



SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.org

## PA Supreme Court Kicks Casino Referendum Off the Ballot — Without Explanation

The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board's (PGCB) brazen attempt to take away our right to vote succeeded when the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania sided with casino gambling interests and PGCB's unelected members by issuing a preliminary injunction which effectively forbids the referendum from appearing on the city's primary election ballot. Our community has reacted with outrage that a body whose purpose is to regulate gambling, *not local elections*, has had the power to derail a local election! The Court has set a dangerous precedent in denying citizens our constitutional right to hold elections and to vote on matters of importance to our city and community.

Since January '07 countless members of our community, along with 20 other civic associations, have been diligently working to place an anti-casino referendum question on Philadelphia's May 15th primary ballot. The goal of our referendum is to prohibit gambling facilities from being built in the city within 1,500 feet of any home,

school, park or house of worship. (The distance of 1,500 feet is approximately a half mile — or four and one-half city blocks, depending on the varying length of each block.)

Our effort to place the referendum question on the ballot has been a monumental struggle from "Day One." First, we were warned that we would never accumulate the necessary 20,000 valid signatures by registered voters in support of placing the question on the ballot. Well, we ended up with more than 27,000 signatures! Following that effort, we were cautioned that we would never receive a majority (12) of Philadelphia City Council votes in support of placing the referendum on the ballot. On March 15th we held our breath as each Councilperson voted "Aye," thanks to Councilman Frank DiCicco's leadership. Council's unanimous vote supported the referendum. The Mayor immediately vetoed Council's decision, and then a short time later — in the last week of March — City Council again made the morally correct choice by unanimously overriding the Mayor's veto. We assumed that this "victory" would, at the least, allow the voices of Philadelphians to be heard on the appropriate locations of two slots casinos in the city. We assumed our system of democracy was still alive and well.

On April 5th, Tad Decker, Chairman of the PGCB, fulfilled his threat — made immediately after the Council's override vote — to file a lawsuit demanding an injunction that would prevent the referendum from appearing on the ballot. He was joined by the two casinos awarded licenses by the PGCB, SugarHouse and Foxwoods, as well as the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce — whose members, by the way, were never polled on the subject. The PGCB's demand for an injunction against this vote was immediately expedited to Pennsylvania's Supreme Court under Act 71. Then one week later, came Friday the 13th. Definitely an evil omen!

*continued on page 4*

**Take Action!**  
See the back page for information about the "Alternative Election" to be held Tuesday, May 15th.

WED.

May

16

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meetings  
Wednesday, May 16, 2007

**Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow Auditorium  
800 Spruce Street**

**6:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting**  
All SHCA members are welcome.

**7:00 p.m. General Membership Meeting  
Annual Election of SHCA Board Directors**  
SHCA members are encouraged to vote;  
All Society Hill residents are invited to attend.

**VOTE!**

See page 11 for information about SHCA's important General Membership Meeting on May 16, immediately following the May 15 Primary Election.



SOCIETY HILL

*Reporter*

**May/June 2007  
Society Hill Reporter**

**Managing Editor**  
Bernice Hamel

**Casino-Related Articles  
co-written & edited by**  
Bernice Hamel  
Rosanne Loesch, Esq.

**Editorial Team**  
Lenore Hardy  
Sandra Rothman  
Ruth Sachs

**Columnists**  
Marilyn Appel  
Jane Biberman  
Carole LeFaivre-Rochester  
Martha Levine  
Tania Rorke  
Steven Weixler  
Keri White  
David Woods

**Contributors**  
Catherine M. Recker, Esq.  
Pamela Sinkler Todd

**Special thanks to**  
Casino Free Philadelphia

**Graphic Design**  
judy@parallel-design.com

**Press Release Liaison**  
Sandy Rothman  
315-C S. 2nd Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
Email: norfad@aol.com  
Phone: 267-671-0554

**Advertising Manager**  
Matthew DeJulio  
**Society Hill  
Civic Association**  
P.O. Box 63503  
Philadelphia, PA 19147

tel: 215-629-1288  
fax: 215-629-9914

**Submission Deadlines**  
July/August issue  
Advertising: June 1  
Editorial: June 11

**Website**  
www.societyhillcivic.org

**Submissions**

Please direct your editorial questions or submissions to Bernice Hamel via fax at 215-925-0877 or email benicehamel@comcast.net. Letters to the Editors will be considered for publication, but only if signed by the writer who provides contact information.

**Wireless Zone®  
on South Street...**  
*your local Verizon Wireless  
Premium Retailer.*

**We are your close to home,  
convenient, backyard neighborhood  
source for all your wireless needs,  
business and personal.**



**YOUR CHOICE** Wireless Aircard  
**20% OFF** **-OR-** Blackberry® Device\*

\*Requires a Verizon Wireless activation and presentation of this ad at time of purchase. Items shown representative of styles. See store for details.

**wireless  
ZONE®**  
National strength, personal service®



**PHILADELPHIA  
215-923-8255  
322 South Street**

Activation fee/line: \$36.  
**IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION:** Subject to Customer Agreement, Calling Plan, rebate form & credit approval. Up to \$175 early termination fee/line, other charges & restrictions. Offers and coverage, which varies by service, not available everywhere. Limited time offer. © 2007 Verizon Wireless. \*Wireless Zone not responsible for typographical errors.

**FIGHT CONTINUES!**

*The fight against casinos on the Delaware Riverfront is continuing with more force than ever!*

We can't stop now. Although our anti-casino referendum has been struck off the ballot, this is not the last round. We have legal appeals pending, we are planning an alternative vote (see back page), we are working with legislators at the city and state levels, and most importantly, we are spreading the word and becoming a movement — reaching out to new and unexpected allies.

**Not in ANYONE'S Backyard!**

“NIMBY” (Not In My BackYard): we reject this acronym, because our opposition to casinos sited near residential neighborhoods includes *everyone's* neighborhood. We want no casinos near any homes — no matter where they are located.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TANIA RORKE, SHCA PRESIDENT

## Three Years in Review

In June of 2004, SHCA's outgoing President, Liza Seltzer, handed me a box of files and said my new job would require about five hours of my time each week. This June, three years and countless hours later, I will end my term as President of SHCA. Although the time commitment has been much greater than I anticipated, I enjoyed *almost* every moment. I had the opportunity to meet and work with so many talented and wonderful people, many of them SHCA Board members.

These three years have been extremely busy for SHCA, and we have accomplished a great deal. We had a huge victory for historic preservation with the York Row buildings when the Historical Commission deviated from its own regulations by allowing a developer to replace marble cornices with fiberglass. Many thanks to Paul Boni, Richard Lush and our attorney, Mike LiPuma for all their time and efforts. We also "saved" Chestnut Street from permanent barricades as we worked with Independence National Historical Park for more reasonable security measures at Independence Hall — with the help of Carter Buller, Chairman of IMBARC, and Ann Meredith, IMBARC's President (Independence Mall Business and Residents Coalition). The McCall School has a wonderful new playground and a "cyber" library, thanks to the efforts of Keri and Matt White and the school's Parents' Association. Society Hill installed a permanent plaque (on Spruce Street) honoring the vision and contributions to our community by City Planner Ed Bacon and Historic Preservationist Charles Peterson — thanks to the efforts of Darlene Cavalier, Bernice Hamel, Stanhope and Libby Browne and the late Penny Batcheler.

We have seen significant improvements in the appearance of Washington Square due to Sissie Lipton's efforts working in partnership with Independence National Historical Park personnel — including Beverly Morris, Volunteer Coordinator for the park, and Superintendent Dennis Reidenbach. Seasonal plantings are colorful, and this spring the Square's fountain will have a new look. There are "new" and improved Franklin Lamps on every street in our neighborhood — now each street is twice as bright. This Lights project would not have been completed if not for the tireless efforts of Martha Levine and committee members Rosanne Loesch and Carol Colabelli. We also have a newsletter that tops all others in the area. Over the last several years, every issue of our *Reporter*

gets better and better — thanks to the dedication of Managing Editor Bernice Hamel, with the assistance of her team — including Carole LeFaivre-Rochester, Lenore Hardy, Sandra Rothman, Marilyn Appel, and Jane Biberman.

Our civic association has begun to work on developing a program — "Independence Community" — to assist older neighbors who want to remain in Society Hill as they age. JoAnn Buller and Carole LeFaivre-Rochester co-chair this strong new steering committee to get a workable program off the ground in the near future.

Another valuable resource we hope to have in place by the time you read this edition of the *Reporter*, is our new, improved Society Hill Civic Association website. The new web address will be [www.societyhillcivic.org](http://www.societyhillcivic.org), and we believe you will find this site, filled with useful information, to be more user-friendly. A "resource" that our organization could not manage without is none other than SHCA's Administrator, Matt DeJulio. He continues to provide support for all SHCA projects, and he works tirelessly to serve our board and members. We are extremely fortunate to have such a competent administrator on our team.

Our most active committee — however not always by choice — is SHCA's Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee. During my term, I was fortunate to work with two talented leaders: Paul Boni, past chair, and Steve Weixler, the current chair. We have witnessed their indomitable efforts on many individual projects, such as roof decks and additions, as well as several major development issues, including the Dilworth House, 500 Walnut Street, the Ayer Building and NewMarket. They, along with their committee, help to maintain the historical integrity of our neighborhood. Unfortunately, as in the Dilworth House case, historic preservation does not always prevail — because sometimes politics can trump all. Although disappointed by the Historical Commission's decision to allow the developer of the Dilworth House to demolish a part of the building, it was a pleasure for me to work on this case with John Gallery, Executive Director of the Preservation Alliance, Larry Silver, our attorney, Ken Snyder, a PR consultant, our neighbor Nancy Moses and, of course, Paul Boni.

Our community has recently been given a "second chance" regarding the NewMarket site, to be

*continued on page 13*



**Tania Rorke SHCA President**

## In this Issue...

- Page 7**  
City Council's  
April 19th Resolution
- Page 9**  
Philadelphia's Zoning  
Laws Ignored by PGCB
- Page 17**  
Zoning & Historic  
Preservation Report
- Page 19**  
Safe & Sound  
in Society Hill
- Page 21**  
A New Column!  
Accidental Tourist  
In My Own Backyard
- Page 23**  
Kids' Beat Reviews  
Kids on 12th
- Page 25**  
In Loving Memory:  
Penelope Batcheler
- Page 34**  
Noteworthy Neighbors  
Alexander Iziliaev &  
Arantxa Ochoa
- Page 36**  
"Alternative Election"  
on May 15th Primary

## Court Kicks Casino Referendum Off the Ballot

*continued from page 1*

**Be sure to vote for your preferred mayoral candidate — but *only* if he/she explicitly and unequivocally supports our objective to keep gambling sites away from our city's residential neighborhoods.**

In a 5-2 decision the Supreme Court issued, with no accompanying rationale, a temporary injunction pulling the referendum off the ballot — thereby stunning tens of thousands of Philadelphia citizens who had been waiting for a chance to vote.

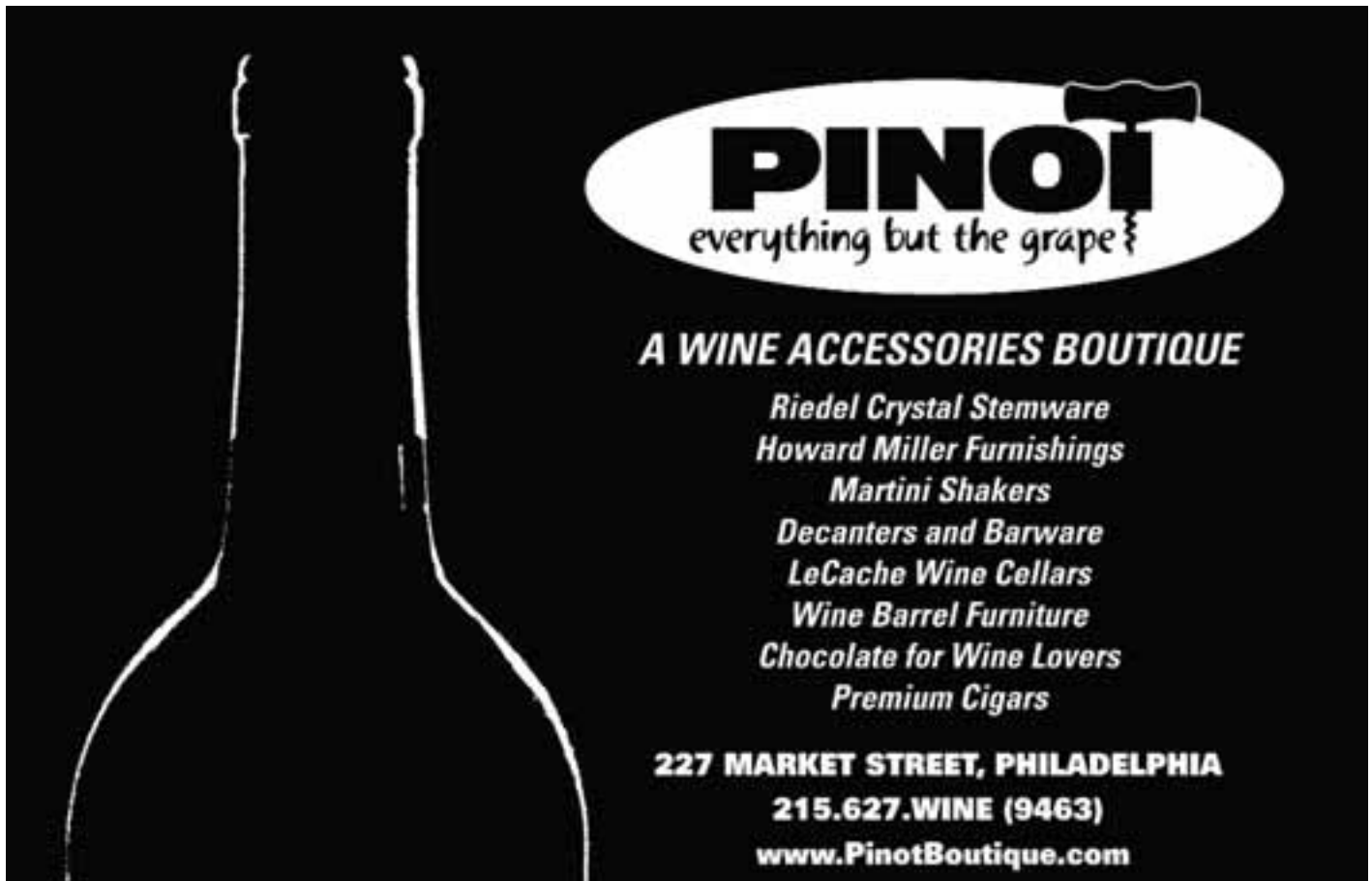
It was only recently that Philadelphia citizens learned of the state's chicanery and political cronyism that resulted in the *infamous* Act 71. This law established the PGCB and gave the governor authority to choose the Board's seven members. These political appointees became the "decision makers" given the power to select which two casino operators (out of five candidates) would be awarded licenses to operate within the City of Philadelphia. None of these appointees are citizens of Philadelphia. Nor do they represent the people who would be personally affected by their decision. However, it is important to remember that the city retains its power to choose *where* the two casinos are located. (See page 7, City Council Resolution.)

