# USBuildersReview



## Philadelphia Suburban Development Corporation Building Community Anchors

Produced by Sean O'Reilly & Written by Camila Osorno

The Philadelphia Suburban Development Corporation (PSDC), headquartered in King of Prussia, Pa., has been bringing new growth and economic opportunities to the South East Pennsylvania market since Robert Nicoletti, president and owner of the company, founded the company in 1962. "My father works seven days a week, and even though he's 81 now he probably always will, because our company is his life," admits Mark Nicoletti, vice president of commercial development.

At PSDC the Nicoletti family brings together the best in realestate development, construction management and property management specialties so clients have a one-stop, familyowned and -operated shop. Currently PSDC's volume is split roughly between conventional suburban development projects (lux apartments, office, hotel and retail) in Montgomery County and inner city urban redevelopment projects in Philadelphia for essential social service agencies. In both markets, though, the Nicolletti family takes pride in listening to the client and developing forward-thinking spaces that benefit the communities where they invest.

For example, PSDC completed work in 2009 on the Towamencin Business Center, a 29-acre office park in Central Montgomery County, Pa. Phase one of the more than 300,000 square foot development was a 120,000-square foot LEED Platinum-certified class A office complex housing the North American headquarters of SKF International, a global leader in the manufacture of roller and ball bearings for industrial and automotive use. In fact, the building is the only LEED Platinum building in the county and helped the county retain an corporate leader as SKF had been looking to consolidate its regional offices elsewhere.





#### Filling Market Gaps

2011 marked the start of a new era for suburban development in North Penn, Montgomery County, when PSDC broke ground on a project that could be a game changer for the little known Towamencin Township: the 400,000-square foot phase one of Towamencin Town Square. "You might struggle to find Towamencin Township on a map, but we're working to change that," admits Mark Nicoletti. "North Penn is the true economic base of Montgomery County with the largest school district in the state, and it's home to three major pharmaceutical companies."

Robert Nicoletti, Mark's father and the current president of PSDC, previously purchased 13 acres in Towamencin back in 1962, and in 1996 the family purchased an additional 40 acres. But it wasn't until 2006 that PSDC finally began master planning the site for Towamencin Town Square.

"It was sad in some respects to see the motel that has been in our family for 50 years be demolished, but mostly we're excited," beams Mark. The initial \$100 million phase of Towamencin Town Square will be a mixed-use development with a

flagship 135-unit Marriott Courtyard, the new Montgomery Community College Culinary Arts Institute, and The Residences at Town Square (featuring 180 luxury apartments). The Residences' manor building will anchor the residential section with 60 luxury living units featuring 24-hour attended lobby, a concierge service, fitness center, a library, community room and outdoor swimming pool.

"The demand for apartments in our market is very strong and Towamencin Town Square is located at a very strategic entrance to the county, off the Pa Turnpike Lansdale Interchange," expands Mark. The first 100 residential units will be open by the third quarter of 2012 and have been jointly financed by National Penn Bank and Beneficial Savings Bank.

#### **Essential Amenities**

Construction is simultaneously underway on the new \$25 million Marriott Courtyard hotel at the Towamencin Town Square, which has been financed by Park Bank. "The North Penn Marriott Courtyard has been designed to function more like a full-service Marriott hotel with 10 custom executive suites, 6,000 square feet of banquet/meeting/event space, both



Serving Northern Pennsylvania and New Jersey since 1994, Apex Fire Protection maintains and installs quality wet and dry sprinkler systems for residential and commercial projects. Apex provides the best quality and service for fire protection, covering every detail from backflow preventors to sprinkler heads. Our design department is knowledgable and accurate in their design ensuring that every project

120 Marshalls Creek Rd. East Stroudsburg, PA 18302

is to code.

866-APEX-FIRE

Schlosser Steel, Inc. has been servicing the construction industry since 1943. During that time, the company has grown from a man with an idea to one of the most respected steel fabricators in our region. This growth is a direct result of our adherence to a company philosophy that ensures production of top-quality products in a timely manner.

STEEL FABRICATORS SINCE 1943

HATFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA

Excellence in Steel Fabrication

AISC Quality Certified Plant Since 1981

Schlosser Steel, Inc. 2641 Township Line Road P.O. Box 638 Hatfield, PA 19440

Phone: (215) 723-9883 Fax: (215) 723-4124 www.schlossersteel.com

Congratulations to
Congratulations to
Philadelphia Suburban
Philadelphia Corp. on
Development Corp. at
their prijects at
Towamencin Town Square!





### I.T. Landes & Sons, Inc.

Design • Sales • Service Residential • Commercial • Industrial

Plumbing • Heating • Air Conditioning • Fuel

"Quick, dependable service since 1929."



247 Main Street, Harleysville, PA 19438 Phone (215) 256-4221 • Fax (215) 256-1414 • www.itlandes.com



### Lighting for Lifestyle.

Since 1947, Kay Lighting & Design has been a premier East Coast supplier for commercial and residential projects. In addition to design and repair services, we offered unique and distinctive lighting, furniture, gifts and more from over 300 manufacturers, artisans and designers worldwide.

Talk with our knowledgeable design staff and let them help you bring inspiration and creativity to your living or work space.



317 Ridge Pike, Conshohocken, PA 19428 Toll Free: **800-331-5111** Tel: 610-825-0100 www.kaylighting.com

COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • DESIGN • REPAIR

indoor and outdoor pools, a full-size fitness center and a full-service restaurant on site," adds Mark.

Additionally, Towamencin Town Square will provide a 15,000-square foot permanent home for Montgomery County Community College's Culinary Arts Institute. Prior to the completion of this facility, students attended classes in cooking theory at the Pottstown campus and commuted to a nearby high school for technical training courses, but the new building provides four full-size commercial kitchens and enough teaching and faculty space to accommodate 300 students. PSDC financed the \$5 million project with Monument Bank. Construction is on schedule to open a majority of the phase one facilities within 2012.

#### 50 More Years!

PSDC is already setting the wheels in motion to develop phase two of Towamencin Town Square: the North Penn Sciences & Technology Center (NPS&T).

NPS&T will be a R&D/office mixed-use development (potentially encompassing 1 million square feet) that is targeting small biomedical and health science start-up companies that

can benefit from close proximity to Montgomery County's pharmaceutical industry.

In the meantime, PSDC will continue to invest in its inner city urban redevelopment projects working to help nonprofit service agency clients find the right spaces with custom built to suit finishes to meet their programs' specific needs. PSDC's team of subcontractors is committed to working at a high level of excellence. "All of the professionals we work with on our urban redevelopments take their work very seriously, because we believe the success of a project is vital to the local community," reflects Mark.

PSDC is still a for-profit company, but the company has made a name for itself by working on smaller margins when the project is beneficial to the community, but always delivering a final product that exceeds the client's expectations.

Led into a bright future by the Nicoletti family, Philadelphia Suburban Development Corporation will continue to develop state-of-the-art projects in southeast Pennsylvania that both allow tenants to function at a high level and support the surrounding communities. •