

SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

# THE RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

Box 3, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19105

September, 1987

## At 3rd and Walnut

### **New Garage Opposed**

A proposal for a 188-car garage at the southeast corner of 3rd and Walnut Streets has drawn strong opposition from the neighborhood. The structure, to be built on land now used by the Mather Company for private parking, will be owned by Posell Enterprises (owners of the Ritz Five). It is to be operated as a valet parking, 18-hour-a-day, transients-only system by the Parkway Corporation. Entrance is to be from Walnut Street, exit on Chancellor, a small east-bound cartway. The garage will have cars double stacked on the lower two floors, single parking on the roof. The cars are to be stacked by hydraulic lift, a new system in use in one garage in Atlantic City and in another nearing completion in Queens, New York. A sound study has just been made available. Ventilation of the 45 foot high building would be through wall openings. The lot has a commercial zoning, but a use variance for a garage is necessary on Walnut Street, another variance is needed to continue the curb cuts on Walnut and Chancellor Streets.

The matter will come up for review at a meeting of the City Planning Commission, 1515 Market Street, on September 23rd at 2:00 p.m. Following that, there will be a hearing before the Zoning Board of Adjustment, date not yet set. Watch for notices posted on the property. According to Warren Huff of the Planning Commission, he has never seen as much negative correspondence as this case has stimulated. There have been letters from residents of the Society Hill Towers, nearby houses and from the Salvation Army Day Care Center, all concerned with pollution, noise and problems of traffic congestion.

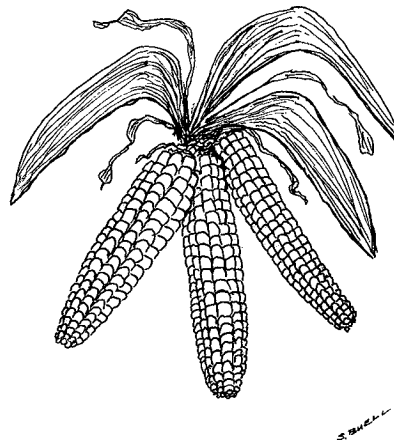
## **Some of Our Neighbors Are Missing**

Where have all the neighbors gone? Where are the Society Hill residents who faithfully attended every general membership meeting, turned out for special events and participated in community activities such as *Clean-Up Day*? When my wife Fran and I moved to Society Hill in 1977, one of the things that impressed us most, and we liked the best, was the activist nature of the community. People cared and they did something about it. When subsidized housing was an issue, hundreds of people filled Old Pine Church to express their views. When Pennsylvania Hospital planned to demolish historically significant buildings people turned out and worked hard to save the facades which stand today as a monument to their efforts. In days past, every office of the civic association was hotly contested from President to Quadrant Director. Association meetings were well attended. Community spirit was evident in the way

the neighbors took it upon themselves to maintain sidewalks, trees and common areas. In those days, the "block captain" system was alive and well as a method for residents on a block by block basis to coordinate clean-ups and report and deal with community concerns.

For a reason which I can't really identify, this community spirit in Society Hill has waned over the last few years. It is ironic that just at the time City services are shrinking residents of Society Hill are less ready to do things for themselves. It has also been the case that unless members of our community work with the City, State and Federal officials, Society Hill will be shortchanged. We live in a democracy which not only operates every two or four years in November at the polls, but every time an important issue arises both elected and appointed public officials take note of community sentiment. If we don't take the time to express it, no one will ever know our opinion. Decisions will be made and actions will be taken which dramatically affect the quality of life without our input. In the past, through activism, residents of Society Hill shaped the place where they live. I think they did a pretty good job. However, unless we keep the vigil, much of what is good about Society Hill will slip away.

As a first step toward greater community involvement, attendance at the Association's general meetings must increase. I ask those  
*(Continued on page 4)*



## **Historic Survey Update**

Our application for historic certification and protection of Society Hill under the Philadelphia Historic Preservation Ordinance of 1984 has hit an unforeseen snag. A draft of the survey was submitted for review and comment to the Historical Commission early this year. Review and comment have yet to be made by the Commission, a delay they explain by citing staff shortage and the complex and cumbersome procedures mandated by the ordinance. Work on our area will not begin until the Commission has completed the Rittenhouse Historic District, which has taken far longer than their staff ever anticipated.

As James Kise, whose firm Killinger Kise Franks Straw has been coordinating work on our survey, wrote: "We are . . . hostage to a situation beyond our control."

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The next general membership meeting of the Society Hill Civic Association is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29 at the Old Pine Community Center, 4th and Lombard Streets. This will be a very special meeting at which both mayoral candidates will appear, though separately.

There will be refreshments at 6:30 p.m. followed at 7:00 by a presentation by former Mayor Frank Rizzo, and then at 8:00 by Mayor W. Wilson Goode. We expect each of the two candidates to spend an hour at our meeting and to be available for questioning.

The balance of the meeting will be spent on discussions of the plans for a floating hotel and yacht club, Regalleon, at Pier 28, and updates on the I-95 ramps, NewMarket and Penn's Landing developments.

Don't miss this important and exciting meeting!

