



SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.com



**York Row, c 1875**  
Pennsylvania Historical  
Society

## Victory at York Row...

At the end of July, a three-judge panel of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania handed down an important decision. The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) won a victory in its longstanding effort to advocate for historic preservation of the York Row facades on the 700 block of Walnut Street. As you may recall, these three 1810 vintage town homes were incorporated as elements of the recently developed St. James

apartment tower complex. However, during construction in 2003, the historic marble cornices of the townhouses were accidentally destroyed, and with the permission of the Philadelphia Historical Commission they were replaced with fiberglass replicas. The Commonwealth Court ruled in July that the law warranted replacement of the damaged cornices with marble — its original material — and not a fiberglass substitute. After three years of advocacy before the Philadelphia Historical Commission, the Board of License & Inspection Review, the Court of Common Pleas and the Commonwealth Court, the SHCA has prevailed.

While we've reported on this project in previous issues of this newsletter, here's a brief recap. In the 1990s the Philadelphia Historical Commission issued approvals for the entire development project — conditional upon preserving the facades of York Row. When the cornices fell from the top of the facades and smashed onto the marble stoops and sidewalk below, the developer applied to the Historical Commission for permission to replace the cornices with a fiberglass replica. SHCA members participated in the Commission's Architectural Committee hearing, where the architects recommended denial of the developer's request. Their reasoning was based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the treatment of historic properties — a national set of historic preservation standards that the Philadelphia Historical Commission is obligated to consider. Unfortunately and surprisingly, when the developer's request for a fiberglass substitution was made to the full Commission, it was approved.

Our civic association believed that the Secretary of the Interior's Standards clearly required replacement of the cornice in marble, the original material, and that there was no countervailing reason that would warrant fiberglass. While the type of material for this cornice is not the most important historic preservation issue facing Society Hill, an important principle is involved — that the Secretary of the Interior's Standards are a fundamental part of our community's historic preservation program. It is a principle we believe to be of great importance, and so we filed an appeal. Evidence was presented and briefs filed, but the Board of L&I Review issued a decision upholding the allowance of a fiberglass cornice.

We decided to appeal a second time, and a generous neighbor donated funds to cover the cost of hiring an attorney. Michael D. Lipuma, Esquire ([www.lipumalaw.com](http://www.lipumalaw.com)) litigated the case in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. His advocacy was stellar as he battled motions alleging lack of standing and filed a substantive

WED.

September

20

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meetings  
Wednesday, September 20, 2006

**Old Pine Street Church, 412 Pine St, Upstairs**

**6 p.m. Board Meeting**

All SHCA members are welcome.

**7 p.m. General Membership Meeting**

All Society Hill residents are invited.

### *Featured Subjects and Speakers:*

**Opposition to Foxwoods Casino at Columbus Boulevard**

Speaker: Rene Goodwin, Chair of Riverfront Communities United

**Security Fence at Independence Park**

Speakers include: Park Superintendent Dennis Reidenbach, Neighbor Carter Buller, Esq. on behalf of IMBARC

**Update on City Property Taxes**

Speaker: Councilman Frank DiCicco

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SOCIETY HILL

*Reporter*

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**Submission Deadlines**

November/December issue  
Advertising: October 1  
Editorial: October 15

**Website**

www.societyhillcivic.com

**Submissions**

We want to hear from you. Our goal is to print news of interest to Society Hill residents, professionals and businesses — especially happenings in and around our community. Direct editorial submissions and/or queries to Bernice Hamel via fax at 215-925-0877 or email: bernicehamel@comcast.net. To publicize an event, submit all press releases directly to Sandy Rothman. (See contact information above.)

Materials must be submitted in writing — sent via mail, email, or fax — and must include the name of a contact person. Edited submissions will be considered for publication if the subject matter is community-related and if space allows. Otherwise, upcoming events of interest may be listed in the Community Calendar. Letters to the Editors will be considered for publication — but only if signed and the writer provides contact information.

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Lynne Abraham & Frank Ford

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**P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E**


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TANIA RORKE, SHCA PRESIDENT

SHCA's Board of Directors have been kept quite busy all through the summer. In fact, the past several months were most likely one of our association's busiest periods with so many volunteers doing so much to help improve our community.

Here's a brief summary: SHCA reached its financial goal for the Franklin Lights Campaign last May, and beginning this month installation of the "new, improved" lamps will begin. (See page 5.) In June, SHCA organized and paid for a Washington Square Park beautification project. Currently we are working with the National Park Service to have a lily pad spout fabricated for the Square's fountain — as this had been included in the fountain's original design but never installed probably due to insufficient funds. Then this past July, as reported on pages 1 and 7, our civic association experienced a victory in its years-long historic preservation struggle for York Row. I believe the decision in our favor, made by the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania, illustrates our association's ability to "hang in there" in spite of setbacks. This reinforces SHCA's reputation as a continuing force in the preservation and enhancement of our neighborhood, although the final chapter is not yet closed on this particular struggle.

At press time (the end of August), there are additional unresolved issues: the property owner of the Dilworth House continues to propose plans that we consider to be inappropriate for the site. The developers for NewMarket continue to address mainly the concerns of its immediate neighbors but not the community as a whole. The University of Pennsylvania, owner of the historic "Man Full of Trouble Tavern," a former museum at 2nd and Spruce Streets, has proposed a

commercial use for the building, although it is zoned "residential." And perhaps one of the most threatening possible developments facing our community is the proposed Foxwoods casino at Columbus Boulevard and Reed Street. A casino so close to our neighborhood would likely have serious detrimental effects. Another concern is that Independence National Historic Park has proposed the erection of a large iron fence along the rear side of Independence Hall. Any of these possible developments would impact Society Hill, and so our civic association will continue to address them in a way that we believe is best for the entire community.

More positive programs that SHCA is currently working on include our application to become a nonprofit 501 C (3) organization — making all donations to SHCA tax deductible and allowing us to apply for grants open only to nonprofit groups. Also, we have begun working to improve our website, and by the end of September we hope to have a more informative, user-friendly site.

If you think there is an issue that SHCA should address, perhaps something you believe could enrich our community, do not hesitate to contact us. That is precisely what Daniel Becker did in July when he proposed that SHCA consider establishing a recycling program to benefit both the environment and our civic association. (See page 15.) Kudos to Dr. Becker for also volunteering to chair this new committee, which will require team effort to get the program off the ground. As you probably know, all Board Directors, all members of our various committees — including writers of this newsletter — and 95% of the work benefiting Society Hill is accomplished by individual volunteers. So please consider volunteering your time for any of our worthwhile projects.



**Tania Rorke**  
SHCA President

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Busy summer,  
busy forth-  
coming fall  
activities

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## Society Hill's Fall Cocktail Party

**Wednesday, October 4, 6-8 p.m.**  
**Society Hill Sheraton**  
**100 Dock Street**  
**\$10 Per Person**  
**RSVP by September 26**

If you enjoy connecting with "old" friends and making new ones, you'll want to attend SHCA's Fall Cocktail Party for members. Hosted by the Society Hill Sheraton, we'll enjoy a delicious array of hors d'oeuvres on the open terrace, weather permitting. Not yet a member? You can join SHCA at the door with either a credit card or check. This social, from 6 - 8 p.m., has a \$10 cover charge per person in addition to the cash bar. There'll be lots of goodies and lots of good folks to meet. Space is limited, and payment of \$10 per party-goer must be received by September 26, using either check or credit card. (Only "new" neighbors who join SHCA at the door will be exempt from this reservation prepayment.) Please make out your checks to the Society Hill Civic Association, and mail to: P.O. Box 63503, Phila, PA 19147. Questions or concerns? Contact Matt at: 215-629-1288 or mattdejulio@aol.com.

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**THE FRANKLIN LIGHTS CAMPAIGN**


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BY MARTHA LEVINE, CHAIR FRANKLIN LIGHTS COMMITTEE

## A Brighter And Safer Society Hill



We are pleased to announce the installation of our neighborhood's new and improved Franklin Lights, set to begin after Labor Day and completed by the end of December 2006. Thanks to the overwhelming support of Society Hill residents, organizations and businesses, as well as substantial funding from our city and state, we look forward to a brighter and safer neighborhood. Kudos to Society Hill neighbors for their community spirit and generous contributions.

The Philadelphia Street Lighting Department has determined the sequence in which the lights will be installed: starting at and moving west from the 100 to 600 blocks of Lombard Street (there are no Franklin Lights on 700 Lombard); then moving east from the 700 to 100 blocks of Pine Street; and moving west from the 100 to 700 blocks of Spruce Street. This will be followed by the numbered streets, which go north/south,

starting with 2nd and ending with 7th Street. Note that 5th and 6th streets have no Franklin Lights at present. The smaller streets, such as Delancey, Cypress, Stamper, etc. will be serviced as they intersect the numbered streets. Everything possible will be done to make this process go smoothly and with a minimum of disruption.

