



SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

# THE RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

313 Pine Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

May 17, 1976

## ISSUES AND ANSWERS

Having received no pulitzer nominations or drawn any hate mail as a result of our first issue, your newest monthly rap sheet is back for issue number 2. We will admit our pride was stung when "Philadelphia Magazine" bestowed on us the dubious distinction of being the worst neighborhood in the city, but we adroitly countered with a suggestion to Philadelphia'76 that they convert their late lamented hot dog monuments into kiosks for our mayor's favorite magazine.

## NEXT CIVIC ASSOCIATION/PAC MEETING

Wednesday, May 26 - Old Pine Street Church - 8 pm  
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- Mr. Dick Magee director of operations and administration for Philadelphia'76 will review all the major events scheduled to take place this summer in our area.
- A delegation from the Philadelphia More Beautiful Committee headed by its executive director, Mr. William McKant will inform us on the numerous ways the Streets Department can help us keep our neighborhood clean.
- A briefing on the exciting new bicentennial event for neighbors - Shakespeare At Newmarket.

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION PREVAILS !

- The Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company has officially withdrawn its application for a zoning variance which would have allowed the store on 5th Street to expand into the parking lot. Instead they have decided for the time being to remodel their existing space which has always seemed to us a more cost-effective, good-for-the neighborhood approach to improving service at this location.

- After being advised by us that the owners of 500 Spruce Street were proceeding in violation of urban renewal standards and contrary to their purchase agreement, The Redevelopment Authority has given the owners 60 days to cure their default or face possibility of litigation.

## PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL MEETS WITH CIVIC ASSOCIATION/PAC BOARD

Representatives of Pennsylvania Hospital met with the Board to discuss their future development plans. As a result the Board has restated in writing to Mr. Cathcart the membership's concern as voted last year:

- 1) Maintenance of the 40 foot height restriction on Spruce between 7th and 8th Streets.
  - 2) Preservation of the current facade on Spruce between 7th and 8th.
  - 3) Opposition to an additional two stories on the hospital's 8th and Delancey parking garage until it can be shown to the neighborhood that all other alternatives have been exhausted.
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## CIVIC ASSOCIATION - HEAD HOUSE CONSENT DECREE COMMITTEE FORMED

Two members of the Board, Mrs. Jan Stephano and Mr. Chris Day, have been appointed to a committee to join with representatives of the Plaintiff Class to deal with the developers in ensuring that the terms of the Consent Decree are met and complaints of the neighborhood with respect to the operations of New Market are properly handled. Members with bona fide concerns should contact Mrs. Stephano or Mr. Day.

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## COMMUNICATIONS

The following is a letter received from Mr. Augustine Salvitti the executive director of the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority which gives hope and encouragement to our efforts in behalf of the neighborhood:

"I was most pleased to meet with you recently for what I hope was a mutually helpful discussion of our goals and problems in the ongoing renewal process in the Washington Square East area (Society Hill). As you know, we do presently and shall continue to make every effort to advise the PAC of Authority activities in this area and upcoming issues and questions of importance. We do value the advice and recommendations of the PAC and certainly want to encourage that you continue your active participation in advising the Authority regarding all renewal matters. On this basis we hope to continue an active and beneficial relationship with your group and the community which it represents. In turn, you are of course aware that you may feel free at any time to call regarding any questions or problems you may have with our ongoing activities."