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Chana Rothman organized a demonstration in front of the Mt. Airy Post Office, 6711 Germantown Ave., in coordination with the American Postal Workers Union as part of its National Day of Action to #SaveThePostOffice.

Mt. Airy singer/songwriter organizes Post Office protest

by Len Lear

Mt. Airy singer/songwriter Chana Rothman organized a demonstration on Tuesday, Aug. 25, noon, in front of the Mt. Airy Post Office, 6711 Germantown Ave., in coordination with the American Postal Workers Union as part of its National Day of Action to #SaveThePostOffice.

At least 25 area residents showed up to hear speakers and performers — Felicia Parker-Cox, representing Congressman Dwight Evans' office; Unidos da

Filadelfia, a Philly-based community percussion band; Aviva Perlo, local social worker and performance artist, and Rothman. There were many honks of support from people driving by, including postal drivers.

Rothman told the approving crowd that "the movement for our public Postal Service has three immediate demands of our elected officials and of Postmaster General Louis DeJoy: Provide at least \$25 billion in immediate support for the Postal Service; Stop the mail slowdown policies introduced

by DeJoy; and ensure public confidence in voting-by-mail by providing all necessary resources for the most timely delivery of election mail possible."

A Pew Research Center survey released recently showed an overwhelming 91 percent of respondents have a favorable view of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), higher than any other federal agency. "So, when I saw that the American Postal Workers Union was organizing a Day of Action," Rothman

(Continued on page 10)

Plaza dedicated to memory of late civic leader remains an attractive neighborhood gateway

by Barbara Sheehan

When the Local published an article about several pocket parks located on the east side of lower Chestnut Hill recently, Chestnut Hill resident Joe Pizzano felt slighted. He had been helping to keep alive the Susan Ann Detscher Pizzano Fountain Plaza for almost two decades and wanted residents to be aware of its importance.

The Fountain Plaza was a project of his late wife, Susan Pizzano, who died from breast cancer in 2011. Formerly known as the Top of the Hill Fountain Plaza, it was rededicated in her honor in 2012. It sits between the Chestnut Hill Branch of the Free Library, the Top of the Hill Shopping Plaza, and the turn-around for SEPTA buses. This location makes it a perfect spot for relaxing with a book, chatting with a friend or simply passing time while waiting for a bus or a train.

Susan Pizzano was the Vice President of the Chestnut Hill Community Association's Social Division when she noticed that the public space was being neglected.

In the 1970s, when the plaza was first renovated, money was



Joe Pizzano in front of the fountain at the Susan Ann Detscher Pizzano Fountain Plaza.

put in the Chestnut Hill Community Fund for continuous maintenance. However, by the time Pizzano was looking into the issue, no money appeared to be available from the fund to maintain the space.

She persuaded Ed Driscoll, CEO of the L.F. Driscoll Construction Company, which owned the property, to donate

it the Friends of the Fountain Plaza, a new 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to maintain the space.

Under her leadership, the group raised approximately \$100,000 to renovate the plaza. They organized a competition for the design of the fountain,

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Temple outbreak drives higher Covid case count

by Kate Dolan

At last week's COVID-19 update press conference on September 3, Health Commissioner Dr. Thomas Farley announced a rise in cases after 235 were reported on Wednesday and 166 cases were reported on Thursday.

"We don't have a complete accounting of the cases that are associated with the outbreak at Temple University because students may not report Philadelphia addresses; they may report the address where their parents live," said Farley, explaining that reported cases reflect only city residents. "However, it does appear that most of the increase in the past week that we've seen across the city is related to the outbreak at Temple University."

On Friday, 134 confirmed cases of COVID-19 were reported. As of Saturday, the total number of confirmed cases in Philadelphia is 34,445 since the epidem-

(Continued on page 8)

Students address racial equity and inclusion in their schools

by Deidra Lyngard

With the goal of advancing equity and racial justice in their respective schools, an ambitious group of 21 student diversity leaders from area independent and Catholic schools convened online in mid-August for an initial three-hour conversation and to officially launch the student collective called Action Independent. The group agreed to meet as needed to talk about specific issues and to help create structures that hold prejudiced actions and people accountable, while ensuring that all voices within their school communities are heard.

The brainchild of Morgan Ellison-Jones, co-head of Springside Chestnut Hill Academy's student-led Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council (DEI) and her DEI co-

(Continued on page 3)

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Students address racial equity and inclusion

(Continued from page 1)

head, Finn Seifert, Action Independent (AI) defines its mission as "bringing our predominantly white institutions together to talk about how we can combat inequality and inequity within our school communities."

"I attended the Student Diversity Leadership Conference in Seattle last December, and it was there that I realized how much students can learn from each other," explains Ellison-Jones. "I was able to create bonds with students from across the country who shared the goal of creating change in our communities. I figured if the students at the conference could learn and create action, why couldn't we do the same in Philadelphia? So, after much time brainstorming with Finn, Action Independent was born."

On their first conference call, the students spent time discussing what's working well in their school communities, what needs to work better, and strategies for tackling some of the challenges. These included building connection and communication with administrators and board members, shaping student accountability in order to shift a "subtle culture of racism," developing mentorship programs for students, revamping problematic aspects of the curriculum, and learning about socioeconomic differences in ways that create authentic partnerships with other communities and foster understanding of people's lived experiences.

A clear theme of the meeting was accountability. The students organized themselves into "accountability partnerships" to



This August, Springside Chestnut Hill Academy seniors Finn Seifert (above) and Morgan Ellison-Jones (below) led a group of area independent and Catholic school diversity leaders to form "Action Independent." Their mission: Help bring predominantly white institutions together to talk about how they can combat inequality and inequity within their school communities.

motivate each other to stay on track with their goals and action plans between now and their next meeting in November. And they are clearly poised to keep their schools accountable, citing the spate of recent Instagram posts on @Blackmainlinespeaks, @metoomontco, and @lgbtqonthemainline calling on the area's predominantly white independent schools to examine and improve their cultures and practices.

Despite the virtual setting of the collective's first meeting, the positive energy and desire to take action was palpable among the students," says Seifert. "Morgan and I are thrilled that so many students came focused and energized for change. Like our fellow Action Independent members, we have a lot of hope for what is to come this year."

Deidra Lyngard is director of publications and video at Springside Chestnut Hill Academy.

Crime Report: Thieves ransack cars at Valley Green, woman reports assault and domestic abuse

The following crime report is for crimes reported in Chestnut Hill from Aug 31 to Sep 6.

Aug. 31 Theft from vehicle at Valley Green. A woman told police that someone broke the passenger-side window of her car and took two purses containing ID, credit cards and \$200 in cash.

Sept. 1 Theft from vehicle at Germantown and Northwestern avenues. A woman reported that she parked her car at Germantown and Northwestern avenue and returned to find her passenger-side window broken and a purse containing credit cards was taken.

Sept. 1 Stolen package on the 300 block of W. Springfield Avenue. A man told police a package was delivered to his address and his Ring security camera captured images of a man taking the package from his porch. Stolen was a bean bag chair worth \$70

Sept 2. Domestic abuse/ aggravated assault on the 7700 block of Stenton Ave. A complainant reported to police that she had an argument with a man after he complained about her son wearing headphones. She told police the man hit her in the head and threatened her and her son with firearm.

Sept. 2 A man told police that he looked out his window and saw two men in his car. He ran out of

the house and yelled, and the two men fled in a small grey sedan, possibly a Honda. The man told police he may have left the vehicle unlocked and noted the pair had stolen the key fob for his vehicle.

Sept. 3 Theft from vehicle on the 200 block of W. Willow Grove Avenue. A woman told police she left her vehicle unlocked over night and discovered the next day that someone had stolen an iPad and her purse containing debit and credit cards.

Sept. 4. Four thefts from vehicles at Valley Green. Police responded to multiple reports of thefts from vehicle at Valley Green. Three people reported break-ins to their vehicles at approximately the same time. A man reported thieves ripped a Kenwood car stereo valued at \$220 from his dashboard and stole it. A woman said thieves stole a duffel bag filled with clothing worth approximately \$300 from her car. Another woman reported her car broken into and her glove box ransacked but nothing taken. The fourth victim said an ID was taken from his vehicle.

If you have been a victim of a crime and would like services or support, call Northwest Victim Services at 215-438-4410. For more information about crimes in your neighborhood, call the 14th District Headquarters at 215-686-3140.

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OPINION

Arnie



The Post Office needs public support, not profit

Nearly everything the Trump administration does is cause for alarm, but nothing has stoked widespread worry quite like the President's Postmaster General Louis DeJoy.

DeJoy, a former trucking logistics head, sparked outrage within and outside of the Post Office after he began to put into place measures designed to enhance its efficiency. He had sorting machines scrapped and ordered trucks to stick to strict schedules among a number of other moves.

With a general election looming that promises to rely more heavily than ever on mail-in balloting due to the still-quiete-raging Covid-19 pandemic, the Post Office's ability to meet that demand was called into question. Pennsylvania postal officials told state lawmakers they didn't think they could adequately meet schedule requirements.

Two weeks ago, I spoke with several mail carriers. They've all been told not to speak about DeJoy's changes, particularly to the press. Despite that order, they were eager to speak as long as I maintained their anonymity.

The carriers I spoke to had almost five decades of combined service. Each said they have never seen things as bad and disorganized as they do today.

The trouble, they agreed, however, did not begin with DeJoy but earlier this year when Covid-19 concerns resulted in many carriers to call in sick. Those postal routes had to be picked up by those mail carriers who did come to work. It put a strain on carriers who all said they took very seriously the oath each takes to get everyone their mail as soon as they possibly can, even if it means overtime hours that keep carriers on delivery until 8 p.m. at night.

And then DeJoy was appointed and swiftly introduced his reforms.

"He made things a lot worse," a carrier told me, "What he's done is like blatant sabotage."

The moves that have made things worse, the carriers tell me, all come down to forcing postal employees to keep to strict schedules, which routinely leave mail behind. Trucks from the city's regional hub are ordered to leave at 6 a.m. whether they have all the mail that's come

in or not. Carriers are given half the time to sort their own routes before they are ordered to leave. They do not return to the post office at lunch time to collect late arrivals. And they've all been tasked to prioritize packages. The first-class mail – personal letters, cards, important financial correspondence and utility bills – all have taken a back seat.

Those practices have exacerbated delays that were already mounting due to pandemic strains. It's clear speaking to mail carriers that these changes are unfair, particularly for an institution that has consistently been the public's favorite federal agency, with more than 90% favorable ratings according to Pew Research Center. Congress, which has struggled to remain reach 30% approval has not been asked to make the same sacrifices. Or to turn a profit.

The US Post Office is one of a few Federal services that works. It needs our support, not a mandate to turn a profit.

Pete Mazzaccaro

Children should be able to vote; they are the future

by Isadore Kleinman

Voting decides how the country is going to be run for the next four years and beyond. The country's leaders should be helping to stop climate change, halt the spread of Covid-19, destroy racism and recognize how they are spending our money. That kind of leadership is not happening enough. For these reasons, we need more people to speak out for kids' rights. This means kids should have the right to vote.

Kids should be allowed to vote because, in this country, kids are the next generation of upstanders and equal rights movement leaders. Some adults are unreliable, and we can't trust them with the future of our nation. Some other

adults are very helpful in equal rights movements. We need more adults to speak out for our rights as kids and citizens of the United States. Kids should have more of a say in who gets voted into office.

Education is the main way that we kids can eventually get jobs and support ourselves. When the government doesn't put enough money towards funding schools, the schools shut down, and children are forced to go to other schools where we are not as comfortable. If children vote, we can help elect candidates who are putting money towards schools. Kids' lives can get better if the government funds schools.

Young men of color are being attacked for no reason by police. The police officers are not being

punished and are still among us walking free today. Deep in our heart, kids and adults know that it is not OK to injure people for the "crime" of their skin color. (Obviously, skin color is not a crime.) If kids can vote, we will start voting people into office who are sticking up for the rights of people of color as well as peaceful protesters of all races.

We kids must have a voice in how our nation — past, present and future — is run. We must move forward from the past and start a new era, one of equal rights and no climate change. Scientists have projected that if this disrespect of the planet, that has served as our home, goes on for 11 more years, the earth will be destroyed by climate change.

We must have leaders who are against climate change, who are fearless enough to speak out for what's right, things not just to suit them but to suit the earth and every nation of this world. I don't want to move to Mars. I like it here! We kids cannot live in a world ruined by generations before us.

If kids have the power to elect the adults we want, we can decide our future. The president of the United States impacts the future of generations of people and our beloved earth. Our leaders matter. If you are reading this and are an adult and are choosing which presidential candidate you will vote for, think about the children of the

nation. Think about the children of the world. In this election, I hope you will vote for the presidential candidate who will make the planet a better place in the future. I'm a kid, and my mind counts.

Isadore Kleinman, age 10, is a Mt. Airy resident and student at the Project Learn School in Mt. Airy.

from our readers

Why do police keep doing it?

Something has been bothering me ever since I watched the video of the Jacob Blake shooting in Wisconsin. How on earth did the officer who shot him not realize that he was being watched and taped? How could he not have thought to himself that he was about to become the next big news story? He was about to become the next internet hashtag.

I mean, seriously, we are still having national protests over the George Floyd killing. I'm sure this officer was aware of that. Surely the realization must have come to him as he followed Jacob Blake to his car and proceeded to shoot him seven times. Why did he not stop? Why did he not deescalate?

Then the other night I watched a TV interview with a Black police officer. He explained that American law enforcement is a toxic environment. He said that officers are not taught "protect and serve" but rather "us against them." They see a black body and fear it. They immediately react to that fear. He emphasized that they have no situational awareness.

