

New Kensington Community Development Corporation

FRANKFORD AVE ARTS CORRIDOR NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10
February 2007

DESIGN>BUILD>DRIVE>

PEOPLE
POWER



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Picture a line of big imaginatively wacky floats parading down Frankford, across Girard, through Penn Treaty Park, up Richmond, over Cumberland, down Aramingo, across York, once more on Frankford, looping right on Lehigh, and bumbling down Trenton for a big muddy finish at Susquehanna.



Did you get that? Good. No, there will not be cars driving parade floats through Penn Treaty Park. These are people powered floats driven by bicycles; pure green machines. Yes, Trenton Avenue, you have to love those cobblestones and it would not be as fun without the mud pits. Yet, the best part about this [Kensington Kinetic Sculpture Derby \(KKSD\)](#) is that it is a community event, taking place during the *Trenton Avenue Arts Festival* on Saturday, May 19, 2007.

Okay so for those that do not know, kinetic sculpture races have been occurring annually since 1969. The idea began in Ferndale, California when Hobart Brown made a few "artistic improvements" to his son's tricycle and a friendly wager that led to a race among weird sculptures. In 1999, American Visionary Art Museum hosted the first annual Baltimore event, this is the closest annual race to Philadelphia. East Kensington Neighbors

★ LATEST NEWS

**Business of Art
Workshop Series:**

First in the series- Facing the Taxman
Run by the Temple Small Business Development Center, this tax workshop for artists will explain in plain English the tax guidelines as they apply specifically to artists. Time and Date: Tuesday, Feb 6th, 2006 at 6-8:30pm. Location: Coral Street Arts House (2446 Coral St.). Cost: \$10. Must register to attend. Please register through Sbrain@temple.edu or by calling 215-204-3856.

**Frankford Avenue Arts
Corridor Plan available
online**

The Frankford Avenue Arts Corridor Plan, completed last fall with the help of Market Knowledge, Group G, NKCDC, and a series of community meetings, is available online at www.nkcdc.org, under Economic Development, then in Frankford Ave Arts Corridor area. [Posted bi-](#)

Association and New Kensington CDC are hoping that by hosting this year's kinetic sculpture derby, also referred to as a mini kinetic sculpture race, this artistically focused and human powered transit phenomenon will become an mainstay in Philadelphian culture for year's to come.

Originally planned as the ArtRacks unveiling event to be held in the fall of 2005, the kinetic sculpture derby had to be postponed for logistical reasons. Yet, because of the success of last year's Trenton Avenue Arts Festival and the support of East Kensington Neighbors Association, NKCDC thought that it would only make sense to hold the derby on the same day as the Trenton Avenue Arts Festival. "An arts festival and a parade celebrating art, they just go together," say Kathryn Doherty-Chapman, economic development assistant at NKCDC.

This first time event will not involve water obstacles and is a design focused competition. Therefore, speed will not be considered, instead awards will be based on the following criteria:

Art award - winner will be judged upon use of colors, costumes, 2 and 3 dimensional art, kinetic motion, humor, theatrical appeal, etc.

Best costume - like the art award, but for the pilot/crew/costumes.

The Rusty Dinosaur award - awarded to the sculpture that breaks down first.

People's Choice award - spectators will have a chance to vote at the finish.

The Ingenuity award - category considers ingenious conquering of course obstacles through sculpture design as well as any ingenious facet of the design that functions in a truly unique or glorious manner.

Second to Last award - the sculpture that makes it across the finish second to last!

Registration Fees

Team size may be unlimited, however registration costs \$20 for up to 10 persons, then \$5 for each additional team member after.

Teams may include, Engineers, Artists, Captains, and Pit crew members.

