



Box 3, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19105

MARCH, 1989

SWEEPING PROPOSALS

Cleaning and maintaining the streetscape in Philadelphia is a difficult and increasing challenge facing citizens, government, business and neighborhood leaders. Alexander Hoskins, commissioner of the Department of Streets, is proposing to institute an innovative new citywide program that may provide solutions, in spite of the City's current budget crunch. This new proposal, patterned along a similar sanitation program in New York City, is to be called, **SWEEP** (Streets and Walkways Environmental Enforcement Program). The program, which is still in its planning phase, entails an expansive educational effort backed by enforcement reform.

Like other major cities, Philadelphia's police have traditionally been responsible for enforcement of sanitation laws. But the police and courts are strained by dwindling resources. Since sanitation enforcement is by necessity a low priority, the number of violations cited is low, and lack of compliance with sanitation laws is often the outcome. SWEEP intends to shift from police and the courts the responsibility for non-criminal aspects of sanitation enforcement by creating a "ticketing" force and an administrative review process. It is hoped that this reallocation of responsibilities will allow the police and courts to focus on more serious offenses, such as illegal dumping.

Commissioner Hoskins assures us that SWEEP's creative approach will pay for itself with revenues obtained from the ticket-

(continued on page 11)

Jefferson Incinerator:

A BURNING ISSUE

Jefferson Hospital's proposed on-site incinerator is a very real threat, requiring the same seriousness of purpose that our community gave to recent problems, such as the Sports Bar. Dioxin, heavy metal, and chlorine emissions in the air from such an incinerator (located at 10th and Sansom Streets) will be invisible but deadly. Over time these emissions can result in our community becoming a footnote in a learned article on high cancer rates in a localized area.

At a general membership meeting of the SHCA last fall, the hospital's representatives made a pledge that if the community were opposed to the incinerator, the project would be withdrawn. We, therefore, anticipated good faith by the hospital in responding to our concerns. Following the hospital's presentation, a SHCA committee was formed, headed by Dr. Bernard Hamel, who is a professor at Drexel University and

an expert in solid waste disposal technology. As a community resident, he alerted us to the problems posed by such an incinerator, and after a review of the matter, the board voted to oppose the hospital's project.

Our initial approach had been to deal with Jefferson in a low-key manner, and to that end, SHCA President Aaron Beyer wrote a letter to the Executive Vice President of Jefferson University Hospital informing him of our community's decision. Dr. Hamel then held a meeting with hospital representatives, headed by Martha Anderson, Jefferson's environmental specialist. Dr. Hamel expressed to the hospital group our community's rationale for opposing the project, citing technical arguments.

However, in an interview with Jonathan Sherk of the *Center City Star*, published February 2, Ms. Anderson asserted that no community opposition existed. Ms. Anderson's statement was made in spite of both Aaron Beyer's official letter to the hospital and Bernie Hamel's meeting, where he left no doubt as to community opposition. In the published interview, Ms. Anderson clearly chose to ignore our technical objections and indicated that they expect to be awarded a permit from Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Resources (DER). According to the newspaper article, the hospital also intends a very aggressive construction schedule, citing August as a possible starting date. It appears clear, from this point on, that Jefferson is acting in a

(continued on page 2)



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

All SHCA board and general membership meetings are held on Wednesdays at Old Pine Community Center, 4th and Lombard Streets. The next general meeting on March 15 will begin with refreshments at 7:30 pm, provided by The Gallery at Abbots Square. The agenda will include important updates on the Jefferson Hospital incinerator, the New-

Market property, and SHCA's participation in the City's spring cleanup day. The meeting begins at 8 pm; the board meeting precedes it at 6:30 pm. The following board meeting will be on April 12 at 8 pm. On May 17 there will be a board meeting at 6:30 pm; refreshments at 7:30 pm and a general membership meeting at 8 pm.

OPEN MEETING FOR ALL PHILADELPHIA CITIZENS

Mayor Goode has scheduled a "Town Meeting" for Saturday, March 18, from 10 am to noon, at Jefferson Alumni Hall, 1020 Locust Street. All citizens are invited to attend.

SHCA has invited Mayor Goode to the general meeting on May 17. He has not responded by press date. Look for further notices.

Jefferson Incinerator: (continued from page 1)

manner that will require from us more assertive and active opposition.

SHCA's opposition to this environmental threat is built on the technical argument of the heterogeneity of the waste stream to the hospital incinerator. According to Dr. Hamel, who made these points at his meeting with the Jefferson group, the waste stream will include such diverse items as surgical and emergency room wastes (which can be 50 percent plastic, principally polyvinyl chloride), household-type garbage waste, and laboratory waste. The high plastics content in hospital waste can be a potent source of dioxin production in the incineration process. In fact, municipal trash, which is only one to two percent plastic, can give rise to significant dioxin production, while hospital waste can be expected to average 20 percent or more in its plastics content. Dioxin is probably one of the most potent known carcinogens, and even minute amounts can be extremely dangerous. It is particularly frightening as an emission, since no state-of-the-art technology is available to the hospital for continuous dioxin stack measurement. This heterogeneity of the waste stream makes

permitting from the DER very problematic, because when testing, dioxin samples are usually taken over a fairly short time interval — and the permit might be given for a waste stream that produces only small amounts of dioxin. Over a period of a day or week, the waste stream content will vary so greatly as to negate the validity of any limited time period dioxin testing. Given the present impossibility of continuous dioxin monitoring, we have an untenable situation. SHCA is embarking on a strong response to this threat, and we ask our neighbors to recognize that we face a very serious public health crisis if we allow the hospital to proceed.

