

SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

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

## Bridging the Divide

The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) invites all neighbors to the General Membership Meeting on Wednesday January 17, which will feature a presentation about a very exciting project important to our community.



Come hear about plans to extend the cap over I-95.

Construction to begin capping a portion of I-95 for a park between Chestnut and Walnut Streets is on track to start in 2019, with work expected to last three years. The development along the central Philadelphia riverfront, to be spearheaded by the non-profit Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC), will also include construction of a two-mile bike trail along Columbus Boulevard and an extension of the South Street Bridge to Penn's Landing. This project will reconnect Center City with the Delaware River waterfront, which was separated from the city by I-95.

Our speaker will be Marian Hull from AECOM, the engineers for the project, and joining her will be Elaine Elbich of PennDOT and Karen Thompson from the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation. They will describe the Penn's Landing Feasibility Study and update people on significant waterfront initiatives related to the cap and improved waterfront access in the area.

Just as Spruce Street Harbor Park has had a large impact on our neighborhood, this proposed park will also, as it runs along our northeastern border of Walnut Street. As neighbors, we want to be highly engaged in the planning and development of the project as far as issues like traffic, parking, crowd management and quality-of-life concerns. So plan to attend and please bring your comments and questions.

## Resolve to Become Involved



Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2018! Think about adding to your list of New Year's resolutions the commitment to become more involved in our special neighborhood. A great way to do this is through membership and committee participation in the Society Hill Civic Association. SHCA provides countless serv-

ices that enhance your property value, as well as your quality of life. Your neighborhood is cleaner, safer and more beautiful because of our efforts. Hop on board this year by either renewing your membership or joining SHCA for the first time. Visit [www.societyhill.org](http://www.societyhill.org) to find out more about your civic association and how you can help.

### WEDNESDAY

January

17

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meetings  
Wednesday, January 17, 2018

- 5:45 p.m. Board Meeting**  
Pennsylvania Hospital's Grand Court Room
- 7:30 - 9 p.m. General Membership Meeting**  
Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow Auditorium
- Speakers: Elaine Elbich, Marian Hull, Karen Thompson**
- Topic: CAP Project**

### ENJOYING THE SNOW



Our neighborhood bears are enjoying the early snowfall this year! See pages 21 and 23, which address a recent incident at Three Bears Park.



*Faith and Immigration*

Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church is pleased to host a lecture by Daisy L. Machado, Professor of Church History at Union Theological Seminary, New York.

Dr. Machado will examine alternative ways of examining the issues surrounding immigration that embrace the vision of a common humanity.

Sunday, March 4th @ 1:00pm  
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 412 Pine Street  
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For more information, go to  
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SOCIETY HILL

*Reporter*



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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](mailto: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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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

BY ROSANNE LOESCH

# Height & Density vs. Affordable Housing

Our neighborhood remains one of the most engaged in the city. Almost 800 of you signed our first petition on the Affordable Housing bill that went to the nine members of City Council's Rules Committee in advance of the hearing date the Monday after Thanksgiving.

At that hearing, SHCA Vice President Kim Williams testified on behalf of Society Hill, urging the lawmakers to vote no. Williams, who himself is in the affordable housing business for seniors, easily articulated SHCA's position on the bill, because for his part, the projected number of units that would be created would be too small compared to the need. Williams stated that for every project for seniors that his company builds, there is a 200-person waiting list before it even opens. And Williams agrees that it is not worth sacrificing our zoning rules for this small result.

Society Hill's petition letter said two things: "We are in favor of the goal of increasing affordable housing in Philadelphia, but we are against using height and density bonuses to do it." Although the goals of the bill are worthy, there are better ways to do this that would result in a greater number of affordable units being created and without distorting the carefully crafted height and density limitations that were enacted as part of the 2012 Zoning Code. After a lengthy hearing on the bill Councilwoman Sanchez postponed a vote until a week later — December 5th.

Just days before the December 5th committee vote on the bill, almost 600 Society Hillers signed a second SHCA petition letter asking lawmakers to vote no. In making the rounds of the offices of Rules Committee members the Monday before the vote with a handful of delegates from the

Crosstown Coalition (a 30-member neighborhood coalition to which SHCA belongs), I heard "We got your 500 petitions." But council members hadn't received petitions from the Crosstown Coalition — they were all from Society Hill!

Unfortunately, the Rules Committee members, including Council Members at Large, Chairperson Bill Greenlee and Blondell Reynolds Brown, voted to pass the bill out of committee and on to a full council hearing. Our District Councilman Mark Squilla, Councilman at Large Al Taubenberg and Councilman Bobbie Henon voted against the bill, but their opposition could not carry the day.

However, there is a chance that the bill may get better. Councilman Squilla is working for possible amendments. There is even the possibility of a competing bill being introduced. One proposal for a competing bill is to require an impact fee on all new development and to eliminate zoning bonuses altogether. This fee could generate substantial new monies for the Housing Trust Fund, whose mission is to support affordable housing. We won't know if Councilman Squilla's efforts will be successful until after the first of the year, which is a couple of weeks away at this writing. The big date is January 25th, City Council's first session after the holidays, when this bill could come up for its first vote before the full council.

We will no doubt ask for your voices to be heard again if we need to ask City Council to oppose the bill or alternatively to support some new version of it. We are heartened by your participation in this process and your recognition of the importance of protecting the zoning in our historic neighborhood, while at the same time supporting alternative methods to create affordable housing in our city.



**Rosanne Loesch,  
SHCA President**

*Society Hill  
Civic Association  
wishes you a very  
happy & healthy  
New Year!  
We thank you for  
your continued  
and robust  
support of the  
mission of our  
neighborhood  
association.*

**WEEKLY SIDEWALK CLEANING**

SHCA tries to keep Society Hill clean and beautiful. Did you know that part of your membership dues goes toward weekly sidewalk cleaning on trash collection day? SHCA hires Center City District workers to sweep

debris left by trash collectors, and others, every week of the year. This great service costs us \$15,000 annually. Look for workers in teal jackets sweeping your block on trash day.

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**BIG BELLY UPDATE**

# Refurbished, Ad-Free Big Bellies on Order

SHCA held a meeting in early December to learn more about the city's plans for Big Bellies in Center City, including Society Hill. Readers will remember that Big Bellies are solar-powered trash compactors installed throughout the Philadelphia area. Attending the meeting were Martha Levine, SHCA Vice President; Keith Warren, Deputy Commissioner of Sanitation; and Scott McGrath, Big Belly manager.

**Replacement of Big Bellies**

Martha presented a map pinpointing locations of the current compactors, as well as places where additional units are needed to replace those removed by the City in the last six months. People buy food on South Street and discard the wrappings as they walk through our neighborhood. These units definitely help keep our neighborhood free of litter, and we want them back.

Although we requested 12 more replacement units, Deputy Commissioner Warren said that the city will provide just six. As some other communities have done, SHCA has the option of purchasing more compactors. Each Big Belly costs \$4,000 for the single compactor unit and \$4,800 for both compactor and recycler.

**New and Refurbished Units**

The city has purchased 400 new Big Belly units: 275 are brand-new double units with solar compactors, foot pedals and recyclers; 125 single-unit compactors are refurbished and have no foot pedals. The new dual units — both compactor and recycler — will have commercial advertising on them and will be placed only in highly commercial areas, like Walnut Street. The refurbished units will be ad-free; these are the units we will get here in Society Hill. This was all achieved



**These dual units will display ads, but only in highly commercial areas.**

under a 10-year contract with the Green Cities Company, which is responsible for the double units with the advertising. These ads will pay for the maintenance of the new units.

We requested that no Big Bellies with advertising be placed in Society Hill, as this is a historic and residential neighborhood, and advertising is not appropriate here. This includes 5th Street between Walnut and Pine, as well as the Headhouse at 2nd Street between Pine and Lombard Streets. We would like to have the double units at these locations, but they must be ad-free.

