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The Financial Times Top 400 Financial Advisors is an independent listing produced by the Financial Times (March, 2016). The FT 400 is based on data gathered from firms and verified by broker-dealer home offices, regulatory disclosures, and the FT's research. The listing reflects each advisor's performance in six primary areas, including assets under management, asset growth, compliance record, experience, credentials, and accessibility as identified by the FT. Neither the brokerages nor the advisors pay a fee to the Financial Times in exchange for inclusion in the FT 400.

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Unionville 5 BR, 4.2 BA | Near ChesLen Preserve Indoor Pool | 4 Stall Barn 23+ Acres | Unionville Schools \$2.250.000

Pennbrook Farm 6 BR, 3.1 BA | 35 Acres Indoor Arena Possible | Pond 24 Stall Barn | Unionville Schools

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Newlin Township 4 BR, 3 BA | Stone Barn | 11 Acres Stream | Near Laurels Preserve Unionville Schools \$850,000



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Green Property | Guest Suite

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Crackerjack Farm

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\$1,000,000

15 Acres | Low Taxes

Black Oak 6 BR, 4 BA | 1.13 Acres | Pool Historic Home | Two Master Suites In-Law Suite Possible \$699.000



4 BR, 2.1 BA / 4 Stall Barn Garage with Guest Apartment Chef's Kitchen | Unionville Schools \$649,500



Newlin Township 4BR, 3.1BA | Private 4 Acres Beautiful Floors & Details Large Kitchen | Unionville Schools \$579,000



Historic Grubbs Mill 3 BR, 3 BA | 11.3 Acres Main Level Open Floor Plan 1800' +/- on Valley Creek \$568,000



Hobbie Horse Farm 4 BR, 2.1 BA | 5 Acres Barn | Pool | New Master Bath Beautifully Updated | Private \$475,900



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trom EDITOR

Brilliant, gorgeous October! Trees are flecked golden and crimson, apples are ripe, and pumpkins lie swollen and orange. Schools children hustle with their backpacks. Festivals blossom everwhere. Theaters start new seasons. Our closets reveal tweeds and woolens.

This month take in all our area has to offer. "Across County Lines," we call it. Then join Carol Metzker touring world-class eateries and imbiberies of The Brandywine Valley.

Laura Brennan is inspired by the harvest—its aromas, tastes, variety. In "Brandywine Table," she suggests what to do with fall vegetables-the fruits of fall. And Bryan Kolesar visited the Great American Beer Festival, where our local brewers did well. He tells which brought home awards in Bringing Home the Gold. Who will win this year?

The school year has just started, but time is of the essence if your child wants to attend an independent school next year. Our "Guide to Area Independent Schools & Open Houses" will help, as will our interviews with admissions officers in "Getting In." While you're at it, read Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union's advice in "Teaching Your Kids about Money." Best done before dropping them off at college.

At a loss for something great to read? Andrea Thatcher suggests you "Rediscover the Classics"-Joyce, Thackeray, Austen and more. And we'd like to suggest supporting independent bookstores like Wellington Square Bookshop in Eagleview Town Center.

Our Home of the Month is an English manor dream home designed by architect Peter Batchelor. Tour this magnificent three-level, five bedroom, five-plus-bathroom home nestled on 10-plus acres in Chester Springs.

Did you know October is for Organizing? Mary Dolan tells how to bring order and joy into your home. Outside, it's time to rake, mulch and plant bulbs for spring. In "Fall Garden Prep," the Staff of Chanticleer Gardens shares expert advice before winter comes.

And more! October Picks, Good to Know, Food News and the Best Local Events coverage. Thank you for reading.





October 2016

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PUBLISHER Edwin Malet EDITOR Jo Anne Durako **ART DIRECTOR / PRODUCTION**

Alex Bianco ASSOCIATE EDITOR Marci Tomassone

ASSISTANT EDITOR Mary Irene Dolan FOOD EDITOR

Laura Muzzi Brennan ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Sue Angelucci Sontagh Chrisy Holsopple Rayna Segal

BUSINESS MANAGER Debra M. French

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Laurel Anderson George Fitzpatrick Matt Freeman Emily Hart Bryan Kolesar Carol Metzker

Jack Smith Andrea Kiliany Thatcher Kayleigh Thompson Cindy Walker

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Alix Coleman Wil Moore Andrew Seymour Timlyn Vaughan INTERNS

Alex Deliso Abigail Gillespie Elkin Jaramillo

CONTACT US AT: ValleyDel Publications, Inc. 893 S. Matlack Street, Ste. 150 West Chester, PA 19382. 610-918-9300. Info@ValleyDel.com Subscriptions: \$39/year

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🛾 (Worth **Knowing**) 💻

Teaching Your Kids About Money

Karen Hassett, Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union

IT'S BEST TO START BEFORE DROPPING THEM OFF FOR THEIR FIRST DAY AT COLLEGE.

ACH YEAR ABOUT 17.5 MILLION STUDENTS HEAD OFF to college. It's a rite of August, marked by a packed minivan in the driveway ready to make the trek toward a new adventure. We leave our babies in a strange land. And with one last hug, remind them to make good choices and please call-at least once in a while.

Aside from buying a home, for many, college is our single biggest lifetime expense. But in all the conversations before the college send-off, did you take time to talk to your children about paying for college?

With total student debt currently at \$1.3 trillion, the average Class of 2016 graduate owes \$37,172 in student loans, according to Student Loan Hero. While it's never too late to talk to your child about paying for college, the earlier you start, the better.

Start Early

Researchers at the University of Cambridge found children's money habits are formed by age seven. What? Yep, that early.

So, what can parents do to start teaching your young children how to save? Here are a few ideas.

When preparing your shopping list, talk to your kids about the difference between needs and wants. Instead of banking online, take them to the brick and mortar bank or credit union and, if you



haven't already, open a savings account for them. Show them how to go to websites like NerdWallet.com to find and compare savings account interest rates in your area. And when your kids get money for special occasions have them set aside a portion for savings, sharing (charity), and spending.

During middle school, talk to them about setting financial goals. Have them decide on a savings goal. Make sure it's tangiblewriting down a goal makes it real. Make the goal attainable, set a date for completion, and have them plan the steps to reach their goal. Go old school or high tech; there are plenty of options.

Early in high school, have a conversation about your kids' career goals and what sort of education is needed. Graduation seems far off, but blink and they're heading to college. You can check websites like FinAid.org/calculators to get an estimate of what college will cost when your child is ready to go.

Strategies for Teens

To help your teens prepare and pay for college, here are some ideas:

• Research the cost of attendance and starting salary of the job they want out of college. College Board has a helpful college and career site called BIG FUTURE.

• Explore scholarships. FinAid and FastWeb have extensive scholarship databases. Your kids' schools' guidance and career centers have access to national scholarships as well as local opportunities.

• Get a job and pay themselves first. Kids should set aside a portion of their earnings for college. They may not be able to cover the entire cost of tuition or room and board, but saving enough to pay for books, fees and spending money is a powerful lesson. And in lieu of a traditional savings account, check out options such as 529 Plans or Coverdell Education Savings Accounts.

• Start FAFSA. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid starting in October of their senior year. This information is used to determine eligibility for financial aid. Some schools also require a College Scholarship Profile to qualify for aid. Work Study aid (caveat: kids have to look for and get the Work Study job) can be used towards paying down college debt or covering other

benefits. \blacklozenge

costs. StudentAid.gov is another great resource for federal student aid programs.

Sending your child off to college isn't easy, but long after the twin XL sheets, shower caddies and the like have outlived their usefulness, the knowledge your child gained by taking an active role in planning and paying for college will reap lasting

part of its commitment to financial literacy. FMFCU offers financial wellness workshops to the community through its business and school partners. FMFCU is a \$1 billion credit union with 10 student-operated high school branches



Karen Hassett is Community Education Manager for Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union. As and 30 community branches in the Philadelphia region. FMFCU.org.





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

Feed Your Head. Ready to hop into Halloween, but without the sugar high? Feed your brain a treat instead, with horror classics filled with vampires, witches and goblins. Try J.K. Rowling's latest, Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, where you'll follow Albus Potter as he confronts new dangers in the wizarding world. Check your local bookstore for more scary books



to haunt your house and terrify your kids (or yourself) this Halloween. See Media.Bookbub.com for other ideas.

Running Rainbows. October 1st, sprint into action at Nottingham County Park's first Color Run, an event promoting community health and happiness. This untimed 5K gives you the chance to have a lively race or a casual walk while onlookers blast you with washable paint. Register an hour before the 9 a.m. kick off. Afterward, cool down at the Country Fair and take colorful photos with your besties. Benefits the West Nottingham Township Emergency Fund. Sign up at EventBrite.com.





Vet U. What do a runner, two Connecticut natives and three former business students have in common? They're all animal lovers showcased in Animal Planet's Life at Vet U. This weekly, six-part docu-series follows the challenges and triumphs of six vet-school seniors at Kennett Square's New Bolton Center and Penn Vet's Ryan Hospital. Start watching this behind-the-scenes series October 1st at 10 p.m. to find out if they graduate or drop out like their friends. Sneak peek at Vet. UPenn.edu/LifeAtVetU.

Grab the Bully by the Horns. Parents, it's hard to help our kids with bullying when we aren't with them. As part of National Anti-Bullying Month, Dr. Claudio Cerullo, founder of the nonprofit Teach Anti-Bullying, leads workshops at local communities to help stop bullies before they can pounce. Teacher and students aren't the only ones who are responsible-we are too. Arm yourself with knowledge at TeachAntiBullying.com and take a stand.





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October Picks Our Picks for top events this month -

25th Annual Dilworthtown Inn Crush Cancer Wine Festival October 9



Putting a cork in cancerthis premier wine event features more than 100 wines, craft beers, sumptuous fare, silent auction, live music, performance car show and much more. Benefits the cancer program at Chester County Hospital. 1390 Old Wilmington Pk., West Chester.

Noon to 4 p.m. \$45. VIP tickets, \$100 (gourmet food tents). 610-431-5329; ChesterCountyHospital.org.



The Playhouse on Rodney Square-Rent October 28-30

A re-imagining of Puccini's La Bohème, Rent follows an unforgettable year in the lives of seven artists struggling to follow their dreams without selling out. This Pulitzer Prize and Tony Awardwinning masterpiece returns to the stage in a vibrant 20th anni-

versary tour at The Playhouse on Rodney Square, 1007 N. Market St., Wilmington. Fri., Sat., 8 p.m.; Sat., Sun., 2 p.m.; Sun., 7 p.m. \$40-\$85. 302-888-0200; ThePlayhouseDE.org.





QVC/West Chester Area Heart Walk October 15

Join a team, start a new team or walk as an individualthis community event raises awareness and funds to fight heart disease and stroke. Enjoy a three-mile walk, VIP area with batting cage available to top walkers, entertainment, food, kids zone, pet zone, vendor booths and free parking.

1025 Paoli Pk., West Chester. 8 a.m. to noon No reg. fee; participants are encouraged to raise money. 215-575-5253; Heart.Walk/QVCWalk

West Goshen Park.



Willistown Conservation Trust-Run-a-Muck & Countryside Bash October 22

Run or Muck (walk) along the 5K or 1+ mile trail, or just hang out to enjoy live music, bonfire, wine, beer and country supper. Fun for the whole family. Leashed dogs are welcome. Rain date, Oct. 23. Kirkwood Preserve, 6114 Goshen Rd., Newtown Square. Gates open at 2:30 p.m., race starts at 3:30. Runners must register in advance, \$15-\$30. 610-353-2562; WCTrust.org.

West Chester Historic Preservation Awards Ceremony

October 20

Raising awareness and appreciation of West Chester's historic character by encouraging the preservation of the Borough's historic integrity. Winners are



announced in three categories: Bricks & Mortar, Preservation Service Award and West Chester Preservation Legacy Award. Chester County Historical Society, 225 N. High St., West Chester. Light buffet, with wine and beer. 5:30 p.m. \$25. DowntownWestChester.com.

best Local Events

92nd Annual Unionville

Community Fair. Family

FAMILY FUN

Truck and Tractor Day at Winterthur. Kids a tree like an arborist, take a hayride, do arts and crafts, milk a mechanical cow and

Delaware Nature Society Harvest Moon Festivel. Children's activities and crafts, hav-

Falling Leaf Fest in Eagleview. Enjoy the craft market, delicious food, kids' activities ticket. 540 Wellington Square, Exton. Free. 11

Newtown Square Railroad Museum Community Festival. Enjoy food, live music, ven-Passenger car and the 1950 Caboose. Drexel

Radnor Fall Harvest & Great Pumpkin Potch. Tractor and pony rides, pumpkin 490 Darby-Paoli Rd., Radnor. 1 to 4. Free.

Pumpkin Days at Tyler Arboretum. Tradi-

tional autumn festival with lots of activities. kins. 515 Painter Rd., Media. Daily 10 to 5.

Hayrides at Hagley. Ride through Hagley's Powder Yard, make fall-themed crafts

At the Planetarium

Through December Eastern University Astronomy. The Julia Fowler Planetarium has shows each month, by a look at what the Jupiter Juno probe is

Through April West Chester University Planetarium Series. Live monthly presentations hosted by an astronomer who gives an overview of what is visible in the current night sky. Each show focuses on a particular aspect of astronomy. Sandra F. Pritchard Mather Planetarium, Schmucker Science Center,

OCTOBER 15, 29

It's Fall at Pennypacker Mills. Oct. 15, All

Delaware Museum of Natural History Presents "Arctic Adventure & Rainforest Explorers." Hands-on activities supported by for all ages. 4840 Kennett Pk., Wilmington.

The Great Pumpkin Carve. Local artists

Sugartown at Sundown-Lantern Tours with a Spooky Fall Flair! Bring the family for an evening of hair-raising fun! Listen to

Phoenixville Pumpkinfest & Halloween Parade. Pumpkinfest features derby races, villePumpkinFest.com.

West Chester Halloween Parade, Begins on

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

Charlestown Day 2016. Celebrate the newly

OCTOBER 29

Halloween on the Farm at Colonial PA Plantation. Children can wear costumes and and ghost stories in the springhouse. 3900 5. \$8. 610-566-1725; ColonialPlantation.org.

ART, CRAFTS & ANTIQUES

THROUGH OCTOBER 1

18th Annual Artisans' Porch Walk in Lititz. Show and sale of art and crafts on private porches and lawns throughout town. Auction to benefit Moravian Manor. Fri, 10 to 5; Sat, 10 to 4. 717-664-2359; MoravianManor.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER 2

Main Line Antiques Show. Dealers offer a wide selection of antiques. Cabrini Univ. Dixon Center, 610 King of Prussia Rd., Radnor. Fri, Opening Night, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, 6 to 9, \$75-\$200. Sat, 10 to 7; Sun, 10 to 3. \$15. 484-580-9609; MainLineAntiquesShow.com.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 5

Panorama 2016-Image-Based Art in the 21st Century. Main Line Art Center, 746 Panmure Rd., Haverford. Mon-Thurs, 9 to 9; Fri-Sat, 9 to 5. 610-525-0272; MainLineArt.org.

THROUGH NOVEMBER 27

Demuth Museum Exhibit. Through Nov. 13, "Veils of Color: Elizabeth Osborne;" through Nov. 27, "Fifty Years Straddling the Velvet Rope: The Photography of Gary Lee Boas." 120 E. King St., Lancaster. Tues-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, 1 to 4. 717-299-9940; Demuth.org.

OCTOBER 1-2

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 2-9

Annual Berks County Art Show. Museumquality paintings by the school of artists from Berks County, circa 1850-1950. Greshville Antiques & Fine Art, 1041 S. Reading Ave. (Rt. 562), Boyertown. Oct. 2, 12 to 5; Oct. 3-8, 10 to 5; Oct. 9, 12 to 5. Free. 610-367-0076; GreshvilleAntiques.com.

OCTOBER 7

West Chester Fall Gallery Walk. An evening of art, dining and shopping. The Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual Autumn Gallery Walk with more than three dozen host locations. 5 to 9 pm. Greater-WestChester.com.

OCTOBER 7-16

Daylesford Abbey Annual Art Show. Major and miniature works of art, sculpture, pottery, jewelry and other handcrafted items. Oct. 7, Grand Opening, 5 to 8. Daily, noon to 4. 610-647-2530; DaylesfordAbbey.org.

