



WEST MT. AIRY NEIGHBORS  
 6703 GERMANTOWN AVENUE, SUITE 200  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19119  
 215-438-6022 FAX 215-844-9167  
 E-MAIL: WMAN@WMAN.NET  
 WWW.WMAN.NET

# WMAN NEWS

WINTER 2006

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 3



## Save the Date!

Join us for the **Eat Your Heart Out!** fundraiser dinner, Saturday, March 18th 2006! Featuring Mt. Airy's finest home chefs and loveliest houses. *See page 3.*



*This photo, which is the property of the Germantown Historical Society, was taken circa 1900 by George Bacon Wood.*

## MT. AIRY HOUSE DESIGNED BY ARCHITECT OF CAPITOL DOME

WMAN recently supported the nomination of the Garrett Dunn property, 7048 Germantown Avenue, to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. The nomination, which was written by long-time WMAN Board member Lois Frischling, was ratified unanimously by the Philadelphia Historical Commission on January 13.

The house was designed in 1834 by renowned architect Thomas Ustick Walter, who also

designed Andelusia, the Biddle estate on the Delaware River, and the U.S. Capitol dome in Washington, DC. It was the home of George H. Garrett, whose family snuff business held the seventh trademark ever issued in this country, the oldest trademark still in use. The house is a superb example of Italianate design, and is the last intact, surviving example of this style of architecture on Germantown Avenue in Mt. Airy.

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



WMAN, along with several other community groups and grass roots activists, scored a huge victory when the Corner Deli, 6643-45 Germantown Avenue, lost its license to sell take-out beer under the provisions of Act 39. This new state law provided a unique opportunity for community input into which businesses are eligible to obtain take-out licenses, and WMAN lost no time in providing leadership to a coalition formed to take advantage of this opportunity.

### WHY IS THIS ONE VICTORY SO IMPORTANT?

First, it makes it possible for our community to rid itself of a nuisance which has plagued Mt. Airy for many, many years. The Corner Deli's decades-long business practice of selling take-out beverages to people who then loiter on the corner of Germantown Avenue and Phil-Ellena Street, has promoted drug dealing, harassment of passers-by, public urination and other antisocial behavior. These activities have been a particular burden on the near neighbors on both sides of the avenue. Several businesses in West Mt. Airy sell take-out beer, but only the Corner Deli has attracted customers who exhibit this kind of behavior.

Second, this victory makes it possible for WMAN, in concert with block groups and other organizations, to work with and influence businesses currently detrimental to our community.

A priority for WMAN in 2006 is promoting good business practices. We will continue to bring pressure for change in those businesses whose practices tear apart the fabric of our community.

Stay tuned, and call us if you wish to get involved!

## RECENT GRANTS

WMAN is fortunate to have the support of local elected officials who help us obtain funding from the Commonwealth's Department of Community and Economic Development for core programs and special initiatives. In addition, WMAN just received word of a Sustaining Grant of \$10,000 from The Philadelphia Foundation.



*Jarma Frisby thanks State Senator LeAnna Washington (left) for her support for WMAN.*



*Kevin Peter, WMAN's Vice President for Finance, and Jarma Frisby meet with Rep. Rosita Youngblood to acknowledge her support for WMAN's core programs.*

## EAT YOUR HEART OUT!

Delicious food and interesting company in beautiful West Mt. Airy houses... what could be better? That's what a group of WMAN volunteers have planned for you on Saturday, March 18th. **Eat Your Heart Out!**, WMAN's signature fund raising event this year, will feature delectable meals created by some of our community's most remarkable cooks, served in the dining rooms of some of Mt. Airy's most interesting homes.

Want to join us for cocktails? Judy and Ken Weinstein have graciously offered their home for a reception to kick off the event. From there, guests will proceed to the dinner of their choice. Each dinner will have a theme created with your dining pleasure in mind. Here are some of the feasts we are offering:

- **New Orleans-Inspired** haute cuisine of shrimp and filet, brought to you by Weavers Way manager and well known epicure Glenn Bergman, at the lovely home of Diane and Ken Shropshire;
- **Spanish Tapas Fiesta!** Enjoy a varied and exciting buffet, brought to you by Women in Tuxedos catering co-hosted by Allyson and Mitch Bormack and Nancy and Michael Verruto in their beautiful Pelham homes;
- **A Mediterranean Spring**, glorious food created for you by Anna Herman, renowned Mt. Airy chef, at the stately home of former WMAN President and Board members Tom Sugrue and Dana Barron;
- Do you love bright, strong flavors? Let Annette McDaniel-Turner and Michael L. Turner host you for Claudia Raab's **Cuban Feast** complete with marinated pork and topped off with homemade Havana Lime Ginger Ice;
- **Delizioso!** Experience the best of **Italy**, right here in **Mt. Airy**, when Margaret Shapiro and Howard Bilofsky host you in the famed Sadie Alexander House! Mira Rabin, former WMAN President, is guest chef;
- **Southern Comfort** is on the menu as Darragh Muldoon, Jan DeRuiter, and Theresa and Rick Landell team up to bring you an unforgettable evening of good food and great company. Jan's signature smoked meats are not to be missed;
- What could be more enticing than an aromatic **Moroccan Vegetarian** dinner? Linda and Jake Kriger invite you to join them as Chef Mark Heller creates an unforgettable meal;
- An **Alpine Feast** will await you at the home of Kate Maus and Stephen Wren, complete with Claire Rosenstein's stuffed pork roast braised in cider and sauteed broccoli rabe.