**Maintenance**

We were assured that all Big Bellies in our neighborhood would be serviced regularly and kept in good condition. This is crucial to keep the Big Bellies usable and attractive. Scott McGrath said that the city has a new system that alerts the central office when a unit is full and needs emptying.

We concluded our meeting saying that we would like to continue the dialog between the Sanitation Department and SHCA on this subject. Good sanitation is important to our quality of life.



**Martha Levine met with sanitation Department representative Scott McGrath.**

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## STEPPING BACK IN TIME

BY SANDRA ROTHMAN

## A Judge, Some Banks and a Place to Socialize

*A walking tour through local history.*

Let's walk to the corner of 2nd and Pine Streets to explore a Society Hill landmark that has both a big footprint and an interesting, multi-layered history.

Now home to a branch of Wells Fargo Bank, we can trace this site back to 1766 when a three-story brick house was erected here for Judge William Coleman. Records show that it was imposing for its time, with a five-window front on 2nd Street in addition to a high portico and pediment. An attractive façade and garden ran along Pine Street.

Coleman, a long-time friend of Benjamin Franklin, was a lawyer, municipal official and judge. In 1758 he was appointed as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

#### Commerce Comes to Pine Street

The Coleman household had convenient access to New Market, now known as Headhouse Square. When the market was built in 1745, the area it served was largely residential. By the time of the judge's death in 1769, however, the neighborhood was becoming more commercial. His house was eventually converted into several storefronts and multiple dwellings.

In 1868, the impressive colonial house was torn down and replaced with another three-story structure. Its ground floor façade is the sole remaining section of the original building produced by the H.C. Oram & Co. foundry. This storefront was clad in cast iron, while the upper two stories were of pressed brick. The cast-iron section was designed to resemble an Italian Renaissance arcade, specifically the Loggia Consiglio in Padua, Italy, and was painted to resemble stone.

#### Sixth National Bank

Philadelphia's banking roots go deeper than those of any region in the country. It was the home of the first commercial bank (1782), the first national bank (1791), the first savings bank (1816) and the first savings and loan association (1831).



Our neighborhood bank at 203 Pine Street, circa 1879.



Loggia del Consiglio in Padua, Italy

The building at 2nd and Pine Streets was constructed to be home to the Sixth National Bank. A national bank is one that is chartered by the federal government and, initially, was authorized to issue notes that served as money. During its 71-year printing period, the Sixth National Bank of Philadelphia issued \$3,813,000 dollars worth of national currency in 21 different types and denominations.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt called for a nation-wide, week-long bank "holiday" in March 1933 to help stem bank failures and ultimately restore confidence in the country's financial system as it plunged deeper into the Great Depression. The Sixth National Bank never reopened its doors after this closure.

#### Intellectual Societies

The second and third floors of the building housing the Sixth National Bank were constructed of brick with white marble trim. The rooms on these two floors were designed to be offices and public meeting spaces.

The bank was built a little more than a decade before a wave of Jewish immigrants escaping political persecution in Eastern Europe flooded into Philadelphia by the thousands. Soon Society Hill and parts of South Philadelphia became known as the Jewish Quarter, a name that stuck for the next 50 years.

The bank building's upper floors gave these newcomers space to pursue educational and political endeavors. Here the Hebrew Literature Society rented rooms, called Library Hall, for \$11 a month where they encouraged the study of Hebrew, English and Yiddish literature by maintaining a library and sponsoring lectures. The Tourgenieff Club was a popular intellectual society where speakers addressed the membership in Russian. And startlingly, anarchists met here on Sunday afternoons in 1889!

#### In Conclusion

The building constructed as the Sixth National Bank in the late 1860s has been in continuous use as a business used for financial services. After its closure in 1933, Sixth National merged into the South Philadelphia National Bank, which merged with Central Penn National Bank in 1952. Continuing mergers changed the logos to read Core State, then First Union, next Wachovia and, currently, Wells Fargo.

The top floors of the original Sixth National Bank were removed during the revitalization period that began in the 1950s, giving this building a low profile that fits in well with the scale of today's neighborhood.

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





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

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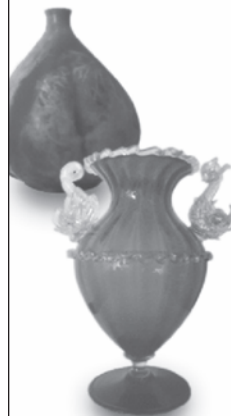
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## MONEY MANAGEMENT 101

BY JACKIE WATERS

## Building a Well-Balanced Budget at Home

The key to a well-rounded budget is finding a way to pay for all of your necessities, while still having money to pay off debts, save for retirement, cover any emergencies and have a little fun. Thinking about how you can possibly stretch your dollars out to cover everything can be stressful and daunting. But the only way to successfully cover all of these aspects is to create a budget. A budget allocates every dollar you have so you can have more financial freedom and less stress.

### Setting Up Your Budget

First, figure out your net income, which is how much you bring home after taxes and any other automatic deductions from your check. Next, you'll choose a budgeting plan. A variety of recommendations are out there, but any budget must cover all of your needs, some of your wants and have enough remaining to set aside for emergencies and your future.

An easy and popular budgeting plan to follow is the 50/30/20 plan, which says to spend about 50 percent your take-home pay on necessities, 30 percent or less on wants and at least 20 percent on savings and debt repayment. Don't worry if your proportions aren't perfect. It may take time to get your must-haves under control.

### Needs and Wants

Necessities include housing, groceries, basic utilities, transportation, insurance, health care, childcare, and minimum loan payments. If the monthly total for your must-haves section is greater than 50 percent, you need to spend less in the wants section of your budget for awhile. You can also cut back on necessities by spending less on groceries, reducing your energy consumption, or finding a less expensive cell phone plan or car insurance policy.

While eliminating debt as quickly as possible is a great idea, be sure to leave room in your budget for fun. Standard wants include dining out, purchasing gifts, traveling and entertainment. Just like you should leave room in your diet for dessert, if there's no room for fun in your budget, you're less likely to stick with it.

### Savings and Debts

The final 20 percent of your budget should cover any emergencies or unexpected spending, savings for retirement and paying off debts.

There are some priorities when you're allocating money in this section, and the first priority is to start an emergency fund. You'll want to save up to six months' worth of living expenses, along with some extra cash in case your car needs a new part or your computer crashes. These emergencies will cause more debt if you don't have money set aside to cover them.

Next, eliminate what NerdWallet calls "toxic debt." This includes high-interest credit card debt, personal and payday loans, title loans and rent-to-own payments. Next, work on unsecured debts, which include low-interest credit cards, medical bills and bank loans. Saving 15 percent of your gross income for retirement is the next priority. The final priority is extra debt repayment, which refers to making payments beyond the minimum amount. For example, you can increase the amount you make on your car payment to pay it off faster.

### Other Considerations

Once you have your debt eliminated and are comfortably setting aside money, consider saving for expenses that aren't emergencies but will inevitably occur, such as upgrading your washing machine or purchasing a new car. It's better to set aside money to cover these expenses than to have to finance them with a loan or credit card.

Another way to use this money is to cover the cost of remodeling. Remodeling to add equity to your home is a great way to spend money to make money. After staying in your home for a decade or longer, things will probably need upgrading. The cost of remodeling can vary, but most projects have a good return on invest (ROI), so remodeling typically adds equity. Bathroom or kitchen remodels are the two most popular projects because these rooms make or break the sale of a home and have a great ROI.

If you want to achieve financial security, you must create a well-rounded budget that not only guarantees that you cover your monthly expenses, but ensures you are prepared in the event of emergency. You also want to be able to retire comfortably. So, while sitting down to set up a budget can be daunting, it pays off in the long run.



