

SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.org

# Make Your Voice Heard

The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) invites all neighbors to the General Membership Meeting on September 21 to hear updates on topics concerning our community.

Jeanette Brugger, the City of Philadelphia Pedestrian & Bicycle Program Coordinator, will present an initial community outreach to Society Hill regarding the flexible delineator posts that are being explored for bike lanes on Spruce and Pine Streets.

Ms. Brugger looks forward to discussing some very preliminary information about this potential initiative. As of the publication deadline, the city has only received partial funding for the installation of such posts and has not yet begun the outreach that will be necessary, particularly to Society Hill, Washington Square West and Rittenhouse Square — the three communities along the Spruce and Pine Street bike lanes.

Visit www.philadelphiastreets.com/surveyand-design-bureau/bicycle-network/protectedbike-lanes to read frequently asked questions. We also encourage you to bring your own questions to the meeting. The city may not have all the answers yet, because the parameters of the flexible delineator post project won't be known until the community outreach has been completed. Please see Page 5 for more about this issue.

In addition, South Street Headhouse District (SSHD) Executive Director **Mike Harris** will catch us up on the latest plans for redevelopment of the Plaza at 2nd and South Streets.



Remember, everyone is welcome to attend our General Membership Meeting. Simply arrive at Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow

Mike Harris, Executive Director, SSHD

Auditorium, located on the first floor inside the main entrance at 8th Street near Spruce, before 7:30 p.m. All SHCA members interested in Society Hill issues are welcome at our monthly Board Meeting, held at 6:00 p.m. in the Great Court Conference Room.



Jeanette Brugger, City of Philadelphia Pedestrian & Bicycle Program Coordinator

### WEDNESDAY

September

21

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meetings Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Pennsylvania Hospital 8th and Spruce Streets

6:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Pennsylvania Great Court 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.

**Speakers** Jeanette Brugger, City Pedestrian & Bicycle Program Coordinator: Flexible Delineator Posts for Bike Lanes

Michael Harris, Executive Director, South Street Headhouse District: *Update* 





Celebrating the Jewish High Holy Days is as easy as a walk in the park, RH2 is FREE and open to the public. Find us in the southeast corner of Rittenhouse Square.

OCTOBER 2, 2016 • 5:00-7:00 PM

bzbi.org/events

5:00 PM: Concert with the Marom Band

6:00 PM: Traditional service





### SOCIETY HILL

Reporter Newsletter 2016

### **Editor-in-Chief**

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Nov/Dec Issue October 1

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### Website

Find past issues in color at www.societyhillcivic.org.

#### **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.

### **SHCA Board Officers and Directors**

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Loretta Burton

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### **Society Hill Towers** Lorna Katz Lawson

St. James Highrise

Priscilla McDougal

# Bulletin Board Snapshots of the people who make SHCA work.



### **Loretta Blasetti Burton**

is a native Philadelphian who moved to Penn's Landing Square in 2014. She lived in Chestnut Hill for more than twenty years, where she raised her sons, Jared, who lives and works in Boulder, and Jonathan, the Director of the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks in Society Hill.

Loretta recently retired from the School District of Philadelphia where she was most recently the Librarian and Community Service Coordinator at Central High School. Prior to that, she was a computer science teacher in the District. Loretta earned a Master's of Education Degree and a Post Master's Certificate in Instructional Technology. Combining the love of teaching and interest in technology, Loretta is starting a computer training business in the fall for older adults who are interested in learning new or enhancing technology skills.

Loretta enjoys gardening and is a member of the Society Hill PHS Tree Tender group. She also enjoys traveling and relishes time with her family especially her young granddaughter, Alessandra. Loretta recognizes the importance of taking an active role in our community and looks forward to supporting SHCA as a representative of Penn's Landing Square.



Congratulations to **Sissie Lipton** for receiving a
Gold Citation for National
and Community Service
for her work in Washington
Square! She was given both
a gold coin and a letter from
the White House congratulating her on receiving the
President's Volunteer Service
Award, signed by President
Obama. A Gold award honors more than 500 hours
of community volunteering
over a 12-month period.

This award recognizes, celebrates and holds up as role models Americans making a positive impact as engaged and deeply committed volunteers. It enables community organizations to amplify their gratitude by joining with the President of the United States to thank their most dedicated volunteers.

Well deserved, Sissie!

Kudos to the **Reporter** team for placing first across the nation in the 41st annual Neighborhoods, USA newsletter competition! The criteria include content, layout and overall appearance. We have received recognition from this organization twice before, but it is the first time we can say we're number one!



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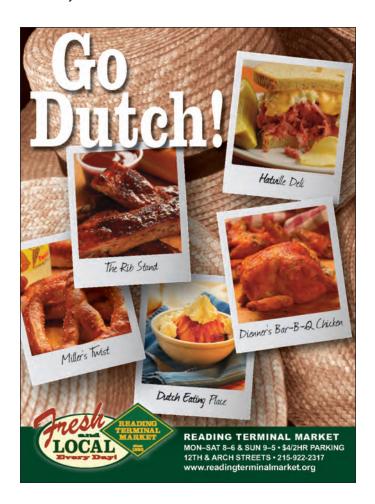
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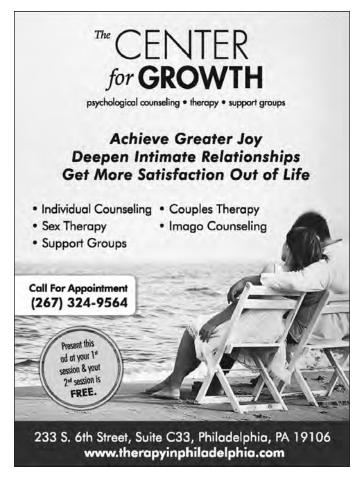
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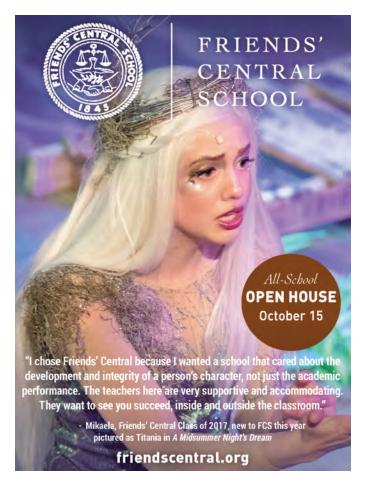
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### UPDATES