The justification for permitting gambling in

Philadelphia was that it promises property tax relief for all residents of Pennsylvania — with the exception of Philadelphians who would instead receive wage tax relief. Hmm... We knew something was unfair almost immediately, because Act 71 does not provide tax relief for Philadelphians who don't pay wage taxes, either because they are unemployed, self-employed or are retired. (Learn more about how this illegitimate "law" came to pass by visiting [www.casinofreephila.org/Operation%20Transparency.html](http://www.casinofreephila.org/Operation%20Transparency.html); or visit [www.hallwatch.org](http://www.hallwatch.org).)

This is round one of a multiple-round fight. The implementation of the *preliminary* injunction is a little unclear, since the ballots already have been printed. We believe that "cover-up" stickers should not be placed on the physical ballots to conceal the referendum question, because there remains a chance that the injunction will be lifted. So hope still remains.

Our outrage needs to be heard. Money and undue influence should not trump the interests of the public!



**PINOI**  
everything but the grape

**A WINE ACCESSORIES BOUTIQUE**

*Riedel Crystal Stemware*  
*Howard Miller Furnishings*  
*Martini Shakers*  
*Decanters and Barware*  
*LeCache Wine Cellars*  
*Wine Barrel Furniture*  
*Chocolate for Wine Lovers*  
*Premium Cigars*

**227 MARKET STREET, PHILADELPHIA**  
**215.627.WINE (9463)**  
**[www.PinotBoutique.com](http://www.PinotBoutique.com)**

# Raising Funds: Your Donations Needed Now!

We can imagine spending \$500 for a special occasion dinner or \$1,000 for a weekend trip. Isn't protecting your home's value worth as much?

What is your home worth to you — aside from where you and your loved ones live your daily lives? Surely, for most of us, our homes are one of our most significant financial investments. Based on what we've learned from other states that have welcomed gambling, we now know that the arrival of casinos decreases the monetary value of real estate by 15-20%.

Aside from the depreciation of the monetary value of our homes, all communities that have suffered the fate of having gambling venues built close to where they live or work report dire consequences to the quality of life they had once enjoyed. Studies based on other states that have experienced the political "quick fix" of increased revenue — whether for school or property-tax relief — have learned the actual costs of gambling. These communities are coping with a range of social problems that stem from gambling addiction — such as increased crime, business losses, bankruptcies and unemployment, as well as family problems, such as personal depression, divorce and domestic violence.

Who truly benefits from casinos? It's not the occasional "lucky" winner! We all know that the "house" (aka: casino) always wins. The casino investors have done quite an effective job by convincing our governor and our mayor that gambling venues will benefit our city and communities in many ways. Yet the arrival of casinos as a "solution" to the state's revenue problem is an unprecedented experiment. No other city the size of Philadelphia has ever placed casinos in the heart of thriving and vibrant residential communities — as is now being proposed. Gambling venues welcomed by other states are most often built as destination locations far from major urban areas, not in urban communities. This proposed solution to Pennsylvania's money problem is an illusion, and we will be the guinea pigs!

Wouldn't it be worth it to you to make a tax-deductible donation today to protect the value, nature and character of your real estate investment, as well as help preserve our unique neighborhood? Please consider making a contribution to the Society Hill Fund in the amount of \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 or even more. But don't forget — every penny counts. So any amount you can donate will definitely make a difference!



**Locating casinos in residential communities is an unprecedented experiment. Don't turn us into guinea pigs!**

## Four Additional Actions You Can Now Take

- 1 Sign up with SHCA's Anti-Casino efforts by sending us your name and email address, so that we can inform you on important developments. Please contact SHCA's Administrator Matt DeJulio at mattdejulio@aol.com.
- 2 Visit the website of Casino Free Philadelphia: [www.casinofreephil.org](http://www.casinofreephil.org) and enter your email address. This does not mean that you'll become a member of this nonprofit organization; it means that you will be given regular updates whenever there's news to share or an action to be taken.
- 3 Share these updates with your friends — whether inside or outside of Philadelphia. Our suburban friends have been writing letters to the governor, our state legislators and the Gaming Oversight Committee to express their dismay at the undemocratic process visited upon the citizens of our city and state.
- 4 Stay tuned to a newly proposed alternative vote, suggested by Casino Free Philadelphia and supported by SHCA's Board. If the Supreme Court's temporary injunction against allowing the referendum to appear on the ballot becomes a permanent injunction, we will have a citywide Alternative Election on May 15th, called "Philadelphia's Ballot Box."

**A tax-deductible donation of \$1,000 represents less than \$20 dollars per week for a year, while \$5,000 represents \$96 dollars per week for a year. Isn't this worth it for the lifetime investment of your home?**

## NO CASINO NEAR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD FUND

**Our goal is to raise at least \$300,000 — so we must ask you to be as generous as possible.**

\$50 Neighbor     \$100 Ally     \$250 Colleague     \$500 Partner  
 \$1,000 Sponsor     \$5,000 Philanthropist     \$10,000 Angel

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt # \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work or Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to: "The Society Hill Fund." On the memo line, write: "No Casinos Near Neighborhoods Fund."

Mail your tax-deductible donation to:  
 The Society Hill Civic Association, P.O. Box 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147



## WEIXLER, PETERSON & LUZI

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

232 South Fourth Street

215 • 592 • 9570

[www.wplinc.com](http://www.wplinc.com)

## HAVING PROBLEMS?

### Trust Licensed Society Hill Professionals

#### **Karen W. Edelstein, PSY.D.**

Psychotherapy for Children, Adolescents,  
Adults and Families.

Solution-focused Parent Consultation

Psycho-educational testing, Independent School  
admissions testing

Phone: 215-922-1564

Email: [Karenrwe@aol.com](mailto:Karenrwe@aol.com)

#### **Stephanie Costello, MSW, LSCW, CEAP**

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for  
Individuals and Couples

Treatment of anxiety, depression, women's issues  
and career problems.

Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue/Pain Group

The Artist's Way Group

Phone: 215-917-0032

Email: [stephaniecostello@yahoo.com](mailto:stephaniecostello@yahoo.com)

## PANORAMA RISTORANTE

Contemporary Italian cuisine and over  
120 wines by the glass every day.

Winner of The Wine Spectator Best of  
Award of Excellence. Private Wine  
Cellar and Reception Rooms available.

Ristorante Panorama at the Penn's View Hotel  
Front & Market Streets Philadelphia, PA 19106

Restaurant Reservations  
Call 215.922.7800

Complimentary Parking at Lunch

[www.pennsviewhotel.com](http://www.pennsviewhotel.com)

## HOT OFF THE PRESS

## City Council's April 19th Resolution

On April 19, thanks to Councilman Frank DiCicco's leadership, City Council approved a resolution to create a special council committee to explore alternate sites for casinos in the city. Although City Council does not object to the advent of gaming within city limits, it does recognize the "serious detrimental effects that gaming can and will have on the surrounding neighborhoods and businesses." The resolution was approved 14-3, and only council members Campbell, Ramos and Savage voted against it.

Council's resolution focuses on the two licenses awarded by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board: SugarHouse, located at Delaware and Frankford Avenues, and Foxwoods, located at Columbus Boulevard and Reed Street. These two sites are in "close proximity to residential and commercial properties that would be negatively impacted by

increased traffic congestion, crime and other quality-of-life concerns that [City Council] finds unacceptable." It is hoped that by finding alternate sites, the City can mandate or encourage the casino developers to move to those more suitable locations.

In addition, City Council approved the rezoning of Foxwoods from C-3 Commercial to R10A Residential. With this new classification, Councilman DiCicco believes that Foxwoods must receive a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment to move forward. While he recognizes that the new zoning classification will be challenged in court, he believes that the measure is necessary to give residents a voice in this process. A similar measure is not necessary for the SugarHouse site, because this site is currently zoned G-2 Industrial and falls within the North Delaware Avenue Special District Controls.

---

City Council created a special council committee to explore alternate sites for casinos in the city.

---

## WHAT THE "GAMING" INDUSTRY WON'T TELL YOU

- Foxwoods and SugarHouse Casinos, which are less than 2.5 miles from each other and on the same roadway, will generate at least **30,000 additional cars and buses per day** on Columbus Boulevard. **Clogged traffic will prevent deliveries and customers from getting to local retail establishments.**
- A *USA News and World Report* analysis found **crime** in casino communities to be **84% higher than the national average.**
- Court cases in a Mississippi county, host to a large casino complex, went from 689 cases to 11,100 cases per year five years after casino operations began — about **17 times as many court cases.**
- Police calls in Ledyard, Connecticut, the town adjacent to a Foxwoods casino, went from 4,000 annual calls at the start of casino operations to 16,700 calls five years later — **a four-fold increase in police calls.**
- In communities with casinos, **adolescent gambling** increases dramatically. Almost two-thirds of Atlantic City high school students have gambled in the city's casinos.
- **Suicide rates go up** — Nevada has had the highest national suicide rate for more than 10 years, of both residents and visitors. Atlantic City experienced abnormal rates of suicide after casinos began operating there.
- **Escalating rates of divorce, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, gambling addiction and job loss occur in communities that have casinos. In fact, gambling is the second leading cause of domestic violence.**
- For the better paying jobs, casinos import their working staff from other casino operations outside of the area, often from as far away as Eastern Europe. They **hire local workers for the lowest paying jobs in the industry**, such as valet parking, janitorial & kitchen work.
- **Promised wage tax reduction**, the *quid pro quo* for having casinos imposed on our neighborhoods, **will not benefit most retired people** who no longer earn wages.
- **For every three slot machines, the host community stands to lose two jobs**, because the \$100,000 per year generated by each slot machine is diverted from the host community — from restaurants, bars and a myriad of local retail establishments. "Gaming" industry profits depend on customers staying inside their windowless, clock-less boxes and receiving free or low-cost food and liquor.
- **For every \$1 of casino revenue going to the state, \$3 will be spent on social service needs** caused by the "gaming" industry. This includes policing, court-appointed lawyers, incarceration, addiction centers, unemployment, bankruptcy cases, welfare, counseling, etc.

**We're Not Immune to Social Ills**

It is folly to think that we will be immune to these economic and social impacts — not to mention the degradation of our historic neighborhoods which have been nurtured for as long as 300 years and contain hundreds of historic buildings and sites, many of which are National Historical Landmarks. The last encampment of the British Army during the Revolutionary War took place on the very site where SugarHouse Casino is proposed.

Casinos on the Delaware Riverfront will have a devastating effect on the life of Philadelphia, which we all have worked so hard to revitalize over the past 50 years.


**OPEN SUNDAYS**

Have a cannoli or éclair, watch fresh pretzels made with care...



**make it *your* market**  
 12th & Arch Mon-Sat 8-6 & Sun 9-4  
 \$3 parking - [readingterminalmarket.org](http://readingterminalmarket.org)

# Wake up your MIND!



We are honored to print the *SOCIETY HILL Reporter*



**SERVICES**  
 Pre-Press  
 Variable Data  
 Graphic Design  
 Full Service Offset  
 High Speed Copying  
 Digital Color Printing

**PRODUCTS**  
 Newsletters & Manuals  
 Brochures & Invitations  
 Legal Documents  
 Oversized Color  
 Stationery  
 NCR

**MediaCopy**  
*Focusing on you and your company's needs*

1310 Sansom Street  
 Philadelphia, PA 19107  
 T 215.717.5151  
 F 215.717.7400

11 East State Street  
 Media, PA 19063  
 T 610.566.8499  
 F 610.566.4513

[www.mediacopyonline.com](http://www.mediacopyonline.com)

**Master of Business Administration (MBA)**

- = 30 credits to earn the MBA
- = Classes offered 1 night a week in 8-week sessions
- = Weekend Intensive course options
- = Finish in 18 months
- = Only MBA in South Philadelphia

Three convenient locations, including **South Philadelphia** Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church at Columbus Blvd and Christian Street — *Free parking and minutes from Center City and the bridges!*

**New for Fall 2007 :: South Philadelphia location**  
**Bachelor of Science in**  
**Business Administration Degree Completion Program**

**Call for Information Sessions and details:**  
 267-341-5000  
[acclearn@holyfamily.edu](mailto:acclearn@holyfamily.edu)

[www.holyfamily.edu](http://www.holyfamily.edu)  
**HOLY FAMILY UNIVERSITY**



## Philadelphia's Zoning Code Laws Ignored To Favor the Gaming Industry

*This report, based on an article written by Catherine M. Recker, Esq., summarizes how the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) ignored Philadelphia's current zoning laws designed to protect residential communities from the negative fallout caused by "entertainment" and alcohol-serving establishments.*

In the mid-to-late 1990's, our neighboring communities to the north — Fishtown and Northern Liberties — were plagued by a handful of nightclubs that brought dangerous, drunken behavior to the area — including shootings. In response, the city revised the Zoning Code in 2002 to prohibit any venue whose purpose is to provide "entertainment of guests and patrons" situated along Delaware Avenue from Spring Garden Street to Lehigh Avenue. The code specifically prohibits bars, restaurants and nightclubs in this area.

This Special Control District gives a very clear description of the negative impact that such venues have on citizens living nearby. In legislative findings the city recognized that these "entertainment" establishments increase crime in their surrounding communities and that residents bear the brunt of problems that begin there. Nevertheless, the PGCB together with the owners of SugarHouse considered themselves above the law when they sited SugarHouse in the prohibited residential neighborhoods of Fishtown and Northern Liberties.