NEWS AT PRESS DATE

On February 8 the *Welcomat* featured an article on the subject. Evelyn Hess spoke to Bernie Hamel, who provided her with both technical and pertinent information regarding this association's contact with Jefferson. Ms. Hess spoke to Martha Anderson, and the paper reported the following: "As far as Anderson says she knew, the Society Hill Civic Association members had voiced concerns, but the group was not actually

against the incinerator." This is false, since Society Hill, as represented by our civic association, has gone *on record* to oppose the incinerator. Anderson and other Jefferson administrators are fully aware of this.

(The December issue of *The Resident Newsletter* featured the board's opposition on the front page.) In addition, Anderson said that although it is true that hospital waste is about 30 to 40 percent plastic and a large proportion polyvinyl chloride, Jefferson plans to put into their incinerator "only about 26 percent hospital-type waste" by carefully monitoring their trash. Dr. Hamel's response is: "Who's going to monitor those trash bags and keep full and accurate records of what is being burned? It's not practical, and there's too much room for human error!"



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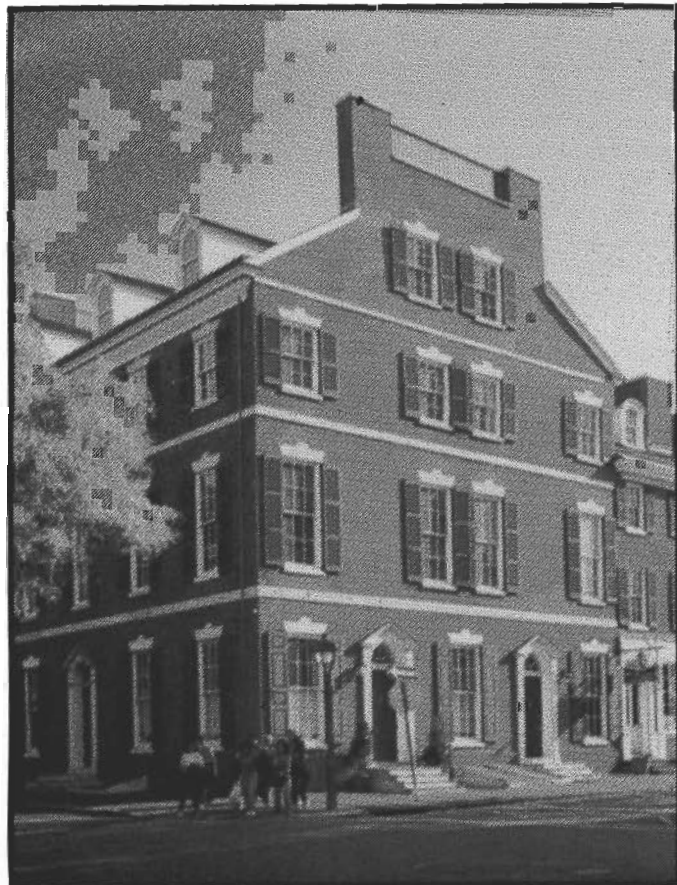
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POH TOUR TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW

All roads will lead to Society Hill on Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, May 7, when the 11th annual PHILADELPHIA OPEN HOUSE - House and Garden Tours will spotlight this area. Society Hill homeowners have been welcoming visitors into their homes during Philadelphia Open House, coordinated by Friends of Independence National Historical Park, since the first year when there were only nine tours in the Center City area, and now, with 35 tours, Philadelphia Open House greets visitors in 28 different neighborhoods and from Princeton to Chester County.

The Society Hill House and Garden Tours are among the most popular on the POH schedule. There is a warmth and wonderful sense of "neighborhood" as visitors from all over the United States and many foreign countries wander along the cobblestoned streets and charming walkways into homes on the tour identified by the red and white POH flags in doorways.

ZONING MATTERS

The following zoning items are currently before the Zoning Committee:

1. Claude DeBottone's project on 4th Street between Willings Alley and Walnut Streets: A proposal to convert the existing commercial building to approximately 23 rental units. It appears that a zoning variance is not required, but the committee is meeting with the developers and neighbors to have design and construction questions answered.

2. The fence on the south side of Independence Place and at the Society Hill Club appears to exceed the maximum allowable height, with barbed wire at the top. The committee is making efforts to schedule a meeting with neighbors and representatives from Independence Place and the Society Hill Club. The committee intends to discuss alternatives that comply with the law but which will still offer Independence Place and the club the kind of security they desire.

3. The 304-06 S. American Street property proposes to erect a one-story addition to the rear of the single-family residence. This property is on the February agenda of the Zoning Committee, and a presentation by contractors will be given to neighbors to determine if there are any objections. The committee will then vote to decide on whether or not to object to this proposed addition.



(Photo courtesy of POH)

PHILADELPHIA OPEN HOUSE — The 11th annual House and Garden Tour runs from April 28 through May 14. It has expanded from nine tours in the city to 35 tours in 28 different neighborhoods. Refreshments on Saturday, April 29, will be at the magnificently restored 18th century home of Samuel Powel, mayor of Philadelphia just before and immediately after the Revolution. Pictured above is a view from the Powel House garden looking east.

SOUTH STREET TASK FORCE ON THE MOVE

The South Street Task Force, the cooperative organization so vital to the well-being of our community, is alive and well and continues to meet monthly.

