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Publisher's Note

As summer winds down, we're excited to bring you another issue of 08033 Haddonfield—one that explores the people, places and history that continue to shape our community.

On our cover, architect and designer Benita Cooper of Benita Cooper Design gives us an inside look at her award-winning practice, known for transformative residential and institutional projects. Benita brings a thoughtful, personal approach to design, creating inviting spaces that reflect the people who live and work in them.

We also introduce you to Soffiato Via, a home-grown salon whose story began with Caroline Dodig at just 22 and has grown into a business rooted in relationships and community.

Our pages also take a step back in time, with a look at the historic Benjamin Cooper House, now home to the American Revolution Museum of Southern New Jersey,



Brittany Rought
PUBLISHER

and continue our Sculpted Stories series with The Mailman, a remarkable 7-foot sculpture at the Haddonfield Post Office honoring the familiar faces who have delivered our mail for generations.

Together, these stories offer a glimpse at the many layers of Haddonfield—from its history and public art to the talented people and local businesses helping shape its future.

We hope you enjoy this issue and, as always, find something that makes you appreciate Haddonfield a little more.

Happy reading!

Contributors



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Doug McConnell



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Jamie Stow



Debra Wallace

Expert Contributors

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN



Benita Cooper
Benita Cooper Architect
Benita Cooper Design

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A Mailman Finds His Home

How a sculpture born from one artist's family history found its way from a Pennsylvania foundry to a place of honor outside Haddonfield's Post Office.

By **CHRISTINE BARCIA**

Mail carriers are a familiar face in most towns and cities across the country. Whether in an urban, suburban or rural setting, the mail carrier brings more than just letters and packages. The mail carrier brings familiarity and friendliness to neighborhoods. What used to be the main method of communication, sending letters, has been replaced in large part by emails and texts. But mail carriers endure.

The Mailman, a sculpture by Thomas Bichko, stands prominently in front of the Haddonfield Post Office (25 S. Haddon Ave.) and honors the work of all mail carriers and postal workers. Bichko's journey in creating The Mailman see MAILMAN page 6



SCULPTED STORIES

PHOTO BY DOUG MCCONNELL

The Mailman, a sculpture by Thomas Bichko, stands in front of the Haddonfield Post Office.



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF THOMAS BICHKO

MAILMAN

from page 5

is an interesting story in how sometimes things just fall into place. Bichko, who worked throughout his career for the state of Pennsylvania, spent time drawing and painting as hobbies. He encountered other artists who worked in sculpture and decided to try it out. The problem was he couldn't decide what to sculpt. He considered sculpting military figures and community members, but nothing felt right. One day, back in the early 2000s, he was at his mother's home in Nanty Glo, Pennsylvania, when the local historical society happened to visit. Bichko's mother shared with them a photo of her husband (Thomas' father) while he was on his mail route as a mail carrier in Nanty Glo in the 1950s.

"I looked at that photo, and I knew that was it. I was committed to it," Bichko said.

Interestingly, Bichko did not want The Mailman sculpture tied to his father; he wanted it to honor all mail carriers and the postal department. He set out to create the sculpture of his father and worked with Laran Bronze Inc., a fine art foundry and studio in Chester, Pennsylvania. Bichko worked on The Mailman at both Laran Bronze and in his basement studio in Nanty Glo. Bichko had some challenges standing on a ladder and bending and twisting in order to work on the piece. So, his team at Laran Bronze cut off the head and shoulders and hands of the sculpture, which allowed him to take them home and work with less physical stress. In early 2012, the piece went through casting and metal work. Finally, in August 2012, the patina was applied.

Bichko stored the finished sculpture at Laran Bronze because the local post office in Nanty Glo did not permit artwork on their property. He even tried to get the local library and schools to display the sculpture, but to no avail. A couple of years passed with the sculpture in storage, and then it was discovered.

"When I happened to be at a Pennsylvania foundry (Laran Bronze), I saw a sculpture in the corner covered with a sheet. When I inquired, I learned that the sculptor had been unable to place the sculpture of his father in any post office. They all

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said, to place on post office property, you needed to wait for years of government red tape. I thought that we could display the work in front of the Haddonfield Post Office on borough property instead,” explained Stuart Harding, founder and chair of the Haddonfield Outdoor Sculpture Trust (HOST). And that’s how The Mailman found its way to Haddonfield.

