Hello, all. Here’s what’s happening.

**Heating and Air Conditioning System.** This HVAC project obviously is of great interest to all owners. The **Request for Proposals** will be going out to prospective companies shortly. We probably will be able to select our contractor by May or June. The project is expected to begin later this year.

This is the largest project undertaken by the Association since its creation 37 years ago. Although the option finally selected is rather straightforward (replacement of existing pipes, etc.), it is still a complex project, and understandably many of you have asked questions about it. So…

**FAQs.** To make information available at the same time to all owners, we inaugurated a **Frequently Asked Questions** program. The first of these **FAQs**, with answers, was provided to owners on February 21st, and also was placed on our BuildingLink (accessed at residents@societyhilltowers.BuildingLink.com or via www.societyhilltowers.com).

As we proceed, there will be more information to impart and certainly there will be more questions. We will keep owners current by continuing to add periodically to our FAQ pages. Questions can be delivered to the Management Office or emailed to Donna at ddalicandro@societyhilltowers.com.

**Window Caulking.** As you know, we are caulking the outside of all windows. This project should be completed by the spring, and is expected to substantially reduce, and in many cases eliminate, air and water infiltration through the windows. The West Tower is close to completion, and work has begun on the South Tower.

**Possible Zoning Changes in the Towers’ Vicinity.** You will recall that the City’s Zoning Ordinance was completely overhauled a few years ago. The Planning Commission is studying every district in order to fine tune the ordinance. Our Society Hill Civic Association has commissioned an urban planning consultant to look at all properties in our Historic District, with a view toward advocating for changes desired by the residents.

A meeting, **exclusively for Towers’ residents**, will be held with the consultant in early March. We will have the opportunity to discuss possible changes regarding use and size of many of the lots and buildings near the Towers. Please watch for the notice of this meeting, and plan to attend.

**The “Food Garden” Site.** Management is diligently seeking a new tenant for the space vacated by the operator of the grocery store. Our prime desire is to find a tenant that can offer that same type of amenity. Please stay tuned.

**Conversations with Council.** Want to have a private meeting with a few Council members? To discuss anything on your mind? The next of these periodic meetings is set for Monday, March 13th, beginning at 7 p.m., and you may reserve a 15-minute slot by calling Donna at 215-923-4105.

**Annual Meeting and Meet the Candidates, April 5th at 7 p.m.** All owners will receive formal notice of our April 5th Annual Meeting. The certified audit report will be discussed (a copy of which will have been earlier distributed). The main event, however, will be the opportunity to hear from the candidates who are running for three seats on Council, and to engage in dialogue with them. Owners should receive their ballots by mail within a day or two after the April 5th meeting.

See you on April 5th!

— Regards, Jim

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**President’s Message**

by Jim Moss, President, Society Hill Towers Owners Association

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**Meet the Candidates & Annual Meeting**

Wednesday, April 5, 2017 - 7 p.m., Plaza Community Room

The Council Treasurer will discuss the audited financial statement of the Society Hill Towers Owners’ Association at this meeting. Candidates for council will deliver brief statements and make themselves available for questions.

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See page 6

Meet Your Crafty Neighbors
See page 7
Take a Virtual Tour of the Towers

Peek Inside Your Neighbors’ Apartments

Check out our new website by going online to societyhilltowers.com. When you get there, you can go exploring, jump to our BuildingLink website, and even take a virtual tour. With over fifty images available for viewing while you’re taking the tour, taken outside on the grounds, inside six different apartments, and panning a number of our fantastic skyline and river vistas, you might be there for a while. Take your time so you can take it all in. Since it’s a virtual tour, you won’t need to wear your comfortable shoes, but you will need to find yourself a comfortable seat.

