

SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

THE RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

Box 3. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19105

March 1988

Proposals:

New Police District South St. Traffic Ban

At the January 20 SHCA Board meeting, Howard Lander, quadrant director and SHCA liaison person to the South Street Neighbors' Association, read two SSNA proposals to SHCA Board members.

The first proposal was for the creation of a new police district from the northern edge of the 3rd District and the southern edge of the 6th District, including Penn's Landing. Board members voted to support this proposal and a draft of the letter to Mayor Goode and Commissioner Tucker reads, as follows:

The South Street Detail, under the command of the 3rd Police District, was disbanded for the winter months despite the appeal of several neighborhood groups that are concerned with the continuing problems of public drunkenness, vandalism, and crowd and traffic control in the South Street corridor. We would again urge you to recognize that the South Street area is no longer a seasonal center of activity, South Street is now a year round attraction and it has year round weekend crowd and traffic problems. South Street is clearly the heart of weekend activity in center City and as such it must receive sufficient police protection on a year round basis. The City desperately needs to develop a positive image among visitors. Decreasing police protection in the South Street Corridor runs counter to this need.

While we believe that there is an immediate need for increased community police activity in the corridor, we also believe that this is a good time to consider longer range plans. **The possibility of creating a**
(continued on page 6)

March 16 Vote on Amendments

The following proposed amendments to the SHCA by-laws will be voted on at the March 16 general membership meeting. Copies of the by-laws will be available at the meeting. Only members in good standing will be able to vote.

It has been proposed that the by-laws of the Society Hill Civic Association be amended, as follows:

I. Amend Article I regarding the Board of Directors, as follows:

A. There shall be three District Directors representing each quadrant.

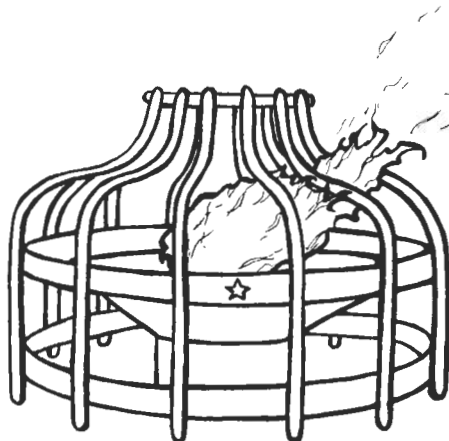
B. One District Director from each quadrant shall be elected each year for a term of three years.

C. There shall be three additional directorships created, to be called Designated Directors. The respective Owners and/or Residents Associations of Hopkinson House, Independence Place Towers and Society Hill Towers shall each designate one of their members to serve a term of one year as a Designated Director. The person so designated shall meet all of the requirements set forth in the by-laws for eligibility to serve on the Board of Directors. No Designated Director shall serve more than three successive years.

D. The dividing line between the northern and southern districts is moved from being immediately south of Spruce Street to being down the middle of Spruce Street.

II. It has also been proposed that, during the three year period of transition, the Board of Directors be given the discretion

(continued on page 6)



I-95 Design Team Begins Nine Month Phase

The design phase for the I-95 Ramps has begun with a schedule of nine months for preliminary design and ten months for design. Construction is scheduled for January 1990.

The Civic Association had an introductory meeting with the design team and assurances were given that our community would be consulted throughout the design process. Further assurances were given that there would be written into the lease agreements restrictions that would guarantee that the I-95 Cover space would forever be public. There had been some indication that this space might be used for commercial activities.

Still to be decided is the community representation on the Interstate Land Management Corporation (ILMC). There are two slots slated for community representatives from all the waterfront communities and the mechanics for their selection has not yet been drafted.

The SHCA I-95 committee of Becky Stoloff, Liz Ostrander and Lorna Katz Lawson will continue to monitor all activity. An official report will be given at the SHCA general membership meeting on March 16 by Project Director Jim McPhillips of Urban Engineers, Inc.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The next general membership meeting of the Society Hill Civic Association is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, at Old Pine Community Center, 4th and Lombard. Refreshments will be served at 7:30 p.m. followed by a discussion of cable TV with Greater Media Cable representatives, Bernie Kitzinger, Bill Kelly and Thomas McMonagle. Guest speaker Jim McPhillips of Urban Engineers will discuss I-95 ramps

and their design phase.

