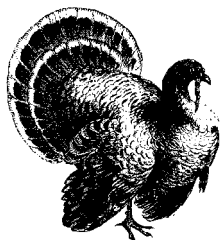


SOCIETY HILL

Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.org

Arm Yourself with Facts About Safety and Crime Prevention



Best wishes
for a joyous
holiday season
and a healthy
and happy
New Year!

Please join the Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) on Wednesday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m., for our General Membership Meeting. The Pennsylvania Hospital, 8th and Spruce Streets, will host the event in the Zubrow Auditorium.

The evening promises to be interesting and informative. A representative from the Philadelphia Police Department's (PPD) 6th District will address personal and property crime prevention and safety. In addition, PPD's SafeCam program will be discussed, with explanations about how to register your private surveillance camera with the police department. Questions and concerns from the audience are welcomed.

Even though we live in one of America's nicest neighborhoods, we are not insulated from crime.



This quality-of-life crime has blemished our neighborhood.

The sad fact is that no place is completely safe. Our historic homes' brass doorknockers and copper downspouts are routinely pilfered, bikes are stolen and cars broken into, and cell phones and handbags are snatched on our streets. Sadly, we've also had our share of more serious crimes. Often, taking simple steps could have prevented much of this wrongdoing. And once the deed is done, surveillance cameras would help police in making arrests.

The Philadelphia Police Department recently made a major technological change in policing. It is now one of the 10 police departments in the United States with a Real-Time Crime Center. The Real-Time Crime Center is a 24-hour hub of video surveillance, databases and various other resources. It collects surveillance camera data from throughout the city, including from private cameras registered in the SafeCam program. This gives officers in the field the ability to pull up camera images in real-time during the crime or an emergency, giving immediate pertinent information regarding the suspects' location and description.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting and hearing your comments and concerns.

WEDNESDAY

November
20

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meetings
Wednesday, November 20, 2013

**Pennsylvania Hospital
8th & Spruce Streets**

6:00 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting
McClelland Conference Room
All SHCA members are welcome.

7:30 p.m.

General Membership Meeting
Pennsylvania Hospital Zubrow Auditorium
All neighborhood residents are invited to attend.

Speaker:

**Representative from the Philadelphia
Police Department's 6th District**

Topic:

Personal and Property Crime Prevention

PROGRESS AT LAST



Work has finally begun at the Toll Brothers condo development, 410 South Front Street, projected to be finished by June 2015.



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 December 1
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 December 3

**Society Hill
 Civic Association**

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Website

Find past issues of the
Reporter with color photos
 at 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 717-715-5791 or email 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.

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Bulletin Board



SHCA's long-time administrator **Matt DeJulio** is shown at his computer, either working on the weekly email newsletter or the crime report. He also handles the myriad details of maintaining a membership database of nearly 1,100 current members and a total database of over 2,500.

Matt is a retired publishing executive. He came to Philadelphia from his native New York while matriculating for his M.A. degree from the Annenberg School for Communications at the University of Pennsylvania in 1970. In 1973, he moved to Society Hill, where he lived at 709 Pine Street until 1996, when he moved to Independence Place. He was responsible for publishing the first-ever guide to historic Society Hill in 1994. The tree he planted as a young sapling at 709 Pine Street is now a vigorous addition to our neighborhood.

SHCA values Matt's dedication and talents, and appreciates his contributions to our association and community.



Lenore Hardy, in addition to being the *Reporter's* advertising manager, is a world-class traveler. Since her retirement as director of Drexel University's Health Sciences Library two years ago, Lennie has packed her bags and been constantly on the go. In the last year alone, she has visited Australia, Russia and South Africa!

This deep love of journey goes back to her junior year as a French major at Vermont's Middlebury College. Lennie, hating the bitter winters there, opted to spend that time studying in Paris and Grenoble and traveling Europe, all the while having record amounts of fun.

Born in New York City, Lennie has lived in Philadelphia since 1973, the last ten years in Society Hill. She now spends time volunteering at the Athenaeum, attending the theater and seeing movies, as well as enjoying our wonderful restaurant scene.

Her daughter, who lives in California with her husband and two-year-old son, is about to deliver Lennie's second grandchild as we go to press. No sooner will she be back from South Africa, than Lennie will have to pack those bags again, this time loaded with toys and baby clothes, and head to the West Coast.

If you're interested in knowing more about advertising in the *Reporter*, Lennie is your go-to gal. Just call her at 215-982-0298. And check our website for competitive rates. Thanks to our advertisers, SHCA is able to hand-deliver a copy of this newsletter, free, to every household in Society Hill. This helps build community, while keeping the neighbors informed.

The Society Hill Civic Association is fortunate to recruit talented, dedicated neighbors who love our community and work hard to make it even better. Consider adding your time and talents to an SHCA committee. You'll meet interesting people and make meaningful contributions to Society Hill, one of America's premier neighborhoods.



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I regret to tell you that I am contending with a rare neurological disease called CIPD. This significantly affects my ability to use my hands and feet and causes constant pain. Normal activities like typing and walking are difficult. For that reason I am taking a sabbatical from the *Reporter* for this issue.

Best, Steven A. Weixler, President

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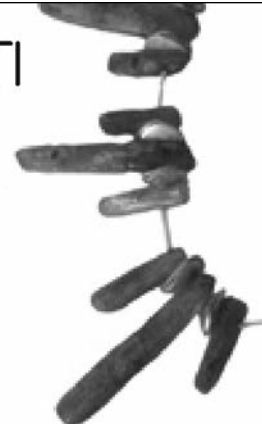


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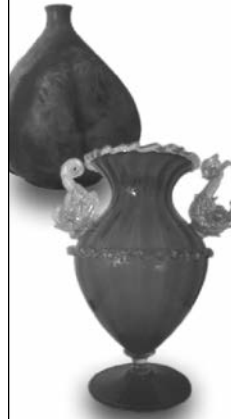
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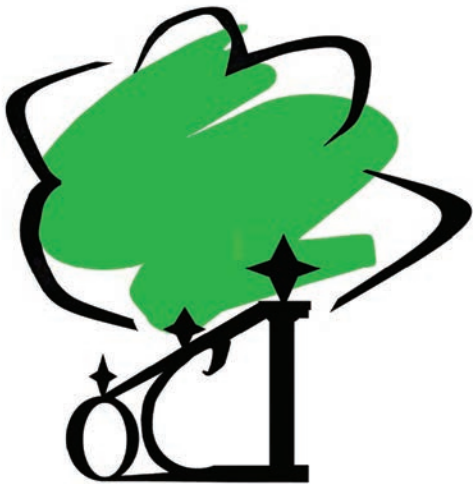
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G R A B A B R O O M

Make Our Neighborhood Beauti-fall!

Get ready, neighbors! It's time to gather up your rakes, brooms and trash bags and get our community prepared for winter. Remember, brick sidewalks and cobblestone streets are positively dangerous on icy days when leaves and debris have been allowed to accumulate.

This year, sweeper trucks will be on the streets on Friday evening, November 15, to pre-clean before cars are moved to the alternate side. Then, on Saturday, November 16, we ask you to be a good citizen and sweep around your house and on your block. Remember to get those gutters cleared, as well as nearby walkways and alleys, before the city's sweeper trucks come back sometime between 8 a.m. and noon. And consider stepping up to the plate if you notice your neighbor is away or a rental property needs a little TLC. It's worth noting that because of city budget cuts, SHCA is picking up the bill of \$2,400 for the sweeper trucks this year.

Trash bags will be available — handed out by SHCA's Clean-Up Day volunteers — at the S. 5th Street SuperFresh, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Your bagged leaves and street litter (but no household trash) should be left by noon at intersections on Locust, Spruce, Pine, or Lombard Streets, where they cross the numbered streets. And let's not forget Three Bears Park!

Wherever posted, cars must be moved to the opposite side of the street after 6 p.m. on Friday night, or they could be ticketed on Saturday morning beginning at 8 a.m. Please note that to accommodate Saturday synagogue services, the 300, 400 and 500 blocks of both Spruce and Lombard Streets will be swept by 8:30 a.m. — leaving the south side of these streets available for congregants to park their cars.

All streets will be swept from Front to 8th and from Walnut to Lombard Streets (not including Walnut Street). There will be **no parking** on either side of the 300 and 400 blocks of Front Street, the 200 and 300 blocks of 2nd Street and Lawrence Court. Although "Other Side Parking" signs will generally read "from 6 p.m. Friday until 3 p.m. Saturday," Society Hill's Block Coordinators are encouraged to remove these signs as near to 1 p.m. as possible in order to permit cars to be moved back to their usual side of the street between 1 and 3 p.m. and prevent those cars from getting ticketed.

Coordinating this fall's Clean-Up Day are co-chairs Spencer Finch (specfinch2@hotmail.com) and Bob Curley (bobcurley@gmail.com). Call Spencer at 215-592-0536 or Bob at 215-592-4251 with any last-minute questions.



**Saturday,
November 16 is
Clean-Up Day!**

Clean-Up Day's Paper-Shredding and Electronic Recycling Services

SHCA is sponsoring paper-shredding and electronic recycling services on the November 16 Clean-Up Day. The shredding service is for the convenience of Society Hill residents only (sorry, no businesses). It is only for confidential materials; non-confidential papers should be recycled, not shredded.

