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From *the*
Editor



Flaming foliage, crisp apples and pumpkins for the picking or drinking in beer. What's not to love about October?

And our October issue is brimming with inspiration for how to enjoy the month, starting with our Best Local Events Section. Or take a tour with Mary Dolan to experience all that *County Lines* Country has to offer. In "Across County Lines," we visit some of our favorite towns for shopping and dining and note businesses with long histories and milestone anniversaries.

For a more focused tour, Carol Metzker suggests lesser-known delights of the Brandywine Valley in "Great Escapes." Paddle the Brandywine, strap into a helicopter, take a spin in a steam-powered Stanley Mountain Wagon. And more!

If you're looking for entertainment, try the ballet. Jenny Miedwig got the scoop on "Brandywine Ballet Kicks Off the Season with a Ballet BOGO," previewing two dances. And Colleen Cummings clues us in on "The First State Ballet Theatre: Delaware's Best Kept Secret."

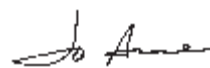
Gardeners who don't want to hibernate until spring will be inspired by Grace Byrne of Scott Arboretum, who suggests cold-weather container gardening. Before the snow falls, read "Gardening in a Winter Wonderland."

We have two kinds of open house to recommend. For parents, there's our annual "Guide to Area Independent Schools, Services & Open Houses," along with advice schools shared with our publisher Ed Malet on how to best manage a "Second Look" when searching for the right-fit school for your child. For a more traditional real estate open house, read about a timber frame dream home in Chester Springs in Laurel Anderson's Home of the Month feature.

Food fans will enjoy learning how pumpkin beer became a thing. Jamie Robinson of Boxcar Brewing explains in "As American as Pumpkin Beer." Then Laura Brennan says *Mangia!* as Brandywine Table goes Italian in her visit to Tonino's in Malvern for family recipes.

Finally, in "Bedtime Books," Andrea Kiliany Thatcher wonders, "What's a better nighttime ritual than reading a story before bed?" Frankly, I don't know....

I hope you enjoy reading this issue.


Jo Anne Durako
Editor

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October 2015

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CONTENTS

VOLUME 39, NUMBER 2 October 2015

COUNTY LINES
MAGAZINE



OCTOBER 2015

33
BRANDYWINE BALLET KICKS OFF THE SEASON WITH A BALLET BOGO
Jenny Miedwig

35
THE FIRST STATE BALLET THEATRE:
Delaware's Best Kept Secret
Colleen Cummings

36
GARDENING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND
Grace Byrne
Scott Arboretum

38
ACROSS COUNTY LINES
Mary Irene Dolan

42
GREAT ESCAPES
In the Brandywine Valley
Carol Metzker

46
BEDTIME BOOKS
Andrea Kiliany Thatcher
Chester County Book Company

49
YOUR SECOND LOOK
Choosing the Right School
Edwin Malet

53
GUIDE TO AREA
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS,
SERVICES & OPEN HOUSES

66
HOME OF THE MONTH
Dream Home in Chester Springs
Laurel Anderson

71
AS AMERICAN AS PUMPKIN BEER
Jamie Robinson
Boxcar Brewing Company

76
BRANDYWINE TABLE: Mangia!
Laura Muzzi Brennan

DEPARTMENTS

12 WORTH KNOWING
14 BEING WELL
17 GOOD TO KNOW

19 OF SPECIAL NOTE
20 BEST LOCAL EVENTS
74 FOOD NEWS

81 TALKING WITH ...
82 INDEX

Worth Knowing

College Tuition Anxiety? Get Schooled on Financial Aid—Whatever Your Income Level

Steve Kanteliotis, Wells Fargo Advisors

DID YOU KNOW THAT IN THE 2012-2013 ACADEMIC year, more than \$238.5 billion in financial aid (grants, federal loans, federal work-study, and federal tax credits and deductions) was awarded to undergraduate and graduate students? And that those students came from households spanning a wide range of household incomes?

During that same academic year, the average amount of aid for a full-time college student was \$13,730, including \$7,190 in grants (that don't have to be repaid) and \$4,900 in federal loans.

Once you realize how many resources may be available and begin your research on financial assistance, you may be on your way toward easing some of the anxiety often associated with paying for college.

5 LESSONS ON SEEKING FINANCIAL HELP FOR COLLEGE COSTS

Start planning during the high school years. Pay particular attention to your child's junior year of high school, and reposition assets or adjust income before that year begins. When financial aid officers review a family's need, they analyze the family's income in the calendar year that begins in January of the student's junior year of high school.

Assume you're eligible for aid ... until you're told you're not.

There are no specific guidelines or rules of thumb that can accurately predict the aid you and your child may be offered. Because each family's circumstances are different, keep an open mind as you consider financial aid alternatives. A number of factors—such as having several

children in school at the same time—may increase your eligibility for assistance.

Reassess assets held by your children.

Federal guidelines expect children to contribute 20% of their savings toward their education's costs, while parents are expected to contribute up to 5.64%. That's why assets held in custodial accounts in your children's names (bank accounts, trust funds, brokerage accounts) may reduce the aid the family qualifies for.

But assets held in Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (ESAs with income limitations) and 529 plans (operated by states and educational institutions) will be factored into the parent's formula, having less effect on the aid the family qualifies for.

Help grandparents target their gifts.

Grandparents' hearts often lead them to make gifts directly to grandchildren or pay their tuition expenses. Even though payments made directly to a college avoid gift taxes, financial aid sources generally count these payments as an additional resource the family has to pay for college expenses. Distributions from grandparent-owned 529 plans are also considered as resources and assessed as your child's income, which reduces the amount of eligible aid.

A better idea for grandparents may be to consider making a gift to a 529 plan owned by the parent or grandchild. The financial aid treatment of gifts to 529 plans is generally more favorable than for gifts made directly to the grandchild. Plus grandparents may also realize estate tax and gift benefits by using this alternative.

Assess your family's financial situation to determine what your children will need.

Gather records and begin researching available financial aid, grants, loans and scholarships. Two forms will be key to your aid application process: the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the College Scholarship Service Financial Aid Profile (PROFILE). The FAFSA form helps you apply for federal aid, and many states also use it to determine a resident student's eligibility for state aid. You can find forms in high-school guidance offices and college financial-aid offices or online. ♦

Please consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing in a 529 savings plan. The official statement, which contains this and other information, can be obtained by calling your Financial Advisor. Read it carefully before you invest.

This article was written by Wells Fargo Advisors and provided courtesy of Steve Kanteliotis, Managing Director-Investments in Philadelphia, 215-564-8866. Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, Member SIPC, is a registered broker-dealer and a separate non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company. ©2015 Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC. All rights reserved.



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Playing It Safe to Prevent Concussions

WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW IF THEIR KIDS PLAY SCHOOL SPORTS.

Dr. Nicole Marcantuono, Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children

EVERY YEAR, THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN SUSTAIN head injuries playing sports, in car and bicycle accidents, and even minor falls. Most childhood head injuries are not serious and affect only the outside of the head. But some children may experience a temporary decline in brain function, known as a concussion.

Although some accidents can't be avoided, simple safety precautions—and common sense—can go a long way in preventing concussions.

Safety First. This back-to-school season is a great time for parents to discuss safety with their kids with an eye to minimizing possible head injury.

- **Enjoying Activities** – Be sure children wear properly fitting, appropriate headgear and safety equipment when biking, rollerblading, skateboarding, snowboarding, skiing and playing contact sports.

- **Risky Sports** – For boys, it's football, hockey and lacrosse that are higher risk but soccer and lacrosse for girls. For specific figures on risks, check the MomsTeam.com website.

- **Consider a Baseline Test** – Baseline testing, which is gaining popularity, is done while a child is "healthy" and not injured, often at the start of the sports season. The baseline measurements allow comparison of scores or performance later, when a concussion is suspected. Check with your doctor about whether and where this can be done.

Red Flags, Signs and Symptoms. Anyone who sustains a head injury should immediately be removed from the activity or sport. Even without a loss of consciousness, it's important to watch for symptoms.

Concussion symptoms may not appear right away and can take up to 72 hours after the injury to fully develop. And the symptoms may last for days, weeks or even months.

Get medical help if you notice:

- A change in level of alertness or consciousness,
- feeling confused or dazed
- Sleepiness, difficulty in arousing or in falling asleep
- A bad headache
- Nausea or vomiting
- Dizziness or difficulty with coordination or balance
- Decline in function, weakness, numbness or tingling
- Blurred vision
- Slurred or confused speech
- Anxiety or irritability for no apparent reason
- Convulsions or seizures

The severity of a concussion is determined by how long symptoms last and is known only after someone has recovered. The longer the symptoms of changes in brain function continue, the more severe the concussion.

Kids who get concussions usually recover within a few weeks without lasting health problems, but a child with an undiagnosed concussion can be at risk for structural brain damage and even disability, should a second injury occur during active healing.

Treating Concussions. After a concussion, the brain needs time to heal. Perhaps surprisingly, children and teens recover from concussions more slowly than adults.

While symptoms persist, your child *should not*: attend school or have a normal workload until instructed by your doctor; take any high-stakes tests, like state tests or SATs; participate in physical activity including gym class, recess, sports, including biking, rollerblading or skateboarding; drive or operate heavy machinery; or return to work.

Some children will report feeling better even though their thinking, behavior or balance are not yet normal. So it's important for parents to wait until all symptoms have cleared and your doctor gives the okay before a return to normal activities.

State laws mandate that children with concussions, even possible concussions, see a medical provider and be cleared to return to activity before they're allowed back in gym class, recess and on the field.

State Policies. Many states, schools and institutions have policies on concussions in youth and high school sports. While promising, more research is needed to educate coaches and parents about this issue

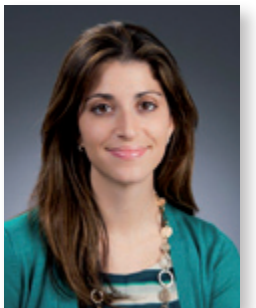
and help protect children and teens from concussions and other serious brain injuries. Most states—including Delaware and Pennsylvania—have enacted strong youth sports concussion safety laws modeled on Washington State's 2009 groundbreaking Zackery Lystedt Law, named after an injured 13-year-old middle school football player.

Check MomsTeam.com or KidsHealth.org and talk with your doctor. ♦

Nicole M. Marcantuono, M.D., practices at Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wil-

ington, Nemours duPont Pediatrics in Philadelphia, and Nemours duPont Pediatrics in Newtown Square.

Her specialties include treatment of concussions, lymphedema, spina bifida and spinal dysfunction as well as pain management, physical medicine and rehabilitation, and rehabilitative medicine. Contact her at 800-416-4441; Nemours.org.



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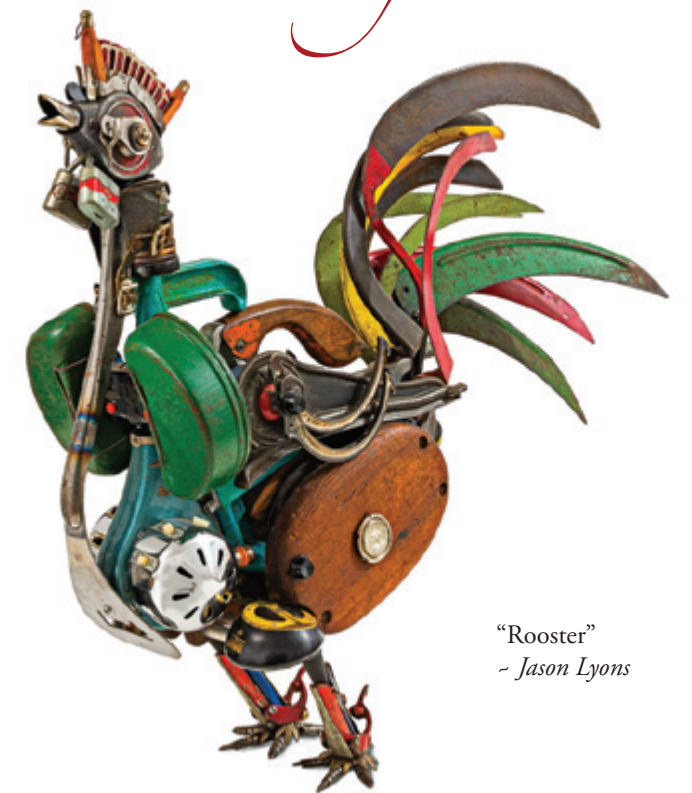
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Good to Know

Just a few things we thought you'd like to know this month



Critter Treat. Get ready for the brand new creepy **Critters** available at the **Brandywine River Museum of Art** October 15 to November 15. Critters have traditionally been available only during the Christmas season, but now Critters disguised as ghosts, goblins, vampires and bats will be waiting to say "Boo!" to you. Created from natural materials, the Critters provide organic decorations for your home this Halloween. At the Museum Shop, BrandywineMuseumShop.org.

On Top of the World! 418 feet. 100 rappellers. 31 stories. Get ready for an adventure like no other. **The Outward Bound School** is hosting its **2015 Building Adventure** on October 23rd. Come out to watch Chester County locals like Mayor Carolyn Comitta rappel down One Logan Square. You won't want to miss the fourth annual high-adrenaline fundraiser atop the Center City skyline created to support our leaders of tomorrow! BuildingAdventure.org.



available this November, and you can reserve yours by searching for Micro Drone 3.0 at Indiegogo.com.

Sky View. What if you could take in the autumn splendor of Chester County's rolling hills without the price of a plane ticket? With the **Micro Drone 3.0**, you can. The palm-size device is perfect for drone rookies who want to capture the changing seasons from a bird's-eye view. Fly the drone with a head mounted display or opt to use your smartphone. The drones will be

25 Years of Fear. Looking for a scream this Halloween? Check into the **Bates Motel and Haunted Hayride** in Glen Mills ... if you dare. Even the bravest haunted house enthusiasts will cringe at the sight of levitating spirits, the wandering headless horseman, and monsters creeping around every corner. Don't forget to hop aboard the haunted hayride and keep an eye out for the ghouls who may try to join you. To reserve your spot for this spooktacular celebration visit BatesMotel.com.



Lens on Litter. Litter ... It's harmful to wildlife and hazardous to our health—not to mention unsightly to look at. Yet we can't seem to eliminate litter completely. Luckily, the **Pennsylvania Resources Council** is committed to bringing awareness to this bad habit. Their mascot, the Litterbug, serves as an anti-role model and is the star of PRC's annual **Lens on Litter Photo Contest**, when participants photograph litterbugs' wrongdoings in creative ways. Submit your photos before the October 31st deadline! Rules and prizes at PRC.org.





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of Special Note

The Great Pumpkin Carve October 22-24



More than 60 local artists carve huge pumpkins that will be lit and displayed from Thursday to Saturday. Live music, hayrides and a haunted trail. *Across from the John Chad's House, Rt. 100 N, Chadds Ford. 5 to 9 p.m. \$5-\$10. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFordHistory.org.*

Paoli Blues Fest & Street Fair October 3



The main stage hosts continuous live performances from premier blues musicians. Food vendors, street fair, beer and wine garden and kid's activities make this a fun family event. *Main stage, Paoli Village Shoppes, other venues in Paoli. Noon to 6 p.m. Free. 610-206-7743 or 610-644-6759; PaoliBluesFest.com.*

2015 Radnor Hunt Horse Trials October 10

A 40-year tradition of autumn eventing continues in Malvern with dressage, 8 a.m., show jumping, 10 a.m., cross country, 10:20 a.m. A pig roast with live music, good food and a silent auction follow the last event, 3:30 p.m. Donations are designed to further equestrian sports and recreation in the area. The Horse Trial is free, the pig roast is a donation at the door. *826 Providence Rd., Malvern. RadnorHuntHT.org.*



Annual Thorncroft "Lobstah" Bake October 4

Great old-fashioned fun at this fundraiser for Thorncroft Equestrian Center and its mission to develop physical and emotional well-being of all people, including those with special needs. Plenty of lobster, piles of chicken, cases of wine and kegs of beer as well as lots of dancing to live music. *190 Line Rd., Malvern. 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$75; \$20 for 12 and under. 610-644-1963; Thorncroft.org.*



Stroud Uncorked October 9

Live Music. Libations. Nibbles. Prost! Enjoy an evening of live music, great food and drinks while learning about the work at Stroud Water Research Center to advance knowledge and stewardship of freshwater systems. 21+ only. *970 Spencer Rd., Avondale. 7 to 9:30 p.m. \$50. 610-268-2153; StroudCenter.org.*



best Local Events

FAMILY FUN

ONGOING

Wednesday Storytime at Chester County Book Company. Stories and activities for children ages 3 to 6 accompanied by an adult. 967 Paoli Pk., West Chester. 10:30 to 11. Free. 610-696-1661; ChesterCountyBooks.com.

WEEKENDS THROUGH NOVEMBER

Family Fun Fest at Paradox Vineyard. Bring the whole family for an afternoon of barnyard games, corn maze and wine. 1833 Flint Hill Rd., Landenberg. 1 to 6 pm. 610-255-5684; Paradox.com.

THROUGH DECEMBER

The Wharton Esherick Museum. Special children's tours every Saturday. 1520 Horseshoe Trail, Malvern. Tours by reservation, 11 am. Adm. \$6-\$12. 610-644-5822; WhartonEsherickMuseum.org.

OCTOBER 1-NOVEMBER 12

Children's Read-Aloud Tours at Brandywine River Museum of Art. Hear a story, interact with art and make a creative work to take home. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. Thurs, 10:30. Reg. requested. \$6-\$15. 610-388-8382; BrandywineMuseum.org.

OCTOBER 2-4

91st Annual Unionville Community Fair. Family activities, contests, displays, music, live animal exhibits, food, rodeo on Sat, 6 pm, \$10-\$15; auction on Sun, 5:30. Landhope Farms, 101 E. Street Rd., Kennett Square. Fri-Sat, 9 to 9; Sun, 10 to 5:30. UCFairInc.org.

OCTOBER 3

Charlestown Day 2015. Start with a 5K run through the township, then a 1-mile fun run/walk and a Kids' Dash. Enjoy vendors, music, food and Kid Zone activities and performances. Charlestown Township Park, 100 Academic Way, Phoenixville. 9 to 2. Free. CharlestownDay.org.

OCTOBER 3

Newtown Square Community Festival. Music, vendors, trains, miniature train rides for children. Newtown Square Railroad Museum, Drexel Lodge Park, West Chester Pk., Newtown Square. 10 to 4. Free.

610-459-4183; NewtownSquare-Railroad-Museum.org.

OCTOBER 3-4

Delaware Nature Society Harvest Moon Festival. Children's activities and crafts, hayrides, music, food, wagon and pony rides. Coverdale Farm, 543 Way Rd., Greenville, DE. No dogs. Hours and admission TBD. 302-239-2334; DelawareNatureSociety.org.

OCTOBER 4

Radnor Fall Harvest & Great Pumpkin Patch. Tractor and pony rides, pumpkin patches and carving, a hay bale maze, instrument petting zoo, music. The Willows, 490 Darby-Paoli Rd., Radnor. 1 to 4. Free. Rain date, Oct. 11. 610-688-5600; RadnorRecreation.com.

