

SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

# THE RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

Box 3, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19105

February/March 1982

## Mark Your Calendars . . .

### **Cops, The Waterfront and Public Housing on March 10 Meeting Agenda**

The next general membership meeting of the Association will feature a discussion of the Guardian Civic League's request to the Green Administration for more minority police officers.

The meeting is set for Wednesday, March 10th at 8 p.m. at the Old Pine Community Center.

The segment on minority police hiring comes in response to a Human Relations Commission staff request that the problems alleged by the GCL be explored at the community level.

The meeting will also feature election of new board members from the Northwest and Southeast quadrants to replace Ted Robb and Tim Lemmer, who have resigned.

Also slated for discussion are the Central Riverfront Plan, I-95 ramps, low-income housing, the "Bookbinder's parking lot" hotel, and the nomination of officers and directors for the next SHCA board which will take office at the end of May.

## Two New Housing Sites

### COMMODORE BARRY TO BE SOLD SOON

Preliminary plans for two properties still held by the Redevelopment Authority in Society Hill at 8th and Pine and 6th and Delancey were presented to community representatives at a meeting in mid-January.

Buildings on these sites have been in RDA's possession for many years, used by the Authority as temporary housing for tenants awaiting completion of Section 8 apartments in Society Hill and Wash West.

Two Greek Revival buildings called The Commodore Barry at 736-738 Pine will be advertised for sale as soon as standards for rehabilitation have been set. Over the years, 738 has been subjected to major alterations and some of these, particularly the Victorian bay along 8th Street, the Historical Commission favors retaining. Four small stores were added to the rear of this property on 8th Street during the 1920's.

Neighbors in attendance at the RDA presentation disapproved the plan which would divide the houses into ten apartments with four quasi-professional spaces in the stores. RDA agreed to allow community representatives to tour the houses in order that alternative plans can be formulated. When questions of density and aesthetics are resolved, RDA expects to present more definitive plans to the SHCA before offering the parcel for sale.

RDA expects to demolish the buildings at 6th and Delancey Streets as soon as they are vacated, after which the land will be offered for sale for single family use. Liz Ostrander was named head of the SHCA-RDA liaison committee for these two sites.

## A longish letter from our leader

### SHCA Puts in its Oar On Waterfront Development

*The following letter from SHCA President Michael Willmann was sent to Messrs. David Baldinger and G. Craig Scheiter of the City Planning Commission and to Richard Doran, City Representative and Director of Commerce:*

**On December 10, 1981, the Society Hill Civic Association was asked by the City Planning Commission to formally comment on the draft Central Riverfront District Plan. The Board of the Association has reviewed the Plan, and a formal presentation to Society Hill residents was conducted at the last general meeting of the Association on December 9, 1981.**

As a result of this review process, we offer the following comments from our specific perspective:

1. We are generally enthusiastic about the City's plans to redevelop the Delaware River waterfront between Spring Garden Street and Reed Street. We feel that the overall development program, the disposition and density of land uses and implementation strategy are well conceived and attainable. Such redevelopment, if properly controlled and well executed, can, we believe, bring to Philadelphia the type and quality of urban waterfront development now found in Boston, New York, Baltimore and other cities in the Northeast.

2. We understand that the planning and design process for the Central Riverfront has just begun. We assume that detailed programs, specific urban design plans and vigorous development controls will be prepared for each development sub-area. The refinements will be important in order to control the precise scale, location and quality of development, all important concerns of our Civic Association.

3. We realize that waterfront real estate is extremely valuable and will be expensive to develop and, therefore, development densities will probably be relatively high, as suggested by your program. We accept that reality in the contest of maintaining and enhancing public access to the river's edge and the provision of major public amenities at key locations along the Central Riverfront. Key components of this amenity development should be the proposed Riverwalk, the public boat basin at Penn's Landing South, principal pedestrian links to the neighborhoods west of I-95, and *additional* open space and recreational elements.

4. The Plan recognizes, but does not offer a specific approach to solving, two of our neighborhood's most pressing problems: traffic and parking. We are aware that several transportation planning studies are underway at this time: the Society Hill—Queen Village Transportation Management Study; the I-95 Access/Egress Study; and the Vine

(cont. on page 3)

## Physick House Wants Thee!

Set in the urban restoration showcase of Society Hill, the Hill-Physick-Keith House is a special gem. Have you seen this Federal Mansion with its charming garden, sitting astride 4th Street between Cypress and Delancey? If you haven't you are missing one of Philadelphia's special treats. Right now the Physick House is looking for volunteer help.