# Bike Lane Delineator Posts in Society Hill

SHCA has recently formed a committee to fact-find and disseminate information to our community about possible changes to bike lanes in Society Hill. The plan, called "Safe Spaces for Cyclists," aims to erect delineator posts to further protect cyclists in key parts of the city where there have been numerous collisions involving bikes. We have contacted the 6th Police District, and they will provide us with the number, if any, of bike collisions in our bike lanes on Spruce and Pine Streets since they were established five years ago.

Jeanette Brugger, Pedestrian and Bike Program Coordinator of the Philadelphia Transportation Department, told us recently that the department will gather input from us here in Society Hill long before any design decisions are made. The process is lengthy, and they are just in the "feasibility for design" phase. This department's job is to do what is best for each neighborhood, and they will have an open ear to our needs and concerns.

Nothing is 100 percent certain about locations of the delineators.

We have received comments from some homeowners who want to know how any changes will affect our quality of life — in terms of loading, unloading, delivery



An example of flexible delineator posts.

trucks, taxis, snow removal, etc. — as well as the historic character of Society Hill. We will continue to seek the latest information and keep you up to date in a timely way. Jeanette will speak to us at the September 21 SHCA general membership at 7:30 p.m. Mark your calendars.

If you have questions, please direct them to our administrator Matt DeJulio at mattdejulio@aol.com.

# Verizon Fios Installation

In the last issue of the *Reporter*, we informed neighbors that Verizon was rolling out Fios capability across Philadelphia. Starting in early August, the company has been working in Society Hill to install Fios connection to individual homes, though homeowners must request the actual service from Verizon.phila.osp@verizon.com.

Over the course of the summer, with the help of our SHCA Block Coordinators, Verizon representative Brian Magee has met with neighbors at group meetings on many blocks to evaluate each home and answer questions. He is evaluating blocks individually as each one is different; some have multi-units or apartments, and it is difficult to get access to the owners or managers.

There are two options for Fios installation. The "daisy chain" installs Fios cable in the homeowner's front or rear basement. Or the homeowner can choose sidewalk excavation, where the sidewalk must be dug up to install the cable in the same way as other utilities are done. Each option has pluses and minuses.

So far, interest level for the "daisy chain" has been high. Verizon will be able to quantify this by the end of September. Not every property can accommodate it, and it may still require the excavation. When the surveying is done, Verizon will begin the installation starting with homes near Front Street and work going west. The Society Hill rollout will be in stages across 13 segments of the neighborhood. Residents will receive 30 days' notice via US mail. One week before work starts, another notice will be made via door hangers.

To set up a group meeting with Brian and your block in September, please email him at verizon.phila.OSP@verizon.com.





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By Peter McFarland, Certified Arborist, MA-0164A

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• Brick Replacement





#### WELCOME BASKETS

# A Society Hill Welcome

If you are a new first-time homeowner, you **L** are eligible to receive a gift from SHCA: The Welcome Basket. It's filled with fresh foods, important neighborhood information and many gift certificates to area theaters, restaurants, shops, services and museums. To have a basket presented to you in your home, please contact us for an appointment at your convenience. Contact coordinator Martha Levine, 215-629-0727 or marthalev6@gmail.com.

We welcome two new contributors to our Welcome Basket family.

Keating's Rope and Anchor, Bar & Kitchen, at the Hilton Philadelphia, at Penn's Landing, 201 S. Columbus Boulevard. 215-521-6500. The restaurant serves contemporary American

cuisine with an emphasis on sustainable seafood. A social eatery, this waterfront dining experience draws inspiration from the heritage of Penn's Landing and its maritime routes. Website: www.ropeandanchorkitchen.com.

**Prince Theater, Next Move Dance, 1412** Chestnut Street, 215-422-4580. See world-class dance entertainment right here in Philadelphia, featuring eight iconic dance companies with a total of 48 performances from October 2016 through May 2017. Subscriptions available. Website: www.princetheater.org/nextmove.

As always, we give our sincerest thanks to all 67 contributors to our Welcome Baskets and encourage all neighbors to patronize their businesses and organizations.

#### WELCOME BASKET CONTRIBUTORS 2016 SOCIETY HILL

#### **Coffee Shops**

Old City Coffee, 221 Church Street/Reading Terminal Market Starbucks Coffee Inc., 8th & Walnut Streets

### **Food Stores**

Acme Market, 5th & Pine Streets

### Restaurants

Bistro Romano, 120 Lombard Street Bridget Foy's, 200 South Street City Tavern, 138 S. 2nd Street Creperie Beau Monde, 624 S. 6th Street Don Quixote Tapas, 526 S. 4th Street Fork, 306 Market Street Frieda's Café, 320 Walnut Street Garces Group: Amada, 217 Chestnut Street; Rosa Blanca, 707 Chestnut Street: and others Gnocchi, 613 E. Passyunk Ave. (near 5th & South) High Street on Market, 308 Market Street Keating's Rope & Anchor, Bar & Kitchen

