May This Holiday Season Bring Peace, Prosperity and Tolerance to the World

What's Inside

Nelly Childress

The Message from Council is a must read if you are interested in the "health" of our condominium building. I strongly recommend it.

In lieu of the Message from Management please find a letter from **Hopkinson House Council** to Owners and Residents, reporting the resignation of our General Manager, David Smith.

The summary of the **HHOA town hall meeting** will give an idea of what was discussed on October 5th. Those interested in a more comprehensive report may borrow a recording from Management.

Concha Alborg has interviewed a most interesting neighbor who reinvented himself at retirement.

Most of us like Korey Harper, one of our Resident Services Desk attendants, but **Terry Kowalski** tells us that he is one of the busiest people around, juggling jobs education, and family.

Lynn Miller, in his incomparable style, reports on the transformation of the "Curtis Building" from "a kind of quiet place" into "The Curtis" that is "a place meant to reflect the latest in how we work, play and live in the 21st century."

English is the language of England, but it is also the language most of us speak in USA. **David Roberts** illustrates how the differences are sometimes puzzling and sometimes cause for mirth — quite fascinating!

Jane Hickman offers our readers a mouth-watering recipe for a holiday meal, preceded by...

Becky Krasley's mistletoe cocktail fit for a king. ■



Message from Council

Paul Coyne

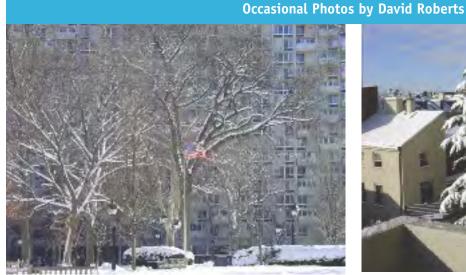


Electric System

In early spring we began replacing all light bulbs in the building with LED and fluorescent bulbs. Around 700 light bulbs have already been replaced. The changes are, for example, 12-watt bulbs replacing 52-watt and 16-watt bulbs replacing 64-watt. These are significant differences. We observed about a 25 percent increase in efficiency and significant decreases in PECO bills.

We are now trying to see if our emergency generator, a Cummins NT855G, can be more efficient. Back-up generators are available to power telephones, security cameras, and the Parking Garage lighting.

On November 16th, the electric system shutdown was the last major and final step in our switchgear project that went well. We experienced a switchgear outage several weeks ago, and the change-over occurred unnoticed as expected. Kudos to all who made this project a success. continued on Page 2



Hopkinson House viewed from a wintry Washington Square.



A frosty view of Hopkinson House's courtyard.

House

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

Farewell, David Smith

Members of the Newsletter Committee regret the resignation of David S. Smith, CMCA, CAMCO, General Manager Agent for HHOA, and wish him success in his new endeavor.



Message from Council

continued from Page 1

Contractors Regulations

Contractors are limited to using only the freight elevator for travel between floors in the building. Our building manager suggested that, for efficiency's sake, construction workers who are looking clean and not carrying construction material may use the passenger elevators.

Laundry Room

About half of the new washing machines will be top loaders and the other half will be front loaders. The top loaders use significantly more water than the front loaders. This new distribution will easily accommodate our four-inch drain line.

Bike Room

We anticipate the bike room will open by December 15th. There will be a \$4/month fee, and for remote storage the fee has been reduced to \$1/month. You can obtain application forms from Cathy Kavalkovich in the Office or from the Resident Services Desk.

Racks have been ordered and should be delivered soon. For further information or questions please contact Albert De Martini.

What's going on?

The engineering committee has met several times, and I have attended many of their meetings. I found them hard-working professionals who are looking at a broad scope of topics.

HVAC Project

It appears that the projected time line for the implementation of the HVAC project will be in the latter part of 2018. A decision will have been reached on one of the following systems: Air based PTAC, water based, and replacement in kind. They all have advantages and disadvantages. A balanced system is somewhere out there.

If we can stay within our targeted budget we will once again be able to dramatically improve our investments' value without any assessment.

November 20, 2017

To: Hopkinson House Owners and Residents From: Hopkinson House Council Re: David Smith, General Manager

Dear Hopkinson House Owners and Residents,

We are very sad to report that our General Manager, David Smith, has submitted his resignation. David was offered a tremendous opportunity with a previous employer that he could not refuse. His last day as our Manager will be Thursday, November 30th. Fortunately, however, he has agreed to make himself available to us during the upcoming transition.

