

ON THE WEST SIDE

THE UNIVERSITY
CITY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



June, 2004

<http://www.uchs.net>

Mike Hardy, Editor

A BIG



JUNE WEEKEND

for UCHS members is coming this June 12 and 13, as we celebrate homes and gardens with visits to **Garden Court Community Association's** annual "progressive dinner" on Saturday night and a train trip and walking tour of the houses and "secret" gardens of midtown **Harrisburg, Pennsylvania** with **UC Green** on Sunday.

Saturday night, from 5:30 to 9:30 pm., you are invited to join in the **Garden Court Community Association's Progressive Dinner** for a special strolling three-course buffet meal at three close-by houses in this historic neighborhood. Specifically, appetizers will be served from 5:30 - 7 pm. at **400 S. 46th Street**, entrees from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at **4603 Cedar Avenue** and desserts from 8:30 - 9:30 pm. at **435 S. 46th Street**. New this year among the courses and chatter will be the opportunity to explore a bit of the history of the **Garden Court** neighborhood at various periods of its development with help from the **University City Historical Society** and special invited guests. GCCA and UCHS members pay \$25/person with other prices for non-members, children and teens. For reservations and additional information, call (215) 476-2874 or (215) 747-6371. You need to do this in advance, as all the food is prepared by volunteers.

If you haven't attended this area event, you have

missed a neighborhood tradition and opportunity to meet the occupants and see the insides of a few of the classic residences of this truly distinctive area of University City.

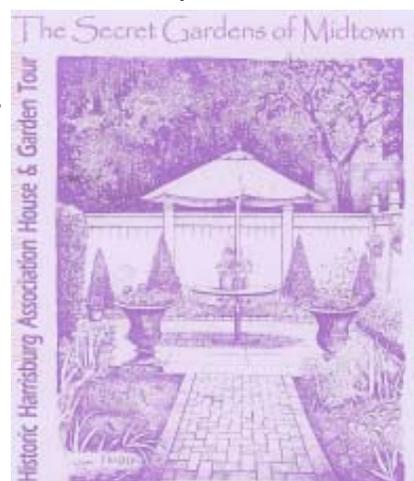
And on Sunday, June 13, we will join **UC Green** to experience "The Secret Gardens of Midtown," **Historic Harrisburg Association's Spring House**

& **Garden Tour** featuring homes in Harrisburg's historic midtown.

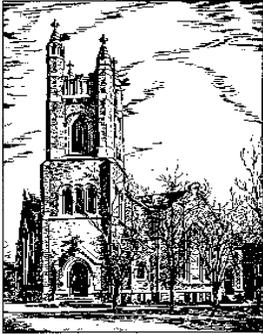
Meet at Philadelphia's **30th Street Station's** central food court (by **Bucks County Coffee**) at 8 am. to catch the 8:45 train to Harrisburg (roundtrip fares range from \$36.55 senior to \$43 adult). Enjoy an optional brunch in historic Harrisburg and visit the oldest farmer's market in the state. If you haven't purchased your tour ticket in advance, pick up tickets at \$15/person at the HHA office and begin the tour which runs from 1 pm. to 5 pm. Tour at your own pace and catch the 4:35 pm. or 7 pm. train back to Philadelphia. Lots of walking, so wear comfortable shoes.

You are responsible for all costs for brunch, train, and tour tickets. Please RSVP to us if you are attending by contacting info@uchs.net or (215) 387-3019. Call **Historic Harrisburg Resource Center** at (717) 233-4646 or historicharrisburg@choiceonemail.com for more information or advanced tickets at \$12/each or check out <http://www.historicharrisburg.com>.

Plenty of time to sleep on the train.



SPRING CLEANING



/PLANTING

and a new step in the renewal of the **Calvary Center for Culture and Community** at 48th and Baltimore Avenue will take place this coming Saturday, June 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers are invited to help clean the interiors of this historic church/community/cultural center and plant a newly redesigned public landscape provided by the **Baltimore Avenue Commercial Corridor Initiative** of the **University City District** in preparation for new exterior signage and lighting for the building. A special benefit for workers is an up-close look at the details of this spectacular building's "opportunities in the making" with its spectacular spaces and **Tiffany** windows. Learn also about the latest fundraising efforts to restore and renew the building for its new public functions.

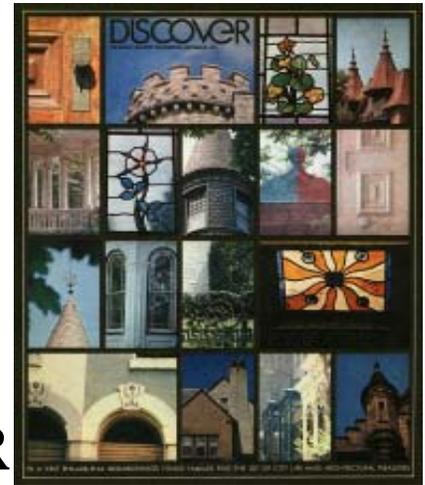
Wear old clothing, bring work gloves and, depending on your interests, brooms, dust pans, brushes or gardening tools. Pizza and drinks will be provided to all who labor.

ARTICLES ENCLOSED

in this newsletter are copies of three articles among the flurry of those published in support of historic preservation in Philadelphia in the wake of **Councilwoman Blackwell's** unfortunate efforts to cripple the **Philadelphia Historical Commission**.

These particular pieces focus on issues and efforts of particular concern to University City and one provides another vehicle for adding your own voice to the chorus of concern among those interested in preserving the historical heritage of the city.

A NEW/ OLD POSTER



is being offered to UCHS members and the public which features the "**Architectural Treasures**" of University City in a mosaic of details captured in color photographs by artist/member **Sylvia Barkan** for the October 10, 1971 edition of **Discover**, the rotogravure magazine of the **Philadelphia Bulletin**. Sylvia had long been planning to "redo" this assemblage until persuaded that the cover was already a beautiful representation of many of the architectural details of the area (most still with us) and the inscription, "in a West Philadelphia neighborhood, young families find the joy of city life amid architectural treasures" seemed as telling then as now. So rather than messing with an already great thing, we have reproduced it in an archival ink jet reproduction and offer it to members for \$20 (non-members pay \$30) or in a special metal and glass frame for \$80 (or \$100 for non-members).

Framed examples can be seen in the **UCHS Board** meeting room at the **Calvary Center** on June 5 or on-going at the **Greenline Café, 43rd & Baltimore Avenue; Metropolitan Bakery, 4013 Walnut Street** and the **University City District, 3940 Chestnut Street**.

To order, send your checks to **UCHS** marked "**Architectural Treasures**" posters in the amounts above. Orders will need to be hand delivered or with special provisions made for getting these items to their new owners. If you live in the area, that means arranging for personal delivery or pick up. If you live elsewhere, we can include the costs of special mailing.