

SOCIETY HILL

Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.com

SHCA Elections – Wednesday, May 21, 2003



**Liza Seltzer is SHCA's
candidate for Board
President**

Spring has arrived, and it is time once again to elect new representatives to the Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) Board of Directors. Our annual elections, to be held on Wednesday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m., will be graciously hosted by the Society Hill Synagogue at 418 Spruce Street.

The Society Hill Civic Association has enjoyed three years of creative leadership under Malcolm Lazin's tenure as president, but SHCA's bylaws stipulate he must now retire. An impressive slate of candidates has been assembled to serve as officers and to fill vacancies in quadrant director positions. We are pleased that Liza Seltzer, a dynamic, can-do activist, has agreed to replace Malcolm in this uncontested election. (For a summary of Liza's contributions to Society Hill and brief profiles for all other candidates, see pages 7 and 9.)

We send our gratitude to retiring vice president Jim Moss for his service, and applaud Kelly Nelson, who is vacating her SE quadrant directorship to succeed Jim as a vice president. Our thanks go to quadrant directors Ann Verber (NE) and Mark Keener (SW) whose terms have expired. We are sorry to lose Michelle Plachter (SW) who is moving to Bella Vista, a nearby community that will surely benefit from her energetic participation.

Agenda Topic: The General Membership Meeting will feature outgoing SHCA President

Malcolm Lazin—serving until his term expires on June 1—and presidential candidate Liza Seltzer, who will have a dialog about the accomplishments of the past three years and where the civic association is heading.

About Society Hill Synagogue

This historic building, erected in 1829 as a Baptist Church, was sold and converted into a synagogue in 1910 for a Jewish American-Romanian congregation. In the 1960's, during Society Hill's redevelopment, the synagogue's building was restored by a new group of egalitarian, independent Conservative worshippers.

Slate of Candidates

President
Liza Seltzer

Vice President

(vote for 5)
Currently Serving:
Paul Boni
Bonnie Halda
Bernice T. Hamel
Martha Levine
New Nominee:
Kelly Nelson

Treasurer

Currently Serving:
Frank Hoban

Recording Secretary

Currently Serving:
Luisa Boverini

Quadrant Directors

Northeast

Keri White

Northwest

Lisa Karlin

Southeast

Michael Erdos

Southwest

Robin Komita &
Frank Signorello

Each quadrant has three directors who serve 3-year terms. All quadrant nominees will serve through 2006, except Lisa Karlin, who is filling an unexpired term that ends in 2005.

All Society Hill residents are invited – no, urged! – to attend this important annual meeting, but only SHCA members may vote in the election.

WED.

May

21

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, May 21, 2003

Society Hill Synagogue
418 Spruce Street

General Membership Meeting

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

7:30 p.m. Meeting, Program, and Election

All Society Hill residents are invited to attend.



**Get Ready for our
"Spring Fling" Social
on Monday, June 2
at City Tavern!**

See page 5.



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SOCIETY HILL

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Submissions

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Advertising: June 1, 2003

Please include your name
and telephone number
with your submission.

Letters to the editor
and announcements will
not be published unless
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Kids' Beat

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Noteworthy Neighbors
Jeremy Siegel and
Ellen Schwartz

NEWS PHLASH!

Plash Bus To Be Discontinued

Effective June 30th Philly's colorful Phlash bus will be discontinued. This public vehicle services Society Hill and the South Street area, and it's the only public transportation that makes stops at the Philadelphia Zoo. It also stops at other popular sites, such as the Reading Terminal and the Art Museum. If you want to keep this route rolling along, contact the mayor's office at 215-686-2161; fax 215-686-2180.

President's Message

I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve America's "first neighborhood" for the past three years. My role as SHCA's president will conclude June 1 when the term of the president elected at the May 21 annual meeting begins. In the previous two years our organization has significantly enhanced its operations. Here are some highlights:

Administrative Progress: Two years ago we hired a first class, part-time administrator. Matt DeJulio has done a superb job improving SHCA operations. Our Board recently authorized upgrading office equipment to further enhance his efficiency.

Society Hill Reporter: The quality of this newsletter—one of the finest volunteer community newsletters in the nation—has been improved, thanks to the leadership of long-time Editor (and Vice President) Bernice Hamel and dedicated Co-Editors Vicki Chatley, Carole LeFavre Rochester and Sandy Rothman. The Reporter's team of writers, columnists and contributors continues to provide "news you can use." Special thanks to Matt DeJulio who serves as its able Business Manager.

Zoning & Historic Preservation: Vice President Paul Boni has provided outstanding leadership as the chair of this active committee that monitors zoning laws and historic preservation standards. Although the committee has no legal or police authority, its educated team is well respected by regulatory agencies and City Council where its recommendations carry considerable weight.

Sidewalk Maintenance & Graffiti Removal: Dave Stevens, in his self-effacing way, oversees the weekly cleaning of our neighborhood sidewalks by the Center City District. With his helpers he works diligently to remove area graffiti. It is not surprising that he is known as the "Clean-up Czar."

Block Coordinators: Through this new program and thanks to Martha Levine's efforts, every Society Hill street has a block coordinator through whom we receive input and send information to neighbors.

Website: This is another new SHCA initiative. We thank Stu Alter for providing his technical services at nonprofit rates, while Matt DeJulio keeps this valuable informational tool updated.

Initiatives & Leadership: Every leader has a consigliere. Mine is departing Vice President Jim Moss. Jim chaired SHCA's Bylaws Committee, helped guide nominations and elections with Kelly Nelson, and was there for me whenever I needed his sagacious counsel.

Thanks to Kelly Nelson for leading our annual membership drive, since membership dues account for 60 percent of SHCA revenues. Appreciation goes to Debbie Robinson and Bernice Hamel, who coordinate with police and other city agencies regarding Mardi Gras and similar events, crime prevention and other related concerns.

Thanks to Luisa Boverini, Recording Secretary and Frank Hoban, Treasurer; Bonnie Halda, Vice President, who provides professional advice on our Foglietta Plaza planning charrette; Board Director Tania Rorke is coordinating our Spring Neighborhood Clean-Up Day.

SHCA generates revenue from the annual Philadelphia Open House Tour program. Special thanks to Martha Levine (our Welcome Basket Chair as well) and Karen Skafte for coordinating this successful program.

Also thanks go to Keri White for initiating our proactive involvement with the McCall School. My gratitude to Michele Plachter for coordinating our first-class, semi-annual social events at local restaurants and venues.

Elected Officials: The quality of our neighborhood is enhanced by effective elected officials. A major responsibility for the association's president is interfacing with local government. We are indebted to State Representative Marie Lederer, State Senator Vincent Fumo and City Councilman Frank DiCicco for providing us with responsive service. Whenever I contacted them on any important issue, we received their attention and almost always obtained the result we desired. For future improvements at Foglietta Plaza, our community received a grant of \$100,000 from Representative Lederer, a \$25,000 grant from Councilman DiCicco with Senator Fumo providing \$25,000 for other projects. These are the largest grants in SHCA's history.

Passing the Gavel: In my initial President's Message I stated that we are "blessed to live in Society Hill." This blessing requires that we resist "benign neglect" while we embrace our role as stewards of America's "first neighborhood." I salute all neighbors who serve this vision. I am pleased that Liza Seltzer will be SHCA's next president. Society Hill is remarkably fortunate to receive the gift of her capable, seasoned and affable leadership.

—MALCOM LAZIN, PRESIDENT



SHCA President Malcolm Lazin (at left) accepts a \$25,000 check from Councilman Frank DiCicco at SHCA's March 19 General Membership Meeting.

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New Lights For Franklin Lamps

The fixtures in our beloved Franklin Lamps, modeled after Benjamin Franklin's original design, will soon be improved. After 35 years of use, the light fixture at the top of each lamp will provide better street lighting. The pole itself will not be altered, and its overall historical appearance will be retained.

