



SOCIETY HILL

Reporter

www.societyhillcivic.org

Welcome to New Board Members

The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) welcomes seven new members to its board of officers and directors. They join a diverse group of neighbors who volunteer their time and considerable talents for the good of our community.

Concha Alborg, Representative for Hopkinson House, has lived in Society Hill for 17 years. She taught at Saint Joseph's University for 28 years, is now retired as an emerita professor, and has published numerous academic publications, as well as works of fiction and creative nonfiction.

Susan Collins, Director at Large, was a trial lawyer specializing in criminal defense in her first career. More recently, she has been upper-school history teacher at Baldwin School.

Camille Orman, Director at Large, has lived in our neighborhood since 1999. A biostatistician, she has been working in pharmaceutical research for over 30 years and is presently a senior director at Janssen Research and Development.

Kate Robinson, Recording Secretary, has lived in Society Hill since 2001. She is an attorney at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell and Hippel specializing in medical malpractice defense.

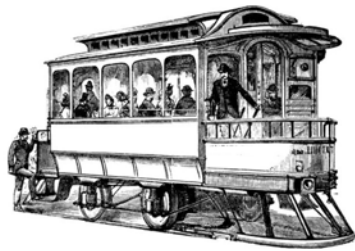
Larry Spector, Southwest Quadrant Director, has lived in Society Hill for 40 years. As an attorney, he represents parties with business disputes and occasionally serves community organizations dealing with proposed development.

Doug Stay, Southeast Quadrant Director, has lived in our community since 2011. He has spent his career in healthcare and education management, and is currently at Teach for America.

Brian Wengenroth, Northeast Quadrant Director, has lived in our neighborhood since 2001. He is a retired partner in Booz & Co., where he led the Latin American and Strategic Services practices. His professional experience encompasses business and financial management, information technology, business transformation and project management.

We thank all board members, many of whom have served our association for years, for their dedication to this historic community.

Please consider adding your voice to the mix by joining SHCA and attending our monthly board meetings.



*Hop on Board the
Society Hill
Local!*



More than houses were open on Society Hill House and Garden Tour Day. Mini-entrepreneurs were out, too! See pages 16-17 for tour photos.

Neighborhood Checklist

- ✓ See a Franklin light that's out? Call 311 to report it.
- ✓ Keep our sidewalks safe. Turn on your front door lights after dark every night.
- ✓ See graffiti on our neighborhood public spaces? Take a photo and forward it directly to todd@graffitiremovealexperts.com. For removal on private property, call 311 or 215-686-8686.

Society Hill List of Contractors

Available by request to members only, SHCA has compiled a 13-page **Society Hill List of Contractors** of all types recommended by Society Hill homeowners, for the use of residents who need professional contracting services. The list is not available online.

Contact Martha Levine for your copy at 215-629-0727 or marthalev6@gmail.com.



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Sandra Rothman

Columnists
Marilyn Appel,
Jane Biberman,
Al Cavalari, Matt DeJulio,
Mike Harris, Lisa Kelly,
Martha Levine,
Sandra Rothman,
Katy Wich

Contributors
Claire Batten,
Amy DeMarco, Rosanne
Loesch, Sissie Lipton,
Fred Tangeman, Keri White

Graphic Design
judy@parallel-design.com

Press Release Liaison
c/o Matt DeJulio
mattdejulio@aol.com

Advertising Manager
Lenore Hardy
hardy@drexel.edu

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Society Hill Civic Association
P. O. Box 63503
Philadelphia, PA 19147
Tel. 215-629-1288

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

The views set forth in the opinion articles are the views
of the authors and are not necessarily those of SHCA.

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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Recording Secretary
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ROSANNE LOESCH

Clarifying Our Vision

I attended the annual Preservation Alliance Achievement Awards ceremony at Vie on Broad Street in June and was truly inspired by the many people and organizations in our region that are doing the important work of historic preservation. For those of you who don't know it, the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia is a private, non-profit group that was established in 1996 to be the principal historic preservation advocacy organization for the Philadelphia region. At the June ceremony, the highest award, the James Biddle Lifetime Achievement Award in Historic Preservation, was presented to Frank G. Matero, Professor of Architecture at PennDesign. Frank has nurtured students in historic preservation for 37 years, aided the conservation of archaeological sites on four continents and led teams in the restoration of iconic sites like the Guggenheim Museum, the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial and Ellis Island. With Professor Matero's gracious permission, I'd like to share with you his inspiring acceptance speech:

2016 marked a milestone for historic preservation in this country — the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, which not only changed the face of the American landscape, but affected and legitimized an entirely new way of thinking about our public history, land use, our cities, and a rejection of post war obsolescence. We have come a long way since 1966 with federal and local legislation and policy, with incentivizing rehabilitation over demolition, and with an army of professionals who have joined the public in advocating and serving preservation interests.

Unlike the 1960s, preservation today has broadened its concerns, finding resonance in environmental, economic, psychological, and sociological arguments for why preservation of the built environment matters beyond its traditional definitions. In this regard, preservation has matured, yet in an effort to relate to the complex crises we face today, it has sometimes forgotten the power that the tangible, the physical, has in reinforcing the fundamental values of place, identity, and narrative. For far too long we have let others define what we stand for — often summarized as “anti-progress” and

“resistance to change.” Yet scholarship has shown that early preservationists were anything but traditional, and often on the forefront of social and cultural reform.

With the nearing close of the second decade of the 21st century, the state of the world is far from healthy. Environmental degradation, economic malaise, cultural disjuncture, political isolation, and social strife all threaten the stability and future of life as we know it. Repair and reparation are old responses to that which is damaged, broken, or dysfunctional, yet the global nature of today's challenges is unprecedented. Each discipline and profession has an ethical, if not moral, obligation to confront these challenges through thoughtful reflection and decisive action, including advocacy.

Heritage Preservation has always been about repair, whether it is building rehabilitation, urban revitalization, or social justice. If there ever was a moment when preservation of the built environment has had something to contribute to the current state of social and political strife, economic recession, and environmental destruction, it is now. We advocate for preservation because objects and places hold important information, associations, and meaning; because they help embody social and cultural memory, which if lost, would make the world a less rich and connected place in which to live. Folk musician Bruce “Utah” Phillips, aka “The Golden Voice of the Great Southwest” and tried and true train tramp, wisely remarked, “The long memory is the most radical idea in this country. It is the loss of that long memory which deprives our people of that connective flow of thoughts and events that clarifies our vision, not of where we're going but where we want to go.”

In light of that long vision, let me then end with William Penn's Prayer for Philadelphia, 1684.

Philadelphia, what care, what service, what travails have there been to bring thee forth and preserve thee from such as would abuse and defile thee. O that thou mayest be kept from the evil that would overwhelm thee, that thou mayest be preserved to the end.

Let's all do our part.

For more information about the recipients of the 2017 Preservation Achievement and the Preservation Alliance, please visit their website www.preservationalliance.com. Society Hill Civic Association is a member of the Preservation Alliance. Why don't you consider membership too?



