

## Center City-centric Books Make Great Gifts for the Holidays

Looking for the perfect gift? How about a book from the pages of *Center City Quarterly*? We've scabbled about in our dusty archives and come up with a nifty selection. All are available on Amazon, or you may wish to order through your local bookseller.

—Bill West

### Vincent Feldman, *City Abandoned: Charting the Loss of Civic Institutions in Philadelphia* (2014).

"For many years, he has photographed abandoned buildings throughout Philadelphia, some of which remain abandoned, others of which have since been demolished, some of which have been saved."

Philippa H. Campbell, "CCRA Annual Meeting May 20 to Feature Photographer and Author Vincent Feldman," CCQ, Spring 2015, p. 1. [http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949\\_CCRA\\_1stQ\\_2015\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949_CCRA_1stQ_2015_WEB.pdf)

### Sue Eisenfeld, *Shenandoah: A Story of Conservation and Betrayal* (2015)

"Eisenfeld traces her off-trail hiking adventures and discoveries of old cemeteries, house foundations, and artifacts in the backwoods, and tells the true story of the American settlers who were forced to leave their homes in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains during the FDR administration's creation of Shenandoah National Park."

Bonnie Eisenfeld, "Author and Greenfield Alum Sue Eisenfeld to Speak at Athenaeum," CCQ, Spring 2015, p. 5. [http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949\\_CCRA\\_1stQ\\_2015\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949_CCRA_1stQ_2015_WEB.pdf)

### Charles Montgomery, *Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design* (2013).

"In the year after Charlotte, N.C., installed the LYNX light rail, people who lived near the commuter line walked 1.2 miles per day more than they had before, and lost an average of 6.5 lbs."

Virginia K. Nalencz, "Urbanists to Cities: C'mon, Get Happy," CCQ, June 2014, p. 12. [http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/21806\\_CCRA\\_June-July\\_Digital\\_Color.pdf](http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/21806_CCRA_June-July_Digital_Color.pdf)

### Jeff Speck, *Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Step at a Time* (2012).

"The skyline dazzles, green parks refresh, streets thrum with busy shops and restaurants, housing offers options high and low—congratulations, says Jeff Speck, but if you want to do just one thing to allow your city to thrive in the 21st century, make it possible to live there without a car."

Virginia K. Nalencz, "Up with Walkability, Down with Traffic Studies (and Take Another Look at Minimum Parking Requirements)," CCQ, June 2013, p. 1. <http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/June%20newsletter%20for%20web.pdf>

### Jane Jacobs, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961).

"Jane Jacobs' 1961 book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, launched a national conversation."

Dane Wells, "Why Preservation? A Case for Shielding Our Heritage," CCQ, Fall 2014, p. 4. [http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22136\\_CCRA\\_3rdQ\\_2014\\_web.pdf](http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22136_CCRA_3rdQ_2014_web.pdf)

### Tony Junker, *Tunnell's Boys* (2005).

"Published in 2005, his historical novel, *Tunnell's Boys*, is set in 19th century Quaker Philadelphia and tells a story of the sea and conflicting views on war and peace during the Spanish American War in 1898."

Bonnie Eisenfeld, "Tony Junker: Architect, Teacher, Writer, Peacemaker," CCQ, March 2014, p. 9. [http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/21353\\_CCRA\\_March-April\\_FINAL\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/21353_CCRA_March-April_FINAL_WEB.pdf)



Nancy Moses, a Center City resident, is the author of a new book, *Stolen, Smuggled, Sold: On the Hunt for Cultural Treasures*. Each chapter tells a different and interesting story about a work of art, artifact, or document that went missing. Each story is a good read based on the facts alone, and each chapter is enhanced by the author's first-person narrative about her journey of discovery, her commentary, and her questions about each of the items. Her writing is vivid and makes the reader visualize these items and imagine their travels. You grow to love each piece and eagerly await the outcome to learn if it found its home.

Previously the Executive Director of the Atwater Kent Museum (now the Philadelphia History Museum), Moses is a consultant to nonprofit organizations. In addition, she is one of the producers of a TV series, *The Women of Philadelphia: A Documentary*, and the founder of Women for Social Innovation, a giving circle, dedicated to developing social entrepreneurs in the Greater Philadelphia area.

— Bonnie Eisenfeld

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**Anthony Flint, *Wrestling with Moses: How Jane Jacobs Took on New York's Master Builder and Transformed the American City* (2009).**

“To those who wished to ban cars entirely, she replied that not the car itself, but allowing it to dominate planning decisions, created the problem.”

Virginia K. Nalencz, “What Would Jane Jacobs Do?” CCQ, September 2010, p. 13. [http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/CC\\_Quarterly/CCRA\\_Qtrly\\_September\\_2010.pdf](http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/CC_Quarterly/CCRA_Qtrly_September_2010.pdf)

**Nancy G. Heller, *Why a Painting Is Like a Pizza: A Guide to Understanding and Enjoying Modern Art* (2002).**

“Among her other books on art are *Women Artists: An Illustrated History* and *Imaging Dance: Visual Representation of Dancers and Dancing*.”

Bonnie Eisenfeld, “Nancy G. Heller: Dancer, Art Historian, Author, Teacher and Center City Resident,” CCQ, September 2012, p. 13. <http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/newsletter%20web%20version.pdf>

**Meryl Ain, Arthur M. Fischman, Stewart Ain, *The Living Memories Project: Legacies that Last* (2014).**

“*The Living Memories Project* is a collection of stories from Nick Clooney, Lynda Johnson Robb, Jack Klugman and others who lost someone dear to them, and how they keep memories of their loved ones alive through memory quilts, the arts, scholarships, poetry, recipes, and many other forms of remembrance.”

Nancy Colman, “Center City Writer Art Fischman Talks About *The Living Memories Project*,” CCQ, Spring 2015, p. 11. [http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949\\_CCRA\\_1stQ\\_2015\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.centercityresidents.org/Resources/Documents/22949_CCRA_1stQ_2015_WEB.pdf)

## Sephardic Jewish Cookbook Created from Inquisition Documents

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Rabbi Lance Sussman spoke about the history of Sephardic Jews and the Spanish Inquisition at the Gershman Y, Broad & Pine, on November 5. One in a series, and accompanied by colorful graphics designed by Joan Myerson Shrager, Sussman’s lecture covered the period from the 11th century until the 17th century.

During the Inquisition, many Jews converted to Christianity but maintained their cultural heritage, including dietary practices, such as not eating pork and cooking with oil instead of lard. Because of these household practices, *conversos* (as they were called) were often targets of the Inquisition. From testimony found in court documents, David M. Gitlitz and Linda Kay Davidson, professors at

the University of Rhode Island, created a cookbook and culinary history entitled *A Drizzle of Honey: The Lives and Recipes of Spain’s Secret Jews*, containing Sephardic Jewish recipes and stories of Sephardic Jewish culinary customs.

Sussman is senior rabbi at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, Elkins Park, and author of numerous books and articles. He is an expert in American Jewish history. Shrager is a digital artist and has exhibited in more than 75 juried, invitational, and solo exhibitions. Her digital work is in the permanent collection of the University of Pennsylvania.

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