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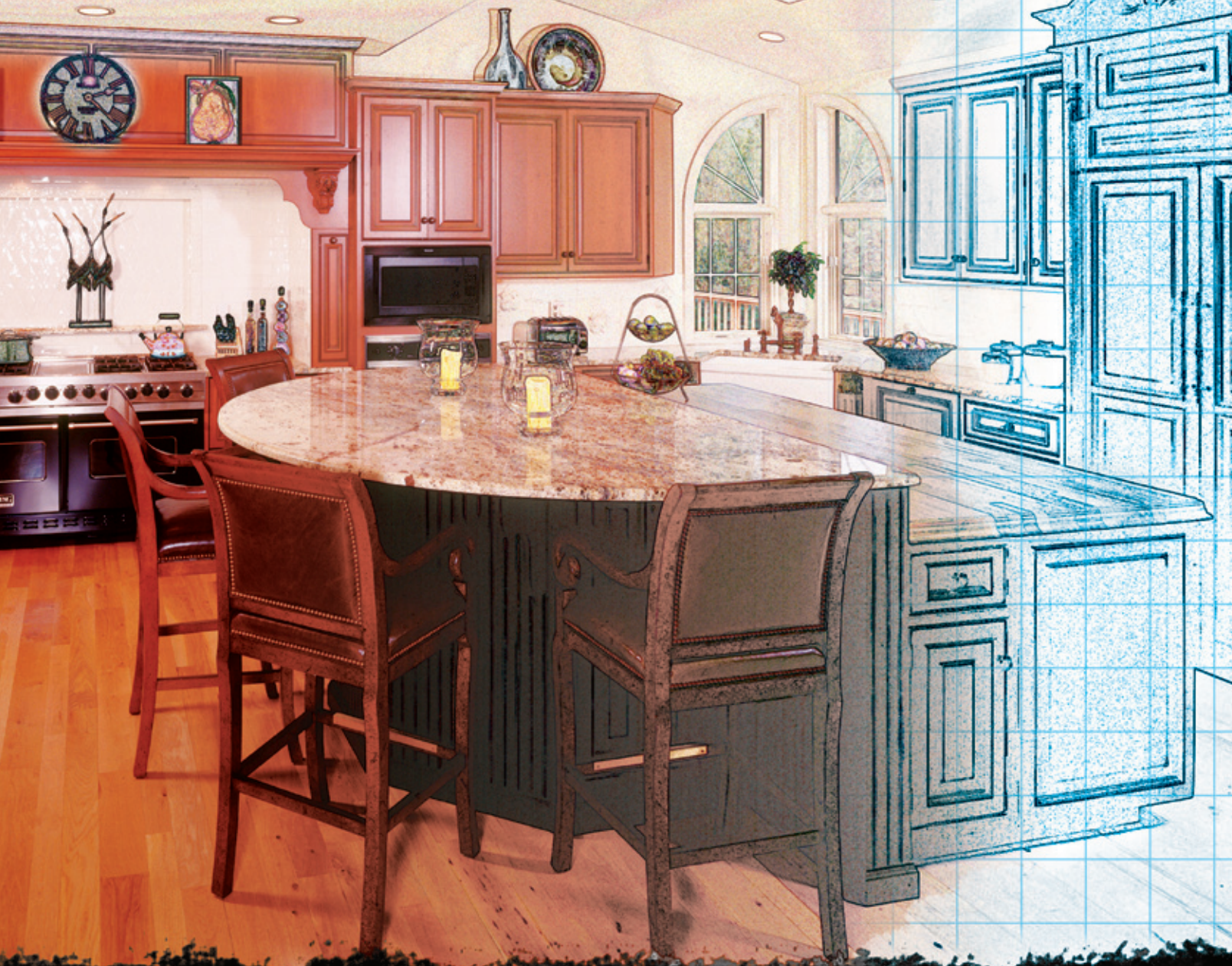
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From the Editor

For our September issue, we celebrate Chester County—traditions, history, businesses, fabulous fall events. And it's a big celebration.

Many readers know we preview magnificent homes of the 72nd Chester County Day Tour: stunning photos of historic homes, manor houses and farms, including a peek inside renowned architect John Milner's house, which is on our cover!

To peek inside more amazing area homes, mark your calendar for the Devon Horse Show's Fall Festival of Homes.

We also take you inside our Home of the Month, to see a house-tour-worthy home previously owned by the family of a nationally known fashion designer.

If you first learned of dressage during the Olympic coverage, you can continue your equestrian education locally with "On the Road to the Grand Prix" at Dressage at Devon—a world-class gem here in Chester County.

Read about more local treasures in our profile of Unionville's Last Chance Garage, where classic cars get another chance. And head to Chester County Historical Society for a trip down memory lane to see a new exhibit, "Cut It Out! 200 Years of Paper Dolls." See how we celebrate local heroes in "Big Awards for Quiet Citizens," recognizing those who work to eliminate illiteracy.

Join us in celebrating a Trifecta of Fall Food Festivals: Chester County Restaurant Festival, Kennett's Mushroom Festival, and the Rotary's Chili Cookoff. Then get in the back-to-school spirit with a tour of local cooking schools in Brandywine Table. And we share great picks for underappreciated and undervalued wines of Spain and Portugal.

September also marks our 35th anniversary of celebrating Chester County. We've got a proclamation from the Pennsylvania Senate to prove it. Just check out our website.

We hope these articles inspire you to celebrate Chester County as well.

Thank you for reading.

Jo Anne Durako
Editor

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September 2012
Volume XXXVI, Number 1

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Left to right: Donald W. Mazur, MD, Robert A. Ruggiero, Jr., MD, Robert A. Ruggiero, Sr., MD, FACS, Michael S. Lee, MD, Charles J. Odgers, IV, MD, Eric C. Zabab, MD, Jonathan P. Garino, MD, Jason R. Miller, DPM, Not shown: David C. Raab, MD, Jennifer Kwan-Morley, MD and Louis J. Ciliberti, Jr., DPM

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Cover photo by Don Pearse Photographers of the Abiah Taylor house, home of John Milner, on this year's Chester County Day Tour



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Being Well

Relax—in the Dentist's Chair? Discover Oral Sedation Dentistry

Dr. Eric N. Shelly & Dr. Eric Fort

I'm too busy. My toothache isn't serious. I'll reschedule my appointment for sometime next month.

Sound familiar?

Dentophobia—fear of dentists—affects more than 75% of adults in the United States. This fear often causes patients to become anxious and make excuses to avoid getting needed care and routine checkups—checkups that are vital for a healthy smile and overall oral health.

But, you can finally relax. With the help of Oral Sedation Dentistry, there's no need to fear the dentist's chair any longer.

What is Oral Sedation Dentistry?

Oral Sedation Dentistry uses medication to help patients

relax during routine procedures so they are less tense, fearful and uncomfortable. And some find the added benefit of less soreness after their dental treatments, a boon for those with low pain tolerance.

There's a range of options available in sedation dentistry—from the more common inhaling of nitrous oxide to intravenous sedation for extensive procedures. In a popular method of oral sedation, patients are given a small blue pill—Triazolam—that's taken an hour before their dental procedure. Because of the amnesiac properties of the medication, there's little or no memory of the visit. Patients are sedated just enough to be unaware of the treatment, as if they were sleeping, and feel refreshed after the treatment is completed.

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Additional medication can be given during the treatment, as needed, to maintain a level of sedation that will allow complex dental procedures to be performed in comfort. A good level of sedation can be sustained for six hours or more. This longer window of sedation is useful for time-consuming procedures, such as replacing crowns and dentures, restoring sore gums to good health, whitening teeth, and even correcting more significant dental problems.

Without the impediment of fear, patients are more likely to keep their reg-

ular dental appointments and maintain the care needed for good dental health.

Worried about after-effects? Don't be. Oral Sedation Dentistry is endorsed by the American Dental Association. Patients wake up from sedation refreshed, with little to no memory of the details of the visit.

And, because you're completely comfortable, years of needed dental treatment can be completed in one or two visits. Imagine being able to smile with confidence and chew your food without pain—all without the anxiety normally associated with a dental visit.

Who is a Candidate for Sedation Dentistry?

People fear going to the dentist for many reasons. Perhaps they had a bad experience as a child. Or have difficulty getting numb from Novocaine or other injections and get frustrated by the process. Some people hate all shots and needles that may precede dental work, as well as the noises, smells and tastes associated with dental care. And gag reflexes can make dental treatment very stressful. Add to this embarrassment about these problems.

Patients who relate to any of these issues are good candidates for Oral Sedation Dentistry.

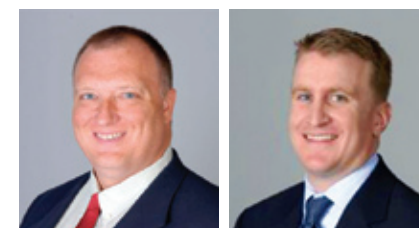
Other types of patients who benefit are those who need a large amount of dental work and find it difficult to sit still in a dental chair for a long time. Or they may have busy schedules that prevent many short visits needed for extensive dental procedures and need to have a long visit.

Many patients having cosmetic treatment opt to have sedation because the visits can be quite long and tedious to endure, and they want the process of the treatment to be as positive as the outcome. Imagine the pleasure of waking up to a brand new, beautiful smile, made even better without the memory of what was required to get it!

You should consult your entire dental team to determine if you're a good candidate for Oral Sedation Dentistry and to discuss any medications or medical treatments you are receiving. That team consists of you—the patient—your dentist, hygienist, surgical team and dental lab.

Good teamwork will achieve a good, final result—a happy, healthy, comfortable and functional smile without fear. ♦

Dr. Eric N. Shelly and Dr. Eric Fort, both graduates of the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, have over 30 years of combined experience practicing complex, comprehensive, restorative dentistry and additional training in sedation services. The team at West Chester Dental Arts is dedicated to the service and comfort of their patients. WC-DentalArts.com



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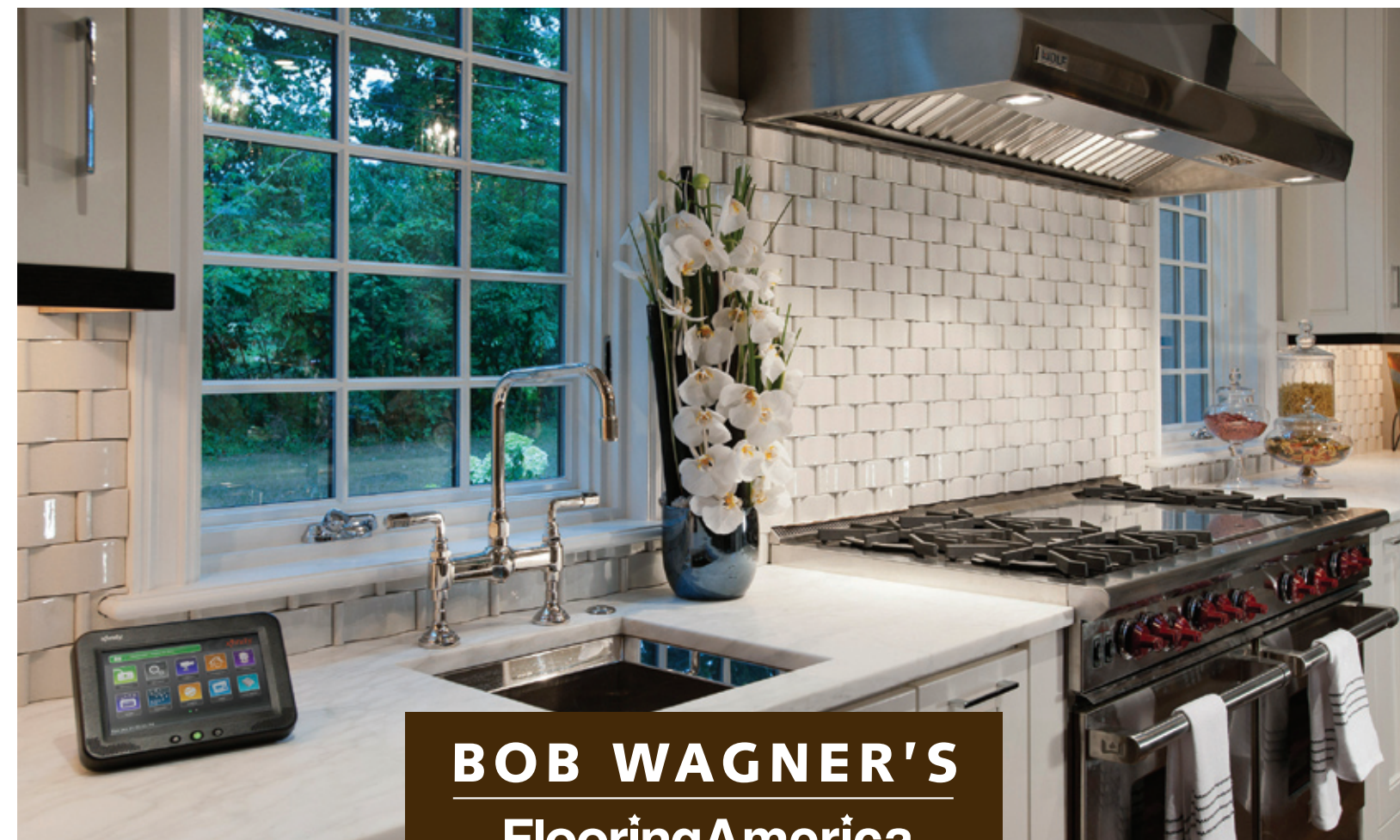


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Good to Know

*Just a few things we thought
you'd like to know for September*



Autumn is for Apples.

If it's autumn, it's finally apple-picking time! Head out to **Highland Orchard** (1000 Marshallton Thorndale Rd., West Chester), **Linvilla Orchard** (137 W. Knowlton Rd., Media), or **Glen Willow Orchard** (1657 Glen Willow Rd., Avondale) and roam through rows of apple trees, searching for your perfect picks. Bring the family to Highland Orchards on weekends to enjoy the Fall Harvest Festival—not to mention irresistible apple cider donuts. Whether you choose to fill a bushel or a peck, apple-picking is sure to create fun-filled fall memories.

Get Lost. Lose yourself in some of our area's aMAZEing corn mazes. **Oregon Dairy Farm** (2900 Oregon Pk., Lititz) is hosting a "Corn" copia Corn Maze, complete with Flashlight Mazes on



Fridays and Saturdays through October. The 5-acre maze at **Hurricane Hill Farm** (704 E. Reeceville Rd., Coatesville) challenges not only your navigation skills, but your trivia talents, too. **Cherry Crest Adventure Farm** (150 Cherry Hill Rd., Ronks) features the Amazing Maize Maze, an interactive 5-acre corn maze with "maize masters" to guide you through almost 3 miles of paths, scenic bridges and clues. More mind-bending locations at PumpkinPatchesAndMore.org/PAPEast.php.

Back to School for Fun.

Feel like a kid in a candy store again as you check out **Chester County Night School's** list of exciting fall classes, just as interesting as their names. From "Mom Never Gave Me Tap Lessons" and "Drawing for People Who Can't Draw A Straight Line" to "Twitter: Tips, Tricks, and Tweets," these adult classes cover all you need to know on subjects for work or leisure. It's never too late to learn. For details, go to ChesterCountyNightSchool.org.



Drink to the Revolution.

Join the **Chester County Historical Society** at Marshallton Inn for "History on Tap," a riveting re-telling of Marshallton Village's involvement in the Battle of the Brandywine, on September 11. Step back into the past on a guided tour of Martin's Tavern—a prominent site for militia meetings during the Revolutionary War. End the evening with good conversation and, of course, good food and a beer at **Four Dogs Tavern**, where CCHS hosts a short presentation and Q&A. History on Tap brings guest back in time to rediscover our historical roots while they relax and raise a glass. Free. ChesterCountyHistorical.org.



A Grand Day. In 1970 a West Virginia housewife had a grand idea—an entire day devoted to grandma and grandpa. Marian McQuade thought it was so important to honor our parents' parents that she took her idea to the White House. And in 1978 President Jimmy Carter declared the first Sunday after Labor Day **National Grandparents Day**—September 9 this year. Don't forget to call. Or better yet, visit your grandparents. After all, it's the law.



Eat Your Mushrooms. Though you may know that Kennett Square is the Mushroom Capital of the World, did you know that mushrooms are nutritious? Low in calories, mushrooms contain almost no cholesterol and are virtually free of fat and sodium. They do contain selenium, shown to alleviate symptoms of asthma and arthritis, and one portobello mushroom has more potassium than a banana. High in antioxidants, mushrooms are also loaded with protein. For more on mushrooms, head for **Kennett's Mushroom Festival**, September 8 and 9. MushroomFestival.org.

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But Close to Home

It happened AGAIN!
Barron's June 2012
Patti Brennan named
one of The Top 100
Women Advisors
in America!

RECOGNIZED IN:

Barron's – Top 100 Women Financial Advisors (from 2006)

Fortune – One of America's Top 100 Independent Advisors (2008)

Wealth Manager – 50 Most Influential Women in Wealth (2009)

Worth – One of the Nation's Top Wealth Advisors (2009, 2010, 2011)

The 50 Top Women in Wealth – *Wealth Manager Magazine* (May 2010)

Philadelphia Business Journal – #2 Top Wealth Advisor (2010)

Registered Rep – Top 50 Independent Broker/Dealer
Women Advisors (2011)

Barron's – Top 1,000 Financial Advisors (from 2006)
Only 40 Recognized in Pennsylvania (And the Only Woman in 2012!)

Raised in Radnor, PA, Patricia Brennan has been providing Wealth Management advice right here in West Chester for over 25 years. She is a Georgetown University graduate and earned her CFP® designation in 1990. She is a recognized leader in her industry and serves as the first Chairwoman on the National Advisory Board for Royal Alliance. On a local level, Patti, her husband, Ed, and their four children reside in West Chester, where she is also active in her community. Patti currently serves as a board member for the Chester County Economic Development Council, Cuddle My Kids, and for The Chester County Hospital and Health System.

Patti Brennan CFP®



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Of Special Note



Glen Willow Combined Driving Event

September 7-9

Welcome to Glen Willow. This nationally sanctioned combined driving event, featuring the elegance of dressage, plus the excitement of marathon and cones, is the successor to The Laurels at Landhope, which retired last year after a stellar 25-year

run. Although The Laurels is a tough act to follow, the organizers of the Glen Willow event are committed to continuing the tradition but with a fresh twist. *Woodview & Glen Willow Rds., 1 mi. from Rt. 1 & 41, West Grove. Daily 9 a.m. Free admission. 910-691-7735; GlenWillowCDE.com.*

Delaware Art Museum's "Art is Everywhere!"