@ The Hilton at Penn's Landing La Buca Ristorante, 711 Locust Street La Fourno, 636 South Street Le Pain Quotidien, 801 Walnut Street Malbec Argentine Steakhouse, 400-402 S. 2nd Street Mustard Greens (Chinese), 622 S. 2nd Street Positano Coast Restaurant, 2nd & Walnut Streets Ristorante Panorama, 14 N. Front Street Serpico, 604 South Street Talula's Daily, café & take out, 208 W. Washington Square

The Farm & Fisherman, 1120 Pine Street

**Specialty Foods** 

Homemade Goodies by Roz, 510 S. 5th Street Knead Bagels, 725 Walnut Street Melange Tea & Spice, 1042 Pine Street Metropolitan Bakery, 262 S. 19th Street (Rittenhouse Square) South Street Bagels, 613 S. 3rd Street

### **Specialty Shops**

Adornamenti (jewelry), 1106 Pine Street Cohen & Co. Hardware, 615 E. Passyunk (off 5th & South) Happily Ever After (toys), 1010 Pine Street

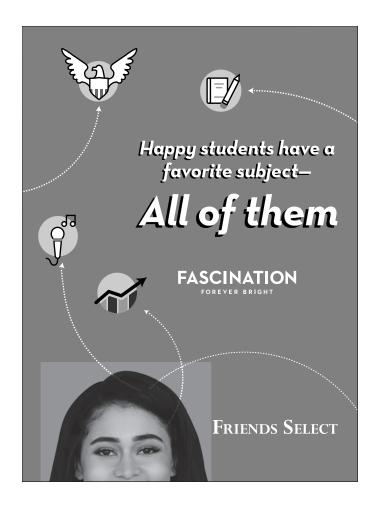
Head House Books, 619 S. 2nd Street Lolli Lolli (children's clothing/toys), 713 Walnut Street Paper On Pine (invitations/stationery), 115 S. 13th Street Show of Hands Gallery (crafts), 1006 Pine Street Yarnphoria (yarn and supplies), 1016 Pine Street

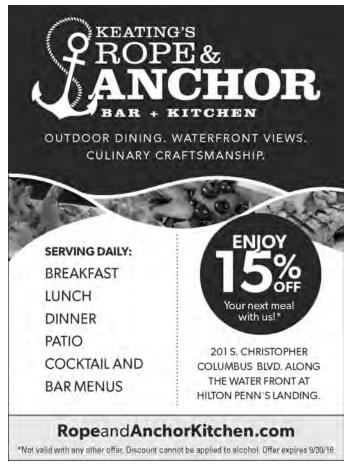
### **Theaters/Entertainment**

Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, 3680 Walnut Street Arden Theater, 40 N. 2nd Street Ballet X at Wilma Theater, 265 S. Broad Street 1812 Productions (all comedy theater), 215-592-9560 Ghost Tours of Philadelphia, 610-587-8308 Historic Philadelphia Inc., SW corner, 6th & Chestnut Streets Independence Seaport Museum, 211 South Columbus Blvd. InterAct Theater Company, at the Drake, 1512 Spruce Street Lantern Theater Company, 10th & Ludlow Streets (south of Market) Lights of Liberty — featuring Liberty 360, 6th & Chestnut Streets Museum of American Jewish History, 5th & Market Streets National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut Street Pennsylvania Ballet, Academy of Music, Broad & Locust Streets Penn's Landing Playhouse @ the Seaport Museum, 211 S. Columbus Boulevard Philadelphia Chamber Music Society 215-569-8080 Philadelphia History Museum, 15 S. 7th Street Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre, 2111 Sansom Street Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, 321 S. 4th Street Philadelphia Theatre Company, Suzanne Roberts Theater, Broad & Pine Streets Piffaro, The Renaissance Band, 215-235-8469 Prince Theater - Next Move Dance Affiliates, 1412 Chestnut Street The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, Kimmel Center, 215-545-1739 The Philadelphia Chamber Ensemble, Old Pine Church, 412 Pine Street Wilma Theater, 265 S. Broad Street

### **Other Services**

In Good Health, Therapeutic Massage, 232 S. 4th Street Judy Moon Massage Therapy, Hopkinson House, 604 Washington Square Liberty Tree & Landscape Management, 215-725-3637 Petmoir, A Memoir of Your Pet, 215-803-0723, www.petmoir.com Riff Cleaners, 314 S. 5th Street SCULPT - Personal Trainer, 215-803-0723 The Worth Collection (women's fashions), 215-925-8813, spattison@comcast.net









### HOW SAVVY ARE YOU?

# Ins and Outs of City Recycling

In the past few years, Philadelphia has made tremendous strides in curbside recycling with residential curbside recycling rates at an all-time high.

Recycling provides raw materials to manufacturers and helps create green jobs, preserve natural resources, reduce energy consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Recycling also provides fiscal benefits for the city. In 2012, the city earned more than \$6.6 million in recyclables revenues and saved more than \$8 million by not having to dispose of recyclables in the trash. The nearly \$15 million in combined revenues and savings helped the city fund other crucial services, including police and fire protection, parks and open space and citizen services.

The following items have little or no value as raw materials, damage recycling equipment and can even injure workers. Please leave them out!

