This month of September is bound to be one that no one in the City of Philadelphia will ever forget. To begin with, Labor Day weekend will be the 4th Annual Made in America Festival curated by Jay Z and produced by Live Nation. The two day music festival takes over the Ben Franklin Parkway and attracts around 80,000 people over the course of the two days. There’s also the annual Tri-State Labor Day Parade to look forward to for those who won’t be enjoying the last bit of the Jersey Shore.

Then, the next two weekends are jam packed with tons of parades, festivals and celebrations galore. Annual community gatherings such as the 12th Police District Open House & Southwest Pride Day, the Councilman Johnson Annual Appreciation Day, and the Annual Strawberry Mansion Day are just a few of those events. There’s also things like the Manayunk StrEAT Festival, the Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show, the Chinatown Mid-Autumn Festival and the 5th Annual Dance on Falls Bridge.

These events are what help shape the lives of Philadelphians every day. Everything from the planning to participation depends on citizens just like you to make it happen. Finally, to top it all off, during the last week in September Philadelphia will host the World Meeting of Families Conference and Papal Visit. There’s more to come on this later in the issue, but I assure you, this is something that you do not want to miss. Are you really going to be the one person that looks back and says, “I wish I would have been there?”

September is definitely fully loaded and maybe the apex of our event season, but trust that it will be one for the record books especially here at the Office of Special Events. We can’t wait to see your pictures and posts about all of these wonderful #PHLEvents going on. The opportunities are endless. Enjoy this great month of events and we’ll see you right back here looking forward to October.
The World Meeting of Families Conference and Papal Visit is truly a once in a lifetime experience, not only for those who are attending the festivities, but for all of us involved in the planning process. The collaborative effort put forth by all federal, state, municipal and private sector agencies over the last year is astounding. We all hope that this extraordinary effort will culminate into one of the greatest events in Philadelphia’s storied history.

The City of Philadelphia, World Meeting of Families, SEPTA and other partners have been consistently releasing information via major news outlets and social media over the past few weeks as plans are finalized. Here is a summary of what you need to know:

- Center City parking restrictions begin on Thursday, September 24th with the institution of secure zones from City Hall to the Art Museum. Center City traffic restrictions begin on Friday, September 25th at 6pm with the installation of the Francis Festival Grounds footprint. Maps are available for public view on the City’s website at www.phila.gov.

- SEPTA will run truncated service during WMOF weekend. Detailed plans, including a listing of open stations, are posted and updated regularly on www.septa.org. A link to the site has been provided in the left margin of this page.

- The City of Philadelphia’s Commerce Department has created a Business Resource Center for those who stand to be affected in one way or another during the World Meeting of Families and Papal Visit. Resources include a fact sheet, FAQ’s and customer service via email (business@phila.gov) or telephone hotline (215-683-2100). Visit http://www.phila.gov/InformationCenters/pope/Pages/default.aspx for access to all of this information and more.

- The World Meeting of Families, in conjunction with the City of Philadelphia, released the Papal Visit Playbook on August 24th. This resource combines general information about the event with important information for attendees and City residents alike.

As you can see, there are a number of valuable resources available to assist event goers, businesses and residents during this historic event. The City of Philadelphia is known for big events, so let’s roll out the carpet and welcome hundreds of thousands of visitors to experience all that our town has to offer!
2015 World Meeting of Families
Resource Maps & Information

SATURDAY EVENT SCHEDULE

10:30 AM Mass at Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul
4:45 PM Visit to Independence Mall
7:30 PM Visit to Festival of Families at Benjamin Franklin Parkway and Prayer Vigil with World Meeting of Families
2015 World Meeting of Families
Resource Maps & Information

SUNDAY EVENT SCHEDULE

9:15 AM Papal meeting with Bishops at St. Martin’s Chapel, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
11:00 AM Visit to Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility
4:00 PM Papal Mass for World Meeting of Families
Last Month In Review

As Seen in the Streets

These three images represent a few of the biggest events we had in August. In the top left hand corner is a scene from the 2nd Street Festival at Northern Liberties (photo credit: Elizabeth Robertson, Philly.com); beneath that we have a photo of the August edition of Night Market that took place on Lancaster Ave (photo credit: The Food Trust); and to the right is a photo of the Caribbean Festival, one of the many PECO Multicultural Festivals that take place on the Delaware River Waterfront at the Penn’s Landing Great Plaza (photo credit: Penns Landing).