Through October 1

"Pop-up art" is an exhibition in the great outdoors and other unusual places. Art reproductions are printed to scale, framed and installed. Delaware Art Museum's "Art is Everywhere" exhibit includes 15 reproductions of treasured paintings. Shown here, the Lewes Historical Society features Edward Hopper's *Summertime*. *Historic Complex, 2nd & Shipcarpenter Sts., Lewes. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.*



Canine Partners for Life Annual Open House

September 8

Visitors can meet the service dog recipients and puppies in training, plus learn about CPL and how these special dogs care for their new partners. Enjoy a free barbeque lunch, live music, hay rides, kennel tours, puppy kissing booth, face painting, vendors and the famous Cow Bingo Raffle (tickets, \$10). The first square "marked" by the cow identifies the lucky winner of a prize. *334 Faggs Manor Rd., Cochranville. Noon to 4. Free. 610-869-4902; K94life.org.*



Hootenanny Hoedown

September 29

The day begins at 9 a.m. with a 5K Trail Race for Conservation on privately owned land with bucolic views. Next is a Human Tractor Pull Competition at 11 a.m. and a Children's Mutton Busting Competition at noon, when kids compete to stay on a sheep the longest. Come in the evening dressed as your favorite outlaw for the Hootenanny Hoedown Wild West Saloon, with barbeque-style food, local brews, wine, music and games. *387 Green Valley Rd., Coatesville. 6 p.m. \$75. 610-347-0347; TLCForSCC.org.*

47th Annual Chadds Ford Days

September 8-9

The fair, begun by Chris Sanderson to commemorate the Battle of the Brandywine, has become a family-friendly event that includes juried crafters, fine artists, Colonial demonstrations, live entertainment, food by local restaurants, breweries and wineries, and games and rides. *1736 N. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. Daily 10 to 5. Parking \$5. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFordHistory.org.*



Upcoming Events

Noteworthy in September . . .



September 8
Barclay Friends 8th Annual Festival of Gardens. Tour lovely, private gardens in the Everhart Park section of West Chester, then purchase uncommon plant varieties at the annual plant sale. Benefits Barclay's Horticultural Therapy Program. 10 to 3. \$20-\$25. 610-918-3433; BF.Kendal.org.

September 11
World Trade Center Steel Trees on Display at Memorial Ceremony, Lukens National Historic District. Tracing the events of 9/11, participants can see and touch the "trees" that were part of the lobbies of the World Trade Center Towers, recovered and transported back to Lukens National Historic District, 50 S. First Ave., Coatesville. 8:30 to 10:30 am. 610-384-9282; LukensNHD.org.



September 21-23
Plantation Field International Horse Trials. Top international riders compete in the sport known as "eventing," a mix of dressage, cross country and show jumping. Enjoy shops, food, entertainment and a Kid's Korner. New this year, tailgating on Sat. 387 Green Valley Rd., 2 mi. N of Unionville, off Rt. 82. \$20-\$500. 610-347-2024; Plantation-FieldHorseTrials.com.

September 29
15th Annual Kennett Brewfest. Over 60 regional micro-brewers gather to serve their best. Food from local restaurants and jazz/fusion music is part of the fun. 600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square. 2 to 6 pm. Advance tickets required, \$45-\$70, \$10 for Designated Driver. Must be 21. 610-444-8188; KennettBrewfest.com.



Antiques

Through September 2
159th Semi-Annual York Antiques Show. Over 90 exhibitors at Memorial Hall East, York Expo Ctr., 334 Carlisle Ave., York. Fri-Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 11 to 5. \$10. 302-875-5326; TheOriginalYorkAntiquesShow.com.

October 7-14
Berks County Antique Art Show. Museum-quality paintings by the school of artists from Berks County, circa 1820-1920, are offered at

this show, including works by Ben Austrian, Christopher H. Shearer, John H. Raser and more. Greshville Antiques & Fine Art, 1041 Reading Ave. (Rt. 562), Boyertown. **Oct. 7**, 12 to 7; **Oct. 8-13**, 10 to 7; **Oct. 14**, 12 to 5. Free. 610-367-0076; GreshvilleAntiques.com.

Art & Craft Shows

Through September 3
2012 Long's Park Art & Craft Festival. Recognized as one of the country's top 10 fine art and craft shows, with 200 juried artisans, a

gourmet food court, live music and a kids' tent. Benefits the free Long's Park Summer Music Series. Harrisburg Pike and Rt. 30, Lancaster. 10 to 5. \$10. 717-735-8883; LongsPark.org.

Through September
Happenings at Beauty Art, Antiques, Gifts. Art glass by Robin Flynn. 3857 Providence Rd., Newtown Square. Tues, Wed, Fri, 11 to 6; Thurs, 11 to 7; Sat, 10 to 4. 610-353-4569; BeautyArtGallery.net.

Through May, 2013
Rosenbach Museum & Library Presents "Maurice Sendak: A Legacy Exhibition." The most comprehensive exhibition of Sendak's work offers visitors a look into his life and his art. 2008-2010 Delancey Place, Philadelphia. Tues & Fri, noon to 6; Wed-Thurs, noon to 8; Sat-Sun, noon to 6. \$5-\$10. 215-732-1600; Rosenbach.org.

September 1
The 105th Arden Fair & Antiques Market. Handmade crafts, antiques market, children's games and rides, plants, live music, great food and more. 2126 The Highway, Arden, DE. 10 to 6. Rain date, Sept. 4. 302-475-5814; ArdenClub.org.

September 8-9
Brandywine Festival of the Arts. Showcasing the work of hundreds of artists and craftspeople available for sale, a food court and free entrance into the Brandywine Zoo with ticket purchase. Brandywine Park, 1001 N. Park Dr., Wilmington. Sat, 9 to 6; Sun, 9 to 4. \$5; under 10, free. 302-690-5555; BrandywineArts.com.

September 15-16
2012 Johnny Appleseed Arts & Music Festival at Linvilla Orchards. Select local artists and crafts people gather to exhibit their work and play music. 137 W. Knowlton Rd., Media. 9 to 5. Rain date, Sept. 22-23. 610-876-7116; Linvilla.com.

September 22
Community Arts Center's 10th Annual Fine Arts & Crafts Festival. Local artists bring their finest works in ceramic, fiber, clay, mixed media, wood, watercolor, jewelry, photography and more. Live music and festival fare. State St., Media. 10 to 5. Rain or shine. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

October 5-7
Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. More than 250 juried, American artisans offer an array of sculpture, glass, jewelry, fashion, wood, metal, furniture, home accessories, photography and fine art. Master craftspeople will demonstrate their creative processes in iron forging, paper-making, stone sculpting and other media. Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD. Fri-Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 5. \$8-\$10. 800-210-990; SugarloafCrafts.com.

Design, Home Shows

September 14-October 14
11th Annual Philadelphia Magazine Design Home 2012. This year's home is a 6,000-sq.-ft. estate home, located in the Bentley Homes Worthing community, bordering Willows Park. Thurs, noon to 8; Fri-Mon, 11 to 4. \$20. Proceeds all go to Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House. 215-387-8431; PhilaRMH.org.

October 5-7
Suburban PA Fall Home Show. Designed for homeowners in all stages of remodeling, landscaping and decorating, including exhibits with merchandise, demonstrations and sample interior and exterior vignettes. Lancaster County Convention Center, 25 S. Queen St., Lancaster. Fri, 11 to 9; Sat, 10 to 8; Sun, 10 to 6. Free. 888-433-3976; ACSHomeshow.com.



Equestrian

Fridays & Sundays In September
Brandywine Polo. Spectators can picnic and tailgate at the grounds. Toughkenamon Exit, Rt. 1 S. Fri, 5:30; Sun, 3. \$10. Cancelled for rain or extreme heat. 610-268-8692; Brandywine-PoloClub.com.

September 1-3
69th Annual Ludwig's Corner Horse Show & Country Fair. More than 500 horses compete in events at the 33-acre Ludwig's Corner horse show grounds. Also featured, rides and games, carriage exhibition, antique cars, retailers, crafters and children's activities. Benefits open space conservation. Rt. 100, N of Rt. 401, Ludwig's Corner. 8 to 6. \$3-\$7. 610-458-3344; LudwigsHorseShow.org.

September 13-16
Devon Fall Classic. Non-stop action featuring Jumper Championships, Young Jumpers (Six, Seven and Eight Year-Olds) and USEF Rating 4 Jumpers. Enjoy incredible shopping from boutique vendors, live music, great food a farmer's market and fun for the whole family. Devon Horse Show Grounds, Rt. 30, Devon. Open Thurs, 9 am; Fri-Sat, 8; Sun, 9. Free, open seating for all performances except Sat, when the Main Grandstand will be reserved for box

holders only. Six seats, \$150. 610-525-2533; DevonHorseShow.net.

September 25-30
Dressage at Devon. See article in this issue.

Eat, Drink & Be Merry

Wednesdays In September
Stroll, Shop, Dine — Dining Under the Stars in Media. Wednesday is the night to dine out in Media. Restaurants offer outdoor dining along State Street, from Jackson to Orange Sts. Plus entertainment and chil-

dren's activities on each block. 5 to 11 pm. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

September 2-30
September "Ice Cream Sundays" at Landis Valley Museum. Enjoy live music, wagon rides, and "make-your-own" ice cream sundaes at this family event. 2451 Kissel Hill Rd., Lancaster. Noon to 3. \$8-\$12. 717-569-0401; LandisValleyMuseum.org.

September 21
Longwood Gardens 1906 Wine Dinner. Wines from South America and Chile are featured. Each menu will feature an *amuse bouche*,

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first course, second course, intermezzo, main course and dessert. 1001 Longwood Rd. 6 pm. \$97. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

**Friday-Sunday
September 21-October 21
Lancaster Brewing Company Oktoberfest.** Enjoy Authentic German food and Lancaster Brewing Oktoberfest Beer. 302 N Plum St., Lancaster. Fri-Sat, 11:30 am to 2 am; Sun, till midnight. 717-391-6258; LancasterBrewing.com.

**September 28
Kennett Square Farmers Market Fermentation Festival.** As a prelude to the Kennett

Brewfest, market vendors and special guests will present an assortment of fermented foods and beverages with demonstrations and tastings. Live music, kids' activities will also be part of the Harvest celebration. Genesis Brick Walkway and along E. State St.. 2 to 6. 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.

**October 5-6
King of Prussia Beerfest Royale.** A celebration of local craft and German beers, food from local restaurants and authentic German beer vendors. King of Prussia Mall, next to The Court, W. DeKalb Pk., King of Prussia. Fri, 5:30 to 9 pm; Sat, 2 sessions,

12:30 to 4 and 5 to 8:30. \$45-\$85. KOP-BeerFest.com.

**October 7
Media Food & Crafts Festival.** Many restaurants and craftspeople display on State St. There are music stages with bands playing throughout the day, children's activities. 10 to 5. Visitors are requested to bring canned or packaged goods for City Team Ministries. Rain date, Oct. 14. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

Family Fun

See also, *Festivals & Fairs.*

**Sundays Through September 23
West Chester Railroad Summer Picnic Specials.** Enjoy a relaxing 90-minute train ride on a warm summer afternoon. Pack a lunch to have at the Glen Mills train station picnic grove. Trains depart Market Street Station, 230 E. Market St., West Chester. Noon. \$10.50-\$12.50. 610-430-2233; WestChesterRR.net.

**Through September 29
Longwood Gardens Fireworks & Fountains.** *Swan Lake*—Sept. 1, 8:15 pm. *The Amazing 80's!*—Sept. 29, 7:15 pm. 1001 Longwood Rd. Kennett Square. \$22-\$38. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

**Through October
Northbrook Canoe Company.** A fun and unique family experience, offering canoeing, kayaking and tubing trips along the Brandywine River. The Food Shack is open weekends and holidays, and for large groups during the week. Reservations are preferred. 1810 Beagle Rd., West Chester. Daily 9 am; last trip, 4 pm. 800-898-2279; NorthbrookCanoe.com.

**September 22
Sky Tour at Anson B. Nixon Park.** Members of the Chester Co. Astronomical Society will bring their telescopes to help participants find their way around the heavens. Tino Leto Athletic Fields, N. Walnut St. Begins at dusk. Free. 610-444-1416; AnsonBNixonPark.org.

**September 23
Community Open House and Ice Cream Social.** Come for hot dogs and ice cream, live music, face painting and moon bounce. Grove United Methodist Church, 490 W. Boot Rd., West Goshen. 4 to 6. Free. 610-696-2663; GroveChurch.org.

**October 6
Bark in the Park at Nottingham Park.** A day to promote responsible dog ownership and have fun with your dogs. Vendors, skill demonstrations, exhibits. Nottingham County Park, 150 Park Rd., Nottingham. 11 to 3. \$5/parking. 610-932-2589; ChesCo.org/CCParks.

Festivals & Fairs

**Through October 28
The Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire.** A cast

Local Farm Markets

Anselma Farmers & Artisans Market, 1730 Conestoga Rd., Chester Springs. Wed, 2 to 6. 610-827-1906; Anselma-Mill.org.

Bryn Mawr Farmers Market, Lancaster Ave. at Bryn Mawr train station. Sat, 9 to 1. BrynMawrFarmersMarket.com.

East Goshen Farmers Market, E. Goshen Park, Paoli Pk., East Goshen. Thurs, 3 to 7 pm. EastGoshenFarmersMarket.blogspot.com.

Kennett Square Farmers Market, downtown. Fri, 2 to 6. 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.

Lancaster Central Market, 23 N. Market St. Year-round, Tues, Fri, 6 to 4; Sat, 6 to 2. 717-735-6890; CentralMarket-Lancaster.com.

Lancaster County Farmers Market, 389 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne. Wed, Fri, Sat, 6 to 4. 610-688-9856; LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com.

Lititz Farmers Market, Water St. Sat, 8 to noon. 717-626-6332; LititzFarmersMarket.com.

Media Farmers Market, State St. between Monroe & Gayley Sts. Thurs, 3 to 7. 610-566-5039; MediaFarmersMarket.com.

New Garden Grower's Market, 8934 Gap Newport Pk. Through Nov. 17, Sat, 9 to 3. 610-268-2915.

Newtown Square Farmers Market, Mostardi Nursery, 4033 West Chester Pk. Through Oct. 24, Wed, 2 to 6. 610-353-1555; PRC.org.

Oxford Village Market, 3rd & Locust Sts. Tues, 12:30 to 6. 610-998-9494; Oxford-MainStreet.org.

Phoenixville Farmers Market, under Gay St. Bridge accessed by Taylor Alley. Sat, 9 to 1. PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org.

Swarthmore Farmers Market, 341 Dartmouth Ave., at Swarthmore Co-Op. Sat, 10 to 2. FarmToCity.org.

West Chester Growers Market, Chestnut and Church Sts. Sat, 9 to 1. 610-436-9010; WestChesterGrowersMarket.com.

West Grove Farmers Market, Harmony Park, Harmony Rd. Thurs, 2 to 6. 610-932-5468; WestGroveFarmersMarket.com.

Wilmington's Urban Farm Market, 12th & Brandywine Sts. Through Oct. Mon, 4 to 7 pm. 302-658-6262; TheDCH.org.

of hundreds of colorfully costumed characters fill the grounds with music, dancing and more. Over 90 stage shows daily, 22 royal kitchens and many artisans with handcrafted wares. Sat-Sun, and Labor Day Monday, 11 to 8. \$9.95-\$29.95. 717-665-7021; PAREnFaire.com.

**September 1
Pottstown Classic Car Club Car Show.** See article, "In the Shop," in this issue.

**September 7-8
Annual Chile Pepper Food Festival in Bowers.** Just about anything you can imagine made with or about chile peppers can be

found here, from food to crafts to clothing. Live music, a jalapeño eating contest, chile pepper plants, song contests. No alcohol; no pets. William DeLong Park, 233 Bowers Rd., Bowers. 9 to 6. Donation. 610-682-7045; PepperFestival.com.



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September 7-9

Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance. *Sept. 7*, Welcome Barbecue; *Sept. 8*, Chester County Rally through the pastoral back roads of Chester Co., 8 am, followed by a cocktail reception and black tie gala; *Sept. 9*, The 100 Motor Cars of Radnor Hunt. Benefits Thorcroft Equestrian Center. 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. 610-353-3536; RadnorConcours.org.

September 7-9

Hay Creek Fall Festival. Early American crafts, home crafts, a Civil War encampment, children's hands-on activities, food and music

at Historic Joanna Furnace, Rt. 10, 3 mi. N of the PA Tpk. interchange 22 on Rt. 10, Geigertown. Daily 10 to 5. Admission \$2-\$10. 610-286-0388; HayCreek.org.

September 8

East Berlin's 38th Colonial Day. Juried vendors of traditional wares line the 18th-century town's National Historic District. Entertainment, food, demonstrations. Rain or shine. Free. For information, phone the Historical Preservation Society, 717-259-0822.

September 8-9

26th Great Media Garage Sale Days.

This festive event is a huge garage sale, with many homes participating in the sale and block parties all over Media. 9 to 4. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

September 8-9

27th Kennett Square Mushroom Festival. The mushroom takes center stage at this annual event attracting big crowds with mushroom-related events, most are free, all are fun. Downtown Kennett Square. 888-440-9920; MushroomFest.com.



September 16

The Hagley Car Show. See article, "In the Shop," in this issue.

September 16

Radnor Fall Festival. Fun for the whole family with great food, live music, rides, a beer garden, magic and face painting. N. Wayne Ave., downtown Wayne. 1 to 5. 610-688-9188; RadnorFallFestival.com.

September 16

36th Annual Super Sunday in Media. Eight blocks of State Street and all of Veteran's Square will be blocked off for this street fair, which features food, crafts, antiques and collectibles and lots of fun. Benefits local charities. Rain date, Sept. 23. 9 to 5. 610-583-4432, ext. 102; VisitMediaPA.com.

September 22

2nd Annual Pottstown Pet Fair. Chat with representatives from animal shelters, wildlife organizations, veterinarians and animal control. Vendors will be offering goods and services. Smith Family Plaza, 100 E. High St., Pottstown. 9 to 3. Free. 610-970-6507.

September 22-23

Linville Orchards Apple Festival. Jam-packed fun for the whole family. Linville Orchards, 137 W. Knowlton Rd., Media. 9 to 6. 610-876-7116; Linville.com.

September 29

Oxford Fall Classic Car Show. See article, "In the Shop," in this issue.

