



**2003 TRASH  
AND RECYCLING  
COLLECTION:  
HOLIDAY  
SCHEDULE  
CHANGES**

**The Safety and Security Committee reminds residents that their regularly scheduled trash pick-up will jump to the following day due to the holidays listed below.**

- **President's Day,  
Monday, Feb. 17th**
- **Memorial Day,  
Monday, May 25th**
- **Labor Day,  
Monday, Sept. 1st**
- **Columbus Day,  
Monday, Oct. 13th**
- **Veteran's Day,  
Tuesday, Nov. 11th**

## **WSWCA Board Meeting Summaries December 2002**

Present: J. Applebaum, J. Arneth, M.J. Barrett, S. Batcheler, J. Brazino, K. Cushing, M. Davidson, A. Earling, J. Hofer, J. Jordan, J. Menegakis, D. Pesek, A. Rice, V. Trosino

John Arneth reported that a police foot patrol has been added from Broad St. to Ninth Streets from 3 to 7 p.m.

### **Treasurer's Report**

John Jordan delivered written copies of his report and discussed the highlights. Discussion ensued about the release of \$3,475.30 from the Civic's "Seeger Tennis" account to Seeger Advisory Council at the request of Ed Pereles, chair of Seeger Playground Advisory Council. The Seeger Playground Advisory Council needed these funds urgently for matching grant purposes. It was decided although there was no objection to the transfer of funds, future requests should be brought to board meetings or made via email. However, it was reported that the Civic is not holding funds for any other groups.

### **Executive Committee**

Judy Applebaum reported on a number of meetings with Mayor Street and an alliance of several other organizations. Plans are developing for improved lighting, fighting prostitution and trying special services in certain blocks of Wash West as provided by the Center City District. A Task force is being led by Councilman DiCicco to keep communications open and involves East of Broad, Jefferson Hospital and WSWCA.

A new group know as CPNA is forming, which is a coalition of neighborhood associations. A Task Force for South Street is forming, with representatives of various government agencies, the managing director and five neighborhood associations. A meeting is scheduled for January to discuss Mardi Gras.

### **Governmental Affairs**

#### *Committee Reorganization*

Sarah Batcheler, the new Chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee, reported that meeting dates have been changed to the last Tuesday of the month, allowing for more

reaction time before Board meetings. In addition, an intake form is being developed so that applicants can clarify their objectives in coming to the Board and to document agreements made. In addition, a new policy is being developed to permit uncomplicated matters to be handled by the committee without full Board review. The committee will circulate an agenda one week before the Board meeting to alert Board members of upcoming applications to the Board. Finally, a request will be made to Councilman DiCicco to keep the Board informed of zoning appeals in our district.

#### *Pending Applications*

1216 Spruce Street: Following a discussion led by Alex Rice, the Board agreed to approve a letter of non-opposition to the request of George Anni for a variance in connection with his proposed opening of a BYOB restaurant, Mercato, with the following conditions: hours of operation are limited to 5 to 10:30 p.m. from Sunday through Thursday, and 5 to 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Trash is to be removed each evening to the dumpster behind Valanni's, Mr. Anni's other neighborhood restaurant, and the sidewalk and curb will be swept and sprayed each morning. No liquor license application will be made and a smoke hog will be installed on the roof to reduce smoke and cooking odors. There will be no alteration of the Camac Street facade and all operable windows will open onto Spruce Street. Finally, sidewalk seating will be limited to 14 seats with only 10 of these on Camac Street.

11th and Irving Street lot: Jerry McGuire will submit his application to zoning, and he will then approach the Board with his refusal. It was reported that there is no deed restriction on his property. Kathy Cushing will review the history of the agreement not to build on the lot with the prior owner, Historic Landmarks for Living.

#### **Awareness**

Jerry Hofer reported that items for the newsletter should be submitted no later than one and one-half weeks after the board meeting. He stated that ads will be accepted from advertisers outside the district. Board minutes

## From the Desk of the President

### News briefs from WSWCA President Judith K. Applebaum:

Washington Square West Civic Association (WSWCA) is pleased to be forging strong bonds with other neighborhood associations and civic groups to work on issues of mutual importance.

Currently, I am meeting with the Presidents of the Society Hill, Bella Vista United, Bella Vista Town Watch, Hawthorne and Queen Village civic groups. We have asked the City to consult with an independent planning agency for an independent point of view regarding options for the development of the Penn's landing waterfront.

