

POTTSTOWN BID PRESENTS FIVE-YEAR VISION FOR NORTH CHARLOTTE STREET ARTS DISTRICT

Proposal aims to activate vacant storefronts, support creative businesses, and strengthen downtown community connections

The Pottstown Business Improvement District Management Association presented a proposed Arts District during Borough Council's September 9 Committee of the Whole meeting, outlining a five-year vision to bring new activity to North Charlotte Street through creative businesses, public art, and community programming.

The proposed district would focus on North Charlotte Street between High and Beech streets. The presentation identified approximately 10 vacant storefronts along

the corridor, including spaces described as having been empty for 20 years or longer. The proposal envisions working with property owners to explore galleries, artist studios, artisan retail, and other complementary uses.

Regular Art Walks, pop-up markets, and community events would help connect these spaces and encourage visitors to explore nearby shops, restaurants, and services. Occasional street closures for special events were also discussed as a



The Pottstown BID presents its proposed Arts District during Borough Council's September 9, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting.

possibility, subject to coordination and approvals.

The presentation highlighted creative activity already taking shape along the corridor. Charlotte Street Coffee was recognized as a gathering place for artists and residents, while the YWCA was identified as a supportive community anchor. Nexus Gallery and Mud Slingers Ceramics School & Creative Studio were highlighted as emerging businesses bringing additional opportunities to experience, create, and purchase art downtown.

The proposal also builds on Pottstown's established arts community, including Steel River Playhouse, The High Street Music Company, ArtFusion 19464, and the Pottstown Area Artists Guild. Connecting these longstanding organizations with newer creative businesses would help

strengthen the visibility and reach of arts programming throughout Pottstown.

Youth involvement is another priority. The presentation explored opportunities to engage students and educational partners, including potential collaboration with The Hill School, in projects that connect young people with local artists and their community.

The proposed first year would focus on forming an advisory committee under the BID, confirming the district's name, engaging property owners, and recruiting businesses. The second year would emphasize Art Walks, pop-up shops, signage and façade improvements, and coordinated digital marketing. Goals for years three through five include additional storefront activations, public art installations, regional promotion, and a signature annual event.

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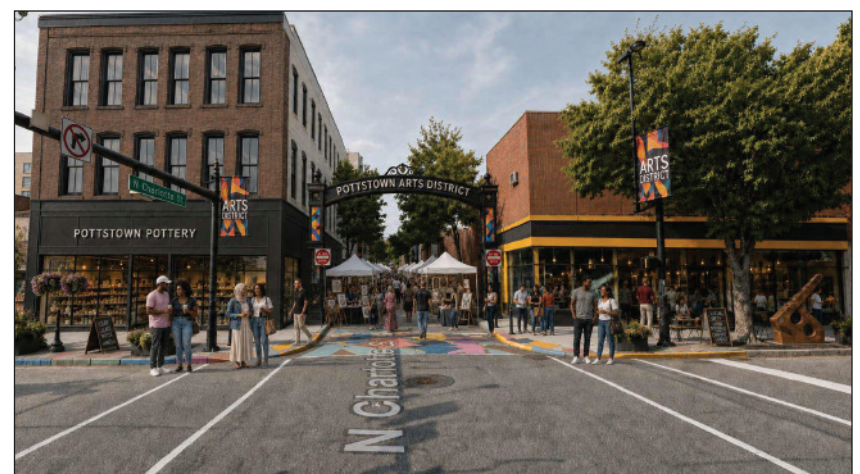
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Rendering of what the Arts District could look like.



Attendees fill Council chambers during the September 9 meeting, where the BID presented its proposed Arts District.

Potential government, foundation, and corporate funding sources were identified for further exploration. The timeline would depend on funding, partnerships, property-owner participation, and applicable approvals.

Through this coordinated effort, the BID aims to support local talent, create opportunities for small businesses, strengthen community pride, and give res-

idents and visitors more reasons to spend time downtown.

The BID is seeking letters of support and prospective grant application partners as planning continues. Property owners, artists, businesses, and community organizations interested in participating are encouraged to contact Danielle Kangas at dkangas@discoverpottstown.org.

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FOCUS ON POTTSTOWN REVITALIZATION

Gary's Carpet & Flooring Depot – Serving the Pottstown Area Since 1994

Gary's Flooring Depot is a locally owned flooring business located at 237 West High Street in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. The company has been serving the Pottstown area since 1994, giving it more than 30 years of local history.

