HOLIDAY EDITION '13



# Newsletter

FITLER SQUARE IMPROVEMENT ASSO

Scenes from 'Christmas tree lighting' gatherings over the years...



# ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS.

FSIA would like to thank Heather Nawoj and Enterprise Holdings for the generous grant of \$1,500 to help maintain and keep Fitler Square the beautiful park we all know and love.

#### Become a fan of Friends of Fitler Square

400 South Croskey Street Philadelphia, PA 19146 www.fitlersquare.org The mission of FSIA is to preserve, protect and beautify Fitler Square and we work in partnership with Philadelphia Department of Parks and Recreation.

#### **Board of Directors**

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## **Message from our President**

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

On behalf of the Board of the Fitler Square Improvement Association, I wish to express appreciation to everyone for making 2013 a record-setting year for both membership and contributions. We are proud to report we have 300 active members at this time.

We must thank Board member Derek Freres for his hard work and enormous effort as Director of Membership, but I personally would be remiss if I did not thank all of my fellow Board members for their dedication and loyalty.

It is a challenging time to look for volunteers; most people lack the time and energy needed to keep their <u>own</u> lives on schedule, and I have been very fortunate to be surrounded with a great group of people, all bringing a unique talent, energy and insight to our meetings and activities.

Over the past few years, sadly, we have lost some of our team, but we have picked up a few new enthusiastic members who will hopefully stay with the FSIA into the future.

The Board works very diligently to spend your donations carefully and in the best interest of Fitler Square and our neighborhood. So as we enter our 52nd year of tending to our little "gem" of a park, Fitler Square continues to be a favorite spot for all to enjoy.

Have a great holiday season and New Year!

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Judy

### **In Memorium**

We regret to announce the death of Miss Anne Rowland, a long-time supporter of Fitler Square and an honorary member of our Board of Trustees.

Anne was born in Philadelphia in 1923 and was a direct descendant of our park's namesake, former Mayor Edwin Fitler. She was an active philanthropist and environmentalist in Philadelphia and will be truly missed by all of us in the Fitler Square Improvement Association who knew her.

# Why Can't My Dog Walk Through Fitler Square?

Your dog CAN walk through Fitler Square, just only on the walkways.



We on the Board of Fitler Square love dogs; in fact, many of us own a four-legged friend. But after many hours of thoughtful discussion on the topic, we felt it necessary to request

our grassy areas be designated a DOG-FREE ZONES.

At our Fitler Square meetings, and all of the City Parks and Recreation meetings we have attended with other neighborhood park representatives, dog waste is always a topic of concern. There has even been a Task Force established looking for ways to enforce cleanup laws, etc. It ruins the grass and is a health hazard for people.

Ultimately, we realized that there are more places in the city for a dog to relieve himself/herself than there

are places for a person to lay down a blanket to picnic or do yoga, especially in our neighborhood.

Every year before our Annual Easter Egg Hunt we would have to designate a "Pooper Scooper" volunteer to clear the



grassy areas before the festivities. We also have many preschool and young children utilizing Fitler Square during the day, and after school it is an oasis for the toddlers to safely play when the older kids take over the playground at Markward.

So with a Dog Run in neighboring Schuylkill River Park, a mere three blocks away, we like to think of our lawn as a green, grassy Toddler Run.

We appreciate your support!

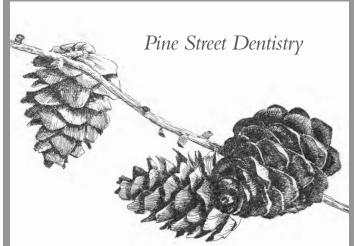


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#### Thank you to all of our Fitler Square Improvement Association 2013 Friends!

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\* 2013 Dues paid to date. If you have any changes or corrections, please email them to fsia1962@gmail.com.

#### Become a FSIA Friend or Renew your **Membership Today!**

Annual membership dues and other individual donations fund major improvements to and the maintenance of Fitler Square.

Your membership dues and donations support all of these efforts. We could not realize our mission to improve and maintain our charming Fitler Square without your support.

Please become a member today!

#### Membership Levels:

Fountain	\$500
Bear	\$300
Ram	\$200
Turtle	\$100
Family	\$50
Individual	\$35

FSIA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Contributions to the Fitler Square Improvement Association may be made at FitlerSquare.org by using PayPal or mailing a check payable to:

Fitler Square Improvement Association 400 S Croskey Street Philadelphia, PA 19146

Thank you for your support!

www.fitlersquare.org 🍦 HOLIDAY EDITION '13

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# Securing the future of our community is just as important as securing the future of our clients.

That's why we're a proud sponsor of Fitler Square Improvement Association

John Fischer is pleased to support the important work of Fitler Square Improvement Association. A strong partnership in making our community a better place to live and work.

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# How your dollars are being spent:

If you haven't noticed...we did a lot of work on the Square this past year and your yearly memberships and donations help us to make Fitler Square the most beautiful Square in Philadelphia!

Our biggest expense was the scraping, sanding and repainting of our wrought iron fence surrounding the park, at a cost of \$15,687.00. The monies raised from the Jubilee celebration were used to cover this expenditure.

Our irrigation system needed some improvements; installing several new sprinkler heads grew into a



full revamping and a change of contractors. That total cost amounted to \$10,011.00.

Our trees, under the careful eye of John Studdy from Bartlett Tree Service, were pruned and maintained at a cost of \$8,326.00.

As always, some brickwork and stone repair was necessary, including extra brick laid around the 23rd and Pine Street tree,



where our new benches will be set back further away from the tree, creating a more spacious sitting area. That cost was \$6,055.00.

Our landscaper, gardener and groundsmen were a cost of \$6,812.00, and all must agree, this is "green" well spent.

It takes a lot of money to maintain a park, and this is all made possible through your support.





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River to River 1 Townhouse New Construction 1 Co-op Condo 1 Commercial

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