

SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.org

## Preservation Yields Positive Economic Impact



*SHCA wishes all neighbors a happy, healthy and joyous 2019!*

The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) invites all neighbors to the January 16 General Membership Meeting, which will feature a presentation by Paul Steinke, Executive Director of the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia. He will discuss with us the challenges of historic preservation in a growing city with a robust development climate. He'll highlight recent gains and losses in terms of the preservation of historic buildings, including the unresolved issue of Jewelers Row.

Protecting historic places has always been the core mission of the Preservation Alliance, an

advocacy group founded on very pragmatic grounds. Historic preservation has a positive impact on the revitalization of neighborhoods, on tourism and on tax revenue generation — critical benefits that help build and sustain a robust local economy and contribute to high quality of life.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Simply arrive at Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow Auditorium, located on the first floor inside the main entrance at 8th Street near Spruce, before 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be offered.

## Please Help Keep Walkways Clear



Join these good neighbors to help make our streets safe for all.  
Photo by Bonnie Halda

Winter snow and ice make Society Hill's brick sidewalks and cobblestone streets especially treacherous for all pedestrians. Do your part in keeping walkways clear and safe.

Neighbors should be aware that Philadelphia has an ordinance requiring building owners, agents and tenants to clear a path of at least 36 inches wide on sidewalks in front of their building within six hours after snow has stopped falling. If the building is a multifamily dwelling, the owner or agent is responsible for the snow removal. Snow and ice removed from the building

cannot be placed in the street. The owners of corner properties are responsible for clearing curb cuts that give access to intersections.

Violating this ordinance could result in a \$50-\$300 fine. It is also illegal to use private plows to pile snow in the street after city teams have cleared the road. It is a hazard to drivers and pedestrians.

You can report instances of snow removal violations by calling the Philadelphia Streets Department Customer Affairs at 215-686-5560 or by contacting the city's 311 service.

Wednesday,  
January  
**16**

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meeting  
Wednesday, January 16, 2019

**Pennsylvania Hospital  
8th & Spruce Streets**

**5:45 p.m. Board Meeting**  
Pennsylvania Hospital's Great Court Room

**7:30 - 9 p.m. General Membership Meeting**  
Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow Auditorium

**Speaker: Paul Steinke, Executive Director of the  
Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia**

**Topic: Historic Preservation in a Growing City**

### WELCOME BASKETS



**Martha Levine began preparing and delivering SHCA Welcome Baskets to new first-time homeowners in Society Hill in 1999. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Welcome Basket program. Martha is still going strong — here's a picture of her preparing to deliver a basket to a new homeowner. Read more about the program on Page 13.**

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Popular Academy



SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

**NUSA  
Award-Winning  
Newsletter  
2014 thru  
2018**

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Find past issues in color  
at [www.societyhillcivic.org](http://www.societyhillcivic.org).

The views set forth in the opinion articles are the views of the authors and are not necessarily those of SHCA.

**Submissions**

If you have news that would be of interest to Society Hillers, email Sandra Rothman at [sandra.rothman@aol.com](mailto:sandra.rothman@aol.com). Materials must be submitted in writing and include the name of a contact person. Edited submissions will be considered for publication if space permits. Letters to the Editor must be signed, with contact information.

**SHCA Mission Statement**

The aims and purposes of SHCA are: to promote the improvement of the Society Hill area of Philadelphia, including its cultural, educational and civic activities, and the preservation and restoration of its historic buildings; to represent the residents of Society Hill in matters affecting the City of Philadelphia generally and Society Hill in particular; and to interpret the value and significance of Society Hill to the public.

## SHCA BOARD OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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**P R E S I D E N T ' S   M E S S A G E**

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BY ROSANNE LOESCH

## Resolve to Become Involved

It's time to renew our commitment to preserving this historic neighborhood. If you haven't renewed your membership, please take a minute to do so now. As I wrote this message during the hectic holiday season, I renewed our family's membership using the online renewal feature at [www.societyhillcivic.org](http://www.societyhillcivic.org), under "Membership" on the home page. It is so easy. If you aren't already a member, please think about joining our very active and vital neighborhood association. We can't necessarily solve every problem that our urban residential community faces, but we do manage to find a lot of solutions and are always trying to better the quality of life in Society Hill.

One benefit of membership is that you will receive our contractors' list — for members only! Another benefit is that you will receive our weekly email newsletter that keeps you abreast of the wonderful activities that are available year round — and most just walking distance from your home — lectures, events and festivities. In addition, we can send you occasional news about important topics on zoning, street closures and neighborhood issues.

Currently, SHCA is working with Councilman Mark Squilla to implement the zoning that will make into law the recommendations in Society Hill's Master Plan (see our website). It was accepted by the Planning Commission in July by a unanimous vote. Our plan evolved with the help and input of professional urban planners and architects, a multitude of stakeholder meetings and feedback from three community-wide meetings in 2017. We were able to design a proposal that preserves the historic character and open

space of our neighborhood, while enhancing and respecting the density of other parts of our neighborhood. These include eight residential highrises in two distinct areas, Washington Square and the iconic, planned site of I.M. Pei's Society Hill Towers, and also a number of mid-rise buildings and multi-family homes. These denser types of housing add to the eclectic, but highly planned, urban character of a very historic place.

Finally, we couldn't do what we do without the engagement of our residents in all kinds of activities that improve our quality of life. These include participating in the Master Plan stakeholder meetings, writing letters to the city on important issues in our neighborhood, fixing brick sidewalks, removing dead trees and replanting new ones with the help of SHCA subsidies, participating in Cleanup Day twice a year, alerting us to potential problems and pitching in to help find solutions, and being extra generous with your contributions at membership time. We all benefit from a clean, beautifully maintained environment, whether living in an historic home or one of our condo or apartment buildings.

Thank you for all that you do for our community! Please plan to attend our January meeting, refreshments included, to hear the latest news about historic preservation efforts in Philadelphia. This topic is of special interest to one of the oldest neighborhoods in a very old city: Society Hill.

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**Rosanne Loesch** is an attorney and former president of SHCA. She, her husband and two children have lived in a historic house on Spruce Street since 2002 and, before that, lived for 14 years in the Washington Square West neighborhood.



**Rosanne Loesch,**  
SHCA President

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**G O O D   A S   G O L D**

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## SHCA List of Contractors

Over the years, SHCA has provided a welcome resource to its residents: the Society Hill List of Contractors. The great thing is that it's free to all current members. As one resident exclaimed, "It's like gold!"

The 14-page list provides names and contact information for contractors listed under categories such as general contractors, painters, electricians, plumbers, roofers, masons, HVAC landscapers, tree care experts, window replacements... you name it. Nearly anything involving care and maintenance of our homes is on the list.

How did we compile it? By word-of-mouth. Individual Society Hill residents have come forward and highly recommended every one of these contractors. It's often hard to find a reliable service, so this data is a good start. Still, we recommend that you get several references from any contractor on the list.

Since its inception, thousands of lists have been distributed by request to residents by snail mail — sorry, no email. To have the latest updated list mailed to you, contact Martha Levine at [marthalev6@gmail.com](mailto:marthalev6@gmail.com) or 215-629-0727.



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KEEPING POSTED

BY AL CAVALARI

# New Years in the Past

This month we wish all readers a happy New Year and all the hope that comes with it.

The card shown here, mailed on December 31, 1906, and delivered on Jan 1, 1907, depicts some Philadelphia tourist attractions. While our Liberty Bell made the cut, Independence Hall did not. Our subway system seems to have captured the public's fancy, as likely representing a giant leap into the modern age. According to Wikipedia, Philadelphia's system is the fourth-oldest in the nation, and was about to open in 1907.

We can go back further in history to discover another, far gloomier New Year's Eve, outside Trenton in 1776. After the Battle of Trenton, Washington was faced with the constant problem of keeping an army in the field. Enlistments were about to run out, and on January 1 he would see a large part of his force leave for the comforts of home. He assembled those regiments about to depart and asked them to stay.

Writing years after the event, a sergeant who was there reported: "At this trying time General Washington, having now but a little handful of men and many of them new recruits in which he could place but little confidence, ordered our regiment to be paraded, and



**This postcard, mailed on December 31, 1906, and delivered on January 1, 1907, depicts some Philadelphia tourist attractions**

personally addressed us, urging that we should stay a month longer. He alluded to our recent victory at Trenton; told us that our services were greatly needed and that we could now do more for our country than we ever could at any future period; and in the most affectionate manner entreated us to stay. The drums beat for volunteers, but not a

man turned out. The soldiers, worn down with fatigue and privations, had their hearts fixed on home and the comforts of the domestic circle, and it was hard to forego the anticipated pleasures of the society of our dearest friends.