Over the past two years David has persevered to improve the overall management of our community. He has been instrumental in guiding us through significant Capital Projects such as the replacement of our garage ramp, the renovation of our lobby level, the emergency replacement of our electrical switch gear equipment, and the relocation of the bike room. His hard work and commitment to our community has been and will continue to be greatly appreciated by Council, Staff, and our owners and residents. We all wish David continued success with his future endeavors.

Council is working with our management company CAMCO to pursue a successful transition and successor, and we will update residents as soon as new information becomes available.

Sincerely, Hopkinson House Council

Summary of HHOA Town Meeting

Nelly Childress

The meeting held on Thursday, October 5th, focused on the project undertaken to improve the building's Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system. David Smith, Community Manager, welcomed attendees and outlined an agenda that would include a brief review of the history and status of the project by Gary Krimstock, HHOA's legal counsel; a presentation by Holstein White, the engineering firm engaged for the HVAC project; and time for questions and answers.

Gary Krimstock noted that the current system is more than 50 years old. The life of current HVAC components has been extended as long as possible, but now is the time to replace the entire system. He noted the financial steps taken by successive HHOA councils to increase capital reserves, and that the financing plan is to fund the cost of the project without a special assessment. He also reported that the HHOA

Engineering Committee had added five new members, and that Council had approved the committee's initial recommendation to ask Holstein White to both design and install a mockup of a packaged terminal air conditioner (PTAC) system in a vacant unit, so that residents could evaluate its operation, and also provide an estimate of the cost of an alternative system (water-source heat pump).

Representatives of Holstein White described the condition of the current HVAC system and the options that have been considered:

- 1 Replacement in kind of the current Two-Pipe Fan Coil System;
- 2 Four-Pipe Fan Coil;
- 3 Water Source Heat Pump;
- 4 Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) Heat Pump; and
- 5 PTAC Heat Pump.

Criteria used by Holstein White in its evaluation included:

- **1** The degree to which residents would be inconvenienced during the project;
- **2** The ability of residents to control temperatures in their units;
- 3 Cost; and
- 4 Ease of maintenance and repair.

During the lengthy Question & Answer session, residents raised many issues. Among them were questions about the size and appearance of PTAC units; PTAC noise levels both inside units and on balconies: asbestos abatement if the current twopipe system were to be replaced; ongoing electricity and maintenance costs; and the comparative cost of three options (in-kind replacement, water source heat pumps, and PTACs).

Most of the questions will be answered, according to **Jeff Holstein**, by the time the mock-up is completed. He explained that rapid changes in the PTAC technology will provide some

solutions by next year. At the same time, a detailed cost estimate for a water source heat pump alternative is being developed.

Several members of the **HHOA Engineering Committee** who were present expressed a range of opinions. One was an inclination to go with the PTAC option, but to move more quickly on a demonstration model. Another was to continue to look at other options, particularly the water source heat pump, and to develop a more holistic approach to listing the pluses and minuses of different systems, including solar technology.

In closing, David Smith indicated Council would discuss any change in the mock-up timeline at future meetings, and he asked that any additional questions be sent to him.

Editor's Note: It is extremely difficult to summarize a lengthy discussion that covered myriad issues. Those interested in a more comprehensive report may borrow a recording of the meeting from Management.

Residents Corner

Residents wishing to make comments/ observations on the current will be published in the issue may send them to: "The Editor," nsmedchildze @comcast.net.

Those who do not have a computer can place their comment in an envelope addressed to "Editor, on the House" and give the envelope to the employee

at the Resident Services Desk. Your comments next issue of the newsletter. Anonymous comments will not accepted.

The editor reserves the right to reject opinions/ comments, etc., if they are deemed inappropriate or can involve the association in legal troubles.



Basil in a cardboard box, a favorite refuge of a cat.

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Jim Siegel: Reinventing Himself at Retirement

Concha Alborg

This past September Jim Siegel marked his 40th anniversary of living in Hopkinson House. He goes all the way back to when it was a rental building, but he still loves it and considers it "the bargain in Washington Square." Thus, he has seen many changes around here.

