



# Chestnut Hill Local

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## Chill Local



Dining returns to Chestnut Hill

page 17

## What's Inside

- Sports.....14-15
- Chill Local.....17
- Homes & Home....24
- Classified.....26-27

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Popular stylist Christine Elliot works on a customer at Spa Elysium, 55 Bethlehem Pike, before the pandemic. "I have heard some rumors that the green phase may be happening around June 26," said owner Wendy Feldman. "We will be ready whenever the date is. We can't wait to see our clients; they are like family to us."

## Stylist returns to Hill after salon forced closed by pandemic

by Len Lear

This is a good news/bad news story. The bad news is that Elvira "Ev" Aslanova, owner of Beehive Hair Salon, which had been doing great business for 11 years on 18th and Fairmount Avenue, recently had to close her business because of the pandemic, which was costing her \$2,000 monthly in rent alone, with no money coming in.

The good news is that Aslanova, 43, is returning to Spa Elysium, 55 Bethlehem Pike in Chestnut Hill, where she was a popular hair stylist before leaving to start her own business.

"My staff and I were sad to hear about Ev closing her shop," Wendy Feldman, owner of Spa Elysium, told us last week, "but we are thrilled that she is coming back to work with us at the spa. Everyone remained friends over the years, and she will be a great addition to our team."

"I'm very grateful for the opportunity to come back to the spa," said Elvira. "I have missed my friends, with whom I never lost contact. I have missed my clients, and I have missed Chestnut Hill."

Elvira came to the U.S. in 1991 from Azerbaijan, a former republic that was part of the Soviet Union. "We came under the status of refugees due to the genocide of Armenians in Azerbaijan that occurred in 1989," she told us. "We came to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, first

(Continued on page 12)

## Philly Council committee advances two pieces of its police reform package

by Aaron Moselle

Over objections from the Kenney administration, a City Council committee on Wednesday, June 17 passed a measure that would require most civil service employees, including newly hired police officers, to live in Philadelphia.



The committee on Wednesday also passed a bill to establish a Citizens Police Oversight Commission. The two measures come in the wake of nearly three weeks of protests over police brutality, following the Memorial Day killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis by an officer.

Both bills will get a first read during City Council's session on Thursday, and the bill's sponsors hope to pass them during a vote next week.

"If you want to serve the city- (Continued on page 6)

## Local teens deal with summer changed by COVID-19

by Alexa Leckrone

With vacations cancelled and summer sports tournaments postponed, many teenagers are scrambling to make plans for this unique summer. The social distance restrictions have eased but have not been eradicated, and many businesses and entertainment hubs still have their doors shuttered. How are local teens going to get through the long summer after already having been shut in for three months during quarantine?

Luckily, it seems as if teenagers are still getting involved in multiple activities over the next few months. The most popular pastime is finding a job at a local store or babysitting the neighbors' kids. A month ago, these normal summer occurrences seemed so unattainable. But with Philadelphia and Montgomery County's movement into the yellow phase on June 5, (and with green phase likely by the end of this month) small businesses and recreational centers have opened up with restrictions and

(Continued on page 2)



Local teens participated in the Black Lives Matter march in Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill on June 4. Teens are taking college classes online, training for when scholastic sports return and increasing their activism this summer. (From left) the author, Alexa Leckrone, Elizabeth Anderson, Andrew Kallmeyer, Benicio Beatty and Maya Charles.

# Zoom presentation here on 'Philadelphia's Rosa Parks'

by Len Lear

It is unlikely that you ever heard of Caroline Le Count; not many people have. But she is definitely deserving of much more recognition and acclaim that she has received. A teacher in Frankford, Le Count (1846-1923) was Philadelphia's Rosa Parks, a teacher and civil rights activist 100 years before the Montgomery bus boycott, defiantly riding street cars and filing petitions to have a law against black riders repealed.

With her fiancé Octavius Catto, who was assassinated later in 1871, she kept up the fight even after the law was changed: When a conductor refused to stop for her, Le Count — just 21 at the time — courageously filed a complaint with the police, eventually forcing the driver to pay a \$100 fine; remarkable for that time!

She also pushed for the rights of African-American teachers and students, standing up to the school board of the Wilmot Colored School to insist that a black colleague become principal because "colored children <https://thephiladelphiacitizen.org/black-teachers-benefits/>" \n \_blanks should be

taught by their own," according to news reports from that period.

Now you will be able to learn about this fascinating Philadelphia pioneer at the Ebenezer Maxwell Victorian Mansion, 200 W. Tulpehocken St. in Germantown, thanks to Lori Aument, creator of the "Found in Philadelphia" podcast, starting with a cocktail hour on Thursday, June 25, 5 p.m., for a live ZOOM Q and A with Aument.

Aument, 45, a native of rural Lancaster County, earned a B.S. in Art History from Connecticut College in 1996 and an M.S. in Historic Preservation from the University of Pennsylvania in 1999.

Before starting her own building conservation consulting business, L.R. Aument LLC, in 2012, she worked for the firm of John Milner Associates for over 12 years. When that office closed during the recession, Lori "started several different projects that gave me flexibility to continue my career while raising my kids, including starting my own business."

For the past eight years, Lori has worked to preserve numerous buildings and historic sites such as a federal courthouse in Montgomery,

Alabama, which is part of a National Historic Landmark Civil Rights thematic nomination; Morris Arboretum, Bartram's Mile and community design projects at Gloria Dei Church, Plays and Players Theater and along the business corridors in the Tioga and West Kensington neighborhoods.

How does Aument feel Philadelphia rates, compared to other big cities, in terms of preserving historic buildings? "I fear that Philadelphia is fairly passive about identifying and protecting its history. The city seems to have favored and fast-tracked approvals for developers. Smaller organizations and homeowners often feel that the Historical Commission is harder on them. I don't see the city using preservation as a tool for celebrating place and supporting community pride."

Why will Lori be doing the presentation on Caroline Le Count since it does not seem to have a connection with her business? "I feel like the 'Found in Philadelphia' podcast is intimately connected to my business. I wanted to start the podcast to advocate for the city's built heritage by telling compelling stories that help people see their



Lori Aument, creator of the "Found in Philadelphia" podcast, will discuss a little-known but fascinating figure in Philadelphia history on June 25, 5 p.m., at the Victorian mansion with a live ZOOM Q and A.

value. I wanted people to see themselves in these stories. Fundamentally, historic preservation is about believing that our history has value, that it's a common good worth protecting. But the broader community needs to see themselves in that history for preservation to be seen as a worthwhile endeavor."

Why isn't Caroline Le Count much more well known? I do not recall ever reading about her in school, although I did read a great deal about Octavius Catto. "I don't think we can discount the fact that Le Count was a black woman," said Aument. "They were rarely given center stage in her day. And when she was recorded as speaking, it was rare for her to be quoted in newspaper articles."

"Also, Le Count never achieved national prominence like some other Philadelphians like Fanny Jackson Coppin or Dr. Rebecca Cole. When black women were organizing nationally in the 1880s, such as the National Association of Colored Women, Le Count doesn't appear to have been involved. I've got some ideas about that in an upcoming episode."

When asked what was the best advice Aument has ever received, she replied, "Spend money on good shoes and socks; it's worth it."

For more on Lori's podcasts: <https://foundinphiladelphia.com/episodes/> <https://foundinphiladelphia.com/episodes/> Call 215-438-1861 for reservations or details to the June 25 event. Len Lear can be reached at [llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com](mailto:llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com)

# Local Teens' Plans for Summer in Light of COVID-19

(Continued from page 1)

restored the opportunity for typical summer jobs.

As for other activities, the uniqueness brought by COVID-19 has had just a minor impact on opportunities — the only real difference from previous summers being the transition from in-person interaction to online correspondence.

Colleges have been scrambling to find ways to reach prospective students due to the closure of campuses and suspension of tours. Many programs have been moved to the internet including information webinars and student panels.

The most popular college experience high schoolers are receiving right now is the extension of online classes for high school students. So many universities usually offer these programs, but they have all been moved online through Zoom sessions and virtual curriculum apps such as Canvas.

Andrew Kallmeyer, a rising

senior at St. Joseph's Prep, is taking multiple college classes this summer. One is at St. Joseph's University where Prep students can take classes for free through the affiliation of the university and secondary school. Kallmeyer is taking an arts course to complete his senior year art requirement.

Additionally, Kallmeyer is taking two online courses at Harvard University in computer science which is his ideal major for college.

"The cost was great value for what I'm getting from the course," he said. "I'm learning how to code in a lot of basic programming languages, such as C and Java, and later I'm taking another course that dives deeper into Python, another computer language."

Many high school students are pursuing internships they planned prior to the outbreak of coronavirus that have moved online. Elena Granda, a rising senior at Mount Saint Joseph Academy has an internship at a pharmaceutical consulting company named EM

Partners. Her responsibilities will include assisting with research, creating PowerPoints, and editing pieces of writing. Though the internship is virtual, it is an opportunity for Granda to learn the aspects of pharmaceutical business which will help her pursue her ideal career in marketing.

"My internship will be conducted solely online so I will not be able to experience the office environment in its entirety; however, I am excited to better my understanding of workplace dynamics and communications," she said.

Throughout quarantine, teenagers have picked up new hobbies that have become pastimes for this summer. Maya Charles, another rising Mount senior, has been training to get in shape for the indoor and outdoor track season and to secure a college commit for track and field.

A typical day for Charles is filled with fitness.

"I usually like to start off my day with a speed workout run in the morning," she said. "When I

return home, I watch the daily ab workout videos from YouTuber Chloe Ting's program."

Charles has also picked up cooking and will continue to master her skills this summer. She has tried many healthy recipes to help her remain fit, but she has also learned to cook dishes with special meaning to her.

"I'm part Caribbean so I've spent quarantine making authentic meals with my parents," she said. "It's been great getting back in touch with my heritage."

Charles also is getting involved with civil rights this summer following the murders of George Floyd and many more African Americans by police. She went to the Mt. Airy Solidarity March on June 5 and is looking to further support the Black Lives Matter Movement.

She joins many teenagers in Chestnut Hill are taking action to combat racism and discrimination in our own community.

Kallmeyer is on the new-found committee at The Prep named "Men for All" which will create a

better sense of diversity and understanding within the school.

"Its goal is to implement better diversity training for our students to fight against implicit bias, micro-aggressions, and stereotyping which can be common and contagious in a high school setting," he said.

The committee will meet about once a week starting this summer and facilitate discussions on diversity as well as implementing equality in the school.

The weekdays are successfully filled with hobbies and responsibilities, but what about the weekends? The social scene for this summer has changed as distancing measures are still enforced. Luckily, there are ways for teens to properly social distance so they can still catch up with friends. Walks, picnics, barbecues, and other outdoor activities are popular.

Charles explains her rules about maintaining distance while around friends.

"I am social distancing around my friends," she said. "I never meet with more than 4 at time and it will always be in an open place like a park or my backyard. I no longer come over to my friends' houses."

To keep in contact, she usually goes on runs with a friend on a nearby trail.

Granada also speaks on her social distancing practices noting her creative way of keeping in touch with her friend.

"One of my friends and I have started an art exchange every time that we see each other, swapping paintings, homemade jewelry and even baked goods are a great way to keep in contact and stay productive while staying socially distant," she said.

Despite the setbacks brought by COVID-19, teenagers are stepping up to get involved in activities and stay connected this summer. The motivation and work ethic of the local teen population ensures a successful and impactful summer.

Alexa Leckrone is a rising senior at Mount St. Joseph Academy. She is working as a remote intern at the Local this summer.

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# Erdenheim resident grateful for return of escaped emu

by Tim Sager

The following was submitted to us by Tim Sager of Erdenheim. His escaped emu was the talk of the town — in both Chestnut Hill and Erdenheim. He does a great job here of relating his own story. Here it is.

At 6:30 on Saturday morning, I woke up in Erdenheim when my cell phone rang. A friend called and told us one of our emus had gotten out and was roaming freely in Chestnut Hill. With the alertness of anyone at 6:30 a.m. on a Saturday, and in disbelief that one of our emus could stray so far (having never done so before), I completely discounted the story and fell back asleep.

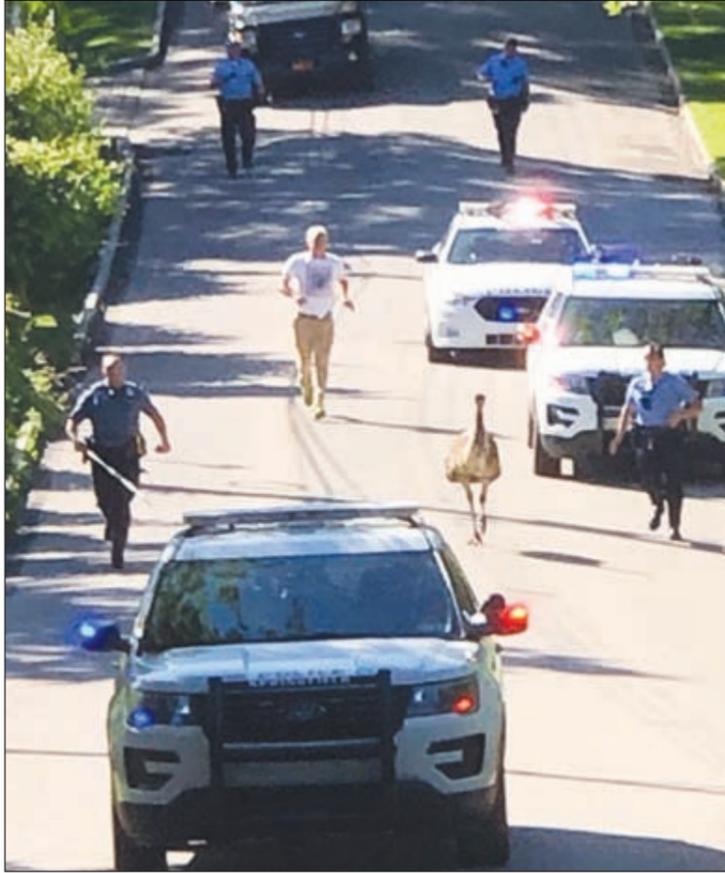
At 8:00 a.m., someone else rang our doorbell and gave us a similar story. Slightly more alert, I thought this might merit at least an investigation to see if all our birds were in their pens. A quick look outside revealed three lines of fencing knocked over and one of our birds missing. Uh oh!

I grabbed the car keys and, fearful that someone would harm the animal, called the Philadelphia police to report that my Big Bird was roaming the Hill. The operator not only took my message but stated that a few police teams had already cornered it in a backyard near Gravers Lane.

I drove with considerable urgency to the location and found a number of Philadelphia police cars parked on Gravers, lights flashing, and even more police congregated in a backyard on the street. One police officer had a tool used to catch dogs, but which they had correctly concluded was not a good idea for emus. A few others were on their phones searching for any information on emus. As the officers did their homework to determine the best tactic to corral an emu, one officer correctly noted that emus are the second largest birds in the world.

I discussed the matter with the police officers and said that the best way to deal with the situation was not to chase or grab the animal, but rather to guide it home on foot. The officers were eager and happy to help, and we, as a group, accompanied my pet on a not very leisurely “stroll” back home.... about a mile and a half away.

After some early detours when the bird decided that walking in a straight line was not his thing, the police and I got into a well-coordinated rhythm. Some of the police officers jogged with me, side by side with the emu, while the police cars escorted us, cutting off side streets. Neighbors watched along the way and



Sager and police jog Sager's escaped emu back to its Erdenheim home.

encouraged us all as we made progress.

We maneuvered the 6-foot-tall flightless bird up the Hill onto Evergreen and the police stopped traffic on Stenton as we crossed Sager and police jog Sager's escaped emu back to its Erdenheim home.

(clearly a hair and feather raising intersection). Once we got across Stenton, I thanked the Philadelphia police officers for their extraordinary and kind efforts and expected that they would call the job done, handing things over to the Springfield Township police who were also helping.

However, the Philadelphia officers insisted on keeping the escort going, along with the Springfield Township police officers. We successfully made the turn on Montgomery. The police stopped traffic on Paper Mill so

that we could safely hit the home stretch and finally arrived in one piece (panting and exhausted) back at the emu's home. The bird was safe and presumably happy that the ordeal was over!

There are so many ways that this whole affair, like a bird, could have gone south, but with the help of the Philadelphia and Springfield police, this story had an extremely happy ending. The animal is back and safe, the fences are repaired, and I have almost recovered from the long, hot and stressful run.

A huge thank you to the wonderful police officers who helped us with this unusual event — and to all the friends and neighbors who helped as well. It was quite an unusual morning, to say the least (hopefully that won't be repeated!), and it truly showed us that it sometimes really does “take a village”!