After a long search, the SHCA has unanimously approved a lamp that offers an improved optical system. The new fixture will have the same 70-watt high-pressure sodium bulb installed in many of the existing lights (some 1960's models have only 50 watts), but will include a highly polished reflective plate that will direct light down and out more effectively, resulting in a wider spread of light on the ground. In addition, attractive textured acrylic side panels will replace existing frosted or refractory panels, which can cause an unpleasant glare. The acrylic panels permit more light to pass through the lamp, while reducing glare. A clear bottom panel will provide additional brightness by allowing light to travel down the pole. We think Ben would be very pleased with these lighting improvements.

Philadelphia's Chief Lighting Engineer Joe Doyle provided expert advice and cooperation to our civic association over the last few years. He tells us that our approved model is the state-of-the-art in photometrics. We thank

him for his dedication, hard work and patience in helping us examine alternatives and reach a decision. The change in Franklin lamps throughout Society Hill will be a slow process —starting this year and continuing into the future. In the meantime, call 215-686-5610 to report any Franklin light that has a defective or burned-out bulb, and it will be replaced within in 24 hours.

Reminder

To prevent falls due to our uneven brick sidewalks, it is especially necessary to provide ample light. In addition to the improved new bulbs that will be installed in Franklin lamps, we ask you to supplement street lighting by keeping your front door lights on, preferably connected to a timer so that they turn on automatically at dusk.

Love Your Light Post

As spring arrives and the temperature rises, it is a great time to give some TLC to your nearest and dearest Franklin light post. We will supply the paint; you provide the labor. Each post takes only about five minutes for a two-person team to complete. And once you feel the immediate gratification that comes from seeing the once-grungy light post become sparkling clean, you will want to do the entire block! Contact Matt DeJulio at 215-629-1288 for more information or supplies.



These electrified versions of Benjamin Franklin's improved street lamps are unique to Society Hill, installed during the area's redevelopment period in the 1960's. Philadelphia's original lamps were installed in 1751, using glass globes imported from London. Franklin criticized these lamps in his Autobiography because they were smoky, fragile, and draftless. He suggested composing them of "four flat panes, with a long funnel above to draw up the smoke and crevices admitting air below...."

Neighborhood Social Set for Monday, June 2

Hear ye! Hear ye!

The Society Hill Civic Association is happy to invite all members to step back in time to 18th-century America! City Tavern has graciously offered to host our Spring Fling in its beautiful gardens.

There will be fabulous hors d'oeuvres prepared by its award-winning chef, as well as one complimentary drink per person (cash bar to follow, if needed!). Dare to try one of the more historic beverages, such as George Washington's and Thomas Jefferson's recipes for ale and wine or a "Champagne Shrub." City Tavern will also be offering participants a dinner promotion for future reservations.

This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a benefit of your SHCA membership, and a chance to mingle with neighbors and friends. We hope to see you there!

Monday June 2, 2003 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.


City Tavern: 138 South 2nd Street

Those Invited: All Society Hill Civic Association Members and potential members, if you bring along your \$40 membership fee and join our association at that time!

Reservations required. Please call SHCA Administrator Matt DeJulio by May 20 at 215-629-1288. For any additional questions, please contact our social planner Michele Plachter at 215-574-0120.



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SHCA's Nominees for Officers And Directors

Liza Seltzer, President

A Society Hill neighbor for nine years, Liza Seltzer has been an active SHCA participant since then. From 1996 to 1999, she served as a Southeast Quadrant representative on SHCA's Board of Directors, and in 2001-2002, she served as a Vice President while also co-editing the *Reporter*. Liza has devoted her many talents to several significant local projects. The most impressive, and the one for which we will always be deeply appreciative, was her effort to help establish the Independence Branch Library. Liza spent many years mobilizing the entire community to bring a library to our neighborhood, which shortly after its opening in 2000 became the city's busiest branch.

Liza and her physician husband, Jonathan, have three children. Together Jonathan and Liza are proprietors of a start-up company that provides specialized clinical research services. Somehow Liza also manages to find time to work as a health communications consultant. Prior to the birth of her oldest child, she worked for several years in Latin America promoting family planning and other measures for maintaining good health. She has an undergraduate degree in English from Georgetown University and a masters in International Relations from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, a joint program of Tufts and Harvard Universities.

Liza looks forward to working closely with her neighbors to strengthen quality of life in Society Hill. She believes the Foglietta Plaza initiative and appropriate development of Penn's Landing are two of the most dramatic issues for which SHCA must continue to provide leadership. Smaller projects focused on the safety and cleanliness of our community will also be a priority during her tenure. Finally, Liza hopes to cultivate more active neighborhood participation in the association's various projects as a way to ensure that Society Hill will continue to be one of Philadelphia's most desirable places to live.

Bonnie Halda, Vice President

A resident of Society Hill since 1990, Bonnie Halda served for three years on the Board of Directors of the Society Hill Towers, where she lives with her husband Richard Lush. Since 2002 she has served the SHCA as a Vice President. Bonnie has over 25 years of experience as a historical architect. She holds a management position with the Northeast Region of the National

Park Service, headquartered at the Customs House on Chestnut Street. Currently a member of our civic association's Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee, she was also part of the charrette planning team for Foglietta Plaza and has participated in public meetings to discuss the future of Penn's Landing.

Bernice Hamel, Vice President

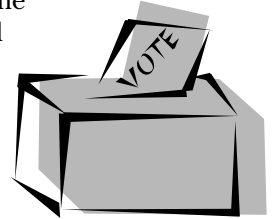
Since her 1987 arrival in Society Hill, Bernice put her professional pen to the test (as it is mightier than the sword!) and became a vocal civic activist. When she observed the deteriorated condition of America's oldest firehouse at Head House Square, Bernice initiated a successful campaign for the building's restoration and preservation. A founder and president of the nonprofit Head House Conservancy, she has been involved in several citywide historic preservation efforts and has served as SHCA's newsletter co-editor and Vice President for several years. She and her husband, Bernard, an environmental scientist, have two grown children and two grandchildren.

Martha Levine, Vice President

Martha Levine, a Society Hill resident for 17 years, has contributed to our community in countless ways—as SHCA Board director and for the past two years as a Vice President. She has either initiated or chaired several projects, including the Welcome Basket and Block Coordinator programs, our Preferred List of Contractors, and the installation of exterior lights on 220 private homes. Currently she is working with city officials to improve Society Hill's Franklin lamps. Martha co-chairs the Society Hill Open House and Garden Tours each May and June. She and her husband, Howard Sedran, are the parents of a school-age daughter.

Kelly Nelson, Vice President

Kelly grew up in Texas and spent several years in Washington D.C. before moving to Philadelphia in 1990. She and her husband, Raymond Quaglia, have lived in Society Hill since 1999. During the last three years Kelly served as a Southeast Quadrant director and chair of the association's Membership Committee, in keeping with her strong personal and professional interest in urban affairs. With a Ph.D. in sociology, she was a faculty member in Temple University's Department of Sociology from 1997 to 2000 until her daughter was born. She and Raymond also have a baby son born in August 2002.





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SHCA's Nominees for Officers And Directors

Luisa Boverini, Recording Secretary

Luisa Boverini is SHCA's Secretary. Originally from Lynn, Massachusetts, Luisa moved to Philadelphia in 2000. She is a doctoral student at the University of Pennsylvania working for her Ed.D. in Higher Education Management. In August, Luisa will marry Dr. Jeff Heit, a resident of Society Hill for the past eight years. They reside in Hopkinson House. Luisa says, "I feel that participating in the Society Hill Civic Association enables me not only to learn about my community, but to make a contribution as well."

Frank Hoban, Treasurer

Frank, a Virginia native, is a long-time on-again, off-again Philadelphia resident who moved to Society Hill seven years ago when relocating from London. He is employed as the Financial Manager for the Rohm and Haas Company. A Temple undergraduate, he received an MBA from Villanova University and currently attends the University of Pennsylvania where he is working towards another master's degree. He spends any spare time (and any spare funds) fixing up his historical townhouse and hanging out with his 13-year-old daughter. For the past three years he has served as SHCA's treasurer.