Rosanne Loesch, SHCA President

Rosanne Loesch is an attorney and president of SHCA. She, her husband and two children have lived in a historic house on Spruce Street since 2002 and, before that, lived for 14 years in the Washington Square West neighborhood.

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IMPORTANT UPDATES

SHCA Launches New Website

Staying informed about our beautiful and historic neighborhood has become a lot easier. Just log onto www.societyhillcivic.org and become acquainted with SHCA's new website. It's where you and your neighbors will go to find up-to-date news about our community and the many services that SHCA provides.

A year in the making, the project was spearheaded by co-chairs Amy DeMarco and Bonnie Halda, as well as committee members George Dowdall and David Rucki. The committee did an extensive search and considered seven local web developers before making their final decision. Impressed by their creativity and experience with nonprofit organizations, SHCA hired Masters Group Design (MGD) of Philadelphia. Lisa Weinberger and her team designed and built a site that is appealing and functional. Bonnie's beautiful photos of Society Hill add to the attractiveness of the site and provide a window into our wonderful neighborhood.

The new website will make it easier for users to sign up for events, donate to one of SHCA's many worthwhile projects and renew their memberships. A key feature allows for financial transactions to be made by credit card.

One of the primary goals of the site is to provide the community with news in a timely fashion. Using the latest web design technology, the site will be easy to update and maintain. We'll keep the site current and active, so community members will have reason to visit often.

Log on and look around. Check the calendar for upcoming events, such as general membership meetings and Clean-Up Days, or see updates on important issues affecting our community.



Of course, we want to know what you think, so please send your comments, suggestions and questions to Matt DeJulio at info@societyhillcivic.org.

Here is SHCA's new website homepage. Check it out!

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SPRUCE STREET HARBOR PARK

Neighbors Voice Concerns About Harbor Park

SHCA President Rosanne Loesch hosted a community meeting on June 14 at the Society Hill Towers Community Room, in response to neighbors who were concerned about quality-of-life issues around Spruce Street Harbor Park.

The room was filled to capacity, with about 80 neighbors in attendance. Many were from the Towers, Penn's Landing Square and near or at Front Street. The two guest speakers were Joe Forkin, the soon-to-be president of the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC), and Officer Joe Ferraro of the 6th Police District.

Neighbors came prepared to discuss Spruce Harbor Park and how its existence has had some negative impacts on Society Hill. The following complaints were directed to both speakers:

- Traffic back-ups on Front, all the way down to Pine, South, 3rd and 4th Streets, are still a regular occurrence due to the increased use of Penn's Landing for Spruce Street Harbor Park activities, and due to change of the 100 block of Spruce Street from one-way to two-way.
- Parking: Residential Permit Parking holders have difficulty finding permit parking during Harbor Park operating hours. Also, some visitors to Harbor Park who park in Society Hill stay in the area after their visit and cause disturbances.
- Litter is a problem. Too many Harbor Park visitors leave debris from food containers and empty beverage bottles, from Front Street westward into Society Hill. Cleanup of this litter following the weekend crowds is particularly needed.
- Party behavior with loud voices, loud music, drinking alcohol, eating food, sitting on or in cars, in some cases until the early hours of the morning, is also a problem. Vandalism of property is occurring, like turned over planters. Urination on private property is also a concern.

The following suggestions were made to help ameliorate these problems:

- Better police presence, both plainclothes and marked cars strategically placed to force offenders to move on. Joe Forkin promised to explore using DRWC resources to increase police presence in Society Hill.
- Better and timely trash removal of debris left by visitors. More trash receptacles near Front Street. Joe Forkin promised Sunday morning litter removal up to 4th Street. SHCA will be monitoring the need for stepped up litter removal on other days, both location and timing.

- On-site parking at Spruce Harbor Park at a reasonable charge so people would not need to come into Society Hill for parking. Signage improvement on Columbus Boulevard is necessary so that drivers can easily locate the parking lots. We learned that there are two underused lots nearby.
- Removal of the left turn from Columbus Boulevard onto Spruce Street, to keep cars off Spruce. We should revert back to the original traffic flow, which was 100 Spruce Street as a one-way street going east. *Note:* SHCA sent a traffic study to Councilman Squilla and the DRWC a number of months ago documenting a request (based on a traffic consultant's study) to change the 100 block of Spruce back to one-way. We are still awaiting progress on this request.
- Allow only residential permit parking along our streets from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. to discourage visitors parking for hours. Only residents with permits could park at that time. SHCA will be following up with the city on this request to restrict more parking to residential permit parking holders.
- Homeless: although this problem is not specific to the area in Society Hill near Harbor Park, attendees mentioned the uptick in homeless in the neighborhood since the warmer weather has begun. Officer Ferraro said that to report the homeless for outreach services, call 215-686-3090 and ask for Sargent Harper, whose team deals exclusively with outreach to the homeless.

DRWC President Joe Forkin expressed a keen interest in helping solve the neighborhood concerns and demonstrated a willingness to use more DRWC manpower for things like litter removal and more DRWC resources to solve parking and rowdiness concerns.

Police Officer Ferraro said he would report the problems, of which he was not previously aware, that he heard aired at the SHCA meeting to his 6th District supervisors. He encouraged residents to attend the monthly Police Service Area (PSA) meetings. (The Society Hill area is in PSA 3). PSA 3 meetings are the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Pennsylvania Hospital auditorium. He explained that it is your chance to bring any police problems to the attention of PSA 3 officers.



The best way to stay current with the 5th Street Development is to sign up for the SHCA email blasts.



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

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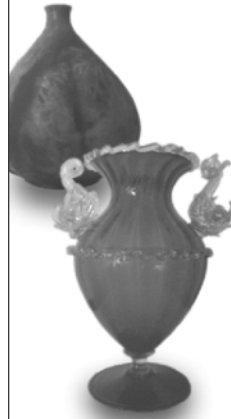
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WE NEED YOUR HELP

Protect Washington Square Planted Beds

Over the last several years, SHCA has spent a considerable amount of time and money beautifying Washington Square, the historic national park in our community. In addition to planting many shrubs and flowers, we recently restored the fountain and upgraded the landscaping around it and the adjacent Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier. Neighbors and visitors constantly remark on the park's transformation into one of Philadelphia's loveliest retreats.

We welcome all dog owners and their pets, but imagine the frustration of watching the damage being done by dogs that are allowed to urinate in the planted beds throughout the park. Dozens of bushes have had to be replaced this year alone, a costly and time-consuming effort.

Some dog owners might not realize how damaging their pet's urine is. One of the primary components in canine urine that affects shrubs and other plants is urea, a type of nitrogen waste that is produced as the body metabolizes protein. Because dogs have a large protein requirement in their diets, a healthy dog can produce a significant amount of urea. If even one dog

or several dogs urinate on the shrubs in a relatively short period of time, damage can occur from a nitrogen overdose. This appears in the form of "burning" on the leaves, which turn brown, and even cause damage to the root system as the surrounding soil becomes saturated with nitrogen. If this continues over time it can stunt or potentially even kill the shrub, especially if the shrub is young and still developing tender roots.

