What's Inside

David Roberts

ouncil president
Paul Coyne reports on
the progress of the various
projects inside and outside
the building. The Council
appointed a special finance
committee to explore options
for financing the proposed
replacement of the heating
and cooling system. Paul
also introduces the members
of the 2014-15 Council.

General manager Judi Forte recommends behavior that will enable us to live together more safely and harmoniously, and discusses building projects that will affect all residents.

Paul Coyne provides a detailed account of the repair of structures beneath the front of the building that have been causing water to leak into the parking garage.

We have a library at the east end of the solarium. Librarian **Bob Devoe** describes how the library operates and advises us on how best to enjoy it.

Susan Tomita describes the Washington Square Citizens' League's biennial meeting and festivities, held in the courtyard on Sunday, June 8. During the meeting Paul Coyne rededicated the repaired Vivarelli/ Stonorov bronze sculpture of Adam and Eve. In another article, Susan tells a fascinating tale about five women and a sari, which illustrates the neighborliness to be found in our condominium community.

In this issue we have two obituaries of Hopkinson House residents. Lynn Miller writes about the late Steve Weixler, an architect who was active in the Society Hill Civic Association, where he represented Hopkinson House and became the Association's president.

Enny Cramer writes about the late Richard Binder and the effort organized by Rosina Coltellaro which resulted in the planting of two trees in his memory in Washington Square.

On Sunday, March 30, the Larry McKenna Jazz Band serenaded residents in the solarium. On Thursday, May 20, our new commercial tenant, KellerWilliams Real Estate, entertained residents and neighbors at a barbecue in the courtyard.

In another article in his series, Diet and Health, **David Roberts** discusses the way different carbohydrates cause different parts of the metabolic syndrome — obesity, type 2 diabetes, and heart disease — with emphasis on the role of fructose in heart disease.

In Chef Luigi's Corner, Lou DelSoldo made a sauce of uncooked tomatoes for use on pasta. (It was delicious!)

Special note. After the editorial committee met to assign topics and authors for the current issue, our editor Nelly Childress had to divert her time to other important matters, and had to find somebody else to assemble and edit the newsletter. Nelly asked me to take on the task. I soon learned of the great effort Nelly has had to make, four times a year for nine years so far, to provide us with a newsletter. Completely missing from this issue are Nelly's items of local news from around the House and around the town, usually an important part of on the House but beyond my capabilities. I hope and expect that Nelly will be back to do the fall issue. Our layout artist, Judy Lamirand of Parallel Design, provided helpful support.

House House

The Newsletter of Hopkinson House • Summer 2014



Message from Council

Paul Coyne



The masonry and waterproofing contract for the front of the building was awarded to D&A Masonry at the May Council meeting. This is the first phase of a multifaceted project that involves not only the front of the building but planning for renovations of the front

and back lobbies, the mail room, and a computer-based announcement and information screen to be located in the mail room.

The landscape committee is in the final stages of developing plans for the planters at the front of the building. The design committee is working on changes for the lobbies and the mail room and addressing the issue of package storage.

At its May meeting the Council appointed a special finance committee, headed by Lawrence Meehan, to explore

continued on page 2



Hydrangeas in Washington Square Picture taken by David Roberts in the summer of 2013

House House

Editorial Committee

Nelly Childress Enny Cramer Louis DelSoldo Lynn Miller David Roberts Dan Rothermel Susan Tomita

Council Liaison Paul Coyne

Graphic Design

Parallel-Design.com

Advertising Louis DelSoldo, 267-249-7843 louisd53@gmail.com

Photography

David Roberts

Issue Contributors

Nelly Childress Paul Coyne Enny Cramer Louis DelSoldo Bob Devoe Judi Forte David Roberts Susan Tomita

Hopkinson House Council

hhoacouncil@hotmail.com

Website

Find past issues of *on the House* at www.thehopkinsonhouse.com

Message from Council

continued from page 1

with financial experts options for financing our proposed heating and cooling project. The committee is scheduled to present its findings at the Council's October meeting. The Council's goal is to have options that reflect the best thinking on the topic from a forum of experts. We hope this will expand the choices available to guide the decision process.

We thank Ed Karula for his service on the Council.

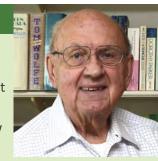
Congratulations to Millie C. Korn, Larry F. Meehan, Lisa Schwab, Edward S. J. Tomezsko, and Howard Zakheim on their election or re-election to the Council.

Remember that we have a suggestion box in the copy machine and cart room.