There will be a membership vote and proposed amendments to SHCA by-laws and a McCall school report by Principal Leonard Rovner.

There will also be an update and discussion of the proposal to the city to close South Street to vehicular traffic on weekends and a request for volunteers to monitor during the test period.

Zoning:

Matters of Variance & Time for Presentation

The Society Hill Civic Association Zoning Committee will meet on the third Wednesday of each month, at 7 p.m. except every third month when there will be a meeting of the general membership of the association. Anyone wishing to make a presentation may do so at that time, and should give at least one week notice to the affected neighbors of the intention to make the presentation. All meetings will be conducted at the Old Pine Community Center at 4th and Lombard Streets. Any persons interested in any zoning issue is welcome to attend and participate. For information, contact Steve Skale or Joyce Cole, chairpersons of the committee.

Fourth and Willings Alley.

Aaron Beyer, president of the SHCA, met with the developer, Claude deBotton, and reviewed the blueprints. The plans call for a luxury apartment complex. Mr. deBotton, rather than having one presentation at a general membership meeting, prefers that people who are interested visit the property. Call him at 735-4400 to make arrangements for a walk through to see the progress to date.

334 South 3rd Street

On January 20, 1988 Robert Fryling presented to the Zoning Committee and the

Board of Directors of the Society Hill Civic Association his plans to convert his premises at 334 South 3rd Street from multi-family use to single family residence and requested support for a zoning variance allowing him to build over a small court.

The committee and the board approved the planned use change as consistent with the principle of reducing density in the neighborhood. With regard to the plan to build over the existing small court, the board decided that, if the neighbors immediately adjoining the court have no objection, then the board will not object either. Letters from the neighbors immediately adjoining the court will be submitted by Mr. Fryling, for the record.

Parking Garage at 3rd and Walnut

The SHCA has joined neighborhood groups in an appeal from granting of the variance by the Zoning Board of Appeals that has been filed by Judge Lynne Abraham, Society Hill Towers, Washington Square Townhouse Council and the Society Hill Civic Association versus the Zoning Board of Appeals and Ray Posel as intervener. The principle upon which the resident group is appealing is that there is no basis in fact for granting the variance in the first place. No further information was available at press time.

PARENTING EDUCATION AT McCALL SCHOOL

Through the Education for Parenting program, several classrooms at McCall School are being visited on a monthly basis by community parents and infants. Education for Parenting, a non-profit organization founded in 1978, is a classroom based program designed to sensitize school children to the responsibilities of parenting and caring for another.

A curriculum is followed by the classroom teacher which utilizes parent/infant visits to focus on the interaction between the parent and child and to teach caring and nurturing through the acquisition of attitudes, information and skills. By observing the changes in the infant which occur from month to month, the students learn about human development first hand. McCall teachers report that the program is offering many positive learning experiences in classrooms ranging from kindergarten to 6th, science and home economics.

Anyone interested in learning more about the program or participating as a "parenting resource" with an infant should contact Mrs. Brooks at 438-1255.

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OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Membership Party Features Ms. Murdoch

On March 23 at 7:30 p.m., Ms. Maureen Murdoch, first president of the Society Hill Area Residents' Association (SHARA), a forerunner of the SHCA, will speak at the SHCA membership party sponsored by the Sheraton Society Hill and chaired by Joy Lindy.

Ms. Murdoch who lives in Oceanside, California, is coming to Philadelphia to celebrate Charter Day which will be on March 25 in Society Hill. (Charter Day celebrates the 305th anniversary of the granting of the Charter by proprietor William Penn to the Free Society of Traders in Pennsylvania.) She is acknowledged as one of the first to realize the potential value of the fine old houses on the Hill. She bought and restored a small c. 1810 house on Delancey Street and can recall the early struggle to save old houses from destruction. Ms. Murdoch's sense of humor and fine recall, and the hospitality of the Sheraton is expected to result in a large turnout of members and those who wish to become members.

