JEFFERSON INCINERATOR ISSUE RESOLVED

In September 1988, Thorne Jefferson University Hospital presented a proposal to our community association regarding the development of an on-site incinerator for infectious and hospital waste. A similar presentation was made to the Washington West Civic Association, the community where the hospital is located. At SHCA’s meeting, several residents raised their concerns, and a committee was formed to review the hospital’s proposal. Chairing the committee was Dr. Bernard Hamel, a Society Hill resident with expertise in waste management. The committee recommended in December ‘88 that SHCA should oppose the hospital’s incinerator—primarily on the grounds that medical waste differs in character from conventional household trash because of its high plastics content, and that therefore the burning of hospital waste would likely release unsafe emissions into the air.

Meanwhile, the community within which the hospital is located (Wash West), had not determined their position as either for or against the installation of the incinerator. Because of their inability to arrive at a decision, SHCA’s Incinerator Committee decided it was in our community’s best interest to negotiate with the hospital, spelling out our primary objection to the burning of PVC plastics so that we could arrive at a resolution that we could live with.

The hospital, in a spirit of good faith and cooperation with Society Hill’s concerns, Jefferson accepted the objections stated by the SHCA committee. The hospital committed, at its own expense, a detailed waste characterization study confirming that medical wastes do, indeed, have high plastics content relative to conventional trash. The SHCA committee then worked independently with Jefferson to define a set of circumstances to minimize the harmful emissions resulting from burning PVC plastics. The first of these conditions is the installation of a medical waste tracking system that will characterize all wastes burned—with these records available to our community for monitoring purposes. In addition, on the day of emissions tests by the State of Pennsylvania, the hospital will record the PVC content of incinerated waste. If these tests are passed, Jefferson agrees to never exceed these PVC levels in future operations. If the emissions do not pass these state tests, the incinerator will cease to operate.

One year after the hospital’s initial proposal to the community association, and after an exhaustive and realistic appraisal by the SHCA committee, an agreement between Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and SHCA was accomplished. This agreement, signed by SHCA board of directors and dated September 1989, stipulates that the hospital will have an automated waste management system in place before incinerator operation and that it will adhere to the previously discussed agreement upon limit of PVC levels. The SHCA has, therefore, officially withdrawn its opposition to the incinerator. At press time the decision whether to accept or oppose installing the incinerator had not been made by community representatives from Washington West.

FOOT SOLDIERS NEEDED FOR TOWN WATCH

Do you remember seeing the Town Watch flyer in October warning us that unless more residents volunteer to walk, Society Hill would lose its protection? Well, it frightened enough of us so that this self-help organization now feels it can continue. Several people have responded to what could have been “the last call” for walkers, but more volunteers are still needed.

Over the years, Society Hill Town Watch has had many volunteer walkers. Recently, however, those numbers have dwindled down to just a few. A viable Town Watch cannot operate without foot soldiers! Society Hill Town Watch needs more people, but the good news is that your participation will require only a minimum commitment to walk two hours, once a month.

Ongoing Town Watch training sessions for new walkers will be held throughout the winter at the Society Hill Sheridan. While the group’s meetings take place the first Monday of every month at Old Pine Community Center (at 6 p.m.), your attendance at these monthly meetings is not required for your participation as a volunteer walker.

We cannot rely on the City’s understaffed police force to protect our streets. Society Hill Town Watch needs your support. New residents to the area are especially encouraged to join. Get to know your neighbors while walking to keep our homes and streets safe!

Call PH Town Watch Hot Line: 625-WALK or 938-1313 for information about the next training session. Or mail your name and phone number to: Society Hill Town Watch, c/o 836 Kater Street, Phila., PA 19147.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

All SHCA board and general membership meetings are open to everyone and held at Old Pine Community Center, 4th and Lomond Streets.

Board Meeting ........................ 6:30 pm December 13
Refreshments .......................... 7:30 pm December 13
General membership meeting .......... 8:00 pm December 13

Future Board meetings are scheduled for January 17 and February 21, 1990.