Also, as a part of a coalition of Philadelphia Neighborhood Associations, WSWCA is urging Mayor Street to appoint a neighborhood-friendly replacement for Tom Kelly, who has vacated his post as head of zoning for the City.

We are also working with the Alliance for Better Communities on issues such as trash, policing and lighting. We are now midway into a pilot project in conjunction with the Center City District for street cleaning after garbage pick-up. After the pilot ends in mid-March, we'll evaluate its effectiveness and if worthwhile,

will explore ways to fund its continuation.

WSWCA has received a grant from Senator Fumo and State Representative Babette Josephs to pursue a pilot lighting project on 1200 Spruce Street and on the 200 block of South 12th Street. Watch *The Post* for more information about this exciting new lighting improvement project, scheduled for immediate implementation.

WSWCA has also been appointed to the South Street Alliance, which addresses issues affecting residents and businesses in the South

Street corridor. Currently, the Alliance is working to ensure full staffing for the South Street mini station and to keep upcoming Mardi Gras activities on South Street peaceful and orderly.

As always, WSWCA seeks volunteers who are interested in collaborating on these projects and others. We also welcome your contributions to *The Post*, whether they are letters, articles or news items. To make a contribution, please contact

Joyce Brazino at [joybraz@aol.com](mailto:joybraz@aol.com)



## The Governmental Affairs Committee

The Governmental Affairs Committee manages WSWCA's review of zoning issues. This includes new construction or real estate deals requiring variances from the Philadelphia Zoning Code.

What is a variance and who would need one? "The zoning code places restrictions on buildings by use and location," says Sarah Batcheler, Chair of the Committee. "There are two broad reasons for obtaining a variance. One is to change the use of a building from residential to commercial, for example. The other is to change the size of a building. This might include building up, or adding a new structure, such as an addition. These changes also require a building permit, and if the building is a historical one, the approval of the Philadelphia Historical Commission." Owners of projects requiring a zoning variance must obtain a letter of non-opposition to the project from the WSWCA.

The Committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the WSWCA office. All meetings are open to the public. "We encourage neighbors of reviewed buildings to attend committee meetings," says Sarah. "We are very careful to take their views into consideration."

Committee members include Judy Applebaum, Cecil Baker, Mary Jane Barrett, Michael Davidson, and former Committee Chair Alex Rice. Currently, members are taking steps to facilitate the applicant review process. "We are producing materials that explain the process to obtain a variance," says Sarah. "These include a sample neighborhood flyer and a brochure that answers common questions."

In addition, the Committee will now assign one member to each applicant to serve as a point person to guide the review process. "We hope this will make our Committee even more responsive to our neighbors' needs," says Sarah.

## POST CLASSIFIEDS

**For Sale: Solid round teak table (48inch) with self-storing leaf; seven-shelf and three-shelf bookcases, oak finish dresser, matching TV cart and cherry double futon (like new). Best offer. Call 215-875-9232.**

**Buy, Sell, Trade or Give It Away—Right Here! If you'd like to place a classified ad, contact Joyce Brazino at [joybraz@aol.com](mailto:joybraz@aol.com) or call 215-9885-0860. Each ad: \$5.00**

# BULK PICK-UPS

**If you are disposing of a large item, such as a refrigerator, mattress, or stove, etc., please call the Streets Department Bulk Pick-Up at 215-685-4290. Items will be collected within several days of placing the call.**

## WSWCA Board Meeting Summaries *continued from page 1*

should be forwarded to Joyce Brazino by the Friday following the Board meeting.

### Safety and Security

Joe Brazino reported that the clean up on November 14, 2002 occurred, but was limited due to the rain. He said the city has additional resources for clean up, including leaf blowers and vacuums. Street cleaners also come on Wednesday nights and on Thursday during the day to clean where cars are parked. The Alliance for a Better Community will be focusing on lighting and sanitation. There is also a possibility that trash pick-up will be changed from Tuesday evening to Tuesday morning.

### Membership

Diana Pesek reported that there are currently 386 members, and that a dues increase is under consideration.