- Services will be available in the St. Peter's School parking lot, at 3rd and Lombard Streets.
- Hours are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (or earlier if the truck reaches capacity).
- Only paper is accepted — no CDs or disks.
- Electronic recycling will take TVs, microwaves, computers — anything with a plug. **There will be a \$20 charge for each TV or computer monitor.**
- No large appliances like refrigerators or washing machines.

If you partake of these special services and are not yet an SHCA member, please consider joining our civic association — simply by filling out the form — either on page 35 of this newsletter or online at societyhillcivic.org. Any questions? Call 215-629-1288.



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GREEN RECYCLING

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Did you know that almost 75 percent of the nutrients a tree takes up during the growing season is stored in its leaves? These fallen leaves, plus our chipped holiday greens, represent a natural, organic source of nutrients for Philadelphia's landscaped spaces.

Leaf recycling

The Streets Department's 2013 Bagged Leaf and Recycling Program will begin on November 11 and will run through December 20. There will be curbside collection of bagged leaves for the entire city.

Be a part of this year's Bagged Leaf and Recycling Program, and get your friends, family and neighbors to join in. This united effort helps clear our streets of leaves and creates a second life for the collected material through composting. And it's a great way to help make Philadelphia the cleanest, greenest city in America!

Follow these steps to recycle your leaves:

- Leaves will only be collected in biodegradable paper bags.
- Set leaf bags curbside next to trash and recycling on your trash day.
- Don't mix trash or other recyclable materials with bagged leaves. This contaminates leaves and makes them unfit for recycling.
- Use as many bags as needed, maximum 40 pounds each.
- No collection will occur on a city holiday.

Questions? Call 311 or visit PhiladelphiaStreets.com/leaves.

Holiday tree recycling

Greenlimbs will collect holiday trees and greens again this year on Saturday, January 4, in front of Whole Foods Market, 929 South Street. The resulting mulch will be given a second life in various neighborhood parks, gardens and recreational centers.

Last year, Greenlimbs chipped 338 trees at this location and 2,000 throughout the city. This year, the goal is to collect and chip 500. Help start the New Year on a sustainable note!

For more information, visit greenlimbs.com or email treecycling@greenlimbs.com.



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Society Hill Office

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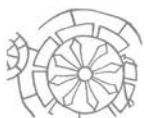
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Connect With Neighbors

Have you heard of Nextdoor.com? It's a free, private social network for you, your neighbors and your community. The mission: to foster a sense of community in our neighborhood.

People are using Nextdoor to:

- Quickly get the word out about a break-in.
- Organize a Neighborhood Watch Group.
- Track down a trustworthy babysitter.
- Find out who does the best paint job in town.
- Ask for help keeping an eye out for a lost dog.
- Find a new home for an outgrown bike.
- Finally, call that nice man down the street by his first name!



A Phoenix Rises on Dock Street

The Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy's Public Art Program recently joined Center City District and the Society Hill Towers to celebrate the rededication and reinstallation of *Phoenix Rising*. This sculpture by Emlen Etting was created in honor of former Mayor Richardson Dilworth and previously resided at Dilworth Plaza near City Hall. The event, hosted by Society Hill Towers, also recognized the 50th anniversary of the Towers.

Richardson Dilworth (1898-1974) was instrumental in the restoration and renewal of Center City and Society Hill. After his death in 1974, a memorial was commissioned to symbolize Dilworth's ideal of a renewed and vital city — a phoenix rising from the ashes.

Robert Greenbaum, President of the Towers, spoke of the appropriateness of placing the sculpture in front of the complex at the intersection of Dock Street and the 38th Parallel. He reminded the crowd that Society Hill Towers, designed by acclaimed architect I.M. Pei, was the cornerstone of the urban renewal efforts of Mayor Richardson Dilworth and urban planner Edmund Bacon.



Phoenix Rising in its new location on Dock Street.



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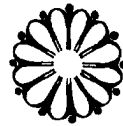
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ZONING AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

BY LORNA KATZ-LAWSON

Since the ZHP committee's last report in this publication, the Philadelphia Historic Commission took action on the following applications:

**600-602 Addison Street
(aka 601-603 Lombard Street)**

At the Philadelphia Historical Commission's (PHC) meeting, the applicant's plans had been modestly revised to accommodate the Architectural Review Committee's (ARC) recommendations. The large-scale expanses of glass had been broken down somewhat with additional mullions and muntins, and the sharply contrasting colors of the materials had been softened slightly.

At the PHC meeting, SHCA stated its support for the ARC recommendation and reiterated its opposition to the design, which disregards its context and is out of character with the Society Hill historic district. Against the wishes of near neighbors, including Mother Bethel Church, PHC approved the design, conditional on staff approval of placement of mechanical equipment on the roof, in addition to landscaping or other façade improvements to soften the appearance of the building.

252-256 South 3rd Street

PHC voted to support the ARC recommendation for denial of this application to replace the original, deteriorated, cast concrete bullnose-edged front steps with new granite square-edged steps. ARC believed the steps are a significant feature of the buildings and should be replicated, not redesigned. The three homeowners are working with the PHC staff to come up with a workable alternative to cast concrete, as they feel it is not durable enough compared to natural stone to warrant the cost involved for the construction project.

293 Locust Street

PHC disregarded the ARC recommendation to deny the legalization of new sliding doors for the I.M. Pei-designed townhouse listed as "highly significant" in the Society Hill Historic Register and visible from Locust Street. PHC accepted the testimony of the applicant's architects that no exact replica of the original doors could be acquired, a claim that was neither questioned nor substantiated by the ARC staff member who attended the meeting.

410 South Front Street

Excavation work to remove the former underground garage floor covering much of the site has been ongoing for the last few weeks. The owner reports that the slabs exceeded expectation in terms of depth, and what was expected to take

only a few weeks to complete would likely take longer. This is unwelcome news to both the near neighbors, as the noise impacts their quality of life, and the owner, who must endure more expense.

516 Cypress Street

Opposition to the approval of this project, based on a legal issue, is being pursued in the courts by eight homeowners from both Cypress and Delancey Streets. They would be negatively impacted if the construction were to be built as previously approved by L&I.

317 South 6th Street

The application proposes adding a fourth floor with two private roof decks for two duplex apartments. The building use would remain unchanged, but the intent is to convert the rental building to a condominium.

The house is flanked by two historic townhouses, both ranked "significant" on the SH Register, and the additional floor would impose negative environmental impact on those homes. The building already exceeds code limits for coverage and height. Near neighbors, SHCA and Councilman Squilla's office have all issued letters of opposition. The applicant's lawyer requested a continuance, which the neighbors and their attorneys agreed to. In the meantime, the proposal will be revised and submitted to PHC.

Ongoing Legislative Issues
Placement of gas meters and regulators

ZHP committee member Harry Schwartz wrote SHCA's response to the proposed legislation. Some small improvements have been made since the original bill was reviewed in April, but still too much authority is given to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to decide when exceptions can be made. SHCA's interest is to allow exception from placement of utility meters on the front façade of buildings in historic districts characterized by townhouses, such as Society Hill, where there is no option for sidewall locations.

2035 Plan for the Central District

The community steering committee, in which SHCA participates, received a presentation and hard copy of the final plan guiding development and allocation of public funding until 2035. Society Hill *per se* will see little change within its borders, but will be impacted by Penn's Landing development and new transportation loops around its border.

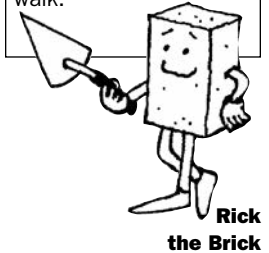

CHECK LIST

See a **Franklin Light** that's out? Call 311 to report it.

Turn on your porch lights after dark every night! You can help light the sidewalks and keep them safe.

See graffiti on public spaces in our neighborhood? Email our SHCA graffiti removal service at Todd@graffitiremovalexperts.com.

Fix the Brix is alive and well. For more info, contact Martha Levine at 215-629-0727 or marthalev@msn.com. Get a 40% reimbursement of your total bill up to \$300 when you level your front sidewalk.





All Gloria Dei's venerable trees remained standing in Hurricane Sandy, preserving the historic graves below.

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THIS OLD HOUSE

Winterizing Your Historic Home

Old Man Winter threatens to wreak havoc on your home with snowstorms, ice build-ups, broken pipes, mold and mildew breakouts and rodent invasions. Here are some suggestions to winterize your home.

Maintain your windows

Take these steps to protect your windows and guard against air infiltration:

- Maintain the exterior painted surfaces on your windows.
- Repair soft and rotten parts of the frame or sash.
- Make sure all window parts are fully operational.
- Install weatherstripping.
- Make sure sash locks bring the sashes tightly together.
- Maintain the caulking on your windows.

Install interior storm windows

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Disclaimer: We do not get any kickbacks for our recommendation. We do it only because we really, really like their interior storm windows, and we really, really believe they are the best option for historic wood windows. Really.

Insulate

Air moves naturally through a home by the “stack effect.” During the heating season, the warmer indoor air rises up through the building and escapes at the top either through open windows, ventilation openings or other forms of leakage. The rising warm air reduces the pressure in the base of the building, drawing cold air in through open doors, windows or other openings and leakage. This is where the majority of energy loss occurs, and where you need to focus your insulation efforts.

