

SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

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

## Preserving Society Hill

Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) invites neighbors to an interesting, informative General Membership Meeting on Thursday, September 13 at Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow Auditorium. Please note that the meeting has been moved from its usual third Wednesday slot to the second Thursday due to the Jewish holidays.

This presentation will showcase a newly created website that documents the history of the post-World War II urban renewal of Society

Hill. Drawing upon historical maps, photographs, planning and architectural data, as well as an extensive oral history project conducted with Society Hill residents past and present, the site reconstructs how a significant federal housing policy dramatically transformed the neighborhood.



**Elizabeth S. Browne, standing inside the house at 306 S. 2nd Street, which she and Stanhope Browne purchased and would later restore.** Photo by Irving Sachs, 1967, at [www.pennds.org/societyhill/](http://www.pennds.org/societyhill/).

Francesca Ammon, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning and Historic Preservation at the University of Pennsylvania, will demonstrate the website in action and also discuss ways that the community can contribute to its further development. Joining her will be project collaborators Elizabeth Browne and Cynthia Eiseman. All three speakers are former or current Society Hill residents. See Page 7 for more.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Simply arrive at Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow Auditorium, located on the first floor inside the main entrance at 8th Street near Spruce, before 7 p.m.

### USE IT OR LOSE IT



**SHCA fought long and hard to save our 5th Street neighborhood supermarket. Show your support by patronizing this wonderful community resource. We are waiting for the expansion into the wine and beer section, similar to the store at 10th and South Streets. Tell the managers that you're anxious to see it soon.**

### THURSDAY

September

13

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meetings  
Thursday, September 13, 2018

**Pennsylvania Hospital  
8th & Spruce Streets**

**5:45 p.m. Board Meeting**  
Pennsylvania Hospital's Great Court Room

**7:30 - 9 p.m. General Membership Meeting**  
Pennsylvania Hospital's Zubrow Auditorium

**Speakers: Francesca Russello Ammon, Elizabeth Browne,  
Cynthia Eiseman**

**Topic: Preserving Society Hill: Website Demonstration**

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**Website**  
 Find past issues in color  
 at [www.societyhillcivic.org](http://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](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

# Urban Renewal Based on Historic Preservation

We in Philadelphia, and particularly in Society Hill, have benefitted immensely from the vision of the famed urban planner Ed Bacon. (He was the only urban planner to ever grace the cover of *Time* magazine!) Bacon was a force to be reckoned with, dominating Philadelphia planning for more than 20 years from 1949 to 1970. Not all of his ideas were spectacular. He was in favor of building the crosstown expressway on South Street, which, thanks to strong opposition — especially from Society Hillers — was not built. And he once proposed demolishing City Hall except for the tower. He later regretted both of those positions.

However, the masterful concepts Bacon was able to collectively execute outweighed these flawed ideas. These include tearing down the “Chinese Wall” that ran from the Schuylkill River to City Hall, effectively cutting off Center City; creating plans for the iconic spaces that are Independence Mall and JFK Plaza; and overseeing the development of Penn Center, University City, Penn’s Landing and Market Street East.

The crowning jewel of his city planning concepts was what he envisioned for Society Hill — the first urban renewal plan based on historic preservation. Before Bacon, urban renewal began with eliminating all existing buildings and starting over. Bacon proposed restoring most of the buildings in Society Hill and filling in gaps with contemporary architecture that was compatible in design, proportion and materials. His goal was to “make things fit together” by preserving an environment that honored the scale of the restored and infill buildings.

**Did You Know...**

SHCA helps enhance your quality of life when we advocate on your behalf about such issues as zoning changes, real estate taxes, crime problems and traffic issues. The photo on the front page, as well as articles on Pages 5 and 13, are examples of this advocacy.

Society Hill Towers was part of the plan. Designed by world-renowned architect I.M. Pei, the three towers were set off on the far eastern edge of Society Hill and surrounded by a large park. Their purpose was to draw young “pioneers” to Society Hill who might eventually be interested in investing the sweat equity necessary to restore homes that had substantially deteriorated since the 18th and 19th centuries. And the plan to engage these pioneers worked.

We are lucky to have guests at our September General Membership meeting who can introduce you to, or refresh your memory about, the exciting period when Society Hill experienced this renewal under Bacon’s leadership, as well as the leadership of a host of other civic leaders, including well-known preservationist Charles Peterson. Each new generation gets the story handed down by the previous generation.

I have lived in Society Hill during a time when the pioneers still lived here in great numbers, and I have gratefully listened to their fascinating stories about how Bacon’s plan was actually realized on the ground. I think it’s the duty of each successive wave of residents to find out about the history of our neighborhood and to pass it on in their turn. We hope to see you on September 13th! See Page 7 for more information about this exciting project.

**Rosanne Loesch** is an attorney and former 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.



**Rosanne Loesch, SHCA President**

*“Great cities are not great because of individual buildings. They’re great because of the way things fit together.”*

— Ed Bacon

**Register to Vote by October 9**

There are three ways to register to vote: Pick up a registration form at a U.S. Post Office, a State Liquor store or a Philadelphia Free Library; go to City Hall, Room 142 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.; or download an application at [www.philadelphiovotes.com/en/voters/registering-to-vote](http://www.philadelphiovotes.com/en/voters/registering-to-vote).

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ZONING AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

# Philadelphia City Planning Commission Accepts Neighborhood Master Plan

We are pleased to report that the Society Hill Master Plan was accepted by the Philadelphia City Planning Commission (PCPC) at its July meeting. Readers can find the complete plan at [societyhillcivic.org](http://societyhillcivic.org), under the Our Neighborhood: Zoning and Historic Preservation tab.

However, the commission is not bound to follow the plan's recommendations. Neighborhood plans may or may not be followed by PCPC. Only zoning law is binding, therefore it is important that the recommendations be passed into zoning laws in City Council. SHCA will be working with Councilman Mark Squilla, as well as PCPC to achieve this goal in the next legislative session.

### Citywide Vision

Readers might not be aware of the history behind this project. After a multi-year, wide-ranging planning process, the Philadelphia Planning Commission adopted a comprehensive plan for the city known as Philadelphia 2035. Phase one, adopted in 2011, is called the Citywide Vision.

Much of Philadelphia is zoned as if it was in the mid-20th century, and often those designations don't reflect current land use patterns or development trends. To begin the Citywide Vision phase, five years ago PCPC began organizing district-planning sessions to help community members articulate the kinds of development they wanted to see in their neighborhoods. Late in 2015, it notified SHCA that the zoning remapping process for Society Hill would be moved up in priority, in part due to the aid of Councilman Squilla.

SHCA, through its Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee, formed a steering committee to work with PCPC to develop a master plan for Society Hill.

### SHCA Master Plan

For more than two years the Master Plan Committee worked diligently with the professional assistance and expertise of KSK Architects Planners Historians, Inc., and also Urban Partners and Viridian Landscape Studio to make a detailed community-based comprehensive neighborhood plan for Society Hill for the purpose of remapping our historic neighborhood. We then worked for a number of months with Ian Litwin from the Planning Commission to further refine the plan.

The plan is intended to address the increasing pace of development and its potential impacts on the historic and open-space character of our


neighborhood, the changing environment of community-serving retail and key specific sites in the neighborhood that are prone to redevelopment.