The following committees have been established: By Laws, Planning and Coordination, Beautification, Security and Code Enforcement, Transportation and Large Population Events.

Each committee will review, enforce and recommend courses of action on matters within its jurisdiction. Under consideration are: surveys of the South Street area by Drexel University students, redesign of street barricades and remote parking with shuttle bus transportation.

Membership on these committees is not restricted to Task Force members, and anyone who would either like to serve on a com-

mittee or would like to have input should contact Becky Stoloff (627-4910).

An area-wide Clean-Up day has been scheduled by the Task Force for April 15. The appearance of our neighborhoods is important to those who live here and to the image our visitors take away with them. Full details of Clean-Up Day will be disclosed at the March general membership meeting of the SHCA.

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 without depleting its treasury. We urge our readers to patronize our advertisers and to mention to them that you appreciate their support.

Blumenfelds Meet With Area Residents

In as carefully orchestrated a public relations performance as you are ever likely to see before a civic group, the Blumenfelds—charismatic son, Eric and neighborhood-loving dad, Jack—mended some fences when they staged a town meeting on January 12 at the Old Pine Community Center. The Blumenfelds, (developers of Abbotts Square) rebounding from a rejection by the Liquor Control Board of their liquor license application for a Sports Bar, invited the neighbors who had fought the liquor license application ferociously, to come up with suggestions for another use of the 15,000 square feet of commercial space now vacant at Abbotts Square.

The suggestions were wonderful, very imaginative, and the most popular items were the least commercially feasible. You're not surprised, are you? Just think about the convenience of a branch of the public library or a post office on South and 2nd or the excitement of a bookstore cafe on the order of the one at Dupont Circle in D.C. How about a series of artists' galleries with the artists working on their creations in full view after the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, Virginia? Other retail uses enthusiastically suggested to the developers included a

Williams-Sonoma, an *I. Goldberg*, a *Sharper Image*, a department store, a family restaurant, an upscale health spa, a multi-screen movie theater, a children's furniture or children's clothing store, a maternity clothes outlet, a *Hechingers*, or a dessert and coffee cafe with performing waiters and waitresses.

But, as Eric Blumenfeld explained, the South and 2nd Street location lacks offices or an anchor store and the kind of public transportation that brings people to the area for daytime shopping and for lunch. Without daytime traffic, he explained, most if not all of the suggested business operations just could not make it.

Whether any of the suggested uses will ever be pursued by the Blumenfelds was not up for discussion at this meeting. Also never addressed was why the Blumenfelds chose to develop in a low-density area with virtually no offices, the kind of space that demands high density and occupied offices to prosper.

The neighbors were exhorted to support South Street shops — especially *Sassafras* (one of three stereo stores in the immediate area). No one speculated on how much hi-fi equipment a household can use, but great

emphasis was put on the "right people," with the idea that if the "right people" were seen shopping all over the place, they would drive the drug dealers away and retake the street! The Blumenfelds were reminded by a member of the audience that it was the "right people" who were driven off the street in the first place. There are those who would add that this was accomplished by the greed of developers and real estate companies. Jeff Rush, Queen Village Neighbors Association president, summed up for the "right people." With a barely perceptible wag of his finger and a paraphrase of JFK's over-worked admonition, he counseled the Blumenfelds, "Ask not what your community can do for you, but what you can do for your community."

Staff for this issue—Charles Bangert, Sally Buell, Ruth Dugan, Nancy Frenze, Bernice Hamel, Sherrill Joyner, Adeline Kelly and Carolyn Mooney.

Business Staff—Rita Cohen and Betty Steele

Deadline for the May 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 Rita Cohen, 238-9976.

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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OUR MAILBAG . . .

To the Editors:

As a follow-up to the last Civic Association general meeting, I would like to clarify some of the remarks I made concerning neighborhood support of local businesses.

The gist of what I said was that if we don't support what we have, we may well get something worse. I did not mean that we should support places which we don't like—but if we initially did like them, why not try some constructive criticism directly to the owners or managers? Whenever I have done this, the reaction has been very positive.

Of course, this won't always work, but this is our community, and I, for one, want to keep it as good as it can possibly be. That's why I've been involved in SHCA for as long as I've lived here: it's called "enlightened self-interest."

It's always been very easy to criticize from the sidelines—but unless you really try to change what you don't like, you have no cause to complain when things happen that make you unhappy or angry. This goes for participation in civic activities, as well as supporting local businesses. If you don't like what SHCA is doing, come join us to make things better. If you don't like what a local businessman is selling, tell him before you take your business elsewhere.

I think we have the best neighborhood in the city, and I think that is why we should all work to keep it that way.

Joy C. Lindy

To the Editors:

We want to express our appreciation to the Messrs. Blumenfeld for the recent dialogue about Abbotts Square. We also want to welcome all our neighbors, old and new to the area.

However, as Society Hill residents since 1963, we'd like to remind people that those of us who have lived here for many years took financial risks that were just as important to us as the Blumenfeld's are to them. We made this neighborhood "chic" and having done so, we'd like to know who are the "right people" the Blumenfelds wish to attract. To paraphrase, haven't we met them and they are us?

Time and tourists march on bringing revenue to what we hope will continue to be a special area of residential and commercial use appropriate to "the most historic square mile" in the nation.

