



SOCIETY HILL

Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.org

5th Street Redevelopment



Super Fresh, at 309 South 5th Street, has been a presence in Society Hill for almost 50 years.

The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) has learned that the Alterra Property Group LLC is in the preliminary stages of a proposal to construct a mixed-use development on the site at 309 S. 5th Street, which presently houses a Super Fresh market. These plans came to light in May when representatives met with the Association's Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee (ZHP) with conceptual designs for the site, having first presented these plans to the Philadelphia City Planning Commission.

Alterra informed ZHP that it is under contract with the owner to purchase the site and that an August closing of the agreement was anticipated. It stated that the Super Fresh market would no longer be a tenant under its development scheme.

ZHP was presented with three preliminary design schemes ("A" "B" & "C"), each a different version of a building with ground floor commercial space and rental apartments above. Each plan appeared to cover most of the Super Fresh site — including some or all of the current parking area.

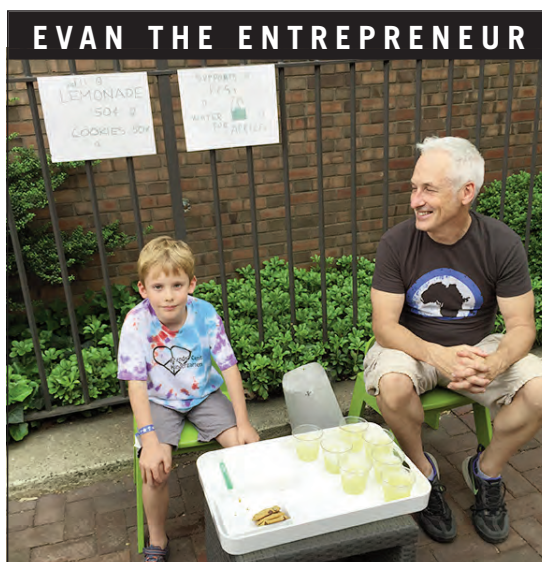
Proposals "A" and "B" were "by right" designs, no taller than the 38 feet the site is zoned for. Recall that the city just updated the entire zoning code in 2012 as a result of a multi-year process and that 38 feet was deemed to be the maximum height for this commercial stretch of Society Hill. The developer proposed stucco exteriors for the "A" and "B" designs, which he admitted is not in keeping with the community's historic look.

Leo Addimando, co-founder of Alterra, points to his Shirt Corner project at 3rd and Market Streets in Old City as an example of the type of mixed-use project he envisions.

Alterra also stated that the property is listed as "non-contributing" to our historic district and that, therefore, the Historical Commission would have only "advisory" authority. Days later the Commission was contacted and explained that the developer is incorrect, and that the Commission has full authority to approve or reject the design of any new construction. The Historic Commission retains "plenary" control over the site because at the time of nomination of the district to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places a building existed on the property.

Alternatively, Alterra showed its preferred scheme "C", a 59-foot-high building with ground floor commercial and four stories of rental apartments — mostly small, one-bedroom units. This design would require a zoning variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment and our community. Nearby neighbors would also have significant input. Alterra said that if Society Hill went along with the 59-foot version, it could construct the façade in a more expensive material, such as brick.

Word quickly spread throughout the community that we were going to potentially lose the super-market and that a five-story building was being proposed to replace it. Concerned neighbors from the 500 block of Delancey put out flyers calling for a community meeting to discuss what should be done. Nearly one hundred



Evan, with the help of his dad, Harvey Hurdle, set up a lemonade stand on the day of SHCA's House Tour and made a bundle for Evan's 2nd-grade project, Water for Sudan. Congratulations to this young entrepreneur and philanthropist!

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SOCIETY HILL

Reporter



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Submission Deadlines

September/October Issue
Advertising: August 1
Editorial: August 1

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Find past issues in color
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Submissions

If you have news that would be of interest to Society Hillers, email Sandra Rothman at sandra.rothman@aol.com. Materials must be submitted in writing and include the name of a contact person. Edited submissions will be considered for publication if space permits. Letters to the Editor must be signed, with contact information.

SHCA Mission Statement

The aims and purposes of SHCA are to promote the improvement of the Society Hill area of Philadelphia, including its cultural, educational and civic activities, and the preservation and restoration of its historic buildings; to represent the residents of Society Hill in matters affecting the City of Philadelphia generally and Society Hill in particular; and to interpret the value and significance of Society Hill to the public.

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

BY BOB CURLEY, SHCA PRESIDENT

A Very Active Spring

It's been a busy spring. First, I'd like to thank SHCA Directors and Officers — whose terms of office concluded on May 30 — for their service to the community last year and welcome the new Directors and Officers, who volunteered to serve starting June 1. I also want to acknowledge the continuing service of the individual block coordinators, who form the backbone of the civic association, and the members of the various committees that implement and oversee multiple neighborhood projects and activities.

Since the distribution of the last *Reporter*, neighborhood tree tenders planted trees, a successful clean-up day took place in May, a very pleasant recognition of the block coordinators was held at the Physick House and a quite successful annual Open House & Garden Tour took place on May 17. And lastly, the fourth Washington Square Affair fundraiser took place on June 9, the most successful one to date. Everyone involved in each of these activities and projects deserves the neighborhood's heartfelt thanks.

I am happy to report that the Interstate Land Management Corporation (ILMC) Board approved SHCA's terms for the leasing of the parking lot on Front Street. It is hoped that the Civic Association will be able to take over the Front Street lot before September 1, 2015. There will be 40 leases available for \$190 per month. Those leasing a spot will need to make a six-month commitment, which can be renewed every six months. After the 40 spaces are leased, when a space becomes available it will be awarded in the order the request was received. Twenty-seven parking spots in the Front Street parking lot will remain available for metered public parking. The leases will provide off-street parking to 40 neighborhood residents and also supply revenue to SHCA for neighborhood projects. If you are considering leasing a parking spot at the site or previously expressed interest in leasing a parking spot on Front Street, please contact or reconfirm your interests with Matt DeJulio. The SHCA/ILMC preliminary agreement is currently awaiting approval by the

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, which is expected to approve it and present SHCA with a lease proposal in the next few weeks. Once a lease is agreed to with ILMC, we will enter into a management agreement with a parking lot company. Currently, the Association is talking to both Parkway and Park America as potential management companies.

Neighborhood residents should also be aware that Verizon is planning to roll out its FIOS network in the next few months. Right now, Verizon's copper phone lines run under the streets, while Comcast cable lines run under the brick sidewalks. Verizon representatives presented their plans at a public meeting held on June 17 and have asked SHCA to provide the names and contact information for the block coordinators in order to determine, block by block, how the service lines will be installed. An unresolved issue concerns whether Comcast should be required to make its public right-of-way easements available to Verizon or insist that Verizon install a parallel right-of-way for its cables. We have been in contact with the Philadelphia Streets Department to seek its assistance with requiring Comcast and Verizon to work together and reach a joint-use agreement. Such an agreement would eliminate the possibility of a proliferation of house and sidewalk service boxes.

A major change which could affect all neighborhood residents is detailed in the front-page story of this edition. The owners of the retail space on 5th Street between Spruce and Delancey recently entered into an agreement with a developer. Plans for the properties are in the preliminary stages. Many members of the Association and neighbors have already contributed their time to make sure that whatever is proposed includes the best design and materials for the site and at the same time recognizes and respects the historic nature of this neighborhood. As events develop, SHCA will send out emails to keep the Society Hill community apprised of the proposals.