Please note that during installation of these lights, there will be no parking on either side of the block on which work is being done. The good news is that the estimated time to complete each block is one day. Please bear with us; this is a small inconvenience, but well worth the effort for this major enhancement of the neighborhood. Police will post "No Parking" signs several days in advance to alert residents to move their vehicles temporarily. SHCA aims to keep neighbors well informed of the progress being made and will have fliers distributed one week ahead to homes on the blocks where work is scheduled.

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September, by John Updike

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**THE FRANKLIN LIGHTS CAMPAIGN**

For those who have donated at the \$1,500 level (the cost of one light), and who wish to have a commemorative plaque placed on a light of their choice — in honor of their household or a friend — plaques will be provided at no charge.

After the old Franklin Lights are removed (excluding the poles), they will be available for purchase from the city at a minimal cost (dismantled and without wiring). Some neighbors have suggested using them in their gardens or at their vacation homes.

If interested in either a commemorative plaque or acquiring an old Franklin Light, please contact me at either marthalev@msn.com or 215-629-0727. And if you haven't yet made a contribution to this campaign, your tax-deductible check — payable to the "Society Hill Fund" — would be greatly appreciated. Please mail it to: The Society Hill Fund, c/o Franklin Lights, P.O. Box 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147.

Finally, we wish to extend our sincerest thanks to the following recent Franklin Lights donors who were not listed in the *Reporter's* March 2006 issue. We gladly add them to our long list of generous contributors:

**Thank You, Donors!**

**Guiding Light:  
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- Stephen Klein
- Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church
- The Philadelphia Contributionship
- Barrie Trimmingham

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- Gabrielle Lee

**Shining Light:  
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- "J" and Suzy Pattison
- Celiann Putnam
- Stephen and Marsha Silberstein

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One of the “giants” in the green industry, Paul has so many great accomplishments it is hard to know where to begin and to keep this a message and not a book. We say, “Thank you Paul.” Thank you for helping to preserve tens of thousands of trees, shrubs and ground covers. Thank you for maintaining thousands of beautiful properties, which make up this beautiful city. Most of all, thank you for teaching our arborists and all of our great employees how to maintain and preserve the health and well being of trees and shrubs in an urban environment.

Reducing his workload this year, Paul's role with the company will be to continue teaching and advising on property management practices. McFarland Tree & Landscape Services is proud to continue Paul's philosophy and beliefs in the many years to come.

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## Victory at York Row... *continued from page 1*

brief explaining how the law clearly required a replacement of the cornice in marble rather than fiberglass. A low point occurred when the city filed its brief arguing that the Historical Commission was not obligated to consider the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. In December 2005, the Court of Common Pleas issued a decision denying our appeal.

We then appealed to the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. The written briefs were extensive. In early June 2006, Mr. LiPuma participated in oral argument before a three-judge panel of the Commonwealth Court. Weeks later the Court issued its ruling reversing the lower court's decision and, therefore, requiring replacement with the original marble. We prevailed.

As of press time, the city has filed a petition asking the Commonwealth Court to conduct a "re-argument" — this time before all twelve judges of the Court. We believe the June 2006 decision made by the Court is correct and well-reasoned, and we will, of course, defend it. You can read the Court's decision, entitled "Society Hill Civic Association and Richard Lush vs. the Philadelphia Historical Commission, et al.," by going to:

[http://www.courts.state.pa.us/OpPosting/CWealth/out/2488CD05\\_7-27-06.pdf](http://www.courts.state.pa.us/OpPosting/CWealth/out/2488CD05_7-27-06.pdf)

Where are we now? The fiberglass is easily visible, but we are hopeful that ultimately it will be replaced with marble. Regarding other aspects of the St. James development, we're pleased to report that Starbucks, at 8th and Walnut, seems to be doing quite well. (SHCA supported its zoning variance.) And at the 7th Street corner — the site of a Renaissance Revival style building, a former PSFS bank — construction is underway for an upscale seafood restaurant, The Oceanaire. Our civic association also provided zoning support for this venture. We look forward to a satisfactory completion of the entire 700 block of Walnut Street.

For the moment, let's enjoy our victory. At its heart, this case is not about the mere material of a cornice. It is about the integrity of Philadelphia's historic preservation program. We are proud to have contributed to the strengthening of that program. This case also reinforces SHCA's good reputation as a responsible steward of our neighborhood's historic resources, with the commitment and wherewithal to litigate when necessary for as long as it takes.

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We are proud to have contributed to strengthening the integrity of Philadelphia's historic preservation program.

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## Fall Clean-Up Day at Washington Square

Saturday, September 30th is the 13th National Public Lands Day — the largest annual, single-day volunteer effort in the nation. This yearly event gives Americans the opportunity to lend a hand and demonstrate their support for our irreplaceable public places. Independence National Historical Park invites all area residents to join their neighbors and friends for a Fall Clean-Up Day in the park on September 30th from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

If interested, please contact Beverly A. Morris, Volunteer Coordinator at Independence National Historical Park: phone: 215-597-1293; email: [Beverly\\_Morris@nps.gov](mailto:Beverly_Morris@nps.gov).

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Join your friends and neighbors.  
Help clean Washington Square  
on National Public Lands Day:  
Saturday, September 30

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**SHCA's Board Directors recently received a "heads-up" email from the Center City District (CCD) informing our community that CCD will be installing several "Walk! Philadelphia" signs in our Historic District. These directional signs featuring Society Hill's distinctive, historical or religious sites, will be installed between September 30th and October 6th. They will be located at the following intersections: 3rd & Pine, 4th & Pine, 6th & Pine, 3rd & Spruce, 4th & Spruce, 2nd & Dock, and 2nd & Walnut Streets.**

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## “Don’t Fence Us In”

SUBMITTED BY CARTER BULLER, ESQ.

“Don’t fence us in” is the battle cry heard throughout the city and beyond in response to the National Park Service’s latest presentation of its plan. In the name of “security,” the Park Service has proposed to divide historic Independence Square with a 6 to 7 foot iron fence and to screen all Independence Hall visitors inside the first U.S. Supreme Court building.

The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) has joined with the umbrella group “Independence Mall Business and Residents Coalition” (IMBARC) in opposing the Park Service’s plan. City and State officials, as well as our local congressman and U.S. Senator Arlen Specter, have all expressed their disapproval of the proposed fence. As we go to press, a number of preservation and cultural groups have also weighed in — including the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, the Cultural Alliance and the Design Advocacy Group. More comments were expected by September 1, the new deadline set by the Park Service for the receipt of comments on its Environmental Assessment Report.

The Environmental Assessment analyzes in some depth three alternative plans for screening and fencing the Liberty Bell Center and Independence Hall. Each of the three alternatives relating to Independence Hall has been severely criticized. Alternative #1 is the present system of bicycle racks and security screening in the Old City Hall (aka the Supreme Court building). Alternative #2, preferred by the Park Service, calls for a 6 to 7 foot iron fence, crossing from S. 5th to S. 6th Street, near the middle of Independence Square, and screening in the Old City Hall/ Supreme Court building. Alternative #3 is to build a new screening facility on Independence Square.

At SHCA’s Board meeting on August 16, 2006, we voted to support free access to Independence Square — i.e. NO FENCE! This would permit a return to the days when one could feel in touch with our nation’s history by walking through the arches at Independence Hall. This extremely strong statement by our Board is in addition to our action in July endorsing IMBARC’s other major contention — i.e. that the East Wing, rather than the historic Supreme Court Building, should be used to screen visitors to the Hall. SHCA’s positions will be communicated in a letter to the Superintendent of Independence National Historic Park, Dennis Reidenbach.

IMBARC, along with other commentators, points out that the park’s present and proposed fencing arrangements are ineffectual — given the urban setting of Independence Hall — and probably unnecessary, since there hasn’t been any evidence since September 11, 2001 that sites such as the Hall are targets of terrorists. But if security arrangements are a fact of life post 9/11, there are more effective means that can be utilized at the Hall. These include specially trained foot patrols, up-to-date communication devices and surveillance cameras.

IMBARC has also focused on the present and proposed desecration of the Supreme Court Building, the home of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1791 to 1800. During this period all three branches of the federal government were located in Philadelphia — a fact which should be celebrated. Instead, the home of one of these branches is slated to be used as a screening facility. The Park Service contends that it must use this building because of its distance from Independence Hall. But the East Wing, which is the building favored by IMBARC, is less than 15 feet closer to the Hall. And this building — unlike the Supreme Court Building — can be strengthened to minimize bomb damage. IMBARC’s comments on the Environmental Assessment Report also contains a section analyzing the legal implications of the park’s plans.

The Environmental Assessment and IMBARC’s comments, as well as those by the city, can be found on IMBARC’s website: [www.freeindependencehall.com](http://www.freeindependencehall.com). Although the official deadline for comments was September 1, prior to distribution of this newsletter, if you care to comment on the park’s plans you can do so by sending an email to Superintendent Reidenbach at: [Dennis\\_Reidenbach@nps.gov](mailto:Dennis_Reidenbach@nps.gov) or by visiting the park’s website: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>.



