

SOCIETY HILL

# Reporter

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

## Mark Squilla Addresses Community Concerns



Councilman Mark Squilla

The Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) invites neighbors to join us on September 22 for a virtual general membership meeting on Zoom, which we will co-host with the Queen Village Neighbors Association. Our speaker, First District Councilman Mark Squilla, will address your concerns including quality of life issues, the city budget and how it will spend \$1.4 billion in Rescue funding, and the direction of the political winds for the mayoral primary in May 2022.

Elected in 2011, his experience as a community organizer, husband and father have taught him that strong families and engaged neighborhoods are key to Philadelphia's future.

Login information for the September 22 meeting will be sent out to SHCA's blast email subscribers. If you're not already subscribed, send your up-to-date contact information to Administrator Matt DeJulio, [mattdejulio@aol.com](mailto:mattdejulio@aol.com), so he can put you on our weekly email blast list.

## Construction of Cap Over I-95 Delayed



We can expect to wait two more years before the proposed cap over 12 acres of the I-95 trench between Chestnut and Walnut Streets breaks ground. PennDOT Engineering District 6 spokesperson Brad E. Rudolph said the pandemic and other factors have pushed back the time line originally scheduled for this summer. At this point, state officials expect to put the project out to bid late next year with construction starting in 2023.

Construction of the interstate in the 1970s severed much of the Old City neighborhood's access to the river and displaced many residents and businesses. In 2017, after decades of discussion about restoring downtown waterfront connections, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the William Penn Foundation and the city pledged a combined \$205 million toward the \$225 million proposal.

According to Joe Forkin, executive director of the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation, the regional economic development agency guiding the project, the delay is a hiccup in the full saga of this waterfront highway, which has generated controversy for nearly a century. Stay tuned.

Wednesday,  
September

22

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Society Hill Civic Association Meeting  
Wednesday, September 22, 2021

via Zoom

7:30 p.m. General Membership Meeting

Speaker: Councilman Mark Squilla  
Topic: Quality-of-Life Issues Q&A

### FALL IS IN THE AIR



Society Hill neighbors step up their game.

Photo by Bonnie Halda

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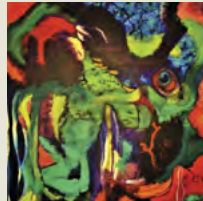
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SOCIETY HILL

*Reporter*

**NUSA  
Award-Winning  
Newsletter  
First Place  
2020**

**Editor in Chief**  
Sandra Rothman

**Columnists**  
Claire Batten  
Jane Biberman  
Claudia Carabelli  
Al Cavalari  
Matt DeJulio  
Martha Levine  
Fred Manfred  
Sandra Rothman  
Larry Spector  
Keri White  
Richard de Wyngaert

**Contributors**  
Bonnie Halda, Mike Neff,  
Mary Sturdivant,  
Joanna Ward

**Graphic Design**  
Parallel Design, Inc.  
judy@parallel-design.com

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

**Advertising Manager**  
William Jantsch  
wmjantsch@hotmail.com

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

**Website**  
Find past issues in full 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 LARRY SPECTOR

President's Message



Larry Spector

I hope that the summer gave you rest, good health and enjoyable days as needed relief from the routines that can test our strength and patience.

We need the rejuvenation to cope with the daily news. As I write this message, I am horrified by the news of gunfighting at 13th and Pine as just another item in the daily casualty report of gun violence in Philadelphia. Part of the city's response is to funnel \$43 million of the \$1.4 billion it gets from the American Rescue Plan to those neighborhood groups in closest contact with the problem. While hoping that we will get our money's worth, it is hard to see how the effort addresses the more mundane deterioration in the quality of life in Philadelphia. It is inconceivable that the city does not seem to have the will to enforce ordinances on the books that are designed to make our streets clean and safe. Perhaps coming administrations will do better. Hopefully we can get some encouragement from Councilman Mark Squilla at our September 22 General Membership Meeting.

*Who would think that tomatoes, peaches and pickles could do so much to lift the spirits?*



Sunday morning Headhouse Farmers Market.

How do we avoid getting down on life in the city? Take in the good stuff. I am embarrassed to admit that as a long-time resident of Society Hill, I had never been to the Sunday morning Headhouse Farmers Market. Who would think that tomatoes, peaches and pickles could do so much to lift the spirits? I even found lemon verbena for some recipes in my new *Blueberry Cookbook* by Sally Pasley Vargas. I heard squeals and laughter from the stroller set mixed into the hustle and bustle of customers moving past bunches of scallions, and boxes of berries and

potatoes, as they lined up to pay friendly farmers. I bought too much, but felt terrific leaving the scene. Then the Phillies won again... What a cool city!

Back to the mundane: at least developers must think the future is promising. Highrises are in progress in and around the business district. Permits have been issued for the conversion of six floors of the Penn Mutual Building on the 500 block of Walnut Street into 113 dwelling units. Representatives of the Society Hill and Queen Village community associations listened to a proposal for the demolition of the now decrepit Downey's restaurant and construction of an 18-unit apartment building. The presentation met with criticism in terms of design, and the developer intends to revise the plans to try to meet concerns. There is a plan to engage the community about the possible improvement of Foglietta Plaza and the I-95 cap park.

There is no progress to report on the promised pilot program closing Spruce Street to Columbus Boulevard traffic. The city has not responded to a request for a status report. One closing that did take place resulted from the water main break at 6th and Bainbridge. If the repair work is comparable to a similar break a few years ago at Juniper and Sansom Streets, we won't be passing through that intersection for a long time. Perhaps a silver lining: it seems that the closure has, at least on some nights, cut down on the ear splitting noise of ATVs and cars that made that intersection part of their route.

South Street itself has some days better than others. Residents sometimes detect a definite reduction in the overall noise level from offending motorists. We are informed by the South Street Headhouse District that South Street will continue being closed every night from Front Street to 9th Street from 7 p.m. to either midnight or 2 a.m., subject to change as the police see fit.

See you on September 22.

**Larry Spector** is an attorney handling business disputes and related litigation. He has lived in Society Hill since 1976, married, and raised two daughters here with wife, Ann.

