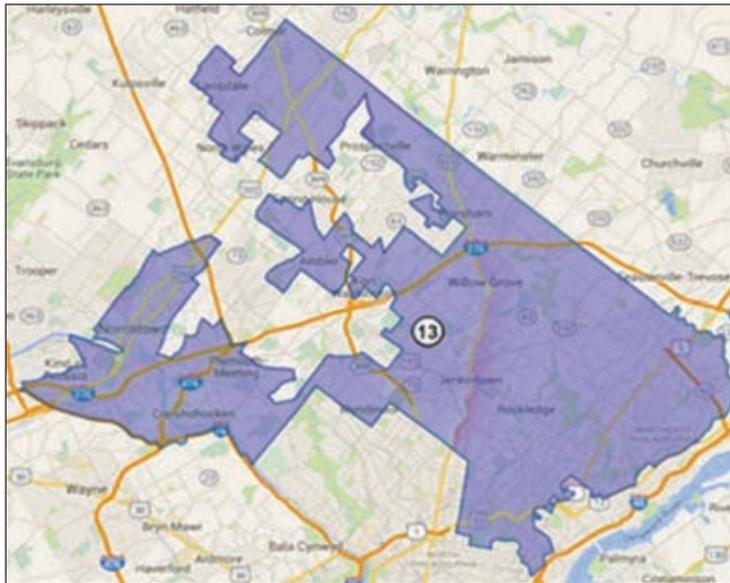


East Falls **NOW**

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March 2021

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Here's what one PA Congressional district looked like before the PA Supreme Court did away with politically drawn gerrymandered districts in 2018. Current legislation – stalled in the State House of Representatives – would introduce the prospect of similar gerrymandering to judicial elections – now conducted on a state-wide basis.

Judicial districts would politicize Pennsylvania's appellate courts

by John T. Gillespie

If the state legislature has its way, Pennsylvania, formerly one of the most gerrymandered states in the union, might soon elect its appellate court judges the same way voters elect legislators and trial court judges -- on a district-by-district basis.

The change would replace the current state-wide election of appellate judges and, according to numerous critics, lead to the widely discredited practice of gerrymandering.

This is the derisive term used to describe the process when legislators or their representatives draw their district boundaries to create a more favorable political scene for themselves. The practice, typically taking place after every 10-year census, has led to wildly odd boundaries and crazily shaped districts that violate requirements that districts be compact, contiguous and coterminous.

A bill proposing a constitutional amendment has been approved once and awaits the required second approval by both chambers of the state legislature before it goes to a voter referendum. A growing list of civic organizations led by the organizations Fair Districts PA and the League of Women Voters opposes the bill, which currently is stalled

in the State House.

The changes would carry vast implications for the way appellate judges are chosen. According to critics, it would politicize the process and compromise the independence of the judiciary.

Charlie Day, a former Warden Dr. resident and co-founder of East Falls Village before he and his wife moved to Cathedral Village, is an active member of Fair Dis-

tricts PA and a leading voice in the campaign to eliminate gerrymandering. He is outspoken in his opposition to introducing politics to judicial elections, and he briefed participants in the East Falls Community Council's Feb. 8 general membership meeting

"The Judicial District amendment is a bad idea, something that was dreamed up by unhappy state legisla-

(Continued on page 2)

185 units at 4401 Ridge are focus of Feb. 27 zoning meeting

The proposed construction of a 185-unit apartment house at 4401 Ridge Ave., on the corner of Ridge Ave. and Merrick Rd., was the focus of the East Falls Community Council's February 17 Zoning Committee meeting.

As in past discussions of plans for the site, the proposal by the Baltimore-based Atapco Properties construction company drew strongly held positive and negative reactions from participants in the Zoom gathering.

Atapco officials are scheduled to appear on Tuesday, March 2 before the Philadelphia City Planning Commission's advisory Civic Design Review (CDR) committee, a requirement triggered by the size of the proposed project. An April meeting is scheduled before the Zoning Board of Adjustment on the company's request for two zoning variances related to plans to disturb the slope of the property and to create one loading dock instead of the required two.

(Continued on page 3)

Commissioner Al Schmidt set for March 8 EFCC meeting

The March general membership meeting of the East Falls Community Council will take place by Zoom at 7 pm Monday, March 8.

The meeting will feature a discussion led by Al Schmidt, former East Falls resident who has been a City Commissioner since 2011 and serves as Vice Chair of the Commission.

Schmidt has worked to modernize election procedures, and most recently achieved notice by standing up to false claims about election fraud from former President Donald Trump.

The Commissioner announced last month that he will not



Commissioner Al Schmidt seek a new term, but said that Trump's personal attacks on him did not lead to his decision to not run again.

The Zoom link for the March 8 meeting will be posted at the top of the EFCC's web page, eastfallcommunity.org.

More than 200 Lovelights brighten McMichael Park

The 2021 McMichael Park Lovelights campaign, benefiting the Friends of McMichael Park, attracted donations from more than 40 individuals and will provide funding for park maintenance, improvements, and community activities.

"These donations are a vote of confidence in the work that Friends of McMichael Park do year-round to support the park," said Rich Lampert, the newly named coordinator of Friends of McMichael Park. "We're counting the days until the pandemic restrictions are eased and we can begin to plan new activities."

As of Valentine's Day, the dedications for more than 200 lights on the Lovelights Tree were:

- Anonymous: In memory of Bill O'Callaghan and Tom Sauerman;
- Anonymous: To members

of East Falls Town Watch, members of Old Academy Players, Pope Francis, Alexis and John Franklin and Alice Rieff;

- Anne Brehony: In memory of my mother and father, Alice and Joseph Brehony;
- Charlene Brock: In memory of Ruben Clarito, Rich Cigrand, Helen Wertz, Gary Johnson, Alice Mae Stanley, Wilson Henry Hampton and Lucy Layer;
- Charlene and Geoff Brock: In memory of Ray Vance, in memory of Linda Coppola, Florence Przywieczerski, Edward Lash, Barbara Shaw and Marion Johnson;
- Patty Cheek: To Ted, Teddy and Carol, Elizabeth and Mark, Beth and Kerry and Whisper;
- Don Donaghy: To Nancy and Don Donaghy; Dot and Sir Donaghy, Ann and Bill Roden-

(Continued on page 7)



A little bit of snow -- okay, a whole lot of snow -- didn't stop Emery (left) and Carson Case from enjoying the swings in McMichael Park's recently installed PlaySpace.

Your March 2021 East Falls **NOW** Calendar

Visit the East Falls **NOW** Restaurant and Business Guide on Page 11. We'll do our best to keep it up to date on our website and in the weekly emails from the East Falls Community Council. If you don't get those emails, send your email address to info@eastfallscommunity.org.

The East Falls Farmers Market continues every Saturday under the Twin Bridges with its winter hours, 11 am to 1 pm.

