

Candlelight House Tour



featuring Distinctive
Homes of Riverton

December 7th, 2024 - 4pm-9pm

Benefits the Riverton Free Library / www.RivertonFreeLibrary.org

Celebrating 125 years!

Home Addresses:

(Not necessary to follow this order.)

- Chris and Kristina LaDelfa - 202 Main St
- Deb Lengyel and Chris Halt - 400 Linden Ave
- Kim and Brooks Paulsen - 503 Bank Ave
- Kirk and Alison Fullerton - 105 Bank Ave
- Tiffany and Kevin Murphy - 209A Linden Ave
- Dana and Ed Feigenbutz - 412 Lippincott Ave



Welcome!



The Friends of the Riverton Library
welcome you to our
2024 Christmas Candlelight House Tour
Celebrating the Library's 125th Anniversary

Featured stops on the Tour:

- **Riverton Free Library (306 Main Street)** The Riverton Free Library Association was founded in 1899 by community volunteers. **Open for duration of the evening's ticket sales.**
- **The Porch Club (4th & Howard Streets)** The Porch Club of Riverton is a non-profit association founded in 1890 and one of the country's first organized women's clubs. The Porch Club's purpose has been to serve as a center for social, civic and cultural enrichment and change. **Open for refreshments and rest rooms.**
- **Calvary Presbyterian Church (300 4th Street)** Founded in 1874 and designed by Architect John Fraser, Calvary Presbyterian had notable founding trustees including Joseph Campbell, whose vegetable company would later become the Campbell's Soup Company and William Dreer who started world renown Dreer's Nursery located right here in Riverton.
- **Christ Episcopal Church (305 Main Street)** Christ Church and its Tiffany "Rose Window" has been welcoming visitors since 1855 as Riverton's first Victorian Congregation.
- **Riverview Estates (305 Bank Avenue)** The main building of what is now Riverview Estates was built in 1864 for Ezra Lippincott (1836 – 1908). Mary Leverich, our founder, left a bequest for the purpose of providing housing for the elderly of south Jersey. A search committee spent a year seeking out the best location. We are all so pleased they chose Riverton and the Lippincott mansion! Riverview Estates is now home to 122 skilled nursing and assisted living residents, as well as rehab patients who visit for a short time while they regain their strength and mobility after a hospitalization. Some residents have called Riverview Estates home for 18 years, others return to their home after 3 weeks. Please stop by to enjoy a warm beverage and sweet treat in the original parlor of the mansion, decorated for the season. **Open until 8pm. Open for refreshments and rest rooms until 8pm.**

1 Chris and Kristina LaDelfa

202 Main St



Welcome to our home! We purchased this 1954 ranch style house in December 2017 as a downsize “passion project” to help us heal in the aftermath of breast cancer and job loss. The project became even more special when we learned the catalog kit home was originally built by the hands of our dear friend Julie’s grandparents, Lawrence “The Bear” and Ruth Schweizer, a beloved piano teacher to many Riverton children.

Five months leading up to moving our family of five here, we worked every weekend remodeling 3 of the original 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and the basement. We moved from Moorestown to Riverton in June 2018, when our third child graduated from high school. Then in October 2018, we began the renovation to convert the tired ranch into an open concept coastal cottage style two-story home. By the end of May, the landscaping and pool reno were complete, and our passion project materialized into a comfortable “staycation” home we could enjoy with family and friends.

The design and decor in our home is inspired by the history, environment and quiriness of Riverton itself. This includes the Delaware River, which we love to kayak on, the breathtaking sunsets, and the annual children’s 4th of July parade and Historic Riverton Criterium, both of which are routed past our house. Our home is our canvas for creative expression- our salt and our light. Our experience as survivors reminds us that life is short and we have developed a reputation for celebrating life and throwing large parties. We hope you have fun touring 202 Main and our whimsical Christmas Party set up. Please note, our holiday display includes Kristina’s mother Cynthia’s June McKenna Santa collection, a White House Christmas Ornament collection, a holiday Snowbabies collection and vintage ornaments belonging to our grandmothers. The LaDelfa family wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Blessed, Healthy New Year.