OCTOBER 4

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. Free. 610-469-0533; RyerssFarm.org.

OCTOBER 10

East Fallowfield Township's Park Day. "Fostering Community" is the theme for the day which features food trucks, car show, costume parade, crafts, games, a rock wall, moon bounce and more. 930 Buck Run Rd., East Fallowfield. 10 to 4. Free. 610-384-7144; EastFallowfield.org.

OCTOBER 10

18th Annual Founders Day Festival. Something for all ages with light lunch, bake tables, demonstrations, scavenger hunt and more. Bethel Firehouse, 3737 Foulk Rd., Garnet Valley. 10 to 3. Free. PTPS-Pa.com.

OCTOBER 10

Fall Fest in Eagleview. Food vendors, crafters, kids activities, a bike race and "Wellington Wags," dog-related activities and vendors. Benefits Chester County Food Bank; please bring a non-perishable food donation as your ticket. 540 Wellington Square, Exton. Free. 11 to 3. InEagleview.com.

OCTOBER 10-11

Harvest Days at Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum. 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 10-JANUARY 10

Delaware Museum of Natural History Presents "Tiny Titans: Dinosaur Eggs and Babies." Remarkable hands-on exhibit featuring authentic dinosaur eggs and nests collected from all over the world. 4840 Kennett Pk., Wilmington. Mon-Sat, 9:30 to 4:30; Sun, noon to 4:30. \$7-\$9. 302-658-9111; DelMNH.org.

OCTOBER 17

Phoenixville Pumpkinfest. Pumpkin derby races, carving contests, carnival, "best" pumpkin dish competition and live entertainment on Main St., between Bridge & Church Sts., Phoenixville. 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. 484-928-0562; PhoenixvillePumpkinFest.com.

OCTOBER 17-18

Pumpkin Days at Tyler Arboretum. Traditional autumn festival with lots of activities, yummy food, crafts, hay wagon rides and pumpkins. 515 Painter Rd., Media. Daily 10 to 5. \$7-\$11. 610-566-9134; TylerArboretum.org.

OCTOBER 17-18, 24-25, 31-NOV. 1

Hayrides at Hagley. Take a hayride along the Brandywine, create fall-themed crafts, see a gunpowder explosion, the roll mill in action, and working 19th-century machines. 200 Hagley Creek Rd., Wilmington. 11 to 4:30. \$5-\$14. 302-658-2400; Hagley.org.

OCTOBER 24

Halloween on the Farm at Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation. Children can wear their costumes and visit four 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.

OCTOBER 24

Halloween Parade in Phoenixville. Begins at 300 block of Bridge St. and ends at 100 block of Bridge St., Phoenixville. 4 pm. 610-933-8801; Phoenixville.org.

OCTOBER 30

Radnor Township Trick or Treat. 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.

ANTIQUES SHOWS.....

OCTOBER 2-4

Main Line Antiques Show. Now in its 19th year, the antiques show kicks off with a Preview Party, featuring cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a light buffet and first look at fine art and antiques offered by 40 distinguished dealers. Benefits Surrey Services for Seniors. Cabrini College, Dixon Center, 610 King of Prussia Rd., Radnor. Preview, 6 to 9 p.m., \$100. Show hours: Sat, 10 to 7; Sun, 11 to 5. \$15. 484-580-9609; MainLineAntiquesShow.com.

OCTOBER 4-11

Annual Berks County Art Show. See museum-quality paintings by the school of artists from Berks County, circa 1820-1920 at this one-of-a-kind show. Greshville Antiques & Fine Art, 1041 Reading Ave. (Rt. 562), Boyertown. Oct. 4, 12 to 5; Oct. 5-10, 10 to 5; Oct. 11 & 12 to 5. 610-367-0076; GreshvilleAntiques.com.

ART & CRAFT SHOWS.....

THROUGH NOVEMBER 4

Main Line Art Center Unveils "Panorama: Image-Based Art in the 21st Century." A celebration of the photographic image and its role in contemporary art. 746 Panmure Rd., Haverford. For information, MainLineArt.org.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 15

The Philadelphia Museum of Art Presents "Inside Out." The Museum is sharing its art, sending 60 high-quality replicas of Museum masterpieces to communities around the region including Wayne and West Chester. Pick a neighborhood, grab your friends and family and explore. Maps are on several websites including: PhilaMuseum.org; WayneArt.org and DowntownWestChester.com.

OCTOBER 2

West Chester Fall Gallery Walk. Stroll through downtown West Chester for an evening of art, dining and shopping. The Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce hosts its Fall Gallery Walk. Gay & Market Sts., West Chester. 5 to 9 pm. GWCC.org.

OCTOBER 2-3

17th Annual Artisans' Porch Walk in Lititz. Show and sale of art and crafts on private porches and lawns. Lunch available and an auction to benefit the residents of Moravian Manor. Various porches and lawns, throughout the Moravian Manor Community and other locations in Lititz. Fri, 10 to 5; Sat, 10 to 4. 717-625-6030; MoravianManor.org.

OCTOBER 2-11

Annual Daylesford Abbey Art Show. Juried artists participate showcasing fine art, jewelry, sculptures and more. 220 S. Valley Rd., Paoli. Complimentary reception, Oct. 2, 5 to

8. Show open daily, 1 to 4; Wed til 8. Free. 610-647-2530; Daylesford.org.

OCTOBER 3-4

Arts Festival Reading. Quality show featuring juried fine artists and craftsmen, plus music and food. Benefits GoggleWorks Center for the Arts. 201 Washington St., Reading. Daily, 10 to 5. \$8. 610-374-4600; ArtsFestivalReading.org.

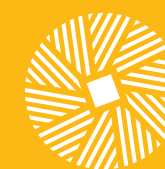
OCTOBER 17-18

Flying Colors 2015 Art Show and Sale. Showcasing new works by member art-

ists, unframed originals and signed prints. The Montgomery School, Bell Hall, 1141 Kimberton Rd., (Rt. 113), Chester Springs. Opening reception, Fri, 6 to 9, \$10. Donations support a former member with ALS. Sat, 10 to 9, Sun, 9 to 5. Free. 610-942-3234; FlyingColors.us.

OCTOBER 17-18

The Hagley Craft Fair. Fifty-five regional artists will exhibit their hand-crafted jewelry, textiles, glass, wood, pottery and more. Hagley's, Buck Rd., 100, Wilmington. Sat, 10 to 5; Sun, 10 to 4. \$5. 302-658-2400; Hagley.org.



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AUTO SHOW.....
OCTOBER 2-4
2015 Delaware Auto Show. Highlights include the latest car model releases from all major auto makers, exotic car lineup including Lamborghini, Rolls Royce, Maserati, Bentley, Aston Martin, McLaren and more, great family fun and prizes including a 2-year lease on a 2016 car. Chase Center on the Riverfront, Wilmington. Daily 10 to 6. \$10; free for 13 and under. DelawareAutoShow.com.

EQUESTRIAN.....
THROUGH OCTOBER 4
Dressage at Devon. Combining world-class dressage competition and the world's largest open breed show. The Festival Shops offer a wide variety from more than 65 vendors and great food at outdoor cafés. There's a Kids Corral with activities and exhibitions are geared towards family fun. Devon Horse Show Grounds, 23 Dorset Rd., Devon. \$10; under 12 free. Benefits Equine Education. Visit website for schedule, DressageAtDevon.org.

OCTOBER 11
Fall Horse Show at Thorncroft. Special needs competitors compete in equitation, dressage and trail classes. Bring a picnic and enjoy a performance by the Mainstreamers. 190 Line Rd., Malvern. Thorncroft.org.

OCTOBER 15-18
The Dutta Corp. Fair Hill International 3-Day Event. Olympic-caliber athletes take on daunting drops and huge fences at top speeds. The Festival in the Country features food, Kids' Corner, Frisbee Dog competition, vendor tent and tailgating. Benefits Union Hospital, Cecil County, MD. See website for daily schedule. Gallaher Rd. off Rt. 273, Fair Hill (Elkton), MD. \$5-\$10-\$15. 410-398-2111; FairHillInternational.com.

NOVEMBER 1
81st Running of the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup. Join the excitement in the country, with timber racing, food and shopping. North of Rt. 926 and Newark Rd., Unionville. Gates open at 11 am, Pony Hunt Cup noon, Carriage Parade at 1, Hunt Cup at 3. \$50 per car. Benefits the Chester County Food Bank, Work to Ride and Upland Country Day School. 484-888-6619; PaHuntCup.org.

FESTIVALS & FAIRS.....
See Family Fun for more.
THROUGH OCTOBER 25
Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire—The Return of the King. A cast of hundreds of colorfully costumed characters fill the Shire with music, dancing and more. Sat-Sun. Mt. Hope Estate, 2775 Lebanon Rd., Manheim. 11 to 8. \$11.95-\$30.95. 717-665-7021; PAREnFaire.com.

OCTOBER 3
Bark in the Park at Nottingham Park. Vendors, skill demonstrations, exhibits. Nottingham County Park, 150 Park Rd., Nottingham. 11 to 3. \$5 for parking. 610-932-2589; ChesCo.org/CCParks.

OCTOBER 4, 25, NOVEMBER 8
Clover Market. A seasonal open-air market featuring over 100 vendors with antiques and collectibles, vintage jewelry, clothing, finely crafted handmade items and original art. 7 N. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. 10 to 5. TheCloverMarket.com.

OCTOBER 10
Upper Main Line Rotary's Oktoberfest. Held under a tent at the Church of the Good Samaritan, the event offers live musical entertainment throughout the day, a selection of beers, brats, and kids activities. Benefits local charities. 212 W. Lancaster Pk., Paoli. 2 to 8. \$10. UMLRotary.org.

OCTOBER 17
Coatesville Celebrates Heritage Day. For the city's 100th anniversary, this is a day-long celebration with something for everyone in the family. Events take place at Gateway Park, Ash Park and the Gordon School. 10 to 4. 610-380-9080; BrandywineFoundation.org.

FOOD & DRINK.....
See Fundraisers for more.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 8
Taste Kennett Food Tours. Sample delicious food from locally owned restaurants, markets and specialty food shops. Sun, 1 pm. \$49. 484-734-0740; TasteKennett.com.

THROUGH DECEMBER
West Chester Food Tours. Visit family-owned restaurants, bakeries and markets on a historical tour of downtown West Chester. Thurs-Sun, 11:30 & 12:30. \$49.99. 484-301-2396; WestChesterFoodTours.com.

OCTOBER 3, 4-8
Phoenixville Food Truck Festival & Restaurant Week 2015. Oct. 3, enjoy a wide variety of gourmet foods from over 35 food trucks, with food both sweet and savory, and a variety of vendors along Bridge Street. Free parking and a free shuttle service. Noon to 6 pm. Oct. 4-8, is restaurant week in Phoenixville. For information, PhoenixvilleFoodFestival.com.

OCTOBER 4
35th Annual Media Food & Crafts Festival. Many restaurants and craftspeople display on State Street. Music stages with bands playing throughout the day and children's

activities. 9 to 5. Rain date, Oct. 11. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

OCTOBER 10
Wine & Cheese Tours at Wharton Esherick Museum. Enjoy a tour of the studio and end the evening with some locally produced cheese and beer on the deck. Reservations required. 4 to 6 pm. \$30. 1520 Horseshoe Trail, Malvern. 610-644-5822; WhartonEsherickMuseum.org.

OCTOBER 11
12th Annual Vendemmia da Vinci Wine Festival. Wine enthusiasts gather to celebrate the harvest of the grapes by sampling fine wines from Italy and enjoying delicacies prepared by area restaurants. Also live entertainment, homemade wine and gravy contests and a silent auction. Tubman-Garrett Park, Wilmington Riverfront. 2 to 6. \$60. Benefits local families in need. 302-631-1556; SocietaDaVinci.com.

OCTOBER 11
13th Annual Rotary Club of West Chester Chili Cookoff. Come to downtown West Chester, sample some awesome chili and vote for your favorite. Benefits Rotary projects. All-You-Can-Eat-Chili wristbands, \$10; 10 and under, free with paid adult. 10:30 to 3:30. Rain or shine. 484-343-4577; WestChesterChiliCookoff.com.

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Friday, October 2

CHESTER COUNTY DAY
Saturday, October 3

**N.C. WYETH EXHIBIT AT
CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION**
October 10-18

WEST CHESTER CHILI COOK-OFF
Sunday, October 11

HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS
Thursday, October 22

BRANDYWINE BALLET presents CARMINA BURANA
October 23-25

HALLOWEEN PARADE
Wednesday, October 28

FIRST FRIDAY
Friday, November 6

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OCTOBER 18

Brandywine Artisan Wine Trail Cheese, Wine & Truffles Event. The Galer Estate Winery brings together award-winning cheeses, wines and chocolates, all produced in the Brandywine Valley—Amazing Acres, Birchrun Hills Farm, The Farm at Doe Run, Yellow Springs Farm, Meadowset Farm, Conebella Farms and Éclat Chocolates. 700 Folly Hill Rd., Kennett Square. Noon to 4. Free. ChesterCountyCheese.org/The-Farm-at-Doe-Run.

FUNDRAISERS.....

OCTOBER 1

7th Annual Denim & Diamonds Fundraiser.

The evening features a raffle, live music, cocktail reception and dinner. Held in conjunction with Unionville Community Fair (see *Family Fun*). Benefits local agriculture, youth education and those who supply food to the hungry. The Red Barn on the Unionville Fairgrounds, 101 E. Street Rd., Kennett Square. 6:30 to 10. \$100. UCFairInc.org.

OCTOBER 1

Take a Bite Out of Autism Fundraising Event.

Enjoy a taste of signature dishes from fine area restaurants. Valley Forge Casino Resort, 1160 First Ave., King of Prussia. 6 to 9:30 pm. Ben-

efits The Timothy School in Berwyn. \$50. 610-725-0755; TimothySchool.com.

OCTOBER 2

Greener Partners "Remarkable Farms" Gala.

Seated dinner using locally sourced, farm-fresh ingredients created by Chester County's finest culinary artisans including chef Patrick Feury of Nectar, chef Andrew Deery of Majolica and chef Sean Weinberg of Restaurant Alba. Benefits Greener Partners' mission of healthy communities through food, farms and education. Radnor Hunt, 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. 6:30 pm. \$150. RemarkableFarmsGala.com.

OCTOBER 2-4

Susan G. Komen 3-Day Event. The journey begins on Friday morning with an opening ceremony, then the 60-mile journey, 20 miles each day, until the Closing Ceremony celebration Sunday. Begins at Willow Grove Park Mall, Easton, Moreland & Old Welsh Rds., Willow Grove and ends at the Navy Yard, Philadelphia. To register, The3Day.org.

OCTOBER 4

Kennett Symphony Presents The Classics at Brantwyn.

Annual vintage car tour and show at Brantwyn Mansion in Wilmington, featuring a Grand Parade of automobiles and motorcycles, champagne brunch accompanied by live blues. Benefits the Symphony. 600 Rockland Rd., Wilmington. 11 am. \$95. 610-444-6363; Kennett-Symphony.org.

OCTOBER 4

A Taste of Berwyn. Restaurants will offer their delectable dishes and vendors their wares. Games and play area for children, live music and a Beer Garden. Benefits Daemion Counseling Center. Hilltop House Estate, 570 Beaumont Rd., Devon. Noon to 5. \$5 for age 21 and over. TasteOfBerwyn.com.

OCTOBER 4

Delaware Humane Assoc. "Tails Around the Tower" Walk for Animals.

A one-mile walk around the park by dogs and their people, a festive atmosphere, music, refreshments, pet-friendly vendors and contests. Rockford Park, 2000 Lookout Dr., Wilmington. 10:30. 302-571-8171; DEHumane.org.

OCTOBER 10

White Horse Village Annual Octofair.

Take part in the silent auction featuring furniture, accessories, jewelry and collectibles, shop the Gift Corral for clothing and gifts and stop in The Stall Resale Shop for great finds. 535 Gradyville Rd., Newtown Square. 9 to 2:30. 610-558-5000; WhiteHorseVillage.org.

OCTOBER 11

24th Annual Dilworthtown Inn Crush Cancer Wine Festival.

Join this premier wine event featuring more than 100 wines, craft beers, sumptuous fare, silent auction, live music, perform-

ance car show and much more. Benefits the cancer program at Chester County Hospital. 1390 Old Wilmington Pk., West Chester. Noon to 4. \$45. VIP tickets, \$100. 610-431-5329; ChesterCountyHospital.org.

OCTOBER 11

Oxford Feed & Lumber's Pink Poker Prance.

A trail ride through beautiful Fair Hill with prizes to the most pink horse/rider combinations and best poker hand (riders receive cards at various checkpoints). Riders and non-riders enjoy lunch, a goodie bag and a raffle. Rt. 273, parking lot #1, Fair Hill, MD. 8 am. \$35. 610-932-8521; OxfordFeedLumber.com.

OCTOBER 14-17

55th Annual Shipley Shops.

A shopping event featuring retailers and artists from across the country. The Shipley School, Yarnall Gymnasium, 814 Yarrow St., Bryn Mawr. Preview party Wed, 6 to 9, \$75. Thurs, 10 to 6; Fri, 10 to 6; Sat, 10 to 3. \$5-\$10; free Sat. 610-525-4544; ShipleySchool.org/ShipleyShops.

OCTOBER 15

6th Annual Wings for Success Annual Fundraising Gala.

Enjoy a silent auction, delicious appetizers, desserts, wine and beverages. The gala works to empower women in need to pursue employment by helping with apparel, advice and advocacy. Downingtown Country Club, 93 Country Club Rd., Downingtown. 6 to 8 pm. \$55, \$100/couple. 610-644-6323; WingsForSuccess.org.

OCTOBER 16

Best of Malvern Fashion Show and Luncheon.

The latest designs from local boutiques and apparel stores. Benefits the Paoli Hospital Breast Cancer Center. General Warren, 9 Old Lancaster Ave., Malvern. 11:30 am. \$55. MalvernBusiness.com.

OCTOBER 17

Uptown! Entertainment Alliance 4th Annual Fundraiser.

"Footlights & Fun Raising," an evening of live music, food, a silent auction and a red, white and blue theme. Benefits the renovation of the National Guard Armory Building into a performing arts theater. West Chester University Alumni & Foundation Building, 202 Carter Dr., West Chester. 6:30 to 11. \$85. 610-918-8810; UptownWestChester.org.

OCTOBER 18

9th Rally 'Round the Races.

Explore the Brandywine water basin on this year's scenic drive. Benefits the clean water programs of the Brandywine Conservancy. Start at the Riverfront in Wilmington, and follow the route to a "secret" location for lunch and prizes. \$165 per car, includes lunch for four. Children welcome. Hint: Team of three people is the best approach. Reservations required. 610-388-8398; 610-388-3824; Brandywine.org.



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OCTOBER 20
Chester County Futures Annual Wine Tasting and Dinner. Award-winning cuisine by Sage Catering paired with carefully selected wines from Italy. Benefits Chester County Futures, providing students the college readiness and life skills they need to be successful. Hilltop House, 570 Beaumont Rd., Devon. 6 to 10 pm. Tickets start at \$200. 610-458-9926; CCF.Kintera.org/WineDinner2015.