The Long & Short of August

It is hard to believe that our long summer days of August have already come to an end -- but what an ending it was! The unplanned theme of the month was pop-up celebrations and festivals! We saw everything from pop-up pools from Parks & Recreation, to pop-up yoga classes, to pop-up outdoor movies at the Delaware River Waterfont, to a pop-up rooftop restaurant, Le Bok Fin, and even a pop-up concert by legendary Stevie Wonder at Dilworth Park! What a treat all of these activities have been. With all the great successes we’re hopeful to see many more pop-ups next year, but for now it’s definitely safe to say summer has officially gone out with a bang.
On the Horizon
September’s Event Agenda

**September 1st – 7th**
- Budweiser Clydesdale Festival – 2100 Fairmount Ave. (9/3)
- PHA Company Picnic – Lemon Hill Pavilion (9/3)
- City Year Unity Day Rally – Thomas Paine Plaza (Begins 9/4)
- Made in America Music Festival – Benjamin Franklin Parkway (9/5 - 9/6)
- John Coltrane Festival 2015 – 1800 Diamond St. (9/6)
- Tri-State Labor Day Parade – S. Christopher Columbus Blvd. (9/7)

**September 8th – 14th**
- SEPTA Bus Rodeo – Cornwell Heights Park & Ride, 799 Station Ave. (9/8 - 9/12)
- Mental Health Fair Aid’s 10,000 Alder Celebration! – Thomas Paine Plaza (9/10)
- Run/Walk to Break the Silence on Ovarian Cancer – Memorial Hall 5k Course (9/12)
- Undy 5000 Colon Cancer Alliance 5k Run & Walk – MLK Drive (9/12)
- 12th Police District Open House & Southwest Pride Day and Festival – 6400 Woodland Ave. (9/12)
- Family Fun Day – Philadelphia City Hall (9/12)
- Annual Strawberry Mansion Day – 33rd St. & Diamond St. (9/12)
- Philadelphia United Jazz Festival – South St. (Broad St. to 16th St.), 15th St. (Lombard to South St.) (9/12)
- Councilman Johnson Annual Appreciation Day – 22nd St. & Tasker St., 1400-1600 Point Breeze Ave. (9/12)
- South Philly Sausage Fest – West Passyunk Ave. from Broad & 15th Sts. (9/12)
- Greater Exodus Baptist Church Community Block Party – 1400 Ridge Ave. (9/12)
- 35th Police District Unity Day – 5900 N. Broad St (9/12)
- Ivy League Foundation 5K Walk/Run – Forbidden Drive (9/12)
- Walk for the Poor – MLK Drive Bike Path (9/12)
- St. James School 5K & Kids Fun Run – Kelly Drive Bike Path (9/12)
- Brain Aneurysm Awareness Walk – FDR Boathouse & Bike Path (9/13)
- BCP Scenic Schuylkill Century Ride – Lloyd Hall, 1 Boathouse Row (9/13)
- Feria Del Barrio – 2700-2800 N. 5th St. (9/13)
- Philadelphia 9/11 Heroes Run – Memorial Hall (9/13)

Our Lady of Calvary World Meeting of Families Parish Celebration – 11024 Knights Rd. (9/13)
The Manayunk Fall StrEAT Festival – 4100-4400 Main St. (9/13)

**September 15th – 21st**
- 2015 Audi FEASTIVAL – Race St. Between I-95 Overpass & Columbus Blvd. (9/15)
- Street Fare – 7000-7200 Germantown Ave. (9/17)
- Terror Behind the Walls - ESP @ 2027 Fairmount Ave. (9/17-11/21)
- Run(W)ing Day 2015 – Various Locations Citywide (9/18)
- Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show – Rittenhouse Square (9/18 - 9/20)
- St. Pio Festival – 1500 S. 10th St.; 900 & 1000 Greenwhich St. (9/18 - 9/20)
- Four Seasons Parkway Run & Walk – Lincoln Financial Field (9/19)
- Convoy Philadelphia: 2015 Hope4Philly – Salvation Army, 5501 Market St. (9/19)
- Councilman Henon’s Fall Festival – 6700-6800 Torresdale Ave. (9/19)
- Friends of Rittenhouse Square 18th St. Closing – 18th St. from Walnut to Locust St. (9/19)
- Chinatown Mid-Autumn Festival – 10th St. from Arch St to Race St. (9/19)
- 5th Annual Dance on the Falls Bridge – 4300 Kelly Drive (9/19)
- Lower Moyamensing Civic Association Semi-Annual Flea Market – 2100 S. Broad St. (9/19)
- Variety Run-Walk-Push-Pull – Memorial Hall (9/19)
- Fiesta de la Calle – S. 9th St. from Federal St. to Carpenter St. (9/20)

**September 22nd – 30th**
- World Meeting of Families Festival – Benjamin Franklin Parkway (9/26)
- Roxborough YMCA 5K Race – Forbidden Drive (9/26)
- World Meeting of Families Sunday Mass – Benjamin Franklin Parkway (9/27)

For a full detailed list of events, please visit the Calendar on our website!

Special Fact of the Month: Philadelphia’s City Hall Building took 30 years and 88 million bricks to complete.