Chestnut Hill Conservancy’s “Night of Lights” tonight

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- Look for historical interpreters wearing lit top hats
- Businesses open late with many contributing proceeds from the event to help support the Archives
- Want to share your own historical images? Visit the “Ask the Archivists” table.
- For more photos and information, visit the Conservancy’s online archives at chestnuthillconservancy.org
Many historic buildings along Germantown Avenue in Chestnut Hill will be illuminated by historic photos from the collection of the Chestnut Hill Conservancy. The event will kick off officially on Friday, Oct. 6 with a “flip of the switch” at 6:30 p.m. in front of Phantastic Phinds, 8219 Germantown Ave.

Dubbed “Night of Lights,” the historic photo project is part of ongoing events the conservancy is holding to mark its 50th anniversary. In addition to the historic photos that will be projected onto large shop windows along the Avenue, other buildings will be lit by theatrical lights of varying colors and patterns.

“The Conservancy’s Archives hold over 21,000 photographs, maps, records and historical documents, said the conservancy’s executive director, Lori Salganico. “Night of Lights is an innovative public art project designed to literally illuminate and celebrate the community’s history. In addition to enjoying a stroll through our public exhibit, we hope people will bring flash drives with their own historical images of community and architectural history.”

Avenue businesses have promised to stay open late for those visiting the Avenue in the evening, while the lights promise to provide a truly new experience in Chestnut Hill. Some businesses have even promised to donate proceeds from the evening to the Conservancy’s archive and preservation work.

Salganico said assistance in organizing the Night of Lights came from the Chestnut Hill Business District and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA).

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