

## The Barnes Foundation



Northwestern aerial view of the Barnes Foundation from the Ben Franklin Parkway.

Scheduled to be completed late in 2011, the Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia is the first major addition to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in over sixty years and will become a vital part of the city's cultural corridor. Construction is slated to begin in the fall of 2009.

Designed by Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects, the Barnes respects the distinctive nature of its Foundation, preserving the experience of the existing galleries in Merion, PA. It will also provide space to focus on the Foundation's core ideals of education and connection to the landscape.

The two-story, 93,000-square-foot building, with an additional level below grade, will house the Foundation's collection of Impressionist, Post-Impressionist and early Modern paintings, African sculpture, Pennsylvania Dutch decorative arts, and other important works. The collection will be displayed in 12,000 square feet of exhibition space that replicates the scale, proportion and configuration of the original galleries in Merion. The galleries will include a classroom on each floor to facilitate teaching, as well as an internal garden. In addition, vastly improved lighting will enable visitors to see the art in a more natural setting.

The new building will provide significant space for classrooms, a 150-seat auditorium on the lower level, as well as much-needed facilities for painting conservation and research on the second floor. In addition a 5,000- square-foot Special Exhibitions Gallery will be equipped with 16-foot-high ceilings that can accommodate large-scale art installations. The building also will include a 50-seat café with a courtyard for outdoor dining and a gift shop.



Councilman Darrell L. Clarke and Mayor Michael Nutter attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the Barnes Foundation.

## “Wakisha” New Charter School in North Philadelphia

The 5th Council District welcomes Wakisha Charter School, one of the most successful alternative learning institutions in the City. The schools' teachers, staff, students and parents celebrated as they broke ground at their \$8.5 million new home.

Located at 900 W. Jefferson Street, Wakisha Charter School will be a 53,000 square foot, two-story education center that will serve 400 students (initially). The design concept focuses on small learning communities. Plans include modern classrooms, science and technology labs, a new cafeteria and a newly constructed gymnasium. Wakisha also plans to provide open spaces for community residents and public meetings.

Completion of construction is expected in late 2010, with an opening date in 2011.



Councilman Clarke at the groundbreaking ceremony for the newest charter school in North Philadelphia “Wakisha”.

## Community Athletic Leagues Excel

Despite challenging times there is a resurgence in community volunteerism in the 5th District. Resembling years past, men and women alike are creating positive competitive activities for young people, and providing a greater level of community mentorship.

Athletic Leagues have become a beacon for youth and parents looking for positive recreational activity. These organized groups tout teamwork and good sportsmanship. They also stress the importance of excelling in school, and maintaining good character.

The associations are shining examples of community participation in the physical, mental, and social growth of area youth. Athletic leagues are strongly active in several areas throughout the District. Contact the 5th District Council office for more information on leagues in your neighborhood.



Councilman Clarke presenting the coaches and directors of the Strawberry Mansion All-Star Baseball League a resolution in Philadelphia City Council.

## 5th District Expands Mixed Housing “Warnock Village”

A collaborative effort involving Philadelphia Housing Authority's Executive Director Carl R. Greene, State Senator Shirley Kitchen and Councilman Clarke has culminated in the construction of “Warnock Village”, a multiphase mixed-use housing development.

When completed the development will feature 50 affordable rental homes for families, a three story building with 45 apartment units for seniors, office and retail space, a community room, and an accessible green roof.

The ribbon cutting was recently held for Phase I of Warnock Village, which features multiple units with central air, carpeting, modern kitchens and Energy Star appliances.



Pictured is Phase I of the Warnock Village mixed use development.

## New Senior Housing Developments



Haven Peniel Senior Homes



Mt. Tabor Cyber Village

These projects above received approximately \$4 million from the City of Philadelphia, providing affordable housing for senior residents. Pictured above left is Haven Peniel located at 23rd & Turner in North Philadelphia. For more information call 215.787.0400. Above right is Mt. Tabor Cyber Village located at 7th and Girard also in North Philadelphia. For more information call 215.625.0902.