OCTOBER 22
Harvest: A Farm to Table Chef Tasting Event. Over 20 top restaurants come together for this event. Unite for HER is a nonprofit with a mission of positively affecting the lives of women and girls while supporting and offering breast cancer and wellness programs. Phoenixville Foundry, 2 N. Main St., 6 to 9. Tickets \$125; VIP \$200. UniteForHer.org.

OCTOBER 22
Habitat for Humanity of Chester County's Appetite for Construction Event. Enjoy an open bar for beer and wine, tapas and a silent auction. All proceeds go towards the construction of a twin home in West Chester for two low-income families in need. Teca, 38 E. Gay St., West Chester. 6 to 9. \$50. 610-384-7993; HFHCC.org.

OCTOBER 24
Brandywine River Museum of Art's All Hallow's Eve Costume Ball. Join the Young Friends of the Brandywine Conservancy for their annual gala fundraiser. This year's theme is Greatest Hits. Prizes awarded for the most creative costumes. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. 9 to 1 am. Tickets start at \$85. Brandywine.org.

OCTOBER 25
Community Arts Center 13th Empty Bowls Event. Ceramic artists create and donate bowls and attendees pay a small donation, choose a bowl to use and are served a simple meal of soup and bread. Keep the bowl as a reminder that there are always empty bowls in the world. Proceeds are donated to local food banks. 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. Noon to 2 pm. \$10. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

OCTOBER 28-31
Community Clothes Charity Annual Sale. Featuring famous labels such as Chanel, Armani, Ferragamo, St. John, Escada and other designers. Benefits local charities. The former Waterloo Gardens Store, 136 Lancaster Ave., Devon. Check website for hours. CommunityClothesCharity.org.

NOVEMBER 5
7th Annual Notable Kitchen Tour & Chef Showcase. The Main Line Committee for The Philadelphia Orchestra presents a self-guided tour of six spectacular Main Line kitchens. Each features different tasting samples prepared by a "notable" area chef. Floral designs and table

settings will be displayed and a raffle of valuable baskets. 10 to 3. \$45. Tickets at various locations. Visit NotableKitchens.com.

MUSEUMS.....
THROUGH NOVEMBER
Christian C. Sanderson Museum. World War I Exhibit depicting American life during that time portrayed by impressionists from "Historical Military Impressions." 1755 Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. Thurs-Sat, noon to 4 or by appt. \$5. 610-388-6545; SandersonMuseum.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2016
Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library Exhibits. *Through Jan. 3,* "A Colorful Folk: Pennsylvania Germans & the Art of Everyday Life," and "Tiffany Glass: Painting with Color & Light," featuring some of Tiffany's most iconic works. 5105 Kennett Pk. (Rt. 52), Winterthur. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5. \$5-\$20. 800-448-3883; Winterthur.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 10
The Delaware Art Museum. *Through Jan. 3,* "Reconstructed Elements: Richard H. Bailey, Helen Mason, Stan Smokler," regional contemporary sculptors. *Through Jan. 10,* "Helen Farr Sloan, 1911-2005," painter, printmaker, and art instructor. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8, free after 4 pm; Fri-Sun, 10 to 4; \$6-\$12. Free on Sun. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

THROUGH JANUARY 31
Brandywine River Museum Exhibits & Events. *Through Nov. 15,* "Things Beyond Resemblance: James Welling Photographs." *Through Jan. 31,* "Natural Selections: Andrew Wyeth Plant Studies." *Oct. 19,* Native Plant Garden Tour at the Museum. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. Daily 9:30 to 4:30. \$6-\$15, free Sunday mornings. 610-388-2700; BrandywineMuseum.org.

MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT.....
OCTOBER 2-29
Performances at The Grand & The Playhouse. *Oct. 2,* Buddy Guy; *Oct. 10,* East Meets West; *Oct. 14,* David Gonzalez performs "Cuentos: Tales from the Latino World;" *Oct. 18,* Sinatra Centennial with Sean Reilly; *Oct. 18,* Craig Ferguson: The New Deal Tour at The Playhouse; *Oct. 22,* Last Comic Standing Tour; *Oct. 23,* Chris Cornell; *Oct. 29,* Loreena McKennitt. 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. Call or check website for times and tickets. 800-37-GRAND; TheGrandWilmington.org.

OCTOBER 3
Paradoxx Vineyard Summer Concert Series. Bring a chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of great music, food trucks and caterers and wine. Sara Spicer Band. 1833 Flint Hill Rd., Landenberg. 5 to 9 pm. \$10 includes concert and 1 glass of wine; age 20 and under, free. 610-255-5684; Paradoxx.com.

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OCTOBER 8

Point Entertainment Presents ... at The Colonial Theatre. Brett Dennen. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 8 pm. \$29.50–\$35. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

OCTOBER 15

Brandywine River Museum of Art, "Music on the Brandywine." Enjoy a performance by Danbi Um, violin and Sejoon Park, piano. Light fare and full bar available for purchase. Rt. 1, Chadds Ford. 6 to 9. \$10–\$25. 610-388-2700; BrandywineMuseum.org.

OCTOBER 15

Delaware Art Museum Presents Concerts on Kentmere 2015—Site & Sound. An intimate concert of romantic song by baritone Grant Youngblood and pianist Jennifer Peterson. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Pre-concert talk, 7:30, concert at 8 with complimentary desserts and coffee served at intermission. \$40. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

OCTOBER 16

WCU—Live! The United Kingdom Ukulele Orchestra. From classical to rock, oldies to current hits, this orchestra has a huge repertoire

and musical range. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, University Ave. & S. High St., West Chester. 7:30 pm. \$13–\$20. 610-436-2266; WCUPa.edu/Live.

OCTOBER 17

Concert at Market Street Music— The King of Instruments - Plus! Organist David Schelat is joined by outstanding instrumentalists from the Delaware Valley for a spectacular evening of music for organ and instruments. 1101 N. Market St., Wilmington. 7:30. \$10–\$25. 302-654-5371; MarketStreetMusicDe.com.

OCTOBER 17

Kennett Symphony Orchestra 75th Anniversary Opening Night Concert. A commission by acclaimed young composer, Anthony Constantino, Saint-Saëns *Cello Concerto No. 1*, Puccini's *Crisantemi*, Respighi's *The Pines of Rome*. Unionville High School, 750 Unionville Rd., Unionville. 7:30 pm. \$30–\$53. 610-444-6363; KennettSymphony.org.

OCTOBER 18, 23

Community Arts Center Concerts. Oct. 18, Tri-State Jazz Society Concert with David Sager and his Pie-in-the-Sky Band, 2 to 5, free. Oct. 23, Friday Night Live with Jefferson Berry and the Urban Acoustic Coalition and Last Chance, 7:30 pm, \$15. 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

OCTOBER 21

WCU—Live! Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel. "The Power and Passion of Beethoven" in a concert-with-commentary format. Philips Memorial Bldg., Philips Autograph Library, University Ave. & S. High St., West Chester. 7:30. Free. 610-436-2266; WCUPa.edu/Live.

OCTOBER 24, 25, 27

Chester County Pops Orchestra "Halloween Pops." "Halloween Magic" is the theme for this year's concerts held Oct. 24, Valley Forge Middle School, 105 W. Walker Rd., Wayne, 7 pm; Oct. 25, Phoenixville Area Middle School, 386 City Line Ave., Phoenixville, 3 pm; Oct. 27, Stetson Middle School, 1060 Wilmington Pk., West Chester, 7 pm. Tickets \$12–\$15. 610-594-9178; ChesCoPops.org.

OCTOBER 30

Vox Ama Deus. The Ama Deus Ensemble presents "Majestic Mozart." Kimmel Center, 300 S. Broad St., Philadelphia. 8 pm. \$10–\$25. 610-688-2800; VoxAmaDeus.org.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.....

OCTOBER 3

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 4

42nd Annual Marshalton Triathlon. Athletes, novice to ironman and their families, bike, canoe and pace-walk through the countryside. A family-friendly event with music, food and drink. Benefits the all-volunteer West Bradford Fire Co. and the town of Marshalton. Rt. 162. 8 am. \$40. MarshaltonTriathlon.net.

OCTOBER 4

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Buddy Walk & Family Fun Day. Games, athletic activities, moon bounces, music, mascots and more. It promotes acceptance and inclusion of people with Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome) and benefits the Trisomy 21 Program at CHOP. Villanova University Stadium. 10 am. \$8–\$15. 267-426-5339; ChopBuddyWalk.org.

OCTOBER 11

Children & Families First Trail Run and Splatter Dash. CFF aims to raise awareness through Run Fest, a family day with two running events at the historic Oberod Estate. Oberod 5K run/walk, 9 am start, \$25, and Splatter Dash, a run/walk for teams, families and individuals, noon start, \$10–\$35. 400 Burnt Mill Rd., Centerville, DE. CFFDE.org.

OCTOBER 17–18

Tough Mudder Event at Plantation Field. Over rolling hills, varied terrain and new-for-2015 obstacles, this course is sure to dish out some mud-coated memories for Mudders and spectators alike. 329 Apple Grove Rd., Coatesville. Entrant, \$179. Spectator, \$20. For more information, ToughMudder.com.

OCTOBER 24

Living Beyond Breast Cancer's Annual Black-tie Gala—The Butterfly Ball. One of LBBC's most important fundraising events of the year. Held at Loews Philadelphia Hotel, 1200 Market St., Philadelphia. 6:30 to midnight. \$350. 484-708-1804; LBBC.org.

OCTOBER 25

38th Annual Penn Medicine at Radnor Run. A 5-mile timed running race and 1-mile walk/fun run. Benefits the American Lung Association in providing important programs in this region. The race starts and finishes at the Radnor Twp. Bldg., 301 Iven Ave., Wayne. Registration, 7 am, race, 8:30. \$15–\$30. 800-LUNG-USA; LungInfo.org/RadnorRun.

OCTOBER 31

Rock 'n' Roll Philadelphia Half Marathon. Enjoy live bands, music and entertainment along the 13.1-mile course as you energize the runners to the finish line at Eakins Oval. Benefits the American Association for Cancer Research. RunRocknRoll.com/Philadelphia.

THEATER.....

THROUGH OCTOBER 4

All My Sons. Tony Award-winning drama by Arthur Miller. People's Light, 39 Conestoga

Rd., Malvern. \$27–\$47. For curtain times, 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER 4

Maurice Hines is Tappin' Thru Life. Written by and starring Maurice Hines. Delaware Theatre Company, 200 Water St., Wilmington. \$30–\$45. For curtain times call or visit website. 302-594-1100; DelawareTheatre.org.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 1

Gypsy. Jule Styne's music and Stephen Sondheim's lyrics. Media Theatre for the Performing Arts, 104 E. State St., Media. \$25–\$42. For curtain times, 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.

OCTOBER 14–NOVEMBER 8

Auctioning The Ainsleys. A regional premiere by Laura Schellhardt, directed by Abigail Adams. People's Light, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. \$27–\$47. For curtain times, 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

OCTOBER 21–NOVEMBER 8

Playing The Assassin. Inspired by an NFL star's career ending injury at the hands of a player. Delaware Theatre Company, 200 Water St., Wilmington. \$30–\$45. 302-594-1100; DelawareTheatre.org.

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We hope this helps guide to you one of the many pick-your-own pumpkin patches in our area and gets you to visit the terrific farmer's markets for pumpkins and more! Remember that many pumpkin patches have corn mazes and hayrides and are still open in November.

LOCAL FARM MARKETS

Anselma Farmers Mkt., Mill at Anselma, 1730 Conestoga Rd., Chester Springs. Wed, 3 to 7. AnselmaMill.org.

Collegeville Farmers Mkt., 217 E. Main St. Sat, 9 to 1. CollegevilleFarmersMarket.org.

Downingtown Farmers Mkt., Dane Decor Warehouse Parking Lot, 216 Washington Ave. Sat, 9 to 1. GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Eagleview Farmers Mkt., Town Ctr., Wellington Sq. Thurs, 3 to 7. GrowingRootsPartners.com.

East Goshen Farmers Mkt., E. Goshen Park, 1580 Paoli Pk. Thurs, 3 to 7. EastGoshenFarmersMarket.org.

Jennersville Mkt., 352 N. Jennersville Rd. Wed, 3 to 7. Facebook.com/JennersvilleFarmersmarket.

Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., downtown State Street. Fri, 2 to 6. Historic-KennettSquare.com.

Lancaster County Farmers Mkt., 389 W Lancaster Ave., Wayne. Wed & Fri, 8 to 6; Sat, 8 to 4. LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com.

Malvern Farmers Mkt., Burke Park, Roberts Rd. & S. Warren Ave. Sat, 9 to 1. GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Media Farmers Mkt., State St. between Monroe & Gayley. Thurs, 3 to 7. MediaFarmersMarket.com.

Newtown Square Farmers Mkt., Mostardi Nursery, 4033 West Chester Pk. Wed, 2 to 6. NewtownSquareFarmersMarket.com.

Oxford Village Mkt., 3rd & Locust Sts. Tues, noon to 6. DowntownOxfordPA.org.

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

Rosemont Farmers Mkt., 1149 Lancaster Ave. Wed-Fri, 9 to 7; Sat, 9 to 5; Sun, 9 to 4. RosemontFarmersMarket.com.

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

Thornton Farmers Mkt., 330 Glen Mills Rd. Sat, 11 to 2. Facebook.com/ThorntonFarmersMarket.

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

PICK-YOUR-OWN PUMPKINS

Barnard's Orchard, 1079 Wawaset Rd., Kennett Square. 610-347-2151.

Cherry Crest Adventure Farm, 150 Cherry Hill Rd., Ronks. 717-687-6843; CherryCrestFarm.com.

Glen Willow Orchards, 1657 Glen Willow Rd., Avondale. 610-268-8743; Facebook.com/GlenWillowLLC.

Highland Orchards Farm Market & Bakery, 1000 Marshallton-Thorndale Rd., West Chester. 610-269-3494; HighlandOrchards.net.

Hurricane Hill Farm, 704 E. Reeceville Rd., Coatesville. 484-999-4600; HHF-Maze.com.

Linvilla Orchards, 137 W. Knowlton Rd., Media. 610-876-7116; Linvilla.com.

Longview Center for Agriculture, 3215 Stump Hall Rd., Collegeville. 610-584-8202; GreenerPartners.org.

Milky Way Farm, 521 E. Uwchlan Ave., Chester Springs. 610-827-1484; Milky-WayFarm.com.

Olszanowski Farm, 315 Pughtown Rd., Spring City. 610-476-0737; Facebook.com/OlsFarm.

Stratton's Wynnor Farm, 1631 E. Street Rd. (Rt. 926), Westtown. 610-399-9080; StrattonsFarm.net.

Sugartown Strawberries, 650 Sugartown Rd., Malvern. 610-647-0711; Sugartown-Strawberries.com.

Vollmecke Orchards & CSA, 155 Cedar Knoll Rd., Coatesville. 610-383-4616; CSAChesCounty.com.

Weaver's Orchard, Inc., 40 Fruit Ln., Morgantown. 610-856-7300; Weavers-Orchard.com.

Yeager's Farm Market, 1015 Pike Springs Rd., Phoenixville. 610-935-8244; Yeagers-Farm.com.

TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS.....

OCTOBER 2, OCTOBER 10

First Fridays and Second Saturdays in Media.

Stroll through area towns to find exhibits, galleries, restaurant specials, entertainment and extended hours. **Kennett Square**, 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com. **Lancaster City**, 717-509-ARTS; LancasterArts.com. **Oxford**, 610-998-9494; Downtown-OxfordPA.org. **Wayne**, 610-687-7698; FirstFridayWayne.com. **West Chester**, 610-738-3350; Downtown-WestChester.com; **Wilmington**, 302-576-2100; ArtLoopWilmingtonDE.com. **Media**, Media ArtsCouncil.org.

OCTOBER 2

Vintage Garage Sale. Live music, food, wine tastings and vintage home goods, clothing, jewelry, art and more for sale. Parking Garage, 14 E. Chestnut St., West Chester. 610-436-9010; AVintageGarageSale.com.

OCTOBER 15

Malvern Stroll. The shops on King Street are open until 8 and offer special trunk shows, demonstrations, entertainment, refreshments, specials at restaurants. MalvernBusiness.com.

OCTOBER 3

The 75th Annual Chester County Day House Tour. This year's focus is on the Borough of West Chester and on the southeastern quadrant of the county. Tickets, \$40, are available at Chester County Hospital and other locations. VIP ticket, \$100, includes a visit to Broadlawns in West Chester for a private tour and a gourmet boxed lunch from White Horse Tavern, plus a chance to tour in a BMW provided by Otto's BMW. Benefits Chester County Hospital. 610-431-5329; CCHosp.com.

OCTOBER 22

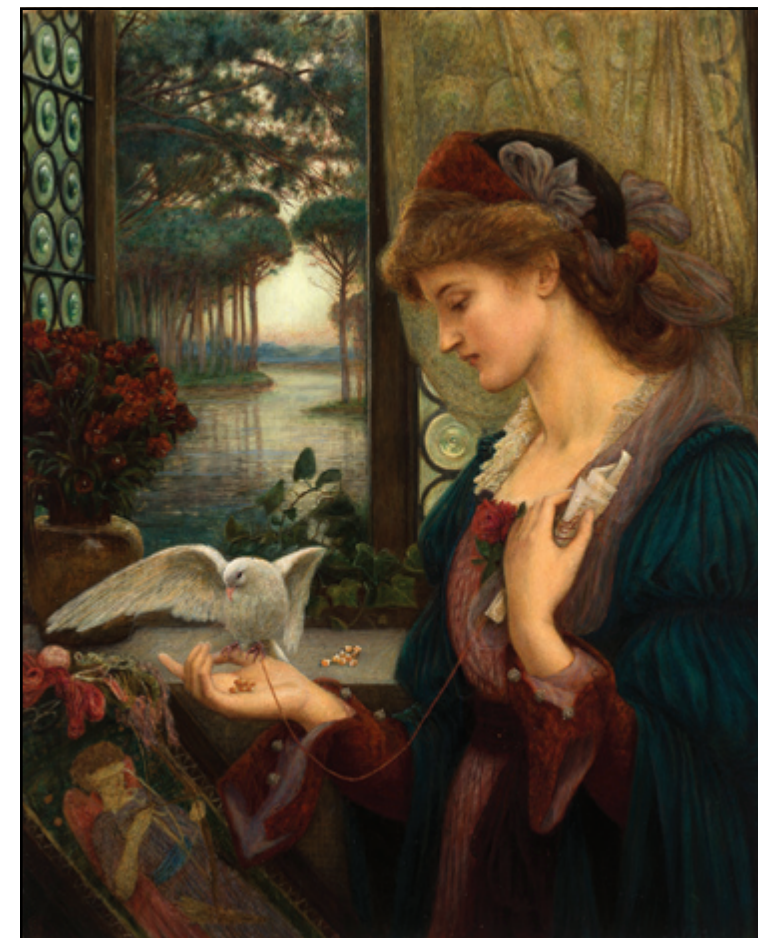
The 2015 Historic Preservation Awards. Outstanding projects, as well as individuals that have made significant contributions to preservation, are carefully selected and recognised as premier examples within the historic community and awarded at Chester Co. Historical Society, 225 N. High St., West Chester. The reception will offer wine, beer and a light buffet, catered by Limoncello Ristorante and Caterers. 5:30 pm. Downtown-WestChester.com. ♦

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Poetry in Beauty: The Pre-Raphaelite Art of Marie Spartali Stillman is made possible by the Emily du Pont Memorial Exhibition Fund and the Friends of Rockwood. Additional support is provided by grants from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. I Love's Messenger, 1885. Marie Spartali Stillman (1844-1927). Watercolor, tempera, and gold paint on paper mounted on wood, 32 x 26 inches. Delaware Art Museum, Samuel and Mary R. Bancroft Memorial, 1935.