Party time is from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Look for a flyer closer to party time!

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Cable TV Construction is Progressing

Greater Media Cable of Philadelphia, a service of greater Philadelphia Cablevision, L.P., has begun underground cable construction in Center City Philadelphia. Construction activity, which was launched approximately two months ago, is underway in the area of 4th Street to 7th Street and South Street to Washington Square.

The latest activity has been placing wires underground on Lombard Street between 8th and 9th and north on 9th Street. The wires are blown under the walkway for a distance of twelve feet and a small rectangular box is placed below the cement or brick sidewalk, to the rear of the walk near the property line every twelve feet.

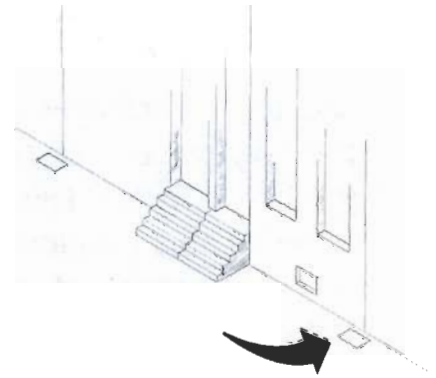
The repair work has been neatly finished, the top of the box is level with the sidewalk, the outline of the box remains visible. This will be the method used throughout the center city area that has no overhead wires.

This activity is the first phase of Greater Media Cable's underground cable construction project for the entire franchise area will involve approximately 78 miles. Within the total underground wiring project, approximately 48 miles of underground wiring are located in center city Philadelphia. This first phase of underground center city construction will involve 15 miles of wiring, scheduled to be completed during 1988.

Construction and information specialists are available to assist residents and offer information regarding the construction activities in this area. They will make every effort to give ample notification prior to the work in a neighborhood.

Persons seeking additional information, or those interested in scheduling a community information meeting, can contact Greater Media Cable at 952-4985.

Greater Media Cable representatives, Bernie Kitzinger, Bill Kelly and Thomas McMonagle will discuss cable TV at the March 16 general membership meeting.



T. J. Martin

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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SH TOWN WATCH *Philadelphia Open House – 1988*

Since Society Hill Town Watch was founded with the help of the SHCA eight years ago, it has attempted to keep the residents of the area informed about where crime is occurring in the neighborhood and about how to protect themselves and their neighbors. In order to further the aims of Town Watch, its president, Kenneth R. Cundy stresses that the group needs more involvement from the community in the form of human and financial resources. Two years ago, SHTW inaugurated publication of *The Lampost*, a quarterly newsletter for the purpose of promoting awareness and providing crime statistics.

At the December meeting of the SHCA, Sheila Walton, community public relations officer for the Sixth Police District, presented a very revealing film to the membership, *Crime in the Street*. She pointed out the importance of Town Watch activities in complementing those of the police and urged community participation in, and support for SHTW. Of particular importance is the "eyes and ears" aspect of Town Watch, that is, the patrolling of streets in the neighborhood by volunteer walkers, for which there is an urgent need. At the present time, there is a need for volunteers for quadrant locations to place radio equipment as well as volunteers to call and schedule walkers.

In order to combine crime prevention efforts, the SHTW and SHCA boards of directors met in February to discuss their mutual concerns. SHTW who initiated the February meeting hopes that such meetings together with cross representation on each board will provide a continuous dialogue between the two groups.

In the meantime, what can you as a resident do to promote Town Watch? If you can volunteer and have interest in any of SHTW's activities, call the informational "hot-line", 625-WALK. Better yet, if you can walk or wish to walk or have any ideas for facilitating Town Watch's purpose, come to one of the SHTW board meetings. They are held the first Monday of every month at Old Pine Community Center at 8 p.m.

The next meeting is March 7.

Society Hill will once again be the focal point of tours for Philadelphia Open House 1988 as it celebrates its 10th anniversary of special House and Garden Tours April 28 through May 15. Two tours are scheduled in Society Hill this year — Saturday, April 30, 1-5 p.m. and Saturday, May 14, 1-5 p.m. Refreshments will be at the Perelman Antique Toy Museum on April 30th, and at the Hill-Physick-Keith House on May 14, with the Man Full of Trouble Tavern open on both days.

