

08033

ISSUE 5 | 2025

Sculpted Stories:
BEAUTY AND GRACE
ON THE MOVE

**Still spreading
their (butterfly)
wings**

GIFT GUIDE

IN HISTORIC
HADDONFIELD

**Remodeling
Redefined:**
INSIDE THE
DESIGN-BUILD
DIFFERENCE

PRRKT STD
US Postage Paid
Newspaper
Media Group

ECRWSS
Local Residential Customer

**Haddonfield
Happenings**

This or That?

"WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY TRADITION?"

WE ASKED OUR NEIGHBORS,
HERE'S WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY!



Jessie, from Glassboro
"Looking at Christmas lights, that is my favorite. I love it here [in Haddonfield], all of the houses have the best here."



Nick, from Missouri
"I really like the white elephant with my family, where everyone buys a gift. Most of the time, it's funny gifts and there's like 60 people so it's chaos. It's so awesome!"



Caity, from Blackwood
"My favorite holiday traditions are going to see some holiday lights, going to any of the festivities, especially the ones that happen in Haddonfield, and making Christmas cookies with my family!"



**ACCREDITED
LUXURY HOME
SPECIALIST
Licensed in
NJ & PA**

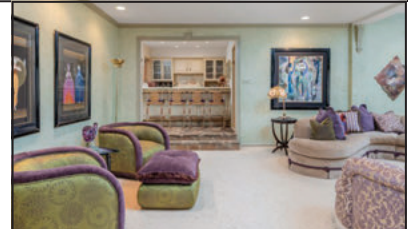
Anne E. Koons
The Only Name you need to know in Real Estate!
Direct 856-795-4709 Cell 856-261-5111
www.annekoonsrealestate.com



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HomeServices
Fox & Roach, REALTORS®



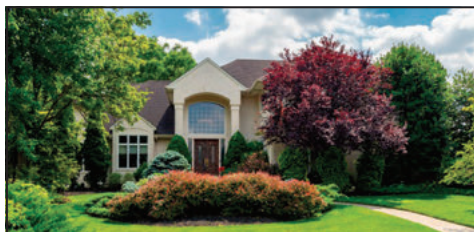
New Listing



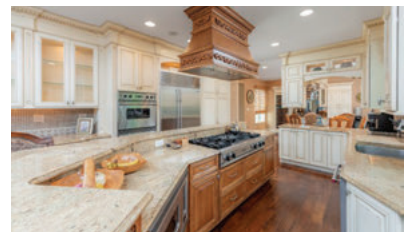
Cherry Hill Welcome to this custom classic-built home in the heart of the Woodcrest neighborhood in Cherry Hill, NJ. This lovingly maintained home spans approximately 5,900 square feet & has 5 bedrooms and 5 full bathrooms. When you walk into the house you enter an open foyer area with imported stone floor which leads either into the den with custom built-ins or the open family/living room that has abundance of natural light, custom window treatments, a dual side wood burning fireplace with imported stone surround, along with the door to back patio. From the family room you enter the gourmet kitchen with newer appliances, double ovens, two sinks, pantry, custom Poggenpohl cabinetry, built-in microwave, island with its own sink, garbage disposal, 2 pendant lights, recessed lighting, & an eating area with a bay window. The kitchen is open to the formal Dining room with pocket doors that allow for privacy. Off the kitchen is the full bath, laundry, & office/bonus room that has the possibility to be an in-law suite. Upstairs in the Primary bedroom are custom-built wall closets, multiple large walk-in closets, His & Her bathrooms, one with a bath soaking tub, and one with a walk-in shower. There are 4 additional bedrooms, two that use the hall bath, with the other two having a Jack & Jill bathroom. There is a bonus room off one of the bedrooms which could be used as a playroom or a storage area along with it having its own heating & air. The partial basement is finished along with a storage closet plus there is a crawl space area. The owner has done the following updates: Roof (2021), tankless water heater (2022), 3 HVAC systems, Exterior of the home repainted in 2023, & new insulation throughout entire attic as of October 2025. There is a full attic that can be used for storage, underground sprinkler system, central vac, security system & a 2 car garage. Step outside to the beautiful backyard that has a paver patio with built-in grill, extensive hardscaping, along with plenty of room for kids to play. A great house for entertaining that is only 2 blocks away from Bret Harle elementary which is in the award-winning Cherry Hill school district. Centrally located with easy access to major highways, the patio, convenience of nearby shopping, dining, major houses of worship, & quick access to Philadelphia and shore, come see this rare gem in Woodcrest. **Realistically priced at \$979,000**



Historic Borough of Lawnside Business Park Brand new, state of the art 225,000sf (divisible) flex/logistics buildings available. Excellent location with quick access to I-295 and NJ Turnpike, 10-minute drive to Philadelphia and < 15 miles from Philadelphia International Airport Located across the street from UPS distribution center and < 2 miles from FEDEX ground hub Short walk to Woodcrest PATCO station, Speedline into Philadelphia. Building Design: 36' clear height, ESFR Sprinkler System, Ample loading doors and truck court, 8,000 amps, office space built-to-suit, PILOT available. Great location for distribution, cold storage, and manufacturing uses. Give Anne a call for more information.



Cherry Hill Beautiful custom home on a cul de sac in Siena with professional landscape grounds with in-ground pool, jacuzzi along with a fire pit area. The backyard is great for entertaining with a huge patio off the family room and kitchen and total privacy. Walk into this lovely home with custom doors and glass side panels into a 2-story foyer with hardwood floors, curved staircase and custom chandelier. Large dining room with cathedral ceiling, recess lights, hardwood floors lots of bright sunshine thru the many windows and you have room for a very large table which is great for holidays. Custom Buzzetta Kitchen a real cooks delight with Viking, subzero and kitchen aid appliances and loads of storage. Granite countertops, custom tile backsplash, recess lighting, custom molding around cabinets, large center island with seating, hardwood floors, surround sound, plus a large eat in area, wine fridge & additional cabinet storage. Two story family room with a glass wall overlooking patio and backyard with gas fireplace, custom built-in and open to the kitchen area. This home has 4 large bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 1st floor office with built-ins. Large laundry room leading to a huge 3 car garage. The upstairs ac was replaced 3 years ago and the downstairs ac was replaced 8 years ago. Finish basement with full bath, lots of storage and great area for kids to entertain in. **Realistically priced at \$1,210,000**



08033

ISSUE 5 | 2025

VP OF ADVERTISING
ARLENE REYES

PUBLISHER
BRITTANY ROUGHT

MANAGING EDITOR
KATHY CHANG

ACCOUNT MANAGERS
PAUL MANGIAMELE
DOMINIQUE KULIKOWSKI
TATIANA GAMBINO
JENN ANDALORA
MEGAN MUDD

MARKETING CONSULTANTS
MADELYN GOLDFIELD
GABRIELLE QUIGG
KAREN RODIER
MICHELLE MANGIAMELE

LAYOUT/DESIGN
MARK HOMER

In this Issue:

- Sculpted Stories:**
Beauty and grace on the move 5
- Remodeling Redefined:
Inside the Design-Build Difference 8
- Still spreading their (butterfly) wings 11
- A gift guide in historic Haddonfield 15
- Influences down south:
A Q&A with Chef MJ 24
- Talk It Out: Why Communication with
Your Real Estate Agent is Everything 28
- Haddonfield Happenings 30

Cover Photo: Brian Spagna

lifestyles

MAGAZINE EVENTS

Visit Us Online at lifestyles.media

ADVERTISING
856-779-3800 Ext. 6920
lifestyles@donnelly.media



@lifestyles.media

08033

is a publication of Donnelly.Media,
1810 Underwood Blvd, Delran NJ 08075

A French-inspired
BYOB dining
experience, where
the food is simple,
uncomplicated and
down-to-earth



BOOK YOUR PRIVATE EVENT TODAY!
856.528.2282
For Reservations: thelittlehenbyob.com
Take out is Available

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY 4:30-8:30PM

220 KINGS HWY E • HADDONFIELD
Follow Us: @thelittlehenbyob

**I Saw You First
Imaging**
3D/4D/5D
Ultrasounds

Call or book online for appointment
609-510-8813
www.isawyoufirstimagingllc.com

Margie Cedrone

ARTISAN JEWELER



Featured Artist Christian Gatto
Text: 267-272-2236

[thejewelergatto](https://www.instagram.com/thejewelergatto)



Welcome to Margie Cedrone Artisan Jeweler!