The chief concerns for the Society Hill community in reviewing the zoning for the neighborhood were the following:

- New development that does not correspond to the unique character of the Society Hill neighborhood;
- Overly permissive zoning that conflicts with the continued preservation of historic resources;
- Adverse impacts of buildings that would conflict with the goals of the original Redevelopment Plan;
- Potential long-term reduction in open space due to the granting of zoning variances.

**The Society Hill Study Area identified for this plan extends from Walnut Street to Lombard Street, and S. 8th Street to the Delaware River.**

**MASTER PLAN PROTECTION EXAMPLE**



**One suggested zoning change is the Reynolds Morris Hotel site at 225 S. 8th Street. Under current zoning, the site offers the opportunity for potential high-rise, high-density development and significant additional development. The Master Plan recommends that the zoning be changed to CMX-2 to be consistent with its existing scale and use to reduce potential adverse impacts. The hotel is a National Historic Landmark.**

Society Hill is an iconic architectural tribute to one of the most historic times in American history: the founding of our country in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. It has the largest concentration of 18th- and early 19th-century structures in the U.S. and was the first urban renewal project based on historic preservation.

Throughout the planning process, residents and stakeholders of Society Hill were a tremendous help in facilitating the plan through attendance and participation at stakeholder and community meetings and providing assistance with neighborhood outreach and existing land use survey activities. SHCA worked tirelessly to coordinate the plan, administer the property surveys and engage stakeholders. The Society Hill Block Captains were instrumental in completing the parcel-by-parcel property survey of single and multi-family housing. Our thanks to all.



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

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## PRESERVING SOCIETY HILL

BY FRANCESCA RUSSELLO AMMON

## New Website Documents Sites &amp; Stories of Urban Renewal

A new website documents the history of Society Hill, focusing particularly on the urban renewal and historic preservation of the neighborhood. During the decades following World War II, cities across the country deployed large-scale clearance to replace old, dilapidated infrastructure with new, modern construction.

In Society Hill, city planners took a somewhat different approach, demolishing some structures, while restoring others. They were especially interested in highlighting the neighborhood's colonial past, and so sought largely to preserve its 18th- and early 19th-century structures. The combination of demolition and restoration displaced many residents and businesses, while also welcoming a new community of renters and homeowners. Although other cities also combined historic preservation and urban renewal, Society Hill did so earlier and at a larger scale than most, providing a national model for others to follow.

The website "Preserving Society Hill" ([www.pennds.org/societyhill/](http://www.pennds.org/societyhill/)) is a product of ongoing collaboration. Several years ago, a small group of Society Hill residents began conducting oral history interviews in the neighborhood. I later joined their efforts, with the support of a team of students and digital humanities specialists at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Design and Price Lab for Digital Humanities. The resultant online public history project is designed to be both of and for the community.

#### Land Use Map

The website consists of two main portals. The first is a 1942 land use map that organizes historical data by address. Clicking on one of the more than 1,500 individual properties reveals a chronological slide show of municipal photographs of that site. These images illuminate the types of physical changes enacted during urban renewal. For restored properties, these may include the elimination of ground-floor commercial uses, the reintroduction of shutters and



**Francesca Russello Ammon, Cynthia J. Eiseman, Karen D. Stevens, Jo Ann Buller, Elizabeth S. Browne.** Photo by Anne Meyers

other exterior alterations. On properties where the transformations were more dramatic, photographs expose the demolition of existing buildings — including industrial structures, dilapidated row houses or other development that stood in the way of greenways, gardens or new construction. Alongside these images, descriptive data document the dates and names of the architects behind these properties' initial construction and later alterations, as well as the intended uses specified for these sites in urban renewal plans. Future map development will allow users to filter the selection of parcels along these various historical characteristics.

#### Oral Histories

The second portion of the website focuses on the social side of this story. In 2004, several Society Hill residents — including Cynthia Eiseman, Dorothy Stevens, Karen Stevens, Jo Ann Buller and Penny Batcheler — began Project Philadelphia 19106. Their goal was to use oral history to complement the better-known perspectives of municipal officials — like city planner Edmund Bacon, who helped lead the Society Hill project — with the experiences of those who had lived through urban renewal themselves.

The group conducted almost 90 oral history interviews in total. These offer a unique window into the human experience of urban renewal, for both those who lived there before the 1950s and those who arrived after. They illuminate the challenges, for example, of the work of restoration and new construction, of raising a family and developing neigh-

borhood institutions in the transformed community, and — for those whose Society Hill tenure dated back even earlier — of watching their long-standing community transform around them.

These oral histories link to the associated addresses on the map, while also populating a separate website section of their own. Each narrator has a personal page, which includes photographs of the narrator and their Society Hill property, a short interview summary and the complete transcript. We hope to eventually add audio excerpts as well.

In complement, the extended reflections of one resident, Stanhope Browne, as edited by his wife, Elizabeth Browne, appear in a memoir section about the fight to depress and cover Interstate 95 as it passed by Society Hill. These many personal stories help tell a side of Society Hill's history that has previously been less accessible to both scholars and the public.

#### Community Involvement

We invite you to visit the Preserving Society Hill website and explore its interviews, photographs, and other historical planning and architectural data. These sources derive from the Philadelphia City Archives, Philadelphia Historical Commission, Free Library of Philadelphia and Temple University Archives, among other repositories. Given the large volume of information, we are still in the process of checking the geographical accuracy of individual photographs and property descriptions; and we will continue to edit and update map content over time. We also hope that community members will help us expand the website's content with additional personal photographs and oral history interviews. Please join us at the September 13 general membership meeting of the Society Hill Civic Association to learn more!

**Francesca Russello Ammon, Ph.D.**, is assistant professor of city & regional planning and historic preservation at the University of Pennsylvania, project leader for the "Preserving Society Hill" website, and a resident of Society Hill.

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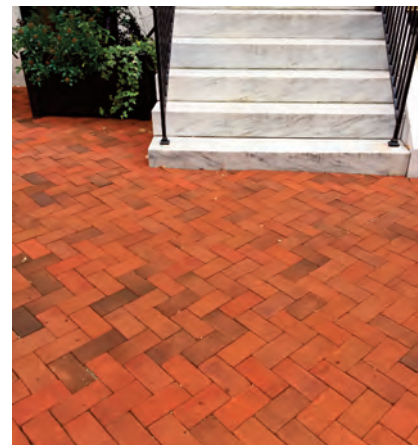
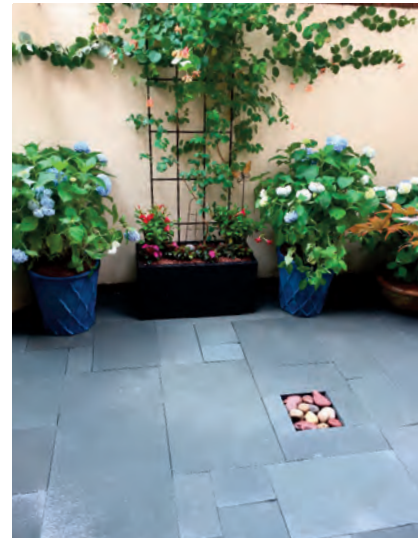
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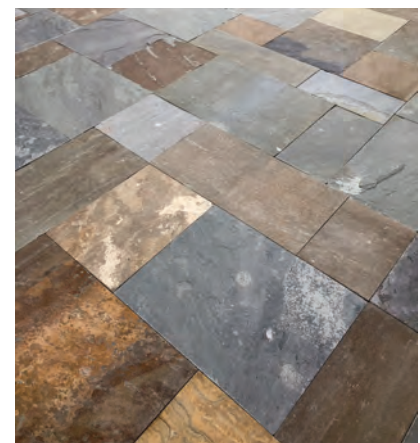
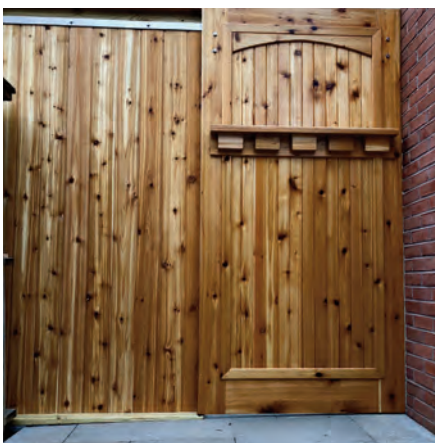
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BY AL CAVALARI

