



SOCIETY HILL

Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.com

Date is Set for Washington Square Transfer



The shroud comes off the monument honoring Revolutionary War soldiers when Washington Square becomes part of Independence National Historical Park on Veterans Day.

See related articles on pages 3 and 7.

Veterans Day this year provides Society Hill residents with a particularly poignant opportunity—a chance to remember and honor the Revolutionary War heroes who died here in the epic struggle that made a nation from a disparate union of colonies. At the same time, we will celebrate contemporary neighborhood can-do.

On Veterans Day, November 11, Washington Square—one of Philadelphia’s urban focal points, but also one of the least heralded war memorials of our neighborhood—officially becomes a part of Independence National Historical Park. At 1 p.m. that day, several honor guards will present colors for the laying of wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier and the rekindling of the Eternal Flame. Many dignitaries will be in attendance, as will many neighbors who worked under the Washington Square Committee umbrella to raise private money for projects such as: restoring walkways, repairing the fountain in the center of the square, replacing the memorial honoring Revolutionary War soldiers, and landscaping the grounds. All projects, with the exception of some minor plantings, have now been completed.

Among the federal and local officials who are expected to attend are Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton, Senators Arlen Specter and Rick Santorum, Congressman Tom Brady, Mayor John Street, City Councilman Frank DiCicco, Assistant Acting Independence National Historical Park Superintendent Dennis Reidenbach, Interim Executive Director of the Fairmount Park Commission Philip R. Goldsmith and SHCA President Malcolm Lazin.

At the dedication ceremony, responsibility for Washington Square officially transfers from the Fairmount Park Commission to the National Park Service, as outlined in an agreement made between the city and the National Park Service more than a decade ago.

All Philadelphians—but particularly, all residents of Society Hill—are invited to attend this ceremony and view the improvements to the square that neighborhood efforts have made possible over the past several years.

As part of Independence National Historical Park, Washington Square becomes a historical destination, with National Park Service guides and literature available to enrich the experience for visitors as well as neighbors.

WED.

November

20

Board Meeting

6:00 p.m.

All Society Hill Civic Association members are welcome to attend.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meetings
Wednesday, November 20, 2002

Old Pine Community Center
4th and Lombard Streets

General Membership Meeting

7:00 p.m. Meet and Greet Your Neighbors

7:30 p.m. Membership Meeting Begins

All Society Hill residents are invited to attend.

DiCicco to Speak at November Meeting

Philadelphia First District City Councilman Frank DiCicco, well known to Society Hill residents, will discuss tax regulations, present an update on development at Penn’s Landing, review pending legislation and entertain questions from the audience at the Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) General Membership Meeting to be held on November 20 at the Old Pine Community Center.



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SOCIETY HILL

Reporter

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Noteworthy Neighbors
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December 4, 2002
6 - 8:30 p.m.
Azalea Room, Omni Hotel
4th and Chestnut Streets
See page 7 for details!*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Special Veterans Day in Society Hill

Come honor Revolutionary War heroes on Veterans Day, when Washington Square will at last become part of Independence Park.

A historic moment occurs on Veterans Day, November 11, when Washington Square is transferred from the Fairmount Park Commission (FPC) to the National Park Service (NPS). Thereafter, Washington Square will be part of Independence National Historical Park (INHP).

For almost 20 years, I have chaired the Washington Square Committee. The Committee's two missions have been to have Washington Square included in INHP and to have a military honor guard posted at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. The dedication ceremony on November 11 marks the completion of the first step, which may appear to have been a slam-dunk, but which actually took the protracted effort of citizens, organizations, elected officials, the FPC and the NPS.

Washington Square is the largest burial site for the soldiers who served under General George Washington. Previously designated a "potter's field," it was one of the five squares in William Penn's original design for our city. When the British controlled Philadelphia after successfully overpowering the colonialists at Brandywine and Valley Forge, America's first POWs were imprisoned on the southeast corner of 6th and Walnut Streets. Those who were wounded or ill were hospitalized at Pennsylvania Hospital. When they died, they were unceremoniously buried without a marker in potter's field, later renamed Washington Square.

In the mid-1950s, almost 180 years after their burial, the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier was erected as a monument to these great patriots who lie beneath Washington Square. It was some 200 years after their interment before the eternal flame was installed on July 4, 1976. Now, almost 226 years later, by including this hallowed land into INHP, we finally recognize the site as symbolic of where blood was first shed in the name of American self-determination and values.

It is a mystery why Washington Square was not included in INHP in the 1950s when it was cre-

ated by Congress to be the principal institution for educating citizens and visitors about the founding of our country. Without the sacrifice of Washington's soldiers, the Declaration of Independence might have been forgotten. Without those who joined the underdog, ill-equipped and under-financed Continental Army, there might never have been a Constitutional Convention.

The Society Hill Civic Association was a founding member and has been a continuous supporter of the Washington Square Committee. The committee brought then Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier on September 17, 1987, the bicentennial of the Constitution. Thereafter, at the committee's invitation, then Vice President Dan Quayle paid tribute at Washington Square. The late Senator John Heinz was an ardent supporter and provided leadership. During President George W. Bush's administration, the Department of the Interior entered into an agreement providing that, if improvements in accordance with the specifications of the NPS were funded and completed, Washington Square would be brought into INHP.

During the Clinton administration, then Congressman Thomas Foglietta helped secure funds for improvements. Interested citizens Anna Marie Marshall and Winchell S. Carroll likewise did considerable fundraising. The City, with the support of Councilman Frank DiCicco, provided financing.

Over the past several years, SHCA has, with Councilman DiCicco's help, addressed safety, landscaping and cleanliness issues that were of considerable immediate concern. And over the past year, SHCA has played an important role in bringing to completion the improvements that were a prerequisite to the NPS accepting stewardship of Washington Square.

Please join us Monday, November 11, at 1 p.m. for the Veterans Day dedication ceremony. Each American is indebted to the men who are buried beneath one of our nation's most hallowed sites. As you daily inhale the breath of liberty, please take time to tell to your family, friends and visitors about the meaning of Washington Square and how these noble patriots risked everything to birth a glorious new nation.



Malcolm Lazin
President

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of *Philadelphia Magazine*

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Homeowners Protest Reassessments

The Property Tax Debate

A whoop and a cry were heard throughout the land! This past summer many Philadelphia property owners, including those in Society Hill, received notices that their homes had been reassessed at higher values. For many this represented the second rise in as many years, resulting in the doubling of annual real estate taxes.

Responding to this crisis, Councilman Frank DiCicco called several meetings within the First District, including one held at Old Pine Community Center on September 17. A capacity crowd voiced objections to these seemingly arbitrary tax reassessments. The following evening, at SHCA's September 18 General Membership Meeting, our association adopted a resolution requesting that assessments be frozen at the 2001 level until a comprehensive review of the tax system can be accomplished. This resolution was sent to Mayor Street and the Board of Revisions and Taxes (BRT).

