

SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

March/April 2012

The Newsletter  
of The Society Hill  
Civic Association

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

## Real Estate Reassessment: Taxing Times

The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) invites you to our March 21st General Membership Meeting to hear Jeff Hornstein, a First District candidate for City Council last year, present an overview of the City of Philadelphia's proposal for citywide real estate reassessment, using the Actual Value Initiative (AVI).

AVI is meant to correct long-standing inequities in property assessments across the city. Values are currently so inconsistent or inaccurate that Mayor Nutter froze reassessments on most properties in 2011. This process, in which all properties are to be assessed at market value, will hit each property owner and neighborhood differently, with some seeing higher tax bills and some experiencing lower bills. Society Hill, with its low demand for City services and relatively

high real estate values, has reason to be concerned about the 2012 reassessment.

Jeff Hornstein, former Service Employees International Union leader, lives in Queen Village and is now president of the Queen Village Neighbors Association. He's also president of the Philadelphia Jewish Labor Committee and has worked for the American Federation of Teachers.

The General Membership Meeting, open to all neighborhood residents, will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Zubrow Auditorium on the first floor of Pennsylvania Hospital, just inside the main entrance at 8th Street near Spruce. Prior to the General Meeting (at 6 p.m.), we will hold our monthly Board Meeting at the Hospital's Grand Court Room. All current SHCA members are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you!

### Save the Date:

Society Hill  
Open House &  
Garden Tour  
Sunday, May 20th  
1-5 p.m.



Proceeds benefit  
SHCA's neighborhood  
improvement projects.

## SHCA Board of Directors Candidates Sought

Elections for SHCA's Board of Directors and Officers occur annually, in accordance with the organization's bylaws. This year's election will take place at our May 16th General Membership Meeting. The members will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four Directors-at-Large, all for one-year terms. We will also elect four Quadrant Directors for

three-year terms, one from each of Society Hill's quadrants. SHCA's Nominating and Election Committee nominates persons for these positions. Additionally, others may be nominated by petition. To nominate someone (yourself included), submit a petition signed by 10 SHCA members. Nomination for Quadrant Director requires the signatures of 10 residents of that quadrant. Although not required, consider including information about the nominee. Send to SHCA's Administrator Matt DeJulio, c/o Society Hill Civic Association, P.O. Box 63503, Philadelphia PA 19147 or to [mattdejulio@aol.com](mailto:mattdejulio@aol.com). The deadline for submissions is April 1st. All nominations will be listed in the next issue of the *Reporter*. Visit [www.societyhillcivic.org](http://www.societyhillcivic.org) for information about our civic association, board or nominating process.

<b>WED.</b>	<b>MARK YOUR CALENDAR</b>
March <b>21</b>	Society Hill Civic Association Meetings Wednesday, March 21st, 2012
	<b>Pennsylvania Hospital, 8th &amp; Spruce Streets</b>
<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> Pennsylvania Hospital Grand Court Room All SHCA members are welcome.
<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>General Membership Meeting</b> Pennsylvania Hospital Zubrow Auditorium All neighborhood residents are invited to attend.
<b>Speaker:</b>	<b>Jeff Hornstein</b>
<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Citywide Real Estate Reassessment</b>

### Which Quadrant?

Are you unsure of your quadrant? Society Hill is divided into four quadrants: Northeast, Southeast, Northwest and Southwest. Fourth Street serves as the north-south dividing line between the east and west quadrants. Spruce Street is the east-west dividing line between north and south quadrants.



# Liberty Tree

by Thomas Paine

*A song written early in the American Revolution.*

In a chariot of light from the regions of day,  
The Goddess of Liberty came;  
Ten thousand celestials directed the way  
And hither conducted the dame.

A fair budding branch from the gardens above,  
Where millions with millions agree,  
She brought in her hand as a pledge of her love,  
And the plant she named Liberty Tree.

The celestial exotic struck deep in the ground,  
Like a native it flourished and bore;  
The fame of its fruit drew the nations around,  
To seek out this peaceable shore.

Unmindful of names or distinction they came,  
For freemen like brothers agree;  
With one spirit endued, they one friendship pursued,  
And their temple was Liberty Tree.

Beneath this fair tree, like the patriarchs of old,  
Their bread in contentment they ate,  
Unvexed with the troubles of silver and gold,  
The cares of the grand and the great.

With timber and tar they Old England supplied,  
And supported her power on the sea;  
Her battles they fought, without getting a groat,  
For the honor of Liberty Tree.

But hear, O ye swains, 'tis a tale most profane,  
How all the tyrannical powers,  
Kings, Commons, and Lords, are uniting amain  
To cut down this guardian of ours;

From the east to the west blow the trumpet to arms  
Through the land let the sound of it flee,  
Let the far and the near, all unite with a cheer,  
In defence of our Liberty Tree.



215. 886. 6111 | Oreland, Pa  
215. 725. 3637 | Philadelphia, Pa  
215. 572. 6937 | Fax  
[www.libertytreecare.com](http://www.libertytreecare.com)

**Mike Duffy**  
Certified Arborist  
PD-1766A  
21 years experience



SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

**Managing Editor**

Sandra Rothman

**Columnists**

Claire Batten  
Jane Biberman  
Matt DeJulio  
Bernice Hamel  
Lorna Katz-Lawson  
Martha Levine  
Jim Murphy  
Keri White

**Contributors**

Kim Balaschak  
Kate Bieg  
Hans Bombeck  
Laurel Landau  
Sissie Lipton  
Joan Putney  
Patty Redenbaugh  
Jan Stephano  
April Thomas-Jones  
Lisa Unger

**Graphic Design**

Judy Lamirand  
[judy@parallel-design.com](mailto:judy@parallel-design.com)

**Press Release Liaison**

c/o Matt DeJulio  
[mattdejulio@aol.com](mailto:mattdejulio@aol.com)

**Advertising Manager**

Lenore Hardy  
[ls43@drexel.edu](mailto:ls43@drexel.edu)

**Submission Deadlines**

Spring/Summer Issue  
Advertising: April 1st  
Editorial: April 10th

**Society Hill  
Civic Association**

P. O. Box 63503  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
tel: 215-629-1288

**Website**

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

**Submissions**

We want to hear from you. Our goal is to print news of interest to Society Hillers – happenings in and around our community for residents, businesses and professionals. Direct your editorial submissions and/or queries to Sandra Rothman by phone at 267-671-0554 or email [sandra.rothman@aol.com](mailto:sandra.rothman@aol.com). To publicize an event, submit all press releases directly.

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

**SHCA Board Officers and Directors**

**President**

Steven Weixler

**Vice President**

Benita Fair Langsdorf

**Treasurer**

Marc Feldman

**Directors-At-Large**

Bernice Hamel  
George Kelley  
Martha Levine  
Jerrold (Jim) Moss

**Quadrant  
Representatives**

**Northeast**  
Lorna Katz-Lawson  
Andrew Hohns  
Lenore Hardy

**Northwest**  
Lawrence Burstein  
Andrea Layden  
Sissie Lipton

**Southeast**  
Robert Curley  
Jane Ahn

**Southwest**  
Melvin Buckman  
Francisco Carreno

---

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


---

## It Takes a Neighborhood...

As I write this, I'm beginning to feel a hint of cautious optimism that we may yet escape last winter's harsh weather. Brave buds emerge here and there, as well as a flower or two. Some neighbors have boldly put out green plants to help lift our midwinter moods. More prudent people wryly shake their heads, but I prefer to be the optimist.

As we enjoy longer, warmer days and more chances to meet our neighbors and appreciate the beauty of Society Hill, we need to renew our commitment to keep our neighborhood a wonderful place to live. As the President of SHCA, I receive calls and questions that run the gamut of quality-of-life issues. Some are easily resolved, others are more difficult and require that SHCA uses the tools it has as a respected and cohesive organization to influence policymakers, legislators or city government to produce satisfactory results. We are fortunate, also, to have a large and active Board of Directors who volunteer their time and talent to serve the community in many ways. My hat is off to the many dedicated people I work with every week.

But the coming spring and summer are going to bring a set of challenges that will require us all to pull together as a community. We have inherited a fine neighborhood and it is up to us to pass it along to future generations in better shape than we found it.

As reported in previous editions of the *Reporter*, we hope resurfacing of selected streets and reconstruction of associated handicap-accessible sidewalk curb cuts will be resuming in the spring. SHCA negotiated an agreement with the Streets Department that we believe is appropriate to our Historic District. Unfortunately, the City was forced to rebid after the original contractor quit — citing unreasonable delays. We now have assurances that the work will soon start. SHCA asks for your patience as we navigate around the messy process of removing and replacing old street surfaces and sidewalk corners.

We also need your eyes to assure that the new work is up to the quality we expect in Society Hill.

SHCA is facing another important challenge as City Council revisits the subject of property tax reassessment — known as the Actual Value Initiative. The Association has formed a working committee to study the issue, and I have had several conversations with First District Councilman Mark Squilla. We are also in the early stages of forming an advocacy coalition with Queen Village Neighbors Association (QVNA), Bella Vista Town Watch, Washington West Civic Association, and the Center City Residents' Association. Plans are being made to hold a large town meeting later this spring to address the many unclear issues surrounding this proposal. I am determined that Society Hill will be treated fairly in this process, and not be a "cash cow" for the city. If you can only attend one evening of civic engagement this year, this should be the one. Watch for flyers and announcements in our weekly email blast.

Another issue impacting Society Hill's quality of life is the state of business activity on South Street. Wouldn't you like to take a short walk to a nice restaurant, or shop in a boutique offering quality clothing or merchandise? I am heartily tired of fielding complaints about the nuisance behavior, petty crime, and damage that patrons of low-quality businesses on South Street inflict on our neighborhood. You may think this problem is unsolvable, but an alliance between neighbors in Society Hill, Queen Village and the South Street/Headhouse District can certainly demonstrate to landlords our seriousness in improving the area. You can help by attending a joint meeting, which is currently being planned by QVNA. Stay tuned for time and date.

We can all work together in small and large ways to make Society Hill a better place. The key is that each of us, according to our time and means, joins in doing something to benefit our community.



**Steven Weixler,**  
President

---

We can all work together in small and large ways to make Society Hill a better place.