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 From Nearby Neighbors of NewMarket
 

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## An Open Letter to Society Hill Civic Association

We support the proposed development on the NewMarket site because we believe the proposal will preserve and promote the open space and pedestrian aspects of our community. The concept behind the proposal is simple: push the bulk of the building away from the center of Society Hill and toward the Delaware River. This minimizes the negative shadow and line of sight impact for the residents of Society Hill, while taking full advantage of the river view. The proposed density of the project (19 stories of condo units) will bring new residents and stability to our corner of Society Hill. With an expanded customer base, local businesses along the South Street corridor will be encouraged to provide more high quality venues.

More important to many of us is the fact that by concentrating the building volume along Front Street, more than 40% of the site can be opened up as green space. A water feature, foliage, landscaped walks and outdoor seating will make this open space a delightful addition to our community. Indeed, this is a rare opportunity to gain an outdoor communal space of this size in Society Hill.

Before one categorically rejects the project solely based on allegedly disproportional scale, we should note that our quality of life cannot be captured by the mere height of buildings. How often do we discern the number of feet of the Society Hill Towers as we walk by the subdued quiet of its fountain plaza (at 31 floors, +/- 310 feet would be a fair guess)? Debating the issue of height is surely legitimate, but it should be put in the context of other competing and sometimes more compelling urban issues.

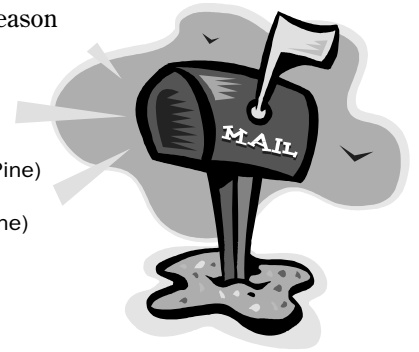
Eliminating a blighted hole in the ground, anchoring this corner of the neighborhood with stable residents and having a green and safe outdoor space open to everyone are things that make a real difference. For these reasons, we support the current proposal for the NewMarket site.

Most neighbors adjacent to the site met regularly with the developer for over a year. The developer worked with us towards building something that has a positive impact on our neighborhood. We debated alternate options for the site, including a big-box commercial development and garage-fronted townhouses infilling the entire site. Given the current economic climate as well as the history of past development failures, we have concluded that neither a large-scale commercial encroachment nor a parking driven low-rise residential development made sense for NewMarket.

Talk to us, as neighbors and as members of the same civic organization, about your concerns on this project. We believe there is reason and hope for our dialogues.

With warm regards,

Albert & Maria Guerraty (99 Pine)  
 Andrew & Donna Weschler (114/116 Pine)  
 Rebecca & Greg Guest (113 Pine)  
 Irwin Levitan & Nancy Catterall (111 Pine)  
 Joseph Zarett (402 S.Front)  
 Ralph Verdino (106 Pine)  
 Neil Paternoster (133 Pine)  
 Douglas & Francine Verney (104 Pine)  
 Steven Pearson (110 Pine)  
 Florinda Doelp (100 Pine)  
 Murat & Amanda Aslansan (108 Pine)  
 Carl Park & Jane Ahn (112 Pine)




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### Editors' Reply

The Society Hill Civic Association is in full agreement that redeveloping NewMarket is critical. We are eager to work with the current or any other interested developer to ensure this happens in a way that is beneficial not only to some who live nearby (some of whom understandably made arrangements to enhance their personal interests) — but in a way that is in the best interests of the entire community. We appreciate that some of the adjacent neighbors spent so much time meeting with the developers for over a year, but we were disheartened that despite our pleas the Society Hill Civic Association, which represents all community residents, was intentionally excluded from those discussions. At a May 15, 2006 meeting conducted by SHCA's Zoning and Historic

Preservation Committee, which was open to all interested neighbors, the developers presented their plan to a packed audience of about 125 people, most of whom were opposed to the proposal. Thereafter SHCA's Board of Directors unanimously voted to resist the developers' proposal.

Whether NewMarket can be a supermarket, a hotel or luxurious town homes, a reasonable alternative can surely be found between a 231-foot tower and a hole in the ground. The developer has expressed to us a willingness to compromise. The zoning code calls for buildings no higher than 35 feet, as is consistent with our community, but we are willing to listen and work towards a resolution. Patience and persistence can lead to a great outcome for all. We look forward to ongoing and productive dialogues.

---

The Zoning Code limits the height of NewMarket development to 35 feet.

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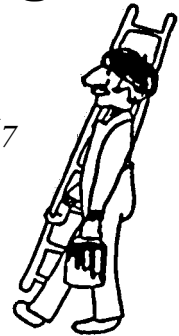
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**ZONING & HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

BY STEVEN WEIXLER, ZHP COMMITTEE CHAIR

# Enhancing our Community's Quality of Life

“What color fiberglass would you like for your tombstone?” was the unlikely question I heard on the afternoon of January 6, 2004. The question came from the back of the elevator car and provoked a collegial chuckle from others. I had just finished testimony before the city’s Board of License & Inspection Review regarding the York Row case featured on the front page of this issue. Being a novice at courthouse etiquette, I was somewhat uncomfortable finding myself sharing an elevator with several members of the Board and attorneys. Minutes ago the Board had announced that it would take the case under advisement.

I realized that the Society Hill Civic Association has a reputation for insistence on adherence to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Historic Preservation and to the city’s Ordinance and Regulations. My testimony that day outlined our Association’s position on the requirement to apply these standards to York Row. As we continued the appeals process, I became more completely convinced that we are pursuing a worthwhile goal and should remain consistent. Whether we are evaluating the appropriateness and impact of a large project, or helping a neighbor renovate his house within the rules, I believe that we have inherited a sensible system of regulation. It has worked well in guiding the development of Society Hill. Using these regulations which apply to our Historic District as our criteria, the Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee is currently monitoring several important proposals that most notably include the Dilworth House and the NewMarket site.

*Dilworth House: 223-25 S. 6th Street*  
As reported in our last issue, the Civic Association is evaluating a proposal to demolish the rear “ell” of Dilworth House and construct a residential high-rise behind the 6th Street portion of the surviving house. John Gallery, Executive Director of the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, Paul Boni and I appeared before the Architectural Review Committee of the Historical Commission on July 25th. Together we told the committee that we believe the proposal is not in keeping with the city’s ordinance, because it would result in “substantial demolition” of its historic structure. Although the section of the building facing Washington Square would remain, a large part of the house would be replaced by the new high-rise. The Philadelphia Historical Commission is currently slated to hear this issue on Friday, September 8th, after the *Reporter* has gone to press. We will keep the neighborhood informed at future meetings, in the November/December edition of this newsletter, and at [www.SaveDilworthNow.org](http://www.SaveDilworthNow.org).



“Substantial demolition” of this historic structure is not in keeping with the city’s ordinance.

*Former NewMarket Site: Front to 2nd Streets, Pine to Lombard Street.*  
Our civic association continues to make efforts to encourage a dialogue with the developer of this site and with the many neighbors who would be affected. We have not yet heard a change in the developer’s proposal as reported in July. We are hopeful that our efforts can result in the construction of a project that will enhance our community’s quality of life and which is respectful of neighbors. Please see the letter sent by nearby neighbors of the site to our community, published here on page 11. For more or the most current information, visit [www.SaveNewMarketNow.org](http://www.SaveNewMarketNow.org).

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## Jazz Vespers at Old Pine Church



Sunday, September 17, 5pm  
**Tex Wyndham and His  
 Red Lion Jazz Band**  
 Rev. Ron Parker, preacher

Sunday, October 15, 2pm

## 20th Anniversary Banquet

Old Pine Community Center  
 WRTI's Bob Perkins  
 with George Townes, vocalist  
 Admission: \$25

Sunday, October 15, 5pm

**George Townes and  
 Father John D'Amico Trio**  
 Rev. Osvaldo Nuesch, preacher

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## St. Peter's Church



## 50 minutes: Some *Women* of the Bible

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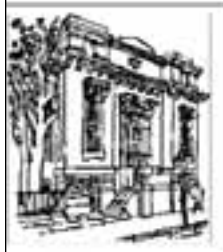
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Fridays at 8pm

Saturdays at 9:15am

.....  
**High Holy Day Services**

**Rosh HaShanah, Sunday, Sept. 24, 9am**

**Yom Kippur, Monday, Oct. 2, 4pm**

*(These services are open to the community)*

**Please call the office for information about  
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## A Community Recycling Proposal

# I Have One Word For You: Plastics!

**D**id you know there are fourteen neighborhood associations in Philadelphia that do more for the environment than we do and they also get paid for it? How? They recycle plastic!