# MEET OUR NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

## OFFICERS:

### President:

Aaron Beyer and his wife Fran, have been residents of Society Hill since 1977. He is a partner with the Philadelphia law firm of Fox, Rothschild, O'Brien and Frankel. He is a past vice-president and board member of the SHCA, has worked as a block captain and with Town Watch. He has been a member of the Georgetown, D.C. Civic Association.

### Vice-President:

Rebecca Stoloff has been a Center City resident for 23 years, the last thirteen in Society Hill. She was recently employed as Director of Administration for Taylor Lock Company (Philadelphia hardware manufacturer). She has served on three previous SHCA boards and as chairman of the Zoning Committee in addition to being a member of the Brandeis University Philadelphia Alumni Board and its admissions council.

### Treasurer:

Frank Ongaro is in his third term as treasurer of the SHCA. He is a marine manufacturers' representative, president of his own company for more than twenty years. He has lived in Society Hill since 1968.

### Recording Secretary:

Faith Lemmer, serving her second term as recording secretary, has been a Society Hill home-owner since 1962 when she and her late husband, Ralph, purchased and began restoring their Pine Street house. She has been active in the fight for the I-95 cover, trying to save 156 historic houses on Front Street, Save Spruce Street, and many zoning matters. Ralph was one of the founders and a mainstay of Society Hill's Town Watch and their son, Tim, was on the SHCA board until he moved away from the neighborhood.

### Continuing Director:

Myrna Field Baum has been SHCA's president for the past three years. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School and is presently in private practice. She has been president of the Mid-Atlantic Legal Foundation, district counsel for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, director of the Mayor's Office of Consumer Services, and an Assistant District Attorney in Philadelphia. She is a member of the Fairmount Park Commission Advisory Council. She is committed to completing the historic survey and certification of Society Hill.

## QUADRANT DIRECTORS:

### Northwest:

Susan Dictor is a reading specialist at the Greenberg School where she has been for 16 of the 19 years she has been a teacher. She and her husband, Joel Chernock, a teacher at Chester A. Arthur School, have two children and have lived in Society Hill for eight years. This is Susan's third term on the SHCA board.

Morton C. Lieberman is a retired businessman who owned his own wholesale seafood company in the Food Distribution Center. He has been treasurer of the Washington Square East Condo #1, and is serving as a quadrant representative on the SHCA board for the third year.

Howard Lander has lived in Society Hill for 12 years. He is a builder and real estate developer, working mostly in Center City. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in management from Wilkes College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. His community involvements have been with Town Watch, the South Street Neighbors Assn. in Queen Village and as a member of the SHCA. He is married and the father of two children.

HERE WE ARE!

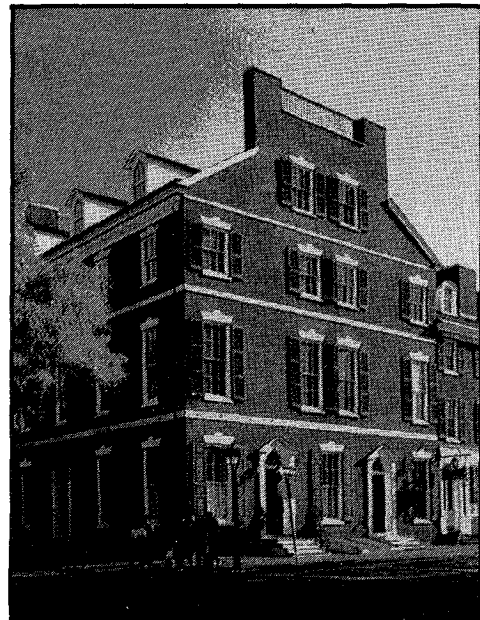
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401 South Second Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19147  
Southeast Corner of Second and Pine  
In Historic Head House Square

## SHCA Board Directory:

### Southwest:

Bernie Cleff, who is a second-term representative on the SHCA board, has owned, worked and lived at 715 Pine Street since 1960. He served three earlier consecutive terms as a quadrant director in the mid-1970's. Bernie is a freelance photographer, listed in "Who's Who in America" and "Working Press of the Nation," specializing in editorial, corporate, advertising and architectural photography. His photos appear on the cover and inside the recent book "Historic Rittenhouse - A Philadelphia Neighborhood." Other major photographic works are "Sculpture of a City: Philadelphia's Treasures in Bronze & Stone;" "The Cape May Handbook;" and "Daniel Chester French - An American Sculptor."

Nancy L. Silber, a Boston native, moved to Philadelphia in 1976. The renovation of the historic house she and her husband purchased in 1982 brought her into contact with the Redevelopment Authority and Historical Commission and kindled her interest in preservation and zoning issues confronting our neighborhood. As a mother of two children she is especially interested in preserving and upgrading our local parks. Nancy worked for non-profit organizations as an arts administrator before graduating from Temple University Law School in 1984.

Allen Stiteler, a resident of Society Hill for 17 years, is a senior vice president of Hay/Huggins Company, Inc., an actuarial and benefits consulting firm headquartered in Philadelphia. He received degrees from Bucknell University and the Wharton Graduate School. He and his wife Donna have been active in Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and childrens' activities at the Old Pine Community Center. He is a member of the Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church and hopes to provide input on the SHCA board from residents with school age children.