The 2014-15 Council

Paul Coyne, President
Millie Korn, Secretary
Lawrence Meehan, Vice President
Edwin Rothong, Treasurer
Lisa Schwab, Assistant Secretary
Edward Tomezsko
Howard Zackheim,

Asstistant Treasurer



Picture by David Roberts

Edward Tomezsko, new Council member

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Message from Management

Judi Forte



ummer is finally here, although it's hard to tell with the crazy ups and downs of the weather. For the second year in a row we go from cold to hot to cold again. Hopefully, it will straighten itself out and provide lots of sunshine and warm weather.

This article is dedicated to reminders of summer policies for both long-time and new residents. We have many new residents who are not aware of the policies, and this may

be the first time that they have lived in a high-rise situation.

Most of us love the summer weather and the opportunity to enjoy the world outside. But when you live in a multi-family building such as Hopkinson House, summer brings its own set of issues, which are not unique to Hopkinson House.

Smoking Ban

We still get occasional reports about cigarette butts being tossed from a balcony and landing on someone's furniture. In September 2012, the Hopkinson House Council passed a no smoking resolution, which grandfathers owners who lived here prior to September, 2012. Tenants are no longer grandfathered under this ban since every lease has renewed since the ban went

into effect. Once the lease renewed, tenants were no longer permitted to smoke anywhere on Hopkinson House property, including inside their units. However. under that resolution, no one is permitted to smoke on their balconies, regardless of how long they have lived here. Even grandfathered smokers may be subject to fines if their neighbors are subjected to smoke from their unit. We recommend that all smokers invest in an air purification system, which will help to eliminate smoke traveling beyond their unit.

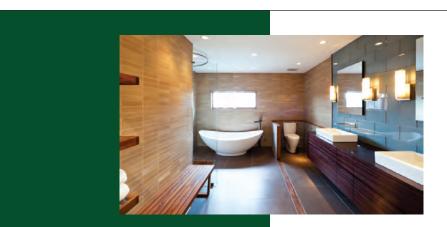
Plant Watering and Cleaning Balconies

When you are watering the plants on your balcony, don't let the water overflow the drip

pan. This is an ongoing problem. Your neighbor downstairs or several floors down may be sitting on their balcony enjoying their meal when your water overflow hits them on the head or ruins their food. This also applies to washing your balcony. Use only a broom and damp mop, and don't sweep the debris over the side of the balcony. We realize that the material used for waterproofing attracts dirt more easily than the prior product. That is due to the non-skid product used in the waterproofing material, which is mandated by the city. Apply a mild bleach solution with a damp mop to clean your balcony floor.

Balcony Umbrellas

Remember that all balcony continued on page 5







visit website to veiw current projects in Hopkinson House and throughout the area

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continued from page 3

umbrellas must be closed when they are not in use and taken down when there is the danger of a storm or high winds. All loose or removable objects must be removed from the balconies during periods of high winds. And please remember that bird feeders are not permitted on balconies.

Conversation Courtesy

In the warm weather, residents like to spend more time on their balconies and entertain their guests outside. Sometimes, the entertaining goes into the early morning hours when most of the residents are asleep, only to be awakened suddenly by loud voices or noises coming from

a neighboring balcony. Please remember that your voice carries when you are on your balcony and to use your inside voice so as not to disturb your neighbors' rest. We also would like to remind everyone that residents are entitled to the use of their balconies to entertain guests and have normal conversation without the threat of a neighbor shushing them or calling the Resident Services Desk, especially before 10 p.m.

Barbecue Grills

The use of barbecue grills is prohibited in high-rise buildings by order of the Philadelphia Fire Department.

Outside Construction

The replacement of the expansion joint which runs along the front of the building is underway. This replacement began on the west side of the building and will continue in phases throughout the summer. We anticipate the project being completed in October. We will distribute notices as each phase is ready to commence to advise you of where the work is being done. Please use caution in the construction area and refrain from walking through the cordoned off areas. We understand the inconvenience but this work is necessary to alleviate water leaking from the top deck

in front of the building into the garage. The bricks will be removed from the east and west entrances to the courtyard and the front of the building to be replaced with brushed concrete. The Philadelphia Historic Commission was instrumental in this decision to return the building to its original look.

Emergency Information

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. It is also helpful for us to have your e-mail address on file. Forms can be obtained at the Resident Services Desk.

Periodically, we have to update our list of residents who would require assistance due to physical problems if there were an emergency, such as a fire, and the building had to be evacuated. If you would require assistance and you are not on our list, please contact Cathy Kavalkovich, the Office Manager, and give her your information. This list is given to the fire department to be used in the event of an evacuation emergency.

From Council, Management and staff at Hopkinson House, have a safe and wonderful summer.



Move Ins and Move Outs

Moves in and out of the building are permitted Monday through Saturday. No moves are permitted on Sundays and religious and legal holidays. Moves may start at 10:00 a.m. and must be completed by 4:00 p.m. After 4:00 pm, there is limited staff in the building and the freight elevator operator has gone home for the day. Non-employees of the build-

ing are not permitted to

operate the freight elevator.

