



# Newsletter

FITLER SQUARE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

**Halloween Fun Fest - this Saturday from 10:30 - 12:30  
Pumpkin Hunt at 11am SHARP!**



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P.O. Box 30067  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
[www.fitlersquare.org](http://www.fitlersquare.org)



**Halloween Fun Fest**  
AND PUMPKIN HUNT

Saturday, October 31 10:30-12:30 pm  
Pumpkin Hunt at 11 am. DJ, games, prizes, fun!



FITLERSQUARE.ORG

The mission of FSIA is to preserve, protect and beautify Fitler Square and we work in partnership with Philadelphia Department of Parks and Recreation.

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## Message from our President

*Dear Friends and Neighbors:*

*As I write this message to you on this beautiful autumn afternoon, Pat Henningsen and I have just finished decorating the fountain for the Fall Season. When I first became a member of the Board 25 years ago, the fountain area was off limits to practically everyone. Whatever bloomed inside the wrought iron fencing was determined by the Grounds chairperson, planted in May and weeded in September. In those days, the City would donate a Christmas tree and set it up on top of the shed, where for years, Board member Mark Willie and a few other brave souls would precariously stand on the roof of the shed and throw lights and tinsel on the treetop. One year, the City notified us they could no longer afford to provide a Christmas tree. The Board then decided to open the fountain gate and set up the holiday tree inside, but then added four more trees and lighted bears, our unofficial Fitler Square mascot. Several years later, decorating the area for autumn and Halloween became an added tradition.*

*This year, we revamped the landscaping in the fountain (see article), topping the several years of transformation, which started as a water recirculating project, to a lighting and painting project, to a repaving project. We are very pleased with the transformation of this central part of our little park are grateful for the positive neighborhood support.*

*Our fountain has evolved as has our neighborhood, and we like to think Fitler Square is a place for all of us to enjoy. With the increasing population in the area, the park is used by more people, young and old. Please be respectful of our neighbors when using the park and take along any trash or unused food items when you leave. We have trash pickup one day a week, so please do not bring household trash to the park. We love our toddlers in the Square, but please be mindful that chalk is not easily removed from the bear and ram statues. Also remember, Fitler Square is a designated dog-free zone on the grassy areas, so that people can have a green space to play ball, or do yoga, or just sit on a blanket in the sun without the worry of dog waste.*

*Once again, I would like to thank my fellow Board members, who donate their precious time to our efforts to make Fitler Square a beautiful place. I am very pleased to welcome our two new Board members, Robin Parke and Gemina Gianino. They have always been dependable volunteers at the Annual Fair, and we are looking forward to their input in the future.*

*Be assured that every dollar of your contribution to FSIA goes to the maintenance of the park, and we hope you enjoy and appreciate Fitler Square, a big city neighborhood with a small town feel.*

*Regards,*

*Judy Romano Zimering*

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## Jake Kuklick, MLA Founder and CEO of Mosaic Landscape Restoration



Jake Kuklick has a life-long connection to Fitler Square. Jake grew up at 23rd and St. James streets. He and his brothers used to walk down St. James to 23rd street and then over to Fitler Square on their way to Taney Park.

They would play at Fitler, walk to Taney, play some more, and walk back through Fitler. So he was very interested when we first contacted him about doing snow removal last winter. Gradually, we became aware of his other talents.

His company, Mosaic Landscape Restoration has just completed the replanting of our fountain area and has been doing some general weed control and maintenance through the spring and summer. We hope to have them do more.

A little more about Jake: After attending Greenfield school and the high school for Creative and Performing Arts, Jake graduated from Northeastern University with a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy, and from Temple University with a Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture. Temple's focus on ecological restoration reignited his passion for environmentalism.

As Jake says, "I am happiest when simply making a positive ecological impact anywhere and having genuine personal interactions with people I work with. I'd like to grow my business in and around Philadelphia, encouraging clients to lean more towards eco-centric landscapes rather than only human-centric.



I work all over Philadelphia from tiny backyards to suburban estates ... Everywhere I go, I encourage invasive species management, storm water infiltration, and most importantly, replanting with native plants."

Jake works outdoors through December, weather permitting, then does design work in preparation for the Spring, takes classes (currently studying to become a certified arborist), does snow removal in Fitler Square and around the neighborhood, or does brush clearing at his parent's house in the country, which he describes as "an ongoing restoration job that requires constant maintenance." I see that last part as keeping in touch with and helping his parents. What a nice guy! If you see him and his crew working in the square, talk to him and find out for yourself.



### **Event Permit Notice!**

**Please be aware that if you plan to host an event in any city park in Philadelphia, including Fitler Square, you will need a permit. Please contact the City to obtain that permit. Thank you!**

## A new half-hour service for families with young children

worship.together is a brief, participatory service for families with young children. Specifically designed with 0-7 year-olds in mind, and their older siblings, this half-hour service helps engage children in story, song and prayer while helping to develop their sense of God. All are invited to sit on the floor to experience the service firsthand. Happy chatter and joyful wiggles are most welcome!



## worship.together

**Sundays at 9 AM – New this Fall!**

Trinity Memorial Church  
22<sup>nd</sup> and Spruce, Philadelphia

For more information, please contact **Rev. Donna Maree** at [rector@trinityphiladelphia.com](mailto:rector@trinityphiladelphia.com) or visit [www.tmcphila.org](http://www.tmcphila.org)

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**SATURDAY, NOV. 14** **FALL SERVICE DAY**

VISIT [loveyourpark.org](http://loveyourpark.org) TO:

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**Improvement Association, Inc.**  
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