Bob Curley,
SHCA President

Bob Curley has been a Board member for six years, during which he co-coordinated Clean-Up Day and participated with Tree Tenders. He is a partner in the law firm of O'Donoghue & O'Donoghue LLP.

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Meet Roz Bratt

5th Street Redevelopment *continued from page 1*

people crowded into the Starr Garden community room on May 27 to exchange ideas. Several SHCA Board Members and ZHP Chair Lorna Katz-Lawson attended. Residents expressed their concerns. Lorna and SHCA Vice President Kim Williams assured the attendees that SHCA was taking action to address their concerns and formulate a game plan for our community's input into the site's development.

Since this grassroots meeting, an ad-hoc committee of SHCA's board, comprised of lawyers and board members, met and agreed to propose the following to the Board: (1) a meeting with the site owner to discuss the development (2) hiring an outside attorney specializing in zoning law (3) finding a design team to lead a community discussion on the goals for the site (4) meeting with our district councilman, Mark Squilla. A blast email announcing this plan was sent to association members.

An additional concern of SHCA and residents

is that Mr. Addimando spoke of acquiring the commercial strip across from the Super Fresh, although he said there are presently no plans for its redevelopment.

SHCA is planning the format of the community discussion at this writing. However, in advance of that, SHCA Board Members have heard residents express a number of concerns regarding the Super Fresh site development: (1) loss of a food store (2) scale of the development (3) lack of open space (4) mediocre design and materials (5) small rental apartments.

At its June board meeting, SHCA formally authorized the Committee by resolution and agreed to retain an attorney specializing in zoning and land use, real estate, real estate litigation and government relations.

SHCA members will receive information in the regular weekly blast emails on Fridays. Flyers will be distributed for community meetings organized by SHCA, including any formal proposal by the developer. Stay tuned.

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Bulletin Board
Snapshots of the people who make SHCA work.

Welcome and Farewell

We welcome new Board members Georgine Atacan, Robert Kramer, Gail Hauptfuhrer, Martha Moore, Diane Stein and Carolyn Ambler Walter, and will introduce them to readers in the next several issues.

Thanks to our outgoing colleagues who have volunteered their time and efforts to SHCA over the years. Jim Moss and Marilyn Appel have given us a great deal and we are grateful for their generosity of spirit. Thanks also to Joan Kleinbard and Marlene Molinoff for their contributions.



Open House & Garden Tour

The 36th Annual Society Hill Open House and Garden Tour was a resounding success. Cheers and thanks to co-organizers Martha Levine and Linda Skale for all their hard work. Thanks also to re-enactor Joseph McCafferty for historic ambiance. See pages 16 and 17 for photos of the event.



Washington Square Affair

Kudos to Washington Square Affair Chair Fred Manfred, Washington Square Committee Chair Sissie Lipton, and all of the committee members for a wonderful evening that exceeded all expectations! Pictured above are Dr. Arthur Bartolozzi of Aria Health, Gail Ehrlich, Fred Manfred and Sissie and Herb Lipton.



NUSA Neighborhood Newsletter Award

The Reporter's Managing Editor Sandy Rothman and Layout Editor Judy Lamirand with an award from Neighborhoods, USA for one of the top 10 community newsletters in the nation. Congratulations to the entire team for their talent and dedication!

The Society Hill Civic Association is fortunate to recruit talented, hard-working 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. Find a list of all of SHCA's committees at www.societyhillcivic.org.



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

HISTORIC TREES UNHURT IN HURRICANE SANDY

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HISTORIC WINDOW PANES

SHCA has an historic register provided by the Pennsylvania Historic Commission with data about the residences in Society Hill deemed to be historically important. We use this information to produce the clear window decals that you can see as you stroll about our neighborhood. Statistics may include the builder, first owner and occupation, date of construction and style of house. These transparencies are provided free of charge to homeowners. For more information, contact Matt DeJulio at mattdejulio@aol.com or 215-629-1288.



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SPEND LOCALLY

BY MARTHA LEVINE

One of the Best Shopping Cities in America

Yes, *Forbes* magazine rates Philadelphia as number six in its list of the top 25 shopping cities in the U.S., with Houston and Dallas as number one and number two. Over 20,000 retail locations, 29 shopping centers, a modest eight percent sales tax and reasonable retail prices make Philadelphia a very attractive place to shop.

One of the great places to shop locally is the Pine Street corridor, which used to be antique row, but now hosts a variety of shops. Enjoy and support these businesses that are our neighbors.

Apparel and Accessories

- 920 **The Sample Rack**, wedding dresses
- 1006 **Adornamenti**, handcrafted jewelry*
- 1016 **Yarnphoria**, yarn store, instruction*
- 1020 **Industry**, clothing and home accessories
- 1024 **Addiction**, designer consignment boutique and makeup studio
- 1034 **Consignment Boutique**, women's clothing
- 1038 **Things I Like**, new and vintage boutique

Antiques, Art & Vintage

- 922 **Classic Antiques**
- 934 **Barin Oriental Rugs**
- 936 **M. Finkel & Daughter Antiques**
- 1002 **Blendo**, collectibles
- 1018 **Scarlett's Antiques***
- 1034 **Scarlett's Closet**, well-preserved vintage clothing from the 50s, 60s, 70s
- 1030 **Ionic Antiques**
- 1108 **Seraphin Art Gallery**
- 1110 **Chelsea Frame & Art**
- 1112 **Kohn & Kohn Antiques**

Home Décor & Craft Galleries

- 924 **Thom Kitchen Cabinetry**
- 1006 **Show of Hands**, craft gallery*
- 1020 **Industry**, home accessories*
- 1022 **SOTA** (Spirit of the Artist), crafts



Good Karma Café and coffee shop, 928 Pine Street

Children

- 1010 **Happily Ever After**, children's toys, dolls*
- 1134 **Euro Kids Learning Center**

Restaurants & Food

- 928 **Good Karma Café**, coffee shop
- 1001 **The Foodery**, take-out food & beer
- 1042 **Melange Tea & Spice***
- 1120 **Farm & Fisherman Restaurant***
- 1141 **Mixto Restaurante**, Cuban, Latin American, and Caribbean food
- 1127 **Effie's Restaurant**, Greek food

Services

- 932 **Society Hill Cosmetic Center**, dermatology services
- 1032 **Doggie Style**, dog grooming and accessories
- 1039 **Dog School**, doggie daycare
- 1041 **Yoon's Cleaners**
- 1100 **Mama's Wellness Joint**
- 1114 **James Brown Hair**, salon
- 1118 **Aleksandra Ambrozy**, makeup and hair
- 1133 **Lion's Mane Salon**
- 1201 **King of Shave**

*Shops that contribute to the SHCA Welcome Baskets



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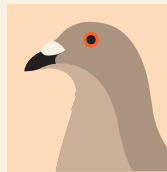
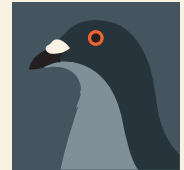
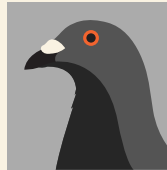
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‘ FIX THE BRIX ’

BY MARTHA LEVINE

Before and After: See the Difference

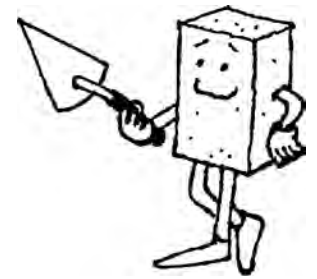
Are there too many damaged and dangerous sidewalks in our neighborhood? This can easily be changed for the better. Since late 2009, Society Hill Civic Association’s “Fix the Brix” program has offered a subsidy to all homeowners who need to level their uneven sidewalks. We will reimburse 40 percent, up to \$300, of the amount to any owner who has their sidewalk leveled by a mason. We can provide you with a list of recommended masons.