---

### In This Issue...

**Page 7**

Honoring Rebecca Stoloff  
(1942-2012)

**Page 13**

Exploring the City:  
Who is John Barry?

**Page 15**

Out and About: Washington  
Square Updated

**Page 17**

Philly Food Lovers:  
Zahav

**Page 19**

On Our Shelf:  
Cordelia Biddle's Stories

**Page 26**

In My Backyard:  
Meet Darren Rogers



PANORAMA

# Authentic Italian Cuisine

- Wine Cellar & Private Party Rooms Available
- Over 150 Wines by the Glass
- Winner of Wine Spectator's "Best of Award of Excellence"
- Guinness World Records in "Worlds Largest Winekeeper"

## Free Parking During Lunch

Old City

Front & Market Streets

215.922.7800

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



### WEIXLER PETERSON LUZI

EXCEPTIONAL INTERIORS • EXTRAORDINARY LIVING

215 • 592 • 9570 [www.wplinc.com](http://www.wplinc.com)

# PHILLY LOVES READING TERMINAL MARKET



"The market's where we go to recharge our batteries."

—MARK MENDENHALL AND NANCY SHICKLER, WEST PHILLY, MARKET SHOPPERS SINCE 1974



**PARK FOR \$4** at 12th & Filbert garage with \$10 purchase and validation from any merchant. Limit 2 hours.

## 'Fix the Brix' Has the Bucks

BY MARTHA LEVINE

**A**rmed with a budget of \$10,000 and warmer weather on the horizon, SHCA is gearing up for a new season of "Fix the Brix."

### What is 'Fix the Brix'?

SHCA offers a reimbursement to homeowners of 40% (up to \$300) for the cost of using a professional mason to level, then repair any brick or cement (front) sidewalk that is a public walkway. There may be a need for an arborist if the problem involves tree roots.

### Who should get involved?

People trip and fall every day, sometimes causing serious injuries. Most homes in our neighborhood have brick sidewalks and often there is a shift in the surface due to tree roots or sinking ground. Our sidewalks are our responsibility and homeowners are liable for any injuries incurred. If your sidewalk is not level, it should be properly fixed.

### How to Get Started

- 1 Contact SHCA for a list of suggested masons.
- 2 Call a mason and get several estimates.

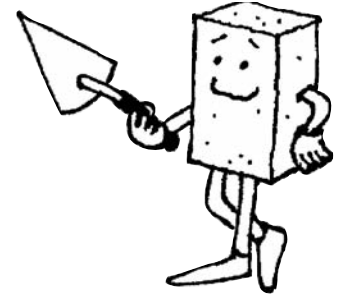
3 Choose a mason (who should be able to tell you if you also need an arborist) to do the work.

4 After the work is completed, make certain your invoice states that the front sidewalk repair was completed. Mail the invoice (keep a copy for yourself) plus a copy of your cancelled check to: SHCA, P.O. Box 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147.

5 Receive your check from SHCA for 40% of the cost (up to \$300 maximum).

**Caveat:** If you have a corner property on 3rd or 4th Streets, know that the city will be installing new ramps along these two streets — so you might want to wait until that work is completed this spring.

Since these funds are limited, **now** is the time to take advantage of the offer. Contact Martha Levine at [marthalev@msn.com](mailto:marthalev@msn.com) or 215-629-0727, or Frank Signorello at [fsignorello@gexchange.com](mailto:fsignorello@gexchange.com) for more information or to obtain a list of masons/arborists.




---

## TREE TENDERS

---

## Join the Tree Tending Team

**A**nother year, another call for the greening of Society Hill! Tree-loving residents of the 200 & 300 blocks of Delancey Street recently took the initiative to contract with a professional arborist for the (overdue) pruning of a majority of trees in their immediate vicinity. Well done! We encourage other property owners to take the responsibility to keep our trees healthy. In doing so, you contribute to everyone's general welfare.

The City's TreeVitalize Program, with help from SHCA, is launching another tree planting effort in the fall of 2012, following the placement of a handful of young, bare-root trees already scheduled for the end of April. If anyone is interested in getting such trees established in front of their home, please contact us immediately so we may guide you through the necessary "red tape" — and provide you with the required application form.

### The deadline for submission is March 31.

Homeowners who were beneficiaries of past TreeVitalize plantings should check to make sure that green "Gator" bags are in good condition. When spring arrives, trees planted



**We're preparing tree pits. Can you dig it? This team of Tree Tenders planted trees last November.**

during the last 18 to 24 months will be looking for renewed care, especially regular watering. If you see any problems — a sick or dead tree, broken branches, or the like — please let us know. We will be available to make an assessment and suggest possible remedies.

And on a final note, we extend an invitation to all Society Hill "tree huggers" to join us. We need more helping hands. New trees put smiles on faces — see photo! For more information, contact Hans Bombeck at [hansbombeck@verizon.net](mailto:hansbombeck@verizon.net).

## Old St. Mary Church † Holy Trinity Church

252 S. 4th Street                      6th & Spruce Streets

Old St. Mary's was the first Cathedral of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Philadelphia.

Holy Trinity Church was established as the first National (German) Catholic Church in the United States.

Celebrate your holidays and holy days with us.

### Lenten Schedule

#### Stations of the Cross

Holy Trinity Church  
Every Monday in Lent  
12 noon

#### Holy Thursday Mass

Old St. Mary Church  
April 5th, 7 p.m.

#### Good Friday Service

Holy Trinity Church  
April 6th, 12 noon

#### Easter Sunday Mass

Old St. Mary Church  
April 8th, 10 a.m.

Mass at Old St. Mary Church is celebrated every Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and every Sunday at 10 a.m. Weekday Mass is celebrated at 7:30 a.m. in the chapel of Old St. Mary Convent/Residence at 5th and Locust Streets. 215-923-7930

## • SOCIETY HILL KITCHENS •

SIMPLIFY YOUR KITCHEN AND BATH RENOVATION PROJECTS WITH WORLD-CLASS STYLE, INNOVATION, AND VALUE

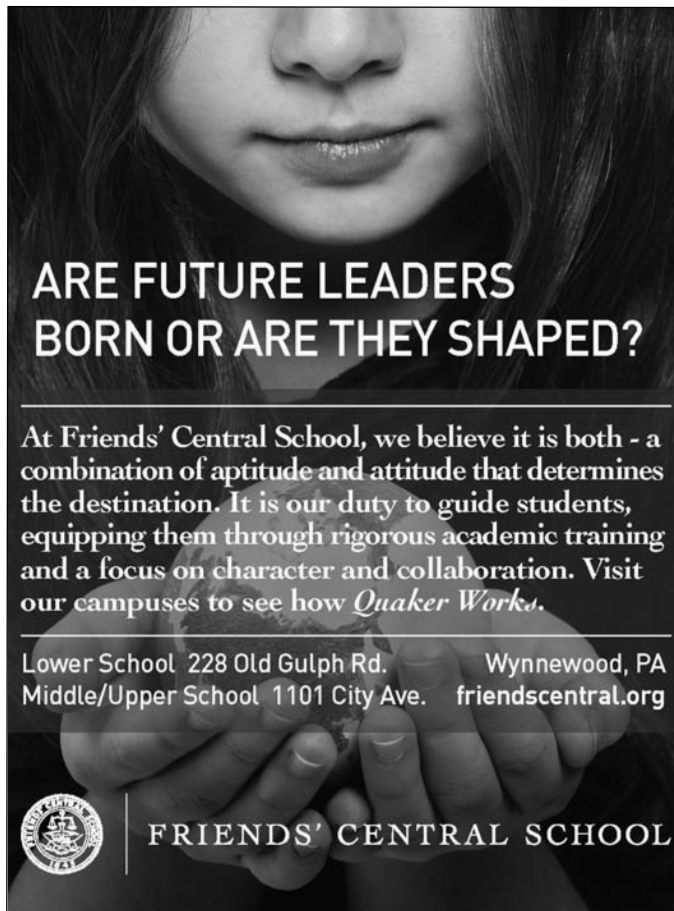
**Make your neighbors envious!  
Are YOU ready?**

See our showroom at  
Marketplace Design Center  
2400 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

Dorchester  
Society Hill Towers  
Rittenhouse Savoy  
Independence Place  
Hopkinson House  
Philadelphian


215-238-9414  
[www.societyhillkitchens.com](http://www.societyhillkitchens.com)



**ARE FUTURE LEADERS BORN OR ARE THEY SHAPED?**

At Friends' Central School, we believe it is both - a combination of aptitude and attitude that determines the destination. It is our duty to guide students, equipping them through rigorous academic training and a focus on character and collaboration. Visit our campuses to see how *Quaker Works*.

Lower School 228 Old Gulph Rd.                      Wynnewood, PA  
Middle/Upper School 1101 City Ave.                      [friendscentral.org](http://friendscentral.org)



**FRIENDS' CENTRAL SCHOOL**

**ADORNAMENTI**

1106 Pine Street  
215.922.2722

**Collection of Art-To-Wear Jewelry**



**SHOW OF HANDS**

1006 Pine Street  
215-592-4010

**Collection of Mid-Century Murano Glass and Contemporary Crafts**



We contribute to Welcome Basket.  
We are located on Historic Antique Row.

## IN MEMORIAM

## Honoring SHCA's Past President: Activist and Pioneer

We are sad to report that Rebecca T. Stoloff, a lifelong Philadelphian and one of Society Hill's earliest and most ardent pioneers, died on January 14th at the age of 70. Many friends and neighbors have worked with Becky over the years — beginning in the early stages of our community's renewal and preservation programs — when she and her husband, Milton, purchased and renovated a historic but deteriorating house that they transformed into a comfortable, contemporary family dwelling.

A graduate of Brandeis University who earned a Graduate Certificate in Public Policy from Stanford University, Becky worked as an administrator and management trainer for the Social Security Administration in the early stage of her professional career. Later she volunteered and directed her efforts at issues relating to historic preservation, architecture and civic affairs. Widowed since 1992, she is survived by her son, Andrew, his wife and their two children, as well as her brother, Jonathan Taylor.

Becky's positive spirit and many years of leadership contributed greatly to the successful rebirth and vitality of Society Hill. For example, she served as President of our Society Hill Civic Association from 1989-1991, and more recently as SHCA's Vice President from 2007-2010.