Robin Komita, Southwest Quadrant Director

Robin, a Society Hill resident since 1995, was born and raised in White Plains, New York. She holds a degree in Industrial Design from Carnegie Mellon University. A registered architect and a member of the American Institute of Architects, she is an Associate with Becker Winston Architects. Her work includes renovation and new construction for institutional, retail and residential clients. Robin and her husband, Mario Moussa, have three children. When she finds time, she enjoys tennis, swimming, biking, yoga, gardening and restoring her 1890's home.

Frank Signorello, Southwest Quadrant Director

Frank Signorello, a Center City resident since 1987, now lives on Lombard Street with his fiancée Catherine Bown. Frank had worked at a Philadelphia firm, Stockard Shipping, for ten years but has since ventured into his own business—the Global Exchange Group, Inc, of which he is a 50 percent owner. Located in Constitution Place at 325 Chestnut Street, the firm specializes in international banking services. His educational background includes bachelor degrees in economics, business and finance, and he is currently completing a master's degree in Environmental Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Michael Erdos, Southeast Quadrant Director

Michael has resided at 309 Delancey Steet since moving to Philadelphia in 1997. He lives there with his wife, Diana, and their three cats. He received a B.A. from Dickinson College, an M.A. from Oxford University, and a J.D. from Yale Law School. He is currently the Assistant Chief of the Economic and Cyber Crimes Unit of the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, as well as a Special Assistant at the United States Attorney's Office. Prior to becoming a prosecutor, he worked on behalf of women's rights for two years. Michael loves living and working in one of America's most historic and beautiful cities; he wants to do his part to help it become truly the "City of Brotherly Love."

Keri White, Northeast Quadrant Director

Keri and her husband Matthew, an attorney, have been members of SHCA since moving here in 1994. As the parents of two young children they have been enthusiastic users and supporters of Three Bears Park and McCall School. Prior to her current full-time role as mother, Keri was a seventh grade teacher who also served as Director of Public Relations for Philadelphia's Police Athletic League. A freelance writer for the University City News and other clients, she recognized the need to provide relevant information to the many young families who now live in our neighborhood—so that they stay in the neighborhood! She has initiated and created a new column for the *Reporter*, "Kids' Beat." Look for her column on subjects related to raising children in Society Hill.

REMEMBER WHEN?



SHCA Board Of Directors—1980-81

Standing left to right: Nancy Frenze, Myrna Field, Fred Edelstein, Liz Ostrander, Helen Rodgers, Jim Straw, Roger Thanhauser, Bob Holtz, Janet Andereck, Tony Schneider, Mike Willmann. Seated left to right: Carole Saft, Aaron Beyer, Bill Filmeyer.



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It's Not Easy Being Green

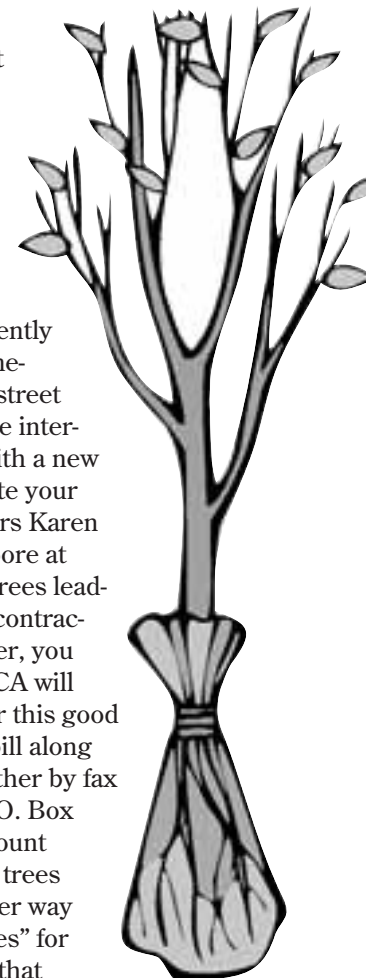
Let SHCA Help Pay for Your New Tree

After the long winter of 2003, all of us are heartened by the beauty of our flowering trees whose delicate pink and white blossoms will be followed by a full explosion of green. Since the early '90s, dismayed by the falling number of healthy street trees in our community, neighbor Jean Bodine spearheaded a drive to encourage the planting and maintenance of trees. Her efforts have born fruit to two volunteer committees in Society Hill: "Tree Tenders" encourages the care of existing trees while "Project Street Trees" facilitates the purchase of new ones. Although street trees officially belong to Fairmount Park, homeowners bear responsibility and liability for trees on their property. It falls upon us as Society Hill citizens to take an interest in keeping our neighborhood green.

The good news is that all of us can become "experts" by taking a free four-session course under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The next sessions are being offered from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on June 11, 18 and 25 and on June 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Even better news is that there is no exam, and upon completing all four sessions, you'll receive a free pruning tool! Does it get any better than that? To sign up for these classes, call Mindy

Maslin, project manager of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society at 215-988-8800. Meanwhile, the Tree Tenders are recruiting volunteers to help maintain our street trees. For more information on Tree Tenders, call either SHCA member Cherry Bombeck at 215-627-1356 or Lauren Lane at 215-925-8486.

More good news: SHCA's Board recently increased its dollar allowance to homeowners for the purchase of any new street tree—from \$100 to \$150. So if you are interested in beautifying your property with a new tree, Project Street Trees can facilitate your purchase. Contact our good neighbors Karen Skafte at 215-925-2656 or Martha Moore at 215-574-9025. These Project Street Trees leaders will direct you to an appropriate contractor to handle the job. As a homeowner, you will pay in full for your new tree; SHCA will reimburse you to the tune of \$150 for this good deed. Just send a copy of your paid bill along with a brief note to SHCA's office, either by fax (215-629-9914) or by mail (SHCA, P.O. Box 63503, Phila, PA 19147). Both Fairmount Park and PHS have lists of approved trees for our locale and climate. What better way to welcome spring than to "think trees" for a lasting contribution to Society Hill that is both practical and beautiful!



Real Estate Tax Update

Did You Appeal Your Increase? If So, Read On!

For homeowners who appealed their recent real estate tax increase, please be aware that all Board of Revision of Taxes (BRT) hearings for the 5th Ward—which includes Society Hill—have been scheduled on a block-by-block basis. At press time, some of these hearings have already occurred. For example, residents of the 200 block of Spruce Street appeared before the BRT on April 9 and were told that they would receive the results of their appeal in about 10 days after their hearing date.

Councilman Frank DiCicco and his staff made a presentation at that hearing, and will continue to participate in all BRT hearings to support Society Hill residents who have appealed their real estate tax increases. The Councilman has argued that these increases should not exceed 10 percent in a single year. In fact, the Councilman helped resurrect legislation vetoed by Mayor Street last fall that would provide a 10 percent cap (Bill No. 030014). City Council recently passed this bill, and it is now before the mayor who will have signed or vetoed it no later than April 24, 2003 (just prior to distribution of this newsletter).

Letter to the Editors...

Re: Penn's Landing

As a Society Hill resident since 1964 and as Chairman of Penn's Landing Corporation from 1981 to 1997, I write to correct two misstatements in the President's Message in the March/April 2003 issue. That message wrongly says that Penn's Landing "was planned as an urban waterfront park," which was somehow "for 20 years turned...over to developers to dictate its features." I hope that these are not popular misconceptions.