That's it, I said to myself. No situational awareness. Their minds and therefore their bodies are focused only on that which they fear, the Black male body. They do not take in the whole situation and therefore do not make efforts to de-escalate that situa-

tion. In their minds, the situation does not exist; the only thing that exists for them at that moment is their fear of that Black body.

So, maybe the answer to all this police brutality is not reforming or defunding. Maybe the answer is not proper training, consent decrees or community policing. Maybe the answer is hiring people who have no such fear of the Black male body. Maybe it's hiring people who have compassion, understanding and who truly want to protect and serve, not hunt down and kill. Maybe it's hiring people who know what years of media distortion and sensationalism have done to the image of Blackness. Who understand how years of systemic, structural racism have shaped our nation and its response to the Black male body.

Because before the shooting or the murder of a Black male body happens, "The Assassination of the Black Male Image" has already taken place. I strongly suggest you read the book by that title, written by Earl Ofari Hutchison, before watching any more media coverage about what happens in Black communities.

Here's a small sample: "The assassination of the Black male image has transformed Black men into universal bogeymen. The trick is to transform them back into universal human beings."

Delores Paulk
Germantown

What's the membership number?

In December 2019, the Local reported that membership in the CHCA had decreased from about 1400 in 2018 to just over 1200 in 2019. It also reported that annual membership dues would rise in 2020 from \$50 to \$95 under a new "value" plan.

It would be illuminating to learn from the CHCA's new leadership how many members the CHCA now has and compare membership revenues under the new rate structure with membership revenues under the old rate structure.

Perhaps it is even the Local's duty to report these figures.

Brian Rudnick
Chestnut Hill

Editor's note: As you noted, the *Local* does have a duty to report those figures and reported your starting point. We will speak with the CHCA's new leadership and report the state of membership and revenue in an upcoming story soon.

New
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letters

If you wish to respond to any of the letters or articles that you've read in the *Local*, please e-mail the editor at: pete@chestnuthilllocal.com

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Policy Statement

It is the policy of this publication to anticipate community problems and prepare public opinion for their solutions, to review community problems as they arise and to present possible solutions, to study community problems and, with the help of expert opinion, direct community thinking toward a solution consistent with local tradition and the best forward-looking interests of Chestnut Hill.

It is the policy of the LOCAL to publish all responsible points of view on the various issues presented in the *Forum*. Unless otherwise expressly indicated, the opinions and points of view expressed in this publication are those of the individual writer who shall be identified by name.

Positions presented or adopted by the Community Association or its board of directors on any matter will be expressly identified as such.

All letters addressed to the LOCAL *Forum* must be signed and must include an address and a verifying telephone number. All letters must not exceed 300 words.

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Zugunruhe feelings on a Covid-quiet Labor Day weekend

Oh man, there's a whole lot of Zugunruhe going on, and I don't know if anyone else is noticing it. My kitchen window faces the cul de sac we live on. I can stand there washing

Enemies of Reading
by Hugh Gilmore
hughmore@yahoo.com



the virus off my hands all day long watching hapless humans turn up the street to nowhere and circle back out. I can also see the formerly mellow birds out there hopping about and flitting from branch to branch. All day long: flutter and flit, flutter and flit. Peck a branch, flex their feathers, go over there, come back here. Quite a show.

Zugunruhe got named back in 1707 and it refers to the willies that migratory animals get as departure time arrives. A guy with a cul de sac and a window and a bunch of cloudy drinking glasses could learn a lot about nature by looking into the trees around his neighborhood and watching the birds jumping around like fleas on a hound's back.

Another thing to note lately, say the past five years, is that there aren't any domestic cats roving about the streets and yards. My yard used to provide the killing fields for three of those sporting prowlers who like to torture the ground- or low-nesting birds. With the cats gone, busloads of chipmunks arrived. And one day I looked in a wood pile and saw a small brown De Kays snake, a charmer from childhood. And later that summer a nice green, striped garter snake, and across the street, in a neighbor's driveway, a beautifully patterned milk snake. I've seen frogs and toads too. I'm not saying it's teeming out there. These animals have the sense to be secretive, but there's something wonderful about sensing in your bones that a bit of nature yet endures in your surroundings. We haven't driven them all away yet.

Yesterday, Saturday, I worked in the yard a bit. I'd skimmed through the morning papers but they sounded like a "Who's on First, What's on Second" routine. Then, oh, lookee here: Drilling for oil could begin soon in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge because, the White House announced, the drillers and contractors had "crossed their hearts and hoped to die" if they ever spilled a drop. I was ready by then to read something really juicy, like maybe The Burning of Portland meme had been bought by Disney and would soon become a themed amusement park. Or learn Trump had tweeted that he's been addicted to truth serum since 4th grade. "The secret of my great success, the greatest success of anyone who's ever been successful at success," he confessed. I gave up on the paper.

Out in the yard still, at 2 p.m., I decided to do a curiosity count of cicada-killer wasp nests in my yard. The cicada-killer is a two-inch long female wasp that looks meaner than a junkyard dog, but she minds her own business unless you are a cicada. She catches them, paralyzes them with her stinger, and drags them into her underground burrow to nourish her young. The nests look like two-inch wide bored holes in your lawn, with a little heap of dirt



Geese on the move, feeling Zugunruhe.

opposite the entrance. I counted 14. Peace, sisters, leave me alone, I'll leave you alone. A very laissez-faire yard. I walked over to open my tool shed to fetch a watering can. About 20 crickets of every size leaped about in a frightened frenzy. I closed the door. Some other time. Maybe I'll set a snake in there someday, or build them a cricket-friendly shed. Enough lawn maintenance. Time to read.

I'd promised myself some daytime book reading, the greatest luxury I know. As I walked to the side door of the house, I saw the brown flash of the resident groundhog diving back under the small deck I built in the backyard a few years ago. That was just

before my neighbor's trees started shedding branches onto my chaise lounge.

Inside. The only author who seems able to soothe me during this Trumpdemic of death, illness, racial hatred, and joblessness here in my hermitage is Hunter S. Thompson. I know he's crazy, wild, rude, drug-addled, psychotic and selfish, but he also says a lot of things that are terribly true about human nature and about how twisted The American Dream is, as lived. So, I picked up my Kindle and settled in. Whatta ya know? Today's chapter was about an article Thompson had done for Scanlan's Monthly in 1970: "The Kentucky Derby is Decadent and Depraved." How

timely. I read it, amused and once again in awe of how he managed so often to combine goofy exaggeration with ferocious truth telling.

When scientists first identified zugunruhe, what amazed them most was that, when migration season arrived, caged animals exhibited the same restlessness and anxiety as wild animals. Perhaps changes in the length and quality of daylight and temperature aroused them. The survival benefits of arousal for wild animals were obvious, but of what benefit were anxiety and restlessness to confined animals? Perhaps including ourselves during shut-down.

It being Saturday night, our vegetarian pizza with extra feta arrived. And I mixed a well-made Manhattan. Hooray for Saturday night. Over to the sofa after that – for the Kentucky Derby, now all the more interesting after reading Thompson's "Decadent and Depraved" article that afternoon. But the race was a sanitized event. No audience. Not even bobbleheads with feathered fascinators in the stands. A great, careful bubble had been put around the two-minute horse race, with no mention or sight of the unhappy people marching nearby in support of a local young woman who'd been murdered in her bed

by police this past spring. Fortunately for those who hate irony, the horse named "Tiz the Law" lost. To "Authentic"! A portender of racial justice rounding the bend?

Saturday still: pizza, horse race, and now a rented movie. Saturday is what we call "story movie" night. No docs. Hope for the best. Preferably something grand and Hollywoodish. Or funny and bright, so we watched Pedro Almodovar's "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown." Bright and funny, charmingly visual and well-paced, it was an entertaining telenovela. But totally urban and punctuated by car chases and gunshots. We each gave it an "8" (of 10). Good enough. Time for bed.

Except for one more thing I needed to do. Lights out on the back patio, I walked out and stood on the edge in the dark, where the grass and bushes and other world begin. A day of work, and covid worry, and isolation, with cars symbolically going up and down the one-way street. A yard lumpy with tunneling voles and moles and mice and cicada-killers, on which walked, or slithered, crickets, slugs and snakes and toads and possums and woodchucks and raccoons and, last week for the first time, deer.

I was wearing shorts and the cool air on the back of my legs felt like I'd waded into a pond. A nearby neighbor's grandchildren had been swimming in his pool all day, filling the air with the sweet sound of children's laughter, like some audiofile from an ancient parable of what life on earth once was. Now it was quiet. No wind. Quiet enough to hear, if I stood still, the low "whinnying" call of a pair of screech owls in one of local trees. They came closer, still high up, but still the sound of a world wilder in a better way.

I wondered if I stood there on the border long enough I might hear all the animals' plans, perhaps their whispers, hear them say about us, "Are they gone yet?"

OUR CULTURE
BY JOE DWORETZKY



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Mt. Airy author details rise and fall of city's Democratic Party machine

by Karen Bojar

“Philadelphia Battlefields: Disruptive Campaigns and Upset Elections in a Changing City” by West Mt. Airy author John Kromer is a must read for anyone interested in Philadelphia politics. Its detailed observations and thoughtful analysis are likely to be of interest to political scientists and historians, and with its clear, jargon-free prose “Philadelphia Battlefields” is accessible to the general reader.

Kromer draws on his extensive experience as city housing director from 1992 to 2001 and as a veteran of numerous political campaigns, including his own run for Sheriff in 2011. He describes his book as primarily a study of what he calls “insurgent” campaigns—“how ambitious individuals succeeded in long odds elections by employing creative campaign strategies...and by understanding the political opportunities available in the social and economic environments in which their campaigns were taking place.”

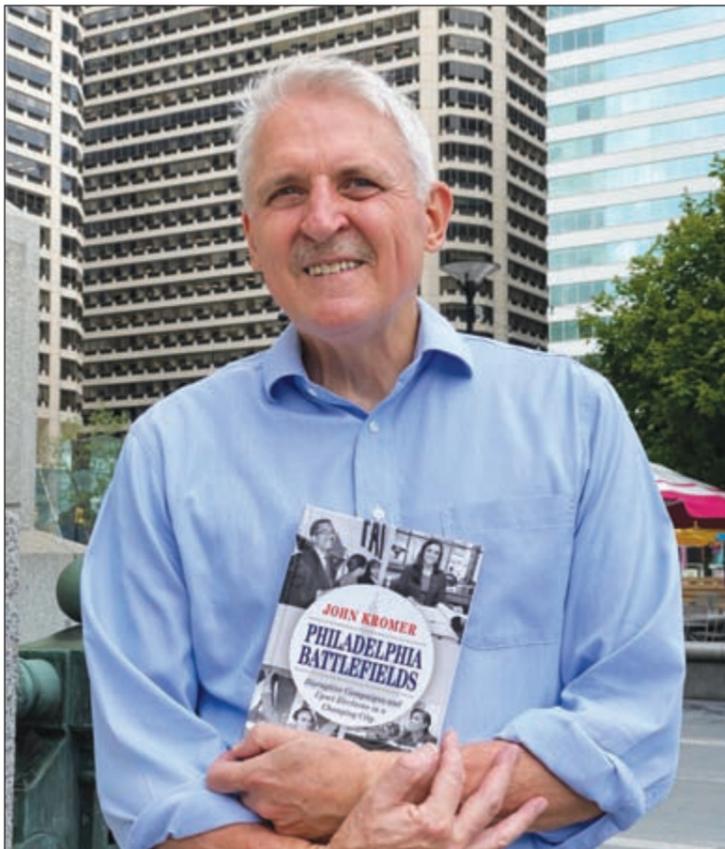
The book is also the story of the decline of the Philadelphia Democratic Party machine, which has fragmented into competing factions, thus providing opportunities for insurgent campaigns. The party has become increasingly less able to deliver for endorsed candidates in primary elections or to get out the vote in general elections. Kromer complicates this story, noting upsets and internecine battles during periods when the party was supposedly at its strongest, and arguing that even in its weakened

condition the party continues to have influence in low-profile races.

“Philadelphia Battlefields” begins with an in-depth analysis of Rebecca Rhynhart’s upset victory in the 2017 city controller race. Her opponent was a two term incumbent with the solid support of the Democratic Party establishment, yet Rhynhart won decisively. Kromer raises the possibility that her victory was “the first solid evidence that the Democratic Party’s dominant role in Philadelphia politics was finally coming to an end.”

Kromer then turns to the history of the 20th century Democratic Party in Philadelphia, which he argues began with the 1951 election of Joseph Clark as Mayor and Richardson Dilworth as District Attorney, bringing to an end almost a century of Republican Party rule and ushering in an era of municipal reform. However, as Kromer demonstrates, the reforms were undermined by the continuation of one party rule, with the Democratic machine replacing the Republican machine.

Unlike the municipal reform movement, which did not significantly change the distribution of wealth and power in the city, the Black Political Forum led by Hardy Williams, Wilson Goode and John White Sr. brought about real social change, building a movement for Black political empowerment independent of the Democratic Party. Kromer analyzes the early career of Chaka Fattah, whom he characterizes as a “political entrepreneur” who “developed a creative and effective approach to building power as Philadelphia changed.” In



John Kromer's new book examines the Philadelphia Democratic Party machine.

1982 Fattah built a political campaign for a state house seat drawing on the resources of organizations based in the Black community, and defeated party-endorsed incumbent, Nicholas Pucciarelli. Kromer considers other insurgent candidates (Tom Foglietta, Ed Rendell, Maria Quinines Sanchez) who defeated party-endorsed candidates; all in different ways took advantage of the erosion of the power of the Democratic Party machine.

