

# East Falls **NOW**

Vol. 2, No. 8

December 2019

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**Getting ready** to carry home their tree from the Friends of the Falls Library's annual Christmas tree sale are, from left, Joe Lewandowski, Naima Hanson and Lucy and Olivia Lewandowski.

## Trees, lots of trees, from six to 10 feet! Winter Market runs through Sun., Dec. 8

Although the distribution of December's East Falls **NOW** ran late because of the Thanksgiving holiday, we're here in time to tell you that the Friends of the Falls Library Christmas Tree sale and the East Falls Farmers Market's Winter Market will run through Sunday, Dec. 8 at Vault + Vine, 3507 Midvale Ave.

Trees range from six to 10 feet high.

Benefiting the Friends of the Falls Library, the tree sale got off to a big start on Thanksgiving weekend. John Gillespie, Chair of the sale, stocked 177 trees, cash or credit. All proceeds go to support programs at the library.

Hours on Friday, Saturday and Sunday are from 9 am to 5 pm. The sale includes free trimming and -- up until 11 am -- a free cup of coffee from Vault + Vine, courtesy of the Friends of the Falls Library.

At the same time, on the Vault + Vine parking lot, the East Falls Farmers Market has organized food truck vendors on Saturday and Sunday as part of its Winter Market.

The Winter Market will take place upstairs at Vault + Vine, with regional craft vendors offering their unique holiday gift ideas from 10 am to 4 pm.

A raffle will benefit the EF Farmers Market.

## Market, deli and vegetarian restaurant make debut in East Falls

Late November saw the debut of three new food-related businesses in East Falls.

One is a mini-supermarket in the site of the former Tilden Market on Vaux St. The others are a new deli and vegetarian restaurant blocks apart on Conrad St.

Ed Lampe, a 26-year resident of East Falls, opened his Nouveaux Market at 3539 Vaux St., site of the former Tilden Market on the corner of Vaux and Tilden Sts. His

new layout includes a deli counter, a dairy case, grocery shelves and a large selection of healthy chips -- some less healthy, too -- to go with the deli sandwiches and soon-to-come PA Lottery service.

Lampe has deep roots stretching nearby. He is a fourth generation Roxborough native. His late great-grandfather owned Lampe-Devlin Mills in Manayunk. He is assisted in the store by Rod-

*(Continued on page 13)*

## No EFCC Business Meeting In Dec.; Holiday Party Dec. 9

There will be no business meeting for the East Falls Community Council in December. The EFCC's Holiday Party will be at 6 pm Monday, Dec. 9 at the Trolley Car Café. Please

RSVP at [www.info@eastfallcommunity.org](http://www.info@eastfallcommunity.org).

The next business meeting will be at 7 pm Monday, Jan. 13 at the EF Presbyterian Church, Midvale Ave. and Vaux St.

## Henry Ave. overhaul now set for 2022

by John. T. Gillespie

The overhaul of Henry Ave. is now set for the summer of 2022 following delays in planning and coordination between government and private agencies, including public utilities.

The \$16.6 million project extends from Abbottsford Ave. in East Falls to Port Royal Road in Andorra. It calls for traffic calming measures, including guardrail replacements, new and better-timed traffic signals, sidewalk bump-outs, signage and pavement marking enhancements.

The overhaul also includes high friction surface treatments, roadway deflections, tree trimming, vegetated islands, median barriers, additional left-hand turn lanes and more.

The changes will be accomplished in two stages. The section from Abbottsford Ave.

to the Wissahickon Creek Bridge, running through East Falls, originally was scheduled for completion in 2021.

It faces up to a year's delay until late summer 2022. The segment from Wissahickon Creek Bridge to Port Royal Road in Andorra will be completed six months earlier in the spring of 2022.

Responding to a request for a status report from the East Falls Community Council and St. Rep. Pam DeLissio (D-194th), PennDOT's District 6 officials said the plans took longer than anticipated to finalize and win community support when the project was first presented two years ago.

"While PennDOT District 6 aims to provide realistic dates during development...these dates can and often do change because of the size and complexity of projects, the amount of coordination required, and the eventual approvals need-

ed to advance a project from one phase to the next," PennDOT officials told DeLissio in their response memo.

The state agency rejected a request by EFCC for an early application of non-skid surfacing to the road to deal with the ongoing rash of crashes, including a collision Nov. 27 at Henry Ave. and Queen Ln. that left a car on its side amid a scene of widespread damage. A week earlier a school bus collided with a van at Henry Ave. and School House Ln. There were no reported serious injuries in either accident. PennDOT said resurfacing the road would have to await final overhaul two and a half years from now, as funding was not available for an interim resurfacing.

"There is no correct mechanism in place for an early application of a high friction surface, and the effectiveness

*(Continued on page 14)*

## It's a school-wide feast at Mifflin!

Talk about a big crowd for Thanksgiving. The students and faculty members at the Thomas Mifflin School took "big" to a new level when they sat down to a school-wide feast on the Tuesday before the holiday. The dinner had all the trimmings for all 300 students and faculty and staff members, filling the building's hallways.

The tradition was started by Colleen Yarnall, learning support teacher, in 1997 when she came to Mifflin. At that point, she taught a class of 10 students, and the dinner was just for her class. She involved her students in almost all of the preparations except cooking the turkey, and all enjoyed the dinner in the classroom.

In the following years the dinner was expanded to a few other classes, then all the classrooms on the first floor. Now the entire school is involved. All the teachers

bake a turkey or cook one of the main dishes, while volunteers help serve the feast, decorate the tables in the hallway, and even tie hundreds of silverware packets. In addition, students and staff are encouraged to bring non-

perishable food for a Thanksgiving Food Drive.

And Ms. Yarnall remains the moving force behind this great Mifflin Moment -- one of many at the school!



**Getting ready** for what has become a Thanksgiving tradition at Thomas Mifflin School are (from left) students Eva Graham, Olivia Lewandowski, Magnolia Nendza and Joyce Townsend-Mackins, with Mifflin faculty member Colleen Yarnall (left) and EF Village Read 2 Me volunteer Joan Logan.

## Zoning to meet Dec. 12

The EFCC Zoning Committee will meet at 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 12 at the East Falls Presbyterian Church to consider a zoning variance appeal from New-Courtland Senior Services and InnoVage LIFE (Living Independently for Elders) regarding signage at 3232 Henry Ave.

## Caroling in Park Wed., Dec. 11

The annual Holiday Caroling in the Park -- complete with musicians and candles and fun for the whole family -- will take place at 7 pm Wednesday, Dec. 11 at the War Memorial in McMichael Park.

After the songs the crowd will convene in the lower level meeting room of the East Falls Presbyterian Church for

a magnificent arrangement of cookies and cakes prepared by the Friends of the Falls Library.

In the event of seriously inclement weather, the caroling will take place in the Church. Watch [www.eastfallcommunity.org](http://www.eastfallcommunity.org) for a notice if weather makes this necessary.

## Your December 2019 East Falls **NOW** Calendar

**Falls of the Schuylkill Library**  
November hours: Monday and Wednesday, 12 noon to 8 pm; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 am to 6 pm; Friday, 10 am to 5 pm; and Saturday, 11 am to 5 pm.

The Literary Enrichment Afterschool Program (LEAP), the Free Library's drop-

in after school program, will take place through most of December. It offers homework assistance, computer literacy and library skills for students in grades K to 12. LEAP also offers daily literacy enrichment activities for elementary school students. LEAP takes place Monday through Thurs-

day from 3 to 5:30 pm and Saturday from 1 to 5 pm. No sign-ups are required; children under seven must be accompanied by a caregiver. LEAP will take a winter break from Monday, Dec. 23 through Tuesday, Dec. 31. Visit the Falls Library to obtain the LEAP monthly calendar.

The Library will open late on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 2 pm due to staff development. It will close early, at 3 pm, on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Librarians Drew Birden and Meredith McGovern can be reached at 215-685-2093.