2 Deb Lengyel and Chris Halt **400 Linden Ave**



Chris & Deb are thrilled to share their 1920 4-square, which has been in Deb's family for over 50 years. They were married here by then Riverton Mayor Bruce Gunn in a surprise backyard BBQ wedding on July 4th, 2003. You may not know Chris & Deb by name, but you probably do know their two Old English Sheepdogs, Jelly & Donut.

The more modern addition was added in 2005, which juxtaposes with the charm of the original home. This multipurpose studio space also supplies solar electricity for their home. Chris & Deb began hosting house concerts in support of musicians who lost their venues during the pandemic. Notably, Tommy Stinson of The Replacements and Guns N' Roses, Lou Barlow of Dinosaur Jr., and Robyn Hitchcock are among other "up-and-comers". Their home has also become a destination for local organizations to conduct occasional events and meet & greets, including one attended by NJ Senator Andy Kim.

Honoring the "reuse/repurpose" mentality, their home is peppered with salvaged and vintage fixtures they have collected over decades. Four tiny rooms were consolidated into the more communal kitchen/dining space. Creativity and sparkle abound in vintage holiday decor scattered about... a display of their very own Christmas Cards spanning 25+ years... and their Pop Surrealism art collection.

3 Kim and Brooks Paulsen **503 Bank Ave**



The Paulsen's are excited to share their historic riverfront Greek revival home designed by Samuel Sloan in 1851 for Caleb Clothier, Founder and President of the Riverton Improvement Company. He, along with nine other prominent Quaker businessmen from Philadelphia, established Riverton so that their families could enjoy summer homes on the Delaware River. Caleb is also known for the store that his son, Isaac, founded with Justin Strawbridge in Philadelphia – Strawbridge and Clothier. It has been speculated that

this home was a stop on the Underground Railroad (Caleb Clothier was Treasurer of the Philadelphia Abolitionist's Society in the 1850's).

A later resident of this "Grand Lady" was Edward H. Ogden, the first mayor of Riverton, who was founder of the Riverton Yacht Club and the Riverton Country Club. He was instrumental in developing many businesses, including Riverton's first bank, the Palmyra Water Company as well as the Rivershore Gas Company (eventually PSE&G). His wife, Sarah Morris Perot Ogden, was a DAR member who was involved with many charitable organizations. As an early member of the Riverton Porch Club, she offered her home for the women to meet each week. Later, she donated the building for the Riverton Library in memory of her husband.

Kim Paulsen has been the President of the Riverton Library Association since 2016, so it seemed a natural fit for The Paulsen's to purchase this home in 2020. The family has enjoyed updating their home as well as honoring its history. The Paulsen's look forward to welcoming the community to celebrate this holiday season, as well as numerous other Riverfront activities for many years to come.

Brooks, Kim, Elliot and Kenold thank you for enjoying their home with them!

4 Kirk and Alison Fullerton **105 Bank Ave**

The newly constructed home built by local builders sits on the historic Riverton waterfront. The original classic waterfront estate known as "The Mapleton" was built in 1896 by Edward Bredell Showell Jr. and his wife Gertrude Bachelor Showell. The original home was grand in size and matched the scale and style of the C.C. Fittler home at 11 Bank Avenue. The Showell family was a very successful operator of grocery & liquor stores in the Philadelphia region and have had many notable descendants that stayed in Riverton for many years. There is no record of the "Mapleton" home existing in the 1940's nor record of why it was lost. Years later this home was replaced by a mid-century modern home with notable blooming gardens.

Today, the Fullerton family lives in the modern European style farmhouse built in 2023. The white brick home with cedar shake roof

features a large parapet on the main home and matching style on the detached garage. The home matches many modern features with old world style elements that combine for an inviting look.

The Fullerton's have called Riverton their home since 2008. Their previous home at 2 Thomas Avenue was featured on the 2009 Home Tour. They enjoy all aspects of the community and would like to wish all a happy holiday season.