How to reduce air loss through the stack effect:

- Remove all old insulation from between the attic floor joists.
- Add dense pack, blown-in insulation between joists.
- Seal penetrations from wiring and plumbing.
- Use expanding foam insulation to seal all cracks and gaps.

Clean out your gutters & check your roof

- Make sure gutters and downspouts are securely attached.
- Clean any debris out of gutters and downspouts.
- Install ice dams under the gutter to prevent ice build-up.
- Check the roof for damaged or missing shingles, as well as flashing for leaks.
- Have any damaged components repaired or replaced promptly.

Know the designed snow load of the roof of your historic building and monitor heavy and/or wet snowfalls that may exceed that rating, especially if you have flat, low-pitched or already structurally compromised roofs.

Long-handled snow rakes are inexpensive and good to have on hand to clear your roof of any heavy snow accumulation.

Prevent pest invasion

To prevent a pest invasion, do this in the fall:

- Seal any cracks in the foundation.
- Block entry places such as: door sweeps, around plumbing, under wood framing, between foundations and the exterior cladding, beneath the roof eaves.
- Trim or remove foliage along the foundation to prevent rodent tunneling.
- Trim any close-hanging tree branches, which are squirrel bridges!



Experienced Father/Daughter preservation team Chuck Groshong and Danielle Groshong-Keperling own and operate Historic Restorations, a construction firm that specializes in historic buildings.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR READERS

Maintenance is one of the biggest ways you can make sure your historic home weathers the winter well. As a special offer for *Society Hill Reporter* readers, we'd like to offer the following maintenance resource:

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Use the four steps of maintenance programming: Assess, Plan, Maintain and Evaluate, to reduce deterioration and save money. Learn to set priorities, schedule work and to control the costs of maintaining your building, while preserving its historical significance and architectural character. Includes 10 worksheets and forms to copy and fill in. 20 illustrations.

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PHILLY FOOD LOVERS

BY KERI WHITE

Welcome, Serpico!

My cohort Claire Batten and I have been anticipating the opening of Serpico for months, and we were finally able to take our husbands out to dinner one late summer evening. We were eager to try this new, exciting addition to the Philly food scene — the collaboration of restaurateur Stephen Starr and brilliant James Beard award-winner, Chef Peter Serpico.

Our reservation was for 8:30 p.m. mid-week, and we were pleased to see that the place was packed. The ambiance is wonderful: the bar up front is inviting, built slightly lower than the traditional bar height, and it has a nice selection of specialty cocktails and craft libations. There is also a counter in the rear that looks into the open kitchen, providing dinner and entertainment.

We opted for a traditional table in the main dining area, but were intrigued by the counter seating. The other atmospheric element that warrants mention was the lighting: the overall space is slightly dark, but each table seems to have a light that provides sufficient illumination. The effect is quite nice, creating a sense of privacy at each table.

Our server was attentive without being overbearing. He was knowledgeable about the dishes and ingredients, and suggested that we order 10 items for the four of us. We took his advice.

In lieu of bread, Serpico delivers a rice paper sesame wafer, reminiscent of a tasty version of the host offered at a Catholic mass. In response to this observation, my husband joked, “If they offered *this* up every Sunday, I might convert.” The lettuce salad was excellent; the fresh tarragon gave it a wonderful zing of flavor, and the ingredients were exquisitely crisp. The tomato, bean and shellfish salad was interesting; we all agreed that the components were top-notch, and the salad easily could have stood on its own, even without the seafood.

Egg custard is a signature item for Chef Serpico. He conceptualizes American comfort food with Asian influences and flavors. The custard is a play on a Japanese egg dish cooked with a fish broth, but Serpico uses chicken broth instead, to invoke a more local profile. Chef Serpico is also intrigued with textures, so he plays with

soft consistencies and contrasts them with things like crispy potatoes and Sturgeon roe.

The hand-torn pasta was good: the noodles were perfectly cooked, the snail sausage had a pleasing kick, and the chicken skin added a welcome crispness. The Copes corn ravioli was complex with a multitude of flavors.

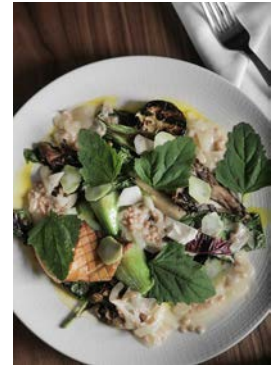
Lamb ribs were a universal hit at our table; they were tender and toothsome with an excellent flavor. The accompanying grilled onions with chili sauce were exquisite. The caper-brined trout was well prepared and supremely fresh. The dish came with smoked potato salad, blue crab, pepperoncini, trout roe and chive oil.

Also successful was the duck breast, served rare with honey, roasted carrots, coriander, malt vinegar and pickled radish. Our husbands declared it the best duck they’d ever eaten!

For dessert, we sampled the apple cake with burnt-apple sauce, brown butter, vanilla ice cream and caramel; and the rocky road chocolate pudding with marshmallow and salted candied walnuts. They were unanimously acclaimed. The blend of textures and flavors (creamy, crunchy, gooey, salty, sweet, chocolatey, fruity) provided all a dessert should be and then some.

We loved the ambiance, the ambitious menu, top-notch ingredients and the extremely talented chef. Even concerning the dishes that weren’t our favorites, we recognized — and applauded — the quality and the creativity that went into them. And we absolutely adore the fact that Stephen Starr and Peter Serpico have chosen South Street.

Welcome, Serpico. We wish you great success!



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EXPLORING THE CITY

BY JIM MURPHY

The Philadelphia History Museum at the Atwater Kent

One of the most interesting, engaging and thought-provoking museums I have visited.

When I was young, I visited the Atwater Kent Museum and was fascinated by the toys, drawings of the city and Philadelphia objects on display.

But I don't recall ever going again.

And that's a problem for a small museum like the renamed Philadelphia Museum at the Atwater Kent. It needs repeat visitors to stay open and thrive.

So, the newly named museum, which reopened in September 2012 and has over 100,000 items in its vast collection, now will change exhibits several times a year.

I hope this approach works. The museum, located in a historic, 1925 Greek revival building designed by John Haviland, is a treasure trove. It's one of the most interesting, engaging and thought-provoking museums I have visited.

Why? The museum pokes and prods you ... and pushes you to become a better observer.

How to view a portrait

You'll especially see this in Faces to Facebook, the portrait gallery on the second floor. Signs there suggest seven ways to look for clues in the paintings. Among them: focusing on the pose, clothing, hands, person, setting, relationship and objects. (That's good advice for viewing items in the rest of the museum, too.)

The portrait subjects include notables like George Washington, William Penn and Charles Willson Peale, in addition to lesser-known subjects. An unusual painting of Reverend William Hogan, a controversial excommunicated pastor of St. Mary's Parish, shows him wearing dark glasses. I'm not sure why.

Overall, the museum tells a no-holds-barred story in its various galleries. It displays and juxtaposes some 400 items for maximum effect and contrast. For example, in one exhibit, you'll see a brass compass, silver teapot and redware tankard alongside repugnant iron slave shackles.

In another section, you view the original wampum belt presented by the Lenni Lenape Indians to William Penn in 1682, a stone boundary marker for the Mason Dixon line (which came to be the dividing line between the North and the South in the Civil War) and a slave harness with a bell — all displayed close by.

A quick orientation:

On the first floor is "the world's largest map of Philadelphia." You can walk from center city to the suburbs in seconds, and get a birds-eye view of the entire area. It's fun and educational for children and adults alike.

There's also a community-based gallery near the front door. On my first visit, an exhibit by Energy Coordinating Agency about energy use in row houses was so flat that the space seemed wasted.

On my second visit, Private Lives in Public Spaces: Bringing Philadelphia's LGBT History Out in the Open, presented by the William Way Community Center, was a huge improvement. The exhibit included videos, photos, display cases with uniforms and buttons, places for comments and more. It brought the LGBT struggle to life. Next up: Over 25 years of The Nutcracker in Philadelphia.

City Stories, also on the ground floor, presents an interesting look at Philadelphia's history, warts and all, from 1682 to the present.

Upstairs, besides Face to Facebook, is The Power of Objects and rotating exhibits titled Played in Philadelphia and Made in Philadelphia.

There I saw Phillies Fandemonium, a look at baseball through the eyes of Phillies' fans, and Craft Brewing: It's a Beer Revolution, which celebrates local brewers and features a large color photo mural of the bar at McGillin's Olde Ale House.

Replacing them this fall will be displays of Philadelphia cartoons, by former Pulitzer Prize-winning *Inquirer* editorial cartoonist Tony Auth, and presentation silver, respectively. Auth is now serving as the first Digital Artist in Residence at WHYY's NewsWorks.org.

My favorite quotation at Atwater Kent:

"When I found I had crossed the [Mason Dixon] line, I looked at my hands to see if I were the same person ... the sun came like gold through the tree and over the field and I felt like I was in heaven."

— Harriet Tubman, who escaped from the slave state of Maryland to Philadelphia in 1849.



Front of the Philadelphia History Museum.



Wampum belt, stone marker for the Mason Dixon Line and a slave harness with bell.

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ON OUR SHELF

BY RICHARD DE WYNGAERT

Independent bookstore owner Richard De Wyngaert offers a list of recently published books that he finds particularly compelling. With the holiday season approaching, they would make perfect gifts for the readers on your list.

