The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania is an historic public garden and educational institution. It promotes an understanding of the relationship between plants, people, and place through programs that integrate science, art, and the humanities. The Arboretum conducts four major activities: education, research, outreach, and horticultural display. As the official Arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania provides research and outreach services to state agencies, community institutions and to citizens of Pennsylvania and beyond.

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Photos: Emily Clark, unless otherwise stated
Letter from the Editor

Happy November, the toastiest, spiciest, most crackling month of the year!

As soon as I break out my woolly socks from storage, I know it’s time to start one of my favorite traditions – testing Thanksgiving recipes. This month I thought I’d share one of my favorites.

Pumpkin-Rosemary Ravioli in Brown Butter Sage Sauce
This recipe is inspired by an old trick my grandmother taught me – if you want fresh pasta but don’t want the hassle, use premade won-ton wrappers! Available at most grocery stores in the tofu aisle, prepared won-ton wrappers are usually a dough made of flour and water rolled out and cut into even squares. Simply add a dollop of your favorite filling for easy ravioli.

Instructions:
1. Finely chop half a sweet onion and sauté in a dash of olive oil until translucent. Add minced garlic and chopped rosemary, sauté for two minutes. Add a can of pumpkin puree, along with the desired amount of salt and pepper. Stir to combine and heat through.
2. Lay one won-ton wrapper flat and add a spoonful of warm filling. Lightly line the perimeter of the wrapper with water, then add another wrapper on top. Tightly pinch edges to seal the filling inside.
3. Add your ravioli a few at a time to a pot of salted, boiling water. They cook fast – remove after ~3 min.
4. While the pasta is cooking, brown butter in a sauce pan. When butter is fragrant, add chopped and whole sage leaves. Sauté for ~30 seconds until crispy.
5. Set whole sage aside, and toss ravioli in butter. Plate by placing a few ravioli on a dish and topping with crispy sage.
6. Enjoy! The ravioli go particularly well with seared scallops and a glass of red wine.

Happy tastings,
Emily

Ingredients
- 1 can unsweetened pumpkin puree
- ½ sweet white onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, crushed and minced
- 1 pack premade won-ton wrappers (found in the grocery store next to the tofu) or freshly made pasta
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 4 sprigs sage, half chopped, half leaves kept whole
- 1 tablespoon chopped rosemary
- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste
Ode to A Very Special Tree

Here's to a stong and steadfast tree
Witness to so much history
Sentinel on a hill to us you spoke
Our always beloved Bender oak.

Your parents were oak trees – scarlet and red
You stood for decades it’s been said.
To John and Lydia you were a rock
Birthed from strong and noble stock.

Our visitors were awed – such beauty and girth.
You barely seemed anchored to the earth
Your majesty humbling to behold
Dancing leaves of autumn so red and bold.

So many great tours have begun at your base
To marvel at you up the hill kids would race.
“What’s with the wires?” young voices would squeal
As guides would begin their fascinating spiel.

But, alas, dear friend, the elements took a toll
And struck at your very heart and soul.
We loved you so much – you gave your all
In our hearts you will always stand proud and tall.

I hope that many of you can come to the opening nights of the Holiday Garden Railway on either Thursday, November 29th or Friday, November 30th from 5-7. My singing group, Ambler Station Singers, will be performing traditional carols and other seasonal favorites. What could be better than great entertainment and delicious refreshments on a frosty night at the Arboretum!

Joan Kober
Tours and Events

Saturday Morning Live

First Saturdays of the month | 10:00 a.m. | Widener Terrace
Join an experienced guide for a different featured tour each month. Spread the word.
Bring your family, friends and neighbors.

November 3rd | Native Trees Tour
View native trees that are well suited to local growing conditions and support wildlife.

December 1st | Conifers Tour
Explore a selection of impressive Conifers that provide multi-seasonal interest with an array of forms, foliage, bark, and of course, cones!

Holly Highlights and Winter Greenery Tour

Saturdays, November 10 & 24 | 2:00 pm | Widener Terrace
Join knowledgeable guides for an all new tour highlighting the Arboretum’s collection of hollies and other broad leaf evergreens that enliven the winter landscape with their lush greenery and provide year-round appeal and an everlasting framework for seasonal plantings.

Holiday Garden Railway Evening

Thursday, November 29th | 4:30 - 7:30 pm | Garden Railway
Bundle up and come enjoy the twinkling lights of the Holiday Garden Railway after dark at one of the Premier Holiday Railway Nights. Simply identify yourself as a volunteer at the Kiosk for entrance without a ticket.
Volunteer Workshops

Final First Wednesday Workshop of 2018

Wednesday, November 7th | 12:30 pm | Widener Terrace

Join us for the final first Wednesday Workshop of 2018 with the Arboretum’s newest section leader Erin Conley!