Starting with nine tours in 1979, Philadelphia Open House, coordinated by the Friends of Independence National Historical Park, has grown to 37 tours this year.

From showcasing center city Philadelphia in the beginning, the tours now encompass many of Philadelphia's unique neighborhoods, suburban counties and for the first time, POH is going to Princeton.

The Society Hill Houses and Gardens Tours are great magnets on the POH schedule. Its homeowners have opened their doors and graciously welcomed visitors from all over the United States and many foreign countries. There is no greater joy than hearing a visitor express a sense of wonderment upon leaving a Society Hill home at the hidden garden, or the pool, or the roof deck, or the total charm of a trinity, or the depth and width of a mansion.



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HPK PLANT SALE

The Hill-Physick-Keith House will be holding its 20th annual plant sale this spring. Once again local residents will be able to find a large selection of the best in flowering and foliage plants and herbs - all suitable for city gardens.

The dates are: **Friday, April 29 . . . 3 p.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, April 30 . . . 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Sunday, May 1 . . . 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

The sale will be held, rain or shine, in the garden at the rear of the house at 321 South 4th Street. All proceeds from the sale will benefit this historic house.

Police District . . .

(continued from page 1)

new police district to cover the South Street Corridor and Penn's Landing is the most promising proposal yet made for our community. This would unify under one command the various police functions needed in the area. A substation in the corridor would provide a permanent police presence in the area where complaints could be accepted and acted on or referred to other city agencies. Liaison with civic and business groups in the corridor would be easy and routine so that the police would have a good reading of needs and performance through an on-going dialog with the community. With police officers permanently assigned to the new district, they would develop a dedication to the area, something that was often hard to obtain from some members assigned to the South Street Detail, drawn as its staff was from other districts across the city.

We urge you to give serious and immediate attention to this redistricting proposal. We are eager to discuss it with you and other affected civic and business groups, refine it, and to work with you toward its implementation in time for the 1988 tourist season.

The second proposal concerned a test ban on vehicular traffic on South Street from Front to 10th Streets on Friday and Saturday nights from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. The proposal suggests that two representatives be delegated from each neighborhood association in the area affected and that the delegates meet on a regular basis for the purpose of assessing the impact of such a ban.

Quadrant Director Nancy Silber moved that the SHCA Board support this proposal which will be made in the form of a letter to Mayor Goode, for a period of no longer than 90 days, ending no later than June 30. The motion was amended to read that the SHCA support be contingent on the formation of a SHCA committee which would monitor changes in traffic patterns within the boundaries of Society Hill during the trial period. A discussion of this proposal and a report from Howard Lander, SHCA liaison to the February 18 South Street traffic ban meeting of neighborhood associations, including Bella Vista, SSNA, Queen Village and Washington West, will be covered at the March 16 general membership meeting.

SHCA By-laws . . .

(continued from page 1)

to designate, each year for the next three years, one District Directorship in each quadrant to be elected to a three year term, until all District Directorships have been so designated. The proposed amendments to be voted upon at the March 16 meeting are incorporated into the SHCA by-laws. In bold type as follows:

ARTICLE I

Board of Directors

Section 1. Number.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the following persons, each of whom shall be at least 21 years of age and a member of the corporation: (a) the twelve persons elected in the manner set forth in Article I, Section 7 ("District Directors"); plus (b) the four persons elected to serve as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Corporation ("Officers"); plus (c) the person who served as President of the Corporation during the immediately preceding year ("Continuing Director"); (d) **the Three persons designated in the manner set forth in Article I, Section 9 ("Designated Director")**. In the event the person described in (c), above, qualifies as a Director under (a) or (b) above, there shall be no Continuing Director for the term in question.

Section 2. Term and Election.