Children's Illustrated Books

Henri's Scissors by Jeanette Winter

In her latest picture-book biography, children's author Jeanette Winter introduces us to the magical world of Henri Matisse and his magnificent, wonderfully conceived paper cutouts. The book quickly takes us through Matisse's early years and a formative period of deep introspection, during which he decided to abandon law and pursue a career as an artist. Winter eventually focuses on Matisse's later years when, stricken by a serious illness, Matisse is forced to work from a wheelchair. He plumbs new depths and explores exciting, new ways to create that result in enormous, breathtaking cutouts. Beautiful and delightful! Suggested for grades K-3.



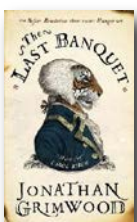
Locomotive by Brian Floca

All aboard! Brian Floca, author of *Moonshot*, has written a thorough and engaging exploration of the formation of America's early railroads. This beautifully illustrated book takes parents and kids on a powerful, vivid journey to experience the wonder of the brand-new transcontinental railroad that began in 1869. The speed, strength, thrill and fundamental way this promised to transform the country comes alive. The information-packed introduction and conclusion will keep older readers busy, while the beautiful landscapes and depictions of life on the train will fascinate younger ones.

Kids and Young Adult

Ghost Hawk by Susan Cooper

Newbury medalist Susan Cooper writes a powerful, elegant, historical fantasy set in 17th-century New England. The adventure story follows two young boys: Little Hawk, a member of the Pokanoket Tribe, and John Wakely, an English settler. Through their stories, readers experience the beginning stages and moral shortcomings of our young nation, as well as the value of friendship, courage and independent thinking. This book is for readers in grade 5 and beyond, and is written with striking, imaginative power.

Adult Fiction

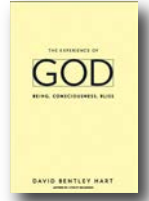
The Last Banquet by Jonathan Grimwood

Set in 18th-century France, near the climax of the French Revolution, *The Last Banquet* follows Jean-Marie d'Aumont (orphan, soldier, diplomat, spy, lover and chef) and his quest to know the world through its many and marvelous flavors. While passionate love, political intrigue and international adventure provide a framework, the compelling story ultimately is rooted in a single obsession: the pursuit of the perfect taste.

Adult Non-Fiction

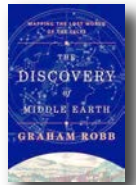
The Experience of God: Being, Consciousness, Bliss by David Bentley Hart

Examining Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism, David Bentley Hart — one of the most forceful and respected theologians of our time — finds common ground in the “moments of being, consciousness and bliss.” He uses these universal experiences and a powerful philosophical mind to construct an argument for the existence of God, and reflects upon human experiences of the divine.



The Discovery of Middle Earth: Mapping the Lost World of the Celts by Graham Robb

Robb, author of *The Discovery of France*, has written another masterpiece, one that questions much of what we assume to know about the formation of early Europe. Fifty generations ago, the Celtic world stretched from the Black Sea to Ireland and Scotland. Their civilization produced some of the finest artistic and scientific masterpieces of the ancient world. But in 58 BC, Caesar marched over the Alps, bringing slavery and genocide to Western Europe. Within eight years the Celts were annihilated, and in 100 years the Romans had overrun Britain. This remarkable and ambitious book reveals the ancient secrets of the Celts, the enduring significance of Druid science, the spread of Christianity and the birth of Modern Europe.

**Art and Photography**

Hoop by Robin Layton

Absolutely stunning! From rickety street courts to rural barnyards to the White House basketball court, Robin Layton, a photojournalist for the past 25 years, has created a visual love letter to basketball and its central prop — the hoop. The photographs are amazing in their breadth of emotion, dreams and the passage of time they poignantly convey. There are many photographs of the childhood hoops of basketball's heroes past and present, as well as quotations about the significance of the sport and particular hoops. Robin Layton has created a lyrical portrait of America's ballet on asphalt and concrete, one that's sure to enrapture the basketball-loving aesthete on your list.



Richard de Wyngaert is owner of **Head House Books**, 619 S. 2nd Street. Comments may be directed to radewyngaert@headhousebooks.com. When ordered through Head House Books, **20 percent of the proceeds** of the sale price of any books cited in this review **will be donated to SHCA**. Please mention the *Reporter* when purchasing.

FINDING JUST THE RIGHT BOOK

BY JILLIAN MORENO

The Pleasures of Independent Bookstores

Stepping into an independent bookstore is a calm and welcoming experience, tinged with quiet excitement. There is nothing like a small bookstore, whose contents are chosen with genuine care, to open up the mind. And best of all, there's no dizzying cascade of bargain books or "cookies" and algorithms shadowing your cursor. Readers are encouraged to explore freely, leading to the discovery of new books and authors. This discovery is framed by a trust that every item on the shelves has been put there with a purpose, insuring that the customer will leave with just the right book.

Our community's only independent bookstore, Head House Books, provides this experience. Readers of all ages come through the door excited by the possibilities. Many have no specific title in mind, taking time to page through scores of unfamiliar titles, meeting new authors along the way.

Our community recognizes the value of books and cherishes the reading experience. This infectious appreciation instills a love in even the youngest customer. Excited kids frequently run through the front door to the carpeted children's area, where they list what they've previously read, pull the titles that comforted them, and share what they want to read next. These children are lifetime readers in the making.

Editor's note: Remember, when you shop at an independently owned business, the entire community benefits. Spend \$100 and \$68 remains in the community. Local businesses create higher-paying jobs for our neighbors. Environmentally, buying local means less packaging, less transportation and a smaller carbon footprint. More independents means more choice, more diversity and a truly unique community. Local retailers are your friends and neighbors. Support them and they'll support you!

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THE JEWISH QUARTER OF PHILADELPHIA

PART FOUR IN A SERIES BY SANDY ROTHMAN

Comfort, Support and Interest-Free Loans

Bubba and Zayda Cling to the Old World

Recently I decided to check out the neighborhood where my son Alexander's great-great-grandmother lived at the time of the 1910 Federal Census. As I headed south on 4th Street, I had the curious sensation of moving forward in space, but traveling backward in time. This feeling intensified as I passed down streets that still retained impressions of a way of life that Alexander's paternal ancestors experienced when they settled in the area known as the Jewish Quarter of Philadelphia. Fabric Row, for instance, reminded me that all of his *zaydas* (Louis Fisher, Abram Trachtenberg, Emanuel Bauman and Samuel Rothman) had been tailors 100 years ago and most likely frequented some of the dry goods shops still standing today.

Landsleit shuls

Immigrants settled in particular neighborhoods for good reasons, and this fact truly hit home for me when I learned about the *landsleit shul* ("hometown" synagogue) that had once stood around the corner from Bubba Rachel's house on South Leithgow Street. It was called Otik Moliver, and had congregants from Rachel's hometown of Otik, Bessarabia, as well as her husband's village, Mohyliv Podilski, which was located on the opposite bank of the Dniester River.

When Louis Fisher and his countrymen arrived in Philadelphia, they chose not to join the established synagogues in the city, because the gap between the religious cultures was simply too wide. Instead, they formed their own "synagogue-communities." There were dozens of these *landsleit shuls* throughout the Jewish Quarter, often in rented row houses or storefronts. By definition, these institutions looked back to the customs and rituals of the Old World, and were as much intended to provide solace and social support as to fulfill religious obligations. For all intents and purposes, these synagogues were a substitute for the community the immigrants had left behind.

The first *shuls* the Eastern European immigrants established were multipurpose. They were houses of learning, worship and assembly, as well as courts of justice, all rolled into one. These "hometown" synagogues provided a variety of social services for their congregants, including visits and monetary aid to the sick, burial plots for the impoverished, support for widows with children and, in some cases, interest-free loans to those wishing to start businesses.

As it turned out, Bubba Rachel and her family really needed this safety net. Historical documents show that her father, Louis Fisher, had already buried a wife and small daughter during his 10 years in Philadelphia. Rachel had lost a husband six months before the 1910 census was taken. And I knew, sadly, that less than a year would pass between that census and Louis being laid to rest.

But my sharp eyes also noticed that the boarder living with the Fisher family was none other than young Samuel Rothman. Happily, in a short time Sam would marry Rachel's teenage daughter, Eva, and add to the gene pool that would eventually produce my son. The community of the Otik Moliver would have cause to celebrate, as well as to mourn.

Row house synagogues

On a crisp autumn morning, I peeked curiously through the open door of the Vilna *shul* at 509 Pine Street, the sole surviving row-house synagogue in Society Hill. This charming little jewel was initially intended to provide a place where people from Vilna, Lithuania, could gather for fellowship and prayer. In time, membership was extended to all *litva* (Lithuanian) Jews. Today, all practicing Jews are welcome.

The original interior boasts a mural painted by Morris Balk, the Quarters' own Michelangelo. In addition, there's a horseshoe-shaped women's balcony, an enormous brass chandelier, lovely stained-glass windows and a carved wooden Torah ark guarded by large lions that symbolize strength. Rabbi Menachem Schmidt told me that many a bar mitzvah boy has trembled under the stern gaze of their red, glowing light-bulb eyes!