In fact, the law that enables casinos to operate in Pennsylvania — specifically, Act 71 — requires that the PGCB consider the public interest. It needed to look no further than Philadelphia's local zoning code to learn of the negative impact caused by entertainment and alcohol venues in those neighborhoods. Instead, the PGCB chose a site that had previously been determined to be unsuitable for such a use — completely ignoring the experience of these communities.

All the more troubling is the fact that SugarHouse proposes to serve alcohol 24 hours a day, seven days a week — in buildings that are 100 times the size of the handful of nightclubs that had caused so much destruction to the neighborhoods prior to 2002. If SugarHouse is built at Delaware Avenue and Shackamaxon Street, its size will exceed three million square feet of new construction — thus exponentially increasing negative impacts experienced prior to 2002.

The entire process of selecting SugarHouse was flawed. Not only did the PGCB ignore the city's zoning legislation, but SugarHouse failed to mention in its "local impact report" any of the documented negative impacts or the zoning restrictions applicable to its site. That is not surprising. Prior to the expiration of the public comment period, SugarHouse presented, among other things, a purely fictional traffic pattern that ignored any physical impediments to its plan — including nonexistent intersections and streets in Fishtown. In the PGCB's "Suitability Report," referring to the SugarHouse site, neither the "Location" section — which barely references the thriving residential community the city went to great lengths to protect — nor the "Zoning Status" section ever mention the city's zoning restriction. In fact, that report refers only to a "Commercial Entertainment District" that has yet to be designated.

It is inconceivable that the SugarHouse casino, which is partially owned and represented by lawyers, together with the PGCB, all unelected appointees, could have missed the zoning restrictions for their selected site. The State of Pennsylvania should not be allowed to run roughshod over communities that have survived the nightmare of bad development along Philadelphia's Delaware Avenue. History repeats itself, to quote Karl Marx: "First as tragedy, second as farce." Our nightclub tragedy was enough. We don't need casino farce.

**Zoning code specifically prohibits bars, restaurants and nightclubs in the area surrounding the SugarHouse location.**

Catherine Recker lives in Fishtown, not far from the proposed SugarHouse casino. She is a partner at Welsh and Recker, a boutique law firm specializing in federal criminal defense work.



*The Grand Ballroom*

### THE Down Town Club

Founded in 1897

Catering & Conference Center

*Corporate Meetings*

*Social Events*

*Wedding Receptions*

*Holiday Parties*

You and your guests will enjoy renowned cuisine and impeccable service in your choice of seven elegant private dining and meeting rooms.

Call Today For a Personal Tour!  
**215•925•2040**

Visit Our Web Site at [www.downtownclub.com](http://www.downtownclub.com)

ACROSS FROM INDEPENDENCE HALL AT 6TH & CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106

**Debbie Zak Cohen  
PHOTOGRAPHY**



**I capture magical memories.**

- everyday moments
- celebratory occasions
- babies & children
- grandparents & family
- pets
- formal & casual portraits
- social & business events

contact me to plan your custom session

**dkzak.com**

215.629.9715

**relaxed organic fun forever**



Toni Ann Flanigan  
215.951.9193

PHILADELPHIA GARDEN INC.

662 West Johnson Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19144  
215-951-9193  
www.philadelphiagardens.com



Urban Garden Designer



SOCIETY HILL'S PREMIER SALON  
316 S. 5TH STREET  
215 873 8090

UNASSUMING, BUT CERTAINLY NOT ORDINARY.

**salon @ 5th**

## Hail & Farewell to SHCA's Leadership

The Society Hill Civic Association will conduct its annual election of board officers and quadrant directors at its next General Membership Meeting, to be held at Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow Auditorium. We invite all SHCA members to attend and vote for these civic-minded candidates who have been asked to serve by our association's Nominating Committee, chaired by Northeast Quadrant Director Matthew White.

As you may already know, all SHCA officers are elected for a one-year term, although they may serve for three consecutive years, if re-elected. However, quadrant directors are elected for three-year terms. Any director representing his or her condominium association — e.g. Hopkinson House, Independence Place, Society Hill Towers and Penn's Landing Square — is appointed by its management for a one-year term and can serve a maximum of three successive one-year terms.

At our May 16th meeting we will say farewell to SHCA's departing officers and quadrant directors, and welcome their willing replacements. We especially thank outgoing President Tania Rorke, who has served energetically and faithfully for three

years during an increasingly challenging period in our community's history. We are also indebted to retiring Treasurer, Colleen Farrell, whose financial wizardry has kept our civic association fiscally prudent. Michael Erdos, who served as Vice President and also chaired Society Hill's TownWatch, has resigned his board position in order to run for Judge in the City of Philadelphia's Court of Common Pleas — in the forthcoming May 15th primary election.

We are most grateful to three retiring Quadrant Directors: Diane Rossheim, Northwest; David Harwitz, Southwest; and Richard deWyngaert, Southeast. Richard has resigned that role because, heroically, he has accepted the nomination to serve as SHCA's President.

We welcome most heartily all incoming SHCA officers and quadrant directors whose personal and professional biographies are briefly summarized on pages 13-15. In addition, we provide a complete list of additional SHCA officers and quadrant directors, naming their board responsibilities and committee participation. Each neighbor who donates his or her efforts on behalf of our civic association and our community is warmly thanked.

**VOTE!**

**ELECTIONS**

Wednesday,  
May 16th  
SHCA General  
Membership  
Meeting:  
Board Election



GARDEN DESIGN | INSTALLATION | ARTIFACTS | HARDSCAPE | LIGHTING | FOUNTAINS

**DIG**

[www.designinginnovativegardens.com](http://www.designinginnovativegardens.com)

mike waddell 267-872-8814 naime jezeny 215-589-0714

IN SOCIETY HILL,  
MERRILL LYNCH CAN  
HELP YOU MAKE YOUR  
MONEY WORK HARDER  
BY WORKING TOGETHER.

How do you see your financial life? Your investments are there. Your retirement here. Your banking way over there. Seen separately and managed separately, your financial life can only take you so far. Now there's a way to go beyond those limits.

We call it Total Merrill™. At its heart is a powerful premise: your money works harder when it works together. A Merrill Lynch Financial Advisor will look at your total financial picture and deliver customized solutions that can benefit every area of your financial life.

Total Merrill. We see your financial life in total. We help you reach your goals.

**TO MAKE YOUR MONEY WORK HARDER BY WORKING TOGETHER, CONTACT A MERRILL LYNCH FINANCIAL ADVISOR TODAY OR VISIT [WWW.ASKMERRILL.ML.COM](http://WWW.ASKMERRILL.ML.COM)**

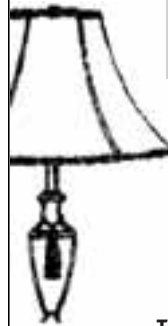
**1-800-733-2180  
215-568-1500**

**MERRILL LYNCH  
THE CURTIS CENTER  
601 WALNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106**

**THOMAS J. TARKA  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT-INVESTMENTS  
FINANCIAL ADVISOR**



Total Merrill (design) is a registered service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. Total Merrill is a service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. © 2003 Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated. Member, SIPC.



# LAMP SHADES

## FREE Shop-at-Home

- Custom Shades
- Shades Expertly Recovered
- Any Shape, Color, or Size

We bring our samples to your home!  
Free pickup and delivery.

To make an appointment or visit our factory, call  
**610-724-0664**

*Creating harmony in body and mind*

*Judy Moon  
and Associates*

**CONVENIENT, RELAXING MASSAGE THERAPY**

Washington Square South  
in the Hopkinson House

ABMP Certified

267.671.0881 [www.judymoon.com](http://www.judymoon.com)

# PhilaDeli

- delicatessen
- restaurant
- informal catering
- box lunches

410 412 SOUTH ST., PHILA. PA 19147-1535  
215-923-1986 FAX 215-923-2299

# Cosmos

**Fine Nail Salon**

**Mon-Fri 9:30 am - 7 pm  
Sat 9:30 am - 6 pm**

a nail salon  
for men & women

**21 South 7th Street  
215-627-1020**

**1308 Sansom Street  
215-545-5456**

## BOARD OFFICERS

**Brief biographies appear for new candidates only. Continuing officers and directors are listed with their committee activities highlighted.**

### **PRESIDENT: Richard deWyngaert**

Richard, his wife, Susan, and their three daughters have been living in and loving Society Hill for almost 15 years. A former auctioneer and fine arts dealer, Richard now works privately in asset management. In November 2005, responding to a neighborhood "void" — Richard opened our community's favorite bookstore: Head House Books, located at 619 S. 2nd Street. Its handsome and cozy setting provides high-quality books for adults and children of all ages — offering story hours for preschoolers and after-school programs for older kids. It is also a venue for local poets and authors. Richard, a graduate of Georgetown University, is active in several community institutions. Having completed two terms as an SHCA Southwest Quadrant Director, he now looks forward to serving as our President. Committed to addressing significant issues that concern city and neighborhood residents, Richard also serves on three additional boards and is Vice President of St. Peter's School.

### **VICE PRESIDENTS**

Two new Vice-Presidential nominees have been asked to serve, along with three Vice Presidents who will complete their third year of service.

#### **V.P. Jerrold "Jim" Moss**

Jim and his wife have been residents of the Society Hill Towers for 24 years. Very active in Towers' affairs, Jim has served on its Council for 14 years and as its Vice President for the past eight. Also, he has long been involved with our civic association, having previously served as SHCA's Vice President. Professionally, Jim keeps busy in his full-time practice of law —

with Astor Weiss Kaplan & Mandel, LLP — specializing in civil litigation, business transactional work and general counseling. Previously, he was a Board Director of the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Associations. Active in politics, he was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention and President of the Southeastern Pennsylvania chapter of Americans for Democratic Action. Jim's wife, Marsha Moss, is a public art curator and consultant — so it is not surprising that he works pro bono representing or advising artists and arts organizations.

#### **V.P. Rebecca Stoloff**

Becky, a lifetime Philadelphian, first arrived "on the Hill" in 1973 when she and her husband moved to the Society Hill Towers. Three years later they purchased an historical town home which they ingeniously renovated and modernized. As an active SHCA member, Becky first served as an SE Quadrant Director until she "graduated" to Vice President and then, from 1989-1991, she assumed the role of President. A key member of the Zoning & Historic Preservation Committee, she is involved with several additional community-related endeavors — including Vice President of the Head House Conservancy. She is a member the Executive Committee of the Friends of Independence Branch Library, and currently she serves as Vice-Chair of the Reading Terminal Market Corporation. Becky often travels to Berkeley, California to visit her son, his wife and their two children — when she isn't otherwise venturing across the globe.

#### **V.P. Bernice Hamel**

Founder & Managing Editor of this newsletter; longtime member of SHCA's Zoning & Historic Preservation Committee; President, Head House Conservancy

#### **V.P. Carole LeFavre-Rochester**

Co-chair, Aging-in Place Committee— SHCA's program to establish a support system for older neighbors (aka: "Independence Community"); Columnist, the *Reporter*

#### **V.P. Martha Levine**

Chair, Franklin Lights Committee; Manager, SHCA's 50 Block Coordinators; Creator/Supervisor, Welcome Basket program; SHCA's List of Recommended Contractors; Co-Chair, Safe & Sound Committee; Co-chair, Society Hill House & Garden Tours; Member, Anti-Casino Fundraising Committee

### **TREASURER: Kevin Miller**

Kevin and his wife, Claudia, live in a 180-year-old house with their two young children. Since 1997 Kevin has been a Senior Vice President at RCM Technologies, an information technology and engineering consulting firm listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange. Prior to his current work, he was an investment banker at Legg Mason Wood Walker, a business consultant at Penn's Wharton Small Business Development Center, and also at the University of Cape Town (South Africa), as well as a CPA with Ernst & Young. A graduate of the University of Delaware and the Wharton School, both Kevin and Claudia are involved parents at St. Peter's School. Most of their free time is spent on family-centered activities.

### **SECRETARY: Marilyn Appel**

Chair, Police District Advisory Council; Member, SHCA's Safe & Sound Committee; Columnist and editor of the *Reporter*

## **President's Message**

*continued from page 2*

known from now on as "Stamper Square," named after a 19th-century Philadelphia mayor. The new owner/developer, Bridgman Development, together with its architectural firm, H2L2, is committed to working with our community throughout the entire planning process to come up with a high-end hotel/condo complex that our neighborhood can be proud of.

How can I conclude this, my final message, without referring to our current challenge: casinos! This issue has consumed a great deal of my time during

the past year. Unfortunately, it's politics as usual! But on the positive side, no other issue in a long time has united so many communities. Our association has joined an alliance with 20 other community groups from all over the city. We are also working with other organizations, such as Casino Free and NABR (Neighborhood Alliance for a Better Riverfront) to protect our communities from the negative impacts that casinos would bring. This is no longer just a casino issue, it is a democracy issue. Unless Governor Rendell gets his wish, however, we will do whatever we can to prevent casinos from being built within 1,500 feet of any residence, school, or house of worship.

Lastly, I would like to thank our entire Board for their commitment to improving our community. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you. Our neighborhood is fortunate to have individuals who are willing to dedicate so much of their time to make Society Hill a better place! I am extremely grateful and would especially like to thank Carole Le Favre-Rochester, Jim Moss and Matt White for their continued support and advice throughout the last three years. I also wish my successor, Richard deWyngaert, the best of luck in the challenging year ahead. I will continue to volunteer my time to this wonderful organization and hope that many of you will also consider volunteering yours!


## FITNESS FOR ONE

### PERSONAL TRAINING SERVICES




weight loss  
 strength training  
 total body toning & shape-up  
 yoga · flexibility  
 nutritional guidance  
 corporate fitness

fitness4one@msn.com  
 267-342-0433  
 E Gordon BS  
 Certified by ACSM



*Providing an Elementary Catholic Education in the Heart of Historic Philadelphia*

— Since 1782 —



Fifth & Locust Streets  
 Philadelphia, PA 19106  
 215.923.7522  
 www.saintmarys.us

## THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE THERAPY



Greg DiTeodoro, B.S., CMT (Member ABMP)

Incorporating eastern & western techniques to achieve total relaxation/pain reduction

- Office located in Society Hill
- House calls available

To make an appointment, call 267-254-3463 or email [gditeodoro@aol.com](mailto:gditeodoro@aol.com)

## BEST POLISH CLEANING SERVICE

Houses • Apartments • Offices

Your neighbors are my clients!