September 30

Malvern Harvest Family Festival and Paws in the Park. Artists, music, food, hay rides, apple cider and maybe a haunted house. Paws in the Park (Burke Park) hosts local animal rescues and pet-related vendors. King St. & Burke Park, Malvern. 11 to 4. 610-644-2602; MalvernBusiness.com.

October 5-7

88th Annual Unionville Community Fair. Family activities, contests, displays and interactive events, music, live animal exhibits, food and auction of donated item, Sun, 5:30. Landhope Farms, Rts. 82 & 926, Unionville. Fri-Sat, 9 to 9; Sun, 10 to 4 pm. UCFairInc.org.

October 6

St. David's Church 166th Annual Fair and Country Auction. One of the oldest ongoing fairs in the country, this is a treat for the entire family with live entertainment, midway games for children, a puppet show, flea market, an auction, music, food and crafts. Old St. David's Church, 763 Valley Forge Rd., Wayne. 10 to 4. 610-688-7947; StDavidsChurch.org.

October 6

Revolutionary Germantown Festival featuring Reenactment of the Battle of Germantown. Celebrate Germantown's rich colonial history with programs, tours and activities for all ages throughout the community and the annual reenactment of the Battle of Germantown. Cliveden of the National Trust, 6401 Germantown Ave., Chestnut Hill. 10 to 4. 215-848-1777; Cliveden.org.



October 6-7

Delaware Nature Society Harvest Moon Festival. Events include scarecrow stuffing, corn maze, Native American exhibits, an International Turtle Race, living history programs, Farm Olympics, pony rides and more. Coverdale Farm, 543 Way Rd., Greenville, DE. No dogs. Festival hours, 10 to 5. \$5-\$8. 302-239-2334; DelawareNatureSociety.org.

October 6, 12-13

11th Annual Chocolate Walk & 14th Annual Artisans' Porch Walk in Lititz. *Oct. 6*, the Chocolate Walk features chocolate candymakers and pastry chefs at over 30 tasting stations. 10 to 4. Buttons, \$20-\$25; sales are limited. LititzChocolateWalk2012.com. *Oct. 12-13*, Artisans' Porch Walk show and sale of art and crafts on private porches and lawns throughout town. Fri, 10 to 5; Sat, 10 to 4. 717-725-8637. Benefits local organizations that assist children. 717-560-2295. LititzPa.com.

Fundraisers

See also, *Outdoor & Sport Activities.*

September 23

Delaware Museum of Natural History's 6th Annual "Wine & Dinosaurs" Wine

and Beer Tasting Festival. Spend a relaxing afternoon sampling delicious wine, beer and hors d'oeuvres while bidding on the silent auction and enjoying live entertainment. Benefits programs at the museum. 4840 Kennett Pk. (Rt. 52), Wilmington. Noon to 4. \$45. 302-658-9111, ext. 303; DelMNH.org.

September 24

5th Annual Safe Harbor Golf & Tennis Classic and Fall Dinner. Annual benefit to raise funds for the homeless men and women of Chester County. Whitford County Club, 600 Whitford Hills Rd., Exton. Shotgun start, golf,

noon; tennis tournament, 2 pm; happy hour, dinner at 5. Golf, \$175; tennis \$65. 610-701-5680; SafeHarborOfGWC.org.

September 29

Center for the Creative Arts "Luck of the Draw" Event. Victoria Wyeth hosts this event at which cards are drawn at random and the ticket holder with the matching card selects one piece of art from donated works by local artists. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine and desserts. 410 Upper Snuff Mill Row, Yorklyn. 6:30 to 10 pm. \$85; non-participating guests, \$15. 302-239-2434; CCArts.org.



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Circa: Early 20th Century
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On Rag Rug Base

Antique Persian Kirmahshah
Circa: Early 20th Century
Size: 9 X 10

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Known as "Sisters"
Circa: Mid 20th Century
Sizes: 3X5 and 4X6

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☐ Hanging Devices

October 2

10th Annual People's Light Classic. A day of golf, dining, cocktails, silent auction featuring a number of get-a-ways, theatre and sports experiences, the Putting Contest and prizes in support of Arts Discovery, the nationally recognized education program of People's Light & Theatre, providing more than 35,000 children throughout the area with a unique theater arts experience. The Ace Club, 800 Ridge Pk., Lafayette Hill. For information and registration, 610-647-1900, ext. 119; PeoplesLight.org.

Gardens

Through October 28

Tyler Arboretum Events. Through Oct. 28, "Sit A Spell: Seats That Tell a Tale." Talented artisans bring their imaginations to life in the form of outdoor seating. Chairs, benches, rockers and hammocks encourage visitors of all ages to sit, relax and enjoy nature all around them. **Sept. 2,** Butterflies & Buggy Buddies. Say a fond farewell to the monarch butterflies as they are released for their southern migration. Discover bugs like never before at the

Insectarium and learn about worm composting and how to eat like a bug. 10 to 2. 515 Painter Rd., Media. Mon-Fri, 9 to 5; Sat-Sun, 9 to 7. \$5-\$9. 610-566-9134; TylerArboretum.org.

September 22-23

2nd Annual Dahlia Show at Longwood Gardens. Brilliant dahlia blooms fill the Conservatory at the Mid-Atlantic Conference Dahlia Show and The Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society Show. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Sat, 1 to 5; Sun, 9 to 5. \$8-\$18. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.



Museums

Through September 16

Delaware Art Museum – "100 Works for 100 Years." As part of the year-long celebration of the Museum's Centennial, this exhibition will feature one or more works of art for each year of the Museum's existence. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, noon to 4. \$6-\$12. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

Through January 6, 2013

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library's "Uncorked! Wine, Objects & Tradition." An exhibition that explores the stunning range of objects associated with the history of wine drinking, especially in Britain and America. See website for events related to exhibit. 5105 Kennett Pk. (Rt. 52), Winterthur. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5. \$5-\$18. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.

Tuesdays, September 4–November 13
Brandywine River Museum's "The Art of Andrew Wyeth" Studio Tour. Explore the art of Andrew Wyeth with a visit to his newly-opened studio and a docent-led tour featuring "Three Generations of Wyeth Art" from the Museum's renowned collections. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. 10:30 to 2. \$25-\$30. 610-388-8326; www.BrandywineMuseum.org.

Through January 19

Chester County Historical Society Exhibits. Through Sept. 7, "In Stitches, Unraveling Their Stories," needlework collections from Westtown School and the Historical Society. **Sept. 10,** History on Tap, a retelling of the involvement of the Marshalton village in the Revolutionary War Battle of the Brandywine 235 years ago, Marshalton Inn, 1300 West Strasburg Rd. 6 pm. **Sept. 21–Jan. 19,** "Cut It Out! 200 Years of Paper Dolls," a wide selection from the collection, of over 8,000 paper dolls (see article

in this issue). 225 N. High St., West Chester. Wed-Sat, 9:30 to 4:30. 610-692-4800; ChesterCoHistorical.org.

Music & Entertainment

September 6

Swingin' Summer Thursdays in West Chester. Rock/funk with the Dirk Quinn Band and Wave Radio. Great food, live music, clowns, dancers and more. Downtown West Chester on Gay Street. 6:30. 610-436-9010; DowntownWestChester.com.

September 7

Chester County Historical Society Presents a "Boomer's Dance Concert." Big G And The Cool Cats, an eleven member horn band, will be performing the great songs of the '60s and '70s with a special tribute to the bands Chicago and Blood Sweat And Tears. 225 N. High St., West Chester. 7:30 pm. \$12-\$15. 610-324-2143; ChesterCoHistorical.org.



September 8

Phoenixville Blues Festival. Live music, food and beverages. Benefits the "Give the Gift of Music Foundation," helping underprivileged children in the area have access to music lessons and after school programs. Reeves Park, Main St. and 2nd Ave. 1 to 10 pm. PvilleBlues.org.

September 8–23

Music at Longwood. Sept. 8, Buried Beds; **Sept. 9,** Carillon Concert; **Sept. 14,** Gizmo Guys; **Sept. 15,** Papo Gely and Timbalona; **Sept. 16,** Carillon Concert; **Sept. 22,** Mariachi Flor de Toloache; **Sept. 23,** Carillon Concert. Concerts continue through Sept. 23. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. \$25-\$40. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

September 14

WCU Live! Presents Tempesta di Mare. West Chester University Cultural Arts Department opens their 18th season with a concert of baroque music performed on period instruments. Madeleine Wing Adler Theatre, S. High St., West Chester. 7:30 pm. \$15-\$20. 610-436-2266; WCUA.edu/CVPA.

September 14

Jorma Kaukonen with Very Special Guest Loudon Wainwright III at The Colonial Theatre. The Hot Tuna/Jefferson Airplane guitarist and Grammy winner/actor will treat the

audience to a collaborative evening of blues, humor and amazing songwriting. 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. \$29.50-\$40. 8 pm. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

September 15

Haverford Music Festival. Over 30 bands on three stages performing all genres of music including rock, blues, pop, jazz, classical and folk with beer gardens, a food court, vendors and activities for kids. Headliners include Blackthorn and John Flynn. Eagle & Darby Rds., Havertown. Noon to 9:30 pm. Free. HaverfordMusicFestival.org.

September 21

Music Friday in Lancaster Square. The Johnny Bravo Combo at 6:30 and Sonora Los Fantásticos at 7:30. Lancaster Square, Lancaster. Gates open at 6. Free. 717-291-4758; LancasterCityEvents.com.

September 22

Serafin String Quartet at Kennett Flash. "Quartet Time Machine: From Haydn to Higdon." 102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square. 8 pm. \$18. 484-732-8295; KennettFlash.org.

September 23

Vox Ama Deus – "Mozart & Bach Soirée."



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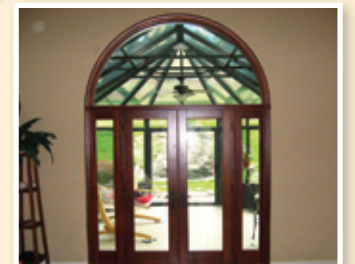
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Camarata Ama Deus, Baroque period instrument chamber orchestra. Daylesford Abbey, 220 S. Valley Rd., Paoli. 6 pm. Phone for tickets. 610-688-2800; VoxAmaDeus.org.

September 23

Delaware County Symphony Chamber Series Concert. The music of Harbison, Gershwin, Thomson and Barber. Neumann Univ., Meagher Theater, 1 Neumann Dr., Aston. 3 pm. \$8-\$10. 610-356-5673; DCSMusic.org.

September 30

City Rhythm Orchestra at The Colonial Theatre. "Jump, Jive and Wail." The 15-piece

big band will have you dancing in the aisles to the sounds of classic swing music. 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. \$5-\$25. 7 pm. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

Outdoor & Sport Activities

See also, Fundraisers.

September 9

Kennett Square Mushroom Festival 5th Annual 5K Run/Walk. Registration, 7 am, in front of Kennett High School, Broad & W. South Sts. Start: 8:30 am. Benefits breast cancer research. 610-925-3373; MushroomFestival.org.



September 9

Tunnel to Towers 5K and 1-Mile Family Fun Walk. Every year, the Stephen Siller Foundation honors the life of the FDNY firefighter who, on September 11, ran from the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel to the Towers to assist in rescue. This year, King of Prussia is honored to be the only PA location for the race. Organized by the King of Prussia Fire Company. T2TRun.org.

September 15

"English 4U" 5K Run/2.5K Walk. Enjoy the run/walk through downtown West Chester. Benefits the Volunteer English Program in Chester County, a local nonprofit which provides free tutoring of English language skills and American cultural understanding for adult immigrants. Begins and ends at Iron Hill Brewery, 3 W. Gay St., West Chester. 3 pm. \$20. 610-644-3228; VolunteerEnglish.org.

September 16

Philadelphia Rock 'n Roll Half Marathon. The course is flat and festive—perfect for runners/walkers of all levels. Benefits many charities including The American Cancer Society and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Start: Ben Franklin Pkwy. Finish: Eakins Oval, Fairmount Park with festival, live music, refreshments. Race begins 8 am. RunRocknRoll.Competitor.com/Philadelphia.

September 22

Waterfront Festival & Cardboard Boat Regatta in Chestertown, MD. Boat rides on the Chester River, sailing, kayaking, bluegrass music, good food, family fun and the 5th annual cardboard boat regatta. Wilmer Park, Chestertown, MD. 12 to 5. 410-778-7295; CES.WashColl.edu.

September 23

5th Annual "Bike Fresh, Bike Local" Event. Organized by the PA Assoc. for Sustainable



Agriculture (PASA) and Victory Brewing, welcoming riders of all abilities with a choice of 25-, 50-, or 75-mile rides through beautiful Chester County. Begins and ends at Victory Brewing Co., Downingtown. \$40-\$45. 610-458-3956; PASAFarming.org/Events/PASA-events/Bike-Fresh-Bike-Local.

September 29

14th Annual Kimberton Run. Run or walk through the beautiful countryside of East Pikeland. Benefits the Kimberton Lions' projects. Participants and spectators are asked to bring cans of food for PACS, the Phoenixville Area Community Services Organization. The 5K run/walk and ½-mile kids run begins at Kimberton Fire Company, Rt. 113, Phoenixville. Registration, 8 am; run, 9 am. \$10-\$17, includes T-shirt. KimbertonRun.com.

October 6

Philadelphia International Dragon Boat Festival. More than 140 dragon boat teams compete, racing along a 500-meter course in multiple races. Teams, including corporations, community organizations, businesses, schools, families and gather on the Schuylkill River in Fairmount Park, Phila. 7 am to 6 pm. 610-642-2333; PhilaDragonBoatFestival.com.



October 7

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's 10th Annual Buddy Walk & Family Fun Day. Something for all ages with raffles, moon bounces, basketball throw, soccer shoot, football toss, jugglers, great food, local celebrities, mascots and more. Benefits the Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome) Program at CHOP. Villanova University Stadium, 800 Lancaster Ave., Villanova. 10 to 1. Registration, 9:30; walk, 10:45. 267-426-6496; email: Buddywalk@email.chop.edu.

October 7

39th Annual Marshalton Triathlon. Pedal, Paddle, Pace—All athletes, novice to ironman and their families, are invited to bike, canoe and pace-walk through 10 miles of Chester County countryside. A family and dog-friendly event (dogs on leash) with music, food and drink. Benefits the all-volunteer West Bradford Fire Co. and preservation of the town of Marshalton. Rt. 162, 5 mi. W of West Chester. 8 am. \$30. MarshaltonTriathlon.com.



October 7

Delaware Humane Assoc. "Tails Around the Tower" Walk for Animals. A one-mile walk around the park by dogs and their people is just one part of this event—a fes-

tive atmosphere, music, refreshments, pet-friendly vendors, pet contests and more round out the day and make it a perfect family outing. Rockford Park, 2000 Lookout Dr., Wilmington. 10:30 am. 302-571-8172; DEHumane.org.

In Towns & Boroughs . . .

September 6

Town Tours & Village Walks. The final tour of the summer is in the Village of Unionville. For times, reservations (required), call 877-442-2476 (press menu #111). 610-344-6415; ChesCo.org/CCParks.



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September 7

First Fridays. Stroll through area towns to find exhibits, galleries, restaurant specials, entertainment and extended hours. **Berwyn**, 610-203-4543; BerwynDevonBusiness.com. **Kennett Square**, 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com. **Lancaster City**, 717-509-ARTS; LancasterArts.com. **A Main Line ARTitude**, with free trolley from Bryn Mawr to Ardmore, 610-642-4040; FirstFridayMainLine.com. **Oxford**, 610-998-9494; DowntownOxfordPA.org. **Phoenixville**, 610-933-3070; PhxFirstFriday.com. **Wayne**, 610-687-7698; FirstFridayWayne.com. **West Chester**, 610-738-3350; DowntownWestChester.com; **Wilmington**, 302-576-2100; ArtLoopWilmingtonDE.com.

September 8

Media's Second Saturdays. Media's version of First Fridays. 610-566-5210; MediaArtsCouncil.org.

Theater

September 12–October 7

Seven Guitars. Part bawdy comedy, part dark elegy, part mystery, August Wilson's *Seven Guitars* is a sultry riff on the American Dream. People's Light & Theatre, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Tues-Thurs, 7:30; Fri-Sat, 8; Sun, 7;

Wed, Sat, Sun, 2. Phone for tickets, 610- 644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

September 25–November 4

Hairspray. An energetic teenage heroine wins a role on a local TV dance program and becomes a celebrity overnight. Media Theatre for the Performing Arts, 104 E. State St., Media. Phone for curtain times. \$27-\$49. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.



October 2–7

Elvis Lives. An unforgettable multi-media and live musical journey across Elvis' life. DuPont Theatre, 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. Tues-Thurs, 7:30 p.m.; Fri-Sat, 8; Wed, Sat, Sun, 2. \$35-\$75. 800-338-0881; DuPontTheatre.com.

Tours

October 6

72nd Chester County Day Tour. See article in this issue.

October 6

Annual Historic House Tour of Chestertown, MD. Chestertown literally opens its doors as homeowners invite ticket holders to see the interiors of the town's renowned historic houses. Benefits the Historical Society of Kent County, MD. Ticket holders receive a tour book to guide them through the beautifully restored district. 1 to 5 pm. \$25-\$30. 410-778-3499; KentCountyHistory.org. ♦

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2012 Literacy Heroes

Local Heroes Big Awards for Quiet Citizens

Only 1 in 14. That's the number of Chester County residents who are classified as illiterate.

Illiteracy is not often cited as a major problem in Chester County, which has the lowest illiteracy rate in Pennsylvania and one of the lowest rates in the nation. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only about 7% of the over-16 population are functionally illiterate in Chester County, compared with 22% in Philadelphia and 13% in all of Pennsylvania.

But, even for Chester County, consider the word "only." Only 1 in 14 people means 7% of the county's residents can't read a grocery list, a road sign or a train schedule. They can't read a cereal box or a note from their child's school. The definition of illiteracy also covers simple arithmetic: quantitative illiteracy, it's called. The same "only 1 in 14" can't balance a checkbook or make a budget.

Who helps these 1 in 14? Each year, the West Chester Public Library recognizes "the selfless actions of individuals who are committed to promoting the cause of literacy." "Literacy Heroes," they're called. Eight are selected, this year from 70 nominations, as those who help "above and beyond."

The Literary Heroes are people who are doing something about this problem. They devote their own time, resources and talent to help those 1 in 14.

This Year's Literacy Heroes

Meet **Barbara Kirby**, who received the **Community Impact Hero Award**. Twenty years ago, she started the

Day Room at St. Agnes Parish, serving the poor and homeless families of West Chester. Today, the Day Room meets not only their literacy needs—from story time, mostly for the children, to English as a second language, mostly for immigrants—but meets other needs for meals, healthcare, clothing, counseling, education and training.

