

Village Voices



Transition: Outgoing leader Charlie Day holds commemorative gift from ingoing team of Administrative Coordinator Margie Neary, left, and Co-Chairs Mary Flournoy and Phil Hinline.

New Leaders Seek “Inclusive” Membership, More Volunteers

By John T. Gillespie

The new leadership team of Phil Hinline and Mary Flournoy hopes to build a more “inclusive” Village with new and more diverse members.

The two recently named co-chairs of the Operating Group, succeeding Charlie Day, hope to gain new members, especially from the lower side of Midvale Avenue.

“It is natural that an initiative like EFV would originate in one part of the neighborhood, whereas one can see ...that East Falls as a neighborhood is truly much larger than that one part,” says Hinline.

Flournoy, former chair of Village membership team, says the goal is to represent East Falls “in all its diversity.”

The popular “Lunch of the Month” events can be a way to attract new members, as well as for members to get to know each other, enjoy good food – and to support local businesses. These lunches have been held at almost all restaurants in the Falls.

A neighborhood-wide membership will also create a wider pool of volunteers who run the Village and guarantee its future. “It gives us sustainability,” says Hinline. Finally, it challenges the notion of exclusivity, “whether real or merely perceived,” says Hinline, of a Village run mainly by and for residents above Midvale Avenue.

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Let SEPTA do the Driving

By William Epstein

Many 65 and older East Fallers already know about the great deal they get simply by flashing their Medicare card – a free ride on all SEPTA buses, trolleys and subways, and a nearly free ride on the Regional Rail system. In a neighborhood as well served by SEPTA’s routes as East Falls is, it’s a great deal – and one that’s easy to get.

You have two ways to ride. Show your Medicare card to ride free on all bus, trolley and subway routes. For trains, buy tickets at the East Falls or Queen Lane stations to ride the Regional Rail system for \$1 each way – even less if you buy a 10-trip strip for 85 cents a ticket. Both offices are open weekday mornings. To save wear and tear on your Medicare card, visit the SEPTA office in the lobby of 1234 Market St. and show the card to get a permanent pass. Use that for buses, trolleys and subways, and to buy your rail tickets.

From SEPTA’s East Falls station on Midvale Ave. trains (formerly the R-6) run inbound Center City and then through to Bala Cynwyd, or outbound to Manayunk and Norristown. From Queen Lane (formerly the R-7) your choice of directions is Center City or the Chestnut Hill station on Germantown Ave. Senior tickets are

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Welcome to our New Members:

► **Marie Filipponi**

► **Beth Hymel & Bill Epstein**

To find their contact information, log into the website with your user name

and password. Click on Membership Directory.

For help on how to log in, see page 6 in the Member Handbook & Directory.

EFV to Participate in Nationwide Survey

By Phil Hinline

East Falls Village has been invited to join a national project, a collaboration between the Village to Village Network and the University of California at Berkeley.

Termed the “National Evaluation of Villages Project,” it is designed to serve participating villages as well as to advance the Village movement as a whole. Along with 25 other Villages, we will be in the second, “feasibility phase” of the project, a first phase having included nine Villages in California.

Participation entails administering a

questionnaire to as many members of the village as possible – administered individually so as to provide clarifications, etc., but in such a way as to ensure confidentiality of the members’ answers. The questionnaire covers: types of Village services used; those available but not used; member volunteering; and participation in Village activities.

More general issues in the survey concern social engagement, unmet needs, well-being, and independent living as affected by Village membership. In addition, there are two especially important open-ended questions:

- **“What is the best thing about being a member of East Falls Village?”**
- **“Are there ways in which East Falls Village could be improved?”**

The Berkeley researchers will provide summaries of our data as well as comparisons with aggregate results, enabling us to compare our findings with those of other villages and ultimately to track changes over time. The nine villages in the original study reported that their results helped them gain membership, as well as community and financial support.

Look for more information on how you can participate in this important survey in the weekly *Updates*.