The Kensington Kinetic Sculpture Derby (KKSD) will be co-hosted by EKNA and NKCDC and sponsored by PhillyCarShare, Fuji Bikes, and others. For more information, check out the website at www.kinetickensington.org or contact Kathryn at 215-427-0350 x120 or kdoherthy@nkcddc.org.

monthly, the goal of this newsletter is to keep people informed about arts-related development on Frankford Avenue and in the Fishtown and Kensington neighborhoods. If you know someone who would like to subscribe to this newsletter please have them send an e-mail to frankford.ave-on@list.nkcddc.org. To unsubscribe from this list at any time you may send an e-mail to frankford.ave-off@list.nkcddc.org

FYI

Opening at Bambi Gallery Rocks -n- Glocks. New work by Veleta Vancza and Ron Ribant

Opening reception Friday, February 2, 2007 at 6p-10p
1817 Frankford Ave (Between Montgomery and Berks)
Philadelphia, PA 19125

Frankford Ave. Clean up

This year's Spring clean up will be on **Saturday, April 14, 2007!** Come out and lend a hand, volunteers should call James at 215-427-0350 x 106 or email

jwright@nkcddc.org.

Section leaders are needed!

Artist Survey: Evaluation of legal services needs

Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (PVLA) is interested in hearing feedback about PVLA services and your legal needs as a local artist. Please provide your feedback by **Wednesday, January 31, 2007** through a brief online survey: [click here](#). Opinions will help determine what legal services are needed in the arts and cultural community and the future direction of PVLA.

PositiveSpace

The local artist group PositiveSpace is looking to add members in 2007. They will now have informal gatherings on the 2nd Monday of each month at

★ FEATURED BUSINESS



The Little Flower Shoppe

The Little Flower Shoppe is a long-standing business on the 2300 block of Frankford Avenue. The flower shop first opened in 1929 and has prepared various floral arrangements

for customers ever since. Florence Parker was raised on York Street, just around the corner from the flower shop. About 20 years ago, she decided to purchase the business from its original owner, leaving a career in the Gloucester County prosecutor's office to do so. As owner, she continued to provide beautiful mixed cut flowers set in a vase or basket.

Florence Parker died earlier this month, but has left a lasting impression. "Florence was always helpful and considerate. She took the time to find out what you as the customer wanted and need, and then helped you fit that into your budget," says Sandy Salzman and maybe others would say the same.

Florence's husband Al, who now manages the business, began helping his wife a few years back because she wanted the flower shop to continue. Yet, you would think that he has been in the profession for much longer. When asked if he would consider arranging flowers an art, he said, "It is definitely art." Then he added that, "the flowers do the work. The art is really in the flower. It is hard to make a mess up."

When asked what the benefits are of being located on the Frankford Avenue Arts Corridor, he cited the accessibility to I-95. Recalling how when they owned a shop downtown, because of traffic, it took the same amount of time to deliver flowers from downtown to a location in center city that it now takes them to deliver from Frankford Avenue to center city. In addition, he feels that the 19125 community is very supportive of their business. Over the years, The Little Flower Shoppe has done a lot of work for local funerals, wedding, births, and parties. And, they appreciate the business, so the next time you need flowers for any occasion, why not order from you local family florist. The Little Flower Shoppe is located at 2313 Frankford Avenue. You may place an order by calling 215-739-3837.

7pm. The meeting for Feb. 12th will be at Johnny Brendas. If you are interested in more information about PositiveSpace, [click here](#)

Project Basho

The mission of Project Basho is to provide opportunities for those interested in learning photography. They meet this by providing photographers with production space, resources, and small practice-oriented classes. For more info [click here](#).

★ NEW KENSINGTON PROPERTY UPDATE

For Sale

2218 Frankford ave

New mixed-use space with a lot.

Great restaurant location.

Will build to suit. 1,000 s.f. plus basement

contact Patty Stein 215 205 2075

2476 Frankford ave

Ground for available for commercial tenant.

contact Greg Sclight 267 258 5847

2523 FRANKFORD AVE.

Residential/Mixed Use

1170 sq. ft

\$150-180,000

Bill Schweitzer

Owner phone#: (215) 426-7475

1832 Frankford ave

3 story mixed use building

Contact Daniel Maneely

Realtor phone#: (215) 284-2891

Remax

2219 Frankford Ave

vacant lot 20x 115, zoned C2!

\$79,000

contact Coldwell Banker -215) 925-6600

To view full property update click here

[NewKensingtonPropertyUpdate.pdf](#)

((Available Properties in the Empowerment Zone, click [here](#))

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