"The General wheeled his horse about, rode in front of the regiment and addressing us again said, 'My brave fellows, you have done all I asked you to do, and more than could be reasonably expected; but your country is at stake, your wives, your houses and all that you hold dear. You have worn yourselves out with fatigues and hardships, but we know not how to spare you. If you will consent to stay only one month longer, you will render that service to the cause of liberty and to your country which you probably never can do under any other circumstances.'

"A few stepped forth, and their example was immediately followed by nearly all who were fit for duty in the regiment."

Happy New Year! Let's emulate Washington's troops and once again take the chance to make the world anew.

**Al Cavalari** is a certified member of the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides. For a day job, he operates the Flag Guys®, a flag business in upstate New York. Send comments to Al at [flagguys@aol.com](mailto:flagguys@aol.com).

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STEPPING BACK IN TIME

BY SANDRA ROTHMAN

# New Neighbors and Old Friends

*A walking tour through local history.*

Over the past two years, I've researched topics for this column as diverse as the Progressive-era Housing Reform Movement and the history behind the African American surname "Ganges." What I've enjoyed most, though, is stepping back in time near my own home at 2nd and Spruce Streets.

It was while researching John Ross's house on the southeast corner of 2nd and Pine that I made an unexpected discovery. Deeds revealed that

there was a Quaker meetinghouse on Pine Street that shared a boundary line with Ross's property. The thought of 18th-century Friends walking the streets where my 21st-century friends go about their business captured my imagination, so I headed off to the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College to find out more.

### A Brief Quaker History

The Religious Society of Friends is a Christian denomination that emerged in 17th-century England.

With no creeds or clergy, they rely instead on a direct, inward understanding of God, manifested in the spoken words of worshippers arising from silence. From the beginning, Friends bestowed equal status to all men as well as to all women. This led to the belief that no one should set himself above others, but should instead practice simple living, plain dress and plain speech.

In 1681, William Penn founded Pennsylvania as a kind of holy experiment to test how far a state could govern consistently with Quaker principles, especially pacifism and religious tolerance.

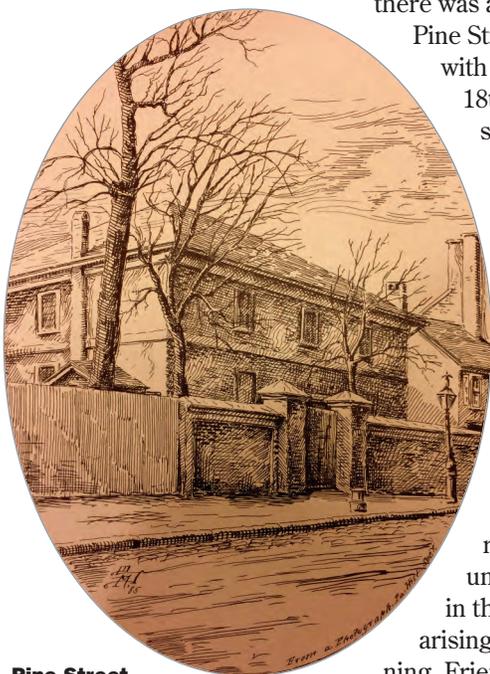
The City of Philadelphia was shaped by Quaker values in ways we might take for granted today. Consider the grid and names of our streets, Philly's many green spaces and arboretums, numerous educational institutions, our lending library, the nation's first mental hospital, a visionary urban prison system focused on reform rather than punishment, a medical college for women — the list goes on. Let's not forget that city planner Edmund Bacon, hailed for the renewal of Society Hill, was also a Quaker.

Philadelphia Friends started building public meetinghouses in 1684. Prior to that, members gathered in private homes. In fact, William Penn worshipped at Thomas and Elizabeth Kinsey Fairman's house, near the site of the Treaty Elm, just north of where the Benjamin Franklin Bridge stands today.

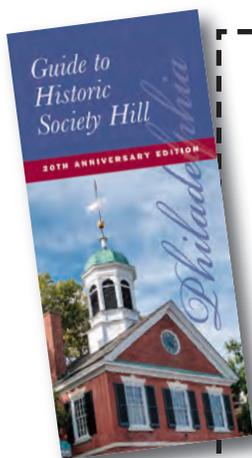
### Pine Street Meeting House

In our own neighborhood, the Pine Street Meeting House was erected in 1753 on land donated by Samuel Powel, and was the fifth Quaker meetinghouse constructed before the Revolution. As the illustration to the left shows, it was quite a substantial structure that was 60 feet long and 43 feet deep. Unlike an 18th-century church, the interior would have been unadorned and furnished only with simple wooden benches. Note the chimney of the Ross House at the far right of the drawing.

*continued on Page 7*



**Pine Street Meeting House, also known as the Hill Meeting**



### Guide to Historic Society Hill Now Available for Purchase

If you would like to secure one or more copies, please fill out the form below and forward with a check or money order to SHCA, P.O. 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147. Make check payable to the **Society Hill Preservation Fund**.

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STEPPING BACK IN TIME

continued from Page 6

Quakers do not consider these buildings to be sacred spaces. When they no longer serve a purpose, the structures are abandoned. Nearly all of the 18th-century meetinghouses had been destroyed or repurposed before the Civil War. The Pine Street Meeting House was used until 1832. In 1861, builder Samuel Roberts erected an Italianate-style double townhouse on the site that appears to be 112-114 Pine Street today.

**Lucretia and James Mott**

A meetinghouse has always been an important gathering place where worshippers can sit in communal silence or energetically debate the significant social concerns of the day. The Pine Street Meeting was fortunate to have Lucretia and James Mott in their midst. The young couple was married there in 1811 and devoted their lives to many important causes, including caring for the wife of John Brown in their own home after John was hanged at Harper’s Ferry.

They also helped found co-educational Swarthmore College in 1864.

Lucretia Mott was formally recognized as a minister with a genuine gift. She was in great demand and traveled extensively throughout the Northeast. This tiny but powerful woman is known today as a feminist activist, abolitionist, social reformer and a pacifist who helped launch the women’s rights movement.

**New Market Excavation**

Author Rebecca Yamin writes in *Digging in the City of Brotherly Love* about work done in our neighborhood in the 1990s at the site of the

demolished New Market outdoor shopping mall. Fortunately, this 1970s structure incorporated the still-standing 18th- and 19th-century buildings around the edges of the area, including the privies of the Pine Street Meeting House.

These brick-lined pits yielded 30,000 artifacts and an extraordinary number of bones. The platters, soup bowls, tankards and jugs are noticeably absent of decoration, which is consistent with Quaker simplicity, but the faunal remains are surprising. Archeologists estimate they represented 2,400 pounds of beef and 500 pounds of pork, as well as meat from hundreds of pounds of sheep, chickens and deer! One can only marvel at the meals enjoyed in fellowship there.

**New Neighbors and Old Friends**

In the more than 250 years since the Pine Street Meeting opened its doors to Philadelphia’s early Quakers, Society Hill has experienced many transformations. The one constant, however, is the steady flow of new neighbors thoughtfully and lovingly maintaining and improving the community that old Friends helped shape.

**Sandra Rothman**, a retired educator for the school District of Philadelphia, is the *Reporter’s* editor in chief.



**Lucretia and James Mott**

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## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

BY CLAUDIA CARABELLI WITH MICHAEL AICHENBAUM

## A Home Away From Home

As 2019 begins, many of us are reflecting upon personal resolutions we might make. In addition to whatever you're already considering, why not give back through Hosts for Hospitals.

Think back to a time when you or someone in your family received a serious medical diagnosis. Not only is it terrifying, you also face the logistics of setting up treatment at a time when you're completely overwhelmed.

Now imagine that you live far from our area and someone you care about is very sick. They have to travel here to receive desperately needed treatment, and it's necessary for you to accompany them. Add in travel, absence from work, navigating an unfamiliar city and leaving much of your support system behind. To complicate matters, when you arrive, there is no place for you to stay, certainly not for any length of time and definitely not at a price you can afford.