In addition to analyzing the

strategies of successful insurgent candidates, Kromer also profiles several of the civic organizations providing support for their campaigns and educating voters about candidates' stands on issues. Kromer credits Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) with training nearly 600 volunteers who became the driving force behind the 1951 election of reformers Dilworth and Clark, and for spearheading the Rizzo recall movement in the 1970s.

In his analysis of 21st century

politics, Kromer focuses on three organizations: POWER, which provides political education for low-income communities; 3.0, an organization of centrist and liberal Democrats; and Reclaim, a socialist organization that grew out of the 2016 Bernie Sanders campaign. Both Reclaim and 3.0 provided training and support for a new generation of political activists; despite their differences, both groups are committed to transparency and democracy in the ward system, and both were heavily involved in recruiting candidates for the 2018 committee elections.

Kromer analyzes the impact of Reclaim on the second ward, which has become a model of ward transparency and democracy with its carefully drawn bylaws and endorsement procedures. Reclaim member Nikhil Saval was elected ward leader in 2018 and then, in a remarkable upset, Saval defeated a three-term incumbent to win a seat in the PA Senate. “Philadelphia Battlefields” went to press before the victories of Saval and fellow Reclaim member Rick Krajewski, who defeated a 23-year incumbent to win a PA house seat. The victories of Saval and Krajewski differed from the upset victories of most other candidates profiled in the book in that they saw themselves as part of a social movement that had grown out of the Bernie Sanders campaign.

Many young progressives running for office have serious criticisms of the Democratic Party for its lack of transparency/democracy. Kromer poses the question: Is the system the problem? Or is it

(Continued on page 11)

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Learn about extraordinary local architectural pioneer



DuRay Montegue, 19th-century architecture buff and Germantown resident, will give a presentation about the pioneering Black architect Julian Francis Abele for Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion on Saturday, Sept. 12, 1 p.m., via Zoom.

by Len Lear

Most likely you have never heard of Julian Francis Abele (1881-1950), but he is surely one of the most remarkable Philadelphia architects of the past two centuries. Despite the fact that in his youth it was nearly impossible for an African American student to be admitted to any college, Julian became the first African American ever to earn a degree in architecture from the University of Pennsylvania when he graduated in 1902. And he did so while working the entire four years as a designer with an architectural firm in the daytime (so he could afford to pay for tuition and books) and taking classes in the late afternoon and evening. He also won five prestigious design competitions during his undergraduate years.

After graduation, Abele was hired by Horace Trumbauer, arguably the city's most distinguished architect at the time. In his subsequent career, Abele contributed to the design of more than 400 buildings, including the Widener Memorial Library at Harvard University, Philadelphia's Central Library and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

If you love Philadelphia's architectural heritage and Black history, then you will certainly enjoy the presentation and discussion that will be conducted by DuRay Montegue, lover of 19th-century architecture, a neighbor of Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion and Mansion board member in the Mansion at 200 W. Tulpehocken St. in Germantown on Saturday, Sept. 12, 1 p.m., via Zoom.

Montegue, 59, a native of Washington, D.C., graduated from Howard University with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1987. (Kamala Harris attended Howard at the same time.) After college he moved to Philadelphia and stayed in Germantown with a friend.

As a member of the Advocate

(Continued on page 9)

Honoring essential workers: Firefighter Charles Winrow



Firefighter Charles Winrow of Engine 37 in Chestnut Hill.

by Heather S. Gray

The 2020 CHCA Meritorious Award was presented to the Essential Workers throughout the Chestnut Hill area. This is the sixth in a series of profiles of essential workers whose work has helped us all get through the pandemic.

Firefighter Charles Winrow of Chestnut Hill Engine 37 is a true hero. It's his job to be ready and willing every day to put his life on the line, in very real ways, in order to save the lives of others. Firefighters are first responders. He may be called out to a medical emergency, a fire or even to rescue an animal; he never knows what the day has in store for him. But, as Engine 37 lost one of their own to Covid, he knows first-hand that the risks he faces during this

pandemic are greater than ever. Still, Winrow keeps his place on the front line, protecting and rescuing us from danger.

Winrow has reported to duty at Chestnut Hill's historic firehouse on Highland Ave for 10 years, working 12 hours shifts: four days on, four days off. Winrow is part of a four-person engine platoon. An engine company has a truck with a water pump and hoses to put out a fire. When responding to a fire, Winrow rotates between three positions: driving the truck, pulling the hose, and directing the nozzle that sprays the water. The fourth man in the platoon is the supervisor, who is always making sure that the team operates safely and comes out of the fire alive.

Engine 37 primarily covers Chestnut Hill, but they also provide support for Mt. Airy, as back-

up, if Mt. Airy firefighters are at another scene. Sometimes they are called to join larger firefighting efforts, like the six-alarm warehouse fire on Fox Street and Hunting Park Avenue that broke out early on the morning of Sunday, August 23. More than 300 city firefighters responded to the massive blaze. It was the largest fire Philadelphia had seen in years. Winrow said it is still smoldering now.

Winrow and other Philadelphia firefighters are used to putting themselves in danger, but now, any time they enter a house or interact with the public, there is an added risk. They take extra precautions at scenes they are called to, wearing masks, face shields, and gowns. Unfortunately, Winrow knows first-hand the

(Continued on page 10)

CHCA Agenda

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The CHCA office is open for limited hours during the week. For the protection of our staff and members we are asking CHCA members and vendors who come to the office to wear a mask. In order to confirm that there is someone in the office please call 215-248-8810 or email info@chestnuthill.org

Thurs. Sept 10th 7:00 pm

CHCA Executive Committee Meeting
Online Meeting

Tues. Sept 15th 7:00 pm

Development Review
Committee Review Meeting
Online Meeting
• 30 W. Highland
– Variance Request
– Preliminary Review

Thurs. Sept 24th 7:00 pm

CHCA Annual Meeting
Online Meeting

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How to manage or relieve knee pain

by Catherine Brzozowski

Knee pain is a common complaint that affects people of all ages and can make simple activities painful and uncomfortable. Pain may start suddenly, which can occur after an injury or excessive exercise, or can start slowly as a mild discomfort that worsens over time. You may not realize just how much you rely on your knees until the actual onset of pain.

The most common causes of knee pain are age related changes and arthritis, injury or excessive stresses on the knee. There are several risk factors that can contribute to knee pain which include being overweight or obesity, aging, prior knee injuries, a sedentary lifestyle, participation in certain sports and jobs that involve significant stress on the knees, such as jumping, squatting and bending.

"The knee is a complex joint consisting of bones, muscles, ligaments and tendons that all work in a coordinated fashion," said Jeffrey Vakil, MD, an orthopedic joint replacement specialist with Premier Orthopaedics at Chestnut Hill Hospital. "Any injury to these structures can lead to compromised function which can result in the development of discomfort and pain in the joint. In addition, prob-

lems with surrounding joints, such as the hips and ankles, can also result in knee discomfort and pain by altering the normal function of the extremity."

Not all knee pain is serious, however, some knee injuries and degenerative conditions, such as arthritis, can lead to increasing pain, further joint damage and disability if left untreated. Knee injuries, even if considered minor, may contribute to further injuries in the future if not initially treated appropriately. Pain can interfere with sleep, work, social life, and simple day to day activities. Consistent pain that worsens over time can be the first symptom of degeneration of the joint and arthritis.

Simple causes of knee pain often clear up on their own with over the counter medications, rest and ice. If your knee pain is the result of an injury, you should be evaluated by a health care provider.

Following these general tips and recommendations may help prevent knee pain and injury:

It is always best to warm up prior to exercising. Prior to running, hiking or walking, stretching the muscles of your lower extremities, the quadriceps, anterior thigh muscles, the hamstrings, posterior thigh muscles, as well as the calf muscles, is important.



Dr. Jeffrey Vakil

Start any exercise program with low impact activity such as walking, biking, hiking, and swimming.

It is important to work on weight loss. Weight loss is not only better for overall health but will relieve pressure and decrease the stresses on the hips, knees and ankles. For an overweight person, each pound of weight lost can result in three to five pounds of less weight on the knees.

Conservative treatment options for hip and knee arthritis are always the first step, followed by the consideration of joint replacement surgery in the advanced arthritic conditions. According to a study

by the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery, the number of joint replacements performed have been increasing and are projected to continue to increase exponentially in the years to come. "Hip and knee replacement have a high success rate and can provide great improvements in quality of life and help many people regain more normal day to day function," says Dr. Vakil. "More and more people are becoming aware of these successes in joint replacement and want to have these procedures done to regain a more normal lifestyle by improving the chronic pain and disability associated with hip and knee arthritis."

Knee pain affects people of all ages and although not all knee pain is serious, it's important to manage your pain to prevent further injury. Connect to relief and take a step toward a life without knee pain. Learn about the anatomy of the knee, common causes of joint pain and simple steps you can take to lessen the likelihood of knee damage. Joint expert, Jeffrey Vakil, MD, will discuss effective non-surgical treatments for knee pain, as well as the latest innovative joint replacement procedures being performed at Chestnut Hill Hospital. To register for our September 15 seminar, visit: CHWellnessEvents.com.

Catherine Brzozowski is marketing and public relations director for Chestnut Hill Hospital -Tower Health.

Temple outbreak drives higher Covid case count in city

(Continued from page 1)

ic began and the total number of deaths is 1,759.

Last week's numbers showed a predominance of young people testing positive for the virus, as 31% of new cases were found in people between the ages of 20 and 29, and 25% of cases reported on Thursday were people in the 10-19 age category. The rate of positivity also rose last week to 4.1% and average cases per day, which were in the 90s on Tuesday, rose to 108 by Thursday.

The outbreak at Temple University of more than 300 confirmed cases has led to the university going mostly virtual for the fall semester. Temple is offering a room and board refund for students who want to vacate dormitories and do so by September 13. For those staying, quarantine and isolation space will be maintained on the university campus.

According to Dr. Farley, the city's contact tracing efforts show that spread was among students who live off campus and among students attending small social gatherings.

"We are today encouraging students who live off campus in these crowded apartments, if they can, to move back to where they lived over the summer, to reduce the density there, to reduce the risk," Farley said.

The Philadelphia Health Department is working with the school and students to expand testing and contact tracing, and to provide guidance on how students can leave campus carefully, to avoid spreading the infection.

The rise in Philadelphia cases is occurring as Pennsylvania is seeing an increase as a whole and Dr. Farley said that in many other states, surges in cases "appear to be linked to college outbreaks."

Both Mayor Jim Kenney and Farley thanked Temple at the press conference for their role in the city's response to the epidemic and acknowledged that Temple has worked closely with the health department.

"Temple did everything we asked them to do in advance and they were very successful in preventing spread in classrooms, in dormitories, in cafeterias, all the things that happen on campus," Farley said. "What occurred here really was the things that are very much out of their control."

"This is simply not an easy problem to fix," Farley said. "The big picture, the college-associated outbreaks though, do show that the virus still has the potential to come back strong."

No changes have been made to upcoming reopening plans. Indoor dining is set to begin this week, on September 8 with restrictions. The opening of theaters is also still on track.

The recommendations of the CDC and the city's health department include continued mask use and avoidance of social gatherings.

death notice

Dana W. Tobin

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Dana W. Tobin on Friday, August 29th. Dana was a beloved friend, mentor, benefactor and inspiration to countless friends and causes. He was determined to make the world a better place, sharing his passion for social responsibility and knowledge of nature and travel with anyone interested enough to ask. Perhaps described as "quirky," Dana endeared himself to everyone he met and never failed to think of others first. He will be deeply missed by his many, particularly Weaver's Way Co-op, The Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES) Department at the University of Pennsylvania, Face to Face Community Center in Germantown, and The Schuylkill Valley Nature Center, Nature Conservancy. His loss is also felt by his extended family of international students and HOSTS for HOSPITALS guests whom he befriended and over the years, now included in his "e-mail circle." Dana's "family," Cathy, Joe, Jasmine, Abby, and Jordan (Davis/Fafara) will miss and remember him profoundly as a part of our lives that is irreplaceable. Donations in his memory may be made to Food Moxie.

death notice

Rebecca Blum

Rebecca Blum, talented Berlin-based art director and curator, passed away on July 22, 2020. Rebecca was the American-born daughter of Susan A. Bockius, Philadelphia, and Mark E. Blum, Louisville KY. She was a 28-year resident of Germany who played many and varied roles in the German and International art scene. Her career included the founding of several innovative enterprises including Base e.V. in 1995, an open art studio in Berlin's Old East; Blum Fine Arts Management, begun in 2012, which provided career management and support services to artists; and Satellite Berlin, a Berlin-based gallery co-founded with Kit Schulte, 2013-2017, for presentation of art in dialogue with the sciences. Rebecca was Berlin representative for the David Nolan Gallery, New York for over ten years. She was also the director of the Scheibler Mitte gallery from 2006-2011, an extension of the Gallery Aurel Scheibler Berlin. Rebecca had highly developed linguistic skills as writer, editor and translator which she employed in her curatorial function. She maintained an independent practice in editing and translating, lately under the web address The-Wordsmith.net. Rebecca was loving mother to 22-year-old Emma Blum, still a Berlin resident. In addition to her daughter and parents, Rebecca is survived by her brother, Adam Blum of Santa Cruz CA and her former husband, Roland Patzelt. In celebrating her life, Rebecca's many Berlin-based friends referred to her as "our warm bright star." Rebecca was born in 1967 in San Francisco CA, then relocated with family to Philadelphia in 1968 where she attended Philadelphia's Henry H. Houston and Julia R. Masterman Public Schools. After re-locating to Severna Park MD in 1979, she graduated from Severna Park High School in 1985. She studied Art History at The American University in Washington DC. Her work toward a Bachelor of Arts degree included a semester in Rome, Italy, for which she was awarded an "outstanding visiting student" award and placement on the Dean's List. Her internship with the Corcoran Gallery in Washington DC during her American University tenure proved excellent preparation for her later gallery work, including her first position at San Francisco-based Wolf Schulz Gallery in 1990. This year, she received the certificate of completion for her Master's Degree in Management of Non-Profit Institutions from the University of Kaiserslautern in Germany. She was about to embark upon a new chapter of her intercultural, arts vocation. Rebecca's ashes have been interred in Berlin at Domfriedhof der St.-Hedwigs-Gemeinde. She will also have a celebration of life in Philadelphia and interment of ashes at a family plot in Friedens Union Cemetery in Sumneytown, PA in mid-September. Those who wish to honor her life and memory may contribute to "The Rebecca M. M. Blum Memorial Fund" at Allens Lane Art Center (<https://allenslane.org/>).