1
Mark Bojanowski, the real estate agent in charge of filling the empty shops and restaurants at NewMarket, is currently at work on bringing two new restaurant tenants to the complex: a Japanese steakhouse to be operated by a local restaurateur who has previously run such eateries in Hong Kong, London and Denver. The latter will be occupying the Cafe du Costa and Gallery Caribbe spaces. As for the rest of the network of shops, Bojanowski would like to see NewMarket again become an attractive marketplace for residents and visitors along the lines of Germantown Avenue in Chestnut Hill. Bojanowski will be meeting with SHCA in the future to discuss possible types of tenants. Some of those already suggested by residents are: a full-service needlepoint shop; a card and gift wrap shop like those found in Art Museums; gourmet kitchen wares; and a high-quality book store/international magazine shop. Bojanowski welcomes ideas from residents and is optimistic that with proper planning NewMarket can become a useful and thriving shopping area. Any suggestions you have can be transmitted to Becky Stoloff, President of SHCA at 627-4924 and she will relay them to Mark Bojanowski.

**Brewpub Proposal**

At the October 18 SHCA Board meeting, Trupert G. Ortisoe of Philadelphia's oldest brewing family, presented a proposal for a Brewpub Restaurant to be situated in the former site of "The Market" at NewMarket. The proposal would require the purchase of a liquor license and, most likely, a zoning variance for its particular use.

There are no plans for live entertainment at the Brewpub. Although the microbrewery, where beer will be brewed in hand-crafted batches, must be separate from the restaurant, the original entrances to the site will be the same. Brewpub would have a seating capacity of 250 and a bar capacity of 30, and the moderately priced English pub and German wurst menu will cater to young couples and families. The Dock Street Brewing Company in the newly constructed

Lombard and 2nd Streets entrance to the old Market at NewMarket, proposed location of the Ortisoe Brewpub.

Two Logan Square building at 18th and Arch Streets, was used as an example of a similar microbrewery/restaurant operation. Becky Stoloff, president of the SHCA, thanked the presenters and said that their proposal would be discussed with the general membership and neighboring civic groups before recommending any approval.

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A HOLIDAY AGENDA

November 18 - December 31
Mellon Independence Place 701 Market Street
10 am-7 pm M-F. "The Enchanted Colonial Village" Mary of the original shops of Lit Brothers' Christmas Village restored and on display
Noon - 5 pm Sun.

December 3
5 - 6 pm St. Peter's School Handbell Choir Concert at Society Hill Sheraton Hotel
5:30 pm Christ Church, 2nd & Market Street Advent Lessons and Carols
11 am Old First Reformed Church, 4th & Race St. Advent Communion Service, followed by Family Advent Workshop
10:30 am Old St. Mary's Church, 252 S. 4th St. Installation of new pastor, Monsignor John Sharkley

December 6
Dec. 1 - Jan. 11 Contemporary Art Forms Exhibit

December 7
5 pm Old St. Mary's Church Vigil Mass, Feast of the Immaculate Conception

December 8
Dec. 8-noon 9 pm St. Peter's School Parents' Association, Dec. 9-9 am-5 pm 3rd & Lombard St.
Dec. 10-9 am-4 pm Sales of trees, greens, gifts in schoolyard
8 am - 7 pm Old St. Mary's Church Museums on the Holy Day
12:05 pm Holy Trinity Church, 6th & Spruce St.
Holy Day Mass
7:25 am - 12:05 pm Old St. Joseph's Church
12:45 - 5:05 pm Holy Day Masses

December 9
Pewel House Museum, 244 S. 3rd Street
Will be decorated for Christmas, Call 825-2551 for tour information

December 13
Old First Reformed Church, Nabob sitting at outdoor creche with live animals, 24 hours until December 28

December 14
8 pm St. Peter's Upper School, Christmas Play in St. Peter's Church
December 16 and 17; 23 and 24

The Bourse - Family Days. Free photo with Santa, concerts, free carriage ride with $25 purchase. Touch-of-Classic Dancers. Franklin Institute train exhibit

Noon Holy Trinity Church, 5th and Spruce St.
200 Anniversary Mass and Celebration

December 17
4 pm Old First Reformed Church - Advent Vespers, featuring invited choir
10:30 am Old Pine Street Church, Lessons and Carols, Worship Service
11:30 - 2 pm Society Hill Synagogue, 418 Spruce Street Annual Hanukkah Party and Fair. Puppet show, clowns, games, books, food. All welcome

