What's inside

by Nelly Childress

HHOA President Paul Coyne reports on the state of things and others to come such as the renovation of the elevator cabs in 2013, and more. Hopkinson House Manager Judi Forte gives ample notice, for those interested, on Council's Election date. Iudi reiterates precautions to avoid the flu as well as reminds you of important regulations and procedures to follow in our building for your safety and comfort. Read David Roberts' article to familiarize yourself with, as he says, the "gems from our founding documents." The article by Diana Burgwyn refers to life with husband Jim who was interviewed along with his team mates of 55-plus baseball players by the Philadelphia Inquirer. Their tri-state team played in national tournaments in Florida and Arizona. Lynn Miller recommends seeing and taking visitors to the current exhibit at the Constitution Center: "American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition," the era of speakeasies, flappers, G-Men and bathtub gin! It's fascinating! Charlene **Compher** reports on the Washington Square Citizens' League and the United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia's cosponsored celebration of World Food Day 2012 in the Solarium. How many of you have visited the Federal Reserve Bank? Susan Tomita gives you an idea of the permanent exhibit, "Money in Action" and wonders whether vou have ever seen a \$100.000 bill or Confederate bills? Dan Rothermel draws your attention to the latest book by fellow resident Diana Burgwyn, "The Adventures of a Motherless

Puffin, a Lonely Great Auk and a Pack of Ferocious White Rats" her first venture into children's literature. Dan felt that although written to appeal to middle-school children the book is equally appealing to more than one level. It is, I can attest to it!

Gems from our founding documents

by David Roberts

Every new owner of Hopkinson House is given copies of three documents which, between them, govern our condominium and the way we share our lives here. The first two documents—the Declaration of Condominium and the Code of Regulationsdefine the condominium and describe how it is governed by a Council of members elected by the owners. These two documents could be described as our Constitution.

The third document. Community Rules and Regulations, is given to all owners and tenants. The Declaration of Condominium authorizes the Council to produce this set of rules to regulate daily life in our

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community. The Council may enact, amend, or repeal any rule by a simple majority vote at any of its meetings, with one exception. State law requires the Council to have a disputeresolution committee, which is charged with conducting a due-process hearing when a resident is accused of breaking one of the Community Rules. The Council may amend such details as the maximum fine (currently \$100) but it may not alter the basic provision for a due-process hearing. The Council may not find guilt or impose a penalty until it has received the report of the dueprocess hearing.

The two founding documents are well written in plain English. They are easy to read and worth reading. To amend any part of either document requires a vote in favor by 80% of the ownership. Since it has proven virtually impossible to get more than a 50% vote on anything at Hopkinson House, the likelihood of getting 80% to vote for a change in either document is roughly zero.

Hence we have learned to live with these documents. Fortunately none of their provisions has troubled us. The stipulation (Code of Regulations, page 3), that any resident of Pennsylvania over the age of 18 may run for election to the Council, is irritating but it has never caused a problem. I don't believe a non-owner has ever served on the Council although a popular tenant once came close to being elected.

Gems from the **Declaration of** Condominium

The Declaration defines everything about Hopkinson House and includes a legal description of the property. The unanimous agreement of all owners and the holders of all mortgages and liens would be required to undo the House's status as a condominium. Our condominium is secure. On page 7 of the Declaration we learn that a unit owner may lease or sublease his or her apartment (not his or her unit.) What is the difference between an apartment and a unit?

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Voter Registration Committee of Washington Square Citizens' League at Hopkinson House has recruited volunteers to help residents who were unable to secure a Photo Identity Card for the November election. The volunteer will assist by driving you to the Motor Vehicle Office and, if needed, filling out forms. In all probability a photo ID will be required at the polls in future elections.

Contact George Koch at (215) 922-6019 or by email, georgewashsq@comcast.net.

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Apartment is an architectural term describing an enclosed living space within a building. Some people think apartment means a rented dwelling but the term apartment implies nothing about how the space is owned or whether it is leased. The Queen of England owns Buckingham Palace. The Queen resides with her family in the Palace's royal apartments. As their owner, she does not pay rent.

Hopkinson House was a rental building before it became a condominium in 1980 but it has always been an apartment building. Owner or renter, you live in an apartment, not a unit. Your address is Apartment x, not Unit x. If it's good enough for the Queen...

Unit, by contrast, is a legal term describing an owner's share of the property. A unit consists of an apartment plus

an equivalent proportion of what are called the common elements. The common elements are the whole of the property that is outside the apartments. They include, for example, the outside walls, the hallways, the elevators, the commercial spaces, the parking garage, the pool, and the 6 inches of concrete between the ceiling of an apartment and the floor of the one above. Balconies and windows are called "limited" common elements because their use is restricted to the occupant(s) of an apartment. The apartment of a unit does not extend beyond the inner surfaces of the outer walls, ceiling, floor, windows, and front door.

A corner 2-bedroom apartment lends itself to easy calculating because it occupies almost exactly 1/400th of the total residential floor area (actually 0.2507%.)

Therefore the owner of a corner 2-bedroom apartment also owns 1/400th of all the common elements. Hence he or she owns 1/400th of Hopkinson House. That 1/400th of the whole property is the owner's unit. (It could instead have been called a share.) Obviously a unit is much more than an apartment. As the rule says, the owner of a unit may lease the apartment, not the whole unit. At the Annual Meeting of the Owners' Association that owner's share of the total vote is 1/400th (actually 0.2507%) and his or her maintenance fee is 1/400 of the budgeted total. Exhibit B. towards the back of the Declaration, lists the relative sizes of all units under the strange heading, "percentage interest in common

elements." On page 9 of the Declaration we read, "Neither dogs nor any non-domestic animals shall be raised, bred or kept in any Apartment or in the Common Elements." We may keep cats, hamsters, birds, reptiles, amphibians (e.g. frogs) and fish. According to the Community Rules and Regulations (page 10), however, we are allowed only

Despite the Declaration's general prohibition of dogs, a seeing-eye or hearing dog is permitted where there is "medical proof of necessity." This is required by federal law (The federal Fair Housing Act and Americans with Disabilities Act), which preempts the condominium rule. Hopkinson House, however, has very few blind residents and, at this time, none of them has a dog. ■



Message from Council

by Paul Coyne HHOA Council President

The state of things and things to come

We have had a great year. New windows were installed in the Commercial spaces. The inspection, masonry repairs and washing and painting the façade of the building was completed. The public-space air handlers, heat exchangers

and controls for the heating and air conducting system were replaced. A herculean task!