City Council cannot dictate how or when the BRT assesses properties; however, it can pass progressive and enforceable legislation. To that end, City Council's Finance Committee responded to the outcry of Philadelphia homeowners with two companion bills—Bills 490 and 491—introduced by Councilmen DiCicco, Michael Nutter and James Kenney, which would freeze taxes at last year's rates. These bills are supported by our civic association. Also introduced was a bill that would limit property tax increases to 4% annually and one that would cap tax assessment increases at 10% annually. These bills are not a panacea. They can, however, serve as a vehicle for debate of our city's flawed property tax process and perhaps help begin creation of a fair and equitable system.

On September 24 and October 1 the City Council Finance Committee heard testimony concerning the tax increases, Taxpayers of all ages, representing many ethnic groups from communities all across the city made their voices heard. Below are quotations taken from the testimony given before City Council's Finance Committee on October 1, by SHCA Vice President Bernice T. Hamel.

In her presentation Hamel stated, in part: "Philadelphia has been a success story for the past ten or so years...we've recently, and amazingly, experienced a residential boom....

Our numerous cultural and historical amenities have brought people back to the city. Are we crazy to take this residential renaissance and kill it with unfair property tax reassessments? We oppose the exorbitant increase in real estate tax assessment because it is counterproductive to the well being of Philadelphia. We believe it has been levied without democratic process and is inequitable in its application.

The challenge is to keep hard-working, middle-class citizens from leaving this city that we love.

We need to know that every residential property is taxed fairly and consistently, using modern technology [and] that in return for paying taxes, we will receive quality city services."

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1st For an eye-opener: Compare your yearly tax assessment with other households on your block. Simply log onto www.hallwatch.org or www.phila.gov and then enter your address and those of others on your block. If you note inconsistencies, write to our elected officials and ask how the BRT can justify its varying assessments.

2nd If you are a homeowner, it is now too late to file an appeal to the BRT. But condo owners still have time to do so, provided they file an appeal within 30 days following the date the reassessment notice was received. To obtain an appeal form, call Councilman DiCicco's office (215-686-3458) and ask for his legislative assistant, David Fitz. Appeal hearings are expected to begin on or about November 12.

3rd Write letters to City Council and Mayor Street, indicating your support of Council Bills 490 and 491. An easy way to write these letters is to log onto www.hallwatch.org and follow the steps so your letters will be sent.

4th A citywide coalition for fair taxes has been organized by Terry Gillen, former city deputy commerce director and Democratic ward leader. Check out the website www.phillytaxes.org for tax updates. Gillen reports that there are four things citizens desire in the current property assessment battle that they are not getting: transparency, fairness, certainty and value for their money.

A Little Tax History

In 1980, John Street (then a city councilman) introduced legislation that called on the city to cap property assessments for a period of three years. Mayor Green vetoed it. Then City Council President Coleman sued the city to enforce the legislation. The lawsuit was settled, and Council achieved its goal of capping assessments for a period of six years. Now, 22 years later, here we go again!

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Looking Back...

Washington Square Has a Colorful History

As of Veterans Day, November 11, 2002, Washington Square officially will be put on the national map, recognized as a place that honors those who died in the struggle that created our nation.

Though national recognition has been a long time coming, there were previous acknowledgments of the site's importance. A metal plaque on a rock in the northeast section of the park is dedicated to Revolutionary War soldiers. A much larger monument, to the west of the fountain in the center of the square, includes a statue of George Washington, the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier, an eternal flame and a large structure stating it is "dedicated to thousands of unknown soldiers of Washington's army who died of wounds and sickness during the Revolution."

One of the original squares designated by William Penn in 1683, the Southeast Square—as it was then known—was patented in 1704-05 as a potter's field, a burial place for strangers to the city. But the ground was also rented out as pasture land.

In the mid-1700s Washington Square, now surrounded by a privet hedge, contained a pond where ducks were found—and often shot. A brook alive with fish and small crustaceans ran southeastwardly from Arch Street near 10th toward the square and into a gully at its eastern edge. (The land then sloped from east to west.) A colonial prison was located on what is now the southeast corner of 6th and Walnut Streets beyond the gully; the brook was diverted under the prison through a tunnel.

By the late 1700s, Washington Square still was a grassy expanse surrounded by a post and rail fence with a brick wall in the center that enclosed a 40-foot square area where members of the Joshua Carpenter and Story families were buried. This was unusual at the time, but a Carpenter family member committed suicide, which prevented her interment in common church ground. Joshua Carpenter was buried under an apple tree in the middle of the enclosure.

During the British occupation of Philadelphia, upward of 2,000 Revolutionary War POWs were also buried in Washington Square. When a yellow fever epidemic swept the city in 1793, large numbers of residents came to rest here as well. City Council banned interments after 1795.

In 1815, transformation of Washington Square to the public paths and gardens we now know began. Numerous trees were planted, following a design by G. Bridport. That undertaking and the atmosphere of the park itself are reflected in the words on a small, mid-20th century stone marker in the northeast corner of the park: "A tree is a profound wonder of our creation and it is amazing how it is able to draw peoples of the world together." The marker is one of many delightful findings in the park—look for the horse-watering trough at the edge of the sidewalk along Independence Place. After its conversion from a potter's field, this grassy expanse was renamed Washington Square in 1825 in honor of George Washington.

In 1982, Washington Square was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. A marker noting this honor is located near the southeast entrance to the park.

Once a potter's field, Washington Square is now a National Historic Landmark.

Information for this article was gleaned from *Watson's Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, volume 1*, written 1830-1850.



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CIVIC ASSOCIATION



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Last year's event was very well attended, so be sure to reserve early!

Lights On for Safety!

Lighting Up After Dark



A lit lamp improves safety in our neighborhood

As we "fall back" to Eastern Standard Time, Adarkness descends upon the city at a much earlier hour. Lighting is required to enable pedestrians to see where they are going and to deter vandalism and criminal activity. There are several steps we can take to brighten the streetscape during the winter months and increase safety.

First and foremost, if the bulb burns out in a Franklin lamppost, notify the Streets Department at 215-686-5610. The bulb will be replaced within 24 hours after the city receives notification.

Trees that have low branches or that grow against the side of the house create shadows and block street light, making sidewalks less secure for walking at night. Such trees should be trimmed. The city will not prune them; therefore, it is the responsibility of each homeowner to take care of the trees on his property. Neighbors have joined together on some blocks to receive a group rate, which may lower the price. The best time for trimming trees is in the fall or winter.