Would you like to be a guide in the house? Well, guide training is beginning soon. If your talents run to cataloguing and/or researching, the furnishings in the house are badly in need of that expertise. Are you a horticulturalist? Then you know how much effort it takes to keep a garden going. These are only a few areas where you are needed. So sign on. You'll have fun while you help keep this special gem sparkling. Call 925-7866 for more information.

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## A Fish Story

Back in March of 1981 the Newsletter gave a dart to the Greenfield real estate firm for not being able to rent two empty stores at Fifth and Delancey opposite the A&P. Well, they called us the middle of this January to ask us to give them a laurel because they found tenants for the stores. Riff's, a dry cleaner has moved in and, on the way is . . . the Flounder House of Seafood, a store selling fresh fish and takeout food orders. Okay, Greenfield, I guess we'll have to eat our words. Could you pass the tartar sauce?

## QUEEN VILLAGE ANIMAL CLINIC

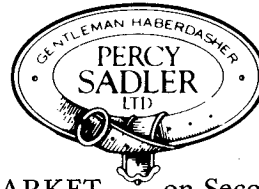
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## SHCA Gets a New Director

Loretta Dinardo was elected to the SHCA Board at the last membership meeting as a director from the Northwest

Quadrant. She is a registered O.R. nurse at Jefferson Hospital and has lived at Hopkinson House for nine years.



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## Waterfront Development (cont. from page 1)

Street Expressway EIS. We assume that the results of these studies, in addition to the next generation of professional effort on the Central Riverfront, will ensure that these problems will be well defined and solved to the maximum extent possible; most particularly of concern to us now are the following:

(a) Traffic congestion caused by central business district-bound and central business district-outbound through traffic on Dock, Mattis, lower Spruce, lower Pine, Second and Front Streets. This traffic should be routed via the new Vine Street Expressway to I-95 at Spring Garden Street, via the Chestnut Street/Market Street/Penn's Landing Loop to an upgraded Delaware Avenue or other facilities. In no event should westbound access from I-95 to Center City be via Dock, Walnut and Spruce Streets nor should eastbound access be via Spruce Street as it is fed by Pine and Walnut/Dock Streets.

(b) Tourist, visitor and resident parking must be better accommodated and established at the edge of the neighborhood, with easy pedestrian access to historic sites, shopping and entertainment uses. Parking needs generated by the development of the Central Riverfront must be clearly defined, and more than adequately met. We perceive a real opportunity to provide major parking and recreational opportunities immediately east of I-95 along Delaware Avenue which we urge you to fully explore.

(c) The I-95 access and egress ramps at Queen and Lombard Streets are a major issue in Society Hill. The community is not convinced of the need for these ramps and opposed to their development taken in the context of a major interchange between I-95 and the Vine Street Expressway at Spring Garden Street, and the ramp at Tasker to the south, coupled with the major improvements planned for Delaware Avenue.

5. We are committed to press the City to adopt a detailed program and urban design plan which strictly limits the development of Penn's Landing as defined in the Central Riverfront District Plan: a mixed-use development of reasonable scale north of Walnut Street and passive open space only south of Walnut Street. The Penn's Landing boat basin and sculpture garden provides our neighborhood, Olde City, Queen Village and the City's visitors with an important open space resource which acts to relieve the intensity of vehicular and pedestrian pressures. This open space must be maintained and enhanced.

6. The detailed development programs should include uses which will both complement and supplement those found in adjacent neighborhoods. Convenience and other neighborhood-oriented shopping is an issue with many Society Hill residents, who continue to state their need for a primary local shopping complex, including, most importantly, a major supermarket. The addition of 6,000 residential units along the Central Riverfront will generate considerable demand for new and expanded local shopping opportunities.

7. We expect that you will consult closely with the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition on all of these issues raised by the Plan.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to participate in the community planning process. We trust that, as the programs and plans for the Central Riverfront are refined and become more detailed and site specific, the Society Hill Civic Association will continue to be involved.

Sincerely,

**John Michael Willmann**, President  
Society Hill Civic Association

## Traffic and Parking Experts Want your Complaints

The Philadelphia Department of Public Property has selected a team of consultant firms to make a transportation management study in the Society Hill/Queen Village area. Specific issues to be addressed include traffic congestion, parking, public transportation and the maintenance of neighborhood character and sense of community.