### Northeast:

Lorna Katz Lawson is a registered architect in private practice, and has taught interior design at Drexel University. She is serving her third term as a quadrant director and has also been active on the Zoning and Traffic committees. She is a member of the Operations Committee at the Society Hill Towers.

Doug McBrearty, a three-time member of the SHCA board, is general manager of the Society Hill Sheraton. Before returning to Philadelphia and that post, Doug spent seventeen years in other Sheraton locations. He is a Penn State graduate, married, and father of two children.

Wayne Weisman has lived in the Society Hill Towers for three years and is serving his second year on the SHCA board. A graduate of Penn and the University of Michigan Law School, Mr. Weisman runs a private investment company which funds the reorganization of troubled businesses.

His public service efforts have included assisting the MOVE Commission in its investigation.

### Southeast:

Burton Weiss is a psychiatrist in private practice in Center City and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Internal Medicine at Hahnemann University, and has had occasional dealings with the city government around issues of mental health care. He has lived in Society Hill with his wife Leslie and two children, Nichole and Brian, for the past 15 years, the last ten as a homeowner. He has long admired Society Hill and looks forward to the opportunity to serve the neighborhood.

Homer N. "Norm" Wallin moved to Pine Street from Rose Valley, Delaware County in late 1984. He is employed by the Keystone Shipping Company on Chestnut Street as engineering manager responsible for care and repair of tankers. His wife Kitty is employed by the Educational Improvement and Resource Center, Sewell, N.J. Norm is serving his second term as a SHCA director.

Elliot Field and his wife Peggy have been Society Hill residents since 1972 when they purchased one of the last remaining houses on their block needing renovation. They are parents of a daughter. Elliot has a law degree from Villanova and is in the tire retreading business in New Jersey. He plans to continue keeping an eye on developments at NewMarket.

Aaron Jay Beyer (P) 632 Spruce St.,  
299-2030 (o), 925-4288 (h)  
Becky Stoloff (VP) 234 Spruce St.,  
627-4910 (h)

Frank Ongaro (T) 239 Pine St.,  
923-3053 (o), 625-9777 (h)  
Faith Lemmer (RS) 236 Pine St.,  
923-7142 (h)

### NE

Lorna Katz Lawson, 20B 200 Locust St.,  
351-0560 (o), 922-0155 (h)  
Doug McBrearty, 613 Pine St.,  
238-6000 (o), 238-1427 (h)  
Wayne Weisman, 210 Locust St., 2F,  
636-9123 (o), 627-1828 (h)

### NW

Susan Dictor, 719 Spruce St.,  
625-9852 (h)  
Mort Lieberman, 17 St. James Court,  
922-5034 (h)  
Howard Lander, 709 Spruce St.,  
574-0456 (h)

### SE

Burt Weiss, M.D., 329 S. 2nd St.,  
569-6736 (o), 923-5336 (h)  
Norm Wallin, 216 Pine St.,  
928-2848 (o), 574-9848 (h)  
Elliot Field, 123 Pine St.,  
922-2207 (h)

### SW

Bernie Cleff, 715 Pine St.,  
922-4246 (o), 922-7663 (h)  
Nancy Silber, 600 Spruce St.,  
625-4849 (h)  
Allen Stiteler, 639 Lombard St.,  
627-6351 (h)

### Continuing Director

Myrna Field Baum, 2 Blackwell Place,  
545-7477 (o), 238-9550 (h)

## JOIN US

Tear off and mail to:

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

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.

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Private Dining Rooms

Second St. near Walnut  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Reservations  
923-6059

## MAIL BAG

### To the Editor:

For over a year, we and our neighbors have been trying to get Fairmount Park to cut down a dead tree in front of our properties. Because of limited funds, Fairmount Park has a long waiting list for such work, but our turn finally arrived last week. No parking signs were posted and the area was cleared save for one car bearing a current residential parking sticker. Unable to locate the owner, the Fairmount Park crew reposted for the following day and left. The car was still there the next day and again the crew left — this time without reposting and clearly with no intention of coming back.

So we and our dead tree are back at the bottom of the list.

Undoubtedly, this is not the first time maintenance or repair work has been stalled because of longtime — albeit perfectly legal — parking. We would suggest, however, that those planning to leave their cars for a long period, give a key to a friend or neighbor and leave a note on the car as to how to reach that person.

If the owner of the car in our little drama had left some clue as to how to reach him, our dead tree would be gone, a new one would be in its place, and we would have had one less hassle.

Liz and Dick Ostrander

## HELP! Or GOODBYE

This is it. We've come to the end of the road. With this issue of *The Resident Newsletter*, we have run out of an advertising manager and everyone else on our staff is in semi-mutiny. If there are to be any future issues, reinforcements are needed.

Our retiring advertising manager, Laurette Scherneck, has resigned because of family and work obligations but she has generously agreed to train her successor(s). She estimates that the job as *Newsletter* ad manager requires 35-40 hours per issue (four per year). The work is well organized, requires quite a lot of telephoning and follow-ups. One must be available to receive material from advertisers, register it and make any necessary revisions, pass it along to the printer and then return it with tear-sheets after the issue is printed.

