



# FRANKFORD AVE ARTS CORRIDOR

## e-newsletter

### NEWS & EVENTS

## Corridor Business Updates!

### Johnny Brenda's

1201 Frankford Ave  
JB's will be hosting "Speedcrewing II", a Philly Film Office networking event on Feb. 18th at 6:30pm. This event is open to film industry professionals of all kinds. Info and tickets (5\$) [here](#).  
[www.johnnybrendas.com](http://www.johnnybrendas.com)

### Walking Fish Theatre

2509 Frankford Avenue  
Revival Burlesque returns for a second season! Celebrate Valentine's Day at the theatre. February 13, 14, and 15th at 8 pm.  
[www.walkingfishtheatre.com](http://www.walkingfishtheatre.com)

### Circle Thrift

2233 Frankford Avenue  
NEW LOCATION! Same great vintage clothing at affordable prices!  
[www.circlethrift.com](http://www.circlethrift.com)

## Local Arts Centers!

### Project Synergy at the Hinge Cafe

2652 E Somerset St  
215-425-6614  
All ages are invited learn culinary arts, singing, sculpting, furniture making, photography and more! The next season of classes starts on 3/24. More information at  
[www.projectsynergyarts.com](http://www.projectsynergyarts.com)

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2009

## Cycling on Frankford Avenue!

In times of volatile gas prices, global warming and overloaded highways and city streets, it is more important than ever for individuals to seek out alternative forms of transportation. With the dawn of the Obama era, the President has already made it clear that it is a civic duty to



reduce our collective energy consumption. But the good news for Kensingtonians and Fishtowners is that they already have the advantage of living in a community that is more walkable and bikeable than the vast majority of the United States.

Bicycling in particular can be a dream in the River Wards. Not only is it good for the environment, but it also it can also save real dollars. AAA's annual "Your Driving Costs" report estimated that it costs the average car owner about \$431 a month to own and maintain a newer model car. This is even excluding associated parking costs/fines and city insurance rates which can in some cases add hundreds of dollars more to this figure.

Of course, not everyone can live without their automobile, but even simply reducing neighborhood car trips by bicycling offers many advantages. There are obvious savings on gasoline, but cycling also reduces the wear and tear of unnessecary city driving, saving money on maintenance costs.

However, without the right preparations, bicycling can also be a nightmare. Bad drivers. Jaywalkers. Inclimant weather. The dreaded car door. The hazards are almost as numerous as the rewards for those who live their lives on two wheels without an eye on safety first. In an ideal world road users would follow all laws and be as considerate as possible, but the reality is everyone must take precautions no matter what sort of vehicle they are using.

Most bicycle accidents are actually not caused by automobiles, but certainly the most serious and fatal crashes



## Angler Movement Arts Center

1550 Montgomery Avenue  
215-922-0866

Classes for children, teens, and adults in yoga, pilates, ballet, modern, jazz, and creative movement.

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

## Portside Arts Center

2531 E. Lehigh Avenue

Join Kim Creighton and her talented staff to select from 10 various art classes ranging from pottery to painting. Call 215-427-1514 or email [portsideartscenter@verizon.net](mailto:portsideartscenter@verizon.net) for more details.

## PositiveSpace Meeting

Join neighborhood artists on February 9th, 7 p.m. at 1178 S. Darien St for Positive Space's first meeting of the year. Check out [www.positivespace.net](http://www.positivespace.net) or email organizers at [positivespacephila@gmail.com](mailto:positivespacephila@gmail.com) to see what's in store!

## Frankford Avenue Arts Corridor Plan

The Frankford Avenue Arts Corridor Plan, completed in 2004 with the help of Market Knowledge, Group G, NKCDC, and a series of community meetings, is available online at [www.nkcddc.org](http://www.nkcddc.org) under Neighborhood Plans. Posted bi-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 email to [info@nkcddc.org](mailto:info@nkcddc.org).

## Quick Links

[Frankford Avenue Arts Website](#)

[NKCDC](#)

[Email Us](#)

[About Us](#)

are auto/bike collisions. The majority of these kinds of accidents occur at intersections where either the driver or cyclist fails to signal or





For more information on upcoming events and activities in the neighborhood, please visit NKCDC's website [www.nkcddc.org](http://www.nkcddc.org) or the Frankford Avenue Arts Corridor [www.frankfordavearts.org](http://www.frankfordavearts.org).

look out for other users. Many automobile drivers underestimate the speeds at which bicyclists travel and often turn too quickly thus striking the cyclist.