A third avenue for increasing illumination is to install lights at the front door of your house. This not only makes your home more attractive, but also creates a brighter sidewalk area. If every house has an outside light on at night, the entire block becomes safer and more welcoming. A bulb of at least 40-60 watts is required to make a difference. Exterior lights can be more effective with the installation of an electronic timer or a photo sensor that automatically turns the light on at dusk. Setting the timer to turn on at 5 p.m. and off at 6 a.m. provides lighting when it is needed. A motion sensor light is great for the side or back of the home. Mounted on the exterior of the house, it lights up only when someone walks in front of it. This instant spotlight will send any would-be mischief-maker or intruder running. A number of years ago many residents installed lights with Intermatic timers. If the bulb burns out, the timer must be reset after a new bulb is installed. Otherwise, the timer will not work. If you need directions for the Intermatic timer, please contact Martha Levine at 215-629-0727 or marthalev@aol.com.

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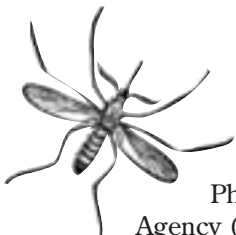
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The Rovering Reporter

New City Agency to Handle Animal Problems

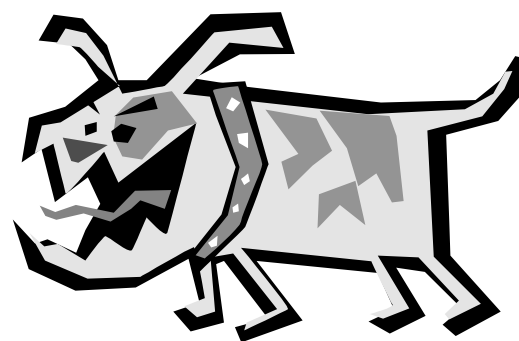


From mosquito control in a city that experienced its first death from West Nile Virus this summer to the pit-bull problem plaguing some areas, the Philadelphia Animal Care & Control Agency (PACCA) is the new organization dealing with most animal-related issues.

A recent article in the Philadelphia *Daily News* (August 30, 2002) explained the changing of the guard in animal control in Philadelphia. The venerable Philadelphia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PSPCA) wants to change its focus; it is no longer interested in euthanising the 30,000 stray dogs and cats that wind up in shelters each year. Check out the PSPCA website at www.PSPCA.org, and you will see that this organization's efforts will now be directed to educating the public on how to be a responsible pet owner. The website provides information on collars, tags and how to deal effectively with barking dogs. It also

displays pictures of adorable dogs and cats available for adoption.

PACCA has taken over some of the routine and emergency issues involved in animal control. Call 215-695-9040 for complaints, or, as its voice mail indicates, a whole menu of animal-related issues. These include reporting dead or stray animals; surrendering unwanted pets; reporting lost or found pets; reporting injured or abused animals (such as carriage horses left to bake in the summer sun); reporting beasts that bite; finding out how to get licenses (as required by law); and reporting annoyances such as carriage horses who leave droppings on the cobbled streets of Society Hill or owners who fail to pick up after their pooches.



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Trash and the City



Old or young, rich or poor, homeowner or renter—we all generate trash. Recently unsightly accumulations of rubbish have been showing up in places where they do not belong. Unfortunately, trash begets more trash. A worn tire leaning against a wall will attract a discarded sink and then old kitchen cabinets, a broken television set—you get the picture. This is not only unsightly; it is a health and safety hazard.

By following a few simple rules, we can maintain the wonderful ambience of Society Hill. Place trash and garbage at curbside in front of your home after 4 p.m. on Monday, the normal collection day in our neighborhood. Please note that refuse placed at curbside in an alley will not be collected if the alley is not on the regular pick-up route. Do not put household trash in litter receptacles. The city will remove these containers if they are misused—and occasionally tracks down and fines the perpetrators.

Dispose of bulk items such as refrigerators by calling the Philadelphia Streets Department at 215-685-4290. But be forewarned that there may be a long wait before the call is answered and that it may be necessary to phone several times before the item is removed.

There are rules and regulations that prohibit the accumulation of garbage and trash in yards and on sidewalks and streets. Homeowners or landlords become liable for fines when there are infractions of city ordinances, but the threat of fines does not necessarily ensure compliance with proper rubbish disposal. It may take the concerted action of neighbors and government agencies over a period of time before a problem is rectified.

Garbage and trash collection falls under the jurisdiction of the Streets Department, the first agency to call, at 215-686-5560, when rubbish has not been removed. It also handles illegal dumping and sanitation. The Environmental Services division of the Philadelphia Health Department will respond to complaints regarding infectious waste material at 215-685-7342 and trash or animal waste at 215-686-3082. It also handles rodent infestations (215-685-9717) a likely occurrence in an urban setting when there is a pile of discarded items. If uncollected garbage attracts flies, call Insect Control at 215-685-9714.

If contacting the above resources fails to improve the situation, call the Philadelphia Police Department at 215-685-3097 to report litter and illegal dumping. Licenses and Inspections is another city resource for assistance with abandoned houses and littered lots and can be reached at 215-686-2463. If the problem is an abandoned vehicle, help is available at 215-683-2277.

One effective way of ensuring compliance with the rules and regulations governing trash disposal is to make new neighbors aware of them. Policies and procedures differ from one city to another and the newcomer will likely welcome this information. And if all else fails, try placing a copy of this article under the offender's door!

Pitch In and Do Your Part for Fall Clean Up

SHCA will not sponsor a fall clean-up day this year. However, each resident can help by sweeping the sidewalk and making sure leaves are gathered and placed in a compost pile or with the regular trash for pickup. The Civic Association is gearing up for a spring clean-up event. Co-chairs for this project are Frank Hoban and Tania Rorke. If you would like to assist, contact Frank, Tania or the SHCA office.

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- 214 Spruce St. Chimney repairs, caulking, stucco
- 421 Spruce St. Facade rehabilitation, concrete removal & replacement, brick paver installation

- 620 Spruce St. Brick pointing, wall rehabilitation, waterproofing, marble cleaning & repair
- 264 S. 3rd St. Brick patio installation, brick cleaning & patch painting
- 268 S. 3rd St. Stucco, Brick pointing, brick paver installation

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The Society Hill Sleuth

Gaskell or Gaskill? Solving A History Mystery

Recently a *Reporter* team member who lives on Gaskill Street, which lies between South and Lombard, heard rumors that this small lane had important historical significance for the African-American community. This sounded intriguing, so we decided to investigate. In an ongoing report, we will delve into the history of our reporter's house as well as the street, using sources and techniques presented in a recent series on researching a home's genealogy (*Society Hill Reporter* March/April and July/August 2002). We hope to provide insight into the lengthy and complicated research process, while documenting working-class life in Philadelphia beginning in colonial times.