We can also be greener in more ways than one (\$\$!) — if we agree to participate in the Philadelphia Partnership Recycling Program. This program, established in 1993, provides guidance to local community groups, helping them create a non-profit group that organizes and operates a recycling drop-off site. Our neighbors, Drs. Daniel and Madeleine Becker, brought this idea to SHCA's Board in July, where it was enthusiastically endorsed.

Here's how it works: residents bring plastics, household mixed paper and other recyclables to a designated drop-off site on collection day. Volunteers manage the drop-off site and help load the collection trucks. Then the Streets Department sends workers and equipment to haul the materials to local industries. Based on the recycling tonnage, the non-profit group is PAID a fee, typically on a monthly basis. These funds must be spent for specific, agreed-upon neighborhood projects.

An efficient drop-off operation costs about \$20 per ton, while trash collection and disposal costs about \$125 per ton. Each year, the Partnership Recycling Program saves the city thousands of dollars!

Communities start their program with one Saturday a month. If and when the amount collected warrants, the pickups may be increased to twice a month. Some neighborhoods raise thousands of dollars each year



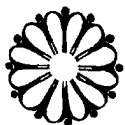
**Did you know that other Philadelphia neighborhoods get paid for recycling plastic? We can too!**

for local projects, such as street tree plantings, graffiti removal or vacant lot cleanup.

This project requires a major volunteer base. A joint effort by religious institutions, schools and businesses in our community may be the best approach. It takes a critical mass of enthusiastic volunteers to make this program a success, and such groups working together in conjunction with the SHCA may be equal to more than the sum of their parts. The spirit of togetherness that could be furthered by helping to clean up the environment and to raise money for community projects is a worthy goal in and of itself.

Dan Becker has agreed to serve as Chair of SHCA's Recycling Committee. He needs volunteers to help get the plan off the ground. If interested, please reach him at [beckermailbox@aol.com](mailto:beckermailbox@aol.com). For more information about Philadelphia Partnership Recycling, go to: [www.phila.gov/streets/recycling\\_partnership.html](http://www.phila.gov/streets/recycling_partnership.html).

**We'll keep you posted!**



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**S A F E A N D S O U N D I N S O C I E T Y H I L L**

## Better To Be Safe Than Sorry!

**Scary:**

It wasn't even dark; it was a well-traveled street, and it was just a kid on a bike. More scary, because he was wielding a gun — real or not, we do not know! A young woman walking along the 500 block of Spruce Street was accosted by a young African American male (about 15 years old) who demanded her purse — which she gave him. He sped away and she was not hurt. You would never expect something like this to happen at 6:30 in the evening. So be aware of your surroundings, keep that cell phone out of your ear and carry your keys in a pocket, not in your purse. You don't want the robber to acquire keys to your home if your purse is stolen, revealing your address and identity. Regarding this recent scare, additional police have been making extra rounds in our area.

**Did You Think Your Car Was Stolen?**

Most likely it wasn't. The last time the Streets Department paved the street, you were told to move your car. If you didn't, your car was probably towed to another block. Watch for those "no parking" signs, especially between September 5th and December 31st. When the Franklin Lights are redone throughout the neighborhood, each block's residents will be notified to move their cars. The police, having been deluged by calls from car owners who thought their vehicles were stolen, are trying to work with the Streets Department to find out what towing company is being used and where the cars have been taken. So before you call your insurance company, call the Streets Department. What may happen, if the police work out this agreement, is that the

"no parking" sign will state the name of the towing company — so owners can call the company directly to learn where their car has gone. Better to be safe than sorry! Move your car when these signs are posted. No available spots? Park your auto at a nearby commercial garage.

**Bike Thefts and Vandalism:**

Police report that many bicycles have been stolen recently. Remember to keep your garage doors closed, lock up your bikes and have them registered at the Police Mini-Station, next to Whole Foods on South Street. And please report any vandalism. The police need to know where acts of vandalism occur, so that they can be more vigilant.

**Crime Stats for Society Hill:**

As of July 13, 2006, compared with the same period in 2005, there were seven more robberies, eight more burglaries, and one more incident of vandalism. The good news is that there were decreases in some criminal activities, as follows: five fewer stolen autos, six fewer thefts from autos, and no change in aggravated assaults. These statistics represent a four percent increase in crime in Society Hill, as well as an overall four percent increase in crime for the entire Sixth Police District.

**Cell Phones Needed:**

Please bring your old cell phones to 414 Spruce Street so they can be recycled and reprogrammed by the DA's office and then given to victims of domestic violence and senior citizens. Sorry, no receipts will be given, but you can take a tax deduction for your generosity.

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# Kids' Beat

A COLUMN BY KERI WHITE

## Kid's Quote

"Life is better at Positano Coast!"

**Kelsey, age 7  
Society Hill Kid**

As fall arrives, parents' minds invariably focus on "back to school," while children automatically turn to Halloween. I am happy to say that this column should therefore contain something for everyone.


The Center City District's (CCD's) Second Annual Center City Elementary School Fair will be held on Saturday, October 14 from 12-3 p.m. at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, 12th and Arch Streets. This event provides a one-stop-shopping venue for parents interested in learning about the school choices available in greater Center City. Public, private, parochial and charter elementary schools will stage booths displaying students' work, instructional and admission materials, and technology. Principals, administrators, students and parents will be on hand from each school to meet and greet prospective families. Choirs, dance troupes and bands from various schools will perform, and there will be several child-centered attractions, as well.

Last year, CCD partnered with the Philadelphia School District to launch this innovative and unique event, which was deemed a resounding

success by participants. Over 1,500 people attended, and they expect another great turnout in October. For information about the Center City School Fair, please contact me at [kerimwhite@comcast.net](mailto:kerimwhite@comcast.net).

And for the kiddies, don't miss the Halloween Celebration on Pine Street! The shops on Antique Row will host a Trick or Treat event on Friday, October 27, from 4-6 p.m. Spooky shops will offer a few tricks, but mostly treats to costumed visitors. Twigby the Autumnal Elf, a woodland sprite, will help ring in the fall with a seasonal tale at Happily Ever After. All participating shops will display orange and black balloons — so your little ghosts and goblins will be able to hit all possible treat procurement venues. For more information, inquire at Paper on Pine ([paperonpine@att.net](mailto:paperonpine@att.net)) or Happily Ever After ([info@happily.com](mailto:info@happily.com)),

Finally, please send me your kids' quotes! While I think my own children's quotes are hilarious, and they love seeing their names in print, I would like to spotlight a variety of Society Hill kids. Please send to the email address above.




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New Program at Pennsylvania Hospital's Garden

# “Learn to Grow” Teaches Kids About Roots of Colonial Medicine

A unique new program, called *Learn to Grow*, takes place in a special area of Pennsylvania Hospital's beautiful garden on Pine Street (between 8th and 9th Streets). Since last May, this section of the garden, called the Physic Garden, has been introducing Philadelphia-area children to the history of colonial medicine.

“Before modern medicine's plethora of pills and pharmacies, plants and physic gardens provided the ingredients for medical remedies,” reports Essie Karp, the program's coordinator. Ms. Karp drew on her extensive knowledge of the hospital's history and its Physic Garden to develop an innovative two-hour program designed for children from kindergarten through 8th grade.

This free program begins with a tour of Pennsylvania Hospital's historic library and surgical amphitheater. The children then visit the Physic Garden, which contains over 100

plants known for their medicinal value — such as, wintergreen, sneezeweed, and feverfew (used to treat toothache, colds and indigestion, respectively). The kids learn to identify certain plants and how they were used as healing remedies during the 18th century — from soothing teas to natural bandages. They are then given a “hands-on” project, such as making sachets by using sweet-smelling dried plants like lemon balm, cinnamon and rose petals.

The *Learn to Grow* program, made possible by a grant from the Burpee Foundation, is offered by appointment to groups of children on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays — between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. If you teach at a local school (e.g. McCall School or St. Peter's School) or if you serve at an after-school or religious program, schedule a visit to the Physic Garden for your group of youngsters. Contact Essie Karp at 215-829-6615 or [learntogrow@uphs.upenn.edu](mailto:learntogrow@uphs.upenn.edu).



