd from 8:30am-9:30am at First Presybeterian Church at 418 E Girard Ave
Contact Paul Kimport
or visit www.fishtownbusiness.org

Looking for a Commercial or Industrial property?

Check our online Property List and sign up to receive monthly updates.

Visit our website at www.nkcdc.org to sign up or email Kathryn at

Energy efficiency upgrades that are of large proportions can take advantage of the city's loan program for such improvements and there are state resources as well. Remember, the funds are reimbursable so you must have financing or cash to complete the renovations. NKCDC can help identify potential upfront funding. For an application and for additional guidelines, please contact Sarah Corlett at 215-427-0350 x111 or scorlett@nkcdc.org.

Be Part of the 2010 Fishtown Shadfest!

The Fishtown Area Business Association (FABA) will be hosting the 2nd Annual Shadfest this spring, and we need your help to make it happen! FABA is seeking sponsors for this event at various levels for or cash or in-kind donations. Sponsor levels start at just $50 so there are ways to include everyone and their budget. Sponsoring local events is a great way to give back to the community. Sponsors are a critical part of a successful event and *all donations are 100% tax deductible.*

Date: Saturday April 24th 2010 11am-6pm
Held at Penn Treaty Park @ Delaware Avenue and Beach Streets
For more information contact Kathryn Doherty at 215 427 0350 x120 or visit wwww.fishtownshadfest.org

★ FEATURED BUSINESS Milk Crate Cafe 400 E Girard Ave

Adam Porter loves music, especially music on vinyl. He also loves coffee. A veteran barista, he has been slinging coffee for 16+ years and after closing his ten year old record shop on South Street, he decided to combine his two passions. He discovered Fishtown as a resident four years ago and was inspired by the creativity and growth of the neighborhood. Adam simultaneously realized South Street may not be the best location for his store. So when he found out the spot that was Canvas Cafe was available for rent, he jumped on the chance to change his business model and start fresh. In October of 2009 Adam opened the doors of the Milk Crate Cafe.

Adam recognizes the great growth potential in the Fishtown Area and wants to be a part of the renaissance. The cafe right now is part record store and cafe, serving light sandwiches and espresso and coffee drinks. The cozy atmosphere, the free Wi-Fi and excellent coffee from La Colombe, have made this a new, warm neighborhood meeting place for Fishtown. Not to mention, there are plenty of opportunities to entertain musical interests and learn something new as well. His eye for good records and knowledge of collector's items come from years of experience and a genuine love of music. The amazing collection of rare and collectible vinyl is a result of his relationships with collectors and DJ's who serve as curators. In the future, Adam hopes to expand the kitchen and serve a full brunch and lunch menu and extend the record store to the basement. He also plans to use the space for gatherings and create a late night spot for music lovers. He sees the Milk Crate Cafe as an old school social networking opportunity, a conduit for the music and arts community in Fishtown.

kdoherty@nkcdc.org to be added to the list.

2010 Neighborhood Business Directories

Get your copy today at neighborhood businesses, including Third Federal Bank, Rocket Cat Cafe, Sulimays, Johnny Brenda's, Exit Realty, the Waterfront Group and more!

Thank You to printer Northern Liberty Press and designer Devilfish Ink for creating such a great product!

To request copies contact Kathryn at 215-427-0350 x 120

For more information on how we can assist your existing or start-up business, contact-

Sarah Corlett
Economic Development Director
Email: scorlett@nkcdc.org
Phone: 215 427 0350 x 111

Also Visit:
www.frankfordavearts.org
www.Fishtownbusiness.org
www.kinetickensington.org

Milk Crate Cafe, 400 East Girard Ave, 267-909-8348
www.milkcratecafe.com

For more information please visit www.nkcdc.org or email Kathryn at kdoherty@nkcdc.org