MONIKA DYMEK

267-259-8447

[m\\_dymek@yahoo.com](mailto:m_dymek@yahoo.com)

References Available  
 Responsible & Reliable  
 With Excellent Experience



THE DAY SPA AND SALON

AT **Pileggi**

ON THE SQUARE

717 WALNUT STREET

215.627.0565

WWW.PILEGGISALON.COM

ENJOY ONE OF OUR "HEAD-TO-TOE" SPA SPECIALS

BODY MASSAGE AND FACIAL FOR \$140

FIRST TIME MICRODERMABRASION FOR \$99 OR SERIES OF THREE FOR \$275

717 WALNUT STREET · PHILADELPHIA  
 EXPIRES MAY 30, 2007

THE PLACE FOR INNOVATION, STYLE, AND SERVICE.

WE'RE BRINGING SEXY BACK™

Philadelphia's center for body treatments, microdermabrasions, and the ELEMIS skin care line.

ENJOY OUR "CHOOSE YOUR OWN 3 FOR \$50" OF NAILS AND WAXING

MANICURE, OR EYEBROW, LIP OR BIKINI WAX

717 WALNUT STREET · PHILADELPHIA  
 EXPIRES MAY 30, 2007



ENJOY ONE OF OUR "BRINGING SEXY BACK™" HAIR SPECIALS

GET A MASTER STYLIST CONSULTATION WITH ANNA, FRANCIS OR JOSEPH AND RECEIVE A FREE HAIR PRODUCT CUT OR BLOWOUT WITH ONE OF OUR SENIOR STYLISTS FOR \$60

717 WALNUT STREET · PHILADELPHIA  
 EXPIRES MAY 30, 2007

## QUADRANT DIRECTORS

### NORTHWEST QUADRANT

#### Baldo M. Carnecchia

Baldo is a senior partner at the Montgomery, McCracken law firm where he served on its Management Committee. Among his professional allegiances, he is a member of the National Association of College and University Attorneys and the International Business Forum. He and his wife, Wendye — a teacher at St. Peter's School — "immigrated" to Society Hill from the suburbs about five years ago. Baldo says "we must give back to it now that it is under pressure on so many fronts, including threats to safety, failing infrastructure, casinos, increasing taxes and lack of city services." He hopes his work on SHCA's Board will help maintain and preserve the neighborhood — "birthplace of our country."

#### Sissie Lipton

Chair, Washington Square Committee; Liaison with the National Park Service

#### Rosanne Loesch

Chair, SHCA's Anti-Casino Fundraising Committee; Member, Franklin Lights Committee; Member, Safe & Sound Committee, New *Society Hill Reporter* Team Member

### SOUTHEAST QUADRANT

#### Jane Ahn

With two preschoolers at home and recently joined by a new arrival, Jane's growing family has thoroughly enjoyed living in child-friendly Society Hill for the past three years. The family's professed desire "to live forever" in their historic Pine Street home has caused Jane to take a profound interest in how the NewMarket site will be developed. With an economics degree from Harvard College, Jane began her career as a management consultant in NYC. She returned to her alma mater for a Master's in architecture and now happily runs a design studio in Society Hill, while serving on the Board of the Friends of Schuylkill River Park and on the Building Committee of the Philadelphia School.

#### Carol Colabelli

Member, Franklin Lights Committee; Member, SHCA's Nominating Committee

#### Sandra Rothman

Editorial team member, *Society Hill Reporter*

### SOUTHWEST QUADRANT

#### Victoria Lupica

Victoria and her husband, Mark Page, have lived in Society Hill since 1992, first as Hopkinson House residents. In '98, they purchased a townhouse. Professionally, Vicki is employed by the City of Philadelphia as Department of Aviation Special Events Coordinator at the Philadelphia International Airport. With a B.F.A. in Creative Writing and a B.A. in English — both from Bowling Green State University, in Ohio. Vicki appreciates keeping up with local happenings through this community newsletter. She plans to join the *Reporter's* editorial team to help keep neighbors in the loop about issues that can affect our lives. Vicki applauds the efforts of our civic association and looks forward to participating as a board director.

#### Anine Burlingame

Member, Franklin Lights Committee; Block Coordinator; New member, Welcome Baskets Committee

#### Wallace Wing

Chair, SHCA's Anti-Graffiti & Clean-Up Day Committees; Block Coordinator

### NORTHEAST QUADRANT

#### Gordon Baltuch, M.D.

Member, Safe & Sound Committee; Member, Franklin Lights Committee

#### Paul Boni, Esq.

Former Chair & Current Member, Zoning & Historic Preservation Committee; Member, Anti-Casino Committee

#### Matthew White, Esq.

Chair, SHCA's Nominating Committee (2007); Member, Legal Committee; Member, NewMarket Committee

### CONDOMINIUM REPRESENTATIVES

#### St. James Court: Andrea Layden

Team member of this newsletter

#### Penn's Landing Square: Ray Swerdlow

Chair, SHCA's Casino Committee

#### Independence Place:

New appointee to be announced.

#### Hopkinson House: Steven A. Weixler

Chair, Zoning & Historic Preservation Committee

#### Society Hill Towers: Bonnie Halda

Member, Zoning & Historic Preservation Committee; SHCA representative of the Foglietta Plaza charrette planning team; former SHCA Vice President

#### The St. James: Norman Lieberman

First SHCA director selected to represent this recently built hi-rise building, at 8th & Walnut Streets, Member, Washington Square Committee



#### Tree & Landscape Contractor

Michael DiNardo Design/Build  
Owner/Certified Arborist Plant Health Care  
215-535-2653 Landscape Contractor  
25-535-2654 (fax) All Phases of Tree Care

[www.shadesofgreenpa.com](http://www.shadesofgreenpa.com)

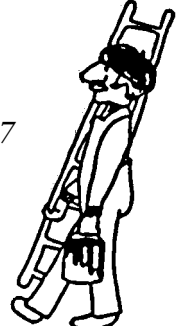
### R. Chobert Decorating Co.

Painting/Wallcovering  
Interior/Exterior

Creating Beauty Since 1967

#### Rupert Chobert

64I Reed Street  
215.389.7788 TEL  
267.977.7443 CELL  
215.755.6655 FAX





**Are you hungry for a vibrant Jewish Community in the heart of Center City?**

Satisfy your appetite at Society Hill Synagogue **Our "menu" has it all!**

**Starters...**

- Services:  
Our "bread and butter"
- Early bird special: Tuesday Morning Minyan
  - Shabbat Services

- Alternative Worship:  
Services to Satisfy cravings!
- Yoga Ma'ariv Services
  - Meditation Ma'ariv Services

**Entrees...**

- Education:  
Plenty of "food for thought"
- Adult Education Courses: Judaism: Nuts & Bolts I & II, Torah Study, Trope, Hebrew
  - Lunch & Learn Services

**More Entrees...**

- Cultural Activities:  
Offerings from Soup to Nuts
- Social Activities:  
Events to spice up your life!

**Beverages...**

Holiday events to quench your thirst every year!

**Desserts...**

Sweet celebrations to savor!

**Children's Menu...**

Treats for tots and teens

**Society Hill Synagogue**  
418 Spruce St. Philadelphia  
215-922-6590

**Jazz Vespers at Old Pine Church**



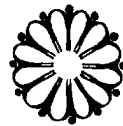
Sunday, May 20, 5pm

**Zan Gardner Trio**  
**Rev. Deborah McKinley, preaching**

Sunday, June 17, 5pm

**'Father John' D'Amico Trio**  
**Rev. Deborah McKinley, preaching**

412 Pine Street • 215-925-8051 • [www.oldpine.org](http://www.oldpine.org)



**Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church**

Please join us for worship  
**Sundays at 10:30am**  
Nursery Care Available  
Sunday School  
Ages 3 - grade 8

412 Pine Street  
215.925.8051  
[www.oldpine.org](http://www.oldpine.org)

*Congregation*  
**Keshet Israel**

412 LOMBARD STREET



*Traditional services in the same splendid sanctuary since 1889*

**Call us for the times of services on Shavuot, May 23 and 24 (Yizkor)**

Watch for a discussion with **Erin Gruwell** about *Freedom Writers*, the book of her success in teaching the allegedly "unteachables."

**Daily Minyan**

Monday through Friday – 6:45 a.m.

*Friday evening – call for time*

Shabbat – 9 a.m.

Sunday – 8:15 a.m.

Schwartz Pre-School • Adult Education  
Magid Hebrew School

Rabbi Ira Grussgott – 215-922-1776

*All Are Welcome*



**St. Peter's Church**

**50 Minutes**

Sunday, May 13 at 10 a.m.

St. Peter's House, 313 Pine Street

**End of Life Issues: Living Wills & Wills**

Health care power of attorney and living wills —  
Do you need them?

**Parenting Cafe**

Sunday May 20 at 10 a.m.

St. Peter's School Auditorium

**Staying Connected to Your Teen**

How to stay connected to your teen through the "leave me alone, you just don't get it" years.

These events are free.

Coffee and refreshments are served.

Free nursery care provided.

215.925.5968 • [www.stpetersphila.org](http://www.stpetersphila.org)



---

**ZONING & HISTORIC PRESERVATION**


---

 BY STEVEN A. WEIXLER, ZHP COMMITTEE CHAIR
 

---

## NewMarket Receives a New “Stamp”

A long and frustrating chapter in the development of an important part of Society Hill may soon end. There is a new chance to transform the former NewMarket site, an area that started as a seemingly good idea of mixed retail adjacent to historic Head House Square. In the 1980's, the mostly vacant NewMarket shopping mall failed, and was eventually torn down. However, the open and deteriorating foundations remained and later became a liability to our quality of life. For many years we've had an unsightly gap in the fabric of our community, and all of us have been concerned about its future. Over the past several years, the Society Hill Civic Association has advocated for a new use of the site, one which would be compatible with its surroundings and enhance the neighborhood.

In mid-April, it was announced that a controlling share of the development rights for the NewMarket property has passed to Bridgman Development LLC. NewMarket no more! The Bridgman team is planning a mixed-use development that will be named “Stamper Square” — after an 18th-century Philadelphia mayor, John Stamper. One of the principals of Bridgman Development, Ryan Roberts, said: “It is in all of our best interests to develop a project that we can all be proud of.” Initial contacts with the developers indicate a desire for substantial community involvement in the planning process. At this early date, we have not yet seen any preliminary plans.

Our civic association has worked many hours over the past years in unproductive dialogue with the previous developer — so we are cautiously optimistic about this change. The principles held by the association regarding zoning and the quality of any project for this site remain as important today as they have been in the past.

The well-planned zoning code for our area has produced a degree of open space and residential scale that make our neighborhood a national model for successful urban development. As an official “Historic District” within the City of Philadelphia, our association reinforces its watchful care of the many original structures whose character defines Society Hill. SHCA's Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee has long felt that any new development in the neighbor-

hood should be of high quality and respect the surroundings, particularly its neighbors.

We are lucky to have a team of talented and dedicated people on the ZHP Committee to help lay the groundwork for what we hope will be a successful relationship with Bridgman Development. At press time, we are early in the process of engagement and expect to have a preliminary proposal soon. When we do, the ZHP Committee will present the developer's concepts to the community. I hope that I can soon bring you good news about Stamper Square.

### Central Delaware Advisory Group — The Planning Process for the Riverfront

In the last issue of the *Reporter* I discussed the relationship of our community to the current master planning effort for the riverfront — based on our opposition to the siting of casinos in our midst. SHCA has maintained our voice in plans for our neighborhood which will take years to realize, and we have continuously made known our well-founded objection to casino locations. Other civic associations have also consistently made their concerns a part of the planning process.

The Advisory Group cannot help but listen to our concerns. To quote Matt Blanchard of PennPraxis, from the PlanPhilly.com website: “The casino question roiled the monthly meeting of the Central Delaware Riverfront Advisory Group yet again on Monday, causing some of its 45 members to question the legitimacy of the PennPraxis public engagement process, and others to rally to its defense.”

Harris Steinberg, Executive Director of PennPraxis, has been trying to reach out to community representatives to discuss the obvious incompatibility of large blank-box, car-oriented casinos with the type of mixed-use riverfront development we would welcome. As your representative, I will be attending a meeting with PennPraxis in an effort to address and incorporate community concern. We will continue to evaluate our involvement with the Central Delaware Advisory Group.

If you have questions or comments, or would like an update as our civic association works on these important issues, please contact me at: [stevenweixler@verizon.net](mailto:stevenweixler@verizon.net).

---

Development rights for the NewMarket property have passed to the Bridgman Development team, who plan to name the site after Philadelphia Mayor John Stamper.

---

## Master Fitness Professional M. Jason Bailey

*Serving the Philadelphia Sports Clubs in Society Hill*

M. Jason Bailey is Society Hill's top certified fitness professional. Jason is the only professional that holds the highest most prestigious, "Master", level 4 training title at the exclusive Society Hill Philadelphia Sports Club. Jason has provided over 100 clients with 2000+ hours of top quality service.

**Specializes in:**

- *Weight loss*
- *Nutrition*
- *Pre/Post Natal*
- *Toning*
- *Body Sculpting*
- *Health and wellbeing*

**Certifications:**

- **NASM** (National Academy of Sports Medicine)
- **NSCA** (National Strength and Conditioning association)
- **AAAI** Pre/Post Natal



### **8 week fat blast** Interactive website

- *Fast results!*
- *Challenging*
- *Cardio*
- *Proper diet*
- *5 nights a week*

The 8 week fat blast is designed for those that want to insure push toward their goals. This motivating 8 week blast will not only help discipline bad eating habits, but will also encourage proper exercise. This program benefits the most dedicated clients. For more information and client photos results visit the website.

This cutting edge, interactive website allows current clients to:

- *Schedule appointments*
- *Post before and after pictures*
- *Track Diet*
- *View progress through fitness tests*
- *View current body stats (weight, body composition etc.)*

Phone: 215-901-5816 (location optional available)

Email: [Jason@PscProTrainer.com](mailto:Jason@PscProTrainer.com)

Website: [www.PscProTrainer.com](http://www.PscProTrainer.com)

**FITNESS RESULTS LLC**



## INSURANCE SOLUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Homeowners · Vacation & Resort Homes

Jewelry, Fine Art, Wine, and other Valuable Collections

Personal Excess Liability

Luxury, Classic & High Performance Vehicles

Watercraft & Yachts

Flood & Excess Flood

Personal Safety & Protection  
(Identity Theft, Abduction, Kidnap)

Workers Compensation for Domestic Employees

Employment Practices Liability

Non-Profit Directors & Officers Liability

Estate Planning & Other Financial Services

**M** MATHER & CO.  
*a division of*

**Bollinger**  
*Insurance Since 1876*

Public Ledger Building, Suite 630  
150 South Independence Mall West

Philadelphia, PA 19106

215-351-4700

[info@mather-co.com](mailto:info@mather-co.com)

[www.mather-co.com](http://www.mather-co.com)

## NATIONAL WATCH & DIAMOND



**OVER 300 PRE-OWNED ROLEX IN STOCK**

Also Cartier, Breitling, Ebel, Patek, Vacheron, Audemars and a Large Assortment of Diamond Bezels and Dials.



