Quite a lot has happened since our last edition, so let’s dive right in!

We held the Council elections without incident, and we welcome Wendy Handler to the Council. Wendy already has demonstrated a real dedication to the organization and has volunteered for several duties. Congratulations to Wendy as well as those members who were re-elected, Jim Moss, Jeremy Siegel, and Maggie Schultz. At the May meeting, we re-elected officers to their positions. We’re in good hands.

The HVAC project is continuing. At this writing (mid-June), SageWater is busy replacing isolation valves in all three towers that allow the draining and refilling of the system to be accomplished in half the previous time. Unfortunately, we need to shut down the air conditioning a day at a time in the tower in which the upgrades are being made. Thankfully, the AC comes back on line quickly at the end of the day. In a related development, we have had the Towers tested for asbestos and lead. The results for the north tower are back and the units are certified to be free of these. The testing in the remaining Towers is being conducted now.

As you have noticed, the surface parking lot has been out of service. A storage trailer presently sitting in the lot will be joined by other storage facilities before long. We are hopeful that we will have enough free space to re-open the lot (albeit to a limited number of spaces) when storage requirements are fully determined. In the meantime, please invite your guests to park in the garage at the same rate as the open lot charged.

Sue’s Produce has opened! Sue’s carries beautiful produce and so much more. It is a vast improvement over our previous stores in a lot of ways. We hope you will make a real effort to support the store regularly and ask your friends to do the same. If there are items that you think they ought to have and they are not stocking them, please tell the Sue’s staff. They have a real desire to be responsive to our needs. Shortly, Sue’s will be providing you with a new menu of delicious made to order deli items. As we reported last time, new tables, chairs, and planters have been ordered for the Plaza area, and these should begin to arrive by July.

We have the honor of celebrating Mayor James Kenney’s birthday at Society Hill Towers this year. The celebration will take place on August 9th, 2018 and will be composed of two events. The first is a dinner with the Mayor in my condo. This will, of course, be limited to paid guests who by their payment will be supporting the Society Hill Towers Community Political Action Committee. It will be great one-on-one time with His Honor. Following that, everyone is invited for cake, champagne punch, and singing “Happy Birthday” to the Mayor in the area around the pool. Save the date, and be on the lookout for more details soon.

Finally, our management company, CAMCO, recently

President’s Message
by Bruce Holberg, President, Society Hill Towers Owners Association

Summer Calendar

Saturday, June 30th 8-10 p.m.
Free Concert and Fireworks at Penn’s Landing Great Plaza
The United States Army Band, aka “Pershing’s Own,” serves up patriotic tunes, followed by patriotic pyrotechnics featuring new-this-year special effects.

Wednesday, July 4th 12:30 - 4 p.m.
Buffet Picnic at the Pool
A fife and drum parade celebrating America’s independence starts things off; then, picnic away! FREE for all residents, $35 per person for non-resident guests (includes pool guest fee). There’s still time to register for this ticketed event. Use the form on Page 3.

Wednesday, July 25th 6:30 p.m.
Tower Tastings by the Pool

Thursday, August 9th 5:30 p.m.
Mayor Kenney’s Birthday Bash
Paid guests are invited to join Mayor Kenney at 5:30 p.m. for a buffet dinner with wine. $125 per person supports Society Hill Towers Community PAC.

By the pool, a brass band will strike up at 6 p.m. At 7 p.m., everyone is invited to a Q&A session with the Kenney. Enjoy cake, champagne punch and join in singing “Happy Birthday” to the mayor.
Continuing Activities

Debating Merits of Movies

For more than two years, a group of movie lovers at the Towers has been meeting monthly to discuss particular films. The only rule of the participants is that the movie has to be one currently playing at one of the neighborhood Ritz theaters. That way, residents can get to the films easily.