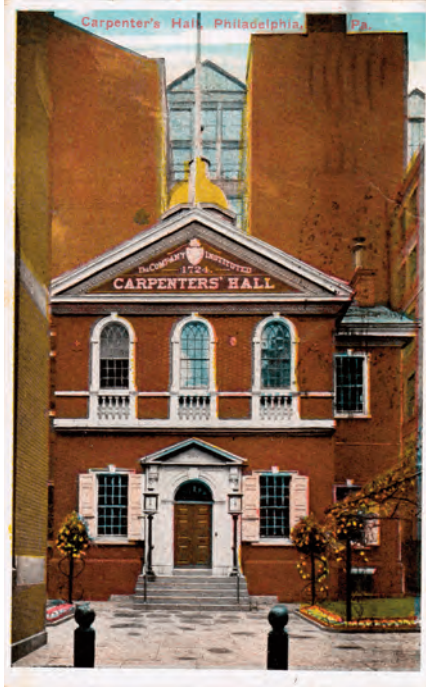
# Carpenters' Hall: Building on 300 Years of History

Just who were the carpenters who constructed this hall to be their headquarters at 320 Chestnut Street? The name is actually a misnomer. Officially called the Carpenters' Company of the City and County of Philadelphia, its website states "members were neither carpenters as such nor were they a company." Today, we would call them a contractors' trade association.

Formed in 1724, members were the "master builders" and sought to enforce quality and standards of pricing for building and wages. They created the rules for building specifications and introduced an educational component to their mission. The company was a chamber of commerce for high-end builders.

Today some 150 men and women, all prominent architects, building contractors or structural engineers, carry on the 300-year-old tradition of giving form to the future. In addition, they have added to their calling "To interpret for the public the significant events that took place in or around the Hall."

This building was home to Benjamin Franklin's Library Company; the American Philosophical Society; and the First and Second Banks of the United States. Surrounded by government property, Carpenters' Hall is privately owned and funded



**This card was postmarked in 1915 and shows the site before several hundred buildings were torn down to create Independence National Historical Park.**

by membership dues, gift shop proceeds, hall rentals and a donation box. The boundary line is where you'll see the white fence when you visit there today.

In 1774, the First Continental Congress selected this building as its meeting place. A call had gone out for the individual colonies to send delegates to discuss how they might begin speaking with

a single voice in redressing their common grievances with the British government. Look at the phrase in the eagle's mouth on the back of a dollar bill. Those three Latin words, *E Pluribus Unum*, are at the heart of our American experience. If the colonists' cause would be successful against the British Empire, they would need to set aside their differences and cooperate for a common purpose. Virginia delegate Patrick Henry's words were: "distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders are no more. I am not a Virginian, but an American."

Something new was beginning to take hold inside this building. And it helps us to see the importance of this exquisite little place.

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**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).

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**MAKE A DIFFERENCE**


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BY CLAUDIA CARABELLI

## School Days for Any Age

For many of us who have raised a family, volunteering at school was a regular expectation. Who didn't chaperone field trips, bake for fundraisers or ask (a.k.a. harass) family and friends to purchase wrapping paper or candles that they didn't really need? Our educational institutions can always use more helping hands and you needn't be the parent of a current student to get involved. Even if you don't have children, or yours are grown and on their own, you can still donate your time and energy.

You may be pleasantly surprised to see how much fun it is to work with young people. Age is not a factor with kids. If you're kind, genuine and give them your attention, wonderful things can happen.

### Philadelphia Public Schools

We're very lucky to have two wonderful elementary schools as near neighbors. McCall School in Society Hill and Meredith School in Queen Village both offer volunteer opportunities for community residents. As part of the School District of Philadelphia, they adhere to the same district-wide requirements to come on board.

There are several steps to the process, but they are not nearly as difficult as they may appear at first glance.

Here's what you need to do:

- Access the school's website (listed below) to fill out a Volunteer Application.
- Read, print and sign the Volunteer Code of Conduct.
- Obtain clearances including PA State Criminal Record Report (through PATCH) and a Child Abuse Report (online through the PA Child Welfare Information Solution). These clearances are FREE and only take a short time to fill out.
- Do the FBI Background Check or sign the Volunteer Affirmation Form.
- Complete the Volunteer Orientation.
- Print all required paperwork.
- Submit all paperwork to the school secretary.

Once the principal signs off, you can begin volunteering.

There are a myriad of opportunities open to you at this point. They fall into four general categories.

#### *Instructional:*

Tutoring, mentoring or reading support.

#### *Administrative:*

Library assistance, making copies, stuffing folders, organizing supplies or manning the school's welcome/sign-in desk.

#### *Special Events:*

Helping with book fairs, end-of-year Fun Days, class parties or chaperoning field trips.

#### *Organizations:*

School Advisory Councils, Home and School Associations or PTAs.

#### **Gen. George A. McCall Elementary School**

(grades K-8)  
325 S. 7th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106  
215-351-7350  
[www.mccallschool.org](http://www.mccallschool.org)

#### **William M. Meredith Elementary School**

(grades K-8)  
725 S. 5th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147  
[www.meredithmatters.org](http://www.meredithmatters.org)

#### **Local Private School**

St. Peter's School is an independent, co-educational, non-sectarian school located in Society Hill. They typically rely on their parents to fill volunteer positions. There are no ongoing opportunities for those outside the school community.

The one exception is their Upper School's (grades 5-8) annual winter Makers Faire and Shark Tank where local entrepreneurs and professionals can share their expertise with the students. This day of workshops concludes with St. Peter's version of "Shark Tank." Students present their own ideas to a panel of judges, and the winner receives funding from the school to pursue their ideas.

Sound intriguing? Contact Diane Scirrotto at [dscirrotto@st-peters-school.org](mailto:dscirrotto@st-peters-school.org) or 215-925-3963 ext. 403.

Keep in mind that the same police check and child abuse clearances required in Philadelphia public schools also apply here.

#### **St. Peter's School**

(Pre-school to Grade 8)  
319 Lombard Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147  
215-925-3962  
[www.st-peters-school.org](http://www.st-peters-school.org)



This column makes suggestions to neighbors of ways to make a difference in our community. From purchasing a street newspaper from a homeless vendor to making a birthday cake for a child living in a shelter, there are many opportunities to help others. Please let us know about any other volunteer opportunities you find worthwhile.

---

**Claudia Carabelli** serves SHCA as a director-at-large.




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**SHCA WEED PATROL PART II**

BY CLAUDIA CARABELLI

**Let's Get Down and Dirty!**

**O**ur Weed Patrol, introduced in the last *Reporter*, has begun the herculean task of clearing Society Hill of these unwelcome invaders. Led by Madeline Miller, we meet on designated blocks where the weeds are out of control. We're a crew of just six so we're actively looking for more neighbors to join the effort.

