

SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

# THE RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

Box 3, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19105

December, 1986

## Hope Springs Eternal In Washington Square

Readers of *The Resident Newsletter* are familiar with the ups and (mostly) downs of Washington Square. As one of the responsibilities of the seriously underfunded Fairmount Park Commission, our venerable Square has been allowed to become very shabby. Efforts in 1983 by Representative Thomas Foglietta to have it made a part of Independence National Park failed to pass a budget-cutting Congress.

The shame is that Washington Square is not just another park. It is the resting place of upwards of 2,000 fallen soldiers of the Revolutionary War and some of the more than 5,000 victims of Philadelphia's yellow fever epidemic of 1793. If it were near Washington, D.C., it would undoubtedly be a treasured part of Arlington National Cemetery.

A number of residents of Hopkinson House and Independence Place recently met with Fairmount Park Commission Director Alexander Hoskins and other members of the Commission to see what could be done to restore the park to an acceptable condition. Also at the meeting was Roseanna D'Alessandro, president of the Washington Square Association, an organization of businesses situated around the park, which has raised money for its maintenance and improvements for more than 30 years.

Mr. Hoskins was accompanied by Bill Mifflin, director of Operations and Landscape Management, Jim Donahey, Center City and East Philadelphia District Manager, and Tom Fox, Park Facility Manager for the Commission. They fielded questions regarding the lack of adequate lighting (the historic light fixtures in the park require low-wattage yellow lights; changing the system would cost more than \$10,000), why it took so long to repave the southeast

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Place Your Order Now For Historical Survey Unit

Two major elements remain to complete the survey SHCA has undertaken so that our district may apply for historic certification and protection under the Philadelphia Historic Preservation Ordinance of 1984. They are: taking and printing of 5x7" black and white photos of all the 1,500 buildings in our inventory, and publication of the results.

The project committee, headed by Joyce Cole and SHCA president Myrna Field Baum, has chosen Bernie Cleff to handle the photographic assignment. Bernie is a long-time resident, a SHCA Board member, and a noted freelance photographer specializing in editorial, corporate, advertising and architectural photography. His work can be seen in a recent book entitled "Historic Rittenhouse - a Philadelphia Neighborhood." Bernie was selected from a group of photographers asked to submit bids for the work.

Funding for the project is still short of the goal - work will have to stop when the money runs out. The committee is still offering a copy of the page on which your home is listed for a tax deductible contribution of \$20.

For a copy of the *Historical Inventory*

*Survey Book, Unit 11*, the cost is \$150 per copy. A portion of this amount will be tax deductible, also. Prepaid copies must be ordered before December 31st. Because of the cost of publishing, the number of copies printed will be determined by the number of prepaid orders received by the end of December. Please send your check in the proper amount for the page on which your home is listed or the *Historical Inventory Survey Book, Unit 11* to: The Society Hill Fund, Attention Roland C. Davies, Treasurer, 32-34 Strawberry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Checks should be made out to The Society Hill Fund. Any funds generated above the cost of publication will be used to complete the survey.

The historical survey, to be complete, will include three units and each of these units will follow the boundaries originally designated by the Redevelopment Authority for the parcel, Washington Square East. The boundaries for *The Historical Inventory Survey Book, Unit 11* are: Spruce Street on the north, Front Street on the east, Lombard Street on the south and 7th Street on the west. The Survey Book will include a complete description of every structure within these boundaries, but will not include photographs.

## FUMO MEETS SHCA BOARD EXPLAINS FUND REFUSAL

On Wednesday, October 15, State Senator Vincent Fumo met with the SHCA Board to discuss his recent refusal to release funds for the proposed I-95 ramps. His refusal came in response to complaints that the City and PennDot have not been sufficiently responsive to community concerns about present maintenance of the highway and future planning for the administration of areas surrounding the highway.

Society Hill has two major concerns:

- 1) The I-95 cover has been a problem since it was first built. SHCA has pressed for a written agreement signed by both the City and PennDot that would guarantee adequate maintenance and security of the entire cover area.
- 2) The City has formed a new entity,

*(Continued on page 9)*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The next general membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th at 8 p.m., Old Pine Community Center, 4th and Lombard. There will be

reports on the Historical survey, I-95 and Pennsylvania Hospital's plans for its property at the corner of 7th and Pine Sts.



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# A HOLIDAY AGENDA

## November 28 — December 28

*The Bourse.* The Bourse Antiphonal Brass concert series begins its fourth season of brass concerts performed from the atrium. Repertoire includes the works of Bach, Handel and Gabrielli plus traditional favorites. Also, choral concerts featuring community choirs through December 24. Call for times. 625-9393.

### All Wednesdays

7:30 p.m. *Old Pine Street Church.* Advent Bible Study.

### December 1

5:00 p.m. *Christ Church.* Advent Lessons and carols. Candlelight service of scriptures and carols.

7:30 p.m. *Old First Reformed Church.* Advent Fireside Chats in the parsonage.

### December 6, 13 and 20

10:30 - 11:15 a.m. *The Bourse.* Saturday Morning Shows for Children. (Free)  
December 6 — Craig Collins, Magician/Mime.  
December 13 — Jacques & Rava Puppets — “*The Shoemaker and the Elves.*”  
December 20 — Duet Productions — “*The Magic Flute.*”

### December 6, 7, and 8

7:00 p.m. *Old St. Mary's Church.* Devotions in honor of St. Mary.

### December 7

4 - 7 p.m. *Old Pine Street Church.* St. Peter's and Old Pine Advent Workshop.

### December 8

11:30 - 2:30 p.m. *Society Hill Synagogue.* Hannukah Party with brunch and mini bazaar. Games, prizes, songs, and a cooking workshop. Arts and crafts. Storytime. Puppet Show. \$6.75 adults — \$4.50 children.