Feb 27, Saturday

12 noon: Dedication of McMichael Park PlaySpace

5 Friday

2 pm: EF Village Zoom program "Echoes of a Musical Childhood." (Pg. 9)

6 Saturday

11 am to 1 pm: East Falls Farmers Market

under the Twin Bridges

1 pm: Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion Zoom program on Henry Ossawa Tanner (Pg. 3)

8 Monday

7 pm: EFCC General Membership Meeting, via Zoom. Link posted at www.eastfallscommunity.org. (Pg. 1)

10 Wednesday

6 pm: EF Town Watch meeting with 39th Police District officials for Police Service Area 1. Dial 605-313-5071, code 946071#. (Pg. 9)

11 Thursday

7 pm: EF Town Watch Zoom meeting. Link posted at www.eastfallscommunity.org. Or call TW office, 215-848-2033, for log-in information. (Pg. 9)

12 Friday

7 to 9 pm: Yin Yoga via Zoom and the Falls Library. Visit www.justinebacon.com or www.eastfallslibraryfriends.org

12 Friday

2 pm: EF Village Zoom program "One Mother's Story" (Pg. 9)

13 Saturday

11 am to 1 pm: East Falls Farmers Market under the Twin Bridges

19 Friday

10:30 am: St. Rep. Pam DeLissio's 104th Town Meeting (via Zoom.) To register, visit www.repdelissio@pahouse.net. (Pg. 3)

2 pm: EF Village program "Sweet Tooth Trek" (Pg. 9)

20 Saturday

10 am to 2 pm: EF Town Watch monthly "Litter Crew Ahead" clean-up. Meet at Ridge Ave. and Calumet St. (Pg. 9)
11 am to 1 pm: East Falls Farmers Market under the Twin Bridges

22 Monday

4 pm: EF Town Watch 39th Police District-wide meeting; dial 605-313-5071, code 946071#. (Pg. 9)

27 Saturday

11 am to 1 pm: East Falls Farmers Market under the Twin Bridges

29 Monday

4 pm: EF Village Zoom program with Jefferson University Graduate College of Occupational Therapy re: technology of all sorts for safety and fun (Pg. 9)



Judicial districts would politicize Pennsylvania's appellate courts

(Continued from page 1)
torts who didn't like the action of the current PA Supreme Court in overturning gerrymandered Congressional districts in 2018 and who now want to make the Court's membership more to their liking, specifically into a more rural, conservative body," Day told the EFCC meeting and East Falls **NOW**.

"The proposed referendum would give the state legislature improper influence on the state's appellate court system and would upset our traditional balance of power between executive, legislative, and judicial bodies.

"The measure has no organized support outside of the state legislature. In contrast, the opposition to it has support from many organizations throughout the state—the state bar association, labor unions, the State Chamber of

Commerce and good government groups."

The voting watchdog organization Committee of 70 agrees that the amendment would "subject appellate jurists to local politics."

In a letter to the Pennsylvania House Judiciary Committee, the Committee of 70 wrote that "Jurists charged with interpreting the law on behalf of all Pennsylvanians should not include in their calculus the local political forces that elect them to public office."

The letter concludes that the amendment "cannot be interpreted as anything other than a power grab by legislators who don't like the court's decisions."

State Representative Pam DeLissio (D-194), who favors an independent redistricting commission instead of leaving the decennial task to the partisan-driven legislature, says that politically drawn judicial districts would be "disastrous."

Pennsylvania's 31 appellate judges sit on the state's Commonwealth Court, Superior Court and Supreme Court. These so-called "higher" courts interpret state laws and the state constitution while hearing civil and criminal trial appeals from courts of common pleas and municipal courts.

Republican House member Russ Diamond from Lebanon County, prime sponsor of the amendment, says his bill would "diversify" the makeup of the appellate courts and stem judicial corruption.

SEPTA to resume service on Chestnut Hill West line

SEPTA has announced that it will resume limited rail service March 6 on the Chestnut Hill West

line running from Center City to Chestnut Hill. Service had been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



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EAST FALLS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Take part in the EFCC general membership meeting

7 pm Monday, March 8

Zoom link at www.eastfallscommunity.org

Volunteering in the Community

The City of Philadelphia has set up a warehouse to partner with local food pantries to assist with getting meals to the City's most vulnerable population during the COVID-19 pandemic. This warehouse will be the main hub through which food will be sorted, packed, and distributed.

Volunteers will work in teams of 6 to 10 people to sort food and pack meals. The City is committed to keeping volunteers safe through practicing social distancing and following guidelines from the CDC and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health. Ages 18 and up. 10 AM to 12 PM.

For more information, go to forphilly.com

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Want to vote by mail? Here's a very important update

By the first Monday in February, county boards of elections (AKA City Commissioners in Philadelphia) were to have sent via the U.S. Postal Service mail-in ballot applica-

for mail-in ballots each year." I checked that particular box, but as of this writing I have not yet received this application for 2021's elections.

As we know, the U.S. Postal

election as well, you can check that box on the same application. If you prefer to wait and see whether or not you want to request a mail-in ballot for the general election you can apply again in the late summer or early fall.

The deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot for the primary election is May 11. No one should apply that late because the ballot then needs to be mailed to you. You then need to complete it and return it no later than 8 pm on Election Day, Tuesday, May 18.

There has been much discussion about the use of mail-in ballots and early voting. Forty-three states and the District of Columbia use some form of early voting, including mail-in voting. Some states vote by mail-in ballot exclusively, and have for years.

Legislation has been introduced in the PA General Assembly to repeal the bill that enacted mail-in ballots. This is a bad idea for so many reasons, the least of which being that Act 77 of 2019 was

the first major update to our election code since 1937.

Today we have a larger population than we did in 1937, and expecting our entire eligible voting population to be accommodated in the 13-hour window on Election Day is unreasonable.

Our lifestyles are different



Pam's Viewpoint

by St. Rep. Pamela A. DeLissio

than they were 83 years ago. Citizens work 10 and 12 hour shifts, multiple jobs, and often they work far from home. Last year's elections clearly demonstrated that mail-in ballots expanded the opportunity for citizens to vote, and this expansion was long overdue.

Of note is the fact that more than 70 percent of registered Pennsylvania voters

participated in the 2020 General Election.

Last year as the general election approached the General Assembly refused to put in place the necessary supports for mail-in voting. Those supports include allowing drop boxes to be utilized and permitting mail-in ballots to be prepared, not necessarily counted, prior to Election Day. The General Assembly should be focused on making this process smoother and giving citizens the confidence that this is a valid manner to exercise our most important civic responsibility.

As always, I am interested in hearing your thoughts, ideas and concerns. Please email me at RepDeLissio@pahouse.net or call my office at 215-482-8726. Also, you are invited to join me at my 104th town hall meeting at 10:30 am Friday, March 19. The town hall will be via Zoom and livestreamed on Facebook @RepDeLissio. To register, let my staff and I know of your interest at RepDeLissio@pahouse.net.



tions to any eligible voter who requested to be placed on the "permanent mail-in ballot list file."

You would be on this list if, when you applied for a mail-in ballot last year, you checked the box that stated, "I would like to receive mail-in ballots this year and receive annual applications

Service has had its share of challenges. Instead, I have signed up electronically to receive my mail-in ballot via email and I urge you to do the same.

Just visit www.votesPA.com and it will take you to the state's mail-in ballot application. If you want to receive a mail-in ballot for the general

185 units at 4401 Ridge are focus of Feb. 27 zoning meeting

(Continued from page 1)

Sean Whalen, attorney for Atapco, said the company plans 189 parking spaces on the property, more than three times the number required by the CMX-3 zoning on the site, and some 4,760 square feet of commercial space.

The 179,000 square-foot development would create a minimal 118 feet of frontage along Ridge Ave. The bulk of the frontage would be on Merrick Rd. with a long wing extended along the back of the site. The open parking areas between the wings of the building would be visible from Ridge Ave. Rents would range from \$1,000 to the mid \$2,000 for studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units.

Some at the meeting said that they favor the plan because it would bring added density to support businesses in East Falls. They also complemented the design of the

building.

Others disagreed about the design, disliking the overall scale and materials. They said they saw the proposal as adding traffic to an already congested Ridge Ave., overdevelopment compared to nearby homes in the adjoining Falls Ridge development, and as a breach of a 2004 court settlement between the East Falls Community Council (EFCC), the Philadelphia Housing Authority, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and other parties that provide for development of 30 units on the site.

