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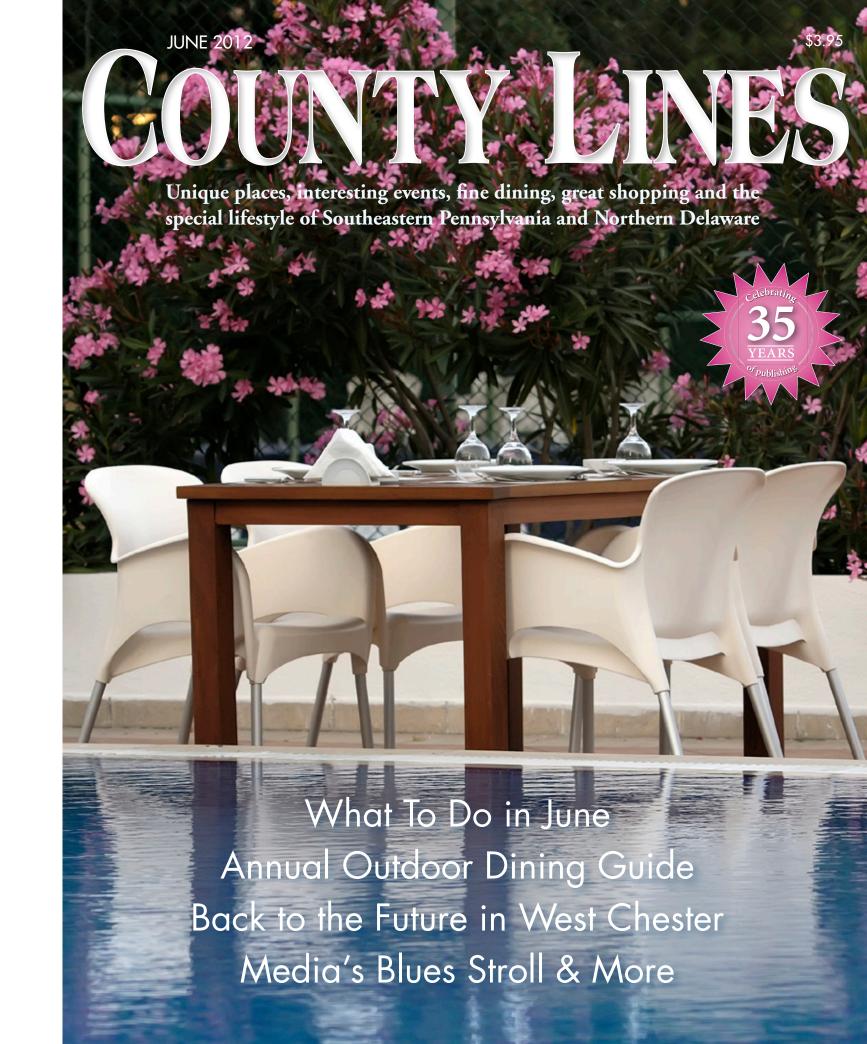






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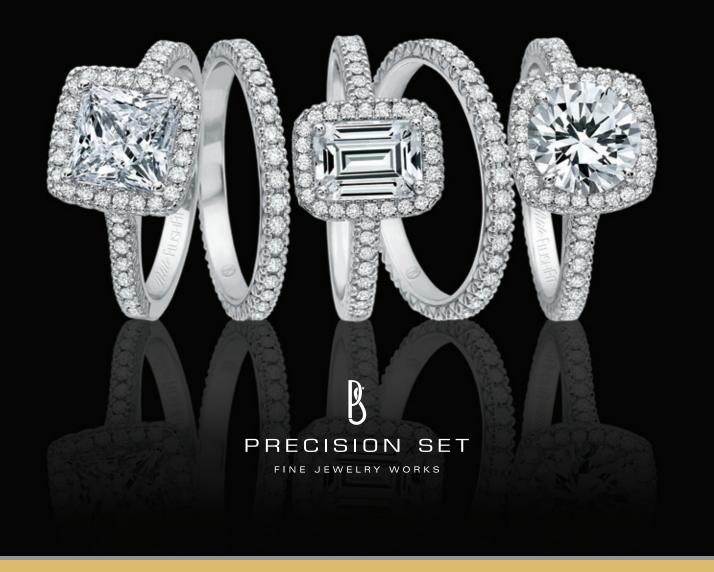
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Raised in Radnor, PA, Patricia Brennan has been providing Wealth Management advice right here in West Chester for over 25 years. She is a Georgetown University graduate and earned her CFP® designation in 1990. She is a recognized leader in her industry and serves 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 was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees for The Chester County Hospital and Health System.



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From the Editor

June, when daylight scores its greatest victory over night at the summer solstice. A mix of vibrant flowers, ripening vegetables, children's outdoor voices, plus music, theater and more on the streets. In June, County Lines is getting into summer and outdoor living.

Food historian William Woys Weaver tells us how he's been lovingly recreating heirloom breeds of dahlias at his home garden at Roughwood. Cynthia Chmelewski says there's special garden-side seating at Tyler Arboretum at their "Sit A Spell" exhibit. And Elaine Gilmartin and Jodi

Spagins describe how Willistown Conservation Trust's farm in the woods protects the countryside and inspires nature-lovers.

Wondering what wine goes well with barbecue? Kristin Collier Van Riper has answers in "Baby Back Wines." Laura Muzzi Brennan of Brandywine Table draws a distinction between Mexican and Spanish foods, then tells how to make them both. Whatever you're cooking or sipping, do it slowly and outdoors, as George Fitzpatrick has suggestions on improving your home in "Living Outside the House."

If you want someone else to prepare a meal, try Marci Tomassone's "Outdoor Dining Guide" to find the best al fresco spots. Firebirds Wood Fired Grill, in Collegeville and Chadds Ford, is an excellent choice, inside or out, according to Lise Monty's review.

Malcolm Johnstone and Max Anderson, respectively, share summer plans for West Chester and Media. Both towns will keep you busy with music, art and food festivals on weekends and long, lingering evenings.

As always, we've got the Best Events Coverage anywhere. Visit County Lines' Facebook page for updates and giveaways. "Like" us and tell your friends! Sign up for our Events Newsletter. And check out our Pinterest pages.

Thanks for reading *County Lines*. We hope you enjoy this issue.

Jo Anne Durako

County Lines Magazine



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COUNTY LINES

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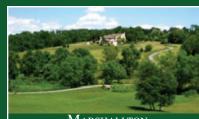
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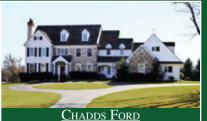


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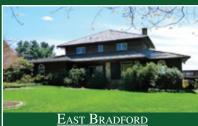
Abuts protected land, spectacular view, 4BR, 3.2BA home with LR & DR, large FR & gourmet Kitchen! Lower level with high-end fin-ishes. Barn & paddocks on 5 acres. \$1,395,000



C.1750 historic 4 BR, 4.1 BA home opened for Chester Co. Day. Gracious home with additions by Brognard Oakie Beautiful barn reconstruction. \$949.900



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Boasting a fabulous view is this custom solar 6BR, 4.1 BA home. First floor Master Suite. New wood roof, new heater, freshly painted & 3 beautifully landscaped acres! \$843,000

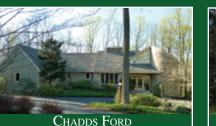


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More Than a "Touch of Sugar"

Julie Funk, MS, RD, CDE, LDE, The Chester County Hospital

ave you ever heard someone newly diagnosed with type 2 diabetes say they have "a touch of sugar"? That's a benign description of type 2 diabetes, a progressive but highly manageable disease that often goes unrecognized until early symptoms of its complications become noticed.

Like obesity, diabetes is reaching epidemic proportions in the United States. According to the American Diabetes Association, 25.8 million people are living with diabetes (types 1 and 2): that's 8.3% of our population! Of those, 7 million remain undiagnosed and are not yet receiving diabetes management and education.

What Is Prediabetes?

Of great concern are the nearly 80 million people in a category called "prediabetes." Prediabetes is considered the very beginning stages of type 2 diabetes, as blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not high enough to be classified as type 2 diabetes.

Without intervention, prediabetes is likely to become type 2 diabetes in 10 years or less. All too often, the long-term damage caused by diabetes to the heart and vascular system has already begun.

The good news is that research from the Diabetes Prevention Program has shown that if prediabetes is treated



with diet, exercise and sometimes medication, progression to type 2 diabetes can be prevented. The keys to prevention are being diagnosed and then making moderate lifestyle changes that result in weight loss of about 5 to 10% of body weight and consistently engaging in moderate exercise such as walking at least 30 minutes a day.

What are the Risk Factors?

- Extra Weight The more fatty tissue you have, especially around your waist (an "apple" shape), the more resistant your cells are to insulin.
- *Inactivity* Physical activity uses up glucose (or sugar) in your blood and makes your cells more sensitive to insulin.
- Advanced Age Although young people develop prediabetes, aging puts people at risk as they lose muscle mass and gain unwanted pounds.
- has type 2 diabetes, your risk is greater.
- Race Although the reasons are unclear, African-Americans, Hispanics, American Indians, Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders are more likely to develop prediabetes.

gestational diabetes or giving birth to a baby of 9 pounds or more increases your risk.

- Polycystic Ovary Syndrome Women with this condition have an increased risk.
- Sleep Too much or too little sleep (more than 9, less than 6 hours) increases risk.

How is it Diagnosed?

To determine if you have prediabetes, a blood test is required. Three common tests are used to determine blood glucose levels - A1C, the Fasting Plasma Glucose Test (FPG), and the Oral Glucose Tolerance Test (OGTT) — and whether you have a normal metabolism, prediabetes or diabetes. Check with your doctor.

What's the Treatment?

The proven treatment for prediabetes is lifestyle change, including:

- Eating Healthy Foods Choose foods low in • Family History – If your parent or sibling fat, high in fiber. Strive for more plant-based foods and watch your portion sizes!
 - Getting More Physical Activity Aim for 30-60 minutes of moderate physical activity at least five days a week.
- Losing Excess Weight Losing just 5 to 10 per-• Gestational Diabetes – A prior history of cent of your weight (10-20 pounds if you weigh

200) can reduce your risk. Avoid fad diets, and aim for one-half to two pounds per week.

• Taking Medications – Your doctor may prescribe medication to reduce your risk.

Prediabetes is not a life sentence, but it can be the wake-up call you need to get healthy and stay healthy so you can enjoy "a touch of sugar" once in a while.

If you think you may have prediabetes, The Chester County Hospital offers Reversing Prediabetes, a program that teaches you the tools to change your lifestyle and reduce your risk of getting type 2 diabetes. For information, call 610-738-2300; ChesterCountyHospital. org/wellness. ♦

Julie Funk is a Registered Dietitian and a Certified Diabetes Educator, with a masters degree in Public Health and a graduate degree in nutrition education. Currently Director of Community Health and



Wellness Services at The Chester County Hospital she has spent over 25 years dedicated to the education of individuals on the path to better health and disease prevention and self-management.







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Good to Know

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



The Longest Day. The Summer Sol**stice**, the longest day of the year, occurs June 20, at 7:09 p.m. (EDT) in our part of the world. This celestial event marks the sun's noontime position directly overhead at the Tropic of Cancer, and for several days afterward the sun seemingly stands still in the sky-so it looks like it's always high noon.

The beginning of summer, the solstice was thought by the Druids to be the wedding of heaven and earth, and is now viewed as a lucky wedding date. So, get out your shades and create your own solstice celebration. You've got the whole day to just do it.

Multi-Tasking Library. Think the library is just good for books? Think again. Beginning in June at the Phoenixville Library, you can learn to use Microsoft Office software, and master Word, Access, Excel and Power



Point. Sessions are two hours long every Saturday through the summer, \$5 per person. Don't just soak up the summertime rays, brush up on your computer skills, too. To register, contact Mark Pinto at 610-933-3013, Ext.32.



Bird Watchers' **Delight.** Every May and June, in a coincidence of timing that only nature could orchestrate, hundreds-of-thousands of horseshoe crabs leave the ocean depths to spawn on the moonlit beaches of the Delaware

Bay. While this may leave beachcombers in a pinch, it's perfect for **Red Knots**, migratory shorebirds in the sandpiper family. Red Knots depend on the protein from the crabs for fuel for their trek starting at the southern tip of South America, then up our coast to the Artic Circle. Bird watchers and nature lovers are welcome to watch the feast, but are warned to keep their distance—not only to protect the Red Knots and horseshoe crabs, but also their toes! For more, visit NatLands.org/Preserves.

Shop Small. Between Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Small Business Saturday was launched two years ago by an unlikely sponsorship from American Express during Thanksgiving weekend. It was a huge success! The movement, one million shop-



pers strong, now pledges to "shop small all year long." If you like supporting the businesses that make our classic towns unique and livable, then join the movement and shop small every Saturday. For more visit SmallBusiness-Saturday.com.

No, not the Phillies... The world's fastest growing social network, Pinterest, recently got a new member. When you're not watching our hometown team fight for another pennant, why not spend some time following what County Lines is pinning? With photo boards devoted to our

vintage covers, classic towns and even our views on food, there's sure to be something you'll want to re-pin. Check us out at Pinterest.com/County Lines. And like us on Facebook to let us know what you think about our boards. Facebook.com/ CountyLinesMagazine.

What the Frack?

Who is Marcellus Shale? More like, what is Marcellus Shale. The Sierra Club of Chester County is hosting a panel of experts to answer questions about hydraulic



fracturing, a method of extracting natural gas from Marcellus Shale deep beneath the ground, on Tuesday, June 5, in the Chester County Library Struble Room. Commonly referred to as 'fracking,' the process is highly controversial in Pennsylvania, so find out what's happening now and where we go from here. To register, contact Jean Bauer at 610-280-2642, or online at CCLS.org.



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VoxAmaDeus 2012-2013 Concert Season XXVI

1fall 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**

- 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

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

₩inter 2013 Gershwin & More

Ama Deus Ensemble FRIDAY, JANUARY 4 at 8:00 PM

Kimmel Center – Perelman Theater

RENAISSANCE CANDLEMAS**

- 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

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
 - *Baroque instrument orchestra
 - **Voices and period instruments

Tickets and Concert Information at www.VoxAmaDeus.org or 610.688.2800 Kimmel Center concerts:

www.KimmelCenter.org or 215.893.1999



Of Special Note



The Savoy Company Presents *The Mikado*

June 1-2, 29-30

A delight for audiences of all ages, Savoy's full professional orchestra and custom-built stage sets make *The Mikado* the most popular Gilbert and Sullivan opera. *June 1-2*, DuPont Theatre, 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington, 8 p.m. \$17.50-

\$60. *June 29-30*, Longwood Gardens, Rt. 1, Kennett Square, 8:30 p.m. \$27. Benefits Canine Partners for Life (k94life.org). *215-735-7161; Savoy.org*.

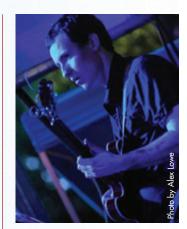


Chester County Balloon Festival

June 15-16

Float high above the hills of Chester County on a beautiful summer evening or come to the fairgrounds, park your car and safely enjoy the view. Craft and food vendors, music and fireworks.

Don't miss the "Friday Night Glow," a spectacular show where balloons inflate at dusk and light their burners; 7 p.m. Embreeville Athletic Complex, 700 Ryan Blvd., Coatesville. Fri., 5:30 to 10 p.m.; Sat., 3 to 10 p.m. \$5 per car. Friday Night Glow and balloon rides additional. 610-873-4002; CCBalloonFest.com.



9th Annual Jazz & Food Festival in Wayne

June 2

Wayne is transformed into a European-style piazza, where festivalgoers can sample signature dishes from the Main Line's best restaurants, buy crafts and fine art from vendors, and dine al fresco as they enjoy live music from the region's top jazz talent. North Wayne Ave. between Lancaster & West Ave. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. *MainLineJazz.com*.



Stroud Research Center Sustainable FeastJune 29

Experience an incredible evening under the stars while dining on culinary delights from Talula's Table and wine from Va La Vineyards. Benefits the Environmental Science Education programs at Stroud. Held at Anne and Michael Moran's beautifully restored ruins at Applestone Farm in Unionville. Tickets \$175. For more information, phone 610-268-2153, ext. 247; StroudCenter.org.



Longwood Gardens Presents "Light: Installations by Bruce Munro"

June 9-September 29

Wander through a field of light reminiscent of flowers, with glowing towers changing hues and showers of raindrops fashioned from delicate lights. Indoors and out, day and night, *Light!* will change how you see gardens. Check for special events. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Sun.-Tues., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wed.-Sat., 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. \$8-\$18. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

County Lines | June 2012 | County Lines Magazine.com | June 2012 | County Lines Magazine.com | June 2012 | County Lines | 20

Upcoming Events

Noteworthy in June . . .



11th Annual Reins of Life Benefit, "The Mane Event at Oberod." An evening of auctions, live music, food and fun, catered by Janssen's of Greenville and Chester County area pastry chefs. Benefits nonprofit therapeutic horseback riding for children and young adults with disabilities/special needs. Oberod Estate, Centreville. 7 to 11 pm. \$65 in advance; \$120 at the door. 610-274-3300; ReinsOfLife.com.

Brandywine Food & Wine Festival. Local wineries, food prepared by local restaurants and caterers, artisans and musicians come together for a day of fun at the picturesque Myrick Conservation Center, 1760 Unionville-Wawaset Rd. West Chester. 12 to 6 pm. \$5-\$15. 610-444-3842; BVWineTrail.com.





Chester County Hospital 6th Annual Polo Cup. Enjoy this exciting "Game of Kings," ponsored by the Turks Head Branch of The Women's Auxiliary to the hospital. Brandywine Polo Club, 260 Polo Rd., Toughkenamon. Tailgating begins at 1:30 pm, match starts at 3. \$25; VIP ticket includes luncheon, \$125; 16 and under free. 610-268-8692; CCHosp.com/Polo.

June 18-23 24th Annual DuPont Clifford Brown Jazz Fest. In memory of legendary jazz trumpeter Clifford Brown, the DuPont Clifford Brown Jazz Festival is a free, week-long, outdoor music festival at Rodney Square, downtown Wilmington. For schedule, 302-576-3095; CliffordBrownJazzFest.com.



Antiques

June 15-16

Antiques in the Valley at Oley Valley Middle School. Antique dealers showcase their finest 19th-century products. Benefits scholarships to worthy students at Oley Valley High School. 3247 Friedensburg Rd., Oley. Fri, 11 to 7; Sat, 10 to 4. \$10. 610-987-3312; 610-779-0705. OleyValleyAntiqueshow.com.

June 29-30 Lititz Historical Foundation's 48th Annual Antiques Show & Sale. More than 40 leading dealers from several states offer furniture, primitives, redware, yellowware, pewter and more. John R. Bonfield Elementary School, Front & Oak Sts., Lititz. Fri, 10 to 5; Sat, 10 to 4. \$5-\$6. 717-626-7059.

Art & Craft Shows

Through June 23 Wayne Art Center's 6th Annual Plein Air Festival. Over 30 of the country's finest plein air artists gathered to paint the inspiring landscapes of the Delaware Valley. Their work is on

view at the Wayne Art Center, 413 Maplewood Ave., Wayne. Mon-Fri, 9 to 5; Sat, 10 to 4. 610-688-3553; WayneArt.org.

Through September Happenings at Beauty Art, Antiques, Rugs. 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.

Eat, Drink & Be Merry

June 1-10

Philly Beer Week. More than 500 events at over 100 venues throughout the city and suburbs, highlighting the area's diverse beer scene, its world-class breweries, taverns, restaurants and rich beer culture. PhillyBeerWeek.org.