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After 10 years, trying for comeback from Covid meltdown

by Barbara Sherf

Despite a downturn in business at women's boutique Scarlet Begonias in the small row of shops in Flourtown, owner Karen Phelps, 63, is optimistic about business coming back. Phelps is drawing some attention with an oversized banner out front stating "50% Off, Celebrating 10 Years in Flourtown."

She set a goal 10 years ago of fully owning her 1700-square-foot shop, the apartment above and rear warehouse at 1512 Bethlehem Pike, and she has achieved that goal. "What I used to do in a day I now do in a week, but still I'm feeling blessed. I own the property and have had more than 20 clients call to check in on me, saying, 'I was thinking of you today, and I'll be back.' That makes me feel really, really good."

But the reality is that weddings, bar mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs and other social and religious events have been cancelled in large numbers, and Phelps is feeling it. "People aren't really going anywhere, so they aren't spending money on clothing. Some come in and want a little gift or something more casual," she said, although she has been selling designer masks and posting them to Facebook and Instagram. "Even though there is



Karen Phelps poses with her furry in-store greeter outside the Flourtown building she purchased a decade ago. Because of the pandemic, she has cut back store hours and is making personal appointments with customers. (Photo by Barbara Sherf)

a sale in progress, Scarlet Begonias is very quiet. Everyone seems to be regrouping at home. Many are opting to focus on home improvement projects and are in the nesting mode. Some will come back skinnier and some heavier, and we will be here to fill their needs. We will all need something new and fresh soon."

With 1400 square feet of sales floor space, the boutique owner is very much aware of following the CDC guidelines. "We have shortened our hours to 10 to 3, and I

will absolutely make a private appointment for anyone who has concerns about the virus," said Phelps, a Lower Gwynedd resident. Her husband of 31 years, Jim, is her maintenance guy.

The business actually started in 2004 when she and her best friend, Linda Thompson, decided to set up a store in Phoenixville featuring home décor and offering interior design services, as Thompson lived in Kimberton. "I had been the National Sales Director for a fine jewelry company, but after

911, I decided I didn't want to travel like I had been doing every week and developed my exit strategy," said Phelps.

Thompson got remarried and moved with new her husband to Florida but didn't like it and moved back again. She is no longer in the business, but they are still the best of friends. "We talk every day." The pair brainstormed on a name for the store, and they settled on the Grateful Dead song to name their shop because it had a nice ring to it.

"When Linda relocated, I sat in my living room and drew a circle on a map as I wanted to be within 10 miles of home and not within the city limits. I found Flourtown to be the perfect fit," said Phelps, who credits the Small Business Association with helping her start her business and forgiving \$17,000 in closing costs that helped her make the purchase.

Because of the pandemic, Phelps has had to cut back on staff hours, and that was hard. "Luckily, my staff are more mature people who are retired from careers, so it hasn't affected them as a primary source of income. And because I own the property, I'm one of the lucky ones. I think we will chalk 2020 up to a year when you take a hit and hopefully regroup and be better and stronger in the end. We have a really loyal clientele base, and clients have become friends ... I love my store and can't even think about retiring."

Scarlet Begonias also has an in-store greeter in the form of a two-and-a-half year old Corgi named Diva.

The shop is closed on Sundays and Mondays. To make a special appointment, call 267-682-0839 or email karenphelps@comcast.net. Flourtown resident Barbara Sherf can be reached at communicationspro.com

Learn about extraordinary local architectural pioneer

(Continued from page 7)

Community Development Corporation, DuRay and his wife Michele restored a row of Diamond Street brownstones in North Philly attributed to the legendary Frank Furness. For over a decade they lived in and enhanced a 1890s' stone Colonial "Breezewood" designed by Trumbauer in Wyncote.

For the last 15 years DuRay has worked for the Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company, which is currently manufacturing millions of doses of a potential vaccine for Covid-19 that is currently in Phase 3 trials.

How did DuRay become interested in the life of Julian Abele? "I was fascinated by the art and innovation that he brought to classic architecture. His passion for the work he wanted to do was not driven by seeking the limelight or personal praise. His life represented one of the positive peaks on the wave of the African American journey since Reconstruction."

What is the origin of the name DuRay? "An antique bible from my dad's family showed handwritten notes on dates of births and deaths going back to the 1870s. The name DuRay was listed as being born in 1899 but had no date of death. As a result, my dad said that he would name his first son after this 'immortal' person."

According to Diane Richardson, of Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion, "DuRay is a huge asset to us. Among other contributions, DuRay arranges 'volunteer days' through Pfizer. They rake leaves, etc., which is tremendously helpful, and then the Mansion receives a check from Pfizer for hosting a volunteer day. 'Coffee for Neighbors,' a neighborhood outreach program, was DuRay's idea. Michele also helps with events. Knowing DuRay and Michele is a blessing and an honor." (Michele, also a native of Washington, D.C., is an engineer with the State of Pennsylvania responsible for drinking water quality.)

The Montegues have a son, DuRay II, who did his undergraduate work in London, England. Their daughter, Lindsey, lives in

Washington, D.C., where she recently began her professional career with KPMG, a global network of audit/tax firms.

When asked where on earth he would most like to live, DuRay replied, "I would have to say Barcelona, Spain. It has a diverse population, amazing historic architecture, the Mediterranean Sea and a really laid back feel.

That being said, I am 'over the moon' to have realized a long-standing dream of owning one of the jewels of the Tulpehocken Station Historic District here in Germantown."

The link to the webpage for this Zoom event is <https://ebenezer-maxwellmansion.org/interactiveqal>. Len Lear can be reached at llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com

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Mt. Airy singer/songwriter organizes Post Office protest



Rothman has performed her blend of folk, reggae, world beat and hip hop at World Café Live, Tin Angel and many other performance venues in the Philadelphia area.

(Continued from page 1)

said, "on the information site there was an option to 'plan your own action' so I clicked it and planned an event for Mt. Airy."

The controversial DeJoy, a former trucking company CEO, is the first postmaster general in nearly two decades not to be a career postal employee. It has been widely reported that he has slowed down mail delivery around the country and has taken steps to slow down mail-in voting in particular.

The Associated Press has reviewed hundreds of pages of records related to DeJoy, his lucrative government contracts and his

prolific donations to Republican candidates, including \$1.2 million to Trump. His wife, Aldona Wos, is a prominent donor as well and has been nominated by Trump to serve as ambassador to Canada; her nomination is pending.

Rothman, teaches music at Project Learn School in Mt. Airy, coordinates the Music Council there and is no newcomer to activism. She has been involved in the Women's March, Delaware Valley early childhood education conference, Foundation for Jewish Camp's Cornerstone Fellowship, rallies for immigration justice, racial justice and more.

But like almost all performers,

she has been ravaged by the pandemic. "Unfortunately, I have lost work," she said. "It is devastating that we can't sing safely together, truly a major blow to music as community building. Many concerts and conferences have been canceled or gone online. The online part is lovely but doesn't generally pay as well and has a totally different feeling than a live performance with people in a venue or outside."

"On the flipside, I have found myself much more available for virtual performances and can usually do them even when my children are in the house. Sometimes I can even bring my children into

the performance for a song or two. I have also found great power in using social media as a platform for sharing music...

"It also allows me to connect music to the current struggles and issues we are facing during the pandemic. I believe one of important roles of the artist is to hold a mirror up to our society. And then, ideally, give us a vision of how it could/should be in the future."

After many years of living in Brooklyn and touring extensively, the Toronto, Canada, native settled in Northwest Philadelphia 12 years ago and began building a nest with husband, Rabbi Kevin Kleinman. "We moved here when Kevin graduated from rabbinical school and got a job as assistant rabbi at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park. I appreciate him more than words can express. I'm grateful to be in a team with him. He supports me 100% all the time."

Chana said the best advice she ever got came from Basya Schechter, a hugely gifted female Jewish singer/songwriter. "She told me to stop banging on the doors that are closing on you and focus on the doors that are opening, pertaining to music and building a career."

For more information, visit chanarothman.com. Rothman's music can be found on iTunes or Amazon.com. Len Lear can be reached at lenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com

Honoring essential workers: Firefighter Charles Winrow

(Continued from page 7)

reality and danger of the virus. Eric Gore, a 24-year Philadelphia Fire Department veteran stationed at Engine 37 died due to Covid-19 complications in early June. It was a tragic loss for Winrow and the other firefighters who are bonded through shared dangers and commitment to the lives of the public they serve.

Since the pandemic hit, Winrow is spending more time at home than he ever has in his career. He and his wife just celebrated an anniversary with a quiet dinner at home rather than going out to eat. He is not getting to see his daughter or grandkids as often as he would like, but this distance is a show of love and protection. Winrow is 63 this year, and now six months away from retirement. His age puts him at a higher risk for Covid, but Winrow is not stopping work, not yet. Charles Winrow feels the work is its own reward. He has always liked to help people, and this job, being a Philly firefighter, gives him an opportunity to help people every day.

New chestnuthilllocal.com

MISSING PERSON

William (Bill) Coale

68 yrs. old, 6' tall. Has a slight limp

Bill Coale is a resident of Chestnut Hill and Mt. Airy who spends a lot of time in the Wissahickon Park. He was last seen in Chestnut Hill on Friday, March 20, 2020.







LOOKING FOR ANY INFORMATION OR SIGHTINGS AT ANY TIME



If you have seen him at any time or know his whereabouts, **PLEASE CONTACT:**

Email FindBillCoale@gmail.com or call: **914-374-3768** or **215-512-1084** with any information



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Plaza dedicated to memory of late civic leader remains an attractive neighborhood gateway

(Continued from page 1)

won by the Wayne firm of Johnathan Alderson Landscape Architects. Alderson's division of the plaza's lower and upper terraces was especially admired by the architects who judged the competition. Paving stones with the names of dozens of patrons she had recruited line the fountain, which is constructed of Wisahickon schist.

Pizzano's fundraising and friend-raising skills were renown in Chestnut Hill. Among the most popular of her projects, she organized several community dinners featuring cook-offs with local chefs. These included "Meat Loaf Mania I and II (1999 and 2001), "Chili Challenge" (1999), and "Pie Passion," (2001), each raising funds for local charities such as the Chestnut Hill Senior Services Center and Teenagers Inc.

The resulting cookbooks highlight not just the winning recipes, but also the winning cooks. They are little gems of local history, and Pizzano's academic training is evident throughout the text. (Susan Pizzano earned a Ph.D. in Public History at Temple University.) From the introduction to her Chestnut Hill Chili Challenge Cookbook, "The many men who entered the Chili Challenge would be interested to know that the first commercial appearance of chili in the United States was made by the Chili Queens of San Antonio in the 1880s. ...All night long they cooked, served, and flirted in the picturesque flare from the hand-hammered tin lanterns, in the savory haze rising from clay vessels on charcoal braziers."

The cookbooks feature recipes from professional chefs at places such as Solaris Grille, Cresheim Cottage Café, Night Kitchen, and Treetops at the Rittenhouse, as well as local residents who want-

Mt. Airy author

(Continued from page 6)

the people running it? He notes the structure has potential for genuine representative democracy and that most committeepeople "are highly reflective of the community they represent."

However, Kromer acknowledges that most wards are not democratically run "open wards"; committeepeople do not have the right to vote on endorsements or on ward policies and procedures and there exist no internal party rules protecting the rights of committee people. In this sense, the system is the problem. He notes that it is far easier for resource-rich wards such as the second to operate an open ward than it is for low-income wards. The second ward can afford to forfeit city committee's financial support in order to endorse its own slate of candidates and can raise its own funds for Election Day materials. This is much more challenging for low-income, low-turnout wards.

Philadelphia's political system is changing — generationally and demographically. Progressives seeking to reform the ward system have much to learn from Kromer's thoughtful analysis of the city's political history and current political landscape.

Karen Bojar is an author and former Democratic committee person. She lives in Mt. Airy.

ed to try their hand. Judges included Paul Roller, Mayor Ed Rendell, James Bruno and Len Lear, among many others.

In 2000, she revived the Chestnut Hill House Tours, offering "The Houses They Live in Tour" in April and the "Holiday House Tour...by Design" in December. Funds from these tours went specifically towards the Top of the Hill Fountain Plaza.

The Plaza renovation was completed in 2002.

Ron Recko, a retired business owner, serves as Treasurer of the Friends of the Fountain Plaza. When Susan first asked him to help with the project, he said, "The area was just a big bag of weeds." He couldn't understand how local businesses could let the area become such an eyesore.

Now, he said, "it is a beautiful place for people to sit on a bench or read a book, a spot that was totally neglected until Joe and Susan got involved." He lived nearby on West Chestnut Hill Avenue since 1969 and was happy to join the Pizzanos' cause.