Community involvement is considered vital to the process, and the first public meeting will be held on March 2nd at 8 p.m. at the Old Pine Community Center at 401 Lombard Street. Residents are encouraged to attend and voice their concerns.

Portfolio Associates, Inc. (one of the consultant firms) has reserved office space for the Transportation Management Study at 320 Walnut Street, Suite 601. Interested community members are invited to write or visit the office Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Or call 627-3660 to set up appointments at other times. Your opinions, questions and concerns are welcomed.

## Parents: Which School is Best for Your Child?

Nearby Elementary schools will be compared at this special meeting sponsored by the Society Hill Civic Association. Representatives from Friends Select, Greenfield, McCalls, Meredith, Philadelphia School, and St. Peters will be on hand to talk about their institutions on Tuesday, February 23 at 7:30 p.m., Old Pine Community Center, 4th and Lombard.

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# Independence Place

## Hazards Worry Neighbors

Neighborhood representatives met with Joel Weisbein, Independence Place developer, Morris Dean, his attorney, and Charles Quinter, project manager on January 15 to discuss several suggested safety measures designed to protect residents of Washington Square East Condominium #1 during the construction of the North Tower. No schedule for construction and no final proposal for safety measures can be reported on at this time.

Robert Holtz, SHCA corresponding secretary and resident of condo #1 will meet with Morris Dean to discuss post-construction conditions on the developer as drafted by the neighborhood representatives.

Other items brought up were the repair of the 5th Street end of Manning Walkway and the possibility that debris from the tower site may be clogging gutters on Manning Walk and Spruce Street.

\* \* \*

The developer was reminded that "retail and office space on the first floors of the North and South Tower, where such floors face Locust Walk and Manning Walk, shall have window treatments which are consistent with the upper residential floors of the Towers."

At this point, some condo #2 residents are eye to eye with clients working out at Club Nautilus; The Club has no window covering on one large, south side retail area and a burnt orange "liner" on the adjoining side of their retail space. They also have a neon Club Nautilus sign out front. We thought there was a regulation banning the use of neon signs in historic areas.



**We have learned that there may be money available for new street signs and have been asked by the City Administration to let them know where signs are needed. Tony Schneider, 923-1911 will coordinate gathering information.**



(Photo by Nancy Frenze)

**PLENTY OF ROOM**—According to the engineers' report submitted by Independence Place there should not be any problem here! We quote: "All moving trucks and garbage trucks will service Independence Place from the area of the Washington Square Garage where rental vehicles are currently left until they are moved to their proper location within the garage. There is sufficient length and width at this location to allow for these vehicles to service the facilities without interfering with vehicles moving into and out of the garage."

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# Around the neighborhood . . .

## Meet Tex Duckett

It didn't sound as though he was going to have time to talk to me. Not long back from Europe . . . next week in Brazil . . . then Australia and New Zealand. But he received me one night recently at his recently restored (1820) double house on 3rd Street and I learned what took Dr. John Duckett to places around the world—far from the halls of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Duckett is both a urologist and a pediatrician as well as a surgeon. He attended John Hopkins Medical School and trained in his dual specialties at Peter Bent Brigham and Boston Children's Hospital. It was his intention, he said, when his training was completed, to return to Dallas to settle down.

The Ducketts are Texans, and it comes out in their openness, their friendliness, their hospitality. They give "real Texas" barbecue parties and their Sunday breakfasts (which John cooks) frequently include a great round up of peppery Mexican foods.

When Children's Hospital made him a you-know-what-kind-of-offer, there was great soul-searching, because John and Peggy had their hearts set on Lone Star living. But they were willing to give the Quaker City a try.

"We fell in love with Philadelphia when we moved into our first house on 2nd Street in 1971—and it is an ongoing thing," John Duckett recalls. The Ducketts have been in their 3rd Street house since 1976. "Society Hill is a small town," he said, "but you can step out of it and benefit from all the big town things here like the Pennsylvania Ballet and the Philadelphia Orchestra."

From the beginning, John and Peggy involved themselves in neighborhood activities—the Civic Association and Old Pine Street Church (where they are both elders and were among the 50 members responsible for planning and seeing to the construction of the Community Center behind the church). John is a director of the Chamber Ensemble, too.