Although ailing for the past two years, Becky continued her years-long dedication and service as Vice Chair of the Reading Terminal Market Corporation and also as President of the Reading Terminal Market's Preservation Fund. In addition, she was a Board Director of the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, as well as Co-founder and Vice President of the Head House Conservancy, which restored America's oldest surviving firehouse structure: Head House — a National Historic Landmark in our midst. Becky also served as Membership Chair for the Friends of the Independence Branch Library.

Becky always managed to enjoy her life, as well as contribute her support and efforts to several worthy local causes. If you wish to honor Becky's memory with a charitable donation, her family suggests that a tax-deductible contribution to either of her two most beloved nonprofit organizations would be greatly appreciated. Kindly direct your gift, in Becky's name, to either:

- *Reading Terminal Market Preservation Fund:* 51 N. 12th Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19107, **OR**

- *Friends of the Independence Branch Library:* 18 S. 7th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Indicate whether you prefer your donation to be spent to purchase books for the "Rebecca T. Stoloff Memorial Book Collection" or for an audio system in the library's community room.

A special event celebrating Becky's life will be held on Sunday, April 22nd at 6 p.m. — at the Reading Terminal Market (located at 12th and Arch Streets). Your participation is, of course, most welcome. For more information and to let us know that you plan to attend, please RSVP to: [BeckyLifeCelebration@gmail.com](mailto:BeckyLifeCelebration@gmail.com).



**Rebecca Stoloff**  
1942-2012

### Joanna Durdle, 47

We extend our condolences to the family of former neighbor Joanna Putney Durdle, who died on January 9, after a courageous two-year battle with breast cancer. Joanna was born in Boston, Massachusetts on September 3, 1964 to the late Paul W. Putney and Joan (High) Putney of Rydal, Pennsylvania, who were among the "pioneers" responsible for Society Hill's renewal. Survived by her husband, Brian, Joanna also leaves a son and three daughters. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to Laurel School's Scholarship Fund, Development Office, 1 Lyman Circle, Shaker Heights, OH 44122. Online condolences may be made to the family at [masfh.com](http://masfh.com).



**Joanna Durdle**  
1964-2012



## 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)



**Russ Whelan**  
DOORS & ACCESS SYSTEMS

- Expertise in residential, industrial and commercial service and installation
- Broad range of door styles and types for any need
- Over 32 years of service in the Greater Philadelphia Area

**Contact us today for a free consultation for your garage door repair and installation**

215.639.6220  
whelandoors.com



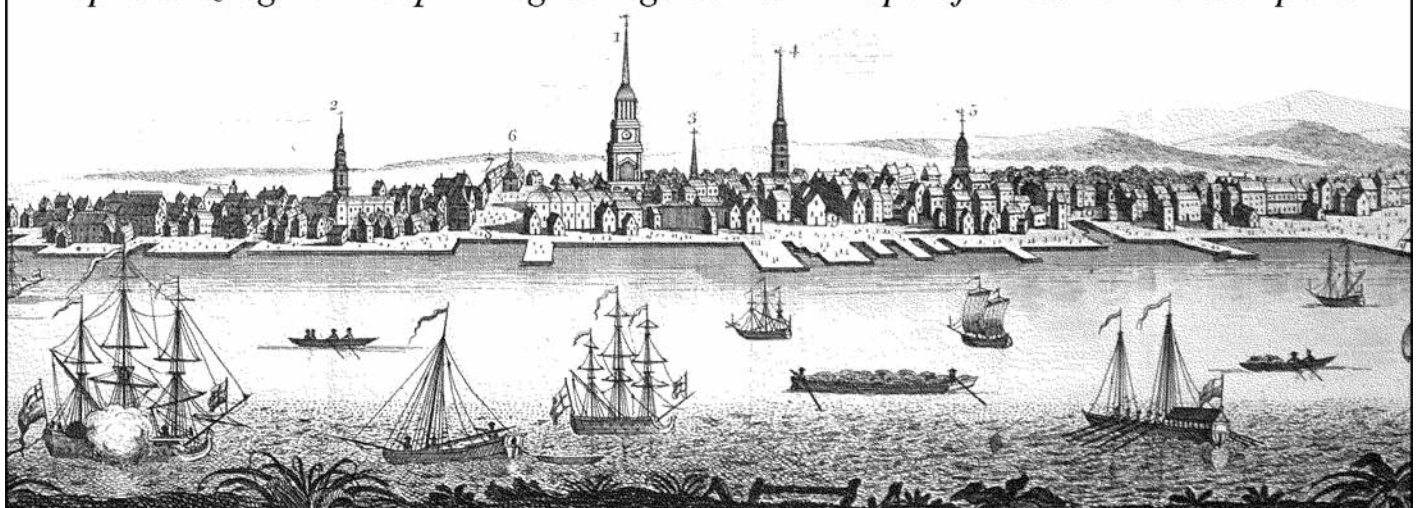
**SOCIETY HILL'S PREMIER SALON**  
316 S. 5TH STREET  
215 873 8090

**UNASSUMING, BUT CERTAINLY NOT ORDINARY.**

**salon @ 5th**

# *Arader Galleries*

*Specializing in Antique Engravings & Rare Maps of Historic Philadelphia*



1308 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107  
Open Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm & Sat., 10am-5pm • (215) 735-8811



## POWEL HOUSE WELCOMES SPRING

## Make Arrangements to Be Creative

**Saturday April 28, 10:30-12:30**

Professional florist and registered horticultural therapist Cheryl Wilks will bring her tricks of the trade to the Powel House (244 St. 3rd Street), where she will present a floral workshop. Cheryl has been a guest lecturer at the Philadelphia Flower Show since 1990, entertaining audiences with her fun, educational programs.

Participants can exorcise winter blahs while exercising their creativity by making a lovely, take-home basket suitable for hanging on the door (or gifting Mom on Mother's Day!) All ages and skills are welcome. And materials — such as flowers, ribbon, baskets, butterflies and birds' nests — are included in the \$45 fee. Proceeds will benefit the Powel House restoration fund.

Space is limited. Reserve before April 23rd by sending a check to: Powel Floral Workshop, c/o Jorja Fullerton, Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, 321 S. 4th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Please include your address, phone number and email. For more information, call Jan Stephano at 267-258-7819.



**Professional florist and registered horticultural therapist Cheryl Wilks will show you how to exercise your creativity and exorcise your winter blahs.**

## SAVE THESE DATES

### From Lenape Natives to Modern Leaders

**February 27-April 9**

The Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides (APT) invites neighbors to attend a series of lectures about Philadelphia's history, sites, architecture, sculpture and noted residents.

Experienced APT lecturers will share the fascinating behind-the-scenes lore and anecdotes that have earned them a reputation as being among the best tour guides in the country.

The Monday evening series (6-9:30 p.m.) began on February 27th and will continue to April 9th at the Physick House, 321 S. 4th Street. Individual evening lectures are \$25.

For more information, contact Edward A. Mauger at 215-627-8680 or philaonfoot@gmail.com.

### Musical Performances

**Friday, March 23**

**Saturday, March 25**

**The Philadelphia Chamber Ensemble**, the only chamber group in residence in Society Hill, will present the final pair of concerts in its 35th season on Friday, March 23rd at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 25th at 2 p.m. at Old Pine Street Church, 4th and Pine Streets. For more information, visit [www.pccoconcerts.org](http://www.pccoconcerts.org) or call 215-542-4890.

**Saturday, March 25**  
**Meiravi Quartet**

The Philadelphia-based Meiravi Quartet will present an unusual program of Holocaust-era composers on Sunday, March 25th (3 p.m.) at Irvine Auditorium's Amado Recital Hall, 34th and Spruce Streets, University of Pennsylvania. For further information, visit [www.meiraviquartet.com](http://www.meiraviquartet.com) or call 610-662-7000.

### Stamp Out Parkinson's 2012 Walk

**Saturday, April 21**

Held every April, "Stamp Out Parkinson's" has raised over \$1.2 million in the last 10 years to promote community awareness, education and advocacy. In addition, it has helped with research, programs and services that improve the quality of life for people with Parkinson's Disease and their families in the Delaware Valley region. The event starts at Lloyd Hall on Kelly Drive, Fairmount Park. Visit [www.walk.theparkinsoncouncil.org](http://www.walk.theparkinsoncouncil.org) for more information.

### Physick House Plant Sale

**Friday-Sunday, May 4-6**

Happy Hour Sale-Before-the-Sale on Thursday, May 3 (\$5). Watch for the pre-order form coming to you by SHCA email blast in late March. More info? Call 215-925-9537.



**Dr. Mike Cirigliano**

### Society Hill-Hot & Healthy!

**Monday, May 7**

People across the region know Michael Cirigliano, M.D., as Fox29's Dr. Mike, as well as a "Top Doc" — recognized by *Philadelphia Magazine* for the past seven years. Hear him speak on the topic "Herbal Medicine: Does Mother Nature Know Best?" and answer questions about vitamins, supplements and herbal remedies. Join your neighbors at the Society Hill Synagogue (418 Spruce Street) at 7:30 p.m. for what promises to be a stimulating and informative evening.

---

**Z O N I N G   A N D   H I S T O R I C   P R E S E R V A T I O N**


---

BY LORNA KATZ-LAWSON

**S**HCA's Zoning and Historic Preservation (ZHP) Committee meets monthly to address community concerns related to both zoning and historic preservation. It helps homeowners who would like to make changes to the exteriors of their properties understand and be prepared for the process of approval by the Philadelphia Historical Commission (PHC), which is required for any exterior changes, and for any zoning variance which may be needed. We urge you to submit your plans or ideas to the ZHP Committee before submitting them to PHC.

### **312-322 Walnut Street through to Willings Alley**

Nolan Properties, LLC plans to convert this former office building into 66 market-rate residential dwelling units with commercial use on the ground floor and accessory parking. The developer and a subcommittee of near neighbors (representatives from Willings Alley Mews, Bingham Court, Old St. Joseph's Parish and SHCA) have finally signed an agreement that will guide the design development of the project and control some of the future building operations. At the Zoning Board of Adjustment hearing in February, SHCA offered testimony of non-opposition to the variances requested and the uses of the parcels. City Councilman Mark Squilla and the Philadelphia City Planning Commission (PCPC) also supported the project.