Hosts for Hospitals is a local non-profit agency that offers free or deeply discounted (\$20 per night) lodging and support at volunteer host homes. Founded in 2000 by Michael Aichenbaum, it was a response to his own experience. In 1988 Michael lived in Michigan when he was diagnosed with acute leukemia. State-of-the-art treatment was offered in New York, so he uprooted his family, moved there for his course of treatment and ran up a \$40,000 housing bill in today's dollars. He figured there had to be a better way.

Greater Philadelphia is a center for specialized medical care. People travel from all over the country, even the world, to access our hospitals. Hosts for Hospitals host families have to date provided lodging to 3,500 patient and families, saving them over \$11 million in equivalent hotel expenses. They provide a caring response to the housing needs of patients, as well as their families, who come here for treatment.

One way to give back through Hosts for Hospitals is by becoming a host. Long-time Society Hill residents Dick and Margaret Ullman have welcomed dozens of patients and families into their home. About his experience, Dick says, "It takes practically no effort. It's at our convenience. And furthermore, we live with tremendous privilege just by residing in Philadelphia so close to these fabulous medical resources. For us to make this available to other people is so meaningful to us."



Long-time Society Hill residents Dick and Margaret Ullman, at left, have welcomed dozens of patients and families into their home.

As important as the money saved is to patient and families, so is the great comfort they feel being welcomed into someone's home. At times of great stress, to have a stranger show such kindness has a profound impact. As Sue Kruse, another long-time Center City host expressed, "I've been involved with volunteer and church and community work my whole life. I can truthfully say that Hosts for Hospitals is the most rewarding thing we've ever done."

Homes in Society Hill and Center City are well-suited for patient and family guests because they provide such easy access to multiple medical facilities. This is especially true for those without cars. For people in need of lodging with minimal stairs, an elevator-equipped building is a true blessing.

Even if you can't host at this time, here are a few other ways you can help spread the word about this wonderful organization:

- Like Hosts for Hospitals on Facebook to help share information.
- Print a host recruitment flyer from their website and post it in the community.
- Invite them to make a presentation to any group(s) you are associated with.
- Arrange for them to meet with your company to discuss ways to inform co-workers about hosting opportunities.
- Join the Hosts for Hospitals email list so you can receive occasional messages about

*continued on Page 11*

*"Hosts for Hospitals is the most rewarding thing we've ever done."*

— Sue Kruse

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## Quality

Our recommendations are based on observations and a consultative approach that identifies your needs and expectations, tempered with our concern to maintain and improve the health, appearance and safety of your landscape. Custom pruning achieves the landscape appearance you desire while being performed to the specifications of proper arboricultural practices. Plant Health Care services include a thorough inspection before any

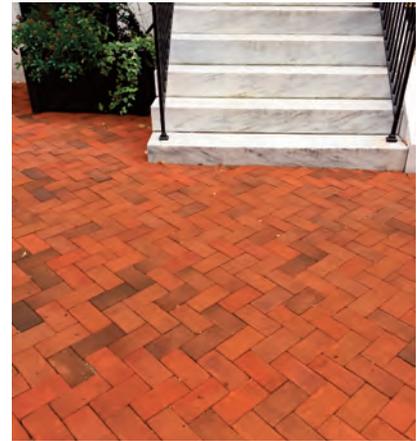
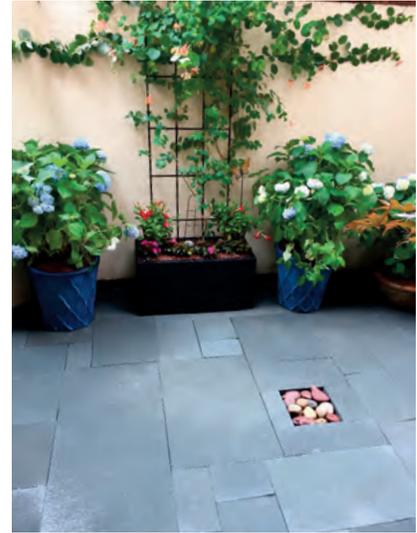
treatment so that we apply materials only when and where they are needed. Landscape projects are meticulously executed and guaranteed.

## Distinctive

McFarland Blue trucks, uniformed personnel, attention to detail and thorough clean-up of your property help differentiate McFarland. Our management of your landscape can be total or selective, depending on your needs and budget. If we cannot immediately identify the cause of a landscape problem, we will research the issue until we have solid answers to report to you. As a second-generation business, we have been satisfying our clients with a lifelong-relationship approach to service.

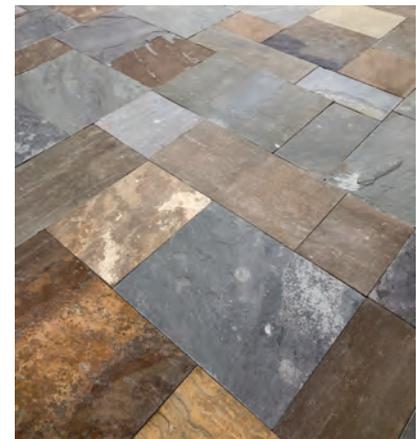
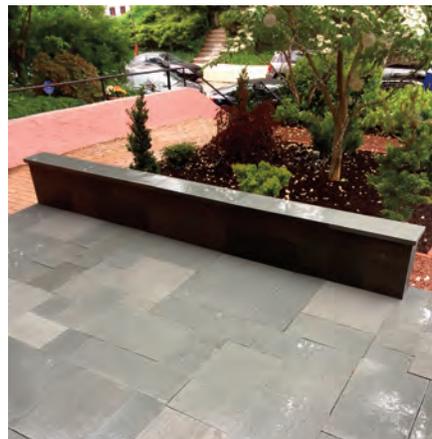
## Fix Your Bricks

Brick sidewalks in Society Hill and downtown Philly are being renovated to provide a smooth, safe walking surface for pedestrians. We have experience and have repaired many sidewalks and patios in the city. The upheaval caused by tree roots can often be carefully corrected without removing or killing trees. Call McFarland to inquire about fixing your bricks.



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**LET THERE BE LIGHTS!**

Trucks occasionally damage or knock down our street lights, and it can take several months to get the lights repaired or replaced. The box shown below was placed to cover live wires. After neighbor complaints to 311, as well as



**Before and after replacement, S. 3rd Street**



some help from our Councilman Mark Squilla and Street Lighting Department official Mike Faulkner, both lights were replaced in November. Many thanks to our observant residents — the eyes and ears of the neighborhood!



**Before and after replacement, 5th & Pine Streets**



Photos by Martha Levine

**GOING CLEAN AND GREEN**

**Franklin Lights**

We need to take care of our Franklin Lights, often damaged by passing trucks. If you see a Franklin Light that is blinking or out, call 311.

**Graffiti**

See graffiti on any public objects like mail boxes, poles? For quick removal, email a photo and location to our graffiti expert, Todd Kelley — [todd@graffitiremovalxperts.com](mailto:todd@graffitiremovalxperts.com).

**Big Bellies**

Do not put any household trash in our Big Belly trash receptacles. Hold for trash collection day.

**No More Christmas Tree Curb Recycling**

Yes, the city will still take your tree if left on the curb — but it will end up in a landfill. To go green in 2019, here's a quick and easy guide to recycling your pine.

You'll need to bring it to one of the city's designated recycling spots — aka the Streets Department's Sanitation Convenience Centers — between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. In addition, the city will run 23 drop-off locations — perhaps closer to your neighborhood — between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, January 5 and Saturday, January 12.

Visit [www.philadelphiastreet.com](http://www.philadelphiastreet.com) to learn more.

**A Home Away From Home**

*continued from Page 9*

specific patient and family needs that you can forward to your contacts.

Hosts for Hospitals will be featured at the March 2019 SHCA General Membership Meeting. Outreach Coordinator Cathy Davis will share more information, and hosts Dick and Margaret will speak about their personal experience with the program. Stay tuned for more details.

Hosting is easy. All that is required is a comfortable bed, clean bathroom and a feeling of home. For more information, or to become a host, please call 484-380-2999 or email [cathy.davis@hostsforhospitals.org](mailto:cathy.davis@hostsforhospitals.org).

Visit their website at [www.hostsforhospitals.org](http://www.hostsforhospitals.org) to view some very moving videos.

**Claudia Carabelli** serves SHCA as a director at large.

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**WELCOME BASKETS**

BY MARTHA LEVINE

# Not Your Grandmother's Welcome Wagon

In 1999, as a new SHCA board member, I started the Welcome Baskets. At that time we were experiencing the beginning of a real estate boom, and houses in Society Hill were in high demand. My idea was to introduce new first-time homeowners to our civic association through the presentation of gift baskets filled with fresh foods and neighborhood information during a visit in their homes. The goal was to inspire recipients to join. It worked!