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BRANDYWINE BALLET KICKS OFF THE SEASON WITH A BALLET BOGO

LEAP INTO THE SEASON WITH A DOUBLE PREMIERE.

THE TALENT AND TECHNIQUE of Brandywine Ballet will be showcased in their 36th season this fall with two exciting premieres—*Carmina Burana* and *Swan Lake* Act II. Brandywine Ballet brings together pre-professional, professional and special guest dancers to perform a range of works throughout the season. The Ballet kicks off the 2015-16 season with these two works of divergent character, beauty and intensity in a unique artistic experience.

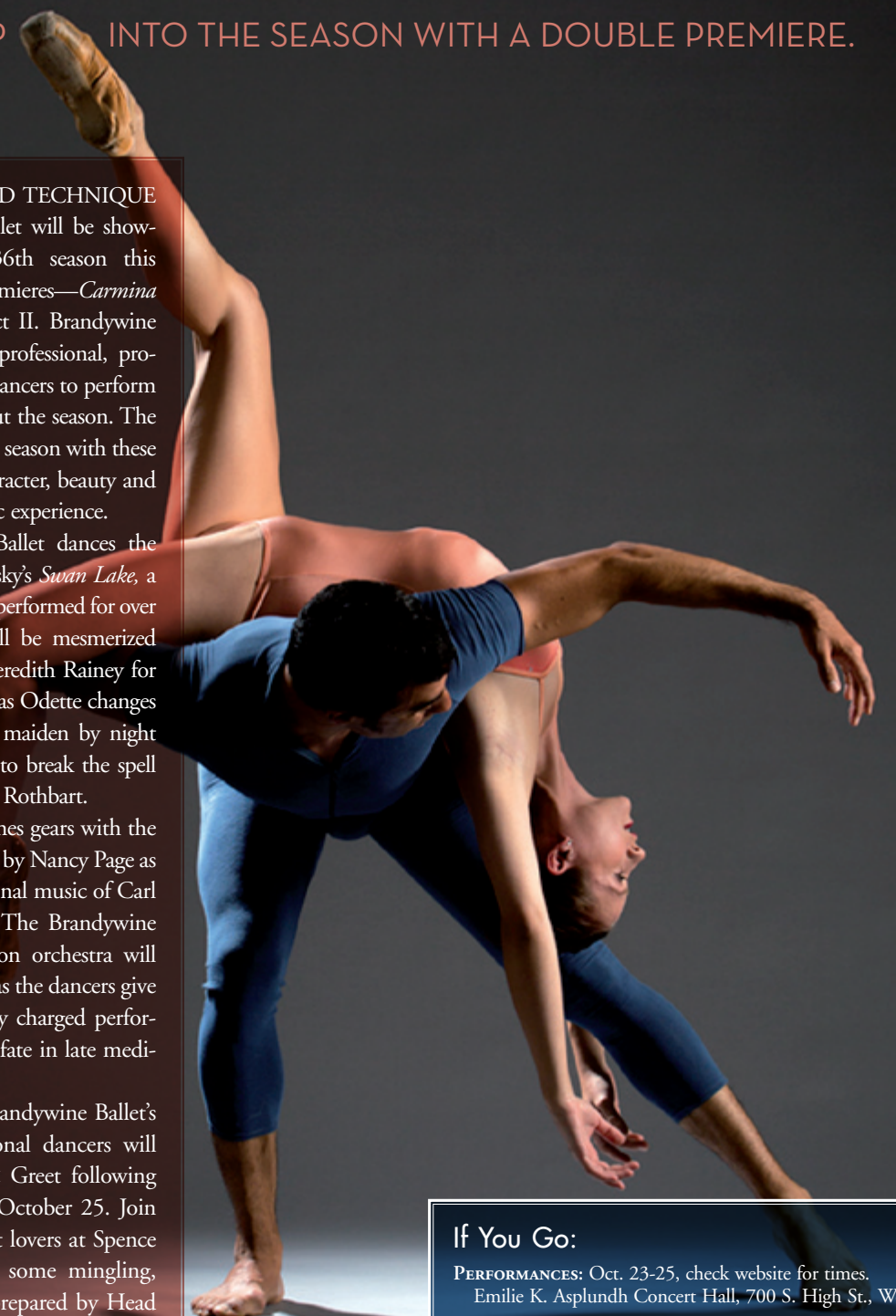
First, the Brandywine Ballet dances the beloved Act II of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*, a timeless ballet that has been performed for over 100 years worldwide. You'll be mesmerized by the choreography by Meredith Rainey for this swan ensemble. Watch as Odette changes between swan by day and maiden by night while Prince Siegfried tries to break the spell cast by the evil sorcerer von Rothbart.

Next, the program switches gears with the debut of new choreography by Nancy Page as they dance to the inspirational music of Carl Orff in *Carmina Burana*. The Brandywine Singers and their percussion orchestra will bring this epic score to life as the dancers give a dramatic and emotionally charged performance of life, fortune and fate in late medieval times.

Also for ballet lovers, Brandywine Ballet's artistic staff and professional dancers will host an exclusive Meet & Greet following the final performance on October 25. Join the artists and fellow ballet lovers at Spence 312 in West Chester for some mingling, wine and hors d'oeuvres prepared by Head Chef and Owner, Andrew Patton.

Don't miss this opportunity to see two performances in one unforgettable program and meet the people who make it possible! ♦

~ Jenny Miedwig



If You Go:

PERFORMANCES: Oct. 23-25, check website for times.
 Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, 700 S. High St., West Chester

MEET & GREET: Oct. 25, 4:30 to 7. Spence 312, 312 S. High St.

TICKETS: \$25-\$40 for performances (discounts available)
 \$30 for Meet & Greet

INSIDERS TIP: Arrive early for parking on Oct. 24
 (West Chester University's Homecoming)

BOX OFFICE: 610-696-2711; BrandywineBallet.org

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DELAWARE'S BEST KEPT SECRET

FIRST STATE BALLET CONTINUES
TO DELIGHT DELAWAREANS—
FROM WILMINGTON TO THE BEACH.

The First State Ballet Theatre is leaping into its 16th season as Delaware's premier ballet company, its 13th year as the resident company at Wilmington's Grand Opera House, and its eighth year as the state's only professional ballet company.

Describing the 2015-16 season, President/Executive Director Robert Grenfell said, "We're planning the busiest and most appealing season in our history with performances and artistic residencies that will delight audiences of all ages from Arden to Selbyville." Each production offers the grandeur of traditional Russian ballet, with staging by Artistic Director Pasha Kambalov, from the same St. Petersburg ballet academy as Pavlova, Nureyev and Baryshnikov. Plus dazzling costumes made in the studios of Russia's finest costumiers.

This season's performances include *Sleeping Beauty*, *The Nutcracker*, *Cinderella* and *Don Quixote*. And, as a special treat, First State Ballet will repeat a signature performance—*Up Front with FSBT*—where 75 fortunate fans savor an hour-long program featuring classical and contemporary ballet highlights—a "best hits" program—followed by a reception with the dancers, staff and board members. This event is always sold out, so buy your tickets now!

And the family-friendly ticket prices mean you can bring along the little princes and princesses in your life to the ballet alongside your adult friends. First State Ballet has kept its promise of affordable ticket prices—amazingly increasing admission costs only once in their 16-year history.

This secret gem of a ballet company needs to be shared with a larger audience so it can continue performing for seasons to come. Their hope is to extend their record of artistic, educational and financial achievement with a company of more than 20 artists presenting more than 30 performances of a dozen programs. And this season is the test to see if the audience and financial support will keep pace.

So please give a resounding vote of confidence to this important cultural resource during this pivotal season by supporting the beauty that is ballet. ♦

— Colleen Cummings

If You Go

SEASON SCHEDULE:

Grand Opera House, Wilmington – *Sleeping Beauty*, Oct. 17-18;
The Nutcracker, Dec. 19-20; *Don Quixote*, April 16-17.
Grand Studio One, Wilmington – *Up Front with FSBT*, Nov. 6-7.
Delaware Tech, Georgetown - *The Nutcracker*, Dec. 12.
Baby Grand Theater, Wilmington – *Cinderella*, February 20-21.

TICKETS: \$15-48; discounts for students, seniors, military, groups.

INFORMATION: 800-37-GRAND; FirstStateBallet.com.



Photos from *Sleeping Beauty*. Top two, Mary Kate Reynolds as Princess Aurora. Bottom, the evil fairy Carabosse, who casts a spell broken by a kiss from the prince.

Gardening in a Winter Wonderland

Grace Byrne, Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College

With the autumn landscape now ablaze with crimson reds and golden yellows, the monotone months of winter may seem like the distant future. But, if the idea of putting your gardening tools into storage makes you shudder more than the chilly temperatures outside, now is a great time to transform your summer gardening containers into a platform for winter delight.

WINTER CAN BE A TIME OF DORMANCY FOR both plants and gardeners. While many are happy to hibernate until spring, others itch for the opportunity to animate the landscape with fantastic forms, striking colors and faithful evergreens.

If you caught the article “Contain Your Excitement: Container Gardening with Tropicals and Annuals,” in the April issue of *County Lines*, you’re already familiar with the basics of summer container gardening. Fortunately, many of the same principles apply to winter containers—with just a few key exceptions.

Baby, It’s Cold Outside

Those living in our area certainly don’t need to be reminded when it gets cold outside! But, if you’re new to winter container gardening, a few tips will help your creations thrive in the trying conditions.

Standard terra cotta and cast stone containers, while beautiful in the warmer months, will most likely crack in winter due to temperature fluctuations. Containers made of concrete, metal, lead or a fiberglass composite—all multi-seasonal materials—act as the perfect armor against the winter elements. *Gardeners’ Note:* When

repurposing multi-season containers for new winter plants, be sure to overwinter warm-season plants you hope to use again—such as tropicals—in a cool, dark indoor space until spring.

Bigger is better for containers for two reasons: insulation and drainage. Though plants in the ground experience freeze-and-thaw of the soil to an extent, their roots are better protected by the abundance of insulation. Plants in containers, however, are more prone to freezing because they’re exposed on all sides. So, a larger container provides more growth medium plus more insulation.

Remember that containers need to be watered even in the winter. Plants release moisture through their leaves (in the process of transpiration), and it can be difficult to replenish that water supply when their soil freezes. This can be especially troublesome with high winds and bright sunlight, when plants become dehydrated and possibly sunburnt.

Even winter veterans such as broadleaf or needle evergreens are susceptible to these stresses because they continue to transpire even if they’re not actively growing. Protect plants from winter sunburn by placing your container on a north or west side of a building. This placement allows the air temperature to rise before direct sunlight reaches the plant’s leaves.

Don’t wait until it’s too late! Fall is the time to transition containers for winter interest.



Red twig dogwood steals the show with long-lasting vibrant stems.



Even after they have been cut, dogwood stems and pine branches endure through the winter season.



Mixing evergreen textures with berries makes for a simple but elegant design.

Let It Grow, Let It Grow, Let It Grow!

Whether you want dazzling colors, decorative fruits or whimsical forms, deciding which plants to feature as spillers, fillers and thrillers (see the April article for more on these three plant types) is an exciting part of designing your container. What makes winter containers all the more liberating is you’re not limited to live plants for your design. Cut greens and stems often hold up well for months and offer new possibilities of textures and color.

For instance, plants such as flame willow (*Salix alba* ‘Flame’) and red twig dogwood (*Cornus sericea* ‘Cardinal’) thrill as they exhibit fiery red stems lasting all season long, even after they’ve been cut. Incorporating vibrant stem colors into your design creates high contrast in an otherwise gray-scale landscape.

Low evergreens—buttercup ivy (*Hedera helix* ‘Buttercup’) and shrubby honeysuckle (*Lonicera nitida* ‘Baggesen’s Gold,’)—act as spillers, elongating the design. Evergold striped weeping sedge (*Carex oshimensis* ‘Evergold’) offers movement in the wind, as well as pattern repetition through its variegated leaves.

Tall evergreens can add height as eye-catching thrillers. Sky pencil holly (*Ilex crenata* ‘Sky Pencil’) provides a narrow, columnar form, while Steeds Japanese holly (*Ilex crenata* ‘Steeds’) is straight, but more stout and full. In contrast, Hollywood juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* ‘Torulosa’) is more whimsical, with branches that reach out at unusual angles. And Japanese mahonia (*Mahonia japonica*) offers more width with long branches that fan outwards.

Three hot hollies that bear decorative red fruit include longstalk holly (*Ilex pedunculosa*), sparkleberry holly (*Ilex* ‘Sparkleberry’), and afterglow winterberry (*Ilex verticillata* ‘Afterglow’). To add a splash of orange, incorporate golden winterberry (*Ilex verticillata* ‘Winter Gold’).

Reminiscent of summer sunshine are the bright yellow blooms of buttercup winterhazel (*Corylopsis pauciflora*), winter jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*), and witch hazel (*Hamamelis mollis* ‘Early Bright’). If you’re interested in a small clumping species with tight blooms and a vast selection of color, hellebores bloom in a variety of hues, contributing soft accents.

For unusual forms and quirky growing patterns, check out Harry Lauder’s walking stick (*Corylus avellana* ‘Contorta’) and corkscrew willows (*Salix matsudana* ‘Torulosa’), both of which boast wild and curling branches. The beauty of these two plants is magnified in the winter months as their branching forms take center stage as the foliage fades.

Winter container gardening may not fast forward the cold months, but it will keep you from having to press “pause” on your gardening passion! ♦

Find gorgeous greens, holiday accents and long-lasting wreaths at the Scott Arboretum Holiday Greens Sale, Saturday, December 5. Entrance is free and the public is welcome. Set on 300 acres of the Swarthmore College campus, the Arboretum is open to the public everyday from dawn to dusk and displays thousands of ornamental plant species. Learn more at ScottArboretum.org.



Winterberry provides pops of color through decorative fruit.



Witch hazels take center stage with warm yellows that glow in the garden.

ACROSS COUNTY LINES

Mary Irene Dolan

FALL IN CHESTER COUNTY IMBUES US WITH A SPECIAL SENSE OF WHAT OUR AREA has to offer. In the golden glow of the shortening days, we consider our heritage and history. After all, roots run deep here, with many cultural touchstones dating back over 100 years—Tyler Arboretum, Chester County Historical Society and Brandywine River Museum of Art, to name a few. As *County Lines* approaches our 40th year of publishing, we're taking note of other businesses celebrating their own personal milestones and wanted to share some with you.

So we urge you to take a day to experience all that *County Lines* Country has to offer. Drive the back roads. Visit charming towns. While you're there, why not do a little early holiday shopping and enjoy a meal?

We've rounded up some of our favorite stops and noted some long-term businesses to check out on your tour.

Wayne

For a full day of shopping and dining, look no further than Wayne! Check out the latest additions to upscale shopping and quality finds like the unique leather accessories at **Waltzing Matilda** or Scandinavian home décor picks at **Scandaffären**. If you're a fan like we are of Aubusson Home, you'll love its new neighbor from the same owner, **Company C**, with even more eye-catching home design.

While some things change, others retain every ounce of charm and good service—like **The Little House Shop** and **Dayton Lock Company**, celebrating 81 and 40 years of business, respectively. **The Wayne Art Center** also has a long and artful history dating back to 1930 as the Main Line's first art center. It's been 24 years since **A Taste of Britain** started serving fine tea and refreshments. And **Antiquities, Etc.** has made a name for itself, reaching 10 years this year selling carefully curated antiques.

When you get hungry, head for the **Black Powder Tavern** for great food and a great deal of history in its Continental Army home, dating from 1746. Or stay the night at **Wayne Bed & Breakfast Inn**, with 130 years of history. And while their Malvern spot has attracted plenty of attention, don't forget **Christopher's—A Neighborhood Place's** original location, serving family-friendly food for 14 years in the heart of Wayne.

Malvern

If you haven't had the pleasure, put Malvern on your list of towns to visit to "sip, shop and stroll" every **Third Thursday**, or any day, really. The **Malvern Buttery** made its much-anticipated debut back in July offering fresh baked goodies to complement your latte. **Grazia Skin Care Studio & Spa** also entered the scene this year with plenty of pampering services. And although they've been around for 29 years, **Kimber-ton Whole Foods'** expansion to Malvern last December has become a community favorite for real food with local roots.

For oldies but goodies, stop in **Wolfe's Baldwin Brass**, still on King Street after 32 years of business, or **Flowing Springs Landscape Design**, with 30 years serving the Main Line. **Classic Diner** just marked 20 years this September, while **Knots & Weaves** is close behind with 14 years of selling decorative rugs. Another favorite, **People's Light's** launched its 41st season of great theater.

For a taste of history dating back to 1745, visit the **General Warren** for fine dining and refreshing spirits in their historic location where carriage travelers stopped centuries ago!

Media

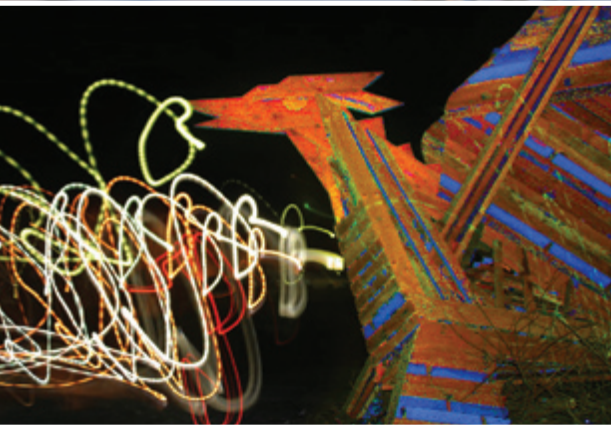
This friendly borough and county seat is always worth a visit. Eateries here stand the test of time—**Pinnocchio's Restaurant** had a big 60th birthday bash in May, while **D'Ignazio's Towne House** reached 65 years in March. And although the 41-year-old Granite Run Mall recently closed its doors, nearby **Riddle Ale House** is still going strong with 53 years of casual American cuisine.

For craft beer, pub grub and perhaps a pumpkin ale, **Iron Hill Brewery** has become a favorite during its 15 years here, and recently opened **Sterling Pig Brewery** adds even more selection to State Street.