### 6 Friday

**9 am to 5 pm:** Christmas tree sale by Friends of the Falls Library and EF Farmers Winter Market, Vault + Vine (Pg. 1)

### 7 Saturday

**9 am to 5 pm:** Christmas tree sale by Friends of the Falls Library and EF Farmers Winter Market, Vault + Vine (Pg. 1)

**9 am to 4 pm:** Chestnut Hill Holiday House Tour featuring EF Historical Society's Grace Kelly Gallery (Pg. 14)

**10 am to 12 noon:** EF Town Watch "Litter Crew Ahead" clean up; meet at Legacy Tennis, 4842 Ridge Ave. (Pg. 6)

**2 to 4 pm:** EF Village's Second Annual Holiday Art Party, Falls Library (Pg. 6)

### 8 Sunday

**9 am to 5 pm:** Christmas tree sale by Friends of the Falls

Library and EF Farmers Winter Market, Vault + Vine (Pg. 1)

### 9 Monday

**4:15 pm:** Read with a Therapy Dog for school-age kids, Falls Library (Pg. 15)

### 10 Tuesday

**10:15 am:** Music and Movement Time for babies and toddlers, Falls Library (Pg. 15)

### 11 Wednesday

**6:30 pm:** Shed those holiday calories using resistance bands, Falls Library (Pg. 15)

**7 pm:** Annual Caroling in McMichael Park. Bring the family! Desserts to follow! (Pg. 1)

### 12 Thursday

**2 pm:** Falls Library opens late for staff development (Pg. 15)

**3 pm:** Make gingerbread houses at the Falls Free Library (Pg. 15)

**7 pm:** EFCC Zoning Committee meeting, EF Presbyterian Church (Pg. 1)

**7:30 pm:** EF Town Watch monthly meeting, 3540 Indian Queen Ln. (Pg. 6)

### 15 Sunday

**4:30 pm:** EF Presbyterian Church Choir Concert (Pg. 14)

### 16 Monday

**3:30 pm:** Salt snowflake painting for kids at the Falls Library (Pg. 15)

**4:15 pm:** Read with a Therapy Dog for school-age kids, Falls Library (Pg. 15)

**6 pm:** The Falls Book Group meets at the Falls Library (Pg. 15)

### 17 Tuesday

**10:15 am:** Music and Movement Time for babies and toddlers, Falls Library (Pg. 15)

### 18 Wednesday

**6 pm:** EF Town Watch meets with 39th District Police Service Area 1 (Pg. 6)

### 19 Thursday

**10:30 am:** Wooden Block Party at the Falls Library for toddlers and caregivers (Pg. 15)

**3:30 pm:** Beginners' ballet, Falls Library (Pg. 15)

**4:15 pm:** Read with a Therapy Dog for school-age kids, Falls Library (Pg. 15)

### 24 Tuesday

**2 pm:** Falls Library closes early for Christmas Eve (Pg. 15)

### 25 Wednesday

From the EFCC, Merry Christmas to all of our EF **NOW** readers!!!

### 31 Tuesday

**11:30 am:** For kids ages two to

six, a countdown to 2020 at the Falls Library (Pg. 15)

**2 pm:** Falls Library closes early for New Year's Eve (Pg. 15)

The EF **NOW** team and EFCC Executive Committee wishes a happy and healthy New Year to everyone in East Falls!

**These dates are beyond December and worth noting in your calendar:**

• Sun., Jan.: EF Village Winter Gathering, 3 to 5 pm.

• Fri., Jan. 10: Neil Simon's Barefoot in the Park opens at the Old Academy Playhouse, 3540 Indian Queen Ln.

**Stay informed. If you don't receive the EF Community Council's weekly emails, send your email address to [info@eastfallscommunity.org](mailto:info@eastfallscommunity.org). To join the EFCC, visit [www.eastfallscommunity.org](http://www.eastfallscommunity.org).**

## The Lower End – hard to recognize today

by Ellen Sheehan and Kassie and Chuck Taylor

**H**ave you seen the ad featuring Carson Wentz tossing a football while a player dances in front of him? No, I don't get it either. But did you know the ad was produced right here in East Falls? The

Bud Studio is on Shedwick Street, site of the former Buddy Machini's Auto Repair Shop. Bud's was there for so long it is hard to picture a totally different type of "body" shop.

In fact, the whole Lower End of East Falls is hard to recognize today. On the corner of Allegheny and Scotts Lane the former "Hidden River Café"

with its iconic bar and amazing interior is being replaced by a multi-story apartment building. That tiny spot will soon be home to upscale residents. Further up the block on Ridge Avenue a green mammoth is almost erected in the middle of some row houses. Around the corner the empty lot, site of so many Lower Ender neighbor-

hood parties, is preparing for more construction. The Lower End now has some of the expensive architecture attracting a whole new wave to East Falls.

When most of present-day East Falls consisted of fields where Revolutionary Soldiers fought the Hessians and Civil War encampments prepared for battle, and where cows roamed

on Fanning's Field before Queen Lane Manor existed, the geographical lower end established the early community of East Falls.

Attracted by the two "Ws" – wages and worship – Irish and English and some German immigrants brought their tal-

(Continued on page 3)

**Sing Your Heart Out!**

Join the EFCC, the Friends of the Falls Free Library and the East Falls Presbyterian Church for our annual holiday caroling and desert.

**6 pm Wednesday, Dec. 11**

Start in McMichael Park for this always fun candlelight event for children and adults of all ages. After music and singing we'll convene at the East Falls Presbyterian Church for deserts like you've never seen, courtesy of the Friends of the Falls Free Library

If you can't join us, the EFCC and East Falls **NOW** wish you happy holidays and a healthy and happy New Year!

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# Dog park on Henry Ave. And don't forget the traffic.

Who wouldn't be happy to talk about some good news?

This is about officials of New Courtland Senior Services releasing a preliminary design for the community dog park they will create along the front of their property at 3232 Henry Ave.



A message from the  
**EFCC  
President**

by Bill Epstein

New Courtland is a non-profit agency that provides a wide range of housing and community-based social services to elderly citizens. Its facilities include those in East Falls, Germantown, North Philadelphia and Northeast Philadelphia.

It acquired its Henry Ave. property in 2015.

In a meeting with community representatives just before Thanksgiving, New Courtland staff members showed off their plans for a trapezoid-shaped plot, approximately 205-feet by 50-feet. It will be a double-gated facility and will include benches, a dog waste station and a dog water fountain.

Its surface will be surrounded by a chain-link fence and operate from dusk to dawn.

Robert Theil, Government Affairs Manager for New Courtland, said construction is scheduled to begin in the spring, subject to reviews of the plan by the city's Water Department and Streets Department.

New Courtland has been extremely generous in agreeing to assume the cost of construction and operation of the dog park.

Many of us in the community had been seeking a site for this facility for several years, with-

out much success. When the EFCC asked New Courtland officials about the possibility of locating a dog park on their property just after they acquired it, they responded in the affirmative immediately.

As construction time approaches the EFCC Executive Committee looks forward to working with its colleagues from the Ridge-Allegheny-Hunting Part Civic Association and East Falls Forward to form an advisory committee to work with New Courtland on the operation of the facility.

## Henry Ave. saga

In less happy news, John Gillespie reports on Page 1 about the delay in the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's plans for safety improvements on Henry Ave.

I say "less happy" because Henry Ave. is a road that carries too much traffic. And it has too many drivers who speed.

John's story in this issue of East Falls NOW carries two photos of just the most recent vehicular carnage that's taken place.

John, who chairs the EFCC Traffic Committee, and I met in October with St. Rep. Pam DeLissio. She, at our request, had asked PennDOT for a status report on the Henry Ave. redo.

The answer? Basically, PennDOT is still planning, still coordinating, still reviewing. About one year behind schedule.

No one is happy with this answer. Not the EFCC, not Pam DeLissio, and certainly not anyone who lives on or near Henry Ave. and wants to make it safer.

I get it that this is a big project that takes a lot of time and needs lots of care. Still, the community signed off on the plans more than two years ago, and it's terribly disappointing to learn that if everything goes smoothly, we're at least one

year delayed in seeing completion.

Yet, thinking about warning folks to consider not moving to East Falls because of Henry Ave. strikes me as overkill.

East Falls and its people are far more than Henry Ave. Way more. And it's my guess that every other neighborhood in Philadelphia and the suburbs has just as many challenges as we do.

In Abington they can't even agree on accepting a \$25 million gift to their public schools from an alum. Now, that's a problem.

So here's the deal. The EFCC is going to monitor progress on the Henry Ave. remake very closely. We have great allies in Rep. DeLissio and St. Sen. Vince Hughes, and we will enlist their assistance as necessary to do regular check-ins with PennDOT. We will see this through to a safer Henry Ave.