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# 'New normal' now in place at Mt. Airy Family Practice

by Len Lear

I had my basic annual blood test analysis checkup last week at the Mt. Airy Family Practice (MAFP) at Carpenter Lane and Wayne Avenue, where we have been going for decades. But this time was different. The front door was locked, although I was right on time for my appointment. An office aide came to the door and asked several questions before she opened the door, and there was only one other patient seated in the downtown waiting room — highly unusual. When I was told to go to the second floor waiting room, again there was only one other patient.

“We have had to make quite a few changes because of Covid-19,” explained Dr. David Lewis, 51, who has been one of the partners in the practice since July of 2001 after a residency in family medicine at Chestnut Hill Hospital (CHH) starting in 1998. “We try to keep the number of patients down in the waiting rooms with proper social distancing. About half of the visits now are video visits conducted by our providers, and we recommend a video or phone visit whenever possible. We urge everyone to follow the CDC guidelines to avoid exposure ... Don't let politics determine what you should do. Science should do that.”

Dr. Lewis, a native of Muskegon, Michigan, graduated from Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit. He has trained students from Temple University School of Medicine, and he has a special interest in dermatology. He came to Philadelphia for a residency at Thomas Jefferson Hospital but “did not like the pro-

gram,” so he switched to Chestnut Hill Hospital, where he found the program much more compatible. In fact, even after joining MAFP, he kept going back to CHH one day a week until 2010 to supervise medical residents.

Mt Airy Family Practice was started by Dr. Linda Good, a former nurse who entered medical school in her 30s, in 1989. When Dr. Good retired in 2015, she said, “I am so grateful to have served such wonderful patients and been meaningfully involved in the lives of so many families. It has been a joy and privilege to be a family physician in Mt. Airy.” (Dr. Good un-retired in 2016 and is now treating many Covid-19 patients at a medical facility in Roxborough.)

MAFP now has about 7800 patients, of whom about 3000 are patients of Dr. Lewis. “Most come once or twice a year,” he said. “Dr. Lyons has more because he has been here longer so he's had patients for longer. As patients age, they begin to have conditions like diabetes and hypertension and are seen more often, every 3 to 4 months instead of once a year.”

According to Dr. Lewis, “We have hundreds of positive Covid-19 patients here, mild to moderate that can be managed at home. Really sick patients we would send to the hospital, but our role is to keep them out of the hospital and educate them. Or get testing. Some tests are not the best, and it is too hard to obtain them. And 25 to 35 percent of patients who are positive will test negative.”

One controversial issue that Dr. Lewis feels very strongly about is the single-payer system, which he favors, vs. the fee-for-service sys-

(Continued on page 6)

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## For the Record

In last week's story on the Black Lives Matter vigil, “Interfaith leaders hold vigil for black lives at Oxford Presbyterian,” we misspelled the last name of Catherine and Maya Clever as Cleaver. We regret the error.

OPINION

Arnie



Redesigning community

The Chestnut Hill Local is often referred to as a “community newspaper.” It’s a simple term that defines a straightforward purpose. The Local is a newspaper that was created to cover the community of Chestnut Hill.

The paper’s chief founder, Lloyd Wells, and other businessmen and community leaders at the time – this was in 1957 – realized that a paper was instrumental in keeping community members informed about what was happening in their neighborhood. And in the pre-Internet era, the letters-to-the-editor page operated under a policy that all opinions would be printed, so long as they were not libelous. Published letters were a lot like the sort of back-and-forth, at times toxic, exchanges we now find on social networking sites. If it was happening in Chestnut Hill, you would read about it in the Local. We still strive to make sure that remains the case.

The Local is more significant than a simple news service. Through its stories and its published letters and opinions, the Local, and many other

community newspapers like it, do a lot to shape the communities they cover. They reflect that community and help reinforce the community’s understanding of itself. People should say, when they pick up a Local, that “this is my community.”

In the last month, as the nation has taken a harder look at itself and systemic racism, a lot of attention has justifiably been focused on how to do a better job of running our police departments. George Floyd’s killing has created a groundswell of opinion in this country that police use excessive force more often against black people, and movement towards addressing that imbalance is under way. It’s something people in the black community have understood for a long time

Lawmakers will be able to reform the force through legislation, budgeting and training, but it won’t do much to address the underlying factors that support systemic racism. To do that, we can start by looking at how we define community.

In the years I’ve covered community meetings – from planning play-

grounds to crime prevention discussions, I have often heard references to “us” and “them.” “They” come to “our community” and do things “we” don’t like. This has never been a majority sentiment at meetings I’ve attended, but it reinforces the unspoken sentiment that people unlike “us” – which most often refers to race – are “them.” They are not part of the community. They are outside of it.

When we look at our community, what do we see? Do we see everyone in it? When we go to the playground with our kids, to restaurants, to our private schools, our town watch meetings and churches, do we see our community there? Or are we seeing some portion of it that has excluded by accident or design some segment of it?

To get at the root of systemic racism, we have to reconsider what we mean by community. We must redesign it and realize we’ve excluded people and then blamed them for it. It’s going to be a lot harder than reforming the police force. It’s going to require real change from every single one of us.

Pete Mazzaccaro

Now I finally get it: What George Floyd has taught me

by George Stern

It’s not easy to say, “I was wrong.” It’s so much simpler to pretend that everything’s OK, to make excuses (“I really meant...”), to blame others (“he misled me...”), or even to double-down on one’s opinions citing new “evidence.” Needless to say, I’ve been guilty of all those avoidance tactics. But for me, the horrific death of George Floyd, coming on the heels of so many other deaths of Black men and women, is a time of reckoning: I was wrong about Black Lives Matter (BLM).

I was once among those who said that, while agreeing that black lives matter, it was better to say, “All Lives Matter.” Of course, it was always clear to me that singling out black lives did not mean that other lives didn’t matter. Still, “Why create divisions,” I thought, “when what we need is a concerted effort to work together to fix social ills?”

How wrong I was! “Black Lives Matter” started as a hashtag, and even today it is decentralized and grassroots, a network or collective, not a centralized organization—a prime example of new organizing tactics in this technological social media age. Its message all along has been disarmingly simple, yet pro-

found: that as a nation we have utterly failed the black community by treating it as if black lives did not matter—and that must stop.

Who has failed? Police, politicians of all parties, and, yes, the vast majority of the rest of us. We have consciously or unconsciously denied the profound and ongoing pain endured by black Americans. Their odyssey to these shores began as slaves. And when slavery ended, we quickly sabotaged Reconstruction and resorted to one form of betrayal and oppression after another: Jim Crow; segregation, ghettoization, and the concentration of pollution in and around their neighborhoods; unequal education; voter suppression; inadequate health care, and more—all the result of laws passed by politicians whom we’ve repeatedly re-elected.

The very fact that we are surprised at the diversity among today’s persistent protestors and their ubiquitous presence in cities, towns, and rural communities is proof of how long whites have ignored, and therefore reinforced, the plight of 13.4% of our population (42% in Philadelphia). I now understand that my discomfort with “Black Lives Matter” was a part of America’s historical amnesia

and national denial. As BLM has always claimed: “Black Lives Matter” is not a denial of the rights of non-blacks; rather it is an insistent cry that it’s way past time for America to acknowledge the sin of racism and stop acting as if black lives don’t matter.

Cancer neglected or undetected often metastasizes, becoming extremely difficult to treat successfully. So too our society’s willful neglect of racism.

The results of that neglect are staggering: the median income for black households is a little less than 60% of that of white households; the median net worth of black households is 1/10 that of white households; in 2018, the poverty rate for blacks was 20.8%, compared to 8.1% for non-Hispanic whites; right before COVID, unemployment rates stood at 3.1% for whites and a near record low (but still high compared to whites) of 5.8% for blacks; in 2016, 8% of whites and 15% of blacks 25 years and older had not graduated from high school; 5.4% of white Americans lack health insurance, compared to 9.7% of blacks; black people make up 13% of the U.S. population, but 23% of COVID deaths.

Demands that statues of Confed-

erate generals—pro-slavery traitors who took up arms against the Union—be taken down ought not surprise us. The same with the names of military bases. All the more so the statues of Confederates at the Capitol. I first saw them only a few years ago—and failed to bat an eye. As these statues—most erected decades after the Civil War—demonstrate, by the early 20th century, the South was rewriting U.S. history, aided and abetted by Washington politicians north and south who had much to gain by suppressing black progress.

I know it’s hard even to imagine where to go from here, especially since we cannot depend at all upon the federal government to lead us out of our current quagmire. For me, simply realizing how wrong I

was about Black Lives Matter has been an enormous, though all too belated, first step.

Another post-George Floyd action I have embarked upon is to reach out to my black neighbors—people with whom I am friendly but admittedly not intimate—to if they are willing to talk about how they are feeling and how I might support them.

Decades ago, I became a lifetime member of the NAACP. I intend to support their new “We Are Done Dying” initiative.

I’ve also come to admire greatly Rev. William Barber II, whose Moral Mondays in North Carolina have morphed into a national Poor People’s Campaign. Reminiscent of Rev. Martin Luther King’s vision of

(Continued on page 5)

from our readers

Letter to America

Dear America, what has happened to you? We are alarmed and shocked by your absence at the Global Public Health table. You were always the first among equals, leading in impact and generosity, saving millions and millions of lives around the world. We all so admired you, counting on your can-do spirit to help solve our myriad international challenges.

Your scientists created powerful vaccines that changed the world, allowing parents to avoid losing their children. You helped parents stay alive to raise their children. Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin, great American researchers, helped eradicate the scourge of polio. Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), measles, mumps, and more — all diseases

that routinely killed children — are barely seen anymore, due to American innovation and commitment to global vaccination programs.

Dr. D.A. Henderson, an American epidemiologist from the CDC, headed up WHO’s initiative to end smallpox, and he succeeded! How proud you should be, America, of your role in making life on our planet healthier for all. We were wowed by the President’s Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), initiated by President George W. Bush to address the global HIV/AIDS epidemic.

America, you have been a vital partner in GAVI, our international organization created in 2000 to improve access to new and under-used vaccines for children living in the world’s poorest countries. GAVI needs extra funding now; the coronavirus pandemic will require a worldwide vaccine roll-

out, and millions of children are now tragically missing their routine shots. This will result in outbreaks of other killer diseases that have been under control. It’s a disaster. But America, you were not at our most recent GAVI Global Vaccine Summit. How could this possibly be?

We know you have problems of your own and that you’ve been distracted by yours being the worst COVID-19 outbreak in the world. Surely you don’t want to drop the ball now, after your successful long-term investments in global public health outcomes? You, America, would be the first to say that we are in this together. Global health crises require international teamwork.

America, we pray for your return.

Yours, The World

Betsy Teutsch  
Mt. Airy

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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## Compare and contrast Fredenthal's work in Woodmere's sculpture garden

by William Valerio

Over these last few months, with so much on our minds, all of us at Woodmere have been hoping that while our galleries remain closed, our community can find solace in Woodmere's Outdoor Wonder (WOW), an integrated experience of sculpture and nature across our grounds.

Visit the sculpture and nature exhibition page at [woodmereart-museum.org/experience/exhibitions/outdoor-sculpture](http://woodmereart-museum.org/experience/exhibitions/outdoor-sculpture) for a self-guided tour and map, or pick up a hard copy map on the Museum's front porch."

Last week, I wrote about Steve Tobin's astonishing Root, which recently arrived on our grounds. Today I write about another outdoor sculpture making its debut: Robinson Fredenthal's "On the Rocks" (1972). Thanks to "White Water," the arc of cascading triangles by the same artist we installed last year at the corner of Bells Mill Road and Germantown Avenue, Woodmere has become associated with this great sculptor's work.

Like "White Water," "On the Rocks" demonstrates Fredenthal's extraordinary gift for making geometric relationships seem to grow in three dimensions. Despite being noticeable mathematical symmetries, the shapes shift and change dramatically when viewed from different angles. The two sculptures also reveal the artist's interest in reinterpreting the traditional monumental form: while "White Water" is a triumphal arch, "On the Rocks" is a tower—the Column of Trajan to "White Water's" Arch of Constantine.



Robinson Fredenthal's "On the Rocks" in its original location (left) and in its current resting spot (top-right) at Woodmere where it awaits installation.

Why the title "On the Rocks?" The piece was commissioned for Roger Wilco discount liquors on Route 73 South in Pennsauken, New Jersey, and was installed there until about a year ago, when the store expanded and needed the space where the sculpture stood at the roadside, beckoning drivers in. For now, "On the Rocks" rests on its side at the end of Woodmere's parking surface, waiting to be installed upright. It still cuts a potent shape in the landscape. It was also meant to

tower over a circle of Pennsylvania bluestone boulders, which we will reconstruct.

"On the Rocks" has a sense of humor, for sure, but it also offers a dialogue between the human urge to construct towers in space, building onward and upward, and the basic geological elements—the rocks—that formed in the earth over millions of years. The surface of the sculpture is beautifully aged Corten steel with a rich, earthy patina that becomes red in sunlight.

For now, while it lies horizontal, you can see something that hasn't been visible since it was erected 45 years ago: the top surface of the sculpture, not visible from the ground, has a porthole-like hatch that was required for the installation. The 17 people who fabricated it — one of whom is called "Pickles" — signed the top, welding in their names in script for only the birds to see.

William Valerio is the director and CEO of Woodmere Art Museum.

## What George Floyd has taught me

(Continued from page 4)

a Beloved Community, the Campaign lays out policies that would end at last the "interlocking evils of systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, militarism and the war economy, and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism." That too I will support in every way I can.

In November we will face what is undoubtedly the most important national election of my lifetime, the results of which will define who we really are. I will do all I can to ensure that every American can vote and that people who represent the 99% get elected to office across Pennsylvania and the nation.

Would it not be wonderful—and true poetic justice—if the death of George Floyd turned out to be the catalyst that finally moved America to live according to the ideals that we've been proclaiming for almost 250 years? I'd be thrilled to live in a country that guaranteed all of its citizens a good education, fair wages and meaningful jobs, comprehensive health care, and a safe environment in which to live and raise a family. What a way to prove we mean it when we say "Black Lives Matter"—as does every other life.

George Stern is an ordained rabbi, Mt. Airy resident and was for many years the Executive Director of Neighborhood Interfaith Movement.

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# Philly Council committee advances two pieces of police reform package

(Continued from page 1)

zens of Philadelphia, I do not think it's too much to ask that you live in the City of Philadelphia," said City Councilmember Cindy Bass, a member of the Committee on Law and Government. "If that is too much, then we should find people who are willing to make that commitment."

Civil servants currently have to live in the city within six months of being hired. Under the measure, that requirement would be extended to at least a year.

Since 2010, Philadelphia police officers have been allowed to live outside of the city after at least five years on the job. If the measure passes, that option would no longer be available to new recruits.

Most residents who testified during Wednesday's hearing said that was a good idea.

"They have to feel like they have a stake in the city," said Joann Bell, a member of the Black Women's Leadership Council.

The measure maintains an existing waiver program that enables city departments to hire non-residents if they are otherwise unable to fill a position.

The Kenney administration said it is committed to removing the five-year residency waiver during

the next round of contract negotiations with the Fraternal Order of Police. However, the administration raised concerns about requiring civil servants to live in the city for at least a year before they are hired, saying the proposal would make it difficult to recruit diverse and qualified applicants for "harder-to-fill" positions.

"It is likely that we will need to go through a full recruitment and testing cycle before identifying the need for a waiver. This will lead to additional delays in our time to hire and ability to timely fill critical positions in various City departments," Stephanie Tipton, the city's chief administration officer, said in written testimony.

Nearly 85% of civil service positions are filled by city residents.

The administration does support an effort to create a Citizens Police Oversight Commission, a permanent and independent agency to oversee the Philadelphia Police Department.

The idea is to create a new, more powerful entity to conduct investigations into allegations of police misconduct made by residents, as well as make policy recommendations.

"We have a chance to do something big — to do something new.

And to learn lessons from the past," City Councilmember Helen Gym said.

The commission would permanently replace the current Police Advisory Commission. Supporters also hope it will have a more predictable budget, similar to the police oversight groups that operate in other major cities, including New York and Chicago, which make funding proportional to the police department's budget.

Staff members on the current commission, created by an executive order in 1993, are expected to be part of the new agency, according to a source familiar with the legislation.

Hans Menos, the PAC's executive director, said he supports the bill.

"Though we've received a lot of support for our initiatives, many people have expressed that the policy work that we put forward should be an aspect of our work and not its primary focus. The feedback across the board is that PAC should lead investigations into police misconduct," Menos said.

Both measures passed out of committee by an 8-1 vote. City Councilman Brian O'Neil was the only committee member to vote against both bills.

The measures are expected to pass the full Council before June 25, the last legislative session on the calendar before the body breaks for summer. They were introduced after a veto-proof majority of City Council sent a letter to the Kenney administration stating the signees could not approve a \$19 million increase to the Philadelphia Police Department's budget.