*Buy with Confidence  
from an Established Store!*  
**1,000 Certified Diamonds  
GIA, EGL & AGA**

N.W.D. is not an official Rolex dealer and Rolex's warranty no longer attaches.

**8th & Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19106**

Visit Our Web Site: [nationalwatch.com](http://nationalwatch.com)

**1-215-627-WATCH**

**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**

BY MARILYN APPEL

**Knock, knock! Who's there?** Anyone knocking on your door (night or day) should be questioned as to his/her identity. If you don't recognize the name or if the person hides from the door's peephole, DO NOT let him/her into your house. And when in doubt, call 911.

**Bike safety:** If you think your bike is safe when chained to a post, think again! A chain can be easily cut, which is what happened to a neighborhood biker one afternoon at the end of March — on the 900 block of Pine Street. Again, we remind you that you can have your bike registered and numbered at the South Street Mini-Station on the 900 block of South Street — so if it ever gets stolen and later recovered, it can be identified.

**Arrested!** Two men from Millville, NJ were arrested and charged with Trespass and Criminal Mischief for riding their bikes and performing tricks at the Vietnam Memorial. They damaged the railings and stone curbs of the Memorial.

**Car Thefts:** Even when locked, your car is not totally safe. Last month our neighborhood experienced a vehicle theft. The thief (or thieves) may have deliberately chosen an older car, because it was a 1995 Subaru — probably good for the sale of its parts. In another "auto" incident locally, personal property was stolen from a vehicle. So, here's another reminder: never leave valuable items in your car — especially if they are in view.

**Beware of Prowlers:** One alert young woman reported a prowler in her back alley, and called 911. Police came immediately, and charged the man with night-time prowling. She identified the man who was then arrested. Remember: If you see any suspicious activity or person, do not hesitate to call 911.

**Alert:** Two robberies occurred in the last weekend of March — on different days and at gunpoint. One incident occurred on the 700 block of Spruce Street after 1 a.m.; the other, on the

300 block of Pine Street, at about midnight. Here is a description of the perpetrator or perpetrators: an African-American male, in his 20's, about 150-160 lbs, wearing a black ski mask. In one robbery, the man was reported to be wearing a dark parka; in the other he wore a hooded jacket. As a result of these robberies, additional uniformed and plainclothes units have been deployed on the police night shift in the area. Call 911 immediately to report any suspicious activity or persons.

**Three Bears Park Incident:** In the early morning hours, a man was surrounded by six teenage males who grabbed his iPod. Five teenagers were later stopped, but could not be positively identified by the complainant. This should caution us that in the early morning hours one should always choose to walk on well-lit major streets rather than take shortcuts through alleys, walkways and parks. Also, always be aware of your surroundings — particularly at night or in the early morning hours.

**CELL PHONES:** Donate your used or old cell phones to 414 Spruce St where they'll be re-programmed for the elderly or victims of abuse.

**SUMMONING ALL REPUBLICANS**  
**Daughters & Sons of Liberty United**



Looking for Republican and Independent Voters to become involved in local 5th Ward political issues. The matters of concern include real estate, wage and business privileges tax reform, ending pay-to-play and city government corruption, cleaner and safer streets and local crime, arts funding, and general quality of life issues.

If you have an interest and want to get involved, please contact me or stop by our 5th Ward constituent services office at Suite 1000, 437 Chestnut Street. Thank you graciously for your interest in our great city and community. Please contact the 5th Ward GOP!

**WE WANT YOU**

Michael A. Cibik, Esquire \*\*\*5th Ward Republican Leader  
 mcibik@gop5thward.com\*\*\*Phone: 215-735-1660

www.gop5thward.com

Fishbowls are nice...



...if you are a goldfish or a guppy.

But if you're watching the world pass you by, then life isn't so golden.

Tell us your story and we'll tell the world. We also provide help with crisis communications...in the event of a *shark attack*.

BRAND COMMUNICATIONS • DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

215.923.8727 ph  
 www.dezignprecision.com  
 getstarted@dezignprecision.com

**dezignprecision**  
 Graphic Design & Marketing  
 COMMUNICATIONS

**GET OUT OF YOUR FISHBOWL and contact us today.**



**Specializing in:**

- Orthopaedics
- Sports and Senior Rehabilitation
- Back and Neck Care
- Work Injuries

Early Morning and Evening Hours  
Most Insurances Accepted

**We're in your neighborhood!**

420 Bainbridge St.  
Philadelphia 19147  
215.629.1270

1616 Walnut St.  
Suite 210  
Philadelphia 19103  
215.545.8717

*Ask us about our FREE seminars  
Direct Access= NO prescription needed for  
physical therapy!*



Exceptional Care for Your Extraordinary Pet®

**Pet to Vet Transit  
Overnight • Weekend & Vacation Care**

www.goodwoofs.com  
215-849-WOOF

**Peg Pullan, Owner**

Bonded • Insured • Member Pet Sitters

Patricia Bentz CPDT, CBC  
Certified Dog Trainer & Canine Behavior Counselor

*"Going to the Dogs"*

**K-9 Training & Behavioral Therapy**

- One-on-One Obedience Training at Home
- Behavioral Consultation
- Puppy Head-Start
- Positive Methods Only



(215) 551-5254  
Queen Village

*Hours by Appointment*

*Gift Certificates Available*

**Learn to  
Dance Like the Stars**

Society Hill Dance Academy  
is now offering OPEN CLASSES  
to get your feet moving.

*Try a Tango on Tuesday  
Sample some Salsa this Wednesday  
Find your Foxtrot next Thursday!*

Packages start as low as \$10 a class.  
For a complete schedule or to see whats happening  
tonight, stop by the studio or visit us via the web at  
www.societyhilldance.com.

Private lessons are also available (the first is complimentary!)

**No Partner Necessary—Just Step On In.**



**SOCIETY HILL DANCE ACADEMY**

at Head House Square  
409 S 2nd Street, Philadelphia  
www.societyhilldance.com

**215-574-3574**

INTRODUCING A NEW COLUMN!

**ACCIDENTAL TOURIST IN MY OWN BACKYARD**

BY JANE BIBERMAN

## Going to the Dogs in Washington Square

Not long ago, my mother and I were enjoying the afternoon sun in the memorial garden of Old Pine Street Church when a young couple approached us. They were obviously tourists. "Do you live in the neighborhood?" they asked. "Our guidebook says that Eugene Ormandy is buried here, but we can't find the grave."

We told them they'd been misinformed. We had strolled through the cemetery countless times, reading the old weathered gravestones. "He's not buried here," we assured them. They left, disappointed. Several weeks later, I was walking my dog, Kipp, through the cemetery when he stopped to investigate a rather ornate five-foot-square wrought-iron fence. I peered inside at the large flat stone. To my surprise and shame, the great Philadelphia conductor was indeed buried here, in 1985.

Although I moved to Society Hill nine years ago, I only recently began taking note of the many "hidden" treasures throughout our neighborhood. I had mindlessly walked my dog thousands of times in another of our city's most celebrated resting places — Washington Square — without noticing the history at my feet, literally. A bronze plaque on a small stone relates that William Penn planned this park in 1683. Sadly, as I learned from other signs within the park, Southeast Square, as it was originally called, became a potter's field 25 years later and then a burial ground for over 2,000 citizens and troops during the Revolutionary War. Victims of the yellow fever epidemic later joined them in 1793. (Coincidentally, that was the same year that Philadelphians watched Jean Pierre Blanchard make the first balloon ascent in America over the Square.)

The 6.4 acre park was renamed Washington Square in 1825 in honor of our first president, whose likeness stands over the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. Tourists can always be found snapping photos of themselves in front of the Eternal Flame, dedicated in 1976, to those soldiers who "fought and gave their lives so that we might celebrate our 200th anniversary as a free people."

But enough about war! Wearing my "Peace Is Patriotic" T-shirt on the first warm day of spring, I joined my fellow dog walkers on the spacious green lawns edged by daffodils. Children were running wild, while their parents relaxed on the many benches. One can always find a seat. And shade.

The 60 varieties of native trees, many of which were planted in 1816, provide leafy green umbrellas. An exception is a relative newcomer — the "Bicentennial Moon Tree," a sycamore planted on May 6th, 1975 — from a seed carried to the moon by astronaut Stuart Roosa on Apollo XIV, in February 1971. Nearby is a bronze plate that proclaims: "A tree is a profound wonder of our creation and it is amazing how it is able to draw peoples of the world together."

The byproducts of trees — paper made into books — certainly can unite us. And the Square was once synonymous with the publishing industry and its buildings. (Curtis, Saunders, Lea & Febiger, Lippincott and the Farm Journal will be the subject of a future column.) Authors often congregated at The Athenæum, a private library on S. 6th Street.

One of its patrons, Christopher Morley, (1890-1957) who lived on the south side of the park, wrote: "I can be as solitary in a city street as ever Thoreau was in Walden. And no Walden sky was ever more blue than the roof of Washington Square this morning." I'm sure Mr. Morley also strolled the park with a canine companion, for he penned these immortal words:

---

"No one appreciates the very special genius of your conversation as a dog does."

---



Jane and Kipp



**One of 60 varieties of native trees is a flowering "Franklinia," a species discovered by John Bartram during his travels and which he named after Ben Franklin. Alan Casnoff, developer of the St. James Hi-Rise, recently purchased the tree and Bartram's Garden planted it in Washington Square.**

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS**

**Volunteers are needed to plant more flowers in the park on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, May 22, 23 & 24. Please contact SHCA's Administrator Matt DeJulio at mattdejulio@aol.com or 215-629-1288.**

**A Vibrant City.  
A Close Community.  
A Culture of Learning.**



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)

**St. Peter's School**  
*Nurturing Excellence Since 1834.*

**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.

**St. Peter's School**  
215-925-3963

319 Lombard Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
[www.stpetersonline.org](http://www.stpetersonline.org)

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



**90%  
of My  
Business  
Comes from  
Referrals**

**Family • Friends • Neighbors  
Satisfied Customers  
Other Realtors**

**Rosemary Fluehr, GRI  
Associate Broker**

215-440-8195 – Direct  
215-627-6005 – Office

[rosemary.fluehr@prufoxroach.com](mailto:rosemary.fluehr@prufoxroach.com)



530 Walnut Street  
Suite 260  
Philadelphia, PA 19106



**HOME/OFFICE ORGANIZATION**

**PAPERWORK ASSISTANCE**

**RELOCATION PREPARATION**

**267.237.6698 [PWORGANIZE@YAHOO.COM](mailto:PWORGANIZE@YAHOO.COM)**



**Martin Bernstein**  
Realtor Associate

**Recognized.  
Respected.  
Recommended.**

Plumer & Associates, Inc.  
215 922 3600 X 316 Office  
215 870 0646 Mobile  
[mbernstein@plumerie.com](mailto:mbernstein@plumerie.com)

**Call Martin...  
Leave nothing to chance.**

# Kids' Beat

A COLUMN BY KERI WHITE

There's a new gym in town! Kids on 12th — housed in the Camac Center at 201 S. Camac Street — provides a wide variety of fun and fitness activities for kids from infants to teens: yoga, gymnastics, Mommy and Me Fitness, swimming, home school gym, magic, sports skills, ballroom dance, African dance, hip-hop, tumbling — something for everyone. I can personally vouch for both the yoga and gymnastics classes — my two children are having a blast. I've also heard great reports on the magic, swimming and cardio kickboxing classes.

Sisters and owners, Sharon and Judy Hershman, arrived at Kids on 12th by an interesting and circuitous path. Sharon has a background in mental health — a good foundation for working with children. After her first child was born, Sharon began searching for fun, physical activities for her high-energy “boy's boy.” There were plenty of options in the burbs, but nothing in Center City. Tired of taking him to Chuck E. Cheese's and McDonald's for the climbing apparatus, Sharon began to formulate an idea. Her sister Judy, a children's swim instructor and personal trainer at the 12th Street Gym, fit into the plan nicely. Space opened up in the Camac Center, which is connected to the 12th Street Gym, and *voila!* Kids on 12th was born.

As a mom, Sharon has a keen sense of what families need. Safety first was her immediate concern, so the gym has its own self-contained bathrooms — kids never need to use the facilities in the 12th Street Gym. In addition, the kids' gym is carpeted with a soft, rubber safety surface. There is constant supervision, and there is only one entry/exit to securely monitor who is coming and going. Best of all, Camac Center is home to a day spa, massage therapist, hair salon, Pilates center, spinning studio, chiropractor and esthe-

tique medical practice. What mom wouldn't want to drop her kids off for an hour and avail herself of any of these services?

Honing in further on the “what families need” element and drawing largely from personal experience, Kids on 12th has launched a First Friday Date Night. Parents can drop off kids aged 4 and up at the gym from 6-9 p.m. on the first Friday of the month. Junior will enjoy a variety of supervised activities — dancing, arts and crafts, free play on the equipment, and a snack — while Mom and Dad have a night out. There are lots of great destinations in close proximity to Kids on 12th: El Vez, Lolita, Essie's, Capogiro, Robin's Books, Vintage, Bonte, Open House, Naked Chocolate, Caribou Cafe.

Another wonderful offering: Kids on 12th Birthday Parties! Let's face it, no parent in his right mind wants to host a party at home. The mess, the wanton destruction, the assumption by guests' parents that home parties can go on forever so there's no need to pick the kids up in a hurry — don't even go there. Kids on 12th will customize birthday parties to your child's interest, and provide all the fixings. They will also begin providing family-oriented evening workshops on topics such as CPR, First Aid, nutrition, and “meet and greet” sessions with local sports figures to encourage kids' fitness.