Dogs are welcome to use any tree in the park. We just ask owners to keep them out of the beds, which have signs to keep them out, and to clean up after them, as many small children use the park. Please politely remind dog walkers of these guidelines if you see anyone abusing them.

We all want Washington Square to be the beautiful oasis in our neighborhood but we must work together to maintain the Square.

SHCA welcomes any contributions, both in funds and volunteer time, to help keep Washington Square beautiful. Visit our upgraded website at www.societycivic.org to make a donation. If you wish to volunteer your services, please contact mattdejulio@aol.com.



Boxwood bush which had to be cut back due to damage from dog urine.

PRESERVATION AWARD

30th Anniversary of Lit Brothers Building Restoration

Everybody loves the Lit Brothers building, including the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, which has chosen the building as recipient for the 2017 Preservation Achievement Special Anniversary Award. This award commemorates the 30th anniversary of the restoration of the Lit Brothers building.

Those who were here three decades ago will recall the battle waged to save the "Lit." In October 1981, Eleanor Gesensway founded and chaired the Let Lits Live Coalition. As reported in the *New York Times* in August 1984, despite being listed on the National Register, the shuttered department store complex was headed for demolition unless someone came "charging in on a white horse." That someone was the leader of Growth Properties, Gene Lefevre, who undertook the largest historic restoration in Philadelphia history, costing \$90 million.

GRAND OPENING

Museum of the American Revolution

The Museum of the American Revolution, at 3rd and Chestnut Streets, pulled out all the stops on April 20 for its grand opening. Festivities began at Washington Square, moved to Independence Hall and finished at the museum with keynote speaker Joe Biden joining in the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Participants included representative from the original 13 colonies and the Oneida Nation, as well as Sydney James Harcourt from the original cast of the Broadway show *Hamilton*.



Oneida Indian Nation at the Museum of the American Revolution opening beginning in Washington Square.

FAST FACT

The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with extended hours through Labor Day.




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MORE ACCESS TO WATERFRONT

Caps Off to DRWC!

Tom Corcoran, president of the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC), announced that funding has finally been secured to create a cap over I-95, as well as a new civic space at Penn's Landing between Chestnut and Walnut Streets.

The idea of capping this portion of the highway was originally proposed in the Master Plan for the Central Delaware, a viable, flexible roadmap to guide all waterfront development between Port Richmond and Pennsport. It was created with the input of thousands of Philadelphians and adopted by the Philadelphia City Planning Commission in March 2012.

The cap will provide more access from the city to the waterfront, which had been almost completely cut off since 1979 with the construction of I-95.



Architects' drawing of the cap. Construction dates for the new projects have yet to be determined.

Summertime Fun Popping Up All Over

Summer is a time for lighthearted fun, and nothing is more fun than the seasonal parks scattered throughout the city.

Spruce Street Harbor Park at Columbus Blvd.

Spruce Street Harbor Park (SSHP) has been a popular summer attraction for the last four years. It continues to feature colorful hammocks, floating gardens, beautiful lights, refreshing craft beer and food from popular Philly restaurants. Throughout the week, there's paddleboard yoga, boat rentals and other waterfront fun.

New this year is a Sunday cinema series. On the second Sunday of the month, the park will screen one classic TV show followed by a classic movie. The Summerfest Midway will also make its debut this year as the finishing touch in completing Philadelphia's urban boardwalk. The Midway's main attraction will be a 60-foot Ferris wheel that will transform the skyline and offer rides with panoramic views across the river.

Visit www.delawareriverwaterfront.com/places/spruce-street-harbor-park for more information.

Two PHS Pop Up Gardens

Philadelphia Horticultural Society (PHS) returns to its Graduate Hospital location for a third year at 1438 South Street.

The garden is to be operated by Cantina Los Caballitos, which will serve up margaritas, mojitos and frozen daiquiris, along with a selection of craft beers on draft and an extensive list of cans. Food highlights include burrito and

bowl selections, corn on the cob with lime mayo and queso fresco, jicama and watermelon salad, black bean hummus and Mexican hot dogs.

New this year, PHS travels to University City, turning the corner of a vast vacant lot at 36th and Filbert Streets into an open-air, European-style garden.

Jet Wine Bar will operate the garden, while dishes created by Rex 1516 and Café Ynez are set to line the food menu. Guests can look forward to a selection of wines and draft beers, frozen margaritas, hurricanes and sangria, as well as a selection of beers imported from Mexico. Food will include an array of Tex Mex cuisine, such as BBQ sandwiches, tacos, tortilla salads, nachos, tater tots and chips and salsa.

Visit www.phsonline.org/popups for more information about special events.

Parks On Tap

Parks on Tap is Philadelphia's traveling beer garden that gives back! It brings a beer garden to 20 different parks for 20 weeks. This dog-friendly endeavor is an initiative aiming to engage the Philadelphia community and give back to the neighborhood parks.

Enjoy fresh food, beer on tap, wine, snacks and nonalcoholic beverages in a festive outdoor environment featuring comfortable chairs, hammocks and clean restrooms. Enjoy also a variety of family friendly activities and weekly programming.

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RESPONSE 2007

KEEPING POSTED

BY AL CAVALARI

The Franklin Institute

I began this series by asking how you would respond to Benjamin Franklin if he could ask you to contribute to one of his civic projects. Would you be able to turn him down after all he has done for you? Many institutions he created or inspired still serve us. I resolved to purchase a membership for four of them and report on the experience.

This final article is about The Franklin Institute, which was founded in 1824 in Ben's honor. According to the website, it is "one of the oldest and premier centers of science education and development in the country." Its mission is dedicated to "creating a passion for science by offering new and exciting access to science and technology in ways that would dazzle and delight its namesake." The Institute is also Philadelphia's most visited museum.

Consider for a moment the word "dazzle." On Memorial Day, I must have seen thousands of visitors. Partway through the visit, I noticed something unusual. No one was on a phone. I began purposely looking and only counted six. Everyone else seemed, well, dazzled.

What are people coming from around the world to see? The current building on Logan Square, opened in 1934, contains more than 400,000 square feet of exhibit space. This short article can hardly do justice describing what keeps people from using their phones when visiting this museum.

That being said, my favorite exhibit is the collection of original Wright Brothers artifacts, including drawings and tiny wing foil models that the brothers made for testing designs in their wind tunnel. And while other visitors were busy crawling through the two-story human heart, I found standing in a virtual operating room, looking down into the chest of a patient undergoing open-heart surgery — on a monitor — compelling. Also popular are the IMAX Theater with multiple shows, an observatory and a planetarium.

You will need multiple trips to really visit this museum, and you will never quite finish. Remember, this is a very hands-on, "please touch" kind of place. In fact, there are twelve permanent exhibits devoted to hands-on science experiences. Adults, please remember to give the kids a turn!