# Bill expands mail-in voting; eliminates straight ticket voting

History was made in Pennsylvania on October 31, 2019. It was no trick and all treat.

An historic and landmark voter reform bill was signed into law that day and it was my privilege to bear witness and to help advocate to get this bill out of the State Government Committee and then successfully voted out of the House. These reforms will help to expand the electorate and are designed to make voting easier and more accessible in Pennsylvania.

Before this bill was signed into law, you needed one of two excuses to vote absentee – illness or being out of the area. Not necessarily events one can plan on.

Additionally, the fact that voting takes place during 13

hours on a Tuesday often precludes those who work 12-hour shifts or those who commute in traffic heavy from getting to and from their place of employment in time to vote.

The update to our election code was long overdue, as evidenced by the title of this article. The code had not been substantially updated since 1937.

SB421 originated as a bill to solely eliminate straight ticket voting. The prime sponsor was Senator Lisa Boscola, a Democrat.

It was amended in the House State Government Committee to include voter reforms that have long languished – as much as 10 years or more -- in the PA General Assembly.

Surprisingly, to me, the vote count in the PA House for final

passage was 33 Democrats and 105 Republicans in favor of this bill. Sixty-one Democrats and two Republicans voted "no."

In the Senate the vote on concurrence was eight Democrats and 27 Republicans in



**Pam's  
Viewpoint**

by St. Rep. Pamela A. DeLissio

favor of the bill, with 14 Democrats and no Republicans voting "no."

One of the most promising and exciting reforms is the establishment of a mail-in voting process beginning 50 days before Election Day, with ballots due by 8 pm on Election Day.

Mail-in ballots can be applied

for online or by filling out a paper form. Once a mail-in ballot is requested, it will be automatically mailed to a voter every year.

Thirty-nine states and the District of Columbia offer some sort of early voting. Four of these states – Oregon, Washington, Colorado and Hawaii -- hold all elections entirely by mail.

Another reform is the extension of the time frame for submitting an absentee ballot until 8 pm on the day of election. Previously the deadline was 5 pm on the Friday before the election. Absentee ballots no longer require an excuse and, in reality, the mail-in ballot will replace the absentee ballot after we remove the absentee ballot language from our state constitution.

Also, the cutoff to register to vote was shortened to 15 days prior to an election, from 30

days. This is particularly helpful since many citizens do not even focus on an upcoming election until closer to Election Day.

The bill also includes \$90 million to be allocated to counties for the new voting machines that have been required and \$4 million to help the decennial collection of U.S. Census data to be as successful as possible in the spring of 2020.

The new law includes many additional reforms and now we need to spread the word, particularly about voting by mail. You will not have to be concerned about long lines at the polls or getting there in time on election day now that these historic reforms are law.

For additional information about these reforms, please call my office at 215-482-8726 or email me at RepDeLissio@pahouse.net.

## East Falls NOW

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## The Lower End – hard to recognize today

(Continued from page 1)

ents, skills and dreams to this area.

The Dobson brothers, John and James, had established their factory on Scott's Ln. after a fire destroyed their factory in Sumac Park, where Ridge Ave. and Main St. meet today. Their contract with the Army of the Potomac to provide blankets for Civil War soldiers made them a fortune. At its height the factory employed 11,000 workers. Later Dobson Mills created carpets made with velvet "plush" with the need to import workers from England with experience in working with this material.

Laurel Hill Cemetery lured laborers from Ireland: the Flynn's, Dailys, Kellys and mostly the Murphys whose 13 children intermarried with other Fallers so that anyone who is not a squatter in East Falls claims a Murphy cousin. Their houses were purchased from the Laurel Hill Company, which owned the surrounding acres. These mostly Irish Catholics

worshiped at the Laurel Hill Seminary Chapel until establishing their own church, St. Bridget's.

The English, namely the Dobsons and Robert Ralston, a tea merchant, undertook the plans for their Episcopalian Church, St. James the Less. Robert Ralston's estate "Mount Peace" was located at Nicetown Ln., now Hunting Park Ave. and Lamb Tavern Rd., now Clearfield St. Land was purchased from the Laurel Hill Company. It was exactly 21 and a half miles from three other Episcopalian Churches – St. David's Church in Manayunk, St. Matthew's in Francisville and St. Luke's in Germantown. Could this be the distance deemed walkable for worshippers, or perhaps a carriage ride away?

Stores grew up around the area: Tommy Atkinson's grocery, Manny's Restaurant and Huey Doren's Restaurant, Knoll's homemade ice cream and Bill Garrett's candy store. Sis & Bill's Steak Shop (with the pin ball machine in the back room) and Sid's Steak Shop.

Kelpac's Cleaners, Charlie the Shoemaker, Cook's Coffee and McKeever's beer distributor. Tony Amorio the Barber and Woofie's clothing. Kelley's Flowers along with Morrison's Pharmacy and Gene's Drug Store. Frank's Food and who could forget the Greasy Spoon? Described as the real life "Happy Days" sitcom, no one locked their doors or knocked when entering. Everyone was considered family.

The Lower Ender's reunion is planned for this month. Present and former residents (the Taylors, DiStefanos, Marinos, Mazies, Jenkinsons and others,) are planning to gather as they have so often to share memories and probably chalk up the street for a game of "Shooters." A kind of street Billiards, the game was first played with bottle caps, later ball bearings abandoned by the nearby Budd Plant. "Happy Days" are here again.

For further information about the EF Historical Society, contact Ellen Sheehan at sheehan21@comcast.net.

## Kitchen Corner

# Spicy chicken and clementines – and how the fruit got named

by Anne Farnese

December is peak time for clementines, the popular citrus prized for its delicious taste and easy-to-peel skin.

The sweet fruit is a hybrid, which means its variety was created by cross-breeding -- a process that happens intentionally or spontaneously. It was the latter that created a clementine tree when wild lowleaf mandarin orange and sweet orange pollens mingled and pollinated.

Although mother nature created this luscious fruit, it could be suggested that divine intervention played a part in its cultivation. Clément

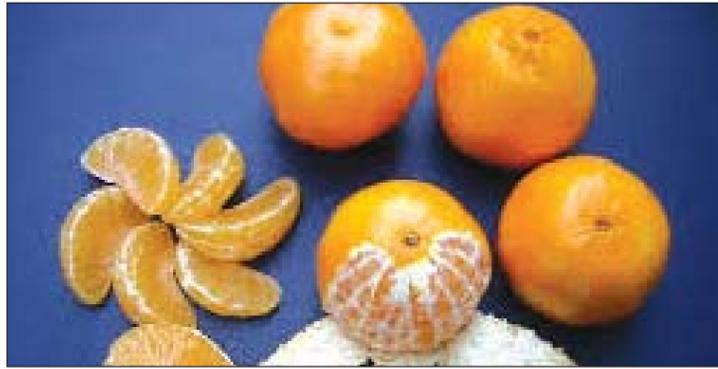
Rodier, a French missionary, discovered the clementine tree while he served at an orphanage in Algiers in the late 19th century. The priest's good work there included planting an orchard and teaching the orphans how to cultivate and grow fruit.

Culinary lore reports Father Clément was intrigued by a unique uncultivated tree he found growing among thorn bushes. He decided to graft and propagate it.

The orphans named the seedless fruit borne by the tree "Clementine", in honor of their beloved priest.

### Spicy Chicken with Clementines

• 1 pound of chicken



- cutlets, cut into thin strips
- 2 tablespoons peanut oil
- ¾ cup sliced green onions
- 1 small garlic clove, minced
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1 cup water
- ½ cup soy sauce

- 3 tablespoons rice wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 teaspoon chili paste
- 4 ounces snow peas, trimmed
- 2 clementines, peeled and segmented.

In a large skillet over medium heat, heat oil until hot.

Add chicken, cook stirring constantly until pan juices disappear and meat is cooked through.

Set aside and keep warm.

To same skillet add green onions and garlic, stirring constantly until crisp tender.

In a cup combine cornstarch with water, stir into skillet along with soy sauce, vinegar, honey and chili paste. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to medium, simmer one minute.

Return chicken to skillet and add snow peas and clementines. Heat through.

Makes four servings.