At about 7 feet tall and 900 pounds, The Mailman has been part of the Haddonfield landscape since December 2015. The sculpture depicts a mail carrier holding a stack of letters in his right hand while the strap of a mail satchel filled with letters is hanging over his left shoulder. Dressed in a traditional 1950s postal carrier uniform, The Mailman is dressed in a button-down jacket with two front pockets and shirt and tie.

“The mailman has been a welcome addition, giving the Post Office and the town a positive image of the pride we all celebrate,” said Mike Breslin, Haddonfield’s postmaster.

In addition to being a popular spot for photos, The Mailman is occasionally dressed to celebrate sports teams, like the Philadelphia Eagles, the Philadelphia Phillies and local Haddonfield teams, Breslin added.

Today, Bichko continues to sculpt in his basement studio in Nanty Glo. He is working on a sculpture of Marine Sgt. Michael Strank, who is pictured in the famous photograph of the flag raising on Iwo Jima. This sculpture is to honor Strank, who is from western Pennsylvania, Bichko said. Bichko enjoys both the process and challenges of sculpting. The process, he said, allows the artist to take the sculpture apart and put it back together until it’s right. As for the challenge, Bichko called it “an exercise in solving a problem.”

“The sculpture serves as a tribute to everyday heroes, and honors how local civilians support our community. Haddonfield is an incredibly tight-knit community, and while the story of The Mailman is based in PA, the sculpture feels right at home,” stated George Evearts, Vice President, Preservation & Valuation, HOST, and owner of Evearts Jewelers & Appraisers.

Calling The Mailman iconic, Evearts said the sculpture is a landmark of downtown Haddonfield. —08033



PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMAS BICHKO

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Always In Style



SOFFIATO VIA: BUILDING CONFIDENCE ONE CLIENT AT A TIME



By **Debra Wallace**

Caroline Dodig knew exactly what she wanted long before most people her age were thinking about owning a business. At just 22, she turned her dream of opening a salon into a reality.

Nine years later, that dream has blossomed into two thriving Soffiato Via locations — one in Moorestown, which opened in July 2017, and a second in Haddonfield, which opened nearly three years ago.

What gave her the confidence to take such a leap?

"It was always a dream of mine to have

PHOTOS BY JAMIE STOW

my own salon,” said Dodig, a graduate of Rizzieri Cosmetology School. “One of my clients told me a space that her family owned had become available on Main Street in Moorestown and encouraged me to take a look.”

She brought her parents to see the space, and their encouragement made all the difference. “My parents said they didn’t want to regret not letting me take the opportunity, and they promised to help me figure it out,” she said. “They were huge supporters and an integral part of getting me started.”

Today, Soffiato Via employs 20 stylists and beauty professionals across its two full-service salons, many of whom have grown alongside the business.

“A lot of my girls came straight from hair school, and I’ve loved watching their growth and their commitment to our clients,” Dodig said.

The original Moorestown salon began with just five styling chairs and a focus on blowouts, opening as a “style bar.” Today, it has tripled in size and uses Goldwell, a professional color line known for vibrant, long-lasting results.

Why Clients Keep Coming Back

For the past five to six years, Cherry Hill

see IN STYLE page 13



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AN ARCHITECT WITH WORLD-BUILDING ON HER MIND

By Lia Miller

Spend time with the architect and designer Benita Cooper, the creative mind behind Haddonfield's Benita Cooper Design, and soon your brain will want you to run out and draw something, or build something or make something, anything. You will view every part of your physical world as an opportunity for an increase in personal creativity, for more color, more harmonious shapes, punchier details, better design.

Cooper started her firm in 2008 and has since transformed it into a highly sought-after, award-winning practice, with dozens of clients in the area. She is the kind of person people call a “force” — with energy to stay on top of myriad meticulous details for renovation projects in various stages, help raise two sons, conduct free “maker” workshops with middle schoolers, design chairs and at some point start a nonprofit to help elderly people combat loneliness. She has put her signature stamp on dozens of projects in the Philadelphia area, everything from a 130-year-old historic home in Haddonfield, to Old City hair salon Opal and Boa to Haddonfield's Wildfether Distilling,



PHOTOS BY JAMIE STOW





where she meticulously reimagined a celebrated 1857 Victorian house into a modern cocktail bar and micro-distillery.