June 2

Longwood's Wine & Jazz Festival. Live jazz, fine regional wines and local fresh fare. 1001 Longwood Rd. \$25-\$40. 12 to 5:30. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

June 10

Rotary Clubs of Thorndale & Downingtown Present the Chester County Mac-n-Cheese Cookoff. Local restaurants, businesses, organizations and hometown cooks compete for the title "Best Mac-n-Cheese in Chester County." Kerr Park, 1 Park La., Downingtown. Noon to 4. \$10. 484-885-6643; MacNCheese-Cookoff.com.

June 30-July 1

7th Annual Brandywine Valley Big Bang BBQ. Six Wineries of the Brandywine Valley Wine Trail host wine tastings, vineyard tours, concerts and great outdoor cooking. Pulled pork sandwiches, mac and cheese and baked beans for sale. 12 to 5. \$5-\$8. BVWinetrail.com.

Equestrian

June-September Fridays and Sundays

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



Through June 3 Devon 2012 - The 116th Annual Devon Horse Show & Country Fair. This great outdoor horse show includes hunter, jumper, sad-

Be sure to look in our special West Chester and Media sections for events there.

dlebred horses, harness, coaching, junior and lead line classes. The Devon Country Fair offers family fun with rides, games, great food and over 40 shops. Benefits Bryn Mawr Hospital. 610-688-2554; TheDevonHorseShow.org.

Family Fun

Through September 17 Longwood Gardens Fireworks & Fountains. Swan Lake—July 21, 9:15 pm; Sept. 1, 8:15 pm. Stars & Stripes—July 3, 9:15 pm. The Amazing 80s!—Aug. 11, 9:15 pm, Sept. 29, 7:15 pm. 1001 Longwood Rd. Kennett Square. \$22-\$38. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

June 8, July 14, 16 Family Fun at The DCH. June 8, Growing Green Thumb Kids, 4 pm, \$8; July 14, Roses

& Noses, 10 am, \$30; *July 16,* Nature Nights: Red, White & Bloom, 5:30 pm, \$5. Best for ages 4-10. 1810 N. DuPont St., Wilmington. \$30-\$40. 302-658-6262; TheDCH.org.

June 16-17

Bryn Mawr Kennel Club's AKC Sanctioned All Breed Dog Show. Each day of the show will cover Conformation; plus, Obedience on Sat, Rally on Sun. Bring your well-behaved canine friend for Good Citizen testing and go on tours of the grounds to learn "hows and whys" of the show. Ludwig's Corner Show Grounds, Rts. 401 & 100, Ludwig's Corner. Daily 9 am. \$3; under 12 free. 610-273-2225.



July 1, 4

"When in the Course of Human Events" A Fourth of July Celebration and Picnic at Colonial PA Plantation. Activities include hearth cooking, long rifle, garden and animal talks. Bring a picnic or purchase refreshments. Ridley Creek State Park, Media. 11 to 5. \$8-\$10. 610-566-1725; ColonialPlantation.org.

Festivals & Fairs

Through June 3 Brandywine Hospital's 40th Annual Strawberry Festival. Rides, entertainment, games and activities, craft fair and fireworks display on Friday night. Brandywine Hospital, at the Rt. 30 Bypass, Coatesville. Thurs, 5 to 10; Fri, 5 to 11; Sat, 11 to 11; Sun, noon to 6. Benefits the Coatesville Youth Initiative. 610-380-9080; BrandywineStrawberryFestival.com.

Historic Newtown Square Day. A community celebration with vendors, games, an outdoor market, tours of historic sites and private properties. Square Tavern Rt. 252 & Goshen Rd., Newtown Square. 10 to 4. \$6. 610-975-0290; HistoricNewtownSquare.org.

June 3 144th Annual Malvern Memorial Day Parade and Family Fun Day. Activities begin at Monument Park, Warren Ave., at

8:45 am. Parade at 1:30. MalvernMemorial-Parade.com.

June 5-9

Annual Greek Festival at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. Experience a bit of Greece at this popular festival. 808 N. Broom St., Wilmington. Daily 11 to 11. 302-654-4446; GreekFestDE.com.

June 10-17

St. Anthony's Italian Festival. This year, the festival celebrates the spirit of Sicily. Rides, fabulous food, entertainment and a raffle of a trip to Italy. 9th & DuPont St., Wilmington.



Great hospitals are always finding new ways to treat patients more effectively and efficiently. That's why The Chester County Hospital is building a new 93,000-square-foot, three-level patient tower that will accommodate:

- 72 additional private patient rooms
- In-room controls for individual lighting, heat and cooling
- Leading-edge monitoring capabilities
- An in-room clinical computer for enhanced accuracy and safety

Our new patient tower is scheduled to open in Summer 2013. We look forward to sharing even more exciting news about this project in the days



ChesterCountyHospital.org | 610-431-5000

Mon-Fri, 5 to 10:30 pm; Sat, 2 to 10:30; Sun, 2 to 8:30. \$5. Benefits the Elementary School. 302-421-2790; StAnthonysFestival.com.

June 23-24

Celtic Fling and Highland Games. Musicians, dancers, craftsmen and athletes gather together for Irish dance and Highland games, food and music. Mount Hope Estate & Winery, 2775 Lebanon Rd., Manheim. \$10.95-\$26.95. 11 am to 10 pm. 717-665-7021; PARenFaire.com.

June 25-July 4

Wawa Welcome America Festival. Fun for the whole family with ten days packed with free events, a parade, fireworks, history, live entertainment, food and culture. Spectacular fireworks displays at night and the largest free concert in America, a "Party on the Parkway," July 4. 215-683-2200; WelcomeAmerica.

June 30

Nottingham Park 2012 Freedom Fest. An Independence weekend concert, children's entertainment, food vendors and fireworks display. Nottingham County Park, 150 Park Rd., Nottingham. 5 to 10:30 pm. Rain date, July 1. \$10 parking fee. 610-932-2589 or 610-344-6415; ChesCo.org/CCParks.



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First Friday

June 1, July 6

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; Downtown-WestChester.com; Wilmington, 302-576-2100; ArtLoopWilmingtonDE.com.

Fundraising & Benefits

June 6

Main Line Meals on Wheels Golf Tourna ment Fundraiser. The Club at Shannondell, 2750 Egypt Rd., Audubon. Shotgun, 4 player scramble, 1 pm. \$60 per person. 610-393-0122; MealsOnWheels.org.

June 8

Moonlight & Roses at Morris Arboretum.

Annual fundraising gala with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the Rose Garden, 6 pm, followed by dinner and dancing at 8. 100 E. Northwestern Ave., Philadelphia. \$150-\$250. 215-247-5777, ext 418; MorrisArboretum.org.

June 16

17th Annual Jazz at Brushwood — Gala Benefit for Home of the Sparrow. This year's benefit follows the theme "Fanta-Sea," boasting an underwater paradise. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, buffet dinner, open bar, auction items and dancing. Brushwood Stable (Bryn Clovis Annex), 737 Sugartown Rd., Malvern. 5 pm. \$95. 610-647-4940; HomeOfTheSparrow.org.

June 18

Golf Outing Fundraiser for Parkesburg Library. Tanglewood Manor Golf Club, 653 Scotland Rd., Quarryville. \$90 includes lunch, golf, dinner and prizes. 610-857-5165.

Gardens

Through October 28 Tyler Arboretum Presents "Sit A Spell: Seats That Tell a Tale." See article in this issue.

June 2

Gardens of Octorara 8th Annual Garden Tour. A self-drive tour of private gardens in the Octorara region (western Chester Cty). Benefits Atglen Public Library, Moores Memorial Library, Parkesburg Library. 10 to 4. \$10-\$15. 610-716-3404; GardensofOctorara.com.



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Annual Bayard Taylor Home & Garden Day. This year's tour focuses on Chester County history (and some Delaware County), including homes c. 1704 to 1800s. Food, artists painting, gardens and flower arrangements. Lunch available. Benefits the Bayard Taylor Memorial Library. 10 to 4. \$35. 610-444-2702; BayardTaylor.org.

Oxford Arts Alliance 4th Annual Garden Party. Buffet dining, live music, auctions and a 1940s table decorating contest. Benefits the

Arts Alliance Community Programs. Ware Presbyterian Village Welcome Center Garden, 7 E. Locust St., Oxford. 7 to 11 pm. \$35. 610-467-0301; OxfordArt.org.

New Hope Historical Society 19th Annual Garden Tour. Six private Bucks County gardens are on this self-guided tour. Map, directions and description of gardens with ticket. 10 to 4. \$30. 215-862-5652; NewHopeHS.org.

June 7

The DE Center for Horticulture Progressive Dinner & Private Gardens Tour. Visit some

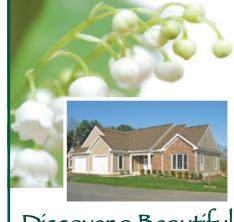


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Local Farm Markets

Anselma Farmers & Artisans Market, 1730 Conestoga Rd., Chester Springs. Wed, 2 to 6. 610-827-1906; AnselmaMill.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, Every other Thurs, 3 to 7. EastGoshenFarmers-Market.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; LancasterCounty-FarmersMarket.com.

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

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.

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

Parkesburg Farm Community Market, 315 W. First Ave. Sat, 9 to 1. 610-857-2616; Parkesburg.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; WestGroveFarmers-Market.com.

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



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of the best gardens in the city while enjoying a delicious meal. The DCH, 1810 N. DuPont St., Wilmington. 5:30 to 10. Tickets \$75-\$100. 302-658-6262; TheDCH.org.

June 8-10 29th Annual Demuth Garden Tour & Party.

Exclusive Lancaster locations, offering creative urban gardens and unique home interiors. The tour kicks off with the Demuth Garden Party on June 8, featuring live music, hors d'oeuvres and art sale. Conestoga House Gardens, 1608 Marietta Ave., Lancaster. Res. req. Tour, Sat-Sun. \$15-\$18. 717-299-9940; Demuth.org.

June 16-17

The DE Center for Horticulture: Wilmington City Gardens People's Choice Tour. Self-guided tour of more than 50 gardens in the city. 1810 N. Dupont St., Wilmington. 10 to 3. \$10, 302-658-6262; TheDCH.org.

Museums

Through July 29 Delaware Art Museum – "Beyond Words: The Symbolic Language of Plants." An exhibition of works in various media that emphasize

art. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, noon to 4. \$6-\$12. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

Through June 24

Wharton Esherick Museum. Through June 24, Fischer Corner Desk, considered one of Esherick's masterpieces on view at the museum. Through June 19, "Poplar Culture: A Celebration of a Tree," an exhibition of over 40 artists and their work created from one of Esherick's poplar trees. Mon-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, noon to 4. 1520 Horse Shoe Trail, Malvern. 610-644-5822; WhartonEsherickMuseum.org.

Through January 6, 2013 Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library's "Uncorked! Wine, Objects & Tradition." A new exhibition that explores the stunning range of objects associated with the history of wine drinking, especially in Britain and America. 5105 Kennett Pk. (Rt. 52), Winterthur. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5. \$5-\$18. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.



Music & Entertainment

June 1-30

Bryn Mawr Twilight Concert Series. June 1, Bare Captives; June 2, Chris Smither; June 9, XPN Welcomes Dar Williams; June 10, School of Rock; June 16, Chris Boggia June 23, XPN Welcomes Steve Forbert; June 30, Cheryl Wheeler. Concerts continue through Aug. 4. Bryn Mawr Gazebo, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. 7 pm. \$10 donation. 610-864-4303; BrynMawrTwilightConcerts.com.

June 3-July 4

Long's Park Summer Music Series. June 3, Sister Sparrow and the Dirty Birds; Iune 10, Arturo O'Farrill and the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra; June 17, Mia Borders; June 24, Sarah Lee Guthrie and Johnny Irion, July 1, 257th Army Band, Cannon Brigade and Fire-



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works! July 4, Allegro: The Chamber Orchestra of Lancaster. Concerts continue through Aug. 26. Long's Park Amphitheater, 1441 Harrisburg Pike at Rt. 30, Lancaster. Sundays, 7:30 pm. Free. 717-735-8883; LongsPark.org.

Through August Delaware County Summer Festival. Grab your blankets and chairs and enjoy another summer of performances on the hillside at Rose Tree Park, Rt. 252 & Providence Rd., Upper Providence. 7:30. Cancelled for rain. 610-565-7410: Co.Delaware.PA.US/Summer.



June 3

Vox Ama Deus — "Vivaldissimo." Camarata Ama Deus, baroque instrument orchestra, performs at Bryn Mawr College, Thomas Great Hall, Bryn Mawr. 4 pm. \$25. 610-688-2800; VoxAmaDeus.org.

June 3-September 23 Friday Nights Under the Stars at Brandywine Polo Club. Spend Friday nights at the Brandywine Polo Club listening to live music, watching polo and sipping great regional wines. Bring a picnic or purchase a meal onsite. Every week features a different winery from the Brandywine Valley. Toughkenamon Exit, Rt. 1 S. Gates open at 5:30. For schedule, 610-292-0880; FridayNightsUnderTheStars.com.

June 5-August 28 Eagleview Town Center "Concerts on the Square." June 5, Larkin Poe with Grayson Capps & the Lost Cause Minstrels; June 12, Delta Rae with special guest Manatawny Creek Ramblers; *June 19*, Oueen Electric with Suzie Brown; June 26, Sister Sparrow and the Dirty Birds. Concerts continue though Aug. 28. 540 Wellington Square, Exton. 7 pm. In case of rain phone 800-851-2779 after 4 pm on day of the show. In Eagleview.com.

Shady Grove Music Fest. Bring a chair or blanket and enjoy the local, original music including rock, jazz, rockabilly, punk and more. No outside food or beverages permitted. No dogs. 2126 The Highway, Arden, DE. Begins at noon. \$20. 302-898-9308; ArdenClub.org.

June 13-June 22 Longwood's Summer Performances. June 13, Jonny Lang & Robert Randolph; June 15, Trout Fishing In America; June 16, Dende & Band; June 19, David Sanborn & Brian Culbertson; Iune 22, Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars. Concerts continue through Sept. 23. 1001 Longwood Rd. \$25-\$40. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

June 13-August 1, Wednesdays Summer Concert Series at Anson B. Nixon Park. Enjoy a free concert in the park, light supper available. Check the website for this year's lineup. Walnut Rd., Kennett Square. 7 to 9 pm. AnsonBNixonPark.org.

June 14-16 Big Daddy Graham at Media Theatre. Just

in time for Father's Day this one-man show is entitled "Last Call . . . Remembering My Dad" and is based on Graham's book about his father. Guest moderator on Sat, Ray Didinger. 104 E. State St., Media. 8 pm. \$25. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.

June 15-September 21 Music Friday in Lancaster Square. June 15, Music For Everyone; July 20, Trinidad North Steel Band; Aug. 17, The DiSanto Brothers; Sept. 21, The Johnny Bravo Combo. Lancaster Square, Lancaster. Gates open at 6. Free. 717-291-4758; LancasterCityEvents.com.

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Long Island Medium Theresa Caputo at DuPont Theatre. Theresa will share her story, answer audience questions and share readings. 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. 3 pm. \$45-\$55, 800-338-0881; DuPontTheatre.com.

June 21-July 4 Summer in the Park Concert Series at Chesterbrook. June 21, Janice Nowlan Band; June 28, Chico's Vibe; July 4, Chester County Concert Band and fireworks. Concerts continue through July 26. Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Chesterbrook. 7 pm. 610-408-3626; Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks.

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June 27

Radnor Township Summer Concert Series. Bring blankets and chairs to a family concert with Steve Pullara & His Cool Beans Band. St. Davids Park, Lancaster Ave., St. Davids. Concerts continue through Aug. 1. 6:30 pm. If inclement weather, phone 610-688-5600, ext. 141, between 2 and 4 pm on the day of the scheduled concert. Radnor.com.

June 22-23

Something Else Fest, Outdoor Music Festival. Twenty-five great acts performing acoustic, bluegrass and Celtic music. 120 Reservoir Rd., Wagontown. Noon to midnight.

Rain or shine. \$45 all-event pass, 2-night camping. 610-384-2535 ElseFest.com.

June 23

Kennett Symphony, "Guitarra!" A tribute to the great Spanish writer and poet Garcia Lorca by Mexican composer Silvestre Revueltas, with Marija Temo and flamenco dancer Ulrika Frank. Longwood Gardens Open Air Theatre, 1001 Longwood Rd. Kennett Square. 7:30 pm. \$5-\$40, includes garden adm. Rain date, June 24. 610-444-6363; KennettSymphony.org.

June 2



canoe or kayak trip, beginning in Schuylkill Haven and ending in Philadelphia. This year's program theme is "Recreation And the River." Register for as many days as you like and enjoy and celebrations in the river towns. 484-945-



TD Bank Philadelphia International Cycling Championship. Cyclists complete 10 laps of a 14.5-mile course. The Liberty Classic features professional, international women cyclists com-

Outdoor Activities

6th Annual Independence Dragon Boat Regatta. Teams compete in three 500-meter races on the Schuylkill River race course in Philadelphia. Festive atmosphere along Kelly Drive with tented picnic areas for each team and entertainment. 8 am to 5 pm. Benefits disabled military veterans and The Police Athletic League. IndependenceDragonBoat.com.



June 2-8

Schuylkill River Sojourn. A 112-mile guided rapids, plenty of laughs, songs at the campsites 0200; SchuylkillRiver.org/Sojourn.aspx.



peting in a 57.6-mile race. Weekend warriors

nationally ranked pros, amateurs and kids. Memorial Park, King St. (Rt 663), Pottstown. Play begins at 7 am on Sat; 8 am on Sun. 610-

367-2779; PottstownRumble.net.

Radnor Conservancy Annual Race for Open Space. Trail race through the Willows and Skunk Hollow Parks. Bring the whole family (no dogs or jogging strollers on the trail). The Willows Park, 490 Darby Paoli Rd., Villanova. 9 am. 610-620-3626; RunTheDay.com.

and casual cyclists have the chance to ride up

to three timed laps of the Championship Road

June 3

Course. ProcyclingTour.com.

June 10

Victory Brewing Company's "Hoods in the Woods" Trail Run. A fast and challenging 5K trail run with natural hazards. Registration includes BBQ, a cold beer and a hoodie. Paradise Farm, 1300 Valley Creek Rd., Downingtown. Race starts at 2. \$40. 610-328-3979; RunTheDay.com.



June 23-24 21st Annual Pottstown Rumble. Premiere grass doubles volleyball tournament, attracting

June 24

30th Canal Day. Fun at Lock 60 on the Schuylkill Canal with water sports competitions, a canal joust, K-9 rescue demo, food, music, races and more. Schuylkill Canal Lock 60 & St. Michael's Park, Mont Clare. 9 to 4. 610-917-0021; SchuylkillCanal.org.

Theater

Through June 24

Shakespeare's Will. Anne Hathaway's reflection on her life and marriage to the famous poet. People's Light & Theatre, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Tues-Thurs, 7:30; Fri-Sat, 8; Sun, 7; Wed, Sat, Sun, 2. \$25-\$45. 610- 644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.



June 2-July 28

The Jungle Book. Media Theatre for the Performing Arts presents this new version of the Mowgli stories with music, choreography, lessons on safety, working together and building a community. 104 E. State St., Media. 11 am. \$10-\$12. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.



Stay in the know with everything going on in County Lines country. Sign up for our Events Newsletter at Newsletter@ValleyDel.com.

