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WARWICK TOWNSHIP

Rock Run Farm contains 98+ acres, magnificent specimen trees, 3 ac. lake & the main house privately set down a very long lane. The home is in need of restoration. \$1,800,000

New Price



EAST FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP

On 63.1 park-like acres, Fineskinde Farm is like owning your own preserve! 4BR, 2.1BA, main house (c.1700 with later additions), great stone barn, & several rental units. \$1,649,900

New Price



UNIONVILLE

C.1850 barn conversion with formal rooms. 1st fl MBR suite plus 4 add'l BR & 4.2 BA. Finished Lower Level plus 2BR, 1.1 BA Guest/Pool House, Unionville Schools. \$1,394,500

New Listing



MARSHALLTON

This horse farm sits on 20+ acs. privately and quietly set! The 5BR, 4.1BA main house, large FR & finished lower level. 5 stall barn & several pastures. This is a MUST SEE! \$1,337,500

New Price



NEWLIN TOWNSHIP

This 5.9 acre farm features privately set 5BR, 3.2 BA home with Master Suite, Office Wing & Kitchen. In-ground pool & barn with 2BR, 1.1 BA apartment. \$1,124,500



CHESTER SPRINGS

10,000 sf+, 5BR, 5.2BA home priced well below owner's investment! Relocation makes this possible! Many extras, finished lower level, super Kitchen & Master Suite. \$910,000



BIRCHRUNVILLE

This 4BR, 2.1BA antique home rests on 9 private acres on a quiet country road. First floor Master Suite, spacious Living Room, newer Kit. & in-ground pool! \$749,900



BIRMINGHAM TOWNSHIP

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME! 10 Acre parcel located in the historic district, surrounded by open space, farm has a 4BR antique home & small barn. GREAT OPPORTUNITY!!! \$749,900



New Listing

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New Listing

NOTTINGHAM

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New Price

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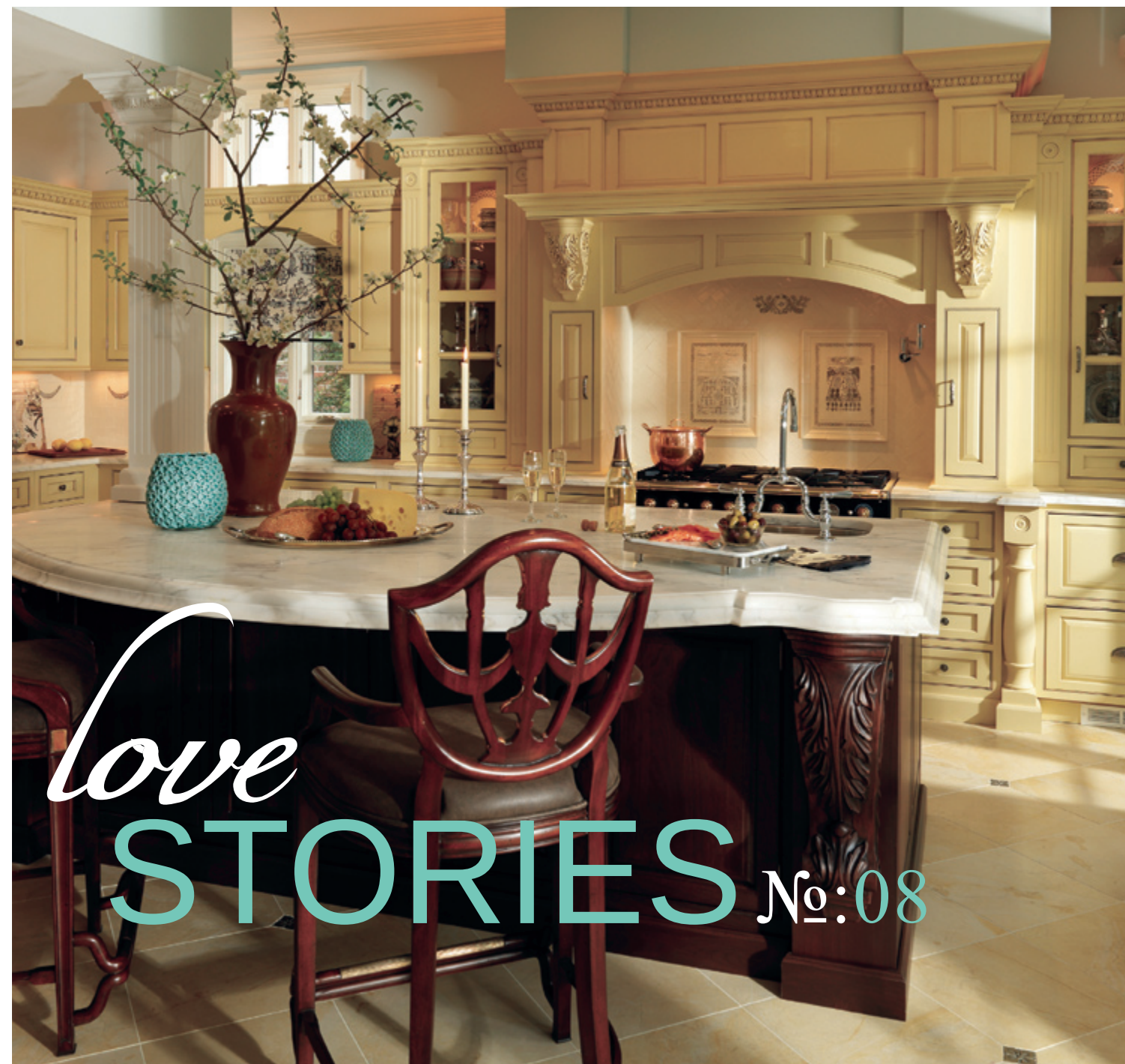
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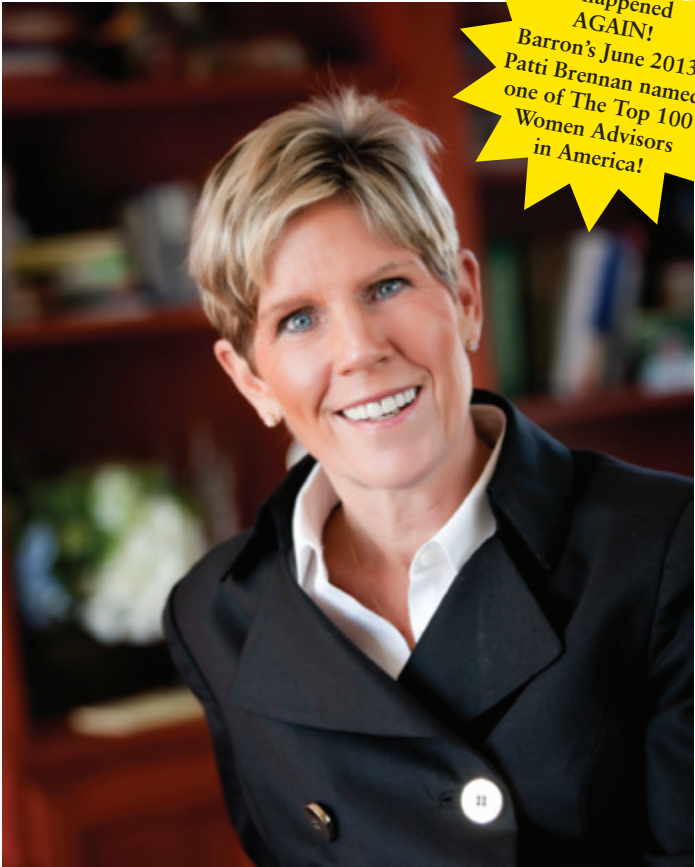
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RECOGNIZED IN:

<i>Barron's</i> – Top 100 Women Financial Advisors (2006-13)
<i>Fortune</i> – One of America's Top 100 Independent Advisors (2008)
<i>Wealth Manager</i> – 50 Most Influential Women in Wealth (2009)
<i>Worth</i> – One of the Nation's Top Wealth Advisors (2009, 2010, 2011)
<i>The 50 Top Women in Wealth</i> – <i>Wealth Manager Magazine</i> (May 2010)
<i>Philadelphia Business Journal</i> – #2 Top Wealth Advisor (2010)
<i>Registered Rep</i> – Top 50 Independent Broker/Dealer Women Advisors (2011)
<i>Barron's</i> – Top 1,000 Financial Advisors (2006-12) <i>Only 40 Recognized in Pennsylvania (And the Only Woman in 2012!)</i>

Raised in Radnor, PA, Patricia Brennan has been providing Wealth Management advice *right here in West Chester* for over 25 years. She is a Georgetown University graduate and earned her CFP® designation in 1990. She is a recognized leader in her industry and serves as the first Chairwoman on the National Advisory Board for Royal Alliance. *Patti has just been selected as one of 400 Top Advisors by The Financial Times, another leading global brand and highly respected worldwide.* On a local level, Patti, her husband, Ed, and their four children reside in *West Chester*, where she is also active in her community. Patti currently serves as a board member for the Chester County Economic Development Council, Cuddle My Kids, and for The Chester County Hospital and Health System.

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October may be the single most compelling reason to love living in Chester County. Leaves blaze yellow, orange, crimson. It's jacket weather. Everyone's energized by the change of seasons.

We were inspired to experiment with our cover image. Working with local, aspiring artist, Julie K. Smith, we continued our seasonal homage to the pumpkin—this time with a hand-drawn chalk sketch. Julie loved the challenge of working on an old-fashioned blackboard and exploring a new medium. We've been seeing chalk designs and loved the vintage feel. What do you think?

With chalkboards, come memories of school days, and Cindy Walker tours Open Houses at area independent schools to preview what's happening. If you're in a bookish mood, celebrate National Reading Group Month with recommendations from Chester County Book Company's Andrea Thatcher.


For outdoor fun, Delaware Center for Horticulture's Lenny Wilson helps you with "Gardening for Fall Color and Beyond," and our publisher Ed Malet retells a tale of sailing up Kent County, Maryland's Chester River, and then takes us on a hundred-mile bike trip around Chester County in "Across County Lines." You'll see signs for some of the businesses he passed posted on a historic map.

Carol Metzker takes us on a more leisurely tour of Southern Chester County, discovering more than enough reasons to return. And if you're searching for "Country Living at Its Best," check out 18 acres, a pond and stream, at an updated 18th-century farmhouse in Laurel Anderson's Home of the Month feature.

Beer fans can plan "Your Own Private Oktoberfest" using Ralph Fleming's recommendations of German-style brews, while busy families with full schedules will enjoy Laura Brennan's suggestions for "Easy Potluck."

Dana Helm previews Brandywine Ballet's premier of *Grace & Guitars*, and Univest's Glen Rayburn asks, "Ladies Are We Retirement Ready?" And, of course, we bring you the Best Local Events coverage anywhere.

Thank you for reading *County Lines*.


Jo Anne Durako
Editor



COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

October 2013

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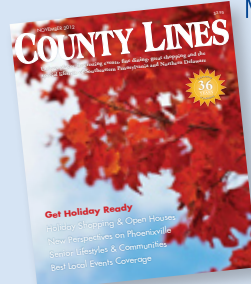
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Cover illustration is an original chalk drawing—yes, on a real blackboard—by Julie K. Smith.

Ladies, Are We Retirement Ready?

Glen Reyburn, Univest Bank & Trust Co.

Make sure your retirement plan is in good shape.

As women, we do our best to exercise, eat a healthy diet and dutifully schedule our routine medical check-ups. It's important for us to look and feel our best, and many of us spare no expense to get the desired results—more than \$7 billion a year is spent on cosmetic products in the U.S. And, that figure doesn't include money we spend on laser treatments, injections or even surgeries to look good and defy the aging process.

Don't get me wrong, I think we all deserve to look and feel good while living a happy, healthy lifestyle. In fact, all our efforts are paying off. We could easily live to be 90 or even 100. My question to you is this—can you *afford* to live that long?

Make Retirement Planning a Priority

If we focused a tenth of the amount of time on our retirement planning as we did on our beauty regimens, we might be in much better financial “shape” at retirement. The average woman spends \$15,000 on makeup during her lifetime. However, less than 45% of women between the ages of 21 and 64 participate in a retirement plan. Approximately 75% of Americans approaching retirement in 2010 had less than \$30,000 in their retirement accounts.

It's important for women to focus on preparing for retirement—90% of women will be responsible for their own finances

in their lifetime. While saving for our retirement, we women also need to appreciate that we face special challenges—women still earn 19% less than men and women are out of the workforce for an average of 12 years to care for children and aging parents.

Places to Start

If there is a retirement savings plan sponsored by your employer, make sure that you optimize that tax deferred contribution. A common option is the 401k. Other plans such as 403b or 457 are offered to employees of public schools, nonprofit organizations, state and local governments and other tax-exempt entities under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code.

Whether it's a 401k, 403b or 457 plan, take advantage of investing part of your paycheck on a pre-tax basis. Many employers offer to match your contribution, so at the very least, save the amount your employer will match. If you can't save the maximum (\$17,500 per year), try increasing the amount you save each year. If you're 50 or older and have saved the maximum for the year, there's a special catch-up provision that allows you to contribute an additional \$5,500.

If you don't have a retirement plan with your employer, make sure you contribute to an IRA (Individual Retirement Account). If you are 50 or older, there's a special catch-up provision that allows you to contribute an additional \$1,000 per year to the \$5,500 allowable contribution. The earlier you start to save, the better, but it's never too late to start saving.

Periodic Reviews

If you do have a retirement plan, review it regularly with your advisor. Make sure you understand your investments and how they can help you achieve your goals. If you don't have an advisor, consider hiring one. An advisor can help you create a plan, answer those questions that keep you awake at night, and get you on track to meet your objectives.

Consider this, if you saved \$100 per month (approximately the cost of get-

ting a weekly manicure) for 20 years and earned an interest rate of 5%, you would save almost \$39,000 dollars.

Let's make our retirement something we can look forward to as well as afford. ♦

The views expressed are not necessarily the opinion of Univest Bank and Trust Co. For specific advice about your situation, please consult with a tax or financial professional.

Glen Reyburn, ChFC®, AEP®, Vice President and Senior Financial Advisor, Wealth Manage-

ment, Univest Bank and Trust Co., has 20 years of experience in the financial services industry. Glen is responsible for providing comprehensive wealth management solutions for individuals and their families in the Chester County region. 109 N. High St., West Chester. 484-947-2751; ReyburnG@Univest.net.



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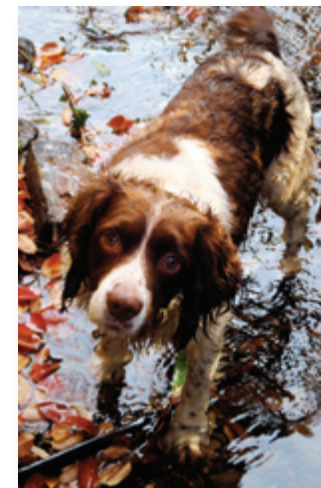
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Good to Know

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

New Best Friend.

Want some extra affection in your home this fall? October is the **American Humane Association's** (the folks behind the "No animals were harmed" messages on movies) Adopt-A-Dog Month, so why not consider adopting a new best friend from a local shelter? Saving one of these furry, friendly creatures could be the best decision you make all year! Learn more at AmericanHumane.org.



Hit the Hay. For the most colorful season in Chester County, hayrides and bonfires are great ways to get out and about. On Friday evenings in October, the **Hibernia County Park** in Wagontown creates the perfect atmosphere for family fun or a romantic evening. Hayrides provide a unique view of nature in the crisp, autumn evening air (6:30 to 8:30 p.m.). Later, you'll cozy up by the fire with warm cider or hot chocolate. *1 Park Rd. Adults, \$8; kids under 12, free. Reservations required: 610-383-3812; ChesCo.org.*



Everlasting Pumpkin. After shoveling through discarded pumpkin seeds and mush, it's painful to see your **Halloween jack-o-lantern** rot before the big night. We've got four tips so your work of art lasts through the month. After you've carved your masterpiece 1) squirt with lemon juice to stop the interior from browning, 2) spray with bleach solution to kill fungus on the exterior, 3) rub petroleum jelly on cut surfaces to prevent dehydration, and 4) bring it inside if the weather turns cold to prevent freezing. Follow this advice, and your pristine pumpkin is sure to impress.

Chester County Tale.

In *Phoenixville Rising*, local resident Robb Cadigan uses Chester County as the background for his novel set in a Phoenixville October during the boom of the steel mill industry. Returning to his hometown after many years, a man revisits his childhood and muses on the life lessons he learned growing up in a small, industrial town. Available October 3, the novel—part coming-of-age novel, part crime story, part historical romance—will be discussed at area book signings. Check our Events listings online for details.



County Lines' New Look. Check out our new look online. Our revamped website offers the best of *County Lines* at the click of your mouse or tap of your tablet. CountyLinesMagazine.com is your source for local events, restaurant news, photos and articles to keep you up to date on what's happening in Chester County and beyond. Plus you can order digital and print subscriptions and sign up for our Event eNewsletter. Let us know what you think at Info@ValleyDel.com.



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of Special Note



"Home, Tweet, Home" Birdhouse Show at Wharton Esherick Museum

Through December 31

Visit the juried exhibition featuring 16 truly unique birdhouses. The show celebrates the museum's thematic woodworking competition, designed to encourage creative thinking and the development of original, imaginative forms for everyday objects. Located just outside of Valley Forge Park. Visits by reservation only. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun., 1 to 5 p.m. 610-644-5822; WhartonEsherickMuseum.org.

"The Mane Event" Gala at Radnor Hunt

October 19

Join the festivities as Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines celebrates 125 years of providing loving care for retired and rescued horses. Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live and silent auctions, dinner and dancing round out the evening at Radnor Hunt Club, 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. Begins at 6 p.m. For tickets, 610-469-0533, ext. 11.



22nd Annual Dilworthtown Inn Wine Festival

October 13

Sample from more than 100 wines, craft beers, and sumptuous fare prepared by Dilworthtown Inn chefs, enjoy a silent auction, shopping, live music, a Performance Car Show and more. Proceeds benefit patients of The Cancer Program of The Chester County Hospital and Neighborhood Health. Organized by the Brandywine and Greystone Women's Auxiliaries to the Hospital. Dilworthtown Inn, 1390 Old Wilmington Pk., West Chester. Noon to 4. \$45-\$200. 610-431-5329; ChesterCountyHospital.org/Foundation.

West Chester Historic Preservation Awards Ceremony

October 22

Join the 3rd Annual West Chester Historic Preservation Awards Ceremony, recognizing Paul Rodebaugh (posthumously), the Jack's Steaks Building, Walking the East End and other highlights of our local built environment. Chester County Historical Society, 225 N. High St., West Chester. 8 to 10 a.m. Reservations required. For information, visit DowntownWestChester.com.

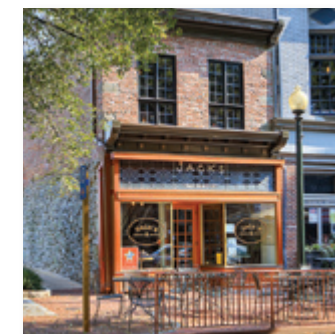


PHOTO: TIMMY VAUGHAN



11th Annual West Chester Rotary Chili Cookoff

October 13

Dozens of teams compete for awards like the "People's Choice" and the "Best Darn Chili in Chester County." Come to downtown West Chester to sample them all and pick your favorite. Benefits Rotary projects providing support to those in need in the community. All-You-Can-Eat-Chili wristbands, \$10; 10 and under, free with paid adult. 10:30 to 4. Rain or shine. 484-343-4577; WestChesterChiliCookoff.com.

Best Local Events

Noteworthy in October ...

October 5-6

Delaware Nature Society Harvest Moon Festival. Enjoy a corn maze, Native American exhibits, an International Turtle Race, living history programs, pony rides and more. Coverdale Farm, 543 Way Rd., Greenville, DE. No dogs. Festival hours, 10 to 5. \$7. 302-239-2334; DelawareNatureSociety.org.



October 6-13

Berks County Antique Art Show. See museum-quality paintings by the school of artists from Berks County, circa 1820-1920, including works by Ben Austrian, Christopher H. Shearer, Earl Poole and more. Greshville Antiques & Fine Art, 1041 Reading Ave. (Rt. 562), Boyertown. **Oct. 6**, 12 to 7; **Oct. 7-12**, 10 to 7; **Oct. 13**, 12 to 5. Free. 610-367-0076; GreshvilleAntiques.com.