Finally, Kids on 12th is gearing up for summer fun. It plans to offer a cafeteria-style menu. Participants can choose half-day, full-day, or weekly programs filled with all the great activities the gym offers — swimming, gymnastics, music, art, dance, magic, kickboxing and yoga — to name a few.

For more information, visit [philakidsclub.com](http://philakidsclub.com) or call 215-545-2930.



## Kid's Quote

“I have three new girlfriends at school. I have to take care of all of them, and it's going to be a lot of work!”

**Soufien, age 4,  
Society Hill Kid**

Correction: In the previous column of the March/April issue, we reported that the Sweat Gym Kids' Camp would be held at 700 E. Passyunk Ave. This was an error. The actual location will be 1425 Arch St. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

**ALLISON TAUB, M.A.**  
EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

### Certified Reading Specialist

- Assessment of literacy skills
- Reading, spelling, writing remediation
- Reading strategies
- Pre reading skills

215.606.7195

**Diane S. Stein, Ed.D., J.D.**

Educational Consultant – Private and Public Schools

Expert in Regular, Special Education,  
and Gifted placements and procedures

Diagnostic and Prescriptive Evaluations

Tutoring in all subject areas and Spanish

Communicates with school and parents

215-205-0319



## ENVY NO ONE

THE ULTIMATE IN KITCHEN DESIGN BY BULTHAUP.  
PRECISION ENGINEERED MIELE APPLIANCES.  
HAND PICKED WOODS AND SLATES  
FROM AROUND THE WORLD.  
LIKE NO OTHER.

# THE AYER

CONDOMINIUM ON WASHINGTON SQUARE

FROM \$850,000 TO \$8 MILLION | OCCUPANCY THIS SUMMER

**215 923-4441**

LAURIE PHILLIPS PRUDENTIAL FOX & ROACH

WWW.THEAYER.COM | 210 W. WASHINGTON SQUARE

A GOLDENBERG GROUP & BROWN HILL JOINT VENTURE





## IN LOVING MEMORY

## Penelope Hartshorne Batcheler

On March 22, 2007, our dear neighbor Penelope Hartshorne Batcheler, age 78, died of complications following heart failure. Penny, an historical architect at Independence National Historical Park, was a pioneer in the field of architectural preservation and restoration — a career choice that was unheard of when she earned a BA degree in architecture from the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in 1953.

Born in East Orange, New Jersey, in 1928, Penny grew up there in an 1825 farmhouse. Her interest in architecture was inspired by her mother, who loved old houses, and an uncle who moved two log cabins onto his farm in Chester County. A visit to the 1939 New York World's Fair — and particularly the Finnish pavilion by Alvar Aalto — was her first contact with “modern architecture” which cemented her love of buildings.

After graduating from IIT, Penny spent two years in Sweden, home of her maternal grandparents, where she documented historic structures in the country's villages. Upon her return to the States in 1955, she joined the National Park Service in Philadelphia where she was the only woman on a six-member team of architects and preservationists. The team, led by renowned historic preservationist Charles E. Peterson, worked for five years restoring Independence Hall. From 1955 until 1993, when she retired as Chief Architect at Independence Park, Penny completed a range of reports on architectural research and historic structures. She helped restore not only Independence Hall, but also Congress Hall, the First Bank of the United States, Franklin Court, City Tavern and many other projects throughout Philadelphia and beyond.

While working with the Elfreth's Alley Association, Penny met her future husband, George D. Batcheler — as she stood atop a ladder to inspect the façade of one of the street's 18th-century houses. George looked up and called to her that he wanted to show her something — at street level. This unusual encounter led to the marriage of the two highly spirited architects, in 1968, at which time they purchased an historical house on S. American Street for \$15,000. Of course, they restored it together.

Penny was a leader in Society Hill's rebirth beginning in the 1960's. Extremely active in the neighborhood, she was a founding member of the Head House Conservancy, a grassroots

organization that restored Head House, America's oldest firehouse. Penny also served on the Board of the Swedish Museum and on the Ladies' Committee of the Powel House, as well as the Architectural Advisory Committee of the Philadelphia Historical Commission — to name but a few of her allegiances.

Most recently, Penny was actively engaged in our community's anti-casino movement. In fact, she was pictured in the March/April issue of this newsletter collecting signatures for a petition to restrict casino development in the city. She was out in frigid weather ringing doorbells throughout Society Hill to collect these signatures. Fortunately, she was still with us when City Council voted unanimously to support the petition's proposal to permit a referendum question to appear on the May 15 ballot. She was informed of this great news by phone, at which moment there was a slight pause, and then her shout of “Hot damn!”

In 1982, Penny received The National Park Service Appelman-Judd Award for outstanding contributions to cultural resource management. Then in the year 2000, she was honored by the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia when she received the James Biddle Award for Lifetime Achievement in Historic Preservation.

She is survived by George, her husband of 39 years; a sister, two brothers and many nieces and nephews, as well as legions of loving friends, neighbors and admirers.



## THE CREATIVE COLLECTIVE

**CRAFT & FINE ARTS FAIR  
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND  
MAY 26th, 27th, & 28th**

**HISTORIC HEADHOUSE SQUARE**  
at 2nd and Pine St. PHILA., PA

**SATURDAY. 12 NOON - 11 PM**  
**SUNDAY. 12 NOON - 10 PM**  
**MONDAY 12 NOON - 6 PM**

*FREE CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP  
SATURDAY (2-4) GREAT FUN FOR KIDS!*

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
215-790-0782 or visit our website  
<http://www.geocities.com/ccartsfair>

sponsored in part by The Cultural Fund of Philadelphia

Illustration by SEAN EARY



**MIKE McCANN**

"The Real Estate Man"



#13 Team in the US as seen in  
*The Wall Street Journal*  
Over 600 Homes Sold in 2006!  
#1 REALTOR # out of 65,000  
Prudential Agents Nationwide  
for 2004, 2005 & 2006!

**Call Today for a Free Estimate of Value!**

**Seller's Hotline-215-778-0901**

**Or Call Mike To Take a Look at One of Our Fantastic Listings!**

**Buyer's Hotline- 215-440-8345**

Take a "Virtual Tour" of Mike's Listings Online!  
Visit [www.foxroach.com](http://www.foxroach.com) and enter the  
Virtual Tour # listed below each home

**102 Delancey** \$1,550,000  
Gorgeous extra-wide 3 BD, den, and 3.5 BA with parking, exercise room, gas fireplace, a wonderful deck and fabulous rear yard.  
**Virtual Tour # 4718857**

**241-43 Chestnut E** \$1,250,000  
Amazing, one-of-a-kind, 2BD, 2BA condo, radiant heat floors, keyless entry, laundry room/oyster bar, unique design elements, 3-person soaking tub. **Virtual Tour #4967250**

**239 S 3<sup>rd</sup>** \$1,195,000  
I.M. Pei designed townhouse, fully upgraded with 4 BR, 2.5 baths, famous for central circular stairs, with a fully finished basement, two kitchens with stainless appliances, oak floors and berber carpets, marble bath, and a beautiful yard with parking.  
**Virtual Tour #4850835**

**506 S Front** \$964,000  
Impeccable 3BD, 2.5BA, den, 1-car garage, red brick yard, gated entrance, hardwood, fireplace, 2-story dining area, private rooftop deck, many upgrades. **Virtual Tour # 4940622**

**1016 Spruce #3** \$874,900  
Grand 4-5 BD, 3 BA tri-level in a courtyard setting. 2 units masterfully combined with hardwood, wood burning fireplaces, a huge kitchen, gorgeous master bedroom suite, and a common pool and rooftop deck. **Virtual Tour # 4650350**

**428 Lombard** \$499,900  
Lovely bi-level 2BD, 1BA condo with hardwood floors, fireplace, beamed ceilings, and a large yard. **Virtual Tour #4950038**

**409 Gaskill** \$499,900  
Lovely 4 BR, 2.2 BA home with original details, random width plank floors, crown moldings, renovated kitchen, stainless appliances and a lovely landscaped garden. **Virtual Tour#4749744**

**410 S 7<sup>th</sup>** \$399,900  
Wonderful 2BD, 1.5BA with hardwood floors throughout, updated kitchen, exposed brick, central air, a very nice home.  
**Virtual Tour #4959682**

**334 S 12<sup>th</sup>** From \$239,900  
Beautifully renovated 1-2 BD, 1-1.5 BA condos in a wonderful location with parking! All units feature hardwood floors, soaring ceilings, gorgeous baths, kitchens and fine craftsmanship.

**Virtual Tour #4799599, 4799651, 4806516, 4806488, 4799574**

**CALL**

**MIKE McCANN**

"The Real Estate Man"

For Personalized Service And Fast, Efficient Results.  
Serving The Center City Community For 20 Years!



**Prudential**

**Fox & Roach REALTORS®**

215-627-6005 / 215-440-8345

[www.mccannrealestate.com](http://www.mccannrealestate.com)

An Independently Owned and Operated Member of  
The Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.



**In Society Hill Real Estate**



One Name. One call.

**Izzy Sigman**

Phila Board of Realtors  
Diamond Award Winner 2006

Outstanding service & results.  
Every time.

**Recent Sales**

537-41 Spruce St                      749 S 3rd St  
440 Fitzwater St                    418B Fitzwater St  
Unit 225, Pier 5                      Unit 233, Pier 5  
7B N Society Hill Towers

**Current Listings**

126 Delancey St                      615 Pine St  
339 S 2nd St                          104 Lombard St  
226 Lombard St



**Plumer**  
& Associates, Inc.  
Realtors

**Call Izzy Sigman**

**215-922-3600 x 228 Office**

**215-806-6958 Mobile**

226 South Street

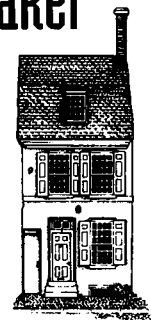


**Your Realtor® For  
Buying A Home  
& Selling A Home**

B a r i S h o r

**"Real Estate® MatchMaker"**

- Bari works harder.
- Works smarter.
- Cares and *delivers* on your Center City Home Ownership dreams.



**Call me, Bari Shor, 215-790-5678**

**Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors®**

At the Rittenhouse, 210 W. Rittenhouse Sq., Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-546-0550

---

**I N D E P E N D E N C E   C O M M U N I T Y   R E P O R T**


---

 BY CAROLE LE FAIVRE-ROCHESTER
 

---

In this issue we present, with thanks, a condensed version of Kelly Nelson's review of the survey that many of our community of seniors filled out and returned. Kelly served as Vice President of SHCA and is a former professor in Temple University's Department of Sociology. She now does statistical consulting for non-profit organizations. In addition to Kelly's contribution, we also thank Bob Rossheim and a crew of assistants for collating ALL the answers and written responses into a readable format.

One of Kelly's conclusions is that our demographic base and our median income level may preclude obtaining public or private grants. We note that other "Aging in Place" communities, such as the one in Rhawnhurst, have been able to secure grants, because the income levels are lower and some needs are greater. Our survey is being studied by Queen Village and Old City leaders. We hope to have our three riverfront communities engaged in one cooperative "Independence Community" that will benefit seniors and others who may want to participate.

**ANALYSIS OF THE INDEPENDENCE COMMITTEE COMMUNITY SURVEY**

There were approximately 120 completed surveys with demographic information for approximately 193 respondents, aged 50 and over. There was quite a large degree of inconsistency in the number of respondents answering any one particular question.

**The Respondents' Demographic Profiles**

Approximately half of the respondents are aged 65-74 (82),\* and equally divided between males and females. Most are retired (73), followed by those who are employed full-time (59) and part-time (40). All but three of the respondents are Society Hill residents and all but two of the respondents listed their home as their primary residence. All but three of the respondents own their homes and every respondent stated that they "planned on remaining in the neighborhood." A majority (55) of the respondents earn more than \$100,000 annually, while only two earn less than \$25,000 annually.

**Specific Results by Category**

The category in which the respondents had the greatest current interest was "organized group activities." This category was also the one in which the current and future needs were most closely ranked. For this category, the highest ranked current needs included lectures (49), trips (36), exercise (34), and volunteering (27) — while the highest ranked future needs included trips (62), lectures (49), and exercise (51) services.

The category with the second greatest current interest was in the "routine home services."

Specialized (49), handyman (43), and cleaning (37) services were ranked highest in terms of current needs, while deliveries (97), transportation (74), and cleaning (69) services ranked highest among future anticipated needs.

For the two remaining categories — "financial and legal services" and "health and mobility services" — there was little current need or interest, but higher anticipated ones. In the "financial and legal" category the highest current needs include wills (14) and tax prep services (13), while the highest anticipated needs include assistance in paying bills and balancing checkbooks (44), and insurance guidance (34) and tax prep (34).

In the "health and mobility services" category, the highest ranked current needs include referrals (12) and filling forms (9) services, while the highest ranked anticipated needs include in-home care (94), medical equipment (71), and home modification services (60).

**Overall Conclusions and Suggestions for Future Research**


The findings suggest that the respondents anticipate greater future needs than they currently have for services in each of the categories. Perhaps one of the most interesting questions in this regard, and one that may provide an indicator of future needs, is the one that asks if "the services listed above are relevant to your decision to remain in our neighborhood." A little less than half (54) of the respondents responded "yes" to this question.

— Kelly Nelson, Ph.D.

---

\*Numbers in parenthesis represent the actual number of respondents.


COMMITMENT  
INTEGRITY  
SERVICE



**Gail Trimble, ABR**  
GPAR Bronze Award Winner 2006  
Buyer & Seller Representation


**Plumer & Associates, Inc.**  
Realtors

215.922.4200 ext.302  
gtrimble@plumerre.com  
226 South Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19147



*The Conway Team*

In top 1% of all realtors nationwide - Over 250 homes sold last year  
One of the TOP 2 entrepreneur agents Citywide

 Prudential  
Society Hill  
215.627.6005  
www.conwayteam.com

KATHY 215.440.8190  
kathy@conwayteam.com  
PATRICK 215.440.8172  
patrick@conwayteam.com

Independently owned and operated member of the Prudential Real Estate Alliance, Inc.



Antonio Atacan is currently ranked #1 in Pennsylvania & #27 of all 78,000 Keller Williams Realtors in the USA. He is consistently ranked one of the top selling Realtors in North America.