Send a description of your activity to Info@ValleyDel.com by the first of the month preceding publication. For more events visit



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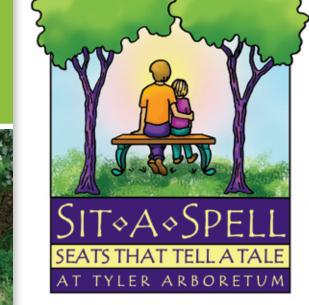
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Pennsylvania Statehouse 1776







Cvnthia Chmelewski

A new exhibit at Tyler Arboretum, through October 28

magine sitting in a picture-perfect setting, relaxing and yes, thrones are all there—from traditional to fanto paint the sky with their swaying tops. Or snugcarved throne waiting for a prince.

All this is possible at "SIT A SPELL, Seats That Tell a *Midsummer's Night Dream*? Tyler Arboretum in Media. The exhibit showcases an

ciful, fashioned of wood, stone, metal and clay. Works

The young and young-at-heart will find a perfect bench meant to hold a family playfully jockeying for a want to perch on a beautiful mosaic bench featuring flowers and dragonflies created for Philadelphia's Ronald McDonald House or recline on Tatiana's

Children and families can try out special seats and let impressive group of talented artisans eager to have create stories of their own. Did a certain little blonde while climbing into chairs meant for Papa, Mama and

Baby Bear crafted by Tyler's volunteers? Find Chuck Feld's Lorax-themed Adirondack chair-for-two encouraging a Suess-like feeling, or follow Alice down the rabbit hole with Marcia Wills' clever bench.

Inspired by the wonderful artisans of SIT A SPELL, Tyler staff decided to create a seat as well. The Very Hungry Caterpillar project incorporates natural material from Tyler's property and the staff's joyous appreciation for the metamorphosis of the butterfly.

Summer of Fun

Events are planned all summer, inviting all to come and SIT A SPELL! A Storybook Celebration on June 9 invites families to revel in the world of reading as storytellers weave their tales amidst finely crafted seats. Enjoy a puppet show filled with a parade of favorite animal characters. Bring a gently used book and take another home in a Give-a-Book-Get-a-Book exchange.

On July 15 follow Hansel and Gretel on a scavenger hunt, meet our Fairy Godmother and play enchanting games at the Festival of Fairies & Fairy Tales event.

Whether you choose to visit Tyler to run,



enjoy nature's splendor, this exhibit is not to be missed. You're invited to come out, kick back and just SIT A SPELL.

And there's more at Tyler! The ever-popular Totally Terrific Treehouses are again open and ready for you to climb your way to the top. The **Butterfly House** returns to host native pollinators and allow visitors to get up close and personal with butterflies through their life cycles. •

Tyler Arboretum, 515 Painter Rd., Media; 610-566-9134; TylerArboretum.org. The exhibit is sponsored jump and play amidst the trees or to relax and by NBC 10, WJBR and County Lines Magazine.

Special Events

Butterfly House Opening Day:

uly 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Butterflies and Buggy Buddies:

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY



CAREER COMMUNITY

Comments by the Class of 2012

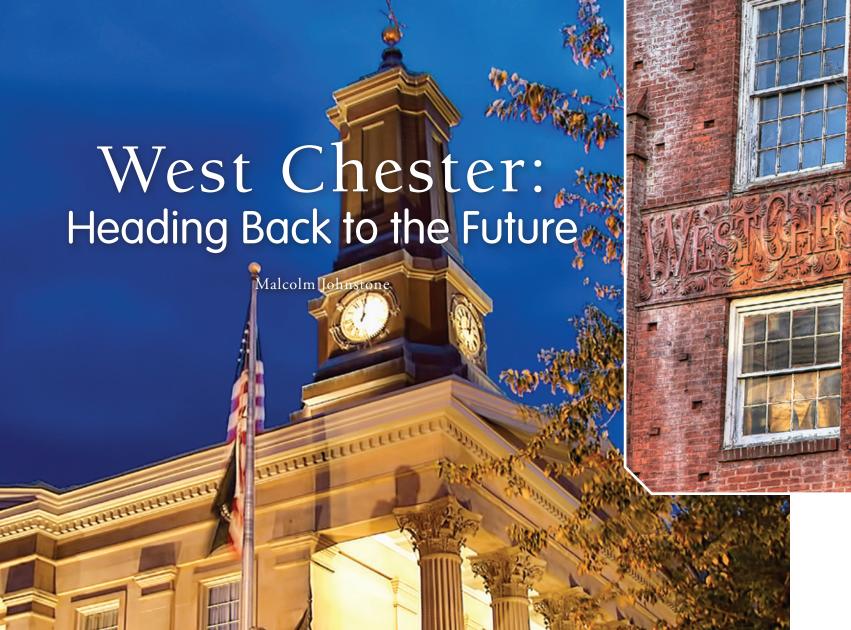
"At TCS you learn so much about yourself! The teachers identify strengths you never knew you had and suggest ways of improving them which raises your self-esteem and self-confidence."

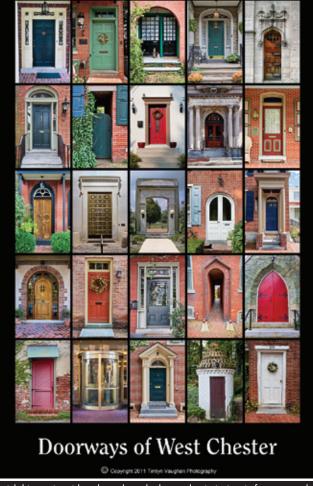
"In the end, TCS was one of the best things that happened to me."

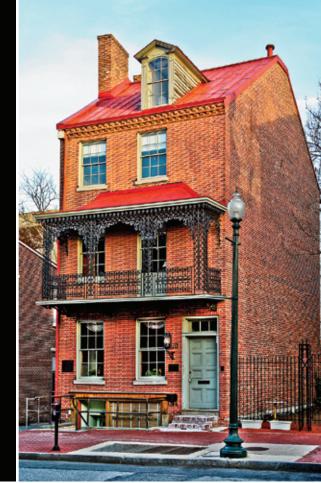
"TCS welcomed me with open arms. This gave me a fantastic opportunity to make new friends and learn new facts. I am so very glad that I can attend this fine school."

"TCS is a place where miracles happen. People who don't have the kind of positive environment that we have at TCS probably won't know what a caring and helping school is actually like."

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West Chester's rich history is evident throughout the borough—in its iconic former courthouse and fire company building, the front doors shown on this poster, and the famed Lincoln Building. Photos: Timlyn Vaughan

Bring Back the Theater

For decades, the Warner Theater was West Chester's premier venue for movies and occasional events. Sadly, the auditorium section was torn down in the 1980s, leaving a hole in the heart of the downtown historic district. Now a team of local entrepreneurs formed Uptown! Entertainment Alliance, on a mission to host musical, theatrical and film events throughout the year and to work toward providing a performance space for cultural events.

April's kick-off featured Broadway star and former Miss America, Kate Shindle, performing to a packed house. This summer, watch for a children's series to include a performance of *Alex*ander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day.

Will we have "Broadway in the Borough" or our own World Café Live-like venue? Get details at *UptownWC.org* and also watch the Springhouse production of "Art Needs a Home."

Scheduled to open this summer, the new Warner Hotel preserved parts of the former historic Warner Theate

A bit of Warner history remains, however. The Warner Theater's facade and grand lobby staircase, which survived the demolition, are being transformed into part of the Hotel Warner, an upscale, 80-room boutique hotel in the heart of downtown. The first hotel in over 100 years to open in West Chester (since the 1970 closing of the Mansion House), the Hotel Warner will be the only urban hotel in the Brandywine Valley when it opens this summer. Make your staycation reservation. Learn more at HotelsInWestChester.com.



On display this summer: "Bayard Rustin's Local Roots," about a West Chester native and civil rights leader; "In Stitches: Unraveling Their Stories," with a stunning collection of local needlework drawn from the Westtown School's and Historical Society's archives; "If Walls Could Talk," an interpretation of events at Horticultural Hall, the main museum building designed by Thomas U. Walter (designer of the U.S. Capital Building dome), which played host No place examines the past better than the **Chester** to such personalities as Buffalo Bill, Frederick Doug-County Historical Society (open Wed.-Sat., 9:30 lass, Lucretia Mott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Signor to 4:30, High & Chestnut Sts., ChesterCoHistorical. Blitz and Tom Thumb; and "Just Over the Line: org). Besides its world-class library and photo archives Chester County and the Underground Railroad,"

wards helps to see what lies ahead. In a borough with more than 4,200 structures listed in the National Register of Historic Places, West Chester is capitalizing on its rich past, while keeping a watchful eye on the future. Its institutions, community groups, events and businesses reflect that mix of past and future.

s West Chester moves forward on its path to

being both a more livable community and

visitors' destination, sometimes a glance back

A Sense of History

dating back to the beginning of photography, the a popular and award-winning exhibition. Visit this Historical Society allows visitors to delight in interac-summer to enjoy history in this very special venue.

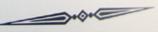
tive exhibits and a History Lab where kids engage in history with hands-on activities.

Photos by Timlyn Vaughan and Malcolm Johnstone

The Chester County Historical Society has a full schedule of programs, including an award-winning exhibit on the Underground Railroad, to bring you up to date.

Underground RAILROAD





West Chester History Trivia

Don't know much about West Chester history? Test your knowledge with our trivia quiz. Answers below.

- 1. In 1760 West Chester's first schoolhouse was built out of logs at what is now the corner of and Streets.
- 2. West Chester officially became a town in the year __
- 3. The first biography of President Abraham Lincoln, published 1860, ran . a small Republican newspaper in West Chester
- 4. In 1905 the first automobile owner in West Chester was Joseph H. Sager, who bought a Locomobile in New York City for \$
- 5. In the year ____ West Chester State College officially changed its name to West Chester University.

t' \$820; 2' 1983 . Gay & High; 2. 1788; 3. The Chester County Times

A History of Great Events

West Chester is well known for its full calendar of summer events, making the most of its historic resources and small town charm—a magnet for visitors and families looking for fun. Mark your calendar for the summer street festival that is Swingin' Summer Thursday. Great food, live music, clowns, dancers, and more provide entertainment for the entire family, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. These free events occur on Gay Street, the first Thursday in July, August and September. (Contact 610-436-9010; West-Chester. com for event information unless otherwise noted.)

First Friday fun is in full swing with Gal**lery Walk,** June 1, starting at 5 p.m. Enjoy art openings and special events throughout downtown. The next Gallery Walk isn't until October, so don't miss this one! 610-696-4046; GWCC.org.

A new event for First Fridays this summer is the Vintage Garage Sale at the Chestnut Street Parking Garage (Chestnut & Walnut

Sts.). Vendors offer vintage treasures that can be bought and sold.

During the first big weekend in June, be sure to join Super Sunday, June 3, from 11 to 5, one of downtown's biggest street festivals. It's free, with plenty of music, food and rides for the kids.

The Chester County Jazz Festival, June 29 to July 1, is a new addition to the growing music scene. Opening at West Chester University's Asplundh Concert Hall with a Battle of the Youth Jazz Bands competition, the day concludes with a rhythmic smooth jazz performance by a special guest artist. The festival continues Saturday and Sunday, beginning at 11 a.m., in beautiful Hoopes Park with free openair live jazz, exhibitors and great food. Get details at ChesterCountyJazzFestival.com.

West Chester's only professional sporting event, the Iron Hill Twilight Criterium Bicycle Race, will wind through the streets of downtown on July 7 for its eighth year. 610-696-4046; Iron-HillTwilightCriterium.com.







For more music, head for the **Turks Head** Music Festival, featuring dozens of bands, July 15, from 11 to 5 p.m. at Everhart Park (Bradford Ave. & Miner St.). It's free for the whole family and you'll find lots of food and

Theatre will bring free, outdoor theater more distinctive merchandise. to Everhart Park, July 27. This year's performance, Our Town by Thornton Wilder, celebrates the everyday moments of life, a reflection of all that is glorious and fragile in being alive. A perfect play to enjoy in West Chester.

Making History in Retail

craft booths to make it a fun day.

Amish craftsmanship of wood furniture is known for its simplicity and quality. At Pennsylvania Dutch Design (128 E. Gay St., 717-823-6249; PennsylvaniaDutch-Design.com), you'll find a showroom for this new Brandywine Valley manufacturer of select pieces including tables, chairs, cabinets, bed frames—nearly everything needed for a comfortable home. Browse items from their extensive collection or have a piece custom made to your needs.

Unique items from local and international artisans as well as iconic and up-and-coming brand names are featured at Bella & Betty (117 W. Gay St., 610-719-3259; Bella and Betty.com). "Our gifts are designed to appeal to a huge demographic and items will be available in all price ranges," said owner Rain Speciale. Gift items include their own hand-made soap, Moroccan leather goods and locally made baby gifts from The Ellie Rose. They also offer brand name items, including Himalayan Candles, John Robshaw, Maple Leaf and Cake Vintage.

Malena's Vintage Boutique has expanded and moved a few doors down

(101 W. Gay St., 610-738-9952; MelanasBoutique.com). "I've been growing the business in downtown West Chester since 2003," said owner Malena. The new space has a mid-century modern influence with 30-feet of window space, 11-foot ceilings Once again Commonwealth Classic and hardwood floors to highlight even

Downtown Eateries

At newly open Yori's Church Street Bakery (15 N. Church St., 610-344-9674), proprietor and baker David Yori offers a wide selection of baked goods for a morning snack with coffee, carry-out or special orders. The bakery is located in the old Village Record Building (home to an influential local newspaper until 1920), property that owner Zukin Realty rehabbed in an award-winning restoration to its original Classical Revival style.

For cuisine from south of the border, try La Bamba Mexican Restaurant (39 W. Gay St., 610-344-7784). Enjoy authentic Mexican cuisine in a casual BYOB atmosphere or take-out. Sidewalk dining is available when the weather is nice.

Easy Parking

Whenever you're visiting downtown West Chester, you will find that there's actually plenty of parking. Really! If you're feeling lucky, try on-street parking (Tip: meters take only quarters). You can always get a spot at one of three large garages: two municipal parking garages at 20 South High Street and at Chestnut & Walnut Streets, plus the large county parking garage at 220 West Market Street. This last garage is free weekends and after 5 p.m. weekdays.

Park and enjoy all that is downtown West Chester in the summer. ◆



West Chester Borough

What makes West Chester bike-friendly? In part, it is what will be here. Bike racks, for instance, are planned. Bikeway connections with Exton and Downingtown are also in the future plans. Meanwhile, however, five things make West Chester bike-friendly.

- 1. THE ABSENCE OF TRAFFIC. Except at rush hours. Rule out High, Gav. Market Streets. But pick another place or time, and traffic is suburban and tame to peaceful and rural. Drivers are, with a few exceptions, respectful. Give it a B+
- 2. BIKEWAYS AND BIKE ROUTES. Dedicated bike routes, currently planned, will be a big improvement. (See map at WCBluer. org) For the experienced, West Chester allevs are practical, though imperfect, bikeways around the inner borough. Beware of unexpected obstacles: potholes and cars obliviously backing out. The many untrafficked roads, especially south and west, also beckon cyclists. B for now
- 3. SMOOTH ROADS. No complaint here. The roadway is cramped, but well-marked and well-paved. Early spring—the result of thawing ice and snow—is a low point. By June, roads are usually fixed, and you're good to go. A-
- 4. OTHER RIDERS. The number of ridis incredible. The West Chester Cycling Club and Chester County Cyling Assn are well-organized and active. Plus, there are small, casual "clubs:" people with bikes, looking for someone to ride with. Not to mention organized races: Iron Hill Criterium in July and the Philadelphia Cycling Championship in June. Solid A
- 5. SIGHTS. The architecture, storefronts, historical markers, people to watch.. Riding around West Chester is very entertaining. The shortcoming: you may find yourself stopping too often. An A+

Events in West Chester

Chester County Art Association

A nonprofit, cultural organization promoting the arts through instruction, exhibitions and outreach. June 1-22, Members Open Show. 100 N. Bradford Ave. Tues-Sat, 9:30 to 4. 610-696-5600; ChesterCountyArts.org.

Northbrook Canoe Company

Through October

A fun family experience, Northbrook offers canoeing, kayaking and tubing trips along the beautiful Brandywine River, daily beginning at 9 am, with the last trip at 4 pm. Food Shack is open weekends and holidays, and for large groups during the week. Res. are preferred. 800-898-2279; NorthbrookCanoe.com.

10th Annual Up On The Roof June 2

Live entertainment, light dining, desserts and open bar with the popular Rooftop Martini. Benefits the WC Downtown Foundation and WC BID for the beautification of the Borough. Chestnut St. Garage Rooftop. 7 to 11 pm. \$75. 610-738-3350; DowntownWestChester.com.

West Chester Spring Flea Market June 2

Held at the Municipal Parking Lot, 401 E. Gay St. \$15 to rent a space. 9 to 2. 610-436-9010; West-Chester.com.

West Chester Railroad Summer Picnic Specials

June 2-September 23, Sundays

Enjoy a relaxing 90-minute train ride on a summer afternoon. Pack a lunch for the Glen Mills train station picnic grove. Trains depart Market St. Station, 230 E. Market St. Noon. \$10.50-\$12.50. 610-430-2233; WestChesterRR.net.

West Goshen Summer Concerts June 10-August 19

June 10, children's concert featuring Steve Pullara and the Cool Beans Band; June 24, Scottish rock with First Highland Watch; July 8, Latin jazz featuring Café con Pan; July 22, The Greaseband plays party hits; Aug. 5, folk music with the Rob Dickenson Band; Aug. 19, The West Chester Swing Kings. West Goshen Community Park, N. Five Points & Fern Hill Rds., West Chester. Rainsite: West Chester East High School Auditorium. 6:30 pm. 610-692-2550; WGoshen.org.

Town Tours & Village Walks

June 14-September 6

Discover Chester County's historic villages, residences, waterways and mills. For times, reservations (required) and locations, call 877-442-2476 (press menu # for the tour). June 14, menu #101, West Chester Kick-Off and Tour; June 21, menu #102, Baird Park and Uwchlan Township Campus; Iune 28, menu #103, St. Peter's Village; July 12,

menu #104, Scandals, Scoundrels & Spirits in Kennett Borough; July 19, menu #105, Village of Marshallton; July 26, menu #106, The Mill at Anselma. 610-344-6415; ChesCo.org/ CCParks.

FatherFest American Helicopter Museum June 17

Treat Dad to a day at the museum with heli-

copter rides, hot rods, motorcycle show, food and music. The museum collects, restores and displays historic aircraft and over 35 helicopters. 1220 American Blvd. 10 to 2. \$7-\$10. 610-436-9600; HelicopterMuseum.org.

14th Annual Chester County **Challenge For Cancer Bike Tours** June 17

Team up with family and friends for the pre-



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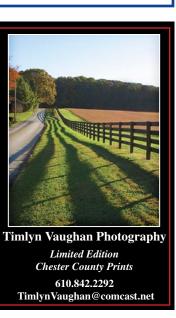
117 West Gay Street 610.719.3259 * BellaandBetty.com



Chester County Library 610-280-2600 • www.ccls.org

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In West Chester: 415 N. Church Street 610.696.1721



Events in West Chester

miere bike ride in Chester County. 65-, 50- and 25-mile non-competitive rides, 10- and 5-mile family rides benefit The Cancer Program of Chester County Hospital and Neighborhood Hospice. Begins at Fern Hill Medical Office Bldg., 915 Old Fern Hill Rd. Regisration 7:30 am. \$30-\$40. 610-431-5329; CCHosp.com.

