Opting out of primary vote is no way to respond to a broken system

Regardless of party affiliation, age, socioeconomic status or neighborhood, one thing is clear: Philadelphia needs a healthy dirigiste for city government.

First and foremost, the city that doesn’t work for the city and all the people it serves. City government has a massive public safety, jobs and education — more worrisome to average Philadelphians than government corruption and incompetence is often a factor for why those issues are not fixed in Philadelphia and perform expectations.

While such Philadelphia is the city they live in, they’re not satisfied with the status quo. They expect more. They have a right to make an impact on Mar 16 when Democrats — who own a huge regulatory advantage in this city — will go to the polls for a primary election with significant implications.

Local residents have received a pretty good primer on their two biggest choices, with this paper having host of neighborhood flyers for candidates running for both District Attorney and City Controller. Both elections were competitive, and look at how all 11 people running for those offices — right for DA and nine for City Controller — were the city and job for which they are running.

What’s more is this both offices are remarkably important. The District Attorney is responsible for protecting the community, for instance. The D.A. will be responsible for what crimes get more attention and which ones are less. This is an important role for setting outcomes and setting the future of the city’s justice enforcement programs, which have been floundering for years in the country.

Similarly, the City Controller is the most important agent of anti-corruption in this city. He is up to the mayor to control spending, to protect the city’s money. We’re living in an era that is not only more urban and more complex, but increasingly fragile, and more effective governments are needed.

Let’s desist the impasse of these

From our readers

Thanks for Mystical Feast coverage

On behalf of the “vandals and board of the Center for Contemporary Mysticism, I thank you for the story written by Barbara Sheehy about the history of the Center and our “Mystical Feast” held on April 23. This year’s fundraiser was sold out and we are grateful to all those who worked hard to make it a success.

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church opened their doors and welcome everyone and continue to provide space for our monthly concerts, the Wednesday Salons, Barro, and Tradewinds, a unique Hawai’i-themed fusion eatery.

We are especially grateful to our participating restaurants which make the Mystical Feast a „gorgeous” experience. This year we were pleased to welcome three new Chestnut Hill restaurants: Main Restaurant, Augustus Salins Bistro, and Tradewinds, a unique Hawai’i-themed fusion eatery.

Our thanks to our sponsors include: City, El Piqueño, Tavvern on the Hill, The Fife, Tea Company, the Italian Night Kitchen, Cafe Bakers, Zaza’s Cafe and SCDY Run Cafe. Other sponsors were: Chocolates Buginger, Chocolates Chocolatura, James Green, Nancy Schmidt, Diane Mar and Evangeline Brague.

We extend our appreciation to all the individual

On the Table: Chestnut Hill, let’s talk about our greenspaces

Local connection to Von Trapp family

A photo caption about a Chestnut Hill Library event described in the March 23 issue of Local Life mentions the Von Trapp family, who left Nazi-occupied Austria in 1938 for the USA and purchased a property in Stowe, Vt. in 1938. (Note: The Von Trapp were the real-life basis for the musical “The Sound of Music”)

Ed Ducey told me he was aware that the Von Trapp family lived in the area for a number of years in the 1940s. During WWII his mother sent him to work with the Von Trapp family as a farm hand one summer. He was 13 at the time. Most teens had a summer job during the war.

Ed, who is now 88, is a lifelong Hiller, born and raised in Mt. Airy. He ran L.F. Ducey Co., the builders, and he developed the Top Hill Shops where Roller- rink restaurants and Skate Store have been located, and he was a generous donor to many Hill institutions.

Keep the good works. We who have the best mountain, the best local trains, the best public schools, the best public places, the best public spaces, the best public spaces in the whole world would love to see...