The current main exhibit, *A Mirror Maze: Numbers in Nature*, examines how math and patterns can be used to explain our physical



A vintage post card showing the Franklin Observatory.

world. Try to find your way through a 1,700 square foot labyrinth of mirrors. Hint: just follow the little kids. Go to www.fi.edu to see an image.

The museum hosts important, changing shows from around the world, which provides repeat value to membership. In 2007, the Institute sponsored a King Tut exhibit, the most visited museum exhibit in the world. It also offers public lectures and academic symposia. You'll certainly have ongoing reasons to return often.

The Benjamin Franklin National Memorial, our nation's official memorial to Benjamin Franklin, is located in the museum's rotunda and is free to the public whenever the museum is open. The centerpiece is a 20-foot tall, 30-ton marble statue of Franklin. A multimedia show memorializes his career as civic leader, statesman, leading citizen and scientist.

The most lasting tribute to Franklin's life is the fact that, centuries after his death, he actually contributed some of his own money to this institution that bears his name.

Franklin created a revolving loan fund in his will, for both the cities of Boston and Philadelphia. Money was to be lent to tradesmen just starting out in business. The interest they paid allowed the funds to grow. At the end of 100 years, a portion of each fund was to be used for worthy projects in each city, with the balance remaining in each fund to continue making loans. At the end of 200 years, the instructions were for each fund to be ended with the balances again being used to fund some civic purpose. In 1990, the final distribution was converted to a fund that continues to this day.

I joined by going to the front desk and paying \$85 for a dual membership. I could have also done so online. I now have bragging rights. Franklin and I are fellow contributors to The Franklin Institute.

FAST FACTS

Location

On Logan Square
271 North 21st Street

Hours

9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.

For more information:
call 215-448-1200 or
email guestservices@fi.edu.

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. Send comments to Al at www.flagguys.com.

STEPPING BACK IN TIME

BY SANDRA ROTHMAN

A Creek, A Market and Urban Renewal

A walking tour through local history.



The Penn's Landing Square logo pays homage to Little Dock Creek.

Let's take a short walk to the corner of 2nd and Spruce Streets, a location rich in history and now occupied by a low-rise, high-density residential complex called Penn's Landing Square.

It may surprise you that a creek once flowed here, one used by the Lenape people well before the arrival of William Penn in 1682. In fact, the nearby Man Full of Trouble Tavern was built on the banks of that creek in 1759. A few decades later, a thriving food-distribution center sprang up in this area, thanks to its proximity to the Delaware River. The market provided Philadelphians with produce, meat and fish for over two hundred years. I actually remember my father coming here to buy bushels of produce in preparation for the holidays. The last historically significant event at this location was the completion of Penn's Landing Square in 1970, a project critical to the success of the urban renewal program known as Society Hill.

Coincidentally, the man inadvertently responsible for the term "Society Hill" lived in a colonial townhouse right at this corner in the late 1600s. Nicholas Moore was the organizer of the Society of Free Traders, a project founded by William Penn. The Society's mission was to build commercial facilities and promote trade, and its headquarters was on a very slight elevation near Pine and Front Streets — locally known as "the Society's Hill." When developers were attempting to attract pioneering spirits to the historic (yet filthy and run-down) Fifth Ward in the 1960s, preservationist Charlie Peterson suggested calling it "Society Hill."

Little Dock Creek

Philadelphia is a city of creeks, most of them currently running through sewer pipes. Dock Creek, a tidal stream called Coconocon by the Lenape, flowed through this oldest part of Philly and was the first of our urban streams to be buried underground. This happened in two stages, in 1765 and 1784. Dock Street now runs on top of the old streambed.

A branch of the stream, called Little Dock Creek, bubbled up near the site of St. Peter's Church at 3rd and Pine Streets and then traveled northeast until it joined the main creek.

Perhaps if we fully concentrate as we stand in the triangular courtyard in front of Penn's Landing Square, we can feel this submerged stream where it still flows beneath our feet. Three hundred

years ago, we could actually journey by canoe from 3rd and Pine Streets, cross this now paved area and eventually arrive at the mouth of Dock Creek, near the present day Sheraton Hotel!

Dock Street Market

Business owners constructed warehouses along Dock Creek in the late 1600s so ships could unload their cargoes efficiently. When the creek was buried and the landfill paved with cobblestones, hundreds of merchants established food distribution warehouses and sidewalk storefronts on Dock Street. The market remained popular until after World War II, when competition and changes in distribution forced dealers to move elsewhere. The photo below, taken in 1949, shows the dilapidated northeast corner of Penn's Landing Square before the Old Philadelphia Development Corporation purchased the area in 1959. A place of commerce since colonial times, the Corporation's demolition of the Dock Street Market became the impetus for the area's rebirth.

Shown is one of the sidewalk storefronts that made up the Dock Street Market, at the corner of Spruce and Front Streets.



A Phoenix Rises

The U.S. Federal government launched an urban renewal program in the 1950s, which spurred Philadelphia to revitalize this oldest section of the city. The neighborhood was rehabilitated in less than 30 years, thanks to a strategy that, according to Director of Planning Edmond Bacon, "preserved the best of the past and built the best of the present." This plan was so successful that it transformed a substantial amount of municipal decay into one of the world's most interesting and successful examples of urban regeneration.

 STEPPING BACK IN TIME



Each façade of the complex is a response to the qualities of the surrounding streets. This Spruce Street façade has a very strong and coherent composition. Its large scale is appropriate since the city ends at this street, which is a stone's throw away from the Delaware River. Sauer had to get planning permission to elevate this side of the development to the same height as the historical buildings on the adjacent block.

For this revitalization plan to work, it was essential to encourage more people to live here, helping to create a lively, inviting community. To that end, high-density residential buildings were crucial. First the 33-story high Hopkinson House was built in 1963, and then Society Hill Towers, designed by I.M. Pei, was completed in 1964. Its three 31-story towers are surrounded by an open, park-like setting, designed to link the neighborhood to the National Historic Independence Park through a series of connected greenways.

Penn's Landing Square

Louis Sauer is the unconventional architect and design theorist who worked on Society Hill with the greatest continuity, first as a student at the University of Pennsylvania and then in his own practice. His projects for Society Hill encompassed New Market and numerous residential buildings, including Penn's Landing Square.

At the time, Sauer's commitment to low-rise, high-density housing on a large scale made Penn's Landing Square unique. The complex contains 110 homes that are connected by walkways and interspersed with secluded gardens.

The key to understanding Sauer's work is the contrast between the exterior public façade and the interior private space, as illustrated in the photos shown above.

To learn more about Louis Sauer and Penn's Landing Square, I suggest reading *Louis Sauer, The Architect of Low-Rise High-Density Housing* and *Five Masterworks By Louis Sauer, An Unconventional American Architect*, both by Antonino Saggio.



The private inner world of Penn's Landing Square creates an environment with different spaces and values. Landscape Architect John Collins designed the original gardens. He was also responsible for planning our neighborhood's lovely greenways.