Join Paul Meyer and David Hollenberg for a discussion about University Arboreta and Sustainability

Wednesday, November 11th | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm | Upper Gallery

Join us as we welcome David Hollenberg, recently retired Architect at the University of Pennsylvania to the Morris Arboretum. He and Paul W. Meyer, the F. Otto Haas Executive Director, will discuss the University of Pennsylvania’s Campus Arboretum and its partnership with the Morris Arboretum. Their presentation will highlight recent University sustainability acheivements including the University of Pennsylvania Campus Arboretum’s Level II certification.

Volunteer Workshop: Leading Tours for Students with Autism

Wednesday, November 14th | 10:00 am | Upper Gallery

Calling all guides! Join us for a session with Megan Becker, Penn Museum Access Specialist, as we learn the best ways to provide useful, enriching guided tour content specifically for students with autism.

During this interactive session, guides will learn unique tools and techniques for engaging all visitors to the Arboretum. In addition to these strategies, we will demonstrate activities for the newly developed guided tour for special needs students, that will be piloted in the very near future.
Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Book Club

The Book Club is open to all Arboretum volunteers and staff and meets the first Friday of each month. You are invited to attend any session and do not have to attend every month.

_Walden_ by Henry David Thoreau

**November 2 | 1:00 PM | Gates Hall Conference Room**

By virtue of its casual, brilliant wisdom and the easy splendor of its nature writing, Thoreau’s account of his two year adventure in self-reliance amidst the woodlands in a cabin he built near Walden Pond is one of the signposts by which the modern mind has located itself in an increasingly bewildering world. The work is part personal declaration of independence, social experiment, voyage of spiritual discovery, and manual for self-reliance. Thoreau hoped to isolate himself from society to gain a more objective understanding of it. Simple living and self-sufficiency were Thoreau’s other goals, and the whole project was inspired by transcendentalist philosophy. It is one of the most influential and compelling books in American literature.

_A Sand County Almanac_ by Aldo Leopold

**December 7 | 1:00 PM | Gates Hall Conference Room**

“There are some who can live without wild things, and some who cannot.” —Aldo Leopold

Aldo Leopold—conservationist, naturalist, philosopher—was one who could not. His career in forestry and wildlife management and his keen observations of the natural world inspired him to write _A Sand County Almanac_, so he could share his thoughts about nature, humanity, and the connections between them. First published in 1949, _A Sand County Almanac_ combines some of the finest nature writing since Thoreau with an outspoken and highly ethical regard for America’s relationship to the land. Written with an unparalleled understanding of the ways of nature, this classic work remains as relevant today as it was sixty-five years ago.

Education Volunteer Winter Potluck

**Tuesday, December 18th | Noon - 2:00 pm**

_Upper Gallery_

Bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy a winter celebration with fellow education volunteers and staff! RSVP to Emily at emiclark@upenn.edu or via Team Up. Please write the name of your dish in the RSVP.

Horticulture Volunteer Holiday Potluck

**Wednesday, December 12th | 12:30 pm**

_Upper Gallery_

Treat your fellow horticulture volunteers to your favorite dish or dessert and enjoy the celebration!
Volunteer Opportunities

**Volunteer Trip to the Woodlands**

**Thursday November 8th | 9:00 am-1:00 pm**

Please join us on a trip to the Woodlands Cemetery, a one-of-a-kind 18th-century English pleasure garden, 19th-century rural cemetery, and a tranquil green space for visitors in the West Philadelphia area. Designated a National Historic Landmark, the Woodlands was the former country seat of William Hamilton, and offers one of the nation's most architecturally sophisticated neoclassical homes from the years following the American Revolution.

We’ll enjoy a 90 minute tour of both the grounds and home, followed by a brown bag lunch. Vans will depart from the Arboretum meadow at 9:00am, and returning at approximately 1:00pm.

*Sign up is available via the Teamup calendar, or if you cannot access the calendar, please contact baileyL@upenn.edu.*

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**Tu B’Shevat - The New Year of Trees**

Help children celebrate Tu B’Shevat! It’s the Jewish New Year of Trees. In Israel, Tu B’Shevat is a national holiday and children don’t go to school. Instead, they go with their families or classmates to plant young trees in the countryside and learn about the importance of trees. We are in need of volunteers for a variety of activities throughout the week at the following times. Feel free to volunteer for multiple slots! Sign up via Team Up.

- **Sunday, January 13:** 10-11:15 am, 11:30 am-12:45 pm
- **Monday, January 14:** 10-11:15 am
- **Tuesday, January 15:** 10-11:15 am
- **Wednesday, January 16:** 10-11:15 am
- **Thursday, January 17:** 10-11:15 am
- **Sunday, January 20:** 10-11:15 am, 11:30 am-12:45 pm
Volunteers who have worked over 30 hours during the past year may take Morris Arboretum classes at a discounted price. Please refer to the Volunteer Price Spreadsheet in the Education Office for a complete list of volunteer class pricing and to access the volunteer discount code.