**Jackie Waters** is the editor of [www.hyper-tidy.com](http://www.hyper-tidy.com), a website focused on leading a balanced, organized lifestyle.



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## KEEPING POSTED

BY AL CALVALARI

## The Problem of the Color Line

Jim Crow segregation is something we reserve in our minds as belonging to the South. The postcard shown here postmarked in 1915 by the Curtis Publishing Company, giving its address as "Independence Square," shocks us back to reality. It is a direct mail response card asking the recipient to submit the names of 14-year-old boys that the company will train for a vocation while they earn money and go to school. It's an opportunity to get a start in life, and states in three places that the offer is for "white boys."

W.E.B. Dubois, the first black person to earn a Harvard PhD, lived and worked for a time right in our neighborhood, just steps away from Mother Bethel AME Church. He would later write about the "strange meaning of being black here in the dawning of the Twentieth Century... for the problem of the Twentieth Century is the problem of the color-line." In historical interpretation, we use historical artifacts to get back to someone else's world. This postcard gets us to that world and that color line.

We have a history line in our neighborhood that begins inside Congress Hall, across the street from the Curtis building, looking out the south window down 6th Street. In this room, Congress passed the 1793 Fugitive Slave Act requiring persons who had escaped bondage to be returned to their owners. It is there, also, where one of the first anti-slavery petitions to Congress, signed by Richard Allen of Mother Bethel, drew only one vote of support.

The line continues past our Washington Square Park, for a time called Congo Square. This was a burial ground for black people. It was in a way their own space where they, both free and enslaved, would gather on Sundays and holidays to picnic, sing and dance in the presence of their deceased loved ones. Here they kept alive the traditions and identity from their respective homelands.

The line continues down the street to Mother Bethel, which would anchor the neighborhood of black Philadelphians that grew up behind Independence Hall. Here, those excluded from the promises made in our founding documents would establish their own support systems and begin to pressure the nation to fulfill those promises. And Mother Bethel would eventually become a stop on the Underground Railroad.

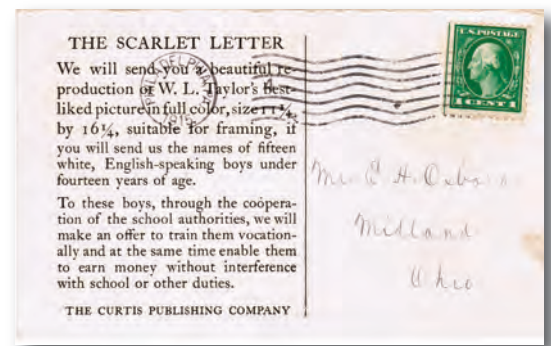
In 1915, when this card was mailed, the Liberty Bell was on a national tour to the West Coast and back. It would be on display at two expositions in California and stop at hundreds of towns along the

way, spreading the promise of America as explained in our founding documents. The United States had not yet entered World War I. The roaring 20s would soon begin. The Beautiful Dream Garden mosaic by Louis C. Tiffany, based on a Maxfield Parrish landscape, today on display in the Curtis Publishing Company lobby, was installed in 1916. The *Saturday Evening Post* and *Ladies' Home Journal* were Curtis's nationwide mass-market successes. Somewhere in our neighborhood, there were some little kids who would not be participating in that opportunity at Curtis Publishing Company.

The message side of the card invites the recipient to provide the names of "fifteen white, English-speaking boys under fourteen years of age. To these boys, through the cooperation of the school authorities, we will make an offer to train them vocationally and at the same time enable them to earn money without the interference with school or other duties." Oddly enough, they would also be sent an art poster "suitable for framing." The response part of the card that was to be mailed back restates twice that the names being submitted are for whites.

Our historic sites and buildings are repositories for our national memories and are most valuable to us when we are open to the memories we might rather forget, as well as the iconic ones we celebrate. There is a slave memorial at the entrance to the Liberty Bell. Some of President Washington's human property lived there. On the memorial is a Ghanaian word, "sankofa." It means returning to the past with the idea of building the future, with the journey based on critical examination and patient investigation.

Historic artifacts like this postcard can take us back to that past. The future is ours to create. I have thousands of Philadelphia postcards in my collection and just found this one over Thanksgiving. It is the most important one I have.



**This vintage postcard, mailed in 1915, seeks white boys only for vocational training.**

**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 [flagguys@aol.com](mailto:flagguys@aol.com).

**PHILADELPHIA LANDMARKS EARLY MUSIC SERIES**



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Each music ensemble promotes period-instrument artistry while exploring the Classical and Romantic repertoire of the 18th and 19th centuries.

For more information, please visit: [www.PhilaLandmarks.org](http://www.PhilaLandmarks.org).

The remaining performances are:

**Grand Harmonie:** Across the Pond  
February 15, 7:30-9:30 p.m.  
Hill-Physick House, 321 S. 4th Street

**Kleine Kammermusik:**  
Woods and Brooks  
March 8, 7:30-9:30 p.m.  
Hill-Physick House

**Franklin Quartet:** By George!  
April 12, 7:30-9:30 p.m.  
Powel House, 244 S. 3rd Street

**EXERCISE AND SOCIALIZE**

**Dress warmly, wear sturdy shoes and take to the sidewalks this winter.**

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.

**The five-year anniversary of "Philly is Walking in the Park!" was recently celebrated at Buddakan. Congratulations to the walkers, and the volunteers for this group as well as the medical speaker series "Society Hill - Hot and Healthy!"**



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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

# A Charitable Choice Is One Step Away

Kind-hearted people are often conflicted about giving to others on the street, afraid that they'll be subsidizing substance abuse or enabling a dangerous lifestyle. There is, however, a viable option for city residents who want to be part of a solution to the troubling problem of homelessness.

*One Step Away* is Philadelphia's street newspaper, one of 110 such publications in 35 countries, that is written and produced by the homeless. As its name suggests many Philly folks are, in these difficult days when public safety nets are quickly disappearing, one step away from living on the street. Just as true, the vendors who take part in this program can be one step closer to having a place to sleep at night.

Established five years ago to create meaningful income and personal growth opportunities for people in need, the program also succeeds in advocating for social justice within the homeless community.

Homelessness can be isolating and demeaning. Vendors, so visible in their yellow vests, are encouraged to engage with customers and give a face to homelessness.

Anyone in need is welcome to work selling the papers. After completing orientation, vendors, many of whom don't have two nickels to rub together, receive 20 free newspapers to get started. They purchase additional papers for 25 cents each and sell them for \$1. Vendors keep all the money they earn from selling the papers.

The 25-cent outlay is an investment in themselves and their inventory. They become micro-entrepreneurs, determining schedule, inventory and location. Transferrable skills necessary to climb up the economic ladder are also obtained.

The paper itself gives homeless people a voice they otherwise wouldn't have. Most of the articles are written by the vendors and give first-hand perspective to this pernicious social issue. Recent articles include: "Why My Voting Card Is the Most Important Card in My Wallet;" "War on Poverty: Is It a Thing of the Past?;" and "Racism: Personal Stories." To find out more, visit [www.osaphilly.org](http://www.osaphilly.org).

This winter, consider buying a copy of *One Step Away* and, more importantly, engaging with the vendor. It's an easy way to make a difference.



**One Step Away, produced by homeless people, is bought by homeless vendors for 25 cents per issue and sold for \$1 per issue.**

## 2018 SummerSessions

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LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER'S

# Opening Doors for People Living With Dementia

*People with dementia may forget, but ARTZ Philadelphia will not.*

**A**RTZ Philadelphia is a small non-profit that provides opportunities for interactions around arts and culture to people living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. It was founded on the belief that these people should be accorded the benefits of well-being and quality of life that others might enjoy. ARTZ sponsors several programs that can change the life of someone living with dementia for the better, as well as the life of the caretaker.

in size to six to eight visitors with dementia plus their care partners to ensure an intimate and comfortable experience for everyone.