Music at Marshall Square Park

June 21, July 19, August 16

Come to Marshall Square Park for rock, jazz and more. June 21, acoustic classic rock with Back2Life; July 19, Billie Joel night with John Grecia; Aug. 16, classic rewind with the Pompeo Brothers Band. Check for rain dates. 248 E. Marshall St. 6:30 pm. Free.

Trial Run 5K Run/Walk

June 23

Enjoy a scenic, shaded, fast course through the Borough. Cash prizes for the top three male and female finishers. Benefits Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Registration 7:30 am. \$5-\$25. TrialRun5K.com.

Goshen Country Fair

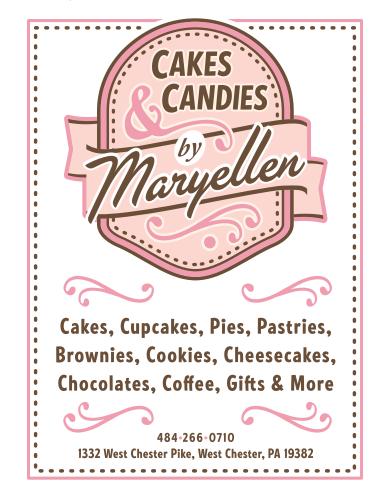
July 30-August 4

An old-fashioned fair with agricultural exhibits, rides and entertainment. Benefits the volunteer Goshen Fire Company. Gates open 6 pm. Fair Grounds, Park Ave., off West Chester Pk. 610-430-1554; GoshenCountryFair.org.

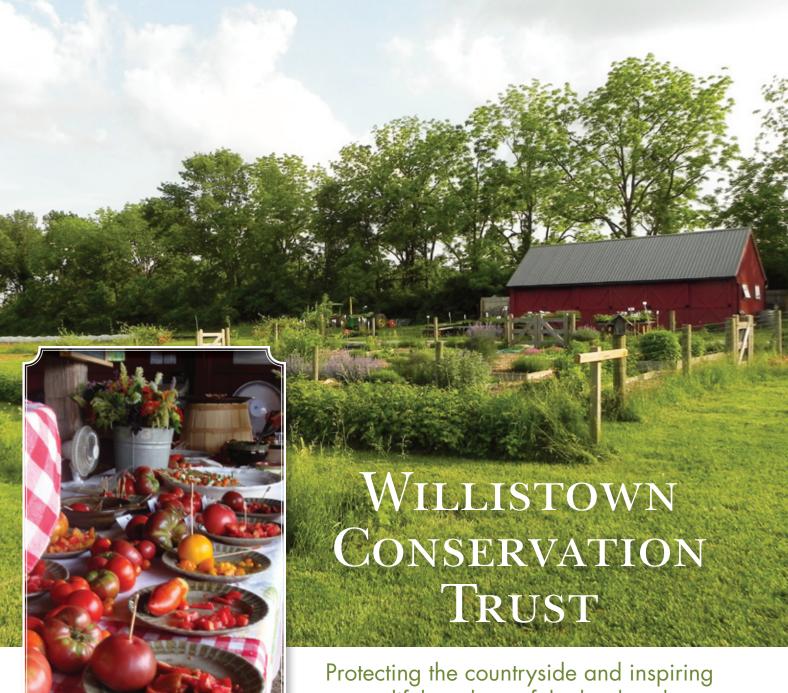
Touch A Truck Day

August 19

See different models of cars and trucks, such as dump trucks, cement mixers, tractors, fire trucks, new cars and everything in between. Chester County Government Services Complex, 601 Westtown Rd. Noon to 4. \$2 parking. 610-436-9010; West-Chester.com. ◆







a lifelong love of the land and the natural world

lump, juicy tomatoes warmed by the sun ... sweet, crisp carrots and red-ripe raspberries that melt on your tongue ... the flavors of a Pennsylvania summer. These are just some of the healthy crops growing at Rushton Farm in Willistown Township.

This small-scale, sustainably managed farm is located within the 80-acre Rushton Woods Preserve, near the intersection of Goshen and Delchester Roads, just 30 minutes from Center City Philadelphia. Both the farm and the Preserve are owned and operated by Willistown Conservation Trust, a local land trust that's been preserving open space in Chester and Delaware Counties for over 30 years.

Saving Land and Growing Food

While it may seem unusual to situate a farm in a nature preserve, that's just what the folks at Willistown Trust have done. In fact, they believe this could be the future of farming in our area, where the need for fresh, locallygrown food continues to grow as access to good, affordable farmland becomes scarce.

When Rushton Community Farm was established four years ago, it was something of an experiment. Could food be grown without damaging the Preserve's wild habitat? Could enough crops be produced on this small parcel of land without using chemicals? The answer is a resounding "Yes!"

For any visitor to the Preserve, it's immediately clear that nature has embraced this farm as enthusiastically as the Willistown community.

A Gem in the Countryside

What started as a 30-acre nature pre-curriculum and join in service projects.

serve expanded to an 80-acre iewel in the heart of the Willistown countryside. But Rushton Woods isn't your typical nature preserve. On any given day a visitor will find a variety of engaging activities underway.

In the spring and fall, the Trust's certified bird banders are out in the hedgerows gently capturing, weighing, measuring and releasing all

variety of migratory song birds. On cool autumn evenings, they turn their attention to tiny Saw Whet Owls, regular visitors to our backyards and fields that typically pass through unnoticed. If you're at Rushton, you may have a chance to see one up close and marvel at the gentle beauty of these pint-sized predators.

From March to November, the farm bustles with volunteers who help the farm staff prepare the fields, plant and harvest the crops. CSA members drop by to pick up weekly allotments of fresh produce, and school children visit to enrich their science

when guests savor a bounty of heirloom tomato varieties, fresh off the vine and at the peak of flavor. In October friends and families share picnic dinners around a roaring bonfire, take hayrides and carve pumpkins at the

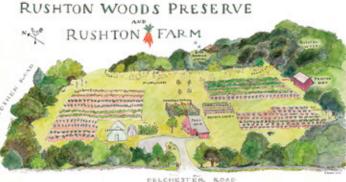
Trust's ever-popular "Harvest Celebration." And this year, the Trust is hosting "Cel-

> ebrating Rushton," a very special event on June 2nd to mark the completion of the Rushton Woods Preserve expansion. This fancy farm dinner will feature dancing, hayrides and a gourmet "Field to Table" dinner under the stars.

What does all this mean to a visitor to Rushton Woods Preserve? It means that whenever vou come, vou'll find something that captures your

imagination, heightens your senses, or connects you more closely to nature. ♦

Article by Elaine Gilmartin, Director of Development and Community Outreach, Jodi Spragins, Manager of Communications and Technology. For more information about Rushton Woods Preserve and Rushton Farm check out WCTrust.org.



Taking Time to Celebrate

Rushton Woods Preserve is open to the public and hosts special events that encourage exploring the farm and fields, sampling the bounty of the land, and simply enjoying being outdoors.

In July come sample the best of summer at Rushton Farm's annual "Tomato Tasting,"



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"JERSEY'S BEAUTY" (WAITE).

Heirloom Dahlias Make Nature Hum

William Woys Weaver

Old-time dahlias sing a song of their own.

ahlias have something over most other flowers: they are happy bloomers that fill the garden with a riot of unusual colors not easily replicated. Dahlias' shades and intensity change with the season, growing more and more intense as fall approaches.

Dahlias of the Past

that first attracted me to heirloom tired of market dahlias—especially the ones sold in pots—they

like the varieties appearing in old seed catalogs, I realized I'd have to breed them from scratch—not a simple plan.

that the extraordinary dahlias of only way to replace them is to go the past are mostly extinct. Only back to breeding look-alikes. a handful of varieties dating from before 1900 remain, like White I think it was the discovery of Aster (1879) and Union Jack those rare old Burne-Jones colors (1882). Many of the famous ones from the golden age of dahlia dahlias. Frankly, I'd been growing breeding in the 1920s and 1930s are gone forever.

The problem was, to grow dahlias together a fair representation of some of the classics, like Jersey's Beauty, the first of the large flowering types that appeared in 1923. Still, many pieces of the story and Most gardeners are not aware bloom varieties are missing and the

Heirloom Hobby

I've been doing just that for about eight years, mainly as a hobby to see what I can accomplish. My first success was Roughwood Jenny (2004), a cute little orange-yellow One of the largest collections pixie dahlia that came out of an resembled plastic even from three of those old dahlias was located heirloom called, appropriately feet. Today's trendiest varieties are in Germany, and unfortunately enough, Little Beeswings. Today this garish and unimaginative, a look during World War II that collec- hobby has become a serious passion. so gracelessly cookie-cutter perfect. tion was mostly destroyed. Col- I hope to find a way to give my Surely we can do better than this! lectors have managed to cobble dahlias—I call them "my girls"—

much broader exposure because, as landdecorative style that is unique.

While most Victorian dahlia admirers were locked into a mindset that considered pompom dahlias (small, perfectly round, ball-shaped) the only perfect form of the a rich array of dahlias. A particular success flower, there were many other shapes that don't look like dahlias at all. Dahlias may spectacular red Fire King. (Note: I prefix resemble large daisies, anemones, cosmos, all my dahlia creations with "Roughwood," water lilies, or even sunflowers—to which dahlias are related. And those dahlias are an live, since I don't want anyone to imagine unexplored area in creative breeding.

tures of the related flowers, like Roughwood it adds a splash of vibrant fire-engine red Janet (2005) and Roughwood Lisa (2006), to the garden, and since it is low growing, tall, long-stemmed prolific bloomers, that it looks good as a border plant, which was make eye-catching backdrops for other sorts Maule's original intent. of flowers down in front.

Catalogs of Inspiration

Of course, one needs inspiration to recreate the glorious blooms of history, so paging through old dahlia catalogs and garden books is one way to locate pictures of the extinct flowers. Unfortunately many descriptions focus only on the flower itself, so leaf type (and there are many, from feathery to almost oak-leaf form), habit (the way the plant grows, such as compact or loose), and coloring of the foliage are often altogether lacking.

These characteristics are quite important. For example, my Roughwood Miriam (2006), a deep orange pompom, is especially striking due to the dark, black-green leaves. For this dahlia, foliage frames the flower to better accent it.

One must have an eye for these aesthetics, especially for subtle Victorian color tones, which are richer and more complex than what we see in dahlias today. This biodiversity calls to mind one of my dahlias that not only has violet tubers but also leaf stems that are purple. Striking even without flowers!

Philadelphia Dahlias

Nineteenth-century Philadelphia seedsmen William Henry Maule and Henry H. Dreer were well known locally for their many ancestors and cousins will show up extensive dahlia breeding and long lists in the seeds. of available varieties, many from Europe. Maule introduced a now-extinct dahlia

of fragrance is why dahlias were equated by scape accents, the Victorian types present a Victorian poets with "heartless beauty" or

Both Maule and Dreer maintained dahlia farms in New Jersey and Delaware, and supplied Chester County gardens with of mine is to have recreated Maule's 1894 the Victorian name of the property where I that this Fire King is the long-lost genetic Some of my re-creations display the fea- original.) The flower is well named because



The trick to recreating these old dahlias is in the seeds. Dahlia seeds do not always grow true because open-pollination of the flowers creates crossing with other dahlias in the garden. And, even when a variety is isolated so it does not cross, that variety may have been perpetuated by cloning (replication of the tubers). Consequently,

How I "find" lost varieties is somewhat like taking the idea of Jurassic Park called Nymphaea (resembling a water and applying it to flowers. Out of Kaiser lily, hence the classical name), which was Wilhelm, an 1893 rare German dahlia, I unique because it also had an extraordinary managed to isolate several pompoms of perfume. Dahlia fact: Most blooms have similar size and shape. My own Roughno scent, at least not to humans. This lack wood Emperor, Roughwood Empress, and

Roughwood Sulphurea came out of seed produced by crossing Kaiser Wilhelm with

And then out of Roughwood Empress, which is an extraordinary glowing pink, I recently created Roughwood Lydia, a dahlia that's one of the richest salmon pinks around, with a flower so full it resembles an old French rose. One of my latest goals is to recreate some of the 1920s classics bred by New York judge Joseph T. Marean, because most of his spectacular, award-winning dahlias are now lost.

So every year I do a little breeding. In early spring I plant the seeds and wait with bated breath as the seedlings grow, then bloom in summer. Only then do I know what I have. Of course there are lots of "dogs" that are pulled up immediately because the flowers are not best of breed. But, when I find a good one, the tuber is carefully packed away for winter storage, a name and number entered into the computerized list for the dahlia collection, and I begin to grow the flower every year.

Even after this selection process, sometimes the dahlia does not have fixed traits, or something may change in a year or two. For that reason, it's important to grow the flowers for about five years to determine that the good characteristics observed the first year repeat themselves again and again.

Yes, this is a slow process and a good reason dahlia breeders need to live a long time so all these experiments can produce positive results.

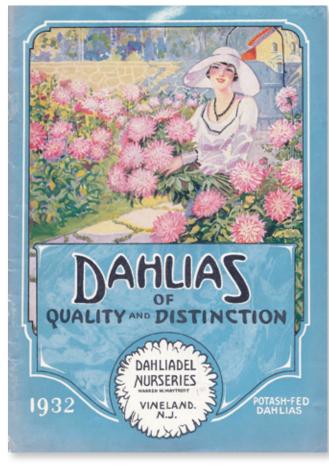
Song of the Dahlias

Regardless, there's something very cheering about breeding dahlias. They seem like such happy children, and the bees and butterflies treat them like candy. A garden full of dahlias is indeed a garden full of moving color. The whole symphony of Nature comes together in one place. Call it Zen of the soil, call it what you will, but old-time dahlias sing a song all their own, and if you listen closely, you may even get into the rhythm of the melody.

William Woys Weaver, a food historian and author of 15 books on culinary history, is Contributing Editor for Mother Earth News and maintains the Roughwood Seed Collection of over 4,000 heirloom food plants. His book Heirloom Vegetable Gardening is considered a classic on the subject.

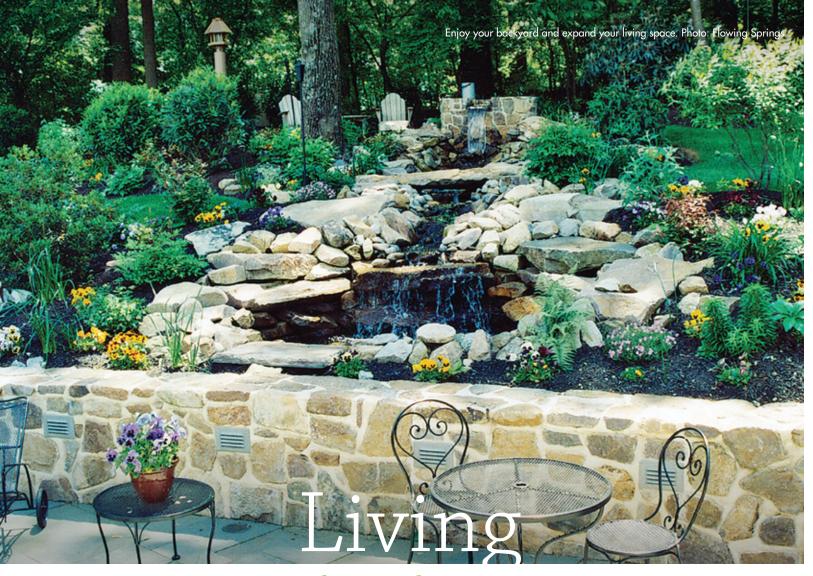








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Outside the House

George Fitzpatrick

Upgrading your outdoor living space for decks, patios, gardens and pools makes for a more enjoyable summer, plus a boost in your home's value.

nce upon a time, "outdoor living" conjured Live on Decks and Patios up images of tents, campfires and possibly unwelcomed critters. But innovations in landscaping as well as outdoor construction and furniture design have given that phrase new meaning. Nowadays, when you create a well designed, inviting space, living outside the house feels more of a luxury vacation than roughing it adventure.

Even better, the improvements you make just might boost your home's value. Win-win, anyone?

Decks and patios increase your entertaining space while giving you a high return on your investment. Kit Anstey, a real estate sales agent at Prudential, Fox and Roach, has seen some homeowners recoup 75-85% of the deck's cost when they sell their homes.

What's more, the latest deck technology means it's easy to construct a structure that's attractive and lowmaintenance. Ken LaRosa, manager of Waterloo Gardens' landscape division, notes that many composite



decking materials mimic the beauty of natural wood while freeing homeowners from the drudgery of repeated painting, staining and sealing.

your home's outside while upping its value. Flagstone and other natural stones remain popular, says LaRosa. However, choices abound as paving stones from companies such as E.P. Henry and Techo-bloc just keep getting better in terms of durability and appearance.

Stones alone, of course, do not a patio

refrigerators and woks. If a large project is not in your budget, you can always install a gas hookup for a portable gas grill. That way, you won't ever have to worry about Patios, too, enhance your enjoyment of running out of propane in the middle of flipping burgers.

> Two other improvements to consider: If you often find yourself with more guests than chairs, a sitting wall may be the solution. It not only defines your patio space but also provides lots of extra seating.

For allowing the party to continue even when the rain falls, awnings can't be topped.

permanent structures—they are attached to your house-are sturdy enough to support lights and fans, bringing inside amenities into plein air.

Landscaping Outdoor Space

When it comes to trees, shrubs and flowers, landscapers and realtors agree: keep it simple. "Less is more," explains Ken LaRosa. "People want year-round color and





texture, and they want maintenancefree." Kit Anstey agrees, pointing out that potential buyers shy away from high-maintenance properties. Some mulched beds and basic plantings go far in creating curb appeal.

Designing a garden long on beauty and short on work takes some forethought. "Proper planting leads to lower maintenance," explains Vince Del Vacchio, owner of Del Vacchio Landscape and Garden something in the ground, find out how much space, sun and water it needs; how often it requires fertilizing; what it looks like in all seasons and of course, whether it's an annual or perennial.

gardens because perennials have a threeplus year life cycle, which translates to less planting for the homeowner. Ken La Rosa touts the benefits of native plants. These plants have grown in an area for a long time and have acclimated to the area's soil and weather conditions. The upshot: they're usually hardier than non-natives and require less work on the homeowner's part. Some of La Rosa's favorites: mountain laurel, winterberry, witch hazel and ferns.

When planning your garden, take fauna—especially deer—into account. Choose plants that don't entice fourlegged snackers or install technology such as sensors and rotating sprays to deter the persistent creatures.

Growing food for yourself, however, is a different story. Nothing matches the pleasure you'll experience when biting into a tomato from your own vegetable garden. And to keep plants easy to reach and care for, consider installing raised beds.

Lighting and Water Features

Proper lighting plays an important role in creating an inviting outdoor space. In dark, shady areas, Ken LaRosa suggests raising the tree canopy (cutting the lower branches) and thinning branches all over. He's also a fan of nightscaping, which might include silhouetting a tree against a wall or uplighting its branches as well Center in West Chester. Before putting as illuminating ponds, swimming pools and other water features.

Ponds can elevate your property's wow factor while raising its value as long as they require little upkeep. As with gardens, proper design and construction are key, says Vince Many gardeners today prefer perennial Del Vacchio. And if you plan to stock the pond, seek an expert's advice about the type and ideal number of fish: an explosion in the piscine population can quickly cause a major headache for a homeowner!

> Fountains also make the list of popular water features. You can even find pondless versions with underground water basins.

This summer, turn your outdoor space into a place for play, relaxation and entertaining. The payoff will be worth itnow and later.