I asked him what he thought of the changes that have taken place in Society Hill? "It's still vital, it's still charming," he said. "But people and families have changing priorities. I don't give as much time as I did to the Civic Association or to the Church. And I think the determining factor is the age of one's children. We waited a long time to have our boys and I am so delighted with them that I want to spend as much time with them as I possibly can." The Duckett boys are Warner, going on nine, and Pace, seven.

John Duckett's major complaint is that "there aren't enough hours in the day—too little sleep and just too much to do."

Here's why. His professional life includes teaching, research, surgery and patient care, on one hand; and writing (his latest book came out late last year) in his specialty, lecturing, serving as a member of the editorial boards of two journals and chairing the urologic section of the American Academy of Pediatrics, on the other. "But," he says, "my family is the most important thing. Medicine can eat you up. Especially academic medicine."

At the same time, he observes that "we are probably permanent Pennsylvanians." He has the credentials for this, too. On his mother's side, Dr. Duckett's forbears come from up-state Pennsylvania—Shamokin area. When the Ducketts want to get away from it all, they head to their 1768 farmhouse on the Chesapeake. The house is where some of General Howe's staff stayed when the British were making their way to what is now Society Hill. Dr. Duckett is doing a great deal of the work of restoring the house himself and the family sails and picnics there as much of the year as weather permits.

—Fran Israel

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## Oldies but Goodies

Plans are underway to have the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission erect two sidewalk post markers in the neighborhood.

**First**—as a Tricentennial observance—to mark the home of Dr. Nicholas More, President of the Free Society of Traders for whom Society Hill was named.

Dr. More purchased land in Pennsylvania before the founding of Philadelphia and came over in one of the

first ships. He became the first Chief Justice of Pennsylvania. His house stood at the southeast corner of Second and Spruce Streets on Little Dock Creek.

We hope to have the current Chief Justice at the dedication of the marker some time next fall.

**Second**—the site of the home of Robert Smith on Second Street south of South. Read more about Smith in "Scotland, Anyone?"

## Scotland, Anyone?

Local fans of Robert Smith, Colonial America's leading architect-builder, attended his birthday party on January 14th, the first half of a double-headed Transatlantic Smith Celebration. Born in Dalkeith, Scotland in 1722, Smith is best known for his Philadelphia designs of Carpenter's Hall, Benjamin Franklin's home, the steeples of St. Peter's and Christ Church, as well as Princeton's Nassau Hall and the hospital in Williamsburg.

Celebration Chairman and SHCA member Charles Peterson invited anyone interested in joining part two of the Smith festival to sign up early for the events scheduled for July 29-31 in Edinburgh and nearby Dalkeith. The number of reservations is limited and will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. For reservations and information consult Travel Anywhere, 925-2123.

## Signs (ugh) of the Times

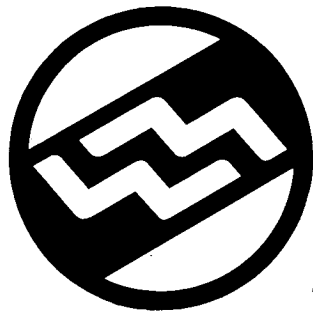
Do you really like the "Ice Cold Beer" sign on the sidewalk in front of the deli on 5th Street opposite the A&P? How about the sidewalk sign for the Irish Pub in front of Cobblestones, also on 5th Street? Or all the signs in the 400 block of 2nd Street? These signs do not have and would not get permits, we hope. Mr. Boothroyd of the Highways Department has been notified. He promised action—but that was seven phone calls ago.

The last thing Mr. Boothroyd did for SHCA was to remove the bus sign at the 4th and Spruce Streets after almost a year of nagging. This had to be done because the developer of the property at the corner had extended the marble

steps in front of the building onto the sidewalk so as to prohibit normal use of the sidewalk. (The same developer has a double driveway on Spruce Street with no curbcut).

If you don't want these kinds of signs proliferating in the area, let the proprietors know how you feel and try buzzing Mr. Boothroyd, 686-5501, and Kathleen McKenna, Art Commission office, 686-4470. You must be prepared to supply the complete name and street address of the establishment.

Sidewalk signs or ground signs, as they are sometimes called, are illegal in any part of the city, that is, in direct violation of the Philadelphia Code.



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## HELP CELEBRATE THE TRICENTENARY!