Margie Cedrone Artisan Jewelers has been a trusted name in fine jewelry for over 30 years. Specializing in custom-made diamond jewelry, we are one of the few jewelers left in the area that still crafts the finest tailor-made pieces.

Our experienced jewelers have a passion for creating beautiful, unique jewelry that will last a lifetime. We take the time to understand your vision, and we work with you to create a piece that is truly special.

OPEN FOR APPOINTMENTS ONLY
121 Haddon Avenue
Haddon Township, NJ 08108
(215) 384-7155

**Please mention this ad for 10%
off your order of \$150 or more.**





tommy's
original

@TOMMYSORIGINAL

SCAN HERE
TO BOOK

APPOINTMENT
REQUIRED

[856]-524-1528



Give the Gift of Sustainability

SHOP LOCAL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Grab a one-of-a-kind gift or let us put together a custom gift basket for you!

therefillmarketnj.com
online ordering for pickup and delivery available

10 Haddon Ave. Haddon Township, NJ
856-285-7135
The Refill Market is a registered NJ Sustainable Business

Letter from the Editor:



Kathy Chang
EDITOR

Hello 08033! I am excited for you to check out our Holiday edition magazine dedicated to the lifestyle and community of Haddonfield.

We start our issue with "Beauty and Grace" with the bronze sculpture

"Ballerina." Sculpted by Barry Woods Johnston, "Ballerina" is 200 pounds and stands at 5 foot 4 inches tall at a width of 6 foot 6 by 3 feet on a granite base. "This is the most beautiful sculpture in our collection," Haddonfield Outdoor Sculpture Trust (HOST) founder Stuart Harting enthuses. "The public has reacted 100% positively to the 'Ballerina.'" Find the "Beauty and Grace" on page 5.

Next, we spread our butterfly wings with a Monarch Parade tradition at the Haddonfield Friends School. It delights the schoolchildren who participate annually as they dress up and walk around town, joined by family and the broader community. It is a tradition that students talk about years later. "My kids loved it," Head of School Matthew Sharp said. "All of the parents also rave about it." Follow the monarch on page 11.

We round our issue with a Q&A with Chef MJ, a powerhouse and multi-talented chef who specializes in personal chef services for dinner parties, creates customizable meal prep solutions, offers upscale catering services for wedding and corporate events, and does nutritional coaching to meet client's individualized goals. She also offers virtual cooking instructions. Chef MJ truly does it all. Find out how on page 24.

Our expert contributors share their expertise with "Remodeling Redefined: Inside the Design-Build Difference" on page 15 and "Talk it Out: Why Communication With Your Real Estate Agent is Everything" on page 30.

Our Holiday edition offers a Holiday Gift Guide in the historic downtown on Page 14 and look out for future community events in Haddonfield Happenings on page 30. On page 2 hear what your neighbors have to say, What is your favorite holiday tradition? All of this and more awaits on the pages ahead!

Enjoy!

Kathy Chang

Kathy Chang
Editor

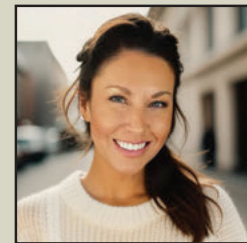
Expert Contributors

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN



Benita Cooper
Benita Cooper Architect
Benita Cooper Design

REAL ESTATE



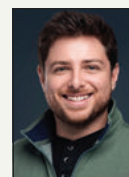
Christy Oberg, Realtor®
Weichert Premier
Haddonfield

REMODELING



Ken Endt
Cipriani Remodeling
Solutions

Contributors



Doug McConnell



Christine Barcia



Debra Wallace



Mary Abitanto



Christine Harkinson



Brian Spagna



PHOTO BY DOUG MCCONNELL

TRUST WANTS TO RELOCATE 'BALLERINA' TO MAKE IT MORE
VISIBLE AND APPROACHABLE

BEAUTY AND GRACE ON THE MOVE

By **Christine Barcia**

It was a ballerina's lunge that inspired the bronze sculpture at Haddon Avenue and Ellis Street.

Fittingly titled "Ballerina," she has graced the intersection since 2019.

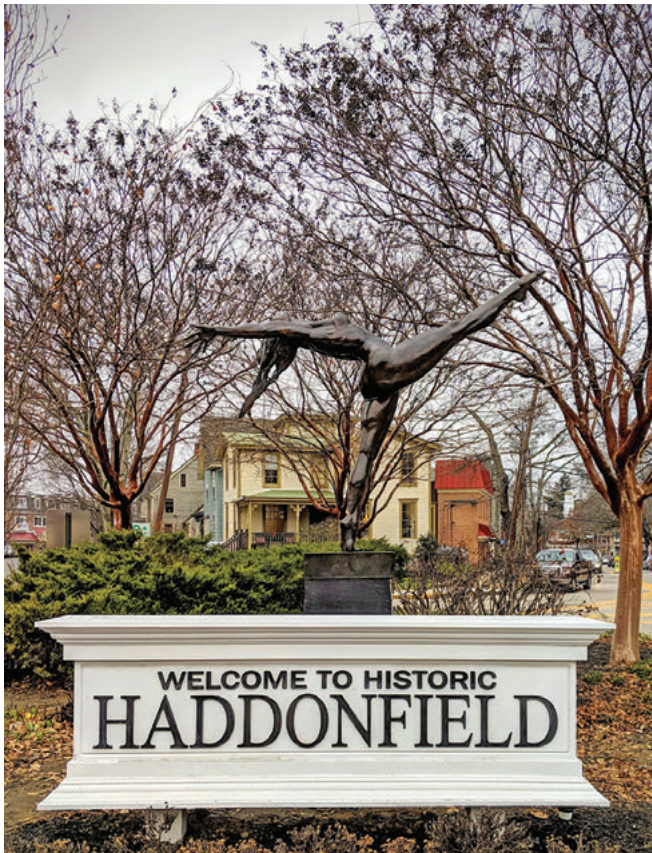
"In New York, I saw a production of 'Dance,' and the lead dancer's lunge stuck in my mind for years," explains Barry Woods Johnston, who sculpted the piece in Italy in 1987 with an Olympic skater he was dating as his model.

see BALLERINA page 6

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HADDONFIELD OUTDOOR SCULPTURE TRUST

The 200-pound "Ballerina" sculpture at 5 foot 4 inches tall at a width of 6 foot 6 by 3 feet on a granite base. The Barry Woods Johnston piece was dedicated in 2019.





BALLERINA *from page 5*

The award-winning American artist says the lunge was metaphorical, representing his “lunge back” to the U.S. from Italy. Johnston - according to his website - is known for “capturing energized form and anatomy in motion with robust, gravity-defying figures.”