Overall, during that time when we were all inconvenienced and our schedules interrupted, we were able to manage our problems. It was well worth it. Our fiftyyear-old building looks great and its Bauhaus architecture reflected in Oscar Stonorov's work has been enhanced. The projects were completed on schedule and under budget.

In 2013 the elevator cabs will be remodeled; the lower and upper lobbies will undergo improvements.

The laundry room would have already been equipped with new washing machines at the time this newsletter is being prepared. However, devastating Hurricane Sandy visited the warehouse storing our purchased machines causing delays in delivery. We hope that the new efficient machines with more sophisticated monitoring systems will resolve the overflow problem and reduce water use. The dryers and floors of the laundry room will be repaired along with some cosmetic work.

News

We regret that Councilperson Lisette Tarragano tendered her resignation after serving for many years on HHOA's Council. Her leadership, insight, and levelheadedness were invaluable to our community. Her dignity and wit led to resolutions of difficult issues.

Long time Councilperson and former President of Council Millie C. Korn suffered the loss of her beloved mother. We collectively

offer our condolences and sympathy.

Other news

For your information, Verizon is currently offering to supply individual services for the telephone, cell phone, and other services at a slightly reduced cost. The change ove offer is free of charge. If you agree be sure to be present when the change occurs, they will install connections to computers and none to printers, cell phones or iPads. This may cause a problem to those not technology-savvy.

The list of special events organized at Hopkinson House is surprising. The building's fiftieth anniversary celebration in our court-yard was very well attended. People had a great time, singing and dancing to the music of the sixties performed by the Big Band from the Valley. The food provided by Ristorante La Buca was great. Kudos goes to our skilled and wonderful Hopkinson House Volunteers. This event was followed

by our winter holiday celebrations. Hanukkah, on December 8: The blessing, the joyous songs let by Murray Savar, the back lobby sparkling with blue and white, the traditional menorah, the smell of latkes reminding us of one of the great holidays. Charles and Lisette Tarragano, responsible for this event, hosted this event most graciously.

Santa and Murray go together like cold and winter of yesteryear. Murray opened the Christmas celebrations with the Bel Cantos choir of the Agnes Irwin School on December 15. A big crowd in the lobby was enchanted with the traditional caroling sounds and verses, including the not

so traditional but clever and funny interpretation of the twelve days of Christmas.

The carolers were followed on December 17 by the tree lighting in the lobby and a visit by Santa ho-hohoing his way up the stairs from the garage where he had parked his sleigh. There were presents, excited tykes and a bit of dancing by Santa and his assistant. All adjourned to the upper solarium for beverages, hors d'oeuvres and sweets.

Thanks to a wonderful group of volunteers who gave so generously to us all. Very special thanks go to our staff and their leaders who have done an excellent job. Wishing all a wonderful 2013! ■



Message from Management by Judi Forte

The Hopkinson House Annual Meeting and Election is scheduled to be held on Thursday, April 18, 2013 in the Solarium at 7:00 pm. If you would like to be a part of the future planning of Hopkinson House, complete a nomination form which will be mailed out to you and put your name on the ballot. Council terms are for two years and Council members must be available to attend one meeting per month. All

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Paloma offers a \$30 three course prix fixe dinner Tuesdays through Thursdays. We're open at 5:00 pm daily, closed Sundays and Mondays. Paloma is BYOB and accepts all major credit cards. Reservations are recommended. For our friends at Hopkinson House – present this ad for a free dessert with the purchase of appetizer and entree from our regular menu.

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The Hopkinson House Design Committee is working with DAS Architects to renovate the interiors of the four passenger elevators. DAS has had experience with designing elevator cabs and has recently completed the elevator design at Society Hill Towers. We look forward to a design which complements the architecture and style of the building. Work will begin in 2013 after a design has been approved by the Council and a contractor has been chosen.

Winter is the time for colds, flu and other types of illnesses which sometimes means a staffing shortage. Please bear with us if our service is a little slow during times when we are shorthanded. We encourage the staff to stay at home when they are not feeling well to protect the residents and the other staff members. We also ask that the residents follow the same procedure. Our staff is very friendly and they enjoy shaking hands with the residents. If you are ill, please refrain from shaking hands with staff members so as not to spread any illness. We also request that residents do not use the staff phones. Besides the possibility of spreading illnesses, this practice prevents the desk staff from performing their job properly. We sincerely thank you for these courtesies.

It is the responsibility of every resident to complete an entry permit for your guests, contractors and anyone you wish to have access to your unit. Faxing and e-mailing permission may prevent that person's entry to your apartment. The fax machine is on from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m, number helps you determine the progress, especially if the problem is not fixed within the prescribed time..

and prosperity in 2013.

If you are planning any renovations to your unit, regardless of how large or small, remember to pick up a Renovation Requirement Package at the front desk. Owners and contractors must complete the forms in the package and the contractor must provide an insurance certificate with a minimum of \$2 million in liability coverage. Contractors may not begin work in the units until the renovation package has been approved by Tony Kelly, the building's Chief Engineer. Please contact Tony if you have any questions regarding renovations to your unit. He can be reached through the Resident Services Desk. Contractors may not cut wood or tiles on the balconies.