## Penn Treaty Special Services District (PTSSD)



Councilman Clarke joined by members of Penn Treaty Special Services District.

Penn Treaty Special Services District (PTSSD) is an independent 501(c)(3) created to maintain and improve services to the community surrounding the SugarHouse Casino. The district will address quality of life issues impacting residents as well as make physical improvements, sponsor community activities and mitigate the impact of the casino on the area.

After more than two years of negotiations with SugarHouse, and through the dedication and hard work of outstanding neighborhood leaders, funding was secured through a Community Benefits Agreement (CBA). PTSSD has obtained the initial CBA payment of \$175,000, and the ultimate commitment will eventually increase to \$1,000,000 per year.

In the short term, SugarHouse will directly and indirectly create an estimated 1,400 temporary jobs, many being skilled construction opportunities. When Phase I of the project is completed, SugarHouse has projected creating about 1,100 permanent, high-quality new jobs. The Casino is also estimated to create more than 2,000 new retail and hospitality jobs in the area and 2,600 jobs in tangential service industries and local businesses. Sharing in the benefit are the communities of Fishtown, Northern Liberties, South Kensington and Old Richmond.

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# 5TH DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

News for Residents of The Fifth Council District

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### 5th District Happenings



Walmart Regional Manager John Mims, Councilmembers Darrell L. Clarke & William K. Greenlee at Lutheran Settlement House delivering some of 600 turkeys to seniors in the 5th Council District during the holiday season.



Councilman Clarke is seen with from l-r James Carter of Greater Brewerytown CDC, Denise McGregor Armbrister of the Wachovia Regional Foundation, Rebecca Johnson of Fairmount CDC for The Brewerytown Neighborhood Plan check presentation.



Councilman Clarke seen with, to his immediate left, 107.9 WRNB radio personality Dyana Williams addresses the audience of the MLK Jr. Recreation Center's Villa Literacy Lyrics project launch.



Councilman Clarke speaks with students at Benjamin Franklin High School where, along with local restaurant City View Pizza & Grille, helped to serve over 300 dinners to 5th District students and their families.



Dear Friends,

I would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

Our City and Nation were confronted with many challenges in 2009. Economic unrest and instability threatened our neighborhoods and left many businesses and people in dire financial condition.

In these trying times please know that the 5th District Council Office is working diligently to strengthen our community. Job creation and business support are of paramount concern. In 2010 we look forward to progressing on several initiatives aimed at restoring community stability.

As always, we maintain a steadfast commitment to improving the quality of life in the 5th District and our City.

## Commercial Corridor Improvements



Councilmembers Darrell L. Clarke & William K. Greenlee updated on Girard Avenue Streetscape

More than \$6.2 million has been secured for the 5th Council District through the "Restore Streetscape Project". This program focuses on revitalizing commercial corridors and improving their viability. It also provides foundation for small businesses, incentivizing them to reinvest and provide local employment. Projects such as street lighting, tree planting, sidewalk repairs, and façade treatments are slated for Fairmount Avenue, Girard Avenue, Cecil B. Moore Avenue, Germantown Avenue, Lehigh Avenue and Erie Avenue. Beautification projects currently underway include murals and \$400,000 in design improvements along the Fair-

## LEGISLATIVE CORNER



Councilman Clarke recently introduced legislation aimed at increasing the efficiency of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Bills 090591, 090588 and Resolution 090626 will revise the composition of the Zoning Board making it easier to establish a quorum. The L&I Commissioner will be an alternate member who may replace any absent or disqualified appointed member. These measures seek to enhance the efficiency of the Zoning Board allowing it more expeditiously consider zoning cases.

mount Avenue streetscape, design enhancements on Cecil B. Moore Avenue, between Broad & 20th St., and Girard Avenue commercial corridor restoration. Improvements along Girard Avenue have already significantly boosted private investment in the area.

5th District commercial corridors improvements are expected to increase in 2010