- plastic bags
- Styrofoam™ food/beverage containers
- Styrofoam™ shipping/packing material
- · food waste
- wet or food-soiled paper
- waxed paper plates, cups and takeout containers
- greasy pizza boxes
- · tissues, paper towels and napkins
- light bulbs
- · porcelain and non-container glass
- · cassette tapes (VHS and audio)
- garden hoses
- needles and syringes
- electronics



### **Test Your Recycling Knowledge**

Take this test to see whether you're recycling savvy.

rec	cycling savvy.
1	Cartons go in:
	Recycling Bin Trash Can
2	Disposable coffee cups go in:
	Recycling Bin Trash Can
3	Plastic buckets go in:
	Recycling Bin Trash Can
4	Clean aluminum foil goes in:
	Recycling Bin Trash Can
5	Paper napkins go in:
	Recycling Bin Trash Can
6	Empty aerosol cans go in:
	Recycling Bin Trash Can
7	Shampoo and lotion bottles go in:
	Recycling Bin Trash Can
8	Plastic bags should not go in the recycling bin.
	True False
9	Put only spotless items in the recycling bin.
	True False
10	Greasy cardboard can't be recycled.
	True False
11	Styrofoam is not recyclable curbside.

True

False

### **Answers**

- **1** All cartons including milk, juice, broth, wine, ice cream and soup cartons are now recyclable.
- 2 Coffee cups are not recyclable because they have a plastic lining that can't be separated at the recycling facility. Switching to a reusable cup once a day can save 5 trees over 10 years.
- **3** As long as they fit in your bin, plastic buckets are recyclable. Remove any metal handles.
- **4** As long as it's clean, aluminum foil, aluminum pie and baking tins are recyclable curbside.
- **5** Napkins, tissues and paper towels go in the trash. The fibers are too short for recycling.
- **6** Aerosol cans are recyclable. Insure they're completely empty so they don't explode during the recycling process.
- **7** All plastic bottles are recyclable in Philly. After rinsing, replace the lids for recycling.
- **8** Plastic bags can be recycled at most local grocery stores, but not curbside.
- **9** Items do not have to be spotless, just empty.
- **10** Greasy or food-crusted cardboard is not recyclable, but don't toss the whole box. Tear off greasy parts and recycle the rest.
- 11 Styrofoam products including cups, plates, packing peanuts, foam blocks and coolers are not accepted in the curbside recycling bins. Styrofoam can be recycled at the Northeast Convenience Center located at State Road and Ashburner Street.



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

### HISTORIC TREES UNHURT IN HURRICANE SANDY

... Thanks to Liberty Tree & Landscape Management

When Hurricane Sandy pummeled the city in late October, 2012, not one of the many 200+-year-old trees at Gloria Dei Church on Columbus Blvd. came down. Pastor Joy Segal credits that feat to the outstanding work of Liberty Tree and Landscape Management.

See why so many people recommend Liberty Tree on Angie's List. *Your satisfaction is* guaranteed!

### Some Other Liberty Tree Clients:

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### KEEPING POSTED

BY AL CAVALARI

# A Bit of History Mystery

This post card from 1907 affords us the opportunity to discuss a quirk of history. St. Peter's churchyard hosts the grave of George Mifflin Dallas, former mayor of Philadelphia and Vice President of the United States under James Polk. While the church's web site and other sources state that Dallas, Texas, is named after George Dallas, an examination of the story finds this idea improbable.

According to the Dallas City Secretary's office, John Neely Bryan founded the city but left behind no evidence as to how he chose the name. Few of his writings survive. An acquaintance of Bryan's is in the historical record stating that Bryan said, "The town was named for my friend, Dallas." The problem becomes which Dallas is meant. Various sources offer seven different candidates for the bragging rights, but our local Mr. Dallas seems unlikely. There is no evidence that Bryan ever knew George Dallas. According to Wikipedia, George Dallas never traveled very far west of Philadelphia and Bryan never traveled very far east of Memphis. There is no evidence of George having an interest in Texas until he made a "casual reference" in an 1844 letter, three years after the town was already named.

It's also interesting to know that St. Peter's steeple was designed by William Strickland, the same architect who created the tower for Independence Hall and the Second Bank building on Chestnut Street. The bank now houses the portrait collection of Charles Wilson Peale, revolutionary war soldier and artist, whose grave is in St. Peter's churchyard.

Founded in 1758, most of the church is unchanged from the 18th century. It retains the original high-back box pews, which were in use when the Washington's frequented services here.

Tour guides are available at St. Peter's Church from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays and from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sundays. Occasionally the church and tour guide schedule varies; please call the parish office at 215-925-5968 in advance of your visit to confirm that the church will be open and a tour guide will be available.

**Al Cavalari** is a certified member of the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides and gives tours as a volunteer for the National Park Service. For a day job he operates The Flag Guys, a flag business in upstate New York.



St. Peter's Episcopal Church in quieter times.

# The 6th Annual River-to-River 12-Hour Tour Saturday, September 24, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

This 12-hour, free tour covers the city from river to river, from Pine Street to Vine Street. It takes place in four separate two and a half hour phases. Each visits as many as 25 cultural and historic sites. You can walk the whole tour from start to finish, or join at any of the staging points. Visit www.facebook.com/phillyguides for more information.

### REGISTER TO VOTE!

The deadline for registering to vote in the important 2016 general election is October 11, 30 days before Election Day, November 8. A person must be a citizen of the United States for at least 30 days, a resident of Pennsylvania and the election district for at least 30 days, and at least 18 years old on Election Day. Voters must register where they currently live or reside. Visit www.seventy.org to find the ways you can register.



### A LOOK BACK IN TIME

BY SANDRA ROTHMAN

### Octavia Hill Association

"The Octavia Hill Association is an independent organization that works to promote by education and active cooperation a higher public spirit and a better social order.' It sees in insanitary, dilapidated and overcrowded dwellings influences that lower the moral and the physical health of Philadelphia..."

Octavia Hill Association's first Annual Report, January 1, 1897 Travel north on Front Street, between Fitzwater and Pemberton, and notice a sign for the Octavia Hill Association (OHA). Explore a bit more and you'll discover Workman Place, an island of peace and privacy in the densely housed Queen Village neighborhood.