Maintenance Tips

Service Your Water Filtration System Regularly

If you have a water filtration system, please read this. We responded to a leak not long ago, and the source of the problem turned out to be the water filtration system under the kitchen sink. This wasn’t the first time we’ve seen a problem like this. There was another one, about five months ago, that made a real mess. Obviously, these filtration systems aren’t the type of things that can just be installed and then ignored. They need to be inspected from time to time and, if need be, properly serviced and maintained. It’s especially important to do this when you consider the fact that owners are responsible not only for the water damage done to their own units, but also for damages done to other units that might be affected when the leaked water seeks its lowest level. Since these systems are neither installed nor serviced by Towers employees, we can’t maintain them for you. You’ll have to call your own contractor and make your own arrangements to have your filtration systems inspected.
Mark Your Calendar

Community Activities

The SHTOA Activities Committee co-chaired by Bruce Holberg and Otis Smith has posted a calendar of the current resident-sponsored activities on our bulletin boards and also other information on BuildingLink www.residentsofsocietyhilltowers.com and Channel 817 on our cable televisions. Please send ideas or your willingness to co-lead an activity to the Activities Committee to Donna (ddalicandro@societyhilltowers.com) in the SHTOA Management Office. Stay active. Stay positive. Spring will be here soon.

Planning Meeting I

Tuesday, February 28th
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Community Room
Bring your ideas for monthly daytime activities, meetings or discussions. Why stay in your apartment when you can meet plenty of your neighbors? Get in at the beginning stages and be a part of planning from the start.

Planning Meeting II

Tuesday, February 28th
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Community Room
The Activities Committee of Society Hill Towers would like to know what sorts of programs and activities would interest our younger residents in 2017. If you are young or young at heart, you’re invited to attend an evening social meeting on February 28th at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room, where we’ll discuss activities to make life at the Towers more exciting. This is an opportunity to share ideas for meeting and stimulating other residents. Any idea, big or small, in which you are interested and may want to lead or co-lead is welcome. If you have ideas to contribute but can’t make the meeting, please email your interests to ddalicandro@societyhilltowers.com and we will include you in further communications. Like the song says, “Take your passion and make it happen!”

Walking Club

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning, 8 a.m.
Meet near the flagpoles
The Walking Club keeps on truckin’. Or should we say that it keeps on trekking? So far, club members have managed to beat the heat of summer, fended off the falling temperatures of autumn, and weathered whatever winter wanted to throw at us.

Now, we’re ready to march into spring with a renewed spring in our steps. If you’re looking for a little light exercise, why don’t you join us? We gather every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning at 8 a.m. near the flagpoles in the Society Hill Towers parking lot, before setting off for a 30 minute river walk. It’s a refreshing way to start the day.

Saturday, March 18th
10 a.m. - Noon
Garage
Do you have personal papers piling up that you can’t burn and you can’t throw away or recycle, because they contain confidential information that might be of interest to dumpster-diving identity thieves? You’re certainly not alone, if you do. If you haven’t already purchased a personal shredder to make mincemeat of those memos, then circle March 18th on your calendar and, when that day arrives, tote those typeset tattletales down to the garage. A specially equipped truck will be on hand to take them off of your hands, shred them, and dispose of them, so you can have peace of mind knowing that your private data won’t fall into the wrong hands.

Conversations with Council

Monday, March 13th, 7 p.m
Have a private meeting with a few Council members to discuss anything on your mind. Reserve a 15-minute slot by calling Donna at 215-923-4105.

Protect Your Identity

Free Shredding

Saturday, March 18th
10 a.m. - Noon
Garage
Employees who have been here for ten years or more make valuable contributions to our community. We thank these employees for their contributions, recognize their service, and acknowledge how important they are. We value their loyalty and the understanding of our property and community that their years of experience bring to us.

Terry Bottoms 10
Dave Burke 10
Oliver Collins 10
Mike Conaway 29
Phyllis Denight 28
Robert Fitzsimmons 17
Alfred Harris 12
Renee Hill 10
Terrance Knighton 10
Dennis McVeigh 12
Dennis McVeigh Jr. 10

Dorothy Melton 17
Carol Morrow 17
Welton Mosby 42
Ken Pendleton 14
Howard Pettay 10
Brett Scioli 14
Kim Stewart-Phillips 20
George Trimbur 10
Brenda Venters 22
Elijah Weinberg 16

The closing of our on-site grocery store has made shopping for groceries less convenient for all of us and even impossible for some. That’s why we’ve been keeping an eye out for helpful alternatives. If you have trouble getting to the market and want to have someone do your errands for you, here are three possible solutions that have come to our attention. Certainly, there are just as many, if not more, out there waiting to be found. Let us know if you have any other suggestions. Whatever service you chose, we recommend that you check all references, and remind you that Society Hill Towers is offering ideas and is not responsible for unsatisfactory service.