Contractor work and moves are not permitted on Sundays or legal and religious holidays throughout the year. We are posting these holidays for your convenience. No

exceptions can be made.

ON THE HOUSE · WINTER 2013 · 5

- Monday, January 21, 2013—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Monday, February 18— Presidents' Day
- Friday, March 29—Good Friday
- Monday, May 27— Memorial Day
- Thursday, July 4— Independence Day
- Monday, September 2— Labor Day
- Thursday, September 5— Rosh Hashanah*
- Saturday, September 14— Yom Kippur*
- Thursday, November 28— Thanksgiving
- Tuesday, December 24— Christmas Eve
- Wednesday, December 25—Christmas Day
- Tuesday, December 31— New Year's Eve
- Wednesday, January 1, 2014—New Years Day

Noises in a building like Hopkinson House can travel from floor to floor. While you may think a particular noise is coming from directly above you, it may, in fact, be coming from another floor or another part of the building. A common complaint is the sound of scraping or dragging something across an uncarpeted floor. These sounds appear to be coming from directly above the person hearing the noise. We know from past history that in most instances, this is not the case. As hard as we try, we are not always able to identify a sound or where it may be coming from. The Hopkinson House rules mandate that every unit have 80% carpeting in the

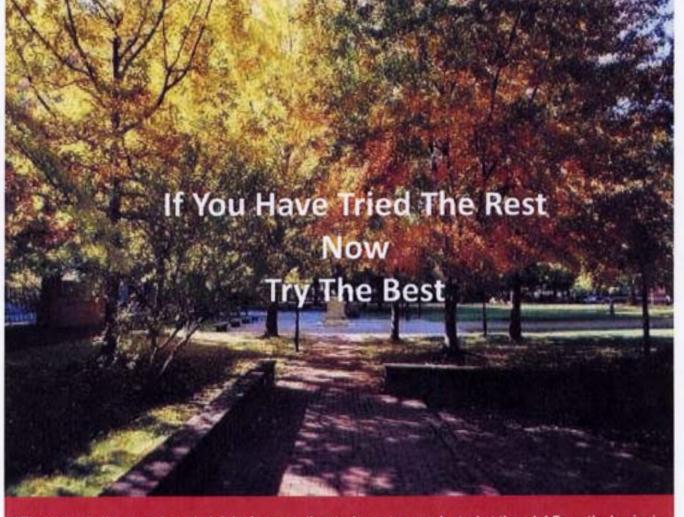
* Jewish holidays begin at sundown the day before they are



Monday through Friday. Faxes will not be received after hours and on weekends. E-mails are not a reliable method of sending an entry permit. The person you send the e-mail to may be on vacation or out sick and this may prevent your visitor from gaining access to your apartment.

911, 411, and now 311: 911 is mainly for emergencies and there is no charge on your phone. 411 is for information and there may be a charge; a higher one if you use your cell phone. Now there is 311 which was set up several years ago to take care of non-emergency problems that have to do with the City Departments. 311 is to report problems such as trees obstructing traffic signs, illegal dumping, snow removal, overflowing, dirty or smelly trash cans, graffiti removal from traffic control boxes, burned out streetlights and licenses and inspection issues. The 311 service will get in touch with the appropriate City Department which will address the problem within a

given time period. A tracking



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living room, dining room, bedrooms and hall. The kitchen and the bathrooms are exempt from this rule. If you have a chair in an uncarpeted area, please consider rubber or felt tips to alleviate any scraping when it is moved.

Please make arrangements to pick up your UPS, FedEx, overnight packages and all other deliveries within 24 hours of their arrival. Large packages will be taken up to your unit by staff members if they are not picked up within 8 hours.

If you have not completed and returned your emergency information form, please do so. The information on this form is vital in helping us to assist you in the event of an emergency.

Holiday decorations are permitted to be hung on the apartment doors from Thanksgiving through January 6. Please remove them in a timely manner. Enjoy the winter season. Stay warm and stay well.

Diana Burgwyn's puffin adventure by Dan Rothermel

For Hopkinson House author Diana Burgwyn, her recently published book Despina: The Adventures of a Motherless Puffin, a Lonely Great Auk, and a Pack of Ferocious White Rats, is a first journey into children's literature. Writing it was as much an adventure for Diana as her exciting story is for her young readers. While working on the book, confesses the author, she encountered a certain feeling of "nakedness," of having "nowhere to hide," as compared with her more



typical writing, which has been non-fiction for adults, especially in the area of classical music.

An animal lover, Diana

developed a particular fascination with puffins during a cruise to Scotland about a decade ago. Though their black and white coloration somewhat resembles that of penguins, puffins, unlike penguins, can fly as well as swim and are in the auk family of seabirds. Diana describes puffins in the air as looking like flying footballs with a touch of color--their beaks being a riot of color and their triangle-shaped eyes rimmed in orange. By far the most populous is the Atlantic, or common, puffin, and our feathered heroine, Despina, is of this type.

Though Despina in Greek literature was the name of the daughter of the sea god Poseidon, one cannot miss the pluck and feistiness that our puffin heroine shares with her namesake, the resourceful, high-spirited lady's maid in Mozart's Cosi fan tutte.

Diana's Despina, making her way out of hurt and anger, resonates with authenticity.

Also represented is the horned puffin in the character Solo and the tufted puffin in the form of Despina's adoptive Uncle Cedrick. A host of other engaging characters, non-human and human, sympathetic and less so, fills out the cast.