And there's **Jenny Steinem**, the **Education Hero**. A full-time English and Literacy teacher in the Unionville Patton Middle School, she's trained as a reading specialist and works with children with learning differences as her day job. In what you might call her spare time, she volunteers with the Juvenile Dependency System, taking students on a case-by-case basis, teaching them to read and do math, traveling all over southeastern Pennsylvania at her own expense.

So it is with **Captain Peter Curley**, an army officer, who made DVDs of soldiers reading in Iraq—459 of them—and sent the recorded stories to their families and caregivers. And **Deb Tobin**, who taught financial literacy to Henderson High School seniors. **Keystone Federal Credit Union** developed the program Tobin used.

And more heros: the **Innovation Technology Action Group** created programs for young people to pursue careers in science and technology. **Junior Girl Scout Troop 41600** made story boxes—a children's book plus story-related objects to explore through the sense of touch—for the lending library at the Overbrook School for the Blind.

Fall 2012

MOZART & BACH SOIRÉE

Camerata Ama Deus

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 at 6:00 PM

Daylesford Abbey, Paoli

MAGIC MOZART

Ama Deus Ensemble

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26 at 8:00 PM

Kimmel Center – Perelman Theater

FESTA VIVALDI*

Camerata Ama Deus

• FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 at 8:00 PM

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill

• SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11 at 4:00 PM

Bryn Mawr College – Thomas Great Hall

Holiday 2012

RENAISSANCE NOEL**

Vox Renaissance Consort

• FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30 at 8:00 PM

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill

• SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 at 4:00 PM

Bryn Mawr College – Thomas Great Hall

VoxAmaDeus

Valentini Roddy, Artistic Director and Conductor

Season 26

HANDEL MESSIAH*

Ama Deus Ensemble

• FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 at 7:00 PM

The Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia

• SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 at 7:00 PM

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chestnut Hill

• SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 at 4:00 PM

Daylesford Abbey, Paoli

• FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 at 7:00 PM

Cathedral Basilica of SS Peter & Paul, Phila.

• SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 at 7:00 PM

Nassau Christian Center, Princeton, NJ

• SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 at 4:00 PM

St. Katharine of Siena Church, Wayne

Winter 2013

GERSHWIN & ELLINGTON

Ama Deus Ensemble

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4 at 8:00 PM

Kimmel Center – Perelman Theater

RENAISSANCE CANDLEMAS**

Vox Renaissance Consort

• FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 at 8:00 PM

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill

• SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10 at 6:00 PM

Daylesford Abbey, Paoli

Spring 2013

BACH GALA

Maestro and Guests

SUNDAY, MARCH 3 at 5:00 PM

Gladwyne Presbyterian Church

BACH ST. JOHN PASSION*

Ama Deus Ensemble

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29 at 8:00 PM

Kimmel Center – Perelman Theater

BEETHOVEN GALA

Ama Deus Ensemble

FRIDAY, MAY 10 at 8:00 PM

Kimmel Center – Perelman Theater

BAROQUE SPRING*

Camerata Ama Deus

• FRIDAY, MAY 31 at 8:00 PM

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill

• SUNDAY, JUNE 2 at 6:00 PM

Daylesford Abbey, Paoli

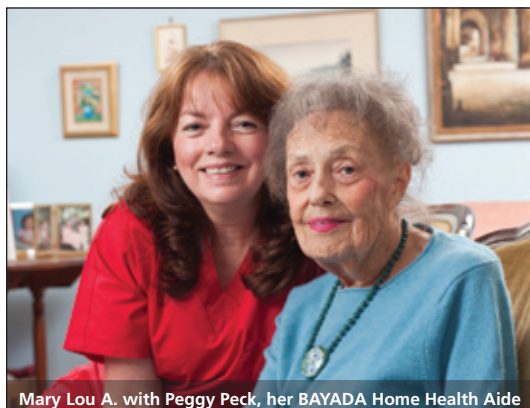
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An Overdue Story

Eve Przemyski, above, winner of the **Local Author Award**, won her award for a story that was finally told. Years ago, she scribbled her story of surviving a World War II prison camp on scraps of paper smuggled from the officers' quarters she cleaned. Thought to be lost during the camp's liberation at the end of the war, the diary was returned to her years later. She turned her notes into a book and donated those notes to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.

These winners are citizens in the truest sense. Their projects reflect good, charitable work, exemplifying the spirit of goodwill, teaching and literacy. This past spring at Longwood Gardens, the winners met at breakfast to receive their awards: an engraved, glass book.

For some winners, families flew in. Sponsors, legislators and government officials were there. It was a good time for people who have spent their life giving back.

Hero Behind the Heroes

But who, I wondered, thought of the breakfast? The event is going into its 8th year now. Who keeps it going? Who is the hero behind the heroes?

I found the answer in the West Chester Library, on the second floor, in a neat but small office. There sits **Director of the Library Victoria Dow**, who explains that the awards were first conceived by **Megan Bowman, the Library's Development Officer**, and that they and the other members of the Library's Board of Directors maintain the program as a team.

The Literacy Awards event is “a lot of work, a lot of time, and cost.” But Victoria likes it because the awards go to otherwise ordinary people: those who win are “much quieter,” she says. The Literacy Heroes ceremony is the signature fund-raising event of the Library, but the ultimate goal is to promote literacy and name recognition: to promote an event that “people should feel good about supporting.” ♦



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FALL FESTIVAL OF HOMES: DEVON HOUSE TOUR



OCTOBER 11



Peek inside Main Line mansions and shop in over 20 exclusive boutiques at the tour.

Devon blue. Horse lovers in *County Lines'* Country know exactly which hue springs to mind with those two words. And, while springtime draws spectators from around the country for Pennsylvania's equestrian crown jewel—The Devon Horse Show and Country Fair—it's the fall that brings back many fans for a very different event—The Devon Horse Show's Fall Festival of Homes.

Guests Welcome!

Over the years, Devon's Fall Festival of Homes has provided guests with "a chance to view a remarkable showcase of private residences in our area," says Eileen Devine, of Devine Designs and co-chair of the event for the past four years.

Each year's tour is made possible by a selected group of homeowners who generously open their homes to hundreds of invited guests. "These houses aren't just stops along a tour," Devine remarks. "They're private residences—people's homes." This year's tour, centered in the western Main Line, includes properties that are intriguing and decorated with great personal style, yet provide practical, livable homes to children, grandchildren, dogs and cats.

What to Expect

Guests will enjoy a chance to peek inside and get up close and personal in these fascinating homes to view notable architecture, exceptional design,

PHOTOS: BRENDA CARPENTER

and fine craftsmanship that make each unique. Plus, each home is embellished with seasonal touches from select area florists, including lush arrangements from Valley Forge Flowers that have become an anticipated tour staple. Local caterers add to the tour by offering tasty tidbits at each stop.

What else can guests expect? An exclusive shopping experience is a highlight for tour-goers. "One of the homes is filled with over 20 boutiques, featuring exceptional merchandise, unusual finds and one-of-a-kind gifts," says Devine. Fiore, a SoHo-inspired boutique, and Polka Dots, in Paoli, will offer clothing, accessories and décor items. Gregory Benjamin, a purveyor of fine homemade preserves, and Bella Casa Gifts will offer gift boxes and novelty items.

Guests are also treated to a lunch hosted by the Tague Design Showroom, on site in their Malvern showroom for another opportunity to gather inspiration.

Last year's tour featured homes in Chester County's horse country, where

one property sported a barn complete with carpeted tack room with hanging chandelier! This year, John Previti, master craftsman of Golden Age Cabinetmaking of Paoli, is creating a one-of-a-kind equestrian footstool, which he's donating for the door prize. Who knows what other surprises await on this year's tour!

Inspiration

Devine hopes guests come away inspired to "complete their own design projects." A tour booklet provides additional information about the restoration, preservation, architectural details, and in some cases the history of the featured residences, plus more design ideas and tips.

"The day is perfect for people who enjoy great architecture. The homeowners in our showcase open their homes for the enjoyment of the guests," and for the benefit of Bryn Mawr Hospital, Devine reminds us, a longtime beneficiary also of the The Devon Horse Show Country Fair.

Reservations are limited, so reserve your spot soon. Who knows—you might just be inspired to paint a room a fine shade of Devon blue! ♦

Jaimielynn Cooper

Thursday, October 11, 10 to 4 p.m. Benefits the Bryn Mawr Hospital. For reservations and information: 610-525-2533; DevonHorseShow.net/Special-Events-Tour.php.



PHOTOS: BRENDA CARPENTER



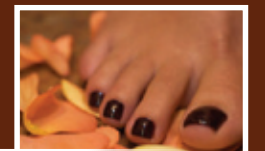
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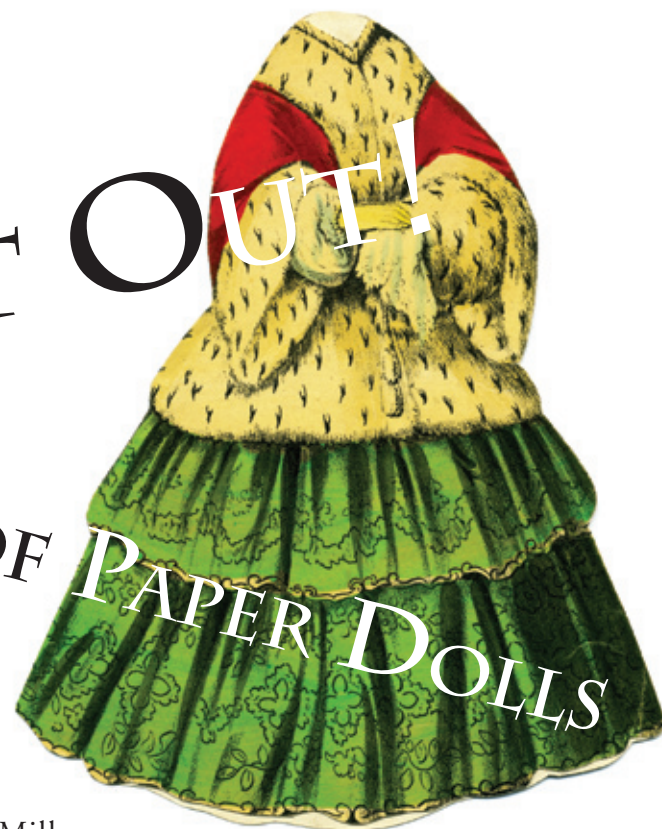
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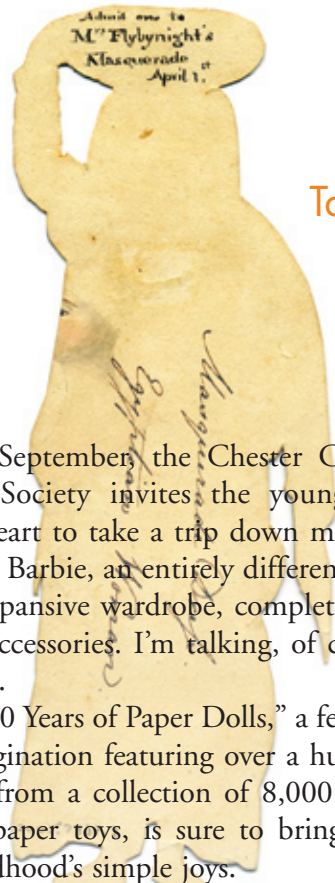


CUT IT OUT! 200 YEARS OF PAPER DOLLS



Louise Miller

Take a Trip Down Memory Lane at the
Chester County Historical Society.



Starting in September, the Chester County Historical Society invites the young and young at heart to take a trip down memory lane. Long before Barbie, an entirely different kind of doll had an expansive wardrobe, complete with hats, shoes and accessories. I'm talking, of course, about paper dolls.

"Cut It Out! 200 Years of Paper Dolls," a feast for the eyes and imagination featuring over a hundred examples drawn from a collection of 8,000 paper dolls and other paper toys, is sure to bring back memories of childhood's simple joys.

Through the Ages

Paper dolls have been around since—well, paper. While the first paper toys can be traced back to the Japanese art of paper folding (origami), it wasn't until the mid-1700s that paper dolls appeared in Europe. Nearly a hundred years later, the first man-

ufacturer of printed paper dolls in the United States, J. Belcher, set up shop in Boston.

If you played with them as a child, you may remember that paper doll sets typically included one or more cardboard figures or dolls, along with a variety of paper clothing, which had to be cut out and attached by folded-back tabs. For modern dolls, Velcro attachments and online drag-and-drop of clothing images replaced the traditional tabs.

While some were lavishly fashioned and expensive, the printed paper dolls published in the United States, beginning around 1800, covered a wide range of subjects and formats. Part of their popularity with parents may be attributed to paper dolls being an economical children's toy—compared, for example, with a Shirley Temple doll.

Perhaps the most common theme for paper dolls was the family—with parents, brothers and sisters, grandparents, pets and some sets even including nursemaids and housemaids. Wardrobes for all kinds of activities were part of the set—father's business suits, and mother's housedresses and party dresses. Yes, paper dolls, in the years when they were most popular, were pretty well stuck in the "Leave It To Beaver" mode for gender roles.

As you might expect, celebrities were often a theme. The first known paper doll based on a performer was of Marie Taglioni, a celebrated European ballerina of the mid-19th century. Reproductions of Taglioni paper dolls are included in the exhibit.

Mass Production in Mass Media

During their peak of popularity, starting in the 1930s and continuing to the 1950s, paper dolls allowed children to have economical toys during America's Great Depression and were mass marketed through several media outlets.

A popular feature of newspapers, usually on the comic page, beginning in Boston in the 1890s, paper dolls often accompanied popular comic strips, such as "Tillie the Toiler," or "Brenda Starr." Comic books also included paper dolls in a similar format.

Women's magazines featured long-running and popular paper doll sets as well. *Ladies Home Journal's* Lettie Lane series ran from 1908 to 1915, and the magazine continued publishing paper dolls through 1948. *McCall's* magazine published paper dolls beginning in 1904; the popular Betsy McCall series was introduced in 1951 and experienced a long run—into the 1990s! Their popularity, at least among collectors continues, as a peek at eBay will show.

Exhibit Highlights

The paper dolls on exhibit in "Cut It Out!" run the gamut from fashionable to fanciful. A hand-painted paper doll with clothing that bears a handwritten inscription "Fashions of 1786," is an exquisite

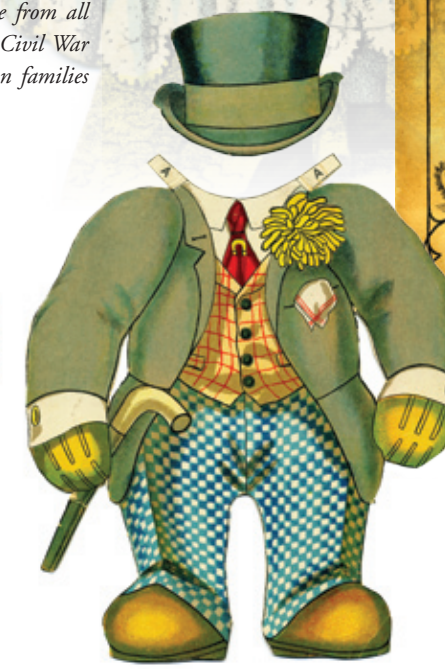
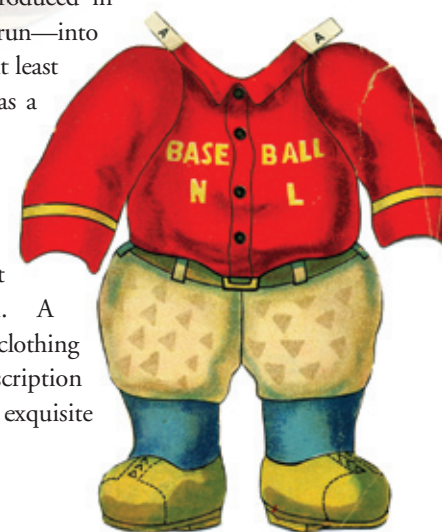
example of beautiful dolls and clothes in the collection.

Charming depictions of familiar figures from fairytales can also be seen—Cinderella, The Old Woman in the Shoe, Sleeping Beauty, Little Bo-Peep, Little Red Riding Hood—to name just a few. Royalty will be there too, along with celebrities, entertainers, and popular stars of the 20th century—Charlie Chaplin, Claudette Colbert, Shirley Temple. Paper dolls of movie stars from the 1930s and '40s often included costumes from their films along with glamorous outfits to evoke the world of Hollywood.

Just as Barbie had Ken, paper dolls often featured paired couples. Also popular, military uniforms from many countries' armies and navies are on display. Perhaps most popular, however, are the wedding costumes, sometimes just a wedding dress among the other clothing in a set, or whole sets of brides and grooms with their attendants will be on display in all their glory.

A visit to "Cut It Out!" will intrigue collectors and bring back memories of childhood. And for the younger generation, the exhibit may be an introduction to fascinating possibilities of pre-electronic playthings their parents enjoyed. ♦

"Cut It Out!" is on view September 21 through January 19, 2013 at the Chester County Historical Society, 225 N. High St., West Chester. For information: 610-692-4800; ChesterCo-Historical.org. The Museum Shop will have a wide selection of paper dolls for sale from all eras of American history, including Civil War soldiers, Art Deco fashions, Victorian families and more.