Who was Gaskill and why was the street named for him or her? This first mystery has not been easy to solve. Time spent at the user-friendly Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, revealed that the name first appears in America in 1636 in the records of Salem, Massachusetts. A branch of this family moved to Salem, New Jersey well before Philadelphia was settled. However, another clue was unearthed in notes compiled by Thomas and Nelson Gaskill (1956) that demonstrate the complexity of genealogical research. It seems that William Penn's great-granddaughter, Christian Gulielma, married Peter Gaskell of Bath, England. Peter died in 1785; their son, who inherited the American estate, came to Philadelphia the same year. This Gaskell clan, unrelated to the New Jersey folks, was authorized to prefix "Penn" to their name as the Penn family had died out in the direct line.

A glimmer of Gaskill Street's origins surfaced in the 1791 City Directory where it was mentioned for the first time and was spelled "Gaskell." Solid proof of relationship with William Penn was confirmed while grubbing through two huge boxes of original deeds at the City Archives, 30th and Market Streets. What a thrill to read, in beautiful sepia script, that a house had been built on ground from the Penn-Gaskell land grant! Yet there is a certain irony to the connection because Penn was adamant about naming his original streets for "things that grow...and are native" to the land. And, in a Quakerly manner, he opposed honoring people—especially relatives!

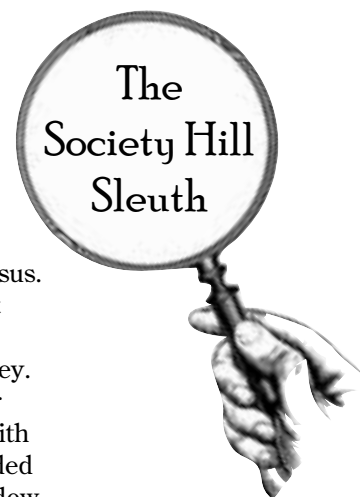
An old colonial map found at the City Archives showed Gaskill Street located between Front and Second, opening onto what is now Head

House Square. On a recent misty evening curiosity led us to explore the area with fresh eyes. It was an exciting moment to realize that charming little Naudain was the original Gaskill Street! We could now people the alley with the names found in the early city directories and the 1790 Census. The first small homes, now gone, were built to be rentals for working class citizens like stonemasons Henry Cook and Jonathan Colley. Proximity to the docks provided cordwainer Robert McCulloch, who lived at 8 Gaskill, with income from making rope. At 3 Gaskill resided Samuel Neale, a bricklayer. Nearby lived widow Elizabeth Green, who kept a boarding house. Neighbor Jacob Magg was a wheelwright and William Talbot made his living as a porter.

Two of the dwellings on this first block of Gaskill housed four free blacks who were not identified by name in the 1790 Census. It's going to take more research to understand what significance they may have had in the Philadelphia African-American legacy.

Join us in future editions of the *Reporter* as we continue exploring Gaskill Street, discovering the ethnic changes in the neighborhood and encountering surprises along the way.

Be a Sleuth! We welcome readers' contributions and suggestions for primary research resources.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEAR HOUSE

The stately, old brick structures that line our streets give Society Hill the colonial atmosphere that delights visitors and residents alike. These homes, having provided shelter to countless families through the centuries, are still beautiful to behold. So Happy Anniversary wishes to the following historical properties that just celebrated their 200th birthday. Here's to 200 more!

Source: Historical Commission building inventory

535 Delancey Street
built by William McDonough,
house carpenter

413 Locust Street
built by Peter Berry,
house carpenter; rented
by Tench Coxe, father of
the American cotton
industry and political
economist

423 Locust Street
built for William
Shippen, M.D.

304 Lombard Street
built for Philip Price,
watchmaker

306 Lombard Street
built by Britton Corlies,
bricklayer

308-310 Lombard Street
built by Edward Garrigues,
house carpenter

247 Pine Street
built for Thomas
Watson, schoolmaster

311 Pine Street
built for Mary Green,
widow

415 Pine Street
built for James Moyer,
sail maker

521 Pine Street
built by Barnaby Boyles,
bricklayer

717 Spruce Street
built by Owen Biddle,
house carpenter

735 Spruce Street
built by John Taylor Cox,
carpenter

338-342 S. 6th Street
built for Christopher
Irick, flour inspector



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Working Together for the Common Good

Neighborhood Coalition Updates

Coalition of Philadelphia Neighborhood Associations (CPNA)

In September the recently resurrected CPNA, the sole organization attempting to unite all community activist groups in the city, held its second meeting. Approximately 55 people representing 35 neighborhoods (including SHCA), the City Controller's Office and the City Planning Commission attended. Ed Goppelt, founder of the City Hall website www.hallwatch.org, reported on the efforts of CPNA's Zoning Committee and his communications with L&I Commissioner Ed McLaughlin to lengthen the amount of notice given to neighborhoods regarding zoning variances. McLaughlin stated his office would work on making L&I's Use Refusals and Referrals available to the public with up to a full month's notice on variance requests, hopefully by November, 2002. Goppelt also announced that www.hallwatch.org now has a dedicated zoning page; he offered to organize all L&I information in the website so it would provide usable data for the neighborhoods.

Property tax concerns were also discussed. Terry Gillen, former city deputy commerce director and Democratic ward leader, reported that Philadelphians are among the most highly taxed in the country. For updates, check out the new website: www.phillytaxes.org. (See related article on page 5.)

A future CPNA initiative is the development of a standard list of questions to be given to political candidates for municipal offices so voters will have a better idea where each candidate stands on any issue.

Quarterly South Street Forum

A subcommittee of the South Street Headhouse District's Community Advisory Council met during the fall to discuss how an alliance of businesses, neighborhoods and government officials could work together on a variety of issues, including Mardi Gras and the Greek Picnic. The following strategies were discussed:

- a zero-tolerance policy for undesirable public behavior, such as drinking alcohol and drug activities;
- noise and crowd control;
- undercover police and narcotic officers on street patrol;
- establishing a weekend "night court" similar to the one operating at city football games.

The goal is to put policies and procedures in place that will eliminate disruptive and potentially dangerous activity. Committee members hope follow-through and positive change will result from having regular, face-to-face meetings among business leaders, government officials and representatives of communities directly affected by South Street events.

Historic District Designation Process Under Attack

New Ordinance Proposed; SHCA Board Opposed

A City Council ordinance would limit the Historical Commission's authority to designate new Historic Districts. The SHCA Board is opposed.

On October 16, SHCA's Board of Directors discussed Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell's proposed ordinance that would remove the Historical Commission's authority to designate historic districts and would require that City Council and the Mayor approve any new districts. The board voted unanimously to oppose this ordinance, which would politicize the designation process. Together with the Preservation

Alliance for Greater Philadelphia and its network of preservation-minded communities, we are going to make our opposition known. We believe the Historical Commission's highly systematic, professional, fair and lengthy process of designating any community wishing to be protected by the standards and laws required of a historic district is the responsible way for the city to continue its stewardship of our historic heritage. We speak from experience, since Society Hill itself went through this demanding designation process in 1999, and we hope that any city neighborhood rich in historical treasures will be preserved—not just for today but for generations to come.