Here's what we're currently doing. Once a week we pick an area that is especially bedraggled looking. We meet up, with garden tools in hand, and commence to trim, pull, sweep and spray. The accumulated debris is bagged and left for the homeowner to dispose of with their weekly trash. We leave a letter for them explaining who we are and what we did and listing recommendations to keep the weeds under control, along with a non-toxic weed spray formula. Our hope is to let residents know that their property needs some attention, while giving them encouragement and a head start on the process. As we obviously can't clear all problem areas, many neighbors will receive only a letter.

**Recommendations**

- Remove weeds when they are small and starting to sprout.
- Keep tree beds and sidewalks free of accumulated leaves. They provide a base for weed growth.
- PLEASE avoid chemical weed sprays. Some, like Roundup, are linked to serious health concerns.

Try this alternate formula:

**Non-toxic Weed Spray**

- 1 gallon of vinegar
- 1 cup Epsom salts
- 1 tablespoon Dawn dish detergent
- Spray on a dry, sunny day.

- Survey your property weekly and remove new growth.
- Mulch on tree beds (three-inch clearance from trunk) can deter weed growth and provide nutrients to the tree. Licorice root mulch is preferred.
- Regularly clear any leaves or trash from your sidewalk.
- If you travel, please hire someone to maintain your property.
- Encourage your neighbors to do the same.

Please consider joining us. It's not glamorous, as we do get down and dirty. But the camaraderie is great and the task seems much more doable with good company and some laughs. We may even start following up our afternoon outings with some liquid refreshments.

**Want to get involved?**

Contact Matt DeJulio at [MattDeJulio@aol.com](mailto:MattDeJulio@aol.com).

**Claudia Carabelli** serves SHCA as a director- at-large.



**Rick Ketterer, Laura Lane, Barbra Oldenhoff, Martha Moore, Claudia Carabelli and Madeline Miller.**

**'FIX THE BRIX'**

BY MARTHA LEVINE

**Fall Is a Great Time to 'Fix the Brix'**

**S**ummer is over — we hope it was enjoyable. Now that most of us are back in the city, it is a perfect time to focus on our sidewalks. If you have a sidewalk that could pose a tripping hazard to the many people who walk them daily, then consider being a conscientious neighbor and having your sidewalk leveled. There is also an esthetic aspect. Just as graffiti removal helps keep our neighborhood attractive and cared for, so does having an attractive and safe sidewalk network.

Please check out your front sidewalk and if it is "trip-worthy," then contact us to participate in this subsidy program.

Current SHCA members will receive a subsidy of 40 percent of the total invoice up to \$400; non-members receive 40 percent up to \$300.

It's easy. Here's how to start the process:

- Take a before photo of your sidewalk and email it to me at [marthalev6@gmail.com](mailto:marthalev6@gmail.com).
- Hire a contractor — either a mason or an arborist if it is a tree root issue. We can provide a suggested list if needed.
- When work is completed to your satisfaction, make a copy of the paid invoice and mail the original to us at SHCA, P.O. Box 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147. If possible, include a copy of your cancelled check.
- Get a check from SHCA within a few weeks.

**Caveat:** Do not use Belgian block to surround your tree — it is a proven tripping hazard. We suggest having a flat area around your tree so that rainwater can drain into the soil.

**Martha Levine** is vice president of SHCA.

**TREE TENDING**

SHCA offers property owners 50 percent of the cost of removing and replanting a dead street tree, up to \$500 for SHCA members and up to \$400 for non-members. Submit to SHCA:

- proof of the tree and stump removal (invoice from licensed vendor who did the work).
- proof of the cost of the removal and the planting of a replacement tree (cancelled check - front & back).

SHCA will also reimburse a property owner up to 50 percent of the cost to hire professional services to prune their street tree, up to \$300 for SHCA members and \$200 for non-members, every two years. Submit to SHCA:

- proof of the tree pruning expense (invoice from licensed vendor who did the work).
- proof of the cost of the pruning (cancelled check - front & back).

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HEADHOUSE FARMERS' MARKET

BY CLAIRE BATTEN

# My Universe of Food: A Chat with Aimee Olexy

Aimee Olexy is a highly regarded, serial food entrepreneur. She is best known for her farm-to-table restaurant Talula's Garden and the café Talula's Daily on Washington Square, as well as Talula's Table at Kennett Square and, most recently, her joint collaboration with Stephen Starr, The Love restaurant on S. 18 Street. It is Aimee's team at Talula's Table that we have to thank for their weekly attendance at the Food Trust's Headhouse Farmers' Market. And it is Amy we have to thank for generously sharing the recipe for her widely popular Lemon Zucchini Cake.

**How did you get started?**

I began working at the Spring Mill Café, in Conshohocken, at 13. I needed a job and Michele Haines took me in to do laundry, wash dishes, sweep and prep. I began to study all things French, as well as cooking, and began my life connecting with people in that intimate space.

**What is your favorite menu item at Talula's Garden?**

I would eat a cheese course. No one does it like we do there. We have an entire cheese menu and it is the quintessential way to begin or end the meal — or both.

**What ingredients do you have to have on hand in your kitchen?**

I can't live without fresh eggs from the Kardashians, my flock of adorable chickens. I adore leaf teas & honey (especially silver leaf) because I like the process of slowing down and drinking tea and I love all the sensory aromas and flavors. And, of course, I love grazing foods such as cheeses, smoked fish and salamis.

**As summer passes, which ingredient will you most miss?**

I'll miss tons of fresh herbs from my back yard. I put herbs in spaghetti and butter; in my eggs; in tuna salad and on tomatoes. Also, I'll miss Ben Wenk's amazing peaches from Three Springs Farm! And the melons that taste delicious in the summer months.

**Which fall ingredient(s) are you most looking forward to including in your cooking?**

Cabbage. It's so boring, but SO healthy, flavorful and moist. I eat it raw with Birchrun Hills Farm blue cheese.

**Any tip you'd like to share re: cooking the big bird for Thanksgiving?**

I pre-poach it very gently in broth in my big covered Dutch oven for 20 minutes and then it goes into the conventional oven.



The Kardashian chicks provide Aimee with fresh eggs.

**Do you have a secret skill or passion?**

I love to swim in the ocean and I love water; I don't like flying or risky things. I love my most amazing mother and daughter; they sandwich me.

**What's on the menu for your dream meal?**

I am writing this while hungry — so this is particularly difficult. I would eat beautiful whole fish of any kind. I'd probably pick something like a fresh mackerel or snapper roasted with tons of herbs and jalapenos, accompanied by a cold glass of an Oregon Pinot Gris, maybe even a pile of Chesapeake oysters and some local seafood. No matter what, it would be good food choices, and I need to know where my food comes from.

For further information about the restaurants mentioned here, see [www.talulasgarden.com](http://www.talulasgarden.com) and [www.talulastable.com](http://www.talulastable.com).