## For the love of gardens: Welcome home to my dear old friends

by Linda Good

Among the many rituals which mark the passing of the seasons for me is bringing the house plants back in from their summer sojourn on the outside deck.

Oh my, how each has changed! Some have flourished and others have floundered with the alternating drownings and droughts, the heat waves and the night chills, and the ministrations of ants and aphids. Despite these consequences, my entrenched habit of parading the house plants from windowsills to outdoors in the spring and the reverse in the fall is part of my seasonal traditions.

Growing up in the 50s and 60s in northern Delaware, the routines that I participated in

with my mother as we welcomed the passing of summer into fall come flooding back into my memory. They include the harvesting of seeds for next summer's planting, the drying of them on newspaper, and then the labeling of mason jars with their contents: zinnias, cosmos, marigolds, portulaca, and sunflowers. Also, the cutting of coleus stalks for brightly colored indoor bouquets. We hauled geraniums into the partially excavated basement crawl space where they would go into hibernation until spring. We collected seed pods and pinecones and nut shells for the making of holiday wreathes and ornaments and dried flower arrangements. And my favorite: we ironed brightly colored leaves between two pieces of wax paper to hang in

my bedroom window.

Most all of these rites of passage from summer into fall remain only as sweet memories. But today as I replace the house plants in their established places of honor indoors, I am particularly aware of the passage of time in the seasons of my life that these simple plants represent: a rubber tree that was preserved from shoots of my grandmother's plant. My mother gave it to me when I had my first home after getting married; the ever-blooming orchid that now spreads out over three feet from its original six inches when it was given as an appreciation gift from my office partners about 15 years ago; a craggy old jade that has suffered many leaf-dropping episodes because of attacks of mealy worms and my attempts to



Plants safely indoors on Linda Good's windowsills.

treat them with soap sprays; the cactus and succulents I have collected and traded with friends whenever the new plants propagate from the base of the old.

Each has contributed to my sense of place and deep connection to my home and to my history.

Okay, my dear old friends, you have now again been delegated to your windowsill

positions, marking a completion of my seasonal ritual. And I might go back outside and collect some colored leaves.

*This column is dedicated to your stories -- neighbors of all ages -- about your love and relationship to gardens.*

*Please submit 400 to 450 words and two photos to [dka-plan8@verizon.net](mailto:dka-plan8@verizon.net)*

## Joy to the World

East Falls Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir Presents

### ***I Hear the Prophet Callin'***

by Pepper Choplin

With Guest Instrumentalists

December 15, 2019

4:30 pm



East Falls Presbyterian Church  
Corner of Midvale & Vaux Streets

### HIDDEN RIVER TUTORING

By Ray Lucci, M. Ed. Chem., M. Ed.

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### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on March 29, 2019 Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Department of State for Pig Collective Inc., a corporation organized under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988, effective October 1, 1989, for the purpose of engaging in all lawful business for which corporations may be incorporated under said Act, including educating the public about raising livestock by supporting youth in urban agriculture.

# Some birds are with us into the winter

As temperatures drop, most plants have lost their leaves and the insects that pollinate them are long gone. Many birds have moved on to warmer climates, but there are some that stick around and others that come south to us from even colder weather.

Keep your feeders stocked and your eyes open and you might see some wintering sparrows and finches.

Visit the Discovery Center at 3401 Reservoir Dr., just off

Their song makes them a favorite among birders -- a sweet, melodic "Oh-sweet-Canada-Canada-Canada." Be sure to look it up online and you'll hear plenty around the neighborhood.

Another favorite winter sparrow is the Dark-eyed Junco, a handsome gray bird with a white belly. They were the first birds to visit my feeders when I installed them a few years ago.

Moving on to finches, Purple Finches should be making their way down to us. Similar to the more common House Finch, this native eastern finch is a more raspberry red color than the House Finch with color extending from the head down to the back and breast.

The Pine Siskin is another winter finch that can be seen at feeders and parks. This is a small streaky finch with a pointed bill and yellow on the wings and tail. Also, you might find much rarer species of winter finches such as the Common Redpoll, with a red crown and a small yellow bill, or the much larger Evening Grosbeak -- yellow, black and white with a thick conical bill.

In addition to sparrows and finches, you might see a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, a species of black and white woodpecker with a red throat and crown patch and a call that sounds like a mew. Or a Red-breasted Nuthatch that is a relative of our year-round white-breasted nuthatch but smaller, with a black eye-



Dark-eyed Junco



Northern Pintail



Common Redpoll



Bufflehead

stripe and a reddish breast.

Moving on to waterfowl, head over to the Discovery Center and take in all the ducks that have come south for the winter. You'll find buffleheads, tiny but striking black and white ducks (at least the males; the females are less striking but still gorgeous). Or Canvasbacks, bigger with a whitish body and a rusty head with a long sloping

forehead.

You'll find Northern Shovelers with their unique bills, a white and rusty body and green head, or Northern Pintails -- elegant ducks with a rich brown head and long necks and tails. You'll see Gadwall, American Wigeon, Scaups and Green-winged Teal. You might even find a Redhead or a Long-tailed Duck. Besides ducks, you

might find grebes or maybe even a loon or two.

If you are very lucky, a Snowy Owl might visit Philadelphia, Rough-legged Hawks might also be seen in the area and you might catch a Northern Goshawk flying high overhead.

Keep your eyes peeled and you'll never know what you might find. Good luck and good birding!



## Navin on Nature

by Navin Sasikumar

of N. 33rd St., and other bodies of water nearby and you'll find ducks that breed farther north. If you're lucky you might even find a Snowy Owl.

With winter temperatures hitting us early this year, I'm going to take this opportunity to give a whirlwind tour of some birds that you could expect to see this winter season.

One of the classic signs of fall and winter is the White-throated sparrow. These sparrows are common in large flocks and hard to miss with their black and white crown stripes, white throat and a yellow spot between their eye and their bill.

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## TW reports arrests in gun holdup, burglaries and car break-ins

Mary Jane Fullam, President of East Falls Town Watch, reports to East Falls **NOW** that 39th District Police have made arrests in a gunpoint holdup that took place at approximately 9 pm Nov. 21 at Cresson and Calumet Sts.

Police said the person who was held up said that one man held a handgun while three others rummaged through his clothes to take his cell phone, wallet, keys and watch before fleeing. No injuries were reported. Police have arrested two suspects and are continuing to investigate the crime.

Police also have arrested a man and charged him in three burglaries that took place on Thanksgiving Day. One break-in was on the 3500 block of Scotts Ln. and the other two were on the 3600 block of Calumet St. Bernard Spain, Community Relations Officer for the 39th District, told **EF NOW** that the same man is suspected of being involved in at least one other burglary in East Falls.

At the same time, 39th Dis-



Finishing up the EF Town Watch November "Litter Crew Ahead" clean-up are, from left, Chris Bachman, Cory and Monica Czuczman and Mary Jean Cunningham.

trict officers have arrested one person believed to be responsible for car break-ins in East Falls.

### Dec. 12 meeting

Fullam said that EF Town Watch has invited 39th District officials and representatives from the District Attorney's office to attend the 7:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 12 Town Watch meeting to dis-

cuss the car break-ins, car thefts and burglaries in the neighborhood. The meeting will take place at the TW office, 3540 Indian Queen Ln.

In a letter to District Attorney Larry Krasner, Fullam said that car break-ins and burglaries "are a major problem in East Falls and neighbors are upset," Fullam said: "The Police tell us that criminals 'come to shop' in our

neighborhood. We want to stem the tide of crime and bolster our community's belief that the City works for all of us. We are asking to meet with you or your representative to explore what more can be done to accomplish this goal."

Officials from the 39th Police District have urged residents not to leave any items visible in vehicles. They also

suggest that homeowners discourage thefts from porches by not leaving valuable items outdoors and having packages delivered to work locations or secure lockers.

### Cleanup Dec. 7

East Falls Town Watch will conduct its monthly "Litter Crew Ahead" cleanup from 10 am to 12 noon Saturday, Dec. 7, starting from the Legacy Tennis Courts at School House Ln. and Ridge Ave. Volunteers should meet at 10 am.

Fullam said Town Watch will continue its schedule of day-time and nighttime patrols and monthly "Litter Crew Ahead" cleanups through the winter months. To volunteer, call 215-848-2033.