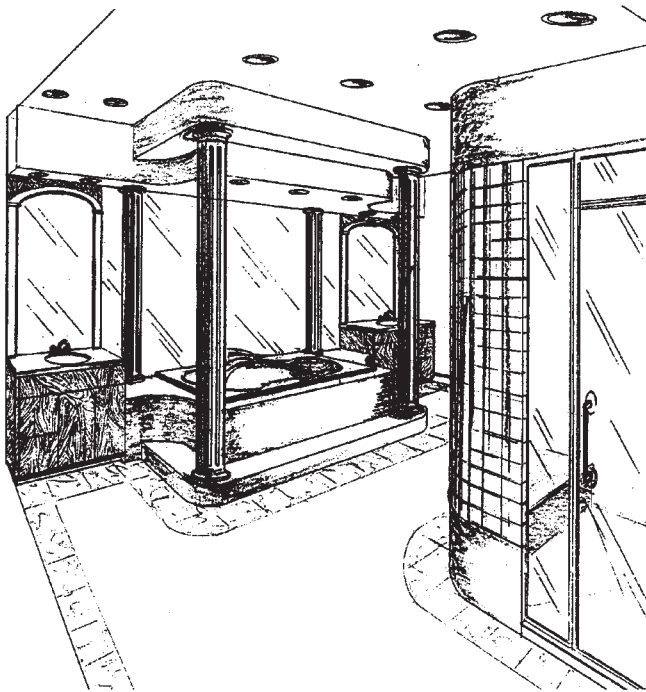
The first Master Plan for Penn's Landing, issued by the City of Philadelphia in 1963, called for extensive building, including a "tower-type office building," and "one or more hotel/motel installations," but no park. Successive master plans promulgated by the Penn's Landing Corporation in the early 1970's and 1980's further refined this concept of a mixed-use development which would bring economic activity, and hence jobs and tax revenues, to our city. There were

increased public spaces, but they were primarily to encourage and enhance private development. Penn's Landing has never been turned over to developers, except for the Chart House Restaurant and the Hyatt Hotel. Most of the reasons why so many developers failed to commit to the project were economic, but surely one of the difficulties from the developers' viewpoint was the repeated insistence of the City that the developers follow the public interest guidelines set forth in the various master plans.

That said, my own views have indeed evolved in the direction which Malcolm Lazin now urges. I still believe that there should be both public and private space, but I would now shift the emphasis more in favor of public space, and even park space. I applaud Lazin's call for a new look at the potentialities of Penn's Landing with the help of "nationally recognized planning professionals."

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* and the University of Pennsylvania have recently held four superb open meetings on Penn's Landing, which brought concerned citizens and top-level professionals together. The excellent published results of these meetings should be the starting point for the planning effort by neighborhood civic associations. But here I sound a caution with regard to hiring planning professionals. The old saying, "Where you go is what you get" applies. To pick a landscape firm, for example, is inevitably to choose a park. The real questions to be asked are: "What do we want, what makes the best sense, and by what process do we find out what we want and what makes sense?" The correct choice of planner is crucial, and must be made in a very careful way.

—*Stanhope S. Browne,*
April 2, 2003



J&L

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Planning for Penn's Landing:

The Debate Continues

An engaging and highly charged evening of ideas was spent at the Seaport Museum on March 13 when the *Inquirer* and the University of Pennsylvania jointly sponsored and presented three planning charrettes for the future of Penn's Landing. Each charrette was designed by a different group of professionals who teamed with concerned citizens, and each depicted a different vision for Penn's Landing.

After viewing these three concepts, the approximately 250 attendees, including many neighbors, were divided into 15 groups to discuss, compare and contrast these concepts, and then each group voted for their preferred plan. The winning design was titled "Making Independence Harbor Work." It featured a central green space for public events at Penn's Landing, with museums and other structures built over a covered I-95, between Market and Dock Streets. The next preferred plan, based on the voting tally, was titled "A Respite from the City." This proposed mostly green or park-like space with a structure accommodating light retail businesses located at Market Street. The third plan, "A Vibrant New Neighborhood," also created a cover over I-95 for both low- and mid-rise housing, which would then be accompanied with shops and restaurants.

Developers and architects were well represented at this session, which may have skewed the results. However, the professionals in one group quickly pointed out the pitfalls of building a cover over I-95: it would be an expensive option that would cause environmental problems for venting automotive exhaust fumes.

Later in the program, the seven developers previously selected by the City of Philadelphia to

submit proposals had an opportunity to address the entire group and to display preliminary sketches of their respective visions for Penn's Landing. All depicted extensive development, but retained a certain amount of public and green space. Some projected a very active scene—containing no "respite from the city" in these concepts.

Overall, it was interesting to hear the many differing points of view about how best to recreate Penn's Landing so that it will be functional, enjoyable, and not be a drain on city resources and finances. In fact, both developers and citizens said that for financial viability a good mix of both commercial and public park space would be ideal. A degree of commercial development was deemed desirable to ensure that there is continuous site activity—a safety issue. While some people said they would prefer to see lots of green space, others think parks are not well-enough used and find them to be generally fearful places where vagrants can gather.

Parking was an important concern for some attendees and an idea ignored by others. But there was unanimous agreement that the tram over the Delaware River, connecting Camden to Penn's Landing and which is already under construction, is a waste of time, money and effort. Many attendees favored a better connection between Penn's Landing and the 2nd Street subway station, a goal presented by all three of the charrettes.

In April the City of Philadelphia, through the Commerce Department and Penn's Landing Corporation, issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) from developers.

Three planning charrettes were discussed and voted upon at a public forum held March 13.



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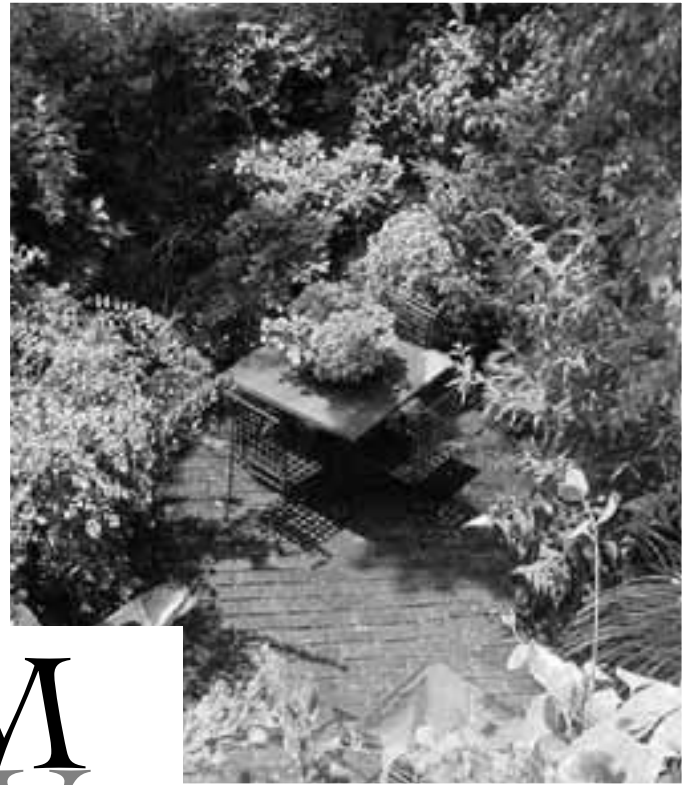
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CPNA – Effective Neighbors Working Together

Activist Appointed To Zoning Board

I hope you're sitting down, folks. Mayor Street has recently appointed Judith Eden, a longtime civic and historic preservation activist, to an available opening on the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA). Eden is the former Zoning Chair of Center City Residents' Association and she has worked with the Coalition of Philadelphia Neighborhood Associations (CPNA) and SCRUB, a nonprofit, citywide anti-blight organization.

You may recall that Eden was one of six names CPNA presented to the mayor earlier this year as the kind of person our neighborhoods would like to see on the ZBA—someone familiar with zoning laws and with a neighborhood-friendly perspective. Well, the mayor heard us. Judith brings superlative credentials and integrity to the job, and we are thrilled to have “one of our own” in this sensitive position.

Additionally, David Auspitz, a longtime Zoning Board member with a strong community background, replaces Tom Kelly as the ZBA chairman. Sam Staten, of Laborer's Local 332, also has been named a member of this board.

CPNA Questions The Candidates

It is important to our neighborhood and often for our own personal welfare to know the views held by candidates running for elective office in Philadelphia—BEFORE casting our ballots in the May primary election. But acquiring that information is not always so easy. This is why the Coalition of Philadelphia Neighborhood Associations (CPNA) developed and sent a list of questions to all candidates asking their views on a wide range of subjects that affect local quality-of-life issues. The questionnaire's format utilized a “yes/no” format to make it convenient for candidates to respond.