December 19
10:30 am St. Peter's Lower School. Celebration of carols and poetry in Alumni Theater

December 20
7:30 pm Old First Reformed Church Caroling in Old City with carolers
7:30 pm Old St. Joseph's Church, Communal Reconciliation Service

December 22
6 pm St. Peter's Church, 3rd & Pine Streets Caroling at Christmas Lessons and Carols Service. All are welcome
7:30 pm Old St. Mary's Church - Advent Perseverance Service

December 23
5:30 pm Old St. Joseph's Church - Christmas Vigil Mass
6 pm Caroling and Readings
8:30 pm Solemn First Mass of Christmas

Midnight Old St. Mary's Church
First Mass of Christmas

10 am Christ Church - Holy Communion
5:30 pm Family Holy Communion and Carols
10:30 pm The Magnificat Bach - Christ Church Choir, Brass and Percussion
11 pm Festival Holy Communion
Old Pine Street Church
10:30 am Morning Worship Service
7:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

St. Peter's Church
4 pm Children's Nativity Service
10:30 pm Special Music
11 pm Festival Holy Eucharist
Old First Reformed Church
6:30 pm Live Tableau at outdoor creche
7:30 pm Caroling service in sanctuary

December 25

Noon • 5 pm National Museum of American Jewish History "Gary, Jews of Christmas" - features music and film
7:30 - 11:30 pm Old St. Joseph's Church - Christmas Day Masses
9 - 10:30 am Old St. Mary's Church - Christmas Masses
Noon Holy Trinity Church - Christmas Mass
10 am Christ Church - Holy Communion and Carols
10 am St. Peter's Church - Holy Eucharist, hymns
11 am Old First Reformed Church - Christmas worship with the homeless, followed by Christmas dinner Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church, 6th & Lombard. For information on Christmas schedule call 702-7024.
St. Andrews Ukrainian Catholic Church, 427 Pine St. For information on Christmas schedule call 702-7024

December 31
7 pm • 7 am Old Pine Street Church
New Year's Eve All Night Vigil
5 pm Old St. Mary's Church
New Year's Day Vigil Mass
10 pm Old First Reformed Church
New Year's Eve "Sings" of Handel's Messiah with Pennsylvania Pro Musica (tickets required)

7:30 pm Old St. Joseph's Church
Solemn Latin Vigil Mass

January 1
Noon Holy Trinity Church - New Year's Day Masses
7:30 Tolam Old St. Joseph's Church - New Year's Day Masses
9 - 10:30 pm Old St. Mary's Church - New Year's Day Masses
8 - 10 am St. Peter's Church, Holy Eucharist

January 6
Hill-Physick-Keith House Museum,
6 - 8 pm, 301 S. 4th Street - 12th Night Party - $12.50 each. For information call 925-7866 or 925-2251
A WARNING ABOUT DOOR-TO-DOOR SOLICITORS

A neighbor has asked us to alert Society Hill residents about giving money to strangers. Here is the substance of her letter:

"A young male, about fourteen or fifteen years old, rang my doorbell soliciting funds for Teen Haven, a group which gives aid and counsel to adolescents and also runs a camp for poor children. This young man gave his name as Kenyatta Washington and showed me a letterhead from Teen Haven, after which he asked me to give him cash for the many programs that the organization runs. I refused to give him money, even after he showed me a considerable amount of currency that he said my neighbors had donated.

"Upon checking with Teen Haven, I was advised that they have not authorized anybody to solicit funds door-to-door for them; that Kenyatta Washington, in fact, is an alias; and that any monies given to this young man would go right into his or his associates' pockets and not to Teen Haven. In short, it's a ripoff."

Please be aware that your generosity, particularly at this holiday time, can make you vulnerable to "ripoffs" similar to the one experienced by our neighbor.

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Neighbors enjoyed dinner, entertainment and an auction to raise funds for parking lot legal expenses.

PARKING LOT DECISION...WAITING, WAITING, WAITING

A decision on the Abbotts Square parking lot appeal, heard by the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania on October 5, is expected by the end of the year.