**Talula's Best-Selling Lemon Zucchini Cake**

**Ingredients**

- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon zest
- 1 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 3 eggs — preferably from our local Farmers' Market
- 4 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups grated zucchini

**For the Lemon Glaze**

- 3 tablespoons unsalted, melted butter
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 2 tablespoon lemon juice

**Instructions**

- Preheat oven to 350°
- Grease 10" cake pan or Bundt pan.
- In a large bowl, mix the sugar and lemon zest.
- Add the oil, eggs, lemon juice and vanilla to the sugar and zest mixture. Mix until incorporated.
- In a separate bowl, combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt.
- Gradually add the dry mixture to the wet ingredients and mix until just combined.
- Fold in the grated zucchini.
- Pour batter into a prepared pan.
- Bake at 350° for 45 to 60 minutes, or until tester comes out clean in the center of the cake.
- Allow cake to cool completely before icing.
- For the glaze, whisk butter, sugar and lemon juice until smooth. Drizzle over cake. Enjoy!

## HEAD HOUSE FARMERS' MARKET

## Bringing Farm to Table...

Every Sunday, year-round, Society Hill neighbors meet at one of America's oldest surviving open-air markets to both socialize and stock up on provisions for the week. Originally called New Market to differentiate it from an established nearby venue, it was founded in 1745 and used well into the 19th century. Eleven years ago, thanks to The Food Trust and almost 50 participating vendors, the structure was returned to its original purpose

and is now Philadelphia's largest and most popular Farmers' Market. The abundance of affordable, high-quality local produce is complemented by sweet pastries and breads from Amish ovens, local honey, cut flowers, milk, eggs, cheeses, dried herbs, specialty foods and much, much more. And the selection of fresh meats and poultry gives a nod to its local reference as the Shambles — an ancient term for an outdoor butcher shop.





HEAD HOUSE FARMERS' MARKET

...Under the Historic Shambles



**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 our website [www.thefoodtrust.org](http://www.thefoodtrust.org).

## SOUTH STREET HEADHOUSE DISTRICT

BY MIKE HARRIS

## Best of Philly in Our Own Backyard



**Best Baby Gifts, Little Moon + Arrow**  
729 S. 4th Street



**Best New American Restaurant, Serpico**  
604 South Street



**Best Cidery, Hale & True Cider Company**  
613 S. 7th Street



**Best Late-Night Happy Hour, Tattooed Mom**  
530 South Street



**Best Yoga Instructor, Mariel Freeman**, owner, Three Queens Yoga Studio, 410 Monroe Street

**Mike Harris, Executive Director of South Street Headhouse District, proudly displays the "Best of Philly" Issue of Philadelphia magazine, which honors many local businesses.**



Philadelphia magazine recently released its "Best of Philly 2018" issue, and it was a bumper crop of recognitions for South Street Headhouse District businesses. Congratulations to current and past winners for being among Philadelphia's best!

#### Happy Anniversary

Several beloved businesses are celebrating milestone anniversaries. Eyes Gallery, located at 4th and South, will soon celebrate its 50th

Anniversary. This ever-changing and always interesting store was established in 1968 as one of the pioneers of the South Street Renaissance. Focusing on imported art from Mexico and Latin America, Julia Zagar continues to serve both loyal and new customers as she has done for the past five decades. If you haven't been in the store in a while, find time to go explore, browse and wish Julia and her staff a *Feliz Aniversario!*

Next door at DeVecchis Gallery, Rita DeVecchis is also celebrating 50 years on South Street. Several other businesses will be celebrating milestone anniversaries in the near future. SSHD looks forward to acknowledging and thanking them for their decades of contribution and vitality on South Street and Fabric Row.

Finally, stay tuned for upcoming exciting news regarding the 200th anniversary of the Isaiah Lukens clock at the Headhouse Shambles.

Please sign up for our newsletters to get updated information on all our activities and happenings at [www.southstreet.com](http://www.southstreet.com).



**Eyes Gallery celebrates its 50th Anniversary.**

## IN MEMORIAM



**Susan Krupnick, 1950-2018**

We offer heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of our good neighbor Susan Krupnick, who died at home on June 28 at age 68, after an eight-year battle with breast cancer.

Best known locally for Kamikaze Kids, a string of cutting-edge shops for children, "Suzie" started her career as an English and special education teacher, after graduating from American University. She also ran parent-effectiveness training groups in Center City.

According to Steven, her husband of 47 years, Suzie was a "flower child," protesting the Vietnam War, rocking at Woodstock and always believing in her heart in the goodness of others.

She was known for her enthusiasm. "Her positive energy and love of life were contagious to everyone who knew her," her husband said. "If you met her, you loved her."

Despite having a busy career and a large circle of friends, Mrs. Krupnick valued family above all else. She rarely missed a child's school play, sporting event, or a chance for a late-night conversation.

In addition to her husband, Suzie is survived by children Katy Friedland, Betsy Ramage and David H. Krupnick; eight grandchildren; and her brother. Memorial donations may be made to the Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech via [www.clarkeschools.org/krupnickfund](http://www.clarkeschools.org/krupnickfund).



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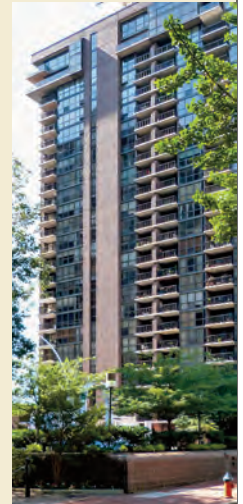
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ON OUR SHELF

BY VIVIENNE WOODWARD

# A New Arrival, *French Exit*, Hits the Shelves

“All good things must end.” So begins Patrick deWitt’s new novel, *French Exit*. Frances Price and her 32-year-old son Malcolm are fleeing New York, leaving scandal and insolvency in the wake of their cruise ship to Paris. They are joined in flight by an aging cat, Small Frank, that Frances believes hosts the spirit of her late husband, Franklin.

The pair has been living off the fortune that Franklin, a lawyer who took pleasure in defending the richest, most corrupt clients, left behind. But the money has run out. Frances having spent years giving decadent gifts to unfamiliar charities, sometimes flushing cash down the toilet — so they are ditching the city and not saying goodbye.

Much of *French Exit* is a send-up of polite, upper-crust society. The very first scene finds Frances and Malcolm bailing on an Upper East Side party only to sit outside on a bench and chat with a homeless man looking for wine money (that Frances ultimately gives him). A scandal related to Franklin’s death has left them misfits within their social circle, but as they navigate their post-New York life, Frances and Malcolm collect a cast of eccentric supporting characters: a medium working on board the ship, a lonely expat in Paris, a private investigator too shy to actually speak to other people.

The book is funny, if at times referential. The aging mother/arrested development son dynamic feels reminiscent of *A Confederacy of Dunces*, the accumulation of hangers-on of *Two Serious Ladies*. But much of the humor is entirely deWitt’s own, as when Malcolm asks his mother, “What’s the opposite of misery?” and she replies, “How many letters?”

The narrative would be a whole lot of fun even if it was just a collection of one-liners, but there is depth and darkness within the humor. Frances and Malcolm aren’t just sad clowns and not quite caricatures either. Sprinkled within Frances’ vicious retorts and manic persona are moments of surprising lucidity. “He’d ruined it for me,” she says of how her husband changed Paris for her, “With Franklin here I was no longer anonymous... He inhibited the way I walked, dressed, the way I spoke, everything.”

And then there is Malcolm, who at 32 has none of his own friends, but a fiancé who can’t help but love him. Malcolm is so hung up on pleasing his mother that he can’t make a decision

for himself. Through occasional flashbacks, we come to understand that their collective history is more fraught than is immediately apparent — their quirkiness is a placeholder for pain.

DeWitt does not dwell on the melancholy, but as the story takes a turn for the dark, you’ll be left asking yourself how you didn’t see it coming.