"I'm very proud of it," Recko stated.

He noted, also, that the Plaza ties in nicely with the Peace Park at the bottom of the Hill to make



Susan Pizzano (center) crowns Barbara Sherf (left) Meatloaf Queen and winner of the 2001 Meatloaf Mania competition, with pie contest winner Melissa Nash at right. Photo courtesy of the Chestnut Hill Conservancy.

very attractive entrances to the community.

Local Arborist Ken LeRoy, a resident of East Mount Airy, also serves on the board of the Friends of the Fountain Plaza. He visits the park frequently.

"That's my main thoroughfare because I go back and forth to the wine store," he said. "I go by there several times a week."

LeRoy appreciates that it is a safe public space for residents and is well maintained. "Susan really cared about green spaces in and around Chestnut Hill," he said.

Since his wife's passing, the maintenance is due largely to the efforts of Joe Pizzano. The cost of maintaining the plaza is approximately \$6,000 to \$8,000 annually. Stan Ropski, facility manager

for the Driscoll Company, has been maintaining the plantings and the fountain from the beginning, paid for by the Friends group. However, Joe Pizzano himself covers most of the cost of maintenance.

Pizzano, an ophthalmologist, said that unlike his late wife, "I am not the fundraising type."

How will the Plaza fare in the future? Pizzano says he would like to see the Plaza maintained in perpetuity either through a private endowment or a partnership with another entity.

"I believe the Plaza contributes as a beautiful oasis on the commercial corridor of Chestnut Hill," said Pizzano.

Residents and visitors are the beneficiaries of the legacy of an inspired community activist and those who honor her memory with such a distinctive public space.

Those interested in getting involved or donating to the Susan Ann Detscher Pizzano Fountain Plaza, should contact Joseph Pizzano at sadpiz@aol.com

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\$979,000 : 4 BED : 3 FULL BATHS + 1 HALF BATH



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\$679,900 : 5 BED : 1 FULL BATH + 1 HALF BATH

NEW



Manayunk

183 Levering Street : MLS #PAPH919852
\$525,000 : 4 BED : 3 FULL BATHS



West Mount Airy

124 W. Hortter Street : MLS #PAPH930898
\$399,900 : 2 BED : 1 FULL BATH + 1 HALF BATH

NEW



UNDER CONTRACT

Blue Bell Hill

640 W. Naomi Street : MLS #PAPH912644
\$335,000 : 3 BED : 1 FULL BATH + 1 HALF BATH



West Mount Airy

423 Wellesley Road : MLS #PAPH930930
\$299,900 : 3 BED : 1 FULL BATH

NEW



UNDER CONTRACT

East Falls

3449 Tilden Street : MLS #PAPH920904
\$272,500 : 3 BED : 1 FULL BATH



Elkins Park

771 Rock Lane : MLS #PAMC661458
\$219,900 : 3 BED : 1 FULL BATH + 1 HALF BATH



UNDER CONTRACT

West Mount Airy

6655 McCallum Street, Unit 103 : MLS #PAPH905464
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Mother and daughter vegan restaurant team mark anniversary in Chestnut Hill

Tucked in the rear of the building at 8419 Germantown Avenue, just across the street from Weavers Way Co-op, sits a Hill restaurant that aims to change the way we all think about vegan food.

Celebrating its first anniversary this month, All the Way Live is the unique creation of a mother-daughter team passionate about the benefits of eating healthy.



Food For Thought

by April Lisante



Nyeisha Cabiness (left) and Beverly Medley, owners of All the Way Live in Chestnut Hill.

Owners Beverly Medley and Nyeisha Cabiness hope to convince one diner at a time that eating vegan and raw food can be a truly eye-opening, life-changing experience.

For nearly four decades, Medley, 67, has embraced veganism as a part of her life. After reading about the benefits of going vegan in her 20s, she never looked back, devoting her life to cooking from-scratch meals that reflect a no-animal-products mantra. She raised both her children to eat

this way and spent 13 years teaching vegan night school classes through Temple University to enlighten Philadelphians.

At this stage in her life, her goal is to bring her knowledge, literally, to the table.

"I do this from my heart," Medley said. "I really want people to be healthy, and this is my contribution. This is not only for veg-

ans; this is for all people. Some people advocate veganism and they think everyone has to be that way. I don't think that. But does that mean a meat eater can't eat healthy?"

After finding success in Germantown at 6108 Germantown Ave. with her flagship All the Way Live, which she and her daughter opened in 2010, she

decided to take her dishes to the Hill last September. The opening was a success, and the restaurant was getting busier by the day until the pandemic hit.

The quaint 15-seat Hill café serves lunch and dinner and both raw and vegan entrees and desserts. I decided to check in on Medley for the first anniversary, since she was only able to reopen a few weeks ago, following the March shutdown.

"It was really picking up, then the pandemic hit me hard," Medley said. "I had to close."

Medley's story is an amazing one. Growing up in Virginia, she was raised on heavy Southern food by a mother who home-cooked just about everything, from the pies to the breads.

"She cooked the Southern way. Everything was from scratch. But not a lot of salads," Medley said.

When she was in her twenties, a friend lent her a paperback copy of Dick Gregory's "Natural Diet for Folks Who Eat: Cookin' With Mother Nature" and Medley was intrigued. She did a body cleanse, began to eat vegan, and felt like a million bucks. She wanted to try to help her body avoid diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

(Continued on page 14)

Mt. Airy author launches 'Demystifying Diversity' podcast



Daralyse Lyons, a prolific Mt. Airy author who has a white mother and African American father, is launching a podcast that deals with bi-racial families and other racial and cultural issues.

by Len Lear

When Daralyse Lyons, 37, isn't doing splits or jumping out of airplanes, this former yoga teacher, adrenaline junkie and Mt. Airy resident can be found scribbling her latest novel the old-fashioned way, with pen and paper. To date, she has written more than two dozen full-length books, several short stories and many articles.

Also an actor, storyteller and summa cum laude graduate of New York University, Daralyse has a new endeavor she hopes will interest a diverse local audience. In the past year she has interviewed 128 Philadelphia area residents on tape about a wide array of subjects pertaining to race and culture. With these interviews she has created a podcast and a book, "Demystifying Diversity," which will both launch the first week in September.

Many of the interviewees are "marginalized voices" encompassing many different races, religions, cultures, genders, sexual orientations, etc. "I explore 10 topics pertaining to diversity," Lyons said, "and also feature such notable voices as Dr. Howard Stevenson, a Penn professor of African Studies; Nihad Awad, CEO of the Council on American-Islamic Relations; State Sen. Sharif Street and many others."

A typical episode deals with bi-racial families. (Lyons has an African American father and white mother.) "I don't know if you know the history of the one-drop rule," said Russita Buchanan on the podcast (If you have one drop of "black blood," you're black), "but I just totally feel like no matter how hard we try, we're still considered a

(Continued on page 19)

Musical merchant offers 'Antiques Roadshow' appraisals

by Len Lear

Looking for something different to do on a Saturday morning? How about getting a free Antiques Roadshow-style appraisal of that 18th century antique chest you got from Aunt Jane's estate or the set of sterling silver dinnerware you inherited from grandma that you're never going to polish or use or the early blown glass that came from uncle Charlie in New Jersey?

These questions were posed recently by Joe B., of Ambler, on yelp.com, who went on to say he "was thrilled to find out an oil painting I bought years ago had appreciated in value. I was even more excited when I got my check in the mail following the sale."

Joe took the oil painting to Locati Antiques, 1425 E. Welsh Rd. in Maple Glen (the historic 1815 Lukens Manor property), which specializes in fine antiques and art from the 19th century and earlier, furniture, fine art, American and Continental silver, Chinese and Japanese art, fine porcelain, estate jewelry, early glass, coins, mid-century modern and Americana. Locati opened the business as a small shop in 2001, with the online operation following in 2004.

According to Joe B., "First and foremost, Michael Locati is both a knowledgeable and completely trustworthy person. He offers free



Michael Locati is seen at one of his free Saturday morning appraisals before the pandemic.

walk-in verbal appraisals of art, antiques, estate jewelry and precious metals every Saturday morning."

Linda P., of Ambler, another yelp.com contributor, wrote, "Michael and his wife are great, so knowledgeable and helpful. They are trustworthy and reliable. They do free estimates, too! Since I live so close, I find the preview beneficial in checking out each piece before I bid ... Best thing to happen to our area in a long time!"

Owner Michael Locati, 52, who grew up in Fresno, California, but has lived in this area for 20 years, explained, "My dad was an antiques collector, and my mother is a well-known artist in my home town, so aesthetics were always

important in our family. When I met Melissa (his wife) I knew that I wanted a family, and both the schedule of a working musician and the limited income led me to antiques. By the way, Melissa is a huge part of the business. We would never have made it without her incredible work over the years ... My older brother also dabbles in antiques in California"

In addition to his antiques business, Michael is a talented violinist who earned an undergraduate degree and a Master's degree in music (violin performance) from Rutgers University with a full scholarship under Arnold Steinhardt of the famed Guarneri quartet. "I started violin at the age of 5, and it was the only thing I

thought I would ever do," said Michael, who also put on monthly concerts at Christ Ascension Lutheran Church, 8300 Germantown Ave. in Chestnut Hill, until the pandemic hit. He has started an annual Bach concert at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Elkins Park that usually sold out each year before the pandemic.

What has been the effect of the enormously popular Antiques Roadshow program on public TV on the antiques business? "The Roadshow has created interest in antiques, but I regret that so much of it revolves around the punch line of value, and antiques are more than just money," said Locati.

(Continued on page 15)

'In Search of America' live (not Zoom) at Hill church

by Len Lear

“Friday evening’s performance of ‘The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross’ by the members of the Fairmount String Quartet was splendid. From a purely technical standpoint, the playing was expert to the point of perfection. Tuning, ensemble, balance, blend, dynamics and phrasings were immaculate. More importantly, the Fairmount’s rendition caught the spirit of the scriptural readings and the solemnity of the Christian holy day.”

These words are from a clearly ecstatic review by Chestnut Hill Local classical music critic Michael Caruso of an April 26, 2019, performance at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill by the Fairmount String Quartet (FSQ). The only original member of the quartet, formed 36 years ago, still performing with the FSQ is Beth Dzwil, a violist who has lived in Wyndmoor for the past 15 years.

“Knowing that it would be extremely difficult to make a living performing string quartet concerts,” Dzwil told us last week, “my original vision for the FSQ was that we would do event work to help provide a living for the musicians and to offset some of the cost of the concerts. We had a good amount of success with this model and built a reputation of musical excellence.”

The ensemble, also comprised of violinists Rachel Segal and Leah



Beth Dzwil, a Wyndmoor resident for the past 15 years, and the other three members of the Fairmount String Quartet will present an outdoor concert entitled “In Search of America” on Sunday, Sept. 20, 4 p.m., at the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Kim and cellist Mimi Morris-Kim, will present an outdoor concert (live, not Zoom) at the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 8000 St. Martin’s Lane, in Chestnut Hill on Sunday, Sept. 20, 4 p.m. This program, entitled “In Search of America,” includes Haydn’s String Quartet Op. 77, #2; Dvorak’s String Quartet Op. 96, “The American;” and Marquez’ Danzon #2. You will hear the sounds of some of the origins of our nation in the European classical music of

Haydn’s quartet, in the sounds of spirituals and Native American songs that permeate the Dvorak and in the Latin sounds of the Marquez.

Needless to say, the members of FSQ are thrilled to be able to actually stage a live performance. “The pandemic has hit us hard,” said Dzwil. “All of our spring concerts and events were canceled, and we suspended our weekly rehearsals. We have recently played for only two socially distanced weddings with very few guests in large spaces. We were in the middle of recording our second album when the pandemic hit. It probably would have been released in the fall ... We will be releasing a single track from it soon, Jennifer Higdon’s ‘Amazing Grace.’”

“In mid-June, sorely missing our music-making, we decided to start rehearsing outdoors on my lawn so that when things opened up, we would have a program ready to perform. It took some adjusting to play with our masks on (and our glasses

fogging up) and sitting so far away from each other. With our state moving to the green phase, I considered where we might perform in an outdoor, distanced setting.

“We play at the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields regularly both for concerts and services. I saw that they had erected a tent for their Sunday services, so I asked if we might be able to give a concert there. They were open to the idea and quickly agreed. Attendees (and we) must observe rules of distancing and masking, and all attendees must provide contact information. We are permitted only 25 guests in the tent. Additional attendees will be able to bring a chair or blanket and sit outside of the tent.”

Dzwil is a graduate of the Philadelphia College of the Performing Arts, where she studied with long-time principal violist of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Joseph dePasquale. She has performed internationally and recorded six jazz albums with the Tyrone Brown String Sextet.

Her work with this group earned her the status of voting member in the Grammy organization. In addition to maintaining a private teaching studio, Dzwil teaches at Community College of Philadelphia and Germantown Friends School.

When asked what was the hardest thing she has ever done, Dzwil replied, “The hardest thing I — and the FSQ — have ever done is play Bartok’s Fourth String Quartet for a dance performance with the Bryan Koulman Dance Company. The work is brutally difficult technically, both individually and as an ensemble, and timing it to work with the dancers added yet another level of difficulty. It was an exhilarating experience and one of our most significant achievements!”

For more information, visit <https://fairmountstrings.com>. Len Lear can be reached at llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com

Mother and daughter vegan restaurant team mark anniversary

(Continued from page 13)

“I said to my husband I’m changing my diet and he said ‘What?’,” Medley recalled.

