

East Falls **NOW**

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Activate McMichael will work to maintain PlaySpace and park

The members of the Activate McMichael Steering Committee have launched a drive to grow their volunteer network to help maintain the soon-to-come natural McMichael Park PlaySpace.

Construction of the facility is scheduled to begin this fall.

With the city's traditional spring and fall community-wide Love Your Park

cleanups on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Activate McMichael is participating in the city's recruiting for solo clean-ups. Tool kits will be made available, or participants can use their own tools.

Fallers interested can send their email address to info@memichael

playspace.org. Follow the group on social media to learn more @ACTIVATEMcMichael.



Hey, what happened to Kelly Drive?



That's what Franziska and Ava Holdrege seemed to be asking as they surveyed the overflowed Schuylkill River on Aug. 4 following drenching rains. The Holdrege family, residing on Wiehle St., was part of an East Falls crowd that gathered between Midvale Ave. and the Twin Bridges to view the rising water created by Tropical Storm Isaias.

Indoor dining starts Sept. 8

At East Falls NOW press time city officials announced plans to allow indoor dining at restaurants to resume on Tuesday, Sept. 8 -- on a limited basis.

Even the restricted activity is dependent on COVID-19 cases not spiking upward.

If the numbers hold, eateries will be able to open their indoor tables up to 25 percent of their normal capacity. Tables must be at least six feet apart, and no more than four persons can be seated at a table.

Diners must wear masks while entering and leaving

the restaurant, but not while seated. Also, drinks can be served at tables, but there will be no seating or standing allowed at bars.

Movie theatres and other performing arts venues will be permitted to open, but only

(Continued on page 7)

Apply now, vote by mail

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 3. While that might seem a bit far off, it's not too early to apply for a mail-in ballot.

Gov. Tom Wolf signed legislation earlier this year to provide mail-in ballots starting with last May's primary election. Some 1.5 million Pennsylvanians took advantage of

this.

Because the COVID-19 pandemic is likely to lead city officials to eliminate some polling places in November as they did in May, forcing voters to travel outside their neighborhoods to vote, some observers expect the number of General Election voters by mail to be higher.

(Continued on page 6)

EFCC meets Sept. 14 on Zoom

The East Falls Community Council will meet via Zoom at 7 pm Monday, Sept. 14.

The main agenda item will be the presentation of the recommendations of the Nominations Committee for officers for 2020-21.

Nominations from the floor

— in this case from the screen — will be in order. In accordance with the EFCC bylaws, the nominations will be voted on at the next scheduled meeting, in October.

The link for the Sept. 14 meeting will be posted on the EFCC webpage, eastfallscommunity.org.

You can join the East Falls Community Council in two ways:

- Visit www.eastfallscommunity.org, and see "BECOME A MEMBER"
- Clip out this form, fill it in and mail it to:

EFCC
PO Box 12672
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Dues are \$10 per year, waived upon request. If you've recently sent your dues, don't worry. We received them.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

I'm interested in (please circle):

Zoning Committee Dog Park Committee Traffic Committee Community Garden
Holiday Sing Friends of Mifflin Mifflin Arboretum Fundraising East Falls Village
East Falls Town Watch Friends of the Falls of Schuylkill Library
Membership and Communications Events Committee



Area schools plan for life in COVID-19 times

East Falls-area schools are wrestling with how best to begin the school year in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic.

Penn Charter's return-to-school plan is prominently posted on its website, www.penncharter.com, where a flexible approach to a combination of in-person, hybrid and distance learning is being prepared for all ages in the kindergarten to 12th grade school. The focus is on academics "and community issues and concerns around race, gender, sexual misconduct and consent."

Sharon Sexton, Director of

Marketing Communications for Penn Charter, said the school's administrators "anticipate moving between in-person, hybrid, and full distance learning at different points throughout the year, depending on disease levels in the region."

The plans for the lower, middle and upper schools prioritize:

- Health, safety and well-being of students, faculty and staff;
- Students, faculty and staff physically present on campus as safely and as often as possible;

(Continued on page 6)

Your September 2020 East Falls NOW Calendar

Visit the East Falls NOW Restaurant and Business Guide on Page 11. Use this guide to help our neighborhood eateries by ordering take-out or delivery, and to find out which restaurants are doing sidewalk table service. We'll do our best to keep it up to date on our website and in our weekly

emails. If you don't get them, send your email address to info@eastfallscommunity.org.

In addition to the restaurants listed in the East Falls NOW Restaurant and Business Guide, the East Falls Farmers Market continues with its 10 am to 2 pm Saturday hours under the Twin Bridges.

8 Tuesday

2 pm: East Falls Village starts Tuesday afternoon zoom yoga (Pg. 3)

9 Wednesday

6 pm: EFTW call with 39th District Police Service Area 1 meeting, dial 605-313-5071, code 946071#. (Pg. 9)

10 Thursday

2 pm: East Falls Village starts Thursday afternoon zoom yoga (Pg. 3)

7 pm: EFTW Zoom meeting; contact TW office, 215-848-2033 for log-in information or visit eastfallscommunity.org for link. (Pg. 9)

19 Saturday

9 to 3 pm: Monthly "Litter Crew Ahead" clean-up; Mifflin Arboretum, Midvale Ave. (Pg. 9)

28 Monday

4 pm: EFTW 39th Police district-wide meeting; dial 605-313-5071, code 946071#. (Pg. 9)

For the love of gardens: How a Hilltop herb bucket forged father-daughter connections

by Emmy Talian

Any given Saturday in the spring and summer, one can find my father, John Talian, out in the back of his New Jersey suburban home.

With the exception of the golf course, the garden is my dad's favorite place to be, constructing his own beds, planting a new array of flowers, or furiously ripping up encroaching ivy.

While I think he inherited his love of gardening from his older sister Mia, a member of her local garden club in Gwynedd Valley, he also derives great joy from working with his hands and whipping up everyday solutions with just a table saw and other gadgets from his toolshed.

One such problem was the hand-me-down umbrella meant to provide shade to my back patio in the Hilltop at Falls Ridge in the community. When the new stand ordered

from Bed, Bath and Beyond proved to be the wrong size, my dad saw it as a challenge. Rather than trash the sole survivor of a patio set dated from the 90s and purchase new, he made his own multi-purpose stand. And that was how I came to be the proud owner of an herb bucket/umbrella stand in May 2019.

My dad took a big metal bucket he had in the garage, filled it with concrete, and stuck a PVC pipe in the middle. He cut it so that the umbrella pole would snugly drop in and be anchored by the weight of the bucket. Then, he spread potting soil over the concrete and planted basil, thyme, tarragon, parsley, and sage so I would have fresh aromatics to cook with all summer long.

While summer 2019 had some scorching days, as well as some flooding rains that required me to drain the bucket through precarious tilting, somehow the herb bucket survived. I had grown

so attached to my new improvised garden that when fall rolled around, I invested in some pots so I could relocate the herbs inside (to varying degrees of success.)