Residents have been gifted with sculptures adorning the borough’s public spaces since 2014, the result of a partnership between the Haddonfield Outdoor Sculpture Trust (HOST) and the town’s educational public/private partnership.

Haddonfield now has about 20 pieces downtown. The goal is to continue making the borough into a center for juried outdoor sculpture, notes the HOST website.

“Barry Woods Johnston’s sculptures are acclaimed for their vitality and vision, as well as their elegance and masterful rendering,” explains HOST founder and chair Stuart Harting. “It is movement captured in three-dimensional form ...

“As you look at ‘Ballerina,’ enjoy its unmistakable quality and the narrative richness which defines art of enduring value.”

The 200-pound “Ballerina” stands at 5 foot 4 inches tall at a width of 6 foot 6 by 3 feet on a granite base. It was dedicated in 2019.

“This is the most beautiful sculpture in our collection,” Harting enthuses. “The public has reacted 100% positively to the ‘Ballerina.’”

Yet the piece might be moved to a different location in the near future.

NDA GOLD CARD

LUXURY, LOYALTY, AND
LUMINOUS SKIN — ALL IN ONE
EXCLUSIVE CARD

NDATM

AESTHETICS

This card is non-transferable and can only be used by the member.

THE MEMBERSHIP THAT PAYS FOR ITSELF—
UNLOCK MASSIVE SAVINGS WITH EVERY VISIT!

701 E. MAIN ST
MOORESTOWN NJ 08057
(609) 997-2639

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE
FOLLOW US ON @NDAMEDSPA

"The 'Ballerina' is not as visible or approachable as we would like," Harting points out, "so we are considering many locations ... Stay tuned for which property we decide to move her to."

Johnston dedicated himself to sculpture after earning a bachelor's in architecture from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1969, according to his website. He then studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, the National Academy of Design and the Enzo Cardini and Romanelli Studios in Florence, Italy.

"Subjects are derived from religion, literature and contemporary dilemmas," he observes.

Joseph Carolfi, a sculpture caster and mold maker who first met Johnston in the mid-'70s, notes the latter's many talents, including architecture and concert piano.

"I have worked on many of Barry's sculptures, mostly his lifesize pieces," Carolfi shares. "I'm just a craftsman who works for him."

Meanwhile, "Ballerina" will continue to be a focal point for community engagement no matter where it relocates in



Haddonfield.

"Public art acts as an anchor that makes community spaces more inviting and engaging," notes "The Impact of Public Sculptures and Statues: Enhancing Communities and Inspiring Creativity," an article from Rethinking the Future.

"When thoughtfully designed and integrated into a location," adds the global platform dedicated to architecture and design, "public art has the power to re-

juvenate neighborhoods, spark conversation and enhance local pride and identity." — 08033

For more information about sculptor Barry Woods Johnston, visit www.sculptor.johnston.com. For more on the Haddonfield Outdoor Sculpture Trust, go to <https://haddonfieldsculpture.org>.



**CATERING
AVAILABLE**

856-546-6370

31 N. Davis Avenue • Audubon, NJ 08106
Cuthbert Boulevard at Davis Avenue

www.TheShamrockDeli.com





By **Ken Endt**,
Cipriani Remodeling Solutions
Expert Contributor

Remodeling Redefined: *Inside the Design- Build Difference*

For most homeowners, remodeling starts with inspiration - a vision for how their home could look, feel, and function. What many fail to anticipate is how complex turning that vision into reality can actually be. Defining their scope of work, choosing finishes, finding reliable trade partners, juggling timelines, and staying within budget can be incredibly overwhelming. That is why more homeowners than ever choose design-build remodeling, a proven process that brings every part of your project under one roof.



At Cipriani Remodeling Solutions, design-build means a seamless partnership between designers, estimators, and builders who all share a singular goal: fostering collaboration with the goal of creating a beautiful space through an enjoyable experience for the homeowner. From your first conversation to your final walk-through, you work with one team, not a patchwork of separate companies. That unity keeps communication clear and decisions simple, allowing the process to move forward with confidence and consistency.

Every project begins with listening. Your design-build journey starts by understanding how you live and what matters most to your family. Maybe you want a kitchen organized for entertainment or a bathroom that feels like a private spa retreat. Our award-winning designers translate those needs into a concept that blends comfort, function, and style, while the estimating and production teams stay involved to ensure every choice aligns with your investment goals. When creativity and practicality work side by side, you end up with a design that not only looks stunning but also feels comfortable to live in.

Once your plan is set, the team will bring it to life. The designer who envisioned the space works directly with the project manager who builds it. Trade partners are briefed with detailed drawings, material specifications, and clear expectations. Every person who touches your project understands the vision and their role in it. This alignment ensures the craftsmanship matches the quality of the design.

Because our estimating team is involved from the beginning, your investment is managed with care from the first concept to the final finish. Material selections are reviewed early; availability and pricing are confirmed before orders are placed, and any potential adjustments are communicated clearly. This thorough planning protects your budget and keeps the project on track from start to finish.

see REMODELING page 10



SAVOR IT

YOUR NEW
KITCHEN IS WAITING

Schedule a **FREE Consultation**
with South Jersey's Most-Awarded
Design-Build Home Remodeling Team



Get Started

DESIGNED FOR YOU. BUILT FOR LIFE.



Remodeling
Solutions

CALL 856.422.3994
VISIT CIPRIANIWAY.COM



REMODELING

from page 10

Equally important is managing the homeowner's experience. Your project manager provides regular updates face-to-face and through technology. You'll always know the progress of your project and upcoming milestones. Our crews treat your home with respect, keeping the

jobsite safe and clean each day. Protective coverings, organized work areas, and careful scheduling help minimize disruption. It is the kind of care that turns what could be a stressful process into one that homeowners actually enjoy.

As the Design Team Leader at Cipriani Remodeling Solutions, I've seen firsthand how much homeowners appreciate accountability. Design-build is not just

about efficiency; it's about having one team that takes full ownership of your project. When everyone works from the same plan, communication stays clear, and homeowners will always know who to call, what to expect, and how decisions are made. That accountability builds trust, and trust is what makes the experience exceptional.

The design-build approach delivers more than a finished project; it delivers confidence. You see your ideas evolve with professional guidance and precise execution. You get a team that anticipates challenges instead of reacting to them. Most of all, you gain a home that is tailored to your life today and stands strong for years to come.