### December 13 - 29

*Old First Reformed Church.* Live animal creche. Nativity scene with real animals on the corner of Fourth and Race.

### December 14

2:30 p.m. *Old Christ Church.* Pennsylvania Pro Musica performs Handel's *Messiah.*

7:00 p.m. *Old Pine Street Church.* Lessons and Carols and candlelight with the Gallery Festival Choir and soloists.

### December 17

*Old First Reformed Church.* Christmas Caroling in the neighborhood.

1:30 p.m. *St. Peter's School.* Lower School Christmas Celebration of Carols and Poetry. Alumni Theater.

### December 18

11:00 a.m. *St. Peter's School.* Nurseries and Kindergarten: “*Around the Tree,*” in St. Peter's School.

8:00 p.m. Christmas Play in St. Peter's Church.

### December 19

11 - 7 p.m. *Old First Reformed Church.* Holiday Festival. Gift tables.

### December 20

7:30 p.m. *Pennsylvania Pro Musica.* Performance of Mozart's *Messiah.* Holy Trinity Church (Rittenhouse Square at 19th and Walnut)

## December 21

5:00 p.m. *Old Pine Street Church.* Holiday Jazz Vespers. Community Christmas Caroling. (all ages – leave from Old Pine)

10:00 a.m. *Old First Reformed Church.* White Gift Service with Children's pageant.

11:00 a.m. Festive Christmas Service.

5:00 p.m. *St. Peter's Church.* Candlelight Christmas Lessons and Carols Service. Christmas party to follow service at Old Pine Community Center. All are welcome.

## December 24

4:30 p.m. *St. Peter's Church.* Children's Nativity Service. Music by Ralph Pitman.

5:00 p.m. *Christ Church.* Family service.

7:30 p.m. *Old Pine Street Church.* Christmas Eve Service. Children, Candlelight, Special Music.

8:00 p.m. *Old St. Joseph's Church.* Christmas Eve Mass.

10:30 p.m. *Christ Church.* Festival music for choir, organ, brass and timpani. John Binsfield, organist-choirmaster. (Open to the public.) Christ Church Choir. Rittenhouse Brass.

10:30 p.m. *St. Peter's Church.* Music for strings.

11:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist with the Choir of Men and Boys featuring Haydn Mass with strings.

11:00 p.m. *Christ Church.* Holy Communion.

12 Midnight *Old St. Mary's Church.* Christmas Mass.  
*St. Andrew's Church.* Schedule for Christmas week was not available at press time. For further information, call 922-2222.

## December 25

7:30, 9:30, 11 a.m., 12:15 p.m. *Old St. Joseph's Church.* Christmas Day Masses.

9:00 a.m. *Old St. Mary's Church.* Christmas Day Mass.

10:00 a.m. *Christ Church.* Christmas Service. Carols and Communion.

10:00 a.m. *St. Peter's Church.* Liturgy for Christmas Day with Music.

NOON *Old Pine Street Church.* Saturday for Seniors and Coffee Cup Christmas Dinner at Old Pine Community Center.

10:30 a.m. AA Holiday Meeting.

## December 31

5:00 p.m. *Old St. Mary's Church.* New Year's Day vigil Mass.

5:30 p.m. *Old St. Joseph's Church.* New Year's Day Vigil Mass.

9:15 p.m. *Old First Reformed Church.* Rehearsal for Sing-in of Handel's *Messiah* with Pro Musica at 10:30 p.m. Tickets, \$8. Buffet supper in church hall at midnight. Tickets, \$17. For reservations, call 922-4566.

11:45 p.m. Fireworks at Penn's Landing.

MIDNIGHT Lighting of Ben Franklin Bridge.

9:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. *The Friends of Independence National Historical Park* Constitution Year's Eve Party sponsored by Friends of Independence Park and We the People 200 at Port of History Museum, Penn's Landing, cost \$50 per person. For reservations call 597-7919.

## January 1

7:30, 9:30 a.m. *Old St. Joseph's.* New Year's Day Masses.

9:00, 10:30 a.m. *Old St. Mary's Church.* New Year's Day Masses.

# Disgrace in Washington Square: View From Tennessee and

John Dayton visits the Washington Square area for business reasons every couple of weeks. He is so incredulous at the continuing state of decay around Washington's statue and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution that he is seriously considering appealing to his own Tennessee Congressmen to do something about it.

The letter below first appeared in *The Philadelphia Inquirer* on September 4, 1986. It has been reprinted, courtesy of *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and with the permission of Mr. Dayton.

To the Editor:

The eternal flame in Washington Square burns for all of us. It burns for those who gave their lives to assure that each of us has the freedom to pursue the goals that we, as individuals, have chosen. Whether we want to be president or a pauper, it is our choice. It's our freedom to decide.

The inscription on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution

in Washington Square reads, "Freedom is a light for which many men have died in darkness." The eternal flame illumines that inscription, so we will not be blind to the fact that thousands of our forefathers gave their lives so that we can bask in the luxury of freedom. Freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of self-destiny, freedom, freedom, freedom.

My God, people, Philadelphia is the birthplace of the greatest civilization in the history of mankind. Why then must the freedoms we take for granted allow certain individuals to desecrate such a profound symbol as the memorial to the thousands of men who gave their lives for our freedoms?

Philadelphia doesn't belong to just its inhabitants. Philadelphia belongs to all 240 million Americans who owe their very existence to those few brave patriots who risked their lives, their souls and their worldly goods to create this nation.

Yet, when we visited Philadelphia to look at the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, Betsy Ross' house, the first Capitol and when we retraced the steps of Jefferson and Franklin

we could not help but shed a tear when the shrine to Washington's troops is used to light a cigarette or becomes a depository for a Pepsi can.