Now, as I oversee my flourishing herb bucket back on the patio, I am grateful both for the physical and invisible gift my dad bestowed. The sage has allowed me to perfect my chicken and sage dumpling soup through the cold winter, while the basil has really upped my sandwich game. However, the most important gift is, of course, the knowledge that with just the hard work of my hands (and some trusty tools), I can make something beautiful grow.

This column is devoted to your stories on the love of gardens imagined by anyone who has ever been moved by gardens. Gardeners or admirers (of any age) can send their submission to dkaplan8@verizon.net.



Herb bucket on the Hilltop at Falls Ridge.

Needed: attack on weeds and assist from Jeff students

Few would argue with the notion that East Falls is home to some of the most attractive streets in the city. Or anywhere.

It's especially disappointing, then, to see some sadly unkempt blocks – particularly ones that are located centrally in the



A message from the
**EFCC
President**

by Bill Epstein

neighborhood.

For example, the 3700 block of Midvale Ave. -- Downtown East Falls. The first block visitors see coming off Kelly Dr. into our community.

Forget visitors. It's the first block most of us see. And it's not pretty.

Clearly, the weeds have won the war on a block that's home to restaurants, businesses and offices.

The East Falls Development Corporation has taken the initiative to hire folks to clean up Ridge Ave., Midvale Ave. and Conrad St. It has made a noticeable difference for the better.

But these weeds have to go. Carolyn Sutton, who is serving as interim staff at the EFDC, has plans for a community-wide, comprehensive attack on them. It involves all of the relevant organizations and a search for funds to address the issue.

I'm all for it, and I've asked Carolyn to count the East Falls Community Council in.

Meanwhile we need to have the businesspeople and property owners play a role in reclaiming the front of their properties.

Granted, it's not the neglect



of the century. But it's a 10 on the unsightly scale. It has a

negative impact on property values and affects everyone in the neighborhood.

The EFCC will start by establishing expectations. We'll write to every businessperson and property owner on the block. We invite all organizations to join us. Reach us at info@eastfallscouncil.org.

Jefferson University

One of my predecessors as President of the EFCC has properly identified an action item for the administrators of Jefferson University's East Falls Campus.

Grappling with how to restart classes safely under COVID-19, the University has established a policy of "no visitors" on campus. This means that for the time being, neighborhood people must find someplace else for their daily walks.

Meg Greenfield has asked Jefferson officials to amend

their policy to emphasize that masks and distancing are required off campus as well as on campus.

Meg pointed out to Jeff administrator Geoffrey Cromarty that residents on Timber Ln. and Apalogue Rd. are landlocked by the campus, and that in some places the city sidewalks are barely wide enough for two persons.

She suggested that students be asked to use the interior walkways on campus to get to the Henry Ave. and School House Ln. intersection.

Cromarty responded by saying that the university is updating its communications plan "to encourage use of interior walks, wearing of masks and keeping physically distant in the public."

Here's hoping that the responsible Jefferson students – and that's the overwhelming most of them – make this work.

Everyone counts in the Census, so don't be missed!

You might think it is too late to be counted as part of the decennial census. But I assure you, it is not.

The U.S. Census has been in the news as of late. Understanding its impact is important in considering just why.

First, the census is a once every 10-year event when all persons residing in the United States are counted. The first census was conducted in 1790.

The Census Bureau is conducted by the U.S. Department of Commerce, and its purpose is to provide facts and figures about America's people, places and economy.

Why is this counting ritual so important? Because it's critical to know how many people live in the country, and more specifically where they reside. This information determines how money is distributed by the federal government to state and local governments. The federal government uses census numbers to allocate more than \$675 billion annually.

For every Philadelphian

who fails to fill out the census, the city will lose an estimated \$21,000 in federal funding over the next ten years.

This information also determines how many U.S. Representatives Pennsylvania elects to Congress. In 1970 Pennsylvania had 25 seats in Congress; in 1992 our delegation shrank to 21; in 2022 the anticipated is number 17, losing one seat from our current 18. This population information also determines how boundaries are redrawn for state senate and representative districts.

On August 3, 2020, the Census Bureau confirmed that it will accelerate its plans to complete data collection and apportionment counts by the statutory deadline of December 31, 2020. This means that the deadline for field data collection will be September 30, and self-response also will close at that time. Originally the census was to conclude October 31, before COVID-19 came on the scene. As of the beginning of

August, four out of 10 households nationwide had not been counted. The rushed deadline will increase the likelihood that historically undercounted groups will be excluded from the census once again in 2020.

COVID-19 is a stark reminder of the importance of the census, including its rela-



Pam's
Viewpoint

by St. Rep. Pamela A. DeLissio

tion to federal funding for health care. The arrival of the pandemic in Philadelphia has impacted local businesses, hospitals and the city's general way of life. In addition to determining how much funding our city receives for essential public services residents use every day, Census data also is used to plan for emergencies such as the pandemic.

Census data can be used to estimate the spread of diseases, order vaccines and plan for contact tracing. In order to recover from the social and economic impacts of COVID-19, and to prepare for a resurgence in cases, we need an accurate count of all residents.

Communities facing the greatest impact from the pandemic also are the communities most likely to be missed. We need to make sure people in those hard-to-count communities get counted in the 2020 Census, so that challenges they already face are not further exacerbated for the next decade.

If you completed a census questionnaire by April 1, Census Day, or any time after, thank you. If you did not complete a census questionnaire, chances are that someone has been to your house to talk to you about completing a questionnaire or leave information for you if you were not at home.

There is a short form and a long form. The long form is sent randomly to households.

The short form consists of 10 quick questions.

Deployed troops, college students, incarcerated people, and other groups in unique living situations (such as parents with shared custody of children) are counted in different ways.

Deployed troops are counted at the U.S. residence they live and sleep most of the time.

College students are counted at the on-or-off campus residence where they live and sleep most of the time.

People in federal and state prisons on Census Day are counted where they are incarcerated. People in local jails and other municipal confinement facilities on Census Day also are counted where they are incarcerated.

The U.S. census counts everyone, regardless of citizenship status.

Census forms were mailed to each household and you can still respond by filling out the form; calling toll-free at 844-330-2020 or, for the first time, you can complete the form online at mycensus2020.gov.

East Falls NOW

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Village sets fall 'Zoom yoga'

by Mary Flournoy

During the pandemic, East Falls Village members – and some non-members – have been enthusiastically participating in one or two yoga classes each week on Zoom.

We have two instructors and each class is slightly different. The Tuesday class, taught by Lillian Rozin, includes some poses done on a mat or rug. The Thursday class, taught by Shiva Das, is done while sitting on a sturdy armless chair and standing behind the chair for balance.

Two classes take place each week – Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2 to 3 pm. Each class includes a focus on breathing, balance and stretching, as well as a chance to relax and de-stress.