Village Voices is a publication of East Falls Village (EFV), a program of East Falls Community Council. No portion of this newsletter may be copied or reprinted without the permission of East Falls Village. All East Falls Village programs and activities, including Village Voices, are created, developed and executed by Village Member Volunteers.

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Top 10 Scams That Target Seniors

Financial scams targeting seniors have become so prevalent that they're now considered “the crime of the 21st century.” Here are the top 10, compiled by the National Council on Aging.

1. Health Care / Insurance Fraud

Perpetrators may pose as a Medicare representative to obtain seniors’ personal information or provide bogus services for at makeshift mobile clinics, then use the personal information they provide to bill Medicare and pocket the money.

2. Counterfeit Prescription Drugs

Most commonly, counterfeit drug scams operate on the Internet, where seniors go to find better medication prices. The danger is that besides paying money for something that won’t help a person’s condition, victims may purchase unsafe substances that can inflict even more harm.



3. Funeral and Cemetery Scams

Scammers will claim the deceased had outstanding debt and try to extort money from relatives to settle the fake debt; or disreputable funeral homes will add unnecessary charges to the bill.

4. Fraudulent Anti-Aging Products

Renegade botox labs creating versions of the real thing may still be working with the root ingredient, botulism neurotoxin, which is one of the most toxic substances known to science.

5. Telemarketing

Scammers use fake telemarketing calls to lure their victims. Once an entrapped, the buyer’s name is then shared with similar schemers looking for easy targets, sometimes defrauding the same person repeatedly.

6. Internet Fraud

Pop-up browser windows simulating virus-scanning software will fool victims into downloading a fake anti-virus program (at a substantial cost) or an actual virus that will open up whatever information is on the user’s computer to scammers. In one e-mail or phishing scam a person receives email messages that appear to be from a legitimate institution, asking to “update” or

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Inclusive

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Flournoy says that all the programs on important senior issues, such as Medicare, avoiding scams, Alzheimer's, and hearing loss have been held at the Falls Library, a central and accessible location. The upcoming programs on "Affordable Options for Seniors Living at Home" and "Aging Eyes," will be held at the Library and are open to the public.

To build support for these programs and hopefully draw new members,

A neighborhood-wide membership will also create a wider pool of volunteers who run the Village and guarantee its future. "It gives us sustainability."

- Philip N. Hinline

Flournoy has prepared flyers for distribution at local churches and other sites.

Spotlight on Mary Flournoy & Phil Hinline

MARY FLOURNOY

A graduate of Wilson College in Chambersburg, PA., Mary came to Philadelphia to get her master's in library science at Drexel and never left. For 39 years she worked at the Free Library, where she helped coordinate programming, outreach, publications, training, and special projects for young adult services – and some older adult services as well. She has been involved the Membership and Active Learning Teams of EFV, where she set up the weekly Stretch & Tone/yoga – and has finally learned to do the downward dog!

PHILIP N. HINLINE

With degrees from Hamilton College and Harvard University, Phil spent three years at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research before moving to Temple University, where he is now Professor Emeritus of Behavioral Psychology. Retirement has enabled an increase in pleasure reading, house projects and greater involvement in the community, especially through East Falls Village. He might even revive some old hobbies -- madrigal singing, harpsichord and piano playing, and perhaps even wood-working.

SEPTA

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good on all routes and all Pennsylvania stops. Extra charges apply if you're riding to New Jersey or Delaware.

SEPTA's bus routes traverse Henry Avenue, Ridge Avenue and Midvale Avenue carrying passengers to Center City, Plymouth Meeting, Northeast Philadelphia and City Line. Especially useful are the Routes 9, 124 and 125, which run express on the Schuylkill Expressway for a fast ride into Center City.

Find out how to connect to these routes from the Wissahickon Transfer Station on Ridge Avenue.