He remembers when the now fancy townhouses to the west of the Square were empty, and the area of Wills Eye Hospital was just a parking lot. He misses the iconic retail stores like Gimbels, John Wanamaker's and Strawbridge & Clothier, but appreciates the many wonderful restaurants within walking distance. He likes that there are more families and children in the building — he comes from a large family of six children himself — but he misses his old friends. Jim is used to change, but nothing prepared him for the big change that he would experience when he retired. He practically had to reinvent himself then.

After a bout with cancer eight years ago, Jim decided to retire early to enjoy a more leisurely life. He had worked for the government in a job with Social Security, where he was a policy expert. When newly retired, he would ask himself: "what have I done?" The first couple of years he traveled extensively from Florida all the way to Germany and Switzerland. But, since he had always been interested



Jim Siegel

in art — he keeps more than 800 art books in his apartment, he found his niche volunteering as a guide in the Philadelphia Art Museum.

Being a Museum Guide presupposes passing a two-year training program, with the requirement of continuing education. Every guide is trained to give seven tours of the six areas of the Museum in addition to a Highlights tour. There are also tours of the period rooms and of the architectural installations, such as the Hindu Temple and the Japanese Tea House. A new tour on Spanish and Latin American Art is being planned.

Jim emphasizes that the Museum's current exhibit "Old Masters Now: Celebrating the Johnson Collection" (until February 19th, 2018) is not to be missed.

In 1917 Mr. Johnson, a prominent Philadelphia lawyer, left his remarkable collection of 1,300 works to the city. During the Great Depression the collection was transferred to the Art Museum. This exhibit shows how paintings that may be familiar to us can be looked at under a different light. For example, there are nine paintings by Hieronymus Bosch that Mr. Johnson thought were authentic; the public is invited to guess which ones are indeed by Bosch and which ones are copies or were painted by followers.

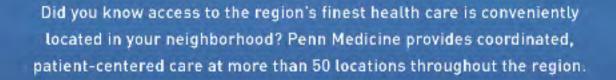
When I asked Jim which room or artist is his favorite in the museum, he answered without hesitation, "Marcel Duchamp and his 'Étant donnés'." Not surprising for a connoisseur like him with such a sophisticated taste. He also loves the Impressionist and Post-Impressionist collections.

Jim is very excited about the expansion that the Museum is going through. If you have been there lately, you will have noticed

that the galleries in front of the Museum Shop, the old cafeteria and the auditorium are already gone. This first part of the expansion is supposed to be finished by 2020, and it will increase the gallery space by 60%. This is the most expensive cultural project ever undertaken in this city, worth \$525 million. The Art Museum currently owns 240,000 works of art of which only 15.000 are shown. According to Jim, "artworks are always rotating in and out of storage and the galleries to keep the experience fresh for visitors. In fact, one of the challenges for guides is wondering if a popular artwork we usually talk about will be in the gallery or not."

Some good news for Hopkinson House residents: Jim Siegel is willing to organize a Museum tour especially for us. Sign me up right away, please!





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Korey Harper: One Busy Person

Terry Kowalski

orey Harper, one of the front desk attendants at Hopkinson House, has a ready smile, is always willing to help, and always knows the latest Eagles score. At the same time, when he's not working at the front desk, during what most people would think of as downtime, he's one of the busiest people possible.

Korey has worked at Hopkinson House for almost six years, with the first two being on the front door and the last three being at the front desk. Simultaneously he has worked nights as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) for several residents who live in the condo building. He continues to pursue his interest in health care, and in January he will be

starting an 18-month parttime program at Delaware County Community College to become a surgical technician. While Korey is juggling his jobs and his education, many of us know that he is also a father, to Korev Junior who, it's hard to believe, will be 13 on his next birthday in January. Many of us still remember little Korey Jr. from running into him with his look-alike father in the elevator! Korey and his mini-me love to go to libraries and museums, and this spring, will be taking a trip to Washington, DC, to visit the museums on the National Mall. Trying to steer his son to concentrate in school on academics rather than on sports,

Korey hopes that his son's future will hold some time in the service so that he can learn discipline and teamwork, and then move on to further his education. Korey himself grew up in Delaware County as one

of four brothers, one of whom is his twin, Kyle, and who is a manager at Best Buy. They all grew up in a strict Christian home and his father was the head of a church. He credits that for his compassion and caring, and his interest in continuing to help people by working in the healthcare field.

As the interview draws to a close, Korey adds that in his free time, he likes to write and looks far into the future and dreams about becoming a book writer.