OCTOBER 15-16

The Hagley Craft Fair. Fine arts, crafts, and gourmet items. Hagley's, Buck Rd., 200 Hagley Creek Rd., Wilmington. Sat, 10 to 5; Sun, 10 to 4. \$5. 302-658-2400; Hagley.org.

OCTOBER 15-16 Delaware County Studio Tour. Art enthusi-CountyStudioTour.com.

OCTOBER 28-30

Flying Colors Fine Artists Show. All-woman show of professional artists offering framed original works by member artists. Montgomery School, Rt. 113, Chester Springs. Reception Fri, 6 to 9; Sat-Sun, 10 to 5. 610-942-3234; FlyingColors.us.





asts experience and meet 45 outstanding artists at 17 studios in Delaware County area. Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 11 to 5. Map available on website,

NOVEMBER 4-30

Form to Table Art Show & Sale. Plein air painting done at working farms and local markets all summer on view at Frame Station Gallery, 643 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn. Reception Nov. 4, 6 to 8. Tues-Fri, 9:30 to 5:30; Sat, 10 to 5. 610-640-5857; FrameStationGallery.com.

AUTO SHOWS OCTOBER 7–9

2016 Delaware Auto Show. Highlights include the latest car model releases from major auto makers, exotic car lineup, family fun and prizes. The Charity Gala Fri, 8 to midnight.

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Dale Nichols, *Spring Turning*, 1946, Oil on canvas, Collection of Paul and Diane Guenther, Courtesy of D. Wigmore Fine Art, New York



BRANDYWINE **RIVER MUSEUM** OF ART

Benefits Exceptional Care for Children. Chase Center on the Riverfront, 815 Justison St., Wilmington. Daily, 10 to 6. \$10; free for 13 and under. DelawareAutoShow.com.

BOOKS

OCTOBER 25, 28

Wellington Square Bookshop. Oct. 25, Jodi Picoult speaks and signs Small Great Things, Hilton Garden Inn, 720 Eagleview Blvd., Exton, 2 pm, \$33.99 (book and refreshments). Oct. 28, Liz Moore shares The Unseen World at the book store, 549 Wellington Sq., Exton, 7. 610-458-1144; WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

DESIGN / HOME SHOWS THROUGH OCTOBER 16

Delaware Designer Showhouse. Interior designers and landscapers show their talents at this custom home in Centreville, DE. Benefits the Jr. League of Wilmington and other nonprofits. Parking around the corner, the former Centreville Swim Club, 607 Swallow Hollow. Fri-Sat, 10 to 4; Sun, noon to 5. \$30. 610-506-5783: DelawareShowHouse.com.

DANCE

OCTOBER 21-23 Brandywine Ballet-Colour Brillianté. A

DELAWARE ART MUSEUM



TRUTH & VISION 21ST CENTURY REALISM

OCTOBER 22, 2016 - JANUARY 22, 2017

2301 Kentmere Parkway Wilmington, DE 19806 302.571.9590 | delart.org

This exhibition was organized by the Delaware Art Museum. In Delaware, this exhibition is made possible by the Emily DuPont Exhibition Fund. Supported, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on DelawareScene.com. Image: Lemon Fall, 2015. Scott Fraser (born 1957). Oil on board, 51 1/2 × 66 inches. © Scott Fraser. Courtesy of Quidley & Company.

large ensemble work that is a celebration of the changing colors of fall. Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, 700 S. High St., West Chester. Fri, 10 am; Sat, 7 pm; Sun, 2 pm. \$18-\$40. 610-692-6402; BrandywineBallet.org.

EQUESTRIAN.....

THROUGH OCTOBER 7

Dressage at Devon. World-class dressage competition, an international Fall Festival of shops and special activities for the family. Devon Horse Show Grounds, 23 Dorset Rd., Devon. \$10; ages 3-12, \$5; under 3 free. Benefits Equine Education. DressageAtDevon.org.

OCTOBER 8

Radnor Hunt Horse Trials. Autumn eventing continues with dressage, show jumping and cross country. A pig roast with live music, food and a silent auction, follow the last event at 3:30, \$20. Day starts at 8 am. 826 Providence Rd., Malvern. RadnorHuntHT.org.

OCTOBER 13-16

The Dutta Corp. Fair Hill International 3-Day Event. Olympic-caliber athletes take on drops and fences at top speeds. The Festival in the Country features food, Kids' Corner and more. Benefits Union Hospital. Gallaher Rd. off Rt. 273, Fair Hill, MD. \$5-\$15. 410-398-2111; FairHillInternational.com.

OCTOBER 23

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.

NOVEMBER 6

82nd Running of the Pennsylvania Hunt

Cup. Timber racing, food and shopping. North of Rt. 926 and Newark Rd., Unionville. Gates open at 11 am. \$50 per car. Benefits the Chester Co. Food Bank, Work to Ride and Upland Country Day School. 484-888-6619; PaHuntCup.org.

FESTIVALS & FAIRS & FUN

THROUGH OCTOBER 30, SAT-SUN

Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire. A cast of hundreds of costumed characters fill the Shire with music and dancing. Mt. Hope Estate, 2775 Lebanon Rd., Manheim, 11 to 8, \$11.95-\$30.95. 717-665-7021; PARenFaire.com.

OCTOBER 1

Kennett Brewfest. Sample beers from over 90 local, regional and craft breweries, enjoy food, live music and vendors. Downtown Kennett Square, 600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square. Connoisseur Tasting, noon; regular fest begins at 1:30 pm. All taps close at 5:30 pm. \$15-\$75. 610-444-8188; KennettBrewfest.com.

OCTOBER 6, 8 King of Prussia Beerfest Royale. Over 50 craft





October 21, 22, 28 & 29 November 11, 12, 18 & 19 December 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 & 17 Shows at both 7 PM and 8 PM. \$10.00 per person.

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Local Farm Markets

Bryn Mawr Farmers Mkt., Lancaster Ave. at Bryn Mawr train station parking lot. Sat, 9 to 1. FarmToCity.org.

Downingtown Farmers Mkt., Kerr Park, 1 Park La. Sat, 9 to 1. 610-836-1391; Growing-RootsPartners com

Eagleview Farmers Mkt., Eagleview Town Ctr., Wellington Sq., Exton. Thurs, 3 to 7. 610-836-1391; 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. 610-345-1763; Facebook.com/ IennersvilleFarmersMarket.

Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., E. State St., between Broad and Union Sts. Fri, 2 to 6. 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com.

Lancaster County Farmers Mkt., 389 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne. Wed & Fri, 8 to 6; Sat, 8 to 4. 610-688-9856; LancasterCounty-FarmersMarket com

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

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

Newtown Square Farmers Mkt., Mostardi Nursery, 4033 West Chester Pk. Wed, 2 to 6. 610-353-1555; NewtownSquareFarmers-Market.com.

Oxford Village Mkt., 3rd & Locust Sts. Tues, noon to 6. 610-998-9494; Downtown-OxfordPA.org.

Pete's Produce Farm, 1225 E. Street Rd. West Chester. Mon-Sat, 9 to 6:30; Sun, holidays, 9 to 6. 610-399-3711; PetesProduceFarm.com.

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

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.

Westtown Amish Mkt., 1177 Wilmington Pk., West Chester. Thurs, 9 to 6; Fri, 9 to 8; Sat. 8 to 4. 610-492-5299.

and international brewers, 100+ beers and area restaurants in an outdoor beer garden. Donnerstag Happy Hour, Thurs, 5:30 to 9, \$60-\$75; Sat, noon to 3:30 and 6 to 9:30, \$40-\$45. Designated driver, \$15. KOPBeerfest.com.

OCTOBER 8 4th Annual Upper Main Line Rotary Oktoberfest. Family friendly event held outdoors under a festival tent. Church of the Good Samaritan, 212 W. Lancaster Ave., Paoli. 2 to 8. \$10. UMLRotary.org.

OCTOBER 8 White Horse Village Annual Octofair. Shop



for crafts, sample delicious food and let the kids play in the Children's Corner. 535 Gradyville Rd., Newtown Square. 9 to 2:30. Free. 610-558-5000; WhiteHorseVillage.org.

OCTOBER 9

14th Annual Rotary Club of West Chester Chili Cookoff. Come to downtown West Chester, sample chili and vote for your favorite. Benefits Rotary projects. Just 4 Kids Family Fun Center, Wells Fargo Lot, \$10 per child. All-You-Can-Eat-Chili wristbands, \$10; 10 and under, free with paid adult. 10:30 to 3:30. 484-343-4577; WestChesterChiliCookoff.com.

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> 544 North Penryn Road, Manheim, PA www.PleasantViewrc.org/Independent-Living | 717-665-2445

OCTOBER 15

Boyertown Pickfest. Learn the history of the area with the Daniel Boone Crafters and the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles, enjoy selections from local craft breweries and wineries and great food. Bovertown Rail Yard, 101 E. Third St., Boyertown, 10 to 7. \$8-\$10. 610-369-3054; BoyertownPickfest.com.

OCTOBER 22

Pottstown Brewfest. Sample over 150 beers and ciders from 65+ of the best craft brewers from across the country. Benefits the Pottstown Police Athletic League. Manatawny Park, 75 W. King St., Pottstown VIP entry, noon, \$75; gen. adm. 1 pm, \$45. PottstownBrewfest.com.

OCTOBER 23, NOVEMBER 6

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

FOOD & BEVERAGE OCTOBER 1

Phoenixville Food Festival 2016. Enjoy gourmet foods from over 35 food trucks and a variety of vendors. Main St. and Bridge St. (100 and 200 blocks). Free parking and a free shuttle service. Noon to 6 pm. Phoenixville-FoodFestival.com.

OCTOBER 2

36th Annual Media Food & Crafts Festival.

Many restaurants and craftspeople display on State Street. Music stages with bands and children's activities. 9 to 5. Rain date, Oct. 9. 610-566-5039; VisitMediaPA.com.

OCTOBER 9

13th Annual Vendemmia da Vinci Wine Festive. Sample fine wines from Italy and enjoy delicacies prepared by area restaurants. Tubman-Garrett Park, Wilmington Riverfront. 2 to 6. \$60. Benefits local families in need. 302-631-1556; SocietaDaVinci.org.

FUNDRAISERS

OCTOBER 2

Delaware Humane Assoc. Rubber Duck Race. "Adopt" a rubber duck for a chance to win prizes. Benefits DHA's mission of helping homeless companion animals. Brandywine Town Ctr., 3300 Brandywine Pkwy, Wilmington. 1 to 4. 302-571-8171; DEHumane.org.

OCTOBER 2

Chester County Futures "Run for Empowerment" & Oktoberfest. A run/walk followed by a buffet, beer and music at The Columbia Station, 4 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 11:30 to 3. The run/walk starts at 400 Franklin Ave., 8:30 reg., 10 am race. \$15-\$75. 610-458-9926; CCFutures.org.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

OCTOBER 9

Oxford Feed & Lumber's 7th Annual Pink Poker Prance. A trail ride through Fair Hill with prizes to the most pink horse/rider combinations and best poker hand. 2941 Appleton Road, Elkton, MD. or by phone, 610-932-8521.

OCTOBER 9, 15

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Events. Sign up, raise funds and participate in one of the three- to five-mile walks. Oct. 9, Norristown Area High School and Farm Park, 1900 Eagle Dr., Norristown Reg. 8:30 am, walk at 10. Oct. 15, Memorial Hall, West Fairmount Park, 4231 MakingStrides.ACSEvents.org.

OCTOBER 14-16

Susan G. Komen 3-Day Event. Begin until the Closing Ceremony celebration Mall, Easton, Moreland & Old Welsh Rds., Willow Grove and ends at the Navy

OCTOBER 15

Susan G. Komen Pink Tie Ball-Moulin Rouge Intensified. From the entertainment and cuisine, to the atmosphere and fundraiser. Vie, 600 N. Broad St., Philadelphia. 6 to 11:30. For tickets, 215-238-8900; KomenPhiladelphia.org.

OCTOBER 27

Unite for Her-Harvest Event. Farmto-table chef tasting event featuring top area chefs and special offerings from win eries, breweries and spirit vendors. Unite for Her's mission is to educate women about the role of healthy lifestyle choices. Phoenixville Foundry, 2 N. Main St. VIP

NOVEMBER 12

Living Beyond Breast Cancer's Annual Black-tie Gala-The Butterfly Ball. One events of the year. Held at The Old Philadelphia. 6:30 to midnight. \$350. 484-708-1804; LBBC.org.





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OCTOBER 2

Kennett Symphony Presents The Classics at Brontwyn. Annual vintage and super car tour and show at Brantwyn Mansion, featuring a Grand Parade, champagne brunch and live blues. 600 Rockland Rd., Wilmington. 11 am. \$95. 610-444-6363; KennettSymphony.org.

OCTOBER 3

14th Annual People's Light Golf Classic. The classic raises funds for the comprehensive theater education program, Arts Discovery. Chester Valley Golf Club, 430 Swedesford Rd., Malvern. PeoplesLight.org.

OCTOBER 6

7th Annual Wings Fling Event. Featuring a silent auction, food and drink, a Wine Grab and radio host Andie Summers as emcee. Wings for Success empowers women with job search. White Manor Country Club, 831 Providence Rd., Malvern. 6 to 8 pm. \$65. 610-644-6323; WingsForSuccess.org.

OCTOBER 8

Thorncroft Equestrian Center's 7th Annual "Lobstah Bake." Plenty of lobster, chicken, cases of wine and kegs of beer, as well as lots of dancing to live music and kids entertain-



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ment. Jimmy Moran North Arena, 190 Line Rd., Malvern. 5 to 9. Tickets start at \$85. 610-644-1963; Thorncroft.org.

OCTOBER 9

10th Rally 'Round the Races. Enjoy a scenic drive along the Brandywine Creek. Luncheon at the last checkpoint. Starts at the Brandywine River Museum of Art, 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. 9:30 am. Res. reg. \$165 per car. 610-388-8398; Brandywine.org.

OCTOBER 13

Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund 3rd Annual Fund Raising Dinner & Silent Auction. Benefits the Nat'l Hist. Landmark project, Education and Preservation programs and the maintenance of the monuments. The Farmhouse at Peoples Light, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. 6 to 9. \$90. 484-320-7173; PBPFinc.org. OCTOBER 15

The Kolbe Fund's Rhythm & Blues. Featuring food, craft beers, music, auction and raffle items. The Kolbe Fund is a nonprofit that provides lodging for families traveling to receive medical care for a sick child. The High Point, 2475 St. Peter's Rd., Malvern. 6:30 to 10. \$90. 215-983-0209; TheKolbeFund.org.

OCTOBER 15

Notable or Not-A Fundraiser for the Philadelphia Orchestra, Freeman's international fine art, antique and jewelry specialists examine your items. St. David's Golf Club, 845 Radnor Street Rd., Wayne. 10 to 4. Half-hour timed tickets, \$50, allows one item. 610-505-5767: NotableOrNot.com.

OCTOBER 16

National Dog Show Charity Walk. Benefits local charities including Ronald McDonald House, PAWS and Lilo's Promise. Leashed dogs welcome. Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Wavne, 9 to noon, Free, CrowdRise.com/ NDSCharityWalk.

OCTOBER 17

Philadelphia's Taste of the Nation for No Kid

Hungry. Guests mix, mingle and enjoy food and drink prepared by more than 50 top chefs and bartenders. 23rd Street Armory, 22 S. 23rd St., Philadelphia. VIP, 6 pm, \$150; gen. adm., 7 pm, \$95. CE.NoKidHungry.org.

OCTOBER 20-22

56th Annual Shipley Shops. Retailers and artists from across the country at this shopping event. The Shipley School, Yarnall Gymnasium, 814 Yarrow St., Bryn Mawr. Preview Wed, 6 to 9, \$75. Thurs, 10 to 6; Fri, 8:30 am to 4:30; Sat, 10 to 3. \$5-\$10; free Sat. 610-525-4544; ShipleySchool.org/ShipleyShops.

OCTOBER 22

24th Annual All Hallows' Eve Costume

Ball. Relive the Disco era like you were at Studio 54. Dress the part and enjoy cocktails,

refreshments, music and a costume contest. Brandywine River Museum of Art, Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford, 9 pm to 1 am. \$85. 610-388-2700; YoungFriends.org.

OCTOBER 26-29

Community Clothes Charity Annual Sale. New and gently worn designer clothes for sale. Benefits local charities. The former Waterloo Gardens Store, 136 Lancaster Ave., Devon. Wed, 1 to 8, \$30; Thurs, noon to 8, \$5; Fri, 10 to 4, free; Sat, 10 to 1, free. 610-525-0120; CommunityClothesCharity.org.