Call SEPTA:

📞 215-580-7800

🌐 www.septa.org/schedules

Top 10 Scams

(continued from page 2)

"verify" their personal information. A person may also receive emails that appear to be from the IRS about a tax refund.

7. Investment Schemes

Beware pyramid schemes like Bernie Madoff's (which counted a number of senior citizens among its victims) to fables of a Nigerian prince looking for a partner to claim inheritance money to complex financial products that many economists don't even understand.

8. Reverse Mortgage Scams

As opposed to official refinancing schemes, unsecured reverse mortgages can lead property owners to lose their homes when the perpetrators offer money or a free house somewhere else in exchange for the title to the property.

9. Sweepstakes & Lottery Scams

Scammers inform their mark that they have won a lottery or sweepstakes of some kind and need to make some sort of payment to unlock the supposed prize.

10. The Grandparent Scam

Scammers will place a call to an older person and when the mark picks up, posing as a grandchild, needing money to meet an overdue rent or car payment.

SUSPECT YOU'VE BEEN THE VICTIM OF A SCAM?

The first step is to make a few calls:

▶ 911

▶ Your Bank

(if money came out of your accounts)

▶ Adult Protective Services

For the contact information for Adult Protective Services in your area, call the Eldercare Locator, a government sponsored national resource line:

📞 1-800-677-1116

🌐 www.eldercare.gov

READING CORNER

Richardson Dilworth: Last of the Bare-Knuckled Aristocrats

by Peter Binzen with Jonathan Binzen | review by John T. Gillespie

For those who grew up in Philadelphia in the 1950s and 1960s Richardson Dilworth stands out as a defining political figure of the time.

City Treasurer, District Attorney, Mayor, twice a candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, and, finally, School Board President, Dilworth and his partner, Joe Clark, ushered in Philadelphia's reform era that saw the overturn of Republican rule, an attack on municipal corruption, passage of a Home Rule Charter, civil service reform, and a reborn Society Hill.

Whether Dilworth was, in biographer Peter Binzen's opinion, "arguably the greatest Philadelphian since Benjamin Franklin," he was a remarkable

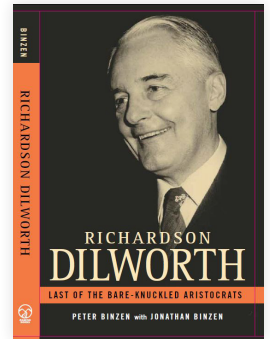
force in Philadelphia's life. His outspoken personality occasionally gave way to intemperate remarks like the time he suggested it might do white wealthy Mainliners some good to get mugged to break their self-satisfied complacency.

But, as Binzen makes clear, it was Dilworth's love of the political fray, his dedication to his adopted city -- he was born and raised in New York--and his egalitarianism that won the hearts of voters. He was patrician but, unlike Joe Clark, he could run and count with the ward heelers and party chairmen who ran the system. In the words of the subtitle taken from his Republican opponent for Mayor, Thacher Longstreth, he was the "last of the bare-knuckled aristocrats."

Dilworth's popularity never extended far beyond the city limits. His efforts to reach the national stage ended in

defeat. He lost twice for Pennsylvania governor, the second time disastrously to Republican William Scranton. And he didn't always succeed in office. His final tour as President of the Philadelphia Board of Education from 1966 to 1972 left a mixed record whose results are still with the public schools 40 years later.

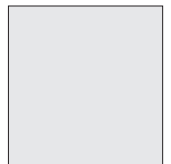
But he succeeded in the race of life and never stopped running, coming back in the end to take the school board job and raising hopes that he would do for the schools what he had done for the city ten years before. It didn't quite work out that way but no one can blame him for not trying. He was always an optimist.



East Falls Village

P.O. Box 12672
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Deliver to:





EFV Events

KEY

REG
=
Registration
Required

\$
=
Fee Required
in Advance

TO
REGISTER

EastFallsVillage.org
Click on Calendar of Events
 267.444.4507

Post on your refrigerator! PLEASE NOTE This is a partial listing. Details may change. For more information, check EastFallsVillage.org or consult the EFV Weekly Update, emailed to members on Tuesdays.