The leaders of the group, Annie and Bob Uris, try to pick a film each month that is not just interesting to watch, but complex enough to spark a good discussion. The idea behind it is that most of us walk out of a movie and say something like, “that was really good” and then proceed to dinner or something else without thinking about what actually made it good. Of course, members frequently disagree about whether a particular selection actually was good, which only adds to the debate of a dozen or more people sitting in a circle and considering the complex process that goes into movie making.

The movie group is open to all residents of the Towers. It typically meets on the last Thursday of each month, except August, and skips a month when there doesn’t seem to be a worthy film.

Exercise with Donna

The Monday morning 9:30-10:30 exercise group continues with Donna. This group includes stretching and strengthening. We use DVDs from Miranda Esmond White, YouTube and Pilates. We are expanding to include workouts in a chair for those who would prefer not to get down and up from the floor. Don’t be put off by this as these workouts are challenging!! You can come regularly or drop in as you like. Join us!

July 25th: Towers’ Tastings by the Pool

Summertime and the Living is Easy—Especially with a Taste of Bubbly

Something special happens when friends enjoy good wine under a warm evening sky as golden hour fades to twilight. The Towers presents its first outdoor wine tasting by the pool July 25th at 6:30 p.m. Join the fun, learn something new about fine wine from the experts, and share some summer bliss.

Light snacks to complement the wines will be served by Annie Uris, one of the Tower’s legendary hostesses. Wine authority Andrew Sanderbeck, a veteran of previous Towers’ tastings, will pour pink, white, red and two (!) sparkling wines, guiding our palates and educating our senses. You will mingle and compare notes with neighbors as you savor seven fine wines, perfect for summer sipping. It’s ok if you are not a pool member, all residents are welcome. Cost of admission is only $20 until July 20th ($25 after that). Sign up and pay at the Management Office in advance, please.

These delightful vintages are perfect for the season — full-flavored, fruit-forward, nuanced, richly textured and easy to drink. They’ve been curated by Bistro Romano, the neighborhood gem whose wine list has won high accolades for years. Bottles will be available for retail purchase at the Bistro Romano wine shop, a new alternative to the state store chain. We encourage you to check out their ad in this newsletter. Supporting local small business helps us continue these activities.
opened up an analytics office and provided us with a full report on *how the Towers compares with other condos* in Philadelphia in a number of metrics such as costs and condo fees. At the May Council meeting we received their first full report. We intend to circulate a condensed version of that report to residents in the future, but in the meantime, here are some fabulous facts.

We have experienced a very low increase in fees compared to the market. Over the period between 2001 and 2017, our condo fees have increased at a compounded annual rate of only 2.29 percent and our reserve contributions have increased only 3.3 percent. By the way, please note that over the period we have spent $20 million dollars on maintaining our first-class facilities.

How does this compare with other buildings? Over the past five years (period for which complete data are available from CAMCO) our homeowner fees have grown by 1.39 percent while the fees at a sample of comparable mid and high rise buildings in Philadelphia has increased by 2.95 percent!

This obviously excludes special assessments. The Towers is not alone in special assessments, by the way. Of the 23 buildings in the market sample, 43 percent have had a special assessment in the past five years!

We are an efficiently run facility, and we need to tip our hats to our management team for that.

We hope that you have not been terribly inconvenienced by the HVAC project and that all in all you are having a wonderful summer. See you at the pool?

Best Wishes,
Bruce Holberg

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**President’s Message continued from Page 1**

July 4th Buffet Picnic at the Pool

12:30 - 4 p.m.

Fife and drum parade with UNCLE SAM
FREE for all residents

$35 per person for non-resident guests
(includes pool guest fee)

Tickets will be delivered to your apartment

Please give this slip to a desk clerk no later than June 29th

☐ I/we will attend the 4th of July Picnic.

Names of residents attending:


☐ I will bring guests to the 4th of July Picnic.