OCTOBER 30 Community Arts Center Empty Bowls Event.

Artists create and donate bowls and attendees pay a donation, choose a bowl and are served a meal of soup and bread. Benefits local food banks. 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. Noon. \$10. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

NOVEMBER 3

Stroud Water Research Center's Annual Gala, The Water's Edge. The Stroud Award for Freshwater Excellence will be presented to the Nat'l Park Service and its director, Jonathan Jarvis. Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. 6:30 to 9. Tickets start at \$200. 610-268-2153; StroudCenter.org.

NOVEMBER 5

Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health's Hope Gala—"A Night in Havana." Benefits both children and adults and features live and silent auctions, dancing, mojito and cigar patio and after party. Black-tie optional. Vie, 600 N. Broad St., Phila. 7:30. \$350. Devereux.org.

GARDENS & PLANTS..

THROUGH OCTOBER 29

Longwood Gardens-Nightscape. Color, light and sound emerge from the Gardens to create an evening you'll never forget-with a few new surprises this year. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. 9 am to 11 pm. \$17-\$27. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER 31, FRI-SAT Individual House Tours at Chanticleer

Gorden. Take a tour and learn about the Rosengarten family, Chanticleer's history and life on the Main Line. 786 Church Rd., Wayne. Fri, Sat, 11 am. \$15 incl. general admission. 610-687-4163; ChanticleerGarden.org.

OCTOBER 5

The Delaware Center for Horticulture-Brews for Bulbs Pub Crowl. Join the staff at one of seven locations, where a special brew is on tap. Benefits The DCH. 4:30 to 7. Locations, 302-658-6262; TheDCH.org.

MUSEUMS.....

THROUGH NOVEMBER 6 Brandywine River Museum of Art. Through Oct. 9, "Get the Picture! Contemporary Chil-



dren's Book Illustrations." Through Nov. 6, "New Terrains: American Landscape Paintings from the Bequest of Richard M. Scaife." 1 Hoffman's Hill Rd., Chadds Ford. Daily, 9:30 to 4:30. \$6-\$15. First Sun of month, free. 610-388-2700; BrandywineMuseum.org.

THROUGH NOVEMBER

sonMuseum.org.

The Christian C. Sanderson Museum. "Simply Sanderson" features never-before-seen photos and artifacts from the collection. 1755 Creek Rd., Chadds Ford, Thurs-Sun, noon to 4. \$5-\$8; under 5, free. 610-388-6545; Sander-

THROUGH DECEMBER 31

The Delaware Art Museum Exhibits, Howard Pyle Murals. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8, free after 4 pm; Fri-Sun, 10 to 4, free on Sun. \$6-\$12. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

MUSIC, DANCE, ENTERTAINMENT THROUGH OCTOBER

Longwood Gardens Concerts. Through Oct. on Thurs, live music in the Beer Garden, 6 to 9 pm; Oct. 16, Héctor Del Curto's Eternal Tango, 1 and 4 pm. Oct. 23, Andrew Heller



Organ Series, 3 pm. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Free with gardens admission, \$10-\$20. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

OCTOBER 1

Paradocx Vineyard Summer Concerts. Sara

Spicer Band. 1833 Flint Hill Rd., Landenberg. 5 to 9 pm. \$10, concert/1 glass of wine; under 21, free. 610-255-5684; Paradocx.com.

OCTOBER 1

Pooli Blues Fest. Premier blues musicians perform on the main stage. Food vendors, street fair, beer and wine garden and kid's activities make this a fun, family event. Main stage, Paoli Village Shoppes. Noon to 6. 610-206-7743 or 610-644-6759; PaoliBluesFest.com.

OCTOBER 5-26

The Grand Wilmington, Oct. 1, Kee to Dreams; Oct. 5, Jonny Lang and K. Phillips; Oct. 6, The Steppin Stones & Joe Robinson; Oct. 8, An Evening with Lyle Lovett and Robert Earl Keen; Oct. 13, Funny Bone, comedy; Oct. 15, Musikarmageddon X; Oct. 19, Chris Botti; Oct. 20, The Price is Right Live; Oct. 22-23, First State Ballet Theatre performs Swan Lake; Oct. 26, Australian Bee Gees; Oct. 28, Ailey II: The Art of Healing. 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. 800-37-GRAND; TheGrandWilmington.org.

OCTOBER 14

Vox Ama Deus-Ama Deus Ensemble.

Mozart Requiem, the Jupiter Symphony. Kimmel Center, Broad & Spruce Sts., Phila. 8 pm. \$20-\$75. 610-688-2800; VoxAmaDeus.org. OCTOBER 14, 15

Point Entertainment Presents ... Oct. 14, 1964:

The Tribute, Beatles tribute band, \$27.50-\$39.50; Oct. 15, Todd Snyder with special guest Rorey Carroll, \$22-\$35. The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 8 pm. 610-917-1228; TheColonialTheatre.com.

OCTOBER 15

Kennett Symphony Orchestra Opening Night Concert. This concert explores music's call to freedom-the music of Sibelius, Rachmaninoff and Shostakovich are featured. Unionville High School, 750 Unionville Rd., Unionville, 7:30 pm. \$10-\$53. 610-444-6363; KennettSymphony.org.

OCTOBER 23. 29. 30

Chester County Pops Fall Concert Series. Oct. 23, Downingtown West HS, 445 Manor Ave., Downingtown, 3 pm; Oct. 29, Bayard Rustin HS, 1100 Shiloh Rd., West Chester, 7 pm. Oct. **30**, Phoenixville Area Middle School, 386 City Line Ave., Phoenixville, 3 pm. Tickets \$12-\$15. 610-594-9178; ChesCoPops.org.

OCTOBER 27

Delaware Art Museum Presents Concerts on Kentmere 2016-Music and Art Meet



Truth & Vision. Connecting with the Museum's major fall contemporary exhibition, an evening of lively and accessible music. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. 7:30. \$50. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

OCTOBER 28

Friday Night Live Concert at Community Arts

Center. Brazilian jazz with Minas, art by Nicole Tymowczak. 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford. 7 to 10 pm. \$10-\$15. 610-566-1713; CommunityArtsCenter.org.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 1

Main Line Animal Rescue Gran Fondo Cycling Event. Beginnger to advanced trails with rest-stops, an after party with beer, food and a live band. Pickering Meade Farm, Pike Springs Rd., Chester Springs. 7:30 am. \$75-\$85. 610-933-0606; MLAR.org.

OCTOBER 1

Philadelphia International Dragon Boat Festivel. 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 2

43rd Annual Marshalton Triathlon. Bike, canoe and pace-walk at this family-friendly event with music, food and drink. Benefits West Bradford Fire Co. Rt. 162. Check-in, 6:30 am; race, 8. \$50. MarshaltonTriathlon.net.

OCTOBER 2

Children's Hospital of Phila. Buddy Walk &

Family Fun Day. Games, athletic activities, music and mascots. Benefits the Trisomy 21 Program at CHOP. Villanova Univ., 185 Ithan Ave. 10 am. \$8-\$15. 267-426-5339; ChopBuddyWalk.org.

OCTOBER 9

Kimberton Waldorf School Run for FUNroiser. A trail run and health fair to raise awareness for hunger and homelessness. 410 W. Seven Stars Rd., Phoenixville. 8:30 am. \$25-\$40. Kimberton.org.

OCTOBER 23

Run Inspired 10K. Inaugural 10k race/walkbenefits Operation Warm and its mission to provide new coats to children living in poverty. Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, Rt. 52, Winterthur. Bib pick-up/reg., 8 am; race, 9:30; finishers party, 10:15 to 2. \$40-\$75. RunInspiredRaces.com.

OCTOBER 30

39th Annual Penn Medicine at Radnor Run. A 5-mile timed running race and 1-mile walk/ fun run. Benefits the American Lung Associa-

tion. Radnor Twp. Bldg., 301 Iven Ave., Wayne. Reg, 7 am, race, 8:30. \$15-\$30. 800-LUNG-USA; Lung.org/RadnorRun.

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Tickets: 302.691.9056 • DelawareShowhouse.com Info@DelawareShowhouse.com • Facebook.com/DelawareShowhouse

THEATERS.....

THROUGH OCTOBER 2

Delaware Theatre Company-War of the Roses. 200 Water St., Wilmington. Check website for show times, Wed-Sun, \$20-\$55, 302-594-1100; DelawareTheatre.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER 23

Media Theatre Company-The Bridges of Madison County. Winner of the 2014 Tony Award for Best Score and Orchestrations, 104 E. State St., Media. Wed-Sun, check website for show times. \$25-\$50. 610-891-0100; MediaTheatre.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER 30

The Mountaintop. Katori Hall's Olivier Awardwinning drama about a hotel maid who inspires Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. People's Light, 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. \$28-\$63. 610-644-3500; PeoplesLight.org.

TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS.....

THROUGH OCTOBER 29, SATURDAYS Bird/Nature Walks at John James Audubon Center. Bring your binoculars (can be provided if you forget) and look for birds in the meadow and on trails. 1201 Pawlings Rd., Audubon. 8 to 10 am. Free. 443-315-3941; JJACEducation@ Audubon.org.

OCTOBER 1

76th Annual Chester County Day Tour.



30 County Lines | October 2016 | CountyLinesMagazine.com

Visit 21 homes and 14 public structures in the southwest quadrant of the county. Tickets, \$40, available at various locations, (see website). VIP ticket, \$100, includes a tour of the home of Judge Robert Gawthrope III, a preview party, a gourmet boxed lunch and more. Benefits Chester Co. Hosp. 610-431-5329; CCHosp.com.

Greystone Hall-A Chester County Architec-

tural Gem. Greystone Hall and the Chester Co. Hist. Soc. present "West Chester Landmarks Connected to P.M. Sharples." 1034 Phoenixville Pk., West Chester. 6:30 pm. \$30. 610-692-4800; ChesterCoHistorical.org/Events.

OCTOBER 4, NOVEMBER 1

OCTOBER 4

AuburnHeights.org.

OCTOBER 7, 8, 20

Marshall Steam Museum at Auburn Heights Preserve-Evenings at the Museum. Oct. 4, The Marshall Patents: Making Fiber Continuously; Nov. 1, local historian John Harrison on the village of Yorklyn. 3000 Creek Rd., Yorklyn, DE. 7 pm. \$5. 302-239-2385;

First Fridays, Second Saturdays, Third Thursdays. Sept. 2, First Fridays: Kennett Square, 610-444-8188; HistoricKennettSquare.com. Lancaster City, 717-509-ARTS; LancasterArts. com. Oxford, 610-998-9494; DowntownOxfordPA.org. Phoenixville, 610-933-3070; PHXFirstFriday.com. West Chester, 610-7383350: DowntownWestChester.com; Wilmington, 302-576-2489; WilmingtonDE.gov. Oct. 8, Second Saturday: Media, 484-445-4161; Media-ArtsCouncil.com. Oct. 20, Third Thursday Malvern Stroll, Malvern Business.com.

OCTOBER 8

Private Paranormal Tour of Paoli Battlefield. Tri-County Paranormal leads visitors on an investigation of "hot spots" of activity at the site of the ninth deadliest battle of the Revolutionary War. Food, drink and facilities will be available. Monument & Wayne Aves., Malvern. 6 to 11 pm. \$45. 484-320-7173; PBPFInc.org.

OCTOBER 13

Chadds Ford Hist. Soc.-Tavern Talks. This month, "Very Superstitious: Fears, False Notions and Fables," Barns Brinton House, 6030 Baltimore Pk., Chadds Ford. 7 to 9. \$10. 610-388-7376; ChaddsFordHistory.org. ♦

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

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

CountyLinesMagazine.com

Kounty Lines

Mary Irene Dolan

It's a picturesque fall day. The sun is warm but the autumn air is breezy, and the fallen leaves dance in the wind. Just the time to take a drive down winding roads, alongside scenic fields and historic landmarks and discover why we're proud to call Chester County our home. Take our tour or branch out on your own. Either way, we know you'll enjoy the ride.

WEST CHESTER

f you visit this compact walking town, be prepared to stay the whole day—and then come back another! Take your pick of diverse boutiques and shops, from clothing at Jone Chalfant/Kiki Boutique and KALY to accessories at Sunset Hill Jewelers, Artistic Eyewear and The 5 Senses.

Old Soul Décor is a fun stop for vintage and antique furniture, artwork and jewelry. Another furniture store to swing by, Giuntas Furniture of Exton opened a second location on Gay Street in West Chester with a modern farmhouse feel.

Take a break from walking to stop by a local eatery—with *so* many to choose from! Lorenzo & Sons Pizzo finally opened for business serving giant slices and Jaco Juice & Taco Bor (formerly Baco Taco) is perfect for a healthy bite. Try long-time favorites Limoncello Ristorante and Pietro's Prime, newly opened Restaurant 51 Tap & Spirit for happy hour, and Más Mexicali Canting for rooftop drinks.

A bit outside the downtown, pick up flowers or green gift baskets at Motlack Florist for any special occasion. And for truly extraordinary, unusual works of art, check out The Merchant of Menace Re-Imaginers Gallery's found object and reclaimed material creations.

MALVERN

ove shopping local? Head for King Street in Malvern! Boutiques abound, ranging from newly expanded Posh Collections for high-end designer fashions to Nota Bene Boutique for affordable yet chic clothing and accessories. Gingy's owner is also the creator of an exclusive clothing line, while Louella stocks a distinctive assortment of jewelry and home goods in addition to trendy apparel.

Malvern does rugs right too. Knots & Weaves offers decorative rugs for sale and trade—plus antique to vintage home furnishings. And Aras Rug Company has you covered for all your rug cleaning and repair needs.

Gollery 222 just opened and now serves as a studio space and gallery. The gallery urges visitors to buy art from living local artists. Great advice!

When you get hungry, there're plenty of options from fine dining at General Warren and The Desmond's Hunt Room, to Memphis-style barbeque at Jimmy's BBQ, and homemade Italian cuisine at Toninos Pizza & Pasta Company. And be sure to stop by Dixie Picnic for a decadent upcake to take home!

PHOENIXVILLE



Phoenixville PHOTO BY MIKE IRBY



PHOENIXVILLE

D rink enthusiasts need to add this former steel town to their must-visit list. The area's seen a surge in locally owned craft breweries, distilleries and wineries, with no end in sight! Exton's **Crowded Castle Brewing Company** has plans for a taproom and brewery on Bridge Street, while Philly-based **The Foodery** hopes to open their craft beer bottle shop this fall. In the meantime, stop in at **Bistro on Bridge** for a brew and more.

New to the food scene is GCGC Greek Yogurt— "Get a Cup, Give a Cup"—where for every cup of yogurt you buy, a cup is donated to local food banks. And luckily Steel City Coffeehouse isn't closing their doors—they're under new management with an updated locally sourced menu on the way.

You'll also find unique shops and stops—Deep Groove Records & Audio and Minx Vintage, to name two—that give the town an eclectic vibe.

And when you can't shop or eat anymore, spend an afternoon at Eden Day Spa & Salon in nearby Collegeville for some pampering.



EXTON & DOWNINGTOWN

Onnected by Route 30, these towns are worth the trip to see what's new. Exton's Eagleview Town Center is booming, with three more restaurants on the way—authentic Italian Bella Vista, modern Mexican Al Pastor, and farm-totable beer garden Suburban. Also in Eagleview are our friends at Wellington Square Bookshop, one of the few remaining independent book stores. Check out fitness and wellness destinations—Passion Cycles, Passion Fitness, Blue Buddah Studio—sure to elevate your mood.

Exton is also home to old favorites like Appetites on Main and Ron's Original, both named best restaurants in Exton (and not just by us).

Get your craft beer on in Downingtown, home of Victory Brewing Company, now celebrating 20 years, plus Station Taproom's new Bottle Room next door with a to-go craft and import bottle selection and a growler/crowler station.

Dine at Amoni's BYOB for in-season, farm fresh goodness. Or try somewhere new-ish like Milito's Ristorante Bar & Pizzeria or Okinii Modern Japanese, depending on your taste.

PAOLI

A shopping and dining town, Paoli is home to local businesses that have served generations, like Walter J. Cook Jeweler, offering classic, elegant jewelry for 70 years, and Paoli Rug Company, selling and repairing Persian and Oriental rugs for 60.