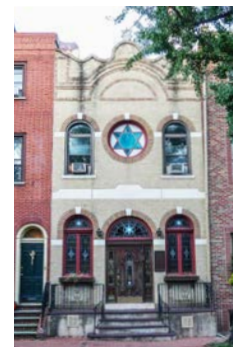
Just outside of our neighborhood, at 2015 South 4th Street, resides Congregation Shivei Yeshuron Ezras Israel, affectionately called the Little *Shul*. It and the Vilna *shul* are the last two row-house synagogues in Philadelphia. Visit vimeo.com/69647942 and learn more about the *Little Shul's* history.

Change comes to the quarter

If the immigrants to the Jewish Quarter established "synagogue-communities" with neighbors from the Old World, their children, as they assimilated, would build community-wide synagogues that looked outward to New World influences. In the next issue, I will focus on B'nai Abraham, Keshet Israel and the Society Hill Synagogue.



Bubba Rachel with daughter Eva Rothman



Vilna Congregation, 509 Pine Street, is Society Hill's last row house synagogue.

Note:

To find out more about the evolution of synagogues in America, read David Kaufman's *Shul with a Pool: The "synagogue-center" in American Jewish History*.

OUT AND ABOUT

Fall: Festivities, Foliage & Flowers

Autumn in Society Hill is a special time of the year. It seems everything is bursting with its final beauty before we settle down to a long, cold winter. As poet William Cullen Bryant tells us,

“Autumn ... the year’s last, loveliest smile.”



In early October, more than 90 neighbors from the 500 blocks of Manning, Spruce, Cypress and Delancey Streets enjoyed an afternoon of beautiful weather, fellowship and delicious food and drinks at 519 Cypress Street.



OUT AND ABOUT

Fall: Festivities, Foliage & Flowers



Thanks to Bonnie Halda for the colorful fall photos.

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SOUTH STREET HEADHOUSE DISTRICT

BY CLAIRE BATTEN

Fourth Friday on 4th Street

It's five o'clock on a fall Friday evening. But it's not just any Friday. It's **Fourth Friday**, which means that the merchants on 4th Street from Lombard to Queen Streets are preparing for the evening ahead. They are frenetically setting up sidewalk tables and decorating chalkboard easels for artisan jewelers and craftsmen. The band is setting up; the food trucks, including the iconic **Hot Diggity** and **Lil' Pop Shop**, are ready to rock. Fourth Friday is here!

And what a change of pace from earlier this year, when a fire swept through **Jack B's Fabric** store, just south of Fitzwater, damaging a number of neighboring businesses, including **Moon & Arrow**. Merchants learned that in a situation like this, you've just gotta "pick yourself up, dust yourself off and start all over again." And that's what Jack B did, opening up across the street, as did Moon & Arrow, the vintage and home design store, now back at its original location at 754 South 4th Street.

"There's a whole lot of energy here," says Mary Harvey, co-owner of **Urban Princess Boutique**, which recently opened in a great new location at 620 South 4th Street. "Fabric Row is really becoming a shopping destination. We have boutiques for both men and women, vintage shops and artisans galore."

Go see for yourself. Things have changed. There are still plenty of fabric stores anchoring this community, but the mix has diversified. You'll find established merchants such as **Juju Salon & Organics** (the salon was recently recognized in the Be Well Philly Awards —

the *Best of Philly* equivalent for spa services.) But don't forget there's also **Follicle and Salon** on 4th. The bicycle stores are thriving, **Famous 4th Street Delicatessen** enjoys a loyal following, and there are now more clothing stores and boutiques. It's becoming, dare I say, positively trendy. For example, a new menswear store, **Armour Philadelphia**, is poised to open next to Famous, just south of Bainbridge.

Don't forget to check out **Bus Stop Boutique**, which, along with **Benjamin Lovell** on South Street, has put this business district on the map among fashionistas and shoe fetishists. I must admit, shoes and bags are my weakness! Bus Stop's owner Elena Brennan scours Europe and the U.S. for the hottest shoe designs. Her predictions for this holiday season: "Jewel tones, but softer colors than in previous years." We also spotted lots of real and faux wooden stacked heels and mixed textures, including suede, fabrics and extremely soft leathers. (Sorry, I'm getting carried away.)

"In terms of something special, there is truly something on 4th Street for every taste and budget. The holiday season will be on us before we know it, so when you're looking for gifts, remember we're within walking distance of Society Hill," says Mike Harris, of the South Street Headhouse District.



Fourth Friday fun and entertainment.

Keen to find out more about future Fourth Friday events and happenings on 4th Street? Check out Fabric Row on Facebook or the South Street Headhouse District's own website at www.southstreet.com.

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SAFE AND SOUND IN SOCIETY HILL

BY MARILYN APPEL

Yes, Be Alarmed!

Alarm Systems: Hearing that a neighbor has been burglarized is sad and frightening. We think and hope that we live in a safe neighborhood, and for the most part, we do. But we are just as vulnerable as anyone else. Do you have an alarm system? Many of you have one and don't use it. An alarm system is not just for when you go on a trip; it's for every time you leave the house and for when you don't. Get used to it! Put it on when you go to the Super Fresh, put it on when you go to bed, put it on when you go out to eat. Engage it all the time. You don't want to be burglarized, and, most importantly, you don't want someone entering your house when you are sleeping. You bought it for a purpose, now use it to keep everyone in your family safe. Do it, no excuses!



Abandoned Bikes: There's been an abandoned, possibly stolen, bike in front of our house for almost four months. We have heard from our Parking Enforcement Officer that there are abandoned bikes are all over the neighborhood,

as well as in many other areas of the city. We have called 311 a number of times to no avail. (We trip over the bike every time we get out of our car.) We have learned, only recently, that abandoned bikes will be picked up twice a year — spring and early fall. We're still waiting! If you have a bike in front of your house that's been there for a long time, report it to 311. Maybe if they hear from enough of us, we'll get some action.

Lighting, etc: I know you're tired of hearing this, but it's much safer in the neighborhood when lots of lights are on from dusk to dawn. It's even better when you have additional motion sensor lights, especially in the back of your house. Also, remember that walking around talking on your cell phone, or even just carrying it in your hand (waiting for the most important call or text of your life) makes you a target, day and night.

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Exercise and Socialize

Don't let the chilly days of late fall and early winter keep you from joining one (or both) of our neighborhood walking programs. Lace up, bundle up and hit the pavement!

The **Walkie/Talkies** meet at Three Bears Park (Delancy Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets) on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:15 a.m. for a one-hour stroll throughout our historic community. Anyone is most welcome to participate in this non-stressful, one-hour exercise and socialize program.

Philly Is Walking in the Park! meets at the fountain in the center of Washington Square (6th and Locust Streets) at 8 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for a half-hour, self-paced walk through our historic, beautiful park, led by neighbor Dr. Lisa Unger. All are invited to join us!



"Philly Is Walking In The Park!" gathers monthly after its walk for a CommuniTEA such as the one pictured at Talula's Daily, 208 West Washington Square, which featured a wonderful presentation by John J. Stern, M.D., Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases, Pennsylvania Hospital, on the topic "Prevent the Flu."



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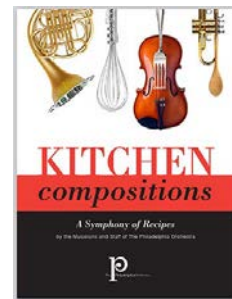

2038 Locust Street
215-772-1121
www.IrinaSigal.com

Kitchen Compositions

Kitchen Compositions: A Symphony of Recipes

by the Musicians and Staff of the Philadelphia Orchestra

This cookbook has been in development for over three years, but it is finally going to be printed and ready for Christmas and Chanukah gifts. "We have about 150 recipes, each with a color photo and lots of pictures of the orchestra, instruments and more," says editor Marilyn Appel, who has tested every recipe in her Spruce Street townhouse's state-of-the-art kitchen.




There is an introduction by Philly's own Iron Chef, restaurateur Jose Garces, who's about to open a new place, called Volver, in the Kimmel Center.

The cookbook will have a hard cover, and pages will be washable. Those orchestra members and staff who contributed their recipes came out as stars. The recipes are easy to make, varied and exceptionally delicious. You will want copies for yourself and for gifts. The cookbook will sell for \$35, but a pre-printing price gives you \$5 off. To order, call Marilyn Appel at 215-922-2626. You'll love it! A check or money order will reserve your copies.

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A BLAST AT THE PHYSICK HOUSE

BY MARTHA LEVINE

Really Raising the Roof!

To kick off a fundraising campaign to restore its deteriorating 50-year-old roof, the Physick House committee hosted a Wine and Beer Tasting Party exclusively for Society Hill neighbors. The goal of the party was twofold: first, to introduce and reacquaint our neighbors with this magnificent 18th-century Federal house; and, secondly, to have a great time.

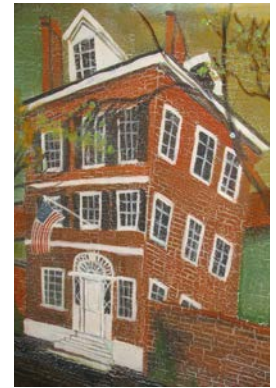
The house was packed, including many neighbors who had never been inside the building, even though it is right in our midst. Once inside, many were awed by the beauty and grandeur of the interior.

Refreshments were plentiful. Wine experts poured six selected fine wines, both Old World and New World vintages. Dock Street Brewery provided four kegs and served a variety of their

crafted beer and ale. These spirits were paired with light foods chosen to specially complement the beverages. A jazz trio added to the convivial ambiance.

