

Second Quarter Starts

By Jonathan E. Otto

In the spring months of this year, Penn Valley started three new projects; The Korean Presbyterian Church of Trenton, the Reedman-Toll Chrysler/Dodge Service Center and the Triumph Brew Pub of Philadelphia.



Our project for the **Korean Presbyterian Church**, designed by Nae Sup Kim is a 19,600 square foot building which houses a multipurpose room of 12,542 square feet which will provide space for assembly and indoor sports. The remainder of the building includes lavatories, classrooms, and exercise rooms. Completion of the Dorcas Community Center is anticipated in December of 2006.

The **Reedman-Toll Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep Service** building is our seventh project for Bruce Toll. This 42,000 square foot building consists of forty-four service bays, a 13,000 square foot parts area, write-up and accessory store. This new building, designed by Ashley Spearman and Associates AIA, is a combination of pre-engineered and conventional construction.



The **Triumph Brew Pub of Philadelphia** is our fourth project with Triumph. Our relationship with Triumph started with alterations to their Princeton, NJ facility. Shortly thereafter, we constructed their second location at the Union Square complex in New Hope, PA. The newest facility is under construction at 117-121 Chestnut Street in the heart of Philadelphia's Old City District. Old City is home to the Liberty Bell and Philadelphia's hottest nightlife. Triumph Brew Pub will be a full service restaurant, bar and brewery with seating for 230. Doors are set to open at this working brewery, set in a chic restaurant, in February 2007.

On the Drawing Board

By Jonathan E. Otto

In May of 2006, we were requested by Eugene Schenkman of S/K Branchburg Properties to initiate the design of a

total square footage of the building will now be 77,750 square feet.

All of us at Penn Valley Constructors are delighted to be working with these valued customers once again.

In June we had a similar request from Vince and Deardra Murphy to start the design of a 24,000 square foot addition to the sprinkler fabrication building we constructed for them in 1999.



27,750 square foot addition to the building we constructed for them in 1998 and added onto in 1999. The



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Mike Patel and his Extended Family

By Anita Miller



As guests enter the hall, from the vestibule on the right of our picture, they are greeted by the Indian god Ganesh. According to Mike Patel, "it is always at any new venture. It says that we worship to God first and ask for good luck". Patterned marble flooring is illuminated by a centered chandelier. The entire effect is softly replicated through the use of wall mounted mirrors.

Mike was born in Tanzania, East Africa. His parents had emigrated there from India. His father, who died when Mike was seven years old, owned a company that manufactured clothing...mostly uniforms. His brother, who was twenty-five years Mike's senior took over the firm and acted as a father figure to him.

"They took care of me," he says, speaking of his brother, who has since passed away, and his sister-in-law.

Today, his sister, sister-in-law, nephews and a niece, all live in the United States and are all in the hotel industry.

After high school, Mike went to India for six years of college, receiving a Masters Degree in Business Administration. Returning to Tanzania, he worked with his brother for over a year.

His pride when he talks of his daughter, a freshman at Boston University and his son, a senior at Council Rock High School, is obvious.

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The entire exterior theme was reset from multiple "A" roofs to softer rounded parapets and end walls. All horizontal wall surfaces received EFIS (a lightweight stucco system) which really brought out the fan topped window detail. A new entry canopy and stamped concrete floor provide safe and comfortable entry and exit to and from The Falls.

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Believe it or not this is the same bar as shown in the inset. Serving the main ballroom, the bar looks out over the seating area and the beautiful waterfall.

"You know, she is only away three weeks and the house feels empty. I keep worrying. I know that she has to get her wings to fly and that I have to overcome this feeling, but I want to talk to her. We have always talked so openly. I miss her."

He pauses and then he tells his story of how he purchased the property where The Falls is located. One soon learns that this is, "typically Mike".

"I saw the property, seven acres, asked the broker the price and made an instant decision. I knew that there was a great demand for banquet facilities in the area and thought this would be perfect."

The property, built in 1970, had originally been a bunkhouse for Conrail railroad workers and then was run as a banquet hall.

"Oh, it was so dark," he explains. "No windows, no doors, dark paneling."

What did he know about the food business?

A quick answer, "Zero! Basically nothing," he smiles.

Next question, who would rebuild this for him.

"I had found Penn Valley in the yellow pages ten years ago. They had built the Holiday Inn Express in Morrisville for me. So I called them, Jon Otto was

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Built in 1998 the Holiday Inn Express, Morrisville, PA was Mike's first local project.

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whom I talked to. He's easy to relate to. I trusted them, so I went by their opinion and judgment. You know, there are so many builders who can really make your life miserable...with Penn Valley it's a different story; they are helpful and we could easily communicate with each other, even when the job grew ...along with the expenses."

Mike tells how the job was done. "Penn Valley did a total renovation of the catering facility from outside to inside. Bathrooms and kitchens were totally reconstructed; the dining rooms were re-done with new floors, ceilings, lighting, trim, paint and bar areas. New openings for windows and doors were created. Four interior columns, which I really hated, were removed, with hidden support structures on the roof to create an open feeling in the dining rooms. Everything was just what I wanted."

Now comes a statement which is another "typically Mike"... "I feel it's like a family thing with Penn Valley...with Jon and Mike McCormick and all the others. You see, that's the same thing that I want my customers at The Falls to feel...like a family."

Today, The Falls has two beautiful rooms, a ballroom seating 280, with the famous waterfall of Bucks County river stone, and the smaller room, 100. The entire building is perfect for a cocktail party or business meeting, which would easily hold 500 persons.

Mike's wife designed the impressive entrance with a floor of marble and granite. "She is so sentimentally involved in this...it's like a new-born baby to her. She

has put her heart into the decorating."

The 'woman's touch' is evident in the lovely paintings, draperies, chandeliers, gold ballroom chairs and the welcoming powder room.

Mike explained the figure in the lobby that holds an honored place.

"This is the Indian god Ganesh. It is always at any new venture. It says that we worship to God first and ask for good luck". The figure of a human being and elephants was imported from India

"It's very important to me to find the right people to work here...to grow with the business. I want to have a beautiful garden put in and outside weddings,

picnics and an outdoor patio. I want everyone to know that The Falls means "Come and Enjoy!"

"I would like a grand opening and a ribbon cutting then!"

A last question to Mike:

With so much land here, do you have any intention to build a motel adjacent to The Falls?

No pause in his answer: "Definitely that's what I want to do."

And who would build it for you?

"Penn Valley would do the construction. You see, I just wouldn't want any other builder...in them I have Trust and Confidence...these are two of the most important things in life you look for and Penn Valley gives me that!"

Mike Patel's extended family has certainly grown with his relationship with Penn Valley Constructors!



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