Here, within a stone's throw of Society Hill, is a surviving material artifact of Progressive-era housing reform.

### **A Woman With A Mission**

Octavia Hill, an English social reformer, was born in London in 1838 and worked from the age of 14 to improve the lives of urban working-class people.

She believed in self-reliance, was against the bureaucratic provision of municipal housing and was adamant about providing open spaces for poor people. The Settlement Movement — creating integrated, mixed-communities of rich and poor — grew directly out of Hill's work.

### **A City of Homes**

On the other side of the ocean, Philadelphia was known as a "city of homes," not of tenement dwellings as in other urban areas. By the late 19th century, however, this reputation was starting to tarnish. In many neighborhoods, the back alleys and courtyards were densely packed with poor people and provided little in the way of sanitation. Emily Wayland Dinwiddie writes in *Housing Conditions in Philadelphia* (published in 1904) of one apartment, consisting of a single room and bath, occupied by a family of seven. Another small, six-room building housed six families comprised of 20 people.

These abysmal conditions attracted the attention of reformers who wanted to aid African American and immigrant residents in communities such as Southwark, today's Queen Village.

continued on page 13





I pinch myself every time I come home because I feel so lucky to live here. The Luxury.

The Views.

The Lifestyle.

THE ST-JAMES WASHINGTON SQ.

200 W. Washington Square Philadelphia, PA 19106 thestjamesphiladelphia.com 844.762.5416

### A LOOK BACK IN TIME

### continued from page 12

Hannah Fox and Helen C. Jenks, prominent Quaker women interested in social service, founded the Octavia Hill Association after attending a lecture about the slum conditions in the city's fourth and fifth wards, neighborhoods directly surrounding our own Society Hill. In 1888, the women purchased and refurbished two houses on Rodman Street, renting them to African American families.

Hannah's cousin Helen Parrish then visited Octavia Hill in London for six months to learn more about putting the reformer's theories into practice.

### **Five Percent Philanthropy**

Octavia Hill sought to improve housing conditions for the working class by refurbishing slum dwellings with capital that would provide a five percent return to investors. Previous attempts for reform were founded along religious charitable lines and failed to be successful.

### **Friendly Rent Collectors**

Hill observed that many of the problems preventing the poor from renting decent and affordable housing were caused by absentee landlords. She believed that personal relationships could be formed through the use of female "friendly rent collectors," who would make it their mission to instill values of thrift and responsibility as they collected rent each month.

### **Octavia Hill Association**

The reformers who founded Philadelphia's Octavia Hill Association shared her belief in the power of both environment and example to change and dignify lives. Tenants were expected to contribute rent and their own effort to maintain the dwellings that were renovated with capital raised by Five Percent Philanthropy.

The Association's first properties were located in wards along the Delaware River just below South Street, where one-tenth of the city's population was densely packed into one-eightieth of the available area.

### **Workman Place**

Nearly three decades before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, George Mifflin, the grandson of William Penn, erected a group of small tenement buildings for the families of middle-class workmen employed at the nearby waterfront. The Mifflin family sold the buildings and the large lot behind them to John Workman, who constructed three larger houses along 742-46 Front Street in 1812. The lot became a common central courtyard.



Workman Place. Note 'GM' (for George Mifflin) and construction date '1748' on the walls.



George Mifflin Houses and Workman's Court at Front and Pemberton Streets; illustration by Frank Taylor; 1914

Lydia S. Clark, an advocate for housing reform, purchased the buildings from the Workman family in 1906 and later employed the Octavia Hill Association to manage and maintain them. OHA purchased the property in 1946 and still owns and manages it.

### **The Present Day**

The Octavia Hill Association expanded its activities to other areas of the city, including Germantown, Kensington and Manayunk. By 1929, it owned or managed 450 housing units.

The scope of OHA's activities changed in the 20th century as new legislation and agencies enforced stricter building codes, municipal services improved and the federal government became involved in public housing projects.

After World War II, the Association incorporated as a real estate management company that now manages both luxury and affordable housing in many areas of the city.

**Sandra Rothman,** a retired educator for the School District of Philadelphia, is the editor of the *Reporter*.

### OUT AND ABOUT

# A Gift That Will Keep On Giving

Independence National Historical Park (INHP) celebrated the National Park Service's Centennial with a ribbon-cutting ceremony honoring SHCA's contributions to Washington Square on June 2. Councilman Mark Squilla, State Representative Michael O'Brien and INHP Superintendent Cynthia MacLeod addressed the gathering.

Our civic association, using funds raised from the Washington Square Affairs and private donations, revamped the fountain and memorial areas and upgraded the sprinkler system. This gift is guaranteed to bring pleasure to our neighbors for years to come.

Special thanks to Laurie Olin and his firm The Olin Studio for donating professional services and Special Sponsors Suzanne and Norman Cohn, as well as Bernie and Joan Spain, for their very generous contributions. And none of this could have happened without the hard work and vision of both Sissie Lipton and Bobbi Karafin. See page 3 for more about Sissie.

As part of its Centennial celebration, the National Park Service honored SHCA's contributions to Washington Square.













### OUT AND ABOUT

















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### ON OUR SHELF

BY MARGARET GUSHUE

### Sex Object: A Memoir by Jessica Valenti

Author and *Guardian US* columnist Jessica Valenti has been leading the national conversa-

tion on gender and politics for over a decade. In this memoir, she explores the toll that sexism takes from the everyday to the existential. The premise is a simple one. Valenti describes a reoccurring nightmare she had as a child of being chased by wolves. Within a few paragraphs she acknowledges that these wolves were a symbol for the men she felt threatened

by. This leads her to ask, "Who would I be if I didn't live in a world that hated women?"