Physick House is named after its most famous inhabitant, Dr. Philip Syng Physick. This “Father of American Surgery” lived here from 1815 until his death in 1837. In the house, there is a special room displaying his medical instruments. It’s the only free-standing Federal town house remaining in Society Hill today, and is now a museum house open to visitors on Thursdays through Sundays, from noon to 5 p.m. For more information on the house and Dr. Physick, visit philalandmarks.org.

The *Restore the Roof* campaign is just beginning, and it will take at least one year to raise \$125,000. Stay tuned for updates.



The Physick House



Neighbor David Rosen and site manager Del Connor



Danny from Dock Street Brewery with two party guests



Physick House co-chair, Hans Bombeck, with Landmarks exec. dir. Jonathan Burton

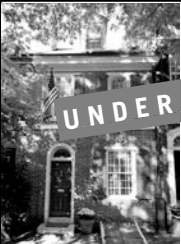


SHCA board member Dan Horowitz, center, with friends



Party committee members Jim Miller, Barbara McLenahan, Cherry Bombeck and Larry Petusky. Not pictured: Hans Bombeck, Martha Levine, Barbara McLenahan, Jim Miller, Linda Seyda, Donna Thomas

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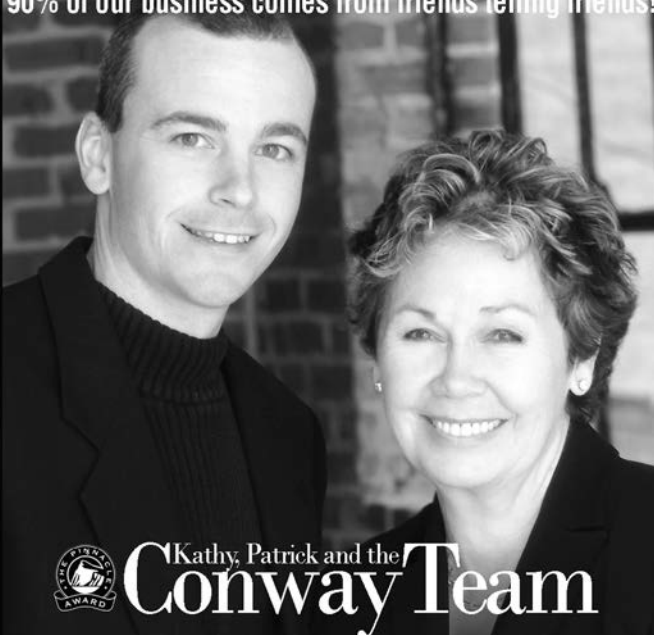
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1036 S. Randolph Street \$350,000
Fabulous 3BD/2BA home boasting wide open living space, decked-in yard with planters, trees + ivy, and a nice sized deck, also includes 1-car parking on a beautifully landscaped garden lot!

105 S. 12th Street 503 \$437,900
Luxurious 1BD/1BA condo unit boasting 6 extra-large windows, high ceilings, granite + stainless kitchen with drop down sushi bar, and Brazilian Cherry hardwood floors. This building has a doorman, fitness center, and has 1-year free parking in a garage located just across the street!

338 S. 3rd Street \$519,000
Warm and handsome 2BD/2BA home offering den, wood burning fireplace, and sun deck, also boasting newer stainless and Corian kitchen and lovely master bedroom suite!


627 Lombard Street \$550,000
Great investment opportunity to own a rarely offered Society Hill duplex! 1st flr unit boasts 2BD/1BA, Pergo floors, eat-in kitchen, and door to private red brick yard with fence; 2nd flr is bi-level and features 2BD/1BA with hardwood floors, large sundeck, beautifully landscaped yard. Basement has common access.

333 Lawrence \$925,000
Highly coveted 3BD/2.5BA home featuring 3 historic trinities, 1 year pre-paid parking, 7 working fireplaces, and 2 finished basements, beautifully designed with gorgeous original hardwood floors, custom floors, and an award winning private garden.



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A MUST-SEE GARDEN

Powel Garden is a First-Place Winner

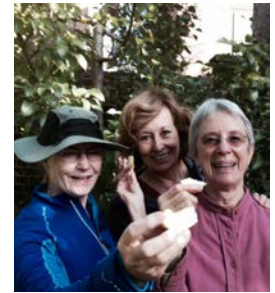
The Powel House garden volunteers have had a great year, topped by a Volunteer Flower Garden First-Place ribbon at the annual Philadelphia Horticultural Society contest. The winning “Mrs. Hamilton Garden,” reclaimed three years ago from a strip of invasive ivy, is an evergreen, almost ever-blooming border of historically appropriate hellebores, meadow rue, columbines, astilbes, Japanese anemones and late fall-blooming camellias. It was created in honor of Dorrance Hamilton, a long-time Powel House committee member.

The Garden Clubs of America selected the garden as a must-see during their 100th anniversary celebration in Philadelphia, the city of their founding. The busloads of women received a garden map with historic highlights. For example, did you know that local Native Americans boiled the buds of the native red bud tree as a spring vegetable?

For the gardeners themselves, all neighborhood volunteers (several with Ph.D.s in disciplines

vastly dissimilar to gardening), the year’s real payoff was a pear — a single Lady Petre pear — saved from the marauding squirrels by using screening and Mylar scare tapes.

The Lady Petre pear tree, grafted from the budwood of a 200-year pear tree that Samuel Powel himself is said to have planted, is one of a mere handful of known Lady Petre pears in the world. All are descended from seeds that the young widow of one of Bartram’s aristocratic English correspondents sent him with a note declaring it to be the best pear she had ever tasted.



Above: Powel volunteers holding a pear, which they protected from marauding squirrels, in front of the historic pear tree.



Left: The First-Place winning Mrs. Hamilton Garden.

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Raw space that provides an opportunity to create a custom home overlooking Independence Hall—customize your own floor plan and finishes! 3,068 sf
\$1,150,000



LOVE YOUR MURAL, LOVE YOUR PARK

BY LAUREL LANDAU

Starr Garden Mural

Starr Garden, 600 Lombard Street, is fortunate to be the site of a Philadelphia Mural Arts Program mural which is being painted on their Rec Center. It's vibrant and colorful, depicting nature and playfulness. The work incorporates flowers, butterflies and squirrels (even the black one seen often at Starr Garden), using bold geometric painted shapes and glass mosaic tiles.

Designed by artist Delia King, with input from the community at several interactive meetings, it's nearing completion. Come check it out!

And please join us on Saturday, November 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. as we participate in the citywide Love Your Park Day. We will be collecting leaves and trash, and planting daffodils.

If you would like to be involved in our revitalization efforts or join our email distribution list, please send an email indicating your interest to StarrGardenNeighbors@gmail.com.

Starr Garden volunteers, under the direction of artist Delia King, work on Rec Center mural.



GOINGS ON AT MCCALL

Principal Rose ROCKS!



Rose Rock

SHCA extends a warm welcome to Principal Rose Rock, who joined McCall School in September.

Rose brings a broad skill set to her new role. She has experience as both an educator and administrative leader within the School District of Philadelphia.

In addition, she has professional experience in the private sector, spending many successful years with AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals.

On a personal note, Rose is used to being around children, as she has nine siblings! She is married and the mother of two grown children and one teenager. Rose loves running, coaching boys basketball and cooking — especially with chocolate. This dynamic woman loves her job and says, "When you're following your life's purpose, you know it."



People Helping People Foundation, in partnership with Washington Square West and Society Hill Civic Associations and the McCall Home and School Association, rolled up their sleeves to get McCall School ready to open in September. About 130 volunteers, including Senator Larry Farnese, State Representative Mike O'Brien, Councilman Mark Squilla and representatives from the office of State Representative Brian Sims, accomplished a variety of tasks, including installing a new kitchen in the teachers' lounge.

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227 S. 6TH STREET



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Two bedroom plus den, three and a half bathroom showplace overlooking Washington Square and offering southern exposure. The condominium has a Joanne Hudson kitchen, designer bathrooms, lavish master suite and wonderful entertaining and living space. 3510 sf
\$3,500,000

Sun-soaked Three Bedroom Plus Study/Library

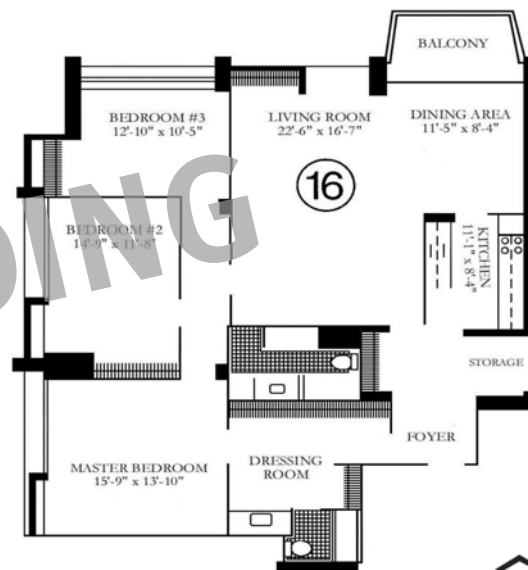
Sun-soaked three bedroom plus study/library, two and a half bathroom residence overlooking Washington Square with open floor plan, chef's kitchen, grand master suite and restored original building details throughout. 2716 sf
\$1,695,000

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Three Bedroom With Magnificent Views

Three bedroom, two bathroom residence on the penthouse floor of The Hopkinson House featuring magnificent views of Washington Square and sweeping views from the balcony of the Delaware River, Benjamin Franklin Bridge and Center City skyline. The home offers an open floor plan with generous living and entertaining space. 1700 sf
\$695,000



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 20

SHCA Board Meeting
6:00 p.m. Great Court
McClelland Conference Room
SHCA General Meeting
7:30 p.m. Zubrow Auditorium
Pennsylvania Hospital
8th & Spruce Streets

Through February 2014

The Philadelphia History Museum
15 South 7th Street, is presenting these three new exhibitions, plus an array of programs and special events throughout the fall to celebrate the first anniversary of its reopening. See page 15 to read more about the museum.