At Cipriani Remodeling Solutions, you get more than just an estimate. You get a complete design-build experience that turns inspiration into reality and creates a space that feels personal, lasting, and unmistakably yours - a space truly designed for you and built for life. — 08033

Candlelight Shopping

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 19

EXTENDED SHOPPING HOURS
IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN HADDONFIELD

CAROLERS & LIVE MUSIC + VISITS FROM MRS. CLAUS + E-CARRIAGE RIDES + YULETIDE AT THE MUSEUM

downtown
HADDONFIELD
downtownhaddonfield.com

Roll on by
AND RELISH IN THE FUN

**Come for the Hot Dogs.
Leave with the
secret sauce!**

211 Kings Highway
Haddonfield, NJ 08033
More info: @hautedoghaddonfield
We can't wait to see you!



Still Spreading their (butterfly) wings

STUDENTS AT HADDONFIELD FRIENDS CONTINUE
THE TRADITION OF THE MONARCH PARADE

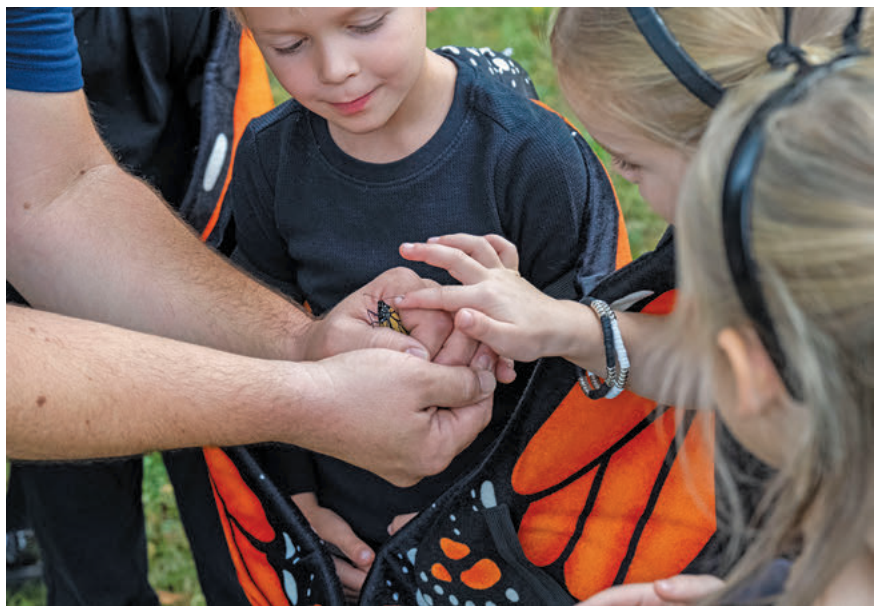
By Debra Wallace

A more than 30-year-old tradition took place in the borough on the morning of Sept. 29. The enduring monarch butterfly parade at the Haddonfield Friends School once again delighted schoolchildren who participate annually by dressing up and walking around town, joined by family and the broader community.

Jill Horner has a deep personal history with Haddonfield Friends School as co-chair of its PTO. She attended the school as a child and now has a sixth-grade son there. Her older son also attended, and years later, still talks about “monarchs and their migration to Mexico.”

That appreciation for the “lovely” monarch butterfly extends across town.

see BUTTERFLY page 12



PHOTOS BY DOUG MCCONNELL

“It is one of my favorite events of the year, regardless of whether or not my child is involved any longer,” says Jill Horner, co-chair of the PTO at Haddonfield Friends School, of the annual parade.



BUTTERFLY

from page 11

"A lot of merchants come out of their stores," Horner says, "and then all of the people who are having coffee or strolling down the street tend to join in the parade. Even the firefighters step out of the firehouse to cheer on the kids."

All the support, she adds, contributes to "the students' sense of accomplishment with everything they've learned. It brings all of the learning to life, so that the children can feel proud walking down the street wearing their butterfly wings."

The parade is among the decades-old traditions at Haddonfield Friends.

"Our goal," Head of School Matthew Sharp points out, "is for joyful and inquisitive young minds to carry the light of confidence, critical thinking, creativity and stewardship in a diverse community of learners."

The students write lessons and create posters, and they take milkweed home to attract the monarchs every year. Before the parade, they gather in the Meeting House to make a presentation. Eighth-graders join the activities to show their support, as does the rest of the community.

"For me, it's a beautiful, well-rounded, hands-on learning experience," notes Horner, "passing on values and traditions that make our school so special. It is one of my favorite events of the year, regardless of whether or not my child is involved any longer."

Horner also appreciates the PTO for making an already tight-knit community even more enjoyable.

"That's the joy of our PTO," she observes, "because we can tailor events and activities to what the families and the kids really enjoy."

In addition to his leadership role, Sharp is also a Haddonfield Friends School parent whose two sons shared their parade experience.

"One is in eighth grade, and the other is in high school, yet they still talk about it," he marvels. "I appreciate the tradition that has been going on for decades, because it gets the students involved in science and critical thinking."



see BUTTERFLY page 13

BUTTERFLY

from page 12

Before they participate in butterfly play, students examine milkweed with their microscopes, look at the eggs, spend time with hands-on projects in the school's garden and also learn about the monarch's life cycle.

"... There is a lot of milkweed growing all around us, and in July, August and September," Sharp explains. "We leave it, label it and then we can see the eggs getting caught. The first week of school, we are ready to look through the microscope. Since it starts in kindergarten, it's such an awesome experience.

"My kids loved it," he continues. "All of the parents also rave about it."

The project - in which kindergartners and eighth-graders are buddies - finally culminates in the parade, before which students gather at the Meeting House and head to the graveyard.

"I love how the entire school is involved," Sharp says, "and that the parents, eighth-grade buddies and the community are also involved." — 08033





Sebastian Builders
When Quality Counts™

856-988-3243

PROTECT YOUR BIGGEST INVESTMENT!
We Are Your Local Experts! Family owned and operated.



**STORM
DAMAGE
SPECIALISTS**

ROOFING • SIDING • GUTTERS







- Lifetime Non-Pro Rated Labor & Material
- 10 Year Factory Certified Workmanship Warranty On All Components Of The Roof
- 25 year Algae Resistant Shingles

FINANCING AVAILABLE
Up to 12 Months No Interest • (restrictions apply)

Emergency Services Available!
Call for a **FREE ESTIMATE!**
*Restrictions apply.

856-988-3243
www.SebastianBuilders.com

NJ Lic. #13VH01078900
GAFME Cert # ME11905







Voorhees
Ballet Theatre
Presents...



The Nutcracker

December 5th @ 7pm
December 6th @ 11am*
December 6th @ 5pm
December 7th @ 2pm

vbtnj.com

SUGAR PLUM FAIRY TEA
DECEMBER 7TH @ 3:30 PM
BEFORE THE SHOW
SPECIAL TICKET REQUIRED

**Sensory friendly performance.*

PERFORMANCES HELD AT THE VOORHEES MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATRE

40 Fabulous! FEMALES

WOMEN'S NETWORKING EVENT

ACCEPTING
NOMINATIONS TO
JANUARY 15TH.



Do you know a fabulous female breaking barriers, trailblazing in their personal or professional career, and just worth celebrating?



Winners will be contacted by January 31 directly at the contact information provided. All winners will be invited to join us at our celebration on March 5 at the Camden County Boathouse. If you need more information or are interested in sponsorship opportunities available at the March 5 event, scan here or email us at events@donnelly.media today!

lifestyles
MAGAZINES & EVENTS
Donnelly
MEDIA





Gift Guide

2025

‘Linger
on the
sidewalk
where the
neon signs,
are pretty’



By Christine Harkinson

You could say that Historic Had-donfield can hold its own with a story that travels back centuries, but it's much more than that.

It's a special place that's chock full of day and nighttime fun.

With over 200 shops and restaurants, quaint spots that offer spots to take a rest such as a gazebo and the aroma of winter now in the air, it's hard to ignore all that's to be found on either side of King's Highway - the main hub for the downtown.

And nothing spells the holiday season better than the sight of the wreath-adorned light posts, the magically lit trees and the hustle and bustle of the pedestrian and vehicle traffic, all to give that holiday rush an added layer of excitement.

Photos by Brian Spagna



A GIFT GUIDE IN HISTORIC HADDONFIELD



Earlier this year Niche named Haddonfield among the best places to live in New Jersey, with one current resident highlighting its “wonderful, walkable community, diverse downtown dining and retail, beautiful, wooded trails, unique homes of all sizes and great schools.”