I thought I would try this for just a year or so, but it kept growing and became bigger than ever with the addition of gift certificates and vouchers for theaters, restaurants, shops, services and museums. All were donated by local businesses. The program grew to 60 business contributors and has developed a reputation of its own. I couldn't stop.

Fast forward to the present. As of the end of 2018, SHCA had presented over 875 Welcome Baskets to new homeowners in Society Hill. Our membership has doubled, in part because of the baskets program. Word has gotten out that if you buy here, you get a grand welcome gift.

One early recipient recently told me that he never forgot the Welcome Basket presentation in his home. The thing that keeps me going is meeting so many new and lovely neighbors and giving them this exceptional gift.

Help thank all of our generous contributors by patronizing the businesses listed below.

If you are a new first time homeowner, including condos, make an appointment for a 45-minute basket presentation in your home. Contact me at [marthalev6@gmail.com](mailto:marthalev6@gmail.com) or 215-629-0727.



**Nancy Lo & Ben Scanlon**

## 2019 SHCA WELCOME BASKET CONTRIBUTORS

**Coffee Shops**

La Colombe Coffee, 100 S. 6th Street  
Greenstreet Coffee, 1101 Spruce Street

**Food Market**

Acme Market, 5th & Pine Streets

**Restaurants**

Bistrot La Minette, 623 S. 6th Street  
Bistro Romano, 120 Lombard Street  
Cavanaugh's Headhouse, 421 S. 2nd Street  
City Tavern, 138 S. 2nd Street  
Craftsman Row Saloon (bar & restaurant),  
112 S. 8th Street  
Creperie Beau Monde, 624 S. 6th Street  
Fork, 306 Market Street  
Frieda's Café, 320 Walnut Street  
Garces Group -Amada, 217 Chestnut Street; and others  
Gnocchi, 613 E. Passyunk Avenue (near 5th and South)  
High Street on Market, 308 Market Street  
Keating's Rope & Anchor Bar & Kitchen,  
Hilton @ Penn's Landing  
La Buca Ristorante, 711 Locust Street  
La Fournò, 636 South Street  
La Scala's Restaurant & Bar, 615 Chestnut Street  
Malbec Argentine Steakhouse, 400-402 S. 2nd Street  
P.J. Clarke's, 601 Walnut Street  
Pizza Fresca by Lamberti, 703 Chestnut Street  
Positano Coast Restaurant, 2nd and Walnut Streets  
Serpico, 604 South Street  
Talula's Daily, café & take out, 208 W. Washington Square



**Specialty Shops**

Adornamenti (jewelry), 1106 Pine Street  
Evangine Design (lifestyle shop), 715 Walnut Street  
Head House Books, 619 S. 2nd Street  
Paper On Pine (invitations/stationery), 115 S. 13th Street  
Paul Morelli Design Inc. (jewelry), 1118 Walnut Street  
Show of Hands Gallery (crafts), 1006 Pine Street  
SoapBox (hand-made soaps, skin care), 616 S. 6th Street  
The Pennsylvania General Store, Reading Terminal Market

**Theaters/Entertainment**

Annenberg Theater for the Performing Arts, 3680 Walnut Street  
Arden Theater, 40 N. 2nd Street  
Ballet X at the Wilma Theater, 265 S. Broad Street  
1812 Productions (all comedy theater), 215-592-9560  
Ghost Tours of Philadelphia, 610-587-8308  
InterAct Theater Company, 2030 Sansom Street  
Lantern Theater Company, 10th & Ludlow Streets (south of Ma)  
National Museum of American Jewish History, 5th & Market Streets  
National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut Street  
Pennsylvania Ballet, Academy of Music, Broad & Locust Streets  
Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, 215-569-8080  
Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre, 2111 Sansom Street  
Phila. Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, 321 S. 4th Street  
Phila. Theatre Company, Suzanne Roberts Theater, Broad & Pine Streets  
The Chamber Orchestra of Phila., Kimmel Center, 215-545-1739  
The Philadelphia Chamber Ensemble, Old Pine Church, 412 Pine Street  
The Philadelphia Orchestra, The Kimmel Center, Broad & Spruce Streets  
Wilma Theater, 265 S. Broad Street



**Specialty Foods**

Homemade Goodies by Roz, 510 S. 5th Street  
Knead Bagels, 725 Walnut Street  
Metropolitan Bakery, 262 S. 19th Street  
(Rittenhouse Square)  
South Street Philly Bagels, 613 S. 3rd Street

**Other Services**

Judy Moon Massage Therapy, 232 S. 4th Street, Ste. 2F  
J. Sima Salon, 257 St. James Place, Society Hill Towers  
Liberty Tree & Landscape Management, 215-725-3637  
M on the Square Salon, Hopkinson House, 604 S. Washington Square  
SCULPT—Personal Trainer, 215-803-0723  
Worth New York, New York (women's fashions), 215-925-8813



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**NOW IS THE TIME!**

BY ANDREW HOHNS

## Restoring the Headhouse Clock

If your daily life in Society Hill is anything like I mine, I am sure that one of your most delightful and charming experiences is walking through, under and about the Shambles and the Headhouse at 2nd and Pine Streets. It is the extraordinary heart of our neighborhood, and has been beating strong since prior to the American Revolution.

Headhouse is an iconic symbol of Society Hill, one with a marvelous history. But — how many times have you looked up and thought: *This place is stuck in time! I wonder what it would take to get that clock working again?*

Master Federal clockmaker Isaiah Lukens, known for his clock at Independence Hall tower, built this one in 1819. Unfortunately, the passage of time (no pun intended!) has been somewhat harsh to its functioning, but now all Society Hillers can come together to support the restoration of this wonderful landmark.

Through a partnership between the South Street Headhouse District, USA250 (a non-profit working to get Philadelphia ready to welcome the nation in 2026), and the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, a campaign has been launched to restore and renew the famous clock.

This high-profile project would see it repaired to working order, illuminated to allow visibility at night, and would also repair and restore the tower's bell chimes. The goal is to be finished by year-end 2019, in honor of its 200th anniversary.

Winships' Pieces of Time are presently completing the Phase I assessment of the full restoration. They have disassembled the entire clock movement and have brought it to their shop for a thorough inspection. Upon completion of the evaluation phase, they will repair and replace worn parts, manufacture new versions of damaged components, test the mechanics, and finally disassemble, transport, and reassemble the clock at the Headhouse.

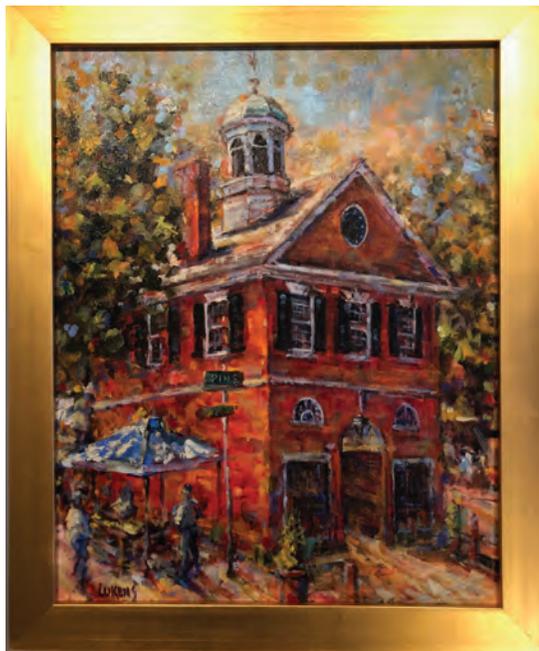
We are raising money to undertake this important preservation project. South Street Headhouse District has agreed to provide an opportunity for donor recognition at the Headhouse. Contributions can be made directly to the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, (write *Now is the Time!* on the memo line), or use the link below and designate your donation to the clock restoration: [www.donatenow.networkforgood.org/philalandsdonation](http://www.donatenow.networkforgood.org/philalandsdonation).