The questions posed to the candidates covered such topics as outdoor advertising, protecting public spaces, no-cost public access to crime statistics for each police district, how to balance the city's budget, and how riverboat gambling or other proposed forms of gambling would affect our neighborhoods. Candidates were asked for their views on reducing the city wage tax, shifting to a land value tax on property, capping real estate tax increases at 10 percent and improving collection of delinquent property taxes.

Property issues received a lot of attention, including improved code enforcement by Licenses and Inspections (L&I), public access to L&I records and notice of proposed zoning variances to neighbors and local community groups. Candidates were asked how they feel about proposals to give residents an equitable say in proceedings before City Council and if they support a limit on campaign contributions and convenient public access to campaign finance records. The final queries asked: (1) What does each candidate think is the number one problem facing Philadelphia? (2) What are the candidate's top priorities, if elected?

Because all responses were not yet tallied by press time, we cannot publish the results in this newsletter. However, CPNA will have the candidates' responses tabulated, summarized, and sent to all neighborhood organizations prior to the May 20 election. SHCA, as a participating member of the coalition, will receive the report, so please contact Matt DeJulio at 215-629-1288 or mattdejulio@aol.com. for your copy which you can receive either through your e-mail or by hard copy. We thank CPNA and its President, Colleen Puckett, for this thoughtful and excellent service.

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Summer Activities For Young Ones

With summer rapidly approaching and the end of school drawing near, we will soon face the challenge of occupying kids during those long hot days. Fortunately, we live in a place that provides a wealth of constructive activities for children while giving us parents much needed breathers. Here are some unique opportunities available for them (and you!):

Society Hill Dance Academy: This bright, spacious, immaculate facility located at Headhouse Square will be offering a Ballroom Dance camp for boys and girls ages 4 -17. Camp runs from Monday, June 23 through Friday, August 1. Sessions are Monday - Friday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. with a snack provided, outdoor breaks, and time for campers to eat their brownbag lunches. Grouped according to age, campers will enjoy stretching activities and receive instruction in smooth dancing (waltz, fox trot, tango) along with rhythmic dancing (swing, rumba, salsa, merengue). The campers will showcase their talents at the end of the six weeks with a performance for family and friends. The cost for the program is \$750. Call Shana or Charlie at 215-574-3574 for more information.

Academy of Natural Sciences Carver Summer Scholars Program: Located on Logan Circle, this unique camp offers fifth-through-eighth graders the chance to study water quality and the watershed in Philadelphia. During the three-week programs (July 7 - 25 for seventh and eighth graders and July 28 - August 5 for fifth and sixth graders), campers conduct research, take trips, employ the scientific method, gather data and present their findings. Camp runs from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday - Friday. Tuition at \$45 for the three-week session is heavily subsidized. Contact Carrie Szalay at 215-299-1057 or visit www.acnatsci.org for more information.

Franklin Institute: Campers age 6 -13 will study various scientific themes through field trips, hands-on experiments, guest speakers and museum exploration. Camp dates are from June 16 - August 22, and the Institute offers a one-week option with a new topic each Monday. The hours are from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday - Friday, with an extended day program available. Cost is \$275 for one week and \$555 for the two-week session. Contact Vanessa Atkins at 215-448-2195 or visit www.fi.edu for details.

Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts: This program offers campers age 6 - 15 a chance to experiment with various art techniques based on a weekly theme such as animation, sculpture, comic books, drawing, etc. Dates are July 14 - August 15 with a week-by-week option. The camp runs from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Monday-Friday, with an exhibition of the children's work every Friday at 2 p.m. Extended day is available. The cost is \$190 per week with discounts offered for multiple week registration. Call 215-972-2061 or visit www.pafa.org for more information.

Philadelphia Zoo: Children age 4 -15 are welcome at this camp offering a variety of activities centered, obviously, around animal themes. They will learn about the habits of animals, interact with some of them and participate in their care and feeding. They will also enjoy arts and crafts sessions and other activities. There are many options for scheduling; half day, full day or extended day plans, with prices varying. One week, half-day session is \$115; two week, full-day session is \$360. Call 215-243-5311 for details.

Many cultural and educational institutions offer children's summer programs. We hope this helps you find the right program for your young ones.

Kid's Quote

"We don't have a car. We have cabs."

Isabel, age 3

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Kids' Beat

Neighbors Gather to Consider McCall School

On Monday, March 24, Society Hill Civic Association convened an open meeting at McCall School, located at 6th and Delancey Streets. Approximately 40 people, mostly from Society Hill, created a standing-room only crowd. Their response to the presentation was truly overwhelming.

Mrs. Reah Force, the Reading Specialist and Coordinator; Mrs. Rachel Keenan, Kindergarten Teacher; and Mrs. Barbara Rachubinski, Mentally Gifted Program Teacher, represented McCall and offered the enthusiastic audience opportunities for an extensive Q&A session. Mrs. Force, a teacher at McCall for 18 years, emphasized the low student/teacher ratio, high quality of the faculty, the strong caliber of instruction and the diversity of the student body. Mrs. Force explained that McCall is such a desirable school for teachers that it attracts the most experienced professionals in the district. Turnover is virtually non-existent. This stability benefits both the students and the staff. She also described the language instruction, which begins with daily Chinese lessons in kindergarten.

Mrs. Force described the importance of the school's location. Being in Center City, the students experience many opportunities for enrichment from cultural institutions and corporations. Walnut Street Theatre has adopted the school and is assisting with the Drama Club performance for the second year in a row.

In addition, the theatre invited grades K-5, along with their parents, to the dress rehearsal of *Rapunzel*. Also, Rohm & Haas provides a weekly reading program for first graders. It has donated \$1000 per class to expand classroom libraries. Comcast provides a reading program to kindergarten through second grade.

Mrs. Rachubinski described the Mentally Gifted Program in detail. When a student is identified as mentally gifted, Mrs. Rachubinski creates an individually tailored educational plan. The student then has the opportunity to work with her for one full day per week in a small group or one-on-one setting, exploring various themes and topics of interest. The group will soon be taking a boat trip on the Delaware River for water quality experiments and to learn about the watershed.

Meeting attendees asked many questions ranging from the number of computers in classrooms (minimum 3, and a computer lab with 30) to building security (one entrance, always monitored.) Responses were met with smiles and general amazement at the opportunities that could be afforded their children tuition-free with guaranteed admission. Interest in McCall is obviously on the rise. Tours of the school are given Wednesday mornings. For information, call Mrs. Reah Force: 215-351-7350. As several parents pointed out, "This neighborhood school makes sense!"

—KERI WHITE



McCall School

McCall School & Keri White: A Neighbor in Action

One Monday in late March, Keri White witnessed a near tragedy on 6th Street. Two young boys exited their family's automobile en route to school and were nearly run over by a speeding car as they attempted to cross. This incident terrified everyone in the immediate area and brought to the forefront a problem that has existed for months: There is no warning light or 15 mph speed limit sign on the 6th Street side of McCall School. Despite the fact that school buses operate from this location and children are dropped off and picked up there, cars continuously exceed safe speed limits.

Keri was so upset by the gravity of this danger that she called Councilman Frank DiCicco's office, explaining the problem to one of the Councilman's aides, whose response was sympathetic and immediate. Within two hours, Keri received a call back from his office, reporting that they had broken through the bureaucratic system and obtained the appropriate form so that the school could acquire the needed traffic signage. The form was forwarded to McCall's principal, and when filled out will be submitted to the correct agency. ...How's that for responsible public service?

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Zoning & Historic Preservation

As usual, SHCA's Zoning & Historic Preservation Committee has been working to retain our neighborhood's unique assets. And, as usual, there are always issues that come before the committee. If you have a question related to either zoning or historic preservation, please contact Committee Chair Paul Boni at paulboni@bonilaw.com or SHCA Administrator Matt DeJulio at Mattdejulio@aol.com or 215-629-1288.

The following two sites were presented at the committee's April 14 meeting.