### Greening

Virginia Trosino reported that there are long waiting lists for area residents wishing to use the Waverly and South Street Gardens. Accordingly, gardeners who have breached garden rules will not be invited to return and will be notified in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Jane Barrett, Acting Secretary*

## January 2003

Present: J. Applebaum, M.J. Barrett, S. Batcheler, K. Cushing, M. Davidson, A. Earling, J. Hofer, I. Gold, J. Jordan, Menegakis, D. Pesek, V. Trosino  
Absent: J. Arneth, J. Brazino, A. Rice  
President Judy Applebaum called the meeting to order.

### Treasurer's Report

John Jordan delivered the highlights of the treasurer's report, noting that the Greening Committee contributes to two savings accounts – a stand-alone account which currently totals \$5,769.11 and a portion of the Civic Association savings account. The treasurer's report was unanimously adopted.

### Community Comment

Several residents attended the meeting to discuss the problem of makeshift asphalt repairs applied over their cobblestone street. It was decided to obtain and publish (in The Post) a list of small cobblestone streets in Wash West warranting protection from similar inappropriate repairs. Judy Applebaum will meet with Laurie Jones, Estelle Richman's representative, to dis-

cuss the problem. The question of Wash West becoming historically certified and the ramifications of such a certification will be explored, as well as the possibility of creating a neighborhood district which could obtain less expensive funding alternatives for these repairs.

### Government Affairs

#### *Penn's Landing*

Civic Associations from Society Hill, Queens Village, Hawthorne, Bella Vista United, Old City and Bella Vista Town Watch have taken a position to ask the Mayor to retain an independent city planner to make recommendations regarding the development of Penn's Landing. WSWCA has been invited to join this effort. A motion was unanimously passed to collaborate with these Civic Associations.

#### *Coalition of Philadelphia Neighborhood Associations (CPNA) and the Zoning Board (ZBA)*

Tom Kelly, the Chair of the ZBA is stepping down. The CPNA will ask Mayor Street to replace him with a resident of Philadelphia. The CPNA is asking WSWCA to join as a signatory on the request letter. It was agreed that not only would the Board sign the letter but would also suggest to that CPNA ask for community representation on the committee responsible for recruiting the new Zoning Board Chair. The Board voted unanimously to join with CPNA.

### Safety & Security

Senator Fumo has submitted a grant application for \$25,000 to the Department of Economic Development for the purpose of improved street lighting. The pilot blocks for this program are on Spruce Street between 12th and 13th Street. Wash West has already received \$20,000 in funding from Babette Josephs for this purpose as well as an additional \$3,000 in unrestricted funds from Ms. Josephs.

### Greening

The Greening Committee sought Board approval for an additional \$2,500 expenditure for planting and dead tree removal. The Board unanimously approved this expense.

### Other Business

A "Neighborhood Bill of Rights" was presented to the Board in draft form for its review and participation. The WSWCA declined such participation following a review and discussion of the document.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Iris J. Gold, Secretary*

## LCB Hearing on 1301 Locust Continued

On January 7, 2003, the Liquor Control Board began taking testimony on an application to expand the operation of Signatures, an "adult entertainment" club. The tenfold expansion would bring the club to a total of 12,000 square feet.

Councilman Frank DiCicco testified on behalf of the neighborhood opposition that the expansion of Signatures was not the type of economic development that the neighborhood needed. Although 13th Street was once one of the most notorious commercial strips in the city, he noted that the city has been pouring millions into the development of South Broad Street, and the efforts of Tony Goldman to improve 13th Street were bringing tonier establishments to the street. DiCicco supported the neighborhood opponents, who believe that an enormous strip club is inappropriate for this location.

The hearing was continued to a date not yet

determined. The hearing officer will eventually make a recommendation to the Liquor Control Board on the request.

Signatures is operated by Pat DeMone and linked to Lyle Goodman. Goodman entered a guilty plea to federal felony charges related to his role as manager of a strip club in Atlanta. The Wash West Civic Association has opposed the zoning issues related to the expansion and also opposes the liquor license application now pending, based upon the proximity to our residential areas and the Avenue of the Arts. However, the Civic lacks legal standing to participate formally in the proceeding. The Civic supports the efforts of East of Broad Improvement Association, the Pennsylvania Historical Society and the Library Company, whose physical proximity to the site confer standing and permit their protests to be heard.