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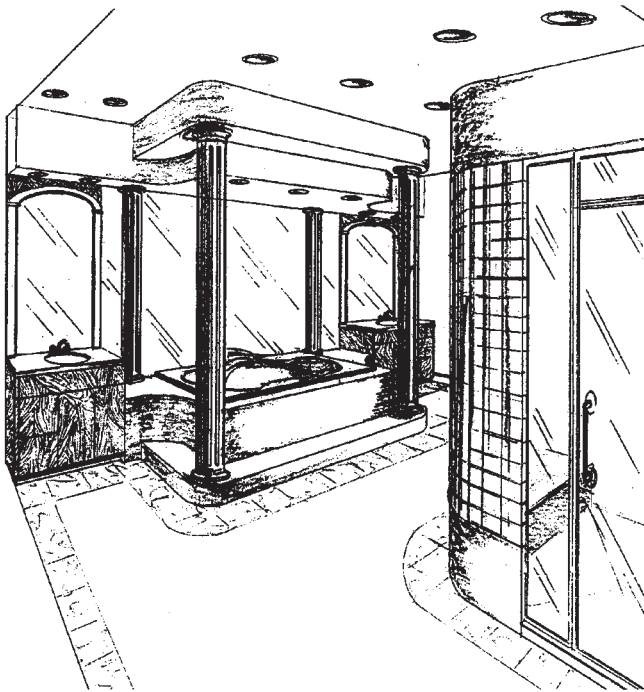


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Zoning & Historic Preservation

SHCA's Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee (ZHP) continues to work with property owners in the neighborhood. As always, the committee urges owners to present their plans to the ZHP before applying for approvals from the city's Historical Commission or Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA). Presentations can be arranged by contacting Paul Boni, ZHP chair, at paulboni@bonilaw.com, or Matt DeJulio, SHCA Administrator, at MattDeJulio@aol.com or 215-629-1288. The following noteworthy projects were subjects of the committee's September 9 and October 14 meetings:

420 South 2nd Street: The owners of 12th Street Cantina presented the ZHP with a proposal for a Mexican food restaurant for the currently vacant storefront located immediately adjacent to Cosi. The new venture will be called Rosalita's. No liquor will be served; it will not be a BYOB. Our committee is pleased to provide support for this project. However, due to the fact that Rosalita's will probably have a significant "take-out" business because the interior space is small, the ZHP is requesting that the tenant carefully monitor sidewalk litter, keep the local area clean, install proper exhaust venting and arrange for daily trash pickup.

340 South 6th Street: The owner's architects presented the ZHP with plans for the construction of a one-story addition within the property's existing garden wall. The committee supports this project. By way of our letter, the owner can now inform the Historical Commission that SHCA supports this project.

632 Spruce Street: The owner and his architect presented plans for modifications to the second floor and incorporation of a roof deck. The ZHP provided a letter of support to assist the owner in obtaining approval from the Historical Commission.

702 Pine Street: The owner's architect presented plans for the construction of a one-story addition to be located within the interior courtyard of this property. The addition will not be visible from public streets. The ZHP provided a letter of support for this project.

724-26 Pine Street: The owner's architect presented plans to consolidate the two properties and to add a partial second story and a garage. The committee provided a letter of support to assist the owner in obtaining approvals from the Historical Commission and the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

400-414 Walnut Street: On the ZHP's recommendation, SHCA has filed a lawsuit against the developer (Turchi, Inc.) because this otherwise impressive conversion of a vacant commercial building into 67 residential apartments fails to include a single parking spot. Our lawsuit argues that this is unlawful under the clear requirements of the City Code.

As a practical matter, without on-site parking, the cars for this 67-unit apartment house will flood the streets of Society Hill, competing for available street spots that are already too rare. All we ask is that the development include underground parking just like other successful conversions in the neighborhood (such as The Willings and the proposed development of the Lippincott). On a related note, the committee and SHCA's board of directors thank SHCA member Richard Cohen for generously contributing to our legal fund.

Man Full of Trouble Tavern (2nd and Spruce Streets): We are pleased to report that the University of Pennsylvania, the property owner, has recently agreed with each and every one of the ZHP's requests that the building be renovated in a 100% historically accurate manner. We fought hard for historical accuracy in the roof replacement (Penn had planned for the cedar shakes to be replaced with a modern, synthetic material) and the gutter system (Penn had planned to remove the historical pole gutter). As Penn now agrees to all of our requests, the ZHP withdrew the appeal that it had filed at the L&I Review Board. Renovations to this historic site have already begun.

Washington Square: Two applicants bypassed the ZHP and our community, going directly to the Historical Commission with proposals to install donor plaques near the eternal flame, which is a memorial to the Unknown Soldier of the Revolutionary War. While grateful thanks and deserved credit are due the donors who contributed funds to restore this wonderful park, these plaques would have put corporate names in the middle of hallowed ground. The ZHP (whose members routinely monitor Historical Commission meetings) objected vigorously. The Commission denied one of the applications, but approved the other, subject to the plaques being reduced in number, decreased in size and placed in an unobtrusive location—far from the eternal flame.

—PAUL BONI, CHAIR, ZHP COMMITTEE



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When there's something strange... in your neighborhood...

Who Can You Call? Block Coordinators!

Prior issues of the *Reporter* have listed some of the special activities undertaken by Block Coordinators. This program was initiated by the SHCA to provide a liaison between the community and the civic association and help residents deal with problems that affect us from time to time.

Have you ever been bothered by motorcycle noise in the middle of the night and discovered 911 will not respond? Your Block Coordinator will direct you to the proper resource—in this case either the local police mini-station or the 6th District Police Station. If several neighbors complain about the same problem, the Block Coordinator will report the matter to the appropriate quadrant director or the SHCA executive director so the board can discuss the issue at its monthly meeting and develop a plan of action.

Block Coordinators monitor their blocks for graffiti, broken sidewalks, dead trees, broken Franklin lampposts or burned out bulbs, illegal trash disposal and other matters. Defects are referred to the proper authority. They also let the Welcome Committee know when

new homeowners move in so a basket of goodies can be delivered to them.

A very useful, and unexpected, benefit has been the ability of Block Coordinators to deliver information to neighbors in an expeditious manner. They distributed fliers on plans for the South Street Mardi Gras and, more recently, on the real estate tax issue.

And you already know the Block Coordinators pick up trash, have trees pruned, organize painting of Franklin lampposts and planting of flower baskets and generally take good care of their blocks.

We owe a debt of gratitude to these block leaders for their invaluable efforts and dedication to Society Hill. Remember, if you have a question or problem, someone right on your block cares and will talk with you about it!

If you don't know the name of your Block Coordinator, check the SHCA website at www.societyhillcivic.com, or contact Block Coordinator Chair Martha Levine at 215-629-0727 or marthalev@aol.com or Matt DeJulio at 215-629-1288 or mattdejulio@aol.com.