The Tuesday classes will run from Sept. 8 through Nov. 17; the Thursday classes from Sept. 10 through Nov. 19. The fee for each series is \$66 for Village members and \$77 for non-Village members. To



register, call 267-444-4507 or email info@eastfallsvillage.org.

Checks should be made payable to EFCC and mailed to EFCC, c/o 4055 Ridge Ave., Apt. 1301 Phila. PA 19129. Send one check if registering for both the Tuesday and Thursday classes.

Class members say they

like the fact that they can participate from home and find it easy to see and hear the instructor. Some comments from class members:

• "The classes have been so convenient and brighten up my day. I look forward to them each week – a great help during these trying times since they relieve stress and energize at the same time."

• "Doing the classes by Zoom is really easy. I like having the ability to have two different classes, with two great teachers with different styles."

If you have never used Zoom before, the East Falls Village website has tips on its home page.

To see other Zoom programs planned by East Falls Village, see the Calendar of Events at eastfallsvillage.org.

EFDC expands corridor improvement activities

by Carolyn Sutton, EFDC
interim Office Administrator

What a summer! What a year! We're 2/3 of the way through 2020, and we've seen aspects of our daily lives grind practically to a halt. But behind the scenes, many of the things that we sometimes take for granted continue apace during the pandemic.

East Falls, and other inner-city neighborhoods, rose to the COVID-19 Challenge. Local merchants rallied, retooled operations and went beyond their normal customer service to keep our community safely supplied with essentials and sustenance. Let's face it, city neighborhoods with tight-knit, dynamic, walkable commercial corridors were a Godsend to those with limited mobility and minimal back-up financial wherewithal.

Speaking of corridors, since



stepping down from the Board of the East Falls Development Corp. back in May I have been spending about 20 hours a week catching up on some long overdue streetscape maintenance in our commercial district. Thanks to great input from neighbors Nancy Pontone and Ken Kolodziej, we were able to get the overgrown landscape under control at the Parking Lot under the Twin Bridges and on the Gateway Traffic Island. The vendors at the Saturday Farmer's Market report that the "trim" made a huge difference. People now see the market from the Kelly Dr. trail and attendance has increased.

I'm currently working on repairing the water sources and sign lighting, and have hopes of planting some new shrubs and grasses this fall. And then there are the weeds on Ridge and Midvale Aves. I've obtained a proposal from a weed control company used in other communities and am waiting for Board approval to do a major sidewalk/gutter de-weeding later this month. Afterward, we hope to be able to keep weeds at a minimum through the combined efforts of our corridor cleaning crew from the Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) and other volunteers who are interested in cleaning and greening issues.

As for the CEO corridor cleaning crew, five months ago EFDC was accepted into the Philadelphia Commerce Department's Commercial Corridor program. The funds we received allowed us to partner with the CEO, which offers individuals just coming home from prison the ongoing support necessary to build career capital and financial stability. The crew has been working two days a week, primarily cleaning the parking lot and sidewalks along Ridge and Midvale Aves., River Rd. and Conrad St. The EFDC was just notified that our Commerce Department grant has been extended for FY2021, and the CEO crew will be working with EFDC to expand and improve our services. I also have been meeting with Ridge Ave. merchants and property owners. Some have already offered to join the EFDC/CEO team; others have expressed interest in advancing EFDC's streetscape plans. So I plan to set up a regular meeting schedule ASAP. Format is unknown at this point, but there are three workgroups already prioritizing projects that we believe will improve

pedestrian movement and safety and enhance Ridge Ave.'s aesthetic appeal. The workgroups include overall landscaping (trees, planters, open space); awnings, signage and street furniture; and trailhead/historic signage. Anyone interested in joining this effort should contact me at carolyn.sutton@eastfalls.com The revitalization of our neighborhood's com-

mercial corridors has been the primary mission of the East Falls Development Corporation since 1995. It all started with a \$50,000 grant from then St. Rep. Rosita Youngblood, and a 25-year Master Plan which laid out three possible scenarios for developing East Fall's unique Riverfront Business District. So here we are 23 years later. The perfect time to evaluate work accom-

plished under the 25-year plan and get started on strategizing for the next five years. What do you want East Fall's commercial district to look like going forward? What do you think are the major issues to address? How can we -- the EFDC, East Falls Community Council, East Falls Forward -- and all of our active volunteer groups make it happen?

Anniversary trees kept healthy in McMichael Park through summer



Friends of McMichael Park volunteers Robert Rabinowitz (left) and Geoff Brock keep the water on the park's Anniversary Trees marking the 30th anniversary of the Friends -- with Rabinowitz running the hose from his home and contributing 20 gallons of water per week for each tree. Photo by Christina Kistler

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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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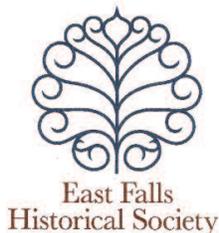
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Civil War blankets to apartments: the saga of Dobson Mills

by Steven J. Peitzman

Last month's East Falls **NOW** carried an article from the East Falls Historical Society about Dobson Field, the home park of the Dobson Mills baseball team in the early 20th Century. This month, it seems appropriate to remind Fallers old and new just how impressive Dobson Mills was -- and still is.



Today's landscape of East Falls is dominated by a complex of 19th Century industrial buildings. Aside from the Twin Bridges, the view of the complex from across the Schuylkill has changed little from the early 20th Century, as can be seen from the illustration with this article. Dobson Mills, which has been listed since 1988 on the National Register of Historic Places, is the largest landmark in East Falls, by far.

This major industry was owned by the brothers John and James Dobson, immigrants who had worked in the

English textile industry. Their first mill was in Manayunk and, after both brothers married into the Schofield family, an important Manayunk milling family, they apparently had the capital and influence to dream big.

Today, the complex includes developments called Dobson Mills and, along the south side of Scotts Ln., Sherman Mills. Both of these developments, each a mix of residential and commercial spaces, consist of renovated buildings from the industrial complex called Dobson Mills, founded in 1855.

In its early decades, buildings at Dobson Mills were powered by a fast-flowing stream that became known as Dobson's Run. Today, the stream runs through a culvert, roughly located under modern-day Scotts Ln. The first two buildings in the Dobson Mills complex were situated on opposite sides of Scotts Ln. The so-called Mill 1, built in the 1850s, produced woolen materials for clothing and blankets as well as yarn. When the Civil War cut off the North -- especially the mills in Lowell, MA -- from the cotton crop grown in the rebel Southern states, the Dobson Mills became a major source of woolen uniforms for Union armies. In 1864, the company added a new complex called Mill 2 to produce blankets for the troops.

By the 1870s Dobson Mills was the largest privately owned woolen mill in the



Dobson Mills in 1901, seen from across the Schuylkill River. Photo courtesy of the Library Company of Philadelphia.