In **ARTZ on the Road**, the staff facilitates arts-based group conversations in residential care communities. Works of art, the memories they evoke and anything else that comes up along the way are all fair game. Conversations about art are sometimes paired with art-making and other creative experiences.

**ARTZ in the Making** are engaging, hands-on programs with trained artist-facilitators who create opportunities for self-expression via art-making for residents living with dementia in care communities. Using a "process over product" approach, the program encourages both imagination and conversation, and above all, human connection through a range of media.

Programs are free of charge.

Call 610-721-1606 or visit [www.artzphilly.org](http://www.artzphilly.org) to learn more.



**ARTZ at the Museum participants discuss art.**

**ARTZ at the Museum** offers weekly opportunities to join with others in museums and art centers around the Greater Philadelphia area. It all starts with the art: participants look together at two or three works of art during an hour of group conversation. Groups are limited

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LIVE LOVE PHILLY





## OUR CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

BY BILL ARMSTRONG &amp; SANDRA ROTHMAN

## Russell, Bill and Haley: Friends to the End

This is a tale about love: committed love, neighborly love and, most certainly, puppy love.

The story begins with long-time partners Russell Harris and Bill Armstrong sipping margaritas at a bar located in their favorite winter retreat, Isla Mujeres, in Mexico. Russell turned to Bill and said rather wistfully, "You know, something's missing from my life; I think I want to have a dog again."

At this point in their relationship, the couple had been dogless for several years. Russell, retired from his career as an official reporter for the U.S. Federal Court in 1990, had recently left the admissions department at Pennsylvania Hospital, where he had volunteered for more than a decade. It's fair to say he was feeling somewhat at loose ends.

Back home, Bill secretly went online to research breeders of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. Past experiences had proved these animals to be sweet-tempered and playful and, more importantly, gentle companion pets. He found a breeder in Virginia named, to Bill's great delight, Mrs. Buttons. Already the quest was taking on the feel of a fairytale.

Saying that he was going to D.C. by train for business, Bill drove down to Mrs. Button's house instead, where he immediately fell in love with puppy Haley, the tiniest in her litter. To his dismay, she was already spoken for. Happily, a quick call affirmed that the interested party wanted a dog to play fetch with the children, which is not a Cavalier's forte. So the fairytale continued as Bill completed the transaction, drove back to Philly and waited for the sound of Russell's key in the door.

From that joyous moment of greeting onward, Haley and Russell were inseparable. They became a fixture in Washington Square, where Russell and his dog held court daily — engaging with locals and tourists alike. It was also here that Russell began exhibiting the first signs of dementia.



**Haley, a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel**

And this is when love was ratcheted up a few notches.

Bill devoted himself to Russell's comfort and dignity, making sure that this "consummate Philadelphia gentleman" retained both his dapper appearance and social circle. It certainly helped that Russell never lost his innate good nature and manners.

As the condition progressed, Russell lived more and more in the moment. Bill says this actually made things easier. Once during a snowstorm, he balked at leaving home to go to adult day care. Bill just waited a few minutes, drove the car to the front door and suggested going for a drink. Russell's face lit up as he gleefully got in, saying, "I'm with you there, kid!" By the time they arrived at the senior center, Russell happily

*Do you have a pet tale you'd like to tell? Please email it to [sandra.rothman@aol.com](mailto:sandra.rothman@aol.com), or give us the facts and we'll write it for you.*

greeted the very caring staff, prospects of promised libations forgotten.

Haley continued to be a constant and adoring companion, taking the job of lap dog seriously. More and more, Russell would exclaim with surprised delight as Haley entered the room, "Look, Bill, we have a new dog!" Without fail Bill would cheerfully respond, "Yes, I got her today just for you!"

Bill and Russell lived together in Society Hill for 46 years and loved everything about it. The community loved the convivial couple back, especially as Russell's condition worsened. Their close circle of friends and neighbors bonded together and saw them through the challenging days ahead. Neighbors looked out for Russell, bringing him home when they found him wandering lost in the Square, serving him cookies as he waited for Bill.

When it came to an end, Bill and Haley turned to each other in their grief. Their bond continues to deepen in their new home on 2nd Street, with Haley providing great comfort to Bill. She is now 15, so Bill drives her to her favorite haunt, Washington Square, where they both perk up at the sight of their canine and human buddies.

**Bill Armstrong** has been a Society Hill resident since 1971. He is retired from Robert Allen Fabrics and now runs a small interior design company. Email him at [william65armstrong@gmail.com](mailto:william65armstrong@gmail.com).



**Russell Harris and Bill Armstrong**



OUT AND ABOUT

# Washington Square Then and Now

John Fanning Watson (1779-1860) was a Philadelphia antiquarian and amateur historian best known as the author of *Annals of Philadelphia* (1830). As a young man he began gathering the reminiscences of elderly people, and collected them in the first major history of the city.

In anticipation of the 2018 Washington Square Affair to be held on Wednesday, June 6, we offer neighbors a glimpse into what the Square was like in Watson's time and earlier, based on first-hand memories. These recollections are juxtaposed with photos of the Square today.

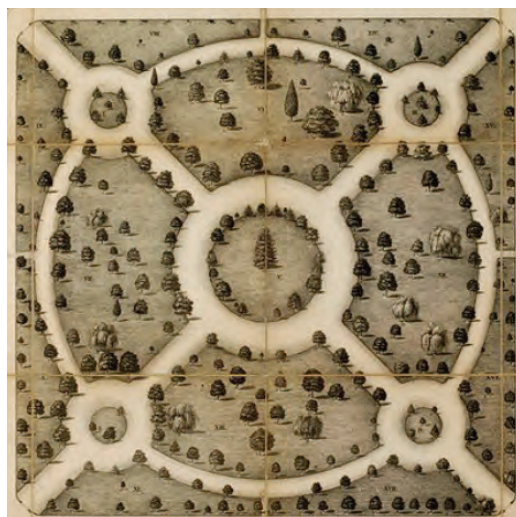
“The grounds forming the square from Chestnut to Walnut Streets and from Sixth to Seventh was all a grass meadow, under fence, down to the year 1794. On the Chestnut Street side it was high and had steps of ascent cut into the bank.”



No longer a grassy meadow, Washington Square dazzles throughout the year.



“There are those who remember when in their boyhood days a cattle yard was on the south-west portion of the square.”



A map of the Square drawn in 1842.

“Those who remembered the place long before my recollection, knew it when the whole place was surrounded by a privet-hedge, where boys used to go and cut bow-sticks for shooting of arrows. Timothy Matlack remembered it as early as the years 1745 to '50, and used then to go to a pond where is now the site of the Presbyterian Church, to shoot wild ducks.”



BONNIE HALDA PHOTO

Hopkinson House was built in 1963 on the site of the Presbyterian Church, itself erected in 1825 on the site of the pond that Watson wrote about.



OUT AND ABOUT



**The fountain at the center of Washington Square, near the approximate site of the Carpenter family burial plot. It was installed in 1957 when the park was completely renovated.**

“In the center of the square was an enclosed ground, having a brick wall of about 40 feet square, in which had been interred members of Joshua Carpenter’s and the Story families, caused by the circumstance of a female of the former family having been there for suicide — a circumstance which excluded her from burial in the common church grounds of the city. There was an apple tree in the center, under which Mr. Carpenter was buried.”

“It was the custom for the slave blacks, at the time of fairs and other great holidays, to go there to the number of one thousand, of both sexes, and hold their dances, dancing after the manner of their several nations in Africa and singing in their native dialects, thus cheerily amusing themselves over the sleeping dust below. An aged lady, Mrs. H.S., has told me she has often seen the Guinea negros, in the days of her youth, going to the graves of their friends early in the morning, and there leaving victuals and rum!”