Included in our agreement with the developer is an escrow fund to pay for damage that may occur during the construction period to Willings Alley, a street listed on the City's Historic Register. We thank SHCA Board member, Jim Moss, for his generous guidance, skill, diplomacy and diligence to help to make this happen.

### **341 Pine Street Rear Addition, 3rd Floor Roof Deck**

The Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) hearing originally set for November was continued to December, when the Board decided this should be heard as a new case rather than on issues from the court decision. The third-story bedroom addition was granted, but without the roof deck. This decision is now under appeal. SHCA has supported the application that has been modified several times by the applicant to reduce impact on near neighbors.

### **541 Pine Street (S.E. corner of 6th and Pine)**

This application for 100% lot coverage as well as a garage and a curb cut from 6th Street was heard and approved at ZBA in January. Several friends and neighbors turned out in support of the applicant, although SHCA testified to oppose the application.

### **221 Pine Street**

An application for two-family occupancy and significant reduction of open space was unanimously denied at ZBA and was subsequently appealed by the owner. This appeal was heard in February and the judge remanded the case back to ZBA. SHCA and PCPC are on record in opposition to the use of the property as a two-family residence. Since June, SHCA has separately pursued enforcement measures with the Philadelphia Historical Commission to stop the owner's willful destruction of the 19th-century rear addition by the removal of windows and the entire rear wall — exposing the interior to the elements.

### **223-225 South 6th Street (aka Dilworth House)**

State Appellate Court hearings took place in February. Meanwhile, Society Hill neighbor Nancy Frenze and the ZHP Committee have been pursuing correction of building violations that are causing the structure to fall apart — as well as affecting public safety. The city has recently established a new Licenses and Inspection group that concentrates on vacant properties. Unfortunately, the response to our complaints (already undergoing normal processing) was transferred to this body for scrutiny and action. This transfer set back the timetable for a positive outcome by either the owner or the city. Most distressing is the possibility of more wintery weather since the building has no capability to control water running off its sizable roof. Offers to purchase the property have been declined by the owner, Turchi Properties.

### **200-212 Lombard Street**

#### **(Storefront at 225 South Street)**

In January, ZBA granted a continuance of the application for a banquet hall. The Queen Village Neighborhood Association, the South Street/Headhouse District and SHCA are on record together to oppose this use, because of the youthful age demographic — coupled with unregulated use of alcoholic beverages. In addition, there is concern about late hours of operation, the types of entertainment that would be offered and the lack of parking, which make the use inappropriate for a location cheek-to-jowl with residential occupancies.

### **601-603 Lombard Street**

On February 13th, the applicant presented a proposal to the ZHP Committee and nearby neighbors to subdivide this existing property — turning its open parking lot into two new lots for single-family homes with garages. The existing structure containing four rental units (built by the city's Redevelopment Authority) would remain. The nearby neighbors and ZHP decided not to support the proposal, as it would excessively reduce open space and reduce light and air for all nearby residents. The city's Zoning Board of Adjustment considered the proposal at the time this newsletter was being printed.

ZONING AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

## Signs of the Times

### Crosstown Coalition — Zoning Code Commission

The Crosstown Coalition assisted Philadelphia City Planning Commission (PCPC) to organize a preliminary round-table discussion concerning sign controls. As background, this area of the zoning code was considered so complicated that the old code was incorporated in the adoption of the new one in December 2011 — with the idea it would be amended and ready to go into effect by August 22, 2012. Similar deliberations will occur

for developers and groups representing businesses that create, build or install signs.

### Advertising on City-Owned Property

The SHCA Board will send a letter to City Council and the Mayor’s office opposing the legislation introduced by Darrell Clarke, Bill No. 110922, allowing the City to lease space to advertisers — that is, unless it exempts municipal property in historic districts.



### UPDATED CONTRACTORS LIST

SHCA has updated its Society Hill List of Contractors — a current, 12-page guide to neighbor-recommended contractors of all types. This service is available to SHCA members only. If you would like a list mailed to you, please contact Martha Levine at marthalev@msn.com or 215-629-0727.



### RE M I N D E R

## Exterior Lighting and Cameras Need Approval

Any and all changes to building facades in the Society Hill Historic District, including outdoor lighting and cameras, must be pre-approved by the Philadelphia Historical Commission (PHC).

Within the district, your home has been evaluated as either “highly significant,” “contributing” or “non-contributing” on the survey that was used to legally create the district. This information is available at the PHC office (576 City Hall). If your house is either contributing or non-contributing to the preponderant 18th/19th century architectural style, approval can be granted by the staff when you meet with them.

However, the process is more complicated if the dwelling is significant (e.g. an authentic antique, a significant historical family residence, designed by a famous architect, or a place where an important historical event occurred.) The staff must review your proposal and then make a recommendation for approval or denial, which in turn must be formally presented to PHC for approval.

Please recognize that exterior lighting fixtures were not known to 18th/19th-century residences, so when it is desirable to add lighting, it is best to handle it in a way that does not pretend to be historic. The staff of PHC will help homeowners work out the best way to integrate lighting.

For all your real estate needs...

Elfant & Wissahickon  
— REALTORS —

Claudia McGill  
claudia-mcgill.com  
215.893.9920

Creating harmony in body and mind

Judy Moon  
and Associates

CONVENIENT, RELAXING MASSAGE THERAPY  
Washington Square South  
in the Hopkinson House

ABMP Certified 267.671.0861 www.judymoon.com

# THE CENTER CITY QUAKER SCHOOL



**OPEN HOUSE GRADES PK-12 THURSDAY APRIL 5  
8:45 AM JOINING QUAKER EDUCATION  
WITH ALL THE CITY HAS TO OFFER 17TH & BENJAMIN  
FRANKLIN PARKWAY PHILADELPHIA  
215. 561. 5900 EXT 104 FRIENDS-SELECT.ORG**



**FRIENDS SELECT**



**Philadelphia Gardens, Inc.**

GARDEN INSTALLATION + DESIGN by Toni Ann Flannigan  
215.951.9193 // [www.philadelphiagardens.com](http://www.philadelphiagardens.com)

# Welcome to Springtime...



# Without the Allergies.

Wouldn't it be nice to enjoy all the pleasures of being outdoors in the springtime without suffering the dreadful symptoms of allergies?

Treat your allergies at ALLERGY & ASTHMA SPECIALISTS, PC, the premier medical practice in the Delaware Valley caring for adults and children with allergies, asthma, eczema and recurrent infections.

We are the only allergy practice in the region offering Sublingual Immunotherapy (SLIT), the medical term for drops under the tongue. This offers you an alternative to allergy injections, while allowing you to treat yourself at home. So say goodbye to your allergies and welcome in the Spring without the sniffles.



# 1-800-86 COUGH

[www.86cough.com](http://www.86cough.com)

- Blue Bell • Center City • Jenkintown
- Pottstown • King of Prussia
- Lansdale • Doylestown • Collegeville

## EXPLORING THE CITY

BY JIM MURPHY

## Who is John Barry?

One of my warm-weather delights is to pick up a bagel and coffee about 8 a.m., sit on a bench at the south side of Independence Hall and read the morning papers.

As a side benefit, I hope to absorb a bit of the genius and creativity our Founding Fathers displayed here during the country's earliest and darkest days.

While sipping my coffee one fall day, I suddenly noticed a large bronze statue of a military man with just the word "Barry" on the front of it.

I don't know how I had missed this impressive statue before. I also wondered why a military man was honored here in a place known for political decisions? What was his contribution?

Little did I know that Commodore John Barry played an extraordinary role in our country's history. Without his heroism and leadership, we might well be swearing allegiance today to the Queen of England.

Yet, as local author Tim McGrath says in his interesting 2010 book, *John Barry: An American Hero in the Age of Sail*, Barry is less well known today than some of his contemporaries, like John Paul Jones — possibly because he was not a braggart. His nickname among naval historians? "Silent John."

**Barry's remarkable accomplishments:**

- Won both the first and last successful battles the Continental Navy fought with the British (plus many in between).
- Served on the ground with his sailors at the Battle of Princeton in January 1777, when the British threatened Philadelphia and the Commodore's next ship was still under construction.
- Captured two British transports and the schooner *Alert* in the Delaware River in March 1778, with just a small band of men and seven barges. The move infuriated the British, who had recently taken Philadelphia.
- Helped physically drag and carry two unwilling members of the Pennsylvania State Assembly from their lodgings to the nearby State House to ensure that a quorum was present — so that Pennsylvania could ratify the U.S. Constitution. Physically imposing at 6 feet 4 inches tall, Barry was well-suited for this unique mission.

- Travelled 237 miles in a 24-hour period while piloting the *Black Prince*, the fastest known day of sailing in the 18th century.
- Was the first flag officer of the United States and is often considered the "Father of the American Navy."

**His statue**, which dominates the middle of Independence Square, portrays Barry in uniform, defiant and aggressive.

In one arm he carries a naval spyglass, a sheathed sword by his side. With his right hand, he points strongly, possibly directing his men to fire another broadside ... or gesturing south towards the Delaware River and Bay, where so many of his important victories took place (and where a bridge in his honor was opened in 1974. The Commodore Barry Bridge spans the Delaware River from Chester, Pennsylvania to Bridgeport, New Jersey.)

**How do others view Barry?**

James Fenimore Cooper, the popular 19th-century American writer and a navy veteran himself, wrote "Perhaps of all the [Revolutionary period] naval Captains ... he was the one who possessed the greatest reputation for experience, conduct, and skill."

So awed by Barry's skills, President John F. Kennedy kept Barry's sword in his office as a source of inspiration.

**My advice:** Walk over to Independence Square, look at the statue of John Barry, and think about the things this man did to help ensure our nation's success. He is a genuine American hero.

**Cameras galore:** While today's visitors to Independence Square may not know exactly who Commodore Barry was, the innate power of his statue still attracts hordes of photographers every day.

One friend, who lives at nearby Hopkinson House, says he can't recall ever walking through Independence Square without seeing someone taking photos of the Barry statue. "It's amazing," he says.