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A college preparatory, coed, Quaker day school, pre-K through 12, at 17th on The Parkway in Center City Philadelphia. Admission and open house information: 215.561.5900 ext 104 [www.friends-select.org](http://www.friends-select.org)

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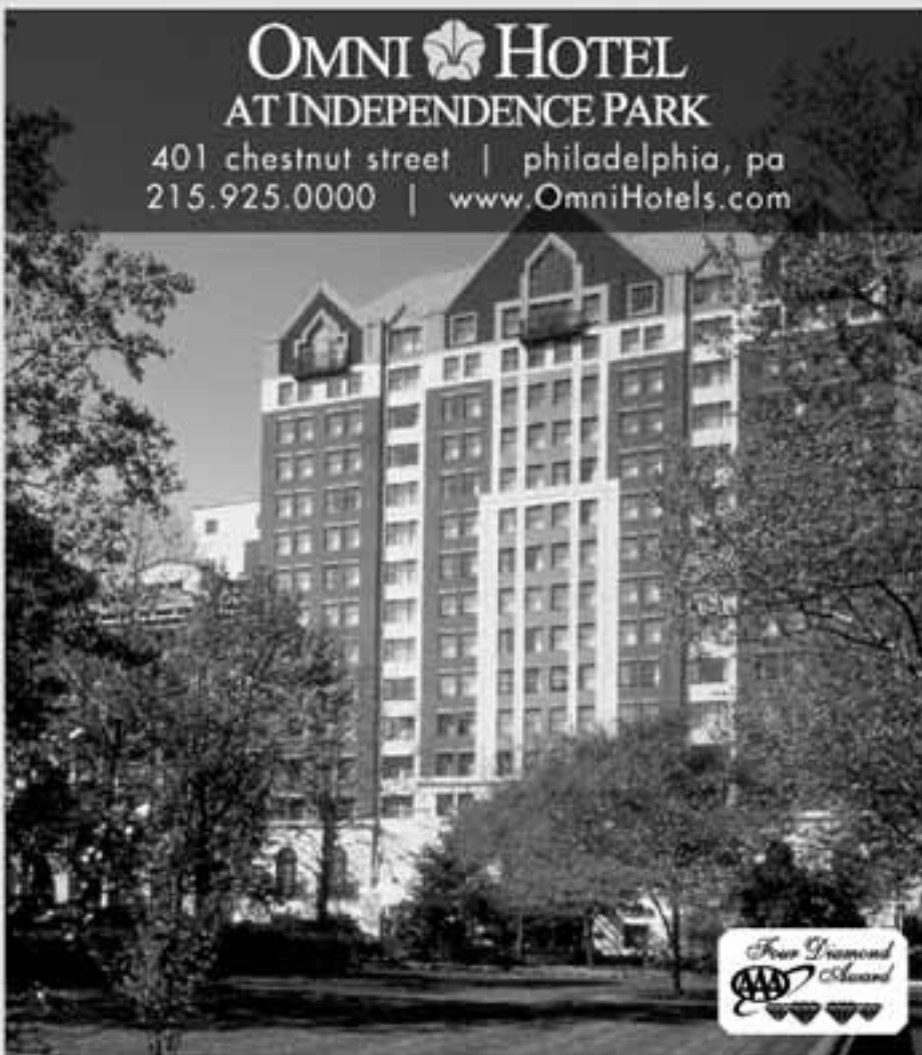
**Who are these Kids?** How'd they get to be so outgoing, so interesting, so... well, nice? Maybe it's because they've been educated in a garden of civility in the heart of a great city, where excellence is honored and childhood is cherished.

*Pre-registrations for open houses is appreciated but not required.*

- **Sunday, November 19, 2006**  
Program begins at 2:00pm
- **Sunday, January 7, 2007**  
Program begins at 2:00pm

*St. Peter's School, a multi-denominational program, educates boys and girls in Preschool to Eighth Grade*

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## The Bears Are Back – In Time for The Fall Festival

The Bears are back and so are the kids! Finally, after Three Bears Park was closed during the past several months, replacement of the obsolete play equipment has been completed. Kids are now back frolicking and enjoying the brand-new playground, although a small section of the park's west side remains closed — expected to reopen soon. In addition to the new, improved playground, children and adults will now find level walking surfaces and the addition of benches and tables. Funding for this project was obtained through the Department of Community and Economic Development Grants, thanks to Senator Vincent Fumo and State Representative Marie Lederer, as well as Councilman Frank DiCicco. However, further funds are still needed to complete this worthy project. (See the note below.)



All areas of Three Bears Park should be open in time for the **Annual Fall Festival**, to held on **Saturday, September 30, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** (Rain Date is Sunday, October 1.) Activities include games, a moon bounce, pony rides, and of course, fun on the new equipment. For the grownups, there'll be a food and bake sale, a "gently used" toy sale, a silent auction, and a school "open house." Funds raised at this festival will be spent on Phase II of the park's final renovations, special park-sponsored events, and the park's daily upkeep. The Friends of Three Bears are currently trying to raise funds for the second and final phase of the park's renovation, which will improve all the brick work and re-level the slate on the park's east side.

**Halloween** will fall on a Tuesday this year! Please bring your costumed young ones to Three Bears Park at 5 p.m., on October 31, for our neighborhood's annual Halloween festivities — offering goodies, such as pizza and juice. If you can assist in coordinating or volunteering, or to make a donation, please contact Tania Rorke at 215-925-4544 or TRorke@aol.com.

**Note:** Financial support for Three Bears Park is still needed, and your donations will be most welcome. For example, tables and benches will enhance the park's setting. The cost to purchase

and install a bench is \$1,700; while a table is \$1,800. (A plaque with your name or designated message will be placed on your donated bench or table.) The Friends of Three Bears will also be replanting two new locust trees. Donations to cover the cost of a tree would be most appreciated. In fact, we ask that you consider making any size tax-deductible contribution, so that all the park's needed improvements can soon be accomplished. Checks should be made out to the "Friends of Three Bears Park" and mailed to: Friends of Three Bears Park, 324 Delancey Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. For more information, please contact Tania Rorke at 215-925-4544 or TRorke@aol.com.

**Come and See!**  
**The Bears are back and the new play equipment has been installed.**



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## SENIOR SCENE

A COLUMN BY JEAN BRYAN

## Walking the Walk and Talking the Talk

## Europe Comes to Philly with Nordic Walking

Walking, the exercise for nearly everyone, has a new twist. Nordic walking, already soaring in popularity in Europe, is now making its way across the Atlantic to us. Simply stated, it involves walking with a set of aluminum or composite poles with hand straps. The use of poles promotes exercise of the whole body rather than just the lower half. These poles have interchangeable “feet” appropriate for use on different types of terrain: pavement, wood, grass, beach, macadam, or a trail. They collapse for ease of packing. Enthusiasts point out that Nordic walking is an activity for all ages and a safe, low-intensity fitness booster, as well as a stress reducer. Dieters will rejoice, because Nordic walking can burn up to 30-45% more calories than one’s usual pace.

Jeanne Goldberg, a Society Hiller, is a certified American Nordic Walking Association instructor who would be happy to give a free lesson to any individual, family or group. She has poles to share. I took advantage of her offer and thoroughly enjoyed my introductory lesson. Nordic walking is simple, but a little practice helps in fine-tuning the techniques. Before I knew it, an hour had passed. I’m ready to try again. Interested? Contact Jeanne directly at JeanneABE@aol.com or 215-925-2909.

## ...and on the Subject of Walking: the Walkie-Talkies Are Still At It

In the first week of October, the Walkie-Talkies will proudly celebrate their First Year Anniversary of garrulous, athletic, and apolitical togetherness!

Although the number varies from week to week, there are about ten stalwart troopers in the group. But with summertime vacations, sometimes there were only two walkers on any day, while other times, six or seven. Last winter they bundled up for temperatures down in the teens, while in the summer they braved sweltering mornings of sun, humidity and heat up to 85 degrees! Through it all, they have felt the irresistible urge to meet each Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. at Three Bears Park to begin their brisk 45-

minute exercise regime — although they do have a couple of “stragglers” who enjoy moving more slowly. Always they experiment with new routes through the various streets and neighborhoods of Society Hill, Old City, Queen Village and the waterfront.

New walkers are welcomed with open arms, and the fall season is a wonderful a time to join! But if you’re a bit shy about simply appearing at Three Bears Park on any Tuesday or Thursday morning, the group is planning an introductory social in October (to celebrate their One Year Anniversary) and they’d be delighted to have you attend. So fulfill your “Exercise Resolution” and contact either Pamela Todd at pamelastodd@comcast.net or 215-925-0646 or Bernice Hamel at bernicehamel@comcast.net or 215-925-4363. They will be happy to answer any questions and will invite you to the Anniversary social — so that you can feel comfortable about becoming a Walkie-Talkie yourself.

## TARP – Temple Association for Retired Persons

If you are new to our neighborhood, you may not have heard of TARP, the Temple Association for Retired Persons. Located at 1515 Market, Suite 525, this terrific resource for non-credit learning is gearing up for the fall, offering a plethora of courses to tweak your interest and stimulate your mind. Examples include:

- Does Civilization Still Matter? Looking at the Fundamentals for a Peaceful and Sustainable Planet
- American History with a Difference
- Conversational German
- Landmark Decisions of the Supreme Court
- Opera Appreciation

Classes are scheduled for daytime hours only, beginning on Monday, September 18 and ending Thursday, December 14. Registration (very reasonable fees!) will occur prior to distribution of this *Reporter* — so call the pleasant folks at TARP (215-204-1505) if you’d like a complete brochure or have questions about late registration. Website: <http://www.temple.edu/tucc>. Do you have questions or comments? Email: [tucctarp@temple.edu](mailto:tucctarp@temple.edu)

---

Age is a question of mind over matter. If you don’t mind, it doesn’t matter....