See photos showing how sidewalks have and can be improved. We thank the property owners who made a contribution to our neighborhood by making our sidewalks better for pedestrians. This is a walking city and safer sidewalks benefit all of us!

How to get started:

- Email us a photo of the area of work to be done.
- Get several estimates from masons and/or arborists. We have a suggested list.
- Choose a mason and have work done to your satisfaction.
- Make copies of the invoice of finished work and mail one to SHCA, P.O. Box 63503, Philadelphia PA 19147. Email us a photo of finished work.
- Receive a check within a few weeks!

For more information or a list of masons and arborists, contact Martha Levine at 215-629-0727 or marthalev6@gmail.com.



Rick the Brick



Before



After



If tree roots are dislodging bricks on your sidewalk, get estimates for repair.

See the Lights

Our neighborhood has two light sources that can keep our sidewalks well lit after dark: 500 Franklin Lights and our individual house front door lights. We need both for security and visibility while walking at night. **See a Franklin Light that is out or blinking? Call 311 for service.** After dark, flip the switch on your front door light, or use a timer or photo sensor to turn on the light automatically. Keep it on all night.

Report Graffiti

You can help control unsightly graffiti. Do you see this blight on any public surface — poles, mailboxes, or walls? SHCA has hired Graffiti Removal Experts to help. To report a location, email todd@graffitiremovalexperts.com. For private property graffiti removal, call 311 or 215-686-8686.

List of Contractors

If you are a current SHCA member, you may request a copy of the updated **Society Hill List of Contractors** — all highly recommended by neighbors. Please contact Martha Levine at 215-629-0727 or marthalev6@gmail.com.



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THIS OLD HOUSE

BY CHUCK GROSHONG AND DANIELLE GROSHONG-KEPERLING

Yankee Gutter Repair and Maintenance

Yankee, built-in or integral gutters are drainage systems built into the cornice of a roof so that they cannot be seen along the roofline. Commonly found on homes dating from the 1700s through the early 1900s, these structural features were particularly popular in the construction of Victorian homes.

Yankee gutters consist of a U- or V-shaped wooden trough lined with metal, traditionally copper or terne-coated steel, which directs water away from the house. Since they are not easily visible, unseen problems may occur.

How to Spot Damage

The metal liner protects the wooden trough. Over time, however, wear can create gaps, cracks or corrosion in the metal. When the metal liner leaks, moisture builds up, causing decay in the lookout where it enters the exterior wall.

Here are some common signs of damage to check for when examining your drainage system:

- Chipped or peeling paint under the eaves
- Moist or rotting wood
- Damage to masonry
- Water leaking into your home

Left unchecked or unrepaired, these symptoms often lead to structural damage to framing, walls, ceiling or decorative moldings, making restoration to match the original appearance of your home an expensive endeavor.

How to Avoid or Repair Damage

Preventative steps to avoid damage are always best. Built-in gutters like Yankees are less likely to be clogged, but require regular inspection. Simple steps, like routine wood sealing and maintaining the solder joints in the metal, can help prevent damage, stave off more expensive repairs and preserve the beauty of your historical home.

Some homeowners choose to roof over their internal gutter system and use a more modern external one. This option may save money, but it changes the original appearance of the structure and fails to address damage caused by the internal drainage system. Covering up structural damage with vinyl or aluminum won't magically solve the problem. In fact, this repair method usually causes more damage that may result in losing the entire front porch.

Sometimes, despite our best efforts, damage to the metal solder joints is unavoidable. Traditionally, we recommend relining the metal trough. If you want to tackle this project yourself, here are five basic steps to take when repairing your Yankee gutters using a liquid rubber membrane:

Safety First: Since gutters are often located on the second story or higher of older homes, take precautions. Use extension ladders, scaffolding, harnesses or whatever safety measures are required for your individual repair needs.

Prep: Prepping the gutters should begin with a thorough cleaning. You can remove dirt easily with a paintbrush. Be sure to carefully scrape off any loose bits of old coating. Finally, rinse the gutters with water and a little detergent to make sure the surface of the metal is clean and oil free. Allow the surface to dry completely.

Bonus Tip: If you find mold in your gutters, soak in a 1:3 bleach to water solution for up to 15 minutes, then scrub it loose using a stiff brush and soapy water.

Patch: First, clean the damaged area by wiping it with paint thinner. Using butyl tape, a self-adhesive tape that adheres well to metal, patch any damaged areas. Cut the tape to size and extend the tape about 1 inch over both sides of the damage. Be sure to keep the release tape intact while you patch with the butyl tape. Working from the center of the patch out, firmly press the sticky side of the butyl tape to the damaged area. Remove the release paper.

Activate: Before you can apply the liquid rubber membrane, you'll need to activate it by adding a catalyst to the rubber solution. Follow the manufacturer's directions carefully.

Apply: Use a paintbrush, a short-nap roller or a squeegee to apply the activated rubber membrane along the length of the gutter. Be sure to cover it with a thick coat. Check your local forecast to make sure the weather will be clear for 16 to 20 hours after application. Heavy rains will pit the surface before the membrane has a chance to set. The membrane takes up to 10 days to cure completely.

Following these easy steps will extend the life of your Yankee gutters and preserve the original structural and decorative features of your historic home.

How to find and prevent hidden damage



Yankee gutters are built onto the plane of the roof and can be found on older slate roofs.

Free Checklist

Historic Restorations offers readers a free copy of "Internal Gutter Maintenance Checklist: How To Spot Trouble Spots Before They Turn Into Big, Expensive Repairs."

A \$14.97 value, our checklist provides simple, inexpensive maintenance solutions for your internal gutters that will save you money down the road.

Call 717-291-4688 or email Moira at mkarahalis@historic-restorations.com.

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EXPLORING THE CITY

BY JIM MURPHY

The Acadian Connection

*“There from the troubled sea had Evangeline landed, an exile,
Finding among the children of Penn a home and a country.”*

— Excerpt from *Evangeline* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Until recently, I only vaguely knew about the Acadians or “Cajuns” who came from the Nova Scotia region of Canada and ended up in Louisiana.

Since then, I’ve learned that about 11,500 Acadians were brutally displaced by the British in 1755. Some 453 of these unfortunates ended up living in Philadelphia on the north side of Pine Street between 5th and 6th, some for many years.

Bad timing: When the Acadians arrived here on three sloops on November 18, 1755, they were not welcomed with open arms.

Why? They were French-speaking in a British colony. They were “Papists,” so government officials feared they would collude with Irish Catholics to betray Pennsylvania to the French. It was a time when Philadelphians greatly feared French and Indian attacks from the west.

At first the Acadians were confined under guard to their ships.

Fearing that such close quarters would quicken the spread of disease, which eventually did kill about half of them, Governor Robert Morris ordered the Acadians moved to Province Island — near where the airport is today.

Aided by Anthony Benezet, a Philadelphia Quaker who was born in France, the Acadians received desperately needed clothing and food from him and other members of the Society of Friends. Benezet also helped the deportees get lodging in one-story wooden houses on Pine Street.