The summer months are the busiest time of the year for moves. Only one move per day is permitted and the schedule gets booked up weeks in advance. There are no exceptions to this policy. If you are planning a move, please reserve the freight elevator as soon as you suspect that you may be moving. You can always cancel or change the move date if your plans change. The charge to reserve the freight elevator

is \$150 and it is non-refundable. Your move date cannot be confirmed until this fee is paid. We do not accept cash. Payment is by check or money order only.

When you are moving, the elevator will be at your disposal to transport your furniture and belongings. Our mission is to get the move finished as quickly as possible. However, the freight elevator is also used to transport contractors and deliveries and to bring the trash down from 31 trash rooms. as well as for various other building functions. This is likely to occur during your move, but your move will not be delayed because of other building activities.

Some residents do not begin to pack their boxes until the moving truck arrives. This not only delays your move, it may also cost you more money if the movers are being paid by the hour. It is in your best

interest to pack your boxes and organize your belongings before the movers arrive.

- * Be sure to file a change of address with the Post Office.
- Trucks over 12 feet in height will not be permitted into the garage. Larger moving trucks have to park on Sixth Street and the movers will have to transport furniture and belongings up the ramp to the truck.
- Take your bike from the bike room before leaving. Unclaimed bikes are disposed of periodically.
- Make arrangements with Comcast to return your cable modem, digital boxes and remotes.

If you have boxes to discard, please do not leave them in the trash room. Call the resident services desk at 215-923-1776 to have housekeeping pick up the boxes.

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The Plaza Deck Renovation Project

Paul Coyne

hase One of this project began on June 10, and the entire project will be completed by October 31, 2014. The repair of the damage done to the structural beam in the garage area will be completed in the winter of 2014-2015.

Phase One consists of removing all of the pavers and sand from the area on the west side of the building. The surface of the area up to the gate is then to be prepared for caulking and concrete. The area on the south side of the planter will be exposed for access to the damaged structural beam so that the beam can be repaired.

Over the years water has damaged parts of a structural beam that runs underground, east and west, across the front of the building. The beam needs repair and new waterproofing. This requires access to all areas under the present pavement to repair and waterproof the beam in the north side of the garage.

At present, rainwater falls on the pavers and passes down to the sand base and on to the drains. The drains, however.

are clogged, and in winter the pooled water freezes. Access is needed for repair or replacement of the drains and installation of a new waterproofing system.

After reviewing the plan, the Historical Commission required replacement of the pavers with broom-swept concrete that must be colored according to the original specification of 1962.

Additionally, the planters on the east and west ends of the front of the building leak through their liners. The water runs down onto the beam causing corrosion. This requires replacement of all the gaskets and waterproofing membranes across the front of the building

The structural beam runs under the south side of the planters. To facilitate future access to the beam, a sixteeninch strip will be removed from the back (south side) of each planter.

Waterproofing the planters requires removal of all the soil so the lining membranes can

The Plan

- Remove all pavers (about 10,000) and sand, and replace them with concrete brushed and colored according to original specification.
- Repair and replace all drains and install state-of-the-art gaskets and waterproofing.
- Remove 16 inches from the back (south) face of both planters to give access to the structural member.
- Remove soil from planters and replace liners. Fill with new soil. This will be a separate contract needing Council approval.

- Replace all marble on both planters.
- Replant planters according to recommendations of Landscape Committee.
- Install an ADA-approved access ramp under the porte-cochere.
- Repair damage to structural beam in the winter of 2014-2015.
- Replace walk-off mat at main entrance.
- Set final schedule for project at the conclusion of first-stage mock-up.
- Keep owners informed as project progresses.

be replaced. New marble facing will be installed after the planters are filled with fresh soil.

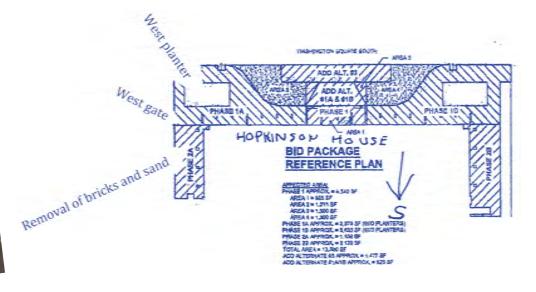
This project has involved significant engineering issues, Council presentations and approvals, aesthetic concerns, city permitting, Historical Commission permissions,