Though it is a fantasy, Despina is strongly rooted in fact--indeed, some facts that seem too amazing to be true. In creating this delicious adventure Diana had the inestimable assistance of Dr. Stephen W. Kress, director of bird restoration at the National Audubon Society and the author of Project Puffin: How We Brought the Puffins Back to Maine, the true story of how the Atlantic puffin colony on Eastern Egg

Rock Island off the coast of Maine was restored. Dr. Kress's careful reading of the manuscript assured the scientific accuracy of the final section of the book, which, in the form of questions and answers, is as engrossing as the story itself.

A particularly charming and imaginative episode is that of the white rats who assist Despina in her most challenging task. Here Diana drew inspiration from her tenure as public affairs director for the Wistar Institute in West Philadelphia, where white rats were bred for scientific experimentation back in the early 1900s. Highly domesticated, the rats were treated with immense kindness by the female laboratory assistants, who played music for them and perfected certain recipes (e.g., rice pudding with chocolate sauce) specifically for rodent delectation. Particularly memorable

in Diana's book are the fictional great auks Fletcher and Felicia, whom she portrays as the last two great auks on earth. In truth, great auks are extinct. "The last two great auks, a male and a female, were strangled in the summer of 1844 by two fishermen, who also destroyed their egg," we read in the fascinating factual appendix to Despina. Here Diana's urgent, if subliminal, ecological message comes through loud and clear: when any species is destroyed--in this case by humans, something precious has been lost, and that species will never again be seen on earth.

Like all fine writing for young people, *Despina* can be

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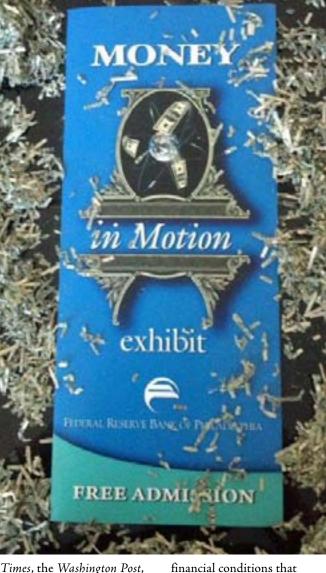


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read on more than one level and will appeal equally to the middle-school children for whom it is intended and to adult readers. Once begun, this reader found the story immensely compelling and, indeed, finished this beautifully crafted book in two quite large puffin-like gulps. With its finely etched characters, Despina may remind readers of The Wind in the Willows, Kenneth Grahame's enchanting children's classic of 1908. Adding to its appeal are the imaginative and accurately rendered illustrations by Jillian Kesselman, a young and gifted graduate of Philadelphia's University of the Arts.

"Despina is a character who will take your heart," writes Lesley Valdes, criticat-large of WRTI, Temple University's public radio station. "Her courage on the vast sea speaks to the child in all of us. Her journey into maturity speaks to all ages." Despina is available in soft cover and as an e-book from amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com. Further information about the book can be found on Diana's website: DianaBurgwyn.com

Diana's previous writing includes the book Seventy-Five Years of The Curtis Institute of Music (1999), an oral history of the Marlboro School of Music and Festival in Vermont, and a publication for the opening of the Kimmel Center of the Performing Arts. Her erudite and gracefully written essays have enhanced the program booklets of the Opera Company of Philadelphia for many years, and she has written for the New York



Times, the Washington Post, Opera Now, the Philadelphia Inquirer, and other publications.

Exploring
"Money in
Motion" at the
Philadelphia Fed

by Susan Tomita

The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's basic mission is "to create the foster economic growth: stable prices, sound banking practices, and a reliable payments system." Located on Independence Mall, the Philadelphia Fed has a permanent exhibit, *Money in Motion*, which opened in 2003.

I know only one other person—a Princeton middle-school teacher—who has seen the exhibit. The Philadelphia Fed is ranked #103 out of 245 attractions in the city, according to Tripadvisor.com. While not

a popular tourist destination, it has educated more than 250,000 visitors.

Visiting the free Money in Motion exhibit is a text-intensive experience, leavened by eye candy and interactive displays. History buffs and currency collectors certainly will enjoy it. But if you are perennially curious, you may find the exhibit worth a visit, given your residence near the first Bank of the U.S.² and the Second Bank of the U.S.³

Entering the vault

Use the 6th Street entrance when you go to the building at 6th and Arch Streets. After making it through the security check, you enter an indoor court with a hovering 100-foot-tall Alexander Calder mobile of disks and rods. The 130-foot-high ceiling hints at the football field-size vaults in the main part of the building. The Philadelphia Fed currency vaults can hold more than \$7 billion in times of high cash demand. (You won't see an actual vault, and you can't take photos in or of the building.)

Text-intensive

Walk over to the Money in Motion exhibit. The history and workings of our central bank system is rich and multifaceted. Your eyes will glaze over many of the exhibit's 18 sections of timelines and info stations. But among

¹ See the website at ww.philadelphiafed.org. ² 1797–1811. Located at 116 South Third Street. ³ 1817–1836. Begun in Carpenter's Hall, then moved to 420 Chestnut Street where the Independence Park Portrait Collection now resides.

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who appears on the \$100,000 over the past five decades in Gold Certificate.) The Federal some depth. Reserve System works to help Eye candy strengthen our economy and financial system and maintain Have you ever seen a \$100,000 bill? The display their integrity. It survived the includes a \$100,000 1934 aftermath of 9/11 terrorist Gold Certificate once used for strikes. It continues to cope with the financial and economic Federal Reserve bank transfers. It's the highest denomination crisis triggered in 2007. issued by the U.S. Glass displays present wampum shells, colonial currencies,

other things, you'll learn

how money is put into and

taken out of circulation and

explore U.S. monetary policy

The Federal Reserve turns 100 this year and is building an inventory of historical Federal Reserve documents and items in preparation for its centennial. Perhaps it will unearth some gems here in Philadelphia. The Money in Motion

in December 1913 when

President Woodrow Wilson

signed the Federal Reserve

Act into law. (It is Wilson

exhibit is open weekdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., in January-February. For more information, call (866) 574-3727. For a virtual tour online, visit www.philadelphiafed.org. ■

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million looks like in a Fed

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Liberty Double Eagle coin,

Because attendance is likely to be sparse, you can play with the various interactive displays and test your knowledge without onlookers. See how good a bank loan officer or investment manager you would make. Try to spot counterfeit bills. Test your understanding of inflation. Explore how payments in the year 2200 might be executed. And for one quarter (\$0.25), get the latest addition to the America the Beautiful Quarter series of coins honoring our national parks and monuments.