While John Barry may not be as popular as the Rocky statue near the Art Museum — almost 230 years after he helped defeat the British, he's still noticed. Perhaps that's another major victory for him after all.



This American hero is often photographed... and often overlooked.

**FAST FACTS**

Statue Location:  
Independence Square, 5th and Walnut Street

Dedication Date:  
March 16, 1907

Donated by:  
Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, of which Barry was a member

Cost: \$10,300

Sculptor:  
Samuel Murray

Dimensions:  
Base: 12' square  
Pedestal: 11' high  
Statue: 9'6" high

# THE NEIGHBORHOOD'S Top Destination

Within walking distance from Society Hill



**Positano Coast**  
BY ALDO LAMBERTI  
RESTAURANT, CRUDO & WINE BAR



212 WALNUT ST, 2<sup>ND</sup> FL • PHILADELPHIA  
215.238.0499 • POSITANOCOAST.NET

**ZAGAT**  
Rated 2011  
"Mediterranean Dream"

BYO Wine: Sun/Mon • Happy Hour: Sun-Fri 4:30-7:30pm



A place to be known,  
a place to know others;  
a place to experience  
the process of maturing  
as a series of rewards  
and responsibilities  
rather than hurdles.

**Get Wisdom.  
Get Understanding.**

*Please call to schedule a visit  
for you and your child.*

*We would love to get to know you.*

St. Peter's School is a  
multidenominational school  
for children ages 3-14.

319 Lombard Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
www.st-peters-school.org  
215-925-3963



IRONWORK | TREEWORX | LANDSCAPING

## NEED IRONWORK, TREEWORX OR LANDSCAPING?

We do it all. Our specialized crews include some of the top individuals in the industry.

- Design, Fabrication and Installation of decorative Ironwork
- Tree & Shrub pruning crews educated in the etiquette of transporting debris through the house
- Removing the largest trees in the tightest spaces
- Landscape division for Clean-ups and Mulching
- Designers and Builders to create your ideal outdoor living space
- Insect/Disease Control & fertilization
- Brick and Stone Specialists

**Contact me today for a  
free estimate:**

**Paul Morano**  
office 267-712-9624  
mobile 267-357-7455  
paul@oldcityiron.net  
www.oldcityiron.net

P.O. Box 40265  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

OUT AND ABOUT

# The Square Affair: Before and After

Besides being a great deal of fun, the wildly successful 2010 and 2011 “Washington Square Affairs” raised funds that have improved the beauty of the park. The photos below (small “before” and large “after”) prove that the proceeds have been well spent!

While continued support is needed to maintain and improve our unique oasis in Society Hill, SHCA decided not to host the “Washington Square Affair” this summer. Instead, after careful consideration, it was decided to wait for the completion of current

projects before starting to plan for June 2013. If you are interested in supporting us with a contribution or in volunteering in some capacity, please contact SHCA’s Administrator Matt DeJulio via email at [mattdejulio@aol.com](mailto:mattdejulio@aol.com).



Northwest corner



Eastern side



Thanks to your support, beautiful plantings fill every corner of Washington Square.




South side



Southeast corner



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)

Since 1985

**NATIONAL WATCH & DIAMOND**  
 Visit our website....NationalWatch.com



*Pre-Owned Rolex  
 Cartier  
 Breitling & More!*

**Over 400 Rolex in Stock**  
 Rolex Repair, & Refinishing One Year Warranty  
**Buying Gold & Silver**  
**(215) 627-WATCH**  
 Corner of 8th & Chestnut Streets Philadelphia, PA 19106

**CAC COINS**  
 NOW IN STOCK!

N.W.E. Is not an official Rolex jeweler

**We offer a complete line of services to care for your property.**



**Complimentary Consultation**

Call our office at **215-844-TREE** to make an appointment for a consultation to review your property.

<p><b><i>Tree &amp; Shrub Healthcare</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custom Tree Pruning</li> <li>• Tree Removal</li> <li>• Cabling &amp; Bracing</li> <li>• Insect &amp; Disease Management</li> </ul>	<p><b><i>Landscaping</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planting Gardens</li> <li>• Shrub Pruning</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Sidewalks</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brick Replacement</li> </ul>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Certified Arborists on Staff



**www.mcfarlandtree.com**






## PHILLY FOOD LOVERS

BY CLAIRE BATTEN

## A Middle Eastern Oasis in Society Hill

**Zahav****237 St. James Place****Sunday–Thursday, 5–10 p.m.****Friday–Saturday, 5–11 p.m.****www.zahavrestaurant.com****215-625-8800**

Craig LaBan, *The Philadelphia Inquirer's* restaurant critic, recently awarded our favorite local eatery, Zahav, his coveted four bells accolade. Armed with this tidbit of news, we doorstepped Zahav's chef and owner, Michael Solomonov, to quiz him about Life, Love and the Universe.

When we asked what brought him to Philadelphia from his native Israel, Chef Solomonov explained that a girlfriend from Mount Airy was the impetus for the visit, but that he went on to marry another Philadelphian (who persuaded him to stay in our fair city).

We wanted to know just how "Chef" (as he's called in his kitchen) came to wind up perched atop a hill right next to the Society Hill Towers. Solomonov told us about the excitement he felt when the Towers management invited him to check out the space and he saw what the previous tenants left behind: "The pizzeria had its own wood-burning pizza stove, which means we could bake fresh flatbread all night."

In fact, our interview took place in front of this same fiery furnace on a packed Saturday night. As I dripped perspiration, Chef calmly fielded my questions — simultaneously scrutinizing dishes (every single dish passes under his nose), rolling and baking flatbread (called *laffa*), serving *mezze* starters and coordinating orders between servers and sous-chefs. The speed and efficiency of the whole operation was bedazzling.

Chef Solomonov, explaining why Israel cuisine is special, said "You've got to remember that it is a combination of foods from many different cultures. It draws from North Africa, from Ethiopia, as well as East Africa and other Middle Eastern cultures, such as Yemen — and European food has influenced the Israeli kitchen, too."

Chef told us that he learned to cook from his grandmother. "She was a Bulgarian Sephardic Jew who used to make Balkan pastries and beef and lamb sausage, Bulgarian-style. We had

borekas, one of her signature dishes on our menu, but removed it when she passed away last year."

Zahav's own signature dish is fried cauliflower with *labaneh* (a thick yoghurt flavored with herbs, spices and lemon). This writer has tried many times to reproduce the dish at home from memory, but never managed to replicate it, or any of Zahav's sensational *mezze* (small tapas-like dishes). As Chef explains: "On every street corner in Israel there is always someone selling fried cauliflower. Perhaps we fry it at a slightly hotter temperature and our *labaneh* may be slightly different, but essentially we're serving that same traditional Israeli dish."

Zahav emulates the experience of a bustling Middle Eastern market. Before opening, the entire staff flew to Jerusalem to visit an open-air food market in the chaotic hour before Sabbath — to better understand and experience its cuisine. A photo of this experience takes pride of place in the restaurant that, with its Turkish lighting, drapes and painted brickwork, is deliberately evocative of a bazaar.

The restaurant's menu features many selections grilled over coals. Must-haves include hangar steak, kebabs and chicken *shishlik* with figs, almond and carrot pilaf — not to forget the spiced eggplant with Israeli couscous, mushrooms and *tehina*. The idea is to order a collection of small plates (these are moderately priced between \$8-10 each) and then mix and match dishes to be shared around the table. If you're not sure what to order, try one of the two recommended tasting menus at \$35 or \$45 per person.

Chef Solomonov continues to rack up recognition for his culinary skills. In 2011, the prestigious James Beard Foundation nominated Solomonov as their "Premier Chef in the Mid-Atlantic Region."

So what's up next for Chef Solomonov? "One day I would love to open a restaurant in Jerusalem and earn a Michelin star," he says.

You know what? We'd put money on his doing it.

A longer version of this review, which includes Chef Solomonov's recipe for Fried Cauliflower with *Labaneh*, is posted on [www.phillyfoodlovers.com](http://www.phillyfoodlovers.com)



**Michael Solomonov,  
Zahav's chef and owner**

What is Zahav's signature dish?  
Fried cauliflower with *labaneh*.



**Howard J. Goldblatt**  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR, INC.

---

**Historic Restoration**  
**Kitchen, Bath, General Renovation**  
**Window Replacement**  
35 Years Experience  
References Available

**610-642-1834**      **hjjgc@verizon.net**

| Philadelphia License #398432 | Pennsylvania License #20665 |



**QUEEN VILLAGE  
FAMILY DENTISTRY**

**JEFF CABOT, DMD**

**WWW.QUEENVILLAGEFAMILYDENTISTRY.COM**

**215-925-7330** 

**Patricia Bentz CPDT-KA, CDBC, CNWI**  
Certified Dog Trainer & Behavior Consultant

*“Going to the Dogs”*

**K-9 Training & Behavioral Therapy**


- One-on-One Obedience Training at Home
- Behavioral Consultation
- Puppy Head-Start
- Nose Work Group Classes




**(215) 551-5254**  
*Queen Village*

*Hours by Appointment*      *Gift Certificates Available*


**SUMMERS AT  
ST. PETER'S SCHOOL**




SCIENCE





FRENCH



MUSIC



ARTS & CRAFTS

SPORTS & GAMES

- ✓ Summer program in Society Hill
- ✓ Ages 3-6
- ✓ Full-day or half-day sessions, 6/18 – 7/27
- ✓ Experienced faculty

For information, please call **(215)925-3963**  
or e-mail [jreistle@st-peters-school.org](mailto:jreistle@st-peters-school.org)

**319 LOMBARD STREET \* PHILADELPHIA, PA 19147**



**COSMOS**  
**FINE NAIL SALON**

PHILADELPHIA'S SALON FOR MEN & WOMEN  
[NAILS ~ WAXING ~ MASSAGE]

<b>1204 walnut street</b>	<b>1308 sansom street</b>
(215) 627 - 1020	(215) 545 - 5456
mon-wed: 930a - 700p	mon-wed: 930a - 700p
thurs-fri: 930a - 800p	thurs-fri: 930a - 700p
sat: 930a - 600p	sat: 930a - 600p
sun: 930a - 600p	sun: closed

⊕ RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED ⊕

**PHILADELPHIA  
WINDOWBOX COMPANY**

phone 610-310-1973



info@philadelphiawindowboxcompany.com  
www.philadelphiawindowboxcompany.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



## ON OUR SHELF

BY KERI WHITE

## Seeing Stories on Every Corner

We were fortunate to catch up with award-winning author and well-known Philadelphian, Cordelia Frances Biddle — whose family was among the city's earliest residents. She was gracious enough to share her thoughts on today's literary scene and some of her latest projects.