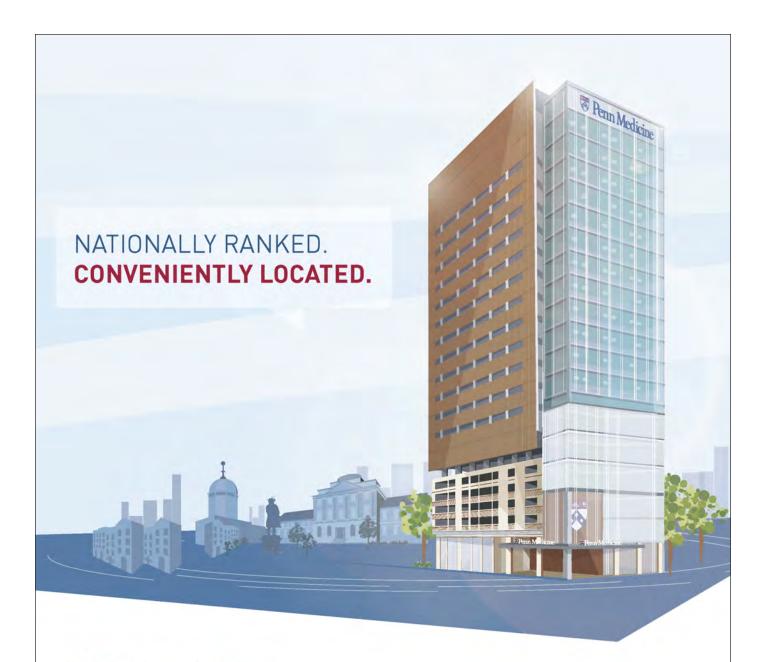
bidding, awarding of contracts, and many meetings. As the work proceeds there will be weekly meetings with all contractors to review the past week's progress and to coordinate for the week ahead.

It is always a pleasure to work with a group of professionals who take pride in their skills.



A drain within the jaws of a wrench at bottom of photo.





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Books Seeking Readers

by Bob Devoe

here is a room in this building we call home; the room is called a library. It is located at the eastern end of the solarium's upper wing. It has stood there for almost thirty years. It serves as a reading room, a meeting room, a study hall, and (of late) a laptop computer project work station. (It is not an eating room, although snacking is permitted.)

"Each evening from December to December," there is a meeting of minds. The ghosts of all the authors whose books line the shelves gather for coffee, tea, and conversation. They address the topic that plagues every living author today: how can we get people to read our books?

Books and their subjects have shaped our lives since antiquity, but today they face a diminishing secondary readership. People buy books at inflated publishers' prices, give the books one read (perhaps two), and then... what? Build a personal library, loan the books to friends and neighbors, dispose of them, or donate them?

All the books in our library have been donated by residents, past and present. The library has been a growth enterprise for thirty years, marked by increasing donations and multiple

shelf reorganizations and permutations. We have built a trove of literary treasures, books that are there to give much pleasure. They can whet your intellectual curiosity, or occasionally befuddle you with ponderous verbosity. No subject (not even sex) has escaped our shelves.

And yet, as we shelve each new arrival, the question arises: how much readership will any book have? Is it worth the shelf space? We are not a dumping ground. With space at a premium, we can only accept and hold so much before the shelves cry out "ENOUGH ALREADY!!"

All the multi-shelving, with many worthy books stacked one atop the other, prevents an orderly appearance and admittedly impairs access for regular customers and occasional browsers. But there is no possibility of expanded space, no room for additional accessible shelves. So we weed out the duplications, stack the books instead of orderly shelving them, and try a carte blanche approach. There is no catalog; what you see is what we have at that moment.

Books are like wines; the good ones age well. Should we declare that only works published since 1950 are worthy of shelving? Are we heading for the society forecast by

Books always speak of other books, and every story tells a story that has already been told.

— Umberto Eco, THE NAME OF THE ROSE.

This summer as you lounge up at the pool, taking a welcome break from work or school, think back on all the days of summers past and memories of books tucked away in nooks the treasures of a fabled literary cast

— Bob Devoe

Ray Bradbury in his 1953 classic, Fahrenheit 451, where

So, let's see what's available here, in hardback and soft cover. Summer is our peak season, as books continuously fly on and off our shelves. Mysteries are our prime product, featuring many cloak and dagger thrillers and chillers. Authors include David Baldacci, Patricia Cornwell, Catherine Coulter, John Grisham, James Patterson, John Sandford, and Lisa Scottoline.

Music, poetry, plays, biographies. Religion, law, business and economics, books by and

about our presidents, and art books galore (many too heavy and bulky to shelve, so we stack them on the floor).

In history and social studies, you will find complete detailed studies — not the homogenized or edited versions found on Wikipedia and other online "sources." As we commemorate the centennial of World War I this summer, you can read about this Great War, "the war to end all wars," and the players whose endeavors and errors led to World War II a short twenty-five years later.

And lastly, there are many one-of-a-kind books, wherein readers always seem to find many pleasures and treasures in unexpected discoveries. These are scattered throughout the room.