Centennial birthday

The Federal Reserve System comprises the Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank and 11 other Regional Reserve Banks, together with the Board of Governors in Washington, D.C. This is our central banking system, created

World Food Day 2012

by Charlene Compher The compelling issue of

human hunger continues to be problematic, both globally and locally. Worldwide, almost 840 million people experience hunger, most typically in the context of climate or economic disasters, that make food prices labile and out of reach for many people living in poverty. The Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger estimates that 49 million Americans and 25% of Philadelphians are at risk of hunger.² During periods of economic downturn, the number of people with hunger increases beyond the existing high levels in poor neighborhoods. Because

healthy foods, like fresh fruits and vegetables, are relatively expensive to produce and distribute, their intake is reduced during such periods. The United Nations

(UN) celebrates World Food Day on October 16 in honor of the date in 1945 the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization was founded. On October 14, in the solarium, the Washington Square Citizens' League (WSCL) cosponsored with the United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia (UNAGP) the kick-off to a weeklong series of events celebrating this day in the Philadelphia area. WSCL and UNAGP followed the theme adopted by the UN for this year's World Food Day: "Agricultural Cooperatives— Key to Feeding the World" with lectures by three impressive local speakers.

The speakers were introduced by Mary Day Kent, President of UNAGP. Charlene Compher moderated the sessions' questions and answers. Dr. Alan Kelly, DVM, Emeritus Professor and former Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania spoke on "Urban Food Security in the Developing World."

Dr. Kelly has written an influential book titled "Veterinary Public Health in a Global Economy" (University of Pennsylvania Press 2006). He showed extensive data to make the point that developing countries will continue to experience hunger as their population growth outstrips

¹ http://www.un.org/apps/ news/story.asp?NewsID= 43299&Cr=hunger&Cr1 ² http://www.hungercoalition. org/hidden-epidemic

their ability to produce adequate food, particularly since populations typically alter their diet from predominantly grain sources to include meat as the economy improves. This dietary change has the advantage of providing better growth and fewer health problems in children; however, this is difficult since cattle production is inefficient in developing countries. Dr. Kelly would like to encourage greater efficiency in the production of both meat and grains worldwide.

The second speaker was Robert Pierson, founder and program director of Farm to City, a Philadelphia-based business that aims to bring together communities, families and farmers year round through good local food. In addition, Dr. Pierson works with the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, specializing in community and economic development in Philadelphia Dr. Pierson showed colorful slides detailing the growth of farmers' markets, their locations in the greater Philadelphia area, and related programs to address the topic of "Local Food Cooperatives and Partnerships."

The final speaker was Alison Buttenheim, PhD, MBA an Assistant Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing. Dr. Buttenheim has conducted projects in Laos, Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Pakistan, as well as in Philadelphia. She has tried to answer two core questions on maternal-child health, first how parents' behavior can be changed to promote child health, and determine the interventions that are most successful. Dr. Buttenheim leads, in collaboration with colleagues at the Food Trust, several

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WINTER HOLIDAYS 2012

text by Nelly Childress



At 6:00 pm on Monday,
December 17 the Christmas
celebration started in the Lobby
with a musical introduction by
Murray Savar at the piano. The
audience quickly and joyously joined
in, singing a selection of carols from
the song sheets provided by Murray.
After Paul Coyne, in a few words,
declaring the festivities opened,
the Christmas tree glowed with a
thousand lights!

To the sound of "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" Santa materialized at the top of the steps leading from the garage to the Lobby causing outcries of delight. Gifts – courtesy of our PNC Bank - were distributed by Santa to the children. More merriment and caroling followed until Santa invited everyone to the Solarium for refreshments.

In the Solarium, exquisitely decorated for the occasion, conversation flowed, the barmaids were most efficient, the punch delicious, the hors-d'oeuvres scrumptious. The door prize – courtesy of La Buca - went to neighbor Jennifer Trofe Clark.

Thanks go first to Paul Coyne who nimbly coordinated the tasks of

staff, the Special Events Committee, and Washington Square Citizens' League, to Murray Savar who filled our walls with heavenly music, to Gail Winkler for the elegant decoration of the Solarium, to Lynn Miller, our incomparable Santa, and to all those who, not only toiled in the kitchen, but worked diligently on this event: Janet Burnham, Scott Childress, Enny Cramer, Lou DelSoldo, Mauriel Holland, Larry Meehan, Connie Pearlstein, Bari Shor, Shirley Silverman, Nancy Snyder and Susan Tomita.

'til next year!

The Agnes Irwin Bel Cantos, under the direction of Hopkinson House resident Murray Savar, is an unparalleled choir. Sixty-five 10th- to 12th-graders interested in singing have choir rehearsal every school day from 7:30 to 8:00 am.

Around 22 students, the auditioned choir, came caroling on December 15 in the lobby of our venerable 50-year-old building. They sang joyfully with great ease conventional and not so conventional carols in several languages. They appeared to relish every single minute of their performance. It

is possible that they enjoyed themselves as much as their public!



Agnes Irwin Bel Cantos at the original location of the Agnes Irwin School at 2009 Delancy St.

Most of them had started singing with Murray in kindergarten!
What a wonderful program!