The next day, Kenney abruptly rescinded his proposal to send additional funding to the scandal-plagued department, which has recently come under fire for using tear gas to disperse protesters who blocked traffic on I-676 during a massive demonstration earlier this month, and for apparently allowing two groups of mostly white men with bats and other makeshift weapons to gather in public and to assault some people — one outside the police district in Fishtown and the other guarding the statue of Christopher Columbus in South Philadelphia.

Saying the department faced a "crisis of legitimacy," the letter, signed by 14 of Council's 17 members, also laid out 15 policy changes aimed at ensuring "transparency and accountability."

Some of those changes are now codified in the bills Council is considering.

"We need to carpe diem — seize the moment and make appropriate changes so that citizens of Philadel-

phia have a degree of confidence that they are respected as taxpayers and treated as citizens of this country with dignity and respect," City Councilmember Curtis Jones said.

Council is also considering a measure that would expressly prohibit chokeholds and other physical restraints while detaining suspects, including hogtying and the "placement of body weight on the head, face, neck, chest or back."

Another bill would require a public hearing within 30 days of the city "executing, entering into or amending" its contract with the Fraternal Order of Police, the union that represents city officers.

Under the measure, the hearing would address the cost of the contract, as well as terms and conditions under consideration, among other things. Council, however, would not have the authority to stop any agreements from becoming binding and effective.

Both bills will be discussed during a hearing next Tuesday before Council's Committee on Public Safety, but neither measure is expected to go before the full Council for a vote until the fall, according to a source familiar with the legislation.

*Aaron Moselle is a general assignment reporter for WHYY, filing stories for both web and radio. He focuses on homelessness, poverty, and income inequality, and calls South Philadelphia home.*

## 'New normal' now in place at Mt. Airy Family Practice

(Continued from page 3)

tem, which the U.S. is alone in the industrialized world in maintaining. "Our current health care system is a travesty," he insisted. "We are the wealthiest country in the world, so it is ridiculous that everyone cannot have access to good health care, at least the basic minimum care. It is just wrong."

Many local medical professionals agree with Dr. Lewis on this crucial issue. According to Dr. David Becker, a board-certified cardiologist with Chestnut Hill Temple Cardiology in Flourtown, "The idea that medicine is a business does not resonate well. Physicians take an oath to 'apply for benefit of the sick all measures that are required ... so concepts like reimbursement and cost-benefit ratios run counterintuitive to a doctor's mission."

People who routinely check with yelp.com to find out what customers are saying about area restaurants might be surprised to find

that local medical doctors also get reviews on yelp, so I checked to see what patients have said about Dr. Lewis. According to C.B., who gave MAFF four stars, "Dr. Lewis is super. Not only is he cute, but he knows medicine. He makes you feel comfortable, and he is very attentive to his patients. I've been coming to this practice for at least 12 years, and I don't have any serious complaints."

Another patient, Kimberley B., who gave MAFF five stars, wrote, "This is the best practice I have ever used. I have been a patient here for over 15 years. Dr. Lewis and the other doctors care deeply for their patients and take all the time necessary to get the right treatment. I have a nephrologist, and Dr. Lewis and the nurses consult regularly with him to coordinate my care."

For more information: 215-848-6880 or [mtairyfamilypractice.com](http://mtairyfamilypractice.com). Len Lear can be reached at [llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com](mailto:llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com)

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## Community Matters: Why fences, and what to build?

by Celeste Hardester

Seventh of a series from the Chestnut Hill Community Association Physical Division

Of course there is a story to how fences came to be. There is always a story if one thinks to ask the question. Leaving aside the subject of stonewalls, as in Bronze Age stone walls permeating the Irish countryside, or the Old Testament walls of Jericho, or the more modern Great Wall of China, it is the Greeks who are credited with creating fences. Within Athens, social standards kept people separated, but in their conquered lands of Asia Minor, partitions were built to divide the spoils. The Romans followed suit.

For Anglo-Saxons, it was all about hedges and privets that created on-site resources for crop-pollinators, while simultaneously managing crops, wildlife, livestock, and soil erosion. What a system!

In America, the split-rail worm fence was an ingenious design that was post-free and quick to put up. Come the settlement of towns and villages, picket fences brought a whole new charm to the concept of fences. And then the Victorians turned fencing into a high art, creating wrought iron fences that were strong, durable, aesthetically pleasing and, due to their transparency, neighborly.

And so we arrive at the era of Chestnut Hill. Just about every

twist on the way humans have divided properties exists here. For starters, many properties have no vertical dividers between properties, or the street. Hedges are on most every block, creating at least a separation along the street front. Picket fences, be they white or natural, are everywhere to be seen. Gorgeous stonewalls built in an era when they were affordable create other boundaries.

Wrought iron fences are a common sight. What a smart investment these fences were: built to last, usually the only thing they need is a new coat of paint, unless someone has unfortunately driven a vehicle into them. Cared for, they are an asset that can last the lifetime of the house. They are such a respected form of fencing that the trade still exists, and not just in the look-alike versions of coated aluminum, but in newly built fencing using both tradition-

al designs and modern variations. And the architectural salvage industry often has panels and gates ready to be used again. While we are not in the position to provide recommended sources, googling something like "why use wrought iron fence" can provide many interesting resources.

A fantastic feature of wrought iron fences is that they provide transparency, allowing for a visual connection between the enclosed property and neighboring properties, and the street. This is a quality that is identified in the Philadelphia Zoning Code as an important value. According to the Code, fences along a street front must be no more than 50 percent opaque, and no more than four feet tall. Wrought iron fences can be relatively simple to install, so while the cost of materials may be high relative to a wooden fence, the cost of their

installation, and their lifetime durability are worthy factors for consideration.

Sadly, Chestnut Hill is also replete with solid wooden fences along many street fronts. These are basically referred to as stockade fencing, and that is their effect. The definition of stockade is a barrier of defense against attack and/or to keep livestock in. While many people have dogs that need free and safe access to their own yards, a solid wood fence is likely not necessary.

An unfortunate phenomenon of these solid fences is the misunderstanding that, because it exists, it can be replaced in kind, grandfathered in, as it were. This is not the case. While owning an illegal fence is not illegal, replacing it with the same kind of fence is.

For more information on fencing, we encourage you to visit this

page on the CHCA website: [chestnuthill.org/advocacy.php](http://chestnuthill.org/advocacy.php)

And for a clear explanation of the Philadelphia Zoning Code regarding fences: [chestnuthill.org/docs/CHCA\\_Fence\\_Communication\\_Statement\\_5-2-17.pdf](http://chestnuthill.org/docs/CHCA_Fence_Communication_Statement_5-2-17.pdf)

Regulations for side and rear fences are more lenient than front yards. The CHCA recommends neighborly discussions that address everyone's preferences and concerns in order to find a solution that best fits.

A sense of privacy is a legitimate reason for wanting a fence. Placement and thoughtful design are key. Solutions other than solid fencing can be found. Plant material such as shrubs and hedges can be used on their own or in conjunction with a semi-opaque fence to achieve privacy without resorting to stockade style fencing.

(Continued on page 15)

### CHCA Agenda

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

#### CHCA Agenda for week of June 22, 2020

Please note that starting on June 8th the CHCA office will be open 10am – 3pm. For the protection of our staff and members we are asking CHCA members and vendors who come to the office wear a mask. In order to confirm that there is someone in the office please call 215-248-8810 or email [info@chestnuthill.org](mailto:info@chestnuthill.org)

#### Thurs., June 25th 5:00 p.m.

CHCA Board of Directors Meeting  
On-line Meeting

#### Thurs. July 2nd

8:00 p.m.  
Land Use, Planning, & Zoning Committee Meeting (LUPZ)  
On-line Meeting

To obtain the link to attend an online meeting, send an email to [info@chestnuthill.org](mailto:info@chestnuthill.org). Meetings will be conducted using Zoom.com. You will need to have this application on your device prior to the meeting. For more information, call 215-248-8811



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6BR/4.1BA 5,064SF Period Details Modern Amenities Kim Whetzel: 215.870.3138  
Chestnut Hill Kurfiss.com/PAPH904980 \$2,150,000



**Newly Listed: Andorra House, a Colonial Revival Estate**

6BR/5.2BA 6,700+SF 1.62AC Kim Whetzel: 215.870.3138 James McFadden: 267.980.0166  
Lafayette Hill Kurfiss.com/PAMC648690 \$1,795,000



**Newly Listed: Reserve at Creekside, Fully Furnished**

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**Newly Listed: Secluded Springrise Farm**  
 4-5BR/3.3BA 6.7AC Meticulously Renovated Pool Golf Hole Wendie Steffens: 215.850.0422  
 Whitmarsh Township [Kurfiss.com/PAMC650624](http://Kurfiss.com/PAMC650624) \$1,999,500



**Newly Listed: Secluded Colonial on the Park**  
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 West Mount Airy [Kurfiss.com/PAPH905024](http://Kurfiss.com/PAPH905024) \$1,895,000



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 Lafayette Hill [Kurfiss.com/PAMC649620](http://Kurfiss.com/PAMC649620) \$699,000

# Obituary: Hill firefighter/author/linguist dies of Covid-19 at 48

by Len Lear

Eric Gore, a truly extraordinary firefighter with Engine 37 at 101 W. Highland Ave. in Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia's oldest active firehouse, died June 2 at the age of 48 at Temple University Hospital after a long battle with Covid-19. Gore, who was interred after funeral services on June 12 at Ivy Hill Cemetery,

1201 Easton Rd., was posthumously promoted to Lieutenant. Gore served in the Philadelphia Fire Department for more than 23 years, half of which he spent at Engine 61 in Olney. While working there in 2002, he was among several firefighters named in a citation for rescuing two children and an adult from a burning home. At the time of his death, Gore had been a member of the



Fellow Chestnut Hill firefighter Marc Scruggs told us, "Eric (seen here) was definitely one of the nicest guys I have ever met ... He had a very calm demeanor. He was a joy to work with."

## death notice

### Gail Stetson Hollenbeck

Gail Stetson Hollenbeck, aged 79, a longtime resident of Chestnut Hill (in Philadelphia), passed away peacefully on June 11 in the family home in Ormond Beach, Florida, following a two-year struggle with Parkinson's disease. Her last days were spent beside the Atlantic Ocean, as were her first. She grew up in Falls Church, Virginia, anticipating the annual road trip to the coast of Maine after the school year ended. As a girl, she enjoyed swimming, sailing, and trips to the scattered islands that dot Casco Bay. It was on one of these trips, to Jewell Island in 1968, that she met Peter Hollenbeck, a recently discharged soldier who would become her husband. The couple were married a year later. Previous to her marriage, Gail had graduated from American University with a BA. She received a MFA from Pratt Institute in painting and drawing. She was the recipient of a Yaddo fellowship in the same class that included Philip Roth. From 1967 to 1969 she was on the faculty of Skidmore College as an instructor in painting and art appreciation. She continued her education at the Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania, taking course in quattrocento painting. She served as instructor in Art History at the University of Southern Maine in 1989. She was born Virginia Gail Stetson in Havre de Grace, Maryland on May 29, 1942, to George and Olive (nee Colby) Stetson, both natives of Maine. Her mother was a homemaker. Her father, a Pentagon mathematician, stationed at nearby Aberdeen Proving Ground during World War II, supervised the work of young women whose job description was 'computer'. Their labor-intensive job was to calculate the various formulae required for ballistics tables, used by artillery crews. The pressing need to perform the computations more rapidly spurred the development of a mechanical and electronic device which could replace the human 'computers'. In 1945, ENIAC, the first modern computer, was shipped from Philadelphia, where it had been assembled, to Aberdeen. Bailey Island, Maine, where her parents owned the house called 'Tiptop' had always been Gail's lodestone and she always maintained a connection with the place and its people. She played an important role in preserving, as open space and public land, the meadow at the head of Mackerel Cove. With her husband, Gail traveled to many of the Caribbean islands, where she would always speak the native language: French in Martinique, Spanish in Mexico. As an individual, she toured Italy, Spain, and Guatemala, immersing herself in the native culture and visiting museums. As an active artist, Gail worked on abstract expressionist paintings in oil, and her studios - always as close to the water as one could possibly get - included a hut on the Irish coast, a fisherman's shack on Monhegan, and 'Edgecliff' her property on Bailey Island. She was preceded in death by her elder sister, Judith Cobau, of Charleston, South Carolina. Besides Peter, her husband of 51 years, she leaves a sister, Barbara Messamore, of Tampa, and several nieces and nephews. Due to coronavirus restrictions, no funeral plans have been announced. Interment at the Bailey Island Cemetery will be held at an appropriate time to be determined.



Chestnut Hill Fire Station for two years.

"Eric was definitely one of the nicest guys I have ever met," Marc Scruggs, a Chestnut Hill firefighter for the past five years, told us last week. "He was a stand-up guy. If something had to be done, he would do it. He had a very calm demeanor. He was a joy to work with, and he was very big on 'The Avengers' and sci-fi movies."

We tried unsuccessfully to contact Eric's older brother, Lamont, also a Philly firefighter with Ladder 15 in Frankford, but he told another local newspaper, "He was the kind of guy who would give money to kids he met even when

he couldn't spare it. I had to tell him to stop it and spend that money at home ... It (public service) is in our blood ... Little brothers are supposed to take whatever big brothers do and smile about it, and Eric did that."

Lamont's wife, Deborah, is a police detective, and many other relatives have worked for either the Police or Fire Departments. In fact, before Eric was a firefighter, he was a Philly police officer for three years, and his late father, Edward, was a Philly firefighter.

Remarkably, Eric was also a published author. His 2016 novel, "Vengeance Obtained," was about Marcel Dekrey, a 900-year-old vampire. A reviewer for

Goodreads.com, Darlene Cruz, gave the book a five-star review. She wrote, "I enjoyed it; all the fantasy of paranormal characters vividly stood out here. I followed with an eagerness, keeping me in the moment of what's going to happen next and how? The author wrote a tale incredibly entertaining, simple as that!"

Another reviewer for Goodreads.com, Cheryl Phillips, gave the book a four-star review, writing, "This is an example of what could be in the ultimate battle of good and evil and how God's love helps to even the score. At times this battle put chills down my spine. I am glad I read this book."

Gore, who grew up in South-west Philly, near 58th and Baltimore, and graduated from Bartram High School in 1990, was also a former court stenographer, father and husband who could speak English, Spanish and Mandarin. And he was so humble that his brother, Lamont, did not even know that Eric had visited China until he had already returned.

Gore is survived by his mother, Shirley; stepfather Charlie; wife Zenaida; daughter Logan; former wife, Erica; a brother and five stepsons.

Anyone who has passed Engine 37 on Highland Avenue, where Gore worked, the past year has undoubtedly noticed all of the construction going on. Mayor Jim Kenney, along with several other city officials, broke ground June 26 of last year on a \$9 million, two-year renovation and expansion of the city's oldest active firehouse.

Engine 37's station was originally designed by Philadelphia architect John Torrey Windrim in 1894. The redesign by Cecil Baker and Partners will add 3,408 square feet to the current facility, which is 8,678 square feet.

"We are beginning a \$9 million project to renovate this historic 125-year-old firehouse," the mayor said. "When this station was built in 1894, the fire department was using horse-drawn equipment, and the attic above the building was a hay loft. Today it is difficult for 21st century fire trucks to fit through these doors, which are only nine and a half feet wide. Over the next two years, we will overhaul this building to find sufficient space for fire vehicles and modern amenities for the hard-working members of our department."

Len Lear can be reached at lenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com

## death notice

### ADA PUGLIA

ADA PUGLIA (nee Tome), age 98, on June 16, 2020 formerly of Chestnut Hill. Wife of the late Guido Puglia. Survived by her sons Luigi (Elizabeth), David (Alexis), and John (Paula), 6 grandchildren, a brother and sister in Italy. She loved cooking, gardening and sewing. Due to current restrictions, funeral and interment will be private. (Jacob F. Ruth)

## death notice

### Holly C. Jerdan

Holly C. Jerdan, 58, of Chestnut Hill, passed away on April 1, 2020. Wife of Kenneth M. Lind, Mother of Rayna M. Lind, Daughter of Albert & Constance Jerdan. Sister of Stephen, Wayne & Charlene Gumkowski, Sister-in-law to Dave Gumkowski, Jamie Jerdan & Judi Jerdan. Aunt to Alyssa Bernard & James Gumkowski.

## death notice

### Ann MacMurtrie Hill

Ann MacMurtrie Hill, formerly a resident of Chestnut Hill, died in Blue Bell of Covid-19 complications on 16 June 2020. She was 96. During her quarter century living in Chestnut Hill she was an active parishioner of Our Mother of Consolation and a volunteer at Bird-in-Hand. Her husband, James J. H. Hill, died in 16 October 2018. She is survived by their five children as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Committal and interment will be private.

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# Mt. Airy WWII vet, 94, 'Today Show' subject, dies of Covid

by Len Lear

In May, Howard Aronson, 70, was "Face-Timing" twice a week for 15 to 20 minutes each time with his dad, Richard, 94, who was living at the Abramson Center for Jewish Life in North Wales. Family members were not able to visit Richard in person because of the pandemic.