Curious about the writing life in Society Hill, we asked Cordelia what impressed her the most. She responded by extolling our neighborhood's merits: "Society Hill is a fabulous place to set any story. History is living around us all of the time; we are bombarded with it. I 'see' stories on every corner."

Biddle is currently finishing a novel that is a spinoff of her popular Martha Beale mystery series. "I titled it *The Actress*," she says, "though one never knows if a title will stick through publication. It centers on the character Becky Grey, who appears in the other books. I also had a great time writing *St. Peter's Church: Faith in Action 250 Years* in collaboration with Libby Brown, Alan Heavens and Charles Peitz. It is a wonderful book, with beautiful illustrations and historical photographs on every page. As a member of St. Peter's Church, this project was especially meaningful. I am also working on a biography of St. Katherine Drexel, who is an ancestor of mine."

When asked how it feels to be descended from a saint, the author laughed and said, "Stressful! How does one possibly measure up?"

Her primary aim for this biography is to bring Drexel to life in the correct historical context. For example, the future saint viewed Abraham Lincoln's body when the funeral procession was brought through the city. (Note: Lincoln's body lay in state in the east wing of Independence

Hall.) Biddle explains, "Things like that are important to place her in and among actual world events. But I am also very keen to bring a novelist's eye to nonfiction. So much of it feels like work; I don't want to create a textbook. Stacy Schiff did a masterful job with *Cleopatra: A Life*. Even though it was nonfiction, it was a true page-turner; I couldn't put it down."

Our much-loved Society Hill novelist gave us a peek as to what's on her bedside table. "My favorite novel is usually the one I'm currently reading," she says. "I have been revisiting Dickens in honor of his birthday (February 7th), so right now I'm loving *Bleak House*."

"Book or Kindle?" we asked. Cordelia Frances Biddle quickly responded, "Both! I was given a Kindle as a gift, and out of mere politeness I downloaded a book on it. I was hooked. But I spend an awful lot of time in Head House Books, which is an absolutely amazing bookstore (located at 619 S. 2nd Street). It is small and intimate, but the selection and quality are wonderful, and of course they can get anything you need. I go to browse, and then purchase e-books right there."



**Award-winning author  
Cordelia Frances Biddle**

For more on Cordelia's writing life, visit her website at [www.cordeliafrancesbiddle.com](http://www.cordeliafrancesbiddle.com).

MAKE YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION  
A REALITY!

PRIVATE YOGA INSTRUCTION  
IN YOUR HOME

JILL HOFFMAN  
REGISTERED YOGA TEACHER  
18 YRS EXPERIENCE  
602 369 1582

[WWW.CENTERCITYNATUROPATHIC.COM](http://WWW.CENTERCITYNATUROPATHIC.COM)

Shopping for your Apple products  
just got a lot more convenient.



Springboard Media's third location is now open in Midtown Village!  
116 S. 13th Street (between Walnut and Sansom)  
215-599-9000 • [springboardmedia.com](http://springboardmedia.com)  
Sales • Service • Trade-Ins • Accessories



# Society Hill Homes For Sale



306 S. 2nd Street  
Historic 1816 Townhouse with  
Deeded Parking \$1,250,000  
[www.306S2nd.com](http://www.306S2nd.com)



229 Spruce Street  
Exquisite Colonial Mansion  
\$2,495,000  
[www.229Spruce.com](http://www.229Spruce.com)



411 Spruce Street  
1810 Historic Townhouse  
\$995,000

## Just Sold



2115 Delancey Street



1015 Waverly Street



2129 Delancey Street



**Ellen Steiner**

Associate Broker

Prudential Fox & Roach REALTORS®

Rittenhouse Sales Office  
210 W Rittenhouse Square  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

215-546-0550 Broker

215-790-5647 Direct

[ellen.steiner@prufoxroach.com](mailto:ellen.steiner@prufoxroach.com)



You need a REALTOR® that can give you a competitive advantage in today's market. Put my years of experience and proven track record to work. Your house will be the next to sell!  
Call me today.



An independently owned and operated member of The Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed and is subject to errors and omissions and should be independently verified. The properties are subject to prior sale, change or withdrawal. Prudential Fox & Roach REALTORS® is a licensed Real Estate Broker in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

**SAFE AND SOUND IN SOCIETY HILL**

BY MARILYN APPEL

## Is the 'Brass Bandit' Back?

**A**lert from Captain Korn of the Sixth District: A door knockers are being stolen in our area. In the past we have seen this type of theft escalate, often until an arrest is made. Be alert to any person(s) at your own or your neighbors' doors. If you see anything suspicious, call 911. Provide the call taker with an exact location and a good physical description of the suspicious person(s).

**Watch for the Cab**

A cabby out there is taking your cash, announcing that he got less from you than you gave him and demanding more. One of our neighbors handed this cabby a \$20 bill and was told he only gave the driver a five. The cab number is 1032 (hand-written inside) — watch out for him and be careful about handing out big bills.

**Reward Fund Update:**

More than 75 neighbors contributed over \$17,500 to reward information leading to the arrest and conviction of the two criminals who shot Darren Rogers (see page 26). The Citizen's Crime Commission is using the media to publicize the reward and SHCA has put up posters on South Street.

**Security Cameras**

Here's what's happening in Northern Liberties: The equipment is easy to obtain (even Costco and B.J.'s sell it) but expensive to install. Northern Liberties has it all set up and I'm exploring this model. (Apparently they are getting financial help from Sugarhouse Casino.) I also have another installation source and will compare prices. So, be patient — I'm on it and I'll be in touch. Contact me at 215-922-2626 or harmara@verizon.net with any interest.

**Old Cell Phones**

Please drop them off at 414 Spruce Street. Used cell phones go to senior citizens and abused women. They are reprogrammed to only call 911.



**SOCIALIZE & EXERCISE**

### Join the Walkie-Talkies

**Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 8:15 a.m.**

**A**lthough spring has not yet officially sprung, warmer weather is definitely on the horizon. We hope these increasingly sunny skies will encourage many more local gals to join the Walkie-Talkies — our neighborhood's free, friendly and non-stressful fitness program. Year-round, on any Tuesday and Thursday morning (when it's not raining), several Society Hill gals enjoy one-hour walks exploring our wonderful community and enjoying each other's company. Newcomers are especially encouraged to participate with "old-timers" on these varied strolls. Lace up your sneakers, wear a smile, and show up at Three Bears Park (Delancey Street between 2nd & 3rd Streets) a few minutes prior to 8:15 a.m., when these walks promptly begin. Any questions about this free, friendly, and fun fitness routine? Just phone Bernice at 215-925-4363.

**Order this Miniature Reproduction of the Three Bears Sculpture**



The sculpture of three white granite bears that gives the park at 3rd and Delancey Streets its name is a beloved part of Society Hill. Sculptor Sherl J. Winter envisioned this work as interactive, and children of all ages have embraced it since it was installed in 1966.

Recently he has reproduced the figure in miniature, giving anyone who has ever been to the park (or enjoyed playing there as a child) the opportunity to revisit it at home. The low introductory offering price is \$125.

It is approximately 6" high x 7" x 5.5" and made of virtually indestructible cast stone.

To place an order or for more information please contact sculptor Sherl J. Winter at: 215 242 0978 or sjwinter00@comcast.net or visit [www.winterartstudio.com](http://www.winterartstudio.com).

**CHILDREN'S DENTAL ASSOCIATES, P.C.**  
STEPHEN D. COHEN, D.D.S.



PEDIATRIC  
DENTISTRY  
AND  
ORTHODONTICS  
Since 1973



607 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, Pa 19106  
[www.kiddy2th.com](http://www.kiddy2th.com)  
215-925-6251

# Hi Tech. Hi Touch.

A Winning Combination –  
in Person and on the Web!



**Buying? Selling?**  
Please call or email your  
neighbor, Rosemary Fluehr.

**Know someone who's  
Buying or Selling?**  
Let me know. Referrals are  
the strength of my business.

**Rosemary Fluehr**

Associate Broker, GRI



**Prudential**

215-440-8195 – Direct  
215-627-6005 – Office  
215-514-9884 – Cell  
rosemary.fluehr@prufoxroach.com  
www.rosemaryfluehr.com

**Fox & Roach,  
REALTORS®**  
530 Walnut Street, Suite 260

Top 6% of all Realtors in Prudential Network Nationwide

Accredited Luxury Home Specialist

Diamond Award



**■ PAMELA D. LAWS**

ABR, ALHS, SRES, ASP

**DESTINATION: HOME**



**Prudential**

**Fox & Roach  
REALTORS®**

215.546.0550

215.790.5688 pam.laws@prufoxroach.com

WWW.PHILADELPHIAPROPERTIES.NET

An independently owned and operated member of the Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.



**JEFFCITYBLOCK**



**440 Lombard Street**

JUST REDUCED – True 4 bedroom,  
2.5 bath Townhome in mint  
condition. On-site PARKING. Deck  
& lovely court yard. Amazing  
Light. Hardwood floors. Granite &  
Stainless Steel Kitchen. Great  
location in McCall Catchment.  
**\$559,000**



For both 2010 & 2011, Jeff was honored with the  
Five Star Overall Satisfaction Award  
(Top 2% of real estate agents in greater Philadelphia area  
in overall client satisfaction - INDEPENDENT SURVEY).

To view all of Jeff's listings and for a  
Comprehensive search of all properties for sale,  
Please visit [www.cityblockteam.com](http://www.cityblockteam.com).

DIRECT LINE - 215.790.5662

jeff@jeffcityblock.com



**Prudential** Fox & Roach REALTORS® 215.546.0550



**SMART  
RESPONSIVE  
EXPERIENCED**

Bari Shor

## "Real Estate MatchMaker"

Whether you're selling or buying  
a home in amazing Center City,  
Bari Shor cares and *delivers* for you.