Murray told me that the methodology used in his music class is based on a sequential learning system formulated by Hungarian composer and

musicologist Zoltàn Kodàly.

Basically it teaches music to

children just as they learn their native tongue. Speak first.... learn the mechanics (grammar) later. Musically, sing first, label the elements later.

The choir's appearances this year included, among others, singing the National Anthem live at the April 11th Phillies game vs. the Miami Marlins; at the Academy of Music ballroom prior to the opening of the *Nutcracker Ballet*; at the Philadelphia Senior Center.

The Agnes Irwin School is a prestigious non-sectarian college preparatory day- school for girls, pre-kindergarten through grade 12. It was founded, in Philadelphia, in 1869 by Agnes Irwin, a greatgranddaughter of Benjamin Franklin. The school is now located in Rosemont, Pennsylvania.



On Saturday, December 8 at sunset, residents gathered in the lobby for the ritual of lighting the first of eight Hanukkah Menorah candles. Hanukkah, the eightday festival of light is in commemoration of the rededication of the Holy Temple (The Second Temple) in Jerusalem that had been profaned by Antiochus IV, in the 2nd Century BCE, at the time of the



of oil during this holiday!

with Murray Savar at the piano following



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE II projects related to the impact of farmers' markets on health in lower-income neighborhoods in Philadelphia. In an animated presentation, she spoke on "Farmers' Markets Expanding Access to Healthy Foods" by outlining key projects aiming to encourage the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables, a desirable health behavior. In one project she simplified the use of Philly Food Bucks, a coupon system that rewards the use of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly food stamps, for purchase of these healthy foods. Additional dollars in coupons are given for the next purchase. She reported on a second project where monitors used to read the plastic SNAP cards were distributed to each farmer in the market rather than having to use one single central location. As expected, the farmers were able to sell more fruits and vegetables; however they rejected this option

projects proved successful. Even though the attendance was fairly light, the attendees were an engaged mix of students from neighboring universities and Hopkinson House residents. The questions were lively and the answers quite informative. The seminar was followed by delicious refreshments provided by UNAGP and manned by student members.

as being too expensive. Both

Living with a scholarly athlete

by Diana Burgwyn

"Out of sight, out of mind" was certainly not an accurate description of Jim's and my feelings for each other, although we were divorced over three

decades ago. Now that we have lived together contentedly at Hopkinson House for about five years, I again wear the old wedding ring, its familiarity comforting, its irregular contours reminding me that marriage, like life, has its ups and downs.

Our daily existence is perhaps too quiet, too routine for many. We see longtime friends and new ones, we listen over and over to Mozart and Schubert works and attend the Metropolitan Opera's "Live in HD" series, and we imbibe from an ever-present bottle of Italian red wine on the dining table. (Jim's favorite wine is Brunello, which is way too expensive and hence is saved for special occasions.) We also love flowers. I used to claim primacy in balcony decor, but my impatiens and begonias have been far eclipsed by Jim's delicate, multicolor lantana.

Often we share memories

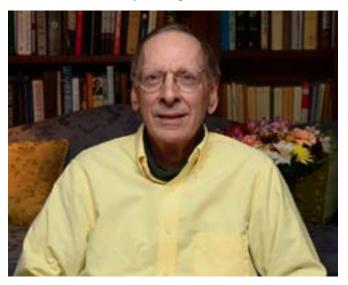
of the past, especially a twoyear period when we lived and worked in a rococo castle in Salzburg, Austria, with our beautiful, food-obsessed black Labrador retriever, Ivy. We refused to go anywhere without her, including a ferry boat trip to Sardinia, for which she was issued a "dog ticket." Occasionally I attired Ivy in a children's-size loden-green Bavarian hat, complete with Gamsbart, or feather; neither she nor Jim approved.

Despite our many mutual interests, there is one area in which Jim and I could not be more different, and that is sports. I was born and have steadfastly remained uncoordinated, with zero knowledge of sports (Jim refers to me as a "hothouse plant") while he is a gifted athlete. He has played baseball since I met

him, and now, at 76, he is still very active on the diamond. participating in a team, the Grey Rocks, a 55-plus tri-state league, and also playing in national tournaments in Florida and Arizona. In the winter, when he has to put his baseball glove away, he picks up his tennis racket and plays doubles three times a week.

In between sporting events, there is Jim's profession. A Swarthmore graduate, he obtained his M.A. at the University of Pittsburgh and his Ph.D. at the University of

Jim is often asked to participate with other scholars in symposiums held in the U.S. and Europe. These give us the opportunity to travel to Italy quite often. This past summer Jim spoke to a Jewish organization in the town of Monferrato, Italy, about Italy's treatment of Jews in the territories it occupied during World War II. The talk was very moving and covered not only the horrors perpetrated on the Jews but the surprising instances in which Italy actually protected Jews from the Nazis,



Pennsylvania. He is professor emeritus at West Chester University, where he taught for some four decades. Jim's area of specialization is 20th century Italian history, with a focus on Italy and World War II. Most of his working life since retirement has been devoted to writing, his latest book being Mussolini Warlord, published by Enigma Press this year. Given the World War II setting of this and his other four books, Jim's cast of characters is decidedly unsavory--not only Mussolini, the nation's disastrous fascist leader, also known as the "Duce," but Hitler and his crowd of unthinkably evil cohorts.

threatening its own relationship with Hitler.

It is these anti-heroes that I too have become involved with. My knowledge of history is quite dismal, but Jim puts up with that because I know how to put words together. As his devoted but often testy copy editor, I go through every one of his manuscripts for style, clarity, organization and niggling points of grammar. The fact is, every writer needs a good copy editor. But when you are linked together personally, it's not always easy.

"What do you mean that's an awkward phrase?" Jim will say to me indignantly.