The library is open daily from 8 a.m. to about 10 p.m. It is your continuing source of literary treasures and pleasures. As Mr. Eco puts it: "...stat rosa pristina nomine... (...yesterday's rose endures in its name...)" ■

books are banned and burned, and people are directed to watch television? Some experts say bookless libraries are the wave of the future. You can read a book in a digital-age edition, but there is no feeling, no life to the product. The e-digital product may be convenient, but it lacks humanity.

We have plenty of romantic fantasies, novels with exotic settings, and voyages to discoveries.

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Courtyard Festivities

By Susan Tomita

Levents in the Hopkinson House courtyard tend to be festive occasions, and the one on Sunday, June 8, was doubly so. Washington Square Citizens' League held its biennial meeting and party, and the entire Hopkinson House community celebrated the Adam and Eve sculpture's return to the plaza. If neither of these items was enough of a draw, the sun and blue skies certainly were.

On behalf of all present, WSCL President Mauriel Holland acknowledged Paul Coyne's remarkable and successful campaign for the restoration of the Vivarelli/Stonorov bronze sculpture. Hopkinson House Council President Coyne spoke of the work that culminated in Adam and Eve's return in the

spring. His remarks and the rededication met with applause.

Mauriel then presided over the WSCL membership meeting. By unanimous voice vote, members elected the following officers for the 2014-2016 Term:

President, Lou DelSoldo (current President-Elect) President-Elect, Charlene Compher (current Secretary) Secretary, Lynn Miller Treasurer, Enny Cramer (current Treasurer)

WSCL is the nonpartisan and not-for-profit sponsor of many educational programs and activities at Hopkinson House. Its membership year runs from July 1 to June 30, with dues of \$10 per person.



The meeting is called to order.



Council president Paul Coyne dedicates the restored sculpture, left background.

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On May 29, our new commercial tenant, KellerWilliams Real Estate, entertained Hopkinson House residents and Washington Square neighbors at a barbecue in the courtyard.

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pictures by Susan Tomita

Five Women and a Sari

By Susan Tomita

ou may have read the Philadelphia Inquirer story on Concha Alborg's recent move to Hopkinson House. "Downsizing proves right-sizing," by Catherine Laughlin, appeared in the real estate section on May 25. It described "wonderful neighbors, an eclectic mix of families, millenials, and retirees" as a Hopkinson House bonus. When Concha needed assistance getting into a sari, "Two women came right over to help. This is the kind of community it is."

Concha mentioned the sari incident while discussing "The Lunchbox," an acclaimed film set in Mumbai, with the Washington Square Citizens' League movie group. Her sartorial challenge turned out to be a bit more complicated than the *Inquirer* later reported. I learned this when three women came over for tea.

Concha had been invited to a friend's wedding. The bridegroom was Indian. The celebration, as is typical, would be a three-day affair.

She had seen Western women in saris at fancy functions. She happened to buy a sari in India last year. The wedding day approached. The groom



Left to right: Concha Alborg, Emmy Cramer and Ansuya

responded warmly to her question about wedding attire. Yes, he and his family would be pleased if she wore her sari.

After the initial excitement, the practicality of her decision became a concern. How would she eat, drink, and dance for hours in a sari? How would she wrap herself in yards of exotic fabric? The wedding day drew nearer.

At church, Concha recognized longtime Hopkinson House resident Enny Cramer, who lives down her hall. Enny put her in touch with Dershan Grover, another Hopkinson House neighbor. Enny knew Dershan through their volunteer work at the Women's Law Project. Dershan, unfortunately, was in Delhi — attending a family wedding — and, of course, wearing one of her saris.

But Dershan knew Ansuya. Ansuya also lives in Hopkinson House, on another floor. Ansuya wrapped, tucked, and pinned Concha into her sari with the help of a visiting friend. A blouse and petticoat completed the ensemble. Concha was ready to party.

Concha mingled and danced easily at the wedding, and even posed for photos as the only Westerner wearing a sari. Ansuya's handiwork held up beautifully. She had volunteered to unpin and unwind the sari late that night, but removing the sari proved to be easier than donning it. Concha enjoyed the remaining celebratory days in her more familiar clothing, wrapped in fond memories of five women brought together by her sari.



Concha wearing her sari







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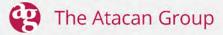
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Remembering Steve Weixler

by Lynn Miller

teven A. Weixler, who Odied on April 30 at age 60, was a long-time resident of Hopkinson House and a highly successful interior designer. He also left us a notable legacy by contributing his talents and passions to the life of our neighborhood and the city more generally.