Before we go on our way, notice the beautiful sculptural wrought-iron gates that surround the complex. Designed and crafted by artist Christopher Ray, they represent the elements earth, wind, water and fire. The one by the front entry is the *Delaware River Gate* and includes fanciful water creatures, like fish and a seahorse. These gates, along with many other pieces throughout our community, are examples of Philadelphia's commitment to public art. In 1959, Philly became the first American city to require developers building on land acquired from the city to dedicate at least 1 percent of the construction costs toward commissioning original, site-specific works of art.



The Delaware River Gate

Sandra Rothman, a retired educator for the School District of Philadelphia, is the Reporter's editor-in-chief.

OUT AND ABOUT

BY MARTHA LEVINE

2017 Society Hill Open House & Garden Tour



We are happy to report a net profit of \$14,500, the 2nd largest amount raised in the last seven years.

Kudos to SHCA this year for a successful 39th Annual Open House & Garden Tour on Sunday, May 21. This event is SHCA's only annual fundraiser, which attracts visitors from all over Philadelphia and the nearby suburbs, as well as New Jersey, Delaware and New York. This year, close to 500 people attended on a lovely, cool and sunny day.

We extend our sincerest thanks to each of the home and garden owners who graciously allowed us to showcase their exceptional homes to be part of our tour. This tour is possible only through their generosity and community spirit.

We thank our 150 volunteer hosts, mostly Society Hill neighbors, who provided a secure and organized event. As one homeowner said after the tour: "When we returned to our home at the end of the tour, it looked like no one had been in our house." Protecting each property is our priority. Thanks also to the volunteers who worked at the check-in point welcoming attendees, helping with ticket purchases and taking charge of the refreshments.

Thanks to Acme Market on 5th Street for their donation of lemonade and Talula's Daily for their donation of the yummy mini-scones.

Many thanks to Matt DeJulio, our SHCA administrator, for his invaluable help in processing advance ticket purchase as well as ticket sales on the tour day. Our appreciation goes out to our sponsors, many of whom have been with us for the last few years: Bartlett Tree Experts; Alan Domb Real Estate; K Yoder Design; Liberty Tree & Landscape; National Watch & Diamond; Pam Rosser Thistle (Berkshire Hathaway); Levin, Sedran & Berman Law Firm; and Plumer & Associates, Inc.

Society Hill Open House & Garden Tour Coordinators Linda Skale and I have worked together successfully every year since 2000 to create an enjoyable and successful tour with a new array of homes each year. Not an easy task. Both Linda and I agree: We try to not repeat a house for at least five years. This keeps the tour fresh and interesting. We have a following of people who come every year, rain or shine.



OUT AND ABOUT



Photos by Bonnie Halda, Judy Lamirand, Martha Levine, Joseph Menardi, Sandra Rothman and Joseph Skale.

SOCIETY HILL TOWERS

THE CONDOMINIUM

200-220 Locust Street

Absolutely stunning 3 bedroom plus den,



4 bathroom with jaw-dropping 270 degree Ben Franklin Bridge, Delaware River, and Center City skyline views. The home is the combination of three homes, boasting a great room surrounded by walls of windows, double-wide living room, dining room, fully upgraded kitchen with breakfast bar, marble and hardwood floors throughout, and two wet bars. 2,650 sf | \$1,275,000



Beautifully renovated corner 2 bedroom plus den,



2 and a half bath that is the custom combination of a 2 bedroom and 1 bedroom. The home has floor-to-ceiling windows in all rooms boasting incredible views of the Delaware River and Society Hill. There is a magnificently updated kitchen, family room/den, spacious great room with a wet bar, master suite with a large walk-in closet and marble appointed ensuite bathroom. 2,650 sf | \$950,000



Opportunity to combine a 2 bedroom and 1 bedroom



into a deluxe 3 bedroom custom residence. The first unit is currently a 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom offering unobstructed views of Center City and an updated bathroom. The second unit is currently a 1 bedroom with south views. Both homes offer walls of floor-to-ceiling windows and great natural light. 1,814 sf | \$675,000



ON OUR SHELF

BY RICHARD DE WYNGAERT

Richard's Summer Reads

Summer is the time of year when we reach for a book to retreat from our busy lives, to help us grow, to help us forget or remember, to help resolve our current challenges, to forecast our future or just to chill. Here is a go-to list for just about every type of reader, aiming to scratch just about any type of itch.

Paperback Literary Fiction

Outline by Rachel Cusk: Brilliant. A writer living in London travels to Greece, leaving behind a life falling apart, to teach a summer creative-writing class. This is a novel in ten conversations — a fascinating Odyssean journey — the narrator digging, keeping and discarding aspects of her old self, while endeavoring to construct a new, more viable one. Be sure to have on hand the second book in the trilogy, *Transit*, which you will want to begin reading immediately!

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr: Now in paperback. If you haven't read this, you must!

Fiction

The Muse by Jessie Burton: By the author of *The Miniaturist*, this is a story using a painting left on the doorstep of an art gallery in London, painted 30 years earlier, to explore different eras, the artist's relationship to art, creativity and free expression and the nature of truth. A terrific book.

Standard Deviation by Katherine Heiny: A very, very funny book, about a complicated, contemporary family, that examines marriage, commitment, fidelity, various kinds of friendships and the quirkiest aspects of our lives. An engaging cast of characters.

The Ministry of Utmost Happiness by Arundhati Roy: From the author of the remarkable *God of Small Things* comes an exquisitely written story chronicling Kashmir's struggle for

independence. Love. History. Economic strife. Religious tension. Anguish. Loss. Renewal. This novel has everything. Breathtaking.

Exit West by Mohsin Hamid: By the author of *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, a beautifully written, humanizing tale about two young lovers forced to leave their fraught homeland in the Middle East, a land on the brink of civil war, and weave through migrant camps, London and, finally, a new life in California.

The Last Neanderthal by Claire Cameron: A fascinating novel in which the author explores what it means to be human, imagining the survival challenges of a Neanderthal family confronting a changing climate and possible extinction.

Nonfiction**History**

Churchill and Orwell: The Fight for Freedom by Thomas Ricks: A dual biography of Churchill and Orwell, who preserved democracy from threats of authoritarianism presented by both the left and the right.

On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century by Timothy Snyder: Twenty lessons on how to recognize and resist efforts to thwart our freedom.

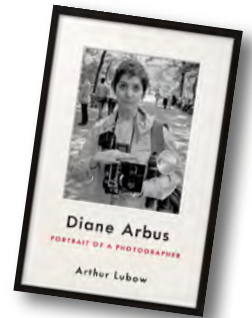
Science

The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and More Creative by Florence Williams: Time spent in nature is not considered a luxury, but an essential ingredient of our emotional, psychological and physical well being.

Homo Deus by Yuval Noah Harari: This critically acclaimed author of *Sapiens* returns with a compelling and provocative book, one that focuses on humanity's quest to upgrade humans into gods. If successful — then what?

Biography

Diane Arbus: Portrait of a Photographer by Arthur Lubow: A splendid biography of one of the most important and influential photographers of the 20th century.