Citizens of Philadelphia, please go and look at the eternal flame in Washington Square. It's filled with trash, its marble surface is broken its restraining chains are askew, its statue of Washington is tarnished and the burial ground of those men that allow you to protest the indignity that Washington Square suffers is in desperate need of repair and veneration.

Remember: "The independence and liberty you possess are the works of joint councils, and joint efforts—of common dangers, sufferings and success," Washington's farewell address recalled what was required to form this fledgling nation into the power that it is in the world.

Let us not ever forget how it began, those that sacrificed their lives to assure its success and what their toil has meant to all of us.

As one of the 240 million children of the Philadelphia freedom story, I ask that Phila-

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# Commentary

Philadelphia rise with me to repair Washington Square and honor those souls that rest there believing they gave their lives for all of us.

John Dayton  
Kingsport, Tenn.

## Editor's Note:

One might envision a series of articles on the plight of Washington Square appearing in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, maybe *The New Yorker*. These articles would inspire a great outpouring of letters from people countrywide to their Congressmen demanding the legislation necessary to make this most historic place part of the National Park Service domain. There would be contributions from private citizens, the DAR, veterans' associations, foundations and endowment funds, Donald Trump, a disbursement from the State of Pennsylvania's surplus funds, money from the City of Philadelphia which spends great sums to lure visitors from all over the country and the world to expose them to the gross insensitivity this City has towards those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

All these contributions would be used with great discretion to restore and maintain the Square which is situated in the midst of one of the most affluent neighborhoods in Philadelphia.

What a story that would be!



(photo by Nancy Frenze)

## SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTERS

Revenue from advertising in this and other issues of *The Resident Newsletter* makes it possible for the Society Hill Civic Association to publish the paper. We urge our readers to patronize our advertisers and to mention to them that you appreciate their support.

## Washington Square

(Continued from page 1)

corner this summer (they underestimated the number of stones required, had to search for another quarry), etc.

Little hope was held out that the Commission would be able to do much better for the Square than it has done in the past. Hoskins pointed out that the estimated cost of restoring Washington Square — landscaping, path repaving, restoring the irrigation system, improving the electrical system and adding appropriate furniture and improving maintenance and security — would use up more than a third of the Commission's annual budget of \$3 million for all the city's parks. Unless or until there is a public outcry for more money to be allocated to Philadelphia parks, Hoskins suggested the only way to improve the Square would be to form a citizen action organization similar to The Friends of Rittenhouse Square.

Such a group is now in the process of being formed under the chairmanship of Mrs. Charles Keil (Marty) and Benjamin DeRoy, both of Hopkinson House. They hope to see some results of their efforts come spring. If you would care to join them (you need not reside on the Square), drop a note to Mrs. Keil or Mr. DeRoy. They'll get back to you.

## Trevor's People

A young man named Trevor gained approving fame in the early days of the "street people" when he undertook to feed them. Trevor was no flash in the pan; he has quietly continued feeding the homeless long after the spotlight moved elsewhere. Until recently he parked Trevor's Food Wagon near the Public Ledger Building at 6th and Chestnut. Trevor's people found the building's nooks and crannies irresistible permanent perches. The Ledger Building began getting complaints from tenants and visitors, so Trevor was asked to move and take his people along with him. Now his Wagon is parked near Washington Square almost every day and Trevor's People take their food (and wrappers) into the park. Until the Eternal Flame at the Memorial to the Unknown Soldier went out, they warmed their meals over it. The park benches are perfect for a post-prandial snooze.



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# MAIL BAG . . .

To the Editor:

Recently, I took part in the annual judging of the *Philadelphia More Beautiful Clean Blocks*. Forty-five blocks made it to the finals out of a field of four thousand. I and several dozen others from throughout the city had the honor and the dilemma of choosing the winners.

The fourteen blocks I saw are in South and West Philadelphia. Some were inhabited by well-to-do people and some by people with very little. Some residents are elderly, and some quite young. Some are renters, and some own their own homes. All, however, have one thing in common: a passion for their homes and neighborhoods and a determination to keep their surroundings clean, beautiful, safe, and friendly. We saw curbs that had been painted white, flowers everywhere, outside lights, and immaculate sidewalks, and streets. And we felt a warm sense of neighborliness and good, honest pride.

As I walked home I asked myself why we who live in one of the most beautiful sections of the city are too frequently careless of our surroundings. Why do we put out garbage when we feel like it, let the weeds grow, and rarely if ever sweep our walks? And why have we not developed a strong block captain system to encourage a sense of pride and a willingness to try to improve the appearance of each block?

Provisionally, a neighbor has volunteered to help start up the SHCA Block Captain program again. Ron Abrams, who was formerly a SHCA Vice-President is accepting names and will be holding an organizational meeting soon. If you would like to get to know your neighbors better and help improve the looks of your neighborhood, please contact Ron at 615 Pine Street, 19106. He'll take it from there.

Let's do our part to make Philadelphia—and Society Hill—More Beautiful.

Liz Ostrander  
Vice-President SHCA

## Become a SHCA Member Now

We need new/old members! As the solicitation letter states, SHCA is the only organization in your neighborhood which works actively to maintain and improve the quality of life in Society Hill. Our list of accomplishments is impressive, especially considering the small number of neighbors willing to give time and effort to the organization. Think what we could do with a larger membership!

If you have already paid your membership dues for the 1986-87 season, please forgive the duplication. If you have already disposed of the mailing, just clip out, complete and mail the membership form in this *Newsletter* with your check. Thanks.

## VANDALS STRIKE AGAIN!



ANTIQUE STATUARY -- at 7th and Spruce Streets was smashed -- for fun.