## Upcoming Events

Save the date for these upcoming events at Head House Books, each beginning at 7:30 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.

September 18

### Dave and Ilyssa Kyu, co-editors of *Campfire Stories*

The couple will share stories and insights gathered as they collected material for this anthology of tales, songs, ballads, legends, short stories and myths from six of America’s favorite national parks.

October 3

### Christine Flanagan, author of *The Letters of Flannery O’Connor and Caroline Gordon*

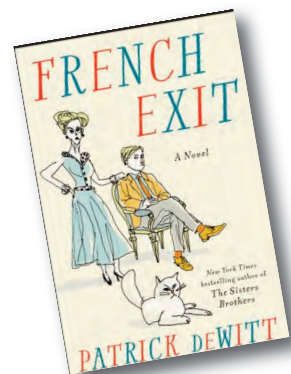
A can’t-miss event for fans of Flannery O’Connor. Flanagan’s book examines a the letters and other documents between two of the American South’s most acclaimed 20th-century writers, Flannery O’Connor and Caroline Gordon.

October 9

### James Mustich, author of *1,000 Books to Read Before You Die*

James shares a conversation about books with Head House Books’ owner Richard De Wyngaert.

**Richard De Wyngaert** is the proprietor of Society Hill’s only local, independently owned bookstore, Head House Books, located at 619 S. 2nd Street. Events Coordinator **Vivienne Woodward** wrote this article.

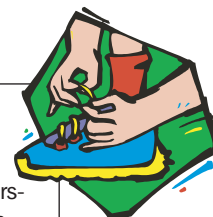


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## Exercise and Socialize

**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 an hour-long stroll through our historic community. Anyone is welcome to participate in this non-stressful, one-hour exercise and socialize program.

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



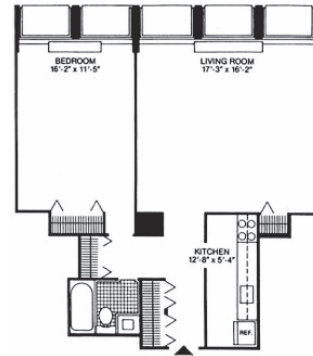
# Selling at Society Hill Towers for 38 Years

## FOR SALE! Updated One Bedroom with Southern Views



Updated one bedroom with southern views towards the river and Society Hill with an open modern kitchen with high-end finishes and breakfast bar and a white tiled bathroom.

**699 sf | Offered for \$264,900**

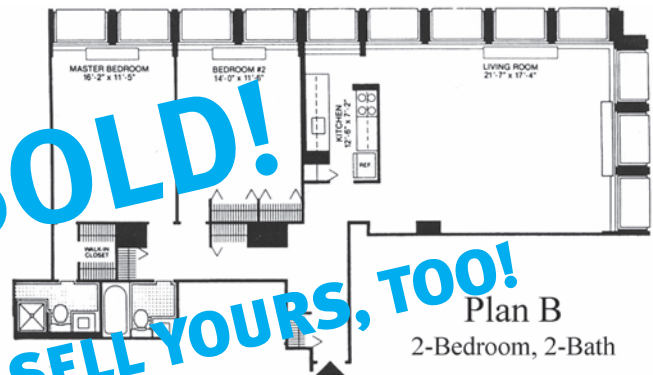


## Sun-soaked Corner Two Bedroom on a High Floor



**SOLD!**

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Plan B  
2-Bedroom, 2-Bath

Two bedroom, two bathroom offering unobstructed river views to the east and views of the city to the south. The home has wood floors, a large great room, generously sized bedrooms, an updated master bath and washer/dryer.

**1,253 sf | Offered for \$525,000**

## Some of our recent sales at Society Hill Towers

Thinking of buying or selling a condo at Society Hill Towers?

Call us. We are happy to help you.

*Allan Domb*

- |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 3B North  | South     | 2B South  |
| 11BCD     | 8F South  | 26C West  |
| North     | PH6 South | PH5 South |
| 24G North | 21G West  | 12G South |
| 14C South | 27B West  | 29E South |
| 28E North | 22AH West | 10AH      |
| 23B South | 5B North  | North     |
| 26C West  | 19A North | 4E South  |
| 26B West  | 4G North  | 24G North |
| 10E West  | 31C West  | 2E West   |
| 19BCD     | 24B West  |           |



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**SAFE AND SOUND IN SOCIETY HILL**

BY MARILYN APPEL

# Tips to Keep You Safe

**Be Aware**

Keep your doors locked. Here's what happened. Someone (we won't mention names) left her front door unlocked. An opportunist thief opened the door, walked in, picked up the woman's purse (she was sitting right there) and walked out. Don't let that happen to you. She was not hurt but could have been. Lock your doors.

**Be More Aware**

How would you like to open your front door and have a homeless person fall into your house? Someone might take refuge on your step, especially where there is a recessed door and no light. Yes, it almost happened twice already. Recessed door, no light and you're liable to have a visitor sleeping on your front doorstep. If you have a light out front, turn it on at night.

**Repeat**

Ladies, do not place your purses on the backs of your chairs, especially when dining al fresco. Men, keep your wallet inside your breast pocket, not in your back pocket.

**The Latest Scams**

The IRS scammers are at it again. You should know that the IRS never contacts you by phone, only by mail. Hang up.

Do not answer calls to grandma or grandpa unless it really is your grandson or daughter and they tell you their name.

Look carefully at your electric bill, especially if you have a supplier other than PECO. My supplier tripled my rate without my knowledge and then they lied about what they had charged me. I got a \$6,000 electric bill for 26,000 KWH of electricity. PECO sent someone out, said it was my fault, and I would have to pay the entire bill.

Luckily, a friend suggested I call the Public Utility Commission. In exactly one day I received a call from my now ex-supplier saying that they were sending me a check for the total amount they had billed me over the past four months.

This goes for all your bills. Watch them carefully!

**Lights On!**

*Protect your home. Turn on your front door lights from dusk to dawn.*

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# INDEPENDENCE PLACE

233 - 241 S. 6th Street



Spacious one bedroom with an open great room, large kitchen, excellent closet space and W/D.  
**777 sf | \$309,900**



South facing one bedroom with a balcony, wood floors, an updated kitchen and renovated bathroom.  
**860 sf | \$339,900**



Two bedroom two bathroom with a private balcony overlooking Washington Square and Locust Walk; the home has a recently renovated kitchen and baths and great natural light.  
**1,173 sf | \$599,900**



Completely renovated, south-facing two bedroom, two bathroom with a chef's kitchen, balcony, wood floors and beautifully appointed bathrooms.  
**1,387 sf | \$899,900**

## Recently Sold by Allan Domb Real Estate at Independence Place

1605-1606-I	1509D-I	1410E-I	706F-II	1412B-II	301K-I	1206-II
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
	1505-II	1102-I	1901K-I	1511-I	1102-I	

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**WELCOME BASKET RECIPIENTS**

BY MARTHA LEVINE

# A Warm Welcome to New Neighbors

It's exciting — we're gearing up for a new season of Welcome Baskets with many new neighbors to meet and welcome to our beautiful neighborhood. We give a big basket of fresh foods, neighborhood information and many gift certificates to area theaters, restaurants, shops, services and museums. A picture is worth a thousand words, so see our photos of several recent basket recipients.