### The EF Town Watch calendar:

Dec. 12, 7:30 pm – TW meeting, 3540 Indian Queen Ln.

Dec. 18, 6 pm: TW meets with 39th District Police Service Area 1 officials, Canaan Baptist Church, 5430 Pulaski Ave.

## EFV's Mifflin Read 2 Me Program focus of national conference

by Mary Flournoy

Leaders of East Falls Village made their successful Read 2 Me program at the Thomas Mifflin School a focus at the September National Village Conference in Chicago.

The theme of the conference was "Connecting Generations." Mary Flournoy and Kathi and Rick DiMenna presented a breakout session, "One Village/One School."

Read 2 Me began in 2014 as a way for EF Village members to read with kindergarten to second grade students at Mifflin in small groups once a month. By popular demand, the program now takes place almost every Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Each EFV volunteer reads with one child at a time for about 20 minutes, enabling them to read with

four students per session.

Kathi DiMenna, retired teacher who chairs the EF Village's civic engagement efforts, spoke in Chicago about the benefits of Read 2 Me for the teachers, students, parents, and volunteers. She



described how teachers praised the interaction the students have made with their "book buddies." She reported that Mifflin Principal Leslie Mason says that Read 2 Me has made reading fun and helped the students make strides in their reading scores.

Mifflin had the highest gains in reading test scores of all public schools in northwest Philadelphia. One parent wrote that her son would say "Mom, you be the student and I'll be the volunteer and read to you." EFV volunteers report that they enjoy the one-on-one interaction with each child.

During the year, one of DiMenna's 2nd grade readers progressed from level C (beginning 1st grade) to level J (beginning of 4th grade) without even knowing it. When she pulled from her bag the books her teacher had selected for her, she was surprised to find a chapter book for her to read with her "reading buddy."

Flournoy, Chair of the Village's operating group, spoke about how Village volunteers worked to reorganize the school library. It had not

been staffed and fallen into disuse since 2010. The Mifflin Library Time program began in 2016 with a reorganization of the library and class visits from K to second grade. It now includes K through fifth grade.

By 2020, Flournoy said, the program will expand to the entire K-8 school.

The class visits for K through 3 graders include a Read Aloud. Students check out a book at each session. One volunteer reads to the class; other volunteers check the books in and out.

Rick DiMenna spoke about how information is posted on eastfallsvillage.org under Volunteer Info. Volunteers do not have to be members of the Village, but do need to obtain state clearances. For information on child abuse and State Police clearances and the schedule for Read 2 Me

and Library Time, visit "Help Children to Read" under Volunteer Info. at the EFV website, eastfallsvillage.org.

Current Library Time sessions are Monday and Friday from 8:45 to 11:15 am; Monday and Friday from 12:45 to 2:30 pm; and some Wednesdays from 12:45 to 2:30 pm. Read 2 Me is Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30 am.

Flournoy said the Village breakout session in Chicago was well-received by the audience, and throughout the conference she and the DiMennas received compliments the EFV's work at the Mifflin. "Our goal," Flournoy said, "was to encourage other villages to work with their schools to promote reading."

### Dec. 7 Holiday Art Party

All Fallers are welcome to attend the EF Village's annual Holiday Art Party from 2 to 4 pm Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Falls Library. Enjoy light refreshments and see our neighbors' work in art, photography, needlework, pottery, hand-crafted dolls, painting and drawing.

### Winter Gathering Jan. 5

The Winter Gathering on Sunday, Jan. 5 will highlight Read 2 Me as well as other activities and services of East Falls Village, from 3 to 5 pm in the Tuttleman Center of Jefferson University, School House Ln. and Vaux St. All are welcome, but please register by calling 267-444-4507.

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# Businesses with a heart: Peicha Chang at Vault + Vine

by Polly Edelstein

Another in a series of interviews with East Falls businesses and business people who do more than business – they give back to the community. This month’s focus is on Peicha Chang, who in 2017 moved her Conrad St. Falls Flowers shop to 3507 Midvale Ave. and opened it as a flower and gift shop, café and community meeting place.

**(EF NOW)** How’s Vault + Vine doing? And how long have you been open at this point?

**Peicha Chang (PC)** It’s ok! A little overwhelming, but in a good way. We’ve been open just over two years this past August.

Vault + Vine started 10 years ago as Falls Flowers in the old Marketplace across from Laurel Hill. After that closed we opened on Conrad St. in the old pharmacy building. When I moved here and opened Falls Flowers 10 years ago I saw this building on Midvale and always thought it was an amazing space for a flower and coffee shop. In 2013 I had the opportunity to buy the building.

We opened as Vault + Vine in 2017. When we opened we added the café, greenhouse, expanded our gift section, and included a second floor space for neighbors to host parties, meetings, and other gatherings.

**(EF NOW:)** What were

some of the reasons for expansion?

**PC:** We expanded because I live in the neighborhood and after being in the community and listening to the neighbors I heard that people wanted more. There’s a very high concentration of young professionals and young families and neighbors who wanted a central meeting point. I wanted to create that “third place” that a lot of people want. If home is your “first place” and work is your “second place,” having a welcoming third place where you don’t have to drink or go far to get to was the main reason for expanding.

**(EF NOW:)** When you started Vault + Vine, you started as a B Corp. Can you explain what that is and why?

**PC:** The thing that attracted me to the B Corp certification was that there is a saying “Using business as a force for good.” When I began the business there was a lot of “green washing” -- businesses claiming to be sustainable, but were not. I was attracted to the B certification because it’s a third part certification similar to certified organic, and is a transparent accountability measure. Anyone can log on and look us up and see how we compare to different measures across governance, workers, community, environment, etc. It also is nice because it gives me a way to talk about sustainability and explain that it is more than buying local or organic. Some



Peicha Chang, owner of Vault + Vine at 3507 Midvale Ave.

of the things we do best are the components focusing on people and community. We do a lot in East Falls and hire locally.

**(EF NOW:)** What are some of the ways Vault + Vine gives back to the community?

**PC:** It really started when I joined the board of the East Falls Development Corporation in 2011, where I was a member for about six years. That’s how I began to learn what the neighborhood was

up to, the dynamics of the neighborhood, and I learned more about the economic development here. I donated a lot of time to that, as do all the board members. I was on the committee that helped launch the Dance on the Falls Bridge.

Beyond my work with EFDC, Vault + Vine has sponsored a team with the East Falls Sports Association, donated flowers to Mifflin for events, was an in-kind spon-

sor for Laurel Hill Cemetery’s gala, and has hosted Rutabaga Circle and Yoga Brain in our space. I really love being able to help entrepreneurs find their space and giving them somewhere to start that feels safe and encouraging while also helping them build their risk tolerance. Wherever possible we give our time, energy, and money.

Beyond East Falls, I’m on the board of the Sustainable Business Network. My hope is to continue promoting and supporting businesses here to provide the best quality of life to the neighborhood.

**(EF NOW:)** And what are your big hopes and dreams for the future?

**PC:** One of the things I want to do is to continue providing more community-involved programming. We want to get people together, to know each other, to talk about the things that matter to us.

**(EF NOW:)** How many employees do you have?

**PC:** I think people are always surprised to know how many people work here. We have 26 employees who work for Vault + Vine. We’re constantly working towards being a good business to our employees while also providing excellent customer service.

*EF NOW conveys its many thanks to Peicha and her husband, Mark Hansen, for their time and the work they do for our community.*



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# Mifflin students soak up history of Pennsbury Manor

Students from Thomas Mifflin Elementary School visited Pennsbury Manor on November 7th, the first school to benefit from a new subsidy program in partnership with the state government.

Pennsbury Manor, the country estate of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania founder William Penn, was recently visited by Gov. Wolf and former Govs. Rendell, Corbett, Ridge and Schweiker. Money from this event was raised to subsidize more school trips to the site, which is operated by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), a state agency. And that's where Thomas Mifflin Elementary School came in.

East Falls resident and Pennsbury Education Programs Coordinator Sean Conolly began looking for several schools whose students would benefit from such a visit. Sean tells *EF NOW* that he had heard great things about what the students and teachers are doing at Mifflin, and thought Mifflin's 4th grade classes, taught by Nicole Boyd and Margot Salter, should visit Pennsbury Manor as part of the PHMC's new subsidy program.