(photo by Renee Saul)

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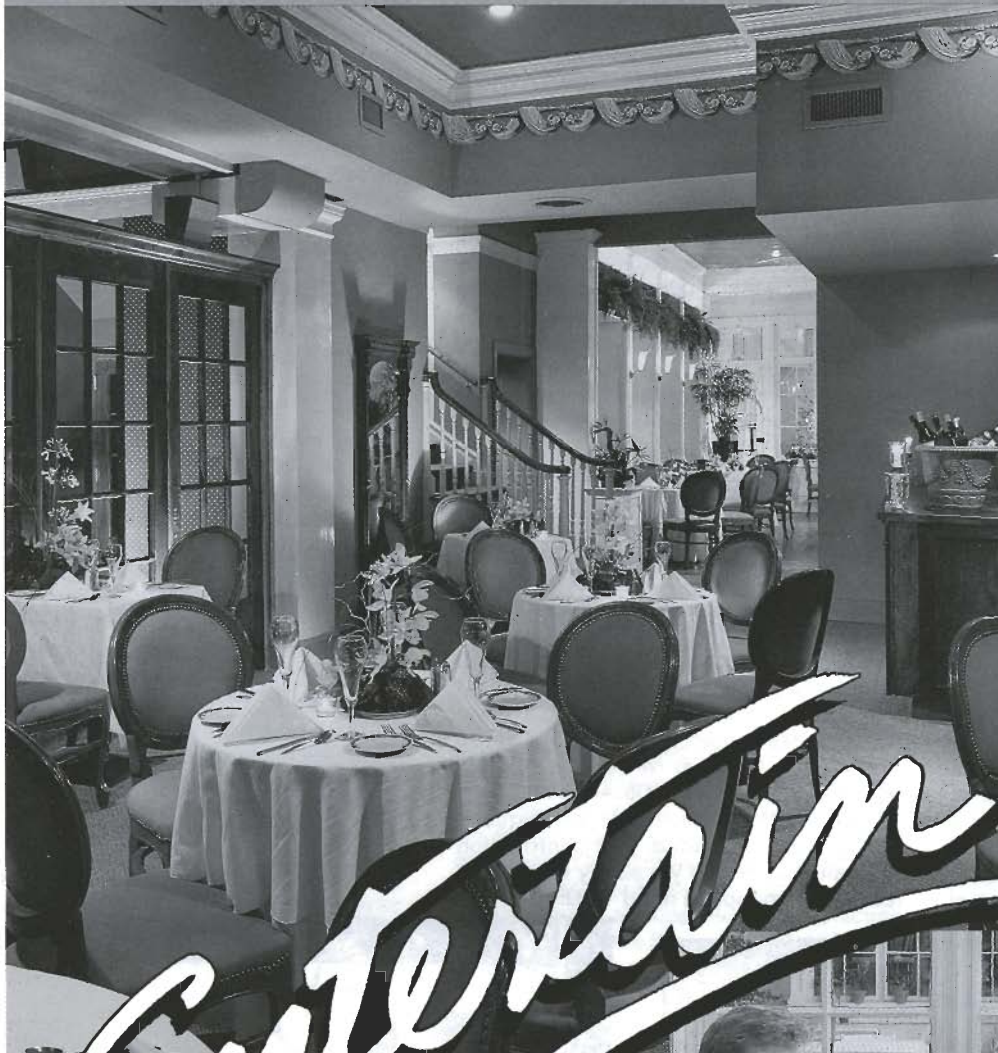
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# SHCA NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOUR TALENTS

The best little newsletter in Philadelphia needs more volunteers on its staff!

The Society Hill Civic Association publication, *The Resident Newsletter*, receives compliments on its excellence regularly, and is acknowledged as a major contribution to the civic life of our Society Hill neighborhood.

*The Resident Newsletter* is published four times a year. Its business and editorial staff is composed of professional and non-professionals. We need volunteers who are interested, dedicated and willing to devote several hours to the production of each issue until there are enough proficient staff members to form two teams, at least, — the only way to insure the continuity of this valuable contribution to the neighborhood.

The editorial staff works closely with the SHCA Board so that all the important issues that affect Society Hill and its residents are covered in each issue. The editors elicit and schedule interviews, publish letters, edit official documents from State and City departments and staff articles, assign photographs and art work for each issue, schedule staff meetings, as well as proofread, headline and design each issue through to the layout phase. This involves working closely with our printer up to the time that the final product is delivered to the distributor.

The responsibilities of the business staff involve generating the amount of advertising

necessary to cover the cost of approximately \$1400 of typesetting and printing each issue, which consists of six to seven pages of advertising, about 20 accounts. New advertisers must be contacted and informed of *Newsletter* policies, rates and procedures. The many repeat advertisers, must be contacted to confirm the space and the ad they will be using in the upcoming issue and to determine how much new advertising is needed. The advertisers must be informed and held to deadlines for their copy and art work. They are mailed their checking copies and billing when the *Newsletter* is ready for distribution.

The system is in place, the procedure is interesting and challenging and the contributions of the staff are tangible — a finished product that is informative and good looking.

If you have talent in the editorial or business area, if you write well and would like to be a reporter or a proofreader, if you like to take photographs, draw or design layout, or if you have basic skills and would like to learn more about producing a newsletter, please contact Ruth Dugan or Nancy Frenze, *The Resident Newsletter*, PO Box #3, Philadelphia, PA 19105. A more detailed job description is available on request.

Your help is needed, your contribution is invaluable — and we surely (the proofreader was napping) need YOU!

## Powel House Is Chosen One of Six for Evaluation

The Powel House, preserved and maintained by the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, was chosen by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of six historic house museums to be visited this year by a team of museum professionals through the Trust's Comprehensive Historic Assistance Program. Supported by the William Penn Foundation, the three year program will benefit eighteen historic house museums in six counties.