**Historians believe the African burial grounds, known as Congo Square, were at the northwest section of Washington Square.**



**South side**

“In the time of the war of independence the place was made awful by the numerous interments of the dying soldiers destroyed by the camp fever. Pits of twenty by thirty square were dug along the line of Walnut Street by Seventh Street, which were closed by coffins piled one upon another until filled up; and along the southern line long trenches, the whole width of the square, were dug at once, and filled up as the voracious grave required its victims.”

Remember, all proceeds from the Washington Square Affair : : 2018 will help the National Park Service maintain and beautify this extraordinary treasure.



OUT AND ABOUT

# Hillers Like to Party!

*This past holiday season gave Society Hillers many opportunities to meet and greet their neighbors. Good food and good drinks made for good conversations!*

Photos by **Martha Levine** unless otherwise noted.



**Lots of neighbors gathered at Cavanaugh's on December 6 to celebrate the holidays, including...**



**Malcolm Lazin, Rosanne Loesch, Joan Tropp, and Fred Manfred**



**Mindy Watts, Ben Speciale, Madeline Miller and Gordon Leggett Jr.**



**Greg DiTeodoro, Steven Miller, Jane Biberman, and Lisa Unger**



**Rosanne and Kim Williams, Mary Purcell, and Greg DiTeodoro**



**Larry Gavin, Carol and Chris Hanlon, Karen Sztencel, and Howard Cohen**



**The 5th Annual Hill-Physick House Wine and Beer Party Fundraiser brought out 150 neighbors on October 25 for a festive evening to support the house. Guests enjoyed a live jazz band, full buffet and open bar for wine and beer.**



**Powell House Holiday Party, committee members Rita Powell, Suzie Pattinson, Bobbie Turner, Ann Moyer and Maria Angelides with George Kelly.**

SUSAN SCOVILL PHOTO



2018 WELCOME BASKETS

BY MARTHA LEVINE

Welcome, New Contributors!

The new season of Welcome Baskets is well underway with a long list of new homeowners who have purchased houses and condominiums in Society Hill. If you are a new first-time owner, who has moved here in 2017, please contact us for an appointment to have a basket presented in your home.

We depend on our local businesses to contribute goods and gift certificates for the baskets. Help us welcome our newest contributors, listed below.

**Bistrot La Minette**

Opened in 2008 by Peter Wookey, who wanted to share his love of hearty French bistro fare. The warm yellow and red décor evokes good memories of traditional French bistro dining. 623 South 6th Street, 215-925-8000, www.bistrotlaminette.com.

**Ernesto Custom Tailors Inc.**

After 50 years specializing in the highest quality

custom-made suits, jackets, shirts and overcoats, Ernesto's is now in the hands of its second-generation family members. They offer personal service and an extensive fabric selection. 612 South 5th Street, 215-627-7887, www.ernestotailoring.com.

**J. Sima Salon**

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**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

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Trish Byrne, Lee Jablow, baby.



Vince and Connie Piau



Jay Finestone, Randy Schwartz, with Boston Terrier, Olive.

2017 SOCIETY HILL WELCOME BASKET CONTRIBUTORS

**Coffee Shops**

Old City Coffee, 221 Church Street/Reading Terminal Market  
Starbucks Coffee Inc., 8th & Walnut Streets  
9th Street Coffee, 814 S. 9th Street

**Food Stores**

Acme Market, 5th & Pine Streets

**Restaurants**

Bistro Romano, 120 Lombard Street  
Bistrot La Minette, 623 S. 6th Street  
Cavanaugh's Headhouse, 421 S. 2nd Street  
City Tavern, 138 S. 2nd Street  
Craftsman's Row, 112 S. 8th Street  
Creperie Beau Monde, 624 S. 6th Street  
Fork, 306 Market Street  
Frieda's Café, 320 Walnut Street  
Garces Group: Amada, 217 Chestnut Street, and others  
Gnocchi, 613 E. Passyunk Avenue (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 Fournò, 636 South Street  
Malbec Argentine Steakhouse, 400-402 S. 2nd Street  
Positano Coast Restaurant, 2nd & Walnut Streets  
Talula's Daily, café & take out, 208 W. Washington Square



Evantine Design, 715 Walnut Street  
Head House Books (independent bookstore), 619 S. 2nd Street  
Paper On Pine (invitations/stationery), 115 S. 13th Street  
Show of Hands Gallery (crafts), 1006 Pine Street  
SoapBox (hand-made skin care), 616 S. 6th Street

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Ghost Tours of Philadelphia, 610-587-8308  
Historic Philadelphia Inc., SW corner 6th & Chestnut Streets  
InterAct Theater Company, at the Drake, 302 S. Hicks Street  
Lantern Theater Company, 10th & Ludlow Streets (south of Market)  
National Museum of American Jewish History, 5th & Market Streets  
National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut Street  
Next Move Dance at the Prince, 1412 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  
The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center, 215-545-1739  
The Philadelphia Chamber Ensemble, Old Pine Church, 412 Pine Street  
The Philadelphia Orchestra, Kimmel Center for Performing Arts, Broad & Spruce  
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The Worth Collection (women's fashions), 215-925-8813, spattison@comcast.net

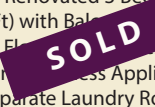


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HOPKINSON HOUSE #2817  
\$540K—  
Dynamite Views from this Corner Unit Facing South. Lots of light and Sun. Open Living/Dining Area. Master Bath - built-ins in Bedroom and Living Room; Kitchen and Foyer with tile floors and lots of upgrades.



### Please Note –

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TIPS FOR PARENTS

BY CLAUDIA CARABELLI

# What Can We Do About Bullying?

From the White House to the playground, bullying has become a regular topic of discussion. What is it? How can we address it? How do we protect our children from being either victims or perpetrators?

Three criteria must be met for behavior to meet the definition of bullying.

- It must be intentional.
- It must be an ongoing pattern of behavior.
- There must be a power imbalance between victim and perpetrator. (Older, bigger, more popular, part of a group or an authority figure.)

We all want to protect our children, but life involves some minor conflicts that are easily resolved. A passing insult, accidental bump or disagreement between peers can usually be resolved with an apology or a parent/child talk about appropriate behavior. To label every minor conflict as bullying can make your child feel helpless.

On the flip side, if a child is subjected to a repeated pattern of victimization, it can become a serious, even deadly, problem. This is where the adults need to step in.

**What to do?**

Listen to your child. Spend time together to talk about school and friends. Just don't make it feel like an interrogation.

Keep in mind what is developmentally appropriate. An insulting observation from a 4-year-old is typically just their curious, uncensored self. It makes a great "teachable moment." From an older child it may constitute unkind, even bullying behavior.

Be alert to any changes in their behavior. If your child withdraws, has unexplained injuries, is "missing" belongings, becomes resistant about going to school or is distanced from friends — these could be warning signs.

Know their friends. Hosting friends at your home and driving the carpool can be great opportunities to get to know their peers. If you hear hateful comments, it may be time to step in and speak with the other parents.

Model your best behavior. Make no mistake. Your children are watching you. If you're bashing others, they'll pick up on that.

Limit and supervise their use of digital media. You wouldn't allow your child to let a stranger in the front door. Don't let them do it electronically.

Kids need guidance and supervision with social media. They're much bolder with anonymity and can also become a victim of cyber bullying.

Join with other parents. Support each other. If some parents don't share your parenting values, distance yourself to protect your child.

Help your child with strategies to cope. Talk your child through possible solutions to problems they can handle on their own. Intervene when needed.

Make sure your child does not have access to weapons. The worst-case scenario of bullying can be a suicide. Don't be afraid to ask your child if they are considering it. It doesn't put the idea into their heads. It gives them the OK to talk about it with you.