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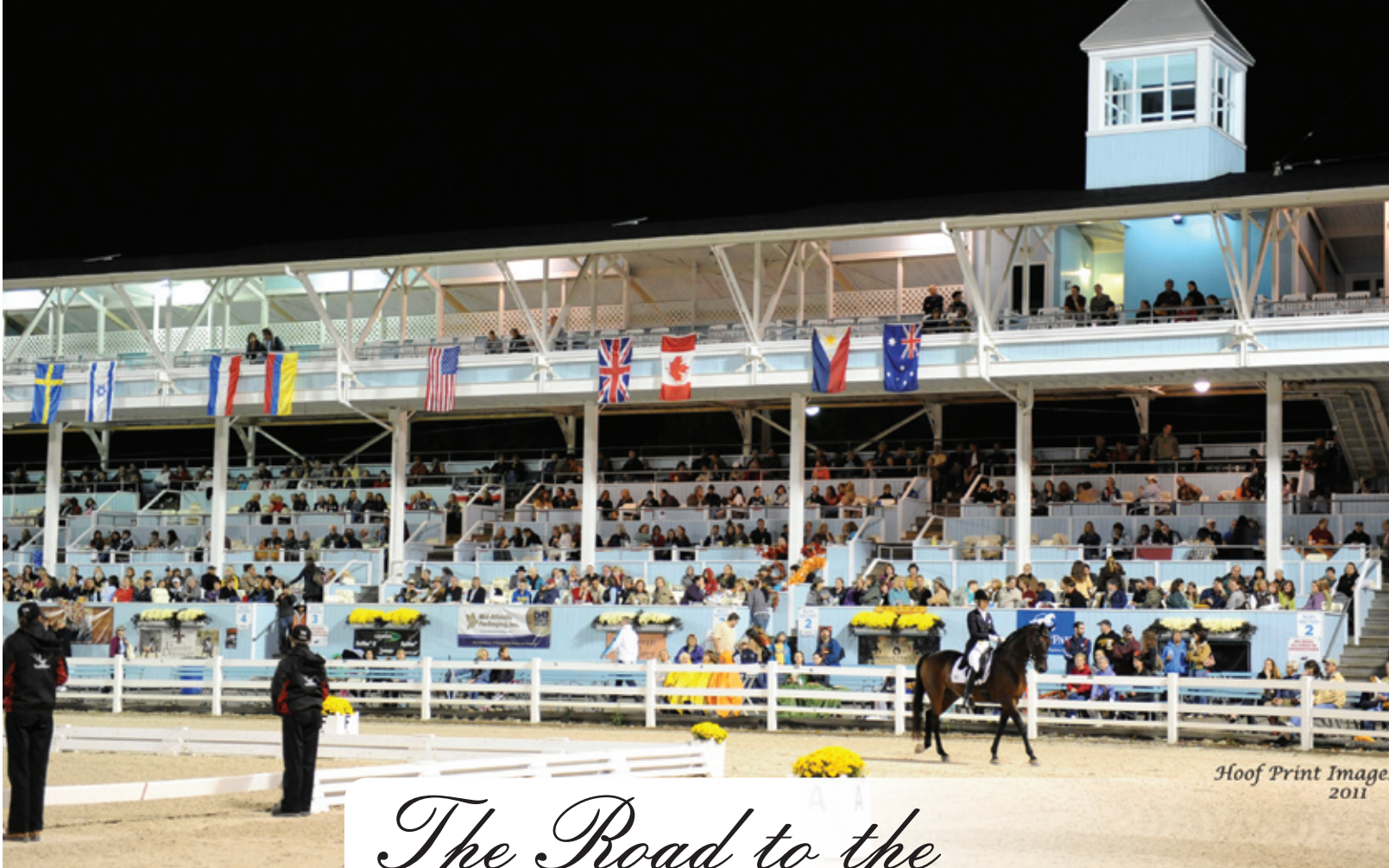
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Hoof Print Image 2011

The Road to the Grand Prix

Carolyn Frith

Each top rider at Dressage at Devon has a special story.



As a little girl, Susanne Hassler sat enraptured, watching 8-millimeter films of her grandmother riding in Grand Prix Dressage. Jim Koford once pursued a demanding career in advertising. Adrienne Lyle rode western-style on a small cattle ranch for many years. And after Catherine Haddad graduated college with an international relations degree, she traded the diplomatic corps for an equestrian career.

Despite their varied backgrounds, each of these four has danced elegantly in the Grand Prix competition at Dressage at Devon, one of the world's most prestigious international dressage competitions. And this year, Adrienne Lyle represented the United States at the Olympics in London! And we hope that the others will return to Dressage at Devon in September. These riders have reached the top of their profession with more than a little hard work.

From Ponies to Piaffes

When she was six, Haddad rode a pony in her backyard. Later she did many kinds of riding in 4-H for years, not discovering dressage until college. That's when she was "inspired for life," while watching German riding master Bodo Hangen ride at a dressage clinic.

Lyle also pursued other equestrian disciplines before launching into dressage. It was dressage, she felt, that presented even more challenges than jumping.

Jim Koford took a more circuitous route. With a degree in economics and a position in the corporate world, Jim continued to squeeze riding in after work and on weekends. But he reached a point when he was no longer satisfied with this part-time schedule. So he took a self-described "two-year sabbatical" from his 9-to-5 job to try to make a new career with horses.

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<p><i>"Euro" Villa - Belle Views of Conserved Ground w/ Pool & Pool House, Barn & 3 Pastures</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Master Suite takes up whole 2nd floor & has lush marble Bath, Dress. Rm. & many closets * In-Law Suite over 3+ Car Chef's Kitchen - 2 fridges, 2 ovens, Viking 6 burner & griddle, & great party space 	 <p>8072 Goshen Rd. Ride the Radnor Hunt trails</p>	<p>Marvelous Award Winning Renovation!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Master Suite has fab. Bath & Sit.Rm * 1st Flr.: Office, Chef's KIT, DR, FR, Den, & Game Room Pool w/ Spa & nice views of @ 8 Acres at end of cul-de-sac 	<p><i>Ride to Radnor Hunt & Ridley State Park 5+ Stall Barn</i></p>  <p><i>"Lit'l Bit of Heaven" \$1,190,000</i></p>
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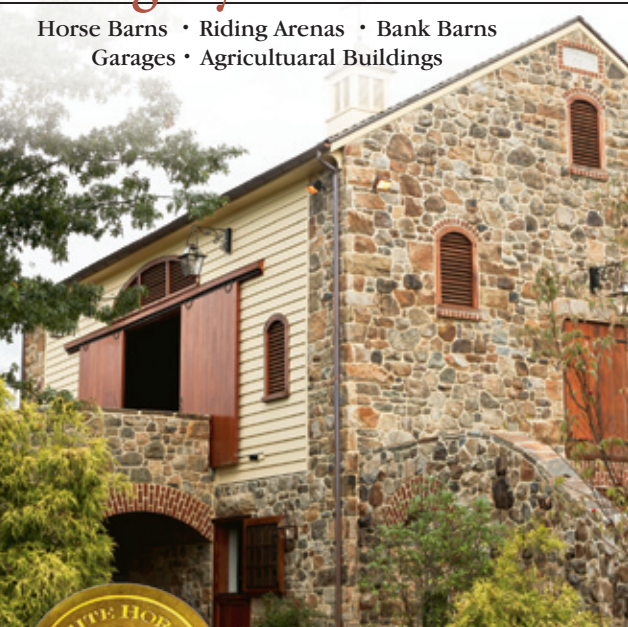

Clockwise from bottom left: Adrienne Lyle, 2012 Olympian, at Devon on Wizard; Catherine Haddad, 2010 Grand Prix winner, on Cadillac 35; Jim Koford, 2011 Grand Prix winner, on Rhett; Susanne Hassler, on Harmony's Baroncelli in the ring, and walking; future dressage champion, starting on the leadline.

PHOTOS BY HOOFF PRINT IMAGES, ALIX COLEMAN, STACY LYNNE PHOTO




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Young horses strut their stuff in the Breed Division, at right.

Watch for Coeur Dashian on her road to Dressage, below.



Hoof Print Images



Four days a week of ring-work with one day on trail rides in the country is Koford's preferred training. Many equestrians believe this change of pace outside the ring helps the horse physically and mentally as well.

Koford describes his rise in dressage as "a culmination of years of riding every horse I could. I try and try and try like a hamster on a wheel because I love this sport. ... It's so difficult to train for Grand Prix and then to be successful in the show ring is another thing," he explains. "It's like finding the Holy Grail."

More than a job, for these riders, dressage has become a way of life.

Crossing Paths at Dressage at Devon

They've taken different paths, but all have competed in the electric atmosphere of last year's Grand Prix at Dressage at Devon. "It is definitely one of the most rowdy, fun crowds I've ever ridden in front of," says Lyle. For what is otherwise a fairly restrained sport, the dressage crowd at Devon is not hesitant to cheer on the competitors and their mounts! Haddad adds, "I love the arena, and it makes my heart swell to know that we have such a fantastic show in America."

One thing is sure: This year's show will feature some of the best horses and the best riders in dressage. ♦



Eyes on New Bolton

Lynn Shea looks forward to the end of summer every year because it means Dressage at Devon is just around the corner. An avid dressage rider, Shea was nearly sidelined from the sport when her Thoroughbred-cross mare Espiranza developed an ulcer on the cornea of her left eye.

"It seemed very painful," says Shea. "I really had to back off from the training and baby that eye." And the horse was in danger of significant loss of vision.

When no improvement was seen with standard treatments, Shea decided to take the mare to the ophthalmology specialists at Penn Vet's New Bolton Center. There are only about 350 veterinary ophthalmologists in the country. "I admit that I was a bit worried," says Shea. "I anticipated the kind of treatment you always hear about in human hospitals, but was totally surprised. Everyone was attentive, they communicated well with me, and took wonderful care of my mare."

Dr. Mary Utter along with Dr. Chelsey Miller performed a diamond burr debridement on Espiranza, a cutting-edge technique used for people that's gaining traction in the veterinary world. With a handheld device, the unhealthy tissue was removed from the eye, and afterward the horse was fitted with a contact lens that functions as a bandage for the cornea. The technique has fewer complications and shorter healing time than traditional techniques, with a bonus of less scarring.

Espiranza is back at work and Shea is looking forward to the world-class competition of Dressage at Devon. "I'm just so happy to be back in the saddle, and thinking about the show. It's an inspiration for my own training, and it's a great comfort for me to know that Espiranza's eye is not causing her pain any more, and that her saved vision will keep her traveling straight down center line!"



More Than a Blacksmith

Despite their size, horses are delicate animals. Problems with their feet, hooves and shoes can sideline a horse for days or longer, so the role of the farrier is critical. Much more than a traditional blacksmith, a farrier is a specialist in equine hoof care, with knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the lower limb needed to care for horses' feet.

The official farrier during the first three days of the show, Juan Vidal, of Doylestown, has been around horses all his life, starting as a child riding on his father's ranch in Argentina. From there, becoming a professional polo player was a natural move. The travel and excitement initially appealed to Juan. But after moving to the U.S., marrying and starting a family, the time away became too much. Juan began his second career in the equine world as a farrier.

Juan says the biggest challenge in dressage is determining the right type of hoof support each horse needs to perform at its best. And, since each horse is different, choosing from the many types and styles of shoes takes knowledge and experience. For those very special horses, custom shoes may be the right choice.

While Juan's farrier business keeps him busy, watch for Juan's photos as he begins his third career as a photographer!

If You Go

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72nd Tour of Tours

Story and photos by Matt Freeman

You never know what's going to make you stop and take a long, fascinated look. You might linger over a museum-worthy painting in one house on the tour, a soaring arch in the two-story foyer of another. It might be patterned brickwork from 17th-century England or a pair of swans, gliding over a tree-shaded pond.

But while you never know exactly what features will create those moments, people who enjoy visiting historic and otherwise significant homes can reasonably expect to have plenty of them on the first Saturday in October during Chester County Day, an annual house tour that offers an invitation inside scores of impressive private homes. This year, the 72nd anniversary, focuses on Chester County's southwestern quadrant.

We hope you enjoy our annual preview. For tour information, see the Events Section in this issue or visit *ChesterCountyHospital.org*.

Photos of the Abiah Taylor House, first four pages,
by Don Pearse Photographers



Milners' Abiah Taylor House

There's evidence of a Lenni-Lenape village on Taylor's Run, so it's hard to say how many millennia the environs had been occupied when Abiah Taylor arrived in 1698 at what is now the intersection of North Creek Road and Route 162. Taylor built a cabin first, then a stone house, and finally, in 1724, a four-room brick house as an addition to the stone building. Taylor, a miller who was by then becoming a prominent person in Chester County, put in leaded windows and, on the south and west sides where it could be admired by passersby, he put patterned brickwork typical of Berkshire, the English county from which he had emigrated.

Abiah Taylor died in 1740 and at some point his son Samuel built a barn across the road, thought today to be the oldest extant stone barn in the state. The surrounding area has changed little since then, and the house still sits by the country road, a field away from Brandywine Creek.

And appropriately enough, it's home to John and Wynne Milner. A prominent architect who specializes in historic restoration and new traditional design, John had been through the house in the mid-1970s, and when it became available the Milners bought it.

In 1994, after two years of work, they moved in. They put a four-room addition on the east side, and renovated the historic structure. The Milners had to do some sleuthing to undo a modernization done in 1910. They found pieces of the original leaded-glass windows on site that they could reproduce. And with the help of the Chester County Historical Society's photo archives, they found images from before 1910 that enabled them to reproduce the original front doorway and, in general, peel away the centuries.

It may be 2012 by the calendar, but by the north end of Creek Road it's still mostly 1724.





Pennock House

Anna Myers' maiden name is Walton, a name well known in the West Marlborough Township village of London Grove. As a child, Anna had played in a tenant house that the Walton family owned in the village, but until Anna and Mark Myers started restoring it in 1989, the house had stood empty for three decades. They have appalling pictures of the derelict, crumbling house, its windows gone, the building prey to the elements.

But the house, built by Joseph Pennock in 1790 and expanded in 1810, was basically sound. "The slate roof, which we kept, saved the house," Anna says. In addition to restoration, the house needed modern amenities—it had never had indoor bathrooms or central heat.

When the house was empty, part of its hardware and woodwork were stolen; the Myers recovered some and recreated other pieces from photos. The original separate kitchen, now part of the house, features a beehive oven, spinning wheel, and other 18th-century details. Two parlors flank a hall, as well as a dining room and a new kitchen with a period fireplace and wooden cabinets.

On the surrounding 164 acres visitors will find a barn, carriage house/garage, hay fields and belted Galloways. And they'll see, from the Newark Road side, a pristine example of a late 18th-, early 19th-century Georgian brick and stone home.

The Walton Myers Farm unsurprisingly won the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Great American Home Award Grand Prize in 1996, and has been much written about. It may be surprising that the sadly crumbling skeleton in the photos could be so perfectly restored, but Chester County Day is a concentrated burst of exploration and discovery, and pleasant surprises like that simply come with the territory.



Rolling Plains Farm

Rolling Plains Farm on Wollaston Road in East Marlborough Township has been home to Cuyler Walker and his wife and children just since 2008. But for Walker himself the move was a homecoming—he grew up there.

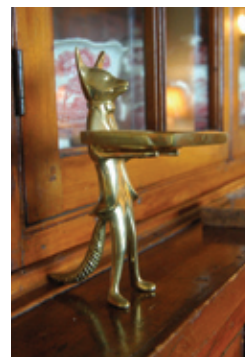
The house was built for a dairy farmer named Rakestraw in the 1850s. Walker’s grandparents bought the house and the 250 acres that surround it, and his parents lived there since the late 1940s, building an addition in the 1950s.

The foyer has a towering wooden arch, and similar woodwork is used for the distinctive fireplace surrounds. The woodwork is made of pine, because it was originally meant to be painted. But Walker’s parents had the paint removed, and today it’s a handsome reddish-brown, an unusual and eye-catching color.

The living room and rest of the house feature numerous family and equestrian-themed paintings. The equestrian theme continues in a parlor off the foyer and in another room where the walls are covered with framed photos of family members over the decades.

The exterior of the main house is covered with smaller pieces of fieldstone than you typically see in a Chester County home. The original builders stuccoed it over, but the Walkers removed that layer in the 1950s. Now, as a result of the stucco removal, the exterior walls have the color and variety of fieldstone but with a softer texture and more of a horizontal flow than most fieldstone farmhouses. Walker says people often mention the woodwork and the exterior walls, and he finds it interesting that these two features, originally meant to be hidden, are among the things that set the house apart and make it distinctive.

Another thing people mention are the vistas. And what may be among the most impressive feature of the house itself is the dining room’s window, which frames a panoramic view of fields that sweep away to the southeast—a classic example of Chester County’s natural beauty.





Spring Brook Farm

It's hardly surprising that there's a barn near Mary Beth Drobish's circa-1780 stone farmhouse on Locust Grove Road in Pocopson Township. The surprising and inspiring part is why the barn was built, and what it's used for today.

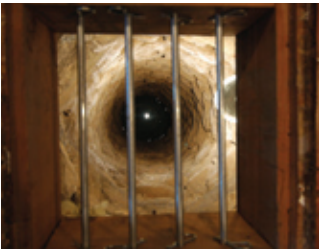
Drobish had always been interested in history and wanted to live on a farm, and despite her husband's reluctance, the couple looked for two years and finally bought Spring Brook Farm in 1995. There was a mood, an atmosphere to the property that Drobish liked. "I felt that really nice people had lived here," she says.

With the help of Berwyn architect Peter Zimmerman, the Drobishes renovated the home, adding a bathroom and a kitchen. In the process they discovered an old well that can now be seen by pulling up a trap door between a kitchen island and a work area (see photo at right).

The house has a striking foyer with a large fireplace, and a charming dining area in the kitchen that overlooks a pond where swans are often found gliding about. The grounds had to be renovated, like the house; Drobish says you couldn't see the pond from the house when she first arrived.

Some ten years after buying the farm, Drobish was widowed. As she wondered what to do next, inspiration struck: build a barn. She imagined giving children with disabilities a chance to have positive, growth-inspiring experiences with animals and nature. She sketched a barn on a paper towel the first day, had West Chester architect Richard Buchanan on site within a week, and in 2005 the barn was built by Hugh Lofting Timber Framing, a local specialist in barns.

Although Drobish had meant for the program to be part-time, the phone started ringing, and today The Barn at Spring Brook Farm is a full-fledged nonprofit organization. "It has just been an incredible journey," Drobish says.





Highland Farm

One of the homes in this year's area is Highland Farm, the childhood home of Chester County historian Gilbert Cope, on Highland Farm Road just west of West Chester. In 1997, Seth and Kate Whitelaw decided to move into the area and made what Kate calls a "strafing run," looking at 32 houses in 48 hours. Highland Farm was the 31st, and when they pulled into the driveway, "I heard," Kate says, "the intake of breath."

Seth had fallen in love with the house at first sight, and saw the potential it had to regain its former glory. Kate saw the amount of work involved—"It was not in fabulous shape," she says—and twice tried to talk him out of it. But eventually they bought the house and moved in on Friday, August 13, 1997.