In response to a question from Emily Nichols, EFCC President, regarding traffic, Atapco's Dan Spitz said while the company has not contracted for a formal traffic study, its officials "have consulted with traffic experts who have worked on projects on Ridge Ave." The proposed pro-

ject, he said, "will not downgrade Ridge Ave."

Nichols, however, asked that the company conduct a formal traffic study, "because traffic is a big problem on Ridge Ave. and additional volume would be very problematic."

Hilary Langer, Chair of

proposed design.

"In my experience as a neighbor just off Ridge Ave. on Calumet St., I can say that I find this building significantly more charming than the garbage that frequently is dumped on this site today," said Shannon Rooney.



185-unit apartment building proposed for 4401 Ridge Ave.

EFCC's Zoning Committee, pointed to the upcoming but as yet unscheduled two-year closure of the nearby Falls Bridge for repairs and the indefinite closure of Martin Luther King Drive to vehicle traffic. He said the proposed apartments "would be pushed into a congested corner."

Bruce Weitz, member of the Zoning Committee, said that in his experience "traffic just sits and sits" on Ridge Ave.

St. Rep. Darisha Parker, whose 198th District includes the site, also cited the need for a traffic study.

Weitz said he sees the proposed building as one that "belongs on a college campus," and Langer said "it doesn't look very residential." Langer added that "nothing about this project evokes the look or feel of (nearby) Stanton or Calumet St."

Others said the building would improve the walkability of the area, and supported the

Echoing her comment was Erin Gale, also of Calumet St., who said, "As a Calumet St. homeowner I agree with the architecture and I think the design was done thoughtfully."

Atapco's plans call for 34 studio units, 117 one-bedroom apartments and 34 two-bedroom units.

The February 17 meeting opened with objections voiced by several people that there were few if any residents from the Falls Ridge development directly across Merrick Dr. from the site, and that no notice had been given to those neighbors because it is not legally required, even though they would be most directly affected. The speakers suggested that regardless of the legal requirement, to omit sending notices to residents directly affected by development on the site is fundamentally unfair.

3445 Division St.

Langer said that a proposal to build three – later changed

to two – townhomes on the site of a series of former garages at 3445 Division St. was heard by the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) on Feb. 10.

The EFCC Zoning Committee and nearby homeowners opposed the granting of a variance to allow the height of the proposed because the three-story homes would block the sun from nearby homes. The City Planning Commission agreed, as did City Councilperson Curtis Jones, Jr.

The ZBA moved to continue the hearing until March 3.

3018 Midvale Ave.
The ongoing saga of the alleged garage being built behind 3018 Midvale Ave. – being built without permits and in violation of the zoning code and looking more like a two-story apartment than a garage – remains thoroughly ongoing.

Langer said a ZBA hearing that started on Jan. 27 regarding the building – which neighbors want to see torn down. The hearing was not completed, and is scheduled to resume on a yet undetermined date.

Zoom Program on Artist Tanner set for March 6

The Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion will host an illustrated Zoom discussion at 1 pm Sunday, March 6 on the work of Henry Ossawa Tanner, who trained at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA) and was the first Black American painter to gain international acclaim.

The session will be led by Dr. Anna O. Marley, Curator of Historical American Art at PAFA. Marley has curated 14 exhibitions, including the 2012 touring retrospective Henry Ossawa Tanner: Modern Spirit.

Tickets are \$6, and can be reserved at <https://ebenezermaxwellmansion.org/interactieve>.

East Falls **NOW**

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For the Love of Gardens

Our garden: burden or blessing?

by Eileen Lambert

Having spent more than 30 summers in East Falls, I sometimes grow weary of the endless work of keeping up with two gardens, both front and back of our house. This feeling starts around late summer into fall, but by early spring my enthusiasm is rekindled and we march off to the nursery for plants, mulch and new accessories to tickle my partner's fancy.

The gardens never are stagnant, as raspberries are replaced by cucumbers, greens, and tomatoes, while venerable old perennials die and colorful new blooms are added. However, my appreciation of our accomplishments never seems to match up with what others see as they pass by or visit. Somehow, where others see beauty I more often see the never-ending unfinished projects.

This year, the year of COVID, has offered us a new appreciation for the opportunity to stay active and engaged in our outdoor habitat, ever changing as the seasons progress. Now our

garden has become a reassuring haven from the deadly news bombarding us every day.

Gardens have their ups and downs, same as life.

Having to dig up our lovely climbing rose bush in order to repair the front porch foundation was disheartening, but miraculously a new shoot came up the following sum-

'...one of our many new and warm-hearted neighbors revealed to us that it was our front yard garden that inspired them to move onto our block.'

mer and our roses are back.

It was painful to watch our beautiful scotch broom, a delight to our neighbors, slowly die off after many seasons of brilliant orange and yellow fronds shooting out like a display of fireworks.

But we have been rewarded and entertained by the various bugs, birds, and butterflies enjoying the fruits of our labor, as well as the multitude of butterfly caterpillars munching away on the

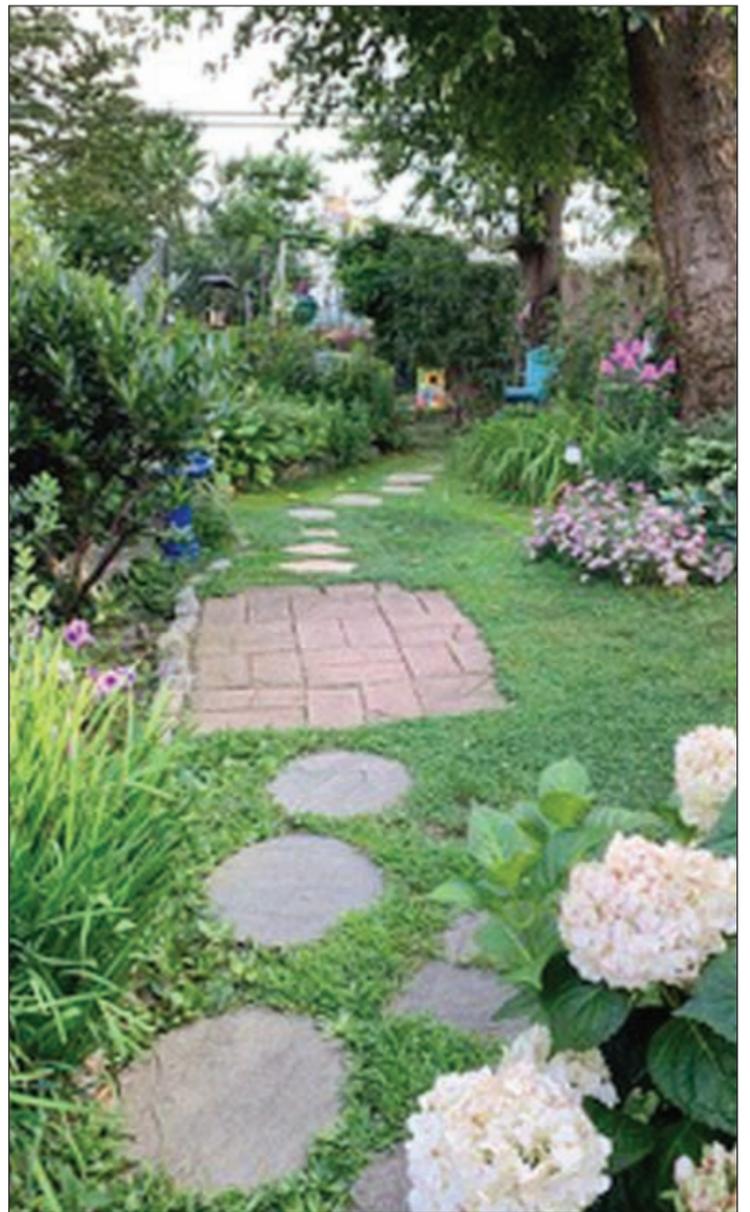
numerous parsley plants I have purchased for them. Let's hope all of them turn into butterflies!