"His health was reasonably good for his age," said Howard. "I was 'kibitzing' with him on a Tuesday about an article he had read in the Inquirer that day about Drexel. We both graduated from Drexel, so he was interested in the article. He told me he had a cold, but he was enjoying his meals and reading the Inquirer every day, and the following Monday he was dead from the coronavirus."

Richard may have been just one of the more than 120,000 Americans who have died of Covid-19 in less than four months, but he is now known to millions of Americans because of a two-minute Today Show tribute on Sunday, June 7. It was the day after the 76th anniversary of D-Day, and the Today Show regularly does profiles of people of all ages who have died of the virus. On that day they chose to feature Richard Aronson.

"We knew the day before that the Today Show might possibly be doing the feature," said Howard. "They had contacted us and asked for photos at various stages of his life, which we sent. They wanted a World War II veteran, and there were some other twists (angles) they really liked, such as the fact that he led the company that laid the brickwork for the home of the Liberty Bell during the last part of the 20th century. I can't believe how many people saw the Today Show piece."

A Philadelphia native, Richard raised his family in a rowhouse in East Mt. Airy. "It was a Jewish ghetto back then," said Howard. "We had a great life. I walked to Edmonds Elementary School and Leeds Junior High and took a bus to Central High. My sister, Sue, went to Girls High. We never



In the Army during World War II, Aronson was a sergeant in the Armed Services Radio who played music to lift the spirits of the troops in combat.

even thought about bad things happening. We would leave the back door open and didn't lock the car."

Richard receiving a scholastic merit award for the highest grade point average one semester while attending Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon), but he transferred to Drexel, where he was the editor of the school paper one year and earned a degree in mechanical engineering.

In the Army during World War II, he was a sergeant in the Armed Services Radio and was known to broadcast horse races that the troops bet on by replaying races that had run "back home" a day or so earlier. "So a few precious few actually knew the outcome,

and the stories of betting arguments were told in my house for years after," said Howard, who now practices intellectual property law.

"He played music for his show that at the time was done with glass 78-RPM records on a record player. He came back from the war with boxes of glass records that we later could not play because by then record players were only for 33 or 45-RPM records. During the war he had a jeep or jeep access, a rare accommodation, as he had to get around to do research for broadcasting, and told me stories of heating up coffee in metal mugs by placing the cups on the running engine block. He was lucky not to have been in combat."

## death notice

### Carol A. Meehan

Meehan, Carol A. (nee Foley) (June 12, 2020). Age 87. Of Naples FL., formally of Flourtown. Beloved wife of Peter Meehan. Loving mother to Christopher (Anita) Meehan, and the late Peter Meehan Jr. She will also be missed by her many nephews and nieces. Carol was born in Spokane, WA, and graduated from Sacred Heart School of Nursing as an RN. She married Peter on June 12, 1954, who was stationed in Spokane, in the Air Force. They lived in Flourtown where Carol mainly worked at Chestnut Hill Pediatric Group. When Carol discovered Naples, it became her pride and joy. In 1986 they moved to Naples. Carol found the Neighborhood Health Clinic and she was so happy to volunteer there over the years. At this time Carol's family would like to thank you for your thoughts and prayers. Due to the current circumstances her services will be private. In lieu of flowers contributions in Carol's name may be made to the Neighborhood Health Clinic, 88 12th Street N. Suite 100, Naples FL 34102; <https://neighborhoodhealthclinic.thankyou4caring.org/Donate-Now> or to Avow Hospice, 1095 Whipoorwill Lane, Naples FL 34105; <http://www.avowcares.org/donate-to-avow/>.



After the war, Richard became the owner of the Jack Casper Bricklaying Company and long-time president of the Employing Bricklayers Association, the management that negotiated with unions. He also founded the Beachcomber Swim Club ("They sold bonds to build it") and the West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center "to fill a religious void in a predominately new Jewish area ... The original edifice was constructed for other purposes, but it was purchased and converted to a Jewish Temple and

community center. The building loan was arranged by my father and his neighbors at his urging and direction."

Richard was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Bettina ("Tina"), in 2012. "But my mother only cooked for 20 of them!" said Howard. In addition to Howard, Richard is survived by his daughter, Sue Samuels of Upper Gwynedd; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Len Lear can be reached at [llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com](mailto:llenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com)

## death notice

### Nadine Michelle Caputo

Nadine Michelle Caputo, age 60, of Chestnut Hill, PA passed away peacefully on Friday, April 10, 2020 after a long, courageous battle with cancer. She is survived by her two children Alexa and Andrew Haines, her two brothers, Steven and Peter Caputo, as well as her parents, Nerina and Maurice Caputo, her nieces Susan and Sarah and her nephew David, as well as four grandchildren Talulah, Elliot, Vivienne, and Erik, and her husband, Alfred O'Neill. Born in Jersey City, N.J. on March 5, 1960, Nadine graduated from Roxbury High School and received a BA in Accounting and MBA from Lehigh University. In 1981, she married Robert Haines, a fellow member of the Lehigh University band, the Marching 97. Despite getting divorced in 2014, they remained good friends and partners at Insaco Incorporated in Quakertown, where she worked with him as an accountant, CFO and advisor for 25 years. Besides her deep love for family, Nadine had a driving passion for life and all its gifts – specifically, she loved music, Classic Hollywood and travel. A flute and piccolo player, she was a member of the Lehigh University Marching '97 marching band and became their first female band manager in 1981. Having kept up her skills from her marching band days, she joined the Quakertown band in 2006 and various chamber groups in the Philadelphia area. It was a great honor for her to be elected the first female president of this 140 years-old community band. The songs, lyrics and musical numbers of Classic Hollywood were so engrained in her she could sing them all, tell you their backstory, and yet watch each one as if for the first time. All her life, whether with her family on family road trips to sailing the QM2, she had an insatiable desire to see the world and experience as much as she could – she made everything an adventure. After her diagnosis, she embraced this as never before. Just in 2018, she traveled to: New Years in London, UK; Valentine's Day in Fort Lauderdale; Aruba in March; April was in Big Sur, California; May found her hiking in St. George's, Zion and Bryce Canyons, Utah; June in Lisbon, Portugal; her beloved Bermuda in September; Maine, Quebec and Montreal in October; Paris, France in November; completing the year she visited several cities of Central Europe, ending with New Year's in Vienna; 2019 began with her touring Prague and Budapest. Amazingly, she did all this between treatments.

Of her many admirable traits, she always put family and others needs first. A quiet philanthropist to many organizations, Nadine was a very active Lehigh alumna and co-sponsored a scholarship for deserving students with her ex-husband as well as supported the School of Education's program working with "Caring for Cambodia", which focused on bringing education to poor children in Cambodia. Due to COVID-19, an in-person memorial service is postponed until circumstances are safe. There will be a celebration of her life sometime this fall. Nadine defined devotion as a daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother and friend. Her love of classic Hollywood, her flute playing and music, boundless generosity and unremitting sense of decorum and decency will be remembered. She will be missed by all. In lieu of any expressions of sympathy, the family would appreciate memorial donations be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, TN. 38105; or the Quakertown Band, 112 N. Hellertown Ave.; Quakertown, PA 18951.



## Obituary Policy

The Chestnut Hill Local now accepts death notices up until 5 p.m. Friday for our paper published the following Thursday. They are approximately 2" wide and are billed at \$35 an inch deep or portion thereof (a one-inch ad is approximately 40 words). Photos are an additional \$20. The purchase of a death notice includes five copies of the issue in which the notice is printed, which may be picked up at our office. Once we receive your notice, we will send you a proof and a price, which can be paid by credit card.

To submit a death notice, please send it to [classifieds@chestnuthilllocal.com](mailto:classifieds@chestnuthilllocal.com), by fax to 215-248-8814 or by mail to 8434 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19118.

News obituaries may also be submitted to the Local. They are run on a selective basis at the discretion and with the editing of the news staff, and are printed without charge. To submit information for an obituary, please send it via e-mail to [obits@chestnuthilllocal.com](mailto:obits@chestnuthilllocal.com), by fax to 215-248-8814 or by mail to 8434 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118.

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## Roxborough Hospital's nursing students help Fight against COVID-19

As the impact of COVID-19 was being felt throughout the Philadelphia area over the last three months, students at Roxborough School of Nursing stepped up to lend a hand.

From the beginning of March, seniors in the Roxborough nursing program volunteered at Roxborough Memorial Hospital to help anyway they could, from answering phones, calming patients, assisting staff with COVID-19 screenings, and easing the minds of patients experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or anxiety related to the pandemic.

"The students were quick learners and were able to use their critical thinking skills," said Roxborough School of Nursing Dean Paulina Marra-Powers RN, EdD, MSN. "There are some things you can't teach, like empathic listening, and these students did really well."

The volunteers came at an opportune time as beds at Roxborough filled with COVID-19 patients, overwhelming staff and leaving the hospital with immense challenges.

"The students stepped up when they learned the organization needed nursing students to act in extern roles," said Academic Coordinator

and Nursing Instructor Louise Augenbraun RN, MSN. "They needed to multitask, and deal with some very worried and scared patients. They were able to calm nerves, and they knew what to say to the patients and their families to ease their minds, especially when asked about recent businesses that were closing in the area."

Marra-Powers said the experience was invaluable for the future nurses.

"I think they are gaining a new appreciation for public health and what public health means," she said. "And it's reflective of the level of civic engagement they have."

Nursing student volunteers said their training at Roxborough School of Nursing prepared them to help during an unprecedented public health emergency.

"When Roxborough Memorial Hospitals cases increased, I just jumped in and answered their calls for assistance," said nursing student Nicoletta Carson 24, of Roxborough.

Nursing student Vickie Phan, 26 of Northeast Philadelphia, was working in different sections of the hospital based on staffing needs each day.

"The pandemic is obviously something that has changed the



Alexis Moros (left) and Vickie Phan were among a group of Roxborough nursing students who were pressed into crisis service as their hospital handled COVID-19 cases. They were among a class of 77 students who graduated on June 19.

entire world, so as many helping hands will help any department in need," she said. "I'm glad to be a part of it. It's a great start to a good career as far as helping people and saving lives."

Nursing student Zhino Rasheed 36, of Philadelphia who moved here from Sulaymaniya, Iraq, said she was overwhelmed at first.

"As I helped with cases, I realized, yes, I was prepared," she said.

"The nice thing about being a senior nursing student is we have seen all varieties of patients and medical treatments. In this case, it wasn't so much about medicine, but about interacting with different patients and staff, just like we did in our clinical rotations."

While she is still applying to job offers in the Philadelphia area, Alexis Moros, 27 of Philadelphia, said she is not worried about working around patients with COVID-19. In fact, she actually wishes she could head north to a state like New York, where the need for nurses is greater than here at home.

"I'm an eager nursing student and I'm ready to get started. I want to help where I'm most needed," she said.

"I've never worked anywhere where the students are so engaged," Dr. Marra-Powers said. "Most of them do between 24 to 100 hours of community service each semester, from community senior center events, staffing a first aid tent at the Roxborough Bike Marathon and Roxborough Day, to creating food baskets for the community. We have amazing students."

For more information about the nursing program, visit [roxboroughmemorial.com/School-of-Nursing.aspx](http://roxboroughmemorial.com/School-of-Nursing.aspx) or call 215-487-4344.

## Stylist returns to Hill after salon closed by pandemic

(Continued from page 1)

because that is where we had sponsors who were providing us with work and shelter and everything else we needed to start our lives in the U.S."

Elvira went to college at first to get a degree in business but then decided to go back to school to become a cosmetologist, graduating in 2000. She then worked in Chestnut Hill for five years at Spa Elysium before starting The Beehive in the Art Museum area.

"For almost 11 years we had a great run there," she said. "Year 2020 was supposed to be our best year yet, but then on the 16th of March we were ordered to shut down. It was a sad feeling on many levels. This country has given me everything I ever dreamed of, and now the coronavirus has taken it away."

"I had to make a decision to walk away from it based on the fact of uncertainty and potential debt accumulation. At the time my only priority and concern was to take care of my child and to make sure whatever decision I made would end up to be the best one for him. So I contacted Wendy Feldman, and she generously offered me my old position back at Spa Elysium."

When asked what is the hardest thing she has ever done, Elvira said, "The hardest thing I have ever done was opening up my business and learning what it's like to be the one in charge of people, clients, reputation and so forth. But the best advice I have ever received was: 'Those who don't take risks don't drink champagne.'"

In April, Governor Tom Wolf unveiled a color-coded plan for the state to reopen amid the coronavirus pandemic. In this plan he broke it down by placing each county into a phase: red, yellow or green. In the green phase hair salons, gyms and other personal care services can open at 50% occupancy.

"We cannot believe we have been closed for this long and that we do not have a definite date we can open," said Feldman, "although I have heard some rumors that green may be happening around the 26th. We will be ready whenever the date is. We can't wait to see our clients; they are like family to us."

Regarding the new requirements established by the Pa. State Board of Cosmetology, Feldman said, "We are very lucky because we have over 5000 square feet of space with lots of room to social distance and 60 feet of French doors that can be opened to let fresh air in."

"All of our stations are on wheels, so they can be moved six feet from each other. I have also been doing some renovations while we were closed. We got a new roof, new lighting in our color area and new floors in our spa and color area, among other things. We are also considering putting canopies up on the parking lot to do haircuts outside if a client prefers to stay outside."

For more information, call 215-247-2007 or email [elysium91@aol.com](mailto:elysium91@aol.com). Len Lear can be reached at [lelear@chestnuthilllocal.com](mailto:lelear@chestnuthilllocal.com)

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## SPORTS

## Community

## SCH grad signs with NWSL's Washington Spirit

by Tom Utescher

Meghan McCool's senior season at the University of Virginia drew to a close last fall in the NCAA tournament. That wouldn't be the end of the talented forward's soccer career, though.

Last week, the former Springside Chestnut Hill Academy star signed a contract to play professionally for the Washington Spirit of the National Women's Soccer League, the premier pro league in the United States.

"I'm super excited, and it's fun so far," she exclaimed. "I decided I wanted to stay kind of local, and this was the best opportunity for me. I had been training with them [the Spirit] for awhile, and when the [COVID-19] quarantine lifted, they offered me a contract."

McCool will begin to enjoy real competition with the Spirit toward the end of June, when the NWSL launches a month-long series of games outside of Salt Lake City called the Utah Challenge Cup.

At the University of Virginia McCool played in 88 games, starting in half of those and serving as a team captain as a senior in 2019. She was named to the All-Atlantic Coast Conference First Team last fall, when she shared high-scorer honors in the conference with her UVA teammate, Diana Ordonez.

During her high school career, Springside Chestnut Hill had yet

to develop into the Inter-Ac League power that it is today. McCool was double or triple-teamed by most opposing teams, but still scored 136 goals as a Blue Devil.

The highlight of her college career was her senior season. Virginia entered the NCAA tournament with a record of 16-1-3, its lone loss coming in overtime against North Carolina in the ACC tournament finals. A regional number one seed for the NCAA's, the Cavaliers began the tournament with a 3-0 victory over Radford (Va.), but then their season ended unexpectedly in the second round with a 3-2 loss to the Cougars of Washington State University.

After that, McCool wasn't sharply focused on the continuation of her soccer career, but in March she was invited by the Spirit to attend their pre-season training camp in Florida. This occurred largely during her spring break at UVA, and due to the pandemic, the school year never resumed.

"I went back home," said the Glenside native, "and I was able to spend a lot of time with my family, which was super nice."

On the pro soccer front, she related, "It all began to happen pretty fast from the middle of May. I hadn't been sure what I wanted to do, and this opportunity just kind of came about and I went for it. For the time being, I'm living with a host family in an apartment in their house."



SCH alum Meghan McCool warms up before a 2019 NCAA tournament game at the University of Virginia. (Photo by Tom Utescher)

McCool's classmate and teammate at UVA, defender Phoebe McClernon out of the Academy of Notre Dame, was drafted by another NWSL franchise, the Orlando Pride. During their high school years, the two Inter-Ac League stars played club soccer together for Penn Fusion.

It had taken McCool a little while to adjust to the transition from high school to college soc-

cer, but now she said she's finding that the professional game "is a whole new ball park. This is the biggest jump I have seen in levels."

At present, she explained, "I'm focusing on keeping up with the speed of play. It's so fast, and when you think you have a minute to think about what you're going to do with the ball, there's somebody on your back

instantly, somebody making a tackle. I've always had the advantage of being very fit, but obviously everybody here is in fantastic shape, and they're strong."

The former SCH standout summed up, "It's definitely been an adjustment, but every day I play, I feel more comfortable and more confident."

## SCH prepares for football season as pandemic restrictions begin to ease

by Greg Starks

While Coronavirus remains a threat, high school teams across the country are trying to figure out how to work out together while also abiding by the social distancing rules. The summer is typically a time during which football teams workout together to prepare for the upcoming season, but with the virus still very much a concern, teams have had to stay home. Springside Chestnut Hill Academy's football team has been trying to find their way around this issue.