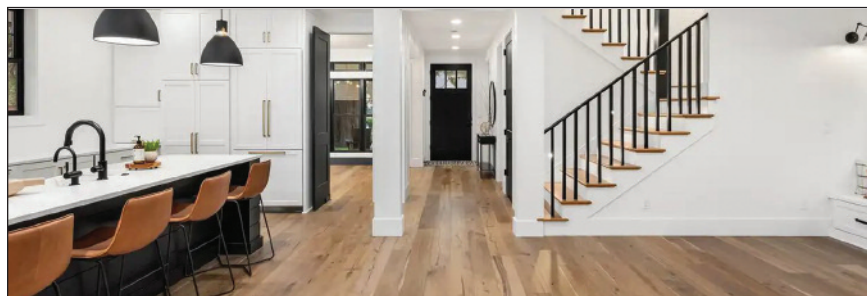
1994 — The Beginning

The company was founded as a local flooring business by Gary Stepler and has remained deeply rooted in the Pottstown community, maintaining its local ownership and connection rather than becoming part of a national chain or big-box retailer.

Growing into a Full-Service Flooring Company

Over the years, Gary's expanded beyond simply selling carpet. Today, the company offers a broad range of flooring products, including:

- Carpet
- Hardwood
- Luxury vinyl/LVP
- Laminate
- Tile
- Vinyl flooring
- Area rugs and related flooring products



A Long-Standing Pottstown Presence

Gary's currently operates from 237 West High Street in Pottstown, where its showroom serves homeowners throughout Pottstown and surrounding communities, including Royersford, Collegeville, Limerick, Gilbertsville, and beyond.

The company's history emphasizes its relationship with local customers, describing them as friends and neighbors. Gary's has been a part of the community for approximately 30 years.

Experience and Installation

Another important part of Gary's history is its emphasis on experienced installers. The

company employs installation professionals with at least 10 years of experience in their respective fields.

Customer testimonials also provide a picture of the company's long-term reputation. Reviews describe projects ranging from carpet and vinyl installations to tile and remodeling work, with customers specifically mentioning craftsmanship, communication, and attention to detail.

Gary's Today

Today, Gary's has evolved into a full-service flooring and remodeling business while retaining the local, family-oriented identity it has promoted since its early years.

As of August 2021, Christopher Wanner

was the owner and has taken steps to expand the business, including recently adding a Business Development Sales Representative to the team.

Getting to Know Kellie Tully

Kellie Tully is an experienced real estate agent based in Pennsylvania, known for her client-first approach and unique background in the performing arts.

Kellie has more than 11 years of experience as a licensed Realtor. Her primary real estate specialties include serving as a Buyer's Agent, Listing Agent, and coordinating relocations.

Her reviews cite her deep local knowledge, process expertise, strong negotiation skills, and responsiveness. Clients frequently mention her patience and honest insight throughout the home-buying process. Kellie brings these same qualities to Gary's Flooring Depot, where she works to build strong relationships with everyone she encounters.

Beyond real estate, Kellie is a professional singer, dancer, and actor. She has a background in theatrical performance, having performed throughout the country, in Philadelphia, Canada, with bands, and in movies and television.



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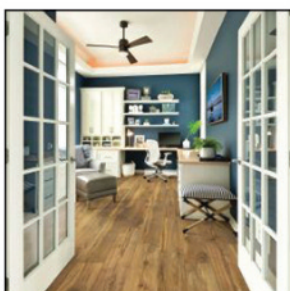
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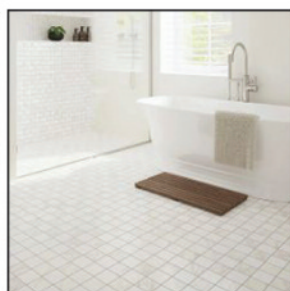
Carpet



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Leighann — Inside Sales Representative and "Measure Queen"

We would be remiss not to mention our Inside Sales Representative and "Measure Queen," Leighann. She is vital to the company, handling the majority of inside sales, taking measurements for clients, and converting those measurements into quotes.

The company's current approach includes: **Local Ownership • Flooring Sales • Professional Installation • Design Assistance • Remodeling Services • In-Home Consultations**

Gary's currently offers a shop-at-home service, allowing customers to have flooring samples brought directly to their homes rather than requiring them to visit the showroom exclusively.

Gary's Triple Guarantee

Gary's Flooring Depot currently promotes a Triple Guarantee:

1. Zero Regrets Guarantee

If you aren't in love with your new floor, we will replace the material with one of equal or lesser value one time at no charge.

Installation, as well as the removal and disposal of the existing flooring, is required.

2. Lifetime Installation Guarantee

This goes far above and beyond the manufacturer's warranty. We are so confident in our installation that we guarantee it, so you can be worry-free. If your flooring becomes damaged as a result of improper installation, we will repair or replace it at no charge.

Abuse, accidents, improper maintenance, or site-related damage to the flooring are not covered.