Known for spaces that are designed to feel inviting, fun and contemporary, Cooper has a tightly choreographed sense of design and unmistakable style. She is not afraid of color and doesn't like to "use the same color patterns in a cookie cutter way." Her finished rooms often juxtapose angles, sometimes bold and unexpected hues, geometric-patterned tiling, eye-catching wall-paper.

But transforming a space with daring takes exacting attention. And Cooper says she strives to thread the needle between fresh or exciting and a harmoniously balanced finished product. Everything is planned down to "the millimeter." The result is a signature freshness uniquely identifiable as her own.

"I like to keep giving people excitement," Cooper says, "if you enter a dark small space, the next space might be really open, the next room might have this really bright colored pattern."

Her distinctive aesthetic and community activism have lately garnered attention from the likes of NJBIZ, which named her a leader in their "Real Estate, Construction & Design" category and *Philadelphia Business Journal*, for which she won a "Women of Influence" honor last year.

Cooper says her work ethic includes a true desire to help and empower her clients. She talks about listening "very deeply" to what they are envisioning.

"Sometimes it's not just what they say, it's how they say it," says Cooper, who comes to initial meetings ready to draw in her sketchbook, showing clients their ideas

as they take shape and as real possibilities. "When people have that spark in their eyes, when they talk about what they are truly excited about even before they realize it. Then I ask them more about that."

Renovations are, of course, notoriously fraught. They are a deeply personal project in one's home over which the average person doesn't have the level of control they are used to in other aspects of their life. A project gone wrong can have all sorts of negative outcomes. Cooper is intent on helping clients through the upheaval of such major changes — a process that involves contractors, suppliers, local laws and can be "super disjointed" — so that they feel protected and helped every step of the way.

But still, while synthesizing her vision for each new project can be a challenge, Cooper wants to embolden her clients.

"I often say I will guide them and empower them to the edge of their comfort zone. That often means getting them to be at the very edge of what their current comfort zone is, so that they can see the possibilities of the new life they've envisioned

for themselves."

And, In 2018, to further expand her world-building capacities, Cooper started a manufacturing arm, Coop Forge, which fabricates furniture, architectural fixtures and signs. This allows for a comprehensive one-stop service that can take clients all the way from gutting a house or building an addition, through every design element in the new space, from chairs to lighting to the handles on cabinetry. With the option to customize so many elements, the finished work always bears Cooper and her firm's sensibilities.

"Sometimes I think I'm a movie director setting up an environment for people to experience emotions," she says.

Cooper was born in Seattle, moved to Hong Kong, then moved back to Seattle when she was 12. She fast-tracked her way to college by skipping high school almost entirely and going directly to the University of Washington through a program for gifted students. After double-majoring in art and architecture she deliberated on whether she

see DESIGN page 12



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DESIGN

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should continue on in art or architecture.

“Art really allowed me to discover my own voice and my own perspective in a visual way. And architecture allowed me to think about technique and also contribution to society. And I found those two things are very related, but very different. Art is more about self-expression to me and architecture felt like a vehicle I can use to contribute.”

She decided on the latter and earned a master’s in Design and Architecture from Harvard in 2005. During that time she did stints in Italy, Chile and Mexico where she built a women’s shelter and learned about urban planning. Then in 2008, she was an employee at a firm in Philadelphia when a contractor told her. “You have what it takes to start your own firm.” She decided to go for it.

The majority of Benita Cooper Design jobs are residential. About 20 percent are institutional and professional. Working with business owners has other special rewards and Cooper’s goal is to help business owners reach their goal.

“I’m the first person who would hear deeply someone’s dream that they have kept in their hearts and minds for decades.”

For work on Wildfether Distilling, Cooper was intent on keeping the character of the Victorian house that once belonged to a notable doctor.

The firm has a core team of eight people, including architectural and interior designers, a construction specialist and her husband Jason, who serves as CEO and bookkeeper as well as the official house architectural photographer. (He is also a

trained architect and partner in an adult sports league company). Staff meetings happen at their home, which the Coopers share with their two pre-teen boys. Jason Cooper calls his wife an “extremely artistic person.” The first time he saw her, while in college, she had just returned from Mexico with dyed blue hair. “Who is that?” he asked a friend. “That’s Benita,” they replied, and he was smitten. The couple love being able to work from home, especially for their sons.