## Save Our Cobblestone! by Dan DiCenso, resident

Nestled between 9th and 10th, Locust and Spruce, lies a complex of alleyway homes. Like many others, the residences on Hutchinson, Latimer, Delhi, Irving, Manning and Bonaparte stand in sharp contrast to the Philadelphia skyline. Visit our beloved city marvel the antique blocks—where ever thing seems to exist in miniature—have managed to defied hundreds of years of change much of Philadelphia's history fallen in the name of progress it is a surprise that these few way mazes have managed to

One of the most alluring treasures Hutchinson-Latimer-Delhi-Irving-Bonaparte complex is its eclectic. While some homes date from the Civil War, others were erected in the 19th and 20th centuries. From earth-shaking trinity-style homes to modest these alleyway homes hang together where their architectural styles harmonize rather than clash. They are a true testament to Philadelphia across many centuries. It should serve diverse people and purpose and will continue to serve.

As valuable as the Hutchinson village homes may be to the city's heritage, there is at least one aspect of their future that remains very much in question: the fate of their cobblestone

streets. Not unlike other alleyway homes in the Washington Square West District, the condition of the cobblestone or "Belgian block" pavement has fallen into a state of grave disrepair. While some variability in texture and



is needed on streets that have been closed for nearly two decades. The condition of the cobblestone is in a crisis level. The size of the holes has begun to cause damage to cars, necessitating in some cases, something needed to

"temporary" repairs. The cobblestone crisis is a crisis with ordinary effort did solve the problem and, it is not now in place, it is not safely drive down the street and Bonaparte streets. On the other hand, many of the neighbors have voiced concern that the asphalt has ruined the cobblestone. With

the unsightly blobs of asphalt in place, residents fear that the cobblestone has slipped one step closer to being paved-over completely, as has already happened on Delhi and Irving streets. However, although the

*continued on page 5*

## REMINDERS

### FROM THE

### SAFETY AND

### SECURITY

### COMMITTEE

**Always report incidents in your neighborhood by calling 911. These logs are used to assess resource needs when deploying future patrols. If you don't call, needs in Wash West go undocumented.**

**Please take five minutes to sweep your sidewalk and curb after trash day. It makes a difference.**

**Safety & Security meetings are held the last Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Wash West Civic Office located at 1209 Locust.**

**THE BOOK  
AND THE COOK  
COMES TO WASH  
WEST**

**... at Islas and Where  
Else? Cafe, 301 S. 11th  
Street, 215/733-0482**

**Save the Date:  
March 19th**

**Wash West resident  
Virginia Trosino joins  
chef/owner Edgardo  
Fernandez to create  
dishes that Virginia  
learned about during her  
trek through the back  
roads of the American  
South. These recipes  
evoke a different life-  
style and culture and  
every recipe has a tale  
to tell. Check out next  
month's Post for  
additional details!**

**Save Our Cobblestone!** *continued from page 4*

repaired streets are more functional, the asphalt patches are unsightly, causing the remaining cobblestone to appear less save-worthy.

The Washington Square West Civic Association has been in contact with concerned residents and has initiated dialogue with various city agencies, including Councilman DiCicco's office, the Pennsylvania Historical Association, Estelle Richman's office, and the Streets Department. To date, we have learned that some of the streets in the Hutchinson-Latimer-Delhi-Irving-Manning-Bonaparte complex are on a "special list" maintained by the city and are in line to have their Belgian block properly repaired or replaced. However, it is not clear which city agency has propriety over issues of cobblestone re-blocking, nor is it clear that the streets will be re-blocked in any particular order or within any particular timeframe. Also unresolved is whether the city or any other related agency has the means to enforce the re-blocking initiative or to protect

the streets from being paved-over while waiting to be repaired.

In the meantime, residents of the Hutchinson village will have to deal with the functional but aesthetically displeasing asphalt patches and hope that they do not come home from work one day to find their charming streets paved-over. Indeed, re-blocking will require more cost and effort than paving, but in the opinion of the residents of the Hutchinson neighborhood, they are reparations worth bearing. Shortsighted efforts to reduce cost or complication in municipal projects have caused many of our small streets to lose the cobblestone battle. They exist today as cement or asphalt streets. The residents of Hutchinson, Latimer, Delhi, Irving, Manning, and Bonaparte hope that a similar fate can be avoided for their streets.

**Philadelphia Open House Tours 2003**

Friends of Independence Hall will conduct their 25th annual tour of homes and gardens this spring. Our community has chosen once again to participate in the annual event, but with a major change in dates.