St. Peter's School, at 319 Lombard Street

Roger Thanhauser, a long-time neighbor representing the school's board of directors, made a presentation to our committee. The school plans to install an attractive protective awning at the main entrance, which will provide children a level of protection from rain while waiting to enter the school building. Two neighbors from the block expressed concern that the awning would attract vagrants at other times of the day or night. Thanhauser suggested that the school could install a motion-activated light to discourage them. The committee discussed the pros and cons of the installation and determined that the school itself would likely monitor against misuse of

the awning. If the awning installation does become a problem, the school's directors will likely remove it themselves. The committee supports this well-designed installation, as did the staff of the Historical Commission.

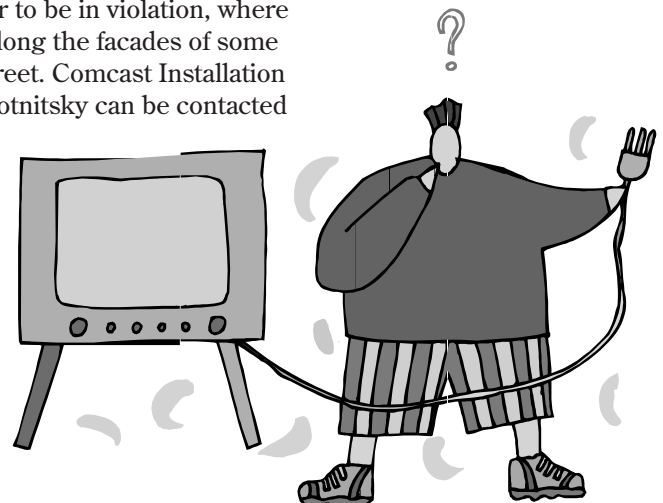
612 Spruce Street

The owners of this private residence wish to make a change at the rear of their house, which faces Cypress Street. The change would be visually consistent with this alley-like street filled with garage doors and gates. Their plan is to remove the building's first level rear ell to expand its now existing and most likely illegal car port. The plan would require altering the appearance and size of the current door facing Cypress Street. Although the plan received approval from the Historical Commission, it was brought to a halt by L&I for two reasons: the design of the garage gate is too high and therefore illegal according to code; and because the overall plan for the rear yard infringes on code-determined open space. After much discussion, the committee decided not to oppose the parking spot, since it already exists, as long as the newly installed garage door or gate will be aesthetically pleasing and open out rather than up as do most automatic, overhead metal garage doors.

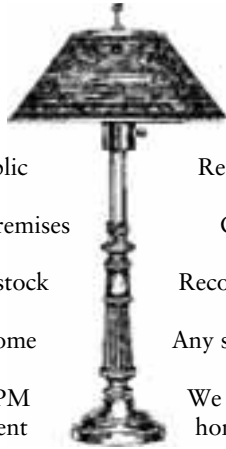
TV Cables on Home Facades: A Definite No-No!

The Society Hill Civic Association has a long-standing agreement and commitment from any cable TV franchise company serving Society Hill (now Comcast) not to attach TV cabling on facades that face public streets in Society Hill. (Cables can be applied to the rear of buildings, however.) Related aspects of this agreement are also supported by the requirements of Society Hill's Historic District designation under Philadelphia's Historic Preservation Ordinance. Under the provisions of Historical District designation, changes to the external facade of any buildings within the district require Philadelphia Historic Commission approval—even if a building permit is not otherwise needed. Such alterations include, but are not limited to, re-roofing, cleaning or pointing masonry, etc.

Block captains are encouraged to review their neighborhood areas to determine if TV cabling is installed in violation of the Society Hill Civic Association's agreement with Comcast. Several existing cable installations on the 500 block of Spruce Street appear to be in violation, where cabling is running along the facades of some homes facing the street. Comcast Installation Supervisor Betty Brotnitsky can be contacted at 215-952-4942 to discuss any problems regarding incorrectly installed TV cabling. She indicated that she will be happy to correct the problem.



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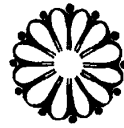
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Seasonal Farmers' Markets Will Open In May

That delicious time of year is upon us—when the bounty produced by local farmers is available in our own neighborhood. Sweet strawberries! Tender asparagus! Plump red tomatoes! Society Hill is indeed fortunate to have two farmers' markets offering fresh produce picked at its peak.

Every Tuesday between 2 and 7 p.m., the South & Passyunk Farmers' Market, run by Farm to City, offers locally grown seasonal food on Passyunk Avenue at South Street. On Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., the 2nd and South Street Farmers' Market, operated by The Food Trust, sets up shop along 2nd Street at South. Each market has its own select group of purveyors, who offer meat, poultry, fish, eggs, baked goods, soap and other products in addition to fruits and veggies. The items differ at each market, so you will want to visit both. The Passyunk market begins its season May 20, while the one on 2nd Street opens May 31.

Returning to Passyunk are your favorite organic producers—plus three new purveyors: Meadow Run Farm (grass-fed meats, poultry and dairy products); Energeia Farm (vegetables and herbs); and Forest View Bakery (Amish baked goods). Farm to City is joining with other groups this season to launch a "Buy Fresh-Buy Local" campaign urging consumers to purchase their fresh foods directly from farmers in Southeast Pennsylvania.

Several new farmers are coming to the 2nd Street Market, among which are: Sommerton Tank Farms (a farm within Philadelphia offering gourmet greens and unusual vegetables); Bob Pope (fruit and vegetables); and Sugar Hill Botanicals (vegetables). Many favorites will back, such as: Northstar Orchard (fruit, soap, jelly, butter, sauces); Margerum's Herbs (herbs, spices and produce); B & L Grassland Farms (eggs and grass-fed meat); and Endless Mountains Cabin Maple Syrup (syrup products).



The Farmers' Markets are back!

Buy A Bench For A Bear:

Become A Friend Of Three Bears Park

The Friends of Three Bears Park is a non-profit organization, incorporated in 1989 to maintain and enhance Society Hill's friendly neighborhood playground at Delancey Street between 3rd and 4th Streets. Over the years, the Friends have addressed a variety of the park's needs, such as: replacing the decrepit fountain with a tree and flower garden; hiring private contractors to prune and care for the park's trees; and funding general maintenance of park grounds and equipment to enhance safety and enjoyment for the park's users.

The Friends' current project is to refurbish the bee-infested benches throughout Three Bears Park and St. Peter's Walkway. These large bees—which are generally harmless but often frighten young children and occasionally sting—have burrowed many destructive holes in the benches' wooden slats. The goal is to maintain the unique character of these cement and wooden benches (which were created specifically for Three Bears Park) by replacing all of the bee-infested wooden slats with slats of recycled wood that will not attract these bees and will eliminate their current breeding area.

If you and your family have experienced the congenial atmosphere that exists uniquely in Three Bears Park, consider marking those memories by funding our bench renewal project. Send your tax-deductible check, made payable to The Friends of Three Bears Park.



PARK BENCH DONATION FORM

I am (We are) making a donation to the Friends of Three Bears Park Bench Fund. All donations are 100 percent tax deductible!

_____ **\$750 Full Bench Sponsor**

A plaque with your name will appear on a bench, if you'd like.

_____ **\$300 Partial Bench Sponsor**

A plaque with your name and two additional sponsor's names will appear on a bench.

_____ **\$50 Slat Sponsor**

Your donated slat will be one of 16 that make up a bench.

_____ Other Contribution

Name (as you wish it to appear on plaque):

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In 2002, I Sold over \$42 Million in Center City Real Estate and on average I sold my listings in Less than 1 Month!

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Real Estate is a changing Industry and the Internet is that change. I have personally developed a very successful system to utilize the best **Marketing & Technology** available to get my clients the most amount of money in the least time. Your home may be your greatest investment, shouldn't you have the best Realtor representing it?