Bob and Tillie Speck

To the Editors:

During the first week of November of 1988, the courtyard house at 609-D Lombard Street was torn down brick-by-brick. The house was one of two which stood in the courtyard behind 607/609 Lombard Street. The Historical Commission estimated that it was built before 1850. It was one of the few remaining examples in Society Hill of the courtyard houses of its kind. Nineteenth century maps show the house and its courtyard immediately adjacent on the south of the James Forten Public School, said to be the first black public school in the country, which stood across 6th Street from the Mother Bethel AME Church.

The area around 6th and Lombard was a hub of the free black community in Philadelphia before the Civil War. At that time, Addison Street was known as "Minster" street, and there was a black Baptist church in the middle of its 600 block. Together with its twin and the row of houses at 611-629 Lombard Street, 609-D Lombard was one of the few old houses remaining in the 600 block between Lombard and Addison Streets. However modest it may have appeared in later years, the house was surely at the center of a lot of history, and its loss is a loss to us all.

In recent times, the house and courtyard had been restored by the Octavia Hill Association as part of the neighborhood redevelopment during the 1960's and 1970's. Since it was in Society Hill and within a National Historic District, it should have been protected for posterity. Unfortunately, it had been known only as one of the buildings on larger properties and had apparently never been recorded as a separate structure for preservation. Except for photographs in the 611 Lombard file at the Historical Commission which show the house as it stood in 1959 before restoration, no one seems to have been aware that it still existed ... except those of us who cared about it as a part of the integrity of its courtyard and the neighborhood.

In the autumn of 1988, a developer began a project called "600 Addison" and scheduled the house for demolition. It now appears that no one who sponsored or approved the demolition did the diligence that might have indicated historical significance. After the demolition permit was posted in October and the oversight became apparent, the developer did not respond to a neighborhood petition and calls from Councilman James Tayoun, from the Historical Commission, and from the Preservation Coalition. The house is now

gone, leaving only its twin as a reminder of an ill-advised architectural amputation.

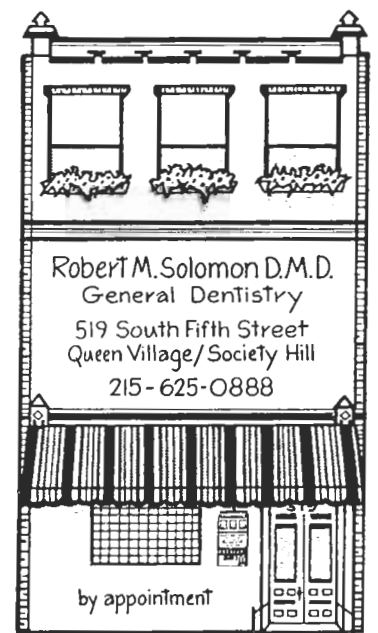
During the ten days between the time I learned of the demolition plan and the time that demolition began, I tried very hard to find a way that the house could be saved. I failed, and for that I apologize to everyone who cares about heritage preservation. I wish to thank the people who tried to help and to express my disappointment with the others. I would have thought that in this enlightened age we would be more respectful of heritage, especially in Society Hill and around the Mother Bethel site. The architecture of any respectful new development could have been greatly enhanced by using the unique old courtyard with its houses and trees intact to complement new structures. As it is, I think we have been poor stewards of the heritage around us and suffered an unnecessary loss. I can only hope that this report will serve to strengthen our resolve to preserve and protect the historical environment of greater Philadelphia.

D.H. McNeil

MUSEUM AMBASSADORS

VOLUNTEERS are needed at Atwater Kent Museum, the history museum of Philadelphia. The Education Department of Atwater Kent is seeking **VOLUNTEERS** to welcome visitors and to present them with a short orientation talk, as well as answer any questions they might have regarding museum exhibits and local attractions.

A training program will be offered for those who qualify for the position. For more information call: Teddi Cunningham, Volunteer Corps Coordinator or Amy Osaki, Curator of Education. 922-3031 or 625-9778.





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Good Music, Good Friends, Good Food



(Photos by Nathan Bowden)



(photo by Bernie Cleff 1989)
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BISTRO ROMANO — (From left) Norm and Kitty Wallin, Jane and Tom Boyd, Aaron Beyer, SHCA president and Babette Josephs, democratic state representative, district 182 at the annual SHCA Membership Party which was sponsored by the restaurant located at 120 Lombard Street. Michael Romano Granada, owner of the **Bistro Romano**, was a most generous host providing a variety of good food (outstanding tempura) and an open bar for all SHCA members in good standing. Thanks to Mr. Granada for his generosity and fine performance.



The Friends of Robert Smith celebrated the 266th birthday of the renowned colonial architect on January 14. The celebrants convened at Carpenters' Hall for toasts and lunched at the First Bank where the Philadelphia Scottish Choir (above) led by Tom Paton, entertained. The party then moved to the Visitors' Center where harpist Mary Tooke (top above) played and sang folk songs of bonnie Scotland. Beatrice B. Garvan, curator of American art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, gave an illustrated lecture, "Scotland on the Schuylkill: Captain John Macpherson's Mount Pleasant." Finally, at St. Paul's churchyard, a wreath was laid on the grave of Captain Macpherson, a contemporary of Robert Smith.



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TV CABLE—HERE, THERE, EVERYWHERE

Cable television finally made it to Society Hill. For most residents, the advent of Greater Media Cable has brought a clear, bright TV picture of many and varied channels, provided by friendly, courteous installers. Now that the bricks are back in place and the cement has dried, a few blips have been reported.