Enclosed is a check payable to SHTOA for ____ guests @ $35 each = $_________

Names of guests attending:


Please deliver tickets to my apartment, Unit #
Dining Club at Frieda’s
There’s Something Special About April in Paris

We knew that we were in for a fabulous evening, because there is something magical about April in Paris, and something special as well about Frieda on Walnut Street. We put together a springtime menu with Chef David Wong that would capture the essence of it all. The image and promise of April in Paris invigorated 50 of us enough to make reservations for The Society Hill Towers Dining Club June 19th dinner at David and Michael’s wonderful café and neighborhood meeting place. The sellout was the fastest that the dining club has ever experienced. Unfortunately we could accommodate only 30 people that night. That said, those of us who made the cut had a wonderful evening. There was camaraderie, warmth, and, of course, sumptuous food.

To start, baskets of gougères were passed around and around as we sat sipping our wine and awaiting our dinner service. Our first course (entée in French) was a plate of spring asparagus, topped with cured salmon, poached quail egg, hollandaise, and Parmesan cheese. Next, our main dish (plat principal), which consisted of a roast deboned Cornish hen stuffed with mushrooms and topped with Port wine sauce, and sides such as gratin dauphinois and seasonal vegetables. A salad and three cheeses and then a fabulous strawberry tarte finished up the meal. The dinner successfully reflected the blush of spring in Paris (and Philly for that matter) when nature comes back to life and love is in the air.

As you may know, we are a club in the most relaxed sense. While we have a fair number of regulars, you needn’t come to every dinner or even any previous event in order to attend. We are working on our next dinner right now, so please stay tuned.

Sue’s Produce is a family-owned grocery store serving the city of Philadelphia for over 40 years. We provide our customers with personal service and deliver products ranging from your everyday household to organic products. We have a wide selection of fresh fruits and vegetables with seasonal products such as rhubarb, fresh figs, cherries, etc. Try our new deli with Boar’s Head meat and our coffee from La Colombe. Fresh sandwiches for breakfast and lunch are made to order. Come by and see what you are missing.

Photos by Bonnie Halda
What happens to your trash and recyclables after you discard them? Republic Services is the company that takes the Towers trash. There are two kinds of trash: single-stream recycling and solid waste disposal.

Solid waste is garbage, and anything non-recyclable that you are discarding. If it will fit into the trash chute in the trash room on your floor, put it into a plastic bag, tie the bag shut, and put the bag into the chute. Discarded articles that do not fit into the trash chute may be left on the trash room floor. Please ask Resident Services to remove them immediately.

Recyclable materials are the paper, cardboard, glass, metal, and plastic items outlined below. Republic Services’ Single Stream or ‘All in One Recycling’ is a system in which paper, plastic, glass and metal are mixed together in collection bins and taken to their material recovery facility, where everything is sorted and then sold. Your recyclables DO NOT go down the trash chutes. They may be left in paper bags or cardboard boxes in the trash room, where they will be picked up by staff and taken to the recycling center in the sub-basement below the garage. Or, you may take them to the recycling center bins yourself.

Who Buys Recyclables?
China has been the world’s biggest importer of waste for decades. China has imported paper, plastic, and scrap metal from other nations and processed these materials for reuse in the products they produce for export. However, the implementation of a new customs policy has reduced the rate at which these materials are imported. "National Sword" is a policy in China that has banned the importation of certain types of plastics, as well as set strict contamination limits on recyclable materials. This means that China will not accept shipments that are mixed with trash, the wrong type of recyclables, or low-quality recyclables like greasy paper goods.

What Can We Do About It?
Although you may be unable to change international recycling policy decisions, you can still help make sure our recyclables get sold instead of landfilled! Keep them clean. Ensure that your recyclables are clean by washing out food particles. Keeping your recycling clean helps Republic Services by preventing a slowdown of the sorting process in order to deal with contamination.

Recycling Reminders: What Goes Where

### Single-Stream Recycling and Solid Waste

#### PUT IN to Recyclables
All recycling is single stream, meaning you can put all of your recyclables together in one paper bag or cardboard box — cans, glass, mixed paper, cardboard and most plastic containers. There is no need to sort or separate them.