What's New on the Patio?

oieces Bob Kressler, Waterloo Gar-

Adjustable Chairs: Paired with

Sofas and Loveseats: These curved,

Fire table: Fire tables create warmth

Tables of cast-aluminum or resin:





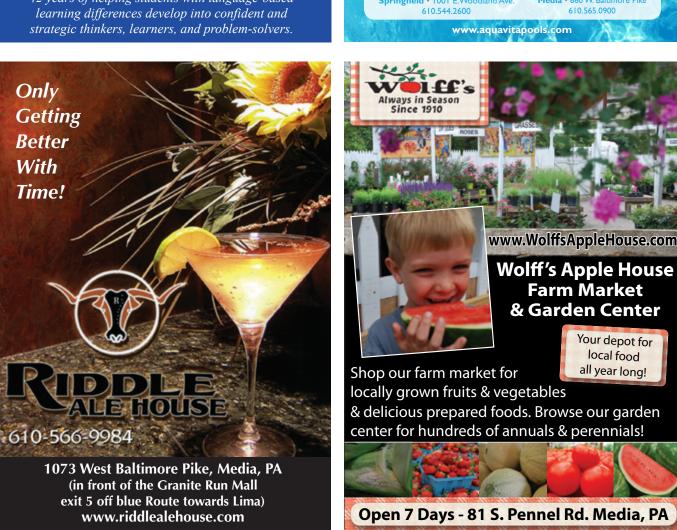


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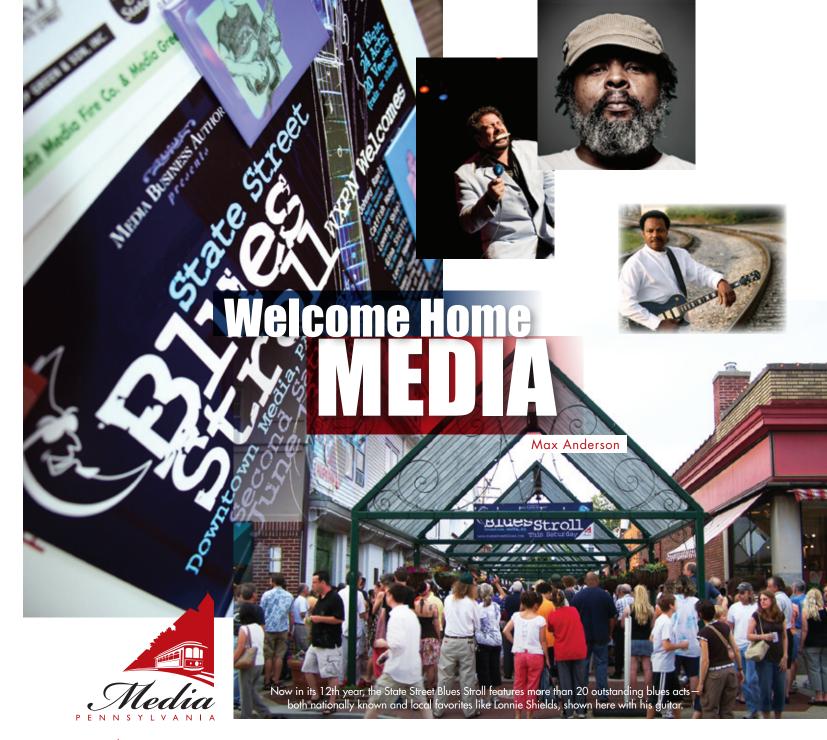






Sales





classic town, Media has been named one of the best places to raise a family and is known as "everybody's home town." Part of what creates that reputation is the buzz of events that fill the summer and draw out residents and draw in visitors.

From a parade of over 300 lovingly restored and maintained classic cars to an arts fair with a local painter's rendering of a lush landscape. From a walk amidst aromas of farm-fresh produce and homemade muffins to an evening tasting exotic cuisines served by Media restaurants. From a 5-mile run to rock your system to a cool night of sweet soothing blues. It's all there in Media this summer. See for yourself!

12th Annual State Street Blues Stroll

Filling a top spot on the summer calendar, The Blues Stroll mixes nationally and locally known performers. Hosted by WXPN and sponsored by the Media Business Authority, the State Street Blues Stroll will feature more than 20 outstanding blues acts in 19 indoor venues and two outdoor stages.

They'll be celebrating the 100th birthday of legendary songwriter, vocalist, and guitarist, Eddie "Son" House. Get a seat at the Media Theatre Main Stage to hear Alvin Youngblood-Hart and his band Muscle Theory. Other featured performers include Media's own Lonnie Shields and Leroy Hawkes and the Hip-

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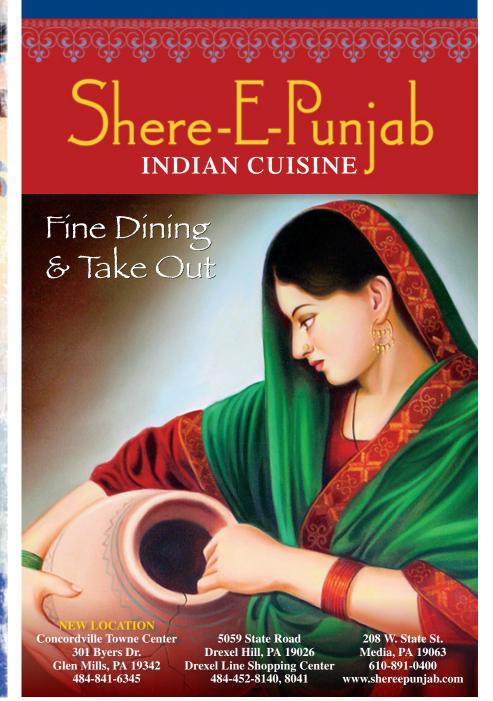
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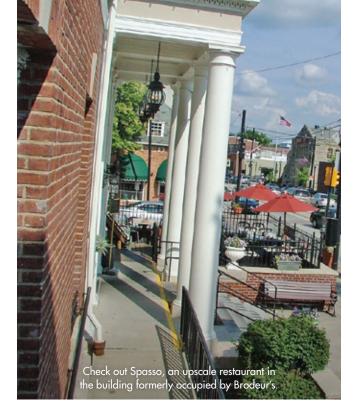
Media Trivia

Need some Media facts to sprinkle in your conversation? Brush up with our trivia quiz. Answers below. 1. In the latter half of the _____ century, Media was a popular vacation spot for well-to-do Philadelphians, due to the 50+ trains that passed through daily and connected Philadelphia to Baltimore and Washington.

- 2. Many towns claim to be Rock & Roll's birthplace, including Media, where in 1951 local record producer David Miller persuaded Bill Haley and his group, the Saddlemen, to record the first ever Rock
- 3. Media is the birthplace of Saint Joseph's University's head basketball coach
- 4. Media is the last suburban town in America with a trolley running from a major metropolitan city, Philadelphia, down the middle of its main street, Street.
- 5. Despite the big claim of being "America's Home Town," Media measures only $_$

1. 19th; 2. "Rocket 88"; 3. Phil Martelli; 4. State; 5. 0.8







Media's dining scene is a major attraction with new restaurants opening and the always-popular Wednesday night tradition of "Dining Under the Stars."

notics, Georgie Bonds, Steve Guyger & The Excellos, Mikey Jr. & Stone Cold Blues, and others. And more.

Feel the beat. Rain or shine. Saturday, June 9. 610-566-5039; StateStreetBlues.com.

Dining Under the Stars

Wednesday nights in the warm months, State Street is closed to traffic, open to pedestrians, browsers, strollers and, of course, diners. Restaurant row in Media is a lively venue as its many restaurants set up tables on State Street so diners enjoy the evening of al fresco

fun. New restaurants have been added to the already full menu, enhancing the international ambience.

Desert Rose dazzles with a Mediterranean menu. Its hummus is heavenly. And pita bread, freshly baked on the premises, is perfection. Try the wraps shawarma, falafel—outstanding and big enough for two!

With a sister location in Center City, **Spazzo** is another appetizing addition, taking over the space vacated by Brodeur's, with a tastefully redone interior. The crabcakes are exceptional. And their

pasta dishes and sauces...delicious! Ah, Italian comfort food.

Not their first year, but still serving up exotic food and aromas: Shere-E-Punjab. Serving kebabs, naan, tandoori, tikka, vindaloo, biryani...Turbans optional. Oh, so good! In Media, Drexel Hill and Glen Mills.

Other restaurants—Riddle Ale House, Picasso's, Lotus Farm to Table—return for encore performances. Savor the music and the moonlight. Wednesdays, 5 to 10 p.m., until autumn. 610-566-5039; Visit-MediaPA.com/DiningUnderTheStars.





33rd Annual 5-Mile Race

Stretch your muscles. Tighten your laces. Hydrate. The race starts at 7 p.m.—6 p.m. for the kids' run-but you'll want to get to Veterans Square early anyway. Expect about 1400 fellow runners. Better do some light training. Twice around the borough. Or come and just cheer them on. T-shirts for all runners. Friday, June 15. 610-566-5210; Media5MileRace.com.

Bastille Day

The link between 18th-Century Paris and 21st-Century Media is, let's say, attenuated. But, Bastille Day has become special in Media anyway. It breaks up the summer, supplying an excuse for a party and reminding us of our French connection. Celebrate the storming of the Bastille and the separation of the U.S. from England. Dance to LeRoy Thomas and the Zydeco Road Runnners. Ride carriages, watch street theater, listen to a strolling accordionist! And more. July 14. 610-566-5039; MediaArtsCouncil.org/ Bastille-Day.

Annual Downtown Car Show

State Street will look like a movie set, sporting 300 antique cars. Hot colors. Shiny metal. Chrome galore. They sputter and roar. The number is up from 250 last

year; 200 the year before. Definitely a good trend! Sunday, July 15. 610-566-5039; Rain date July 22. VisitMediaPA.com.

Farmers Market

Herrcastle and Hillside Farms of Media are among those supplying fresh vegetables and greens. There are meats and artisanal cheeses from Birchrunville Hills. Melvin Stolzfus from Lancaster supplies eggs and sheep cheese. Local sausages come from Wilmington's Maiale Deli and Salumeria. Bakers—Great Harvest, A Sweet Mess, My House—offer fresh bread, pie, cakes and other baked goods. Burlap & Bean brews coffee. Stargazer's has wine. And we're sure there's something we've forgotten to mention. It's the Media Farmers Market. Media Theatre parking lot, State & Gayley Streets. Thursdays, 3 to 7 p.m. 610-566-5039; Media FarmersMarket.com.

DelCo Idol

Who has the best voice? Can carry a tune? Sparkles with star-power? "Delco Idol" (for ages 14-24) and "Delco Idol, Jr." (for ages 7-13) competitions will decide this summer. Held at **Media Theatre**, starting with 35 area contestants chosen to audition, the competitions continue until only 10 remain in each group. Prizes include cash, media exposure and a boost to a youthful career! FOX-TV'S Sue Serio emcees the "Delco Idol" contest. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.

Second Saturdays

Lots of choices for First Fridays, but Media's the choice for the Second Saturday of the month for art strolls, street festivals, live music, after-hours shopping, and more. See what's new at **Earth & State** and what's old (or mid-century old) at

Reconsidered Home. Browse fair trade gifts at Ten Thousand Villages. Get healthy at Reiki Healing. Try acupunc-

ture, chakra balancing or a chair massage. MediaArtsCouncil.org/Second-Saturdays.

SATURDAY

MEDIA, PA

Fine Arts & Crafts Festival

Mark your calendar for the 10th Annual Community Arts Council's Fine Arts and Crafts Festival. The juried event features original works in drawing and pastels, graphics and printmaking, oil and acrylic, watercolor, mixed media, ceramics, glass, sculpture, fibers, wood, jewelry and metal, and photography. It's not until fall, but good things are worth the wait! Saturday, September 22. 610-566-1713; Community-ArtsCenter.org. ♦



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Sun., July 15, 11am-4pm

Car Show



Sat., Sept. 22, noon-9pm





of a manor house and hints of an Italian villa's interior, all on four lush acres in Radnor Hunt country.

Questo sol' m'arde.... E questo m'innamora. This alone is my burning passion This is my love.

above murals depicting an Italian city on a hill capture the spirit of this distinctive home and its owners. That so much attention was paid to the powder of the owners. Relying on experts, architects, historic room is clear evidence of the care taken on every aspect books, and their own voracious curiosity and love of of this very special home. The owners even had the artist who painted the mural return to add a church, because craftsmen themselves, the owners created an expression every Italian city *must* have a church. Here, no project is complete until it is perfect.

Many custom homes are labors of love, but few display the broad range of influences, depth of research, and dedication to works of local artisans seen here.

hese hand-painted words on custom molding Influenced by English country home design, Gothic architectural details, and Arts and Crafts aesthetics, this home is a showcase for the wide-ranging explorations expert craftsmanship, as well as friendships with the of their burning passion for their home.

> What began as a classic Colonial house has been lovingly transformed into a work of art itself, a masterful blend of the finest materials, creating a home that is both functional and unique, with a story behind every detail.

Enter Another Time

As you approach the home, a flagstone walk brings you to a custom front door and a step back in time to when homes were crafted by hand—foreshadowing what lies inside. The trim work design on the front porch eaves, the hand-carved door with cathedral arches—inches thick and with a custom wrought iron design from a traditional family crest—are details that display craftsmanship of an ancestral home, not one fewer than 40 years old.

This five-bedroom, five-plus-bath home, adjacent four-bay garage with spacious guest cottage above, along with pool, tennis court and outdoor fountain amidst landscaped grounds is located in an area protected by conservation easements, yet is just minutes from the Paoli train station, Newtown Square and more.

The Main House

Light shines into the two-story Foyer with barrel ceiling through a round "rose" window with triple trefoil design (three-lobed leaf symbol from Gothic architecture). The Foyer's limestone floor is framed with pieces of Pallisandro marble and wainscoting of





The Sunroom's glass doors lead to a private garden with fountain.

carved mantle and more and flows seemlessly into the Sunroom

the second floor boasts a unique handcarved railing peaked like a cathedral arch.

From the Foyer, enter the two-story Great Room, anchored by a fireplace with walnut hand-carved mantle and marble surround—the marble containing pieces of gold to reflect light from tall windows across the room. Overlooking the Great Room is a Library Loft, with ample builtin shelving for your collections, accessed though the second floor.

At the opposite end of the Great Room is the Sunroom, where the owners' family often gathers around the piano. A cathedral ceiling with exposed beams provides perfect acoustics, and you'll find everyone performing from the youngest to the oldest. Limestone floors match the Foyer and glass doors lead to a private freezer, granite countertops and more.

quarter-sawn oak. The curved staircase to garden with fountain, where the afternoon sun reflects off the figure as she drinks in the spray.

> The first detail to catch your eye in the Family Room is a decorated ceiling. You'll also find a gas fireplace, built-in shelves and cabinets, and natural light from a bay window and French doors to the patio that add warmth to the room. A support beam on the way to Breakfast Room was artfully hidden with hand carved wood details.

> With its leaded glass bay window and custom stained glass skylight catching rays of the afternoon sun, the Breakfast Room draws you in to enjoy the view. Two sets of French doors lead to the patio and to a breezeway to the Guest Cottage.

> A treat for any gourmet cook, the kitchen has custom cabinets, Sub-Zero fridge and

Also on the main floor is the formal Dining Room, enlarged in the renovations. Here, bay windows have a Pallisandro marble ledge, and pocket doors lead to the back Hall & Kitchen area. A first floor Office with built-in desks and well-designed Laundry Room round out this floor.

Much More

Truly a home that must be seen to be appreciated, this Radnor Hunt retreat has hand-forged sconces, pear-wood vanities and even more artful details in its second floor bedrooms and lower level den, wet bar and gym. A treasure of a home to be sure. •

This unique Willistown property is offered by Prudential Fox & Roach/Devon/Fine Homes, 610-651-2700. For information and price, contact Missy Schwartz, 610-888-3349.



The spacious, sun-filled Family Room is accented with a decorated ceiling and a hand-carved support beam, leading to the Breakfast Room.

A custom stained glass skylight creates magical patterns in the Breakfast Room as the sun's afternoon rays flood through.

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Wines to pair with barbeque

f the many things that mark the arrival of summer, perhaps my favorite is the smell of someone's barbeque. Though some of us grill year round, others wait until that perfect early summer night to dust off the barbeque and fire it up. The smell wafting from an old-school barbeque is unlike any other.

Unfortunately for delicate foods, this smell is also overpowering and palate crushing, so we now have the modern grill. No more matches and coals, grills turn on with the flip of a switch and cook delicate proteins and complex foods from pizza, quesadillas to stews and sauces. You can cook your entire meal outside. All you need from the kitchen is the perfect bottle of wine.

WHITE FOR GRILLING

Classic barbeque is challenging for wine pairing because of the intensity of flavor. But before we talk barbeque wines, let's consider lighter style wines for grill aficionados.

Shellfish is so much fun to grill. Shrimp and scallops are the easiest, especially in a fish basket or on skewers. Just a little lemon and butter, five minutes on the grill, garden-fresh vegetables, and you have a perfect summer salad.

More adventurous? Try fish quesadillas (any light white fish or shellfish) with grilled tomato, pineapple and avocado. What wine? Try Domaine Guillaman 2011 Cotes de Gascogne (\$9.99), a French blend of Ugni Blanc and Colombard.

A perfect barbeque wine because of its intense flavor, Domaine Guillaman's acidity matches grilled or fresh vegetables, and the crisp fruit balance pairs beautifully with light fish or poultry, especially with lemon, fruit or garlic. An easy wine for light food, or for simply sitting in the sun.

ROSÉ FOR THE OCCASION

Not ready for white? Then there's always rosé. Rosé wines and barbeque make a perfect pairing. Enjoy red grapes, heavier food with spice, yet still have a chill on the wine.

If you're a bacon lover, then rosé is definitely for you. Wrap an asparagus spear or scallop with bacon, throw it on the grill, and pour a glass of pink. Rosé is the choice for spice-rubbed pork tenderloin, blackened salmon or tuna steak, or a classic burger.

From the many rosé options, stick with those made from red grapes and start with the south of France, the motherland of good rosé. Try Le Cirque (Languedoc \$15.99), a blend of the southern Rhone varietals, grenache predominately, with sweet strawberry in the front and pepper in the back. You can pair with this wine, with its off-dry finish, with more intense flavors. Le Cirque is a superb choice for classic barbequed chicken, as even bold barbeque sauce won't drown out the wine's flavor.

MAKE IT MALBEC FOR RED MEAT

There's nothing better than classic barbeque of a succulent piece of beef, lamb or even buffalo with perfect scorch marks crisscrossing the beautiful brown of your favorite protein. Whatever you choose, you need a big,

bold red to match these meats. In a steak house, red meats are usually soaked in butter of some sort, calling for a tannic, big wine like cabernet or merlot.

But in your backyard, you can skip the butter and accentuate the flavor of the meat, making Malbec the perfect choice. This Argentinian beauty was created with Argentinian

Altos las Hormigas (\$10.99) is a must-try. Malbec has a huge mouth feel, meaning it lasts a long time to match up with robust flavors, and has ripe berry in the front and a dry finish anything from coffee to chocolate to spice. This wine's beauty is that you're not bogged down in tannins as with other full-bodied wines. So Malbec is also good sipping on a summer night.

RED WITH RIBS

We can't talk barbeque without talking ribs, so glorious on the grill because of the fat/meat ratio. The meat picks up the flavors and the fat keeps the meat from drying out. Whether you prefer apple smoked, cumin dusted, classic barbeque, blueberry glazed, or Thai style, there's only one rule: cook them low and slow. You can rub them with spices, leave them plain, cook them over cedar chips, or marinade them for 24 hours, but ribs just need time. Cook them too fast over too much heat, and they're dry and rubbery and the beauty of the rib is ruined.