Some residents report that the sight of black cable climbing the front of brick facades, built in the 18th Century, is offensive to them and contrary to the original limitations set forth for this area in the 1950's. A survey of involved homes has been prepared by SHCA, and they will be meeting with the Historical Commission to explore alternative methods for solving this problem.

Tom McMonagle, installation manager for Greater Media Cable, reported that customers wanting TV cable in second and

third floor front areas produced installation problems. Putting cable up the front wall was an alternative to the much more costly method of pulling the wire through floors and walls. Decisions must be made by the owners. For rental properties, agreements signed by the owner were obtained. Where a tenant purported to be the owner, and the actual owner later objected, all installation wiring was removed.

When questioned about the possibility that other small, out-of-the-way areas in Society Hill might have been overlooked, Mr. McMonagle, as well as Mr. Kelly, overall construction manager, were very positive that all who wished to have cable service here would have it before they completed wiring the neighborhood. After that, Greater Media Cable will retain their own service group for maintenance and removal service.

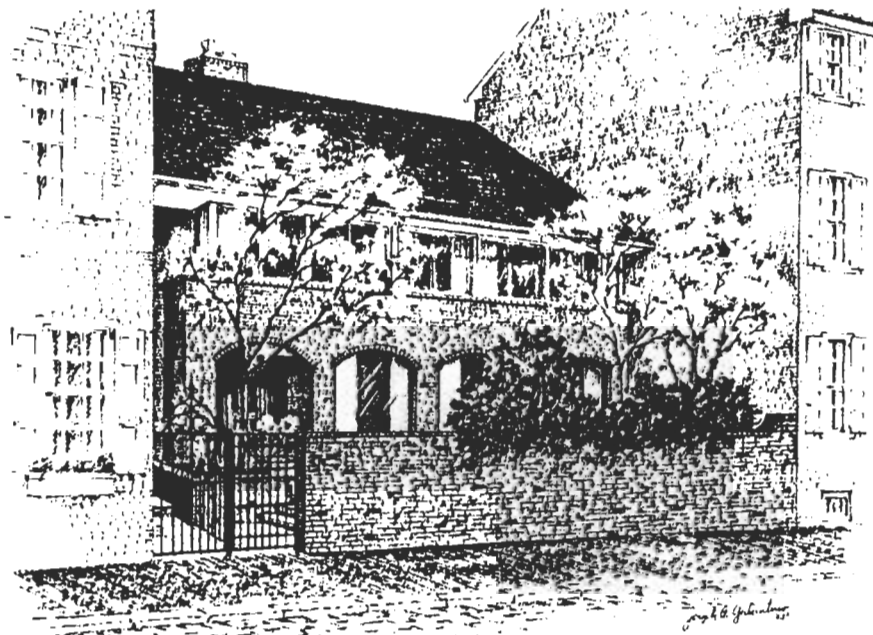
HPK HOUSE PLANT SALE SCHEDULED APRIL 28-30

The Hill-Physick-Keith House will be holding its annual Plant Sale again this spring. Local residents will be able to find a large selection of the best in flowering and hanging plants, bedding plants and herbs — all carefully chosen with the city gardener in mind.

The dates are:

Friday, April 283 - 6 pm
Saturday, April 2910 - 6 pm
Sunday, April 3010 - 6 pm

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



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(Photos by Susan Herskovitz)

1989 Inaugural Parade — (From left) Leon Clemmer, past president of the Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia, Peggy Duckett, Miracle of Philadelphia chairman, Hobbie Pollard, president of the Carpenters' Company, Jim Connelly, woodworker, and Rick Herskovitz, architect, both members of the Architectural Woodwork Institute, Delaware Valley Chapter stand in the shadow of the majestic Grand Federal Edifice. The float was sponsored by CoreStates Financial Corporation of Philadelphia and the horses courtesy of H.J. Heinz Company.

GRAND FEDERAL EDIFICE RIDES AGAIN!

Through the efforts of some Philadelphia area residents including Society Hill's own Peggy Duckett and Richard Herskovitz, a remarkable and historic float represented Philadelphia in the Pennsylvania segment of 1989's American Presidential Bicentennial Inaugural Parade.

Peggy Duckett encouraged Inaugural Chairman Peggy Korth to issue an invitation for the inclusion of the Grand Federal Edifice, a 36 foot high, 17 foot wide structure symbolizing the union of states under the "New Roof" of the Constitution. Thirteen Corinthian columns representing the original states stand tall and equal under the Constitution. The dome with 13 stars representing the Constitution is surmounted by a temple of the immigrants and crowned by the figure of *Plenty* holding a cornucopia in

guarantee of the abundance and prosperity possible under the new Constitution.

The Grand Federal Edifice, was originally designed by proto architect-master builder William Williams of the venerable Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia (the oldest craft guild in America — founded in 1724). The structure has had reincarnations in 1887 and 1987 to honor the Constitution so its inclusion in this year's Bicentennial Inauguration was most appropriate, as well as dramatic and a bit hectic!

Peggy Duckett received the invitation to participate in this year's Parade just one month before it happened and, fortunately, on the same day the Carpenters' Company had its meeting. The Carpenters' Company and the Architectural Woodwork Institute, Delaware Valley Chapter, had coordinated

the work of 11 different companies to rebuild the \$100,000 structure privately for the Constitution Day parade in 1987 and now they assumed the task of repairing, transporting, reassembling, and disassembling, including rebuilding the float bed since the original no longer existed. Society Hill architect, Richard Herskovitz, president of the Alexander Woodworking Company, masterminded the reassembly which was accomplished in two days on site in front of the *Air and Space Museum*.