Following issuance of an injunction by Judge Victor J. Diffinle, Jr., that halted construction of the parking lot at 3rd and Lombard Streets, attorneys for the owner filed an appeal with Superior Court. A hearing before that court was scheduled for September 14, then transferred to Commonwealth Court and rescheduled for October 5, when the judges were sitting in Pittsburgh.

Funding efforts to meet the costs of legal action continue. The neighborhood family dinner party and auction held on September 25 was not only an enjoyable occasion for all attending residents, but yielded $3,000 for the cause. If you haven't made a contribution, you may do so by sending your check made out to the St. Peter's School Parking Lot Fund, c/o Caroline E. Seams, St. Peter's School, 319 Lombard Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147.
MORE LIGHT:
Franklin Lamps Will Glow

There shall be light — and plenty of it — thanks to the tireless efforts of Donald McNeil and Harris Nadley, co-chairs of SHCA’s Maintenance Committee. They made a complete inventory of damaged Franklin lamps after careful inspection of all 350 of them and submitted it to Joseph Doyle of the City’s Streets Department, who has been assigned responsibility for this important rehabilitation project. Approximately 70 lamps need fixing, with repairs ranging from painting or minor faulty parts to total lamp replacement.

Since last winter when the report was completed, 20 lamps with missing pieces of plexiglass have been repaired demonstrating that action has been initiated to maintain our Franklin lamps. The lamps are lovely to look at and cogently reminiscent of our colonial heritage. Of equal or greater importance is the enhanced security that they bring to our streets, at a time when muggings and other crimes against persons and property plague our residents. Hats off to all those responsible for initiating the rehab and we look forward to continued progress! The necessary monies have been allocated and we hope that this work will move expeditiously in the months ahead. Particularly visible to tourists in the area are the Headhouse Square lamps, which, unfortunately, are not included in the rehab project.

All of us can help and we are urged to do so, by reporting burned out bulbs as soon as we notice them. Call 592-5983, the company contracted by the City to replace bulbs in a timely fashion. With your help and the City’s persistence, we can work toward safer streets aglow with charm and effective lighting.

LOCAL LANDMARK NEEDS HELP
Be A Friend of Head House Square

Did you know that Head House and the Shambles — the arcades of the Second Street Market — were originally built between 1740 and 1811? Did you know that this historic ground has been City property since before the Revolution and a few market stalls were occupied as late as the 1950s? Did you know that its restoration occurred in the 1960s when, at the last moment, Mayor Richardson Dilworth intervened to halt a demolition firm that had already begun to tear down some sheds? The only surviving colonial marketplace in Philadelphia was saved in 1956 by visionaries who value history and beauty. Head House Square is a National Historic Landmark registered with the Department of the Interior.

Head House Square is still owned by the City and happens to divide privately owned New Market properties. (See article on New Market in this issue, page 5). But there is no excuse for the lack of care and deteriorated condition of this landmark!

Take a look at the woodwork. It needs to be scraped and repainted before another winter rots the wood. We understand that the City is broke, but in view of its historic history, this structure cannot be lost. Nor can we pass the buck. It is up to us to save Head House from destruction. (Incidentally, the Franklin lamps that surround Head House are not included in the restoration project of lamps throughout the neighborhood.)

The SHCA is planning to organize a committee, called the Friends of Head House Square, who will be its watchdogg and liaison with City officials. If necessary, we may have to don our old clothes to scrap and repaint in lieu of a full-scale rehabilitation. One way or another, we can and will save this important structure with its cupola, west entrance and clock. The clock, installed originally in 1819 and built by Isaiah Luken, was repaired to working order at the time of the building’s restoration. But that was then, in the 60s. This is now, at the beginning of the last decade of the twentieth century. Please call either Bernice Harrel at 925-4363 or Becky Stolof at 627-4910 if you can come to our first planning session. We need your ideas. Join “Friends of Head House Square.”

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Holiday Decorations Contest

On the first night of winter, Thursday, December 21, between the hours of 7:30 and 9:30 pm, our neighborhood will be celebrating the holidays with a Decorations Contest. Sponsored by SHCA, all Society Hill residents are encouraged to participate. Enter this contest simply by decorating your windows, doors, etc. with festive and seasonal ornaments. Winners will be chosen on the basis of originality and charm by “celebrity judges” who will journey in a horse-and-buggy carriage down each Society Hill street. Judges include Steve Bell of Channel 3; Councilman-James Tayson; Sam Malin, a local artist; James White, managing director of Philadelphia; and Ann Mooney, branch manager of the Meridian Bank at 2nd and Pine Streets, which is graciously providing the carriage. Plans for this festive night include holiday carolers.