As a result, Mifflin students visited Pennsbury Manor, where they learned about the founding of Pennsylvania, its government and the complicated legacy of William Penn. They participated in several hands-on activities -- both fun and messy.

Mary Ellyn Kunz works at Pennsbury Manor. She told *EF NOW* that in 30 years of working for the Historical Commission, she "couldn't remember a more respectful and charming group of students."

Both of Mifflin's 4th grade



Mifflin students filling water bottles at Pennsbury in a demonstration of doing laundry, colonial-style.

classes enjoyed a lovely fall day along the Delaware River at William Penn's country estate. And the staff at

Pennsbury confirms that this subsidy to Mifflin will be extended again next year.

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On the front steps of Pennsbury Manor, volunteer Val Long talks to Mifflin's 4th grade students about guests and government officials who visited William Penn at Pennsbury.

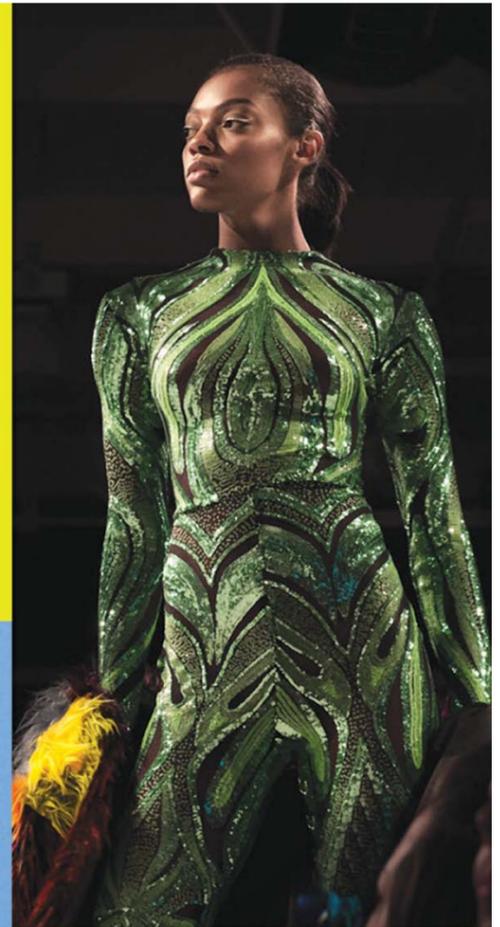
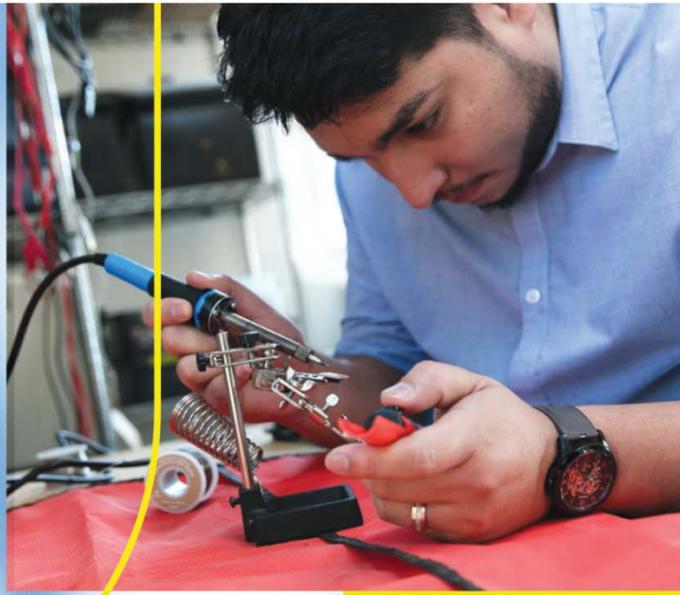
## Rake them into the street!

It couldn't be easier! The City will collect loose leaves in East Falls on Monday, Dec. 9. Residents should rake their leaves into the street -- unbagged. The Streets Department will do the rest.

The Streets Department told *East Falls NOW* that leaves in the entire neighbor-

hood -- Ridge Ave. to Wisahickon Ave. and School House Ln. to Indian Queen Ln.-- will be collected on the same day.

Residents also can drop bagged leaves on Saturdays at the Street Department's Northwest Transfer Center, 300 Domino Ln. (Domino Ln. and Umbria St.)



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# 20 join Inn Yard Clean-up

by Sue Park

**M**ore than 20 neighbors and online volunteers came out on Saturday, Nov. 9, to help with the Love Your Inn Yard Park clean-up.

We had a brisk but beautiful sunny afternoon, perfect for working. Some 50 bags of leaves and weeds along with many bundles of branches were gathered to be made into compost at the city's recycling center on Ford Rd. Hundreds of spotted lanternflies were eliminated from the maple trees by the winners of the Dead Spotted Lanternfly contest, Louis and Nathan Heck. Melissa Chiu won the Longest Weed Root contest with a three-foot-long weed root and Sue Park came in second with a two-foot root.

Kevin Cornell from Manayunk returned for his second Love Your Inn Yard Park and it isn't even his local park. Kevin is a real beast when it comes to tackling invasive vines that grow along the fence. Thank you, Kevin. Ashwin Gupta came from his home on Spring Garden St. after learning about the event online. Thank you, Ashwin for raking and bagging leaves and lending a hand wherever you saw you were needed.

Several members of Metro Church on Midvale Ave. lent a hand. Thank you, Melissa Chiu, Daniel Chung, Jason Cho and Calvin Chung. They can always be counted upon to help with Love Your Park events and Friends of Inn Yard Park's movie night. For more information about Metro Church visit <https://metro-pres.org/>

Finally, many thanks to neighbors who came to share some love with Inn Yard Park. Jim Williamson, owner



Helping with the clean-up were, from left in back row, Kevin Cornell, Daniel Chung, Franz Ostertag, Joe Potempa, Sue Park, Ashwin Gupta and Jim Williamson; from left in middle row, Melissa Chiu, Calvin Chung, Jason Cho, Mary Jane Fullman; and in front, German Vasquez.



Lee Ann Morgan and her three-year-old daughter, Abby came to play at Inn Yard Park, but decided to join the clean-up first.

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- 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
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of Slices Pizza, is a regular park steward who often can be found picking up trash and removing graffiti from the playground. Slices even sent over a couple of delicious pizzas for our volunteers. Joe Potempa came early to pick up trash and stayed to rake leaves. Mary Jane Fullam, Alison Heck, Franz and Julie Ostertag, Cynthia Kishinchand and Bill Epstein can be counted upon to beautify the

neighborhood. Lee Ann Morgan and her three-year-old daughter Abby came to the park to play, but helped by cleaning up leaves from the playground, instead. German Vasquez always joins in activities at the park and was very helpful with pushing loads of wood chips in a wheelbarrow to various locations in the park. Linda Norris and Mary Zimmerman lent a hand with weeding.

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# High school students join in planting trees

by Ray Lucci

**H**ow about some good news for a change? How about some really good news to help you get in the Christmas spirit!

We live in a world of almost ubiquitous and persistent distraction. Everything from 24/7 “news” channels on TV, on your laptop, on your tablet and phone, video games and social media. Way too much fighting for your attention, pulling you into its sphere of influence and holding you there.

On November 16, your friendly neighborhood tree tenders -- whose member are in their 50s, 60s and 70s -- once again planted trees throughout the neighborhood on a chilly but sunny fall day. Seventeen bare root trees found new homes and roles as urban street trees on Weighman St., New Queen St., Dobson St. and Fisk Ave. in front of Frank’s Pizza, Indian Queen Ln., Henry Ave., Calumet St., Penn St. and Queen Ln.

A variety of species, including Red Oak, Crabapple, Hawthorne, Japanese Tree Lilac and Eastern Redbud took their place alongside many others that have been planted throughout our 24 years of volunteer efforts. The good homeowners in front of whose properties these trees have been planted agreed to become their stewards for their first few years of life.

For the third season in a row (we plant semi-annually, spring and fall), our efforts were assisted by students from G. W. Carver High School of Engineering and Science at 17th and Norris Sts. adjacent to Temple University’s campus. One of the city’s original magnet high schools, Carver is a competitive-admit school whose cur-



Carver High School students join East Falls Tree Tenders, from left, Huy Chea, Adrianna Robinson, Levi Morton, Jillian Adams, Oluwapalumi Oja, Alex Eng, not pictured, Ahn Troung.

riculum is built around a theme of engineering, mathematics and science.