SHCA List of Contractors: A Perk of Membership

At some point, we all need a contractor for home repairs. SHCA offers a 14-page list of contractors, all highly recommended by our neighbors. The list includes general contractors, carpenters, plumbers, HVAC, electricians, gardeners, masons, roofers

and even a miscellaneous section. It's free, but you must be a current SHCA member to receive the list. To request a list, electronically or by mail, call 215-629-0727 or contact marthalev6@gmail.com.



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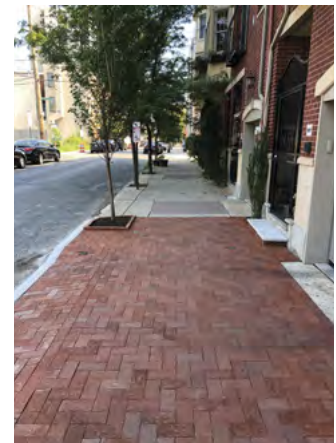
McFarland Blue trucks, uniformed personnel, attention to detail and thorough clean-up of your property help differentiate McFarland. Our management of your landscape can be total or selective, depending on your needs and budget. If we cannot immediately identify the cause of a landscape problem, we will research the issue until we have solid answers to report to you. As a second-generation business, we have been satisfying our clients with a lifelong-relationship approach to service.

## Fix Your Bricks

Brick sidewalks in Society Hill and downtown Philly are being renovated to provide a smooth, safe walking surface for pedestrians. We have experience and have repaired many sidewalks and patios in the city. The upheaval caused by tree roots can often be carefully corrected without removing or killing trees. Call McFarland to inquire about fixing your bricks.



215-844-TREE



STEPPING BACK IN TIME

BY SANDRA ROTHMAN

Going Back for What's Forgotten

*A walking tour through local history*

I wrote an article for this column in March 2017 inquiring why Levi Ganges, a free Black man who died in 1846, is buried in an unmarked grave at the Weccacoe Playground, just outside our neighborhood at 400 Catharine Street. Here's an important update to that story.

**Remembering and Honoring**

It turns out that Ganges was buried at what was originally called the Bethel Burying Ground. The realization of the existence of this cemetery started a multi-year community engagement process resulting in artist Karyn Olivier recently being selected to memorialize and honor the five to eight thousand African Americans buried in the one-quarter-acre plot.

The Right Reverend Bishop Richard Allen purchased the Catharine Street site in April 1810, because Mother Bethel AME Church had by then used all its available burial space. The location was important as it was within walking distance of the church but just outside Philadelphia's boundary at the time. This small fact insured its congregation the right to a dignified burial in consecrated ground, something they were denied in Philadelphia proper because of their race.

Mother Bethel sold the property to the city in 1889 to be used as a community park. It spent the proceeds to build the present church on the same site at 419 S. 6th Street. Time then gradually erased all evidence that thousands of souls lay at rest on this tiny plot in a densely packed neighborhood.

The burying ground began its journey back into public consciousness thanks to the research of local historian Terry Buckalew in 2010. An archaeological investigation was conducted on behalf of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society in 2013. As a result, this 19th-century African American cemetery was named to the National Register of Historic Places in February 2016.



**Bethel Burying Ground Memorial**

Karyn Olivier, currently an associate professor of sculpture at Tyler School of Art and Architecture at Temple University, is a Philadelphia-based artist who creates sculptures, installations and public art. Alan Greenberger, Chair of the City's Art Commission, calls her memorial design, entitled *Her Luxuriant Soil*, "deep, beautiful and complex."

The artist envisions an ornate, 19th-century-style cemetery gate on the Queen Street side of the site. Sculptures of *sankofa* birds will sit on top of two brick pillars. Sankofa is a word in the Akan and Fante languages of Ghana, meaning "to retrieve," or "go back and get" one's history to understand the past and prepare for the future. Thus, the memorial not only honors the African Americans buried there but their roots in Africa.



The artist's rendering shows decorative planters placed throughout the memorial. These represent cradle graves consisting of a gravestone, a footstone and two low stone walls connecting them, creating a rectangle designed to hold plantings to memorialize the person buried below. This element offers the opportunity for community engagement and ceremony, allowing residents and visitors to plant

and maintain the decorative vessels, the tradition with 19th-century cradle graves.

Perhaps the most evocative and magical elements of the memorial are the white granite and concrete pavers that will cover the surface of the cemetery and will be engraved, based on Buckelew's research, with inscriptions telling the stories of those buried there. Some of the pavers will be treated with a special coating that allows the inscriptions to become visible only in the rain or when a child at play pours water onto them. Others will remain blank to represent the many still not identified.

The \$1.15 million project, which includes removing the existing recreation building and replacement of the tennis courts, is expected to break ground this summer and be completed by summer 2022.

**Levi Ganges**

Karyn Olivier shares that part of her inspiration in designing this memorial was to highlight the beauty in the African American lives buried there despite the hardship and oppression they may have experienced.

I learned the truth of this sentiment when doing the research on Levi Ganges, the gentleman buried near the swings. Here was a man who was lost to his family and friends when abducted from Africa but went on to have a long life as a free Black man in Philadelphia. He was then lost again to memory for almost 175 years. His name now reappears, hopefully for a good long while. I look forward to eventually paying my respects to this man who led an extraordinary yet quite ordinary life. I invite readers to learn more at <https://societyhillcivic.org/wp-content/themes/societyhill/newsletter/2017/2%20Mar-Apr.pdf>.



**Sandra Rothman**

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



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### ■ Pamela D. Laws

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## KEEPING POSTED

BY AL CAVALARI

## Dock Street in a Simpler Time

What can this historic artifact tell us about the 1908 world of these busy Philadelphians? Go to Dock Street today, and the only familiar thing in this postcard is the street's distinctive curve. Doesn't this image instantly grab our attention and pull us in with its bustling activity? Notice this is still a horse-drawn world. Ford Motor Company had been making cars for five years. They were built by two or three men working on one car from start to finish. Yearly sales ranged from a few hundred to a few thousand units. Cars had been around since the 1880s but were expensive and unreliable. Here we are in a major American city, and you won't find a single motorized vehicle on this street.