Walk through town and pass longstanding businesses like 60-year-old **Tancreed's Specialty Shop**, 27-year-old **Media Vision Care**, and the beloved **Media Theatre** with a 21-year run in an even older (c. 1927) building.

Sample fresh baked goods for brunch or lunch at the new **Bittersweet Kitchen** as you drink in Media's small town charm. Then end your visit with a trip to **Wolff's Apple House** off Route 1, a market and garden center since 1910. A perfect place to pick up your pumpkin!

PHOTO CREDITS. WAYNE: TOM CRANE; MALVERN: ANDREW SEYMOUR; MEDIA: RALPH NARDELL & ANDREW SEYMOUR



Phoenixville

If you're hungry, head to Phoenixville! Take your pick of new ventures like **Buho's Latin Fusion** and **Cool Twists Frozen Creations**. Or stop by familiar spots like **Bistro on Bridge** in their 6th year and **Sly Fox Brewing & Eatery** as they turn 20 in December.

Did we mention the drinks? There are some new watering holes—**The Barrel Wine Bar**, **Stable 12 Brewing Company** and tasting room **Bluebird Distilling**—to quench your thirst. Also new this summer, the **Twisted Cog Bike Shop** has all the riding gear you can dream of, plus on-site repairs.

For a blast from the past, check out the longest-running business in downtown Phoenixville—since 1958—**Jaworski's Music Centre**, for classes and your music supplies. Plus **Phoenixville Country Club** just turned 100 this year. A memorable milestone!

And you can spend a relaxing day in neighboring Collegeville at **Eden Day Spa & Salon**, now at 14 years of business.

Downingtown & Exton

Take a ride on Route 30 to see what's new at these towns and what hasn't changed a bit. July was a good month for new businesses with **Pomodoro Pizza & Italian Restaurant** opening in Downingtown and **Exton Fit Body Boot Camp** bringing high intensity fitness to Uwchlan Ave. Plus doggy day care at **Dogtopia** found another home in April, this time in nearby Chester Springs.

Some businesses have been around for what seems like generations—**Warwick Jewelers** for 96 years, **Jimmy Duffy Catering** for 84 and **Ball & Ball Antique Hardware Reproductions** for 83.

Others are nearing notable milestones like **Pook & Pook** reaching 38 years, **Victory Brewing Company** at 19, and **Appetites on Main** with 13. Community supporter **Chester County Library System** just reached the big 5-0 at their original Exton location. And **Ron's Original Bar & Grille** hit their 25th year of authentic Italian cooking and is ready for the next 25.

West Chester

There's always something new to discover—and eat—in West Chester. This summer saw some delicious openings including **La Baguette Magique**, **Nagasaki Noodle House** and **RapiDOUGH Pizza Pies**. The drink selection continues to grow, too, with modern taproom **Split Rail Tavern**, Old World style brewing at **Levante Brewing Company**, and **Salon 151 Whiskey Bar & Grill's** extensive spirits and craft beer list.

For every new face, there are twice as many familiar ones, some dating back centuries like the **Dilworthtown Inn** in its 235th year of hospitality. Other community favorites like **Jimmy John's Pipin' Hot Sandwiches**, **Boyle's Floor & Window Designs** and **Benchmark Federal Credit Union** (also in Malvern) are catching up, each celebrating 75 years.

Generations of locals remember **Jane Chalfant/Kiki Boutique's** stylish fashions after 82 years on High Street and the **Chester County Art Association's** exhibitions since its establishment in 1931. **Thornbury Farm's** 7-year-old market is newer, but their farm has been around for a whopping 306 years!

Beautiful jewelry never goes out of style, confirmed by **Sunset Hill Jewelers'** 30+ years and **BIG Diamond Importers & Fine Jewelry's** 22+ years in the borough. Still other home and garden staples are going strong—**Shutter Tech** with 41 years, and **Matlack Florist** at 37—and with many years to come.

Wilmington

This bustling city has so much to offer, you know you'll be back! Market Street is the place to go for the best shows in town, plus the historic venues will take you back in time. Visit **The Grand Opera House**, in a restored c. 1871 building, to see professional live music, dance and comedy—from Pat Benatar to a Sinatra Centennial celebration. For Broadway hits, you'll feel right at home at **The Playhouse on Rodney Square**, formerly the DuPont Theater, as they celebrate 102 years of stellar performances, this year ranging from *Chicago* and *42nd Street* to *Annie* and *Mama Mia!*

Always check the Riverfront for new things to do like **Riverfront Miniature Golf**, opened in May, or visit city staples like the 37-year-old **Delaware Theatre Company**. And don't forget to see the latest exhibits at the **Delaware Art Museum**, now marking 103 years with 12,000 works of art.

Paoli

Shop till you drop in Paoli! **Walter J. Cook Jeweler**, in their 69th year, is worth a visit for exquisite jewelry. **Creative Nook** and **Sugarbridge Kitchen & Bath** are great home picks, celebrating 36 and 10 years, respectively. Sample the latest fashions at 12-year-old **Polka Dots**. And check out **Chic & Simple's** recently added furniture section at its resale clothing store in nearby Berwyn.

Delaware County

If you travel east, you'll find some real gems over in Delaware County. Newtown Square is home to favorites like **Mostardi's Nursery**, since 1976, dedicated to people who love to garden, and **Christopher's Chocolates & Fine Foods**, serving delicious treats for 25 years. Close by in Broomall, **Madsen Kitchens & Baths** is nearing 70 years come 2016. And further out, **Wall & Walsh's** Upper Darby cabinetry showroom in Delaware County has delighted customers since its opening in 1979.

Lancaster County And Beyond...

Venture out west to some of Lancaster County's long-time businesses. Stop in the **Stockyard Inn** for delicious eats, one of the oldest, continually operating steakhouses in the US, built in 1750. Then stay the night at **Eden Resort & Suites**, operating since 1972.

Find quality home furnishings and additions at **Chester County Hearth & Home**, with 26 years in Elverson, or go a little farther to East Earl to 15-year-old **Country Home Furniture**. Plus for quality appliances, **Martin Appliance** in multiple Lancaster locations has been a favorite for 42 years.

For all your plant and animal needs, a trip to **Stoltzfus Feed & Supply** is in order, celebrating 28 years. And **Greshville Antiques** all the way in Boyertown is worth the drive to Berks County after 35 years selling unique antiques and artwork.

As we approach the 40th year of publishing, we celebrate and honor all the stores, restaurants, inns and other businesses which make *County Lines* Country a great place to live. We hope this taste will leave you wanting more. ♦



PHOTO CREDITS: PHOENIXVILLE: MIKE IRBY;
WEST CHESTER: TIMLYN VAUGHAN; WILMINGTON: LESUE KIPP

Great Escapes

Carol Metzker

PUMPKIN FIELDS, STREAMS WITH SWIRLING GOLD AND CRIMSON LEAVES, OLD STONE HOMES AND PAINTED COVERED BRIDGES—THE BRANDYWINE VALLEY IS FILLED WITH SECRET SPOTS FOR GREAT ESCAPES. EXPLORE THEM THIS FALL!

All Aboard

In about 1906, a Philadelphia car dealership told Clarence Marshall that he was too young and irresponsible to purchase one of their new steamers. So after buying a few used models, the entrepreneurial Quaker petitioned Stanley Steamer to become a dealer in 1910. Today his son Tom, now enjoying his 90s, shares the family's fleet of delightful old cars—including a Ford Model T and a variety of Stanley roadsters—with the public at the Marshall Steam Museum.

On special Sundays, join Tom and other kids from 4 to 94 by the museum's carriage house. Take a spin around the beautiful grounds of Auburn Heights Preserve in Yorklyn, Delaware, in a 1915 steam-powered Stanley Mountain Wagon. Board the Auburn Express—a small train pulled by an actual steam locomotive—to ride past a turntable and a pond, and through a tunnel. Let stories of antique cars capture your imagination while crunching on popcorn from the museum's quaint red and yellow 1936 steam popper.

Looking for a new perspective of the valley's creeks and country lanes? Paddle the Brandywine River in Northbrook Canoe Company's kayaks or canoes. Reflections of fall foliage and rocky banks, and the view of Smith Bridge from the water are must-sees.

For landlubbers and romantics, try a surrey ride or sleigh on wheels pulled by horse Buddy the Elf or Egbert the pony, rescued by Tom Zane of Trinity Carriage Services.

And for kids, schedule a trip to Wilmington's Brandywine Zoo to watch furry, feathered or scaly friends swing, swim, slink or sleep.

Or for those seeking greater heights, pack your camera, strap in and go for a whirlwind helicopter ride at the American Helicopter Museum in West Chester. There are plenty of choices.

Back in Time

This Halloween seek out Mary Bringham, the last family member to inhabit Rockwood Mansion in Wilmington. On a ghost tour that's neither ghoulish nor gory, but fun while informative, Professor Phil (aka Philip Nord, director of Rockwood Museum) guides guests past corners and crannies of the Gothic Revival country home built between 1851 and 1854. Enter the small simple room Mary called her own until she died at 100. Visit the enchanting gardens she once loved. As you visit, consider: is the aroma of fresh-baked bread in the no-longer-used kitchen or scent of lilacs in unoccupied hallways evidence of haunting or the power of suggestion?

To experience the 1700s, head to Marshallton, Pennsylvania. Relish a bite to eat at local favorite Four Dogs Tavern, then walk a short block to the ruins of old Martin's Tavern. Once called the Center House for its location halfway between Philadelphia and Lancaster, signs now tell visitors what it would have been like to spend the night or drink at the saloon. Admire the landscaping with native era-accurate plants: maple, magnolia, "Rose of Sharon" and redbud.

On the way back to your car, peek in the windows—or tour if it's open—the Blacksmith Shop, where you'd stop if a horse lost a shoe while driving cattle to Turks Head (now West Chester) or if a broken wagon needed a wheelwright.

Still Back in Time

When a friend and I set out on Oxford's self-guided Covered Bridge Tour one recent afternoon, the journey was as much fun as the destination. Fortified with a tank of gas and a couple of delicious Amish-made pretzels, we drove along roads big and small, paved and gravel, through farmland, woods and pretty neighborhoods.

Let Freedom Ring

If you've never found the historic village of Ercildown in Chester County, it's time for a ride.

Once a center of the Underground Railroad and a hotbed of activism, the hamlet holds a structure built in 1845 for abolitionists' gatherings. Once called Free Hall and now named People's Hall, over time the small building next to Fallowfield Friends Meetinghouse has also witnessed church services, citizens voting at the polls, Girl Scouts' activities, and meetings of the Fallowfield Historical Society.

Dan Tracey, the last surviving trustee of People's Hall, talks about his hopes for the building as he folds back a rug and opens a trap door leading to a cellar where, some say, people in the 1800s hid from slave-catchers.

Tracey's dream is to assemble a new board of trustees and to restore the dilapidated building to become a functional space, as well as an honored historic site.



People's Hall



Marshall Steam Museum



Breakfast in the Hay Barn, The Inn at Whitewing



Brandywine Zoo



Auburn Heights



Martin's Tavern, Marshallton



The Blacksmith Shop, Marshallton



Brandywine Valley countryside
PHOTO: JAMES LAWSON PHOTOGRAPHY

We missed every sign and took every wrong turn imaginable. While laughing and taking in lovely scenery—including cornfields, cows and a “Bird Crossing” sign—we met friendly people every place we stopped for directions: a farmer’s market, an auto mechanic’s garage, a country gift shop and the Lewisville Post Office.

Covered bridges with distinct personalities, construction and countryside were well worth our unplanned detours. We took a few extra minutes to park along Kings Row Road, walk downhill to the Linton Steven Bridge that crosses Big Elk Creek and to read the dates on the plaque, as well as to marvel at the pattern of the wooden beams. Glowing, we made it home before sunset.

For a longer getaway, book a weekend in elegant simplicity at the Inn at Whitewing Farm, situated minutes from Longwood Gardens. Innkeepers Lance and Sandy Shortt may never have stayed at a bed and breakfast, but their instincts for hosting one are unparalleled. Guest rooms and suites are outfitted in handmade bedding; private baths boast marble touches. Stroll past the

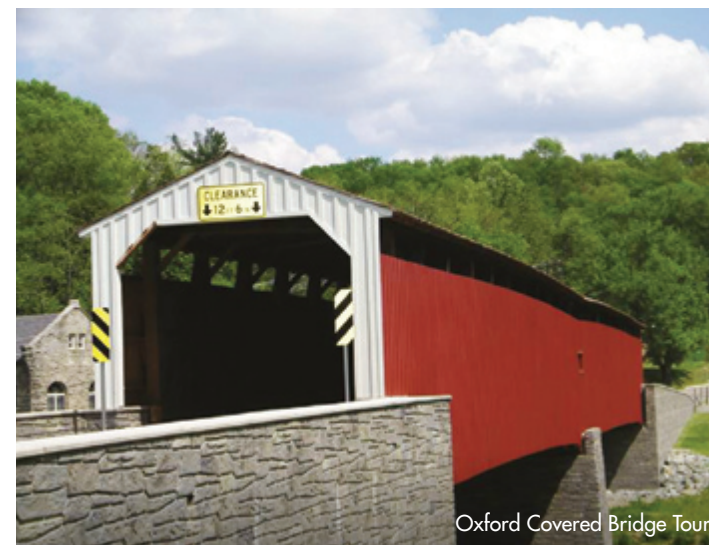
weathervane-topped springhouse to relax in a shaded Adirondack chair. Keep watch for Maxine—dubbed Max until she hatched a chick on the property—the heron that graces the pond. At the restored 1796 hay barn, savor gourmet breakfasts, curl up by the fireplace with a book from the inn’s library and explore the wine cellar.

Grab the reins, a paddle or your keys and plot an adventurous escape. You can still be back in time for dinner. ♦



Rockwood Mansion

ROCKWOOD
Rockwood Mansion was completed in 1854 as the retirement home of Wilmington native Joseph Shipley. Shipley amassed his fortune as a merchant banker while living in Liverpool, England. Joseph Shipley hired Liverpool architect George Williams to design a Rural Gothic style home similar to Shipley’s country house in England. The gardens of Rockwood were designed to imitate nature. The rolling lawns, curving paths, and placement of trees were carefully planned to resemble an English country estate. In 1891 Joseph Shipley’s great nephew Edward Bringhurst Jr. inherited the estate, and moved into Rockwood with his family the following year. The Bringhurst family extensively redecorated the interior of the Mansion. Members of the family inhabited the Mansion until 1972 when New Castle County obtained ownership. Rockwood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
Delaware Public Archives ~ 2006 NC-165



Oxford Covered Bridge Tour



American Helicopter Museum



Northbrook Canoe Company



Four Dogs Tavern, Marshalton

OLD & NEW

The fastest growing sector of Chester County, the Brandywine Valley area is home to businesses with deep roots in the region. We’ve gathered a few businesses—and cultural institutions—worth noting.

- * **R-P Nurseries** ~ 150 years of helping local gardeners in Kennett Square, since 1866
- * **Brandywine River Museum of Art** ~ 104 years in Chadds Ford, since N.C. Wyeth bought land there
- * **Kennett Symphony** ~ 75 years of bringing symphonic music at an affordable price, in Kennett Square
- * **Herr’s Snack Factory** ~ 69 years of making delicious snacks and chips in Nottingham, since 1946
- * **Waterbury Kitchen & Bath** ~ 48 years of creating exceptional lifestyles, based in Kennett Square
- * **Sanderson Museum** ~ 48 years of preserving historical artifacts of life in Chadds Ford, in Chadds Ford
- * **The Stone Barn** ~ 43 years of great food and hosting special events, in Kennett Square
- * **Hugh Lofting Timber Framing** ~ 41 years of craftsmanship in timber framing, in Kennett Square
- * **McLimans Furniture** ~ 39 years offering antique, reproduction & traditional furniture, in Kennett Square
- * **The Country Butcher** ~ 33 years as a market for those who enjoy fine foods, in Kennett Square
- * **The Farmhouse Restaurant at Loch Nairn** ~ 32 years of fine dining and great service in a 17th-century building, in Avondale
- * **Moccasin Run Golf Club** ~ 29 years of offering a retreat for a day of golf on a public course, in Atglen
- * **Chef Anthony’s** ~ 26 years of great Italian food in a full service market, in Chadds Ford
- * **The Gables at Chadds Ford** ~ 18 years of rustic yet elegant dining, indoors and out, in Chadds Ford
- * **Paradox Vineyard** ~ 17 years of wine making, starting in Landenberg, now in Kennett Square
- * **The Mushroom Cap** ~ 11 years of all kinds of fungi fun and products, in Kennett Square
- * **The Whip Tavern** ~ 10 years of creating an English pub atmosphere in Chester County, located in West Marlborough

And this vibrant area continues to add new businesses and see changes in others.

- * **Brandywine View Antiques** ~ moved to a new, larger Chadds Ford location, summer 2015
- * **Nomadic Pies** ~ opened a Kennett Square storefront, spring 2015, but the truck still visits markets and events
- * **Fresh Faced Skin Care** ~ opened in Chadds Ford, April 2015, offering fresh faces to all
- * **Penn Family Medicine SCC** ~ opened a new location in Jennersville, June 2015, for convenient healthcare
- * **The Market at Liberty Place** ~ marked 2 years in Kennett Square, July 2015, as a community hub



Brandywine Zoo

BEDTIME BOOKS

Andrea Kiliany Thatcher, Chester County Book Company

What's a better nighttime ritual than reading a story before bed?

Reading with your kids is a bonding activity that frequently begins before birth, when babies enjoy hearing their parents' voices from the womb. This simple pleasure can be embraced through adolescence and beyond. After all, I still exchange book recommendations with my mom!

Bedtime reading may mean perseverance through a "reluctant reader" phase or reading some genres that aren't really on your favorites list.

But the rewards are rich and long-lasting, both for your child's development and your parent-child relationship. No lesser group than the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends reading to children to promote later language development and school success.

For the suggestions below on what to read with your children, we'll start with preschool selections up through the teenage years.



agate: What Good is a Moose?
by Joy Morgan Dey
Illustrations by Nikki Johnson

This book has become my go-to for gifts for 2-to-5-year-olds for many reasons. The first thing that drew me and my son to this title was the colorful illustrations of animals. Kids love animals, and these artistic

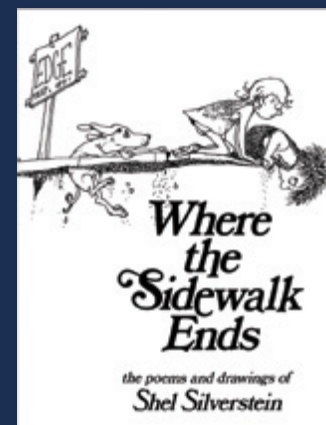
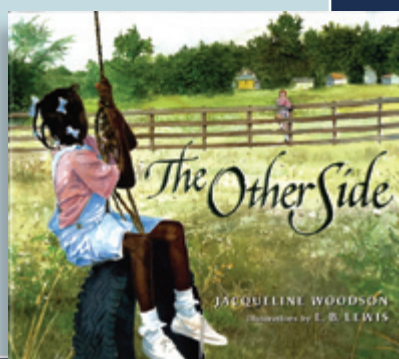
watercolor depictions build an appreciation for more abstract art than you find in most children's books. Plus, the animals are named by the color they're painted, teaching colors beyond the primary—like peridot and garnet. Best of all, the lessons about self-image are heartwarmingly wrought.