---

— Satchel Paige,  
U.S. baseball player

# Concept Feasibility Study for “Staying Put” (AKA “Aging in Place”)

SUBMITTED BY JO ANN BULLER



Let's help mature neighbors continue to live in Society Hill

We are so fortunate to be living at a time when age is only a number. With a positive attitude, some forethought and cooperative planning, we can optimize the quality of our lives and continue to enjoy our neighborhood's many opportunities for occupation, entertainment, volunteering, education and social activity.

Much of the vitality of our community and Center City depends on the lively mix of neighbors, bringing together a range of lifestyles, backgrounds and ages. In this context, SHCA has charged a group of us to study how we might assist those of “a certain age” to continue to live in Society Hill — thus, maintaining a well-balanced community and reaping the benefits from our more mature neighbors.

Several people have been meeting over the summer to study — in slow but steady steps — methods for creating an “Aging in Place” commu-

nity in our neighborhood. We welcome volunteers to work on committees now being formed in such areas as finance, medicine and socialization. Our immediate plans include looking at local and national models for “Aging in Place,” and developing a comprehensive list of useful services, identifying existing services, and assessing our community's need for and interest in this concept.

We want to work quickly, but at the same time be thorough. Other similar initiatives, such as Boston's Beacon Hill Village, have taken as long as five years to become operational. We hope to learn from them and shorten our time frame. Of course, we'll keep you posted as we move ahead in our study. Meanwhile, our neighbor Bob Rossheim is building an excellent database of those who have expressed interest in learning about “Staying Put.” Please contact Bob at [sh1682@gmail.com](mailto:sh1682@gmail.com) if you wish to be on his distribution list.



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## Prepare Your Home For The Colder Months Ahead

Now is a good time to schedule home repairs in preparation for the winter months. Contractors get very busy at this time of year, so you will want to call them as soon as possible to get bids and set up a schedule. Some of the most common repairs in preparation for the winter season include:

**HVAC:** Every fall and spring, before turning on your heat or air conditioner, have a complete tune-up of your system by an expert in either heating or air conditioning. You will save money on monthly bills, because the system will run more efficiently.

**Tree Pruning:** The best time for tree pruning is not summer, but late fall. Many trees in Society Hill are overgrown, causing a shrouding of the sidewalks and making them dark and less safe for pedestrians. Trees should be pruned from the bottom branches, to give the sidewalk a more open feeling. Remember, tree pruning is the home owner's responsibility, but one must get approval from the Fairmount Park Commission.

**Roofs, Gutters, and Downspouts:** Have these checked for blockage by leaves and debris. Clogged gutters and downspouts may cause blocked water to enter your home resulting in damage. Clogged downspouts cause dangerous icicles to form at the top. These could break off and fall on passersby.

**Painting:** The fall is a great time to have the exterior of your home painted, because the weather is moderate and paint dries well in this season — as long as the temperature is 50 degrees or above.

**Chimneys & Fireplaces:** All working fireplaces should be cleaned once a year prior to use. Remember, you should have a chimney liner in place, especially for older homes, or you risk causing a fire in the chimney while using the fireplace.

For these and other repairs, check out our regularly updated Society Hill List of Recommended Contractors. Contact Martha Levine at [marthalev@msn.com](mailto:marthalev@msn.com) or 215-629-0727 for your personal copy of our comprehensive list of contractors.



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## New Attractions & Playgrounds Now Open!!

### At Historic Franklin Square — Race Street, between 6th & 7th

**F**ranklin Square, the last of William Penn's original five squares, has at last been developed. Located between 6th and 7th Streets at Race Street, near the Ben Franklin Bridge, the Square now offers a range of attractions for family fun! This recently completed, \$6.5 million renovation — with new walkways, lighting and landscaping — enlivens the historic district with amusement features for residents and visitors alike. Here's the scoop about this recreational spot so close to our neighborhood.

The Liberty Carousel was officially opened on July 31st. This musical carousel with 30 animals adds to the history of Philadelphia's carousel making — because the first American-made carousel was built right here in Philly! As a matter of fact, the original molds from the Philadelphia Toboggan Company and Dentzel horses were used to make some of the horses on the Franklin Square carousel. Cost for the ride is \$3 for adults; \$2 for kids; 2 years or under, free.

Franklin Square's renovation also includes an 18-hole Mini-Golf area, where you can wend your way through miniature versions of some of the city's most beloved icons. For example, you can putt your ball across the "Ben Franklin Bridge," or if you putt successfully up the steps of the "Art Museum," at the 12th hole, the Rocky theme will sound off. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$6 for kids. Free for kids under 2.

For no cost at all, you can also let the children run around and play at two brand-new playgrounds. There's a special area for the littlest ones and a second, more challenging playground for older kids. Nearby, there's lots of shade and seating for tired parents to relax and keep a watchful eye. The Square's centerpiece, a beautifully restored 19th-century fountain, can be a restful refuge from childcare or the hustle and bustle of sightseeing.

If you enjoy the various storytelling programs provided throughout Independence Park by Once Upon A Nation — a program of the non-profit organization Historic Philadelphia, Inc. — you'll be pleased to know that another storytelling bench has been added at Franklin Square.



**Come and ride on a bald eagle (or a horse, of course) on the Liberty Carousel at Franklin Square.**

Photos: Robert Siddall



Hungry or thirsty? You can purchase ice cream, soft pretzels, drinks and various snacks from on-site concession vendors.

**Putt your way through the Chinese Gate, the Love Statue, the Art Museum and many other local icons on the Mini-Golf course.**

The entire renovation of Franklin Square was funded by several state and city sources, as well as many business contributions. The Square is free and open to the public daily, with 24-hour security. Its special attractions (carousel and Mini-Golf) will be operating through October 31, from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., Sundays thru Thursdays; until 9 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays. From November 1 through December 17, hours are 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Fridays through Sundays only. From December 22 through January 1, 2007, hours daily will be from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. (Closed Christmas.) Franklin Square's two playgrounds and park areas will remain open throughout the rest of the winter, but its rides and vendors will be closed until March 2007. For more information, call 215-629-4026 or go to [www.OnceUponANation.org](http://www.OnceUponANation.org).



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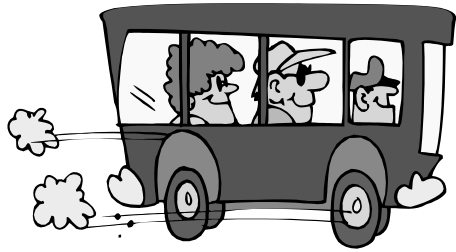
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for these Saturday trips are September 16, October 21, November 18 and December 2. There are 40 seats on the bus and all reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment of \$30 per person per trip is required to confirm your reservation.

You'll be picked up in front of the West Tower (210 Locust Street) at 8:00 a.m.; the bus departs from New York at 7:30 p.m. and arrives back at the Towers at approximately 9 p.m. There are two drop-off points in New York: one at the Marriott Hotel, at 46th & Broadway; the other at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, at 5th Avenue and 82nd Street. For trips back to Philly, pick-ups are only at the Marriott Hotel. To reserve your seat for any or all of these round-trip excursions, or if you have any questions, please contact Marge Mooney, in the Towers' Management Office, at 215-923-4105.


CHECK OUT THIS WEBSITE  
[WWW.PHILLYHISTORY.ORG](http://WWW.PHILLYHISTORY.ORG)



The photo archive for the City of Philadelphia contains over two million photographs that date to the late 1800s. Although Society Hill is not listed as one of the many named neighborhoods — because in those days our community was known as “Center City East” — you may find a picture of your own house — before it was yours! Take a historical trip through time by visiting this website.