The only unplanned happening was the emergency reshoeing of a 1,000 pound Percheron horse, one of eight pulling the float, who had stepped on his own shoe five minutes before the Grand Federal Edifice began emerging into Pennsylvania Avenue!

Here's the best reason to come to Midtown.

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FIFTH STREET MERCHANTS: GOOD NEIGHBORS?

They're such nice people. Always offering a smile; sometimes the banter of easy familiarity with regulars; at a minimum the automatic but sincere "Have a nice day."

The merchants on 5th Street in our neighborhood do more than provide welcome conveniences to busy lifestyles. They soften the hard edge of the impersonal commercial transaction. When you pick up your coffee and drop off your dry cleaning on the way to work; when you have a great Greek meal just a short walk from home after a hard day; when you linger over brunch at the deli on a late Saturday or Sunday morning, you feel like you live in a friendly town where the customers and shopkeepers are neighbors sharing the same pride in the community.

Of course, if your walk to work, dinner or brunch takes you past Reese Street (Yes, that little alley behind the stores between Cypress and Delancey is a dedicated street!), any afterglow of neighborly feeling is quickly dispelled. Rubbish and garbage is spilling from dumpsters. Trash is strewn all over the street and sidewalks. Back doors of

kitchens are left standing open, rock music blaring from inside. Cars and trucks of every size and description are parked on every inch of the street, disregarding the fact that this is a "no parking" street. Delivery trucks to all three premises come and go all day, lining up in Cypress Street, blocking traffic and blocking some residents from access into or out of their garages and parking spaces.

These shopkeepers have turned that area of our neighborhood into a health and safety hazard, and the worst kind of urban eyesore. Any friendly neighborhood feelings emanating from proprietors to customers is now understood as simply "PR" or maybe "BS," masking their indifference to the fact that they work where we live.

There are other "neighborhood" delis. There are other laundry and dry cleaning establishments. There are always restaurants. Neighbors support neighbors, but our 5th Street merchants just don't act neighborly. They seemed like such nice people.

Sweeping (continued from page 1)

ing. The program will call for:

- a non-police sanitation education/enforcement unit within the Streets Department
- an administrative hearing process which would adjudicate sanitation violations without clogging the courts.

SWEEP will require the support of all communities in a give-and-take relationship. So we must continue to do our part by cooperating with trash collection services in the following specific ways:

- The city will clean the street from curb to curb, but it is **our responsibility to keep the sidewalk free of litter in front of our homes and businesses.** (Philadelphia Code 10-704)

- **Never use public litter baskets for household or business trash.** It's unfair to pedestrians, it overloads the baskets, and it's against the law! (Philadelphia Code 10-703)

- Set out trash on the **day of collection, between 4 and 6 pm.** The less time out on the streets, the less chance it will be disturbed by weather, animals or trash snoopers.

- Put trash out in **sealed containers or plastic bags.** Paper bags break and open boxes are open invitations to trash pickers.

May we suggest that you take this opportunity to enlist the support of your immediate neighbors in this clean-up effort? We know

that some people feel frustrated when they cannot set out their trash at the correct times because they are working or traveling. So, rather than put-out your trash prematurely when you know you will be away, do call upon friends and close-by neighbors. If we expect clean streets and a beautiful environment, we will have to support each other. With neighbors helping neighbors, every block can take pride in its appearance.

A reminder: We are as close to city services as our telephones. For easy reference, you may want to **SAVE THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:**

SANITATION AND INFORMATION SERVICE	686-5560
TRASH COLLECTION-BULK ITEMS	686-5560
ENFORCEMENT OF LITTER AND DUMPING LAWS	686-3082
ILLEGAL DUMPING CLEAN-UP	686-5560
POTHOLE AND STREET REPAIR	686-5508
STREET LIGHTING REPAIR	592-5683
ORGANIZING A BLOCK CLEAN-UP	978-3978
RECYCLING INFORMATION	686-8298
WATER INLET CLEANING	592-6300
ANTI-GRAFFITI NETWORK	686-4570

You may also wish to save the **HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE:**

Good Friday, Friday, March 24	Friday, March 24
Memorial Day,* Monday, May 29	Tuesday, May 30
Flag Day, Wednesday, June 14	Wednesday, June 14
Independence Day,* Tuesday, July 4	Wednesday, July 5
Labor Day,* Monday, September 4	Tuesday, September 5
Columbus Day, Monday, October 9	Monday, October 9
Election Day,* Tuesday, November 7	Wednesday, November 8
Thanksgiving Day,* Thursday, November 23	Friday, November 24
Christmas Day,* Monday, December 25	Tuesday, December 26

* Collection will be one day behind schedule.

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RECYCLING OPTIONS

Queen Village has an established recycling program which Society Hill residents may participate in. Items to be recycled are:

- **Newspapers**, tied in bundles or put in paper shopping bags.
- **Glass bottles and jars**, separated by color in paper bags (plastic bags only if it rains).
- **Cardboard boxes** flattened and tied or boxed.