2 TO 5 YEARS

The Other Side, by Jacqueline Woodson
Illustrations by E. B. Lewis

This is a tale of two young girls who won't let a fence—or segregation—stop their friendship. Establishing a love of author Jacqueline Woodson early with your child will also pave the way to reading *Brown Girl Dreaming*—which swept all the children's book awards—together later. Exposing kids to perspectives other than their own is one of the biggest reasons for reading with them and is proven to lead to higher emotional intelligence later in life. These books would be a great way to bring the #WeNeedDiverse-Books campaign home. If you haven't heard of it, get thee to the bookstore to ask about this wildly popular movement to expand our children's worlds through reading.

5 TO 8 YEARS



Where the Sidewalk Ends
by Shel Silverstein

The silly poems in this classic collection have become the stuff of legend. Beloved author and illustrator Shel Silverstein mostly puts lessons on the back burner, the primary teaching tool here is fun with language! You can zip through several of these short

stories and poems in one reading session, making them perfect for kids with short attention spans. And they're sure to have you and your little one giggling.

6 TO 8 YEARS

The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Translated from the much-loved French classic *Le Petit Prince*, this book is adored by generations of readers. Children love the conspiratorial tone that tells them "Grown-ups never understand anything by themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always and forever explaining things to them." Well, this book explains the mysteries of life and love in a layered prose that opens up a poignant new meaning every time you read it.

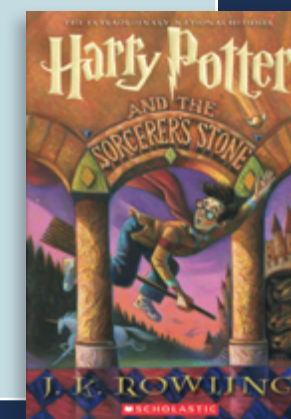
10 AND UP



Harry Potter by J.K. Rowling

Movie tie-in? Don't make me laugh! If your child is showing signs of enjoying "world-building" novels—those stories like *Lord of the Rings* or *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* that take place in a fantastical setting with only passing resemblance to reality—then this is the series to start them on. We all know there are enough *Potter* movies to fill a weekend, enough merchandise to fill their toy box now and furnish their college dorm in 15 years, and spin-off books to fill their Christmas lists and bookshelves. This series seems like a given for every child, especially since it's often credited with a resurgence in reading in the tween set. Yes, there are literary snobs who'd scoff at Rowling in favor of Tolkien and those at the other end of the spectrum with fears of staring down a row of seven books that only increase in length (and weight). Don't let either of these objections keep you from sharing this magical experience with your child. Pun intended.

9 TO 12 YEARS



Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
by Lewis Carroll

Illustrations by John Tenniel

When it comes to kids, it can't hurt to have a movie tie-in. And whatever your child's age or family's preferred cinematic style, there's an *Alice in Wonderland* movie for you. Revisiting the book can be an exercise in rediscovery for a parent, as I was quite surprised when re-reading this at

how fantastical and whimsical (and, at times, seemingly nonsensical) it really is. That Johnny Depp film wasn't as far off as we all imagined. If your child is in a question phase, you might want to read this at bedtime to avoid the "why, why, why" interruptions both because there's so much that begs a question and because it can be hard to explain hookah pipes and the constant threat of execution to an inquisitive young soul.

8 AND UP

Chester County Book Company hosts a Young Reader's Book Club for ages 8 and up on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30, and a Teen Book Club for ages 13 and up the first Monday of the month at 6:30. There is also Storytime every Wednesday at 10:30 am for children ages 3 to 6. Check the website or Facebook events page for book selections.

Chester County Book Company, an independently owned bookseller, hopes you shop small, shop local, shop Chester County. 967 Paoli Pk., West Goshen Center, West Chester. 610-696-1661; CCBMC.com.

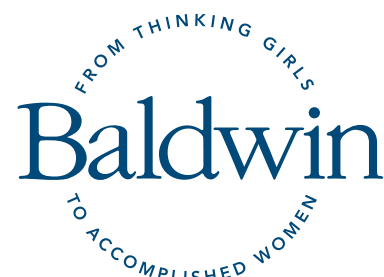


Lower School Tunic Tours
October 21, 9 a.m.

All-School Open House
October 28, 6 p.m. &
November 11, 9 a.m.

Register at BaldwinSchool.org/openhouse

Established in 1888, The Baldwin School is an independent day school for girls. Baldwin combines the region's premier college preparatory curriculum with distinguished arts, athletics and community service programs. Located in Bryn Mawr, Baldwin attracts talented girls for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 who seek a dynamic, globally focused curriculum within a supportive and encouraging community.



Villa Maria Academy High School

Edwin Malet

CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCHOOL MAY TAKE MORE THAN AN OPEN HOUSE VISIT. AREA SCHOOLS ARE HAPPY TO OBLIGE.

YOU'VE BEEN TO SEVERAL SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES. You've heard from administrators, alumni and faculty, even students. You've studied the look-books of the schools. Seen their gyms, their athletic fields, their auditoriums. Had their cheese and crackers.

In short, you may feel overwhelmed, even nervous about this important decision. Open houses have yielded a lot of information. You've narrowed the list to your top picks but still have questions. You realize the process has just begun.

What you've learned is that the school needs to be "the right fit." But what does that *mean*?

The Right Fit

Tom Eccleston says that independent schools are "extraordinary places." He's Assistant Headmaster at The Hill School. But whether a particular school is the right fit is a more elusive issue. "Really take in the culture of the school community while touring the campus and seeing classes. Does this school community feel right for you? What separates independent schools from other options is that we are truly communities."

At Wilmington Friends School, Head of School Ken Aldridge believes a school has "DNA—a defining essence of what they are."

He talks to the families to give them an understanding of his school's distinctive identity "grounded in timeless Quaker values but always looking forward, encouraging each individual to achieve their personal best while contributing to the good of all."

Spend a Day

Nearly all schools recommend a visit. Shana Maguire, Director of Admissions at Padua Academy, thinks a visit is the "best thing" for a prospective student. Your child will be paired with a current student and "gets to attend classes, tour the school, and participate in activities."

Amy Clemons says the goal is "to get to know you and understand your child and your priorities." As Director of Enrollment Management at Shipley School, she feels the best way is to plan a visit. And she advises spending time on campus and with families of current students.

Director of Admissions at Upland Country Day School Patrick Manahan recommends an applicant spend a day as an Upland student. Your child will assess his or her own "fit into our community," he says. Feedback will be shared with parents, while the faculty will add their observations to an "evolving conversation."

Similarly, at St. Patrick's School, Enrollment Manager Sharon



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Open House
November 5
Entrance Exam
December 5

www.archmereacademy.com



Attending the school's activities is a great way to get another perspective.
PHOTO: MEDIA-PROVIDENCE FRIENDS SCHOOL



After a thorough second look, students feel confident when they arrive at their chosen school.
PHOTO: ACADEMY OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR



Watch the students in their extracurricular activities and sporting events "under cover."
PHOTO: THE BALDWIN SCHOOL



Understand the school's distinctive identity by talking with administrators, teachers and students.
PHOTO: WILMINGTON FRIENDS SCHOOL

Alexander asks visitors to "spend a day to experience life and learning at St. Pat's." She teams prospects with current students for the day and finds, among other things, that it offers a "comfort level" at enrollment.

Francy Strathmann, Assistant Head of School at Media-Providence Friends School, sees the visit as an opportunity to see "classes of all ages." Also, it's a chance to talk with teachers and students and is often followed with a phone call from a current parent—"a great way for prospective families to get another perspective."

After attending the open house, Linda Lattif, Director of Enrollment Programs at Benchmark School, believes "the next step is to cultivate the relationship with the family. Follow-up is key. We greatly value the opportunity to spend time with the parents and the child, answering all their questions and inviting them to school events. We want to ensure that their decision to attend Benchmark is the right one for their child and their family."

Understand the Culture

With such a wide variety of independent schools, it's not surprising that each has a distinctive culture. At The Tatnall School, Allison Price, Director of Enrollment, emphasizes "school culture [as] one of the most intangible aspects of a school to assess, yet ... one of the most important factors in your decision to enroll." She suggests a non-admission event,

such as a concert, play or athletic competition. Her hint: use the school's website to find an event and attend "undercover."

Natalie Lyalin, Administrative Assistant to Admission and Outreach at Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, says, "We like to find out what interests a particular student—sports, science, art, etc.—and have a faculty member ... reassure them that we have their interests on our radar." She continues, "We want our students and their families to love where they learn."

At The Perkiomen School, Director of Admissions Abby Parish Moser believes that one of the most "striking strengths" is her school's "intimate scale." A visitor should expect to be "surrounded by mentors, guides and friends" and be "part of classes, dorms, teams and a school community that all have the feeling of a family." She recommends several visits for "multiple perspectives."

A Real Community

"One of the great values of an independent school education is how well we know each child and how each family feels strongly connected to our school community," says Catherine Hall, Assistant Head of School at The Episcopal Academy. "Seeing the school 'in action' is, far and away, the best way for families to truly get to know a school community. Talking to students, witnessing classes and activities, and sensing the values and priorities for a school will go a long way to help a family decide if the school is the best fit for them."

Tower Hill School has five open house events, according to Kelly DeShane, Director of Admission, and follows up by encouraging tours of the "school in action." DeShane encourages visits to its website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and checking out its E-newsletter. For those seriously interested, the school arranges playgroup visits for 4th grade and under and "shadow days" for older students. A financial assistance discussion may also be arranged.

At The Baldwin School, faculty members "value the chance to connect personally" with prospective students, according to Laurie Cato, Director of Strategic Marketing. They'll ask questions to gain "a clear picture of the whole student." You should prepare to spend time "observing classrooms, spectating at



Go to a class and connect personally with students and faculty.
PHOTO: UPLAND COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL



After you've toured the campus, talk about your impressions as a family.
PHOTO: THE HILL SCHOOL



The school should feel like a real community—inside and outside the classroom.
PHOTO: EPISCOPAL ACADEMY

athletics, participating in community events, conversing with our students, and connecting with current families,” she says.

Kristin Mumford, Director of Admissions at Archmere Academy, invites prospective students to attend Homecoming festivities, Archmere and Beyond (a college counseling program), sporting events, plays and concerts.

While at Fairville Friends School, Head of School Sharon Fichthorn wants visitors—generally kindergarten and younger—to play in the classes and on the play yards.” For their parents, she suggests Meeting for Worship, community events and meeting with teachers.

What visitors find at West Chester Friends School is a warm, open welcome. It invites you to “all sorts of events,” including Parenting Class, the Fall Fair, the Evening of the Arts, or once-a-month all-school Meeting for singing. Head of School Brian Fahey and Director of Admission Barbara Rowe want you “to learn as much as possible about Friends education and the academic and social life at WCFS.”

For Students Who Learn Differently

Woodlynde School’s day includes “daily morning assembly, academic subjects and elective classes.” Visitors will also meet with a learning specialist, as well as teachers and administrators. Most important, according to Kristen Tabun, Director of Admission, is the opportunity during the visit “to actively engage with the curriculum, as well as instructional and assistive technologies in multisensory ways.”

As a school for students with complex learning differences, Hill Top School believes it is imperative to get to know “the whole student,” according to Christina Carty, Development Director. The Admission Committee thoroughly reviews each candidate looking for both an academic and social fit. After the application review and interview, students are invited in for a shadow visit to experience a typical day.

Parent Ambassadors

At Villa Maria Academy High School, Marguerite Esmonde, Director of Commu-

nications, will schedule a private information session and a “Parent Ambassador”—a volunteer parent—to offer “insight and guidance.” On Visit Villa Days, you can learn about the extracurricular activities, fine arts and athletics from the directors of departments. And, in January, your family can attend Villa Spirit Day.

Similarly, the application process at the Rosemont School of the Holy Child has parents meet with a “Parent Ambassador” while their child is paired with a “student mentor,” explains Megan McHugh, Director of Admissions. Teachers “dedicate one-on-one time ... to acclimate to the school culture and to provide feedback for assessments.” Megan herself sends each prospect a handwritten message and invitations to school events. She believes that “choosing the right school is probably the most important decision a family can make.”

A sentiment shared by all the schools we talked with. ♦

See the Open House Guide in this issue and on our website, CountyLinesMagazine.com.



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DCCS.ORG

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OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, November 7 9:00am – 11:00am

PENNSYLVANIA

Bryn Mawr

The Baldwin School
701 Montgomery Ave.
610-525-2700
BaldwinSchool.org



The Baldwin School is an independent day school for girls that combines the region’s premier college preparatory curriculum with distinguished arts, athletics and community service programs. Located in Bryn Mawr, Baldwin attracts talented girls for pre-kindergarten through grade 12 who seek a dynamic, globally focused curriculum within a supportive and encouraging community.

All School: Oct. 28, 6 pm, Nov. 11, 9 am
Lower School Tours: Oct. 21 9 am, Dec. 2, 9 am
Private tours available upon request



Country Day School
of the Sacred Heart
480 S. Bryn Mawr Ave.
610-527-3915; CDSSH.org

CDSSH is an independent, Catholic, college preparatory school for girls pre-k through grade 12. They are a member of a Sacred Heart Network of 24 Schools in the US

and Canada, an ADVIS member, and Middle States Accredited. CDSSH is celebrating 150 years of educating young women. Founded in 1865, by the Religious of the Sacred Heart, the school is committed to educating to an active faith, intellectual values, social awareness, Christian community and personal growth.

Oct. 17, 9th Gr. Scholarship/Entrance Exam: 8:45

Oct. 17, Upper School Open House: 12:30 to 2

Open House: Oct. 27 Pre-K–Gr. 12 from 9 to 11
Take A Look Days: Nov. 9–12, from 9 to 2
All School Open House: Jan. 30 from 11 to 1

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. 11 at 9 am; Jan. 24 from 2 to 4 pm

Crum Lynne

Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School
Philadelphia Area Regional Office
1553 Chester Pk., Ste. 103
888-722-9237; PaCyber.org



The learning never stops at the Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School, one of the nation’s largest, most experienced, and most successful online public schools. PA Cyber’s personalized instructional methods and curricula connect students and families with highly qualified teachers and rich academic content. As a tuition-free public school, enrollment is open to any school-age child residing in PA. Online Info Sessions: visit PACyber.org

Devon

Delaware County Christian School
905 S. Waterloo Rd. 610-353-6522;
DCCS.org
Elementary campus, pre-k–5.
See listing under Newtown Square

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.

Fall Open House: Oct. 11 from 1 to 4 pm
Spring Open House & 9th Grade Practice Test:
Apr. 24



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Downingtown

Bishop Shanahan High School
220 Woodbine Rd.

610-518-1300; Shanahan.org

A Catholic co-ed high school in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, on a beautiful 80-acre site. The focus is on each student developing full potential in a safe, faith-filled environment. 100% of graduates pursue higher education. The Class of 2015 had 12 National Merit Students; 3 Semi-Finalists, 9 Commended. There are 64 Advanced Placement Scholars, 25 varsity sports, 40 clubs and great student life. Dual enrollment is offered with Immaculata, Widener and Neumann Universities.

Scholarship Exam: Nov. 7 from 8 am to noon

Fall Open House & Registration:

Nov. 15 from noon to 3

7th Gr. Visitation: Apr. 14 from 8:30 to 1:30

Spring Open House: Apr. 21 at 7 pm

bshs

Haverford

Friends School Haverford

851 Buck La.

610-642-2334

FriendsHaverford.org

Celebrating 130 years!

Guided by Quaker principles since its founding in 1885, Friends School Haverford provides an intellectually rich and powerful values-based program. They promote academic scholarship, creativity, respect, integrity and self-awareness with a commitment to creating a culture of stewardship and kindness. Their students are enriched with international travel and study adventures, and enjoy inter-scholastic sports and extracurriculars like horseback riding, fencing and ice skating. Nursery school through grade 8.

Oct. 3 (with Monarch Butterfly event),

Nov. 18, Dec. 14, Jan. 13, Feb. 17,

Mar. 2, Apr. 18 from 9 to 11 am

Friends School Haverford

Immaculata

Villa Maria Academy
Lower School

1140 King Rd.

610-644-4864; VillaMaria.org



Villa Maria Academy is an independent, Catholic, K-8 all-girls school and co-educational Early Learning Center for 3 and 4 year-olds in the traditions of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary since 1872. Villa Maria Academy empowers young women through leadership and service opportunities where each child is encouraged to reach her potential academically, spiritually, socially and morally.

Open House: Oct. 14 at 9:30, Nov. 11 at 9:30,

Jan. 13 at 9:30, Mar. 9 at 9:30

Malvern

St. Patrick School

115 Channing Ave.

610-644-5797;

SaintPatrickMalvern.org

Saint Patrick School provides a unique Catholic environment where the heart is formed, the mind is enlightened and the soul is nurtured. Their students' light shines forth in all their achievements but especially in the areas of academics, service and faith. Saint Patrick School is a proud recipient of the 2013 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award.

Open House: Oct. 21 from 9 to noon



Villa Maria

Academy High School

370 Central Ave.

610-644-2551; VMAHS.org

A Catholic, college preparatory school for girls, rooted in the philosophy of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, empowers young women to lead lives of spiritual growth, intellectual inquiry and Christian service. Founded in 1872, Villa Maria Academy combines rigorous academics, extensive extracurricular opportunities and innovative real-world experiences, preparing young women with the skills and the confidence they need to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Call for an appointment.

Open House: Oct. 18 from 11 to 2

Entrance / Scholarship Exams: Nov. 7 & 14

from 9 am to 12:30 pm



Media

Media-Providence
Friends School

125 W. Third St.

610-565-1960; MPFS.org

Media-Providence Friends School is a Quaker school in downtown Media for students in preschool through 8th grade. Every day at MPFS, teachers encourage students to imagine, explore, question and create, while discovering joy in learning and acquiring skills they'll need to make a better world. Small classes allow for differentiated learning in a rigorous academic environment where students are seen, heard and known.

Oct. 23, Nov. 13, call for more information.



Newtown Square

Delaware County
Christian School

462 Malin Rd.

610-353-6522; DCCS.org

Serving 740 students in grades pre-k – grade 12 on two campuses in Newtown Square and Devon. Providing a rigorous liberal arts, college preparatory education within the context of a Christian worldview, DC students are challenged, nurtured and known. New, in-depth courses teach students to engage with authentic problems and current issues, enabling them to



experiment with novel ideas and to take meaningful risks. Learn more on their website.