According to the National Association of Realtors:

- Almost 50% of all people interested in buying or selling real estate search the Internet. The use is significantly higher in urban areas, like Philadelphia
- 92% of Home Sellers want a virtual tour of their property on the internet
- 63% of Internet users found that the Internet helped reduce their search
- The vast majority of Top-producing Realtors have 2 things in common: an in-depth website and a team of full-time professionals assisting them
- A home with a virtual tour receives 40% more showings than one without

Did you know that most real estate agents in Center City:

- DO NOT have an internet presence or provide virtual tours
- DO NOT have assistants or buyers agents to help sell their listings
- DO NOT advertise or market their own listings
- Some DO NOT even use the Multiple Listing Service

Please Contact Me Prior to Listing Your Home Because:

- I employ 2 assistants, a marketing director, web master & 6 buyers agents
- I spend \$100,000 annually on marketing & run major advertisements weekly
- I have the most comprehensive real estate website in the Delaware Valley
- I am the #1 Selling Society Hill Resident Realtor

The following are a few features on my site CenterCityRealEstate.com

- Access to the entire Center City Multiple Listing Service, updated DAILY!
- Get information on EVERY MLS home for sale in Society Hill & Center City
- View a virtual tour & pictures of all of my listings in Society Hill & Center City
- View all MLS homes that have sold in Center City for the past 2 years

Receive a FREE Phone or E-mail analysis of your home's Current Market Value

As a seasoned professional who lives in and sells Society Hill, I am extending my services and expertise to you by offering a **free, no obligation market analysis of your home** so that you can find out what your home is worth, learn more about my services and find out what makes the Atacan Group so different from all the others hundreds of Realtors in Philadelphia. **I think you will find, like all my other satisfied clients, that there is no comparison.**

**“Jazz in the Garden”
at Physick House**

Don your favorite party attire and join the Friends of the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks for “Jazz in the Garden” featuring the fabulous Toni Miceli Trio, at the historic Physick House (321 South 4th Street) on Wednesday, June 25, between 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Enjoy special hors d’oeuvres prepared by award-winning chef/proprietor Walter Staib and his City Tavern. Wines from Beringer-Blass Wine Estates and ale from Yards Brewing Company will be offered along with a full premium open bar.

Tickets will cost \$40 at the door, but purchasing tickets in advance is recommended. For Landmarks members advance tickets cost \$30 and for non-members tickets cost \$35. To make your reservation, please call 215-925-2251 or e-mail phila.landmarks@verizon.net. The event will be held regardless of weather conditions.

Garden Tour Benefits SHCA

What is more pleasing to the eye than a display of colorful blooms cradled among a background of green leaves? Add the sweet aroma of fresh flowers and maybe the gurgle of a fountain, and you have discovered a backyard paradise. Many such delights can be found at the Society Hill Garden Tour on Sunday, June 1 between 1 and 4 p.m. Last year 16 residential and public gardens welcomed 285 visitors to view the treasures hidden behind our urban streetscape. Plan to join the self-guided walking tour this year.

Please contact the Philadelphia Open House office at 215-928-1188 for a brochure and tickets. The cost is \$30 per person and benefits SHCA, which receives two-thirds of the net proceeds.



Meanwhile, if you are among the horticulturally gifted and would like to have your garden placed on the tour, please contact Martha Levine, tour co-chair, at 215-629-0727 or marthalev@aol.com.



**Jazz Vespers at
Old Pine Church**

Sunday, May 18 @ 5 PM

Tim Shumacher Trio with Rev. Cornelius Eaddy

Sunday, June 15 @ 5 PM

Father John D’Amico Trio with Rev. Augustella Clay

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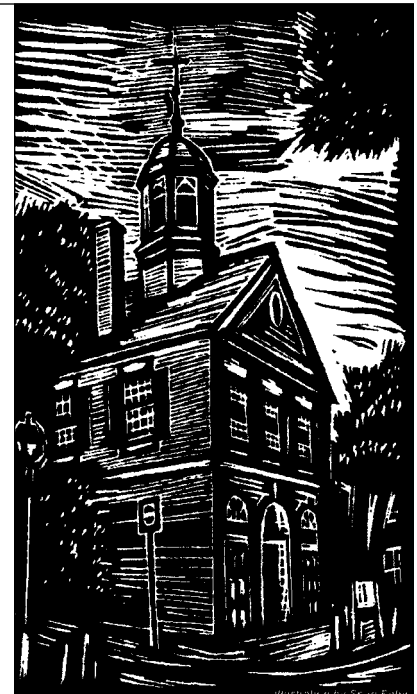
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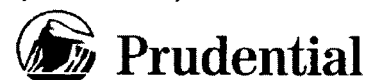


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- 218 Delancey** **\$1,100,000**
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- 308 S. 2nd Street** **\$895,000**
Virtual Tour# 3037395. Historic 3+BR Twhs, Circa 1810. 2.5 baths, gorg orig oak flrs + lush prvt garden.
- 502 Lombard Street** **\$575,000**
Virtual Tour# 4137869. Lovely 3BR, 3.5bth Twhs w/garage, garden, deck, den/office, c/a + fireplace.
- 637 Addison Street** **\$479,900**
Beautiful, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 bth home, fam rm/den in bsmt, h/w floors t/o, wd burn f/p, large decked-in-yard, c/a.
- 610 Pine** **\$495,000**
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- 509 S. Hancock Street** **\$189,900**
Virtual Tour# 4143071. Beaut 2BR home in lovely, private courtyard setting. New roof + kit, hrdwd flrs.
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Old Pine Center: 25 Years & Going Strong!

If sounds wafting out from the Old Pine Community Center are intriguing to passers-by, one wonders what the pious Revolution era ancestors resting in peace in the adjacent churchyard would think. The cheery babble of children in day care and the pre-and after-school programs would be recognizable, but what would the generation of powdered white wigs and whale-bone corsets make of the week-night thud thud and raucous shouting that accompany the coed basketball and volleyball leagues? Or the music blasting forth on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings? JazzExercise sessions! Jazz-exercisers, ranging in age from 20-something to 60-plus, bounce, stretch and gyrate aerobically to rock and roll, salsa and country western music. "They'd think they were from another planet," Liz Ostrander admits with a chuckle. She and her husband Dick, long-time Society Hill residents and community activists—he's a former SHCA president—were instrumental in the creation of the center, which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary.

"Society Hill was just taking off then, but there was no place for groups to meet. The neighborhood needed a day care center. St. Peter's School needed additional classrooms and a gym. The national Presbyterian Church, which built its historical society at 5th and Lombard, needed more space for its archives (which now run continuously in a block-long vault beneath the Historical Society and community center).

"You put all those needs together and you get a consortium that was able to build the community center—a place to meet that is clean and safe and adequate for every size group from

three to 200 people. According to Liz, "not a single dime of federal money went into building the center."

A weekly calendar of events indicates regular meetings of every sort—all nonsectarian except for Sunday morning Sunday school. A sampling includes: the occasional wedding; regular meetings for all kinds of organizations, such as Weight Watchers, Tai Chi, and Alcoholics Anonymous; sports (e.g. Wheelchair Sports); and many children's programs—Saturday art classes, after-school and summer-long tutoring programs, music for infants and toddlers, a summer day camp, a computer lab—the list goes on and on. Of course, SHCA conducts many of its monthly meetings at the center.

Liz and Dick have shepherded a weekly Saturday morning social for 120 seniors that began in April 1978. "It's our primary joy," she says. "All other area senior centers are closed on weekends. Ours has no means test, no admission fee and you can be Catholic, Jewish, Buddhist, Presbyterian or nothing. There's a morning snack, a full lunch and a take-home bag, but what the seniors really come for is to be with somebody and make friends."

The Community Center depends on rental fees and donations for its \$550,000 annual budget. For information on renting the facilities, volunteering to tutor a child in the after-school and summer programs, or for the dates and times of any group that meets at the center, call 215-627-2493.

Somebody once called the community center "Society Hill's playhouse." It's true—and 25 years later, there's still no other place like it!

The Old Pine Community Center recently celebrated its 25th Anniversary.

GRAFFITI CZAR DAVE STEVENS AT WORK



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Greetings To New Neighbors

Are You a New Homeowner in Society Hill? If so, you are eligible to receive a Welcome Basket, SHCA's exceptional way of welcoming you to our community. Each basket contains delicious fresh foods from area businesses, information about Philadelphia attractions, and gift certificates to local restaurants, theaters, shops and salons. This is a treat you can enjoy for months! These baskets have been very well received, and as expressed by one happy recipient: "We enjoyed the fresh items immediately and have now been taking advantage of the restaurant and theater specials one by one." If you are a new Society Hill home or condo owner as of 2002-2003, contact Martha Levine at 215-629-0727 or marthalev@aol.com to receive your basket.