Anyone fortunate enough to own or otherwise have access to period clothing, whether original or "authentic" copies, please contact the Philadelphia Open House Committee. They'd love to have you participate in historical tableau throughout the neighborhood on Open House tour days (May 6 & 8) so visitors can appreciate that real people have lived, loved and worked here throughout the 300 years of Philadelphia's history.

Clothing from any previous era would be appropriate, be it Colonial, Victorian, or Roaring Twenties. Children are especially welcome to join the theatrics. Call Elizabeth Haimes at 923-1350 if interested in participating or otherwise contributing to this event.

## Darts and Laurels

**Belated Laurel**—To the entire Town Watch Dinner Committee for a fabulous neighborhood party.

**Belated Laurel**—To Pennsylvania Hospital for repairing the sidewalk on the west side of Seventh Street between Pine and Delancey Streets.

**Laurel**—To the staff at our A&P who have maintained reasonably good humor in the face of reasonable customer kvetching.

**Dart**—To the neighbor at the corner of Third and Spruce Streets who has forgotten that the sidewalk (yes, even his) is for the use of other neighbors—not his car!

**Laurel**—To all those who so tastefully and beautifully decorated their house fronts for the holidays for the delight of passers-by.

**Dart**—To whomever is supposed to clean up after auto accidents—large pieces of glass, broken metal parts (radiators, hub cap, fender) were left strewn around on Delancey Street after a recent multi-car accident.

**Dart**—To Fifth Street merchants who give a Coney Island appearance to our neighborhood with their honkytonk sidewalk signs.

**Laurel**—To Stan Katz for gratuitously shoveling snow from the sidewalks of several neighbors on the 600 block of Pine Street.

**Dart**—To all the resident sluggards and absentee landlords who left glacial sheets on their sidewalks for the rest of us to slip on. (See Ben Franklin on the subject in this issue).

**Dart**—To the developers of Abbots Square for their insensitive sign which states: "A Landmark in City Living for a Very Fortunate Few" . . . almost like an invitation to 269 well-heeled vampires to feast on the blood, sweat and tears of dedicated, visionary past/present residents . . .

**Dart**—To people who can't read the local paper's announcement regarding holiday trash pickup schedules; and/or to the Sanitation Department who can't work out a reasonable schedule for holiday-cancelled trash pickup. Residents west of 7th Street report no pick-ups for *three* Friday holidays in a row.

**Laurel**—To State Representative Sam Rappaport for helping keep 332 Delancey Street zoned for single family use.

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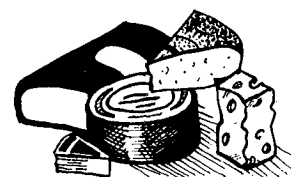
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# The ABC's of Removing Graffiti

*Editor's note: The following article, reprinted from the New York Times, addresses itself to an annoying neighborhood problem. We thought you might be interested in it.*

"I had some words with neighborhood kids and the next morning obscenities were sprayed all over my stoop, cement work and shingles," said Joseph Spedaleri, a Queens homeowner.

Mr. Spedaleri acted swiftly. He called in Klean-Vu Maintenance Inc., the company hired by New York City to keep Central Park graffiti-free. Using a commercial paint stripper and high-pressure water, Klean-Vu successfully removed the graffiti. The company will do such small jobs on an hourly basis (\$125 to \$150) or bigger jobs by the day (\$500).

Raymond Pepi, director of the conservation research library at the Center for Building Conservation, a non-profit educational organization, said that the removal of paint was greatly complicated by the many types of paint, crayons and spray paint used, as well as the various bonds these materials make with different types of surfaces. The porosity and condition of the surface on which the graffiti is applied are the two big factors, he said.

The center will provide free information to homeowners. It also offers a consulting service and will undertake some small restoration projects on a fee basis. For a consulting fee of \$20 an hour, Mr. Pepi will make tests to determine which removal method is best, and, if necessary, call in other consultants to help formulate a cleaning plan. The center also makes referrals to restoration companies that do residential cleaning. For more information, the center is situated at 171 John Street and the telephone is (212) 483-0320.

The common methods of cleaning involve pressurized water and chemical removers. Abrasive techniques, using wire brushes or sanding equipment, are the least advisable because they remove protective surfaces, dull polished stones and pock the surface of marble and limestone. Sandblasting, which exposes the softer, more porous portion of brick, is actually outlawed in New York.