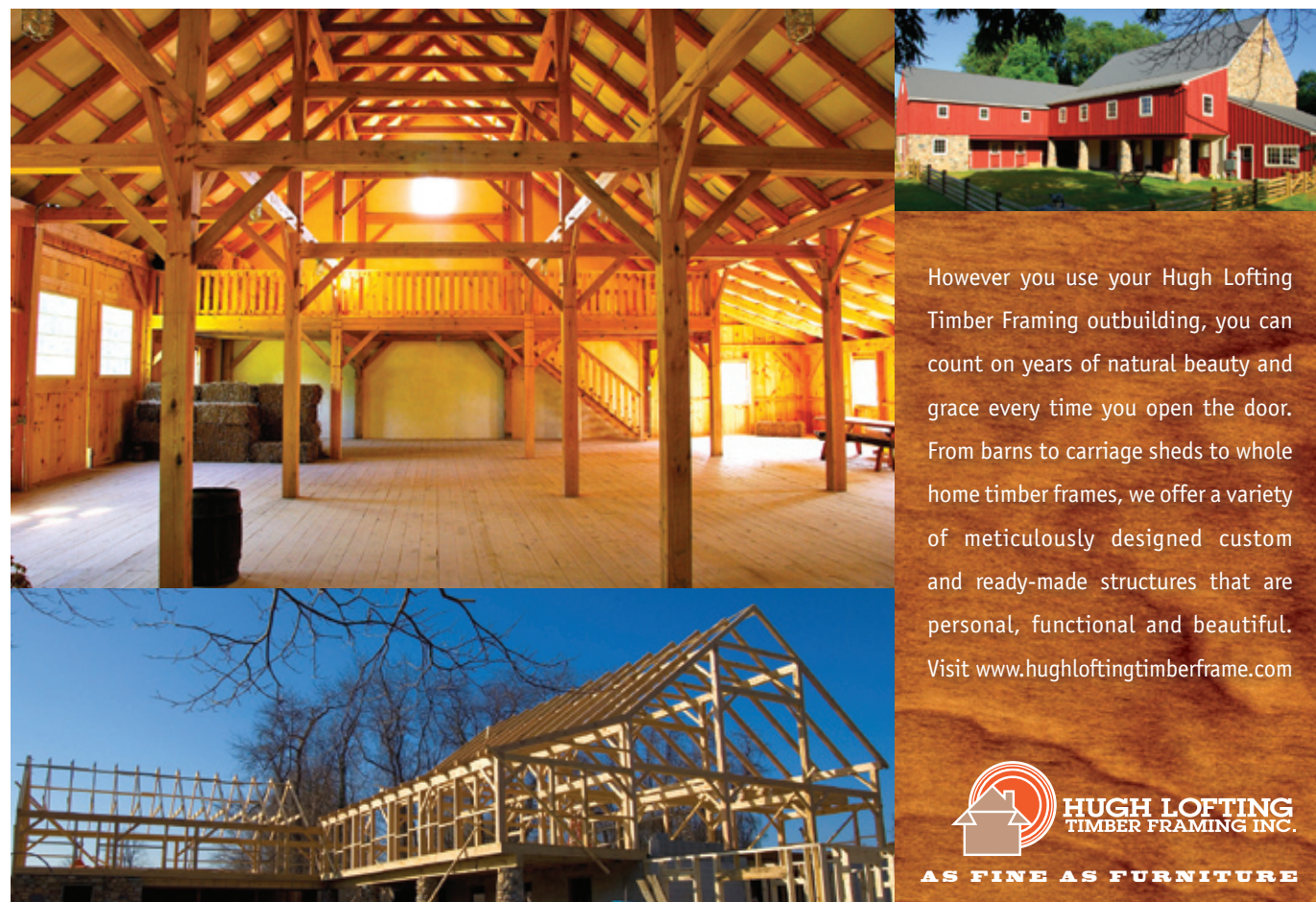
The first morning, Seth walked into the butler's pantry and fell through the floor, fortunately coming to rest on a former brick patio just four inches down. The house had been generally neglected and decorated in a way that could charitably be described as quirky, plus the grounds were completely overgrown.

Today, after 15 years of hard work, the impressive stucco-over-stone mansion presides over acres of charming gardens visitors call a "mini-Longwood." Those grounds are easily visible from the mahogany wraparound porch the Whitelaws fully restored.


The interior is filled with antique furniture and art the Whitelaws have collected, and the fireplace surrounds rescued from an 18th-century house in Philadelphia lend a Colonial touch to the house, which was built in 1850.

One surprise is the interior floor plan—when Philadelphia financier Herman Hoopes bought the house as a gentleman's country estate in 1896, he opened up the ground floor rooms with wide, high arches that go shooting off in all directions and allow you to see into multiple rooms wherever you stand. ♦





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John Beard and Lou Mandich with before and after project Model Ts

In the Shop

Ed Malet
Photos by Alix Coleman

Giving Classic Cars Another Chance

I'm trading stories with a technician, discovering little-known facts about early automotive history, learning about motor cranks and motor meters, considering the advantages of a rumble seat versus a trunk. Under the hood, he shows me the flathead motor, its valves, the oil can in the boot, and a surprisingly clean engine compartment. He mentions that this blue 1925 Dodge Brothers Touring car has 35 horses and will do 50 miles per hour. But it's "happier at 35," he explains.

No seatbelts, I notice. No side windows. The radio, he says, doesn't work. The horn, though, does.



and John Beard—revive and renew cars up to a century old. Lou, the owner, retired after more than 30 years of teaching in Coatesville—retired but with a serious hobby that's become a second career. He's jovial in wide suspenders and overalls, yet soft-spoken, with a twinkle in his eye.

Some cars are brought to him by clients, or they're found in old barns, under a pile of building supplies and trash, likely forgotten by younger generations. The car may need only a battery charge. But probably it needs more, including a tow. To the Last Chance Garage.

On the Road

The ignition catches. The engine revs. My car awaits. The blue 1925 Dodge Brothers Touring car.

As I get in, Lou offers that he almost won the Valley Forge Model T Club's "Hill Climb" at Johanna Furnace.

The Little Shop in Unionville

I'm at the Last Chance Garage in Unionville. Opened in 1999, this is where Lou Mandich and his three technicians—Jim Groome, Fred Shufflebarger

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"In the end, TCS was one of the best things that happened to me."

"TCS welcomed me with open arms. This gave me a fantastic opportunity to make new friends and learn new facts. I am so very glad that I can attend this fine school."

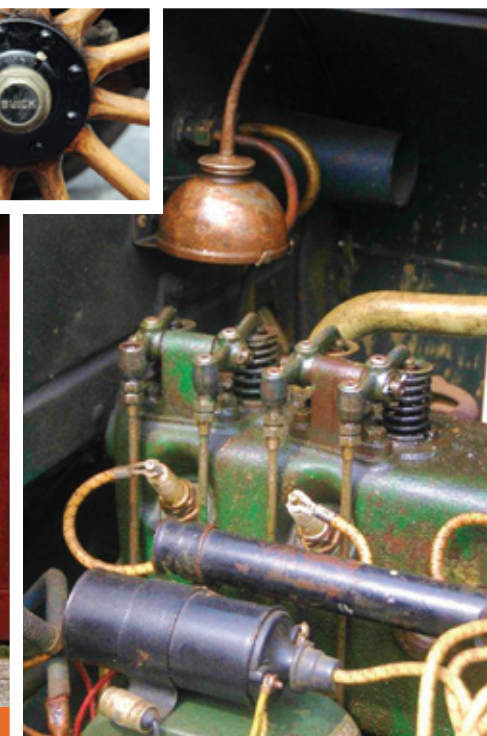
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1929 Ford Model A Phaeton



- 1 1918 Buick Touring Car, with detail of wooden wheel spokes
- 2 Photo of Irene and Barbara du Pont and "Patina"
- 3 1949 Hudson Commodore 8 Sedan
- 4 1967 Chevrolet Camaro owned by Ronald Moore of Elverson, PA
- 5 1949 Bentley Radford Countryman owned by Phil Hogue, Greenville, DE



Detail, 1949 Bentley Radford Countryman



Detail, 1918 Buick Touring Car

He took 2nd Place in a race to the top of the hill on Father's Day, driving a 1922 Ford Model T Canopy Express quarter-ton delivery truck owned by the Kennett Square Historical Commission. Lou "takes care" of it.

I feel the breeze pick up, the air pouring over and around the small plate glass windshield. The thick leather seats hold us upright. They're more comfortable than they look, making up for the wheels and tires, which "give" like a Conestoga wagon.

It doesn't feel like much between me and the outside world. Above, only dark cloth separates me from daylight. The motor putters and purrs ever louder—no mufflers, I guess—but never shakes or shim-mies, as we go faster.

The town of Unionville flies by.

I look at Lou—trusty, confident, both hands on the wheel. Although he's in his garage work clothes, I imagine him in bow tie and cap, scarf trailing rakishly in the wind. He doesn't wear motoring goggles, but could.

At the Show

There are many places in the Chester County area to see antique and classic cars. A fleet of vintage Rolls Royces and Bentleys, some old, some new, show up at Winterthur every May for the Point-to-Point steeplechase race. The owners dress the part and beam.

Each September there's the Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance. Antique, classic cars, sport and performance racing cars—one hundred of them—are on display. On the

night before, there's a rally, though they do not—can not—all participate.

The granddaddy of them all, The Antique Automobile Club of America holds a regional fall event in Hershey on October 11-13 this year. Now in its 57th year, it's the largest show in the area, attracting over a thousand cars.

Closing the season in November, vintage cars driven by men in sturdy woolens and riding leather, stocked with ample and luscious tailgates, turn out at the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup. Always surrounded by admiring crowds.

Special Heirlooms

Some of the old cars at these events are, well, tender. Like fragile holiday ornaments, they're unwrapped, polished up, made show-ready. They await their moment on display. Afterwards, when the event is over, they're carefully returned to storage in their boxes.

One is left wondering: Does it *go*? Can it *perform*? Can these wonders of yesteryear *strut their stuff*? What would happen if I, say, *floored it*?

And where, I wondered, do their engines get tuned, their oil changed, spark plugs replaced, brakes adjusted? These classic cars are owned by the likes of the du Ponts, the Weymouths, the Mathers. ... Where, I wonder, is their classic *grease monkey*?

Vintage Care

In the Last Chance Garage, I roam among the rusty and oily near-carcasses of early 20th-century automobiles—a 1930 moss

green Model A Ford Coupe, a black 1948 Hudson, a green 1918 Buick, a 1949 Chevrolet pickup truck, a huge black Cadillac limousine from the '40s. ... It reminds me of the back room of the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

Some are clearly alive, up and running, their motors sputtering. Others are in parts, but the prospects seem good.

A technician, unrushed, in oil-stained overalls contemplates a problem, then takes a wrench to a bolt. He taps gently with a hammer. No rush. Another rubs his hands on a cloth and grabs a filter. The barn, one of three, is quiet, but for the occasional engine. It's crowded but organized with parts and supplies. Above, there's a loft with a library of old manuals and a telephone to connect Lou to the world of suppliers.

It's mid-morning and a mid-century Woodie drives up. The owner is an old friend, out for a drive on a sunny day, exchanging notes on his car, which Lou cares for. The driver gets out, shares some car talk, then trades laughs and shakes hands. And drives away. ♦

Last Chance Garage is located at 13 Cemetery Lane, Unionville. 610-347-2394; LastChanceGarage.Net.

More Car Shows

Pottstown hosts a series of five auto shows. Held by the Pottstown Classic Auto Club, the series culminates September 1 with the 3rd Annual Matchbox Race. A lot of love, but less antique and classic. High St. 5 to 9 pm. Pottstown-Classics.com.

On September 16, The Hagley Car Show is home to more than 500 antique and restored cars that date from the early 1900s to the 1980s. This year's featured car is an American icon—the pickup truck. Rt. 141, Wilmington. 10 to 4. Hagley.org.

The Oxford Fall Classic Car Show on September 29 features all makes and styles of vehicles, pre-1941 to the present, including motorcycles, trucks, muscle and special interest cars competing for trophies. Oxford Masonic Lodge, 245 N. Third St., Oxford. Noon to 4. 717-817-4650.

Plan for the July 2013 Downtown Car Show in Media, where the cars tend to be mid-century, rather than pre-World Wars. VisitMediaPA.com.

For more classic car events—Family Fun Day Car, Bike & Truck Show, Philly Auto Show, 3rd Annual Veterans Car Show, and International Car Show in Skippack—go to County LinesMagazine.com.



1955 MGTF 1500 Roadster

Photography by Faith West

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splendor of the perfect V formation made by migratory geese. Did you know that geese flying in formation can move faster and maintain flight longer than a goose flying alone? Synergy is a law of nature. Just like the synergy between the sounds, sights, taste and feel of the County of Kent that amazingly releases tension and peels away stress.

Less than a two-hour drive from Philadelphia are the shorelines of the County of Kent, Maryland, where you will find yourself in the quaint and friendly towns of Chestertown, Rock Hall, Galena, Betterton and Millington. A short drive to lots to see and do, you will find everything you need, in this relaxing oasis.



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Play on the water at the quaint beaches of Rock Hall and Betterton or charter a sunset cruise or fishing boat. Rent or bring your own kayak and charter a guide to paddle these calm, winding rivers and creeks, where awesome sights are plentiful and the fall scenery beautiful. Shop the boutiques, art galleries and specialty stores, while meandering the red-brick, tree-lined sidewalks of Historic Chestertown or the unique shops of Rock Hall and Galena. There is a good chance that you might come across that perfect one-of-a-kind piece of local artwork from one of our many galleries and studios.

Bird watchers will be delighted with their finds too, especially while taking a nature walk on a trail to a waterfront bench or an observation deck at Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge. This island habitat, only seven miles from Rock Hall, is open sunrise to sunset. You may want to bring your bicycle or rent one in Chestertown or Rock Hall. A long ride on these flat, winding country roads will surely work up your appetite. Taste fresh seafood, including the Chesapeake Bay Blue Crab and Rockfish—so fresh in fact, it is a common sight to see watermen returning from a day on the water with their catches. Known for its terrific restaurants, you will find one here for every taste. From mouth-watering burgers to gourmet local seafood and grass-fed beef entrees, the flavor is yours to choose. From

waterfront vistas to historic red-brick sidewalks, the view is yours to pick. For wine lovers, the County of Kent's first winery has opened at the Crow Farm in Kennedyville. Be sure to take a taste of "Made in the County of Kent" home with you, by stocking up at the Chestertown Farmers' and Artisans' Market on Saturday mornings in Fountain Park. Maryland's longest running market is open every Saturday morning from the beginning of April, until the Saturday before Christmas.

If historic architecture tickles your fancy, Chestertown claims the second largest collection of 18th century homes in Maryland and was named one of America's Distinctive Destinations, by the National Historic Trust. Take a guided tour or venture out with the self-guided walking tour. While you are stepping back in time, consider visiting a museum, which you will find located throughout the county in Chestertown, Rock Hall, Kennedyville, Massey and Cliff's City. Pick up a copy of Chestertown's and Rock Hall's self-guided tours and the Museums of Kent County brochure at the visitor centers in Chestertown and Rock Hall, where you will also find other helpful brochures and information to make your stay even more enjoyable. Catch a live performance at Prince Theatre in Downtown Chestertown or at the Mainstay in Rock Hall. A boaters haven, Kent boasts more than twenty marinas and more than thirty public ramps.



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Upcoming Events

Chestertown's 1st Fridays
Arts & Entertainment Venues throughout Downtown

Farmers' and Artisans' Market
Saturdays 8am-1pm; Fountain Park

Sept. 8 – Sultana Projects Oysters & Indians Kayak Paddle
10am-12:30pm; Chestertown River; sultanaprojects.org

Sept. 8, 15 & 22 – Schooner Sultana Two Hour Public Sails
11am-1pm and 2-4pm; Cannon St. Pier; sultanaprojects.org

Sept. 14 – Schooner Sultana Two Hour Public Sail
5-7pm; Cannon St. Pier; sultanaprojects.org

Sept. 15 – Chestertown Jazz Festival
10:30am-6pm; Wilmer Park

Sept. 22 – Chestertown Running Festival
9am; Wilmer Park; chestertownhalfmarathon.com

Sept. 22 – Garfield Center for the Arts
at Prince Theatre Anniversary Gala; 5pm; garfieldcenter.org

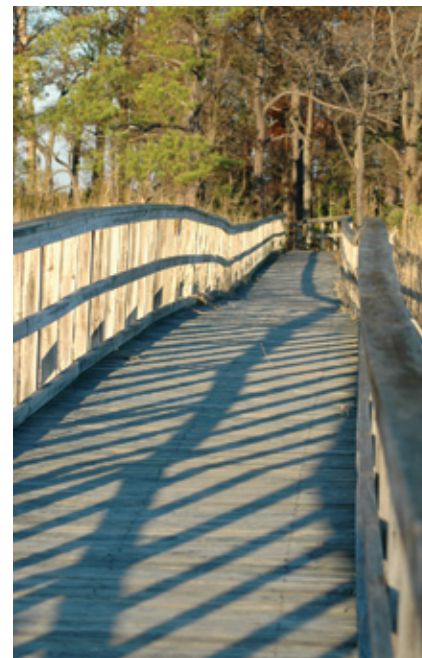
Sept. 29 – Chester River Crab Chase – 5K Run & Crab Feast
8am; Wilmer Park; chesterrieverhealth.org

www.chestertown.com

For a free visitor packet
410-778-0416 or tourism@kentcounty.com

County of Kent

Be sure to leave time to visit the County of Kent's other quaint towns. Don't forget your camera when you travel Maryland's first National Scenic Byway "Chesapeake Country" on your way to the Town of Betterton. Along with its small beach and pavillion, you will be treated to spectacular views of the Sassafras River—a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay. Next, head for the Town of Galena. This historic town hosts unique shops, family style restaurants and 2nd Saturdays, which features live music, treats in the shops and good fun. Nearby Georgetown is located on the Sassafras River and offers boating, waterfront dining, lodging and fantastic views of the Sassafras River.



Only 7 miles from Rock Hall, Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge is a major feeding and resting place for migrating and wintering waterfowl. More than 100,000 ducks, geese and swans seek sanctuary here each year, as do migrating and breeding songbirds and shorebirds. Bald eagles thrive here year-round. This 2,285-acre island refuge provides a variety of recreational opportunities. Open to visitors sunrise to sunset, nearly nine miles of trails and roads, including universally-accessible boardwalks and a waterside trail, provide excellent wildlife viewing and spectacular views of the Chester River and the Chesapeake Bay. Facilities for boating, fishing, and crabbing are available. For more information, please visit fws.gov/northeast/easternneck

The Town of Millington is a great spot for paddling, and is located at the northern tip of the Chester River, just off of route 301. With its mouthwatering dining, it is a terrific day trip or a perfect travel stop to stretch your legs and have a delicious bite to eat.

Don't wait, plan your getaway today. Find lodging and lots of things to see and do—and hundreds of events—at www.kentcounty.com/events.