Even our Japanese maple, grown through 30 years from a two-inch seedling, has been a source of unexpected pleasure as the nesting spot for a pair of devoted doves raising two sets of chicks, keeping us enthralled with our very own nature documentary.

I think one of the greatest satisfactions from our garden is knowing that one of our many new and warm-hearted neighbors revealed to us that it was our front yard garden that inspired them to move onto our block.

Is all this not enough to keep me grateful?

The East Falls NOW columns For the Love of Gardens are your stories. Spring is coming (I'm sure of it) and in the meantime all of us at East Falls NOW are dreaming of it. Put your memories and dreams to paper. Young to old. More or less 450 words and a photo(s). Please send your submissions with the photo(s) as separate attachment(s) to dkaplan8@verizon.net.



Eileen Lambert's East Falls garden.

EAST FALLS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

General Membership Meeting
7 pm Monday, May 8, 2021

Guest Speaker:

City Commissioner Al Schmidt

Zoom link at www.eastfallscommunity.org



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East Falls Tree Tenders set spring and fall plantings

by Cynthia Kishinchand

Although the vernal equinox marking the start of spring does not occur until March 21, East Falls Tree Tenders (EFTT) is gearing up for its April 24th planting of more than 20 Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) trees.

Fear not if you did not apply for a tree for spring. PHS is planning a fall planting. The EFTT spring trio -- Ray Lucci, Ed Ruback and myself -- will lead the fall project and have paper applications available and will provide the online contact information once PHS provides the information.

If you have any questions, contact me at 215-849-2474

and/or crk3114@msn.com, or check EFTT at Instagram .

Zoom into PHS Tree Training Classes scheduled for 6 to 8 pm Wednesdays, May 5, 11, and 26. For more information and to register, visit <https://phsonline.org/programs/tree-programs> or call 215-988-8800.

Conducted in English and Spanish, the classes provide the knowledge one needs to plant the right trees in the right places.

Being a tree tender is a rewarding way to beautify East Falls, to connect with your neighbors, and to combat climate change. As Lucy Larcom, the noted 19th Century American teacher, poet, and author, put it: "He who plants a tree, plants a hope."

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Diversity makes street trees resistant to disease, infestation

Plane trees on the 3400 block of Queen Ln. Street trees are wonderful. I'm sure many East Falls *NOW* readers will agree.

Their benefits are many. Though it's winter as I write this, the first thing that comes to mind is the shade they offer in the heat of summer. Not only are you protected from the sun as you walk around the neighborhood, but the trees also help

from our atmosphere, reducing instances of respiratory illnesses, such as asthma. They also dampen noise from vehicular traffic, providing for quieter homes.

Street trees help calm traffic and reduce speeding by providing visual signs to gauge speeds and also by making motorists think that lanes are narrower, the so-called "edge effect." They also increase pedestrian safety by providing a barrier between the sidewalk and the road.

Street trees provide habitat for many birds and animals in our otherwise mostly denuded cityscapes. They also help decrease stress and improve moods for residents and pedestrians.

Since street trees are so important to our quality of life, we need to pay better attention to the type of street trees that are planted. While choosing the right size of tree for a street is important, it also is important to choose native species whenever possible, since their benefit to the ecosystem is leaps and bounds higher than a non-native species.

But that is not what I want to address in this article.

Take a walk around our neighborhood and see if you can count how many species and how many individuals of each species of street trees there are. You'll find a large number of Plane trees. We have entire blocks lined with nothing but Plane trees.

While many city planners

intentionally designed this because of classical uniformity and organization, a monoculture of street trees is bad practice.

In addition to providing only a limited diversity of habitat, a monoculture also is at increased risk of destruction by pests.

Not too long ago, many of the streets in the Eastern US were lined with majestic Elm trees. But then Dutch Elm disease hit, wiping out our elm trees. Suddenly entire blocks and neighborhoods were bereft of trees.

Now imagine if some disease wiped out Plane trees. We'd lose a significant portion of the tree cover in our neighborhood and along with it all the benefits that I listed in the first two paragraphs. Having many individuals of the same species right next to each other also makes it easier for a disease to spread.

Not only have we lost Elm trees, but we have lost a large number of Ash and all our Chestnut trees as well. By planting a diversity of trees across species, genus and family, we can make our urban treescapes more resilient to disease and infestation.

Even if we lose one species, we still have a significant amount of tree cover. Also, by having trees at different stages of growth, we can increase resiliency as well and also provide an interesting mix of canopy levels.

So, the next time you have the power to choose a street



Plane trees on the 3400 block of Queen Ln.

tree or influence a planner, try to pick a native species that is different from the

ones that already are dominating the surrounding few blocks.



Navin on Nature

by Navin Sasikumar

cool your house and reduce energy costs.

They also reduce the overall temperature of our asphalt and concrete-paved streets and sidewalks.

Interestingly, while many of our neighbors are afraid of sidewalk damage from tree roots, studies have shown that the shade provided by street trees can increase the life of concrete by reducing cracking from the stresses of heating and cooling from the weather. Staying with the weather theme, they also reduce storm-water runoff and flooding by absorbing a fair amount of rain water.

Urban street trees are efficient at absorbing pollutants



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Courtney Waters, M.D., comes to Roxborough Memorial Hospital from Dedicated Senior Medical Center, in Philadelphia. Prior to this, Dr. Waters was an attending physician at Pennsylvania Hospital in

Philadelphia, and a clinical assistant professor of medicine at Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Waters received her medical degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine and completed her internship and residency at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia. She is a member of the American College of Physicians and an alumni interviewer at Duke University for high school students for possible admissions.

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Victorian gas lamps lit some East Falls streets through the 1950s

by Ellen Sheehan
for the EF Historical Society

A photograph of a gas streetlamp on Penn St. in the snow was recently given to the East Falls Historical Society (EFHS) by Janet Colianni, a resident of Penn St.

Janet received it years ago from a teacher at the Thomas Mifflin School. We are not sure who took the photo, but Mrs. Jean Rosberg was a long-time first grade teacher at Mifflin School and lived on



East Falls
Historical Society

Penn St. Mifflin School is possibly visible on the left side of the photo.

On February 8, 1836, 46 lights burning manufactured "coal gas" were lit along Philadelphia's 2nd St. by employees of the newly formed Philadelphia Gas Works. Gas lamps soon became an important part of establishing safe night travel in the city. Many were right here in East Falls well into the 1950s.

One I remember was in

front of the last house on Arnold St., home of "Jigs" Donahue. As his name implies, he was one of East Falls' well known characters. Taking a short cut from the shops on Midvale Ave. to my home on Indian Queen Ln., I often observed the lamplighter at dusk. He unfolded a small wooden ladder that was slung over his shoulder, climbed up and by some magic unknown to me, "poof" – a flicker and then the faint light would grow as darkness descended. I always welcomed this as it was otherwise a dark route home through Dutch Hollow.

My research led me to Arthur King, who remembers three gas lamps on Ainslie St. between Vaux and Conrad Sts. He comments that they disappeared sometime in the 1950's along with the cobblestone streets. Susan Schmidt added that her great-great-grandfather, Antoine Hosephas, was a lamplighter on Ridge Ave.