The year this card was published, something changed. Henry Ford introduced his mass-produced Model T that went on to sell millions over the next 20 years, changing America forever. The simpler world of these Philadelphians was also about to change in another way. This pleasant slow-paced scene could be right out of the 18th century. These unsuspecting people, however, had no way of knowing that they would soon be drawn into World War I, which would see fighter planes and tanks.

The name "Dock Creek," Coocaconoon to the Lenni-Lenape, derives from its mouth on the Delaware that was a good place to tie up and load ships. It ran the course of the short street bearing its name behind the Merchants Exchange building and behind Carpenter's Hall where the gully that contained it is still visible.

There it split. One branch came from a pond at the Hopkinson House on Washington Square South. Following the other branch north, you'd cut through what became Christ Church Burial Ground; turn south to cut through our Independence Visitor Center at 6th & Market, running up Market Street to the Declaration House and beyond.

The American Philosophical Society has identified nine tanneries along the creek



This postcard picturing Dock Street Market was published in 1908.

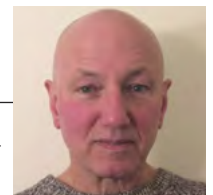
which were using it as an open sewer for their industrial waste. Ben Franklin was an early environmental activist in that he published an article in his *Gazette* supporting efforts to pressure the government into removing the tanneries. Eventually work was begun to cover over Dock Creek, and it was completed by the 1820s. The creek still runs underground.

This scene depicts the Dock Street Market, Philadelphia's main wholesale produce market from the 1870s until 1959. Busiest between midnight and 8 a.m., it had become a nuisance with its congestion, noise, unsanitary conditions and vermin infestation. The USDA had published a study calling for moving the market to South Philadelphia. When the Philadelphia City Planning Commission and the Redevelopment Authority targeted Society Hill for renewal and planning, Director Edmund Bacon convinced the city to invest \$17 million in the land and infrastructure needed to move the market.

Detroit Publishing Company, which produced this card, used a printing process imported from Germany that was technologically far in advance of other methods being used. The result

is an exquisite richness of color, warmth of tone, a sharpness of detail and even a feeling of depth that is instantly recognizable. At its height, Detroit printed millions of cards per year depicting life in all its facets throughout the entire world. Their body of work is an irreplaceable view back through time to the early decades of the 20th century. These cards are still plentiful, can be inexpensive and, as such, make a rewarding category to collect, especially for the beginner. Some intrepid collectors endeavor to collect them all.

Cosmetics giant, billionaire and philanthropist Leonard Lauder, a postcard collector since childhood, donated 14,500 Detroit's to the New York Public Library in 1986. You can scroll through some of them in their digital collection, <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/detroit-publishing-company-postcards>.

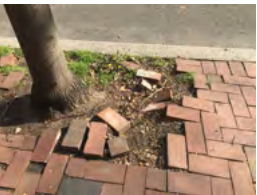
**Al Cavalari**

is a certified member of the Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides. For a day job, he operates the Flag Guys®, a flag business in upstate New York. Write to Al at [flagguys@aol.com](mailto:flagguys@aol.com).

**'FIX THE BRIX'**

BY MARTHA LEVINE

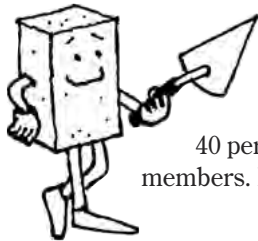
# A Worthwhile Subsidy Program



**Get reimbursed for fixing these unsightly tripping hazards.**

SHCA is proud to offer the "Fix the Brix" subsidy program to all Society Hill residents. If you have an uneven sidewalk that may cause injury due to a trip and fall, we can help you.

So far over 250 households have taken part in this program to make their sidewalks safer, but we still have a long way to go. For consistency, all sidewalks should be level. This is such a walkable neighborhood and most of us walk miles here each week. Let's make walking a pleasure, not an obstacle.



**Rick the Brick**

### The Details

SHCA offers a subsidy of 40 percent of the invoice up to \$400 for current members, 40 percent up to \$300 for non-members. It pays to be a member!

### Steps to take

- Take a photo of your problem sidewalk area and email it to me at marthalev6@gmail.com.
- Hire a mason to do the work. Get a few estimates. We have a suggested list if needed.
- After the work is done, make sure it is to your satisfaction before paying the bill.
- Mail the original paid invoice to us but make a copy for yourself. If possible, mail a copy of your cancelled check. Mail to: SHCA  
P.O. Box 63503  
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- Receive a check within a few weeks.

Thank you to all who have repaired their sidewalks. It is your gift to the neighborhood!



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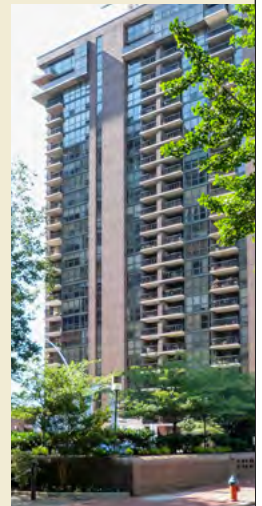
*I have Qualified Buyers looking for **All Units Sizes**. If anyone is interested in selling, please call or e-mail your Neighbor!*

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**DEAD TREE REMOVAL AND PRUNING SUBSIDIES**

BY MARY STURDIVANT

# This Tree Is Really Dead

*A Nod to Monty Python*

Even though the tree pictured here is very dead, Society Hill neighbors can rest easy.

That's because SHCA offers property owners 50 percent of the cost of removing and replanting a tree, up to \$500 for SHCA members and up to \$400 for non-members!

To qualify for reimbursement, the property owner must show proof of the tree and stump removal, the cost of the removal and the planting of a replacement tree. 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, no more often than every two years.

Remember property owners are liable for any damages caused by falling limbs. Submit paperwork to Matt DeJulio [mattdejulio@aol.com](mailto:mattdejulio@aol.com).



Photo by Joanna Ward

This tree is DEAD!

It has gone to the Great Woodchipper in the Sky.

It has passed ...

moved on ...

met its Maker.

It has gone to a better place.

It's lost all its leaves and its will to leaf again.

It's departed for a mulch better life.

Its expiration date has passed.