Sure, she lapsed here and there along the way, she admits, thanks to an acute love of sugar she had to permanently eradicate, but by the time she was pregnant with her first child, Nyeisha, she was committed to the lifestyle. By the time she was pregnant with her son a few years later, she was fully vegan.

“My life changed, and I never went back. I never again touched sugar. I never again touched fast food. And I never again ate meat,” Medley said. “And I raised those children [as vegans] when the odds were against me with the schools. But I didn’t flinch.”

Medley’s specialty became cooking vegan and raw food from scratch, in the same spirit as her mother’s home cooking ways — but she learned to prepare totally different food. She would cook vegan for herself and then a separate meal for her husband, who was raised in the South and still loved his meat and potatoes.

It was while she was taking a night class through Temple University’s Pan African Studies Community Education Program that she realized she wanted to teach others about the way she ate. Given a shot at instructing a night class, the gig became regular for 13 years for Medley. She called it “Food is Your Best Medicine.” And while she was teaching, her daughter Nyeisha was selling vegan dinner platters in the lobby of the building.

“She was married and she would come with the children and sell vegan dinners,” Medley said.

Word got out about the tasty food and the mother daughter duo then began feeding locals at a building near her home, a sort of grassroots chef’s tables, if you will. That finally spurred the thought of a permanent restaurant.

“A friend of mine said I should open a restaurant because my food is good and its homemade,” said Medley.

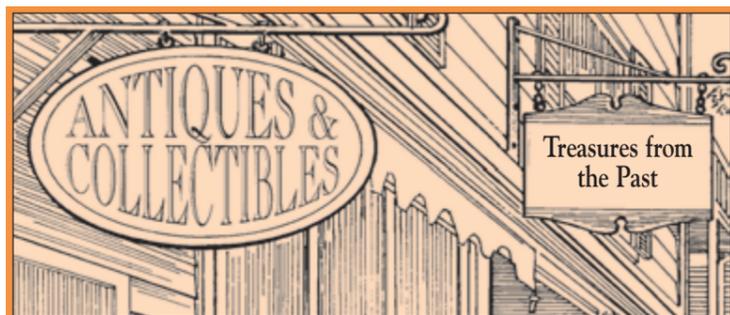
The 6108 Germantown Ave. location in Germantown was and continues to be a real success, seating about 60 and serving up everything from vegan entrees to raw desserts. Medley opened the Hill location Sept. 21, 2019 at the site of the former Louie’s Little Hut sandwich shop.

On the Hill, she features specialties like chickpea burgers, nut meat burgers, apple pie and coconut cream pie. The desserts are considered raw because she uses a dehydrator, which doesn’t raise the temperature above 160 degrees. She also cooks entrees like her housemade lasagna and a yummy zucchini pasta.

She is now looking forward to the fall, when she will add some new specials and may even have live music outside occasionally.

“I’m looking forward to the fall season,” said Medley. “I want everyone to eat healthy. This is my calling.”

For more, see allthewaylivecafe.com



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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
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52				53	54	55				56	57	58
59				60						61		
62				63						64		
65				66						67		

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ACROSS

- 1 Impudent talk
- 5 Creditor's concern
- 9 Lowest-pitched singer
- 14 Aid and _____
- 15 Square feet, eg.
- 16 Worrier's risk
- 17 Sign of sorrow
- 18 Spectators' area
- 20 Island near Corsica
- 21 Overcharge, big time
- 22 Word ending a threat
- 23 Stair part
- 25 It's more than a job
- 27 First act
- 29 Tiny bit
- 31 Bakery item
- 32 Horoscope writers
- 37 Open, as a jacket
- 39 Order between "ready" and "fire"
- 40 True-blue
- 41 Shorthand-writing
- 44 It may be inflated
- 45 Words to live by
- 46 Ultimate
- 48 Gives out
- 51 Prepare, as tea
- 52 Seriously injure
- 53 "Get lost!"
- 56 Semimonthly tide
- 59 Give life to
- 61 2017-19 series, "_____ with an E"
- 62 Film part
- 63 Similar (to)
- 64 Small change
- 65 Durable fabric
- 66 Lady's man, briefly
- 67 "-zoic" things

DOWN

- 1 Fill to excess
- 2 Son of Adam
- 3 Beachy cocktail
- 4 Back problem
- 5 Swordlike weapons
- 6 Trial partner
- 7 Steady guy
- 8 Sharp taste
- 9 Clear the tables
- 10 Clark Kent, to Superman
- 11 Bathroom item
- 12 Common thing?
- 13 Military command
- 19 Model stick-on
- 24 Cruise stop
- 26 Priest's helper
- 27 Creative work
- 28 Pub purchase
- 29 Group of three
- 30 Cavort
- 33 Scale deduction
- 34 Startling revelation

ACROSS

- 35 Tattered duds
- 36 Token taker
- 38 Soon to land
- 42 Painter's plaster
- 43 Army camp dwellings
- 47 Dennis of comics, for one
- 48 Not quite right
- 49 Knight's weapon

DOWN

- 50 Giblets part
- 51 Lustrous fabric
- 54 Rugged rock
- 55 Gardener's tool
- 57 Kournikova of tennis
- 58 Guinea pigs, maybe
- 60 Ten C-notes

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

A	L	S	O	A	H	O	Y	P	A	R	I	S	
F	O	O	L	N	A	P	E	O	B	E	S	E	
R	O	O	D	T	R	E	S	K	O	A	L	A	
O	P	T	I	C	I	A	N	H	E	L	P	E	R
A	D	S	H	E	R	S	A	F	A	R	I		
A	D	S	E	A	S	I	L	S	L	I	P		
T	R	A	D	E	R	R	A	W	H	O	N	E	
L	O	A	L	T	I	B	I	S	E	C	T	S	
A	V	E	R	I	O	N	R	E	S	O	R	T	
S	E	R	E	S	U	I	T	E	D	M	O	O	
D	E	A	R	T	H	G	O	O					
C	A	V	E	R	N	R	E	C	E	P	T	O	R
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M	U	S	I	C	A	T	O	P	A	V	O	N	
S	M	E	L	T	D	E	N	Y	H	E	R	D	

Woodmere's straw maze reimagined with pandemic safety in mind

By William Valerio

Among the letters I most enjoy receiving are those from children asking when Woodmere's annual straw maze will be opening. These special communications — sometimes accompanied by a happy photograph or drawing — are a sign to me that the museum is doing its job, offering creative, fun, smart experiences that make a positive difference in our visitors' lives.

However, as with everything else we were accustomed to prior to March 2020, Woodmere has had to assess whether the straw maze would be possible this year. At first glance, it seemed wrong for the era of COVID-19: a massive climbing sculpture that encourages children and families to interact in a way that is, by its nature, uncontrolled.

But the restrictions we're living under spurred us to think creatively. Rather than disappoint our youngest friends, this year we will present a different kind of experience with our beloved bales, one that we're calling "A Straw Journey." Responding in shape and configuration to each of our major outdoor sculptures, The Straw Journey offers a self-guided tour of our grounds for families or for small "pods" of children and teachers. For example, the upward reach of gnarled tendrils in Steve Tobin's "Alter



This year's straw maze will be reimagined as a fun, educational experience in the Woodmere's sculpture garden.

Root" represents the wild force of nature, so dense with energy as to be impenetrable; this will be offset by a flat, wall-like pattern of bales that emphasizes the sculpture's open volume, and at the same time is suitable for crawling and climbing.

I've written before about Woodmere's Outdoor Wonder, an experience of art, nature and edu-

cation on our grounds. In the parlance of education theory, The Straw Journey falls under the umbrella of "playful learning," the notion that—outside of classroom time—children's preparedness for life is shaped by experiences that mold not only their minds, but also their relationship to others and to social institutions. Every year, when I've watched the

activity at the straw maze and seen boys and girls climbing over bales or leaping across space, I see tangible evidence of our young visitors becoming comfortable with museums and growing into an adulthood that includes the beauty and creativity of the arts.

The Straw Journey will be designed by Peter Brown and Barbara Sprague, of BrownSprague

architects, who has been Woodmere's partner in straw for many years. The Straw Journey will be unticketed and free with a suggested contribution of any amount. The projected opening date is late September—we'll announce the exact date soon. We hope you will join us!

William Valerio is the director of the Woodmere Art Museum.

Musical merchant offers 'Antiques Roadshow' appraisals

(Continued from page 13)

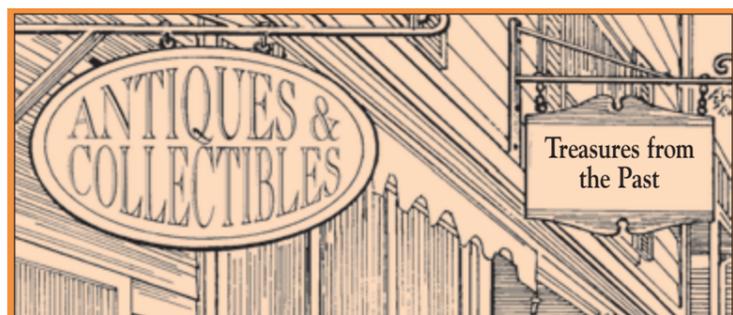
"Our business is about helping people downsize, and with estates, just about everyone needs this help at some point. We see ourselves as advocates for our clients, and we enjoy helping them. The worst part is breaking the news to people that the value of their items has plummeted over the last 20 years. People have a hard time determining value, and the internet can be very confusing, so part of our job is giving objective clarity."

Michael and Melissa, who live in Maple Glen, have a son, Gabriel, a freshman at Temple University as the first and only classical mandolin major; a 16-year-old son who wants to be a chef and worked at Mica in Chestnut Hill (weekends) until the pandemic, and 13-year-old daughter and middle school student.

The Locatis have free Saturday morning appraisals from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 215-619-2873 or visit www.locatillc.com. To find out when Christ Ascension Church will resume its concerts, visit www.firstfridayconcerts.org



In addition to his antiques business, Michael is a violinist who earned a Master's degree in music (violin performance) from Rutgers University and put on monthly concerts at Christ Ascension Lutheran Church, 8300 Germantown Ave. in Chestnut Hill, until the pandemic hit.



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Facebook:

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www.chestnuthillbrewingcompany.com

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215-242-8800

www.cincinrestaurant.com

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215-242-9900

www.ordercosimospizza.com

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267-766-5372

www.elpoquito.com

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More Info:

215-247-4141

www.fiestapizza3menu.com

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More Info:

215-242-4489

www.restauranthokka.com

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Location:

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More Info:

215-948-5600

www.ironhillbrewery.com

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Lindsey.chestnuthill@gmail.com

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www.tavernonthehill.biz

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Facebook: Jyoti Indian

Bistro

Mt. Airy native, scholar/professor, has authored 35 books!

by Len Lear

I have had the good fortune to meet a great many very smart people in the arts over the years, including countless professors and Ph.D's, but if I had to pick the most brilliant one of all, I'd have to say John McWhorter, 54, who grew up in Mt. Airy and attended Friends Select School. His father, the late John Hamilton McWhorter, was a college administrator, and his mother, Schelysture Gordon McWhorter, taught social work at Temple University. I cannot even imagine how proud they as educators must have been of their son.

After 10th grade John was accepted at Bard College in Massachusetts, where he earned an associate degree. Later, he attended Rutgers University and received a B.A. In French in 1985. He received a master's degree in American Studies from New York University and a Ph.D. in linguistics in 1993 from Stanford University, and today he is one of the world's foremost linguists.

Since he completed his formal education, McWhorter has written 35 books! That is not a typo. On GoodReads.com, a website about books, there is a list of his 35 books with a brief description of each one. I cannot conceive of how long it would take me to read 35 books, especially academic

tomes (not page-turners), much less write them.

As if that were not enough, McWhorter has written countless essays and commentary on racial issues for The New Republic, New Yorker, Time, Wall Street Journal, The Atlantic, Chronicle of Higher Education, New York Times, Washington Post and many more.

Most of his books are about language, but one of the most compelling books I have ever read was "Winning the Race: Beyond the Crisis in Black America." I read it as research before interviewing McWhorter, and I was absolutely mesmerized by it. It was very well written, exhaustively researched and politically incorrect. McWhorter takes on sacred cows like affirmative action programs and shows how they have been horrendously abused, not helping the impoverished individuals the programs were designed to help but instead helping middle-class suburbanites who did not need the help in the first place. After all, how many billions of dollars have poured into Philly's inner city since LBJ's "Great Society" in the mid-'60s, but those neighborhoods are worse off now than they were 55 years ago? More drugs, more violent crime, more fatherless families, worse schools, etc. What happened to all those billions?

This book opened my eyes



John McWhorter, who grew up in Mt. Airy, is one of the world's foremost linguists and by far the most prolific author of them all.

about injustices I didn't even know existed. It exposes the whole culture of victimhood and dependency that, according to McWhorter, "leaders" like Jesse Jackson have exploited for their own aggrandizement. Needless to say, McWhorter and the book have been pilloried on social

media by some black activists (and praised by others).

McWhorter is also an associate professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University, where he teaches linguistics, American studies, philosophy and music history, and he teaches courses for The Teaching

Company, an online university that provides audio CDs and DVDs on hundreds of academic subjects.

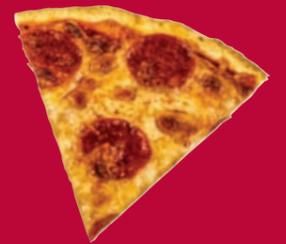
McWhorter's first indication that he would spend his life studying languages came when he was just 4 years old, and he heard someone speaking Hebrew. "The idea that anybody could talk in more than one way was just mesmerizing," he said, "and I wanted to know Hebrew. At the time I didn't know there were 6,000 other languages. I just heard that one."