I am your neighbor,  
let me be your Realtor,® too!

Contact me:

Bari Shor 215-790-5678

Barishor@aol.com

Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors

215-546-0550 x 5678

**A Beautiful Place for All**

Old Pine Community Center (at 4th and Lombard Streets) began renovating its outdoor space in 2010. Overgrown shrubs and trees have been pruned or removed and the lawn has been reseeded. In addition, outdoor lighting and benches have been refurbished. The space is now an attractive, safe and inviting place for all neighbors to enjoy! And the new cleaning and inspection plan promises to keep it that way.

We are grateful to the pedestrians who are using the sidewalks and giving our new grass a chance to grow. Thanks to everyone for their support as we continue work on this gift to our community.

**Philadelphia History Museum**

With the completion of a major interior renovation and updating of its 1826 historic building, the Philadelphia History Museum at the Atwater Kent (15 South 7th Street) reopened in February. This first part of a multi-phased reopening includes two exhibitions in newly installed galleries, a welcome foyer and a lobby area. The museum is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For exhibition and program information, please visit [www.philadelphiahistory.org](http://www.philadelphiahistory.org) or call 215-685-4830.

**Putting the 'Garden' Back in Starr Garden Playground**

Starr Garden, which opened in 1908 at 600 Lombard Street, is Philadelphia's oldest playground. A new crop of youngsters has ignited an interest in revitalizing this neighborhood gem. Upcoming beautification plans include new plantings as well as repainting playground equipment and benches, sign replacement and graffiti removal. The next event will be a Pottery Painting Day for all ages on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To know more, become involved in these efforts or add your name to the email list, contact [StarrGardenNeighbors@gmail.com](mailto:StarrGardenNeighbors@gmail.com).



**Laurel Landau and First District Councilman Mark Squilla (above) and the Starr Garden Neighbors (below) bagged leaves, picked up trash, and more on Martin Luther King Day.**

Photos by Carolyn Stanish.



90% of our business comes from friends telling friends!

**Kathy, Patrick and the Conway Team**

Recent Recipients of the most prestigious award attainable "The Pinnacle Award." This award is reserved for the Top Ten Prudential agents nationwide out of 68,000 agents in the entire U.S.A.

**Prudential**  
Society Hill  
215.627.6005  
[www.conwayteam.com](http://www.conwayteam.com)

KATHY 215.440.8190  
[kathy@conwayteam.com](mailto:kathy@conwayteam.com)  
PATRICK 215.440.8172  
[patrick@conwayteam.com](mailto:patrick@conwayteam.com)

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

**SOCIETY HILL**

312 Willings Alley  
\$849,000

- Large, south-facing living room, high ceilings, wood floors, fireplace
- Dining room with patio access
- Kitchen, pantry
- Library with built-ins and wood burning fireplace
- Office/den and loads of storage
- 2/3 bedrooms
- 2 full baths & powder room
- Much desired Bingham Court location
- PARKING steps from entrance

**SOLD**

**Jan Stephano** ABR, CSR

*Lives, Knows, Sells Center City!*  
41 years your neighbor  
24 years your realtor

215-922-3600 x219  
[jstephano@plumerre.com](mailto:jstephano@plumerre.com)  
[www.realtor.com](http://www.realtor.com)

**Plumer & Associates, Inc.**  
Realtors

www.PlumerRE.com



Gail Finnegan

Francisco Carreno

**Plumer**   
**& Associates, Inc.**  
**Realtors**

226 South St.  
 Philadelphia, PA 19147  
 215.922.3600 x 310

215-880-7936

FC@CarrenoRE.com

## In Center City Real Estate

*One name. One call.*



### Izzy Sigman

*Phila Board of Realtors  
 Diamond Award Winner*

Outstanding *service* and *results*.  
 Every time.

#### Recent Sales

105A Lombard St 400-416 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St #402  
 200 Locust St #27A 300 N 3<sup>rd</sup> St #301  
 1 Christian St #25

#### Current Listings

100 N 22<sup>nd</sup> St #135 204 ½ S 3<sup>rd</sup> St  
 Abbotts Square Townhouse #4  
 240 Monroe St #2

**If you're in the market for a new home,  
 I can help you find the perfect property...  
 and help you sell yours**

Call Izzy Sigman

**Plumer**  
 & Associates, Inc.  
 Realtors

226 South Street  
 215-922-3600 x 228 Office  
 215-806-6958 Mobile

**M M**  
**MIKE MCCANN**  
 "The Real Estate Man"

**THINKING OF BUYING?**  
**CALL 215-440-8345**

**THINKING OF SELLING?**  
**CALL 215-778-0901**

255 Pine \$1,595,000

Magnificent 3BD/3.5BA with finished basement, sitting area, deck, garden, 1 car parking, ornate moldings, over 3500 sf of living space!

604 Spruce \$1,595,000

Extra large restored Federal period townhome with 5BD/3.5BA, formal living room, pine floors, fireplaces, small office, central air, gorgeous details throughout.

717 S Columbus #1502-04 \$1,650,000

Two units combined at Dockside – 4BD/3.5BA, oak floors, river views, 4 stunning bathrooms, 3 terraces, 2 designer kitchens, amazing opportunity!

508 Lombard \$650,000

Beautiful 3BD/2.5BA home in impeccable condition, with Juliet balcony, deck, patio, den, plenty of storage space and garage parking.

438 Lombard \$475,000

Beautiful 3BD/2.5BA in Gaskill Mews, with den, 1 car deeded parking, common courtyard, hardwood floors, sun porch, located on a tree-lined block.

**VISIT MCCANNTEAM.COM  
 TO VIEW ALL OF OUR LISTINGS!**



Mike McCann "The Real Estate Man" and His Five-Star Team have been ranked the **#42 team** in the nation by the *Wall Street Journal* and *REAL Trends* magazine.



**Prudential**

**Fox & Roach,  
 REALTORS®**

**215-627-6005**



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## 2012 Membership Drive Continues to Surge

By mid-February, 840 SHCA residents had already renewed their membership — still running about 10% ahead of the same time last year. If the current trend continues, we will most likely surpass our 2011 membership total of 1033. A reminder was sent in early February to the 235 members who had not yet renewed. If you are among those members, please respond at your earliest convenience, so we may avoid the cost of further follow up.

Winners of the drawing which awarded dinners to those renewing membership by the end of the year are Barbara and Tom Rittenhouse, as well as Kathleen Murphey. Congratulations to these two households and a big Thank You to all who renewed promptly.

We invite any of the 2,600+ households in Society Hill to join SHCA. Why is **your** membership so important? Besides providing funding for our many neighborhood improvement projects (such as graffiti control, weekly sidewalk cleaning and plantings in Washington Square), numbers speak volumes. When SHCA's Board advocates on your behalf (e.g. zoning changes, real estate taxes, crime problems, ramp issues, trash receptacles, street lighting, bus re-routing, etc.), it makes a greater impact if we can say they speak on behalf of the majority of our residents. You're also guaranteed a personal invitation to each of this year's social events — the Holiday Social, the Spring Fling and the Soiree at the Shambles.

Without member dues, SHCA would cease to function. Protect your neighborhood and your real estate investment. SIGN UP TODAY!

If you have any questions or wish to comment on why you are not a member, please email SHCA Administrator at [Mattdejulio@aol.com](mailto:Mattdejulio@aol.com). All comments will be shared with the Board, which includes representatives from every quadrant in our unique historic neighborhood.

### Good News!

The Philadelphia Foundation has recently awarded The Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks a \$26,000 grant to be used for general operating support. This grant is wonderful affirmation of Landmarks' work, which inspires people to engage with history by protecting the city's historic sites and providing related programs.

## SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

### Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

email \_\_\_\_\_  
(print clearly)

IMPORTANT: Today most everyone communicates via email. Please be sure that we have your current email address — so that you can receive important updates between publication of our community newsletter. All SHCA emails will be judiciously screened, and rarely will we send emails more than once a week. Nor will we share your email address with anyone else. This convenient, 21st-century system helps save our civic association postage costs, while keeping you regularly informed.

#### Residential Memberships

- \$ 50 Basic Household Membership
- \$ 40 Senior/Student/Single
- \$ 100 Federal Friend
- \$ 150 Georgian Grantor
- \$ 300 Jefferson Benefactor
- \$ 500 Washington Benefactor
- \$ 1,000 Benjamin Franklin Benefactor

#### Business Memberships

- \$ 100 Institutions — 5+ employees
- \$ 60 Institutions — fewer than 5 employees

#### Additional Contributions

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Washington Square Beautification      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Franklin Lights

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sidewalk Cleaning/Graffiti Removal      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Tree Tenders

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning and Historic Preservation      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ McCall School

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Charge VISA/MasterCard:

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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

The following topics are of special interest to me. I welcome receipt of email updates on these topics.

- Clean-Up Day
- Washington Square
- Zoning & Historic Preservation
- Franklin Lights
- Social Events
- Fundraising
- Dilworth House
- Property Taxes
- Local Crime
- Reporter
- Casino Issues
- Incidents & Alerts

Please return completed application to:  
**Society Hill Civic Association**  
P.O. Box 63503  
Philadelphia, PA 19147



## NIFTY NEIGHBORS IN MY OWN BACKYARD

BY JANE BIBERMAN

## Meet Darren Rogers



**Darren Rogers with his mother, Callie Rogers (left), and his aunt, Mary Miller.**

Darren Rogers has simple tastes. He likes rock 'n roll, jazz, vanilla milkshakes, and walking long distances. Tragically, it was while enjoying his nightly walk through Society Hill and listening to his favorite group, Rush, on his Walkman, that he was almost killed.

It was 11:30 p.m. on November 7th and Darren was on his way to work in Old City, when two thugs accosted him, beating and then shooting him for good measure. Luckily (if there was any luck involved), James Atkins, the sexton of Old Pine Street Church at 4th and Pine, was cleaning the sidewalk when he witnessed the nearby attack and called 911. An ambulance rushed Darren to Jefferson University Hospital, where he would undergo five operations over the next six weeks to save his life.