### Making Fall and Veggie Soups - No Recipe Required!
**Peggy Paul Casella, Cookbook Editor and Writer**
*Saturday, November 10 | 12:30-2:00 p.m.*

Learn a few simple formulas for transforming your fall farmers’ market haul into hearty healthy soups and stews. Peggy will give you a crash course on complementary fall flavors, then demonstrate how to make two different soups that can be customized to work with different combinations of available produce and suit personal taste. You will be able to sample the soups and Peggy will provide bread to accompany them.

### Essential Oils for Stress-Free Holidays
**Megan Koppel, Natural Health Educator**
*Saturday, November 17 | 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.*

Learn about go-to essential oils for surviving and thriving during the hectic and sometimes exhausting holiday season. Megan will provide her favorite tips, tricks, and recipes for rest and stress management, preventing the spread of illness, and dialing up the joy. Get your hands oily by creating a personalized blend to help you enjoy your holiday season to the fullest!

### Thanksgiving Harvest Centerpiece
**Cheryl Wilks, Floral Educator, Florist, and Owner of Flowers on Location**
*Sunday, November 18 | 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.*

During the Thanksgiving holiday season, mixing flowers and dried materials along with fruits and vegetables creates stunning arrangements. Learn some tricks when working with these natural materials and create a fabulous centerpiece for your table.

### Holiday Wreath Making Workshop
**Cheryl Wilks, Floral Educator, Florist, and Owner of Flowers on Location**
*Saturday, December 1 | 10:30 - 1:00 p.m.*
*Monday, December 3 | 10:30 - 1:00 p.m.*

Add a festive holiday touch to your front door. This workshop is designed for those who want to create a beautiful wreath from fresh, loose boughs of greens. All supplies will be provided.
Join us for the Morris Arboretum Lecture Series and explore a wide variety of fascinating topics. A reception will follow each lecture. To register please visit http://www.morrisarboretum.org/ed_lectures.shtml.

The Living Legacy of George Nakashima

Wednesday, November 7th | 2:00 p.m.
Mira Shizuko Nakashima

Born in 1905, George Nakashima was an American woodworker, architect, and furniture maker based in nearby New Hope, Pennsylvania. He was a leader in 20th century furniture design and one of the fathers of the American craft movement. Since his death, his daughter Mira Nakashima has continued to define her father’s legacy. In this lecture, Mira will provide an overview of George Nakashima’s life before woodworking, and discuss the processes involved in envisioning and creating a piece of furniture.

This lecture will be held at the Ambler Theater

The National Arboretum’s Impact on the American Landscape

Wednesday, December 5th | 2:00 pm
Dr. Richard Olsen

Dr. Richard Olsen, Director of the U.S. National Arboretum. One of the world’s premier woody plant research facilities and public gardens, the National Arboretum has developed superior plants through genetic improvement, evaluation, and selection, thereby contributing to diverse and sustainable American landscapes. Learn about its valuable collections, its important collaborations with peers such as Morris Arboretum, and how exciting new ventures will continue to expand the relevance and impact of the National Arboretum.
Adieu to Bender Oak

Soon we will be saying to visitors, there was once a huge and ancient tree on this spot.

We will recall how every spring catkins dangled from its branches like strings of green pearls.

Every fall it looked like it was on fire.

And every winter the sun shown pale through its branches.

And oh, the things its limbs knew, of children running round and round, mothers chatting at its feet, photographers capturing its wonders for posterity, birds busy nesting, insects drilling, moss silently creeping into its shady places. We will speak of how it survived storms and pestilence and suffered the indignities of propping and pruning as it progressed into elder-hood.

We will proudly declare that the Bender oak lived an amazingly long life and its reach was high and wide. And then we will solemnly say—that as with all living things—it reached the end of its life.

There is an oak (oh! how I love that tree)
Which has been thriving for a hundred years;
Each day I send my blessing through the spheres
To one who gave this triple boon to me,
Of growing beauty, singing birds, and shade.
Wouldst thou win laurels that shall never fade?
Go plant a tree.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox
The Englishman and Other Poems, 1912.

It is a sad day indeed for our much-beloved Bender oak. And now, go plant a tree.
**Garden Highlights**

**Betula papyrifera**
- paper birch
- Swan Pond

**Ilex opaca**
- American Holly
- Holly Slope

**Lablab purpureus**
- hyacinth bean
- Wisteria Walkway

**Euphorbia heterophylla 'Yokoi's White'**
- Mexican fireplant
- Oak Allee pots

**Picea abies 'Acrocona'**
- Acrocona Norway spruce
- Above Orange Balustrad

**Metasequoia glyptostroboides**
- dawn-redwood
- Swan Pond
### Upcoming Events

#### November 2018

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### Weekly Volunteer Events

**Wednesdays**: Horticulture Volunteers 8:30 am - 12 noon  
**Saturdays and Sundays**: Regular Tour 2:00 - 3:00 pm  
**Saturdays**: Winter Wellness Walks 10:30 - 11:30 am  
**Sundays**: Winter Wellness Walks 1:00 pm
Upcoming Events

December 2018

Weekly Volunteer Events

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