“I think the kids really get a very authentic, unfiltered view of what it’s like to be an architect and run a small business,” says Benita, “They get to see the outcome of the work. They walk around town and see the buildings.”

Cooper has many local friends and fans. Joe Murphy, a semi-retired compliance and ethics professional, active in Haddonfield civic life, first met Cooper when she worked on the Historical Society of Haddonfield Archive Building. He was blown away by the interior work she did and the two became friends. Murphy praises her design sensibility for leaving a “positive impression” in professional and public spaces, like at Haddonfield’s popular gourmet popcorn shop Sparrow’s.

“All of the designs are interesting, they invite you in, make you feel welcome,” he says. “If you’re sitting, you feel like you should be sitting there, you feel relaxed.”

“Most places you go in and get what you want and you leave. In my experience, with her places, you remember the design.”

—08033



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IN STYLE

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resident Annemarie Huber has made Friday blowouts at the Haddonfield salon part of her weekly routine. She also returns every three weeks for hair color.

"I highly appreciate the quality of the service from Caroline and all of the girls," Huber said. "At one time or another I've been in nearly every chair at both salons, and whether it's someone just starting or a seasoned stylist, it's always a wonderful experience."

Huber's loyalty extends to her family. She brings both of her children and her 85-year-old mother, Grace, to Soffiato Via.

"There is a special commitment to the clients," she said. "They are like family."

Why does she recommend the salon?

"They have incredible expertise and treat everyone so well. They listen, they're attentive, they guide you, and offer great advice. It's always a great experience."

Bridal Beauty

The expanded Moorestown salon now features a spray-tanning studio and SV Bridal, a dedicated bridal suite where brides and their wedding parties can relax, get ready and even welcome photographers to capture the day.

"SV Bridal emerged as the demand for our on-location bridal services continued to grow," Dodig said. "We wanted to provide complete convenience for our brides while delivering exceptional service."

Although she hoped to own a salon before turning 30, she never imagined achieving that goal years ahead of schedule.

Today, the Moorestown location offers hair services, spray tans, brow laminations, eyelash extensions and bridal styling.

Dodig has also become a sought-after hair extension specialist, spending the past six years refining her craft through advanced education in Chicago, New York, California and beyond. She also attended a hair show in Vienna, Austria, as part of her commitment to her salons and clients.

The Haddonfield salon offers hair services and select makeup applications in a more intimate setting.

"I chose to expand to Haddonfield to grow a new clientele in Haddonfield and the neighboring towns," she said. "I wanted to open Haddonfield to grow in a new market,

instead of expanding within Moorestown."

She also appreciated the charm of downtown Haddonfield.

"I love being on Main Street instead of in a strip center," she said. "It fits our brand much better, and I was excited to become part of the local business community."

Giving Back

Supporting the community remains one of Dodig's top priorities.

"We try to do everything we can locally by sponsoring school fashion shows and other community events," she said. "We want to support other small businesses and give back to the towns that support us."

For aspiring entrepreneurs, Dodig says passion — not simply the desire to own a business — is what she believes fuels long-term success.

"I do so much more than style hair," she said. "Growing the business has brought incredible opportunities and plenty of challenges. Having support from family, friends and the people closest to you is incredibly

see IN STYLE page 14





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IN STYLE

from page 13

important. That support helps you navigate the journey and build something lasting.”

From the beginning, her vision extended beyond beauty services.

“I wanted to create a place where women feel comfortable expressing themselves to their stylists,” Dodig said. “I want every client who walks through our doors to feel secure, welcomed and cared for. Building that trust is what matters the most.”

That philosophy has transformed one young stylist’s dream into two flourishing salons — and a loyal clientele that keeps coming back and referring their family members and friends.

“At Soffiato Via, we believe beautiful hair is only the beginning,” Dodig said. “We’re committed to creating a space where artistry, education and genuine relationships come together to help every guest feel confident, cared for and truly seen during every visit.” —08033



'CAMDEN'S MOST HISTORIC HOUSE IS where it all started'

RESTORED, THE BENJAMIN
COOPER HOUSE OPENS
TO THE PUBLIC AHEAD OF
250TH ANNIVERSARY

By **KATHY CHANG**

The historic Benjamin Cooper House is where Camden City all started.