OUT AND ABOUT IN SOCIETY HILL



Residents of the 300 block of Gaskill close the street for a neighborhood holiday picnic.



Neighbors gather for some fun in Three Bears Park.



Construction is well underway at York Row.



Flowers brighten Society Hill.

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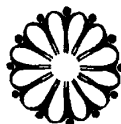
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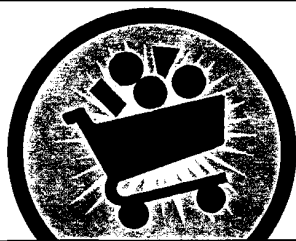
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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

SHCA Membership at an All-time High

SHCA membership continues to climb and has reached a new high of 942 members. We warmly welcome the Omni Hotel, a new member in the business category and also the host of the SHCA Holiday Social on December 4. (For Holiday Social details, see page 7.)

Renewal notices for 2003, along with a new brochure listing the services offered by our civic association and including other neighborhood information, will be mailed within the next few weeks. Be sure to be among the first to return your renewal form and dues.

Free Contractor List Available to Members

Looking for a freebie? Well, you've found it. As a member of the SHCA you can obtain the Preferred List of Contractors. This is a free 11-page compilation of contractors of all types, including general contractors, painters, plumbers, heating/air-conditioning specialists, tree care experts, gardeners, floor refinishers, roofers, ironworkers and more, who have been recommended by Society Hill homeowners.

The positive experience expressed by your neighbors increases the likelihood of finding a contractor who produces quality work at a fair price. It is important to note the list does not represent an endorsement by the SHCA; it is always prudent to ask the contractor for recent references.

To obtain a copy of the list, contact Martha Levine at 215-629-0727 or marthalev@aol.com. The list will be mailed to you as the size precludes faxing it. And if your list is several years old, why not request a new, updated one? After all, it is free!



Check out our website:
www.SocietyHillCivic.com

Have you visited our website recently? If not, you are in for a treat. The SHCA's website has been updated and is full of timely, pertinent information. Find meeting schedules, the name of your Block Coordinator, and volunteer opportunities. Discover more about the history and demographics of Society Hill, which is clearly delineated street-by-street in an attractive map. Look for a detail from your house or block among the many beautiful digital images of the neighborhood. And check out the other useful features. Alas, you will not find back issues of the *Reporter* as it has outgrown its allotted space.

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To Market, to Market...

Thanksgiving Fixings at Local Farmers' Markets

Society Hill is lucky to have not one but two farmers' markets, two days in which to shop and staggered hours to fit almost any schedule. And the best news yet is that both markets are open until Thanksgiving this year!

Saturday Market

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
2nd and South Streets

Among the farmers who bring their organic goods to this market is Joseph Griffin of Covered Bridge Produce, who specializes in greens and herbs. Henry Fisher of Fisher's Farmer's Market sells sweet potatoes, mushrooms, and other goodies. James Stauffer of Stauffer Farms offers produce, flowers, gourds and other plants. Noelle & Carole Margerum of Margerum's Herbs sell herbs and spices

and other seasonal bounty. Lisa Kerschner of Northstar Orchard brings her apples, pears, fruit butters and jellies, and soap. Brent and Lori Fox of B & L Grassland Farms sell eggs and grass-fed meats. Phylann Russell of Endless Mountains Cabin Maple Syrup offers both maple syrup and pancake mix plus baked goods. John Marshall of Highfield Dairy & Farm sells goat cheese, tarts and pierogies.

Tuesday Market

2 to 7 p.m.
South and Passyunk Streets

This festive market located in the middle of Passyunk Avenue features Pennsylvania producers selling their own organic fruits and vegetables, fresh and smoked trout, Amish baked goods and goat cheese. Here, Paul Hauser

sells heirloom variety apples and apple pies baked by his wife, Carol—including pies for Thanksgiving, baked with your choice of apples. Livengood Produce and Covered Bridge Produce offer a full line of fall and winter organic vegetables. Tom Ryan from Pocono Mountain Trout brings the freshest trout available in Philadelphia and can cook a hot fish sandwich on the spot. Michele Harron, a neighbor from Bella Vista, sells her own hand-made soaps and creams and recommends them for holiday presents.



An added bonus of both markets is the opportunity to see neighbors and share recipes using the fresh produce at hand. You can also talk with the people who grow your food. Hope to see you there!

Holiday Greetings from the Reporter Staff

The Reporter staff offers good wishes and holiday greetings to all our neighbors. As young and old gather around the table for a Thanksgiving, Hanukkah or Christmas dinner, we hope good fellowship and joy will be with you. We especially hope that the new year will bring peace and prosperity to us all, near and far, and throughout the entire world.



Farmers' Market

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5xx Randolph Court: All amenity, multi-level 3B, 2.5 ba home with garage, priced to sell fast, \$325,000

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Antonio's Real Estate Background

1996-1997

Antonio relocated to Philadelphia from Chicago to attend The Wharton Business School. To fund his education, he worked part-time as a Realtor at Prudential Fox & Roach in Center City.

1998

In 1998, Antonio started selling real estate full-time and sold over \$5 million in volume his first full year in business.

1999

In 1999, Antonio designed and created his one-of-a-kind, award-winning website www.CenterCityRealEstate.com and doubled his volume to over \$10 million. He was awarded the Top-Selling Realtor and Top-Producing Realtor, in Philadelphia by The Greater Philadelphia Association Realtors (GPAR).

2000

In 2000, Antonio implemented his marketing and advertising campaign and again doubled his sales from the previous year selling \$20 million in real estate. He was awarded the #1 Top-Selling Realtor & #1 Top-Producing Realtor, Citywide by GPAR. His nearest competition was millions away in both categories.

2001-2002

In 2001, Antonio formed The Atacan Group. He was awarded "Top Entrepreneurial Realtor" for selling over \$30 million in Real Estate by GPAR. That year he was also ranked #66 of all Prudential Agents in North America. In 2002, Antonio doubled the size of his team & has already sold \$40 Million in real estate, so far this year.

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Don't Miss this Fascinating Exhibit

Exhibition of Historic Scientific Instruments

The American Philosophical Society, located adjacent to Independence Hall at 104 South 5th Street, is part of the complex of buildings on Independence Mall. If you walk past it without stopping to read the announcement board outside, you will miss a splendid exhibit. Entitled "From the Laboratory to the Parlor: Scientific Instruments in Philadelphia, 1750-1875" the exhibition has been mounted by Sue Ann Prince, the Society's Director of Exhibitions and Curator of Museum Collections. Step inside and spend an intriguing hour or so learning about scientific devices associated with an earlier era.

An elegant brochure, available at the entrance, describes some of the instruments and portraits to be seen. Philosophers of the 18th century were fascinated with the natural sciences and used three types of instruments to study them: mathematical (balances and mint weights), optical (telescopes and microscopes) and philosophical (electrical machines and pumps).