**Paper**
- Newspapers, inserts, paper bags
- Magazines, brochures, catalogs
- Junk mail, notepaper, envelopes
- Phone books, paperback books

**Cardboard**
- Flattened, dry, and free of grease.
- Corrugated cardboard boxes
- Clean pizza boxes
- File folders and poster board
- Dry and frozen food boxes
- Milk cartons
- Non-metallic greeting cards

**Glass**
- Emptied and rinsed – caps OK.
- Beverage containers
- Glass food jars

**Plastics**
- Emptied and rinsed – caps OK.
- Water bottles, soda bottles
- Hard plastic takeout containers

**Metals**
- Emptied and rinsed.
- Aluminum, steel, tin cans
- Empty aerosol cans
- Metal trays and baking dishes

#### KEEP OUT of Recyclables
These materials have little or no value as raw materials, damage recycling equipment, and injure workers. Please leave them out!

- Plastic bags
- Electronics
- Food waste
- Light bulbs
- Tissues, paper towels, napkins
- Porcelain and non-container glass
- Wet or food-soiled paper
- Cassette tapes (VHS and audio)
- Needles and syringes
- Greasy pizza boxes
- Waxed paper plates, cups, and takeout containers
- Styrofoam™ food/beverage containers and shipping/packing material

#### NO Plastic Bags We Mean It!
During sorting, plastic bags wrap around recycling equipment, which brings it to a grinding halt. In order to safely recycle plastic bags, return them to drop-off locations at specially-marked recycling bins located at the front of most supermarkets, grocery or big box stores.
They don’t make them any more, but we have your wood parquet tiles!

In stock – at least 3,000 feet!
You don’t have to replace your floors!
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UNIT 21B West
Two Bedroom Two Bath
River & City Views

UNIT 10C NORTH
One Bedroom Bridge View

UNIT 6E NORTH
Studio, Full River View

If you are thinking of selling your Society Hill Towers home, please give us a call and let us tell you how we can help you. We can show you what sets apart a Philadelphia Magazine Five Star Realtor, and Chairman’s Circle Diamond category at Berkshire Hathaway Fox & Roach from the average real estate agent. We work hard, we have tremendous experience in sales at Society Hill Towers and we have many satisfied sellers who would be happy to give you a recommendation if you request one.

You most likely would get a second opinion on a doctor. It is a good idea to do the same with the sale of your home.
For Sale
220 Locust St. Unit 2F, Philadelphia, PA 19106
1 Bedroom 1 Bathroom
BIG PRICE DECREASE: $238,000
• Charming Southern Views of Historic Society Hill,
  Beautiful Towers Pool, Treetops and Flowers
• Bathroom Renovated in 2017
• Hardwood Floors
RECENTLY SOLD! 210 Locust St. Unit 15G

Michael Cohen, REALTOR®
I Live, Sell, and Lease at Society Hill Towers
and in the Philadelphia Region
Residential & Commercial Sales, Leasing: Condos,
Single Family Homes, Apartment Buildings, Retail

c: 215.570.1920
a: 215.692.6636 x324
e: mike@thecondoshops.com
Please join us in welcoming our new manicurist, Tina, formerly of Pileggi.
**Available for Sale at Society Hill Towers**

**Updated One Bedroom with Southern Views**

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

699 sf | Offered for $264,900

**Recently Renovated Corner One Bedroom**

Recently renovated corner one bedroom boasting panoramic Benjamin Franklin Bridge, Delaware River, and southern city views. The home has been completely customized with high-end finishes and appointments, open chef’s kitchen, modern bathroom, hardwood floors, and walls of floor-to-ceiling windows.

803 sf | Offered for $369,900

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

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

1,253 sf | Offered for $525,000

**SOLD!**

We can sell yours, too!

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Allan Domb Real Estate

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1845 Walnut Street, Suite 2200, Philadelphia, PA 19103 Phone: 215.545.1500 allandomb.com domb@allandomb.com
Thinking of buying or selling a condo at Society Hill Towers?
Call us.
We are happy to help you.

Some of our recent sales at Society Hill Towers

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