There will be several categories, including “Best Use of Greens,” “Best Use of Lights,” “Best Decorations by Children,” and “Best Old Fashioned.” Whole blocks are encouraged to compete for the “Best Block” category.

As the holidays approach, please watch for flyers and announcements at community churches and synagogues. Or, you may call the contest coordinators, Liz Ostrander at 922-0665 and Becky Stockf at 627-4910.

Remember: Whether you decorate with wreaths of pine or merely place candle or a dreidel in your window, your home is a contestant! So join the fun and plan to attend the award-winning ceremony at 9:30 pm at Old Pine Church Hall (at the church not at the center), where refreshments will be served along with the prizes.

ZONING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee Chair Loma Lawson reports the following:
1. The developer of the 6th and Addison Street project has complied with all requests of SHCA regarding fencing and clean-up, except for one area between the rear of the houses on Lombard Street and the rear of the project. That one outstanding condition, according to the developer, will be complied with in the immediate future.
2. The Zoning Committee is weighing different suggestions regarding a curb cut permit for the development project on 4th Street below Walnut.

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**238 S. 3rd Street**

A Mansion Row townhouse offers a rare opportunity for the owner/occupant to live and work in a beautiful location. The spacious owner's unit has a living room with fireplace and a landscaped garden. There is a private office with separate street entrance and a great rental history from three nicely appointed apartments.

LOT SIZE: 19.6 x 175.8

PRICE: $695,000

**239 S. 3rd Street**

A classic I.M. Pei townhouse beautifully decorated and customized. A spiral staircase with skylight sweeps from the lower level to the third floor. Entertaining spaces include a formal dining room, a library with fireplace and a dramatic living room. A contemporary showplace in a "70" location with garden and deeded parking.

LOT SIZE: 19.11 x 67

PRICE: $575,000

**128 Delancey Street**

A colonial gem on a beautiful cobblestone street. Many original features include three working fireplaces and a fabulous garden. The master suite has a dressing room with fireplace and a den. A guest suite on the third floor completes this charmer. The basement would make a wonderful wine cellar!

LOT SIZE: 15 x 80

PRICE: $410,000

**326 S. 3rd Street**

A n adorably Federal townhouse in the heart of Society Hill. On the first floor is a living room with fireplace, an eat-in kitchen, and a very private patio. The second floor consists of a bedroom, bath and small library with fireplace. The third floor has a nicely finished dormer room with a half-bath. The perfect pied-a-terre!

LOT SIZE: 14.8 x 40

PRICE: $272,500
Historic Area Designation Representatives Meet

The Preservation Coalition of Greater Philadelphia hosted a meeting of representatives from all four civic associations who have applied to be certified as local historic districts under the 1985 Philadelphia ordinance in late October. The SHCA was represented by Myrna Field Baum, a past president under whose tenure the project was started. Also represented were Rittenhouse and Fitter Squares, Soncino Hill and Girard Estates. All four applications are on hold pending the adoption of regulations by the Historical Commission.

The commission had hired a consultant to write regulations for it, but rejected the consultant's work and is now preparing its own regulations. Neighbors complained that every step towards certification had been thwarted by the commission. As an example, all participants had been informed that the commission was under-staffed and that clerical assistance was needed. They volunteered to assist the commission staff but none of their offers were accepted.

Participants complained of unmet deadlines and unfulfilled promises. There was a general lack of confidence in the commission's attitude toward accomplishing its mandate to certify local historic districts.

The Preservation Coalition is collecting examples of alterations to or destruction of structures which would have been protected, if local certification had been accomplished. If you have any examples, please contact Myrna Field Baum, 545-7477.

As a result of the October meeting, it was determined that the representatives of these four civic groups would devise a cooperative strategy to secure their goals. Steps are being taken to implement such policy successfully, and will be reported as they occur.

The Society Hill inventory was approved by the commission's staff during August of this year. The photographs had been approved earlier.