**Headhouse clock being disassembled and inspected**



**Isaiah Lukens, Master Federal clockmaker**



**Original oil painting of the Headhouse by Jim Lukens**

Jim Lukens, a direct descendent of Isaiah Lukens and accomplished New Hope artist, has also generously donated his original oil painting of the Headhouse on behalf of the campaign. Donations in excess of \$1776 will receive a museum-quality print of the image. Donations of \$2026 will receive a framed print. Additionally, we plan to auction the original work at a future event in support of *Now is the Time!*

Our hope is that 100 percent of the neighborhood contributes to this campaign. As of press time, we have already raised \$15,000 towards the \$85,000 budget.

For further information, please email Andrew Hohns at [andrewhohns@gmail.com](mailto:andrewhohns@gmail.com).

## OUT AND ABOUT

## A Pier Without Peer

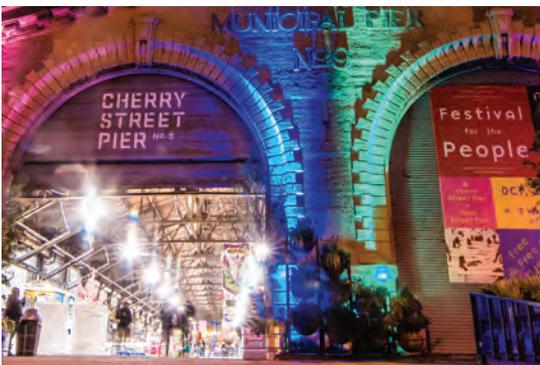
Cherry Street Pier is the seventh pier park to open along the Delaware River, and the first to really focus on Philly's creative community. It sits in the historic municipal Pier 9, once a vital part of the city's shipping and trade community. Much of its structure has been salvaged, including a gabled wooden roof, masonry head houses, steelwork, and even train tracks and train stopper.

The indoor-outdoor attraction, with stunning views of the Ben Franklin bridge, is a market-

place, an event space, and alfresco bar and cafe. It's open seven days a week with ever-evolving venues like Antique Flea and Christmas markets.

Most interestingly, repurposed cargo-shipping containers house 14 art studios. For the next year, multi-discipline artists will work from Cherry Street Pier, opening up their processes to the public and often collaborating with one another.

Visit [www.cherrystreetpier.com](http://www.cherrystreetpier.com) for more info.



OUT AND ABOUT

# Municipal 9 Gets a Makeover



## Festive Events in Society Hill

Two fundraisers in our neighborhood attracted big crowds for a good cause—the maintenance of our two historic house museums. A great time was had by all!



**The Powel House Annual Holiday Party, December 2, 2018**



**The Hill-Physick House Annual Wine & Beer Party October 24, 2018**



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## OUR CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

BY CLAUDIA CARABELLI

## A Lovely Lady from Across the Pond

When Barbara Gelman and her family moved to England in 2004, they had an 18-year-old cat, aging gracefully but set in his ways. Figuring the move would be too much for an older animal, they placed him with another family and started their adventure abroad pet-free. Not surprisingly, their two young children were soon begging for another kitty to join their household.

Where does one find a cat in Britain? Barbara had always adopted pets, so she never expected to pay for one. It was typical in Guildford Surrey to see kittens for sale at local garden stores, but apparently November was off-season for the little ones. They finally found one advertised for 70 pounds (\$140), more money than expected, but worth a look. Lo and behold, it was a tiny tortoiseshell ball of fluff, and they fell in love despite the price. That's how Julia, a British Shorthair cat, became the newest member of this American family.

Most of us know American Shorthairs. This pedigreed version of domestic shorthairs is a muscular feline with a round face and short ears. Typically friendly, adaptable, easygoing and tolerant, they're a very common housecat in America.

The British Shorthair has a chunky body, dense coat, shorter tail and a broad face with big round eyes. In fact, upon first seeing Julia curled up on the sofa, it can be easy to mistake her for a fluffy throw pillow. The breed was devastated after two World Wars, and few remained at the end of WWII. Fortunately, they rebounded. As befitting their British heritage, they tend to be slightly reserved. Not big lap cats, they'll still sit next to you but don't care to be picked up. One cat breed website describes them thus: "Their manners are those of a proper governess and not a soccer hooligan." These are undemanding companions with a moderate activity level. Described as "four paws on the ground" animals, they're not big jumpers. With a poor sense of smell, they depend on vision to assess their surroundings.

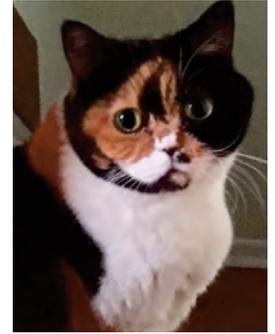
You've probably unknowingly grown up with the breed, since both Puss in Boots and the Cheshire Cat of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* were British Shorthairs. They're also used in movies, since they take direction well.

Now back to Julia. She adjusted easily to her new home and lived happily in Britain with Barbara's brood for three and a half years. Then it was time for the family to pack up for the move back home to America. A travel service for pets was enlisted to assist with proper documentation, a crate, sedation and transport to the flight. Julia did surprisingly well with all of this. She even acclimated nicely to two weeks in a high-rise Philadelphia hotel, necessitated because their house in Society Hill was rented and still occupied.

Things were going smoothly, and it was finally time to move back into their home — the final step of the journey. Julia, however, was having none of it. Maybe she'd had enough of the relocating. Perhaps the tenant's scent was one she found offensive. But one sniff at the open door, and she was over the garden wall to parts unknown. So much for not being a jumper! Barbara searched everywhere, questioned neighbors and called for her over and over at all times of the day and night. The most Julia would do is come by each morning for food and then take off again. It took a good six to eight weeks and the first cold night for this strong-willed young lady to venture into the house. There she has stayed ever since.

Now 14 years old, she spends her days lounging on the couch and wandering into the kitchen and family room when everyone congregates. She assesses visitors from a distance. Like a little "dog-cat," she goes out into the garden to take care of business. Since she "runs hot," only the very coldest nights find her at the foot of the bed. She approaches Barbara, always on her terms, to ask for a back scratch. Home sweet home.

**Claudia Carabelli** serves SHCA as a director at large.



**Julia, a British Shorthair tortoiseshell cat.**

*"Their manners are those of a proper governess and not a soccer hooligan."*

## EXERCISE AND SOCIALIZE

The **Walkie/Talkies** meet at Three Bears Park, Delancey Street between 3rd and 4th Streets, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:15 a.m. for a one-hour stroll through our historic community. Anyone is welcome to participate in this non-stressful, one-hour exercise and socialize program.

**"Philly Is Walking In The Park!"** meets at the fountain in the center of Washington Square, 6th and Locust Streets, at 8 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for a half-hour, self-paced walk through our historic, beautiful park led by neighbor Dr. Lisa Unger. All are invited to join us.





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ON OUR SHELF

BY VIVIENNE WOODWARD

# Memory and Revolution

Throughout *To Keep the Sun Alive*, a new release by debut novelist Rabeah Ghaffari, stories from the long history of Iran are exchanged between family members and neighbors. The tales are of power struggles between the weak and the strong, and most often in these stories, the weak triumph over the strong. The tales are demonstrative, issuing either a threat or lesson to the listener. Though the tales do not always serve the same purpose in the narrative, they all represent a dichotomy between story and mortality. Stories live on, people do not.

The book opens in Paris in 2012; we meet Shazdehpour who ekes out a living by writing tourists' names for them in his native Persian. It is the morning of a solar eclipse, and Shazdehpour is on edge. The narrative transitions to Iran in 1978, an Iran on the brink of revolution. From there, the narrative remains mostly in Iran, but occasionally visits Shazdehpour in 2012 as he falls apart in the face of the eclipse. In Iran, we meet Bibi and her family as they are sitting down to lunch in the family's ancient orchard. Although she has no biological children of her own, she presides over several generations of family, including Shazdehpour.

The characters are complicated in the most wonderfully normal ways; they are falling in love, fighting with their spouses, grieving loved ones, finding their roles within their families. But within these day-to-day narrative threads, the tension of revolution is palpable on each page. As the revolution draws closer to home, members of the family find themselves farther and farther apart.

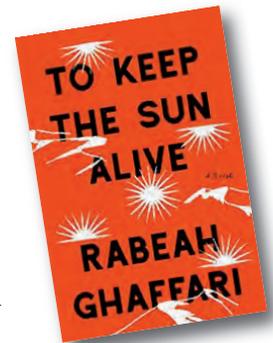
The day the revolution fully arrives in their small town in Iran is, again, the same day as a full solar eclipse. The book plays heavily with dichotomies of this sort — light and dark, good and evil, story and mortality — and the eclipse symbolizes just how quickly light turns to dark, how suddenly day becomes night.