At the Powel House for three days in late October five carefully-chosen experts explored every corner of the museum and met with Landmarks' board members, Powel House Committee members and members of the Friends of Landmarks to discuss the problems and needs outlined in Landmarks' grant application. Although the report describing the team's findings and recommending guidelines for management and long range plans will not be submitted to the Society until early 1987, those who participated felt that it was a constructive three days and welcomed the opportunity to review the role of this distinguished house museum in its neighborhood, the city and the nation.

A Comprehensive Historic Assistance Program Symposium to which all applicants will be invited will be held after the eighteen reports are completed.

**Some people believe that all video stores are the same.**

Not quite. Some video stores are frantic, take-a-number-and-wait kinds of places. Others stock a few of the recent Hollywood biggies — and only the recent Hollywood biggies. And some stores let you walk out with videocassettes that are, shall we say, not of the best quality.

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## Santa's Calling

As everyone has probably noticed, work is underway to restore and preserve the historic churchyard at the Old Pine Street Church so that it will be enjoyed and treasured by the neighbors, visitors and future generations.

To help raise money for this worthy endeavor, the Friends of Old Pine Street Church are offering "Santa's Family Phoning Kids" this Christmas season. If you wish the children in your life to receive a personal pre-Christmas call from Santa, Mrs. Santa, or an elf (your choice), you can pick up an order form at Old Pine Street Church, at the Old Pine Community Center, or phone Old Pine at WA5-8051. The cost will be a tax-deductible donation of \$5.00 for the first call and \$3.00 for each additional call. *Ho, Ho, Ho!*

### Senator Fumo

*(Continued from page 1)*

Philadelphia Interstate Land Management Organization (PhILMO). This quasi-public organization will determine the uses for lands over, under, and abutting I-95 from below Oregon Avenue to Vine Street and West on Vine to 18th Street. A preliminary study commissioned by the City for PhILMO has suggested that the cover area is suitable for "low-rise commercial development." This is not acceptable to nearby residents or to most SHCA members. SHCA will be working closely with Senator Fumo to see that proper safeguards are in place before further work on the ramps begins.

## What's New For NewMarket?

The following letter was sent to Mr. Ralph Heller after he expressed his interest in acquiring the NewMarket property. At press time in mid-November, Mr. Heller contacted SHCA President Myrna Field Baum and stated that he would present his plans to the SHCA as soon as possible after settlement on the property in mid-December.

October 23, 1986

Mr. Ralph Heller  
1525 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, Penna. 19102

Re: NewMarket

Dear Mr. Heller

For some time, several of my neighbors who are also members of the Society Hill Civic Association have made me aware of a persistent rumor that you have or plan to acquire an interest in NewMarket and propose to build a tall tower as well as to develop other commercial interests therein. The development of this area is of critical importance to all of the residents of Society Hill. NewMarket has been a constant source of controversy and litigation because of its impact on the neighborhood.

Therefore, unless you are prepared to fully disclose your plans to the Board of the Society Hill Civic Association as well as to its Zoning Committee in accord with the association's procedures and to afford these groups an opportunity to discuss them with you, the Society Hill Civic Association will oppose your development as

strenuously as possible.

We sincerely hope that you will comply with the procedures of the Society Hill Civic Association.

Sincerely

Myrna P. Field, President

MPF/wab

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cc: Richard Bazelon, Esq.  
Barbara Kaplan  
Joseph Jacovini, Esq.

### Correction

In our September issue of *The Resident Newsletter*, we inadvertently ran an out-of-date advertisement for Stephen D. Cohen, D.D.S. and Steven A. Graubard, D.D.S. that also listed Joel E. Elfman, D.D.S.

Our readers should know that Dr. Elfman is now practicing at 1616 Walnut Street, Suite 1000, Philadelphia 19103, Phone 732-9171.

Drs. Cohen and Graubard continue to practice at the Lafayette Building, 925-6251, and at 7847 Old York Road, Elkins Park, 19117, 782-8420.