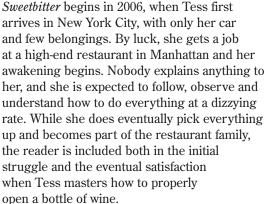
Valenti has no interest in making light of the harassment and sexism she has experienced in her life. This no-nonsense take on a feminist memoir made it feel refreshing and different, even if at times the rage was palpable. She does not label herself as a sex object; instead, she recalls the ways she has been objectified.

As a memoir, the book can feel a little like a solo affair. Readers learn where she grew up, how she felt in school, but the revolving characters — Mother, Father, Husband, Bad Ex-Boyfriend — never feel completely fleshed out. The exception is her daughter. Valenti's anxiety and hope for Layla color every description.

Sex Object succeeds as a well-written memoir, making the personal political from the very first pages. Readers familiar with the genre can appreciate that the book does not end with a marriage or any other life-affirming experience. Anyone with the slightest interest in feminism or what it means to be a woman can learn from Sex Object.

### **Sweetbitter** by Stephanie Danler

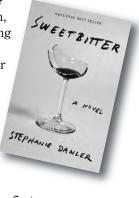
This debut novel is a bildungsroman, traditionally defined as a book dealing with a person's formative years or spiritual education. Stephanie Danler plays with this concept, but instead of college, the protagonist Tess navigates the world of fine dining. The reader is alongside her as she learns how to taste and differentiate wines, tries oysters and finds a home in New York City.



The real joy in reading Stephanie Danler's book is the description of both the food Tess eats and the world she becomes comfortable in. Getting lost in the addictive, demanding and, as Danler herself put it, physically punishing experience of a server is exciting.

Ultimately, *Sweetbitter* is a coming-of-age novel, but Danler executes a salacious novel with literary merit, making it a sensual and invigorating read.

**Margaret Gushue** is a bookseller at Head House Books, Society Hill's only local, independently owned bookstore, located at 619 S. 2nd Street.



Bring this article to Head House Books and receive 20 percent off any hardcover fiction or nonfiction title in the store, or have Headhouse Books donate it to SHCA on your behalf.







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Needs some work. 728 sf | \$339,000



# Allan Domb Real Estate



### HEADHOUSE FARMERS' MARKET

BY KATY WICH AND LISA KELLY OF THE FOOD TRUST

# Weaver's Way Co-op

Weavers Way is a stalwart at the Food Trust's Headhouse Farmers Market. Thislocal Northwest Philadelphian farming co-op has been a merchant at Headhouse since the market reopened in 2007.

Did you ever wonder why this farming collective is so named? The name refers to a pioneering group of weavers in Rochdale, England, who established one of the first successful food co-ops in 1844. They did so "to provide an alternative to poor-quality and adulterated food and provisions, using any surplus to benefit the community," according to the International Co-operative Alliance.

The original Co-op developed a charter of operating principles, which two centuries later still shape the ethos of the co-operative movement worldwide. The founders of Weavers Way named their organization as a tribute to the work of those weavers in the 19th century. Today, Weavers Way is an extensive organization, partnering with programs in schools and local communities, and has established a highly successful Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program that involves some 150 member households. In addition, Weavers Way now operates four retail stores in Northwest Philadelphia.

Nina Berryman is the Farm Manager for Weavers Way and is a familiar face at the Headhouse Market. Berryman took time out from her busy schedule to give us an idea of what to expect this autumn. "With the colder weather, you'll begin to see our fall crops. At the tail end of summer, we will still have tomatoes, eggplants, peppers and carrots, which will keep going into the fall. What you will start

to see, however, is the appearance of radishes, turnips and specialty crops, like the Daikon radish, which is getting popular. We do our best to provide a constant supply of fresh bunched herbs and salad greens, and we're known for that. The Headhouse Market is a long season," continues



**Nina Berryman, Farm Manager for Weavers Way** 

Berryman, "so we use hoop houses that provide passive heat, and then we can still grow all of our vegetables in the ground."

While the Weavers Way produce cannot be advertised as being "organically certified," produce is grown using natural agricultural methods. As Berryman explains, "Since we aren't technically certified, we can't formally market our products as 'organic,' but we don't use chemical pesticides on our farms. We prefer more natural methods. For example, we recently had an infestation of Mexican bean beetles in our bean crop. To remedy the problem, we will turn to helpful insects and introduce beneficial wasps, which do not sting humans, but they do go after the bean beetles. There are alternative methods to using chemicals in farming and we prefer to go this route."

Weavers Way features a number of healthy and delicious seasonal recipes on their blog. To find out more about this organization, please visit www.weaversway.coop. If you are interested in learning more about the CSA, email henrygotcrops@weaversway.coop



The Food Trust. in partnership with Get Healthy Philly, operates more than 25 Farmers Markets in Philadelphia, including the Headhouse Farmers Market, Philadelphia's largest outdoor market. For more than twenty years, The Food Trust has been working to ensure that everyone has access to affordable, nutritious food and information to make healthy decisions. For more info, visit www.thefoodtrust.org.