It is Over

Gone

Done

Finished

Kaput.

It is NOT resting or hibernating or sleeping.

It is not pushing daisies. This tree is DEAD.

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**DOING GOOD IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

BY MARTHA LEVINE

# Membership Dues Working for You

Thanks to your membership dues, SHCA has accomplished so much in our last fiscal year, June 1, 2020 to June 1, 2021.

Below is a review of some of the services, subsidies and projects provided by SHCA. This year, we have spent approximately 70 percent of our membership dues on the following:

**Massive Leaf Cleanup**

In January 2021, SHCA paid for a massive leaf cleanup of all Society Hill sidewalks and gutters. When we could not get city trucks to help clean our streets last fall, we canceled the Fall Clean Up Day. As a result, we had an unbelievable number of leaves strewn all over our sidewalks and gutters. It was unsightly and unsafe. We hired Todd Kelley and crew of Graffiti Removal Experts to remove and bag the leaves. They filled 600 bags of leaves and left them at corners for the Sanitation Department to pick up.

**Two Generous Subsidies**

- **“Fix the Brix”** provides a subsidy to help with sidewalk repairs. If you repair your sidewalk, you can get a subsidy of 40 percent of the invoice up to \$400 for members, \$300 for non-members. See page 8. Many sidewalks are tripping hazards and homeowners have a legal obligation to care for their sidewalks and keep them safe.
- **Tree Tenders** provides a subsidy for several options for tree care: dead tree removal, tree pruning and planting new trees. Trees need continual care and their care is the homeowner’s responsibility. Read more about Tree Tenders on pages 9 and 19.

**Two Important Services**

- **Weekly Sidewalk Sweeping.** Why are our sidewalks so clean? It’s not a fluke. Every Friday on trash collection day, SHCA pays to have the Center City District crew come into our neighborhood to sweep debris like discarded food containers, cigarette butts, paper, etc. from our sidewalks. In addition, we added Mondays during warmer weather months, May 1 to November 1, to clean up after crowds walking through our neighborhood. Some folks just don’t see the trash cans or refuse to use them.
- **Graffiti Removal.** How does Society Hill stay graffiti free? We do get graffiti, but we clean it up quickly. Thanks to membership dues, we hired Graffiti Removal Experts to do a weekly sweep of our neighborhood to remove graffiti left by others. We are one of the most graffiti-free neighborhoods in the city!

**Franklin Lights Cleaning**

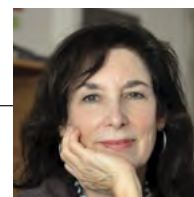
A brighter neighborhood is a safer one. When our Franklin Lights started looking dirty, blocking out some of the light, it was time to have them cleaned. Over time, they had collected dirt, insects and leaves inside the light fixtures. This past May, we hired our trusted Graffiti Removal Experts’ crew to thoroughly clean nearly 500 Franklin Lights inside and out. (See full article in the July/August 2021 *Reporter*.) See them sparkle now!

Do you have ideas for projects for SHCA that will benefit the neighborhood? Let us know. Contact me at [marthalev6@gmail.com](mailto:marthalev6@gmail.com).

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



**Your membership dues pay for sidewalk sweeping and graffiti removal, among other services.**



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POTTING SHED CABINET REPORT

BY PENNY PLEASANCE

# It's All About the Birds and the Bees

If you have been a more frequent visitor to Washington Square during these trying pandemic times, you may have noticed some changes in the 15 planting beds that run along the interior walls of the park. There are far fewer annuals like begonias and impatiens than in years past and more native perennials and shrubs, many of which you may not yet be familiar with. In fact, the group of volunteers who make up the Washington Square Committee, under the leadership of Sherley Young and Fred Manfred, planted a whopping 3,700 native perennials and shrubs during May and June of this year. While the pandemic may have slowed us down, it didn't stop us entirely, as this year's planting was added to roughly 2,000 native perennials and shrubs that were planted in the spring and fall of 2020.

### The Benefits of Native Plants

Why the transition to native plants? Besides being directed to plant native species by Independence National Historical Park, which oversees the management of Washington Square, there are several benefits.

First, and foremost, native plants restore a healthy ecosystem by providing food sources for beneficial insects and birds. Who doesn't enjoy more birds, bees and butterflies? It turns out that most insects are herbivores that feed only on certain types of plants based on leaf chemistry. Most non-native plants simply don't have the right leaf chemistry for indigenous insects. With the insects come the birds.

Another benefit of native plants is that once they are well-established, they are much more drought-tolerant than non-native plants, especially annuals. Think about it: have you ever seen anyone going into the woods or along roadsides or open fields to water the plants? As climate change puts more pressure on water needs, native plants are one way to ease water requirements in our city parks.

Finally, native plants are beautiful. The colors, variety and seasons of interest are mind boggling. There are almost too many to choose from, and each serves a practical ecological function in the landscape to keep those bugs and birds well fed. Fortunately for us, Washington Square offers

myriad opportunities, as well as challenges, to incorporate native species in our planting beds.

### A Shift in Expectations

All that said, transitioning to a native plant garden requires a shift in visitors' expectations. Most of us have been trained to expect nonstop color, thanks to the continuous blooms of annuals like petunias, begonias and impatiens. Annuals put all their energy into providing non-stop blooms, so that by the time the first frost hits, they have no reserves left to carry them over the winter. Native plants, on the other hand, want to live a long life, and therefore have shorter bloom periods, generally three to four weeks, but in some cases up to eight or 10 weeks depending on the species. Their blooms not only provide nectar for pollinators but also produce seeds that ensure the species' survival.

What visitors will begin to appreciate is that there will be a great variety of different blooms and different seasons of blooms in the planting beds, but not all at once. In the spring, the shadier



Photos by Fred Manfred

POTTING SHED CABINET REPORT



Paintings by Michael Neff

beds, or shadier parts of beds, will feature woodland flowers like Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*), foam flowers (*Tiarella cordifolia*) and creeping phlox (*Phlox stolonifera*). In mid-summer the sunnier beds will shine with wildflowers typically seen in meadows and open fields like coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia fulgida*) and butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*). When fall rolls around, the many varieties of both sun-loving and woodland asters and goldenrod will be on display along with the fall foliage

of many native trees and shrubs in various shades of gold and red.