\* \* \*

For stains on masonry, buy a small amount of conventional paint remover at a hardware store—as well as a pair of safety goggles and rubber gloves. Test the remover on an unobtrusive spot. Leave it on for a few minutes and then wash it down with a garden hose, soaking the surface and brushing it with a stiff fiber brush—never a wire brush, which would damage the surface. If it doesn't work, try using the Prosoco products mentioned below, or call in the experts.

For stains on marble, use a "poultice" that will draw out the stains much like a blotter absorbs ink. Poultices occasionally can be found at hardware stores.

Prosoco Inc., 111 Synder Road, South Plainfield, N.J. (201) 754-4410, makes the following products: a marble poultice, which comes in a powdered form ready to be mixed with water and pasted on graffiti stains, and costs about \$50 for 25 pounds, which will cover about 150 square feet; asphalt tar remover (good for removing Magic Marker and lipstick), about \$10 a gallon; Heavy Duty paint stripper, used on most graffiti, about \$20 a gallon; liquid marble cleaner, for surface dirt and stains only, about \$15 a gallon; Sure Klean restoration cleaner for removing dirt from masonry surfaces, about \$8 a gallon, and clear waterproofing, which makes subsequent graffiti easier to remove, about \$10 a gallon.

John Bromfield, superintendent of the New York Transit Authority's subway stations, offered two additional suggestions: "Remove the graffiti as soon as it appears; nothing attracts graffiti as much as graffiti." Second, "put a non-porous coating on the surface if possible." A clear, penetrating water repellent often helps resist graffiti.

Hydrozo Coatings Company, 579 Franklin Turnpike, Ridgewood, N.J. 07450 (201-444-6981 or 212-697-2285), makes a waterproofing that helps resist graffiti. It costs \$78.75 for five gallons; shipping to the New York area costs an additional \$10 per five gallons. This material should first be tested on the facade, to make sure it does not cause discoloration.

—By Michael deC. Hinds

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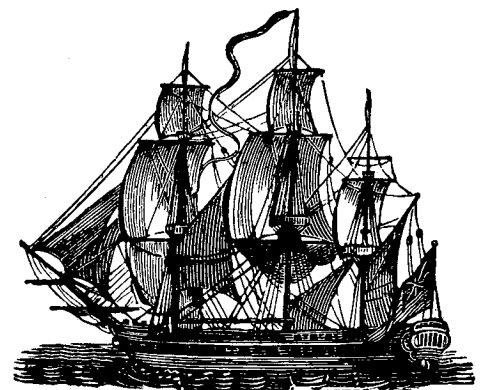
## And Locally . . .

Marvin Cohen of P. Cohen Hardware, 417 South Street, had some suggestions for readers of *The Resident Newsletter*.

1. BEGIN IMMEDIATELY.
2. Never use a rough wire brush. Use nothing stiffer than a brass wire brush.
3. Recommends Waoddy's Spray and Strip—15% oz. @ \$6.95.
4. Whatever the remover, use water rinsing paint remover, such as Savogran H2 Off—1 qt. @ \$4.89.
5. BEGIN IMMEDIATELY.

\* \* \*

One resident of Society Hill reports fingernail polish remover (which basically acetone) will remove Magic Marker scrawls from glassy or smooth surfaces.





# Society Hill Beverage

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## Redevelopment Update

**A-4 Dock Street:** The Radisson group, selected by the City to build a hotel on Bookie's parking lot, was unable to come up with a new financial package by the January 5th deadline. The Redevelopment Authority has now gone back to its second choice, Stouffer's, from whom a firm decision is expected before the end of February.

**Rohm-Haas Building,** Washington Square West and Locust Street: Don't hold your breath while you wait for this eyesore building to be rehabilitated. The owner-developers are unable to get financing, and RDA doubts it could find a better-funded replacement even if the building could be recaptured.

**Staff for this issue:** Ruth Dugan, Nancy Frenze, Alan Halpern and Peggy Robb.

**Contributing to this issue:** Ron Abrams, JoAnn Buller, Elizabeth Haines, Charles Peterson, Beth Siniawsky, Mike Willmann.

Deadline for articles and ads for the next issue is April 5. They may be delivered to staff members or mailed to *The Resident Newsletter*, Box #3, Philadelphia, PA 19105.