5 Tiffany and Kevin Murphy **209A Linden Ave**



A Modern Classic built in 2006 by the Hudak family, 209A Linden Avenue may be younger than its historic Riverton neighbors, but it was thoughtfully designed to blend right in. Inspired by the William Penn House at the Philadelphia Zoo, the Hudaks and their architect brought a touch of colonial charm to this modern Riverton home. Originally, the Hudaks lived at 209 (now 209B), but they decided to split their lot, to create 209A. With a bustling household of eight children, the Hudaks designed 209A with five bedrooms and a spacious third-floor attic to accommodate their large family.

Fast forward to today, and the Murphy family has made 209A their home. Kevin and Tiffany Murphy, along with their children Emily (8) and Ryan (6), were longtime admirers, having lived just two doors down at 211 Linden. When 209A became available in 2017, they couldn't resist the "Riverton Shuffle" and made the short move to the house they'd always admired.

Since moving in, the Murphys have thoughtfully updated the space, adding personal touches that enhance its inviting, traditional feel. With the help of family-owned Osborne Renovations, they renovated the kitchen, expanded the kitchen peninsula to create a cozy gathering spot for guests, added crown molding throughout the first floor, and opened up the back with a sliding door leading from the family room to a lovely back deck. They also refinished the floors in a rich, dark walnut to deepen the home's warmth. More recently, with the expertise of local contractors Colonial Concepts and Design, the Murphys finished the basement, transforming it into a welcoming second family room, complete with a bar and kitchenette, a half bath, and a laundry room that would make even Joanna Gaines smile.

Now, the Murphy family enjoys hosting friends and neighbors, with spaces for everyone to gather. The kids love their attic playroom, a true hideaway, while the grown ups appreciate the cozy basement retreat. We hope you enjoy this warm blend of classic charm and modern touches—our home and our family’s haven here in Riverton.”

6 Dana and Ed Feigenbutz **412 Lippincott Ave**

This Queen Anne Victorian style home was built in 1888 by Alfred J. Briggs a wealthy Philadelphia business owner He is remembered in Riverton as the co-founder of the Beloved Riverton 4th of July parade. This home is on the original site plan for the 1st planned community of Riverton, and is listed on the Historical registry of homes.

Another notable owner was Hal Wagner a Philadelphia Athletics baseball player then a Philadelphia Phillie. He lived here in the 1940’s and 1950’s with his family.

Many renovations have been done over the years since our home was purchased in 2005, but our favorite would be the renovation of the 2nd level bathroom, and the restoration of the original hand painted wall tile.

We have tried to honor the style and history of our beautiful Victorian home with all our renovations. We are excited to share our love of the holidays with you and we hope you enjoy just a few our our favorite things.

Ed’s collection of Lionel tin plate trains under the tree is a tradition he has done for over 44 years and Dana’s collection of Christmas Music boxes and Gingerbread houses that have been gifted to her at Christmas by Ed Since they were first married in 1980.

Our favorite place is on our wraparound front porch enjoying time with our children, grandchildren, family, and friends . It really is just “A Wonderful Life.”

We hope you enjoyed our home and we wish you a wonderful Holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Tour Destinations



Please Note...

Bank Avenue is one way towards Palmyra. Howard Street is one way between 4th & 5th. No parking on the south side of Main east of Broad.

★ Tour Homes

● Businesses and landmarks

Businesses Open During the Tour:

- Home Off Main
- Brewery Thirty-Three
- Milanese Pizzeria
- Tillie's Trinkets
- Nellie Bly's
- The New Leaf
- The Early Bird
- Juanita's Mexican Cuisine
- Revive Cafe

Special acknowledgement with sincere thanks to...

The House Tour Committee and Volunteers for their dedication and efforts to sustain the Library through the years.

The Homeowners for graciously allowing us into their homes.

The Riverton Police Department

Fresh Produce of Palmyra

Design and a portion of printing costs donated by

Deb Lengyel & Chris Halt

Cover design provided by Carol McCarthy