At the time of his death, Steve had served as president of the Society Hill Civic Association (SHCA) for nearly three terms. Prior to that, he had led the SHCA Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee as its chair. That body is the critical watchdog over development in Society Hill, with the responsibility to work with zoning authorities, builders, and architects to make sure that the special character of this unique neighborhood is maintained and enhanced. Steve took pride in the fact that, on his watch, the American Planning Association named Society Hill one of the ten best-planned neighborhoods in America.

Steve was not opposed to development in Society Hill, so long as it was appropriate for an historic district. He fought the plan to build a 42-story tower at the New Market site at Headhouse Square on grounds that it was out of character next to the city's only remaining 18th-century marketplace. He was much more receptive to the low-rise condo complex now being built there by Toll Brothers, which also includes more open, public space. He was also active in the fight to prevent the demolition of the Richardson Dilworth house across from Washington Square on Sixth Street a fight that continues.

Through his work for the SHCA, Steve became the founding chairman of the Central Delaware Advocacy Group (CDAG), a coalition of 15 civic associations from neighborhoods along the Delaware formed as a public interest group to advise the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC) when the Central Delaware Master Plan was being developed several years ago.

Harris Steinberg, the executive director of Penn's urban design school, PennPraxis, which was mainly responsible for creation of that plan, paid this tribute to Steve Weixler: He was "a gentleman diplomat, a very gentle, intelligent, quiet but determined and focused person, who really knew how to navigate the shoals of human behavior." At the time of his death. Steve's successor as chair of CDAG praised him in these words: "Anytime somebody walks to Race Street Pier... or goes to a performance at the Fringe Arts building across the street, or enjoys Washington Avenue Green, or... the new Penn's landing that's going to come... anyone who experiences any of that should think of Steve."

In a video which was produced to help community groups understand the work of CDAG and the importance of the Central Delaware Master Plan, Steve expressed his commitment to the kind of civic action he was so deeply engaged in. "We always straddle the line between legacy and possibility," he said."We deal with the legacy of good and bad things that have happened in Philadelphia, and we set off in the direction of leaving the next generations of Philadelphians something better."

Steve loved and served his adopted city with the fervor of a native son. He was in fact a native of Louisville, Kentucky, who only moved to Philadelphia from Chicago in 1981. In addition to three brothers. Mr. Weixler is survived by his two partners in the design firm of Weixler, Peterson & Luzi Inc. One of those partners, Walter Peterson, who is also a resident of Hopkinson House, had this to say about his long-time friend and associate: "Steve loved Philadelphia. He was passionate about the adaptive reuse of historic structures without destroying their innate character."

Donations in memory of Steve Weixler may be made to Calcutta House, 1601 W. Girard Avenue, Philadelphia 19130.



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Two Little Trees

by Enny Cramer

ashington Square has two new young trees of special interest to our House. One has been planted on the south side, a pagoda dogwood, and the other is a regular American dogwood, planted on the east side. You can recognize these young trees by their protective green plastic skirts, which have been attached by the Society Hill tree tenders. The National Park Service chose the location of the trees. The trees were planted in memory of one of our former residents, Richard Binder, who died in July of last year. Residents may remember Richard as Santa Claus, a role that he played well for many years — in our lobby. The kids loved him.

Richard, a very religious person, became friends with Rosina Coltellaro, who was his cat caregiver. Rosina was aware that Richard was a lover of our flowering trees. Upon his death Rosina remembered this and took it upon herself to find out how to honor Richard with a flowering tree in our park. She contacted the National Park Service, and the rest is history. Twenty residents helped with the cost. Memorial trees may not be recognized with a plaque or notice, so look for the trees with green plastic skirts, to memorialize Richard, a good and interesting person. We owe Rosina our gratitude for her initiative and dedication to honoring the memory of Richard Binder by beautifying our park.



Rosina Coltellaro with the pagoda dogwood tree. Note the protective plastic skirt.





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Picture by David Robert

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Diet and Health: the Devil in the Details

David Roberts

Ve tend to forget that association does not imply cause. For example, the obese are often afflicted with type 2 (adult-onset) diabetes, but does obesity cause diabetes or does diabetes cause obesity? The answer is, neither. Both have the same cause, eating too much digestible carbohydrate.

Are all carbohydrates equal?

In the mid-1800's, in Paris, Dr. Claude Bernard (widely regarded as "the father of scientific medicine") showed that the excessive consumption of sugar and starch often causes diabetes. He did not distinguish between the two carbohydrates.

In the 1950's, an American physician and biophysicist, Dr. John Gofman, became interested in the blood lipoproteins. Lipids (fats) are dispersed in the blood plasma as a fine suspension made possible by their combination with protein molecules. These combinations are called lipoproteins. Dr. Gofman used an ultracentrifuge to separate the plasma lipoproteins into three classes according to their density — high-, low-, and very-low-density lipoproteins, known today as HDL, LDL, and VLDL.