AUTHentic Philly:
Tony Auth's Cartoons of Philadelphia
Visitors can explore editorial and political cartoons drawn for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* from 1972 to 2013, interact with digital elements highlighting Auth's work today and create their own cartoons for display.

Gifts that Gleam: Stories in Silver
Explore how silver has been used for over three hundred years to recognize achievement, mark important events in individual lives and express affection and admiration for individuals and deeds.

Behind the Scenes of the "Nutcracker"
Part of a citywide celebration of 50 years of the Pennsylvania Ballet in Philadelphia. Visitors can experience the magic of creating a live performance and listen to the stories of Philadelphians who have brought the show to the stage over the past five decades.

The Philadelphia History Museum
15 South 7th Street
215-685-4830
philadelphiahistory.org



Through the End of 2013
Capture the Moment:
Pulitzer Prize-winning Photographs
A new exhibit that showcases more than 150 Pulitzer Prize-winning photographs, laying out iconic images from the Joe Rosenthal photo of U.S. Marines raising an American flag in Iwo Jima to the Kevin Carter photo of a Sudanese child so weakened by hunger that a vulture is seen lurking in the background.

The National Constitution Center
525 Arch Street, constitutioncenter.org

November 14 - December 31, 4 - 8 p.m.
Franklin Square's Electrical Spectacle: A Holiday Light Show

Celebrate the holiday season in grand style with holiday music playing on the Parx Liberty Carousel, warming stations in Philly Mini Golf and seasonal fare. Eight shows will run each night, with the first one at 4:30 p.m. and final show at 8 p.m. Special attractions, guests and holiday traditions including Hannukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa will all add to the celebration.

Tuesday, December 31, 3 - 6 p.m.
Kids' New Year's Eve Countdown
A family-friendly version of the famous New Year's Eve celebration with a dropping "square" in lieu of the famous ball. Enjoy music and crafts beginning at 3 p.m. on December 31 in Franklin Square. The event culminates with an exciting countdown to 6 p.m. with the lowering of the New Year's Eve Square from its perch high above SquareBurger. Guests have a great view of the Penn's Landing 6 p.m. fireworks from the Square. Kids can enjoy dancing and music in the Pavilion in Franklin Square after the fireworks.

Franklin Square, 6th & Race Streets
215-629-4026
www.historicphiladelphia.org

November 29 - March 2
Blue Cross RiverRink
Blue Cross RiverRink celebrates its 20th anniversary in style. As the city's only regulation-size, outdoor skating facility, the Blue Cross RiverRink offers a truly classic winter tradition that everyone can enjoy. For more information on the Blue Cross RiverRink and this year's special activities, please contact Emma Fried-Cassorla at efried-cassorla@drwc.org.

Blue Cross RiverRink
at Penn's Landing
101 S. Columbus Blvd
www.riverrink.com



November 4 - 22
Monday - Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sunday 12 - 6 p.m.

The Fairmount Park Holiday Gingerbread House Display
Back for a third year! The entire family will enjoy these 13 deliciously magnificent gingerbread houses handcrafted by Philadelphia chefs and modeled after Fairmount Park historic sites. Free and open to the public.

The Shops at Liberty Place
1625 Chestnut Street
shopsatliberty.com/events

December 5 - 15
Historic Houses of Fairmount Park Holiday Tours
For the first time in five years, Strawberry Mansion and Cedar Grove will be included in the Holiday House Tours. The tours will feature six of the park's treasured charms — Cedar Grove, Mount Pleasant, Laurel Hill, Lemon Hill, Strawberry Mansion and Woodford Mansion — festively decorated to create a stunning holiday experience. All information, including online purchase of trolley tour tickets, can be found at www.parkcharms.com.

IN MEMORIAM

We are sad to announce that neighbor Sandra Shaber died on August 9 at age 77. Sandra was all about balance — a world traveler who never forgot her Midwest roots and values; a career achiever who put home and family first; a compassionate yet tough-minded, politically engaged liberal; a fierce competitor and trusted collaborator; a pioneering feminist who made a fashion statement; an intellectual who loved spy novels; a discerning gourmand with a taste for Philly cheesesteaks.

This exceptional woman got a B.A. and M.F.A. from Ohio State University and her Ph.D. from

the University of Pennsylvania. She was the go-to authority on consumer economics, regularly quoted and interviewed in the business press and media. Sandra retired early to travel extensively, pursue cultural interests, read voraciously and actively participate in the Philadelphia Free Library Pepper Society and Foreign Policy Research Institute.

Sandra leaves behind her husband, Gary; children, Ruth and Steven; granddaughters Hannah, Maddy and Allison; and brothers, Gary and Allan. Donations in her name can be made to the Free Library of Philadelphia.



Sandra Shaber

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Bright and cheerful one bedroom on a high floor boasting dramatic city views, wood floors, updated kitchen and bathroom and great closet space. 712 sf
\$250,000

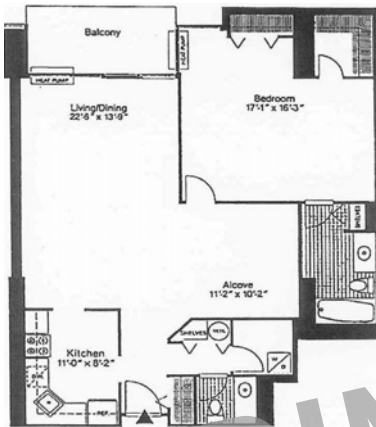


Corner One Bedroom + Den with Amazing River Views

Seamlessly combined home with one bedroom plus a den and two baths on a high floor with panoramic river and city views and a fantastic master suite. 1325 sf
\$499,900

Allan Domb Real Estate Presents Independence Place

233-241 S. 6TH STREET



Custom One Bedroom with Alcove

Completely renovated and customized one bedroom plus alcove, with one and a half baths, open Bulthaup kitchen, marble baths, hardwood floors, private balcony and built-in office. 1118 sf
\$525,000



IP Bldg 1 • Plan G

Beautifully Appointed Two Bedroom Residence

Two bedroom, two bathroom with balcony, open and updated kitchen, renovated bathrooms and hardwood floors. 1173 sf
\$559,900

PENDING



MEMBERSHIP

SHCA Membership Hits Record High Of 1,076



Judith Hurtig

Congratulations and thanks to new neighbor Judith Hurtig, who helped SHCA reach an all-time high membership of 1,076! This is a 3.7% increase over the 2012 total of 1,037 and more than any other

year since 2008, when membership hit a then all-time high of 1,063.

Judith has recently moved to St. James Court from Iowa City, Iowa, to be closer to South Philly and her daughter's family, including two little grandsons. Husband Richard will arrive in December. Before retiring, Judith was the artistic director of Hancher Auditorium at the University of Iowa. As a big classical music fan, she's a trustee of the Marlboro Music Festival. Judith looks forward to hearing lots of music at the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and the Curtis Institute of Music.

Our new neighbor loves living in Society Hill and felt by joining SHCA, she would learn more about her new neighborhood, make some friends and possibly get involved in something of community interest. Please say "hi" to her when you see her out and about!

This year, 106 new members gave our membership rolls a big boost; only 64 folks have not renewed. Renewal notices for 2014 were mailed on November 1. Please return your annual dues as soon as possible and before December 31 if you wish to be placed in a drawing for a gift certificate to a local restaurant. New members this year who joined after July 1 will be grandfathered through 2014.

As a **special incentive** to all new members who join at the \$100 Federal Friend level or above, we will provide a copy of the summary version of the *Philadelphia Historical Commission's Register of Buildings in the Society Hill Historic District*.

Without member dues, SHCA would cease to function. Protect your neighborhood and your real estate investment. Sign up today!

Email Mattdejulio@aol.com if you have any questions or wish to comment on why you are not a member. All comments will be shared with the board, which is representative of every quadrant in our most unique historic neighborhood.

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.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Clean-Up Day | <input type="radio"/> Washington Square | <input type="radio"/> Zoning & Historic Preservation |
| <input type="radio"/> Franklin Lights | <input type="radio"/> Social Events | <input type="radio"/> Fundraising |
| <input type="radio"/> Dilworth House | <input type="radio"/> Property Taxes | <input type="radio"/> Local Crime |
| <input type="radio"/> Reporter | <input type="radio"/> Casino Issues | Incidents & Alerts |

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



NIFTY NEIGHBORS IN MY BACKYARD

BY JANE BIBERMAN

The Producer

Bernard Havard stars at Walnut Street Theatre.