"Camden County and Camden City are divided into hundreds of lots and blocks," said Camden County Commissioner Jeffrey Nash. "Today we are standing on Block 1, Lot 1. That means that when Camden City was first planned, this [chartered parcel] is where it all started."

"Two-hundred ninety-one years ago on this very site."

State, county and local officials came together for the ribbon cutting and opening of the American Revolution Museum of Southern New Jersey at Benjamin Cooper House at 75 Erie St. in Camden on June 27. It is a stone's throw away from the Benjamin Franklin Bridge.

see COOPER page 16



PHOTOS BY BRIAN SPAGNA

"We've forgotten a lot about the war for independence," said author Dr. Ricardo A. Herrera, "places like the Benjamin Cooper House are vital reminders to us of what took place during the American War for Independence by preserving them, by sustaining them, we preserve and sustain our own history, our own story as Americans."

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COOPER

from page 15

It was just in time for the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

“This was a very special place,” Nash reflected.

“Yes, you had your Philadelphia, yes, you had your New York,” noted Steve Ayscue, a board member for the Camden County Historical Society, “but it’s that in between where the real fight happened [during the American Revolution].”

The history of the Cooper House highlights the military importance of the area and the local population’s dueling loyalties during the Revolutionary War. Benjamin Cooper built the house in 1734 to operate a ferry, tavern and inn. In October 1777, Hessian soldiers traveled to the area – known as Cooper’s Ferry at the time – from Philadelphia in a failed attempt to capture Fort Mercer. In March 1778, after foraging and repulsing the Continental Army, British soldiers convened at the tavern and arrested Benjamin’s sons, Joseph and Samuel, for spying. In April 1778 British soldiers and loyalists killed up to 13 and captured 34 New Jersey infantry and militiamen. It served as a vital Revolutionary hub and ferry stop on the Delaware River.

The Camden County Historical Society and Flash Films & Media LLC produced a video on The Benjamin Cooper House: At a Crossroad in the Revolution three years ago.

“We’ve forgotten a lot about the war for independence,” said Dr. Ricardo A. Herrera in the video, “places like the Benjamin Cooper House are vital reminders to us of what took place during the American War for Independence by preserving them, by sustaining them, we preserve and sustain our own history, our own story as Americans.”

Herrera is the author of “Feeding Washington’s Army: Surviving the Valley Forge Winter of 1778.”

The Benjamin Cooper House in Camden has been revitalized and becomes the trailhead of the North Camden and Cramer Hill Waterfront Trails Project as part of the county’s 33-mile bicycle and pedestrian Camden County Link Trail to Atlantic County. It is also the site of the American Revolution Museum of Southern New Jersey.

The house was witness to incredible events in Southern New Jersey during the war for American Independence. In 1778, British forces in Philadelphia launched an expedition to capture Brig. Gen. Anthony Wayne. The expedition culminated in a skirmish in what is now downtown Camden.

“Cooper’s Ferry was the locus of tremendous movement and significant action by both armies in the foraging operation,” Herrera said.

In 2012 vandals struck, but the tavern still stands today – at a new crossroad.

“If you came back here 20 years ago, you would have wondered what it was,” Ayscue said.

The project – to preserve the historic site to help teach future generations – would not have been possible without being funded through a combination of local, state and federal funding. During the opening ceremony, many thanks were extended to all those who helped preserve the tavern.

Dignitaries presented proclamations to Ayscue and Chris Perks, president of the Camden County Historical Society.

“Through its establishment of the American Revolution Museum of Southern New Jersey, the Camden County Historical Society [is] able to model and emulate and set a standard of excellence for which all others might strive to be,” the state Senate and General Assembly proclamation stated.