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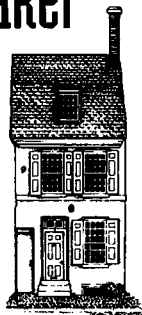


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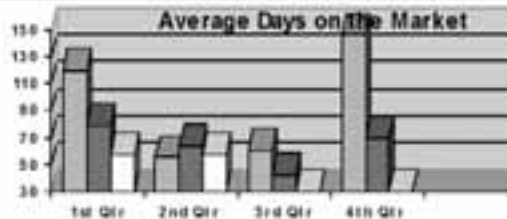
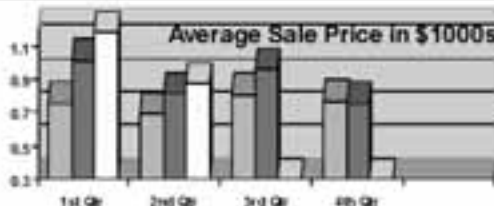
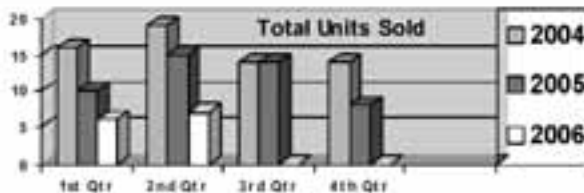


**Society Hill Real Estate Report**

Every Society Hill townhouse\* sold in 2006 b/w Front-7th & Lombard-Walnut

500 block of Lombard	\$560,000
200 block of Delancey	\$659,900
500 block of Spruce	\$720,000
300 block of Delancey	\$743,000
500 block of Delancey	\$910,000
500 block of Delancey	\$935,000
300 block of S. Lawrence	\$1,000,000
300 block of Willings Alley	\$1,100,000
500 block of Addison Court	\$1,095,000
200 block of S. 4th St.	\$1,175,000
200 block of S. 4th St.	\$1,500,000
200 block of Pine	\$1,550,000
300 block of S. 3rd St	\$2,550,000

Avg. Sale Price: \$1,115,223 Avg. Days on Market: 65



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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

# 2006 SHCA Membership Drive Surpasses Last Year

At press time, SHCA membership for the year 2006 stands at 1,034 — an all-time high and a 1% increase over the total of 1,031 for our 2005 membership drive that ended on December 31. However, we need an additional 16 individuals or households to join the association before the end of this year if we are to reach our goal of 1,050 members.

Especially noteworthy is that we welcomed 116 new members, another all-time high. Our only disappointment is that 102 members from 2005 have failed to renew, and we have not learned from these folks or business organizations their reasons for non-renewal.

But the more significant news is that members have expressed a vote of confidence by opening their wallets, more generously than ever, for the myriad range of SHCA activities performed by volunteers on our community's behalf. Income from membership to date is \$73,283. This is 32% higher than last year's total of \$55,710. Also, these membership funds were raised at the same time that \$118,231 was donated for the Franklin Lights campaign, while \$62,375 was specifically contributed to SHCA's Challenge Fund — to support our efforts to save the Dilworth House and to assure that development at NewMarket will be appropriate for the entire community. By the way, the amount raised thus far from the Challenge Fund does not include a matching grant given to SHCA by a generous but anonymous donor, who has pledged to match dollar-for-dollar all that has been raised in the Challenge Fund.

This year, for the first time ever, residents have been able to join SHCA by paying with credit cards. Perhaps that explains the recent spike in civic association income — 137 members took advantage of this convenient new option. We thank all our Society Hill neighbors for their generosity and civic participation.

But if you are among the 102 lapsed members, please send us your membership application. Do not dally. Write us or join — today! If there's a reason you won't join or renew, let us know why. Your input will be very much appreciated, as we always strive to improve our organization. Thank you.

## SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

### Membership Application/Renewal Form



Renewal     New

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emails provide you with timely, topical information about once a week. SHCA never shares your email address with others and never transmits spam. Our emails deliver only topical information related specifically to neighborhood issues.

#### Residential Memberships

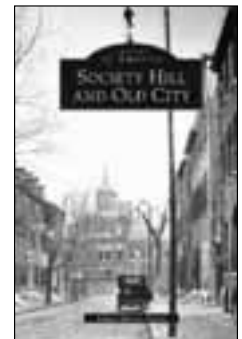
- \$ 50 Basic Household
- \$100 Federal Friend\*
- \$150 Georgian Grantor\*
- \$300 Benjamin Franklin Benefactor\*\*
- \$ 40 Senior/Student

\*Will receive the Robert Skaler book, *Society Hill and Old City*

\*\*Will receive book plus FREE house tour

#### Business Memberships

- \$60 Business with fewer than 5 employees
- \$ 100 Businesses/Institutions with 5 or more employees



#### Additional contribution for

- Beautification of Washington Square
- Sidewalk Cleaning/Graffiti Removal
- Town Watch/Safe and Sound
- Zoning/Historic Preservation
- Society Hill Reporter
- McCall School
- Street Trees
- Franklin Lighting

**Check Enclosed Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Charge VISA/Mastercard**

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to volunteer** for the following committee(s):

- Clean-Up Day     Washington Square     Town Watch
- Zoning & Historic Preservation     Newsletter     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed application to:

**Society Hill Civic Association**  
P.O. Box 63503  
Philadelphia, PA 19147

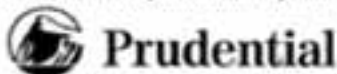


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 Visit [www.prdmls.com](http://www.prdmls.com) and enter the  
 Virtual Tour# listed below each home

- 220 Locust Street #16FFG** \$1,299,900  
 Sumptuous corner condo unit in exclusive Society Hill Towers, completely renovated with 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2100 SF of living space, custom kitchen, new hardwood floors throughout, and floor to ceiling windows with magnificent views! **Virtual Tour #4624981**
- 409 Gaskill** \$539,900  
 Lovely 4 bedroom, 2.2 bath with lots of original details, random width plank floors, crown molding and baseboards, renovated kitchen, s/s appliances, and lovely landscaped garden. **Virtual Tour #4749744**
- 233 S 6<sup>th</sup> #2401** \$899,000  
 Fabulous penthouse condo with 1 bedroom, 2 fabulous stone baths, central air, balcony with unbelievable views and unmatched workmanship. **Virtual Tour #4679541**
- 102 Delancey** \$1,725,000  
 Gorgeous extra-wide 3 bedroom, den, 3.5 bath, parking, exercise room and fabulous rear yard, gas fireplace, central air, and wonderful deck. **Virtual Tour #4718857**
- 1335-37 Pine #201** \$679,900  
 Gorgeous 2 bedroom, 2 bath custom built condo unit with gourmet kitchen, central air, impeccable details throughout plus 1 year paid parking and 7 years left on Tax Abatement! **Virtual Tour#4637060**
- 256 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Street** \$719,900  
 Wonderful and large duplex with 2 bedroom owner's unit with modern kitchen and bath, separate dining room, and cedar deck plus 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit and 2 car parking! **Virtual Tour#4651921**
- 330 Lombard Street** \$619,900  
 Wonderful 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath home with hardwood and pine floors, 2 fireplaces, high ceilings, and lovely balcony overlooking pretty landscaped yard! **Virtual Tour#4725452**
- 1108 Spruce #1F** \$559,900  
 Bi-level condominium with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths. A dramatic space with recently renovated kitchen, marble fireplace, original pocket doors, and intricate moldings. **Virtual Tour #4762268**
- 271 S 11<sup>th</sup>** \$1,399,000  
 Stunning, contemporary 3 bedrooms, 3 bath with elevator, brazilian cherry floors, central vacuum, 3 decks, large garden, 2-car garage, gas fireplace, den, sprinkler, security, and intercom system. **Virtual Tour #4753996**

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**NEW LISTING!**

**236 South Third St • \$1,900,000** • Elegant 1824c façade on Mansion Row • "California Style" contemporary interior • Five levels  
 • 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths • 2 working fireplaces • Deeded parking  
 • Dining Room with open fireplace, cathedral ceilings, original floors  
 • Poggenpohl Kitchen • Mint condition • Pool, Patio • One of a kind  
 • By Appointment Only! • Virtual Tour MLS 4729931

**NEW PRICE-FABULOUS CONDO!**

**10 St. James Court • \$544,000** • Brick, contemporary bi-level condo  
 • Cathedral ceilings, 16 ft. window • Fabulous Kitchen: granite, tile, stainless appliances • 2 Bedrooms, 2 full baths • Deck overlooks courtyard • Woodburning stove • den/office • parking • Meticulous, move-in. Open House Sunday 12-1 • Virtual Tour MLS 4715439

**JUST SOLD!**

**507 Spruce St** 1802c Historic Facade; Fabulous Rehab  
**York Condominium** Fantastic Penthouse; 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath,  
**Society Hill Towers:** North Corner 1 Bedroom, River views



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**A Free Preview to the  
Nutcracker!**

**Saturday, November 4 at 3 PM**

Old Pine Community Center,  
4th and Lombard Streets

Ice Cream Social to follow Performance

Event open to all Society Hill children  
and their parents

Many thanks to Old Pine Community Center  
for donating their facility

RSVP by Wednesday, November 1  
to St. Peter's School:  
215-925-3963

**Chamber Music Concert  
by Members of the  
Philadelphia Orchestra  
at the  
Society Hill Synagogue**

**Sunday, November 5 at 3 p.m.**

The Society Hill Synagogue has a special relationship with five talented and enthusiastic members of the Philadelphia Orchestra who have formed a quintet, named "The Society Hill Quintet." The musicians are: Paul Arnold, violin; Elina Kalendrova-Picht, violin; Carrie Dennis, viola; Katherine Picht-Read, cello and Robert Kesselman, bass.