Drive to Paoli Village Shoppes for food for you at Nudy's Café or for your animal companions at Concord Pet Foods & Supplies.

Take a yoga, zumba or pilates class down the street at Puren-

ergy. Then head over to the Paoli Shopping Center for stylish women's clothing finds at Scout & Molly's and Polka Dots.

Also nearby is **Ballet 180's** studio—as you pass by remember to mark your calendar for their holiday concert *A Charlie Brown Christmas* in December.

And keep an eye on La Cabra Brewing Company's Facebook for updates on the opening of their brewpub in neighboring Berwyn.

WILMINGTON

Ready to head south and explore what Delaware has to offer? It's got museums that are just a short drive away—like the world-class Delaware Art Museum and the unique Marshall Steam Museum. Plus plenty of theaters—The Playhouse on Rodney Square, The Grand Opera House and the Delaware Theatre Company are all in town.

On the waterfront, play minigolf with the kids at Riv-

NEWTOWN SQUARE

eading east on Route 3, takes you to the mega-development at Ellis Preserve. Still a work in progress, the mixed-use space has big plans for shopping, working and living. Some, like Finely Catering's The Ballroom and Zoe's Kitchen, are already open for business, while others like Whole Foods are still on the way. Be on the lookout for more. While you're there, stop by some Delaware County gems

Need a break? Stop in **Burlap & Bean** for fresh roasted, fair trade, organic coffee by day or live music and open mic on weekends. Don't forget to pick up a copy of *County Lines* there!

WAYNE

or a taste of the Main Line, sample the good eats of Wayne. Try upscale Autograph Brasserie or The Goot's Beard for a hip gastropub where food and drink go hand-in-hand.

Also check out local favorites like Black Powder Tovern in its circa 1746 Continental Army building and A Toste of Britain celebrating 25 years.

Head to Eagle Village Shops for charming boutiques and gift shops like The Barn at Valley Forge Flowers and The Little House Shop. Then see a movie at the Reel Cinemas Anthony Wayne Theater with its small town charm.

And for something different, look to the heavens at Eastern University Planetarium over in St. David's, with seasonal shows through December.



BEYOND

Once you've hit some of our favorite towns, meander a bit north and west and enjoy the scenery on your way. Pottstown is home to quality home furnishings at Moore's Furniture—also in Chester Springs—and great drinkeries like Monotowny Stillworks and Slyfox Brewing Company.

To the west, a new distillery in Elverson, **Brandywine Branch Distillers**, is now open, bringing gin back in style and offering tours, tastings, bar and farm-to-table bistro. Also in Elverson, **Chester County Hearth & Home's** showroom is worth the drive to see their cozy stoves and furnaces up close in person.

In Glenmoore, visit Eleanor Russell Ltd. for whimsical home décor and gifts with an equestrian flair, while in New Holland, you'll find more décor at Heritage Design Interiors, plus design consultations. Over in Lancaster County, there's so much to discover. Do visit some museums, like LoncosterHistory.org and The Demuth Museum for local history and art. And your trip wouldn't be complete without dining at The Stockyard Inn, one of the oldest, continuously operating steakhouses in the country.



Dine in town at favorites like Domanine Hudson or heading home on Route 52 at beloved Buckley's Tavern. And while you're there, Route 52 has small town shops to discover, from stylish furniture and design services at Somethings Unique to well-curated designer fashions at Wilmington Country Store.

Wilmington PHOTO BY JOE DEL TUFO

marking business milestones. For 40 years, **Mostardi Nursery** has kept locals coming back for all their garden needs. And **Christopher Chocolates**, for 30 years, sells sinfully sweet treats you can't pass up.

We hope you enjoyed your quick armchair tour of *County Lines* Country!

Lancaster County



MAGINE YOUR HOME AT ITS BEST. EVERYTHING HAS a place and every place has only things you love. Your kid's toys are out of sight, and you can find whatever you're looking for in seconds. Everything is clean, serene and organized.

Or is that just a dream? If so, you aren't alone.

Maybe that's why ever since Japan native Marie Kondo's bestseller The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up hit our shores, everyone and her mother seems to have caught the decluttering, organizing and simplifying bug. Kondo's followers-or Konverts-are loud and proud, boasting a more organized living space, and consequently a happier, less stressful life-all thanks to this decluttering bible.

Sound too good to be true? It doesn't have to be!

DIVIDE & CONQUER

First things first. You'll need to let go of things you no longer need. Maybe it's that last-century prom dress you'll never wear again, those toys that don't get played with, or some kitchen appliances still in their boxes.

Kondo would have you hold each object in your hand and ask if it "sparks joy." But if that's not your style, at least ask-"Do I like

this?", "Is it useful?" and "Will I actually use it?" If the answer is a resounding "no," it's time to pass it on.

Many professional decluttering gurus suggest making three piles—keep, sell/donate and trash—as you go through your belongings. Kondo recommends sifting through by category-all clothing one day, accessories the next, kitchenware another. If your house is too big or your clutter too overwhelming, going room by room will get the job done just as well.

The Konverts seem to agree—every category or room decluttered feels like a victory. Just go at your own pace, be honest with yourself and you'll be feeling lighter in no time.

EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE

Once you've made multiple trips to Goodwill with your non-joysparking donations, it's time to tackle the real challenge: organizing. Luckily, there are plenty of ways for getting your life in order that don't sacrifice style for function. Here are a few trends.

HIS AND HERS. If your living space is proof that opposites attract, you may find both you and your partner are happier keeping things separate-especially for closets and storage. She

can have her shoes and clothes arranged as she likes without his tie and t-shirt collection interfering. If you stay in your clearly designated spaces, peaceful coexistence should prevail.

KID CUBBIES. Just like lockers at school, cubbies are a great way to get kids to put things where they belong. Use cubbies for toys, school stuff, shoes and more. And don't just reserve them for kids' rooms-put cubbies around the house. Your family room, mudroom and kitchen will thank you.

CATCH-ALL BINS. They're like the infamous junk drawer but prettier. Keep things that hurt to look at-electronics, mail, pet supplies-safely tucked away in decorative boxes, bins or baskets. Label them for easy access, so you won't have to think about what's inside until you need it!

OPEN ORGANIZATION. On the flip side, try putting all the things you love looking at on display. Trends like open shelving, cabinets with sliding glass doors, see-through containers and catchall trays are perfect for showcasing things like kitchen dishes, jewelry, accessories and more. With your favorites in plain sight, you'll be sparking joy all the time.

PROFESSIONAL HELP

Not feeling the Zen yet? Maybe you don't see your space's full potential or your dream home begs a custom touch from someone other than Ikea. That's where professional decluttering, organization and design businesses come in and work their magic.

Exton-based Closets by Design does just that. According to Kymberly Morris, "We don't just manufacture custom closets, pantries, garages, Murphy beds and home offices, we provide a service that can change the way you start your day."

Sound like a big promise? The reality is surprisingly possible. Once everything is in its place, your mornings become a breeze. And you'll save time and energy for things that matter.

"Some clients love the feeling of getting ready in their own personal boutique," says Morris. "Others like finally seeing what they have and mixing and matching things they never would have before."

KID'S BOOKS, SCHOOL SUPPLIES, ETC. • Chester County Library - Good con-Many magic closet makers begin with a home consultation to assess your needs. Closet Classics of Chadds Ford keeps clients involved during the entire project, starting with a custom design solution tailored to your lifestyle and finishing with a quick and

stress-free installation. move, stress- and worry-free.

DO IT YOURSELF

If you're more of a DIYer, there's no limit to ways you can tidy up and make your

nce you've sorted through your uff, the next step is deciding what to do with the sell/donate pile. Sure, you can drop things off at your nearest Goodwill or Salvation Army, but there are plenty of options to consider-to make extra cash or support a cause.

Check our website for places to consign or sell your things—think of it as recycling for cash! And we've got information for the usual places for donating-Goodwill, Green Drop, Purple Heart Foundation, Sal-

HOME GOODS • Habitat for Humanity Chester

vation Army.

County - New and used furniture, appliances, décor, household items, tools, building materials. Coatesville & Kennett Square; HFHCC.org.

• Safe Harbor of Chester County -Cleaning supplies, unused personal care products, bags, pillows, towels. West Chester; SafeHarborOfWC.org.

dition books, audio-visual items. Chester Springs & Exton: ChesCoLibraries.org. • Cradles to Crayons - New and nearly new kids' clothes, shoes, baby items, books, unopened school supplies. Berwyn, Chadds Ford, Chester Springs, Downingtown, Malvern, Wayne; Cradles ToCrayons.org.

CLOTHING & BUSINESS ATTIRE •Brides Across America - New to 5-year-old wedding dresses. BridesAcrossAmerica.com.

•Career Wardrobe & Wings for Success - Up-to-date professional and business casual clothing, unopened makeup, hair care, skin care products. Haverford; CareerWardrobe.org. Haverford, Frazer; WingsForSuccess.org

•Dress for a Good Cause Event -Gently worn women's and teens' causal or special occasion dresses, costume jewelry. DressForAGoodCause.com.

•New Day to Stop Trafficking Program - Gently worn women's and teens' eans, coats. Facebook.com/NewDay-ToStopTraffickina.

Need help decluttering and downsizing too? Seniors in particular may need help with what's a monumental task: moving for the first time in decades and sorting through a lifetime of memories. If this proves to be too much or too emotional for the family to tackle, services like TLC Moving Services in Avondale can step in. Owner Caen Stroud and her team help clients decide what to keep or let go, sell those unwanted items and set up estate sales, plus plan and implement the entire



hings out of the way but still HOTO COURTESY CLOSETS BY DESIGN



home a Zen haven, especially with all the inspiration on social media!

Visit Pinterest, YouTube and a dizzying number of décor and organizing blogs to get your creativity going. Try re-purposing old furniture to turn it into something useful a medicine cabinet into jewelry storage or an old vanity's drawers into mounted wall shelves. Use what you have—pretty coffee mug becomes a makeup essentials holder or shoeboxes get covered in contact paper for DIY kids' cubbies. Mount mason jars or wicker baskets on your wall for a country chic feel for your bathroom goodies or go crazy with online decorative label-making sites for your home office or kitchen pantry. You can even turn toilet paper rolls into cord holders for plugin hair tools or chargers!

If you'd rather buy it yourself (BIY?), head to your local home goods store and mix and match to suit your fancy. The Container Store is a go-to source, and for good reason. They have everything you can think of, plus things you'd never heard of. From special hangers for belts and ties to divided see-through makeup and craft supply containers, if you have an organizing problem, they likely have a durable and aesthetically pleasing solution. Luckily there's one nearby in King of Prussia.

So what are you waiting for? Hurry and you may have your home in Kondo-esque shape in time for the holidays! •



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FALL GARDEN PREP ... More Than Raking Leaves

The Staff of Chanticleer Garden

WHAT YOU DO THIS FALL WILL REAP BIG REWARDS COME SPRING

UTUMN IS A BUSY YET REWARDING TIME FOR gardeners. Cooler weather and moist soil are a pleasant relief from summer, and autumn seems less pressured with chores than spring. Yet there's still much to accomplish this season—but with the added bonus that every job done this fall won't be on your spring To Do list.

At Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, we wait until November for many of our big tasks because that's when we close the garden to the public. While autumn leaves are turning bright colors and dropping, we go into full cleanup mode, preparing the garden for spring. Non-hardy plants are moved inside and many tasks need to be done before snow falls.

In your own garden, though, you can start earlier—maybe on a crisp October day.

USE YOUR LEAVES

Autumn cleanup not only makes outdoor spaces more attractive, it also improves the health of gardens and lawns. You'll reduce the destructive feeding on crowns and roots by opportunistic voles and other rodents that shelter in the leaves. And fallen leaves accumulate and cover lawns, suffocating the grass, leaving ugly brown patches come spring. Though a rake is indispensable, our favorite tool for tackling leaves is a mulch mower. Any mower will work, but a mulch mower's design helps it chop leaves where they fall, reducing the arduous chore of hauling tarps heavy with loads of raked or blown leaves.

Chopped leaves can remain in place, adding organic matter and nutrients, helping the soil retain moisture during drought, and resulting in a healthier lawn. Plus, chopped leaves don't blow around, making you more popular with your neighbors. If even after chopping, the leaves are still too thick, add them as mulch to nearby garden beds.

You can also use mowers to tidy garden beds, after removing weeds and diseased plants and gathering seeds to save for spring planting. The chopped plants and leaves add to the mulch, giving you a tidy landscape that promises a new start to spring.

PLANT BULBS FOR SPRING COLOR

Invest time this fall in planting spring-blooming bulbs and removing those that can't overwinter (like gladiolus) before the winter cold. Bulbs will put out roots once they're in the ground and the season's low temperatures provide the dormancy needed for spring blooming.

Large bulbs like tulips and daffodils, benefit from deep planting (six inches, at least). Most trowels and bulb diggers don't go that deep, so you may want to use a thin shovel. Small bulbs can be planted more shallowly, though.

With all bulbs, be extravagant. Instead of five, plant 10 or 20. If you're considering 100, go for 200. You'll be happy with the results come spring.

If you're planting many large bulbs, renting an auger is worth considering. You'll find bulb planting is a perfect two-person job. One person drills the holes while





another follows behind putting the bulbs in the hole, topping with soil.

This technique is especially useful when planting bulbs in lawns or where the soil is hard. With hard soil, you could instead dig up the entire area with a rototiller or hand spade and then plant the bulbs.

We did that one autumn at Chanticleer for a large area of bare soil that had been a lawn. We tilled the soil and planted

bulbs, then scattered winter rye seed over the area. In the spring, the tulips and daffodils bloomed above the young grasses for a meadow-like effect—it was magical. Because we selected early-blooming, midseason and late tulips and daffodils, we had a prolonged period of spring color.

BEFORE WINTER COMES

Once annuals and perennials start yellowing, cut them to the ground, leaving evergreen perennials-like hellebores and Christmas ferns-alone until spring when it's time to remove their damaged leaves.

Fall is also time for harvesting any herbs that won't overwinter.

Some plants-ornamental grasses come to mind—look good through winter even with tan foliage. Leave them up for winter interest, but cut them down in March.

Lawn renovations-reseeding, fertilizing—are best done while the soil is warm. Late September or early October is ideal both because soils are still warm enough and, most years, are moist from late summer rains.

For the same reasons, it's a good time to transplant trees and divide perennials.

Autumn pruning can make cleanup easier. Hybrid tea roses, for instance, are difficult to work around. Reduce the length of shoots to make your life easier. Save the major cuts on roses, however, until March and April, when you can see if there's been winter damage. Check online or with a garden center for the best time to prune other plants in your garden.

We save most of our other pruning jobs for winter, when you can see the structure of deciduous trees and shrubs and make better pruning decisions. It also gives you an excuse to be outside on warmish sunny winter days.

A few other chores before winter: shelter container plants-bring them indoors, plant them in the ground, or take cuttings-review your garden's successes and failures to plan for next year, clean your garden tools before storing them, and plan for attracting birds to your yard.

FOR INSPIRATION

Local garden centers sell plants for autumn planting and are excellent sources of advice about specific plants and tasks. You'll find autumn bloomers for sale there as well.

For more ideas on jazzing up your garden for fall, visit a nearby public garden. The Philadelphia region is America's Garden Capital, featuring more than 30 public gardens within 30 miles of Philadelphia. This fall, go to one you haven't visited yet.

All this work will leave you with a neat and attractive property, one you'll enjoy as you play touch football on the grass or look out from a window sipping something warm in the comfort of your home.

Chanticleer has been called the most romantic, imaginative and exciting public garden in America. It's a garden of pleasure and learning, relaxing yet filled with ideas to take home. The garden will close Oct. 30 and reopen March 29, 2017. Visit at 786 Church Rd., Wayne. ChanticleerGarden.org. PHOTOS: LISA ROPER, COURTESY CHANTICLEER GARDENS







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Client Mary W. with her daughter Lisa B.

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BRANDYWINE VALLEY: A MULTI-VARIETAL BLEND OF EATING AND DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS WITH COMPLEX AND SOMETIMES SURPRISING FLAVORS — SWEET, SAVORY, BRIGHT ... EVEN A BIT NUTTY. BEST TASTED WITH FRIENDS.

HEN IT WAS TIME TO EXPLORE GREAT ESTABlishments in the Brandywine Valley, I called my funloving, adventurous pals: "Rev up the engine. We're heading south."