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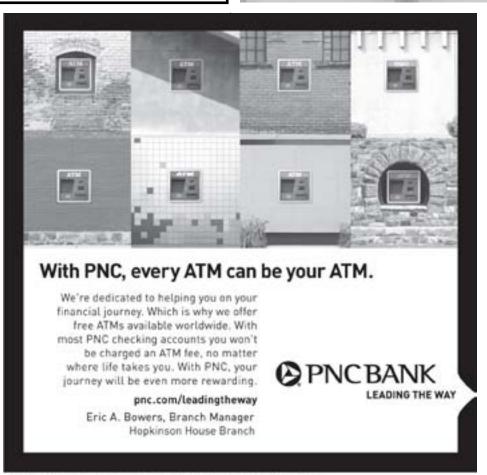
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My answer is blunt: "It's overwritten, it's hackneyed--so take it out!" I usually win these arguments.

But Jim gets even with me, for I too am an author. He reads my manuscripts slowly, with pen in hand, ready to pounce on an infelicitous phrase, while I pace the room and look over his shoulder nervously. Finally he's done. Sometimes he likes what I've written, but at other times he gives me the ultimate insult: "It's not your best writing." I snarl because that means I have to start all over, but he's invariably right. He recently edited my first children's book, Despina, and proved as clever with the pen in fiction for tenyear-olds as he is with history. We are each other's toughest but most loyal critic.

Writing can be a lonely and frustrating endeavor. We disappear into our respective studies for hours every day, tapping away on our computers, not infrequently emerging with nothing of value. But the shelf in our living room that is devoted to our own books is filling up, some of them in translation--Italian, Chinese, Japanese, Serbian. I can never figure out how to place those with unfamiliar alphabets--the spines always appear to be upside down.

Living at the computer is not the healthiest of occupations. Regrettably, I am not a hobby person—writing is pretty much what I do. But for Jim there is always baseball or tennis to lose himself in. In truth, he's more proud of his batting average than he is of a hefty book that took him ten years to write and contains 2500 footnotes in four languages. I'm proud of both.

Prohibition, bootleggers, and the Roaring Twenties

by Lynn Miller Prohibition—that era of speakeasies, flappers, G-Men, and bathtub gin defined the long decade of the 1920s for America. Ushered in with the adoption of the 18th Amendment to the Constitution on January 17. 1920, and out with its repeal on December 5, 1933 prohibition both failed at its real purpose and helped usher in some of the most radical social change of any comparable period in our history.

Even if you think you're well acquainted with this strange and wonderful time, you'll still find much to learn at the exhibit American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition, now at the National Constitution Center. Start with the fact that in 1830, Americans on average consumed seven gallons of pure alcohol per person three times the amount we drink today. Between 1850 and 1890, beer consumption went from 36 million to 855 million gallons nation-wide. That was due in part to the huge influx of German immigrants in that period, and it was Germans who became the great Biermeisters of the nation (Anheuser-Busch, Pabst, Ortlieb, etc.). But after anti-German sentiment swelled with our entry into World War I, those same Americans could be punished by banning the booze they made for us. That's one strand in the Prohibition

The anti-saloon movement grew late in the 19th century, led by a mix of evangelists, such as Billy Sunday; progressives in favor of extending suffrage to women, such as Susan B. Anthony and William Jennings Bryan; and such colorful characters as Carry Nation. That formidable lady from Kansas, six feet tall and strong as a stevedore, smashed many a saloon with her hatchet ("All Nations Welcome But Carry," read a sign at one saloon). The whole movement for temperance united the strangest of bedfellows, including reactionary nativists (who blamed non-Anglo-Saxon

immigrants for the nation's

Flapper fashion, like this dress on display at the American Spirits exhibition, grew out of the liberated mentality of the general public during the Roaring Twenties.

drinking problem), populists (who accused capitalist bosses of plying their workers with liquor to keep them compliant), and such racist groups as the Ku Klux Klan (who argued that the real problem was drunkenness on the part of blacks).

Yet, by the turn of the century, the movement led by the Anti-Saloon League was turning out effective political strategists who grew canny in growing their cause. A bit like today's tea parties, the League began to swing elections by controlling small blocs of voters and electing their men—the Dries—to office. Though they may never have been a majority nation-wide, they were eventually able to swamp the Wets.

In 1913, the forces of prohibition got a huge boost with the adoption of the 16th Constitutional amendment. which allowed the federal government to collect income taxes. Until then, Washington had to rely very heavily on taxing alcohol to fill its coffers. With the ability to tax income, that source of revenue was no longer so critical. To jump to the end of the story, the repeal of Prohibition also grew in popularity when, with the onset of the Great Depression, federal income taxes had declined drastically. By the start of the 1930s, those supporting a robust federal budget ached to restore the alcohol tax.

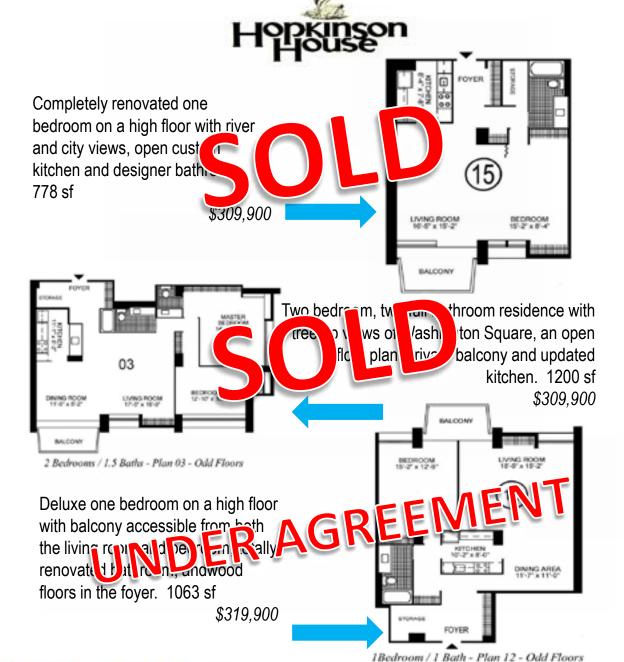
There's much more to learn from "American Spirits" about how the Prohibition amendment eventually succeeded, then how and why it failed. It contained a loophole big enough to drive paddy wagons through by permitting households to "preserve fruit" for home consumption, i.e., by fermenting it. Welch's Grape



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Juice set new sales records. Raw grape sales soared, as did the home production of god-awful wine. Since alcohol could also be consumed for "sacramental uses," wineries such as California's Christian Brothers (run by, yes, Christian brothers) saw their business explode. Unheard of sacramental practices came into vogue.