All of which is to say, we hope visitors will begin to appreciate what the natural world has to offer, knowing that what we are planting is not only beautiful to look at but beneficial to our ecosystem. When you see one of us out pulling weeds, pruning or planting, come up and talk with us. We'd love to tell you more about our plants. Who knows, you may be inspired to plant some in your own garden.

**Penny Pleasance** is one of our Potting Shed Cabinet's leaders and a plant specialist. She has written an informative piece providing context to the benefits of migrating our planting beds to native plantings. She served for many years as a volunteer at Mt. Cuba Center, a native plant garden in Hockessin, Delaware, where she worked alongside the horticulturalist responsible for the meadow garden and woodland edges. She has taken horticulture classes at both Mt. Cuba and Longwood Gardens. At her former home in Centreville, Delaware, Penny was inspired to create her own meadow garden featuring both warm season grasses and many species of wildflowers.



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## NIFTY NEIGHBORS IN MY OWN BACKYARD

BY SANDRA ROTHMAN

## He Got Out of Dodge



Lynn Miller, an artist, author and Temple University professor emeritus of political science, is a guy who has gotten out of Dodge more than once.

Born in Dodge City, Kansas, four years before America entered World War II, Lynn spent his formative years being shaped by midwestern conservative values. It wasn't until his senior year at the University of Kansas, in 1959, that he first got far out of Dodge upon receiving a year-long Rotary Fellowship to what is now the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, where he planned to pursue a Foreign-Service career as a U.S. diplomat.

Ten years later, Lynn made his final break with Dodge City when he arrived in Philadelphia to teach political science at Temple University. The preceding decade had racked up, among other things, a PhD from Princeton University, a flirtation with joining the CIA, a gradual conversion to progressivism and a career pivot to academia.

Lynn spent more than 30 years at Temple, where he thrived in the classroom and as a sometime administrator. He retired in 2000 to further explore the three defining passions in his life in addition to the study of politics: music, art and the English language.

Readers can tap into his passion for political studies at <https://www.lynn-miller.net> for thoughtful monthly essays voicing Lynn's opinion on various political issues of the day. Some recent titles

include "A Tale of Two Nations," "Our Weird Game of Naming Races" and "Is the Death of a Capitol Panel a Death Knell for the Republic?"

Music was a near constant presence in his home as a child. In fact, it was LPs of the Philadelphia Orchestra under Eugene Ormandy that first connected the boy to his future home. He was thrilled to see the orchestra perform when it visited Kansas City in 1959, then again at the Academy of Music in 1969 and every year since.

Lynn's love of art began at age 10, devouring the Book-of-the-Month Club's series of fine art reproductions from museums throughout the world. He produced his own art early on with some success, but put these efforts almost entirely aside to attend to the more "serious" matter of succeeding in his career.

He says in his recently released memoir *Postcards from Delphi*, "The work of my subconscious mind plays out upon the only memory field it knows, that created by my own experience and amplified by my imagination." He works now in abstract expressionism, which is like creating fiction, permitting him to be both less restrictive and more spontaneous. It also, much to his fascination, allows him to paint what he feels about a particular piece of music.

Of all the arts, writing became central in his career. His non-fiction books include *Organizing Mankind* and *Global Order: Values and Power in International Politics*. Lynn has co-authored several books, including *Global Challenge*, *City in a Park* and *Salut! France Meets Philadelphia*:



**Scherzo**, 2021



**Maybe a Tarantella**, 2021



**A Marvelous Day**, 2021

**NIFTY NEIGHBORS IN MY OWN BACKYARD**

*The French Presence in Philadelphia's History, Culture, and Art.* An excerpt from the last, "When Acadians Were Cast Aside in Philadelphia," was featured in the July/August 2021 *Reporter*. Lynn has also frequently tried his hand at fiction. In 2010 he wrote the novel *Crossing the Line* and has written several plays, as well. One, *The Eye of a Bird*, was produced in both Philadelphia and New York.

For the past 37 years, this man from Kansas has looked out the window that overlooks Washington Square with a glimpse of Independence Hall in the distance. Lynn Miller realized many years ago that Philadelphia had now become his hometown.

**November 11 Lecture & Book Signing**

Last spring, the Athenaeum of Philadelphia conferred their Art and Architecture Literary Award on *Salut! France Meets Philadelphia*. On November 11, Lynn and his co-author, Therese Dolan, will present excerpts from the book in an illustrated lecture and book-signing at the Athenaeum. The event is co-sponsored by the *Alliance Francaise de Philadelphie*.

Contact Lynn at [lynnm3@comcast.net](mailto:lynnm3@comcast.net).



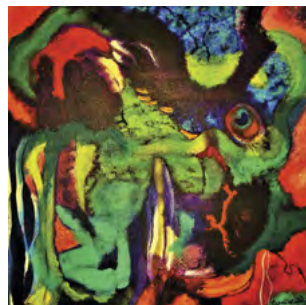
**Fantasie Impromptu**, 2020-21



**Late Spring Riot**, 2019



**Down the Rabbit Hole**, 2015



**Maharajah**, 2014



**Ariel and Calaban**, 2008

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WELCOME GIFT BAGS

BY MARTHA LEVINE

# Welcoming New Neighbors, Helping Local Businesses

SHCA not only welcomes new first-time homeowners to the neighborhood with a gift but also helps support our local businesses. Neighborhood support of our businesses may have helped many of them survive the pandemic.

SHCA suspended its Welcome Baskets program during 2020 due to COVID-19. In February 2021, we reinvented the program, naming it “Welcome Gift Bags.” The bags are presented in a safe, minimal-contact way. To date, we have presented more than 70 welcome gift bags.

Have you recently purchased a home or condo in our neighborhood as of 2020 or 2021? If so, contact us if you would like to receive a Welcome Gift Bag filled with a bottle of wine, a bag of coffee, important neighborhood information and gift cards to area restaurants, retail, services and museums. The gift bag is presented by appointment with minimal contact and outdoors. Call me at 215-629-0727 or email marthalev6@gmail.com.