Enlist the help of professionals. Your child's school counselor or psychologist can be a great resource to provide counseling or refer you to outside resources. Your pediatrician can also be helpful.

Support your child as a bystander. Most children don't bully and are very uncomfortable seeing someone bullied. They just don't know what to do. Encourage them to invite an unpopular student to sit with them at lunch, say a kind word in passing and inform an adult about the situation. Studies have shown that even standing next to someone who is being bullied can convey a degree of support. A little kindness goes a long way.



A short time ago, there was a troubling bullying incident in Three Bears Park. It is being addressed in a positive way, most recently with an interactive event scheduled with local author Staci Schwartz reading her newest book, *The New Bear on the Block*. Check the SHCA email blast for information. SHCA is contributing to the discussion with this column, as well as a list of pertinent books on Page 23.

We suggest, also, that you google "Clint Watts, daughter Pepper" to find a link at [www.medium.com](http://www.medium.com). Clint Watts, often on television as an F.B.I. terrorism expert, gives important insights about being the single father of a young daughter with autism.



**This poster is on prominent display at Three Bears Park.**

**Claudia Carabelli, M.Ed** has 24 years of experience counseling children and adolescents.

**Here are just a few of the many resources available online.**

- |                                        |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Stop Bullying.gov                      | <a href="http://www.stopbullying.gov/what_you_can_do/index.html">www.stopbullying.gov/what_you_can_do/index.html</a>                                             |
| Violence Prevention Works              | <a href="http://www.violencepreventionworks.org/public/bullying_tips_for_parents.page">www.violencepreventionworks.org/public/bullying_tips_for_parents.page</a> |
| Parents-Cyber bullying Research Center | <a href="http://www.cyberbullying.org/resources/parents">www.cyberbullying.org/resources/parents</a>                                                             |
| Stomp Out Bullying                     | <a href="http://www.stompoutbullying.org/information-and-resources/parents-page">www.stompoutbullying.org/information-and-resources/parents-page</a>             |

# SOCIETY HILL TOWERS

THE CONDOMINIUM

200-220 Locust Street

## Corner 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom



on a high floor with magnificent river and city views, walls of windows throughout, washer and dryer in the home and an updated master bath.  
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## Corner 1 Bedroom



with panoramic Benjamin Franklin Bridge, river and southern views. This bright and airy home features a beautifully renovated open kitchen, light-filled living room with walls of windows, a master bedroom with 2 closets, and a full bath, all on award-winning floors throughout.  
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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 more than 1000 sq ft of views of the Delaware River and Society Hill. There is a magnificent, updated kitchen, family room/den, spacious great room with a fireplace, master suite with a large walk-in closet and marble appointed ensuite bathroom.  
2,650 sf | **\$950,000**



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## ON OUR SHELF

BY RICHARD DE WYNGAERT

## Books Dealing With Bullying Issues

**B**ullying? We've all been there: the playground, the lunchroom, the classroom. From the vantage point of adulthood, bullying is mean-spirited and pointless, but it is unfortunately a regular part of childhood. Fortunately, bullying has finally entered the media spotlight, and the public outcry is forcing parents, teachers, administrators and policy-makers to step up to the plate and do something.

Here are some books that can help us teach our children the skills they need not to be the bullied, the bully or the bystander. Teaching them about feelings, empathy and good communication skills can help prevent bullying

**Picture Books**

Since bullying and exclusion can begin as early as preschool, it's important that we help young children to begin cultivating humane values.

Here are some picture books that can help start the conversation:

**Edwardo: The Horriblest Boy in the Whole Wide World** by John Burningham  
2007, grades PreK-3.

"Edwardo was an ordinary boy." But whenever he does something a bit bad, he's told how horrible he is. Soon his behavior is cruel and awful. But when he accidentally does something bad that has good consequences and is complimented, Edwardo eventually becomes "the nicest boy in the whole wide world."

**Chrysanthemum** by Kevin Henkes  
1991, grades PreK-2.

Chrysanthemum absolutely loves her name, until she goes to school and nearly everyone makes fun of her. Chrysanthemum begins to hate her name and question her own worthiness, until a teacher with a special name of her own reminds Chrysanthemum how perfect she and her name are.

**Desmond and the Very Mean Word**

by Desmond Tutu and A. G. Ford  
2012, grades 1-4

What should you do if someone calls you a very mean word? How do you know when to forgive someone? This compassionate story, inspired by Desmond Tutu's childhood in South Africa, is sure to inspire conversations.

**Say Something** by Peggy Moss  
2004, grades K-4.

A young girl witnesses several acts of bullying at school and does nothing, until a day when she is teased and considers how those being bullied must feel.

**Wings** by Christopher Myers  
2000, grades K-3.

New boy Icarus Jackson has wings. While his classmates and teachers laugh at him or find him an impediment, one girl sees his specialness and finally has the courage to stand up for him and to tell Icarus that his flying is beautiful.

**One** by Katherine Otoshi  
2008, grades PreK-1.

A simple color and counting book that offers a lesson on bullying.

**Thank You, Mr. Falker** by Patricia Polacco  
2012, grades K-3

Master storyteller Polacco shares her own childhood experience with a learning disability, bullies and the teacher that made a difference.

**Have You Filled a Bucket Today?**  
by Carol McLeod

The message is so clear and so motivating, even the youngest children will set out at once to fill buckets.

**Middle School**

When middle school students are bullied by their peers, they're at a much higher risk for low self-esteem, anxiety, stress, depression and even suicidal thoughts.

**Wonder** by R.J. Palacio  
2012, grades 3-7

*Wonder* delivers the experience of August Pullman, both from his point of view and the point of view of those close to him. Sometimes humorous and sometimes sad, *Wonder* is the heartfelt story of a boy with a deformed face and a big heart.

**The Swift Boys & Me** by Kody Keplinger  
2014, grades 3-7

What happens when your best friend becomes your bully? Nola learns that best friends can break your heart and that sometimes you have to walk away from a bad friendship to find a better one.

**Twerp** by Mark Goldblatt  
2014, Grades 4-7

Told from the bully's point of view, *Twerp* offers its readers a glimpse into life in middle school — peer pressure, humor and the unbearable guilt that comes from doing something horrible to someone else.

**The Bully Book** by Eric Kahn Gale  
2012, grades 3-7

Why do some kids become bullies? And how do they decide who to torture? Part bully manual and part journal of a bully's victim, *The Bully Book* offers its readers an insightful and concrete explanation for why bullies pick on the kids they do.

**For Adults**

**The Bully, The Bullied and the Bystander**  
by Barbara Coloroso, 2004

This is an extremely helpful book that both parents and teachers can use to deal with bullying. Starting with a bottom-line assumption that "bullying is a learned behavior," Coloroso wonderfully explains not only the ways that the bully, the bullied and the bystander are "three characters in a tragic play" but also how "the scripts can be rewritten, new roles created, the plot changed."

**Cyberbullying: Perpetrators, Bystanders & Victims** by Josh Gunderson, 2017

A look at how social networks, cell phones and other social media are being used attack and bully others, with a strong focus on what parents, families and students can do to decrease the harm it causes.

**Bullying Scars: The Impact on Adult Life and Relationships** by Ellen Walser deLara, 2016

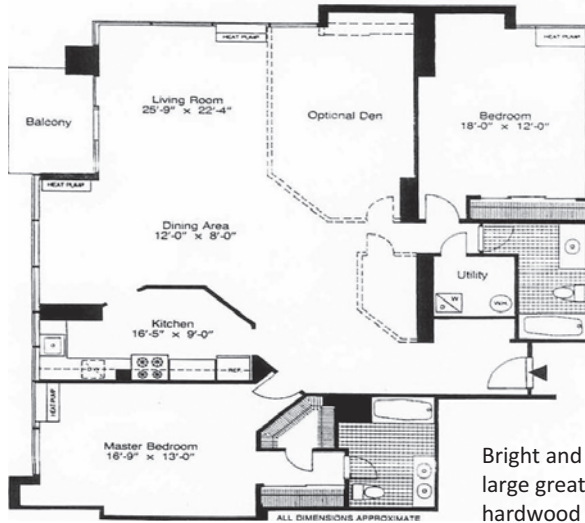
An explosion of research on bullying has raised our collective awareness of the serious impacts it can have on children. Is bullying traumatic and, if so, does it last into adult life? Are there life-long consequences?