**I'm not the biggest  
I don't have an edge  
I don't wear hats  
I just sell real estate.**

# ABNER GREEN

563-2252

**Guess What's Under  
The Wrapping And Win  
A Free Trip To  
Fifth and Chestnut**



(Photo by Nancy Frenze)

No, this is not a Christo chef d'oeuvre. It's a veiled statue of George Clymer, Colonial Philadelphia merchant and patriot. He signed the Declaration of Independence. The tribute was cast in bronze by local sculptor EvAngelos Frudakis. It was unveiled on January 18th. If you want to see what it looks like, walk over to Fifth and Chestnut. Tell them *The Resident* sent you.

**Advertising in the Newsletter**

If you are interested in advertising in *The Resident Newsletter*, call Lisa Halterman at 923-3159 or write to Advertising Manager, *The Resident Newsletter*, Box #3, Philadelphia, PA 19105.



**Plus Ça Change Ben Franklin On Icy Sidewalks**

Scholars have yet to establish Ben Franklin's authorship of an essay, "Slippery Sidewalks", which was published in the wintry January 11, 1732 issue of his *Pennsylvania Gazette*. The essay divides Philadelphia housekeepers into three classes:

1. The humane, kind, compassionate, benevolent class, I shall easily distinguish by the ashes at their Doors;
2. The malicious and ill-natured class I shall know by their mirth at every Fall or accidental Slip of the Passengers in the streets;

3. The indifferent, thoughtless Class;

With regard to those of my two latter Classes, I am resolved I will not so much as civilly salute one of them, I will not give one of them the Wall, I will not make Room for any of them at a Fire, nor hand them any Thing at a Table, I will not direct a customer to one of them.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Leonard W. Larabee and Others. *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, Vol. 1, January 6, 1706—December 31, 1734, pp. 318-319.

**The Trashmen Spilleth**

A city trash truck was observed on 7th Street between Chestnut and Walnut stopped by one of those unbelievably ugly marble monuments to the last administration's cleanup efforts. Two sanitation workers went to each overflowing marble receptacle and removed *one* armload of trash, dropping bits and pieces as they made their way back to the truck. After depositing their load, they proceeded on their way, leaving each receptacle one armload less full and the street with a little more trash than before.

**This Is Your Town Watch,  
Can You Read  
This Transmission?  
Roger and Out**

Society Hill Town Watch has entered the age of advanced electronics. It's been able to junk its sputtery CB communications gear for police-quality walkie-talkies which beam in to a professionally-operated base station.

The funding for the equipment was raised at a gala dinner held last fall.

If you wish to test this equipment in the field, volunteer for Town Watch patrol. Try one two-hour evening shift and chances are you'll want to do it every month. To be scheduled, call Grace at 629-1323. She'll set you up for a slot and even find a walking partner for you.

**Media Watch**

If you've got a bad back or dislike litter, there's nothing more irksome than going out on your front step and finding a weekly shopping paper that you never wanted in the first place. *Philly Week*, which used to give you the non-events every seven days, has gone to the that great newspaper scrapheap in the sky. Still with us are the *South Street Star*, *Welcomat*, and *Electricity*.

Don't let us hear you complaining about *The Resident Newsletter*. At least we don't come out every week. And besides, we usually have the good grace to stick it in your mail slot.

Seriously, all we ask is that these neighborhood papers on which many of us rely, be stuffed in our mail slots and not dumped on the sidewalks.

**JOIN US**

Tear off and mail to Society Hill Civic Association, P.O. Box 3, Philadelphia, PA 19105, attention: Milton S. Schneider, Treasurer. Please renew my (our) membership in the Association.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 1 person, \$6

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 persons at same address

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 persons at same address, \$10

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ I request waiver of dues

Add \$1 per member for your numbered SHCA parking sticker; include a self-addressed stamped envelope; \$5 more for each additional sticker.