Korey Harper

He currently writes poetry, short stories and sometimes just outlines for books. When I asked what kind of books, he replied that they're usually inspirational life stories and Christianoriented. Korey is truly a young man who does not lack ideas, excitement and enthusiasm about his future, with true compassion towards his fellow man.

Fire Evacuation Hints

If the fire alarm sounds, leave at once. Close doors behind you. Proceed into the "Fire Exit" and remain on the landing or the steps until you are given instructions by the Fire Department or by the Building Fire DO NOT USE ELEVATORS. Marshal. Fire exits are safe areas of refuge since they are fails, causing occupants to enclosed and the doors and walls are fire rated to keep smoke and heat from entering the stairway.

They will stop if power become trapped. Elevator shaftways are like chimneys. Smoke could enter the elevator shaft thereby

Monday, December 3, 2018

Tuesday, December 25, 2018

asphyxiating the occupants who are trying to evacuate the building. **BE SURE THAT THE FIRE EXIT DOORS ARE CLOSED AT ALL** TIMES SO THAT SMOKE CANNOT ENTER THE STAIRWAY.

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Monday, September 3, 2018	Labor Day
Monday, September 10, 2018	Rosh Hashanah*
Wednesday, September 19, 2018	Yom Kippur*
Thursday, November 22, 2018	Thanksgiving

Hanukkah*

Christmas Day

*Holiday begins at sundown the day before it is listed.



THANKS A MILLION

(for all your support and loyalty)

At this holiday season, we would like to extend our appreciation to Hopkinson House for your support and loyalty during the past few years. To all, best wishes for a healthy and happy holiday season with family and friends.





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The Curtis: Getting Ready for Action

Lynn Miller

For the past couple of years, the Curtis Center, our block-long neighbor facing us across Washington Square, has been undergoing a transformation. The changes have taken place almost entirely behind the building's grand Beaux-Arts façades — all three of them — facing Walnut, 6th, and 7th Streets. The building was sold in 2014 to two developers for \$120 million. They have since been carving out 59 luxury apartments in some of the space, while retaining offices, expanding eating facilities, and turning this "historic icon into a destination," according to their website.

The building's previous makeover in the early 1980s converted Cyrus H.K. Curtis's 1910 headquarters for his publishing empire into a mixed-use office building. What was originally an open courtyard in the center — where copies of the Saturday Evening Post, Ladies Home Journal, and other once-popular journals were loaded onto delivery trucks — was given a glass roof and turned into a neo-Egyptian atrium, complete with artificial palm trees atop towering columns. A gently-flowing green marble pool and bubbly fountain anchored its eastern end. The atrium became a popular place for weddings, although during business days it served mainly as a rather chaste and awesome passageway. A casual bar and restaurant, the Cooperage, eventually became a mainstay of the



The Curtis's Courtyard

lower floor on 7th Street. Upstairs, law firms and the U.S. General Services Administration quietly did their business.

That kind of quiet may be a thing of the past."Collaborative working" is the new angle. According to the developers' pitch, "In a space where people want to spend their time beyond their hours in the office, work has been transformed into an event." So, if business hours are to pass more or less like a continual party, the atrium should soon be buzzing with worker/residents who can share a latte with friends while texting colleagues to update them on how negotiations for the latest deal is going, then reserve tee time at the golf simulator in the building's fitness center.

The gentle marble pool will be replaced by a bar where happy hour lasts all day. P.J. Clarkes, the comfort food-and-drink emporium that's been a fixture in Manhattan for more than a century, bills itself as the Cathedral of Saloons. Soon it will offer its fish and chips, mac and cheese, shepherd's pie, and "Cadillac of burgers" from spanking new digs near the southeast corner of the ground floor. In good weather, good times will spill out onto the sidewalks, as well as into the atrium.

Life within The Curtis (the new brand name) is meant to reflect the latest in how we work, play, and live in the 21st century. The apartments? They're mostly on the top floors facing 6th Street. They'll have their



The Curtis's Collaborative Working Center

own private elevators from the east lobby."So much for so few" is the leasing agent's understandable motto, since a small number of wealthy renters will have many amenities. As of now, rent for one-bedrooms, at not quite 600 square feet, will start at \$2,145 per month. The priciest threebedroom units, with more than three times as much space, will rent for \$9,348. Some are two-story residences. Penthouses have private terraces. All have access to a yoga studio in addition to the fitness center. Pets in the form of dogs and cats are permitted for an additional fee. Of course, there's a twentyfour-hour concierge desk.

