



WASHINGTON SQUARE WEST CIVIC ASSOCIATION

THE POST

Serving the Community from Broad to 7th and Walnut to South Streets since 1935

November 2002

Issue 9

**FALL
CLEAN-UP,
NOVEMBER
16TH**

**Do you some-
times wish that
our neighbor-
hood were a bit
cleaner? Here's
your chance to
make it hap-
pen and meet
your neighbors
too. This year's
fall clean-up is
scheduled for
this Saturday,
November 16th.
Volunteers are
always welcome
and your help
will be most
appreciated. To
volunteer, con-
tact Joe Brazino
at
joybraz@aol.com
or 215-985-0860.
If you prefer to
take a less active
role, you may
participate by
cleaning up the**

Community Meeting Addresses Quality of Life in Wash West

Mayor Street, City Officials in Attendance

On October 7th, a meeting attended by Mayor Street and other City of Philadelphia officials was chaired by George Lutz at the Inn Philadelphia to discuss crime and quality of life concerns in our neighborhood. Representatives of four area community groups, as well as concerned residents and business owners joined the Mayor, Councilman DiCicco, Managing Director Estelle Richman, Lt. Blackburn, Police Department, as well as representatives from the Streets Department, the City Behavioral Health System, the Philadelphia Department of Business Development and Retention, and Licenses and Inspection, among others.

During the meeting, residents and business owners voiced their feelings about area crime, drug activity, prostitution, litter and other blights on the neighborhood.

"Neighborhood safety comes first," said Mayor Street in response to the concerns aired. "If we don't feel safe, none of the city's amenities matter." The Mayor stated that these concerns would not go unheeded. "This is a critical area of the city and it deserves more attention," he said. "If it makes sense, we'll deploy extra police

officers and bike patrols. We don't have all the answers, but we're committed to working with Wash West, City Council and others to address these problems."

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mayor Street requested that a smaller group of community representatives convene to prepare a written document outlining these concerns as well as proposals for addressing them. "This isn't just going to be just a 'feel good' meeting," he said. "We'll convene again before the end of November to report on steps that have been taken and discuss any results that have occurred."

A working group was formed almost immediately following the October 7th meeting. It includes Judith Applebaum and Joseph Brazino of WSWCA, Ruthanne Madway of the East of Broad Association, George Lutz, The Inn Philadelphia, David Richards of the Historical Antiques Row Business Association, Vivienne Ehret of Kahn Park and Ed Pereles of Seger Park. The group will reconvene on an ongoing basis. Watch future issues of *The Post* for ongoing updates on their progress.

WSWCA Committee Update: Safety and Security

Keeping Wash West Clean Keeps it Safer Too

What's the connection between clean streets and safe streets? According to Joe Brazino, Chair of Wash West's Safety and Security Committee, the answer is: plenty. "A dirty neighborhood is more susceptible to crime," says Joe. "The police have a theory for it called the 'Broken Window Theory'. If a neighborhood appears orderly, troublemakers are less likely to commit crimes there. But one broken window, for example, sends a strong signal that no one cares. Time passes, more windows are broken, and soon, anything goes, including public disorder and crime."

Joe says that New York City police have used the broken window theory to fight subway crime. After cracking down on small problems, like graffiti and fare-beating, police found that

serious crime aboard subways also diminished. "The broken window theory suggests that little things do matter," says Joe. "To reduce crimes like prostitution and drugs, we need to keep our neighborhood as free as possible of litter, graffiti and other crime-inducing eyesores."

Joe and committee members Annette Earling, Mary Jane Barrett, John Jordan and Jason Menegakis, believe that neighborhood cleanliness is the foundation of safety and an effective crime deterrent. The Committee coordinates the Spring and Fall cleanups, which concentrate on the 126-block area of Wash West. "We also designed a Trash Violation Notice which is used to notify residents that they are in violation of

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From the Desk of the President

News briefs from WSWCA President Judith K.

Property Tax Update:

WSWCA continues to monitor the situation of rising property taxes. Councilman DiCicco's bill, which would have temporarily frozen increases, was defeated by a vote of nine to seven. A current bill before Council would place a cap on tax hikes ranging between four and 10 percent. Please acquaint yourself with the ongoing developments surrounding this issue and make your feelings known to Council.

A Unified Presence

The presidents of Washington West, Bella Vista United, Bella Vista Town Watch, Queen Village Civic Association, Society Hill Civic Association and Hawthorne Civic Association have formed a coalition to work on issues of mutual concern and to provide intra-organizational assistance. The new coalition grew out of the old Community Advisory Council to the South Street Business District. The community groups will participate in an Alliance involving the District and meeting with various political leaders and city agency administrators.

Wash West will also participate in a November 20th "Reasons to Stay" meeting, which addresses education, safety, taxes and other quality of life issues.

Your Opinions Wanted:

On Oct. 29th, Babette Josephs and Wash West held a community meeting to address the parking crisis in Center City. One possible strategy discussed was to extend residential permit parking and metered parking hours. However, we would like to solicit the opinions of those who live and work here. Respond to applebaumd@snip.net

Stewardship Change for Washington Square Park

On November 11th, the City of Philadelphia transferred stewardship of the Washington Square Park to the National Park Service, completing an 11-year plan of improvements to the Park. Veteran's Day was a fitting date for the transfer, which was marked by a ceremony and reception at City Tavern, as the park is the location of the tomb of the unknown soldier of the American Revolution. It also served as burial ground for prisoners of war during the revolution.