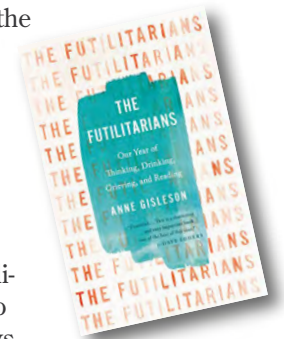
**Essays**

The View from the Cheap Seats: Selected Nonfiction by Neil Gaiman: Brilliant essays examining a wide range of subjects from art and artists to dreams, myths and memories — written in Gaiman's probing, amusing and distinctive style.

Memoir:

The Bright Hour by Nina Riggs: This beautiful and poignant memoir captures the final two years of a mother's life.

The Futilitarians: Our Year of Thinking, Drinking, Grieving, and Reading by Anne Gisleson: A searing, deeply affecting memoir rooted in the Existential Crisis Reading Group, started by the author and her husband after the suicides of her twin sisters and the utter destruction wrought upon her home by Hurricane Katrina. A memoir of incredible strength in the face of so much loss, the story conveys the anguish and pain that can completely ensnare and cripple; and the strength, compassion and light that can heal our spirit. Amazing.



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.

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

THE ESTATE HOMES AT 4TH AND LOCUST

The Shippen-Wistar and Cadwalader Estate Homes
238-240 S. 4th Street

A chance to live in history!



Walk the same halls as:

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 - John Adams
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- Richard Henry Lee
- Francis Lightfoot Lee

The Estate Homes at 4th and Locust provide a rare opportunity to create a custom mansion from the combination of two Society Hill residences. The property has a tremendous history. One house was built in 1750 and the other in 1829, and both have the potential to be restored to their original grandeur. The estate enjoys a prestigious location, large private gardens and approval for up to four off-street parking spaces. Also available as two individual homes.

13,673 sf | **\$4,950,000**

THE WESTERN UNION BUILDING

1101 Locust Street



Spectacular 3 bedroom plus den, 3 and a half bathroom residence that soars above Washington SquareWest. The heart of the home is the grand great room with a light-filled living area, large open dining area, and custom kitchen. The space offers a master suite with 2 custom walk-in closets, a home office, and 2 balconies boasting Center City skyline views to the west
2,511 sf | **\$1,695,000**

THE BANK BUILDING

421 Chestnut Street



A unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to **custom build** a home from raw space to your own specifications and desires in a boutique condominium building across from Independence Hall. The space enjoys excellent natural light from south-facing windows. Residents enjoy the same services as guests of the adjoining Omni Hotel.
1,000 sf | **\$295,000**

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HEADHOUSE FARMERS' MARKET

BY KATY WICH AND LISA KELLY OF THE FOOD TRUST

Summer's Abundant Bounty

As we approach midsummer, the Headhouse Farmers' Market is bursting with fresh, local produce and other delectables.

Peaches hit their peak in July, so be sure to visit both **Beechwood Orchards** and **Three Springs Fruit Farm** to get plenty of this summertime favorite. And corn season is just getting started; visit **Buzby Farm** and **Blooming Glen Farm** for an earful.

Don't forget the tomatoes! All the farm stands will be well stocked heading into July. **Happy Cat Farm's** stand is particularly bountiful, as Farmer Tim grows several hundred varieties of tomatoes each year. Ask him anything tomato-related — he's got an encyclopedic knowledge of this delicious fruit.

How about no-cook or minimal-cook meals for hot summer days?

LaDivisa Meats has a great selection of charcuterie and pâtés that make a sophisticated foundation for a no-cook meal. Pair them with **Shellbark Hollow's** chèvre and some crusty bread from one of our three bakeries: **Ric's Bread**, **Wildflour Bakery** or **High Street on Market**.

For a minimal-cooking option from LaDivisa, we recommend their pork carnitas — precooked, shredded pork mixed with a blend of spices, cilantro and lime. Just reheat in a pan until the meat is crispy. It's perfect for easy tacos or burritos and is especially delicious in a bowl of salad greens topped with fresh corn, salsa and shredded cheese. All their meat is sourced from local farms and is pastured and humanely raised.

Talula's Table offers a wide selection of precooked meats and sausages that only need a few minutes to reheat on the grill or in a pan.

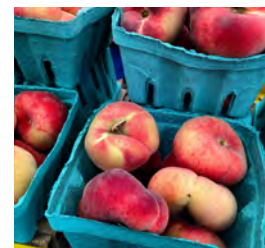
The smoked duck breast is outstanding. Heat a pan or grill to medium-high, and sear the duck on either side for just a few minutes to give it a nice crisp. Slice the duck super thin and serve alongside your favorite salad. Talula's also has a wide variety of ready-made grain salads featuring seasonal fruits and vegetables.

Market Day Canele has savory tarts available each week that reflect the season's best fruits and vegetables. This July, look for tarts with local tomatoes, cheeses, greens, herbs and more. Just heat in a warm oven for 15 minutes, and dinner is ready!

Griggstown's fresh mozzarella pairs perfectly with summer tomatoes in caprese salad or panzanella (bread salad). **Hillacres Pride's** handmade feta is an ideal match for chopped summer cucumbers, olive oil, a sprinkling of salt and whatever fresh herbs look great at market.

Market favorite **Food & Ferments** has a wide selection of ferments that make excellent side dishes for your summer meals — sauerkraut, kimchi, beets and more. Doesn't get much easier than popping open a jar and serving it up. They'll be in town the last Sunday in July, so be sure to stock up. Unopened, their ferments will last up to 9 months in the fridge!

We'll see you at the Market, Sundays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. all year round!



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 20 years, The Food Trust has been working to ensure that everyone has access to affordable, nutritious food and information to make healthy decisions. For further information, visit www.thefoodtrust.org.



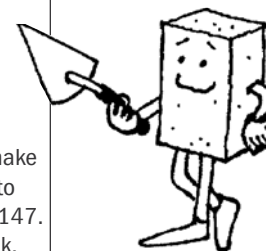
YOU, TOO, CAN HAVE A SAFE SIDEWALK

Fix the Brix.

To date, over 200 property owners have participated in this subsidy program. Still, too many brick and concrete sidewalks in our neighborhood pose a safety risk. If your front sidewalk fits that category, consider fixing your brix. Here's how it works:

- Participants in the program will receive a subsidy of 40 percent of the total invoice for the leveling of their sidewalks, brick or cement. Current SHCA members receive up to \$400; non-members receive up to \$300.

- First take a "before" photo of your sidewalk and email to me at marthalev6@gmail.com.
- Choose a mason (or arborist) to do the work. We can provide a suggested list if needed.
- After the work is completed to your satisfaction, make a copy of your paid invoice and mail the original to us at: SHCA, PO Box 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147. If possible, include a copy of your cancelled check.
- A check will be sent to you within several weeks.