Despite the British province’s best efforts to indenture the children as apprentices or send the families out to the surrounding areas, the deportees remained in Philadelphia.

These proud Acadians, who considered themselves prisoners of war, steadfastly refused to work for any support they received from Pennsylvania.

In all, Pennsylvania paid out some 10,000 pounds over 20 years to support the Acadians. But their living conditions were often miserable.

Evangeline Resurrects a Culture

The Acadians’ expulsion was largely forgotten history — until Henry Wadsworth Longfellow published *Evangeline* in 1847.

This remarkably popular, 1,400-plus-line epic poem catapulted the Acadians into the public eye some 92 years after their expulsion from Canada.

For the full poem, go to: www.brynmawr.edu/emeritus/gather/Dudden/poem.html

Three Things you may not know about the Acadians

Many of the Philadelphia Acadians who died are buried in Washington Square.

A Canadian Royal Proclamation in 2003 acknowledged the expulsion of the Acadians, but did not apologize for it.

Even though *Evangeline* is a fictional character, a statue of her stands in the courtyard of a French church in Grand-Pré, Nova Scotia. Another one was donated to the town of St. Martinville, Louisiana, by the cast and crew of the film, *Evangeline*.

Where in the world is *Evangeline*?

Believe it or not, people still are searching for her and Gabriel.

Longfellow himself said, “In my rambles through Philadelphia, I passed the almshouse of the Friends [then at 312 Walnut Street], and was deeply impressed by its quiet and seclusion.”

“When I wrote the poem the image of this place came back to me, and I selected it for the closing scene. The story was not connected with it by any tradition.”

But people believe what they want. Many think the churchyard that inspired Longfellow is at Holy Trinity Church, 615 Spruce Street.

Who knows? After all, it’s only one block from where many of the Acadians lived.

Jim Murphy, a freelance direct-response copywriter, has run his own marketing consulting business since 2004. He’s also a certified member of the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides.



Longfellow’s popular poem “Evangeline” still has people searching for the tombs of the Acadian heroine and her lost lover Gabriel in Philadelphia — even though they’re fictional characters!

FAST FACTS

Evangeline:

Published in 1847

Longfellow’s Immense Popularity:

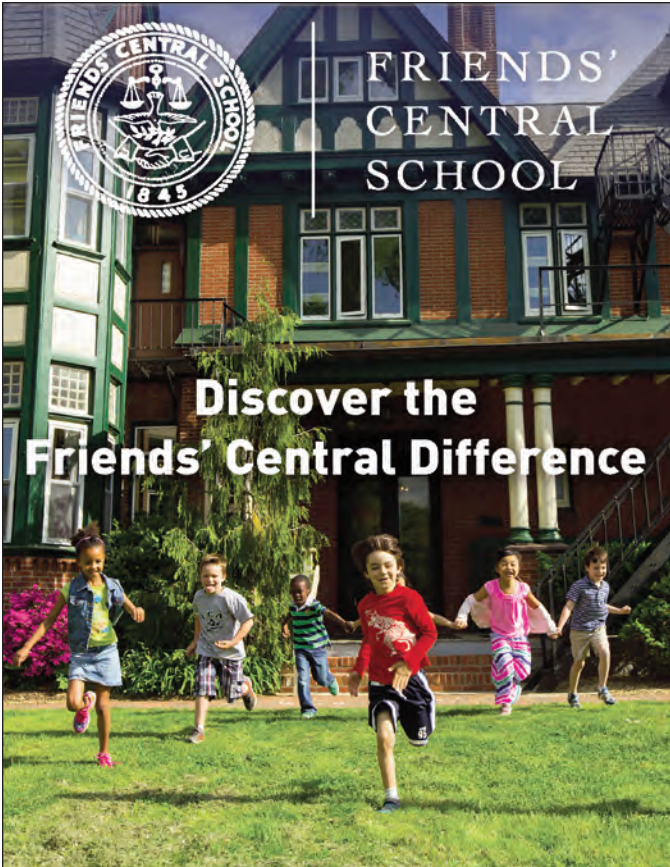
National parades with marching children were held on his birthday. A fireside copy of *Evangeline* was a fixture in many homes. Longfellow is the only American poet commemorated with a bust in Britain’s renowned Poet’s Corner.

Claim to Fame:

Evangeline went through six printings in six months and within 10 years was translated into a dozen languages.

Song:

“Acadian Driftwood” by The Band. Watch a YouTube video with visuals at youtube.com/watch?v=te7KW4K-00E.



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B E W E L L N O W

BY JULIE FEATHERMAN

Enjoy Healthy, Tasty Wines this Summer

We welcome Julie Featherman, who will be writing a new column focused on tips, strategies and ideas for enjoying a more healthful, holistic and eco-friendly life.

For many of us, the perfect summer evening includes a sunset, companions and a relaxing glass of wine. Here are my tips for a more healthy and tasty summer wine experience.

1 Buy Organic. The grapes used in organic and biodynamic wines are not grown with the harmful chemicals found in conventional vineyard fertilizers, fungicides and pesticides. Recent class actions filed in response to arsenic tainted wines are making today's headlines. These toxic compounds find their way into wine through pesticide residue and other methods. Avoid this litigious mess and get environmentally friendly by supporting organic farming practices.

There are many health benefits to drinking wine in moderation, including protecting our hearts, improving blood pressure and supporting our immune system. Why not boost these positive properties by steering clear of undermining chemicals? Look for a reputable certification like USDA Organic, ECOCERT, BIOFRANC, Nature et Progres, or Terre et Vie to make sure you're buying the real deal.

2 Avoid Sulphites. SO₂ has been added to wine for centuries to preserve and maintain its freshness. A small percentage of people are allergic to sulphites. Wines labeled "100% Organic" contain the lowest amount of naturally occurring sulphites. Keep in mind that organic wines have a short shelf life because they lack added preservatives. Drink up before the summer ends!

3 Head for the Hills. Many people believe that grapes grown in higher altitudes taste better. Lower temperatures at night and higher UV radiation, light exposure and temperatures by day seem to contribute to a noticeably better and well-rounded taste. Try a wine from a vineyard in Mt. Etna, Sicily or Argentina and see if you can taste the difference.

4 Aerate. Tannins can diminish the taste of wine's more delicate flavors. Aeration exposes the wine to oxygen and naturally corrects its astringency. Letting the wine breathe in its glass for up to an hour after pouring, swirling the wine in a large-mouthed wineglass, and using decanters and aerating devices all do the trick. Feeling adventurous? Break out the blender! Blend wine for 20-30 seconds on high speed. Let it settle, and voila, that Two Buck Chuck will fool the crowds.

Here are my recommendations for your summer imbibing. Best online retailers for organic wines include The Organic Cellar and The Organic Wine Company. Cheers!

Reds: Badger Mountain NSA Cabernet Sauvignon, La Marouette Pinot Noir 2013 and high-altitude Pircas Negras Malbec 2013 from Argentina.

Whites: Sicilian Rilento's Chardonnay, Grillo and Pinot Grigio IGT.

Sparkling: Perlage Altana Rosato Frizzante 2013 and Italian Giol Rosato Frizzante IGT, both Italian.

Julie Featherman is the owner of juju salon & organics, 713 South 4th Street. Her mission is to help people live healthier, minimize their carbon footprint and think sustainably.



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RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED

OUT AND ABOUT

Open House & Garden Tour

A special thank you to the generous homeowners who allowed us to showcase their wonderful homes and gardens for the tour. Without them we could not have this annual SHCA fundraiser.