Antonio Atacan  
Society Hill's #1 Selling Resident Realtor

 Agency: 267-238-5700  
Antonio Atacan: 215-917-1213



For Information on every Center City Home\* for sale visit: [www.CenterCityRealEstate.com](http://www.CenterCityRealEstate.com)

*Society Hill Real Estate Year in Review*

Every Society Hill house\* sold in 2006 Front-7th, Lombard-Walnut St

600 block of Lombard	\$320,000
200 block of Pine	\$390,000
600 block of Addison	\$397,000
300 block of S. 3rd St	\$459,900
300 block of Lombard	\$480,000
500 block of Lombard	\$560,000
400 block of Lombard	\$615,000
600 block of Pine	\$625,000
200 block of Stamper	\$645,000
200 block of Delancey	\$659,900
300 block of S. 5th St.	\$712,500
400 block of Pine	\$715,000
500 block of Spruce	\$720,000
200 block of S. 7th St	\$740,000
500 block of Delancey	\$743,000
200 block of Spruce	\$767,000
200 block of S. 3rd St	\$800,000
200 block of S. 3rd St	\$817,500
300 block of Delancey	\$910,000
500 block of Delancey	\$935,000
300 block of S. American	\$950,000
600 block of Spruce	\$960,500
200 block of Spruce	\$990,000
300 block of S. Lawrence	\$1,000,000
300 block of Delancey	\$1,055,000
500 block of Addison Court	\$1,095,000
300 block of Spruce	\$1,105,450
200 block of S. 4th St	\$1,175,000
300 block of S. 2nd St	\$1,320,000
200 block of Delancey	\$1,450,000
200 block of S. 4th St	\$1,500,000
200 block of Pine	\$1,550,000
200 block of S. 3rd St	\$1,650,000
500 block of Spruce	\$2,150,000
300 block of S. 3rd St	\$2,550,000

35 Total Townhouse Sales  
Avg. Sale Price: \$957,481 Avg. Days on Market: 81



**Just Listed! Exquisite 3 Bedroom, Federal Home on gorgeous block. Luxurious amenities include: Ultra, Designer Kitchen, Open Floor Plan, Master Bedroom Retreat, Garden & Roof Deck w. views! \$1,175,000**

## New Businesses Join Our Welcome Basket Program

SHCA's Welcome Basket program gladly welcomes seven new businesses to our family of contributors. Welcome Baskets that we deliver to newly arrived Society Hillers make them feel special and very happy. Often they respond as though they've received a birthday or Christmas gift.

As a way of showing our gratitude to the local businesses that generously contribute to our Welcome Baskets, we hope you will patronize those listed below. Ever since this program began eight years ago, more than 450 households have been delighted to receive these baskets, and we could not continue the program without the loyal businesses who participate.

The following businesses have recently joined us: **Naked Chocolate**, 1317 Walnut Street, a European-style dessert café specializing, as its name suggests, in the ultimate in chocolate delights. **Happily Ever After**, 1010 Pine Street, a one-of-a-kind toy store for adults as well as children, with an amazing assortment of dolls and bears by fine artists. **Philadelphia Fish & Company**, 207 Chestnut Street, an award-winning restaurant, serving high-quality seafood for over 20 years. **Pinot**, 227 Market Street, a wine accessories boutique offering "everything but the grape." **The Worth Collection**, 215-925-8813, a custom line of women's clothing available

by appointment exclusively in the private home of a sales representative in Society Hill. See the collection online at [www.worthny.com](http://www.worthny.com).

In addition, we greet the new owners of **Riff Cleaners**, 314 South 5th Street, who will join us in presenting gift coupons for our Welcome Baskets. Last but not least, we thank **Amada**, an authentic Spanish "tapas" restaurant in the heart of Old City at 217 Chestnut Street.

If you are new this year in Society Hill, and have not yet received a Welcome Basket, please contact Martha Levine, [marthalev@msn.com](mailto:marthalev@msn.com), 215-629-0727 to have yours delivered by appointment.

### PLEASE SUPPORT OUR WELCOME BASKET CONTRIBUTORS

#### Coffee Shops

Caramel (coffee/espresso), 725 Walnut Street  
Olde City Coffee, 221 Church & Reading Terminal Market  
Philadelphia Java Company, 518 S. 4th Street  
Starbuck's Coffee Inc., 347 South Street; 8th & Walnut

#### Food Stores

Chef's Market, 231 South Street  
Fork:etc. (prepared foods), 306 Market Street  
ShopRite, 29 Snyder Avenue  
SuperFresh Food Markets, 5th & Pine Streets  
Whole Foods Market, 929 South Street

#### Hair Salons

Brescia Salon, 118 South Street  
M's On the Square, 604 S. Washington Square  
Pileggi on the Square, 717 Walnut Street  
Salon @5th, 316 S. 5th Street

#### Restaurants

Amada, 217 Chestnut Street  
Ava Restaurant, 518 S. 3rd Street  
Bridget Foy's South Street Grill, 200 South Street  
City Tavern, 138 S. 2nd Street  
Creperie Beau Monde, 624 S. 6th Street  
Deux Cheminees, 1221 Locust Street  
Farmacia Restaurant, 15 S. 3rd Street  
Fork Restaurant, 306 Market Street  
LaBuca Ristorante, 711 Locust Street  
Mustard Greens, 622 S. 2nd Street  
Overtures Restaurant, 609 East Passyunk Avenue  
Panorama Ristorante, 14 N. Front Street  
Philadelphia Fish & Co., 207 Chestnut Street  
Pizzicato Restaurant, 248 Market Street  
Positano Coast Restaurant, 2nd & Walnut Streets  
Sfizzio, Society Hill Towers, 237 St. James Place

#### Specialty Foods

Homemade Goodies by Roz, 510 S. 5th Street  
Metropolitan Bakery, 15 S. 3rd Street  
Naked Chocolate Café, 1317 Walnut Street  
Pink Rose Pastry Shop, 630 S. 4th Street  
Rita's Water Ice, 239 South Street  
Zeke's Deli, 318 S. 5th Street

#### Specialty Shops

American Pie Crafts, 718 South Street  
Happily Ever After (toys), 1010 Pine Street  
Linu Boutique, 1036 Pine Street  
Marmelstein's Fabric and Trim, 760 S. 4th Street  
Paper on Pine, 1008 Pine Street  
Pinot (wine accessories), 227 Market Street  
Show of Hands Gallery, 1006 Pine Street  
Wireless Zone, 322 South Street

#### Sports Clubs/Fitness Training

M.Jason Bailey, Fitness Professional, 215-901-5816  
Philadelphia Sports Club, 220-250 S. 5th Street  
SCULPT-Fitness Training by Randi Skibinsky, 215-928-1433

#### Theaters/Entertainment/Museums

Annenberg Center for Performing Arts, 3680 Walnut Street  
Arden Theatre Co., 40 N. 2nd Street  
Atwater Kent Museum, 15 S. 7th Street  
The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, 1520 Locust Street #500  
Ghost Tours of Philadelphia  
Independence Seaport Museum, 211 S. Columbus Blvd.  
The Kimmel Center, Broad & Spruce Streets  
Lantern Theater Company, 10th & Ludlow Streets  
Lights of Liberty, 6th & Chestnut Streets  
Mum Puppet Theater, 115 Arch Street  
National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut Street  
Pennsylvania Ballet, 1101 S. Broad Street  
Philadelphia Chamber Ensemble, Old Pine, 400 Pine Street  
Philadelphia Shakespeare Festival, 2111 Sansom Street  
Philadelphia Theatre Company, 1714 Delancey Street  
The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, 215-569-8080  
Philomel Concerts, P.O. 41055, 19147  
Ritz Theatrer, 2nd & Walnut Streets  
Society Hill Playhouse, 507 South 8th Street  
TLA Video, 517 South 4th Street  
Wilma Theater, 265 S. Broad Street

#### Other Services

Ananda Spa and Fitness center, 400 Walnut Street  
James Scott, Interior Design. 215-922-2737  
Pearls by Leah, 215-627-4049  
Riff Cleaners, 314 S. 5th Street  
Robert Anthony Interiors, 1106 Pine Street  
Society Hill Veterinary Hospital, 2nd & Lombard Streets  
The Worth Collection (women's clothing), 215-925-8813



**Plumer & Associates, Inc.  
Realtors**

**Plumer**

Center City's largest independent Realtor. Serving Philadelphia since 1923.

**Residential, Commercial, and Investment Real Estate**



For a complete listing of Center City properties visit our website: [www.plumerre.com](http://www.plumerre.com)



226 South Street, Philadelphia  
info@plumerre.com  
**215 922 4200**

**The Kelly Team  
Plumer & Associates, Inc.  
Realtors**



**Francisco Carreno, Trish Kelly, and Gail Finnegan**

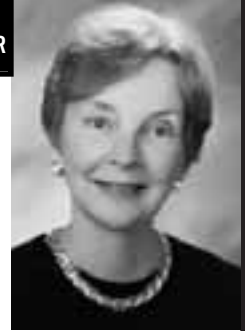
We wish everyone a Happy New Year and introduce our newest team member, Francisco Carreno.

A Society Hill resident for 16 years, Francisco brings his design sense and keen real estate analysis to your doorstep.

**First Time Buyers Seminar  
Feb. 26th, Mar. 26th  
Call for Details**

Plumer & Associates  
226 South Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
(215) 922-4200 X 242

**Jan Stephano, ABR, ASR**



**Lives! Knows!  
Sells Center City!**

**2006 GPAR Gold Award Winner**

Buyer & Seller Representation  
37 Years Your Neighbor  
20 Years Your Realtor

Call for a market property valuation

**ACTIVE**

*Society Hill*

**241 South Third Street • \$1,060,00**

(by appointment only)

I.M.Pei fabulous 3 story contemporary  
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths; living fireplace, library;  
spectacular spiral staircase, garden; light filled

**UNDER CONTRACT**

**238 South Third Street** (by appointment only)

**Unit #1 • \$830,000**

Stunning 2 story renovated condo with separate office entrance; 3 bedrooms, 3.5 marble/ceramic baths; fabulous cook's kitchen, living/dining room, fireplace; landscaped garden, 1 year paid parking

**Unit #2 • \$535,000**

Fantastic 2 bedrooms, 2 baths renovated condo in a Federal townhouse. Open kitchen, granite counter tops, slate floor, top of the line appliances; travertine tiled & marble baths!

**Unit #3 • \$450,000** (list price)

Dramatic bi-level renovated 2 bedrooms 2 baths condo; beams, fireplace, French doors to deck, custom stone loft bedroom; travertine tiled & marble baths

**SOLD**

**325 South Second Street • \$895,000** (list price)

Louis Sauer brick corner condo with parking; 3 bedrooms 3.5 baths, brick patio; light filled. Ready to move in. (under Contract in 4 days!)

**SOLD**

*Midtown Village*

**210 South 13th Street The Gramercy**

(Open House Sun 1-3 or by Appointment)

**Create and design your own New York Loft style condo; 1800 sq ft is ready for you to choose the finish package (includes granite/stone/ travertine counter tops; custom cabinets & lighting) or customize to your specs.**

- Finished Second Floor \$759,000
- Finished Fourth Floor \$859,000
- Finished Fifth Floor \$869,000
- Finished Sixth Floor \$1,059,000
- Penthouse; fabulous roof deck

Model: Finished Third Floor \$849,000  
Spectacular high-end custom finish



**Plumer & Associates, Inc.  
Realtors**

**For More Info Contact Jan Stephano**

**215.922.3600 x219**

SHCA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

# SHCA's Current Membership: 949

We are pleased to report that as of our last count in early April, a total of 949 SHCA members have paid their annual dues for calendar year 2007. Fortunately, this includes 40 brand-new memberships.

However, we are still waiting to hear from 147 members from calendar year 2006, as well as 67 members from calendar year 2005 who have not yet responded to two mailings reminding them to rejoin our civic association. If a majority of these former members renew for the current year, we will surpass our 2006 year end total of 1,066 members — an all-time high, which exceeded the previous year's total of 1,031.

SHCA continues to grow and remain one of the most — if not *the* most — representative civic associations in all of Philadelphia. Since the majority of our memberships represent a household of two individuals, we can probably report with accuracy that almost half of all residents in the neighborhood are current members of our civic association. Residents who live in townhouses represent 70-90% of SHCA's members, and we continue to encourage participation from our hi-rise residents. Unfortunately and inexplicably, SHCA membership among hi-rise residents remains below 20%.

If you are among the non-renewals who have simply forgotten to send in your dues, please take this time, now, to rejoin. Since dues pay for a wide range of activities that help maintain our beautiful and historic community, we ask you to renew today. We especially ask residents who are not SHCA members to consider joining our hard-working civic association. However, if for any particular reason you do not support our efforts, we ask that you take a moment to write us a letter letting us know why.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to "No Casino Near Our Neighborhoods Fund," see information on page 5.

## 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. SHCA never shares its membership list with any other organization, no matter how worthy the cause.

#### Residential Memberships

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

\*Will receive a FREE ticket for Society Hill House Tours (Garden Tour, June 3, 1-5 PM. See back page calendar.)

#### 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 Lights
- PA Hospital's Pine St. Building

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

**Charge VISA/Mastercard** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

- Anti-Casino     Clean-Up Day     Newsletter     TownWatch
- Washington Square     Zoning & Historic Preservation     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed application to:

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

See you at the Square!

## Head House Farmers' Market Opens in July



**B**eginning on July 1st Philadelphia's first large-scale, outdoor farmers' market will be located under "the Shambles" at Head House Square. This historic site, at S. 2nd and Lombard Streets, had been used as an open-air market for centuries, and its newest use is a testament to how popular farmers' markets have become throughout the region.

The Head House Market will operate on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. from July to late November. About 25 to 30 different vendors will offer a wonderful variety of fruits, vegetables, and meats — such as heirloom tomatoes, corn, peaches, local artisan cheeses, heritage chickens, free-range meat, and much more — all fresh and delicious food, picked at the height of ripeness.

This venture is a project of The Food Trust, a non-profit organization that provides a revenue source for the region's farmers, which helps grow their businesses and sustain their farms. Strengthening the network of regional farmers' markets allows The Food Trust to continue the work it began in 1992, ensuring access to affordable, nutritious food for everyone.

(For more information about The Food Trust, visit [www.TheFoodTrust.org](http://www.TheFoodTrust.org)).