"If it hadn't been for Mr. Atkins, Darren would have died on the sidewalk," says his grateful mother, Callie Rogers. "He would have been just a body lying there." Since the tragedy that has changed this family's life, she and her sister, Mary Miller, have driven to Philadelphia three times from their home in Indianapolis.

On their last trip, over the long Martin Luther King holiday weekend, they visited Darren at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital, where he had begun an intense regimen of physical therapy. At the beginning of February, he was able to feed himself, although he still could not walk. But his doctors are hopeful that his broken ribs and spinal cord injury will eventually heal, freeing Darren from his motorized wheelchair.

"Why me?" Darren often asks himself. Why indeed? A quiet guy who liked his orderly life, he had found the job as concierge at the Chocolate Works apartment complex on North Third Street upon graduating from Ridley Park High School 26 years ago. Tenants liked his effervescent personality. "He never called in sick, and he only took time off for the Penn Relays," recalls his friend and colleague Emmitt Scott, better known as Scotty. "And he was never late. You could set your watch by him." Except for that fatal night of November 7th.

Scotty visits him often. "We developed a relationship 25 years ago," he notes. "Darren is a dear friend and I consider him the son I never had. Prior to the accident, he had a good sense of humor. We always had bull sessions in between shifts. Sometimes we talked for hours about sports, history, and music. I would tell him about the Uptown Theater and all the famous people, like James Brown and the Jackson Five, who performed there before they were superstars. Darren was a great listener. When I go to see him now, I don't pretend there's no elephant in the room. Darren has to get over his anger and depression, although I can't pretend to know what he is suffering."

Callie agrees. "I tell Darren to use the rage within him to get stronger. Before the attack, he walked eight to ten miles a day. When he went to work, he'd catch the trolley from his studio apartment in Southeast Philadelphia to 30th Street Station. From there, he'd walk the four or five miles to Old City. It was his exercise. The doctors say he was in great shape, which helped to save his life."

At 6 feet and 160 pounds, Darren was the perfect height and weight, concurs Scotty. "To see him now, so thin and unsmiling, breaks me up." He explains that Darren was shot in the chest, and that during one of the procedures to remove a blood clot, his vocal cords were damaged — which is why he speaks seldom and softly. Callie is hoping that with more therapy and medication, his voice will become stronger.

In mid-February, Darren moved to AristaCare at Meadow Springs in Plymouth Meeting — a pulmonary and neurological rehab center. From there, he just wants to return to his apartment and his job. But he will need an aide as well as a great deal of financial assistance. A poster in the hallway of Magee charts the cost in dollars to the victims of gunshot wounds, with hundreds of thousands projected over a lifetime.

To raise money, Callie has established "The Darren Rogers Fund" at PNC Bank. Anyone may walk into any PNC branch, anywhere in the country, and donate. Callie says that one generous gentleman gave \$10,000. Martin Luther King had a dream. And Darren Rogers has one too: "All I want to do is be independent," he says simply. "I just want to get up and walk out of here." Hopefully, caring and generous neighbors will help him realize his dream.

*here sat*

A RUMRUNNER,  
A COLONEL,  
A PAINTER AND ...

EVERY PIECE AT THE 2012 PHILADELPHIA ANTIQUES SHOW HAS A STORY, AND OUR MORE THAN 50 DEALERS HAVE SOMETHING FOR BOTH SEASONED COLLECTORS AND NEW. ADD TO ANY ROOM WITH A PAINTING, A CHEST OR A MAHOGANY SIDE CHAIR, AND CONTINUE THE STORY.

DAILY GUIDED TOURS • 3 DESIGNER EXHIBITION ROOMS  
LOAN EXHIBIT: WHERE HISTORY MEETS MEDICINE –  
ANTIQUES FROM THE NATION'S FIRST HOSPITAL

*april - may*  
28 1

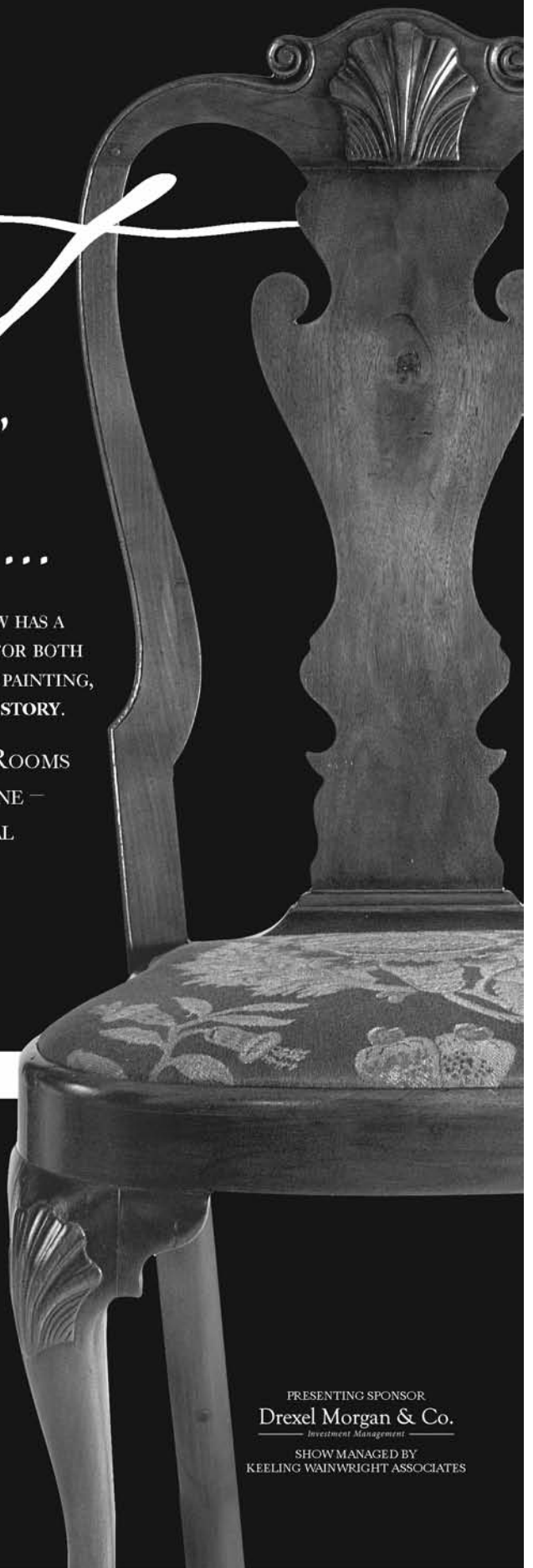
PREVIEW PARTY: APRIL 27

JOIN US AT OUR NEW LOCATION

THE PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION CENTER  
GENERAL ADMISSION: \$20 • PHILAANTIQUES.COM



PRESENTING SPONSOR  
**Drexel Morgan & Co.**  
*Investment Management*  
SHOW MANAGED BY  
KEELING WAINWRIGHT ASSOCIATES



**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

*Wednesday, March 21*  
**SHCA Board Meeting**  
 6:00 p.m. Great Court Conference Room  
**SHCA General Meeting**  
 7:30 p.m. Zubrow Auditorium  
 Pennsylvania Hospital  
 8th & Spruce Streets  
 See page 1

*Saturday, March 17, 11 a.m.*  
**Pottery Painting Day**  
 Starr Garden Playground  
 600 block, Lombard Street

*Friday, March 23, 8 p.m.*  
*Sunday, March 25, 2 p.m.*  
**Phila. Chamber Ensemble**  
 Old Pine Street Church,  
 4th and Pine Streets  
 See page 9

*Sunday, March 25, 3 p.m.*  
**Meiravi Quartet**  
 Amado Recital Hall,  
 34th and Spruce Streets  
 See page 9

*Sunday, April 1*  
**Board Nominations Due**  
 See page 1

*Sunday, April 22, 6 p.m.*  
**Rebecca Stoloff Memorial**  
 Reading Terminal Market  
 See page 7

*Saturday, April 28, 10:30 a.m.*  
**Powel Floral Workshop**  
 Powel House, 244 S. 3rd Street  
 See page 9

*Friday-Sunday, May 4, 5 & 6*  
**Physick House Plant Sale**  
 321 South 4th Street  
 See page 9

*Monday, May 7, 7:30 p.m.*  
**Herbal Medicine: Does Mother Nature Always Know Best?**  
 Society Hill Synagogue  
 See page 9

*Saturday, May 12*  
**SHCA Spring Clean-Up Day**



- **Delivered free to your door**
- **Produced by your neighbors**
- **Supported by local advertisers**
- **Keeping you informed about our community**

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

**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**

**AD Allan Domb**  
 Philadelphia's Largest Luxury Condominium REALTOR®

1845 Walnut Street, Suite 2200  
 Philadelphia, PA 19103  
 215-545-1500  
[www.allandomb.com](http://www.allandomb.com)

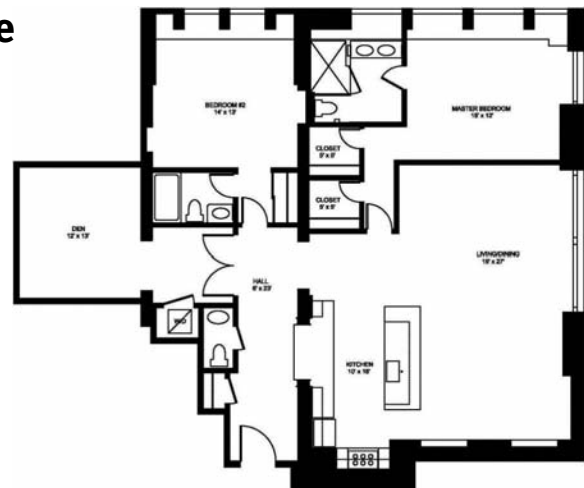
**Luxury Living Around Washington Square**



**Independence Place**

241 S. 6TH STREET

Bi-level penthouse featuring magnificent living spaces, a chefs kitchen, luxurious master suite and panoramic river and city views. 4403 sf  
**\$2,295,000**



**The Bank Building**

421 CHESTNUT STREET

Brand new two bedroom plus den, two and a half bathroom condominium with open chef's kitchen, designer baths, hardwood floors, lots of natural light and sunset view. 2025 sf  
**\$1,100,000**