It’s easy to see why. It’s also been chosen as one of the best places to live, shop or dine in the Delaware Valley by Philadelphia Magazine and the readers of the Courier Post have voted the locale as the Best Downtown Shopping Area more than once. With just a short ride from both the Ben Franklin and Walt Whitman bridges it’s easy to find, but maybe that’s because the town with so much history is simply hard to resist.

The PATCO Haddonfield Station sits in the heart – it’s on the PATCO Speedline. It offers daily parking, bicycle racks and full ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility for its commuters, along with direct access to the downtown business district. It serves its purpose as a transportation hub.



I hopped on the Speedline for a pit stop in the city and decided to swing back to Haddonfield for some last-minute fun before the day came to an end. It wasn't long before I stumbled across Home on Haddon, a home goods store that isn't your ordinary home store.

Since I don't know what to expect, my vision for Home on Haddon is that of a combination of hardware and home décor. But I'm instantly greeted by two cheery window displays on either side that can't be missed. With fall fading away and Dec. 25 not far off, I might peek in the window to see what gadgets I could make use of before I move on, but that's all part of the fun.

Catherine Kaplan, founder of Home on Haddon, opened her own store because she wanted to help people bring beautiful things into their house or gift to another. It's no surprise to have discovered that she was an interior designer for more than 20 years, given that I felt like I was at home when I stepped inside. It's easy to take what's right in my face and imagine how it would spruce up the home, whether it's that accent pillow that suits my style, that Christmas tree that's already glittery and bright, the cookware that's appropriate for any recipe, the wall fixtures that I found myself slipping away in or the candles that I can't help but take a whiff of.

What's stated on Home on Haddon's website is not a joke: they strive to create one-of-a-kind décor and home accents that are curated out of the best quality items, at a reasonable price. I couldn't help but notice that like other shops downtown, this gem follows just that. While I'm browsing through an array of jewelry, baby and kid's accessories, pet accessories and other affordable items, I'm comforted by the thought that I won't be breaking the bank in this place.





Now, don't get me wrong. I'm just as intrigued by the treasures that I can find in the Quaker community as much as the next person, but I'm also a sucker for sweets and treats. Take for example Duffy's Fine Chocolates. It's a little further downtown but still within walking distance. Like Home on Haddon, I found another window display that had remnants of fall lingering when I gazed upon the orange pumpkins, but it was all too welcoming. Charles J. Duffy and his wife Elizabeth started Duffy's Delicious Candies from their home in Gloucester City in 1922. It's a confectionary that's been passed down through five generations, and the candy - everything from the signature chocolates to the caramels, the confections, the candy apples, the assortments and more - is consistently handcrafted in small batches to ensure the finest quality. But suppose you know someone who likes their sweets with their treats and you want to surprise them? Well, you're in luck because on the shop's website lies Byers' Choice figurines, dolls that would do just the trick. Be sure to follow Duffy's Fine Chocolates on Facebook and Instagram for live updates and make sure not to miss this spot when you're in town.

As someone who enjoys herself a timeless classic, I can't help but faintly hear Petula Clark's hit song "Downtown" in my mind when I'm reminded that Haddonfield embodies just a snippet of the lyrics: "Linger on the sidewalk where the neon signs are pretty." And while a traffic light or a stop sign doesn't seem appealing at first sight, something about the glow feels different downtown. But before I got lost in that thought, I continued my journey and I couldn't help but briefly catch Haddy the dinosaur, the bronze statue sculpted by artist John Giannotti that pays tribute to the first nearly complete dinosaur skeleton - the *Hadrosaurus foulkii* - discovered in the United States in 1958. Let's face it, Haddy's hard to miss at 8-feet-tall by 18-feet-long.



While my mind has been on what I can find for the adults, I can't forget about the little ones. My nephews and niece are growing faster than I could have imagined and time seems like a thief. Snuggled between The Spice and Tea Exchange of Haddonfield and nineNORTH, a men's and women's clothing boutique, sits a children's consignment shop, Dandelion District. This boutique is just the ticket for reasonably priced clothing for babies, toddlers and kids, with almost everything coming in a variety of sizes, brands, styles and more. Think of that cute, little quilted bomber jacket for breezy weather. But now we're preparing for winter and finding warm pajamas is a top priority. Or maybe a denim jacket that would keep them cozy at school? But what else goes with the clothes? It's all about the accessories and Dandelion District has the headbands, the shoes, the hats and more that not many would have trouble mixing and matching. And for parents who want to shop without having to be distracted by their little ones - no matter how cute - there's a safe space for the kids to play and make new friends.

I also discovered A Little Whimsy, a whimsical children's boutique that opened in 2020. Owner Halle Hird shops for the baby, children's and gift shop and passes her finds on to the consumer. She wants her business to be a fun place for kids and moms alike, and she fills the shelves with products designed and made by other moms, Black and minority makers and designers who consider the impact their products make on our planet. A Little Whimsy stays true to its name as I felt like I stepped into something reminiscent of the board game Candy Land with the bright colors, the fun music, the variety of toys such as Dinkum Dolls and Maileg (Danish designed toys created to inspire children's favorite playtime stories by bringing storybook whimsy to every day moments), the children's books including "A Horse Called Now" and "Maisy Goes to the Local Bookstore" and, of course, the kid's clothes. There's so much more to discover through the shop's website, where I wouldn't have a problem browsing for just the right product for my small, loved ones.



I'd be amiss to ignore the restaurants and cafés that feature something for everyone. Saxby's Haddonfield for coffee lovers or those looking to get their work done in a quiet hub. Mare Monte for the ones looking for Italian cuisine. Across the pond there's The British Chip Shop. Crust N Fire for pizza lovers. Passariello's Haddonfield - a mix of pizza and Italian. Gouldsbarger's for the good old-fashioned hamburger. But what's a good meal without an adult beverage? King's Road Brewing Company, originally founded in 2016 by five friends, came to a town that had been dry since 1873. King's Road has proudly served some of the region's freshest and finest hand-crafted ales and lagers to plenty of locals and visitors alike. But I seem to gravitate to spots that offer breakfast, lunch and dinner, and at The Bistro at Haddonfield, that's where you'll find a space designed for quality and comfort.

When I have the chance to wander through a boutique and discover the rarities I won't see elsewhere, that's always a win. Bruce Epstein, owner of Just Bella - Fashion Boutique, takes monthly shopping trips to New York City to bring the newest and brightest bags, accessories and fashion jewelry to the region. Featured handbag brands include MZ Wallace, Love Moschino, Hobo bags and more. Epstein's jewelry fits those occasions that need an extra shine, such as weddings, special events (think of those upcoming holiday work parties) and nights out, from the diamond rings to the earrings, necklaces, bracelets and more. The shelves are aligned with the most pristine items that lock in a gaze and it wasn't hard not to be impressed. With Just Bella, there's something special there.





I can't help but cherish the valuables I have that others have made just for my taste. And some of those valuables are simple items that came together with a hook and a thread. While it may be a few blocks away from downtown, Hooked Fine Yarn Boutique has just what every yarn enthusiast needs. Materials so soft, so bright and unique that instantly when I walked through the door, my mind was set at ease. And given that a few of my family members - maybe yours too - utilize crocheting to express their creativity, this place was just the spot to explore. With a wide selection of quality yarns in a variety of natural fibers, it's a friendly shop that offers fine notions for knitting and crochet. Samples come in colors such as Pumpkin To Talk About, Be Hoppy, Born in a Barn and Yellow Submarine. Patterns like Daisy Pink and Decagon are sure to be something not found in your typical shop. But it doesn't stop there. Hooked also offers classes for beginners to advanced level, project kits, accessories like needles and hooks, books and magazines filled with tips and tricks, gift ideas and more. And it wouldn't be complete without the friendly staff on hand to assist you like they did me with what I had in mind. 'Tis the season to get "hooked" on this place and if you're looking for more, feel free to check out their online store.