United States. The Dobsons continued to add buildings through the 19th Century and into the 20th. They built an enormous carpet mill, roughly in the center of complex, in the 1870s. Once steam replaced water power, the complex expanded farther from Dobson's Run; the plush mill, built in the 1880s, lies along Crawford St., the westernmost portion of the site. By the early 20th Century, Dobson Mills employed 11,000 people, most of them residents of the Falls of Schuylkill (East Falls), in more than 500,000 square

feet of buildings. John Dobson died in 1911 and James in 1925; and sometime in the 1930's the business shut down.

Fortunately, the buildings -- mostly constructed from stone quarried on-site -- were built to last, and most are now in use -- as residences, offices, and retail businesses. Unfortunately, the towering smokestack that dominated the center of the modern-day Dobson Mills was less durable, and last year it had to come down, a major loss to the landscape.

The physical remnants of

Dobson Mills are more than the two restored complexes. Many of the 11,000 workers lived in the lower Falls, so many contemporary Fallers are living in houses built for Dobson Mills workers. The modest Dobson St., just two blocks long, recalls the brothers who were leaders in an important industry. Literally and figuratively, John and James Dobson built the fabric of East Falls.

To learn more East Falls History, see our expanding website at eastfallshistorical-society.org. Contact the Society at eastfallshistory@gmail.com.

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Zoning Update: City moves to 'Eclipse,' new on-line permitting system

by Todd Baylson, Chair,
EFCC Zoning Committee

As the state and city attempt to reopen following the initial COVID-19 pandemic shutdown, I thought it would be helpful to describe the state of the state related to neighborhood and real estate development issues, specifically zoning and city regulatory changes that have or will be happening.

This is focused on nuts and bolts sorts of technocrat and government regulatory issues and will leave the anti-racism movement and related unrest for other voices and discussions. That is not because they are not important, to be clear.

The city has been forced to make a wide variety of changes in how it operates during the COVID-19 pandemic. The most substantial positive change in the zoning and government regulatory world has been the city's relatively smooth shift to an entirely online permitting and regulatory system called Eclipse, which thankfully the city deployed just as it shut down its in-person and paper-based permitting operations due to the pandemic.

Eclipse is a broad change in how zoning, permitting and many interactions with city agencies around real estate occur. Previously Eclipse was in action for people trying to

secure or refresh certain types of activity licenses required to do business or operate lawfully in Philadelphia, such as Commercial Activity License (CAL) required to operate a business, and rental licenses, required to operate a rental property business.

During the pandemic the city moved almost all of the remaining zoning and permitting processes to Eclipse, with the exception of the variance process run by neighborhood groups and the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) and, as I understand it, certain processes run outside of Licenses and Inspections (L&I) by other departments, such as Streets and Water.

It's been a little clunky to use, like a lot of government technology can be, but overall Eclipse offers a lot of promise in terms of benefits and value to both applicants and L&I employees. The data it automatically gathers on compliance with due dates and timelines, frequently identified friction points and as such hopefully will help the city with overall process management and improvements.

For building types of permits, the workflow that organizes the permitting process works in a generally logical way. The project description an applicant enters automatically triggers and guides she or he through

what is needed to do to submit. Due dates when responses are to be expected from the city are automatically generated and seem to be generally adhered to. It is not exactly simple or intuitive, but most users I know seem to think it is a substantial improvement from the old days when one trade or agency's review had little coordination at all with other trade or agency reviews.

The system organizes collaboration between the various internal reviews such as building and electrical, for example, which used to be two almost separate paper submissions, into one entirely online user experience. These have probably been difficult for the plan examiners because many of them are working at home and likely pouring over detailed plans and documents on small laptop screens instead of the typically larger screens and large print outs they usually use.

Through technology advancements that cut across many city departments, various parts of the permitting process now share a centralizing feature -- sometimes called a "keystone" -- like a property address that every element is tagged with. This lets an applicant link licenses, eligibility in terms of being up to date on city taxes, an initial zoning permit, subsequent building and electrical

permits, and, if necessary, appeals to the zoning board in one flow with one centrally identifiable data point. Importantly, payments are easily made online linked to bank accounts or credit cards.

Inconsistencies remain because some plan examiners engage in email banter with applicants throughout the process while others seem unwilling to receive documents or offer any responses outside of the Eclipse software. The communication that Eclipse offers within the software can be hard to follow, especially when one is unfamiliar with the new online workflows the City has set up.

Eclipse is a big improvement and it is proving to be stable, even if a little clunky to use. Congrats to those in the City responsible for implementing such a key tool at such a challenging time.

For more information on Eclipse, email the EFCC at zoning@eastfallscommunity.org and we'll send you a useful link.

The most substantially negative aspect of zoning and regulatory during the COVID-19 pandemic has been the suspension of the in-person neighborhood meetings and hearings by which public and regulatory input on real estate projects -- including zoning and permitting -- typically is gathered. Zoning meetings and hearings

were initially not allowed to happen due to the Governor's shut down. So applicants looking to share their projects with communities at meetings basically were entirely shut down. Towards the end of May and into June, neighborhood groups that run meetings, called RCOs (Registered Community Organizations, such as EFCC) began trying out online meetings to meet the City requirements and the requests from developers and applicants.

The zoning board of adjustment (ZBA) also has been shut down, meaning that applicants looking for variances have been unable to receive a final decision. Recently the ZBA announced efforts to start to reopen and as a result the whole ecosystem of related processes (neighborhood meetings, designed discussions etc.) is reawakening.

For the time being EFCC likely will have its zoning meetings via zoom because people looking to develop real estate have asked for next steps. We want to accommodate them because that is our obligation to folks with investment backed expectations or projects they are planning, but importantly also because it is critical to make sure neighbors are able to offer feedback and at least state their input on proposals that could impact them and where they live.

Area schools plan for life in COVID-19 times

(Continued from page 2)

- Sustained delivery of an excellent educational program;

- Schoolwide theme of empathy and equity guiding renewed, rethought work around racism, anti-racism, gender, sexuality and consent;
- Engagement among all constituent groups; and,
- Nurtured relationships and community connection.

Tents and bathroom trailers have been added to the Penn Charter grounds to assist with COVID-19 safe distance provisions.

GFS' plans

At Germantown Friends School, plans call for the early

childhood programs to run five days a week on campus. The Lower School, also, will be on campus every day.

In GFS's Middle School, 6th grade students will be in classrooms four days a week, while 7th and 8th graders will be in class two days a week. In its Upper School, the GFS plan calls for five days a week for all grades.

At germantownfriends.org, school officials say they are hopeful that "the status of community health in Philadelphia this fall will make this modified in-person instruction on campus possible. At the same time, we also want to underscore our keen aware-

ness of the unpredictable nature of the public health situation both locally and nationally. We have built our plans for the upcoming year so that we can respond adaptively to current COVID-19 case conditions in Philadelphia and other critical data. Our decision-making about how we reopen will be guided by the CDC, city, and state guidelines, and in consultation with our Medical Advisory Board."