"Basically," said senior linebacker Carnell Kemp. "We've just been having Zoom or Google meet workouts every Monday, Wednesday and Friday since quarantine. I think it has helped team chemistry. We are still working together, but it's still not as effective as getting on the field like we are used to."

The team may soon be able to get onto the field and workout together, according to head coach Rick Knox, as Philadelphia entered the yellow stage of the pandemic, which eases some of the restrictions that had been in place prior. The team, Knox said, could be back on the field on June 22.

"Until we reach the green phase, We have to be in groups of 25 or less and stay six feet away from each other while doing drills," Knox said. "We also cannot use any equipment at first. So we will be doing footwork, speed and agility training and conditioning only."

With so much uncertainty

going into this season, it's normal to be afraid that all these changes are going to have a negative effect on the team, but senior quarterback AJ Graham has a different mindset.

"I wouldn't say afraid," Graham said. "Just hoping that it doesn't. I have trust that everyone has been doing what they need to be doing."

Because of the at-home and social-distance aware training, Knox has had to rely on his senior leaders more than he has had to in the past. When Philadelphia entered the yellow, some seniors have taken upon themselves to schedule workouts with teammates.

"Being a senior and hopefully a captain," Kemp said. "We just have to work on talking to the younger guys and building up their confidence to be able to build up the team chemistry and have a great season."

Even though there is a lot going on in the world right now, between pandemic quarantines and wide-spread protests over racial equality and police brutality, coach Knox maintains a positive attitude and says he believes sports are a great way of providing an escape from the real world.

"In short, because it is something to look forward to," Knox said. "We have all been doing so little and out of routine, it will be great to see the players in person and start working towards a common goal. Sports have a way of increasing morale and will give us a respite from the real world for a little."

Knox plans on using football as



Coach Rich Knox at team training in 2016 (Photo by Jonathan Vader Lugt)

a way to unite his players. As the nation and city seems divided these days, Knox said he believes that football can bring his team together. He wants the team to be a place where kids of very diverse backgrounds can come together for a common goal and understanding.

"I also greatly look forward to working with the team to make

sure it is a safe and respectful place for every one of our players," he said. "I want our black players to feel fully accepted and equal and build allies for racial justice amongst our white players. I look forward to starting with a small section of our community to make it an example of what our country should be."

Although the football season is

still in question, SCH is still preparing for a full season. Coach Knox and SCH know that a successful season means more than just the number of games won but more importantly the lives changed for the better.

Greg Starks is a rising senior at Springside Chestnut Hill Academy.

**SPORTS**

**Community**

**Mount hoops standout Niekelski commits to Dartmouth**

by Tom Utescher

Mount St. Joseph Academy's basketball team played its final game in early March, appearing in the first round of the PIAA Class 5A tournament. The Magic lost that game, but it turned out even the winners wouldn't get much farther, as the season was soon ended due to fears over COVID-19.

While there are still many Coronavirus clouds on the horizon, the Mount's top player has found a clear path to the college level of play. Grace Niekelski, a six-foot guard/forward who has just finished her junior year, has made a verbal commitment to Dartmouth College.

Having played organized basketball since the sixth grade and having been eyed up by college recruiters for some time, Niekelski said, "It's great to finally get the college decision done. It's exciting to really know where I'm headed, especially since my AAU season [with The Comets] being cut short."

Niekelski has been a starter for Mount St. Joe's ever since she arrived as a freshman. This past January, only midway through her junior season, she scored her 1000th point as a Mountie, and at the end of the season

she became an All-State Third Team selection.



The Mount's Grace Niekelski takes a jump shot from beyond the foul line during a 2020 District I tournament game. (Photo by Tom Utescher)

Matt Feeney, who began his first campaign as MSJ head coach last fall, remarked that as a first-year skipper, "It was great to have a player of Grace's caliber, along with an experienced team."

For opposing ball clubs, he noted, "She's a lot to handle on the offensive end. She can take the ball to the hoop, she can shoot a jump shot, and she can handle

the ball well. She's big and strong, and she plays the game aggressively."

In her college search, she considered several other Ivy League schools, but eventually her "short list" came down to Dartmouth, the College of William and Mary, and Loyola (MD) University.

Academic reputation was an important factor in her final deci-

sion. She's a strong student like her older sister Maddie, a former Mount athlete who has just finished her freshman year at Notre Dame.

In addition to the academic opportunities that would be hers in Hanover, NH, she got a good feeling from the Dartmouth coaching staff.

"It seems like I've known them for so long, and I feel comfortable with them," Niekelski said. "I visited twice, and I thought it was just the best fit for me."

Dartmouth basketball is roughly in the middle of the Ivy League pack along with Harvard; the two schools split in their home-away series this past season.

"They said I could be making an immediate impact when I come in," she related. "They're trying build up the program with the class ahead of me and with my class."

Her parents have been fixtures in the stands at Mount St. Joseph games, and Niekelski projects, "They'll probably try to be there a lot when I'm in college, too."

Her academic interests at the Mount have included subjects such as English, history, and science, and she said she plans to pursue a pre-law curriculum at Dartmouth.

On the court, she now knows she'll definitely be preparing for a Division I college career.

Coach Feeney commented, "I haven't had that much contact with her since the season because we obviously weren't able to play in a summer league, but I think she be working on things like strength and conditioning, ball handling, and refining her offensive moves."

The Mount's 2019-20 team captain, point guard Lauren Vesey, has graduated, but Feeney noted, "Grace has been a leader on the floor by the way she plays basketball. She loves to play hard all the time, and kids will follow her example."

Niekelski was asked what specific aspects of her game she'll focus on for her senior season, she responded, "My ballhandling. This year I think I'll have more of an opportunity to handle the ball because we lost our point guard. That'll help me, because at the next level defenders will be faster and more up on you."

Also, she'll no longer be one of the tallest players on the court.

As she pointed out, "I'll be pushed outside a lot more."

The Mount's Feeney remarked, "I think Grace is preparing herself very well to play at the next level, and she's actually been doing that for a number of years. It's been a goal of hers, and she's put in the work necessary to achieve that goal. Congratulations to her for remaining so focused."

**Community Matters: Why fences, and what to build?**

(Continued from page 7)

of height or species. Once established, they are an asset to the environment and wildlife.

Fences are a fine thing. Like a frame around a picture, they can create a sense of definition that completes the image. For the owner, they can create a sense of safety and freedom within their own property. For the passerby

and neighbors, they can also create a sense of safety, knowing that that soccer ball or running dog is not coming their way. With visual transparency between properties, fences can enhance a sense of community and continuity, and an acknowledgment of shared interests.

Celeste Hardester is the development review coordinator for the CHCA's Physical Division.



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**NOTICE OF NOMINATION  
FOR AT-LARGE DIRECTOR**

I, the undersigned, submit my nomination for At-Large Director of the CHCA Board of Directors, and hereby signify my intent and willingness to serve, if elected, and to adhere to the bylaws and the mission of the CHCA.

Candidate's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate's Name (please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and accept the terms of the 2020 Election Rules and Procedures

---

Signature and Printed Names of Two (2) Additional CHCA Members Supporting Nomination:

1. Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE:** Nominations must be received by the  
CHCA Office, 8434 Germantown Ave. Phila. PA 19118, or via email - [info@chestnuthill.org](mailto:info@chestnuthill.org)  
**NO LATER than 10a.m. Monday, July 6, 2020**  
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**CHESTNUT HILL** **\$2,250,000**  
Set in an idyllic location across from the Philadelphia Cricket Club's historic St. Martins golf course, this 4 bedroom, 6 full and 2 half bath home has been carefully updated and maintained by the current owner. Formal living and dining rooms, gourmet kitchen with breakfast room, 2-story great room with gas fireplace, expansive master suite, all on 1.26 gorgeous acres with pool, gardens, multiple patios, and built-in BBQ.



**ELKINS PARK** **\$350,000**  
If you're drawn to historic architectural details, large porches, cozy reading nooks and spacious sunlit rooms, 1100 Melrose Avenue may be the home for you. Built in 1900, this late Victorian/early Queen Anne is looking for its next owners to bring their love, vision and ambition. Clad in cedar shingles and Wissahickon schist, this home boasts a recently restored porch which offers a peaceful spot to relax while sipping a morning coffee or glass of wine.



**CHESTNUT HILL** **\$475,000**  
Protected by shade trees, this 3-story stone semi-detached home, offers 6 bedrooms and 2 baths. Long a home to a loving family, it is now available for a new buyer to bring life and good times to this spacious residence. From the front porch to the handsome staircase, to the private rear yard, to the short walk to Chestnut Hill shops or commuter train, this is a special property.



**ELKINS PARK** **\$289,900**  
Living is made easy in this impeccably maintained and thoughtfully updated colonial in Elkins Park. Imagine preparing meals and entertaining in this beautiful and functional open concept kitchen. Recently remodeled, there are high-quality cabinets, stainless steel appliances, a gas range with hood venting outside, recessed lighting, tile backsplash and gorgeous granite countertops. The peninsula bar offers seating for four, while the dining area can easily fit a table for six to eight. The charming living room is anchored by a gas burning fireplace with elegant mantel and a pair of illuminated built-ins on the far end of the room.



**LANSDALE** **\$384,000**  
Pristine and rarely available, move-in-ready Turbo Loft unit in downtown Lansdale! Step into this fabulous 2 bed, 2 bath home and you will immediately be blown away by the 15 foot ceilings, the 10 foot Anderson windows and spectacular natural light, exposed brick and ductwork, custom plantation shutters, and beautiful 6 inch plank hardwood floors. The gourmet kitchen offers upgraded cabinetry, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops and custom-designed walk-in pantry. Sit at the counter bar for casual dining or drinks or dine in the spacious dining area. A private covered terrace off the living area is a great outdoor space to enjoy morning coffee or evening drinks.



**CHESTNUT HILL** **\$475,000**  
Spacious Chestnut Hill twin located in the heart of the village. First floor includes a large living room with French doors and fireplace, sunny dining room, updated light filled kitchen and a side entrance. The back of the house has a lovely room and full bath that could be a convenient first floor bedroom or the perfect home office. There are five additional bedrooms and two more full baths. Parking area as well as an enclosed yard with a gazebo and a storage shed. One can walk to all area conveniences, including the shops, restaurants and the Wissahickon trails, as well as the train to Center City.



**GERMANTOWN** **\$419,000**  
Located in a proud historic community, this 3-story Victorian stands out as elegant and inviting at the same time. 5+ bedrooms and 3 1/2 baths, 10 foot ceilings, crown moldings, all the natural light one would expect from oversized windows facing southwest. Central air, too! This is a special home in the Tulpehocken Station Historic District on the National Register, a home of artists and gardeners with a lovingly landscaped 333' deep lot.



**CHESTNUT HILL** **\$525,000**  
Rare opportunity in Prestigious Chestnut Hill neighborhood to own/invest and upgrade this 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath 2250+ sq. ft. home nestled in a treed expansive, level lot. Standard colonial style with added sunporch room. The family room has fireplace and sliders to the yard. Home has updated heating and cooling systems. Being sold as-is. Surprisingly affordable.



**LOWER GWYNEDD** **\$3200**  
Charming, bright, private, Lower Gwynedd home. 2,404 sq. ft. Cape Cod style. Three Bedroom, two full baths, detached garage, basement with Washer/Dryer. The second floor has a spacious bedroom, very large Master closet, and ensuite bathroom. Bonus space for home office, workspace, Outside, a flagstone patio underneath a lovely awning. Air conditioning.

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Loretta Witt  
Anna C. Woodward

## Outdoor dining is back at many Chestnut Hill restaurants as restrictions ease

by Stacia Friedman

Reopen and they will come. That's what area restaurants are hoping as they expand their service from takeout to outdoor dining.

"Chestnut Hill's varied dining scene has long been one of its great assets, and flexible guidelines on outdoor dining are essential to our ability to recover from business shutdown over the past months," said Philip Dawson, executive director of the Chestnut Hill Business Association.

- Nothing says summer like soft shell crabs. And nobody does it better than Paul Roller, who takes the helm at McNally's every Wednesday night alongside chef Owen Lee.

"We are collaborating with Paul," said chef/owner Anne McNally. "On Wednesday nights we are exclusively featuring the dishes for which Paul is known." The Wednesday Specials include soft shell crabs, lobster rolls, chicken salad, potato salad, cole slaw and Paul's corn pudding. Leave room for Paul's strawberry shortcake, like grandma makes if she had apprenticed at The Frog. (Hint: Place your order early, starting at 11 a.m. They sell out fast.)

On Thursdays through Sundays, McNally's continues to offer takeout of over 20 items for lunch and dinner, including its chicken corn chowder and turkey chili, as well



Astrid and Oliver Burckhardt are delighted to have an outdoor dining experience at the Chestnut Hill Brewery. (Photo by Stacia Friedman)

as beer and cocktails. Outdoor dining at McNally's is limited to a few sidewalk tables for now, but they plan to expand into the adjacent storefront. On the horizon? Alcoholic slushies! 8634 Germantown Ave., www.McNallys.com

- The Saturday brunch crowd

has returned to the Valley Green Inn. "Our staff is ready to go!" said Jack Ott, manager of the historic inn. "In addition to our porch and covered patio, which can seat 90, we have additional tents that can add another 60 seats," he said. "Our priority is

following protocols for safety. We won't take any more reservations than social distancing guidelines allow."

The pandemic is just another challenge to Ott. "We've survived floods and fires. Whatever (Continued on page 23)

## Finally, after months, restaurant dining

by Len Lear

One year ago having dinner outdoors with my wife and sister-in-law at a gastropub would hardly have been something worth writing about. Having some spicy shrimp, fried onion rings, cold beer; ho-hum. You call that news?

But it felt like a very big deal when we ate at an actual restaurant on Friday, June 12, for the first time in three months! We felt as if we had just been released from solitary confinement. Of course we did not forget what food tasted like because the only times we have left the house since mid-March have been to get food at Weavers Way, Acme or ShopRite or to pickup takeout pizza or Chinese food. I only wish there was a restaurant called "All You Can Eat to Go."

Still, the shock of an actual charming server, Tessa (who I think was smiling behind the mask; not sure), taking an order was exhilarating. She could have been speaking in Bulgarian. That would have been fine. We would have pointed to the items on the menu that we wanted.

We ate outdoors on a perfect spring evening at Baggataway Tavern at 31 Front St. in West (Continued on page 21)

## Hill musician brings joy to all, thanks to pandemic

by Len Lear

Like many people, my wife and I would normally celebrate a birthday, anniversary or other special event by splurging at a fine restaurant. Last month, however, that was impossible, so I had to think of another idea since our 55th wedding anniversary was coming up. As fate would have it, when my mind was drawing blanks, I saw a short human interest piece on a local TV station about Dottie's Serenade Service performing in front of a Philly rowhouse with neighbors looking on.

Dot, I discovered, is Dot Levine, 34, a professional musician who until the pandemic was teaching at the Jewish Children's Folkshul ("a very thoughtful organization committed to social justice"), whose classes with six to 20 children have been held on the Springside/Chestnut Hill Academy campus for nine years, as well as performing at local clubs, bars, restaurants, etc., and with a band at private events like weddings and bar mitzvahs. Obviously, that was all erased by the pandemic, although Dot still gives music lessons to children



Dot Levine, a professional musician who until the pandemic was teaching at the Jewish Children's Folkshul on the Springside/Chestnut Hill Academy campus, now runs Dottie's Serenade Service. Here she delivers a singing telegram on Mt. Airy Avenue. (Photo by Len Lear)

virtually.

"For the first two weeks (of the pandemic) I did nothing," said Dot. "So many things were cancelled, so I realized I had to come up with something new. And the idea hit me about doing singing

telegrams in front of people's houses. It would be easy to keep social distancing, and who wouldn't like to be surprised with a singing telegram?"