Although some of these changes underway might shock old Mr. Curtis, much would still be familiar. The Dream Garden mosaic, installed when Curtis's son-in-law, Edward Bok, was in charge of operations, remains just as when it was put in place in the east lobby in 1916. That greatest product from the studio of Louis C. Tiffany interprets Maxfield Parrish's painting in a work of 100,000 mosaic tiles of favrile glass, all set by hand. Longtime Hopkinson House residents will recall the uproar in 1998, when we learned that a Las Vegas mogul, Steve Wynn, had bought the mural, which he intended to reinstall in his Bellagio casino. Philadelphians were immediately up in arms. With backing from the Pew Charitable Trust, residents raised \$3.5 million to keep continued on page 11



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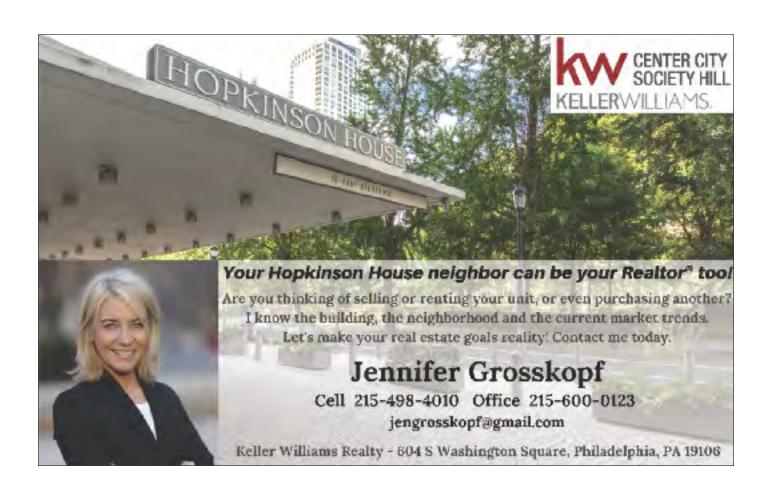
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The Curtis: Getting Ready for Action

continued from Page 9

it in place. Eventually, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts became its owner with the guarantee that the 15' x 49' work of art would remain *in situ*.

A year ago, when renovations were well underway, Philadelphia's Department of Licenses and Inspections (L&I) issued a stop-work order over concern that *The Dream Garden* was threatened by vibrations from the construction. The developer then assured the city and public that it was taking "great care" to preserve the mosaic and other architectural features. Now construction continues under the watchful eye of L&I.

So, if you're considering renting a *pied-à-terre* at the Curtis, you know you can sweep past the Tiffany mural and reflecting pool from the white marble lobby to your own elevator. You can, that is, if you're not waylaid first by the buzz and good times beckoning you from just beyond that lobby. But you probably shouldn't give up your pad at Hopkinson House. You may want to come back across the square for a proper rest.



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Celebrations of Past Holidays at Hopkinson House

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Words Across the Atlantic

David Roberts

The United States and Great Britain are two countries separated by a common language." That is a digest of statements by several wits including those great Anglo-Irishmen, Oscar Wilde and George Bernard Shaw. Winston Churchill also was a fine wit, but he had a more serious idea. He coined the term, "the English-speaking peoples," to describe what he saw as the greatest force for good and the greatest bulwark against tyranny in the modern world.

English is the language of England but it is also the language most of us speak in USA — or is it? We usually speak the same language but the differences are sometimes puzzling and sometimes cause for mirth. After leaving England in the 1970s my first home was in Denver, Colorado, where I managed a small manufacturing plant. In my first week on the job my use of the word *fortnight* induced looks of bewilderment. I had to explain that the word meant two weeks. I have not had that problem in Philadelphia but other differences are more general.

Holding up pants and socks

In this country, we use suspenders to hold up our pants. In England the same items are called *braces*. An Englishman uses suspenders to hold up his socks, employing the same items that we call garters. In England a suspender is an elastic band, placed just below the top of a sock, to keep it up, used mostly for children's long socks. So, if you are in England and shopping for suspenders, be sure to ask for braces. To keep your socks up you must buy suspenders.