You can set out the above items on the 2nd or 4th Saturday of any month, between 9 and 10 am. There will always be a truck by the following corners after 10 am:

Bainbridge and Front St., East Side

Bainbridge and 3rd St., at Fountain

Lombard and Front St., East Side

Lombard and 5th St., SE Corner
Monroe near 5th St. (Meredith School Yard)

Fitzwater and 4th St., East of SE Corner



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Herbal Accents specializes in Herb Garden designs for courtyard spaces and container gardens.

Hours:
Tues. Wed. 10-6 Thurs. Fri.-Sat. 11-9
Sunday 12-6

126 Lombard Street, 440-0304

NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE: SHOWING OUR COLORS

An ambitious and significant new city-sponsored neighborhood program is being planned in conjunction with Flag Day, June 14, 1989. Designed to renew the spirit of pride in our neighborhoods by uniting people in a common goal, the plan is to fly American flags on every city block, on clean, litter-free streets!

The Flag Day '89 Committee, a coalition of the City administration and volunteer business, community, civic, veteran and professional groups, is launching this project. Prior to Flag Day, it is hoped that each block will be cleaned and spruced up by its residents and that every street in Philadelphia will proudly fly the American Flag by June 14.

The flags will be donated to every block through the fundraising efforts of the Flag Day '89 Committee. Eighty percent of the funds will come from corporations and foundations. Donations from private citizens will bring in 20 percent of the total cost. The "Adopt-A-Block" program concerns this aspect of the campaign. A \$25 donation will entitle donors to sponsor a particular block.

(Some neighbors can pool together to Adopt-A-Block.) One \$25 donation will contribute approximately to the cost of four flags.

Managing Director of the City, James White, asks that volunteers step forward as "Keepers of the Flags" for every block in the city. These volunteers will make sure that the flags are properly displayed on every block's telephone or light poles. Each "Keeper of the Flags" will help organize neighbors to join the clean-up campaign on his or her block. A one-day conference for all "Keepers of the Flags" will provide support services, and all flag volunteers will be formally recognized for their efforts. It is hoped, then, that every "Keeper of the Flags" will be responsible for maintaining the flags and insuring that they are flown on other appropriate occasions.

It is hoped that Society Hill residents will participate in "Operation Neighborhood Pride" through coordination with SHCA. Look for more details in the next Newsletter.

SOCIETY HILL IN THE DARK

A survey of Society Hill street lamps undertaken by the Neighborhood Maintenance Committee lists five dozen damaged Franklin lamps in our community. The committee recommends that eight of the lamps be replaced. The others have broken or missing plexiglass shades that look terrible, but would be easy to fix given the right materials. The lamps with bent heads don't look so bad, but because of the design of the lamps, they will soon turn up with heads broken off if not repaired.

Streets Department service people have been seen proceeding through the neighborhood recently, but the work being done appeared simply to be replacing dead bulbs and dusting the shades. Streets Commissioner Alexander L. Hoskins told the press that there are 3,000 lights out in Philadelphia with the number increasing by about 100 a month.

Rather than accept this dismal situation, SHCA is taking a pro-active stance. In a letter dated January 25, SHCA President Aaron Beyer alerted City Council through Councilman James J. Tayoun and submitted a list prepared by the Neighborhood Maintenance Committee itemizing each damaged lamp, with a map showing locations. The City has allocated funds for street light repairs—so we remain optimistic and intend to see that these important lamps be rehabilitated in the not-too-distant future.



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CULTURAL ALLIANCE IS OUR NEW NEIGHBOR

Society Hill welcomes an important cultural addition to our community. The Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance has moved its headquarters to 320 Walnut Street. GPCA, as it is commonly known by its 200 nonprofit member institutions, has long been an advocate and connecting link for most museums, theaters, dance and music groups throughout the Delaware Valley. Community organizations that have long been GPCA members include: The American Philosophical Society, The Athenaeum, the Atwater Kent Museum, Friends of Independence National Historical Park, the Maritime Museum and the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks. Carol Coren, executive director suggests that GPCA's central clearinghouse on cultural activities could become an important amenity for community residents.

½ Price Tickets

GPCA sponsors **The TIXSTOP**, a ticket-selling station offering **half-price "Day of Show" tickets** for a variety of theatrical and musical events, ranging from the Philadelphia Orchestra to small productions, such as plays at the Walnut Street Theatre, Annenberg Center and Society Hill Playhouse, as well as half-price tickets for recent shows at the Shubert Theater and exciting performances at the Painted Bride. In addition, TIXSTOP offers a **Museum Pass**, which entitles the bearer to visit any and all of 19 museums during a 48-hour period. TIXSTOP also serves as a central station

selling reduced and full-price advance tickets for many performing arts events, galleries, exhibits, lectures and readings throughout the area.

To find out what cultural events are available in the greater Philadelphia area on any given day, call the **Information Hotline: 564-4444**. For information on the availability of half-price tickets on any given day, call **The Ticket Hotline: 564-4414**. TIXSTOP is located at the Philadelphia Visitors Center, 16th and JFK Boulevard. Days and hours are: Tuesday through Thursday, 11:30 am through 3:30 pm; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 am through 5 pm.

Job Bank

One of GPCA's most noteworthy services, which could be of interest to job seekers in our community, is the Employment Information Center. The Job Bank is a central resource located within GPCA's offices, on the fifth floor at 320 Walnut Street, and is open to the public weekdays from 11 am to 5 pm. Job listings are also published in GPCA's monthly newsletter, "Short Subjects." (If you are an employer and have a job listing you'd like to include, send your ad to Short Subjects, GPCA, 320 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Or, for more information, call 440-8100.)