With ribs, try a Washington state red, Hedges CMS (\$17.99), a blend of cabernet, merlot and syrah, each of which complements ribs in a different way. The syrah's pepper accentuates the pepper you rub on the rack, the cabernet's tannin hangs on to the fattiness, and the merlot brings beautiful dried fruit and balance.

Pairing this wine with a rack of ribs is what signals the beginning of barbeque season in my house. Let it do the same for you! ♦

Collier's of Centreville invites you to join them June 5th for a Champagne class. Learn about the process of making true Champagne and taste some phenomenal examples. Don't forget about in-store tastings on Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m. Visit ColliersWine.com for the fall classes.



Summertime, and the dining is easy, ... so long as it's al fresco! Patios, terraces and roof-top decks beckon us to sample seasonal menus and sip cool drinks. Gather friends and family and head out to the great restaurants in our area to share a meal outdoors, weather permitting, of course. And if you share our pleasure in al fresco dining, you'll want to keep this restaurant guide handy!

Pennsylvania

Avondale

The Farmhouse at Loch Nairn Golf Club

514 McCue Rd.

610-268-2235; InGolf.com

Outdoor dining overlooking Loch Nairn Golf Course. *When:* Thurs-Sat, spring and summer. *Prices:* lunch, \$8-\$20; dinner, \$12-\$35. *Daily specials. Recommendations:* some of the best crab cakes anywhere and a wonderful selection of wines.



The Greathouse at Loch Nairn Golf Club

514 McCue Rd.

610-268-2235; InGolf.com

More outdoor dining overlooking Loch Nairn Golf Course. *When:* daily, spring through fall. *Prices:* lunch, \$8-\$12; dinner, \$10-\$24. *Daily specials. Recommendations:* Ladies' Night on Tuesdays and Sunday brunch.

The Grille & Pub at Hartefeld

1 Hartefeld Dr.

610-268-8800; Hartefeld.com

Relax under an umbrella with a cocktail or meal on the patio overlooking the golf course as the sun begins to set. When: daily for lunch and dinner. Prices: lunch and dinner, \$7-\$29. Daily specials: Chef-attended Pasta Bar on Tues, Half-Price Wine on Wed, Deck Parties on Thurs. Happy Hour: every day, 5 to 7 pm. Entertainment: live music Thurs to Sat. Recommendations: appetizers and cocktails on the deck.

BERWYN

Aneu Bistro & Wine Bar

575 Lancaster Ave.

610-251-9600: AneuBistro.com

Cozy shaded patio setting with lots of plants and white tablecloths. *When:* daily for lunch and dinner, May-Oct. *Prices:* lunch, \$9-\$20;

dinner, \$16-\$35. Daily Specials. Entertainment: live music Thursday nights. Recommendations: the Hawaiian butterfish, grilled butterfish over a citrus and crab risotto with mango salsa. This is a great spot for a business lunch or drinks after work. BYO (corkage fee).

Nectar

1091 Lancaster Ave.

610-725-9000; TasteNectar.com

Beautiful outdoor deck area overlooking an Asian garden. *When:* lunch Mon-Fri, dinner daily, May-Nov. *Prices:* lunch, \$10-\$15; dinner, \$30-\$40. *Daily specials:* drink specials change nightly.

BIRCHRUNVILLE

Birchrunville Store Cafe 1403 Hollow Rd.

610-827-9002; BirchrunvilleStoreCafe.com

Fine contemporary French/Italian cuisine is served al fresco at this charming restaurant located in the heart of historic Birchrunville. *When:* Wed-Sat, May-Oct. *Prices:* \$35-\$40. *Daily specials:* menu changes daily. BYO. No credit cards.

CHADDS FORD

Firebirds Wood Fired Grill

Garnet Valley Plaza Center



91 Wilmington-West Chester Pk. 484-785-6880; FirebirdsRestaurants.com See listing under Collegeville.

The Gables at Chadds Ford

423 Baltimore Pk. 610-388-7700

TheGablesAtChaddsFord.com

Enjoy great local cuisine and a cocktail under the wisteria, listening to a soothing waterfall. Seating is on the patio, nestled within a recreated barn foundation. *When:* Tues-Sun, for lunch and dinner, brunch, Sun. *Prices:* lunch, \$9-\$15, dinner, \$15-\$30. *Specials:* "Wine Down Wednesdays" 25% off all bottles of wine. *Recommendations:* perfect for Sunday brunch.

Collegeville

Firebirds Wood Fired Grill

Providence Town Center, 51 Town Center Dr. 484-902-1850; FirebirdsRestaurants.com

Relax on their beautifully landscaped patio while enjoying wood grilled specialties under oversized umbrellas. When: Sun-Thurs, 11 am to 10 pm; Sat-Sun, 11 to 11, year-round. Prices: lunch, \$7-\$15; dinner, \$13-\$24. Specials: drink specials and ½ price Firebar appetizers. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, 5 to 7. Recommendations: the Double Black Diamond Martini has been the signature cocktail since 2000. The best steak for the best price in town.

Concordville

Concordville Inn

Rt. 322 & US Rt. 1

610-459-2230; Concordville.com

Outdoor dining on a rooftop terrace at tables with umbrellas. *When:* lunch and dinner, Apr-Sept. *Prices:* lunch, \$9-\$16; dinner, \$15-\$30. *Daily specials. Happy Hour:* Mon-Fri, 5 to 6, hot hors d'oeuvres, 2 bars, big screen TVs. *Recommendations:* family nights on Wednesday.

Downingtown

Firecreek Restaurant & Bar

20 E. Lancaster Ave.

610-269-6000; Firecreek-Restaurant.com

Casual outdoor dining on a comfortable deck overlooking the Brandywine River. This new American eatery is housed in a converted paper mill. When: lunch and dinner Mon-Sun and Sun Brunch. Entertainment: live jazz, Thursday and Sunday.

Exton

Brickside Grille

Eagleview Town Center, 540 Wellington Sq. 610-321-1600; BricksideGrille.com

Dining on the patio overlooking a landscaped courtyard and garden. *When:* schedule varies. *Prices:* lunch, \$5-\$9; dinner, \$14-\$23. *Daily specials. Happy Hour. Entertainment:* live music in the park on Tues. *Recommendations:* beers are seasonal; wines are \$10 over cost per bottle.

Ship Inn

693 E. Lincoln Hwy. 610-363-7200; ShipInn.net

Dining in a lovely garden setting, plus indoor dining in beautifully appointed rooms. When: daily, year-round. Prices: lunch, \$7-\$15; dinner, \$8-\$29. Daily Specials. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, 4 to 6. Entertainment. Recommendations: seasonal offerings.

Vickers Restaurant

192 E. Welsh Pool Rd.

610-363-7998; VickersRestaurant.com

Enjoy cocktails, lunch, dinner or a light-fare menu on a beautiful brick patio in a garden setting. When: Mon-Sat, spring and summer. Prices: lunch, \$8-\$12; dinner, \$25-\$35. Daily Specials. Happy Hour: 4:30 to 6:30, \$3 beer, \$4 craft beer, \$5 wines/mixed drinks, bar menu. Entertainment: Fri-Sat. Recommendations: vintage cocktails, bistro menu, drink specials.

GLEN MILLS

Shere-E-Punjab

Concordville Towne Center, 301 Byers Dr. 484-841-6345; ShereEPunjab.com

Visit their website for more information.



KENNETT SQUARE

Floga Bistro

826 E. Baltimore Pk.

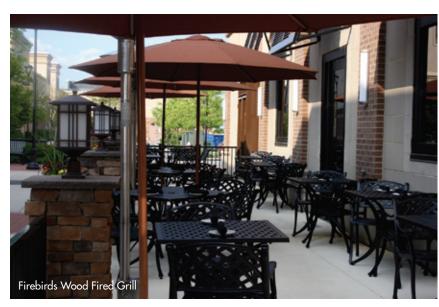
610-444-6500; FlogaBistro.com

Casually sophisticated ambiance with bistro tables outside, weather permitting. When: May-Oct. Prices: lunch, \$8-\$12; dinner \$8-\$21. Specials: daily for lunch and dinner; Mon-Thurs, 3-course dinner \$18. Recommendations: plan a time to relax, enjoy dinner and watch Longwood Garden's fireworks.

Half Moon Restaurant & Saloon 108 W. State St.

610-444-7232; HalfMoonRestaurant.com

All season indoor and outdoor rooftop dining and bar, three stories high, with sunsets and views of Kennett. 2011 *Travel*





Channel Food Paradise TV program feature for Wild Game. When: Mon-Sat, lunch and dinner. Prices: lunch, \$7-\$12; dinner, \$15-\$26. Happy Hour: draft and cocktail discounts. Daily specials: wild game, seafood, pasta, soups. Entertainment: acoustic Gibraltar guitar, Saturday.

Kennett Square Inn

Broad & State Sts.

610-444-5687; KennettInn.com

Enjoy a full dinner or light fare and cocktails in the heart of downtown Kennett Square, with tablecloth dining on their intimate patio under a lighted awning. When: daily in season. Prices: lunch, \$10; dinner, \$23. Daily specials. Happy Hour: 5 to 7.

Sinclair's Sunrise Café & Tearoom 127 E. State St.

610-444-8141: SunriseCafe-Tearoom.com

Four tables outside in a sunny location. When: daily. Prices: \$3.50-\$13. Daily specials: full breakfast and lunch menu; baking done on premises, from scratch. Recommendations: Sunrise pancakes, New York Eggs, Quiche de Jour, house specialty iced teas.

Sovana Bistro

696 Unionville Rd

610-444-5600; SovanaBistro.com

Intimate al fresco dining on the deck and side patio, under cover and with heat when needed. When: daily, Apr-Sept. Prices: lunch, \$8-\$15; dinner, \$8-\$28.

KING OF PRUSSIA

Creed's Seafood & Steaks

499 N. Gulph Rd.

610-265-2550; CreedsKoP.com

A private garden setting with flagstone patio and music. When: Apr-Oct. Prices: lunch, \$15;

dinner, \$24. Daily specials. Happy Hour: Mon-

Fri, 4 to 6 with H-price oysters and appetizers

Fri, until 11. Entertainment: Fri-Sat evening. LANCASTER

931 Harrisburg Pk. 717-397-2790: GibraltarGrille.com

Patio seating for up to 50. When: the patio is open seasonally for lunch, Mon-Fri, 11:30 to 2:30; dinner, daily, 5 to 10. Prices: lunch, \$7-\$15; dinner, \$17-\$35. Daily specials: menu changes weekly.

Olde Greenfield Inn

595 Greenfield Rd. 717-393-0668

TheGreenfieldRestaurant.com

Fine dining, with linen tablecloths, on a lovely tree-shaded brick patio with trellis. overhead fans and hanging baskets. When: daily for lunch and dinner, Apr-Oct. Prices: lunch, \$8-\$12; dinner, \$19-\$32. Daily specials: wild game on Wed. Happy Hour. Entertainment: jazz on Wed. Recommendations: seasonal dinner specials. Great for brunch or romantic dinner.

The Pressroom

26-28 W. King St.

717-399-5400: PressroomRestaurant.com

The setting for outdoor dining is simply stunning, with a view of the water fountain and falls in beautiful Steinman Park. When: Tues-Sun, May-Sept. Prices: dinner, \$10-\$35. Daily specials.

Symposium

125 S. Centerville Ave.

717-391-7656; SymposiumRestaurant.com

Seasonal outdoor dining in a partially enclosed setting with flowers and umbrellas.

When: May-Sept. Prices: lunch, from \$7; dinner, from \$9. Entertainment: inside, open mike, Mon, music Thurs-Sat. Happy hour: Mon-Sat, 5 to 7.

MALVERN

The Farmhouse Bistro at People's Light

39 Conestoga Rd.

610-647-8060; TheFarmhouseBistro.com

Dine next to the charming 18th-century farmhouse surrounded by award-winning perennial gardens. When: Apr-Oct, for dinner. Prices: \$15-\$30. Specials nightly. Entertainment: music through sound system. Recommendations: voted "Best Restaurant Venture" in 2012; located on the People's Light & Theatre campus.

The Desmond Hotel Sunset Grille One Liberty Blvd.

610-296-9800; DesmondGV.com

Outdoor dining at The Desmond in June, July and August. The Sunset Grille offers weekday lunches, dinner Wed-Sat. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, 5 to 7. Live Entertainment: Wed-Fri. Recommendations: weekday Happy Hour. Barbeque buffet lunch ever Friday.

The General Warren Inne 9 Village Way

610-296-3637; GeneralWarren.com

Enjoy American Continental cuisine on the Springhouse Terrace surrounded by the stone ruins of the 18th-century springhouse. When: Lower terrace available year-round, upper terrace, seasonally. Prices: lunch, \$10-\$16; dinner, \$24-\$39. 3-course prix fixe, Mon-Thurs, \$33. Recommendations: Tavern-Terrace Lite Fare Menu, BOGO free 5 to 6 pm, Mon-Sat.

MEDIA

See the Media article in this issue to find details about "Dining Under the Stars," Wednesday evenings in Media.

Azie Restaurant

217-219 W. State St.

610-566-4750; AzieRestaurant.com

Dine under the stars or bask in the sun with a seasonal cocktail on Azie's rooftop deck. When: May-Oct, for lunch and dinner. Prices: lunch, \$4-\$20; dinner, \$4-\$30. Daily specials: fresh, seasonal ingredients. Happy Hour: Mon-Thurs, sushi rolls starting at \$3 and drink specials Mon-Thurs.

Riddle Ale House

1073 W. Baltimore Pk. 610-566-9984; RiddleAleHouse.com



Seasonal outdoor dining on the patio with an awning serving casual American cuisine with Italian influence and specializing in hand carved roast beef sandwiches. Prices: lunch, \$7-\$15; dinner, \$13-\$25. Daily Specials. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, 4:30 to 6:30. Recommendations: summer salad menu and the drink menu. Great happy hour specials at the bar and the roast beef sandwich is famous.

MENDENHALL

Mendenhall Inn

Rt. 52 (Kennett Pk.)

610-388-1181; MendenhallInn.com

Fine dining in the peaceful courtyard at tables with umbrellas. When: daily, dinner and lunch on Sat, Apr-Sept. Prices: lunch, \$9-\$16; dinner, \$15-\$30; Sunday Brunch, \$27. Daily specials: Sun-Thurs, entreés start at \$15; Fri-Sat, "Wine and Dine" specials, \$20; chef's signature dishes: slow-roasted USDA Prime Rib or baked twin lobster tails. Entertainment: live music, Fri-Sun.

New Cumberland

Doc Holliday's Steakhouse & Saloon

110 Limekiln Rd.

717-920-3627; DHollidays.com

Seasonal outdoor dining daily, from 11 am to 10 pm. Prices: lunch, \$6-\$10; dinner, \$10-\$28. Daily specials. Happy hour: daily. Entertainment: Tues-Sat. Recommendations: Voted "Best" in 9 independent surveys; "Beef Backer Award" from National Cattleman's Beef Assoc. Also in Lancaster and Harrisburg.

NEWTOWN SQUARE

Teikoku Restaurant

5492 West Chester Pk.

610-644-8270: TeikokuRestaurant.com

Outdoor deck overlooking beautiful countryside. When: daily, May-Oct., for lunch and dinner, Prices: lunch, \$8-\$13; dinner, \$12-\$28. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, sushi rolls starting at \$3 and drink specials.

PHOENIXVILLE

Bistro on Bridge

212 Bridge St.

610-935-7141; BistroOnBridge.com

The perfect ambiance for any occasion, the outdoor dining atmosphere here is casual and contemporary, complete with cozy couches. When: Apr-Oct, Mon-Thurs, 4 to 11; Fri-Sun, 11 to 11. Prices: lunch, \$8-\$12; dinner, \$16-\$25. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, 5 to 7, ½-price appetizers, \$1 off drinks, \$1 oysters. Recommendations: Choose from one of their 8 flavors of Mojitos, promising to be the best

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant 130 E. Bridge St.

610-983-9333; IronHillBrewery.com

Comfortable outdoor seating on a raised patio in the heart of Phoenixville. Serving fresh handcrafted beers, creative New American Cuisine with friendly and attentive service. Daily from 11 am.

PINE FORGE

Gracie's 21st Century Café

Manatawny Rd.

610-323-4004; Gracies21StCentury.com

Fine dining under market umbrellas on the brick patio in a stunning setting of mature floral gardens and potted plants. When: May-Oct, with heaters. Prices: \$26-\$41. Daily specials: the menu is seasonal and changes weekly. Offering a selection of organics including meat and wildcaught fish. Happy hour: Fri, 5 to 6:30. Recom-

mendations: Metro Martini, made with freshlysqueezed ruby red grapefruit.

RADNOR

333 Belrose

333 Belrose La.

610-293-1000; 333Belrose.com

Al fresco dining on a lovely flagstone patio under a silver oak tree with flowers, umbrellas and candlelight. When: daily for lunch and dinner. Prices: lunch, \$11-\$18; dinner, \$18-\$32. Daily specials. Happy hour: Mon-Fri, 5 to 7. Half-price bar menu, Mon-Thurs, after 5. Recommendations: Java Pork; wide range of seafood dishes; menu changes quarterly.

St. Davids

Glenmorgan Bar & Grill

593 East Lancaster Ave.

610-341-3188; Glenmorgan.com

Choose a seat at the striking 28-seat oval bar on the outdoor patio. A contemporary and refreshing atmosphere perfect for enjoying classic cocktails and spirited American Cuisine. When: daily, May-Sept. Prices: lunch, \$8-\$16; dinner, \$8-\$32. Daily specials: Saturday night Prime Rib Dinner Special. Happy Hour: Thurs, 5 to 7. Recommendations: White Peach Margarita and Basil Berry Smash. Voted Best Happy Hour.

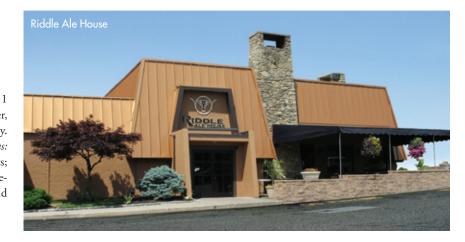
STRASBURG

Iron Horse Inn

135 E. Main St.

717-687-6362; IronHorsePA.com

Enjoy the tranquility of outdoor dining on their recently restored turn-of-the-century Victorian wrap-around porch. When: Wed-Mon (closed Tues.), Apr-Oct. Prices: lunch, \$5-\$12; dinner, \$9-\$30. Daily specials: menu changes weekly, offering a broad selection. Recommendations: a wide selection of international wines and beers; wines from Twin Brook Winery and local craft beers.



VILLANOVA

Azie On Main

789 E. Lancaster Ave. 610-527-5700; AzieOnMain.com

Dine al fresco or sip on sumptuous cocktails on Azie On Main's bamboo lined patio When: May-Oct for lunch and dinner. Prices: lunch, \$4-\$20; dinner, \$4-\$30. Daily specials. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri., sushi rolls starting at \$3 and drink specials.

WAYNE

Paramour

139 E. Lancaster Ave. 610-977-0600; ParamourWayne.com

Paramour offers a beautiful outdoor veranda for for guests to dine. When: daily, May-Sept. Prices: lunch, \$8-\$24; dinner, \$15-\$40. Daily specials: Simply Sunday, 4-course dinner for \$39; Business Express lunch, 3 courses, \$17. Recommendations: The Salted Plum Martini. Come early to get a seat on the veranda.