Doctor

The word *doctor* used to mean teacher. It has the same root as doctrine and indoctrinate. Catholic doctrine is derived from the teachings of the Four Doctors of the Church — St. Gregory, St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, and St. Jerome. But that was in the Middle Ages. Today we still use the title, Doctor, for people with a PhD in one of the liberal arts and sciences, who seek knowledge in their chosen field and teach it, but we also use it for practicing professionals such as physicians and dentists.

In the USA, physicians, dentists, veterinarians, lawyers, optometrists, audiologists, and psychologists all graduate with a doctorate, and all of them except lawyers use the title, Doctor. To get a PhD, by contrast, one must demonstrate the ability to do research and thereby make an original contribution to knowledge. In Great Britain, members of the learned professions graduate with bachelor's degrees. Physicians, for example, graduate as bachelor of medicine and bachelor of surgery but, in practice,

they are called Doctor. Dentists, veterinarians, etc., are not. Surgeons, however, insist on being called Mister (or Mrs. or Miss). They are insulted if you address them as Doctor, implying that they are mere physicians. In Britain, in any profession or field of study, a doctorate is awarded only for an original contribution to knowledge. For instance, MD in England is equivalent to MD, PhD, in USA. A doctor's degree is never awarded in England for the completion of a course of study or training.

Knock, knock!

If an Englishman says he will knock you up, don't be alarmed. He is not proposing reproduction. He means that he will knock on your door for a visit.

Motherhood

We have a Mom but the English have a Mum.

A meaty matter

Our local grocery store, Acme, cuts the beef tenderloin into steaks and quite logically calls them tenderloin steaks. Most American restaurants pretentiously use the French term, filet mignon, pronounced "feelay meenyo(n)," but this means a dainty ribbon or narrow strap, a strange way to describe a half-pound lump of meat. The English call it a fillet steak (pronounced "fillit") but the French filet and the English fillet both mean the same thing, a ribbon.

Filet mignon was originally made from lamb tender-

loins, which can sometimes be seen in high-end food shops on both sides of the Atlantic. They certainly look like ribbons but I have never been offered a dish made from them.

Don't know whether the French use the term, filet mignon. The only steaks I have found in Paris restaurants were called *entrecôte*. They can be almost any cut of steak — rib, tenderloin, sirloin, etc. — but they are so tough and stringy as to be almost inedible, perhaps my punishment for being so stupid as to order steak

in Paris. I think they use meat from retired dairy cows.

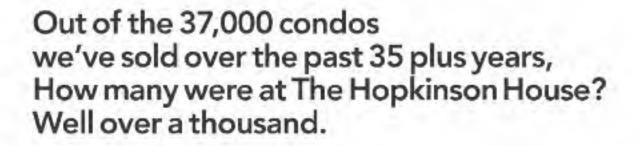


Grade inflation

In England a managing director is the director board member — who runs the company on a daily basis. According to American dictionaries, and various sources found on Google, a managing director in USA may be the CEO, the COO, a division head or, in large companies, a department head. In other words, he or she may or may not be a member of the board but has a pretty senior position.

Now for a real puzzle. In USA the biggest financial firms, from time to time, announce the elevation of as many as 200 employees to the rank of managing director. It is inconceivable that any firm would, at one time, have vacancies for 200 division or department

continued on Page 17



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Words Across the Atlantic

continued from Page 15

heads. So, what do all these managing directors do? Are they customer-account managers? I have tried in vain to find the answer but, if one of our readers knows, please enlighten us. It looks like serious grade inflation, something the British do not engage in; as in the use of Doctor they are stingy with titles although only for people who have to work for a living, not for the aristocracy.

Coming and going

In USA, if you say that you will be somewhere momentarily, it means that you will be there soon in a moment. In England it means that you won't stay long. You will be there only for a moment.

Pronunciation of the letter R

To the English, Americans emphasize the letter R much more than they do, with the exception of the natives of the English county, Cornwall. This is most obvious in the sounds produced by a vowel plus R. For example, hard is pronounced "harrd" in USA but "hahd" in England. Fort is pronounced "forrt" in USA but "fawt" in England. In England, er, ir, and ur, are all pronounced the same way, with the R silent; herd and bird rhyme with absurd.