Dr. Gofman found that most cholesterol was located in the LDL. The VLDL fraction contained mainly triglycerides (neutral fats) and little cholesterol. Dr. Gofman showed that eating cholesterol increased the overall cholesterol content of the lipoproteins but did not induce cardiovascular changes. By contrast, a heavy intake of carbohydrates induced a steep increase in VLDL (triglycerides) and the typical

early changes of cardiovascular disease. Like Dr. Bernard a century earlier, Dr. Gofman did not distinguish between different kinds of carbohydrate.

In the early 1970's, in London, Professor John Yudkin compared the effects of starch and sucrose (table sugar) in student volunteers. He showed that, when starch was the main form of carbohydrate in their diet, many of the students gained weight but there was no adverse effect on their cardiovascular systems. When sugar was given as the main carbohydrate, it also caused weight gain but, more important, sugar induced all the changes in blood composition typical of early cardiovascular disease, both in many of his human subjects and in a variety of animals and birds — increases in triglycerides, cortisol, insulin, and cholesterol, and greater stickiness of the blood platelets, a change that often leads to blood clots. Such clotting may result

in coronary thrombosis or a stroke. A high-fat diet, by contrast, produced no medically significant effects.

When Professor Yudkin slaughtered the animals and birds, he found plaque in the arteries of those fed sugar but not in those fed starch. He refrained from slaughtering his human subjects and therefore was unable to examine their arteries.

What is the relevant difference between sugar and starch? When digested, starch is broken down to pure glucose, but table sugar yields a 50:50 mixture of glucose and fructose. Professor Yudkin was well aware of this but did not draw the obvious conclusion from his observations, which

was that the cardiovascular effects of sugar are due to its fructose component. More recent studies by others, however, showed that large doses of pure fructose produce typical cardiovascular disease.

The effect of fructose

Recognizing fructose as foreign, the liver removes it from the blood and converts it to triglycerides. It then combines the triglycerides with protein and releases them into the blood as VLDL. Since fructose does not appreciably increase blood sugar it is not very fattening — it has a low glycemic index — and table sugar, which is 50 percent fructose, is therefore less fattening than starch. This apparent advantage, however, is far outweighed by the deadly cardiovascular toxicity of sugar's fructose component. To make matters worse, when high sugar consumption is sustained, the fructose interferes with glucose metabolism and this leads to diabetes, increased weight, and the production of additional triglycerides.

Diet, lipoproteins, and health

Research following Dr. Gofman's original discovery has shown that the HDL ("good cholesterol") concentration in the blood plasma varies inversely with the VLDL ("very bad cholesterol") concentration; foods that raise either lipoprotein lower the other. Thus, diets high in fat and low in carbohydrate increase HDL and decrease VLDL, a healthy outcome. Diets high in carbohydrate and low in fat decrease HDL and raise the concentration of VLDL, a dangerous result, but that

is the kind of diet the anti-fat crusaders recommend.

Statins (Lipitor, Crestor, etc.) inhibit cholesterol production in the liver but they also produce beneficial effects in the blood and arteries similar to those of high-fat, lowcarbohydrate diets. They raise HDL, lower VLDL, and reduce the incidence of cardiovascular disease. To avoid obesity and diabetes, however, those of us who take a statin may still need a lowcarbohydrate diet. In clinical studies statins decreased the incidence of heart attacks and strokes by just 20 to 30 percent. The odds may be better for those who are also on a low-carbohydrate diet but that apparently remains to be tested.

Limiting fructose consumption

Easily the sweetest of sugars, fructose is a deceptive foe. Before its cardiovascular toxicity became generally known, its intense sweetness and low glycemic index enabled fructose to pose as a safe and attractive sweetener. One result was the development of high-fructose corn syrup. Natural corn syrup is a glucose solution made from corn starch. Glucose is not very sweet, so manufacturers developed a process that converted about 55 percent of the glucose in corn syrup to fructose.

The resulting high-fructose syrup is much sweeter than regular corn syrup and a bit sweeter than table sugar. Its intense sweetness, low cost, and supposed safety made the high-fructose syrup an attractive ingredient for food manufacturers, and many of them still use it. If you buy

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Diet and Health: The Devil in the Details

continued from page 19

sweet baked goods, check the labels to ensure that they do not contain high-fructose corn syrup.

Honey is about 85 percent sugars, and its predominant sugar is fructose, hence its intense sweetness. Honey is more concentrated than highfructose corn syrup, so it is wise to eat no more than a teaspoonful at a time and to limit the use of honey as a sweetener in cooking. It is safe to use honey in bread dough because the fermentation destroys the sugars, breaking them down to carbon dioxide and water.