*To Keep the Sun Alive* is about the 1979 Iranian Revolution, yes, but more than that, it is about memory. In a literal sense, the book is structured around Shazdehpour's memories of the 1978 eclipse on the day of the eclipse in 2012. He remembers the tragedy, and the events leading up to it, that tore his family apart. But the book is also about the long memory of history. The younger generation of Bibi's family believes that their slice of the present will change everything, but the older generations, with story, try to warn of history's tendency to repeat itself. There will always be another eclipse; the sun and moon are ceaselessly cyclical.

*To Keep the Sun Alive* is a powerful book. Readers will be invested in the characters, hoping that history might rewrite itself for their sake. It also manages to be self-aware in its recognition of the power of story.

**Bring in a copy of this review and receive 20 percent off any one title in our store or ordered online at [www.HeadHouseBooks.com](http://www.HeadHouseBooks.com).**

**Richard De Wyngaert** is the proprietor of Society Hill's only local, independently owned bookstore, Head House Books, located at 619 S. 2nd Street. Events Coordinator **Vivienne Woodward** wrote this article.



## UPCOMING HEAD HOUSE BOOKS EVENTS

Held at 619 S. 2nd Street. All events are free and open to the public.

**January 24, 7 p.m.**

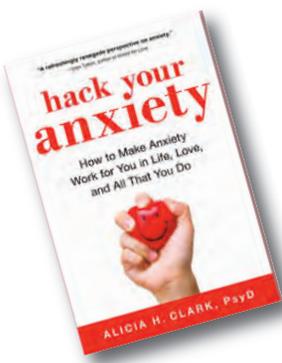
**Dr. Alicia Clark, author of *Hack Your Anxiety*:**

In this revolutionary new book, Dr. Alicia H. Clark recognizes anxiety as an unsung hero in the path to success and wellbeing. Anxiety is a powerful motivating force that can be harnessed to create a better you, if you have got the right tools.

**February 19, 7:30 p.m.**

**Jessica Chiccehitto Hindman, author of *Sounds Like Titanic*, in conversation with Paul Lisicky**

*Sounds Like Titanic* is a surreal, often hilarious coming-of-age story. Paul Lisicky is the author of *The Narrow Door*, *Unbuilt Projects*, *The Burning House*, *Famous Builder* and *Lawnboy*.



# Selling Society Hill Towers Condominiums for 38 Years

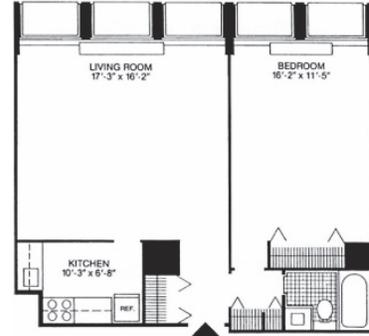
## FOR SALE! Sunny One Bedroom



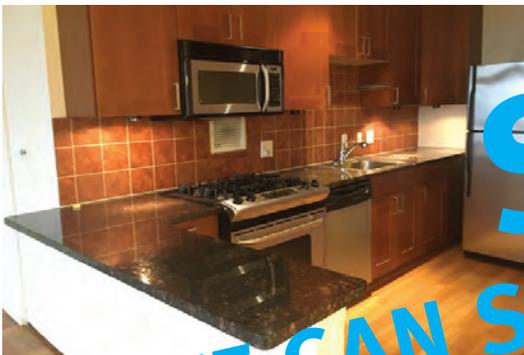
with modern finishes, floor-to-ceiling window walls, an updated kitchen and wood floors throughout.

**683 sf**

**Offered for \$259,900**



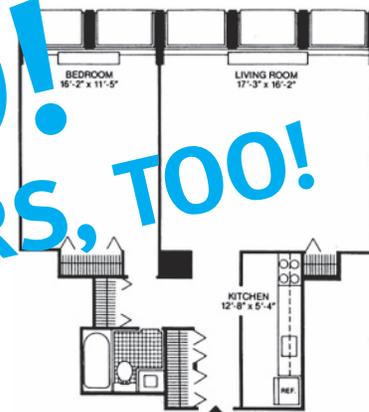
## FOR SALE! Updated One Bedroom with Southern Views



Updated one bedroom with southern views toward the river and Society Hill with an open modern kitchen with high end finishes and breakfast bar, white tiled bathroom.

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| 14C South | 27B West  | 29E South |
| 28E North | 22AH West | 10AH      |
| 23B South | 5B North  | North     |
| 26C West  | 19A North | 4E South  |
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HEADHOUSE FARMERS' MARKET

BY LISA KELLY

# Grab Your Winter Dose of Vitamin D

The Harvard School of Public Health states that Vitamin D deficiency is prevalent around the globe, estimating that “one billion people have inadequate levels of Vitamin D in their blood.” Why should we be interested in Vitamin D? What function does it play in maintaining our health? The Food Trust’s Lisa Kelly explains how food choices can help us get more of this important vitamin this winter.

According to an article published on the USDA website, “Vitamin D helps you absorb calcium. Calcium is one of the building blocks of bone. Vitamin D also has a role in your nerve, muscle and immune systems. You can get Vitamin D in three ways: through your skin, from your diet and from supplements.”

Vitamin D is often called “the sunshine vitamin” because our body manufactures Vitamin D after exposure to sunlight. We may end up being deficient in Vitamin D during the winter months as a result of the natural decrease in the number of daylight hours and the nasty weather that becomes a good excuse to hunker down indoors.

What can you do then, besides taking supplements, to increase your level of Vitamin D?

The Headhouse Farmers Market remains open during the winter months. Stop by and visit our Market merchants or look out for these Vitamin D-rich products in your local food store:

- Wild salmon has a higher percentage of Vitamin D than farmed salmon, but farmed salmon can still provide up to 25 percent of your recommended daily intake of Vitamin D.
- Shrimp is a good source of Vitamin D and also of Omega 3s.
- Egg yolks contain Vitamin D. Bear in mind that chickens that are free range and allowed to run around outside may produce eggs with higher levels of Vitamin D.
- Who could have guessed that mushrooms contain Vitamin D2, if grown outside or under UV lights?
- Also, look out for cow’s milk, orange juice or cereals, which may be fortified with Vitamin D and calcium.

Note that both our fish merchants, Otolith and Shore Catch, will be at the market this winter, as will our specialty mushroom vendors Queens Farm and Primordia Mushroom Farm.

We found a great recipe that combines a number of these ingredients in one dish. To get a healthy dose of Vitamin D and other good nutrients, try the recipe below, found at [www.cooking.nytimes.com/recipes](http://www.cooking.nytimes.com/recipes).

Alternatively, make a point to step outside, take a 15-minute walk around the neighborhood each day and soak up your quota of sunlight!



*Salmon, shrimp, egg yolks and mushrooms can be good sources of Vitamin D.*

## Steamed Salmon with Sautéed Mushrooms, Shallots and Fresh Herbs

- 1 1½-pound salmon fillet, or
- 2 12-ounce salmon fillets
- 1 teaspoon extra virgin olive oil for the baking sheet
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 1 lb. white or cremini mushrooms, rinsed briefly and wiped dry
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 shallots, minced
- 2 to 4 garlic cloves (to taste), minced
- 2 teaspoons fresh chopped or ½ to 1 teaspoon dried thyme and/or rosemary
- ½ teaspoon salt, pepper to taste
- ¼ cup dry white wine, such as Sauvignon blanc

Preheat oven to 300°F. Fill a roasting pan with boiling water and place it on the oven floor. Cover a baking sheet with foil and lightly oil the foil. Place the salmon on top. Season with salt and pepper.

Bake until the fish flakes and white bubbles of protein appear on the surface, 10 to 20 minutes, depending on the size of the fillets. Remove from the heat.

Meanwhile, cook the mushrooms. Heat a large, heavy frying pan over medium-high heat and add 1 tablespoon of the olive oil. Add mushrooms and cook, until they begin to soften and sweat. Add the remaining oil, turn the heat to medium, and add the shallots, garlic, and herbs. Stir together, add ½ teaspoon salt and freshly ground pepper to taste, and cook, stirring often, for another 1 to 2 minutes, until the shallots and garlic have softened and the mixture is fragrant. Add the wine and cook, stirring often and scraping the bottom of the pan, until the wine has just about evaporated. Taste and adjust seasonings. Remove from the heat and serve salmon with spoonful of mushrooms on top.