On April 15, 1959, Mayor Richardson Dilworth, wearing a three-piece suit, mounted a ladder with a young boy in front of him (also wearing a three-piece suit) to extinguish Philadelphia's last gas streetlight. Located at 45th and Osage Ave. in West Philadelphia, the crowd reportedly cheered to see this vestige of the Victorian age gone.

If you have memories of the gas lamps in East Falls, or photographs of historic East Falls, please get in touch with us. Also let us know if you



A gas lamp on Penn St. near Conrad St. The unknown photographer probably used a long exposure to obtain the unexpected "glow-in-the-dark" brightness.

have questions about East Falls history. See our growing website at eastfallshistoricalsociety.org, or contact us at eastfallshistory@gmail.com. And join!

Take part in the monthly East Falls Town Watch meeting
7 pm Wednesday, March 10, Zoom link at
www.eastfallscommunity.org



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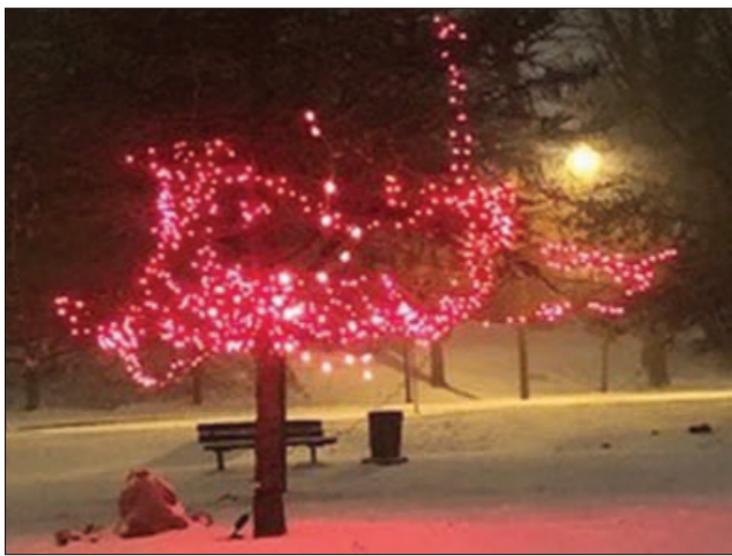


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The Friends of McMichael Park LoveLights 2021!

200 + plus Lovelights brighten McMichael Park

(Continued from page 1)

berger; Dan and Kristin Donaghy; Brigid, Fionn, Tug, Rory, and Molly Donaghy; Liz Donaghy and Jamie Mullen; Dolor and Jim Mullen; Judi and Bill Morrow; Gayle and Herb Henze, AnnMarie, Adrien, Henry, and Marcus Knowles; Manuela and Gera Kulage; “Leading Lady” and J-d; Giannatassio and Marino families;

- Bill Epstein: With love to Beth, Matt, Angela, Miles, Ben, Josie, Amanda, Pepe, Gabe, Carolina, Mitch, Alia, Elise, Brian, Claire, Avery, Abbe, and in loving memory of Stephanie;
- Marie Filipponi: To Gizmo and Momo, Betsy Michel at McKenzie Physical Therapy and East Falls Town Watch;
- Connie Gillespie: Love to John Sr., Kate, Anne, Jean, John Jr., and spouses, the grandchildren; the two Warden Dr. “Fionas;” and cherished East Falls neighbors;
- Freda Gowling: Love to my friends;
- Virginia Hayes: In memory of my son, David, and in appreciation of my son, Charles;
- Jill Johnson: To MawMaw (Ludie Pearl Trahan);
- Frankie Jueds: In loving memory of John Fuller, Bill Jueds, and Joan Newhall and Emma, who loved this park; for Hero and all her doggie friends and in honor of East Falls Village;
- Frank Kaderabek: Thanks to Friends of McMichael Park;
- Cynthia and Kumar Kishinchand: To Alexis and John-david Franklin, park volunteers nonpareil, the Turtle and his fine friends, East Falls Tree Tenders, special people planting special trees, and in loving memory of Peter

Kishinchand;

- Christina Kistler: To Alexis Franklin, thank you for 30 years of dedication to McMichael Park – the Kistlers; Paul Gorka, in memoriam – the Kistlers; Brian, love you more – Christina; Sabrina, Happy Valentine’s Day – Mom and Dad; East Falls Pack Walk, thanks for the treats – Daisy;
- Rich Lampert: To Debbie Thorp, a match made in a medical publishing office, Friends of McMichael Park, East Falls Historical Society, Scott and Judy Lampert, and Guston and Spike;
- Joe Leube: In loving memory of Linda Leube
- Peter Logan and Cathy McCoy: To Mike Ducey, Andrea Vogel, Jack Slawson, Gwen Logan, and Tessa Logan;
- Joan McIlhenny: For Maura, Patrick, Sonia, and Benjamin with Love from Mom-Mom;
- Joan McIlvaine: With love to my 10 grandchildren;
- Pat Malloy: To my Pop Pop – Love, Avery; to our granddaughter, Avery, Love Pop Pop and Mom Mom; to my husband Sam;
- Chris Martin: To my husband, Dwight; Valentine’s birthday Martin H; in memory of Cynthia W; Thanks to front-line workers;
- Mimi and Vic Mather: To our friends in East Falls;
- Jeanne Maxwell: In memory of Joseph Maxwell;
- Betty Miller: In memory of loved ones;
- Loretta Lucy Miller: To Mary Jane Fullam, Larry Hastings
- Wendy and Winston Moody: To the wonderful staff

and Friends Group at Falls Library; East Falls Historical Society; Hero and Blarney, our East Falls dog pals; and Wendy’s mother, Irene Sachs, now 102!

- Glennis and Jay Pagano: With appreciation for East Falls Village, with appreciation for our East Falls friends, for our dearest Scott, Grier, and Claire; in memory of Susan and Bob; in memory of Harry, John, and Pat;
- Nancy Petro: To Sophie McClellan and John Petro, Jay and Stephanie McClellan, Stacy Petro and Blake Wheale;
- Robert Rabinowitz: To Donna, Gabrielle, and Cora; in memoriam of Stormy;
- Katherine Seed: In honor and memory of Lt. Col. Richard John Seed III;
- Jody Smith: To Kirby Smith, Gavin Smith, Ethel Groves, Louise Smith, Bea Blackman, Martha Matzko and Betty Wilson;
- Chris Spolsky and Thomas Uzzel: For Tom, the love of my life – Chris; For Chris, the love of my life – Tom; for our daughter Renata – Chris & Thomas; for our Stephan and our daughter-in-law Anna – Chris & Thomas; for our five grandchildren Christopher, Thomas, John, Andrew, and Sonia – Baba Chris & Dido Tom;
- Naomi Starobin: To Ed von Stein, my husband;
- Louann Stratton: In memory of my deceased neighbor Eleanor Tompkins;
- Joe Terry: In memory of Joan Newhall, Alice Cary, Joanne Timmons and Dolores Buzniak;
- Deborah Thorp: To Rich, my Valentine.

mitment to the group’s mission of supporting McMichael Park, specifically including the new McMichael Play-Space.

During Franklin’s three decades of leadership, McMichael Park evolved from an unkempt and sometimes dangerous space into a visual oasis that has been the site of countless community activities -- Theater in the Park, crafts fairs, the East Falls Community Council’s annual Flea Market, Christmas carol singing, commemorations of Memorial Day and the 4th of July, plus two recent iterations of Parks on Tap.

Volunteers from Friends of McMichael Park collectively worked for thousands of hours to beautify the park -- painting benches, raking leaves, planting new trees, mulching and cleaning litter. The group also maintains a dispenser for dog waste bags.