Special thanks to the Society Hill Open House & Garden Tour volunteers. There were couples, families, brothers and sisters, and mothers and daughters. Some have been volunteering for as long as 26 years. And thanks to photographer Robert Siddall of Parallel Design for the pictures.



Tourgoers line up to visit 529 Pine Street.



Judy & Garret Smith with daughter Stephanie Desjardins



Volunteer Bill Stolis, left, and visitors at 501 Pine Street



Visitors pause for a photo behind re-enactor Joseph McCaffrey, his wife, Irene, and volunteer Mary Purcell.



Ronn Shaffer from the Old Pine Conservancy gives a talk about the Old Pine graveyard.

OUT AND ABOUT

Thanks, Open House & Garden Tour Volunteers



Linda Schmeer and Melissa Donnelly



Chelle Greenfield, her 26th year



Sylvie Roarick



Marc & Nancy Feldman, Greg DiTeodoro



Barney & Debbie Carter



Bruce & Lynn Dunn



Sam & Kana Yankell



Elaine Morris, Bill Mummert, Steve Schatz



Lorna Katz-Lawson & John Lawson

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Opportunity to Create a Custom Home Overlooking Independence Hall

Once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create a custom home from an entire penthouse floor of raw space overlooking historic Independence Hall. The residence boasts an 851 square foot private terrace; breathtaking city views to the east, south and west; and the potential to be one of the grandest homes in the City of Philadelphia. This floor plan provides one idea of how the penthouse can be designed. 8,383 sf
\$5,000,000

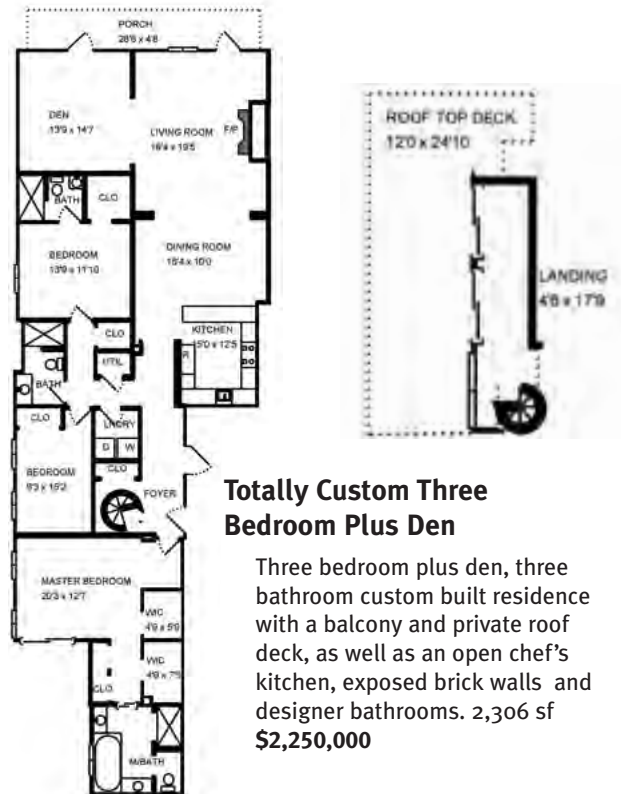
Allan Domb Real Estate Presents The Lippincott

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Two Bedroom Plus Den Showplace

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. 3,510 sf
\$3,500,000



Totally Custom Three Bedroom Plus Den

Three bedroom plus den, three bathroom custom built residence with a balcony and private roof deck, as well as an open chef's kitchen, exposed brick walls and designer bathrooms. 2,306 sf
\$2,250,000

ON OUR SHELF

BY RICHARD DE WYNGAERT

Diving into Summer Reading

Here's a list of broad-ranging titles for anyone looking for a book or three to dive into during the coming months, while lolling on the beach, trotting the globe or simply dreaming deeply.

Nonfiction

The Resilience Dividend: Being Strong in a World Where Things Go Wrong, by Judith Rodin

Death in Florence: The Medici, Savonarola and the Battle for the Soul of a Renaissance City, by Paul Strathern

How to Fly a Horse: The Secret History of Creation, Invention and Discovery, by Kevin Ashton

Jacksonland: President Andrew Jackson, Cherokee Chief John Ross and a Great American Land Grab, by Stephen Inskeep

The Daemon Knows: Literary Greatness and the American Sublime, by Harold Bloom

Misbehaving: The Making of Behavioral Economics, by Richard Thaler

Daughters of the Samurai: A Journey from East to West and Back, by Janice P. Nimura

Memoir/Biography

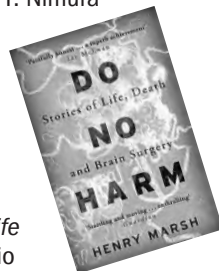
On the Move, by Oliver Sacks

Hold Still: A Memoir with Photographs, by Sally Mann

Do No Harm, by Henry Marsh

It's What I Do: A Photographer's Life of Love and War, by Lynsey Addario

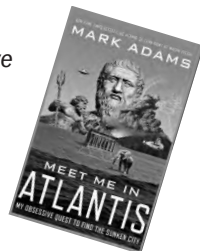
The Wright Brothers, by David McCullough



Travel

Meet Me in Atlantis: My Obsessive Quest to Find the Sunken City, by Mark Adams

Carsick, by John Waters



Fiction

Go Set a Watchman, by Harper Lee

The Girl on the Train, by Paula Hawkins

How to Start a Fire, by Lisa Lutz

The Festival of Insignificance, by Milan Kundera

All That Followed, by Gabriel Urza

The Boatmaker, by John Benditt

Young Adult

Undertow, by Michael Buckley

Because You'll Never Meet Me, by Leah Thomas

Those Girls, by Lauren Saft

Juvenile Fiction

Circus Mirandus, by Cassie Beasley

Book Scavenger, by Jennifer Bertman

Rook, by Sharon Cameron

Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer, by Kelly Jones

The Arctic Code, by Matthew J. Kirby

Some Older Paperback Favorites

To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee

Ahab's Wife, by Sena Jeter Naslund

Life After Life, by Kate Atkinson

Shantaram, by Gregory Roberts

Straightman, by Richard Russo

Sense of An Ending, by Julian Barnes

The Dud Avocado, by Elaine Dundy



Bring this article to Head House Books and get 50 percent off the net proceeds from any purchase in stock or ordered online.

Richard De Wyngaert is the proprietor of Society Hill's only local, independently owned bookstore, Head House Books, located at 619 S. 2nd Street.

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SALE PENDING



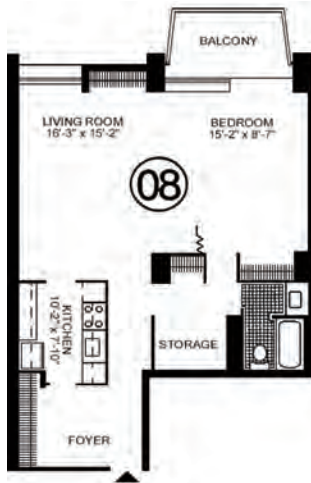
Corner Three Bedroom on a High Floor

Beautifully updated corner three bedroom, two bathroom on a high floor offering Washington Square, river and city views; a private balcony; and a renovated kitchen and master bathroom. 1700 sf **\$829,900**



Deluxe One Bedroom with Treetop Views

Deluxe one bedroom with wonderful treetop views to the south, a private balcony, wood floors throughout, a custom appointed bathroom, stainless steel appliances in the kitchen, and great natural light. 1003 sf **\$349,900**



Deluxe one bedroom with Washington Square Views

Large, light-filled one bedroom on a high floor with a balcony, wood floors, great closet space and kitchen with white wood cabinetry. 843 sf **\$310,000**



Sun-soaked Two Bedroom with Panoramic Southern Views

Two bedroom, one and a half bathroom on a high floor featuring city and river views to the south, great entertaining space, and a private balcony. 1200 sf **\$569,999**



HEADHOUSE FARMERS' MARKET

Lazy, Hazy Summer Days

Welcome to the lazy, hazy days of summer. Our friends at the Food Trust, who run the Headhouse Farmers' Market, undoubtedly dispute the "lazy" part of the old adage, as do the farmers and purveyors who supply the stalls. They are all hard at work making sure the selections are top-notch, tempting and beautifully presented.

