CAN REMOTE
CONTROLLED ROBOTS
SAVE FOOTBALL?

INTERVIEW
SOCCER LEGEND ABBY WAMBACH
FIGHTS THE PATRIARCHY

THE
SPORTS
ISSUE
OUR LONG ROAD TO
ATHLETIC EQUALITY

EXCLUSIVE
THE UNSUNG CADDIES OF
AUGUSTA NATIONAL

MARATHONER
ALLIE KIEFFER
ON BODY POSITIVITY

+ DOWN THE COLORADO RIVER AND INTO THE PAST
from a high quality of life that’s only been enhanced by a host of real estate developments and revitalization projects across the community.

You’ll find many of these projects in Center City, the second-most populated downtown area in the U.S. after only Midtown Manhattan. Known for its restaurants, retail and extensive array of cultural venues, the district is the largest employment center in the region, supporting close to 300,000 jobs, while it has also emerged as a true 24-hour destination that’s just as notable for the cranes that have become part of its skyline.

Almost $9 billion in developments have recently been completed or are in the pipeline for downtown Philadelphia, from pop-up beer gardens and public plazas to the nation’s tallest skyscraper outside of New York and Chicago. Standing 1,121 feet tall, the Comcast Technology Center topped out in November 2017 and is the latest in a line of towers to bypass the historical gentleman’s agreement that no building in the city should rise higher than Philadelphia City Hall.

It’s also just one of a myriad of megadevelopments set to change how people live, work and play in the City of Brotherly Love. For example, in University City, the area around 30th Street Station is set to be transformed over the next few decades with as much as 18 million square feet of new mixed-use development and 40 acres of green space planned for around the third-busiest station in Amtrak’s national system.

Next door, Brandywine Realty Trust and Drexel University are working together on Schuylkill Yards, a $3.5-billion, 14-acre development that has the potential to add 25,000 new jobs and create millions of dollars in new tax revenue as it emerges as a regional innovation hub. Plans call for around 4 million square feet of office and lab space, as well as 1.6 million square feet of new housing plus other amenities for the workforce supporting this new business community.

Elsewhere, the city’s nightlife scene got a boost in 2012 when the first tenants moved into Xfinity Live! Philadelphia, a 4.4-acre dining, entertainment and retail district within the South Philadelphia Sports Com-
Number of ‘Rocky Steps’ leading to the Philadelphia Museum of Art

Philadelphia Orchestra
One of the historic ‘Big Five’ American orchestras, this staple of the Philly cultural scene delivers world-class performances and innovative concert experiences at its home in the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts among other venues in the city and beyond. Its upcoming season, the eighth for music director Yannick Nézet-Séguin, spans everything from Beethoven to a spotlight on female composers, while its commitment to the community is evident in a host of programs for families and schools.

“We want to be known for the quality of the playing and the transformational impact of our concerts, but we also want to be known for being the most welcoming and most inviting organization we can be,” says president and CEO Matías Tarnopolsky. “The music we perform is not just beautiful, but can have a really important and positive impact on those it reaches, and we want to make sure we reach as many people as possible.”

Pennsylvania Ballet
One of the nation’s leading ballet companies, the Pennsylvania Ballet adds some sparkle to the Philadelphia cultural scene with a program that runs from classic ballets to cutting-edge modern work.

“Dance is a language that speaks to everyone, and nothing can compare to the experience of a live performance,” says artistic director Angel Corella. “From the moment of awe you feel walking into our theatre to the magic of the lights dimming, the orchestra playing an overture, and the curtain rising, every Pennsylvania Ballet performance is a lifelong memory.”

National Museum of American Jewish History
Located on Independence Mall, NMAJH is home to educational programs and exhibitions that preserve, explore, and celebrate the history of Jews in America. Its collection of more than 30,000 artifacts spans the entire spectrum of American Jewish Life, while it also hosts special exhibitions such as the acclaimed ‘Sara Berman’s Closet,’ opening April 5, an outdoor installation of one immigrant woman’s belongings that explores such themes as independence, identity, feminism and joy.

Says the museum’s CEO, Ivy Barsky, “Our museum tells the history of immigration in this country and talks about the shaping of this country through the eyes of just one immigrant group, but in a way that everyone can relate to and appreciate, and it reminds us of how grateful we are to be American.”

National Constitution Center
Positioning itself as not just a history museum but a leading platform for nonpartisan constitutional education, The National Constitution Center employs historical documents, priceless artifacts and theatrical performances to help visitors understand the history that took place.