Scene: A large, pleasantly cluttered office upstairs at the oldest theater in America. Photos of famous actors and memorabilia cover the walls. Seated at a long table with various papers is Bernard Havard, a genial man with a twinkle in his eye, who somewhat resembles Sean Connery or Derek Jacobi.



Bernard and Judy Havard

“I was recruited to take over the theater 31 years ago,” says Bernard, whose official title is artistic producing director. The Canadian native was familiar with the famed Walnut Street Theatre and its history, and soon fell in love with Philadelphia.

He also fell in love with his wife, Judy, who makes an unexpected entrance. “It was a blind date,” she relates. “He told me he had theater tickets, and that was it. I would have gone out with anyone,” she jokes. They saw *Lips Together, Teeth Apart* at Plays and Players, and their theater dates ended in marriage — some 20 years ago.

Judy and Bernard live a stone’s throw from the theater. “The joy of living in Society Hill is its close proximity to the theater,” says Bernard. “I literally roll out of bed and get to the office on time. And it’s a neighborhood steeped in history and culture. I lived in Toronto, but it’s not nearly as charming or friendly. I’ll never leave Philadelphia.”

The couple has two poodles and three cats, not to mention a son, Brandon, who is 14 and a student at Cumberland College in Vineland, New Jersey, where Judy teaches business, finance and marketing. She also buys the jewelry that is on sale in the theater’s lobby, proceeds of which benefit the Walnut. Home-schooled, Brandon played Gavroche in *Les Misérables* at the Walnut when he was 9. “*Les Mis* is my favorite musical,” offers Bernard.

As producer, Bernard chooses all productions and rarely repeats any. Since he took charge of the theater three decades ago, he’s grown its subscription base to 56,000 — the largest in the world. His success is partly based on the variety of plays he puts on. “It’s got to be a blend of sweet and savory,” he explains. Being so close to Broadway makes his job even harder, since he can’t acquire rights to a show if it’s playing in New York or touring: “I waited 30 years to get *Grease* and *Fiddler*.”

“I think the most crucial part of my job is casting,” says Bernard. “And I always look for local actors first. Philadelphia is not only a fabulous theater town — with 126 companies — but it’s full of great talent.”

Bernard knew the history of the Walnut long before he came to the city, “so it resonated with me.” He recently wrote, with managing director Mark D. Sylvester, a history of America’s first theater — it opened in 1809 — with lavish archival images from its illustrious past. Published by Arcadia, it brims with fascinating information and photographs, many of which hang on the lobby walls.

“You can see that I’ve surrounded myself with theatrical things,” says Bernard, taking a seat in one of three 19th-century armchairs that once belonged to Philadelphia actor Edwin Forrest. “I rescued them from his mansion and had them reupholstered.”

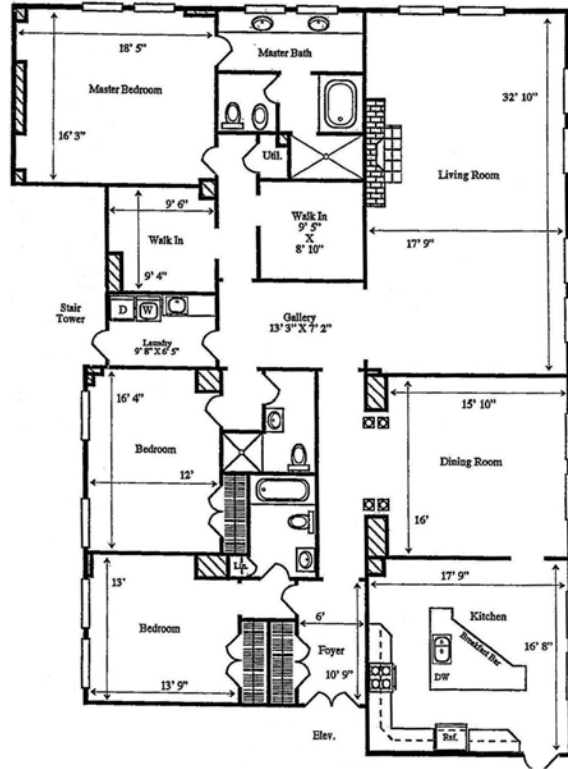
When they’re not in the theater, Bernard and Judy enjoy eating out — especially at La Buca, Jones, Morimoto and Aqua. “We also love to shop at the Reading Terminal and the Italian Market,” adds Judy, who claims Italian and Jewish heritage.

Any great theater stories? “Bernard once hired a dog he passed in the street to star in *Annie*,” recounts Judy. “It went well until a guide dog showed up in the audience.” Perhaps the most unforgettable incident involved the late actor George Peppard: “He had an erectile implant and refused to wear underpants because they weren’t historically accurate,” relates Bernard. “I finally persuaded him by pointing out that he was upstaging himself.”

It’s all about life in the theater, and the Havards savor every moment of it.

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Custom entire floor home with 360 degree city views including dramatic Washington Square vistas.

Enter the residence through a secure elevator that opens directly into a foyer appointed in marble. A grand gallery runs the length of the home. Perfect for entertaining, the large sun-soaked living room offers west and south facing windows, coffered ceilings, a gas burning fireplace and large mahogany wet bar. The arched entry to the formal dining room has beautiful faux-painted columns. The chef's kitchen features cherry cabinetry; granite countertops; under-counter and recessed lighting; center island with breakfast bar; and stainless steel GE Monogram gas range with electric oven and hood, Bosch dishwasher and Sub-Zero refrigerator with freezer drawer.

The lavish master suite has his and hers walk-in California Closets and an ensuite bathroom appointed in marble with a Jacuzzi tub, oversized seamless glass enclosed stall shower, private commode and bidet and double vanity with windows overlooking Washington Square. Two additional bedrooms each have their own full baths, one ensuite and the other adjacent. Additional home features include oak floors in the living areas and carpet in the bedrooms, twelve foot ceilings and eight foot windows throughout, two Bose sound systems and a spacious laundry room.

The condominium comes with one parking space in a secure lot adjacent to the building and two storage spaces.
\$1,995,000

A SECOND SET OF PRODUCERS

BY JANE BIBERMAN

Earnie and Sandi Philips Come Out

'Address Unknown' Debuts Upstairs at the Walnut.



Earnie & Sandi Philips

This is really our coming out, in terms of doing something so public," confesses Earnie Philips. He's talking about *Address Unknown* at Studio 5 of the Walnut Street Theatre. Earnie and his wife, Sandi, are its parents as co-founders of MeadowBrook Productions. Although the couple, soon to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, has staged plays and readings with Jewish content at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, they consider *Address Unknown* their baptismal event, if you'll pardon the expression.

"This is our baby," acknowledges Sandi. "Our children have flown the nest, so *Address Unknown* will fill the void." Earnie, a retired engineer who is also a member of Actors' Equity and the Screen Actors' Guild, will co-star. Relates Earnie, "When I was a student at Drexel, I did stand-up at the Forrest Theater and wanted to pursue an acting career, but my father insisted I become an engineer. Twenty years ago, I finally got back to the stage." He earned his spurs at the Bristol Riverside Theatre and made his screen debut with *In Her Shoes*, the 2005 movie based on Jennifer Weiner's bestseller.

Sandi and Earnie, who lived in Meadowbrook for some 40 years, moved into the St. James two years ago. "We were getting bored in the suburbs," admits Sandi. Earnie adds that going to a play used to take them four hours, counting the commute. "The proximity to all the theaters in Society Hill was the main reason we moved here."

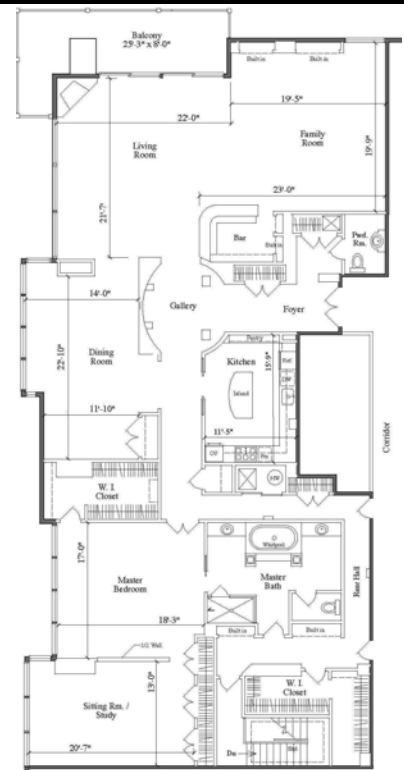
As for *Address Unknown*, which opened November 7 and will run through November 24, Sandi describes it as "a powerful play based on Katherine Kressman Taylor's spellbinding novel about two friends — a Gentile and a Jew, both German ex-patriates — who run an art gallery in San Francisco. One returns to Germany, where the rise of Nazism and subsequent events lead to sad and shocking betrayals."

Producing plays is an expensive proposition, and the Philipses are depending on more than good reviews. "Join theatergoers in our great historic region and bring your friends to our stellar presentation," urges Sandi. "It's word of mouth that sells tickets!" For performance schedule and to purchase tickets call 215-870-9040 or visit www.MeadowBrookProductions.com.

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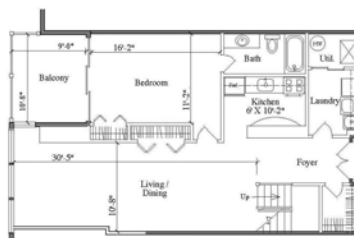
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