March 18
11:30AM

Lunch of the Month: In Riva

Interesting pizzas from a wood-fired oven. **REG**
4116 Ridge Ave.

March 18
2PM

Affordable Options for Senior Living – at Home

Representatives from The Philadelphia Corporation for Aging, UUH Outreach, Intervention Associates, and Caring Friends at Home.
Falls Library

March 24
2PM

Aging Eyes: Cataracts, Glaucoma, Dry Eyes, and Other Conditions

Presented by Heather Boyd-Monk, Retired Director of Nursing Education at Wills Eye Hospital.
Falls Library

March 26
11:30AM

Lunch in the ‘Hood, Brauhaus Schmitz

Authentic German food. Carpool from the Falls Library. **REG**
718 South St.

March 27
5-7PM

Wine Appreciation with Sam Gugino, Professional Wine & Food Critic

Taste several wines and appropriate hors d’oeuvres. **REG \$**
(\$25 in advance online or by check to EFCC.)
Anne Hagele’s House

April 2
9:30AM

Special Destination “Walk”: Brandywine River Museum

Jamie Wyeth Retrospective, followed by optional lunch.
Carpool from the Falls Library. **REG**
Chadds Ford

April 14
11:30AM

Lunch of the Month, Falls Taproom

Variety of foods and beer. **REG**
3749 Midvale Ave.

Thursday Morning Walks & Stop at a Local Café.

For same-day information, call
215-817-9430.

Every Thursday
9:30AM

Meet at the Falls
Library Garden



April 18
9:30AM- 1PM

Cooking with Franco at Fiorino

EFV member-only class, followed by lunch.

Limited to 12. Bring an apron and a notebook. **REG \$**

(\$10 payable to Franco Faggi)

3572 Indian Queen Lane

(over for more programs)



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Thursday Morning Walks & Stop at a Local Café.

For same-day
information, call
215-817-9430.

**Every Thursday
9:30AM**

Meet at the Falls
Library Garden

**April 19
3-5PM**

Music Appreciation: Singers from the Studio of Marvin Keenze

REG

Gayl & Herb Henze's House

**April 22
11:30AM**

Lunch in the 'Hood: Vientiane

Vietnamese, Thai, Lao cuisine. Carpool from the Falls Library. **REG**
4728 Baltimore Ave.

**May 2
10AM**

Ink & Gold: Art of the Kano

Private tour of this amazing Japanese exhibition with Sue
Sauerman. **REG \$**

(\$26 paid by April 24 online or by check to EFCC)

Philadelphia Museum of Art

**May 7
9:30 AM**

Special Destination "Walk": Chanticleer

"Most exciting public garden" in America. Carpool from the Falls
Library to Wayne. **REG**

**May 16
11:30 AM**

Lunch of the Month, Laxmi's Indian Grille

REG

Conrad & Tilden Sts.

**June 5
9:30 AM**

Guided Tour of Pennsylvania Hospital

Visit the oldest hospital in America and enjoy an optional lunch at
the Greek restaurant Kanela. Carpool from the Falls Library. **REG**

Pennsylvania Hospital: 8th & Spruce

Kanela: 10th & Spruce

**June 14
4-6PM**

Summer Membership Gathering

REG

Tuttleman Center, Philadelphia University

**June 28
3PM**

Delaware Valley Opera presents Die Fledermaus

REG

Venice Island in Manayunk



**June 24
9:30AM**

Private Tour of PECO's Green Roof

Carpool from Falls Library
or meet there at 10:15 to go
through security. Optional
lunch afterwards.

REG \$

(Register and pay Faye
Senneca by June 12. \$5

Horticultural Society members
(give PHS member number);

\$10 non-PHS members.

2301 Market St.

(over for more programs)