According to Kathryn Doherty-Chapman, a League of American Bicyclists Certified Safe Cycling instructor, "Simple things like signaling and eye contact really go a long way in keeping people safe. Also remember that no matter what your preferred mode of transportation, bicyclists and pedestrians have a right to the road just like automobiles." She also mentioned that there are classes and workshops on safe cycling offered through out the region, and you can find out more about them at the Bicycle Coalition's [website](#). In the meantime, here are a few safety tips to keep in mind:

#### Cyclists

- Follow the laws of the road, stop at all traffic signals and signs.
- Signal when you turn and don't be afraid to occupy the whole lane if necessary. Sometimes that is the safest way to travel.
- Riding too close to parked cars is putting your self at risk, give yourself a few feet buffer from the parked cars.
- The law states that cyclists must have lights to ride at night. This law is intended to keep bicyclists safe, so buy some lights at a local bike shops.

#### Drivers

- Look for cyclists and pedestrians when you are turning and opening your car door. It only takes a second to look and can save a lot of people from harm.
- Remember that law abiding cyclists have an equal right to the road, and are much more vulnerable than motorists.

Finally, the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia has found that when bicycle usage doubles, the crash risk for individuals declines by one third. This means that the more people who start cycling, the safer everyone will be on the road. So take a weekend and cycle Frankford Avenue with your friends, or join one of the scheduled cycling events sponsored by the Bicycle Coalition and others. For more information on Cycling Clubs, visit:



The Bicycle Coalition of Great Philadelphia:

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

Bicycle Club of Philadelphia- [www.phillybikeclub.org](http://www.phillybikeclub.org)

Sturdy Girl Cycling- [www.sturdygirlcycling.com](http://www.sturdygirlcycling.com)

Quaker City Wheelmen- [www.quakercitywheelmen.org](http://www.quakercitywheelmen.org)

Philadelphia Velo Club- [click here!](#) (facebook only)

### ...And For More Bicycle Fun...

Attend the Kensington Kinetic Sculpture Derby Meet and Greet on February 28th at 2:00pm, at Philly Brewing Co (2439 Amber Street). Learn about how you can participate in making this years Derby the best yet. Share ideas, get ideas, meet potential teammates, even register early! The Derby is only as good as the participants, so if you know anyone who is even mildly interested in competing, bring them along.

## ...Finally, First Friday - February 6th

Don't forget to join your favorite galleries and businesses for a late night of food, fun and local culture all up and down the Frankford Ave Arts Corridor. First Friday doesn't happen if you don't show up, so click [here](#) for more information.

### ★ FEATURED BUSINESS

## Dan's Meats



Every neighborhood has it's institutions. If its a store, a church, a park or a library, its something that is engrained in the tradition and identity that makes a place recognizable. For many years Frankford Avenue was a place of instability and crumbling institutions, a place losing a hard-worn identity. But through the years of turbulence and realtive prosperity, Dan the Butcher endured as the icon of Norris and Frankford.

Dan's Meats is no fancy downtown boucherie; it's interior is lined with wood paneling and the pressed tin ceiling that was probably part of the original, Civil War-era rowhouse at 2001 Frankford Avenue. The glass butcher case contains all the traditional Philadelphia standards: scrapple, cooper cheese and pork roll straight from Trenton. The proprietor, Daniel J. Tocci, Jr., is soft spoken man with a certainty to his words. He has run Dan's since his father passed away in 1975, and worked the shop since his childhood. His father originally managed another butchershop at Front and Dauphin from 1935 to 1947, before moving to a different building on the 2000 block of Frankford, and eventually to the present location in 1950.

As a boy, Dan Junior lived on the third story of 2001 Frankford with his parents from 1955 to 1958 before the family moved to a suburb in New Jersey and commuted to the store. Dan worked as a stockboy through his youth, observing his fathers work butchering meat. "By the time I was 16, I was a full fledged butcher." 22 years later, Dan was running the store.

Dan has seen good times and bad through his years at the store, but notes sadly that the current recession is the worst he's seen. "Business has always been good at this location, until last year," says Dan, admitting his sales have been a little off. But Dan has hope for the neighborhood as a whole. "I think this neighborhood

has definitely changed for the better while I've been here. If we can weather the current storm, things will be very good."