Last season, we presented 43 baskets and, while we missed some new folks, we hope to eventually reach all first-time homeowners (condos, too) in Society Hill from 2017 through 2018. Please feel free to reach out and let us know you are here. Contact me at [marthalev6@gmail.com](mailto:marthalev6@gmail.com) or 215-629-0727 for an appointment. The baskets are presented in your home. Be prepared for a 45-minute presentation for a full welcome.

Help us thank the 58 generous and loyal contributors listed below — they make our Welcome Baskets possible, as well as special.

We are happy to announce our newest basket contributor, P. J. Clarke's, has opened at the Curtis Center, 6th and Walnut Streets. This highly anticipated classic restaurant specializes in salads, soups, sandwiches, burgers, seafood and a raw bar. "Since 1884, fresh food, frosty drinks, and good old-fashioned conversation!" Stop by for a beer and good food.



**Angel DeElse**



**Kory Olsen and Lorin Martin**



**David and Marla Axelrod and family**

## 2018 SOCIETY HILL WELCOME BASKET CONTRIBUTORS

**Coffee Shops**

Old City Coffee, 221 Church St./Reading Terminal Market  
 9th Street Coffee, 814 S. 9th Street  
 Greenstreet Coffee, 1101 Spruce 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 Ave. (near 5th & South)  
 High Street on Market, 308 Market Street  
 Keating's Rope & Anchor, Bar & Kitchen @ The Hilton at Penn's Landing  
 La Buca Ristorante, 711 Locust Street  
 La Forno, 636 South Street  
 La Scala's Restaurant & Bar, 615 Chestnut Street  
 Malbec Argentine Steakhouse, 400-402 S. 2nd Street  
 P. J. Clarke's, 601 Walnut Street  
 Pizza Fresca, 703 Chestnut Street  
 Positano Coast Restaurant, 2nd & Walnut Streets  
 Talula's Daily, café & take out, 208 W. Washington Square

**Specialty Foods**

Homemade Goodies by Roz, 510 S. 5th Street  
 Knead Bagels, 725 Walnut Street  
 Metropolitan Bakery, 262 S. 19th Street (Rittenhouse Square)  
 South Street Bagels, 613 S. 3rd Street  
 The General Store, Reading Terminal Market

**Specialty Shops**

Adornamenti (jewelry), 1106 Pine Street  
 Evantine Design, 715 Walnut Street  
 Head House Books, (independent bookstore), 619 S. 2nd Street  
 Paper On Pine (invitations/stationery), 115 S. 13th Street  
 Paul Morelli Design Inc. (jewelry), 1118 Walnut Street  
 Show of Hands Gallery (crafts), 1006 Pine Street  
 SoapBox (Hand made skin care), 616 S. 6th Street

**Theaters/Entertainment**

Arden Theater, 40 N. 2nd Street  
 1812 Productions (all comedy theater), 215-592-9560  
 Ghost Tours of Philadelphia, 610-587-8308  
 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  
 Philadelphia Chamber Music Society 215-569-8080  
 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, the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts, Broad & Spruce Streets  
 Wilma Theater, 265 S. Broad Street

**Other Services**

Home Helpers of Philadelphia, 267-402-7271  
 J. Sima Salon, Society Hill Towers, 257 St. James Place  
 Judy Moon Massage Therapy, Hopkinson House, 604 Washington Square  
 Liberty Tree & Landscape Management, 215-725-3637  
 Riff Cleaners, 500 S. 5th Street  
 The Worth Collection (women's fashions), 215-925-8813, [spattison@comcast.net](mailto:spattison@comcast.net)

# THE CADWALADER HOUSE

240 S. 4th Street

*A chance to live in history!*



## Walk the same halls as:

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

The historic Cadwalader House offers the opportunity to create a custom mansion in the heart of Society Hill by restoring this historic property to its original splendor. The home spans five stories and will offer grand entertaining space and large bedroom suites. There is a private garden and space for two parking spots.

Built in 1829 by Joseph Norris, this historic home became known as The Cadwalader house thanks to Judge John Cadwalader who both resided in and had his legal office there. Cadwalader was best known for serving one term in the US House of Representatives and then later becoming a United States District court judge, an appointment made by his good friend President James Buchanan. Over the years the residence has served as the home of the Mutual Assurance Company and offices for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. **9,003 sf | \$2,650,000**



604 S. Washington Square



South-facing deluxe 1 bedroom on a high floor with magnificent river and city views from the home's private balcony. The residence has great natural light, excellent closet space and generously sized rooms. **1,003 sf | \$344,900**



Completely renovated studio with alcove overlooking Washington Square and boasting wood floors, a modern open kitchen and designer appointed bathroom. **600 sf | \$249,900**



Bright and sunny corner bedroom, 1.5 bathroom with own views to the south and east. The home features an open floor plan with large living and dining rooms. Both bedrooms are generously sized and there is a private balcony. **1,200 sf | \$459,900**



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**THREE EVENTS, AN AWARD AND A NEW BOOK RELEASE**


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**Save the Date: September 22****Return of the Great 12-Hour, River-to-River, Vine-to-Pine, Rain-or-Shine Walking Tour of Philadelphia!**

Each September, the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides (APT) conducts Philly's greatest, and possibly longest, walking tour for hundreds of Delaware Valley residents and visiting tourists.

Running from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., it's divided into four phases with each being two and a half hours long and led by APT-certified guides. You can take any or all of them. The total tour includes over 100 historic sites and attractions.

Visit [www.phillyguides.org](http://www.phillyguides.org) to register and to find more information about the event.

**Save The Date: September 29****Lecture by Lynne Olson at the Museum of the American Revolution**

On September 29, the Museum of the American Revolution will host a public lecture by *New York Times* bestselling author Lynne Olson. Based on her most recent book *Last Hope Island: Britain, Occupied Europe, and the Brotherhood that Helped Turn the Tide of War*, Olson presents a groundbreaking account of how Britain became the base of operations for the exiled leaders of Europe in their desperate struggle to reclaim their continent from Hitler.

This event is co-sponsored by the Kosciusko Foundation Philadelphia Chapter, as a celebration of the 100th anniversary of Poland regaining its independence. The lecture is free and open to the public, but requires advance registration for a ticket. Immediately following the lecture there is a paid ticket dinner reception and book signing in the beautiful Liberty Room of the Museum. Tickets for both the lecture and the dinner can be obtained at [kosciuszkomar2018.eventbrite.com](http://kosciuszkomar2018.eventbrite.com).

If you have questions please email Marcia at [thekfphiladelphia@gmail.com](mailto:thekfphiladelphia@gmail.com).

**Save The Date: October 24****Hill-Physick House Wine & Beer Party!**

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 24, 6 to 9 p.m. when the Hill-Physick House will host its Sixth Annual Wine & Beer Party.



**Left to right: Jonathan Burton, Executive Director of the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, with John Reynolds and Linda Skale at a previous Hill-Physick House Party fundraiser.**

This neighborhood event raises funds to maintain the magnificent museum house at 321 S. 4th Street, right in the middle of Society Hill. Built in 1786, the house, like many of our older homes, needs frequent, costly repairs and maintenance to keep it looking and functioning at its best. It is owned and operated by the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, and in 1976 was declared a National Historic Landmark.

Last year over 150 neighbors enjoyed fine wine, craft beer and a full buffet of sumptuous food, as well as live jazz under a tent in the beautiful garden with its serpentine paths. Come and mingle with your neighbors and friends while supporting this national treasure.

Tickets are \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door and \$40 for young friends (39 and under). You can purchase by phone at 215-925-2251, x1, then x8, or online at [www.philalandmarks.org/events](http://www.philalandmarks.org/events).