October 24-26

The Great Pumpkin Carve at Chadds Ford Historical Society. Join a traditional pumpkin carve, where local artists transform giant pumpkins into fantastic creations. Thurs, carving begins at 5; Fri-Sat, the show continues with pumpkins lit with candles, 5 to 9. Across from the John Chad's House, Rt. 100 N, Chadds Ford. \$3-\$5. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFordHistory.org.



October 27

Radnor Hunt Hunter Trials. Radnor Hunt race course will be a cross country course designed for local fox hunters to warm up their horses at the beginning of fox-hunting season in a competition that's fun and friendly. There will be games for the kids and food available from the club house. 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. Start time 8:30 am. Free. 610-420-6432; RadnorHunt-HunterTrials.org.



Antiques Shows

November 7-10

50th Annual Delaware Antiques Show. The finest offerings from more than 60 distinguished dealers in art, antiques and design. Special exhibition: 50 Years of Treasures from the Delaware Antiques Show. The Chase Center on the Riverfront, 800 S. Madison St., Wilmington. Thurs, Opening Night Party, 5 to 9, \$125-\$225. Show: Fri, 11 to 7; Sat, 11 to 6; Sun,

11 to 5. \$15. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.

Art & Craft Shows

Through October 25

Plein Air Competition and Art Show. Art on Avenue of the States, 504 Avenue of the States, Chester. Wed-Fri, 11 to 3. 610-547-5967; ArtAveStates.com.

Through November 10

Brandywine River Museum Harvest Market.

Regional artisans display and sell their fine handcrafted objects. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. Sat-Sun, 9:30 to 4:30. \$6-\$12. 610-388-2700; BrandywineRiverMuseum.org.



Through November 17

The Demuth Museum Exhibit "The Art of Sound: Selected Works of Harry Bertoia." A pioneering artist and designer of the 20th-century, Bertoia's exhibit provides an overview of his inventive sculptures made from steel wire and bronze, including the sound-making sculptures, furniture designs and print making. 120 E. King St., Lancaster. Tues-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, 1 to 4. 717-299-9940; Demuth.org.

October 5-6

Arts Festival Reading. Quality show featuring 90 juried fine artists and craftsmen and over 30 GoggleWorks studio artists, music and food. Benefits GoggleWorks Center for the Arts whose mission is to enrich the community by promoting arts education. 201 Washington St., Reading. Daily 10 to 5. \$8. 610-374-4600; ArtsFestivalReading.org.

October 5-13

41st Annual Daylesford Abbey Art Show. Juried artists participate showcasing fine art, jewelry, sculptures, icons, stained glass, wearable art, miniatures and pottery. 220 S. Valley Rd., Paoli. Opening reception, **Oct. 4**, 5 to 8. Daily, noon to 5. Free. 610-647-2530.

October 11-13

PA Guild Fine Craft Fair. Over 140 of the Guild's finest craft artists gather on Rittenhouse Square, corner of 19th & Walnut Sts., Philadelphia. Fri-Sat, 11 to 6:30; Sun, 11 to 5. 717-431-8706; PACrafts.org.



October 12

8th Annual Arts & Crafts Festival at Woodside Farm Creamery. Featuring original paintings, prints and fine crafts from local artists. Sample the new ice cream flavor and welcome back "pumpkin." 1310 Little Baltimore Rd., Hockessin, DE. 11 to 5. Free. 302-239-9847; WoodsideFarm-Creamery.com.

October 18-20

Flying Colors Fine Artists 17th Annual Art Show & Sale. A group of professional women artists hold this yearly show benefiting local nonprofits, this year, The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County. Montgomery School, 1141 Kimberton Rd., Chester Springs. Fri, opening reception, 6 to 9, Sat-Sun, 10 to 5. \$10. 610-659-4669; FlyingColors.us.

October 19

45th Annual PA Traditional Crafts & Folk Art Sale. Crafts include Tole painting, redware, primitive carvings, theorems, framed quilts and more. Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1327 Allegheny Rd., Mohnnton. 10 to 3. 610-856-5013.

October 19-20

The Hagley Craft Fair. A marketplace of fine crafts celebrating the history of the textile industry along the Brandywine in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Browse through hand-crafted jewelry, textiles, glass, wood and pottery. Hagley's Buck Rd. E. entrance off Rt. 100, Wilmington. Sat, 10 to 5; Sun, 10 to 4. \$5. 302-658-2400; Hagley.org.

October 26-27, November 2-3

Chestertown RiverArts 14th Annual Studio Tour. An opportunity to meet the artists who open their studio doors to visitors. A self-guided tour in this lovely town. For brochure, 410-778-6300; ChestertownRiverArts.org.

November 1-3

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. More than 250 fine artisans participate in this juried show, which also offers live music, children's entertainment and great food. Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks. Fri-Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 5. \$8-\$10. 800-210-9900; SugarloafCrafts.com.

November 2-3

Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen 64th Juried Holiday Fine Arts & Crafts Festival. Local art and crafts are featured at this show offering museum-quality contemporary and traditional handcrafted art. Special silent auction of the late Gene Burkhardt's art to benefit guild scholarships. Kutztown University, O'Pake Fieldhouse, Kutztown. Sat, 9 to 4; Sun, 10 to 4. \$4 donation. 610-678-6650; RBCrafts.org.

November 3-January 26

18th Annual Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital Art Ability Exhibit & Sale. Artists from around the world with physical, cognitive, visual and hearing disabilities submit their work to this juried exhibition and sale. 414 Paoli Pk., Malvern. Show hours: daily 9 to 9. 484-596-5710; MainLineHealth.org/ArtAbility.



November 6-10



37th Annual Philadelphia Museum of Art Contemporary Craft Show. A premier show and sale of contemporary crafts, includes 195 of the finest and most dynamic craft artists

in the country. PA Convention Center, 1101 Arch St., Philadelphia. Preview party Wed, 4 to 9 pm, tickets start at \$125. Thurs-Fri, 11 to 9; Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 5. \$5-\$15. 215-684-7930; PMACraftShow.org.

BRANDYWINE RIVER MUSEUM

JAMIE WYETH
ROCKWELL KENT
and
MONHEGAN

JUNE 15 THROUGH NOVEMBER 17

JAMIE WYETH, *Jenny Whibley Sings*, 2008
Oil on board, Jamie and Phyllis Wyeth Collection

ROCKWELL KENT, *Toilers of the Sea* (detail), 1907
Oil on canvas, New Britain Museum of American Art

BRANDYWINE RIVER MUSEUM

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www.brandywinemuseum.org

The exhibition is organized by the Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine. Funding for the exhibition has been provided by The Crosby Kemper Foundation, Mr. Richard Gilder & Ms. Lois Chiles, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Pyne, John & Anne Surovek, Mr. & Mrs. George Twigg III, and donors who wish to remain anonymous.

At the Brandywine River Museum the exhibition is supported by The Davenport Family Foundation Fund for Exhibitions.

November 8-17
Chester Springs Studio Fine Arts & Crafts Show. A showcase for regional artists who offer a beautiful selection of works just in time for holiday shopping. Chester Springs Studio, Lincoln Bldg. Galleries, Historic Yellow Springs. Fri, Nov. 8, 6 to 9; Mon-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, noon to 4. 610-827-7414; YellowSprings.org.

Design, Home Shows

October 4-November 3
Oxford Arts Alliance Decorator Showhouse & Gardens. Over thirty interior

designers, decorators and landscape professionals have enhanced the character of this distinctive home. Oxford Arts Alliance will donate a portion of ticket sales to local organizations. 1106 Hopeton Rd., Westover Hills, Greenville, DE. \$30. 302-654-2659; OxfordDecoratorShowhouse.com.

October 24-November 17
12th Annual Philadelphia Magazine Design Home 2013. This year's home is located at Wrenfield in Villanova. It features a dramatic 3-story reception hall, grand staircase, fireside library, gourmet chef's kitchen

and expansive master bedroom suite. Benefits Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House. \$20. For hours, 215-387-8431; PhilaRMH.org.

November 1-3
York Fall Home Show. See listing for *Suburban Fall Home Show* above. Utz Arena at the York Expo Center (formerly Toyota Arena), 334 Carlisle Ave., York. Fri, 11 to 9; Sat, 10 to 8; Sun, 10 to 6. Free. 888-433-3976; ACSHomeshow.com.

Eat, Drink & Be Merry

Friday-Sunday, Through October 20
Lancaster Brewing Company Oktoberfest. See *Oktoberfest* article in this issue.

October 3, 5
King of Prussia Beerfest Royale. See *Oktoberfest* article in this issue.

October 5
16th Annual Kennett Brewfest. See *Oktoberfest* article in this issue.

October 5-6
Brandywine Valley Wine Trail's 11th Annual Harvest Festival. The wineries of the wine trail celebrate the 2013 vintage. Enjoy picnicking, live music, hayrides through the vineyards, BBQs, wine tastings, tours and more. Purchase a Wine Trail Passport at any member winery, \$20. 866-390-4367; BVWineTrail.com.

October 6
Media Food & Crafts Festival. Many restaurants and craftspeople display on State St. There are music stages with bands playing throughout the day, children's activities. 9 to 5. Visitors are requested to bring canned or packaged goods for City Team Ministries. Rain date, Oct. 13. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

Equestrian Events

October 10-19
Annual PA National Horse Show. Premier equestrian competition, featuring over 1,200 of the best horses and riders in the country. Specialty stores offer equine-related products, gifts. Benefits the Harrisburg Kiwanis Youth Fdn. and PA National Horse Show Fdn. Farm Show Complex, Cameron St., Harrisburg. \$7-\$50. 717-770-0222; PaNational.org.

October 12
2013 Radnor Hunt Horse Trials. A 40-year tradition of autumn eventing continues in



Local Farm Markets

Bryn Mawr Farmers Mkt., Lancaster Ave. at Bryn Mawr train station. **Through Nov.,** Sat, 9 to 1. BrynMawrFarmersMarket.com.

Coatesville Farmers Mkt., Rts. 30 & 82. **Through Oct. 26,** Sat, 10 to 2. 201-888-8260; Facebook.com/CoatesvilleFarmersMarket.

Collegeville Farmers Mkt., 217 E. Main St. **Through Nov. 23,** Sat, 9 to 1. 610-454-1050; CollegevilleFarmersMarket.org.

Downingtown Farmers Mkt., Kerr Park, Rt. 30. **Year-round,** Thurs, 3 to 7. 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

East Goshen Farmers Mkt., E. Goshen Park, 1580 Paoli Pk. **Through Nov.,** Thurs, 3 to 7. EastGoshenFarmersMarket.blogspot.com.

Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., downtown. **Through Oct. 25,** Fri, 2 to 6. 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.

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

Malvern Farmers Mkt., Burke Park, Roberts Rd. and S. Warren Ave. **Year-round,** Sat, 9 to 1. 610-836-1391; GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Media Farmers Mkt., State St. b/w Monroe & Gayley. **Through Nov. 14,** Thurs, 3 to 7. 610-566-5039; MediaFarmersMarket.com.

New Garden Grower's Mkt., 8934 Gap Newport Pk. **Through Nov. 23,** Sat, 9 to 1. 610-972-7194.

Newtown Square Farmers Mkt., Mostardi Nursery, 4033 West Chester Pk. **June 5-Oct. 23,** Wed, 2 to 6. 610-353-1555; PRC.org.

Oxford Village Mkt., 3rd & Locust Sts. **Through Oct. 30,** Tues, 12:30 to 6. 610-998-9494; DowntownOxfordPA.org.

Phoenixville Farmers Mkt., 200 Mill St., under Gay St. Bridge. **Through Nov. 23,** Sat, 9 to 1. PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org.

Swarthmore Farmers Mkt., 341 Dartmouth Ave., at Swarthmore Co-Op. **Through Oct. 26,** Sat, 10 to 2. FarmToCity.org.

Upper Merion Farmers Mkt., 175 W. Valley Forge Rd. **Through Nov. 23,** Sat, 9 to 1. 610-265-1071; UpperMerionFarmersMarket.org.

West Chester - Artisan Exchange Indoor Artisan Foods & Farmers Mkt., 208 Carter Dr. Sat, 10 to 2. ArtisanExchangeWCPA.com.

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

West Grove Mkt., Harmony Park, Harmony Rd. **Through Oct.,** Thurs, 2 to 6. 610-932-5468; WestGroveFarmersMarket.com.

Malvern with dressage, 8 am, show jumping, 10 am, cross country 10:20 am. A pig roast with live music, good food and a silent auction, follows the last event, 3:30 pm, donation at the door. 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. RadnorHuntHT.org.

October 16-20
Fair Hill International 3-Day Event & Festival in the Country. Olympic-caliber athletes take on daunting drops and huge fences at top speeds. The Festival in the Country features food, Kids' Corner, classic cars and more. Benefits Union Hospital,

Cecil County, MD. Gallagher Rd., Rts. 273 & 213, Fair Hill, MD. \$10-\$15. 410-398-2111; FairHillInternational.com.

November 3
79th Running of the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup. Join the excitement in the country, with timber racing, food, holiday shopping in the equestrian boutiques. North of Rt. 926 and Newark Rd., Unionville. Gates open 11 am, Pony Hunt Cup, 12:30, Hunt Cup at 3. \$50 per car. Benefits the Chester County Food Bank. 484-888-6619; PaHuntCup.org.



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Family Fun

Through October

Tyler Arboretum Presents "Totally Terrific Treehouses." Come climb, explore and play at Tyler. 515 Painter Rd., Media. Mon-Fri, 9 to 5; Sat-Sun, 9 to 6. \$5-\$9. 610-566-9134; TylerArboretum.org.

Through October 6

The Franklin Institute Presents—SPY: The Secret World of Espionage. Featuring historical artifacts and the stories they have to tell—a collapsible motorbike, a two-man sub-

mersible and a CIA robotic catfish—combined with firsthand spy experiences like disguises, voice alteration and navigating through a field of laser beam. Find out what it's truly like to be a spy! Check website for hours. 222 N. 20th St., Philadelphia. \$13-\$28. 215-448-1200; FI.edu.

October 5

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

October 6

Old-Fashioned Carriage Drive at Historic Sugartown. Sugartown serves as a rest stop for a 7-mile drive featuring 15 horse-drawn vehicles. Children's games, craft activities and tours available. 690 Sugartown Rd., Malvern. 11 to 2. \$2-\$5; under 4, free. 610-640-2667; HistoricSugartown.org.



October 6

Fall Harvest & Great Pumpkin Patch Event at The Willows. Pumpkin picking, carving and painting, hayrides, games and demonstrations at this family event with traditional harvest activities and refreshments. 490 Darby-Paoli Rd., Villanova. 1 to 4. Free. 610-688-5600; RadnorRecreation.com.

October 6

23rd Annual Blessing of the Animals at Ryerss Farm. Bring your small pet on a leash or in a carrier to a short service, then enjoy a hayride and refreshments. 1710 Ridge Rd., Pottstown. 1 to 4 pm. Free. 610-469-0533; RyerssFarm.org.

October 12

Fall Family Bazaar at The Devon Senior Living. Vintage yard sale, craft show, pumpkins and mums for sale, raffle, food and more. 445 N. Valley Forge Rd., Devon. 10 to 4. 610-263-2300; TheDevonSeniorLiving.com.

October 12

Storytelling and Bonfire at Warwick County Park. Family-friendly activities such as music, storytelling, hayrides, food and an evening bonfire. 382 County Park Rd., Pottstown. 5 to 8. \$5. 610-469-1916; ChesCo.org/CCParks.

October 12-13

Rotorfest 2013 at the American Helicopter Museum. An all-helicopter air show featuring flight demonstrations, parachute team, amusement rides, music and helicopter rides (\$40). 1220 American Blvd., West Chester. 10 to 4:30. \$10-\$15. Rain or shine. 610-436-9600; HelicopterMuseum.org.

October 12-13

Harvest Days at Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum. Their biggest and oldest event, Harvest Days is a culmination of a year's worth of hard work with demonstrations, crafts, wagon rides, parade of cars and food to immerse you in Pennsylvania German traditions. 2451 Kissel

Hill Rd., Lancaster. 11 to 5. \$8-\$12. 717-569-0401; LandisValleyMuseum.org.

October 12-13

Hay Creek Apple Festival. Scarecrow making, pumpkin painting, rides, pancake breakfast, flea market and apple dessert contest. Joanna Furnace, Rt. 10, 3 mi. N of Morgantown. Sat, 7 to 5; Sun, 7 to 3. Free. 610-286-0388; HayCreek.org.

October 18

Avenue of Jacks at Longview Farm & Market. Gather up the whole family and carve pumpkins then help light them at dusk. Walk the grounds, view the jack-o-lanterns, enjoy a nice bonfire and listen to spooky music. 3215 Stump Hall Rd., Collegeville. 5 to 7. Rain date, Oct. 19. 610-584-8202; GreenerPartners.org.

October 20

West Goshen Township's Annual Harvest Festival. Fun for everyone with hayrides, scarecrow-making, pumpkin decorating, seasonal food and more. West Goshen Community Park, Fern Hill & N. Five Points Rds., West Chester. 2 to 4. WestGoshen.org.

October 22

Phoenixville's Halloween Parade. Begins at 300 block of Bridge St. and ends at 100 block of Bridge St., Phoenixville. 7 pm. 610-933-8801; Phoenixville.org.

October 23

Downtown West Chester's Halloween Parade. Floats, marching bands, cheerleaders and dance performances. Market and Church Sts. 7 pm. Rain date, Oct. 24. 610-436-9010; West-Chester.com.

October 25

Trick or Treat at Radnor Township Building. Ages 5 and under can come dressed in their costumes and enjoy a safe and fun trick or treat. 301 Iven Ave., Wayne. 9 to 4. Free. 610-688-5600; RadnorRecreation.com.

October 26

Phoenixville Pumpkinfest. Pumpkin derby races, carving contests, carnival and live entertainment on Main St., between Bridge & Church Sts., Phoenixville. 10:30 am to 6 pm. PhoenixvillePumpkinFest.com.

October 26

Colonial Plantation's Halloween on the Farm. Children can wear their costumes and visit six locations to receive a treat, then enjoy candle making, a bonfire with warm cider and ghost stories in the springhouse. 3900 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square. 11 to 5. \$8. 610-566-1725; ColonialPlantation.org.

Festivals, Fairs & Parades

October 4-5, 12

12th Annual Chocolate Walk & 15th Annual Artisans' Porch Walk in Lititz. Oct. 4-5, Artisans' Porch Walk show and sale of

art and crafts on private porches and lawns throughout town. Fri, 10 to 5; Sat, 10 to 4. 717-725-8637. Benefits local organizations that assist children. **Oct. 12,** the Chocolate Walk features chocolate candymakers and pastry chefs at over 30 tasting stations. 10 to 4. Buttons, \$20-\$25; sales are limited. LititzChocolateWalk2013.com. 717-560-2295. LititzPa.com.

October 4-6

89th Annual Unionville Community Fair. Family activities, contests, displays and interactive events, music, live animal exhibits, food

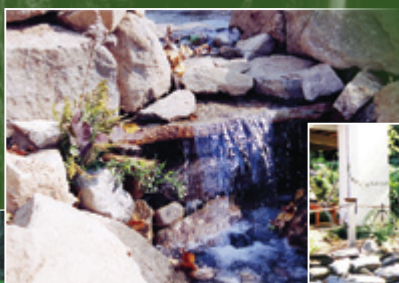
and auction of donated item, Sun, 5:30. Landhope Farms, Rts. 82 & 926, Unionville. Fri-Sat, 9 to 9; Sun, 10 to 4. UCFairInc.org.

October 5

St. David's Church 162nd Annual Fair and Country Auction. One of the oldest ongoing fairs in the country, this is a treat for the entire family with live entertainment, midway games for children, a puppet show, flea market, an auction, music, food and crafts. Old St. David's Church, 763 Valley Forge Rd., Wayne. 10 to 4. \$2. 610-688-7947; StDavidsChurch.org.

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October 5
Germantown Festival—Reenactment of the Battle of Germantown. Celebrate Germantown's rich colonial history with programs, tours and activities throughout the community and the annual reenactment of the Battle of Germantown. Cliveden of the National Trust, 6401 Germantown Ave., Chestnut Hill. 10 to 4. 215-848-1777; Cliveden.org.