The [Directors] **Officers** shall be elected at an annual election by the Regular Members ("Annual Election") for a term of one year or until their successors are elected. **One Director from each District shall be elected each year at an annual election by the Regular Members ("Annual Election") for a term of three years or until a successor is elected.** [except that] If at any time after the 6th meeting of the Directors any Director other than the Continuing Director shall have attended less than two-thirds of the meetings of the Directors, that Director's term shall then terminate, provided that that Director may be reinstated by a vote of two-thirds of the remaining Directors at any time prior to the filling of the vacancy as hereinafter provided. Vacancies in the Board of Directors shall be filled by a secret vote of the Regular Members of the District with respect to which the vacancy occurs. Notice of the vacancy and of the date and manner of voting shall be given to members of the affected District at least two weeks prior to the voting. [Persons so elected to the Board shall be elected for a term expiring at the next Annual Election; provided, however, that] A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice President, who shall serve as President for a term expiring at the next Annual Election, and the office of Vice President shall remain vacant until the next Annual Election and provided further that any vacancy created in the position of the Continuing Director shall not be filled during the unexpired portion of the term. No [Director] **Officer** shall serve more than three successive terms except that (i) any [Director] **Officer** elected to fill a vacancy may be elected to serve three successive full terms by the members, and (ii) the Continuing Director may serve one term in such capacity notwithstanding having served three successive terms prior thereto. **No Director shall serve more than one three year term in succession, except that any District Director elected to fill a vacancy, and who shall have served not more than two years in that capacity, may be elected to serve a successive full term of three years by the members.**

Section 7. District Directors.

District Directors shall be elected by members of their respective Districts. There shall be four Districts, determined as follows:

There shall be a Northeast, a Southeast, a Southwest and a Northwest District, which shall be created by establishing (a) a line from north to south down the middle of Fourth Street and (b) a line from east to west [immediately south] **down the middle of Spruce Street.** [so as to include both the north and south sides of Spruce Street within the two northern Districts.]

[The District allocation of the 12 District Directors shall be performed by the Board of Directors and may shift from year to year. A record date of December 31 of the year immediately preceding the next Corporation Year, as defined in Article VI, (which record date shall be October 31 for the year 1975) for determining allocation of the number of Board members for each District will be set as of December 31 immediately prior to the forthcoming Corporation Year. Based on the street addresses of members, a count will be made as of such December 31 and the twelve District Directorships will be allocated on the basis of the percentage of membership residing in each of the four Districts. In the event the application of the formula would result in fractional representation on the Board, such fractions will be rounded up or down, in the discretion of the Board, to the nearest whole number. In no event, however, shall any District have less than 2, nor more than 4, District Directors represented on the Board of Directors.]

Each District shall have three District Directors represented on the Board of Directors.

Section 9. Designated Directors.

The respective Owners and/or Residents Associations of Hopkinson House, Independence Place Towers and Society Hill Towers shall each designate one of their members to serve a term of one year as a Designated Director. The person so designated shall meet all the requirements set forth herein for eligibility to serve as a member of the Board of Directors. No Designated Director shall serve more than three successive years.

For pothole and street repairs, call 686-5508.

SHCA BOARD CHANGES MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We regret any confusion caused by the SHCA Board's shift of the membership renewal year. The SHCA membership year no longer runs from May to May but rather runs one year from the month the resident joins.

Further, to add to the confusion, renewals were not mailed in May, but were distributed door to door in November. Unfortunately, some residents did not receive a renewal package.

Please use the form below to join now and in the future renewals will be mailed to you. If you are not sure that you have joined, please contact us. All those who have joined since last summer should have received a blue acknowledgement card.

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292 St. James Place • \$415,000



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244 Philip Place • \$475,000



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Washington's Statue Is Bronze Cast by Houdon

The statue of George Washington that stands over the sarcophagus of the Unknown Soldier in Washington Square Park was cast in bronze from the original, which is in the capitol of Virginia. In 1785, Thomas Jefferson commissioned French sculptor Jean Antoine Houdon to make the statue. It is the only full-size statue of Washington done from life.

In 1926, the estate of John D. McIlhenney presented the bronze cast to the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The Museum in turn presented the statue to the Fairmount Park Commission to be used for the Washington Square memorial. McIlhenney was at one time president of the Museum of Art.