**LESS** than 200 steps from your  
front door you can get **MORE!**

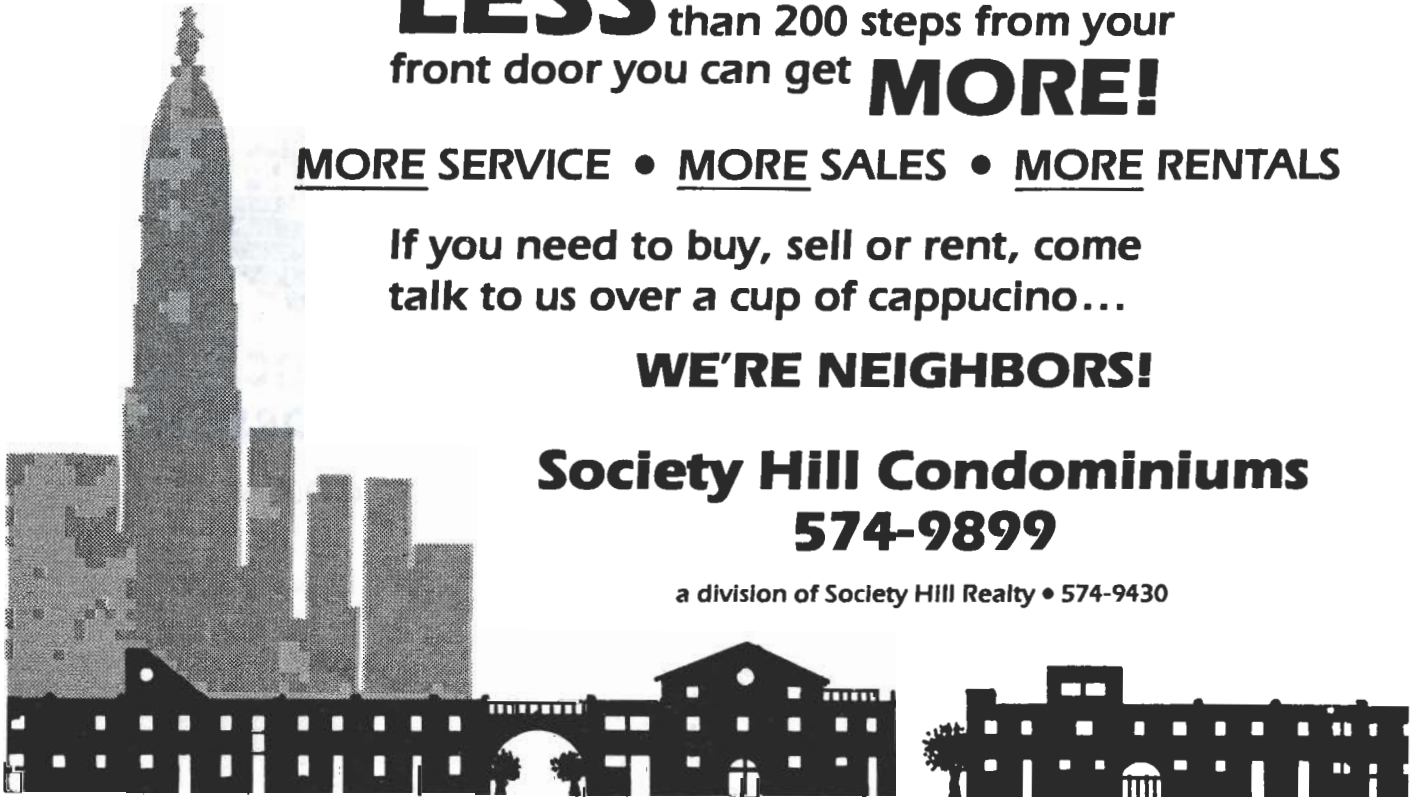
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# We were here!

We were here over 63 years ago when Philadelphia Center City had not begun to re-blossom. We were here through the years of rebirth. We've participated in the development of Society Hill, Rittenhouse Square, Washington Square, Queen Village - from river to river, from North to South.

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## South St. Drinking Ban: Effective Date Set

A strict new ordinance banning the consumption of alcoholic beverages in public right-of-ways in the South Street Corridor is expected to go into effect shortly after the first of the year when signs will have been posted. The bill, Ordinance #1003, was introduced by Councilman Leland Beloff and passed by Council on October 23rd. Covering the area between the Delaware River to Broad St., Lombard to Bainbridge, the ban had support from Queen Village civic and business groups and was endorsed by the Police, who will ultimately be responsible for the success of the program.

The ordinance will empower police to ticket anyone drinking on any public streets, alleys, sidewalks, steps and other corridors through which either vehicles or persons may travel as well as in cars parked within such public right-of-ways. Not affected by the ban are sidewalk cafes or block parties held under special permit. Fines for violators will vary between \$50 to \$300, with an imposition of a maximum of ten days imprisonment for failure to pay.

The ban is in answer to an increasingly troublesome situation not only on South Street but in surrounding areas where gangs of rowdies pack in their own beer, get drunk and trash the neighborhoods. Difficult as it is to believe, until now it has not been illegal to get or be drunk in public right-of-ways.

At a hearing on the bill before City Council's Public Safety Committee SHCA president Myrna Field Baum expressed her concern that enforcement would only change the location of the drunk scene and impact upon contiguous areas. She asked that the boundaries covered be extended to include Society Hill. She was joined in her request by Joanne Weeks, executive director of the Wash West Civic Association and Project Area Committee, who asked that Wash West be included also. Councilman Beloff said that as soon as an additional ordinance could be prepared for these areas, he would introduce it in Council.

## Coping With Vandals At Old Pine Center

When Old Pine Community Center was planned, it was decided to use the space in front of the building for the benefit of the members of the surrounding communities. Part of the space would be a garden with trees and grass. Benches would be placed there so that people could sit and enjoy this "green spot" in the City. An amphitheater would be built so that musical and theatrical performances could be given for the enjoyment of these people.

The plans were carried out and for a while it seemed that the ideas were good ones! Unfortunately as South Street became more popular and more well-known it attracted groups of young people who created disturbances. The merchants and residents put great pressure on the police to move the troublemakers off of South Street and move them did—right onto the Center's front lawn!

The summer of 1986 will be remembered by the Board of Managers, the staff of the Center and the immediate neighbors as the time when the problems (noise, trash, broken glass, graffiti, etc.) caused by the congregating of these people from evening til early morning escalated to an unbearable level.

The Board of Managers and staff of the Center with the help of the neighbors have dealt with and are continuing to deal with the problems. The outside stairway has been removed which will decrease access to the roof deck—a site for parties. Signs have been posted stating that it is private property and loitering is not allowed. Lights to make the area very bright have been bought and should be installed soon. Graffiti has been and is continuing to be removed. A close relationship with the Sixth Police District has been established which has resulted in increased police coverage. Efforts are also being made to extend the boundaries of the law prohibiting drinking or carrying open containers of alcoholic

## City Tavern



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beverages in public places. Many other solutions which would perhaps be more effective, such as hiring a guard with or without a dog, removal of the amphitheater, fencing the area, etc. require more money than the Center currently has, but the Board of Managers and staff continue to consider them as well as to hunt for new solutions to the problem.

## JOIN US

Please enter my (our) membership in the Association.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 person \$12.50 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 persons same address \$25.00

\_\_\_\_\_ I request a waiver of dues.