3. Professional Installer Guarantee

Our installers are neat, clean, well-groomed, well-spoken, and professional. Each installer has a minimum of 10 years of experience in their respective field.

For additional information, please call 610.323.8881 and visit www.garysflooringdepot.com.



Cole Tobacco

Cole Tobacco, located at 215 E. High Street in downtown Pottstown, has everything you need to get started rolling your own carton of cigarettes for \$10. The friendly staff at Cole Tobacco are more than happy to show you how, just ask. Cole Tobacco has a walk-in humidor, with a wide range of high-grade cigars.

Join Cole's Tobacco Cigar Club to earn an additional ten percent off the purchase of high-grade cigars. Cole Tobacco also carries lots of old-time candy, penny candy, smoke odor candles, incense, cigarette cases, flasks, and a wide variety of vape products. For additional information, please call 610.323.4991.

Hope Capital Investments

Hope Capital Investments is a full-service real estate investment company dedicated to revitalizing communities and creating long-term value for property owners. As a "one-stop shop" our company helps investors purchase, renovate, and manage investment property. With an in-house construction crew, we can build homes from the ground up, also

servicing homeowners with exceptional renovation work including roofing, siding, plumbing, HVAC, kitchens, bathrooms, paint, flooring and more. Our mission is to transform properties into homes while delivering exceptional service. Text or call Vincent Hope at 267.966.7421 and visit www.Hopecillc.com for more information!



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Coventry Parlor at Laurel Locks

Coventry Parlor at Laurel Locks, located at 653 Laurelwood Road, Pottstown, PA 19465 is open for breakfast, lunch six days a week, Tuesday through Sunday. They are open Monday for ice cream and baked goods from 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM, and now open for dinner Tuesday through Sunday from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. "Our soups are something that we take great pride in, especially during the fall and winter," said owner Austin Dunhour. "Come get warmed up with a cup of soup and a sandwich. Nothing pretentious. We use quality ingredients and take the time to create all of our offerings."

Austin and Mary Catherine Dunhour are also continuing the Coventry Parlor tradition of offering a wide selection of fresh baked goods. "We have this robust baked food program that we're only trying

to increase especially around the holiday season," Austin Dunhour said. "Leave the baking to us. Everybody is so busy during the holiday season so we offer all of your classic holiday favorites at reasonable prices for holiday parties, corporate events and family gatherings," he said, adding, "As we continue to grow, we want to offer our space to encourage more get togethers and community, group-based activities, church groups, youth groups and after-school gatherings. We want people to use this space as much as possible. It's a beautiful piece of real estate that we want to encourage people to use and visit."

You can now get your Coventry Parlor favorites delivered to your door on GRUBHUB. For additional information, please call 484.300.4911 and visit www.coventryparloratlaurellocks.com.



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Ye Old Coventry Pub

“Good Food, Good Friends and Good Times” has been the motto of the Coventry Pub for many years. Conveniently located South of Pottstown and North of Bucktown on Route 100, the Coventry Pub was originally a farmhouse and started as a pub in 1960. Ye Old Coventry Pub is famous for its hand carved roast beef — cooked and carved from a standing beef roast, and home-made snapper soup. In addition, the Pub features a full lunch and dinner menu, and a variety of sandwiches and salads, as well as a comfortable bar. The friendly Pub is a perfect place to watch sports and chat. The Pub also has a separate dining room, and we have patio dining — weather permitting — dogs are welcome to sit out at the patio.

Daily specials: Every Monday — special “2-for-dinners” with five choices — chef special dinners; Tuesday — Taco Tuesday; Wednesday — Burger Day specials; Thursday — Clam special & Trivia, 7-9 P.M. featuring fun and prizes. Weekend dinner specials include Prime Rib; Saturday afternoon — Soup and Sandwich special; Sunday — Family Day-Wert’s Birch Beer on tap from 1960s, a local favorite from Topton; Shepherd’s pie and children’s menu.

The Coventry Pub features 11 drafts with three rotating seasonal taps. There is always a draft and cocktail special. Check out our Facebook page for daily specials and events. For more information, please call 610.323.5790.

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North End Florist

Whether they wanted flowers for a wedding, signs of love and affection for Valentine’s Day, honoring parents on Mother’s and Father’s Day, sympathy arrangements for a funeral, bouquets, wristlets, and boutonnieres for the prom, sending to a special someone far away, North End Florist has always been the go-to place for the Pottstown Community’s floral needs.

North End Florist is well known for their ability to create custom designed arrangements. Although their work is

always on display in the glass cooler cases, the pieces that usually are not seen are for funerals. Our designers have been asked to incorporate quite a variety of items and mementos into these pieces. Some of our best remembered pieces included a Firestone tire; a pair of Harley Davidson boots; and a pair of fireman’s boots.