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This endlessly elegant four story single family 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath townhome has been thoughtfully modernized while maintaining its original character. The historic home features an extra wide living room with a fireplace and oversized windows, glass solarium dining room, a fully renovated kitchen, and a private patio and garden perfect for entertaining. There is a sunfilled den/library with cathedral ceilings and exposed brick, a master suite with a fireplace and original pine floors, a large finished basement, and ample closet and storage space throughout. 3,246 sf | \$1,195,000

# 212 DELANCEY STREET





This one-of-a-kind 3 bedroom plus den, 2 full, 2 half bathroom home features a marble foyer, eat-in kitchen, dining room, and custom mural work throughout. There is a bi-level den with a spiral staircase, sun-soaked master suite, and a grand living space complete with soaring ceilings, marble floor, and sliding glass doors that open to a charming brick patio. Priced to buy, this a perfect opportunity to restore or enhance this Society Hill gem. 2,838 sf | \$839,900

# INDEPENDENCE



Sun-soaked two bedroom, two bathroom with floor to ceiling windows, master bedroom with a walk-in closet, and a private balcony offering magnificent views to the south and west. 1,387 sf | \$789,000



orner 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom on a high floor with balcony. 2,045 sf | **\$1,050,000** 



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### SOUTH STREET HEADHOUSE DISTRICT

BY KERI WHITE

### **New Signage in the District**

In an effort to improve public safety and address neighbors' concerns about noise, trash and loitering, SSHD has installed new signage throughout the surrounding communities of Society Hill, Queen Village, Bella Vista and



New Sigr

Washington Square West. Visitors are now informed that they are in a residential neighborhood and asked to respect neighbors by behaving courteously. Additional signs alert drivers that security cameras have been placed throughout the District. This is just another way that SSHD strives to be a good neighbor and ensure that they are contributing positively to the community.

### **Philly Free Streets Comes to South Street**



On Saturday September 24, the entire length of South Street between the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers will be closed from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. to allow pedestrians, bikers, runners and strollers to travel freely.

When the Pope came to Philly last year, people discovered they loved having the

streets barricaded and closed to traffic. They walked and biked and ran through the empty streets freely. In fact, they loved it so much that a group called Open Streets PHL was started with the goal of closing down the streets again, resulting in "Philly Free Streets."

SouthStreet Headhouse District (SSHD)
Executive Director Mike Harris says, "We were thrilled to be chosen for this pilot program by the city. We anticipate a great day that will enable neighbors, visitors and businesses to experience the uniqueness of South Street. The event will really show the balance between residence and commerce, which is one of the really wonderful things about the District."

The route will follow South Street up the Schuylkill River Trail, along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and into West Fairmount Park, passing through 15 neighborhoods along the way. The more than seven-mile route will include free, family-friendly fitness activities and educational programming about the city's waterways, public art, architecture, environment and vibrant cultures. There is no formal start or finish to the event, and all are welcome to attend.

Some through streets will allow traffic to cross South Street during the closure. Police officers will be stationed at select north-south street corners along South Street to allow traffic through at intervals. Organizers are working with SEPTA and the police in advance to ensure a smooth and orderly event.

A detailed map and further details of the event route is available at www.phillyfreestreets.com.

**Claire Batten** and **Keri White** are the dynamic duo behind Philly Food lovers. They are business partners in KCC, a marketing and copy-writing agency.





# THE Lippincott

227 S. 6th Street







High-end, fully custom 2 bedroom plus den, 3 bathroom home with an open chef's kitchen with granite counter tops and wood cabinetry, exposed brick walls in the living area, 11 foot ceilings with exposed beams, fireplace, private terrace with city views, and beautiful dark oak floors throughout. Parking and storage space in the building are included.

2,189 sf | \$2,100,000 PRICE REDUCED \$1,895,000







3 bedroom plus den, 3 bathroom built from raw space featuring a spacious great room with a fireplace, balcony boasting sunrise city views, and adjacent dining room. There is a chef's kitchen, den with exposed brick, gorgeous hardwood floors and beautifully appointed marble bathrooms. Climb a stunning spiral staircase to the home's crown jewel, a second floor private roof deck offering city views to the north. 2,306 sf | \$1,795,000







Custom designed 2 bedroom plus den, 2 bathroom with oversized windows that literally bring Washington Square into the home. The residence features high ceilings, exposed ductwork, an open chef's kitchen and lavish master suite. Bathrooms are beautifully appointed in marble. There are hardwood floors and designer finishes throughout. 1,775 sf | \$1,495,000



# Allan Domb Real Estate



# Aging in Place Challenges

### **Get the Facts; Know Your Options**

As older Americans increasingly decide to forgo selling their homes and moving into retirement or assisted-living facilities, previously unconsidered challenges to their independence, psychological state and emotional well-being have become apparent. Join Patty Grace, Home Helpers Area Manager and nationally recognized eldercare expert, on September 28, 7 to 9 p.m., at Pennsylvania Hospital, Zubrow Auditorium, to discuss challenges of aging in place and solutions to stay safe. Light refreshments will be served.

### **Exercise and Socialize**

The end of the summer brings cooler days and colorful foliage. Enjoy both with your neighbors in these walking groups.

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.

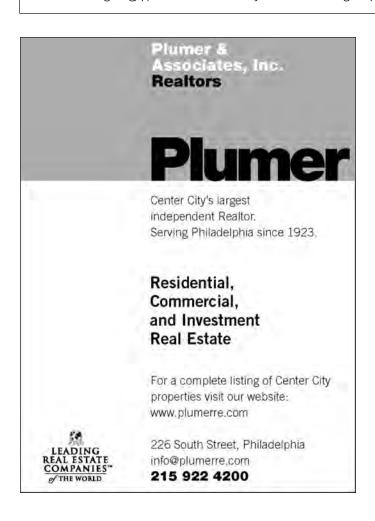
**"Philly Is Walking In The Park!"** meets at the fountain in the center of Washington Square, 6th and Locust Streets, at 8 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for a half-hour, self-paced walk through our historic, beautiful park, led by neighbor Dr. Lisa Unger. All are invited to join us.

### SAVE JEWELER'S ROW!

Jewelers' Row is composed of more than 300 retailers, wholesalers and craftsmen, located on Sansom Street between 7th and 8th Streets, and on 8th Street between Chestnut and Walnut Streets.