Lampert and Kistler have reached out to the members of Activate McMichael, the group

of residents who spearheaded development of the new Play-Space opened last November, with the goal of working together.

In an initial virtual meeting, the leaders of the two groups

promised to communicate closely and to work together on park-wide events such as the Love Your Park cleanups. The PlaySpace was initiated by Activate McMichael and created by the city’s Parks &

Recreation Department. It has become a magnet for young children and their parents, bringing more activity into the park and creating a popular new gathering spot in the community.

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Franklin steps down after 30 years heading Friends of McMichael Park

Alexis Franklin, who co-founded Friends of McMichael Park in 1990 and led the group for 30 years, announced in a letter in January to members that she is stepping down from her role as coordinator.

On an interim basis, Rich Lampert and Christina Kistler have registered the group for 2021 with the City of Philadelphia’s Department of Parks & Recreation. They are working to bring together the remaining members of the Friends group to continue advocating for maintenance and improvements, and to develop community activities once the COVID-19 pandemic has ended.

As well, they coordinated the recent campaign for Lovelights, the annual fund-raising campaign keyed to Valentine’s Day.

A virtual meeting of the group took place on January 26, attracting about 90 percent of the membership. The members affirmed their com-

mitment to the group’s mission of supporting McMichael Park, specifically including the new McMichael Play-Space.

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Reducing risk at home and on the road

Occupational therapy at Jeff teaches safety, confidence

by Anne Hagele

East Falls Village is fortunate to have in its backyard a valuable resource for helping members deal with some of the more challenging aspects of aging, such as driving a car or negotiating turns and stairways at home. Thomas Jefferson University's College of Rehabilitation

Sciences is known for its pioneering work in occupational therapy, as Village members are learning. The driving force behind the program is Monique Chabot, Professor of Occupational Therapy in the Department of

Occupational Therapy. She and her graduate students have partnered with EFV's Active Learning Team for the last four years, with EFV members attending a number of programs, demonstrations and receiving home assessments enabling them to remain in their homes safely and more comfortably.

While occupational therapists assist people recovering

EF Village and the Jefferson OT Department is very much a two-way street.

"The members of EFV are an invaluable partner with Jefferson's Occupational Therapy program", says Chabot. "I appreciate the willingness of members to interact with my students and allow them to practice their burgeoning skills, be it learning to conduct balance and home assessments, basic communication or taking multiple blood pressures until they catch the right measurement."

For Village member Cathy Sharrar, "It's refreshing to observe the enthusiasm of the students as they present their valuable information."

Past programs included car-transfer training for volunteer drivers; a hands-on training on how to safely use canes, walkers, and wheelchairs; balance and health screenings and even personalized home assessments.

Village members served as two focus groups to provide graphic design students with input on their packaging designs for medications often used by older adults. One focus group participant, EFV member Ken Kolodziej, said, "In the two-session review, the students listened very carefully and came back to us having incorporated many of our ideas into their designs. It was a great experience for the participating Village members, and I suspect for the students as well."

One of the most popular programs is CarFit, in which members drove their cars to a University parking lot and went from station to station where students checked rearview mirrors, driver seat positions, seatbelt settings,

and, if necessary, adjusted the settings to suit the individual driver. "The event made me feel valuable not only to these clients but to the community as a whole," said student Amanda Pirilli. "Perhaps some of the adjustments we recommended actually prevented an accident." Equally enthusiastic was EFV member Louanne Stratton, who said the CarFit program "was very well-organized. The students were well-prepared, informative and delightful to interact with."



EF Village Co-Chair Mary Flournoy (left) participates in CarFit, the vehicle safety program offered by Jefferson's College of Rehabilitation Sciences.

and, if necessary, adjusted the settings to suit the individual driver.

Due to the current cancellation of in-person programs, the Jefferson group has turned to Zoom with such programs as "Easy Peasy – Gadgets to Make Your Life Easier." The students researched and demonstrated many gadgets and tools, available inexpensively online from stores such as Target and Bed Bath & Beyond, to help with daily chores, self-care, garden-

ing and cooking.

Over the years, the relationship with Jefferson University's OT Department has proven to be a winner for all parties.

"I am always grateful to the Villagers for creating a supportive, comfortable and kind atmosphere for my students every time we work together," Chabot said. Student Colleen Blaker reported, "This project has given me a chance to gain real world experience. I am able to practice skills I learn in the classroom, boosting my confidence as a future OT professional."

Mary Flournoy, EFV Co-chair, speaks on behalf of all Village member: "East Falls Village is so fortunate to have Monique and her students as partners, teaching our members how to maximize their quality-of-life in their own homes."

Reprinted with permission of East Falls Village and Village Voices



Pre-COVID-19 pandemic, East Falls Village member Elizabeth Corea (right) takes a Functional Reach test during the "Checks & Balances" screening, a program of Thomas Jefferson University's College of Rehabilitation Sciences at the Falls Library in February 2018. This test directly predicts someone's potential fall frequency over the next six months.

tion Sciences is known for its pioneering work in occupational therapy, as Village members are learning.

The driving force behind the program is Monique Chabot, Professor of Occupational Therapy in the Department of

from surgery or injuries, they also help people perform daily tasks with more ease, recognize risks within their own homes and adapt their environments to minimize danger. The relationship between

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EF Village sets four Zoom programs for March on music, addiction, sweets and safety via tech

by Mary Flourney
Co-chair, EF Village Operating Group

Register now for any or all of four Zoom programs in March sponsored by the East Falls Village. All are free and open to members and non-members, but pre-registration is required at info@eastfallsvillage.org.

Echoes of a musical childhood

At 2 pm Friday, March 5, Village Member Caroline Davidson, pianist and retired music teacher at Germantown Friends School, will reminisce how her family, especially her grandfather, helped to shape her into a musician.

She will play two groups of short pieces she has loved since she was a young teenager – Bach's 5th French Suite and Schumann's Kinder-

szenen (Scenes from Childhood). Join us for this afternoon of lovely music.

One mother's story

On Friday, March 12 at 2 pm, Elise Schiller, author of *Even If Your Heart Would Listen: Losing My Daughter to Heroin*, will talk about her daughter, Gianna, and her campaign to right many of the "treatment" wrongs that led to Gianna's death.

After her 33-year-old daughter died of an overdose -- in a treatment center thousands of miles from their Germantown home -- Elise read all of her daughter's journals from the time she was a little girl to the treatment journals she wrote in rehab after rehab. Then she tried to track down her daughter's medical records, only to find they were vague, sometimes incorrect, and showed how little anyone had done to help Gianna.

Elise also wanted people to know her daughter as a person, not just as someone who was addicted.

The retired educator began to write the story of her family's loss, but also a condemnation of the treatment system. *Even If Your Heart Would*



Listen: Losing My Daughter to Heroin was listed by Parade Magazine as one of the 10 most-inspiring books written by women in 2019.

Elise has served on the Mayor's Task Force on the Opioid Epidemic and is a member of the Advisory Board of the Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual dis-

ability Services, and is an advocate for Safehouse Philadelphia.

A sweet tooth trek

Carla Bednar, Village member, has put together a fun travel slide show – "A Sweet Tooth Trek: Portland to Portland – the Long Way Around," and will share it at 2 pm Friday, March 19.

Carla has been to every continent except Antarctica. She will cover her travels in New England and Scandinavia.

While she will focus on the wonderful desserts she's had, she also will talk about art, architecture, poetry and more.

Smart Tech for home and health

At 4 pm Monday, March 29, Thomas Jefferson University Graduate Occupational Therapy students will discuss the different types of smart technology available on the mar-

ket today that can help East Fallers stay safe and healthy.