The historical society in accordance with the North Camden Neighborhood Plan completed a preservation plan for the adaptive reuse of the historic tavern in October 2021. The goals of the plan included:

- Bring to life the history and restoration of Camden’s most historic house on the most historic site in Camden County.
- Tell Camden County’s and South Jersey’s little-known role in the American Revolution.
- Utilize the “campus” as a focal point for a new American History and Civics curriculum for local schools.
- Identify the racial bias and nativist, xenophobic fears and challenges faced by enslaved and free people of color during and after the Revolution and how they contributed to or opposed the war against Great Britain to seek or maintain their freedom.
- Elucidate the promise of equality in the Declaration of Independence and 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution (Equal Protection).
- Contribute to residents’ healthy lifestyles as the trailhead for Camden County’s 33-mile bike and walking trail from the Delaware River to Atlantic County.
- The museum and trailhead will serve as a gathering place and event location for the community.

The site is on the list of American Battlefields and Historic Sites as recognized by Congress in 1993.

The day after the ribbon cutting and opening, Tavern Talks at the museum were held where visitors were able to step into the colonial tavern atmosphere and debate revolutionary ideas with live reenactors.

For more information on the American Revolution Museum of Southern New Jersey at Benjamin Cooper House, visit amrevmuseumsnj.com. —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 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

10 – 10:30 a.m. **Storytime: Mystery Dino & Open Play.** Introduce your child to the joy of reading at story time! The children will hear Ms. Jordan or special guest read stories, sing songs, and will leave with a take-home craft. This story time is suitable for all ages. Please contact Ms. Jordan with any questions at jbilodeau@haddonfieldlibrary.org
*Please check social media and the library's website for any changes. Get excited to discover our dinosaur of the week! This program is designed for children and accompanying adults. Please plan to attend and be engaged with your child in this program. Drop-offs will not be permitted.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

1 p.m - 2 p.m **Make It with Model Magic: Tiny Food**

Let's make miniature food with Model Magic! Model magic in various colors and shaping tools will be available to make mini versions of your favorite foods! Registration is required for this event. Registration will close on September 3, 2026 @ 1:00pm. A library card is required to register for this event. This event is for registrants grade 3rd Grade to 6th Grade.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

7 p.m - 8 p.m **VIRTUAL: Pulitzer Prize Winner David Kraus**

Prepare to launch into the darkest depths of deep space! Join us online as we sit down with master storyteller Daniel Kraus, winner of the 2026 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, to celebrate the release of his breathtaking new novel, *The Sixth Nik*. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/7jux56dn>.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

4 p.m - 5 p.m **VIRTUAL: Building Better Relationships with Priya Parker**

Join us for a paradigm-shifting, essential event as we sit down with world-renowned master facilitator

Priya Parker to discuss her groundbreaking new book, *The Art of Fighting: The Transformative Power of Conflict*. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/4apf6exy>.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

1:30 p.m - 2:30 p.m **Floral Fabric + Wood Art**

Create amazing textured art with fabric & wood. Finished piece includes a stand or wall hanging option. Registration is required for this event. Registration will open on September 1, 2026 @ 7:00am. A library card is required to register for this event. This event is for registrants aged 18 and over.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

6:30 p.m - 7:30 p.m **Novels on Tap: A YA Book Club for Adults**

Join us for a delightful blend of literary exploration, lively conversations, and the perfect pairing of books and beverages. Meetings occur at Mechanical Brewery, 5 Perina Blvd, Suite 800, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003. This month, we will discuss *Nineteen*

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HAPPENINGS

from page 18

Minutes by Jodi Picoult. Registered participants will have a copy of the book placed on hold for them. Registration is required for this event. Registration will close on September 23, 2026 @ 6:30pm. This event is for registrants age Over 18 and above.

IN THE COMMUNITY

MONDAY, AUGUST 24 –

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

SummerSing. Lutheran Church of the Savior, 204 Wayne Ave. It's time to register for this annual event! SummerSing is fun, educational, full of song and it's free! Ages 7 1/2 -17 are welcome to participate. Singers will perform at a Phillies game in early September!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

10 a.m – 2 p.m. **Beeswax and Candelmaking.** Kings Court. Join Lauren from Pine Barrens Post for an educational look at traditional beeswax candle making. Learn how beeswax candles are made, then roll up your sleeves and dip one yourself!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

10 a.m – 2 p.m. **18th-Century Chocolate Making.** Kings Court. Explore the world of historic chocolate with a display of raw cacao, traditional tools, and samples, then watch an authentic chocolate drink prepared for tasting.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