Students volunteer and join EF Tree Tenders to learn about the mission and goals of urban street tree planting and assist in these efforts. The young folk were terrific. All arrived early and helped in every aspect of the operation, from tool set-up and distribution, prepping the staging area at East Falls Presbyterian, sitting attentively through our presentation on how to properly plant a tree to the actual digging, and setting and back filling at all of

our 13 property sites. My former students, Levi and Ahn accompanied me to three separate sites on Penn St. and Queen Ln. Our team also had the wonderful assistance of Erica Kowal, who along with her husband are recent transplants from Alberta Canada and relatively new to East Falls.

The students helped supply much needed muscle to the aging limbs of the neighborhood tree advocates. In

return they took with them important lessons. They witnessed and became part of an effort in building community. A group of people, about 30 in number diverse in age, race, socio-economic background, education, and national origin joined in a common effort to take a proactive role in environmental stewardship. They learned that working together around a common mission unites us in purpose and keeps us bound in the hope of

building a better future for all together. They learned something about science, but they also learned that a city is first and foremost its population; a large group of people meeting the daily challenges of their lives.

Finally, please remember to attempt to recycle your Christmas trees and decorative greens responsibly this season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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# Another successful Love Your (McMichael) Park clean-up

by Alexis Franklin

More than 30 volunteers joined the Nov. 9th Love Your (McMichael) Park clean up, planting four trees and raking and collecting 75 brown bags of organic debris for collection by the Philadelphia Streets Department. They also planted Daffodil and Crocus bulbs.

The sponsoring Friends of McMichael Park welcomed the assistance of members of Girl Scout Daisy/Brownie Troop #921.

Love your Park Volunteers were able to work around the turf work that had been started the week before by the Philadelphia Park & Recreation Department. The ground was exceptionally hard, so the aeration work took longer than expected. Earth movers arrived and moved topsoil and mulched much of the leaf base. Seeding was done over a two-day period. Germination might not be noticed until the spring due to the frost that set in shortly after the work was completed.

Stormwater issues still plague McMichael Park, including major flooding and run off toward the Midvale and Henry Aves. side. As previously reported in EF NOW, a 20-foot drop exists between the corners of Coulter and McMichael Sts. and Henry and Midvale Aves. Hopefully the Philadelphia Water Department will be able to remedy this problem.

East Falls was fully represented at last month's Park Friends Networking meeting at the Fairmount Park Horticulture Center. Park volunteers were treated by Philadelphia Parks & Recreation and the Fairmount Park Conservancy to a Thanksgiving dinner followed by information and updates for moving forward with important park stewardship activities. This dinner is an annual event in appreciation for Park Friends groups who advocate and maintain their neighborhood parks.



Members of Girl Scout Daisy/Brownie Troop 921 helped with the McMichael Park cleanup. From left in front are troopers Jillian lai, Madeline Bailey, and Olivia Wimberley. In back, from left, are Fallsers Mabel Liu, Cheryl Sprague, Alexis Franklin and Betty Miller, along with Jacquetta Thorton and Sarah Wimberley, co-leaders of Troop 921.



Attending the annual Park Friends Networking meeting and representing East Falls were (l to r, back row) Cynthia Kishinchand, President of EF Tree Tenders; Mary Jane Fulham, President of EF Town Watch; and Alexis Franklin, President of Friends of McMichael Park; (front row, l to r) Alice Reiff, Sue Park, President of Friends of Inn Yard Park, and John-david Franklin



McMichael Love Your Park volunteers included Peg Shaw (r) and Beth Gross-Eskin on a tree planting mission.



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# Market, deli and vegetarian restaurant make debut in East Falls

(Continued from page 1)

ney Pagan, father of East Falls resident and realtor Josh Pagan.

Patrons can call 215-438-7600 to place orders for pick-up. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 am to 7 pm; Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm; and Sunday, 8 am to 3 pm.

The new Falls Deli at Conrad St. and Tilden Sts. is where the former Laxmi's Indian Grille was. The interi-

or has been remodeled and the Sowisdral family of East Falls is operating the new restaurant. Orders can be placed by calling 267-297-5746.

Further up the street at 3426 Conrad is the new Terron, a vegetarian BYOB restaurant in the same location that housed the former Milo's. Chef Fred Morris is in charge in the kitchen with an all-veggie menu, similar to Milo's, including fresh vegan

pastries. Morris worked in Milo's during its nearly two-year run.

Hours are Tuesday through Friday, lunch 11 am to 2 pm, dinner 5 pm to 9 pm; Saturday, brunch 9 am to 2 pm, dinner 5 pm to 9 pm; and Sunday, brunch from 9 am to 2 pm. The restaurant is closed on Mondays.

Terron's menu is at [www.terronkitchen.com](http://www.terronkitchen.com). Orders can be placed there or by calling 215-716-7111.



The new Terron vegetarian eatery at 3426 Conrad St., site of the former Milo, staffed by (from left) Nate Miller, Susan Abdulayev, Dru Shepler, chef Fred Morris, Tommy Lange and Sean Webber.



Like Father, like son; Ken Sowisdral second from left, and three sons outside Falls Deli.



The mini-grocery store and deli Nuovaux, at 3539 Vaux St.

## Join Up, Show Up, Speak Up

Take part in the EFCC's monthly general membership meetings – 7 pm every second Monday, East Falls Presbyterian Church, Midvale and Vaux

Join an EFCC committee: Zoning, Events, Traffic, By-Laws. Contact [info@eastfallscommunity.org](mailto:info@eastfallscommunity.org)

Do you have news for **East Falls NOW**? Contact [editor@eastfallsnow.com](mailto:editor@eastfallsnow.com)

If you're not getting **East Falls NOW**, contact [info@eastfallsnow.com](mailto:info@eastfallsnow.com)

# Community Giving

## Volunteering in East Falls

Have some extra time on your hands?  
Interested in giving back to the East Falls Community?  
There are a lot of organizations that would love to have your help!

<p><b>East Falls Historical Society</b> Keeping the History of East Falls alive. <a href="mailto:Sheehan21@comcast.net">Sheehan21@comcast.net</a> or <a href="mailto:pcheek@yahoo.com">pcheek@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p><b>East Falls Zoning Committee</b> Stewardship of East Falls Zoning issues. Email: <a href="mailto:zoning@eastfallscommunity.org">zoning@eastfallscommunity.org</a></p>
<p><b>East Falls Sports Association</b> Help East Falls children participate in sports. Send clearances to: <a href="mailto:jmartell@att.net">jmartell@att.net</a></p>	<p><b>Friends of the Falls of the Schuylkill Library</b> Promotes the needs &amp; the knowledge of the library. <a href="mailto:Nina.coffin@eastfallslibraryfriends.org">Nina.coffin@eastfallslibraryfriends.org</a></p>
<p><b>East Falls Town Watch</b> Serving our community <a href="mailto:eastfallstownwatch@gmail.com">eastfallstownwatch@gmail.com</a>, 215-848-2033</p>	<p><b>Friends of Inn Yard Park</b> Help maintain Inn Yard Park. <a href="mailto:suemhp@gmail.com">suemhp@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>East Falls Tree Tenders</b> Help planting trees in East Falls. <a href="mailto:crk3114@msn.com">crk3114@msn.com</a></p>	<p><b>Friends of McMichael Park</b> Help maintain McMichael Park <a href="mailto:LEXY3904@GMAIL.COM">LEXY3904@GMAIL.COM</a></p>
<p><b>East Falls Village</b> Helps residents stay in their homes as they grow older. <a href="mailto:volunteers@eastfallsvillage.org">volunteers@eastfallsvillage.org</a> or 267-444-4507</p>	<p><b>Friends of Mifflin</b> Helping school children with their school work. Send clearances to: <a href="mailto:lmason@philasd.org">lmason@philasd.org</a></p>

**Saturday Morning Sandwich Making**  
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The Friends of the Falls of Schuylkill Library's

## Holiday Tree Sale

**At Vault + Vine**  
3507 Midvale Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19129

**Saturday, November 30**  
**Sunday, December 1 • Friday, December 6**  
**Saturday, December 7 • Sunday, December 8**  
9am – 5pm

Featuring freshly-cut Fraser Firs and Douglas Firs in heights ranging from table-top (when available) to 10-footers.