Ylvia Asal came to the United States from Turkey in 2003; what she considers the start of her second life. In 2018, she was chosen as a New Jersey State Council on the Arts Folk and Traditional Artist Fellow and as one of 20 South Jersey artists to participate in the Creative Capital program. She opened her business - Ylvia Asal Studio - Anatolian Cultures and Arts - in Ventnor City in 2012. Six years later she would relocate to downtown Haddonfield, where she now teaches a range of techniques that include embroidery on paper, crochet, knitting and hand embroidery, just to name a few. Her work is deeply rooted in Oya, the intricate lace tradition of Anatolia, a centuries-old handmade craft passed through generations, and



her mission is simple: to bring people together through a celebration of Anatolian arts and cultures. It's clear to see that Asal's studio is rich in her culture, with hand-crafted lace jewelry, bags, clothes, and art around every corner. As someone who works with mediums like clay, wax, fabric and Ebru (the traditional Turkish art of paper marbling), she hopes to one day establish a larger space for preservation, collaboration and cultural exchange. Asal is all about celebrating the labor and artistry of women. I couldn't help but notice how apparent it was that everything she makes comes from the heart, not just from her roots. It's a can't-miss, colorful shop located right in the heart of Haddonfield, so be sure to put it on the list this holiday season.

It's always the decorated window displays that get me every time. With

so many businesses that focus on home décor, it's hard to choose the one that suits you without visiting a few. But I found myself lost in Haddonfield's Restored Antiquity, not a bad thing at all. Adorned with a sense of charm, this country-chic space, also located in uptown Pitman, has all kinds of finds from candles and soaps to floral and garden, kitchen, seasonal and Boho style. From front to back, Restored Antiquity will have the average holiday shopper walking through a winter wonderland with Christmas trees and the sprinkle of sparkly lights leading the way.

I can see why many people cannot resist Haddonfield. As we prepare for the holidays, make it a priority to slow down, take it all in and enjoy what's left of 2025. And there's no better place to do that than historic Haddonfield. — 08033



Great kids *Going places*

"MFS students are not solely scholars; they are thinkers and leaders, driven by their passions to make original, collaborative contributions to their school community and beyond."

— **Mason Levens '25**

—1785—
MFS Moorestown
Friends School
Age 3 through Grade 12

Visit campus for a tour or
attend our next Open House:

Saturday, February 7, 10 a.m.

For more information or to RSVP,
call (856) 914-4427,
or visit www.mfriends.org.

Hometown: Mullica Hill

Activities/Honors: National Merit Commended Scholar; Student Government Clerk and Class Treasurer; Model UN Club President - 2x Best Delegate, 2x Distinguished Delegate; WordsWorth Student Media - News Editor; Investment Club Co-Founder and Co-President; Senior Mathematics Tutor at nonprofit startup; Varsity Cross Country - Captain; Varsity Fencing; Global Leadership Summit Germany Delegate; Cum Laude Society; National Spanish Honor Society

Memorable Academic Project: Authoring a book and teaching an elective course to MFS students about the conceptual "why" behind mathematics for Capstone Project

Senior Internship: Friends School Mullica Hill

College: Columbia University





Influences down south: *A Q&A with Chef MJ*

By **Mary Abitanto**

Chef Mitzi Jackson, or Chef MJ, is a powerhouse and multi-talented chef who specializes in personal chef services for dinner parties, creates customizable meal prep solutions, offers upscale catering services for wedding and corporate events, and does nutritional coaching to meet client's individualized goals. She also offers virtual cooking instructions. Chef MJ truly does it all. I had the pleasure of interviewing her to talk about her business and see what she's cooking up!

When did your passion for cooking start?

Growing up in South Carolina, Chef MJ's mom and dad (and relatives on both sides of the family) were all excellent cooks – all with different specialties. As the oldest of seven children, she always stayed by her mom's side in the kitchen – that's when the interest was sparked. Some of her dishes have a southern spin which was influenced by growing up in the south.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHEF MITZI

Years later, she worked in corporate America, but due to downsizing, lost her job and found herself on a different trajectory. She would cook for her friend, an NFL agent, on the sidelines (no pun intended) to help support her family. Her talent was soon clearly displayed in the kitchen, and her friend strongly encouraged her to pursue cooking for more clients. She decided to go back to school for a culinary degree at Johnson and Wales University in Charlotte, North Carolina – all the while cooking for professional athletes like Shaq Thompson who at the time played for the Carolina Panthers (and now for the Buffalo Bills) and Charlotte's Hornets players. Although most of her business is in New Jersey and the Philly area, she has expanded to a new location in Charlotte – back to her roots.

Tell me about your meal prep services and what you offer? Do you have weekly meal prep?

Chef MJ's meal prep service is very customizable for professional athletes, diabetics, and cancer patients and more. She works with a nutritionist to maximize nutrition and targets meals based on individualized goals. She tries to keep things interesting and varied for her clients. She will pack it up and drop it off twice weekly to clients to maintain maximum freshness.

Tell me about your personal chef services that you do for small private parties up to 20 people.

"These events are more lavish and very detailed oriented," she says. Chef MJ will coordinate all aspects of the parties from the tablescape, food, and even color coordinate things in some instances right down to the food. She wants to create long-lasting memories for her valued clients. Chef MJ partners with Airbnb and guests can book a house with her as the chef through the Airbnb website.

What's the most requested food at these parties?

Smoked gouda macaroni and cheese which is next level and jumbo muffins which are stuffed. For example, cornbread muffins with collard greens. Southern with a twist – hence the business name Twist by Chef MJ.

You cater for large parties, weddings as well as corporate events. What's the largest number of people you have catered for?

see TWIST page 26



Harvest Higher Returns

Certificates of Deposit

6-month CD 3.92% | *APY of 4.00%

12-month CD 3.68% | APY of 3.75%

18-month CD 3.44% | APY of 3.50%

Parke Select Money Market

3.68% | **APY of 3.75% (up to \$49,999.99)

3.92% | APY of 4.00% (\$50,000.00 & higher)

*APY= Annual Percentage Yield. To receive this CD offer, a minimum deposit of \$500 is required. Early withdrawal penalties apply. The quoted rate and APY are accurate as of October 1, 2025.
**APY: The minimum deposit required to open the account is \$1,000. No service fees are imposed provided you maintain a daily minimum balance of \$1,000. Fees may reduce earnings. The quoted rate and APY are accurate as of October 1, 2025 and are subject to change at any time.

FAMILY OWNED FOR OVER 30 YEARS!



Asters
Floral Shop

*We Deliver
Worldwide
For All
Occasions*



Jim Duffy
Owner

41 Haddon Avenue
Westmont, NJ 08108
856.869.8500

www.astersfloralshop.com

Let Aster's Create Your Special Day!