October 5-6
32nd Annual Heritage Festival. A celebration of Berks County's history and transportation heritage through exhibitions, live music and art. The Heritage Center, 1102 Red Bridge Rd., Reading. 11 to 4:30. Free with \$5 parking donation. 610-374-8839; Co.Berks.PA.US/Parks.

October 26
2013 Chester County Preservation Fair. Informative presentations and open discussions on architectural history, fundraising and updates on preservation ordinances. Historic Yellow Springs, Lincoln Building, 1685 Art School Rd., Chester Springs. 9 to 2:30. YellowSprings.org/PreservationFair.html.

Film

October 17-27
The Philadelphia Film Festival. Over 200 screenings of 131 domestic and international narrative, documentary and short films at various locations in Philadelphia. FilmAdelphia.org/Festival.

Fundraisers

See also, *Outdoor Events, Sports.*

October 1
11th Annual People's Light Classic. A day of golf, dining, cocktails, silent auction, contests and prizes, all in support of Arts Discovery education programs at People's Light & Theatre. The Ace Club, 800 Ridge Pk., Lafayette Hill. For information and registration, 610-647-1900, ext. 119; PeoplesLight.org.

October 6
4th Annual Thorncroft Lobster Bake. Old-fashioned fun at Thorncroft Equestrian Center. Lobster (or chicken) dinner, a beer and wine bar and live music celebrates the completion of The Jimmy Moran Indoor Arena and say "thank you" to those who made it possible. 190 Line Rd., Malvern. 4:30 to 7:30. \$75; \$20 for age 12 and under. 610-644-1963; Thorncroft.org.

October 10
2nd Annual Ella Bella Fashion Show. Created to celebrate life, while also supporting Bringing Hope Home, an organization that pays essential household bills for local families with cancer, this is a night of shopping, fashion, fun and cocktails. Crowne Plaza Valley Forge Hotel, 260 Mall Blvd., King Of Prussia. 6 pm. \$100. 484-580-8395;

October 11
The Hickman's 10th Annual Art of Caring Event. Fun, fine food, entertainment and a silent auction featuring distinctive and unique items at this fundraiser for senior housing. The live and silent auctions offer a variety of one-of-a-kind art pieces and art-themed experiences. 400 N. Walnut St., West Chester. 6:30 pm. \$125. 484-760-6300; TheHickman.org.

October 12
Motorcycle Ride4PAKids. Join in a 2-hour, self-guided motorcycle ride then meet at The Office Bar & Grille for great food, drink specials, raffles and more. Proceeds from the ride and 20% of your food order supports Justice4PAKids programs. 1021 Morehall Rd., Malvern. \$25 per bike. 9:30 am. Justice4PAKids.com.

October 17-19
53rd Annual Shipley Shops. A shopping event featuring premier retailers and artists from across the country. Family Fun Day on Sat. The Shipley School, Yarnall Gymnasium, 814 Yarrow St., Bryn Mawr. Thurs, 10 to 6;

Fri, 8:30 to 4; Sat, 9 to 1. \$5-\$10; free on Sat. 610-525-4544; ShipleySchool.org.

October 26
Brandywine River Museum's All Hallows' Eve Costume Ball—The Devil's Playground Carnival. Join the Young Friends of the Brandywine Conservancy under the big top at the "fairgrounds." Enter if you dare for an evening to die for. Your fairgrounds pass includes games, cocktails, concession food, music and costume contest. Those not in costume will suffer an unspeakable fate. 9 pm to 1 am. For tickets, YoungFriends@Brandywine.org.

October 26
4th Annual "Headless Horseman's Ball" at Rock Ford Plantation. A costumes-optional, "Sleepy Hollow"-inspired gala fundraiser featuring music, dancing, an 18th-century-inspired dinner, live and silent auctions. 881 Rockford Rd., Lancaster. 7 to midnight. \$65. 717-392-7223; RockfordPlantation.org.

November 2
The Mane Event at Oberod—13th Annual Benefit for Reins of Life. An amazing evening featuring a catered menu, live and silent auctions, open bar with wine from a South Africa vineyard and other favorite wines and beers. Benefits Reins of Life, providing equestrian therapy for disabled children. Centreville, DE. 7 to 11 pm. \$65-\$140. 610-274-3300; ReinsOfLife.com.



November 6
Take a Bite Out of Autism Fundraising Event. Enjoy a taste of signature dishes from fine area restaurants including Margaret Kuo's and Sweet Jasmine's. Paoli Design Center, 1604-1616 Lancaster Ave., Paoli. 6 to 9 pm. Benefits The Timothy School in Berwyn. \$50. 610-725-0755; TakeABiteOutOfAutism.com.

November 7
Annual Fashion Show "Fashion to Fund the Future" for Home of the Sparrow. The evening



features boutique shops, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, runway fashion show and dinner. Benefits Home of the Sparrow, dedicated to improving the lives of homeless and low-income women and children. Desmond Great Valley Hotel, 1 Liberty Blvd., Malvern. Shopping, cocktails, 5 to 7; dinner and runway fashion show, 7 to 9. 610-647-4940; HomeOfTheSparrow.org.

November 7
Phoenixville Library Presents "Wine, Wit & Wisdom." A benefit for essential library programs featuring a wine presentation, dinner and silent auction and guest speaker Robb

Cadigan, author of *Phoenixville Rising*. River-Crest Golf Club & Preserve, 100 Golf Club Dr., Phoenixville. 5:45 to 9. Tickets start at \$125. 610-933-3013; PhoenixvilleLibrary.org/Wine-Wit-wisdom.

November 7
5th Annual Notable Kitchen Tour & Chef Showcase. The Main Line Committee, for the benefit of The Philadelphia Orchestra, is presenting a self-guided tour of six of the Main Line's newest and unique kitchens. Each will feature a cooking demonstration by a notable area chef with taste-testing samples available



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for all visitors. Floral designs and table settings will be displayed. There will also be shopping boutiques and gourmet marketplaces. 10 to 3. \$40. NotableKitchens.com.

Towns, Boroughs, Tours . . .

October 4, November 1

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; Lan-

casterArts.com. **A Main Line ARTitude**, 610-642-4040; FirstFridayMainLine.com. **Oxford**, 610-998-9494; DowntownOxfordPA.org. **Phoenixville**, 610-933-3070; PhxFirstFriday.com. **Wayne**, 610-687-7698; FirstFriday-Wayne.com. **West Chester**, 610-738-3350; DowntownWestChester.com; **Wilmington**, 302-576-2100; ArtLoopWilmingtonDE.com.

October 5

73rd Annual Chester County Day Tour. Experience Chester County's finest examples of original, reclaimed, restored, new and historically significant homes, this year in the

northwestern quadrant of the county. Benefits The Women's Auxiliary's "Gift of Time" for Chester County Hospital. Tickets \$40. Picnic lunch available, \$10. Previews: **Oct. 1**, Chester County Hospital, 7 pm; **Oct. 4**, Longwood Gardens, 5, 6 & 7 pm; Chester County Historical Society Auditorium, 6 & 7:30 pm. 610-431-5301; CCHosp.com.

October 5

41st Annual Historic House Tour of Chestertown, MD. Chestertown welcomes visitors to view the town's renowned historic houses. Benefits the Historical Society of Kent County, MD. 1 to 5 pm. \$25-\$30. Box lunch, \$12. 410-778-3499; KentCountyHistory.org.

October 12, November 9

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

Museums

Through November 17

Brandywine River Museum Exhibit. "Jamie Wyeth, Rockwell Kent and Monhegan," examines the fascination that the island of Monhegan, off the coast of Maine, held for both artists. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. Daily 9:30 to 4:30. \$6-\$12; under 6, free. 610-388-2700; BrandywineMuseum.org.

Through January 12, 2014

Delaware Art Museum Exhibits. **Oct. 12-Jan. 5**, "American Moderns, 1910-1960: From O'Keeffe to Rockwell," a major traveling exhibition featuring 57 paintings and sculptures. **Through Jan. 12**, "Femfolio," a print portfolio of 20 women artists important to the feminist movement of the 1970s. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, noon to 4. \$6-\$12; under 6, free; Sun, free. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.



Ongoing

National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum. View the works of German-born artist, Klaus Guido Grutzka—paintings are on permanent display at

NISHM. 50 S. First Ave., Coatesville. Mon-Sat, 10 to 3. \$5. 610-384-9282; LukensNHD.org.

Ongoing

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. On view now: "Common Destinations: Maps in the American Experience;" "The Flowering of American Tinware;" "Boston Furniture." 5105 Kennett Pk. (Rt. 52), Winterthur. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5. \$5-\$18. 302-888-4600; Winterthur.org.

Music, Dance & Live Shows

October 4

WCU Live! Presents The Classic Club, Brandenburg 5 & Co. Tempesta di Mare, the Philadelphia Baroque Orchestra Chamber Players, perform Bach's dazzling *Brandenburg Concerto #5*, alongside music by Scarlatti, Telemann and Couperin and even Pachelbel with his famous *Canon*. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, S. High St., West Chester. 7:30 pm. \$15-\$20. 610-436-2266; WCUPA.Edu/VisitingArtists/VAS.asp.

October 5

TEDx Phoenixville. TED is a nonprofit devoted to ideas worth spreading, bringing together people from three worlds: Technology, Entertainment, Design. The talk topic for this year is Past Perseverance, Present Performance,

Future Potential. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 10 am. \$18-\$40. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

October 11

Vox Ama Deus—"Grand Mozart." A feast for all Mozart lovers, the Ama Deus Ensemble performs Mozart's *Piano Concerto 24* and *Grand Mass in C* at Kimmel Center Perelman Theatre, 300 S. Broad St., Philadelphia. 8 pm. \$20-\$70. 610-688-2800; VoxAmaDeus.org.

October 11

Music on the Brandywine at Brandywine River Museum. The Sermon! performs a variety of classic soul, funk, jazz and more. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. 7:30 pm. \$25. 610-388-8326; BrandywineMuseum.org.

November 9

WCU Live! Presents The Masters of Motown. A ten-member cast comes together to reproduce the style, sound and feel of Motown. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, S. High St., West Chester. 7:30 pm. \$15-\$20. 610-436-2266; WCUPA.Edu/VisitingArtists/VAS.asp.

Outdoor Events, Sports

October 5

Philadelphia International Dragon Boat Festival. More than 140 dragon boat teams

compete, racing along a 500-meter course in multiple races. Teams gather on the Schuylkill River in Fairmount Park, Phila. 8 to 5:30. 610-642-2333; PhilaDragonBoatFestival.com.

October 6

40th Annual Marshalon Triathlon. Athletes, novice to ironman and their families, bike, canoe and pace-walk through the countryside. A family and dog-friendly event (dogs on leash) with music, food and drink. Benefits the all-volunteer West Bradford Fire Co. and preservation of the town of Marshalon. Rt. 162. 8 am. \$30. MarshalonTriathlon.com.

October 6

Delaware Humane Assoc. "Tails Around the Tower" Walk for Animals. A walk around the park by dogs and their people is just one part of this event—a festive atmosphere, music, refreshments, pet-friendly vendors, pet contests and more make it a perfect family outing. Rockford Park, 2000 Lookout Dr., Wilmington. 10:30 to 2:30. 302-571-8172; DEHumane.org.

October 13

7th Rally 'Round the Races. Friends of the Radnor Hunt Races and its beneficiary, the Brandywine Conservancy, gather for this scenic drive. Prizes for optimum time and mileage are awarded. Rally begins 9:30 am and ends around noon for a luncheon party

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at the last checkpoint—a secret location. \$150 per car includes lunch for four, children welcome. Entries are limited; reserve your spot early. Benefits the open space programs of the Brandywine Conservancy. 610-388-8398 or 610-388 8324; RadnorHuntRaces.org.



October 20
7th Annual Camphill Challenge. Take a ride and soak in the beautiful fall foliage and bucolic scenery that is Chester County. 100, 50, 25, 10 mi. and family-friendly routes offered. Benefits Camphill Special School. Begin at Kimberton Waldorf School, 410 W. Seven Stars Rd., Kimberton. Registration 7 am; first ride, 7:30. 610-469-9236; Camphill-Challenge.org.

October 27
2013 Penn Medicine at Radnor Run. A Mid-Atlantic USATF Grand Prix event featuring a 5-mile certified run and 1-mile fun run/walk. Benefits the American Lung Association of

PA. Radnor Twp. Bldg., 301 Iven Ave., Wayne. Registration, 7 am, race, 8:30. 800-LUNG-USA; LungInfo.org/RadnorRun.



Theater

Through October 13
The Rainmaker. A fast-talking charmer with promises of rain changes the lives of a farm town starved for water. People's Light & Theatre, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Tues-Thurs, 7:30; Fri-Sat, 8; Sun, 7; Wed, Sat, Sun, 2. Phone for tickets, 610-644-3500; Peoples-Light.org.

Through November 3
Monty Python's Spamalot. Tony-Award winning musical based on the 1975 cinematic classic, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. Media Theatre for the Performing Arts, 104 E. State St., Media. Phone for curtain times. \$25-\$42. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.

October 1-6
Cirque Eloize: Cirkopolis. A vibrant look into the comic book world, pushing the boundaries of visual and audio innovations. DuPont Theatre, 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. Tickets start, \$35. 800-338-0881; DuPontTheatre.com.

October 16-November 24
The Devil's Music: The Life and Blues of Bessie Smith. Miche Braden stars as Bessie Smith, the legendary "Empress of the Blues." *The Devil's Music* is an intoxicating musical journey into a transcendent and tortured soul. People's Light & Theatre, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Tues-Thurs, 7:30; Fri-Sat, 8; Sun, 7; Wed, Sat, Sun, 2. Phone for tickets, 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org. ♦

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

For more events visit



CountyLinesMagazine.com



Grace & Guitars

Brandywine Ballet Rocks the Stage, October 25-27

The Brandywine Ballet Company is warming up with a 34th season that's more vibrant than ever. Talented dancers will showcase their versatility in three entertaining shows of vastly different styles. We recommend you see them all.

Grace & Guitars is set to jumpstart the season with a fresh, new production—actually two ballets in one for double the excitement. The ballet's first act is George Balanchine's classic masterpiece *Serenade*, a dance reserved for the truly skilled. And to contrast with that classic beauty, Act II, a contemporary dance titled *Rock Ballet* features live music from the Downingtown School of Rock House Band. With period costumes, lighting and dance moves, *Grace & Guitars* will transport the audience through four decades of rock 'n' roll, debuting October 25-27.

Chester County audiences will be glad that Brandywine Ballet's signature holiday production of *The Nutcracker* will run again this year for eight performances, December 13-22. This treasured winter classic integrates original choreography by David Kloss and art director Donna Muzio with new, classic elements created by ballet mistress Nancy Page. Audience members young and old will delight in Clara's vivid dreams of her nutcracker and sugar

plum fairies. Families are invited to extend the magic with a pre-performance *Nutcracker Tea*, December 8, 9 and 15. A perfect way to savor the holidays.

When winter ends, the enchantment continues well into the spring season. Brandywine Ballet invites Chester Countians to be their guest during the welcomed return of a beloved fairy tale—*Beauty & the Beast*. This masterfully adapted love story will grace the stage May 2-4 and delight audiences as a romance told through dance. Colorful costumes, unforgettable music and mystical elements will capture viewers' hearts and imaginations. No matter your age, you'll get lost in this remarkable retelling. ♦

~ Dana Helm

Performances take place at Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, West Chester University. Tickets, \$25-\$40 (student, senior & group discounts) are on sale now. 610-696-2711; BrandywineBallet.com.



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UPCOMING EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS

The Art of Sound: Selected Works of Harry Bertoia

Member Opening: Wednesday, September 11th, 5-8p.m.

September 12th - November 17th, 2013

15th Auction for Artists and Collectors

Preview: Friday, November 1st, 5-8p.m.

Auction: November 7th, 5:30p.m.

For more information please visit www.demuth.org.

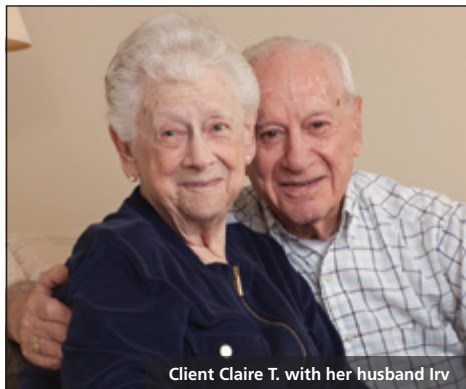
Image: Charles Demuth, *Self Portrait*, 1907, oil on canvas, 26 1/16 x 18 in., Collection of the Demuth Museum.

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Celebrate National Reading Group Month

Andrea Kiliany Thatcher, Chester County Book Company

Long before Oprah Winfrey started her Book Club in 1996, readers have enjoyed sharing the experience of reading an engaging book. It's no wonder that book groups flourish and that October celebrates this enduring institution.

One of the most frequent reader requests at the recently reopened Chester County Book Company is for book club recommendations. Despite the steady stream of books being published and the long list of classics, it can be hard to appeal to a wide range of literary tastes in a group and to keep readers with hectic schedules and maxed out DVR queues engaged in a monthly selection.

When you choose a book for your group, do you go for an immersive text that submerges the senses or something light and frothy to entertain the masses? An excellent question for October, when we mark National Reading Group Month.

Here are eight picks from Chester County Book Company to satisfy both sensibilities and last until the spring.

she found strength and hope in the power of her own mind. Although this book has not been released at press time, there are plans for a book group guide on the Simon and Schuster website. An excerpt was published in the *New York Times Magazine*.

2 The Whole Fromage by Kathe Lison

If your book club counts some foodies in its ranks, here's a perfect book for your group. And why not have a cheese tasting while discussing Kathe Lison's delectable *The Whole Fromage: Adventures in the Delectable World of French Cheese*?

A richly detailed memoir of Lison's journey from cheese novice to expert, the book also takes you from the Pyrenees to the Loire Valley. You'll find that the fromage-speak—for which there's a glossary—is simple enough for a casual connoisseur yet sophisticated enough to educate and delight an expert. Any fan of travel writing would also be charmed by this book. A Reader's Guide plus a sample cheese plate menu are available on the Random House website.

3 The Family by David Laskin

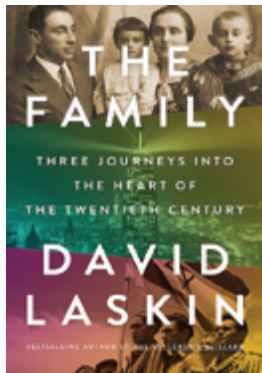
Historical fiction fans will enjoy this melding of reality and embel-

1 A House In the Sky by Amanda Lindhout

Our first pick is a thriller not for the squeamish or those looking for an entertaining escape from the realities of life. The realities of author Lindhout's life are that she was a journalist abducted in Somalia and subjected to horrific abuse as her family and government squabbled over ransom.

This is the story of her survival and her fantastical “house in the sky,” where





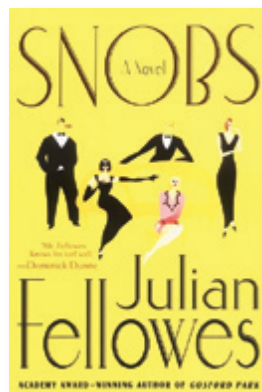
lishment as David Laskin mines his own family genealogy for dynamic players in the drama of modern history. This is the story of a Jewish family split into three branches over the course of the 20th century.

One branch emigrated to America to found the Maidenform Bra Company, one moved to Palestine as pioneers in the birth of the state of Israel, and the third remained in Europe, destined to suffer the horror of the Holocaust. This title will be available October 15.

4 Snobs

by Julian Fellowes

Instead of the usual book-and-movie night, how about a twist on the tradition? Rather than watching the film



adaptation of a novel, read Julian Fellowes' entertaining *Snobs* and choose one of his masterful large- or small-screen projects to view. Choose the inimitable *Gosford Park* (available on Netflix)

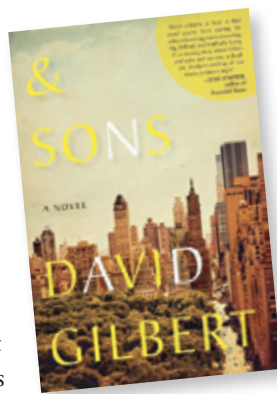
or the hugely popular *Downton Abbey*, which returns to PBS on January 5.

Snobs is a modern story on the same themes as Fellowes' popular period pieces—aristocracy, social climbing and the drama of everyday life. A comedy of manners in the old tradition told in new times.