Our trees are super fresh and long-lasting. Friends members and volunteers will be on hand to assist you in finding your perfect tree. Delivery is available for \$10. All proceeds go to the Friends to support Library programs.

**FREE CUP OF VAULT + VINE COFFEE**  
with the purchase of a tree between 9 – 11am

The Library is the Heart of East Falls  
Become a Friends member today:  
[www.eastfallslibraryfriends.org](http://www.eastfallslibraryfriends.org)

# Henry Ave. overhaul now set for 2022

(Continued from page 1)

of such an application would be relatively short-lived” due to the looming overhaul of the road, PennDOT said.

DeLissio, who has mediated discussions between EFCC and PennDOT, said that overall the agency has been “responsive to the concerns and requests of the community” in regard to Henry Ave. Not everyone agrees.

Ray Lucci, long-time Falls resident and traffic activist, likened traffic conditions in the neighborhood to a “moral crusade” and said it was time to start warning people on Facebook and Twitter “not to even consider moving here.”

Lucci said in an email to residents and members of the EFCC Traffic Committee:

“In light of the sad fact that government officials are absolutely impotent in the matter and committees are incapable of movement, then it is time to try something else.”

With some reservations, the Traffic Committee has given its blessing to PennDOT’s plans for the overhaul of Henry Ave. The principal objection by some members is that the plans do not go far enough to reduce speed and curb reckless driving. Those members favor roundabouts at key intersections, but PennDOT has rejected roundabouts on Henry Ave. as inefficient and an unacceptable burden on traffic flow -- some 25,000 to 26,000 cars a day -- and so-called “level of service.”

Bill Epstein, President of the EFCC, said the delay “is very disappointing.” He added:

“We will monitor the progress very closely and do everything we can to encourage the work to move forward without further delays.”



The scene at a Nov. 27th crash at Henry Ave. and Queen Ln. No serious injuries were reported.



A Nov. 21 collision on Henry Ave. near School House Lane between a school bus and a service van. No serious injuries were reported.

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## Grace Kelly Gallery on loan to Chestnut Hill

The Chestnut Hill Community Association will hold its Holiday House Tour on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 am to 4 pm with a major contribution from the East Falls Historical Society.

The Society is lending its Grace Kelly Gallery to the tour, according to Ellen Sheehan, President of the EFHS.

The gallery will appear in the Rotunda at Chestnut Hill College, 9220 Germantown Ave., on the day of the house tour, and then later throughout December at times to be announced.

Items on loan will include Christmas cards from the palace of Monaco featuring a photo of the royal family tak-

en at the palace. Posters of Grace Kelly’s 11 movies and references to her film career along with original programs from her teen years performing at the Old Academy Playhouse in East Falls will be featured. Dolls dressed in fashions Grace wore on significant occasions in her career and as Princess of Monaco will be of special interest. Linens and plates bearing Grace’s flower designs are included.

House tour tickets are \$45.00 for members and \$50.00 for non-members. Participants will receive a list of five properties decorated by local landscaping companies. The tour is self-directed. A shuttle bus will be available for transportation between the houses.

For tickets or further information contact Ellen Sheehan at sheehan21@comcast.net or 215-593-4230, or visit www.chestnuthill.org

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**EFPC Choir Concert**  
The East Falls Presbyterian Church Choir Concert will take place at 4:30 pm Sunday, Dec. 15 at the church, Midvale Ave. and Vaux St. A light supper will follow the concert.

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# Book sale



The Fall book sale by the Friends of the Falls Library was so successful that Sal Chapman and his mother, Alison Lee Chapman, couldn't wait until they got home. They devoured Stellauna, by Janell Cannon, right there on the steps of the library.

The fall book sale sponsored by the Friends of the Falls Free Library captured the second highest total in the 30 plus year history of the semi-annual event. Wendy Moody, who chaired

the event for the Friends, told EF NOW that the sale raised \$3,960 – falling just short of the record high \$4,047 raised in Nov. 2018.

Moody said that some 34 volunteers gave 287 hours of

labor to collecting the books, preparing them for sale and running the event. Leftover books were donated to Project Home and the Salvation Army.



She bought how many books...? Falls Library municipal guard Michael West (left) assists Aimee Knight, of W. Coulter St., with her many purchases at the fall book sale.

## From hot chocolate to ballet at Falls Library

The chemistry of hot chocolate, building gingerbread houses and ballet for beginners will highlight the December schedule for children at the Falls Library, while ways to work off those holiday calories will top the adult program.

Head Librarian Drew Birden advises East Falls NOW that Tuesday, Dec. 12 will see a late opening, at pm, to allow for staff development. The library will close early at 2 pm Tuesday, Dec. 24 for Christmas Eve and at 2 pm Tuesday, Dec. 31 for New Year's Eve.

### Children's Schedule

School-aged kids are invited to come read with Wally or Orchid, certified therapy dogs, at 4:15 pm Mondays, Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23. Read with a Therapy Dog is an opportunity to share a new book or an old favorite in a judgment free space. Beginning in January, this program will take a hiatus.

Music and Movement Time returns on Tuesdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17. Babies and toddlers will enjoy a parent-led music and dance story time. Children will play maracas, shake pom poms, dance, and listen to music and dance-themed books. Come tire out your little ones and meet local parents. Groups and daycares should call the library to set up their own special visits.

Toddlers and their caregivers can learn what they can build at the Library's Wooden Block Parties, at 10:30 am Thursdays, Dec. 5 and 19. This is a great opportunity to build, discover and imagine.

Party animals age two to six and their adult caregivers are invited to usher out 2019 and welcome in 2020 at the Library's New Year's Eve Countdown at 11:30 am Tuesday, Dec. 31. Kids and the library staff will read a story, have some snacks, and dance into the New Year together. Be sure to wear your party clothes!



In addition to these entries on the library's children's schedule, the Philadelphia Free Library's Literacy Enrichment Afterschool Program (LEAP) will conduct five special programs in December. These are in addition to LEAP's drop-in homework assistance, computer literacy, and library skills for students in grades K-12 and daily literacy enrichment activities for elementary school students. (See page 2.)

At 3:30 pm Wednesday, Dec. 4, children can engage in hot chocolate science and explore the chemistry of this sweet treat, experimenting with the relationship between water temperature and hot chocolate mix.

At 3:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 5, it's time to build a cardboard

zoo at the library. Using kid-safe canary cutters, youngsters will engage their engineering skills, learn about the animal kingdom and create any animal they can imagine.

Gingerbread architecture takes over at 3:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 12. Students will make the gingerbread houses of their dreams out of cardboard, glue, and candy, choosing from a variety of templates to experiment with engineering and architectural styles.

It will be time to salt paint snowflakes at 3:30 pm Monday, Dec. 16. Kids will make their own unique glittering salt snowflake and learn about geometry, meteorology and the natural world.

To close out its 2019 programs for children the Falls Library, it's time to get ready to dance! The library will offer beginners' ballet class at two sessions, first at 3:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 19 and again at 1 pm Saturday, Dec. 21. At the Nutcracker Dance Class youngsters will take a beginner's ballet class, learn the story of the nutcracker and learn an excerpt from the Nutcracker's

iconic Russian Trepak dance. It's best to wear socks and comfortable clothes for dancing.

### Adult Programs

December's adult programs kick off at 6:30 pm Wednesday, Dec. 11 with Holiday Pound for Lbs. Let's trade in those holiday gains for GAINS! Participate in strength training exercises by using resistance bands. Class will last 40 minutes and will be broken into two 20-minute increments. Participants will be able to keep the resistance bands for future use. Space might be limited. This BEAUTIFIT-STRONG program is supported

by the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health in partnership with COFFEE 501(c)3.

The Falls Book Group will meet at 6 pm Monday, Dec. 16. This month's title will be All You Can Ever Know: A Memoir by Nicole Chung. The Falls Book Group meets monthly in the Story Room. Call the branch manager for more information.

Also on Dec. 16 at 6:30 pm, the Philadelphia Stoics will meet for their monthly discussion group to discuss this ancient Greek philosophy that teaches self-control and fortitude. All are welcome.

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## The East Falls Historical Society



Features guest lecturer and writer, Chris Gibbons, with his presentation: "In Search of Roman Catholic High School's 'Lost Boys' of World War I"

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