If you're wondering about the fate of the Second Street Market, operated by The Food Trust on Saturdays for several years — on the east side of S. 2nd Street, between Lombard and South Streets — we have additional good news! It will continue to sell its range of products that neighbors have enjoyed in years past. Beginning after May 15th, it will operate on Saturdays, as previously, on the sidewalk of S. 2nd Street from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. But after July 7th it will move to its new location — under the "Shambles" at Head House — so that Head House will serve as a Farmers' Market on Saturdays and Sundays beginning in July. In addition, on several Saturdays during the summer, the "Shambles" will serve as a venue for the Creative Collection Crafts Fair.

We expect our neighborhood's weekend markets at Head House Square to be a tremendous success, since consumer demand for farmers' markets is at an all-time high. After May 15th you can learn more about the Head House Farmers' Market by visiting [www.headhousemarket.org](http://www.headhousemarket.org).



For professional advice  
on selling or buying  
a home, turn to  
**Lolly Crowther LaGreca.**

### *Lolly's Experience is Your Asset*

- ◻ Former owner, Midtown Realty
- ◻ Over twenty years real estate experience in Center City
- ◻ Center City Residents' Association President, 1997-99
- ◻ Personalized attention and service

### *Backed by Prudential Fox & Roach*

- ◻ 113-year-old local, family owned and operated company
- ◻ Worldwide reputation and access to buyers
- ◻ Home Marketing System means full-page ads, Internet, Multiple Listings Services and more



**Prudential**



**Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors**

Suite 406, The Rittenhouse Hotel, Philadelphia

Tel. (215) 546-0550, Direct (215) 790-5638, or e-mail [lolly@lollylagreca.com](mailto:lolly@lollylagreca.com)  
or visit my website at [www.philadelphiadreamhomes.com](http://www.philadelphiadreamhomes.com)



## APPROACHING FINAL PHASE

BY MARTHA LEVINE, CHAIR, FRANKLIN LIGHTS COMMITTEE

## Franklin Lights Project Nears Completion

**Update** Our neighborhood-wide Franklin Lights project is nearing completion with close to 500 brand-new lights in place. We now have double the illumination we had before. The installation process began in September '06 and was completed at the end of April '07. Despite unavoidable delays caused by winter weather conditions, defective parts, and PECO malfunctions, all lights will soon be in good working order.

**How can you help?** You may have noticed that lights on some blocks have been burning 24/7. Please be patient, as there is nothing seriously wrong with these lights. Early in the installation there were technical difficulties with some lights, which were cycling on and off for no reason. Therefore, the City and the electrical contractor decided to target any defective ones by keeping the lights on day and night. By the end of April, and hopefully by the time you read this newsletter, the sensors will be uncovered so that they will work properly — allowing the lights to turn on at night and off in the daytime. Since we can all be the “eyes” of our own blocks, please contact me about any malfunctioning lights, and I will forward your complaint directly to the contractor and the City’s chief of street lighting. Our goal is to have all lights working well.

**What’s left to do?** Many of the poles that support the light fixtures have their original 1960’s paint, which will require extensive prep work and painting by a professional. We ask that you do not attempt this work yourselves, as the work must be consistent and the paint must be a uniform color throughout the neighborhood. Following completion of the painting of all poles, SHCA will then install (free of charge) commemorative plaques for anyone who has contributed to the project at the \$1,500 level, or above, and who has requested such a plaque. There is still time to make a request for a plaque.

**Conclusion** Overall, this massive and years-long neighborhood improvement effort has received rave reviews from residents and visitors alike, giving us an increased feeling of safety and providing a more attractive night-time streetscape. Personally, this is “my reward” for the many years I’ve worked with SHCA and the city. Once again, I thank all who have contributed to making our neighborhood a better place to live. When the final phase of the project is completed, all are welcome to an official dedication of Society Hill’s new Franklin Lights, to be held outdoors (date and time to be announced). For questions, comments, or to request a commemorative plaque, please contact me at marthalev@msn.com or 215-629-0727.



*Janey's  
neighborhood  
realtor is . . .*

Call Jeff “City” Block for all your  
Center City real estate needs.

 **Prudential**  
Fox & Roach  
REALTORS®  
215.546.0550

Direct Line - 215.790.5662  
jeff@jeffcityblock.com



**JEFF CITY.**  
  
CENTER CITY'S REALTOR BLOCK

ASSOCIATE REALTOR

## NOTEWORTHY NEIGHBORS

A COLUMN BY DAVID WOODS

## Alexander Iziliaev and Arantxa Ochoa

A couple who *has* to dance.

George Balanchine, the foremost choreographer in the world of ballet (1904–1983), said that dance is music made visible and that “I don’t want people who want to dance; I want people who *have* to dance.” In other words, passion — which is what Alexander Iziliaev (pronounced eezeleeayeff) and Arantxa Ochoa (pronounced arantsha oshoa) exude when talking about their work as principal dancers in the Pennsylvania Ballet.

This 30-something pair, married for seven years, began their careers as gymnasts. Alexander then trained for ballet in his native Russia, while Arantxa studied ballet in her native Spain. They first met while performing at the Hartford Ballet Company — as both fortuitously arrived in the United States about the same time in 1992.

They’ve since enjoyed a stellar reputation. Writing in the *Broad Street Review* ([www.broadstreetreview.com](http://www.broadstreetreview.com)), critic Lewis Whittington described Arantxa as “absolutely hypnotic.”

The *New York Times* said of her performance as Lise in *La Fille Mal Gardée* that she “beamed like Audrey Hepburn, she danced the part with complete command. When the ballet is in the hands of performers this good, you can sit relaxed and bask in its beauties.” Actually, with her gamine presence and wide smile, Arantxa bears a marked resemblance to Audrey Hepburn, who herself started her career in ballet.

Alexander (usually called “Sasha”) has attracted equally strong critical praise. *Ballet Talk* credits him as being “an outstanding Hilarion in

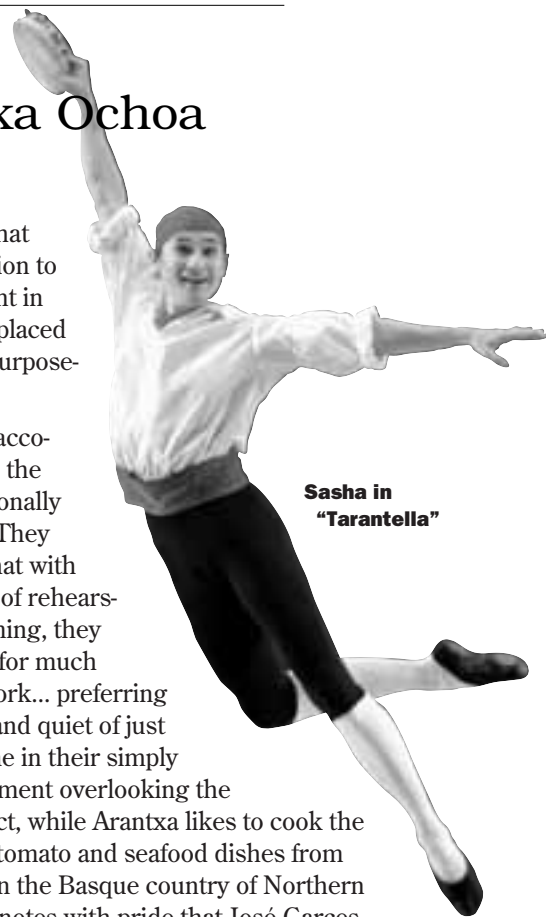
*Giselle* ... and that his close attention to detail is apparent in every carefully placed arm and each purposeful motion.”

Despite all the accolades, however, the two are exceptionally down to earth. They acknowledge that with their hectic life of rehearsing and performing, they have little time for much beyond their work... preferring the tranquility and quiet of just relaxing at home in their simply furnished apartment overlooking the Delaware. In fact, while Arantxa likes to cook the predominantly tomato and seafood dishes from her homeland in the Basque country of Northern Spain, she also notes with pride that José Garces, the owner of Amada, recently opened another Spanish-style restaurant — this one focusing on Piactos, the Basque version of tapas.

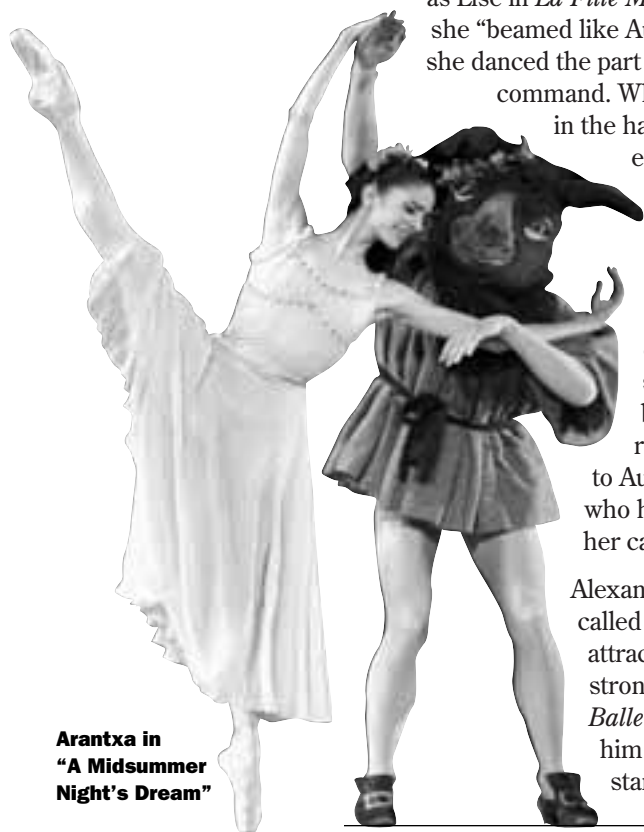
While she has not yet visited Alexander’s homeland, the couple do travel to Spain once or twice a year. But more frequently, their parents visit Philadelphia ... and they agree with their now “New World” offspring that the city has a feel of Europe about it — the cobblestone streets, the horse-drawn carriages, the history and architecture.

The pair are also totally realistic about the limited professional lifespan of professional dancers. Like other athletes, ballet dancers are susceptible to injury. For women, it’s their legs, and especially their feet from dancing on pointe; for men, it’s their back and knees — from lifting the women. Alexander and Arantxa keep fit and minimize these risks by working out at the gym and by practicing Pilates.

With an eye to the future beyond dancing, they both teach their craft to the upcoming ballet generation ... inculcating in them some of their own passion — and inspiring their students not only to “want to dance; but *have* to dance.”



Sasha in “Tarantella”



Arantxa in “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”

Both ballets choreographed by George Balanchine  
Photographs by Paul Kolnik

David Woods can be reached at  
HMI3000@comcast.net



# Appearance IS EVERYTHING!

CUSTOM BODY  
CONTOURING FROM  
FACE TO LEGS AND  
EVERYWHERE  
IN BETWEEN.

## *Featuring...*

- Artistic experience in laser and aesthetic medicine  
*Botox, Fillers, Laser Hair Removal, Laser Spider Vein Removal.*
- New Innovative Technologies  
*SmartLipo® Body Sculpting  
Accent® Cellulite Treatment*
- Highly personalized service

Center for  
**Body Contouring**

Curtis Center, 601 Walnut Street, Suite L55  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

**(215) 238-0220**

*"As medical director at the Center for Body Contouring, I am personally involved in each client's experience. We discuss your goals and the various sophisticated treatments we can use to achieve the results you want. It is the relationship I build with each patient and my commitment to your success that sets us apart. I invite you to take the step."*

- VICTORIA L. FALCONE, D.O., MEDICAL DIRECTOR

[www.custombodyshaping.com](http://www.custombodyshaping.com)



## Reclaim Your Civil Rights on Election Day, May 15th! Join Us in a Precedent-Setting Alternative Election

Because we fear that there is only an infinitesimal chance that our anti-casino referendum will appear on the ballot, we will hold our own alternative election! Casino Free has proposed that we implement the most ambitious voting campaign in Philadelphia history.

Not since the civil rights struggle during the 1960's has such an alternative election been employed. Shut out of the state's political parties in Mississippi, black citizens took independent action to demonstrate their desire to vote by creating an alternative election. In 1963, more than 90,000 people voted in a "mock" election called the Freedom Vote. Borrowing on that idea, Casino Free Philadelphia has proposed a similar alternative election in response to the suppression of our right to vote by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. (Story on page 1.)

Here's what we're planning to do: we will set up tables outside of the 1,681 polling locations throughout the city, so that Philadelphians will have a chance to "vote" on whether they support the position to keep casinos at least 1,500 feet away from any home, school, park or place of worship. Voters, either entering or exiting their polling sites, will be asked to cast a separate vote only on this subject. We hope that you will take the time to have your voice heard.

To succeed in this ambitious and precedent-setting initiative, we need many volunteers to staff these many polling sites. In fact, we will need 3,300 volunteers, so that each polling location will have at least two. If you can commit to work on May 15th as a volunteer, please take the "Pledge for Democracy" by going to [www.casinofreephila.org](http://www.casinofreephila.org) and click on the "Take the Pledge" link. Meet you at the polls!

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 16  
**May SHCA Meetings**  
See page 1

Sunday, June 3, 1-5 p.m.  
**Society Hill Garden Tour**  
Reserve tickets: 800-537-7676  
or Purchase at Old Pine St. Church  
(412 Pine Street) Cost \$25  
Refreshments. Benefits SHCA

Wednesday, June 20, 7:30 p.m.  
**SHCA Board Meeting**  
Location to be announced



SOCIETY HILL

*Reporter*

- Keeping you informed about our community
- Delivered free to your door six times a year
- Produced by your neighbors – all volunteers
- Supported by local advertisers

[www.societyhillcivic.org](http://www.societyhillcivic.org)

### Society Hill and Washington Square's Premier Condominiums

**Society Hill Towers**  
200 Locust Street



Corner two bedroom, one bath  
excellent condition  
**\$479,900**

**Hopkinson House**  
604-36 S. Washington Square



One bedroom, highly customized,  
over \$100,000 of upgrades, state-of-  
the-art kitchen, balcony, park view  
**\$379,000**

**One Independence Place**  
241 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street



Corner two bedroom, 2 baths,  
balcony, upgraded kitchen,  
hardwood floors  
**\$725,000**



**Allan Domb Real Estate**  
Philadelphia's Largest Luxury Condominium REALTOR®  
**Telephone: 215-545-1500 Fax: 215-545-1090**  
1608 Walnut Street, Suite 1303, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Internet Address: [www.allandomb.com](http://www.allandomb.com)  
We Cooperate With All REALTORS®