Escapades began with Va La Vineyards in Avondale. Checking out the website, we were laughing before we'd hit the road. "Before setting out please call to verify hours in cases of inclement weather, holidays, or apocalyptic end of days scenarios." It also cautioned: "Trying to contact Va La has been likened to attempting to contact the dead. We are in the field ... "We scanned the sky, gambled that apocalyptic events weren't imminent and pressed on.

The gamble paid off handsomely. For all the mirth, the wine and tasting experience were seriously good. Really seriously good. Va La deserves every accolade as one of *The Daily Meal's* 101 Best Wineries in America.

We tasted five suberb wines: Prima Donna, Zafferano, Silk, Barbera and Mahogany. The pairings were delightful, including propertygrown pears and the winemaker's grandmother's homemade focaccia. My biggest thrill was discovering Zafferano—rich butterscotch-colored wine with a hint of honeysuckle taste—paired with honeydrizzled goat cheese.

We carried away wine, cheese and stories that tickled our funny bones, including one about an old gentleman who rolled down his Cadillac's windows, surveyed the vineyard and pronounced, "No grapes can grow in Avondale. You people CRAZY." As we left the winery, we watched New Garden Air Show overhead. The entire experience soared.

DESSERT FIRST

Our travels continued, now in the pursuit of desserts, for the sake of research, of course.

When contemplating dessert first, consider the Kennett Chocolate Lovers' Festival's first place award winners: Lucy B's Chocolate Hazelnut Cake and Charlie's Chocolate Cupcakes by The Gables of Chadds Ford.

For fun, order an artisanal cheese flight at Sovana Bistro. Sample gems from Italy (don't miss creamy La Tur and a glass of bubbly), France, Holland or stay local with Seven Sisters by Doe Run. Go rogue with Rogue River Smokey Blue from Bonanza Dairy in Oregon ... with truffle honey and paired with dark red wine, it's the loopde-loop of the flight.

Ice cream lovers, hurry to Michoacana's before the season's end. Bravely sample dubious-sounding flavors that traditional parlors wouldn't dare—corn or avocado. You might hear yourself say, "I'll take two scoops of the avocado." Everyone there will understand.









IMBIBERIES

For an outing sure to conjure notes of *I Love Lucy* episodes at the candy conveyor belt and grape-stomping in Italy, call Galer Estates. Ask for an invitation to a sorting table party—an uproariously good time complete with background music, but an event with a serious purpose. Ten people inspect grapes to ensure that no stem, bud or other detritus makes it into the wines ... all to the tempo of a conveyor belt. Don't dilly dally or shilly shally if you want to participate. The season's last grapes are sorted in October.

Too timid to face a conveyor belt? Galer Estates offers tastings of their award-winning wine, concerts and other exciting events at the vineyard. Or enjoy an evening unwinding in beauty, sipping wine in the gorgeous tasting room or on the deck overlooking rows of grapes at sunset.

Artist Lele Galer worked magic with stained glass, Art Deco doors from an old New York City bank and a marble bar; every view inside and out is memorable.

Beer lovers, where else will you find an ale described as "black as night, damn near chewy" besides Kennett Brewing Company? This fall, raise a glass of stout aged in Whiskey Hollow Farm's barrels that once held maple syrup. Or opt for Pie and Beer Flight Night that pairs beers with dinner from Kennett neighbor, Nomadic Pies.

For a different treat, pack straws for you and your adventurous friend. Drive to Baily's Dairy. Turn at the sign with the cow, wind your way up the pasture lane, and mind the chickens while parking. Step into Baily's market and, gloriously, back in time. Pick up a bottle of scrumptious creamy chocolate milk; if no one is at the register, deposit payment in the metal box and record your purchase in the notebook. Unpack your straws and thank cows Shelby, Priscilla and Camille.

EATERIES

For those who insist on other courses, the Brandywine Valley has distinctive eateries. In fact, I daresay you won't find such eclectic and great food anywhere else outside of whomping big American cities.

When locals boast about having a seat at the table, it may be at Talula's Table. Set your alarm to make reservations one year in advance for the Farm Table. If you sleep through the alarm, visit the shop on State Street for pastries, hickory-smoked bacon, homemade soup and the perfect cheese—their words. Or visit LaVerona, where Vice President Biden dined, or Lily Sushi, if it's a Tuesday, for their all-you-can-eat special, both also on State.

Junto's has a chef's tasting menu at dinner that we've always found superlative and features locally sourced ingredients. Chef/ Owner MacGregor Mann is also now behind the menu at the Brandywine River Museum's Millstone Café, so we gave it a whirl.

After finishing my potato leek soup (plus a spoonful of my friend's mushroom soup) and fresh salad, I was as happy as Helen, the smiling 400-pound sculpted bronze pig in the garden between the river and museum. To avoid resembling Helen, I strolled the riverside trail starting at the path where she relaxes.

Fancy some chips? Meander the county's scenic roads to The Whip Tavern, local British pub for fun, food and ale. Relax with a pint. Warm up by the fireplace on chilly nights, and in warm weather get your Bangers and Mash, Bubble and Squeak, and Fish and Chips with a side of mushy peas on the patio along Doe Run.

Got room for more good food, drink and adventure? Cross the line. To Delaware, that is. Minutes away from Winterthur's exquisite food for thought is Collier's wine cellar—brimming with bottles and conversation. Visit the Delaware Art Museum, where Chef Dan Butler operates the Museum's Thronson Café.

Or there's always second helpings.









DISCOVER OR REDISCOVER THE LASSICS

Andrea Kilany Thatcher • Wellington Square Bookshop

Autumn is the perfect time to dip into some favorite books.

ADLY, OUR JUNE BOOK COLUMN WAS THE LAST one brought to you by the Chester County Book Company, which closed after 34 years as a community institution. In its wake is a reminder of the reasons to shop at local businesses. Among other benefits, for example, for every \$100 you spend at locally owned businesses, \$68 stays in the community rather than being funneled to corporate centers, according to the nonprofit Independent We Stand.

It's in this spirit that Wellington Square Bookshop in Exton takes up the mantle of this column to continue bringing you suggestions for your next great reading adventure.

"Chester County Book Company and Wellington Square Bookshop are not simply stores where you buy books," said Sam Hankin of the Hankin Group, owner of Wellington Square Bookshop. "They're not (unfortunately) great profit centers. They're fairylands, libraries, universities, cultural centers. Most importantly they're places to walk into and be happy, a door to a world that's different somehow in an almost mystical way." Consider supporting these important parts of our community

That said, what should you pick up when you next stop into a local book store? For October we're focusing on books you should have read when you were in school but might have missed. Maybe you read these in high school or college—and they deserve another pass through—or perhaps they weren't on your syllabus so you can discover them for the first time.

It's never too late to enjoy the classics.



The Newcomes by William Makepeace Thackeray

Thackeray is best known for his epic Vanity Fair, and if you haven't read that, you may want to start with it. But a close second in many readers' hearts is The Newcomes. (You may recognize a few familiar characters from Vanity Fair.) If you miss the Crawleys of the Downton Abbey series, you may enjoy the very British themes of

JAMES

JOYC

A PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN

class and marrying up, though the action in this tale is set quite a bit earlier. When reality television and the Kardashians have you down, pull out some Thackeray for the original monied-class drama.

A Portrait Of the Artist As a Young Man by James Joyce

This is James Joyce's first novel, not quite as well-known as Ulysses. Before comingof-age novels about young men portrayed mainly privileged white hipsters trying to find meaning through either a glut or a lack of lovers, Joyce helped define the genre with his fictional alter ego, Stephen Dedalus, and his religious and intellectual awakening. The book quickly gets down to the difficult business of

introducing themes that remain constants throughout Joyce's career.



Lady Susan by Jane Austen

Congrats to whoever decided to adapt Jane Austen's Lady Susan into a movie (Love & Friendship starring Kate Beckinsale and directed by Whit Stillman), thus

ensuring that one of the only Austen novels not already in every collection starts populating more bookshelves. We all need more Jane Austen, and some of us are weary of Pride and Prejudice and its proliferation of "modern takes" (that includes you, Eligible by Curtis Sittenfeld). Lady Susan herself is a fairly modern woman-a female character who's allowed to be selfish, brazen and take younger lovers without as strong a comeuppance as one might expect from the Victorians. Interested now?

Middlemarch by George Eliot



The recent literary memoir My Life In Middlemarch by Rebecca Mead rekindled an interest in George Eliot's novel probably not matched in the bookish media since the BBC adaptation

of the '90s. This is another hefty novel with a huge cast of characters, but you need the numbers to set about illuminating such weighty and varied issues as the status of women, the nature of marriage, idealism, self-interest, religion, hypocrisy, political reform and education.

Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad

With Yaa Gyasi's Homegoing getting so much well-deserved buzz this summer, it can put one in mind of another story of imperialism and racism in Africa-albeit from the colonizer's perspective-Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness, about a journey up the Congo River. Fans of chef, food

writer and travel documentarian Anthony Bourdain may want to accompany this novel with a viewing of the Congo episode of Bourdain's CNN docu-series Parts Unknown, which is heavily influenced by the novel. And film buffs may enjoy the connections to the Francis Ford Coppola's Apocalypse Now.



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Wellington Square Bookshop, with awards from Philadelphia Magazine, Main Line Today and the Daily Local News, hosts a café, book-related events, sponsored book groups, staff picks and podcasts with authors on site and on the website. 549 Wellington Square, Eagleview Town Center, Exton. WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

Upcoming Events: Hosting Jodi Piccoult, Small Great Things, on Tues., Oct. 25, time TBD, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Exton and Liz Moore. The Unseen World, on Fri., Oct. 28th at 7 p.m. at Wellington Square Bookshop.

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Richard Louv



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Journalist and author Richard Louv coined the term nature-deficit disorder and outlines the benefits of a strong nature connection—from boosting mental acuity and creativity to reducing obesity and depression, from promoting health and wellness to simply having fun.



Mr. Louv is the author of nine books. His landmark book *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder* helped launch an international movement to connect children and their families to nature. He continues his message and promotes the stewardship of our natural resources in *Vitamin N: The Essential Guide To A Nature-Rich Life.*

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YOU'LL NEED TRANSCRIPTS, RECOMMENDATIONS, INTERVIEWS AND TESTS FOR ADMISSIONS.

ETTING ACCEPTED BY A GOOD INDEPENDENT school can be challenging. At upper school levels, less than half the applicants are offered admittance. A bit fewer enroll.

How do the schools choose?

In general, private schools require transcripts of grades, recommendations from teachers, an interview and an exam. Your child's grades may be wanting, but at least you can see them. The recommendations? You can't see them, but you can imagine what they'll say. The interview? Your kid is charming, can listen and talk well.

The exam, though ... Most independent schools require an entrance exam to get into their upper schools—usually the SSAT (Secondary School Admission Test), the ISEE (Independent School Entrance Exam) or ERB (similar to the ISEE but administered by the schools or groups of schools) or the HSPT (High School Placement Test, administered by the schools, with options). The tests cover math and language skills—sometimes more—are offered throughout the year—sometimes by schools—and are similar to tests that will come later for college admissions.

Aside from meeting deadlines, these tests may seem the biggest hurdle your child faces.



Edwin Malet

DON'T SWEAT IT

Or not! Many admission officers we talked with play down test scores. They point out that scores play only a minor role in their decisions. In general, they report no "average scores" or "cut-offs."

Kevin Mulholland of Devon Prep, for example, is primarily "looking for students who are willing to work, who are willing to push themselves, and who are willing to contribute in and out of the classroom." The HSPT, he says, is "only one component to the admissions process."

Friends Central's Dwight Dunston says that the "50th percentile (of the SSAT) is a nice place to start ... but there are so many other factors." At least three people and the head of school review application files. The group's main purpose is to "set the student up for success." The last thing the school wants is "an 11-year-old who internalizes that he needs a perfect score."

The Agnes Irwin School evaluates "the whole child" when considering admissions, according to Tiffany Kelly. In addition to the test scores—the SSAT and ISEE are acceptable—the application consists of teacher recommendations, grades, an auto-biographical description and responses to a parent questionnaire. On tests, their applicants score in "above average or higher range."



Jennifer Groen of Jack Barrack Hebrew Academy says that ISEE or SSAT is used to "standardize" the applicant's "more subjective" records, and to "alert" the school, both to higher and lower performance. In any case, test scores are used in combination with recommendations, report cards and essays to provide "a complete picture."

At the Tatnall School in Wilmington, academics and contribution to the community are weighed equally. "No one thing" is treated as essential, according to Sarah Quinn. Recommendations are a significant factor, but there won't be "a red flag until the puzzle is complete."

"One piece of the puzzle" is also how the Shipley School uses the test scores. Standardized tests are not designed to measure characteristics such as motivation, persistence or creativity. Amy Clemons declares that the school wants "grit" and "determination." A "specific talent or strength" will make a difference. Over all, Shipley looks for a student who will "thrive."

Similarly, the Sanford School, accepts the SSAT, ISEE or ERB, but downplays test scores. "We look at test scores as a piece of the admission puzzle. We understand that students can have a bad day or not be great standardized test takers so we take the entire academic record as well as the student's personal qualities into account when making decisions," according to Jaime Morgan. In general, the school looks for a "solid academic record."

Mary Kay Napoli of Villa Maria High School also uses the "one piece of the puzzle" metaphor, as well as the HSPT, transcript and recommendations. The school looks for students who are leaders, who understand the role of the school, and who demonstrate "academic potential."

The HSPT is also used at Padua Academy because of its strong correlation with the SAT and ACT. But again it's considered just "one admitting factor." A "cando" attitude, says Cindy Hayes Mann, and "willingness to take risks"-by taking an engineering course, for example-are far more important. The interview is especially salient in "teasing out" this orientation.

EXCEPT MAYBE AT A BOARDING SCHOOL

For students applying from a distance, or who are new to the area, test scores may be weighed more heavily.

At The Westtown School, which admits applicants for both its day and boarding programs, Nathan Bohn draws a distinction. For a student from a distant, unknown school, a score of 2100 (of 2400) on the SSAT is almost a necessity. "I just don't have the experience to weigh other factors." On the other hand, a test score will be less important where he's familiar with the standards of local schools and teachers.

At Linden Hall, a boarding/day school for girls in Lititz, "SSAT scores are considered as part of the admission process," according to Mark Powers. Linden Hall's students are "very driven;" its graduates are "articulate, confident, and global citizens."

An exception to the rule that the schools not disclose average scores is The Hill School in Pottstown. Tom Eccleston

FINANCIAL AID

▼uition varies widely at independent schools, from less than \$10,000 a year at some Catholic schools, to over \$36,000 at other schools.

Not widely known, though, is that some schools provide financial assistance. Typically, about a third of tuition may be covered by grants, and about a quarter to a third of students get those grants. Financial assistance is generally on a separate track from admission

Some schools use exam scores to award scholarships. For instance, Archmere Academy will grant \$2000 based on individual schools.

"superior academic performance" on the admission test-they use their own-and financial need. Also, the school offers larger amounts based on a combination of the test, transcripts and the interview, which, according to Leah Lightcap, is emphasized heavily in admission. Padua and Tatnall, among others, follow a similar process.

Financial aid has its own requirements and deadlines. Parents must submit the Personal Financial Statement—also, form 1040 and all accompanying documents-by a date in mid-winter. For details, check with



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reports that Hill's average SSAT is 2100. Their admission rate is 19%, though there's no cut-off score for admission.

Finally, the Church Farm School has a special mission. Its students have been "underserved" by their education systems, according to Brandon Zeigler, who minimizes the value placed on test scores. Although their applicants take the SSAT, CFS is more interested in "character, gut, promise." There's still no test for that.

OR YOU CAN START EARLY

One strategy for test-free admission to the upper schools is to graduate from that school's middle school, if it has one, since moving up is virtually automatic. Similarly, there's test-free admission to middle school via the lower school. Interestingly, more than half of most upper school classes in K-12 private schools tend to be home-grown.

Again, however, lower schools may still require an exam. The WISC (Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children), a psychologist-administered intelligence test for children, is the most popular. Recommendations, transcripts and interviews are also part of this admission process.

However, The School in Rose Valley's Rod Stanton is not a fan of standardized admissions tests, opting instead for a "more holistic" view. Applicants spend "a day or two" in the classroom while teachers observe "how they're learning, what problem-solving strategies they're using, and how they engage with other students."

SOME ADVICE

So, what's my advice? The tests are about three hours long, mostly multiple choice. Some math, some English. Practice will help a bit, but students can't study for them. Though it would help if your kids have been paying attention and doing homework all along.