This year's market offers a great mix of tried and true favorites with plenty of new merchandise, adding up to prime summer feasting. Katy Wich, Manager of the Farmers' Market Program for the Food Trust, comments, "Summer is picnic season, and there's no better place to provision for a really special meal al fresco than the Headhouse Farmers' Market. There are so many unique and delicious foods on offer, truly something for every taste."

Assistant Manager Lisa Kelly helped assemble this guide to a perfect picnic:

Start at **Green Aisle Grocery** and pick up a jar of pistachio butter — great on crackers with sharp cheese. Drizzle it with some Green Aisle Lavender Honey or Salty Strawberry Preserves for a sublimely grownup twist on PB&J.

Then head to **Talula's Table** for the local honey fig dip, local mushroom spread and curried lamb sausage for a delightfully eclectic appetizer plate.

Next, visit **Market Day Canelé** for their justifiably famous egg salad made with local salad greens and bacon on fresh baked rolls, a low-stress and delicious grab-and-go option.

Still tempted? **Shellbark Hollow Farm** won "Best of Philly" for their Chevre 2 spread. They offer several different chevre spreads and they change the flavors often, so there's plenty of variety each and every week. Don't miss their Tomato Nest Biscuits — fresh goat cheese set in a biscuit mold, nestled among chopped tomato and fresh herbs.

Don't stop yet. **La Divisa Meats** is new to the Headhouse Market, and their charcuterie has already gained a loyal following. Try the silken liver pâté or the peppery cotto salami on slices of baguette from Wild Flour Bakery.

Not yet sated? **Food and Ferments**, another new merchant, serves up a wide array of fermented food, which seems to be the latest culinary trend. The grape kombucha and beet kvass are great alternatives to more prosaic beverages and, even better, are purported to have significant health benefits. Hearts of Fire, the stand's version of kimchi (Korean spiced and fermented cabbage), is delicious on its own, but try it as a zesty sandwich condiment. Or use it as a delightful way to add some heat to grilled meat or fish. Added bonus: fermented foods contain natural preservatives, so you don't have to worry about them spoiling in the heat.

Whether you picnic in a remote meadow, a sunny beach or your Society Hill backyard, the Headhouse Farmers' Market has you covered.

The Food Trust is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to ensure that everyone has access to affordable, nutritious food and information to make healthy decisions.



Too tempting: Shellbark Hollow Farm's Artisan goat cheese.



Find ingredients for your perfect picnic: plenty of fresh herbs.



Start at Green Aisle Grocery and pick up some chutney from the Three Springs Fruit Farm.



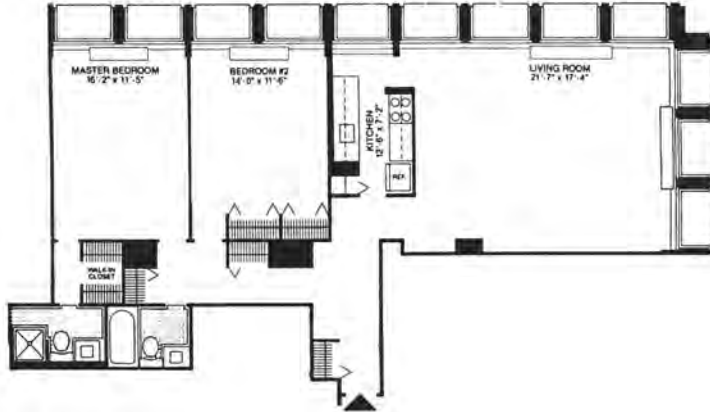
Many unique and delicious foods can be found at the Headhouse Farmers' Market. There is something for every taste.

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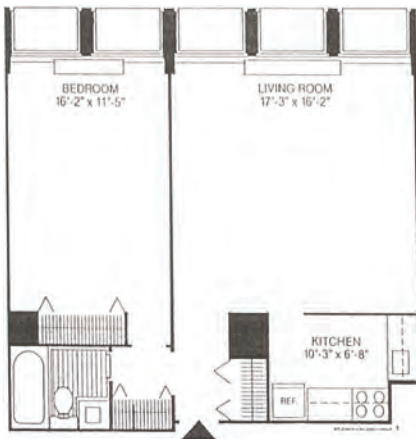


Sun-Soaked Two Bedroom

Sun-soaked two bedroom, two bathroom on a high floor with floor-to-ceiling windows providing panoramic views of the river and South Philadelphia and an updated kitchen. 1205 sf \$565,000

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- 5C WEST
- 5E WEST
- 5F NORTH
- 5G WEST
- 6BC SOUTH
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- 7B NORTH
- 8B NORTH
- 8G NORTH
- 10E WEST
- 10F NORTH
- 11BCD WEST
- 11E WEST
- 11G WEST
- 12G WEST
- 14C SOUTH
- 15A WEST
- 17G WEST
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- 23G SOUTH
- 24EF SOUTH
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- 28E NORTH
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- 28GH NORTH
- 30H NORTH

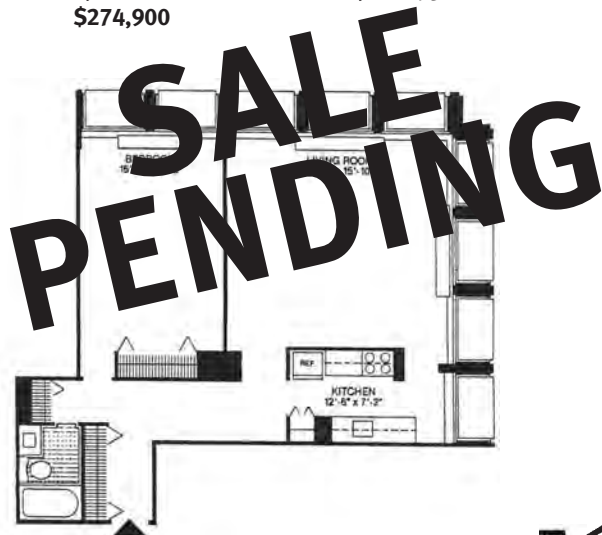


One Bedroom with Open Floor Plan

One bedroom on a high floor offering dramatic southern views of the river, lots of natural light and a generous open floor plan. 712 sf \$259,900

Corner One Bedroom Bathed in Natural Light

Corner one bedroom with great natural light, floor-to-ceiling windows, treetop city views to the south and east, kitchen with wonderful cabinet and counter space and excellent closet space. 750 sf \$274,900



SOUTH STREET HEADHOUSE DISTRICT

BY CLAIRE BATTEN

Cella Luxuria: “Metropolitan, Modern, Mindful”

Attractively Priced, Cutting-Edge Design

Cella Luxuria, the furniture and design retailer that first made an impact at 1214 Chestnut Street, has just opened a second retail store at 331 South Street. For those unfamiliar with the brand ethos of Cella, the company has a three-fold manifesto, “Metropolitan, Modern, Mindful.” Inspired by Philadelphia’s history as a great industrial engine, the store’s founders have designed a space with a warehouse-like feel. At the same time, the store is softened by the textiles, the recycled or reimaged furniture and the accessories on display.