**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 S. 2nd Street. The *Reporter* staff amassed this column.

# INDEPENDENCE PLACE

233 - 241 S. 6th Street



Bright and open 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom perfect for entertaining with its large great room, river and city views to the east and north, brand new hardwood floors throughout the living space, a recently updated kitchen, and private balcony. 1,897 sf | **\$975,000**



Sun-soaked 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom on a high floor with magnificent Washington Square and city skyline views. The home is completely renovated and boasts a new kitchen with high end appliances and new bathrooms with beautiful marble tilework. There is large, open entertaining space and a private balcony. 2,045 sf | **\$1,125,000**

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1502L-I	1802L-II	1907H-I	608C-II	1906-7-I	706F-II	1706-I
2408-I	2407-II	1906C-I	612G-I	1906-II	2106-II	2102-II
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## SOUTH STREET HEADHOUSE DISTRICT

## Community Comes Together

**B**ridget Foy's Restaurant, a mainstay in the neighborhood for 40 years, was devastated by a fire in late October. The adjacent shop, Doggie Style Pet Store, was also destroyed, and over a dozen residents were displaced. Thankfully, no people were injured, but, sadly, two rescue dogs, Precious and Yogi, perished in the fire.

Local businesses and residents expressed a strong desire to support the victims of the fire, and in response, the Community Dinner Under the Shambles was held on November 15. Led by George Reilly, owner of the Twisted Tail, and co-sponsored by the South Street Headhouse District (SSHD) and the Queen Village Neighborhood Association, the event brought nearly 300 friends and neighbors together to support and honor the victims of the fire.

Over 30 area restaurants donated food for the event. Philadelphia Brewing Company, Dread-

naught Wine Imports and Jim Beam Liquors provided beverages. More than 50 local businesses donated prizes for the silent auction and raffle.

The Community Dinner Under the Shambles raised \$27,400, and the proceeds will be divided equally among the following recipients: American Red Cross Disaster Relief, Bridget Foy's employees, The Yogi and Precious Memorial Fund of Saved Me Animal Rescue and the Red Paw Emergency Team, which provides rescue and relief services for animals following disasters.

SSHD Executive Director Mike Harris comments, "The fire was a terrible, terrible tragedy. But the outpouring of support was just amazing — it demonstrated the true definition of 'community.' We thank all of the folks who came out in support of the event and are grateful to restaurants, businesses and merchants who generously donated food, drinks and prizes."



## Lights, Camera, Action: South Street Cinema

**S**outh Street Cinema, located at 327 South Street, is a brand new, pop-up movie house showing films four nights a week. South Street Cinema is operated by SSHD and is designed to offer more arts and lively energy to Philadelphia's Bright Lights Entertainment District.

The concept was brought to life by Bill Arrowood, Assistant Director of SSHD, who describes the idea: "While Philadelphia has plenty of traditional movie theaters, it was lacking in the kind of small screening rooms that could show golden era movies or indie films on a daily basis. South Street is the ideal location to showcase unique and quirky entertainment. Bringing a space like this to life offers a great new asset to the street."

With the assistance of the former Society Hill Playhouse, which loaned chairs, curtains and projector, a recently vacant storefront space was converted into a small movie house. Triad Realty and the property ownership have generously made the space available for South Street Cinema.

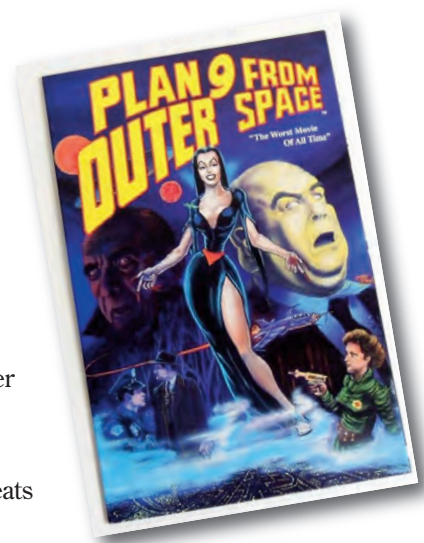
The 40-seat screening room and art gallery features rare cult films, classic films and independent features from local filmmakers. Plans to expand to more showings and openings will materialize as partners sign on to host specific

themed nights. Some upcoming offerings include "Oh the Horror," on Saturday nights, presented by the Philadelphia Unnamed Film Festival; first Thursday B-movies by Mondo Philly; and on Sunday nights, comedy with live comedians as well as Mystery Science Theater 3000's dubbed movies.

Other special events include Bollywood night, with Indian treats courtesy of Lovash Restaurant, and Kung Faux Theater, as well as several independent film screenings.

A suggested donation of \$5 is requested of guests to defray licensing rights for films. Doors open 30 minutes prior to show times. Popcorn and soft drinks are available, and guests are welcome to bring their own snacks. The theater is also available for private screenings and parties.

For more information, please visit South Street Cinema's Facebook event page [www.facebook.com/southstreetcinema](http://www.facebook.com/southstreetcinema) or email [SouthStreetCinema@gmail.com](mailto:SouthStreetCinema@gmail.com).



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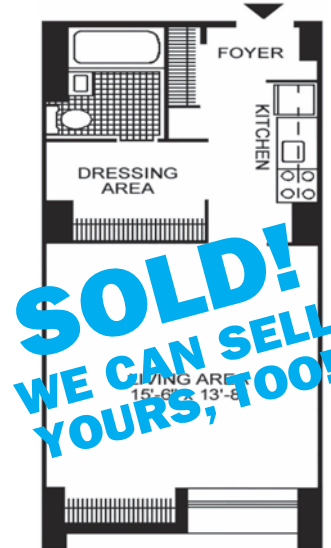
- George Washington
  - John Adams
- Meriwether Lewis
- Richard Henry Lee
- Francis Lightfoot Lee

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**



604 S. Washington Square



Studio on a high floor with panoramic southern views, an open kitchen and great closet space.  
415 sf | **\$179,900**



Bright and sunny corner 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath with see-forever river and city views to the south and east. The home features an open floor plan, perfect for entertaining. Both bedrooms are generously sized and there is a private balcony. 1,200 sf | **Sold for \$490,000**



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**HEADHOUSE FARMERS' MARKET**


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BY LISA KELLY, THE FOOD TRUST

## Taste the Rainbow at HeadHouse Market

There's lots of conflicting nutritional advice online about what's good for you and what's not. One piece of advice that has stood the test of time, however, is the often-quoted wisdom to "eat the rainbow." But what does this mean for regulars at the Farmers' Market?

The basic idea is that if you load up your plate with color, you'll increase your intake of antioxidants, vitamins, minerals and all that good stuff. No, this nutritional wisdom doesn't extend to a bowlful of Lucky Charms cereal or a handful of brightly colored M&Ms. It refers specifically to fruits and vegetables.

In summertime, it's easy to find masses of brightly colored sweet berries, stone fruit and salad vegetables that pop with goodness. In the depths of winter, it takes a little more planning, but with the support of our Headhouse growers, you can still assemble a colorful plate of fresh fruit and vegetables throughout the winter months. Indeed, many of our merchants are experimenting with an extended growing season by using greenhouses to ensure that we can still get, for example, local micro greens in the fall and early winter months.