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Upcoming Events

Sept. 21-3rd Fridays on Main Street
Rock Hall Cruise Night; thru Oct.; 5-8pm
Mainstay Concert
Sept. 8 - New and Used Bluegrass
Free Outdoor Concert; 7pm; mainstayrockhall.org

Sept. 8 - WCTR Party At The Bay
Bayside Landing & Bulkhead; Noon-4pm

Sept. 15 - Fall Fishing Tournament
Bayside Landing & Bulkhead; 5:30am-3pm

Sept. 15 - Crabs for Character
Waterman's Crab House; 4-7pm

Sept. 30 - Full Moon Paddle
Eastern Neck NWR; 5-7pm

Photograph by Bernadette Van Pelt



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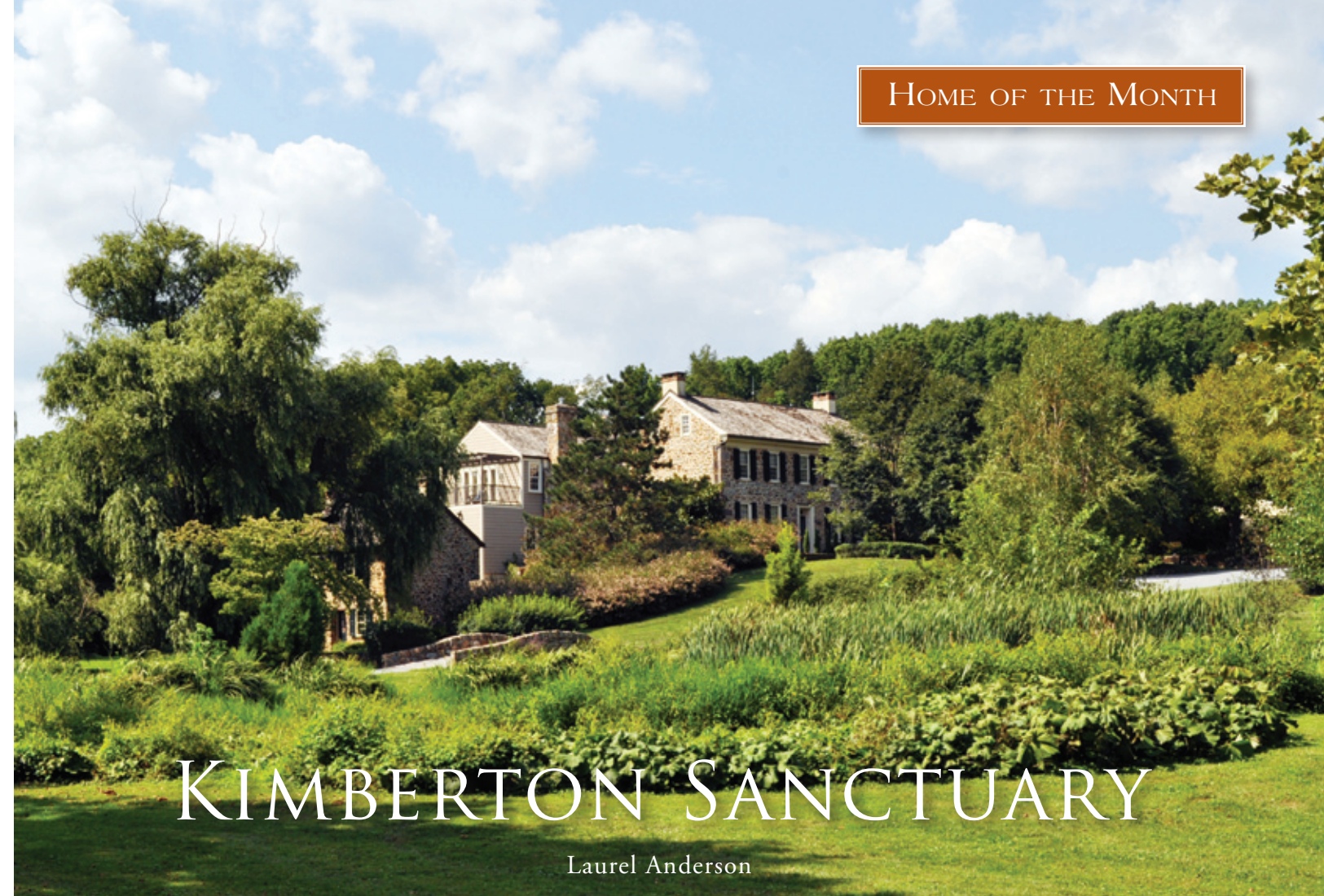
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Although it's not on the Chester County Day Home Tour, this historic Federal mansion—with modern addition and designer details, set on 55 bucolic acres dotted with a pond, stream, pool, manicured gardens and patios, plus guest house, polo barn and party barn—is exactly the kind of fascinating property that attracts long lines of tour-goers searching for a dream house.

The 150-year-old fieldstone manor house in Kimberton has historic roots, so valued in Chester County properties. Yet it's the thoughtful addition of the great room, master suite, state-of-the-art kitchen and other modern amenities that make life here serene and comfortable.

A mix of period details—beamed ceilings, brick floors, original millwork, walk-in cooking fireplace—with



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updated features added by area craftsmen and artisans—built-ins with faux finishes, entertainment units and seating nooks, gleaming inlaid cherry floors—show the influences of the home's recent owners, an artist and earlier, the family of a well-known fashion designer.

Main House

A curving drive, lined with sycamores brings you over a stone bridge, up a hill to an open space revealing the manor home and several stone outbuildings—four-car garage with copper cupola, one-bedroom guest-house, multi-story barn with entertainment space and six horse stalls. The tree-lined drive is echoed by the tree-lined walkway, laid with large local stone, leading to the historic home's elegant entrance.

Preserving the best of the original structure, the well-proportioned living and dining rooms are each anchored by fireplaces and feature original wood floors, custom moldings, large windows, and special touches, like the living room's hand-painted wallpaper. An adjacent cozy family room includes the original walk-in fireplace, beamed ceilings, custom daybed and modern built-in entertainment center. Two half-baths, one tucked under the front stairs, are along the hall.

The gourmet kitchen's custom cabinets, professional-grade appliances (six-burner Viking stove with double oven, double SubZero fridge), large granite island, and eating nook with scenic views, plus a convenient butler's pantry, make for a dream kitchen.

A large mud room/potting room with brick floors, double sinks, custom cabinets and granite counters leads from the kitchen to a patio, dog room and an expansive greenhouse. Filled with light and the perfect place for a year-round kitchen garden, this sun-drenched solarium is yet another spot to enjoy views of the brick patios, English-style gardens and well-designed landscape surrounding the home.

Upstairs you'll find three spacious bedrooms, one with a fireplace, another with beamed ceilings, plus a laundry area, two full bathrooms and a dressing area between the front bedrooms. Finished space downstairs includes a half-bath and exercise or recreation room. Although the third floor has walk-up storage space, there's ample storage and built-ins throughout the home.





Spectacular Addition

Bringing natural light to the center of the home, a three-story atrium with custom stairs and inlaid cherry floors with center medallion connects the historic home with the modern addition. Attention to detail is evident in the inviting curved seating nook with display area, echoing the curves of ceilings in the great room and master suite, as well as the curved second-floor railings.

Step down into the stunning great room with a wall of light from French doors with overhead transoms and the glow from more inlaid cherry floors, hand-finished custom cabinetry and fireplace. The vaulted ceiling provides perfect acoustics for concerts and entertaining intimate groups and larger audiences seated on the adjacent brick patio beyond the French doors. Views of the verdant perennial gardens accenting the patio's intricate brickwork and the property beyond make the great room a natural gathering spot.

Upstairs the spacious master suite displays the same craftsmanship in its use of wood and other design details. Entered through the sitting area, with gas fireplace, marble surround and wood paneling, the master suite is a secluded enclave with an almost Shaker-like simplicity. The master bedroom enjoys light from three sides, another curved ceiling, and French doors to a private balcony.

A perfect escape, this large sitting porch offers treats for the senses—the relaxing sound of a fountain in the nearby pond and

unparalleled sunset views of the property with the magnificent 20-stall polo barn in the distance. Large his-and-her walk-in closets with generous built-in storage and a luxurious master en suite bath with every amenity (even a balcony) complete the space.

Property and Outbuildings

The 55 acres of lush rolling hills are surrounded by conserved properties, ensuring preservation of the current bucolic views. Pastures, fenced corrals, riding trails, and pens for the resident goats share space with an orchard of cultivated fruit trees, manicured perennial borders surrounding the sparkling pool and brick patios, and specimen trees, like a majestic weeping willow and towering magnolias.

A charming one-bedroom stone guest-house (with sitting area, kitchenette and full bath), a large four-car garage, and a massive barn surround the home. The barn is a special treat, housing a performance stage, suitable for concerts and other entertainment, and open space for large audiences or dancing. The lower level has a six horse-ready stalls.

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This 55-acre property in Kimberton, with updated historic home and outbuildings, is offered at \$4.75 million by James A. Cochran, Inc. For information, contact Bill Cochran, 610-476-4779, or Chris Stoner, 610-812-9594; CochranInc.com.



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33rd Annual Chester County Restaurant Festival



27th Annual Mushroom Festival



Trifecta of Fall Food Festivals

Restaurant Rendezvous

The biggest foodie event of the year is back! Visit the **33rd Annual Chester County Restaurant Festival** in West Chester and tantalize your taste buds with the area's best dishes, plus live bands, local artisans and the Culinary Cook Off, where four chefs compete to be named Top Chef. Bring your appetite as you taste your way through samples from food vendors and 50 restaurants that serve up delicious gourmet, ethnic and area favorites. Spend your day sampling and then text your vote for favorite appetizer, entrée and dessert as restaurants vie for a Town Dish Choice Award.

Because of its popularity, the festival is expanding this year beyond Gay Street to two blocks of Market Street—meaning more food and fun than ever. Whether you're hungry for filet mignon cheese steaks with truffled Gruyere cheese fondue, crab cakes over portobello mushrooms, or chocolate sea salt popsicles, this festival brings you the best bites around. *September 16, noon to 5:30 p.m. West Chester. Free. West-Chester.com/Recreation.php.*

Mushroom Lovers Unite

Mushrooms take center stage at the **27th Annual Mushroom Festival** in—where else—Kennett Square. Have mushrooms your way: fried, grilled, sautéed, pickled, even frozen in ice cream sold by vendors lining State Street. Plus enjoy artisan stands and other choices from local restaurants and food booths. The festival kicks off Friday night with the Community Parade, with the theme "Mushrooms on Parade," featuring floats, marching bands, unicyclists and much more.

Explore growers' exhibits, meet celebrity chefs—including Chef Dana Herber from TLC's "Cake Boss: The Next Great Baker"—and enjoy cooking demonstrations, contests, old-fashioned carnival games and live music. Join in Saturday's amateur soup-off challenge to show-off your soup-making skills. Then on Sunday, start your day with the Mushroom 5K Run and 2-mile Walk.

The country's mushroom capital happily hosts its famous festival and community fundraiser—with mushrooms and



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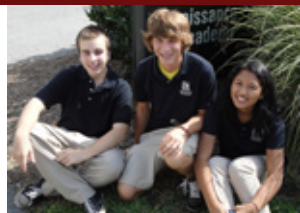
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10th Annual Chili Cookoff

much more! *September 7, Parade at 6 p.m.; September 8, 10 to 7 p.m.; September 9, 10 to 5 p.m. Kennett Square. \$2 wristband. Benefits area nonprofits. 610-925-3373; MushroomFestival.org.*

Ready, Set, Cook!

Think you can make the best chili? Prove it at the **10th Annual Chili Cookoff** hosted by the West Chester Rotary Club on October 14. Build your own team, find your best recipe, and get cookin'! Chili is judged in four team categories—Businesses, Non-profits, Hometown Cooks and Restaurants. And, of course, there's the Best Decorated Theme Award for the booth with the most pizzazz.

Rather eat than compete? You can savor one-of-a-kind tastes, sample all you can eat with your \$10 wristband, and vote for your favorite chili. Bring the whole family and make a day of it by heading over to the Wells Fargo Family Fun Center for face painting, games and a moon bounce.

More than just competition, the event is a fundraiser with proceeds supporting the Rotary Club's community projects and local charities. Competition, charity and chili—another trifecta this fall! *October 12, 12 to 6 p.m. West Chester. \$10 wristband. 610-436-4400; WestChesterChiliCookoff.com.* ♦

Patricia Finn

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OLD WORLD WINES BEYOND FRANCE, GERMANY AND ITALY

Kristin Collier Van Riper

Discover affordable surprises from Spain and Portugal

Open the wine list at an upscale restaurant and you'll find wines divided into several categories: by country, varietal, flavor, price and sometimes just by color—red and white. Only a decade or so ago Spanish wines began appearing on wine lists, but usually in the "other" category. Then something happened—people noticed that Sangria wasn't the only wine from Spain, so now Spanish wines have begun to appear on good wine lists. And the great news is that having been ignored for so long, Spanish wines are generally more affordable than those from France, Germany and Italy, but are just as good.

But for Portuguese wines, it's another story. The only place you find a Portuguese wine is with the ports. Slowly and surely, however, Portuguese wines are finding their way into the wine main stream. Like Spain, Portugal has been making wine for centuries, but their wines are still undervalued.

With some careful quaffing, we can help Portuguese wines not only make it on the wine list but escape the "other" category like their neighbor. To do that, more people need to drink these surprisingly good wines. Here are some to try.

BARGAIN STARTERS

Everyone needs to find a favorite bubbly. Luckily, Cava, the official bubbly of Spain, is so affordable that you can drink it to celebrate all your life moments, no matter how small. Produced in the eastern Penedes region of Spain, Cava as a blend of Macabeo,

Parellada and Xarel-lo, three of the 600 different Spanish grape varietals grown on more land under vine than in any other country in the world.

I recommend you try *Vilarnau Brut Cava* (\$14.99), which exemplifies this varietal. It's light and crisp with hints of melon and fruit, easy drinking for any day, with or without food. Make it your everyday Champagne.

Bubbly has long been an aperitif staple, but Portugal's Vinho Verde, slightly effervescence (like an Italian frizzante), is a great meal starter, too. Vinho Verde, meaning "green" or young wine, is gaining esteem for its beautiful ripe fruit and fine finish.

Broadbent Vinho Verde (\$9.99) is an exemplary choice. This traditional wine has fresh fruit flavors but a hint of complexity on the finish. Its fruit balance is perfect as we transition from hot to cold weather.

The wine is an excellent accompaniment to tapas (small dishes and appetizers), which originated in Spain but are also popular in Portugal. Tapas of grilled shrimp and guacamole toasts, prepared by Collier's Concierge's chef Brian Manchin at a recent event, paired beautifully with this wine. Don't have an amazing chef at your house? The wine also goes well with simple shrimp or calamari dishes.

NOTEWORTHY REDS

To accompany hearty fare, let's head back to Spain. Spanish reds can be refined and delicate or in your face with big, bold flavors. Jumilla, a small wine region in southeast Spain, produces wines that tend to be less expensive, but extremely complex and different.

Honoro Vera Merlot (\$9.99) from this region is quite simply exquisite, with layers of complex tastes. Enjoy ripe dark fruit to start and finish with dark chocolate and vanilla. The wine feels and tastes decadent—like merlot at its best—and it's a great example of what Old World merlot should taste like.

For tapas pairings, choose any sausage (chorizo) and hard cheese (like Manchego). Not a merlot fan? Honoro Vera makes two other exceptional wines at the same price point: *Monastrell* and *Garnacha*. Sample all three for a wine tour of Spain.

For our last stop, it's back to Portugal. The Douro region is the top red producing region there, and *Crasto Superior* (\$24.99) is one of the best reds from the area. This sultry red is a blend of 50% Touriga Nacional, 25% Touriga Franca, 20% Tinta Roriz and 5% Sousao. Even if you don't recognize the grapes, you'll appreciate the body of this wine. The blend of plum and violet is pleasing on first taste and the chocolate, leather and wood finish hangs on for a long time.

This bold red showcases what Portuguese wines can do. Pair it with hearty fall flavors or stick with tapas and have a beef empanada.

Spain and Portugal should never be ignored as wine producers: their wines are structurally dynamic and often tastefully simple. The more of their wines we drink, the more these countries will be noticed. One day when we say "Old World wine," people will think to include Spain and Portugal in that prestigious group. ♦

Check out the Collier's website for the exciting fall class schedule. Want to try the wines in this article with tapas in your home? Call Collier's Concierge to create the perfect tapas evening! 302-367-5390; Colliers-Concierge.com.





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Food News

A few of our favorite things to share this month about local food and drink

Harvest Month. September for me, more than any other month, signifies ends and beginnings. We reap the end of summer's harvest and renew labors, hopefully refreshed. Chester County Septembers reflect this beautifully.

One September harvest we reap here is our indigenous (in the sense of being invented locally) **Dr. Martin's Lima Beans**, which are bounteously available at Pete's Produce in Westtown, just down Street Road from where Dr. Harold E. Martin, a local dentist turned plant breeder, developed these *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*-like pods in the 1920s. Dr. Martin's extraordinary vegetable is simply the best lima bean available and can be used in any lima or fava bean recipe. (Check *CountyLinesMagazine.com* for three great recipes.) A horticultural genius, Dr. Martin also created the True Black Brandywine Tomato available at Pete's, along with their many other heirloom varieties. September visits to garden markets are mandatory.



A New Market. Meredith Coyle's (of Aneu Restaurant) successor store to the departed Yang's, **Fresh Ideas Market**, is the best Berwyn development since we moved here. Airy, spacious and bright, Fresh Ideas' prepared soups, salads, main courses and hors d'oeuvres are all truly excellent. We sampled many and recommend all. The fruits and vegetables are of excellent quality and beautifully displayed. Zsa's Ice Cream (especially the buttermilk-lemon) is unbelievable. Prices are fair and reasonable. *ShopFreshIdeas.com*.

Wonderful Pom. "Don't use the pomegranate inhospitably, a stranger that has come so far to pay his respects to thee," the English Quaker Peter Collinson wrote in 1762 to the botanizing Philadelphian John Bartram. Space is too limited here to do anything more than limn the qualities, history and lore of this remarkable fruit, which appears in early art as well as throughout Persian cuisine. Try the delicious Fesenjan (meatballs in gravy with pomegranate paste and ground walnuts) served at **Mediterranean Grill** in Bryn Mawr and Wayne, *TasteofMainLine.com*. Harvested and widely available in September and a super-food (anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory), the pomegranate is easier to deal with at home than its reputation suggests. Just score the fruit with a knife, peel away the sections of the fruit, and release the seeds from the bitter white membrane. Even easier if done in water, where the seeds sink.