Nov. 7, Apr. 2, 9 to 11; Feb. 9, 9:30 to 11:30

The Episcopal Academy

1785 Bishop White Dr.

484-424-1400

EpiscopalAcademy.org

For nearly 230 years, Episcopal Academy has offered a strong tradition of excellence, providing a challenging and nurturing coeducational program for prekindergarten through 12th grade. The school's unparalleled facilities and innovative curriculum, anchored



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Scholarship Exam **November 7, 2015 • 8 am - 12 noon**

Open House & Registration **November 15, 2015 • 12-3 pm**

7th Grade Visitation Day **April 14, 2016 • 8:30 am - 1:30 pm**

Spring Open House **April 21, 2016 • 7 pm**

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Delaware Valley Friends School



St. Patrick School



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The Wyndcroft School



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*All School Open House: Oct. 25 at 1
Athletic Open House from 3 to 4 pm*

Phoenixville

Renaissance Academy
413 Fairview St. 610-983-4080
www.RAK12.org



Inspirica

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.

*Reg. required. Kindergarten, Oct. 7 at 6
Gr. 1-12, Dec. 2 from 9 to 11 am & 6 to 8 pm*

Pottstown

The Wyndcroft School
1395 Wilson St. 610-326-0544;
Wyndcroft.org

The Wyndcroft School is a co-ed day school for children in grades pre-k through 8th. They offer a rigorous academic program enabling the child to establish a foundation for a happy and successful future. Their focus is character development, and pursuing excellence in English, history, math, science, foreign languages and the arts. Their small class setting provides a nurturing environment fostering creativity, personal integrity, determination and respect for others.

Nov. 8, Feb. 23 and Apr. 3, 9 to 11 am



Bishop Shanahan High School

Rosemont

The 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 a premier independent, college preparatory school in the region for girls in grades pre-k-12. Agnes Irwin fosters the intellectual and personal growth of girls and young women, preparing each student to lead and enrich the world.



*All School, Oct. 25, noon to 2
Athletics, Nov. 4
Lower School, Nov. 12; Arts, Nov. 19*

West Chester

West Chester Friends School
415 N. High St. 610-696-2937; WCFriends.org
Academically enriched, co-ed elementary education. The Friends Play School is preschool



(age three) 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 History, Music, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) Spanish, Meditation/ Mindfulness. Community Service. Flexible tuition, BC/AC, 7:30 am to 6 pm.

*Oct. 7, 7 to 9 am; Tours, Oct. 24 at 11:30 & 1
Nov. 11, Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 9 at 9 am
Nov. 21 at 10 am*



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Grade 9 Entrance & Scholarship Exams
Saturday, November 7 | 8:30 a.m. Sunday, November 15 | 8:30 a.m.

Grade 6 Entrance & Scholarship Exams
Saturday, January 23 | 9:00 a.m.

Open House for All Grades
Sunday, November 8 | 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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PAcyber.org



Benchmark School



Friends School Haverford



Fairville Friends School

DELAWARE Claymont

Archmere Academy
3600 Philadelphia Pk.
302-798-6632
ArchmereAcademy.com



Archmere Academy is an independent, Catholic, co-educational college preparatory school, grades 9-12. Founded in the Norbertine tradition, the Archmere education focuses on the whole person, developing students into empathetic leaders and inspiring them to reach their potential. The Archmere experience incorporates top academic programs, a technology-infused curriculum, competitive athletics, and a wide variety of arts and extracurricular opportunities, all in a community of faith and values. Come visit their collegiate-style campus and learn more about what it means to be an Auk.

Nov. 15, at 1 pm

8th Grade Scholarship Exam, Dec. 5, 9 to noon

Wilmington

Wilmington Friends School
101 School Rd. (Rts. 202 & 95)
302-576-2900; WilmingtonFriends.org



Wilmington Friends School is a community as well as a great place to grow up. They offer an unsurpassed academic program with depth, asking students to question, collaborate, be creative and take risks, all within a caring community that balances focus on the individual with responsibility to the common good. Join them for an Open House or customize your visit during a school day that works with your schedule. Serving students preschool-12.
Middle & Upper School: Oct. 25, 1 to 3pm
All School Open House: Nov. 3, 9 to 11 am
Preschool & Lower School: Apr. 9, 9 to 11 am
Meet Us on Monday, every Monday, from 9 to 11 am & 4 to 6

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You can visit CountyLinesMagazine.com for Open House updates throughout the school year.



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A Timber Frame Dream Home in Chester Springs

Rustic and refined, inspired by nature yet clearly modern, full of both character and comfort—these are just a few distinctive qualities of this timber frame home.

Laurel Anderson

A PHOTO CAPTURING HOMEOWNER DAN COONEY pounding in the first peg of his dream home is in the thick album that chronicles the construction of this unique hilltop timber frame and log home with commanding views of Pickering Valley. A bit of evidence of Cooney's involvement and attention to every phase of creating a well-designed, high-quality home as beautiful as it is structurally sound on a prime 5.65-acre parcel at the top of Valley Lane.

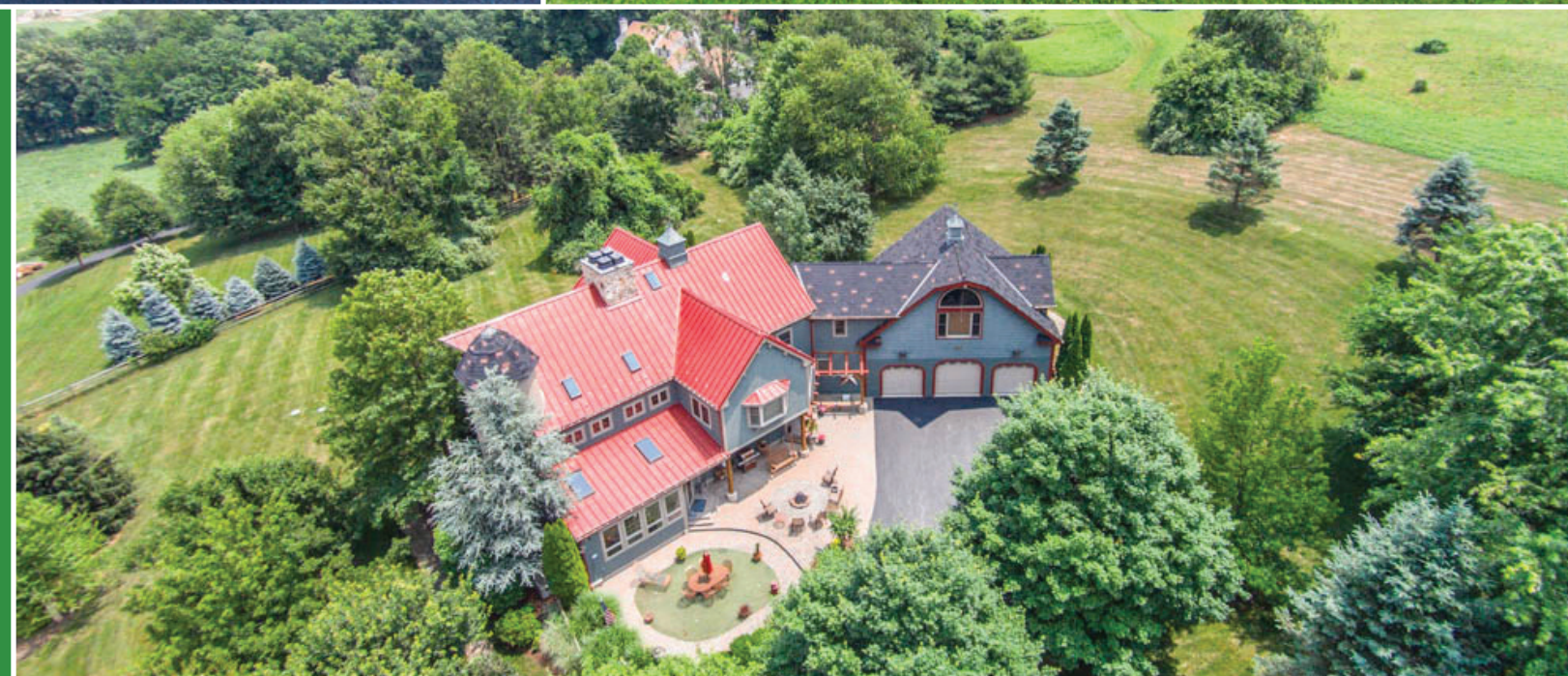
There's further evidence in *Log and Timber Frame Homes*, Tina Skinner's 2002 book from Schiffer Publishing, featuring Cooney's home on the cover. Plus a June 2003 article in *Timber Homes Illustrated*, along with—full disclosure—another profile in the May 2000 issue of *County Lines* describing details of the construction.

A dream house designed, built and enjoyed for 15 years is now ready for new owners.

A Sense of Place – A Tribute to Early America

With its exterior paying homage to local red-roofed barns with iconic silos and the interior creating soaring spaces to house modern amenities, this is a home that honors the surrounding countryside while providing room for 21st-century living. In three-plus levels, this four-bedroom, four-and-a-half bath home mixes craftsmanship with technology and was custom designed to maximize the beauty of the site while providing a private, low maintenance retreat.

A short walk to the historic Mill at Anselma, Pickering Creek and a working farm yet just minutes from Conestoga Road and the PA Turnpike, this Valley Lane neighborhood has much to recommend it. There's even a private pond shared by the homeowners association, suitable for rowboats and kayaks and brimming with bass, sunfish and bluegill.





Three stories of soaring space make the most of timber frame construction in the great room.



Western exposure enhances the bright sun room.



The spacious, open kitchen has great flow.



Log walls, a cathedral ceiling and fireplace in the master suite.

Then on to the first-floor master suite, housed in the log section, which Cooney describes as “historically accurate Appalachian square logs, with dovetail joinery and a two-inch modern chinking space.” The interior log walls, cathedral ceiling, stone fireplace and half-moon window are just some of the details. (Off camera, there’s a walk-in closet and oversized master bath, with skylight, Jacuzzi and access to the deck.)

Upstairs and Downstairs

The tour up the Douglas fir stairs begins through the open gallery walkway looking down on the great room and leading to the cozy reading nook on the second level of the silo space. Two large bedrooms—one with en suite bath, the other with a balcony overlooking the great room—and a third-floor bonus room for a playroom or office, fill the timber frame space.

On to the stick-built section housing a three-car garage at ground level. The second floor includes a large home office with cathedral ceiling and a second master suite, with private entrance, perfect for in-laws or guests.

The walk-out lower level—approximately 1700 square feet of finished space—houses a fully wired media room set off by sliding barn doors. The adjacent, light and bright den with full bath, boasts a wet bar, jukebox, pool table and gas fireplace. (Off camera is the mechanical room, with convenient access through the garage, plus plenty of storage space, including dedicated space for wine storage.)

The tour ends, fittingly, by returning outside. Views from the first-floor porch remind you of the beauty of Pickering Valley. The deck, with hot tub, is another reminder of the pleasure of this private property. Then a final view of the pond before ending the tour.

The only better way to experience the property is in person. See for yourself. ♦

For more information or to arrange a tour of this custom-built home on 5.65 acres in Chester Springs, offered at \$1,495,000, contact Karen Nader at Brandywine Fine Properties Sotheby's International Realty, 484-888-5597; BFPSIR.com.



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AS AMERICAN AS Pumpkin Beer

Jamie Robinson
 Boxcar Brewing Company

Move over Pumpkin Spice Latte. America loves Pumpkin Beer.

BY OCTOBER, SUMMER IS A DISTANT MEMORY. Children have traded beach towels for backpacks, teachers are establishing a rhythm with their newest batch of impressionable minds, and we're all pulling scarves and sweaters out of storage.

After 90-ish days of increased idleness, summer reading and sunburn, I greet autumn as a welcome change. More to the point, October holds a special place in my heart, as both my birthday month and the start of the holiday season—counting Halloween as a holiday. I look forward to the tenth month of the calendar every single year.

There's something comforting about the crisp air, the smell of bonfires and, of course, the beers of autumn. For craft brew drinkers, each season holds its special pleasures. Yet fall is the pinnacle for beer fans and for good reason—there's Oktoberfest and then there's pumpkin beer. Along with imperial pumpkin ales, pumpkin sours, pumpkin stouts and porters, barrel-aged pumpkin brews, and even pumpkin shandies and ciders.

What better time to think more about this seasonal brew?

Colonial Roots

The origin of pumpkin beer starts much further back than its recent revival, which began anew in the 1980s and continues to grow with every harvest. But the pumpkin beers of today are a far cry from their predecessors of bygone centuries.

As the first Colonial settlers struggled to make use of the resources available in the New World, compromises and creativity were inevitable and beer-making was no exception. Although grapes and grain were readily available in the Old World, settlers in America were driven to seek out new fermentable sugars on which to experiment.

Because of their abundance in the Colonies, pumpkins were on the top of that list. Tonics made from these gourds were common in early Colonial America, consumed for their health benefits. Many of the first brews used pumpkin as a substitute for traditional brewing grains. Other fermentables included acorns, apples and corn—those who aren't fans of pumpkin beer should think a moment about acorn beer!



Whether in a large glass growler or a festive orange can, pumpkin beer is part of Boxcar Brewing Company's regular lineup.

No lesser home brewer than George Washington is cited as having a recipe containing molasses and a mixture of accessible spices—licorice, anise, cinnamon.

As improved farming methods in the New World increased the availability of various brewing grains, the need for sources of alternative sugars diminished and brewers returned to more conventional English and German brewing ingredients and methods. And so pumpkin beers were on the wane.

Return of Pumpkin Beer

Fast-forward almost 200 years and the pumpkin—formerly the main component of the beer—has been all but replaced by malt and the spices associated with Thanksgiving dessert—nutmeg, cinnamon, allspice and ground ginger to name a few. In fact, many of the “pumpkin” ales on the market may not contain an ounce of their namesake, but this omission doesn’t make them any less delicious or desirable. For the “pumpkin pie

in a glass” varieties, some bartenders coat the rims of glasses with cinnamon and sugar when serving a slice—I mean a pint.

Starting around 1985, Buffalo Bill’s Brewery in Haywood, California is credited with being the first to re-popularize the style, using George Washington’s recipe as inspiration. Only 5.2% ABV (alcohol by volume), the golden amber of their America’s Original Pumpkin Ale has low spiciness and mild pumpkin flavor, yet still tastes like beer. And its year-round availability makes it perfect for Halloween any time.

Plenty of Pumpkin Beers

The variety of pumpkin beers now available range in size, shape, look and taste as much as the family Thanksgiving dinner spreads we all look forward to each year. Some beer blogs count as many as 400 varieties—and still growing.

Since pumpkin is not a strong flavor, the taste can be as subtle or strong as a brewer desires. And so approaches vary from brewers adding hand-cut and even roasted pumpkins into the mash, while others prefer using puree or just pumpkin flavoring. The resulting



pumpkin ales tend to be mild, with little bitterness, a malty backbone, and most with discernable spice. Local brew, Dogfish Head’s Punkin Ale, for example, adds actual pumpkin to its mix, as does Boxcar Brewing.

As the most popular seasonal beer by far—it can be 10 to 15 percent of a brewery’s output—pumpkin beer’s popularity continues to grow. “Seasonal” pumpkin beer can often be found as early as July, though the most popular brands may be sold out by the time the frost is literally on the pumpkin.

Although most who enjoy the style have an opinion on the “Best Pumpkin Beer,” they hardly agree on which one. Some prefer a lighter, easier drinking ale moderately hopped with a hint of spice, while others prefer a sweeter and boozier beverage with higher alcohol levels and a heavier body. I think each style plays a role, and personal opinion is probably the best judge of which pumpkin beer is “best”—a good reason to sample widely.

Pumpkin Beer’s Future

Perhaps the reemergence of pumpkin beers was an acknowledgement of those who came before us—a look at the history of American brewing. Maybe the development of pumpkin beer is one that mirrors American customs, a fluid notion that constantly evolves. Or perhaps the real hero of this story is the pumpkin itself—the simple squash that became an American icon.

Enjoying a pumpkin ale can evoke the same sort of response as we each search for that perfect blend of sweetness and spice that reminds us of fall, family tradition and perfect Thanksgiving memories. Cheers! ♦

LOCAL PUMPKIN BEER PICKS

Imperial Pumpkin Ale (Weyerbacher Brewing Co., Easton, PA). Unmistakably pumpkin-y yet still very much like beer, it combines cinnamon, nutmeg, cardamom and cloves, but all in balance. And plenty of imperial ale to please beer fans. A top scorer in many taste tests.

The Great Imperial Pumpkin Ale (Iron Hill Brewery, Newark, DE). Iron Hill loves making pumpkin beer and makes almost 20 varieties. Lots of pumpkin flavor, this one is a cloudy whopper of a beer.

Mr. PumpCan (Boxcar Brewing Co., West Chester, PA). Try this mild ale with real pumpkin and traditional spices on tap and available—you guessed it—in cans.

Punkin Ale (Dogfish Head Brewery, Milton, DE). A good starter with enough pumpkin to satisfy your sweet tooth, but not too much to scare away the gourd-averse. A full-bodied brown ale with hints of pumpkin, brown sugar and cinnamon, this limited release brew is often gone by Thanksgiving.

Founder and owner of Boxcar Brewing Company, Jamie Robinson has grown the company from the original brewery to include a brewpub at 142 E. Market St., both in West Chester. The two-story entertainment venue and brewpub allows Boxcar to pair their local brew products with signature pub food. Boxcar’s flagship brew, The Passenger, took Gold and Bronze medals (2010 & 2012) for Best English Mild Ale in the U.S. Open Beer Championship. Other favorites: Mango Ginger Pale Ale, 1492 APA, and of course, Mr. Pumpcan. BoxCarBrewingCompany.com.



OKTOBER EVENTS

October 1 & 3, King of Prussia hosts the **4th Annual Beerfest Royale**. October 1st, 5:30 to 9, \$65; October 3, noon to 3:30 and 6 to 9:30, \$50. KoPBrewfest.com.

October 4–25, Stoudt’s Brewing Company is hosting their **33rd Annual Oktoberfest** every Sunday in October. Tickets \$23 and up. Stoudts.com.

October 10, the **18th Annual Kennett Brewfest**. 2 to 6 pm. Tickets are \$50 and often sell out. KennettBrewfest.com.

October 29, Chester County Book

Company hosts Bryan Kolesar, author of *Beer Lover’s Mid-Atlantic: Best Breweries, Brewpubs, and Beer Bars*, 7 pm. ChesterCountyBooks.com.

November 8–14, Wilmington’s Beer Week—a celebration of craft beer with pairings, tap takeovers and meet the brewer events. WilmingtonBeerWeek.com.

December 5, the **5th Annual Valley Forge Beer Festival** at the Oaks Expo Center. Two sessions: 12:30 to 4 and 5:30 to 9. Advance tickets, \$40, \$60 at door. ValleyForgeBeerfest.com.



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

Blending Soon.

The last thing you'd expect to see when you're out and about is a **Jamba Juice**, the health-conscious California-based juice company, but the franchise is finally beginning to spread to our area. Jamba Juice uses local produce to create their fresh and healthy juices and smoothies. The newest location at 5 N. Morehall Road in Malvern opened in September. Check out JambaJuice.com/Menu-and-Nutrition to see the ingredients and nutrition facts for the various drinks on their menu.



Quick Dough.