Winberie Restaurant & Bar

1164 Valley Forge Rd. 610-293-9333

Serving the Main Line for over 20 years. Around 30 people can enjoy lunch or dinner on a brick patio attached to the front dining room. When: daily, Apr-Sept, 11:30 to 11. Daily specials. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, 4 to 6:30, \$2, off appetizers, \$2 off all drinks and \$1.50 off beer.

West Chester

Avalon Restaurant

312 S. High St.

610-436-4100; AvalonRestaurant.net

Outdoor garden with dining around a fountain. When: Tues-Sun, anytime of year, for dinner. Prices: dinner, \$19-\$25; 4-course prix fixe menu available. Entertainment: Fridays. BYO.

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

610-738-9600; IronHillBrewery.com

Outdoor dining on the brick sidewalk in historic West Chester. Serving New American cuisine and award-winning handcrafted ales and lagers. Daily from 11 am.

Limoncello

9 N. Walnut St. 610-436-6230; LimoncelloWC.com

sphere of a café in Italy in the heart of downtown West Chester. Banquet space and catering also available. When: Mon-Fri, 11 am to 10 pm; Sat, noon to 11 pm; Sun, 4 to 9. Prices: \$10-\$25; prix fixe available on Mon-Tues, \$28. Daily specials. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, 4 to 6:30 with ½ off appetizers and gourmet pizzas.

Outdoor dining with the charming atmo-

Más Mexicali Cantina

102 E. Market St.

610-918-6280; MasMexicali.com

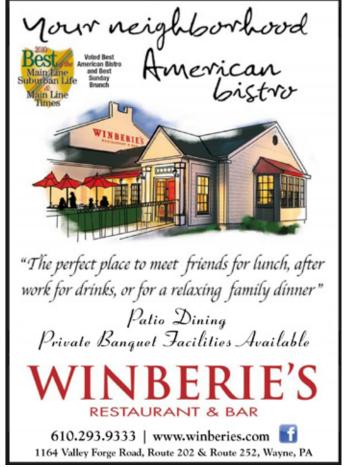
Joanne & John Caulfield invite you to join them at West Chester's only rooftop dining destination, serving traditional Mexican fare and fresh Margaritas with a "Rock n' Roll twist." When: dinner daily, lunch Fri-Sun, May-Oct. Prices: lunch: \$6-\$17. Daily Specials. Happy Hour: 4 to 6 pm includes ½ off drafts and appetizers. Recommendations: Over 30 Tequila offerings, Mexican beers and a variety of freshly made Margaritas. "You Can ALWAYS Expect More at Más."

Mythos Restaurant

2 Waterview Rd.

484-887-0513; MythosGreekRestaurant.com Authentic Greek cuisine is served on a





lovely brick patio with a privacy hedge, tables with linen cloths and umbrellas. When: Apr.-Sept. Prices: lunch, \$6-\$12; dinner, \$12-\$18. Specials: Tues-Thurs lunch special, buy one, get one ½ off. Entertainment: outside nightly.

Pietro's Prime Steakhouse

125 W. Market St.

484-760-6100; PietrosPrime.com

Two outdoor dining areas: a gated patio in front of the restaurant and a more private courtyard in back. When: Apr-Oct. Prices: lunch, \$9-\$15; dinner, \$20-\$30. Daily specials. Happy Hour: Mon-Fri, 5 to 7, \$1 off drinks and ½-price selected appetizers.

West Marlborough

The Whip Tavern

1383 N. Chatham Rd. 610-383-0600; TheWhipTavern.com

Dine on the terrace overlooking Doe Run. When: May-Oct, for lunch and dinner, closed Tues. Prices: dinner, \$13.95-\$28.99. Daily specials: fresh, local ingredients and homemade soup du-jour. Recommendations: English dishes and American favorites like the locally raised, organic Elkins burgers and beef; domestic and international beers and ciders.

Maryland

CHESAPEAKE CITY

Bayard House Restaurant 11 Bohemia Ave.

410-885-5040; BayardHouse.com

Dine along the C&D Canal in this historic building with two enclosed porches that feature spectacular views for lunch or dinner. Dining under a canopy on their patio is available during the summer months. When: daily for lunch and dinner, May-Sept. Prices: lunch, \$12-\$21; dinner, \$22-\$35. Daily specials. Recommendations: Bloody Marys, Tournedos Baltimore, Crab Cakes.

North East

Woody's Crab House

29 S. Main St.

410-287-3541; WoodysCrabHouse.com

Delicious crab and seafood specialties offered on the front deck, in an intimate outdoor setting. There's a Tiki bar at the rear of the restaurant, open Fri-Sun. When: daily Apr-Sept. Sun, 3 to 8; Tiki bar on Fri-Sat evenings. Prices: lunch, \$8-15; dinner, \$15-30. Daily specials. Happy Hour: TGIF Fri, 4:30. Recommendations: premier beers by the bottle and on draft. Entertainment: live music Fri evening.

ROCK HALL

FIREBIRDS

NOW OPEN

IN PROVIDENCE TOWN CENTE

Osprey Point Restaurant

20786 Rock Hall Ave.

51 TOWN CENTER DRIVE COLLEGEVILLE. PA 19426 484-902-1850 FIREBIRDSRESTAURANTS.COM

MINUTES AWAY. FAR FROM ORDINARY

From legendary flame-grilled steaks to awesome burgers and

salads, discover Firebirds' bold flavor and great value - at lunch,

dinner and after work in the FIREBAR.

410-639-2194; OspreyPoint.com

Intimate dining on their screened in back porch. Listen to the serene water fountain as you enjoy a delicious meal and/or cocktail. When: dinner, Wed-Sun starting at 5 pm; Sunday Brunch, 10:30 am to 2 pm. Prices: brunch, \$8-14; dinner, \$25-32. Specials: Wine Tastings on Thurs, 5 pm (Apr-Sept). Recommendations: Crab Cakes, Rockfish, and Soft Shell Crabs (when available). The Executive Chef comes to your table (when possible). •



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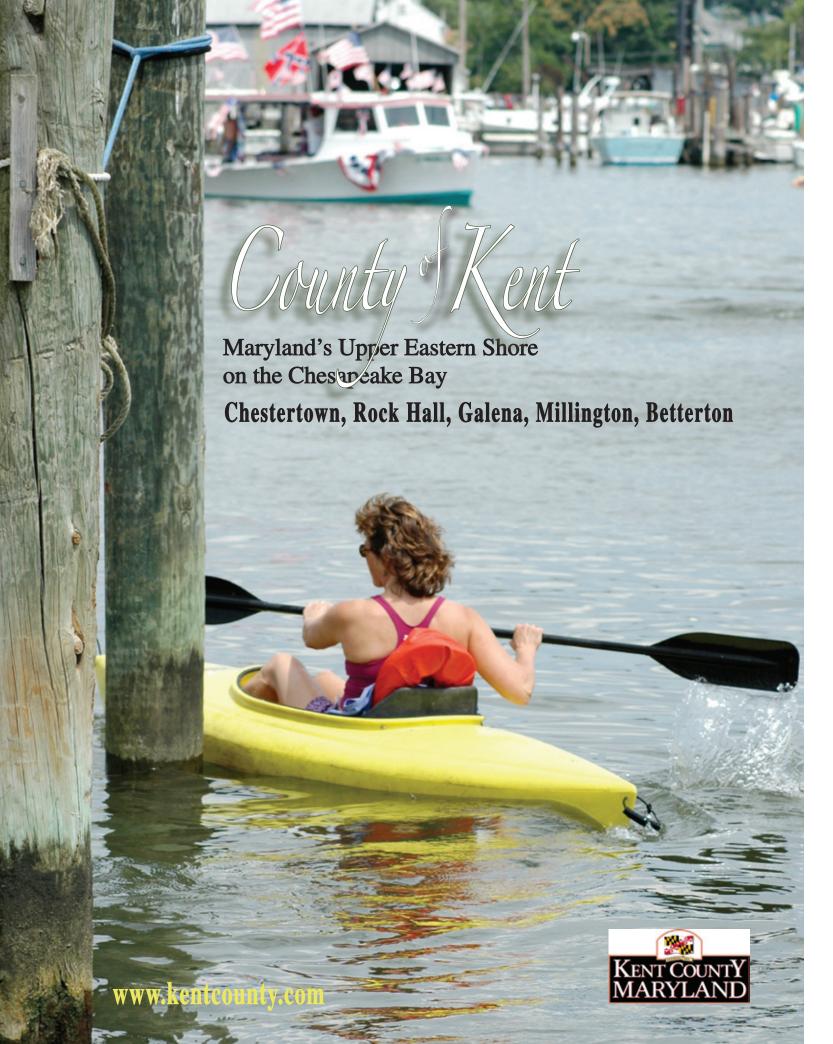


your private estate awaits. On a quiet country lane, amidst conservancy lands, this remarkable property is comprised o 30 or 40 acres and a custom designed and built 5400 square foot home with one floor living. Ultimate privacy, yet close to major routes, shopping and Philadelphia. Perfect for the equestria too. MLS # 6021151

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Fun on the Shore...MD's Eastern Shore

aving fun on the Shore, in the County of Kent, is the Chesapeake Country National Scenic Byway, exploring the place to be this summer. It seems like just about every weekend, this Upper Eastern Shore county is host to a terrific event or festival; not to mention, you will always find a show, a sail, a cruise, an art exhibit, a piece of history... something is always happening. You may want to pack up the children and bring them to the Youth Fishing Derby on June 2nd at Turner's Creek in Kennedyville or join us for the National Music Festival from June 3rd to the 16th, where practices and concerts will be held throughout the County. Cyclists and walkers for MS can accept the Chesapeake Challenge on June 9th and 10th — registration is in Chestertown, while the journey takes you throughout the County. Find these and more great events online at kentcounty.com/events.

Less than a two-hour drive from Philadelphia are the shorelines of the County of Kent, Maryland. Visiting the historic towns of Chestertown, Rock Hall, Galena, Betterton and Millington is like stepping back in time. There are plenty of things to do, great places to explore and even more ways to relax. An oasis so close to home, where you will find boutique shopping, antiquing, sidewalk cafes, art galleries and studios, performing arts theaters in Chestertown and Rock Hall, museums, quaint beaches in Betterton and Rock Hall, waterfront parks, terrific paddling on the calm tributaries of the Bay, cycling on the

Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area, terrific restaurants, and fresh local seafood—so fresh in fact, it is a common sight to see watermen returning from a day on the water with their catches. For wine lovers, the County of Kent will celebrate its very first winery, during the grand opening and tasting at noon on June 23rd at the Crow Farm in Kennedyville.

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. Known for its





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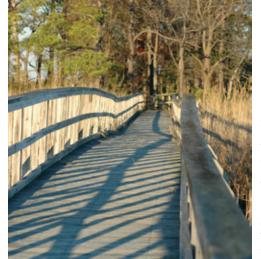
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County of

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 universallyaccessible 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. fws.gov/northeast/easternneck

terrific restaurants, you will find one here for every taste. From mouthwatering 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. You may even choose to experience a farm-to-table dinner at a local farm.

Chestertown, 1706

Mix history, culture, heritage and shopping along its red-brick, treelined sidewalks and you get Dowtown Historic Chestertown, named one of America's Distinctive Destinations, by the National Historic Trust. Enjoy its Geddes-Piper House Museum ca. 1784, guided and self-guided historic tours, the Schooner Sultana 1768 public sails and paddles, Prince Theatre's live performances, 1st Fridays, specialty shops, art galleries and fabulous restaurants. 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. If you want to cruise-in to Chestertown, American Cruise Lines has added this historic port to its Philadelphia and Potomac eight day, seven night cruises. For this year's scruise schedule, log on to www.americancruiselines.com.

The Town of Rock Hall

This small-town treasure is rich in maritime history, with watermen continuing to harvest the bounty of the Bay. Enjoy live performances at Mainstay Theater, find unique shops, more than a dozen marinas, a small beach with a quaint boardwalk and gazebo, Three story-filled museums:

The Rock Hall Museum, Tolchester Beach Revisited Museum and Waterman's Museum. Fish with a licensed fishing captain, charter a sailboat or go kayaking. 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, only seven miles from Rock Hall. The Harbor of this fishing village is also a perfect venue to hear the chatter of nesting Osprey, commonly called "Fish Hawks". Watch as this large raptor





Special Advertising Section

prepares for its offspring, expected in late May, early June. Don't miss Rock Hall Cruise Night, held on 3rd Fridays on Main Street. Everyone is welcome to clean up that rod and cruise on down, or just come for the fun and check out the cars, music, and relive the 60s. No registration necessary.

The Town of Betterton

Located at the mouth of the Sassafras River on the Chesapeake Bay, Betterton Beach offers spectacular views—truly a photographer's dream. Don't miss the Betterton Day Celebration, always the first Saturday in August.

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.

The Town of Millington

A great spot for paddling, Millington 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.

So perfect...so close to home.

County of Kent Finding Out More... Before You Go, Contact The Kent County Tourism & Economic Development Office, For a Free Visitor Information packet, 410-778-0416 or e-mail tourism@kentcounty.com When You Go, Stop by The Kent County Visitor Center at 122 N. Cross Street, Chestertown, 21620 or Rock Hall Visitor Center on Main St. www.kentcounty.com



Dining

FIREBIRDS WOOD FIRED GRILL

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Lise Monty

Firebirds in early April continues. The Colorado-themed, upscale/casual restaurant, number 21 in the successful 12-year-old chain, appeals with its big personality and hearty fare. That old lure of what used to be the Wild, Wild West is alive and well in our area.

Tall columns of stacked fieldstone reach to the high ceiling emphasizing the feeling of wide open spaces in the 200-seat dining room. Its 21st-century of zippy pepper jack cheese, it was rich, addictive rustic décor blends sturdy brick with dark wood paneling and furniture. Exposed beams on the ceiling, hefty pieces of pottery and outdoorsy arrangements of dried-wheat stalks suggest a Rocky Mountain high. Even the tableware is supersized, including the sturdy steak knife with fork to match.

The floor-to-ceiling display of wine bottles stacked on their sides in a tight arrangement caught our attention. So did the colorful flames in the open kitchen's woodfueled grill, touting the steakhouse personality.

But both paled in comparison to the dazzling, light-bright "waterfall," as the staff called it, behind the bar. Rows and rows of colorful back-lit bottles of liquor cascade in three tiers, covering the wall behind the bar. The gleaming show of appealing blues (curacao?), vibrant greens, and rich browns

he uptick in traffic at Collegeville's Providence dominate in the Firebar but can also be seen from Town Center that greeted the opening of many tables throughout the restaurant. It delivers that Wow! factor marketing folks love.

Over-Achieving Appetizers

What's the most popular starter, we asked our savvy server. We went with the crowd—the Lobster Spinach Queso (\$10.50). Though we shared, we still had to restrain ourselves. With its bites of lobster, baby spinach and diced tomatoes in a creamy sauce and enough for a light meal.

At Firebirds in Newark, Delaware (with a similar menu), friends and I consider the "starter" Crab Cakes (\$13.50) a perfect lunch. Two sautéed cakes deliver on the promised lump crabmeat, lightly seasoned to let the crab shine. The mango-habanero, chutney-style dipping sauce adds piquant, spicysweet zip—a far cry from tartar sauce.

The queso for the Lobster Spinach appetizer came with a huge pile of tasty tortilla chips in natural, bright red and dark blue shades. Strips of these same deep-fried tortillas were tossed into the slaw that came with the crab cakes. Shredded cabbage, both red and white, carrot slivers and toasted pumpkin seeds tossed with a light vinaigrette all played well together.

Other appetizer choices include smoked chicken wings, coconut shrimp, seared ahi tuna, ranch-style onion rings, chicken quesadilla and chicken tortilla soup.

Salad lovers can find as much happiness here as beef eaters. A personal favorite: the grilled shrimp and strawberry creation with tender shrimp, perfectly ripe strawberries, goat cheese, crunchy jicama and sugar-roasted pecans, in good proportions, and all generously coated with a slightly tangy vinaigrette. (This recipe, along with a few others, was in County Lines Magazine's May Brandywine Table column.)

Other options include the BLT salad, grilled tenderloin salad, crab cake salad and Colorado chicken salad with dried cranberries, green apples and raspberry chipotle vinaigrette.

The Taste of Aspen

Some like their steaks straight up, others prefer embellishment. Strip the Bleu Cheese Filet (\$26) down to the beef alone, and you have a top-of-the-line green beans were good sides.

juicy steak imbued with the flavor of a wood-fueled fire. For us, the bacon wrap, the tangy bleu cheese sauce and port mushrooms made it even better.

How should we order to assure our filet came out medium rare? Our server said many guests had discovered this kitchen's steaks tend to come out rarer than expected. But we figured it could always be sent back for more fire time if needed, a far better alternative than getting an overdone steak.

Even the heap of mashed potatoes was full-flavored, thanks to lots of sharp cheese and bits of skin. We missed having a vegetable with the steak, but then noticed salads are offered á la carte.

Pecan Crusted Trout (\$19.50) was every bit as good as I remembered the last two times I indulged in this signature dish. The twin fillets, meaty and large (of course) would have been fine with just a spritz of lemon juice. But the crunch of the pecans and zest of peach salsa added pizzazz. Tortilla slaw and spiced pecan

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Each of us chose the same Chilean

line favorites, all from Napa Valley, like

Cakebread Cellars Chardonnay (\$82),

Stags' Leap Winery Petite Syrah (\$75)

Other steak choices, all "hand-cut

daily," include a 12-ounce center-cut

sirloin, New York strip, rib-eye, filet

and shrimp, pepper-crusted sirloin and

chile-rubbed Delmonico. The herb-

More from the "specialties" list: ses-

ame-encrusted salmon, wood-grilled

salmon, meatloaf with mushroom

gravy, baby back ribs, coconut shrimp,

parmesan-encrusted flounder, chicken

pasta with asiago cream sauce and

cilantro-grilled chicken breast. And

from the Burgers & Sandwiches list:

French dip, cheeseburger, chile-spiced

Durango burger, BBQ-sauced smoke-

house burger, smokehouse chicken and

Super crunchy coating on top? Check.

Delectable creamy texture? Check. Score 10 for the Crème Brûlée (\$7). And, of

course, it was big. Other tempting desserts

include warm chocolate brownie with

dark chocolate and salted caramel sauce,

carrot cake, key lime pie and Big Daddy

Reservations available only for par-

ties of six or more and never on Friday

and Saturday, but there's a call-ahead

seating policy on those days. (Call for

details.) Patio dining is available with

heat lamps when needed. And for those

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chocolate cake. I can only imagine.

More To Know

Delmonico-cut steak sandwich.

Sweet Stuff

roasted prime rib outsells all others.

and Franciscan Magnificat (\$95).

this month about local food and drink

Summer's First Supper.

The first day that I mark in my calendar each year is the summer solstice. I imagine this date affects everyone deeply because it defines summer and summer is the best season. We'll begin celebrating the celes-

tial event prior to the 8:33 p.m. sunset by drinking aromatic Philadelphia **Bluecoat Gin** and tonics and eating *Pao* de Queijo, an addictive Brazilian cheese puff hors d'oeuvre. Dinner will begin with a classic Spanish Gazpacho, continuing with Italian Grilled Swordfish Steaks larded with garlic and rosemary. A French Sancerre or Cassis white wine would go well with all this and tie up geographical loose ends. Recipes online at CountyLinesMagazine.com.