The idea was sheer genius. Requests started flooding in, not

to mention media publicity that has kept the phone ringing. "I am now able to afford to buy things I need," said Dot. "I have had calls from as far away as Nashville and Salt Lake City from people who wanted to surprise a friend or

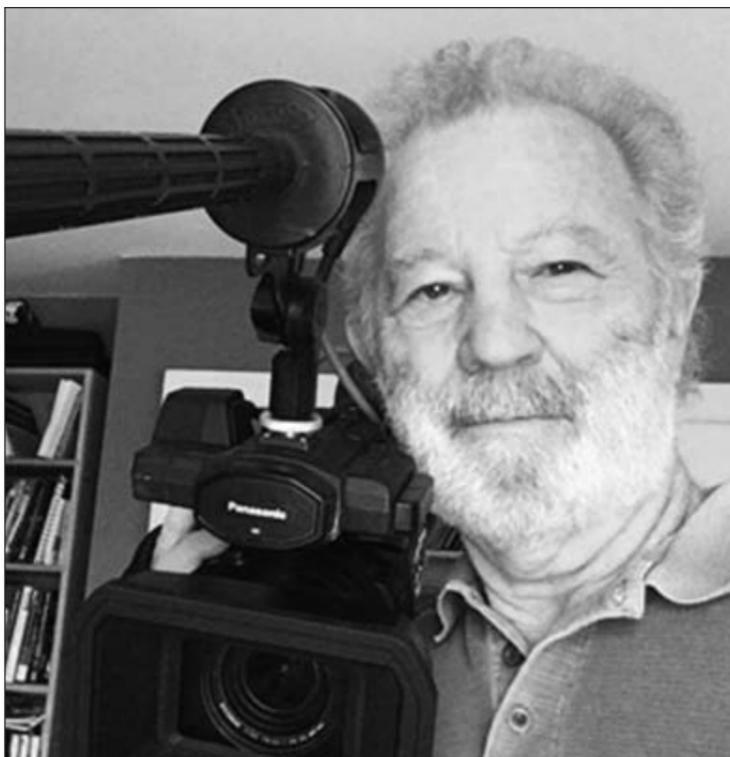
loved one in Philly with a singing telegram. How lucky am I to be able to do this? People say, 'I really needed that' or 'This meant the world to me' or 'I will never forget this.' I will do this forever, and I would not have had the leverage to do it if it wasn't for the pandemic!"

In our case, Dot came by at 4 p.m. on the day of our anniversary and while standing on Mt. Airy Avenue (there is no sidewalk) began playing the guitar and singing. It was a total shock to my wife, but it was an exhilarating, hilarious experience for both of us as Dot played and sang two songs I have selected, "Softly as I Leave You," by Matt Monroe (which has a personal meaning), and "The Anniversary Song" (for obvious reasons). We could not stop smiling and laughing as cars drove by and joggers came out of the park, also smiling. How could you not? From a young age, Dot and their family would perform at small outings during the holidays, which enhanced their versatility and love for music. Dot's mom was a jazz vocalist and sculptor, and dad played the harmonica and guitar. Dot, who took music (Continued on page 19)

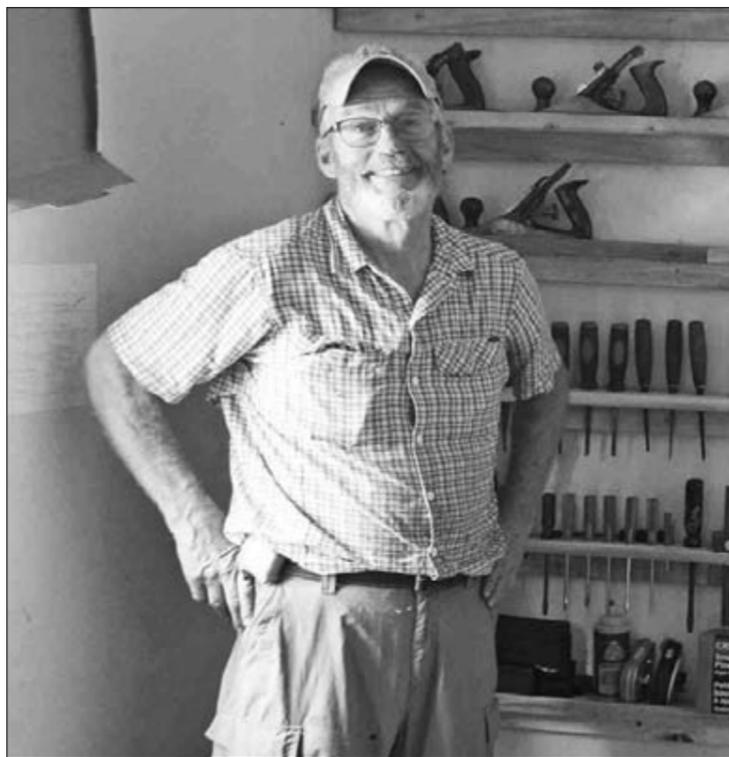
# Hill school founder, volunteers donate skills in Uganda

by Barbara Wybar

*Ed.note: Chestnut Hill resident Barbara Birks Wybar, a mother of four, was a teaching assistant at Germantown Friends School and then taught second grade at Chestnut Hill Academy for 10 years. But in 2007, Barbara left her house on Rex Avenue to go to a village called Bududa in Uganda, East Africa, where she has been the driving force behind the building, staffing and operation of the Bududa Vocational Institute (BVA), a school that now turns out graduates who can earn a living, something that was barely possible before when the village had no school. She also raises funds to feed AIDS orphans.*



Ron Kanter of East Falls, a videographer, recently volunteered to travel to Uganda, East Africa, with Chestnut Hill's Barbara Wybar, founder of a school there, to film the school's graduates working at their respective trades.



Jim Sharp, of Glenside, who owned and operated an architectural woodworking company in our area for many years, volunteered his services to Wybar's school for one month.

In late January, 2020, I traveled to Bududa, Uganda, with local volunteers Ron Kanter of East Falls and Jim Sharp of Glenside, both in their 70s. We had met many times previously around my kitchen table, and we even bought our air tickets together.

They came with the intention of helping in the carpentry

department and wherever they were needed. Ron, a videographer, brought all his essential video and audio equipment.

Before setting off, we skyped with the head of the Bududa Vocational Academy (BVA) carpentry department, Godfrey Sakwa. This is the school in Bududa I help support. Jim and Ron wanted to understand how things were made by Bududans, who mostly use hand tools. In our first call, we were presented with a list of the electrical carpentry tools the BVA carpentry department would like to acquire.

I was a bit shocked at this long list. However, thanks to a substantial donation from the Rotary Club of Toronto and funds from a generous donor in Charlotte, North Carolina, we were able to

purchase all the tools on the list in Kampala, the Ugandan capital, which is where we met up with Godfrey.

The eight-hour trip to Bududa, traveling in a small van with all of our luggage, the tools and groceries that are unobtainable in the village, was cramped, to say the least, but we made it and still in good humor, which is what these two wonderful men brought to the table, as well as a positive outlook at all times.

Before long they had both explored opportunities to help at BVA. Ron, the videographer, found a chance to pitch in with the graduates of our school and seize the opportunity to film them working at their respective trades.

His videos are poignant, to the

point, short and sweet. They tell a story. My favorite part is that of Fatuma, a recent young tailoring graduate who has her own tiny stall in one of the market areas in Bududa. Ron managed to film her sewing on her treadle machine, pedaling away with her pretty feet while recounting her hopes and dreams.

Ron then filmed another BVA success story, Nicholas, a Nursery Teacher Training graduate who started working at a local private school in Bududa while doing his teacher training. After student teaching, he was hired full-time. The school, called Prime Academy Elementary School, recognized that Nicholas was a fine teacher. Now he is teaching sixth grade. Ron has captured his story on video.

These videos are now on our website, bududa.org, and they reflect, in pictures and words, the reality of what we are accomplishing in this remote rural Ugandan village. Besides his videos, Ron wrote a blog, starting months before going to Bududa, and he kept telling his story after he got home. Whenever he wrote something new, friends of his would donate to BVA. This has been heartwarming, and these donations are still coming in.

Now let me tell you about Jim Sharp. Wow! He accompanied Ron, who remarked, "If I'm a carpenter, Jim is really a carpenter." Jim owned and operated an architectural woodworking company in the Philadelphia area for many years, and his aim was to offer his services to our school for a month. He had no idea of what he was getting into, but I knew that both of these men would be much loved by all the people who work and study at BVA, and I was right.

Jim poured his heart into the work he was so well versed in. We have rarely had such a volunteer. He saw the needs and set about meeting them.

He started with a workbench. The existing workbenches were pretty terrible. He did not criticize; with his positive attitude, he just got on with the job at hand. He drew up the plans, ordered the wood and used mainly hand tools but sometimes electrical ones to fashion a wonderful workbench for the carpentry department. We then ordered a powerful vice for it.

(Continued on page 22)



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## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Parks in 1955 news
- 5 Playful water critter
- 10 Picnic staple
- 14 Comic strip penguin
- 15 Most writing
- 16 First-rate
- 17 Card balance
- 18 Carry out (crime)
- 20 Install as king
- 22 Set up, perhaps
- 23 Touch up, as text
- 24 Hammerhead part
- 25 Thanksgiving Day event
- 27 Milton's "\_\_\_ Lost"
- 31 Little helper
- 32 Earliest stage
- 34 1,000 kilograms
- 35 Bit of slander
- 37 That group's
- 39 Close in on
- 40 Behind bars
- 42 Steer clear of
- 44 Caesar's seven
- 45 Not fit to eat
- 47 Full of testosterone
- 49 Planetary path
- 50 Plague
- 51 Egg entree
- 54 Closet repellent
- 57 Bag of tricks
- 59 Do as directed
- 60 One of the Waltons
- 61 Key word
- 62 Norwegian king
- 63 Broken-off branch
- 64 Has to have
- 65 Camping shelter

### DOWN

- 1 Was a passenger
- 2 Start the bidding



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- 3 Deceptive action
- 4 Bronchial disorder
- 5 Frazier, to Ali
- 6 Pollster's find
- 7 Damaged, as a ligament
- 8 Psychic ability
- 9 Pot, in the past
- 10 Costner's "Bull Durham" co-star
- 11 Fertile soil
- 12 Penny \_\_\_
- 13 Hoe target
- 19 Grab the tab
- 21 Start over
- 24 Place for a pergola
- 25 "GoodFellas" Oscar winner
- 26 Detective Pinkerton
- 27 Grievance
- 28 Sure to happen
- 29 Kind of mail
- 30 Chill-inducing
- 33 Must, in legalese
- 36 Reminiscent
- 38 WWII's Rosie and others
- 41 Greg Louganis, e.g.
- 43 Cable competitor
- 46 Securing strip
- 48 PC start-over
- 50 Filled with ennui
- 51 Loads from lodes
- 52 Nothing other than
- 53 Like some proportions
- 54 Parasitic insect
- 55 Emulate Pisa's tower
- 56 Uber rival
- 58 "Take \_\_\_"

### Answers to Last Week's Crossword:



# Local entrepreneur wants hotels to stop bugging people

by Suzanne Cloud

My intimate relationship with bed bugs began a few years ago when I was on a camping trip with my boyfriend. Tired of the tent, we decided to stop for one night at Grizzly Jack's Grand Bear Resort in North Utica, Illinois. After warm showers and a few drinks, we settled down for a restful night. But oh, it was not to be.

By 3 a.m., not knowing we had inadvertently rung the bed bug dinner bell, we were awakened by a stampede of "Cimex lectularias" making a feast of our blood. We screamed, shuddered, grabbed our clothes and drove like maniacs to a 24/7 laundromat to wash EVERYTHING in the hottest water. Appropriately, one of the 305 negative reviews for Grizzly Jack on TripAdvisor.com was mine.

Therefore, I'm happy to have just celebrated National Bed Bug Awareness Week (June 7-13) with an uplifting story about how some people are fighting the good fight against these nightmarish creatures. Turns out that the Philadelphia area is one of the top bed bug-infested cities in the country, so I decided to interview long-time Ambler entrepreneur Augustus "Gus" Carey, managing director and founder of Allergy Technologies, to get an update on what to do.

An extremely jovial bug man, Carey told me about his ActiveGuard Mattress Liners and how they are being used in a 500-unit low-income housing complex in Philadelphia to see if the mattress liners really do prevent bed bug reinfestation. He claims that the mattress liners kill bed bugs in or near mattresses and box springs with no airborne sprays or powders and that they afford continuous protection for up to two years.

"Councilman Mark Squilla has been a great help with getting the ATAHC [Allergy Technologies Affordable Housing Control and Prevention] program started. Right now, we have our liners in 488 units of affordable housing. It's the first program designed to prevent bedbugs in affordable housing, and we're hoping to take it nationwide soon."

The acronym for the program is pronounced "attack," and its cog-



Augustus "Gus" Carey, managing director and founder of Allergy Technologies in Ambler, holds up one of his company's ActiveGuard Mattress Liners, bed bug killers which Gus hopes will eventually be in thousands of hotels rooms.

nomen is fitting since the main ingredient, Permethrin, not only attacks the enemy within 10 minutes, killing and repelling bed bugs, but also dust mites, a leading cause of childhood asthma, and even ticks. Carey told me, "Permethrin is non-toxic, and it's been around for 40 years. It was first used in mosquito nets for malaria."

These flexible and durable mattress liners are treated with a unique formulation of this repellent, a synthetic version of pyrethrum, a natural insecticide derived from the chrysanthemum flower, and it not only kills the infestation, but it also "brings the allergen levels to zero for two years," according to Carey.

Carey's product sounds like it would be the perfect magnet for the TV show "Shark Tank," where entrepreneurs from around the country seek large sums of money from billionaire investors in return for a certain percentage of their company. Carey has spent millions of dollars on university research and marketing, but his product has not yet hit the big time. He currently has four employees, a plant in the United Kingdom and about \$1 million in sales per year.

But considering the cost to a hotel if it has a bedbug problem that winds up on social media, the potential for a product like ActiveGuard Mattress Liners is

huge.

Gus Carey and Joseph Latino, president of technology, are hoping to resume the Philly program, which was stopped due to the COVID-19 pandemic, later this month when Governor Wolf lifts the restriction levels to yellow and green in our area.

After Grizzly Jack's, my boyfriend and I were so paranoid, we spent the next two years inspecting every mattress for bed bugs in every place we stayed on vacation. What a buzzkill. Luckily, these inexpensive mattress liners are available to hotels (you'll never get them to admit to having bed bugs!), college dorms, apartments and private homes, and I hope every establishment invests in this product, especially Grizzly Jack; it just might save his business.

When I was a girl and DDT had pretty much eliminated bed bugs from the scene (and many other living things), my parents would say to me every night, "Good night, sleep tight, don't let the bed bugs bite!" I'd ask them, "What's a bed bug?" Well, now we know. They're back, and they are biting. Happy Bed Bug Awareness Week that just ended!

For more information, visit [allergytechnologies.com](http://allergytechnologies.com). Suzanne Cloud is a local author, freelance writer and jazz singer with a doctorate degree from the University of Pennsylvania.



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# Hill musician brings joy to all, thanks to pandemic

(Continued from page 17)

lessons as a child but is mostly self-taught, became a full-time performer in their early 20s, allowing them to tour across the country with bands, guitarists and other instrumentalists.

Dot, who teaches guitar, bass, banjo and voice and runs the Cedar Park Music School and Philadelphia Uke (Ukulele) Music Studio, said the most common reason for a singing telegram is a birthday. Some people let Dot pick the music, and others may pick a song from a category like friendship, leaving a job, missing someone, etc. One person picked "The Sabbath Prayer" from "Fiddler on the Roof."

By far the most popular band whose songs are selected is The Beatles, such as "An Octopus' Garden," "Here Comes the Sun,"

"With a Little Help From My Friends" and selections from "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" album. Billy Joel songs are also popular.

Dot will travel up to an hour for a singing telegram, so they did turn down one request to go to Cape May. "I had two jobs this week from people who wanted to get married but couldn't because of the pandemic." When I jokingly asked if people ever want a large group of musicians to show up, Dot replied, "Actually I know of a case where a really rich man wanted an entire orchestra to come out when he would be proposing to his lady friend. So the orchestra showed up, and he asked the woman to marry him, but she said no! ... Of course, the musicians still had to be paid." For more information, visit

[singinggram.net](http://singinggram.net) or call 215-353-7071. Len Lear can be reached at [lenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com](mailto:lenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com)

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[www.bakerstreetbread.com](http://www.bakerstreetbread.com)

### BARRY'S BUNS

Sticky buns, cinnamon rolls & more!

#### Service Options:

Takeout, curbside pickup

#### Location:

8221 Germantown Ave. -

Inside the Market at the Fareway

#### Hours:

Thurs, Fri, Sat. 9a-3p

#### More Info:

267-521-2867

Facebook: [barrysbuns](https://www.facebook.com/barrysbuns)

### CAMPBELL'S PLACE

Full menu and family style meals with beer, growlers, wine, sangria & cocktails to go.

#### Service Options:

Outdoor dining, contactless curbside pickup, porch delivery

#### Location:

8337 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Sun-Sat 1p-8p

#### More Info:

215-242-1818

[www.campbellsplace.com](http://www.campbellsplace.com)

### CHESTNUT HILL BREWING COMPANY

Wood-fired pizzas, craft beer to go in growlers or cans.

#### Service Options:

Outdoor Dining Now Available! Contactless takeout, curbside pickup, delivery. Beer & pizza delivery via Chestnut Hill Brewing available on Wed. & Sun.

#### Location:

8231 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Wed-Fri 4p-8p,

Sat 12p-8p, Sun 4p-8p

#### More Info:

215-247-0330

[www.chestnuthillbrewingcompany.com](http://www.chestnuthillbrewingcompany.com)

### CIN CIN

Upscale Mandarin and Pan Asian cuisine with French flair.