Rick the Brick

INDEPENDENCE PLACE

233 - 241 S. 6th Street



**Recently sold by
Allan Domb
Real Estate**

- 1605-1606-I
- 1502L-I
- 2408-I
- 1509D-I
- 1802L-II
- 2407-II
- 1410E-I
- 1907H-I
- 1906C-I
- 706F-II
- 608C-II
- 612G-I
- 1901K-I
- 1412B-II
- 1906-7-I
- 1906-II
- 301K-I
- 706F-II

2 bedroom plus den area, 2 bathroom custom-designed by Cecil Baker with a sun-filled living room with floor-to-ceiling windows, adjacent dining area, designer-appointed kitchen, and a balcony boasting panoramic Washington Square, Center City skyline, and Delaware River views. There is spacious den area that could be converted to a second bedroom, separate den currently used as a home office, lavish master suite with custom closets, and contemporary bathrooms. 1,818 sf | **\$1,195,000**



Beautifully renovated south-facing 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom featuring a fully renovated kitchen and breakfast bar that opens up into the great room. The private balcony boasts unobstructed 270 degree city views to the east, south and west, and the generously-sized bedroom has a custom walk-in closet. Additional highlights include ample natural light from southern exposures and hardwood floors throughout. 928 sf | **\$389,900**

PENN'S LANDING SQUARE

130 Spruce Street



Beautifully appointed 2 bedroom, 3 bathroom townhouse condominium that comes with a private parking space in a secure, on-site underground garage. This home features an open kitchen with stainless steel appliances and island that seats two, spacious living room and dining space, and private terrace overlooking historic Delancey Street. 1,630 sf | ~~\$769,900~~ **\$735,000**



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SOUTH STREET HEADHOUSE DISTRICT

BY MIKE HARRIS

Headhouse Plaza Plans Finalized

On June 7th, the Philadelphia Art Commission gave final and unanimous approval for the planned Headhouse Plaza improvement project, which will transform the entire block and create new public spaces on 2nd Street between Lombard and South. With construction planned to begin this summer season, we sat down with project designer Rich Villa of Ambit Architecture and talked about his concepts and the journey to get to the final designs.

How do you describe your design style and influence? What distinguishes Ambit as an architectural practice, and how has this shaped your design for the Plaza?

We are influenced by modernism, but strongly believe in contextualism — architects need to be empathetic to a building’s environment and the way it will be used. We located our practice in Society Hill, because it is a historic neighborhood, yet it has some important examples of early modern architecture. Our neighborhood is a fascinating and sympathetic mix of the modern and the historic. We strive to bring a fresh approach to architecture and design while respecting the historic neighborhoods in which we are working.

Who did you consult with to get ideas and feedback on the Plaza project?

We had an extensive public comment process for well over a year. We met with the Queen Village Neighborhood Association, Society Hill Civic Association, Abbott’s Square Condo Association, nearby property owners and local businesses. City officials, as well, held open town hall meetings. The process was very engaging and helpful. Based on community feedback, for instance, we modified the original enclosed pavilion building to the current open-shade canopy structure.

How does the Plaza relate to the existing Shambles market space?

The Plaza is referential to the Shambles. We took the iconic triangular facade of the Shambles and repeated that triangular shape in our Pavilion design. The material colors used are meant to mimic the same palate as the Shambles. There is a strong relationship between the two structures, but since the block between Lombard & South is surrounded by more modern structures, we felt the new design would create a connection between modern and colonial.

How will the new Plaza impact local traffic?

One of the key objectives is to improve the traffic issues on this heavily trafficked block, with trucks, cars, bikes and people. We designed the plan to implement traffic calming, improve loading zone logistics and increase pedestrian safety measures. Safety was a major consideration for expanding the curbs around the Lombard Fountain and creating a pedestrian island at South Street. We hope these interventions will encourage drivers to slow down and be more considerate to pedestrians.

What will the landscaping look like? Will this area provide any additional green space or new plantings?

We are working with landscaper Lisa Roth to enhance the area. We will be trading the current problematic and congested landscaping for nine new trees in the Pavilion area, as well as replanting trees on either side of the street. In addition to creating a hardy grass area, we will also be introducing plantings of daffodils and liriop.

When will the Plaza project start and how long will it take to complete?

We hope to break ground this summer and would expect that the Plaza will be operational within five to six months of starting construction.

We look forward to the additional lighting, landscaping, public community space and overall beautification that this project promises to deliver. We will manage the construction to keep the traffic lanes open and functional to the maximum degree possible during this time. If there are any questions or comments at any time, please contact SSHD at 215-413-3713 or info@southstreet.com



Mike Harris, SSHD Executive Director



Architectural renderings of the open-shade canopy structure planned for Headhouse Plaza.

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TERRA COTTA CALDERS

The Boys Are Back in Town!

Recently, the Presbyterian Historical Society (PHS) hosted its first outdoor fundraiser, welcoming more than 200 guests to its newly renovated courtyard, as well as the return of six of its “boys” to their place of honor in front of the society’s headquarters at 425 Lombard Street.

The returning gentlemen are actually six terra cotta statues representing early American Presbyterians named Francis Makemie, John Witherspoon, James McMillan, Samuel Davies, James Caldwell and Marcus Whitman. Designed by Alexander Stirling Calder in 1897, the statues were conserved throughout 2016 at the Philadelphia studios of Materials Conservation LLC.

The Presbyterian Historical Society is the National Archives of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. Founded in 1852, PHS collects, preserves and shares stories of the American Presbyterian experience with Presbyterians and the general public. It is currently hosting the exhibit *Presbyterians & the American Revolution*.



PHS Executive Director Beth Hessel presides at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, welcoming the return of Calder’s restored statues.

Researchers and church groups interested in visiting the society should call 215-627-1852 or email refdesk@history.pcusa.org. PHS is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.

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REVISITING THE ARCHIVES

BY CHARLES E. PETERSON

Window Shutters on Spruce Street

Today, one of the most distinctive features of Society Hill house fronts is the paint color of outside window shutters. The old photograph to the right shows the first floor window shutters of 332 Spruce Street. Remarkably, they are the only original window shutters remaining on all of Spruce Street.

When I acquired ownership of this house in 1954, I found one pair of window shutters down in the cellar — converted into a coal bin. They were complete with all the original hardware. One of the first things I did was to put the pair

back together, repaint them in the original color, dark green, and hang them again. Every house owner on the street followed my example, and it is an important feature of the restoration of these early structures.



Restored original shutters at 332 Spruce Street.

Reporter Archives, available on the SHCA website www.societyhillcivic.org, are a rich repository of our community's news and history since 1958. In the future, we will revisit articles that are still timely, relevant and interesting. This one was first published in the September/October 2003 issue. See Page 5 for more about our updated website.

EXERCISE AND SOCIALIZE

Mornings are a wonderful time to exercise on hot summer days. Bring a hat and water bottle and join one or both of Society Hill's walking groups. Remember to apply the sunscreen!

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. 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.