Maureen Burkhardt
(a Towers resident)
mburkh104@gmail.com
Keystone Concierge
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This year’s Staff Holiday party turned into an Awards Ceremony, as General Manager Beverly Sherman presented an Employee of the Year award to one staff member in each department. Congratulations, winners!
Why Join the Towers Fitness Center?

Let Us Count the Reasons

A sage once said that a sedentary lifestyle is a death sentence. That’s a rather strong statement, but most people agree that moving around, exercising from time to time, and staying physically fit makes them feel better, helps them stay healthier, and may even add years to their lifespans. And, isn’t that why we always make getting into shape one of our New Year’s resolutions? We have to keep at it, though. Fitness isn’t a permanent state. It’s a use it or lose it proposition. A little bit, every day, goes a long way. With that in mind, what could be better or more convenient than working out in the Towers Fitness Center?

Located in the West Tower, our fitness center offers state-of-the-art exercise equipment. This amenity is attractively decorated and furnished. Think about it and take a look at the list of potential benefits.

1 Exercise reduces the risk for heart disease. Some of the main risk factors for heart disease are high blood pressure, a high level of LDL (bad) cholesterol and obesity. Exercise lowers each of these risks.

2 Exercise reduces the risk of stroke in a similar way as it does for heart disease: by reducing the risk factors and increasing the efficiency of blood flow.

3 Exercise reduces the risk for some cancers. People who weigh 40% or more above their ideal weight are at increased risk for colon, breast, prostate, gall-bladder, kidney, stomach, ovarian and uterine cancers.

4 Exercise may prolong life. The American Cancer Society reviewed the habits and histories of more than a million persons over a 20-year span, and found that death rates were significantly higher among those who did not exercise.

5 Exercise gives you more energy. The reason? A simple equation of supply and demand: Use your body more and it responds by building up higher stores of energy. Use it less, and it will produce less fuel.

6 Exercise is good for your psyche. The phenomenon of “feeling better” after exercise is the reason so many find exercise pleasurable and thus continue to reap the benefits afterward.

7 Exercise leads to a better quality of life. The Scripps Foundation for Research in Population Problems asked a sample of Americans what their highest priority was, and the majority said that health, not wealth, mattered most.

Add up the benefits and you come up with a total that means a better quality of life.

Residents Enjoy the Holiday Party
On January 29, over thirty of your neighbors enjoyed a program presented by the Society Hill Towers Community Political Action Committee, entitled “The State of the Center City Condo Market”. After a catered brunch, we listened to our first speaker, Philadelphia City Councilman Allan Domb who talked about his twin passions on Council, the necessity of collecting delinquent property taxes, which would put Philadelphia in a much healthier financial state, and the need to honor the achievements of many of the city’s schools and the students who attend. There are some heartwarming stories coming out of the schools almost daily, but the bad news seems to grab the headlines.

Then, Dr. Kevin Gillen, Senior Research Fellow at the Lindy Institute for Urban Innovation at Drexel University gave us his read of what’s driving the condo market. The short-term outlook captures the good (economic growth, job growth, and prices, although the latter is slowing), the bad (anticipated increases in mortgage rates) and the middle of the road (softening housing starts, and a modest upward trend in house and condo sales).

Philadelphia's housing has much better fundamentals today than in previous decades and the desire to live in and around Center City is here to stay. CC housing sales are outperforming our suburbs! Price recovery and building activity are overwhelmingly concentrated in and around Center City. Will the unaffordability of Center City housing continue to increase? Will we become a city of renters? How will Millennials be able to make the move to homeownership? Time and Dr. Gillen will tell.

To find out more about joining the PAC, we suggest you go to www.shtcpac.com and hit the link at the bottom of the first page that says “To become a member-click here.”

— Bruce Holberg
SHTCPAC Chair

Window Caulking in Progress

Elite Restoration is caulking the 5,400 windows at Society Hill Towers. Caulking helps to keep out drafts and rain.

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Meet Your Crafty Neighbors

Held on December 4th, the talents of 17 artists from our own community were highlighted — just in time for holiday shopping!
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- 19C West
- 24G North
- 14C South
- 28E North
- 23B South
- 26C West
- 26B West
- 10E West
- 19BCD South
- 8F South
- PH6 South

- 5B North
- 19A North
- 4G North
- 31C West
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- 4G South
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