Remember that schools don't treat these tests as all-important. Breathe. If your child is nearing the completion of a breakthrough app, playing in the Philadelphia Orchestra, or has a shot at an Olympic medal ..., I would *not* give up practice.



Grade 9 Scholarship - Entrance Exam Saturday, October 15, 2016 8:45 a.m. - 12 p.m. Register: www.cdssh.org

> **Open House - Upper School** Saturday, October 15, 2016 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Open House - All Grades Tuesday, October 25, 2016 Kindergarten - Grade 12 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

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Pennsylvania

BRYN MAWR

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Private tours available upon request

 \sim

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, K-grade 12 with membership in the Sacred Heart Network of 24 U.S. and Canada schools, ADVIS and Middle States.

Established 1865, the school has been committed for over 150 years to educating young girls through an active faith, intellectual values, social awareness, Christian community and personal growth. 9th Gr. Scholarship/Entrance Exam: Oct. 15, 8:45 am Upper School Open House: Oct. 15, 12:30 to 2 Pre-K-Grade 12 Open House: Oct. 25, 9 to 11 6th Gr. Scholarship/Entrance Exam: Jan. 25, 28, Feb. 1 at 8:30 am All School Open House: Jan. 28, 11 to 1

401 S Bryn Maur Ave 610-525-1670 StAloysiusAcademy.org St. Aloysius Academy, established by late Heart of Mary, is a private, Catholic elementary school for boys and a coed Montessori pre-school. The school is committed to the spiritual, moral and academic development of each child, preparing young children to assume with confidence roles of Christian leadership and service and to develop their God-given talents. Open House: Oct. 20, Jan. 11, Feb. 11, Apr. 27 at 9:30

CHADDS FORD

Fairville Friends School 216 Pond View Dr. 610-388-1268; FairvilleFriends.org Fairville Friends is a small Quaker preschool and

Guide to School Open Houses AT AREA INDEPENDENT 8 DRIVATE SCHOOLS



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DEVON

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

















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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 successful leaders in college and in life. Open House: Oct. 18, 20 from 6:30 to 8 pm Nov. 12, 10 to 11 am Scholarship/Entrance Test: Oct. 22, 29 and

Dec. 11 at 8:30 am

DOWNINGTOWN

Bishop Shanahan High School 220 Woodbine Rd. 610-518-1300 Shanahan.org A Catholic coed high school in the Archdiocese of Phila-



delphia, on a beautiful 80-acre site. The focus is on each student developing their full potential in a safe, faith-filled environment. 100% college acceptance; 13 National Merit Students; 2 Finalists, 11 Commended (Class of 2016); \$23.1 million in scholarships; 25 varsity sports, 43 clubs; 21 AP courses; dual enrollment with Immaculata, Widener and Neumann Universities.

8th Grade Scholarship Test: Nov. 5, 8 to noon Fall Open House: Nov. 13, noon to 3 7th Grade Visitation: Mar. 29, 8:30 to 1:30 7th Grade Practice Test: Apr. 1, 8 to noon Spring Open House: Apr. 5, 7 pm

DREXEL HILL

Holy Child Academy 475 Shadeland Ave. 610-259-2712; HolyChildAcademy.com



Holy Child Academy (HCA), founded in 1927, is an independent, coeducational, Catholic school for early childhood Montessori through 8th grade. Faculty integrate technology, music and art into the curriculum and stimulate eager minds with challenging academic, co- and extra-curricular programs. Students receive individual attention that leads to superior growth, self-assurance and achievement. HCA welcomes children of all faiths. Trunk, Treat & Tours: Oct. 26, 5:30 to 7 pm

Fall Open House: Nov. 15, 8:30 am and 5 pm Personal tours available

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Friends School Haverford 851 Buck La. 610-642-2334; FriendsHaverford.org



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Jan. 25 from 9 to 11

IMMACULATA

Villa Maria Academy Lower School 1140 King Rd. 610-644-4864; VillaMaria.org Villa Maria Academy is an independent, Catholic school for girls in K-grade 8 and a coeducational preschool, Since 1872, Villa Maria has empowered young women through leadership and service opportunities in the traditions of



1785 Bishop White Dr. 484-424-1400 EpiscopalAcademy.org For over 230 years, Episcopal Academy has offered a strong tradition of excellence, providing a challenging and nurturing coeducational program for Pre-K-grade 12. The school's unparalleled facilities and innovative curriculum, anchored by its talented teachers, successfully combine classical and cutting-edge methods. All of Episcopal's graduates attend college and more than half gain acceptance into the nation's top-tier schools. All School Open House: Oct. 30, 1 pm

the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. At Villa, each student is encouraged to reach her full potential academically, spiritually, socially and morally. Open House: Nov. 9, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, Mar. 15 at 9:30 am

MALVERN

Villa Maria Academy High School 370 Central Ave. 610-644-2551; VMAHS.org

Villa Maria Academy is a Catholic, college preparatory school for girls, rooted in the philosophy of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. 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. Open House: Oct. 16, 11 am Entrance/Scholarship Exam: Oct. 29, Nov. 5 at 9 am Visit Villa Day: Oct. 6, 7, 27, 28, Nov. 8, 11 from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm

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1395 Wilson St. 610-326-0544 Wyndcroft.org

Apr. 12 from 8:30 to 11 am



The Wyndcroft School is a coed day school for children in Pre-K- grade 8. 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.

Walk-In Wednesdays: Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar. 22, 29,

cated, empowered, and inspired generations of young women since 1856. A rigorous college preparatory curriculum encourages students in grades 6 to 12 to excel in a learning community rooted in the Catholic mission. Notre Dame alumnae are strong, confident women who are prepared to take their place as leaders in a global society. All Grades open House: Nov. 6, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm Ninth Grade Entrance and Scholarship Exam: Nov. 5 and 13

St. Agnes School 211 W. Gay St.

Open House: Nov. 6, Feb. 12, Apr. 2 from 1 to 3 pm **ROSE VALLEY**

The School in Rose Valley 20 School Ln.

610-566-1088 TheSchoolInRoseValley.org The School in Rose Valley (SRV)



offers a Pre-K-grade 6 program just minutes from Media, based on the progressive principles of experiential learning, integrated curriculum and democratic values. SRV students explore topics deeply, play with energy and enthusiasm and develop a passion for and love of school. Full and half day preschool and kindergarten.

Call or email for a personal tour. Open House: Oct. 19, 9 to 11 am Fall Family Open House: Nov. 5, 10 to 12 noon Nov. 16, Jan. 18 from 9 to 11 am Progressive Tour: Jan. 18, 6:30 to 8 pm

ROSEMON

The Agnes Irwin School Ithan Ave. & Conestoga Rd. 610-525-8400 AgnesIrwin.org

The Agnes Irwin School

The Agnes Irwin School is a nationally recognized all-

girls' independent college preparatory day school for Pre-K-grade 12 that has provided an exceptional liberal arts education since 1869. They offer rigorous academics, coupled with competitive athletics and diverse visual and performing arts, and combine current educational thinking with well-established teaching practices that serve girls best. All-School: Oct. 26, 6 to 8 pm

Athletics Open House: Nov. 2, 7 to 8:30 pm Perf. Arts Preview: Nov. 17, 7:45 to 10 am Touring Tuesdays: Start Sept. 27, 8:30 am. Campus tour, meet admission staff. No appointment needed.



Academy of Notre Dame de Namur 560 Sproul Rd.

610-971-0498; NDAPA.org Successful students. Accomplished graduates. Compassionate leaders. Notre Dame has edu-



WEST CHESTER

610-696-1260

SaintAgnesSchoolWC.org The mission of St. Agnes School is to develop every student from Pre-K-grade 8 spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally and socially in a joyful, faith-based environ-



ment that inspires integrity, citizenship, leadership and service to others in the Church and the world. St. Agnes School has been recognized by the Department of Education as a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence!

Open House: Nov. 10, 7 pm; Jan. 29 at noon Feb. 1, at 9 am; Feb. 12 at 11:30 am Tuesday Tours at 10 am

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COME AND SEE! FALL 2016 VISIT DATES

College Fair Wednesday, October 26 • 7-9 pm 8th Grade Scholarship Test

Saturday, November 5 • 8 am - Noon

Open House & Registration Sunday, November 13 • Noon - 3 pm To register visit shanahan.org





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Grade 9 Entrance & Scholarship Exam November 5 & 13 Grade 6 Entrance & Scholarship Exam January 28

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Admission@StAloysiusAcademy.org

Saints Simon and Jude School 6 Cavanaugh Court 610-696-5249

School.SimonAndJude.org

Providing a quality Catholic education for students K-grade 8. Their strong academics are enhanced by the latest technology. Renown for their community, students and parents have a sense of belonging. The community provides a nurturing environment in which students feel comfortable learning, growing, and making decisions. Fully accredited by the Middle States Assoc. of Colleges and Schools.

Preview Mornings: Nov. 18, Jan. 13 Evening Visit: Jan. 12, 7:30 pm Middle School Visit Night: Feb. 8, 7:30 pm Open House: Mar. 31, 8 am Catholic Schools Week Open House. Jan. 29, 10:50 am to 1:15 pm

West Chester Friends School 415 N. High St.

610-696-2937; WCFriends.org



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Pre-K-grade 5. Students "Listen, Learn, Wonder, Decide" in Quaker values context: respect, responsibility to community, peaceful conflict resolution. Studio art and art history, music, STEM, Spanish, physical education, technology. meditation, mindfulness, yoga, community service. Flexible tuition. BC/ AC, 7:30 am to 6 pm. FPS Registration ongoing.

Open House: Oct. 5, Nov. 8, Dec. 9, Jan. 10, Feb. 7, Mar. 1 at 9 am

Westtown School

975 Westtown Rd. 610-399-7900; Westtown.edu Westtown, a Quaker Pre-K-grade 12 college preparatory school offers a challenging, diverse curriculum emphasizing action-based learning, critical thinking, creative problem solving, collaboration, service and social action. Westtown provides opportunities for students to find their voice and use it to develop confidence and stand up for deeply held beliefs, inspiring and preparing its graduates to be stewards and leaders of a better world. All School Open House: Oct. 16, 1 pm

Delaware

Archmere Academy 3600 Philadelphia Pk. 302-798-6632

Archmere ArchmereAcademy.com An independent, Catholic, coeducational college preparatory school, grades 9-12. Founded in the Norbertine tradition, the education focuses on the whole person, developing students into empathetic leaders and inspiring them to reach their potential. Top academics, expert faculty, competitive athletics, awardwinning arts, and state-of-the-art facilities create an exceptional educational experience. Visit and learn

VILLA MARIA ACADEMY GIRLS K-8TH GRADE | CO-ED PRESCHOOL





CLAYMONT

about what it means to be an Auk. Open House: Nov. 13 Entrance Exam: Dec. 3, register online

WILMINGTON

Saint Edmonds Academy 2120 Veale Rd. 302-475-5370

StEdmnondsAcademy.org Saint Edmond's Academy, a Catholic, independent school, educates the hearts



and minds of boys in the Holy Cross tradition from JK-grade 8. Their heritage incorporates contemporary thought with individualized instruction and a challenging 21st-century curriculum. The program at the Academy creates a foundation for the future that empowers boys with values and skills for life. Open House: Nov. 6, Jan. 22 at 1 pm Visit website for advanced registration.

The Tatnall School

1501 Barley Mill Rd. 302-892-2292 Tatnall.org



The Tatnall School is an independent, coeducational college preparatory day school situated on a pastoral 110-acre campus. Composed of four academic divisions that enroll students from age 3-grade 12, Tatnall provides a strong, balanced foundation with exceptional academics, outstanding athletics, unparalleled arts and authentic relationships. Partner with Tatnall today to start your child on the path to success. Open House: Oct. 12, Dec. 6, Feb. 23 from 9 to 11





Delaware County Christian School











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October 15 9 to 11am

6th - 12th grade October 16 1 to 3pm



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Preview Mornings – November 18, January 13, March 31 – 8 am Evening Visit – January 12 – 7:30 pm Catholic Schools Week Open House – January 29 – 10:15 am-1:15 pm Middle School Visit Night - February 8 - 7:30 pm

"After my visit to Saints Simon and Jude, I knew we found a home. I was extremely impressed with the faculty and facility. The deciding factor, though, was the students themselves. I saw numerous smiling, confident faces as I walked the halls. I was overwhelmed by the feeling of community and warmth that filled this school." Jim Deorio

> school.simonandjude.org 610-696-5249 - advancement@simonandjude.org 6 Cavanaugh Court, West Chester, PA 19382



Nov. 5, 10 to 1; Apr. 29, 8:30 to 10:30 Apr. 20, TBD

Tower Hill School

2813 W. 17th St. 302-657-8350; TowerHill.org Tower Hill School inspires students to be their best in a supportive environment that balances challenging academics with athletics, the arts and service learning. Char-

acter education is integrated throughout the innovative curriculum to encourage active, global citizenship. Tower Hill embraces diverse cultures and beliefs, fostering a strong sense of community. A coeducational independent school serving ages 3–grade 12. *Open House: Oct. 5, Dec. 1, Feb. 28, Apr. 5,*

May 9 at 9 am; Nov. 6 at 1 pm

Wilmington Friends School

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

Friends Fries School

passed 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. Reggio Emilia inspired preschool, 1:1 laptop program, STEM Labs and programming, and International Baccalaureate program. Preschool–12.

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great place to grow up.

They offer an unsur-

Preschool–5th Grade: Oct. 15, 9 to 11 am 6th–12th Grade: Oct. 16, 1 to 3 pm Meet Us on Monday: Every Monday

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Pennsylvania MEDIA

Benchmark School

2107 N. Providence Rd., 610-565-3741 BenchmarkSchool.org

Serving students in grades 1–8 who learn differently, helping them become confident, self-advocates. Students typically arrive with labels such as dyslexia, auditory processing difficulties, ADD and ADHD. Benchmark develops an understanding of each student's strengths and challenges. Graduates know who they are as learners and can apply the strategies they develop here to take charge of their learning and meet with success.

Nov. 10, Jan. 19, Mar. 2, Apr. 6, May 11 from 9 to 11 am

NEWTOWN SQUARE

Stratford Friends School 2 Bishop Hollow Rd. 610-355-9580 StratfordFriends.org

Stratford Friends is a Quaker K–8 school that guides unique learners using a structured, multisensory program that celebrates

students' strengths, builds self-esteem and develops self-advocacy. Their research based curriculum, including Orton-Gillingham for reading, combined with small classes and an exceptional faculty have been the cornerstone for successfully supporting children on the path to becoming independent learners. *Call to schedule a private tour.*

PAOLI Delaware Valley Friends School

19 E. Central Ave. 610-640-4150; DVFS.org Delaware Valley Friends is a coed Quaker, college preparatory school for bright students, grades 5–12, who struggle with reading, writing, math, memory, processing, ADHD, executive functioning, and other learning difference DVFS teacher are advert

differences. DVFS teachers are education specialists with unparalleled experience and expertise drawing out students' unique strengths while tackling their academic challenges. Students are scholars, athletes, leaders, artists, adventurers, and global citizens. *Reg. required.*

All Grades: Oct. 5, Nov 9, Dec. 7 from 9 to 11 am Tour Tuesday: Oct. 18, 9:30 am; Nov. 20, 1 to 3 pm Middle School Gr. 5–8: Nov. 2, 10 to 11:45



OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY OCTOBER 23







1395 Wilson Street, Pottstown, Pa 19464 | 610-326-0544 Transportation is available from Pottstown, Pottsgrove, Owen J. Roberts, Spring-Ford, Daniel Boone, Boyertown and other surrounding school districts.



esteem and develops based curriculum, or reading, combined eptional faculty have sfully supporting chilindependent learners.





Open House October 16

Entrance/Scholarship Exam October 29 or November 5

> Visit Villa Day October 6, 7, 27, or 28

> November 8 or 11

Register online at www.vmahs.org

370 Central Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355 610-644-2551 www.vmahs.org

CENTREVILLE LAYTON SCHOOL

Visit Our Open House First Wednesday of each month 9:00-11:00am centrevillelayton.org/clm





Centreville Layton School offers a rigorous educational experience for students who learn differently. Our program identifies academic and social needs of individuals and provides a curriculum that focuses on



problem solving and critical thinking. Through intervention and strengthening learning strategies, the school empowers each student to reach his or her potential.