5 & Sons

by David Gilbert

As long as the edict “write what you know” persists, so will books about authors. David Gilbert's *& Sons* doesn't



Dyer. Dyer's classic of teen angst supplies a novel-within-a-novel and the cast of characters revolves around Dyer's three estranged sons. The Upper East Side setting adds a dose of privilege to the story and glamour to the telling.

6 Love Is a Canoe

by Ben Schrank

Romantic relationships are the focus of *Love Is a Canoe*, another book about an author and another book-within-a-book. In this iteration there's lots of publishing industry fodder for those who fancy themselves in the know and a pairing for nearly any heterosexual couple of any age to relate to.

The story revolves around an author who finds himself counseling flailing partners and becoming involved with the book editor promoting the anniversary of his original tome. In turns funny and thought-provoking, the story is always entertaining. Book clubs can find discussion questions at *ReadingGroupGuides.com*.



7 The Orphan Master's Son

by Adam Johnson

If your book club is tired of dystopian novels for young adults (or secretly in

entirely avoid the tropes of the genre but neatly transcends them with this story of a Salinger-esque aging author A.N.

love with them) you're sure to appreciate *The Orphan Master's Son*. This is the dystopia of grown ups and a little too close to reality for reassurances like “it's just a story.”

The 2013 Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction follows orphan Pak Jun Do up the social ladder of an alternative-reality North Korean police state. The book has been compared to George Orwell's *1984*, which might be a good companion piece for compare-and-contrast discussions. Since this Pulitzer Prize winner has received so much press, there's plenty of material for discussion on the Internet.

8 Whistling Past the Graveyard

by Susan Crandall

Fans of Southern American fiction, like *The Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, are sure to enjoy Susan Crandall's novel about a young girl who runs away from her grandmother's home to find her momma in 1963 Nashville.

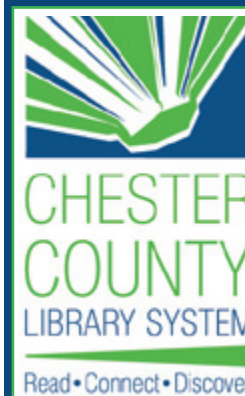
As the pursuit turns into a road trip with a black woman and the white baby as traveling companions, race plays as heavy a role as in many Southern stories from the era, prompting as many questions.

This is billed as a young adult novel, but crosses genres like many well-told coming of age stories. You'll find a reading group guide on the Simon & Schuster website. ♦

Chester County Book Company has reopened just a few doors from its prior location. Now at 967 Paoli Pk., West Goshen Center, West Chester: 610-696-1661; CCBMC.com.



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GRACE & GUITARS BY BRANDYWINE BALLET
October 25-27

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Gardening for Fall Color and Beyond

Lenny Wilson, The Delaware Center for Horticulture

Plan and plant now for a colorful array of foliage, flowers and berries in your autumn garden.

Dwarf Fothergilla

Autumn is in the air. How many times have you heard that? Everyone senses a change in the season—it's something you can literally see, feel and hear. Seeing the intensifying colors on leaves of trees, shrubs and even perennials throughout our region alerts us that fall has arrived. We can feel the day begin and end with cooler temperatures. And as the daylight shortens, we hear the buzzing of insects wane, harkening the end of the season.

Yet as one gardening season ends, another is just beginning. Cooler temperatures signal the opportunity to add new plants with more color and texture to your garden. If you want to extend the beauty and seasonal interest in your yard, then

autumn is the perfect time to check out the most striking plants and see what inspires you. Plants with multi-season interest in garden centers and farm markets are ripe for the picking.

Add Color with These Choices

Here are eight great plants that will thrive in Brandywine Valley gardens and provide eye-catching bursts of autumn color. Ask for these plants by their botanical names to make sure you get the right variety, then choose the best specimens at your local garden center.

Rejoice in the vibrancy of the fall season with colorful arrays of foliage, flowers and berries!



Dwarf Fothergilla

One of the great American native shrubs is **Dwarf Fothergilla** (*Fothergilla gardenii*), a favorite because of its interest throughout the year. Honey-scented bottlebrush flowers appear in early spring, attracting pollinators galore. Following a cloak of green leaves during the summer, the shrub is transformed into a myriad of yellows, oranges and reds, often on the same branch or plant, making it a trifecta color choice for fall foliage color.

Threadleaf Bluestar (*Amsonia hubrichtii*) is a workhorse perennial in the garden, performing strongly from early spring when it flowers through fall when the feathery leaves develop an outstanding deep, golden tone. The plant's delicate texture belies its tough resilience and deer resistance—two pluses in our area. It behaves much like ornamental grass, gracefully moving with the slightest breeze.



Threadleaf Bluestar



Sheffield Pink
Chrysanthemum

PHOTO: HARRY LONG

Sheffield Pink Chrysanthemum (*Den-
drantherum* 'Sheffield Pink') enjoys a sunny, well-drained location and naturalizes quite easily. The roots grow rapidly underground making it a simple plant to dig, divide and share with friends, reasons for its popularity. These mums are drought tolerant and make excellent cut flowers. And this hardy chrysanthemum is available in tones of pink, peach, maroon and yellow. Buy a variety of colors of this prolific bloomer for visual appeal in your garden.

The oak-shaped leaves of the **Oak-
leaf Hydrangea** (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) develop deep shades of red, maroon and burgundy on a deciduous shrub that's tolerant of many types of planting conditions from full sun to shade. Another wonderful American native shrub that holds interest in the garden all year round, oakleaf hydrangea produces cone-shaped, creamy white flowers in the summer that dry on the stem to a golden brown and add depth to its rugged appearance.



Oakleaf Hydrangea



Aromatic Aster



Greybush Spicebush



Toadlily



Japanese Anenome

The Delaware Center for Horiculture uses this **Aromatic Aster** (*Symphotrichum oblongifolius* 'October Skies') in many streetscape plantings because of its durability, disease resistance, drought tolerance and vibrant flowers. This late-flowering aster carpets the ground and blooms until frost, providing much-needed nectar and seed to many fall-migrating insects and birds. An excellent native perennial to use massed in sweeps or on dry, rocky slopes.

The **Toadlily** (*Tricyrtis hirta* 'Sinonome') comes alive in the fall with the appearance of exotic, white, purple-speckled flowers along its arching stems. This hardy perennial can be planted in the shade to part sun areas of the garden and is suitable in courtyards, patios and containers. Over time it will form a showy colony and the orchid-shaped flowers are both stunning and good for cut flower arrangements.

Another showy perennial for the fall garden is **Japanese Anenome** (*Anenome* 'Honorine Jobert'). Not to be confused with spring-blooming types, this fall-blooming plant lends an air of sophistication to every garden as the two-foot long stems emerge from basal foliage to support its crisp white flowers. Excellent as a cut flower, Japanese Anenome also expands gradually over time to form an impressive clump. Other varieties of this plant come in pink, rose and lavender.

The final recommendation, **Greybush Spicebush** (*Lindera glauca* var. *salicifolia*), is sometimes difficult to find in nurseries but definitely worth the hunt. This shrub is a spectacular plant in a four-season garden. The deer-resistant, blue-green foliage turns a brilliant red-orange-purple in the fall

and finally settles into a glowing nutmeg hue throughout the winter into spring. The leaves cling to the branches until new spring growth forces them off. It's an excellent shrub for privacy screening or as a specimen set aglow by the setting sun. ♦

All the plants in this article can be seen growing in public gardens and landscapes of the Delaware Center for Horticulture in the Trolley Square neighborhood of Wilmington. Learn more at TheDCH.org.

Lenny Wilson, who provided photos, has worked with TheDCH for 14 years. An artist who makes hand-crafted shoes out of plant materials, Wilson's work has been exhibited at the Philadelphia Flower Show and the U.S. Botanic Garden in Washington, D.C.

Resources

Here are some Brandywine Valley sources for the plants featured in this article.

Linvilla Orchards
598 Linvill Rd., Media
610-876-7116; Linvilla.com

Mostardi's Nursery
4033 West Chester Pk.
Newtown Square
610-356-8035; Mostardi.com

Gateway Garden Center
7277 Lancaster Pk.
Hockessin, DE
302-239-2727
GatewayGardens.com

Old Country Gardens
414 Wilson Rd. Wilmington, DE
302-652-3317
OldCountryGardens.com

Across COUNTY LINES A Fall Ramble

It's dawn on Sunday. It's cold. The sun is at the horizon and rising slowly. I take my last gulp of coffee. My water bottle—I check again—is full. A map is on my handlebars. It has my tentative route: a circumnavigation of *County Lines* Country, about 100 miles. That's a century for cyclists. My shoes slip into the clips, and—up, down, up, down—I'm off.

From the parking lot in Valley Forge Park, I head northwest on Route 23, past Washington's Chapel. I'm soon in Phoenixville and detour to go down Bridge Street. Nothing is open yet. Bistro on Bridge, Majolica, the Colonial Theatre. I cruise by, seeing the store signs. A shopkeeper watches me curiously. Another ignores me, focusing on his broom. I return to Route 23 and continue northwest.

Soon the landscape opens up. The traffic is light. At Route 100, I consider riding into Pottstown, but don't. I head straight for Elverson, past the Home for Aged Equines. A country town. I see the sign for Chester County Hearth & Home and look in the windows and think about an open-pit fireplace. For some reason, it makes me hungry. I search through my saddlebag for a granola bar.

I look at the map. The traffic is building. I'll avoid Honey Brook; take the back roads. It's unfamiliar territory. The corn is tall, where it's still standing. The harvesters are out in force. At Parkesburg, I reach my midpoint, and break for my cinnamon roll. I try to eat it slowly. Parkesburg is very much a Pennsylvania workers' town. Picturesque, in its own way. Old Gothic and Federalist buildings, mixed with new construction of indeterminate style. Middle America, at its best.

Cutting corners, I go through Unionville. The ride to Kennett Square is largely with the wind, and the scenery—rolling hills, silos, corn fields, horses—is wonderful. In Kennett, I slow down past several restaurants: La Verona, Talula's Table. They look inviting, but I'm not dressed and not hungry. Heading out of town though, I can't resist the Country Butcher. I fill my saddle bag with cheeses.

The sky is darkening and I realize I have to hustle. Route 52 to West Chester—I'll ease a bit as I roll down Market Street—then Paoli Pike, on to Devon. Finally, back to Valley Forge. My legs ache. My seat is sore. But, alas, I did the Chester County loop, and I beat the dark.

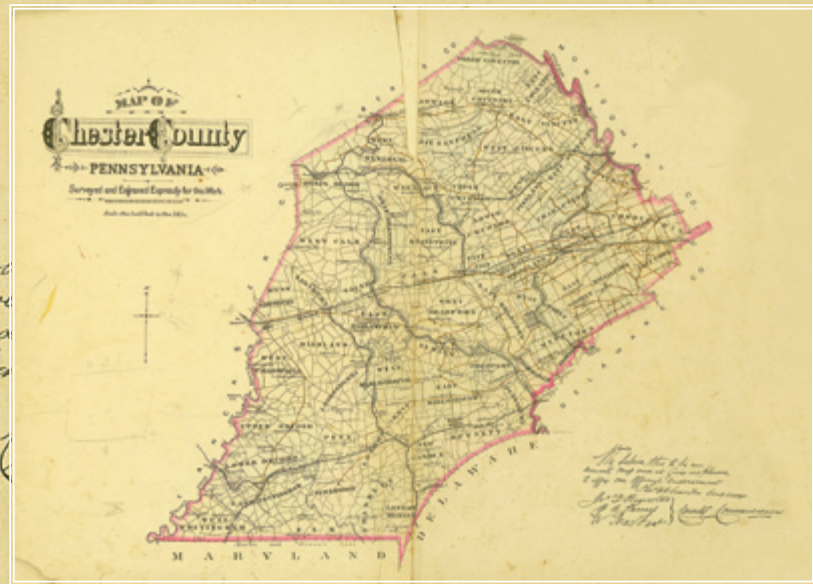
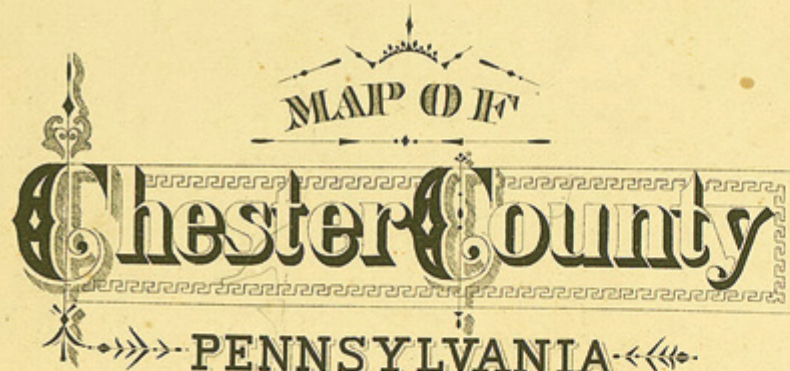


PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SPECIAL THANKS TO THE ATHENAEUM OF PHILADELPHIA



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Main Street Kitchens
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Across County Lines

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*Best of the Best Restaurants 2013;
Best American / Continental
See their ad on page 76

Boyertown

Greshville Antiques & Fine Art

1041 Reading Ave. (Rt. 562)
610-367-0076; GreshvilleAntiques.com
See their ad on page 28

Elverson

Chester County Hearth & Home

19 Park Ave.
610-913-0730; ChesterChimney.com
See their ad on page 30

Gap

Indian Run Restoration

405 Cains Rd.
717-442-8336; IndianRunRestoration.com
See their ad on page 26

Lancaster

Demuth Museum

120 E. King St.
717-299-9940; Demuth.org
See their ad on page 28

Lancaster Brewing Company

302 N. Plum St.
717-391-6258; LancasterBrewing.com
See their ad on page 76

Fulton Bank

1 Penn Sq.
717-581-3166; FultonBank.com
*See their website for more locations.
See their ad on page 13

Leola

Main Street Kitchens

The Shoppes at the Meadowbrook
345 W. Main St.
717-556-8640; MainStKitchens.com
See their ad on page 5

New Holland

Martin's Chair

124 King Court
717-355-2177; MartinsChair.com
See their ad on page 33

King Construction

888-354-4740; KingBarns.com
See their ad on page 16

Nottingham

Herr Foods

20 Herr Dr. 800-63-SNACK; Herrs.com
See their ad on page 12

Paradise

Dutchie's Stone Works, LLC

717-587-8789; DutchiesStoneWorks.com
See their ad on page 79

MARYLAND

Chestertown

Kent County Tourism

410-778-0416; KentCounty.com
See their ad on page 66

Chestertown

410-778-0416; Chestertown.com
See their ad on page 68

Rockhall

410-778-0416; RockhallMD.com
See their ad on page 69

We believe this to be an accurate map and it gives us pleasure to offer our official endorsement
Joseph Reynolds
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Wm. MacFarr } County Commissioners

Across County Lines

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610-527-4268; 800-791-2424
ShadyLadyInc.com
See their ad on page 82

Chadds Ford

Brandywine River Museum
Rt. 1, 610-388-2700
BrandywineMuseum.org
See their ad on page 19

Pagano's by Chef Anthony

101 Ridge Rd.
610-459-5900; PaganosByChefAnthony.com
See their ad on page 76

Kennett Square

La Verona
114 E. State St.
610-444-2244; LaVeronaPA.com
See their ad on page 76

McLimans

940 W. Cypress St.
610-444-3876; McLimans.com
See their ad on page 81

Waterbury Kitchen & Bath

818 E. Baltimore Pk.
610-444-9192; WaterburyDesign.com
See their ad on the Inside Back Cover

Malvern

Flowing Springs Landscape Design

426 Old Conestoga Rd.
610-408-0739; FlowingSpringsDesign.com
See their ad on page 22

Malvern Federal Savings Bank

100 W. King St.
610-647-7944; MalvernFederal.com
* See their website for more locations.
See their ad on page 25

Newtown Square

Christopher Chocolates

3519 West Chester Pk.
610-359-1669; Christopher-Chocolates.com
See their ad on page 82

Paoli

Walter J. Cook Jeweler

Chestnut Village Shoppes, 36 Chestnut Rd.
610-644-5347; WalterJCookJeweler.com
See their ad on page 10

The Creative Nook

95 E. Lancaster Ave.
610-644-6665; CreativeNook.com
See their ad on the Inside Front Cover

Sugarbridge Kitchen & Bath

Paoli Design Center, 1616 E. Lancaster Ave.
610-524-6091; Sugarbridge.com
See their ad on the Back Cover

Pottstown

Alegacy Furniture

Rt. 100 (between Rts. 422 & 23)
610-970-4340; AlegacyFurniture.com
See their ad on page 20

West Chester

Giuseppe Kitchen & Bath Design

129 E. Gay St.; 610-436-8161
GiuseppeKitchenAndBathDesign.com
See their ad on page 33

Key Financial, Inc.

1560 McDaniel Dr.
610-429-9050; KeyFinancialInc.com
See their ad on page 6

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Brandywine River Museum
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We believe this to be an accurate map and it gives us pleasure to affix our official endorsement

Joseph Reynolds
W. MacFarr

County Commissioners

Where Else ... But SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY

Carol Metzker

Where else can you follow an Amish horse-drawn buggy down a highway, eat Mexican-style avocado ice cream, buy locally made leather boots that are as comfortable as they are gorgeous, pair a glass of local wine with a delectable dish of farm-fresh tomatoes and mushrooms conjured up by a first-class chef, take your pick of museums to visit, find a 400-year-old arrowhead and meet technologists or pharmaceutical scientists who are designing our future ... all in one day? Southern Chester County has so much to offer, it's tough to know where to start.

Once part of the King Ranch, 771-acre Laurels Preserve is now owned by the Brandywine Conservancy and protected by a conservation easement.
PHOTO: CHUCK BOWERS THE LAURELS



Jenny Whibley Sings
Brandywine River Museum

PHOTO: CHUCK BOWERS



Longwood Gardens hosts a stunning
chrysanthemum exhibit.

Take It From the Top

Tucked into Wyeth country in Chadds Ford, the small Sanderson Museum displays a charming Chester County map created in 1937. Compiled by Christian C. Sanderson and illustrated by Andrew Wyeth, the map features notable places and people: Pennsylvania founder William Penn, General Anthony Wayne who fought at the Battle of the Brandywine, and Madam Louise

Homer, an opera diva who lived in Chester County many times during her early 20th-century career. Frame the map as a work of art or use it as a guide for visiting local landmarks, including Brandywine Battlefield and Longwood Gardens.

Around the corner from the Sanderson Museum, take Route 1 southward—the whole of southern Chester County awaits. Connect with history and the arts, dine,

shop and breathe in the lush Pennsylvania countryside.

Along the highway, stop at world-class sites: the Brandywine River Museum, Longwood Gardens, and homes and buildings that reflect influences as diverse as the du Pont family and the Revolutionary War.

Off the beaten path, meander past farmland, rolling hills, streams and the banks of the Brandywine River where Lenape people



Start your trip at the
Brandywine Valley Tourism Center.



Oxford is a study in contrasts.



Sanderson Museum is full of treasures.



Visit Washington Headquarters
at the Brandywine Battlefield



La Varona is just one of many restaurants along State Street in Kennett Square.



Michoacana serves up exotic Mexican-style ice cream, also in Kennett Square.

once gathered. Discover farmhouses and fields that hid secret stations and routes of the 19th-century Underground Railroad.

A Feast for the Eyes ... and the Palate

At marvelous little restaurants scattered throughout the southern part of the county, creative chefs are serving up delights with farm-to-table fruits, vegetables, cheeses and meats in a variety of fascinating settings: fine dinners overlooking gardens at The Farmhouse Restaurant at Loch Nairn Golf Club, evening culinary adventures at Talula's Table in Kennett Square, and Sunday brunch with classic Eggs Benedict with local Canadian bacon at Catherine's in Unionville. You can also celebrate special occasions on the patio or in the banquet rooms with seasonal menus at The Gables in Chadds Ford.

Ready for a snack? A note taped to the storefront window of La Michoacana Ice Cream in Kennett Square asserts, "You can't buy happiness, but you can buy ice cream." The treats there are bliss. Owner Noelia Scharon suggests that patrons add more cin-

namon to ice cream and horchata—"the way the Mexicans do."

For more fun food made in the county enjoy Butterscotch Krimpets thanks to TastyKake in Oxford, or snack on potato chips made by Herr's in Nottingham.