#### Service Options:

Takeout, curbside pickup

#### Location:

7838 Germantown Ave.

#### Hours:

Sun-Thurs 11:30a-9p,

Fri-Sat 11:30a-10p

#### More Info:

215-242-8800

[www.cincinrestaurant.com](http://www.cincinrestaurant.com)

### COSIMO'S PIZZA CAFE

Italian eatery with classic fare and pizza.

#### Service Options:

Curbside pickup, takeout, delivery

#### Location:

8624 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Mon-Sat 11a-8p

Sun 3p-8p

#### More Info:

215-242-9900

[www.ordercosimospizza.com](http://www.ordercosimospizza.com)

### EL POQUITO

Select menu items & build your own taco family bundles. Margaritas, beer & sangria available to go.

#### Service Options:

Outdoor patio seating, contactless curbside pickup, takeout, delivery

#### Location:

8201 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Daily 3p-8p

#### More Info:

267-766-5372

[www.elpoquito.com](http://www.elpoquito.com)

### FIESTA PIZZA III

Pizza, pasta, hoagies, fries & more!

#### Service Options:

Takeout, delivery

#### Location:

8339 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Mon-Thurs

12p-8p, Fri-Sat 12p-9p,

Sun 3p-8p

#### More Info:

215-247-4141

[www.fiestapizza3menu.com](http://www.fiestapizza3menu.com)

### HOKKA HOKKA

Traditional Japanese menu items and sushi.

#### Service Options:

Takeout, curbside pickup

#### Location:

7830 Germantown Ave.

#### Hours:

Mon-Thurs 4:30p-8p,

Fri-Sat 4:30p-8:30p

#### More Info:

215-242-4489

[www.restauranthokka.com](http://www.restauranthokka.com)

### IRON HILL BREWERY

American fare menu items, family style make-at-home meal kits. Craft beer, growlers and cocktails available to go.

#### Service Options:

Takeout, delivery

#### Location:

8400 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Daily 12p-7:30p

#### More Info:

215-948-5600

[www.ironhillbrewery.com](http://www.ironhillbrewery.com)

### KING'S GARDEN

Traditional Chinese dishes and specials.

#### Service Options:

Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery

#### Location:

8223 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Daily 3p-9p

#### More Info:

215-753-0246

### MARKET at the FAREWAY

Modern farmer's market with 16 vendors offering a variety of local fresh products and grocery items including coffee, baked goods, chocolate, fresh produce, meat and poultry.

#### Service Options:

Please see our website for individual vendor service options. Masks are required to enter the Market. Please honor six feet social distancing at all times.

#### Location:

8221 Germantown Ave.

(Behind Chestnut Hill Hotel)

Hours: Thurs-Fri 9a-6p,

Sat 8a-5p, Wed & Sun

hours vary by vendor

#### More Info:

570-726-7030

[marketatthefareway.com](http://marketatthefareway.com)

[Lindsey.chestnuthill@gmail.com](mailto:Lindsey.chestnuthill@gmail.com)

com

### McNALLY'S

Classic menu items, cakes, beer & alcohol

#### Service Options:

Outdoor tables available.

Call ahead pick up or

walk up ordering to go.

#### Location:

8634 Germantown Ave.

#### Hours:

Thurs-Sun 11a-8p

#### More Info:

215-247-9736

[www.mcnallys.com](http://www.mcnallys.com)

### NIGHT KITCHEN BAKERY

Decorated cakes, pies, cookies, sweets along with light breakfast & lunch.

#### Service Options:

Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery

#### Location:

7723-25

Germantown Ave

Hours: Daily 8a-4p

#### More Info:

215-248-9235

[nightkitchenbakery.com](http://nightkitchenbakery.com)

### ROLLER'S at McNALLY'S

Soft Shell Crabs & more!

#### Service Options:

Preorder for Wednesday pickup. Outside tables available.

#### Location:

8634 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Wed 5p-8p

#### More Info:

215-247-2901

[www.mcnallys.com](http://www.mcnallys.com)

### TAVERN ON THE HILL

Featuring a special "Meanwhile" menu of American café cuisine for takeout, and a selection of beers and wines to go.

#### Service Options:

Order online at [www.tavernonthehill.biz](http://www.tavernonthehill.biz) for no contact curbside pick-up or door-to-door delivery.

#### Location:

8636 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Thurs-Sun 3p-8p

#### More Info:

215-247-9948

[www.tavernonthehill.biz](http://www.tavernonthehill.biz)

## MT. AIRY

### EARTH BREAD & BREWERY

Flatbread pizzas, beer & cocktails to go.

#### Service Options:

Pickup

#### Location:

7136 Germantown Ave.

#### Hours:

Wed-Sun 4:30p-8:30p

#### More Info:

215-242-6666

[earthbreadbrewery.com](http://earthbreadbrewery.com)

### EVO PIZZA

Authentic Italian

#### Service Options:

Curbside, pickup, delivery

#### Location:

277 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave.

Hours: Mon-Thurs

11a-9p, Fri 11a-10:30p,

Sat 11a-8:30p, Sun 11a-10p

#### More Info:

215-248-1100

[evobrickovenpizzamenu.com](http://evobrickovenpizzamenu.com)

### GOLDEN CRUST PIZZA

Pizza, pasta, hoagies, stromboli, seafood, salads, organic local produce

#### Service Options:

Pickup, delivery

#### Location:

7155 Germantown Ave.

#1842

#### Hours:

Sun-Thurs 10a-10p,

Fri-Sat 10a-11p

#### More Info:

215-248-2929

[Goldencrustmenu.com](http://Goldencrustmenu.com)

### HERB SCOTT CATERING

Full service catering, family & individual meals; customizable menus

#### Service Options:

Pickup, delivery

#### Location:

6531 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Mon-Sat 9a-5p

#### More Info:

215-842-1609

[herbscottcatering.com](http://herbscottcatering.com)

### JANSEN

New American fare. Cocktails to go and family meals (3 course dinner for 2-4 ppl - W/Th/Su)

#### Service Options:

Takeout, delivery, outside seating by reservation

#### Location:

7402 Germantown Ave.

#### Hours:

Wed, Thurs, Sun 5p-8p,

Fri-Sat 5p-9p

#### More Info:

267-335-5041

[Jansenmtairy.com](http://Jansenmtairy.com)

### JYOTI INDIAN BISTRO

Very authentic homemade taste

#### Service Options:

Curbside, takeout, delivery

#### Location:

7222 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Mon-Tues 4p-8p,

Wed-Fri 12p-8p

#### More Info:

215-242-5139

Facebook: Jyoti Indian

Bistro

### MALELANI GREEK CAFE

Greek restaurant, coffee and tea

#### Service Options:

Outside Seating Now Available! Curbside pickup, delivery

#### Location:

6734 Germantown Ave.

Hours: Mon-Sat 11a-8p,

Sun 12-5p

#### More Info:

# Finally, after months, restaurant dining

(Continued from page 17)

Conshohocken, about one minute off the Conshohocken exit of the Schuylkill Expressway. It has three different areas for outdoor dining that can seat about 90 in all, even with social distancing, one benefit of which is a quieter atmosphere. Because of the pandemic, there were disposable plastic utensils instead of metal and plastic cups instead of actual glasses for drinks. Not exactly elegant, but after three months in isolation, we would have eaten everything with our fingers if necessary.

Baggataway, by the way, is a Native American word for a form of lacrosse as played originally by the Ojibwa Indians. The name was selected because three of the six partners in the restaurant formerly played professional lacrosse with the Philadelphia Wings. One of them, Mike French, was the U.S. Collegiate Player of the Year in 1976 for Cornell University, and he led the professional National Lacrosse League in scoring while with the Wings in 1987, the league's first year. (The Wings were relocated to New England in 2014.)

The partner who manages the restaurant, John Paul (J.P.) Boles, may have earned a dubious place in the college football record books. In his entire three-year



John Paul (J.P.) Boles, managing partner in Baggataway Tavern, now open to the public in its large outdoor setting, has a unique record in the annals of college football. (Photo by Len Lear)

career at St. Francis College near Pittsburgh ("It was the only college that accepted me"), this wide receiver caught a grand total of one pass in actual game combat for a total of two yards — although, to be fair, it was a touchdown pass. Boles was also an NCAA men's lacrosse official

for 15 years until 2010.

In April of 2001 he opened The Ugly Moose at 443 Shurs Lane in Manayunk, and in January of 2004 he opened The Garage right next door. Both were noisy, funky pubs.

Referring to the risk involved in The Garage since he had no

financial backers, as most modern high-profile new restaurants do, Boles said, "I stacked up the chips in the middle of the table and said, 'Let's get it on.' This new restaurant is like putting \$350,000 on 36, black, in Las Vegas. I'm not robbing Peter to pay Paul. I shot Peter, killed him,

and now I can feel the lawmen breathing down my neck."

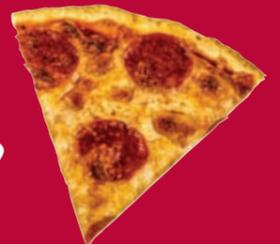
The Ugly Moose lasted 15 years; The Garage became Deke's BBQ around 2008 and closed in the Spring of 2017.

The restaurant demons may still be following Boles around. The day before the state allowed him to open up Baggataway for outdoor dining, a gigantic tree across the street fell across Front Street, making the road completely impassable and taking down phone wires. Later that day a monster truck jackknifed off the Expressway exit, blocking off the other end of the road.

But by the time we got there, everything was cleared up. Everything we had to eat — Bang Bang shrimp (a Bonfish Grill staple), fish-and-chips, soft-shell crab sandwich and onion rings — was delectable. We each had two drinks, and the bill came to \$123, which was OK with us. Just to be able to have good food, good beer, good service and good company at an actual restaurant was delightful. It may not have been the Four Seasons, but it was definitely one season — spring — and that was more than enough.

For more information, visit [baggatawaytavern.com](http://baggatawaytavern.com). Len Lear can be reached at [lenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com](mailto:lenlear@chestnuthilllocal.com)

## Montgomery County Dining



### ERDENHEIM

#### BACIO ITALIAN CUCINA

Traditional Italian menu items & specials

**Service Options:** Order ahead for curbside pickup

**Location:**

700 Bethlehem Pike

**Hours:** Wed-Sun 5p-8p

**More Info:**

215-248-2740

FB: Bacio Wholesome

Italian Cucina

### FLOURTOWN

#### SCOOGI'S ITALIAN KITCHEN & BAR

Italian menu items & specials.

**Service Options:**

Contactless curbside pickup

**Location:**

738 Bethlehem Pike

**Hours:** Wed-Sun. Orders 12p-4p for pickup 4p-8p.

**More Info:**

215-233-1063

Facebook: Scoogis

### GLENSIDE

#### ROCKY'S DELI STYLE RESTAURANT

Breakfast, lunch, sandwiches, salads, soups, wraps & more!

**Service Options:**

Curbside pickup, takeout or Rocky's delivery

**Location:**

22 E. Glenside Ave.

**Hours:** Mon-Fri 6a-8p,

Sat. 6:30a-4:30p

**More Info:**

215-887-3866

Facebook:

Rockys Glenside

LAFAYETTE HILL

### LAFAYETTE HILL

#### BRUNO'S

Classic American breakfast, lunch & dinner

**Service Options:**

Patio Dining Available, takeout, curbside pickup, delivery

**Location:**

9800 Germantown Pike

**Hours:** Daily 8a-8p

**More Info:**

215-242-2880

brunosfood-lafayettehillpa.website

#### CASPIAN GRILLE & CATERING

Authentic Persian, Mediterranean & Middle Eastern cuisine

**Service Options:**

Takeout

**Location:**

539 Germantown Pike

**Hours:** Daily 10a-8p

**More Info:**

610-834-7660

www.caspiangrille.com

**We're Open!**

### FROM THE BOOT

Classic Italian food for lunch and dinner

**Service Options:**

Curbside pickup, takeout

**Location:**

517 Germantown Pike

**Hours:** Mon-Fri 11a-8p,

Sat-Sun 12p-8p

**More Info:**

610-834-8680

www.fromtheboot.com

### KNISHES & DISHES

Cafe, deli & bakery items for breakfast, lunch & dinner

**Service Options:**

Takeout, curbside pickup, delivery

**Location:**

545 Germantown Pike

**Hours:** Tues-Fri 10a-6p,

Sat 9a-6p, Sun 7a-3p

**More Info:**

610-897-8107

www.knishesanddishes.com

**Got A Craving?  
Place an Order!**

### YE OLDE ALE HOUSE

Hand carved roast beef sandwiches, entrees, platters, salads, finger foods.

**Service Options:**

Curbside pickup

**Location:**

405 Germantown Pike

**Hours:** Tues 3p-8p,

Wed-Sat 11a-8p,

Sun 12p-8p

**More Info:**

610-825-2469

Facebook: Ye Olde Ale

House

### WYNDMOOR

#### ENZA PIZZERIA

Pizza, pasta, salads with vegetarian and gluten friendly options. Beer, wine and cocktails to go.

**Service Options:**

Outdoor dining, takeout, curbside pickup, delivery

**Location:**

900 E. Willow Grove Ave

**Hours:**

Tues-Thurs 4p-9p,

Fri-Sat 12p-9p

**More Info:**

215-575-2915

Instagram @enzapizzeria

### LOCALS COFFEE & EATERY

Gourmet coffee bar, breakfast sandwiches, bagels & pastries

**Service Options:**

Outdoor dining, takeout, contactless curbside

pickup, delivery

**Location:**

909 E. Willow Grove Ave

**Hours:** Mon-Tues

7a-11a (no delivery),

Wed-Sun 7:30a-2:30p

**More Info:**

267-422-3165

www.localscoffee.com

### TONY'S PIZZA CITY

Old school pizzeria, breakfasts, sandwiches, burgers & traditional pies

**Service Options:**

Takeout, delivery

**Location:**

901 E. Willow Grove Ave

**Hours:** Tues-Sat 10a-9p

**More Info:**

215-233-2122

www.tonyspizzacity.com

**Check for  
Cocktails  
To Go!**

**Check Each  
Week for  
Service  
Status  
Updates**

**To list your restaurant in this directory, please call 215-248-8818**

# 'The Fighter' updates the boxing drama

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.

Like "Rocky," it's about an underdog fighter. Like "Raging Bull," it's about dysfunctional brothers one of whom is a fighter. And like "Mystic River," "Gone Baby Gone," "The Departed," "The Town," and "Shutter Island," it's about the sound of those colorful pahk-the-cah accents that indicate Boston or somewhere near it.

"The Fighter" (2010), set in Lowell, Massachusetts, finds its real-life title character, who has gone on hiatus from boxing after an embarrassing string of defeats,



Mark Wahlberg (left) and Christian Bale in 'The Fighter'

As for the domestic conflicts, Russell sometimes lets the crowded family portrait spill over into exaggerated caricature, but his quartet of principals, each of whom could be identified by the film's title, is arresting and vivid and memorable. They deliver the film's knockout punch.

"The Fighter," which was nominated for seven Oscars — including the Best Supporting Actor statuette for Christian Bale and a nod for Melissa Leo as Best Supporting Actress — is a bristling, fact-based, splendidly-acted tale of trained fisticuffs, family infighting, and a boxer's painful struggle to escape Palookaville.

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

**Flix**  
by Bill Wine



trying to climb back in the ring. Mark Wahlberg is "Irish" Micky Ward, a promising welterweight boxer being trained by his older half-brother, the manic, unreliable Dicky Eklund, played by Best Supporting Actor Oscar winner Christian Bale, an ex-boxer who back in the day -- when he got in the ring with Sugar Ray Leonard and, the legend goes, actually knocked him down, even though he lost the fight -- was Micky's childhood hero.

But that was a long time ago, when Dicky was promising as well. Now he's retired from the ring, is in his brother's corner, but is as undependable as can be. Oh, he believes in his younger sibling, but the crack he's addict-

ed to and the crime he turns to to indulge his needs doesn't help him to act like it.

Micky and Dicky's domineering and ferociously possessive mom, the mother of seven daughters and two sons, played by Best Supporting Actress Oscar winner Melissa Leo, also loves Micky to death and roots for him around the clock. Manages him too. Well, make that mismanages. Mostly, she puts the mother in smother, keeping everyone who could possibly do Micky any real good, who could advance his career in any meaningful way, away from him.