Hence it is puzzling that Americans fail to pronounce R in certain words. This happens when the R is placed between two vowels. In England caramel is pronounced "carramel." In USA it is usually pronounced "cahmell." In respiratory -spir- is the stem of the word and should be emphasized. Thus, in England, it is pronounced "respirratory" or "respyratory," with the emphasis on the second syllable. In USA, however, everybody, including the medical profession, pronounces

it "respatory," with the emphasis on the first and third syllables, thereby de-emphasizing the word's stem and omitting half of it. Young people seem to be changing the pronunciation of "America." Many of them make it sound like "Amayica." Speech is forever changing.

Yafta

This word is widely used in USA by people at all levels of wealth, class, and education. I don't recall ever hearing it in England but it is commonly used by English people long resident in USA. It is an economical alternative to the three words it replaces. Its meaning is best shown by examples:

1. If ya need food *yafta* shop at the grocery store.

2. To get to work on time *yafta* rise early.

A lingua franca

Latin used to be the language of the Catholic

Church and of the intellectual elite, while ordinary people like us spoke English, the "vulgar tongue." German was the language of chemistry, and French the language of diplomacy. Esperanto was devised as a common language for everybody but, being nobody's native language, it never caught on. Instead English is becoming the international language, not because it is the language of Britain but because it is the language of USA,

At a meeting in Europe I was in the presence of two Europeans who didn't know each other's languages so, to my amazement, they conversed in Latin, which I had never thought of as a language for conversation. It sometimes seems that Europeans are more serious about education than we are, even though they spend less money on it.

the predominant power

in today's world.

Free Lexicographer's Lecture: Thursday, December 7th

What Are Words Worth?

A nyone can coin a phrase, but do you know what it takes to get a new word into the dictionary? Kory Stamper does. That's because she's a lexicographer at Merriam-Webster and she has just authored a new book called "Word by Word: The Secret Life of Dictionaries" revealing for all to read that the process of writing dictionaries is, in fact, as lively and dynamic as is language that is being defined itself. Enjoy her wit and irreverence. Signed copies of her book will be available for purchase. The event is free, but reservations are required. American Philosophical Society Benjamin Franklin Hall 427 Chestnut Street 5:30 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. lecture www.amphilsoc.org/events/ kory-stamper-word-word N ORD BY WORD Kury STAMPER





e mourn Nancy Snyder who died on September 20th at age 97. The youngest daughter of Russian immigrants, she was a resident of Hopkinson House since 1963 or, as she would say, "from the early days when it was rental." A real estate agent, she managed her own agency for twenty years at Two Penn Center before opening a new office at Academy House in 1979. Nancy was an extremely

hard worker who was intensely interested in politics, history, the theater, and French culture. She made time to take courses at Penn, Temple, the University of Grenoble, and the Alliance Française of Philadelphia. Nancy was a gourmet who enjoyed good food and watching the chefs' channels on TV. She also travelled throughout Europe and South America and, since she was a good raconteur, made

many friends and had many tales to tell. When the Council formed committees in 1980 following the conversion of the building from rentals to condominium, Nancy served on several of them. Shortly after she retired, Nancy and Nelly Childress founded the Washington Square Citizens' League (WSCL) at Hopkinson House, and WSCL is still in existence more than 20 years later. Last but not least, she was



Pictures by David Robert

Nancy Snyder

in charge of securing the advertisements for this newsletter.

On September 21st, Edwin P. Rothong, an electrical engineer and long-time resident of Hopkinson House, died at age 87. He served on our HHOA Councils for several terms from 1997 to 2009, as treasurer when needed. He was a member of the engineering committees and worked harmoniously with Anthony Kelly, who was in charge of our Maintenance Department. Ed was a student at General George A. McCall Elementary and Middle Schools (a now prestigious institution that recently received an education award) and a graduate of Drexel University. He collaborated, in 1996, on the shadow-sunlight tile pattern with the Schwam architects, the designers of the pool and the circulating water system in the courtyard and on uncountable projects. Ed was fond of baseball and of a good game of bridge. He will be greatly missed.



Edwin P. Rothong

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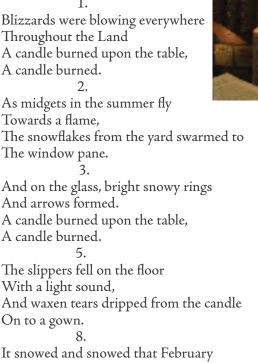
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Winter Night

Boris Pasternak

1.