Grape Stompin' Good Time. Less specifically health-oriented, but undeniably uplifting is the **Brandywine Valley Wine Trail 10th Annual Harvest Festival**, which will be held over two successive weekends: September 29th & 30th and October 5th & 6th. Seven Chester County wineries open their doors to trail-travelers to sample and explore the wineries' wares, different varietals and styles, and enjoy music and crafts. Plans are still incomplete, but find out the latest news at *BVWineTrail.com*.

Gluten Be Gone. More healthy eating, on September 23rd the **National Foundation for Celiac Awareness** will be holding its **8th Annual Appetite for Awareness**, a gluten-free food festival that pairs physicians and chefs serving gluten-free dishes from the region's top restaurants. The event, promoting awareness and supporting research into this serious and often misdiagnosed auto-immune disorder, takes place from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Historic Strawbridge Building in Philadelphia. As a special treat, renowned Chef George Perrier will demo a gluten-free recipe. Promising delicious and intriguing fare, the event is not to be missed. I'll be there. *CeliacCentral.org/A4A*.



About Curtis Roberts. *I'm a lawyer who also does other things, including appreciate regional food. My family returned to the area to reclaim my wife's deep Chester County roots, educate our daughter in the right Philadelphia way, and enjoy the food. For more of my gastro-adventures, check my blog, ACravan, ACravan.Blogspot.com, which is so varied, there may just be something you'll find interesting.*



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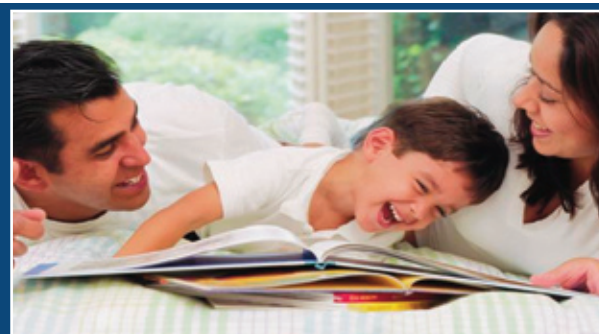
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Inn Keeper's Kitchen

ances and comfortable high-top tables. Large televisions flank the demonstration kitchen, allowing guests to see every stir of the pot. With its rustic beams and brick fireplace, the Kitchen mirrors the Colonial charm of the Inn itself.

Each two-hour class centers on the wines of a particular region and dishes that complement them. The format is a relaxed tag-team affair with a wine expert and Dilworthtown Inn chef taking turns offering instruction, discussing their crafts and answering questions.

When I visited for the *Wines of Brazil and Argentina* class, I



Pestos from
Cooking Spotlight

Cooking Classes

Brandywine
TABLE

Laura Muzzi Brennan

If yellow buses and back-to-school sales have you feeling nostalgic for your school days, why not become a student again? Many local restaurants and cooking schools—among them the **Inn Keeper's Kitchen at The Dilworthtown Inn** and the newly opened **Cooking Spotlight**—offer an extensive schedule of culinary classes.

Whether you aspire to become a whiz with a whisk or just want to marvel at expert chefs' skills, you'll find a class to suit your interest and budget. The best part: no pop quizzes, just projects you can cut your teeth on.

The **Inn Keeper's Kitchen at Dilworthtown Inn** in West Chester hosts a variety of wine and cooking

demonstration classes most Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Directly across the street from the Inn, The Kitchen sports top-of-the-line cooking appli-

enjoyed the easy rapport between Michael Walsh of Majestic Wine and Spirits and Chef Rich DiStefano. While Michael poured and spoke about each wine's history and nuances, Rich cooked in the background. Then, Rich rang the cooking bell—reminiscent of the kind teachers used to summon their pupils—and began his demonstration. So the evening continued, wine after wine, course after course, story after story until we all left feeling sated and educated.

At newcomer **Cooking Spotlight** in Phoenixville, education, entertainment and eating make a merry threesome. Owner Vicky Hanko hosts a variety of guest chefs who offer both hands-on and demonstration classes. Topics range from vegan desserts to Irish pub food, from gluten-free baking to canning and preserving.


Even though it debuted just this past summer, Cooking Spotlight has already attracted award-winning chef-instructors. On the list: Dia Doce's Thais DiSilva, winner of Food Network's "Cupcake Wars," and Martin Gagne, executive chef at The Inn at St. Peter's Village.

With a 1500-square-foot kitchen and Hanko's commitment to using fresh, local ingredients, Cooking Spotlight promises to become a valuable addition to the Brandywine Valley's cooking school roster.

"Learn a new dish, meet new people and get to eat at the end—what could be better?" laughs Hanko. If there's ever been a more convincing argument for going back to school, I haven't heard it.



Cooking Spotlight Class




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Classic Cuban Sandwich

Recipe courtesy of Chef Rich DiStefano, The Inn Keeper's Kitchen, Dilworthtown Inn.

For the ham, DiStefano uses a combination of pepper and honey hams. Says DiStefano, “If you don’t have a panini maker or sandwich press, you can improvise by placing 6 bricks wrapped in foil in a 500° oven for 1 hour. Then, press the sandwiches between them for 10 minutes.” Spirit pairing: Cachaca di Janeiro, Pirassununga, NV. Made from fermented sugarcane, cahaca enjoys great popularity in Brazil.

4 whole grain rolls
2 Tb. yellow or Dijon mustard
¼ lb. baked ham, thinly sliced
¼ lb. roast pork, thinly sliced
¼ lb. Swiss or provolone cheese, thinly sliced
10 thin dill pickle slices, approximately 2 whole pickles
1 Tb. unsalted butter, room temp.

Slice the rolls in half horizontally, leaving one edge intact. Lay the rolls open and spread each side with mustard. Layer the ingredients on the roll in the following order: ham, pork, cheese and dill pickles. Close rolls.

Heat your panini maker or sandwich press. Butter each side of the panini maker. Place sandwiches inside, press down and grill until cheese is melted and rolls are flat and browned, approximately 10 minutes.

Makes 4 servings.

Oven Roasted Beef Tenderloin Filets with Chimichurri Sauce

Recipe courtesy of Chef Rich DiStefano, The Inn Keeper's Kitchen, Dilworthtown Inn.

Chef DiStefano served this dish over chili pepper potato purée, but it would be delicious with any creamy mashed potatoes. Chimichurri is a piquant South American marinade and sauce. Wine pairings: Cabernet Sauvignon, Casillero de Diablo, Chile, 2009 and Malbec, Ruta 22, Argentina, 2010

For the filets:

4, 4-oz. beef tenderloin filets
Salt and pepper to taste

For the Chimichurri Sauce:

¼ C. olive oil
2 garlic cloves, minced
2 medium shallots, minced
¼ C. Italian parsley, chopped fine
¼ C. cilantro, chopped fine

⅓ C. red wine vinegar
¾ tsp. dried crushed red pepper flakes
½ tsp. ground cumin

Preheat oven to 450°. Season the tenderloin with salt and pepper. In a heavy skillet, sear beef on both sides until brown. Set aside.

In a food processor, purée the chimichurri sauce ingredients with salt to taste.

Place beef in oven and cook until desired temperature is reached. Remove from oven and allow to rest for 3-5 minutes. Serve with Chimichurri Sauce.

Makes 4 servings.

Cuban Rice Pudding with Coconut Milk and Raisins

Recipe courtesy of Chef Rich DiStefano, The Inn Keeper's Kitchen, Dilworthtown Inn. Arborio rice is a short-grained rice used to make the creamy risottos so popular in Italian cooking.

1 C. arborio rice
1 tsp. vanilla
1 cinnamon stick
Zest from 1 lemon or orange (optional)
1½ C. water
4¼ C. milk
1 C. coconut milk
2 C. golden raisins
1 C. sugar
¼ tsp. salt
1 tsp. ground cinnamon

Boil rice, vanilla, cinnamon stick and lemon zest in water until rice is soft. Add both milks, raisins, sugar and salt. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally until it thickens (about 1 hour). Spoon into a Pyrex-type dish and powder with cinnamon.

Leave cinnamon stick in the dish and serve around it as the cinnamon stick continues to put out flavor. Serve warm or chilled.

Makes 6-8 servings.

Mediterranean Couscous

Recipe courtesy of Albertson Cooking School. Ann-Michelle Albertson finds that both adults and kids gobble up this healthy dish. Make it with any kind of couscous you like.

2 pints red cherry tomatoes
3 large garlic cloves, whole and unpeeled
Canola oil (enough to coat tomatoes and garlic)

Profile: Albertson Cooking School

For nearly 40 years, the Albertson Cooking School has been a fixture on the Brandywine Valley culinary scene, but its philosophy remains ever young. “Food is life,” explains culinary director Ann-Michelle Albertson. “When you share food, you share life.”

Along with sister Kristin and mother and founder, Charlotte Ann Albertson, Ann-Michelle develops cooking classes for both novice and experienced chefs. The always popular Boot Camp focuses on basic techniques such as roasting, braising and sautéing. Other classes address the latest culinary trends. In the upcoming “Get Pickled!,” Chef Patrick Feury of Nectar will introduce an art that was once in every farm wife’s repertoire. And for people eager to cook those unfamiliar vegetables like the ones that show up in fall CSA baskets, there’s “Vegetables Galore” taught by student-favorite, David Gear of Seasons.

Albertson also offers food tours and wine tastings. At “Eat Your Way Through The Italian Market,” visitors explore market hotspots, sampling cheeses at DiBruno Brothers and watching cake decorating in Termini Brothers. And at “That’s Amore,” guests enjoy an evening of Italian wines and cheeses hosted at Yangming in Bryn Mawr.

For a behind-the-scenes look at fine dining, Albertson hosts kitchen tours of The Four Seasons and Rittenhouse Hotel in Philadelphia.

To find out more about the school and current class offerings, 610-649-9290; AlbertsonCookingSchool.com.

¼ C. extra virgin olive oil
2 Tb. warm water
1 tsp. fresh lemon juice
¼ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. black pepper
2¾ C. vegetable broth
2¼ C. pearl (Israeli) couscous
1 Tb. olive oil
½ C. Kalamata olives, pitted and chopped
2 Tb. chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
2 Tb. chopped fresh mint
1 tsp. chopped fresh thyme
Additional salt and pepper to taste

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Preheat oven to 250°F. Toss tomatoes and garlic with canola oil and salt and pepper to taste. Roast tomatoes and garlic until blistered and soft. Remove from oven and set aside to cool.

When cool enough to handle, peel garlic and remove ½ cup of tomatoes (reserving remaining tomatoes for couscous).

To make the dressing, purée the ½ cup of tomatoes with the garlic, olive oil, water, lemon juice, salt and pepper in a blender until smooth.

Bring broth to a boil in a 3-quart heavy saucepan and stir in couscous, then simmer, uncovered, 6 minutes. Cover pan and remove from heat. Let stand 10 minutes. Spread couscous in a layer on a baking sheet and cool 15 minutes.

Transfer couscous to a bowl and stir in remaining ingredients, dressing, roasted tomatoes, and salt and pepper to taste.

Makes 4-6 servings.

Soup of Beans and Greens

Serve this hearty, vegan soup with a loaf of crusty bread. Recipe courtesy of Chef Jenny Young, who will teach "Soups from Scratch" at Cooking Spotlight in November.

4 Tb. extra virgin olive oil, plus some

for "dressing" soup

1 large onion, chopped

2 large cloves garlic, crushed and finely chopped

1 small jalapeño pepper, finely diced or pinch of hot pepper flakes

2 lg. Yukon Gold potatoes, small dice

1 small bunch parsley, finely chopped

1 qt. flavorful vegetable broth

12-15 string beans, cut in 1" pieces

1, 16-oz. can cannellini beans

1 bunch kale (preferably Cavolo Nero or curly-leaved kale, or a mixture of the two), roughly chopped, thick stems removed

Salt and pepper to taste

Heat olive oil in heavy soup pot over medium-low heat. Add chopped onion, sprinkle with a little salt and cook covered, stirring occasionally until softened. Do not brown the onion. Add garlic and stir into onion. Cook 2-3 minutes until softened. If using jalapeño, add now. (If using pepper flakes, wait until later.)

Stir diced potatoes into onion mixture and cook gently for 2-3 minutes. Add parsley and vegetable broth. Bring to a gentle boil. Lower heat and cook at

Cooking Lessons Learned

Cooking classes send you home with much more than a full belly and a fistful of recipes. Here are the top 10 tips I've learned from chefs:

1. Allow meat to rest for at least 5 minutes after removing it from heat. Napping gives it time to reabsorb juices.

2. Make sure baking ingredients are at room temperature. Not only will they combine more easily, but the butter and sugar will hold more air, giving your baked goods a lighter texture.

3. Blanch vegetables in heavily salted boiling water as salt prevents color from leeching into the water. To stop cooking, plunge vegetables into an ice-water bath.

4. Reduce the acidity in tomato sauce by skimming the foam off the top as the tomatoes cook.

5. Add salt or acid (a squeeze of lemon or a teaspoon of vinegar) to bring out the flavors in a broth-based soup.

6. Give pasta space and salt. To ensure pasta cooks evenly and doesn't stick to the pot, use a pasta to water ratio of 1:4 (1 pound pasta: 4 quarts water). And make sure the water is as salty as the sea.

7. Know when to add herbs. Add thick and woody herbs like rosemary and bay during the cooking process so they can infuse the entire dish with their flavors. Delicate herbs like basil and chives should be tossed in at the end of the cooking process so that their flavors don't get lost.

8. Place meat (including cooked meat) and cheese in the freezer for ½ hour to make slicing and grating easier.

9. Wait until the end of cooking to add pepper (e.g., crushed red pepper) because the longer it cooks, the more intense it gets.

10. Improvise! Think of a recipe as a starting point, not an iron-clad set of rules. Substitute ingredients and tweak proportions to make a recipe your own.

a gentle simmer until potatoes are softened, about 5-6 minutes. Stir in both beans and chopped kale. Simmer 3-4 minutes. Add pepper flakes if you did not use jalapeño.

Remove from heat. Season to taste with salt and a good grinding of fresh black pepper. Allow to sit and flavors to meld.

Reheat gently, ladle into bowls and add a swirl of good olive oil. Sprinkle with parsley.

Makes 3-4 servings.

Basil Pesto Sauce

This versatile sauce is delicious served over fish, pork, chicken, pasta or grilled vegetables. Feel free to experiment with other herbs like cilantro, thyme and mint. (See Mint Pesto recipe below.) Recipe courtesy of Chef Blake Swihart who taught "Summer Entertaining—BBQ Buffet" at Cooking Spotlight in July 2012.

¼ C. chopped fresh garlic or

½ C. roasted garlic

1 C. olive oil, divided plus extra for topping jars

3-4 C. fresh basil leaves, loosely packed

1 C. chopped fresh parsley, loosely packed

½ C. grated Parmesan or Asiago cheese

½ C. toasted pine nuts, pistachios,

pecans, hazelnuts or walnuts

1 tsp. Kosher salt, and as needed

½ tsp. hot red pepper sauce

In a food processor or blender, pulse garlic with ½ C. olive oil until smooth. Add basil and parsley and pulse until a paste forms. Add cheese, nuts, salt and pepper sauce, and pulse. Pour in remaining ½ C. oil and pulse until a smooth paste forms.

Place in sealed jars and top each with a thin layer of oil to keep from oxidizing. Refrigerate at least 2 hours before freezing or until ready to use.

Makes 2 cups.

Mint Pesto Sauce

A twist on the familiar basil pesto, this sauce can be served over fish, pork, chicken, pasta or grilled vegetables. It's also a tasty addition to marinades and dressings. Recipe courtesy of Chef Blake Swihart who taught "Summer Entertaining—BBQ Buffet" at Cooking Spotlight in July 2012.

¼ C. chopped fresh garlic

or ½ C. roasted garlic

1 C. olive oil, divided, plus extra for jars

2 C. fresh mint leaves, loosely packed

1 C. chopped fresh parsley,

loosely packed

½ C. grated Parmesan or Asiago cheese

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½ C. toasted pine nuts, pistachios,
pecans, hazelnuts or walnuts
1 tsp. Kosher salt, and as needed
½ tsp. hot red pepper sauce

In a food processor or blender, pulse garlic with ½ cup olive oil until smooth. Add mint and parsley and pulse until a paste forms. Add cheese, nuts, salt and pepper sauce and pulse. Pour in remaining ½ cup oil and pulse until a smooth paste forms.

Place in sealed jars and top each with a thin layer of oil to keep from oxidizing. Refrigerate at least 2 hours before freezing or until ready to use.

Makes 2 cups.

Remoulade Sauce

When Vicky Hanco of Cooking Spotlight teaches her Cajun cooking class, she likes to feature this classic sauce for shrimp.

1 med. celery stalk, finely chopped
3 Tb. green onions, minced
1 Tb. fresh flat leaf parsley, minced
1 clove garlic, minced
1 Tb. lemon juice
1 tsp. Tabasco sauce
3 Tb. Creole mustard
1 C. mayonnaise
⅓ C. vegetable oil
2 Tb. paprika
1 tsp. white pepper
1 tsp. salt

Combine all ingredients in a glass or stainless steel bowl and mix well. Let sit in the refrigerator for at least a couple hours (overnight is best) before serving.

Makes 2 cups.

Chicken Gyros with Yogurt-Dill Sauce

Ann-Michelle Albertson of Albertson Cooking School says many people like classes that teach them how to get dinner on the table fast. With her words in my ear, I'm sharing this go-to recipe for a quick, satisfying meal. Recipe adapted from Bon Appetit Magazine.

1 C. plain Greek yogurt
(I like the full-fat version.)
3 Tb. chopped fresh dill
1 large garlic clove, minced
1½ Tb. lemon juice, divided
4, 4-6 oz. skinless, boneless chicken
breasts, pounded to ½" thickness
1 tsp. dried oregano
2 Tb. olive oil
2 medium onions, thinly sliced

Mix together yogurt, 2 Tb. dill, garlic and ½ Tb. lemon juice. Add salt and pepper to taste.

In a separate bowl, mix together remaining 1 Tb. dill, oregano and salt and pepper to taste. Pat mixture on chicken breasts.

Heat 1 Tb. olive oil in a large skillet and sauté chicken breasts until just cooked through, 3-4 minutes per side. Remove chicken breast from skillet. Add remaining olive oil to skillet. Add onions and cook until they soften and just begin to brown, 8-10 minutes. Put chicken back

in skillet. Add remaining Tb. lemon juice and stir for 1 minute.

Serve with yogurt-dill sauce.

Makes 4 servings. ♦

To contact Laura, please e-mail her at LauraBrennan@ValleyDel.com.

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