"Then I taught myself a certain amount of Spanish when I was about 11, nothing close to fluent, but I got as far as I did because I was obsessed with language. I kept doing that as a teenager, and once college was over, I knew that I would be a professor of something. I was raised with that; it was my personality. The question was: of what? The thing that I was best at was languages, and I learned that there is something called linguistics."

McWhorter has appeared on TV numerous times to analyze the speech of various people. In what was probably the most-often viewed of his interviews, Brian Williams interviewed him on MSNBC about the way President trump speaks in public.

On Trump: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phsU1vVHOQI> Aug. 27, 2009

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<p>ERDENHEIM</p> <p>BACIO ITALIAN CUCINA Traditional Italian menu items & specials</p> <p>Service Options: Order ahead for curbside pickup</p> <p>Location: 700 Bethlehem Pike</p> <p>Hours: Wed-Sun 5p-8p</p> <p>More Info: 215-248-2740 FB: Bacio Wholesome Italian Cucina</p>	<p>GLENSIDE</p> <p>KESWICK TAVERN Upscale bar food</p> <p>Service Options: Takeout, outside & inside seating</p> <p>Location: 294 N. Keswick Ave.</p> <p>Hours: Thurs-Fri 4p-9p, Sat 12p-9p, Sun 12p-8p Bars hours may vary: Thurs-Fri 4p-12a, Sat-Sun 12p-12a</p> <p>More Info: 215-886-4277 @KeswickTavernGlenside</p>	<p>LAFAYETTE HILL</p> <p>BRUNO'S Classic American breakfast, lunch & dinner</p> <p>Service Options: Patio Dining Available, takeout, curbside pickup, delivery</p> <p>Location: 9800 Germantown Pike</p> <p>Hours: Daily 8a-8p</p> <p>More Info: 215-242-2880 brunosfood-lafayettehillpa.website</p>	<p>KNISHES & DISHES Cafe, deli & bakery items for breakfast, lunch & dinner</p> <p>Service Options: Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery</p> <p>Location: 545 Germantown Pike</p> <p>Hours: Tues-Fri 10a-6p, Sat 9a-6p, Sun 7a-3p</p> <p>More Info: 610-897-8107 www.knishesanddishes.com</p>	<p>WYNDMOOR</p> <p>ENZA PIZZERIA Pizza, pasta, salads with vegetarian and gluten friendly options. Beer, wine and cocktails to go.</p> <p>Service Options: Outdoor dining, takeout, curbside pickup, delivery</p> <p>Location: 900 E. Willow Grove Ave</p> <p>Hours: Tues-Thurs 4p-9p, Fri-Sat 12p-9p</p> <p>More Info: 215-575-2915 Instagram @enzapizzeria</p>	<p>TONY'S PIZZA CITY Old school pizzeria, breakfasts, sandwiches, burgers & traditional pies</p> <p>Service Options: Takeout, delivery</p> <p>Location: 901 E. Willow Grove Ave</p> <p>Hours: Tues-Sat 10a-9p</p> <p>More Info: 215-233-2122 www.tonyspizzacity.com</p>

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Local art exhibit perfectly suited for the pandemic

by Len Lear

Countless art exhibits, plays, concerts, lectures, etc. have been cancelled since the coronavirus outbreak catastrophically changed life as we know it in mid-March, but one new extraordinary, maybe even unique, art exhibit in Germantown has not been affected in the least by the pandemic and can now be enjoyed by both art and nature lovers in person.

You might even say that the work of artist Richard Metz, 61, a resident of Erdenheim for the past 20 years, has lots of bark as well as bite. That's because his new exhibit, "The Aviary," consists of about 30 birds painted on trees in the Adventure Woods area of Awbury Arboretum in Germantown. The exhibit is now open to the public (in person, not Zoom) on weekends from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Metz' tree paintings are made with natural non-toxic pigments and eggs. "I do not want anyone to get the idea that the paint is hurting the trees," said Metz last week. "The paintings will gradually fade away for the next two to three years, depending on weath-

er conditions. I did similar tree paintings there two years ago which are still visible, although somewhat faded."

Metz, 61, has been showing his work in the Philadelphia and New York areas and beyond for more than 37 years. When he started doing tree paintings, Metz, who taught art at Abington High School for 29 years and Philly schools for two years before retiring last year, snuck into the woods in eastern Montgomery County and used colors he mixed himself. His goal was to "get closer to the process" used by the old masters he had "read so much about in art history books." So he began using substances like ground charcoal, indigo or the spice turmeric (for a yellow tint) with eggs to create a colored liquid substance that would bind to the rough barksy surface.

Metz regards his work as anti-materialist and anti-consumerist and to some extent a compelling critique of the function of art as a commodity since it is not possible to own these works of art. You are not likely to find a more committed, passionate environmentalist anywhere than Metz. He writes letters to newspapers, makes envi-



Metz painting a raven on a tree. The painting will last for a few years and slowly disappear.

ronmental art, matches in protests, donates money to environmental causes, votes, sign

petitions, is a member of "Natural Lands" non-profits and attends community meetings in Springfield Township to make his voice heard.

"But all of this has had little effect," he concedes, "in stopping or slowing down the destruction machine that is eating up our forests and wild green spaces. There needs to be a moratorium on new construction for communities to pause and consider the best course forward. Local communities are at a loss because of the way permits, zoning laws and community input is constructed."

"The larger problem is community values versus the capitalist system. When wooded land can be bought and all the trees cut down, it's not a sustainable way forward. But who's to say how one's land can be used or whom it can be sold to? The community must be able to protect itself, but politicians are lobbied by the powerful construction industry

and other anti-environmental corporations, and their money influences lawmakers to ignore community interests and pass laws to limit the power of local communities.

"One habit of this country has been to cut down the trees. The forests were seen as endless, but now 350 years after the massive tree cutting began, we have new information. The forests are necessary for human survival in that they provide oxygen, combat the effects of climate change, provide necessary ecosystems for wildlife and contribute to the physical and emotional well being for people.

"And the forests are shrinking. New research has shown that vast underground networks allow trees to communicate with each other. Trees use smell to warn other trees of insect invasions. We are beginning to become aware that trees are remarkable, intelligent life forms. To simply cut them down as lumber or for unnecessary housing needs to be reconsidered. If it is sadly left to the market to determine how land will be used, there is in my opinion no hope for that future."

Of course, developers, building trades unions and others would argue that new construction is constantly needed to buttress the economy. But Metz argues, "Why aren't there more rehabbing jobs in North and West Philadelphia instead of new homes and condos being built in Fishtown, Mt. Airy and Center City? The new construction tax abatement in the city is not helping."

"It's not fair to ask construction workers to give up their jobs because destroying forests and farmland is not in the best long-term interests of the community, but who takes responsibility for the destruction caused by housing developments? The inquirer gave the Toll Brothers development company an award this year."

For more information, visit awbury.org or mistermetz.com. Len Lear can be reached at llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com

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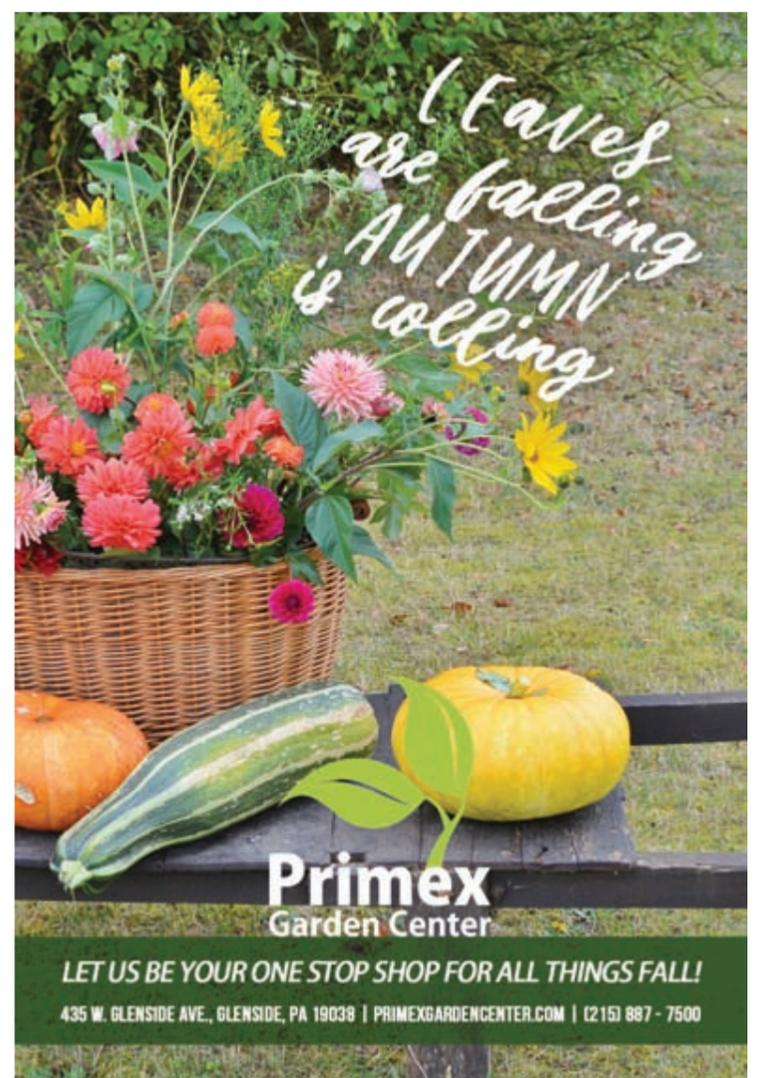


The Chestnut Hill Local has established a grant program to assist local businesses with marketing during this period of recovery. We are committed to supporting our local partners and helping them reach customers and relaunch their businesses successfully.

The Shop Local Grant program will be in effect from August 1 through October 31, 2020. Our program will help to give locally-owned businesses in the area the marketing punch they need to grow sales and attract customers. Locally-owned small businesses can apply for a matching advertising grant. Through these grants, the Local will match up to \$100,000 in advertising.

For more information
or to apply, go to
chestnuthilllocal.com/chestnut-hill-local-marketing-grant

Or call the Local office at
215.248.8800



Mt. Airy author launches podcast

(Continued from page 13)

minority. Unless we look white, y'know, 'cause some of us can pass, but a lot of us can't, and I just feel like in our society white people are still superior in a way. No matter how hard we try, we can't really be white."

"Today, there are no more laws about racial categorization and classification," said Lyons. "There is a great deal of economic and geographical disparity ... Nevertheless, the one-drop rule remains woven into our cultural consciousness. The overwhelming tendency among black, white and bi-racial Americans remains to view black-white bi-racial people as 'more black than white.' Statistics show that black-white bi-racial adults are three times more likely to identify as black than as white."

Jose Gonzales, who is half-Polish and half-Puerto Rican, said, "Growing up in an all-black environment and being called white nicknames, sometimes 'white boy' ... I wanted to be like the people I was around. They were African American, so I didn't want to be white, even though my skin was the whitest in the building and, y'know, the whitest in the projects."

"My skin is pretty similar to yours, but I didn't grow up in this. I didn't grow up living in that white environment so ... I feel like more with that (black) culture than I do with my own. And that has so many different impacts on my life from even my own people judging me, saying, 'Oh, you're a sellout; you don't even know your own language ... why are you trying to be black?'"

Lyons follows: "We don't have to be defined by history, but at the same time, there's no denying that the past informs the present. After all, it was Thomas Jefferson who said, 'Honesty is the first chapter of the book of wisdom.' So, let's get honest, Mr. Jefferson. Throughout his lifetime, the author of our Declaration of Independence, champion of liberty and father of American democracy owned more than 600 slaves."

"One of the most well known among them was Sally Hemings, who was 14 when Jefferson, then aged 44, began having sex with her. By the time she died, she'd given birth to at least six of his children who, by virtue of their blackness, were viewed as Jefferson's property as opposed to as his progeny ... By today's standards, the third president of the U.S. would've been deemed a pedophile and rapist."

"At one time in our nation's history, being a bi-racial child often meant being the product of coercive, exploitive or even violent sex ... It meant that if your father was black and your mother white, she might be disowned, disinherited or forced to give you up, and depending on the year and the geographical location, he might've gotten lynched."

Malcolm Burnley, a local journalist and author of "My Bi-racial Life: A Memoir," said, "At times I've tried to claim being black, and at times I've tried to claim being mixed, but my hair has always stood out with a lot of people when I try to identify as black or even mixed. They've been skeptical of it because of my hair not feeling black enough."

For more information, visit daralyselyons.com People don't have to subscribe to listen to the podcasts, but if you do subscribe, you'll get a notification every time an episode drops. Len Lear can be reached at llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com

"The Conjuring" is a harrowing haunted house heartstopper

Each week, veteran film critic Bill Wine will look back at an important film that is worth watching, either for the first time or again.

Here's a horror thriller that will scare the butterscotch off your crimpet.

"The Conjuring" (2013) is an eerie, well-crafted chiller based on a true story that, by controlling the mood and atmosphere to put the audience through the horror

Flix

by Bill Wine



wringer with disturbing paranormal activity, vividly demonstrates the difference between gory and scary.

It's just as decidedly not the former as it is most assuredly the latter.

Ron Livingston and Lili Taylor play Roger and Caroline Perron, who, with their five daughters, move into a spacious farmhouse in Rhode Island in 1971.

Almost immediately, things start going bump in the night, foul odors

are detected, kamikaze birds smash into the outside of the house, doors slam, and unaccountable bruises emerge.