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'Tis The Season For Entertaining!

Jane Hickman

Start the evening by offering your guests a festive Mistletoe Cocktail. Hors d'oeuvres can be as simple as a good cheese or two, crackers, and Kalamata olives. Then serve a roast fillet of beef accompanied by goat cheese mashed-potato gratin and steamed asparagus.

Roast Fillet of Beef in a Mushroom Red Wine Sauce

Serves 4 to 6.

Ingredients:

- 1 center-cut fillet of beef, about 1³/₄ - 2 pounds, well-trimmed and tied
 - Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 6-8 ounces sliced mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons freshly chopped shallots
- 1 cup dry red wine
- 1/2 cup fresh or canned beef broth
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme or
- 1/2 teaspoon dry thyme
- 1 small bay leaf
- 2 tablespoons butter

Directions:

- 1 Preheat oven to 450°.
- 2 Sprinkle meat on all sides with salt and pepper. Rub with oil.
- **3** Place beef in small, shallow roasting pan and place on bottom rack of oven. Turn once or twice as it roasts.

Bake 25 minutes (rare, to internal temperature of 125°), 30-40 minutes (medium-rare, to internal temperature of 135°), or 45-50 minutes (medium, to internal temperature of 145°). When the narrow end of your roast is medium-rare, the wide end will be rare.



- **4** Transfer meat to warm platter. Cover loosely with foil to keep warm.
- 5 Pour off fat from pan. Place pan on top of stove and add mushrooms. Cook for 3 minutes on medium heat. Add shallots and cook another minute. Add wine and reduce by half. Add broth, thyme, bay leaf,

and any juices that have accumulated around the roast. Cook over high heat for about 5 minutes or until the sauce is reduced to the consistency you would like. Swirl in the butter.

6 Transfer meat to a warm serving platter. Spoon sauce over meat, slice on the bias, and serve.

Goat Cheese Mashed-Potato Gratin

Serves 4 to 6.

Ingredients:

- 2 pounds yellow-fleshed potatoes or russet (baking) potatoes
- 5 small cloves garlic
- 1/3 cup heavy cream
- ¹/₂-1 stick unsalted butter (about ¹/₄ to ¹/₂ cup)
- ⅓ cup mild goat cheese
 (about 3 ounces)
- 1/4 cup minced scallion

Directions:

- In a large saucepan, combine the potatoes, peeled and cut into 1 ¹/₂- to 2-inch pieces, and the garlic with enough salted water to cover the potatoes by ¹/₂ inch. Simmer, covered, for 15-25 minutes, until the potatoes are tender but not falling apart.
- **2** While the potatoes are cooking, in a small

saucepan, heat the cream with the butter, the goat cheese, and salt and pepper to taste over moderately low heat, stirring, until the butter and cheese are just melted and smooth. Keep the mixture warm.

3 Drain the potatoes and garlic and mash. With an electric mixer beat in the butter mixture, the scal-

lion, and salt and paper to taste. Beat just until the potatoes are fluffy and smooth. Do not overbeat.

4 Transfer the mixture to a 1-quart shallow flameproof baking dish. Broil the potatoes under a preheated broiler about 4 inches from the heat for 3-5 minutes, or until the top is golden.

Chef's Corner

Ho-Ho-Hoppy Hour @ Hopkinson House

Becky Krasley

Mistletoe Cocktail

Ingredients:

Lime juice (1/4 tsp)

Honey (1/4 tsp)

Mint Leaves (3)

Vodka of choice (about 1 ounce, Titos preferred)

Swap Vodka for Sprite for non-alcoholic version

Ginger Beer (non-alcoholic)

Cranberries (about 5)

Fresh Rosemary and white sugar for garnish

Directions:

Grab an 8 ounce glass of choice.

Muddle mint leaves, 2 cranberries, honey and lime in a dish set aside.

For sugar rim: Squeeze lime juice into a small dish and sugar into another, big enough for the rim of the glass, and dip the rim of the glass in the lime then in the sugar to rim the glass. Place the mash mixture in bottom of the glass, fill ³/₄ the glass with crushed ice.

Pour vodka over the ice, add ginger beer to just below the rim of the glass.

Garnish with a sprig of rosemary and three cranberries. Cheers!!

Mistletoe Cocktail, garnished with a sprig of rosemary and three cranberries.



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