Above all, the Prohibition era gave rise to an unprecedented disrespect for the law and a new cynicism about government. Even some state officials—those in Maryland were a prime example—refused to try to enforce Prohibition, Millions of otherwise upright citizens took pride in defying the law. Gangsters profited. Such behavior eventually became one of the main arguments for repeal. As was said at the time, only two groups truly profited from the experiment: Baptists and bootleggers. That latter term, by the way, came about from the long-established practice of hiding a flask in one's boot. Al Capone, that most notorious violator of the law prohibiting commerce in alcohol, is supposed to have said,"When I sell liquor, it's bootlegging. When my patrons sell it on a silver tray on Lake Shore Drive, it's hospitality."

The era shortened skirts and women's hairstyles, and gave rise to its own argot. If you want to sound like a flapper (a term coined in Britain to describe the awkward look of teen-aged girls), you might nod your "dream-box" (your head) to warn your friends of an approaching "clown" (policeman) who might "hoose" them (send'em to jail) if he thought that the "jelly bean" (boy friend) and his "jazz baby" (flapper) were "zozzled" (drunk) and bootlegging hootch.

Besides being a madcap



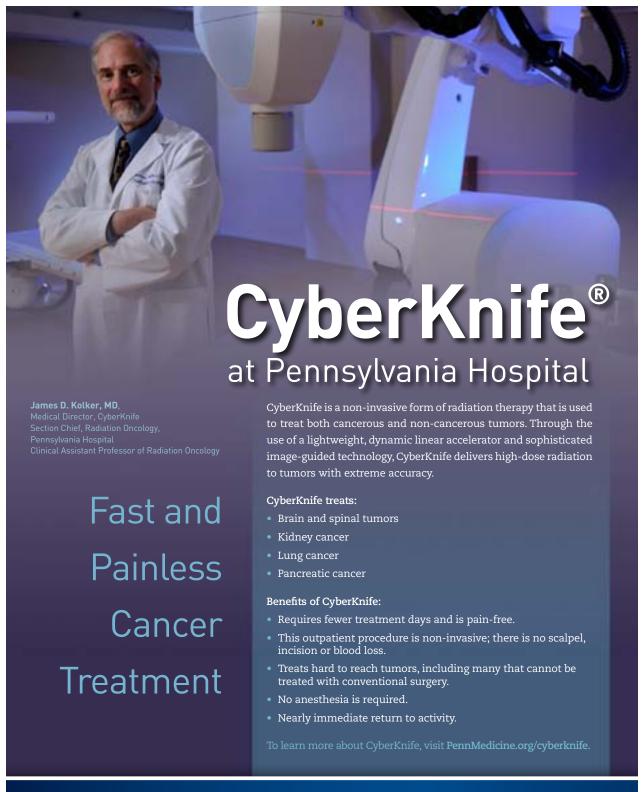


Portions of the American Spirits exhibition cover crude distillery equipment [top] and speakeasy patronage [bottom].

time for lots of Americans, it was also liberating. Never before the Roaring Twenties had men and women drunk together in public places. That's also when the cocktail craze took off. And nice girls learned to smoke. And sophisticated white couples flocked to nightclubs in segregated cities to be entertained by black musicians.

And the Harlem Renaissance revealed amazing art emerging from African-American ghettos. Underlying much of that change may have been the fact that at last women had the right to vote, thanks to the 19th Constitutional amendment that went into effect just eight months after Prohibition went into force.

America would not be what it is today if we had not passed through the crucible of Prohibition.
That's clear at every stop of this exhibit. You have until next April 28 to walk on over to the north end of Independence Mall and be amused—and amazed—by American Spirits.



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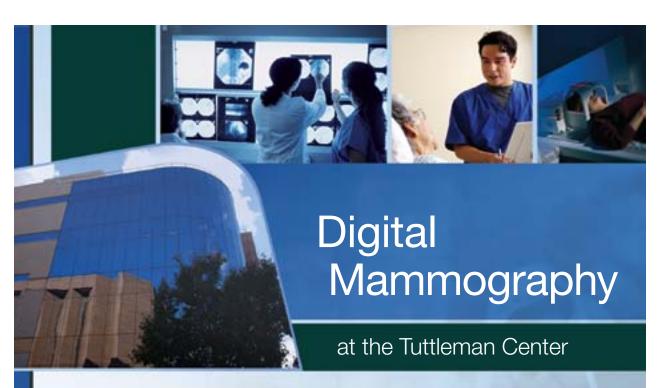
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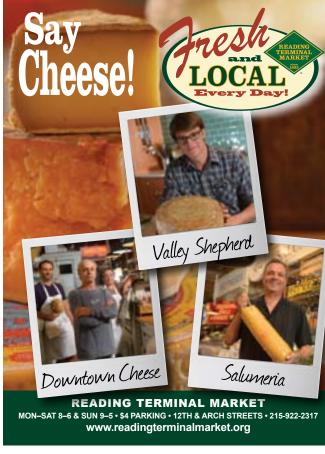
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