302.571.0230 centrevillelayton.org/clm 6201 Kennett Pike·Centreville, DE 19807

Who We Are

The Concept School is an independent school with educational programs for students in Middle and High School. We excel in creating a challenging and supportive environment for students who have difficulty with focusing, reading comprehension and social interaction.



Our Core Values

Providing a safe environment
Building teacher/student rapport
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Where unique minds learn in unique ways

Register for an Open House at www.theconceptschool.org

1120 East Street Road Westtown, PA 19395 610-399-1135 info@theconceptschool.org www.theconceptschool.org



Royer-Greaves School For Blind

118 S. Valley Rd. 610-644-1810 Rover-Greaves.org Royer-Greaves

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Royer-Greaves School for Blind is a PA-approved private school serving the unique needs of students ages 4.7-21 with vision impairments and developmental disabilities in small classes. Academic programs include math, reading, pre-Braille and Braille. Therapeutic and support services include: music therapy, physical education, aquatics, speech and language therapies, orientation and mobility, and occupational therapy. Call to schedule a personal tour.

WESTTOWN

The Concept School 1120 East Street Rd. 610-399-1135; TheConceptSchool.org



for students in grades 6-12 who learn differently. The small class sizes, structured, customized curriculum, individualized attention, multi-sensory approach, and nurturing environment enable students to succeed and develop and be well prepared to meet the demands of post-secondary

life including entering college, career training programs or the workforce. Open House: Oct. 19th, Nov. 16, Jan. 18, Feb. 15,

Mar. 15, Apr. 19, May 17 at 9:15 am

Delaware

CENTREVILLE

Centreville Layton School 6201 Kennett Pk.

302-571-0230; CentrevilleLayton.org Centreville Layton School offers a rigourous educational and cultural experience for students who learn differently. The program identifies the academic and social needs of the individual and provides a curriculum that focuses on problem solving and critical thinking. Through intervention and strengthening learning

strategies, the school empowers each student to reach his or her potential. Pre-K-grade 12. Open House: First Wed. each month, 9 to 11 am

WILMINGTON

Pilot School Pilot School 208 Woodlawn Rd. Unlocking 302-478-1740 the Potential* PilotSchool.org Since 1957, Pilot has provided an individualized,

therapeutic learning environment for children with language-based learning differences. Pilot's unique goal is to return children to a traditional educational environment in 3-5 years. The new state-of-the-art facility is built on 50 acres that adjoin more than 2,000 acres of park land, allowing for integrated indoor/outdoor learning experiences. Open House: Oct. 12, Nov. 16, all day

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





The Learning Never Stops PAcyber.org



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www.WCFriends.org • 610-696-2937

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OPEN HOUSES November 6 – 1PM • January 22 – 1PM Advance Registration at StEdmondsAcademy.org New Transportation Routes Serving DE, PA, and NJ 2120 VEALE RD. WILMINGTON, DE 302.475.5370



Holy Child Academy is an independent, Catholic school for boys and girls of all faiths in early childhood Montessori through eighth grade.

TRUNK, TREAT & TOURS: October 26 5:30–7 p.m. FALL OPEN HOUSE: November 15 8:30–11:30 a.m., 5–6:30 p.m. Personal Tours also available.



475 Shadeland Avenue • Drexel Hill, PA 19026 610.259.2712 | HolyChildAcademy.com



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Admissions Open Houses: November 10 & January 19 9:00-11:00 AM

Open House for Professionals: October 27 • 8:30-10:30 AM

> Learn more: 610-565-3741 BenchmarkSchool.org

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loe Orsatti '17 **Campus Ministry** Team Manager, Baseball, Soccer, Basketball

Open House Tuesday, Oct. 18 at 6:30pm Thursday, Oct. 20 at 6:30pm Saturday, Nov. 12 at 10am

Scholarship/ **Entrance Exam** beginning at 8:30am

Saturday, October 22 Saturday, October 29 Sunday, December 11

610-688-7337 www.devonprep.com kmulholland@devonprep.com Devon Prep is a

college preparatory school for young men in grades 6 through 12, conducted by the Piarist Fathers.



AN ENGLISH MANOR HOME IN CHESTER SPRINGS

A DREAM HOUSE AND BIT OF BRITAIN IN NORTHERN CHESTER COUNTY'S ROLLING HILLS

NY DRIVE THROUGH THE CHESTER COUNTY countryside will remind you of the deep connection early British settlers felt between southeastern Pennsylvania and the geography they left behind—lush farmlands, dense greenery, rolling hills and stone houses dotting the landscape. Many towns here share names with towns in the British Isles—Malvern, Exton, Warwick. And even the county's name harkens from across the pond.

It's that same connection that the owner of this month's featured home felt to the Chester Springs area. After a two-year search, she found the place to create the dream home that reflected her English roots. And after taking photos of gracious manor homes in England, she had images to inspire the design of her future home.

Local architect Peter Batchelor was able to translate her photos into a drawing on his first effort—the proof captured in a framed rendering hanging in the home's hallway. And so began the twoyear process of building the custom three-level, five-bedroom, five-plus-bathroom English manor home nestled in ten-plus prime acres in Chester Springs.

The grounds are no less charming. A small brook, lily pond and springhouse mark the approach on the tree-lined drive, curving to the big reveal of the magnificent home. A pool, gazebo and stone patios make the outside as inviting as inside—both superb spaces for entertaining. Beautifully maintained perennial gardens, planted for extended bloom-time, form the perfect backdrop amidst the mature landscaping that provides seclusion and privacy.

With room to expand the shed barn to add horses to enjoy open pastures and an interior design adaptable to becoming a charming B&B, this property is available to be a dream home or a dream venture.

CUSTOM DESIGN

Every detail of this home reflects the care spent to bring a dream to reality. From the bespoke Clive Christian kitchen, to the handcrafted artistic wall finishes in virtually every room, to the stunning array of carved moldings that are a master class on decorative details throughout the interior, this home is filled with custom design.



The stately façade foreshadows the regal interior. The foyer's green marble floor and sparkling crystal chandelier bracket a movie-setworthy balcony and curved stairway begging for grand entrances. Carved pillars, crown molding, shell built-ins, wainscoting, carved stone fireplace and a two-story Palladian window are just a few features of the stunning formal living room, with balconies on two sides and a hand-painted mural on a third.

A two-story great room with walls of French doors and handpainted faux plaster wall art shares the same sunlit feel and custom details. The adjacent formal dining room boasts dentil and crown moldings, Adams fireplace, built-ins and cherry floors with maple details.

The hand-built, imported kitchen by British designer Clive Christian is equally spectacular. With beamed ceiling, French limestone floors, soapstone countertops, green marble island,



commercial grade Dynasty six-burner range and Sub-Zero refrigerator hidden behind custom cabinetry, this chef's dream kitchen and adjoining breakfast room/sunroom are sure to be natural gathering spaces. More carved moldings and hand-painted cherries and raspberry vines frame the space that looks out to the stone patios, pool and gardens.

Down a hallway with crackle paint finish—past the powder room where antique furniture houses the plumbing fixtures—leads to the library, potting area, front and back family entrances with hand-painted hunt scenes, and back stairs. Peek into the library, with raised cherry paneling, faux red leather walls, stone fireplace, coffered ceilings and a secret shelf of books hiding a TV.

OTHER FLOORS

The back stairs to the bedrooms sport one of several imported English newel posts installed throughout the home. Since each themed bedroom has a private bath, the home is a good fit for those yearning to run a B&B.



The hunt-themed bedroom is bedecked in Ralph Lauren design, while the "ladies" bedroom has a claw-foot tub under a chandelier. Another large bedroom suite has its own sitting room.

The master suite includes a sitting area, his-and-her closets, dressing and bathrooms. Cathedral ceilings, stone fireplace, columns and a balcony are notable features of this sumptuous space.

On the lower level, there's a so-called 18th-century room, with beamed ceilings, brick fireplace and Williamsburg bar. An adjacent billiards room with fireplace and walk-out to the pool is a perfect man cave.

This level also houses a full bath, with easy access to the pool, laundry room, storage and mechanical rooms, plus two home offices, one with an exercise space and either suitable to convert into another bedroom.

This exquisite property, full of character and craftsmanship, awaits its next family to live out their dreams in this corner of Chester County. ♦

For more information about this unique hone on 10.7 acres in Chester Springs, offered at \$2,195,000, contact Karen Nader at Brandywine Fine Properties Sotheby's International Realty. 484-888-5597; BFPSIR.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY BREWERS ASSOCIATION



LOCAL BEERS CONTINUE TO EARN MEDALS AT THE GREAT AMERICAN BEER FESTIVAL - WITH A NEW CROP OF WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN EARLY OCTOBER.

EER LOVERS REJOICE! IT'S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL Great American Beer Festival (GABF) in Denver. But, don't get too excited-tickets sold out in about an hour months ago.

This three-day tasting festival, October 6–8, is open to the public, but the real action is behind the scenes where the GABF serves as the world's largest commercial beer competition. Now in its 35th year, the GABF-produced by the Brewers Association, a trade group dedicated to promoting America's craft brewers—is the most prestigious annual competition for American brewers.

I'm happy to report that our area breweries have a history of success at the festival-a history I expect will continue.

FROM THE EARLY DAYS

At the GABF's inaugural year in 1982, with fewer than 100 breweries in the country, the competition awarded simply first, second and third place in a Consumer Preference Poll. Sierra Nevada and Anchor Brewing were winners. In 1986, Philadelphia's own Dock Street Brewery took third place for its Dock Street Amber Ale.



Bryan Kolesar

By 1987 the competition format used today was born, with judging for basic styles-such as porter, stout, wheat, American-style lager-in addition to the Consumer Preference Poll.

GREAT AMERICAN

BEER FESTIVAL

GREAT AME REED FES

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Fast forward to 2015, when 1,552 breweries entered 6,647 beers for judging in an industry that, as of a few months ago, boasted 4,656 breweries. Last year 285 GABF medals were awarded across 93 categories. In addition to hosting a Beer Geeks bookstore and Silent Disco, the GABF now recognizes competition categories such as chili beer, experimental beer and arcane styles, such as historical beer.

Interesting, but where did all that beer come from and how were those beers chosen to compete? Some award-winning area

> brewers shared their insights on the process-good background as we wait to hear the 2016 winners on October 8.

GO AHEAD, JUDGE MY BEER.

Today countless opportunities exist for commercial breweries to have their beers judged in competitions by accredited judges. From small, local competitions to media-driven, blind-tasting competitions, a brewery can get feedback from far beyond its own tasting room.

That said, most brewers interviewed for this article focus on the two most significant U.S. competitions—GABF and the World Beer Cup (WBC), held this past May in Philadelphia.

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TOEGS BRO

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KULGE

Ken Buonocore, co-founder of Conshohocken Brewing Company, said "The GABF and WBC bring a sense of credibility in both their judging process and their logistics, and are recognized by breweries and consumers alike."

Philadelphia-based Nodding Head Brewery's founder Curt Decker agrees. "We've only ever entered GABF and WBC. There are a lot of competitions that don't have the wide range of entries. I feel that GABF and WBC are the most prestigious and respected for American brewers."

Most brewers interviewed concede luck as well as brewing high quality beer are needed to shine at the competition, but they all strive to do their best. Mark Edelson, Iron Hill Brewery's director of brewery operations, said, "When putting Iron Hill

together, one of my personal goals

was winning a gold medal at the GABF. We won it our very first year with our Lodestone Lager in the Helles category! So early on we looked towards GABF as validation that we were making some of the best beer among our craft brewing peers. This continues to be our motivation today."

WHAT MAKES AN AWARD-WINNING BEER?

Beers judged at the GABF are shipped to Denver two months before the judging and awards ceremony, making lead time and shipping distance considerations for choosing what to enter into competition.

Brewing unique batches of beer strictly for competition is not something this group of brewers does, save for minor tweaks of a recipe for a year-round brand. This senti-

ment is underscored by Chris Trogner, cofounder of Tröegs Independent Brewing, based in Hershey: "Competitions get the

> same beer our customers get." Brian O'Reilly, brewmaster at Sly Fox Brewing Company, in Phoenixville and Pottstown, sends the maximum submissions allowed five beers—and says he and his team choose beers based on what they think will stand out with the judges. They'll choose from two to four different recent batches of the same beer trying to determine "if one is more appropriate to send than another."

than another. Head brewer and production manager of Stoudts Brewing Company in Adamstown, Brett Kintzer has a similar approach. "We usually try to pack and ship beers that were recently bottled, since beers will always be best when fresh—with a few

exceptions, such as entries in barrel-aged and sour categories that might do better with some aging." Adherence to style guidelines,

which judges are expected

to follow, is an important factor in a brewery's choice of which beers to send to competition and which category to enter in.

Nate Walter, head brewer at McKenzie Brew House (Devon, Glen Mills, Malvern), said this: "In determining the best beers for submission, we lead with sensory evaluations first—sight, aroma, then taste. We want to enter the best beer possible. For specific style guidelines, we want to make sure the beer is suitable given the competition and category."

Iron Hill has a long track record of win-

ning awards—75 awards since 1997 from Iron Hill's 12 locations—and their success is no accident. "To put our best foot forward, we *never* enter a beer we haven't brewed and tasted before. We enter many of our house products, some of our tried-and-true past winners, and throughout the year we note some standouts when we're doing our regular tasting panels. Each location's brewer submits a list of beers they think will be standouts, and we vet the lists to see what we think will be competitive," said Edelson.

SERIOUS JUDGING

The GABF judging process is as professional as most brewers will find. Care is taken to ensure the integrity of the competition—from intake of the beers to blind serving by trained stewards.

At the 2015 competition, 242 accredited judges tasted their way through multiple three-hour sessions over three days. Judges are not permitted to participate in style

categories their brewery had entered, and participants are encouraged not to discuss in the media which beers were entered before judging.

In large categories—such as American-style India Pale Ale (IPA) where 336 entries were submitted in 2015—these precautions may seem like overkill. But other categories—such as American-style dark lager with only 24 beers—caution is more understandable.

> Nodding Head's Decker has great respect for judging in these two major competitions. "Most styles have multiple rounds of judging, and you may have your beer at a first-round table that appreciates your take on a style, and it advances and eventually wins. Or, you may end up at a table with a judge or two whose taste and interpretation are different, and the beer never gets past the first round to the medal round. Many great beers never win

medals." Nodding Head's biggest award-winner—Ich Bin Ein Berliner

Weisse—scored three silver and two bronze medals since 2003.

AND THE GOLD MEDAL GOES TO ..

After thousands of beers have been judged by hundreds of judges over three days, awards are presented. At Tröegs, Trogner recognizes that "Awards are a nice way for everyone at the brewery to give themselves a pat on the back for all the hard work. It also helps breweries gain a little credibility among our industry peers. The success of Tröegenator has been a key to the success of Tröegs," winning six gold, two silver and three bronze medals since 2006.

Kintzer at Stoudts has a similar view. "I hope consumers realize the importance of brewing consistent quality beers year after year and for such a long time, in our case almost 30 years. It should be a testament to our products, and the tried-and-true methods of achieving that quality." At younger breweries such as Conshohocken Brewing, started in 2014, head brewer Andrew Horne adds, "It's a great way to get our name out there, build our reputation, and validate the quality of our process."

By the time you read this, the GABF for 2016 may well be over. Yet many brewers interviewed cited being proudest of their first major award—"You never forget your first" was a common refrain. Iron Hill first won for its Lodestone Lager at 1997's GABF; Conshohocken Brewing's Puddlers Row ESB (extra special bitter) debuted at the 2016 World Beer Cup; and Tröegs began its winning ways for Troegantor Double Bock in 2006.

Other brewers point to more recent wins as sources of pride. McKenzie Brew House took home silver for It Was a Dark and Stormy Night at the 2013 GABF; Stoudts had success with Oktoberfest winning in 2004, 2007 and 2015; and Sly Fox earned









medals in the last three consecutive GABFs for its Grisette.

For 2016 GABF, will Iron Hill's Russian Imperial Stout continue its dominance? Can Conshohocken's Puddlers Row or Stoudts' Maibock add another medal? Will Sly Fox's Grisette show up on stage for year number four?

The next time you're at your favorite brewpub, ask if they have some beer with new medals to show off.

Or ask for a GABF winner by name. Cheers! ♦

Bryan Kolesar, local to Chester County, has been writing about beer for over ten years and maintains

a blog, BrewLounge.com. His book—Beer Lover's Mid-Atlantic—is available online and in physical bookstores. It's a complete 416-page guide to breweries, brewpubs, beer bars and homebrew of PA, NI, MD and DE.