Jefferson U. underway
On the East Falls Campus of Jefferson University, the semester has begun on schedule. But students will not return after the Thanksgiving break. They will complete the

semester remotely, according to information posted at Jefferson.edu.

Only freshmen and a small number of upperclassmen will reside on the East Falls campus, and only one student will be in each traditional residence hall room. Nearby off-campus housing has been arranged for upperclassmen with shuttle service to campus.

Dining services primarily will be grab-and-go for all meals and food items, with limited seating in dining areas. All food services and venues are being modified to promote contactless interac-

(Continued on page 8)

Apply now, vote by mail

(Continued from page 1)

Here's your East Falls NOW primer for the General Election:

- The last day to register to vote is Mon., Oct. 19.

- The last day to apply for a mail-in ballot is Tues., Oct. 27. When you receive your ballot, it must be returned by 8 pm election night. Not post-marked, but actually delivered. Because this is a tight deadline if a voter waits until the last minute to request a mail-in ballot, some observers believe that the state legislators might adjust the Oct. 27 date.

But there is no need to wait to request either form. You can get them now in two ways: (1) visit www.philadelphiavotes.com, or (2) call 215-686-3469 and they will be mailed to you.

Also, you can consult your committee persons for both application forms.

Don't wait. If you are not registered to vote, or if you have not asked for a mail-in ballot, do so today.

When will you receive your ballot?

At press time this was uncertain. The ballots could not be printed until the conventions of both major political parties made their candidates official. The East Falls Community Council will provide the latest information available through East Falls NOW, its website at www.eastfallscommunity.org, and through its weekly emails. If you do not receive these emails, send your email address to info@eastfallscommunity.org.

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Stop that Ivy now – it’s choking your tree!

by Navin Susikamar

A common sight as you walk around our neighborhood are yards covered in English Ivy (Hedera helix).

Before I was more ecologically conscious, I loved the sight of houses and yards covered in ivy. There was something magical and rustic seeing stone houses covered in evergreen ivy. But the more I learned and the more I wandered around our woods, I came to realize that ivy is not as magical as it seems to me.



Navin on Nature

by Navin Sasikumar

English ivy, like many other ornamental plants, is not native to our region. It comes from Europe, where it serves an important ecological role providing nectar, forage and shelter for many species of insects, birds, mammals and reptiles.

While it does provide some of those things here, it doesn't fit in so well in our ecosystem.

Rather, it tends to dominate. English ivy easily can escape cultivation in gardens and spread to our woodlands. Its berries can be spread by birds, and once the seeds are dispersed and germinated it grows quickly and climbs and spreads by means of runners.

Not only does it grow quickly, but the foliage is dense as well. And once it is in our woodlands, it can quickly climb trees and choke them out. The dense foliage prevents a tree's own leaves from getting enough light, suppressing its growth. The rootlets can weaken the trunk and branches and introduce disease and fungus and the weight of the ivy foliage can eventually topple trees.

In addition, English ivy, being evergreen in nature, retains its leaves in winter unlike many of our native vines such as Virginia Creeper. Snow and ice can accumulate on these leaves, adding even more weight and again bring down the trees.

I've seen numerous trees that have been killed (by being choked or diseased) or toppled (by weight) by ivy growing on them – both in woods and on our streets and in yards.

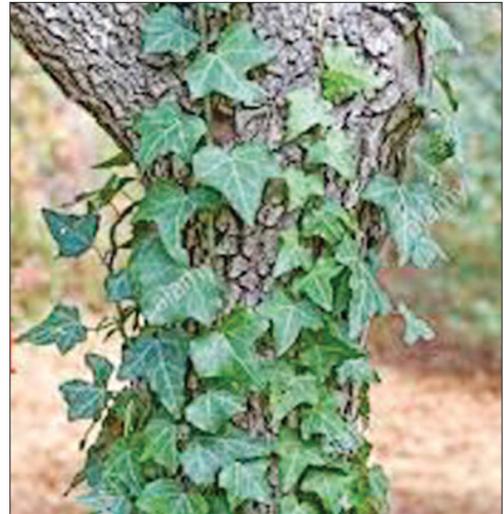
Ivy grows as a groundcover, as well, when there are no

vertical surfaces to climb on. Even as a groundcover it can create problems. Again, the dense foliage and quick growth can shade and choke out many of our native groundcovers, eventually becoming a monoculture of nothing but ivy.

Despite its invasive nature, ivy continues to be sold in garden centers and nurseries. And unless grown indoors, English ivy rarely stays contained and large amounts of money and time are spent trying to remove this species from our woods and other natural areas.

Ivy can be removed from trees by cutting the vines on the trunk at the base to create a barren band. The leaves higher up will die from not having access to the roots and any new leaves that form from the bottom will have to be removed periodically until the ivy is dead.

Ground-covering ivy can be removed by pulling it, mulching the soil and replacing it with native plants. Examples of native replacements include Allegheny pachysandra (make sure it isn't the Japanese pachysandra, another pernicious invasive), Virginia creeper, Dutchman's pipe, Wild ginger and Wild geranium.



English Ivy choking a tree

Indoor dining starts Sept. 8

(Continued from page 1)

for up to 25 persons. Customers will be required to wear masks.

Thomas Farley, the city's Health Commissioner, said that reopening plans will be reversed if the city experiences an uptick in COVID-19 cases.

In East Falls, several eateries have been providing sidewalk or other outdoor service

for several weeks. Here's what they tell East Falls **NOW** about plans for indoor service:

Owner Franco at Fiorino: "We've been waiting and waiting to open. We're more than ready. Either that, or I'm going to retire!"

Meghan Hoffman, Murphy's Saloon: "We will add six tables

inside while maintaining outside eating, takeout and pickup. Tuesday Burger Night continues to be busy."

Artie Cavalier, In Riva: Plans to decline inside dining unless it rains. "We're going to do it only if weather requires. Our first obligation is to protect our staff."

Matt Curtis, manager at LeBus:

He said he looks forward to reopening indoors. "The more the merrier."

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Sharing Financial Wisdom With Your Kids

by Shawn C. Smith

This article is sponsored by Ameriprise

If you are a parent, talking to your kids about money can help them learn how to be financially responsible, self-supporting adults. To get the discussion flowing, consider using these conversation starters depending on your child's age.

expenses. Talk to your child about what you plan to contribute and what portion you expect them to pay. Discuss day-to-day financial responsibilities such as how to maintain a checking account and establish a good credit record.

Explain financial building blocks to your elementary school student. As your child progresses through school, start introducing the difference between needs and wants. Give your child the chance to make some simple financial decisions that involve delayed gratification, such as setting aside an allowance to buy a toy.

Help your college student prepare for independence. As graduation nears, discuss expectations for your child's transition from student to working adult. Offer yourself as a resource for guidance on how to seek work, negotiate a good salary and navigate the world of employee benefits.