North End Florist is located at 403 N. Charlotte Street, Pottstown, PA 19464. For additional information, please call 610.327.4447 and visit www.northend-florist.com.

Embody’s Sunoco Service Center

Embody’s Sunoco, located at 1435 East High Street in Pottstown, has been serving the surrounding area for 55 years! Embody’s is a family-owned and operated establishment. Hours are Monday through Friday, 6 AM to 9 PM, Saturday and Sunday 7 AM to 7 PM. They accept all major credit cards. Terry Embody’s expert technicians service all makes and models of vehicles.

Some of Embody’s services include: Pick up and delivery of vehicle; PA State Safety and Emissions Inspections; Factory-scheduled maintenance, Sales

and service of many major brands of tires; Computerized wheel balancing; Brake service; Exhaust repair and replacement; Air conditioning & cooling system maintenance and repair; Tune-ups and computerized engine diagnostics; Fuel injection service; Engine repair; Transmission service; Steering and suspension repairs; Replacement of shocks and struts; and Road Services such as emergency jump and tire repair.

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Pottstown Dance Theatre

New Classes Formed and New Students Welcome

The Pottstown Dance Theatre recently started its 2026-2027 season and is still accepting new students for most classes! Styles include Ballet and Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Musical Theater, Creative Movement, Modern/Contemporary, Hip-Hop, Breakdance, Acro Dance Arts, African Dance, Irish Dance, and now: *Popping, Locking, and Tutting!* This genre is often thought of as a sub-genre of Hip-Hop and really helps a dancer get a "GROOVE"! It's a fun way to get funky, really get a great workout, and is taught by Dr. David Heller. You'll love the music and rhythmic vibe!

The studio also has an established Pilates program which includes Mat classes, Reformer Classes, and private lessons on the Trapeze Table (also known as the "Cadillac") given by certified and long-term instructor, Michelle Jones Wurtz. Pilates is great for maintaining core strength, flexibility, and can ease back pain, arthritis, and various other joint issues. Many orthopedic specialists recommend Pilates to alleviate pain and



strengthen areas of concern. You get a great workout without stressing the joints!

Preliminary dance levels are a great way to introduce young students to the joy of movement and the benefits that transfer into daily life. They learn to work in different rhythms, in group settings, stretching techniques, age-appropriate choreography, and often make new friends. These classes include

First Steps (for age three), Creative Movement (for ages four and five), Intro to Tap and Jazz (for ages 6-8), and PreBallet (for ages 6-8). You'll love how your little one twirls and feels the music! Call the studio at 610.323.2569 or visit the website at www.pottstowndance.com to get registered. Don't wait as some classes have filled up!



New Students Still Welcome at Pottstown Dance Theatre

Space is available in most classes including: Ballet & Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Musical Theater, Contemporary/Modern, Acro, Hip-Hop, Popping/Locking, Breakdance, African Dance, Irish Dance, Creative Classes, and Pilates.

Call **610-323-2569** or visit **www.pottstowndance.com**
72 W. Main St., Pottstown PA 19465



Pottstown Dance Theatre
Michelle Jones Wurtz, Director
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72 W. Main St., Pottstown PA 19465
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Steve's North End Mower Shop

In 1953, Steve's North End Mower Shop began its quest to provide quality service on outdoor power equipment. Owner Steve Binczak quickly brought in the product lines of Toro, Gravely and Snapper. Through the early years the business had slowly grown with more homeowners having gas powered lawn and garden equipment.

In 1965, current owner Carl Hessler started working for Steve's North End Mower Shop while still attending Pottsgrove High School.

In 1969, Steve's North End Mower Shop moved to its current location on Mangers Mill Road. Building on continued growth, picked up the handheld product line called McCulloch.

In 1984, Carl had purchased the business from Steve. Deciding to leave the name so as to not confuse current and new customers.

In 1999, the snowblower lineup by Ariens was added.

In 2017, Echo handheld products were added to the lineup offered at Steve's North End Mower Shop.

Still to this day, 41 years later Steve's North End Mower Shop is still owned by



Carl and is coordinated with his son Gary. They provide sales and services to homeowners, landscapers and municipalities. Their major brands today include Toro, Gravely, Ariens and Echo. Service is provided on most other brands they do not sell.

Next time you're in need of repair or replacement of your current outdoor lawn and garden equipment, give Steve's North End Mower Shop a call or email.

Visit www.stevesmowership.com to get detailed information about us and meet our dedicated staff members. We're looking forward to working with you.

Steve's North End Mower Shop is located at 435 Mangers Mill Road, Pottstown, PA 19464. For additional information please call 610.323.7003.