## The Food Trust

Founded in Philadelphia in 1992, the nationally recognized Food Trust is a non-profit dedicated to helping everyone has access to affordable, nutritious food and information to make healthy choices. The Trust partners with Philadelphia’s Department of Public Health on the department’s Get Healthy Philly initiative to create a comprehensive solution to the issue of food access, improving the health of families and communities through nutrition education, improved school food environments, and farmers markets, such as the weekly Headhouse Square market. To donate to The Food Trust and further the Trust’s work in Philadelphia, or at a national level, visit [www.thefoodtrust.org](http://www.thefoodtrust.org).



# INDEPENDENCE PLACE

233 - 241 S. 6th Street



Three bedroom, two bathroom featuring a sun-soaked open floor plan with a luxurious master suite, beautifully appointed bathrooms, balcony and see-forever views from the river to the skyline.  
**1,734 sf | \$1,095,000**



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**3,142 sf | \$1,500,000**



Updated one bedroom with sunset city views, a modern kitchen and bath, large open great room, great closet space and a washer/dryer.  
**850 sf | \$309,900**



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**1,387 sf | \$899,900**

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1509D-I	1410E-I	706F-II	1412B-II	301K-I	1206-II	502-II
1802L-II	1907H-I	608C-II	1906-7-I	706F-II	1706-I	

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## SOUTH STREET HEADHOUSE DISTRICT

BY KERI WHITE

## Bridget Foy's Good News

**B**ridget Foy, of the eponymous South Street restaurant, is full steam ahead these days. But she was kind enough to take time out of her busy schedule to update us on the latest developments with her restaurants. Yes, that's restaurants, plural: in addition to rebuilding Bridget Foy's, Bridget and her husband, Paul Rodriguez, are opening Cry Baby Pasta and Wine Bar this month.

But let's back up and let Foy explain it in her own words: "When the fire destroyed the restaurant in October 2017, we were all a bit paralyzed. It was truly like losing a family member. But we knew we were going to rebuild, we just didn't realize how long it would take. We know the restaurant business, but the construction business, getting permits, architectural plans, that was out of our area."

The good news is that Foy was able to tap local architect Rich Villa from *Ambit*, right on Head House Square, and he has helped recreate Bridget Foy's. "But better," she explains, "We had always intended to make changes to the restaurant, but we never quite found the time to shift focus from the day-to-day running of the business. The fire was not the way we would have wanted it to happen, but one positive thing to come out of this is that we are able to make all of those improvements." The ever-popular outside seating will expand, and there will be a larger footprint for the dining room. Foy continues, "In the original version, the kitchen was on the main floor off the dining room. We have now moved the kitchen to the basement, which has opened up more space for dining and outside seating, which was a huge draw."

The foundation was poured in November, and the plan is to continue with the construction for as long as weather permits and resume as soon as possible in the spring. The contractors have assured the couple that the rest of the project will go at a faster pace, with more visible progress, and they are hoping for a September 2019 opening.

Which brings us to the Foy's current project: Cry Baby Pasta and Wine Bar. Foy's entire family was involved in the restaurant. They had always considered another place in the area, but things were good at Bridget Foy's, and they were busy all the time. After the fire, the family began to consider other, intermediate options. Bridget and Paul spent the summer in upstate New York working at a resort property with fellow Philly restaurateurs David Gilberg and Carla Goncalves. The foursome worked well together and began making plans to

launch a new restaurant. They learned the Ela space at 3rd and Bainbridge was opening up, and Bridget asked her dad, John, founder of Bridget Foy's, to check it out. It met with John's approval, and Cry Baby Pasta and Wine Bar was born.

The fact that the location was so familiar and local was a big draw, as well as the fact that the space was more or less "turn-key" with regard to operations. The only real changes have been cosmetic: "We made everything brighter. We made all of the dark features and surfaces white." The pasta machines arrived in November, and the remaining restaurant equipment arrived in December. The team spent the next few weeks tweaking menus, making final preparations to the space and preparing to launch.

Bridget explains the concept: "We are creating a casual, fun, lighthearted, non-traditional Italian restaurant. It will feature house-made pastas, salads, soups, and small plates like grilled vegetables and meats. We are especially excited about the tortellini and stuffed pastas — Chef David expects to offer eight house-made pasta dishes every night. My husband, Paul, has a strong resume in front of house and beverage — he worked for Garces, and also for Ellen Lin at Fork, so he has some exciting plans for the bar. Carla trained as a pastry chef, therefore we are also focused on house-made desserts that should be really special."

The foursome and their families traveled to Italy for a crash course in Italian cuisine, and that trip generated the restaurant's name. Bridget continues, "I wanted something sort of 'rock and roll' to invoke that this is a non-traditional and non-stuffy place. I'm obsessed with the Rolling Stones, but none of their songs worked as a restaurant name. Then we started thinking about other classic artists, and we came up with the Janice Joplin song 'Cry Baby'. While we were in Bologna, we saw a tee shirt with Johnny Depp's Cry Baby movie character in a store window, and that clinched it!"

When asked why she's launching this project now while overseeing the construction and reopening of Bridget Foy's, Bridget is effusive: "We missed our customers so much. We felt such a part of the community at Bridget Foy's — the neighbors from Society Hill, Queen Village, South Street and Abbot's Square were like family. By opening a place at this time, we have a chance to reconnect and welcome our friends to a new place, and then in September, we can't wait to do it again!"



*Cry Baby,  
Bridget Foy's  
casual and  
non-traditional  
Italian restaurant  
will be opening  
soon.*

# THE CADWALADER HOUSE

240 S. 4th Street

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The historic Cadwalader House offers the opportunity to create a custom mansion in the heart of Society Hill by restoring this historic property to its original splendor. The home spans five stories and will offer grand entertaining space and large bedroom suites. There is a private garden and space for two parking spots.

Built in 1829 by Joseph Norris, this historic home became known as The Cadwalader house thanks to Judge John Cadwalader who both resided in and had his legal office there. Cadwalader was best known for serving one term in the US House of Representatives and then later becoming a United States District court judge, an appointment made by his good friend President James Buchanan. Over the years the residence has served as the home of the Mutual Assurance Company and offices for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. **9,003 sf | \$2,350,000**

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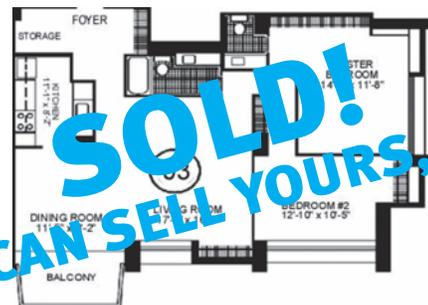
604 S. Washington Square



Washington Square facing 1 bedroom on a high floor with balcony, high-end finishes throughout including custom built-ins and Stark carpet and a new bathroom. **843 sf | \$339,900**



South-facing deluxe 1 bedroom on a high floor with magnificent river and city views from the home's private balcony. The residence has great natural light, excellent closet space and generously sized rooms. **1,003 sf | \$344,900**



Bright and sunny corner 2 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom with townhouse views to the south and east. The home features an open floor plan with large living and dining rooms. Both bedrooms are generously sized and there is a private balcony. **1,200 sf | \$459,900**



A GUIDE'S VIEW OF PHILADELPHIA

Lecture Series at the Powel House

The annual series on Philadelphia history, architecture and culture offered by the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides (APT) is designed to prepare tour guides and site docents for full-professional certification. It has also proven popular for Delaware Valley residents who are fascinated by Philadelphia's rich history and visitor attractions.

Many of the region's top experts are featured in this program, including David Silverman of George Washington University and Andrew Shankman of Rutgers Camden, who is the region's top expert on Alexander Hamilton.

The 2019 lecture series will meet Wednesday evenings 6 to 9 p.m. at the Powel House, 244 S. 3rd Street. The fee for the entire series is \$225; single lectures are \$35. There are discounts for APT members, and members of Landmarks.

For more information, call 215-627-8680.