Understand that your middle schooler may be watching more than listening. Kids tend to be peer-oriented in the pre-teen years and may be less receptive to parental advice. Keep talks short, but don't abandon the mission. Remember that your actions speak volumes. Consider involving your child in donations or charitable work you and him or her are passionate about.

Shawn C. Smith, APMA®, CRPC® is a Financial Advisor and Senior Vice President, with Hickory Pointe Financial Group, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. in Plymouth Meeting, PA. and an East Falls Resident. Shawn.C.Smith@AMPF.com.

Encourage your high school student to think about the future. Now is the time to discuss college costs and encourage saving for college

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Kitchen Corner

Zucchini-Parmesan Loaf

by Anne Farnese

As folks sheltered-in-place during the early weeks of COVID-19 pandemic, they soothed their anxious spirits with comfort food. For some that may have been all forms of chocolate; for others homemade chicken soup.

Those are good choices. But internet data determined banana-bread searches were a top food trend during that time.

When shelter-in-place continued, internet searches for how to plant a vegetable garden trended; interest was such a sensation that seeds and seedlings sold out quickly. Vegetable-garden neophytes who planted zucchini soon learned that it is a most prolific crop. Indeed, sometimes it is dubbed, "King of the Garden."

Zucchini originated in Mesoamerica more than 7,000 years ago. Culinary historians speculate early 19th century explorers brought nutrition-rich zucchini to Italy, where it was cultivated, and Italian immigrants brought it to America in the 1920's. Its name comes from the Italian word for squash, zucca, and ini, the plural diminutive.

The "ini" is significant because when it comes to zuc-

chini, size matters. The vegetable is best when young and tender and no longer than six to eight inches. Any bigger, it becomes zuchone, with tough skin, hard seeds and mealy flesh.

Zucchini is as versatile as it is prolific. It can be cooked by a variety of methods, including steaming, grilling, sautéing, stuffing and baking. Choose ones vibrant in color and blemish-free.

Zucchini-Parmesan Loaf

(This recipe is from Martha Stewart)

½ cup olive oil plus more for pan
2 cups all-purpose flour plus more for pan
½ cup milk
2 large eggs
1 cup grated Parmesan cheese (about 4 ounces)
2 teaspoons baking powder
1½ teaspoons salt
¼ teaspoon ground pepper
½ pound zucchini coarsely grated

Heat oven to 375°.
Brush a 9x5 inch loaf pan with oil.
Dust with flour and tap out excess.
In a small bowl whisk oil, milk and eggs.
In a large bowl whisk flour, Parmesan baking powder, salt and pepper.



Zucchini-Parmesan Loaf

Mix in zucchini, then egg mixture, until just moistened. Batter will be thick.

Transfer batter to prepared pan; press in gently.

Bake until a toothpick inserted comes out clean. (60-70 minutes)

(Tent with foil if loaf browns too quickly)

Cool 15 minutes in pan; turn over loaf onto rack to cool completely

Area schools plan for life in COVID-19 times

(Continued from page 6)

tions and food procurement.

Students were told to complete an online return-to-campus orientation and initial screening prior to returning to campus. If they have signs or symptoms, or positive risk factors, they must contact the University's student health services.

All students were asked to stay at home for two weeks before coming to campus, to minimize the chance of being exposed to the virus and potentially transmitting the virus in the campus environment.

Students who arrived on campus have been asked to avoid any travel outside of the immediate Philadelphia region until the end of in-person class activities at the end of November. Students who do travel to states with high case rates must quarantine for 14 days upon return and be cleared to return to class.

The Jefferson document on returning to class says that students will be given fre-

quent individual messages during the academic year to self-screen for signs and symptom and evaluate daily their risk factors for COVID-19. If a student has signs or symptoms, or positive risk factors, she/he cannot come to campus and must contact the University's student health services.

Fall sports are currently scheduled to begin competition during the winter and spring seasons, beginning in January 2021. This is subject to change, in consultation with the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC).

The University has approved a policy stating that all students, staff and faculty must wear masks at all times on campus, except when eating, but still observe social distancing while eating.

All scheduled meetings for student groups must be held virtually unless approved by University administration, and all student events will be held virtually, postponed or cancelled until further notice.

East Falls Tree Tenders – 25 years and still planting

by Cynthia Kishinchand

When former Fallser Lloyd Russow and the late Sallie Maser held the first meeting of East Falls Tree Tenders (EFTT) one September evening 25 years ago, they could not have foreseen what an impact their initiative would make on the local environment.

Thanks to them and past and current local residents, as part of the Pennsylvania Hor-

tical Society Tree Tender Program EFTT has coordinated the planting of approximately 1,000 street trees, educated property owners about proper tree care, and provided funding for programs and trips related to nature for more than 1,500 students at the Thomas Mifflin School, where more than 20 street trees are thriving. In addition, EFTT has sponsored 24 Arbor Day celebrations, including 23 at Inn Yard Park.

How will EFTT celebrate its 25th anniversary? Come fall, Ray Lucci, Ed Ruback, and Any Slettebak will remedy the soil in the pit by the Amelanchier laevis 'Cumulus' (Serviceberry) planted last November on Conrad St. by Mifflin School and re-establish the tree to ensure its future good health. Then, in November, rain or shine, EFTT will plant five trees throughout the community. The trees were postponed from spring because of the COVID-19 virus. Trees requested for fall will be planted next spring, barring any dystopian phenomena, since Philadelphia Parks & Recreation staff could not inspect all the sites in time for the November planting.

Join our merry band of 18 tree tenders by registering for the September PHS Tree Tender course, where PHS Tree Tender Program Manager Mindy Maslin and Urban Forestry Program Dana Dentrice will educate and inspire us and other future tree tenders as we learn about tree biology, identification, planting and proper care.

To register online visit <http://www.phsonline.org/programs/tree-programs>. This four-part workshop series, which will be in English and Spanish, will take place via Zoon on Wednesdays, September 9, 13, 23 and 30, 2020, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. A brief Zoom check-in will be held Wednesday, September 2 to make sure the webmar technology is functioning properly. The cost is \$40, \$36 for PHS members. For scholarship information contact Mindy Maslin at mmaslin@pennhort.org. For information on EFTT contact Cynthia Kishinchand at (215) 849-2474 or crk3114@msn.com.

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EFTW, Jefferson students and EFCC address Arboretum; Police seek men who jumped Terron employee, stole car

East Falls Town Watch continues its drive to clean up trash and wipe out graffiti.

On Fri., Aug. 21 TW teamed with a half-dozen Jefferson University students, another half-dozen neighbors and the East Falls Community Council to address the vast overgrowth on the Mifflin School Arboretum on Midvale Ave.

Marie Filipponi, TW board member who chaired the effort, said the Jefferson students were part of the University's annual PLUNGE program. PLUNGE represents the students' desire to "plunge" right in and get involved with the community.