We are pleased to announce that six new area businesses are now contributing to the basket program: American Pie Contemporary Crafts, Brescia Salon, John Romano Men's Hair Stylist, Dairy Queen, Society Hill Dance Academy, and Patricia Bentz K-9 Training. Please patronize these generous contributors.

Eateries

Bridget Foy's
City Tavern
Cosi
Creperie Beau Monde
Dairy Queen
Fork
Hard Rock Cafe
Judy's Cafe
Knave of Hearts
Liquid Blue
Mustard Greens
Overtures
Panorama Ristorante
Sfizzio Ristorante
Zeke's Deli

Food Stores

Fresh Fields
Homemade Goodies by Roz
Mom's Pizza
Mums & Pops Confectionary
Metropolitan Bakery
Pink Rose Pastry Shop
Rita's Water Ice
Starbucks Coffee Co.
Chef's Market
Old City Coffee
ShopRite
SuperFresh

Salons

Brescia Salon
Citrus
East End Salon
John Romano
Men's Hair Stylist
Pileggi on the Square
Salon @ 5th

Theaters/Music

Arden Theater
Mann Music Center
Pennsylvania Ballet
Phila Shakespeare Festival
Philomel Concerts, Inc.
Phila Chamber Ensemble
Ritz Theaters
Society Hill Playhouse
Wilma Theater

Shops/Museums

American Pie Crafts
Ghost Tours of Philadelphia
Independence Seaport Museum
Lights of Liberty
National Liberty Museum
Show of Hands Gallery

Other Services

Patricia Bentz K-9
Philadelphia Sports Clubs
Riff Cleaners
Society Hill Dance Academy
SCULPT-Personal Training & Fitness
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NOTEWORTHY NEIGHBORS

Jeremy Siegel and Ellen Schwartz

Nineteenth-century economist Thomas Malthus gloomily predicted that the world's population would increase beyond our capacity to feed people, thus earning for economics the description "the dismal science."

Noted economist Jeremy Siegel has a more upbeat view of his profession. The author of *Stocks for the Long Run*, which sold a bullish 300,000 plus copies, became interested in the stock market's ups and downs while a junior at Columbia University. After earning a Ph.D. at MIT, followed by post-doctoral work at Harvard, he became, at the tender age of 26, a professor at the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business. There he encountered and became a disciple of Nobel prize-winning economist Milton Friedman, a persuasive defender of free markets.

In 1976, Siegel received an invitation from Tony Santomero, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, to join him as a professor at Penn's Wharton School. Shortly after he arrived in the city he received another offer from Santomero—a blind date with "a nice young woman named Ellen Schwartz," a speech pathologist. Arrangements were made for the pair to meet, which was then postponed when Siegel flew back to Chicago for ceremonies surrounding a Nobel Prize for Friedman. This was a pretty good excuse for canceling a date noted the couple, as they reminisced about their marriage in the Society Hill apartment Jeremy acquired soon after his arrival in Philadelphia 27 years ago. (Yes, the date did eventually take place!)

Nineteen eighty was a banner year for the pair, with Jeremy becoming tenured at Wharton, the birth of a son and, the economist recalls, "gold topping out at \$860 an ounce." (It's about \$320 today). A second son came along in 1986, and both boys, the couple agree, have benefited from growing up in an urban environment. And not just any old cityscape! Jeremy Siegel is delighted that from their 30th-story apartment they can see not only the birthplace of the nation's government, but also its financial underpinnings, such as the Federal Reserve Bank and the Philadelphia Mint.

When Jeremy isn't teaching and writing and Ellen isn't practicing speech pathology, they enjoy going to the movies, theater, restaurants, and travel. They also collect glass ornaments from the many places they've visited. Ellen is a talented glass blower whose works adorn their high-altitude condo as well as their sea-level home at Longport, NJ. They are planning a trip to Stockholm and St. Petersburg this summer. But first, Jeremy must meet the looming deadline for his new book about long-term investments in the post-bubble economy. Mostly, he says, that's about what one might call "putting your money where your youth is"—in other words, in multilateral or indigenous companies operating in countries where the population is relatively young.

Beyond that, I can't say anymore than recommend a buy order. But I can say that Dr. Siegel is more Friedman than Malthus—and certainly not dismal about the world of economics.

—DAVID WOODS

Jeremy's new book about long-term investments rates a "buy" order.



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Roland and Susan Garramone were relocating from Los Angeles to Philadelphia so that Roland could take a new and better position within his company. From the beginning, they knew they wanted a different kind of home buying experience—better than the difficult real estate situations they had encountered in the past. They wanted to pick the right agent—one who would be honest with them, put their interests first, and be a professional.

When we first met, I explained to them the benefits of signing a contract to work with a Buyers' Agent—making a 100% commitment to one agent who will make a 100% commitment to find them a new home. The Garramones were skeptical, but since they were referred to me by a satisfied client, they agreed. Next, I got them pre-approved for a mortgage. Being pre-approved not only helped them to focus on

a price range, it strengthened their offer by letting the seller know they were serious and could afford the home.

As the Garramones Exclusive Buyers' Agent, I devoted my full energy and attention to finding them a home that would meet their needs. I gave them frequent phone and e-mail updates, and in *just 16 days* we found a condo which was EXACTLY what they wanted. They put in an offer with their pre-approval that was accepted.

Buyers looking for a new home sometimes feel it is better to have 4 or 5 agents working for them, but fail to realize that not one of those agents is giving them 100%.

IF YOU FIND AN AGENT YOU TRUST AND COMMIT TO THEM 100%, your home purchase will be much smoother, and you will get what you want and need.

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Community Calendar

Wednesday – May 21

Society Hill Civic Association Annual Meeting & Election

Board Meeting 6 p.m.
Program 7:30 p.m.
Society Hill Synagogue
418 Spruce Street
(see pages 1, 7 & 9)

Tuesday, May 20
& Saturday, May 31

Local Seasonal Farmers' Markets Open

(see page 23)

Sunday, June 1

Society Hill Garden Tour

1 – 4 p.m.
Reservations: Call 215-928-1188
(see page 25)

Monday, June 2

SHCA's "Spring Fling"

Free Neighborhood Social
City Tavern, 138 S. 2nd Street
6 - 8:30 p.m.
(see page 5)

June 11 & June 14

Tree Tenders free course

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
(see page 5)

Wednesday, June 18

SHCA Board of Directors Meeting

(Open to all members)
Old Pine Community Center
4th & Lombard Streets
6 p.m.

Wednesday, June 25

Physick House Social:

"Jazz in the Garden"
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
(See page 25)



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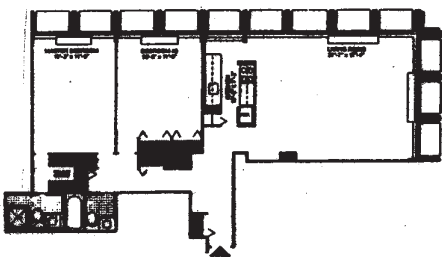
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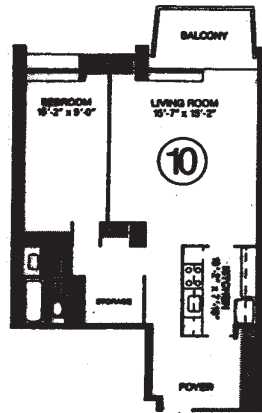
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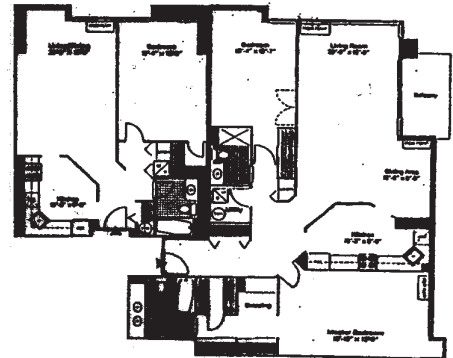
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