A suburban developer wants to demolish six buildings on the Row in order to put up a new luxury apartment tower. Jewelers Row is America's oldest and second-largest diamond district in the nation. Its enduring charm comes from the intimate small-scale shops and storefronts that have lined this brick-paved thoroughfare for 150 years. Gouging out these six buildings will forever alter Jewelers' Row and ruin one of our city's most iconic destinations.

Visit www.change.org/p/anne-fadullon-save-jewelers-row to sign a petition asking to Save Jewelers Row!







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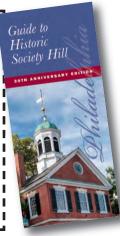
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### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY MATT DEJULIO

# 2016 Membership Drive Marks a New Record

SHCA membership reached an all-time high of 1,112 by early August, which surpasses last year's record of 1,103. The record prior to last year was 1,068 in 2013.

With a few months left to go before the books for 2016 are officially closed and renewals go out in November, we can be proud of another record-breaking year. More and more residents are realizing that our volunteer organization fights on many fronts for their behalf.

We welcome 135 new members so far this year and ask the 86 members who have not renewed to reconsider their decision.

As a special bonus this year, every member may receive a **free** copy of the recently published *Guide to Historic Society Hill*. Just email mattdejulio@aol.com and let him know you wish to be put on the distribution list. You may receive it electronically if you prefer that over the spiral bound edition. The book will retail for \$10 and will be available at the Philadelphia History Museum. An order form is below for those who wish to purchase extra copies by mail.

We welcome each of the over 3,600 households to join SHCA. Your civic association helps protect your real estate investment by funding many of our 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. All of this is accomplished 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, historic neighborhood.

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

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### NIFTY NEIGHBORS IN MY OWN BACKYARD

BY JANE BIBERMAN

## Jim and Marsha Moss

A Dynamic Couple

They met at a party. "Jim arrived at midnight and rather than a gift of wine, he brought ice cubes, just as the party's last cube melted," recalls Marsha, adding, "I liked his sense of humor." "And I liked Marsha's stories about her recent experience as a student guide in Moscow," remembers Jim.

Soon after they married, the couple moved to Elkins Park to raise their two children, Michael and Meredith. Jim, a graduate of Penn Law School, began practicing in Philadelphia. Marsha earned a graduate degree and taught high school. "We were both very involved in our community and in politics," says Marsha, "but Jim won the prize when he was selected as a McGovern delegate to the Democratic National Convention."

Life was good, but limiting, so they eagerly returned to the city. Society Hill Towers became their home. "The Towers was a key component in the revitalization of Society Hill, and it continues as a positive beacon," says Jim. He has served on its governing council for 20 years, currently as president.

Marsha, who is a public art consultant and a member of the Mayor's Public Art Advisory Council, has contributed to the vibrancy of the Society Hill and the city at large. As director of Sculpture Outdoors, she curated over 50 exhibitions on public and alternative sites within Philadelphia and across the country. In the mid-90s, she founded the Artfront Partnership, a venture that commissions artists to transform dark vacant storefronts into illuminated dynamic Artfronts.

She explains that public art can be any material, any style, any size — from modest to monumental. It may be integrated into a specific site or it can be an object on a pedestal. In Society Hill, the Dilworth Memorial, by Emlen Etting, is a good example: "It was relocated by the Center City District from Dilworth Plaza to a site adjacent to the Society Hill Towers. 'Phoenix Rising' has become a landmark and a symbol of the rebirth

of Society Hill. And with its dynamic personality, it has also given life to a lifeless space." Marsha adds, "When great cities of the past are judged, we think of the quality of their art, architecture and culture. Art also boost's the city's economy, as it enriches the experience of living, working and visiting Philadelphia. We have the largest collection of public art in the country. It's everywhere — from Three Bears Park to corporate plazas, the International Airport to the Ben Franklin Bridge, and from high-rise rooftops to the underground SEPTA stations."

It's work that Jim enjoys too, especially when travel is involved. "The best was Marsha's exchange program with China in the 80s," he says. "She took an exhibition to China and returned to the States with a different show of Chinese artworks. A fantastic experience! But the real benefit has been the friendships gained with so many artists — really amazing people."

Apart from his law practice, Jim has been very active with the SHCA. "It's been hugely rewarding to participate with so many neighbors to preserve what's best about our historic Society Hill. In recent years I chaired the legal committee, where my major role was negotiating with developers to secure protections and benefits for the community. Zoning issues are always with us. Most imminent is the planning for Foglietta Plaza, where tentative proposals include a Memorial Park and the return of the International Sculpture Garden."

As counsel for the Central Delaware Advocacy Group, Jim's been involved in its effort to advance the Master Plan for the waterfront. "After 50 years of aborted proposals, there will soon be significant progress in the development of Penn's Landing," he says.

If there's room for improvement in Philadelphia, Jim believes it's the overarching issue of public education. "It's hardly profound, but true: we owe all our children a high-quality education. The return on investment is huge: enriching



The Mosses in front of 'Phoenix Rising.'

lives, reducing the cost of the social safety net and the justice system, boosting the economy and persuading our booming young population to remain in the Philadelphia as their families grow."

The couple notes that Society Hill has been called "America's First Neighborhood." Living in an historic district in a World Heritage City, Marsha and Jim believe we need to preserve the best of Society Hill as we seek to enhance the lives of its residents. "I'm confident that SHCA will remain its successful champion," says Jim.

"We've been here for three decades and love it," says Marsha. "I feel the charm of Society Hill each time I walk down a cobblestone street. And I anticipate our community's vital future as more and more young and diverse families move in with new energy."

Both of their children moved back to the area with their families. Michael, Aleeze, Owen and Kaya live in Society Hill; and Meredith, Katherin and Ethan live in Bucks County. "How lucky can you be!" exclaims Marsha.

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



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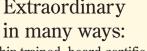
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