A sign in Oxford announces, "Big Mama's Soul Food Café Coming Soon." That and fresh vegetables plus a peek at Amish buggies at the Amish Farmers' Market are worth another trip to the southern tip of the county.

Glorious Palettes

Pennsylvanians would be hard-pressed to find a more bountiful and beautiful area than southern Chester County. It can also boast of talented artists who capture its essence. Fine artists—painters, sculptors, musicians and creative writers—as well as artisans—potters, jewelry designers and quilters—flourish.

The newest art gallery in Kennett Square, Mala Galleria, celebrates its first anniversary with a party on First Friday in October. Perhaps the most well-known art collection in the county is at the Brandywine River

Museum, which brings three generations of Wyeth masterpieces and great works by Pyle, Weymouth and others to art lovers from far and wide.

Opportunities abound to take in the performing arts—dancers and musicians on stage at Kennett Flash and at Longwood Gardens. Community theater buffs can head to the Oxford Arts Alliance in November for Avon Grove Community Theater's show, *The Case of the Malted Falcon*.

The lively Oxford Arts Alliance is also offering a splendid Decorator Showhouse & Garden during the month of October. More than 30 designers, decorators and landscape artists have collaborated to enhance a Wilmington-area home overflowing with charm.

The area's boutique vineyards and wineries are known for their role in the county's culinary arts and as sites for concerts, cultural events and plein air painting. Check websites for details on music—jazz, piano, bands—or art happenings at Chaddsford Winery, Kreutz Creek Vineyards, Penns Wood Winery, Paradoxx Vineyard, Black

Walnut Winery, Va La Vineyard and Galer Estate Vineyard and Winery.

On the deck at the Galer Estate, it's not uncommon to find gifted artists with their pastels and paintbrushes portraying beautiful rows of vines on canvas, steps away from rooms where the bouquet of grapes on wine-making days is intoxicating.

If You Can Dream It, You Can Find It

Whether you're seeking ways to express yourself in designer wear or accessories for your home, if you can dream it, you can find it here. One-of-a-kind stores and boutiques for shopping trips that are as entertaining as they are useful are a hallmark. Begin at one of the many antiques sellers in Chadds Ford to take home a piece of the past, then head south on Route 1 for more shopping adventures.

Not far from Kennett Square's charming "bookshop row," Green-Eyed Lady and the Eco Boutique, the new kid on the block is the Market at Liberty Place. The market is a gathering space, a court for food to eat now and later, and a place to pick up a great gift. Try a crepe (mine with brie, apples and walnuts was yummy); buy seafood and Paradoxx wine to take home for dinner.

Allow yourself extra time at the Dansko Company Store in Jennersville because there's more to explore than you could ever guess. Dansko's outdoor garden and sculptures are charming, as is the company lobby's "living wall" covered in verdant plants.

The main attraction is, however, the modern, airy showroom designed to thrill shoe aficionados. Between shelves and carousels of sleek colorful clogs, suede boots,

leather flats, strappy sandals and shiny patent leather heels, find comfortable benches and mirrors for trying on every shoe in your size. The prices are so good, you can walk out in one pair and carry another. (Ask to see my candy-apple-red patent leather clogs for fun and my polished black leather shoes for work.)

Take Time to Go Back in Time

Travel to the early 1700s via the home of John Chads. If walls could talk, they would tell the story of the Quaker farmer who ferried travelers across the Brandywine River before a bridge was constructed. Chads also petitioned for a license to operate a tavern and lent his name to Chadds Ford.

Built by staunch abolitionists, The Longwood Progressive Meeting House was rumored to have been a site where escaped slaves gathered after traveling the Underground Railroad. Lucretia Mott, advocate for freed slaves and women's rights, and abolitionist Frederick Douglass spoke there in the late 1800s. Today that same building, near the entrance to Longwood Gardens, is the site of the Brandywine Valley Tourism Center.

A center for education as well as a place that made history, historically black university Lincoln University near Oxford "was the first institution founded anywhere in the world to provide a higher education in the arts and sciences for youth of African descent," wrote its former president.

To go further back in time, drink in the landscape of Toughkenamon, originally inhabited by the Lenape people.

Entertainment for All

Southern Chester County is also the home of great activities and events. Tough-

Side Trip, A Bit Outside Chester County

For more fun just minutes from Chadd's Ford, head to Glen Mills and Concordville, for shops and eateries to suit every taste.

At Glen Eagle Square, pick up a Pandora pendant or Brighton bag at Mykonos or barefoot running shoes at Trail Creek Outfitters. And enjoy local fare during Happy Hour at upscale yet casual Harvest Seasonal Grill and Wine Bar.

Pop over to Olde Ridge Village for restaurants, shops and professional services—Frank Alexander's Salon for you and Dashing Dogs Grooming Studio for your pampered pooch. Get out your needles after visits to A Garden of Yarn and Quilter's Corner.

For a unique and wonderful experience, visit Terrain at Styers and turn your home into a spa, exquisite garden and showpiece. Fall in love with skin and bath products, garden accessories, and lighting accents. The Terrain Garden Café in the delightful antique greenhouse is just the spot to enjoy organic meals after shopping to your heart's content.

kenamon is your spot for polo. Plantation Field is known by horse lovers for equestrian competitions and as the site of the 2013 Chester County Balloon Fest. Soar at New Garden Flying Field.

Although you can experience buggies, balloons and browsing for baubles in one day in southern Chester County, treat your self. Go back again ... and again. Where else is there always more to see and do? ♦



The Kennett Flash hosts music and other events.



Check out the Herr's Factory tour to see how snacks are made.



Galer Estate Vineyards inspire local artists.



The Dansko Company Store in Jennersville has shoes galore.



Episcopal Academy

Cindy Walker

Why Visit School Open Houses?

If a picture is worth a thousand words, how much is a visit to a school worth?

You wouldn't buy a house based solely on a glossy brochure and virtual tour. So it makes sense that if you're considering an independent school for your son or daughter, you'll do more than review look-books, click through schools websites, and watch a few student-produced YouTube videos, no matter how charming.

Just as you need to walk through a prospective home and yard—opening a few closets—you'll want to visit the school buildings and grounds—stepping inside classrooms—of the schools where your child may be spending the bulk of her waking hours.

Why Parents Should Go

The up-close-and-personal look at a future school is a key part of the decision-making process. Beyond researching the mission, values and college-acceptance rates, parents need to experience the school community in action. Listening to the panels of staff, students and alums is a great start, so long as there's also a walk through the halls and a visit to a class session and other activities.

Parents will likely have questions about the admissions process, financial aid and their child's special interests that they'll want to

follow up on privately or with specific teachers or administrators. Open house sessions may provide that opportunity or at least help identify the right next contact for an individual session.

And school open houses are good prep for the college-visit ritual that is closer than you think!

What Schools Hope For

Open houses are key opportunities for schools to connect with prospective parents and students and to display what's distinctive about their approach to education. Over the years, schools have become expert at helping families decide if there's a right fit by familiarizing them with their school through a range of methods.

Admissions staffs understand that the process can seem daunting, and they can help families de-stress and feel like partners in the process, which they are. Parents as well as schools have a vested interest in finding a good match between student and school.

Through a variety of events—structured and less so, formal and less so, in groups and with individual guides—schools work to show off their best side, in action. And schools do their best to help parents stay on track and on schedule with newsletters and



Delaware Valley Friends School



Baldwin School



Delaware County Christian School

updates, so admissions and financial aid forms meet deadlines, tests are scheduled and taken, and transcripts and recommendations arrive on time. Schools are your experienced partners in this process.

Before Your Visit

You'll want to check for an open house scheduled at a convenient time—schools accommodate busy families with morning, evening and weekend sessions. (There is a Directory of Area School Open Houses after this article and online at CountyLinesMagazine.com.) Then find out if registration is required, or if it's a walk-in-Wednesday-style session, which many schools use.

A review of the school website will give you an overview and likely answer preliminary questions and spark others specific to your child. Make some notes to help you remember. Talking to alums or families with children at your target schools may also help you make the most of your visit.

During and After Your Visit

Many parents find that the best measure of whether a school is the right fit for their child is to ask the simple question: "Would my child fit here?" Your sense of whether your child would flourish and be supported in the school environment is key.

You may get some sense of the answer by seeing if current students are engaged and excited. What's the feeling in the classrooms? How do teachers and students interact? What's the activity level in the halls? Do teachers know each student academically, socially and emotionally? Try to envision your child at this school.

If you're interested in a school after the initial visit, you may want to—or you may be required to—schedule a visit with your child or have your child visit for a "shadow day" to attend classes, as a kind of test drive (to mix metaphors with real estate open houses).

Even if you're considering enrolling your child in the lower school, you may still want to get a sense of what students are like in middle and upper levels. Most students don't switch private schools, so your decision may have long-term consequences.



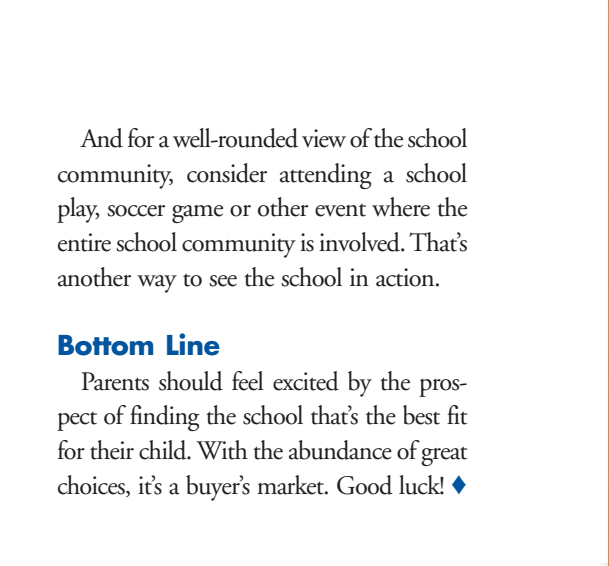
Agnes Irwin School



The Haverford School



Malvern Preparatory School



Devon Preparatory School



Bishop Shanahan High School



WHAT YOU'LL SEE AT OPEN HOUSES

Open Houses are the best chance for parents and prospective students to get a sense of the school community. Here's what some area schools are planning.

Bottom Line

Parents should feel excited by the prospect of finding the school that's the best fit for their child. With the abundance of great choices, it's a buyer's market. Good luck! ♦

Open House at **Agnes Irwin** is a time for our school community (teachers, students, selected parents, administrators) to interact with visiting families, and we encourage parents to bring their children as well. Lower School parents tour visitors to our Lower School, Upper school girls give tours of our Middle and Upper School. We strive to give our visitors a visual tour that reflects what our girls and school are all about.

Linda Solomon
Assistant Admissions Director, Lower School

No one can demonstrate [the value of a **Benchmark School** education] better than our current and former students and their parents and, thus, a central feature of our Open Houses is the presentation of a panel comprised of a few of our oldest current students, a member of our alumni, and a current or alumni parent.

Robb Gaskins, Head of Benchmark School

Our Open House is designed to be an interactive individual experience for each family that attends. We have a presentation where current **Devon Prep** students talk about their many experiences, offer a one-student-to-one-family campus tour where all our teachers talk about the classroom experience and our students showcase their talents.

Patrick C. Kane, Director of Admissions

Closer Look at **The Episcopal Academy** offers interested parents the opportunity to spend a morning while school is in session. Parents considering EA for their child for Lower, Middle or Upper Schools sit in on classes, tour the campus with student guides, attend Chapel, and meet faculty, students, administrators, and current parents. Closer Look is invaluable in providing parents with a chance to really know the EA community.

Dr. Catherine J. Hall, Assistant Head of School

Layton Preparatory School expands educational opportunities for students who learn differently and those who seek an upper school program that focuses on the academic needs of the individual. We offer a challenging college prep curriculum designed to strengthen learning strategies, cultivate unique talents and empower our students to successfully meet the challenges of higher education and life.

Barton Reese, Head of School

Prospective families [at **Malvern Prep**] will have the chance to test out our brand new Learning Commons, complete with makerspace, 3D printers, 'write-able' walls, 80 iPads and Chromebooks, and furniture designed to promote collaboration. This is the library of the future.

Christian M. Talbot, Head of School

Open houses [at **Montgomery School**] begin with informal, interactive classroom activities hosted by teachers from each division and curricular area. They are followed by walking and golf cart tours of our beautiful, 60-acre campus conducted by teams of 7th and 8th grade student guides and parents. For those families with young children, we provide story time, crafts and play time supervised by staff members, but hosted and staffed by our 5th graders.

Deb Goggins, Admissions Director

Our open houses [at **Renaissance Academy**] are unique in many ways. Our Upper School Students guide each group of tours. They answer questions from a student's perspective (we find that this makes the students feel more comfortable), and students ask questions about a typical day. We get great feedback from the student-guided tours and it also helps our students build confidence and their love for our school. Our CEO, Mrs. Gina Guarino-Buli, has a Question and Answer session ... for the parents to learn ... what a charter school is.

Naomi Siedlecki, Enrollment/Recruitment Coordinator

Rosemont School of the Holy Child hosts monthly open houses on the first Wednesday of each month beginning at 9 a.m. ... [O]ur students and current families will provide visitors with a tour where they will view our new M.A.D. Lab (Media, Arts, and Design Center) with 3D printer, experience our children participating in a global read aloud, visit our renovated athletics facilities including our turf field, and hear our children's chorus.

Jeanne Marie Blair, Director of Admissions

We strive to have 'real conversations' with prospective students and families [at **Sacred Heart**] so they can experience first-hand the warm family-like atmosphere that is so special to our school community. Our Open House creates the beginnings of an engaging relationship that encourages prospective students and families to feel comfortable in their efforts to find the best educational fit for their daughter, and emphasizes how our Network of Sacred Heart Schools is committed to the individual student.

Mary Lee Fitzpatrick, Director of Admissions

West Chester Friends School students delight in early literacy through art adventures for 'threes' in The Friends Play School; sculpt and paint in the bright art studio; learn conducting with members of The Kennett Symphony; ... greet you confidently in Spanish; use nings and glogs; or study Himalayan nations and American History. Teachers encourage leadership in students as they offer enriched academics in the context of Quaker values.

Barbara Rowe, Director of Admissions

Westtown School will share information about their new boarding policy that allows students who enroll before 8th grade to decide whether they will become a boarder in the high school. They will also share exciting news about their new \$13 million science building addition, designed with state-of-the-art technology to enrich the science curriculum, accommodate the increased demand for science courses at every level, and house a summer research institute.

Nathan Bohn, Director of Admissions

Our open house season at **Wilmington Friends** is now all year long with our very successful Meet us on Mondays evening program, designed to meet the needs of working parents. We share with visitors how Quaker philosophy translates into what is so often called 21st century education—interdisciplinary, like STEM; cross-cultural; critical thinking; character; communication; and collaboration.

Kathy Hopkins, Director of Admissions

Choosing a College

Consider a College Close to Home

Among the many factors in the college choice equations, there's at least one that can go into both the plus and minus column: distance from home. Some students may initially and reflexively put colleges close to home in the minus column. After all, isn't moving away from home part of the rite of passage of going to college? Where's the "going" if you're staying home?

But increasingly, thoughtful students are giving a closer look at the many great colleges located in our area. In addition to offering affordable, quality educational programs in charming towns, local colleges have more to offer in the overall evaluation process. There must be a reason that over half of all college students chose a school within 100 miles of home and over 80% at four-year colleges choose to stay in their own states.

So what are some of the factors that prompt so many students to choose local colleges?

Financial Savings. With room and board costs averaging \$10,000 annually, the biggest savings come from living at home. Even choosing a college that's not close enough for daily commuting, you'll find transportation costs can add up with a distant college: Thanksgiving, Christmas, spring break trips (during peak travel times), plus trips for emergencies and illness, and the annual trips for students and families to drop off and pick up furniture and to visit campus can cost thousands of dollars annually.

Eliminating some of the financial stress of college can be good for both the student and the family.

Emotional Adjustment. Some students may not be ready as freshmen to leave families and friends behind, especially if there are close ties to siblings and if homesickness is a concern. The comfort of an occasional home-cooked meal, quiet weekend away from dorm life, or visit for family events can make the adjustment to college easier.

For some, living on a college campus is enough of an adjustment—no need to deal with a new city, regional differences, different climate and other changes. Being close to home can be a source of comfort during the stressful adjustment to college. Some students find that the new campus is its own new adventure. No need to be on the opposite coast to get some distance from home.

Acceptance Rates & Local Benefits. In-state students are generally given preference in acceptance at state colleges and in-



Students on the green at University of Delaware

state tuition is a major savings (average \$10,000 each year). Special scholarships and other financial aid are also often earmarked for state residents.

And if the student wants a career in the area upon graduation, local alumni networks and job opportunities may be stronger closer to home.

Trade Offs & Future Costs. Choosing a semester abroad, which can be expensive, may satisfy the need to be farther away from home. Taking courses at a distant college during the summer, when costs may be lower, is another option.

For those who plan an advanced degree or professional degree, the money saved during the first four years can help defray later expenses.

Going to college is a huge lifestyle adjustment and deciding where to go is not an easy decision. Once you decide where you can get the best education, think realistically about how the distance from home can impact your college experience and be open to all options.

The best may be close to home. ♦

What Local Colleges Say

At West Chester University, over 75% of students come from the surrounding seven counties and many specifically choose WCU because of its proximity to home, says Pam Sheridan, Public Relations Director.

Amy Greenwald Foley, Undergraduate Admissions at University of Delaware reports that, "Approximately a third of undergraduates ... hail from the First State. ... Although UD's reach extends beyond the Mid-Atlantic region, the majority of our students live within two to four hours driving distance." Not too far and not too close to home.

And Dr. James D. Wilson Jr., V.P., Academic Affairs, says, "Wilmington University draws over 93% of students within 50 miles of our main campus. These students are looking for a quality education, affordable tuition, outstanding student service, and they find that our faculty and degree programs offer a real world experience."

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A CHRISTIAN PREPARATORY SCHOOL SERVING GRADES PRE-K-12

Join us for our

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Sunday, Nov. 3rd 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Open House held at our Upper Campus 462 Malin Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073
CALL 610-353-6522 x 2285 to RSVP

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The right school can make all the difference.

Now considering mid-year applications for 6-11th grades. Make a change this year.

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OPEN HOUSE

October 20
11am - 2pm

ENTRANCE/ SCHOLARSHIP EXAM

November 9 & 16
9am - 12:30pm

VISIT VILLA DAYS

October 25 & 29, November 15 & 18, December 5 & 9
or by Appointment

Register online at www.vmahs.org
or call Admissions 610-644-2551

370 Central Avenue
Malvern, PA 19355

Open Houses For Independent and Private Schools

PENNSYLVANIA

Bryn Mawr

The Baldwin School

701 Montgomery Ave.
610-525-2700; BaldwinSchool.org

The Baldwin School combines the region's premier college preparatory curriculum with distinguished arts, athletics and community service programs. Baldwin attracts well-rounded young women from Pre-K to Grade 12 who seek a dynamic, globally focused curriculum within a supportive academic community. Phone or visit their website for information.

Oct. 22 - 6 pm; Nov. 1, Apr. 16 - 9 am

Feb. 9 - 2 pm

Barrack Hebrew Academy

272 S. Bryn Mawr Ave. 610-922-2300; JBHA.org
Oct. 22, Nov. 20, Dec. 10, Feb. 6 - 9:30 am to noon

Country Day School of the Sacred Heart

480 S. Bryn Mawr Ave.
610-527-3915; CDSSH.org
Sacred Heart is an independent, Catholic, college prep school for girls, grades Pre-K through 12. Offering rigorous academics, comprehensive electives, performing arts and athletics (with ten PIAA varsity sports), students can engage in all facets of a vibrant education. Students are offered AP courses, integrated humanities and STEM curricula, Diocesan Scholars program, leading-edge technology, leadership development, summer international travel, and service opportunities.