On June 28, 1957 the statue was dedicated. Presiding at the dedication was Lieutenant Colonel William W. Bodine, Jr. USA (Ret.), Secretary of the Washington Square Association. Secretary of the Navy Thomas S. Gates, Jr. gave the address. At this ceremony the Unknown Soldier's body was reinterred.

The theme of the memorial is stated in a phrase carved in the limestone which forms a backdrop for the statue: "Freedom is a light for which many men have died in darkness." The phrase is attributed to John J. Pullen, a writer on the staff of one of the companies located around the Square.

The recently revived Washington Square Association, formerly known as the Washington Square Improvement Association, has plans to clean and restore this statue of George Washington.

Washington Square Ass'n. Plans for Improvements

The Washington Square Association is alive and well and living and working around Washington Square Park. Dating back to 1913 it revived and celebrated Constitution Day (September 17) in great style.

Barton Lippincott, J.B. Lippincott Company is President. Anthony Segretes, W.B. Saunders Company is Vice-President, Leonard Schlanger, Philadelphia Savings Fund Society is Treasurer, and Dolores Smith, Farm Journal Inc. is Secretary and editor of the new newspaper *Washington Square News*.

The association was fortunate to have a god-father, Charles A. Dickinson-Marks, to get it organized again and now a self-proclaimed communicator, Benjamin E. DeRoy to keep it well informed.

The *Washington Square News* will be published quarterly for its members and there are great plans for the improvement of Washington Square Park this spring.

You may be interested to know that the flagstones that were replaced and refurbished on the south side of the park cost \$100,000. The cost of replacing and relaying all the damaged flagstones is estimated at \$1,000,000.

Membership for students and senior citizens is \$10.; for individuals \$15. and for families \$25. Mail checks payable to Washington Square Association to Cathy Kavalovich, Hopkinson House, Apt. 602 - Washington Square South, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

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Society Hill Civic Association Board and General Meeting Schedule for 1988

All meetings will be held at Old Pine Community Center.

Wednesday - March 16, 1988

- Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- Membership Refreshments - 7:30 p.m.
- General Membership - 8 p.m.

Wednesday, March 23, 1988

- Membership Party, Sheraton SH 7:30 p.m.
- Refreshments
- M. Murdoch, Guest of Honor - 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday - April 20, 1988

- Zoning Committee Meeting - 7 p.m.
- Board Meeting - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - May 18, 1988

- Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- Membership Refreshments - 7:30 p.m.
- General Membership (Board Elections) - 8 p.m.

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.

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Address _____

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The Changing Face of Society Hill



(photo by Glad Schlossman)

The many babies who presently ride around Society Hill in their small carriages, six years from now will either have moved or will be riding to private school in small buses or vans.

The "pioneers", as Nancy Shomer likes to call the young couples who bought houses in Society Hill in the late 60's and 70's, poured buckets of money and used buckets of paint in the old houses they came to love. They fought for playgrounds, parks, better traffic patterns, cleaner streets and all the things that would improve their neighborhood.

The young couples became young families with a child or two and enjoyed the advantages of living within walking distance of shopping, day-care centers, gym classes, swimming and schools. The city itself added its many cultural institutions. Without long commuting trips to jobs, families had more shared time. Very few wanted to leave Society Hill.

Yet an outflow of residents began, for some of the reasons that Nancy Shomer remembers. Job transfers and people in rented dwellings would leave, of course, but families who had put their hearts in their homes were leaving too. Families that had grown and prospered wanted a larger house. But they learned they could not afford to "move up" in Society Hill. The price of houses had dramatically increased.

Beside price, other elements would play a part in the decisions that faced many young families. Although priced out of the "moving up" market in Society Hill, they could still realize a substantial profit by selling their property. In addition, the cost of private school and in many cases bus fees would end if they moved to a good school district in the suburbs. Most school age children had been attending private schools either locally or in the suburban areas

as a result of numerous and lengthy teacher strikes.

Nancy Silber, the mother of two sons, 5½ and 1½ years old, thinks that the situation today is so different that the result will be different as well.