Please help us say thank you to the current donors to the Welcome Gift Bag program who are listed below, and support them through your patronage.



**Jamie & Stuart with Azuki**

*We are incredibly excited to be moving to Society Hill. The neighborhood has so much to offer — beautiful parks for us and our dog, picturesque*

*side streets teeming with history, and wonderful restaurants and shops.*

*We love that we are in commuting distance to Center City yet have all of the benefits of a quieter less commercial neighborhood.*

*And last but not least, we have been so touched by the friendliness of our neighbors; they have made us feel at home in just a matter of days.*



**David & Nancy**



**Kevin & Susan with sons**



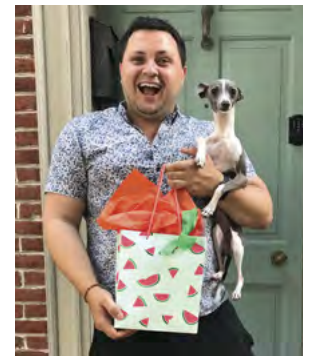
**Meryl & John**



**Harry & Ruth Ann**



**Kevin & Zunera**



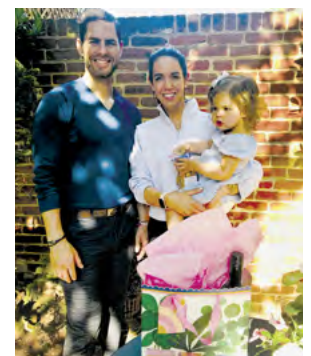
**Nick & Lady**



**Niket & Namita with Nicki & Cuba**



**Richard & Madeleine**



**Brandon & Stacy with daughter**

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- High Street Phila., 101 S. 9th Street
- Knead Bagels, 725 Walnut Street.
- La Colombe Coffee Roasters, 100 S. 6th Street
- Malbec Argentine Steakhouse, 400 S. 2nd St.
- Panorama, 14 N. Front Street
- P J Clarke’s, 601 Walnut Street
- The Twisted Tail, 509 S. 2nd Street
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- Ghost Tours of Phila., ghosttours@ghosttours.com
- Head House Books, 619 S. 2nd Street
- Indep. Seaport Museum, 211 S. Columbus Blvd.
- Jason Matthew Salon, 1735 Chestnut Street
- Judy Moon Massage, 829 Spruce Street
- Lee’s Cleaners, 241 S. 6th Street
- National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut Street
- Paper On Pine (stationary), 1310 Sansom Street
- Phila. Society for the Preservation of Landmarks (Physick & Powel Houses), 321 S. 4th Street
- Show of Hands (craft gallery), 1006 Pine Street



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**TREE TENDER COMMITTEE REPORT**

BY CLAUDIA CARABELLI

# Combating Climate Change

In earlier columns we've mentioned multiple advantages to planting a tree in the neighborhood. There's no doubt that greenery beautifies cities, but trees are more than just another pretty face. A recent *New York Times* article dubbed them "stationary superheroes" and the best "technology" to help fight climate change. We've all seen, or perhaps even experienced personally, the extremes of weather over the past several years. Heat waves, forest fires, drought and flooding; something is obviously changing.

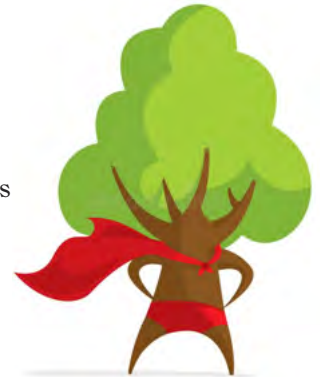
I was surprised to learn that heat actually kills more people in the U.S. annually than hurricanes, tornadoes and other weather events combined. This accounts for 12,000 deaths per year. Over just one week this July, hundreds of people died from extreme heat in the Pacific Northwest and Canada. But did you know that trees can decrease the surrounding temperature by 10 degrees? That in turn lowers electricity usage required for air conditioning, saves money and helps avoid power failures. Trees, if carefully positioned,

can decrease a home's energy costs by almost 25 percent.

Sadly, American cities and towns lose almost 36 million trees per year, which speaks to the ongoing need to plant and replace. Tree Tenders groups across Philadelphia serve some of that need, but homeowners can always take the initiative to do it on their own. SHCA offers a \$150 subsidy if you plant a new tree and up to \$500 if you remove and replant a dead tree.

Unfortunately many people, even city officials, remain unaware of the numerous benefits that trees can provide. Trees filter out air pollution, suck up storm water, store carbon, nurture wildlife and improve people's mental and physical health. Despite all this, persuading property owners to plant and maintain trees remains an ongoing challenge. Every single tree makes a difference.

**Claudia Carabelli** is a Southwest Quadrant Director for SHCA.



Trees have been dubbed "stationary superheroes."



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## Beautiful Two Bedroom



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## Spacious Two Bedroom



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OUR CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

BY CLAUDIA CARABELLI

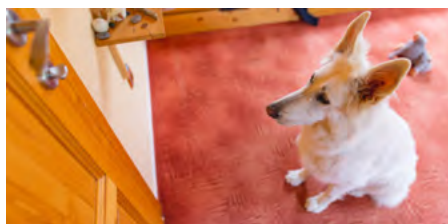
# Pups Adjusting Post-Pandemic

Here we are, 18 long months after the first news of a global pandemic, and we're finally returning to some semblance of normal. Lots of us will soon have to reintegrate into the physical workplace. No more rolling out of bed just 10 minutes before your start time. No more turning off the Zoom video to multitask during a tediously boring meeting. Time to pull on some real pants, slip into shoes, hook up that bra and head back into the "real world."

**We know what we need to do but what about our dogs?** They've been curled up at home with their human buddies for quite a while now. How will they acclimate when left home alone for the first time in more than a year? Quite honestly, it will be different for each pup and somewhat hard to predict.

If you've had your dog for a few years, you'll probably have a better sense of how he or she will fare. My dog Dexter is eight years old. He's very social, and although he's quite attached to me, he's never had a problem with separation anxiety. I've found that he's a little clingier this year and follows me from room to room more than usual. As I've left for longer periods of time recently, he's pulled a few things out of the trash or laundry hamper but hasn't done any real damage. Chances are that with a little TLC, most dogs like him will readjust pretty easily.