# Society Hill Yellow Pages

## HANDY NUMBERS

POLICE (Emergency 911) _____	231-3131
Fire (Emergency 911) _____	922-6000
City Hall _____	MU6-1776
Poison Information _____	WA2-5523
Septa Information _____	579-7800
Amtrak Information _____	824-1600
Yellow Cab Company _____	WA2-8400
United Cab Company _____	854-0750
Philadelphia Gas Company _____	CE6-7000
Philadelphia Electric Company _____	561-6161
Electric (Emergency) _____	841-4141
Water (Emergency) _____	MU6-3900
Jefferson Hospital _____	928-6000
Pennsylvania Hospital _____	829-3000
Bulk Trash _____	MU6-5560
Cars Towed _____	MU6-7699
Dead Animal Removal _____	MU6-5560
Dog Catcher (stray animals, cruelty) _____	BA5-4500
Fire Hydrants (out of order) _____ Ext. 127262	MU7-1776
Garbage Collection (problems or quest.) _____	MU6-5560
Health Services (Community Health Ctr.) _____	568-7570
Heat (Emergency Service—tenants) _____	MU6-2590
Landlord Problems (Dept. Lic. & Insp.) _____	MU6-2900
Mayor's Office of Info. & Complaints _____	MU6-7595
Potholes, broken curbs, etc. (Streets Dept.) _____	MU6-5508
Rats, Insect Control _____	MU6-5152
Sanitation Problems (District 1 office) _____	MU6-5560
Sewers (clogged, etc.) _____ Ext. 282845	MU6-3900
Street Lights (broken or request for add'l) _____	MU6-7526

Street Signs (missing or request for add'l) _____	MU6-5530
Traffic Lights (broken or request for add'l) _____	MU6-5530
Tree Problems (Trimming, spraying, etc.) _____ Ext. 81229	MUs-1776
Vacant Lots & Buildings (problems, quest.) _____	686-2394

## SHCA OFFICERS

**John Michael Willmann** (P), 335 S. 2nd St., 922-1415 (O), 925-9283 (H)  
**Aaron Jay Beyer** (VP), 632 Spruce St., 546-6200 (O), 925-4288 (H)  
**Milton S. (Tony) Schneider** (T), 345 S. Fifth St., 925-3233 (O), 923-1911 (H)  
**Deborah Newbold** (S)\*, 256 S. 3rd St., 928-0134  
**Robert J. Holtz** (S)\*\*, 43 St. James Court, 299-1786 (O), 928-1809 (H)

\*Recording Secretary  
 \*\*Corresponding Secretary

## SHCA COMMITTEES

Advisory .....	Joy Lindy
Zoning/Design/Review/ Urban Renewal/Liquor .....	Jim Straw
Legal Review .....	Harry Goldberg
Long Range Planning ...	Susan Weinberg
Membership Party .....	Nancy Frenze
NPC ....	Fred Edelstein/Michael Willmann
Nominations .....	Michael Willmann
Traffic & Parking .....	Tony Schneider
Real Estate Taxes .....	Tony Schneider
By-Laws .....	Bob Holtz
Clean Streets .....	Liz Ostrander
ACCEPT .....	Michael Willmann
Ad Hoc:	
Shambles .....	Karen Edelstein
NewMarket .....	Karen Edelstein
Low Income Housing .....	Bob Holtz
Town Watch .....	Arthur Smith
Penna. Hospital .....	Aaron Beyer/ Paul Wallner
Political Forum .....	Ron Abrams
Tun Tavern .....	Steve Miller
Independence Place .....	Aaron Beyer
Abbotts .....	Jim Straw/Fred Edelstein
Penn's Landing Devel .	Michael Willmann/ Jim Straw
A-4 .....	Steve Miller/Michael Willmann

### Sound Off

*We'd like to start an Op-Ed page in the next issue. If you'd like to make a suggestion, vent your wrath or even recall an interesting incident about the neighborhood, put it on paper—50 to 500 words—and mail to The Resident Newsletter, Box 3, Phila., Pa. 19105. Do it today.*

### SHCA NEWSLETTER COPY

All new items to be used in the *Newsletter* must be typed, double-spaced. For elite type, please set your margin at 63. For pica, set your margin at 75. This system allows us to estimate the column inches of editorial copy we have per issue. Also, please be accurate! Changes and mistakes are costly.

**Try our delicious, freshly cut\* prime meats. They are, as our customers know, the best in Philadelphia.**



**\*Meat cutting demonstration every Wednesday at 10 A.M. (Groups should contact Joe Geter, MANAGER).**

**Pamper yourself.  
 Pierce & Schurr  
 has  
 HOME DELIVERY.**

**Be  
Thankful  
for  
Thursdays...**

and the Very Special Savings  
on Very Special Items when you play



at **NEWMARKET**

Second St. between Lombard & Pine.  
Hrs. Mon.—Wed. 11-6, Thurs., Fri., Sat. 11-9, Sun. Noon-6.