Their website details the philosophy that informs their choice of products:

“We are drawn to materials that are either sustainably-sourced (such as linen, hemp and bamboo) or extremely durable (such as solid wood, top-grain leather, wool and heavy metals). Secondly, we select furniture and accessories that have been expertly crafted from reclaimed wood, steel and iron, as well as industrial-grade textiles. And, thirdly, what hasn’t been ‘reclaimed’ is simply enduring: classic mid-century modern designs that will remain fashion-forward and ever-relevant for generations to come.”

Far and away, my favorite line of products is Cella’s private-label furniture. The company offers a full range of tables, benches, desks and chests of drawers by traditional furniture craftsmen. So far, we can check the “expertly crafted” box. Most unusually, the wood used is reclaimed planks that are sourced from old fishing boats. The patina is remarkable. Planks from a variety of colored vessels have been sanded, leaving a gentle patchwork of pastel-edged pieces of wood. We can check the “sustainably sourced” box, too. The private-label line looks very contemporary, and it’s gratifying to know that the products are unique and hand-made by expert craftsman.

The store features unusual mid-century treasures. My favorite of these is a collection of posters from Europe — possibly from the 50s and quite probably used as a teaching aid in a classroom. These one-of-a-kind posters work beautifully as quirky pieces of art.



Cella Luxuria, 331 South Street

It is packed with classic contemporary furniture and profiles the best of Danish Modern. Prices seem reasonable; investing in their furniture will not break the bank

Cella carries a contemporary sofa by American Leather, which not only looks good but is allegedly the same brand seen in many of the top hotels in the U.S. Its popularity can be attributed to the pull-out mechanism, which converts the sofa into a bed. The mechanism was invented by a Rittenhouse Square couple who sold the design to American Leather. So now we can check that last box: Cella Luxuria celebrates Philadelphia’s past as a great industrial design engine and uses local sources whenever possible.

According to Christina Leynes, Creative Director of both the South Street and the Chestnut Street stores, “We have a team of designers on site who can provide interior design services. We are also planning to run a series of design workshops in the fall and are just putting the calendar for this together.”

For further information on Cella Luxuria email info@cellaluxuria.com or visit their website to sample the wide range of brands and products carried in the Center City stores. See www.cellaluxuria.com

Claire Batten and Keri White are the dynamic duo behind Philly Food Lovers. They are business partners in KCC, a marketing consultancy and copywriting agency.

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SOLD
We can sell yours, too!

Beautifully updated two bedroom, two bathroom with a private balcony and intimate southeast city views. The home features wood floors; an open renovated kitchen with wood cabinetry, stainless steel appliances and a large island; and two designer bathrooms with custom appointments. 1,173 sf
\$489,900



SALE PENDING

Spacious, light-filled two bedroom plus den, two and a half bathroom featuring a recently renovated kitchen, private balcony, floor-to-ceiling windows, a sumptuous master suite and great entertaining space. 1,734 sf
\$675,000



One bedroom plus alcove, 1.5 bathroom on a high floor with beautifully renovated kitchen and baths; private balcony offering views of Washington Square to the west, the city to the north and the bridge to the east; and a built-in home office in the alcove. 1205 sf
\$479,900



Sun-soaked, one-of-a-kind bi-level penthouse with 1 bedroom and 2.5 baths featuring see-for-ever river and city views to the south and east from floor-to-ceiling windows and a private balcony, a recently renovated high-end chef's kitchen, an entire floor bedroom suite with sitting room, and magnificently appointed bathrooms. 1925 sf
\$850,000



SAFE AND SOUND IN SOCIETY HILL

BY MARILYN APPEL

It's Summer and Crime Goes UP Don't be a Victim

The Downspout Devil is at it again. If you hear metallic-sounding noises or you see someone tugging at downspouts, do not hesitate to call 911.

It's dining al fresco time — please do not leave your purse hanging on the back of your chair and check your credit cards often. Thieves are stealing just one and using it to your financial dismay. Cancel your card immediately and also call 911 to report the theft. Guys, you also need to be careful — keep your wallet in a front pocket, rather than a back pocket where it is more easily stolen.

If you are going away this summer, ask a neighbor to keep an eye out for unusual activity. Provide a key and the code to your alarm system so they will be able to access space inside to store mail and newspapers. And don't advertise

your plans on social media. Remember to put lights on a timer and don't leave notes for delivery persons. Put valuables in a safe place and not near an uncovered window. Improve your odds so you can relax while on vacation.

Repetitive, I know, but, leave outside lights on overnight and turn on your alarm system every time you leave or go to bed.

Remember, save your old cell phones and gather all those children's books that are no longer used by your kids or grandkids. The cell phones are re-programmed for the domestically abused or the elderly. The books are given to shelters. Books for any age child are welcome. Bring everything to 414 Spruce Street, and all will be given to the police for distribution.

Marilyn Appel has chaired our Sixth District's Police District Advisory Council since 1980.



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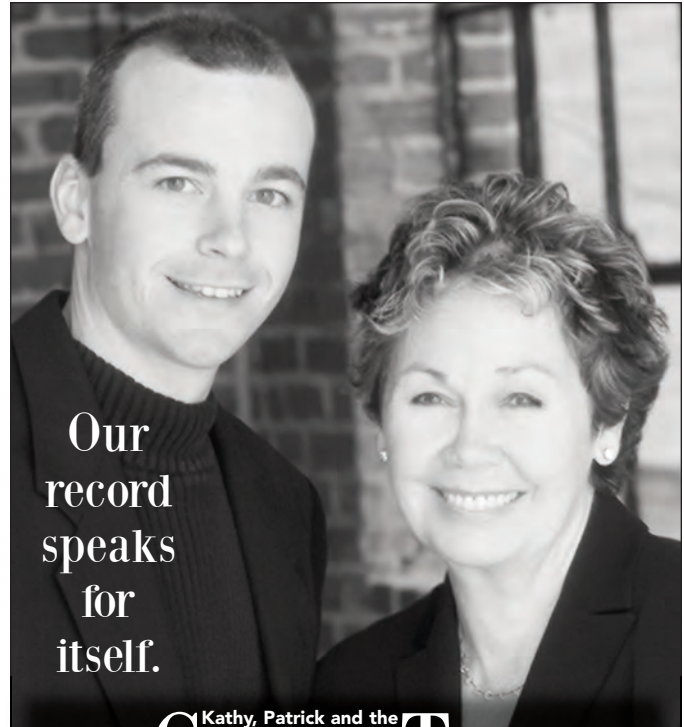
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NOTES OF INTEREST

Exercise and Socialize

Don't let the heat interfere with your exercise regime. Grab some water and enjoy the cool of the morning during these hot summer days.

The **Walkie/Talkies** meet at Three Bears Park, Delancey Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:15 a.m. for a one-hour stroll through our historic community.

Anyone is welcome to participate in this non-stressful, one-hour exercise & 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!" gathered recently for a CommuniTEA at Cafe Walnut, 703 Walnut Street, for a wonderful presentation by Dr. Howard Haber, Director, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, Pennsylvania Hospital, on the topic "How Can You Mend A Broken Heart?"