Mas Sangria, Por Favor. Perhaps you've already tried the excellent red and white sangria at Mas-



Mexicali Cantina in West Chester, MasMexicali.com. It's worth making a special effort because sangria speaks summer fluently and can either be enjoyed on its own—by the glass or pitcher—or as an accompaniment to the restaurant's excellent food. While it's always nice to have someone else do the cooking, mixing sangria is fun and can be turned into a family project. Favorite recipes online.

Dad's Day Dinner. What's the best the very best—Father's Day dinner? Not an easy choice. My selection is pretty traditional. I'll opt for grilling ribeye steaks (from the meat department at Whole Foods, Devon, WholeFoods-Market.com/stores/devon), which I'll paint with good olive oil, coarse salt, cracked pepper and smoked paprika (from The Head Nut, TheHeadNut. com). We'll roast potatoes, tomatoes and scallions or ramps along with the steaks and begin the meal with Shrimp Lejon, a delicacy unknown outside the Philadelphia/Jersey Shore region. Definitely Champagne to start; a good red Rhone wine to follow. Dessert of local strawberries, possibly shoofly or pecan pie, and Bassett's ice cream, of course.



Pot Gardens ... Of a Special Kind.

Married life took on a deeper meaning when Caroline and I planted our first terrace pot garden. Elevated, protected by a gate and a friendly feral cat posse, hot pep-

pers, cucumbers, okra, corn (!), Swiss chard, cantaloupes and watermelons grew for us. But tomatoes are our mainstays, especially the extraordinary Sweet 100 cherry tomatoes that feature in an amazing Chez Panisse linguine recipe, one of our favorites (recipe online).

A few of our favorite things to share

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head to Maine

for summer

camp and

she's already

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You can, and I think should, start your own pot garden now. June isn't too late. Visit Wolff's Apple House in Media, WolffsAppleHouse.com, which, despite its name, offers a wide variety of heirloom vegetables, herbs and flowers to plant and enjoy. Nice to put the summer sun to work on such a delicious project.

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.





packages. Although her camp asks parents

to refrain from doing this, she's an only child

and a very good one, so we can't resist her

pleas. (Nor can other parents, apparently.)

What Jane really likes is candy, but we'll leave

that for now. She also loves the Freeze-Dried

Crunchies Strawberries from **Devon's Whole**

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And she's requested Christmas-in-July in the

form of our family's holiday Spritz cookies.

Pack all carefully with ice-packs in x-ray resis-

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Mexican and Spanish Food

Laura Muzzi Brennan

eafing through Fodor's guides and taking Berlitz courses are fine ways to indulge wanderlust. But when I want to go far away without going far away, I prefer to pull my armchair up to the table especially if that table is at Matador or La Tolteca.

At Wayne's Matador, coowner and chef Matthew Pressler plates Mexican and

Spanish dishes including an extensive selection of tapas. Pressler points out that while people often equate the two, Spanish food is generally not spicy but Mexican can be. His menu gives each cuisine its Wilmington and Dover, due respect.

A veteran of La Hacienda in Scottsdale and Amada in Philadelphia, Pressler prides himself on using authentic,



high-quality ingredients such chorizo and Chihuahua cheese as well as locally raised pork and poultry. He's partial to traditional cooking tech-

niques and tools including a moljacete (Mexican mortar and pestle) which he uses to mash garlic and avocados.

(crisp flour tortillas stuffed with pulled pork from a roasted suckling pig); Garbanzos con Espinacas (chickpeas cooked three ways—pureed, simmered and fried—with spinach); and skirt steak fajitas. Asked and hot paprika) and Cochinillo Asado roast suckling like a fork to take us lands away"?

pig with dried apple, chorizo and bread stuffing.

For adventure beyond the plate, Matador hosts flamenco dancers on second Saturdays as well as monthly tequila tastings. Calling Pressler a tequila fan is like saying Bill Gates dabbles in software. His passion for the beverage and the 157 brands he offers deserve their own fan page.

At La Tolteca, chef/owner Jose Lopez brings Brandywine Valley diners a taste of his native Mexico and the American Southwest. With locations in West Chester,

La Tolteca has satisfied appetites for nearly two decades. Tacos, fajitas, chile rellenos, burritos and tamales top the list of bestselling dishes. as imported A Lopez favorite: Tacos de Azada (soft tortillas with marinated beef).

As this article goes to press, Lopez is busy tweaking La Tolteca's menu with the addition of 10 to 15 plates, many



inspired by Mexico's coastal regions. Diners should come hungry for innovative twists on fish tacos and ceviche as well as new dishes like Tacos al Pastor ("shep-Popular dishes at Matador include Flautas de Puerco herd style" tacos made with pork and pineapple). Just as exciting: this summer, Lopez plans to open the newly remodeled patio at the West Chester location.

As I indulge in tableside traveling to Mexico and Spain, an odd question crosses my mind: if Emily which dish he thinks more diners should try, Pressler Dickinson had chosen food writing over poetry, settles on two: Pulpo a Fiera, (octopus with potatoes would she have instead written, "There is no frigate

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Ceviche

The lime juice "cooks" the seafood in this classic dish. Matador's Chef Pressler suggests serving ceviche in a chilled martini glass with a dollop of guacamole.

1/2 lb. shrimp (41-50 size)

1/2 lb. bay scallops

1/4 lb. lump crabmeat

1/4 lb. calamari, sliced thin

1, 7-oz tomato, small dice

1¼ C. lime juice

1/2 small red onion, minced

1 serrano pepper, minced

1 tsp. minced garlic

4 Tb. cilantro, chopped

1 oz. corn, roasted

3 scallions, sliced*

1/4 C. extra virgin olive oil

Salt and pepper, to taste

Combine all ingredients. Cover and chill for 6 hours or preferably overnight. Season with salt and pepper.

Makes 6-8 servings.

*Note: Chef Pressler roasts corn in its husk on a grill, but for a shortcut, buy frozen roasted corn and thaw. For scallions, cut off top 1" and discard. Slice bright green part and just 1/4" into white section.

Cabra en Sofrito

Goat cheese braised in a tomato garlic sauce makes for a satisfying small plate. Recipe courtesy of Chef Matthew Pressler.

7 ripe tomatoes

7 flat-leaf, Italian parsley sprigs, plus extra for garnish

3 garlic cloves

1 shallot

1/2 C. smoked almonds

1 baguette, sliced

½ C. tomato juice

1/4 C. sherry vinegar

1 C. extra virgin olive oil, plus extra for drizzling

Salt and pepper, to taste

5 oz. goat cheese, divided and formed into 4 balls

1/4 C. toasted almonds, sliced

Roughly chop tomatoes, parsley, garlic and shallot.

In a large bowl, mix chopped vegetables with smoked almonds. Top with half of the baguette slices. Pour tomato juice over bread. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Preheat oven to 350°.

Blend vegetable/bread mixture with a stick blender or food processor. (Do not use a stand blender as mixture will become too smooth.) With blender running, add sherry vinegar. Then slowly add olive oil. Season with salt and pepper.

Place a goat cheese ball in the center of each of 4 6-oz. ovenproof dishes. Pour ½ C. sofrito around each cheese ball. Bake for 15 minutes. Garnish with toasted almonds and chopped parsley. Drizzle with olive oil. Serve with remaining baguette slices.

Makes 4 servings.

Matador Fish Tacos

If you can't find Mexican crema, substitute crème fraiche or sour cream. Recipe courtesy of Chef Matthew Pressler.

5 chipotle peppers

1 lb. Mexican crema

Salt to taste

4, 6-oz. red snapper fillets, skin on

1/4 C. vegetable oil

12 corn tortillas (6"diameter)

1/2 head Iceberg lettuce, shredded

7 radishes, sliced thin

3 avocados, skin and pit removed, each cut into 12 slices

12 cilantro sprigs, chopped

For the chipotle crema:

Place a sauté pan over medium-high heat, and toast the chiles 45 seconds to 1 minute on each side. Place the chiles in simmering water for 10 minutes to rehydrate. Remove chiles from water.

After chiles have cooled, remove seeds from half of the chiles. In a food processor, blend chiles with Mexican crema until smooth. Season with salt. Chill. (You will have some chipotle crema left over. Keep refrigerated and use for another purpose.)

To cook the red snapper:

Salt both sides of snapper generously. Place sauté pan over medium high heat. Once the pan is hot, add oil and immediately add the snapper, skin-side down. Cook 2 minutes. Turn fish over and cook 3 minutes or until cooked through.

Remove snapper from heat, cut each piece into 3 equal parts. Set aside.

To prepare the tortillas:

Heat the tortillas in a dry skillet over medium heat until they become pliable. You'll have to work in batches.

To assemble:

Chile Pepper Primer

Fact: Chile with an "e" refers to a pepper or to the South American country. Chili with an "i" refers to a dish made with chiles.

Fact: Chiles come in a rainbow of colors, starting out green and turning shades of red or yellow as they ripen.

Fact: Chiles can be fresh or dried; mild, medium or hot: eaten raw or cooked.

Opinion: It's impossible to keep all these chile varieties straight.

Not so! Here's a cheat sheet to some of the chiles used in Mexican and Spanish

Jalapeno: a fresh bright green or red (when ripe) tapered chile, 2" long by l"wide. Hot and spicy in flavor. Red jalapeno is slightly sweeter than green.

Chipotle: a dried and smoked jalapeno. Tobacco colored. Sweet and smoky fla-

Serrano: a fresh, small cylindrical chile with a tapered rounded end, 1-2" long and ½" in diameter. Color ranges from dark green to bright red. Hot and spicy in flavor. Hotter than jalapenos!

Poblano: a fresh dark green triangular chile, 4" long by 2½" wide. Mild to medium in flavor.

Ancho: a dried poblano chile. Color ranges from deep red to dark brown. Slightly fruity flavor.

Anaheim: a fresh, bright green chile about 6" long. Also called long green or California chile. Mild in flavor.

-Source: Southwest: The Beautiful

Fill each tortilla with snapper, pinch of shredded lettuce, sliced radishes, 3 slices avocado and chopped cilantro. Drizzle with chipotle crema.

Makes 4, 3-taco servings.

La Tolteca's Beer Battered Fish Tacos

Recipe Courtesy of Chef Jose Lopez. Adapted from 1,000 Mexican Recipes.

4 ripe tomatoes (medium), finely chopped

1 clove garlic (small), finely chopped 1/4 onion, finely chopped

1 serrano chile with seeds or seeded jalapeño pepper, finely chopped

2 Tb. chopped fresh cilantro

Two quick Mexican Soups

These soups come together faster than

Chilled Avocado Soup

I adapted this soup from Cold Soups by Lin-

2 medium avocados, skin and pit removed

1½ C. chicken stock 1 C. half and half

½ tsp. salt

4 C. lime juice ½ tsp. Tabasco sauce

6 Tb. salsa (cook's choice)

In a blender, combine all ingredients except salsa and blend until smooth Adjust seasonings and chill for at least 2 hours. To serve, ladle into bowls and top with 1 Tb. salsa.

Makes 4-6 servings.

Easy Tortilla Soup

One day when I was short on fresh toma toes and time, I improvised this light soup. Served hot or chilled, it makes a delicious start to any meal.

2 Tb. olive oil

1 med. onion, small dice

8 C. tomato juice

2 C. chicken broth

2 C. crushed tortilla chips, divided

/2 bunch cilantro sprigs (tied with kitchen string) plus extra for garnish

uice of 1/2 lime or more

to taste Sour cream (optional)

Heat olive oil in a stockpot over medium heat. Add onion and cook until translucent. 3-5 minutes. Add tomato juice, chicken broth, 1 C. crushed tortilla chips, and cilantro sprigs. Simmer for 30-40 minutes stirring occasionally. Remove cilantro and discard. Stir in lime juice and let sit for a few minutes. Ladle into bowls. Garnish with chopped cilantro, remaining tortilla chips and sour cream.

Makes 8-10 servings.

1/4 tsp. salt, plus more to taste

1/4 C. mayonnaise

1/4 C. plain yogurt

1/2 Tb. lime juice

6 tilapia filets (4-5 oz. each)

1/2 C. flour

1/8 tsp. garlic powder Freshly ground pepper, or to taste

1/2 C. beer, any kind

Oil for frying

6 (6- to 7-inch) tortillas 1/4 head cabbage (small), finely shredded Lime wedges

In a medium bowl, mix together the tomatoes, garlic, onion, chile, cilantro, and salt. Set the salsa aside.

In another bowl, mix the mayonnaise, yogurt and lime juice. Set aside.

Pat the fish dry with paper towels. In a medium bowl combine flour, garlic powder, salt and pepper to taste. Stir in the beer and mix well. Dip the fish into the beer batter. Shake gently to remove excess batter, and place on waxed paper, 15 to 20 minutes.

In deep fryer or deep skillet filled with 2" of oil, heat oil to 375°. Fry the fish in batches for 3-5 minutes, turning once, until outside is golden brown. Do not overcrowd or you will lower the temperature significantly and end up with mushy filets.

Warm tortillas in a dry skillet over low heat. To assemble, place one fish fillet in each tortilla and top with salsa, mayonnaise mixture, and cabbage.

Makes 6 servings.

Spicy Pumpkin Soup with Mexican Cream and **Toasted Pepitas**

I tasted this rich soup at a dinner party and immediately asked for the recipe. The toasted pepitas (pumpkin seeds) add a crunchy contrast to the velvety soup.

1/4 C. heavy whipping cream

¹/₄ C. sour cream

½ tsp. lime juice

3 Tb. unsalted butter

3 C. finely chopped onions

3 C. solid pack (canned) pumpkin

1 C. whole milk

3/4 tsp. crushed red pepper

4½ C. chicken broth

Salt and pepper to taste. 1/2 C. pepitas, shelled and toasted

In a small bowl, whisk first three ingredients together. Cover and chill 2 hours.

Melt butter in a stockpot over medium heat. Add onions and sauté until translucent, 3-5 minutes. Mix in pumpkin, milk and crushed red pepper. Using a stick blender, puree mixture in pot. (If you don't have a stick blender, puree in batches using a food processor or standing blender. Then, return to pot.)

Stir in broth. Simmer for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Season with salt and pepper.

Ladle soup into bowls. Drizzle with cream mixture and sprinkle with pepitas.

*Note: Mexican cream can be made one week ahead, kept covered and chilled. Soup can be made a day ahead. Simply bring to a simmer before serving.

Brochettes Toro (Skewered Marinated Sirloin)

The parsley-garlic marinade infuses the sirloin in this Spanish dish. Recipe Courtesy of Matthew Pressler.

1 bunch parsley 5 garlic cloves

2 C. olive oil

2 lbs. sirloin steak, cut into

24 1-oz. cubes

8 skewers

Salt to taste

Lemon wedges for serving

In a food processor, blend parsley and garlic. Drizzle in olive oil and process until

Thread 3 cubes of sirloin onto each skewer. Place skewered sirloin in a large dish and pour half of the marinade over, generously coating all pieces. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Remove sirloin and season with salt on all sides. Discard used marinade.

Heat grill or griddle to high. Grill 11/2 to 2 minutes on all 4 sides. Remove from grill and allow to rest for 3 minutes. Drizzle with remaining unused marinade. Serve with lemon wedges.

Makes 4 servings.

Chicken Enchiladas

I adapted this recipe from Heritage of America cookbook. Since it's labor-intensive, I usually double the recipe.

2 Tb. butter

3/4 C. chopped pecans, divided

1 small onion, small dice

3 C. cooked chopped chicken

1, 8-oz. package cream cheese

1 C. plus 2 Tb. milk

½ tsp. cumin

1, 103/4-oz. can of condensed cream of chicken soup*

1, 8-oz. carton sour cream

5-6 (or to taste) chopped pickled jalapenos, seeded and chopped finely

8, 8-inch whole wheat tortillas

11/2 C. cheddar cheese

1 C. salsa for serving

*Note: Substitute condensed cream of mushroom.

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a large skillet over medium heat, melt butter and cook ½ C. of the pecans and onions until onions are translucent, 3-5 minutes. Remove from heat and allow to cool for 5 minutes.

Mix in chicken, cream cheese, 2 Tb. of the milk and cumin. Stir until well combined.

In a large bowl, combine the soup, sour cream, 1 C. milk and jalapenos. Spread ½ C. of this mixture over the bottom of a large casserole dish and set the rest aside.

Spread a generous ½ C. of chicken mixture down center of each tortilla. Roll tortilla tightly, and place seam side down in casserole dish. Pour remaining soup mixture evenly over tortillas. Cover with foil and bake for 45 minutes or until heated through.

Remove foil. Sprinkle with cheese and remaining ½ C. pecans. Bake for 5 minutes until cheese melts.

Serve with salsa to 6-8.

Mexican Chocolate Tart Donal McGuire Financial Advisor

This dessert includes a trio of classic Mexican ingredients: chocolate, cinnamon and pepper. I adapted it from Southwest, The Beautiful Cookbook.

For the crust:

1/2 C. unsalted butter, room temperature.

½ C. sugar

½ tsp. ground cinnamon

1 tsp. vanilla

1/4 C. unsweetened cocoa powder

3/4 C. all-purpose flour

For the filling:

1¹/₄ C. bittersweet chocolate. finely chopped 11/4 C. heavy whipping cream

Optional:

Powdered sugar for dusting 1 pt. blackberries

1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper

To make the crust:

With an electric mixer, cream the butter and sugar. Add cinnamon and vanilla.

Sift the cocoa powder and flour together and add to butter mixture. Form dough into a disc. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Roll the dough out into a 12" diameter circle. Place the dough into a 10" tart pan with a removable bottom, and press dough into bottom and up sides. Refrigerate for 30 minutes or until firm.

To make the filling:

Place chopped chocolate in a large heat-

Heat the cream until it just boils and pour it over the chocolate. Let sit for 3 minutes. Stir until chocolate is melted and mixture is smooth. Stir in cayenne pepper.

Pour into the crust. Using a spatula, spread mixture until it is evenly distributed. Cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate for 3 hours, or until hardened.

*Note: A serrated knife works best for chopping chocolate. Just rock the knife back and forth and the chocolate will splinter easily.

To serve:

Dust with powdered sugar. Cut the tart into 8-10 wedges and garnish with blackberries.

Makes 8-10 servings. ♦

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

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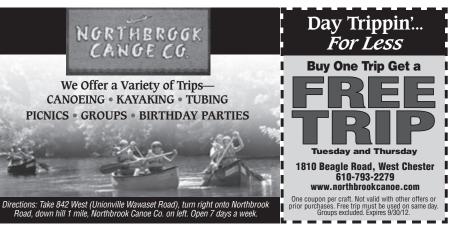
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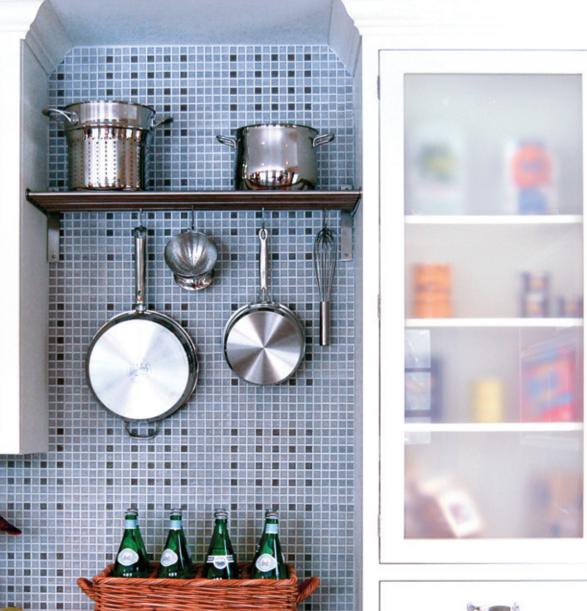
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