Tear off and mail to:

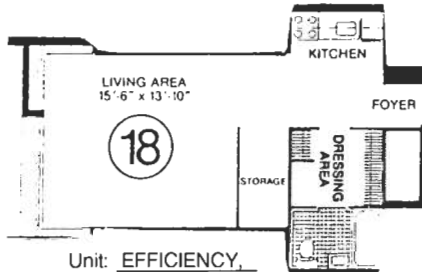
Society Hill Civic Association  
P.O. Box 3  
Philadelphia, PA 19105  
attention: Frank Ongaro, Treasurer

# Society Hill Luxury Condominiums

NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE

## Hopkinson House

604-36 S. Washington Square

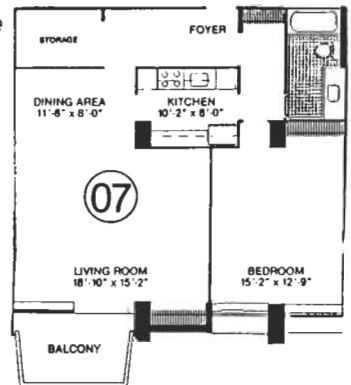


Unit: EFFICIENCY,  
WESTERN VIEW,

Sale Price: \$55,000.00

## Hopkinson House

604-36 S. Washington Square



Unit: DELUXE 1 BEDROOM,  
WITH BALCONY,  
SOUTH VIEW,

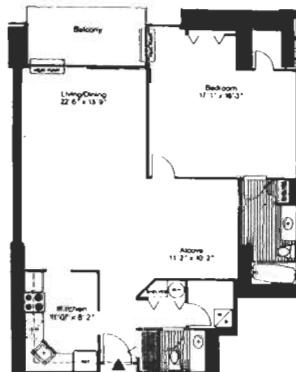
Sale Price: \$100,000.00

## INDEPENDENCE PLACE

6th & Locust Walk

Unit: 1 BEDROOM,  
WITH ALCOVE,  
SOUTHERN VIEW,  
WITH BALCONY

Sale Price: \$155,000.00

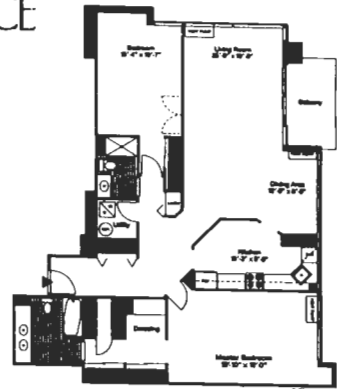


## INDEPENDENCE PLACE

6th & Locust Walk

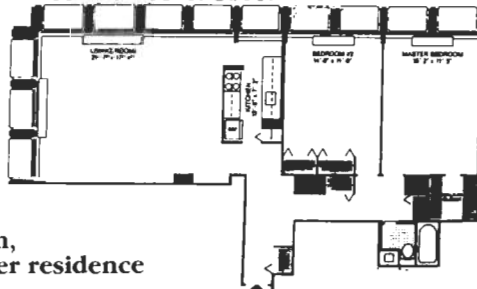
Unit: 2 BEDROOM,  
2 BATH,  
HIGH FLOOR,  
PARK VIEW,

Sale Price: \$210,000.00



## SOCIETY HILL TOWERS

200-220 Locust Street



A two-bedroom,  
one-bath corner residence

Unit: SOUTH TOWER,  
w/RIVER & CITY VIEW,

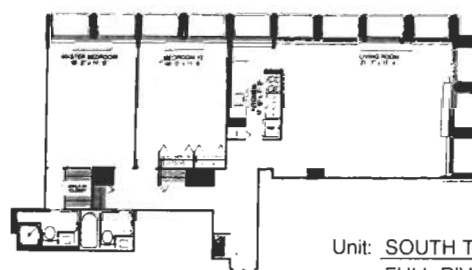
Sale Price: \$114,000.00

Unit: WEST TOWER,  
RIVER VIEW, "CUSTOMIZED"

Sale Price: \$157,500.00

## SOCIETY HILL TOWERS

200-220 Locust Street



A two-bedroom,  
two-bath corner residence

Unit: SOUTH TOWER,  
FULL RIVER VIEW,

Sale Price: \$147,500.00

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# Washington Sq. Garage Signs Will Change for the Better



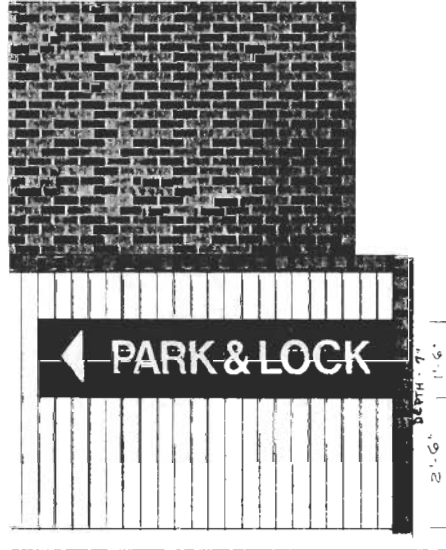
AS SIGN APPEARS AT 6th ST.

The great Washington Square Garage Signage saga may be in its final stage, after almost seven years. It all goes to prove that the System works – sometimes.

Dechert Price and Rhoads attorney, Deborah Flynn has been working with SHCA President Myrna Field Baum and Nancy Frenze, Washington Sq. East, Condominium #2 for approval of a sign design that is acceptable to the neighborhood and the Zoning Board.

The SHCA has received a letter from Richard J. Reaney, vice president, St. James Realty Corporation, a subsidiary of Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, which reads as follows:

Please be advised that St. James Realty



NEW DESIGN FOR 5th AND 6th STS.

Corp. intends to replace the existing "Park and Lock" signs located at 5th and 6th Street entrances to the Washington Square Garage. St. James will repair any damage to the walls on which the signs are located caused by the removal of the new signs and the placement of the new signs. St. James will also maintain these new signs for so long as it has a leasehold interest in the Garage.