Open House - Oct. 19

Upper School - 12:30 to 2 pm

Oct. 29 - All School - 9 to 11 am

9th Gr. Scholarship Exam - Oct. 19 - 8:45 to noon

St. Aloysius Academy

401 S. Bryn Mawr Ave.
610-525-1670; StAloysiusAcademy.org
Oct. 23, Nov. 19, Jan. 23, Mar. 26,
Apr. 30 - 9:30 am; Feb. 23 - 1 pm

The Shipley School

814 Yarrow St. 610-525-4300; ShipleySchool.org
Nov. 9 - 9 to 11 am
Walk-In Tours: Oct. 3, 10 - 9 am

Chadds Ford

Fairville Friends School

216 Pond View Dr.
610-388-1268; FairvilleFriends.org
Fairville Friends is a small Quaker preschool and kindergarten, serving children ages 24 months to 6 years, located in a charming, 100-year-old farmhouse on 2.5 acres of fenced play yards, gardens and meadows.
Nov. 13, Feb. 27, Mar. 26 - 9 to 10:30 am
Jan. 26, Mar. 30 - 2 to 4 pm

* Call for information



Westtown School



Wyndcroft School



Tatnall School



Fairville Friends School

Listen...Learn...Wonder...Decide

WEST CHESTER FRIENDS SCHOOL

Where Leadership is Learned



Educating Boys and Girls
Age 3 Through 5th Grade



Come to an Open House:
Saturday, November 23rd, 10 am
Saturday, January 11th, 10 am

www.WCFriends.org • 610-696-2937

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Responsibility to the Community*



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College Preparatory Education for Age 3 to Grade 12

Academic Excellence, Endless Opportunity

Come explore Tatnall in October:

Oct. 16 - Preschool and Lower School Walk-In Tours
Oct. 17 - Middle and Upper School Walk-In Tours
Oct. 26 - All-School Open House

All walk-in tours will take place from 9-11 a.m.
Contact the Admissions Office to RSVP at 302.892.4285.

www.tatnall.org

Chester Springs

Montgomery School

1141 Kimberton Rd.
610-827-7222
MontgomerySchool.org
Montgomery is a nurturing community for students, PreK through 8th grade, that seeks to bring out the very best in each child, guiding and supporting them through childhood, preparing them to make the most of their secondary school and college experience and beyond. Montgomery students are inspired to explore and prepared to succeed.
Oct. 10, Apr. 10, May 6 – 7 pm

Nov. 3 – 1 pm

Feb. 2 – *Adm. Winter Carnival* – 10:30 am

Crum Lynne

Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School

Philadelphia / Eastern Support Center
1553 Chester Pk., Ste. 103
888-PACYBER; PaCyber.org *
The Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School (PA Cyber) is a pioneer in online education and now in its 13th year of offering K–12 students an innovative, high-quality education using the latest technology, accredited courses and experienced, state-certified teachers. It is a public, tuition-free school for students residing in the

Commonwealth. Learn more by calling or visiting their website. Call for information.

Devon

Delaware County Christian School

905 S. Waterloo Rd.
610-353-6522; DCCS.org
See listing under Newtown Square, PA.

Devon Preparatory School

363 N. Valley Forge Rd.
610-688-7337
DevonPrep.com
Devon Prep is a private, Catholic, college preparatory school for young men in grades 6–12, conducted by the Piarist Fathers and located on Philadelphia's Main Line. Through challenging academics, competitive athletics, devotion to Christian values and a commitment to service, Devon Prep students are prepared to be responsible, compassionate leaders able to face the challenges of life with confidence.
Oct. 13 – 1 to 4 pm
Scholarship Exam – **Oct. 20, Oct. 26, Dec. 8, Jan. 26, Feb. 1** – 8:30 am

Downingtown

Bishop Shanahan High School

220 Woodbine Rd.
610-518-1300; Shanahan.org
A Catholic co-ed high school, part of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, on a beautiful 80-acre site. The focus is on each student finding and developing full potential in a safe, faith-filled environment. 100% of graduates pursue higher education at a college or university. They have 18 National Merit Scholars, 57 AP Scholars, 21 AP courses, 24 sports and over 40 clubs—a great student life filled with sports, clubs and activities.
8th Gr. Visitation – **Nov. 14** – 8:30 to 1:30
Fall Open House & Registration – **Nov. 17** – Noon to 3
8th Gr. Scholarship Exam – **Dec. 14** – 8 am

Dresher

The Montessori School

1701 Jarretstown Rd.
215-542-0740; TheMontessoriSchool.us
Oct. 10, Jan. 16, Feb. 11, Mar. 13, Apr. 15, May 15 – 9 to 10:30 am

Drexel Hill

Holy Child Academy

475 Shadeland Ave.
610-259-2712
HolyChildAcademy.com
Nov. 13, Mar. 19 – 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Dec. 11, Jan. 15, July 9 – 8:30 to 10 am
Twilight Tours: **Nov. 13, Mar. 19, Apr. 30** – 5 to 6:30 pm

Eagle

Windsor Christian Academy

213 Little Conestoga Rd.
610-458-7177; WindsorCA.org
Feb. 5, 9 – Phone for hours

Exton

Collegium Charter School

535 James Hance Ct.
610-903-1300; Collegium-Charter.org *

CFS, The School at Church Farm

1001 E. Lincoln Hwy.
610-363-7500; GoCFS.net
Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 7, Mar. 29, Apr. 19, May 17 – 12:30 to 3 pm
Jan. 20, Feb. 17 – 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Haverford

Friends School Haverford

851 Buck La.
610-642-0354; FriendsHaverford.org
Nov. 16 – *Middle School* – 9 to 11 am
Oct. 5, Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Jan. 22, Feb. 19, Apr. 16 – 9 to 11 am

The Haverford School

450 Lancaster Ave.
610-642-3020; Haverford.org
Offering a liberal arts education for boys in Jr. K through grade 12, in a challenging, supportive environment that fosters integrity, leadership, friendship and community. Prepares boys for life by emphasizing the joy of learning, the importance of self-knowledge and developing full intellectual, artistic, athletic and moral potential. Numerous advanced electives and honors level courses, 16 varsity sports, and integration of technology into all aspects of the curriculum.
Info. Sessions: **Oct. 20** – noon to 2 pm
Look and Learn Wednesdays: **Oct. 2, 16, Nov. 6, Dec. 4** – 9 to 10 am

Kennett Square

Upland Country Day School

420 W. Street Rd.
610-444-3035; UplandCDS.org
Oct. 10 – 5:30 to 7 pm
Nov. 9, Apr. 26 – 9 to 11 am
Jan. 22 – 9 am to noon

Kimberton

Kimberton Waldorf School

410 W. Seven Stars Rd.
610-933-3635; Kimberton.org
Nov. 10, Jan. 26, Apr. 13 – 1 to 4 pm

Malvern

Malvern Preparatory School

418 S. Warren Ave.
484-595-1100; MalvernPrep.com
Malvern Prep is an Independent, Catholic, Augustinian college preparatory school for young men in grades 6–12. The all-boys education balances rigorous academics, deep extracurricular commitment, spiritual development, global citizenship and Christian service. Malvern Prep offers each student innovative learning based on timeless faith.
Oct. 27 – 8:30 to 11:30 am

Mornings at Malvern: **Oct. 2, Nov. 13** – 8:30 am

The Phelps School

583 Sugartown Rd.
610-644-1754; PhelpsSchool.org
The Phelps School is an all-boys boarding and day school offering a diverse and safe learning environment where the faculty can provide individualized support and academic intensity. With a 70-acre campus boasting numerous athletic teams, an international student body and an average class size of 7, the Phelps School is one of Chester County's most affordable options.

Oct. 20, Apr. 27 – 1 to 4 pm

Villa Maria Academy High School

370 Old Lincoln Hwy.
610-644-2551; VMAHS.org
Villa Maria Academy High School, a Catholic college preparatory school in the tradition of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, empowers young women to lead lives of spiritual growth, intellectual inquiry and Christian service. Villa Maria prepares young women to face the challenges of the 21st century.
Oct. 20 – 11 am to 2 pm
Entrance / Scholarship Exams:
Nov. 9, 16 – 9 am to 12:30 pm

BISHOP SHANAHAN HIGH SCHOOL

INNOVATIVE
LEARNING
IN A GLOBAL
ENVIRONMENT

bshs



COME AND SEE!

8th Grade Visitation Day

Thursday, Nov. 14, 2013 • 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Fall Open House & Registration *for Family and Friends*

Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013 • 12:00 - 3:00 pm

8th Grade Scholarship Exam

Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013 • 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

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for Boys and Girls

1785 Bishop White Drive
Newtown Square, PA 19073

www.episcopalacademy.org

Open House

November 3, 2013
1-3:00 p.m.

Athletic Open House
3-4:00 p.m.

Call 484-424-1444



Villa Maria Academy Lower School
1140 King Rd. 610-644-4864; VillaMaria.org
*Visit for Villa Days – Oct. 16, Nov. 13,
Jan. 15, Mar. 12*

Media

Media-Providence Friends
125 W. Third St. 610-565-1960; MPFS.org
Every day at MPFS, experts in early childhood, elementary and adolescent education craft meaningful learning experiences that encourage students to imagine, explore, question and create, while discovering joy in learning and acquiring the skills they'll need to make the world a better place. Learning is a journey... start here.

*Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6, Jan. 10, Feb. 7,
Mar. 7 – 9 am*
The Walden School
901 N. Providence Rd.
610-892-8000; TheWaldenSchool.org
Wednesdays – 9:30 to 11 am (call to confirm)

Merion Station
Merion Mercy Academy
511 Montgomery Ave.
610-664-6655; Merion-Mercy.com
Oct. 6 – 1 to 4 pm

Waldron Mercy Academy
513 Montgomery Ave.
610-664-9847; WaldronMercy.org

*Oct. 1, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Mar. 11, Apr. 1 – 9 am
Oct. 27 – noon; Jan. 15 – 7 pm
Middle School Open House, Nov. 14 – 6:15 pm*

Newtown Square

Delaware County Christian School
462 Malin Rd.
610-353-6522; DCCS.org
Delaware County Christian School (DC) serves 740 students in Grades Pre-K to Grade 12 on two campuses in Newtown Square and Devon. Providing a rigorous, college preparatory education within the context of a Christian worldview, DC offers excellent fine arts and athletic programs as well. For more information, visit their website.
*Nov. 3 – 2 to 4 pm
Feb. 12 – 9:30 to 11:30; Apr. 6 – 2 to 4 pm*

Episcopal Academy
1785 Bishop White Dr.
484-424-1400; EpiscopalAcademy.org
The mission is simple, yet powerful at Episcopal Academy: They inspire boys and girls to lead lives of purpose, faith and integrity. Located on a beautiful 123-acre campus, Episcopal features a widely-respected academic program as well as excellence in the arts and athletics.
*Tuesdays in Oct., Tours – Grades 6-12 – 9 am
Wednesdays in Oct., Walk In – PK-5 – 9 am
Oct. 1 – Parents' Closer Look – 8:30 to noon
Nov. 2 – Saturday Social – PK-1 – 10 am
Nov. 3 – Open House – All grades – 1 to 3 pm
Nov. 3 – Athletic Open House – 3 to 4 pm
All School: Apr. 10, – 10 am
Apr. 29, – 8:30 pm; May 13, – 4:30 pm*

Pennsburg

Perkiomen School
200 Seminary St. 215-679-9511; Perkiomen.org
Oct. 8, Jan. 21 – 9 am

Phoenixville

Renaissance Academy
40 Pine Crest St. 610-983-4080; RAK12.org
A tuition-free, college-prep, award-winning, public Charter School for grades K-12. Their mission is to prepare children for success as students, workers and citizens by providing them with a high-quality liberal arts, college preparatory education. For more information, visit their website.
*Oct. 9 – K – 6 to 8 pm
Nov. 13 – K-Gr. 12 – 9 to 11 am; 6 to 8 pm*

Pottstown

Hill School
717 E. High St. 610-326-1000; TheHill.org *
Campus tours through Jan. 31

Wyndcroft School
1395 Wilson St. 610-326-0544; Wyndcroft.org
The Wyndcroft School is a coeducational day school for children in Pre-School–8th grade. They offer an academic program designed to establish a firm foundation for a happy and

successful future. In a small class setting, the school fosters creativity, learning, personal integrity, determination and respect for others.
Nov. 10, Feb. 9, Apr. 13 – 1 pm

Rose Valley

School in Rose Valley
20 School Ln.
610-566-1088; TheSchoolInRoseValley.org
Oct. 8 – 9:30 to 11 am

Rosemont

Agnes Irwin School
Ithan Ave. & Conestoga Rd.
610-525-8400; AgnesIrwin.org
Spanning more than 140 years of excellence in all-girls' education, The Agnes Irwin School is the region's premier independent college preparatory school for grades PreK–12. Agnes Irwin fosters the intellectual and personal growth of girls and young women, preparing each student to lead and to enrich the world.
*Oct. 6 – All grades – 2 to 4 pm
Oct. 30 – Middle/Upper – 8:30 to 10 am
Nov. 6 – Lower – 9 to 11 am*

Rosemont School of the Holy Child
1344 Montgomery Ave.
610-922-1000
RosemontSchool.org
First Wednesdays, Oct–May – 9 am
Rosemont School of the Holy Child is an independent, coeducational, Catholic school that educates students from Nursery through 8th grade. Academics, activities, arts, athletics, community service and spiritual awareness comprise the magic of Rosemont School, where children are prepared for success in a joyful, nurturing environment in which 98 percent of our graduates traditionally are accepted at their first-choice high schools.

Strafford

Woodlynde School
445 Upper Gulph Rd.
610-687-9660; Woodlynde.org
Oct-May, 2nd Tues of the month – 8:45 am

Villanova

The Academy of Notre Dame de Namur
560 Sproul Rd.
610-687-0650; NDAPa.org
Nov. 3 – All Grades – 10:30 am to 1:30 pm

West Chester

Discovery School & Camp
325 N. Five Points Rd., 610-696-5984
DiscoverySchoolAndCamp.com *

Goshen Friends School
814 N. Chester Rd.
610-696-8869; GoshenFriends.org
*Oct. 11 – K – 1 pm
Mar. 14 – All grades – 9 to 11 am*

West Chester Friends School
415 N. High St.
610-696-2937; WCFriends.org

Academically enriched elementary education. Co-ed, preschool through 5th Grade. Students encouraged to listen, learn, wonder, decide in the context of Quaker values: respect for all, responsibility to community, peaceful conflict resolution. Teachers guide academic, social, spiritual growth, caring leadership. Studio Art/Art Music, Science, Technology, Spanish, Sports, and more. Financial Aid, BC/AC 730 am-6 pm.
*Oct. 15, Nov. 1, Jan. 11, Feb. 5, Feb. 26,
Mar. 5 – 9 am; Nov. 23, Jan. 11 – 10 am*

Westtown

Westtown School
975 Westtown Rd.

610-399-0123; Westtown.edu
At Westtown School, students transform and leave a lasting mark. Located on a 600-acre campus and providing an all-school global education program, Westtown's academic excellence and deep love of each student have made it the school of choice for thousands of difference makers since 1799. PreK-12, coed, Quaker, college-preparatory.
Nov. 3 – 1 pm; Apr. 21 – 9 am

Wynnewood

Friends' Central School
Upper School – 1101 City Ave.
610-649-7440; FriendsCentral.org



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**The best learning experience, for the
most formative years of your son's life.**

Fall Information Session
Sunday, Oct. 20
12-2 p.m. for JrK - grade 12

Look & Learn Wednesdays
Select Wednesdays (check online)
9-10 a.m. for JrK - grade 5

RSVP online at Haverford.org

THE HAVERFORD SCHOOL
Preparing Boys for Life.



Media-Providence Friends School



Rosemont School of the Holy Child



Villa Maria Academy



Layton Preparatory School

unique talents and empowers students to successfully meet the challenges of higher education and life.

First Wednesdays – 8:30 to 10 am

Claymont

Archmere Academy

3600 Philadelphia Pk.
302-798-6632; ArchmereAcademy.org
Nov. 17 – 1 to 4 pm

Hockessin

Sanford School

6900 Lancaster Pk. (Rt. 41)
302-239-5263; SanfordSchool.org *

Wilmington Christian School

825 Loveville Rd.
302-239-2121; WilmingtonChristian.org *

Newark

Tall Oaks

181 Stanton-Christiana Rd.
302-738-3337; TallOaksClassicalSchool.org *

Wilmington

Albert Einstein Academy

101 Garden of Eden Rd.
302-478-5026; AEAcademy.org
Tours: Every Wed. and by appt.

Padua Academy

905 N. Broom St.
302-421-3739; PaduaAcademy.org
Oct. 20 – 1 to 4 pm

St. Edmond's Academy

2120 Veale Rd.
302-475-5370; StEdmondsAcademy.org *

St. Mark's High School

2501 Pike Creek Rd.
302-738-3300; StMarksHS.net

Nov. 3 – 12:30 to 3:30 pm

Salesianum

1801 N. Broom St.
302-654-2495; Salesianum.org
Nov. 10 – 12:30 to 3:30 pm

Tatnall School

1501 Barley Mill Rd.
302-998-2292; Tatnall.org
Founded in 1930, The Tatnall School is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory day school situated on a pastoral 110-acre campus. Tatnall is composed of four academic divisions that enroll students from age 3 through Grade 12. Tatnall provides a balance of rigorous academics, athletics and the arts.

Oct. 16 – PreK–Gr. 4 – 9 to 11 am

Oct. 17 – Gr. 5–12 – 9 to 11 am

Oct. 26 – All School – 9 to 11:30 am

Tower Hill School

2813 W. 17th St.
302-575-0550; TowerHill.org
Oct. 1, Nov. 3, Dec. 4 – 9 am

Ursuline Academy

1106 Pennsylvania Ave.
302-658-7158; Ursuline.org
Nov. 10 – Gr. 7–12 – 1 to 3 pm
Nov. 17 – PreK–6 – 1 to 3 pm

Wilmington Friends School

101 School Rd. (Rts. 202 & 95)
302-576-2900; WilmingtonFriends.org
Global education at Wilmington Friends teaches students to engage complex issues intellectually and in action, in and outside of the classroom, with a sense of confidence and responsibility. Coed, age 2 through 12th grade; language study, computer programming, service learning and a STEM Lab curriculum all begin in pre-K.

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WESTTOWN SCHOOL

A Quaker, preK - 12th grade, coed college preparatory school • 610.399.7900

OPEN HOUSE: Sun. Nov. 3 1:00 PM



THE PHELPS SCHOOL

Our many faces of success



OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 20th | 1 pm–4 pm

thephelpsschool.org

The Wyndcroft School

An Excellent Education in a Nurturing Setting
for students in Pre– school through 8th Grade



Call for
a tour!



The Wyndcroft School



1395 Wilson Street, Pottstown, PA 19464
(610) 326-0544 - www.wyndcroft.org



**EDUCATING HER MIND
OPENING HER HEART**

9TH GRADE SCHOLARSHIP AND ENTRANCE EXAM

Saturday, October 19 • 8:45 a.m.-Noon

UPPER SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 19 • 12:30-2:00 p.m.

ALL SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Pre-K – 12th Grade
Tuesday, October 29 • 9:00-11:00 a.m.

For more
information
contact the
Admissions Office

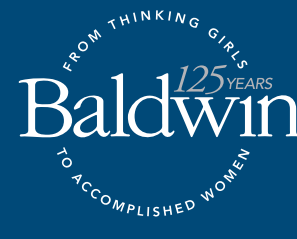
480 S. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
610.527.3915

CDSSH.org



You see it immediately.
It's hard to miss.
CONFIDENCE.
PASSION.
PRIDE.

She has her own dreams and her own path to follow. In her life she will grow up to be many things. But one thing is certain. She'll always be a Baldwin girl.



Join us for an
Open House

Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12

Tuesday, October 22 at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, November 1 at 9:00 a.m.

Please RSVP online or call (610) 525-2700.

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Sunday, October 27, 2013 • Program begins at 8:30 a.m.

Malvern Preview Mornings for Families

Reservations Suggested • 8:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Wednesday, October 2 • Wednesday, November 13

Academic Scholarship/ Entrance Exams

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Saturday, October 19 • Sunday, October 27

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Malvern Prep is an Independent, Augustinian, Catholic, college preparatory school for boys in grades 6 – 12.