On the editorial side, we need writers, make-up people and editors capable of planning, assigning articles and art work, making sure material is submitted on time, and working with the printer, advertising manager, paste-up and delivery people. Experience in some or all of these fields would be helpful, but we'd be willing to train volunteers. We most need someone who is willing to be responsible for seeing that all the steps along the way are taken. If we are lucky enough to get several volunteers, the work can be shared. Oh yes, now for the bad news: there are no emoluments. No 3-martini luncheons with Famous Writers. Sorry.

Please call Nancy Frenze, 923-5459, Laurette Scherneck, 923-4249, or Ruth Dugan, 922-3195, if you are willing to join our staff.

We hope there are some candidates out there. We hate goodbyes.

## A Craft Fair at the Community Center

Made by hand in the Delaware Valley is the theme of the third annual craft fair to be held on Saturday, October 17 and Sunday, October 18 from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. at Old Pine Community Center, 4th and Lombard Streets. Modern and traditional crafts will be featured: jewelry, woven and hand-knit items, quilts, leather goods, tinware, metal sculpture, and pottery are among the crafts that will be available. There will also be good food and entertainment throughout both days. Please plan to attend and begin your holiday shopping! Admission is \$2, children under 12, free. For information, contact Anne Sandercock, (215) 627-2493.

## DO YOU KNOW

In the early 1700's a Board of Aldermen elected the Mayor of Philadelphia. If the nominee declined he had to pay a fine of 30 pounds. Many did.

## Neighbors

(Continued from page 1)

of you who share my belief that community participation is critically important to contact at least two neighbors and bring them to the next general meeting. We have many important issues facing us. The issue of I-95 ramps, the "redevelopment" of NewMarket, the rising rate of crime and vandalism, the proliferation of newspaper boxes, the maintenance of sidewalks and streets, the increase in property taxes, and so on. Moreover, participation is "painless" and can even be fun. I have always enjoyed my work with the Association as a neighborhood volunteer, a board member, block captain, vice president and now president. My fellow residents are friendly and interesting people whom I would not have met but for my community activity. I have also found working with the public officials satisfying and challenging.

I ask all of you to take the first step and attend with your family and neighbors the first general meeting on September 29, 1987. It will be exciting. Former Mayor Rizzo and Mayor W. Wilson Goode will be there for your questions. We will also have a presentation on the "floating hotel" proposed for the Delaware River waterfront. Of course, we will be discussing many other community matters and concerns. If you have a special concern you would like to discuss, let's hear from you.

A final important step is joining the Association. In this issue of *The Resident Newsletter* you will find a membership form — send it in today.

I look forward to seeing all of you on September 29th. With your participation we can make Society Hill an even better place to live.

— Aaron Beyer

## New Season for Chamber Ensemble

The Philadelphia Chamber Ensemble has announced the program for the first pair of concerts of its eleventh season as follows:

Trio sonata in G Major, by Johann Joachim Quantz for flute, cello and piano  
Fantaisie, Opus 124, by Camille Saint-Saens for violin and harp

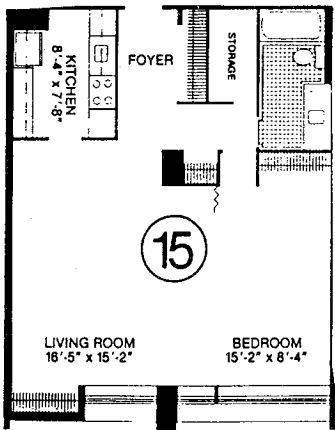
Trio, by Aram Khachaturian for cello, violin and piano

Serenata, by Alfredo Casella for clarinet, bassoon, trumpet, violin and cello

The concerts will be held on Friday, October 23rd at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 25th at 3:00 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 219 South 6th Street.

Programs for the other two pairs of concerts in the series (on January 8th and 10th, and March 18th and 20th, 1988) will be announced shortly. Subscriptions for all three concerts are available for \$70 or \$50. Single tickets are available at \$20 apiece. For additional information, call Cynthia Eiseman at 923-5492.