Wash West Civic would like to encourage its members to participate on the committees of the association.

If you are interested please call me at 215-875-9232. Committees include: Awareness, Greening, Governmental Affairs, Membership and Safety and Security.

Update: Safety and Security *continued from page 1*

their scheduled pickup day.

Following the June Board Meeting with Captain Korn of the 6th District Police Department, a regular police bike patrol was started in Wash West in July. Patrols occur daily between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. As a result of these patrols and the efforts of the police department's vice squad, the number of neighborhood arrests have increased over last year, with 29 arrests in July, 58 arrests in August and 69 arrests in September.

Currently, the Committee is working with State Representative Babette Josephs who has secured funding through her offices for street lighting in Wash West. "Councilman DiCicco, WSWCA President Judy Applebaum and I are looking at other sources of funding to compliment this seed money," says Joe. "In the meantime, I encourage everyone with exterior residential or commercial lighting to keep their lights on overnight. It's another example of a relatively small thing that can make a huge security difference."

Important 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 November meeting will be held on Thursday, November 21 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

POST CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds: Buy, Sell, Trade or Give It Away ... Right Here!

For sale: Set of six oak dining chairs with cane seats. Egg and dart carved backs. Circa 1915. Asking \$895. Call 215-735-3117.

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 or call 215-9885-0860. Each ad: \$5.00

ATTENTION GARDENERS: GET WIRED!

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society issues an e-mail newsletter, *The Wired Gardener*, that is chock full of gardening information, news and events, gardening book reviews and gardening websites for avid or aspiring gardeners. To subscribe to the *Wired Gardener*, send an e-mail request to Janet Evans, Library Manager at jevans@pennhort.org. Leave the "subject" line blank. In the body of the message type: **SUBSCRIBE**

Calendar of Events

November 13: European Floral Design Demonstration And Workshop featuring Rene van Rems

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Location: Independence Seaport Museum
10:00 am-noon (demonstration) 1:00 -3:00 pm (workshop)

Cost: Demonstration only—\$55 or \$75 for preferred seating. Workshop only—(includes lunch) \$125.

Contact Deb Fife, dfife@pennhort.org or (215)988-1622. Details at www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org/activities.html#vanrems

Nov. 14: Diabetes and Healthy Holiday Choices

Location: Pennsylvania Hospital
Zubrow Auditorium
800 Spruce Street
5:30-6:45 p.m. Registration & refreshments
7-9 p.m. Speakers

Free. For more information or to register, call 1-800-789-PENN (7366)

Nov. 20: "The Early Anarchist Movement in Philadelphia, 1885-1930"

Slide presentation and discussion with historian Bob Helms

Location: the New Century Guild
1307 Locust Street
5:30 p.m. Dinner
7 p.m. Program
Fee: \$12

To reserve your place, please call John Dowlin at least 48 hours in advance of the program: 215-222-1253

Nov. 21: "Estrogen and Breast Cancer, What's the Connection?"

(part of a self-help group series for women diagnosed with breast cancer)

Thomas Jefferson University

Room 107 Bluemle Life Sciences Building
233 S. 10th Street
Noon-1:30 p.m.

Free. To register, call 215-955-8370 or register online at www.kimmelcancercenter.org/facing-breastcancer

Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Dinner for persons age 55+

Philadelphia Senior Center
509 S. Broad Street
Suggested contribution: \$2.00, tickets on sale Nov. 1st



11 a.m.—concert

Noon—dinner with all the trimmings!

Dec. 6: Holiday Bazaar

Philadelphia Senior Center
509 S. Broad Street
Rooms A, B and C
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Crafts, bake sale and more. Vendor tables available for \$25. (Vendor forms available at program window)

Dec. 11: "Philadelphia's City Hall"

Slide presentation and book-signing with City Hall representative Greta Greenburger and artist Noel Miles

Location: New Century Guild
1307 Locust Street
5:30 p.m. Dinner
7 p.m. Program
Fee: \$12

To reserve your place, please call John Dowlin

Does Your Cat or Dog Need Medical Attention?

Don't ignore these warning signs! They may signal a significant health problem in your best friend:

- Excessive thirst
- Frequent Urination
- Cats: strange litter-box behavior
- Accidents in a house-trained pet
- Unusual lumps
- Persistent cough
- Abnormal breathing
- Bad breath, tooth or gum abnormalities
- Weight loss or gain
- Change in ability to walk or run
- Loss of appetite or lethargy lasting more than 24 hours
- Excessive hair loss
- Diarrhea/vomiting lasting more than 24 hours
- Pawing at ears, head shaking
- Unusual discharge
- Scooting the rear end along the ground
- Any hard-to-explain behavior change

Courtesy of the Morris Animal Refuge

2002 Membership Form

Washington Square West Civic Association
1209 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-545-3260, Fax 215-545-9150, email info@washwestcivic.org

Name _____	Seniors and Disabled	\$7.00
Business Name _____	Individual	\$15.00
Address _____	Household	\$25.00
_____	Individual Patron	\$100.00
Phone (Home) _____	Small Business (1-15 emp.)	\$25.00
(Work) _____	Medium Business (16-35 emp.)	\$50.00
Email _____	Large Business (36+ emp.)	\$100.00
Fax _____	Contribution	\$ _____

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
Chancellor Associates
Church of St. Luke & The
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
Foodery
Franklin Medical Building
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
Henry George School
Historical Society of PA
Holiday Inn Express-Midtown
Horizon House Inc.
ISO Menswear
J.E. Roberts Company
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
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
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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