BENITA COOPER DESIGN



ARCHITECTURE | INTERIOR DESIGN | RENOVATION
BENITACOOOPERDESIGN.COM



Trappixx
JAMAICAN RESTAURANT

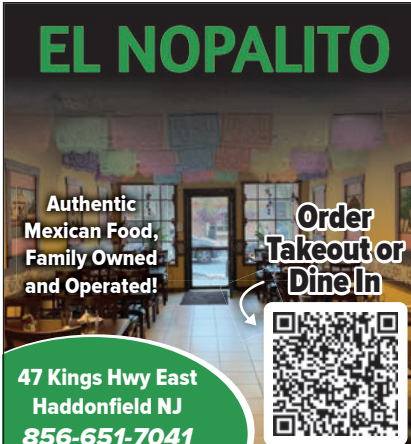
Bringing the Caribbean to Your Plate

2442 Route 38, Cherry Hill, NJ
trappixxjamaicaneat.com

ORDER THROUGH
UBER EATS &
DOORDASH

NM-00038906

EL NOPALITO



Authentic Mexican Food, Family Owned and Operated!

Order Takeout or Dine In

47 Kings Hwy East
Haddonfield NJ
856-651-7041




PHIDELITY RECORDS
12 Haddon Ave.
Haddon Township, NJ 08108
(856) 240-1522

10% off
entire purchase with this coupon

We want to buy your records.
No collection is too big or too small.

 @phidelityrecords




Garden State PET CENTER

Check out our products and services
gardenstatepetcenter.com

Bringing Joy to Every Tail - Your One-Stop Pet Shop!

226 S White Horse Pike,
Audubon, NJ 08106
(856)617-6871

\$5 OFF purchases of \$25 or more
Through the end of 12/31/25

TWIST

from page 25

What are some favorites on the catering menu?

As an executive chef at the University of Pennsylvania, Chef MJ catered for 400 people at homecoming events. Now, as a private catering business she caters for up to 350 for a wedding, but the average number of guests is closer to 175 to 200.

Some favorite appetizers are smoked salmon mousse, stuffed figs, or figs with jam on crostini, and for that southern influence creole and crab dip. For her Italian clients, bruschetta is on the menu. She will create the appetizers to the tastes of the guests she is serving. A fan favorite for dinner is Penne ala Vodka with Calabrian hot honey over burrata – just delicious!

What venue do you love to cater at?

Now that she has a new location in Charlotte, she loves the Yorkmount (formerly the Crystal Ballroom). It's an all-inclusive wedding and event venue that focuses on design, décor, and luxury. She meets many brides who are from New Jersey and get married there. There are also many wonderful venues in New Jersey and the Philly area.

You were personally selected and recruited by Food Network to participate in "Chopped Comfort Food Feud Burgers Addition" and "Guys Grocery Games" Season 6 Episode 2. How were these experiences?

For "Chopped" she worked with the National Mushroom Council to create a blended burger to give it that Unami flavor combined, of course, with turkey, beef, or short rib. Both experiences were fun and didn't feel like a competition. (She was also part of the James Beard Blended Burger Project.)

You have a specialty in nutrition and write a nutrition column in the Philadelphia Rowhome Magazine and do nutritional consulting for Tinnerello Boxing and Fitness (Who Chef MJ worked with on her own fitness goals) and you have done meal prep for the Philadelphia Eagles during Super Bowl winning season. Tell me more about the foods the athletes eat and how you got involved in nutrition-based cooking.

The athlete's meal prep looks something like this: Breakfast is a delicious cottage cheese-egg bake and oats for sustainabil-

see TWIST page 27

TWIST

from page 26

ity throughout training; lunch is baked chicken breast with veggies; and dinner is turkey meatballs with spinach and brown rice. Their diets are very strict and clean to maintain maximum performance levels. Clearly their performance is a reflection of a good diet.

Chef MJ prioritizes her health and wellness so it was a natural extension of herself to work with people to meet their own individualized nutritional goals. She has worked with Carlyne and Brandon Graham in 2016 to help them streamline their diets and make healthy meal options. She worked in conjunction with Anne Claiborne, a nutritionist and together they met the needs of multiple athletes. Her philosophy is, "make a recipe that you love and make it healthy."

She partnered with Jefferson Hospital to create meals for people with Multiple Sclerosis and helped them by making meal prep easy and accommodating their individual needs.

As we usher in the holidays, tell me some holiday planning tips for our readers who plan to host during the holidays.

1. Get those RSVPs back so you can properly plan your menu and know how much food you need and ask who is bringing what for family gatherings. This will reduce stress.

2. PLAN the menu and list the dishes and ingredients necessary. Go shopping with a list in hand.

3. Have fun with it! Come up with a theme like a color scheme and go out of your way for your family to show them you love them to create long-lasting memories.

4. Enlist the help of your family or friends and recruit someone in advance, so at the end of the party you aren't working in the kitchen alone.

Tell me where you can buy your spice line.

It is available in 12 different food stores in New Jersey and in the Philly area or you can simply go to my website to buy the spices. — 08033

Check out Chef MJ's website at **chefmitzjackson.me** and take advantage of the services she offers. Follow her on Instagram @mj_thechef

Celebrating 25 Years!



14 N. HADDON AVENUE • HADDONFIELD, NJ 08033

(856) 427-9599 • WWW.SALON14NORTH.COM

TUESDAY 10-3 WEDNESDAY 10-6 THURSDAY 10-7
FRIDAY 10-6 SATURDAY 8:30-4



hfs

HADDONFIELD FRIENDS SCHOOL
academics | service | community

Age 2 - 8th grade ✨ established 1786

We prepare joyful and inquisitive young minds to carry the light of confidence, critical thinking, and stewardship in a diverse community of learners.

TWO TEACHERS in every KINDERGARTEN CLASS!

What makes our school UNIQUE?

- ✓ All Kindergarten students receive Art, Music, Phys Ed, Theatre, and Spanish instruction with separate teachers
- ✓ Five-acre campus
- ✓ Safe, nurturing environment
- ✓ 5:1 student-to-faculty ratio school-wide
- ✓ Gardening special for our Early Childhood Center
- ✓ 30+ after-school clubs
- ✓ Student led service projects
- ✓ 8th Grade year long Capstone Project
- ✓ Immersive learning in the community



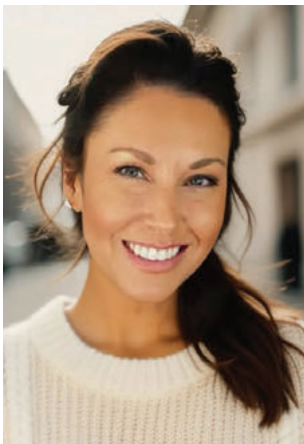
Apply now!



47 N. Haddon Avenue, Haddonfield, NJ • 08033 | (856) 429-6786 • admissions@hfsfriends.org



Talk It Out: Why Communication With Your Real Estate Agent Is Everything



By Expert Contributor
Christy Oberg, Realtor®
Weichert Premier,
Haddonfield

Buying or selling a home is one of life's biggest milestones. Beyond the paperwork, negotiations, and logistics, the true key to success lies in something simple yet powerful: communication. As a Realtor, I've witnessed how clear conversations can make the difference between a stressful experience and a seamless one. When clients and agents stay on the same page, doors open—not just literally, but figuratively.

SETTING THE TONE EARLY

The first step in a real estate journey is establishing expectations. Buyers need to share more than just their budget; they should outline their must-haves, nice-to-haves, and deal-breakers. Sellers, on the other hand, should be upfront about timelines, property details, and their financial goals.

Vague statements like "I want more space" can mean different things to different people. Does that mean a bigger yard, an open concept, or an extra bedroom? The clearer the conversation, the better I can tailor a strategy that truly fits my client's vision.