Need a quick infusion of ... pizza? Check out **RapiDough Pizza Pies** at their new location, 30 South High Street in West Chester. These pizzas are fresh and fast—ready in about five minutes—because you create your own custom pie using an iPad ordering system. Try their seasonal (corn and salami) or signature (Parma or supreme) pies. Pizza isn't the only option on this speedy restaurant's menu—sample calzones, salads, pastas and desserts. Eat in, take out, BYOB. *More at RapidoughPizzaPies.com.*



Cut the Calories.

Tired of trying to figure out how many calories are in your food? Especially your home-cooked recipes? **CalCutter**, a new smartphone app from New York City's Health Department, estimates the calories in the meals you're cooking up for your family. And it helps create a lower-calorie version by suggesting changes (different ingredients, healthier cooking methods, smaller portions) that you can save for your healthy future. The best part? It's free! *Find out more at your app store.*



You Don't Know Jack O'Lantern.

Carving **Jack O'Lanterns** is a fun Halloween ritual. But why? Some say the pumpkin carving tradition comes from an Irish legend of Stingy Jack, who pulled so many tricks on his loved ones and the devil that he was banned from both heaven and hell. To light up the darkness, Jack placed an ember in a carved turnip. Pumpkins are much better objects to carve, and so now every Halloween they're lit to ward off the spirit of Stingy Jack. *PumpkinNook.com.*



Pasta Magic.

If you haven't already seen this internet sensation, you'll love the **One Pan, Nine Minute Pasta Recipe** that's been making weeknight meals easier for hungry folks everywhere. Cook your entire pasta dish in just *one* pan! And in just *nine* minutes! Really! How? Put all your ingredients into one pan with a measured amount of water. That way you avoid boiling water *and* draining pasta *and* cooking sauce. For some recipe ideas, Google or check out Slate.com.



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Laura Muzzi Brennan

Simplicity is the key.

ASK THE MAN ON THE STREET TO FREE ASSOCIATE about Italian food, and he might come up with pizza, pasta and parmigiana. But you're just as likely to elicit more abstract ideas: family, abundance, simplicity. At **Toninos Pizza & Pasta Co.** in Malvern, Italian cuisine's tangible and intangible dimensions blend together seamlessly.

"We have a big family, and everything has always been oriented around food," Toninos co-owner Lucy Scotto tells me. Her husband Benny, son Giovanni and she opened the restaurant in April 2014 after operating Pasta Blitz and Waterfall Banquet & Conference Center in Wilmington for many years. Their idea was to share their family dishes in a cozy setting. The BYOB's name pays homage to their beloved Nonno Tony—affectionately called Tonino by his wife. A native of Naples, Italy, Tony started the family in the restaurant business when he opened Marco's in Baltimore nearly four decades ago. He passed away in early 2014.

One look at Toninos menu is all it takes to discover the Scotto passion for robust flavors and abundance. There are subs, paninis, calzones and beloved classics such as eggplant parmigiana, lasagna and clams casino.

And the pizza! It comes in two styles—round, thin crusted Napolitana and square, thick crusted Sicilian, available with standard toppings. There's even an entire



Various Pizzas



Balsamic Pizza

menu section devoted to specialty pizzas. The balsamic (tomato sauce, mozzarella and a balsamic glaze) and the chicken, bacon, ranch are two of the most popular pies. For feeding a famished crowd, order your pizza in the 30" size.

And the pasta! The Scottos make it fresh in house. It stars along with soul-nourishing sauces in dishes including spaghetti puttanesca, fettucini alfredo, penne primavera and fettucini Bolognese. When I asked Benny Scotto about the secret behind making great sauce, his advice was simplicity itself: "Always purchase good quality ingredients, especially tomatoes. Prep your ingredients prior to starting. Learn to control the flame so that sauces cook without burning."

In the face of so many tempting choices, what's a Toninos diner to do? Option 1: Ask the experts. Lucy Scotto often recommends the salmon scampi or daily specials highlighting fresh fish. And if the Scottos are offering their Sunday ragu—meatballs, sausage and stuffed bracirole slowly cooked with San Marzano tomatoes served over fresh pasta—Benny might just steer you in its direction. Option 2: Get the best of all worlds by biting into a specialty pizza topped with pasta or seafood. A pie topped with baked ziti or with chopped clams in a white wine lemon sauce? Why not! Option 3: Visit Toninos again and again—and at least once, save room for the nutella calzone.



Spinach Spaghetti

Salmon Scampi

At Toninos, this entrée is usually served with angel hair pasta and a vegetable medley of julienned carrots, squash and zucchini.

3 lbs. fresh, line-caught salmon, cut in 8-oz. portions
Salt, pepper and crushed red pepper flakes to taste
1 bunch flat leaf parsley
1 bunch basil
6 oz. white wine
12 oz. fish stock or clam juice
Juice of 2 lemons
6 plum tomatoes, diced
8 oz. crushed tomatoes
6 oz. butter
6 cloves garlic, minced
Optional garnishes: lemon slices, chopped Italian parsley, chopped basil

Preheat oven to 375°. Place the salmon filets in a flat roasting pan. Add salt, pepper, red pepper flakes, chopped parsley and basil, white wine, fish stock, lemon juice, diced and crushed tomatoes, butter and garlic. Don't worry about mixing the ingredients together; just put them all on top of the salmon and let the oven do the rest.

Place in oven for 20 minutes, until salmon is cooked through. Place the salmon filets on a serving plate.

Put the sauce in a sauté pan and cook at low temperature until sauce is reduced by half, about 5-8 minutes.

Serve salmon with your favorite pasta or veggies and top with the sauce. Garnish to your liking.

Makes 6 servings.

Homemade Papardelle Alla Toninos

You won't walk away hungry if you order this meat-lovers entrée at Toninos. The wide, flat shape of the papardelle holds the hearty sauce perfectly.

1 Tb. olive oil
2 Tb. diced shallots
2 lb. Italian sweet sausage, pre-cooked and cut into bite-sized pieces
2 lb. homemade meatballs, pre-cooked and cut into bite-sized pieces
½ C. white wine
Salt, pepper and red pepper flakes to taste
12 oz. marinara sauce
1½ qts. heavy cream

Tasty Tales

Behind many a classic Italian dish lives a story worth sharing. Here are a few you can spin the next time you're eating Italian with friends.

Fettucini Alfredo: Roman restaurant owner Alfredo di Lelio wanted to make a simple, healthy tasty dish for his pregnant wife who was struggling with nausea. His simple combination of pasta, cheese and butter soon became a staple at his restaurant. When silent movie stars Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks, in Rome on their honeymoon, wandered into Alfredo's restaurant, they took one bite of his special fettucini and were spellbound. Back in Hollywood, they introduced their friends to the dish. To Alfredo, they gifted a giant golden fork and spoon engraved with their names. Happily ever after never tasted so good!

Spaghetti alla Puttanesca: One story says that this robust dish was the go-to for puttanos (women of the night) who needed a quick-to-prepare meal to eat in between clients. Another story claims that the garlic in the sauce wafted through the streets attracting more clients. In yet another version, married women supposedly cooked puttanesca for their husbands so they (the wives) could spend more time with their lovers. No matter the truth, the winning combination of anchovies, olives, capers and tomatoes probably kept everyone satisfied.

Clams Casino: Julius Keller of Rhode Island's Narragansett Pier Casino claims to have invented this stuffed clam dish in 1917. One of the upscale resort's affluent guests, Mrs. Paran Stevens, requested that Keller make a special clam dish for her 8 lunch guests. He did, she loved it, and the rest is bacon-studded history.

2 lb. papardelle
8 oz. Parmesan cheese, grated

Heat olive oil in a large skillet. Add shallots, meatballs and sausage. Sauté until shallots are golden brown. Add white wine to deglaze pan. Then add salt, pepper, red pepper flakes, marinara sauce and the heavy cream. Reduce at medium heat for 7 minutes.

Meanwhile, cook papardelle in salted boiling water until al dente. Plate the meat over a bed of the papardelle and top off with parmigiana cheese.

Makes 6 servings.

Toninos' Clams Casino

Many popular dishes on Italian restaurant menus actually originated in America. One example: clams casino. A Rhode Island chef claims to have invented them for a fancy lunch in 1917. For full story, see sidebar.



1 lb. bacon, roughly chopped plus small pieces (about 1") for topping clams
1 green bell pepper, cut into small dice
1 red bell pepper, cut into small dice

1 Spanish onion, cut into small dice
Salt and pepper to taste
½ C. white wine
6 oz. lemon juice
6 oz. Worcestershire sauce
3 sticks (¾ lb.) butter
1 lb. Italian bread crumbs
1 bunch Italian parsley, chopped
26 top neck clams

Preheat oven to 550°. Sauté the chopped bacon and slowly add the diced peppers and onions and cook until soft. Add salt, pepper, white wine, lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce and butter. Cook just until butter is melted. Then fold breadcrumbs and parsley into the mixture. Mixture can be prepared 2-3 days ahead of time and kept in refrigerator.

Shuck the fresh clams and divide mixture among them. If desired, add a small piece of bacon on top for garnish.

Place on a baking sheet. Cover with foil and bake for 20 minutes. Remove foil and broil to brown tops. (Note: At Toninos, Benny Scotto spreads scampi sauce on a sheet pan, tops with clams and bakes. You can also bake on a bed of rock salt.)

Makes 6 servings..

Tomato Vodka Sauce with Pancetta

Cooks often want to know what exactly vodka does for a tomato sauce. Here's the scoop: vodka intensifies the tomatoes without adding an extra flavor to the sauce as wine or brandy does. Unless you're using fresh toma-

toes at the peak of ripeness, a little vodka can give your sauce the punch it needs. Recipe adapted from 365 Ways to Cook Pasta by Marie Simmons.



- 1 large shallot, cut into small dice
- 4 oz. pancetta or American bacon, chopped*
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 can (28 oz.) plum tomatoes with juices
- ½ C. vodka
- ½ tsp. (or more to taste) crushed red pepper
- ½ C. light cream, at room temperature
- Salt
- ½ bunch Italian parsley, chopped
- Grated Parmesan cheese
- *You can find pancetta cut into small cubes at the grocery store.

In a large skillet, sauté shallot and pancetta together until shallot starts to soften and turn translucent, about 3-5 minutes. Add garlic and sauté for 1 more minute. Add tomatoes and vodka. Add crushed red pepper. (Using ½ tsp. gives the dish a little zing. For a spicier dish, add up to ½ Tb.)

Reduce heat and simmer, breaking up tomatoes, until sauce thickens, about 15-20 minutes. Stir in cream. Season with salt to taste. Serve over sturdy pasta such as fettucini, pappardelle, tortellini or penne. Top with chopped parsley and grated Parmesan.

Makes enough for 4-6 servings.

Burrata in Marcella Hazan's Tomato Sauce with Butter

Burrata (Italian for "battered") looks just like fresh mozzarella. Basically, it's a mozzarella shell filled with curds and cream. Like the Honeycrisp apple of a few years back, burrata seems to have become popular overnight. When I recently found some at my local supermarket, I thought why not combine it

with my favorite tomato sauce adapted from cookbook author Marcella Hazan's iconic recipe. The result: an easy, rustic—and a little messy—appetizer for any chilly night. (Note: You will have sauce left over.)



- 2, 28-oz. cans peeled Roma tomatoes with their juices
- 8 Tb. butter, cut into cubes
- 1 large onion, peeled and quartered
- ½ tsp. kosher salt or more to taste
- 1, 4-oz. ball fresh burrata
- Fresh basil, cut into ribbons, optional

Using scissors, cut tomatoes into smaller pieces right in the can.

Combine tomatoes, butter, onion and salt in a saucepan set over medium-low heat. Simmer for 45 minutes or until you reach desired consistency. For a less chunky sauce, mash larger tomato pieces with a spoon. Remove onions and save for another use. (You can use them in place of the shallot in the tomato vodka sauce recipe-above.) Add more salt to taste.

Ladle 1-2 cups of the hot sauce into a small ovenproof dish and add a burrata ball. Run under the broiler for 2-3 minutes. Sprinkle with basil ribbons if desired. Serve with baguette slices. If you have time, brush baguette slices with olive oil and grill.

Serves 4.

Chicken Piccata

"Piccata" means "larded" and refers to cooking the chicken in the butter and olive oil. I adapted this recipe from Giada De Laurentiis' Everyday Italian.

- 4, 4-5-oz. boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ¼ C. flour for dredging
- 1 Tb. olive oil
- 4 Tb. butter, divided, room temperature
- ½ C. chicken broth

- ⅓ C. lemon juice
- ¼ C. capers
- Chopped Italian parsley for garnish

With the flat side of a mallet or bottom of a mug, pound the chicken breasts between 2 sheets of plastic wrap until they are ½" thick. Season with salt and pepper and coat with flour.

Heat olive oil with 2 Tb. butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Put chicken in and cook for 3 minutes on each side. Remove chicken to a plate.

Add broth, lemon juice and capers to skillet and bring to a boil, scraping the brown bits from the bottom. Add chicken back in, reduce heat and simmer until chicken is just cooked through. (It should reach an internal temperature of 165°).

Remove chicken to serving platter. Off the heat, add remaining 2 Tb. butter to skillet and mix until butter is fully incorporated into sauce. Pour sauce over chicken. Top with parsley.

Makes 4 servings.

Gnocchi with Brown Butter and Sage

When I interviewed Lucy Scotto, she reminded me that good Italian cooking is all about simplicity and allowing flavors to come through. For this dish, I adapted Giada De Laurentiis' easy gnocchi recipe and paired it with a sauce that requires minimal ingredients and work.

For the gnocchi:

- 1½ lbs. russet potatoes,
- 2 large or 3 medium
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1 tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. freshly ground black pepper
- ¾ C. all-purpose flour

For the sauce:

- 6 Tb. butter
- 6-8 sage leaves, sliced into ribbons
- Grated Parmesan
- Freshly ground black pepper

To make the gnocchi:

Wash the potatoes and pierce them all over with a fork. Microwave them on high until the flesh can be pierced easily with a fork, 10-12 minutes.

Cut potatoes in half lengthwise and allow to cool slightly. When they are cool enough to handle, scoop out the flesh into a large

bowl and mash with a fork. Mix in the egg, salt and pepper. Using a flour sifter or a fine mesh strainer, sift the flour over the potato mixture and mix until just combined.

Take a tennis-ball-size portion of dough and roll it into a rope with a ½" diameter. Using the dull side of a dinner knife or a dough cutter, cut each rope into 1" pieces.

Press the tines of a fork into each piece to create grooves. Pinch both ends slightly so that each piece resembles a free-form crescent. Repeat with remaining dough. (If you don't plan to cook the gnocchi for an hour or so, place them on a cookie sheet, cover with paper towel and refrigerate.)

Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Salt generously. Add gnocchi. Stirring gently but frequently, cook just until gnocchi rise to the top.

To make the sauce:

While gnocchi cooks, melt butter in a skillet over medium-high heat until butter starts to brown and smells nutty. Stir frequently to prevent butter from burning. Remove from heat.

When gnocchi is cooked, turn heat under butter to medium-low and stir in sage. Remove gnocchi with a slotted spoon and add it along with 2 Tb. pasta water to butter-sage mixture. Toss to coat.

Serve with lots of Parmesan cheese and freshly ground black pepper.

Makes 4-6 servings. ♦

Laura traces her love of all things culinary to the first time she leafed through her mother's Betty Crocker's Cooky Book—which still occupies a place of honor among her 600+ cookbooks. A passionate supporter of local food, she co-founded a farmers market, judges area food contests and anticipates restaurant openings with the excitement most people reserve for winning a Mega Millions jackpot.



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talking with Cheryl Kuhn, President, Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce



There's much more than mushrooms to put Southern Chester County on your radar— even with the recent Mushroom Festival attracting record crowds in September. It's such a great place to explore, we asked writer Carol Metzker to check it out. Her "Great Escapes" article in this issue is her report. For another view, we checked in with the local Chamber President Cheryl Kuhn to find out more.

Chester County is the fastest growing county in Pennsylvania and the southern sector contributes the most to that distinction. Just how fast is your area growing?

Amazingly fast! Chester County continues to be one of Pennsylvania's fastest growing counties in terms of population. Here in the southern portion, we're seeing continued growth, particularly in the boroughs—like Kennett Square and Oxford—with an uptick along the corridor in West Grove and Jennersville. It's exciting to watch as new services, businesses, manufacturing, retail and restaurants crop up all along Route 1. And, of course, the mushroom industry continues to boom!

Even with rapid growth, there's still an appreciation for open space and thoughtful development. Can you tell us about that?

I'd say it's more than an appreciation for open space! It's more like the mantra of our region, and one that's appreciated by anyone who participates in a conversation about it. There's an important initiative the Chamber founded, along with the Chester County Economic Development Council, called the Route 1 Economic Development Initiative. This group is committed to supporting sustainable development along the Route 1 Corridor. And one of its seven subcommittees—Open Space—is actively focused on this goal.

What are some other noteworthy Chamber projects, beyond the Route 1 Initiative?

Our Southern Chester County Job Fair, partnering with the Technical College High School in West Grove, is now in our 4th year. And we've started Job Shadowing, partnering with Avon Grove School District, planned for this school year.

We're also proud of our Scholarship Program, for seniors from Avon Grove, Kennett and Unionville High Schools, based on academic achievement and community service. More scholarships go to local high school students participating in the Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Education program, a week-long 'camp' with kids from across PA. They form companies, create marketing plans and make presentations, while getting feedback and mentoring from executives. These kids always return with incredible stories and lifelong friends.

Part of the attraction of the area is the unique communities. What are some highlights?

That's a great question. From Kennett to Jennersville, Oxford and Nottingham, visitors can spend a day or a week sightseeing, touring the countryside, sipping local wines and craft beers and trying some of the best mushroom recipes and other delicious locally grown fare anywhere.

A stop at Longwood Gardens is always special—the Nightscapes exhibit runs through October. Or head south to the Dansko Company Store in West Grove for great shoes and where your purchase helps those in need. Then it's a short hop to charming Oxford for good food and fun—especially on First Fridays. Not far, in Nottingham, visit Herr's for a tasty snack factory tour, voted #1 factory tour in the country by *USA Today*.

Local events also bring folks to Southern Chester County. Do you have favorites?

Too many favorites! Any time of year, you'll find plenty of family-friendly events, brew fests, wine festivals, equestrian competitions and more. Can you spell Toughkenamon? If you can, put it into your GPS to see a match at the Brandywine Polo Club—yes, polo right here! Nearby Unionville hosted the annual Plantation Field International Horse Trials in September when equestrians from around the globe competed in this 3-day, family-friendly event, complete with a vendor village. And no visit is complete without a stop at the Unionville Community Fair, celebrating 91 years, with the largest display of community agricultural products, handcrafts and arts in Chester County. Quintessential Southern Chester County.

Can you share plans for future developments?

We plan to continue being the leading member-based business organization in the region supporting business and economic development. We're an active, thriving group that provides its members with opportunities to generate viable leads, grow their businesses, build long lasting friendships and relationships. And we're some of the biggest fans of Southern Chester County. Contact us at SCCCC.com. ♦



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Brandywine River Museum of Art.....21	Gateway Medical Associates.....6	Sugarbridge Kitchen & Bath.....back cover
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