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

Halloween Super-Snack. Jack-o-lanterns are in the

window, but your pumpkin fun isn't over. Save the slimy pumpkin "guts" and the seeds packed with zinc, antioxidants and sleepinducing tryptophan. Roasted in flavors like sweet-and-sour, ranch



and cinnamon sugar, pumpkin seeds are a tasty seasonal snack that fill your kitchen with the scent of fall. So skip the candy corn and start a new, healthy Halloween tradition for the whole family with DIY pumpkin seeds. Recipes at BackToHerRoots.com.

Market Magic. With warmer months behind us, eating local is no picnic. Luckily, high tech meets farm fresh with Farmstand, a new smartphone app from Mostly Brothers Co. Browse the list of farm markets near you to find healthy food wherever you are. Click on any market for directions, store hours and produce pics from other market goers. Take advantage of fall's fruits and veggies with this free guide to freshness. More at FarmStandApp.com.

Cheese, Please. Chester County farmers cleaned up at this year's PA Farm Show Cheese Competition, claiming victories in 12 categories. Unionville's The Farm at Doe Run takes the cake with the Gold and Best



In Show for their nutty, butterscotch-tasting Seven Sisters blend. From cow to goat, flaky to soft, and sweet to smoky, mouth-watering cheeses of every variety are the pride of Chester County. See what all the hype's about! Visit Birchrun Hills, Yellow Springs and other winners, listed at ChesterCountyCheese.com.

Simply Crafted.

Say bye to light beer and hi to Locust Lane Craft Brewery. Made from natural ingredients, the brewery's signature beers embody the founders' motto: "Simple, classic, fresh." Scheduled to open in November at 50 Three Tun Road, this Malvern-based brewery will offer a 1300-square-foot tasting room



and rotating food trucks. United 24 years ago by a passion for great beer, the three Penn State alum founders are ready to bring great brews to Malvern and beyond. Keep posted at LocustLaneCraft-Brewerey.com.

Grab a Fork and Twirl. Join foodies from coast to coast in celebrating National Pasta Month. This culinary favorite is affordable, easy to make, and at 140 calories per cup, healthy, too. Keep your energy up and your sodium intake down with packable pasta lunches. Dress up dinner by mixing and matching your noodles with high fiber veggies and lean proteins. You can even celebrate National Pasta Day on October 17th by sharing your recipes on social media. Get started at PastaFits.org.



[Brandywine **Table]**

Root Vegetables and Pumpkins: Fruits of Fall

Laura Muzzi Brennan

Discover the bounty that is autumn.

AYBE I'VE LISTENED TO TOO MANY PUNDITS during this election season because although I know better, I've slipped into the habit of dividing the world into showhorses vs. workhorses, style vs. substance. Even researching this article made me think: Pumpkin? Attention-hogging showhorse. Root vegetables? Plain-Jane workhorses.

Yet after a visit to Greener Partners at their Longview Farm in Collegeville, I was reminded that pumpkins are much more than homey fall décor and that roasted garnet beets alongside flame colored sweet potatoes can be the showpiece of any menu. More



importantly, I was reminded that categories-in cooking, in politics, in communitiescloud our sense of possibility. "Greener Partners' mission

is creating healthy communities through food, farms and education," says Executive Director Meg MacCurtin. While too numerous to name, their programs at Longview,

Guild House West in North Philadelphia and Lankenau Medical Center in Wynnewood aim to connect people to the land and to ensure that everyone, regardless of income, has access to nutritious food. Longview alone boasts a 440+ family CSA, 20 raised beds dedicated to education programs, a farmer training apprenticeship program, a u-pick farm (pumpkins in fall) and Saturday farmers'

market. In 2015, GP donated 8,000 pounds of food raised at Longview to local food pantries and shelters and sold subsidized food at area farmers' markets.





For children who can't make it to a farm, Greener Partners' Farm Explorer program brings the farm to them. Last year GP's two mobile farm trucks, packed with root and other vegetables grown in modular raised beds, visited 60 high-poverty schools where over 8,500 students had their first hands-on farming experience.

Education Director Helen Nadel never tires of watching a student's surprise when he plucks a turnip from the soil or discovers carrots come in a rainbow of colors. She talks with students about how taproots work ("That's where the plants' energy is stored, so when we eat a beet or a potato, that energy goes into us."). She feeds them

a little food history ("American colonists got their sugar from beetroot."). And because a bite is the best teacher, she and her students cook together.

With a minimum of toolsgraters, knives, blender, hot plate-they turn beets and knobby carrots into a vibrant raw salad dressed with maple vinaigrette and whip up a sweet

potato dip reminiscent of pumpkin pie. Even root vegetables' humble green leaves are transformed into vibrant pestos. And one

> taste of pumpkin soup with apples has students viewing the Halloween fruit in a whole new light. As you cook with the fruits of fall, here's hoping you discover all of their tasty possibilities.

the Farm Explorer Truck; making a healthy snack on the smoothie bike; Helen Nadel, Director of Educa-tion, explores a tomato plant with students.



Muhammara is a dip or sauce with sweet, savory and spicy Middle Eastern flavors. Here it enhances the flavors of simply roasted root vegetables. Recipe courtesy of Helen Nadel, Greener Partners.

For the vegetables:

- 1 b. sweet potatoes
- 1 lb. carrots
- 1 lb. parsnips
- 1 lb. celery root
- 1 lb. turnips (Hakurei or other sweet, tender
- variety is wonderful.) 6 Tb. olive oil, more or less
- 2 tsp. kosher or sea salt

For the sauce:

- 2 red peppers, roasted, peeled,
- seeds removed
- $\frac{1}{2}$ C. fresh breadcrumbs
- $\frac{1}{3}$ C. walnuts, toasted and chopped
- 1-2 garlic cloves, chopped very fine
- (or mashed to a paste with the 1 tsp. salt)
- 2 Tb. pomegranate molasses or maple syrup
- 1-2 Tb. fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp. cumin or za'atar (Mid-East spice mix)
- Dash of cayenne or smoked paprika $^{3}/_{4}$ C. olive oil
- 1 tsp. salt

Optional: Fresh Italian parsley, mint, thyme, or cilantro

Preheat oven to 400°. Wash and scrub all vegetables. Keeping them separate, cut each vegetable into 1" chunks. If you like, you can cut them differently, such as carrots and parsnips on the bias, turnips into small wedges, etc., but still keeping them all roughly the same size.

Place one vegetable at a time on a heavy baking tray, pour about 1 Tb. of olive oil and a sprinkle of salt over, then mix with your hands until the vegetable is coated. (Alternatively, you can do this step in a bowl with a spoon and then place the vegetable on the tray). Add a bit more olive oil if necessary. Make sure there is a bit of space on the pan between vegetables.

Roast in the oven, turning once, about 15 minutes. Check for tenderness. Vegetables should be turning golden and a bit crispy at the edges. Return to the oven for 5–15 minutes. Cooking time will vary, depending on the vegetable and the size of the pieces. Once a vegetable is cooked,

Everyone knows scary faces carved into pumpkins ward off evil spirits. But did you know that the tradition originated in the British Isles where turnips and beets

were used instead?

Hundreds of superstitions swirl around the familiar orange fruit and the root veaetables of fall. Read on to discover the secrets to health, wealth and true love, all courtesy of your vegetable bin!

If you dream of pumpkins, you will enjoy prosperity, well-being or a healthy child. But if you dream of cut or peeled pumpkin, you'll experience misfortune or uncover a cunning person among your friends and family.

remove from the oven, placing each vegetable in a different container. Roast all vegetables in this manner.

While vegetables are roasting, make the muhammara sauce. Purée peppers, breadcrumbs, walnuts and garlic in a blender. Add molasses, lemon, cumin and cayenne and continue to blend. Pour olive oil in a slow stream while blender is running until desired consistency is reached. Taste for salt. Add more pomegranate molasses for sweetness or cayenne if it needs more of a kick. When all vegetables are cooked, you can reheat them briefly in the oven or serve at

room temperature.

To serve, spoon some muhammara onto a platter, spreading the sauce so there is a thin layer across the bottom. Spoon each vegetable on top, in stripes, wedges, or pattern of your choice. Place another spoonful or two or muhammara on top and serve extra sauce on the side.

Makes 10-12 servings.

Helen Nadel of Greener Partners suggests making savory variations of this dip by replacing the maple, vanilla and cinnamon with a combination of Greek yogurt or coconut cream, lime, cilantro, cumin and a pinch of cayenne. Dip can be stored in the refrigerator for 3–4 days.

1-3 sweet potatoes, enough to yield 2 C. 1-2 Tb. maple syrup 1 tsp. cinnamon 1 tsp. vanilla Salt, to taste



Very Superstitious: Pumpkin and Root Vegetable Superstitions

Sweet Potato Dip

If a man and woman eat from the same beet, they will fall in love.

If you make a wish while burning an onion, the wish will come true.

If you want to get rid of a wart, cut a potato in half, rub it on the wart, and bury it in a garden. As the potato rots, the wart disappears.

If you peel the skin of a turnip without breaking it and hang the long spiral over a doorway, the next person who enters will be your future partner in life.

If you rub the top of a carrot on the top of a sick person's head, that person will be cured



Preheat oven to 400°. Prick sweet potatoes with a fork. Place on baking sheet and bake for 1-11/2 hours, until soft.

Remove from oven, cool and then scoop out the soft potato, leaving the skin behind.

Measure 2 C. sweet potatoes and blend with maple syrup, cinnamon, vanilla and salt in a food processor or mash well with fork.

Makes 6-8 servings.

Pumpkin or Butternut Squash Soup

When Helen Nadel of Greener Partners makes this recipe with students through the Farm Explorer program, she streamlines it, eliminating the onion and toppings. No matter which version you make, you'll end up with a hearty, healthy soup.

1 pumpkin or butternut squash (2-3 lbs.) 3 apples

- 1 onion, roughly chopped
- 1 Tb. oil
- 1/2 Tb. curry powder
- 3 C. broth or water

 $\frac{1}{2}$ clove of garlic, minced

Salt and pepper, to taste

Toppings (optional):

Pumpkin seeds fried in olive oil with a little curry powder

Chopped cilantro Squeeze of lime Dollop of Greek yogurt

Preheat oven to 400°. Cut squash and apples in half and remove seeds. Place apples and squash skin side up on a few baking pans. Bake for 25-30 minutes. Remove apples from oven. Continue baking squash for another 10-15 minutes.

While pumpkins and apples are cooking, cook chopped onion in oil over mediumlow heat in a pot until golden brown. Add curry and cook for one minute. Remove from heat and set aside.

Heat broth or water in a large pot. Scoop the squash from its skin and add to the pot. Add the apples, onion, garlic and salt and pepper to taste.

Purée with a stick blender or, working in batches, purée in a blender or food processor until smooth. Garnish with toppings. Makes 3–5 servings.

Carrot and Beet Salad

.

This recipe can also be made without beets by doubling the carrots. Greener Partners is nutfree, but if you want to replace the pumpkin seeds with nuts, Helen Nadel recommends toasted pecans.



For the salad:

1 lb. carrots, washed and peeled 1 lb. beets, washed and peeled ¹/₂ C. pumpkin seeds, toasted

For the dressing:

3 Tb. olive oil 2 Tb. balsamic vinegar 1–2 tsp. maple syrup 1 tsp. Dijon mustard Salt and pepper to taste Fresh herbs, cook's choice, to taste

Shred carrots and beets using a food processor or grater. Add pumpkin seeds.

To make the dressing, whisk together olive oil, vinegar, maple syrup, mustard, salt, pepper and herbs. Pour over vegetables and stir.

Salad will keep in refrigerator for 3 days. Makes 8-10 servings.

Crustless Onion Quiche with Pancetta

Serve with a butter leaf lettuce or arugula salad dressed with a lemony vinaigrette. Adapted from Patricia Wells' At Home in Provence.



1 lb. sweet onions, peeled

- 3 Tb. butter plus more for greasing pie plate 1 Tb. fresh thyme or lemon thyme leaves
- 6 oz. pancetta, chopped into tiny pieces or strips*
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Nutmeg to taste
- 5 large eggs
- Generous 1/4 C. whole milk
- 1/4 C. heavy cream
- Optional: fresh Italian parsley, chopped

* Trader Joe's sells 4-oz. packages of pancetta cut into very small cubes.

Preheat oven to 425°. Generously grease a 10" pie plate with butter.

In a large skillet, cook pancetta for a few minutes until it renders some fat and starts to crisp. Drain off fat and set pancetta aside.

Slice the onions in half and then cut into thin $(\frac{1}{4})$ slices. Cut 3 Tb. butter into pieces (you don't have to be persnickety about size) and combine with onion, thyme, salt, pepper and nutmeg in a large skillet. Turn heat on medium-low and cover. Cook until onions are soft but not brown, stirring occasionally, about 10-15 minutes.

While onions cook, whisk eggs, milk and cream together.

Layer onions in pie plate, top with pancetta and pour egg mixture over top. Place in the center of the oven and cook until top

is golden brown and eggs are set and not jiggly, about 25-30 minutes.

Allow to cool for 5-10 minutes. Slice into wedges and garnish with fresh parsley. Makes 4-6 servings.

Oven Baked Sweet Potato Fries

I adapted the fries from the blog www.foodiewithfamily.com. For the potatoes: 2 lbs. sweet potatoes 3 Tb. cornstarch

2–3 Tb. olive oil 2 tsp. finely chopped or pressed garlic, optional Kosher salt For the dip: $\frac{1}{2}$ C. mayonnaise $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 tsp. chipotle powder (to taste) Juice of 1/2 lime Peel the sweet potatoes and cut into

approximately 1/4" thick x 2" long matchsticks. Place in a bowl of cold water and soak for at least one hour or overnight in the refrigerator.

Mix dip ingredients together and refrigerate. The longer it sits, the more the flavors will develop.

Preheat oven to 425°. Line a few baking sheets with aluminum foil and spritz with cooking spray.

Rinse potatoes and dry well on paper towels or dishcloth. Put into a plastic bag. Sprinkle cornstarch on top and shake. Add olive oil (and garlic if using) and toss to coat. You may need to do this in batches to make sure cornstarch and oil coat potatoes evenly.

Spread potatoes on baking sheets. To promote crisping, make sure potatoes are not touching each other.

Bake for 15 minutes. Remove sheets from oven one at a time and flip fries. Rotate sheets so the ones on the top rack are now on the bottom and the fries that faced the back of the oven now face front.

Bake for another 10-15 minutes until desired level of crispiness and color. Turn oven off. Open oven door halfway and allow to cool and crisp for 5-10 minutes.

Keep an eye on them so they don't get too dark or brittle-unless of course you like them that way!

Makes 4-6 side servings.

Honey Whole Wheat Pumpkin Bread

From the blog "Cookie and Kate," a healthy pumpkin bread with crumb topping added. Great for breakfast, but it's not sweet enough for dessert.



For the bread: ²/₃ C. olive oil 1 C. honey 4 eggs 2 C. pumpkin purée $\frac{1}{2}$ C. hot water 2 tsp. vanilla 1 tsp. salt 1 tsp. cinnamon 1 tsp. ground ginger $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. cloves 2 tsp. baking soda

 $3\frac{1}{2}$ C. whole wheat flour (I used white whole wheat flour.)

For the topping: 1/4 C. butter ¹/₃ C. brown sugar 1 tsp. vanilla 1/4 tsp. salt Scant ³/₄ C. all-purpose flour $\frac{1}{2}$ C. chopped pecans, optional

To make the bread:

Preheat oven to 325° and generously butter the bottom and sides of two (9" x 5") loaf pans.

In a large bowl, beat together oil and honey. Add eggs and beat well. Stir in water, pumpkin purée and vanilla. Add cinnamon, ginger, cloves and baking soda. Mix well.

Add flour and mix until just combined. Do not overmix. Divide batter between two pans.

To make the topping: Melt butter in a small saucepan. Stir in brown sugar, vanilla and salt until sugar is mostly dissolved. Pour into a bowl and combine with flour.



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Crumble topping onto batter and scatter pecans on top, if using. Press pecans into crumb topping.

Bake for 55-65 minutes until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool in pan for 5 minutes. Remove from pan and finish cooling on rack.

Makes 2 loaves. ♦

A passionate supporter of local food, Laura 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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