

THE Powelton Post

NEWS OF THE
POWELTON VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

NOV
2011

From The President's Kitchen Table

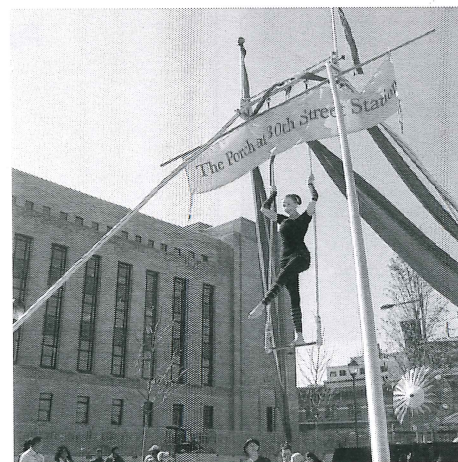
In 2010, when surveys were distributed throughout the neighborhood as part of our Master Planning process, it came as no surprise that a lack of basic services was cited as one of the most pressing problems in Powelton. When asked what type of business people wanted to see open in the neighborhood, a majority of respondents listed grocery stores and produce shops. A lack of convenient, healthy food is a major problem throughout Philadelphia. Discussions of a co-op in the neighborhood have been ongoing. When conversations of a Co-op resurfaced, it became increasingly clear that we would include adjacent neighborhoods to aide in the success of such an endeavor. In 2011 community members from West Powelton, Mantua and Belmont resumed discussions of a co-op, with additional input from the PEC and Enterprise Center CDC. Those discussions are ongoing, and open to anyone who wants to shape the vision for our very own Community-Owned Grocery Store. We are fortunate to live in a city with so many people passionate about fresh food and nutrition. One of those individuals is Ryan Kuck, founder of Preston's Paradise in Belmont. Preston's Paradise has actively hosted farmstands, community meals, and workshops in West Philadelphia. Preston's also hosts several Urban Agriculture sites. Ryan's latest idea is to bring fresh produce, grains and other basic products to Lancaster Avenue. The concept has been widely praised and has received financial backing and institutional support from Drexel, PEC, and Greensgrow Farms. Please join us at our November PVCA Meeting to learn about this exciting new addition to Lancaster Ave. The PVCA will also discuss a grant the PVCA is pursuing through the Preservation Alliance which will allow us to offer homeowners sizeable funds for the restoration and repair of brick sidewalks. It's an opportunity that has the potential to upgrade the physical integrity of many of our blocks.

George Poulin

The Porch at 30th Street Station Opens



*Photos of the Porch and the dedication celebration
by: Plan Philly/Eyes on the street via Flickr*



THE PARKING LANE along 30th Station on Market Street is now a public space with outdoor seating. The project has been in development for eight years. The name of the new space was chosen from some 500 entries submitted by the general public.

Redesigning this space is part of an effort to make this area more pedestrian-friendly. The Porch will be hosting events such as Tuesday Lunch Serenades, Wednesday Farmers Market and Fitness Fridays. Circus Fridays will also take place from 4-6 p.m. This will be great for the kids to enjoy after a long week of school. There will be a Fall Festival on Saturday, November 19th. You can see more information on the Porch and the list of events on page 6.

The opening celebration and dedication ceremony was held on Wednesday November 2nd. The event showcased the space's versatility. The Give & Take Little Circus, West Philadelphia Orchestra and Spiral Q Puppet Theater performed throughout the area. In addition to the strolling performers, Drexel University's Recreational Athletics provided fitness demos. This public space will surely become a great attraction for the neighborhood, with comfortable seating in the sun or shade, ongoing performances, farmers' markets, yoga classes and many special events and festivities.

NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 pm, Monday, November 21st
Metropolitan Baptist Church
3500 Baring Street