Remember too, that this is the first year that the Farmers' Market will run all year 'round in the Shambles. Headhouse Market customers will still be able to find produce from some of their

favorite produce growers, including Blooming Glen Farm, Three Springs Fruit Farm, Green Zameen Farm, Queen's Farm, Savoie Organic Farm, Beechwood Orchards and market newcomer Primordia Farm (producers of a wide variety of top-notch mushrooms).

Keep your eyes open for the following rainbow produce throughout the upcoming season:

**Violet/indigo/blue:** purple-headed cauliflowers, eggplant, purple asparagus, beets, potatoes

**Green:** collard greens, kale, Brussel sprouts, leeks

**Yellow/orange/red:** heirloom carrots, late apple varieties, winter squash, red cabbage

While kale may not be one of the sexiest vegetables around, it is packed with fiber, vitamins B and C and promotes iron consumption. If you're not a fan of its strong flavor, then why not try the recipe below, courtesy of Jamie Oliver's wonderful cookbook, *5 Ingredients* (Penguin 2017). This is a well-tested recipe and a favorite even for people who are not normally a fan of this vibrant superfood.

**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. The Food trust has been working to ensure that everyone has access to affordable, nutritious food and information to make healthy decisions. To get involved with The Food Trust, see its website [www.thefoodtrust.org](http://www.thefoodtrust.org).



### NUTTY KALE WINTER SALAD

Serves 4

1/2 oz. of nuts

(hazelnuts are best, but you can use any nut)

15 oz. of kale, washed and finely chopped

4 tablespoons olive oil

2 oz. of grated Parmesan cheese

1 lemon (zest and juice)

4 fluid oz. of buttermilk

salt &amp; pepper to season

- 1 Toast the nuts until golden brown. Remove from heat and crush into smaller pieces.
- 2 Sort kale: tear off stalks and slice leaves into fine strips. Put leaves into large mixing bowl.
- 3 Drizzle leaves with olive oil and add buttermilk and half of the nuts.
- 4 Finely grate half of the Parmesan and add to bowl, together with all of the lemon zest and juice.
- 5 Massage these dressing ingredients into the kale leaves until they soften.
- 6 Add salt and pepper to season.
- 7 When ready to serve, present on salad plate and grate remaining Parmesan and scatter with the remainder of the nuts.

**Enjoy! And remember to support our merchants throughout the winter season!**



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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY MATT DEJULIO

2018 Membership Drive Continues Full Steam

By early December, nearly 700 Society Hill residents had renewed their SHCA membership — slightly higher than the same time last year, which saw an all-time record of 1,141. Winners of the restaurant certificates for those who renewed by December 31 will be announced in the March/April issue of the *Reporter*.

If you have delayed in sending in your renewal, or wish to join, please do so today. We welcome each of 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](mailto:Mattdejulio@aol.com) with questions or comments, which will be shared with our board members representing every quadrant in our unique and historic neighborhood.

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

**Monthly Parking Spaces Available**

A limited number of monthly parking spaces are still available at the newly renovated Front Street Lot at 511 South Front Street, between South and Lombard Streets. Renewal notices for 2018 will go out on November 1. If interested, contact Ed Sullivan with Park America at 610-637-6832.



Neighbors gathered for the annual block party for the the 500 blocks of Cypress Street, Spruce Street, Delancey Street and Manning Walkway, with fun things for the kids (face painter, slime table, etc).



*Society Hill*  
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

Email (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Residential Memberships**

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

**Business Memberships**

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

**Additional Contributions**

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

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

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

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

Charge VISA/MasterCard:

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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

- Clean-Up Day       Washington Square       Zoning & Historic Preservation
- Franklin Lights       Social Events       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

## NIFTY NEIGHBORS IN MY OWN BACKYARD

BY JANE BIBERMAN

## Lending a Helping Hand to Neighbors

Sitting in his spacious office on the 24th floor of The Philadelphia Foundation's new offices at 1835 Market Street, Pedro A. Ramos is enveloped by the breathtaking views of the city he loves so much. It's a city that has been good to him, and it's a city that he has served in one capacity or another since he was a small boy living in public housing in North Philly. The first Latino head of the 100-year-old community charity, Pedro took office in the summer of 2015 — an event that was widely covered in the press. At the time, he was a partner at Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis law firm.

His résumé could fill this entire column. Pedro was Managing Director of the City, overseeing public safety, public works and human services. He was on the Board of Education from 1995 to 2001 and on the School Reform Commission from 2011 to 2013. Before that, he was Chief of Staff for Dr. Judith Rodin, former president of the University of Pennsylvania. He was also University Vice President. It was a major accomplishment for the former Penn scholarship student.

"My parents, who are deceased, immigrated from Puerto Rico," relates Pedro. "My dad was a maintenance man in a nuns' convent, and my mom was a homemaker who was active with my elementary school. We were a very tight-knit family, and helping your neighbor was the family ethic." Pedro still has family in Puerto Rico and is very concerned with the deplorable conditions caused by Hurricane Maria. "It's incredible how sporadic and slow information is, and it's hard to get in touch with anyone because of the lack of power," he says.

Today, Pedro and his wife, Rafaela, live in a rehabilitated 1867 house not too far away from where he grew up. Rafaela is the former director of the Charles Ellis Trust for Girls, which provides educational scholarships for low-income single-parent households, and is a trustee of the Christopher Ludwig Foundation, which supports



**Pedro A. Ramos is the new face of the Philadelphia Foundation**

non-profits that provide services to children. Their two daughters, Isabelle and Catalina, have flown the nest.

Pedro says he remembers wanting to be a lawyer in 4th grade. "It was reinforced by my parents, who thought I always talked too much," he laughs. He graduated from Central High School and went on to Penn. "That was a big deal because the tuition was higher than my father's income. So I was able to get a whole Ivy League experience — a world I had no basis for imagining. I had friends and roommates who had cars and expensive stereos and vacations that I only read about in novels."

As an undergraduate majoring in urban studies, Pedro was a student activist and got involved in many leadership issues on campus. He then went to law school at the University of Michigan and spent summers working at the Ballard Spahr law firm. Wherever he has been, Pedro has been involved in advocacy and aid. "My parents were great neighbors and taught us to help others whenever we could," he says. "Whether it was driving a neighbor to the market or the hospital, my parents always lent a helping hand. It was a common thread in our home: if you saw an opportunity to help, you just did it."

When the Philadelphia Foundation approached Pedro to consider becoming its leader, he at first demurred. "It was a huge undertaking, and I had trained all my life to be a lawyer," he explains.

But since he's taken the reins, he sees what a tremendous opportunity he has to lead an organization that serves the city and its inhabitants in so many ways.

His role is to oversee the community foundation's 900 charitable funds, the awarding of more than \$25 million in grants and scholarships to non-profits and individuals each year, management of the Fund for Children and the development and implementation of social impact programs. "We've also been very involved with school climate — the elimination of violence before it starts," he adds.

When he is not engaged in a project at The Philadelphia Foundation, Pedro may be found frequently in Society Hill, where he and his wife love to walk. "We'll often walk along the Delaware, but we also like to meander through the historic streets," he says. "As empty-nesters, Rafaela and I pretty much spend our spare time laughing and walking. We love going to the Khyber Pass because we love chili, and we love Fork and Zahav. We walk enough to justify our next meal! We also enjoy going the nearby museums — the terrific new Museum of the American Revolution, the Constitution Center, the American Jewish History Museum."

Pedro has also felt fulfilled by volunteer board service. "I'm lucky and fortunate that I get to do professional volunteer work," he says. "I really like finding ways of doing what I enjoy while being intellectually challenged."

"Being able to go from being raised with very little money, becoming a law firm partner and being able to put my kids through college were big steps for me. I see leading The Philadelphia Foundation as a long-term commitment. A community foundation is a very powerful and lasting way to give back to the community while continuing to serve the city that has given me so much."

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





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