10 a.m – 2 p.m. **Harpsichord & Voice: Music of Early America.** Kings Court. Ministers of the Apollo return with an elegant harpsichord and vocal performance featuring music of Early America, followed by a fascinating look at historical tarot traditions. This program blends artistry, interpretation, and period-appropriate storytelling for an afternoon that feels both reflective and delightfully unexpected. For more information on the group: <https://www.earlyamericanmusicandarts.com/>



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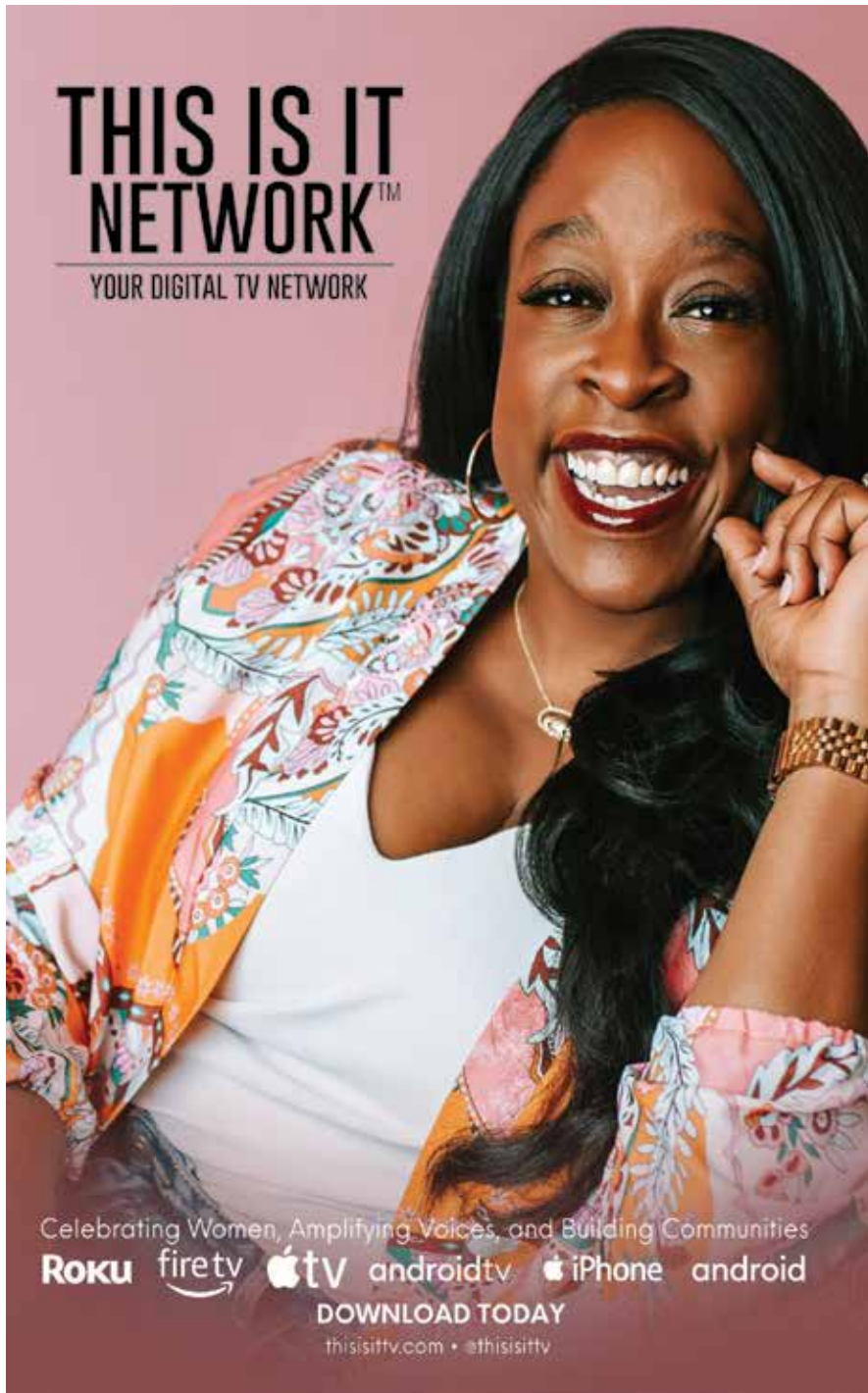
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