STAYING RESPONSIVE IN A FAST-MOVING MARKET

Real estate doesn't wait. A great property can go under contract within hours, and negotiations often hinge on quick decisions. That's why responsiveness is a two-way street. I make it a point to be available for my clients, and in return, I encourage them to reply promptly to calls, texts, or emails. Even a quick message—"I'll review this tonight"—helps keep momentum and ensures no opportunities slip through the cracks.

Trust is built when both sides know they can count on each other. Responsiveness communicates respect, urgency, and commitment.

COMMUNICATION REDUCES STRESS

For many people, buying or selling a home is the largest financial transaction of their lives. Naturally, that comes with pressure. My role is to break down the process step by step—explaining inspections, appraisals, contingencies, and contracts in plain language. Clients who understand what's happening at each stage feel empowered, not overwhelmed.

Just as important is hearing my clients out. When someone shares their worries—whether it's about timing, financing, or even family logistics—it allows me to address those concerns head-on. Silence breeds anxiety, but open communication keeps everyone grounded.

see REAL ESTATE page 31



Christy Oberg
WHERE HEART MEETS HOME

Top 5 Reason to list with me:

- ✓ Strategic Pricing
- ✓ Proven Marketing Expertise
- ✓ Neighborhood Knowledge
- ✓ Expert Negotiation Skills
- ✓ Full Time Dedication

W
WEICHERT
PREMIER

O: 856-394-5700 C: 856-655-0789 • christyobergrealtor@gmail.com • <https://haddonfieldhomesales.com/> • 132 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield, NJ 08033

Haddonfield Happenings



IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS.

When it comes to your social calendar change is ... not always good. But sometimes it's inevitable. Check each organization's website for updated event information.

HADDONFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library is located at 60 N Haddon Ave. For more information on events visit www.haddonfieldlibrary.org.

Dec. 2 – 11 a.m. to noon – Glow-Forge Mini Frame Ornament Ball.

Dec. 4 – 6-7:30 p.m. – Evening Art: Gingerbread Spoons.

Dec. 5 -8 – All day - Holiday Wrap-

ping Paper Swap.

Dec. 5 – 10-10:30 a.m. and 1:30-2 p.m. – Snack and a Craft: Gingerbread.

Dec. 7 – 12:30-1:15 p.m. – Knit Hat Ornaments.

Dec. 9 – 1:30-3 p.m. – Crafternoon: Snow Ballerinas.

Dec. 9 – 3:30-4:30 p.m. – Labubu Bag Charms.

Dec. 10 – 3:30-4:30 p.m. – Sew Your Own Felt Gingerbread.

Dec. 11 – 11 a.m. to noon – Wood Slice Holiday Ornament.

Dec. 15 – 6-7 p.m. – Family Fireplace Ornament.

Dec. 16 – 11 a.m. to noon – Diamond Art: Nutcracker Ornaments.

Dec. 17 – 10-10:30 a.m. and 1:30-2 p.m. – Once Upon a Craft: Baking Themed.

Dec. 29 – All Day – New Year's Eve take Home Craft.

Jan. 10, 2026 – 11 a.m. to noon – Introductory Ukelele Children's Class.

Jan. 16, 2026 – 10-10:30 a.m. and 1:30-2 p.m. – Once Upon a Craft-Winter Themed.

Jan 23, 2026 – 1:30-3 p.m. – Movie Munchkins: "Toy Story."

Jan. 30, 2026 – 9:45-10:15 a.m. – Snowball Dance Party.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Note: Free parking downtown through Dec. 31.

Friday, Nov. 28 – **Tree lighting and Santa parade** at Tanner Street and Kings Court.

Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 29-30 – **Shop Small, Brunch Big weekend.**

Fridays, Nov. 28 to Dec. 19 – **Candlelight Shopping:** Every Friday night will have extended shopping hours in historic Downtown Haddonfield.

Dec. 6 – 9 a.m. – **The Haddonfield Snowflake 5K Run** is being held by The Haddon Fortnightly Evening Membership Department. The profits from the race will benefit Jackson's Wish.

Through Dec. 19 - The Haddonfield Police Department is thrilled to once again partner with the United States Marine Corps for their annual **Toys for Tots** holiday gift drive! Please bring your new and unwrapped toys to the lobby of the police station, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Used toys are not accepted. Final donations will be accepted, Friday Dec. 19.

Saturday, Dec. 20 to Wednesday, Dec. 24 – **Last Minute Magic.**

Jan. 16-18, 2026 – **Winterfest and Souper Bowl Saturday.**

Indian King Tavern Museum is located at 233 E. Kings Highway. Days and hours open: Wednesday to Saturday – 10 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4 p.m. For more information visit www.indiankingfriends.org.

REAL ESTATE

from page 29

AVOIDING PITFALLS THROUGH TRANSPARENCY

A lack of communication can cost time, money, and sometimes even the deal itself. I've seen transactions delayed because a buyer didn't disclose loan conditions early enough, or because a seller wasn't upfront about repair needs. These are preventable problems—if the information flows freely.

I always remind clients: I'm here to be their advocate, but I can only work with the information I'm given. Honesty, even about potential challenges, allows me to create solutions before they become obstacles.

MORE THAN A TRANSACTION— A RELATIONSHIP

Real estate isn't just about closing a deal; it's about building relationships. Many of my clients come back to me when it's time to upsize, downsize, or invest. That trust is built on communication and the confidence that I'll listen, advise, and deliver.

When you and your agent commit to open dialogue, you're not only navigating today's transaction—you're setting the foundation for a long-term partnership.

EXPERT TIPS FOR BETTER COMMUNICATION

- Be specific when describing your needs.
- Share concerns early instead of letting them grow.
- Decide on your preferred communication style—phone, text, or email.
- Stay responsive to time-sensitive updates.
- Ask questions when something isn't clear.

FINAL THOUGHTS

At its heart, real estate is about people, not just property. The smoother the communication, the smoother the journey. When clients and agents talk openly, they not only achieve their goals but also walk away with peace of mind.

If you're preparing to buy or sell and want an agent who values honest, responsive, and clear communication, I'd love to connect. — 08033

Christy Oberg, Realtor
856-655-0789
christyobergrealtor@gmail.com



RESTORED
ANTIQUITY

Home Decor & Gifts

15% off
your purchase, with this coupon
Cannot be combined with other sales.
Expires 12.31.25.

115 Kings Hwy E. Haddonfield



TORIBELLA
skin clinic

Facials, Botox,
Microneedling, Laser,
Brows, Lashes
and more

Mention this ad to receive
15% off any service!



(856) 474-3636
911 Kings Hwy S, Cherry Hill, NJ
toribellaskinclinic.com

BASEMENT WATERPROOFING DONE THE RIGHTWAY!

Do it the "Rightway" the first time.



GET YOUR
FREE ESTIMATE TODAY!
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
0% Financing Available
Keeping Basements Dry in NJ and the
Delaware Valley for Over 30 Years

866-427-1727
www.rightwaywaterproofing.com
NJ License# 13VH03327200



Come home to *Calm*



EXCLUSIVE *Offer*

\$500 Off

any project \$2500 or more*

Offer Expires 12/31/25

Come home to the peace of mind Closet Factory's custom solutions bring to your home. Collaborate with our expert Designers to create the perfect organization systems for every room, style and budget.

CUSTOM CLOSETS



GARAGES



HOME OFFICES



ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS & MORE



closetfactory

LOCAL SHOWROOM
3001 Irwin Road
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054
[closetfactory.com](https://www.closetfactory.com)



Schedule your **FREE design consultation today** | Call **856-382-8085**

*Valid for orders over \$2,500. Must be presented at time of consultation. Expires 12/31/25.

License # NJ 13VH09550600/PA 131985.