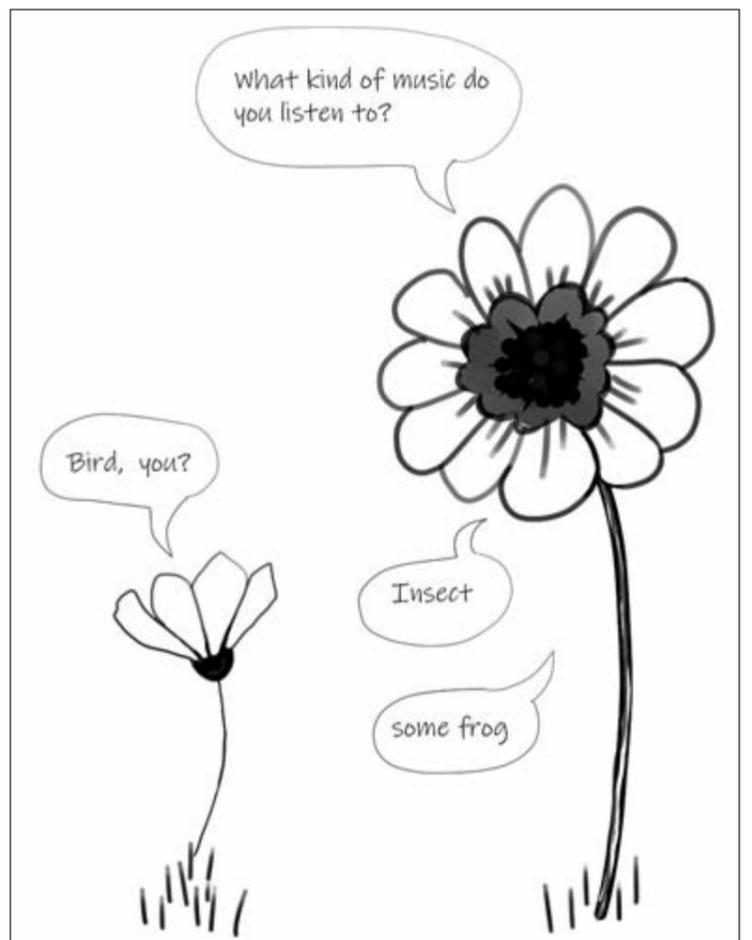
So it's not out of character for her -- or her seven fully-grown daughters, who seem to do nothing but sit around the house like Disney's Seven Dwarfs awaiting Snow White's arrival, or pour into and out of the car on a local errand like a circus clown act -- to take an instant dislike to the fetching local bartender, a tough, foul-mouthed college dropout played by Amy Adams. Soon

after she and Micky start dating, she, fighting for her man, advises him to snip those apron strings, resist the visceral tug of brotherly and sisterly love, and turn elsewhere for "help."

Why? Because the way she sees it, Micky's taking a lot of punches in and out of the ring. And with a trainer and manager like Micky's got, who needs enemies?

"The Fighter" is certainly a boxing thriller that builds to an in-the-ring climax and engages our natural rooting interest. But it spends even more time as a punchy psychodrama about a black-and-blue blue-collar family.

Director David O. Russell works from a measured screenplay that uses an HBO documentary about Dickie's comeback being filmed as a framing device. Russell keeps the actual match footage on the relatively brief side and shoots the fights from a distance: we're not privileged to be in the ring, but near it, or watching it on television.



Coming Up Roses by Sheyna Hoitsma



**CHESTNUT HILL  
COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION**

## Annual Community Awards Nomination Form

The Awards Committee of the CHCA is asking you to nominate a friend, neighbor or fellow resident who you believe may be a deserving candidate for one of the following awards to be presented at the 2020 CHCA Annual Meeting on Thursday, July 23. These awards honor individuals from the community whose extraordinary service and achievements within the community merit individual recognition.

All nominations forms should be mailed, hand-delivered to the CHCA office at 8434 Germantown Ave. or emailed to [info@chestnuthill.org](mailto:info@chestnuthill.org) by the 5:00 pm. deadline of Wednesday, July 1. Any questions concerning the nomination process can be addressed by calling the CHCA office at 215-248-8810.

**The Chestnut Hill Award** is given for unusual and outstanding service that promoted or achieved understanding and cooperation among people of the community.

**The Meritorious Service Award** is given for services that have substantially improved the quality of life within the community.

**The Benefactor's Award** is given for volunteer service that resulted in raising at least \$10,000 for the benefit of the community.

To make a nomination please complete the nomination form below. Additional pages may be attached.

**I hereby nominate:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For the (Specify Award):** \_\_\_\_\_

**For the following reasons:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Nominator's Address and phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Hill school founder, volunteers donate skills in Uganda

(Continued from page 18)

Once we had a workbench, the teachers and students saw what a difference it made, so they proceeded to make two more, and Jim left the money to buy two more vices.

The tales like this go on and on, but I'll just tell one more. While Jim was making the workbench, he realized it was difficult

to find the necessary tools as they were all stored haphazardly in wooden boxes. It took him 15 minutes to find a screwdriver, so what did he do?

He figured out how to mount all the tools on the wall of the carpentry department office. In a matter of days, 35 chisels, 15 saws and many more tools were mounted on the wall. They were now easy to find, and everybody was most impressed.

These then are just some of the things I can tell you about these two marvelous, talented, warm-hearted, local men who came to Uganda for the month of February. The tangible gifts they left behind are incredible, but the intangible gifts are even greater. Their love and appreciation for the people of Bududa cannot be valued, but it is an outstanding legacy.

I know that Ron and Jim feel the same way I do: what we have learned in Bududa about another way of life and set of values far surpasses our contributions in teaching Bududans.



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Dentistry**

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EMERGENCIES WELCOME  
MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED

# Outdoor dining is back at many Chestnut Hill restaurants

(Continued from page 17)

we need to do, we will do.” He also gives a shout out to Parks and Recreation. “They are doing a phenomenal job, even though they are understaffed.”

Don't be discouraged by the filled-to-overflowing parking lots on weekends. If you have a reservation, the attendant will give you access to park at the Inn. Valley Green Road at Wissahickon. [www.ValleyGreenInn.com](http://www.ValleyGreenInn.com).

• If you are in the mood to dip into some homemade guacamole and mahi tacos while knocking back a Dos Equis, head for on the spacious patio of El Poquito.

“We have done quite well with takeout and are now offering outdoor dining and drinks following the city guidelines,” said Sarah Henry, assistant general manager. “We will not be taking reservation in the beginning. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis,” she said.

Their take-out menu includes the usual suspects, plus flatiron steak, grilled shrimp and the House Margarita Kit. Wouldn't that be fun to take to the shore? 8201 Germantown Ave. [www.ElPoquito.com](http://www.ElPoquito.com).

• Jansen, known for inventive farm-to-table cuisine with a French accent, is excited to welcome patrons back to its landscaped garden. “We're excited to put food on a plate again,” said general manager Zachary Bourne. “We have seating for 22 to 34 guests at small tables, plus a private table for 8 to 10. Reservations are necessary so we may assign each party a two-hour time slot. Servers will wear masks, and guests will be asked to



Jackie Nucero and Steve Colestock enjoy an actual restaurant experience at the Chestnut Grill Sidewalk Café. (Photo by Stacia Friedman)

wear masks from the front door to the table. Fresh linens will be changed with each seating.”

Since pandemic restrictions went into effect, Jansen has offered takeout. Who knew that takeout could mean oysters Rockefeller, New Zealand lamb chops or Norwegian salmon? “Our most popular takeout is the Jansen family meal for two, which changes every week,” said Bourne. “For Father's Day, June 21, we are offering a special surf & turf family meal.”

Popular dishes include Jansen's branzino stuffed with crab and shrimp. And no one says no to their chocolate love cake, a confection combining a fudge brownie, mocha mouse and caramel Bavarian. Sounds addictive. 7402 Germantown Ave. [www.JansenMtAiry.com](http://www.JansenMtAiry.com)

• Chestnut Hill Brewing Company in the Market at the Fairway is adapting new procedures to adhere to city guidelines. Known for their wood-fired pizzas and beer selection, the Brewery is no

longer self-seating.

“All patrons have to be seated by the host and must wear a mask to enter,” said Lindsey Pete, owner and manager. “They can no longer come to the counter to place their order, which will be taken at their table by a server,” she said. “All tables are now six feet apart or have protective barriers to divide longer tables. We recommend making reservations on Resy, a reservation app.”

Cash is not accepted. If this sounds rigid, you would not know

it by looking at the array of happy patrons on a sunny Saturday afternoon. 8221 Germantown Ave. <https://chestnuthillbrewingcompany.com>

• Locals are again congregating at the Chestnut Grill and Sidewalk Café, enjoying American Bistro cuisine and drinks al fresco. “It was really encouraging to see all of our favorite people back out again,” said Margaret Tucker, manager. “We've kept all the items that are the most popular, including coconut shrimp, ultimate burger, catfish wrap and organic salmon Nicoise salad. Our summer drinks include Watermelon Brain Freeze, Cucumber Martini and Blood Orange Mule.” Tables are spaced farther apart, and servers wear masks, but the ambience and food are as delicious as ever. 8229 Germantown Ave. [www.ChestnutGrill.com](http://www.ChestnutGrill.com)

• Campbell's Place has enough café tables on the sidewalk to seat up to 20. Summer specials include their signature red and white Sangria and Summer Squeeze, a watermelon and lemonade flavored cocktail with Citron vodka. Try the fish tacos, lobster roll or New Orleans style crawfish, along with tempting salads and desserts. 8337 Germantown Ave. [www.Campbell-sPlace.com](http://www.Campbell-sPlace.com)

Note: Restaurants without outdoor seating will continue to offer takeout, including Cin Cin, Mica, Tavern on the Hill, Iron Hill Brewery, Fiesta Pizza, King's Garden, Yu Hsiang Garden and Cake. Cosimo's Pizza Café has some outdoor tables.

We never know how high we are,  
till we are asked to rise.

-Emily Dickinson

If you are a local business, you've been asked to rise like never before. But you've made it, and it is time to soar.

The Local is here to help.

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215.248.8800

# HOMES & Home

REAL ESTATE • INTERIOR DESIGN • BUSINESS Chestnut Hill Local

## Links to the past: The historic vestiges all around us

As we all know, our homes, our communities and our streets are all reflective on how we like to live, what we enjoy seeing every day and the surroundings that bring us peace and joy. Living in the Northwest section of Philadelphia, we are surrounded by historic architecture, gardens and smaller, but equally important, more inconspicuous features that many of us may take for granted. These features, however, play an extremely important role in upholding the historic atmosphere that we love.

**By Design**  
by Patricia Cove



Since we are all spending more time at home lately and often taking in more of our local surroundings, as we walk through our neighborhoods, it becomes clear how many of these “smaller” elements are still a part of many prop-



Original stone pillars with gates and a kidney shaped driveway marker (left) in front of a stone wall obscured by cascading vines. A hairpin fence (right) is typical of homes in the area in the mid to late 1800s.

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erties, and also how many have started to disappear. All of these features contribute to a community's history and to that elusive quality called character that we all cherish. But as many of these fea-

tures are in a precarious position, either through lack of maintenance, a misunderstanding of their significance or simply that they stand in the way of “progress,” they are falling into disrepair, and are in

danger of disappearing completely. Following is a list of some of these special elements. Maybe you are lucky enough to have one or more of them on your property. If so, keep in mind the role they play in maintaining the character of their surroundings, the value they add to a property and the community as a whole.



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**FENCES:** Although fence designs vary greatly, throughout this region, a style known as a “hairpin” fence can be seen quite often. It was a common design employed in the mid to late 1800s and can take on a variety of iterations, but it is characteristically simple in design and harkens back to the natural curve of a woman's hairpin. If sections are damaged, there are iron companies in existence today that can reproduce the design, which can not only save the original fence but save money, too.

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**STONE WALLS:** What neighborhood, in this section of Philadelphia, doesn't contain at least a few original stone walls? When the Germantown, Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill were developed, a stone known as Wissahickon Schist was prevalent and became the material of choice for not only walls, but homes, papermills and all sorts of accessory buildings. Accent walls often bordered walkways, gardens and driveways, many of them being quite long and quite tall. It is easy to see how they can fall into disrepair. Their beauty and significance speak for themselves and building them today would be economically unfeasible. So when walls like these are allowed to grow over with vines, weeds and invasive plantings, the joints become weak, and the stones loosen. Bulges appear, signifying an imminent collapse. Maintenance and care of these walls is ongoing, but

(Continued on page 25)

# Gardening: Frogs, toads and fish in Valerie's marsh garden

by Stan Cutler

Valerie, my wife, views the annual departure of the frogs as a personal insult. Every summer, over the past five years, she brought a few tadpoles home from the pet store and put them in the pond. She watched through Summer and Fall as their tails shrank and their bodies swelled; waited through winter as they slept in the muck at the bottom of the pond. Every spring, she was thrilled to catch quick glimpses of new frogs hiding in the pond plants. And every year the ungrateful little amphibians depart for parts unknown. Valerie takes this personally.

We don't get enough sunlight. Frogs need the sun's energy to warm their blood. The plants that attract the insects that sustain the frogs need sunlight. The two mature, red maples that canopy the patio also overhang the pond. Valerie adores those trees, each with multiple gray trunks that rise

from the earth like muscles. The heavy layer of leaves above changes color slowly through the seasons, from brilliant scarlet to deep red to green and finally to a dark rusty hue before they drop. Contemplating pruning, she studies each limb, hoping to find the ones she can remove to help the pond while doing no harm to the trees. She may have given up on the frog idea. I'll let you know next October.

The toads do much better. Valerie likes the toads because they eat garden slugs. In early spring, the little brown lumps come out of their winter burrows and dive into the pond. The pond gets a lot of sun in April and May because the maples have yet to leaf out. The toads sing about their discovery of water deep enough, warm enough and still enough to satisfy their needs. By the time they climb out of the pond, the most successful couples, whose sex lives were a delight to behold, have deposited thin,



Valerie with fertilizer.

meter-long gelatinous strands of albumen stitched with tiny black eggs. Black tadpoles, hardly bigger than sand grains, emerge from the eggs in about a week. At first, there are hundreds of them. By August most are gone, dead from insufficient sunlight or eaten by

the goldfish. Whether any mature toads is doubtful. We do have toads in the garden, but we don't know whether any of them were born in the pond.

Some of the goldfish were. We started with four, now we have a stable population of fifteen. The pond is too small to sustain more. Most of the fish are just a couple of inches long. The matriarch is about four inches. If we overfeed the fish, which are sustained primarily by algae and insect eggs, we would have to feed them more, then more and more as they grew larger. I throw a few pinches of dried pet store feed onto the surface, perhaps once a week, as a

supplement. The fish devour it in minutes, then go back to slow cruising through the plant roots, nibbling at the algae.

You have to filter pond water and keep it moving, otherwise you risk mosquitos and algae overgrowth. When you decide you want a pond, you have to figure out the kind of pump system you want. We use a very small submersible pump that operates inside a plastic box that has a perforated top and two layers of foam filters inside. A tube connects the pump to the fountain. A couple of times each Summer, after the fountain spout has diminished to a trickle, I turn off the electrical circuit that drives the pump and carefully haul the box up from the bottom for cleaning. There is a huge bonus associated with this chore. I squeeze out the dark brown sludge in the filters into a bucket that's half-full with the water from the box. The gunk doesn't smell bad, almost odorless, because it isn't decayed. Then I transfer the bucketful to plastic jugs. I harvest more than enough plant food to feed Valerie's orchids and houseplants for many months. Because she keeps hundreds of green things alive through the winters, she needs a lot of fish poop.

Stan Cutler is a local novelist, gardener's helper and volunteer for the Friends of the Chestnut Hill Library

## Links to the past: all around us

(Continued from page 24)

their beauty and historic significance is something we cannot afford to lose.

GATES: Would a home built in 2020 require an iron gate? Not necessarily, but 100 years ago, gates were a natural part of any estate both large and small. We still have many of these original features in this part of Philadelphia. Often they are supported by two stone pillars, and would have to be manually opened and closed as owners passed by. What is disheartening is that often these gates go missing, often leaving behind a mate and an empty stone pillar with the steel mounts attached, but the gate gone. To replicate and replace a missing historic gate is expensive to say the least. But if you are lucky enough to have a one, cherish it and know how much it adds to the historic nature of the community and value to your home.

STONE MARKERS: Our ancestors enjoyed "marking" things. Whether it be letting a carriage rider know how many more miles to Philadelphia or homeowners who marked their driveway with large kidney shaped stones,

these markers represent a piece of history that we no longer incorporate and is reminiscent of a simpler time and place. These are small and some would say "insignificant" things, but they still add tremendously to historic character A walk down Summit Street in Chestnut Hill can take you back in time 100 years, with many of these features still in place. Notice the large granite blocks that rest at the sidewalk entrance to the homes. These blocks assisted travelers exiting a carriage and were often accompanied by stone posts with a ring that was used to secure a horse. Are these features necessary today? Of

course not. But they certainly add a lot of charm and intrinsic value to a neighborhood.

As we all spend more time walking around these days, make sure you notice these quiet historic features, their contribution to the ambience and character of an historic neighborhood, and realize how easy it is to lose them if we are not vigilant to their maintenance and care.

Patricia Marian Cove is Principal of Architectural Interiors and Design, and serves as Vice President for Preservation of the Chestnut Hill Conservancy

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