Learn about smart home technology such as motion detector lights that go on when you get up at night, and smart doorbells, locks and appliances.

Smart watches are only some of the wearable technologies that can help you stay healthy by tracking your vitals and other health information. The students also will discuss other devices to help with memory, medication management and making life easier, including smartphones, Amazon's Alexa and other voice-activated home systems.

The program is open to all – including family members who might be interested in knowing how smart technology can help parents and other older adults stay safe and be independent.

Police tell EF Town Watch person of interest identified in fatal shooting in Ridge Ave. social service agency

Philadelphia police have informed East Falls Town Watch that a person of interest has been identified in the Feb. 8 fatal shooting of a female employee in the office of United Health Counseling Facilities at Ridge and Midvale Aves.

As East Falls *NOW* was going to press Lt. Sean Bascom told EFTW that the victim might have known her assailant. The tragedy is believed to have occurred in the off hours of the social service agency, which occupies the first floor of Palestine Hall. The police investigation continues.

Car break-ins

Police Officer Bernie Spain advises EFTW that car break-ins and car jackings continue

to be a significant issue in East Falls and throughout the 38th District. He advises residents to not leave anything visible in their cars, and to be



alert when going to and from their vehicles. Also, never leave an unattended vehicle idling.

Spain also reports that catalytic converters in cars that have them continue to be a target for thieves. He sug-

gests that residents consult with their auto mechanic to have their converters mounted as securely as possible, and also recommends engraving converters with the vehicle identification number of the car – a step that might alert a scrap dealer to theft and rightful ownership.

Mary Jane Fullam, EFTW President, said that Town Watch members continue to monitor the illegal parking of trucks for long periods of time on Fox St., Henry Ave. and Abbotsford Rd. with the goal of having police ticket the vehicles to discourage such parking.

The EFTW's drive against graffiti vandals also continues. East Falls residents are invited to call the TW office to

join the effort, and also to contribute funds toward the purchase of paint and supplies to maintain the campaign and to pay for the operation of surveillance cameras at the EF SEPTA station.

Contributions can be made via Pay Pal directed to EF Town Watch at www.eastfallsccommunity.org or by mail at the EFTW office, 3540 Indian Queen Ln., Philadelphia, PA 19129.

Town Watch Calendar

6 pm Mon., March 10: teleconference with Police Service Area 1 commander Lt. Bascom; call in at 605-313-5071, code 946071#.

7 pm Thurs., March 11: Monthly EF Town Watch meeting via Zoom; link will be posted at www.eastfallsccommunity.org or call EFTW at 215-848-2033 for details.

10 am to 2 pm Sat., March 21: EFTW "Litter Crew Ahead" monthly community clean-up to cover Calumet St. and Kelly Dr. Meet at Ridge Ave. and Calumet St.

4 pm Mon., March 21: teleconference with 38 Police District offices Capt. Anthony Ginaldi and Community Relations Police Officer Sharon Ings. Call in at 605-313-5071, code 946071#.

East Falls *NOW*
Restaurant Guide - Page 11

EAST FALLS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Take part in the EFCC Zoning Committee meeting
7 pm Wednesday, March 17
Zoom link at www.eastfallsccommunity.org

Take part in the EFCC general membership meeting
7 pm Monday, March 8
Zoom link at www.eastfallsccommunity.org

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MORE Yoga for the Library
Fri. 3/12 & Fri. 4/9 7-9 PM

Join local yoga teacher Justine Bacon for two more online yin yoga sessions to benefit the Friends of the Falls of Schuylkill Library.

Yin is a cooling and gentle yoga practice. Anyone can participate from yoga beginners to those with more proficiency. Classes will be held on ZOOM. To attend simply submit a minimum donation of \$10 via Venmo to Justine on the day of the class.

For complete details visit www.justinebacon.com or check the Friends' website below. All donations will go to the Friends to support Falls Library programs.

The Library is the Heart of East Falls
www.eastfallslibraryfriends.org

Coping with the cold and the snow...



East Falls NOW bets that this is the only igloo in the neighborhood. Or at least that it's the sturdiest one. Created by Mark Hansen for his youngsters on the 3100 block of Penn St., it was built as a fun as a snow fort and vivid reminder of how this winter is going so far.



The younger members of the East Falls community enjoy the first significant snowfall of the winter on Thomas Jefferson University's Warden Dr. hill. (Photo by Chris Caporellie)

EAST FALLS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Volunteer powered, the East Falls Community Council represents the interests of the people of East Falls. We improve our quality of life through the work of our Zoning and Traffic committees, and by supporting:

- EF Town Watch • Friends of Mifflin
- Falls of Schuylkill Library • EF Village • Grants
- EF Tree Tenders • EF Sports Association
- EF Historical Society • McMichael Park
- Inn Yard Park • EF Community Garden
- Solarize East Falls • EF Dog Park, coming soon

We also sponsor events that improve and bring together our community:

- Mifflin Arboretum Clean-up • EF Flea Market
- Fallser Fest 2018 • Holiday Sing • EF House Tour

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East Falls *NOW* March 2021 Restaurant and Business Guide

East Falls *NOW* and the East Falls Community Council present this service to our readers and to the restaurant owners and workers in our community.

Please visit www.eastfallscommunity.org for the latest information. We'll update this alphabetical guide regularly. For questions or to change or add information, please email us at info@eastfallscommunity.org.

We'll also carry this guide in the EFCC's weekly emails. If you don't get them, send your email address to the same address, info@eastfallscommunity.org.

At this time restaurants are permitted to operate with outdoor seating and indoor seating limited to 50 percent of capacity with no more than four people of the same household to a table. Take-out and, in some cases, delivery, are available. Alcohol can be served at tables, but seating or standing at bars is not permitted. Masks must be worn while entering and exiting the premises.

4th Street Famous Cookies, 4177 Ridge Ave., 215-625-9870 or www.famouscookies.com; order 9 am to 3 pm Mon. to Thurs., 9 am to 1 pm Fri.; Grub Hub.

Apollo's Pizza, 3542 Conrad St., 215-842-0178; take-out 11:30 am to 8:30 pm Mon. to Sat. Closed Sun.

Black Squirrel, 3749 Midvale Ave.; plans to open as soon as allowed with an English pub-style menu.

Cranky Joes, 3501 Indian Queen Ln., 215-844-5626; 11 am to 10 pm. Call for take-out food and beer.

East Falls Deli, Conrad and Tilden Sts.; 267-297-5746; order online at www.fallsdeliphilly.com; takeout and delivery; 7 am to 3 pm, Mon. to Tues.; 7 am to 7 pm, Wed. to Sun; limited indoor seating.

East Falls Farmers Market, under the Twin Bridges between Kelly Dr. and Ridge Ave., 11 am to 1 pm Sat.

Fiorino, 3572 Indian Queen Ln., 215-843-1500 or 877-585-1085; take out 12 noon to 8:30 pm Tues. through Sun.; sidewalk table service if weather permits; limited indoor dining.

Foghorn Fried Chicken, 4213 Ridge Ave; 267-335-3061; order online: www.foghornphilly.com; take-out and delivery 12 noon to 8 pm daily.

Founded Coffee and Pizza, 3300 Henry Ave., 267-900-5338; order online at www.foundedpizza.com; take-out and delivery 10 am to 10 pm daily. Full pizza, sandwich, salad and platter menu.

Franklins, 3259 Cresson St., 267-336-7420, google Franklins East Falls; take-out limited menu and beer. Wed. to Sun., 12 noon to 9 pm.