# Allan Domb Real Estate Presents Prime Society Hill Condominiums for Sale

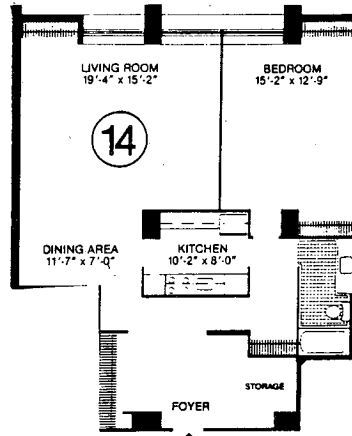


## Hopkinson House

604-36 S. Washington Square

Unit: 1 BEDROOM,  
SOUTH VIEW, HIGH FLOOR

Sale Price: \$78,900.00

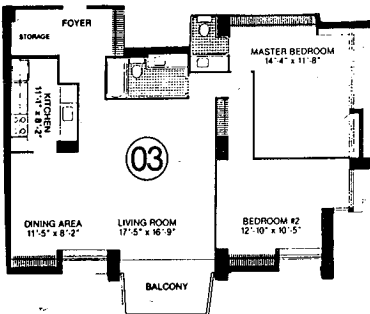


## Hopkinson House

604-36 S. Washington Square

Unit: DELUXE 1 BEDROOM,  
HIGH FLOOR, PARK VIEW

Sale Price: \$107,500.00

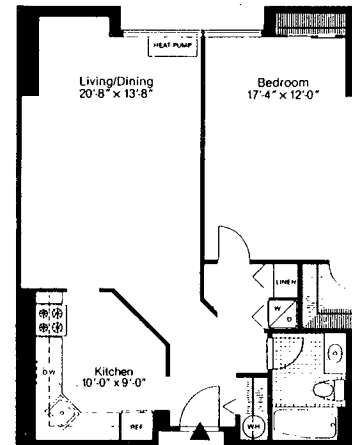


## Hopkinson House

604-36 S. Washington Square

Unit: 2 BEDROOM, 1½ BATH,  
SOUTHEAST CORNER,  
WITH BALCONY

Sale Price: \$154,900.00

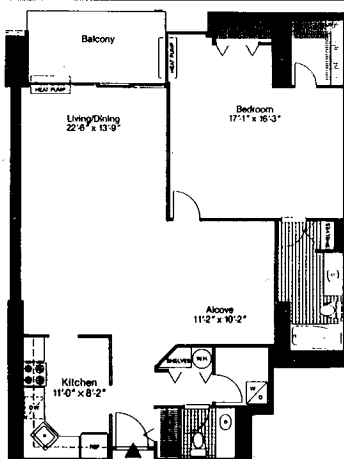


## INDEPENDENCE PLACE

6th & Locust Walk

Unit: 1 BEDROOM,  
EAT-IN KITCHEN,  
PARK VIEW

Sale Price: \$93,500.00

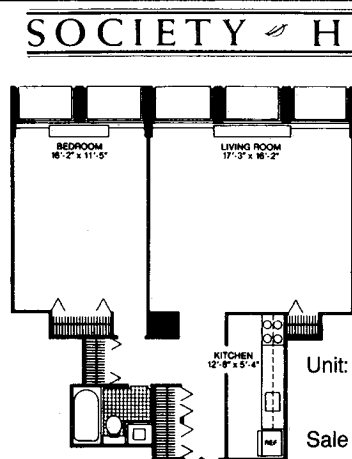


## INDEPENDENCE PLACE

6th & Locust Walk

Unit: 1 BEDROOM,  
w/SLEEPING ALCOVE,  
1½ BATHS, SOUTH VIEW

Sale Price: \$142,500.00



## SOCIETY HILL TOWERS

200-220 Locust Street

**A One Bedroom  
One Bath  
Residence**

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310 Spruce	903 Latimer	901 Lombard	2013 Delancey Place	1734 Addison
426 Pine	316 S. 2nd	402-04 S. 9th	241-3 Queen Street	3A, Ritt. Plaza
237 S. 21st	321 Lawrence	12A-1900 Ritt. Sq.	2500 Dorchester	209 Delancey
239 S. 21st	1023 Annin	937 S. 10th	346 South 15th Street	12B, 1900 Ritt Sq.
241 S. 21st	319 S. 6th	1907-09 Rodman	709-11 Pemberton Street	2126 Delancey
2042 Locust	1827 Delancey	514A S. 12th	220 West Rittenhouse Square -	17A, 220 W. Ritt. Sq.
20 S. 23rd	1810 Delancey	121-123 Cuthbert	Penthouse	2122 Delancey
316 S. 10th	1806 Delancey	#5, 317-19 Monroe	306 S. Smedley	2114 Green
2506 Dorchester	1201-03 Sansom	1936 Spruce	1718 Delancey	406G Croskey
110-12 Delancey	806-10 Reed	1726 Spruce	237 Spruce	812-3 Ritt. Savoy
229D Fulton	2113 Rodman	619-31 S. 11th	104-06 Delancey	607-13 Pine
431 Spruce	13A-1900 Ritt Sq.	607 S. 11th	346 S. 15th	2501 Waverly
312 Cypress	2222 Locust	2228 Locust	1627 Waverly	1918 South
103 Pine	201 St. Marks Sq.	939-41 Carpenter	523 Leithgow	4101-7 Gypsy Ln.
249 Pine	705 Warnock	1311 Fairhill	2411 Waverly	1821 Spruce
137 N. 21st	763 S. 10th	412 S. 11th	314 Queen	231 S. Van Pelt
1213 Waverly	312 Reed	1230 Rodman	1032 Waverly	608 S. 10th
4C-Ritt Plaza	518B S. 12th	1910 Ritt. Sq.	702 S. Washington Sq.	21B, 130 Spruce
2212 Naudain	245 Warnock	269 St. Joseph's	1909D-One Independence Pl.	909 Darien
429 Camac	123 Beck	2122 Spruce	247 Pine Street	2217-9 Delancey
2200 Delancey	735 N. Ringgold	2000-02 Delancey	260 South 9th Street	2C, 1830 Ritt. Sq.
1003-05 Kater	511 Clymer	110 Queen	(Bonaparte House)	16A, 1900 Ritt. Sq.
1232 Latona	205 Head House	129 N. 20th	1010 Kater Street	734 N. Judson
729 S. 22nd	2018 Delancey	2105-06-07 Ritt. Savoy	2411 Waverly Street	320 Lombard
241-43 Queen	1810 Delancey	705-7 Pemberton	314 Queen Street	1001 1/2 Clinton
812 Reed	1531 Rodman	811-19 S. 7th	100 North 22nd Street #116	4610 Spruce
2316 Delancey	337 S. 7th	710 Carpenter	613 Pine Street	721 S. 3rd
6C-Ritt Plaza	16B-Ritt. Plaza	1A, 1317 Rodman	3A, 1317 Rodman	812 Reed
2422 Pine	317 Queen	340 S. Smedley	407 S. 10th	