**If your dog was already exhibiting some serious separation anxiety pre-pandemic, you may have more of a problem.** If you acquired it during



this time, then being alone will really be unfamiliar territory. Try to imagine how stressful being alone can be for your dog if it's had your companionship 24/7 for more than a year, then you suddenly leave for long periods of time.

**Dogs develop uniquely strong attachments to their human counterparts.** If they've had multiple placements, like a dog that's been surrendered or abandoned, they can become quite panicked when left alone in a new home or for the first time.

**So how do I know if my pup is struggling with separation anxiety?**

Common symptoms are:

- Consistent, intensive destruction. This can be an outlet for anxiety in some animals. Stories abound of dogs tearing apart entire sofas.
- Inappropriate elimination. This is more than the occasional accident and usually occurs only after their human leaves the house.
- Barking, howling and whining when you leave. You may not be aware of this until an unhappy neighbor mentions it.
- Drooling and pacing may occur even before you exit. Dogs are perceptive enough to recognize a trigger like grabbing your keys or putting on your coat.

**What can I do to help?**

Gradual departure and slow conditioning are key. Your dog needs to learn that when you exit the door, you're coming back. Start with a five-minute absence and return. Increase it to 10 minutes, then 15 and so on. Once your dog is comfortable being left alone for short periods of time you can add some enrichment items, puzzle toys, Kong toys stuffed with food, safe chew toys and even relaxing music.

Exercise can also make a big difference. Try to schedule time each morning to take the pup for a long walk or run before you leave. This helps expend their energy and leaves them feeling more relaxed.

Some dogs respond well to a calming vest that exerts soft pressure over their torso like the Thunder Shirt. In severe cases of anxiety your veterinarian may also recommend medication. Prozac and Xanax are not just for Homo sapiens anymore. Like any serious concern about your pets, especially if they're older, see your vet first to rule out any underlying physical conditions.

If you can afford a dog sitter, dog walker or doggie daycare, this will lessen your pet's time alone. Some people even have the luxury of taking their buddies to work. Just take your time, be patient and do your best to help alleviate their stress. It's the least you can do for your loyal little friend.

**Claudia Carabelli** is a Southwest Quadrant Director for SHCA.

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**Studio plus Alcove**

On a high floor overlooking Washington Square; the home has wood floors and an updated kitchen and bathroom.  
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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY MATT DEJULIO

# New Memberships Erase Last Year's Decline

By early August, 1,142 Society Hill residents had either renewed their association membership or joined for the first time, surpassing last year's total of 1,141.

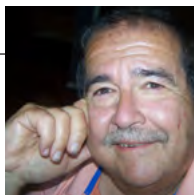
Our membership total was buoyed by 138 new members, far more than 70 last year. We still have 107 members whose dues are in arrears, down from 126 at the same time last year.

If you have delayed sending in your renewal, or wish to join, please do so today. If you are not receiving our weekly email newsletter, please go to web site [www.societyhillcivic.org](http://www.societyhillcivic.org) to sign up, where you may also pay your dues by credit card.

We welcome each of the over 3,600 households in our neighborhood 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, historic neighborhood.



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

## PARK, AMERICA!

A limited number of monthly parking spaces are 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
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sidewalk Cleaning/Graffiti Removal
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Fix the Brix
- Charge VISA/MasterCard:
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Franklin Lights
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Tree Tenders
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ McCall School
- Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please return completed application to:

**Society Hill Civic Association**, P.O. Box 63503, Philadelphia, PA 19147  
Make check payable to Society Hill Civic Association or join online at:  
[www.SocietyHillCivic.org](http://www.SocietyHillCivic.org)

# INDEPENDENCE PLACE

233 - 241 S. 6th Street



Rarely available three bedroom, two and a half bathroom penthouse with a wrap-around balcony, fireplace, updated kitchen and bathrooms and see-forever views of the Delaware River and Society Hill.

**2,575 sf | Offered for \$1,950,000**



Tastefully updated one bedroom with southern views providing excellent natural light, wood floors, a modern and open kitchen and large bathroom.

**777 sf | Offered for \$299,900**



This home features a generously sized living and dining room, a fully-equipped kitchen with great cabinet and counter space and large bedroom that enjoys great closet space, brand new carpet, and ensuite bathroom with shower/tub and single vanity.

**1,205 sf | Offered for \$399,900**



Completely renovated one bedroom, one bathroom with gorgeous treetop views of Washington Square and the Center City skyline showcased from a private balcony! This spacious one bedroom home offers wood like floors and walls of oversized windows in all rooms.

**928 sf | Offered for \$350,000**

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

603-I	2011-I	502-I	312-I	1010-I	1009-II
1304-I	1801-II	1505-I	2210-II	809-I	510-I
2007-I	1807-I	1602-II	2211-II	1710-II	1104-I



BE MINDFUL

Walk Bike Drive

**Like Your Life Depends On It!**

M. Levine

As the pandemic gets under control with more people getting the vaccine and wearing masks, we have seen increases in vehicular traffic, making it important to be mindful as we walk, bike and drive.



Photo of Green Bean by Mary Sturdivant

Early this spring, volunteers spread two small mountains of wood chips. They covered the 56 ginkgoes surrounding the Square and the 226 trees inside with a cover three inches deep and three feet wide. Besides discouraging weeds and helping to retain moisture, the cellulose makeup of the chips very effectively absorbs dog urine. So dog walkers, encourage your charge to find its favorite tree. Volunteers will continue weeding and raking to provide the most enticing pits to pee. Neighbors and visitors can enjoy activities on the lawn free from brown spots.

**COMPASS RE**

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**Fred Manfred**  
 Five Star Real Estate Agent — Philadelphia Magazine  
 fred.manfred@compass.com  
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 O 267.435.8015

ON THE SQUARE REAL ESTATE

Fred Manfred is a real estate licensee affiliated with Compass Re. Compass Re is a licensed real estate broker and abides by equal housing opportunity laws.