Beginning in the mid 80's prices for housing in Society Hill again began to soar. Professional couples, each pursuing careers important to them, became aware of the many advantages for themselves and their children that the Society Hill area provides. They were willing and able to pay the cost of housing, of private school and of summer camp.

Day care centers for 1½ to 6 year olds have become desperately important. One center that limits its care to 35 received two hundred applications. But it is when the youngsters are approaching first grade that serious decisions on schooling confront the parents.

Both Nancy Shomer and Nancy Silber agree that most of the more recently arrived families are here to stay. They will stay in Society Hill, for the many advantages, for the ease of living — and their children will go to private schools.

Staff for this issue— Charles Bangert, Sally Buell, Ruth Dugan, Nancy Frenze, Ad Kelly, Timothy Martin, Liz Ostrander, Renee Saul and Betty Steele.

Contributors to this issue—Ken Cundy, Sandy Meyer, Charlotte Shapiro, Steve Skale, Gladys Schlossman and Becky Stoloff.

Business Staff—Rosemarie Scarpulla, Advertising, and Keith Straw, Billing.

Deadline for articles and ads for the next issue is April 1. Articles may be delivered to staff members or mailed to *The Resident Newsletter*, Box #3, Philadelphia, PA 19105. For advertising rates and information, contact Rosemarie Scarpulla, 925-3003.

Tree Lovers To The Fore!

Have you seen the street trees on South Street between 4th and 5th Street when they are in bloom in the Spring? They provide a rare city street scene with their white flowers and almost meet over the street. These trees, as well as all city street trees, are the responsibility of the property owners but are under the control of the Fairmount Park Commission.

Society Hill has many dead, dying and seriously ill trees that detract from our landscape. Now is the time to seek help. James Donaghy, supervisor of Fairmount Park Commission, District #2, which includes Society Hill, suggests written notification of the exact location of the trees in trouble.

The department will inspect and notify the owner, remove the tree and if funds are available at the time replace the tree. Like all budgets, theirs is limited.

Mr. Donaghy also advises that if a group of residents raised money to replace a good number of trees he was sure the department could obtain trees suitable to city life for a reduced price both for the trees and the contract to plant them.

Address letters to:

ATTENTION:

DISTRICT #2
Fairmount Park Commission
Memorial Hall
West Park
Philadelphia, PA 19131

DARTS AND LAURELS

Dart—to the city for the axel and tire busting potholes on heavy traffic bearing 5th Street.

Laurel—to the city department that replaced the 5th & Spruce traffic signal so promptly after it was destroyed in a traffic accident.

Dart—to the Streets Department for not replacing the street sign at 7th and Spruce that was knocked down over a month ago, also, the fire hydrant that was broken at the same corner and was not replaced by the city Water Department, despite many phone calls to both departments. Residents in the area hope that both sign and hydrant will have been replaced by the time you read this *Newsletter*.

Laurel—to Old Pine Community Center for its library program for neighborhood children.

Dart—to the drivers who use Manning Street as a short-cut at high speeds.

Laurel—to Charles Dickinson-Marks, manager of Hopkinson House, and all the movers and shakers who revitalized the *Washington Square Association* to include greater neighborhood participation in park restoration and maintenance.

Dart—to the money-eating *Inquirer* newspaper box at 3rd and Spruce Streets. It doesn't open to give you a paper and -it doesn't give you back your change. A call to the *Inquirer* will get your money back to you, but the box remains inoperative.

Dart—to the drivers (both of trucks and cars) who have turned Pine and Lombard Streets into a raceway between rivers.

Blooper department

The following boo boo was reprinted in *The New Yorker*, February 1, page 92.

*OOPS. Since we made the boo boo here, here is where we'll correct it. First District Councilman-elect James Tayoun was incorrectly quoted last week as saying at the Society Hill Civic Association meeting, "Yeah, it's a problem.

Now even the throwaways have boxes out there." What the councilman did say, according to him, was "Yes, It's a problem. Now even the throwaways have boxes out there." The *South Street Star* regrets any misunderstanding that may have resulted from the mistake. — *Philadelphia South Street Star*.

Yeah.

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- Deluxe 1 bedroom, balcony \$115,000

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The Philadelphian

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Society Hill Towers

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