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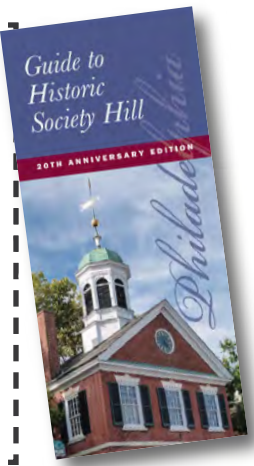
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Guide to Historic Society Hill Now Available for Purchase

If you would like to secure one or more copies, please fill out the form below and forward with a check or money order to SHCA, P.O. 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147. Make check payable to the **Society Hill Preservation Fund**.

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY MATT DEJULIO

2017 Membership Drive on Course for Another Record Year

By early June, 1,076 Society Hill residents had either renewed their association membership or joined for the first time — slightly ahead of the same time last year. We are on course to possibly exceed the all-time high of 1,127 reached at the end of last year.

So far, 92 new members have signed up this fiscal year, down somewhat from last year. We still have 134 members whose dues are in arrears, slightly higher than last year at this time. If you have delayed in sending in your renewal or wish to join, please do so today. If you are not receiving our weekly email newsletter, please go to our newly redesigned website to sign up. You may also pay your dues conveniently by credit card there.

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 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, crucially, 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, who represent every quadrant in our unique, historic neighborhood.

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

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Nineteen establishments offer discounts to card-carrying SHCA members. Just show your current membership card when you make your purchase. You can read more about these local businesses when you visit SHCA's new website. Click on "Business Support" in the top menu bar and then click on "Member Discounts." You'll find links to the websites of all 19 businesses that offer member discounts.



Society Hill
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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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

\$ _____ 5th Street Legal Fund \$ _____ McCall School

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

- Clean-Up Day Washington Square Zoning & Historic Preservation
- Franklin Lights Social Events 5th Street Development
- Dilworth House Property Taxes Local Crime Incidents
- Reporter Fundraising and Alerts

Please return completed application to:

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

IN MEMORIAM

Our community mourns the passing of four Society Hill pioneers. Each took the opportunity, when this area was essentially a slum, to invest in the future and, paradoxically, the past. They devoted their time, money and passion to an idea. This idea eventually resulted in one of the most interesting and successful examples of urban renewal in the world. We salute their courage and imagination; they have certainly left their mark on the neighborhood they so loved.

**Harry H. Appel**

Harry Appel passed away at age 86 on May 15, six days before his beloved home was scheduled to be on the Society Hill Open House and Garden Tour. It was in tribute to him that the show went on.

Hundreds of visitors viewed the fruits of 50 years of labor on the house once owned by Richard Allen, the iconic founder of nearby Mother Bethel African Methodist Church. It's worth noting that Harry gutted the entire house, with some help, and rebuilt it from scratch!

This proud Society Hill pioneer was a graduate of Temple University and was a founding member of its Finance Society. He founded and ran his own business as a financial consultant.

We offer our condolences to his wife of 60 years, Marilyn, who has been a long-time and important member of the Society Hill Civic Association and is currently a columnist for the *Reporter*. In addition to Marilyn, Harry leaves behind two daughters and two grandchildren.

Contributions in his memory may be made to Glaucoma Research Foundation or the Hearing Loss Association of America.

**Peter Hearn**

Peter Hearn, 84, died on May 20 while sitting in his favorite chair, midway through reading his morning newspapers, according to his wife, Gail. This was fitting, since he loved his home, loved Society Hill and loved Philadelphia. Although not technically a pioneer, Peter was certainly a longtime neighbor, having moved to our community in the spring of 1973.

Peter was a prominent trial lawyer and former Chancellor of the Philadelphia bar association who ran for mayor in 1991. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Cornell University and a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law.

He joined the law firm of Pepper, Hamilton and Scheetz and, over the subsequent 35 years,

assumed various leadership roles, including partner. He left the firm in 1996 and established a one-man practice until he retired in 2016.

Peter was active in legal and civic matters, including as a founder and board member of Gaudenzia House. His interest in music led him to spearhead the 2008 concert where the Philadelphia Orchestra performed next to the historic Wanamaker organ to premiere a symphony *concertante* — a symphony plus concerto — written for that organ. He was also active in our civic organization and was a vestryman at Christ Church.

Besides his wife, four children and nine grandchildren survive him. Memorial donations may be made to Christ Church New Organ Fund, 20 North American Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106 or Friends of the Wanamaker Organ Inc., 630 Hidden Valley Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406.

Elizabeth Ostrander

Elizabeth "Liz" Ostrander died peacefully at her daughter Katherine's home on May 29. She was 88 years old.



We featured Liz and her husband, Richard, known as Dick, in the May 2005 *Reporter*, where we discovered that Dick had courted Liz while they took the same college course. He brought her, a teacher of English with a master's degree from Ohio State University, "kicking and screaming," as she puts it, to Philadelphia. They settled in Society Hill, on South 6th Street, in 1971. The couple, married for 67 years, experienced a continued delight in Society Hill's feeling of community and neighborliness. They were thrilled to be involved with the cultural and commercial resurgence of the South Street and Society Hill neighborhoods. Dick predeceased Liz in 2014.

Liz spent some 20 years teaching proposal writing at the University of Pennsylvania, becoming involved along the way in community activities, including a stint as SHCA vice president. She also helped develop a computer information program on local human and medical resources for United Way. Liz was very active in Old Pine Church, and wrote a history of the church to coincide with the 300th anniversary of the first Presbyterian church in the area, entitled *Immovable Faith*. Liz was especially proud of the "Saturday for Seniors" program, now in its 40th year at Old Pine Street Church, that she and Dick founded together.

In addition to her daughter and her son, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild survive Liz. In remembrance, donations may be made to Old Pine's outreach programs at Old Pine Presbyterian Church, 412 Pine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

IN MEMORIAM



Dorothy Stevens

Dorothy "Dottie" Stevens, 80, died on June 4 of ovarian cancer at Cathedral Village in Roxborough.

Dottie and her husband Dave were married for 55 years. They raised three sons in the beautiful, contemporary home they built on the 100 block of

Delancey Street in 1965. This is when Society Hill was an infamous example of urban decline. At the time there were vacant lots across the street, and there was only one other occupied house on their block.

She was born in Lancaster, grew up there and then graduated from Ohio State University's nursing program. In her professional life, Dottie worked as head nurse at the Ohio State University Hospital and as a clinical instructor at the School of Nursing at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dottie was very active in the neighborhood, especially at St. Peter's Church at 3rd and Pine Streets, where she was instrumental in the restoration of the churchyard.

"For those who never met but wish to know her, stand in St. Peter's churchyard and look around you. For nearly 30 years, the churchyard was Dottie's garden, and its beauty is her creation," said Alan J. Heavens, a retired *Inquirer* reporter.

In addition to her husband and sons, nine grandchildren, two brothers and a sister survive Mrs. Stevens.

Contributions can be made to St. Peter's Church, 313 Pine Street, Philadelphia PA 19106, for churchyard improvement, or to Cathedral Village Green Fund, 600 E. Cathedral Road, Philadelphia, PA 19128.

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