Rt. 12 SEPTA Bus Service Extended

Service will be extended from 3rd and Pine Streets to Columbus Boulevard and Dock Street. This service will provide customers with a direct connection to Route 25 for access to area shopping centers along Columbus Boulevard, including Columbus Commons and Pier 70.

The new routing will also service Spruce Street Harbor Park on Columbus Boulevard between Dock and Spruce Streets.

Independence Library Summer Hours

Independence Library, just south of Market on 7th Street, will be closed on Saturdays this summer. Named for its proximity to Independence National Park, this branch serves people who live in Society Hill, Old City, Queen Village, Washington Square West and Chinatown. Independence Branch also houses the Barbara Gittings Gay/Lesbian Collection.



PULITZER PRIZE WINNER

Mazel tov to Board member Sissie Lipton's son Eric, of *The New York Times*, for receiving the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting. His work shows how the influence of lobbyists can sway congressional leaders and state attorneys general, slanting justice toward the wealthy and connected.



POWEL HOUSE DAY

Powel House hosted their Garden Party on May 15, which was declared Powel House Day by both the Mayor and City Council — separate declarations!



Powel House Committee member Jan Stephano, Powel House site manager Jennifer Davidson, and Powel House Committee members Lee Dennis and Rita Powell.



Mark F. Squilla (left) presenting the Council declaration to Jonathan Burton (right), Executive Director of Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, which owns Powel House.

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SHCA 2015 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY MATT DEJULIO

2015 Membership Drive Approaches All-Time High

By early June, Society Hill Civic Association membership stood at 1,039, surpassing the 2014 year-end total of 1,035. Renewals have been running ahead by about four percent, while 103 members still have not renewed. One hundred new members have made up the difference. Our goal is to exceed our all-time high of 1,068, set in 2013, by year-end 2015.

If you have delayed in sending in your renewal or wish to join, please do so today and help us reach an all-time high. Remember, a number of restaurants and businesses offer discounts to shoppers who show their SHCA membership cards.

We welcome each of the over 3,600 Society Hill households to join SHCA. Your civic association helps protect your real estate investment by funding many improvement projects, as well as providing subsidies to neighbors who plant trees and fix their sidewalks. We help enhance your quality of life when we advocate on your behalf regarding zoning changes, real estate taxes, crime problems and traffic issues, through the hard work of our dedicated board of directors, committee members, block coordinators, and most importantly, your membership dues.


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

Email Mattdejulio@aol.com with questions or comments, which will be shared with our board members representing every quadrant in our unique and historic neighborhood.

Show your current membership card to receive a discount from this growing list of local businesses:

- Adornamenti**, hand-crafted jewelry, 1106 Pine Street
- Bistro Romano**, Italian restaurant, 120 Lombard Street
- Everyone's Racquet**, tennis & squash racquets, stringing, 130 S. 12th Street
- Happily Ever After**, toys, 1009 Pine Street
- In Good Health**, Therapeutic Massage, 232 S. 4th Street
- La Forno Ristorante/Trattoria**, classic Italian, 636 South Street
- M Restaurant** @ Morris House Hotel, 231 S. 8th Street
- Positano Coast**, Italian restaurant, Walnut and 2nd Streets
- Show of Hands**, craft gallery, 1006 Pine Street
- Society Hill Playhouse**, 507 S. 8th Street
- Twisted Tail**, Southern-style restaurant/bar, 509 S. 2nd Street

Matt DeJulio is a retired publishing executive. He has served SHCA as its administrator since 2001.



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

You Don't Have to Be Kosher To Shop at Roz Bratt's Bakery....



Roz, baking up some homemade goodies.

You don't even have to be Jewish. "You just have to be calm and eat a cupcake whenever the spirit moves you," says Roz, who sells the best cake and challah that a small amount of money can buy. Since 1997, Homemade Goodies by Roz, as her shop is called, has been a neighborhood fixture on 5th Street just north of South, 510, to be exact. Her inviting storefront displays her eclectic collection of teapots and cookie jars, dozens of which can also be found on the tables and counters inside.

Besides being an oasis of warmth reflecting the proprietor's welcoming and generous personality, the shop functions as a neighborhood community center. Customers and friends are invited to put up notices of local events — a concert at The Settlement Music School, a lecture at the Museum of American Jewish History. Roz is naturally civic-minded and enjoys helping those less fortunate than herself. She solicits handmade knitted and crocheted blankets for Project Linus, a nationwide organization that helps children in hospitals or who are victims of natural catastrophes. She even provides the yarn. An animal lover, she collects toys, leashes, dog food and money for Almost Home, a rescue organization with a branch in Pennsauken.

Coincidentally, I adopted my latest canine companion, Trixie, from Almost Home. While I bought a coffee and prune bar early one spring morning, Trixie was given several biscuits; they weren't baked on the premises, but were apparently delicious. "I used to have a dog but right now I'm a cat person," Roz told me, showing me a photo of Felix, a handsome black and brown tabby.

On a more recent visit to purchase a warm challah, which comes in several flavors, Roz related the serendipitous story of how she became a professional baker. "I was working as a bank teller when two women who had accounts at Mellon opened a luncheonette in Old City. I offered to make them a Jewish apple cake. It was gone within an hour." Thus began "the hardest thing I've ever done in my life," says Roz, who has been a pre-school teacher, corporate trainer, retail buyer and activities director

at a retirement home. "My mother and my grandmothers were all good cooks and bakers," says Roz. "I guess they passed along those genes to me."

A native Philadelphian who was raised in Mt. Airy, Roz graduated from Edmonds Elementary, Leeds Junior High and Germantown High. "They're all gone now," she laments. Today, Roz and her husband, Morris, live in Northeast Philly. Coincidentally, he used to drive the Number 50 SEPTA trolley down 5th Street. "He's retired now, so he helps me make deliveries to my suburban clients."

Her parents didn't keep a kosher home, nor does Roz, who has two grown children and two grandchildren. "It was at the request of a nearby Orthodox shul — B'nai Abraham — that I decided to have a non-dairy kosher shop, which boosted my business. I do a lot of catering for religious institutions, but I also serve the general population. I make cupcakes for Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, July 4th, Christmas and Chanukah." Roz not only drives to work every day except Saturday and Monday, when the shop is closed, but delivers challah and other baked goods on Fridays to hospitals and customers as far away as the Main Line and Elkins Park.

This November, when she turns 67, Roz will have served the community for 18 years. If you buy a home in Society Hill, you'll receive a Welcome Basket that includes Roz' banana bread and brownies. "Martha Levine asked me a long time ago if I'd participate in SHCA's program to welcome new neighbors, and of course I said 'Yes.'"

Roz shows me the bear-shaped cookie jar that she named Bob in memory of her dear departed brother who almost singlehandedly constructed the store. "I saw the bear on a stamp and copied it for my logo," she explains. With two full-time and two part-time bakers whom she trained, Roz maintains her long hours with a cheerful disposition. "This is such a hard business," she reiterates. "Many Society Hill residents avoid the South Street area. We always need more customers. I just want the entire Delaware Valley to know I'm here."

Visit her Facebook page, [homemadegoodiesbyroz](https://www.facebook.com/homemadegoodiesbyroz). Better yet, visit her shop!

Jane Biberman, former editor of *Inside Magazine*, is a freelance writer who has contributed to a variety of publications.

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