Traumatized by whatever this dark presence is in their house, and after far too many sleepless nights, the Perrons call on Connecticut-based supernatural investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren, husband-and-wife demonologists played by Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga.

The real-life "ghostbusters" (who had ties to the case that formed the basis for "The Amityville Horror") quickly decide that only an exorcism holds the possibility of getting the family through its waking nightmare.

Director James Wan ("Saw," "Insidious," "Death Sentence," "Dead Silence") wisely avoids the over-the-top graphic approach and glues his audience to the screen by trusting his period-piece material and employing a masterful slow build, maintaining a level of tension and dread throughout, letting our imaginations be part of the formula, sprinkling in just a bit of tension-release humor, and - most important-sending quite a few shivers up our spines with what we don't see rather than what we witness and turn away from.



April (Kyla Deaver) blindfolds Carolyn (Lili Taylor) to start a particularly spooky scene in 'The Conjuring.'

Going the CGI special-effects route infrequently, Wan employs admirable discipline and restraint -- at least until the climax -- and certainly knows how to make seemingly ordinary things and occurrences unnerving.

The less-is-more screenplay by twin brothers Chadd and Carey Hayes, working from the recently unsealed archives of the Warrens, allows us to get to know the ghost hunters as well as the family to whose aid they come. The Warrens are characters, not just obligatory ploy contrivances, and the

story is just as much theirs as it is that of the beleaguered Perrons.

Wan's primary cast, Wilson (who previously collaborated with Wan on "Insidious"), Farmiga, Livingston and Taylor, is first-rate and so are the kids in this genuinely terrifying suspenser.

"The Conjuring" is a harrowing haunted house heartstopper. See it, but not right before or after you move into a new house.

Bill Wine is an Emmy-winning film critic who served in that capacity for WTXF and KYW Newsradio. He lives in Chestnut Hill.

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Michael Morgan: Not just another brick in the wall

by Len Lear

When Pink Floyd was writing their iconic rock anthem, "Just Another Brick in the Wall," they might have been thinking of Michael Morgan, a brickworks artisan whose one-of-a-kind creations adorn the yards and gardens of at least 10 stately Chestnut Hill homes.

"He's the hardest working man since James Brown," said Hill resident Barry Waronker, a retired financial adviser and author. "He did a great job on my garden, and I enjoyed getting to know him. He's the kind of person who would have been at home in the world 100 or 200 years ago. He did two jobs for me with no deposit, 'just pay me when you're happy' and a handshake. An old-school guy in the best sense of the word."

Morgan, 64, is originally from Portsmouth in the south of England. He studied ceramics at the Wolverhampton Polytechnic (now Wolverhampton University), and it was during his time



Morgan is almost always surrounded by bricks.

there that he became enamored of brick as a medium for his art. "I used to take long walks through both city and country landscapes," Morgan said recently as we sat about six feet apart wearing masks on a bench near Kilian's Hardware Store. "I found many abandoned brick industrial sites during these walks, and I

was hooked."

Morgan was further encouraged while working for the Portsmouth Parks Department, where he learned the fundamentals of horticulture and landscape design. All of these influences are seen in his sculptural work.

In 1988 the English artisan came to Philadelphia when a



A patio and garden wall recently built by Morgan for a private home.

friend, Robert Sawyer, an intern at Morris Arboretum, urged him to explore the possibilities for his talent here. He wound up studying at the Clay Studio here and then at a ceramics school in New York, where he was recruited by a talent scout for the University of Nebraska, where he earned a

Master's of Fine Art in 1992.

Morgan had originally planned to return home after testing the waters here, but he wound up marrying a woman from Philadelphia, so he stayed here. "I do go back to visit my family every year," he said, "and I may stay there for a month at a time. My wife and I got divorced 10 years ago, but I am settled in Philly, and America is a better place to do public art.

"In England there is a list of about 20 people who get to do all of the public art. If you are not on the list — and I wasn't — it does not really matter what your talent is. Here I have been lucky to get so much work on things I really did want to do."

Morgan was awarded the American Clay Artist Award for a brick chair he made during his time at the Clay Studio. He has won numerous competitive commissions in Philadelphia, Nebraska and North Carolina. Over the past 30 years, he has designed and installed many public and private sculptures, including work on a huge fireplace and 36-foot tower on private property in Lincoln, Nebraska, that took one year and 8,000 bricks to complete and cost \$200,000. All of his work is non-representational and uses abstract design to create a wide range of works of art with hand-carved and altered bricks. Morgan lays every brick individually, which is extremely labor-intensive.

Michael built a kiln in Brewerytown with a grant from the Franz and Virginia Bader Foundation, where he fires his salt-glazed bricks. (There is often room in the kiln if you are a ceramic artist and want to help with the firing.) In his spare time Michael enjoys amateur archaeology, gardening and a good IPA. He has dug up many objects that are more than 100 years old and are not valuable in themselves but that he is using to build a wall on a property in Kensington.

The closest place where Morgan can get his bricks is in Canton, Ohio. They are delivered 1,000 at a time. While most pictorial artists have been devastated by the pandemic, Morgan has not. "It has not affected me at all," he insisted. "In fact, this year has been better than most!"

According to Lorraine Lombardi, a retired Salus University professor and Chestnut Hill resident, "A few years ago, when I wanted my hillside 'spruced up,' Michael Morgan was referred to me. Michael asked me how I felt about rocks to shore up the hillside ... In the end it is both very beautiful, and the hillside is stabilized! My neighbors admire it all the time and have hired Michael to help with their properties as well. Michael is hard-working, prompt and efficient."

For more information, call 402-802-3537 or email michmgn56@gmail.com Len Lear can be reached at llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com

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Valerie's complex relationship with the morning glory family

by Stan Cutler

My wife, Valerie, cares for a sort of morning glory called moon flower. They bloom in the evening in late summer and early fall, three to four-inch white flowers that resemble the moon. The flowers can last until mid-morning in shaded places but wither quickly in sunlight. The sap of the plant was used in Mesoamerica to manufacture bouncing five-pound balls made of latex from rubber trees. The sulfurous sap of the Moon Flowers (*Ipomoea alba*) kept the heavy balls soft enough to bounce. The Mesoamericans, according to archaeologists, were obsessed with the games. It was a brutal sport, associated with beheadings in Mayan wall art.

The Mesoamericans lived in a world where greenery covered everything, and they actively experimented to find uses for the abundant materials. They hybridized maize, a grass that they selectively bred into the fat-kernel cobs that sustained them. There is a lot more wall art featuring corn than ball games.

There is a plant that can overwhelm a garden that appears to be identical to the common morning glory (*ipomoea*). The imitator is bindweed (*convolvulus arvensis*) that has roots that can extend as far as nine feet into the earth and spread horizontally until they can't. Aboveground, they are identical to the shallow-rooted morning glories. Bindweed grows at an amazing rate, sending tendrils by the dozen that can grow several inches every day. Almost 20 years ago, the nice people who used to live in the house next door unknowingly planted a

perennial bindweed by the fence.

The morning glory family is large with native varieties thriving on every continent. The ancestor of the bindweed originated in Europe, brought over in the 16th century. One wonders why. Bindweeds are classified as an invasive species that costs hundreds of millions of dollars annually to mitigate. It's gone by many names, including creeping jenny and possession vine. Valerie spends a lot of time disentangling the tendrils from around the stems of every plant along the fence. Farmers hate it, so does Valerie. It is the single greatest villain in her garden.

On the other hand, she is fond of most members of the morning glory family, especially moon flowers, cardinal climbers (*ipomoea multifida*) and Cypress Vines (*Ipomoea quamoclit*). These shallow-root annuals can't survive the Winter. Cardinal climbers and cypress vines look soft because of their dense fronds of delicate leaves and produce an abundance of small red and white flowers. All do nicely in containers or in the ground. Valerie places a few along the chain link to offer support for the vines. She spends a lot of time disentangling the bindweed from the moon flowers, the cardinal climbers and the cypress vines. It's a jungle out there.

In Chestnut Hill, most varieties flower in late Summer when the hours of sunlight and darkness start equalizing, at their most blossomy just before the Autumn Equinox. The common morning glory and bindweed are different – they blossom reliably every morning from early spring into summer. Morning glory is a



Valerie with a moon flower, trumpet vine, cucumbers and a tomato.

good starter plant for novice gardeners who want to see fast results. The problem is that people sometimes plant bindweed because they don't know the difference.

Valerie experimented this year, putting a cardinal climber and a cypress vine in the same pot in front of the porch. The entangled vines whirl happily together, climbing the wire trellis and strings up to the eave above the porch, competing to be the tallest, to be the one to catch the most sunlight, to make the most flowers before it dies.

One of Valerie's moon flower vines is growing on the fence along the sidewalk in front of the house. If you're walking past at night or early morning in September, you are likely to see the big flowers facing west, toward the Highland Avenue station. They are pure, cool white that seems to glow in moonlight. In Autumn, before the first frost, she collects seeds from ripe pods. In late winter, she plants them in germination pots that she keeps on the bench in a corner of the greenhouse. By May, when she puts them outside, they are a couple of inches tall. By late summer, if she has succeeded in keeping the bindweed off them, the moon flower vines can be up to ten feet long with big, heart-shaped leaves. Obedient annuals, all except the bindweed die back completely over the winter.

The morning glory family are vigorous summer garden plants that reward you with flowers late in the growing season. Just be careful to get an annual variety that won't survive the winter.

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WYNDMOOR \$885,000
Grand yet warm 1880 stone Victorian with separate garage apartment on tucked away lot close to everything. Gracious scale throughout. Jefferson doors, plaster mouldings, beautiful millwork. Big eat-in kitchen with walk-in pantry, large family room, original double parlor, lovely dining room. 7 bedrooms including master suite, 3.5 baths. Tranquil setting. Captivating!



CHESTNUT HILL \$3,750,000
Presenting one of Chestnut Hill's premiere estates. Built in 1925, this Italianate country villa is sited on over four acres of land with the most magnificent views of Fairmount Park. The front cobblestone courtyard welcomes you to gracious sized, light filled rooms with exceptional original detail. Every amenity available including chef's kitchen, lovely library, two sun porches and two master suites. Open tiered lawns, superbly built stone walls, multiple terraces and low maintenance plantings. Pool, tennis court, cottage and separate apartment complete this estate. Where else in the country could one find such convenience and comfortable style of living in such a luxurious setting.



ROXBOROUGH RESERVE \$469,990 - \$602,990
Roxborough Reserve – only 8 single homes left in Phase 1 of construction. Phase II now open! This thoughtfully laid out new home development is brought to you by the award-winning Riverwards Group. Now is the time to pick your lot, upgrades and finishes. Conveniently located close to Ivyridge Shopping Centre, Shoprite, YMCA, local restaurants and public transportation. Just minutes from Main Street in Manayunk!



LAFAYETTE HILL \$1,299,000
Gorgeous custom-built home in desirable Whitmarsh Valley Farms. Built in 2005, this 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath home has an open layout with custom millwork throughout and an abundance of upgrades. Formal living room, gourmet kitchen with Sub-Zero and Dacor appliances, expansive owners suite, multiple outdoor sitting areas and more. Walk to the entrance of the Wissahickon Trails and just a short drive to Chestnut Hill and Ft. Washington State Park.



CHESTNUT HILL \$1,265,000
This special 15 year old cottage style home has the most idyllic setting tucked away on a small lane overlooking a meadow. The main floor includes a living room and dining room with French doors that lead out to flagstone patios and a covered outdoor eating area, cozy den, eat-in kitchen with top of the line appliances, an open sitting area and butler's pantry with wine refrigerator and ice maker. There is a convenient back hall with an office nook. The second floor has two suites with their own bathrooms and two additional bedrooms with a hall bathroom. Finished basement offers a family room and exercise room. Belgian block lined circular driveway with a two car garage and mature landscaping. Enjoy taking a walk in Fairmount Park or to the many wonderful shops in the village of Chestnut Hill.



WYNDMOOR \$1,645,000
Nestled in the heart of Wyndmoor just minutes from Chestnut Hill sits this gorgeous 5 bedroom, 5 full and 1 half bath gem that is perfect for family gatherings and entertaining. Center entrance hall with formal living room, gourmet kitchen with Sub-Zero and Viking appliances, expansive master suite with walk-in closet and his and hers baths, 2-car garage, and rear oasis with in-ground pool, mature gardens and sitting areas. Simply the best!



CHESTNUT HILL \$550,000
Move right in to this immaculately maintained and updated brick/stucco single. Four bedrooms (one used as office), two and one-half baths, wonderful kitchen/family room with fireplace, newly renovated sunroom opening to deck, first floor laundry/pantry, large additional lower level office, private fenced yard great for entertaining. Insulated windows throughout and new furnace, central air, and hot water heater (2020). One car garage plus driveway parking. Walk to everything!



CHESTNUT HILL \$895,000 TO \$2,995,000
Chestnut Hill's Premier New Address: One West. These twenty distinctive residences offer a maintenance-free lifestyle in the heart of historic, vibrant Chestnut Hill. These tastefully designed homes include the finest finishes, private terraces and expansive living spaces where you'll welcome friends and family. With indoor parking and a variety of floor plans to choose from, One West combines the most appealing qualities of traditional Chestnut Hill living with the best contemporary possibilities.



CHESTNUT HILL \$685,000
First time offered for sale: this handsome 1921 3-story stone twin with slate roof offers wonderful southern exposure and a corner lot with rear patio, stone retaining wall, and 6 detached garages with new doors. Near Chestnut Hill's shops, restaurants, and commuter train service, this special house features 6 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, new windows, new eat-in kitchen with granite counter tops and white cabinetry, two remodeled bathrooms, and refinished wood floors.

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