Proceeds benefit the work and mission of PhilaLandmarks. All but \$25 of the ticket price is tax deductible.

**2018 Historic Preservation Award****Kudos to PhilaLandmarks!**

Congratulations to the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks (PhilaLandmarks) as it was recently awarded Preservation Pennsyl-

vania's Initiative Award in Stewardship for its conservation efforts on behalf of the Hill-Physick House, most notably the installation of its new roof in collaboration with John Milner Architects.

This elegant, historically important Federal townhouse was built for Madeira wine importer Henry Hill in 1786. Dr. Philip Syng Physick, the Father of American Surgery," bought the property in 1815 and lived there until his death in 1837. Currently it's exhibited as a historic house museum, dedicated to the life and medical accomplishments of Dr. Physick.

PhilaLandmarks also just completed landscape lighting projects at both its Hill-Physick House and Powel House gardens (244 S. 3rd Street), utilizing the latest in LED low voltage lighting technology supplied by Outdoor Lighting Perspectives of Delaware Valley. The new lighting systems are energy efficient, beautiful and create splendid nighttime views of the grounds. Neighbors are invited to enjoy the ambiance while taking their evening strolls.

**New Book Release****Unique Eats and Eateries of Philadelphia by Irene Levy Baker**

If you're hungry for a good meal and a delicious story, *Unique Eats and Eateries of Philadelphia* is here to serve you. The newly published book includes sweet and spicy stories behind 90 of the region's most fascinating restaurants.

The book tells the story of how two of the city's favorite chocolatiers got engaged; a dinner was interrupted by a bungled mob hit; restaurants that survived an earthquake, a fire, and even Prohibition; a secret restaurant that began in a backyard tent; and a water ice stand started three generations ago in a garage and much more. Included are tips on how to get reservations at Philadelphia's trendiest restaurants, where to find the city's secret speakeasies, who makes the city's most sinful desserts, where senior citizens dine with college seniors, and where to taste goat and spot celebrities, too.

Visit [www.UniqueEatsPhilly.com](http://www.UniqueEatsPhilly.com) for more info.



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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY MATT DEJULIO

# 2018 Membership Will Close Another Record Year

By August, 1,185 Society Hill residents had either renewed their association membership or joined for the first time, up four percent from last year's record high of 1,141.

Also, 148 new members have signed up, an increase of 5 percent from 141 last year. We still have 86 members whose dues are in arrears, but this number is down significantly from 109 at the same time last year.

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, go to [www.societyhillcivic.org](http://www.societyhillcivic.org) to sign up. You may also pay your dues conveniently by credit card there.

We welcome each of the over 3600 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 re: 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 most unique historic neighborhood.

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

**A limited number of monthly parking spaces are still available at the renovated lot at 511 S. Front Street (between South and Lombard Streets.) If interested, contact Ed Sullivan with Park America at: 610-637-6832.**



*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

## Helen-Ann Comstock Spreads the Word About FTD

Forty years ago, Helen-Ann Comstock was living in Pebble Beach, raising three children with her husband. "Craig was a brilliant mathematician with a Ph.D. from Harvard," she says. "He was teaching at the Naval Postgraduate School in California and both of us were involved in our community, especially in the arts." Then her husband's behavior began to change.

Helen-Ann relates the harrowing story of her husband's tragic illness as she sits in her peaceful summer cottage in historic Perkasio Park in Bucks County, where she "vacations" when she is not at her Society Hill home. "Craig had been very outgoing and was the life of the party," she says. "But he became progressively quiet and stopped talking. Oddly, he started obsessively collecting aluminum cans and bottles." To her dismay, he kept a huge bag of aluminum cans in his office. "He did make a good deal of money for charity," she says, "However it was this compulsive behavior that made me seek medical help for him." The doctor she consulted in Monterey thought Craig had a brain tumor.

Then Helen-Ann decided to take him to Palo Alto. She still recalls that Craig didn't say a word during the long car trip from the Monterey Peninsula to Stanford University Medical Center, where he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, a disease that was not commonly known in those days. But one of the doctors on staff wasn't so sure and suggested that the couple take advantage of Craig's upcoming sabbatical in Switzerland, where doctors were more familiar with Pick's Disease, which he thought Craig might have. In fact, it turned out that Craig had this disease, named by psychiatrist Arnold Pick. This was in 1978. Seven years later, he was dead at 50.

The disease that killed her husband and changed her life is now called FTD, frontotemporal dementia. "While Alzheimer's is marked by memory loss, FTD patients have problems with emotions, language and reasoning," explains Helen-Ann. "They also have behavioral problems.



Helen-Ann Comstock

They may become extroverted or withdrawn, like Craig. And like him, they may develop compulsive behavior — in his case, obsessively picking up aluminum cans." FTD also affects executive function, she adds. "For instance, one day, Craig had a pack of six bottles and a bag of cans in the car and was going to drive 40 miles round-trip to Salinas to the recycling center when gas was really expensive and he'd make only a few cents for the cans. This illustrates his loss of executive function and reasoning."

FTD is an umbrella term that includes several related brain disorders. It generally strikes people in their '50s — a decade earlier than Alzheimer's. Like Alzheimer's, FTD has no cure to slow the slide into dementia. About 4.5 million Americans are estimated to have Alzheimer's, while the number of people with FTD is unknown as it's so often misdiagnosed. "It's where Alzheimer's was 20 years ago in terms of lack of recognition, information and knowledge," says Helen-Ann. "It's important to get the correct diagnosis since treatment varies substantially." In her case, it involved slowing down the pace of their life and moving the family back to Philadelphia, where their parents were able to help them during the ensuing years. In Philadelphia, she became the first executive director of the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Philadelphia.

In 2002, to promote funding for FTD research and to help educate people, including doctors, Helen-Ann founded the Association for Frontotemporal Dementia (AFTD) in Radnor, and served as its chair for 10 years.

"This is a disease that hits in the prime of life, making it financially devastating for families and baffling and embarrassing because it's not always recognized," she explains. Helen-Ann continues to spearhead the organization's international efforts and serves on the Executive and Governance Committees. The Comstock Respite and Travel Grant Program are named in her honor. In November, Helen-Ann will spend three weeks in Australia to attend an international meeting of FTD. Closer to home, she is a volunteer for the Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly.

While she devotes much of her time to the FTD organization, Helen-Ann is also busy with another project. She is currently interested in preserving the history of Perkasio Park, which is celebrating its 135th anniversary this year, as well as its inclusion on the National Registry of Historic Places. The privately owned camp meeting ground has 60 Victorian cottages. It was once a lovely day trip by horse and buggy from Philadelphia. "I inherited my house from my parents," says Helen-Ann. "I've been coming here since I was a child." The park was originally affiliated with the Methodists, but holds non-denominational services for residents in the summer in its outdoor auditorium, built in 1882.

When Helen-Ann is not working on her two main interests, she is traveling to Los Angeles to visit her daughter, or to Houston and Washington, D.C., where her two sons live. This fall, however, finds her in Society Hill, where she is a frequent visitor to the Athenaeum, enjoying its lectures and art exhibits. Helen-Ann also loves going to the Barnes and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She's a longtime subscriber to the Walnut Street Theater and a member of the Cosmopolitan Club.

"I'm really lucky," she says. "I have the best of two historic neighborhoods."

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



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\*Source: American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology



Dr. Mark Posner (2018-2013), Dr. Eva Jakobovics (2018-2014)  
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