The students and neighbors trimmed, raked and cleared overgrowth on the entire

much work remains to be done in the Arboretum. They said the Town Watch team members who run the monthly "Litter Crew Ahead" clean-ups -- so-named because of the wording on the bright orange PennDOT road sign provided by the agency to aid in the safety of volunteers -- have decided that they will return to the Arboretum on Sat., Sept. 19 and continue the clean-up of the hillside property. That effort will run from 9 am to 3 pm.

TW will provide gloves and tools, and participants should meet at the Arboretum. For more information, call the Town Watch office at 215-848-2033.

Fullam said that TW still needs financial resources to cover the costs of graffiti removal and electronic surveillance of the EF SEPTA station. East Falls residents can contribute on-line at www.eastfallscommunity.org (designate Town Watch) or by mail to EFTW, 3540 Indian Queen Ln., Phila., PA 19129

Fullam said the July Litter Crew Ahead effort generated four bulging bags of trash from throughout the neighborhood, along with recyclables and refuse from several lots that had been scarred by short dumping. In addition, a pile of clothing -- mostly new -- was picked up at 4100 Ridge Ave. and delivered to the Salvation Army.

Terron employee injured

On Aug. 8 an employee of the Terron Vegan/Vegetarian Restaurant at 3426 Conrad St. was jumped by two men as he was closing the restaurant after 11 pm. He was struck in the face and suffered serious cuts, and his car was stolen.

Police said that prior to the attack neighbors saw two men



Before and after: The Midvale Ave. wall of the Mifflin Arboretum as it appeared before Jefferson students, East Falls neighbors, EF Town Watch and the EFCC armed themselves with rakes, shovels and clippers to attack overgrowth on the property.

in a dark-windowed van taking photos of neighborhood cars. They said their investigation includes an examination of video footage provided by neighbors.

Meetings:

Tues., Sept. 8, 6 pm: 39th District Police Service Area 1 meeting, dial 605-313-5071, code 946071#.

Thurs., Sept. 10, 7 pm: EFTW Zoom meeting; contact the TW office at 215-848-2033 for log-in information or visit www.eastfallscommunity.org for link.

Sat., Sept. 19, 9 to 3 pm: Monthly "Litter Crew Ahead" clean-up; Mifflin Arboretum, Midvale Ave.

Mon., Sept. 28, 4 pm: 39th Police district-wide meeting; dial 605-313-5071, code 946071#.



The workers, from left: Mary Jane Fullam, President of EFTW; Taylor Felty, a fifth-year student at Jefferson; Fallsers Elias and Daphne Hanford; Marie Filipponi, who chaired the clean-up for EFTW; first-year student Colette Van Hise; Fallsers Nancy Pontone; first year students Kendall Flowers, Izabella Chmil, Aiden Gerhart and Brianne Burns; and Fallsers Peggy Gertz.



length of the wall of the Mifflin Arboretum. They observed COVID-19 precautions and filled more than 50 bags and removed fallen tree branches on the property running from the school building down Midvale Ave. to the Cresson St. Bridge.

Filipponi said the growth presented a large challenge because the EFCC's annual spring clean-up was cancelled in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the event was called off, the weeds and trees didn't get the message.

Mary Jane Fullam, EF Town Watch President, and Bill Epstein, President of the EFCC, said that in spite of the large effort on Aug. 21

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Wellness Corner

Delayed wellness center offering free COVID tests to members

by John T. Gillespie

Formal opening of the new Salveo Wellness Center in the 4400 block of Ridge Ave. has been pushed back to later this fall due to the coronavirus crisis, according to Dr. Greg Skochko, founder and managing partner of the member-based clinic.

The 3,000 square-foot medical center on the ground floor of the Philadelphia Housing Authority's senior citizen residential building originally was to open this past spring. Financed by membership fees, the all-day, seven days-a-week center will offer a wide range of medical and wellness programs by a team of doctors and health care professionals.

"We are in process of rescheduling all the sub-contractors and hope to resume

work in the next two to four weeks," said Skochko. "Once resumed, it will take about a month to complete. Best case scenario, we'll open sometime in October or November"

In the meantime, the center is offering members free curbside COVID-19 tests with a turnaround time of two days. For local businesses and employers there is a per-test fee of between \$50 and \$100.

"I can do curbside best-practice deep nasopharyngeal swabs for all my patients and consistently have less than 48 hour results turnaround," Skochko explained. "I can speak confidently on what's known about the different test options at this time, including viral swabs, antibody testing, blood draw and rapid finger prick, newer rapid antigen testing and other promising

tests such as saliva -- spit in a cup -- which would be huge for testing kids."

Members wishing to take the test must call for an appointment. Skochko will conduct the curbside side test at his temporary, office at 4310 Ridge Ave, less than a block away from the planned new facility.

Patients stay in their car, roll down the window, face the doctor and wait for insertion of the nasal swab, all in a few seconds.

Skochko said that patients thought to have been exposed and who test negative will be tested a second time after the five-to-seven-day incubation period. The second test might pick up signs of infection missed earlier during the incubation or pre-symptomatic period.

When fully operative, the Salveo Center will be able to handle up to 2,000 patients and a wide range of illness, excluding those requiring hospitalization or emergency care.

It will have a one-time enrollment charge of \$99, plus a monthly age-based fee ranging from \$19 for up to 18 years to \$99 for 65 and older. There will be no limits on visits and, unlike insurance-driven models, membership requires no co-pays or deductibles.

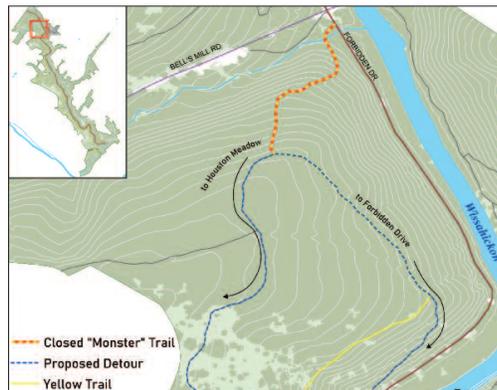
In addition to standard treatments, the center will perform minor clinical procedures, including joint aspirations, skin biopsies, immobilizing joint injuries and suturing uncomplicated lacerations. It will facilitate emergency care and hospitalizations if needed, but the emphases will be on preven-

tion.

In other news, the center recently purchased a laser intermittent pulse light device used in cosmetics to treat wrinkles, uneven skin tone, scars, vascular lesions, permanent hair removal and birthmarks and tattoo removal.

Skochko will be assisted by general practitioners Dr. Kem Yenai, MD, and Dr. Melissa Borrero, MD; physical therapists Chris McKenzie, DPT, and Betsy Michel, PT; dietitians Marjorie Cohn, RD, and Allison Malowe, RD; phlebologist Dawn Huling; a team of rotating mental health providers; and clerical staff. The specialties of the staff reflect a focus on what Skochko calls the "four pillars" of the center: direct primary care, physical therapy, nutrition and exercise/conditioning.