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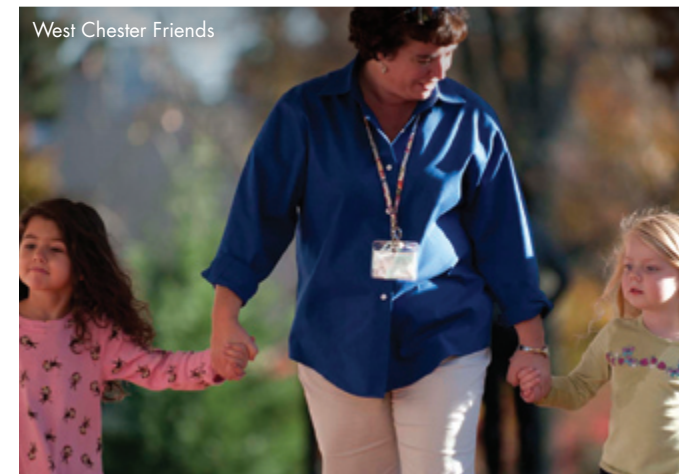


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Oct. 28 – Middle School – 5 to 6:30 pm

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610-725-0755; TimothySchool.com *

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1784 Fairview Rd.

610-469-9236; BeaverRun.org *

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429 Greenridge Rd.

610-458-5138; Upatinas.org *

Malvern

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Registration is required. Oct. 3, Nov. 12,

Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 19, Mar. 13,

Apr. 16, May 7 – 9 to 11

Oct. 24 – Middle & High School – 9 to 11

Nov. 20 – Gr. 1-3 – 9 to 11

Jan 26 – 1 to 3 pm (snow date, Feb. 9)

Media

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610-565-3741; BenchmarkSchool.org

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Oct. 3, Nov. 14, Dec. 15, Jan. 16, Feb. 6,

Mar. 6, Apr. 3, May 8, June 5 – 9 to 11 am

Newtown Square

Stratford Friends School

2 Bishop Hollow Rd.

610-355-9580; StratfordFriends.org

Tours: Nov. 6, Dec. 4, Feb. 5, Mar. 5,

Apr. 9, May 7 – 9 am to noon

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610-640-4150; DVFS.org

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Oct. 9, Dec. 11, Jan. 15, Mar. 5,

July 9 – 9 to 11 am

Nov. 3, Feb. 9 – 1 to 3 pm

May 14 – 8:15 pm

Monthly Walk-In Wednesdays

Vanguard School

1777 N. Valley Rd.

610-296-6700; VanguardSchool-PA.org *

Rosemont

Hill Top Preparatory School

737 S. Ithan Ave.

610-527-3230; HillTopPrep.org

Oct. 12, Jan. 15, Feb. 12, Mar. 11 –

9:30 to 11:30 am

Westtown

The Concept School

1120 E. Street Rd.

610-399-1135; TheConceptSchool.org *

DELAWARE

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throughout the year.

Agnes Irwin

OPEN THE DOOR



FALL OPEN HOUSES

All School
Sun., Oct. 6
2-4 p.m.

Middle & Upper
Schools
Wed., Oct. 30
8:30-10 a.m.

Lower School
Wed., Nov. 6
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Visit www.agnesirwin.org/openhouse

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Open House October 3 & November 14



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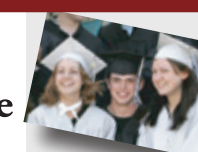
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Wish You Were There

At some of the best fundraisers, local events and art openings of the season



Chester County Art Association's Invitational Exhibition Gala. The opening for this much anticipated exhibition found Board Member Sharon Parker, former Board Member Caolyn Lennon, and Board Member Susan Wolf enjoying live music, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres by Roots Cafe.



Willistown Conservation Trust. Rushton Farm's Tomato Tasting featured everything from heirlooms to hybrids, plums to cherries at this annual event. Tasters got to sample the bounty and enjoy local wine and beer.



National Lands Trust Lenfest Center Celebration and Dedication. Guests enjoyed an evening of wine, local farm-inspired edibles and live music in support of efforts to save land and connect people to nature. Phoebe Fisher, Blair Fleishmann, Julia Stone, Walter and Georgianna Stapleton, with Katharine Maroney, of the Natural Lands Trust's board of trustees.



Devon Fall Classic. Spectators at year two of this exciting fall jumper show enjoyed an equestrian event and a Fall Festival—complete with a Ferris Wheel and Top Dog Contest.



Phoenixville Blues Festival. More than 5,000 people came out to enjoy the sights and sounds at this 4th annual community event.



Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance. A final shine for this 1938 Talbot-Lago before it was showcased at this premier car show, featuring vehicles from motorcycles to horse-drawn carriages.

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Helm's Alee!

Edwin Malet

Autumn sailing up the Chester River along Maryland's Eastern Shore.

The 20-knot wind is stiff in my face, coming from the northeast, pouring off the mainsail. My right foot is jammed into the cockpit's corner. Mid-October. The Chester River. Late afternoon. Onshore, in every direction, the colored leaves are lighter than the day.

The *Tradewind* knifes through the dark chop. My five-person crew, mostly grad school buddies, sits high on the port side. Richard looks up, winches down the jib; Charlie adjusts the main. We regularly hit seven knots, then eight. We want nine, but don't get it ... yet.

I gaze down at the chart, showing rivers like the back of a witch's hand: we are at the confluence of five creeks. The thumb is the Corsica River. The forefinger, the Chester proper, curls to the northeast. Middle and ring fingers: the East and West Forks. Then there's Grays Inn Creek, my pinkie. Follow it all the way up and we could practically walk to Rock Hall.

Richard points. "I see the flasher ... There!"

I fall off slightly. "That's Deep Point. There should be two unlit cans." But I'm thinking about what comes after. The wind is coming straight down the Chester River. I think to myself, it will be hard. *Very hard.*

I need to explain what's coming up: what my wife Jo Anne refers to as the "tacking drill." I need everyone's attention. We've done it before, but I tell them again, and make assignments. The commands. *Ready about. Helm's alee. Break.* The jib. The main. The lookouts. Keep your head down as we tack. Make sure all is secure. The channel will be narrow. The bottom is mud, I think.

As we enter the channel, I'm aware that our 53-foot sloop is large for what's coming up. We could motor. But it doesn't matter now. We're there. And we're ready for the autumn adventure.

Ready about! Everyone is positioned. *Helm's alee!* I turn simultaneously. The jib flaps and then fills. *Break!* The jib sheet skitters on one side and is simultaneously hauled in on the other. The crew scampers. And we're off again. Almost perfect.

Less than a minute. *Ready about! Helm's alee! Break.* We execute about a dozen pairs of tacks, each better than the last. I drive one deeper into the turn than I should have. But the keel bounces precisely. Like I "stuck it." A novice would have admired that I'd planned it that way.

We take the turn at Melton Point, and start to relax, and begin to settle into a relaxing broad reach. I commend the crew. Everyone is smiling. But ahead, the dark river seems to get darker dead ahead. Not just a slight color change. An obstruction? Nothing is marked on the chart. It's massive!

And then it seems to rise. Like a massive carpet. We hold our breath. Until it talks. And honks. And thousands of wings beat and flap. The sky is filled with geese.

By the time we dropped anchor at Chestertown, it's after eight. The town lights welcome us. The people are cheerful. From the dock, they occasionally greet us and ask where we're from. They seem to sense our celebration.

But we'll wait until tomorrow to go ashore. We open a bottle of rum, put some steaks on the barbecue, enjoy the crisp autumn evening, and plan how to tell the story again and again. ♦

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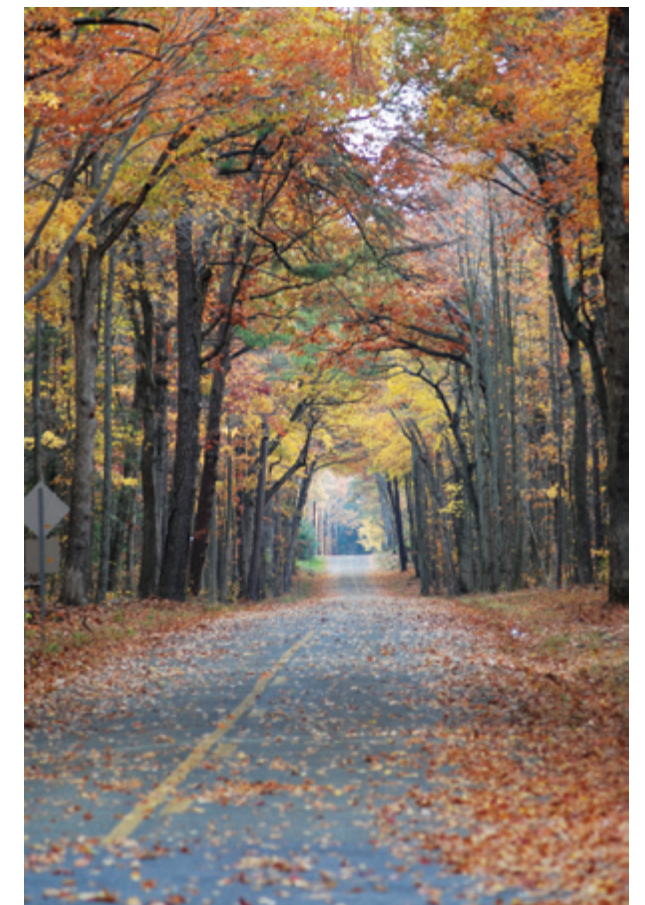
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410-778-0416 or tourism@kentcounty.com

Upcoming Events
Chestertown's 1st Fridays
Arts & Entertainment Venues throughout Downtown
Farmers' and Artisans' Market
Saturdays 8am-1pm; Fountain Park
Oct. 5 – Chestertown House Tour & Art Walk
1pm-5pm; Historic Downtown; kentcountyhistory.org
Oct. 12 – Sultana Projects' Public Paddle-Waterfowl
10am-12:30pm; Chester River; sultanaprojects.org
Oct. 19 – Kent Chamber Music Concert
7pm; Hotchkiss Recital Hall at Washington College; washcoll.edu
Oct. 25 & 26 – Ghost Walk of Historic Chestertown
6:30pm; Historic Downtown; kentcountyhistory.org
Oct. 26 & 27 and Nov. 2 & 3 – 14th Annual Studio Tour
10am-5pm; chestertownriverarts.org
**Nov. 1-4 – Sultana Projects' Downrigging Weekend
Tall Ship and Wooden Boat Festival**
Chestertown Waterfront; sultanaprojects.org

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Oct. 11th-Daryl Davis Band: Blues & Boogie-8pm
Oct. 12th-Joe Holt & Beth McDonald: Jazz-8pm
Oct. 18th-Lenny Marcus Trio: Jazz-8pm
Oct. 26th-David Stone: Johnny Cash Experience-8pm
For concert calendar, visit mainstayrockhall.org
Oct. 5th-Waterman's Crab Feast
Rock Hall Fire House; 1-5pm
Oct. 11th-St. Martin's Ministries Arts Dinner
and Auction; Rock Hall Fire House 6-10pm
Oct. 12th - Rock Hall FallFest-Celebrate the Oyster
Main St. 10am-5pm; www.mainstayrockhall.org
Oct. 18th - Rock Hall Cruise Night
on Main St. 5:30-8:30pm

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COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS BEST

Laurel Anderson

With 18 acres, a pond and stream, this updated, historic farmhouse provides the perfect setting for a country lifestyle.

From Little Washington Road, you'll turn on to the long driveway winding uphill to the original 1780 farmhouse built by the owners of a large parcel of land in this northern corner of Chester County near Marsh Creek State Park. The approach provides a fitting transition to this bucolic setting, as you pass over Culbertson Run—which joins Brandywine Creek—past the pond big enough for swimming, beyond fruit trees, mature

hardwoods and evergreens, an old root cellar and ruins of a grist mill, then up to the main house. It's not surprising to learn that a covered bridge—Larkin Bridge—once stood nearby.

Originally a classic two-over-two stone farmhouse (two rooms on each of two floors), the home has grown through additions—in the 1940s, 2004 and 2006—that have preserved the feel of a charming farmhouse yet updated the home for the 21st century.



Modern Amenities

Now expanded to 6,200 square feet of living space—with gourmet kitchen, five bedrooms, two full and two half-baths, family room, his-and-her offices, gym and more—plus state-of-the-art mechanical systems—nine heating and cooling zones, new electrical systems, whole-house audio inside and out—the updated home can as easily house a large family, provide a quiet retreat or be the site of stress-free entertaining. No wonder the owners held the wedding of one of their sons at home.

A wide, wrap-around porch—added for enjoying the lush, manicured property—and hand-crafted reproduction ceiling and wall moldings are examples of how the additions have enhanced the home while maintaining its period charm.

For more mixing of old and new, the spacious gourmet kitchen provides a bridge between the centuries. The fireside eat-in area includes details like an original fireplace with cooking arm, exposed stone walls, and hand-scraped custom hickory floors that run through the kitchen and dining room. Top-of-the-line stainless steel appliance (Sub-Zero refrigerator, Dacor range, Wolf ovens) are surrounded by custom maple cabinets designed and built by Paradise Custom Kitchens. The abundance of storage in the kitchen and adjacent butler's pantry makes entertaining large groups easy, while the well-designed flow centered around the kitchen island ensures everyone gathers here.

A large dining room with walk-in bay window, French doors to the stone patio, and raised fireplace accommodates more





Upstairs & Lower Level

Most of the second floor is occupied by the master suite, boasting a gas fireplace, trey ceilings, sitting area and views of the grounds. A luxurious master bath has twin sinks, glass-enclosed shower, and separate water closet, plus extra heat to ward off the morning chill. The connecting dressing room/walk-in closet has built-ins, plus space for dressers and a convenient mini-fridge.

Three additional bedrooms on this floor are in space from the original farmhouse. Wide windowsills, six-over-six windows and built-ins make each bedroom both charming and



formal sit-down meals and has been used for dinners for 20 or more.

Off the kitchen and dining area is a huge carpeted game room large enough for a full-size pool table, video arcade consoles and a lovely antique bar, with lighted back-bar mirror. Another gas fireplace, built-in space for a large flat-screen TV, powder room, and a wall of windows and access to the gardens make this another popular gathering space.

Part of the 1940s addition houses the living room, with yet another fireplace and beautiful black chestnut floors made from wood salvaged from a barn demolition. The adjacent sitting room, with windows on three sides, is separated from the living room by French doors and is a comfortable space for relaxing and enjoying views of the property.

Off the foyer, with exposed stone wall, and front powder room are his-and-her offices—or possible first-floor bedrooms—cozy spaces, one with a fireplace, in the original farmhouse structure.

Rounding out the first floor are two functional rooms. A large laundry room has Rutt cabinets (made by a local craftsman), plus plenty of counter and storage space. The second room is currently used as a woodworking studio, but with its windows on three sides and separate entrance, it could become an au pair, in-law or first-floor bedroom suite.

distinctive. The shared bath, though updated with a Jacuzzi tub, retains period charm with a vanity made from an antique dresser.

In addition to housing the modern mechanical systems, the lower level has a large home gym—with fireplace, of course—and two separate storage rooms, either perfect for a wine cellar.

The Grounds

A walk around the grounds takes you on stone paths past mature perennial gardens designed by Waterloo Gardens to a patio with a fire pit and fountain. Up the hill are open fields of grass with towering trees and fruit trees near the property lines.

Two garages—a two-car garage and a newer three-car garage—plus a former three-stall barn with electricity and water provide plenty of storage for boats, ATVs and other equipment. The barn can once again be a working barn, a new guesthouse, or a perfect pool house if new owners want to add that feature to this lovely property.

Combining country charm with modern amenities, this property offers the best of a Chester County country lifestyle. ♦

This 18-acre property (two separate parcels) with 5 bedrooms, 2.2 baths, detached garages, barn and pond, is offered for \$1,499,000. For more information, contact Brett Jones, 302-420-6644, or Karen Nader, 484-888-5597. BFP Sotheby's International Realty, BFPsIR.com.

Food News

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

Beyond Shoofly Pie.

Want to know more about the roots of Pennsylvania Dutch cooking? Join food historian and cookbook writer, **William Woys Weaver**, at the **Tredyffrin Public Library** as he sorts fact from fiction in a lively discussion of his new book *As American As Shoofly Pie: The Foodways and Traditions of Pennsylvania Dutch Cuisine*. Weaver explores the foodlore of this uniquely American style of cooking, including dozens of kitchen-tested PA Dutch recipes. 582 Upper Gulph Rd., Strafford. Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m. 610-688-7092. Register at TredyffrinLibraries.org.



Wayne's Restaurant World.

Wayne diners recently welcomed two new restaurants, **Peppercorn**, a refined American restaurant and bar, and **Carmel Café & Wine Bar**, a mod Med café. Peppercorn's menu boasts local ingredients at the peak of freshness and inventive twists on classic dishes, such as Peach, Prosciutto and Goat Cheese Pizza. For Mediterranean-inspired meals, enjoy Carmel Café's flatbreads, salads and extensive selection of wine. 503 W. Lancaster Ave. 610-964-2588; PeppercornMainLine.com. 372 W. Lancaster Ave. 484-580-6725; Carmel-Cafe.com.



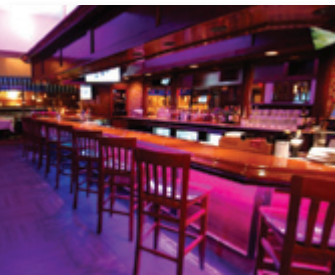
A Cheesy Experience.

There's nothing like a day of stirring, cooking and eating goat cheese! This behind-the-scenes **Goat Cheesemaking Workshop** allows foodies the chance to take a hands-on approach to cheese, from touring the farm and visiting a cheese cave to tasting the finished product. Take home a pound of Goat-za-rella cheese and the recipe to make more. *Yellow Springs Farm, 1165 Yellow Springs Rd., Chester Springs. \$95. Oct. 20, 11 to 3 p.m. 610-827-2014. YellowSpringsFarm.com.*



Along Lancaster Ave.

Sample three new restaurants on the Main Line. Start with uncomplicated, modern American cuisine at Villanova's **Avenue Kitchen**. Next enjoy a relaxing brunch, small plates or a fun night out in Berwyn at **30 Main's** café and bar lounge. Then head to Downingtown for Italian cooking, where **Stella Rossa Ristorante** offers a burst of flavor and energy. 789 E. Lancaster Ave., Villanova. 610-525-3950; AveKitchen.com. 660 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn. 610-220-2367; 30MainLine.com. 20 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown. 610-269-6000; StellaRossaRistorante.com.



Be Picky.

There's no better way to celebrate autumn than pumpkin picking! **Highland Orchards** has PYO (pick your own) pumpkin hours Monday-Saturday, 9 to 5, and Sunday, 10 to 5. So round up the kids and head out to the farm for hayrides, kid korral, mazes and more! While you're there, check out other delicious fall treats, like their scrumptious apple cider doughnuts and pumpkin pie. 1000 Marshallton Rd., West Chester. 610-296-3499. HighlandOrchards.net.





Your Own Private Oktoberfest

Join Oktoberfest celebrations in Kennett Square, King of Prussia and Lancaster this month or create your own beer fest at home.

Ralph Fleming

You may not know that Oktoberfest dates back to 1810 and was originally a celebration to mark the marriage of Prince Ludwig of Bavaria to Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen and that it's still celebrated in Munich as the largest people's fair in the world.

Even if you don't care that this year's 180th Oktoberfest will likely see over six million liters of beer disappear during the 16-day celebration in Germany, let's just take a moment to consider a bit of beer history.

In the early 1800s before refrigeration, it was nearly impossible to brew beer in the summer—considering the hot weather and risk of bacterial infections. Beer's brewing season ended with the coming of spring and began again in the fall. Most beers were brewed in March (*Märzen*) and kept in cold storage over the spring and summer months and brought out for the annual Oktoberfest in the fall. *Märzenbier* (March beer) traditionally is full-bodied, rich, toasty, typically dark copper in color with a medium alcohol content.

While Oktoberfest is a beer drinkers' heaven, you don't have to travel all the way to Germany to experience the fun. Find a local

Oktoberfest to join the hoopla, good times and delicious beer (see the sidebar for details) or grab some great season-appropriate brews and have your own private Oktoberfest in your backyard.

Oh, and don't forget the lederhosen, oompah music and proper beer stein to add to the ambiance.

Your Oktoberfest Six-Pack

Here are six great Oktoberfest-Märzens to help get your party rolling. These beers pair well with all styles of German cuisine from bratwurst and sauerkraut to donuts and pastries. And this is a great time to enjoy their distinctive flavors.

Aecht Schlenkerla Rauchbier Märzen

from Bamberg, Germany

A Rauchbier is a German-style beer that dates back to the 1500s from the town of Bamberg. "Rauch" is the German word for smoke, and these smoked beers get their flavor by taking the green malts and drying them over an open fire of beech wood. They're dark in color and similar to the Oktoberfest style.