**AND The Crown Jewel of Rittenhouse Square**  
 1912-14-16 Rittenhouse Square  
 The Estate of Henry P. McIlhenny

### "BEST LISTINGS ALL OVER TOWN!"

**1710 DELANCEY AND 1709 PANAMA:** 2 Delightful Houses for 1 on Chmg Quiet Ritt Sq Street! Arch's Phila Style Twnhse! Liv f/p; Din open to Brick Fountain Gdn; Mod Kit; 3 Bds/3 1/2 Bths; Sundek PLUS Sep CARRIAGE Hse w/GARAGE & DUPLEX Rental Apt. NEW PRICE \$549,500!

**2052 & 2053 CHERRY:** 2 Splendid Corner Victorian Quality Rehabs! EACH w/3 DELUXE APTS & COMMERCIAL/OFFICE Unit & PARKING! Quarry Tile Euro Kits; Hugh Tile Bths; Lndry; Lovely Living Spaces! Finished 30 Days HURRY to RENT-BUY-INVEST in the "Hottest" CC Area — \$425,000 & \$475,000!

**#7, 127-9 CATHARINE: 1ST TIME OPEN!** Queen Village Dble Width Court Hse w/Parking! Liv f/p open to prvt Crtyd; 2 Sty Din; Quarry Tile Ultra Kit; 3-4 Bds/2 1/2 Bths; Sun Deck \$280,000!

**115 N. LAMBERT: Don't Judge A Book By Its Cover** — This is One of THE Most Desirable Family Streets in the BEST Area of the City! (btwn 20-21 st off Cherry) Lovely Liveable Original House w/Garden; Deck; f/ps; Wood Stoves & CHARM! 4 Bds/3 Bths. You Can Make It Yours @ \$289,500!

**2101 DELANCEY AND 2104 CYPRESS:** Splendid 5 Bed English Manor Hse w/Garage; Salon; Din; Lib; Solarium; Grand Bridal Staircase PLUS Sep. Rental DUPLEX in Great Ritt Sq Loc \$795,000!

**1232 LATONA:** (btwn Federal/Wharton) **JUST LISTED! 1ST TIME OPEN!** Newly Rehab'd charming Ital Mkt Area Twnhse! Lg Liv; Huge Eat-In Kit; 2 Bds/1 1/2 Bths; Patio. Perfect Starter Hse-Quiet Family Neighborhood \$49,900!

**2200 St. James Pl:** Fine Victorian Mansion - Rittenhouse Sq Prof Office + 2 Apts \$475,000!

**527 Pine:** Fine Federal Family Townhouse in top Soc. Hill loc \$450,000!

**1317-21 RODMAN:** (Lombard-South) 3 Wonderful Carriage House Condos! Unique Spaces; Euro Kits; wood floors; f/ps; Pkg & Financing Avail! Starting \$74,900!

**736 MANTON:** (btwn Federal/Wharton) Spacious Ital Mkt Area Twnhse w/Liv; Din; Eat-in Kit; 2 Bds; h/w floors & Garden - Excellent Condition - Don't Miss \$52,500!

**A Terrific Elegant NY STYLE APT in 1830 RITT SQ** — Phila's Most Gorgeous Beaux Arts Building!

**413 S. 3rd:** Opp. St. Peters. Handsome 4 Bed Federal w/Fine Dble Parlours 4 f/ps; 4th Flr Studio & 2 Car Pkg \$425,00. Open to Offer!

**8C RITT PLAZA:** Stunning Sophisticated Custom Co-op on the Square! Liv/Din/Lib/Mod Kit/Laundry/PR/2 Bds/Ultra Bath - Perfect \$325,000!

**4507 RITCHIE:** Adorable Twin 2 Bed Starter w/Yard on Single Hill St in "Hot" Developing MANAYUNK 5 Blks from Green & Main Sts — Only \$47,500!

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**260 S. 15TH:** Renvtd 7 Story Office Bldg in Prime Loc — Ideal Legal/Prof Offices \$1.9 Million!

**791-3 S. 2ND: New!** Queen Village Double Prop - Tremendous Opportunity + *Commercial Potential* \$250,000!

**346 S. 15TH:** Hist Cert 4 Story Brick Old World Features Zoned 4 Units - OR Could be Great Single Family Residence — Needs Rehab \$169,900!

**2021 SPRUCE:** 7 Unit Beautifully Rehabbed Apt Bldg in Histg Ritt Sq Brnstne. All Self-Maint Units Gross Inc. \$54,000. Asking \$600,000!

**1940-2 WALLACE:** Crner Bldg. + Car Parking Lot! Smashing Art Msm Area Rehab w/4 Self-Maint Units Gross Inc. \$30,900. PLUS \$6,300 for Pkg. \$595,000!

**246-48 S. 12TH:** 2 Brk Colonial Twnhses Newly Rehabbed into 9 Unit Self-Maint Bldg in Prime Wash West Loc! Gross Inc. \$71,760. Asking \$600,000!