**January 30**

Early Philadelphia, Native Americans & Wm. Penn  
by David Silverman

**February 6**

Benjamin Franklin's Philadelphia  
by Edward A. Mauger

**February 13**

Revolution / National Capital / Hamilton  
by Andrew Shankman

**February 20**

Athens of America / Industrial Powerhouse  
by Jeff Cohen

**February 27**

Civil War / Centennial  
by Bob Skiba

**March 6**

Center City / The Parkway  
by Ken Hinde

**March 13**

Philadelphia Today and Tomorrow  
by Alan Greenberger



**Andrew Shankman, Rutgers University History Professor, will speak about Hamilton on February 13.**

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY MATT DEJULIO

2019 Membership Drive Off to Good Start

By early December this year, nearly 700 Society Hill residents had renewed their association membership — slightly higher than at the same time last year. The total number of members in 2018 set an all-time record of 1,206.

Winners of the restaurant certificates for those who renewed by December 31 will be announced in the March/April 2019 issue of the *Reporter*.

If you have delayed sending in your renewal or wish to join, please do so today. We welcome each of the over 3,600 households in Society Hill to join SHCA. Remember that it's easy to renew online via our website [www.societyhillcivic.org](http://www.societyhillcivic.org).

Your civic association helps protect your real estate investment by funding many of our improvement projects, as well as providing subsidies to neighbors who plant trees and fix their sidewalks. We help enhance your quality of life when we advocate on your behalf regarding zoning changes, real estate taxes, crime problems and traffic issues. All of this is accomplished through the hard work of dedicated board of directors, committee members, block coordinators and, most importantly, your membership dues.

Without member dues, SHCA would cease to function. Protect your neighborhood and your real estate investment. Sign up today!

Email [Mattdejulio@aol.com](mailto:Mattdejulio@aol.com) with questions or comments, which will be shared with our board members who represent every quadrant in our unique, historic neighborhood.

**Matt DeJulio** is a retired publishing executive. He has served SHCA as its administrator since 2001.

**PARK, AMERICA!**

A limited number of monthly parking spaces are still available at the renovated lot at 511 S. Front Street (between South and Lombard Streets).

If interested, contact Ed Sullivan with Park America at 610-637-6832.



## Membership Application

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Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

IMPORTANT: Today, most everyone communicates via email. Please be sure that we have your current email address — so that you can receive important updates between publication of our community newsletter. All SHCA emails will be judiciously screened, and rarely will we send emails more than once a week. Nor will we share your email address with anyone else. This convenient, 21st-century system helps save our civic association postage costs, while keeping you regularly informed.

<p><b>Residential Memberships</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 50 Basic Household Membership</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 40 Senior/Student/Single</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 100 Federal Friend</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 150 Georgian Grantor</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 300 Jefferson Benefactor</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 500 Washington Benefactor</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 1,000 Benjamin Franklin Benefactor</p>	<p><b>Business Memberships</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 100 Institutions — 5+ employees</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$ 60 Institutions — fewer than 5 employees</p>
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**Additional Contributions**

\$ _____ Washington Square Beautification	\$ _____ Franklin Lights
\$ _____ Sidewalk Cleaning/Graffiti Removal	\$ _____ Tree Tenders
\$ _____ 5th Street Legal Fund	\$ _____ McCall School

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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The following topics are of special interest to me. I welcome receipt of email updates on these topics.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Franklin Lights	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Events	<input type="checkbox"/> 5th Street Development
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reporter	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> and Alerts

Please return completed application to:  
**Society Hill Civic Association**, P.O. Box 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147

## NIFTY NEIGHBORS IN MY OWN BACKYARD

BY JANE BIBERMAN

## Dance With Shana at Her Popular Academy

“Public speaking, dancing and death are the top three things that people fear,” declares Shana Heidorn, the dynamic 47-year-old who opened Society Hill Dance Academy on Head House Square in 2002. Needless to say, Shana isn’t afraid of any of the above. An outgoing and energetic woman, the Minnesota native moved to Philadelphia when she was 24, and after teaching dance for several years at various venues, including Arthur Murray, opened her own school at 2nd and Pine.

Perhaps I never noticed her sign, which features a couple dancing on it, because I have always feared dancing in public. Blame it on the mandatory dancing classes that so many of us attended when we were awkward young teens. In my case, it was The Oak Lane Revue Club. How many of you remember when we were young girls lined up on one side of a room, while the boys raced across the slippery floor and chose... someone else!

Memories of counting “one, two, three” filled my head the other day when I stepped into Shana’s lively club, I mean, academy. Couples, including same-sex partners, tangoed and fox trotted across the room. The music changed to salsa or swing to accommodate different routines as partners practiced for an upcoming showcase. The participants wore sparkling and inventive attire, as this evening was a dress rehearsal for the big event. “I call it a recital for big kids,” Shana says with a laugh. “It’s our 18th annual exhibition show.”

Shana employs 11 full-time dance instructors, and in addition to being studio manager, she also teaches. Between the dozen, they can teach every dance you’ve ever heard of, including a little ballet. “We have clients between the ages of 9 — my daughter — to 92-year-old Ken Packer, who walks here from 10th and Ellsworth three times a week,” says Shana. I’ve been dancing with him since we first opened. He used to come with his wife, but he enjoys it more than she does.”



**Shana Heidorn, dance instructor and owner of Society Hill Dance Academy.**

Which brings Shana to her next topic: “You don’t have to come here with a partner,” she stresses. “There’s always someone here to dance with. We specialize in dances where someone leads and someone follows,” she explains, adding that pupils can dance with each other as well as various instructors. “And the first lesson you take is free.”

Unfortunately, says Shana, too many of her clients come because they are planning to get married and want to be able to dance at their own wedding. “This drives me crazy! It takes time to dance — not three or four lessons!” To someone as upbeat as Shana, there’s no good reason why everyone shouldn’t dance, whether it be the waltz or the meringue. “Many people will tell me they are too fat and need to lose weight first. But I point out that you can burn 650 calories an hour by dancing the quick step. Dancing is not only fun, it’s good exercise.” Another frequent excuse is “I have two left feet.” Shana scoffs. “Maybe dogs have two left feet, but not people.”

Shana, who, not surprisingly, is fit and firm, likes to walk from her current

home in Pennsport to the dance studio. She is married with two foster children, Ryan, 14, and Colleen, 9. “We hope to adopt them soon,” she says. “They have the same mother, and different fathers. We are planning to sell our house and move to Bridesburg, where there’s a church and rectory we’d like to buy and renovate.”

Shana met her husband at the Jamaican Jerk Hut, and they married seven months later. But for the most part, she hangs out in Society Hill, and particularly Head House Square.

In addition to the dance academy, Shana is the founder of a non-profit called “Take the Lead Dance Project” in Philadelphia public high schools. “We’ve taught more than 1,000 students by using dance as a tool,” she explains. “We are changing lives through dance. Students learn everything from self-confidence to personal hygiene. They learn that if they can do this — dance — they can do that. I know one young man who didn’t think he could achieve anything. But after learning to dance, he’s now doing well in medical school. High school teachers are asking us to bring in our program, whereby dance teachers give lessons twice a week for 10 weeks.” Shana is not as involved as she once was, having hired an executive director to oversee the program. “Not only does dancing build confidence,” she says, “but for students whose first language is not English, dance teaches them how to communicate in another way.”

It’s also the best way to make friends, Shana believes. “On Friday nights, we have open house dance parties at the academy. Our studio is a neighborhood magnet. It’s a BYOB where kids of all ages meet and participate. Since we opened, we’ve had 17 marriages!”

So dust off your shoes and take the leap. “And don’t forget your first lesson is free!” adds Shana.

**Jane Biberman**, freelance writer and former editor of *Inside Magazine*, has contributed to a variety of publications.



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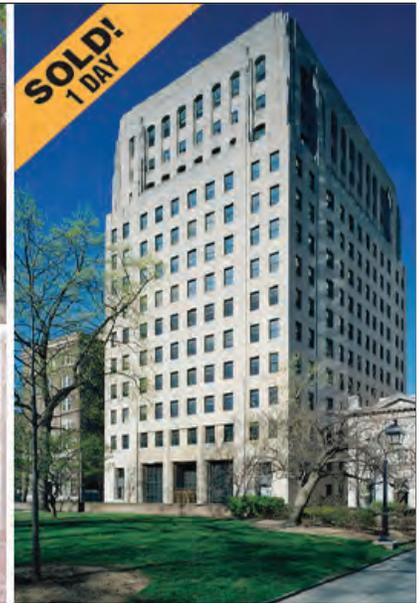
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\*Larry Levin and Seller Must Agree on Price and Possession Date. Statistics based on Bright MLS data. This is not intended to solicit homes that are currently listed for sale with a Real Estate Broker.

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