Concerts are performed in the historic synagogue's 1829 sanctuary, which the musicians describe as "acoustically the best place we have ever played in." The November 5 concert, consisting of a rich and varied program, will be their fifth performance in the sanctuary. A "pre-concert conversation" will help the audience appreciate the music, and refreshments will be served afterward, giving the audience an opportunity to chat with the musicians.

All are most welcome. Tickets at \$18 may be purchased in advance or at the door — at 418 Spruce Street,. Contact the synagogue at 215-922-6590; via email to Howard Levin at: hlevin@worldnet.att.net.'

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## NOTEWORTHY NEIGHBORS

A COLUMN BY DAVID WOODS

## Lynne Abraham and Frank Ford

**Champions of  
the worth of  
older workers...**

“I love work,” says District Attorney Lynne Abraham, who routinely puts in 12-hour days, and often Saturdays and Sundays, and hasn’t missed a day of work through sickness in 30 years. Her secret? No tobacco or alcohol; and plenty of strong coffee, and chocolate.

But while work is what drives her, she’s also working for you. As the chief law enforcement officer for the City of Philadelphia for the past 15 years and recently re-elected to another four-year term, her office prosecutes some 70,000 criminal cases a year, and much of the agency’s work involves sensitive and secretive investigations. All of this makes her vulnerable to threats, which is why her 18th floor office — in an elegant Art Deco building close to City Hall — is heavily protected.

In some ways, Lynne Abraham’s office is her home. It features more than thirty century-old porcelain clocks, as well as works of art and sculpture mainly by African and African-American

artists, her own carved wood fireplace, and a desk fronted by black walnut and curly maple woodwork. To complete the domestic picture, two cats, appropriately named Miss Demeanor and Amicus Curiae, patrol the room. Curiously, despite the rich array of chronometry, Lynne wears a \$30 watch with plastic wristband. “I won’t spend thousands on a watch,” she says.

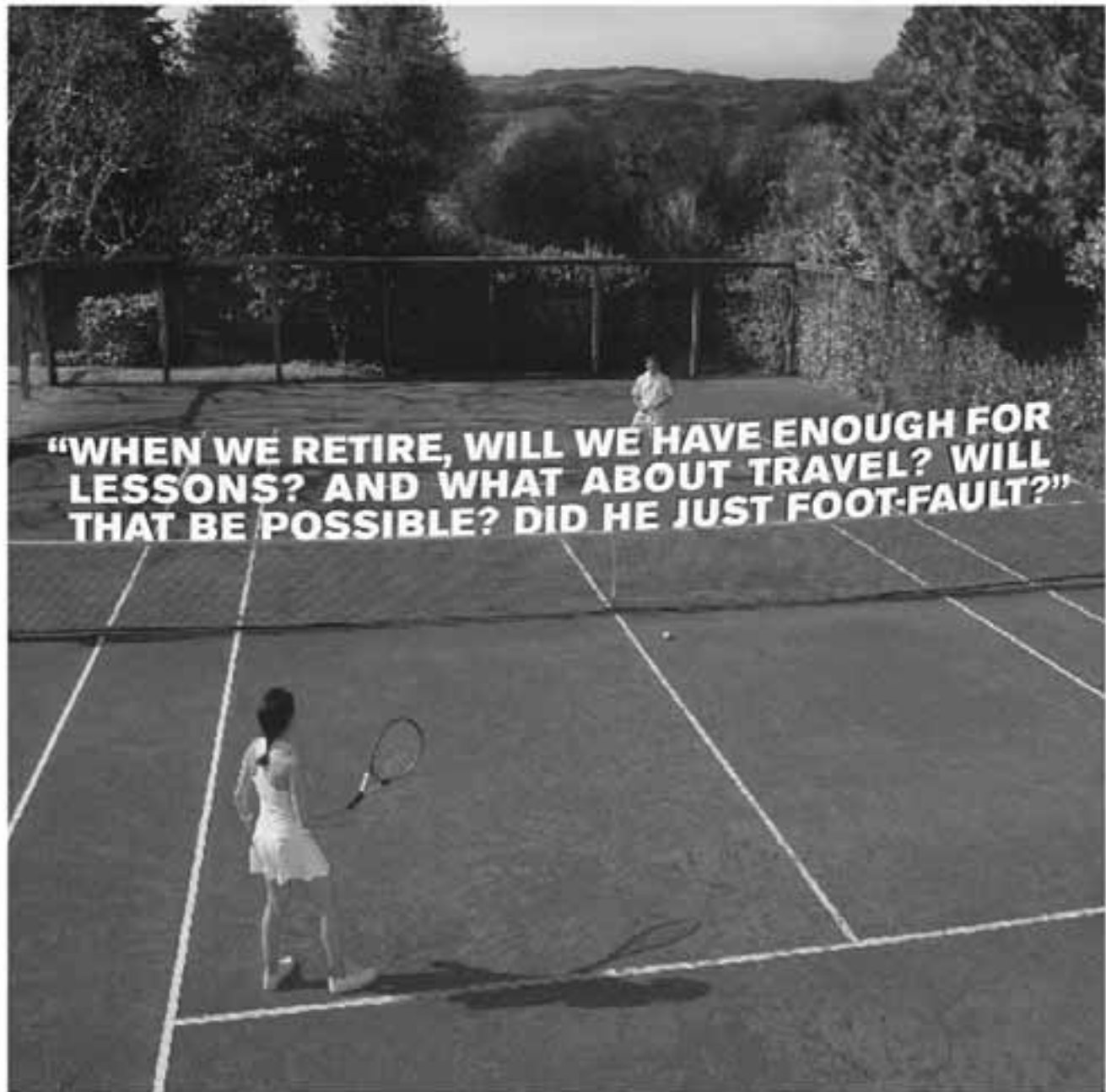
Besides work, the DA also finds time to be an inveterate collector of art and sculpture, a voracious reader mainly of medical texts; (before taking up law she originally planned to become a physician); and, along with Frank Ford, her husband of thirty years, an enthusiastic traveler. Recent jaunts have included St Petersburg, Japan, China, and Central and South America. They are also devotees of ballet, opera, theater and museum cultures.

In fact, Frank, who recently suffered a stroke at age 90, was a noted Philadelphia radio host from the 1950s to the 1990s. He also opened the Valley Forge Music Fair, developed theater in Maryland and Massachusetts, acquired the theater in Fairmount Park, and produced Broadway shows and concerts featuring such icons as Louis Armstrong and Benny Goodman. He and Lynne live in an I.M. Pei house that Frank bought for \$46,000 in the 1970s.

The pair describe Society Hill as a livable space of unending interest. It’s a village in a large city... and has a sense of community that Lynne finds lacking in New York or Los Angeles. She credits our civic association for contributing much to our neighborhood’s character.

At 65, Philadelphia’s District Attorney is a champion of the worth of older workers in the workforce; moreover, she has no thought of retiring in the foreseeable future herself. After all, there’s still lots of work to be done.





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**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

September

September thru Jan 1, 2007

**9/11: A Nation Remembers**  
National Constitution Center  
215.409.6700  
www.constitutioncenter.org.

Wednesday, September 20

**SHCA Board Meeting**  
6 p.m.  
**General Membership Meeting**  
7 p.m.  
Old Pine Street Church  
Upstairs, 412 Pine Street  
See page 1

Saturday, September 30

**Annual Fall Festival**  
Three Bears Park  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
(Rain Date: Sunday, October 1)  
See page 21

Saturday, September 30

**Fall Clean-Up Day**  
Washington Square Park  
8 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
See page 7

October

Wednesday, October 4  
**Cocktail Party for SHCA Members**  
The Society Hill Sheraton  
100 Dock Street  
RSVP by Sept. 26  
6 – 8 p.m. See page 3

Saturday, October 14  
**Center City Elementary School Fair**  
Pennsylvania Convention Center  
12th & Arch Streets, 12 – 3 p.m.  
See page 18

Wednesday, October 18  
**SHCA Board Meeting**  
7 p.m.  
Location to be announced  
All members welcome

Friday, October 27  
**Halloween Celebration**  
Along the Shops of Pine Street  
4 – 6 p.m. See page 18

Tuesday, October 31  
**HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL**  
At Three Bears Park  
5 p.m. See page 21

November

Saturday, November 4  
**Free Preview:  
The Nutcracker Ballet**  
Old Pine Community Center,  
4th & Lombard Streets  
3 p.m. See page 33




Sunday, November 5  
**Society Hill Quintet**  
Chamber Music Concert  
Society Hill Synagogue  
3 p.m. See page 33



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<p><b>Hopkinson House</b> 604-36 S. Washington Square</p>  <p>One bedroom, balcony, 1003 sq. ft. <b>\$360,000</b></p>	<p><b>Society Hill Towers</b> 200 Locust Street</p>  <p>Two bedroom, one bath in excellent condition <b>\$489,900</b></p>	<p><b>One Independence Place</b> 241 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street</p>  <p>Corner two bedroom, two new baths, balcony, new eat-in kitchen, spacious master bedroom suite <b>\$775,000</b></p>
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