**Eat Your Heart Out!** is the brainchild of WMAN Board member Sharon Ward, and chaired by West Mt. Airy resident Nazie Dana. Look for your invitation in the mail in mid-February, and plan to join us for what promises to be a fun, exciting event! All proceeds benefit WMAN's community programs. For more information or to have an invitation sent to you, call the WMAN office at 215-438-6022.

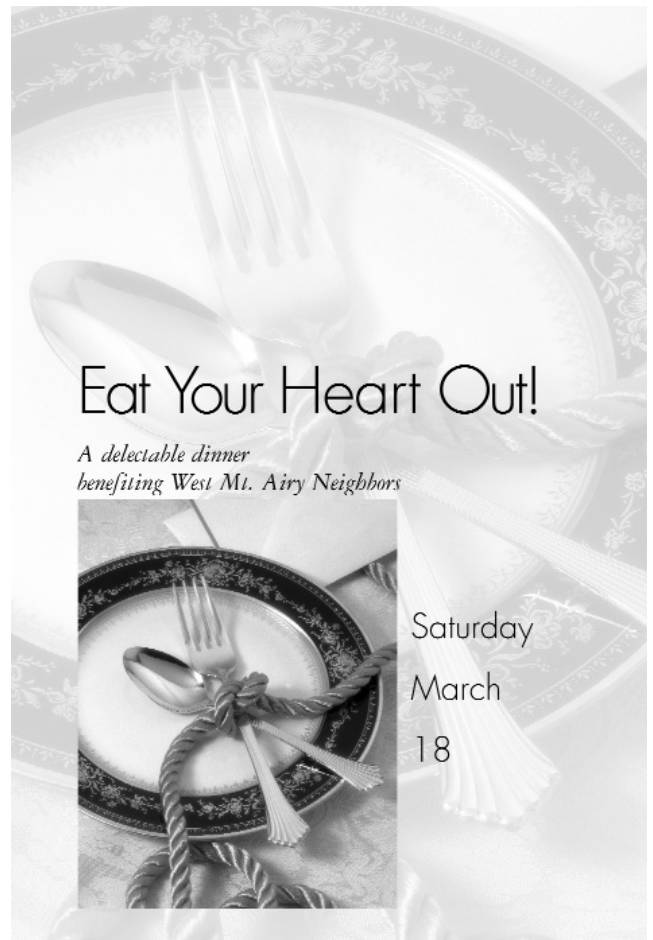
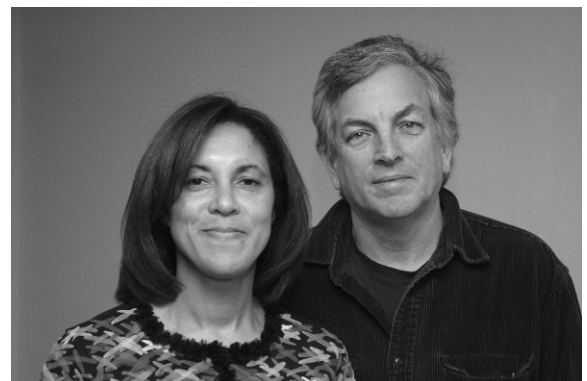


photo by Ken Burgess, www.kenography.com



*Glenn Bergman and Diane Shropshire discussing plans for their **EAT YOUR HEART OUT!** dinner. Glenn, Weavers Way Co-op Manager and well known chef, will present a gourmet feast at the home of Diane and her husband Ken on March 18th.*

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**WMAN ANNOUNCES BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM**

Want to get the word out to Mt. Airy folks about your company, service, or special talent? West Mt. Airy Neighbors is launching a Business Sponsorship Program, beginning with the next issue of the newsletter. Your message can be carried in these pages, which are sent quarterly to 6,000 households in West Mt. Airy and to political and business leaders throughout northwestern Philadelphia.

There will also be opportunities to sponsor events such as Mt. Airy Day, which draws up to 10,000 people.

For more information about the Business Sponsorship Program, please contact Laura M. Siena, Executive Director of West Mt. Airy Neighbors, at (215) 438-6022 or at wman@wman.net.



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6703 Germantown Avenue, Suite 200  
Philadelphia, PA 19119  
215-438-6022  
E-mail wman@wman.net  
www.wman.net



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