Frank's Pizza, 3600 Fisk Ave., 215-848-6433; order online at www.frankspizzaeastfalls.com; take-out and delivery; Grub Hub; pizza, steaks, hoagies, salads and platters; 11 am to 10 pm Mon. to Thurs., 11 am to 10:30 pm Fri. and Sat., 11 am to 9:30 pm Sun. Limited outdoor dining if weather permits.

Golden Crust Pizza, 3732 Midvale Ave.; 215-848-4400; order online at www.goldencrustpizzaii.com; pickup and delivery; full pizza, sandwich, salad and platter menu, daily including Sunday.

In Riva, 4116 Ridge Ave., 215-438-4848; order online at www.inriva.com; limited indoor dining; take-out, curb-side service and delivery; Opentable; specials: ½ off draft beers, pizzas and specialty cocktails, and \$5 house wines; 1 pm to 8 pm Tues. through Sun; closed Mon.

LeBus, 4201 Ridge Ave., 484-255-2100; order online at www.lebuseastfalls.com; Opentable; heated sidewalk table service, limited indoor dining, takeout and delivery; 11 am to 9 pm Mon. through Fri., 9 am to 9 pm Sat. and Sun.; limited indoor dining.

Majors, 4207 Ridge Ave., 215-848-0848, grocery and sandwiches 9 am to 8 pm Mon. to Sat.; closed Sun.

Murphy's Irish Saloon, 3333 Conrad St., 215-844-9683; sidewalk table service weather permitting and take-out 4 to 10 pm, Tues. to Sun. Limited indoor seating.

Nou Vaux Market, 3539 Vaux St., corner of Tilden and Vaux Sts., 215-438-7600; local meats, Marchiano's breads, vegan and gluten-free products, dairy, pet needs, lottery, seasonal plants, tools and soil; 8 am to 8 pm Mon. to Fri., 8 am to 7 pm Sat. and Sun.

Shan Chuan, 4211 Ridge Ave., 215-844-7889, shanchuan eastfalls.com; take out 11:30 am to

10 pm Mon. to Thurs., 11:30 am to 11 pm Fri. to Sun., 12 noon to 10 pm.

Side of the Road Jerk Chicken, 3502 Scotts Ln., Bldg. 21 in Sherman Mills, 267-297-7286 for take-out and delivery; 12 noon to 8 pm Tues. to Sat., 12 noon to 6 pm Sun.

Slices Pizza, 4249 Ridge Ave., 215-843-4747; take-out and delivery; 11 am to 9 pm Tues. to Wed.; 11am to 10 pm, Thurs to Fri.; 12 noon to 10 pm Sat.; 12 noon to 9 pm Sun.

Terron vegan restaurant, 3426 Conrad St., 215-716-7111, order at www.terronkitchen.com; take-out curb-side service; free local lunch delivery and delivery via Grubhub and Doordash; 11 am to 2 pm and 5 to 9 pm Mon. to Fri., Sat. brunch 9 am to 2 pm, dinner 5 to 9 pm, Sun. brunch 10 am to 3 pm, dinner 5 to 9 pm.

Thunder Mug, 4233 Ridge Ave., 267-766-6950; take out only; call to order ahead or on-line at www.thundermugcafe.square.site for coffee and pastries; 8 am to 3 pm daily.

Trolley Car Cafe, 3269 S. Ferry Rd. under the Twin Bridges, 267-385-6703; trolleycarcafe.com; outdoor table service, take-out and delivery, Uber Eats and Grub Hub; 9 am to 3 pm daily.

Vault + Vine, 3507 Midvale Ave., 267-331-6292, cafe@vaultandvine.com; café open for bagged coffee, drink and pastry curbside pick-up 8 am to 3 pm daily; plant shop open Thurs. to

Sat. for delivery, hello@vaultandvine.com.

Wissahickon Brewery, 3705 W. School House Ln., 215-483-8833 or order online at www.wissahickonbrew.com; take-out and delivery of beer, snacks and doggy treats; 12 noon to 7 pm daily. Order before 2 pm.

Please consider giving to this go-fund-me site to assist employees of restaurants and bars in East Falls who have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic: <https://www.gofundme.com/support-east-falls-restaurant-and-bar-workers>

Also open in East Falls: **Connie Gillespie, Elfant Wissahickon Realtors**, 215-805-0695

East Falls Eye Associates, Dr. Jesse Jones, 4189 Ridge Ave., 215-844-2406

East Falls Family Dentistry, Dr. Hyosun Christine Kim, 3722 Midvale Ave., 215-849-1826

F.X. Duffy & Co., CPAs, 4265 Kelly Dr., 215-438-8400

Midvale Auto, 3629 Midvale Ave., 215-843-1533

RG Group, quality printed sportswear, 877-549-7712 or ronangill.com

Rutabaga, toy lending library and gathering space, 3426 Conrad St., www.rutabagatoylibrary.com

SoLi Fitness, Derrick Johnson, 267-971-2943

East Falls eateries coping with COVID-19 restrictions

The varied collection of restaurants in East Falls continue to provide the service they can within the restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of them opened just weeks before the lock-down, successfully cooking its way through the past year with take-out orders. Owners of another, yet to open, has completed renovations and is planning to be in business soon, even with restrictions still in place.

Starting Feb. 22, the City of Philadelphia is allowing restaurant owners to serve indoors up to 50 percent of their capacity as long as they can document certain air circulation standards.

An East Falls *NOW* survey of the neighborhood's leading eateries found a range of approaches, depending on the size of the restaurant and the level of success it has had with take-out.

- Owner Franco Faggi at Fiorino, his long-time Indian Queen Ln. Italian eatery, had a successful summer and fall with take-out and serving on his sidewalk and across Kraill St. He's been able to safely fit four tables inside, and he's going with that and take-out until the warm weather returns.

- At In Riva, on Ridge Ave., a spokesman told EF *NOW* that owner Artie Cavalier is at "around 30 percent (indoor dining) and ready to go higher." Cavalier's new Black Squirrel, on Midvale Ave. in the former Taproom site, has been under renovations for several months and will open soon.

- Terron, a vegan restaurant on Conrad St., opened up just prior to when COVID-19 struck, but the restaurant has been busy with take-out orders ever since under chef Fred Morris' direction. He has been joined recently by professionally

trained vegan chef Sean Weber, and as of press time they plan to continue with take-out only, making additions monthly to the menu.

- At Shan Chuan, on Ridge Ave., manager Kim Huang said there are no plans to move to inside dining until he sees a return to 100 percent. "Our dining area is too small and it's fixed with built-in banquettes

that can't be moved around," he said. The restaurant will continue with takeout and delivery.

- Foghorn Fried Chicken will continue with takeout only.

- Owner Mike Murphy at Murphy's Saloonery said that he already is at capacity indoors, "given the large size of our bar relative to our dining area. We couldn't take any-

more without violating social distance norms."

- At LeBus on the corner of Ridge and Midvale Ave., associate manager James Workman reported that "We're ready to handle 50 percent indoors. Our airflow is good."

- The folks at Falls Deli on Conrad St. have limited seating inside and plenty of take-out capacity.

One Mother's Story: Elise Schiller Even If Your Heart Would Listen: Losing My Daughter to Heroin Friday, March 12 at 2 pm, Via Zoom



All are welcome to attend this program. Please register in advance by emailing info@eastfallsvillage.org. This Free Program, open to all, presented by



East Falls Village, a program of the East Falls Community Council, was established in 2011 to enhance the lives of residents in the East Falls neighborhood of Philadelphia as they grow older. For more information on the Village, visit eastfallsvillage.org. or call 267-444-4507.



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