All fruits contain sugars, usually a mixture of sucrose, glucose, and fructose. Fruits are good sources of vitamins and minerals but so are vegetables and salads, and they have much less sugar. Thus it is advisable to eat fruits in moderation and to eat more vegetables and salads instead. We sweet-tooths need not lose hope, however, because there are delicious fruits that contain relatively little sugar. These include cantaloupe, grapefruit, papaya, cherries, strawberries, and raspberries.

Buon appetito!





On Sunday, March 30, the Larry McKenna Jazz Band serenaded residents of Hopkinson House in the solarium.





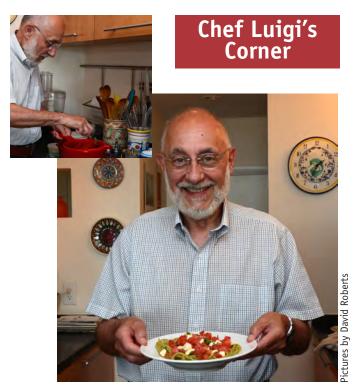
Easy-to-make Uncooked Tomato Sauces

By Louis DelSoldo

C ummer is here, and we at Hopkinson House are fortunate to have access to fresh, delicious tomatoes, both from Lancaster County and from New Jersey. Wonderful tomato sauces can be made with ripe tomatoes from either location. While each has its aficionados, I personally prefer the New Jersey varieties. Fresh tomatoes of course make wonderful cooked sauces, but an even easier way to use them is in sauces that do not require cooking.

Uncooked sauces can be made with either plum tomatoes or the larger beefsteak variety. It is not always necessary to peel the tomatoes when making an uncooked sauce, and in one recipe below, an immersible blender or food processor is used to chop the skin into small edible pieces. If you wish to peel them, I recommend using a very sharp paring knife. While peeling is not essential, removing the seeds is highly recommended.

Plum tomatoes have much less liquid and will yield a sauce more concentrated in flavor. I sometimes like to chop either variety into very small cubes and set them in a fine kitchen strainer over an empty bowl for several hours. By turning occasionally with a wooden spoon much of the liquid will fall into the bowl. You might also add a teaspoon of salt to the tomatoes to draw out the liquid. Removing the liquid from the tomatoes concentrates the flavor of the sauce.



Chef Luigi prepares a sauce of uncooked tomatoes and serves it on spaghetti.

California Style Pasta

3 cloves garlic pressed

3 pounds of plum (preferably) tomatoes

3/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

2 teaspoons salt

1/2 bunch fresh basil

2 pounds fresh mozzarella, chopped into bite-size pieces.

1 pound De Cecco spinach pasta.

Chop tomatoes finely. If you so choose, set them to drain in the strainer for several hours. Mix the olive oil, garlic and salt and

let stand for 2 or 3 hours while the tomatoes drain. Tear basil leave to release flavor, and add them and the tomatoes, along with the chopped mozzarella, to the olive oil infusion. Toss all ingredients and let sit at room temperature about a half hour before serving.

Boil the water and cook the pasta. Put the room temperature sauce over the hot pasta and serve. Will serve four or six, if a first course.

A note about the ingredients:

Either type of tomato can used. If you cube them early in the day and let them sit in the strainer over a bowl for several hours, you will have a tastier sauce. Never refrigerate tomatoes. Any type of fresh mozzarella can be used. I highly recommend Claudio's from the Italian Market. One cheese dealer at Reading Terminal sells Claudio's mozzarella. As an aside, he told me that last year he won Philadelphia Magazine's best mozzarella. They never knew it was from Claudio's. DiBruno's fresh mozzarella is second best. I don't think it is necessary to use a fine Tuscan olive oil, as long the bottle says "product of Italy" and it is extra virgin, it should be fine.

For pasta I recommend a dry pasta as the sauce is too hearty for pasta fresca. I prefer De Cecco's spinach spaghetti, but other brands and varieties will do. The green pasta and basil, the white cheese and the orange sauce will replicate the Italian flag.

Jean Banfi's Blended Pasta Sauce

4 or 5 fresh ripe tomatoes w/skins

1 large clove of garlic put through a press

1/2 cup or more of olive oil

1 and 1/2 teaspoons of salt

1/2 bunch of fresh basil

Freshly grated Parmigiano cheese

Combine all ingredients in a food processor. Pulse for a minute or two. Cook the pasta, remembering that fresh pasta cooks very quickly. Pour the sauce over the cooked pasta and serve, passing the cheese. Will serve four.

A note about the ingredients:

I learned to make this simple sauce from my Italian friend, Jean Banfi. This sauce is more versatile and can be used with pasta fresca. Supermarkets sell many types of fresh pasta, but I prefer to buy it at Talluto's in the Italian Market at 9th and Carpenter. In this recipe freshly grated Parmigiano is called for. I always look for Parmigiano Reggiano imported from Italy.



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