FROGS IN MY GARDEN

Whimsical color drawings by the popular local artist Margery Niblock are on exhibit at the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, 325 Walnut Street, 10 am to 4 pm, through March 31, admission free. "Frogs in My Garden" portrays Ms. Niblock's home-grown frogs frolicking amidst the flowers and reaching a standoff with the goldfish in her award-winning Center City mini-garden. A children's book based on the frogs' antics is planned.

Readers with long memories will recall that a print of Ms. Niblock's "Society Hill" was one of the gifts SHCA presented to President Gerald Ford to commemorate his overnight stay in the neighborhood after the 1976 debate with Jimmy Carter at the Walnut Street Theatre.

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WE ARE NOT A CLUB!

SHCA is entirely a volunteer organization, comprised of Society Hill residents and businesses, whose members have one common interest — a heartfelt desire to maintain the high quality of life we have established here. The Association represents families, individuals, professionals, as well as business and corporate sponsors who live and work within our boundaries (between Front and 8th Streets and Walnut and Lombard Streets). It is incumbent upon all who have an interest in preserving this unique neighborhood to join our effort, so that every voice can be heard in a **consensus of opinion**.

Because Society Hill is also a tourist magnet, designated as America's birthplace, its very attractions can often create community challenges. Over the years SHCA's active involvement has contributed significantly to the amenities we now take for granted. For example, as a solution to the shortage of street parking, we secured the first Resident Permit Parking program in the City. Whether concerning historic facades or monitoring ramp studies for I-95, our

SO WHY JOIN SHCA?

BECAUSE YOU ARE OUR NEIGHBORS, AND NEIGHBORS HELP EACH OTHER. BECAUSE WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, AND WANT IT TO BE THE BEST IT CAN BE. BECAUSE YOUR PARTICIPATION WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

pro-active, rather than simply **re-active** responses to challenges means that we continue to engage in innovative planning and problem-solving. Current projects include planning for public transportation to the Penn's Landing area; long-range environmental planning with the South Street Task Force; and a close-working relationship with contiguous neighborhood groups with whom we share common goals and with whom, together, we have increased political clout.

As an advocacy group, we make our special problems always visible to City officials, communicating with persons, elected or appointed, whose responsibilities impact on our historic community. SHCA's officers testify before City Council and meet frequently with national and city representatives. Issues of concern include zoning variances, liquor licenses, and any other changes, for better or worse. The quarterly *Resident Newsletter*, distributed free throughout the neighborhood, is a major vehicle by which we impart relevant and lively information. SHCA has general meetings four times a year, where members have an opportunity to voice and vote their opinions and annually elect its board of

DARTS AND LAURELS

Laurel—to Bistro Romano for hosting a Membership Open House. The SHCA reception held on Thursday, January 26 was a success, with wonderful "freebie" food and drinks. This new restaurant, located on Lombard Street between 2nd and Front Streets, deserves our patronage.

Dart—to those residents who fail to neatly tie or tape together bundles of newspapers and who use open shopping bags for miscellaneous trash, often too small to adequately accommodate the quantity of trash.

Laurel—to the Sauls, owners of the home at the corner of 7th and Spruce Streets, who have to keep on replacing pieces of the small statue near their front door garden area, because the statue is frequently vandalized.

Laurel—to Clark DeLeon, an official "blue ribbon neighbor," who tried to pick up and return trash to some sloppy Society Hill visitors.

Dart—to the young toughs who sent DeLeon to the Emergency Ward for his trouble.

Laurel—to all Society Hill merchants who keep their sidewalks free of litter. These businesses are our partners in the effort to keep our neighborhood beautiful. We should support them, as they support us.

Laurel—to the local resident, at the Blumenfeld's meeting on Abbotts Square retail space, who volunteered his solution to South Street's heavy weekend traffic: He often travels to the suburbs for a quiet dinner away and returns home after 11 pm in time to find a parking space.

directors and officers. Elections are in May for the new board (1989-90 season), and candidates willing to serve are currently being sought. If you think you would be interested in knowing what is entailed, please call **Fluffy Palmer**, SHCA administrator at **928-1313**. She can give you an idea of what is involved or refer you to active members who can give you more information.

We hope we can convince you to become a part of this organization. Come to our next general meeting. It is the forum to make **your opinions count**. By adding

your strength and talents, we can only become better. (Board meetings are always open, as well.)

The staff of this Newsletter would like to know what's on your mind, but we don't get enough mail! So do write us with your concerns. (Mail to: SHCA NEWSLETTER, P.O. Box 3, Philadelphia, PA 19105.)

If you have allowed your SHCA membership to lapse, please consider rejoining. Or if you want to know the current status of your membership, feel free to call **Fluffy Palmer**, at **928-1313**. She'll be happy to answer any of your questions.

Join us! Tear off and mail the coupon today.

**MAIL TO: Society Hill Civic Association,
P.O. Box 3
Philadelphia, PA 19105
attention: Norm Wallin, Treasurer**

New Member Membership Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone (day) _____ Phone (eve) _____

Single \$12.50 _____ Corporate \$50.00 _____

Household \$25.00 _____ Corporate Sponsor \$100.00 _____

I (We) would be interested in working with the following committees:

_____ Membership _____ Other Interests

_____ Neighborhood Maintenance _____

_____ Newsletter _____

_____ Liquor Control _____

_____ Town Watch _____

_____ Zoning _____

_____ Special Projects _____

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