Among the 99 exhibits on display is John Isaac Hawkins's letter-copying device that he named a "polygraph," an apparatus with two pens that moved together as someone wrote—producing a second copy. Thomas Jefferson acquired this instrument and called it "the finest invention of the present age." James Madison's Meteorological Diary is another interesting exhibit. Madison kept this diary for 18 years on his plantation, Montpelier, to determine summer and autumn rainfall amounts in the Piedmont; modern meteorologists still find it useful. The achromatic telescope developed by Englishman John Dollond is another device included in the exhibition. Dollond (1706-1761) patented the discovery of the achromatic lens for the telescope, but his patent is surrounded in

controversy—he may have adapted the idea of George Bass, who had constructed a lens some 20 years before Dollond but failed to patent it.

Astronomical clocks designed by Edward Duffield and David Rittenhouse (in whose honor Rittenhouse Square is named) were constructed to observe the Transit of Venus in 1769. The clocks, housed in Philosophical Hall, have long been favorites of visitors and American Philosophical Society members alike. Thomas Jefferson wrote of Rittenhouse (whose portrait by Charles Willson Peale is also on exhibit): "[He] was a virtuous and amiable man, an exquisite mechanic, master of the astronomy known in his time, an expert mathematician, a patient calculator of numbers."

In addition to scientific instruments, there are numerous broadsides, books and portraits on display. This exhibition runs until March 31, 2003, and is free to the public on weekdays and weekends from late morning through early afternoon. Call 215-440-3400 for more information.

Franklin's original battery, with which he made his early electrical experiments, is one of 99 exhibits on display at the American Philosophical Society.



AWARD-WINNING NEIGHBORS



For Architecture
Nelson, an architectural, design and information services firm, won the industry's Starnet Award for excellence in corporate offices. Its newly renovated and restored national headquarters is located in a historically significant building at 222-30 Walnut Street, (pictured at left) where

Alexander Hamilton's home once stood. Congratulations to SHCA members and neighbors John Nelson Sr. and his wife, Gen.

For Landscaping
Kudos to Society Hill Towers and its landscaper, TruGreen LandCare, which recently placed second in a

nationwide competition. Approximately 2000 entries were submitted for the Associated Landscape Contractors of America 33rd Annual Environmental Improvement Awards Program. The neighborhood enjoys the beauty of the Towers' grounds, and we extend warm congratulations.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Two Events Benefit St. Peter's Scholar Fund

**Annual Holiday Plant Sale**

Looking for poinsettias to provide color during the gray days of winter, or perhaps a lush fir tree to decorate? Then be sure to stop by St. Peter's School at 3rd and Lombard Streets between December 6 and 8. Not only will you find trees and poinsettias, but also evergreen garlands and custom-decorated wreaths and swags—everything you need to beautify your home for the holidays. The sale will also feature books and a gift shop brimming with scrumptious gourmet goodies.

Customers who purchase a tree will receive a \$5 coupon to St. Peter's School Holiday House Tour on Saturday, December 14. Call 215-925-3963 for more information. Proceeds benefit the St. Peter's School Scholar Fund.

Plant Sale Hours:

Friday, December 6	Noon – 6 p.m.
Saturday, December 7	8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sunday, December 8	8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Holiday Open House Tour

St. Peter's School is sponsoring its Third Annual Holiday Open House Tour on Saturday, December 14 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. This unique self-guided walking tour in Society Hill and Queen Village features elegant 18th and 19th-century private homes, a church, and a bed and breakfast—all dressed up for the holidays.

The cost is \$30 per person for the tour only; \$50 per person for the tour plus a five-course *prix fixe* lunch at Sfizzio Ristorante. The tour headquarters is St. Peter's School, 3rd and Lombard Streets. Proceeds benefit the St. Peter's School Scholar Fund. For reservations call 215-925-3963.



Free Concerts at Old Pine Church

Sunday, November 17 @ 5:00 PM
Jazz Vespers **Paul Sherr Trio**

Sunday, December 15 @ 5:00 PM
Jazz Vespers **Father John D'Amico Trio**

Thursday, December 5 @ 7:00 PM
Advent Vespers

Thursday, December 12 @ 7:00 PM
Advent Vespers

Thursday, December 19 @ 7:00 PM
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Patron & Sponsorship Opportunities Available
Info at 215-351-1460 or www.ecs1870.org



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Holiday Celebration at the Powel House

The Friends of the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks will celebrate the holidays with a “Historical Journey through Elegant Entertaining” at the legendary Powel House, 244 South 3rd Street, on Friday, December 13, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Home to Philadelphia’s “Patriot Mayor,” the Powel House was often the scene of lavish entertaining during Colonial times—including the 20th anniversary party of George and Martha Washington.

Along with period music and stories of past party-goers, guests will be able to sample a selection of 18th-century hors d’oeuvres prepared by highly acclaimed chef/proprietor/author Mr. Walter Staib and his award-winning City Tavern restaurant. City Tavern’s delicious and authentic cuisine promises to be an exciting addition to this holiday celebration.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. Reservations are highly recommended, as capacity is limited. Call 215-925-2251 to reserve your spot.



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218 DELANCEY \$1,100,000
Virtual Tour# 1354719. 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath home w/3-story atrium window, wood-burning fplces, patio w/fountain, master suite and custom marble baths.

723 Rodman Street \$559,900
Virtual Tour# 4069833. Charming corner 2/3BR Twhs w/lbry+den, 2 full baths, marble fplces, French Mercier oak flrs, antique wood panelling, sweeping curved oak staircase + many more fine details! Feels like London!

323 Cypress Street \$495,000
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430 Gaskill Street \$369,900
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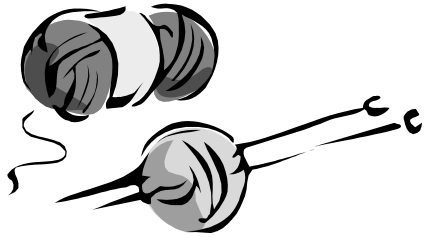
CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Knitting Group Keeps Newborns Warm

You have probably seen on television pictures of cute newborns wearing pink or blue knit caps as they go home. Maybe you assumed that hospitals routinely supply these, but that is not the case. In the past, newborns have left the hospital without a cap or blanket to keep them warm. When concerned members of Pennsylvania Hospital's Auxiliary became aware of this, they started "Knitting for Kiddies" to knit or crochet hats, blankets, sweaters and booties for the babies of families in need.

A group comprised of people of all ages, including children, meets monthly at the Pennsylvania Hospital President's House. They share knitting skills, patterns and yarn and welcome those who have never knit and would love to learn. Donations of yarn, knitting needles, crochet hooks and other notions are happily accepted so knitting "kits" can be provided for patients in the Skilled Care and Acute Care Units at Pennsylvania Hospital. Volunteers also decorate handmade items, label them and deliver knitting "kits" to local seniors.