## Clip and Save Contact Information

### City Representatives

Councilman Mark Squilla, 1st District  
215-686-3458, 215-686-3459  
mark.squilla@phila.gov

Legislative Aide: Sean McMonagle  
Sean.mcmonagle@phila.gov

### State Representatives

State Rep. Mary Isaacson, 175th District  
215-503-3245  
isaacson@pahouse.net

State Senator Nikil Saval, 1st District  
215-925-3119; pasenatorsaval.com

### Federal Representatives

Congressman Dwight Evans  
215-276-0340  
evans.house.gov

Senator Patrick Toomey  
215-241-1090  
www.toomey.senate.gov

Senator Bob Casey  
215-405-9660  
www.casey.senate.gov

### Society Hill Action Contacts

#### Society Hill Civic Association

Matt DeJulio, Administrator  
215-629-1288  
mattdejulio@aol.com

#### Society Hill Reporter

Sandra Rothman, Managing Editor  
sandra.rothman@aol.com

Graffiti removal on public, not private, spaces  
todd@graffitiremovalxperts.com

Franklin Light Outage, 311

### Key Contacts

#### Center City District

Paul Levy, Exec. Director  
215-440-5500  
info@centercityphila.org

#### Washington Square West Civic Assn.

Neal Pratt, President  
215-346-6411  
info@washwestcivic.org

#### South Street Head House District

Mike Harris, Exec. Director  
215-413-3713  
southstreet.com

#### Queen Village Neighbors Association

Eleanor Ingersoll, President  
215-339-0975  
info@QVNA.org

#### Center City Residents Association

215-546-6719  
centercity@centercityresidents.org

### Useful Numbers

**Fire, Emergency and Police**  
911

**Sixth District Police Station**  
(general information)  
215-686-3060

**South Street Police Mini-Station**  
(quality of life issues)  
215-922-6706

**Sixth District Bike Patrol**  
215-787-7864

**Police Information Center**  
215-386-2100

**City Hall**  
215-686-1776

**City Child Abuse Hotline**  
215-683-6100

**State Child Abuse Hotline**  
800-932-0313

**Historical Commission**  
215-686-7660

**Homeless Intervention, Project Home**  
215-232-1984

**Independence Branch Library**  
215-685-1633

### Useful Links

**Philadelphia City Planning Commission**  
215-683-4615  
www.phila.gov/city\_planning

The City Planning Commission is responsible for guiding the orderly growth and development of the City of Philadelphia. Its site contains development reports, city statistics, maps and other publications.

**Philadelphia Architects and Buildings**  
www.philadelphiabuildings.org

This site serves as a source to determine if your home is on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. The Philadelphia Architects and Buildings database provides authoritative information on three centuries of Philadelphia buildings and designers.

#### Center City Schools

www.centercityschools.com  
A new initiative to provide parents of school-age children with information about school options within the city.

### City Services

Most City of Philadelphia issues are now being handled by the City's 311 system. You can reach 311 from their website, by email (philly311@phila.gov) or by phone (311). Your report will be identified by a case number which will be given to you for tracking. A free Philly 311 app for your smartphone is available from the App Store and Google Play. You can use the app to send reports and keep track of progress.

#### 311 Issues

Abandoned Property Police Dept.  
Abandoned Vehicles Police Dept.  
Air Quality Health Dept.  
Animal Management Health Dept.  
Complaints Building Permits Streets Dept.  
Building Violations L&I  
Curb Deterioration Streets Dept.  
Dead Animal in Street Streets Dept.  
Dumpsters SWEEP Unit  
Food Store/Restaurant Health Dept.  
Graffiti, Upper Floors Anti-Graffiti Network  
Hazardous Highway Condition Police Dept.  
Hazardous Waste Household Streets Dept.  
Illegal Dumping/  
Sanitation Violations SWEEP Unit

**Business Questions Commerce Dept.**  
215-683-2100

**Confidential Narcotics Reports**  
Narcotics Intelligence Squad  
215-685-1137, 311

**Dead Pet in Home PSPCA 2**  
15-426-6300, 311

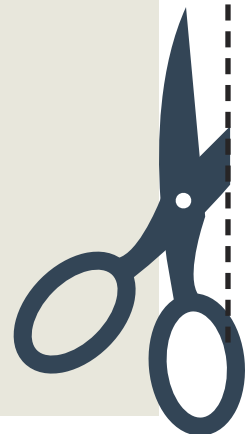
**Problem Gas Leaks, Philadelphia Gas Works**  
215-235-1212

#### Graffiti

1st Floor, Center City District,  
215-440-5500

#### Homeless Issues

Outreach Coordination  
215-232-1984  
Center City District  
215-440-5500, 311





*The Luxury.*  
*The Views.*  
*The Lifestyle.*

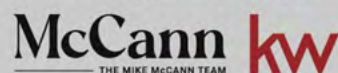
**THE ST·JAMES  
 WASHINGTON SQ.**

**CENTER CITY APARTMENTS**  
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 Philadelphia, PA 19106  
 TheStJamesPhiladelphia.com  
 844.762.5416



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**AllergyAndAsthmaWellness.com**

Blue Bell • Pottstown • Jenkintown • Philadelphia  
King of Prussia • Lansdale • Doylestown • Collegeville

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



Dr. Mark Posner (2021-2013), Dr. Eva Jakobovics (2021-2014),  
Dr. Robert Anolik (2021-2019), Dr. Nora Lin (2021-2017),  
Christine Malloy, MD (2021-2019), Shashank Sheth, MD (2021-2019),  
Annie Khuntia, MD (2021-2019), Matthew Fogg, MD (2021-2019),  
Patrick Vannelli, MD (2021-2019), Sandhya Desai, MD (2021-2019)

# THE LIPPINCOTT

227 S. 6th Street



One-of-a-kind 3 bedroom plus den, 3.5 bathroom showplace offering Washington Square views and amazing natural light, a Joanne Hudson kitchen, high-end bathrooms, large entertaining spaces and bedroom suites, well thought-out upgrades throughout and parking in the building's garage.

**4,517 sf | \$3,695,000**



3 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom custom built home overlooking Washington Square and featuring a chef's kitchen, designer-appointed bathrooms, rich hardwood floors and ceiling beams and 2 car parking in the building's garage.

**3,510 sf | \$2,495,000**



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