

# IT'S **IN THE** CARDS

MAST CLIMBERS ARE PROVIDING SAFE ACCESS FOR THE EXTERIOR RENOVATION OF THE RIVERLOFT APARTMENT HOMES IN PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

By Erik Highland

Excess wire



**T**here are times in life when it's nice to get a helping hand. It can come in the form of a generous cash donation (which is great in dreamland but rarely happens) or inspiration from a totally random source.

In this case, it came in the form of the spiritual realm – a tarot card reading to get a different perspective. If the readings are done correctly, they are spot on. The other day a friend pulled two cards, “the Sun” and “the Son of

Cups.” These are both very prosperous cards.

The Sun card portends good fortune, happiness, joy, and harmony. It literally means that the universe is coming together to shine a light on the path and move on to greater things (okay, so that's one interpretation).

The Son of Cups card (also known as the Knight of Cups) represents change, opportunity, creativity, imagination, and an appreciation for beautiful things.

He rides a white horse holding a golden cup! What an image.

The point is – these two came together perfectly at the Riverloft Apartment Homes, 2300 Walnut Street in Philadelphia. This is a beautiful building just begging for a change, a new facelift, a beautiful look. The interior has already been completely renovated, so why not the exterior? And right there were these two beautiful cards shining a light on the path, moving everyone forward. It's no wonder the folks at Watts





Restoration called Superior Scaffold to make this parapet wall replacement and total exterior masonry renovation happen. Superior's very own Son of Cups or Knight (otherwise known as the King of Swing) Bob Sarkisian calmly rode up in his white truck (yes, he's got a white truck), and because it was the morning he carried his brownish cup (gold-ish in the light) of coffee to calmly assess the needs of this job and then creatively put together a plan to move this project to its destiny.

"Mast climbers! Lots of them," he proclaimed. "Three of our heavy-duty, double-mast units lined up in a row on the north side of the building should do the trick. It will give masonry crews complete access to the entire façade for cleaning, repointing, and replacing. And for now, we'll install a smaller single mast unit on the east side, and let's put two swing stages on as well to aid in the upper sections." He said it with the calmness of someone who has built his life and reputation on this type of work for the past 30 years. "Oh, and first we'll need a 240-foot-long overhead protection system."

However, just like everything in life, there would be some challenges. Tarot cards tell the positive aspect of the card, but they also reveal a little of the dark or challenging side, depending upon what they read/feel. And for this job there were several. First, the garage doors needed to be accessible for occupants and deliveries. So, the Superior team created gaps in the overhead protection system to accommodate this situation. The team also positioned the masts, for the mast climbers, out of the way as well.

On the suspended scaffold installation, the team had large overhang challenges to contend with. On the south side of the building, the team constructed the suspended scaffold over the roof of the adjoining condominium – creative thinking at its finest.



The renovation is a year-long project with the next phase just beginning. The mast climbers will be moved to the west and east sides and then eventually to the south side, where the work will finish.

The cards foretold a new beginning, creativity, happiness, joy, and movement towards greater things. Thanks to Watts Restoration, Superior Scaffold's Son of Cups, Bob Sarkisian, and his arsenal of mast climbers, the Riverloft Apartment Homes will have a new look and purpose.

It was in the cards.

#### About the Author

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