Our tour has usually been Mother's Day weekend, but this year to attract new sites and maybe a selection of other attendees, we have moved to Saturday, April 26th .

The first organizational meeting was held on January 22nd with attendance by the tour hosts from each civic association that will be designing these anniversary tours.

We are hoping to create a special tour this year with grand , interesting and unique homes, apartments and/or gardens, so if you are willing to showcase your abode please contact one of us on the committee. Suggestions from the community are always welcome, so give us a name or address to contact even if you do not wish to approach a neighbor or friend.



As has been the practice, we use guides/hostesses in each home, so if you wish to participate in a the tour in our neighborhood you would be committing two hours as a guide and then have another two hours to take the tour.

**2003 Membership Form**

**Washington Square West Civic Association  
1209 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107  
215-545-3260, Fax 215-545-9150, email [info@washwestcivic.org](mailto:info@washwestcivic.org)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Seniors and Disabled</b>	<b>\$7.00</b>
<b>Individual</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>Household</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Individual Patron</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Small Business (1-15 emp.)</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Medium Business (16-35 emp.)</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Large Business (36+ emp.)</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Contribution</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

# WSWCA IS ONLINE!

check out our website:

<http://www.washwestcivic.org>

## WSWCA BUSINESS MEMBERS

1108 Spruce St. Condo Assn.  
12th Air Command  
12th Street Gym  
310 Juniper Associates  
Accent on Design  
Alexander Inn  
All Occasions Flowers Ltd.  
Amer. Postal Workers House  
Antiques & Interiors  
Apt. and Townhouse Rentals  
Benjamin Cobrin & Company  
BLEND0 Past and Present  
Bill Grubb/Prudential Fox Roach  
Cecil Baker & Associates  
Center City Animal Clinic  
Center City One  
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Epiphany  
Circle of Hope Church  
Columbus Property Management  
Community Pet Care  
Cosmopolitan Apartments  
DAS Associates  
Daedalus Group  
Danny's Bookstore  
David Slovic Associates  
Dee Paper Company  
Deux Cheminees

Dirty Frank's  
Drew House Partners  
Fineman Realty Group  
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Geekgirl Graphics  
Giovanni's Room  
Hair Extraordinaire  
Harold S. Levin, Inc.  
Happily Ever After  
Haute to Trot  
Hellenic Center Travel Inc.  
Hello World Fine Gifts  
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Historical Society of PA  
Holiday Inn Express-Midtown  
Horizon House Inc.  
ISO Menswear  
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John C. Clark Company  
Karlyn Rosen Design  
La Buca Ristorante  
Lenny's Shoe Service  
Logan's Restaurant  
Lunacy Antiques  
M. Finkel & Daughter  
Maggie Oswald, Chiropractor  
Max Beckhoff Locksmith  
Mercy Hospice

META5 Inc.  
Metropolitan Bakery  
Mitchell & Ness Sporting Goods  
More Than Just Ice Cream  
Nash Real Estate, Inc.  
New Century Guild  
Pennsylvania Hospital  
Philadelphia Design Associates  
Philadelphia International Records  
Philadelphia Mental Health  
Center  
Photography by Patrick Mattera  
Pine Street Pizza  
Planned Parenthood of S.E. PA  
Portico Row Unit Owners Assn.  
Quince-Lombard Parking Corp.  
Rodman Street Condo  
Association  
Russakoff Book Store  
Show of Hands  
Seraphin Gallery  
Signatures Gentlemen's Club  
Silvio Modafferi, Attorney at Law  
Sisters  
Spruce Street Video  
St. George Senior Housing  
Stephenson Bros. Printers  
Steven Fries Chiropractor  
Taco House

The Hairdressers  
The Inn on Locust  
The Inn Philadelphia  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Two-Four Club  
Uncles Bar  
Uncles Upstairs Inn  
Uniquely Philadelphia, Inc.  
University of the Arts  
Urban Genesis Institute  
Valanni Restaurant  
Venture Inn  
V.I.P. Market  
Walnut Street Theatre  
Walsh & Recker, P.C.  
Washington Court Condo Assn.  
Washington Square Chiropractic  
Center  
Washington Square Paint and  
Hardware  
Washington Sq. Real Estate  
Wein-Reba Investment Group  
William Penn Realty Company  
William Way Community Center  
Wills Eye Hospital  
Woodys  
Women of Hope  
Xernon Technology Solutions  
Young's Pharmacy



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