An architectural drawing for Cutler Sign Division points up the dramatic differences between the old and the new signs.

Thank you Deborah Flynn! Thank you Richard Reaney!

## HPK Committee Seeks Historic Site Manager

The House Committee of the Hill-Physick-Keith House has appointed a search committee to fill the position of Historic Site Manager. Until a new manager is in residence the house will be open for tours by appointment only. Arrangements for tours may be made by calling (215) 925-7866.

This Landmarks Society house, the home of Dr. Physick, known as the Father of American Surgery, is located at 321 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia.

## Selling Your House?

This advice comes from a newsletter published by Robert J. Nash, Inc., Realtors.)

Here's a sure-fire way to help your house make a good impression from the moment a buyer sees it:

Start at the curb, and look at your house, just as though you were seeing it for the first time. Make sure everything is clean and well tended. The front door should be spotless and inviting. If wood trim doesn't look good, it should be repainted. The lawn should look manicured.

Inside, walls, windows and carpets should be super-clean. Pay special attention to bathrooms and the kitchen; potential buyers certainly will. Remove appliances and bottles from counters.

Arrange your furniture to eliminate clutter and emphasize the size of the rooms. Generally, it's better for a house to look roomy – even if you have to put some items in storage for a time. Clean and organize your garage and basement.

Your goal is to make the house stand out in a conventional, charming way. The time you spend on it will result in a faster sale, and it could mean extra profit.

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# Society Hill is a special place.



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- A very special place.
- The nicest, most exclusive houses with lovely city gardens.
- Some are certified historic, older than our country.
- History was made here.
- Independence Mall, a national park in your backyard, the Liberty Bell, Penn's Landing.
- There is the night life and restaurants of Head House Square and South Street.
- There are horse drawn carriages on cobblestones streets and a unique community geared towards family life.

**We know Society Hill,  
therefore,  
We sell it best.**



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## TRAFFIC, SIGNS, PARKING, WHAT'S YOUR GRIPE?

The question, "What are your concerns and criticisms regarding traffic, parking and signs in our neighborhood?" was posed in a flyer distributed throughout Society Hill on the first of November. So far, the response from residents has been very strong and varied. The committee intends to collate responses and then present them to a group of representatives from the City Streets Department, the Police Department, Parking Authority, South Street Merchants Association, Queen Village Neighbors Association and Sheraton Hotel. Hopefully with all parties assembled at a single table, solutions to problems can be worked out and carried out in a coordinated way. We'll keep you posted on progress. Meantime, for those who missed the flyer but want to contribute an idea or a complaint, you can send them to Lorna Katz, Chairman Traffic Committee  
Society Hill Civic Association  
c/o John Lawson Architects  
821 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

**Staff for this issue**—Charles Bangert, Sally Buell, Ruth Dugan, Nancy Frenze and Liz Ostrander.

**Contributors to this issue**—Myrna Field Baum, Margo Burnette, Lorna Katz Lawson, Ruth McKeivitt, Lois Mae Moody and Peggy Noyes.

**Business Staff**—Laurette Scherneck, Advertising, and Keith Straw, Billing.

Deadline for articles and ads for the next issue is February 2, 1987. Articles may be delivered to staff members or mailed to *The Resident Newsletter*, Box #3, Philadelphia, PA 19105. For advertising rates and information, contact Laurette Scherneck, 923-4249.



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Infants to Size 14.

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South Street in Society Hill)  
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KIDS

## DARTS AND LAURELS

**Laurel**—to the Society Hill Deli. They've received an award for providing dinners to more than 300 handicapped Variety Club campers in '84, '85, and '86.

**Laurel**—to the Hopkinson House Condominium Association for organizing and hosting the fruitful open meeting on Wednesday, October 15 regarding Washington Square Park.

**Dart**—to the intoxicated vandals who, with much merrymaking, broke the statue in front of the house at 7th and Spruce.

**Laurel**—to those residents who sweep up the leaves that accumulate on their sidewalks before the rain when they get wet and become hazardous to passersby.

**Laurel**—to the Department of Sanitation for providing better supervision of the weekend work crews. We notice the difference.

**Laurel**—to those people who got out to vote the cold and wet Tuesday in November.

**Laurel**—to Elisabeth Doolan for replacing the dead trees adjoining her property on 6th Street and all the other good neighbors who have done likewise.

**Laurel**—to Tim Spencer and his Anti-Graffiti Networkers who promptly removed offending spray art from the Old Pine Community Center walls.

**Laurel**—to Ada Lieberman, David and Mike Gioe for helping get out the membership drive mailing.

**Laurel**—to the Streets Department for giving Addison Street a needed new surface.

**Laurel**—to Peggy Duckett for her splendid exhibit, "Miracle at Philadelphia" at the Second Bank. Go see it!

**Dart**—to the carriage driver who cut ahead of a bicyclist on Third St., causing him to take a bad and bloody spill.

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A lifetime club membership at The Video Company costs just \$39.95. For that small sum, we promise to love and honor you for the rest of your life. We'll also give you 10% off on every movie you rent or buy, as well as 5% off on the purchase of any video accessory. Forevermore.

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Of course, if you're not sure you want to marry us for life, we're agreeable to a less serious relationship. Every Tuesday. Just weekends. Or whenever you're in the mood. You name it.

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709 East Church Lane

"Very snazzy, indeed."

Thomas Jefferson  
5848 Spruce

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And guestrooms that say  
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Come sense the heritage  
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Come feel the excite-  
ment. Because you never  
know who you'll see at the  
Sheraton Society Hill.

Say, isn't that young  
Patrick Henry over there?  
In the blue blazer, khaki pants  
and Reeboks?

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