**218 S. 8TH:** Splendid 1796 Hist Townhse w/C-2 Zoning, 4 Huge Apts + Commercial Flr; Colonia Stair & Plaster/Ideal for Single User \$450,000!

**UNIVERSITY CITY:** Prime Property w/2 Corners & 3 St. Frontages - 20,000 + sq ft Lot w/13,000 sq ft Comm Bldg & 30 Car PKG! Can Build to 5 Stories Excellent for Shopping Area/Showroom/Comm Bldg.

**ATTN DVLPRS:** 2.3 Resident acres Fairmount Prk Vic NE Phila \$200,000!

**1513 S. 5TH:** Renvtd Triple +Cash Floor Pot'l in Devlop area \$59,000!

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## Cable TV —

### Will It Ever Happen?

More than 43,000,000 of our fellow citizens pay and presumably enjoy cable television. Some have had this service for twenty years. But not in Philadelphia, where political differences have prevented the awarding of franchises until just recently.

Our Society Hill neighborhood is in Zone 1, some part of which has already been switched on to cable television. Greater Philadelphia Cablevision celebrated the beginning of its service in South Philadelphia's Dickinson Street with appropriate ceremony on July 15th.

Most residential neighborhoods have overhead wires on poles which can be utilized for cable service rather easily, but in Society Hill all utilities are underground. Bell of Pennsylvania charges a rental of \$28,776 per mile a year for its underground space in the city, but only \$200 per mile a year for attaching to their poles where available.

William Kelly, project manager for our area, said that it will require very careful planning on a block-by-block basis to do

what is best for each block in Society Hill. One method, Kelly suggested, could run wires under the sidewalks, which would be replaced, of course. The first Center City service could be either in the Rittenhouse Square or Washington Square areas and construction could begin by the end of this year. The projection is that all of Zone 1 would be wired by September 1990, covering 560 miles at a cost of \$45 million.

A Philadelphia Inquirer article by Neill Borowski seemed to emphasize that an additional benefit of cable television in Center City would be new pavements. This is surely true of many Philadelphia streets, but Society Hill has brick walks, some laid in cement, some in sand. Matching these bricks could present a problem as the old pavers are a different size than the new ones and no longer available.

Those residents who would appreciate a clear TV picture, without snow, horizontal lines, vertical colors and multiple ghosts, hope all the problems can be surmounted by Greater Philadelphia Cablevision and the sooner the better.

## Autumn at Old Pine Community Center

The 1987-88 Old Pine Community Center programs are beginning! The following is a list of programs which will be starting in September and October. Please call the Center at 627-2493 for more details, registration forms, etc.

### For children:

- Afterschool Program (escort service from local schools)
- Basketball League (ages 8-13 years)
- Boy Scouts
- Brownies
- Cub Scouts
- Girl Scouts
- Library Program
- Nursery School for Developmentally Delayed Children
- Three Steps Nursery School - Morning and Afternoon Programs (afternoon program includes escort service from local kindergartens)

### For adults:

- A.M. Exercise
- Jazzercise
- Saturday for Seniors (Volunteers needed to help prepare and serve lunch)
- Volleyball League
- Weight Watchers

The Old Pine Community also has space available for meetings, classes, sports, parties, dinners, etc. The fees charged are based on actual operating costs. If you are planning an event and feel that Old Pine may have suitable space, please call the Center and discuss this with Margaret H. Noyes or the staff 627-2493.



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## NO EXCUSES NOW

On Friday, August 21, the City of Philadelphia brought litter baskets back to the streets of Society Hill. While a few of us remember a time when large, granite based monuments were on nearly every block, most residents have never seen a litter basket in our neighborhood and have come to accept sills and steps lined with beer bottles, half eaten sandwiches, candy and cigarette wrappers along with other unspeakable trash as part of the urban way of life. Tourists not as sophisticated as we simply think we are appallingly dirty.

Things don't have to be that way anymore. There are now places to dispose of street trash. The city has sworn a blood oath to service the baskets daily and it has so far. So if we use the baskets for our street trash, we will see an immediate improvement in our common living space.

The City, however, giveth and can taketh away. The baskets are intended for street trash — NOT HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE. We have asked the sanitation police to monitor the baskets for illegal dumping. Use of the baskets for household garbage can get you a fine as well as the disapproval of your neighbors. And if too many violate the law and use the baskets as their own personal disposals, the City will take the baskets away and we will be back to bottles on the window ledges of Society Hill.

Let's all do our part to make our community clean and litter free.

## At Restoration Fair Editor To Speak

The fourth annual Restoration Fair, to be held in the First Bank of the United States, 3rd Street, on Saturday, October 31, will feature a talk by the editor of *The Old House Journal*, Patricia Poore. She will speak at 1:00 pm on "Paint Stripping and Other Old House Secrets". Her lecture will supplement the information homeowners can receive at the Fair by visiting the booths of restoration artisans and suppliers (including specialists in ornamental plaster, marbleizing, tin ceilings, stained glass, architectural salvage, lace goods, gilding). Besides picking up literature and speaking with the experts on an individual basis, the public will be able to hear 15-minute presentations by exhibitors during "The Exhibitors' Showcase".