For further information on donating supplies or volunteering services, please contact Dana Feinberg at (215) 435-1505 or Maria Cattafesta in the Pennsylvania Hospital Auxiliary Office (215) 829-3270.



MORE OPPORTUNITIES

The Independence Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, 13 South 7th Street, is looking for volunteers. All help is appreciated whether you can give a lot or just a little time. On-the-job training is provided for the many tasks that must be accomplished to enable the library to serve the community. Please call 215-685-1633 to volunteer.

Associated Services for the Blind, 919 Walnut Street, is also eagerly seeking volunteers who are available during the day. A wide variety of tasks is available from recording for the radio station to proofreading with a blind employee. If you can donate time, please call Linda Gaffney at 215-627-0600, extension 3275.

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NOTEWORTHY NEIGHBORS

Marie Rust and Tom Crosson



If, as she suggests, Americans have only recently wanted to discover their heritage and understand what being an American means, Marie Rust can take some of the credit.

As Director of the Northeast Region of the National Park

Service (NPS) since 1995, Marie oversees NPS activities in 13 states—from Maine to Virginia. From her spacious, art deco-style office in the historic Customs Building at 3rd and Chestnut Streets, she commands an annual budget of \$200 million and a staff of more than 3,000.

And, in her olive green, military-style uniform, she does cut a commanding figure, although she is quick to point out that Park Service uniforms bear no insignia of rank—they all are the same. And this reflects her management style. She empowers her employees to be innovative, encourages women, minorities and the disabled to join her team and—based upon her stint as an executive at Disney World—promotes a spirit of initiative and risk-taking among her administrative staff.

Marie's territory is a goldmine of the nation's heritage, and she mines it with conviction and enthusiasm. It includes the John Fitzgerald Kennedy and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow National Historic Sites in the Boston area, and the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island National Monuments in New York Harbor.

What about Philadelphia which, heaven knows, is the very root of the American experience and ethos? Well, says Marie, a New Yorker whose grandparents were Italian immigrants, "There's still a bit of diffidence about the city's grand heritage." Perhaps, as she suggests, it is the result of our city being sandwiched between Washington and New York.

But Philadelphia certainly does not lack for colorful historical monuments—Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, to name a few. Currently, Marie and her team are developing the "American Gateway," a thematic way for parks to work together across state or city boundaries to provide a holistic historic experience for visitors. In that context, they are putting together a commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the American Revolution and, of course, the NPS is a key player in the multimillion-dollar renaissance of Philadelphia's Independence Mall.

Increasingly, the NPS and its Northeast Region Director are forging international connections. Marie is a founding member of the "International Coalition of Historic Site Museums of Conscience" that includes Russia's Gulag Museum and Senegal's Slave House. She and her husband, Tom Crosson, a consultant and former printing executive, recently returned from a conference in Snowdonia National Park in North Wales. Tom, who is of Welsh descent, found this trip of particular heritage value. But he often travels with Marie, who describes him as having a great appreciation for the Park Service and her high-profile role in it.

With their interest in American history and Marie's unique vantage point from which to make it come alive for everyone, she and Tom find Society Hill an especially appropriate place to live. In fact, says Marie: "People here have a real sense of contributing to the life of the city ...and the Revolutionary spirit lives here."

— DAVID WOODS

"...the Revolutionary spirit lives here."



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November

Monday, November 11 @ 1 p.m.

Washington Square Dedication
to National Park Service
Washington Square
6th and Walnut Streets

Wednesday, Nov 13 @ Noon

**Friends of Independence
Historical Park Lecture Series**
Dr. George W. Boudreau –
New Explorations: Pennsylvanians
in the 18th Century
Independence Visitor Center
6th and Market Streets
Free! Reservations: 215-928-1188

Wednesday, November 20

SHCA Meetings
Board Meeting @ 6 p.m.
Membership Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Old Pine Community Center
4th and Lombard Streets

December

Wednesday, Dec 4 @ 6 - 8:30 p.m.

SHCA Holiday Social
Omni Hotel
4th and Chestnut Streets
See page 7

Friday-Sunday, December 6-8

St. Peter's School Holiday Sale
St. Peter's School
319 Lombard Street
Information: 215-925-3963
See page 26

Wednesday, Dec 11 @ Noon

**Friends of Independence
Historical Park Lecture Series**
Donald Scott –African Practices
of Colonial Pennsylvania Blacks
Independence Visitor Center
6th and Market Streets
Free! Call 215-928-1188 for
reservations

Wednesday, Dec 11 @ 7 p.m.

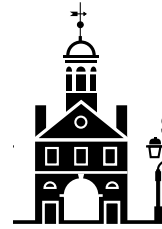
SHCA Board Meeting
Old Pine Community Center
4th and Lombard Streets

Friday, Dec 13 @ 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Powel House Holiday Party
244 South 3rd Street
Reservations: 215-925-2251
See page 27

Friday, Dec 14, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**St. Peter's School
Holiday Open House Tour**
Reservations: 215-925-3963
See page 26



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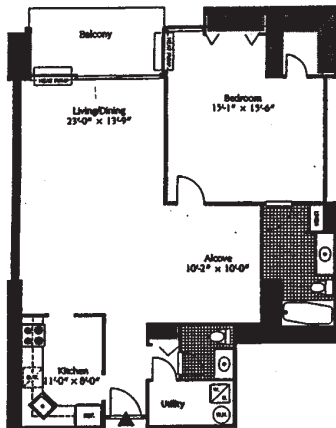
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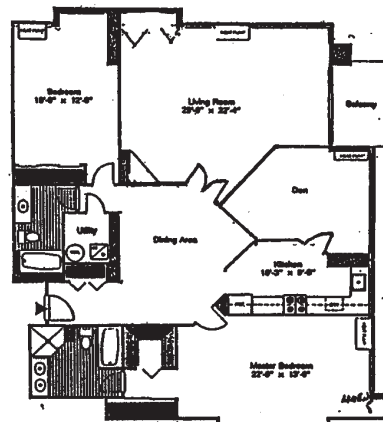
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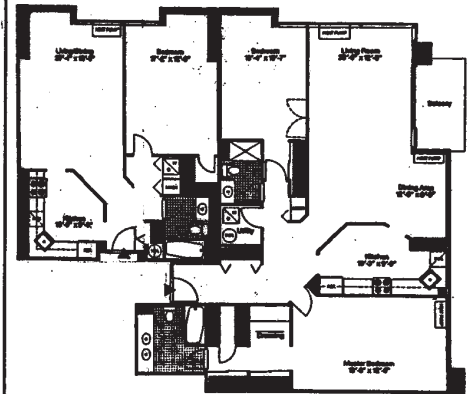
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