At this time, the only missing sections of the application are the statement of historical significance and the boundary statement. Both of these were submitted in draft by Judy Alden, a member of SHCA, in 1986. The commission's executive director was to amend these and approve them for submission to the commission. This was never done. As a result, the final book, for which many of Society Hill residents had contributed $100, cannot be published.

Finally, we both need and can accept additional contributions of $100 which will secure a copy of the book when it is published. Please make your tax-deductible contribution payable to the Society Hill Fund and mail your check to Roland Davies, treasurer, at 32 Strawberry Street, Philadelphia 19107.

On behalf of all of us who have worked on this project, our thanks for your cooperation and our appreciation for your donations which made it possible to progress to this point.

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REPAIRS PRODUCE PARKING NIGHTMARE

Anyone walking or riding through the area of Mattis, Dock and Spruce Streets cannot have missed all the construction work going on there. What is actually being done is difficult to ascertain. There are many cars and trucks parked on that pitiful little corner plot known as the “Tun Tavern site.”

This flurry of activity has nothing to do with the proposed building of a replica of the Tun Tavern where the U.S. Marine Corps was founded, but does involve the following three projects:

1) Most of the vehicles belong to workmen who are repairing and waterproofing the Penn’s Landing Square condominum garage. Their work has temporarily evicted the cars of condo residents. Management of the condo was understandably unwilling to guess at how much longer the garage repair would take, but do expect it to continue through December.

2) At the Dock-Mattis Street level, on the grounds of the Society Hill Towers, seven concrete sitting areas have been painted. The seats, installed at the time of the Bicentennial in 1976, were covered with graffiti and beginning to show their age. They will be replaced by landscaped plantings of flowering shrubs.

3) A new addition was made to that mysterious little brick building near Mattis Street between the fountain and the Tun Tavern corner. This building, also constructed for the Bicentennial, was intended as a public restroom, but was never used as such, thanks to our Councilman, James Tayoun, who prevented its opening. Throughout the years the building has been used by Fairmount Park crews working in the area. The addition was built by PennDOT and will house an emergency generator for lights and ventilation for I-95. Until the generator is installed, however, Fairmount Park workers will use the additional space for tool storage.

Staff for this issue—Charles Bangert, Ruth Dugan, Nancy Frenze, Bernice Hamil, Ad Kelly, shelli Joyner, Carolyn Mooney, and Lott Sigal.
Business Staff—Sherill Joyner and Arlene Weissman
Contributors—Myrna Field Baum and Libby Browne
Contributions and Letters To the Editors are welcome and may be delivered to staff members or mailed to the Resident News Letter, Box #3, Philadelphia, PA 19105.

FOR ADVERTISING RATES AND INFORMATION, contact Sherill Joyner at 625-2067. Deadline for March issue is February 1.

CRAFT SHOW IN FEBRUARY
what: Juried Craft Show
when: Saturday and Sunday, February 10-11.
Hours: 10 am to 6 pm.
where: Old Pine Community Center, at 4th and Lombard Streets.

Now in its seventh year, the Old Pine Community Center Craft Show will open with a “gala preview party” at the center on Friday evening, February 9th and will continue throughout the weekend of February 10-11. Crafts made by about 40 different artisans have been selected by Ruth Snyderman, director of the Works Gallery and Jack Laiming, professional furniture maker and board member of the Old Pine Community Center. A full complement of quality craft items has been chosen to be included in this important local show and sale—jewelry, ceramics, glasswork, furniture, and woven pieces. The Lunch Counter will be serving food and refreshments on Saturday and Sunday.

Please be on the lookout for invitations to the preview party and for additional publicity and reminders. Or for more information, call the center at 627-2493.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...
Doug McBrearty, general manager of the Society HillSheraton, who has worked with our community in every way possible and whenever we needed him. Doug is leaving his stewardship of the hotel, although he will be staying with the House organization. We thank him for being such a good neighbor, and we look forward to continuing a good relationship with his replacement at the hotel.

Good luck at your new job, Doug!

PLEASE JOIN OUR EFFORTS!

Tear off and mail to:

Society Hill Civic Association
P.O. Box 3
Philadelphia, PA 19105
attention: Morton Lieberman, Treasurer

☐ New Member ☐ Membership Renewal

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