The Restoration Fair is a cooperative program of the Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion and the Preservation Coalition of Greater Philadelphia. Both organizations maintain a Restoration Resource Library which the public may use to find the answers to questions about architectural style, restoration techniques and regional craftspeople. For more information, call the Maxwell Mansion (215-438-1861) or the Preservation Coalition (215-735-4701).

## GRAND OPENING FOR MELLON INDEPENDENCE CENTER!

They said it couldn't be done — that demolition of the aging Market Street landmark was the only solution. Now you can be among the first to appreciate the splendid rebirth of a priceless Victorian gem.

You are invited by Mellon Bank East and The Preservation Coalition of Greater Philadelphia to celebrate the incredible transformation of the old Lit Brothers store with a gala cocktail and dinner party on Tuesday October 6th.

Dr. Otto Haas, Chairman Emeritus of the Historical Commission, will be honored on this occasion for his dedicated work in historic preservation. The old Haviland panelling from Independence Hall, which hasn't been seen for years, is being restored and installed within the reception area of the building. Wonderful new shops will be opening for the festivities.

Guests will be greeted at the ribbon-cutting ceremony with fanfares by the Silver Trumpets of Valley Forge Military Academy. Dinner will be catered by Jimmy Duffy, accompanied by a variety of entertainment. All this for \$150./person, to benefit the establishment of an endowment fund for the Preservation Coalition. For further information, call their office at 735-4701.

## ARCHIVIST NEEDS HELP

Are you interested in the story of historic buildings or of old organizations in our city? Would you enjoy searching through old records and helping to piece together the story of Old Saint Paul's Church and of Episcopal Community Services? If so, Norma Harberger would like to hear from you. The archivist for both St. Paul's and ECS headquartered there, she is looking for someone willing to volunteer two or three hours a week to help organize these records. For more information call her at 351-1412 on Tuesdays or Thursdays or at 884-2105 other times.

## ATTENTION GARDNERS

A small group of volunteers is looking for a few more members to help in caring for the historic graveyard surrounding Old Saint Paul's Church, 225 South 3rd Street. They give a Saturday morning in the spring and in the fall for seasonal work and give an hour or two occasionally during the summer months for routine tidying up. A few extra hands would lighten the load for this group and result in a nicer scene for those who wander through the yard. If you are interested contact Norma Harberger at 351-1412 on Tuesdays or Thursdays or call her at home, 884-2105.

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## You and the Police

Officer Sheila Walton, the recently appointed Community Relations officer at the 6th Police District (covering Society Hill), told the SHCA membership last spring that the District is prepared to survey neighborhood property to suggest ways of making it more burglarproof. The police also have engraving tools they will lend to residents who want to put identifying marks on valuables. To take advantage of either or both these offers, call Officer Walton at 686-3380.

## Report Crimes to 911.

It is very important that neighbors report *all* crimes and acts of vandalism (no matter how petty) to the police. They need this information to establish statistics and crime patterns, and perhaps to gauge the number of patrols needed in our area.

**Staff for this issue**— Sally Buell, Ruth Dugan, Nancy Frenze, Ad Kelly, Liz Ostrander and Betty Steele.

**Contributors to this issue**— Aaron Beyer, Ellen Miller and Peggy Noyes.

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

Deadline for articles and ads for the next issue is November 4th. 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.

# DARTS AND LAURELS

**Laurel**—to the miracle-worker who caused the bricks to be replaced and the sidewalk mended at the northwest corner of 3rd and Delancey.

**Laurel**—to the conscientious pet owners who equip themselves with plastic bags and paper towels when they take Rover for a walk.

**Dart**—to the pet-owners who don't, and "let nature take its course."

**Laurel**—to Charles Peterson for his efforts to convene all the past presidents of the SHCA and its predecessor organizations to honor the very first president of the Free Society of Traders in Pennsylvania.

**Laurel**—to Doug McBrearty and the Society Hill Sheraton for naming a public room for Nicholas More, first President of the Free Society of Traders.

**Laurel**—to Elaine Hankin and Bernie Bloom for planting and nurturing several handsome street trees on their property.

**Dart**—to the skate boarders and bicycling freaks who delight in coming *that* close to pedestrians — usually from behind.

**Laurel**—to Deborah Gesensway, co-author, on the publication of her first book, *Beyond Words* (Cornell University Press), which recently received a comprehensive review in the Sunday Philadelphia *Inquirer* Book section.

**Dart**—to the property owner who erected a very ugly illegal garage gate on Stammers Street to go with his very ugly illegal cement block addition.

**Laurel**—to the folks of the 500 block of Delancey Street. Your bright flags and friendly camaraderie brighten the whole community. Long may you wave.

**Dart**—to the people who let the weeds grow and grOW and GROW on their sidewalks and curbs. The weed patches attract litter as well as dog droppings and make the streets look bedraggled and shabby.

**Laurel**—to the Phila. Gas Works and Water and Streets Departments for showing remarkable restraint in the matter of digging up Spruce Street this summer.

**Laurel**—to Myrna Fjeld Baum and those in her SHCA administration who made containment devices mandatory horse carriage equipment. It would have been a messy and aromatic summer without them.

**Laurel**—to the neighborhood SuperFresh for their spiffy new look. Now, if only . . . ah, never mind.

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