And Dan might still be there to see it. He plans to continue running Dan's Meats for as long as he is physically able. Whenever he decides to retire, he plans to devote more time to his favorite hobby: collecting Lionel train sets. "I've been interested in trains since I was six years old." And as blissful a time as that retirement will surely be for Dan, it will also be the end of an era for the neighborhood.

*Stop by Dan's Meats and Food Market at 2001 Frankford Ave, 215-423-2813*

### Commercial Space for Lease

*New! - 1325 Frankford Ave #1*

*Price: \$189,000*



*Great commercial opportunity within this amazing light filled, european sleek meets modern space. Mercer Flats is located on the edge of Fishtown, amidst quaint gardens adorned by sculpture built by the locals. With 3 townhomes on Mercer Street, 1 commercial space and condo on Frankford Avenue, Mercer Flats is a perfect addition to the neighborhood. MLS #5421131 Year Built: 2008. Sq Ft: 1160. Zoning: G2. Annual Taxes: \$130. Courtesy of RE/MAX City Space- 215-625-3650*

*NEW! - 2031 Frankford Avenue*

*For more info contact Steve Cacciutti at 610-457-1113 or costruzione@gmail.com*



*1850-62 Frankford Ave*

*Price: Negotiable*

*1890's, 4 commercial spaces for lease under construction now. Call to negotiate space/fit out, each will be roughly 700 SQ FT, but you can have 2 units for more space. Apartments will be above and parking in the rear. Call Donna DiStefano 215 266 4122*

*VIKING MILLS - Artist's Workspaces  
East Hagert and Coral Street*

*1890's, 5 story factory building located near the Fishtown section of Philadelphia, undergoing renovations. Up to 11,000 sf per floor available for rent. Inexpensive, perfect for artist studio, craftsmen, dance/music studio, light industrial, or warehouse space. Located across the street from The Coral Arts House. Present tenants include: horse drawn carriage manufacturer, motorcycle mechanic, and fiber supplier to brush manufacturing industry. Check out [www.vikingmills.com](http://www.vikingmills.com) or Contact David Hirsch at [DBHMM@hotmail.com](mailto:DBHMM@hotmail.com)*

*Commercial Space For Sale*

*2226 Frankford Avenue*

*Price: 150,000*

*2 doors down from Michael's Decorators. HUGE property with TONS of potential! Front of the building is wide and long and great for either*

studio space or commercial front. 2nd and 3rd floors have 2 large one bedroom in front and back. Has some original details including banisters and the historical front from the 1880's! Also has a very deep, high ceiling in basement for extra space. Some minor fire damage, but no active issues. Year Built:1928 Square Feet of Land:1800 Zoning:C2 Annual Taxes:\$212 A Coldwell Banker Preferred Listing 215-634-0800.

1359 Frankford Avenue

Price: \$349,000

Prime developmental opportunity here for a mixed-use building with plans and approvals for 6 residential condominiums, 2 commercial stores, and a parking garage for 6 cars. This is directly on the busy Frankford Avenue Arts Corridor just off Girard Avenue in what is now considered prime space in Fishtown. The plot is over 4,700 square feet and the proposed building coverage is 3,574 square feet at 35 feet high, covering 3 quarters of the plot, which the remaining being open space. This lot is directly in front of 7 brand new construction townhouses that are being now. Courtesy of Coldwell Banker Preferred- Old City. 215-923-7600.

1325 Frankford Avenue

Price: 189,000

Great commercial opportunity within this amazing light filled, european sleek meets modern space. Mercer Flats is located on the edge of Fishtown, amidst quaint gardens adorned by sculpture built by the locals. With 3 townhomes on Mercer Street, 1 commercial space and condo on Frankford Avenue, Mercer Flats is a perfect addition to the neighborhood. Year Built: 2008. Sq Ft: 1160. Zoning: G2. Annual Taxes: \$130. Courtesy of RE/MAX City Space #160; 215-634-0800.

1301 Frankford Avenue

Price: \$949,000

Great location! Well maintained and well established neighborhood bar/restaurant in a prime location. Situated on the rapidly

*developing Frankford Avenue Arts Corridor in the heart of Fishtown. Walking distance to mass transportation and all riverfront activities. Featuring 4 efficiency apartments on month-to-month leases to long-term tenants. Bar has a fully equipped kitchen. Price includes liquor license (with takeout license) and the adjoining lot on Thompson Street. Owners motivated so call for your appointment! Courtesy of Century 21 Leibovitz Realtor 215-634-0800.*

Questions or comments? Please send us an email at [info@nkcdc.org](mailto:info@nkcdc.org)