As you pour this unique beer into your glass, the smell of smoked beech wood rises almost immediately. With dark brown color and tan head, the beer offers the taste of smoky goodness as it hits the palate, but surprisingly is not overpowering. It's beautifully crafted and balanced. You can generally taste more of the malts than smoke.

This beer is not for everyone, but it's an old German-style of beer that's definitely worth trying at least once in your beer adventures. So why not try it for your own Oktoberfest?

Ayinger Oktoberfest-Märzen

from Aying, Germany

This traditional Oktoberfest-Märzen is dark amber in color, with a mild haziness and a thick tan head. With its malty aroma, the beer has a little hint of sweetness in its scent. The Ayinger Oktoberfest-Märzen has an almost toffee-like flavor that's very enjoyable for drinking.

This beer is not around for very long, so get your hands on it while you can!

Paulaner Oktoberfest-Märzen

from Munich, Germany

Paulaner Oktoberfest pours a very light shade of amber with a small, white head. You'll notice the smells of sweet caramel and breadly maltiness as you sip. This beer reminds me of the cool, crisp fall months and complements the season beautifully.

As you go for a swig of this brew, which tops out at 6 percent ABV (alcohol by volume), you'll notice that the aromas and flavors are both along the sweet and malty lines. There's a pleasant, mild hop bitterness to it as well. Overall, Paulaner Oktoberfest is medium-bodied and goes down smooth

and easy, just like a classic German fest-Märzen should.

Hacker - Pschorr Oktoberfest-Märzen

from Munich, Germany

This seasonal offering from Hacker-Pschorr is another classic example of a traditional, well-done Oktoberfest-Märzen. Perfect for a cool, fall evening around the fire, this beer pours with a golden, reddish-brown color. Its thin, small white head dissipates quickly.

Once again staying true to the style, the malty scent of lager yeast rises up out of your glass—or super cool-looking beer stein if you're lucky enough to have one—and hits the nose. The familiar malty flavor is present in this beer as well. This fall masterpiece has a wonderful, medium body with superb drinkability, in classic Märzen style.

Spaten Oktoberfest

from Munich, Germany

Spaten Oktoberfest is a world-class beer that's the epitome of a true fest-Märzen style. This amber-shaded brew has a wonderful carbonation and an almost cloud-like, fluffy, off-white head. Spaten Oktoberfest is nothing but pure malt pleasure!

The rich, sweet, malt aroma and flavor hit you almost immediately. With its medium body, this classic brew starts off sweet and finishes with a light, refreshing crispness. This year-round offering was brewed for sheer drinkability. Try it for yourself—you won't be disappointed.

Samuel Adams

from Boston, MA

Samuel Adams Oktoberfest is a great

example of a wonderful American-made version of this style. This fall seasonal beer pours with an autumn copper color and a tannish head. The common aromas of toasted malts, mild hops and sweet caramel are present as you drink this medium-bodied brew.

Well balanced, with just a little bit of sweetness, Samuel Adams Oktoberfest is a great beer to try first if you're not familiar with Märzen style beers, with a bit less alcohol (5.3 percent ABV). It's reasonably priced and easy to find in the fall. ♦

Ralph Fleming is beer manager at The Beer Shoppe, which won an award for Best To-Go Beer Selection. Owner Peter Vitale offers hundreds of craft, imported, microbrew and domestic beers. 44 Greenfield Ave., Ardmore. 484-416-3594; ArdmoreBeerShoppe.com.

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October 3, 5

King of Prussia Beerfest Royale. Oct. 3, "Donnerstag: Happy Hour," restaurants create exciting dishes to pair with craft brews; live music and cigar bar; 5:30 to 9, \$55-\$65. Oct. 5, Beerfest offers 50+ craft and international brewers, local restaurant and authentic German beer vendors. The Plaza at King of Prussia Mall, parking lot by Mall Blvd., King of Prussia. Sat., 12 to 3:30 and 6 to 9:30. \$45-\$55. KOPBeerFest.com.

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Easy Potluck

Laura Muzzi Brennan

The word “potluck” promises adventure with an “anything goes” spirit that makes my heart swell. After all, it’s not every meal where you can follow a smoked salmon deviled egg with a cheese enchilada and generous wedge of pineapple upside down cake.

Yet, I often struggle with what to bring. While I want to wow my fellow diners, I don’t want to spend too much on ingredients or hours preparing the dish. And to top it off, I want a dish that’s not too common but still appeals to most people.

A tall order? Maybe, but with a little help from local chefs Anthony Stella of **Pagano’s by Chef Anthony** and Connor



Ryan of the **Country Butcher**, I’ve discovered some winning potluck strategies and recipes.

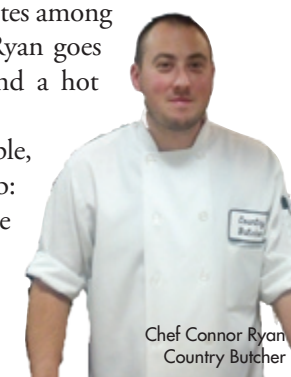
“Stay within your skill set,” advises Chef Stella before he rattles off instructions for pulled pork sandwiches that anyone who knows how to turn on an oven can master. Also, he says, don’t be afraid to use shortcuts like crafting lasagna out of raviolis. (For these and other ideas, see “Super Easy Ways to Feed Your Friends” in the sidebar.)

Sometimes, making a delicious dish is simply a matter of choosing high quality ingredients and arranging them creatively. For example, Chef Stella puts together a handheld antipasto appetizer by threading salami cubes, prosciutto ribbons, olives and peppadews onto skewers. You can find these ingredients and other Mediterranean groceries at Pagano’s in Chadds Ford. And while you’re there, check out their selection of pizzas, salads, sandwiches and Italian prepared foods.

Chef Connor Ryan of The Country Butcher in Kennett Square also had some thoughts about winning potluck dishes. Cheese plates are a crowd favorite, especially when they include a mix of familiar and exotic. The Country Butcher offers over 100 types of cheese including local ones from Doe Run and Meadowset Farms.

Another easy appetizer: Country Butcher homemade sausages served with different kinds of mustards. Popular sausage varieties include Old World pork fennel and buffalo chicken. As for his favorites among Country Butcher’s 20+ mustards, Ryan goes with honey and balsamic Dijon and a hot Irish variety.

To keep potluck prep work simple, Ryan suggests this rule of thumb: “If you have to peel, slice or dice more than three or four ingredients, forget it!” And remember that salt, pepper and a pinch of garlic powder are all you need to flavor many dishes including the London broil and asparagus he touts as excellent potluck choices.



The simplest plan of all: select from among the many salads, soups and entrées available at the Country Butcher and other gourmet delis.

Whether you’re a scratch cook or just a talented grocery shopper, here’s hoping those potluck invitations keep rolling in.



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Cheng Family's Fried Rice

This recipe comes from Chef Anthony Stella's wife, Amy Cheng Vollmer. Chef Stella says to keep in mind that a key to Chinese cooking is to make all the ingredients the same size; this enables everything to cook evenly and creates a 'harmonious' mixture in which all flavors are detectable. Also, he says that other veggies, such as green beans and asparagus, work well as long as you cut them into small pieces first.

¼ C. vegetable oil

1 C. chopped scallions

1 C. leftover cooked meat: ham, bacon, chicken, pork or shrimp, cut or crumbled into small pieces, between the size of a nickel and a quarter

4-6 eggs

4-6 C. cooked rice (long grain is better)

Chicken broth

2 C. frozen peas and carrots (boiled and drained ahead of time) or your favorite vegetables

Salt and ground black pepper, to taste
Soy sauce, to taste

Add oil to a wok or large skillet and warm to medium heat. Add the scallions and stir fry, flavoring the oil with the scallions. Continue to flavor the oil by adding the meat, only for a few minutes since the meat is already cooked.

In a separate bowl, beat the eggs together with dash of salt. Add to wok and scramble, breaking the eggs into small pieces with a spatula and mixing with the meat and scallions.

As the eggs begins to solidify, add the rice and cook until it is heated through. If the mixture is dry, add a splash of chicken broth and more oil.

As the rice is warming, add the peas and carrots and mix well. Season with salt, pepper and soy sauce to taste.

Makes 10 servings.

Sausages and Peppers

When a friend of Chef Stella's asked him to bring a dish to a huge Labor Day party in 2009, the Chef obliged with this dish which comfortably feeds 150 people. I include it here because everyone should have at least one recipe that satisfies the hungry masses. If you can't find a large enough pot to cook the ingredients at one time, work in batches. Serve with good quality, crusty rolls; Chef Stella gets his from Abruzzi Bakery in Philadelphia.

¾ C. vegetable oil

25-30 large green bell peppers, stems and seeds removed; cut into squares, about 1.5"

3, 16-oz. bags frozen chopped onions

3, 16-oz. bags frozen diced green peppers

2, 14.5-oz. cans diced tomatoes

15 lbs. sweet Italian sausage links cut in 1.5-inch pieces

1 Tb. fennel seed

1 Tb. dried oregano

1 Tb. garlic powder

3 Tb. sea salt

1 tsp. fresh ground black pepper

1 Tb. hot oil or Tabasco sauce

¼ C. extra virgin olive oil

In your largest pot, heat vegetable oil over medium heat. Add fresh peppers and onions. Cover and cook on low or medium heat until peppers soften. Do not fry the vegetables.

Meanwhile, cut sausage links and bake at 375° for 40 minutes or cook sausage links on the grill at 375° for 40 minutes. (Chef Anthony likes cooking half in the oven and half on the grill for another layer of flavor.) Then cool.

Add cooked sausage pieces, frozen diced green bells, tomatoes and spices, including Tabasco, to the onions and fresh peppers and cook, uncovered, stirring over medium heat until most of the water evaporates.

Add some fresh olive oil and taste for salt.

Makes 150 servings.

Capellini (Angel hair) With Salmon

Chef Stella wrote this recipe 15 years ago, and it continues to be one his classics especially in the summer and on Christmas Eve. In the summer, it's great served at room temperature, but when you need a warm meal in the winter, keep it hot in a chafing dish.

10 small garlic cloves, sliced thin

2 tsp. dried dill

1 Tb. dried parsley

1¼ C. good quality extra virgin olive oil, plus more for drizzling

6 ripe tomatoes, seeded and cut into ½" dice

6 sweet cherry peppers, sliced thin

Sea salt

6, 4-oz. salmon filets

5 C. cooked broccoli florets

½ C. sliced black olives

2 lbs. angel hair pasta

On low heat, sauté the garlic, dill and

Super Easy Ways to Feed Your Friends (or Dream Recipes for the Lazy Cook)

Chefs Stella and Ryan shared these no-need-to-measure recipes. With minimum work and few ingredients, you're rewarded with maximum flavor. To paraphrase Ina Garten of Barefoot Contessa fame, "How fabulous is that?"

Quick Spinach Ravioli and Shrimp Lasagna

Cook raviolis and then chill them in an ice bath. (Chef Stella uses Talluto's spinach raviolis.) In a casserole dish, layer alfredo or béchamel sauce, raviolis and peeled and deveined shrimp (26/30 size). Do 2-3 layers of each. On the top layer, ladle the sauce and top with bread crumbs and lemon zest. Bake, covered, at 350° for 45 minutes and then cook uncovered for another 20 minutes.

Italian-style Pork Sandwiches

Season a bone-in pork shoulder or butt with your favorite dry rub and some vegetable oil. Place seasoned shoulder in a tight-fitting roasting pan. Tightly cover with aluminum foil and bake at 225° for 8 hours. (Chef Stella cooks it overnight.) Pull apart with two forks. Serve on rolls layered with provolone cheese and store-bought sautéed broccoli rabe.

London Broil

Season with salt, pepper, garlic powder and olive oil. Sear on the grill or in a pan on the stovetop. Then place in the oven at 375° until internal temperature reaches 125° (medium rare) in the thickest part. Let rest for 10 minutes before slicing. Allow ½ lb. per person.

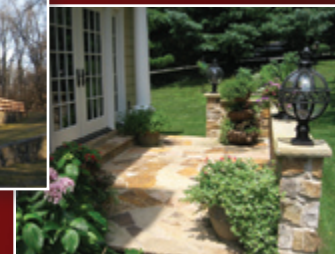
Roasted or Grilled Asparagus

After snapping off woody ends, toss asparagus with olive oil, salt and pepper. Roast at 375° or grill until tender. Top with shaved Prima Donna cheese, a nutty, sweet cow's milk cheese that tastes like a cross between Italian parmesan and Dutch gouda.

parsley in olive oil until garlic begins to color. Add tomatoes and peppers and cook for 2 or 3 minutes on medium heat.

Sprinkle sea salt on top of salmon filets.

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Make room in the center of the pan and place salmon, salt side down. Cook for 3 or 4 minutes, turn salmon over, and then scatter the remaining ingredients (except the pasta) around the fish. Cook another few minutes just to heat broccoli.

Meanwhile, cook the angel hair according to package directions. (Capellini cooks quickly so keep a close eye on it.) Reserve 1 cup of the pasta water before draining.

With a fork, flake salmon. Then gently toss the pasta with the salmon and sauce. Drizzle some more olive oil and use some of the reserved water if it's too dry.

Makes 10 servings.

Wedge Salads

Wedge salads have been appearing on menus everywhere, yet most people don't think to make them at home or to bring to a potluck. Really though, they're quick to put together since you don't have to tear lettuce into bite-sized pieces and you can use the microwave to cook the bacon. Note: I like Cindy's Kitchen Real Bleu Cheese Dressing. Look for it in the refrigerated section of Whole Foods' produce aisle.

- 1, 12-oz. package bacon
- 2 heads iceberg lettuce or 6 romaine hearts
- 1, 16-oz. bottle real blue cheese dressing
- 3 scallions, dark and light green parts only, sliced
- 2 large tomatoes, cut into medium dice

On a microwavable plate lined with a paper towel, place bacon strips so that they don't touch each other. (Keeping the strips apart helps them crisp up.) Cover with another paper towel and microwave on high for 4–5 minutes, until bacon is crisp. Crumble bacon and set aside.

Cut each iceberg head into 6 wedges. If using romaine hearts, cut in half vertically. Rinse and drain well. Arrange on a platter.

Spoon dressing on top of each wedge. Top with scallions, tomatoes and bacon. Makes 12 servings.

Corn and Avocado Salad

Recipe courtesy of Chef Connor Ryan at The Country Butcher.

- 1, 1-lb. bag frozen corn, thawed and drained well
- 1 red onion, cut into small dice

- 1 C. chopped cilantro
- 1 tsp. chili powder
- Scant ¼ C. lime juice
- 2 jalapeños, seeded and minced
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 4 avocados, cut into medium dice

Toss all ingredients except avocado together and mix well. Add avocado and toss gently until just combined.

Makes 6–8 servings.

Couscous Salad

Couscous salad is a light alternative to pasta salad. What's even nicer is that couscous cooks much quicker than pasta and has a slightly lower calorie count. Recipe courtesy of Chef Connor Ryan.

- 1 C. dried couscous
- ½ white onion, cut into small dice
- 4 stalks celery, cut into small dice
- 1 red pepper, cut into small dice
- ½ C. pine nuts
- Juice of 2 lemons
- ¼ C. chopped Italian parsley
- Salt, pepper and garlic powder to taste
- ⅓ C. olive oil

Cook couscous according to package directions.

While couscous is still warm, toss with remaining ingredients. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Makes 6–8 servings.

Crab Toast

Great served warm or at room temperature.

- 1 package English muffins (6-pack)
- 1 jar Kraft Old English Cheese Spread
- 10–12 oz. jumbo lump crabmeat
- 1 stick butter, softened
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. Old Bay seasoning

Preheat oven to 350°. Split English muffins and set aside. Mix butter, cheese spread, crabmeat and seasonings until well blended.

Spread butter mixture on muffins. Cut in quarters and bake for approximately 15–20 minutes or until lightly browned.

Makes 48 appetizers.

Shrimp with Orzo

This recipe allows for flexibility. If you're really pinched for time, don't even worry about sticking this dish in the oven, and if you don't like cooking with wine, skip it.

8 oz. orzo

- 6 Tb. olive oil, divided, plus more for brushing casserole dish
- 1 C. crumbled feta cheese
- ¼ C. grated Parmesan cheese
- 4 Tb. chopped basil
- 1 lb. medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 2 chopped garlic cloves
- 1, 14-oz. can diced tomatoes in juice
- ½ C. dry white wine
- 2 Tb. dried oregano
- ½ tsp. crushed red pepper

Preheat oven to 400°. Brush glass dish with olive oil.

Cook orzo according to package directions. Drain and put back into pot. Stir in 2 Tb. oil, ½ C. feta, Parmesan, 2 Tb. basil. Pour in glass dish.

Heat 2 Tb. olive oil in skillet. Sauté shrimp for approximately 2 minutes. Pour shrimp and olive over orzo mixture.

Add 2 Tb. olive oil to skillet and sauté garlic for 1 minute, until it just turns golden. Add tomatoes and cook for 1–2 minutes. Stir in wine, oregano, red pepper, and 2 Tb. basil. Simmer uncovered until mixture thickens, approximately 2 minutes.

Pour over shrimp and bake for 10 minutes. Add remaining feta on top.

Makes 6–8 servings.

French Toast Casserole

This dish is ideal for brunch potlucks, especially ones held around the winter holidays. Top with berries if you like.

- ½ C. butter
- 1 C. brown sugar
- 2 Tb. corn syrup
- 1 loaf French bread, cut into thick slices (about 1")
- 5 eggs
- 1½ C. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Spray 9x13" casserole dish with nonstick cooking spray.

In medium pan, melt butter, brown sugar and syrup together. Pour mixture into casserole dish. Arrange bread on top.

Beat eggs, milk and vanilla together and pour on top of bread, making sure all slices are covered. Cover dish with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 4 hours or overnight, if possible.

Bake uncovered at 350° for approximately 30 minutes or until top is lightly brown.

Makes 12 servings.

Ridiculously Easy Ice Cream Cake

When I was stressing about having time to make my younger daughter's birthday cake, the Queen of Shortcuts (my younger sister) came to my rescue with this recipe. All the kids and parents at the party loved it. If you want to get fancy, write the birthday girl or boy's name in chocolate syrup.

- 24 ice cream sandwiches
- 1, 8-oz. container Cool Whip topping
- 1–2 C. Heath Bar toffee bits

Optional: chocolate syrup

In a 9x13" baking pan, place half of the ice cream sandwiches in a single layer. Spread half of Cool Whip over sandwiches and sprinkle half of toffee bits. Repeat with remaining ingredients.

Cover with plastic wrap and freeze until topping is solid.

Makes 12 servings.

Nutter Butter Pie

Another no-bake dessert gem from my sister!

- 24 Nutter Butter cookies
- 5 Tb. melted butter
- 8 oz. cream cheese

- 1 C. peanut butter
- ¾ C. sugar
- 1 Tb. vanilla extract
- 1, 8-oz. container Cool Whip topping

Set 4 cookies aside. Crush 20 cookies and mix with the melted butter. Press into bottom and up sides of a pie plate.

Mix cream cheese, peanut butter, sugar and vanilla until well combined. Add in half of the Cool Whip. Spoon mixture into pie plate.

Cover with plastic wrap and freeze for 4 hours or overnight, if possible. Thaw slightly and garnish with remaining Cool Whip and 4 cookies.

Makes 8 servings.

Strawberry Trifle

Trifles are a popular British dessert dating back to the 1500s, the pre-pre-Sara Lee era. You will need a deep glass bowl, preferably footed, to show off this dessert's good looks.

- 1 large Sara Lee or other pound cake
- 2, 3.4-oz. boxes vanilla instant pudding mix
- 4 C. cold milk
- 2 packages Dream Whip

(1 box usually contains 2 packages)

- 1 C. heavy whipping cream
- 1 tsp. almond extract
- 4 C. sliced fresh strawberries or 1 large bag frozen strawberries

Slice cake into approximately 15 slices. Arrange slices standing upright around sides of bowl and place a few pieces on bottom.

Using an electric mixer, mix pudding, milk, Dream Whip, whipping cream and almond extract at medium speed until mixture becomes fluffy, about 6–8 minutes.

Place 2 C. fresh strawberries or ½ bag of thawed and crushed strawberries on cake bottom. Pour ½ pudding mixture over berries. Repeat layers by adding remaining pieces of cake followed by strawberries then pudding mixture.

Garnish with 2–4 fresh strawberries or flowers. ♦

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

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