Work starts on 'Monster' trail; zone closed



Work has begun by the Friends of the Wissahickon (FOW) on construction on the popular "Monster" Trail -- continuing through Sept. 19.

The entire trail is closed to the public for the duration of the project. During this time the entrance to the Yellow Trail will be accessible via the connector trail, roughly half a mile south from Bell's Mill Rd. along Forbidden Drive. Access to Houston Meadow is unchanged.

The steep, rocky "Monster," on the Yellow Trail, heading south from West Bell's Mill Rd., is favored by park users who enjoy a physical and technical challenge. It is one of five trails scheduled for improvement as FOW looks to complete its Sustainable Trails Initiative -- a multi-year campaign is designed to restore and preserve an envi-

ronmentally and socially sustainable trail system in Wissahickon Valley Park and serve a growing community of park users for generations to come.

FOW is partnering with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation and Paul W. Steinbeiser Landscape Design & Construction in Frenchtown, NJ on the project. FOW officials said the work will armor parts of the trail to stabilize the tread and reduce erosion, while maintaining the current challenging alignment. By following

the natural contours of the land and incorporating additional sustainable principles in construction, the reroute will reduce erosion and stormwater runoff, allow for moderate to heavy use, and reduce future trail stewardship costs.

FOW urges park users to be aware of the construction staging area at the base of the trail, below Bell's Mill Rd., where the parking lot connector trail meets Forbidden Dr. and to observe work zone and safety signage at all times -- even if crews are not working.

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We cherish our network of dedicated volunteers working to support our Falls Library and are always happy to welcome more. For information contact Friends President Margaret Sadler at 215.843.6793.

An update from Branch Head Drew Birden:
Material holds can now be placed online at freelibrary.org. Just select Falls Library as your "no-contact" pick up location. Questions? Please call us at 215.685.2093.

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East Falls NOW September 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.

Restaurants are permitted to operate for outdoor seating, and to do deliveries and take-out if orders are called-in or submitted on-line ahead of pick-up. At press time restaurants were permitted on Sept. 8 to resume indoor seating, restricted to 25 percent of their capacity. Tables must be six feet apart, according to city regulations, and no more than four persons can be at a table. 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. Also, movie theatres and performing arts houses are permitted to operate up to a 25-person capacity. No food can be served and patrons must wear masks at all times.

4th Street Famous Cookies, 4177 Ridge Ave., 215-625-9870 or famouscookies.com; order 8 am to 3 pm Mon. to Thurs., 8:30 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 daily.

Black Squirrel, 3749 Midvale Ave.; will open with an English pub-style menu when sit-down service is permitted.

Cranky Joes, 3501 Indian Queen Ln., 215-844-5626; 12 noon to 6 pm, call for take-out food and beer.

East Falls Deli, Conrad and Tilden Sts.; 267-297-5746; order online at www.falls-deliphilly.com; takeout and delivery; 7 am to 3 pm, Mon. to Tues.; 7 am to 6 pm, Wed. to Fri.; 7 am to 3 pm, Sat. & Sun.

East Falls Farmers Market, under the Twin Bridges between Kelly Dr. and Ridge Ave., 10 am to 2 pm Sat

Fiorino, 3572 Indian Queen Ln., 215-843-1500 or 877-585-1085; take out 4 to 8:30 pm Wed. through Sun.; sidewalk table service and take-out.

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 9 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.frankspizza-eastfalls.com; take-out & 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.

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 except Sunday.

In Riva, 4116 Ridge Ave., 215-438-4848; order online at www.in-riva.com; take-out, curb-side service and delivery; open table; specials: 1/2 off draft beers, pizzas and specialty cocktails, and \$5 house wines; 12 noon to 8 pm daily.

LeBus, 4201 Ridge Ave., 484-255-2100; order online at www.lebuseastfalls.com; Open table; sidewalk table service, takeout and delivery; 11 am to 9 pm Mon. through Fri, except closed on Tues., 9 am to 9 pm Sat. and Sun

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

Nou Vaux Market, 3539 Vaux St., corner of Tilden and Vaux Sts., 215-438-7600; 8 am to 7 pm Mon. to Fri., 8 am to 5 pm Sat., 8 am to 3 pm Sun.; local meats, Marchiano's breads, vegan and gluten-free products, dairy, pet needs, lotteries, seasonal plants, tools and soil.

Shan Chuan, 4211 Ridge Ave., 215-844-7889, shanchuaneastfalls.com; 11:30 am to 10 pm Mon. to Thurs., 11:30 am to 11 pm Fri. and Sat., 12 noon to 10 pm, 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 11 pm Sun. to Wed., 11 am to 12 midnight Thurs. to Sat.

Terron vegan restaurant, 3426 Conrad St., 215-716-7111, order at terronkitchen.com; take-out curb-side service; free local lunch delivery and delivery anywhere 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 and dinner 5 to 9 pm.

Thunder Mug, 4233 Ridge Ave., 267-766-6950; 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; 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.co; 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@valutandvine.co.

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 7pm daily.

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: www.gofundme.com/f/support-east-falls-restaurant-and-bar-workers

Also open in East Falls:

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

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

SoLi Fitness, Derrick Johnson, 267-971-2943

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

Midvale Auto, 3629 Midvale Ave., 215-844-1533

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

Connie Gillespie, Elfant Wissahickon Realtors, 215-805-0696

Letters to the East Falls NOW editor

To the Editor:

I was born and raised in East Falls and lived there with my family initially. I still have family there but now live in Andorra.

One day last year I noticed that my next-door neighbor had his trash can handles fac-

ing the street. I thought, "what a good idea." Since then I have been turning my handles that way, too.

Many people complain about slow and late pick up of the trash and here is a very simple way to help things go faster. I could never do that job even on

a nice weather day, let alone in miserable weather of any kind.

I have been through several large home remodeling projects and never had one complaint from city workers about the extra trash at my curb. Where

in heavens name would we be without trash pick-up?

I often have felt that the speeches and signs thanking essential workers during the pandemic should include our sanitation workers. If the trash

is a week behind it isn't the fault of the guys on the street. The powers that be in City Hall need to solve the problem, but can't seem to get around to it.

-- Lyda M. Doyle



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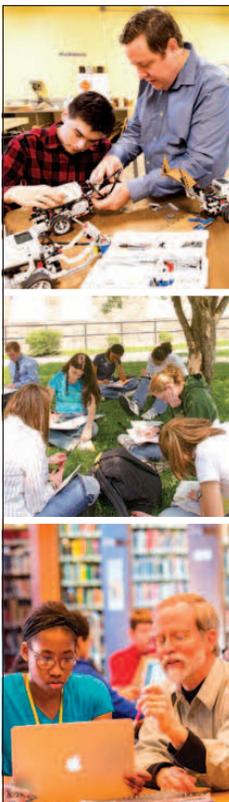
EAST FALLS FAMILY DENTISTRY

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